

Vietnam War Commemoration "SITREP"

Special Edition – 2016 in Review



"Join the nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!"

Monday, February 6

Dear Commemorative Partners,

Congratulations! 2016 was remarkable ... because of you! Your dedicated efforts have *inspired multitudes of Americans* in towns and cities across the country to thank and honor **1.4 million Vietnam veterans** and **1.7 million** of their *families*! Truly, you continue to uplift and enrich the lives of Vietnam veterans in your communities.

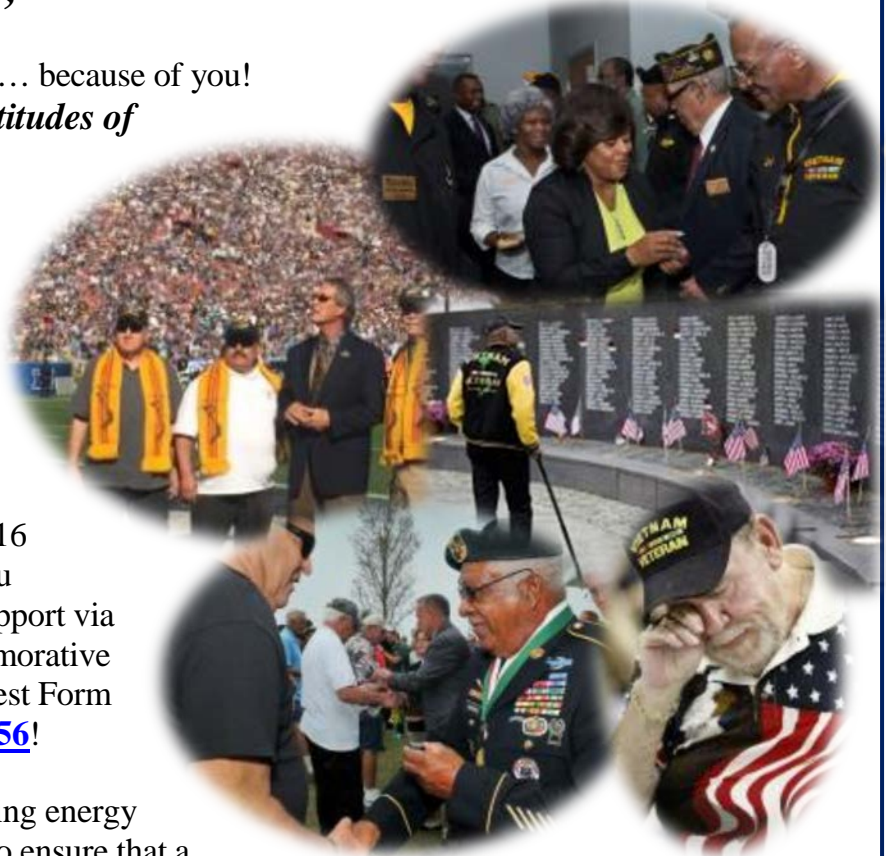
4,380 ... that's the number of commemorative events *you planned and hosted* in 2016

for which you requested support via our Commemorative Event Request Form – the [DD2956](#)!



Your amazing energy continues to ensure that a [Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin](#) ... a "lasting memento of the nation's thanks" ... is being individually and publicly presented with dignity and honor to each veteran in this heretofore unheralded generation of warriors. The *pride, unabashed patriotism*, and yes, *tears that spill forth and bring healing from both veteran and citizen alike*, are evident in every ceremony.

March 2016, highlighted by **Vietnam Veterans Day**, marked an enormous effort by you, our wonderful partners. Across the country, CPs hosted commemorative events during which **225,000 Vietnam veterans** and their *families* were **thanked and honored!** Leading this huge success story was the **Department of**



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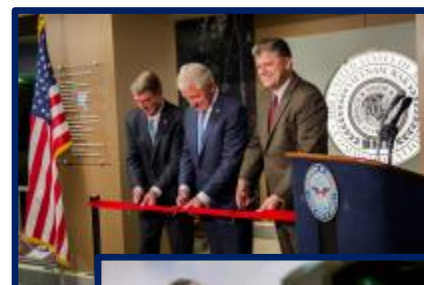
Veterans Affairs. Former Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Bob McDonald, declared March 29th to be Vietnam Veterans Day across his Department. Then, national- and state-level VA offices hosted hundreds of commemorative events on and around that day, including the **Vietnam Veterans Day** ceremony hosted by the Department at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.



Truly, we are grateful for the efforts of all our partners. We also were excited in 2016 to welcome multiple NFL teams, United Airlines, General Motors and hundreds of VA organizations in cities throughout the country to our ever-growing contingent of **more than 10,000** Commemorative Partners!

On December 20, then Secretary of Defense Ash Carter, as well as former Secretary of Defense and Vietnam veteran Chuck Hagel, provided moving remarks and “cut the ribbon” to open our

new **Pentagon Vietnam War Exhibit**. When next in Washington, DC, we hope you will [reserve space on a Pentagon Tour](#) to enjoy this one-of-a-kind museum-quality display.



2017 Key Upcoming Events



- January -
- December: Vietnam Veterans Memorial -- 35th Anniversary
- March 29/30: Vietnam Veterans Day
- May 23-28: Salute to Vietnam Veterans -- State of Hawaii -- U.S. Pacific Command
- May 25-28: Rolling Thunder (Wash., DC) -- 30th Anniversary
- May 29: Memorial Day

Emphasizing perspectives gained from **Vietnam veterans**, this exhibit presents the history of U.S. involvement in the war through a variety of media, including sections of both a “medevac” and “slick” Huey. It is our hope that the exhibit will help everyone, for generations to come, better understand and appreciate the **legacy and service of our Vietnam veterans!**

Thank you for serving as a ... ***“Proud Partner with The U.S.A. Vietnam War Commemoration!”***