

SYMBOLS WAR, CONFLICT, PROTEST
History Witnessed

Jay Tyrrell
www.jaytyrrell.com

Published by One Hand Clapping Press
Walnut Creek, California

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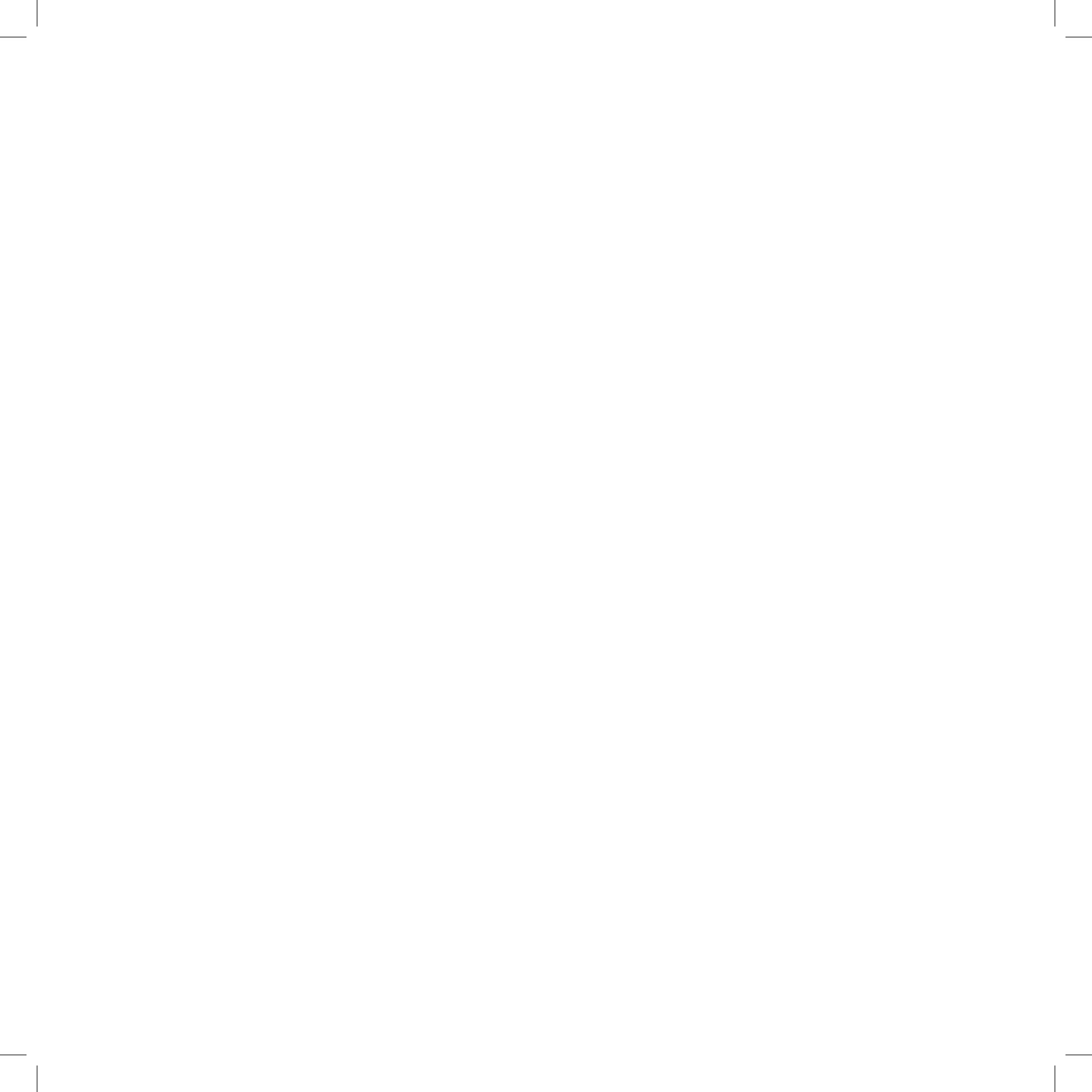
First published in 2014 in the United States

ISBN # 978-0-9914727-0-3

This book was typeset in Gotham Book, Dakota Handwriting and Minion Pro.

For Susie
still side by side





SYMBOLS WAR, CONFLICT, PROTEST

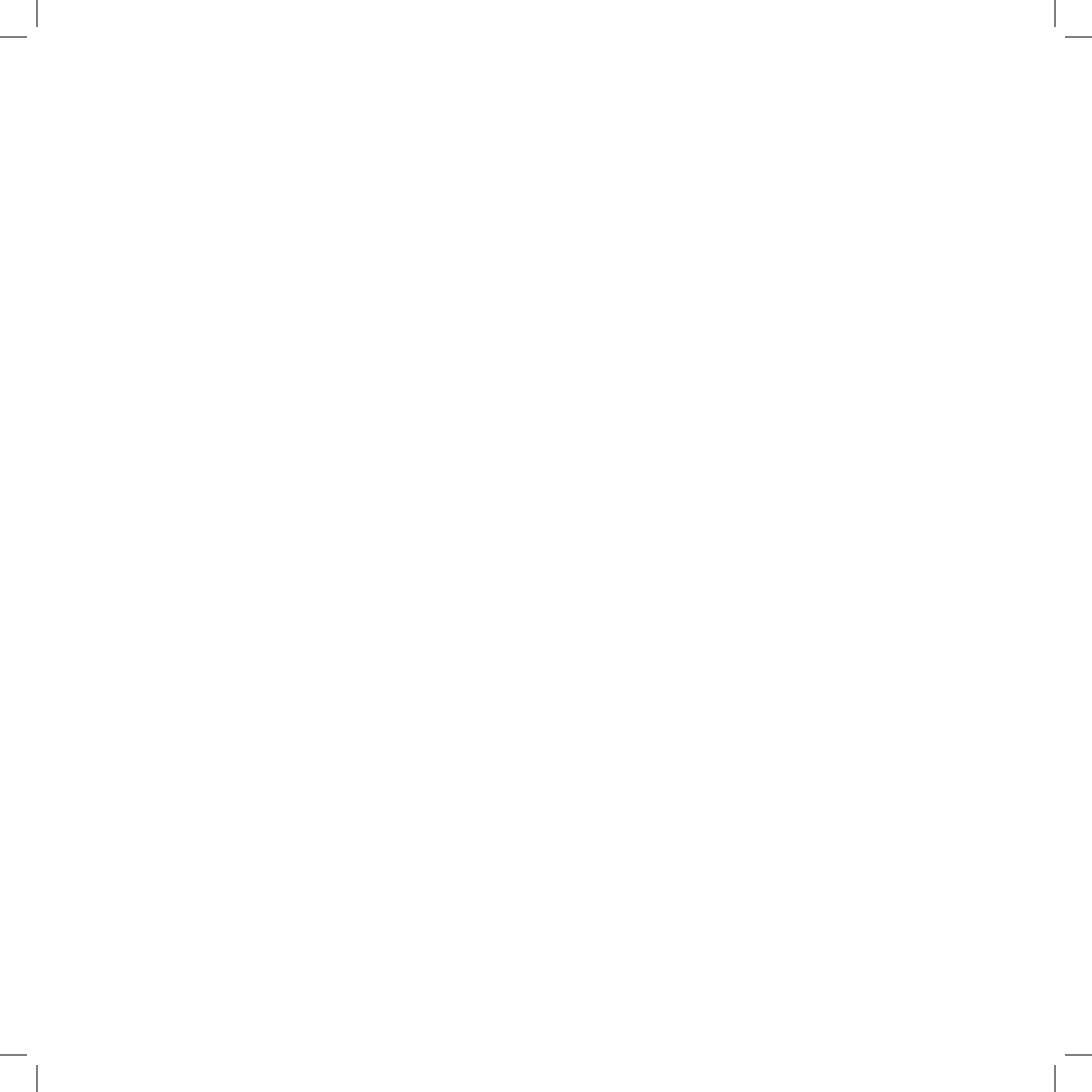
History Witnessed

You and I witnessed history today. If it was a day like most others, it sped past us into our memory and settled there until we could gather our thoughts and gain perspective. When significant events happen we know in an instant that history is being made. In our youth we don't often visit the past where history builds. History takes its time. Aging provides few benefits - I consider perspective and arc of experiences one. This project wouldn't have interested me even ten years ago, yet in my desire to clarify my past, this work demands its time in the daylight now.

In *On Photography* Susan Sontag writes:

Photographs furnish evidence. Something we hear about, but doubt, seems proven when we are shown a photograph of it. A photograph passes for incontrovertible proof that a given thing happened. The picture may distort; but there is always the presumption that something exists, or did exist, which is like what's in the picture. Whatever limitations (through amateurism) or pretensions (through artistry) of the individual photographer, a photograph-any photograph-seems to have a more innocent, and therefore more accurate, relation to visible reality than do other mimetic objects.

In using the photographs I have made, I can offer evidence of objects; symbols, events and issues that continue to shape my life and opinions. By exploring the history I have witnessed, I understand my past on a deeper level. Memorials erected to honor sacrifice and loss are at the center, representing the collective memory of all of us who have been part of turbulent times, how they have shaped us and changed how current generations view the world today.

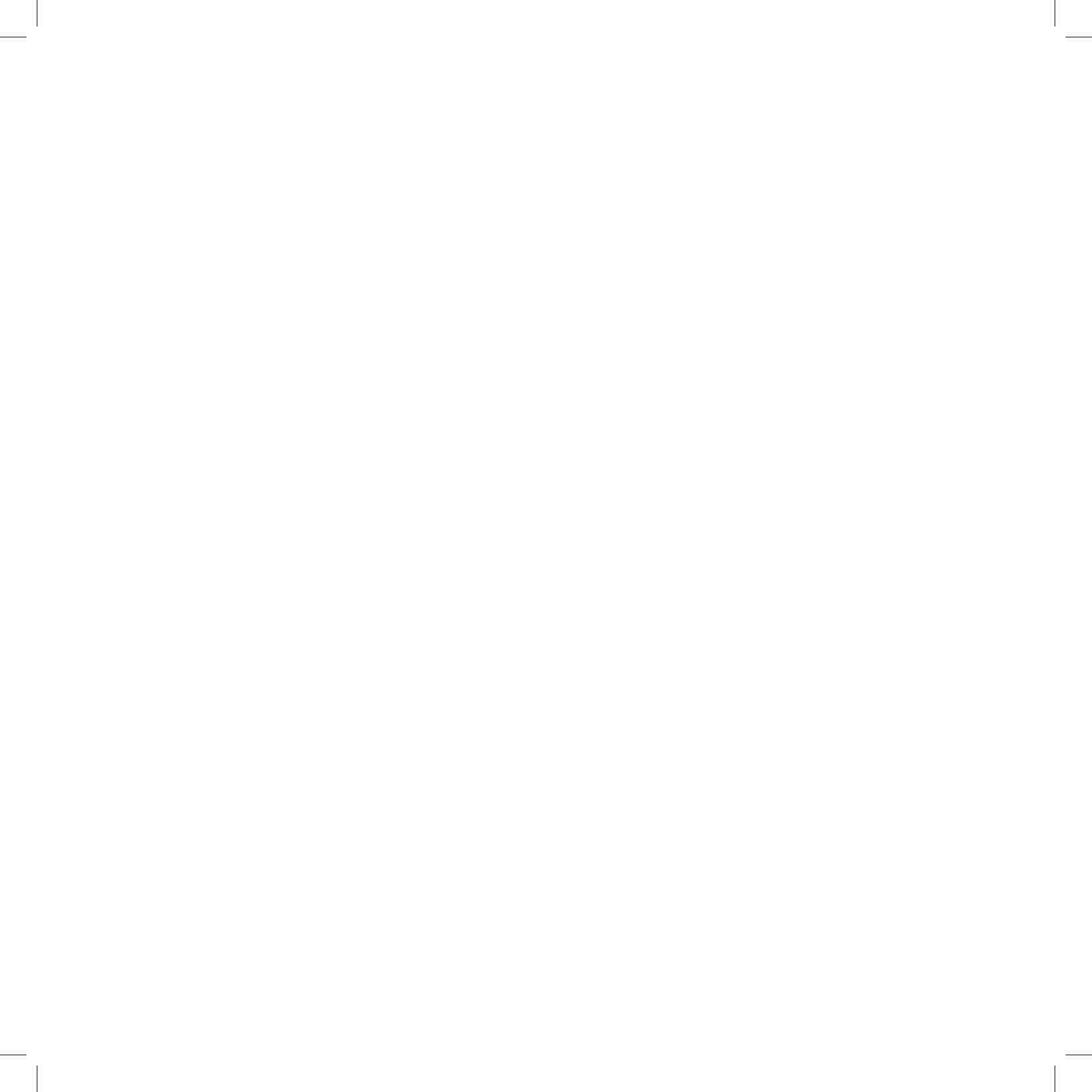


My Father was a warrior. Semi-pro boxer, decorated veteran, relentless entrepreneur, his conservative and inflexible worldview was shaped by events he had experienced and lived.

During my coming of age in the 1960's, suddenly my Father was confronted by issues and events in a changing American society at odds with his ideas. This began a period of alienation between us, for I chose a different path than he, rejecting how he saw the world, in favor of new ideals, shaped by the peers of my time on issues of war, race and ecology. This was certainly not unique in families of that era. My Father's history shaped mine and some of his memory is here to honor my new understanding of him. In not recognizing his legacy, I cannot reconcile mine. These symbols of protest represent a departure of my own from the confines of earlier thinking in search of a more enlightened tomorrow.

This is my story, told visually, shaped by the historical events I have been witness to and part of.

- Jay Tyrrell
2014



How many times can a man turn his head,
Pretending he just doesn't see?

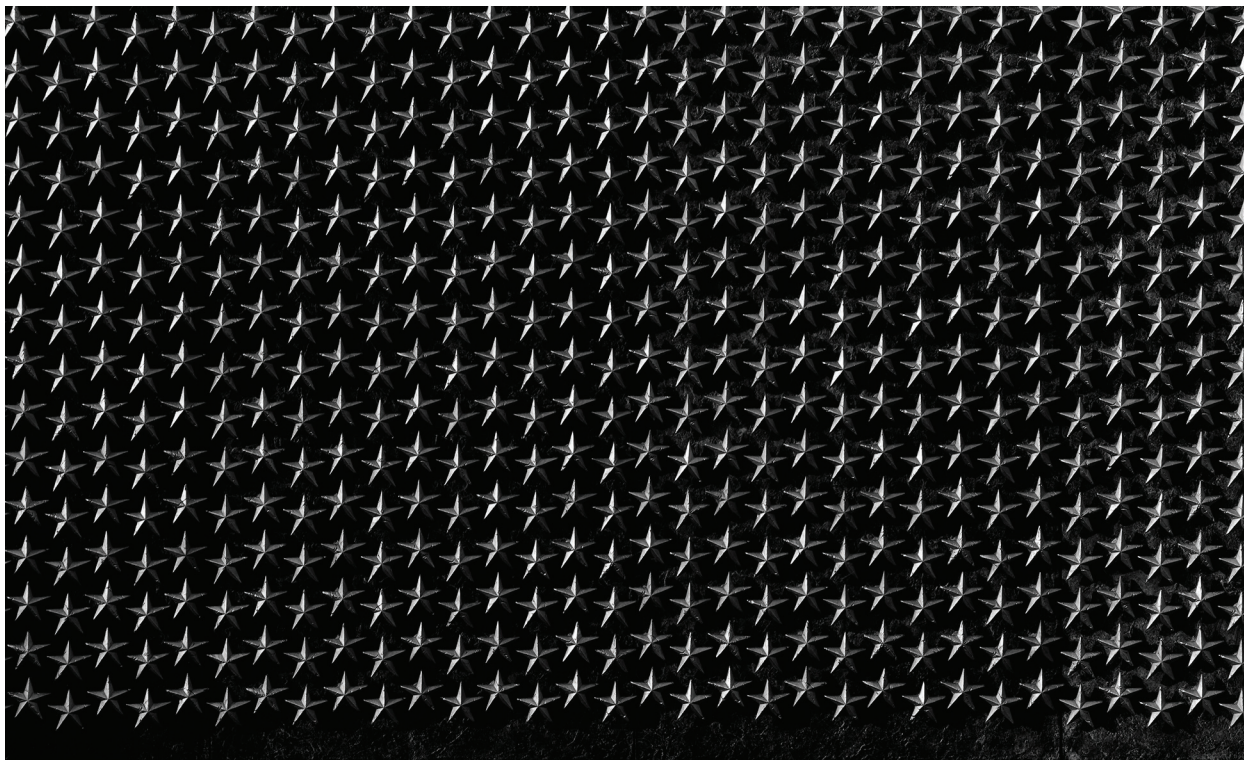
- Bob Dylan 1962, *Blowing in the Wind*

Dark America

Wheat Fields, Eastern Washington

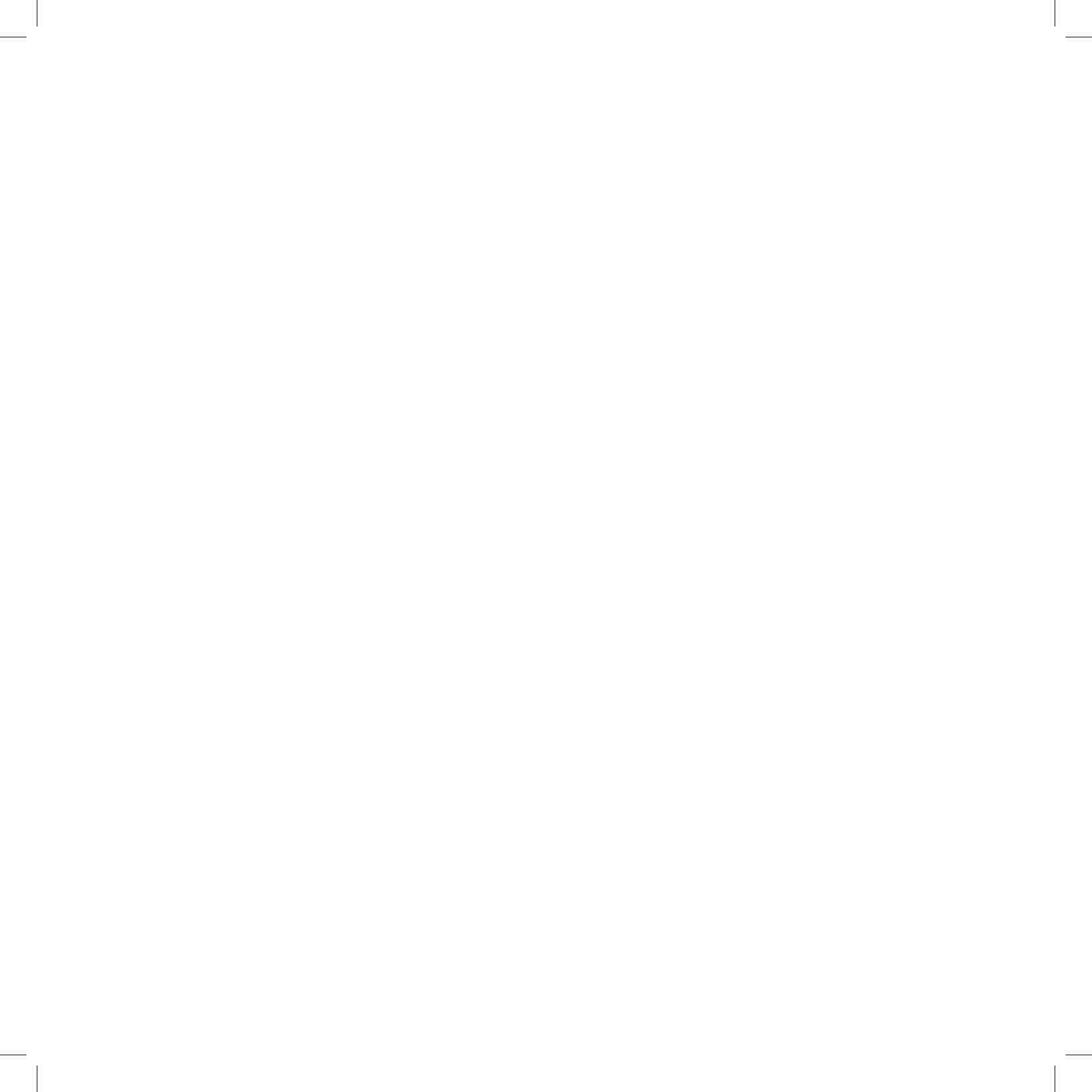


World War II Memorial
Washington, D.C.



Colt and Star



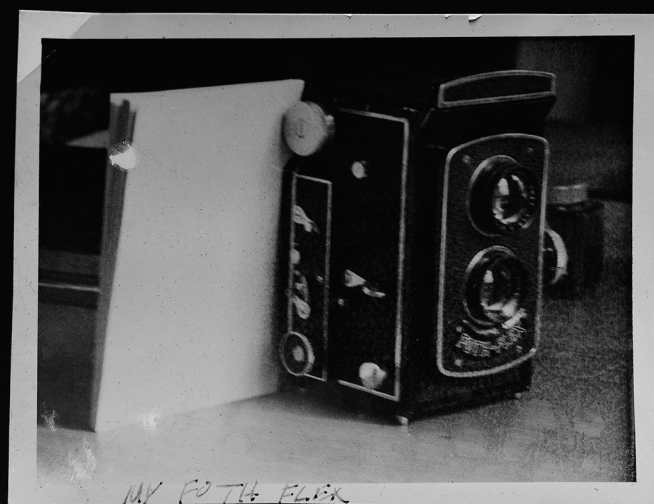


My Father was an amateur photographer all his life. As a child I would agitate the developing trays in his dark-room. It was my exposure to the magic of the photograph.

My Father
France, 1944



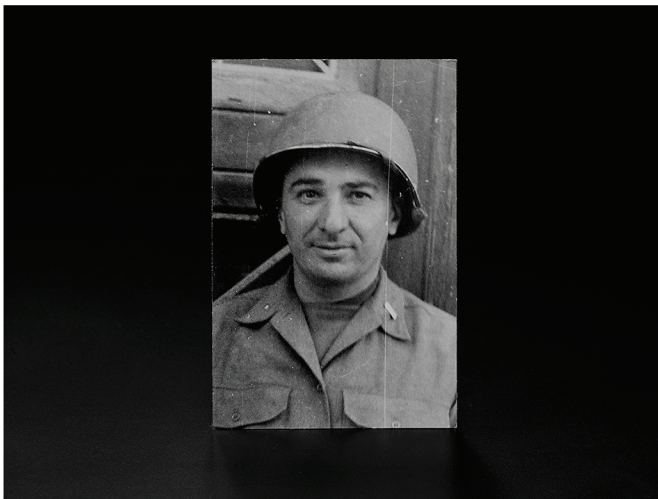
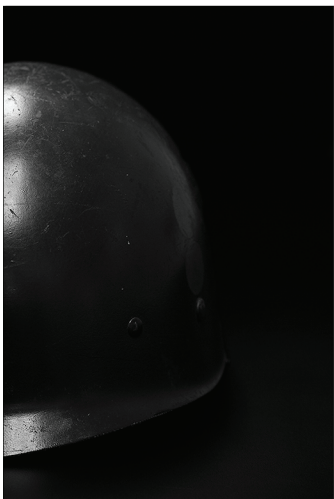
My Father's Portrait of his Camera

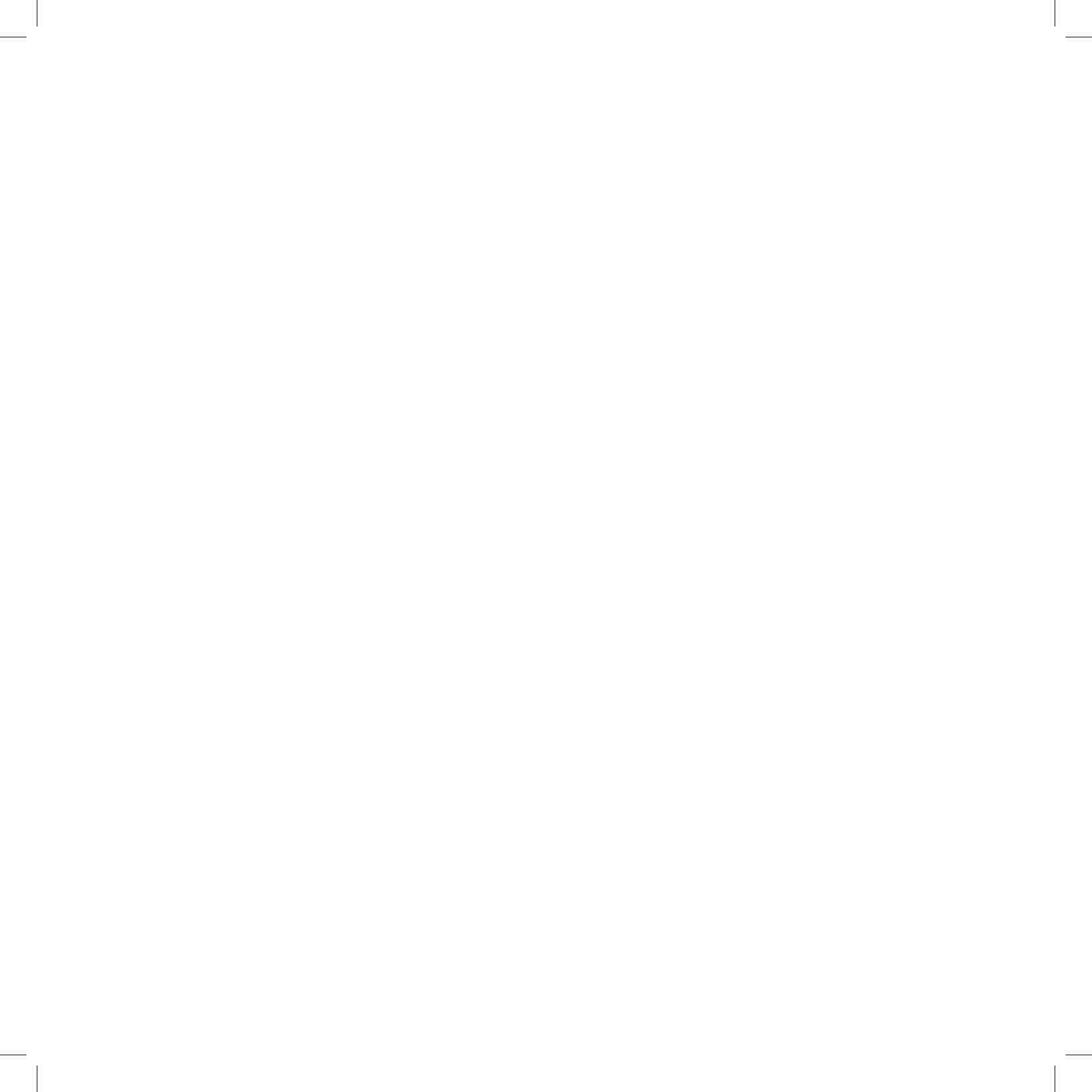


MY FORTH FLICK



Battle Gear

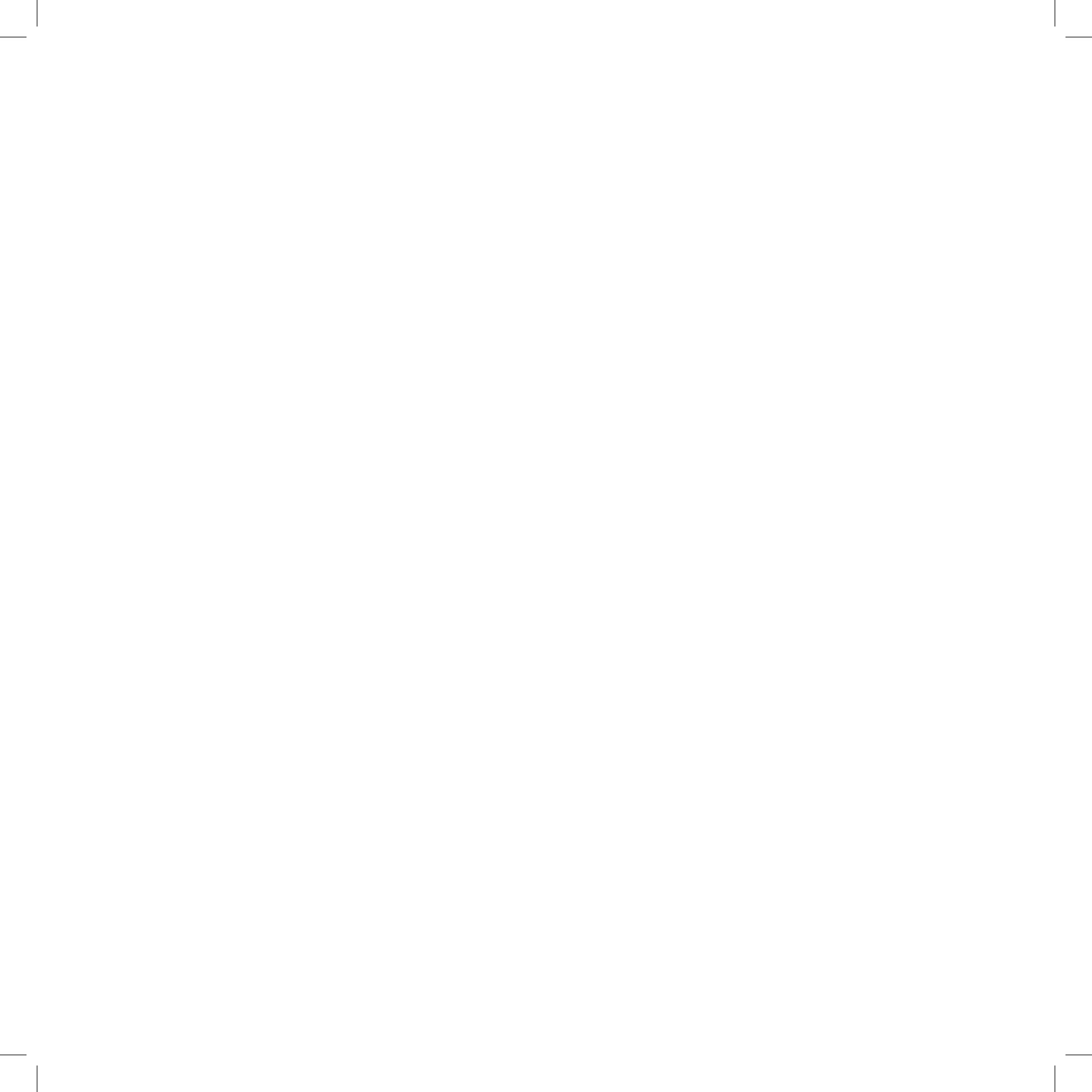




This is a portrait my father made of me circa 1949. My Father never spoke of his war experiences as so many of his generation were prone to do. I lacked any detail of the event for which his medal for bravery was awarded until after he passed and I found a newspaper article he had saved.

Portrait by my Father
Circa 1949





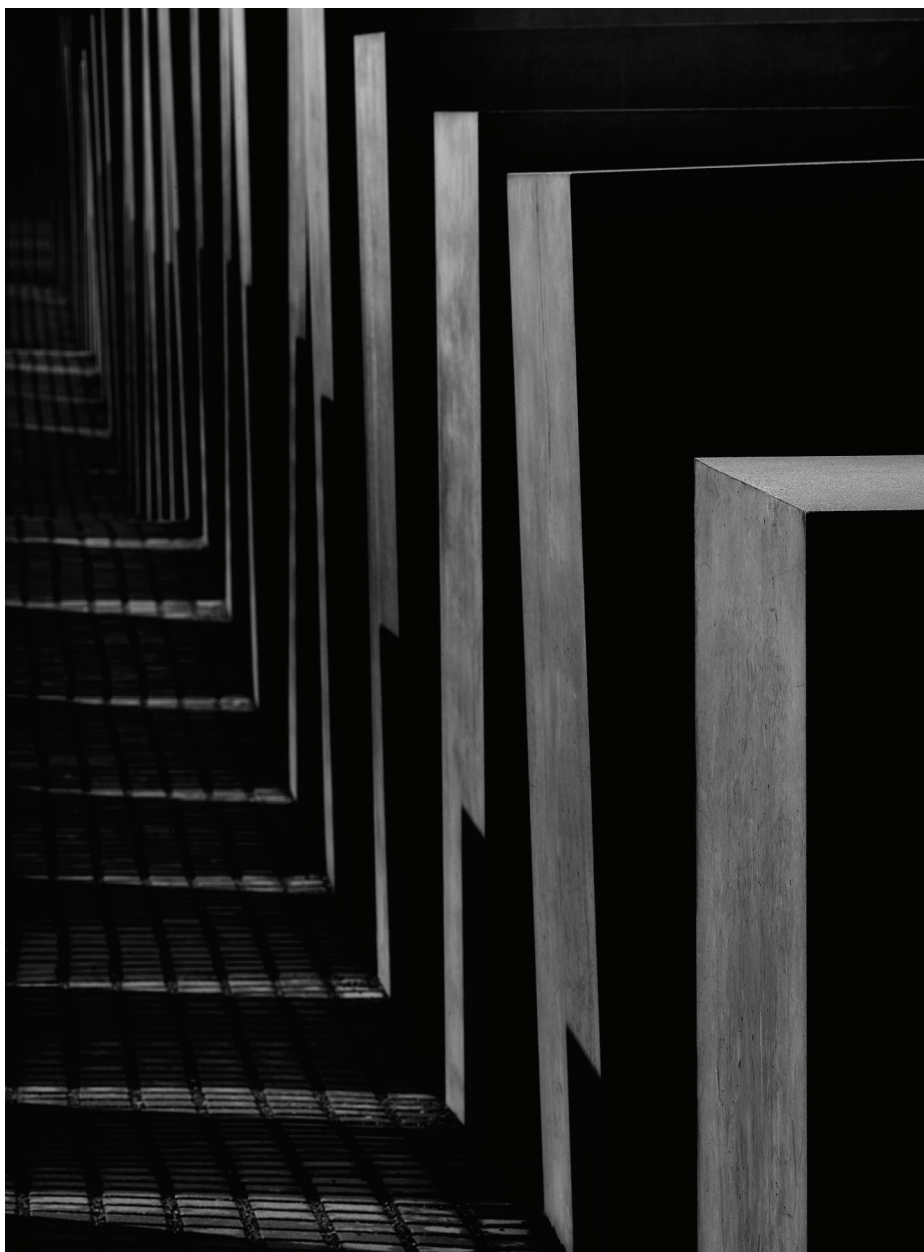
None of the horrors of World War II surpass the Holocaust in scope and impact on history.

The Monument to the Murdered Jews of Europe opened in Berlin in 2005. It was designed by Peter Eisenman and Buro Happold and represents a supposedly ordered system that has lost touch with human reason.

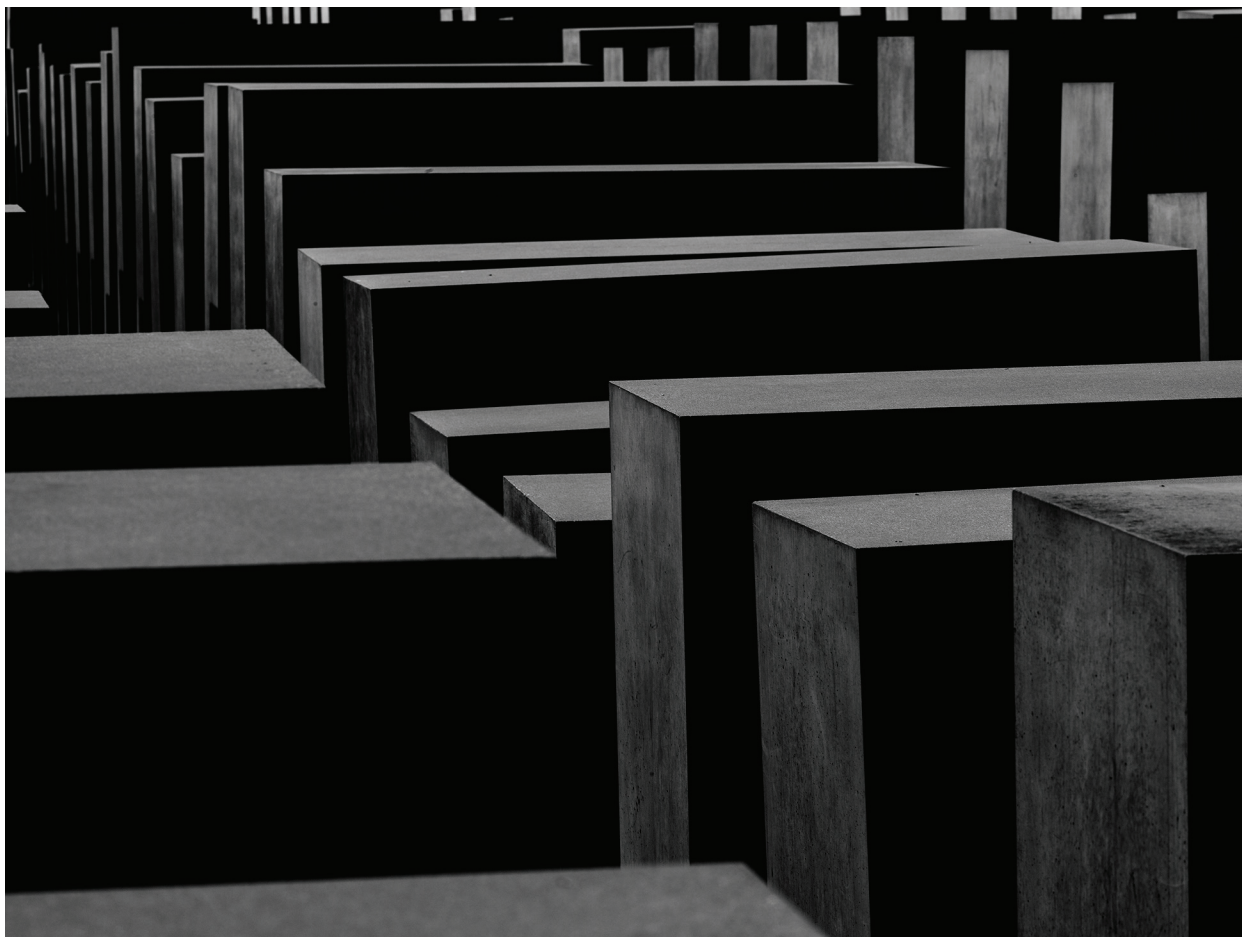
Murdered Jews of Europe #2
Berlin



Murdered Jews of Europe #3
Berlin

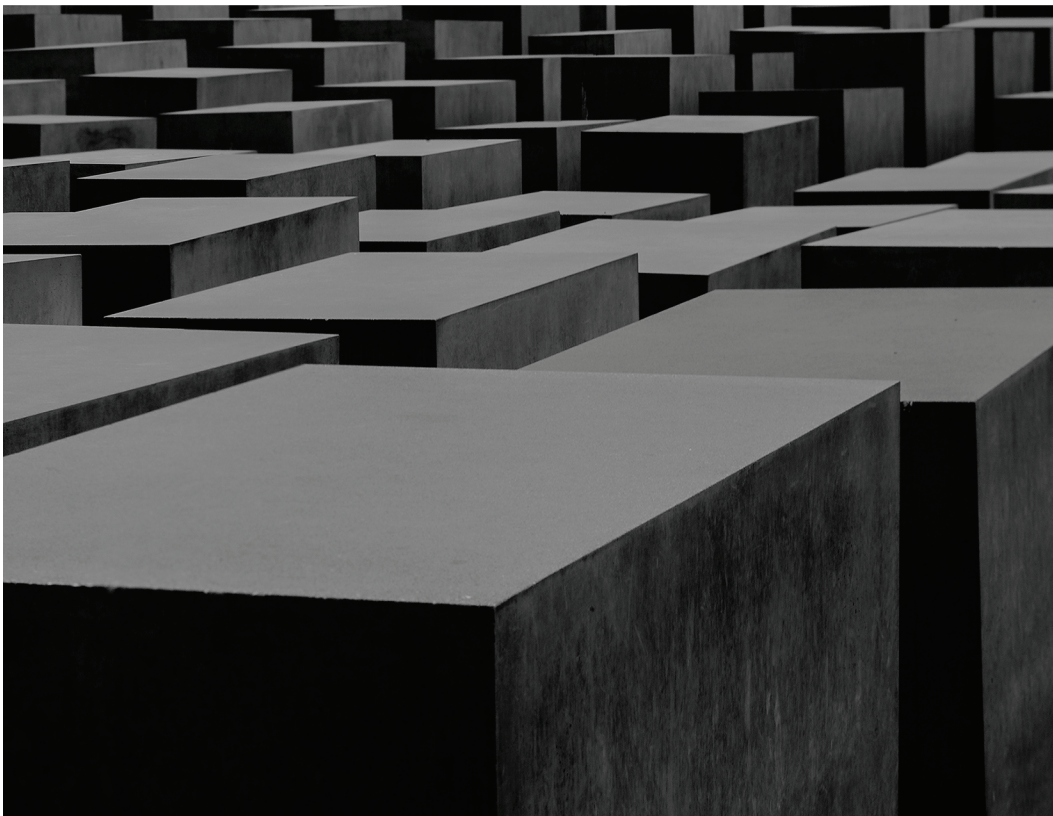


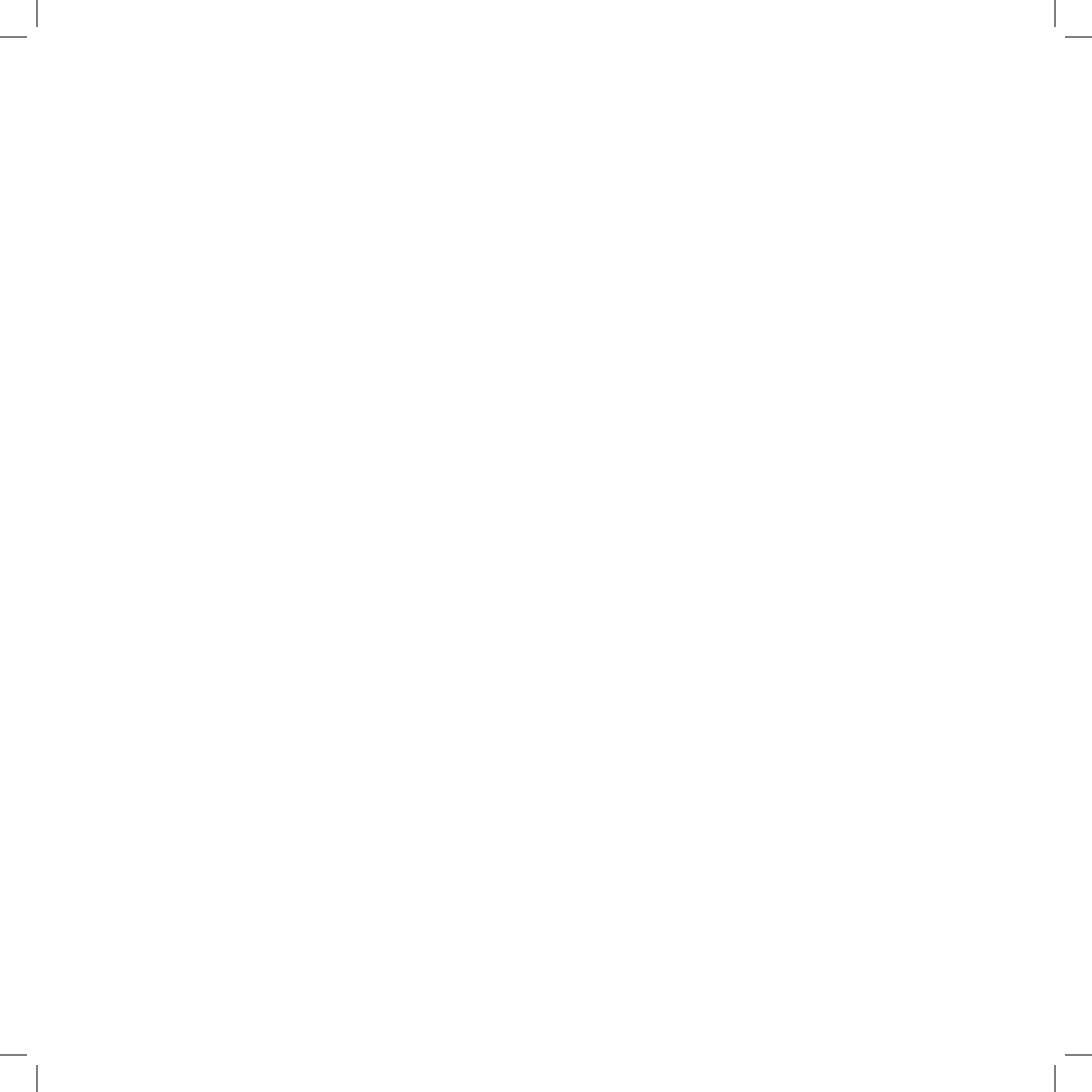
Murdered Jews of Europe #5
Berlin





Murdered Jews of Europe #1
Berlin





The Korean War, coming between the maelstrom of World War II and the angst of the Vietnam War, is often called the Forgotten War. Officially this war was under the auspices of the new United Nations and while troops from many countries served, it was nearly 90% American troops. UN forces opposed forces from the Chinese, Soviet Union and North Korea. The world came perilously close to nuclear war before a stalemate was established, still in place today.

My Father was called to active duty for an assignment in Europe, where at the time a fear of an expansion of hostilities with the Soviet Union would breakout there.

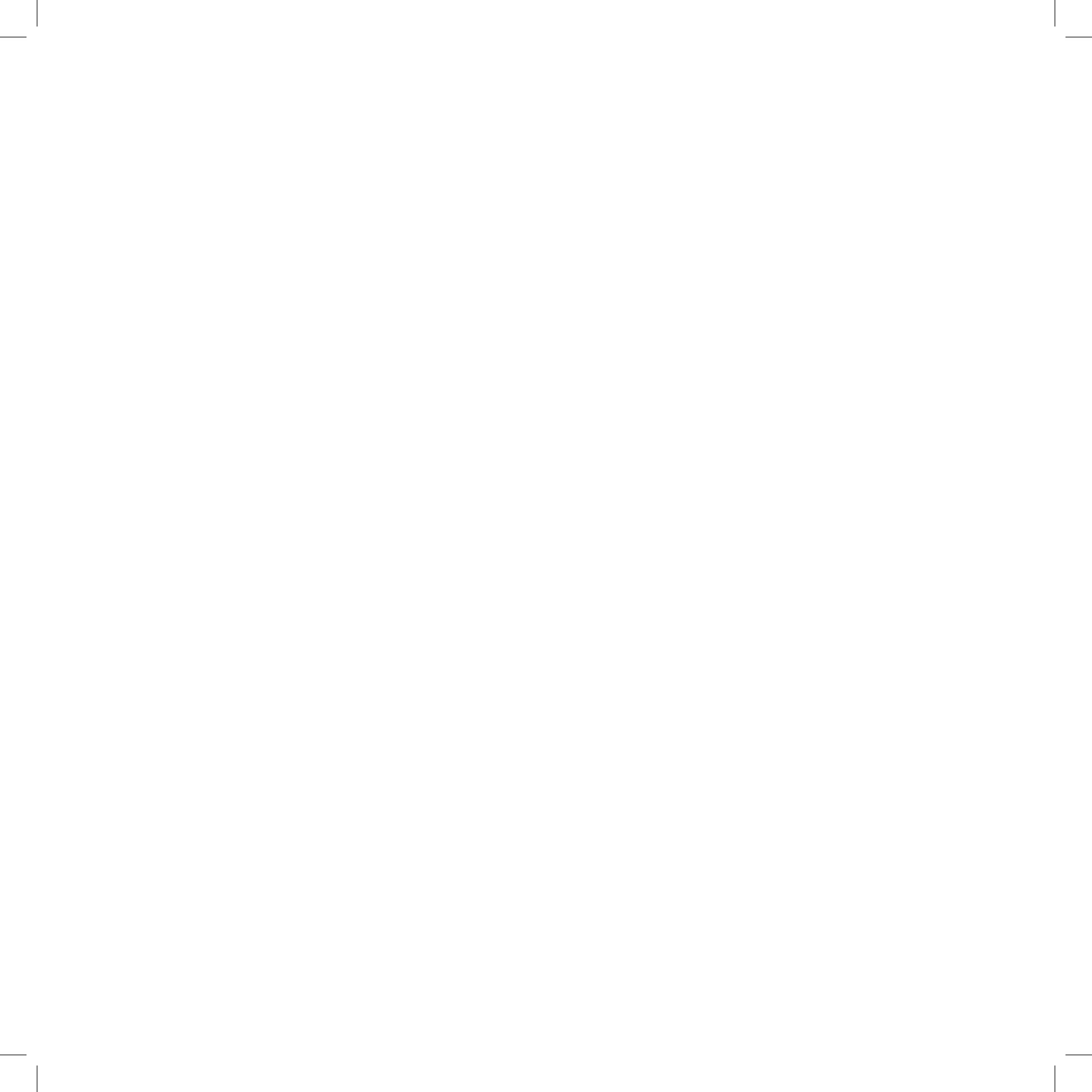
For two years we lived in military supplied housing in a partitioned Germany, our lives completely centered around the military and the threat of war with the Soviets, and our Father's service.

Korean War Memorial #3
Washington, D.C.



Korean War Memorial #6
Washington, D.C.

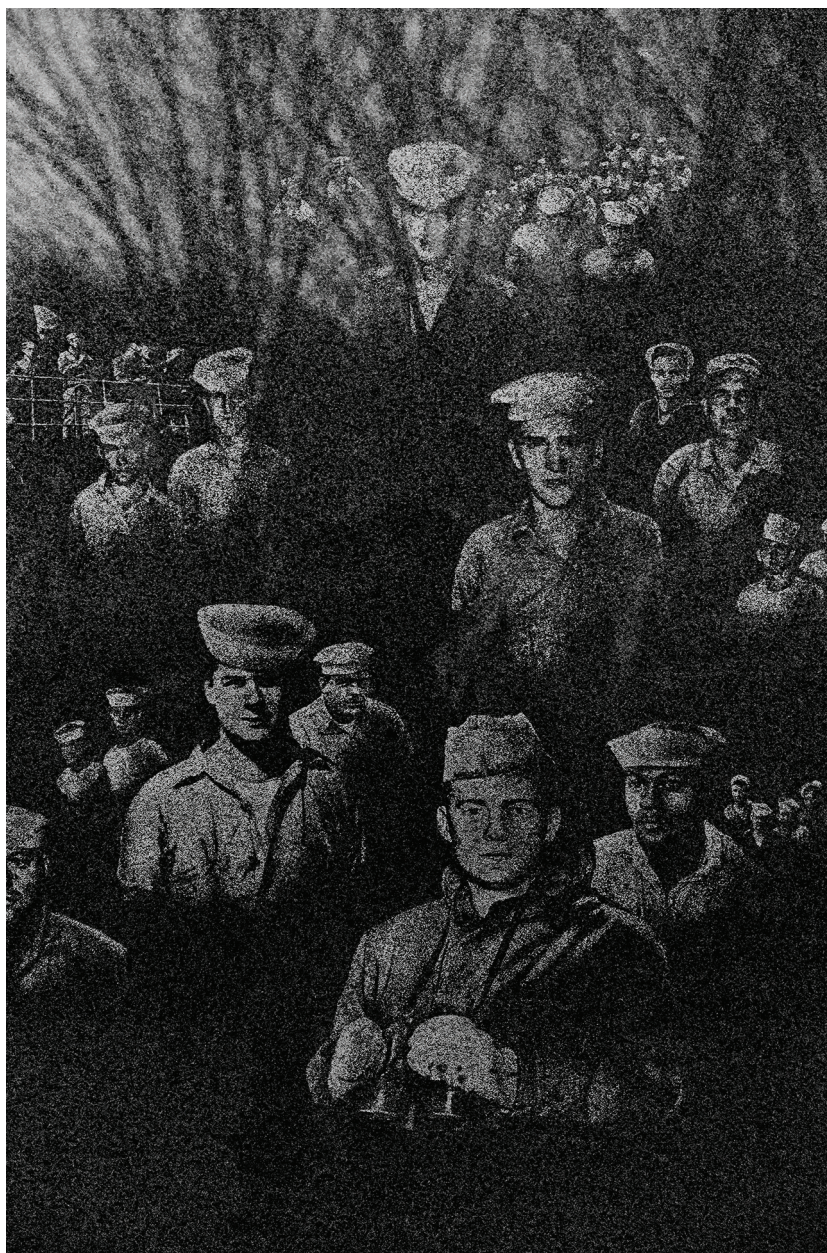




Echoing the feeling of this being the Forgotten War, the Korean War Memorial doesn't attract the crowds that its more well attended neighbor on the mall, the Vietnam Memorial, does.

The ghost images of servicemen etched into the granite of the memorial haunt me as I move past.

Korean War Memorial #4
Washington, D.C.



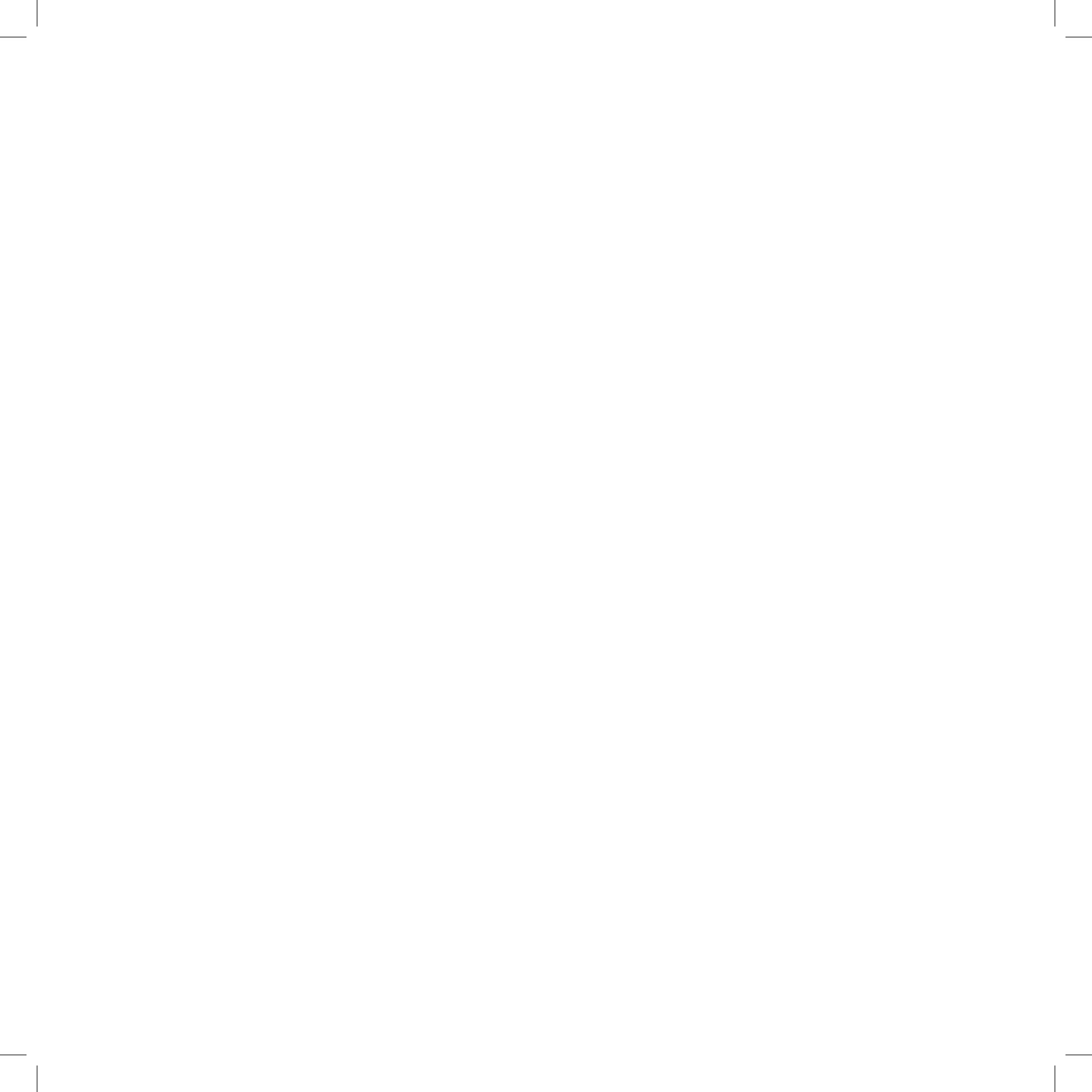


Korean War Memorial #5
Washington, D.C.



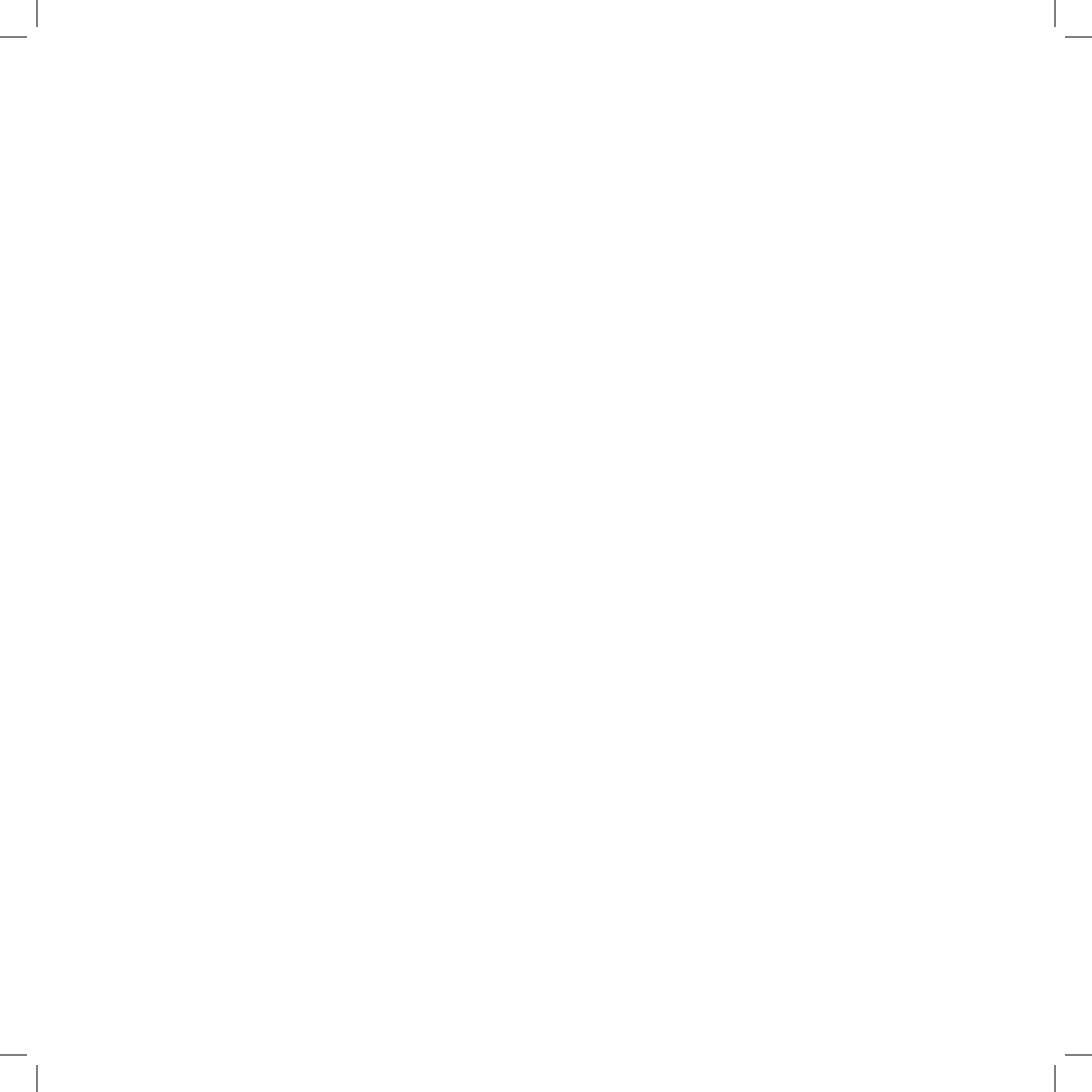
Korean War Memorial #1
Washington, D.C.





The conjunction of an immense military establishment and a large arms industry is new in the American experience. The total influence - economic, political, even spiritual - is felt in every city, every statehouse, every office of the federal government. In the councils of government we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.

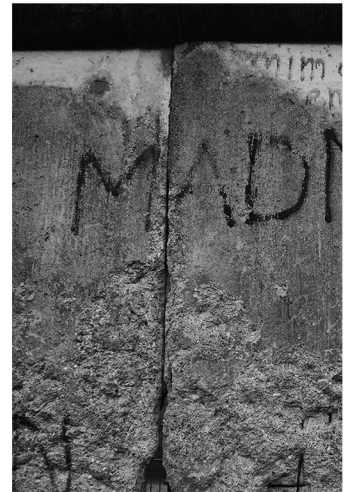
- Dwight D. Eisenhower - Farewell Address to the Nation January 17, 1961



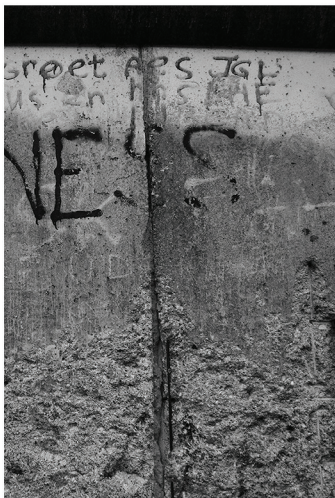
At the height of the Cold War in 1961, the sudden partitioning of the city of Berlin by the Communist DDR was a shock and provocation to the West.

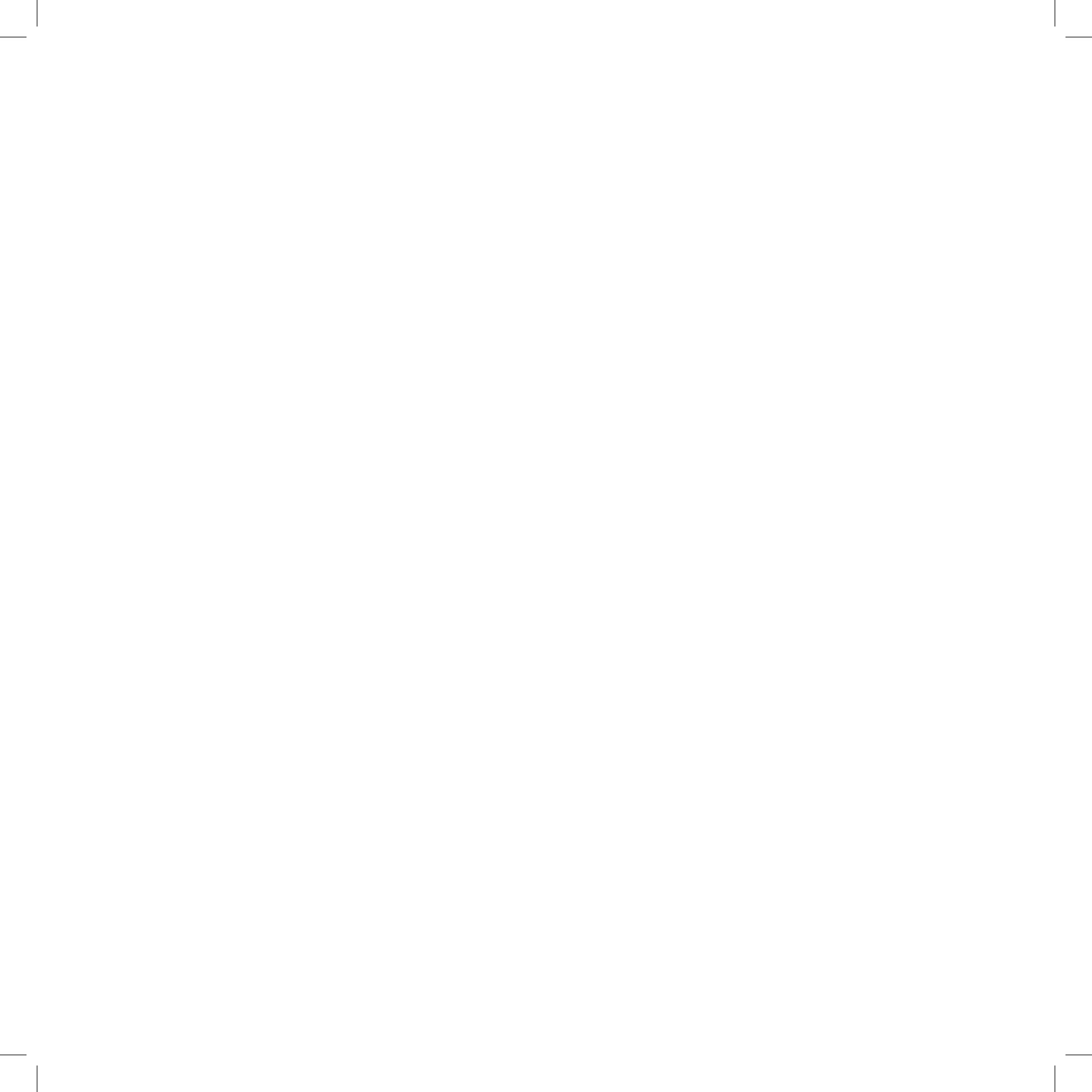
We had lived in West Germany not long before and were still in contact with friends living there.

I was now of an age where this awakening to world events would have an impact on the direction and sense of my life.



Berlin Wall
Berlin





On my 18th birthday as was required I registered for the Draft. We were living in Vancouver, Canada at the time and I registered at the American Consulate in that city.

I learned later that, because I was living as an ex-pat, my Draft Board was in Washington D.C., and that to be drafted they had to pay my way there for induction and wouldn't unless war was declared. War was never declared in Vietnam, it was considered a "police action".

The following year, considering higher education choices, I turned down an offer of an appointment to West Point through my Father's friend and former commanding officer.

That choice began a period of alienation between my Father and I. It soon blossomed into full protest of the war by me.

Vietnam War Memorial #3
Washington, D.C.

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SELECTIVE SERVICE LAW

(FIRST NAME) (MIDDLE NAME) (LAST NAME)
James Keith Tyrrell, Jr.

SELECTIVE SERVICE NO. 19 100 44 655

(DATE OF BIRTH) (PLACE OF BIRTH)
Nov. 15, 1944 Napa, Calif.

COLOR EYES COLOR HAIR HEIGHT WEIGHT
Blue Dk.br. 5 FT. 11 IN. 180

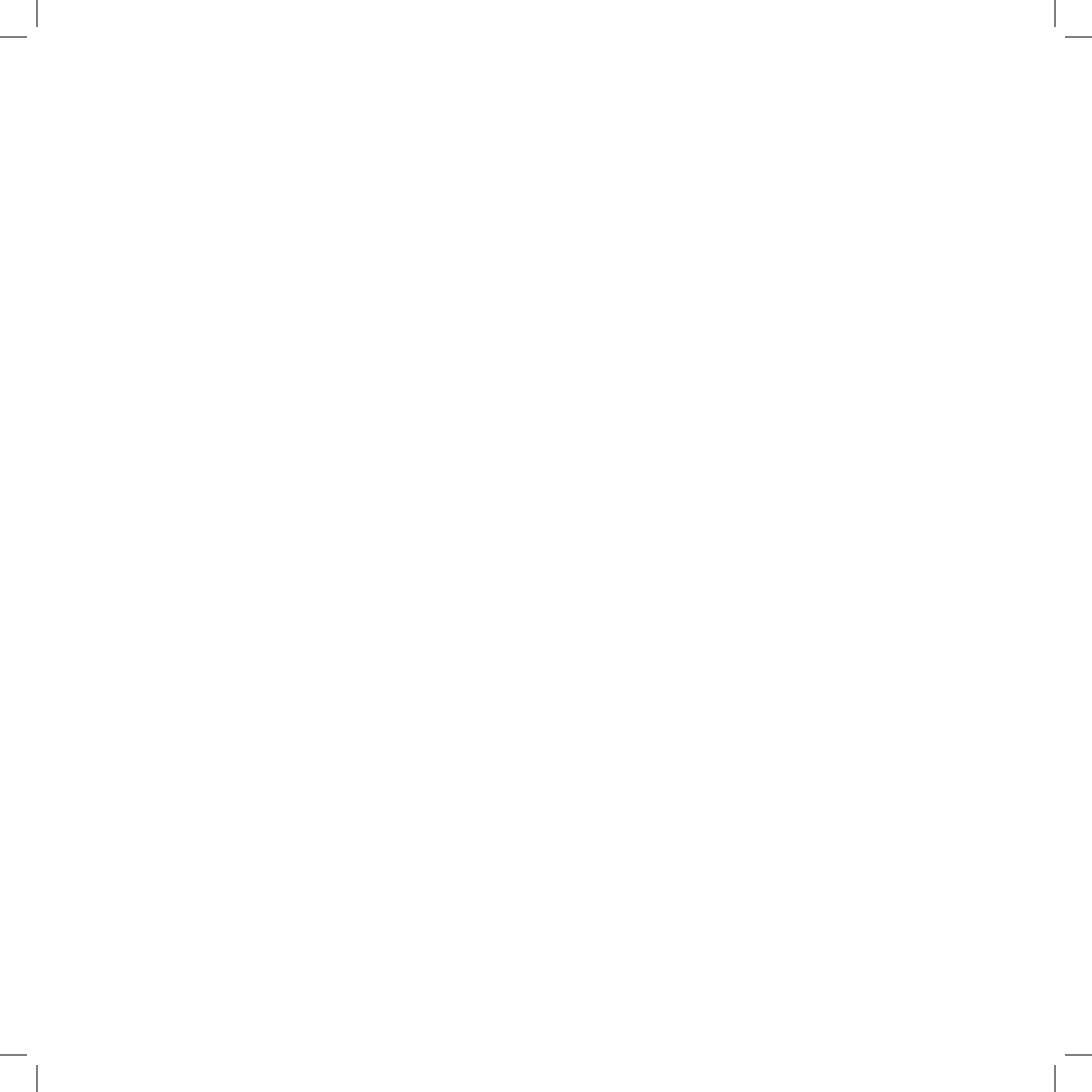
Other obvious physical characteristics

WAS DULY REGISTERED ON THE 15th. DAY OF Nov. 62

J. R. Monahan
(SIGNATURE OF LOCAL BOARD CLERK)

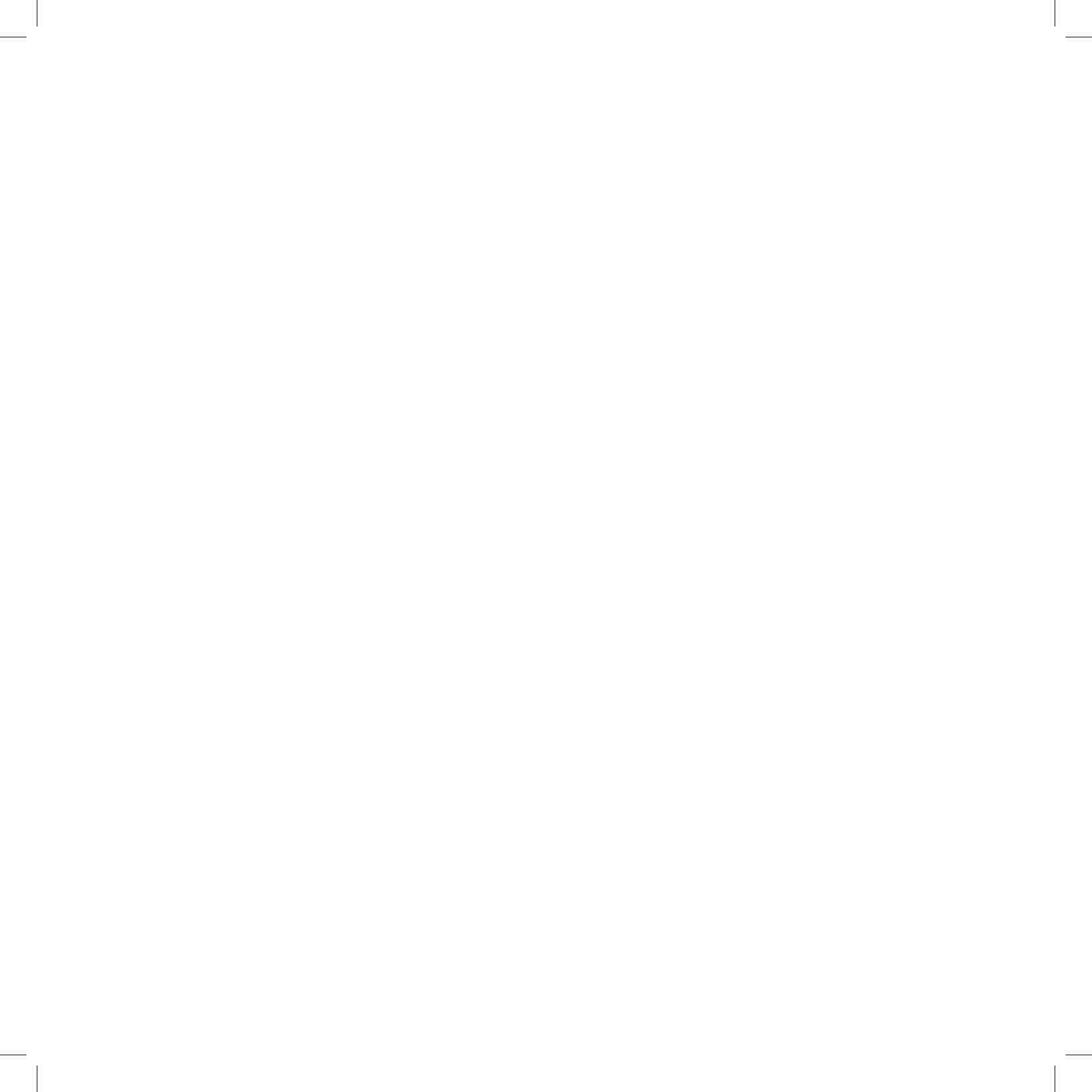
REGISTRANT'S SIGNATURE

SSS Form 2
(Rev. 9-21-60)



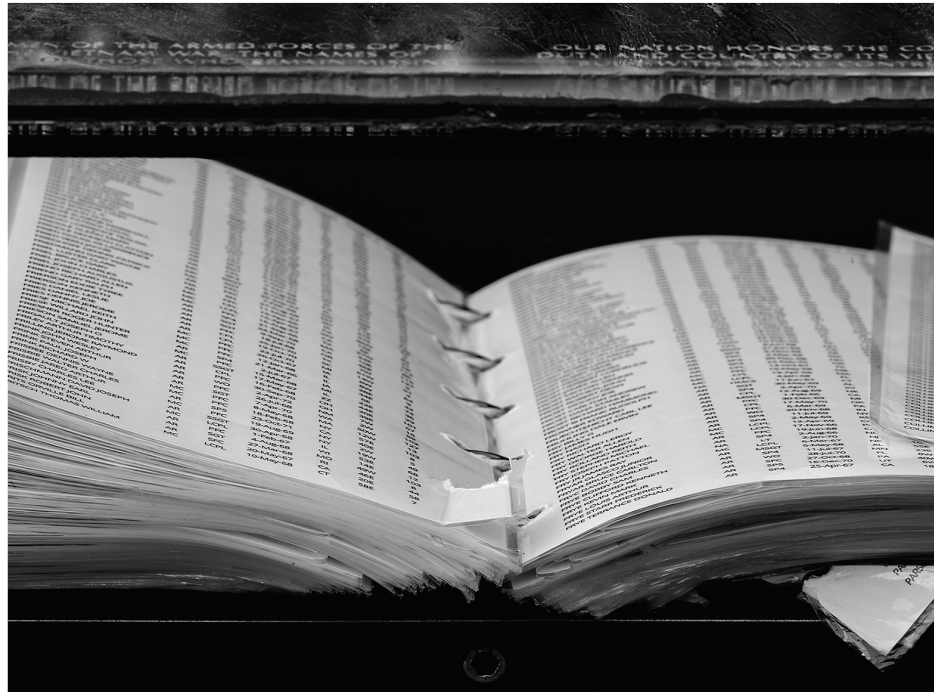
Come senators, congressmen
Please heed the call
Don't stand in the doorway
Don't block up the hall
The order is
Rapidly fadin',
And the first one now
Will later be last
For the times they are a-changin'.

- Bob Dylan 1963, *The Times They Are A-Changin*



Visiting the wall of the Vietnam Memorial for this project, all these years after the fear of being drafted, friends lost, a generation in radical voice and the righteous indignation toward the world we grew up in, I was struck by a sense of how Maya Lin's architectural masterpiece so fully expressed the sense of a wedge driven between generations and the cold hardness of the losses suffered.

During my visit to the wall I searched for a cousin and a friend who had lost their lives in this conflict.



Vietnam War Memorial #4 and #8
Washington, D.C.

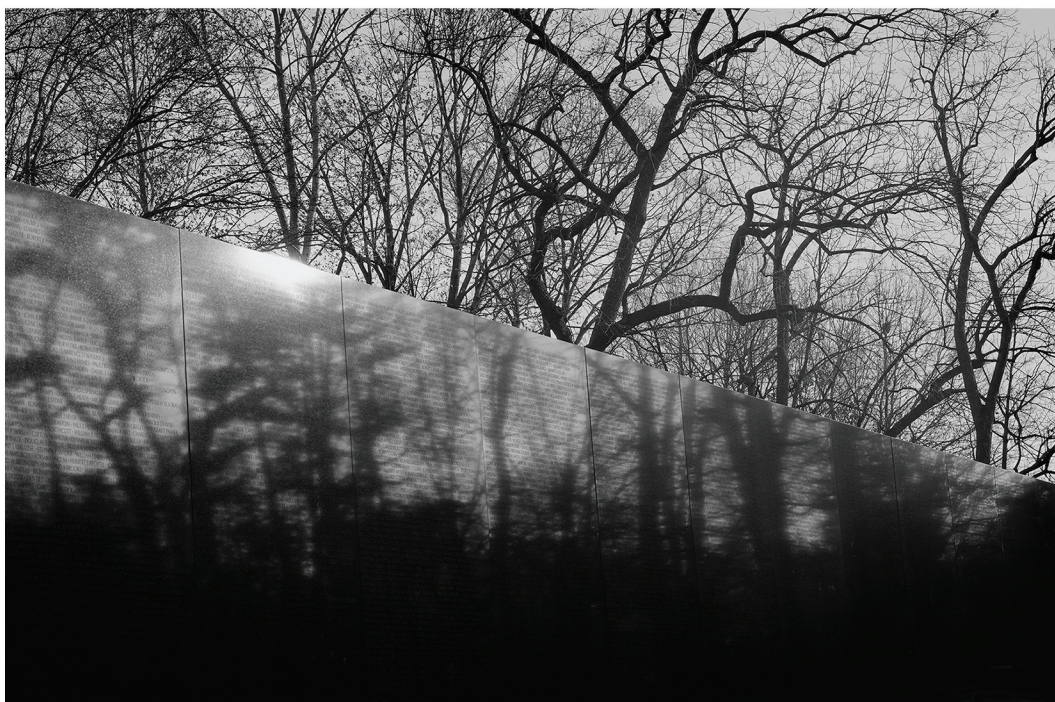
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LEW T BROWN • JOSEPH R BROWN • LAWRENCE G BRYAN • THOMAS E BUCHANAN
UNNINGHAM • ROBERT P D'EMANUELE • GARY R DAFFIN • BILLY RAY DENTON
BERARDINO • JOHN M DONOHUE • JAMES C DURHAM Jr • JAMES R ENCLOSURE
GLAS GAINES Jr • CHARLES M THOMPSON • RUSSELL J HEATH • BRADY W HENRY
LAY KELLEY • RALPH W KUCHCINSKI • LOWELL E LUNZMANN • JOHN M LYNN
R MILLER • WILLIAM J MOORE • CLYDE E MORGAN • RANDALL A THOMPSON
McDONALD • WILLIAM J OSKILANEC • NORMAN W PARTRIDGE • TONY G PETERSON
HARRY E RIVERS • JOSEPH E ROBLE • JOSE MANUEL RUIZ • ALFRED V SCHROEDER
ANTON Jr • SAMUEL R SUMMERFIELD • DONALD E GLIME • DALE A MORRIS
M H WHITE • JOHNNY BEE WILLIAMS • ARNOLD B WIMBERLY • MICHAEL W
EAL G BOLLINGER • SAMUEL E BRYANT • ROBERT A BURKE • RICHARD A CHAMBERLAIN
NARD J COOK • DEWAYNE CORBITT • EDGAR F DAVIS • STEVEN J DAWSON
KEVIN H DUGAN • DAVID L EISENBRAUN • RANDALL L FARLOW • BRUCE E
• KEVIN C HANLEY • WILLIE C HARDY • RAY A HAYES • TRISTAN W HAYES
M HOOVER • MICHAEL W ISSENMANN • G B JACKSON Jr • GARY F JOHNSON
N E KIZZIE • GEORGE LEE Jr • LIONEL MALDONADO-TORRES • JERRY LEE M
• GARY HILL • WAYNE E MONISMITH • GREGORY S MUNDELL • FRANK J M
OWENS • WILLIAM T PARKER • RONALD J POINTER • DOMINICK POLLASTRO

Vietnam War Memorial #2
Washington, D.C.



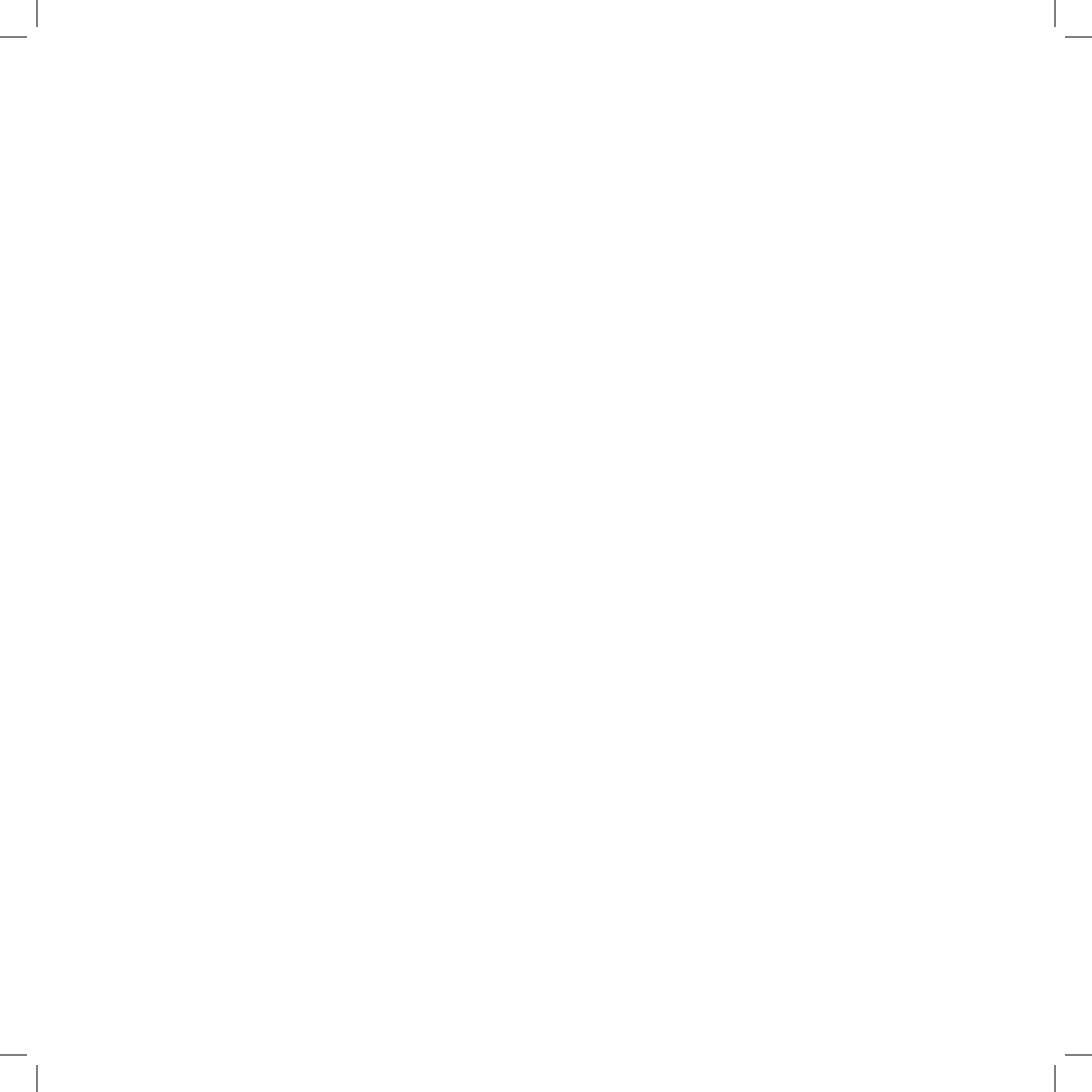


Vietnam War Memorial #7
Washington, D.C.



Vietnam War Memorial #1
Washington, D.C.

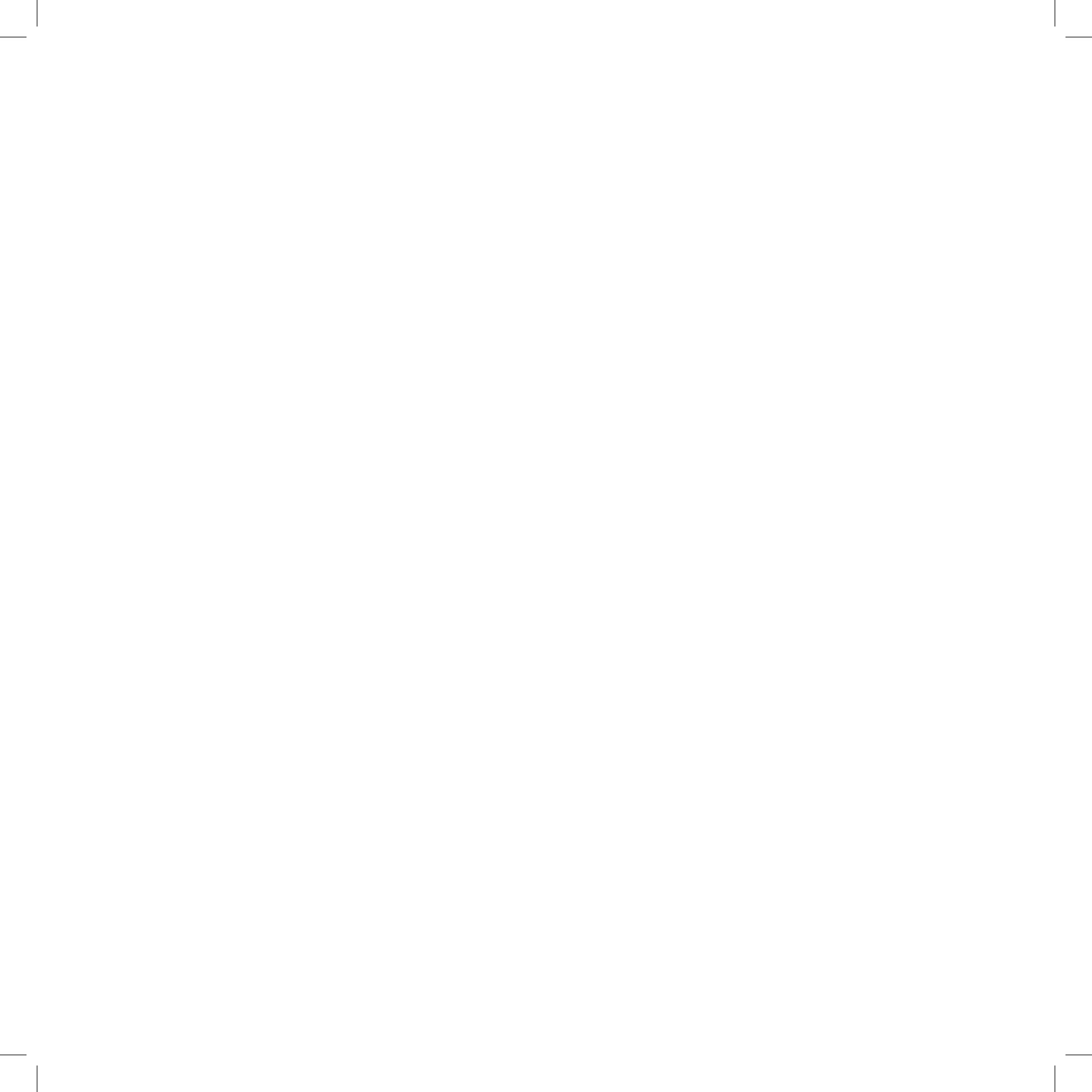
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 • WILLIAM J. TERRY • RICHARD C. TESSMAN • JOSEPH GRISAF • ROBERT D. ANDERSON • BRUCE E. BOLTZ



We are people of this generation, bred at least in moderate comfort, housed now in universities, looking uncomfortably to the world we inherit.

- Tom Hayden

Port Huron Statement, Students for a Democratic Society



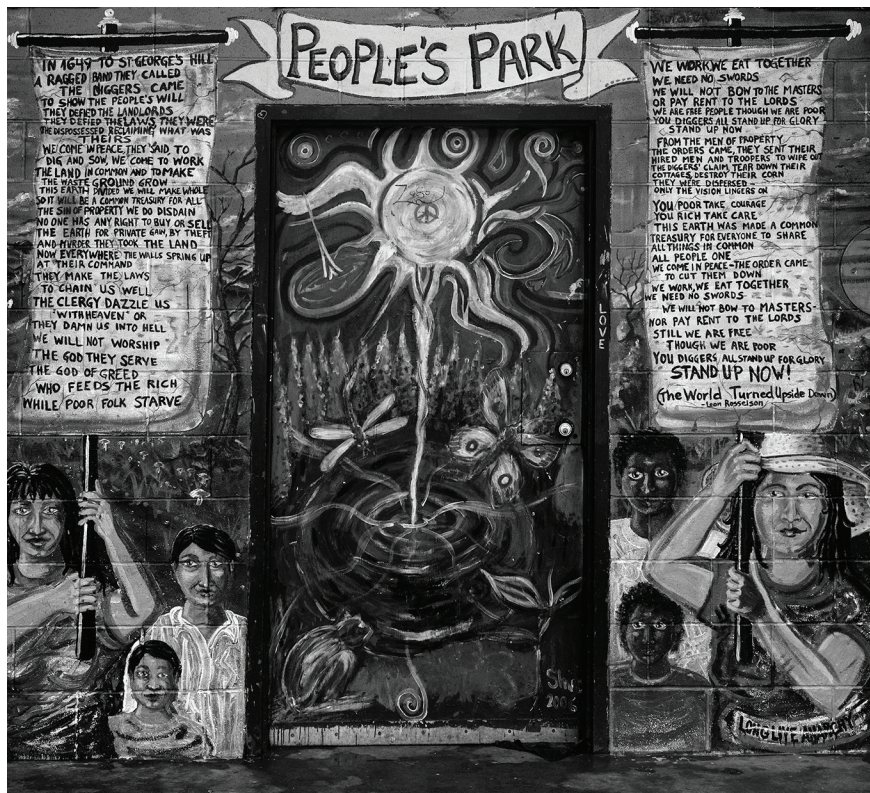
It was time to question authority on war, race, environment and the direction the world was going. In 1969 campuses across the nation were engaged in full radical political activism.

Television had by now become a major new source of information and inflammation as the media brought the war and the protests directly into American living rooms every night.

At UC Berkeley a dispute over land use became a flash point for radical activity when then Governor Ronald Reagan ordered Highway Patrol and other police forces to use "any method necessary" to stop the protests.

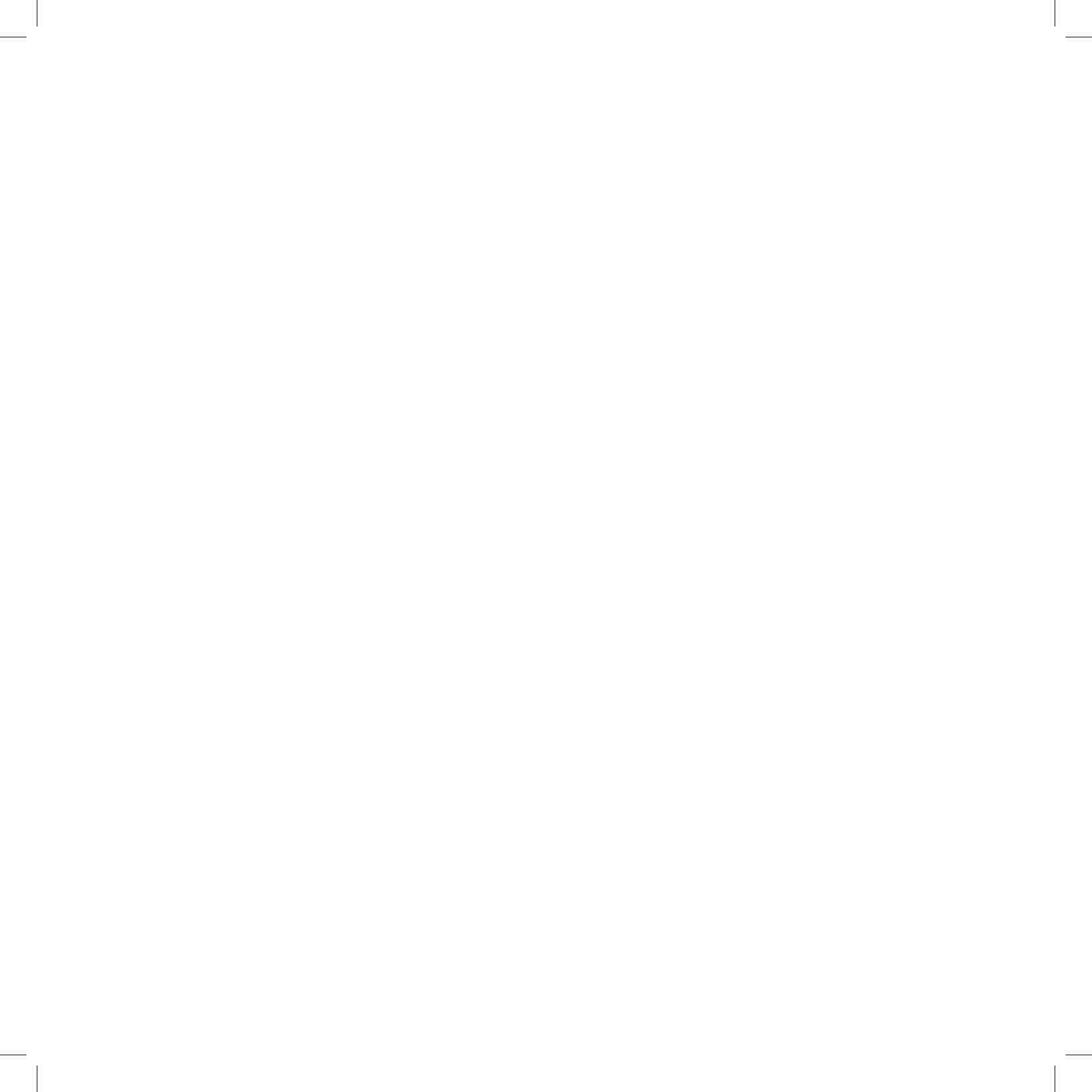
When the tear gas cleared, one student lay dead from a police shotgun blast, many injured. The Governor ordered in the National Guard which occupied the city until 30,000 residents staged a peaceful march and took back their city.

People's Park
Berkeley, Calif.



A muddy, rutted piece of land stood vacant in the center of our community for over 2 years. We took the land. We tended it, loved it, planted trees, grass, & flowers on it, made it into **PEOPLE'S PARK**. We used the land. We planted things & they grew. We hadn't run a feasibility study. We had enough labor, freely given, to build the Park. We had no budgets. We found the money and materials we needed in our community. We had no organization, no leader, no committee. The Park was built by anyone & everyone & we all of us together, worked it out. We were told we hadn't followed the correct procedures. We had asked the wrong questions & built a **BEAUTIFUL PARK**.

It was an incredibly good feeling, building this Park. In this country of cement & steel cities better suited for its machines than for its people, we made a place for people. At a time when only experts and committees, qualified & certified, are permitted to do things, we did something ourselves, & did it well. For all of us, hip & straight, the Park was something that drew our community together. The Park was Common Ground. On 'Bloody Thursday', the day UC administrators had a fence put up around People's Park, we took to the streets. 30,000 people marched. **LET 1000 PARKS BLOOM!**



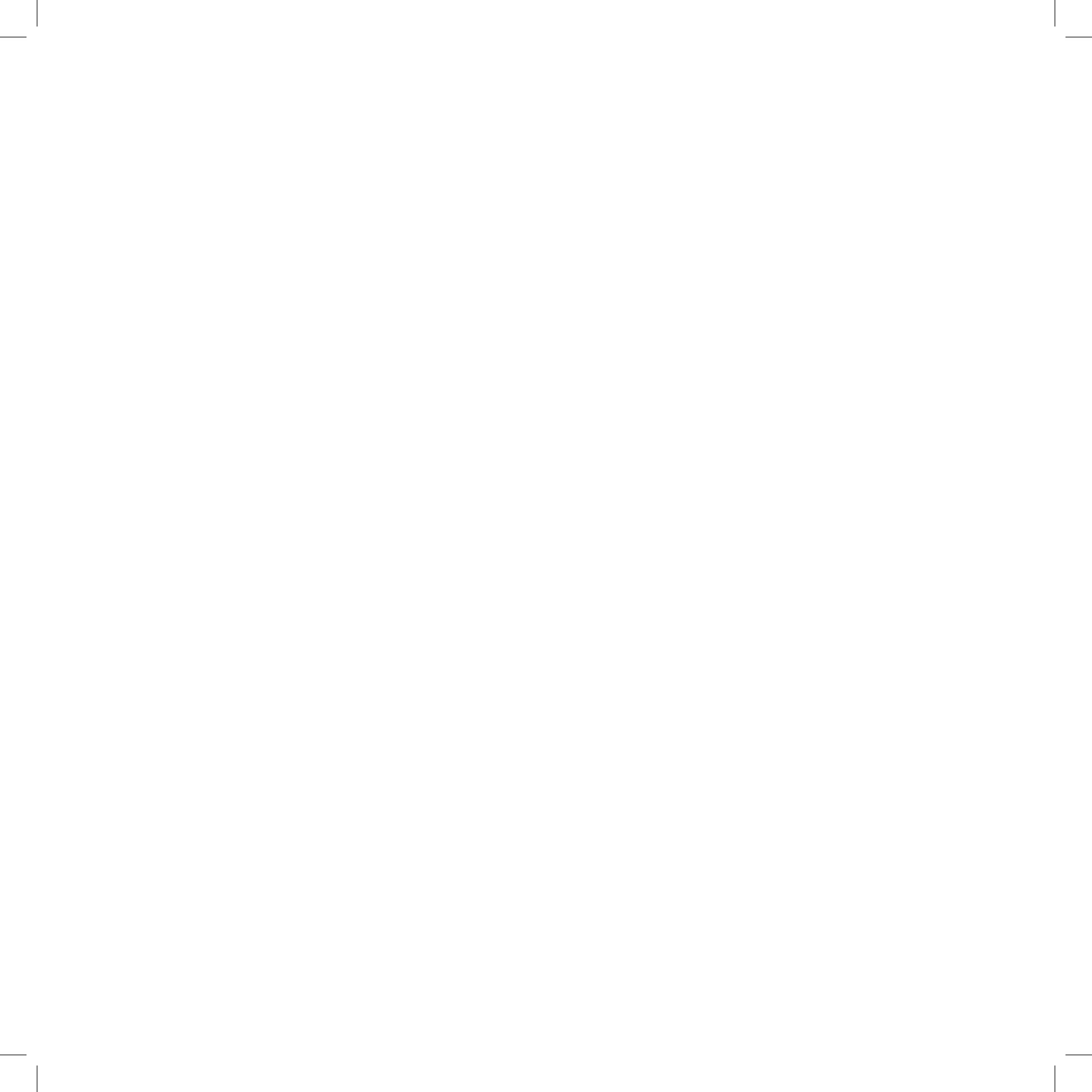
Music and the lyrics that are integral to it have been an important form of protest to express a desire for change and of dissent. Music connects people of like ideology and consciousness in a manner that creates a common shared experience, and is amplified by the star power of the performer, getting a message to the masses. This came to power during the 1960's and 70's and continues to be a medium for protest in any language ever since.

Symbols of protest worn on apparel and an adoption of marijuana by a generation intent on defying conventional norms were outward signs of the questioning of society's behavior and authority.



Vinyl and Zig Zags





On May 4, 1970 National Guard troops fired live ammunition into a crowd of student protesters at Kent State University in Ohio. Four students were killed and campuses across the nation erupted in strikes and riots, over 4 million participated.

This led to a summer of enormous protests and riots which took dark turns as militant radical groups such as the Weather Underground began a series of bombings in the country in protest of the war.

In our family, this event finally gave credibility to the arguments being made and our Father began to view the war differently as did much of the nation.

Kent State



Chicago Tribune

SPORTS FINAL

KENT STATE RIOT; 4 KILLED

Yanks Launch 3d Offensive into Cambodia

By AP Wire Service
The U.S. military launched its third offensive into Cambodia today, sending 15,000 troops and 100 tanks into the country to destroy the bases of the North Vietnamese army.

St. Pet. Back Nixon Move, Poll Shows

President Richard M. Nixon's move to withdraw U.S. troops from Vietnam has been approved by a majority of the voters in St. Petersburg, Fla., according to a recent poll.

House Unit OK's 5% Age Pay Hike

The House of Representatives today approved a 5 percent pay increase for members of Congress, ending a long-standing dispute over the issue.



A crowd gathers to identify the dead after being shot during confrontations with national guardsmen in Kent State.



Nixon Tells Sadness at 4 Kent Deaths

Student Tells of Campus Deaths

A student who was present at the Kent State University campus during the recent riot has described the deaths of the four students who were killed.

Troops Fight With Students

At Kent State University, a group of students fought with national guardsmen during a riot that resulted in the deaths of four students.

Kent State Is a Scene of Unreality

The scene at Kent State University today is one of unreality, with students and faculty members expressing their shock and grief over the deaths of the four students.

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THE WEATHER

Area	High	Low
Chicago	68	52
Indianapolis	65	48
Pittsburgh	62	45
Cleveland	60	43
Detroit	58	41
St. Louis	65	48
St. Paul	62	45
Minneapolis	60	43
Des Moines	65	48
Omaha	62	45
Lincoln	60	43
Denver	65	48
Phoenix	75	58
San Francisco	68	52
Los Angeles	72	56
Honolulu	82	75

ALSO SEE

Page 1: Kent State riot; 4 killed

Page 2: Nixon tells sadness at 4 Kent deaths

Page 3: Student tells of campus deaths

Page 4: Troops fight with students

Page 5: Kent State is a scene of unreality

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Page 23: Student tells of campus deaths

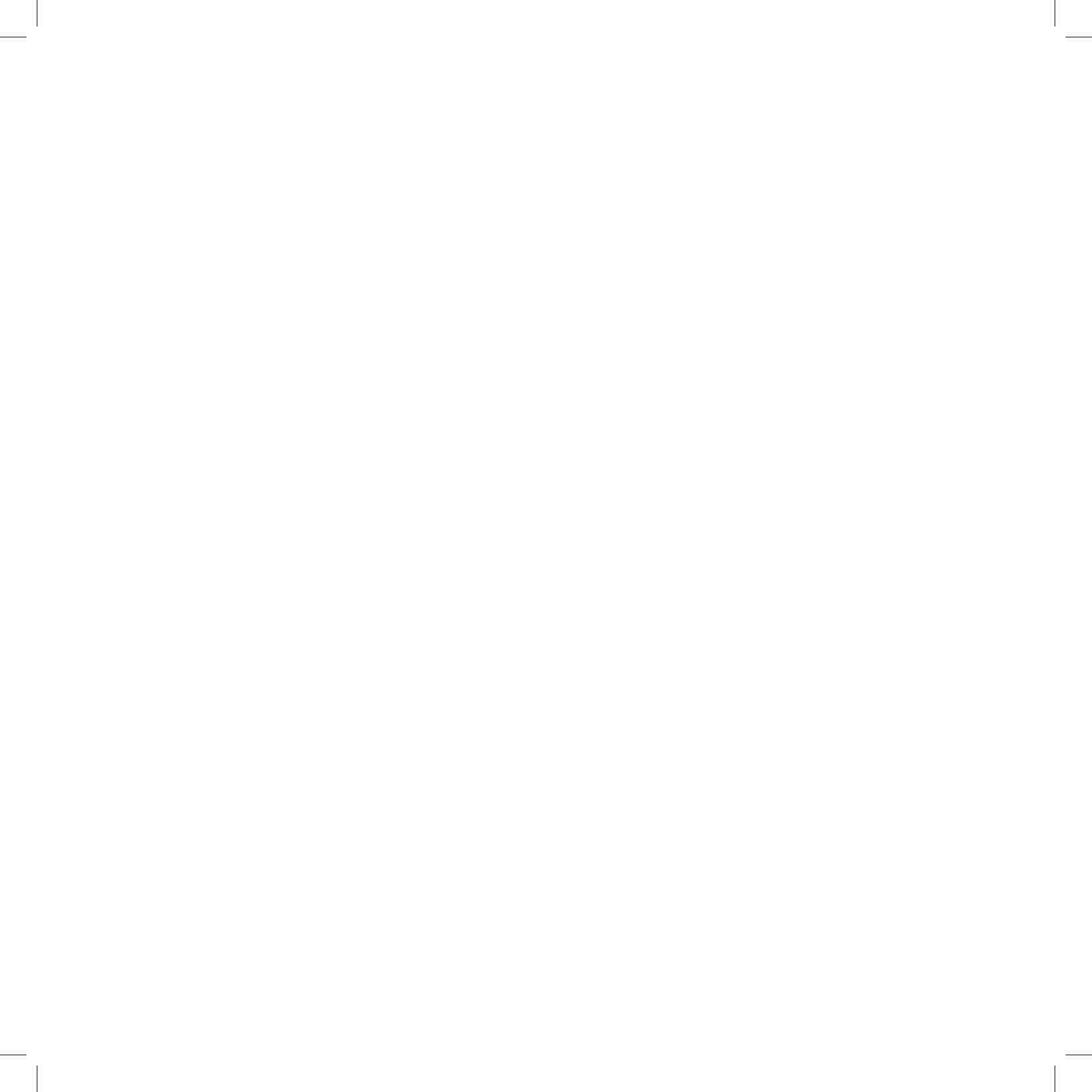
Page 24: Troops fight with students

Page 25: Kent State is a scene of unreality

Page 26: House unit OK's 5% age pay hike

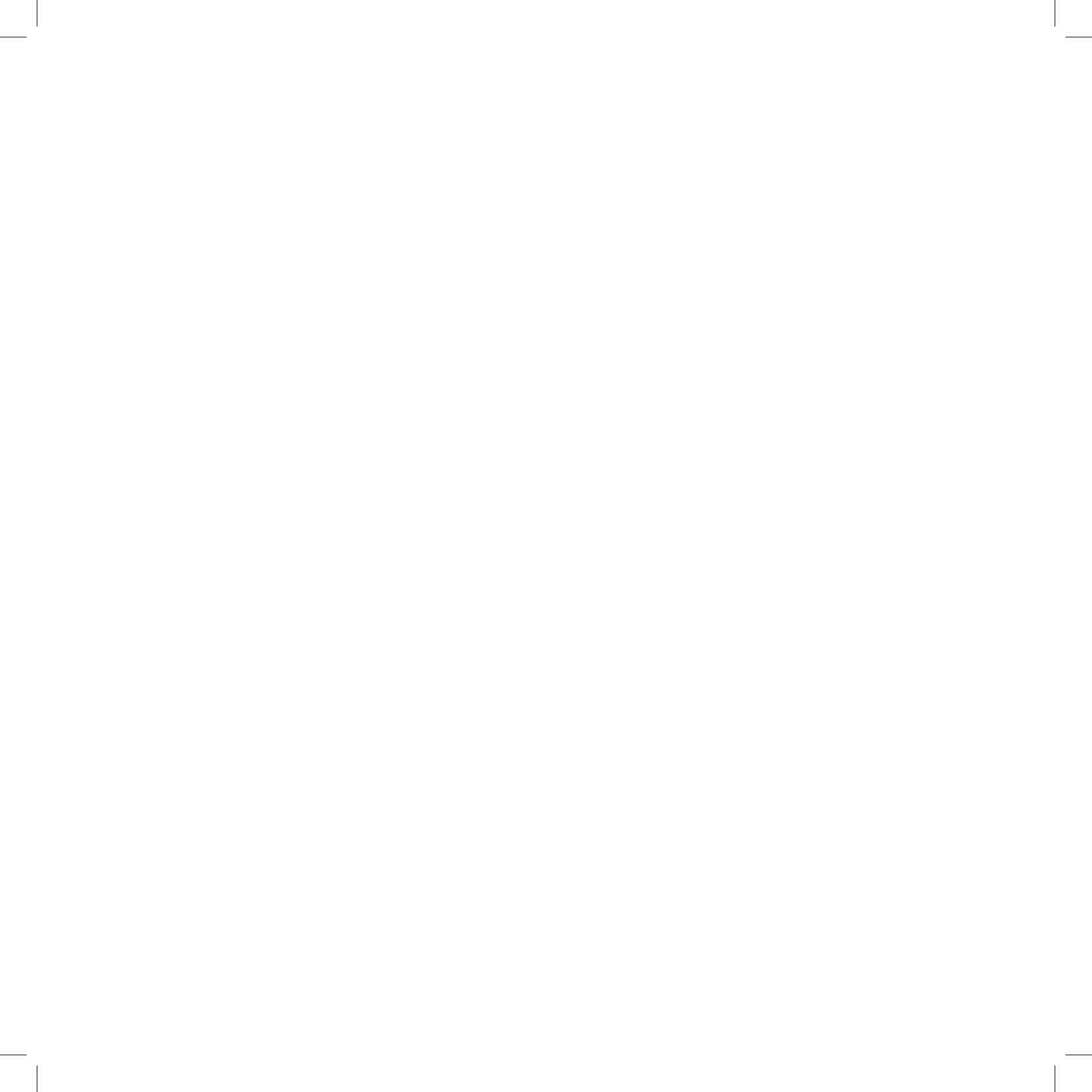
Page 27: Student tells of campus deaths

Page 28: Troops fight with students



In the end we beat them with Levi 501 jeans. Seventy-two years of Communist indoctrination and propaganda was drowned out by a three-ounce Sony Walkman. A huge totalitarian system has been brought to its knees because nobody wants to wear Bulgarian shoes. Now they're lunch and we are number one on the planet.

- P.J. O'Rourke



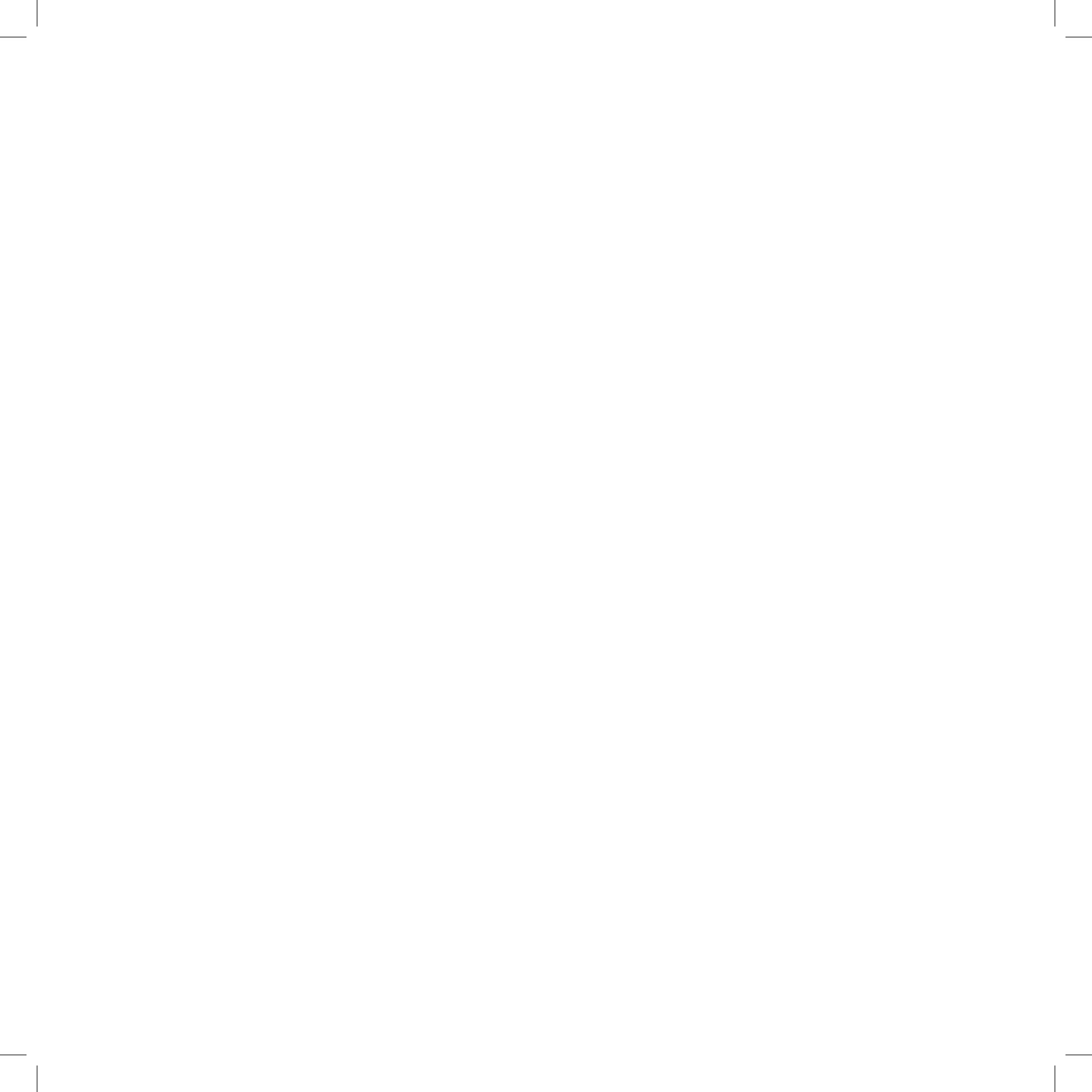
Across the Eastern Bloc, 1989 saw the collapse of Communism, beginning in Poland and spreading across Eastern Europe, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the eventual breakup the next year of the Soviet Union and then the reunification of Germany.

Since the 1980s this constantly evolving wall in Prague has been a symbol of peace and love.

Students originally painted an image of John Lennon on the wall with the words to his song "Imagine". Quickly it became a center for others to post anti-communist messages and became a major source of irritation to the Communist regime, resulting in violent clashes between students and police.

Since the Velvet Revolution in 1989, Lennon's Wall is a mecca for youth visiting the city who come to this wall on a daily basis and join the conversation. As I photographed the wall and watched the steady stream of students adding their writing to the surface, I was struck that in their youthful expression there was hope that Lennon's lyrics could someday come true.





There are some events that occur when you will always remember where you were and the circumstances when news so startling comes that changes the world forever. In my youth it was John F. Kennedy's assassination, and for youth of the new millennium that moment was the terrorist attacks of 9/11. America had already been involved in one war in the Middle East in the nineties, with several significant attacks in the subsequent years. The boldness of this attack created a visceral reaction at home not previously seen.

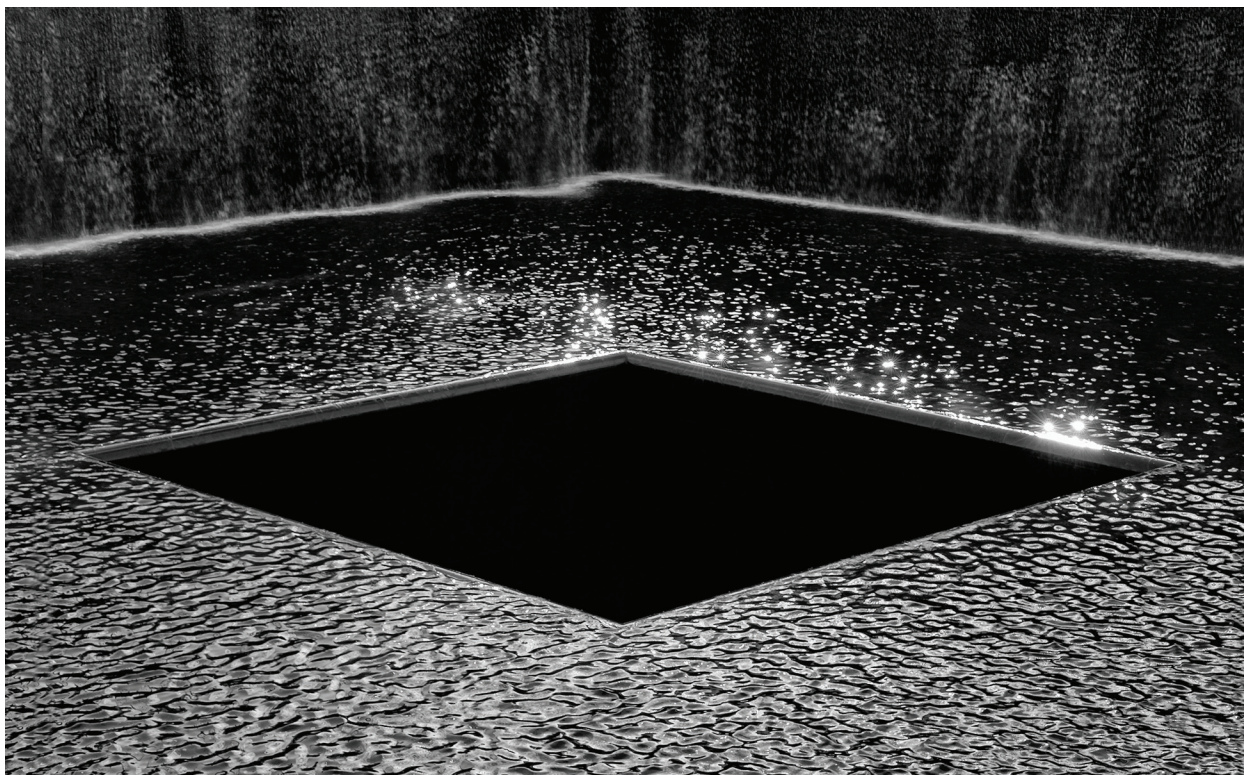
The divide between radical Islam and the West was brought into clear focus by these attacks and is responsible for our involvement in two wars, one still ongoing at this time. In the wars of ideals and ideology, there is no clear victory and no declared winner.



Personal Snapshots of Trinity Church, November 2001
New York City



9/11 Memorial #1, South Pool
New York City

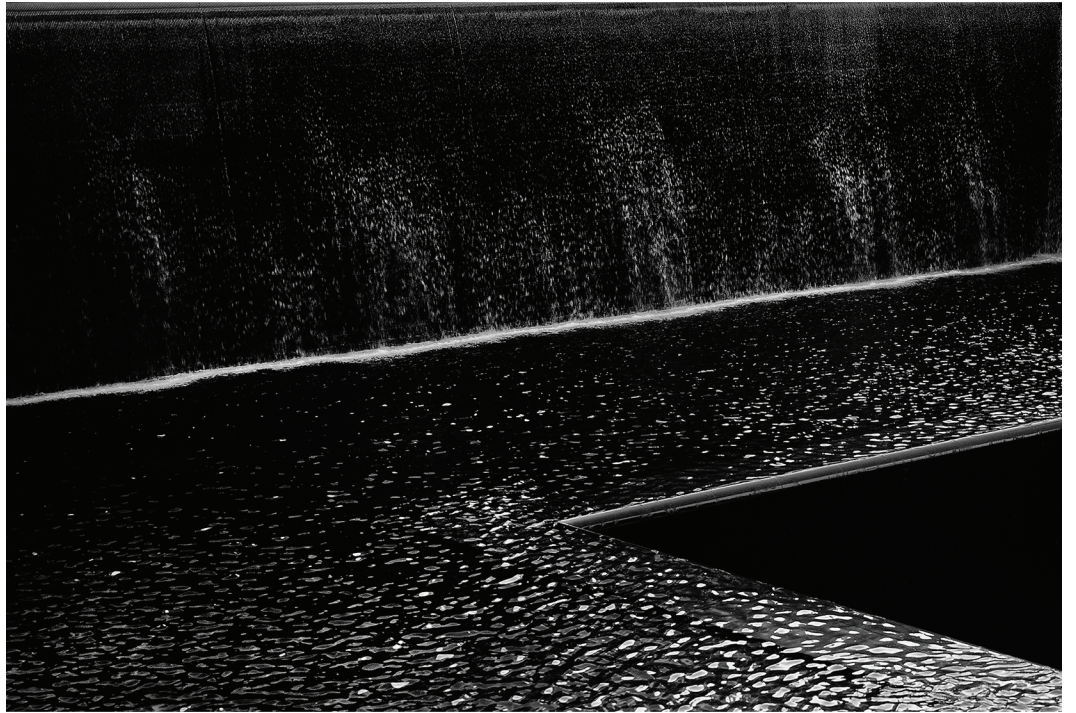


9/11 Memorial #9, South Pool
New York City

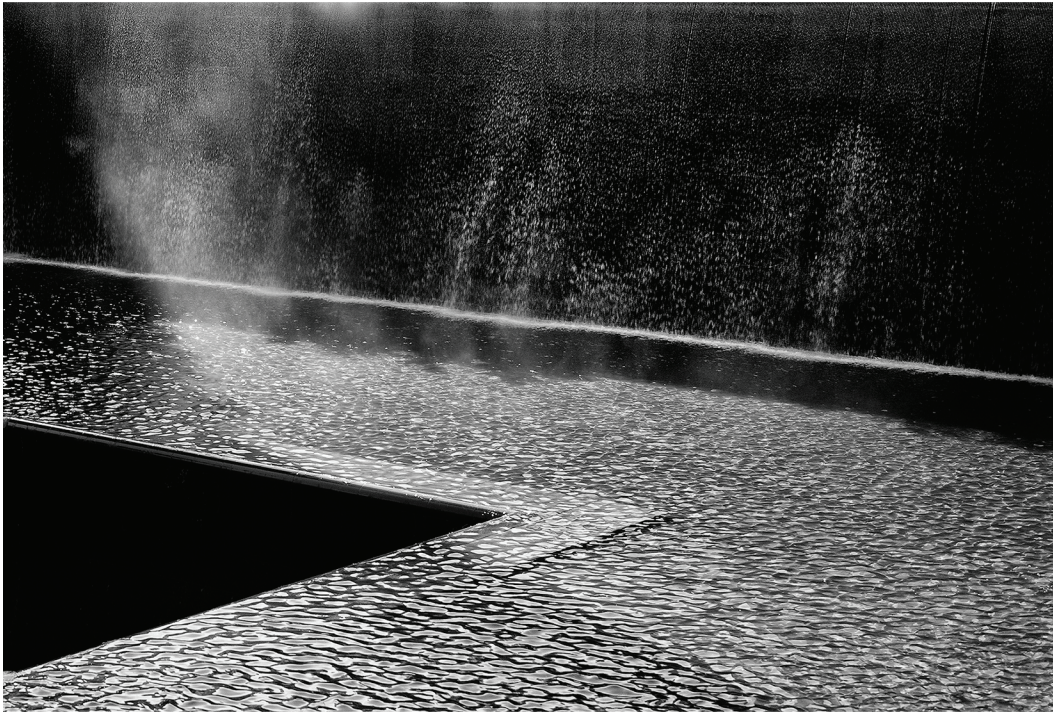


9/11 Memorial #4, South Pool
New York City

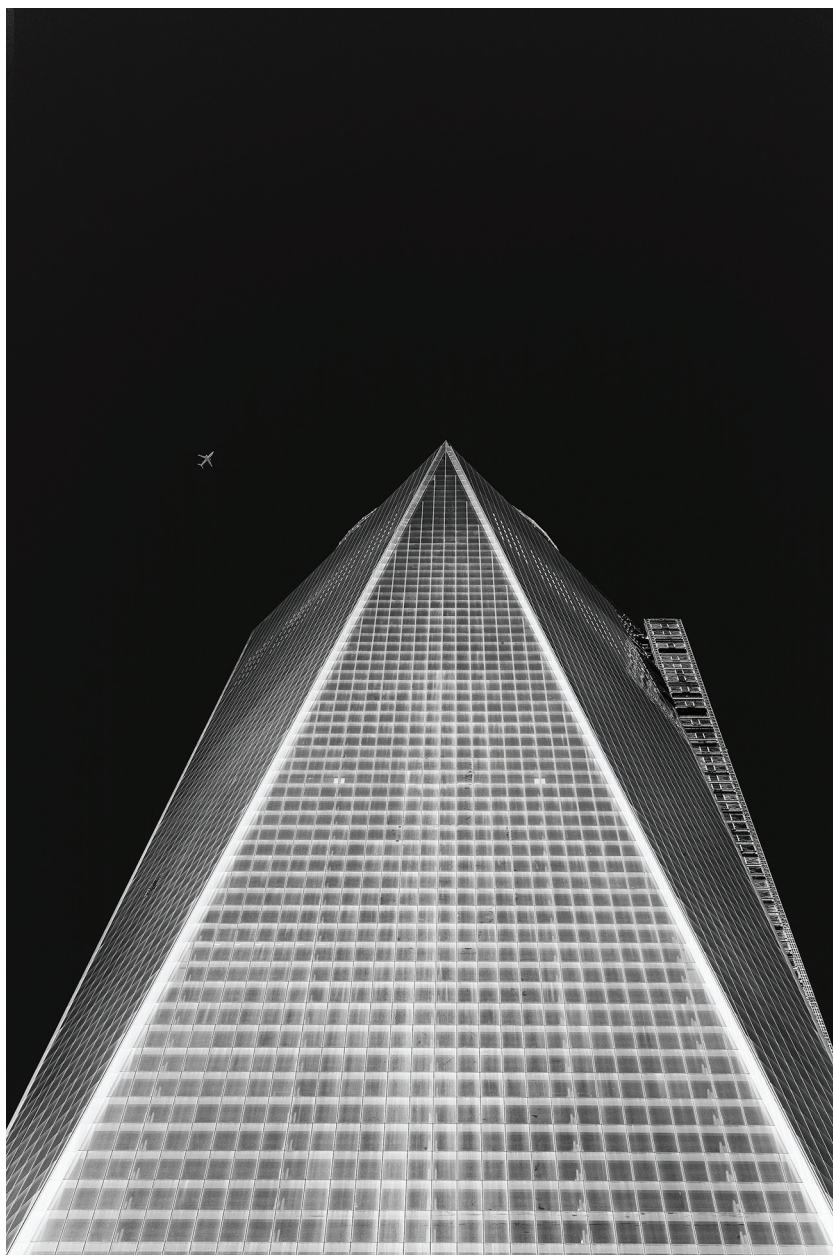




9/11 Memorial #8, North Pool
New York City

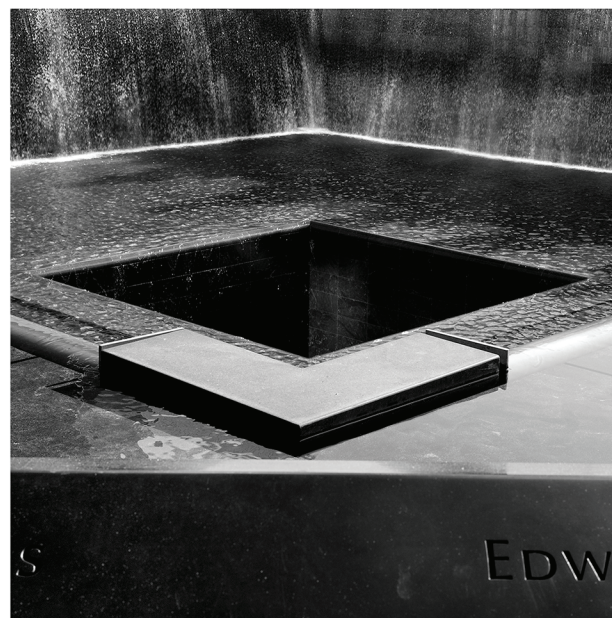
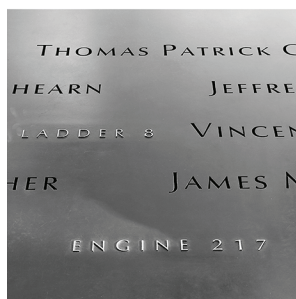
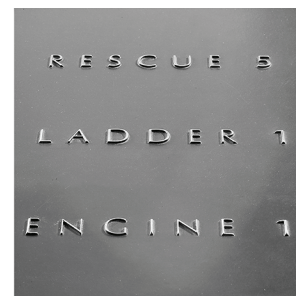


9/11 Memorial #5, Freedom Tower
New York City



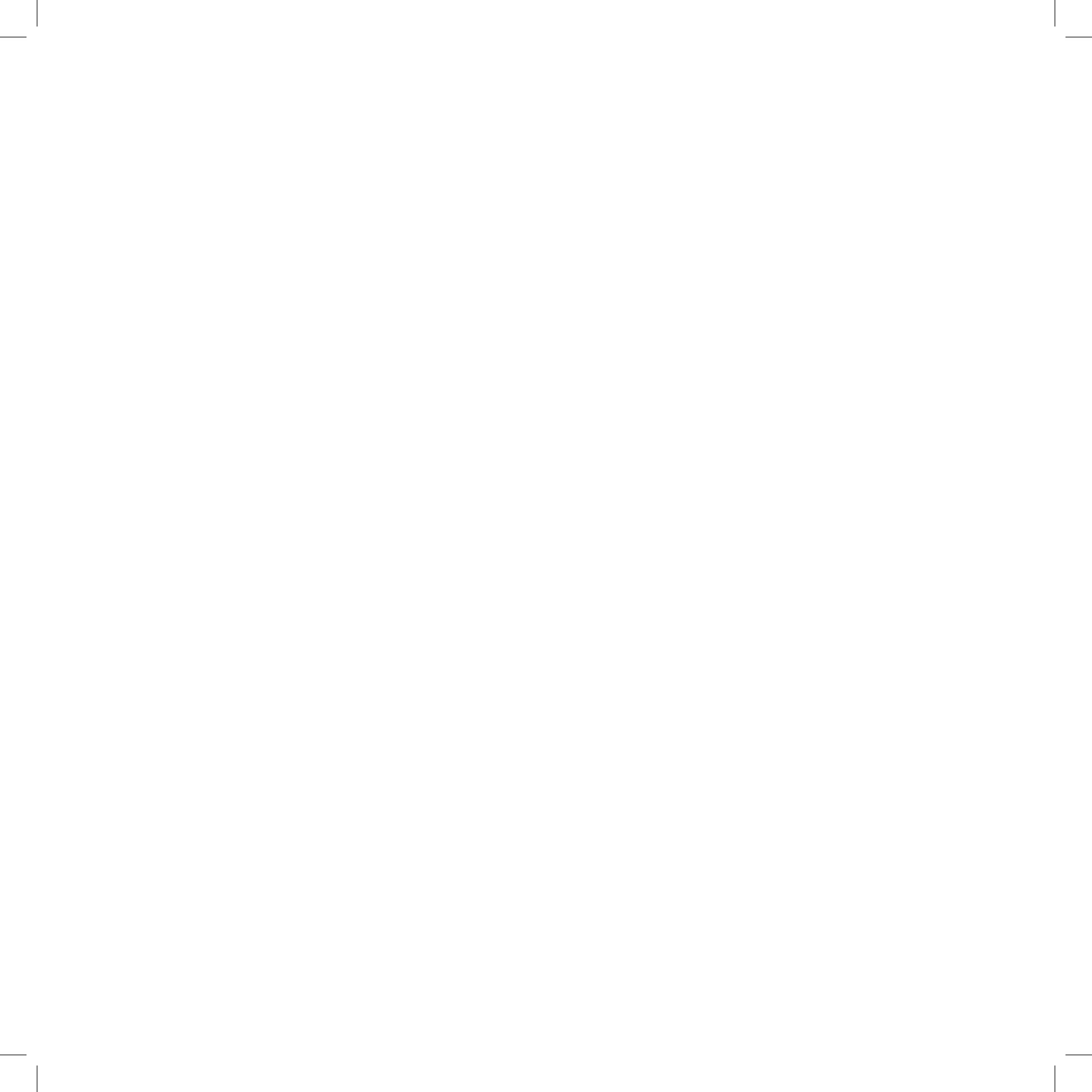
9/11 Memorial Grid

New York City



National 9/11 Museum
New York City





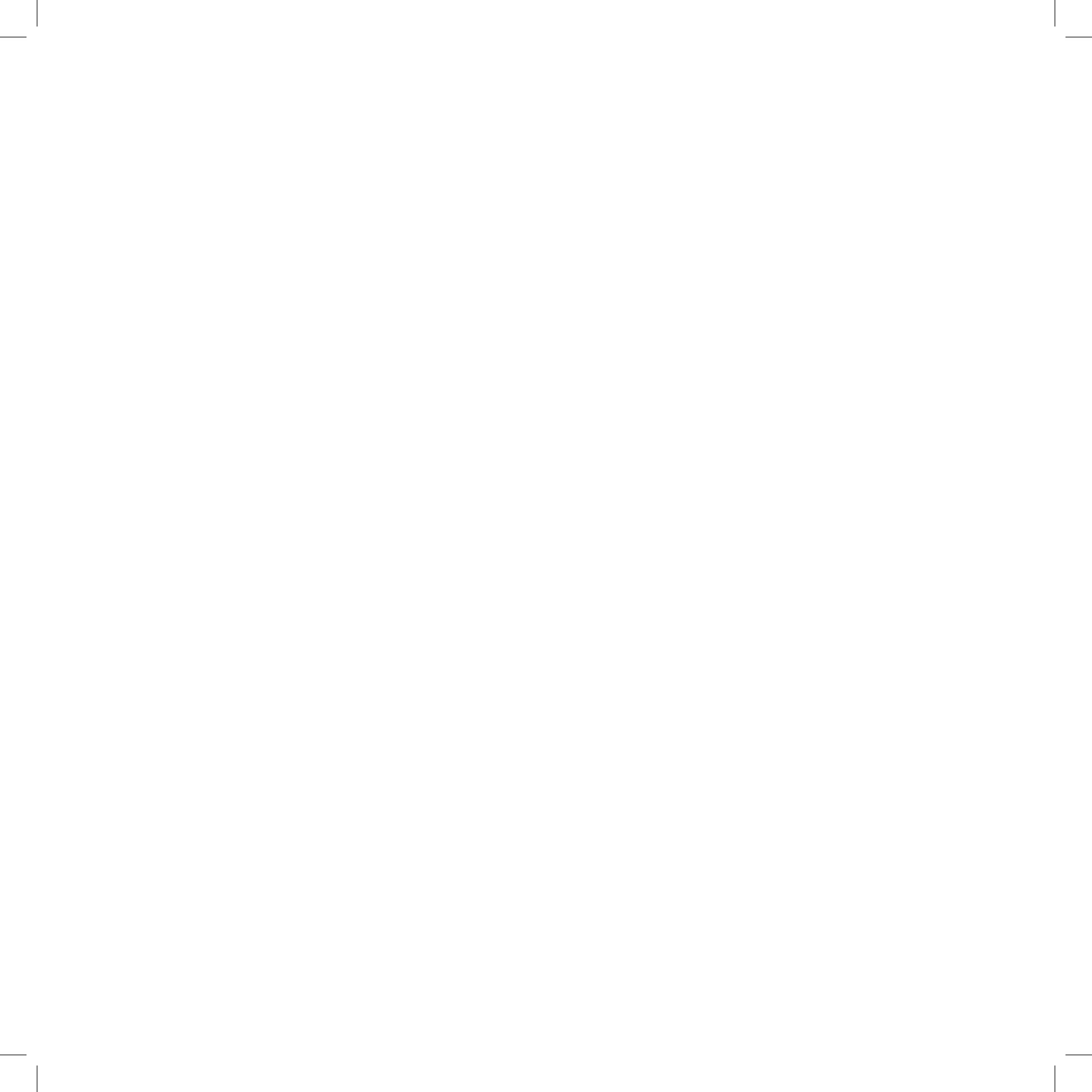
The largest coordinated protests in history were held on February 15, 2003 in opposition to the approaching war in Iraq. In over 600 cities worldwide, hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets in major US cities; New York, San Francisco and Seattle. Approximately three million marched in Rome; millions in London and Barcelona, all united against the unstoppable US administration's decision to go to war.

These protests were brushed aside by the administration and a Congress intent on war. With the passage of time, the war did not accomplish its stated goals, was widely deemed unnecessary, and has lead to further destabilization in a region already unstable.



Iraq War Protest
Lafayette, Calif.

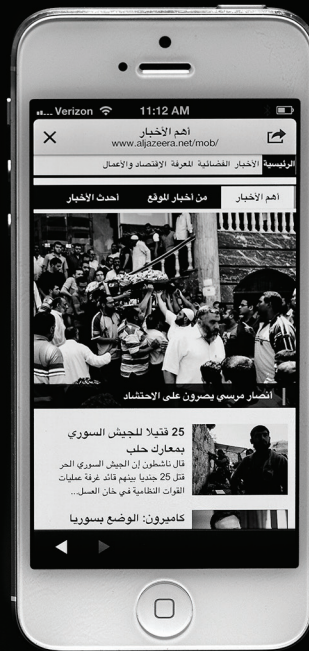




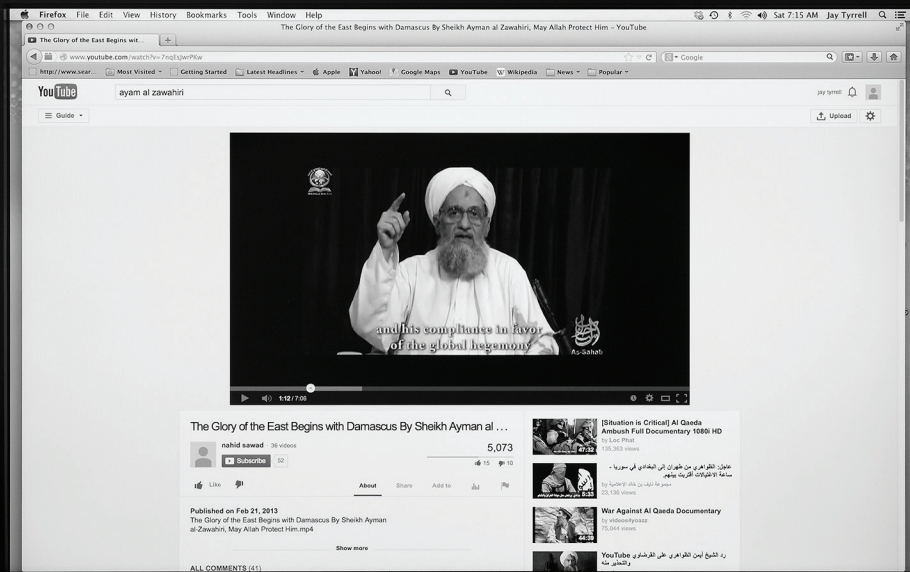
The Internet and social media now play a significant role in connecting people into virtual communities, organizing and disseminating ideas across borders instantly.

Jihadists recruit and preach their messages on websites, media such as Twitter coordinate protests and inform participants so all are connected up to the minute as events happen.

Twitter
Al Jazeera Feed



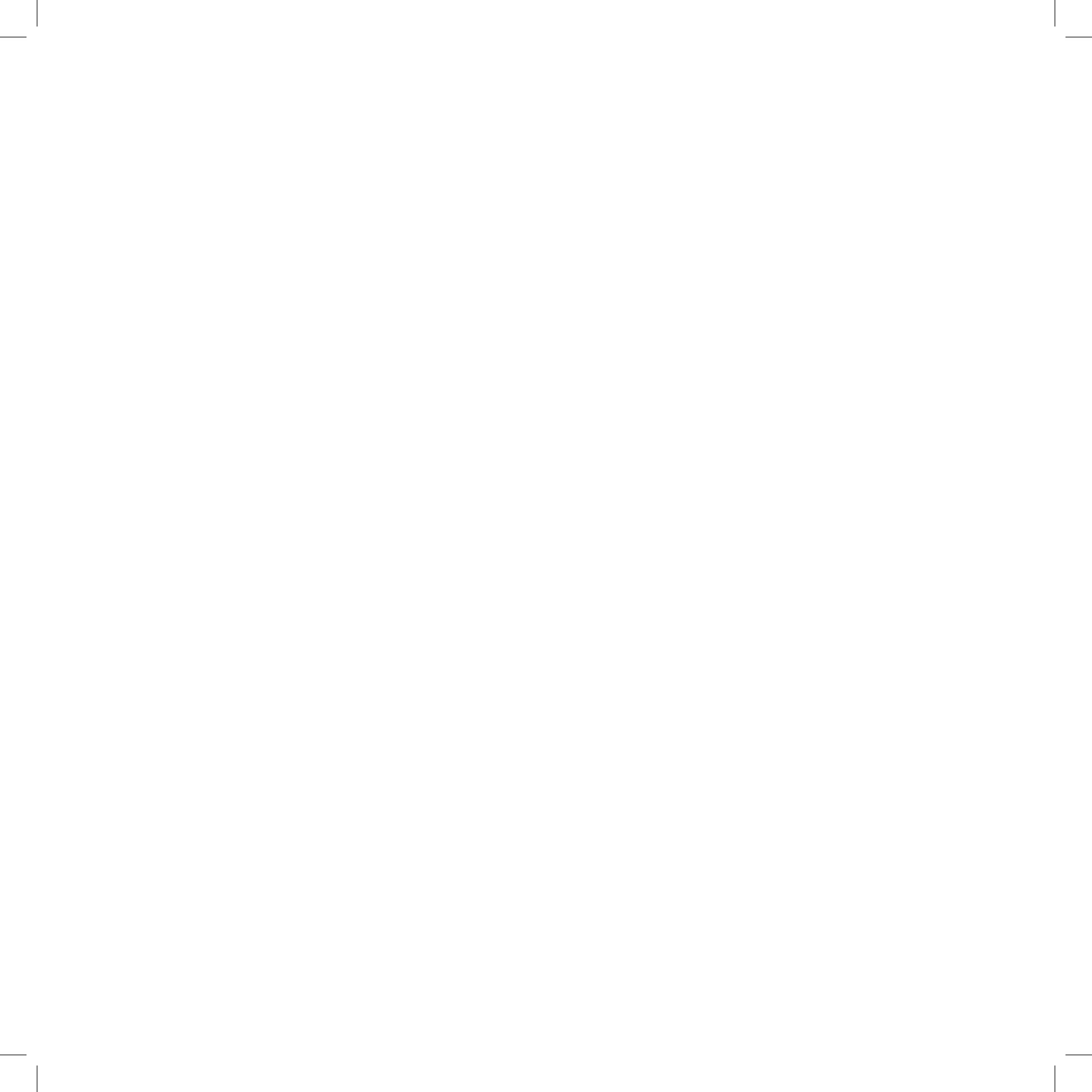
YouTube
Ayman al-Zawahiri



Bumper Sticker

**I'm already against
the *next* war.**





Acknowledgements

- With gratitude to my collaborator and friend, Bob Cornelis of Color Folio. Without his debate and technical expertise none of this would have gotten done.
- Karen Sinsheimer and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art for their support and acquisition of this work.
- To the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States, thank you for your service and sacrifices in the defense of our liberties so we can have the right to dissent and protest.

I do not know how the Third World War will be fought, but I can tell you what they will use in the Fourth - rocks!

- Albert Einstein 1949



