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## United States Senate

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August 15, 2007

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing in regard to a recommendation to award Master Sergeant Woodrow W. Keeble the Medal of Honor. This is a case I have been working on behalf of the Keeble family and the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe for five years, and it is my understanding this matter is now awaiting your final decision.

Master Sergeant Keeble was a member of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe and was a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War. The effort to get Master Sergeant Keeble the Medal of Honor was first brought to my attention by the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe in 2002, and was based on the loss of the original recommendation for a Medal of Honor for his actions in Korea in October 1951. After working continually with the Army on this matter for four years, I was very pleased to receive a letter dated May 31, 2006 from then Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey stating he was recommending to the Secretary of Defense that Master Sergeant Keeble be posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

Since that time, Senator Byron Dorgan and I included a provision in H.R.2206, the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, to waive the statute of limitations on applicable time limits for awarding the Medal of Honor to Master Sergeant Keeble. This legislative action allowed the Secretary of Defense to approve the recommendation and to send it to your desk for a final decision.

Unfortunately, Master Sergeant Keeble's widow, Blossom, recently passed away. While I had hoped she could have received the Medal of Honor on behalf of her husband, she knew of the great progress that had been made in his case. The rest of Master Sergeant Keeble's family, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, and the people of South Dakota continue to anxiously await final action on Master Sergeant Keeble's case. It is my hope you will expedite the approval and award Master Sergeant Keeble the Medal of Honor as soon as possible.

If I can provide you with any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Tim Johnson  
United States Senate