

From the Editor | May 2026



How Miller
Sentinel Editor

The highlight of our April activities was the third annual Valor Lunch fundraising event. Much hard work has gone into this, and there are donors, attendees, and organizers to be thanked. This issue includes an account of the 19 April event.

Preceding that coverage is a letter to the editor from Chapter 78 member Ham Salley. In support of Chapter President James McLanahan's call to do outreach with chapter coins, Ham presented coins to leaders of several veterans'

organizations while advocating for the SFA. His letter is accompanied by photos of those presentations, along with background on each group.

Next, Matt Dorn provides a history of the standing up of the Army Reserve and National Guard Special Forces components. He is also leading an effort to document the history of USAR/ARNG Special Forces units and is seeking personal accounts and photographs from veterans of these units. Details and contact information can be found on page 10.

A Factual History of the Vietnam War and its Aftermath: A Reappraisal After 50 Plus Years edited by Frank Scotton, Stephen Sherman, and Roger Soiset was published on April 10, 2025. This amazingly detailed history starts with the long-term history that led up to the lengthy American involvement in the Vietnam War. This elaboration of what has been learned since their 14-volume *Indochina in the Year of ...* series, it adds revelations from the North Vietnamese participants to many other sources.

This issue includes a review of the book by How Miller and two excerpts from the book. The first examines how the 1963 Buddhist crisis and subsequent U.S.-backed decisions led to the assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem, arguing that these choices destabilized South Vietnam and altered the course of the war. The second highlights the military overthrow of the Ngo regime in 1963 and the death of President Ngo Dinh Diem and his much hated brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu. Seen from two different perspectives, light is thrown on the chaotic events and their reporting, bringing some clarity to the mysterious chain of events.

This is your final reminder to register for SFACON 2026 scheduled for dates in June in Florida.

As always, we appreciate the stories shared by our Sentinel readers—thank you, and please keep them coming. ❖

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SFA Chapter 78 March 2026 Chapter Meeting

Photos by How Miller and Doreen Matsumoto

Guest Speakers: Will Walker, Onebrief, Head of Federal Growth, Onebrief and Joseph Ivanov, Onebrief, Head of Growth for Special Operations Forces, and a member of the The Normandy Institute team



The guest speakers of our March meeting were both from Onebrief, an AI-powered, secure, and collaborative software platform designed to modernize military planning and operational command. Will Walker went over how the planning system improve collaborative planning. The goal is to allow less time in screens, and more time in the field, on range, or with family. He did clarify that it is not meant for precision targeting, and does not replace critical thinking.



Joseph "Joey" Ivanov, also part of Onebrief, focused his presentation on Normandy and the upcoming anniversary of D-Day.

Joey was part of the installation the French Resistance monument in Sainte-Marie-Du-Mont, France. Erected in 2021, the monument honors the contributions of the members of the French Resistance. He has arranged for chapter members participating in the upcoming Walk Among Heroes tour to attend the annual ceremony at the memorial during the D-Day commemorations. He showed an excellent video "Sixth of June," which you can watch at <https://www.sixofjune.com>.



**Ignatius Fischer
Black Bunny Media**

Chapter members were introduced to Ignatius Fischer of [Black Bunny Media](#). Ignatius will be filming our meeting presenters and producing videos to be posted on our YouTube channel. He recently prepared and posted footage shot

at past meetings. He was also present at Valor Luncheon to record Dick Thompson's presentation. We're very excited to have him as a part of our team.

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