



Vietnam Veterans In Canada

461st General Meeting (2004-22)

Annual General Meeting, Part 1

AGENDA

28 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
Received since 14 October 2004

(Reading of the Names)

Spc. Christopher A. Merville, 26, of Albuquerque, N.M., died October 12th in Baghdad, Iraq, when his unit came under enemy fire during combat operations. Merville was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Hovey, Korea.

Lance Cpl. Daniel R. Wyatt, 22, of Calendonia, Wis., died on Oct. 12 due to enemy action in Babil Province, Iraq. Wyatt was assigned to Marine Corps Reserve's 2nd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division in Chicago, Ill.

2nd Lt. Paul M. Felsberg, 27, of West Palm Beach, Fla., died on Oct. 13 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force of Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Lance Cpl. Victor A. Gonzalez, 19, of Watsonville, Calif., died on Oct. 13 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force of Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Spc. Ronald W. Baker, 34, of Cabot, Ark., died October 13th in Landstuhl, Germany, of injuries sustained on October 7th in Taji, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol vehicle. Baker was assigned to the 39th Support Battalion, Arkansas National Guard, Lonoke, Ark.

Staff Sgt. Brian S. Hobbs, 28, of Mesa, Ariz. Hobbs died on October 14th, in Miam Do, Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Spc. Kyle Ka Eo Fernandez, 26, of Waipahu, Hawaii. Fernandez died on October 14th, in Miam Do, Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Spc. Jeremy F. Regnier, 22, of Littleton, N.H., died October 13 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol. Regnier was assigned to the Army's 4th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Lance Cpl. Brian K. Schramm, 22, of Rochester, N.Y., died Oct. 15 as result of enemy action in Babil Province, Iraq. Schramm was assigned to 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Spc. Alan J. Burgess, 24, of Landaff, N.H., died Oct. 15 in Mosul, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol vehicle. Burgess was assigned to the Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 197th Field Artillery Brigade, Woodsville, N.H.

Spc. Josiah H. Vandertulip, 21, of Irving, Texas, died Oct. 14 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his dismounted patrol came under enemy fire. Vandertulip was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Lt. Col. Mark P. Phelan, 44, of Green Lane, Pa. He died on Oct. 13, in Mosul, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy vehicle. Phelan was assigned to the Army Reserve's 416th Civil Affairs Battalion, Morristown, Pa.

Maj. Charles R. Soltes, Jr., 36, of Irvine, Calif. He died on Oct. 13, in Mosul, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy vehicle. Soltes was assigned to the Army Reserve's 426th Civil Affairs Battalion, Upland, Calif.

Pvt. 2 David L. Waters, 19, of Auburn, Calif., died Oct. 14 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy vehicle. Waters was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y.

Capt. Dennis L. Pintor, 30, of Lima, Ohio, died on Oct. 12. Pintor died in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol vehicle on Oct. 12. He was assigned to the Army's 20th Engineer Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Spc. Michael S. Weger, 30, of Rochester, N.Y., died on Oct. 12. Weger died in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol vehicle on Oct. 12. He was assigned to the Army's 20th Engineer Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Spc. Jaime Moreno, 28, of Round Lake Beach, Ill. Moreno died in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol vehicle on Oct. 12. He was assigned to the Army's 20th Engineer Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Cpl. William I. Salazar, 26, of Las Vegas, Nev., died Oct. 15 from wounds received as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Salazar was assigned to Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Omer T. Hawkins, II, 31, of Cherry Fork, Ohio. Hawkins died on Oct. 14, in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy. Hawkins was assigned to the Army's 44th Engineer Battalion, Camp Howze, Korea.

Spc. Bradley S. Beard, 22, of Chapel Hill, N.C. Beard died on Oct. 14, in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy. Beard was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Red Cloud, Korea.

Pfc. Mark A. Barbret, 22, of Shelby Township, Mich. Barbret died on Oct. 14, in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy. Barbret was assigned to the Army's 44th Engineer Battalion, Camp Howze, Korea.

Capt. Christopher B. Johnson, 29, of Excelsior Springs, Mo. Johnson died on Oct. 16 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his OH-58D helicopter apparently collided with another OH-58D helicopter and crashed. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Wheeler Army Air Field, Hawaii. The incident is under investigation

Chief Warrant Officer William I. Brennan, 36, of Bethlehem, Conn. Brennan died on Oct. 16 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his OH-58D helicopter apparently collided with another OH-58D helicopter and crashed. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Wheeler Army Air Field, Hawaii. The incident is under investigation

Sgt. Michael G. Owen, 31, of Phoenix, Ariz. Owen died October 15 in Karabilah, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. He was assigned to the Army's 9th Psychological Operations Battalion, 4th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne) from Fort Bragg, N.C.

Spc. Jonathan J. Santos, 22, of Whatcom, Wash. Santos died October 15 in Karabilah, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. He was assigned to the Army's 9th Psychological Operations Battalion, 4th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne) from Fort Bragg, N.C.

Spc. Andrew C. Ehrlich, 21, of Mesa, Ariz., died Oct. 18 in Muqdadiyah, Iraq, of non-combat related injuries. Ehrlich was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Vilseck, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

Cpl. William M. Amundson Jr., 21, of The Woodlands, Texas, died Oct. 19 in Afghanistan when the vehicle in which he was riding rolled over. Amundson was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga. The incident is under investigation.

Sgt. Douglas E. Bascom, 25, of Colorado Springs, Colo., died Oct. 20 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Bascom, a member of the Individual Ready Reserves, was mobilized and assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Airman 1st Class Jesse M. Samek, 21, of Rogers, Ark., died Oct. 21 from injuries he received when an Air Force HH-60 helicopter aircraft crashed during a medical evacuation mission in Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 66th Rescue Squadron, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. The accident is under investigation.

Lance Cpl. Jonathan E. Gadsden, 21, of Charleston, S.C. died Oct. 22 at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, Tampa, Fla., from injuries as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq on Aug. 21. Gadsden was assigned to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Lance Cpl. Richard P. Slocum, 19, of Saugus, Calif., died Oct 24 due a non-combat related vehicle accident near Abu Gharib, Iraq. He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base, Hawaii. The incident is under investigation.

Sgt. Dennis J. Boles, 46, of Homosassa, Fla., died Oct. 24 in Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, when he was participating in a 10-mile road march and collapsed. Boles was assigned to the Army National Guard's 171st Aviation Battalion, Brooksville, Fla. The incident is under investigation.

Cpl. Brian Oliveira, 22, of Raynham, Mass., died Oct. 25 from injuries received from enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Oliveira was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

This brings the total U.S. deaths to 1139 plus those who died prior to 29 May 2003.

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

No. 1023-04 Oct 14, 2004, No. 1026-04 Oct 14, 2004, No. 1029-04 Oct 15, 2004, No. 1030-04 Oct 15, 2004, No. 1031-04 Oct 15, 2004, No. 1032-04 Oct 16, 2004, No. 1033-04 Oct 16, 2004, No. 1034-04 Oct 16, 2004, No. 1035-04 Oct 16, 2004, No. 1036-04 Oct 16, 2004, No. 1037-04 Oct 17, 2004, No. 1038-04 Oct 17, 2004, No. 1039-04 Oct 17, 2004, No. 1040-04 Oct 18, 2004, No. 1042-04, Oct 23, 2004, Oct 18, 2004, No. 1049-04 Oct 21, 2004, No. 1053-04 Oct 21, 2004, No. 1054-04 Oct 21, 2004, No. 1056-04 Oct 22, 2004, No. 1062-04 Oct 23, 2004, No. 1069-04 Oct 26, 2004, No. 1072-04 Oct 26, 2004, No. 1075-04 Oct 27, 2004.

Introduction of Scheduled Guests, New Members, and Visitors.

Announcements and Acknowledgements

The VVIC now has an industrial strength mailing list available to Voting Members. The will seriously upgrade communications between members as well as give those who can't make the meetings a place to participate in the affairs of the Order.

Additionally, we now provide a mailing list to all Vietnam Veterans everywhere called VET-RANT-L. The purpose of this list is to provide general communications between Vietnam Veterans and to provide a place to let off steam when needed.

President's Remarks

(W. Carmack, USMC, Ret.)

Tonight we hold our 19th Annual General Meeting. Who among us would have thought back in 1986 that we would be still going all these years later? But here we are.

The years 2005 & 2006 hold great promise for our Veteran Community in terms of outreach to other veterans and growth as an organization.

There are a number of factors at play, but the "Our Way Home Reunion" aka "The Draft Dodger Folks" situation in Nelson, British Columbia has become the greatest potential opportunity for a Veteran Outreach EVER conducted in Canada and the Pacific Northwest of the United States.

At this point all signs are positive. As you are aware, our recent trip to Nelson to assess the situation was most productive. We do not see the planned "War Resister" gathering as a problem at all. We see it as an opportunity to draw in Veterans for a good time and exposure to the services and benefits which might be available to them. Additionally, we see an opportunity for understanding and healing between those who chose different paths for those who may wish to explore that area. We recognize that a sizable percentage of Veterans would be there to be with other Veterans only and have no interest in the other activities of the area.

Firebase Canada 2006 has the potential to be a Veteran "Woodstock". We appear to have a lot of support, from many quarters, and so it is ours to make or break.

I want to be part of that.

A person can not put 19 years into an outreach movement like this and NOT see the potential of these next two years. It is downright energizing. It makes the soul perk up.

Therefore, I am throwing my name in the ring for another term as President.

1st Vice President's Remarks

(K. Payne, USN)

2nd Vice President's Remarks

(G. Robinson, AUS)

Chief of Staff

(S. O'Grady, AUS)

BCR Collection, Telephone Collection & Auction

(Chief of Staff)

Minutes

Chief of Staff.

VVIC General Meeting #460 held on 14 Oct. 2004

VVIC President W. Carmack chaired the meeting.

12 members plus 2 guests present.

Moment of Silence- Names of 27 U.S. deceased service members read out.

Handouts and Attachments:

- 1: Agenda for the #460 General Meeting
- 2: Canada Trust statement of account Aug., 31st to Sept. 30th/04.
- 3: VVIC 2004, 3rd Quarter financial report.
- 4: VVIC Press Release- Firebase Canada 2006.

Meeting started with the presentation of two gifts. One to the VVIC President and the other to 1st Vice President Ken Payne. These gifts were brought back from S.E. Asia by members R. Peragallo, L. MacKay and their wives.

President's Remarks: His recon mission with three other Vietnam Veterans to Nelson, B.C., went well. Meetings were held with Roy Heuckendorff of the Nelson Chamber of Commerce and Isaac Romano, the organizer of the war resisters group. Meetings went well - there was no area of conflict. VVIC President asks for the formation of a firebase committee. Those with organizational skills are asked to step forward. VVIC President points out that this opportunity will not pass this way again and we need to enlist all who can help. The four VVIC members that traveled to Nelson were W. Carmack, G. Flowers, G. Love and D. Schram.

A group discussion on this event follows.

1st Vice President's Remarks:

- 1: Dr. Bokan at the Bellingham Vet center on 21 Oct, 2004.
- 2: His knife making course going well.

A Special Report from Members R. Peragallo and L. MacKay on their recent trip to S.E. Asia. Highlights of the trip were presented along with photographs. No doubt a good trip was had by all.

Sick Call:

- 1: VVIC President was unable to make the trip to Mission to see VVIC 2nd Vice President George Robinson. Trip to be made in the near future.
- 2: John Gilbert will be released from Vernon Jubilee hospital when a ride to Seattle veterans Hospital can be arranged
- 3: Freda Springate, family member of VVIC President Woody Carmack is in Eagle Ridge Hospital, Port Moody, B.C.

Administrative Items:

- 1: VVIC Member G. Flowers is in L.A. Calif.
- 2: CVV- London, Ont., veterans newsletter received.
- 3: V.A. Mailing addresses- benefits can be stopped if VA has the wrong address.

Current Business:

- 1: Marine Corps birthday party to be held in Chilliwack, B.C. 21 Nov. 2004.
- 2: Motion to hold Firebase Canada 2006 in Nelson B.C. Motion approved. Member Jim Johnson to co-chair Firebase Canada committee.

New Business:

- 1: Next meeting the beginning of our Annual General meetings.
- 2: Motion to form Firebase committee. Motion approved.
- 3: New members from the U.S. to be approved. Plus idea put forward to make a certificate for new members from out of town.

Meeting Adjourned 2112

Steve O'Grady
Chief of Staff.

Financial Matters

VVIC Bank Account and the updating of signing authority.
Next Finance Report Due in January 2005

Mail Call

Sick Call / Prayer List

Freda Springate, Mother of Susan Carmack, passed away on 27 October 2004

John Gilbert – Vernon Jubilee Hospital

Annual General Meeting Administrative Items

- 1. Checking list of dues paid and collection of dues for AGM
- 2. Checking of attendance eligibility list. (11 Meetings required to serve on the 2005-2006 Board.)

Annual General Meeting Business:

1. Nominations for the Board of Directors 2005-2006

- A. President
- B. 1st Vice President
- C. 2nd Vice President
- D. Chief of Staff
- E. Sergeant/Master At Arms
- F. Intelligence Officer

- G. Service officer
- H. Inspector General
- I. Member, Board of Directors
- J. Member, Board of Directors
- K. Past President

- 2. **SR2005-01 Resolution of Support for our Troops in the War on Terror & the Iraq War.**

Current Regular Business:

- 1. **Marine Corps Birthday Event – Chilliwack, B.C.**
- 2. **Joint VVIC – American Legion Honour Guard**
- 3. **Firebase Canada 2006:**
 - A. National Coalition Building Institute www.ncbi.org
 - B. A seat at the table for everyone and all views.
 - C. Firebase Canada Committee and the structure.
- 4. **Firebase Canada 2005/ Annual Picnic**
- 5. **Remembrance Day, 11 November**

New Business

- 1. New Member - Cummings, R.L. – Sergeant, AUS, 11B40 Infantry
- 2. New Member - White, R.E. – Sergeant, AUS, 11C40 Infantry
- 3. New Member - Mouer, L.D. – SP4, AUS, 12C20 Combat Engineer
- 4. New Member - St. Clair, Edward – Lt. Col., AUS. Combat Engineer
- 5. Membership Certificate

New Business from the Floor:

The next General Meeting is 25 November 2004 at 1930 hours at the British Columbia Regiment.