



**Veterans Museum and
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARMY VETERAN WALKS ACROSS NATION TO HONOR TROOPS

Welcoming Reception Saturday 4 p.m. at the Veterans Museum and Memorial Center

SAN DIEGO (November 7, 2009)--The Veterans Museum and Memorial Center in Balboa Park will host the welcoming reception for Mr. Sinh Nguyen, a Vietnamese-American Army Veteran who has walked across the nation in a solo mission called, "Shore to Shore: Honoring Those Who Serve". The official ceremony begins at 4 p.m. at the Veteran's Memorial Garden near the B-24 Bomber Memorial fountain located in front of the museum; Councilmember Todd Gloria will issue a proclamation to Mr. Nguyen. Following the ceremony, all guests are invited inside the museum to enjoy a 3-piece cake shaped in the outline of the United States and have an opportunity to interview Mr. Nguyen one-on-one.

Mr. Sinh Nguyen began his journey in Atlantic Beach, Florida on June 10th of this year. He has walked continuously across the United States, has braved inclement weather, and limped on blistered feet. He arrived in San Diego this week. "In America, the sky is the limit," Nguyen said, when asked about his motivation for his odyssey. "I always had a dream that I would do something bigger than myself to reflect my love. I only want to thank America and honor all those who serve." A U.S. citizen, he was born in Vietnam in 1969. Nguyen was, in his words, a "war baby," the son of a man he never knew, an American soldier named Rodriguez. Nguyen always carries an American flag and has a sign strapped to his back displaying his message: "Shore to Shore: A Walk Across America to Honor Those Who Serve."

The public can join Nguyen in his walk by meeting at the corner of Upas St. and Park Blvd. at 2:30 p.m. At 3 p.m. friends, Bag Pipers, ROTC color guards bearing the Armed Forces Flags, and additional walkers will depart and travel down Park Blvd. into Balboa Park and exit at Park Blvd. and Presidents Way. They will arrive at the Veterans Museum and Memorial Center at 3:30 p.m. to a patriotic medley played by the Heartland Brass band. The welcoming ceremony from 4 - 5 p.m. will have many speakers including: Councilmember Todd Gloria, RADM Rod Melendez, Executive Director of the Veterans Museum, LCDR Christopher Phan, President of the Vietnamese American Armed Forces Association, and Mr. Sinh Nguyen.

For more information: Please visit: http://www.publicsafety.net/shore_to_shore.htm.

The Veterans Museum and Memorial Center was created in 1989 to honor and perpetuate the memories of the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The museum honors the legacy that has been created by these courageous men and women through artifacts, personal testimonials, stories of service, and guest speaker panels. Located in the historic Chapel of the old Balboa Naval Hospital, the museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

For more information please visit: www.veteranmuseum.org or call 619-239-2300.

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