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March 30, 1983

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*Served in Vietnam

Affiliations noted for purposes of identification only.

Mr. Morton Blackwell The White House Washington, DC 20500

Dear Morton,

At a recent Board Meeting, we paused at the beginning for each person present to say which aspects and effects of the memorial, dedication, and national salute stand out most in his or her mind, and why. It was very illuminating, with some surprises and far-reaching observations.

If you wish, we would very much welcome a similar note from you, reflecting on the aspects and effects of the memorial which stand out most in your mind. Your letter would be an important part of the written record of the Memorial Fund.

Your friendship and counsel helped us build the memorial. Over one million people have visited it, and the Park Service tells us that daily traffic is on the same order as at the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials or the Washington Monument — about four million visitors a year.

Thank you.

JW/caj

Sincerely,

DECK

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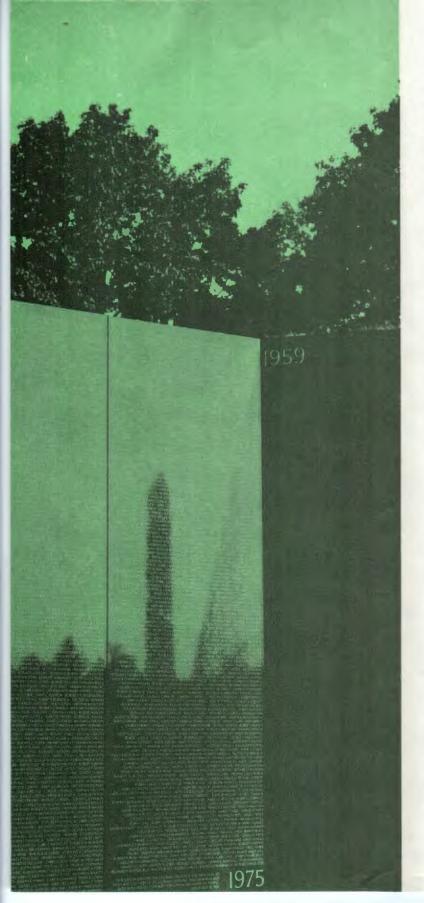
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Vietnam Veterans Memorial Washington DC



The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a symbol of the nation's honor and recognition of the men and women of its armed forces who served in the Vietnam war. While, as a special tribute, the memorial is inscribed with the names of the nearly 58,000 who gave their lives or remain missing, it is dedicated to honor the "courage, sacrifice, and devotion to duty and country" of all who answered their country's call.

The War

The Vietnam war was the longest in our nation's history. Two American advisors were killed on July 8, 1959, and the last casualties in connection with the war occurred on May 15, 1975, during the Mayaquez incident. Approximately 2.7 million Americans served in the war zone; 300,000 were wounded and approximately 75,000 permanently disabled. Of the casualties, approximately 1,300 remain missing and unaccounted for.

The American advisory role began in the mid-1950's. In 1964, U.S. personnel numbered approximately 20,000. By the "Gulf of Tonkin" Resolution, on August 7, 1964, the U.S. Congress authorized the President "to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression." In March 1965, the first American combat troops were landed. In mid-1969, at the height of U.S. involvement, American military personnel in Vietnam numbered 550,000. Under a treaty signed by North Vietnam, South Vietnam, the Viet Cong and the United States, a cease fire went into effect on January 28, 1973, and U.S. combat forces were withdrawn from Vietnam as of March 28, 1973. On April 30, 1975, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam surrendered to the advancing North Vietnamese forces and all remaining U.S. civilian and military personnel were evacuated.

During the war, American soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines fought with heroism and determination under some of the most difficult circumstances ever encountered by American military personnel. Tragically, upon their return home they received virtually no recognition for their service and sacrifice because of the raging domestic controversy over U.S. policy in conducting the war.

Establishment of the Memorial

The memorial was established by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. (VVMF), a nonprofit, charitable organization incorporated on April 27, 1979, by a group of Vietnam veterans led by Jan C. Scruggs, a wounded and decorated former infantryman, from Columbia, Maryland. The founders of VVMF wanted Vietnam veterans to have a tangible symbol of recognition by American society. By separating the issue of the service of the individual men and women from the issue of U.S. policy in Vietnam, VVMF hoped to begin a process of national reconciliation. Significant initial support came from U.S. Senators Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., of Maryland and John W. Warner of Virginia. On November 8, 1979, Senator Mathias introduced legislation to authorize a site of national parkland for the memorial. The first significant financial contributions to launch the national fund raising campaign were raised by Senator Warner.

On July 1, 1980, Congress authorized a site of two acres in Constitution Gardens near the Lincoln Memorial. In October of that year, VVMF announced a national design competition open to any U.S. citizen over 18 years of age. By December 29, 1981, there were 2,573 registrants, and the competition became the largest of its kind ever held in the United States. By the deadline of March 31, 1981, 1,421 design entries had been submitted. All entries were judged annously by a jury of eight internationally recognized artists and designers, who had been selected by VVMF. On May 1, 1981, the jury presented its unanimous selection for first prize, which was accepted and adopted enthusiastically by VVMF.

The winning design was authored by Maya Ying Lin of Athens, Ohio, who at the time was a 21 year old senior at Yale University. In August of 1981 VVMF selected a building company and professional architecture firm to develop the plans and build Ms. Lin's design. She became a design consultant to the architect of record.

In January 1982, VVMF determined to add a flag staff and sculpture to the memorial site to provide a realistic depiction of Vietnam fighting men and a symbol of their devotion to country. On March 11, 1982, the design and plans received final Federal approval, and work at the site was begun on March 16, 1982. Ground was formally broken on Friday, March 26, 1982.

In July 1982, VVMF selected Washington sculptor Frederick Hart to design the sculpture of the servicemen to be placed at the site. On October 13, 1982, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts unanimously accepted the proposed sculpture and flag staff. Construction at the site was completed in late October, 1982, and the memorial was dedicated on November 13, 1982. The life size sculpture to be cast in bronze is expected to be completed and installed at the site by the end of 1983.

Memorial Design

The Vietnam veteran sponsors desired above all that the memorial have a prominent site, and envisioned a large parklike area. They therefore requested the western end of Constitution Gardens. They set four major criteria for the design: it (1) be reflective and contemplative in character, (2) harmonize with its surroundings - especially the neighboring national memorials, (3) contain the names of all who died or remain missing, and (4) make no political statement about the war.

Ms. Lin conceived her design as creating a park within a park—a quiet protected place that was unto itself yet harmonious with the overall plan of Constitution Gardens. To achieve that effect she chose polished black granite for the walls. Its mirror-like surface reflects the images of the surrounding trees, lawns, and monuments. The walls point to the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial, thus bringing the memorial into the historical context of our country. The names are inscribed in the chronological order of their dates of casualty, showing the war as a series of individual human sacrifices and giving each name a special place in history.

The list of names begins at the vertex of the walls below the date of the first casualty, and continues to the end of the east wall. It resumes at the tip of the west wall, ending at the vertex, above the date of the last death. With the meeting of the beginning and ending, a major epoch in American history is signified.

Mr. Hart's goal was to create a sculpture which was a moving evocation of the experience and service of the Vietnam veteran. He has described it as follows:

"The portrayal of the figures is consistent with history. They wear the uniform and carry the equipment of war; they are young. The contrast between the innocence of their youth and the weapons of war underscores the poignancy of their sacrifice. There is about them the physical contact and sense of unity that bespeaks the bonds of love and sacrifice that is the nature of men at war. And yet they are each alone. Their strength and their vulnerability are both evident. Their true heroism lies in these bonds of loyalty in the face of their aloneness and their vulnerability."

The flag will fly from a tall staff, the base of which will contain the emblems of the five services. The sculpture, the flag, and a permanent name directory will be grouped together and prominently located to enhance the entry to the memorial.

Memorial Statistics

Each of the walls is 246'-8" long. They meet at an angle of 125°, 12'. They point exactly to the northeast corners of the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial. The walls are supported along their entire length by 140 concrete pilings driven approximately 35 feet to bedrock. At their vertex the walls are 10'-1½" in height. The stone for the walls, safety curbs and walkways is black granite quarried near Bangalore, India. All cutting and fabrication was done in Barre, Vermont. The variations in color and texture are a result of different finishing techniques, i.e. polishing, honing and flame treating.

The names and inscriptions were gritblasted in Memphis, Tennessee, using stencils produced through a photographic process. The names were arranged chronologically and typeset in Atlanta, Georgia, from a computer tape of the official Vietnam casualty list. The letters are approximately .015 inch in depth. There are a total of 57,939 names inscribed on the walls.

Arrangement of Names

Each of the walls is composed of 70 separate inscribed granite panels. The largest panels have 137 lines of names; the shortest have one line. There are five names on each line. On each wall the panels are numbered from "1" to "70", with panel No. 1 at the vertex and panel No. 70 at the far end. The numbers are inscribed at the bases of the panels.

The names of the first casualties (in July 1959) appear on the first line of panel No. 1 on the east wall below the date "1959". The chronological listing of the names proceeds line by line down each panel and then to the top line of the panel to the right, as though the panels were pages in a book. The sequence of names proceeds from panel No. 70 on the east wall to panel No. 70 on the west wall. The listing continues on each panel to the right, until the names of the last casualties (in May 1975) from the last lines of panel No. 1 on the west wall, above the date "1975".

Locating a Name

An individual name can be located by referring to the alphabetical directory installed at the memorial site and determining the panel and line on which the name appears. In addition, the list of names of servicemen and servicewomen who became casualties in a given time period can be searched. The lists of names for the following time periods begin on the panels and lines indicated.

DATE	PANEL	LINE	DATE	PANEL	LINE
JUL 59	1E	1	JAN 69	35W	14
JAN 62	1E	4	FEB 69	33W	30
JAN 63	1E	15	MAR 69	31W	98
JAN 64	1E	39	APR 69	28W	101
JAN 65	1E	81	MAY 69	26W	89
APR 65	1E	99	JUN 69	23W	34
JUL 65	2E	26	JUL 69	21W	41
		100	AUG 69	20W	82
OCT 65	2E				
NOV 65	3E	10	SEP 69	18W	18
DEC 65	3E	119	OCT 69	17W	21
JAN 66	4E	47	NOV 69	16W	11
FEB 66	4E	127	DEC 69	15W	12
MAR 66	5E	92	JAN 70	15W	113
APR 66	6E	70	FEB 70	14W	88
MAY 66	7E	15	MAR 70	13W	70
JUN 66	7E	130	APR 70	12W	64
JUL 66	8E	114	MAY 70	11W	78
AUG 66	9E	92	JUN 70	10W	129
SEP 66	10E	59	JUL 70	9W	108
OCT 66	11E	32	AUG 70	8W	73
NOV 66	12E	2	SEP 70	7W	29
DEC 66	12E	131	OCT 70	7W	102
JAN 67	13E	106	NOV 70	6W	33
FEB 67	14E	102	DEC 70	6W	100
MAR 67	15E	124	JAN 71	5W	19
APR 67	17E	83	FEB 71	5W	71
MAY 67	19E	2	MAR 71	4W	13
JUN 67	21E	25	APR 71	4W	98
JUL 67	22E	90	MAY 71	3W	21
AUG 67	24E	58	JUN 71	3W	60
SEP 67	25E	76	JUL 71	3W	96
OCT 67	27E	35	AUG 71	3W	120
			SEP 71	2W	7
NOV 67	28E	107			
DEC 67	31E	20	OCT 71	2W	32
JAN 68	33E	11	NOV 71	2W	58
FEB 68	36E	45	DEC 71	2W	82
MAR 68	42E	12	JAN 72	2W	94
APR 68	47E	29	FEB 72	2W	103
MAY 68	53E	27	MAR 72	2W	112
JUN 68	62W	19	APR 72	2W	126
JUL 68	54W	25	MAY 72	1W	10
AUG 68	50W	40	JUN 72	1W	34
SEP 68	45W	18	JUL 72	iw	51
OCT 68	42W	52	OCT 72	iW	76
NOV 68	40W	70	JAN 73	1W	108
DEC 68		15	JAN 75	1W	121
DEC 08	37W	15	JAIN /3	1 W	121

The Missing

Each name is preceded (on the west wall) or followed (on the east wall) by one of two symbols - a diamond or a cross. The diamond symbol denotes that the serviceman's or servicewoman's death was confirmed. The approximately 1,300 men whose names are designated by the cross symbol were in missing or prisoner status at the end of the war and remain missing and unaccounted for.

In the event a serviceman's remains are returned or he is otherwise accounted for, the diamond symbol will be superimposed over the cross. If a man returns alive, a circle, as a symbol of life, will be inscribed around the cross.



Fund Raising

The \$7.0 million cost of establishing the memorial was raised entirely through private contributions from the American people. Corporations, foundations, unions, veterans and civic organizations, and over 275,000 individual Americans provided the gifts to build our nation's newest landmark. No Federal funds were appropriated, although the perpetual maintenance of the memorial will be responsibility of the National Park Service.

the vietnam veterans memorial fund



March 17, 1983

TO:

National Sponsoring Committee

FROM:

Jan C. Scruggs, President

SUBJECT:

Progress Report

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Sandie Fauriol
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Bob Hope
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Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.
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Jimmy Stewart
The Hon. Paul Thayer
Deputy Secretary of Defense
The Hon. Cyrus R. Vance
Gen. John W. Vessey, Jr.*
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Hon Harm J. My Medican

The Hon. Harry N. Walters Administrator of Veterans Affairs Veterans Administration John W. Warner

United States Senator from Virginia Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Ret.* Former Chief of Staff, U.S. Army The Hon. Joseph C. Zengerle*

*Served in Vietnam

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On Saturday, November 13, 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was officially dedicated in a moving ceremony attended by hundreds of thousands of Americans from all 50 states and territories. It was the highlight of our 5-day National Salute to Vietnam veterans and the culmination of three years of hard work. Thanks to the support of people like you and half a million other caring and patriotic individuals, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is now a reality for all the nation to enjoy.

We are pleased to present this summary of activities since our last report to you July, 1982, as well as an update on our plans for the future. The Program Souvenir and brochure describing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial are enclosed for your information.

Fund Raising Campaign Reaches Its Goal.

By the beginning of 1982, VVMF had succeeded in raising over \$5 million for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. With the generous gift of over \$1 million from The American Legion as well as many significant contributions by major U.S. corporations and foundations, the \$7 million goal was reached by late March, in time to break ground and begin construction.

Included among the special gifts that helped VVMF go "over the top" were those from the Exxon Corporation for \$75,000; The LTV Corporation for \$71,058; The Boeing Company for \$64,467; and Anheuser-Busch Companies for \$50,000. Also included in this category are gifts from the following companies and foundations: \$40,000 from Chevron, U.S.A., \$35,000 from Shell Oil Companies; \$26,000 from the Tandy Corporation; and \$25,000 from the Lilly Endowment.

One of VVMF's goals during the campaign was to get as many Americans as possible involved in building the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. A number of corporations conducted employee drives and matched each gift, thereby increasing significantly the number of individuals contributing to the memorial project. Among those participating in these special company-wide campaigns were The LTV Corporation, The Boeing Company, American Express, and Tiger International.

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National Salute to Vietnam Veterans

The purpose of the National Salute was to allow the nation an opportunity to publicly honor and recognize all who had served in the Vietnam war. This was accomplished with the five days of events in November that culminated in the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The Salute to Vietnam Veterans opened with a Candlelight Vigil at the National Cathedral on Wednesday, November 10. For 56 continuous hours, over 230 volunteers read the names of the 57,939 men and women who had sacrificed their lives or remain missing in the Vietnam war. Among those who participated were Vietnam veterans, parents and family members of those whose names were being read, and U.S. Congressmen and Senators. The vigil concluded at midnight on Friday, November 12.

On the evening of November 10, Vietnam veterans were honored by entertainers in a two-hour concert at DAR Constitution Hall. The show was a dynamic, positive and patriotic performance put on by the five service color guards, U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club, U.S. Air Force Band, and Jimmy Stewart, Brian Dennehy and Carol Lawrence. Singer Wayne Newton performed for more than an hour with a host of songs dedicated to all who had answered their country's call to duty in Vietnam.

On Veterans Day, VVMF opened the military unit registration at three locations in the city (Sheraton Washington for the Army; Hotel Washington for the Navy and Marines; and Mayflower Hotel for the Air Force and Coast Guard). Thousands of veterans, many of whom had pre-registered, scanned the rosters for buddles with whom they had served years before, and many succeeded in finding fellow servicemen from their Vietnam units.

Many attending the National Salute were parents and family members of those whose lives had been lost in Vietnam. In recognition of this special group of people who had experienced such personal tragedy, VVMF sponsored a Gold Star Open House on Friday, November 12. More than 5,000 people (all of whom had lost someone in the war) attended this reception that featured food and beverages donated by such companies as Anheuser-Busch, Joseph Seagram and Sons, Chock Full of Nuts, the Doubek Cookie Company and McDonalds.

The long awaited parade and dedication took place on Saturday, November 13. The Parade in Tribute to Vietnam Veterans began at 10 a.m. and featured twenty-five Vietnam veteran Grand Marshals, and more than 15,000 marchers (most of whom were veterans of the Vietnam war) in separate state formations. Military and high school bands and a noontime military flyover of F4's and Huey Helicopters joined the marchers who represented all 50 states and three territories.

Dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial began at 2:30 p.m. on the memorial site. Over 150,000 attended with millions of others sharing this historic moment through live radio and cable T.V. coverage. The media coverage was all-inclusive, from national and local journalists to national networks as well as some foreign network coverage. The ceremony lasted one hour and 15 minutes; when VVMF President Jan Scruggs announced the memorial was officially dedicated, the crowd cheered. It was a moment that many people had waited for a very long time. The entire dedication ceremony is included in the December 2, 1982 Congressional Record.

The National Salute to Vietnam Veterans concluded, just as it had begun, at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. On Sunday, November 14, an 11 a.m. Eucharist service was held to remember all veterans of the Vietnam war and to pray for the reconciliation of divisions in our nation caused by that war. Throughout the country, other churches and religious faiths held services that weekend to remember those in their communities who had died, and to pray for the binding of the wounds caused by that war.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Construction Summary.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, listing the names of the 57,939 servicemen and women who sacrificed their lives or remain missing in Vietnam, stands proudly between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument on our national Mall.

Ground was broken for the memorial on March 26, 1982. By July 1982 the first inscribed panel arrived from Memphis, Tennessee (where a specially designed inscription process was being applied to the cut and polished granite slabs). By the first week in November, all of the 140 inscribed panels had been installed, the landscaping had been completed, and the new sod was planted. The construction fence was taken down on November 10 just prior to the National Salute.

Flag and Sculpture Additions.

I am pleased to tell you the memorial is now nearing completion, having received final approval from the three federal agencies (Department of Interior, The Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission) for the addition of a flagstaff and a life-size three figure sculpture.

An approved "entry plaza" concept calls for the sculpture and flag to be grouped at the entrance to the site from the Lincoln Memorial. This concept provides for revising the walkways surrounding the site to add a walkway on the direct line from the Lincoln Memorial.

National Park Service Volunteer Guides Program.

The National Park Service has created a voluntary guide program to assist visitors in finding the names, which are listed on the walls in chronological order. As the official hosts at the memorial, these guides are answering visitors' questions and are reporting a very favorable reaction by our visitors. Over one million visitors have come to see the memorial, and it is well liked.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Directory of Names.

A Directory of Names (catalogue) is now in its second printing. The Directory is an alphabetical listing of the nearly 58,000 names inscribed on the memorial's granite walls. The Directory provides the exact location of each name by panel and line number, as well as additional identifying information about each person.

As a public service we recently distributed copies to offices which Vietnam veterans and families are likely to contact. These include Congressmen, state governors and state directors of Veterans affairs, Vet Centers, VA hospitals, Vietnam Veternas Leadership Programs, and others.

VVMF went to great lengths to verify the inclusivity and corrections of the names inscribed on the memorial. We imagine, however, that errors and omissions possibly remain; and are committed to rectifying any such errors. We will not add a name, however, unless the Department of Defense adds it to the official list.

Site Restoration and Other Plans.

Due to the heavy rains the night of November 12th and the large crowd in attendance at the Dedication the following day, the sod at the site was severely damaged, particularly in the "bowl" area in the front of the V--shaped walls. With favorable weather now, we have just begun the work of restoring the site.

In the effected areas, we are installing a new topsoil layer to insure adequate percolation of surface water and will also add a system of perforated pipes to drain off the percolated water. We plan to complete the restoration by mid-April in time for the large crowds of annual visitors to the Washington area.

In response to public wishes, our architect of record is working on a proposal for lighting the memorial at night. Based on an acceptable plan, we will submit it to the Park Service for consideration by the appropriate Federal Commissions.

Stewardship.

The VVMF has had annual audits done by Peat, Marwick and Mitchell, an outside auditor, to meet the requirements of the various state charitable solicitation agencies and the Better Business Bureau.

Additional audit work, a special review of VVMF's internal controls, was recently completed under the supervision of the Fund's Independent Audit Committee. The Committee was formed by the VVMF to oversee all accounting operations of our organization. The Independent Audit Committee has our appreciation for their dedicated work.

The members of the Committee are:

Joe Allbritton Chairman of the Board Riggs National Corporation

James Dean, Esq. The American Legion

John Morrison, Esquire VVMF Board of Directors J. Richard Munro President TIME, Inc.

Edmund T. Pratt Chairman of the Board Pfizer, Inc.

Richard E. Radez VVMF Board of Directors

Paul Thayer Formerly Chairman of the Board The LTV Corportation

Lloyd N. Unsell Executive Vice President Independent Petroleum Association of America

Memorial Day /Veterans Day Ceremonies.

We are planning to have the "entrance plaza" modifications (realigning the walkways) and the flagstaff in place, and highlighted by an appropriate ceremony on Memorial Day, 1983. Frederick Hart, the sculpture, is hard at work on the full size statuary and is nearing 50 per cent completion. We would like to have an installation ceremony for the sculpture on Veterans Day this year, but of course this will depend on Mr. Hart's progress and the final bronze casting of the statue.

Thank you again for your support of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

PROGRAM SOUVENIR



NOVEMBER 10-14, 1982 WASHINGTON, D.C.



On the site of this Memorial, on Memorial Day, May 26, 1980, a ceremony was held in which people were invited to join a line and speak in turn the name of an American killed in Vietnam—a brother, a father, a friend, a husband. There was an eleven year old boy who spoke his father's name. There was a mother, thirty-five or so, with two little girls, and one of the girls uttered her father's name. And there was a weeping woman, in uniform, who spoke her husband's name. Then an old soldier came up and spoke the name of a battalion commander felled in Vietnam.

The pain, the reality, and the brokenness were there for all to see. And the barriers to learning and the need for reconciliation were there for all to see as well.

The important thing was to hear the power of a name, while sensing the pain. But in fact this Country has not wept yet over this war's dead. We still deny them. We fought, angry and divided. As yet, we have not wept over, nor said to the war's dead. . . . goodbye. . . .

Until the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The Vietnam War will be an even greater force in American life in the next two decades than in the last two: This is because the war created or magnified deep separations among the 60 million Americans who became adults in the 1960's — the largest generational cohort in United States history. The separations will hurt our national life unless we take conscious steps for healing. Healing offers a redoubled sense of unity which could make the generation a stronger source of sound world leadership than if no war had intervened.

SEPARATIONS. Among the generation the war separated the man who wore the uniform from the man who did not; it separated woman from man, as the wartime turbulence freed the women's movement and posed questions of the male role in our culture; and it separated self from self, as those in the generation encountered harsh societal attitudes toward the choices they made about military service and public protest during the war years, causing self-examination to find truths separated away and hidden within themselves.

Healing these separations has only begun. Part of the beginning is expressed in the task of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, which Congress entrusted to create the Memorial on two acres on the Mall in Washington, D.C. to honor and recognize all those who served in the armed forces in the war. For the Memorial, our whole country owes thanks to Jan Scruggs, Memorial Fund president, and Robert Doubek, project director, who have toiled on the project since the beginning, in a tale that is just starting to be told.

HOPE. For those who wore the uniform, the Memorial is in part a way to affirm the bonds of friendship that were born in military service. This is not remote from a wish to rekindle unity with the other men and women in the generation. Efforts to break down the divisions which now fracture the generation could lead the generation to defeat the war by becoming more united than would have resulted from a course of peace. This is a possibility, and it is hopeful. It suggests that after a process of examining the divisions the generation would be better able to lead this country in dealing with world dangers and opportunities.

There are hints of other hopeful possibilities. They also have to do with strengthened unity. One is that the influx of able women leaders among the generation appears, to some extent at least, to be due to the upheaval in society spurred by the war. Our country is stronger and will be stronger, due to these women. By the same token, wartime service lent to those who wore the uniform a mark of maturity, self-giving, and common sense about war. There is plainly potential for national leadership among the veterans, and there is a place for them alongside the women and men

who did not serve in the military. The distinctive contributions in leadership by the veterans will strengthen our country and may, I think, be determinative in our keeping both peace and freedom in the international arena of the 1980's and 1990's, and past the turn of the century.

WORK. The wrenching experience of the war, in combination with the submerged remaining divisions (which are barriers to a possibly redoubled unity) suggests plainly that there is work to be done. The work is to get the generation that came of age during the war to focus on each other, and to accept each other, across the various separations caused by the war. Academic, church, synagogue, business, and professional communities can put this matter directly to members of the generation.

The succeeding generation — those now in young work life, graduate school, college and high school — must be introduced to these matters as well. First, the succeeding generation will find its national life led by leaders from among the Vietnam generation. It always helps to understand as fully as possible one's leaders and hence the political situation. Second, members of the succeeding generation have a strong potential for encouraging members of the Vietnam generation to effect reconciliation. Nor should we forget the potential role of parents of the Vietnam veterans and protestors.

Teaching these things to the succeeding generation is a task for the academic community. The materials are on hand. The recent book, *The Wounded Generation*, examines the divisions in the Vietnam generation, and major aspects are presented in *Strangers at Home, A Rumor of War, Everything We Had*, and in the novels, *Fields of Fire, A Sense of Honor*, and *The 13th Valley*.

The gifted American academic community is well able to steer students to an understanding of the war and its effects. One has only to consider the attention given to the segregation issues and freedom rides of the late 1950's and early 1960's. By 1969 Cleaver's *Soul on Ice* was in just about every college bookstore. It was being read in seminars. Now there is *The Wounded Generation*. The hurts are just as deep. The divisions are just as wide. The diminished respect and esteem are just as striking.

These reflections have explored the reasons for and the nature of the work that Americans must undertake. There appears to be evidence that this view is correct. How will we know unless we try?

Johnwheeler

JOHN WHEELER

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the *National Salute to Vietnam Veterans*. These five days culminate three years of hard, concerted work to create a national memorial to Vietnam veterans.

Our task in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund has been to stimulate the long overdue national recognition that has largely been denied to those of us who served in our nation's longest war. We trust that the Salute is the beginning of our nation's greater understanding of the honorable service and sacrifice given by all the Americans who answered their country's call to duty in Vietnam.

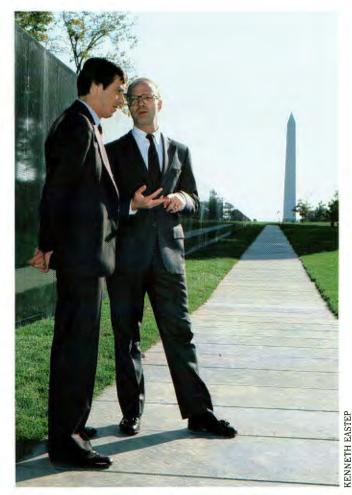
It is keenly significant that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial rests majestically between the memorials honoring two of our nation's greatest leaders—George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The names of our friends who made the supreme sacrifice with their lives in Vietnam will live forever on grounds dedicated to the honorable spirit that exemplifies our great country.

Those who gave their lives, those who served and returned, and those who remain missing in action—all are recognized with this memorial. From Sergeant Roy Benavidez, the last living soldier to receive a Medal of Honor for Vietnam service, to Lieutenant Sharon Lane, one of the women who died in Vietnam; from the men who were prisoners of war, to the thousands of veterans who were injured or disabled as a result of their service. Our nation now expresses its gratitude to all who served.

There are thousands of individuals who have made the Vietnam Veterans Memorial possible through their donations or their dedicated work. Few organizations have ever had the staff talent and dedication as we had with Robert Doubek and Sandie Fauriol and all others who served unstintingly with VVMF. The board of directors gave their single-minded devotion and leadership.

The volunteer spirit flourished throughout these three years, and special credit goes to patriots such as Alf Thompson; Paul Thayer, Chairman, the LTV Corporation; and Lloyd Unsell, Vice President of the Independent Petroleum Association. These gentlemen raised a significant amount of the funds necessary to build the memorial. Veterans organizations such as the American Legion, the AMVETS and the Veterans of Foreign Wars gave untiring support, key contributions and, like other veterans and military organizations, did their part.

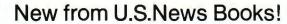
The National Salute to Vietnam Veterans is a time of celebration and reflection—a time to honor those who served and sacrificed in Vietnam. It is a time to remember the effect such sacrifice has on the Vietnam veterans' families, their communities, and the very nature of our way of life.



Jan C. Scruggs, President, and Jack Wheeler, Chairman.

That today, we can stand as a country to pay tribute to the 2.7 million Americans who served in Vietnam is a testament to our values, our blessings of liberty, and our faith in what is right. As Abraham Lincoln expressed it, that faith let us "do our duty as we understood it."

JAN CRAIG SCRUGGS



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Chapter 10



Introduction by William C. Westmoreland. The Senior Commander of the U.S. and Allied Forces in Vietnam from 1964 through 1968, General Westmoreland comments: "The Vietnam Order of Battle is a work of rare commemorative and historical value. The encyclopedic detail is unequaled for any war in which the U.S. Army has engaged. There is no comparable order of battle even for World War II. It has made a major contribution to the history of a unique war and a troubled era."



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form and war strategy enthusiasts.

Compiled over seven years by Shelby L. Stanton, Captain, U.S. Army, Retired, the 416-page compendium covers the entire organization and structure of U.S. ground forces in Vietnam; major commands and key operations; divisions; infantry and airborne brigades; combat support, service and special units; deployments and stations; casualties by type, rank

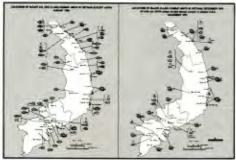
and state; Medal of Honor recipients; even a glossary of troop slang. Primary emphasis is given to listing all units (down to company level) that served, both American and Allied, their terms of service, location, stations, authorized strength, command relationship, functions and major missions.

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Tribute to Honor

ny retelling of the three and a half-year task to build a memorial and to orchestrate a celebration of patriotism must cite many individuals, selfless deeds, fortunate coincidence, and the unifying power of bold, confident action.

Any retelling of the monumental achievement must, as well, recount a dream—the dream of Jan C. Scruggs.

Corporal Jan Scruggs returned injured and decorated from a Vietnam combat company in the 199th Light Infantry Brigade that had lost half its men in battle. He had enlisted in hopes of earning a college education; this in turn led him to a graduate degree in psychological counseling, specializing in the psychological and sociological readjustment difficulties of Vietnam veterans. In 1976, five years after his return from Vietnam, Scruggs testified before the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and strongly urged that counseling be made available to Vietnam veterans nationwide. Almost as an aside, he recommended that a memorial be built to honor the Vietnam veterans, as a tangible symbol to show them the country did care about their service in the Vietnam War.

It was not until 1979 that Scruggs pledged his total commitment to the dream of such a memorial: after seeing the motion picture, *The Deerhunter*, he reencountered that poignant record of individual lives affected by the "unpopular war" and vowed to build a memorial to their honor. The memorial would acknowledge and recognize the service and sacrifice of all who served in Vietnam.

Scruggs began his quest. He searched for group support, for dedicated Americans with whom to fulfill his dream. Attending a meeting of an ad hoc committee formed to attempt a celebration of Vietnam Veterans Week (declared by Congress for Memorial Day, 1979), Scruggs proposed his plan for a national monument.



VVMF President Jan Scruggs and Maya Ying Lin, designer of the memorial.

Those gathered at the U.S. Conference of Mayors' office in April of 1979 spoke of benefits to serve the needs of their fellow veterans. Only one person shared completely what Scruggs was visualizing. He was Robert Doubek, a lawyer and former Air Force intelligence officer who had served in Vietnam in 1968-69.

Doubek had served his tour of duty and come home with no physical scars, but he retained a gnawing sense of resentment that his service, and that of all Vietnam veterans, had gone unrecognized.

Doubek, who attended law school on the GI Bill, advised Scruggs that a nonprofit, charitable corporation was needed as the legal organization to undertake the memorial project. Such a corporation could receive tax deductible contributions and contract for construction. Scruggs retained Doubek to incorporate the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF), and Doubek agreed to serve as an officer and director of the corporation. VVMF was incorporated on April 27, 1979, and the first organizational meeting was held five days later. The IRS granted non-profit status in June. The dream was making its bid for realization.

First, Scruggs held a national Memorial Day press conference to announce the formation of VVMF. A newswire story appeared. Five weeks later, however, only \$144.50 had been raised. At the end of his national newscast on July 4th, Roger Mudd reported that fact. But — what could have appeared as a fizzled attempt became a startling beginning!

That story attracted the notice of John Wheeler, a Washington lawyer, Vietnam



Project Director Robert Doubek making an on-site inspection of construction.

veteran, and West Point graduate. Wheeler led the group representing the graduating classes from 1960 - 1969 who built the Southeast Asia Memorial at West Point. He met with Scruggs and Doubek and joined the team.

Meanwhile, Scruggs had taken two weeks off without pay from his job in order to gain support in Congress for the memorial. Senator Pete Domenici (R, NM) had supported a memorial in his home state and had spoken at the VVMF Memorial Day press conference. Scruggs also met with the staff of his senator, Charles McC. Mathias (R, MD) regarding the possibility of Senator Mathias' sponsorship of legislation for the memorial. In early August 1979, the senator agreed to introduce whatever legislation was needed.

Wheeler, seeing the need for more manpower, recruited a task force of legal

and business professionals which included George Mayo, John Morrison, Paul Haaga, Richard Radez, Arthur Mosley, and Bill Maar. Doubek chaired the initial meeting and outlined the legal and management questions that the project presented.

Wheeler also recruited Robert Frank, a CPA, who agreed to become VVMF Treasurer and oversee financial matters. In early September, Wheeler and Frank became members of the Board. Meanwhile, the Board and task force began to meet biweekly along with volunteer advisors in other aspects of the effort. These included Bill Jayne in public relations, John Woods in design and construction, Heather Haaga in fund raising, and Ronald Gibbs in legislation.

Doubek and Wheeler assisted Senator Mathias in developing the legislation that would provide a site of land for the memorial. Senator Mathias suggested a site on the Washington Mall. After evaluating areas around the city, VVMF determined that a prominent site was the most important factor for the success of the memorial. Concurrently, VVMF developed the concept of having an overall landscaped solution for the memorial's design which was suggested by the Southeast Asia Memorial at West Point. There Major Glenn F. Rogers, an artist and a Vietnam combat veteran, designed a park area to serve the need for a memorial to harmonize with the surrounding architecture and to respect the atmosphere of the US Military Academy grounds. Similar considerations governed any memorial to be established on the National Mall in Constitution Gardens where VVMF found the best site, 200 yards from the Lincoln Memorial.

The legislation would be introduced on November 8, 1979, and VVMF began planning for a press conference to announce it. Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt (R, AR) prepared to introduce the Bill in the House.

In September, VVMF contacted a fund raising company regarding a national direct mail appeal. In October, Senator John Warner (R, VA), Secretary of the Navy during the Vietnam War, met with the VVMF board and committed to raise the funds necessary to launch the national fund raising campaign.

In November, upon Senator Mathias' introduction of the legislation, VVMF established an executive office to manage its affairs. Doubek became executive director,

Groundbreaking, March 26, 1982.



A Sweeping, Impressive Tribute



An engraved panel of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

ong prior to the signing of the legislation granting the site, VVMF began to consider the process of selecting a design. Because of the number of artists and designers who had expressed interest in designing the memorial, its national significance, and its philosophy of bringing all together to honor Vietnam veterans, VVMF decided to hold a national competition — open to any U.S. citizen over 18 years of age. The competition would allow consideration of the broadest possible range of design ideas — judged fairly and objectively.

Immediately after signing of the legislation, VVMF retained Paul D. Spreiregen, a Washington architect and planner, as professional advisor for the planning and conduct of the competition. VVMF set five basic criteria for the design: it (1) be reflective and contemplative in character, (2) be harmonious with its site and surroundings; (3) provide for the inscription of the names of the nearly .58,000 who gave their lives or remain missing, (4) make no political statement about the war and (5) occupy up to two acres of land.

VVMF selected an award winning jury of seven internationally known architects,

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

for one-half his previous salary. The volunteer advisors were organized into six task groups: public relations; finance and accounting; fund raising; legislative liaison; site selection; and design and construction.

y the end of 1979, VVMF had \$9,000 in the bank — \$5,500 from individual Americans; \$2,500 from the Veterans of Foreign Wars; \$1,000 from Senator Warner, who had held a fund raising breakfast for VVMF on December 22nd. On January 2, 1980, Doubek opened a one room office as the first VVMF headquarters.

On January 16, 1980, Grumman Aerospace Corporation, responding to Senator Warner's appeal, contributed \$10,000 which enabled VVMF to pay the postage for a 200,000 letter test of a direct mail appeal. That month, VVMF began to form a National Sponsoring Committee of prominent Americans who agreed to lend

Throughout the campaign, the message was clear that Americans wanted this memorial to be built. With a flood of contributions, Americans assured that it would be...

the prestige of their names in support of the cause. The characteristic VVMF flame logo was also designed.

In late February, 200,000 letters were mailed, and the American people showed with their dollars that the time to honor Vietnam veterans had truly arrived. The legislative effort moved forward as well, and by the time of Senate hearings on March 12, 1980, 85 of the 100 Senators were co-sponsors, largely due to the personal effort of Jan Scruggs. The Bill was passed unanimously by the Senate on April 30, 1980, and hearings were held in the House in early May. Unfortunately, the interference of a House member who misunderstood the nonpolitical purpose of the memorial prevented passage of the

Bill by Memorial Day. Through the efforts of Gibbs and Doubek, however, VVMF eventually was able to gain this Congressman's full support and the Bill was passed in the House unanimously.

It was the first time in over a decade that both the House and the Senate had agreed so whole-heartedly on a single piece of legislation.

VVMF proceeded with its plans to mail one million letters on Memorial Day, but needed funds for postage. Charles Daniel, a West Point graduate and president of First American Bank, N.A., provided an unsecured loan for \$30,000. In late April, syndicated columnist James J. Kilpatrick, who had never before endorsed a fund

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

sculptors and landscape architects and one writer to judge the competition. They were Pietro Belluschi, architect; Grady Clay, author; Garrett Eckbo, landscape architect; Richard H. Hunt, sculptor; Constantino Nivola, sculptor; James Rosati, sculptor; Hideo Sasaki, landscape architect; and Harry Weese, architect. Before his selection each of the jurors was interviewed by the directors of VVMF to verify his commitment to choosing the best design for the memorial according to VVMF's criteria.

VVMF began promoting the competition in October 1980, and the response was unprecedented — with over 5,000 inquiries. A rules booklet with registration forms was sent in response to each. By the December 29 deadline registration forms were received from 2,573 individuals and teams. In early January 1981 all registrants received the design program and a set of maps, and had 90 days to develop their designs. By the deadline on March 31, 1981, 1,421 entries were received — making the competition the largest ever held in the United States or Europe.

All entries were displayed in a large hangar at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, in rows covering more than 35,000 square feet of floor space. Each entry was identified by number only, to preserve the anonymity of their authors.

The jury met during the last week in April to judge the entries. All were examined by each juror; by the afternoon of the second day, the field was narrowed to 232. Late the following day, the finalists numbered 39.

As described by one of the jurors, "a long, careful thoughtful discussion" was then held, and it was mutually agreed that the "simple and meditative design would have to be horizontal, not vertical...that there had to be some expressing of human tragedy, a sense of serenity beyond the visual...that the design must fit the site ... must belong only to its place on the Mall, which in itself was the most important part of the memorial."

By mid-afternoon on April 30, the jury had made its final decision which was unanimous. Its official report to VVMF said:

The jury for the Vietnam Memorial Design Competition finds Entry Number 1026 the finest and most appropriate of the 1,421 entries submitted. We recommend to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund that it be built on this site.

Of all the proposals submitted, this most clearly meets the spirit and formal

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34



Building A Memorial

Inscription Process. Once placement on the memorial's walls was decided, the names were inscribed by Binswanger Glasscraft Products, Memphis, Tennessee, using an innovative process called photo stencil sandblasting.

he site was granted, the design chosen, the finances provided. Now, one final step: to build the memorial to Vietnam veterans. As breathtakingly simple as it is, the memorial presented myriad complexities due primarily to the inclusion of nearly 58,000 names in the design. Where were those names? Who had access to the lists; and were the lists accurate and complete? How would the names fit on the memorial walls; and how would the Memorial then fit in with its surroundings? Was it possible to build such a monument within the budget; and could it possibly be finished by the projected completion date of Veterans Day, 1982?

These, and many more, were the questions facing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and especially, its project director, Robert Doubek, who below outlines the problems, strategies, and solutions — along with personal reflections — involved in the actual construction of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Compiling the Names. During and after the Vietnam war, the Department of Defense compiled a list of 57,708 war zone casualties according to criteria set in a Presidential directive. This number included those still officially considered miss-

ing or prisoners. The VVMF verified this DOD list, where possible, by cross-checking it against casualty data provided by the individual service branches. As a result of this cross-checking, VVMF added a total of 231 names to the list to be inscribed on the memorial. The bulk of these names were of Air Force personnel who had died in accidents during flight operations in Thailand, bringing the total number of names on the memorial to 57,939.

To ensure that each name was correctly entered into the DOD casualty list, VVMF contracted with the National Personnel Records Center, National Archives and Records Service, in St. Louis, Missouri. The spelling of each name was checked against the man or woman's official military personnel records. In addition, because of the possibility of error in transcribing prefixed names (De, La, Mc, Mac, O', Van, Von, etc.), VVMF had each prefixed name and each name that possibly contained a prefix specifically checked.

A problem posed by the official list was the fact that names were entered with the last name first, followed by the first name, middle name and generational suffix. For the names to be inscribed and typeset with the first name, middle initial, last name

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

On Patriotism

True patriotism is more than getting a lump in your throat when the flag passes by. It involves determination on your part to see that America remains free. It involves your willingness to put the best interest of the nation ahead of your own self-interest. Single interests may be important. But the art of democracy is the ability to recognize the common good. The ability to give, not just to take. 231 million people can pull our nation apart or pull it together. Which way did you pull today?

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"I began in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund because it represented an opportunity to work with other Vietnam veterans in a much needed effort to heighten the visibility of, and sensitivity to, the contributions, and sacrifice of America's Vietnam veterans. Having achieved a success that far exceeded my initial expectations, the Memorial in future years will hopefully not only provide a tangible symbol of recognition for the Vietnam veteran, but also will continue to be a catalyst for dialogue and analysis leading ultimately to national reconciliation regarding our country's part in the Vietnam war." George Mayo, Jr., Esq.

"I became involved in the Memorial Fund out of a personal sense of commitment that all those who served and died in Vietnam cannot be forgotten nor lost in our nation's history. I believe we must put aside whether the war was right or wrong and recognize with honor and dignity all those who served our country. I felt that a memorial would serve as a reminder to the American people in the generations to come of the sacrifice our nation made in the Vietnam War."

- Ronald F. Gibbs

^{*}Served in Vietnam

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND STAFF MEMBERS



Back row (L to R): Robert Doubek, Karen Bigelow, Sandie Fauriol, Jan Scruggs, Robert Carter, Kelvin Hunter. Middle row: Christopher Crane (intern), Keith Cunningham (intern). Front row: Kathy Wilson, Chelette Johnson, Kathie Kielich, Dorsey Franks, Ruth Murdock.

For serving so bravely in Vietnam, we salute you.





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Robert W. Doubek, Project Director



Col. Robert A. Carter,* USAF, Ret., Executive Vice President



Sandie Fauriol. Director, NSVV



Col. Kelvin Hunter, USA, Ret., Parade Coordinator, NSVV



Karen K. Bigelow, Deputy Director, NSVV

*Served in Vietnam

VVMF salutes its own! Special thanks to Bob Carter and Kathie Kielich for keeping us all "marching along together" always and in all ways! Also to Ruth Murdock, Chelette Johnson, Kathy Wilson and Dorsey Franks for efforts above and beyond the call of duty!

NATIONAL SALUTE TO VIETNAM VETERANS MAJOR DONORS

During VVMF's two year campaign, over 500,000 individuals, companies, foundations, and civic and veterans organizations contributed a total of \$7 million to build a long overdue tribute to all Americans who served in the Vietnam war. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is truly a gift from the American people to the nation. To everyone who contributed uis special project, we say THANK YOU!

ial recognition for their significant generosity that hastened the day when in the Vietnam war became a reality.

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Sandie Fauriol

Director of the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans

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Col. Kelvin Hunter,* USA, Ret., Parade Coordinator, NSVV



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beyond the call of duty!

NATIONAL SALUTE TO VIETNAM VETERANS MAJOR DONORS

During VVMF's two year campaign, over 500,000 individuals, companies, foundations, and civic and veterans organizations contributed a total of \$7 million to build a long overdue tribute to all Americans who served in the Vietnam war. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is truly a gift from the American people to the nation. To everyone who contributed their time, money, effort, and, above all love to this special project, we say THANK YOU!

The donors listed on this page deserve special recognition for their significant generosity that hastened the day when our dream of honoring all Americans who served in the Vietnam war became a reality.

Director of the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans

BENEFACTOR: \$50,000+

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^{*}employee and company matched gift

THE VIETNAM WAR NEWSLETTER

salutes the Vietnam veteran, the Directors and Staff of the VVMF, and all of you wonderful Americans whose unwavering support has meant so much to us!

In March of 1979, Tom Hebert, a former Marine and Vietnam veteran, published the first issue of the Vietnam War Newsletter. There were less than a dozen readers and the VWN was only one page long. Forty-four monthly issues have now been published, the readership is several thousand strong and the VWN has grown to twelve pages monthly plus an Advertising Supplement.

The Vietnam War Newsletter is the only publication of its kind in the country. It is a gold-mine of valuable information for the Vietnam veteran, Vietnam veteran supporters and those with a historical interest in the war. Over the last four years, the VWN has developed a network of reliable sources-- publishers, mail order bookstores, souvenir collectors, well over 100 Vietnam veterans organizations, and the best source of all, readers who clip newspaper and magazine articles and send in anything they can find.



Free bonus! When you subscribe to the Vietnam War Newsletter, you will receive absolutely free with the first issue, the Vietnam Booklist. It contains complete details on nearly 450 books which deal directly with Vietnam. Surely, it contains books that will be of immense interest and value to you. If you walk into your local bookstore, looking for books on the Nam, you'll find a handful or less. This means that very few books are being published on Nam...right? Wrong! In the last two years, Tom's received over 200 new books from publishers. The Vietnam Booklist and the Vietnam War Newsletter will tell you everything you need to know about them, including a mail order address.

Lifetime memberships - Tom has made a lifetime commitment to the Vietnam War Newsletter. Already, nearly 100 Nam vets have made a similar commitment. Lifetime membership means uninterrupted year-after-year enjoyable reading with no further charge. It also means...a free copy of all updates to the Vietnam Booklist, a 20% discount on all books purchased from the Vietnam Bookstore and special lower prices on all products sold by the Newsletter. A great way to fight inflation!

Here is just some of what you've missed in past issues

★Information on these organizations-The 101st ABN Div Assn, Chute & Dagger (insignia collecting), Jewish War Veterans Assn, Vietnam Veterans Peace and Brotherhood Chapel, First Cavalry Div Assn, Vietnam Veterans, Inc., 4th Inf (IVY) Div Assn, The Vietnam Project (television documentary production), The Vietnam Experience and Vietnam: Reflexes and Reflections (Vietnam artist exhibits), several Agent Orange and MIA groups, Society of the 173d Airborne Bde, The 1st and 3rd Mar Div Assns, American Legion and VFW Posts for Nam vets only, Vietnam War Veterans History and Archives Center, Com-Vets, Special Forces Assn, Athens Vietnam Vets Assn, Brotherhood of Vietnam Veterans History and Archives Center, Com-Vets, Special Forces Assn, Athens Vietnam Vets Assn, Brotherhood of Vietnam Veterans United, Red River Valley Pilots Assn, Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program, Vet Centers of both the VA and the DAV, Vietnam Veterans United, Red River Valley Pilots Assn, Vietnam Vets of Illinois, United Vietnam Veterans Organization, Viet Vet House, DEROS (Vietnam poetry publication), Saigon Mission Assn, Nam Vets of Georgia, The Special Elite Forces Society, Vietnamese Veterans of Oregon, 25th Inf Div Assn, Americal Division, Survivors of Sacrifice, Merc School, etc., etc. ★ Newspaper Articles - many hundreds--all summarized. It's like having your own clipping service! ★ Magazine Articles - over 100 references to articles appearing in a wide variety of periodicals. ★ Book Previews and Reviews - complete details on hundreds of books on Nam. ★ Products - t-shirts, records, posters, patches, war games, flags, maps, bumper stickers, jewelry, ties, etc., etc. ★ Readers Column - hundreds of entries by Nam vets, most of whom are looking for their Nam buddies. Someone could be looking for you! ★ Features - Nam vet reaction to El Salvador, A Guide to the Movies Parts I & II (57 feature films and documentaries), Vietnam Veterans in Congress, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., the controversial trips to Hanoi by the VVA, Vi

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Dear Fellow Americans:

The dedication of the Vietnam Veterans
Memorial and the National Salute to Vietnam
Veterans marks a milestone in American history. It
gives Vietnam veterans their rightful place of
honor beside the men and women who fought and
served in all of America's wars.

When the idea for the memorial was suggested to me by Jan Scruggs, I saw that it would be not only a symbol of our Nation's gratitude to those who served in Vietnam, but also a symbol of the reconciliation and reunion that preserves us as a Nation.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Charles M.C. Bathias, Charles McC. Mathias

United States Senator

Dear Fellow Americans:

For the 2.7 million Americans who served and the 57,939 who gave the ultimate sacrifice, the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans is more than five days' worth of recognition, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is more than a stone edifice. They represent the realization that those who fought in that war, who fought not for glory, but for freedom, did so with no less dedication than our forefathers.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, a lasting tribute to the service and dedication of Americans who fought in that divisive war, has been erected on one of the most hallowed pieces of ground in our nation. The memories of the 57,939 lost are forever embraced by our first President, George Washington—whose memorial is at the left, and the memorial of President Lincoln at the right—our President who taught us the meaning of freedom and equal justice for all.

And soon, on those same grounds, will be built a memorial to the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence who, beginning on July 4th, 1776, made sacrifices to bring forth in our land the freedom we enjoy today. Their sacrifices were no less, no greater, to preserve freedom than those made by the veterans of Vietnam 200 years later.

I pray God that this nation never again must send forth men and women to make such sacrifices in the cause of freedom. But, if this nation does respond to that call, then let us remember the lesson of Vietnam. For victory can only be ours if we support and follow those who must fight to preserve it.

Sincerely,

John W Warner

United States Senator



9

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund 1110 Vermont Avenue, NW Suite 308, Washington D.C. 20005

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THE VFW

Working for Vietnam Veterans



NATIONAL SALUTE TO VIETNAM VETERANS

= SCHEDULE OF EVENTS =

NOVEMBER 10-14, 1982 • WASHINGTON, D.C.

GENERAL INFORMATION

VVMF Office: telephone: 659-2490.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial location: Constitution Avenue at Henry Bacon Drive, NW. Metro stop: Foggy Bottom, Blue or Orange line.

Candlelight Vigil schedules are available at most hotels, registration sites, and National Cathedral.

Metro (subway) maps and National Salute schedules are available at most hotels and registration sites.

Hotels where many activities occur:

Sheraton Washington Hotel (VVMF Headquarters Hotel) 2660 Woodley Rd. NW (Woodley at Connecticut Ave. NW)

Washington, DC 20008 (202) 328-2000 Metro stop: Woodley Park-Zoo, Red Line

Hotel Washington 15th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, D.C. 20004 (202) 638-5900 Metro stop: Metro Center, Blue, Orange, or Red Line

Mayflower Hotel 1127 Connecticut Ave., NW Washington, DC 20036 (202) 347-3000 Metro stop: Farragut North, Red Line

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

10am-midnight, Fri. Nov. 12: Candlelight Vigil at the National Cathedral, Wisconsin and Massachusetts $\mbox{Ave.}$ NW.

An around-the-clock candlelight vigil to remember those Americans killed or missing in Vietnam will be held. The schedule for the 56-hour reading of the 57,939 names is as follows:

Wednesday, Nov. 10 10 am-3:55 pm 4:15 pm-midnight

War Memorial Chapel Bethlehem Chapel

Thursday, Nov. 11: Midnight-7 am 10 am-3:55 pm 4:15 pm-midnight

Bethlehem Chapel War Memorial Chapel Bethlehem Chapel

Friday, Nov. 12: Midnight-7 am 10 am-3:55 pm 4:15 pm-midnight

Bethlehem Chapel War Memorial Chapel Bethlehem Chapel

Two volunteers will alternate reading names during each half-hour. On the quarter hour one volunteer will read a prayer; four different prayers representing the Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Unitarian faiths will be heard. (See page 32)

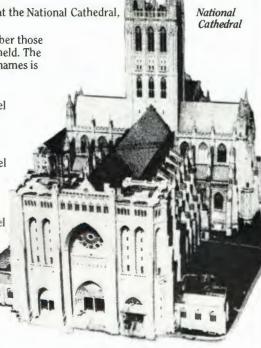
A schedule is available giving the half-hour interval during which names will be read in their alphabetical order.

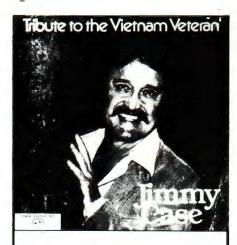
Shuttle buses to and from the National Cathedral (with stops at the Hotel Washington, Capital Hilton, Mayflower Hotel, and the Sheraton Washington) are being offered during the vigil, courtesy of The American Legion. For information, contact The American Legion registration area at the Capital Hilton, phone 393-1000.

More Exhibit Info PG. 33 9 am-5 pm, November 10-12: Veterans of Foreign Wars Exhibits. Sheraton Washington Hotel, 2660 Woodley Road NW, and Washington Hotel, 15 & Pa. Ave. NW, for VFW members and guests.

ENTERTAINERS SALUTE

8 pm: DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street NW (tickets pre-sold) Master of Ceremonies Jimmy Stewart opens a show featuring disk jockey Chris Noel with special guest Wayne Newton & Friends to present an evening of sparkling entertainment. The Navy Choir, the Air Force band, and the Color Guard of five services contribute to make this a stirring Salute.





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SCHEDULE OF

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11 VETERANS DAY

All-day Workshops by the Vietnam Veterans of America on issue-oriented topics of particular interest to Vietnam era veterans will be held at the Dupont Plaza Hotel, 1500 New Hampshire Ave. NW, continuing on Nov. 12. For information call the Dupont Plaza Hotel, 483-6000 or the VVA at 546-3700.

9:15 am: Veterans of Foreign Wars Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington Cemetery.

12 am-7 am; 10 am-midnight: Candlelight Vigil continues, National Cathedral.

11 am: Veterans Day Ceremony, Arlington Cemetery. Traditional wreath laying ceremony, hosted by the Veterans Administration and co-hosted by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

1 pm: "No Greater Love" Children place flowers at Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Following the Veterans Day Ceremony at Arlington Cemetery, children of men and women who died or remain missing in Vietnam honor the memories of their parents at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

2 pm-9 pm: Unit Reunion Registration. Army—Sheraton Washington Hotel, Exhibit

Hall C, 2660 Woodley Ave., NW.
Navy & Marines — Hotel Washington, Wash-

Navy & Marines — Hotel Washington, Washington Ballroom, 15 & Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Air Force & Coast Guard — Mayflower Hotel, State Room, 1127 Connecticut Ave. NW.

Open Stage entertainment by Vietnam vets featuring M.C. John E. Wain (John Wayne) and a display of works of art by veterans and the military services will be open at the Sheraton Washington Hotel, Exhibit Hall C, during the reunion registration hours.

Rooms have been reserved at the Sheraton Washington for the following unit reunions (exact time and locations available at three registration sites):

101st Airborne Division Association Society of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Society of The Big Red One 25th Infantry Division Association MAC V 1st CAV Division Association

Special Forces

3 pm-4 pm: Red Cross Special POW Reception. Red Cross Room of the National Red Cross Headquarters, 17th Street between D & E Streets NW for Vietnam POW's and their families.

8 pm: Veterans Day Concert, U.S. Army Band. Col. Eugene Allen, USA, Leader-Conductor. Free to Public. Departmental Auditorium between 12th & 14th St., Constitution Ave. NW.

THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC EVERY DAY FROM 8 AM to 5 PM.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

All-day Workshops by the Vietnam Veterans of America on issue-oriented topics of particular interest to Vietnam era veterans will be held at the Dupont Plaza Hotel, 1500 New Hampshire Ave., NW. For more information call the Dupont Plaza Hotel, 483-6000, or the VVA at 546-3700.

8 am-5 pm: Family Tours of Washington. For information, contact the American Legion Registration Area at the Capital Hilton Hotel, 16th & K Sts. NW, 393-1000.

9 am-9 pm: Unit Reunion Registration continues (see November 11 listing).

10 am-6 pm: Open House hosted by the Vietnam Veterans of America, AMVETS and Stars and Stripes at the National Tribune Building with Happy Hour from 6-7:30 pm and reception from 7:30 to midnight.

12 am-7 am; 10 am-midnight: Candlelight Vigil, National Cathedral. Vigil concludes at midnight.

10 am-4 pm: Veterans of Foreign Wars Open House. VFW Memorial Building, 200 Maryland Ave. NE.

10 am-11:45 am: Panel on Agent Orange. Cannon Caucus Room, 345 Cannon House Office Bldg. Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., and co-sponsored by Vietnam Veterans in Congress.

1 pm-5 pm: Jewish War Veterans of the USA Open House. National Headquarters, 1712 New Hampshire Ave. NW.

1:30 pm-3 pm: Panel on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Cannon Caucus Room, 345 Cannon House Office Bldg. Co-sponsored by VVA and VVIC.

2 pm-5 pm: Red Cross Open House. Vietnam veterans and their families are invited to attend. Red Cross National Headquarters, 17th St. between D & E Streets NW.

3 pm-8 pm: Gold Star Open House. Open House for families of those killed and missing in Vietnam, hosted by the American Gold Star Mothers, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Ave. SW. (Federal Center SW Metro Stop, Blue or Orange line.)

5 pm-7 pm: VFW Reception. Beer bust including hot dogs and baked beans. Sheraton Washington Hotel, Ballroom, 2660 Woodley Rd. NW.

5 pm-9 pm: American Legion Open House featuring music of the Vietnam Era. Capital

Hilton, Presidential Ballroom, 16 & K Sts. NW. No admission charge; cash bar. Guests are encouraged to contact their respective American Legion state representatives at the Open House.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

10 am-1 pm: Parade in Tribute to Vietnam Veterans. Vietnam veterans, military contingents, and others march by state down Constitution Avenue toward the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Noon: Flyby, US Air Force and US Navy F-4's, and US Army Helicopters will fly down Independence Avenue.

2:30 pm: Dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The memorial site is in Constitution Gardens, between Constitution Avenue and Henry Bacon Drive NW.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

11 am: Eucharist Service at the National Cathedral. Eucharist service will remember all veterans and pray for the reconciliation of divisions in our nation caused by the Vietnam War. Wisconsin and Massachusetts Ave.

Nationwide Religious Services and Prayers in remembrance and honor of all Americans who served in Vietnam.

EMERGENCY COUNSELING SERVICES

From November 10 through November 14, emergency counseling services will be provided in Washington by Vietnam Veteran counselors from Vet Centers. Contact with counselors in a variety of locations can be made as

Sheraton-Washington Hotel, 2660 Woodley Road at Connecticut Ave. NW. The telephone number is 328-2000. Ask for the "Vet Center" extension (Idaho and Wisconsin Rooms).

A mobile van (RV) on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial grounds near the Memorial, marked "Vet Center."

Hotel Washington, 15th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW. The telephone number is 638-5900. Ask for the "Vet Center" extension.

Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Ave., NW, phone 347-3000; ask for the "Vet Center" ex-

Washington Vet Center, 709 Eighth St. SE. The telephone numbers are 745-8400, 745-8401, or 745-8403 (near the Eastern Market Metro Stop, Blue and Orange lines).

Silver Spring Vet Center, 8121 Georgia Ave... near the Silver Spring Metro Stop (Red line). This is on the 5th Floor of the World Building, Suite 500. Open mid-November.

Counselors will be identifiable by arm bands with the words "Vet Center."

The National Salute is an event of great importance to all Vietnam veterans. Vet Center counselors are available to help you as well as others who may need assistance

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2. DIVISION A

Alabama Alaska Grand Marshal Rocky Bleier Arizona Arkansas California **Grand Marshal** Thomas A. Daschle American Legion Float Colorado Massed Colors Connecticut Delaware **Grand Marshals** MG Robert Arter MSG Edward O. Kinsley District of Columbia Florida Georgia Grand Marshal Brian M. Thacker Guam Float Platoon of Red Cross Volunteers (Doughnut Dollies) Red Cross Float -Communications

3. DIVISION B

Idaho Illinois Grand Marshal Steve Kanaly Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana **Grand Marshals Massed Colors** MG Stephen G. Olmstead 1st Sgt Joseph R. Means Maine Maryland Massachusetts Grand Marshal Michigan Minnesota Grand Marshal Maj. Susan Graski Mississippi Missouri Grand Marshal Everet Alvarez USO Float - Miss Maryland Show

4. DIVISION C

Montana Nebraska Grand Marshal Gary Maddox Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey **Grand Marshals** Commodore John S. Discher Master Chief Billy C. Sander New Mexico New York Massed Colors Stars and Stripes Float - Chris Noel North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma **Grand Marshal** J. Elliott Williams Oregon Pennsylvania Platoon of Nurses **Veterans Organization Float**

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund especially thanks Captain Thomas C. Shull, USA, whose help embodied Duty, Honor, Country.

5. DIVISION D

Puerto Rico Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee **Grand Marshal** MG Robert D. Beckel CMS of the Air Force Arthur L. Andrews **UVVO Float** Texas Utah Massed Colors Vermont Platoon, Virginia Military Academy Virginia Grand Marshal John L. Levitow Washington West Virginia **Grand Marshals** RADM Paul A. Yost Master Chief William Wells Wisconsin Wyoming Float - Veterans Choral Group



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Military Order of the Purple Heart

The Colors of the Jewish War Veterans will be carried by the American Legion. In deference to the observance of the Sabbath, the Jewish War Veterans will not be marching in the parade.

A Parade Reviewing Area for the handicapped will be available on the Ellipse next to the reviewing stand. Handicapped parking is available on the Ellipse, contact the Paralyzed Veterans of America at (202) 652-2135 for a vehicle pass.

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WE CAN NOW CELEBRATE

Alf R. Thompson Veteran, WWI—31st US Infantry Coordinator, VVMF Illinois Campaign



In the fall of 1979, Jan Scruggs phoned and invited me to meet him in Washington about the proposed Vietnam Veterans National Memorial. I was impressed and volunteered my help.

Here was a young Vietnam veteran with both the dedication and organizational ability to put together a pro-

gram for the construction of a national memorial on grounds set aside by Congress. Guidelines had to be established; a suitable monument had to be agreed on—a national campaign for funds to be organized. Not one cent was to come from government. This would be a memorial to be paid for in full by gifts from the people and businesses of the United States of America.

For all of us who felt keenly the lack of public appreciation shown our Vietnam veterans, this program offers fulfillment of a dream. Here was a task in which all Americans might participate.

Why did we leave it up to a Vietnam veteran to show us the way?

The attitude and behavior of many toward the Vietnam veteran shall leave an indelible stain on the parchment of patriotic history.

Our compass was tampered with and we lost direction.

Every war this nation has engaged in created divisions—civilian, political and media. Washington had Valley Forge; Lincoln the War Between the States; World War I and Kaiser Bill found our citizens of German ancestry shunned and even spat upon. World War II citizens of Japanese ancestry were interned in special camps. Korea created its own national debate. However, the veterans of all these conflicts were showered with honors.

One of my early memories is having my immigrant father take me to the railroad station in a small northern Minnesota town to welcome home a small group of volunteers who had followed Teddy Roosevelt in Cuba.

No such welcome for the Vietnam veteran. They served as honorably as all veterans of our other conflicts.

In addition to military duty during WWI and fund raising for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, *Alf Thompson's* service to America includes volunteer Red Cross duty in North Africa, Italy and France. In the late 1960's, he organized a national campaign thanking Vietnam veterans. Alf is a retired independent oil producer and identifies his age as "87 years young!"

Why had America lost direction? Mr. Scruggs, his great staff, his many supporters understood. This was not only a matter of personal recognition and thanks. Something more fundamental was at stake.

This memorial program offered each of us, and our businesses, the opportunity to register and vote the commitment that "Never again will America fail to honor and respect the men and women who offer their lives in the armed forces."

I know first hand the hardships of military service; the loneliness, heartaches, mental and physical anguish.

I feel deeply that a nation which fails to honor those who offer their lives in its service — that nation cannot long endure.

The national fund raising campaign was difficult. Differences arose about the design of the monument. Rash statements, false information poisoned many minds. Delays were frustrating.

Now the memorial is in place and paid for by public giving. With this fact we can celebrate—America walks tall and proud.

We are together again.

We thank you — Vietnam veterans for reminding us of our heritage.

A MOTHER'S SALUTE

Helen J. Stuber National President, American Gold Star Mothers



It has been said Vietnam was a political police action, but, as a Gold Star Mother, I have faith in our Country's Leaders, that they would not have used the Vietnam conflict at the expense of the lives of 58,000 young men and women to better their political stand. The only thing that I have any apprehension about is that I do not think our country

should ever enter into a conflict without the country as whole being behind our Servicemen. I also feel that should we enter a war, we should enter to win and behave *Honorably*.

On October 11, 1967, my only son L. Cpl. J. Daniel Varner, 23, was killed in the Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam. He was in the First Battalion, 3rd Marines, Company "C", Battalion Landing Team 1/3, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF, based on the U.S.S. Okinawa, as a field CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Mrs. Bill V. Stuber has participated over 40 years in various community and church organizations. In addition to the loss of her son in Vietnam, Helen's daughter, Judy, was stricken and eventually died at the age of 28 of sleeping sickness. Husband, Bill Stuber, is a commercial pilot and has flown three Military Airlift Command missions, including the Vietnam Airlift while on active duty with the Navy.

At last ... a national tribute and a once in a lifetime opportunity ... A Piece of The Vietnam National Monument original granite can be yours!

As suppliers of the black granite to be used in America's first and only National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, we are pleased and proud to make this unique offer to the loyal Americans who supported the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund.

Even now, as construction of the Memorial nears completion, our craftsmen in Vermont are cutting, polishing and engraving exquisite pieces of this black granite, which will be offered as mementos of the long-awaited Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Imagine the joy you could give to the family or friend of a Vietnam veteran! Never in our history has there been such an outpouring of support for a national memorial - - a memorial to the fine men and women who served their country proudly in Southeast Asia.

Because of your special relationship with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, we felt that these limited edition souvenirs should be offered to you first.

Since we don't know how many items we'll be able to produce we urge you to send in your order today because these beautiful mementos will be sold on a "first come, first served" basis. Date of receipt of order will be the determining factor.

For the first time ever, the public has an opportunity to own a piece of the actual material used in a national memorial.

Don't miss this chance to have a lasting keepsake of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial being constructed now in Constitution Gardens, Washington, D.C.

The mementos offered here carry the official endorsement of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Committee.

Since a portion of the proceeds from each sale will go directly into a trust fund established to cover the maintenance costs of the monument, you will also be contributing to the Fund.



Item A -

3½" diameter black granite disc emblazened with handsome decal depicting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on location in Constitution Gardens \$15.00 ea.

item B -

4¾" diameter black granite disc with actual carved etching of an eternal flame, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund logo, and "Washington, D.C., 1982" is also engraved \$25.00 ea.



VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

Limited Edition of Monument Mementos Now Available for purchase!

Item C -

Elegant Pen Set featuring decal depicting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Pen Set can be **personalized with any inscription**, be it your name or that of a loved one who served. \$40.00 plain, \$50.00 with name.



Item D -

18" x 10" black granite panel featuring handsome etching of the Memorial in Washington, D.C., engraved on the stone \$250.00 ea.



REMEMBER . . .

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Vietnam Veterans Memorial Medallions is a project of Rogan Granitindustrie R.R. 1, Box 18A, Chicago Heights, IL 60411.



CONTINUED FROM PG. 23

radioman. Dan was married and had a 6-month-old son, Paul, whom he had never seen.

Dan joined the U.S. Marines in

On September 28, 1982, I had the privilege of going to the Vietnam Memorial, so beautifully built. As I saw my own son's name there, I had a very deep feeling

THE VIETNAM VETERANS BUCKLE



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landed in the Republic of Vietnam, we were saluted and regarded with honor as we have been in every Combat Zone we have ever served in. Saluted by our families, friends, home towns, churches, school children, entertainers, and most important, by the men and women in uniforms we cared for and served along side.

In April of 1969 the Daughters of the American Revolution presented the prestigious Anita Newcomb MaGee Award to an Army Nurse Captain who had served in Vietnam. As a tribute to all Army Nurses who served in Vietnam, the citation highlighted the courage and bravery of all Nurses who saw their duty as being wherever the American soldier was sent to

This November as we are rendered yet another salute by the Nation we so proudly serve, we again reflect on the accomplishments of the men and women of the Army Nurse Corps. From the 3rd Sur-

Pleiku, Long Binh, and all the hospitals where Army Nurses served, the sometimes repressed memories return, as we so proudly accept this tribute.

We, in turn, salute our fellow soldiers with whom we served and thank them for their caring and concern for us — the Artillery personnel who presented us a refrigerator for our quarters, the engineers who piped in warm water for our shower, the Air Force pilots who provided us with parachutes for our patio, the E-5 who brought us our baby kitten, the Infantry soldier who found us a puppy, the Dust-Off crew who, time after time, allowed us first class transportation, the Navy Sea Wolves who served us real butter and ice cream, and all the fighting men who treated us with gratitude and respect for just being there. It was, and continues to be, our privilege to serve wherever and whenever the United States Army Nurses are needed in peace and war.

At last . . . a national tribute and a once in a lifetime opportunity . . . A Piece of The Vietnam National Monument

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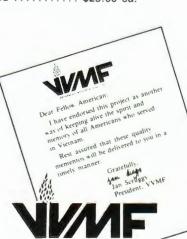
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18" x 10" black granite panel featuring handsome etching of the Memorial in Washington, D.C., engraved on the stone \$250.00 ea.



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CONTINUED FROM PG. 23

radioman. Dan was married and had a 6-month-old son, Paul, whom he had never seen.

Dan joined the U.S. Marines in August 1966. I have no feelings of bitterness, for it was Dan's decision and his alone to join the U.S.M.C. He felt it was his duty as an American to serve his Country in the Armed Forces. As his mother I say that if my son had to be taken, I thank the Good Lord that he stood up for our Country and not against it.

As a Gold Star Mother my heart really ached for the Vietnam Veterans who returned, as I watched them carrying their wounded buddies off the airplanes, to go unnoticed or recognized by us, Americans all. I am so grateful after all these years that the Nation finally will honor the Vietnam Veterans in our Nations Capital.

On September 28, 1982, I had the privilege of going to the Vietnam Memorial, so beautifully built. As I saw my own son's name there, I had a very deep feeling of sadness but at the same time, a feeling of gratitude that the Vietnam Memorial had been built in memory of the young men and women who paid the supreme sacrifice in Vietnam. It will be a constant reminder to our Nation and other nations that they have not died in vain.

In the hearts of Mothers, the hurt will never go away. However, we would rather forget the sad tears and remember the happy memories of our children.

The American Gold Star Mothers Salute Jan Scruggs and those who have made the Vietnam Memorial to become a reality.

The American Gold Star Mothers Salute the Vietnam Veterans.



OUR PRIVILEGE TO SERVE

Josephine Blanchard LTC, ANC —WRAMC

LTC Josephine Goligoski Blanchard received her B.S. in Nursing from Seattle University. Following a six-year civilian nursing career, LTC Blanchard joined the Air Force and within three years began an eighteen-month tour of duty in Vietnam, starting in 1967. She currently is Chief of Ambulatory Nursing Service at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C.

From the minute the first Nurses landed in the Republic of Vietnam, we were saluted and regarded with honor as we have been in every Combat Zone we have ever served in. Saluted by our families, friends, home towns, churches, school children, entertainers, and most important, by the men and women in uniforms we cared for and served along side.

In April of 1969 the Daughters of the American Revolution presented the prestigious Anita Newcomb MaGee Award to an Army Nurse Captain who had served in Vietnam. As a tribute to all Army Nurses who served in Vietnam, the citation highlighted the courage and bravery of all Nurses who saw their duty as being wherever the American soldier was sent to serve.

This November as we are rendered yet another salute by the Nation we so proudly serve, we again reflect on the accomplishments of the men and women of the Army Nurse Corps. From the 3rd Sur-

gical Hospital, Dong Tam, 45th Surg, Tay Ninh, from Quin Nhon, Phu Bai, Cu Chi, Pleiku, Long Binh, and all the hospitals where Army Nurses served, the sometimes repressed memories return, as we so proudly accept this tribute.

We, in turn, salute our fellow soldiers with whom we served and thank them for their caring and concern for us — the Artillery personnel who presented us a refrigerator for our guarters, the engineers who piped in warm water for our shower, the Air Force pilots who provided us with parachutes for our patio, the E-5 who brought us our baby kitten, the Infantry soldier who found us a puppy, the Dust-Off crew who, time after time, allowed us first class transportation, the Navy Sea Wolves who served us real butter and ice cream, and all the fighting men who treated us with gratitude and respect for just being there. It was, and continues to be, our privilege to serve wherever and whenever the United States Army Nurses are needed in peace and war.

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CONTINUED FROM PG. 25

AND IN WAR AS IN LIFE

Richard Kolb Chairman, The Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program of Houston, Inc.



That the Americans whose names are inscribed on the Memorial are patriots in the finest sense of the word goes without saying. For if ever there were Americans who exemplified a sense of devotion to duty it is surely these men.

When it was far easier to avoid or evade, 2.6 million men and women—almost 10 percent

of an entire generation — accepted the responsibility and served in Vietnam. When it was in vogue to denigrate patriotism, these people steadfastly defined the meaning of the concept in deed rather than rhetoric. If ever actions spoke louder than words, Vietnam service was indeed a case in point.

Holding to traditional values exacted a heavy price among Vietnam veterans who, as a distinct minority within a generation, were far too often stigmatized and ostracized for their service.

Homefront society was not prepared to fully accept those it had compelled to serve in Vietnam. And sadly, as a result, some veterans felt the need to succumb to humiliation and achieve that acceptance. That this occurred will not be remembered as one of the finest hours in our history.

Perhaps the paramount issue of Vietnam is the one most often ignored, and thus denied. The issue — the very people responsible for our beliefs — educators, clergymen, communicators, elected officials and even some family members—those we put our trust in, at times seemed to contradict those beliefs and betray that trust.

To add insult to injury, our peers — at least on many college campuses — had already rejected the values to which we had adhered. Some went a step further, caricaturing the GI as the villain while bestowing near sainthood upon the enemy. Shattered values and peer alienation combined often made the aftermath more traumatic than Vietnam itself.

So for 15 years society forced many veterans to be apologetic about their service in Vietnam—to regard mention of such service as a social taboo. Public indifference, peer hostility, intellectual contempt and official effrontery have left a spiritual scar on most Vietnam veterans.

Only American society can provide the tissue needed to heal the scar. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial — as society's symbolic offering — is part of that tissue. In essence, the memorial is a reaffirmation of the values that compelled us to serve; the values we were taught to believe in.

All Americans can rest assured that their fellow countrymen who made the ultimate sacrifice in this, as in past wars,

Richard Kolb served as a PFC in the US Army in Vietnam from April, 1970 to April, 1971. He began with the 4th Infantry in the Central Highlands at An Khe and was later transferred to the 101st Airborne, where he served as a radio operator at Phu Bai.

did not do so in vain. For they fought for something deeply rooted, genuine and worthwhile; they died upholding inherent individual values that transcend the politics of war. In many instances they sacrificed their own lives for the men they served with. And in war as in life, there is no cause more noble.

A KOREAN WAR VETERAN'S SUPPORT

Ralph W. Wadeson, Jr. MD



My combat experience as a battalion surgeon in the Korean War leads me to support the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans and the Vietnam War Memorial. These are positive steps and tributes by the American public to honor those who served and their families, especially those who were wounded, killed, or missing in action.

Tragically, Vietnam Veterans were not immediately honored on returning home but, in fact, were treated with hostility by parts of a divided American public that was more violently anti-war than ever in the history of this country. At times the Vietnam veteran was treated as if he were the messenger who brought bad news and was punished for doing so.

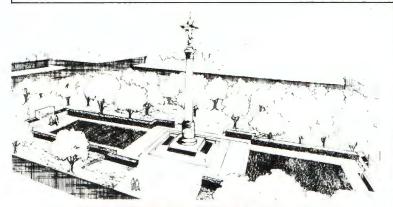
After my Korean war experience I became a psychiatrist and I have listened to a number of Vietnam veterans describe feelings of being rejected and demeaned in public after returning home from a situation in which they were forced to participate. Hopefully the National Salute and the Memorial funded by public donation will make some amends to those veterans who received such shoddy treatment.

Any person who was ever in a combat situation has seen, heard and experienced incredible trauma such as having friends killed or wounded in their presence or nearby. The intense interpersonal cohesiveness and devotion to duty and each other makes such experiences even more painful. As a battalion surgeon, I had the horrible experiences of seeing bodies mangled beyond recognition, caring for wounded men who obviously were going to lose a leg or an arm, and having men die as I took care of them despite all I could do. Such experiences result in a large amount of unresolved grief. If the grief is not acknowledged and dealt with, a person can be changed for the rest of his life.

I hope that this National Salute to Vietnam veterans will help people become aware of any unresolved grief within. Hopefully the grieving and tears can be shared not only by surviving family members, veterans, and friends but by the American public as well.

Ralph W. Wadeson graduated from University of Alabama medical school and was in general practice in that state for four and a half years. On active duty with the U.S. Navy, he served as medical officer with the Fleet Marine force in The Korean War, as battalion surgeon with the Third Battalion, 5th Marines, and subsequently with Easy medical company.

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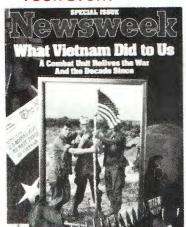
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Newsweek National Correspondent

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THE NAMES

James J. Kilpatrick Washington Post Columnist

Jan Scruggs telephoned a few days ago and asked me to meet him on a Friday morning down at the site of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. I had seen an architect's rendering of the memorial, and I had seen a small scale model of the project, and I had written a dozen times of the plan to list the names of 57,692 who gave their lives in that tragic endeavor in Vietnam.

Now the memorial is about two-thirds complete, Scruggs told me, and a clay model has been approved of the bronze sculpture by Frederick Hart that will add the final element. He wanted me to see how the work was progressing.

We met by the temporary board fence that surrounds the site, close by the Lincoln Memorial, and chatted for a few minutes about the whole remarkable undertaking. If you have forgotten, Scruggs is the former corporal who returned from-Vietnam with a body full of shrapnel and a head full of dreams—dreams of a memorial to companions who died there, and to the neglected and often ostracized veterans who survived. He came back to his obscure office in the federal bureaucracy, and three years ago he resigned to devote his full time to the project.

"Come on," he said.

We walked through the usual litter of a construction

"We walked through the usual litter of a construction site, and gradually the long walls of the memorial came into view. Nothing I had heard or written had prepared me for the moment. I could not speak. I wept. These are the names. The names!..."

site, and gradually the long walls of the memorial came into view. Nothing I had heard or written had prepared me for the moment. I could not speak. I wept.

There are the names. The names! The names are etched in white on polished black marble. The names are arranged chronologically by the date of death, running from July 1959 to May 1975. Where the two walls come together, forming the point of a V, the first and the last names meet.

Arthur C. Alterwisher, Glendon L. Ammon, Frank Arrey Jr., James R. Bauder, John O. Freeman, Joseph A. Friel, Carlton Griffin, Louis C. Hines, Normal L.R. Hoyt, Robert L. Hyde...They died on Sept. 21, 1966. We walked on.

Victor P. Andreozzi, Robert S. Baird, William J. Balfour,

"... the black walls mirrored the clouds of a summer's ending and reflected the leaves of an autumn's beginning, and the names—the names!
—were etched enduringly upon the sky."

Jedh C. Barker, William A. Berry, Conal J. Byrne Jr., Charles M. Castillo, Raymond Clay, Troy W. Cokley, Joseph A. Coomes... They died a year later.

This memorial has a pile driver's impact. No politics. No recriminations. Nothing of vainglory or of glory either. For 20 years I have contended that these men died in a cause as noble as any cause for which a war was ever waged. Others have contended, and will always contend, that these dead were uselessly sacrificed in a no-win war that should never have been waged at all. Never mind. The memorial carries a message for all ages: this is what war is all about.

It is about Howard Owens, Michael R. Page, Leveret R. Prosky, Ronald R. Reil, Leonard S. Skoniecki Jr., Donny Ray Stewart, Ronald R. Stroschein, Thomas S. Sudlesky, Donald L. Templeton, Thermall Thompson... They died on this day in 1968.

Before work could begin last winter, an artistic controversy had to be resolved. Critics on Capitol Hill and in the Interior Department felt the design was just too — well, too unconventional. They insisted on a piece of monumental sculpture in a more traditional vein. The conflict has been happily resolved. Frederick Hart, who conceived the figures of

The memorial carries a message for all ages: this is what war is all about.

Genesis for the National Cathedral, will cast three soldiers in a moment of expectancy. They have heard something, or seen something, and their eyes search for an answer. At Hart's own suggestion, his monument will be located 150 feet from the apex of the walls. It will not intrude.

Who are the three figures? They could be Moncrief, Kelly or Campbell; or McSorley, Martinovsky or Grottke; or Gonzales, Mondy or Schofield; or Swain, Isaac or Higgins. On this sunny Friday morning, the black walls mirrored the clouds of a summer's ending and reflected the leaves of an autumn's beginning, and the names — the names! — were etched enduringly upon the sky.

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A Tribute
to the 2,700,000 Americans
Who Served with Honor and Dignity
in Vietnam 1961–1975
"THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN"

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Washington D.C. November 1982

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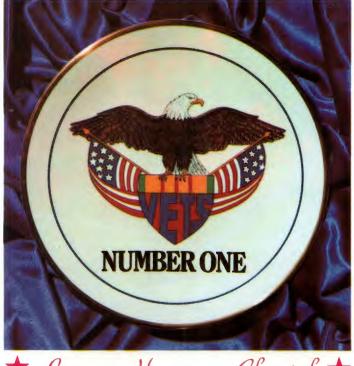
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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

October 28, 1982

The National Salute to the Vietnam Veterans is a proud and overdue occasion that presents all Americans with an opportunity to reaffirm their heartfelt gratitude for the courage and devotion of the men and women who served this nation at a time of great trial and uncertainty.

The Vietnam conflict is an important and lasting part of the history of our country, and it will always remind us of the dedication of the young Americans who left their homes and families to defend freedom under difficult circumstances. They have earned the undying esteem and respect of all thoughtful and freedom-loving Americans for their overriding devotion and sense of duty to our nation.

This country will always be deeply thankful for the inspiring demonstration of valor repeatedly displayed in the distinguished performance of their duties by those who served in this struggle. This National Salute expresses only part of what America feels, but it is significant for the breadth and depth of support shown by so many who have joined to make this week meaningful and lasting.

To those who answered their nation's call, to those injured in the conflict, and to those who are no longer with us to share this occasion, we reach out with honor and aching hearts for their sacrifices and their willingness to risk everything to be faithful to this land they loved. As National Honorary Co-Chairmen of this project, we welcome your participation in the programs and events which will allow each of us in a small but important way to show our loyalty in return to America's Vietnam Veterans.

Roman Ragan Voucy Reagon



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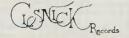
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PRAYERS

Almighty God, we remember before you the Vietnam War and those who lost their lives in the war. We commend to the healing power of the Holy Spirit the wounds of the war, wounded bodies, wounded lives and wounded countries, and we ask for grace to face our past and to show forth your love now and in all days to come. In the name of your son who was wounded and who gave his life for us.

(From the service in Washington Cathedral on November 11, 1981)

 JOHN P. WHEELER III CHAIRMAN, VVMF Protestant

Follow St. Francis

With St. Francis of Assisi we pray:
"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace."
Thy peace:

May we remember that thy peace is for all persons without our discriminations of social status.

May we remember that thy peace is forever rooted in justice beyond our present perceptions of law and order.

May we remember that thy peace comes finally not by coercion but by persuasion of heart and mind.

Lord, make me an instrument:

An instrument wise enough to seek the good openly.

An instrument courageous enough to speak the truth plainly.

An instrument of good will appealing not to the worst but to the best in my fellow-citizens my neighbors my friends.

At the last we pray for thy peace:

Confirm our hearts in courage wisdom

and good will.

Make us instruments of persuasion

to justice for all persons.

GEORGE KIMMICH BEACH
 UNITARIAN CHURCH OF ARLINGTON
 Unitarian

O Lord, what is man that Thou shouldst notice him? What is mortal man that Thou shouldst consider him?

Man is like a breath;

His days are like a passing shadow;

In the morning, he flourisheth and groweth up; In the evening, he is cut down and withereth.

As we salute the Vietnam Veterans, we ask Thy eternal remembrance for those who have died

We ask Thy remembrance for those who served courageously and valiantly.

We seek Thy powers of reconciliation for those who have been forgotten and misunderstood.

Teach us to number our days with devotion and dedication.

Teach us to attain a heart of wisdom and compassion.

We seek strength from the awareness of Thine abiding love.

We seek strength from the awareness of the sacrifice of the men and women who have served.

May this Nation, under God, be strengthened by our resolve for continued service to Thee, our Nation and our fellowman. Amen.

RABBI SIMEON KOBRINETZ
 DEPUTY DIRECTOR
 CHAPLAIN SERVICE
 Veterans Administration
 Jewish

O God, in Whom we move and live and have our being, accept the prayers we offer on this Veterans Day as we commemorate those who have served you by serving their country. We pray especially for those who have died, those still missing in action, and for the families and loved ones who have shared their burden. Through the selflessness of countless people like these, you have made this a great nation where liberty and justice are more than an idle dream or an unattainable vision. We pray that the example of these who have served will inspire us to strive even harder to ensure that the ideals upon which this nation was founded will become even more of a reality. We pray that you will help us to seek reconciliation where there is dissension, harmony and justice where there is disorder, and lasting peace for all nations. We ask these blessings through Jesus Christ your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FATHER JOHN B. SMITH
 CHAPLAIN (MAJOR, U.S.A.)
 STAFF CHAPLAIN
 Military District of Washington
 Roman Catholic

These prayers will be read during the Candlelight Vigil.

Locating Names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

A directory stands at the entry of the Memorial and provides the exact location of each name as well as additional identifying information about each person. The names are in the chronological order of their dates of casualty.

The memorial's east wall, pointing toward the Washington Monument, and its west wall, pointing toward the Lincoln Memorial, intersect at a 125° angle. Each of the 250′ walls is composed of 70 separate inscribed granite panels. The largest panels have 137 lines of names; the shortest have one line.

There are five names on each line. On each wall the panels are numbered from "1" to "70", with panel No. 1 at the intersection and panel No. 70 at the far end. The numbers are inscribed at the bases of the panels.

The names of the first casualties (in July 1959) appear on the first line of panel No. 1 on the east wall below the date "1959." The chronological listing of the names proceeds line by line down the first panel to the bottom and then continues on the top

line of panel No. 2 to the right. It moves down each panel in turn, as though the panels were pages in a book. The sequence of names is interrupted at panel No. 70 on the east wall, but resumed on panel No. 70 on the west wall. The listing proceeds down each panel and to the next panel to the right, until the names of the last casualties (in May 1975) form the last lines of panel No. 1 on the west wall above the date "1975."

Each name is preceded (on the west wall) or followed (on the east wall) by one of two symbols — a diamond or a cross.

The diamond symbol denotes that the serviceman's or servicewoman's death was confirmed.

The approximately 1300 men whose names are designated by the cross were in missing or prisoner status at the end of the war and remain missing and unaccounted for. In the directory, an asterisk in the third column from the right denotes that a man is missing and unaccounted for.

1,2	American Gold Star Mothers	1,2,3	Reserve Officers Association
1,2,3	The American Legion	1	Society of the First Division
1,2	American Red Cross	1,2	The Stars and Stripes
1	American United, Inc.	1	25th Infantry Division Association
1	AMVETS	1,2	United Vietnam Veterans Organization
1	American Veterans Committee	1,2	Unity of Veterans
1,2	Blinded Veterans Association	1	U. S. News Books
1.2.3	Boston Publishing Co.	1,2	U.S.O. World Headquarters
1	Disabled American Veterans	1,2	Veterans Administration
2	Fleet Reserve Association	1,2	Vet Centers
1,2,3	Gilbane Building Co.	1,2	Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
1,2	Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.	1	Vietnam Era Media Fund
1	Military Order of the Purple Heart	1	Vietnam Veterans Against the War
1,2	National Center for Amerasian Children	1	Vietnam Veterans of America
1,2	National Vietnam Veterans Review	1,2,3	Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund
1	101st Airborne Division Association	1,2	Vietnam War Newsletter

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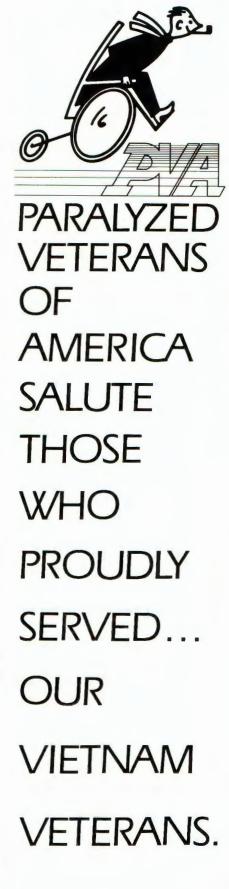
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A HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PG. 8

appealed to his readers for funds for VVMF. The tremendous response (ultimately \$60,000) enabled VVMF to repay its loan within weeks.

On Memorial Day, 1980, VVMF conducted its first Memorial Day service at the memorial site. Music was provided by the US Army Field Band, and the event received nationwide TV coverage. The American people again responded generously to VVMF's appeal, and sufficient funds were raised to begin planning for a multifaceted fund raising campaign and a national design competition.

On July 1, 1980, in the Rose Garden, President Jimmy Carter signed the legislation to provide a site of two acres in Constitution Gardens for the Memorial. The Bill provided that no federal funds would be used, that the design would be subject to Federal approval, and that the National Park Service would maintain the completed memorial site.

Plans began immediately to prepare for a national design competition to obtain the design for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. VVMF retained Paul Spreiregen, author of *Design Competitions*, to assist Doubek in coordinating what became the largest competition of its type ever held in the U.S. or Europe.

For full details about the competition as well as the actual construction of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, see *A Sweeping Tribute* in this program.

By October, VVMF had hired a full-time professional staff member to direct the fund raising campaign. Sandie Fauriol joined Doubek and new executive vice president Donald Schaet, a Marine Corps Vietnam veteran, and began to develop the fund raising plan that would bring in the needed \$7 million in 18 months.

The key to the campaign's success was diversity: VVMF pursued funds from as many sources as possible to give all Americans an opportunity to contribute to this important memorial. By the time the campaign ended, nearly 500,000 individuals, corporations, foundations, unions, veterans and community groups had contributed the funds needed to build the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and complete the project.

VVMF relied on volunteer leadership as well as staff to raise the money. Entertainer Bob Hope signed for most of the 10 million pieces of direct mail that were sent; Elizabeth Taylor and husband Senator John Warner hosted a benefit dinner dance that raised \$65,000; and



Paul Thayer and Sandie Fauriol

Paul Thayer, Chairman of The LTV Corporation raised funds from the business community as Chairman of the Fund's Corporate Advisory Board. Lane Kirkland, President of the AFL-CIO wrote to his members and raised over \$50,000 for the cause. Radiothons were a great source of income as well as participation by the American people: WPKX of Alexandria, Virginia led the way with \$250,000 in pledges in a single weekend; others followed across the country from San Antonio, Texas (WOAI) to Bangor, Maine (WACZ) where a group of Vietnam veterans organized the entire event and raised \$10,000 in two days.

While Paul Thayer's campaign was in gear, the VVMF staff was raising money from corporations and foundations as well. Aided by Assistant Campaign Director Karen Bigelow, Fauriol toured the country to raise funds, resulting in 84 personal visits to corporate and foundation executives. This two-pronged approach brought in an impressive \$1.4 million in gifts for the memorial.

Throughout the campaign, the message was clear: Americans wanted this memorial to be built, and they assured it would be with a flood of contributions, from the few dollars from a grandmother on social security, from a Vietnam veteran rancher who offered two head of cattle until he could sell them for a cash gift, to the young college student who donated \$250 in money he saved for his education to assure that his father's name would be inscribed on the memorial. VVMF had, in a remarkably intense and dynamic campaign, attained its goal of having the Vietnam Veterans Memorial be a gift and a tribute from the American people to the nation, as a symbol of honor and recognition for all those who served in the Vietnam war.

A Sweeping Tribute CONTINUED FROM PG. 9

requirements of the program. It is contemplative and reflective. It is superbly harmonious with its site, and yet frees the visitors from the noise and traffic of the surrounding city. Its open nature will encourage access on all occasions, at all hours, without barriers. Its siting and materials are simple and forthright.

This memorial with its wall of names becomes a place of quiet reflection and a tribute to those who served their nation in difficult times. All who come here can find it a place of healing.

This is very much a memorial of our own times, one that could not have been achieved in another time and place. The designer has created an eloquent place where the simple meeting of earth, sky and remembered names contains messages for all who will know this place.

The author of entry #1026 was Maya Ying Lin, a 21 year old undergraduate student at Yale University. She was encouraged by one of her professors to enter the competition. She described her design as follows:

The memorial is composed not as an unchanging monument, but as a moving composition, to be understood as we move into and out of it; the passage itself is gradual, the descent to the

Building a Memorial CONTINUED FROM PG. 9

and generational suffix, a special computer program had to be written. The program, however could not account for the fact that many Americans, especially those of Hispanic and native American descent, have compound surnames. The entire list was once again searched for any names, such as "Two Crow" or "Camacho Rodriguez," where a compound surname might possibly be interpreted by the computer as a surname and a first name. Finally, the entire list of names was read to identify and double check any names which simply appeared to be unusual, such as "Lugene" or "Ronal," and might be in error.

Size, Layout, and Arrangement of Names. So that each name on the memorial could be read, even if located at the top of the walls, the memorial designer and architect of record determined that the minimum size of the letters would be .53 inch. In the process of design development, the construction team (architect, construction manager, and VVMF project director) determined that the

origin slow, but it is at the origin that the meaning of the memorial is to be fully understood. At the intersection of these walls, on the right side, at the wall's top, is carved the date of the first death. It is followed by the names of those who have died in the war, in chronological order. These names continue on this wall, appearing to recede into the earth at the wall's end. The names resume on the left wall, as the wall emerges from the earth, back to the origin, where the date of the last death is carved, at the bottom of this wall. Thus the war's beginning and end meet; the war is 'complete,' coming full circle, yet broken by the earth that bounds the angle's open side, and contained within the earth itself. As we turn to leave, we see these walls stretching into the distance, directing us to the Washington Monument, to the left, and the Lincoln Memorial, to the right, thus bringing the Vietnam memorial into historical context.

On May 1, 1981, the jury formally presented its recommendations to the eight VVMF directors, staff and advisors, who had the authority to accept or reject it. All but one of the eight served in Vietnam, and they included decorated officers and enlisted combat veterans. Their acceptance was unanimous; they characterized the winning design as "genius." At the time of their report, the jury noted the



issues, such as safety, handicapped access, and an appropriate inscription, that would have to be addressed during development of the design from a concept into final plans.

In June, VVMF submitted the design to begin the lengthy Federal approval process, and in August retained a professional architecture firm and construction management company to realize the design. Ms. Lin became a consultant to the architect of record. Groundbreaking was targeted for early March 1982 with completion by Veterans Day.

In January 1982, to accommodate concern that the design lacked specific symbols of the veterans and their patriotism, VVMF determined to add a sculpture of servicemen and a flag staff to the memorial site. Ground was broken on the site on March 26, 1982, and in July, Frederick Hart, of Washington, D.C., the highest ranking sculptor in the design competition, was chosen to design the sculpture.

The sculpture was unveiled on September 20th. Mr. Hart described it as follows:

■ The portrayal of the figures is consistent with history. They wear the uniform and carry the equipment of war; they are young. The contrast between the innocence of their youth and weapons of war underscores the poignancy of their sacrifice. There is about them the physical contact and sense of unity that bespeaks the bonds of love and sacrifice that is the nature of men at war. And yet they are each alone. Their strength and their vulnerability are both evident. Their true heroism lies in these bonds of loyalty in the face of their aloneness and their vulnerability.

On October 13, 1982, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts approved Hart's sculpture and the addition of the flag staff and recommended that they be grouped together to enhance the entrance to the memorial site.

Construction at the site was completed on October 29th.



maximum practicable width of the black granite slabs to face the wall was 40". It was therefore decided that the names be arranged 5 to a line, flush left or right, on each of 140 panels, which would read like pages of a book. The panels themselves were to be 40" in width and with heights varying from 10 feet and 137 lines at the apex, to only 10" and one line at either extreme, 250 feet from the origin.

The Granite. The designer's intent in creating this memorial was to form a park within a park, a quiet, protected place that was self-contained yet harmonious with the overall plan and environment of Constitution Gardens. To a great extent, this effect was achieved by virtue of the unique characteristics of polished black granite. The surface of this stone—more than any other—approaches a mirror in reflective quality when it is polished. Hence, a visitor to the memorial sees—rather than just inscriptions in a wall—the reflected images of the surrounding lawns, trees, and neighboring monuments.

Further, the black granite, when inscribed, exposes a light gray color which contrasts sharply with the polished surface, making the inscriptions extremely legible. The lettering, therefore, will last forever without maintenance or restoration. Overall, the use of polished black granite allows an extensive structure, almost 500 feet long, to blend and harmonize with its garden environment yet occupy a prominent location on the Mall. Completion Dates. The walls and land-scaping were completed by November 1,

1982. The flagstaff, with its cast bronze base including the emblems of the five services and an inscription, will be installed at the site in early 1983. The life-sized sculpture case in bronze will be completed by the end of that year.

On Time, Under Budget. The major factor contributing to completion of the memorial on time and under budget was the professionalism of the design team. Kent Cooper and Bill Lecky, the architects of record, worked creatively and sensitively with Maya Lin to fulfill her design concept. Special gratitude is due to Carla Corbin of the Cooper-Lecky Partnership, who was the project architect. Her perserverance and industry were without parallel. Bill Choquette, the Regional Vice President of Gilbane Building Company, placed all of Gilbane's resources at the disposal of the project, and Gilbane did the work without profit. Walt Marquardt, Gilbane's construction executive, had overall responsibility for construction aspects of the project. Warren Creech, Gilbane's project manager, coordinated the work of all trade contractors on site with the highest professionalism.

THANK YOU

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a beautiful gift from the American people. It is especially a gift from these women and men who have given freely of themselves in countless graceful ways to build the Memorial.

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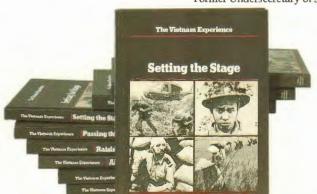
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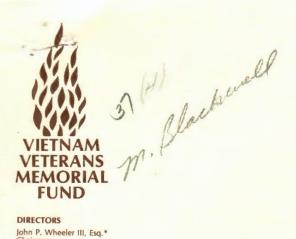
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*Served in Vietnam

Affiliations noted for purposes of identification only.

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your inspiring remarks last night about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Learning, growth, and healing are our hope in creating the Memorial. It has been hard work. You confirm that we are on the right course. Based on figures I have gathered, I can report to you that over one million visits have been made to the Memorial since its opening. Thank you from all of us.

> Sincerely, John Wheeler Chairman of the Board

The President The White House

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 27, 1983

Mr. Walter D. Westphall Cherokee Bldg. Suite 209 Box 25425 Oklahoma City, OK 73125

Dear Mr. Westphall:

Thank you very much for your letter concerning the memorials around the country in honor of Vietnam War veterans.

I was not aware of the memorial near Eagles Nest, New Mexico. It is clear that you and others have done much to honor those who fought for our country in Vietnam.

I will endeavor to see that future statements from the Administration relating to Vietnam veterans do not give the impression that the recently dedicated memorial here is the first recognition accorded these men and women.

Thank you again for your letter to the President.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell

Special Assistant to the President

for Public Liaison

Moderal Jackson Land State of the Control of the Co

Walter D. Westphall
Cherokee Bldg., Suite 209
Box 25425
Oklahoma City, OK 73125
November 6, 1982

President Ronald W. Reagan The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I assume that you will take part in the dedication this week of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. Believing that it is important for you to be adequately informed on the subject of Vietnam War memorials, I have enclosed some materials on that subject. It is my hope that you will take the time to digest these materials and reflect on their importance. When you participate in the Washington Memorial dedication, I hope that you will have the information which I am conveying to you in the back of your mind.

The wrong already done to existing Vietnam War memorials and to their founders by Jan C. Scruggs, President of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, is enormous. Please do not add to that wrong by pretending, or letting anyone else pretend, that the Washington Memorial is the first Vietnam memorial, or that it is somehow more significant than memorials which predate it by as many as fourteen years. Only the exceedingly arrogant and biased observer will pretend that existing memorials do not exist or that they are somehow unimportant.

Even though my opinions about this subject are based on solid evidence, you may have no respect for them because you know nothing about me. You do, however, know Senator Pete Domenici, who has been a strong supporter of your economic program. He has also been a longtime supporter of one of the existing Vietnam memorials -- the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Chapel. I do not wish to draw Senator Domenici into the controversy about Jan C. Scruggs, but I am willing to use him as someone who can speak highly on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Chapel.

Sincerely.

Walter D. Westphall Walter D. Westphall

enclosures cc: Dan Rather