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THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 500
2300 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201

June 28, 2001

Ms. Diane C. Evans, R.N.
Chair and Founder
Vietnam Women's Memorial Project, Inc.
526 South Harris
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Ms. Evans:

The American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) is fully committed to erecting a memorial plaque of the highest quality that will appropriately honor those casualties of the Vietnam War, as specified by PL 106-214.

At last Thursday's Commission of Fine Arts hearing, we were surprised to learn that you and your architect, George Dickey, had very definitive ideas regarding the plaque concepts, since you and he chose not to share those concerns with us in the weeks following our similar presentation to the National Capital Memorial Commission on April 26th.

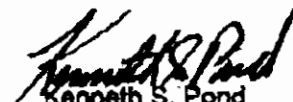
To get our cooperative effort back on track, we would appreciate receiving specific recommendations from your organization and your architect relative to: size, shape, composition (materials), siting, and inscription of the proposed plaque. I trust you will agree that reaching closure on these five design elements is critical to ABMC's timely completion of this Congressionally mandated project. To that end, we would like to receive your comments by the end of August. If you so desire, you will also be provided an opportunity to personally brief the Secretariat on your organization's views.

We are again providing this same opportunity to the other organizations with an interest in this important project. This commission will consider all viewpoints prior to reinitiating the approval process specified by the Commemorative Works Act. Our earnest hope is to present a siting, design concept and inscription program to the CFA, and then to the National Capital Planning Commission, that all interested parties can support.

If you cannot provide your recommendations by the end of August, please advise us how much time you and your architectural team require. However, since you have known about and been working on this project for about a year, we believe that this is a reasonable period of time.

Thank you for your continued interest and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,


Kenneth S. Pond
Executive Director