



#### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

#### **For Immediate Release**

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## **Vietnam Veterans to Hold Reunion at NIM**

*Reproduction gun trucks will be on display*

**Columbus, Georgia – July 29, 2014:** The 12th reunion of Vietnam Transportation veterans will take place August 5-9, 2014, in Columbus. The reunion is open to anyone who served with any Army transportation unit during the years of the Vietnam War. The public is invited to view one of five reproduction gun trucks the veterans will be bringing with them.

Gun trucks were a field expedient innovation of the 8<sup>th</sup> Transportation Group. They provided convoy and supply support over steep mountain passes from Qui Nhon to Pleiku, supplying the 4th Infantry Division. There were also gun trucks built by engineer units who repaired the roads along this supply route. Other Transportation Corps gun trucks provided convoy security in the southern part of Vietnam. The armored and heavily armed cargo trucks, generally 5-tons or 2-1/2 tons with .30 and .50 caliber machine guns and later mini-guns, were placed at the beginning and end of convoys to provide protection and return fire when ambushed. Medals of Honor were awarded posthumously to two Transportation Corps members who were killed in action while serving on gun trucks.

At least five reproduction Vietnam gun trucks will make the trip to Columbus, including the ***Ace of Spades*** from Tennessee, ***Psychotic Reaction*** from Illinois, ***Black Widow*** from Florida, ***The Untouchable*** from Illinois, and ***Proud American*** from Georgia. A tribute gun truck (not a replica from Vietnam) will also be present. ***Ugly Ranger*** is in memory of Lt. Ralph Fuller, 523rd Transportation Company, formerly of Waverly Hall, Georgia. All vehicles are privately owned and operated.

The trucks will be displayed Thursday, August 7, at the National Infantry Museum. The museum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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***The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park, a 200-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. As the only interactive Army Museum in the United States, 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 and 3-D IMAX<sup>®</sup> Theatre. For more information, visit [www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org](http://www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org).***