

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Eve Davenport Holder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 12:15 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Monument in Arlington

Good Morning Sir!

I write this with a heavy heart.

As a Daughter and descendant of many American Veterans, the thought of removing this beautiful monument grieves me.

Removing this monument will set a terrible precedent. No monument honoring the brave American Soldier is safe. Even those in cemeteries.

You recall the hate filled socialist said in the beginning we needed to move Confederate monuments to cemeteries. Cemeteries are no longer safe places.

If you can remove Confederate monuments from cemeteries , what will stop you from removing Confederate veterans or other veterans resting in their final places?

Last week a judge in Virginia ruled against the family of General A P Hill. The city of Richmond had more rights than blood kin.

His monument and he will be removed.

Will my ancestors be next? Those from the American Revolution to the Gulf War who gave their all will be removed without the family's consent or knowledge?

Will my ancestors no longer be able to RIP?

Where does this horror stop?

The destruction of history results in the degradation of a society and country.

If one studies history, what we see happening today in our great republic is what Hitler did to Germany and Stalin did to Russia.

Do you want this generation to go down as the one who aided and abetted in the destruction of America?

I ask that you consider the dire consequences of the precedence you will be setting with the removal of the beautiful monument in Arlington.

Yours,
Eve Davenport Holder

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Richard A. Moomaw

TITLE / AFFILIATION: ancestor buried in Confederate section of
ANC

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is a work of art by an artist of immense importance. He also was one of the VMI cadets who fought in the Battle of New Market. I have an ancestor, Samuel Moomaw, buried in the Confederate section. The war against everything Confederate is a disgrace to all veterans. The US congress made Confederate veterans US veterans years ago.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Richard A. Moomaw

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Bill "Buckwheat" Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 7:13 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Bill Brown

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Past Commander of the General Robert E Lee Camp #1589, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because.....this is a war monument/memorial to American soldiers. It's just not right to remove it.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Bill Brown

Bill Brown

Quartermaster, General Robert E. Lee Camp #1589 Midlothian, VA

A proud descendant of Private Daniel Martin, Company C, "Travis Rifles", 44th Virginia Infantry Regiment. Resident of Confederate Soldiers Home, Richmond Virginia 1889-1899.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Mack Macksam <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 7:05 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please send link

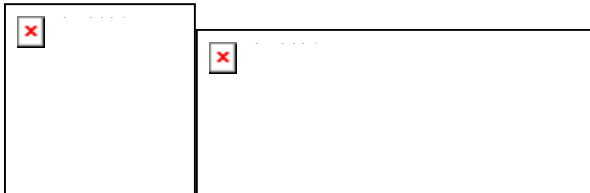
Matt,

If we let this removing, rewrite and re educate..of all Memorials..... this is Marxsim

We Will not let this happen

Mack

--



MACK MACKSAM, MAOM

MAJOR, (R) USA

Founder CEO, Veterans Art Center Tampa Bay

VP, Association United States Army

1.813.992.7694

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jim Martin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 9:53 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] CSA Monument at Arlington Cemetery.

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Jimmy Martin
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of this Memorial because it commemorates members of the armed forces of the Confederate States of America who died and were wounded during their service in the American Civil War. Over 100 years this Memorial has been at Arlington and should never be removed but forever be honored

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Jimmy Martin
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>



< Caution-https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient >

Virus-free.Caution-www.avast.com < Caution-
https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient >

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Kevin E. Foltz

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Police Sergeant, retired/ Citizen of the United States of America

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is anti-Semitic and pure desecration of a cemetery.

Please read the following taken from Wikipedia: “**Moses Jacob Ezekiel**, also known as **Moses "Ritter von" Ezekiel** (October 28, 1844 – March 27, 1917), was an American sculptor who lived and worked in [Rome](#) for the majority of his career. Ezekiel was "the first American-born Jewish artist to receive international acclaim".^{[1][2]}

He was a cadet at the [Virginia Military Institute](#) and served on the Confederate side in the [American Civil War](#), including at the [Battle of New Market](#). He is the only well-known sculptor to have seen action in the Civil War.^[3]

After the war, he completed his degree at VMI, and a few years later went to [Berlin](#), where he studied at the [Prussian Academy of Art](#). He moved to [Rome](#), where he lived and worked most of his life, selling his works internationally, including as commissions in the United States.

He has been described as a "Confederate [expatriate](#)"^[3] and a "proud Southerner",^[4] and the [Confederate battle flag](#) hung in his Rome studio for 40 years.^[3] The most famous of his monuments is the [Confederate Memorial](#) in [Arlington National Cemetery](#), which he thought of as the "crowning achievement of his career."^[5]

The man was of Jewish Heritage that designed and created this monument. Destroying this monument is the destruction of a Jewish man's work, therefore his culture and anti-Jewish.

Also the massive DESECRATION of: a cemetery; an antique; a work of art; the men that is represents (all solders who received recognition from the United States Federal Government as U.S. Veterans); the families of those buried there; of a large part of documented U.S. History; our Country as a whole!

Why does the heritage and history of this magnificent monument bother anyone? It is beautiful and full of U.S. history that needs to be preserved! History is history it

cannot be changed! We must learn from it or repeat it again if it is forgotten and not studied and learned how to avoid the same mistakes in the future.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Kevin E. Foltz

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Archie Wainright <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 5:56 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument

Dear Mr. Davis,

I saw your message about removal of the Reconciliation Monument at Arlington National Cemetery. I think that is a terrible, history blocking idea that is driven by *1619 ideology*, aimed against many of the glorious principles that reflect the best of America.

Ultimately with clear thinking and moral judgement, those principles that President Abraham Lincoln stated so eloquently, will prevail. In the meantime, while I am not much of a speaker, and time is always a limiting factor, if you run short of effective speakers, I can travel back and forth a few thousand miles to speak for three minutes against an act of destructive cultural vandalism.

Archie Wainright

p.s. Like many thousands of other Americans, I am a veteran (I served in the U. S. Army, 101st Airborne Division, 101st M.P. Detachment, 1958 - 61). More to the point, as I traveled the world, I have had the honor of visiting memorials to American war dead from the Solomon Islands to Normandy. Not far away were memorials in honor of the war dead of the *then* other side.

Archie B. Wainright, PE, M.ASCE

WAINRIGHT ENGINEERING & CONSULTING



Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: joshuac1985 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 3:33 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate Monument

Good afternoon sir

My name is Joshua civiletti, I served in the United States Marine Corps from September 2003 to September 2007. I am a battle for Fallujah veteran that happened in 2004. I would love to have the chance to speak my mind at the hearing. But unfortunately I am not able to do so due to work requirements. But you have my consent to speak on my behalf with my displeasure of them even considering the thought of removing that beautiful Monument. I believe it is an utmost disgrace that this would be even in the consideration of that Commission, even the Iwo Jima Marine Corps Monument has the battle between the states on it for respect of the Confederacy and the Civil War. More so that this issue should never come up in the first place, these monuments were put up for the families to have a place to grieve for the loss of their loved ones. Many of whom never returned and the families had no clue what became of their husbands or their sons or their brothers. Many people don't understand and refuse to believe that the Confederates were made American veterans and had the same rights as Union veterans, why do we say that over 600,000 Americans died during that war? Its because we count both Union and Confederate dead as Americans. Even immediately after the war the Confederate Veterans were treated with the utmost respect and honor from their former enemies. Prime example of this is Joshua Chamberlain who is a medal of honor winner that made sure at the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox, the union troops rennered respectful salute to the Confederates surrendering in giving up their arms at the surrendering process, even General Grant made sure that the union troops were not shooting off in celebration of the surrender of the Confederate Army because he did say that they are our countrymen again. Chamberlain is even quoted to say that he had the most respect for the Confederates fighting against him and the bravery that they've shown. That's the reason why he held on to the Confederate Battle Flag throughout his entire life. Another point is that the Confederate Veterans during the Spanish-American War were tapped to provide support while the American troops moved down south to invade Cuba from Florida. Even Theodore Roosevelt made sure that he had a Confederate veteran with him during his role in that conflict. Because he knew that the Confederate Veterans held a valuable resource to this nation. Furthermore during World War I even though the Confederate Veterans were reaching their twilight years they still were willing to fight for America. There's plenty of evidence of this wherever we turn. Only cynical people will see the Confederates as hateful and racist. Those terms to the Confederates are completely wrong and biased because it has been proven that free black men and Native Americans fought alongside white Southern Soldiers with the same amount of pay. That cannot be said of the northern army during that time. Another great example of this is General Forest and his Elite Calvary unit which was fully integrated and General Stand Watie who was a Native American that foughtfor the south and was the last General to surrender. When people try to say that the South was not recognized is completely wrong because they were recognized by treaties with Native American tribes that were recognized by the Union government as being free and independent nations. Therefore the Confederate South was an official nation that was illegally invaded, also for those who try to say that they were traitors is completely wrong because if they were the United States Supreme Court would have held Jefferson Davis for treason but they didn't because they knew that they would be proven wrong and Jefferson Davis was ready for his day in court. That's the reason why no Confederate Leader or even any Confederate was held for treason because if we did so then we would condemn our founding fathers. And even from the beginning the call for the South was just to be left alone. Therefore what we need to do today is to understand the fact that these monuments are up to honor those Brave Americans who fought and died for the southern cause, and that cause was to defend their homes, their families and their neighbors. There's nothing more honorable than fighting for those who you love. Even inside the Confederate Constitution it clearly shows that the importation of slaves was completely prohibited and no slave ship ever flew the Confederate flag. That cannot be said for the Union or any other Nation at that time. The Arlington Confederate Monument needs to stay exactly where it is to represent that we as a nation will respect other point of views and that we respect the honor and sacrifice the southern

Soldier made. That Monument even has a black confederate soldier. I do hope that my words will be spoken at this hearing even though unfortunately I cannot say them myself due to Prior obligations. But you have my authority to speak on my behalf. Thank you for your time

Joshua Civiletti
USMC Cpl

Ps. Also case in point Chesty Puller was a descendant of a Confederate veteran and he grew up listening to the stories and heroism of his grandfather who fought for the Confederacy. Without him we would not have the great Marine of Chesty Puller. Also in World War I some units requested the permission to use the Confederate Rebel Yell during combat to scare the Germans while they were attacking.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jerry W. McRoy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 3:21 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY MONUMENT

30 October, 2022

NAME: Jerry W. McRoy
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Member, Sons of Confederate Veterans
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir,

I vehemently oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I believe the Confederate "cause" was much akin to America's original fight for independence from England. Soldiers, Sailors, and Military Leaders of the Confederate States of America were fighting valiantly to protect their right to oppose what they saw as a tyrannical U.S. government. Although the false narrative of today assigns the Confederacy's sole aim to be the protection of slavery, this is simply not the case. Many in the Confederacy were fighting only to protect their families, their livelihoods, and their sovereign rights from an enemy seen as an unwelcome invader.

Those who fought for the Confederacy are considered as war veterans and they deserve the utmost respect. Please reject any attempts to remove Arlington monuments favorable to the Confederacy. After all, those of us who have Confederate ancestors within our family lines are AMERICANS. It seems the destruction of Southern history and heritage started prior to 1861 and has not ceased ever since.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry W. McRoy
[REDACTED]

Jerry W. McRoy
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Glenn Mozingo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 10:49 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial-Arlington National Cemetery

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial, as I do all attempts to erase parts of our nation's history that elements of our populace find unacceptable. In this case, it is particularly concerning, as the monument was erected through the efforts of both Confederate and Union veterans and their families and was truly an indication of national healing which is something that is sorely needed today. Further, it needlessly affronts the memories of the Confederate soldiers who are buried in Arlington.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Glenn Mozingo
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Shannon Pritchard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 9:15 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington monument

Sir,

I think it terribly short sighted to destroy a historic and truthful work of art in order to appease a minority of cry baby Taliban wannabes Shannon Pritchard

Please excuse short note. Sent from my iPhone

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: James Murphy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 12:30 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Monument at Arlington Cemetery

To: National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission

Dear Commissioners,

First of all as we all know, we can't pick our relatives. I happen to be the Great, Great grandson of Captain Charles Carroll White of the 10th South Carolina Infantry Regiment, Company A (Georgetown Rifle Guards) As a military soldier, he had a pretty distinguished career being promoted from Sargent to Captain during his service time from 1861 to July 1864. His Military career ended when he was wounded during the Atlanta Campaign and fortunately he did not die from his wounds. Second of all, it should be noted I was born and raised in Niagara Falls, New York 72 years ago. So back in 1861 I would be considered a "Yankee" by my southern relatives. Again, we can't pick our relatives.

I think to myself; would my Great, Great grandfather want me, **on his behalf**, to help preserve the Confederate Monument within the Arlington Cemetery? Also I ask myself; who visits this section of Arlington Cemetery where 400 Confederate soldiers are buried? The answer to these questions is: 1.) Yes, I think my Great, Great grandfather would want me to help preserve the Confederate Monument and 2.) I think the people who visit this section of the Arlington Cemetery are either relatives of Confederate Soldiers or people who are interested in History or just want to, in general, pay their respects to soldiers who died in wars.

When we see war documentaries on television where ex-soldiers from different wars (WW2, Korean, Viet Nam, Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan) are interviewed it's almost invariable that they say that they were fighting for their fellow soldier next to them. Of course they knew there was a "bigger cause" for the war they were in but when they were in battle, they were fighting for the man next to him. The "bigger cause" as they like to say today was "above their pay grade". They fought for each other! All soldiers in all wars do including the Civil War.

I want to remind the Arlington Cemetery Advisory Commissioners that all wars are not "just". (Example: Indian Wars.) The reason I bring this up is because my wife's Uncle, Peter Martin who was Mohawk- Native American, is buried in Arlington Cemetery due to his military service who served in WW2, Korea & Viet Nam. If my wife's Indian Uncle was able to be recognized with a headstone monument in Arlington National Cemetery; then why tear down the Confederate Monument? Weren't the Native Americans in the west considered enemies of the United States during the Indian Wars? Food for thought! ...

Quite frankly, I think it's shameful that you the Advisory Commissioners are even discussing the potential removal of this Confederate Monument. Haven't the "woke" individuals of this country **already done enough damage** by creating a divisive atmosphere

through out our "United" States? It's ironic knowing that President Woodrow Wilson in 1914 dedicated the Confederate Memorial at Arlington seeing that today he is considered the first real progressive president of the 20th century.

Also, if more U.S. Citizens knew the history of how Arlington National Cemetery was created, **they would be utterly discussed.** ... History: When Robert E. Lee's wife, Mary Anna Custis Lee, tried to have her cousin, Philip Fendall, pay the property taxes (\$92.07) on time, the US Government refused to accept from her cousin the payment because the payment had to be paid by her in person. It must be noted that Mrs. Robert E. Lee was ill during this time. Due to the U.S. Government not accepting the property tax payment from her cousin, the U.S. government acquired the Arlington estate at a tax sale in 1864. Robert E. Lee died in 1870 but Mrs. Lee wanted her property back. Her son, G.W. Custis Lee worked through lawyers to try and get the property returned. Unfortunately Mrs. Robert E. Lee died in November of 1873 and was never able to see her beloved Arlington House returned to her. It was only after Robert Todd Lincoln, the only surviving son of the president, helped Custis Lee sue the U.S. Government and it went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court on December 4 1882 where the court found in a 5 to 4 decision that the property had been confiscated without due process. After Custis Lee won his case against the U.S. Government, he sold the property to the U.S. Government in a deed signing ceremony on March 31, 1883 with Robert Todd Lincoln in attendance. It should be noted that Robert Todd Lincoln was Secretary of War at this time.

So in closing, I think Arlington National Cemetery has had enough controversy through it's existence. **Leave history alone by leaving the Confederate Monument alone.** Ask yourselves: What would Robert Todd Lincoln advise? For that matter, what would presidents William McKinley and Woodrow Wilson advise? And what would all the soldiers say who are buried in Arlington soil including my wife's Uncle Peter?

Sincerely yours,

James C. Murphy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: David Stringfellow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2022 7:43 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

Name: David Stringfellow

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime phone number: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

After the Civil War there was a long period of reconciliation between the North and the South when many veterans of the Civil War - Union veterans and Confederate veterans - were still alive. This statue is one of the great artistic statues that was dedicated during that time period which I have seen a number of times. I have ancestors who were in both opposing armies during the Civil War, and I believe they, as I am, would be in favor of saving this Reconciliation Memorial for all future American generations.

I ask the Cemetery Commission to reject the Naming Commission's recommendation.

Thank you.

David Stringfellow

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Kevin Lockwood <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2022 4:22 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Cemetery

Do NOT Desecrate Arlington Cemetery by allowing the removal of the monument to Southern Soldiers and Sailors. Will you be digging up the graves of past Presidents next?

No one with any degree of backbone or honor would stand by and allow political hacks to desecrate any cemetery let alone one dedicated to America's Veterans. OMG.

Respectfully,

Kevin Lockwood

President of Parts, Inc. Great Bend, Kansas.

Past President - Military Vehicle Preservation Association International

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME:

SAMUEL J. DOSS

ADDRESS:

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is there for all the right reasons.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

SAMUEL J. DOSS

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: SAM DOSS <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2022 10:50 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Memorial

Mr. Davis,

My family and I would consider it a major tragedy if the Confederate section of ANC were defaced in any way.

Kind Regards,
Samuel Doss
Virginia

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Crum, Charles N. <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2022 7:01 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Memorial

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Dr. Charles N. Crum

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is a testament to brave Americans who endured great hardship and died fighting for their ideals, land and family. The removal of the statute is a vast distortion of the actual history of the War Between the States and a terrible disgrace to American history. This woke wiping of history is eerily reminiscent of the acts of Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union and should not happen in a free society.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Charles N. Crum

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 8:35 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Charles L. Hague
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is the central part of the Confederate section of Arlington National Cemetery. As such, I consider removal of the Memorial to be a desecration to those buried there. The intent of the memorial was and is to promote reconciliation. The funds to design and build the Memorial, well over \$1,000,000 in today's dollars, were contributed by citizens from both the North and South. It is a beautiful work of art that should be preserved as a focal point for discussion and understanding.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Charles L Hague

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: James Taylor <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 4:44 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Monument

Please leave our great history intact.
We should teach the bad as well as the good.
May God bless you as you make your decision. Amen

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Chuck Ironmonger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 3:49 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] opposition to the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

Mr. Charles W. Ironmonger, Jr.
Myself as a Citizen of The United States of America
[REDACTED]

To Mr. Mathew R. Davis,

Dear Sir,

I am writing today to implore you to please reject the Naming Commissions desire to destroy the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery.

I first learned of the Monument, known to the sculptor, Moses Ezekiel, as "The New South", from Professor Edward Smith from American University in 1995 when he Spoke at Hampden-Sydney College on the topic of Black Confederate Soldiers. Professor Smith, who is Black, told about a conversation he had with a colleague who bemoaned the fact that there was no monument at Arlington that depicted a Black soldier. Professor Smith then took his colleague to visit the New South.

After learning about it I wanted to visit it for myself and since that time have come to Arlington National Cemetery on several occasions. My Wife, 2 daughters and my Mother in Law spent several hours just in the Confederate area on a beautiful day, I photographed the Monument from all angles and eventually developed a power point program to be able to share the beauty of the work of art that it truly is! Being Commissioned by the Congress of the United States, unveiled by a sitting United States President, and created by a Jewish artist who was also a Confederate Soldier should give this Monument a special place in history and weigh heavily in its right to exist!

In addition, you and I both know that the visiting public never sees this Monument, for at least the last 30 years the trolley has made a hard right turn before it gets to the Monument and the public never gets a glimpse! And if they did see it they would not know what it was if not explained!

This Woke, cancel culture we are living through these days will not last, and history will not be kind to the destruction of so much of our architectural history!

The Union Soldiers showed great respect for General Lee's Army during the surrender at Appomattox! The respect continued until the last Veterans of that war died, as evidenced by the reunions.

I am offended and angered by the Naming Commissions suggestion to destroy a Monument the have probably never seen or visited and ask that the Cemetery Commission reject the suggestion.

I am, sincerely yours,

Charles W. Ironmonger Jr.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Eddie Alexander <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 2:21 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington CSA Monument

Dear Sir - please honor our ancestors on both sides by NOT removing the Confederate monument in Arlington. History is important to all Americans North and South and this monument needs to remain in place. Thanks in advance for your time and consideration.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Bill Wine <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 1:53 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Monument at Arlington National Cemetery

Can you please ensure that the monument to the Confederate dead is left intact and not cave in to the left wing extremists who are attempting to erase those things which they deem to be offensive? It's the Confederates today and God above only knows who's next.

Stop this nonsense.

Bill Wine

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Erik Ryfa <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 1:50 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] CSA Monument at Arlington Cemetery.

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

I am writing to oppose the removal of the CSA Monument at Arlington Cemetery.

I am a Northerner and no fan of the Confederate forces. However, this consistent removal and destruction of American history will not unite this country but continue to divide it.

I believe that these removals and the movement to do so are aimed to undermine our country and national unity. This needs to stop.

In every war, especially a war between brothers, lasting peace and unity can only be achieved if our submitting enemies are allowed their heroes and honor for their troops.

To dishonor the dead, many of whose ancestors would go on to join our great military, and defend this country in a battle for generations. This is nothing but self-destructive.

This monument removal, and others, must be stopped.

Ask yourself who is pushing this agenda...I am certain it is not real Americans, but foreign interests looking to destroy our mutual heritage.

Thank you.

Erik Ryfa
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Caution-<https://www.linkedin.com/in/erikryfa/>

Caution-<https://www.behance.net/ryfagraphics>

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Thomas Richardson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 1:28 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CSA Monument at Arlington Cemetery

Thomas M. Richardson
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because this Memorial represents American History.

History is history and you cannot change it. If the United States continues on this path, our grandchildren will not know how our country was shaped.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Thomas M. Richardson

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: ROBERT TAYLOR SR <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 1:05 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I oppose the destruction of The Arlington Cemetery Confederate Monument

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: ROBERT E. TAYLOR, SR.

TITLE / AFFILIATION: LIFE MEMBER, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose the removal of the Memorial because.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

ROBERT E. TAYLOR, SR.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Judy Watkins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 11:37 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation memorial

Dear Mr. Davis,

I oppose removing the "Reconciliation" memorial inside of our nation's most sacred burial ground, Arlington National Cemetery, which is located in Virginia.

My great-grandfather fought as a Confederate soldier in the Civil War. He grew up on a family farm in Floyd County, Virginia. His family was poor - they did not live on some grand plantation. He was wounded during the war and spent time in a hospital in Richmond.

Secretary Austin and the others have no right to remove this memorial. Who do they think they are - making these decisions? Thousands and thousands of brave Americans are buried in Arlington. The reconciliation memorial - just by its name - is located there so that our country could be re-united.

I am sick of wokeness, and I am sick of a few woke people in government making decisions on behalf of the people of the United States without any regard for or understanding of history, the South and the Civil War. The tearing down of monuments that reflect our country's history has got to stop.

I hope you will pass my message along to Secretary Austin. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Judy Watkins

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ron Bales <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 9:17 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

Ronald Bales
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions' recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose the removal of the Memorial because it violates the spirit of reunion of our nation after a bloody internecine conflict and it dishonors veterans who have been fully recognized legally and honored by the United States Congress as veterans of the United States.

I have Union and Confederate ancestors that were ordered to defend their respective allegiances during the Civil War. The Reconciliation Memorial was created to honor these men that answered that call.

Moreover, the monument in question was sculpted by internationally-recognized Jewish sculptor, Moses Ezekiel, who fought in Southern ranks and intended his beautiful work to represent the memory of those veterans and the greatness of our nation. Four American presidents--McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson--praised his work and what it symbolizes. To dishonor them by such action is to dishonor Moses Ezekiel and his sincere hopes for America.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation, and I ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Ronald Bales

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: royster moore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 9:11 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: royster moore
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Defend Arlington

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Royster Moore, SCV, [REDACTED], To whom it may concern, I oppose the naming Commission to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, as I object to this practice of removing Memorials as it does no good for our people to take the history of American Veterans away and vested Southerners loose in all these decisions, I humbly ask to leave this Memorial in place. Thanks American Veteran Royster Moore

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android < Caution-

https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature >

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 9:09 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Oppose the removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation memorial

President McKinly had this statue put in the cemetery and you have no reason to take it down. Please reject the commissions plan to remove it. Gerald C Burnett

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Me <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 8:50 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Cemetery

Mr Davis,

As an historian and Life Member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, I must protest the suggestion that the Confederate Monument in Arlington Cemetery be removed. First, I believe that the Renaming Commission has overstepped its bounds. Removing a monument has nothing to do with renaming a military post.

Second, this Monument was placed in Arlington with Congressional approval. It has been decorated by Presidents ever since erected, with possibly one exception. Even President Obama sent wreaths to decorate the site.

Third, this Monument was erected to signal the knitting together of the United States and the Confederate States of America into a single nation.

Lastly, the Monument is a work of art designed and built by Moses Ezekiel, the first Jew who attended VMI and fought in the Battle of New Market in 1864. He is known as one of America's premier sculptors.

I hope you will use your influence to save the Confederate Monument at Arlington. America should protect its history, not destroy it.

Sincerely,
Tom Vernon

[REDACTED]



October 27, 2022

Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery
Department of the Army
Department of Defense

**RE: STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO NAMING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS RE
SOUTHERN VETERANS MEMORIAL**

Dear Committee members,

Guardians of American History is a group of concerned citizens who are deeply disturbed by the government sponsored iconoclasm contemplated in the recommendation before you to remove the historic Memorial from its historic location in Section 16 of Arlington National Cemetery.

There are numerous reasons that this proposal is objectionable. In addition to moral, cultural and religious objections, it represents the weaponization of the US Armed forces against the very fabric of America: our history, culture and heritage. It represents the worst possible scenario of "Cancel Culture". Any members of the US Armed forces who swore an oath to support and defend our constitution and its democratic principles are dishonoring that oath by allowing this destruction.

Perhaps Pres. Wilson said it best in his 1914 Address on Dedication day about the erection of this Memorial *"...nothing of this sort could have occurred in anything but a democracy..."*

In conclusion, we believe this attack on this Memorial represents an act of despotism, tyranny and an attack on religious liberties expressed in the US Constitution, and a Hitler-esque, Orwellian purge of what the current "powers that be" do not approve. It represents a massive attack on our rich cultural heritage.

We respectfully request that you do not allow the recommended historical destruction be allowed in Arlington National Cemetery.

Sincerely,

Brian Turner

Brian Turner
Director

www.HistoryGardians.com

PH: 877-226-1770 | 6720 E. Fowler Ave. #1776 | Tampa, FL 33617-2375

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Dave Sauret Sr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 8:30 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] SCV monument

Please do not remove the Monument Arlington Cemetery !

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Basil Moncrief <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 6:49 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Basil Earl Moncrief, Jr.
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it symbolizes the reunification of brothers in both North and South after the Civil War. The U.S. Government should glorify this memorial instead of submitting to the mob rule mentality of the drooling, anti-American faction controlling the current administration. Removal of the reconciliation statue is a slap in the face to all Americans and would prove that the current administration only wants more conflict and the subjugation of anyone who disagrees with the Democrats' anti-American agenda.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Basil Earl Moncrief, Jr.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Bryan Dunn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 6:35 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I oppose the removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Bryan Dunn

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because the erasure of history does little to both remember those that took part in it, during their time, for just and noble reasons. These Americans fought bravely and honorably, with many leaders working (Lincoln, Grant, Lee, etc.) working to heal the wounds opened during this tumultuous time without keeping a large portion of the nation 'under thumb'. Reconstruction has been over for some time - this does nothing but attempt to whitewash a time that should be remembered so that future generations do not repeat these efforts.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Bryan Dunn

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Eileen Weiner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 3:00 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Naming Commissions recommendations

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Dear Sir,

Any change or removal of the Reconciliation Memorial would be insensitive and offensive to the descendants of the southern Civil War dead and would contradict the purpose of reconciliation. In addition, it would be extremely expensive. Taking down statues is not going to change history.
We urge you to reconsider.

Thank you,

Eileen Weiner

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android < Caution-

https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature >



ARIZONA DIVISION *SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS*

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY CONFEDERATE MONUMENT.

EDWIN KARNES, Commander
Arizona Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Commander

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Confederate Monument in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose this recommendation for a number of reasons, I see this as another way of erasing American history that seems to be the way one political party is working towards. You cannot erase history whether you agree or disagree with what the circumstances were and three presidents noted that it was a symbol of reunification. The monument depicts a culture long gone, a culture that can't be judged by modern optics.

I am a Vietnam veteran, I have many ancestors that fought for the South and some that fought for the North. My 3rd Great Uncle died in a prisoner of war camp, removing all signs of the American Civil War would mean that his life and military history was for nothing. Don't forget that Congress voted to make all Confederate soldiers American Soldiers and should be given the same respect as any military person from all wars. Eliminating everything that has to do with this time period is disrespectful and shames those that fought for their rights and desecrates their memory.

I am disgusted, embarrassed and strongly ask that you correctly reject this recommendation .

Sincerely,

Edwin Karnes, Commander
Arizona Division.
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Tucson, Arizona

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Richard M. Cole

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Major, U.S. Air Force (Retired)

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the memorial. Confederates, we're told, were all evil racist traitors, and the only reason there's a memorial for them at Arlington is because other racists, who came later, put it up because they were mad about losing the Civil War and wanted to keep white supremacy going. And anyway, the only people who would object to renaming military bases and removing memorials are present-day racists whose opinions don't count. *Right?*

That well-worn narrative, embedded in the discourse at this point, not only distorts history but obscures the deeper truth our history reveals, which is that we've become a deranged, small-minded, angry people. Removing war memorials from military cemeteries is what societies do when they're imploding on themselves, when the bonds of civic life have all but disappeared along with any notion of a shared past, to say nothing of a common vision for the future.

It was not always this way. At the turn of the last century, our political leaders seemed to understand that the survival of a vast republic like ours depended on civic virtues that include reconciliation, forgiveness, and actual tolerance. They knew this because many of them had lived through and participated in the Civil War. They had seen and felt for themselves what happens when a nation turns on itself, and they were determined not to let it happen again.

Ironically, the history of the Confederate memorial at Arlington is a perfect case in point. It was first conceived of by President William McKinley, a decorated Union veteran who saw combat at Antietam and in the Shenandoah Valley. During his presidential campaign in 1896, he witnessed untended Confederate graves in the South, and it disturbed him. At the time, the federal government prohibited the decoration of Confederate graves at Arlington, as it had since the end of the Civil War.

McKinley thought it was time for that to change. At a peace jubilee in December 1898 celebrating the end of the Spanish-American War (the first time since before the Civil War that Americans from both North and South were engaged in a military conflict with a foreign power), McKinley announced that the government would henceforth tend to the graves of Confederate dead buried in federal cemeteries, saying they represented a "tribute to American valor."

The speech prompted calls to disinter Confederate remains at Arlington, which were dispersed throughout the cemetery and mingled with Union graves and rebury them in a specially designated Confederate section. Congress drafted legislation and provided funding, and McKinley signed the bill in June 1900.

The legislation didn't mention a memorial, but the plans for the Confederate section laid out graves in a circular pattern around a cruciform set of walkways with a central grassy area that the Army Corps of Engineers marked on the plans with an "M," for memorial.

It would take another 14 years for private groups (including Union veteran organizations) to raise the money and erect the Confederate memorial that stands in Arlington today. Anyone who has seen it knows that it reflects the sentiments of reconciliation and national unity that McKinley originally had in mind.

The memorial's central figure is a woman, meant to represent the South, crowned with an olive wreath, a symbol of peace. In her extended left hand is a laurel wreath and in her right hand is a pruning hook, which rests upon a plow. Under the figure is an inscription, a quote from the Book of Isaiah, "And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

That is to say, the monument's central theme is reconciliation and peace — beating swords into ploughshares. It commends the South for turning away from war while also honoring their war dead.

Critics will note how the Latin inscription on the monument's base contains a reference to the "lost cause," as if that somehow vitiates the overarching purpose and theme of the work. It does not. Authentic reconciliation, after all, involves some degree of compromise, and at the time — within a living generation of Civil War combat — it was enough for North and South to declare together that sectionalism was done and that the country would bind up its wounds and be united again.

There is only one reason to remove the monument now, in 2022, and it has nothing to do with past or racial reconciliation and everything to do with wielding political power in the present.

Not that any of this should come as a surprise. Forging actual unity in times of civil strife requires more circumspection and humility than our leaders today can muster. McKinley, who in his youth had actually fought Confederate soldiers, watched them kill and maim his comrades, was nevertheless able to reconcile and forgive — and urge the nation to do likewise.

Today we enjoy prosperity and comfort unimaginable to Americans of McKinley's time. Yet we have precious little of the gratitude, generosity, and grace he was able to show his erstwhile enemies. But then, McKinley did not live in a dying civilization.

I was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. I served 20 years in the Air Force, enlisting at age 17 right out of high school. I retired as an officer. After my retirement, I began genealogy research into my family and was surprised to find that every member of my family, but one has served in the military for the last six generations. My grandfather died in a veterans' hospital in Tennessee after being gassed in World War I. My third-great-grandfather was a drummer with the 13th South Carolina Infantry during the Civil War. His father, my fourth-great-grandfather died of pneumonia following the Battle of Fredericksburg and was buried in a mass grave in Richmond's Oakland Cemetery. He served with the 3rd Infantry, South Carolina Volunteers. None of my family members were slave owners. They were all patriots who fought for freedom, self-determination, honor, and to protect their homes and families. I resent and abhor any

suggestion that they don't deserve to be recognized for their service because they fought for the wrong side in the Civil War.

I am offended and outraged by the recommendation that the "reconciliation memorial" be removed from Arlington National Cemetery and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it. What is next? Removal of the Confederate graves?

Respectfully,

Richard M. Cole, Major, USAF (Ret.)

Life Member Veterans of Foreign Wars 11325755

Life Member American Legion 200495935

Life Member Disabled American Veterans

Life Member Vietnam Veterans of America

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

John Whitley
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I am opposed to the removal of the Memorial because it embodies the spirit of Union and Confederate soldiers coming together and putting their differences aside for the betterment of the Country. It is hurtful and disappointing to me that so many years later that spirit is forgotten.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

John Whitley

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Edward Bennett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:25 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CSA Monument in Arlington National Cemetery

Dear Mr. Davis:

I understand there will be a virtual meeting on November 7-8 for the purpose of discussing the removal of the Confederate Monument at Arlington, based upon a recommendation by the Renaming Commission.

Please, please, do not allow the removal of the monument as a response to the "woke" attitudes now permeating the current administration. Our history is being wiped away, and it would be a travesty to remove the only monument at Arlington which memorializes Americans who fought for their home states. I implore you to do all you can to save this last vestige of our Southern history. Thank you.

Edward J. Bennett
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Kenneth and Melody Bage

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Retired Police Officer and Retired Educator

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I believe this country is at a point where reconciliation is more and more important every day, Let's glorify the process of reconciliation as a model to future generations. That war was brother against brother, but they reconciled.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Melody Bage

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Billie Earnest [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:57 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Monument Arlington

Whatever the reason for the monument destruction and renaming of institutions, it must stop at cemeteries and veteran cemeteries in particular. Please allow the Arlington Confederate Monument to remain where it is.
Frank Earnest

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Possum & L W <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:19 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington national cemetery

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Christopher wise

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Christopher wise

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:31 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

Mr. Davis,

We ask that the Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery remain where it is and where it has been for over 100 years. We ask that the memory of why the Memorial was placed on that hollowed ground not be stricken from memory.

If the United States government cannot honor its responsibility to the memory of our Veterans from America's bloodiest conflict, then we will fail to honor Veterans of present and future.

The war between 1861-1865 cost Americans roughly 2 percent of our population. In today's numbers that amounts to nearly 7 million casualties.

It's worth reminding people the cost of this war, don't you? Lest it be repeated.

Respectfully,

Andy G. Strickland, Esq.
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Mark Schonbrun [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 7:22 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The removal of "The Reconciliation Statue"

You are trashing our heritage. I am disheartened that you would alienate Jewish people as well as non-Jews whose ancestors died in the war.

Can't you find more constructive things to do with our tax dollars?

Consider the DIVISION this will cause. There will be consequences.

Mark Schonbrun
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: L Brewster [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 7:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Naming Commission Request for Removal of Confederate Monument in Arlington

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Linda R Brewster

TITLE Mrs

ADDRESS [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is just that: a reconciliation memorial. Right?

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject the Naming Commissions suggestions based on the reconciliation of the North and South after the War Between the States. Many Confederate and Union soldiers attended reunions together after the war. It seems to me that if those soldiers of old can put aside their differences and come together, that the very least this country could do is to stop tearing down everything Confederate, unless you're going to take down all the monuments and statues celebrating the life of Abraham Lincoln, William Tecumseh Sherman, President Grant and Martin Luther King, et al. Lets just spread this obliteration around.

I know the Cemetery Commission isn't involved in the Naming Commission's agenda, but if you ever have an opportunity to look at their list of recommendations, and just imagine the costs of doing away with everything that has a connection to the South, then I think you would really be surprised. Placemats, napkins, rubber mats in addition to all the roads, buildings, forts - it is absolutely overwhelming to read. And it covers states like California and Washington! It's not just the South. It is country-wide, and mind-boggling to read. I personally just cannot imagine the power this Naming Commission is wielding.

Linda R Brewster

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Marcia Hovenden [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:50 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Marcia Hovenden

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Mrs.

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Mrs. Marcia Kay Hovenden

Sorry this is late my husband has not been feeling good today. I'm hoping that you will please accept my letter. Thanks.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Yinshih [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:33 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Removing the Reconciliation Memorial In Arlington National Cemetery.

Dear Mr Davis,

I am writing you because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because as the Reconciliation Memorial was intended to be, at its birth, the beginning of a genuine, heart-felt reconciliation between the Northern States and the Southern States after four bitter years of war which costs the lives of more than 750,000 Americans, the most we've ever suffered in military casualties as a country.

Now, I came to America as an infant in 1956 when my dad was a military attaché at the South Vietnamese embassy in Washington. Five members of my family, including Dad, fought in the South Vietnamese military. Another uncle was the South Vietnamese Ambassador to the United States during the Vietnam War. After the War ended, North Vietnam triumphed. However, there was no reconciliation. The memory and the graves of 220,000 South Vietnamese soldiers who died to defend their country are neglected by Hanoi's decree.

I do not wish America to want the same for our American soldiers who chose to defend, protect, and die for the American South. They were honourable men during these difficult and trying times, and they fought heroically for what they believed in, and their memory should be cherished and remembered, just as their Northern brothers are so today. It was President William McKinley, the last U.S. President we had to have served in the Civil War as a Union officer, who strongly supported this Reconciliation Memorial. Where is love for thy neighbour? President McKinley must have thought--himself a brave and resourceful combat officer in the Civil War?

I encourage you, Mr Davis, as well as your colleagues, that you all ask the Cemetery Commission to reject removing the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. It is a national American treasure. Moreover, today, our country--America, needs more than ever unity and reconciliation.

With my best regards and thank you for your service to our country,

ALPHONSE-LOUIS VINH
PROFESSOR (RETIRED)
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Brian Wells [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:51 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation monument

I am opposed to the removal of the Arlington Reconciliation Monument. This monument was created and placed there to bring healing and reconciliation for our nation. Removing it would bring more division and further damage the progress we as a nation have made in the past decades. Please do everything your power to see the monument stays in place.

Thank you and God bless!

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Carlisle Branch [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:31 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The Arlington Memorial and other Confederate Monuments
Attachments: branch.vcf

Mr. Davis,

After the war, Southerners built monuments to their dead, honored their service, valor, and courage. Then they set aside their anger and made peace with their former foe. So much so that their decedents fought with and supported the U.S. military through every war from the Spanish American War through the Afghan War.

With this present bitterness and animosity of the U.S. government toward Southerners and the destruction of our monuments, one must ask was it all for nothing. Were our ancestors fools to make peace and reconcile with you people so many years ago?

Carlisle Branch

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Christopher Wampler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:01 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [EEMSG-SPAM: Suspect] [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

As the descendant of both Union and Confederate soldiers, I write to you in opposition to the removal of the Memorial. I won't bore you with every reason as to why as you have no doubt heard each a thousand times over. The sacrifice to meet the call of duty and honor knows no side in the American Civil War.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Wampler
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF
THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL

Samuel Di Bianca

October 27, 2022

Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, VA 22211

I submit this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to *remove* the Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. I oppose removal of the Memorial because there is no imperative to do so – whether it be cost, maintenance and upkeep, unrepairable damage, public safety, moral, or otherwise. In fact, as representative of our national reconciliation, there is a moral imperative to retain it.

As a military officer and direct descendant of war veterans going back to our American Revolution, to include BOTH sides of the American Civil War, I am offended by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it outright. The current repugnant political fad calling for removal of our monuments, memorials, and commemorative markers is an outrage perpetrated against our history, traditions, and national memory. It is wholly unnecessary, reckless, and costly. As a citizen, voter, and taxpayer I hold our elected and appointed officials accountable for entertaining these immoral and subversive demands intended to destroy the symbols that represent and bind together our national story. Please reject the recommendation.

Sincerely,



Samuel Di Bianca

October 26, 2022

Dear Senior Pentagon Leadership:

I strenuously oppose the removal of the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery. The monument not only commemorates a significant moment in our national story and departed souls whose memory we revere, but it is also an historic and beautiful work of art that should be preserved. Y

I am sure you know that the monument's removal cannot hurt the departed or change history, so one is left to assume that your sole reason must to inflict pain the living, those who seek only to honor those who have gone before us—an ignoble and shameful motive. Removal of this monument is not a way to win hearts and change minds but a cowardly action that can only serve to divide us.

I urge you to reconsider your decision to remove the Reconciliation Monument.

Sincerely,

Dale Wheary

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: John Colwell [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:59 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument

Good evening Mr. Davis,
Please allow me to add my voice in opposition to the removal of the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington Cemetery. Living here in Virginia Beach, I have witnessed the constant removal of our history. A granite Headstone in a Hampton Church Graveyard commemorating the fallen Confederate Soldiers buried there, had it Stars and Bars chiseled out and bronze plaque put place apologizing for its hatred symbol. Please do not allow this insanity work its way into our Nation Cemetery, this madness will stop eventually, but some much history will be lost.

Thank you,

John Colwell
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Gene Kizer, Jr. - Charleston Athenaeum Press <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:56 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] We can not remove the Reconciliation Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am adamantly opposed to removing the "Reconciliation" memorial inside of our nation's most sacred burial ground, Arlington National Cemetery, which was put there to REUNITE our nation.

What in the world are people thinking today! It is disgraceful and dishonorable to even consider such a thing.

Over 750,000 soldiers died in the War Between the States and over a million were maimed.

This is what historian James McPherson wrote about the Southern mortality rate in his book *Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam*:

[T]he overall mortality rate for the South exceeded that of any country in World War I and that of all but the region between the Rhine and the Volga in World War II.

Our country came back together as evidenced by things like the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, which was the idea of U.S. President William McKinley who was a sergeant in the Union Army during the war. As you know, Arlington National Cemetery comes from the estate of Robert E. Lee's family.

President Woodrow Wilson in his address "Accepting the Monument in Memory of the Confederate Dead at Arlington National Cemetery," June 4, 1914, states that he is "profoundly aware of the solemn significance" of the memorial and he goes on:

It was proposed by a President of the United States who had himself been a distinguished officer in the Union Army. It was authorized by an act of Congress of the United States. The corner Stone of the monument was laid by a President of the United States elevated to his position by the votes of the party which had chiefly prided itself upon sustaining the war for the Union.

The descendants of those reconciled Confederate soldiers all fought **ENTHUSIASTICALLY** for our reunited country in every war. Alvin York, Audie Murphy and others are legendary American soldiers from the South along with millions and millions of others over the years. United States Army recruiting has always been better in the "Patriotic" South than anywhere in the country. Ask your

Army recruiters which region of America is most enthusiastic for military service and they will tell you without question: THE SOUTH.

President Eisenhower kept a picture of Robert E. Lee in his White House office during his presidency and said Lee was one of the finest men our country has ever produced.

Eisenhower said that the issues of secession, states rights, etc. were not settled in those days, and they were not. New England threatened to secede five times before the South finally did. The Hartford Convention of New England was truly a traitorous affair because it was during the War of 1812 but nobody is suggesting we remove monuments to New England soldiers.

We also would never suggest removing monuments to soldiers from New York and Boston even though those ports slave traded the entire time – much of it illegally – that slavery existed.

W. E. B. Du Bois in his famous book, *The Suppression of the African Slave-Trade to the United States of America 1638-1870*, writes that Boston, New York and Portland, Maine were the largest slave trading ports on the planet in 1862, a year into the War Between the States:

"The number of persons engaged in the slave-trade, and the amount of capital embarked in it, exceed our powers of calculation. The city of New York has been until of late [1862] the principal port of the world for this infamous commerce; although the cities of Portland and Boston are only second to her in that distinction. Slave dealers added largely to the wealth of our commercial metropolis; they contributed liberally to the treasuries of political organizations, and their bank accounts were largely depleted to carry elections in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut."¹

¹ W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Suppression of the African Slave-Trade to the United States of America, 1638-1870* (New York: Longmans, Green and Co., 1896), 179. Du Bois is quoting the *Continental Monthly*, January, 1862, p. 87, the article "The Slave-Trade in New York."

Please do not degrade Arlington National Cemetery by removing this beautiful memorial to the reuniting of our great country.

Idiotic Woke hate needs to END. It is tearing at the very fabric of our nation.

Let Woke anti-American hatred END for the whole country at Arlington National Cemetery. Please leave the Reconciliation Memorial just as it is, FOREVER.

Sincerely,

Gene Kizer, Jr.
Publisher/Author
Charleston Athenaeum Press

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jay Leffingwell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:49 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] History removal

I here the keepers of our national cemetery have decided a long standing work of art should be removed immediately .
A monument to Reconciliation no less .
Stop throwing the baby out with the bath water .
From an American who enjoys all of American history.
Leave the monument's alone .

Jay Leffingwell
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Bill Byrd <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:37 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington must be preserved!

Dear Mr. Davis,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the commission's recommendation that the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery be removed. As a lifelong Virginia resident, the indirect descendant of a soldier who died during the Siege of Petersburg, and a student of Southern history (admittedly amateur), I want to tell you that I consider the proposed removal to be nothing short of grave desecration and a profound and obscene insult to the tens of thousands of young men - most of them poor, most of them venturing away from home for the first time, many of them teenagers - who fought and died to preserve what they viewed as their homeland - the Commonwealth of Virginia. I am sure that the men - and boys - from other states who served in the armies led by Lee, Johnston, and others, felt the same way: they were fighting to preserve their own native lands, their states, from aggression. Altogether, perhaps as many as 300,000 personnel from the Confederate States Army died during the conflict, often in the most hideous manners possible - on operating tables without anesthesia, crying out for water (or their mothers) in the no man's land between armies, dying of typhoid, malaria and influenza in deliberately squalid prisoner of war camps. As historian Paul Johnson put it, the only thing that mattered to these men - and entire South in the end - was the war. It had to be fought and it had to be won. The "root causes" were long forgotten. It was a war against what they perceived to be the annihilation of their homelands. Again, as another noted historian, Shelby Foote, wrote, when Union soldiers asked a group of Confederate prisoners why they were fighting, this reply came: "Because you're down here and we are too!" The monument is a memorial to these brave, selfless men and the many others who stood behind them, facing not only death but the incredible devastation that shattered the South's economy. (Agricultural production, as you may know, did not return to prewar levels until the 1930s!) Even at Appomattox, when all was lost, the men fought on, beating off Union attacks, as historian Fletcher Pratt described it, "in sad, heroic rallies."

The memorial is not dedicated to political leaders, or even to the senior officers that led these heroic men. It is dedicated to the dead and to their memories. Virtually every home in the South suffered a loss. Cherished pictures of the dead hung on the walls of thousands of homes for many decades after these soldiers died. If there was any memory of the "Lost Cause" prevalent among these survivors, it was not the "white supremacy" or "Jim Crow" arguments put forth by amateur pseudo-historians like Seidule. Instead, it was, as Emory Thomas has put it, a coming to terms, a realization that good people could fight and lose and die and still remain good people. Ezekiel's monument is a tribute - by the people of the South and indeed, as witnessed by its placement in Arlington and its veneration by many presidents, by the entire nation - to these departed souls. Let them rest in peace! End this destructive exercise in "woke" and useless symbolism and preserve the monument.

Thank you for hearing my pleas and I would be happy to assist you in any way you see fit.

With respect,

William H. Byrd
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Zachary W. Magnusson
Citizen of Alabama

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because as a descendant of Confederate Soldiers, it is my peoples' memorial and we remain part of the citizenry of the United States of America. To exclude this memorial is to exclude my people from the historic fabric of our republic.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Zachary W. Magnusson

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Arnold Huskins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:33 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I oppose the removal of the memorial at Arlington

Dear Mr. Davis:

As a retired US veteran, I oppose the removal of the memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. It is indeed a sad day in America when we wish to remove memorials to our dead veterans in a cemetery.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
Dr. Arnold M. Huskins
Major, USAF, Retired

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Veterans Defending Arlington <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:15 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] 50 Veterans Opposed to Naming Commission

Good day, sir,

Please see attached letter signed by 50 Veterans Opposed to the Naming Commissions' Recommendations.

It is outrageous that just before Veteran's Day that the Commission is engaged in taking up this dishonorable recommendation. Please let them know that the best thing they can do, if they do take up the recommendation, is to **vote it down.**

v/r

HK Edgerton
E-3,US Army Signal Corps, Ret.



VETERANS DEFENDING ARLINGTON



Judah P. Benjamin Camp 2210
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Tampa, Florida



October 27, 2022

Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery

**RE: OPPOSITION TO NAMING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION OF DESTRUCTION OF MOSES
JACOB EZEKIEL MEMORIAL BASED ON ANTI-SEMITISM**

Dear Committee Members,

The members of our camp are offended by the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove arguably the most important work of internationally renowned Jewish sculptor Moses Jacob Ezekiel.

Our Camp was named in honor of another internationally prominent Jewish figure, and we find this recommendation to be anti semitic.

Not only was the Memorial designed and sculpted by a Jewish artist, but Sir Moses Ezekiel's remains are interred at the base, and the Memorial represents his headstone. To even contemplate the removal of Ezekiel's Memorial is blasphemous, godless and profane.

Ezekiel abandoned all other commissions after he began work at his Rome studio for several years until its completion and erection. He wrote "I am devoting myself to a subject that I have more at heart than any other work I have ever done before".

Destroying his magnificent art piece is equivalent to the destruction Hitler's Third Reich did to Jewish artists in Europe. The US Military, under President Eisenhower protected and preserved the work of Jewish artists; but today, the US Military, if you accept this recommendation, is going on record as wishing to destroy, perhaps the world's largest sculpture by a Jewish artist.

Please govern yourselves accordingly.

David McCallister
Commander

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Chris Connelly <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:50 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Defend Arlington / save Reconciliation Monument

On behalf of myself (retired civil servant for 39 years) my father (WWII Vet), my son's father (Vietnam Vet), we ask that the government NOT take down the Reconciliation Monument. Let it stand as a tribute to what our nation is capable of. The city of Richmond, VA allowed our beautiful Monument Avenue to be destroyed as demanded by BLM and woke politicians - which has brought about no positive changes: our city now has one of the highest crime rates in the nation, our kids are being killed at school, and our parents are fighting a valiant effort to get porn out of school....save the monument. Gayle Connelly, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: dennis harrison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:37 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

10-27-22

Opposition To The Removal of the Arlington National Cemetery
Reconciliation Memorial.

Dennis Harrison
Adjutant, Rowan Rifles 405
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove
the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

The monument has been at Arlington National Cemetery since
1914. It is part of American History. It would be a waste of
taxpayer dollars to destroy the monument.

What will be next; removal of Confederate graves?

The Cemetery Commission should reject the recommendation
of the Naming Commission.

Sincerely,

Dennis Harrison

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Buddy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:35 PM
To: ANC Commemorative Works; Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of the Monument of Reconciliation

Comment for the Arlington National Cemetery:

It is my opinion that the famous Moses Ezekiel (VMI) Monument of Reconciliation should not be removed from the Arlington Cemetery. It is a part of history that is not a monument to the Civil War but a monument to the nation reconciling its differences and commemorating the healing of a nation.

The Monument of Reconciliation is a somber reflection and one of hope. A physical reminder memorializing a point in history that should be remembered in the incredible history of our Country since; reconciling one another through depression, wars, civil rights, and our current challenges.

This Monument of Reconciliation must stay for all to see and understand the sacrifices of the nation and how far we have come. We are a nation of many different beliefs and people, while not perfect we are a nation that is reconciling our differences over time and should not be politicized as anything otherwise.

Respectfully,

Buddy

Charles B. Faulconer, Jr.
COL, IN (Retired)



STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Anthony M. Griffin

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private Citizen and veteran

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Anthony Griffin, am submitting this statement because I am deeply opposed to the Naming Commissions shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

Over the past years our Nation bore witness to tragedies leading to public outrage that included the destruction, desecration, and removal of Civil War monuments across Virginia and Nationally. To be very clear, I am a veteran who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected.**

In closing, we live in difficult times, and I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. As a US Navy veteran, I am offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove the Confederate Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Very respectfully,
Anthony M. Griffin

SAVE THEIR HONOR

MONUMENTS & CENOTAPHS ARE SACRED

October 27, 2022

Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery
Department of the Army
Department of Defense

RE: Naming Commission Recommendations on Arlington National Cemetery Confederate Dead Memorial

Dear Distinguished Committee Members,

Save Their Honor is a pro-veteran organization that is opposed to the desecration of all veterans memorials.

There has been a rash of vandalism and destruction of veterans memorials around the country, notably recently the Vietnam Conflict Memorial on the Mall in Washington, DC.

But there is also vandalism from governmental entities who do not respect the sacrifice of those who wear a uniform in defense of their family, their home and their nation.

Over America's history there have been many unpopular conflicts, but nonetheless, blood sacrifice has been offered and it is our American duty to honor that sacrifice, no matter how unpopular the war.

That is why we are calling upon you to disregard the Naming Commission's recommendation to destroy Section 16 of the public military cemetery you over see at Arlington, VA by removing the Memorial and instead choose to honor ALL AMERICAN VETERANS.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

/Kenneth U. Daniel

Kenneth U. Daniel
Spokesman

Veterans Observances Deserve Respect, Protection & Tougher Penalties for Vandalism

ALL AMERICAN VETERANS DESERVE RESPECT

www.savetheirhonor.org

2029 North DeVilliers Street * Pensacola FL 32502 * 448-400-7423

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Tim Murphy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Statement of Opposition to the removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

Timothy S. Murphy
Mr.

[REDACTED]

I am opposed to the removal/destruction or replacement of the Reconciliation Monumnet at Arlington National Cemetary.

It is a sad day when we have groups proposing the removal of monuments in graveyards.

Thank you.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ropelewski, David <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Save the Confederate Memorial

As a Virginian, I am proud of my heritage. Like it not, historically, Virginia was a Confederate State. However, a war was fought to eliminate slavery and the Confederacy lost. That does not mean that we just eliminate history. But that is what today's American Taliban are doing. I am speaking of the woke liberals whining about every micro-affront they can think of...because it makes them feel better about their apparently inadequate lives. So, do not succumb to this short-sighted thinking and acquiesce to these misguided individuals. Do not destroy the Confederate Monument. Save it.

David Ropelewski
[REDACTED]

*David Ropelewski
Business Operations Analyst/Project Manager
Property & Finance Division
Virginia State Police*
[REDACTED]



SENATOR DENNIS BAXLEY
12th District

THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Ethics and Elections, *Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and
Civil Justice
Community Affairs
Criminal Justice
Health Policy
Judiciary
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Legislative Auditing Committee,
Alternating Chair

October 27, 2022

Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery:

RE: "Reconciliation" Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

Good day,

As a duly elected representative of the State of Florida, I oppose the proposal to remove and potentially destroy the "Reconciliation" Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Florida veterans are interred in the circle surrounding the Memorial and the Memorial signifies a "Cenotaph" to thousands more Floridians who gave the last measure in that horrible war.

To remove the memorial only re-opens old wounds and sectional differences that the Memorial was erected to demonstrate and benefits no one.

Thank you in advance for keeping this memorial in place.

Onward and Upward,


Senator Dennis Baxley
Florida State Senate – District 12

REPLY TO:

- ☐ 206 South Hwy 27/441, Lady Lake, Florida 32159 (352) 750-3133
- ☐ 315 SE 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34471 (352) 789-6720
- ☐ 412 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5012

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

WILTON SIMPSON
President of the Senate

AARON BEAN
President Pro Tempore

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jianne DiPadova <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:58 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation monument

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jianne P. DiPadova [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Oct 27, 2022, 2:40 PM
Subject: Arlington Reconciliation monument
To: Jianne DiPadova [REDACTED]

Dear Sir,

We have reached a point in our nation where memorials to our history are in conflict with the popular culture. Long-standing monuments and flags are linked with current fringe ideology. It seems that many people have lost the ability to separate historical significance and the hateful rhetoric. I fear that, like other aspects of the social justice movement, removing or dismantling monuments from the past is leading us down a dangerous path, one where any reference to the past that doesn't line up perfectly with our moral views of the moment will be shunned from memory and labeled as evil.

This monument should remain standing as it is a tribute to reconciliation and peace. Authentic reconciliation, after all, involves some degree of compromise, and at the time — within a living generation of Civil War combat — it was enough for North and South to declare together that sectionalism was finished and that the country should bind up its wounds and be united again. The statue represents the country's history, no matter how complicated. Taking it down is to censor, whitewash, and potentially forget that history. As Americans we need to promote better awareness on the topic not stifle debate and clear away what is disliked.

Thank you for your time

Jianne DiPadova

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

October 27, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

As a past-president and current member of the Ladies Memorial Association of Petersburg, Virginia, I am utterly appalled to hear of the possible removal of the Confederate Memorial Monument in Arlington National Cemetery.

This monument is a national treasure, designed and constructed by the famous Jewish artist Moses Ezekiel. Ezekiel was also a Virginia Military Institute cadet and fought alongside his fellow citizen soldiers during the Battle of New Market on May 15, 1864.

The Ladies Memorial Association of Petersburg was founded in 1866 in order to give proper Christian burial to the approximate 30,000 confederate soldiers who died during the Siege of Petersburg. Confederate soldiers were not allowed to be buried in the two national cemeteries established nearby at City Point and Poplar Grove. The majority of these confederate soldier remains were re-interred in a 13-acre mass grave site called Memorial Hill in Blandford Cemetery. Today, the LMA continues to maintain the Memorial Hill section of the cemetery and to tell the stories of the men buried there and throughout Blandford Cemetery.

To erase the history, legacy and remembrance of these soldiers buried in Arlington would be criminal. To forget American soldiers who gave their all for what they felt was right would be a travesty. We need to study and understand history, NOT ERASE IT! Political correctness be damned! With context, this monument should be left where it is for future generations to study and understand, to challenge and to agree or disagree.

Martha Mann Atkinson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Martin Callahan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:43 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL

CPT Martin Callahan USAR (Retired)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am submitting my statement because I strongly oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. I am a retired Army Reserve Officer and retired Army Museum Specialist. I am also a descendant of Confederate and Union Veterans.

I adamantly oppose the removal of the memorial because I am sick of the woke culture including the woke Naming Commission's attempt to erase all of our history from the beginning of our great nation through the present time. They may have started with Confederate monuments, but have attacked everything from Christopher Columbus through the Civil War just in my own city alone. The woke culture including the Naming Commission reminds me of the Taliban destroying the ancient Buddhist statues in Bamiyan in Afghanistan and the Islamic State terrorists destroying ancient archeological sites in Syria and Iraq. I also don't recall voting to remove this beautiful memorial in Arlington that I visited in person years ago.

The sculptor, Moses Ezekiel, envisioned his work as a peace monument according to period newspaper articles and his memoir. The proposed removal of the monument by the woke Naming Commission outrages me. I also find it offensive that the graves of soldiers including Moses Ezekiel who are buried at the base of the monument will be desecrated to remove it

Confederate veterans like the sculptor of the monument, Moses Ezekiel, who survived the war paid their taxes and became productive citizens of the United States just like their counterparts who served in the Union Army. These Confederate veterans deserve

not to be disturbed by this hideous current fad that will hopefully disappear in the dust bin of history soon before all of our history is erased by this despicable woke mob.

I respectfully ask the members of the Cemetery Commission **reject this offensive recommendation by the Naming Commission** and leave the monument alone where it has been for over 100 years.

Sincerely,

Captain Martin Callahan

DAVID RHODES McCALLISTER

October 27, 2022

Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery

RE: OPPOSITION TO DESTRUCTION OF "RECONCILIATION" MEMORIAL

*Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.
-Proverbs 22:28*

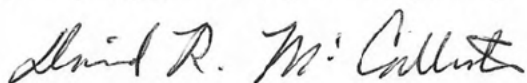
Dear Committee Members,

I am offended that the so-called "Naming Commission" proposes to remove the Confederate Memorial from Arlington Cemetery.

I believe this is beyond what was contemplated by the enabling legislation and an over-reach which exposes and invalidates the entire process. This memorial was established as a sign of reconciliation. The story of the origin of Arlington as a cemetery purposed to defile the Lee family property is well known. By later interring Confederate casualties, the victors showed that they could be magnanimous in their triumph, and the vanquished could be consoled in their defeat. Then both could move on together. This is the message the memorial sculpture by Moses Ezekiel has for me, and for many Americans. The Naming Commission wants to employ the 21st Century version of "Waving The Bloody Shirt" by grinding the memorial out of its sacred space. Only totalitarians fearful of public memory do this.

This cowardly attempt affects me personally. I have ancestors who fought on both sides. My father was a Floridian, and my mother was from Massachusetts, a family representing reconciliation of DNA. In fact, my own namesake ancestor from Maine died in an Arlington hospital during the War, and was interred at Arlington, then later reinterred in his hometown in Maine.

This cemetery and its memorials, are therefore, very personal to me and the desecration proposed is offensive unthinkable. I find removal of the memorial both an insult to my family and a violation of the sanctity of the most famous cemetery in the country. Disclaim it though you might, this action signals official approval of the wholesale destruction of historical memorials in any cemetery anywhere. Stop the blasphemy.



Sincerely,
David R. McCallister

Catesby Leigh



27 October 2022

Re: Confederate Monument by Moses Ezekiel at Arlington National Cemetery

Dear Mr. Davis,

I write about public art and architecture for a number of national publications, including *City Journal*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Claremont Review of Books*, and *The American Conservative*. Monuments have been a major topic in my work for 25 years.

I wish to express my strong opposition to the removal of Moses Ezekiel's Confederate monument from Arlington National Cemetery. I am not a "Southern partisan" where the Civil War is concerned. My roots are in Virginia but my views on that terrible conflict have been shaped by the eminent historian James M. McPherson and his magisterial *Battle Cry of Freedom* (Oxford, 1988).

One of the more outrageous aspects of the Naming Commission's recommendation for the Arlington Confederate monument's removal is that it is made at a time when public opinion not just about monuments but about a very wide range of topics of vital concern to the nation's future is split down the middle. Removal of Ezekiel's Confederate monument from Arlington cemetery would be a nakedly partisan act that needlessly fosters deeper divisions in our body politic.

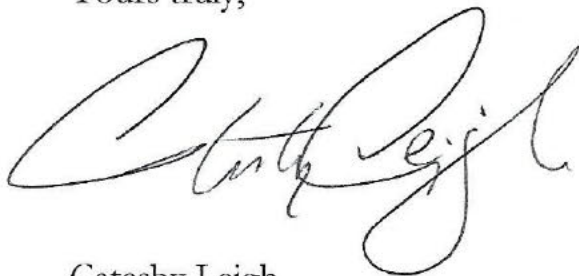
What's more, the idea of transferring the monument to a museum, as descendants of the sculptor have urged, is not realistic, as art historian Samantha Baskind of Cleveland State University recently noted in the *Washington Post*. It is too big and too massive for that. And it deserves a far better fate than banishment to a museological Siberia, not to speak of a far more likely relegation to a warehouse in a permanent state of disassembly. It deserves to remain exactly where it is.

The toxic partisan atmosphere engulfing this country is revealed by the simplistic tagging of Ezekiel's creation as a monument to white supremacy. I strongly question the politically-correct, academically inculcated assumption that the perpetuation of white supremacy underlay the Arlington monument's design. Ezekiel's evocation of the Lost Cause was retrospective and romantic in character. A Confederate veteran

himself, he aspired to exalt what was noblest in the South's struggle for independence. That is what monument makers have been doing from time immemorial. By the same token, Ezekiel's work *is* a quintessential Lost Cause monument, as the inscription from Lucan's *Pharsalia* clearly indicates: "The victorious cause pleased the gods but the vanquished pleased Cato." What gets drowned out in the deluge of virtue-signaling, however, is the monumental recognition that the "cause" *was* "lost"—that these United States would be one and indivisible going forward. In other words, the monument should be judged in terms of its historical context, not according to the historically deracinated pieties of the woke. How many thousands of descendants of Confederate warriors, mindful of their forebears' valor, have given their lives in our nation's defense since Appomattox?

Monuments are landmarks, reminding us of where we've been as a political and cultural community. Ezekiel's Confederate monument is a major landmark under both those headings. He was one of the best sculptors this country ever produced. Americans should be free to contemplate his Arlington creation with the educated detachment that ought to be expected of the citizens of a modern republic—and indeed was expected of them until cancel culture's recent irruption. And we should note that as America has become a more just society, previously excluded communities have acquired the power and influence to commemorate their own heroes. That is as it should be. But nothing—absolutely nothing—will be gained by banishing Ezekiel's Confederate monument, a major historic landmark, from Arlington Memorial Cemetery.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catesby Leigh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "C" and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

Catesby Leigh

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Richard Hatten <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:11 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Arlington Monument

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Dear Gentlemen;

I would like to voice my opposition to the removal of the Confederate monument at Arlington. I feel this action would be equal to grave desecration. I have visited this monument. It is a valuable work of art but moreso a fitting tribute to my ancestors. Please reject the absurdity of removing this great monument.

Thank you;. Richard Hatten



Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android < Caution-

https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature&af_web_dp=Caution-https://more.att.com/currently/imap >

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Woody Rash Jr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial Arlington National Cemetery

Thomas W Rash Jr
Member, Sons of Confederate Veterans Ft Sumter Camp 1269
[REDACTED]

Dear Members of the Federal Advisory naming Commission:

I am writing to state my opposition to the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in the Confederate Section of Arlington National Cemetery. This memorial was sculpted by a Jewish Confederate Veteran and dedicated in June 1914 when veterans, both North and South, were striving to repair the rift from the War Between the States. This effort was probably at it's highest level at that time - why over 100 years later are you promoting the division in our country that those noble soldiers wanted to repair? There are over 400 buried in the Confederate Section and your action, if implemented, would be a vile desecration to their final resting place in a cemetery with global renown and national historic significance.

I am deeply offended by this recommendation and urge in the strongest terms that it be rejected and not put into action. Any such implementation will bring dishonor to those that support it while doing nothing to heal the wounds of time.

As an aside, my father is buried in the Sacramento Veterans Cemetery. He was a son of the South but also a dedicated servant to our country serving for 36 years in the US Air Force and was awarded the Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters. If you desecrate Arlington, what will be next?

Sincerely,

Thomas W Rash Jr

LUNELLE SIEGEL

October 27, 2022

Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery
US Army
Department of Defense

RE: NAMING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESTRUCTION OF JEWISH ARTIST'S VETERANS
MEMORIAL AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Good day,

My family and I were shocked and outraged to hear that a proposal has been made to destroy the beautiful Ezekiel memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

We have paid our respects in the past there not only to Mr. Ezekiel but to others buried in that section.

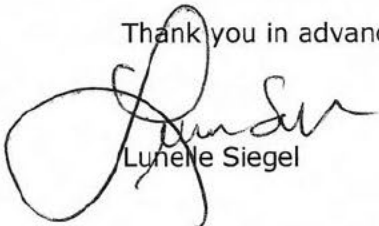
Imagining a crane hauling away this historic monument reminds me of pictures I have seen in Europe of the Nazis and the Nazi pacifists taking down beautiful statues and sculptures because Hitler and his evil empire sought to purge anything of which they do not approve.

This is America. It is unthinkable that the US Military would even consider doing something like this. And its trying to be rushed through so fast, less than 30 days since the recommendation came out, and this body has it on there agenda.

My father and father in law fought against the Nazis in WWII, and 75 years later, it appears the Nazis are taking over our beloved United States of America.

I respectfully request that you do the right thing and stand up for America. Stand up for democracy. Stand up against the cancel culture that is infecting our society that is doorway to destruction. Prevent the destruction and desecration of this grave memorial.

Thank you in advance,



Lunelle Siegel

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Edward Miller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:00 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument, Arlington National Cemetery

Sir:

I respectfully request that the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery by world renowned American sculptor, Moses Jacob Ezekiel, remain in its current location, unharmed and undisturbed.

“Reconciliation” is defined in the dictionary as “bringing together again in friendship”. This monument is a visible, concrete statement of the end of hostilities between citizens of the Union and citizens of the Confederacy. If we deny, forget, try to erase where we have been, we may be doomed to repeat history. We cannot erase history. The Civil War happened. Union and Confederate soldiers and families lost loved ones. In the end, the Union was preserved. Those who shed their blood on both sides gave their lives to ensure preservation of the Union and freedom for ALL citizens, regardless of race, creed, or national origin. Those sacrifices need to be honored and remembered. What memorials will be next? World War I? WW II? Korea? Viet Nam? Persian Gulf and Afghanistan? It’s a slippery slope, sir.

Mr. Ezekiel’s work needs to be honored by all Americans, and international visitors to Arlington National Cemetery. Moses Jacob Ezekiel was born in Richmond, VA, was educated at VMI, and served in the Confederate Army. He is the first American-born Jewish artist to receive international acclaim. Mr. Ezekiel’s remains are interred at the base of the monument. Be respectful.

Presidents Taft and Wilson spoke eloquently about the significance of the monument. President Barack Obama placed a wreath at the monument, as well as laying a wreath at the monument memorializing fallen African-American soldiers.

Let us remember where we have been so we don’t go there again.

Regards,
Julia D. Miller, BSN, RN
[REDACTED]

Veteran, US Army Nurse Corps
Born NYC, NY, raised there and in ME and MA
Former resident of great states of TX, AL, VA
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Joseph Blackburn Jr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:48 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

Dear Mr. Davis, in this era of division in our country, why would anyone consider removing the Reconciliation Memorial? All of us should promote reconciliation of our many differences and celebrate when achieving such reconciliation. That memorial was a celebration of the reconciliation of our country and it should be preserved, not removed. Please preserve it.

Joseph E. Blackburn, Jr.
Blackburn, Conte, Schilling & Click, PC
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: FARRELL COOLEY <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:47 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Monument at Arlington and the "Shaming Committee"

Mr. Matthew R Davis:

I read that the family wanted to remove this monument on a web site for learning about history. My first instinct is that whoever is saying this must be on the liberal left and using them as a pivot to influence the unknowing.

Even if the family wanted it removed, they are looking and comparing the nature of the monument with today's eyes and that is not objective nor intelligent. The man wanted to build it, he wanted to be buried there. This is about his wishes, not the family's. He was a brilliant artist.

LEAVE IT ALONE! HONOR IT FOR THE MEANING IT WAS DESIGNED FOR!

You cannot change history no matter how hard they try; the truth is still the truth and will not be forgotten.

Thanks,
Farrell Cooley
/G\
BS, MBA Pepperdine U
Life Member Sons of Confederate Veterans
Life Member NRA

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:36 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Naming Commission's Recommendations

Any change or removal of the Reconciliation Memorial would be a powerful and offensive insult and would result in a reversal of the work of reconciliation. That may be what you want.

Richard A. Cheatham
Citizen

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Everett Burr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:28 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery

Sir,

I sincerely recommend you leave the Reconciliation Memorial located in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

alone for all the nation to see and enjoy. This was placed in the Cemetery after the War Between the States named to show

to the entire world that our nation once scarred by civil war was now healing and healed not two nations but one.

The name "Reconciliation Memorial" was aptly named to prove this was true.

The Renaming Commission has vastly overstepped their duty and are attempting to remove all reminders of the Confederacy.

Will their next recommendation be removal of the Confederate dead surrounding the monument? Stop the lunacy and leave

the memorial alone where it belongs.

Respectfully

Everett Burr



If you call, email, or text I will promptly reply

Memo

To: Members of the Arlington National Cemetery Commission

From: J. David Bennett, CPA/ CFF/ CITP/, MAFF, CVA, CFE, FCPA, CGMA
[REDACTED]

Date: 10/27/22

RE: STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON
NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

As a private citizen of these United States (as in representing myself only) I am appalled of the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. **Spoiler Alert:** removing the memorial will not do anything to CHANGE a dark blot on our history in which hundreds of thousands of our citizens died.

Good gentlepersons look to the name itself. Clearly the memorial celebrates reconciliation of both North & South after the bloodiest conflict in the nation's history. As deeply divided as these United States are today, I propose we celebrate reconciliation not hide it. After so much death in the conflict there was a level of unity in that both men of the former North and South fought together to preserve our liberty in the "Great War" and WWII. I now propose a single question, will reconciliation of citizens at odds currently be improved by removal of the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery? My thought is it will only deepen the current divide!

In closing I wish to remind you of the story of young Sam Davis. Sam who was captured during the war and hung as a spy, even though he was wearing his uniform when captured. General Dodge told him if he would just identify who his leader was, he could go free. The gentleman General Dodge was inquiring about was only a few cells down from him in the same jail. Therefore, it would have been very easy just to point him out and save his own life! Then, young Sam responded, if he had a thousand lives, he would give them all rather than betray a friend. His family sent a wagon to retrieve his corpse and crossing the Duck River at Columbia Tennessee a Union soldier helped in the crossing as the water was high when they found out it was the body of young Sam Davis being returned home. About 30-40 years later there was an effort to erect a monument for Sam Davis. It was a struggle to provide funds as money was tight in the South. At that time there was a recession in the 1890s. Without any hesitation the Yankees joined with the Confederates to raise the required funds. In fact, the vast majority of the money came from the Yankees, a true conformation of the reconciliation that is celebrated by the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I thank you good gentlepersons for taking the time to read the ramblings of an elderly citizen and consider the ramifications of rejecting reconciliation and going against the wishes of President Biden's express purpose of bringing folks together (Reconciliation) as opposed to deepening divisions by rejecting a monument directly addressing reconciliation after hundreds of thousands of citizens died. Again, I request the august members of the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jim Glenn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:12 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Cemetery Conf Memorial

Mr Davis,

I hope this note finds you well. I am writing to voice my view on the renaming commissions recommendation to remove the statue referenced above.

The recommendation by the commission is problematic. When commissioned and emplaced it was supposed to be emblematic of the intent to reconcile the the wounds of the nation. This reflects the presidents comments at the time and since then has stood as a solemn reminder of the strife this nation went through.

I frequent ANC many times a year and once a year I will swing by this monument as well to pay my respects. What strikes me when I do go there is that there are almost never anyone there, probably due to its location, but nonetheless hardly ever anyone present at that location.

There is no offense and can be no offense at a Soldier memorial, in fact the presence of this item is living proof of the intent by the veterans and folks who lived in that time to reconcile their differences and be one again. Removing this monument simply opens that wound again.

Please pass on my thoughts on this note to those who would consider desecrating a graveyard over politics.

Very Respectfully,

Jim Glenn

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Aaron Stevenson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:08 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation monument

Dear sir,

I'm writing in protest to the proposed removal of the reconciliation monument from Arlington National Cemetery. I believe very strongly that it would be a terrible mistake to remove the monument and lose another yet another link to our past in a time when our history is being erased before our eyes at an increasingly rapid pace.

How do we measure our successes and triumphs as a nation if we remove and censor all markers that illustrate what we were at a particular time in history. Although it be it a confederate monument, I see the removal as being a slight not only to American southern soldier but also to all the men who fought and died to preserve the Union and their willingness and want to heal our Republic so we could move forward as one nation under God.

AARON STEVENSON

[REDACTED]

Sirs:

The assault on history continues. Using the excuse of “slavery,” the current politically correct but factually *incorrect* members of government, the media and the establishment now intend to remove all the monuments, symbols and, eventually we must reason, *the bodies* of those who fought for the Confederacy in the American “civil war.” However, this is not an action open to those who intend to pursue it. The matter was addressed and, we must assume, settled at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. At that time there was a move in the North to reconcile with Southerners.

When the Spanish-American War concluded successfully in December 1898, President McKinley used this as an opportunity to “mend the fences”. **On 14 December 1898** the President gave a speech in which he urged reconciliation based on the outstanding service of Southerners during the recent war with Spain. Remember, as part of the conciliation, several former Confederate officers were commissioned as generals to include former Confederate cavalry generals, Joseph Wheeler and Fitzhugh Lee. President McKinley stated:

“...every soldier’s grave made during our unfortunate civil war [sic] is a tribute to American valor... And the time has now come... when in the spirit of fraternity, we should share in the care of the graves of the Confederate soldiers...The cordial feeling now happily existing between the North and South prompts this gracious act and if it needed further justification it is found in the gallant loyalty to the Union and the flag so conspicuously shown in the year just passed by the sons and grandsons of those heroic dead.”

The response from Congress to this plea was magnanimous and resulted in the Appropriations Act of FY 1901 (below).

Confederate Cemetery:

Congressional Appropriations Act, FY 1901, signed 6 June 1900

Congress passed an act of appropriations for \$2,500 that enabled the *“Secretary of War to have reburied in some suitable spot in the national cemetery at Arlington, Virginia, and to place proper headstones at their graves, the bodies of about 128 Confederate soldiers now buried in the National Soldiers Home near Washington, D.C., and the bodies of about 136 Confederate soldiers now buried in the national cemetery at Arlington, Virginia.”*

Remarks: More important than the amount (worth substantially more in 1900 than in 2000) is the move to support reconciliation by Congressional act. In 1906, Confederate Battle flags were ordered to be returned to the states from whence they originated. Some states refused to return the flags. Wisconsin still has at least one flag it refuses to return.

Congressional Act of 9 March 1906

We Honor Our Fallen Ancestors:

(P.L. 38, 59th Congress, Chap. 631-34 Stat. 56)

This Act authorized the furnishing of headstones for the graves of Confederates who died, primarily in Union prison camps and were buried in Federal cemeteries.

Remarks: This act formally reaffirmed Confederate soldiers as military combatants with legal standing. It granted recognition to deceased Confederate soldiers commensurate with the status of deceased Union soldiers.

[An Additional Editor's Note from the site from which this information was taken: I might also add here that the opening ceremonies off every Sons of Confederate Veterans Reunion always include a welcoming address by the commander of the Grand Army of the Republic descendent organization...Jim Dean]

U.S. Public Law 810, Approved by 17th Congress 26 February 1929
(45 Stat 1307 – Currently on the books as 38 U.S. Code, Sec. 2306)

This law, passed by the U.S. Congress, authorized the "Secretary of War to erect headstones over the graves of soldiers who served in the Confederate Army and to direct him to preserve in the records of the War Department the names and places of burial of all soldiers for whom such headstones shall have been erected."

Remarks: This act broadened the scope of recognition further for all Confederate soldiers to receive burial benefits equivalent to Union soldiers. It authorized the use of U.S. government (public) funds to mark Confederate graves and record their locations.

U.S. Public Law 85-425: Sec. 410 Approved 23 May 1958
Confederate Iron Cross
(US Statutes at Large Volume 72, Part 1, Page 133-134)

The Administrator shall pay to each person who served in the military or naval forces of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War a monthly pension in the same amounts and subject to the same conditions as would have been applicable to such person under the laws in effect on December 31, 1957, if his service in such forces had been service in the military or naval forces of the United States.

Conclusion:

If the United States Government is simply going to ignore laws and acts that appear in its own records and on its own books in order to placate the WOKE and the ignorant, where does that end? What *other* laws and acts legally installed can be simply removed because they become unpopular? The simple fact is that those who intend to destroy history have neither the legal nor the moral right to do so and if we allow this monstrosity to occur, we will find ourselves as did Orwell's citizens of Oceania in his novel 1984:

**"Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered.
And the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute.
History has stopped.
Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right."**

Valerie Protopapas



**National
Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865**

26 Oct 2022

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

Name: Verna Maleski

Title: National Senior Vice President, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I believe the Naming Commission wants this Memorial gone for the reason that it would divide Americans further and they do not want people to know the history of the Blue and Gray coming together and coming to terms on what happened. It is important for our generations to see that people with two different opinions can come back together and bond under the common principle that they are Americans, that is what is special about our country "we all may be from different states, but in the end, we are Americans." The more things are removed the more America is closer to falling, "divided we fall" and we must teach this important lesson to protect all American history. We must also remember the sacrifice people took during the war, in which monuments are great public reminders as people are hardly picking up history books anymore. If there are no Confederate monuments left what are people going to think? That the Union fought itself?

I therefore state that I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty;

Verna Maleski,

National Senior Vice President, DUVCW

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: stanallen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:34 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to removal of Reconciliation Memorial

Stanley L. Allen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

27 October 2022

Dear Sir:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal because it is part of this country's history which cannot be erased by removing it.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Sincerely,
/S/ Stanley L. Allen

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:33 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Monument

As I understand matters, there is a movement afoot to remove the Confederate Memorial from Arlington, and this is the correct address to express my opinion and concerns.

By way of background, I am a retired Special Forces brigadier general, some of whose ancestors fought for the Confederacy. I oppose such an initiative because Confederate soldiers are buried there, too, in the columbarium as well as in some graves. Contrary to what many seem to think, those soldiers were not fighting to preserve slavery (neither of my two ancestors owned any, one was a clerk in a store and the other a poor tenant farmer). Their homes, families, and communities were threatened with invasion and they fought to prevent that. If we can no longer honor soldiers fighting for their people, it says a lot about how feckless our society has become.

Another question comes to mind as well. I was an infantryman in Viet Nam. Many of the same left-wing people who are agitating for the removal of Confederate monuments also believe our efforts there were "on the wrong side of history." Will that crowd remove monuments to my friends and brothers-in-arms who fought and died there after we faded from the scene?

John R. Scales

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Rebecca D'Angelo-Virginia Capital Realty <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:30 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Statue. Heed its message.

Hi Matthew,

How are you? I heard about what was going to happen at Arlington Cemetery with the removal of "Reconciliation" and I feel that is a horrible and shortsighted idea. Arlington Cemetery is one of my favorite places and my father (Col George D'Angelo) is a retired Colonel in the Air Force who fought in Vietnam. He also consulted with the U.N. and spearheaded the International Day of Peace. He is first generation Italian. My mother's family has been here since the Revolution and I am a daughter of the Revolution on 15 counts as well as a daughter of the Confederacy on just as many since they were in the south.

The horrible thing about removing this statue is one that it erases what it was meant to be in the first place, an act of Love and Reconciliation, to heal. It was actually built by a Jewish artist and the Jewish artist is buried underneath it. I think it is petty and short-sighted what has happened in the recent years. Why would we erase any of our history, The Good The Bad and The Ugly? I'm not a fan of war statues, because I do not believe in war, however I do not insist all statues of war be removed.

This is a beautiful piece of art and you are completely remiss. From what I understand as well, I do read the Military Times, is that we are so short of recruiting young people into our military and largely that is due to a woke environment where the military that is supposed to fight for us is being told that they are inherently racist because they are Caucasian. I actually read that in the military email that I get. That is absurd and dangerous, and false.

Additionally you have given four days, apparently, to truly review this.

Please leave well enough alone, Thank you,

Rebecca D'Angelo
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jim Saska <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:26 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Civil War reconciliation monument statue

Please do not tear down this important and needed reconciliation statue in the Arlington Cemetery. We need reminders of the past so that similar mistakes are not made in the future.

Thank you.

James Saska

--

James R. Saska

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Wayne Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:13 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Response: Arlington Monument removal

The 29th Infantry Division patch (symbol) was saved from removal/renaming by the current US Naming Commission on insignia and symbols last month. As you are aware, this symbol is a circle, the yin and yang that describes opposite but interconnected forces. It was designed by soldiers of the 29th during the train-up for WWI as a lasting symbol of unity and reconciliation among the now comrades in arms, but previous North and South opposing veterans of the Civil War. It is indeed a symbol of somber reflection and one of hope from pre-WWI and into the future.

The Civil War monument of reconciliation is too a similar somber reflection and one of hope. A physical reminder memorializing a point in history that should be remembered and the incredible history of our Country since; reconciling one another through depression, wars, civil rights, and our current challenges.

This Civil War monument of reconciliation must stay for all to see and understand the sacrifices of the nation and how far we have come. We are a people, not perfect, but reconciling our differences.

Thanks for your service,

Wayne Brown II, M.B.A
CPT, US Army Veteran
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

Our nation is being destroyed by those wanting to eliminate Southern Culture. Does the woke and cancel culture want another war just to decide whether or not family should have honor. I have two Great Grandfathers that walked from Arlington, VA to their homes in Georgia in 1865. I have 60 other Confederate Veterans in my family, and many of those never walked home.

If my family is not honorable, then neither am I.

If millions of Southerners are not honorable in the eyes of a few woke cancel cultures, then there is no reason for our country to coexist with each other. There is no longer a reason for one brother to help another, whether in the military or living as next door neighbors. The war from 1861-1865 should have never ended if the growing hatred for one another doesn't end.

As was in 1860, let us separate through irreconcilable differences, or be at eternal war with each other.

The woke cancel culture is the aggressor against families honoring their dead. If you don't want war, stop destroying another cultures family and heritage, and go home.

Larry Hughes
Alabama

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ann McLean <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:57 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: Oppose removal of Southern memorial

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded

> Ann H. McLean, Ph.D.

> [REDACTED]

> Professional Historian/Independent Scholar

> [REDACTED]

> [REDACTED]

>

> I oppose the removal of the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery. The monument is a tribute to many who died defending due process of Constitutional Republic.

>

> Presidents from McKinley through Obama have celebrated reconciliation. Anyone who removes this, advertises themselves as an enemy to all America has stood for, and invites division to "hallowed ground." Proverbs 22:28 states: "remove not the ancient landmark."

> To remove this piece by an acclaimed Jewish sculptor would, in fact, be an act of anti-Semitic hate-speech.

>

> I oppose the removal on artistic, moral, legal, decency and humane grounds. No one should even consider moving such a fine work, which is a grave within a cemetery, with 4 soldiers interred at its base. Where is the honor toward brave soldiers who gave their lives not out of for hate, but out of love of their "country of Virginia" (all states were sovereign until 1865) because they were invaded and were defending their homeland.

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Dr. Ann McLean

> Sent from my iPhone

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: W.J. CRODICK <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:48 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Civil War Reconciliation Memorial

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

To: the Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery (ACANC)

From: William J. Crodick, Jr

Sirs:

This correspondence is offered in memory of William J. Crodick, Sr, LCDR, USN, a decorated Viet Nam war veteran interred at Arlington National Cemetery (ANC).

William J. Crodick, Sr., a native of Bronx, New York, taught his children respect for all American war veterans, including those from the north and the south.

He was familiar with the various memorials at ANC, including the Civil War Reconciliation Memorial, and was highly respectful of the veterans of every stripe that had gone before.

He would strongly oppose any effort to remove the "Confederate" Reconciliation Memorial as disrespectful of those who have given their lives, honor and fortunes in defense of their (our) country. I concur.

Please add me to the list of interested citizens for ACANC meetings, announcements and updates.

William J, Crodick, Jr.
Citizen, USA and Commonwealth of Virginia
[REDACTED]

Public's Accessibility to the Meeting: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b < Caution-
<https://www.govinfo.gov/link/uscode/5/552b> > and 41 CFR 102-3.140 < Caution-<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-41/section-102-3.140> > through 102-3.165 < Caution-<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-41/section-102-3.165> > , this meeting is open to the public. Contact Mr. Matthew Davis at matthew.r.davis.civ@army.mil < Caution-
<mailto:matthew.r.davis.civ@army.mil> > to register to attend any of these meetings. Public attendance will be via virtual attendance. To attend any of these events, submit your full name, organization, email address, and phone number to Matthew Davis at email address matthew.r.davis.civ@army.mil < Caution-<mailto:matthew.r.davis.civ@army.mil> > . Upon receipt of this information, a link will be sent to the email address provided which will allow virtual attendance to the

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Christopher Cummins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:45 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Christopher Cummins

TITLE / AFFILIATION: MD

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Christopher Marascalco Cummins, MD

LTC, USAR

Afghanistan * Kuwait

Disabled American Veteran

Sent from my iPhone



*American Legion
Member*



*Airborne - Ranger
Infantry*



*Honorably Discharged Veterans
U.S. Army
Son - U.S. Navy
Son - U.S. Army*



*Veterans of Foreign Wars
Life Member*

LtCol (ret) Edwin L. Kennedy, Jr



26 October 2022

Commissioners
Department of Defense
Department of Army
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing as a U.S. military veteran, a former graduate history professor, and a proud Southerner to request that our memorial, "New South" *not* be removed from Arlington National Cemetery. I proudly wore the Army uniform for 29 years having enlisted during the Vietnam War. I'm not so sure I can be as proud of our Army now due to the concerted actions to denigrate my ancestors who were *American soldiers* in the Confederate Army.

For the 25 years, since I taught the core curriculum and electives on the Civil War at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, I have continued to take military units to battlefields to study. This current move to demonize Confederates is astonishing to say the least. This move is completely undoing the goodwill reconciliation begun by a former Union Army officer veteran, President William McKinley. His call for reconciliation was intended to heal the wounds of war and thank the South for supporting the country during the Spanish-American War. He stated:

*"...every soldier's grave made during our unfortunate civil war [sic] is a tribute to **American valor** [my emphasis]... And the time has now come... when in the spirit of fraternity we should share in the care of the graves of the Confederate soldiers...The cordial feeling now happily existing between the North and South prompts this gracious act and if it needed further justification it is found in the gallant loyalty to the Union and the flag so conspicuously shown in the year just passed by the sons and grandsons of those heroic dead."*

This led to four acts of Congress granting *American* (not U.S.) veterans' status to Confederate Americans. The furnishing of government soldier headstones to Confederates was the outcome of the congressional acts beginning in 1901. The men who fought the Confederates largely supported McKinley's reconciliation policy and now, over 100 years later, the ugly scabs left from that conflict are being ripped-off again for no legitimate reasons other than revenge by a few. Millions of our tax dollars are being expended for what good reason? To erase our military history? The hundreds of foreign officers that I taught over the years had a better knowledge of our Civil War than the majority of our American officers. They believed that this effort of "cancel culture" is just plain stupid. I agree.

The cancel culture mentality born of BLM riots is nothing less than Marxist "*Eracism*". Canceling, erasing, changing or denying factual history is a Marxist tactic. As an example, I have been giving presentations on black Confederate soldiers for over 25 years. Deniers make all sorts of excuses to say they didn't exist but the designer of "New South" served with them and put them on the monument in 1914! This isn't "new" history. Yes, Jewish-Confederate

-2-

Ezekiel Moses knew they served because he went to war with them. Falling prey to “presentism”, the deniers use modern standards to try and rationalize how blacks could not have fought with the Confederate Army. I could write pages on this topic but I suggest starting with a black friend’s relatively recent book, “*An Orderly For Lee*”. Al Arnold was a non-believer until he saw photographic evidence leading him to do extensive research on his ancestor. There are many others and black author / artist, Gregory Newson just published his extensive rosters of black Confederates, a number who received Confederate pensions. Some resided in Confederate Old Soldier Homes. Lest the readers of this letter discount them as totally “forced” labor, let me remind them that I served in an Army of draftees...those “forced to serve” as well. Many of their names are on the Vietnam memorial just like those of us who volunteered. It is important to remember that applying today’s standards of enlistment and service was not the same 150 years ago. The fact is many blacks voluntarily served. The definitions of “soldier” do not include having to be formally enlisted. The blacks who supported the Confederacy were not directly supporting slavery but defending their homes and way of life as Dr. McPherson has so aptly stated. They belong on the “New South” memorial in Arlington having served honorably!

The illogical excuse of calling Confederates “traitors” as a rationale to remove their memory is not based on substantiated facts but rather on emotional slander. I ask the commission for the name of just one Confederate tried for “treason”. I would be interested in knowing just one name of a Confederate convicted of “treason”. I will assist those who are not historians tally the score. The score for both questions is “0”. Supreme Court Chief Justice Salmon Chase warned President Johnson to *NOT* try Confederates for “treason”. The reason: it might prove that secession was actually legal. Calling Confederates names does not make them so. We are tired of the smears that have lost their true meanings but have become the weapons of the radicals on the left. It is part-and-parcel of Marxists tactics employed by BLM and others on the left. It should be recognized as such.

Finally, the witch hunt to erase any vestige of racism in our history by attacking Confederates is rife with HYPOCRISY. The U.S. Army finally allowed blacks to serve in the Union Army in 1863. If segregation is racism, then the U.S. Army was guilty of officially exercising it for over 85 more years. Blacks were not allowed to serve in white units. They were segregated ---- separate and unequal. It was not until Sons of Confederate Veterans member (descendant of Confederate soldiers) President Truman signed Executive Order 9981 in 1948 was the military officially desegregated. It still took several years to accomplish. Every U.S. war memorial prior to 1948 was to a military steeped in a racist policy of institutional segregation and should also come down if this is the new standard. What is good for one is good for the other. Don’t be a hypocrite.

Cherry-picking Confederate monuments to destroy is an easy target ---- low-hanging fruit ---- due to a lack of historical knowledge, political biases, emotional arguments, and lack of logic. Please stop this attack on soldier veterans that President McKinley saw fit to honor as fellow Americans. Keep our memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Sincerely,

///Signed///

Edwin L. Kennedy, Jr
LtCol, U.S. Army (retired)
Contact Information In Letterhead

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Rbsanders <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:37 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate memorial

Dear Sir,

I understand your commission is considering removal of the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I strongly oppose this and hope you will not do so. The War Between the States is part of our history and Americans fought on both sides, honorably. The memorial was a gester of reconciliation to honor all of them. We are not the Taliban, destroyers of historical monuments. Just because some misunderstand the significance of this historical event is no reason to attempt to destroy the monument, of which we can all be proud. I am a former Justice of the Washington Supreme Court and proud of our heritage, and honor it.

Very truly yours,

Richard B Sanders
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ruppert Baird <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:20 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of the Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Ruppert G. Baird

SFC, SCARNG, Ret.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This statement is respectfully submitted in opposition the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because the intent of the memorial was to UNITE the nation after the most destructive and bloody war in US history. The erection of the monument was a clear and obvious symbol to bring together and welcome heroes of both Civil War sides to show unity and inclusion into the newly reunited nation, something sorely needed by the US today.

The monument was and is a sincere effort at unity, reconciliation, and equity, and an obvious message to all that the nation is one, as befits our motto E Pluribus Unum.

I am saddened by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Ruppert Baird

--

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief."

--

Lugoff, South Carolina, USA ([REDACTED])
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the US (Life Member)

National Guard Association of SC (Life Member)

25th Infantry Division Association (Life Member)

The American Legion - Larry Jeffers Post 195, 2nd Vice Commander (Paid Up For Life), Lugoff, SC

Army Aviation Association of America - Jimmy Doolittle Chapter

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America

Korea Defense Veterans Association

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Henry Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:20 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed Removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Henry L. Smith

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Major, USAF, ret

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Davis:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

The removal of the memorial is wrong and a slap in the face to those of Southern ancestry who have served our nation and those who still serve in the active force. The removal of the memorial is akin to the Taliban's destruction of ancient artefacts they felt were offensive.

My service includes active time in the Army, the Army Reserves, North Carolina Army Guard, and active time in the Air Force. My father was career Army retiring as a Master Sergeant. I had two uncles serve in the Army, one in WWII and the other in Vietnam. Other relatives have served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines. As Southerners we have served in the military and I would say with great honor.

During my career, I began as a Medic in the Army, with a note that I was a medical volunteer for the experiments performed at Edgewood Arsenal in Maryland. During my Air Force career I had the opportunity to serve as the Laboratory Consultant to the Air Force Pacific Forces Surgeon General. On my retirement from the Air Force a gift from my Commander (Louise Thema Storm) included a caricature of myself in a Confederate uniform; she knew I was proud of my Southern ancestors. My family members who served and those who continue to serve have done so with great honor. The removal of the Reconciliation Memorial is saying that my service and those of my kinsmen means little to our nation. We are American but also Southern.

In our shared history, my family and my wife's family, have fought in the French and Indian Wars, the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, War Between the States, WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam, and the conflicts in the Gulf. I do not know of any who fought in the Spanish American War and I believe it was due to feelings that remained after the War Between the States.

The Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial was what the name implies; a reconciliation to mend the wounds of our nation. I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Henry L. Smith, Major, USAF, ret.

Sent from my iPad

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: CLINTON JONES <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:11 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington's Reconciliation Statue

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Please STOP THE DESTRUCTION of this memorial which is dedicated to brave Americans who gave their lives in defense of their country. This demolition will definitely defile the beauty and proud heritage of Arlington National Cemetery. If you decide to demolish this monument why not just continue and destroy the whole cemetery because the land was stolen from the Lee Family. This would help complete your WOKE agenda to destroy America and bow to the CCP!

Respectfully Submitted,

Clinton E. Jones, Jr. USMCR
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Joe Colee <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:07 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: Joseph Colee
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to removal of reconciliation memorial at Arlington

From: Mr Joe Colee
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the recommendation to remove the reconciliation memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

My reasons are that I oppose this cancel culture movement by radicals and facist groups that are trying to divide this great country. Our enemy's welcome the weakening of this great nation. Remember, the purpose of this memorial was to unite a divided nation.

Respectfully,

Joe Colee

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: donblake <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:01 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: donblake@comcast.net
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Moses Ezekiel Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery

Mr. Davis,

It is unconscionable to think that our Government and the United States Army would remove any Monument related to our Veterans anywhere in America, much less in our Nation's National Cemetery.

Those whose intentions are to divide and destroy our Nation, and its History, should not be given any aid or assistance by our own Government and our own Military.

The very idea of removing the Reconciliation Monument should be met with absolute scorn.

Those who even think such an idea is a worthy one will go down in history as traitors to our Nation and anyone who enables the traitors will receive the same fate as partners in this crime against our Nation.

Please do not endorse or encourage such actions.

Respectfully,

Donald N. Blake
[REDACTED]

Sent from my Galaxy

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Valerie Protopapas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:51 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA); [REDACTED]
Cc: James King
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Petition response

Sirs:

The assault on history continues. Using the excuse of “slavery,” the current politically correct but factually *incorrect* members of government, the media and the establishment now intend to remove all the monuments, symbols and, eventually we must reason, *the bodies* of those who fought for the Confederacy in the American “civil war.” **However, this is not an action open to those who intend to pursue it.** The matter was addressed and, we must assume, settled at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. At that time there was a move in the North to reconcile with Southerners.

When the Spanish-American War concluded successfully in December 1898, President McKinley used this as an opportunity to “mend the fences”. **On 14 December 1898** the President gave a speech in which he urged reconciliation based on the outstanding service of Southerners during the recent war with Spain. Remember, as part of the conciliation, several former Confederate officers were commissioned as generals to include former Confederate cavalry generals, Joseph Wheeler and Fitzhugh Lee. President McKinley stated:

“...every soldier’s grave made during our unfortunate civil war [sic] is a tribute to American valor... And the time has now come... when in the spirit of fraternity, we should share in the care of the graves of the Confederate soldiers...The cordial feeling now happily existing between the North and South prompts this gracious act and if it needed further justification it is found in the gallant loyalty to the Union and the flag so conspicuously shown in the year just passed by the sons and grandsons of those heroic dead.”

The response from Congress to this plea was magnanimous and resulted in the Appropriations Act of FY 1901 (below).

Confederate Cemetery:

Congressional Appropriations Act, FY 1901, signed 6 June 1900

Congress passed an act of appropriations for \$2,500 that enabled the “*Secretary of War to have reburied in some suitable spot in the national cemetery at Arlington, Virginia, and to place proper headstones at their graves, the bodies of about 128 Confederate soldiers now buried in the National Soldiers Home near Washington, D.C., and the bodies of about 136 Confederate soldiers now buried in the national cemetery at Arlington, Virginia.*”

Remarks: More important than the amount (worth substantially more in 1900 than in 2000) is the move to support reconciliation by Congressional act. In 1906, Confederate Battle flags were ordered to be returned to the states from whence they originated. Some states refused to return the flags. Wisconsin still has at least one flag it refuses to return.

Congressional Act of 9 March 1906

We Honor Our Fallen Ancestors:

(P.L. 38, 59th Congress, Chap. 631-34 Stat. 56)

This Act authorized the furnishing of headstones for the graves of Confederates who died, primarily in Union prison camps and were buried in Federal cemeteries.

Remarks: This act formally reaffirmed Confederate soldiers as military combatants with legal standing. It granted recognition to deceased Confederate soldiers commensurate with the status of deceased Union soldiers.

[An Additional Editor's Note from the site from which this information was taken: I might also add here that the opening ceremonies off every Sons of Confederate Veterans Reunion always include a welcoming address by the commander of the Grand Army of the Republic descendent organization...Jim Dean]

U.S. Public Law 810, Approved by 17th Congress 26 February 1929

(45 Stat 1307 – Currently on the books as 38 U.S. Code, Sec. 2306)

This law, passed by the U.S. Congress, authorized the "Secretary of War to erect headstones over the graves of soldiers who served in the Confederate Army and to direct him to preserve in the records of the War Department the names and places of burial of all soldiers for whom such headstones shall have been erected."

Remarks: This act broadened the scope of recognition further for all Confederate soldiers to receive burial benefits equivalent to Union soldiers. It authorized the use of U.S. government (public) funds to mark Confederate graves and record their locations.

U.S. Public Law 85-425: Sec. 410 Approved 23 May 1958

Confederate Iron Cross

(US Statutes at Large Volume 72, Part 1, Page 133-134)

The Administrator shall pay to each person who served in the military or naval forces of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War a monthly pension in the same amounts and subject to the same conditions as would have been applicable to such person under the laws in effect on December 31, 1957, if his service in such forces had been service in the military or naval forces of the United States.

Conclusion:

If the United States Government is simply going to ignore laws and acts that appear in its own records and on its own books in order to placate the WOKE and the ignorant, where does that end? What *other* laws and acts legally installed can be simply removed because they become unpopular? The simple fact is that those who intend to destroy history have neither the legal nor the moral right to do so and if we allow this monstrosity to occur, we will find ourselves as did Orwell's citizens of Oceania in his novel 1984:

"Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute.

History has stopped.

Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right."

Valerie Protopapas

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: David Vaughn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:48 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Statement in opposition to the removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

David A. Vaughn, Sr.
[REDACTED]

I oppose the removal of the Memorial because enough of our southern heritage has been removed/destroyed already. Please do not rub more salt in a festering wound. Many of our Southern statesmen and former generals have given their sons and grandsons in defense of the United States in subsequent wars, that we should not be renaming our military bases as it is!

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it, please!

Thank You
David A. Vaughn, Sr.

The information contained in this message may contain legally privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or duplication of this transmission is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us by telephone or email immediately and return the original message to us or destroy all printed and electronic copies. Nothing in this transmission is intended to be an electronic signature nor to constitute an agreement of any kind under applicable law unless otherwise expressly indicated. Intentional interception or dissemination of electronic mail not belonging to you may violate federal or state law.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jay Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:44 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Statue - Arlington

Mr. Matthew Davis,
Please know that I oppose the removal of the Reconciliation Statue from Arlington.

Jayson R. Brown
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Paul Jones <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:45 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument

Good Morning,

My name is Paul Jones, [REDACTED]. My phone number is [REDACTED].

I write today to urge you to not remove the Reconciliation Statue at Arlington Cemetery. This monument's genesis was proposed, approved, paid for and erected by veterans of both sides the Civil War starting with President McKinley. It is not up to us to determine if this upsets the sensibilities of those opposed to American history.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns with my position.

Paul Jones

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Sylvia Whaley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:43 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington's Reconciliation Statue

Mr. Davis,

I strongly oppose to the dismantling of this statue. This is a masterful work of art as well as a gravesite of the artist who crafted it. This would be a tragic mistake - in a time when there is so much division and disharmony in our country, the populace needs beautiful reminders of yearterday of to what America become after the Civil War. The statue is sometime we need to aspire toward in our society today.

Thanks for your attention,

Sylvia Whaley
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: **John T. Neville**

TITLE / AFFILIATION:

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

John T. Neville

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Sandy Foglesong <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:31 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] removal of the reconciliation statue at Arlington

Dear Mr. Davis

I heard only this morning about the commission's decision to remove the statue depicting the reconciliation of our nation after the Civil War. It disturbs me in multiple ways.

Number one, it is the gravesite of the sculptor, a Jewish man, and I believe it is an antisemitic action to remove it and desecrate his resting place.

Number two. There has been little time for the public to respond to this action. I point back to the removal of the statues on Monument Avenue in Richmond. Most Richmonders did not want these removed. Beautiful works of art have now been sold to a museum that will most likely destroy the statues.

Number three. I have read the explanations on why the commission feels that this monument needs to be removed, and I find it lacking in substance. These reasons are your interpretations of the meaning, not of those who were alive at the time.

It concerns me greatly that if the monument is removed, what will be next? Will you dig up all the graves of the soldiers buried there who died in a controversial war? Is the Vietnam War Memorial next? Will you sandblast out all the names of those who paid the ultimate price to fight a war they also may not have believed in?

Perhaps the Iraq and Afghanistan wars will be next. Will you erase the men and women who lost their lives in these unpopular military actions?

Politicians declared war. Young men and women who serve gave their lives. What possible good does it do to erase history in this way?

How do you read and interpret the words of Jesus Christ that were written to the Jews and Gentiles of the first century? Do you now call those words unimportant and without meaning because you did not live in that time?

Many years from now, historians will look back on your biased and politically motivated actions and find them wanting. Why don't you let the public decide what should be done? Many millions of dollars are being spent to rename military bases and ships, and to tear down statues. Perhaps this money would better be spent helping our veterans with medical care and housing.

I suggest you examine your priorities carefully before you proceed.

Thank you for your time,

Sandra Foglesong
[REDACTED]

I am not affiliated with any organization. I am a follower of Jesus Christ and a citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States of America.

I am the daughter of a WWII veteran and the granddaughter of a WWI veteran.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: George Davis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:26 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of the Reconciliation Monument (Confederate Monument)

Dear Sir:

I am writing in reference to the Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery otherwise known as the Reconciliation Memorial. I urge you to consider the monument, the fact that it is a reconciliation monument and its purpose was to unite this country of ours after a horrible and tragic war. I feel that the removal of this statue would dishonor the intent and the purpose for placing it there in the first place.

I returned home tonight from Orange, Virginia on a four day trip to find the final resting place of my namesake and great-great grandfather, George Washington Davis. He was born about 1 June 1832 or 1833 in Johnston County North Carolina and "died of a disability" at Camp Mount Pisgah on the southern slope of Clarks Mountain, east of Orange, Virginia. He left behind a wife of 8 years, and 5 children, 3 of which were sons and 2 daughters. The 1860 census listed the value of his personal property at \$25. He owned no land or slaves. He enlisted on June 1, 1861 after North Carolina seceded on May 20th when President Lincoln issued the call for 75,000 volunteers to put down the rebellion. He died on April 2, 1862. I believe to this day that he served honorably and enlisted to defend his home and state, not slavery.

My two uncles served in World War II, my uncle Russell Lee Davis as an infantryman in the 3rd Division in the later years of the war, '43-45 and my uncle Carey Mayo Davis in the Eighth Army Air Corps in England maintaining planes. My father, who was younger, served in the Army from 1956-1958 in the 354th Field Artillery out of Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Bad Kissingen, West Germany. My grandfather, Roy Lee Phillips served in the US Navy on board the Frank Knox DDS 742 and was present in Tokyo Bay and the signing of the surrender to end World War II. These American soldiers were descendants of Confederate soldiers. They served the United States of America by serving in the Armed Forces. What message are you sending to our southern men today, if you are removing a reconciliation statue and yielding to those who don't know our history and the courage and honor of sacrifice? I urge you to reconsider the proposal to remove the statue and vote against it. We should honor the sacrifice of all in our own way and move forward as one people.

Thank you for hearing my plea.

Sincerely,

George Washington Davis, III
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Clarence Woods <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:20 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The Confederate Monument at Arlington Cemetery

Dear Mr. Davis,

As a concerned citizen,
I am writing to protest most strongly and urgently the removal of the Confederate Monument at Arlington Cemetery by the (Naming Commission.)

This is the largest monument in Arlington Cemetery. Sculptured by Moses Jacob Ezekiel, a former Confederate Army Sergeant, who was Jewish.

The monument was commissioned by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, In November 1910.
It was unveiled by the President of the United States of America, Woodrow Wilson, on June 4, 1914.

This was the first monument to honor a black soldier in America.

The removal of this monument is unconscionable. I urge that this situation be investigated and the plan for the removal of monument to cease at once.

Respectfully,
Clarence W. Woods, Sr.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

27 October 2022

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Phillip C. Williams

TITLE: Major, US Army Reserve, Retired

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

PHONE: [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in response to a proposal to remove or alter the Confederate memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

This proposed action does not make any sense. This was erected to memorialize war dead, and was put there in the spirit of national reconciliation following the War Between the States. It was not put up to celebrate the “Lost Cause” – it was a token of peace that was celebrated by north and south alike, and by survivors of both the Union and Confederate armies.

The post-war period from 1865 until the late 1930’s was a unique time in American history. Most citizens wanted to reunite and heal the wounds left by the War, and there was a great deal of give and take. Unfortunately, Black and Native Americans did not benefit from much of the healing that took place.

However, two wrongs do not make a right. Destroying works of public and memorial art in the name of righting past wrongs is foolish and counterproductive. The fact of the matter is, if you remove these things from public sight, they eventually disappear from the public memory, and mistakes will be forgotten and repeated instead of learned from.

The argument a few years ago was that Confederate memorials belonged in graveyards, museums and battlefields – witness now what is being suggested with this monument. It is proposed that it be removed from a cemetery. And I understand that there was a recent bill before Congress to remove Confederate markers and memorials from Gettysburg National Battlefield Park.

One of the many problems with the official approval and execution of such proposals is that vandalism by individuals and groups is encouraged, and even more is demanded by those claiming to be “offended.” Witness the removal of President Theodore Roosevelt’s statue from the Museum of Natural History in NYC, the removal of singer Miss Kate Smith’s statue in Philadelphia, the removal of Chief Justice Roger Taney’s statue in Baltimore, the removal of composer and songwriter Stephen Collins Foster’s statue in Pittsburgh.

NAME: Phillip C. Williams
TITLE: Major, US Army Reserve, Retired
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PHONE: [REDACTED]

Even the dead cannot be at peace – in Atlanta’s Oakland Cemetery the “Lion of Atlanta” – a sculpture that marked a mass grave of unknown Confederate dead, was badly vandalized and eventually removed from the Cemetery.

In Asheville, NC the Vance Memorial obelisk in Pack Square was removed because the man who it honored, Zebulon Vance, was born into a slave-owning family, served in the Confederate Army and as Confederate Governor of NC, and held fairly standard 19th century views on race. Never mind that he was also a post-war governor of NC and a US Senator who used his influence for the general good of his home county. And also never mind that the obelisk was not a statue of the man himself, but a plain granite obelisk – that was commissioned and paid for by Mr. George Willis Pack, a northerner who moved to Asheville for his health in the 1880’s and befriended then Senator Vance thru the Masonic Lodge. Pack commissioned Richard Sharp Smith, supervising architect of the Biltmore Estate, to design and execute the monument in honor of Vance after his death in 1894. What makes it especially interesting is that Pack was an abolitionist, he served as one of Abraham Lincoln’s electors from the State of Michigan in 1860, and he helped pay for the construction of the Beaumont School – the first school for black children in Asheville – and he paid the teachers salaries for a number of years.

My point is that many of these monuments were not erected to keep minorities “in their place.” Most were erected to commemorate the men and boys who had fallen in the War. They are no different than the thousands of Union monuments dotting northern landscapes – the same firms made and sold “Billy Yank” and “Johnny Reb” versions of the same statues in granite, marble and bronze. The difference was that the south was largely impoverished by the War, and it took decades for them to be able to fund memorial statuary.

For your awareness, I served in the US Army for almost 30 years – as a retired officer I still know my duty and my Oath to the United States Constitution, despite the fact that I am a North Carolinian born and bred. However, if I were posed with what U.S. citizens faced in 1861, I have no idea what I would have done – neither do you. Neither does anyone else who is alive today.

Please consider allowing the Arlington Reconciliation Monument to stand unaltered – plaques could be added to provide historical context. The Confederate and Union guns have been silent for over 150 years. Please let the dead sleep on.

Yours Very Truly,

Phillip C. Williams

Phillip C. Williams, Major, US Army Reserve (retired)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Teresa Roane <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:01 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Memorial

Teresa Roane
[REDACTED]

I am a Woman of Color. I am writing today to oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. I have seen this magnificent piece of artwork several times. Also I cannot believe that one wants to remove a memorial that was created by a renown Jewish artist. Furthermore, the memorial represents multiple ethnic groups.

More importantly, this was a creation to bring the Blue and the Gray back together as one nation. It was to heal the wounds from a terrible war. I have seen the documentation.

Please do not remove it.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Roane

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: JoAnn Anderson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:54 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Statue

Good morning sir,

I am writing to respectfully request that the Confederate Reconciliation Memorial Statue not be removed.

It does not represent hate. It represents respect and reconciliation as President McKinley intended.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Anderson
[REDACTED]

I am not with an organization I represent myself as a citizen of VA and the United States of America.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Barbie Goodwin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:54 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation statue -leave it

Barbara Goodwin
[REDACTED]

As an American of Jewish heritage and a student of history...Do not remove the Arlington Reconciliation statue and gravesite!

Isn't the appreciation of the monument exactly the meaning of the statue?

In addition it is one of a few pieces by great Jewish artist. This is soooo disturbing!

Sent from my iPhone

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: S.K. Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:53 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Arlington Cemetery Reconciliation Statue

Mr. Matthew Davis
Alternate Designated Federal Officer for the Committee
Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington VA 22211

I strong oppose the removal of the Reconciliation Statue at Arlington Cemetery. The statue was created by talented Jewish artist and the removal smacks of antisemitism. Viewed as a reminder of reconciliation of our country after a divisive time, the statue should remain as a piece of art and community.

This lack of adequate time for public input and lack of available online comment access is also very concerning.

Sarah Brown
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Amy P <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:48 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Memorial

Mr. Matthews:

I am writing to express my disapproval of the recommendation to remove the reconciliation statue at Arlington Cemetery. This is an important historical statue and needs to be saved for future generations!

This is an important piece of art by a Jewish artist who is buried at the base of the statue. It is appalling to me that our government would endorse removing the final resting place of this artist. It is shameful and should not take place.

Sincerely,
Amy Pulaski

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Zachary Spivey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:36 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial Response

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Zachary Wright Spivey
Member of Sons of Confederate Veterans
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I strongly oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is a symbol for the bonding together of two nations who were once at war. We are more divided today than we have been since the aforementioned war, and the removal of this monument would serve to further that divide. All one has to do is read the statement made by Representative John F. Harris, a former slave in the State of Mississippi, to see the actual feelings of the people who lived during this time.

"Mr. Speaker, I have risen here in my place to offer a few words on the bill. I have come from a sick bed, and was forced to struggle up here leaning on the arm of a friend. I stand here in considerable pain. Perhaps it was not prudent for me to come. But, sir, I could not rest quietly in my room, sick though I am, and allow this discussion to pass without contributing to it a few remarks of my own. I was sorry to hear the speech of the young gentleman from Marshall county. I am sorry that any son of a soldier should go on record as opposed to the erection of a monument in honor of the brave dead. And, sir, I am convinced that had he seen what I saw at Seven Pines and in the seven day's fighting round Richmond, the battlefields covered with the mangled forms of those who fought for their country and their country's honor, he would not have made that speech. When the news came that the South was to be invaded, those men went forth to fight for what they believed, and they made no requests for monuments to commemorate their brave deeds and holy sacrifices. But they died, and their virtues should be remembered. Sir, I went with them. I, too, wore the gray, the same color that my master wore. We staid four long years, and if that sad war had gone on till now I would have been there yet. I know what it all meant, and understand the meaning of my words, when I say that I would have been with my countrymen still had the war continued until this good day. I want to honor those brave men who died for their convictions. When my mother died I was a boy. Who, sir, then acted the part of a mother to the orphaned slave boy but my 'old missis?' Were she living now, or could she speak to me from those high realms

where are gathered the sainted dead, she would tell me to vote for this bill. And, sir, I shall vote for it. I want it known to all the world that my vote is given in favor of the bill to erect a monument in honor of the brave Confederate dead." ([Caution-https://msstate-exhibits.libraryhost.com/exhibits/show/legislators/item/553](https://msstate-exhibits.libraryhost.com/exhibits/show/legislators/item/553) < Caution-https://msstate-exhibits.libraryhost.com/exhibits/show/legislators/item/553 >)

If a monument for the Confederate dead was supported by J. F. Harris, how can it not be right with the Cemetery Commission board?

Thank you,

Zachary Wright Spivey

Stephen T. Walker, M.D.
Elkin Pediatric & Adult Medicine, PA



October 26, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I am submitting this statement because I am opposed to the naming commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I am opposed to the removal of this memorial because it is a total rejection of the post war idea of reconciliation. During this period, the north and south who had been enemies reconciled by honoring all men who had served. Why would anyone want to dishonor the need for our country to heal and to honor both veterans of the north and the south. Not only is it a rejection of reconciliation but also of destroying our history and destroying art.

It is offensive and outrageous to remove this memorial, and I request the cemetery commission reject it.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen T. Walker".

Stephen T. Walker, M.D.

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

David Andrew West
Save Southern Heritage-Florida



Commissioners:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it was erected as a symbol of healing to the nation. While the Arlington Cemetery itself was stolen from the Lee family, President McKinley was a Union veteran laid the cornerstone as noted in President Wilson's dedication speech:

I hope that you have noted the history of the conception of this idea. It was proposed by a President of the United States who had himself been a distinguished officer in the Union Army. It was authorized by an act of Congress of the United States. The cornerstone of the monument was laid by a President of the United States elevated to his position by the votes of the party which had chiefly prided itself upon sustaining the war for the Union. And, now, it has fallen to my lot to accept in the name of the great Government which I am privileged for the time to represent this emblem of a reunited people. I am not so much happy as proud to participate in this capacity on such an occasion,—proud that I should represent such a people. Am I mistaken, ladies and gentlemen, in supposing that nothing of this sort could have occurred in anything but a democracy? The people of a democracy are not related to their rulers as subjects are related to a government. They are themselves the sovereign authority, and as they are neighbors of each other, quickened by the same influences and moved by the same motives, they can understand each other. They are shot through with some of the deepest and profoundest instincts of human sympathy. They choose their governments; they select their rulers; they live their own life, and they will not have that life disturbed and discolored by fraternal misunderstandings.

Removing it only further the iconoclastic movement in this country to remove any and all historical references. **A country with no past has no future.**

As a Southerner and an American, I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Regards,

David Andrew West

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: JOSEPH Judson SMITH III [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:16 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Joseph Judson Smith, III

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Retired US Army Veteran

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I continue to read with dismay the seemingly unrelenting attacks on the United States of America and its history that made our country one of the greatest nations in world history. The latest is the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

I am sure you are aware that all Confederate soldiers are American veterans as declared by Congress many years ago. I simply cannot understand why anyone or any institution would want to attack American veterans of any war.

It is in the best interests of all to reject any effort to remove the graves of the men buried at Jackson Circle and the magnificent work of art created by Moses Ezekiel that stands there. The Civil War was over 160 years ago. Reconciliation between the warring parties was achieved over the fifty or more years following the war.

It baffles me that in this day when we hear cries of "diversity and inclusion" the Naming Commission would condone an act of exclusion by removing the Moses Ezekiel statue and the graves of American veterans from their rightful place.

Please do not undo the work Americans have done in the past to heal these wounds.

It only leads to more divisiveness in our country and takes our nation backward.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Gary Carlyle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:13 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] our heritage

I am strongly against removing the Confederate Monument at Arlington.
The South was & is American. Does destroying history make anyone stronger
or does it destroy real American values?

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Randy Furches <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:06 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Moses Ezekiel Sculpted Memorial in Arlington Cemetary

Dear Mr. Davis,

On May 16, 1864 one of the finest hours of American battle was fought, as the VMI Cadets marched into enemy fire, captured an artillery installation and won the Battle of New Market.

Those VMI Cadets included the Grandson of Thomas Jefferson (who gave his life there on the battlefield) and Moses Ezekiel - a young Jewish man who later became a world-renowned sculptor. He designed and sculpted the Confederate Memorial to be placed in Arlington, as a symbol of mutual respect for all armed forces.

Please do not remove it. This would destroy the goodwill represented by the mutual placement of the memorial by the veterans of all the United States. And, it would be an antisemitic act of national shame. More Jewish men fought for the South, and many of the governmental leaders of the South were Jewish.

Please cease and desist from any action to remove this memorial of the healing of our country.

Thank You,
Randal Furches
Great Great Grandson of Lewis A. Furches 1862 - 1865 NC 57th Infantry

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Gregory Kalof <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:50 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Memorials

I'm opposed to the removal of the Confederate Monument at Arlington. It seems that the members of the committee that was formed to evaluate the relevance of this and many other memorials have succumbed to the whims of a minority party in our country. It is scary to think that the sacrifices and relevant memorials built to honor and remember our American soldiers will fall to a hiccup in our political environment. In effect, you are destroying the history of the United States.

Thank you for your time in reading my concerns.

Gregory E. Kalof, MSgt, USAF Ret.

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

Mr. Michael C. Brakel
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement in opposition to the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial (Confederate Memorial) in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose the removal for these reasons:

- 1) I consider the removal to be desecration of United States military graves.
- 2) Despite public opinion polls strongly against removal of historical monuments and statues there is a constant push by radical elements in the United States to destroy all they dislike. I consider these radical elements to be on par with the Taliban who purge any remnant of their pagan, pre-Islamic past.
- 3) The United States has always memorialized its war dead. Not long ago the World War 2 Memorial was finished. Should future generations tear it down? Where does the destruction end?

I am appalled that historical memorials and statues in the United State are under attack and I concur with Winston Churchill who said "A nation that forgets its past has no future."

Thank you,

Michael C. Brakel

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: katherine kniffen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:38 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Keep Arlington Memorial

To: **matthew.r.davis.civ.@army.mil**

From

Name: John Kniffen

Title/Affiliation: retired history teacher; member and on Menard's boards: Historical Commission, historical fort Presidio de San Saba, Menard Historical Society, and Menard museum.

Address: [REDACTED]

I am submitting the statement because I oppose the Naming Commission recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because the monument is important history. I support true history and keeping it correct. Monuments should be kept and not destroyed. Do not waste money removing memorials.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

John Kniffen

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: katherine kniffen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:31 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA); defenderlinton@pb04.ascendbywix.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Keep Arlington Cemetery Monument

To: [REDACTED]
matthew.r.davis.civ.@army.mil

From

Name: Katherine Kniffen

Title/Affiliation: Concerned citizen; certified history teacher; member & on board of Menard's Historical Commission, member Historical Society and Museum, and member & board of Presidio de San Saba Organization.

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

I am submitting the statement because I **oppose** the Naming Commission recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because history is fact and should not be changed. We learn from history. Spend money to keep memorials--not destroy them.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jeff Mann <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:27 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Jeff Mann
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Associate Professor
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because such removal would be an insult not only to an entire generation of American men but also an egregious affront to the descendants of Confederate veterans, including myself.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Jeff Mann

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jesse <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:19 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] proposed removal of the "Reconciliation" Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery

Jesse Schneider
[REDACTED]

To all those whom it may concern,

I am writing to ask that the "Reconciliation" Memorial not be removed from Arlington National Cemetery.

There are many reasons for my request (perhaps "request" is not the best choice of words..."plea" would be more accurate). These are the two reasons that weigh most heavily on my heart:

- * how can America learn from its past if certain people want to remove all parts of our history that they disagree with or find offensive?

- * removal of the "Reconciliation" Memorial would do more harm than good; the growing cultural / racial / political / ideological divide that already exists in our nation would only become wider and more contentious than it already is.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter, and may the Almighty give you clarity of mind, resolve, and wisdom that does not cave in to the shrieking demands of only a portion of our nation.

With Humility and Respect,

Jesse Schneider

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Eric Jolly <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 7:56 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] To whom it may concern

**This is a letter of opposition to the removal of
the Reconciliation Memorial.**

Eric Jolly
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ron Green <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 7:46 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Monument to the Confederate Dead

This monument must be left be! This is a part of America's history, even if you disagree, you cannot erase history. Many of our service men today, including my family have Confederate ancestors. You are dishonoring them.

Sent from my iPhone

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL.

Joel Thomas Leggett, LtCol, USMC, Ret.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because this obsessional Talibanic urge to destroy art and "whitewash" history must be stopped. This memorial stands on a sight set aside by President William McKinley, himself a Union veteran of the Civil War. Union veterans contributed to the funding of the memorial. The memorial is a literal monument to reconciliation and forgiveness. It demonstrates a magnanimity of spirit that, at least at one time, was an admirable quality of this country. At a time when America suffers from hyper-partisan divisions we should be looking to emulate the reconciling and unifying example of such monuments, not tearing them down.

Tearing this monument down will not erase the history of its creation or the site upon which it was erected. The monument's destruction would only erect in its place, symbolically, a new monument to anti-historical and anti-intellectual cowardice. It would trumpet to future generations, from the very place we bury our bravest, that our country no longer has the courage to understand and face our past. A country that lacks the courage to accept its past lacks the courage to face its future. Let us not dishonor the memory of our fallen with such a craven act on the very site they are interred.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,



Joel T. Leggett

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: John Coffindaffer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:42 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to Removal and/or Destruction of the Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

Dear Mr. Davis and To Whom It May Concern,

Although my family fought on both sides of the War Between The States, this is the ONLY memorial to my Great Uncle x 3 Smith Coffindaffer who perished at 18 & 1/2 years old as a POW / Political Prisoner at Ft Delaware. Since he was captured the day before his muster to Co. E 20th VA Cavalry, the North considered him a recruit or political prisoner and is not listed on the bronze tablets at the mass grave at Finn's Point National Cemetery. This has been all confirmed by the Fort Delaware Society in NJ. In short, like 10's of 1,000's of Confederate Soldiers, my Great x 3 Uncle Smith Coffindaffer has no grave marker. The Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington represents him and all the rest with no grave markers or memorials who perished during this dreadful war...that's all they have. Secondly, this Memorial is one of Reconciliation and Goodwill between the North and South Veterans of ALL RACES (as depicted on the Memorial)...so why move and/or destroy what was designed and erected to build harmony between the North and South??? For these reasons, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the removal and/or destruction of the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

Sincerely,

John T. Coffindaffer, Lt Col, USAF (ret)
Comat Air Rescue Pilot Veteran '85-'06

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: John P. Zebelean, III

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

The Moses Ezekiel Confederate monument in Arlington National Cemetery was erected in June of 1914, a time when the nation was still seeking reconciliation from the wrenching wounds of the Civil War that saw the deaths of more Americans than all our other wars combined. President Wilson was asked to give the acceptance speech at Arlington that day.

A year earlier, over 50,000 old veterans of the war came together at Gettysburg in a massive show of reconciliation and unity. That reunion was also marked with a Presidential speech. Just a few years later, with WWI breaking out in Europe, new military bases were established in the South and named for prominent Confederate Generals. Southerners then and later in WW II flocked to recruiting centers in support of what their grandfathers had referred to as "the old flag."

Today that's all changed. Now too many public officials foster division and disunity. Most of these people never so much as stood in the chow line much less heard a shot fired in anger. We see today's military branches falling far short of their recruiting goals and yet leaders continue to push concepts and actions that divide the nation. Do they not know that 44% of recruits between the ages of 17 and 24 come from the South, which is only 36% of the population? At the same time, only 23% nationally of that age demographic can qualify for service in our all-volunteer military and of that group, a very few are even inclined to serve. This is not the recipe for what Ronald Reagan referred to as "peace through strength."

My forbearers fought in the Civil War on the Southern side, and their grandfathers fought in the Revolution. In World War II, it was my dad's turn. During the Vietnam War in 1967, I took sabbatical leave from law school to volunteer. I wound up doing two tours back-to-back, finishing law school at night afterwards, and continuing military service through Desert Storm for a total of 25 years.

It has been the mark of manhood and civility and longstanding American tradition to leave politics out of the way we honor our veterans. They fought the battles, they shed the blood, they reconciled with their enemies. End of subject. It is not for those born more than a hundred and fifty years later to re-adjudicate the past and expose to double jeopardy men their own contemporaries exonerated.

For God's sake let the young veterans buried around the Ezekiel monument rest in peace and keep their memorial. Removing monuments to America's veterans is an abomination.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Wayne Willingham <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:51 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ref: The Arlington Reconciliation Monument

Sir,

I would like to ask that the Reconciliation monument not be removed from Arlington Cemetery. The monument tells apart of the great history of our Country by those who help build this great country, please leave the great monument so generations to come can better understand the history of our country.

Thank you,

Wayne Willingham
8th Generation Georgian,
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Stanley Dowling <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:57 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Stan Dowling
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Utilitiesman Chief Petty Officer, USNR (Ret.)
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, an atrocity.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because the Confederate monument is not simply a tribute to the Confederacy, but also to the healing of America after the Civil War. Go through world history, and it is rare to find a nation recover from a civil war as completely as America did after 1865. In some nations, like Spain or Afghanistan, civil wars are cyclical, recurring again and again. In others, like Iraq or Northern Ireland, civil war becomes a constant state of low-level violence lasting decades. And in others, like Russia or China, the victory of one side over another is simply the prelude to a wholesale massacre of the defeated party.

America avoided all of these afflictions. It fought one civil war, for four years, and when it was over, it was over. There were no mass reprisals and executions, there was no drawn-out insurgency, and most importantly, there was no second civil war.

The statue is the masterwork of Moses Jacob Ezekiel, one of America's first and most noteworthy Jewish artists, and he is currently buried near the monument. When President Woodrow Wilson dedicated the monument in 1914, he called it an "emblem," not of the South, but of "a reunited people." And for a century, that's what it was.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

UTC Stan Dowling, USNR (Ret.)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: James King <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:41 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition CSA Monument Removal Arlington National Cemetery

James W. King
[REDACTED]

Commander Sons of Confederate Veterans
Camp 141 Lt. Col. Thomas M. Nelsons Rangers
Albany Georgia

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because our Confederate ancestors deserve to be remembered and honored, as they were fighting an illegal invasion of their homeland. It seems that any group of people can recognize and honor their ancestors, just as long as it's not Southerners. This cultural genocide upon all things Southern and Confederate must stop! You are participating in the erasure of history. You are of the crowd that says, "These Confederate memorials are a statement in the support of slavery, racism, and white supremacy." That is wrong. The war was NOT about slavery. If it was, why was General Ulysses S. Grant and his wife still holding onto theirs during the war? His wife even visited him with her servant "Black Julia". If it was about slavery, why did the North not first free the more than 429,000 slaves held in the Union after the South seceded?

More than 150 years of rewritten history has been indoctrinating our population into believing the war was about slavery when the facts simply do not bear this out. Why do none of the memorials to Union soldiers state that they were "fighting to free the slaves"? The very ground upon which this Reconciliation Memorial sits was given to Robert E. Lee's wife, Mary Anna, by George Washington Parke Custis, grandson of Martha Washington. It was stolen from the Lee family during The War of Northern Aggression and has since become Arlington National Cemetery, where dead soldiers are honored - unless they happen to be Confederate.

The war was a war of secession and the right to self-govern. Secession was not, and is not, illegal, and this was taught at West Point long before the war commenced. In 1776, the Declaration of Independence established that the new republic derived its "just powers from the consent of the governed." That is what the South wanted. The right to self-govern. Horace Greeley stated the following about secession, "if it justified the secession from the British Empire of Three Millions of colonists in 1776, we do not see why it would not justify the secession of Five Millions of Southrons from the Federal Union in 1861." Of course, Greeley did change his position once he realized the pending economic doom of the North with the South's secession due to its dependence on cotton and tariffs.

Our Confederate ancestors fought for the same reasons as did their colonial ancestors, and were defending their people from a hoard of murderers, looters, arsonists, and rapists who decimated the South, then inflicted years of military rule, Carpetbagger governments, and Union League terrorism upon their victims. They fought to prevent the very mess we are living in today. They knew what would happen with an all-powerful centralized government, and they were right.

Many of our memorials have been wrongfully removed and desecrated, schools, streets, and parks have been renamed, yet you would add to this disgrace and further dishonor our dead ancestors by removing the Reconciliation Memorial. This is beyond wrong.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.
James W. King

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Carolina Cooper

ADDRESS:

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I am an American who honors the memory of ALL American veterans of ALL wars. As a Southern American, I have as much right as any other American to have the memory of my veteran ancestors honored.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Carolina Cooper

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Teresa Wenzel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:09 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Teresa H. Wenzel
Citizen of the United States and Missouri
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is an insult to the brave men and women of the South that fought to defend their homes and heritage.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Teresa H. Wenzel

Sent from Mail <Caution-<https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=550986> > for Windows



<Caution-https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient >

Virus-free.Caution-[www.avast.com](https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient) < Caution-https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient >

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Hank Van Slyke <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:05 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Cemetery.
Attachments: CSA veterans are US veterans .jpg

Dear Mr. Davis,

America needs to KEEP the Memorial in Arlington Cemetery to show that there is peace and reconciliation in America. To remove it would mean that the century and a half of reconciliation between the North and the South is dissolved. That would be absolute lunacy. We must not bow to a handful of "history revisionists" who want to tear America apart. The worst one is Ty Seidule, who somehow got on that Naming Committee but should have never been allowed onto the grounds of West Point in the first place. You should know that Seidule has admitted that the only reason he started telling lies about the causes of the War Between the States was to make money from videos and books. He is a true traitor to America and her wonderful history. Do not listen to him for anything.

Almost 160 years have passed since the ending of the War Between the States. The soldiers and civilians who died during that war are buried and at peace. The honored dead and their memorials are no threat to anyone; those who are frightened by inanimate objects should seek psychiatric help immediately. Most of the statues of standing soldiers are in the pose of "At Rest", which means there is peace.

One of the men on the Memorial is a black Confederate soldier, of which there were many thousands of free black men who fought For the South, along with many thousands of Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans, Europeans of every kind, and even a few Hawaiians. It was an integrated Army, and everyone was paid the same.

Union Army records show that over 215,000 Union soldiers owned slaves, including General Grant.

The soldiers of the CSA were issued a complete pardon by President Andrew Jackson. Yet, until "Reconstruction" ended, many former CSA soldiers were not allowed to vote or hold office.

Once they regained the right to vote and hold office, many former CSA soldiers contributed greatly to America. All across America, former CSA soldiers raised their families, built successful businesses, built schools and colleges, and generally worked for the betterment of their communities. They were fine, upstanding citizens. (see "Twice Patriots" book by Stephen Hood.)

CSA veterans were given equal status as US Veterans by Pres. Dwight Eisenhower in 1958 (see attached photo) President Eisenhower had only four portraits on the walls of the Oval Office; one was Robert E. Lee.

Any criticism of a CSA soldier is illegal since they are equal to US soldiers.

Pres. Trump issued an Executive Order protecting all War Memorials:

<https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-protecting-american-monuments-memorials-statues-combating-recent-criminal-violence>

The continued existence of our memorials and statues should not be left to a handful of insane history revisionists. The laws protecting them are ironclad; any attempt to remove them is illegal, immoral and plainly un-American. We must Keep the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlinton Cemetery. Deo Vindice!

Henry Van Slyke
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Freeman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:05 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: Home
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Naming Commission ANC

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL

NAME: Freeman E. Jones
TITLE / AFFILIATION: COL(ret), US Army
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the memorial because the scourge of presentism is an affront to all Americans. I have witnessed the repugnant removal of veteran monuments in Lexington, Charlottesville, Richmond, and Alexandria. As a student of history, retired Army officer, and Virginian, I cannot comprehend the real motive of removing these monuments. It is ironic that liberal members of Congress and woke members of the naming commission now want to remove a memorial to the reconciliation movement after the Civil War. As printed in the ANC description of the memorial: *"The Confederate Memorial offers an opportunity for visitors to reflect on the history and meanings of the Civil War, slavery, and the relationship between military service, citizenship and race in America. This memorial, along with the segregated United States Colored Troops graves in Section 27 < Caution-<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Explore/History-of-Arlington-National-Cemetery/Section-27> > , invites us to understand how politics and culture have historically shaped how Americans have buried and commemorated the dead. Memorialization at a national cemetery became an important marker of citizenship — which, in the post-Reconstruction era, was granted to white Civil War veterans, Confederate or Union, but not to African American soldiers who had served their country. In such ways, the history of Arlington National Cemetery allows us to better understand the complex history of the United States."* It is patriotic to continue to provide this educational opportunity.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Please add me to the virtual discussion next month (jonesfree@cox.net).

Thank you,

Freeman E. Jones

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jo McWhorter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Save the Confederate Memorial Monument at Arlington Cemetery

From: Ms. Jo McWhorter
Citizen of the United States of America
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions' recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

The U.S. President approved the project before Citizens of the United States of America collected, donated, and paid for that memorial. In the early 1900s, civilians forewent necessities in their lives to contribute what they could toward a project that they believed in their heart would honor those that gave the greatest sacrifice. The memorial is not about what was right or wrong but about respecting the ultimate loss.

The members of the Naming Commission may be descendants of those who missed a meal and went hungry to donate to the project. Respect those that cared to give so much whether they were related to you or not.

American sculptor, Moses Jacob Ezekiel was a great artist and this is one of his greatest works and should remain in the environment for which he designed it. His contribution to American culture and history should be valued.

I am outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Jo McWhorter
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Mrs. Sharon Villa

TITLE / AFFILIATION:None, General Citizen

ADDRESS:

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

In 2018 I came to Arlington Cemetery and marched myself directly to the Confederate monument in the cemetery, in which my main reason for coming to the cemetery was to honor this monument. While I stopped at every monument my mission was to see the Confederate monument, and if it was not there I am not sure if I would have been so happy. My family fought for both sides of the war and I respect all American history from Confederate History, to Civil Rights History, to Woman's Rights History. All history must be kept in place so one can enjoy, learn, and remember the things of the past.

I simply ask that the Cemetery Commission reject any recommendation from the Naming Commission .

Thank you,

Sharon Villa

MY STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Nadine Arney

TITLE / AFFILIATION: 2nd Vice President, Thunderbird 2102, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it was originally erected to illustrate that all the states had come together after the war. It honored both sides for defending their beliefs, and shows that we are all united in our quest to honor our war dead, in Arlington and elsewhere. I had patriots fighting on both sides and I honor them ALL.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

It is a tragedy that it would EVEN be considered.

Thank you,

Nadine Arney

October 26, 2022

Dear Senior Pentagon Leadership:

I strenuously oppose the removal of the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery. The monument not only commemorates a significant moment in our national story and departed souls whose memory we revere, but it is also an historic and beautiful work of art that should be preserved. Y

I am sure you know that the monument's removal cannot hurt the departed or change history, so one is left to assume that your sole reason must to inflict pain the living, those who seek only to honor those who have gone before us—an ignoble and shameful motive. Removal of this monument is not a way to win hearts and change minds but a cowardly action that can only serve to divide us.

I urge you to reconsider your decision to remove the Reconciliation Monument.

Sincerely,

Dale Wheary

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: ebjonesjr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:39 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate Monument

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Dear Mr. Davis;

My name is Ethelbert Barksdale Jones Jr, and I'm the proud grandson of a Confederate Soldier that survived the War of Northern Aggression.

The Inspirational Monument at Arlington was placed there to help heal the wounds created by the Conflict of 1861-1865.

It beautifully honors the thousands that died for their Southland.

Since it was erected, scores of Southern men have given their lives for the American Flag, as this monument helped bring our Country back together.

I am appalled that unknowledgeable people blame the South for Slavery and incorrectly believe that was what the war was about. Slavery was an American problem, just predominant in the South.

No one has the right to remove our monuments that honor our War Dead.

These men were not fighting for Slavery, but to defend their Homeland and for the right of self Government.

I respectfully request that you ignore this despicable request made by the Naming Commission.

Sincerely,

Bert Jones

[REDACTED]

(I would like to participate in the Virtual meeting scheduled in early November.)

Dear Arlington Cemetery Committee:

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the destruction of the “New South” Monument (aka “Confederate Memorial”) at Arlington National Cemetery per the recommendation of The Naming Commission, which derived its authority from section 370 of the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act. Please note that I am a private citizen and not affiliated with any political action committee, heritage group or veterans’ association. Despite not having any ancestors that fought in the Civil War, I am a lover of history and greatly enjoy visiting historical sites.

My opposition to the monument’s destruction is for four primary reasons:

1. The recommendation is outside of the remit of The Naming Commission. Section 370 limits its recommendations to assets that “honor the CSA” or to individuals that “voluntarily served in the CSA”—this memorial does neither
2. The Naming Commission report offers its own interpretation of the statues that is not based in its actual history
3. Any disrespect to one group of American veterans is disrespect to all American veterans
4. The Department of Defense has no right to destroy property owned by the American people

Reason #1: The Recommendation is Outside The Naming Commission’s Remit

Section 370 of the 2021 NDAA authorizes the Secretary of Defense to “remove all names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia that honor or commemorate the Confederate States of America (commonly referred to as the “Confederacy”) or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America from all assets of the Department of Defense.”

As this asset is not to a person, the question is if “The New South” is to “honor or commemorate the Confederate States of America.” There is no question that the monument does no such thing: it honors the soldiers that fought and died in the Civil War. The monument was approved by the Ohio Republican William Howard Taft & he said to the sculptor that he “contributed to the peaceful solution of our affairs.” Moreover, a Union veteran spoke at the monument’s dedication—why would he or anyone else support a monument that honors a foreign nation that he never felt existed? The statue itself declares its purpose with the inscription not mentioned in the report: “*An Obedience To Duty As They Understood it; These Men Suffered All; Sacrificed All and Died!*” The key phrase is “as they understood it,” which is representative of every soldier in every American war. A move towards destruction of this monument opens every monument at Arlington to destruction when a new generation questions past decisions of their government. In fact, this is already occurring with wars such as with Mexico, Vietnam & Iraq. Arlington National Cemetery should know better than anyone that monuments are to the soldiers and their sacrifice, not necessarily the political issues that bring about wars.

It appears The Naming Commission merely copied language directly from Arlington’s website in relation to the quote about “the lost cause.” The entire monument, taken together as one piece, demonstrates that it is one towards peace and reunion. Here is how Joseph Gutman and Stanley F. Chyet explain the monument in the preface to Ezekiel’s memoirs:

“On top of the monument a heroic-sized allegorical figure typifies the South. She holds in her extended right hand a laurel wreath with which to crown the dead; her left hand rests on a plowshare, and her head is crowned by olive leaves, symbolic of peace. The plinth upon which she stands is adorned with four

cinerary urns, one for each war year. Below the plinth is a frieze of fourteen shields with the coat of arms of the states of the Confederacy. The inscription below the figure South is from Isaiah 2:4: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks"

It is easy to see why Ezekiel called the monument "The New South." It is a representation of the sacrifice and lives lost that led to a new future for the region.

There is no mention of the CSA as a nation or the new CSA government in any of the dedication speeches. Therefore, it does not fall into the remit of the Naming Commission. It does not honor or commemorate the CSA and under the current law the Secretary of Defense cannot take any action to remove or destroy the statue.

Reason #2: The Naming Commission Substitutes Its Own Interpretation for History

Virtually every article I have seen in the press regarding the memorial mentions a connection to slavery. The Naming Commission made this the center of the conversation even though it is irrelevant to the law and its mandate. Why they chose to ignore their duty is a matter of speculation but now I must inform the committee of the historical facts: slavery is not honored in this statue.

Gutman and Chyet point out that Ezekiel's work symbolized realism, and quoted the sculptor at length:

"As was his custom with his monuments, Ezekiel proceeded meticulously to reflect historic accuracy. His chisel wrote in bronze a literal, detailed history of "The New South" — symbolic of peace for a reunited living people and of honor for the Southern dead. "It is necessary," he remarked, "to gather up and buy, or have made, or loaned, every real article I would need in the way of dress and trappings and details of all kinds, such as I would need in the modeling of a work of this nature."

The fact is that slavery was the main labor system of the South at the time of the war and some soldiers owned slaves. To be clear, the statue is not marked, so it is only an interpretation that the Black woman shown is a slave. We can also say, that as a factual matter, none of the dedication speeches mentioned anything that would honor slavery or honor the Confederate States of America. When did this slavery interpretation become dominant? If not by the people who fought the war, paid for the statue, designed the statue, or honored the statue, then when? Because The Naming Commission doesn't cite its sources, we cannot even know their view—which is why it appears to be their own interpretation.

Only one speech at the monument's dedication, by Robert E. Lee's grandson, mentioned slavery, and he called it a "dark veil." Therefore, nobody on the committee should feel that preserving this monument is a defense of slavery.

Reason 3: Disrespect to some American Soldiers is Disrespect to All

Congress, in its moment of wisdom, was careful not to harm the reputation of any American veterans, stating in section 370 of the 2021 NDAA that only assets that "honor" the CSA or honor individuals that served "voluntarily" in the CSA would be impacted. Therefore, there should not be much controversy in any recommendations made by The Naming Commission. Instead of listening to my opinion, I think you should hear from someone who can no longer speak: a Union veteran. General Washington Gardner, the Commander-in-Chief of the GAR spoke at the dedication of the Confederate monument in Arlington National Cemetery. He said:

"It seems fitting that here in this place and on these grounds, once the home of Robert E. Lee, there should rest the remains of some of the gallant men who followed that great soldier even unto death. It is fitting here, in sight of the Nation's Capital, and in this vast burial plot consecrated to American valor that some of our fellow-countrymen, the representatives of once hostile armies whose unsurpassed bravery is now a common heritage and pride, should rest in undisturbed slumber, and that the place of final sepulture should be under the supervision and care of the National Government.....This memorial structure speaks the language of peace and good-will. It says to all who come hither and read the superscription that the swords and bayonets that once gleamed along the battle's fiery front have been 'beaten into plowshares and pruning hooks.' It declares through the symbolical wreath of unfading laurel held in outstretched hand above the sleeping dead that the spirit of heroic devotion and lofty self-sacrifice which they manifested is held in grateful and affectionate memory."

Why would the leader of the largest Union veteran's organization honor the CSA? He wouldn't and he didn't. His words expressed the meaning of the memorial and what it meant to "American valor." These facts were not in The Naming Commission's report and the Department of Defense never reviewed this information. Not only is action against the statue illegal, but it is also an insult to every American that fought in the Civil War and American citizens today that believe in sacrifice.

Reason 4: Destroying Property of the American People is Unacceptable

The Naming Commission is not recommending that the monument is removed or put in a museum, rather it is recommending that the statue is destroyed. Congress gave The Naming Commission the ability to define a grave marker. This memorial would disturb graves if removed. Not only did The Naming Commission go beyond its remit but it had special powers in case it encountered a situation like this where a monument could not be safely removed. We can only speculate to the motives of The Naming Commission but once again the optics are not positive.

If the Department of Defense cannot hold onto this monument for another day, then I will be happy to purchase it today. Then everyone can be happy! Unfortunately, the recommendation is designed to create disunion, which is exactly the opposite of the message of the monument. The goal was not to offend a Yankee like me, but it has. And why am I offended? Because this is my property. I pay my taxes. I have no criminal record. I treat those with different political & religious beliefs with respect. If the Department of Defense believes that political appointees can destroy property that is partially owned by me, then they are mistaken. Americans donated thousands of dollars to design this statue and the sculptor, who is buried at its base, could not make a profit. We appreciate their sacrifices just as we do all American soldiers, in the North & the South. I therefore ask you to use your influence to reject these recommendations and preserve one of our national treasures. It is yours as much as it is mine.

Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to review my comments. I understand that many people are going to comment on this memorial. Certainly, I hope these views informed your decision.

Sincerely,

Stuart Schimler

Bloomfield , NJ

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jonathan Phelps <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:39 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I reject the removal of criticism Confederate monuments

I Jonathan R Phelps am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it. The confederacy is part of American history and should be remembered and preserved. Let's remember that the confederacy was not the only ones who committed atrocities in this country. Let's remember men like James Dewolf of Rhode Island who was the richest American in the slave trade. Let's not forget most of the founding fathers were slave holders. It was the American flag that enslaved native Americans till 1870 and Americans took part in oppression of the Japanese this is all history so if you are going to remove the confederate monument then I ask you to hold the same energy for Americans and remove monuments of founding fathers and Union slave holders like Grant also remove the American flag it is guilty of the same sin.

Thank you,

Jonathan Ray Phelps ,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: WALTER MCINTYRE <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:13 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] statue at Arlington

Please save the Southern States statue in Arlington Cemetery. It commemorates the soldiers of the Southern states that did their duty as they understood it to be.

If this continues what's next...removal of religious markers like Crosses and Stars of David?

Respectfully submitted,

LCDR Walter McIntyre ,USN (Ret.)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: John C Bullard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 7:56 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission Meeting on, or about, November 7, 2022

Dear Sir:

I understand that one of the agenda items for subject meeting is that of consideration of the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery. I oppose the removal of this memorial for the following reasons and ask that my comments be brought to the attention of the Arlington National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission, and, furthermore, ask that the Commission also oppose the removal.

Our country is bitterly divided at present and the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial will not advance the goal of reducing these divisions, it will only exacerbate them. The recommendation of the Naming Commission represents the practice of presentism, i. e., the interpretation of historical events by today's cultural standards, instead of the interpretation of the event by the cultural standards of the time of the event. The Reconciliation Memorial was created in good faith as a gesture of reconciliation and should be accepted as such.

From:
Mr. John C. Bullard, US Navy Veteran of World War II
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ironsworth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:50 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mr. Davis,

This is a STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the **Reconciliation Memorial** in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because HISTORY CAN NOT BE CHANGED. The memory of the dead shall not be forgotten.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it. We have destroyed enough irreplaceable art already!

Thank you,

R/ Rev Dr. Gary C. Shaw, (USN Ret)

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Virginia Life Member

President St. Andrews Society, FSA Scot

Disabled American Veterans, Life Member

Scottish American Military Society, Life Member

Kentucky Colonel, Honor Guard

VA Teacher, History

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ruth Bernd [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:10 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Stop the destruction of the Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

Dear Matthew Davis,

The soldiers buried in the Confederate section of Arlington Cemetery are just as American as those who fought for the North. They fought for their states and homeland. That's what men did in those days. Here in Virginia many families had ancestors who fought the Federal invasion, some of whom never made it home. Are we not also as American as our Northern fellow Americans?

I am tired of hearing that virtually everything of any symbolism erected by past generations is now deemed "Divisive", but somehow tearing them down is "Not Divisive", even though many people are divided over it. Even statues of Lincoln have been vandalized recently. The Arlington memorial was erected in part to bring this nation together after that bloody conflict, and now your committee is bent on creating more division.

Please stop and think before there is more desecration.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ronnie Slack <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:08 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Memorial removal

Mr. Davis,
My name is Ron Slack of [REDACTED]. My telephone number is [REDACTED] and e-mail address is [REDACTED]. I am a professional forester retired after working for 41 years in industrial forestry. I am 80 years old so my opinion may no longer mean anything, but I will still give it.

I have been very distressed about the proposed removal of the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Cemetery. Removing or tearing down such memorials to the dead is little if any different than tearing down tombstones in cemeteries. I am not racist and I have black friends. The history is of the Civil War is much more complicated than we are led to believe. In my early years heroes from both the North and South were respected and appreciated. President Eisenhower had a portrait of General Robert E. Lee in his office and called him a great American who young people should emulate.

My Confederate ancestors like most Confederates did not own slaves. My Confederate ancestors were anti-slavery. I know that from my family history. They were not fighting to preserve slavery, but considered themselves fighting for essentially the same reasons that George Washington and his rebels fought.

The wokeness in our present culture has gotten totally out of reason and seems similar to the cultural cleansing done by the Communist Chinese. Removing the Reconciliation Memorial will only cause further division in our country. Please work to stop this tragedy from happening.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ron Slack

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Lindy Stuart [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Recommendation to Oppose the Recommendations from the Naming Committee
Attachments: Statement in Opposition to the Removal of the Confederate Memorial at ANC.docx

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Mr. Davis,

I respectfully request that you recommend denial of the recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial located at Arlington National Cemetery. My letter of opposition is attached. I have also pasted a copy of it here for you to consider.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lindy Stuart

Lindy Stuart
[REDACTED]

Statement in Opposition to the Removal of the Reconciliation Memorial located in Arlington National Cemetery

Name: Lindy Stuart
Title/Affiliation: Retired Military
Address: [REDACTED]
Daytime Phone Number: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the recommendation by the Naming Commission to remove the Reconciliation Memorial that is located in Arlington National Cemetery

I oppose removal of the Reconciliation Memorial because it's removal will not change history. Rather, it's removal is nothing more than an effort to rewrite our past in such a manner as to negate the sacrifices made by the men and women of the South. The figures represented by the memorial were fighting for their families and what they believed in. Confederate Soldiers and Sailors have been recognized as War Veterans for a long time. The Reconciliation Memorial, created by noted American sculptor Moses Jacob Ezekiel, has stood for over 100 years. Mr. Ezekiel, a Confederate Veteran himself, is also buried at the base of the Memorial.

The following words are from the website of the Arlington National Cemetery. “The Confederate Memorial offers an opportunity for visitors to reflect on the history and meanings of the Civil War, slavery, and the relationship between military service, citizenship and race in America. This memorial, along with the segregated United States Colored Troops graves in Section 27 < Caution-<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Explore/History-of-Arlington-National-Cemetery/Section-27> > , invites us to understand how politics and culture have historically shaped how Americans have buried and commemorated the dead... In such ways, the history of Arlington National Cemetery allows us to better understand the complex history of the United States.”

The United States National Park Service (USNPS) website says this about Arlington National Cemetery: “Since its founding in 1866, Arlington National Cemetery has provided a solemn place to reflect upon the sacrifices made by the men and women of the United States Armed Forces in the name of our country.” The Confederate Memorial was created as a means to accomplish just this purpose. Removal or destruction of the Reconciliation Memorial is contrary to this and is seen as bowing down to political pressure from the far left and to organizations such as Black Lives Matter.

The Arlington National Cemetery itself has its own website, where it describes it’s *Arlington National Cemetery Education Program*. “Discover the diverse history of the United States through the unique lens of Arlington National Cemetery. Modules feature topics ranging from United States military history to African American history to the environment. These materials aim to

- HONOR the sacrifices and extraordinary lives of American service members and their families;
- Support REMEMBRANCE of past and present military conflicts and the circumstances surrounding them;
- Invite personal EXPLORATION of connections to America’s diverse history as represented at ANC

Removal of the Reconciliation Memorial is contrary to the tenets of the Arlington National Cemetery Education Program. Removal of Confederate Memorials and Monuments results in a lopsided understanding of the true nature of the Civil War.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Lindy Stuart

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Joe Moya [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:41 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

Remove the Reconciliation Memorial? What a hateful idea. Why not?

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Joe Macione <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:31 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

NAME: Joe Macione
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because removing memorials will not wipe out history. Please stop the madness of trying to erase the wonderful history of this country. Removing memorials is always the first thing that happens when a regime is toppled in countries not as free as ours. Show the world that we are not like those by not following the destructive path of removing wonderful works of art that are a vital part of our history.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Joe Macione

Sent with Proton Mail <Caution-<https://proton.me/>> secure email.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ann McLean <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:08 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please protect our history

Ann H. McLean, Ph.D. (MA, 1993; Ph.D. UVa, American Art and Architectural History, 1998)
Doctoral Dissertation on American Funerary Memorials to the Civil War

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the destruction of American history. Ezekiel's extraordinary "Reconciliation" Monument should remain in place to remind future generations of the American spirit of "one nation under God". Removing it would be yet another barbaric act against our heritage. Proverbs 29:18 states "Remove not the ancient monument."

The Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery is testimony to a finer sensibility than we seemingly have today. The appetite to destroy must stop. Cemeteries are sacred spaces. Four veterans lie beneath this. Revisionist historians are merely wanting their own selves in the limelight. They deny that bonds of affection existed between the races in the South. They are threatened by that fact.

Facts prove that many served in the Confederate Army to uphold the sovereignty of each state as its own 'country', which was signed off by all 13 states in the Constitution of 1787. Ask yourself, would state leaders lock themselves into a binding Agreement after 4 bloody years of the Revolutionary War to leave England? The newly formed states did not bind themselves; in fact, they said if one section abused another, That the abused section could secede, which the Taxes and Financial disagreements of the 1850s wool v. Cotton prices etc...caused. Secession was not treason. Many in the South did not condone slavery or wish it to be perpetuated. False narratives and public relations campaigns existed in the 19th century also.

This Monument by a Jewish Confederate of exquisite talent (Prix de Rome winner, friend of Augustus St. Gardens) should remain *in situ*, and be appreciated. Wreath-layings by Presidents honoring all who gave so much, North and South, and to harmony, as it has been since Wm. McKinley proposed should continue. Honest scholars realize that there were black Confederates, and many free blacks who fought. Pigment was not the issue when invasion happened. Souls have no color. An invasion by 75,000 troops over the Potomac— when the Constitution forbade such an act-- as well as outrages like locking up the Maryland legislators so they could not vote — were acts of war.

Honorable men fought for honor. In our dishonorable age, we should not destroy what we could never create. Coming together in love and respect for our nation And seeking human understanding is what is needed.

Sincerely,

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Gary Price <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:53 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Statues

Dear Sir;

As an American veteran. I strongly oppose any historical statue removals from their sites.

After leaving the service and living in China, I witnessed architectural modifications and building of new structures from drawings as those temples , etc had been destroyed by 毛泽东 ie Mao Ze Dong, chairman, failed communist of which his wife was later caught up in immense government scandals, and a country in which mass starvation took place in the 60s, so much that his destruction resulted in cannibalism even in my wife's family back only one generation.

Support of statue removal and destruction is only the beginning of a society which will meet the same fate as China.

Now we see chairman Xi repeatedly doing the same thing. We will not stand by and see our country become China the second.

Gary Price

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:29 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Arlington Memorial

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

KEEP THE MEMORIAL IN PLACE!

V/R,

David McLay
Scottish-American Military (SAMS Own) Post 1952
[REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android < Caution-

https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature >

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Richard Park [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:28 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DEFEND ARLINGTON RESPONSE

Mr Davis, my name is Richard L. Park, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] My telephone number is [REDACTED] and my
e-mail is [REDACTED]. I am also a retired Master Chief
Boatswains Mate (BMCM{SW}) with 30yrs honorable service. I
am 76yrs old, married and retired from both the Military and
civilian workforce.

Mr Davis, I received your e-mail about the Arlington National
Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission about to consider the
Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the
Reconciliation Memorial on November 2nd. I would strongly
object to this proposition and hopefully the Advisory Commission
would think this asinine proposal thru and tell this Naming
Commission and their scallawag leadership that there is no way
on "God's Sacred Ground" that we would allow desecration of this
most honorable hallowed earth where Confederate Soldiers,
Sailors, Civilians and Wives are interred, being represented and
watched over by this Statue.

It is a known fact to me that this "woke" group mostly led by a
General Robert E. Lee hater has found accompliceship with the
current Administration to use everything in their power to destroy
and remove "all of our" State's History and the remembrance of
our beloved Forefathers. I am so tired of watching these far-left

minorities getting their way, forsaking what the majority of the American People want. This needs to stop and stop right now! I pray with God's help common sense will prevail, and the Arlington National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission will tell this Advisory Commission absolutely "NO."

Hopefully these words will reach those who are not afraid to do what is right! Respectfully, Richard L. Park

When I went to find the Naming Commission's e-mail address so I could send them a copy of what I wrote above, I found this:

The Naming Commission has fully discharged its duties as required by the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act. As such, **the Commission officially disbanded October 1, 2022** and this website and associated e-mail addresses are no longer actively monitored. Our work is being catalogued with the National Archives.

My question now, is their recommendation still valid or did it die on the poison vine?

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Pansy Hardy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:12 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington monument

Sir i am emailing you about the Reconciliation monument at Arlington. I am very disgusted and appalled at the current removal of monuments across this nation, all monuments. How can we reconcile and heal as a nation by currently tearing down our history? This serves no purpose other than divide us and defame our ancestors. No good will come of this. Please stand firm by not allowing this to take place.

yours
Sincerely
Pansy Hardy

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Scott Godwin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:12 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument

Mr Davis,

It seems almost unbelievable to me that the Reconciliation monument, put in place to symbolize peace and progress would be taken down because of the power of radicals to rewrite American history. There are people paying attention to this, trust me. By tearing down our nations monuments and history, instead of creating more peace and progress, all that would be done would be to create more bitterness and division, because this has already happened. I'm not sure if we can recover as it is, I don't think we can.

Teddy Roosevelt, Lincoln, and Frederick Douglass monuments have already been taken down. There's no wonder why we have one of the highest suicide and mental illness rates in the world. We've allowed radicals to destroy our nation's sense of history and community. A country that doesn't honor its ancestors, all of them, faults and all, cannot and will not stand.

President Eisenhower once said that General Lee was one of the greatest Americans if not the greatest, of all time. He had a portrait of him in his office. What has changed since he said that? Did President Eisenhower, the most decorated American soldier of all time other than George Washington change?

Nothing has changed, other than a revolutionary ideology has taken hold of all of our institutions and we are experiencing what China and other communist countries went through when they had their respective revolutions. Ours isn't as bloody yet, but culturally it's already happened and is happening as we speak.

I could go on and on. The question is, who if anyone will have the guts and courage to stop it?

Mr. Scott Godwin
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: nelson waller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:03 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

Greetings. I **oppose removing** the above monument and ask you to oppose it as well. You can make history on this by standing up to the politically correct forces destroying our civilization.

Cancel culture must be stopped before it wreaks more Orwellian havoc on the landscape. Don't you agree?

Thank you,

Nelson Waller
Freelance journalist
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Skip White <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:46 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Nation Cemetery

Raymond E. White, Jr. DMD
[REDACTED]

Sir, I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it eliminates the from the memory of many Americans a large portion of our history that lead us on a journey to becoming a great nation. Without history's reminders we are prone to continue to make the same mistakes and fail. Many individuals gave their lives defending what they believed at that point in time to be their country never to return home to their families. /we must respect their patriotism and never forget their humanity.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Raymond E. White Jr.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Sam Miller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:20 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission

Dear Sirs,

I am opposed to the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Cemetery. It is a memorial to Americans that served their country. These men served in the Confederate Army but had their citizenship restored and pursued their life as American Citizens. Many of them became successful businessmen, doctors, lawyers, engineers and a host of other occupations that included serving in the U.S. Military in the Western Theatre and the Spanish-American War. It is wrong to eliminate the history of our country. I have visited a lot of sites around this country, this being one of them. I had ancestors on both sides of the conflict.

I am proud to be an American and it is wrong to destroy the history of this country.

Thank you,

Samuel H. Miller
concerned citizen
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Amanda M. Benson

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Registered Pharmacist

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose the removal of the Memorial because it is not what America does. Destroying and removing monuments while politically in vogue in the present day is a sign that as a society we are imploding on ourselves. We have lost our way in connecting to a shared past while striving to improve our future. The Memorial is a symbol of reconciliation and peace, and if anything in 2022 we need more symbols that are represented by these ideals. The Reconciliation Memorial was sculpted by a Virginian and VMI graduate who was also Jewish and fought in the Confederacy. The Memorial was unveiled in 1914 and should remain as a means to reflect upon the history of the Civil War.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Amanda M. Benson

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Mary Stevens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:57 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

We are submitting this statement, because we oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Confederate Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

We oppose removal of the Memorial because the monument is a reconciliation memorial to the many men and some women who died fighting for Southern Independence NOT slavery.

Just for your information, the South did not bring slaves to America. The last slave trading ships were from New York and the New England states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island that flew the "stars and stripes." You will never find a slave trading ship with a Confederate flag on it. John Winthrop of Massachusetts was the Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony who signed the first law legalizing slavery. There were 5 slave states in the Union...West Virginia, Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware.

This monument has stood for over a century and was designed by world renown Jewish sculptor Moses Ezekial who is interred at its base.

We are offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it immediately

Thank you,

Mark and Mary Stevens
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: David C. Daniels <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:48 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument, Arlington National Cemetery
Attachments: 2009 Wreat Laying. Obama-35.jpg; Obama wreath Confederate Monument.jpg; Obama wreath Confederate Monument Card.jpg

Mr. Davis,

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

As a historian and a highly patriotic individual, my first visit to Arlington was in May of 1964. I have visited Arlington on numerous occasions and have attended five full military honors funerals, including 1st Lt. Francis J. Pitonyak's, interred in section 60, site 11876, who after 7 years of working with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency was recovered after being MIA for over 72 years. He is my wife's great uncle.

I oppose the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial because Confederate servicemen and women served also for the benefit of what they felt was their right as much as Lt. Pitonyak or any other serviceman.

We attended the Memorial Day 2009 wreath-laying by then-President Barrack Obama. (Photo attached - I am with a mustache directly behind the President, next to the lady with the camera.) President Obama also sent a wreath to be placed at the Reconciliation Memorial of which I have sent photos. I just wonder, what has changed since then?

I respectfully ask the Cemetery Commission to reject the removal of the Reconciliation Monument, which honors and remembers this time in our country's history.


Thank you,

David C. Daniels
[REDACTED]



-TO-
-OUR-DEAD-HEROES-
-BY-
-THE-UNITED-DAUGHTERS-
-OF-THE-CONFEDERACY-
-VICTRIX-CAUSE-
-SEE-VICTORY-





The President

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Arthur G <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:44 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA); Arthur G
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

Consideration is incredulously being considered to remove the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. The turn of the last century marked a nation effort of reconciliation. Congress passed legislation to fund the grave sites of Union and Confederate soldiers first in 1906 and again in 1929. President Eisenhower displayed a photograph of General Robert E. Lee on his office wall and near the centennial urged all citizens to participate in centennial activities and pay homage (If you didn't already know it : "Something done or given in acknowledgment or consideration of the worth of another.") to the participants of both sides of this national tragedy. Mississippian General Fox Conner was a mentor to Eisenhower, Patton, Marshall. General Patton's father, Colonel George S. Patton Sr. C.S.A. The 16 southeaster states of the U.S.A. have in the past fielded 44% of military volunteers. Maryland Senator Millard Tydings, 1943, sponsored a bill to permit display of Confederate memorabilia on and within U.S.A. military property for the reason to boost soldier moral during WW II, the casualty rate being disproportionately Southern; 1948 President Harry Truman signed Senator Tydings bill. Has Tydings bill been rescinded? Let's see what happens if military recruiting within these 16 states falls to zero as monuments to Confederate ancestry are toppled. Turn the page of time and what do we have in prominent government positions? Ans. Superficial, sanctimonious Bolsheviks bent on a "Managed decline of the U.S.A." "We fought that war to free the slaves !" New Jersey abolished slavery 1846, or not? The New Jersey nomenclature was changed from slave to apprentice and the last of the apprentices were relieved of their apprenticeship December 1865. The 13th amendment to the Constitution dated March 2, 1861, states that Congress may not legislate an end to slavery (this was another state purview). Conclude point one that the C.S.A. had no need to fight for slavery when it was being handed to them now did they? Point two is Lincoln's Emancipation. Why did the Emancipation specifically exclude Confederate geography the under control of Union Armies? Ans. If one or more of the C.S.A. decided to quit the war the contraband in custody of the Union Army would be returned to that states citizens. Result again is slavery preserved. If this 1861 to 1865 war was being fought to abolish slavery why was the State of West Virginia admitted to the U.S.A. as a slave state ??? The sanctimonious people think that Lincoln abolished slavery in the U.S.A. as of January 1, 1863, the day that he signed the Presidential decree. What happened? Lincoln abolished slavery January 1863 and Congress re-instituted slavery June 1863. Thinking processes of this sort is the result of a good bolshevik education reading ad hominem narrative laced with innuendo.

Deo Vindice (The words on the Great Seal off the Confederates States of America dedicated on George Washington's birthday February 22, 1862. Ever consider why the Father of our country does not have a commemorative day all to himself ?? Pandering and appeasement.)

Arthur G. Germaine Jr.

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Jay Gillette
Taxpayer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Arlington National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission,

I am submitting this letter because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because removing war memorials from military cemeteries, military bases and federal buildings is what societies do when they're imploding on themselves, when the bonds of civic life have all but disappeared along with any notion of a shared past, to say nothing of a common vision for the future.

It was not always this way. At the turn of the last century, our political leaders seemed to understand that the survival of a vast republic like ours depended on civic virtues like reconciliation, forgiveness, and actual tolerance. They knew this because many of them had lived through and participated in the Civil War. They had seen and felt for themselves what happens when a nation turns on itself, and they were determined not to let it happen again.

It took 14 years for private groups (including Union veteran organizations) to raise the money and erect the Confederate memorial that stands in Arlington today. Anyone who has seen it knows that it reflects the sentiments of reconciliation and national unity that President McKinley, who fought for the Union, originally had in mind.

The memorial's central figure is a woman, meant to represent the South, crowned with an olive wreath, a symbol of peace. In her extended left hand is a laurel wreath and in her right hand is a pruning hook, which rests upon a plow. Under the figure is an inscription, a quote from the Book of Isaiah, "And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

That is to say, the monument's central theme is reconciliation and peace — beating swords into ploughshares. It commends the South for turning away from war while also honoring their war dead.

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Jay Gillette
Taxpayer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Millions of Americans have ancestors that fought in the Civil War and the removal of the Reconciliation Monument would be to ignore the wishes and feelings of those ancestors who felt that our nation needed reconciliation, not more divisiveness.

The Removal of the Reconciliation Memorial has nothing to do with the past, or racial reconciliation, and everything to do with wielding political power in the present. For these reasons, and for the sake of remembering history, I am offended and outraged by this recommendation to remove the monument and respectfully ask the Arlington Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Jay Gillette

Jay Gillette

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Shawn rphy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:23 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

Dear Sir;

There's no denying at the age of 70 that my following comments might be construed as coming from an out of touch old man.

I was born and raised in Seattle, Wa. a veteran of the U.S. Army. I also volunteer in a Veterans Memorial Museum in Chehalis, Wa. Along with a collaborator we search as best as we can for missing military aircraft. We have one find a 1949 missing Navy SNJ-5 with two pilots. Two Memorials have been placed in the appropriate spots.

Why did I share this with you? I wanted you to know where I come from before before sharing my next opinions.

Memorials have a significant history as to their placement. Some have very important reasons for their placement. While some memorials have questionable reasons for their placement it seems to me the above memorial shouldn't have its validity questioned. To me it isn't glorifying the Confederate side or a particular leader but rather attempting to bring about reconciliation (which our country needed) the very reason our President McKinley signed off on this Memorial.

Why does the removing of this Memorial taking away the historical significance of its placement truly help our country going forward? Can we finally come to the realization that removing all Memorials won't fix history and the future? Can we finally accept that some Memorials had excellent purposes when erected and rather than removing them (hiding our history) we can use as valuable learning tools?

Rather than a blanket removal I suggest an additional plaque explaining why some might disagree with the initial or continued placement of the Memorial.

Our history is very convoluted and in some cases quite frankly poorly taught. A teacher for my granddaughter was speaking about the Articles of Confederation and continually referred to how it gave the powers to individual states like West Virginia. That's sad when on at least four occasions she referred to West Virginia when it didn't come into existence until the Civil War. This was to me an example of my concerns that history and lack of understanding doesn't help us as a country going forward.

Thank you for reading this because I'm very concerned we're attempting to bury valuable learning tools.

Sincerely yours,

Shawn J. Murphy
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Lewis Long <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:08 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Lewis Long

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because the monument and memorial are part of the historical fabric of our great country. Regardless of how people feel about the causes of the Civil War, the Memorial honors the Men & Women who tried to defend their homeland. All Men who served in the Civil War are legally considered veterans and many Confederate soldiers who gave their life to defend their land are buried in Arlington.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Lewis Long

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Terry Klima <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:09 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed removal of Arlington Confederate Memorial

To whom it may concern,

The proposal to remove the beautiful monument by renowned sculptor Moses Ezikiel is offensive for many reasons, the most obvious is that it marks the graves of American military veterans who sacrificed a great deal protecting home and hearth.

Sadly, the specious claims advanced by some alleged military historians that the Confederates were fighting to perpetuate slavery, or that their actions were treasonous, is an affront to truth and reason.

The United States Constitution unfortunately sanctioned and protected chattel slavery at the time. Does any reasonable person believe that that United States military forces were fighting in direct contravention of the country's own constitution?

As to the charge of treason, I would strongly recommend a review of the oath that military officers swore upon promotion, prior to and during the War. Perhaps General Ty Seidule would be interested in the oath Robert E. Lee and other Confederates swore which stated:

"I, _____, appointed a _____ in the Army of the United States, do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will bear true allegiance to the United States of America, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or opposers whatsoever, and observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the rules and articles for the government of the Armies of the United States."

Note the use of the plural terms "them", "their" and "Armies", a clear indication that their oath was to the various Sovereign States that were united under the compact referred to as the US Constitution. Clearly, loyalty and service to one's state is not treasonous.

Should the naming Commission continue to dishonor the sacrifice of the Southern soldiers' ancestors, look for military enlistments from the south to decline precipitously.

Terry M. Klima
Representing myself and honoring my Confederate ancestors

[REDACTED]

[Sent from the all new AOL app for Android](#)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Deborah Lindsay <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:58 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Monument

Deborah G. Lindsay
Military Historian and Author
[REDACTED]

Apparently, the Naming Commissions has recommended the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Please note that I firmly oppose the removal of this Memorial. I realize the need/desire to remove or reposition offensive monuments regardless of their historical value. However, this particular memorial stands for **reconciliation**. We should take stock in its inherent message. As a nation, we should study and remember all aspects of our history so that we learn from both the positive and negative actions and decisions we have made. There should always be a time of reconciliation so that we can continue forward and build a better country.

Therefore, I strongly urge the Cemetery Commission to reject the recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial.

Thank you,

Deborah G. Lindsay

Author of "Behind Barbed Wire: A History of Concentration Camps from 1898 to 1945"

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: M. A. Reeves <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:45 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Our country's monuments

Dear Sir,

Please tell the commission renaming our historical places and remove our beautiful monuments to please think of the future generations. Our future generations will not understand their country because they will not be taught the whole country's history, experience the battlefields or know our heroes when all is removed and replaced.

It is very important to our country and its future to leave our beautiful monuments that Europeans come to see just like Americans go to Europe to see theirs.

Changing, hiding, destroying our country's history is a very fool-hearted move that will only cause trouble for our country not improve anything.

Please think of what you all will be doing to our country by destroying our history.

The question is why change and remove only Southern heroes?

Sincerely,

Marjorie Reeves
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:44 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

Johnny H. Stroman
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial. I visited Arlington for the first time the first of this month. While visiting Arlington I was truly impressed and awed with the history throughout the Cemetery and the sacrifice ALL persons buried within the hollowed grounds. The consideration of the removal Reconciliation Memorial is truly unbelievable. The WOKE society is truly remarkable. I had no idea that it had migrated into the United States Military. It's a sad day in American history to see this is the case. Believe it or not, you can not erase history. Which I believe the Commission is trying to do.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Johnny H. Stroman

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Liz Groszer [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:38 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The Confederate Monument In Arlington Cemetery

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am still in shock after learning that there is a faction (the Naming Commission) determined to recommend the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial, the historic monument sculpted by the renowned artist Moses Ezekiel that has stood In Arlington Cemetery since it's dedication in 1914.

Please do not permit the removal and destruction of a glorious work of art erected as a Reconciliation Memorial and in Remembrance of those poor souls interred nearby.

I oppose the removal of this Memorial because it is an important part of our American history and should remain protected in the sanctuary of our Arlington National Cemetery.

As an American citizen, I am offended and outraged by this recommendation, and respectfully ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Elizabeth Yearley Groszer
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:33 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate Monument

Dear Mr. Davis,

Instead of removing the CSA Monument at Arlington National Cemetery, why not remove the building "Arlington" first. Ridiculous? No more so than our "Woke" and "Hurt Feelings" view of history.

Maybe Napoleon's "History is a set of lies agreed upon." should be be hung on a sign as one enters our National Cemetery to mourn our fallen.

Best Regards,

Lawrence D. Mason
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jack Waters <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:23 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The Memorial at Arlington

Dear Mr. Davis,

My name is Jackson Waters, and I am a 23 year old native Virginian residing on Capitol Hill. I have two uncles as army officers, a grandfather who served in the Air Force and Air National Guard, and two great grandfathers who served in the Army Air Corp/Air Force in Europe. Another great grandfather spent a lifetime building the ships in Newport News which served our country so well. Before him I have ancestors who signed the Declaration, threw tea into Boston Harbor, built Plymouth Plantation, and were explorers of old Jamestown. I myself applied for ROTC but the program was shut down at my college before I could enroll. But I would gladly serve as a chaplain in a war against a foreign nation (I am studying to be an Anglican priest). I say this to inform you of the duty my family has to this magnificent country, and the loyalty I feel to my homeland.

It is from this place of patriotism and love for my country and family that I sincerely ask you to reconsider the destruction of the Southern Monument at Arlington National Cemetery. It not only harms no one, but it brings to sacred memory each of us who have the privilege to consider the great strife between brothers.

Good monuments and memorials do not tell us that men are evil and that war is hell. Those are self-evident. We build monuments to commemorate men who knew those fearful truths, and went anyway.

I beseech you not to sacrifice the dead for the living. Do not profane the blood of those now asleep, but content us, their descendants, with the peace of a battle well fought, and a trial withstood to the last.

Your humble servant,

--

Jack Waters
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Robin Williams <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:23 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument at Arlington

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Dear Sir:

I cannot for the life of me understand why the government wants to spend scarce money removing the Reconciliation Monument from Arlington. It is already in the Confederate section, and it seems to me to be an historical artifact in keeping with that section. Where are the historical heritage agencies to protect things like this?

The only reason I can see for this is downright meanness. Activists with nothing better to do are scouring the country looking for any connection to the South and exercising their self-styled moral indignation to erase a whole chapter of American history and art. It is nauseating. Removing the statue will not help a single black child read any better, nor will it promote any so-called healing—it will just create more divisiveness. It is ridiculous that the government is spending even 25 cents on such a pointless project.

Sincerely,

Robin Williams

Robin Traywick Williams

[REDACTED] >

Award-winning author of

The Key to the Quarter Pole

and

The Last Romantic War

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Andrew Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:16 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: spanberger.house.gov@aol.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Anti-Semitism at Arlington National Cemetery

The Anti-Semitism in
your proposal to remove
the grave of and monument
by Sir Moses Ezekiel
is appalling.

Andrew Mivelaz Johnson
[REDACTED]

(26 year veteran -- regular
and reservist --
Armed Forces of United States,
entered service Nov., 1965.)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Robert Heyward <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:15 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Statement in opposition to the removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

The memorial in the Confederate section of the cemetery is one of the most beautiful, impressive memorials in all the world and is held in reverence by millions of Americans. It was dedicated to honorable American soldiers who answered the call of their local government to protect home and family in America's deadliest war and who were motivated by the spirit of their revolutionary war forefathers, Declaration of Independence, and US Constitution. The memorial was respectfully added to the land Robert E Lee had once managed and which had been illegally confiscated in the spirit of reconciliation, reunification, harmony, respect, and because it was ethically and morally the right thing to do. Similar to the monuments removed in Richmond, if the war memorial is removed it will become symbolic not only for the dignity demonstrated by previous generations, but how degenerative, cruel, hateful, intolerant, and divisive the current cancel-culture generation has become. It will become symbolic of how the progressive, narrow-minded woke who are literally attacking war memorials in cemeteries and are no better than other infamous destroyers in the world's history; namely the Taliban, ISIS, Marxists, and Fascists. I wish our leaders would stand up to the woke destructive minority and respect our American dead as did leaders of the past. As explained by President McKinley: "Every soldier's grave made during our Civil War is a tribute to American valor... in the spirit of fraternity, we should share in the care of the graves of the Confederate soldiers." - former Union Soldier, President William McKinley, 30 years after Confederate graves began to be decorated annually at Arlington National Cemetery. Thank you, Rob Heyward

[REDACTED]

--
Heywards
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:09 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation monument

Roy P. Hudson
U.S. Army Veteran
[REDACTED]

I am writing the letter to strongly object to the removal of the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery.

My family has fought in every war since the revolution. My great great grandfather John James Newcomb who survived Pickett's Charge is buried there in Arlington as well as his wife. We are a proud American family and to remove this monument would be an insult to all American soldiers from every generation.

Have we as a society sank so low as to take down memorials in cemeteries? Are we following the same steps as Marxist and erase our own history?

As a patriotic American I implore you to stop this I'll conceived idea and let this wonderful memorial stand.

Respectfully, Roy P. Hudson

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Stephen Walker [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 12:47 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Stephen P. Walker:
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose the removal of the Memorial because this simply is a violation of the history of this great nation. You can not just rename or destroy its landmarks, and history and it goes away. History is made of many things and we must remember it all. This is what dictators do to hide history.

- **The brainchild of US President William McKinley (25th) who served as a sergeant in the US Army during the Civil War**
- **Designed to be the centerpiece of the "Confederate Section" which contains over 400 graves. US President Teddy Roosevelt (26th) sent a floral arrangement at the first memorial ceremony in 1903 beginning a tradition that was continued by every US President including President Obama**
- **Established as a 'goodwill' re-unification monument after the Spanish American War**
- **Designed and sculpted by an internationally renowned Jewish artist, Sir Moses Ezekiel, who is interred at the base of the Memorial, himself a veteran**

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Stephen P. Walker

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Bo Traywick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 12:40 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Monument at Arlington

Dear Sir:

My Uncle is buried at Arlington. He was killed in the Hertgen Forest defending this country. He was a promising and highly accomplished surgeon, serving with a Combat Engineer unit. He had made three invasions: North Africa, Sicily, and Normandy. He had been awarded the Bronze Star for Valor, two Silver Stars, and two Purple Hearts. He was from South Carolina. His grandfather was a Confederate Veteran. Five of his great uncles died in Confederate service. To remove the Reconciliation Monument would be a slap in the face to my uncle, not to mention to my father, a South Carolinian, who served as an Infantry officer in Burma, and to me, a Virginian, who served as an Engineer officer in Vietnam.

Those who would post their specious virtues by tearing down the Reconciliation Monument at Arlington would be better served by having their Proctologist submit the report.

H. V. Traywick, Jr.

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL
OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Gary McMillian

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Citizen, United States of America

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

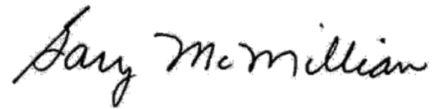
I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial since its sole purpose is to promote reconciliation after a brutal war that saw cousins fighting cousins and even brothers fighting brothers.

Removal of the Memorial will only promote division and hatred between citizens of our country. This recommendation is inspired by vindictiveness and retribution rather than reconciliation and healing.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary McMillian". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary McMillian

26 October 2022

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Skip Barr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Oliver J. Barr
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Military Order of the Stars and Barr
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is an attempt to remove history and denounce brave soldiers who fought to preserve state government.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Oliver J. Barr

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Kenneth Katzman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: defendarlington@gmail.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I strongly oppose the removal of Arlington Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

Oct. 26, 2022

Alison Katzman
Arlington Co. Resident
[REDACTED]

Dear Matthew Davis (Sorry I do not know your title),

As a person who appreciates history, I find it outrageous that our country's history and heritage is rapidly being torn down by the "Woke". This current proposed tear-down of the beautiful monument in Arlington National Cemetery is following a familiar pattern:

Some group of malcontents complain, claiming victimhood. Those in authority over the monument, street, school name, etc. then feel pressured to acquiesce to that group's demands; least they be called "insensitive" "Racists", or fear winding up on the "wrong side of history". However, before they can take any action, they must form a committee to rubber-stamp their actions and shift the blame. Guess who is on the committee? Then there is always a non-binding "public comment period" in which basically community input is ignored or dismissed in favor of the forgone determination of the committee.

Please prove me wrong and leave the monument for future generations.

Sincerely,

Alison Katzman

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Bill Elliott <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 11:57 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the Removal of the Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mr. Davis:

I am sending you this email to voice my opposition to the proposed removal of the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

President William McKinley a Union Civil War Soldier stated in 1898 that he wished all could come together to finally bring the Country together in their thoughts and action to put the Civil War behind them and be unified in their respect to all that had served on both sides. Congress approved a step towards this new movement in June 1900 to fund the Confederate section in Arlington National Cemetery. The Reconciliation Monument followed this line of thought later.

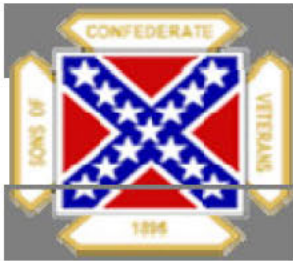
This committee is over reaching its charge. Renaming bases and military installations does not reach into a National Cemetery. All the movements to remove monuments, push to take them down and place them in museums and cemeteries.

This monument is located in an open air National Museum and also a National Cemetery. To now call for its removal is being political, over reaching and a power play on their part.

Enough is a enough stop going after all thing tied to Southern Heritage and Southern Memorials.

Bill Elliott, a proud member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

[REDACTED]



Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: CINDY REYNOLDS <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 11:47 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Monument removal

MY STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Cindy Reynolds

- United Daughter's of the Confederacy Secretary C Irvine walker chapter 190
- United Daughter's of the Confederacy Historian C Irvine walker chapter 190
- United Daughter's of the Confederacy South Carolina Division committee of Records of Interments documenting over 4500 Southern Soldier's grave
- United Daughter's of the Confederacy South Carolina Division Chairman Juda P. Benjamin Award

ADDRESS:

[REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER:

[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. Confederate Soldiers were American Soldiers! It's senseless to continue to waste tax payers money on such a disrespectful task. These men deserve are honor and respect. I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it. As a Southern women I take great pride in this monument, A southern soldier was the sculptor. Many good men, Fathers, brothers and sons died for what they believed was right. Nothing on this monument speaks of racism or white supremacy. This monument represents the struggles and sacrifices they made. Don't take this away from us. It is our legacy, or heritage, we deserve to be represented. Confederate descendants are Americans, we still should have a voice in society, we deserve our heritage to stand and proper history restored.

Thank you,

Cindy Reynold

A third Great Granddaughter of many Confederate soldiers.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Diana Belles <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 11:23 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington

Hello,

I can't believe time, effort and money is being considered to remove this beautiful old monument in Arlington. Are the surrounding Confederate graves going to be dug up as well?

As a descendant of Confederate veterans, this whole remove the offensive monuments movement is sickening.

Please consider what this monument represents - reconciliation - and stop this woke madness.

Thank you.

Diana Beckner Belles

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ken Maness <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:58 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

NAME: Charles K. Maness
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Sergeant Major (US Army, Retired)
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because this commission is trying to rewrite history. This memorial was created as a way to reconcile the bitter separation experienced by this country in 1861-1865. And this memorial did just that. It healed a wound that was felt nationwide. Now you want to scratch the scab off of this wound and expose it again. You are just widening the separation. I have a cousin that was killed on D Day, June 6, 1944. He was a member of the 29th Infantry Division, the Blue and Gray. He was from North Carolina, but he did not die for the Gray side of the patch, nor did he die for the Blue side of the patch. He died for the 29th Infantry Division and the United States of America.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Charles K. Maness
Sergeant Major (US Army Retired)



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Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:54 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL
Attachments: 1910ish Harry Bryant Gibson.jpg
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dale Breidenbach
Great Grandson of a Confederate Soldier
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I am proud of my Southern Heritage and resent the current misrepresentation of the South's reason for secession and "woke" efforts to erase history. What has happened to the Army? It was not a racist preservation of slavery that was the reason for secession, it was due to the oppressive tariffs imposed by the North which disproportionately affected the South. The victor gets to write the history to justify it! I continue to support my proud Southern Heritage and my Great Grandfather's sacrifice, including losing his leg in the battle of Gettysburg.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Dale Breidenbach

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Susan McCrobie [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:54 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the Naming Commission's Recommendation to remove monument from Arlington National Cemetery

OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY "NEW SOUTH" RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

I write to you about the movement to remove the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, one that I oppose on a number of points. The sculptor of this great work of art was Jacob Ezekiel, also known as Moses "Ritter von" Ezekiel, an American sculptor who lived and worked in Rome for the majority of his career. Ezekiel was the first American-born Jewish artist to receive international acclaim. He was a Confederate States Soldier. The American motion picture, *'Field of Lost Shoes'*, gives him a role in the history of this great nation alongside our own Kentuckian, John C. Breckinridge, who served as Vice President of the United States. Regardless of Ezekiel's choice of religion or part as a soldier of war, he is an artist of American and International renown. His work, "New South", perhaps his greatest work, was a gift to the American people. This grand piece of art, a landmark for over 100 years, should not be removed from public view as it serves as a memorial stone for Moses Ezekiel and others in a space set aside for Southern Soldiers inside the solemn setting of Arlington National Cemetery. For this commission, a governing body of this great nation, to order the removal of such a fixture from this most hallowed spot, marking the resting place of soldiers given final rest, is not in the best interest of what we are as a nation. It is the worst example we can set as a proud nation to our children and the world.

I ask you to stand for the honor of all American Soldiers of War, protect their resting place in cemeteries across the country and honor the grave markers, and monuments erected to mark and decorate their graves, for to dismantle is desecration and what leaders of this great nation want to be remembered for the act of desecration, for destruction of works of art by a veteran or even one of the Jewish faith?

There seems to be a multitude of assaults on our people, freedom, and the capitol itself. The call for the removal of this statue is just another one of these movements that threatens the landscape and peace of America. It certainly threatens to destroy America's artistic expression, the reverence of Arlington National Cemetery, and history itself. The removal of the statute would surely reinforce racist attitudes in America and send the nation into a downward spiral.

I do not support the movement to remove Ezekiel's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am offended for the Jewish Community who seems to be taking a severe blow nightly on national television and I am outraged that a group of destruction minded individuals have made their way into the heart of this commission and put it to work against American values and peaceful existence. I ask you to reject this measure for removal and Defend the status quo of Arlington National Cemetery, a position you have been entrusted with your naming to the commission. Political agendas and social change movements have no place at Arlington National Cemetery.

Susan McCrobie
Hardin County, Kentucky Voter and Historian
Active member of 10 National Heritage Organizations
Editor of the Jamestowne Society Magazine
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: David West <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:54 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] upcoming ACANC meeting

Sir, I respectfully request that my comments contained here be considered at your upcoming meeting. My information is as follows:

Name: David West

Title: LTC (ret)

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

I am writing to oppose in the strongest terms the removal of the Confederate monument and any other desecration of the Confederate section there at Arlington National Cemetery. I am a veteran of OIF1, my father and uncle fought in Vietnam, my grandfather in WWII, my great uncle in WWI. I have a relative who had active militia service against the British. And yes, I have many ancestors who fought for the Confederacy. They fought for their family, home, and their sovereign state. They fought because they were invaded.

This "woke" idiocy that perpetrates propaganda and tears down monuments is disgusting. I can tell you, as a Southern man, if I was starting over, I would not serve a day in this nation's military apropos of what is going on with the renaming commission, among other things.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

David West

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ray Walton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:35 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate Monument statement
Attachments: 10262022 Arlington Confederate Monument Statement.docx

Please see my attached statement.

I am a Virginia resident and a Confederate Veteran descendant.

Thank you.

Raymond A Walton, Jr "Ray"

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Tracy Clary <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:28 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Leonard Tracy Clary
Citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it stands as a memorial monument to the brave and dedicated men who fought the American Civil War, which was one of the most profound and defining events of our country. Important history such as this must not be erased, but instead embraced, in order that we may have a better understanding of our own existence in this great land we call the United States of America.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Most Respectfully.
Leonard Tracy Clary

--

Tracy Clary
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: James Pope [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:19 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Confederate War Memorial because it is an extremely inclusive and healing war memorial that was placed in the spirit of unity and reconciliation. I could have never imagined a day not so far in the future that such a repugnant recommendation to remove such a beautiful and sacred memorial could be made. It has been said that cemeteries and museums are the proper places for such memorials. Those of us that study and understand history knew that such memorials to our fallen American servicemen and civilians would not long be safe in such places before the same destructive forces that plucked the low hanging fruit found even the resting places unacceptable for them to grace.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Removing, deleting true history is how the Nazis and Communists have taken over countries and governments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jim Pope

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Richard Haas, MD <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:08 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate statue

Richard Haas, MD
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because Arling National Cemetery contains the grave of many Southern Americans. Please respect their heritage by retaining the monument memorializing the Confederates buried there. If the monument is for reconciliation those who propose it are supporting de-reconciliation! This is the last thing our country needs!

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Richard Haas
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Peter Snyder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:45 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

Sir:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. Have we forgotten the work of Civil War veterans, North and South, who sought to bind up wounds, to remember the good and forgive the bad? They attended each other's veteran reunions. They worked to establish the National Military Park system so that the history would not be forgotten.

When the National Military Park at Gettysburg was founded, a reunion was held for the veterans of that battle. They "re-enacted" Pickett's charge with Confederate veterans slowly climbing up the hill to the rock wall, behind which Union veterans stood in wait. By the time the lines met, most were in tears. And, white-haired veterans leaned across or climbed over the wall to embrace each other. There were tearful hugs all up and down the line. It was captured on film. You can Google it.

But now, the National Military Park system picks and chooses politicized narratives about the war and promotes antagonistic racism rather than understanding. You'll find no mention of the overwhelming tariffs leveraged against southern states by the Northern-dominated Congress. Lincoln's original intent to "save the Union" was to fund the federal government, which could not be done without the resources of the South. At that time, 70 to 90 percent of the federal government's revenue came from taxes imposed upon Southern trade. It is a lie of omission.

Confederate General Patrick Cleburne said that "the victor writes the history." George Orwell said in his book, 1984, "Those who control the past control the future, and those who control the present control the past." Orwell also wrote, "The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history." Or, what about Alexander Solzhenitsyn's statement: "To destroy a people, you must first sever their roots." George Orwell wrote in 1984: "Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street and building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And the process continues day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right."

Do what is right, not what is "popular."

Sincerely,
Peter F. Snyder

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: George <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:26 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Mr. George R. Nobley

Sons of Confederate Veterans,
Arlington National Cemetery

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. I oppose removal of the Confederate War Memorial because it is important for our country to honor the memory of its soldiers and the causes they fought for. Also, it is important for our country to be forgiving and understanding of different perspectives and opinions, even those that might be provocative or alien to our own. This memorial helped to heal the nation after the civil war and heal the country at a time when we desperately needed it. Additionally, without it future generations of Southern people will feel neglected, abandoned, and disrespected by their government. Such feelings will only divide the country further and lead to nothing but ill outcomes. Furthermore, it is one of the most beautiful memorials within the cemetery, a true work of art and portrait into the past. I am deeply upset by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you for your consideration.

George R. Nobley

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Thomas McClung <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:23 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Memorial removal

Sir: I apologize for the previous email. I accidentally hit the send key. In any event, I oppose the removal of the Memorial due to its proximity to the graves of the veterans which surround it and potential damage to same, never mind the fact I consider it a waste of time, effort and my tax dollars. Surely, there are better things things on which to spend money proposed for the removal of all things "Confederate" within the DoD: Suicidal veterans, those with mental health issues, the hungry and homeless come to mind as well as pay raises and improved housing for enlisted at military installations.

Truth be told, this is nothing more than a pointless exercise which solves no problem while leaving our military and, indeed, all of society with those problems which have plagued us for years and continue to do so.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Stuart McClung
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Robert Hazelwood <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:17 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONALCEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Bob Hazelwood
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Adjutant, Judge Roy Bean Camp #2298, Sons of Confederate Veterans
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is a part of National history and heritage. This memorial was never a memorial to the construct of slavery, but a memorial to the southern war dead. Most (90%) of which who were not slave owners at all, but merely answered the call to defend their homeland.

Do not cave in to the woke demands of cancel culture. Renaming a base is one thing, but removing a memorial to the war dead is completely another. History is to be learned from, not erased..

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Bob Hazelwood

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Thomas McClung <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:13 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial removal

Sir:

I am writing to you in reference to the proposed removal of the Memorial sculpture located in Arlington Cemetery behind the Lee Mansion. I would be interested to know how that removal will occur, given the proximity of the graves which surround it

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jay Willis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:10 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Statement of Opposition to Removal of the Confederate Memorial at Arlington

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

From:
Jay C. Willis
Major, US Army (Retired)
[REDACTED]

I strongly oppose removal or alteration of the Confederate reconciliation memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, and any removal or alteration of other memorials or signposts there referring to veterans who served the Confederate States of America.

My forefathers fought in the 1776 revolution and in the 1861 war to prevent Southern independence. Both of my parents fought in WWII and are buried in Arlington. I am a graduate of the United States Military Academy, retired Army, and my late wife is buried in Arlington... as I expect to be in short order.

The move to denigrate my ancestors and ME by taking down the Confederate soldiers' monument in Arlington is absolutely unacceptable. This is beyond the history erasures in "1984." It is pure evil. I suppose they will next be digging up the Confederate veterans buried there, and eventually will dig up my parents, my wife, and ME.

That the U.S. government is considering this act of vandalism and betrayal is shameful.

Sincerely,

JAY C. WILLIS
[REDACTED]

Deo Vindice

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

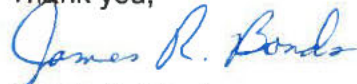
James R. Bonds
Concerned Citizen

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is a monument that honors all American soldiers, both Confederate and Union, but more importantly it commemorates the post-war reconciliation of the men who participated on either side. At the time the monument was erected, participants from both sides felt it important to recognize the great strides taken to re-unite the country after the bloodiest conflict in American history. What right do present-day Americans have to remove a memorial that all Americans at that time believed was an important gesture. I also see no more fitting a location for the memorial than Arlington, as the final resting place of many American military force members.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,


James R. Bonds

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Dawn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:40 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

Mr. Davis,

I am writing to you in reference to the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. To remove this monument would be a disservice to all of those who fought so faithfully for a cause that they believed in. We must preserve and protect all history if not we are doomed to repeat it. I myself do a program on one the only confederate nurse buried at Arlington, Juliet Opie Hopkins. Mrs. Hopkins and her husband ran and managed the Alabama Hospitals in Richmond, VA. Mrs. Hopkins visited each of her 500 patients daily and when they passed away she personally send a lock of their hair home to their love ones. Mrs. Hopkins was also at the Battle of Seven Pines and was wounded in the hip while attending to the wounded, she walked with a limp for the rest of her life. It is through brave people like Mrs. Hopkins that the monument was placed. We should never forget anyone's service no matter what we personally feel about it, they believed in the cause and fought for what they believed. We should not be willing to remove any of these monuments, they all tell a story of thousands of men and women who sacrificed.

Dawn Diehl
[REDACTED]

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: J Wagstaff [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:40 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Save Arlington

John E. Wagstaff
Bit By Bit Farm
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because this was put up as a tribute to former enemies, who were now once again part of the Union. If you will look at history a majority of the hero's of WW2 and latter wars were descendants of former Confederate leaders, and some like Joe Wheeler fought for the Union in the Spanish American War. This is just as bad as what ISIS did in destroying monuments in the last war.

I would suggest you read Gen. Eisenhower's letter concerning Gen. Lee, whose home this is and was stolen from him by the Lincoln administration.

Eisenhower said " *General Robert E. Lee was, in my estimation, one of the supremely gifted men produced by our Nation. He believed unswervingly in the Constitutional validity of his cause which until 1865 was still an arguable question in America; he was a poised and inspiring leader, true to the high trust reposed in him by millions of his fellow citizens; he was thoughtful yet demanding of his officers and men, forbearing with captured enemies but ingenious, unrelenting and personally courageous in battle, and never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle. Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unfailing in his faith in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man, and unsullied as I read the pages of our history.* "

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it, as a veteran of Desert Storm and a native Virginia I also take offense at the base name changes as well.

Thank you,

John E. Wagstaff

J. Wagstaff

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Christina L. Bell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:35 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Upcoming ACANC Meeting

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Greetings, Mr. Davis.

Thank you for this moment of your time as I must express firm opposition to the removal and destruction of the Confederate American memorial statue dubbed "New South" at our nation's most august Arlington Cemetery, Section 16. Before you write me off as a backwoods zealot, please understand that Confederate heritage and Southern identity was nothing with which I'd been raised; my understanding of our Civil War is shaped by the study of materials both old and new. I also press that each media-driven attack on this legacy actually proves how rich and important the matter is (for both military and civilians,) and that it mustn't be dashed on account of the peer pressures coming from social political sciences under the treacherous guise of "modernity."

I'd initiated a petition which has to date merited very nearly 500 signatures, which may be laughable by some standards, but that is nevertheless 500 people who back such a stance as detailed here: Caution-<https://chnng.it/5FMtP7sNMJ> < Caution-<https://chnng.it/5FMtP7sNMJ> > Presidents and veterans have defended the "New South" monument's right to exist as both historical and artistic. Historians have been warning that the removal of statues is more dangerous than beneficial. It is also illegal as per the Antiquities Act of 1906 and Public Law 105-101 Veterans' Cemetery Protection Act 1997, and I fear the removal of one from a cemetery, which is a sacred place, sets a terrible precedent for even worse actions to come. Please do not allow the tumult of our times to take any more drastic measures than it has already cost our American heritage. We're punishing historical figures of yesterday for the crimes we're ourselves committing today, and it is our children of the future who will suffer for it the most.

Earnestly,
Christina L. Bell

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jeff Paulk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:25 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Jeff Paulk
Lt. Commander
Major James McHenry Camp 2310
Broken Arrow, OK - Sons of Confederate Veterans

[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because our Confederate ancestors deserve to be remembered and honored, as they were fighting an illegal invasion of their homeland. It seems that any group of people can recognize and honor their ancestors, just as long as it's not Southerners. This cultural genocide upon all things Southern and Confederate must stop! You are participating in the erasure of history. You are of the crowd that says, "These Confederate memorials are a statement in the support of slavery, racism, and white supremacy." That is wrong. The war was NOT about slavery. If it was, why was General Ulysses S. Grant and his wife still holding onto theirs during the war? His wife even visited him with her servant "Black Julia". If it was about slavery, why did the North not first free the more than 429,000 slaves held in the Union after the South seceded?

More than 150 years of rewritten history has been indoctrinating our population into believing the war was about slavery when the facts simply do not bear this out. Why do none of the memorials to Union soldiers state that they were "fighting to free the slaves"?

The very ground upon which this Reconciliation Memorial sits was given to Robert E. Lee's wife, Mary Anna, by George Washington Parke Custis, grandson of Martha Washington. It was stolen from the Lee family during The War of Northern Aggression and has since become Arlington National Cemetery, where dead soldiers are honored - unless they happen to be Confederate.

The war was a war of secession and the right to self-govern. Secession was not, and is not, illegal, and this was taught at West Point long before the war commenced. In 1776, the Declaration of Independence established that the new republic derived its "just powers from the consent of the governed." That is what the South wanted. The right to self-govern. Horace Greeley stated the following about secession, "if it justified the secession from the British Empire of Three Millions of colonists in 1776, we do not see why it would not justify the secession of Five Millions of Southrons from the Federal Union in 1861." Of course, Greeley did change his position once he realized the pending economic doom of the North with the South's secession due to its dependence on cotton and tariffs.

Our Confederate ancestors fought for the same reasons as did their colonial ancestors, and were defending their people from a hoard of murderers, looters, arsonists, and rapists who decimated the South, then inflicted years of military rule, Carpetbagger governments, and Union League terrorism upon their victims. They fought to prevent the very mess we are living in today. They knew what would happen with an all-powerful centralized government, and they were right.

Many of our memorials have been wrongfully removed and desecrated, schools, streets, and parks have been renamed, yet you would add to this disgrace and further dishonor our dead ancestors by removing the Reconciliation Memorial. This is beyond wrong.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Jeff Paulk

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Russell Ottens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:24 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Monument

Russell Jay Ottens
Retired 68 year-old taxpayer and descendant of both Union and Confederate Soldiers
[REDACTED]

That the Naming Commission would even consider removal of the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery is an outrage! This magnificent monument, sculpted by a knighted, Jewish Confederate veteran, is a national treasure that was intended to bind the nation's horrible wounds after Abraham Lincoln's barbarian invasion of the Southern States. Its removal would reopen those wounds and divide this nation even more than that which has been perpetrated by the current godless administration. The brave men and women who defended their homes against tyranny must always be remembered. Removal of this fine work of art would be a horrible return to that same tyranny! Has our nation deteriorated to the point of blatant anti-Semitism and hatred? An estimated 10,000 Jewish soldiers served the Confederacy. Have we sunk to the level of the Taliban blasting priceless antiquity off the side of a cliff in 2001? Disband this hate-filled Commission and use my taxes to fund issues of substance, not actions that make patriotic Americans like myself despise their own government.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Rick Hagan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:10 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Dear Sir:

I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because of the many good men that died for their country and their families. I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Rick Hagan
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Barry Cox <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 7:19 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

Barry T. Cox, USN Ret.
[REDACTED]

As a retired member of our great military and disabled from my service, my submission of this statement is in opposition of the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because all soldiers, sailors from both the North and South fought bravely and gave of their time, families, their limbs and even their lives. They deserve to be remembered for answering the call to defend their individual states rights and their dedication and love to their country. Congress authorized this commemorative monument and I believe it should be left for all future generations to see and learn from and about it.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Barry T. Cox

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Gary Harlan Roseman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:40 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington

Greetings:

I recently read that the Confederate Memorial in Arlington may be dismantled or destroyed.

This monument by Moses Ezekiel has artistic value. Some of the advocates of destruction should read about his life and work.

Gary Roseman
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Don Terrill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:32 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery, Confederate Veteran Memorial

My family settled in New Kent County, Virginia, in 1656. More than 100 of my extended family served as Confederate soldiers during the War Between the States; and many of them died in the war -- including my own great-great-grandfather who died in February 1863.

From a state population of 640,000 Virginia fielded about 150,000 patriotic soldiers in Confederate service. Of these, 32,751 died in Confederate service. Survivors of that war and their families vowed that Virginia would never forget the bravery and sacrifice of the soldiers in defending their country; and they created permanent memorials -- including street names -- to honor them. Compare that 32,751-life-sacrifice with the 11,444 Virginians who were killed in all of World War 2 -- and that was from a 1940s population of 2,677,000. The Confederate war losses for Virginia were crushing.

Eventually, the United States -- again united -- enacted a law establishing Confederate soldiers as United States veterans on equal footing with other U.S. military veterans -- entitled to the same status, honors and benefits. [Title 38 Section 1501, U.S. Code]

In the years after the war, four former Confederate generals were later appointed as generals in the U.S. Army. (MG Matthew Butler, MG Fitzhugh Lee, BG Thomas Rosser, MG Joseph Wheeler) when the U.S. engaged in the Spanish-American War. After the War Between the States President Ulysses Grant arranged for employment in California for CSA guerilla leader Col. John Singleton Mosby; and Mosby later was appointed as U.S. Consul to Hong Kong, and subsequently as Assistant U.S. Attorney General. After the War Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee became president of Washington College (now Washington and Lee University) in 1865 until his death in 1870. Eight Confederate soldiers have been honored on U.S. postage stamps; and three on U.S. Mint silver commemorative half-dollars: (Gen. Robert E. Lee [1937], common CSA soldier [1936], Gen. Robert E. Lee & Gen. Thomas [Stonewall] Jackson [1925]).

Thousands of Confederate soldiers are buried in U.S. National Cemeteries -- including my G-G-Grandfather (25th Texas Cavalry). There are 33 Confederate war memorials in U.S. National Cemeteries.

You are considering removing (desecrating) the Confederate Memorial which is located at the center of the Confederate-graves section of Arlington National Cemetery -- our Nation's most Sacred military shrine.^[1] (Using land illegally confiscated by the U.S.

Government from Gen. Robert E. Lee and his wife Mary Anna Custis Lee). It is a beautiful memorial, and it depicts soldiers departing their families and marching off to defend their nation – including a Black Confederate soldier. (Yes, there were some Black Confederate soldiers.)

The inscription reads:
“Not for fame or reward –
Not for place or for rank –
Not lured by ambition –
Or goaded by necessity –
But in simple –
Obedience to duty –
As they understood it –
These men suffered all –
Sacrificed all –
Dared all – And Died“

If you decide to abolish memorials and honors to our Confederate soldiers/veterans, because you have a political disagreement with the administration under which they served, you attack me and every other American veteran. Who's next? Will you or your successors then deface memorials which honor American veterans of World War 1 because they fought to defend a country which had racial segregation and which prohibited women from voting? Perhaps you would like to deface memorials to World War 2 American veterans because America had racial segregation, a segregated Army and put Japanese-Americans in concentration camps. (Perhaps that would also justify tearing down the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington?) How about the Iraq War veterans -- a war which Democrats claim was built upon a Republican lie. And, the top of your list would be to dishonor all of our Vietnam War veterans because your party took the view that it was an unjust war. I well-remember Democrats spitting on our veterans as they returned home from the Vietnam battlefields.

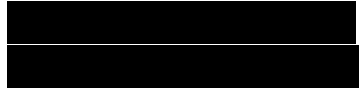
Let me remind you of the closing words of Abraham Lincoln's 2nd Inaugural address to the nation, at which time it was clear that the Union would be victorious. He told the nation:

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, 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.

The grievances arising from the War Between the States were resolved long before any of us were born. Why would you even consider re-starting that war now? I urge you to strongly oppose any plan to remove or relocate Confederate war memorials.

Respectfully,

Don C. Terrill
CW3, U.S. Army Ret.



^[1] Confederate monument dedicated in June 1914 by the President of the United States.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Pete Tibbs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:11 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of Memorials

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME:
Sgt. Paul M. Tibbs, USMC
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I'm tired of today's generation continually trying to erase our history. Arlington National Cemetery is a very sacred place and represents our tribulations through history to become the great Nation we are. History is to be learned from, not forgotten, so as to not make the same mistakes again. Good or bad, our history is what it is and should be honored not covered up.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you, Semper Fidelis,

Paul M. Tibbs

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: MaryElla Fitz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:57 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition To The Removal of Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

MaryElla Henry-Fitzsimmons
North Carolina Military BRAT, Proud Daughter of Numerous AMERICAN VETERANS
[REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because, as the poem "At Arlington" written by James Ryder Randall says, "Keep the peace At Arlington"! This absurd time of cancel culture WILL pass! Will you KEEP THE PEACE 'AT ARLINGTON' for posterity sake... for the generations of American Veterans and their children... Will You Stop The Madness?!

I am most grievously offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
MaryElla Henry-Fitzsimmons

Sent from my iPhone

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ernest Blevins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:17 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Statement in OPPOSITION to the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

26 October 2022

RE: Statement in OPPOSITION to the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

In the postwar years, the North and South placed monuments to the community losses. My research has documented, and as I expand the study, it continues to confirm the relationship between community memory and community losses.

Furthermore, these are works where the contemporaries reconciled between former enemies leaving the monuments as bookmarks to history, reminding us to look up the remaining story. The Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington was created by Moses Jacob Ezekiel, a Jewish artist who served under General Thomas "Stonewall Jackson." As a contemporary, Ezekiel would depict what he knew and saw at the time into his artwork. It is not an interpretation of a "Lost Cause" theme some modern viewers cite. Even Horace Greeley commented in *The American Conflict: A History of the Great Rebelling in the United States of America 1860- '64* that Edward A. Pollard, the writer of the *Lost Cause*, work a credible historical account. Monuments created by those in the North and South would be the experts of their time. The modern interpretation of offense is only in the eye of a modern viewer. However, views change over time. The monument should remain a bookmark to history, the time machine from the past to us and the future beyond us. Even the Arlington National Cemetery page on the monument cites, "The Confederate Memorial offers an opportunity for visitors to reflect on the history and meanings of the Civil War, slavery, and the relationship between military service, citizenship, and race in America." The Memorial should remain to tell its story in its own words without modern interpretation to disturb the visitor.

I oppose the removal of the Memorial for several reasons. Primarily, I work in historic preservation, and this is a significant cultural resource listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Removal of such is an adverse effect. Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, considerations must be made to avoid the adverse effect removing would create. The most straightforward approach to resolve the issue and protect the monument's integrity and setting. By doing this, there would be no need to minimize or mitigate adverse effects.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation of the Naming Commission and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject their recommendations.

Sincerely,

Ernest Everett Blevins, MFA
Historic Preservationist
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Sharon Williams

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Senior Vice President, Thunderbird Chapter #2102, Phoenix AZ,
United Daughters of the Confederacy

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I am related to Confederate veterans and this monument is a testament to those times and the times of when all Confederates were made American citizens again by mass amnesty acts done by President Lincoln and President Johnson. I also believe that memorials in cemeteries should not be messed with as they are a memorial to the dead, and therefore I see this as not just a monument but as a headstone.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Sharon Williams



**Department of the Southwest
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Arizona - New Mexico**

25 Oct 2022

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

Name: Avery Frantz

Title: Civil War Memorial Officer & Graves Registration Officer, Department of the Southwest, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because this monument was about the healing of a country that was once divided. It is about unity and was sculpted by a member of a marginalized community "the Jewish community" as the sculptor was Moses Jacob Ezekiel. The monument also depicts two people of African American heritage on the monument and displays the life of a society "Gone with the Wind".

Furthermore, my 3rd Great Grandfather Howard Hoadley was the true last Union veteran to pass in the State of Arizona. He during an interview he did in the 1930's he stated that he supported Confederate veterans and their symbols integrated in society and believed that both sides made mistakes. These monuments are not just a testament of time but also an anthropological way of viewing how societies once thought. This monument is also located in a cemetery overlooking the Confederate dead in which a cemetery is sacred hallowed ground and monuments like this hold the most context considering its environment.

I therefore state that I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty;

Avery Frantz

Department Civil War Memorials Officer
Department Graves Registration Officer

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: James E. Embry [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 12:50 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: Mark Brown
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Another Thought on the Proposed removal of the Reconciliation Monument

Your commission is tasked with the possible renaming of certain federal installations. How does the removal of any monument or statue anywhere come under that authority? I would also question if a cemetery qualifies as an "installation" in the normal sense of the term. It's not exactly a place where essential federal business is conducted every day. Your hearing is illegal!

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Hal Fleming <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 11:58 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

JAMES H. FLEMING

MBR: Sons of Confederate Veterans
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is primarily a PC (politically correct) move to continue the war against the South which had legally seceded and fought against an illegal invasion by the north because for the previous forty years before the war the taxes laid by the Congress of the United States had been laid out with a view of serving the interests of the North...to promote, by prohibitions, Northern interests in the production of their mines and manufacture. The people of the Southern States were not only taxed for the benefit of the Northern States, but after the taxes were collected, three-fourths of them were expended in the North.

The installation of the Confederate monument and reinternment of Confederate soldiers at Arlington was an attempt by President William McKinley, kicked off his "Peace Jubilee" nationwide tour with a speech in Atlanta, in which he proclaimed, "in the spirit of fraternity we should share with you in the care of the graves of Confederate soldiers.... Sectional feeling no longer holds back the love we feel for each other. The old flag again waves over us in peace with new glories." That eventually resulted in the reinternment of over 400 Confederate soldiers in the Confederate Section of Arlington Cemetery and the subsequent installation of the Confederate Monument all of which was to help heal the wounds of the nation which had been so cruelly inflicted by the illegal invasion of the South by the Union under President Lincoln.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

JAMES FLEMING

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: James E. Embry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 11:59 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Hearing on Removal of Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery

For the record, I am James E. Embry, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] My telephone number is [REDACTED].

I am the great-great-grandson of Pvt. William Britton Embry of the 37th Mississippi Volunteers, CSA, captured at Gettysburg by Union forces and incarcerated at Fort Delaware POW camp until his death about 10 months later from an unhealthy environment, always damp, prevalent disease, poor medical care and substandard food. Several of the guards died because of the unhealthy conditions as well as almost one-third of the prisoners. Historians have revealed it was the deliberate policy of the federal government to provide this level of care to Confederate POW's. I consider this to have been a war crime with the three most responsible officials being the general in charge of the POW camp system, his immediate superior, Secretary of War Edwin Stanton and his immediate superior, the presiding official of the rump government then operating in Washington , D.C., Abraham Lincoln.

Erection of the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington Cemetery was the least the Washington government could have done to make amends for the depredations committed by Union forces during Mr. Lincoln's War Against the States on helpless Southern civilian populations. Reparations should have been paid to those people after the war for their losses. Instead, they were put under military occupation for a time and treated like dirt. A fourth notorious war criminal was General William T. Sherman, a man who gleefully led his troops on a rampage of arson, rape and murder in the South, who infamously wrote to his wife that every man, woman and child in the South needed to be killed, who refused to permit Colored Troops, any of the 300,000 in the Union Army, to participate in the victory parade in Washington the summer following Lee's surrender at Appomattox, and who notoriously associated with many of the political refugees from the failed Marxist revolutions in Central Europe in the years preceding the war, many of whom served prominent positions in the Union government during the war, both as civilians and as officers in the Army. Historians have found his name on a membership roll of a Marxist political group of the time, believed to be a forerunner of the American Communist Party.

Compare Sherman's actions with General Order No. 70, issued by Robert E. Lee to the Army of Northern Virginia in anticipation of their entry into the State of Pennsylvania prior to Gettysburg, where he exhorted his troops to act like "the Christian gentlemen they are" and to respect the persons and property of civilians they might encounter while in Pennsylvania.

To even suggest the removal of this monument, desecrating the graves of these brave men, is not only reprehensible, it is disgusting in the utmost. Shame on you!

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Bill Grubbs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 10:07 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] LEAVE OUR CONFEDERATE MONUMENTS ALONE!!!

Mr. Davis,

I am furious that my country would so offend so many of its citizens by destroying monuments our brothers who gave everything to protect their beliefs. This madness must stop immediately. Nothing good is ever going to come of it. **Leave the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington alone.** I can not stress how important this is to good people in America. Leave it alone!

Sincerely,
William H. Grubbs

[REDACTED]

--BG--

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: John Gibson [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 9:54 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Memorial Comments

Dear Mr. Davis,

I have been told that you are the man to contact with regards to expressing concern over the status of the Arlington Confederate Memorial, so I do hope this mail is reaching the correct inbox. If not, I apologize.

I am deeply concerned over the current rhetoric and the recommendations of the so-called "Naming Commission" regarding the aforementioned Memorial. I just visited the Arlington Cemetery a month ago, and saw the Memorial, surrounded by orange construction fencing, and could not help but feel a decision to hide the Memorial had already been made. I sincerely hope that is not the case.

While I was there at Arlington, a sign near the entrance struck me. It said, "Welcome to Arlington Cemetery, our Nation's most sacred shrine. Please conduct yourselves with dignity and respect at all times. Please remember these are hallowed grounds." It is a striking sign for its compelling language, brief yet a call which is very great and aspirational. To conduct oneself with dignity and respect at all times is not something that one is frequently asked to do. To recognize the sanctity of the very ground of a place is something we never do commuting to work or spending time at leisure. Indeed, at Arlington Cemetery, out of respect for the fallen, more is asked of each of us to rise above our everyday lives to honor the men and women buried in those hallowed hills. The sacrifice of the men and women resting there permeates the whole of the Cemetery and the land itself holds us to a higher standard, and the standard to which we are held, the challenge presented by Arlington Cemetery to each of us, is to be respectful of the dead there as they rest in peace.

How then, I ask, can we discuss gouging the face of those hallowed hills by tearing up a somber monument which beautifully pays homage to the sacrifice of men buried in those very hills which demand us upon entry to be respectful and dignified? It is a horror to me that we as a nation could even consider removing a monument to the sacrifices of half of the nation and the great reconciliation which occurred between brothers formerly at war and placed on that spot at Presidential request. The various carvings on the monument represent the sacrifices of those in the Southern States during the War, and the figure atop, facing South, bestows a laurel wreath to her sons resting below her. She holds a plough and stands atop the beautiful verse "and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares." This inspiring monument to sacrifice and reconciliation belongs in no other place than Arlington Cemetery where respect and dignity are the virtues which the hallowed grounds demand.

I sincerely hope that you and the Commission consider these thoughts as you discuss the recommendations of the "Naming Convention," and I pray that you reject any proposal to damage, marr, or defile our Nation's most sacred shrine by uprooting the Confederate Memorial.

Truly,
John W Gibson III

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 9:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to the removal of the Confederate Reconciliation Memorial
Attachments: StatementInOppositionToTheRemovalOfTheReconciliationMemorial_StevenBWard.pdf

(PDF document of statement below is attached)

Mr. Davis sir,

Please find below my STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Steven B. Ward
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Commander, Major James McHenry Camp No. 2310, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Broken Arrow, OK
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern,

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose the removal of the Memorial because it honors Americans who fought against an unconstitutional invasion from the north. The memorial to these men was first conceived of by President William McKinley, a decorated Union veteran who saw combat at Antietam and in the Shenandoah Valley. During his presidential campaign in 1896, he witnessed untended Confederate graves in the South, and it disturbed him. At the time, the federal government prohibited the decoration of Confederate graves at Arlington, as it had since the end of the "Civil War".

McKinley thought it was time for that to change. At a peace jubilee in December 1898 celebrating the end of the Spanish-American War (the first time since before the Civil War that Americans from both North and South were engaged in a military conflict with a foreign power), McKinley announced that the government would henceforth tend to the graves of Confederate dead buried in federal cemeteries, saying they represented a "tribute to American valor."

The speech prompted calls to disinter Confederate remains at Arlington, which were dispersed throughout the cemetery and mingled with Union graves, and rebury them in a specially designated Confederate section. Congress drafted legislation and provided funding, and McKinley signed the bill in June 1900.

The legislation didn't mention a memorial, but the plans for the Confederate section laid out graves in a circular pattern around a cruciform set of walkways with a central grassy area that the Army Corps of Engineers marked on the plans with an "M," for memorial.

It would take another 14 years for private groups (including Union veteran organizations) to raise the money and erect the Confederate memorial that stands in Arlington today. Anyone who has seen it knows that it reflects the sentiments of reconciliation and national unity that McKinley originally had in mind.

The memorial's central figure is a woman, meant to represent the South, crowned with an olive wreath, a symbol of peace. In her extended left hand is a laurel wreath and in her right hand is a pruning hook, which rests upon a plow. Under the figure is an inscription, a quote from the Book of Isaiah, "And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

That is to say, the memorial's central theme is reconciliation and peace — beating swords into ploughshares. It commends the South for turning away from war while also honoring their war dead.

Critics will note how the Latin inscription on the monument's base contains a reference to the "lost cause," as if that somehow vitiates the overarching purpose and theme of the work. It does not. Authentic reconciliation, after all, involves some degree of compromise, and at the time — within a living generation of Civil War combat — it was enough for North and South to declare together that sectionalism was finished and that the country would bind up its wounds and be united again.

There is only one reason to remove the monument now, in 2022, and it has nothing to do with past or racial reconciliation and everything to do with wielding political power in the present.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
- Steven B. Ward

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Dustin Beard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:49 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Dustin Beard
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Pharm.D.
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it was meant to bring the country together and has no ties to racism. The Memorial honors the dead on both sides of the Civil War conflict and should not be desecrated.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Dustin Beard, Pharm.D.

Magnolia Pharmacy/Fairyland Pharmacy
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: David72717 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:46 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: David Ellis
TITLE / AFFILIATION: member Sons of Confederate Veterans, life member Military Order of Stars and Bars
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because such action violates long-standing agreements and defiles the spirit of honoring Southern ancestors.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

David Ellis

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Troy Stith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:28 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington

Good evening Mr. Davis.

I am writing to express my extreme opposition to the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial at the Arlington National Cemetery.

I think it is a tremendous dishonor to those who sacrificed, fought and died for their beliefs and values.

I cannot comprehend the absolute determination that people have today to destroy and erase our history when most of them, or I should say, the majority have no idea what the war between the states was actually fought over.

I hope the commission can find the decency to realize that our history is a part of these United States and not to destroy or erase it hoping it will go away. We need to honor our veterans.

Thank you.

Troy Stith
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: TWA Arey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:26 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Tim Arey
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Tim Arey

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Sherrion Struppler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:22 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: sherrion@cox.net
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the memorial because it is about the sacrifice of all who fought and died in the bloodiest war in American history, regardless of race or religion. It honors those who died and never came home. With the renewed hope of reconciliation, in June 1900 Congress introduced legislation for a section of Arlington Cemetery for the Confederate dead. At the unveiling and dedication of Jewish Confederate Moses Ezekiel's cenotaph in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson deemed the cenotaph an emblem of a reunited people.

An Act of Congress declared Confederate American soldiers to be full and equal citizens of the United States, including their memorials. Further, Congress declared them to be American Veterans due all the amenities of any other veteran. Those who would vote to remove this memorial are devoid of respect for veterans.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you.

Sherrion Struppler

Registered Voter in Virginia

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jonathan Varnell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Jonathan Varnell
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is an ever present monument and marker to those who died for what they believed was the American way. It is a reminder of what may come from within our own society if we do not find peaceful resolutions to our disagreements. One fifth of Americans living in the South during that brutal period died and they should be remembered.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Jonathan Varnell

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: CHARLES D GARVIN <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:03 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

Charles Garvin
Former US Army
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

It was first conceived of by President William McKinley, a decorated Union veteran who saw combat at Antietam and in the Shenandoah Valley. During his presidential campaign in 1896, he witnessed untended Confederate graves in the South, and it disturbed him. At the time, the federal government prohibited the decoration of Confederate graves at Arlington, as it had since the end of the Civil War.

McKinley thought it was time for that to change. At a peace jubilee in December 1898 celebrating the end of the Spanish-American War (the first time since before the Civil War that Americans from both North and South were engaged in a military conflict with a foreign power), McKinley announced that the government would henceforth tend to the graves of Confederate dead buried in federal cemeteries, saying they represented a "tribute to American valor."

As a former member of the Armed Forces of the United States and a proud Southerner, I am at a loss for words as to why there continues to be an attack on all things Confederate. Many of those Confederate Veterans served in defense of the United States prior to and after the war of 1861 to 1865.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it. As

Thank you,

Charles Garvin

Statement In Opposition To The Removal Of The Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial.

Mr. Kim Paul Horning

Member: Sons of Union Veterans

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Cemetery.

I oppose removing the Memorial because I believe our Civil War Heritage needs to be preserved for all soldiers who served both the North and South. As a nation we are all Rebels due to our revolution against England to form our nation and United States originally. Robert E. Lee was requested by government to lead the Union Army against the Southern State withdrawals. He refused as he did not desire to invade his own state which included his wife's family farm that is now the grounds of Arlington Cemetery. During the war the Union took over these grounds and used it as a headquarters. Soldiers who died from both Union and Confederate armies were buried on these grounds before it was Arlington. This history needs to be preserved as all leaders from the North and South governments, as well as military, reunited after the war and served our United States going forward. We need to preserve their heritage.

I am offended and upset by the recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank You,

Kim Paul Horning

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Dusty Kobs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 7:42 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Mr. Ernest Charles Kobs, IV

Sons of Union Veterans, Sons of Confederate Veterans, former member of The Old Guard of the Army at Ft Myer, VA / Arlington National Cemetery

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Confederate War Memorial because it is an extremely inclusive and healing war memorial that was placed in the spirit of unity and reconciliation. Furthermore it is one of the most beautiful memorials within the cemetery. I marched past it and visited it many times as a soldier in C Co, 3rd US Infantry (TOG). I could have never imagined a day not so far in the future that such a repugnant recommendation to remove such a beautiful and sacred memorial could be made. It has been said that cemeteries and museums are the proper places for such memorials. Those of us that study and understand history knew that such memorials to our fallen American servicemen and civilians would not long be safe in such places before the same destructive forces that plucked the low hanging fruit found even the resting places unacceptable for them to grace.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ernest C. Kobs, IV

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Stan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 7:39 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Importance: High

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: The Honorable Commissioner Rev. Dr. Stanley Michael Latta, K.T., 32o, PM, Kentucky Colonel, Point of Light
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Sons of Confederate Veterans; Military Order of the Stars & Bars; Order of the Southern Cross; lifelong Southerner; patriotic American
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because both sides of my family served as officers during the "War Between The States" in order to defend their Southern homeland from Northern invasion. None of my family owned even one slave, so they fought to protect their heritage. If Americans could seceded from Great Britain, we could -- and did -- seceded from the united States. Even today, Americans and Southerners like myself, still fight to protect our heritage from being stolen by those would unfairly tarnish our ancestors good names and the South's true history under God.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Stan Latta, PhD
NC native and descendant of military veterans all the way back to the American Revolution
Past Commander, SCV Private Henry Lawson Wyatt Camp 1297 (Raleigh, North Carolina)
Past Chaplain, North Carolina Society, MOS&B
Licensed and ordained Southern Baptist minister

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:56 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: James W. Hartley
TITLE: CA. HWY Patrol SGT. Retired
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I am an Army Veteran, descended from veterans of all the wars fought by Americans since before colonial times. It is extremely troubling to me that some people wish to remove and destroy our monuments, change the names of our military bases, and vandalize cemeteries. My son is a veteran and I have two grandsons currently serving in the Army. They agree with me as does every friend and relative I have. My four great grandfathers served in the Confederate Army. None owned slaves, but they served to defend their families and country. They were American Veterans. It is difficult to think they are those who even consider slandering our Veterans by destroying our history and heritage.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

James W. Hartley

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Steve Owen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:44 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Major Steven D. Owen
(US Army, Retired)
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery.

I enlisted in the US Army in 1973 and was one of the first to join the all-volunteer Army as a Private. Thirty-four years later, I retired from Regular Army as a Major in the Adjutant General's Corps. My father was drafted in the US Army during the Korean War; he was the first to serve in an American army since my great, great, grandfather served in the Confederate States Army. During my career, I served multiple tours of duty in the Military District of Washington, including serving in the 3rd US Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) at Fort Myer, and on the Army General Staff in the Pentagon. While stationed on Fort Myer, I frequently passed the Reconciliation Memorial and little could I imagine that one day, political correctness would destroy history because it doesn't fit with the image of ignorant people.

When I entered the Army, my black drill sergeants told us: "There is only one color in the US Army, and it is green!" This commission is taking a color blind Army and attempting to divide it by race. It is appalling that an issue is being created that essentially did not exist and I am outraged by it. My direct ancestor was wounded in action, shot in the face while defending Petersburg; not quite a year later he was captured at Five Forks just before Appomattox, and released in July 1865 after signing an oath of allegiance pledging never again to take arms against the United States.

I had a total of six great grandfathers who served in the Confederate States Army and none personally owned slaves. They were good and decent men who answered the call from Virginia, as did others. To degrade that honorable service is despicable. Furthermore, attempts to remove all vestiges of Confederate service as if they did not exist is wrong in every historical way. I have to wonder if you intend to dig up the Confederate dead of Arlington and National Cemeteries elsewhere.

You learn nothing by erasing the past. In fact, you are hurting the retention of currently serving military service members of Southern heritage, and encouraging by your actions from enlisting quality individuals America has depended upon to protect her since 1865. If you want to know why the military has failed to meet its recruiting and retention quotas today, you only have to look at the hate you have projected on the descendents of Southern men who over 160 years ago rejoined America as full citizens of the United States and declared American Veterans by declaration of Congress.

I ask the Cemetery Commission reject this recommendation. Leave the Memorial alone and the Confederate dead to rest in peace.

Thank you,

Major Steven D. Owen
(US Army, Retired)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jamie R Spivey [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:41 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA); Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Jamie R. Spivey
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Respectfully,
Jamie R. Spivey

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Brian Perkins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:19 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] I object to removal of the Reconciliation Memorial

Brian Perkins, [REDACTED] I speak for myself.

Gentlemen: I understand you are considering removing the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I will interpret such a removal as a sign of hatred and contempt for my people the Southern Americans who remember with pride their ancestors in gray in the War between the States. I will pay attention to how you vote and will transmit to posterity your names, faces, and actions so that my children can learn to hate yours. If you do this thing why would our young Southern men volunteer to serve a military which defends a government which dishonors their ancestors? Please don't earn my hatred. Respectfully yours, Brian Perkins

Sent from my iPhone

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: ROBERT BREWER <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:12 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] re Arlington Nat Cemetery /Confederate Monument

Mr. Davis- I'm **Bob Brewer. I am a Citizen and Taxpayer.**
My address and ph # are: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

*I oppose removal of the Memorial because **the Memorial has been in place for a number of years and has not caused any problems. It is an important part of the overall Cemetery and should be left in place .***

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Bob Brewer

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Rich Stewart <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:07 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Conf. monument

To Whom It May Concern,

As a historian in Missouri that does Civil War history of Missouri, and has for twelve years, I find that even taking the consideration to take down the Confederate monument at Arlington is a travesty! I had family that fought on both sides of the war and am proud and respectful of both. The nation reconciled and came together afterwards and that reconciliation is present in monuments, statues and pictures of the old soldiers, from BOTH sides, visiting, shaking hands and enjoying each others company. Lincoln found reconciliation between the states and helped heal the nation. Why are new scars being allowed to be opened up? The majority does NOT agree with actions like these.

Furthermore, many of you should be educated enough to know that the Union were not the heroes they have been portrayed. Their actions, especially during the Kansas-Missouri border wars, were atrocious and horrifying. Not all of them were for freeing slaves and even Sherman saw the black man as beneath himself. But yet I see no one clamoring for the removal of the life size statue of Sherman in D.C..

Leaning one way to remove this monument is for now, but history, through letters, deep research and knowledge, will always show the balance.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Stewart
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Malcolm Allred <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:04 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL:

I am totally opposed to the renaming or removal of the reconciliation monument in Arlington National Cemetery that honors Confederate soldiers who died defending their country and those survivors who were willing to reunite with the United States. I am exceedingly proud that my ancestors took up arms and were a part of the effort to expel an invading army. The destruction of monuments or the renaming of military bases is an effort by an immoral few who have little appreciation for the history of our republic or the efforts of Southerners to defend their country and their states.

NAME: Mr. Malcolm Allred
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
AFFILIATION: Sons of Confederate Veterans
TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

Malcolm Allred
October 25, 2022

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jim Cox [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:03 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Defend Arlington!

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

James W. Cox
U.S. Citizen
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because in essence it is a burial or grave marker! The fact that it exists on original property owned by Robert E. Lee is reason enough to LEAVE IT ALONE!

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

James W. Cox

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:00 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] The Arlington National Cemetery Confederate monument

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

ROBERT MCKAY



Dear Sir:

I have, over the years, and especially in the past two or three years, seen an appalling advance of barbarism in the United States. The term "vandalism" comes from the Vandals, one of the barbarian tribes who ransacked Rome, and the term "vandal" applies especially well to those who, in the name of a highly intolerant "tolerance" and a very narrow "diversity," are trying to wipe out of existence a culture, a way of life, and a portion of our history.

This has a specific focus, now, on the Confederate memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. This cemetery, which occupies land that rightfully belongs to the heirs of Robert E. Lee (the United States unilaterally confiscated the place just because Gen. Lee dared to differ with the views of the ruling elites), has a Confederate section, and a Confederate monument, because past generations recognized that both sides fought for what they believed was right, both sides included very courageous people, and both sides needed reconciliation. No matter what some people - in their ignorance of history - claim, that monument has nothing to do with racism. A Jew designed it - which is only fitting, since the first Jewish cabinet officer in the United States was Judah P. Benjamin, who served in the Confederate cabinet. Confederate soldiers were brown and black as well as white - there were thousands of blacks who volunteered to serve, not just in labor capacities as the north tried to restrict them to, but armed and fighting soldiers, in integrated units. Witnesses who were no friends of the Confederate States of America testified to the presence of armed black Confederate soldiers, fighting by the side of white Confederate soldiers. There were Hispanic officers and men in the Confederate States Army. There were American Indian officers and men on the Confederate side - indeed, the last Confederate general to surrender was Stand Watie, the principal chief of the Cherokee Nation.

In light of these historical, documented facts, to claim that the Confederate memorial in Arlington National Cemetery stands for racism or "white supremacy" is to at best evince vast historical ignorance, and at worst demonstrate a maniacal tendency to tell deliberate lies in the pursuit of a dictatorial political agenda. One hopes that it is the former motivation which has moved the current attempt at official vandalism, and not the latter; one hesitates to think so ill of anyone as to believe that he would consciously spread vicious untruths about others just to achieve his political goals.

In any event, on these factual and rational grounds, I vehemently oppose any attempt, or any considerate of such an attempt, to dismantle or otherwise do harm to the Arlington Confederate memorial. It would be a vast insult to thousands upon thousands of honest, brave men who believed they were fighting for the same liberties as the founders

of the United States fought for. It would further be an enormous insult to thousands upon thousands of people who are descended from those men, and to millions of honest southerners who hate racism, who hate bigotry, but recognize that the Confederate States of America are part of their heritage and their history.

I urge you, sir, to use every means at your disposal to stand against this proposed act of barbaric violence to history and to the memory of good men.

Thank you.

Robert McKay



To think that the South went to war to keep their slaves, one must think that the North went to war to free them. The simple fact is, that it did not. --Bo Traywick, the *Territorial Rattler*, January 2022

[Taglinator 4.0 unregistered - Caution-www.srtware.com]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Philip Andrew Hamilton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:57 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: Ann McLean; Bill Byrd; DIANA HOLLETT; John Reid (johnreidonline@gmail.com); Laszlo Balint
Subject: [URL Verdict: Suspect][Non-DoD Source] My Opposition To The Removal Of The Reconciliation Memorial

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Matthew Davis,

As a historian, I stand opposed to the commission's attempts to remove the Arlington Confederate Monument, from the Arlington National Cemetery.

I urge the members of the commission to read my article about the dedication of the monument, that former President Woodrow Wilson had attended 108 years ago.

I also have articles from the Abbeville Institute, and from my blog The Hamilton Press, for the commission to review.

Philip Andrew Hamilton
The Virginia Council
[REDACTED]

Caution-<https://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/removing-the-confederate-memorial-at-arlington-isnt-about-racial-reconciliation-its-about-political-power/> < Caution-<https://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/removing-the-confederate-memorial-at-arlington-isnt-about-racial-reconciliation-its-about-political-power/> >

Caution-<https://hamiltonhistoricalrecords.com/2022/09/21/june-4th-1914-president-thomas-woodrow-wilson-speaks-at-the-dedication-of-the-arlington-national-cemeterys-confederate-monument/> < Caution-<https://hamiltonhistoricalrecords.com/2022/09/21/june-4th-1914-president-thomas-woodrow-wilson-speaks-at-the-dedication-of-the-arlington-national-cemeterys-confederate-monument/> >

Caution-<https://www.thehamiltonpress.com/post/moses-jacob-ezekiel-was-a-jewish-veteran-a-pesky-detail-for-those-who-want-his-artwork-destroyed> < Caution-<https://www.thehamiltonpress.com/post/moses-jacob-ezekiel-was-a-jewish-veteran-a-pesky-detail-for-those-who-want-his-artwork-destroyed> >

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:56 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Sanford Payton
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Citizen of USA, Taxpayer
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it was placed on Robert E. Lee's prewar estate to promote reconciliation after the war created by Mr. Lincoln to abolish States' rights. People needed reconciliation then and they need it now. Only people who want to destroy the United States are in favor of removing reminders of our true history. They do this to divide our population into small waring factions so it will be easier for our enemies to conquer our country.

Enemies of our country have shut off our energy independence, they have destroyed our public education system to prevent our kids from attaining an education, they have flooded our country with over 5 million uneducated aliens who have no concept of a republican form of government, they have politicized the Department of Justice, the FBI, and the IRS to destroy the Rule of Law, they are attempting to spend our nation into bankruptcy while creating inflation and destroying independent businesses and shutting down our means of manufacturing and distribution, they are destroying our military readiness by firing as many members as possible on false pretenses, selling our Strategic Oil Supply to China, and depleting our weapons by leaving millions behind in Afghanistan and squandering the rest on a war falsely created to overthrow the Russian dictator, they are creating chaos in our country by demonizing the civilian-controlled police, allowing the importation of additive and fatal drugs while promoting drug addiction and homelessness in our major cities, and they are brainwashing our children with false history, Critical Race Theory and abnormal sexual behavior.

Members of the Naming Commission are aiding these enemies of the United States by voting to make this recommendation and the Cemetery Commission should reject it.

Thank you,

Sanford Payton

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Darron Williams <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:53 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Darron Williams
TITLE / AFFILIATION: U.S. citizen, taxpayer and veteran
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because erasing history is deeply disturbing and something typically done by terrorist groups and nations, such as the taliban. .

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Darron Williams

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:49 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate Monument

Please do not remove the Recinciliation Monument in Arlington Cemetery. This serves no useful purpose and will negatively impact recruiting from Southern states.

This is an incredible waste of time and money that would be better spent on training and payroll. We have soldiers on food stamps because we don't pay them a living wage.

I oppose this an encourage you to leave our American heritage alone.

Mark Buchanan

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Tennessee Division Heritage Defense Chairman

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Martha Bratcher <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:47 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Reconciliation Memorial

Please! Stop the removal of historic monuments! Statues such as this don't paint a flattering picture of my Confederate ancestors when viewed by modern eyes. They show how monstrous it was that Southerners enabled the horrid institution of slavery, and they show it a very powerful way. History is history.. Let it speak for itself.

Martha Bratcher, private citizen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Randy Davidson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:38 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Monument at Artlington

Statement in opposition to the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

Randall Davidson
Citizen
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I am oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose the removal because it is wrong to do so in my belief, and will be a divisive action seen by most. Reconciliation is what this country needs, not more division. I am also opposed to the renaming of our military bases, which again is divisive and a grand waste of money.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it completely.

Sincerely,

Randall Davidson

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:35 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Reconciliation Memorial

Dear Sir or Madame:

I submit the following statement regarding the removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial:

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Dr. Nathaniel Means
Professor of History

[REDACTED]

While it is a fact that secession occurred as a consequence of slavery, Confederate soldiers memorialized at Arlington enlisted, were drafted, served or otherwise fought for a multiplicity of reasons as Americans on behalf of their families, towns, and states as much a part of this nation as anyone else who has served in our country's armed forces. They should be honored no less than American soldiers who fought in the Philippines, Cuba, on the Great Plains against native Americans or in any other conflict with which people today might seethe with bitterness or engage in a public debate. The question stands: are these Confederate soldiers memorialized in Arlington Cemetery American veterans or not? Were they not Americans who served in American armies? And what of the tombstones of the soldiers themselves? Are they to be pulled up as well?

I oppose the recommendation to remove the Reconciliation memorial and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Dr. Nathaniel Means

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Mike <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:32 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

Msg Michael Harden,US army retired
[REDACTED]

I am contacting you to express my opposition to the proposed removal of The Confederate monument at Arlington. Other than to try to pander to the erroneous notions of the perpetually offended, I see no reason to remove this monument, if only for the cost to the public treasury. I will not waste my time going over the noble reasons behind the installation of this monument in time past. Nor will I over state the obvious that most if not all Confederate soldiers possessed , what in the not too distant pass, were called Army values above and beyond what most of their rampaging, looting, and civilian killing Union counterparts had (of such we can compare to recent Russian soldiery activity in Ukraine)!

Though, I mention all this, I will not elaborate further on what you will"get a load of"from other Southern history advocates! I emphasize that the commitees involved consider the wasteful nature of removing this monumant just to placate the crybabies in our midst!

Thank you for considering my suggestion, Mike Sent from my iPad

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: jeremy whittaker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:24 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Jeremy Whittaker

TITLE / AFFILIATION: 1SG USAR (RET)

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is a part of National history and heritage. This memorial was never a memorial to the construct of slavery, but a memorial to the southern war dead. Most (90%) of which who were not slave owners at all, but merely answered the call to defend their homeland.

Do not cave in to the woke demands of cancel culture. Renaming a base is one thing, but removing a memorial to the war dead is completely another. History is to be learned from, not erased, and at best is brief summary of events taught in K-12.

The very name of this memorial in question is the RECONCILIATION Memorial. Not the "It is ok now, but will be torn down decades later" memorial.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Jeremy Whittaker

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Nicholas Gilliam <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:16 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate monument at Arlington

Dear Sir:

I can see no justification for removing the reconciliation monument at Arlington. It is bad enough that the Federal Government intentionally destroyed Robert E. Lee's home by making it a cemetery but the reconciliation monument reflects the best of the past.

After the war there were many joint reunions between Union and Confederate troops; the marines for both only help joint reunions. To remove this monument is a direct insult to those men and their descendants.

Very respectfully

Nicholas B. Gilliam

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Phil L <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:15 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to remove the Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Philip Logan

US Army Desert Storm Veteran
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because it is divisive, unAmerican, and dishonorable to Americans, past, present, and future especially veterans like myself. If these deceased men can be dishonored to appease America hating malcontents then NO veteran memorial is safe!

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Philip Logan

Veteran 2/2 cavalry Operation Desert Storm

Life member Veterans of Foreign Wars

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Alan Parker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 7:20 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery's Confederate Memorial

Mr. Davis,

I oppose the proposed removal of the Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. I am proud of the individual Confederate patriot who gave the last full measure of devotion to his interpretation of the Constitution, not to mention the defense of his family and homes from an invading army who supposedly had his best interest in mind

As a tax paying and honorable citizen of this country I would deem it an outrage and miscarriage of justice if the memorial were to be removed. Not only would you be spitting on my ancestor's good name you would be spitting on my good name and family as well. By such a spurious action you will be telling me that I am not a real American and cause me to feel like a stranger in a strange land.

I can assure you that what goes around comes around and there will be no end to this ludicrous ethnic cleansing. The crimes against native Americans by Union generals Philip Sheridan and George Custer will be recalled. Then their memorials will fall as well.

Stop this madness before our country sinks into a morass of self doubt and a funeral pyre of masochistic self immolation.

Sincerely,
Alan Parker Vice President
Talisi Historical Preservation Society
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Mark Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:09 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Mark A Brown
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

This sets a very dangerous precedent. Will one day they look back and use this proposed removal to justify removal of WW2 monuments? How about Vietnam monuments? or Afghan and Iraq monuments?

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation by a very politicized commission which seeks to dishonor my ancestors who fought valiantly defending their homes from invading troops and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Mark A. Brown

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: jeremy whittaker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:05 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME:
TITLE / AFFILIATION:
ADDRESS:
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER:

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Name

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Rex Hovey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:05 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Arlington

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to persuade you to forego the removal of the Confederate Monument over looking of the graves at Arlington Cemetery.

It was placed there years ago by many intelligent

People that saw things in a way more human way than people today.

I am shocked that an idea such as this has even come about. Do not vote to remove this sacred monument.

Sincerely

Rex D Hovey

[REDACTED]

73 yrs

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android < Caution-

https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature >

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Wes Franklin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:56 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Protect and Preserve the Memorial at Arlington

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Wes Franklin

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Citizen of the State of Missouri

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove in any part whatsoever the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because I support the remembrance of Americans who died for the principle of self-government and true federalism, and who gave their lives defending their home from invasion.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Wes Franklin
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Thomas Crane <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:55 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Veteran Memorial

Mr. Davis, it is hard to believe someone has recommended that a veteran memorial be removed form a cemetery.

The Confederate memorial bears these words:

"Not for fame or reward
Not for place or rank
Not lured by Ambition
Or goaded by Necessity
But in simple Obedience to duty
As they understood it
These men suffered all, sacrificed all
"Dared all, and died"

Nothing about Lost Cause. Nothing about a certain social order. There is only a simple recognition of service to duty "as they understood it." In the midst of a cemetery. It is appalling some folks want to remove a memorial to those who fell.

Tom Crane



LTC, Army (R)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Robert Vaughan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:53 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Memorial

I'm writing to you in reference to the Memorial that's being considered to be moved. Please leave the monument and all monuments in this country alone. I have ancestors that have fought in every war from the revolutionary war, both side in the war between the states right up to the Vietnam war. My uncle that fought In the Vietnam war died over the 4th of July weekend from cancer. He had been exposed to agent Orange.
So again I'm begging you to please leave the monuments alone.

R.E. Vaughan Jr.

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: oral barnes <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:50 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The Arlington National Cemetery

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Oral Barnes
Concerned Citizen
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Oral Barnes

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

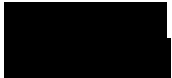
From: Dianna Myers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:49 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

As a great-granddaughter of a Confederate Veteran, I OPPOSE the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

For what purpose? To satisfy a few "woke" - they never will be satisfied!

It's time to stop the woke nonsense and preserve a Memorial that has stood in a National Cemetery since the early 1900's.

Mrs. Dianna Myers



Sent from my iPad

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Don Young <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:42 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to Memorial Removal

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Don C. Young
TITLE / AFFILIATION: US Citizen and family member of service men interred at Arlington.
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I oppose the Naming Commissions politically motivated recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

The Memorial represents a spirit of reuniting the nation after a terrible and costly war. Removing that token of inclusiveness by the very definition of the monuments name can only serve to create cultural divides and stir bitterness. Desecration of funeral and burial items is simply morally wrong.

I don't believe my family members who lie at Arlington fought our nation's battles to enable such partisan political theater. I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Don C. Young

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: JKS <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:39 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

James Kemp-Slaughter
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington Nation Cemetery.

I oppose the removal because it is not only a fine piece of Edwardian art, designed by a noted Jewish artist, Moses Ezekiel and was built to memorialize the reconciliation of the Union and The Confederate States following the war, encouraged by President Lincoln and General Robert E. Lee. In this spirit of reconciliation President McKinley in 1906 approved construction of the memorial. It is a part of our history and would be sad to have it removed.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

James Edward Kemp-Slaughter

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: alex cheek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:35 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Memorial Revival Plans

To the Members of the Arlington National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission:

I write you in strongest possible opposition to the idea of the removal of the so-called Confederate Memorial in Arlington Cemetery. To do so would be an act of desecration, no different than the actions of those who vandalize gravestones in churchyards. This is a monument to reconciliation between North and South, a recognition of the many Confederate soldiers buried at Arlington, and of the heritage so many members of our armed services have. It is not simply a "Confederate" memorial, it's an American memorial, and to uproot it would be an act of senseless barbarism. As a minister, I spend time in cemeteries regularly. Those buried there were not angels on this earth, they were mortal men and women, suffused with human frailties and mistakes. That is true today just as it was true in 1865.

What's next? Do we uproot the graves of all slaveholders? Do we demolish the gravesite of General George Washington? Tear down his monument? I ask you to turn away from this twisted path.

Yours in Christ's love,
Alex Cheek

Reverend Alex Cheek
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Tom Haake <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:28 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of statue at Arlington Cemetery

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because this statue reflects the men who fought in the Civil War and that died for what they believed in. We could argue whether they were right or wrong, but these were American men fighting for what they believed was right. They deserve to be remembered and honored whether you or I believe in their cause. That could be argued until the day both you and I die without being resolved. It is part of our history and I can not believe that commissions such as this are trying to delete or erase it. To me, it is funny that every locality that puts statue removal to a public vote loses. I believe that one fact, which can be reviewed, says exactly how the public feels about the job your "naming commission" is doing. Perhaps we should use that same logic when it comes to electing the people who put these commissions in place.

I could go into the history of this statue, who created it and the meaning of each included sculpture in the statue, but that would run for pages.....but might give you and the commission a much needed history lesson...

I WILL REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER.....

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Thomas L. Haake
Retired
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:24 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: URGENT CALL TO ACTION: DEFEND ARLINGTON!
CORRECTED
Attachments: Arlington Letter - Burr.docx

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Hi Matthew - the letter I sent to my NC Senators is attached. Good Luck!
Paul Kennedy

From: Defend Arlington <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:08 PM
To: Paul Kennedy <[REDACTED]>
Subject: URGENT CALL TO ACTION: DEFEND ARLINGTON! **CORRECTED**

Can't see this message? [View in a browser](#) < Caution-

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The Honorable Richard Burr
217 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Burr;

As a proud American, retired Naval Officer and life member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, I am outraged that the federal "Naming Commission," established by Congress in 2021, has now recommended that the Confederate Memorial located in the Confederate Section of Arlington National Cemetery be removed.

The memorial was dedicated on June 4, 1914, as part of America's continued effort to reunify the United States in the post-war era. Unfortunately, the Naming Commission has seen fit to recommend its removal and therefore the desecration of this honorable grave marker.

Quoting from a September 16th article in THE FEDERALIST,

"The memorial's central figure is a woman, meant to represent the South, crowned with an olive wreath, a symbol of peace. In her extended left hand is a laurel wreath and in her right hand is a pruning hook, which rests upon a plow. Under the figure is an inscription, a quote from the Book of Isaiah, "And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks." **That is to say, the monument's central theme is reconciliation and peace — beating swords into ploughshares [emphasis added].** It commends the South for turning away from war while also honoring their war dead."

This recommendation is divisive, extreme and serves no realistic purpose. As such, it epitomizes the complete lack of respect for the over 400 Confederate service members, their wives, and Confederate civilians buried at Arlington who are also American veterans, as enacted by Congress in 1958.

I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO OPPOSE THE REMOVAL OF THIS MEMORIAL.

Very Respectfully,

Paul R.B. Kennedy
Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Reddoch Williams <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:00 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: matt.gaetz@myfloridahouse.gov; services@rubio.senate.gov; admin@rickscott.senate.gov
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Renaming commission

Dear Sir:

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Reddoch Williams MD
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Retired USAF
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because we need to stop such divisive actions which have no useful purpose than to pit one segment of our population against another - basically dividing us according to our "tribe", while desecrating the memory of our dead.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Reddoch Williams MD

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Andrew Sullivan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:58 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial to the Commission

Hello Mr. Davis,
Leave the monument alone. It is about reconciliation and should remain.

--

Regards,
Andrew L Sullivan

Honesty is violence to the ego.
PS Hindsight is known for its accuracy, foresight is known for being absent.
PPS I am not the Andrew Sullivan of New Republic fame and I am not related to Mort Sullivan

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Marshall Hester <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:56 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Protect the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington

Sir,

I wish to petition the Arlington National Cemetery Federal Advisory Commission to protect the historic Reconciliation Memorial from alteration in any form, specifically, from any alteration recommendations from the so-called "Renaming Commission".

The Reconciliation Memorial represents healing, unification and peace -- the antithesis of what would be produced by alteration.

As General Lee said, the conflict was settled on the battlefield. Let the reconciliation that proceeded from the spirit of his statement remain undisturbed now and forever.

Respectfully,

Marshall Hester
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Michelle Staggs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:55 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of the Reconciliation Memorial

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

NAME: Michelle Staggs

TITLE / AFFILIATION: n/a

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because its purpose is reconciliation, something we still need. Rather than continue to escalate hatred by continually giving into the radical left, I hope that the Cemetery Commission will reject this recommendation. What is to be gained by obeying the political agenda of those who hate the US military, our veterans, and disrespect their service?

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Michelle Staggs

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: William Gantt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:50 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Memorial at Arlington

William Gantt
Citizen of Arkansas
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal for many reasons. The main one is that removing would only divide us more. Like pouring salt on an open wound. The men who the memorial represents bravely fought for what they thought to be the second American Revolution. They were the Sons and Grandsons of those who fought against tyranny 80 years before and sacrificed their lives so that we could have the country we have today. They are my Grandfathers. Slavery had to be eradicated from this land and, in my belief, is that it's a good thing the South lost. But remembering those that fell is vital to knowing who we are and how far we've come. It's important to look back and realize that we are all brothers, not to let politics divide us to a point of murder, and learn to COMPROMISE.

I don't know you, but I'm sure you love this land just like I do. The people in it, too. Please, leave the memorial alone..

Will Gantt

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Ireland Free Forever <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:42 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] re: Defend Arlington

Dear Mr. Davis,

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Gloria Aman
TITLE / AFFILIATION: USA Citizen
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because my husband has family that is buried at Arlington and I believe that I too have family members buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Both myself and my husband are offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Gloria & Samuel Aman

Sent from [Outlook](#)

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Jane B <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:36 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Jane Clary Bermijo
RidersUSA
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because history cannot be written to soothe feelings, regardless of how genuine. Men answered the summons when their state called.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,

Jane Clary Bermijo

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate Reconciliation Monument

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY COMMISSION

RE: Arlington Confederate Reconciliation Monument

Dear Mr. Davis

This is to object in the strongest possible terms to the Naming Commission's proposed removal of the 1914 Confederate Reconciliation monument from Arlington National Cemetery.

This is an insult to every veteran and literally spits on the veterans of both North & South who shook hands at the dedication of this monument.

This is America not (yet) Stalinist Russia!

This is the Public's art and you should leave it alone.

Kirk D. Lyons JD
[REDACTED]

Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)

From: Robert Schultz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 11:30 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Arlington memorial

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Robert Schultz
TITLE / AFFILIATION: MR.
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of the Memorial because my family is buried there and to remove such a historical landmark would be destruction to such a sacred site (cemetery). As they visited their fallen service members and looked upon the landscape and dreamed of their own resting place, so should future generations be able to, with reverence and pride in the countrys history and ancient and established landmarks.

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask/ beg the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Robert Schultz

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android < Caution-
https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature >

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: James W. and Jolie A. Whitehead

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private Citizens,

[REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, James W. Whitehead, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. This is simply Unamerican. In addition, it discriminates against the sculptor, Ezekial Moses, a great American sculptor.

Over the past years our Nation has bore witness to tragedies leading to public outrage that included the destruction, desecration, and removal of Civil War monuments across Virginia and Nationally. To be very clear, I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history. It is a crime against America.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. My wife and I have loved ones buried there, including grandparents who fought in the World Wars and friends who did not return from the Civil War, WW1, WW@, the War in Korea and Vietnam. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected. DO YOUR DUTY.***

In closing, we live in difficult times, and I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to **make our Nation a great place to live** for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove the Confederate Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Very respectfully,

James and Jolie Whitehead

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Robert, Natalie, and Clary Lee Floyd

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private Citizens, and career military, currently at the Pentagon.

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Robert Floyd, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commissions shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

Over the past years our Nation bore witness to tragedies leading to public outrage that included the destruction, desecration, and removal of Civil War monuments across Virginia and Nationally. To be very clear, I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. My wife and I have loved ones buried there, including grandparents who fought in the World Wars and friends who did not return from the War in Iraq. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected.**

In closing, we live in difficult times, and I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove the Confederate Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Very respectfully,

Robert, Natalie, and Clary Lee Floyd