

The Passy Press®

Letter to the Editor

From: Michael D. Wyly pvt57@undisclosed.com
To: Nicolas Gardiner enpg@thepassypress.com
Subject: Letter to the Editor Re; Jim Webb Essay

Dear Sir,

Our Founding Fathers placed checks into our constitutional system. The inaction of Congressional leaders has ensured that the President's actions constitute a troubling precedent. Both Republicans and Democrats can reassert the authority so wisely given Congress so many years ago: their Constitutional duty to counter Executive power unchecked." These words, extracted from Jim Webb's essay on Passy Press, "Congressional Abdication," are a call to action for all Americans unwilling to return to unchecked authority by one man or one branch of Government such as existed universally before 4 July 1776.

Of no less importance than the Constitutional provision that "No title of nobility shall be granted", the Congressional check is an essential duty of all in Congress, having taken that oath "To Support and defend the Constitution of the United States." In other words, the Founders were *done* with the European precedent of endowing some men with unchecked power over others. And, as U.S. Citizens, so are we all.

I first met Jim Webb on a dusty hill in Vietnam in 1969, my second tour of duty in that country, when he joined the U. S. Marine rifle company I commanded. In combat I quickly learned that Jim, even as a 22-year-old "fresh-caught" lieutenant, was a man to be listened to; one who if he sounds warning, we ignore at our peril. Jim and I took that sacred oath six years apart at the U.S. Naval Academy in 1968 and 1962, respectively, our proud and teary-eyed mothers pinning on the gold lieutenant's bars that said we would do our duty to support and defend that sacred document, no matter the cost. In those days we took our duty seriously, as did our young Marines who didn't make it home. We owe it to them to keep the faith in the oath they took and we took.

I am writing my two State Senators and my Representative in the House this day, and enclosing a copy of Jim's essay. I ask all readers of Passy Press to do the same. It is our duty in the interest of Freedom.

Michael D. Wyly

Colonel Michael D. Wyly USMC (Ret) and Executive Director, CEO and Founder of The Bossov Ballet Theater in Maine