

# SAMPLE MEDIA RELEASE

**DATE: Wednesday, April 16, 2003**  
**RELEASE DATE: Immediate**

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**SUBJECT: THE CVB WELCOMES VETERANS NEXT WEEK**

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Now more than ever is a time to honor the many soldiers who serve, and have served our country, risking their lives for our freedom.

Next week, April 23-26, over 100 Air Force and Strategic Air Command (SAC) veterans from the 551st Strategic Missile Squadron (SMS) Association will gather at the Cornhusker Hotel for their first reunion in 41 years!

For several months the CVB has worked closely with the reunion organizer, Ken Fisher.

"It has been 38 years this April that the 551st SMS went off alert status, but that does not stop us from getting together as brothers and friends to talk about those days," said Fisher, member of the 551st SMS Association.

More than 900 personnel were assigned to the 551<sup>st</sup> Strategic Missile Squadron (SMS) during its relatively short life span at Lincoln Air Force Base from 1961 to 1965. A steady stream of missile combat crews, maintenance specialists and support personnel reported to the Squadron on a daily basis coming from all across the country to support the patriotic effort during the Cold War.

The reunion will give members a chance to see old friends, tell "war stories," and see the sites of the Star City. Their agenda includes a bus tour of the old base and missile site, lunch at Mahoney State Park, SAC Museum tour, free time in the Haymarket and much more.

Welcome veterans!

**Media note:** This is a great story opportunity, especially with today's current events. Call Ken Fisher at (718) 792-2360 for more information.

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