

Full Disclosure: Toward an Honest Commemoration of the American War in Viet Nam

<http://www.vietnamfulldisclosure.org/>



The Full Disclosure campaign is a Veterans For Peace effort to speak truth to power and keep alive the antiwar perspective on the American War in Viet Nam. It is a clear alternative to the Department of Defense's (DoD) efforts to sanitize and mythologize the US conflict in the Viet Nam war, legitimizing the continuation of further unnecessary and destructive wars.

President Obama has announced his plan for a 13-year-long commemoration funded at \$65 million. Rather than conducting an honest evaluation gleaning important lessons from the US intervention in Vietnam, the DoD is promoting an ex post facto justification of the war without acknowledging the terrible destruction and damage done to the Vietnamese people and land. Neither does the DoD discuss the lasting impact of this conflict on American soldiers and their families—from loss of life and physical disabilities and illnesses—to the transmission of birth defects to their progeny. It does not mention the millions of Vietnamese, including women and children—who were captured and tortured and killed. There is no representation of the heroic American soldiers who resisted the American War in Vietnam; nor any real acknowledgment of domestic protest. And the DoD project does not pay tribute to the voices and postwar reconciliation activities of many antiwar veterans.

Our goal is to mount a national campaign to present an accurate and honest history of the American War in Viet Nam. This campaign will include:

1. **Coordinated actions** on the 50th anniversary of the Gulf of Tonkin "incident" and Resolution (in August/September 2014).
2. **Protests at DoD-sponsored events.**
3. **Teach-ins during the spring of 2015 -- the 50th anniversary** of the original teach-ins focusing on the realities of the war, the nature of modern warfare, the dangers to civilians, etc.
4. **Development of mobile exhibits of art and photography** on Viet Nam and modern warfare.
5. **Speaking tours and forums** on issues including chemical warfare, attacks on civilians, the fantasies of automated, robotic war, the legacies of war (particularly Agent Orange).
6. **Developing materials to celebrate a pantheon of heroes** such as Hugh Thompson, Ron Ridenour, Muhammad Ali, Donald Duncan, Daniel Ellsberg, Susan Schnall, and many others.