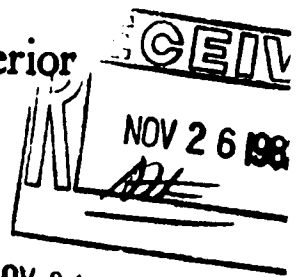




United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



NOV 24 1982

Honorable J. Carter Brown  
Chairman, The Commission of  
Fine Arts  
708 Jackson Place, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of October 27, 1982, confirming the Commission of Fine Arts formal approval of the addition of the flagpole and sculpture to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial design. We remain fully committed to working with you and the Commission to locate these elements in a manner that will carry out the spirit of the Compromise Agreement reached by the group chaired by Senator John Warner in March 1982.

As you are probably aware, a flagpole has been erected on the Memorial site, and the American flag was flown during the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans. Furthermore, we have instructed the National Park Service to continue to raise and lower the flag daily until your Commission, this Department and the National Capital Planning Commission concur on the exact placement of the permanent flagpole.

It has come to our attention that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and various consultants have held preliminary discussions on the placement of the flagpole and the sculpture that in effect locate these elements "in the trees." My understanding, based on our conversation of October 19, 1982, is that the flag and sculpture will be located to compliment the "wall" and not be shunted off out of view.

We remain optimistic that this issue will be resolved in the near future, however, this Department has not been consulted or apprised of the status of these specific studies. We look forward to meeting with you as soon as possible to discuss this matter in detail.

Sincerely,



SECRETARY