



**Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet  
Commander, Naval Forces Korea  
Change of Command  
Seoul, Korea  
Admiral Cecil D. Haney  
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Thank you General Thurman for your remarks. I certainly echo your praise for the great job Bill and Selina have done here. I also want to thank you, General Thurman, for your decades of service in uniform and your leadership here.

Ambassador and Mrs. Hansen, Ambassador and Mrs. Reding, Admiral Choi, General Kwon and Ms. Shinn, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, fellow flag and general officers, Sailors and all members of the United States and Republic of Korea Armed Forces ... AHN-NYONG HAH-SAY-YO. Hello and good morning. It's great to be back in Seoul, Korea. It is an honor for me to speak today. I thank all of you for making the Alliance what it is today-successful!

As the Commander of the Pacific Fleet, I couldn't be more thankful for the great work Bill has accomplished over the last two years while providing support to General Thurman and the Joint-Combined Team, as my regional commander and of course a partner to the Republic of Korea Navy, led by my good CHIN-GOO, my good friend, Admiral Choi.

As you just heard in Bill's award presentation, amidst the many challenges we face in this uncertain world, he has worked hard to increase readiness, improve warfighting capability and further strengthen the alliance between our two nations.

Whether it is missile defense, anti-submarine warfare, or mine warfare, his personal involvement has helped improve our posture in a lot of areas critical to ensuring our forces are fully ready. Bill, thank you for your brilliant leadership.

Of course, he is also well known for his passionate leadership and the strong personal relationships he has created here. He has helped to improve teamwork and interoperability between the United States Navy and Republic of Korea Navy. Bill's work to advance multinational training with allies, partners and friends has helped enhance important relationships as we work to ensure security and stability in the maritime domain.

While a lot of focus is on Syria today, you should know we remain focused on our Nation's rebalance to the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. Outstanding leaders like Bill make sure that commitment is put into action, and I am so thankful for his tremendous accomplishments.

I also know that Bill and his wife Selina will miss their many Korean friends and neighbors they have met in this country. Selina has also developed strong personal relationships with Republic of Korea general officers' wives as they have learned about each other's culture and traditions. I know it will be hard for you to leave Korea.

I thank you both for your efforts and accomplishments here in Korea. Your achievements will have a lasting impact that will benefit our Navy, and our alliance, for decades. I congratulate you on a successful tour.

Now, as you head to the Pentagon as the Director, Navy Strategic and Policy Division, you will be able to keep the Pentagon team focused on our rebalancing efforts toward this vibrant region. Thank you for your efforts here.

As I conclude, I would like to welcome Lisa and Jim and their daughter Isabel to the team. Lisa, based on your vast operational and staff experience, I know you bring a unique perspective to this tour that will be invaluable. As you take command, I want you to know that I have the utmost confidence that you and your talented team here will continue to improve institutional and operational effectiveness between the United States and the Republic of Korea navies. I also know that you will continue to strengthen collective security efforts in Korea and the region. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak here today.

KATCH-EE GAHP-SHI-DA, We go together!

KAM-SAH-HAHM-NEEDA, Thank You.