



Following the ceremonial signing of the 2013-14 Memorandum of Understanding by the heads of the five national representatives present at this year's International Meeting, one more document was passed around for the signature of everyone in the room. It was an "Appeal for Peace" initiated by our French partner, Georges Doussin. Here is the text of the document we signed:

**An Appeal for Peace
from the International Committee
of the Viet Nam Friendship Village
— 25 October 2012 —**

**Wars driven by financial greed have caused the loss of many lives and plunged millions of people into poverty and hunger. The International Committee for the Viet Nam Friendship Village appeals to all people to join hands to replace this inhumane exploitation with a dedication to peace and solidarity; and to replace hatred with friendship. Together we oppose all war.
Here at Van Canh, we have built a Friendship Village for war victims. It is the fulfillment of a dream and desire of veterans to fight for peace. Today, in love and solidarity, we dream about a world at peace. Today we envision the world as a village.
For the happiness of every child, let us join together to save that village!**

This simple, straightforward expression of a collective dream for world peace is true to the spirit of the founding of the Friendship Village. Georges Doussin was one of the handful of international war veterans originally assembled to carry out the vision that grew out of American veteran George Mizo's original desire to reconcile with his former enemies.



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