

8



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

10 NOVEMBER 1988

I am pleased to announce, on the eve of Remembrance Day, that the Canberra National Memorials Committee which I chair has recommended the allocation of a site on Anzac Parade in Canberra for a national memorial to Australian Vietnam Forces.

The provision of a site in Anzac Parade will be welcomed not just by Vietnam Veterans, but also by the many Australians who now increasingly acknowledge the difficulties borne by those who fought in Vietnam.

The Welcome Home Parade in Sydney last year acted as a catalyst in bringing Vietnam Veterans together and in helping all Australians to reassess attitudes to Vietnam Veterans. I feel sure that the construction of a memorial will build upon the positive feelings fostered by the Parade.

A recommendation for a memorial to our Vietnam Veterans was contained in Mr Justice Evatt's Royal Commission Report on the Use and Effects of Chemical Agents on Australian Personnel in Vietnam. In May this year, in responding to Mr Justice Evatt's report, the Government indicated its support for the memorial. Now that a site has been earmarked, the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorials Committee can proceed with preparing a detailed submission, including design and costing, for a specific form of memorial.

I congratulate members of the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorials Committee for the drive and determination to establish a lasting memorial.

The allocation of a site in Canberra's main memorial drive should now spur those who have been thinking about making a donation. The memorial will be funded in the main from donations made to the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorials Committee by the public and by private companies. The Government has already provided financial assistance to support the administration of the project, and will be providing significant further assistance once the design and costing have been finalised.

3360

PJ

Th
re
ur
De

ov
tl

Se
a:
Go
'I

"
ic
Ar

"
p:
fr
g:
br

"
i:
fo
co
tl
d

Th

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.