



The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration

FIRST QUARTER 2011
COMMEMORATION NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- (1) To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.
- (2) To highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of Federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.
- (3) To pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.
- (4) To highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the Vietnam War.
- (5) To recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

Vietnam War Commemoration Web Site Launch

The development of the highly interactive official web site continues, with an anticipated launch date in late spring of 2011. To focus resources on development of the new site, all additions to the temporary site will be stopped and will be included in the launch of the new site. However, major announcements will still be posted to the current site (www.vietnamwar50th.com). Please send any comments or web link requests to

Latest Activities

vnwar50th@wso.whs.mil.

U.S. Department of Defense

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

Official News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE No. 037-11

January 14, 2011

DOD Announces Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration Program

The Department of Defense announced today its program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The program will:

- Thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.
- Highlight the service of the armed forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the armed forces.
- Pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.
- Highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to the military research conducted during the Vietnam War.
- Recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

DoD representatives will coordinate with other federal agencies, veteran groups, state, local government and non-government organizations for their input in Vietnam War commemoration activities. For more information call 877-387-9951 or visit the official web-site at www.vnwar50th.com

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1967 Miss America, Jane Jayroe on 1969 USO Tour to South Vietnam with Judi Ford Miss 1969

Veteran Service Organizations



VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION

Mission: To enhance and accredit the cohesiveness, esprit de corps, and traditions of valor of rotary wing aircrews that flew in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam Era. To seek out, using whatever means available, individuals who piloted rotary wing aircraft in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam Era and inform them of the existence of the VHPA and encourage eligible individuals to become members. Membership is open to pilots who flew from 1961-1975.

The VHPA has a membership of over 14,000 (8,000 dues current) helicopter pilots from around the world out of the approximately 40,000 who served as helicopter pilots in the Vietnam War.

In addition to an annual reunion held around July 4th, members keep in touch informally through mini-reunions (local get togethers) throughout the year and through the Internet on [VHFCN \(http://www.vhfcn.org\)](http://www.vhfcn.org) and [Heli-Vets](#). The VHPA is a social organization only and has no political agenda.



The Vietnam Center and Archive at Texas Tech University

Mission: The Vietnam Center and Archive collects and preserves the documentary record of the Vietnam War, and supports and encourages research and education regarding all aspects of the American Vietnam Experience. Over the past few years, the Vietnam Archive has made a concerted effort to record the histories of veterans organizations and their members. The [Veterans' Association](#) section of this website provides more information about our efforts in this area. Created in 2008, the Vietnamese American Heritage Project (VAHP) supports the Vietnam Archive's mission to document the war from all perspectives by providing documentation of the post-war social and political history of Vietnamese Americans who immigrated to the United States during and after the Vietnam conflict. A component of the archive, the VAHP is comprised of a full time Vietnamese American Heritage Archivist and one part time student assistant who collect, preserve, and make accessible to the public materials that document the experiences and contributions of Vietnamese Americans in American society. The VAHP aims to enhance the study of the Vietnamese immigration and resettlement experience by providing [reference services to researchers](#) and increasing Vietnamese American participation in the archive's [Oral History Project](#), conducting outreach activities, and developing cooperative relationships with other institutions dedicated to preserving Vietnamese American's rich heritage. The Center will be hosting **The Seventh Triennial Vietnam Symposium will take place on March 10-12, 2011**, and will be held at the brand new Overton Hotel and Convention Center in Lubbock, Texas. Vietnam Center symposia are open to presentations that examine any and all aspects of the United States involvement in Southeast Asia. This includes activities before, during, and after the war in Vietnam, etc. The center can be found at: <http://www.vietnam.ttu.edu>



Cu Chi, Vietnam...Gen. Creighton W. Abrams presents the Distinguished Service Cross to Spec. 4 Donald R. Evans, 25th Inf. Division. 17 Jun 69