



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Donna M. Loring

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TO: Adjutant General David James III
FROM: Donna M Loring
SUBJECT: Vietnam Women's Veterans Second National Conference
DATE: September 6, 2001

General James,

Thank you so much for accepting our invitation to speak to us.
We are honored that you have agreed to be with us at our opening ceremony.
Enclosed please find information on the Vietnam Women Veterans Organization, and a brief history of women in Vietnam.
We know that you are tremendously busy and just to have you give us ten or fifteen minutes of your time would be deeply appreciated.
Again thank you and I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Donna M Loring



Vietnam Women Veterans, Inc.

For military staff and line officers and enlisted women who served in Vietnam



Purposes

- ◆ To preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members.
- ◆ To assist worthy comrades.
- ◆ To perpetuate the memory and history of our dead.
- ◆ To maintain allegiance to the government of the United States of America and fidelity to its Constitution and laws.
- ◆ To foster patriotism.
- ◆ To help foster, encourage and promote the improvement of the condition of the Vietnam female veteran.
- ◆ To promote physical and cultural improvements, growth and development, self-respect, self-confidence, and usefulness of Vietnam female veterans.
- ◆ To foster new attitudes toward Vietnam female veterans.
- ◆ To develop channels of communication that will assist the Vietnam female veterans to maximize self-realization.
- ◆ To enhance female veteran membership representation in veterans organizations.
- ◆ To create a more positive image of veterans in general.
- ◆ To assist the disabled and needy veterans, including, but not limited to, the Vietnam female veterans and their dependents, and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans.

Officers

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Joanne Murphy, USA



Vietnam Women Veterans

 VWV Website
 Sheraton Gunter Hotel
 Visiting San Antonio

Second Homecoming Conference San Antonio, Texas

Where **The Gunter Hotel**
 205 East Houston Street
 San Antonio, Texas

When **September 26th - 29th, 2001**

Tentative Agenda

Wednesday, 26th September

9:00am - 11:00am **Registration**

2:00pm - 4:00pm **Registration**

1:00pm - 5:00pm **Bienvenidos Amigos Reception**

Thursday, 27th September

9:00am - 11:00am **Registration/Voting**

9:00am - 5:00pm **San Antonio Grand Tour**

2:00pm - 4:00pm **Registration/Voting (Ballot boxes close at 4:00pm)**

7:00pm - 9:00pm **Opening Ceremony**

9:15pm **Social**

Friday, 28th September

8:00am - 9:00am **Continental Breakfast**

9:00am - 2:30pm **Health Fair**

Panel discussions

✿ *Agent Orange*

✿ *Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)*

✿ *Hepatitis C*

✿ *Service Claims*

✿ *... and other topics affecting Women Vietnam Veterans*

9:00am -

11:00am

Long Term Health Care Seminar

1:00pm - 3:00pm Repeat of Morning Sessions

Saturday, 29th September

9:00am - 5:00pm



Southwest Artists' Show

6:00pm

Banquet

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Women vets have served their country in
WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam, the
Gulf War and now Afghanistan,
and some have made the ultimate
sacrifice.

~~The majority of us have never~~

There are over 9,000 women vets
in the State of Maine. Less than
one percent are taking advantage of
their VA benefits. In contrast
there are over 150,000 male vets and
over 50% of them are taking
advantage of their benefits.

Thousands of women vets are ignorant
of what is available to them



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According to the Dept of Defense, Veterans
and Emergency Managers as of July
1999 there were 1500 WWII
women vets in the State. I'm
sure that number has decreased
since WWII women vets are dying
every day. If even 25% of the
1500 WWII vets were to take
advantage of a benefit such as
VET nursing home care the amount
of State money saved would be
approximately 1/4 mil. (It costs
to approx 15,500 dollars in State
funds to pay for one year of nursing
home care in the Maine Care
System.



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Services such as inpatient

Hospital Services

outpatient Hospital Services

physician

podiatry

occupational Therapy

optometry Services

Audiology

Social worker

Nursing Facility

Rehab Services

Substance Abuse Services

There would be covered by the VA

for an indiv eligible for full benefits.

~~The~~ The Savings by providing
these services to the women who
would be over 21,000



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This does not include pharmaceuticals,
which could greatly increase the
Savings.

If we take this full benefit
figure & apply it to just 25%
of the 9,000 women who the
benefit the VA would provide
would be ~~in the millions~~ ~~and~~ ~~over~~
47 million dollars.

This full benefit list ~~is~~ is
material benefits only and does not
consider other benefit areas such as
Home loan guarantees, education
benefits, or cemetery benefits which
include Spousal burial.



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The majority of us women vets
have never used veterans benefits,
never talked about our military
experiences and never been recognized
for our contributions.

The Woman Veterans Commission is a tool
by which we can communicate
network with each other and make
a difference in the lives of women vets.

The amendment although it has
no extra money would require
the Dept of Def, Vet & emerg
management to address ~~the needs of~~
~~women veterans with~~
~~women vets~~



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to consult with the Women Comm
in order to provide adequate outreach
to women vet of his state and
support it's progress to the
Legislature by Jan 15 2003

The woman vet meeting everyday
without knowledge of what is
available to them.

I urge you to pass this
resolution.

Thank you.



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- Women - ^{kept} Separate div training / ^{treated} differently
- div marital needs
- Not allowed to carry weapons
in combat zone