Vietnam Veterans Commemoration Event and Banquet

Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Ceremony

On 11 Feb, 2017, NTC and U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Irwin hosted over 500 Vietnam Veterans and over 300 family members to a “Welcome Home” ceremony, banquet and “Pinning Ceremony”. IAW Presidential Executive Order, Fort Irwin hosts the largest event honoring the sacrifices and selfless service of our Vietnam veterans. This event is hosted each year in hopes that we may show the same gratitude and adulation to our Vietnam Veterans that our generation of veterans has enjoyed over the last 16 years. A reception with active duty Soldiers and Marines at each table was held with inspiring remarks from CASA COL (Ret) Bill Gang, and LTG (Ret) H.G. Pete Taylor (the fourth CG of NTC and a 2-tour Vietnam combat veteran). The event was a tremendous success with all veterans very thankful for the long and gratitude paid them.

LTG (Ret) Pete Taylor, returns to Fort Irwin to address the Vietnam veterans, inspiring them to take pride in their service, to hold their heads high, and to share their stories, whether written or verbally, so that history may be correctly recorded about their service to nation.

BG Broadwater and CSM Rebuck present a “Piece of the Rock” to LTG (Ret) Pete Taylor in appreciation for his poignant remarks

The President’s pin for service during the Vietnam War and commemorative coins were presented to veterans in a touching ceremony demonstrating the bonds between Vietnam and current day generations, in some cases with pinning of veteran fathers by currently serving sons or daughters.

In Accordance With Public Law 110-181 SEC.598; the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act 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.”