



PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 24, 2017

No. 16-53

Mokie Porter

301-996-0901

Facebook Responds to VVA, Shuts Down Imposter Page Targeting Vietnam Veterans and Supporters

(Washington, DC)—“We're glad to see that Facebook is taking seriously imposter pages targeting Vietnam veterans and their supporters on social media,” said John Rowan, National President of Vietnam Veterans of America. “For months we had been in contact with Facebook’s Security Team and more recently their Intellectual Property Team regarding a suspicious page that was using derivatives of the names “Vietnam Veterans of America” and “American Veterans.” Today, we received confirmation from Facebook that the imposter page, ‘Vietnam Vets of America,’ was finally shut down.”

Since late 2016, the imposter Facebook page, “Vietnam Vets of America,” had been growing in followers at an exponential rate. While many of its posts were benign, it frequently shared altered and deceptive news regarding inflammatory issues, such as the defacing of veteran monuments. In August 2017, VVA first reached out to Facebook regarding the activity of the suspicious page. By the middle of October 2017, the imposter page had garnered nearly 200,000 followers. We're encouraged by Facebook’s action this week, but want to reemphasize that we believe the VA and DoD have a role to play in protecting troops and veterans from influence and deception by foreign actors.”

