



# Vietnam Veterans In Canada

## General Meeting (2005-01)

# AGENDA 464

06 January 2005

*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 09 December 2004**

**(Reading of the Names)**

**Sgt. 1st Class Todd C. Gibbs, 37, of Angelina, Texas**, died Dec. 7 in Khalidiyah, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated while his unit was on a dismounted patrol. Gibbs was assigned to 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division, Camp Greaves, Korea.

**Capt. Mark N. Stubenhofer, 30, of Springfield, Va.**, died Dec. 7 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his unit was conducting dismounted operations and was attacked by small arms fire. Stubenhofer was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Fort Riley, Kan.

**Sgt. Arthur C. Williams, IV, 31, of Edgewater, Fla.**, died Dec. 8 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when his unit was conducting a dismounted patrol and was attacked by small arms fire. Williams was assigned to the 44th Engineer Battalion, 2d Infantry Division, Camp Howze, Korea.

**Cpl. Kyle J. Renehan, 21, of Oxford, Pa.**, died Dec. 9 in Kaiserslautern, Germany, from injuries received on Nov. 29 as result of enemy action in Babil Province, Iraq. He was assigned to Marine Air Control Squadron 2, Marine Air Control Group 28, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.

**Pfc. Christopher S. Adlesperger, 20, of Albuquerque, N.M.** died Dec. 9 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Adlesperger was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**1st Lt. Andrew C. Shields, 25, of Campobello, S.C.** Shields died December 9 in Mosul, Iraq after being involved in an Apache helicopter accident. He was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 151st Aviation Regiment, South Carolina National Guard, Columbia, S.C.

**Chief Warrant Officer Patrick D. Leach, 39, of Rock Hill, S.C.** Leach died December 9 in Mosul, Iraq after being involved in an Apache helicopter accident. He was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 151st Aviation Regiment, South Carolina National Guard, Columbia, S.C.

**Spc. Robert W. Hoyt, 21, of Ashford, Conn.,** died Dec. 11 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV while conducting convoy operations. Hoyt was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry Regiment, Bristol, Conn.

**Staff Sgt. Marvin L. Trost III, 28, of Goshen, Ind.** Trost died Dec. 5 in Habbaniyah, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Greaves, Korea.

**Spc. Edwin W. Roodhouse, 36, of San Jose, Calif.** Roodhouse died Dec. 5 in Habbaniyah, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Greaves, Korea.

**Pfc. Joshua A. Ramsey, 19, from Defiance, Ohio,** died Dec. 12 in Baghdad, Iraq, from non-combat related injuries. Ramsey was assigned to the 95<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, Mannheim, Germany. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Melvin L. Blazer, 38, of Moore, Okla.** Blazer died Dec. 12 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Lance Cpl. Hilario F. Lopez, 22, of Ingleside, Texas.** Lopez died Dec. 12 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Lance Cpl. Gregory P. Rund, 21, of Littleton, Colo.** Rund died Dec. 11 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Sgt. Jeffrey L. Kirk, 24, of Baton Rouge, La.,** died Dec. 12 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Pfc. Brent T. Vroman, 21, of Oshkosh, Wis.**, died Dec. 13 from wounds received as a result of enemy action in Babil Province, Iraq. He was assigned to the Marine Corps Reserve's 2nd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, headquartered in Chicago, Ill.

**Lance Cpl. Jeffery S. Blanton, 23, of Fayetteville, Ga.**, died Dec. 12 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

**Lance Cpl. Joshua W. Dickinson, 25, of Pasco, Fla.**, died Dec. 12 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Sgt. Tina S. Time, 22, from Tucson, Ariz.**, died Dec. 13 near Cedar, Iraq, when she was involved in a vehicle accident. Time was assigned to the Army Reserve's 208th Transportation Company, Tucson, Ariz. The incident is under investigation.

**Cpl. Michael D. Anderson, 21, of Modesto, Calif.**, died Dec. 14 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Spc. Victor A. Martinez, 21, from Bronx, N.Y.**, died Dec. 14 south of Baghdad, Iraq, from a gunshot wound. Martinez was assigned to the 364th Supply Company, 264th Corps Support Battalion, 1st Corps Support Command, Fort Bragg, N.C. The incident is under investigation.

**Lance Cpl. Franklin A. Sweger, 24, of San Antonio, Texas**, died Dec. 16 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

**Staff Sgt. Donald B. Farmer, 33, of Zion, Ill.** Farmer died Dec. 19 in Shuaybah, Kuwait, when a vehicle struck him. He was assigned to the 180th Transportation Battalion, 13th Corps Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Sgt. Berry K. Meza, 23, of League City, Texas.** Meza died Dec. 19 in Shuaybah, Kuwait, when a vehicle struck him. He was assigned to the 180th Transportation Battalion, 13th Corps Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Lance Cpl. Neil D. Petsche, 21, of Lena, Ill.**, died Dec. 21 due to injuries received in a non-hostile vehicle incident in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Petsche was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. The incident is under investigation.

**Capt. William W. Jacobsen Jr., 31, of Charlotte, N.C.** Jacobsen died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Sgt. Maj. Robert D. O'Dell, 38, of Manassas, Va.** O'Dell died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the United States Army Intelligence & Security Command, Fort Belvoir, Va.

**Sgt. 1st Class Paul D. Karpowich, 30, of Bridgeport, Pa.** Karpowich died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the Army Reserve's 2nd Battalion, 390th Infantry Regiment, Webster, N.Y.

**Staff Sgt. Julian S. Melo, 47, of Brooklyn, N.Y.** Melo died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Staff Sgt. Darren D. VanKomen, 33, of Bluefield, W.Va.** VanKomen died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Staff Sgt. Robert S. Johnson, 23, of Castro Valley, Calif.** Johnson died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Sgt. Lynn R. Poulin Sr., 47, of Freedom, Maine.** Poulin died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 133rd Engineer Battalion, Belfast, Maine.

**Spc. Jonathan Castro, 21, of Corona, Calif.** Castro died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the 73<sup>rd</sup> Engineer Company, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Spc. Thomas J. Dostie, 20, of Sommerville, Maine.** Dostie died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 133rd Engineer Battalion, Portland, Maine.

**Spc. Cory M. Hewitt, 26, of Stewart, Tenn.** Hewitt died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the 705<sup>th</sup> Ordnance Company, Fort Polk, La.

**Spc. Nicholas C. Mason, 20, of King George, Va.** Mason died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 276th Engineer Battalion, West Point, Va.

**Spc. David A. Ruhren, 20, of Stafford, Va.** Ruhren died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 276th Engineer Battalion, West Point, Va.

**Pfc. Lionel Ayro, 22, of Jeanerette, La.** Ayro died Dec. 21 in Mosul, Iraq, when his dining facility was attacked. He was assigned to the 73rd Engineer Company, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

**1st Lt. Christopher W. Barnett, 32, of Baton Rouge, La.,** died Dec. 23 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. Barnett was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 156<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment, 256th Brigade Combat Team, Shreveport, La. The incident is under investigation.

**Chief Joel Egan Baldwin, 37, of Arlington, Va.,** died in Mosul, Iraq on Dec. 21, when the dining facility was attacked. Baldwin was assigned to Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 77, Gulfport, Miss.

**Lance Cpl. Eric Hillenburg, 21, of Marion, Ind.** Hillenburg died Dec. 23 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Lance Cpl. James R. Phillips, 21, of Hillsboro, Fla.** Phillips died Dec. 23 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Cpl. Raleigh C. Smith, 21, of Lincoln, Mont.** Smith died Dec. 23 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Staff Sgt. Todd D. Olson, 36, from Loyal, Wis.,** died Dec. 27 in the 67th Combat Support Hospital in Tikrit, Iraq from wounds sustained in Samarra, Iraq on Dec. 26, when an improvised explosive device detonated. Olson was assigned to the National Guard's 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry Regiment, Neillsville, Wis.

**Spc. Jose A. Rivera-Serrano, 26, from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico,** died Dec. 27 in Baghdad, Iraq, from wounds sustained when an improvised explosive device hit his vehicle. Rivera-Serrano was assigned to the 2d Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas.

**Staff Sgt. Jason A. Lehto, 31, of Mount Clemens, Mich.,** died Dec. 28 in a non-hostile incident in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Lehto was assigned to Marine Forces Reserve's Marine Wing Support Group 47, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

**Navy Seaman Pablito Pena Briones, Jr., 22, of Anaheim, Calif.,** died Dec. 28 of a non-hostile gun shot wound in Fallujah, Iraq. Briones was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Detachment, Naval Medical Center San Diego. The incident is under investigation.

**Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren, 31, from Reston, Va.,** died in Baghdad, Iraq on Dec. 28, when a civilian vehicle struck his military vehicle. Nyren was assigned to the Army's 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas.

**Pfc. Oscar Sanchez, 19, from Modesto, Calif.**, died Dec. 29 in Mosul, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device struck his observation post. Sanchez was assigned to 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Spc. Craig L. Nelson, 21, from Bossier City, La.**, died Dec. 29 at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., of injuries sustained Dec. 16 in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. Nelson was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 156<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment, Shreveport, La.

**Lance Cpl. Brian P. Parrello, 19, of West Milford, N.J.** Parrello died Jan. 1 as result of hostile action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to Small Craft Company, Headquarters Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**Lance Cpl. Jason E. Smith, 21, of Phoenix, Ariz.** Smith died Dec. 31 as result of hostile action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Spc. Jeff LeBrun, 21, from Buffalo, N.Y.**, died Jan. 1 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his military vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. LeBrun was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y.

**Sgt. Damien T. Ficek, 26, from Pullman, Wash.**, died Dec. 30 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his patrol was attacked by enemy forces using small arms fire. Ficek was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment, Spokane, Wash.

**Sgt. 1st Class Pedro A. Munoz, 47, of Aquada, Puerto Rico**, died Jan. 2 in Shindand, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained Jan. 1 when his patrol encountered enemy fire. Munoz was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.

**Sgt. Jeremy R. Wright, 31, of Shelbyville, Ind.**, died Jan. 3 in Asadabad, Afghanistan, when his military vehicle hit an improvised explosive device. Wright was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group, Fort Lewis, Wash.

**Sgt. Thomas E. Houser, 22, of Council Bluffs, Iowa**, died Jan. 3 as result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Force Reconnaissance Company, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

**This brings the total U.S. deaths to 1369 plus those who died prior to 29 May 2003.**

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

(President)

Jeff Chutes, former U.S. Army officer and conscientious objector.

## **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**

(K. Lang, AUS)

### **Chief of Staff's Remarks**

(S. O'Grady, AUS)

## **BCR Collection, Telephone Collection & Auction**

(Chief of Staff)

## **Minutes of the previous meeting**

(Chief of Staff)

No Minutes were taken at General Meeting 463.

## **Administrative Activities**

1. New Member Membership Credentials Review
  - a. Sunderlin, D. E., USMC, Retired, 0311 Infantry (Voting Membership)
  - b. Baker, Ron
2. Christmas letter from Canadian Vietnam Veterans – Quebec.
3. 2004 Financial receipts to the custody of the Chief of Staff.
4. Counter sign check for Telus (\$104.29)
5. Finalize 2005-2006 check signing authority. (3-4 Directors)
6. Jim Pace, President, Washington State Council of the Vietnam Veterans of America to be invited to meeting. Service Officer extraordinaire.
7. VVIC Mailing Lists (Vet-Rant-L & VVIC-L)
8. Operation LAZARUS
9. Full participation in the 2005 Remembrance Day Committee meetings and the laying of wreath by the VVIC and the ARVN Veterans.

**Review of Special Meeting with the Our Way Home Reunion “War Resisters” group held 16 December 2004 at the home of G. Flowers.**

2004.01.06 VVIC6

**Firebase Canada 2006**

Liaison between VVIC and Our Way Home Reunion.

Accepting offers of outside help.

Washington State Council, Vietnam Veterans of America  
Seek endorsement of Jim Pace, President  
Motion to offer Jim Pace a seat on the Committee.

Shad Meshad

**2005 VVIC Events (for discussion)**

1. 2005.02 - Participation in the BCR's Paardeberg Dinner?
2. Annual Picnic, Peace Arch Park
3. June, July trip to Nelson (Patrol in Force)?
4. Labour Day weekend?
5. Canadian Thanksgiving Dinner?
6. November 11<sup>th</sup> Dinner?
7. Christmas event of some sort?
8. PTSD Seminar?
9. Mass suicide? (g)
10. Possible Canadian Vietnam Vet National Conference.

**2005 VVIC Hassles and other possible pain in the ass situations.**

(Weather forecast of sorts?)

**New Business from the Floor:**

The next General Meeting is 20 January 2005 at 1930 hours at the British Columbia Regiment.