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## Barracks, Ft. Abraham Lincoln, ND

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**BARRACKS, FT. ABRAHAM LINCOLN, ND** J. ALLEN WHITESIDE



## The Wall, Reminder of the First Living-Room War

SYLVIA ROJAS VAUGHN

Do amputees dressed  
in fatigues see past  
their reflections  
in the names marching  
across polished stone,  
hear something other than  
hushed voices of the crowd?  
Father says on one mission  
he heard only  
mechanical sounds.  
Chopper blades.  
Machine gun fire.  
Not like in the movies.  
If anyone shouted Charge!  
no one heard it.  
I wondered every day  
if I would see Father  
on a stretcher on TV.  
In tonight's broadcast  
from the VFW,  
the retired sergeant's  
voice catches  
as he reads the names  
of local MIAs, KIAs.  
The announcer interrupts.  
Will it rain? Stay tuned.

INTEGRITY FIRST SERVICE BEFORE SELF  
THIS WE WILL DEFEND \*\*\* HONOR  
\*\*\* ALWAYS FAITHFUL \*\*\* HONOR  
\*\*\* ALWAYS READY \*\*\*