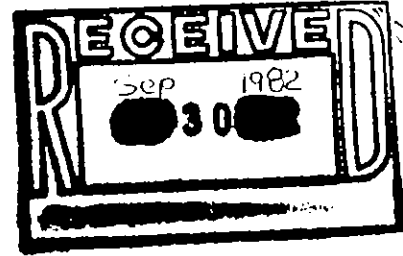




United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



SEP 29 1982

Mr. Jan C. Scruggs
President
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund
1110 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Suite 308
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Jan:

Thank you for your submission of September 23 which outlines the design plans and specifications for the sculpture and the flag staff to be added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. These elements were agreed to in the compromise struck under the leadership of Senator John Warner.

Based upon the commitments made in March 1982 and our review of your submission, I enthusiastically approve your latest submission. The addition of a heroic sculpture and our flag to the site will transform the design into one which honors both those who served our country and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. We must not forget that our objective is to build a fitting monument to honor thousands of men and women who served their country in Vietnam. Design aesthetics are a secondary concern.

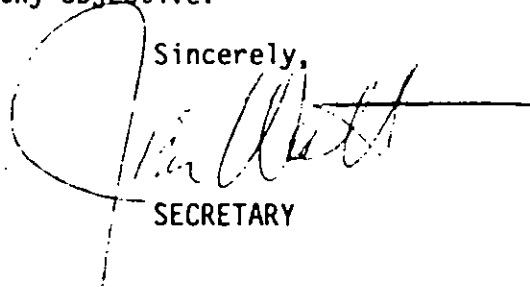
We have forwarded your submission and our approval to the National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission on Fine Arts for their review. Based on previous communications between my office and the Commissions, I have every reason to believe that your submission will receive timely approval from these entities. Be assured that I have committed the full weight of this Department to securing the necessary approvals for your latest submission.

I am also prepared to direct the National Park Service to issue the required permits for dedication of the memorial on November 11, 1982, if both Commissions approve the additions of the sculpture and the flag staff to the memorial at their scheduled October meetings.

Pursuant to the compromise struck last spring, it would be inappropriate to permit a dedication to proceed if either of these critical design elements were disapproved or located in such a fashion as not to have the wall, the flag, and the sculpture constitute a single memorial.

The men and women who served our country in Vietnam deserve a fitting memorial and I congratulate you on your organization's unstinting efforts to fulfill this worthy objective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Warner", written over a horizontal line. The signature is positioned above the typed name "SECRETARY".

SECRETARY

cc: Senator John Warner
National Capital Planning Commission
Commission of Fine Arts
American Legion
Veterans of Foreign Wars
AMVETS