

PO Box 605
West Chester, Ohio 45271
(Donations welcomed)

Rolling Thunder® Chapter 9 – August 2009

*Just because you can't do everything does not give you
an excuse to do nothing*



From the President's Desk



Hot again, that's all one could say when we went to the 8th annual Flag day event in Columbus. Did not have the pictures for the July issue so read about the event later in this issue.

Thought I'd try putting in an index in this section so if you did not have time to read the entire letter there may be a story or two that would peak your interest.

Some important information about our patches. We're not required to move them if they are already on your vest but for the new people!

Boot patchOn front **only!**

Top rocker - High on the back of the vest

Eagle - 1/2 inch below top rocker

No patches between rocker and eagle

No MC patches

The Afghanistan patch may be placed just below the foot of the eagle

SPC GREG MISSMAN

About 1/2 way through completing this newsletter I received word that a friend and co-worker of mine died in Afghanistan.



Greg and I worked at the same company for about 6 years. He had served in the Army and after 11 years being a civilian he re-up'd Veterans Day in 2009.

My memories of him were of a man who was very smart and very, funny. His smile and it reminds me how funny and mischievous he could be.

He's gone to his eternal reward now. Greeted by the heroes that have gone before him. He'll be there to greet us when we arrive. Thank you for your service Greg and thanks for all the laughs too.

Spy

Vietnam



On the 2nd day of August 148 U.S. Heroes died between 1963 and 1974

8 from Ohio:

| | | |
|----------------------|------|------------|
| DANNY DEAN PRINCE | ARMY | OXFORD |
| GERALD F TRITTSCHUH | ARMY | BRADFORD |
| THEODORE FRANK FUSS | USMC | BROOKPARK |
| WILLIAM CHARLES CUE | USMC | AKRON |
| JOHN JOSEPH MCGLEW | USMC | WILLOWICK |
| DAVID EUGENE MORTON | USMC | CEDARVILLE |
| CHESTER ANTON WRIGHT | ARMY | COSHOCTON |
| JOHN JOSEPH RUSSELL | ARMY | IRONTON |

3 From Indiana:

| | | |
|--------------------------|------|--------------|
| THOMAS MICHAEL BLYSTONE | USMC | GARY |
| DAVID CORNELIUS O'CONNOR | ARMY | INDIANAPOLIS |
| VENANCIO VERA | ARMY | EAST CHICAGO |

1 From Kentucky:

| | | |
|----------------------|------|--------|
| THOMAS LARRY JUSTICE | USMC | BELFRY |
|----------------------|------|--------|



Remember our fallen members Joker, Tattoo, Popeye

Rolling Thunder ® Chapter 9 - July 2009

Starting with July 2009 the newsletter includes this new section. Picking one or two 'names' from the wall in an attempt to honor them a just bit more. Remember these fine people and all our other brothers and sisters who went to war and never came home!

Daniel D. Prince, 19 - Panel 09E Line 101



Initially Listed Missing In Action

Sp4 Daniel D. (Danny) Prince, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Prince, 6324 Devonshire Dr., Oxford. Danny entered the Army in June of 1965, after graduation from Talawanda High School in Oxford. He had been wounded in February, then hospitalized and returned to action.

"Danny's luck just ran out," said Mrs. Prince Tuesday morning.

"I'm pretty proud of our country," said Mrs. Prince. "And Danny was proud of his country, too. When he was graduated from Talawanda he said he realized he was giving up a lot of things to go to Viet Nam but that was what he wanted to do. He said he had everything to live for. In all of his letters to us he never complained." She said Danny was rated second best soldier in his battalion at Fort Knox, Ky., and that he was offered the chance to go to Officers Candidate School but that he declined because he knew it would delay his arrival at the scene of action.

Information provided by a fellow Viet Nam Veteran, Jim McIlhenney



Iraq &
Afghanistan



What else can I say?

Last month we witnessed what I think is one of the biggest sins that our country will collapse eventually. Anyone who has studied history knows that many great countries and empires have fallen because of what happens inside their culture, not from outside forces. Reading about (because I would not watch) the funeral of Michael 'Thriller' Jackson proves to me that as a country we are failing.

Only God knows how many days, months, years we will be reading about the death of a drug-taking pop culture icon; while the 'masses' will continue mourn, wail and quite literally make fools of themselves over his death and while as many will speak endlessly about it, allow me, if only for a moment, to remind us all that others died last month; others whose lives were cut short; others who leave behind loved ones and whose families will dearly miss them; families who'll suffer with much more dignity and honor than we'll be exposed to on the tube in the coming days.

Yes... it's true... we've suffered a great loss... but forgive me while I tell you that I'm not talking about the king of pop music.

I'm speaking of the American military members died in Iraq last month:

Sergeant Justin J. Duffy
Specialist Christopher M. Kurth
Specialist Charles D. Parrish
Lance Corporal Robert D. Ulmer
Staff Sergeant Edmond L. Lo
Sergeant Joshua W. Soto
Captain Kafele H. Sims
Specialist Chancellor A. Keesling

And these members of our U.S. Armed Forces died in Afghanistan this month:

Sergeant Jones, Ricky D.
Specialist Munguia Rivas, Rodrigo A.

Rolling Thunder ® Chapter 9 - July 2009

Command Master Chief Petty Officer Garber,
Jeffrey J.
1st Sergeant Blair, John D.
Sergeant Smith, Paul G.
Staff Sergeant Melton, Joshua
Sergeant 1st Class Dupont, Kevin A.
Specialist O'Neill, Jonathan C.
Chief Warrant Officer Richardson Jr., Ricky L.
Specialist Silva, Eduardo S.
Lance Corporal Whittle, Joshua R.
Major Barnes, Rocco M.
Major Jenrette, Kevin M.
Staff Sergeant Beale, John C.
Specialist Jordan, Jeffrey W.
Specialist Griemel, Jarrett P.
Specialist Hernandez I, Roberto A.
Sergeant Obakrairur, Jasper K.
Staff Sergeant Hall, Jeffrey A.
Private 1st Class Ogden, Matthew D.
Private 1st Class Wilson, Matthew W.

Let's remember and honor this day those whose deaths are truly impacting.

God rest them and God comfort their loved ones they've left behind.

And may God use their deaths to remind us all of the shortness of our days. (Author is unknown to me but these people are who we should be honoring)

VA Begins Stimulus Payments to Veterans

The first \$250 payments to veterans as part of President Obama's recovery plan were sent Monday, and officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs said all payments will be distributed by June 30. As part of the recovery plan, VA is making one-time payments of \$250 to eligible veterans and survivors to offset the effects of the current economy. VA estimates \$500 million in payments will be made to approximately 1.9 million veterans and eligible beneficiaries as part of this measure. To learn more, read the full article on Military.com.



Reflections 'A closer look'

I know we are all very short on time in our lives but please take the 5 minutes it will take you to read the following information about the Hmongs.

Several months back I brought to our meeting the flag of the Hmong people. They were very helpful to our troops during the Vietnam War and are in need of our help now.

Some may argue that their need for a flag is unnecessary because the Hmong's have no country. Although flags are commonly used to represent countries, history shows that flags have also been used by various groups of people or organizations for identification purposes. The Hmong have every right to forge an identity through the use of flags if they choose. The world needs to recognize the Hmong people!

Danny "Greasy" Belcher, Executive Director
Task Force Omega of KY Inc.
Vietnam Infantry Sgt. 68-69
"D" Troop 7th Sqdn. 1st Air Cav

We would call it murder and a hate crime in the U.S. Then I have to ask, "Why are we doing nothing to help these poor natives who are being genocide in SE Asia?"

It is like the American Indians and the European settlers again. Those who have the power and money can murder and treat other humans worse than we treat our animals and NO ONE says anything. If we stay quiet long enough it will go away when these people are gone.

NEW YORK/EWORLDWIRE/June 16, 2009 ---
The following is issued as an open letter to the public by the Hmong Chaofa Federation State Congress of World Hmong People, from Xaysomboun Special Zone (<http://www.cwhp.us>) (International Communication no. 614/99):

Where as, we, the Hmong ChaoFa Indigenous People and Leaders, live in the Xaysombun Special Zone Territories, appears to Congress of World Hmong People to support this calling to be known

Rolling Thunder ® Chapter 9 - July 2009

to the international community that both, the governments of Vietnam and Lao PDR continue committing war crimes against humanity and continuing violating the fundamental human rights and the international bill of rights.

Both governments are organizing a joint-cooperation of their conventional armies to secretly using all necessary means destroying and waging war crimes against innocent families and children. From March of 2009 to the present time, they again, continue to occupy and colonize our territories, destroying our crops, surrounding us, using assassination and starvation tactics, and chemical warfare.

Currently, the Lao PDR battalions 209, 596, 597, 598 - including battalion 16 volunteer - in cooperation with Vietnam battalions 409, 117 and 462, are colonizing, occupying, and surrounding the Special Zone.

Their goal is to wipe us out by the end of 2009.

They also have continued to use conspiracy tactics, pressuring the Thai government to repatriate our Hmong Asylums in Huay Nam Khao, Thailand, to the Lao PDR's aggressive control.

The government of Vietnam currently sits in the U.N. Security Council; it fails to promote peace. Instead, it exercises influence in the framework of assisting and committing war crimes, along with the Lao PDR racist regime against the Hmong people.

The Vietnamese government should be removed from the Security Council immediately.

Since the Lao PDR came into power in 1975, it has systematically committed mass atrocities - war crimes and genocides, using Viet-mercenaries against our Hmong ChaoFa Indigenous communities in the Xaysombun Special Zone, central Laos. For more than 30 years, this racist regime aggression is centered around both genocide and attrition.

Proof of violations and ongoing atrocities, among many more current documents:

1. Report of Amnesty International: Laos Atrocities Against Children Are War Crimes (Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2004)

2. Seized Vietnamese Soldiers Passports attack Hmong in Xaysomboun areas (Dec. 1, 2005)

3. New York Time reports in 2007 about Hmong in the Mountain of Jungles

4. Reports by David M. Kinchen of Tong Hua: Her half of Tong's face is missing from bullet wound; Bliia Soua: Her stand over the grave of a son killed in the remote jungles

5. Report of Fact Finding on Starvation (May 19, 2006)

6. Reports of Anthony LoBaido, World Net Daily, and Christian Hmong Fight for Freedom in Stalinist Laos (2008)

7. Hmong People Persecutions, Brussels (Sept. 6, 2007)

8. American journalist goes inside Laos to investigate massacre (Sept. 15, 2006)

9. Report from Fact Finding, The Killing Season Begins (Aug. 29, 2006)

10. Report from Fact Finding, Lao PDR Killings against unarmed innocent Hmong continues (May 6, 2006)

11. U.S. Probes Claims Hmong Facing Persecution in Laos (Feb. 5, 2008)

12. Military Unit RGM E. 584, Ministry of Defenses, Lao people Democratic Republic, Original Letter and English Translation (Nov. 29, 2007)

13. Plan to eliminate refugees before accepting them: Thailand back to Laos, Original Letter and English translation (Dec. 26, 1990)

14. Establish Economy in Foreign Country 1975-1980 Planning, original Letter and English translation

15. Presents of Lao Troops and Viet-Mercenaries Photos seized at the Zone (Jan. 9, 2007)

This racist regime has long caused families and children to suffer social, cultural and economic crisis. The people need peace, security, stability and economic empowerments.

The Congress of World Hmong People and the Hmong ChaoFa Indigenous Leaders, call upon

Rolling Thunder ® Chapter 9 - July 2009

both governments, Vietnam and Laos PDR, to demilitarize from the Xaysombun Special Zone within 30 days to ensure a humane and secure transition for the people.

Both governments must comply with all forms of the Geneva Conventions, its Protocols, and the International Bill of Rights.

To this TRUTH, we signed and witnessed under oath to the Lord!

Congress of World Hmong People James Her, President

Hmong ChaoFa Indigenous, Gymbay Moua, International Spokesperson

<http://www.eworldwire.com/pressreleases/19631>

<http://www.eworldwire.com/pdf/19631.pdf>

<http://www.eworldwire.com/newsroom/313250.htm>

<http://newsroom.eworldwire.com/xml/newsrooms/313250.xml>

By Supalak Ganjanakhundee

The Nation

Published on May 7, 2009

Foreign Minister Kasit Piromya yesterday clarified Thailand's position in regard to Hmong refugees, saying the fate of 158 people from Laos detained at Nong Khai was up to Vientiane.

"Sorry, I might be confused over their status, since the Lao government wants to process resettlement [of the 158] in their home country - but many recipient countries [that agreed to take the 158] wanted them to be processed here in Thailand," Kasit told reporters.

The minister's clarification comes after he announced late last month that the Hmong at Nong Khai would be resettled. Laos said later it was disappointed at the news.

Kasit said after a meeting with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in April that the Hmong in Nong Khai were eligible for resettlement in third countries.

Thailand has been strongly criticized by UN refugee officials and Hmong groups in the US over its treatment of the 158, who have been stuck in cramped cells at Nong Khai's Immigration

Detention Centre for more than two years.

Moves to try to forcibly deport the group - all of whom have UN refugee status - caused a near riot last year, when they strongly resisted efforts to deport them. Their leaders say they fled persecution of "jungle Hmong" allied to US forces during the war in the 1960s and 70s.

Lao officials have been urging the group to return home, but its leaders have repeatedly refused, saying they would rather commit suicide than be forcibly returned.

Lao Foreign Ministry spokesman Khenthong Nouanthasing claimed last week that no ethnic Hmong from Laos should be regarded as "political asylum seekers" eligible for the resettlement.

He said they were simply economic migrants.

The Lao Foreign Ministry spokesman asked the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs for clarification on whether or not Thailand had changed its stance on the detainees.

Kasit, yesterday, reiterated that about 5,000 Hmong in a camp at Huay Nam Khao in Phetchabun were normal economic migrants who must be repatriated to their place of origin. But he said those at Nong Khai would need resettlement.

Khenthong said Laos and Thailand had previously viewed Lao people held in both Nong Khai and Phetchabun to be illegal migrants, not refugees.

Kasit said he would meet with concerned agencies soon to consider the status of the Hmong, and consult with his Lao counterpart Thongloun Sisoulith next week.

"We have to listen to Laos, since they (Hmong) belong to Laos," he said.

"The most important thing is we must do everything for their safety and well-being."

Thailand has sheltered nearly 8,000 Hmong since late 2004.

But more than 2,000 have been deported over the past 18 months. Recent returnees have been asked to return to their original hometowns. But groups in the US fear some have been jailed.



**Military
Humor**

Naval Navigation

This is the transcript of an ACTUAL radio conversation of a U. S. naval ship with Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland in October 1995. Radio conversation released by the Chief of Naval Operations on 10-10-95.

Americans: "Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision."

Canadians: "Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision."

Americans: "This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, DIVERT YOUR course."

Canadians: "No. I say again, you divert YOUR course."

Americans: "This is the aircraft carrier USS Lincoln, the second largest ship in the United States Atlantic Fleet. We are accompanied by three destroyers, three cruisers, and numerous support vessels. I demand that you change your course 15 degrees north...that's one-five-degrees North, or counter-measures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship."

Canadians: "This is a lighthouse. Your call."



EXTRA

Some of you know him, some of you may not but if you ever get the chance to meet him you'll feel the passion one person can have for our veterans. Bob 'Pigpen' Woods serves proudly as the Ohio State Captain for the Patriot Guard Riders.

Bob's been a member of the PGR since is started in the Ohio. You can't miss him in a crowd because he's the tall lumbering giant of a man with

an extremely wild beard directing people in order to ensure the best possible outcome for the families of our veterans. He really doesn't care what your agenda is; he's all about the family and the veteran.



He's been a member of the group since is started in the state. You can't miss him in a crowd because he's the tall lumbering giant of a man with an extremely wild beard directing people in order to ensure the best possible outcome for the families of our veterans. He really doesn't care what your agenda is; he's all about the family and the veteran.

The Veteran may be one coming home in a casket or one walking down a runway to be greeted by family and friend. Then again it may be a WWII vet, long home but now at their final hour the PRG will be there to honor their service.

Bob grew up in West St. Louis County Missouri was in the Parkway school system and completed high school in the US Army He was drafted into the Army on April 27, 1970

He spent his boot camp weeks at Fort Lenard Wood Missouri then went to Fort Sill Oklahoma before being sent to the sunny inviting shores of South Vietnam. While in Nam he received the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service medal (Two Stars) Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Vietnam

Rolling Thunder ® Chapter 9 - July 2009

Presidential Unit Citation and the Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation

After 2 year's active duty (and four years of inactive Reserves), he started a career in the construction field as a union carpenter and retired from the union a few years ago.

He married Maxine M. Woods from Valley Park, Missouri. She worked for a company that made piston rings for the big automakers. She was the Chief purchasing Agent. We had two daughters that are five years apart the older is Heather and the youngest is Rebecca.

They owned a home and a farm as well. We spent a lot of time on the farm. It was a working farm with cattle and hogs. The kids really liked being out there helping with the livestock. It was a great tool to teach young children about work and family.

Bob caught the MC bug in 1964 and has been riding ever since.

Spy: Bob, how did you hear about the PGR?

Bob: I read an article about them and realized this was something I wanted to be a part of. As a Vietnam Veteran we were not welcomed home and many times we could not get a job because we were Vietnam Veterans. I did not want to let this happen to this generation of warriors.

Spy: When did you join the PGR?

Bob: 2006

Spy: How did you get to be Ride Captain?

Bob: When I inquired about the Ohio PGR I told them I wanted to be a ride captain. I knew I could lead people and I knew I was truly sincere about the mission statement of the PGR.

Spy: How did you get to be State Captain?

Bob: I took over the position from Russ Sears, Russ and I had worked together here in S/W Ohio of course he was in charge of the state and he

made me assistant state captain. He was teaching me the inn's and out's of the PGR at the nation level. Russ had to start working out of the area and things just got to be too much for him to handle as State Captain and he ask me to step-up to the Position.

Spy: Why and when and for what reason did you start the Ohio Patriot Guard web site?

Bob: I started the Ohio Patriot Guard web-site (www.ohiopgr.org) so Ohioans had place to look around with out a lot of clutter. I also wanted to make it easy for families to get in touch with us about mission request for their loved ones. I also want to let the Ohio GOLD STAR families know that their loved ones will never be forgotten. We have every Ohio casualty listed for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars as well as those that have died while on active duty any place in the world

Spy: What is your plan for the PRG in Ohio under your leadership?

Bob: I want to bring awareness to Ohioans that we need to support our troops no matter what your political beliefs are. The men and women that are serving this great nation need to be reminded that we the people respect them for their service. I also want to make sure there is not one single military person veteran or active duty that when their final day on this earth comes he or she will be remembered with Honor, Dignity and Respect for their service to this great nation.

Spy: Is there any other thing you would like to say to our readers?

Bob: I do want to thank the other motorcycle organization and unaffiliated citizens and veterans who give of their time to attend every mission they are able to attend. They support the Patriot Guard Riders mission with their time whenever they can.

Each person that shows up has always shown the soldiers, airman, marines, sailors, coast guard members and their families the respect and dignity they deserve.

Rolling Thunder ® Chapter 9 - July 2009

It always and continues to amazes me that the mission captains are always able provide instructions to those who show up and that are always followed and carried out with pride. It makes it easy to conduct each successful and respectful mission, Thank you!

<http://www.ohiopgr.org>

<http://www.patriotguard.org>

Remember this:

It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protestor to burn the flag.

Charles M. Province

American Soldiers do not fight because they HATE what is in front of them, but because they LOVE what is behind them.

Anonymous

Chapter Notes



Birthdays:

August 2

August 20

Kid Crash

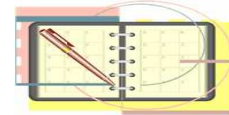
Curley

Patches:

Dave Z

Boot Patch

Upcoming Events



Aug 15 O Kentucky VA Picnic

S = Suggested / O = Official / I - Info

http://www.bikersdatabase.com/event_details.cfm?event=Blue_Star_Mother_s_2nd_Annual_ride_for_the_troops_2009-August-01

Have an Idea for an article send it to Spy!

jpmreilly@yahoo.com