



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ARMY NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERIES
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22211-5003

APR 26 2019

Office of the Executive Director

USS Thresher ANC Memorial Foundation
Attn: Mr. Kevin Galeaz
1465 Hooksett Road, Unit 239
Hooksett, NH 03106

Dear Mr. Galeaz:

I am pleased to notify you that the Secretary of the Army – in accordance with 38 USC §2409 - has approved the request submitted by the USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Foundation on July 10, 2018. Few commemorative works have been approved in recent years – which is a testament to the contribution made by the 129 crew and technicians of SSN 593, the USS Thresher. Your efforts have ensured that future generations visiting the cemetery will have the opportunity to reflect on the crew's legacy and remember their loss to our Nation.

The Army has designated an area which is not suitable for graves for placement of this important monument. The location is in the vicinity of memorial sections C, D, E, and F where eighteen of the crew are currently memorialized. This historic, highly visible, and frequently trafficked location along Porter Drive (both an easy walking distance from other frequently visited areas of the cemetery and along our tram tour route) will ensure easy access to both family and other visitors. A second area near the lost crew of the submarine USS F4 has been designated as an alternate location. This location is in Section 2, and is similarly historic, visible, and heavily trafficked by pedestrians.

On behalf of the Army and the staff of Arlington National Cemetery, we are honored that you and the families of the USS Thresher crew have entrusted us with a commemorative work dedicated to the crew and their legacy. We look forward to working with you as we proceed through the required consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and eventual placement of the monument.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Durham-Aguilera".

Karen Durham-Aguilera
Executive Director