

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 1, 2003

Contact: Media Relations  
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Stamp Release No. 033  
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**KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL**  
**TO BE HONORED ON NEW POSTAGE STAMP**

WASHINGTON — On July 27, the U.S. Postal Service will help ensure “The Forgotten War” is remembered for generations to come when a new postage stamp honoring the Korean War Veterans Memorial is issued as part of the Department of Defense 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice Commemoration Ceremony.

The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. (the time 50 years ago when the guns fell silent on Armistice Day) at the site of the memorial on the National Mall near the corner of Daniel French Drive and Independence Avenue. It will be free and open to the public.

The 37-cent, self-adhesive Korean War Veterans Memorial stamp will be available only at the event on July 27. They will be available at post offices across the country starting the following day.

“This stamp will serve as a reminder that we must not forget the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice and those who returned home without fanfare,” said Robert F. Rider, Korean War veteran and member of the presidentially appointed Postal Service Board of Governors, who will dedicate the stamp.

“Their heroic deeds are best summed up in the words etched in the memorial’s Pool of Remembrance: ‘Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met,’” he said.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial was authorized by law in 1986. On July 27, 1995, the 42nd anniversary of the armistice, it was dedicated by President Bill Clinton and Kim Young Sam, president of South Korea.

The memorial features 19 stainless-steel statues that depict American troops in the Army, the Marines, the Navy and the Air Force. Shown marching in a wedge formation as if on patrol, the statues represent an ethnic cross-section of the United States.



The Mural Wall alongside the statues extends 164 feet and consists of 41 granite panels etched with images that are based on photographs of U.S. personnel and equipment from the Korean War. Another wall acknowledges the United Nations member countries that assisted South Korea in the conflict.

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when communist troops from North Korea invaded South Korea. In response, President Harry S. Truman committed U.S. troops to lead a United Nations force charged with defending South Korea. Including the U.S. and South Korea, 22 nations provided military personnel, medical support and supplies. By July 27, 1953, when an armistice was signed at the village of Panmunjom, approximately 34,000 Americans had been killed in battle (with nearly 37,000 American deaths in Korea overall) and more than 103,000 had been wounded.

More than 3,000 soldiers from other UN countries were killed and 16,000 were wounded. Numbers for South Korean military casualties vary greatly, with estimates ranging from 50,000 to more than 400,000 dead and hundreds of thousands wounded. Civilian casualties are estimated to have been in the millions.

The U.S. continues to keep a military force of approximately 37,000 in South Korea.

The photograph on this stamp, taken by John W. Alli of Catonsville, Md., shows the statues at the Korean War Veterans Memorial shrouded in heavy snow. Alli took this photograph just before dawn during a snowstorm in Washington, D.C., in January 1996. Richard Sheaff of Scottsdale, Ariz., designed the stamp.

Previous U.S. stamps have also recognized the bravery of Korean War veterans and the significance of the Korean War in U.S. and world history. In 1985, the Postal Service issued the 22-cent Veterans Korea stamp. The Korean War, a 33-cent stamp, was issued in 1999 as part of the 1950s "Celebrate The Century" stamp pane.

To see the Korean War Veterans Memorial stamp, visit the Postal Service Web site and open this press release at [www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/welcome.htm](http://www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/welcome.htm).

Current U.S. stamps, as well as a free comprehensive catalog, are available by toll-free phone order at 1 800 STAMP-24. In addition, a selection of stamps and other philatelic items are available at the online Postal Store at [www.usps.com/shop](http://www.usps.com/shop).

Since 1775, the U.S. Postal Service has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that visits 140 million homes and businesses every day and is the only service provider to deliver to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$66 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mail and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The Postal Service delivers more than 43 percent of the world's mail volume—some 203 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year—and serves 7 million customers each day at its 38,000 retail locations nationwide.

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## TECHNICAL DETAILS

Issue: *Korean War Veterans Memorial*  
Item Number: 455100  
Denomination & Type of Issue: 37-cent commemorative  
Format: Pane of 20 (1 design)  
Series: N/A  
Issue Date & City: July 27, 2003, Washington, DC 20066  
Designer: Richard Sheaff, Scottsdale, AZ  
Engraver: N/A  
Photographer: John W. Alli, Catonsville, MD  
Typographer: Richard Sheaff, Scottsdale, AZ  
Modeler: Banknote Corporation of America, Inc. (BCA)  
Manufacturing Process: Offset/Microprint "USPS"  
Printer: Banknote Corporation of America, Inc. (BCA)  
Printed at: Browns Summit, NC  
Press Type: Man Roland, 300  
Stamps per Pane: 20  
Print Quantity: 86.8 million stamps  
Paper Type: Phosphor Tagged, Block  
Adhesive Type: Pressure sensitive  
Processed at: Banknote Corporation of America, Inc. (BCA)  
Colors: Black, PMS 301 (Blue), PMS 485 (Red), Modified PMS 427 (Gray)  
Stamp Orientation: Horizontal  
Image Area (w x h): 1.39 x 0.82 in./35.31 x 20.83 mm  
Overall Size (w x h): 1.56 x 0.99 in./39.62 x 25.15 mm  
Full Pane Size (w x h): 7.26 x 5.90 in./184.40 x 149.86 mm  
Plate Size: 240 stamps per revolution  
Plate Numbers: "B" followed by four (4) single digits  
Marginal Markings: © 2002 USPS • Price • Plate numbers in four corners  
Plate position diagram • Barcodes on back  
Catalog Item Number(s): 455120 Block of 4 — \$1.48  
455130 Block of 10 — \$3.70  
455140 Full Pane of 20 — \$7.40  
455161 First Day Cover — \$0.75  
455193 Full Pane w/FDC — \$8.15

### How to Order the First Day of Issue Postmark

Customers have 30 days to obtain the first day of issue postmark by mail. They may purchase new stamps at their local Post Office, by telephone at 1 800 STAMP-24, and at the Postal Store Web site at [www.usps.com/shop](http://www.usps.com/shop). They should affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes (to themselves or others), and place them in a larger envelope addressed to:

KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMEMORATIVE STAMP  
POSTMASTER  
SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS  
PO BOX 92282  
WASHINGTON DC 20090-2282

After applying the first day of issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark. All orders must be postmarked by Aug. 26, 2003.