



Vietnam Veterans In Canada

General Meeting (2006-19)

AGENDA 507

14 September 2006

British Columbia Regiment (DCO), Vancouver, B.C.

Ten Minute Warning

1920 Hours

(Sergeant At Arms)

Call to Order

1930 Hours

(Sergeant at Arms)

Moment of Silence

United States Military Casualty Reports

Received since 29 August 2006

Spc. Matthew E. Schneider, 23, of Gorham, N.H., died on Aug. 28, in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, from a non-combat related cause. Schneider was assigned to the 141st Signal Battalion, 1st Armored Division, Wiesbaden, Germany.

Cpl. Christopher T. Warndorf, 21, of Burlington, Ky., died Aug. 29 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Pfc. Colin J. Wolfe, 18, of Manassas, Va., died Aug. 30 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Sgt. Moises Jazmin, 25, of Providence, R.I. Jazmin died in Taji, Iraq, on Aug 27, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his M2A3 Bradley Vehicle during combat operations. The soldier was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Spc. Qixing Lee, 20, of Minneapolis, Minn. Lee died in Taji, Iraq, on Aug 27, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his M2A3 Bradley Vehicle during combat operations. The soldier was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Spc. Shaun A. Novak, 21, of Two Rivers, Wis. Novak died in Taji, Iraq, on Aug 27, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his M2A3 Bradley Vehicle during combat operations. The soldier was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Spc. Tristan C. Smith, 23, of Bryn Athyn, Pa. Smith died in Taji, Iraq, on Aug 27, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his M2A3 Bradley Vehicle during combat operations. The soldier was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Sgt. Joshua R. Hanson, 27, of West St. Paul, Minn., died on Aug. 30, in Khaldea, Iraq, of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. Hanson was assigned to the National Guard 2nd Battalion, 136th Infantry, Detroit Lakes, Minn.

Lance Cpl. Eric P. Valdepenas, 21, of Seekonk, Mass., died Sept. 4 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to Marine Forces Reserve's 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Ayer, Mass.

Lance Cpl. Shane P. Harris, 23, of Las Vegas, N.M., died Sep. 3 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Lance Cpl. Cliff K. Golla, 21, of Charlotte, N.C., died Sept. 1 from wounds received while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Lance Cpl. Philip A. Johnson, 19, of Hartford, Conn., died Sept. 3 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Pfc. Nicholas A. Madaras, 19, of Wilton, Conn., died on Sept. 3, in Baqubah, Iraq, of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol during combat operations. Madaras was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo.

Staff Sgt. Eugene H.E. Alex, 32, of Bay City, Mich., died on Sept. 2 in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany, of injuries suffered on Aug 30 in Baghdad, Iraq, when he encountered enemy forces using small arms fire. Alex was assigned to the 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

Pvt. Ryan E. Miller, 21, of Gahanna, Ohio, died Sept. 3 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Cpl. Jared M. Shoemaker, 29, of Tulsa, Okla., died Sept. 4 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to Marine Forces Reserve's 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Broken Arrow, Okla.

Sgt. Matthew J. Vosbein, 30, of Metairie, La., died on Aug. 29, in Sadr Al Yusifiyah, Iraq, of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol during combat operations. Vosbein was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky.

Staff Sgt. Michael L. Deason, 28, of Farmington, Mo., died on Aug 31, in Ad War, Iraq, of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. Deason was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky.

Cpl. Shannon L. Squires, 25, of Virginia Beach, Va., died in Brooke Army Medial Center, San Antonio, Texas on Aug. 28, of injuries sustained along Main Supply Route Tampa, Iraq on Apr. 21, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy vehicle during combat operations. Squires was assigned to the Army's 3rd Battalion, 321 Field Artillery Regiment, 18th Field Artillery Brigade, XVIIIth Airborne Corps Artillery, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Pfc. Hannah L. Gunterman, 20, of Redlands, Calif., died on Sept. 4 in Taji, Iraq, from a non-combat related cause. Gunterman was assigned to the 542nd Maintenance Company, 44th Corps Support Battalion, Fort Lewis, Wash. This incident is under investigation.

Sgt. Ralph N. Porras, 36, of Merrill, Mich. Porras died in Yusifiyah, Iraq, on Sept. 2 of injuries suffered from mortar fire during dismounted combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Pfc. Justin W. Dreese, 21, of Northumberland, Pa. Dreese died in Yusifiyah, Iraq, on Sept. 2 of injuries suffered from mortar fire during dismounted combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Staff Sgt. Angel D. Mercado-Velazquez, 24, Hometown not listed, died in Yusifiyah, Iraq, on Sept. 1 of injuries suffered from mortar fire during dismounted combat operations. Mercado-Velazquez was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Sgt. 1st Class Richard J. Henkes II, 32, of Portland Ore., died on Sept. 3 of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. Henkes was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash.

Sgt. Germaine L. Debro, 33, of Omaha, Neb., died on Sept. 4 in Balad, Iraq, of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. Debro was assigned to the Army National Guard 1st Squadron, 167th Cavalry Regiment, Fremont, Neb.

Lt. Col. Marshall A. Gutierrez, 41, of New Mexico, died on Sep. 4 in Camp Virginia, Kuwait, from non-combat related injuries. Gutierrez was assigned to the Area Support Group, Arijan, Kuwait. The incident is under investigation.

Pfc. Jeremy R. Shank, 18, of Jackson, Mo., died on Sept. 6 in Balad, Iraq, of injuries suffered in Hawijah, Iraq, when he encountered enemy forces using small arms fire during a dismounted security patrol. Shank was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Pfc. Vincent M. Frassetto, 21, of Toms River, N.J., died Sept. 7 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Sgt. Jason L. Merrill, 22, of Mesa, Ariz. Merrill died on Sep. 3 in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Wurzburg, Germany.

Pvt. Edwin A. Andino II, 23, of Culpeper, Va. Andino died on Sep. 3 in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Wurzburg, Germany.

Sgt. David W. Gordon, 23, of Williamsfield, Ohio, died on Sept. 8, in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV during combat operations. Gordon was assigned to the Army's 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood Texas.

Sgt. Luis A. Montes, 22, of El Centro, Calif., died on Sept. 7 in Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas, of injuries suffered on Sept. 1 in Abu Ghraib, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. Montes was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Cpl. Johnathan L. Benson, 21, of North Branch, Minn., died Sept. 9 from wounds suffered on June 17 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Sgt. Nathaniel B. Lindsey, 38, of Troutdale, Ore., died on Sept. 9 in Shajoy, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when his HMMWV came in contact with undetermined ordnance during combat operations. Lindsey was assigned to the Army National Guard's 41st Brigade Combat Team, Portland, Ore.

Sgt. 1st Class Merideth L. Howard, 52, of Alameda, Calif. Howard died in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Sept. 8, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV. He was assigned to the Army Reserve's 405th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Staff Sgt. Robert J. Paul, 43, of The Dalles, Ore. Paul died in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Sept. 8, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV. He was assigned to the Army Reserve's 405th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Sgt. John A. Carroll, 26, of Ponca City, Okla., died on Sept. 6 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, of injuries sustained when he came in contact with enemy forces using small arms fire during a dismounted security patrol. Carroll was assigned to the Army 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany.

Pfc. Anthony P. Seig, 19, of Sunman, Ind., died on Sept. 9, in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries sustained when he encountered indirect fire from enemy forces while on base. Seig was assigned to the Army's 118th Military Police Company, 519th Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Spc. Alexander Jordan, 31, of Miami, Fla., died on Sept. 10 in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries suffered when he encountered enemy forces using small arms fire during combat operations. Jordan was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Fort Richardson, Alaska.

This brings the total U.S. deaths to 2858 plus those who died prior to 29 May 2003.

VVIC Meeting

Perimeter Check (Sergeant At Arms)

Call to Order (Sergeant At Arms)

Introduction of Scheduled Guests, New Members, and Visitors

Announcements and Acknowledgements

President's Remarks

(W. Carmack, USMC)

1st Vice President's Remarks

(K. Payne, USN)

2nd Vice President's Remarks

(K. Lang, AUS)

Chief of Staff's Remarks

(S. O'Grady, AUS)

Acting Treasurer's Remarks

(L. Reid, AUS)

Sergeant At Arms Remarks

(G. Flowers, USMC)

Service Officer's Remarks

(L. MacKay, USMC)

General Collection

Minutes of the previous VVIC General Meeting

Chief of Staff.

VVIC General Meeting #506 was held on 31 August 2006. The VVIC President chaired the meeting.

Eleven people were on the Sign In sheet which included Associate Member and Barkeep Dave Holwill, D. Koch and his partner C. McCreedy, and Family Member S. Carmack.

A moment of silence was held and the names of 34 recent U.S. Military casualties were read out.

Attachments and Handouts:

1. VVIC Agenda #506.
2. Study finds fewer cases of PTSD in Vietnam Veterans.
3. Stressed out Vets: Believing the worst about PTSD.
4. Symbol of fight against Agent orange dies.

VVIC President's remarks: Starts with a welcome to VVIC Member J. Watje. John has been teaching in Eastern Washington for the past couple of years and has returned to Bellingham for a visit before once again heading east.

Long time VVIC Member and Past president Dave Stewart has been diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. The past few years have not been good for Dave, health wise.

Also on the sick list is VVIC Member and American Legion Post Commander Tom O'Malley who recently underwent a kidney transplant.

A short reminder was given regarding the dangers of smoking. It was noted that the tobacco companies were recently cited by a U.S. Judge for upping the nicotine content in cigarettes by as much as 36 percent AFTER the court actions against them several years ago.

VVIC 1st VP K. Payne's remarks: Some progress has been made regarding his computer communication skills. But nothing to write home to mamma about.

VVIC 2nd VP K. Lang is still on the sick list.

Chief of Staff S. O'Grady's remarks: Steve voiced concerns regarding the mailing list Vet-Rant. He mentions that it is a valuable avenue for all Vets to state opinions on matters and is very effective at getting Veteran information out.

Sgt At Arms G. Flowers remarks: Comments on the importance of a daily dose of ASA (aspirin) with regards to heart attacks and strokes. He also spoke about Moore's Marauders and a bit about their recovery operations and what the future may hold.

A Motion to accept the Minutes of VVIC General meeting #505 was put forward. The motion was accepted.

Administrative Items:

1. As of this date we have two Directors who are not members in good standing due to the non payment of dues. By Executive Order these Board seats will be declared vacant at the next General Meeting. New Directors will be nominated at that time.

Veterans Legislative Update:

The Senate has passed a bill increasing available supplementary Disabled veterans Insurance from \$20,000 to \$30,000.

New Business:

1. The VVIC has nominated G. Flowers for a position on the Board of Directors of the National Vietnam and Gulf War Veterans Coalition.

Member L. Reid is on vacation. (About time.)

Member D. Sinclair is attending a Vietnam unit reunion in Idaho. Behave yourself Don.

VVIC General meeting #506 took place between 1940 hours and 2021 hours on the 31st of August at the BCR in Vancouver, B.C. The next meeting will be held on 14 September at the BCR after the American legion Post meeting which will start at 1930 hours.

Steve O'Grady
Chief of Staff

Finance Report

Acting Treasurer

Administrative Items (S-1)

1. Dues and good standing.
2. VVIC-L & VET-RANT-L payment to LSOFT (60 USD / 66.30 CDN at 1.1052 on 04 September. (Need for check.)
3. Remembrance Day Committee
Please note:

Bob Underhill just advised me the first meeting for the 2006 Remembrance Day Ceremony, on Tuesday, September 19, from 10 am - 12 noon at the RCMP Headquarters, 37th and Heather (5255 Heather Street), 3rd Floor Lecture Theatre.

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4. VVIC tiles. (previous samples from J. Montgomery)
5. Return of first letter to the VA. (Clarke, J.)
6. Deposit stamp to L. Reid

Veterans Legislation Update

Quartermaster Activities

(Senior Chief Mac McInnes, USN Ret)

There is inventory of all items.

Veteran Outreach**Constitutional Tweaks.**

Adjusting the Constitution to allow for more than one Past President on the Board which was passed at the last AGM. This is still not complete yet.

Attached Articles:

1. Reciprocal Agreement between Canada and the U.S.
2. Vets fight over lawyers.
3. How VA hospitals became the best.
4. The Grunt Padre
5. Airman missing from Vietnam War found.
6. Vets Commission will discuss lump sum buyouts.
7. CIA finds no Saddam-Al Queda link.
8. Bin Laden: Goal is to bankrupt U.S. (CNN 2004)
9. Agent Orange study ends: No cancer link found
10. Study says Gulf War Syndrome doesn't exist.

American Legion:

1. Need to cash cheques from Members in a timely manner.
2. Inquiry into Foreign based Dental as per the Reciprocal Agreement between Canada and the United States.

New Business:

1. Inquiry into Foreign based Dental as per the Reciprocal Agreement between Canada and the United States.
2. Vacant Board seat nominations (if applicable)

New business from the floor:

The next General Meeting is 28 September 2006 at 1930 hours at the British Columbia Regiment.

RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT

between the

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES
and the

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OF CANADA

Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 211(14), World War Veterans' Act (Section 488, Title 38, United States Code) and Public Law 499, 79th Congress (Section 488a, Title 38, United States Code) and Veterans Treatment Regulations made by Order in Council under the Department of Veterans Affairs Act (Canada), the following reciprocal agreement is hereby entered into between the Administrator of Veterans Affairs on behalf of the United States and the Minister, Department of Veterans Affairs on behalf of the Canadian Government.

1. The Veterans Administration of the United States will furnish to discharged veterans of the Canadian armed forces residing or sojourning in the United States such medical, surgical and dental treatment (including necessary dental and prosthetic appliances), hospital care and transportation as may be requested by the Department of Veterans Affairs of Canada. The Department of Veterans Affairs of Canada will reimburse the Veterans Administration in cash for expenses, incurred in connection with the furnishing of such services, at rates as are prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans Affairs either in his regulations or other directives.

2. The Department of Veterans Affairs will furnish to discharged veterans of the United States armed forces residing or sojourning in Canada such medical, surgical and dental treatment (including dental and prosthetic appliances), hospital care and transportation as may be requested by the Veterans Administration. The Veterans Administration will reimburse the Department of Veterans Affairs in cash for expenses incurred in connection with the furnishing of such services, at such rates as are prescribed by the Minister of the Department of Veterans Affairs of Canada.

3. The reciprocal agreements entered into between the then Acting Director, United States Veterans Bureau and the then Acting Minister of Soldiers; Civil Re-Establishment on September 6, 1921 and all supplements thereto are hereby cancelled and rescinded.

4. Any necessary changes or supplements to this agreement are authorized to be made by correspondence between the properly designated officials of the Veterans Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized to do so, have affixed their signatures to this agreement in duplicate on the dates indicated:

For the United States Veterans Administration: H.V. Higley, Administrator
17 April 1956

For the Department of Veterans Affairs of Canada, Hughes LaPointe,
30 April 1956