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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

January 17, 2012

The Honorable Leon Panetta
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Panetta:

In 2011, the U.S. Department of Defense and the Korean People's Army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea agreed upon a "Record of Arrangement" between the two countries concerning joint field activities for recovering the remains of U.S. personnel from the Korean War, the initial phase of which commences on March 1.

The October 20, 2011 document, signed by officials of both countries is comprehensive, covering a variety of topics including the composition of joint teams and number of participants, the locations of joint advance work, and personnel safety measures.

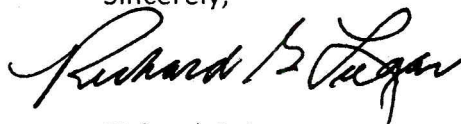
Actual contact between U.S. and North Korean military officials will also provide clear opportunity to inquire as to whether American service personnel missing from the Korean War, involuntarily imprisoned or otherwise, remain in North Korea. This is especially relevant as South Korean officials estimate that an unknown number of South Korean military personnel continue to be forcibly detained in North Korea from the Korean War era.

While serving as Chairman and now as Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, North Korean leaders have been repeatedly notified of my interest and concern for any American that might be detained in the North.

Mr. Secretary, please utilize the venue that has been established for recovery of individual remains to also request all available information about the approximately 8,000 missing Americans from the Korean War. North Korean officials have an extensive set of information

and records related to the War and Americans who served. Press for the full story about those American service personnel and for the release of any who may remain alive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard G. Lugar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

Richard G. Lugar
Ranking Member

RGL/klk