



PRESS RELEASE

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VVA Announces Appointment of Managing Director A. Phillip Waite

(Washington, D.C) – “Vietnam Veterans of America is very pleased to announce that Col. A. Phillip Waite, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), has joined our team as the new Managing Director of VVA,” said Jack McManus, VVA National President. As Managing Director, Col. Waite will be responsible for managing day-to-day oversight of VVA directors and staff. “We are fortunate to have Phil’s past leadership and military experiences, which allow him a unique perspective and sensitivity for the VVA spirit and for carrying our values forward to future generations,” McManus commented.

In his previous positions with The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration (VWC), Col. Waite led the development and implementation of dynamic strategies ensuring its success. He also led all analytics efforts related to the 27 thousand events hosted by VWC’s 13 thousand partner organizations. These in-depth analyses revealed that 3.7 million Vietnam veterans and their families were thanked and honored during these watermark events.

Col. Waite began his career directing choirs at high schools and universities. Throughout his distinguished 25-year Air Force career, he conceived and conducted 1,240 productions before U.S. presidents and 217 million global viewers, and shaped law and policy governing Department of Defense outreach to Americans. He directed the U.S. Air Force Singing Sergeants, and commanded and conducted Air Force bands in Japan, Illinois, Nebraska, and The U.S. Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. His concert highlights include featured appearances at the White House before multiple presidents of the United States; a re-creation of the Glenn Miller Army Air Forces Orchestra in 21 cities and Carnegie Hall; and a July 4th extravaganza on Boston’s Esplanade before 500,000.