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SUBJECT: Vietnam Round Table - December, 2020 Speaker

The Central Pennsylvania Vietnam Round Table will meet at the Vietnam Veterans of America Michael J. Novosel MOH Capital Chapter 542, 8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 7:30pm.

Following a brief business meeting, Robert Rummel, from Marietta, will discuss his December, 1967 - October, 1968 Vietnam experiences as a member of 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division/3rd Battalion/Alpha Company/187th Infantry. Mr. Rummel grew up in the coal region of Cambria County, Pa. He enlisted in the Army on September 6, 1966 at the age of 17. He completed basic training at Ft. Gordon, Georgia and advanced training in Field Artillery at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. Following his two older brothers' example, he completed Parachute Jump School at Ft. Benning, GA. and was placed with the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, NC. Having a desire to be placed with the 101st Airborne Division, he volunteered for Vietnam and his MOS was changed from field artillery to infantry rifleman (11B), where he was assigned to the 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division, Ft. Campbell, KY. In Vietnam he was a line infantryman and a radio operator. He was involved in Operation Eagle Thrust in December, 1967 when 10,500 paratroopers were airlifted from Ft. Campbell to Vietnam. His company was actively engaged in combat while he was in Vietnam, having 58 paratroopers killed in action and another 48 wounded, suffering nearly 80% casualties for his one year tour of duty in Vietnam. On September 6, 1968 his infantry company of 90 paratroopers at the time, was overrun at the Battle of Ap Trang Dau by an enemy force of over 600 Viet Cong and members of the 7th Cu Chi NVA Regiment. The battle was documented in the VFW Magazine in 2007 as one of Deadliest Battles of the Vietnam War. His Company A. suffered 83% casualties in 30 minutes. After Rummel left Vietnam, his Company was engaged in the Battle

for Hamburger Hill. For his service to our Country, he was awarded the usual Vietnam service medals plus his Jump Wings and his Combat Infantryman's Badge. He returned to Vietnam with his Vietnam Veteran brother, in 2005. Following his service to our Country, he worked several construction jobs before starting his own construction company. He retired from his company in 2008. He has been married to his wife, Donna, for 41 years and has 4 children and 11 grandchildren. He is an avid outdoorsman, enjoying bow hunting, fishing and camping with his family at the Raystown Lake area. He loves professional baseball, is a retired amateur umpire and is a Pittsburgh Pirates fan. Mr. Rummel has put his construction skills to good use, serving the less fortunate, both here and around-the world during times of disaster.

Meetings are open to the public, but as a volunteer organization, we pass a Vietnam hat for donations. WE OBSERVE CORONAVIRUS REGULATIONS INCLUDING MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING. For further information, contact Richard Burton, 717-545-2336, email: [centralpavietnamrt@verizon.net](mailto:centralpavietnamrt@verizon.net). The website is: [www.centralpavietnamroundtable.com](http://www.centralpavietnamroundtable.com).