



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Veterans Day Activities & Honorees Announced

The Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission will honor Maj. Gen. Carl McNair Jr. (Ret.), a highly decorated Vietnam War veteran, as Patriot of the Year, along with Veteran of the Year – Seymour “Sy” Lichtenfeld who wrote about his World War II experiences, including five months as a German prisoner.

Both will be recognized during the commission’s Veterans Day luncheon on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at Fort Whiting Armory at noon.

McNair, a native of Pensacola, Fla., served the U.S. Army for more than 32 years in key research and development, infantry and Army aviation command and staff positions. His overseas assignments included Vietnam, Korea and Taiwan with combat service spanning six campaigns during 1967-1969. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross four times, the Bronze Star with “V” for Valor and 53 Air Medals while flying more than 1,500 combat hours.

After retiring from the Army in 1987, McNair served corporate America in several leadership positions and was active in community affairs throughout the National Capital region, where he continued to make an impact and was recognized for his efforts. In January 2015, he will receive the Kiddie Hawk Air Academy’s Living Legend of Aviation award and will join the ranks of entrepreneurs, innovators, industry leaders, astronauts, record breakers and pilots.

Lichtenfeld, a Mobile resident, was born in Gary, Ind., also served in the U.S. Army. He was taken prisoner in the harrowing December 1944 Battle of the Bulge, labeled by historians as one of the most deadly. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals as well as the Combat Infantryman’s Badge. In 2001, he wrote *Kriegie 312330*, detailing his experiences.

The day’s events begin with the annual parade along Government Street in downtown Mobile at 10 a.m., featuring several veterans’ organizations, active duty units, Reserve & National Guard

units, ROTC and JROTC units, scouts and local marching bands. The luncheon follows, and is sponsored by BAE Systems. Later at the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park there is a Freedom Celebration at 3 p.m. and a Mobile Pops Concert at 7 p.m.

The parade and celebrations at the USS Alabama are free to the public. Luncheon tickets are \$18 per person or \$144 for a table of eight. To purchase tickets, contact Carolyn Hunt no later than Friday, Nov. 7 at 251-431-8621 or chunt@mobilechamber.com. Payment is due with reservation.

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