



Fellow Rangers and Associates:

Your response to the Foundation's request for support in its effort to preserve the Ranger Memorial has been overwhelming! Thanks to Patriots like you, we appear to be gaining some momentum.

The following copy of the letter mailed to Speaker McCarthy and Chairman Rogers last month includes an updated list of endorsements. We invite you to distribute the protest letter widely and are grateful for any additional endorsements we can garner. Please email [Molly@RangerMemorial.org](mailto:Molly@RangerMemorial.org) if you'd like to be added to the growing list of supporters. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be made by going to [www.nationalrangerfoundation.com](http://www.nationalrangerfoundation.com). Moving forward, we will post weekly updates of the list of endorsements to that same website.

Immediately, we're seeking a Congressional inquiry into the matter and are hopeful we can get an injunction to halt the defacement. You will be notified of any action taken via a Ranger Checkpoint message. I caution all that this will probably be a long and involved effort.

Thank you again for your support and generosity.

RLTW!

Joseph S. Stringham, Chairman, National Ranger Memorial Foundation



National Ranger Memorial Foundation  
PO Box 762  
Columbus, GA 31901

May 23, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Speaker of the House  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0520

The Honorable Mike Rogers  
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee  
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0103

Dear Speaker McCarthy and Chairman Rogers,

The National Ranger Memorial Foundation is deeply troubled by the recent decision of the leadership at Fort Moore (formerly known as Fort Benning) to remove the names of certain Rangers from the Ranger Memorial. This directive is based on a highly controversial interpretation of legislation passed by the 117th Congress, since enacted as Public Law 116-283, which has far-reaching implications for the families of the individuals named, as well as for the Memorial itself, which was constructed and is maintained solely by private donations.

We express grave concern for the impact of this decision on the families of those named, who are being denied the recognition and honor their loved ones earned through their brave service to our country. Furthermore, this decision undermines the integrity and significance of the Memorial itself, which stands as a symbol of the sacrifice and dedication of our Nation's Rangers. In attempting to address the abominable treatment of our citizens of African descent, Fort Moore leadership has unfortunately taken a one-size-fits-all approach, which is itself abominable treatment of other citizen groups.

The individuals targeted by this directive include Col. John S. Mosby, a staunch abolitionist, U.S. Consul to Hong Kong, and assistant U.S. Attorney General, appointed after his extraordinary military service. The directive instructs the Foundation to remove Col. Mosby's name from a

granite wall panel, and also demands removal of the memorial paver bearing his name, as well as pavers bearing the names of George Bowman, Jackson Bowman, and William Quantrill. Regarding the Quantrill paver, the Foundation agrees that it should be removed and further suggests past leadership erred in approving its placement at the Memorial. The National Ranger Memorial Foundation remains steadfast in its commitment to honoring the past and advocating for a fair and impartial future, while asserting that erasing names will not foster unity within the Ranger Community or our Nation, nor guarantee equality.

We urge all Americans to join us in the fight to overturn this directive and protect the legacy of our heroes as we stand in solidarity with the affected families and pledge to safeguard and defend the Memorial. Moreover, we ask the assistance of your offices in seeking a resolution to this issue. To that end, we draw your attention to President McKinley's address at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, in which he urged reconciliation based on the outstanding service of Southerners during the U.S. war with Spain. Congress's response to this plea was magnanimous and resulted in the Appropriations Act of FY 1901, in which Confederate soldiers were recognized as fellow countrymen deserving of the respect and honor accorded to U.S. soldiers. These laws are still in full force and effect to this day, and their effect must be balanced with the implementation of Public Law 116-283.

We must remember and learn from our history, but we must not erase it. Removing from the Ranger Memorial the names of those soldiers who supported the Confederacy but honorably served the United States of America thereafter is an affront to our shared heritage and values as a Nation. We call on you to unite with us in opposing this directive and preserving the legacy of our heroes.

If you have any concerns or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Joseph S. Stringham, BG, U.S. Army ret., Chairman, National Ranger Memorial Foundation at [Joe@RangerMemorial.org](mailto:Joe@RangerMemorial.org). Col. Colin Mahle, the Garrison Commander at Fort Moore, has also stated that he may be contacted regarding this issue at [colin.p.mahle.mil@army.mil](mailto:colin.p.mahle.mil@army.mil).

We, the undersigned, strenuously object to the defacement and desecration of the National Ranger Memorial.

\* Ranger Hall of Fame Inductee

\*\* Distinguished Member of the Ranger Brigade Inductee

William F. "Buck" Kernan, GEN (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)

Former Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic

Former Commander in Chief, US Joint Forces Command

Kenneth C. Leuer, MG (R), USA (\* Inaugural Inductee) (\*\*)

Founder, National Ranger Memorial Foundation

Paul E. Vallyely, MG (R), USA

President, Stand Up America

Thomas R. Csrnko, MG (R), USA

David A. Morris, MG (R), USA

Joseph S. Stringham, BG (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)

William J. Leszczynski, Jr., BG (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)

Thomas C. Maffey, BG (R), USA  
Roger B. Brown, Sr., MAJ (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Howard H. Mullen, MSG (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Donald E. Purdy, CSM (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Joseph J. Callahan, CSM (R), USA  
Joseph J. Callahan IV, CPT (R), USA  
Edward Clark, LTC (R), USA  
Glynn W. Hale, COL, (R), USA (\*)  
Jonathon M. Davis, CWO5 (R), USN  
Keith M. Nightingale, COL (R), USA (\*)  
David Hall, SCPO (R), USN  
David C. Kanamine, MAJ (R), USA  
Gail R. Ernst, CSM (R), USA (\*\*)  
William J. Filipkowski, SGM (R), USA  
Richard Conant, USA, USMA Class of 1961  
Nils C. Sorenson, COL (R), USA  
John Walker, 1SG (R), USA  
Jerry Mason, SSG (R), USA  
Collin Hall, CSM (R), USA  
Thomas Colvin, CSM (R), USA  
Steven J. Murphy, CW3 (R), USA (\*)  
Tommy F. Shook, CSM, CPT (R), USA (\*)  
Thomas Cruise, CSM (R), USA  
Larry D. Perino, COL (R), USA  
Ranger Pat Kelley, Veteran, USA  
Alfred J. Lamb, SGM (R), USA (\*)  
Ranger Timothy W. Swain II, Veteran, USA  
Blain A. Reeves, LTC (R), USA, 1993 Best Ranger  
Ash Hess, SFC (R), USA  
Keith P. Jordan, CW3 (R), USA, SOMMA #645  
Ranger CJ Hyatt, Veteran, USA  
Jeff Williams, 1SG (R), USA  
Christopher Pearson, SFC (R), USA  
John Reid, 1SG (R), USA  
David B. Haskins, CW4 (R), USA  
Herbert L. Puckett, CSM (R), USA  
John Breach, SFC (R), USA  
Gordon Pullen, MSG (R), USA  
Chris Kibler, CSM (R), USA  
John Busick, SGM (R), USA  
Adam G. Kimble, SFC (R), USA/USMC  
Ranger Sean Menches, Veteran, USA  
JB Spisso, SGM (R), USA  
Gary Hovatter, COL (R), USA  
John Edmonds, CSM (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Christopher L. Stathos, CAPT (R), USN  
Patricia Spencer, HMCS (R), USN

John R. Scales, BG (R), USA  
Autrail Cobb, CSM (R), USA (\*)  
Barry D. Todd, CPT (R), USA (\*\*)  
Steve Greer, CSM (R), USA  
Paul DeVries, COL (R), USA  
Steven Wambold, SFC (R), USA  
Mike Schroeder, SGM (R), USA  
Henry W. Soukup, LtCol, (R), USMC  
John J. Ellis, COL (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Edward Erb, CSM (R), USA  
Brent J. Smart, CW3 (R), USA  
Paul Spracklen, Veteran, USN  
Ralph Borja, CSM (R), USA (\*)  
Mark Sickert, CAPT (R), USN  
Ranger Dale Sizemore, Veteran, USA  
Minor Swackhamer, 1SG (R), USA (\*\*)  
James Fowler, CSM (R), USA (\*)  
Dale Comstock, SGM (R), USA  
Richard J. Smith, LtCol (R), USMC  
Wendy A. Smith, LtCol (R), USMC  
Doug Mullen, CPT (R), USA  
Ranger Jim Tully, Veteran, USA  
Diane Csrnko, LTC (R), USA  
Scott Csrnko, Veteran, USA  
Larry Ryland, SFC (R), USA  
Timothy E. Santellanes, SSG (R), USA  
Bobby Gallardo, CSM (R), USA  
Dennis Dunn, 1SG (R), USA  
George D. Ponder, CSM (R), USA (\*\*)  
William Dodge, MSG (R), USA (\*\*)  
Jerry M. Purkey, 1SG (R), USA  
Clinton R. Hoover, MSG (R), USA  
Gary O'Neal, CW4 (R), USA (\*)  
Cameron S. Price, Veteran, USA, 2001 Best Ranger  
James S. Blesse, LTC (R), USA  
Daniel J. Vogel, COL (R), USA  
David Larkin, Veteran, USA  
Richard Heugh, MAJ (R), USA  
Ranger Chris Rivers, Veteran, USA  
Michael R. Wagers, MAJ (R), USA (\*)  
William D. Block, 1SG (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Robert Archiable, MSgt (R), USMC  
George K. Schaefer, CPT (R), USA  
Mason D. Todd, SGT (R), USA  
Brett Ritterby, COL (R), USMC  
Mr. Mark Keel, Mark Keel Construction, LLC  
Mr. George Humphrey, First Corps, Inc.

Stevan A. Davis, LTC (R), USA  
Mary C. Davis, Veteran, USA  
Timothy Norris, SGM (R), USA  
Perry Willette, CDR (R), USN  
Ricardo O. Rivera, SSG (R), USA  
Doyel Price, Jr., MAJ (R), USMC  
Anthony J. Gonzales, CAPT (R), USN  
Mark Olin, 1SG (R), USA  
Shawn Smith, MSgt (R), USMC  
Kerry Cannon, MSG (R), USA  
Richard Fulgium, MAJ (R), USA  
Clay C. Usie, CSM (R), USA  
Richard D. Howe, LTC (R), USA  
Ranger Stacy Roberts, Veteran, USA  
Bret Ritterby, COL (R), USMC  
Edward F. Lazarski, Jr., CDR (R), USN  
Jonathon Nethercutt, 1SG (R), USA  
Donald Cunningham, CWO3 (R), USA/USN  
Ranger Matthew Sebenoler, Veteran, USA  
James J. Mercer, COL (R), USAF  
James L. Combs, Jr., MAJ (R), USMC  
Richard J Smith, CDR (R), USN  
Laurence E. Williams, Sr., CSM (R), USA  
Ranger Andrew J. Anderson, Veteran, USA  
Joel Garcia, SFC (R), USA  
Robert A. Guy, COL (R), USA  
Robert A. Heber, Jr., CPT (R), USA  
Ranger Sidney McDaniel, Veteran, USA  
Mr. Gary N. Brinkley, PhD  
Jay Christy, CPT (R), USA  
Archibald V. Arnold, III, COL (R), USA  
Larry Redmond, COL (R), USA  
Michael Kelso, CSM (R), USA (\*)  
David Libersat, CSM (R), USA  
Samuel E. Hayes, III, COL (R), USA  
Ranger Rick Pizzala, Veteran, USA  
Ranger Jeff Campbell, Veteran, USA  
Todd A. Spencer, 1SG (R), USA  
Ms. Donna Lawrence  
Ranger Bobby J. Jackson, Veteran, USA  
Melvin J. Littig, COL (R), USA  
Scott P. Smith, MAJ (R), USA  
Edward A. Runci, LTC (R), USA  
Lawrence A. Jordan, SGM (R), USA  
James F. Dettloff, SFC (R), USA  
Stephen B. Hunt, MSG (R), USA

Joe Muccia, GySgt (R), USMC  
James P. Toohey, LTC (R), USA  
Jose Barreiro, SGM (R), USA  
Roberta C. Crann, CDR (R), USN  
David A. Nethken, CSM (R), USA (\*)  
Michael A. Garrison, LTC (R), USMC  
Ranger Bob Bynum, Veteran, USA  
Thomas G. Seidenwand, LCDR (R), USN  
Molly A. Stringham, Veteran, USA  
Gregory M. McShane, CWO3 (R), USMC  
Luis A. Arroyo, SGM (R), USA  
Donald M. Feeney Jr., MSG (R), USA  
Michael S. Anderson, LCDR (R), USN  
William K. Chin, CDR (R), USN  
Gary L. Hinaman, USA, Author: "The Ranger"  
Cristopher Schrag, CSM (R), USA  
Edward E. Lewis, SFC (R), USA  
Ranger Mike Burton, Veteran, USA  
Ranger Brad Juneau, Veteran, USA  
Don Hine, MAJ (R), USA  
Erik O. Johnson, LCDR (R), US Navy  
Ranger Al Newman, Veteran, USA  
Gerry Kline, CSM (R), USA (\*)  
George E. Stratmann, Jr., MAJ (R), USMC  
Samuel J. Di Bianca, COL (R), USMC  
Mr. Joe Pollock, Groundskeeper, Ranger Memorial  
Sam Spears, CSM (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Ranger Ron Books, Veteran, USA  
Mr. John Slattery  
R.A. Grimm, MAJ (R), USA  
Ranger Michael J. Grimm, Veteran, USA  
Clemens E. Lemke, SGM (R), USA (\*)  
Mr. Jim Schneberger, President, New Berlin Plastics  
Ranger Peter Bostrom, Veteran, USA  
Charles M. McKamey, 1SG (R), USA  
Ranger Mark H. Morrissey, MAJ (R), USA  
Ranger Dion Alvarado, Veteran, USA  
Ranger Brad Gillenwater, Veteran, USA  
Taft Yates, SFC (R), USA, SOMMA #33 (\*)  
Michael R. Fisher, CDR (R), USN  
Ranger Samuel Schiro, Veteran, USA  
Johnnie R. Downs, SFC (R), USA  
Terry R. Keitzer, LCDR (R), USN  
Steve Mattoon, 1SG (R), USA  
Howard F. Barker, COL (R), USMC

Dr. Steven L. Brown, MAJ (R), USA  
US Army Ranger Association, SE Region Commander  
Art Attaway, Veteran, USA  
President, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment Association  
Tracy B. Long, SGM (R), USA  
National President, Sons of Mosby Motorcycle Association  
Brendan Durkan, SGM (R), USA  
President, Worldwide Army Rangers, Inc.  
President, Hardrock Charlie Foundation, Inc.  
Michael Chaney, SGM (R), USA  
Vice President, Worldwide Army Rangers, Inc.  
Leamond C. Stuart III, LTC (R), USA  
President, Native American Indian Management Organization  
Ms. Jonnie Melillo Clasen  
WWII Merrill's Marauder Liaison Officer  
Daughter, Merrill's Marauder & Korean War Veteran, Vincent Melillo  
Ranger Hall of Fame Honorary Inductee  
75th Ranger Regiment Association Honorary Member  
Ms. Sherrie Battle McGhee  
Gold Star Mother of Ranger Ryan C. McGhee, CPL, USA - KIA 05/13/2009  
Blue Star Mother of Zachary S. McGhee, SSG, Army National Guard - 116<sup>th</sup> Virginia  
Alfred J. Lipphardt, Veteran, USA  
Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Dennis L. Smith, CSM (R), USA (\*) (\*\*)  
Vice President, Darby's Warrior Support, Inc.  
Nickolas T. Neuert, SFC (R)  
Operations Manager/Hunting Guide, Darby's Warrior Support, Inc.  
Ranger Thomas O. Nichols, Veteran, USA  
Designer, The Historic Ranger Ring, The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment Ring, The Ranger Hall of Fame Ring, The Ranger Memorial Print  
Gerard "Butch" Nery, COL (R), USA  
Former President, US Army Ranger Association  
Ms. Lynn Jackson Towne  
Member, Descendants of WWII Rangers, Inc.  
Daughter, Lt. Maurice Jackson, E Co., 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Bn.  
Mr. Tom Walker  
Creator & Administrator, Faith and Courage, US Military Chaplains Exhibit  
Exhibit Designer, Tennessee Museum of Aviation  
2004 Honorary Chaplain, United States Navy  
Ms. Cynthia StormCaller  
Curator/Director of Tourism, Drummer Boy Civil War Museum, Andersonville, GA