

DEDICATION OF THE VIETNAM UNIT MEMORIAL MONUMENT Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, California MAY 21, 2005







THE RODS AND WIRE OF STEEL AT MY CORE ARE FOR THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES NEVER TO RETURN IN BODY. THEY ARE THE STRENGTH OF OUR WALL.

THE MASS OF MORTAR OF MY BODY IS FOR THE MASS OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO LEFT THEIR FAMILIES AND DEDICATED THEIR COURAGE AND TIME TO A CAUSE.

THE MEDAL OF HONORS AND NAVY CROSSES ON MY FACE

ARE FOR THE STRENGTH AND RESOLVE FOR WHICH WE STOOD.

I AM YOUR WALL AND I STAND BEFORE THREE BOATS THAT REPRESENT ALL THE UNITS OF OUR CONFLICT – ALL CONFLICTS.

I AM YOUR WALL, CONCEIVED AND NURTURED AND BUILT WITH LOVING CARE AND THOUGHT BY A FEW FOR ALL.

> I AM YOUR WALL, STANDING IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY, HOPING TO HAVE NO OTHERS BUILT LIKE ME BUT READY TO SERVE, IF EVER CALLED UPON AGAIN.

I AM YOUR WALL, RESPECT ME, HOLD ME, CARESS ME, LOVE ME, AS I LOVE YOU.

Poem conceived and written by former LT Thomas Mason USN

About the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument:

This Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument is dedicated to the 2,564 Navy and Coast Guard men who died in support of Naval operations in the Vietnam War from 1960 to 1975. The names on the Wall are those who died in the air, on the land, on the rivers, or at sea.

We also recognize and honor the 38,218 Army; 2,586 Air Force; and the 14,840 Marines who died in the service of their country in the Vietnam war.

The Memorial was authorized by Commander Navy Region Southwest in June, 1999 and currently operates under a Memorandum of Understanding with Commander Naval Base Coronado. The Memorial site was dedicated November 11, 2000. Construction of the Memorial Wall, the building of the boat pads and restoration of the three "Brown Water Navy" boats has been accomplished entirely with private donations and through the efforts of a dedicated team of Veterans of the Vietnam War.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information on the twenty six panels is accurate. If a discrepancy is noted, please bring it to our attention and it will be entered in a special log for that purpose.

Detailed information on the history of the Memorial can be viewed at the web site: www.vummf.org.

The Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument Fund is incorporated in the State of California and is a 501©(3) tax exempt charitable organization.

PROGRAM

Six Bells

Parade the Colors

National Anthem Victoria Robertson Miss USO San Diego

Invocation Capt. L.L. Westling, CHC, USN (Ret) Circuit riding chaplain for NSA Saigon and Third MarDiv

Welcoming Remarks Capt. Kenneth B. McGhee, USN (Ret) President, Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument Fund

Introduction of Honored Guests

Introduction of Principal Speaker: Rear Admiral Joseph Maquire, USN Commander Naval Special Warfare Command

> Closing Remarks Special Announcements

> Poem: Names on a Wall The Navy Hymn

Dedication and Blessing of the Memorial Taps Benediction

Retire the Colors

Reception Following



Rear Admiral Joseph Maguire United States Navy Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command

Rear Admiral Joseph Maguire is the Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command which is the Maritime component of the United States

Special Operations Command and the Special Operations Component of the United States Navy - Marine Corps team. As Commander, he is responsible for all the dedicated Naval special operations forces both active duty and reserve.

Rear Admiral Maquire is from Brooklyn, New York. He graduated from Manhattan College in 1974, the Naval Postgraduate School in 1985 and was a 1994-95 National Security Fellow at Harvard University. During his naval career he lived in many parts of the United States and served around the world, including the Far East.

His first sea duty tour assignment was aboard USS Coronado(LPD-11) where he served as Deck Division Officer. Following Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training where he graduated as Honor Man - Class 93, Rear Admiral Maquire served in Underwater Demolition Team TWENTY ONE, SEAL Team TWO, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team TWO, Naval Special Warfare Development Group, Naval Special Warfare Group TWO, and later as Deputy Commander Special Operations Command Pacific and Deputy Commander Naval Special Warfare Command. He had the honor of serving as Commanding Officer SEAL Team TWO and Commanding Officer Naval Special Warfare Center. Rear Admiral Maquire was the Flag Lieutenant to Commander Amphibious Forces SEVENTH FLEET (CTF 76) served in the Bureau of and Naval Personnel, Washington D.C. where he was Naval Special Warfare's Assignment Officer and Community Manager.

Rear Admiral Maguire was selected for Flag Rank in 2001 and was previously assigned to U.S. Special Operations Command as the Director Force Structure, Resources and Strategic Assessments.

Working Party Honor Roll May 21, 2005

THE MEN NAMED BELOW HAVE ALL CONTRIBUTED EXTENSIVE TIME, LABOR AND MONEY TO SEE THIS MEMORIAL THROUGH TO ITS DEDICATION:

VUMMF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Kenneth B. McGhee, President; Steve Watson, Vice President; Tom Mason, Second Vice President, Bill Zondorak, Secretary; John Howell, Treasurer; Carl Fletcher, Director; Neil F. Geis, Director; Gene Glasco, Director; Carl Hanker, Director; Norm L. McCullock, Director; Paul V. Murphy, Director, Jack L. White, Director.

THE WORKING PARTY:

EN1 John Branca, USN (Ret) Deceased 11/2003; GMG3 Don Blankenship; BM1 Charles Campbell, USN (Ret); EN2 Benjamin Cueva; BMCS Carl Fletcher, USN (Ret); CWO3 Ralph Fries, USN (Ret) (concept originator); LCDR Neil Geis, USN (Ret); MA1 Carl Hanker, USN (Ret); LT John Howell, PCF OinC; BMCS Everett R. Jones, USN (Ret); LT Thomas A. Mason, PCF OinC; BMCM Norm McCullock, USN (Ret); Capt. Ken McGhee, USN (Ret); Capt. Paul Murphy, USN (Ret) BM1 Danny Reynolds, USN (Ret); ENC James Steffes, USN (Ret); ENCM Steve Watson, USN (Ret); BM3 Jack White; LT Bill Zondorak, PCF OinC, Project Engineer.

CCB-18 Restoration and Maintenance

Charles Campbell, Restoration Leader; Don Blankenship; Chris Carrera; Ben Cueva; Jerry Edwards; Ralph Fries; David Hearne; Dutch Hearne; Roy Heilpern; Bernard Howlett; Bill Hunsinger; Everett Jones; Ray Jones; Robert Coombs; Mike Wheeler

PBR Restoration and Maintenance

Carl Fletcher, Restoration Leader; Norm McCullock; Gene Glasco; Steve Watson.

PCF 104 Restoration and Maintenance

Neil Geis, Restoration Leader; John Branca, Restoration Leader (deceased 11/2003); LT Robert N. Geis, (now CDR) USN (Craft Finder); Ralph Fries; Gene Glasco; Carl Hanker; John Howell; Tom Mason; Paul Murphy; Danny Reynolds; Al Smith; Jim Steffes.

With special thanks to the Naval Base Coronado's Public Works Department and Public Affairs Office and the Ships Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) Small Craft Repair Division and the Naval Base Coronado Seabee Self Help Division.

Special thanks also to the officers and members of the Gamewardens of Vietnam; the Swift Boat Sailors Association and the Mobile Riverine Force Association.

Participating Organizations

Gamewardens of Vietnam President: John Woody



Mobile Riverine Force Association President: Albert Moore



Swift Boat Sailors Association President: Tom Forrest





They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

Laurence Binyon - from "For the Fallen"



Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument Fund PO Box 181172 Coronado, CA 92178-1172 Web site: www.vummf.org

This printed program provided as a courtesy by Digicopy and Print San Diego, CA (858) 502-1375

Special thanks to:

Marine Band San Diego Brass Quintet

Vocalist: Victoria Robertson www.victoriarobertson.com

Naval Medical Center San Diego Command Color Guard





