

March 22, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MARSH

SUBJECT: Vietnam Veterans Reception at VN Embassy

The Vietnam Ambassador Phuong's office has provided the following information on the 28 March 1974 reception at the Vietnam Embassy.

Approximately 400 invitations have been sent to high-level officials in the Congress, Department of Defense, Department of State and Vietnam Veteran's. A complete list will be provided to us on Monday, 25 March 1974 but Vietnam Veteran's include Commander John McCain and Colonel Paul Hawkins to name a few. No Medal of Honor recipients are currently invited.


I politely advised the Embassy that the Vice President is attending in honor of Vietnam Veteran's and feels a role as "guest of honor is not appropriate. This item will be discussed on Monday and I will advise you of the time and place if you care to attend the meeting. We have committed the Vice President to a fifteen minute appearance from 7:40 to 8:55 pm.

Bob Blake



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

*See Mr. Marshall*



*J. Lewis  
76648*

*Presy acceptance  
of bill meet in  
18 MAR 24*

1. Mr. Odom

8 MAR 1974

2.

3.

Director for Community Relations

(Action Officer: LTC John C. Grant, USA, Ext. 57676)

Vietnam Veterans Day Observance, 12:00 Noon, March 29, 1974,  
Ft. McNair - NLT 8 Mar 74

PROBLEM: To obtain ASD(PA) approval of program.

DISCUSSION: DCR has been directed to plan for the conduct of a joint review and parade to be held at Ft. McNair. Pertinent correspondence is at Tab A. This memorandum discusses the concept for this event. As indicated in M/R at Tab B, it is anticipated that either the President or Vice President and wife will attend. Proposed program highlights are as follows:

Sequence of Events and Troop Composition

The proposed sequence is at Tab C and includes remarks by the South Vietnamese Ambassador (possibly a message from President Thieu), followed by remarks by the President. The sequence is the standard MDW program for joint service reviews. Approximately 400 personnel will participate in a formation consisting of:

USMC Band	1 Joint Color Guard
2 Platoons from each Service	Joint Command Element
1 Platoon from USCG	U.S. Army Artillery Honors Unit

MDW has been directed to include an Armed Forces women's element in the program. In view of the significance of the event and in view of currently short gas lines, I recommend we have a missing man flyover. Among other things this allows for highly visible Air Force participation.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewing Party

The proposed composition of the reviewing party is as follows:

President or Vice President (or senior DoD official)  
Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary of Defense  
CG, MDW - Installation Host

Active Duty Viet Vets (1 from each Service and USCG for a total of 2 officers and 3 enlisted men).

MIA Wife (Navy officer's wife)

POW Returnee (Air Force officer)

2 Disabled Vets (1 USA EM; 1 USMC EM)

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Guest List

At Tab D is a proposed guest list, which is currently being staffed with ISA and State, and the proposed invitation form. The CJCS is currently scheduled to be out of town. The list is organized into reviewing party and reviewing stand guests (total capacity approximately 25), and persons to be seated in a supplemental dignitary area. We hope to have all invitations in the mail no later than March 13. They will be extended on a color coded basis to facilitate identification and seating.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Inclement Weather Plan

Four possibilities were considered:

1. Indoor review at Ft. Myer. Comment: Very undesirable as it requires major relocation at the last minute (the Ft. Myer parade field is being resodded and thus precludes its use for the outdoor program). Additionally, it would require cancellation of one or two U.S. Army "Spirit of America" programs (attendance 2, 200).

2. Special "Spirit of America" showing. Comment: Relocation problem and scheduling problems for MDW makes this an undesirable solution.

3. Cancellation of event: Comment: In view of potential Presidential involvement, this is not considered desirable.

4. Auditorium (capacity 489) program at Ft. McNair: Although not particularly desirable, it appears to be the best of the available options and is recommended. The White House concurs. MDW has been directed to develop an auditorium program.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_



Publicity

DDI will coordinate publicity for this proposed "open to the public event" in conjunction with the White House. MDW will provide press support at the event. March 14 is recommended as the initial release date.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Assured General Attendance

MDW has been asked to determine the feasibility of providing bus support for Pentagon personnel. The veterans organizations will be encouraged to ask vietnam veterans and others to attend. The National War College and ICAF will be asked to encourage faculty and students to attend.

RECOMMENDATION: That ASD(PA) approve program.

COORDINATION: Mr. P. Moore, Special Assistant to the President; Mr. M. Murray, MDW Ceremonies; Service Information representatives; LTC Byrne, DDI.

151

F. R. CIPOLLA

Enclosures

General Concept:


Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

As Changed \_\_\_\_\_

DCR/PROJ/GRANT/jtp

1E764/57676/8 Mar 74

Col Cipolla 

Dr Smith \_\_\_\_\_

## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- A. Pre-Review Concert
- B. Attention, Adjutant's Call, and Formation of Troops
  - 1. Guides Posted
  - 2. Command Presented
- C. Honors
  - 1. Ruffles and Flourishes
  - 2. Hail to the Chief
  - 3. Gun Salute
- D. Sound Off by Band
- E. Inspection (by vehicle)
- (F) Honors to MIA (Alternate)
- G. National Anthem
- H. Remarks: Ambassador of South Vietnam  
President of the United States
- I. Pass in Review
- (J) Flyover



House Veterans Affairs Committee:

Congressman W.J.B. Dorn  
 Congressman Olin E. Teague  
 Congressman Hammerschmidt

Senate Veterans Affairs Committee:

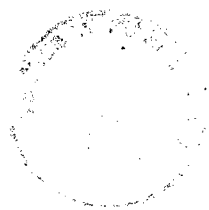
Senator Hartke  
 Senator Hansen

Donald Johnson, Administrator, Veterans Affairs  
 Ambassador from Korea  
 Ambassador from New Zealand  
 Ambassador from Thailand  
 Ambassador from Australia  
 Ambassador from Phillipines  
 Major Gen. Robert E.L. Eaton, National Commander, The American Legion  
 Ray R. Soden, National Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
 John T. Soave, National Commander, Disabled American Veterans  
 Berge Avadonian, National Commander, AMVETS  
 Ainslee R. Ferdie, National Commander, Jewish War Veterans  
 James Mayer, President, National Association of Concerned Veterans  
 Neil G. Knowles, National Commander, Catholic War Veterans  
 Lt. Colonel Fred A. Kaps, Commander-in-Chief, Military Order of  
 the World Wars  
 Rear Admiral B. Hayden Crawford, President, Reserve Officers  
 Association  
 General Barksdale Hamlett, National President, The Retired Officers  
 Association  
 Halsey Fink, National Commander, Veterans of World War II  
 Martin M. Ostrow, National President, Air Force Association  
 Maj. General Henry W. McMillan, National President, National  
 Guard Association  
 Dr. Elvis J. Stahr, Chairman, Association of the United States Army  
 Ernest A. Carrere, National President, Navy League  
 Gilbert E. Gray, National Commandant, Marine Corps League  
 Alfonso Sellet; Chairman, Honor Vietnam Veterans Committee  
 Colonel Scott Albright, National Director, National League of  
 Families  
 James F. Oates, National Chairman, Jobs for Veterans  
 William Ayers, Special Assistant to the Chairman, Jobs for Veterans  
 Major General Francis L. Sampson, CHC, USA (Ret.), President,  
 United Services Organization  
 Mr. George M. Elsey, President, American National Red Cross  
 General Harold K. Johnson, USA (Ret.), President, Freedoms  
 Foundation  
 Mrs. Helen S. White, National President, American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.  
 Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, National President, American Legion Auxiliary  
 Mrs. Mary F. Irby, National President, American War Mothers  
 Mrs. Dorothy Bussard, National President, AMVETS Auxiliary  
 Mrs. Mary Ruth Cavanaugh, National President, Ladies Auxiliary to  
 the Catholic War Veterans



Mrs. Dorothy Van Hoy, National Commander, Disabled American  
Veterans Auxiliary  
Mrs. Edith V. Knowles, National President, Gold Star Wives of  
America  
Mrs. Anne Teitelbaum, National President, National Ladies Auxiliary,  
Jewish War Veterans of the USA, Inc.  
Mrs. Lorene Sundstrom, National President, Marine Corps League Auxiliary  
Mrs. Rose R. Bradfield, National Commandant, Navy Club of the USA  
Auxiliary  
Mrs. Vivian Fryc, National President, Polish Legion of American  
Veterans USA  
Mrs. Ruth Fisher, National President, Reserve Officer Association  
Ladies Club  
Mrs. Alvis E. Gossett, National President, Ladies Auxiliary to the  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Colonel Ruth M. Broe, USMC (Ret.), National President, Women  
Marines Association

Total 57 Persons



MEMORANDUM TO MR. MARSH

FROM: Lt Col Sardo

SUBJECT: Vietnam Veterans' Day

I have contacted Julian Levine in DOD (PA) on this matter. Julian indicates that the Department is promoting the day both locally and nationally. On the local level, DOD is planning an all-service military review to take place at Ft McNair at noon, March 29th. The President will be invited to take the review, and should he decline, the Vice President will subsequently be invited. They plan to have a full spectrum of representatives on the review stand including uniformed Vietnam veterans, civilian Vietnam veterans, MIA wives, etc.

Nationally the Department has sent a message to all military bases asking that, within local constraints and providing local communities are receptive to some sort of celebration, the Vietnam Veterans' Day be appropriately recognized.

HAS,

Keep behind this

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ric -

Please assure that  
proper persons in  
Public Affairs are aware  
of furthering S/V ~~they~~  
Veterans Day Mar 20<sup>th</sup>

M

a single family dictatorship, or a Communist dictatorship. Along those general lines often have developed the warring factions.

Their situation is extremely difficult, and certainly it has proved untenable for our country.

The Vietnam veteran, in my judgment, has faced greater difficulty than veterans of any war in which this country has engaged. The Vietnam veteran went to a war, which, in most cases, he didn't understand. He came back to a peace, where, instead of receiving from the American people the honor and respect he, having been reared in the wake of World War II when a nation expressed adequate gratitude to its returning warriors and to their survivors, perhaps felt might be expected; he found instead either an indifference, or at the worst almost a contempt for the military service he had performed, and the inference that he was a "sucker."

Such a situation, for anyone, would be depressing.

Therefore, I believe every American, and certainly all of us here in the Senate, have a special duty to pay honor to the Vietnam veteran on March 29—to show him that he is a valued citizen of our country, that the Nation is not ungrateful for his service, and that we recognize that his service was performed under the most trying of circumstances and that that service was performed well, exceedingly well.

Some have alleged that the Vietnam veteran did not win his war. I submit that the Vietnam veteran did win his war within the parameters of his assignment; and if the war was not "won," it certainly was not his fault. Early in the war, and through the 1960's, if there was a no-win policy, it was through high-level concern over both international and domestic politics, and from 1969 on, when the American fighting man was a part of this Nation's withdrawal policy, that had the support of the American people, the American in uniform supported his Nation's policy in a highly creditable manner. We owe him much—this American who fought a war that nobody wanted, except perhaps the leaders of the Vietcong and the leaders of those nations that supported them, and hoped to gain power, prestige or territory regardless of how many of the people of South Vietnam and their own people died in the course of it.

President Nixon's address Tuesday was inspirational—for the Vietnam veteran; and for those of us in Congress who have the duty to insure that the Vietnam veteran receives expressions of gratitude from this Nation at least equal to those given veterans of earlier and perhaps less difficult wars, from the standpoint of mental anguish.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the President's message, along with his proclamation of Vietnam Veterans Day, be printed in the RECORD following my remarks, and that we take note of the instrumental role played by President Nixon in extricating America's combat troops from Vietnam in such a manner that our allies did not fall be-

for the enemy as a consequence of the withdrawal vacuum; and I urge that all of the Members of the Senate give special consideration to Vietnam Veterans Day and plan to participate in activities that will indicate to the Vietnam veteran our esteem for him.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Office of the White House Press Secretary]

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT UPON SIGNING THE VIETNAM VETERANS DAY PROCLAMATION

This Proclamation that I am now signing all of the Members of the House and the Senate who have sponsored it, are aware of it, the members of the press and perhaps the Nation are not aware of why we have a Proclamation designating March 29 as Vietnam Veterans Day.

That is the day that the last American combat soldier left Vietnam, the day, therefore, that marks the final conclusion of America's longest and without question its most difficult war.

It seems to me appropriate that in signing this Proclamation that reference be made to those who fought in that war, those who served in that war, why they fought and why their service was not only in the interest of the country, but in the highest tradition of service to the United States of America as far as the wars in which we have been engaged throughout our history, wars which we trust we will not have to be engaged in in the future if our foreign policy is as successful as we hope to make it.

I know there are some who quarrel with the phrase that I have often used, that our men in Vietnam and those who served in the Armed Forces finally achieved what many thought was impossible—peace with honor.

I do not use this phrase in any jingoistic sense. I use it because when I consider the alternative, I realize how much those who served did for their country under difficult circumstances.

This has been described as a war without heroes, without heroes perhaps except for those who occasionally receive a Medal of Honor that we hand out, but very little attention given to it, those without heroes, a war in which for the first time our prisoners of war come home and for a few fleeting months are recognized for the character that they showed as prisoners, but when I refer to peace with honor achieved by over two and one-half millions who served in Vietnam, I think of what would have happened had they had served and had we failed in our objective.

I am not now going to go into how the war began. It would serve no useful purpose to point out the difficulties that some of us have had as to how the war was conducted, but I do know this:

It was important to bring it to a conclusion in the right way, in a way that America remained respected throughout the world, in a way in which our allies had confidence in us, the neutrals did not lose their faith in us, and particularly where those who might be our opponent still respected us, respected not only our power, but respected our strength in terms of will and willingness to use that strength for a cause to which we were committed.

What would have happened had we not ended the war in the way we did end it? Seventeen million people in South Vietnam, instead of having a Government which is non-Communist with a right to choose for the future, would now be under Communist control.

The seven million people of Cambodia who are fighting against very great odds would certainly now be under Communist



THE PRESIDENT PROCLAIMS VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. President, I was among those privileged last Tuesday to attend White House ceremonies at which the President proclaimed March 20 Vietnam Veterans Day.

The observance will mark the day that the last American combat troops left Vietnam, where the longest war in which the United States ever was involved took place—an area, it seems, almost doomed to perpetual war, with or without U.S. involvement, since the Communist elements of that region rose to power during and following World War II. Unfortunately, in a number of the nations or troubled Indochina, millions, who since World War II have found intolerable their centuries—old status quo, have been able to find no middle ground—no truly democratic republic that most Americans feel ideal for all people. The Indochinese, in many cases, have felt their choices boiled down to

control. The small countries of Malasia and Singapore, the much larger country of Indonesia, Thailand, the two hundred million people that live in the perimeter of Southeast Asia, those nations would have a much greater danger threatening them of aggression sweeping over the entire peninsula of Southeast Asia.

People say the domino theory really is not accurate. The difficulty is they have never asked the dominoes, because when we find in visiting those areas, as many of us have, that they are watching what the United States does in terms of its relations to a small country so far away in a very difficult war, when they reach a conclusion that the United States is not a dependable ally, that the United States will be pushed over, when faced with Communist aggression, then they lose confidence in us and they accept the inevitable—that the tide of aggression will engulf them, also.

So, we are grateful to our men who served, because as a result, 250 million people, and perhaps more in the Southeast Asian effort have a chance—not a guarantee, but a chance—to choose their own way, a chance to remain free from a takeover by aggression from outside forces.

Our part will, in the future, be under the Nixon Doctrine, not to furnish troops, but to furnish within our capacities and depending upon their ability to use it, to furnish the economic and military supplies so that they can have what they need to defend themselves.

But, also, the way that this war ended had a much greater significance. There have been some foreign policy developments over the past five years, and particularly over the past two years, that in my opinion would not have occurred, could not have been accomplished, had not the United States proved that it was a dependable ally and also demonstrated in Vietnam that it would not join an enemy to overthrow an ally.

What I am referring to is very simply that when a great power in any of its relations with any countries, large or small, shows a lack of will, it loses respect not only in that area but it loses respect all over the world, and particularly among those who might oppose it in the future and who might be tempted to engage in adventurism, proceeding on the assumption that the United States having backed down one place might do so somewhere else.

So, in conclusion, I simply want to say to the Members of the Congress present, both Democrat and Republican, that we do owe a great debt of honor to those who served here, a great debt that is difficult to repay because this has been a misunderstood war, this has been one in which Americans have been honestly divided and we trust that that may never come again.

But as we see what would have happened had these men not stood firm and had we not backed them up, let me say the chance now to go forward with great initiatives for peace, with the United States strong and respected, we would not have.

So the 2½ million who served in Vietnam deserve our thanks, they deserve, I would say to Mr. Johnson as he may have noted from the press conference last night, special attention insofar as those who have suffered from the wounds of war, and I want particularly personal attention given to any indications that our laws are not being adequately carried out in that respect, in providing the benefits for them.

And finally, looking to the future, the way that we can pay the debt that we owe those who served, those who died, those who were wounded, those who have been prisoners, and those who served and came back with very little in terms of praise or applause, the best way we can repay that debt is to have a strong America militarily, but an America that is respected throughout the world, an

America that will not back away from its great and destined role to be the pacemaker of the world, whether it is in the Mideast, in Europe, in Asia or in any other area of the world.

That is our goal, and as we designate this as being Vietnam Veterans Day, let us set as our goal that we in the United States will be able to avoid not only more Vietnams, but build a structure of peace in which all people in the world will be able to avoid a future war, large or small.

#### VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

(By the President of the United States of America)

#### A PROCLAMATION

As America enters its second year of peace after a decade of conflict, it is highly appropriate for us to acknowledge the debt we owe to those veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the conflict in Southeast Asia. The untiring devotion that characterized our Armed Forces during this trying conflict is a tribute to the national character.

There are over six and one-half million Vietnam-era veterans, of whom more than two and one-half million served in Vietnam. Despite significant disruptions in their lives and other personal sacrifices, they answered the call of their country and served with great distinction.

As a Nation, we have acknowledged our deep respect and admiration by setting aside March 29, 1974, as Vietnam Veterans Day to remember that the honorable peace America achieved came through great sacrifice. Those who served, those who gave their lives, those who were disabled, and those who are still missing in Southeast Asia—and whose full accounting we shall continue to seek—deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen. For this purpose, the Congress has authorized and requested me to issue a proclamation designating March 29, 1974, as Vietnam Veterans Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, urge the people of this Nation to join in commemorating Friday, March 29, 1974, as Vietnam Veterans Day with suitable observances.

I direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all public buildings on that day; and I request officials of Federal, State, and local Governments, and civic and patriotic organizations, to give their enthusiastic support to appropriate ceremonies and observances throughout the Nation.

I urge all citizens of every age to participate in the events of this day as one means of honoring those men and women who served their country faithfully and courageously during the Vietnam conflict.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.

RICHARD NIXON.



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

20 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR Lt Col Americo A. Sardo  
Office of the Vice President  
Room 290  
Old Executive Office Building

The attached is forwarded for your information.

The Joint Service Review alluded to in Mr. Friedheim's letter will be held at Fort McNair.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter T. Kempf", is positioned above the typed name.

Peter T. Kempf  
Lt Col, USAF  
Military Assistant

Attachment

Mar 19. 74

Mrs. Gay Pendleton  
National Chairman  
National Honor Vietnam Veterans Day Committee  
53 D Street, S. E.  
Washington, D. C. 20003

Dear Mrs. Pendleton:

Secretary of Defense Schlesinger was pleased to receive your letter inviting him to be an honorary vice-chairman of your National Honor Vietnam Veterans Day Committee. As you know, at noon on March 29 Secretary Schlesinger and other senior Department of Defense officials will be involved in a long-planned Joint Service Review in commemoration of Vietnam Veterans Day and to honor active duty and now-discharged veterans of the conflict in Southeast Asia.

Because of this and because of the many other demands on his time, it is inappropriate for the Secretary to accept your invitation.

In the event the scheduled time of your luncheon will allow, we would be pleased to have you, Mr. Claiborne and Mr. English attend the Review at Fort McNair as distinguished guests. I have enclosed three invitations for your use.

Sincerely,

|S|

Jerry W. Friedheim

Enclosures

cc: Evelyn Irons/Thelma Stubbs  
Tom Latimer  
DCR  
ASD(PA)Chron/Subject/Reading  
SA: Cmbk  
JRL/sp/19 Mar 74/76648 OSD 4591



# National Honor Vietnam Veterans Day Committee

53 D Street, Southeast, Washington, D.C. 20003; Telephone (202) 546-2462 or 546-0600  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 981, Washington, D.C. 20044

MRS. GAY PITCAIRN PENDLETON  
National Chairman

CLAY CLAIBORNE  
Special Assistant to the Chairman

DOUGLAS W. INGLISH, JR.  
Treasurer

March 15, 1974

The Honorable James R. Schlesinger  
Secretary of Defense  
Exec. Ofc. Bldg., 17th & Penn. Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Mr. Schlesinger:

As you are probably well aware, President Nixon signed a proclamation designating Friday, March 29, as Vietnam Veterans Day. This proclamation is enclosed.

To develop a program for March 29, I have been asked to serve as national chairman of National Honor Vietnam Veterans Day Committee, whose purpose is to put the projects together and come up with an appropriate way of honoring these veterans. Incidentally, we sponsored a Kickoff Dinner in Washington in January to help launch this observance which was attended by Vice President Ford, Julie Eisenhower, who brought a message from President Nixon; top Administration officials and Members of Congress. A copy of a clipping reporting on the dinner is enclosed.

Will you serve as an honorary vice-chairman of the National Honor Vietnam Veterans Day Committee? The culmination of this observance will be a luncheon at the Washington Hilton Hotel in the Capital on March 29 at which we expect to honor some of the Vietnam Veterans from the area hospitals. Of course, our plans are to seek President Nixon as main speaker and participation from Administration officials and Members of Congress.

Because the Washington task force which is working on this project is made up of top-level professionals, I can assure you that the demands on your time will be kept to a minimum. If you have any questions on the Vietnam Veterans Day or your role in it, the staff at the Committee's national office (address above) in Washington, D. C., can be helpful. You may contact at that Office Clay Claiborne, my assistant, who keeps his fingers on the details essential to the success of the project.

Cordially,

*Gay Pendleton*  
(Mrs.) Gay Pendleton  
National Chairman

MARCH 29, 1974 - "VIETNAM VETERANS DAY"

4591



# LIST OF INVITEES TO PARTICIPATE - HONOR VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

## Honorary Chairman

John Wayne

## Honorary Vice-Chairmen

Hon. Gerald Ford, Vice President	Hon. John J. Sparkman
Hon. James Abourezk	Hon. Robert T. Stafford
Hon. George D. Aiken	Hon. John C. Stennis
Hon. James B. Allen	Hon. Ted Stevens
Hon. Dewey F. Bartlett	Hon. Stuart Symington
Hon. J. Glenn Beall, Jr.	Hon. Robert Taft, Jr.
Hon. Wallace F. Bennett	Hon. Herman E. Talmadge
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen	Hon. Strom Thurmond
Hon. Alan Bible	Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Bill Brock	Hon. Milton R. Young
Hon. James L. Buckley	Hon. Watkins M. Abbitt
Hon. Quentin N. Burdick	Hon. Thomas G. Abernethy
Hon. Harry F. Byrd, Jr.	Hon. Brock Adams
Hon. Robert C. Byrd	Hon. Joseph P. Addabbo
Hon. Howard W. Cannon	Hon. Bill Alexander
Hon. Lawton M. Chiles, Jr.	Hon. Glenn M. Anderson
Hon. Dick Clark	Hon. John B. Anderson
Hon. Marlow W. Cook	Hon. William R. Anderson
Hon. Norris Cotton	Hon. George Andrews
Hon. Carl T. Curtis	Hon. Mark Andrews
Hon. Bob Dole	Hon. Bill Archer
Hon. Pete V. Domenici	Hon. Leslie C. Arends
Hon. Peter H. Dominick	Hon. John M. Ashbrook
Hon. Paul J. Fannin	Hon. Thomas L. Ashley
Hon. Hiram L. Fong	Hon. Les Aspin
Hon. J. W. Fulbright	Hon. Wayne N. Aspinall
Hon. Barry Goldwater	Hon. Herman Badillo
Hon. Robert P. Griffin	Hon. LaMar Baker
Hon. Edward J. Gurney	Hon. Walter S. Baring
Hon. Clifford P. Hansen	Hon. William A. Barrett
Hon. Philip A. Hart	Hon. Page Belcher
Hon. Vance Hartke	Hon. Alphonzo Bell
Hon. Floyd K. Haskell	Hon. Charles E. Bennett
Hon. William D. Hathaway	Hon. Bob Bergland
Hon. Jesse A. Helms	Hon. Jackson E. Betts
Hon. Ernest F. Hollings	Hon. Tom Beville
Hon. Roman L. Hruska	Hon. Edward G. Biester, Jr.
Hon. Walter Huddleston	Hon. Johnthan B. Bingham
Hon. Harold E. Hughes	Hon. Ben B. Blackburn
Hon. Henry M. Jackson	Hon. Ray Blanton
Hon. J. Bennett Johnston, Jr.	Hon. John A. Blatnik
Hon. Russell B. Long	Hon. Edward P. Boland
Hon. John L. McClellan	Hon. Richard Bolling
Hon. James A. McClure	Hon. Frank T. Bow
Hon. Gale W. McGee	Hon. John Brademas
Hon. Thomas J. McIntyre	Hon. William G. Bray
Hon. Warren G. Magnuson	Hon. Jack Brinkley
Hon. Mike Mansfield	Hon. Jack Brooks
Hon. Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.	Hon. William S. Broomfield
Hon. Lee Metcalf	Hon. Donald G. Brotzman
Hon. Walter F. Mondale	Hon. Clarence J. Brown
Hon. Frank E. Moss	Hon. Garry Brown
Hon. Gaylord Nelson	Hon. James T. Broyhill
Hon. Sam Nunn	Hon. Joel T. Broyhill
Hon. James B. Pearson	Hon. John Buchanan
Hon. William Proxmire	Hon. J. Herbert Burke
Hon. Jennings Randolph	Hon. James A. Burke
Hon. William V. Roth, Jr.	Hon. Omar Burleson
Hon. Richard S. Schweiker	Hon. Bill D. Burlison
Hon. Hugh Scott	Hon. Phillip Burton
Hon. William Lloyd Scott	Hon. John W. Byrnes

Hon. Goodloe E. Byron  
Hon. Earle Cabell  
Hon. Patrick T. Caffery  
Hon. John N. Happy Camp  
Hon. Charles J. Carney  
Hon. Tom Lee Carter  
Hon. Bob Casey  
Hon. Elford A. Cederberg  
Hon. Charles E. Chamberlain  
Hon. Bill Chappell, Jr.  
Hon. Donald D. Clancy  
Hon. Frank M. Clark  
Hon. Don H. Clausen  
Hon. Del Clawson  
Hon. James C. Cleveland  
Hon. Harold R. Collier  
Hon. James M. Collins  
Hon. William M. Colmer  
Hon. Barber B. Conable, Jr.  
Hon. Silvio O. Conte  
Hon. James C. Corman  
Hon. William R. Cotter  
Hon. R. Lawrence Coughlin  
Hon. Philip M. Crane  
Hon. John C. Culver  
Hon. W. C. Daniel  
Hon. George E. Danielson  
Hon. Glenn R. Davis  
Hon. John W. Davis  
Hon. Eligio de la Garza  
Hon. James J. Delaney  
Hon. John Dellenback  
Hon. Frank E. Denholm  
Hon. David W. Dennis  
Hon. John H. Dent  
Hon. Edward J. Derwinski  
Hon. Samuel L. Devine  
Hon. William L. Dickinson  
Hon. Wm. Jennings Bryan Dorn  
Hon. Thomas N. Downing  
Hon. Thaddeus Dulski  
Hon. John J. Duncan  
Hon. Pierre S. du Pont, IV  
Hon. Florence P. Dwyer  
Hon. Bob Eckhardt  
Hon. Ed Edmondson  
Hon. Edwin Edwards  
Hon. Jack Edwards  
Hon. John N. Erlenborn  
Hon. Marvin L. Esch  
Hon. Edwin D. Eshleman  
Hon. Frank E. Evans  
Hon. Joe L. Evins  
Hon. Dante B. Fascell  
Hon. Paul Findley  
Hon. Hamilton Fish, Jr.  
Hon. O. C. Fisher  
Hon. Daniel J. Flood  
Hon. Walter Flowers  
Hon. John J. Flynt, Jr.  
Hon. Thomas S. Foley  
Hon. William D. Ford  
Hon. Edwin B. Forsythe  
Hon. L. H. Fountain  
Hon. Donald M. Fraser  
Hon. Peter H. B. Frelinghuysen  
Hon. Bill Frenzel  
Hon. Lou Frey, Jr.  
Hon. James G. Fulton  
Hon. Richard Fulton  
Hon. Don Fuqua  
Hon. Edward A. Garmatz  
Hon. Joseph M. Gaydos  
Hon. Tom S. Gettys  
Hon. Robert N. Giaimo

Hon. Sam M. Gibbons  
Hon. Barry Goldwater, Jr.  
Hon. Henry B. Gonzalez  
Hon. George A. Goodling  
Hon. Ella T. Grasso  
Hon. Kenneth J. Gray  
Hon. Edith Green  
Hon. William J. Green  
Hon. Charles H. Griffin  
Hon. Martha W. Griffiths  
Hon. H. R. Gross  
Hon. James R. Grover, Jr.  
Hon. Charles S. Gubser  
Hon. Gilbert Gude  
Hon. G. Elliott Hagan  
Hon. James A. Haley  
Hon. Durward G. Hall  
Hon. Seymour Halpern  
Hon. Lee H. Hamilton  
Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt  
Hon. Richard T. Hanna  
Hon. Julia Butler Hansen  
Hon. Orval Hansen  
Hon. Michael J. Harrington  
Hon. William H. Harsha  
Hon. James Harvey  
Hon. James F. Hastings  
Hon. William D. Hathaway  
Hon. Augustus F. Hawkins  
Hon. F. Edward Hebert  
Hon. Ken Heckler  
Hon. Margaret M. Heckler  
Hon. Henry Helstoski  
Hon. David N. Henderson  
Hon. Floyd V. Hicks  
Hon. Elwood H. Hillis  
Hon. Lawrence J. Hogan  
Hon. Frank Horton  
Hon. Craig Hosmer  
Hon. James J. Howard  
Hon. W. R. Hull, Jr.  
Hon. William L. Hungate  
Hon. John E. Hunt  
Hon. Edward Hutchinson  
Hon. Richard H. Ichord  
Hon. John Jarman  
Hon. Albert W. Johnson  
Hon. Harold T. Johnson  
Hon. Charles R. Jonas  
Hon. Ed Jones  
Hon. Robert E. Jones  
Hon. Walter B. Jones  
Hon. Joseph E. Karth  
Hon. Abraham Kazen, Jr.  
Hon. William J. Keating  
Hon. James Kee  
Hon. Jack F. Kemp  
Hon. Carleton J. King  
Hon. Dan H. Kuykendall  
Hon. John Kyl  
Hon. Peter N. Kyros  
Hon. Earl F. Landgrebe  
Hon. Phil M. Landrum  
Hon. Delbert L. Latta  
Hon. Robert L. Leggett  
Hon. Alton Lennon  
Hon. Norman F. Lent  
Hon. Arthur A. Link  
Hon. Sherman P. Lloyd  
Hon. Clarence D. Long

This list is NOT final. Congressmen, Cabinet Officers, Corporation Executives, and Citizens are to added.

February 26, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

As America enters its second year of peace after a decade of conflict, it is highly appropriate for us to acknowledge the debt we owe to those veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the conflict in Southeast Asia. The untiring devotion that characterized our Armed Forces during this trying conflict is a tribute to the national character.

There are over six and one-half million Vietnam-era veterans, of whom more than two and one-half million served in Vietnam. Despite significant disruptions in their lives and other personal sacrifices, they answered the call of their country and served with great distinction.

As a Nation, we have acknowledge our deep respect and admiration by setting aside March 29, 1974, as Vietnam Veterans Day to remember that the honorable peace America achieved came through great sacrifice. Those who served, those who gave their lives, those who were disabled, and those who are still missing in Southeast Asia -- and whose full accounting we shall continue to seek -- deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen. For this purpose, the Congress has authorized and requested me to issue a proclamation designating March 29, 1974, as Vietnam Veterans Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, urge the people of this Nation to join in commemorating Friday, March 29, 1974, as Vietnam Veterans Day with suitable observances.

I direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all public buildings on that day; and I request officials of Federal, State, and local Governments, and civic and patriotic organizations, to give their enthusiastic support to appropriate ceremonies and observances throughout the Nation.

I urge all citizens of every age to participate in the events of this day as one means of honoring those men and women who served their country faithfully and courageously during the Vietnam conflict.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I Have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.

RICHARD NIXON

# Off to Dinner Honor Veterans

We went to Washington to attend the dinner that was given Wednesday by Mrs. Willard D. Pendleton at the Shoreham Hotel. The dinner was the kick-off for next month's Vietnam Veterans Day, which will be observed across the nation.

Vice President Gerald Ford

Congress. The date will mark the first anniversary of the complete withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam — following the truce there last year.

### Three Wars

On Gay Pendleton's dinner committee were Rep. Hamil-



## RUTH SELTZER The Philadelphia Story

and Julie Nixon Eisenhower attended the dinner, which ended one hour before Julie's father delivered his State of the Union message to Congress.

The timetable for the dinner was hastened considerably because several at the head table had to get to the Capitol to hear the President. Julie left at 8:05. Vice President Ford departed 10 minutes before that. And others, like House Minority Leader John J. Rhodes (D., Ariz.); Sen. Strom Thurmond (R., S.C.) and Rep. William J. Scherle (R., Iowa) hurried away soon thereafter.

There were more than 300 people at the dinner. All of them were the guests of Mrs. Pendleton, who is a Philadelphian.

Mrs. Pendleton lives in Bryn Athyn. She is the wife of the Rt. Rev. Willard Pendleton, who is the executive bishop of the General Church of the New Jerusalem. At Wednesday's Washington banquet, Mrs. Pendleton introduced both Vice President Ford and Julie Eisenhower.

Mrs. Pendleton is the former Gabriele Pitcairn. Her nickname is Gay. She is the daughter of Mrs. Raymond Pitcairn, of Glencairn, Bryn Athyn, and the late Mr. Pitcairn.

It was Mrs. Pendleton who organized and hosted the "Honor the Vietnam Veterans" banquet. She picked up the entire tab. Mrs. Pendleton, modest as she is, didn't say a thing about it. There were no announcements. But this much is certain. She underwrote the event—the cocktails, the dinner with wine, the flowers which graced the table. Everyone was her guest.

Purpose of the dinner was to call attention to the fact that March 29, 1974 has been proclaimed Vietnam Veterans Day by President Nixon. A joint resolution authorizing the observance was passed by

ton Fish Jr. (R., N. Y.), Rep. Scherle and Alfonso Sellet.

Mr. Sellet, who lives in Walker Valley, N. Y., is chairman of the Honor Vietnam Veterans Committee. He fought in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam. He was a master sergeant in Vietnam. Mr. Sellet has worked long and hard for a national day to honor the Vietnam veterans. He spoke at the dinner. His wife, Joan, and teenage son, Michael, were among those who listened. So did Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, the Army's chief of staff, and Gen. Harold K. Johnson.

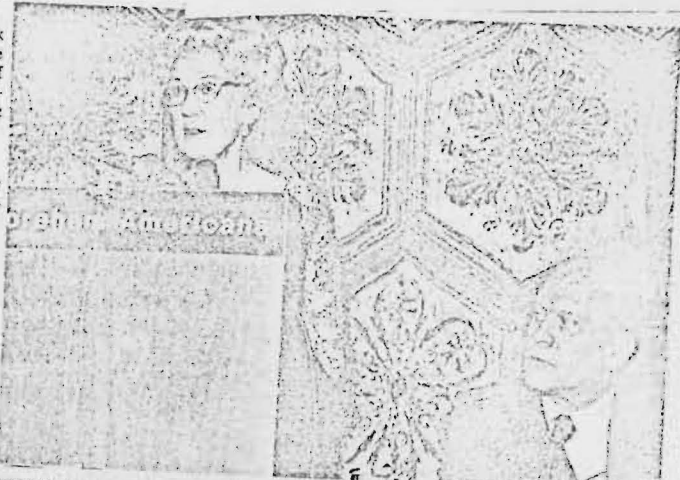
Gen. Johnson, who is president of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, introduced Alfonso Sellet. Gen. Johnson referred to Mr. Sellet as "a humble man from the Catskills." From 1964 to 1968, Gen. Johnson served as the Army's chief of staff.

"Let's reinforce a belief in the dignity of man," said Alfonso Sellet, who emigrated from Italy to America with his parents when he was a small boy. Mr. Sellet urged that the March 29 observance be "a resounding success."

The Vietnam War, said Alfonso Sellet, "was not a glamor war. Our veterans did not come back to victory marches and keys to cities. We must restore pride and honor in our services."

The dinner began with an invocation which was given by The Rev. Martin Pryke of Bryn Athyn. Michael Pitcairn, who is Mrs. Pendleton's brother, led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Star-Spangled Banner was sung by Mrs. Daniel Heinrichs.

The benediction was said by Karl Justus, director of the Military Chaplains Association. The United States Army Band played



WELCOMING GUESTS to the dinner she gave in Washington is Mrs. Willard D. Pendleton, of Bryn Athyn. At speaker.

"The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

We've never been to a dinner where so little food was eaten. Waiters carried away dozens upon dozens of plates that were scarcely touched. Even when you're hungry, you don't much feel like eating during a series of speeches about the war in Vietnam and the sacrifices made by those who fought there.

### Veterans There

At Wednesday's dinner, a Vietnam veteran sat at each of the tables.

Among those at the banquet: Helen Bentley, chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission; Maj. Gen. Daniel James (assistant secretary of defense), Donald E. Johnson (administrator of Veterans' Affairs), Congressman William Jennings Bryan Dorn and Mrs. Anna Chennault, widow of Gen. Clare (Flying Tigers) Chennault. Mrs. Chennault sat next to Julie Eisenhower.

Point of interest: When Vice President Ford departed from the dinner, he said: "I regret that there is another engagement this evening."

He was referring, of course, to the fact that he was on his way to the Capitol to hear President Nixon give his State of the Union message.



AT THE DINNER in Washington to honor Vietnam veterans, Julie Nixon Eisenhower (right) and Mrs. Clare L. Chennault. Mrs. Eisenhower was one of the speakers at the banquet.



DURING THE RECEPTION that preceded the "Honor the Vietnam Veterans" dinner are Gen. Creighton W. Abrams (left), Mrs. Harold K. Johnson, of Valley Forge, and Mrs. Johnson.



IN WASHINGTON for the dinner, Mrs. Alfred L. Wolf (left) and her husband, Brig. Gen. Wolf (center), of Blue Bell, are with Michael Pitcairn, of Bryn Athyn.

PLEASE READ  
OTHER  
SIDE