

TAPE FOR WEEK OF MARCH 21

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

MORE THAN 2.7 MILLION AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN SERVED IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FROM 1961 TO 1975. CLOSE TO 58,000 DIED IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY, AND ANOTHER 300,000 SUFFERED INJURIES.

TO DATE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NO OFFICIAL ACTION TO HONOR THESE VETERANS, AND THAT IS WHY I AM SUPPORTING AN EFFORT TO ENACT THE VIETNAM VETERANS NATIONAL MEDAL ACT. SUCH AN ACT WOULD FINALLY GIVE OUR VIETNAM VETERANS THE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION THEY DESERVE.

THESE MEDALS WOULD BECOME PART OF THE NATIONAL MEDAL SERIES, AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE. THE MEDAL WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BECOME WIDELY SOUGHT BY THOSE WHO WISH TO HONOR OUR VIETNAM VETERANS, AND THE PURCHASE COST WOULD COVER ALL EXPENSES OF PRODUCTION.

THIS IS A LONG-OVERDUE SALUTE TO THE COURAGOUS AND HONORABLE AMERICANS WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY IN VIETNAM, AND I HOPE THE MEASURE RECEIVES SPEEDY PASSAGE.

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.