



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

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NIM Hosts Sneak Preview of New Burns Documentary

18-hour, 10-part documentary airs on public television this fall

Columbus, Georgia – July 14, 2017: The National Infantry Museum’s Giant Screen Theater will be the site for a free pre-screening of the new documentary series, *The Vietnam War*, on Thursday, August 3, 2017, beginning at 6 p.m.

The 10-part, 18-hour series is the latest project of award-winning directors Ken Burns and Lynn Novik. It will air on GPB and public television stations across the country beginning September 17.

The pre-screening event, hosted by the National Infantry Museum Foundation, GPB and Hughston Clinic, will start with a light reception at 6 p.m. The 50-minute highlight reel will be shown at 6:30 p.m., and will be followed by a discussion with Vietnam veterans COL Carl Savory and COL Ralph Puckett.

The event is free, however tickets are required. The link for making a reservation can be found at nationalinfantryfoundation.org/special-screening. Seating is limited.

The Vietnam War features testimony from nearly 80 witnesses, including many Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as Vietnamese combatants and civilians from both the winning and losing sides.

“The Vietnam War was a decade of agony that took the lives of more than 58,000 Americans,” Burns said. “Not since the Civil War have we as a country been so torn apart. There wasn’t an American alive then who wasn’t affected in some way — from those who fought and sacrificed in the war, to families of service members and POWs, to those who protested the war in open conflict with their government and fellow citizens. More than 40 years after it ended, we can’t forget Vietnam, and we are still arguing about why it went wrong, who was to blame and whether it was all worth it.”

“We are all searching for some meaning in this terrible tragedy,” Novick added. “Ken and I have tried to shed new light on the war by looking at it from the bottom up, the top down and from all sides. In addition to dozens of Americans who shared their stories, we interviewed many Vietnamese on both the winning and losing sides, and were surprised to learn that the war remains as painful and unresolved for them as it is for us.”

The series includes rarely seen, digitally re-mastered archival footage from sources around the globe, photographs taken by some of the most celebrated photojournalists of the 20th century, historic television broadcasts, evocative home movies, and revelatory audio recordings from inside the Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon administrations.

The film will be accompanied by a robust interactive website and an educational initiative designed to engage teachers and students through multiple platforms, including PBS Learning Media.

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*As one of the largest PBS stations in the nation, **Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB Media)** has been creating content worth sharing for over 50 years. With nine television stations, 18 radio stations and a multi-faceted digital presence, GPB strives to educate, entertain and enrich the lives of its viewers and listeners with programming that includes statewide radio news, current affairs, high school sports, educational resources for teachers and students and enlightening programs like "Georgia Outdoors," "On Second Thought," "Two-Way Street" and "Political Rewind."*

***The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center**, a 155-acre tract linking Columbus, Georgia, and the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, is the first world-class site to pay tribute to the U.S. Army Infantryman and those who fight alongside him. Voted the **#1 Free Museum in America** in the 2016 USA Today Readers' Choice Awards, the museum showcases the contributions of the Infantry Soldier in every war fought by the U.S. by offering immersive participation and engaging visitors in the unique experiences of the Infantry Soldier. The complex also includes a parade field, memorial walk of honor, authentic World War II Company Street, Vietnam Memorial Plaza, combat simulators, a full-service restaurant and a Giant Screen Theater. For more information, visit www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org.*