

## Dignitaries from the Republic of Korea Visit with Korean War Veterans at West L.A. Community Living Center (CLC)

The West Los Angeles campus of the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (GLA) was paid a visit by Kim Yang, Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of the Republic of Korea, on July 28<sup>th</sup> in commemoration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Korean War. Minister Yang was joined by Rear Admiral Byeung-Kweon Lee and thirty midshipmen from the Korean navy.

The Korean delegation paid bedside visits to American veterans of the Korean War currently residing in the Community Living Center (CLC) at the West Los Angeles campus. On behalf of the Republic of Korea, the Minister and the Admiral personally presented each Veteran with a plaque thanking him for his service, as well as tokens of appreciation such as hats and gift bags.

The delegation met with VA administration and clinical staff, and was briefed on various programs offered to veterans here at GLA before giving remarks at a brief ceremony attended by veterans of the Korean War. Minister Yang addressed

the veterans in attendance, thanking them for their service. “It is because of your service 60 years ago that we have the Republic of Korea as we know it today. Your sacrifice in our time of need allowed us to grow, economically and socially, out of the ashes of war. On behalf of the government of Korea, I want to personally thank you all,” Yang said.

A plaque inscribed with the message “60 years of partnership. 60 years of friendship” alongside a commemorative golden horseshoe was presented to GLA Director Donna Beiter by Admiral Lee. A group of

Korean War Veterans also presented the Minister and the Admiral with an American Flag bearing the signatures of the Veterans in attendance who fought in Korea 60 years ago.

