



GEN(R) Sharp is a respected leader who cares deeply about the ROK-U.S. Alliance and the Korean people. Few have done more to enhance, support, and advocate for our ironclad Alliance. His service leaves a positive, lasting mark on the ROK-U.S. Alliance, KDVA, and most importantly our veterans who served in Korea.

*~ GEN Robert B. Abrams
Commander, UNC/CFC/USFK*

AUGUST NEWS HEADLINES

Aug 11 – 28: ROK and U.S. conducted their annual combined exercise in a scaled-back manner due to COVID-19 concerns. The computer-simulated, command post exercise was preceded by a four-day crisis management training.

Aug 11: The Korea Society @koreasociety “US forces in South Korea do more than deter an attack from a nuclear-armed North. They reassure a crucial ally, one that alternately faces pressure and enticements from China, its largest trading partner, to sever links to Washington.”

Aug 13: During a webinar hosted by the Heritage Foundation, Tae, Yong-ho, North Korean defector turned ROK lawmaker, said a summit between the U.S. and North Korea before the U.S. presidential election in November is unlikely.

Aug 20: Korea Defense Veterans Association @KDVAvets “KDVA Board of Directors is very proud to announce that General (Ret.) Vincent Brooks will become the new KDVA Chairman and President on Oct. 1, 2020. General Brooks was the Commander of UNC/CFC/USFK, 2016-2018.”

Aug 21: Clarke Cooper, U.S. Asst. Sec. of State for Pol-Mil Affairs, commented that defense cost-sharing negotiations between ROK and U.S. are not just about the cost, but a matter of burden sharing of the security on the Korean Peninsula. Cooper also stressed that the two sides continue to work to find a mutually acceptable agreement.

Aug 27: U.S. Def. Sec. Mark Esper renewed Washington's goal of the “complete, verifiable and irreversible” denuclearization of North Korea, calling diplomatic negotiations with Pyongyang “the best path forward.”

In September:

KDVA will conduct webinars about Korean Defense Veterans and our Internship Program (<https://kdva.vet/digital-library/>). In Korea, KDVA will host the Alliance Education Conference and Dinner at Camp Humphreys on Sep 24.

Please submit your articles for our Journal by Sep 16 to kdva.journal@gmail.com.

Serving as KDVA's chairman and president has been a true honor and one of the most important positions that I have held. What started with a small group of people who cared very much about the great alliance between the Republic of Korea and the United States has become an organization that is widely respected for our efforts for this “Alliance for the Ages” and the extraordinary people who built it and continue to serve it. I am very thankful for all Koreans and Americans who support KDVA and the Alliance. Our sponsors keep us going, and we cannot thank them enough. Although I am stepping down, I will continue to be involved in KDVA and continue to work to strengthen the Alliance. I am very confident that General Brooks' leadership will take KDVA to new levels. Thank you sincerely for allowing me to be a part of his incredible organization. ~ *Gen. (Ret.) Walter “Skip” Sharp*



There is an obvious excitement and passion when General Sharp speaks about his time in South Korea and his work supporting the ROK-U.S. Alliance. General Sharp was able to experience the best of South Korea at the end of his career thanks in part to the sacrifices his father made at the beginning of his own. At his retirement, he vowed to do everything possible to strengthen the Alliance while honoring all Veterans. This vow has been his guiding principle as the first President and Chairman of KDVA. He now entrusts us with his vision of providing a living legacy for the sacrifices of all Service Members since the Korean War. His passing of the torch will help KDVA continue its work well into the future.

~ Ms. Nicole Ruiz, KDVA Intern who wrote an article about General Sharp's father and the Korean War

As the leader of KDVA since it was established in 2017, General Sharp has been one of our most important partners advocating for, and supporting, a strong ROK-U.S. Alliance. General Sharp has built the KDVA into a vital organization which both demonstrates and enhances the breadth of our Alliance. Although I am sad that I will no longer be working as closely with him going forward, I am honored, and thankful for his many years of service to the U.S.-Korean partnership and I congratulate him on his future endeavors. ~ *Ambassador Lee, Soo Hyuck, ROK Ambassador to the United States*

I would like to express my respect to you for your great contributions to the establishment of KDVA and dedication to strengthening the ROK-U.S. Alliance over the last 3 years ... Despite its relatively short history, the KDVA has contributed greatly to strengthening friendship and exchange between the ROK and U.S., as well as making the ROK-U.S. Alliance more robust. I am certain that your dedicated efforts and affection for the ROK as the first President and Chairman of KDVA have been essential for KDVA's fast growth and development. ~ *Minister Jeong, Kyeongdo, ROK Minister of National Defense*



Thank you, General Sharp, for your friendship and for your support of Korean War Veterans, like me. I have appreciated working with you and the selfless way you bring people together for the U.S.-ROK Alliance. The work that you have started will carry on, and we will never forget. ~ *Colonel (Ret.) Warren Wiedhahn, Korean War Veteran*

I want to extend my deep appreciation to General Sharp for his decades-long devotion to deepening the alliance and friendship between the U.S. and South Korea. This commitment and effectiveness defined the eventful years when we served together in Korea a decade ago, and continued in the years since as he returned to the U.S. to become the driving force behind the creation of KDVA. Thank you, Skip, for helping to ensure the resilience and strength of the extraordinary U.S.-Korea partnership. ~ *Ambassador Kathleen Stephens, former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea*

It was my great honor that I could support and work with General Sharp to establish KDVA and serve as a KDVA Board member. Your great contributions to the ROK-U.S. Alliance will be remembered in the deep hearts of Koreans. We wish you a happy life with your family, and all KDVA members will miss you a lot! ~ *Mr. Kim, Jong-Wook, Emeritus Chairman, KATUSA Veterans Association and KDVA Board Member*

Thank you for your dedication for the ROK-U.S. Alliance as the Commander of CFC/UNC/USFK and the Chairman/President of KDVA. You kept the promise you made when you left Korea that you would do something good for the Alliance. The people of Korea will remember what you have done for the ROK. I pray for your continuous success and the happiness of your family. ~ *General (Ret.) Jung, Seung Jo, former Chairman of ROK Joint Chiefs of Staff and President of KUSAF*

Skip has been the embodiment of the alliance. His unflinching service as a military leader in Korea, and then his civilian service with KDVA and more broadly as an experienced and respected opinion leader on the U.S.- Korea Alliance is unparalleled. He has been one of the strongest proponents of fulfilling the Korean dream of unification. He will continue to work towards that day. ~ *Victor Cha, CSIS Senior Adviser and Korea Chair*

As the first president who formed and developed KDVA, General Sharp will live in the history of the Korea-U.S. Alliance. I cherish the time I spent with General Sharp. As a friend of the Korea-U.S. Alliance forever, I hope you will remember us fondly and have good memories of all that we accomplished together. Thank you very much. ~ *General (Ret.) Kwon, Oh Sung, former ROK Army Chief of Staff and former Vice Chairman, KDVA Board of Directors*



KDVA is very thankful for the Korean Veterans Association's generous donation of 5,000 KF94 masks. KDVA delivered them to Veterans and charity groups and informed them that South Korea's largest Veterans organization supports their fight against COVID-19.