

Vietnam Commemoration program selects AHEC as partner

By Tom Conning

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The Department of Defense has selected the Army Heritage and Education Center as a partner for the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration Program.

Fifty years ago, the Vietnam War was starting to gain steam as the U.S. military presence in the country rose by 1,100 percent. Twelve years and more than 58,000 American lives later, the war officially ended. Now, the DOD's commemoration program is partnering with local governments, private organizations and communities to help recognize and honor the Vietnam War's fallen, wounded, prisoners of war, missing in action and veterans and their families.

AHEC is a partner in the DOD's endeavor to meet a 2012 presidential proclamation.

The Nation should pay tribute to those who answered the call of duty during the Vietnam War said President Barack Obama. "Throughout this Commemoration, let us strive to live up to their example by showing our Vietnam veterans, their families, and all who have served the fullest respect and support of a grateful Nation," said the President. "Let us renew our commitment to the fullest possible accounting for those who have not returned."

AHEC programs about the Vietnam War:

Two lectures will address the Vietnam War

- Dr. Lien-Hang Nguyen, University of Kentucky Associate Professor of History, will present "Hanoi's War: An International History of the War for Peace in Vietnam." This Brooks E. Kleber Memorial Reading in Military History will be held on Thursday, Feb. 7, 7:15 p.m. at the Army Heritage and Education Center.
- Dr. James Willbanks, Army Command and General Staff College Director of the Department of Military History will present "The Fall of Saigon." The Perspectives in Military History Lecture Series will be held Wednesday, Apr. 24, 7:15 p.m. at the Army Heritage and Education Center.

As a Vietnam Commemoration Partner, the Army Heritage and Education Center will offer a variety of programs in the next 12 years.

For all AHEC events, call 717-245-3972 or visit <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/AHEC/events.cfm> for more information.

Learn more about other Vietnam War Commemoration events, such as the Central Pa. Vietnam Roundtable event, Feb. 14, in Harrisburg, at www.vietnamwar50th.com.

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