



Vietnam Veterans In Canada

General Meeting (2008-02)

GM 540

24 January 2008

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

Moment of Silence

United States Military Casualty Reports

Received since 10 January 2008

Maj. Michael L. Green, 36, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Green died Jan. 7 of wounds suffered when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Laghar Juy, Afghanistan. He was assigned to Headquarters, V Corps, Heidelberg, Germany.

Sgt. James K. Healy, 25, of Hesperia, Calif. Healy died Jan. 7 of wounds suffered when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Laghar Juy, Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 703rd Explosive Ordnance Detachment, Fort Knox, Ky.

Sgt. David J. Hart, 22, of Lake View Terrace, Calif., who died in Balad, Iraq. Hart died Jan. 8 of wounds sustained during combat operations in Samarra, Iraq. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

Pfc. Ivan E. Merlo, 19, of San Marcos, Calif., who died in Samarra, Iraq. Merlo died Jan. 8 of wounds sustained during combat operations in Samarra, Iraq. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

Pfc. Phillip J. Pannier, 20, of Washburn, Ill., who died in Samarra, Iraq. Pannier died Jan. 8 of wounds sustained during combat operations in Samarra, Iraq. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. The incident is under investigation.

Sgt. David J. Drakulich, 22, of Reno, Nev., died Jan. 9 in Chagali, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Spc. Todd E. Davis, 22, of Raymore, Mo. Davis died Jan. 9 in Sinsil, Iraq, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated during combat operations. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Vilseck, Germany.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan K. Dozier, 30, of Rutherford, Tenn. Dozier died Jan. 9 in Sinsil, Iraq, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated during combat operations. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Vilseck, Germany.

Staff Sgt. Sean M. Gaul, 29, of Reno, Nev. Gaul died Jan. 9 in Sinsil, Iraq, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated during combat operations. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Vilseck, Germany.

Sgt. Zachary W. McBride, 20, of Bend, Ore. McBride died Jan. 9 in Sinsil, Iraq, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated during combat operations. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Vilseck, Germany.

Sgt. 1st Class Matthew I. Pionk, 30, of Superior, Wis. Pionk died Jan. 9 in Sinsil, Iraq, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated during combat operations. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Vilseck, Germany.

Sgt. Christopher A. Sanders, 22, of Roswell, N.M. Sanders died Jan. 9 in Sinsil, Iraq, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated during combat operations. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Vilseck, Germany.

Lt. Col. Richard J. Berrettini, 52, of Wilcox, Pa., died Jan. 11 in San Antonio of wounds suffered on Jan. 2 in Khowst Province, Afghanistan, when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the Pennsylvania Army National Guard Medical Detachment, Erie Clinic, Erie, Pa.

Pfc. Keith E. Lloyd, 26, of Milwaukee, WI died Jan. 12 in Tal Afar, Iraq, of wounds suffered when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas.

Lance Cpl. Curtis A. Christensen Jr., 29, of Collingswood, N.J., died Jan. 11 from a non-hostile incident in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C. The incident is currently under investigation.

Pfc. Danny L. Kimme, 27, of Fisher, Ill., who died in Balad, Iraq. Kimme died Jan. 16 of wounds suffered in Balad, Iraq, when he was attacked by grenade and small arms fire during combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 32nd Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky.

Pfc. David H. Sharrett II, 27, of Oakton, Va., who died in Pallouata, Iraq. Sharrett died Jan. 16 of wounds suffered in Balad, Iraq, when he was attacked by grenade and small arms fire during combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 32nd Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky.

Spc. John P. Sigsbee, 21, of Waterville, N.Y., who died in Balad, Iraq. Sigsbee died Jan. 16 of wounds suffered in Balad, Iraq, when he was attacked by grenade and small arms fire during combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 32nd Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky.

Staff Sgt. Justin R. Whiting, 27, of Hancock, N.Y., died Jan. 19 in Mosul, Iraq, of wounds sustained when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Ky.

Spc. Jon M. Schoolcraft, III, 26, of Wapakoneta, Ohio, died Jan. 19 in Taji, Iraq, of wounds sustained when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Spc. Richard B. Burress, 25, of Naples, Fla., died Jan. 19 in Al Jabour, Iraq, of wounds sustained when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga.

Casualty Count is now 4459

Since 10 November 2001

Compiled by the VVIC S-2, Menga Station, Valley of the Cauca River, ROC

Defense Appropriation Act of 2008
Relevant Sections for Concurrent Receipt
Combat Related Special Compensation

Subtitle D--Retired Pay and Survivor Benefits

SEC. 641. EXPANSION OF COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION ELIGIBILITY.

(a) Expanded Eligibility for Chapter 61 Military Retirees- Subsection (c) of section 1413a of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking 'entitled to retired pay who--' and all that follows and inserting 'who--

'(1) is entitled to retired pay (other than by reason of section 12731b of this title); and
 '(2) has a combat-related disability.'

(b) Computation- Paragraph (3) of subsection (b) of such section is amended--

(1) by striking 'In the case of' and inserting the following:

'(A) GENERAL RULE- In the case of'; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

'(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR RETIREES WITH FEWER THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE- In the case of an eligible combat-related disabled uniformed services retiree who is retired under chapter 61 of this title with fewer than 20 years of creditable service, the amount of the payment under paragraph (1) for any month shall be reduced by the amount (if any) by which the amount of the member's retired pay under chapter 61 of this title exceeds the amount equal to 2 1/2 percent of the member's years of creditable service multiplied by the member's retired pay base under section 1406(b)(1) or 1407 of this title, whichever is applicable to the member.'

(c) Effective Date- The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2008, and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

SEC. 642. INCLUSION OF VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES RATED AS TOTAL BY REASON OF UNEMPLOYABILITY UNDER TERMINATION OF PHASE-IN OF CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF RETIRED PAY AND VETERANS' DISABILITY COMPENSATION.

(a) Inclusion of Veterans- Section 1414(a)(1) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking 'except that' and all that follows and inserting 'except that payment of retired pay is subject to subsection (c) only during the period beginning on January 1, 2004, and ending on December 31, 2004, in the case of the following:

`(A) A qualified retiree receiving veterans' disability compensation for a disability rated as 100 percent.

`(B) A qualified retiree receiving veterans' disability compensation at the rate payable for a 100 percent disability by reason of a determination of individual unemployables.'.

(b) Effective Date-

(1) IN GENERAL- Subject to paragraph (2), the amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as of December 31, 2004.

(2) TIMING OF PAYMENT OF RETROACTIVE BENEFITS- Any amount payable for a period before October 1, 2008, by reason of the amendment made by subsection (a) shall not be paid until after that date.