

PROUDLY WE SERVED

VIRGIN ISLANDS VETERANS OF THE
VIETNAM WAR



PRESENTED BY:
AMERICAN LEGION DISTRICT 10
DEPARTMENT OF PUERTO RICO
and the UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS



In late 2007, the American Legion District 10, Dept. of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, authorized a volunteer video production team to produce this documentary, *Proudly We Served: Virgin Islands Veterans of World War II*.

This video combined excerpts from interviews with over thirty Virgin Islanders WWII veterans with photographs from their personal collections, newsreel footage and clippings from newspaper articles of the period, and other archival materials to convey what life was like in the Virgin Islands during the 1940's, and in the locations where the veterans saw active duty, primarily in Louisiana and Hawaii. It gave a clear overview of the major events of World War II and how the war impacted the Virgin Islands. It explored the veterans' motivations for serving in the armed forces and documented their experiences with racial segregation in the United States and the armed services. It also explored their contributions to the war effort and the effects it had on their lives.

To further document the military experiences of another generation of Virgin Islanders, we are planning to produce a similar video: *Proudly We Served: Virgin Islands Veterans of the Vietnam War*.



HARRY DANIEL - DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



Government of
The United States Virgin Islands
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OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

St. Croix:
Tel.: (340) 773-6663
Fax: (340) 692-9563



St. Thomas:
Tel.: (340) 774-6100
Fax: (340) 714-0589

Dear Supporters:

Greetings! My name is Harry A. Daniel, and I am the Director of Veterans Affairs. As a part of the recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, declared by our President in 2012, I am writing to tell you about an exciting local initiative to recognize and pay tribute to the Virgin Islands men and women who served in that long and arduous conflict. The project is sponsored by the American Legion District No. 10, Dept. of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and supported by the Office of Veterans Affairs.

We have assembled a team of qualified professionals to produce a sequel to the 2009 documentary, *Proudly We Served: Virgin Islands Veterans of World War II*, a moving video that vividly documented the contributions of Virgin islanders during and subsequent to their military service in the 1940's. The current project will recognize and pay tribute to a later generation of veterans who deserve a special recognition for—through no fault of their own—they were engaged in a controversial conflict during an era that was marked by several divisive social issues.

We need your support to finance this project. With a tax-deductible donation of \$1,000 or more, you will be recognized in the credits shown at the end of the video and on the package encasing the DVD. You will also receive a complimentary copy of the DVD as well as a personalized invitation to the premier showing of the video, with special seating.

We ask that checks be made payable to the American Legion District 10 (in the memo section: *Vietnam Veterans Video Fund*) and mailed before May 1, 2014. Your tax-deductible donation may be mailed to the Office of Veterans Affairs, Elaineo Building #1-1-3, #78 Estate Contant, St. Thomas, VI 00801. The Vietnam veterans in the Virgin Islands do thank you for allowing us to go down in history as veterans who *Proudly Served*.

Thank you so much for your support. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Harry A. Daniel
Director

1013 Estate Richmond, Christiansted • St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 00820
Elaineo Building #1-2-3 #78 Estate Contant • St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00801



CHARLES DAVID - COMMANDER, AMERICAN LEGION DISTRICT 10



The American Legion

10th District, Department of Puerto Rico
and the Virgin Islands



P. O. Box 6788
Christiansted, V.I. 00823

18 December 2013

Dear Virgin Islanders:

As the Commander of American Legion District 10, Department of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, I am most pleased to announce the Legion's support of a sequel to the outstanding video, *Proudly We Served: Virgin Islands Veterans of World War II* (2009). In this next installment, we will recognize the less known but just as important contributions of the many Virgin Islanders who served in the Vietnam conflict, some of whom paid with the ultimate sacrifice.

In addition to supporting the production of another distinguished video, we are looking forward to sponsoring related public programming to encourage Virgin Islanders to discuss the ideas and issues relating to subject and to deepen their understanding of the social and personal consequences of the military service of local men and women in this conflict.

We will welcome your support and participation in this long-overdue project! Plan to join us at upcoming public events on St. Croix and St. Thomas and, if possible, to donate whatever you can—time or money—to ensure that this project materializes in a way that will bring honor and recognition to this especially deserving group of veterans.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are moved to help in any way. I can assure you that your assistance will be greatly appreciated and recognized.

Sincerely,

Charles David
Commander, American Legion District 10, Dept. of Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands
340-643-3016



AMBASSADOR TERENCE A. TODMAN

Ambassador Terence A. Todman
P.O. BOX 6334
St. Thomas, VI 00804

Ms. Joan Keenan
P.O. Box 2079
Fredericksted, VI 00841

October 30, 2013

Dear Ms. Keenan,

I was very pleased that you plan to cooperate with the VI Office of Veterans Affairs and prepare a video on the VI veterans of the Vietnam War. This would be a fitting tribute to the brave men and women who devoted themselves to the service of our country to the point of risking their safety and even their lives. Such a video would also be one on the best ways to present information about those persons to the attention of us all. Judging from the outstanding video that you prepared about us World War II veterans, there can be no doubt that one about the Vietnam War veterans would also be an interesting, instructive and high quality product.

With high regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Terence A. Todman

Tel: (340) 776-7707 • Fax: (340) 776-9684 • Email: ambtodman@yahoo.com

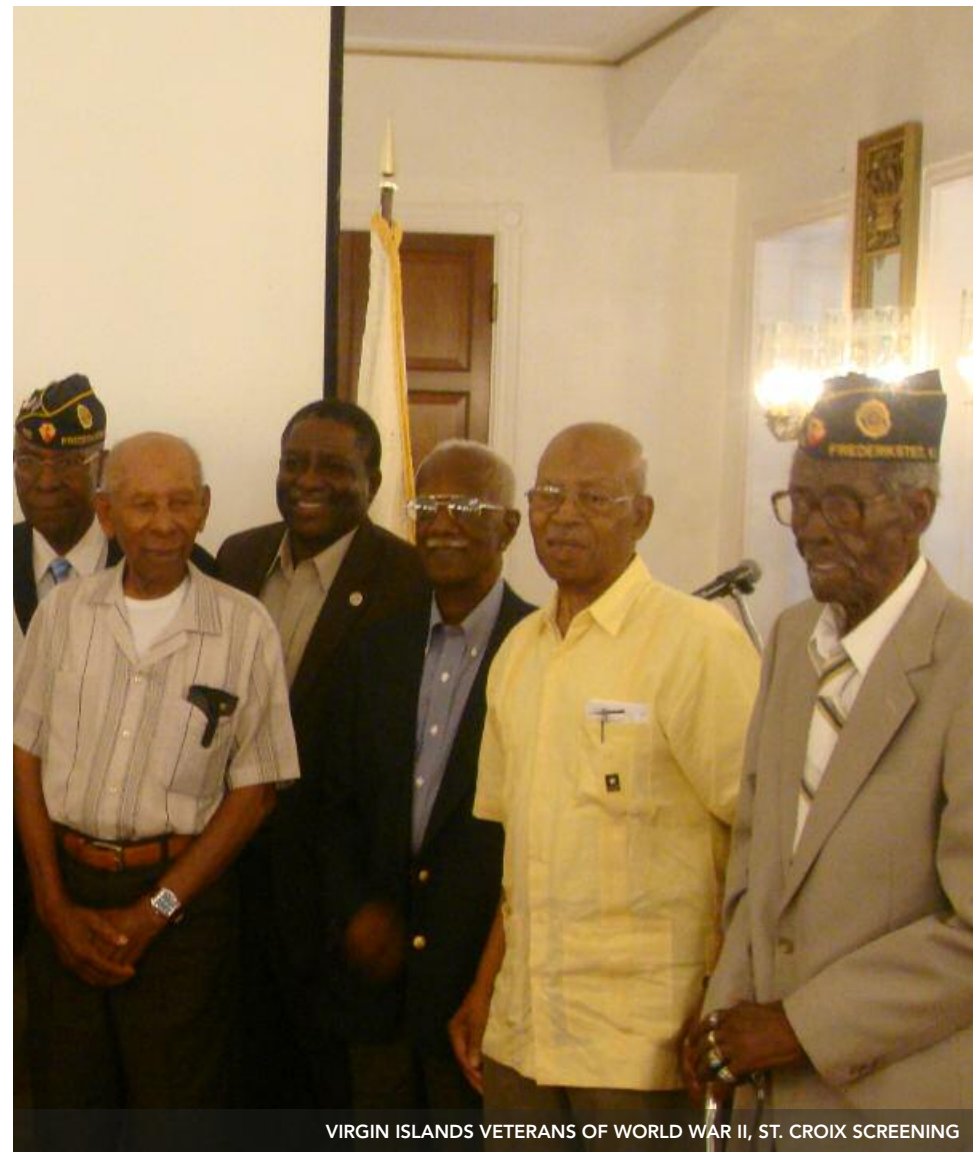


Nowadays we are all familiar with the acronym PTSD and how it applies to veterans. We are also familiar with noble efforts to “Salute the Troops” in various forms—efforts that are enthusiastically supported in spite of any controversies regarding the particular military action in question, and we are also familiar with the many worthwhile programs available nationally and locally to assist veterans in their readjustment to civilian life. You too can be involved in such a worthy endeavor! Here’s how you can help on a local level!



JOAN KEENAN, PROJECT DIRECTOR

My name is Joan Keenan and I am the Producer/Director of this project. As part of the recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, as proclaimed by President Barack Obama in 2012, we plan to explore the historical, social, and psychological impact of this war on the lives of the Virgin Islanders who served during a period of turbulent social change. We look forward to documenting their experiences and honoring their service to our country.



VIRGIN ISLANDS VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II, ST. CROIX SCREENING

Did you know that over 350 Virgin Islanders served as soldiers and advisors during the Vietnam War? Did you know that over 200 of them are still alive? Did you know that many of them have held and still hold positions of responsibility in our local government and community? Many others are contributing to our society in a variety of ways.



MR. RUDOPH GALIBER, WORLD WAR II VETERAN

We need you to assist us in recognizing their contributions in a timely way by supporting an exciting project to document their recollections in a dynamic video that will be available on DVD and will be shown locally on public television channels and a variety of public venues in the coming year.



MR. CYRIL BARNES, WORLD WAR II VETERAN

We have assembled a team of qualified professionals to produce a sequel to the 2009 DVD *"Proudly We Served: Virgin Islands Veterans of WWII,"* a moving video that vividly documented the contributions of Virgin Islanders during and subsequent to their military service in the 1940's. The current project will recognize and pay tribute to a later generation of military who deserve special recognition, for—through no fault of their own—they were engaged in a controversial conflict during an era that was marked by several divisive social issues.



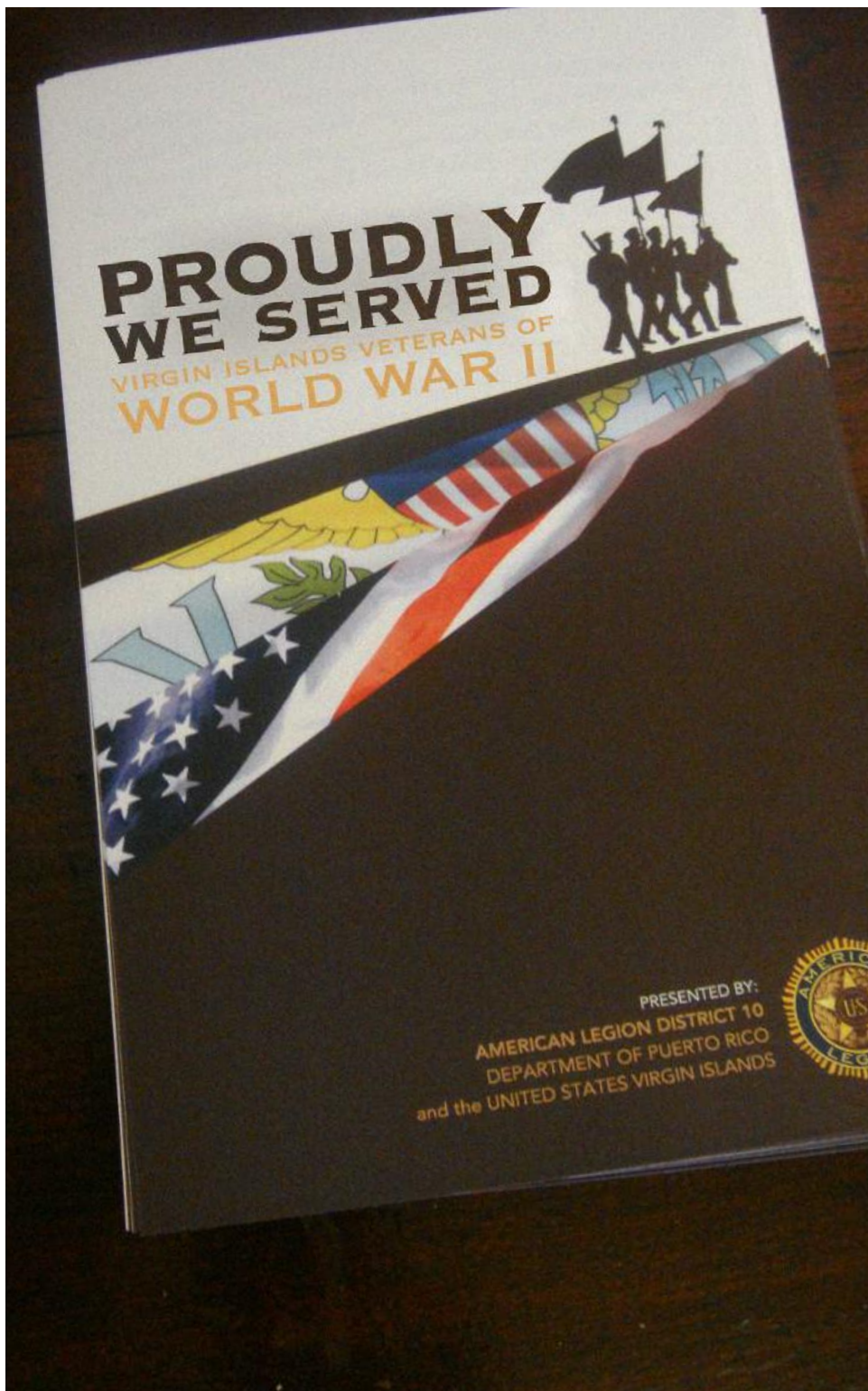
VIRGIN ISLANDS VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II, ST. THOMAS SCREENING

We need your support to finance this project. Specifically, we need to provide support to local, experienced professionals to produce a high quality DVD, as well as a stenographer to produce a transcript of the interviews with veterans to be sent to the Library of Congress. In addition there will be transportation expenses to interview veterans on St. Thomas and St. John as well as other basic production costs.



VIDEO PREMIERE GUESTS, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, ST. CROIX

For donations over \$1,000, your support will be recognized in the credits shown at the end of the video and on the package encasing the DVD. You will receive a complimentary copy of the DVD as well as a personalized invitation to the premier showing of the video, with special VIP seating.



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We ask that checks be made payable to the **American Legion District 10** (in memo line: Vietnam Veterans Video) and mailed before **June 1, 2014**. They may be mailed to the Office of Veterans Affairs using the enclosed self addressed, stamped envelope. Thank you so much for your support. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

CONTACT: JOAN KEENAN

PHONE: 340.514.0643

EMAIL: JANJAY@MAC.com

www.facebook.com/pwsvi

www.PWSVI.org