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The Honorable James G. Watt Secretary of the Interior Department of the Interior C Street between 18th and 19th Streets, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Watt:

Hereby forwarded is a complete set of the final construction plans for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. We respectfully request your formal approval of the design and plans for the memorial pursuant to Public Law 96-297 as soon as possible so that we may proceed to break ground on schedule during the first week of March.

We wish to note that pursuant to the agreement. reached at the meeting conducted on January 27, 1981, by Senator John Warner, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund will add, as refinements to the design, a staff for the American flag at the site and a statue of a serviceman to be placed within the area before the apex of the memorial's walls. Under Senator Warner's guidance, we are presently in the process of developing specifics for the flag and statue, which we will submit separately for your approval at the appropriate time. We are enthusiastic about these refinements and are committed to their realization in time for the memorial's dedication.

Enclosed for your consideration pursuant to Section 3 of Public Law 96-297 are (1) the final budget estimate, i.e. \$2,333,790, prepared by the Gilbane Building Company, our construction manager, upon the basis of the final construction plans and specifications and (2) certificates from our financial institutions of the amounts of VVMF funds on deposit or in investment as of today, which total \$2,468,719.52. Also enclosed is a copy of a letter of January 8, 1982, from the American Legion, reaffirming their pledge of \$1,000,000, which we are still to receive. We respectfully request that you formally acknowledge your judgement that sufficient funds are available to insure completion of the memorial as approved.

We thank you very much for your personal commitment to achieving the realization of a fitting tribute to our nation's veterans of the Vietnam war.

> Jan Scruggs

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Enclosures

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc.