

Email to John Setka from -  
Bob Elworthy AM  
President, Victorian Branch  
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia

**RIOT AT MELBOURNE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE: NOT CFMEU DOING**

John, I want to let you know that the Victorian Branch of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia lays no blame with the CFMEU for the riotous behaviour witnessed yesterday at the Shrine. What occurred yesterday has hurt us deeply.

Clearly, what was initially a union issue with COVID vaccinations has been hijacked by splinter groups hell bent on creating civil unrest who could not care one bit for the origins of the issue.

I am, sure that right minded members of your union would not endorse the desecration of the Shrine or take part in confrontation designed to inflict damage and hurt that was not related to union business.

I would also hope that should you discover that union members did take part in the riot that you would take the appropriate action.

It is easy for people to bash the CFMEU over this development, but clearly the blame lies elsewhere. I like many Vietnam Veterans harbour negative views of certain unions dating back to their behaviour during the Vietnam war. But fair is fair, we aim no responsibility at you or your members for the actions of the mob yesterday.

Regards, and keep safe during trying times.

Bob Elworthy AM  
President, Victorian Branch  
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia