

truly patriotic statement that stands on its merits and speaks eloquently to the enormity of the effort and sacrifice of all who served.

I thank you for this opportunity.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is getting on. We have a long agenda ahead of us. I have a few more people who have submitted these. Naturally we are here to hear various opinions. Is there anyone who has something to say that has not been said before, who feels that what they have to contribute is a real contribution to the discussion and deliberations.

MR. GROWER: Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I will be brief.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Give your name for the record.

MR. GROWER: My name is Scott Grower, and I am a Vietnam veteran. I have previously spoken before you. I am here to speak briefly in strong support of Proposal "B"; specifically the location of the flag at the apex, along with the statute, which was the consensus of the compromise meeting in March of '82, chaired by Senator Warner.

I think, to be specific in terms of how my views differ, but to add to others, for those who were present during the parade and dedication the visibility of the American

flag was just unmistakable, and visits to the site since then show the numerous flags placed on the apex or at various points along the walls, along with photographs, flowers. I feel there is a limit on just how much individuals can place there, in view of the need of the Park Service to maintain tidiness of the memorial grounds. I, therefore, feel that one single centrally located flag, along with the statute at the very apex of the memorial, centrally located, not as an addition, but as an integral part of the memorial, will be in the best interest of all, and visible to all.

I don't feel there is any single central entranceway. Perhaps there would be, but only in the winter, as tour busses discharge passengers on Henry Bacon Drive and they enter what is considered the entranceway. Otherwise the wall is frequented by thousands of people who will enter and approach from all directions.

I feel, to restate what has previously been stated, the compromise meeting of March, '82 was a very significant event, and I think pages 4, 5, and 6 list the people present, who traveled from as far as California, Texas, and we all left feeling that that was the agreement under which the memorial would proceed, and a great deal of progress has been made since that time by virtue of the agreement reached. Had

we not agreed and permitted construction, I don't think progress would have been made. I can only restate, then, and submit the American flag should be an integral part, located at the apex, as agreed, and the statute along with it, and that there is no single entranceway, in spite of various opinions, and foilage during the summer will, in fact, hide the flag, should Proposal "C" be agreed upon.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Any others who have submitted one of these?

MR. BUTERA: I submitted one of those, and I also have copies of my statement. I will try to summarize it, in light of the hour.

My name is James J. Butera. I am pleased to have this opportunity to testify before you today on the subject of the proposed modification to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This is actually a return engagement for me, since I testified at the October 13 hearing.

What I would like to reiterate, I think, different than what has been said thus far is the same thing I said in October, and that is it is my view this Commission should reject in toto all of the proposed suggested modifications to this memorial, whether a flag, a statute, an inscription, or