# Controversy over 'Jane Fonda Day' Date Change in Los Angeles Sparks Debate



On April 29, 1975, Vietnamese people were seen scaling the U.S. embassy wall in Saigon as the Vietnam War neared its conclusion. This event occurred just before the Fall of Saigon, marking the end of the conflict and leading to the withdrawal of American forces.

In a related matter, officials in Los Angeles initially declared April 30 as "Jane Fonda Day" to honor the actress’s contributions to climate activism. However, this decision coincided with the anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, a day of significant mourning for the Vietnamese-American community. The decision faced backlash from Vietnamese-American lawmakers, including Assemblyman Tri Ta and State Senator Janet Nguyen, who pressured officials to reconsider the date due to its historical sensitivity.

Jane Fonda, an actress and anti-Vietnam War activist, has been a polarizing figure since her controversial visit to North Vietnam in 1972, where she was photographed on a North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun. Despite her later apologies, her actions continue to evoke strong emotions among Vietnam War veterans and Vietnamese ex-pats.

Amidst the controversy, on Friday, Los Angeles County officials decided to change the date for "Jane Fonda Day" to April 8. The move was aimed at respecting the sentiments of the Vietnamese-American community while recognizing Fonda’s activism in environmental and social issues.

Key figures involved in the push to rescind the initial decision included Lindsey P. Horvath, Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and nearly all Republican members of the California State Assembly. The initial declaration and the subsequent date change underscore the complex legacy of the Vietnam War and its enduring impact on various communities in the United States.