

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



"SITREP" 2022 - Issue 8

Dear Commemorative Partners,

~ Our Flag Does Not Fly Because The Wind Moves It... It Flies With The Last Breath Of Each Soldier Who Died Protecting It ~

This quote (source unknown) is inscribed on the arch shown at right, surrounding the entrance to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park in Trumbull, Connecticut. Recently completed, the arch is a powerful tribute to all who gave their lives defending our Nation's freedom in uniform, especially our Vietnam veterans.

Friday, July 1



Arch in Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park in Trumbull, CT.

<u>Independence Day</u> is an opportune time to think about America's freedom. Each service member



entering our Nation's Armed Forces raises their right hand and takes an oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States." Their collective sense of "service before self" reflects that of the 56 signers of our Declaration of Independence, who "mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor." As we gather together this year with family and friends in communities across America to celebrate

Independence Day, please take time to remember the generations of warriors who paid the true cost of the freedoms and liberty we enjoy today!

Just before Memorial Day, in <u>Issue 6</u>, we announced a *Mark your Calendars* invitation to join us next *May 11-13, 2023 in Washington, D.C.*, where large-scale events will be hosted on the National Mall to honor Vietnam veterans and their enduring legacy of service! This once-in-a-lifetime *milestone event*,

spread across three days is appropriately titled "Welcome Home! A Nation Honors our Vietnam Veterans and their Families." This event will feature Ceremonies on the National Mall, an Outdoor Multimedia Celebration, and a Walkable Avenue of Military Equipment, Interactive Displays and Mini-Stages.

The *Ceremonies* will inspire Americans to embrace the sacred responsibility to honor our Vietnam veterans and their families, while the *Outdoor Multimedia Celebration* will portray the story of our Vietnam veterans and



Tribute video narrated by Mr. Sam Elliott, and "Welcome Home!" event webpage.

their enduring legacy of their service. The latter will also highlight the sacrifices of their families, and the contributions of individual citizens, our allies, the Services and nongovernmental organizations during the Vietnam War period. *The Walkable Avenue* will expand on the story of our Vietnam veterans, and contributions of individual citizens, our allies, the Services and nongovernmental organizations during the Vietnam War period. Additional details will be released on our *Welcome Home!* dedicated webpage and via social media in the coming months. *Enjoy a wonderful Independence Day celebration!*

~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~