



VETERANS FOR PEACE

July 31, 2019

The Honorable Denny Heck
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Heck:

Veterans For Peace is proud to offer our endorsement of the Remove the Stain Act. We join Congressman Heck, Congressman Cook, Congresswoman Haaland, and Indigenous communities in denouncing the violence that occurred at the Wounded Knee Massacre.

Veterans For Peace is an international organization made up of military veterans, military family members, and allies. We accept veteran members from all branches of service. We are dedicated to building a culture of peace, exposing the true costs of war, and healing the wounds of war. Our networks are made up of over 140 chapters across the United States and abroad.

According to contemporaneous accounts following the actions at Wounded Knee Creek in 1890, a massacre took place. Estimates are that 350-375 men, women and children were killed. Congress should recognize this massacre for what it was, a mistake, and not glorify it with the 20 Medals of Honor that were subsequently awarded.

We strongly condemn the violence used against the Sioux people, and believe these medals from Wounded Knee tarnish the Medal of Honor. Congress should act to remove the stain. We therefore strongly support H.R. 3467, the Remove the Stain Act.

We, as military veterans, affirm our greater responsibility to serve the cause of world peace. We believe the Remove the Stain Act is consistent with our philosophy and approach to help build a more just and peaceful world.

Sincerely,

Garrett Reppenhagen
Executive Director

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gerry Condon
President
Adrienne Kinne
Vice-President
Patrick McCann
Secretary
Gary Butterfield
Treasurer
Daniel Craig
Mike Dempsey
Marti GuyDowning
Willie Hager
George Johnson
Joey King
David Logsdon
Jessie Medvan

ADVISORY BOARD

Edward Asner
Andrew Bacevich
Medea Benjamin
Phyllis Bennis
Roy Bourgeois
Jackson Browne
Paul Chappell
Charlie Clements
Marjorie Cohn
John Dear
Phil Donahue
Daniel Ellsberg
Bill Fletcher
Chris Hedges
Matthew Hoh
Ann Jones
Kathy Kelly
David Krieger
Paul Norton "Pete" McCloskey Jr.
Raymond McGovern
Ralph Nader
Yoko Ono
Miko Peled
Jeremy Scahill
Roy Scranton
Margaret Stevens
Oliver Stone
David Swanson
Cornel West
Mary Ann Wright

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Garrett Reppenhagen