

# US Army Vietnam Vet Donates Inheritance -To National Museum



**PKIKS Sekou Dukuly with Elder Cheatham**

A Vietnam veteran of Afro-American descent has donated several historical items from his inheritance acquired around the world to the National Museum of Liberia.

Elder Paul Cheatham, II, a 70 year-old US Army veteran, who is interested in Liberia and had earlier traced his family lineage after the slave trade in the 1800's, continues to provide pure and safe drinking water to school campuses in communities susceptible to water borne disease along the Somalia Drive in Montserrado County.

According to the Vietnam vet African-American and Army community service officer (RET) and a US Army Europe-NATO-Command, the items will enhance Liberia's history including the many contributions of colored (blacks) people to globalization.

Making the donation on behalf of the US Army Vietnam vet, PKIKS Country Director Sekou Dukuly said the gesture is the organization way to identify with country's history and the contributions of others in the diasporas.

"When you display these 39 pieces of historical relics for people to see, the old man will be happy to do more for the museum. The elder promised to do more when he finds out that the items are on display at the museum," Dukuly added.

Receiving the donation, Darius Gweh, Director of Culture Affairs at the Ministry of Information Culture Affairs and Tourism lauded PKIKS especially elder Cheatham, II for the gesture and he promised to work along with leaders at the museum to ensure that the items are safe and displayed to the public.

For his part, Albert Markeh, Director of the National Museum of Liberia appreciated the kind gesture of the group and promised to ensure that the items will be used for the intended purpose.

Since the water, sanitation and hygiene sector is overwhelmed with a number of challenges in post-Ebola recovery process, the project is now donating poly tanks to schools with 500 gallons of safe drinking bulk water supply.

Though the group has worked with community leaders in the prevention

of Ebola, current intervention in post-Ebola community outreach program is the donation of eight 500-gallon poly tanks to schools including the United Blind Academy in LPRC community in Monrovia.

The project which has been distributing shoes to kids before the outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus disease is currently providing safe drinking bulk water to schools. The safe drinking water supply to school campaign has been solely funded from the pension and retirement benefits of elder Paul Chatham, II.

The books and images which form part of historical artifacts donated include Roots, Promise, AMVETS Logo, Holy Bibles, Holy Cross and the Indian tribes of the United States of America. Others are African Footprints, a box of world flags, images of the 42 colored senators of the United States of America, Vietnam Veteran Memorial, Dragon Flag, African Brothers, Miss Johnson, first black US Army officer and a number of images and portrait photographs in frames without labels.