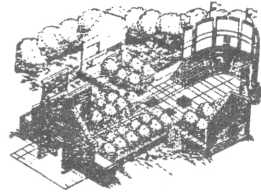


The Pennsylvania



VETERANS' MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Building S-O-47, Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, Pennsylvania 17003-5002



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Honorary Chairman

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Hon. Paul W. Semmel, Chair
House Mil. Affairs & Emerg. Prep. Committee
47 East Wing, Seat 179
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Hon. Paul W. Semmel:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Veterans Memorial Commission, I want to extend to you our most sincere thanks for your untiring efforts in helping to secure an additional \$2 million in the 2000-01 budget for the Memorial.

We can now proceed with the final stages of drawings and bidding to help make this dream become a reality. The veterans in Pennsylvania are most fortunate to have you and your fellow committee members serve on the House Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee where always the best interest of all veterans is uppermost in your mind.

You may rest assured that we will keep you apprised of the activities of this commission as the construction begins and proceeds until the completion of the beautiful memorial honoring all of Pennsylvania's Sons and Daughters who have served this great Country of ours during times of war and peace and have served honorably and well.

Again, our deepest and most sincere thanks for all your efforts. They are most appreciated by this Chairman as they are by all members of the Commission.

May 17, 2000

Sincerely Yours,

Stanley W. Reinhard, Jr.
Chairman

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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES:

VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, CHAIRMAN
COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CONSUMER AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

DESIGNATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND
VETERANS AFFAIRS
STATE ARMORY BOARD
PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

March 22, 1999

SUBJECT: National WWII Memorial

TO: Honorable Sam Smith

FROM: Paul Semmel, Chairman
House Veterans Affairs and
Emergency Preparedness Committee

P.W.S.

In regard to your inquiry concerning Pennsylvania funding for the National WWII Memorial, HB 881 (Micozzie) has recently been introduced to address this issue.

May I point out, however, that Pennsylvania veterans groups are currently raising funds for a Pennsylvania Veterans Memorial at Ft. Indiantown Gap National Cemetery (information enclosed).

Therefore, it is my recommendation that the state should, first and foremost, fund this Pennsylvania "living" memorial which will be placed within the confines of the only active national cemetery in the Commonwealth. In a true sense, Ft. Indiantown Gap National cemetery has become the Commonwealth's own "little Arlington National Cemetery."

Consequently, it would be in the best interest of the legislature to assist the Pennsylvania veteran community with their memorial project, which has been an uphill struggle since the enactment of the project's enabling legislation in 1987.

If you should have any further questions or comments on this matter, please feel free to contact me at any time.

PWS/prh

Enclosure