<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Itinerary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat Sep 19</td>
<td>Arrive Ha Noi, relax, enjoy Old Quarter, stroll around Hoan Kiem Lake.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Sep 20</td>
<td>Visit Ho Chi Minh’s Mausoleum, tour Ha Noi capital, visit Ha-noi Hilton Prison.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Sep 21</td>
<td>Friendship Village for AO / dioxin kids and vets. Afternoon policy round-table, open dialogue with vets, VUFO, VAVA, expats, and media.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Sep 22</td>
<td>Ha Long Bay, cruise on luxury junk overnight.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Sep 23</td>
<td>Fly to Da Nang. Check-in at riverside hotel in Hoi An.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Sep 24</td>
<td>Tour and Shop in Old Town Hoi An, visit Marble Mountain, enjoy sun and sand at China Beach.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri Sep 25</td>
<td>Meet association of veterans in Da Nang, VUFO, see DAVA Center or AO victims. Dinner with David and Ushi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Sep 26</td>
<td>Drive to Hue across Hai Van Pass. Visit Citadel, tombs of Emperors, Thien Mu Pagoda.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Sep 27</td>
<td>Meet HUFO, visit Chau Duc Son Buddhist orphanage</td>
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**ANNOUNCING**

**VFP Viet Nam Peace Tour**

19 Sep-4 Oct 2020

This is the ninth year that Viet Nam's Hoa Binh (Peace) Chapter 160 of Veterans For Peace has hosted a two-week custom tour of Viet Nam, the place that resonates with most of us vets as an unforgettable part of our lives. For many, the memories are painful; for others, not terribly unpleasant but the experience is not one we’d want to repeat. Others – spouses, friends, anti-war activists, ordinary citizens – have experienced Viet Nam in their own formative ways as well. Viet Nam is part of us.

This year we have also been invited to participate in a unique conference based on the Waging Peace exhibit and book, and related touring events that have been held in the U.S. in recent months. The topic, *The Outcome of the American War in Viet Nam: American and Vietnamese Perspectives -- A Conference of Historians and Peace and Conflict Scholars*, will feature a number or distinguished professors and researchers, historians, veterans, students, and journalists. It will explore how the United States and the Saigon government, despite superior military power and weapons technology, were unable to defeat the Vietnamese liberation forces or achieve political control over the south of the country. The date is **3 October**, the day before our tour ends.

**NOTE DATE CHANGE!!!** *(Not original Sep 15-30)*

We had the date of the Waging Peace exhibit in HCMC wrong. It is Oct 3, and we don’t want to miss it!
Viet Nam is a country now at peace, a place of natural beauty, a land of mountains as rugged and resilient as the people who inhabit them, of white sand beaches and inviting palm trees that sway in gentle sea breezes. The people, too, are gentle, and generous in spirit. They welcome Americans today – and especially veterans – with open arms, and forgiveness. A visit to Viet Nam can be heartening, even inspiring, for American veterans.

VFP Chapter 160 addresses the legacies of America’s war. We help veterans and their families struggling to keep safe from unexploded ordnance (UXO), recovering from UXO injuries, and dealing with the tragedy of Agent Orange/Dioxin.

One purpose of our annual tours is to make a tangible financial contribution to VFP 160’s mission. Each tour member is asked to donate at least $1,000 to be pooled at the end of the trip. Participants will decide how to disburse the funds – for bomb clearance, to help Agent Orange victims, to support hospitals, orphanages, schools, and other community needs.

The $1,000 donation is mandatory. Some participants raise additional funds from their extended families, communities and neighbors, which we encourage. During the past eight years, some $300,000 has been donated by tour participants and distributed to projects supported by VFP 160 throughout Viet Nam.

TOUR DATES: Most tour participants depart San Francisco late Thursday, 17 September (actually around 1 am, 18 September), and arrive back in the U.S. on Sunday afternoon, 4 October. East coast and folks from other routes will have other flight dates—as long as all get to Hanoi by midday September 19 (Vietnam time).
**COSTS:**

- **Tour Fee:** $2,950 USD, which covers all in-country Viet Nam travel (domestic flights, trains, buses, boats, but not tire sandals); single occupancy hotel accommodations; food and drink (alcohol not included); event tickets.
- **Donation:** $1,000 required minimum charitable donation.
- **Airfare:** less than $1,000 (from San Francisco; currently coach fares are $728.75 and premium economy $1388.75 with China Air), plus airfare from your home to our departure point at SFO. You can, of course, arrange your own direct flight to Viet Nam as long as you are in Ha Noi when the group arrives September 15.
- **Visa:** $80 USD for a 30-day, one-entry tourist visa. Multiple entry or 90-day visas cost more.

**Note:** VFP organizers and in-country hosts receive no compensation. The Hanoi travel company which handles in-country logistics, Viet Dreamland Travel Co. has always given us generous discounts and sometimes separate donations to allow the maximum amount possible to go to VFP 160’s beneficiaries.

*Meeting with the leaders of HCMC Vietnamese Association of Victims of Agent Orange/dioxin (VAVA)*
PAYMENT, DEPOSIT, AND DONATIONS: To reserve your booking for this tour, an initial (refundable) deposit of $300 must be submitted by Thursday, April 30th to:

Denny Riley
5519 Plumas Avenue
Richmond, CA 94804
(H) 510-524-7820
(C) 510-367-9376
dennyriley7@gmail.com

IMPORTANT: Make checks payable to Veterans for Peace, San Francisco Chapter 69 (or VFP 69) with Viet Nam Tour 2020 on the memo line!

FINAL PAYMENT (Tour Fee + Donation): due Thursday July 9.

FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS: Contact Paul Cox. Because our tour fee has no slack in it, and the credit card company takes their bite, there will be a 3.5% surcharge for credit card payments (or an additional $138.45. i.e. ($2,950 + $1,000 )+ $138.40 = $4,088.40.

FINAL REMINDER: Be sure your passport is current, and apply for your visa early. Visas can be had from the Embassy in DC or the Consulate in SF.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

**US Tour Coordinator Paul Cox**
Board Member VFP Chapter 160
+1 510-418-3436 (leave message)
paulcox890@comcast.net

**Viet Nam Tour Coordinator Chuck Searcy**
President, VFP Chapter 160
+8 490-342—0769
chuckusvn@gmail.com

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Long Hung Church, Dong Ha. One of only two structures in Quang Tri Province destroyed, but still standing, by the end of the war

The Citadel, Hue, partially restored after the war
PHOTO GALLERY:

Sep 22: Overnight in Ha Long Bay, a World Heritage Site!!!

Da Krong Bridge, leading from Khe San to A Luoi, built for Viet Nam by the Cubans after the war, twice.

Local market, Dong Ha

Thich Nu Minh Tu, Buddhist monk and founder of Chau Duc Son Orphanage charms and delights tour while raising 200 orphans, Hue.

Agent Orange victim, Thua Thien

Agent Orange victim, Tu Do Hospital, HCMC

Chau Duc Son Orphanage, Hue.
Project Renew demining teams haul away the American War, one bomb at a time.

Too late for this farmer, or this boy.

One of Project RENEW’s all-woman demining teams.

Project RENEW created this incense factory for blind persons in Quang Tri so that they can earn a living. At their request, VFP 160 built them an on-site kitchen.

Explaining planned demining operation near Dong Ha

Ho Van Lai, UXO victim and teacher at RENEW Mine Education Center, with class of minority children

RENEW’s prosthetics center, Dong Ha, Supported by VFP 160