



# Vietnam Veterans In Canada

## 440<sup>th</sup> General Meeting (2004-01)

# AGENDA

08 January 2004

*British Columbia Regiment (DCO)  
Beatty Street Armoury  
620 Beatty Street  
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*

**Call to Order at 1930 hours  
(Sergeant at Arms)**

**Moment of Silence**

**United States and Allied Military Casualties  
since 27 November 2003**

**(Reading of the Names)**

**Pvt. Scott M. Tyrrell, 21, of Sterling, Ill.**, died on Nov. 20 at Brooke Army Medical Center, in San Antonio, Texas, of wounds received on Nov. 14 in Tikrit, Iraq. Tyrrell was at an ammunition point when it caught on fire. Tyrrell was assigned to C Company, 299<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Mech), based in Fort Hood, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Ariel Rico, 25, of El Paso, Texas**, was killed on Nov. 28 in Mosul, Iraq. Rico died of injuries sustained during an enemy mortar attack. Rico was assigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 320<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), based in Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Aaron J. Sissel, 22, of Tipton, Iowa**, was killed on Nov. 29 in Haditha, Iraq. Sissel was traveling in a convoy when his vehicle was hit by enemy fire. The Soldier died as a result of his injuries. Sissel was assigned to the 2133<sup>rd</sup> Transportation Company, Army National Guard, based in Centerville, Iowa. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Stephen A. Bertolino, 40, of Orange, Calif.**, was killed on Nov. 29 in Haditha, Iraq. Bertolino was traveling in a convoy when his vehicle was hit by enemy fire. He died as a result of his injuries. Bertolino was assigned to Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Troop, Regimental Support Squadron, 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment, based in Fort Carson, Colo. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Raphael S. Davis, 24, of Tutwiler, Miss.**, was killed Dec. 2 in Tampa, Iraq. Davis died of injuries suffered when his vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device. Davis was assigned to B Company, 223<sup>rd</sup> Engineer Battalion, Army National Guard, based in Calhoun City, Miss. The incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Ryan C. Young, 21, of Corona, Calif.**, died on Dec. 2 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C., of wounds he received Nov. 8 in Fallujah, Iraq. Young died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device hit his vehicle. Young was assigned to A Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, based in Fort Riley, Kan. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Arron R. Clark, 20, of Chico, Calif.**, was killed on Dec. 5 in Baghdad, Iraq. Clark was on a convoy mission when an improvised explosive device detonated. He died as a result of his injuries. Clark was assigned to the 440<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Signal Brigade, V Corps, based in Darmstadt, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Ray J. Hutchinson, 20, of League City, Texas**, was killed Dec. 7 in Mosul, Iraq. Hutchinson was returning from a patrol when an improvised explosive device hit his vehicle. He died as a result of his injuries. Hutchinson was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Jason G. Wright, 19, of Luzerne, Mich.**, was killed Dec. 8 in Mosul, Iraq. Wright was on security duty when his vehicle came under fire from a passing vehicle. Wright died as a result of his injuries. Wright was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Steven H. Bridges, 33, of Tracy, Calif.** Bridges was killed on Dec. 8 in Ad Duluiyah, Iraq, when his vehicle flipped into a canal. Bridges was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Joseph M. Blickenstaff, 23, of Corvallis, Ore.** Blickenstaff was killed on Dec. 8 in Ad Duluiyah, Iraq, when his vehicle flipped into a canal. Blickenstaff was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Christopher J. Rivera Wesley, 26, of Portland, Ore.**, died Dec. 8 in Ad Duluiyah, Iraq. Wesley was in a Stryker vehicle when it flipped into a canal. He died as a result of his injuries. Wesley was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, based in Fort Lewis, Wash. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Todd M. Bates, 20, of Bellaire, Ohio**, has been listed as Duty Status Whereabouts Unknown (DUSTWUN). Bates was on a river patrol on the Tigris River south of Baghdad, Iraq, on Dec. 10 when his squad leader fell overboard. Bates dived into the water and did not surface. Bates has been placed in duty status whereabouts unknown. He is assigned to the 135<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, Army National Guard based in Brookpark, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Aaron T. Reese, 31, of Reynoldsburg, Ohio**, died Dec. 10 south of Baghdad, Iraq. Reese was on a river patrol on the Tigris River when he fell overboard. Reese was assigned to the 135<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, Army National Guard based in Brookpark, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Richard A. Burdick, 24, of National City, Calif.**, was killed Dec. 10 in Mosul, Iraq. Burdick was in a convoy when his vehicle was hit by an improvise explosive device. He died as a result of his wounds. Burdick was assigned to Company C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), based in Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Jerrick M. Petty, 25, of Idaho Falls, Idaho**, was killed Dec. 10 in Mosul, Iraq. While guarding a gas station, Petty was attacked by enemy forces. He died of his injuries. Petty was assigned to Company B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Jeffrey F. Braun, 19, of Stafford, Conn.**, died Dec. 12, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq. Braun died from a non-hostile gunshot wound. Braun was assigned to Battery B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 319<sup>th</sup> Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division based in Fort Bragg, N.C. The incident is under investigation.

**Spec. Marshall L. Edgerton, 27, of Rocky Face, Ga.**, was killed Dec. 11 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. Edgerton was killed when his camp was attacked with an improvised explosive device. He died of his injuries. Edgerton was assigned to Company A, 82<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, based in Fort Bragg, N.C. The incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Jarrod W. Black, 26, of Peru, Ind.**, was killed Dec. 12, 2003, in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. Black's convoy was hit by an IED. Black died of his injuries. Black was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 34<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment based in Fort Riley, Kan. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Rian C. Ferguson, 22, of Taylors, S.C.**, died Dec. 14, 2003, outside forward operating base Quinn, Iraq. Ferguson fell from the light medium tactical vehicle in which he was a passenger. Ferguson died of his injuries. Ferguson was assigned to the Regimental Support Squadron, 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment based in Fort Carson, Colo. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Kimberly A. Voelz, 27, of Carlisle, Pa.**, was killed Dec. 14, 2003, in Iskandariyah, Iraq. Voelz was responding to an explosive ordnance disposal call when an improvised explosive device detonated. Voelz was assigned to the 703<sup>rd</sup> Explosive Ordnance Detachment based in Fort Knox, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Kenneth C. Souslin, 21, of Mansfield, Ohio**, died Dec. 15 at Baghdad International Airport, Iraq. Souslin died of non-combat related injuries. He was assigned to the 440<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, 22<sup>nd</sup> Signal Brigade, V Corps, Darmstadt, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Nathan W. Nakis, 19, of Corvallis, Ore.**, died on Dec. 16 in Mosul, Iraq. Nakis was in a convoy returning to Mosul when he lost control of his vehicle after driving through an oil-soaked area. Nakis was assigned to Company B, 52<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion (Heavy), Army National Guard, based in Albany, Ore. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Christopher J. Holland, 26, of Brunswick, Ga.**, was killed on Dec. 17 in Baghdad, Iraq. Holland was part of a dismounted patrol when his unit was ambushed with small arms fire. He died as a result of his injuries. Holland was assigned to Battery A, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 27<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division, based in Smith Barracks, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Charles E. Bush Jr., 43, of Buffalo, N.Y.**, was killed on Dec. 19 in Balad, Iraq. Bush was in a convoy when his vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device. Bush was assigned to the 402<sup>nd</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion, 354<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Brigade, 352<sup>nd</sup> Civil Affairs Command, U.S. Army Reserve, based in Riverdale Park, Md. The incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Glenn R. Allison, 24, of Pittsfield, Mass.**, died on Dec. 18 in Baghdad, Iraq. Allison died during physical training. Allison was assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, based in Fort Drum, N.Y. The incident is under investigation.

**1st Lt. Edward M. Saltz, 27, U.S. Army Reserve, of Bigfork, Mont.** Saltz was killed on Dec. 22 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device hit his convoy. Saltz was assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division, based in Giessen, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Stuart W. Moore, 21, of Livingston, Texas.** Moore was killed on Dec. 22 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device hit his convoy. Moore was assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division, based in Giessen, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Theodore L. Perreault, 33, of Webster, Mass.**, died on Dec. 23, 2003, in Camp Bulkeley, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Perreault died of non-combat related injuries. Perreault was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 181<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment, Army National Guard, Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. This incident is under investigation.

**Maj. Christopher J. Splinter, 43, of Platteville, Wis.** Splinter was killed on Dec. 24, when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device on Highway One near Samarra, Iraq. Splinter was assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Brigade, based in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. This incident is under investigation.

**Capt. Christopher F. Soelzer, 26, of South Dakota.** Soelzer was killed on Dec. 24, when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device on Highway One near Samarra, Iraq. Soelzer was assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Brigade, based in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. This incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Benjamin W. Biskie, 27, of Vermilion, Ohio.** Biskie was killed on Dec. 24, when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device on Highway One near Samarra, Iraq. Biskie was assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Brigade, based in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. This incident is under investigation.

**Command Sgt. Major Eric F. Cooke, 43, of Scottsdale, Ariz.,** was killed on Dec. 24, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq. Cooke was in a convoy vehicle that struck an improvised explosive device. Cooke was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division, based in Ray Barracks, Friedberg, Germany. This incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Michael E. Yashinski, 24, of Monument, Colo.,** died on Dec. 24, 2003, in Kirkuk, Iraq. Yashinski died of injuries sustained while running a communication wire. Yashinski was assigned to the 501<sup>st</sup> Forward Support Company, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade, based in Vicenza, Italy. This incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Thomas W. Christensen, 42, of Atlantic Mine, Mich.** Christensen was killed on Dec. 25 in Baquba, Iraq, when his living area came under mortar attack. Christensen was assigned to the 652<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion, U.S. Army Reserve, based in Ellsworth, Wis. This incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Stephen C. Hattamer, 43, of Gwinn, Mich.** Hattamer was killed on Dec. 25 in Baquba, Iraq, when their living area came under mortar attack. Hattamer was assigned to the 652<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion, U.S. Army Reserve, based in Ellsworth, Wis. This incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Charles G. Haight, 23, of Jacksonville, Ala.,** was killed on Dec. 26, 2003, in Iraq. Haight was in a convoy vehicle which struck an improvised explosive device. Haight was assigned to the 14<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, 555<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group, based in Fort Lewis, Wash. This incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Michael G. Mihalakis, 18, of San Jose, Calif.,** died on Dec. 26, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq. Mihalakis died as a result of injuries sustained in a non-combat vehicle accident at the Baghdad International Airport. Mihalakis was assigned to the 270<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, 49<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, 100<sup>th</sup> Troop Command, California Combat Support Command, Army National Guard, based in Fairfield, Calif. This incident is under investigation.

**Pvt. Rey D. Cuervo, 24, of Laguna Vista, Texas**, was killed on Dec. 28 in Baghdad, Iraq. Cuervo was on a mounted patrol when an improvised explosive device hit his vehicle. Cuervo was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment, based in Fort Polk, La. This incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Curt E. Jordan, Jr., 25, of Green Acres, Wash.**, died on Dec. 28 near Bayji, Iraq. Jordan died of non-combat injuries. Jordan was assigned to the 14<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Battalion (Corps) (Wheeled), 555<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Group, based in Fort Lewis, Wash. This incident is under investigation.

**Capt. Ernesto M. Blanco, 28, of Texas**, was killed on Dec. 28, in Qaryat Ash Shababi, Iraq. Blanco was conducting a support mission when an improvised explosive device hit his vehicle. Blanco was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 504<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, based in Fort Bragg, N.C. This incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Justin W. Pollard, 21, of Foothill Ranch, Calif.**, died on Dec. 30 in Baghdad, Iraq. Pollard died as a result of injuries sustained in a non-combat related incident. Pollard was assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron, 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment, based in Fort Carson, Colo. This incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Solomon C. Bangayan, 24, of Jay, Vt.** Bangayan was killed on Jan. 2, 2004, in Baghdad, Iraq, when his convoy was ambushed by the enemy who used an improvised explosive device (IED), small arms fire, and a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG). Bangayan was assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 325<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. This incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Marc S. Seiden, 26, of Brigantine, N.J.** Seiden was killed on Jan. 2, 2004, in Baghdad, Iraq, when his convoy was ambushed by the enemy who used an improvised explosive device (IED), small arms fire, and a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG). Seiden was assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 325<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. This incident is under investigation.

**Capt. Kimberly N. Hampton, 27, of Easley, S.C.**, was killed on Jan. 2, 2004, in Fallujah, Iraq. Hampton, was the pilot on a Kiowa, OH-58, Observation Helicopter when it was shot down by enemy ground fire and crashed. Hampton died as a result of her injuries. Hampton was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 82<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Battalion, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. This incident is under investigation.

**Sgt. Dennis A. Corral, 33, of Kearney, Neb.**, died on Jan. 1 in Baghdad, Iraq. He was in a convoy going to the Baghdad International Airport when his vehicle went out of control and rolled over. Corral was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kan. This incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Luke P. Frist, 20, of West Lafayette, Ind.**, died of wounds on Jan. 5 at Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Frist was part of a convoy that was struck with an improvised explosive device in Baghdad, Iraq. Frist was assigned to the 209<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Company, U.S. Army Reserve, based in Lafayette, Ind. This incident is under investigation.

***The Department of Defense Press Releases from which the casualty list is derived is taken are:***

*No. 877-03 Nov 21, 2003, No. 899-03 Nov 29, 2003, No. 903-03 Dec 01, 2003, No. 904-03 Dec 01, 2003, No. 910-03 Dec 03, 2003, No. 914-03 Dec 04, 2003, No. 920-03 Dec 08, 2003, No. 923-03 Dec 09, 2003, No. 924-03 Dec 09, 2003, No. 933-03 Dec 11, 2003, No. 935-03 Dec 11, 2003, No. 943-03 Dec 12, 2003, No. 942-03 Dec 12, 2003, No. 944-03 Dec 12, 2003, No. 945-03 Dec 12, 2003, No. 946-03 Dec 14, 2003, No. 947-03 Dec 14, 2003, No. 951-03 Dec 15, 2003, No. 952-03 Dec 15, 2003, No. 953-03 Dec 15, 2003, No. 955-03 Dec 16, 2003, No. 958-03 Dec 17, 2003, No. 962-03 Dec 18, 2003, No. 968-03 Dec 22, 2003, No. 969-03 Dec 22, 2003, No. 972-03 Dec 23, 2003, No. 977-03 Dec 26, 2003, No. 978-03 Dec 26, 2003, No. 979-03 Dec 26, 2003, No. 980-03 Dec 26, 2003, No. 981-03 Dec 27, 2003, No. 982-03 Dec 27, 2003, No. 983-03 Dec 28, 2003, No. 986-03 Dec 29, 2003, No. 987-03 Dec 29, 2003, No. 992-03 Dec 30, 2003, No. 996-03 Dec 31, 2003, No. 002-04 Jan 04, 2004, No. 003-04 Jan 04, 2004, No. 010-04 Jan 06, 2004.*

**Introduction of Scheduled Guests, New Members, and Visitors.**

**Announcements and Acknowledgements**

**President's Remarks**

(W. Carmack, USMC)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Remarks**

(K. Payne, USN)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Remarks**

(G. Robinson, AUS)

**Chief of Staff**

(S. O'Grady, AUS)

**Collection & Auction**

(Chief of Staff)

**Minutes**

The Meeting held 11 December 2003 was informal and being so, no minutes were taken.

**Finance Reports**

The 4<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2003 Financial Reports and the Annual Financial report for 2003 should be available at the next meeting.

**Mail Call**

**Aid & Comfort**

**Administrative Items**

1. American Legion Meeting on Monday, 12 January, Vancouver.
2. Arcangel arriving Vancouver 03 February.

**Legislative Issues**

1. **Concurrent Receipt for Disabled Military Retirees with less than 20 years service.**
2. **Full Medical & Dental Benefits for U.S. Veterans living in Canada.**  
A copy of the "Reciprocal Agreement" has been requested.

**3. Citizenship for Non Citizen Vietnam Veterans**

(with waiver of fees and the same expedited treatment as active duty non citizens are now receiving.)

## **Unfinished Business**

NO ITEMS TONIGHT

## **New Business**

The Chair chooses to defer general business and operations in favour of a group discussion about general matters of each individual's choosing.

## **New Business from the floor:**

The next General Meeting is 22 January 2004 at 1930 hours at the British Columbia Regiment