

# NMCGRF

NAVY MARINE COAST GUARD RESIDENCE FOUNDATION

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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(McLean, Virginia) March 27, 2015— The Vinson Hall Retirement Community 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative series is to be held on April 10-11 in the Vinson Hall Community Building. The series will include symposiums with a panel of Vietnam veterans and leading experts, movies, and guest lecturers such as General Colin Powell and Major General Alan B. Salisbury.

Vinson Hall's Vietnam War Commemorative series aims to both educate the local community about the Vietnam War and to honor our community's veterans. To fulfill this mission, both days of the commemorative series are free to attend and Northern Virginian families, students, and veterans are encouraged to register. Pre-event registration is required for all guests. Registration is available at

<http://www.vinsonhall.org/who-we-are/news/special-events-and-programs/viet-commem>

Major General Alan B. Salisbury, USA (Ret) will begin Friday, April 10 with a lecture at 9:45 a.m. Jim Knotts, CEO of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, will speak and answer questions at 10:20 a.m. Friday's two symposiums will include "Vietnam Veteran Experiences" with a panel composed of Vietnam veterans including a journalist and interviewer for United States Navy Memorial, a former medic helicopter pilot, and members of various military branches. The second symposium, "Vietnam Medical Care vs. Today's Care: Then and Now", will discuss medical care during the Vietnam War with panel including Vietnam medics and nurses, a purple heart and silver star recipient, and a Commander of National Naval Medical Center. The day will conclude with Vietnam War history author Captain Douglas" Sandy Cohn and the movie "Shakey's Hill." On Saturday, April 11, General Colin Powell will join the Vinson Hall War Commemorative to speak and answer questions about his time in Vietnam at 10 a.m. The West Point Glee Club will conclude the anniversary series with a special tribute.

The Vinson Hall 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary series is an official U.S. Vietnam War Commemoration event. The United States Department of Defense began the Vietnam War Commemoration 2008 "to thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war (POW), or listed as missing in action (MIA),

for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans." In addition, the U.S. Navy Memorial will be filming the lectures. Sponsorship opportunities are available with robust benefits. With the help of sponsors, Vinson Hall and Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation continues education the Northern Virginia community through events like this commemorative series.

General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret) has held senior military and diplomatic positions across four presidential administrations. He served in the U.S. Army for 35 years, rising to the rank of four-star general. Powell was President Ronald Reagan's National Security Advisor, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, and Secretary of State under President George W. Bush.

Major General Salisbury is a 1958 graduate of West Point. He completed a nearly 30-year career in the Army in 1987 as commanding general of the U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command. His decorations include two Bronze Stars and the Distinguished Service Medal. General Salisbury is currently Chairman and CEO of the Code of Support Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to bridging the gap between civilian and military America.

Vinson Hall Retirement Community is an active, resident-focused, and not-for-profit Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) that values independence and individuality. We celebrate and encourage freedom of expression, personal choices, and the opportunity to maintain, revitalize and begin friendships. Independent Living is open to GS-14 and above federal employees from agencies such as the Departments of State and Defense, the CIA, and Foreign Service class level 1, 2, or 3. Arleigh Burke Assisted Living and Nursing Care are open to all members of the community. The Sylvestery provides memory and dementia care to all member of the community as well, no military affiliation required.