



# Vietnam Veterans In Canada

## 457<sup>th</sup> General Meeting (2004-18)

# AGENDA

02 September 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 19 August 2004**

**(Reading of the Names)**

**Spc. Brandon T. Titus, 20, of Boise, Idaho**, died Aug. 17 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his checkpoint. Titus was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Henry C. Risner, 26, of Golden, Colo.**, died Aug 18 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his checkpoint came under enemy small arms fire. Pfc. Risner was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Jacob D. Martir, 21, of Norwich, Conn.**, died Aug 18 in Sadr City, Iraq, when his patrol came under enemy small arms fire. Spc. Martir was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

**Lance Cpl. Caleb J. Powers, 21, of Manfield, Wash.**, died Aug 17 due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Lance Cpl. Powers was assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Lance Cpl. Dustin R. Fitzgerald, 22, of Huber Heights, Ohio**, died Aug 18, in a non-combat related vehicle incident in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Lance Cpl. Fitzgerald was assigned to Battalion Landing Team 1/2, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**Sgt. Harvey E. Parkerson III, 27, Yuba City, Calif.**, died Aug 18 due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Sgt. Parkerson was assigned to Battalion Landing Team 1/4, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Cpl. Brad P. McCormick, 23, of Overton, Tenn.**, died Aug. 19 from enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Cpl. McCormick was assigned to the Marine Corps Reserve's 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Nashville, Tenn.

**1st Lt. Charles L. Wilkins III, 38, of Columbus, Ohio.** Wilkins died Aug. 20 near Samarra, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device exploded near his vehicle. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 216th Engineer Battalion, Hamilton, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Ryan A. Martin, 22, of Mount Vernon, Ohio.** Martin died Aug. 20 near Samarra, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device exploded near his vehicle. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 216th Engineer Battalion, Hamilton, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Kevin A. Cuming, 22, of North White Plains, N.Y.**, died August 21 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his patrol came under rocket-propelled grenade attack. Cuming was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

**Cpl. Nicanor Alvarez, 22, of San Bernardino, Calif.**, died Aug. 21 from injuries received from to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Alvarez was assigned to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Sgt. Jason Cook, 25, of Okanogan, Wash.**, died Aug. 21 from injuries received due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Cook was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Lance Cpl. Seth Huston, 19, Perryton, Texas**, died Aug. 21 due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Huston was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Pfc. Nachez Washalanta, 21, of Bryan, Okla.**, died Aug. 21 from injuries received due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Washalanta was assigned to 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Cpl. Christopher Belchik, 30, of Jersey, Ill.**, died Aug. 22, due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**2nd Lt. Matthew R. Stovall, 25, of Horn Lake, Miss.**, died Aug. 22 in Mosul, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device exploded near his vehicle. Stovall was assigned to the Army National Guard's 367th Maintenance Company, 298<sup>th</sup> Corps Support Battalion, Philadelphia, Miss. The incident is under investigation.

**Gunnery Sgt. Edward T. Reeder, 32, of Camp Verde, Ariz.,** died Aug. 21 in a non-combat related vehicle incident in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Reeder was assigned to Headquarters and Service Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Sgt. Richard M. Lord, 24, of Jacksonville, Fla.,** died Aug. 18 from injuries received due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**Staff Sgt. Robert C. Thornton Jr., 35, of Rainbow City, Ala.,** died Aug. 23 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his patrol came under rocket-propelled grenade attack. Thornton was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Donald N. Davis, 42, of Saginaw, Mich.,** died August 24 in Fallujah, Iraq, when an M915A tractor and an M106A2 tanker trailer rolled over an embankment. Staff Sgt Davis was assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve's 660<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, Zanesville, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

**Lance Cpl. Jacob R. Lugo, 21, of Flower Mound, Texas,** died Aug. 24 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif.

**Lance Cpl. Alexander S. Arredondo, 20, of Randolph, Mass.,** died Aug. 25 as result of enemy action in An Najaf, Iraq. He was assigned to Battalion Landing Team 1/4, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Spc. Charles L. Neeley, 19, of Mattoon, Ill.,** died Aug. 25 in Tikrit, Iraq, when his tractor-trailer rolled over as he attempted to access a pontoon bridge. Neeley was assigned to the Army Reserve's 454th Transportation Company, Columbus, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Marco D. Ross, 20, of Memphis, Tenn.,** died Aug. 25 in Baghdad, Iraq, when enemy mortars attacked his camp. Ross was assigned to the Army's 115<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

**Cpl. Barton R. Humlhanz, 23, of Hellertown, Pa.,** died Aug. 26 from injuries received due to enemy action in Babil Province, Iraq. He was assigned to Marine Expeditionary Unit Service Support Group 24, 24th MEU, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**Pfc. Luis A. Perez, 19, of Theresa, N.Y.,** died Aug. 27 in Fallujah, Iraq, when his convoy vehicle hit an improvised explosive device. Perez was assigned to the Army Reserve's 223rd Transportation Company, Norristown, Pa. The incident is under investigation.

**Spc. Omead H. Razani, 19, of Los Angeles, Calif.,** died Aug. 27 in Habbaniyah, Iraq, of non-combat related injuries. Razani was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Greaves, Korea. The incident is under investigation.

**Airman 1st Class Carl L. Anderson Jr., 21, of Georgetown, S.C.**, died Aug. 29 as result of enemy action near Mosul, Iraq. He was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

**Staff Sgt. Aaron N. Holleyman, 26, of Glasgow, Mont.**, died Aug 30 in Khutayiah, Iraq, when his military vehicle hit an improvised explosive device. Holleyman was assigned to the Army's 1st Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group, Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Nicholas M. Skinner, 20, of Davenport, Iowa**, died Aug. 26 from injuries received due to enemy action in An Najaf, Iraq. Skinner was assigned to Battalion Landing Team 1/4, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Lance Cpl. Nickalous N. Aldrich, 21, of Austin, Texas**, died Aug. 27 from a non-hostile vehicle accident in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Aldrich was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Sgt. Edgar E. Lopez, 27, of Los Angeles, Calif.**, died Aug. 28 due to enemy action in Babil Province, Iraq. Lopez was assigned to 1st Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Regiment, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**This brings the total U.S. deaths to 1002 plus those who died prior to 29 May 2003.**

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

No. 798-04 Aug 19, 2004, No. 801-04 Aug 19, 2004, No. 804-04 Aug 20, 2004, No. 805-04 Aug 20, 2004, No. 807-04 Aug 20, 2004, No. 810-04 Aug 23, 2004, No. 812-04 Aug 23, 2004, No. 813-04 Aug 23, 2004, No. 814-04 Aug 23, 2004, No. 811-04 Aug 23, 2004, No. 818-04 Aug 24, 2004, No. 819-04 Aug 24, 2004, No. 823-04 Aug 25, 2004, No. 825-04 Aug 25, 2004, No. 827-04 Aug 26, 2004, No. 831-04 Aug 26, 2004, No. 832-04 Aug 26, 2004, No. 837-04 Aug 27, 2004, No. 836-04 Aug 27, 2004, No. 841-04 Aug 30, 2004, No. 843-04 Aug 30, 2004, No. 845-04 Aug 31, 2004, No. 848-04 Aug 31, 2004, No. 847-04 Aug 31, 2004,

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

**Announcements and Acknowledgements**

**President's Remarks**

(W. Carmack, USMC, Ret.)

**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**

VVIC General Meeting #456, Held on 19 Aug. 2004.

VVIC President Chaired the meeting.

9 Members Present.

Moment of Silence- Names of 30 Fallen U.S. Service members read out.

**Handouts and Attachments:**

- 1: Agenda for 456th General Meeting.
- 2: National Service Life Policy-DVA.
- 3: The B.C. Arrest Book.
- 4: Veterans and Family's Guide to Recovering from PTSD.

**Sick-Call:**

- 1: Concern over missing VVIC Member George Robinson.
- 2: Member Ken Payne to have his kidney stone blasted in early Sept.

Discussion on types of soldier casualties in Iraq. Apparently approximately 500 of the 970 deaths to this point in Iraq have been accidental. VVIC President Carmack to make a list of all casualties with a symbol to indicate how the service-person died.

VVIC Presidents Remarks. Remarks centered around the use of anti-depressants by veterans suffering from PTSD. Also noted that the VVIC website is up and running.

**Administrative Items:**

- 1: VVIC annual picnic 5 Sept., at the Peace Arch Park.

- 2: Bellingham Annual picnic at Berthason's Park on the 4th Sept.
- 3: VVIC member Dave Drysdale locates Vietnam Veteran Bill Brady.
- 4: Vietnam veteran Howard Boling from the Washington area, is immigrating to Canada. Looking for temporary apartment in the Bellingham Area.

Legislative Issues:

- 1: Information on Medical and Dental issues now on the VVIC website.

Current Business:

- 1: VVIC e-mail lists- using "Listserv".
- 2: Discussion on membership section of the website.
- 3: Discussion on expanding VVIC intelligence section in order to share our information with others.
- 4: Discussion on selling VVIC products on the web. Member Bob Peragallo brings to our attention some of the difficulties associated with selling items in this manner.

New Business:

- 1: Items to be discussed next meeting on 2 Sept. 04.
  - A: VVIC monthly phone bill and how it is to be paid.
  - B: A discussion about the American legion Post many of us are members of.

Meeting Adjourned 2129

Steve O'Grady  
Chief of Staff.

**Finance Reports**

Next scheduled report – early October.  
July bank statement to Chief of Staff

**Mail Call**

**Sick Call / Prayer List**

B. Peragallo, USMC, Maple Ridge, B.C. Canada  
G. Robinson, USMC, Surrey, B.C. Canada  
Ron Neil, Cedar Sinai Hospital, Los Angeles

**Administrative Items**

- 1. VVIC Annual Picnic – Peace Arch Park, U.S. Border, Blaine 05 Sept 2004  
Posted on the website at <http://www.vvic.org/pr02.htm>

2. President's email to Bob Dole concerning his remarks about Kerry's three Purple Hearts. ("Three Purple Hearts and he never bled.") Kerry still carries shrapnel in his thigh. No response has been received to date.

25 August 2004

Dear Bob,

As President of the Vietnam Veterans In Canada I wish to express our dismay at your remarks concerning Senator Kerry's three Purple Hearts.

I don't know if you realize how painful that remark was to Vietnam Veterans as a whole. It made many of us feel the way we felt all those years ago when we returned home to a nation that just wished we would go away.

Like yourself, my Father was wounded serving in the U.S. Army in northern Italy. He's gone now, but I wonder what he would think of those remarks.

We aren't angry Bob. We are just dismayed that one Veteran would say that about another Veteran.

We are certain that you are aware that many of Veterans (of all wars) are still bleeding.

If you are ever in British Columbia we would be honoured to have you attend one of our meetings.

Thank you for your service and sacrifice for the United States.

Respectfully,

Woodrow Carmack Sr.  
President  
Vietnam Veterans In Canada  
[www.vvic.org](http://www.vvic.org)

3. Tim Mitchell. Remember him? The PJ's do:  
[http://www.pjsinnam.com/VN\\_History/Stolen\\_Vvalor.htm](http://www.pjsinnam.com/VN_History/Stolen_Vvalor.htm)
3. The "About Canadians in Vietnam" area of the website. Volunteer?
4. "There It Is: A Canadian in the Vietnam War" by Les D. Brown.

On Monday, 30 August on the History Channel, the movie Platoon was shown. At the conclusion, Ann Medina had Les Brown on. What he said was very impressive and came from the heart. His book is his story of his time in Vietnam. A partial review of the book follows:

"As a Canadian citizen living in California, **Les Brown** was a world away from the horror on the

other side of the Pacific. But then the late 1960s crept up and he was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent off to Vietnam, where he came to fully understand fear, misery and alienation. Written in the raw language of a soldier, *There It Is: A Canadian in the Vietnam War* describes the experience of perpetual danger and inhumanity. It is a haunting portrait of the hellishness of war that is at once thrilling and astonishing.”

5. ARCANGEL – Distribution of email of 30 August.
6. J. Watje & K. Payne went to Tacoma to a John Kerry rally. (Report)
7. Remembrance Day Committee Representatives.

## 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. Vet phone line report.
2. Review of selected past loans made by the group to members for emergency purposes.
3. Nominations for the National Vietnam & Gulf War Veterans Coalition Board of Directors. The VVIC can nominate one person for Chairman and two for positions on the Board of Directors. The nominations must be postmarked no later than 2004.09.17.
4. Setting date of Annual General Meeting. Normally the AGM, Part 1 Nominations and Special Resolution Proposals, would be held the on our first meeting in November. This year that date falls on 11 November.

Therefore the Chair proposes a motion setting the AGM date to 28 October.  
Motion to designate the Remembrance Day Muster as a General Meeting to be held 0900-1000 11 November with limited business.

The AGM, Part 2, Elections will be held on 25 November which also happens to be American Thanksgiving.

Motion to allow U.S. resident members of the VVIC to cast their ballots on 11 November. These ballots to be in the custody of the Warrant Officers & Sergeant's Mess of the British Columbia Regiment. The chair feels that this motion respects

the holiday (and family time) of our U.S. resident members without violating the “no proxy vote” part of our constitution and bylaws.

5. Intelligence Officer J. Watje will be departing for eastern Washington in a few weeks. We wish him well. He will be finishing his term as the S-2. The chair proposes to the Board that it appoint him as VVIC Consul to Spokane. (Vets from eastern BC often go to Spokane VAMC.)

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

**The next General Meeting is 16 September 2004 at 1930 hours at the British Columbia Regiment.**

# NATIONAL VIETNAM & GULF WAR VETERANS COALITION

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue #961  
Washington, D.C. 20006



John J. Molloy, Jr.  
*Chairman*

Danny Belcher  
*Vice Chairman*

Denise Nichols  
*Vice Chairman*

Ted Streeter  
*General Secretary*

Rich Sanders  
*Treasurer*

David Kaufman  
*Chief of Staff*

Gino Badolatto  
*Deputy Chief of Staff*

J. Thomas Burch, Jr.  
*Past Chairman  
Advisor*

Lamont C. Gaston  
*Past Chairman  
Advisor*

**Board of Directors**

Jim Dundon

Jack Handley

Susan Naill

John Nevelino

Denise Nichols

Larry O'Daniel

Rich Sanders

Ted Shpak

Jim Stepanek

Ted Streeter

TO: All Coalition Member Organizations

FROM: Ted Streeter, General Secretary

RE: 2004 Board of Directors Election

Date: August 15, 2004

Nominations are herewith requested for the Board of Directors for 2004 -2005.

Pursuant to Article IV of the Coalition bylaws, each member organization may nominate one person for chairman, who must be either a Vietnam or Gulf War veteran, as defined in Section 4.2 (i.e. Southeast Asia theater service between January 1, 1961, and May 7, 1975 or Southwest Asia theater service as defined in VBA Circular 21-95-2, February 1, 1995)

Each organization may also nominate up to two individuals to serve as members of the board of directors. However, no more than two individuals ultimately elected to the board can be other than Vietnam-era veterans or Gulf War veterans. See section 4.7.

Eligible nominees may include any present or former officer of any Coalition member organization or of the Coalition itself. See sections 4.2 and 4.3.

To be effective, nominations must be postmarked no later than September 17, 2004 addressed as follows:

National Vietnam & Gulf War Veterans Coalition,  
P.O. Box 177,  
McKnightstown, Pennsylvania 17343  
Attn.: Ted Streeter, General Secretary

Faxes or emails are unacceptable.

Please address any inquiries to me at the above address or at (717) 337- 3376

Thank you for your attention to this matter