

# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF AUSTRALIA'S INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM WAR 1962 - 2012

**HONOUR THE DEAD, BUT FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE LIVING.**



## Australia Remembers Vietnam, 50 Years On

2012 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the announcement of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War. The Vietnam War was fought from July 1962 to April 1975 and cost the lives of 521 brave Australian heroes in conflict and many thousands after as a result of wounds, injury and health problems with many more veterans and their families still suffering today.

The Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia QLD Branch (VVAA QLD) in conjunction with the AATTV, VVFAQ, QLD RSL and the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Association, QLD Branch, intends conducting two activities to commemorate this very important event. These two events are a:

### A. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Luncheon

This activity is to be conducted on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at the North's Leagues Club, 1347 ANZAC Avenue, Kallangur, commencing at 1130 hrs for 1200 hrs and concluding at approx 1500 hrs. The registration form for this event is attached.

#### 1. Menu and Entertainment

The menu is to consist of a two course alternate drop main course and dessert and entertainment is to be provided by a group called Radio Saigon. One of the members of this group is a Vietnam Vet.



2. Function Room Set-Up

The function room is to set up with tables of ten, so why not get a group together and book a table. If you do not have a group of ten, then you will be seated accordingly.

The VVAA QLD executive has decided that to add a bit of interest to the event, we will be naming each table with names such as Long Tan, Carol, Balmoral, Bien Hoa, DMZ, Iron Triangle, War Zone D, Vung Tau, Danang etc. A full list is included on the registration form, so when making your booking please indicate what table name you would like. Obviously some names will be more popular than others so the earlier you book the more chance there is of getting the name you want. Even though we have listed some name you may have one of your own but please, no names of units, personnel etc.

3. Raffle

The VVAA QLD Exec will also be running a monster raffle with single tickets being \$2.00 each or a book of five tickets for \$10.00. If you require any tickets please indicate on your registration form the number required and enclose your money. We have not finalised the number of prizes at this time. Once finalised there should be in excess of \$2000.00 worth of prizes. This raffle is to drawn on the afternoon of this function. If any group or individual would like to donate a prize it would be greatly appreciated and publicised.

4. Payment

You are responsible for the payment for yourself and your guests for attendance at each event. You will be required to make two payments, one being a deposit and the second the balance.

A deposit of \$20.00 per head is required no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> April with the balance being

paid no later than 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012. The balance payable will be advised to you prior to this date. It is envisaged at this stage that the final cost should not be more than \$35.00 per person attending dependent on acceptance of grant applications.

5. Refunds

The fees paid by members will only be refunded if they cancel prior to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2012. Cancellations after this date will only be



refunded in the case of an emergency which will be determined by the VVAA QLD State Executive. Raffle purchases will not be refunded.

**B. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative March and Memorial Service**

This activity is to be conducted again as usual on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August, Vietnam Veterans Day. The Treasury Casino has allowed us to congregate in the Premier's Bar over the last few years plus they have provided us with reduced price drinks and finger food. The veterans normally meet at the Casino from 0930 hrs onward. We believe that this will happen again.

This year we have invited the AATTV to join with us and lead the march as it is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first group of AATTV members under Colonel Ted Serong to arrive in Vietnam thus commencing our involvement. Mr Keith Payne VC OAM has been approached to be our guest speaker at the Service.

Veterans are to form up in Redacliff Place from 1145 hrs ready to step off at Midday to march to ANZAC Square for the service. The march will be led by the National Servicemen's pipes and drums followed by the AATV, then Australian veterans. We believe at this time that there will be a contingent of Kiwis attending so they will form up behind the Australian vets. The Kiwis will be followed by the Vietnamese.

On arrival at ANZAC Square, we will then conduct the Memorial Service at approx 1230 hrs and should conclude no later than 1330 hrs. Once the service has concluded, the veterans and friends are invited to attend the hotel on Ann Street opposite ANZAC Square for refreshments or they may wish to return to the Casino.

All Associations, units and personnel including the Sons and Daughters are cordially invited to attend both of these activities.

Yours since rely,  
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