



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

June 21, 1990

GREETINGS TO THE VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION

It is an honor to recognize the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association as you gather July 7, 1990, for your reunion in New Orleans.

When Americans are called upon to defend their country, they expect to confront hardships and to endure sacrifices. Few, however, can expect to endure the unique hardship and sacrifice of daily survival under extreme combat conditions.

Few know better than you the true value of liberty. You and your family and your comrades have borne that cost. For those reasons alone, Vietnam helicopter pilots hold a special place in the hearts of all Americans. Your example of duty, honor, and sacrifice will endure forever in our history.

On behalf of the President, Secretary Cheney, and the men and women of the Armed Forces, I wish you a most successful and enjoyable reunion.

*Pete Wilkins*