Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Speechwriting, White House Office of: Speech Drafts: Records 1981-1989

Folder Title: Proclamation: National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam War 04/26/1981

Box: 7

To see more digitized collections visit: https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit: https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide

National Archives Catalogue: https://catalog.archives.gov/

Last Updated: 04/01/2025

notel Recognition Day For Veterans
Notel Recognition Day For Veterans EVENT of Vietnam War
april 26, 1981

	DUE
DRAFT/KK	
DATE:	Jues april 14
TIME:	Noon
FINAL	
DATE:	Friday, April 17
TIME:	J 300

RECEIVED

DATE:

4-8-81

OFFICE:

00

WDITER.

Isbay Nana

RESEARCHER:

HER:

NOTES:

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 23, 1981

NATIONAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. Beyond the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 of these were wounded in Vietnam, many suffering permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a joint resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate again to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis. No one should doubt the nobility of the effort they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for understanding and help.

In these times of economic hardship and budget restriction every citizen should be aware that showing our gratitude to the Vietnam veteran will take more than leaving it up to the Federal Government to provide money and programs. Each of us must do his or her part in reaching out in a personal way to these brave men and women. This recognition will mean much to the Vietnam veterans who never received the thanks they deserved when they originally returned home from war.

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by joint resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

more

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 23rd day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.

RONALD REAGAN

#

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the almost nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. Beyond the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 of these were wounded in Vietnam, many suffering permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed

pursuant to a joint resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate again to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis. No one should doubt the nobility of the effort they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for understanding and help.

In these times of economic hardship and budget restriction every citizen should be aware that showing our gratitude to the Vietnam veteran will take more than leaving it up to the Federal Government to provide money and programs. Each of us must do his or her part in reaching out in a personal way to these brave men and women. This recognition will mean much to the Vietnam veterans who never received the thanks they deserved when they originally returned home from war.

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by joint resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon

patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday,

April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans

of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe

such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities

dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

Insert

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the almost nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. [It is too late to do anything for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these hard suffered permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe Acail it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis. No one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "bet us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nations wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan -- to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the almost nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these have suffered permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis.

No one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan -- to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as a National Day of Recognition for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

April 16, 1981

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY FOR VETERANS OF VIETNAM ERA, 1981

HE

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these have suffered permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis.

No one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating a lay of Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

Research:

Please check to see if Lincoln quote in Veterans proclamation has been used in past VEterans Day proclamation or other Vientam Era proclamations.

4/16/81 KK

October 28, 1974 - Buld Tool quoted & come for him who shall have borne the battle!

Nayl

(Rohrabacher/KK) Borganist

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY FOR VETERANS OF VIETNAM ERA, 1981

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by almost the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these have suffered permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis. No one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 15, 1981

The President signed yesterday S.J. Resolution 182, National Recognition Day for Vietnam Era Veterans.

###

a "Nut" Day of Recog. for Vets. of the Viet Era."

per som Jones

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY FOR VETERANS OF VIETNAM ERA, 1981

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these have suffered permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis. No one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan -- to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY FOR VETERANS OF VIETNAM ERA, 1981

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the millions who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these have suffered permanent disabilities.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis.

No one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan -- to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY FOR VETERANS OF VIETNAM ERA, 1981

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the several million men and women who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything tangible for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these will suffer disability for the rest of their lives.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis.

And while some question the war in which they fought, no one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamtion designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds

on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY FOR VETERANS OF VIETNAM ERA, 1981

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was a time of trial for our Nation. Nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the war in Southeast Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the several million men and women who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything tangible for the 57,000 who died during the Vietnam war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in Vietnam; many of these will suffer disability for the rest of their lives.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies each Vietnam-era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam-era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis.

And while some question the war in which they fought, no one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamera veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamtion designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds

on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

April 13, 1981 First Draft

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS
OF VIETNAM THE TRAIL TO ERA, 198/

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam Hinds of the property of the variable of

As in all wars, the brunt of the conflict was borne almost by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during that time, particularly the several million men and women who saw duty six, 100,59 in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything tangible for the force of the millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for having accepted the call to arms when such product in Vietnam; many of these will suffer disability for the rest of their lives.

The cold statistics are empty, however, unless we keep in mind the individual and personal drama which accompanies style, (20275) each Vietnam era veteran and casualty. Much has been said about the sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a time of crisis.

And while some question the war in which they fought, no one should doubt the nobility of the sacrifice they made.

347t,p34 260

5/2/cp 81,1de7.7

Stykp82

By their demonstrations of loyalty and courage, Vietnam veterans have earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnamstyle, p.59, not listed Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects can look to their fellow citizens Newsweek, 3/30/21, p.24 for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, None" 2 d Though us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind, the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the

"With Malrie Toward Address, 3/4/1865 in Abraham Lincoln ed Don E Februabacher New Ambibing, 1964, p 279

Abraham Lincoln

battle, and for his widow, and his orphan -- to do all which 1 1 R 29 e may achieve and cherish a just, and lasting peace, among ourselves,; and with all nations."

yle, not listed

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamtion designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

from W. Nichols, DMB, General Counsel, 4/6/21 regarding H.J. Resolution 182

memo to Dick Darme

347 le, p 34 1981 Cotadar Memo to Dick Garman - Gram W. Michel: OMB General Counsel, 4/6/81

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions le, p 260 57 of Vietnam veterans.

547 le, p 228

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this

day of , in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.

Jom Jones WH Exec. Clerk, x2226

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DAT	E: 4/10/81	_ ACTIO	N/CO	NCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE	BY:4	/17/81	
SUB.	JECT: National Re	cognition	Day	for Veterans of the Vi	etnam Er	a	
Γ		ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI	
	VICE PRESIDENT			JAMES			
	MEESE			MURPHY			
	BAKER			NOFZIGER			
	DEAVER			WEIDENBAUM			
	STOCKMAN			CANZERI			
	ALLEN			FULLER (For Cabinet)			
	ANDERSON			HICKEY			
	BRADY			HODSOLL	` 🗆		
	DOLE			MC COY			
	FIELDING			WILLIAMSON			
	FRIEDERSDORF			Khachigian	KX		
	GARRICK						
	GERGEN						
	HARPER						

Remarks:

A draft proclamation prepared by the Veterans Administration was sent to you for editing, concurrently with review by White House staff offices. The attached mark-up reflects comments received, which you may want to take into account in preparing the final text.

Richard G. Darman

Deputy Assistant to the President and Staff Secretary

(x-2702)

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA A PROCLAMATION

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was one fraught with uncertainty, discord, disillusionment, and frustration over a distant and unpopular war. It was a time of trial for our Nation and nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the trauma associated with that the war of Saurness, Asia.

As in all wars, the brunt of this trauma was borne by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, fliers, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during the United States involvement in southeast asia, particularly the several million men and women who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything tangible for the 57,000 who died during the war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for their having accepted the call to arms at a time when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in the Vietnam theater, and many will bear at litent disabilities for the rest of their lives.

These cold statistics; however, are empty unless we individual and parsial drope keep in mind the real flesh-and-blood story which accompanies each Vietnam era veteran and casualty. Much has by now been said about the personal sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe

those men and women who did their duty in a noble effort to preserve the peace we all now enjoy. INSTRT

We acknowledge America's sense of ambivalence toward

the Vietnam war. More importantly, however, we recognize

that those who participated in the conflict have, by their

demonstration of loyalty and courage, earned our esteem. A

recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly

admires the Vietnam era veteran. Certainly, those veterans

who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects of such

service can look to their fellow citizens for a helping

hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "let us strive on

to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds;

to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his

widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and

cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with

all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities, including a week of symposia hearings and conferences to be conducted in Washington, District of Columbia, prior to April 26, dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this

day of , in the year of our Lord

nineteen hundred and eighty-one, and of the Independence of

the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.

And while some question the war in which they fought, no one should doubt the they fought, no sacrafice they made.

.

.

THE WHITE HOUSE

KK Jor assignment

Dave 4-10

Document	No.	000656SS
Document		

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 6, 1981	ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:	APRIL	17,	1981
---------------------	------------------------------------	-------	-----	------

SUBJECT: National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era

	ACTION	FYI	ACTION FYI
VICE PRESIDENT			JAMES 🗆 🗆
MEESE			MURPHY □ □
BAKER			NOFZIGER □
DEAVER			WEIDENBAUM
STOCKMAN			CANZERI
ALLEN	\times		FULLER (For Cabinet)
ANDERSON	×		HICKEY \square
BRADY			HODSOLL 🗆 🗆
DOLE	×		MC COY
FIELDING	A		WILLIAMSON
FRIEDERSDORF			KHACHIGIAN
GARRICK			
GERGEN			
HARPER			

Remarks:

Because of the short time schedule, I am asking for comments on the VA draft of this proclamation, before the speechwriters have completed their editing.

Please provide views to me and, if appropriate, also to Ken Khachigian, by COB, APRIL 17.

Richard G. Darman
Deputy Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
(x-2702)



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

April 6, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR:

RICHARD DARMAN

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM MARKETOLS

SUBJECT:

NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY FOR VETERANS

OF THE VIETNAM ERA

By House Joint Resolution 182, the President is requested to designate Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

The attached proposed proclamation was drafted at our request by the Veterans Administration and retyped in this office as to format and to reflect minor editorial changes.

The proposed proclamation has the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Enclosure

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA A PROCLAMATION

The decade which has come to be known as the Vietnam era was one fraught with uncertainty, discord, disillusionment, and frustration over a distant and unpopular war. It was a time of trial for our Nation, and nearly every citizen was touched in some way by the trauma associated with that conflict.

As in all wars, the brunt of this trauma was borne by the more than nine million soldiers, sailors, fliers, and marines who served in our Armed Forces during the United States involvement in Southeast Asia, particularly the several million men and women who saw duty in Vietnam. It is too late to do anything tangible for the 57,000 who died during the war, but we have among us millions of veterans who have yet to receive the full measure of thanks for their having accepted the call to arms at a time when such service was not popular with all Americans. More than 300,000 were wounded in the Vietnam theater, and many will bear resultant disabilities for the rest of their lives.

These cold statistics, however, are empty unless we keep in mind the real flesh-and-blood story which accompanies each Vietnam era veteran and casualty. Much has by now been said about the personal sacrifice made by those who served, but full recognition of the Nation's debt of gratitude to them is long overdue.

Our first national commemoration of the Vietnam era veteran was in 1974, when Vietnam Veterans Day was proclaimed pursuant to a Joint Resolution of the Congress. I believe

it is appropriate to continue to recognize and commemorate those men and women who did their duty in a noble effort to preserve the peace we all now enjoy.

We acknowledge America's sense of ambivalence toward the Vietnam war. More importantly, however, we recognize that those who participated in the conflict have, by their demonstration of loyalty and courage, earned our esteem. A recent survey revealed that the American public overwhelmingly admires the Vietnam era veteran. Certainly, those veterans who suffer from physical and psychic aftereffects of such service can look to their fellow citizens for a helping hand. In the immortal words of Lincoln, "let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

In honor of those who deserve the profound gratitude of their countrymen, the Congress, by Joint Resolution, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans, and upon patriotic and civic organizations, to observe Sunday, April 26, 1981, as National Recognition Day for Veterans of the Vietnam Era. I urge my fellow citizens to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities, including a week of symposia hearings and conferences to be conducted in Washington, District of Columbia, prior to April 26, dedicated to those issues of concern to Vietnam veterans.

I call upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day in testimony of our respect for the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this

day of , in the year of our Lord

nineteen hundred and eighty-one, and of the Independence of

the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.