

President Barack Obama
Fax: (202) 456-2461

Dear President Obama:

July 28, 2010

As a medic with the First Marine Division in Viet Nam in 1970 I administered first aid to the casualties of war. I tried to save a Marine who had the top of his head blown off, his blood filling my mouth as I administered artificial resuscitation. I would be as comforting as possible to Marines who lost a limb to landmines as I tied a tourniquet tightly around the remains of the leg, wrap a battle dressing over the stump, start an intravenous solution of plasma, and give the wounded man a shot of morphine.

As a veteran who experienced the horror, I abhor war.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan exacerbate an already volatile situation and are accomplishing nothing. They are a quagmire of futility, just like the Viet Nam war.

I am sick at heart over the ever-increasing casualties. More than fifty-five thousand American troops lost their lives in Viet Nam; millions of Vietnamese were killed or wounded.

We cannot let fifty-five thousand American troops die in Iraq and Afghanistan.

We cannot let the wars continue, killing thousands of civilians.

We can stop the madness, we can stop the bloodshed.

We can and we must end the wars now.

Sincerely,



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Hospital corpsman, USN 8/68-8/72
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Versions of this letter were also faxed to Mrs. Obama, relevant Cabinet members, and each member of the US House of Representatives & Senate from Pennsylvania.