



**RT HON CHRISTOPHER LUXON  
PRIME MINISTER**

**A Message to the New Zealand Veterans of the Korean War in the  
75th Anniversary Year of the Outbreak of the War.**

It is with deep appreciation that I write to you on behalf of the New Zealand Government and people to thank you for your service to your country during the hard and perilous war in Korea.

We recognise today more than ever what an important contribution Kayforce and the Royal New Zealand Navy made to the United Nations effort to stem, and then turn back, the North Korean invasion of the Republic of Korea on 25 June 1950. The passage of time has not diminished the courage and self sacrifice shown by you and your comrades, at In'chon and Kap'yeong, and over the three harsh winters of the conflict.

The compassion shown by New Zealand soldiers and sailors for the terrible suffering of the Korean people during those years is particularly remembered. I trust therefore that you have found comfort in knowing that by your steadfast efforts you helped South Korea not only to survive, but to flourish. The warm friendship between New Zealand and the Korean people was founded on this, and is why the Republic of Korea continues to ensure that the allied forces who came to their aid will never be forgotten.

I hope during this anniversary that you, with your families, find yourselves in a place of peace when you remember those times and your comrades, including those who were lost.

Your gallant and voluntary stand helped to establish a world where generations of New Zealanders, my own included, have lived their lives in peace. For this we will always be profoundly grateful.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'C. M. Luxon'.

**Rt Hon Christopher Luxon**  
Prime Minister