



Vietnam Veterans In Canada

453rd General Meeting (2004-14)

AGENDA

08 July 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 Military Casualty Reports Reported since 24 June 2004

(Reading of the Names)

Lance Cpl. Juan Lopez, 22, of Whitfield, Ga., died June 21 from hostile fire in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

2nd Lt. Andre D. Tyson, 33, of Riverside, Calif. Tyson died June 22 in Balad, Iraq, when enemy forces ambushed his ground patrol. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 579th Engineer Battalion, Petaluma, Calif. The incident is under investigation.

Spc. Patrick R. McCaffrey Sr., 34, of Tracy, Calif. McCaffrey died June 22 in Balad, Iraq, when enemy forces ambushed his ground patrol. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 579th Engineer Battalion, Petaluma, Calif. The incident is under investigation.

Staff Sgt. Charles A. Kiser, 37, of Cleveland, Wis., died June 24 in Mosul, Iraq, when an explosion occurred near his convoy. Kiser was assigned to the Army Reserve's 330th Military Police Detachment, Sheboygan, Wis. The incident is under investigation.

Capt. Christopher S. Cash, 36, of Winterville, N.C. Cash died June 24, in Baqubah, Iraq when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle came under attack by enemy forces using small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry, Jacksonville, N.C. The incident is under investigation.

Spc. Daniel A. Desens, 20, of Jacksonville, N.C. Desens died June 24, in Baqubah, Iraq when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle came under attack by enemy forces using small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry, Jacksonville, N.C. The incident is under investigation.

Pfc. Daniel B. McClenney, 19, of Shelbyville, Tenn. McClenney died June 24 from hostile fire near Bari Khout, Afghanistan. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Lance Cpl. Juston T. Thacker, 21, of Bluefield, W.Va. Thacker died June 24 from hostile fire near Bari Khout, Afghanistan. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Captured - Cpl. Wassef A. Hassoun, 24, of Salt Lake City, Utah, was declared captured on June 28. Hassoun was last seen on June 19 in Al Anbar Province, Iraq and was initially reported as missing when he failed to show for duty on June 20. While his absence initially prompted investigators to believe he was missing, a video shown on international television on June 27 depicted the Marine being held against his will by masked captors. The circumstances regarding his capture remain under investigation. He is assigned to 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

Lance Cpl. Patrick R. Adle, 21, of Baltimore, Md. Adle died June 29 southeast of Baghdad, Iraq, as a result of hostile action. He was assigned to the Marine Corps Reserve's 6th Engineer Support Battalion, 4th Force Service Support Group, Folsom, Pa.

Sgt. Alan D. Sherman, 36, of Brick, N.J. Sherman died June 29 southeast of Baghdad, Iraq, as a result of hostile action. He was assigned to the Marine Corps Reserve's 6th Engineer Support Battalion, 4th Force Service Support Group, Folsom, Pa.

Cpl. John H. Todd III, 24, of Bridgeport, Pa. Todd died June 29 southeast of Baghdad, Iraq, as a result of hostile action. He was assigned to the Marine Corps Reserve's 6th Engineer Support Battalion, 4th Force Service Support Group, Folsom, Pa.

Spc. Jeremy M. Heines, 25, of New Orleans, La., died June 26 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his patrol came under attack by rocket propelled grenades and small arms fire. Heines was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

1st Sgt. Ernest E. Utt, 38, of Hammond, Ill., died June 27 in Baghdad, Iraq, after two 122mm rockets were fired into his forward operating base. Utt was assigned to Battery B, 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

Lance Cpl. Manuel A. Cenicerros, 23, of Santa Ana, Calif., died June 26 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to Regimental Combat Team 1 Headquarters Company, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Sgt. Kenneth Conde Jr., 23, of Orlando, Fla., died July 1 due to injuries received from enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Sgt. Christopher A. Wagener, 24, of Fairview Heights, Ill., died July 1, in Mosul, Iraq, when his convoy vehicle hit a land mine. Wagener was assigned to the Army's 10th Aviation Battalion, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y. The incident is under investigation.

Spc. Robert L. DuSang, 24, of Mandeville, La., died June 30 in Navstar, Iraq, when a tire on the 5-ton vehicle in which he was riding blew out and the vehicle overturned. DuSang was assigned to the Army's 1st Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Polk, La. The incident is under investigation.

Lance Cpl. Timothy R. Creager, 21, of Millington, Tenn., died July 1 due to hostile action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Lance Cpl. James B. Huston Jr., 22, of Umatilla, Ore., died July 2 in a vehicle accident while his unit was responding to hostile action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

2nd Lt. Brian D. Smith, 30, of McKinney, Texas, died July 2 in Habbaniyah, Iraq when he was shot while conducting combat operations. Smith was assigned to the Army's 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kan. The incident is under investigation.

Spc. Julie R. Hickey, 20, of Galloway, Ohio, was evacuated from Bagram, Afghanistan, on June 30 and died in Landstuhl, Germany, on July 4 of complications from a non-combat related illness. Hickey was assigned to the Army Reserve's 412th Civil Affairs Battalion, Whitehall, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

Lance Cpl. Michael S. Torres, 21, of El Paso, Texas. Torres died July 5 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, at Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Lance Cpl. John J. Vangyzen IV, 21, of Bristol, Mass. Vangyzen died July 5 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, at Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Stephen G. Martin, 39, of Rhinelander, Wis., died July 1 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., from injuries sustained in Mosul, Iraq, on June 24 when a car bomb exploded near his guard post. Martin was assigned to the Army Reserve's 330th Military Police Detachment, Sheboygan, Wis. The incident is under investigation.

Cpl. Dallas L. Kerns, 21, of Mountain Grove, Mo., died July 5 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force at Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Lance Cpl. Justin T. Hunt, 22, of Riverside, Calif., died July 6 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

This brings the total U.S. KIAs to 889.

The Information of U.S. Casualties is taken from the following DOD Press Releases:

No. 602-04 Jun 24, 2004, No. 605-04 Jun 24, 2004, No. 609-04 Jun 25, 2004, No. 610-04 Jun 26, 2004, No. 611-04 Jun 26, 2004, No. 629-04 Jul 01, 2004, No. 630-04 Jul 01, 2004, No. 616-04 Jun 28, 2004, No. 615-04 Jun 28, 2004, No. 617-04 Jun 28, 2004, No. 631-04 Jul 02, 2004, No. 634-04 Jul 02, 2004, No. 635-04 Jul 02, 2004, No 636-04 03 Jul 2004, No 639-04 Jul 06, 2004, No. 640-04 Jul 06, 2004, No. 644-04 Jul 07, 2004, No. 645-04 Jul 07, 2004, No. 643-04 Jul 07, 2004, No. 649-04 Jul 07, 2004,

Introduction of Scheduled Guests, New Members, and Visitors.

Announcements and Acknowledgements

President's Remarks

(W. Carmack, USMC, Ret.)

1st Vice President's Remarks

(K. Payne, USN)

2nd Vice President's Remarks

(G. Robinson, AUS)

Chief of Staff

(S. O'Grady, AUS)

Collection & Auction

(Chief of Staff)

Minutes

VVIC General meeting #452.

24 June 2004

Meeting Chaired by VVIC President W. Carmack USMC

Moment of Silence

Names of fallen U.S. Soldiers for the past two weeks read out.

14 Members present.

President's remarks:

Some positive movement is reported with VVIC President's legal case. President Carmack thanks member Gerry Flowers for all the assistance he has given toward the case.

Current Business:

1: Member Jim Johnson awarded 60% VA rating.

2: Member Gerry Flowers to Seattle for hearing tests. Explanation of ratings as to hearing loss explained by President Carmack. In Canada call Christine Lecuyer in Ottawa if help needed to start a hearing loss claim. Discussion on the topic follows.

3: No finance report this meeting.

4: Long discussion follows on V.A. insurance. Explanation of such given by President Carmack.

5: Discussion follows on V.A. educational benefits.

6: Discussion follows on U.S. income tax procedures.

7: Update on obtaining U.S. citizenship by member Larry MacKay.

8: Discussion follows on V.A. cost of living increases.

9: Member Gerry Flowers talks to group about the benefits of joining The American Legion and the Purple heart Assoc. Membership applications handed out. Discussion Follows.

Meeting Adjourned 2106

Steve O'Grady
Chief of Staff

Finance Reports

A Financial report detailing income and expenses for the first half of 2004 is being released tonight. It contains a Balance Sheet, Income & Expense Report, Bank Transaction Report and Petty Cash Transaction Report.

As well, the June 2004 TD Bank statement and a reconciliation report have been presented to the Chief of Staff.

Mail Call

Aid & Comfort

Bob Birchett, USMC, Vancouver Island, B.C. Canada
Joe Langheim, USMC, Springfield, IL

Administrative Items

1. VVIC Annual Picnic – Peace Arch Park, U.S. Border, Blaine

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

Current Business

1. VVIC phone line.

After 18 years, the Vet line has gone down. Non payment.
(\$340.02)

This phone line has done a lot for this group in general and for many Veterans in particular. It has been a source of information, comfort and companionship for lots of folks through these past 18 years.

If you think about it, the fact that this group has maintained a phone number constantly over the years is what has afforded us such a high profile – compared to other similar groups. It put us on the map. Because it was a constant. It has been a point of contact for Veterans, government and the press.

The President would like to see it continued, at least until the end of the year, in order to smooth out any forthcoming transitions.

The Chair invites discussion on this matter.

2. Presidential poll.

New Business from the floor:

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