



Fact Sheet

The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration

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In accordance with Public Law 110-181 SEC.598, Congress authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and "in conducting the commemorative program, the Secretary shall coordinate, support, and facilitate other programs and activities of the Federal Government, State and local governments, and other persons and organizations in commemoration of the Vietnam War."

To that end, The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration was formed. The congressionally-mandated objectives for the Commemoration are:

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.

One of the major ways the Commemoration plans to accomplish these objectives is by recruiting Commemorative Partners throughout America. The Commemorative Partner Program is designed for federal, state and local communities, veterans' groups, and other nongovernmental organizations to assist a grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam Veterans and their families.

It costs nothing to become a Commemorative Partner. Commemorative Partners participate by planning and conducting events and activities that will recognize and honor the service, valor, and sacrifice made by Vietnam veterans and their families. America has a strong tradition of honoring veterans and their families on key dates, such as Memorial Day, National POW/MIA Day, and Veterans Day. Commemorative Partners may consider using those days to specifically highlight the men and women who served during the Vietnam era and their families, former Vietnam prisoners of war, the families of unaccounted for personnel, and the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Currently, there are more than 5,200 Commemorative Partners throughout America. Join the nation, get involved and become a Commemorative Partner today! Visit the Commemoration website for more information, stories about other partners, and application forms at www.VietnamWar50th.com.

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www.vietnamwar50th.com