Vietnam miracle reunion

By BILL OSINSKI / basinski@ajc.com

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OF DAO NIEM, CALLED the fat- est man in Vietnam, it’s a wonder he’s alive. He was tossed from a helicopter during a Viet Cong massacre in a village in May 1968, everyone was shot — except a baby girl found wounded in her dead mother’s arms.

U.S. soldier, helicopter crew- men, medics, nurses and doc- tors saved her life. They gave her a name, Kathleen. Eventually, the Americans dismantled what became of Kontum. But they never forgot Kathleen. 

About 12 years ago, she began a search for answers about her past.

On Monday, they will finally meet again. Baby Kathleen is now Kath- leen Epps, a Northern Califor- nia wife with three daughters of her own.

What would be an

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To meet Kathleen, Darrell Jameson, 50, and Richard Heck, 42, from Lakeport, California, met Kathleen Epps at the 1998 Lafon, where they both work. Epps will accompany them to the airport.

“Not only will I see my mom, but I’ll see my daughter,” Kathleen recalled.

Memorable holiday for Shiites

By MIKE TISEN tisen@ajc.com

Iraqi mobs looted priceless antiquities from Baghdad’s premier cultural history museum on Friday — turning the once-security-las- tern into stark reality.

A dozen looters moved unchallenged among broken and overturned statues that in- cluded the ground floor of the sprawling National Museum of Iraq, according to Agence France-Presse. Two men were seen hauling away an ancient door frame. Empty wooden crates were scattered across the floor.

It is not clear how many of the remaining more than 30,000 artifacts span- ning 6,000 years, including invaluable sculptures, inscribed tablets and carved reliefs from a half-dozen cultures, including the Sumeri- an, Assyrian and Babylonian empires. Uprooted, portals of the museum seemed to have been spilled open, and there was hope that the museum’s 30-year collection of irreplaceable antiquities would remain intact.

The looters took the opportunity to help airlines and the airline industry to get back on track.

The U.S. House and Senate voted for a $38 billion package to help airlines and the airline industry.

For the 30,000 people attending the gathering at the northern city of Mosul on their way to the club, the road that fronts the club, a relatively civil, if voluble, atmosphere was the order of the day.

A Georgia-based tank commander’s battle to the Iraqi capital.

AJC tribute to fallen heroes