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An Evening with Major James Capers Jr., USMC

BLK OPS Road Show Features Comedian Thom Tran and DJ Babey Drew

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) will host an evening to honor Marine Major (Retired) James Capers Jr., on Friday, February 21, 2025. Major Capers, a Vietnam War Veteran, is the subject of an episode of “BLK OPS™ – Uncommon Stories from U.S. Special Operations Forces (USSOF),” titled “The Real Life Equalizer” on Amazon Prime. The episode will be screened as part of the program. The program will also include a live interview with Major Capers, as well as a comedy set by nationally renowned Veteran comedian, actor and musician Thom Tran. Musical interludes will be provided by Grammy-Award winning DJ Babey Drew. Doors will open for General Admission at 6 p.m. The movie screening will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the rest of the program.

During the Vietnam War, Major Capers was a part of the elite Force Reconnaissance Marines, where he excelled. He was a natural leader and father figure to Team Broadminded, a specialized group of Force Recon Marines. Capers’ team was routinely selected to go on the most dangerous and clandestine missions. A soft-spoken man, his commendations offer an inspiring view of his heroism and self-sacrifice. He received the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars and Combat V, three Purple Hearts, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, a Joint Service Commendation Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, three Good Conduct Ribbons, Battle Stars, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, CG Certificate of Merit, and multiple letters of Merit, Appreciation, and Commendation.

Capers was the first African American to command a Marine Force Recon company and the first enlisted African American Marine Officer to receive a battlefield commission. In the fall of 1967, still recovering from combat injuries, Capers was selected to represent the U.S. Marines in a national recruiting campaign. Capers’ image became the Marine Corps’ most popular recruitment campaign. His wife Dottie and son Gary passed away in 2003 and are buried in Arlington National Cemetery.



**Major James Capers Jr.
USMC (Retired)**

In 2010, Major James Capers Jr. was one of only 14 members inducted into the inaugural class of U.S. Special Operations Command's Commando Hall of Honor. He is the author of a book, "Faith Through the Storm: Memoirs of Major James Capers Jr." A documentary about Capers entitled *Major Capers: The Legend of Team Broadminded* was released last year.



Thom Tran
Veteran Comedian & Actor

Los Angeles-based comedian, actor, musician, and Veteran **Thom Tran** started his career as a comic after a combat injury ended his career as a soldier. Thom enlisted in the U.S. Army before he finished high school. He was a Communications and Civil Affairs Sergeant within the Army's Special Operations community. Thom was wounded in Iraq in 2003 and medically retired in 2005. Post-combat, comedy saved his life. He created "The GIs of Comedy Tour" that has toured the U.S. and more than 20 countries. Thom and members of the GIs of Comedy appeared on the Netflix series, *Larry Charles' Dangerous World of Comedy*. The group has raised over \$30,000 for the Special Operations Warrior

Foundation, a charity that raises college scholarship funds for the children of fallen U.S. Special Operations personnel. Thom is one of the Veterans featured in the NVMM's permanent exhibit. His acting credits include appearances on *Black-ish* on ABC, and *SEAL Team & NCIS: Los Angeles* on CBS.

Andrew Bisnaught, better known as **DJ Babey Drew**, made a name for himself as the official touring DJ for Chris Brown, a regular DJ for the Kardashians, and has opened up for numerous national artists. He received a Grammy award in 2016, and has been on VH1, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, MTV's *TRL*, *The Ellen Degeneres Show*, *The View*, *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *Live With Regis and Kelly*, *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, ESPN, and more.

General Admission tickets for the event are \$30 apiece. A limited number of tickets will be available for a VIP "meet-and-greet" with Major Capers and Thom Tran before the show. Click [here to register](#) for tickets. Food and a cash bar will be available. For guests who cannot attend in person, [pay-per-view tickets](#) are available to watch a live stream of the program for \$19.99. In-person attendees must be over the age of 21.

About BLK OPS™

BLK OPS™ - Uncommon Stories from USSOF, is an unprecedented and exclusive first-hand account of underrepresented Veterans who have served in the United States Special Operations Forces (USSOF). The Feb. 21 event is sponsored by the NVMM, Triple Nickel, and the BLK OPS Foundation.

About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum takes visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and sharing experiences of Veterans from all military branches throughout history. [The National Veterans Memorial and Museum](#) pays tribute to the sacrifices of men and women in service and their families. History is presented through a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multi-media presentations, and interactive exhibits. Together, these elements link our national story of service to the larger context of the world.