



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78
NEWSLETTER OF THE SILENT PROFESSIONALS

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SPECIAL FORCES
RANGER
AIRBORNE





Please visit us at www.specialforces78.com

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The Presidents Page



Lonny Holmes
President SFA 78

January 2011 Presidents Column

Richard Simonian hosted the Annual Chapter 78 Christmas Dinner at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club in New Port Beach, CA on Saturday December 18.

This years' dinner was a huge success and had 95 members and guests in attendance, which included members of Company A, 19th Special Forces. Ron McCan President of the Special Forces Association and his son flew in from Fayetteville, NC to join us for the dinner and evenings ceremonies. Invited guests included Velvet A. Smith and her husband Kirk, Patrick Quinlan, Noah Smith, and Christopher McDaniel from the movie, Ripple Effect. Joel Adams and his wife from the Los Angeles District Attorney's office who were invited by Terry Cagnolatti also joined us for the evening. Kimberly Holmes, daughter of Lonny Holmes, and her date ROTC Student Battalion Commander of California State University, Fullerton, Zack Hartley helped with registration. Aaron Anderson, founder and C.E.O. of the Green Beret Foundation, and his wife were honored guests.

Two other honored guests included Dave Thomas of Special Forces Gear and John 'Tilt' Stryker Meyer, author of "On the Ground."



Singer Andrea Miller Performing at
Chapter 78 Christmas Party

A highlight of the evening during the dinner hour was Andrea Miller, who sang popular songs and Christmas Carols and concluded with the Ballard of the Green Beret, where she was joined in singing by all Special Forces present and then received a standing ovation. Andrea is a professional singer who originally trained for opera, and currently performs in Los Angeles with her Jazz Quartet. She has several albums available and is a member of SAG and ASCAP. Andrea is engaged to Richard Simonians son, Darren.

Early in the evening Richard Simonian presented an original Sterling Silver Special Forces Ring designed by his son Darren, to Special Forces President Ron McCan, Chapter 78 members Jim Duffy, Terry Cagnolatti, Mark Miller, Tom Redfern, John Joyce and Lonny Holmes. MSG Cory Schuyler of A Company 19th SF and two members of his team also received a ring. Darren Simonian, a talented artist and musician owns Isis Jewelry, a company where he focuses his talents on creating original hand crafted jewelry. He has created several Special Forces rings for Chapter 78.

Highlights of the evening included several awards ceremonies. Chapter 78 member, John Joyce was named Member of the Year, and presented with a plaque by chapter president Lonny Holmes. John Joyce was honored for his work in this past year on supporting all activities of the chapter, but most

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importantly for his dedicated work on developing a new and professional newsletter, The Sentinel. John currently serves as its Publisher and Editor in Chief.



Man of the Year Award

Colonel (Ret) Mark Breslow presented the National Infantry Association Award, Order of Saint Maurice, Level of Legionnaire to Chapter 78 members, LTC (Ret) Jim Duffy, Ed Barrett, Terry Cagnolatti and Brad Welker. John 'Tilt' Stryker Meyer read the official orders of presentation. This award is presented to infantry soldiers (former and retired) who have strongly contributed to the United States Army Infantry. This award includes a beautiful medal, engraved with the recipient's name and infantry number, framed certificate and a copy of the orders from The National Infantry Association, signed by the president of the association and Chief of the US Army Infantry.



Order of St. Maurice Awardees

In the months of May, June and July 2010, chapter members Steve Cowan, Brad Welker, Terry Cagnolatti and Lonny Holmes served as military advisors on the upcoming film about a Special Forces A-Team in Afghanistan, "Ripple Effect." Because of the close association of the chapter with the film makers and the positive portrayal of the Special Forces Soldiers and the United States Army the chapter decided to bestow 'Honorary Chapter Membership' on several of individuals. Steve Cowan presented certificates of Honorary Membership to Special Forces Association Chapter 78 to Velvet A. Smith Director and Screen Play Writer, Kirk Smith Film Editor and actor, Patrick Quinlan as SFC Jack Newman 18D, Christopher McDaniel as MSG Mark Brady-team sergeant, and Noah Smith as SFC Brian Miller 11B. An honorary membership was also bestowed on James Walsh, as CPT Joe Morello-Team Leader, who was not in attendance.



The Ripple Effect cast receiving Chapter 78 Honorary Memberships

Following the honorary membership presentation, an I-film on the "Making of the Ripple Effect" which was produced by John Joyce, was shown at the Christmas Dinner.

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The Grand Finale of the evening was the Raffle/Silent Auction of a 1903 General Officers Model Colt .380 Pistol. The winning bidder was member Ed Barrett. This auction raised over \$1600 for the chapter.



Ed Barrett and son

Chapter 78 will start off the New Year with its first meeting on Saturday, January 8, 2011, at American Legion Post 295 in Cypress, CA. This year our chapter is expanding its goals to increase its fund raising activities to help support our local ROTC Programs and the Green Beret Foundation. We are in the progress of improving our newsletter, The Sentinel, to set the example what SF Chapters can do to promote the Special Forces Concept. Our chapter is continuing to submit outstanding articles and photographs from our activities to the National SF Association Journal, 'The Drop.' We are also looking forward to continuing the 'Day at the Range', and increase member attendance at the National Special Forces and Special Operations Conventions.

Lonny Holmes



"Tilt" Meyer with all the uniformed attendees



"Tilt" Meyer signs a his book "On the Ground" for Mark Miller. Tilt donated 10 books as raffle prizes.



Col Breslow presenting Col Duffy the Order of St. Maurice



Chapter 78 Christmas Party Pictures





Chapter 78 Christmas Party Pictures





Editors Page:

About Special Forces

Special Forces Composition

Company HQ Element - SF Operational Detachment-B (ODB) composition

The ODB, or "B-Team," is the headquarters element of a Special Forces company, and it is usually composed of 11–13 soldiers. While the A-team typically conducts direct operations, the purpose of the B-Team is to support the company's A-Teams in both in the garrison and in the field. When deployed, in line with their support role, B-Teams are usually found in more secure rear areas. However, under some circumstances a B-Team will deploy into a hostile area, usually to coordinate the activities of multiple A-Teams.

The ODB is led by an 18A, usually a Major, who is the Company Commander (CO). The CO is assisted by his Company Executive Officer (XO), another 18A, usually a Captain. The XO is himself assisted by a Company Technician, a 180A, generally a Chief Warrant Officer Three, who assists in the direction of the organization, training, intelligence, counter-intelligence, and operations for the company and its detachments. The Company Commander is assisted by the Company Sergeant Major, an 18Z, usually a Sergeant Major. A second 18Z acts as the Operations Sergeant, usually a Master Sergeant, who assists the XO and Technician in their operational duties. He has an 18F Assistant Operations Sergeant, who is usually a Sergeant First Class. The company's support comes from an 18D Medical Sergeant, usually a Sergeant First Class, and two 18E Communications Sergeants, usually a Sergeant First Class and a Staff Sergeant.



Battalion HQ Element - SF Operational Detachment-C (ODC) composition

The ODC, or "C-Team," is the headquarters element of a Special Forces Battalion. As such, it is a command and control unit with operations, training, signals and logistic support responsibilities to its three subordinate line companies. A Lieutenant Colonel (O-5) commands the battalion and the C-Team and the battalion Command Sergeant Major (E-9) is the senior NCO of the battalion and the C-Team. There are an additional 20–30 SF personnel who fill key positions in Operations, Logistics, Intelligence, Communications and Medical. A Special Forces battalion usually consists of four companies: "A", "B", "C", and Headquarters/Support.

SF Group strength

Until recently an SF Group has consisted of three Battalions, but since the Department of Defense has authorized U.S. Army Special Forces Command to increase its authorized strength by one third, a fourth Battalion will be activated in each active component Group by 2012.

A Special Forces Group is historically assigned to a Unified Combatant Command or a theater of operations. The C-detachment (ODC) is responsible for a theater or a major subcomponent, and can raise brigade or larger guerrilla forces. Subordinate to it are the B-detachments (ODB), which can raise battalion and larger forces. Further subordinate, the ODAs typically raise company-sized units when on UW missions. They can form 6-man "split A" detachments that are often used for Strategic Reconnaissance (SR).





Special Forces Association Chapter 78

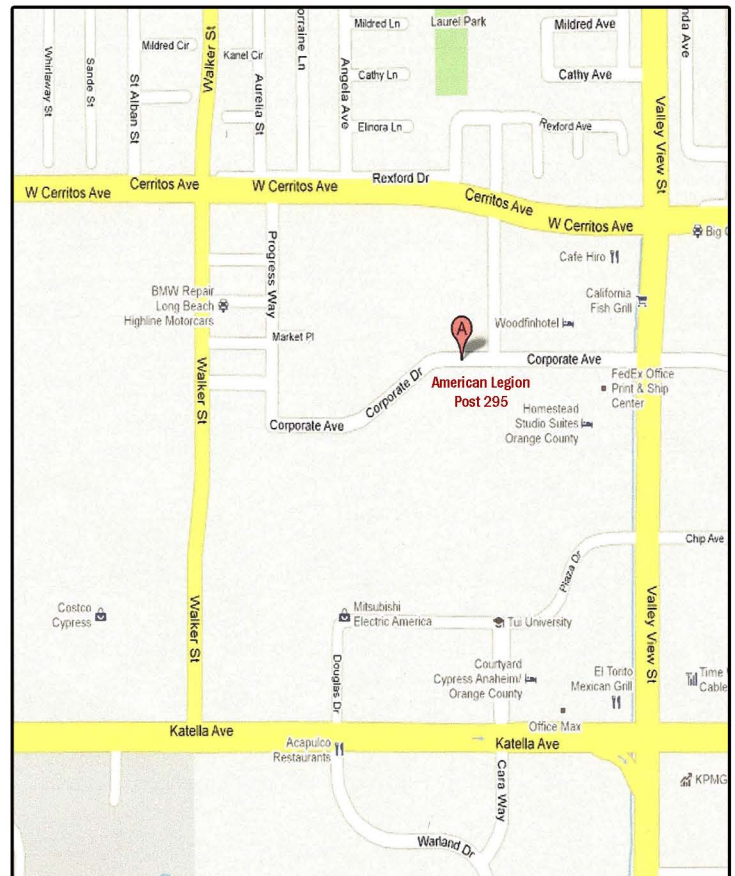
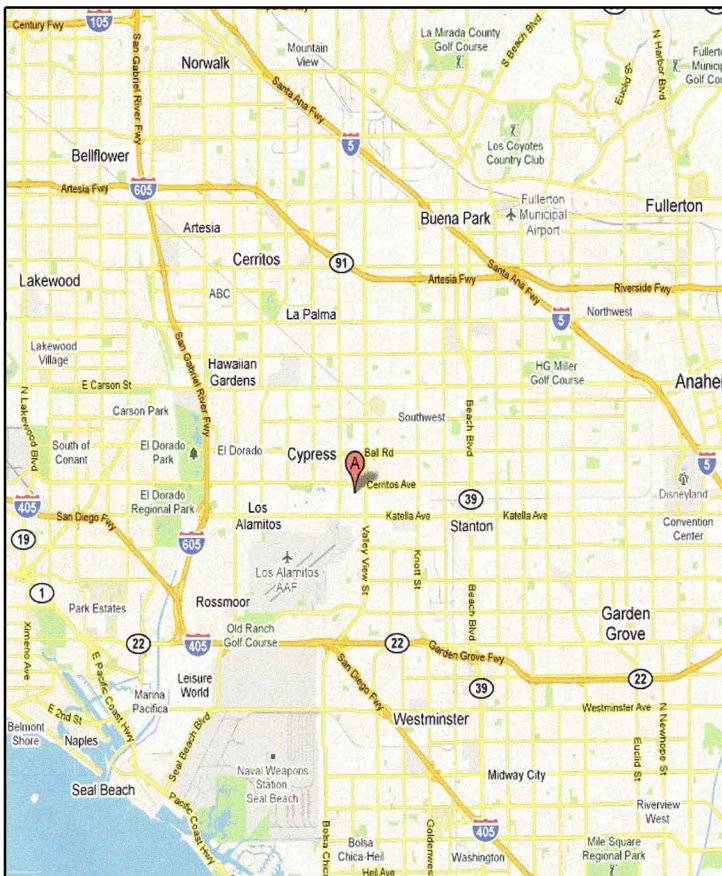
Next meeting

January 8th, 2010 0900 Hrs

American Legion Post 295

**5646 Corporate Way
Cypress, CA 90630**

Map to the Post 295



Raffle, guest speakers, breakfast and more.