



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

**APR 05 2018**

Office of the Deputy Superintendent

Mr. Kevin Galeaz  
Commander, USSVI Thresher Base  
P.O. Box 4811  
Manchester, NH 03108

Dear Mr. Galeaz and supporters of the USS Thresher Memorial Project:


On behalf of the Executive Director, Army National Military Cemeteries, thank you for your group's demonstration of support for the USS Thresher Memorial Project proposed for Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). We value each of your letters to us and thank you for taking the time to remind us of the tragic loss our country experienced that April day of 1963.

I will ensure that my staff continues to work with you to ensure that both our leadership and the Advisory Committee for Arlington National Cemetery can consider your request in a timely manner. Please continue to bear in mind that the placement of commemorative monuments (regulated by Title 38 U.S. Code §2409) reduces the availability of land to fulfill our primary mission – burial and memorialization of deceased Armed Forces Veterans and their eligible family members.

As steward of ANC, we take requests for commemorative monuments very seriously. We must work to conserve the available space for honoring individual veterans at their time of need and to preserve taxpayer funds - as the long-term maintenance of any monument has the risk of becoming a taxpayer expense. I assure you that we will be thorough and deliberate in our review of the request.

Thank you for reminding us of your continued efforts to honor the crew of the USS Thresher here on our hallowed grounds and for your interest in Arlington National Cemetery.

Sincerely,

  
Renea C. Yates  
Deputy Superintendent for  
Cemetery Administration