

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL
GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

2,700,000 SERVED,

300,000 WERE WOUNDED,

75,000 WERE DISABLED,

57,000 DIED, AND MORE THAN

2,000 REMAIN UNACCOUNTED FOR. . .

THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. was formed in 1979 for the purpose of establishing in our nation's capital a permanent national memorial to those Americans who served in the Vietnam war.

The land for the memorial is a gift of the United States government. The memorial itself is made possible through the gifts and contributions of the American people. These gifts, and the memorial they will help build, represent at last the honor and recognition so richly deserved by our Vietnam veterans.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial will stand forever as a symbol of the unity that preserves us as a nation, and of our care for the sons and daughters who answered their country's call to duty in Vietnam.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund
1110 Vermont Ave., N.W., #308
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202)659-2490



MARCH 26, 1982

10:30 A.M.

CONSTITUTION GARDENS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Thursday, the third day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eighty

Joint Resolution

To authorize the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., to establish a memorial

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., a nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the District of Columbia, is authorized to establish a memorial on public grounds in West Potomac Park in the District of Columbia, in honor and recognition of the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in the Vietnam war.

Sec. 2. (a) The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., is authorized and directed to select with the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission a suitable site of approximately two acres in size located in the area of West Potomac Park known as Constitution Gardens in the District of Columbia: Provided, That if subsurface soil conditions prevent the engineering of a feasible foundation system for the memorial in a location in that area, then the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., is authorized and directed to select a suitable site of approximately two acres in size located in an area of West Potomac Park north of Independence Avenue other than Constitution Gardens.

(b) The design and plans for such memorial shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the National Capital Planning Commission: Provided, That if the Secretary of the Interior, the Commission of Fine Arts, or the National Capital Planning Commission fails to report his or its approval of or specific objection to such design and plans within ninety days of their submission, his or its approval shall be deemed to be given.

(c) Neither the United States nor the District of Columbia shall be put to any expense in the establishment of the memorial.

Sec. 3. The authority conferred pursuant to this resolution shall lapse unless (1) the establishment of such memorial is commenced within five years from the date of enactment of this resolution, and (2) prior to groundbreaking for actual construction on the site, funds are certified available in an amount sufficient, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Interior based upon the approved design and plans for the memorial, to insure completion of the memorial.

Sec. 4. The maintenance and care of the memorial established under the provisions of this resolution shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of the Interior.

Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Walter D. Dill
President of the Senate, pro tempore

APPROVED

JUL - 1 1980

Jimmy Carter

Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Groundbreaking Ceremony

March 26, 1982 10:30 A.M.

Constitution Gardens

Musical Prelude	United States Marine Band
Presentation and Posting of the Colors	Joint Services Color Guard
National Anthem	Band
Welcome	John P. Wheeler III Director, VVMF
Introduction	Jan C. Scruggs President, VVMF
Remarks	Jack W. Flynt, National Commander, The American Legion Cooper T. Holt, Executive Director, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. The Honorable John W. Warner The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. The Honorable Charles S. Robb Brig. Gen. George B. Price, USA, Ret. The Honorable Charles T. Hagel, Deputy Administrator of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Administration
Prayer	Chaplain Max D. Sullivan, USA
Groundbreaking	
Musican Selection <u>God Bless America</u>	Band