



**Resolution# 2018-10**  
**John McCain American Hero Acknowledgement Resolution**

WHEREAS, the American GI Forum of the United States established in 1948 to address Mexican American veterans and their families Civil Rights issues, and

WHEREAS, the American GI Forum of the United States was Congressionally Chartered in 1998, becoming a greater voice in the halls of Congress in behalf of veterans, and

WHEREAS, the American GI Forum is committed to upholding the Constitution of the United States, including rights related to protecting the individual rights of all citizens, and

WHEREAS, The American GI Forum proudly and whole-heartedly supports our military members, and

WHEREAS, John S. McCain entered the Naval Academy in June of 1954. He served in the United States Navy until 1981, and

WHEREAS, He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Arizona in 1982 and elected to the United States Senate in 1986, and

WHEREAS, He was the Republican Party's nominee for president in the 2008 election, and

WHEREAS, H e currently serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, and

WHEREAS, U.S. Senator John McCain was born August 29, 1936, and is an American hero serving as the senior United States Senator from Arizona, a seat he was first elected to in 1986, and

WHEREAS, John McCain followed his father and grandfather-both four-star admirals into the U.S. Navy. He became a naval aviator and flew ground-attack aircraft from aircraft carriers. During the Vietnam War, he was almost killed in the 1967 USS *Forrestal* fire, and

WHEREAS, While McCain was on a bombing mission over Hanoi in October 1967, he was shot down, seriously injured, and captured by the North Vietnamese. He was a prisoner of war until 1973. McCain experienced episodes of torture and refused an out-of-sequence early repatriation offer. The wounds that he sustained during war have left him with lifelong physical disabilities. He retired from the Navy as a captain in 1981 and moved to Arizona, where he entered politics, and

WHEREAS, While generally adhering to conservative principles, McCain at times has had a media reputation as a "ma verick" for his willingness to disagree with his party on certain issues.. He is also known for his work in the 1990s to restore diplomatic relations with Vietnam, and for his belief that the Iraq War should have been fought to a successful conclusion. McCain has chaired the Senate Commerce Committee, and he opposed pork barrel spending. He was a member of the bipartisan group known as the Gang of 14 who played a key role in alleviating a crisis over judicial nominations, and

WHEREAS, In July 2017, he was diagnosed with brain cancer; since the diagnosis he has taken a reduced role in the Senate, and

WHEREAS, John McCain is a Veteran American Hero who has dedicated his life to promoting partisan issues to put country before party, and

RESOLVED; The American GI Forum meeting held on July 27, 2018 passed this resolution to acknowledge its appreciative for his contributions and long dedication to public service, for veterans and for the United States of America. Thank you for your service and may the Almighty keep you always in his Good Graces.

RESOLVED, This resolution be forwarded to Senator John McCain's office and any other interested parties.

**Approved July 27, 2018 at the 2018 National Conference in San Antonio, Texas by Unanimous Vote of the Delegates present.**



**Resolution# 2018-11**  
**KOREAN WAR 1950-1953**

WHEREAS, Sixty five years ago, on July 27, 19 53 , the Korean War ended. In January 1950, U.S. Secretary of State, Dean Acheson declared South Korea to be outside the U.S. line of Defense. That signaled to Joseph Stalin, Sov iet Premier , that the U.S. did not view South Korea as strategically importance, so in April of 1950 Stalin gave Kirn II Sung , the leader of North Korea, the go-ahead to invade South Korea.

On June 25, 1950 Kirn II Sung invaded South Korea. Within two months after the start of the war, North Korea almost conquered South Korea leaving South Korea in control of only the Southern City of Busan, an area that became known as the Busan Perimeter. At that point, the U.S. along with support from 15 other countries, came to the defense of South Korea, and by October 1950 re-conquered the entire area that had been lost to the North. A month later the UN forces under U.S. command pushed the Korean communists almost to the border with China. On October 25, 19 50, with General Douglas MacArthur's United Nations forces closing in a victorious end to the Korean War, Communist Chinese forces began pouring across the border attacking the UN Forces.

Striking the spread out UN troops with overwhelming force, they compelled them to retreat all across the front. In northeastern Korea, the US X Corps, led by Major General Ned Almond, was strung out with its units unable to support each other. Those units near the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir included the 1st Marine Division and elements of the 7th Infantry Division.

Advancing quickly, the Ninth Army Group of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) blunted X Corps advance and swarmed around the UN troops at Chosin. Alerted to their predicament, Almond ordered the commander of the 1st Marine Division, Major General Oliver P. Smith, to begin a fighting retreat back towards the coast.

Endured extreme cold and severe weather, the 5th and 7th Marines attacked from their positions near Yudam-ni, on the west bank of the reservoir, with some success against the PLA forces in the area, successfully defended their positions at Yudam-ni and Hagaru-ri against Chinese human wave assaults. On November 29, Smith contacted Colonel "Chesty" Puller, commanding the 1st

Marine Regiment, at Koto-ri and asked him to assemble a task force to re-open the road from there to Hagaru-ri.

Complying, Puller formed a force consisting of Lieutenant Colonel Douglas B. Drysdale's 41 Independent Commando (Royal Marines Battalion), G Company (1st Marines), B Company (31st Infantry), and other rear echelon troops. Numbering 900 men, the 140-vehicle task force departed on the 29th, with Drysdale in command. Pushing up the road to Hargaru-ri, the task force became bogged down after being ambushed by Chinese troops. Fighting in an area that was dubbed "Hell Fire Valley," Drysdale was reinforced by tanks sent by Puller.

Pressing on, Drysdale's men ran a gauntlet of fire and reached Hagaru-ri with the bulk of 41 Commando, G Company, and the tanks. During the attack, the B Company, 31st Infantry, became separated and isolated along the road. While most were killed or captured, some were able to escape back to Koto-ri. While the Marines were fighting to the west, the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT) of the 7th Infantry was battling for its life on the eastern shore of the reservoir.

Repeatedly assaulted by the 80th and 81st PLA divisions, the 3,000-man 31st RCT was worn down and overrun. Some survivors of the unit reached the Marine lines at Hagaru-ri on December 2.

Holding his position at Hagaru-ri, Smith ordered the 5th and 7th Marines to abandon the area around Yudam-ni and link up with the rest of the division. Fighting a brutal three-day battle, the Marines entered Hagaru-ri on December 4. Two days later, Smith's command began fighting their way back to Koto-ri.

Battling overwhelming odds, the Marines and other elements of X Corps attacked continuously as they moved towards the port of Hungnam. A highlight of the campaign occurred on December 9, when a bridge was constructed over a 1,500 -ft. gorge between Koto-ri and Chinhung-ni using bridge sections dropped by the US Air Force. Cutting through the enemy, the last of the "Frozen Chosin" reached Hungnam on December 11.

In the fighting, the Marines and other UN troops effectively destroyed or crippled seven Chinese divisions which attempted to block their progress. Marine losses in the campaign numbered 836 killed and 12,000 wounded. Most of the latter were frostbite injuries inflicted by the severe cold and winter weather. US Army losses numbered around 2,000 killed and 1,000 wounded. Precise casualties for the Chinese are not known but are estimated at 35,000 killed. Upon reaching Hungnam, the veterans of Chosin Reservoir were evacuated as part of the large amphibious operation to rescue UN troops from northeastern Korea.

By January 1951 the combined Chinese-North Korean forces were able to push the U.S.-South Korean forces south of Seoul until the u.s.-south Korean forces were able to push back the Chinese-North Korean forces half way down the peninsula, to the 38<sup>th</sup> degree parallel line where both forces were when the war started

The war stayed in a stalemate situation for two and a half years. Neither North Korea nor South Korea wanted to end the war. Joseph Stalin died in March 1953, although officially the Soviet Union was not an active participant in the Korean War because the Soviet Union did not want the war to expand into a 3<sup>rd</sup> world war, the Soviets did give Korean leader Kim II Sung significant political backing. Declassified information revealed that Soviet fighter pilots did indeed engage U.S. fighter pilots in aerial combat. Stalin's successor, Nikita Krushchev, pushed Kim II Sung to bring the war to an end. On July 27, 1953 the U.S., North Korea, and China signed the Korean Armistice Agreement to halt the fighting. Although bound by the agreement, South Korea never signed the Armistice Agreement. South Korea refused to sign the cease fire agreement due to their objection to repatriating North Korean POW's. To accommodate South Korea's wishes, a complex prisoner swap process known as Operation Big Switch and Operation Little Switch was set up and administered by neutral countries led by India. The process allowed POW's who did not want to repatriate to stay where they were.

Since the agreement signed is just a Truce Agreement, the Korean War never ended. This means that the fighting only halted, not ended, on July 27, 1953 and can resume any time. The line separating South Korea and North Korea, the 38 degree N parallel, when the war ended is the line that separated the two countries at the beginning of the war.

WHEREAS; American Forces fought and died bravely for democracy and to prevent the spread of communism in a foreign country, 33,652 Americans died in battle, 7,704 remain Missing In Action.

RESOLVED, That the American GI Forum dedicate this conference to Korean War Veterans, living and deceased, who have never had an official Day of Recognition, and also a copy of resolution submitted to the Korean War Veterans Associations.

Submitted on this, 27h day of July 2018, at the American GI Forum National Conference, convened in San Antonio, Texas.

**Approved July 27, 2018 at the 2018 National Conference in San Antonio, Texas by Unanimous Vote of the Delegates present.**



**Resolution# 2018 - 16**  
**Deported Veterans and Their Families**  
**Resolution Submitted From the Colorado State Women**

WHEREAS, the American GI Forum of the United States was established in 1948 to address Mexican American Veterans and their families Civil Rights issues, and

WHEREAS, the American GI Forum of the United States was Congressionally Chartered in 1998, becoming a greater voice in the halls of Congress in behalf of veterans, and

WHEREAS, the American GI Forum is committed to upholding the Constitution of the United States, including those rights related to protecting the individual rights of all citizens, and

WHEREAS, the American GI Forum proudly and whole heartedly supports all military members, and,

WHEREAS, the delegation of the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference of the American GI Forum of the United States will inform National Legislators and the President of the United States in regards ro deported veterans and request a response as to their support or non-support, and

WHEREAS, the Governor of California did pardon three deported veterans who were then in effect brought back to the United States to join their families, and

WHEREAS, the National Veterans for New America have shown their united support for their efforts and plight of DACA and all deported veterans, and

WHEREAS, families of all deported veterans are broken up, are left behind, financially suffer after the veteran(s) are sent back to their native country.

RESOLVED, that this 70<sup>th</sup> Conference of the American GI Forum are in support of deported veterans and their families, and are asking our President and all federal legislators to support a pardon of any deported veteran(s) and to stop deportation proceedings in order to bring them home.

**Approved July 27, 2018 at the 2018 National Conference in San Antonio, Texas by Unanimous Vote of the Delegates present.**

*All resolutions presented by the Resolutions Committee were approved by Delegates present at the readings.*

*Approved  
[Signature]*