



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



## “SITREP” 2022 – Issue 6

Thursday, May 19

*Dear Commemorative Partners,*

**Memorial Day**—the last Monday in May—began in 1868 as “Decoration Day.” Founder **John A. Logan**, Grand Army of the Republic commander in chief, designated it “*for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land.*” Originally established as a tribute to those lost in battle in our Civil War, this day has since been **expanded** to honor all who perished in service to our Nation, in peacetime or in war.



This year, we especially remember the **58,281** whose names are engraved on the **Vietnam Veterans Memorial**. We honor their service and sacrifice, and humbly recognize the immense loss and unimaginable sorrow borne by each of their **Gold Star families**. On Memorial Day, each and every year, America takes time to honor all its fallen service members with a ***National Moment of Remembrance***. Join us and the rest of the Nation on **May 30 at 3 p.m. local time**—wherever you are—to pause in a moment of silence and remember those who gave their lives defending the freedoms we hold so dear.

**Ten years ago**—on Memorial Day—this national **Vietnam War Commemoration** was launched. Our primary objective—is to thank and honor all who served in the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty, regardless of location, from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975—and their families. **Your efforts** have ensured that **3.3 million** of these veterans have been recognized so far! With reduced COVID limitations in 2022, the number of commemorative events grew significantly. This year, more than **18 hundred** events have occurred, with more than **100 thousand Vietnam veterans honored** on and around **29 March** alone! Nearly 300 nationwide Honor Flights will take place this year, and 5,000 Vietnam veterans have already been recognized during those life-changing missions! So much has been done, but there is still more to do!

***Start thinking about how you can inspire Americans*** to honor the remaining 2.7 million Vietnam veterans living in American and abroad, and their families, before this Commemoration ends in 2025! ***Mark your calendars and join us May 11-13, 2023, in Washington, D.C.*** as we host large-scale events on the National Mall, including ceremonies, exhibits and an outdoor multimedia celebration—all designed to honor Vietnam veterans and their enduring legacy of service! ***Additional details*** will be available soon on our **website** and social media platforms. Plan now, and be sure to invite everyone you know! ***Vietnam veterans and their families have earned our gratitude!***



~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~

***Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!***

vietnamwar50th.com