



# Vietnam Veterans In Canada

## 460<sup>th</sup> General Meeting (2004-21)

# AGENDA

14 October 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 30 September 2004**

**(Reading of the Names)**

**Sgt. Tyler D. Prewitt, 22, of Phoenix, Ariz.**, died Sept. 28 in Landstuhl, Germany, from injuries sustained in Baqubah, Iraq, on September 24 when a rocket-propelled grenade struck his vehicle and exploded. Prewitt was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Vilseck, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

**Pfc. Joshua K. Titcomb, 20, of Somerset, Ky.**, died Sept. 29 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, of injuries sustained on September 28 when an improvised explosive device exploded near his military vehicle. Titcomb was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 72<sup>nd</sup> Armor Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Korea. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Alan L. Rogers, 49, of Kearns, Utah**, died Sept. 29 in Bagram, Afghanistan, of non-combat related injuries. Rogers was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 211th Aviation Regiment, West Jordan, Utah. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Darren J. Cunningham, 40, of Groton, Mass.**, died Sept. 30 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his unit came under mortar attack. Cunningham was assigned to the 89th Military Police Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Spc. Rodney A. Jones, 21, of Philadelphia, Penn.**, died Sept. 30 in Baghdad, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device exploded near his dismounted patrol. Jones was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Spc. Allen Nolan, 38, of Marietta, Ohio**, died Sept. 30 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, of injuries sustained on Sept. 18 in Balad, Iraq, when his convoy vehicle struck an improvised explosive device and then came under small arms fire. Nolan was assigned to the Army Reserve's 660th Transportation Company, Zanesville, Ohio.

**Staff Sgt. Mike A. Dennie, 31, of Fayetteville, N.C.**, died Sept. 29 in Balad, Iraq, from injuries sustained on Sept. 22 in Baghdad, Iraq, when the driver of his military vehicle pulled off the road and lost control, causing it to roll over. Dennie was assigned to the 106th Finance Battalion from Kitzingen, Germany.

**Sgt. Michael A. Uvanni, 27, of Rome, N.Y.**, died Oct. 1 in Samarra, Iraq, he was conducting combat operations and was shot by a sniper. Uvanni was assigned to the Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment, Morrisonville, N.Y.

**Sgt. Jack T. Hennessy, 21, of Naperville, Ill.**, died October 1st in Baghdad, Iraq, when his check point came under small arms fire. Hennessy was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Sgt. Russell L. Collier, 48, of Harrison, Ark.**, died October 3rd in Taji, Iraq. His unit was conducting traffic control operations when enemy forces attacked them using small arms fire. Collier was assigned to 1st Battalion, 206th Field Artillery Regiment, Arkansas National Guard, Russellville, Ark.

**Sgt. Christopher S. Potts, 38, of Tiverton, R.I.**, died Oct. 3 in Taji, Iraq, as his unit was conducting traffic control operations and enemy forces attacked them using small arms fire. Potts was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 103rd Field Artillery Regiment, Providence, R.I.

**Staff Sgt. James L. Pettaway Jr., 37, of Baltimore, Md.**, died Oct. 3 in Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, of injuries sustained in Fallujah, Iraq, on Aug. 27 when he was involved in a motor vehicle accident. Pettaway was assigned to the Army Reserve's 223rd Transportation Company, Norristown, Pa.

**Staff Sgt. Richard L. Morgan Jr., 38, of St. Clairsville, Ohio**, died Oct. 5 in Latfiyah, Iraq, of injuries sustained on Oct. 4 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy vehicle. Morgan was assigned to the Army Reserve's 660th Transportation Company, Cadiz, Ohio.

**Spc. Jessica L. Cawvey, 21, of Normal, Ill.**, died Oct. 6 in Fallujah, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near her convoy vehicle. Cawvey was assigned to the Army's National Guard's 1544th Transportation Company, Paris, Ill.

**SGT Andrew W. Brown, 22, of Pleasant Mount, Penn.**, died October 8 in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries sustained on October 1 when his patrol vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. Brown was assigned to the Army's 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 509th Infantry, Fort Polk, La.

**Staff Sgt. Michael S. Voss, 35, of Aberdeen, N.C.**, died October 8 near Tikrit, Iraq, when his convoy vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device and small arms fire. Voss was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry Regiment, Wilmington, N.C.

**Pfc. Andrew Halverson, 19, of Grant, Wis.** died Oct 9 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Halverson was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**PV2 Jeungjin Na Kim, 23, of Honolulu, Hawaii**, died October 6 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when his patrol was attacked by enemy forces using small arms fire. Kim was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, 2nd Infantry Division from Camp Hovey, Korea.

**Pfc. James E. Preverte, 22, of Whitestone, N.Y.**, died October 10 in Habbaniya, Iraq, when his military vehicle encountered whiteout conditions and the driver apparently lost control of the vehicle. Preverte was assigned to the Army's 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, Camp Greaves, Korea. The incident is under investigation.

**Pvt. 2 Carson J. Ramsey, 22, of Winkelman, Ariz.**, died October 10 in Baghdad, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. Ramsey was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Spc. Morgen N. Jacobs, 20, of Santa Cruz, Calif.**, died Oct. 7 in Tikrit, Iraq, of injuries sustained in Aaliyah on Oct. 6 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol vehicle. Jacobs was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany.

**Pfc. Aaron J. Rusin, 19, of Johnstown, Pa.**, died Oct. 11 in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries sustained on Oct. 10 when his military vehicle came under fire from enemy forces. Rusin was assigned to the 44th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Howze, Korea.

**Staff Sgt. Michael L. Burbank, 34, of Bremerton, Wash.**, died Oct. 11 in Mosul, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Stryker military vehicle. Burbank was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Sgt. Pamela G. Osbourne, 38, of Hollywood, Fla.** Osbourne died October 11 in Baghdad, Iraq, when two rockets impacted her camp. She was assigned to the Army's Division Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Pfc. Anthony W. Monroe, 20, of Bismarck, N.D.** Monroe died October 11 in Baghdad, Iraq, when two rockets impacted his camp. He was assigned to the Army's Division Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Pfc. Oscar A. Martinez, 19, of North Lauderdale, Fla.** Martinez died Oct. 12 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Cpl. Ian T. Zook, 24, of Port St. Lucie, Fla.** Zook died Oct. 12 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif.

**This brings the total U.S. deaths to 1106 plus those who died prior to 29 May 2003.**

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

No.973-04 Sep 30, 2004, No. 974-04 Sep 30, 2004, No. 977-04 Oct 01, 2004, No. 978-04 Oct 01, 2004, No. 981-04 Oct 03, 2004, No. 982-04 Oct 03, 2004, No. 983-04 Oct 03, 2004, No. 987-04 Oct 04, 2004, No. 988-04 Oct 04, 2004, No. 989-04 Oct 04, 2004, No. 993-04 Oct 05, 2004, No. 1000-04 Oct 07, 2004, No. 1002-04 Oct 07, 2004, No. 1006-04 Oct 08, 2004, No. 1007-04 Oct 10, 2004, No. 1008-04 Oct 10, 2004, No. 1009-04 Oct 10, 2004, No. 1010-04 Oct 11, 2004, No. 1011-04 Oct 11, 2004, No. 1012-04 Oct 11, 2004, No. 1016-04 Oct 12, 2004, No. 1017-04 Oct 12, 2004, No. 1018-04 Oct 12, 2004, No. 1022-04 Oct 13, 2004, No. 1021-04 Oct 13, 2004,

**Introduction of Scheduled Guests, New Members, and Visitors.****Announcements and Acknowledgements****President's Remarks**

(W. Carmack, USMC, Ret.)

Gentlemen, the VVIC Patrol to Nelson, B.C. was completed as planned. There were no casualties – on either side. In fact, it was an eye opening wonderful experience which has great potential for the Veteran Community, the Non Veteran Community, and the general public. As well, it was good to be on the road with the Brethren.

The Four Amigos on this patrol were all Marines. L/CPL G. Love at the wheel of his M88 Classic convertible got us there and back intact. CPL D. Schram doubled as door gunner and advisor. Sergeant G. Flowers did a lot of the PR work. He also rode shotgun in the Gavin mobile and got the up front bug eyed view of us careening around curves in the dead of night – troops on a mission.

Corporal Scram and I couldn't smoke in the car because of the Sergeant's smoke allergies and death threats so we sat there in the back, right behind him, mile after mile, in the dead of night, fidgeting endless with the looped and coiled piano wire.

All kidding aside, we discussed what lay ahead in Nelson as we drove there. We really didn't know what to expect when we arrived. We did however, have a strong idea of what it was we wanted to do and why we wanted to do it. (See Press Release dated 04 October 2004)

We arrived in Nelson early Tuesday afternoon 05 October and things were off and running at once. We met with Roy Heuckendorff Executive Director of the Nelson & District Chamber of Commerce and shortly thereafter with Isaac Romano, the main organizer of the War Resisters activities.

Along with Isaac came Michelle Mason, of Cyprus Park Productions – producer of the documentary "The Friendship Village" a film about a group of Veterans building a village in Vietnam for children with Agent Orange disabilities. And with her came a camera.

At any rate, there sat Flowers and I along with Isaac at a table with the camera rolling just getting to know one another and talking about various things. It was apparent from the start that there was no conflict at all. It was obvious that it was possible to build bridges between the Veteran community and those who chose another path – if any individuals in either group so desired.

I thought it was a powerful moment.

I even began thinking the Vietnam War could end in Nelson, B.C.

Well, for some people anyway.

We then did a number of photo things and a radio interview. All of it went very well.

Meanwhile the other Corporal and the Lance Corporal were doing the mandatory recon of a local drinking establishment. While there they discovered people were talking about the Vietnam Vets and the "Draft Dodgers". Once they were discovered to be Vietnam Veterans encouraging support followed. I file that stuff as grass roots opinion.

Tuesday evening we invited Isaac and anyone he wanted to bring with him to dinner. Isaac came and we continued our discussions. We all share a vision of healing.

Prior to departure the next morning we did another interview which also apparently went well.

Roy Heuckendorff of the Chamber of Commerce was most helpful throughout our stay and we appreciate that.

Nelson is a beautiful place. It is the perfect setting for a family oriented and outreach Firebase. In fact, I could live there. That area is the perfect place for an event like this. I am hopeful that this will come together as it should.

I do not think it an exaggeration to call an event like this a history making event.

There is serious potential of drawing some big name entertainment, which will have the effect of increasing the "marketing" of event. As well, I am certain there are logistic considerations which are going to require some serious thought.

Therefore, as we address the question of forming the Firebase Committee, should that be the route you choose to take, I would ask that those with organizational skills step forward. For this event, volunteering is probably better than being "drafted" in this group.

We need to enlist all who want to help us.  
This opportunity will not pass this way again.

But it will be a lot of work.

Woody

**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)

**BCR Collection, Telephone Collection & Auction**  
(Chief of Staff)

**Minutes**

VVIC General Meeting #459, Held on 30 Sept. 30, 2004.  
VVIC President W. Carmack, USMC chaired the meeting.  
14 members present.  
Moment of Silence - Names of 34 U.S. deceased Service Members read Out.

Handouts and Attachments:

- 1: Agenda for VVIC General Meeting #459.
- 2: Joint News release from the city of Nelson.

Announcements & Acknowledgements:

1: E-mail from VVIC member Larry MacKay in Hanoi. Along with Larry are member Bob Peragallo plus their wives on a tour of S.E. Asia.

VVIC President's Remarks: It was pointed out that near Nelson B.C., it is proposed that a memorial be constructed to those U.S. citizens who fled to Canada to avoid the U.S. military draft in the 1960's and 70's. For those proposing this memorial and reunion their e-mail address is [www.ourwayhomereunion.com](http://www.ourwayhomereunion.com). Each VVIC member at this general meeting was then given an uninterrupted turn to voice their opinions regarding this issue. Members had the chance to put forward a motion regarding this issue. Any motions put forward will be "Special Resolutions" which require a 2/3 vote to pass. VVIC President then continued to point out that the Nelson situation presented a wonderful opportunity for Vietnam Veterans to have a Firebase Canada in 2006 which in turn leads to other benefits for the city of Nelson and the Veterans.

1st VP's Remarks:

- 1: Dr. Bokan at the Bellingham Vet Center on 21 Oct. 2004.
- 2: Started his knife making course which led most VVIC members present to display their own personal pocket knives.

Sick Call:

- 1: VVIC President Carmack talked to member George Robinson in Mission. President Carmack will visit George in Mission before the next VVIC meeting.
- 2: Veteran John Gilbert in Vernon Jubilee Hospital. Member Dave Crockett to take John to the Seattle Veterans Hospital.

Administrative Items:

- 1: VVIC logo is the property of the VVIC Group. It is not the property of any one individual member.

2: Vietnam photo returned to member Steve O'Grady.

Legislative Issues:

1: Dr. Detwiler in B.C. talked to the VA people in White River, conclusion, service connected dental health problems will and can be treated in Canada. Discussion follows.

Current Business.

1: Marine Corps birthday event to be held in Chilliwack, B.C. on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> 2004.

New Business:

1: Proposed Draft resisters and deserters memorial in Nelson B.C.

2: Firebase Canada 2006- Motion to have in it Nelson B.C. on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

3: Before next General Meeting VVIC members Woody Carmack, Gerry Flowers and Gavin Love to visit Nelson, B.C.

Meeting Adjourned 2107

Steve O'Grady  
Chief of Staff.

**Finance Reports**

Third Quarter 2004 Financial Report  
(issued separate cover)

**Special Report on Trip to Vietnam  
(L. MacKay & B. Peragallo)**

**Mail Call**

**Sick Call / Prayer List**

John Gilbert – Vernon Jubilee Hospital

Ed Yates, USMC – 0311, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 1<sup>st</sup> Marines  
Bowling Green, KY

Freda Springate – Vietnam Veteran Family Member  
Eagle Ridge Hospital, Port Moody, British Columbia

**Administrative Items**

1. Gerry Flowers is on a tactical recon patrol to Southern California.
2. CVV-London Newsletter received. It is informative and colourful. We note that their listing of Board members contains only **one** Vietnam Veteran. That would be John

Cogan as President. The Vice President Hal Laffin and Secretary/Treasurer Maddy Laffin are non veteran Associate Members. They are however quite active. At least the candle remains lit.

3. The VA, mailing addresses, and what can happen over it. Your worst nightmare. I choose to address this verbally tonight while passing the documentation among those present rather than print it at this stage.

## 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. **Marine Corps Birthday Event – Chilliwack, B.C.**
2. **Joint VVIC – American Legion Honour Guard**
3. **Firebase Canada 2006:**

Motion to hold Firebase Canada 2006 in Nelson, British Columbia on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2006 – Approved by phone calls on 03 October by Directors: Carmack, Flowers, O’Grady, Payne, Shand, Sinclair & Thomson. Directors MacKay and Peragallo were in Vietnam. Director Robinson was unavailable.

1. Formation of Firebase Canada Committee  
Jim Johnson, LT, AUS agreed to co-chair the Committee.
2. General Discussion

5. **Firebase Canada 2005/ Annual Picnic**

## New Business

1. New member - Cummings, Leonard – Captain, AUS, 31542 Special Forces Officer
2. New member – Latina, Salvatore – L/Cpl, USMC, 3421 Disbursing
3. Membership renewal – Knauth, Philip – 1<sup>st</sup> Lt, AUS, 71542 Parachutist, Ranger
4. 2005 Membership Campaign
5. General discussion of upcoming Annual General meeting.

## **New Business from the Floor:**

The next General Meeting is 28 October 2004 at 1930 hours at the British Columbia Regiment.