

on the POW and MIA, as they returned.

As a volunteer, I have been able to see many of the letters coming in from families, mothers, fathers, relatives. These letters spoke very eloquently about the need for this memorial.

I think the time is now to do this memorial. We have waited too long, and I would urge that the memorial be done just as it is depicted here, together with this very fine addition.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Michael Detmold?

MR. DETMOLD: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I appreciate the opportunity to speak.

I am a Vietnam Veteran from New York State, and I would just like to say, very simply and briefly, that I think the statue is beautiful, and should be included, and I can't imagine any of my fellow Vietnam Veterans who wouldn't feel the same.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: And finally, Al Santoli.

MR. SANTOLI: Mr. Chairman, as the author of the best selling book on the Vietnam War, and as a Vietnam Veteran, I would like to make a simple statement that art is

not detached from society in which it serves.

As a soldier, I served with many people from various parts of the country, I was in a unit that was half American and half Vietnamese, I saw both Americans and Vietnamese give their lives for what they believed in, which was that flag, the flag of their country. I saw people from various lifestyles, from various ages, from the senior officers, who were older people, and the Red Cross people who were in their sixties and seventies, and young people like myself, who were 18 years old, and I won't call it a compromise, I will call it a collaboration, that it brings out the intentions of many people, and I pray to God that we are able to come to an agreement of the combination of the statue and the flag and the wall.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

All right, we will declare the meeting temporarily adjourned for a five minute break.

Thank you very much.

(Short recess.)

CHAIRMAN BROWN: If we could bring the meeting to order, please.

We have discovered two people who had signed up to