

March 18, 1954
**Letter, General James A. Van Fleet to General Bruce
C. Clarke**

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Summary:

General James A. Van Fleet responds to an invitation to attend a ceremony marking the turning over of operational control to Korean forces and General Paik Sun Yup.

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President Rhee

C
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Auburndale, Florida

March 18, 1954

General Bruce C. Clarke
Commanding General
Headquarters X Corps (Group)
APO 909
San Francisco, California

Dear Bruce:

I was extremely glad to have your good letter of 3 March, enclosing therein an invitation to attend the ceremony at 1st ROK Army Headquarters on 15 March. I read your letter, the invitation and your remarks on the occasion of turning over operational control to General Paik Sun Yup, with great interest and emotion. I wish it had been possible to have been a bystander at the ceremony just to see and hear and enjoy the wonderful progress in the growth and command of the ROK Army. Thank you very much for sending me the invitations and announcements.

I am sorry that I was on a trip and did not receive information in time to send you, Taylor, Paik and President Rhee radios of congratulations. But I include them now to all of you and will be grateful if you will pass on to General Paik my greetings, and the pleasure and satisfaction I have in knowing that he is at the head of the First ROK Army.

With kind regards,

Very sincerely,

JAMES A. VAN FLEET
General, U.S. Army (Ret.)

V.F.