



VIETNAM WOMEN'S MEMORIAL PROJECT, INC.

2001 S Street, NW • Suite 302 • Washington, DC 20009 • 202/328-7253 • Fax 202/328-0063

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Diana Hellinger
202/328-7253

Mary Beth Newkumet
301/649-6565

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS APPROVES
VIETNAM WOMEN'S MEMORIAL PROJECT'S MEMORIAL DESIGN**

Washington, D.C., September 19, 1991....The Commission of Fine Arts today approved the Vietnam Women's Memorial Project's (VWMP) proposed multigure sculpture portraying three Vietnam era women, one of whom is tending to a wounded soldier. The sculpture was designed by Glenna Goodacre of Santa Fe, New Mexico and was selected as an Honorable Mention by the VWMP's National Open Design Competition Jury in November 1990. The site for the Vietnam Women's Memorial is 300 feet southeast of the statue of the three infantrymen on the grounds of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

According to Diane Carlson Evans, Chair and Founder of the VWMP, the Project's "hundreds of thousands of supporters have given their overwhelming support to this design which portrays women's service in Vietnam with compassion, strength and dignity." It has taken the VWMP seven years to arrive at this historic moment. Notwithstanding the politics of war, 265,000 women soldiers volunteered and answered their nation's call during the turbulent Vietnam era. The VWMP is proud to present this memorial which

honors their extraordinary and heroic service. It will be the first memorial placed in Washington, D.C. honoring American women's military service.

On September 12, 1991 the National Capital Memorial Commission approved this design and recommended its consideration by the Commission of Fine Arts. In keeping with the Commemorative Works Act, the third and last approval agency -- the National Capital Planning Commission -- will review this design on November 7, 1991.

According to Diane Carlson Evans, "We are confident that this compelling depiction of women's service completes the story of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial -- the Wall listing the names of the men and women who died; the three infantrymen who survived the trials of war; and the women who supported their brother and sister soldiers."

The Vietnam Women's Memorial is the final chapter of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The women who were once invisible will be seen, their legacy will be remembered, and there will forever be a meaningful tribute to their service.

The Project must raise two million dollars before dedication in 1993. Contributions may be sent to VWMP, Inc., Suite 302, 2001 'S' Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.