



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, November 4, 2014

CONTACT: Marc Chery  
[mchery@sandiego.gov](mailto:mchery@sandiego.gov)

### **San Diego Central Library Hosts Book Talk on Defender Dolphins and the U.S. Navy's Marine Mammal Swimmer Defense System**

*Local Writer was U.S. Navy's First Marine Mammal Officer, Features Military Themes in His Work*

**San Diego, CA** - As part of Cal Humanities' statewide initiative *War Comes Home*, the San Diego Public Library will present the 4th Annual *Writing from the Ranks* military writers' program in honor of the Veterans Day holiday on Monday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Shiley Special Events Suite at the new San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, located at 330 Park Blvd in downtown San Diego. The featured writer, local author and retired Navy Captain **Harold W. Goforth, Jr.**, will discuss and sign his book *Defender Dolphins: The Story of Project Short Time*. This program is free and open to the public.

*Defender Dolphins* documents the Navy's never-before-told eyewitness account of a unique and daring secret project involving the first-ever military use of dolphins, its conception, development, and 12-month deployment to Vietnam. Learn how five dolphins were trained and defended a critical ammunition pier in Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam against enemy swimmers.

Harold W. Goforth is a retired Navy EOD Officer and Captain with 26 years of service. He was the Navy's first marine mammal officer and a Navy research physiologist for twenty-five years and an adjunct college professor for 18 years. Many of his students went on to become mammal trainers, researchers and curators at Sea World, Ocean Park, Hong Kong, UC Santa Cruz and contractors for the Navy at Point Loma. Copies of Dr. Goforth's book will be available for purchase at the event and online at [www.defenderdolphins.com](http://www.defenderdolphins.com).

*Defender Dolphins* is part of the California Reads program *War Comes Home* featuring the book *What It is Like to Go to War* by bestselling author and Vietnam veteran Karl Marlantes. California Reads is a program of Cal Humanities in partnership with the California Center for the Book. California Reads is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the BayTree Fund, Whitman Institute and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

- more -

Page 2

Press Release: Defender Dolphins

*War Comes Home* is a statewide conversation sponsored by Cal Humanities about veterans returning to California. As the long wars in Afghanistan and Iraq wind down, how will returning soldiers come back into their communities? How can we build bridges of understanding between those who have served and those who have not? Through more than 800 lectures, forums, film screenings, discussion groups, exhibits, and a statewide reading program, Californians will consider these questions and more. For more information, visit Cal Humanities at [www.calhum.org](http://www.calhum.org).

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources (including those for local authors), or search for materials online in the Library's catalog at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other*  
# # #