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Interior Secretary James G. Watt has raised a barrier to building a monument to America's Vietnam veterans after some Republicans complained that the memorial's design "makes a statement of shame and dishonor."

Mr. Watt told the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, which is to build the monument, that the design must be resubmitted to him because of modifications made since he gave preliminary approval in June.

Leaders of the fund were surprised, thinking the plan had cleared all Government hurdles. A copy of Mr. Watt's letter, written last week, was made available by critics of the design.

Meantime, H. Ross Perot of Dallas said he was hiring a poll-taker to seek views on the design from Americans wounded or taken prisoner in Vietnam and some other veterans of the war.

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Mr. Perot, chairman of Electronic Data Systems, said he thought the memorial would look like "a trench." In a letter to President Reagan, 27 Republican Congressmen denounced the design. "We feel this design makes a political statement of shame and dishonor," the letter said, "rather than an expression of our national pride." The letter was circulated by Representative Henry J. Hyde, Republican of Illinois. "A new jury ought to be appointed."