



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78
NEWSLETTER OF THE SILENT PROFESSIONALS

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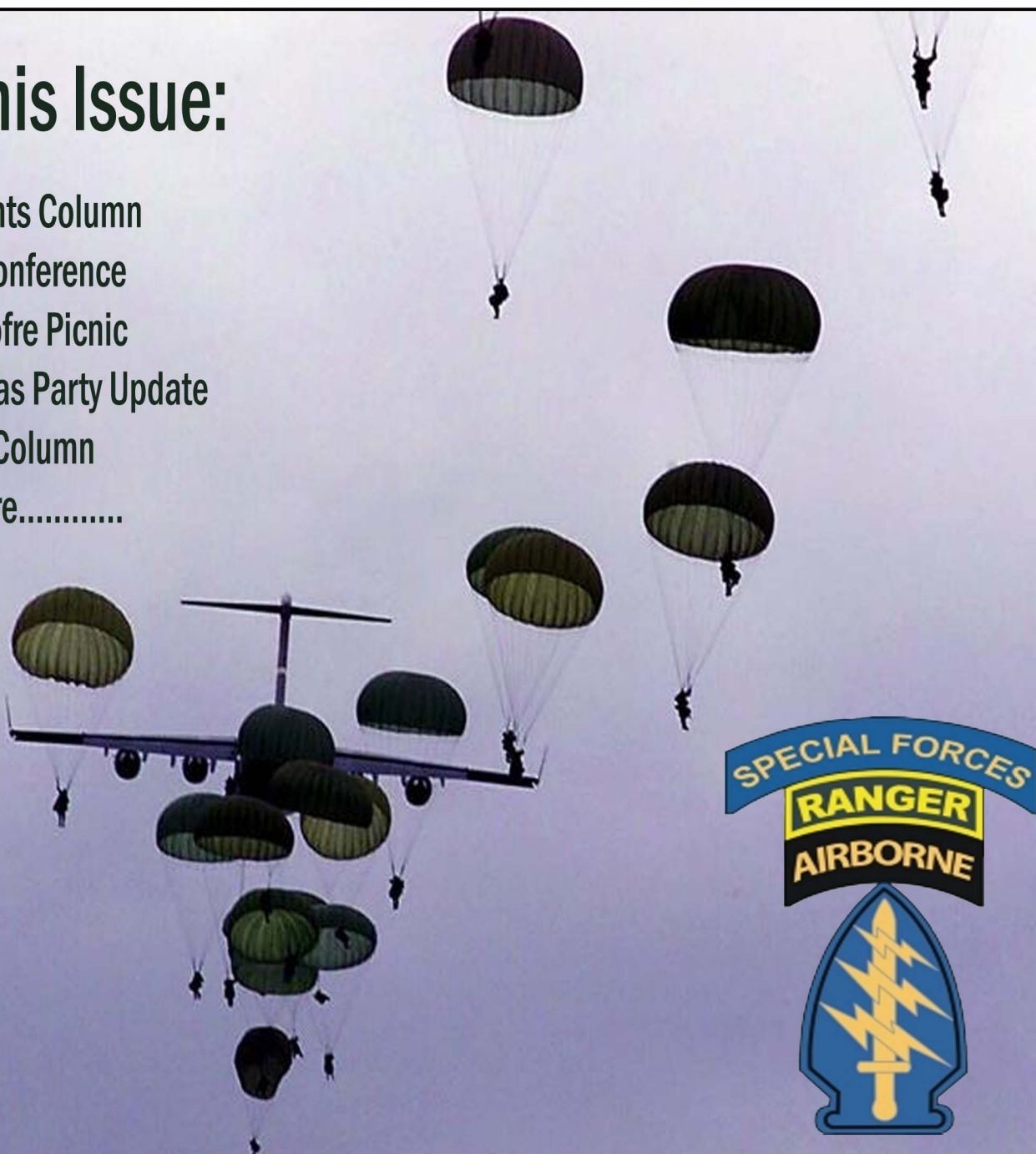
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Editors Column

And More.....





Please visit us at www.specialforces78.com

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D-1978

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A-2527

Vice President, Nungs
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The Presidents Page



Lonny Holmes
President SFA 78

October 2010

September was a busy month for Chapter 78 its members and board. One of the highlights was the SOAR XXXIV held in Las Vegas, NV, and attended by Ramon Rodriquez, John Joyce, Mark Miller, Brad Welker, Ed Barrett and Lonny Holmes. Chapter XII held its Annual Steak Fry and Picnic, on San Onofre Beach at Camp Pendleton Marine Base. Terry Cagnolatti and his wife Juliette and Ramon Rodriquez and wife, plus a contingent of Lost Commandos' represented our chapter.

As we move towards the holiday season Chapter 78 Members have some important dates to remember: December 18, 2010 for our Annual Chapter 78 Christmas Dinner. Saturday, November 13 will be the next chapter meeting. Mark them on your schedule.

Please join us on the monthly chapter raffle. This is an important fund raiser for us. We will begin selling tickets for December's raffle/silent auction for the Christmas Dinner, 5 for \$20.00, this Saturday, October 9. Richard Simonian is donating a very fine OSS/Generals .380 Colt automatic pistol. Help us sell tickets! The winner will be very proud to own this fine example of a specialty Colt firearm.

John Joyce, aside from being the newsletter editor and publisher (The Sentinel, formerly the Hollywood Drop), is actively developing a fundraising program for the chapter. He has started contacting several local Southern California Corporations and has some early success with locating the correct contacts. We hope for his success which will also help support our ROTC efforts. If you are interested in helping please contact John.

Past President Terry Cagnolatti purchased a copy of Adobe Contribute so that our 'media team' can update our web-site. Robert Foley is currently providing lessons on web-page construction and alteration. We have been working hard to add additional material on a timely basis and purge out dated data. Currently our plan is to streamline the home page of SF78 and add a very readable table of contents. Please take a look and see the many additions. By doing the work ourselves we have a better time line and save the chapter money. A tip of the 'Green Beret' to Terry and Robert.



Chapter 78 Members at SOAR Las Vegas
with LTG John Mullholland Jr.



SFA Chapter 78 Minutes For September 11, 2010



GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Location: American Legion Post 295, Cypress CA

Called to Order: 9:00 AM by President Lonnie Holmes

Pledge of Allegiance: John Joyce

Invocation: Richard Simonian

Members Present: Ed Barrett (M11188), Terry Cagnolatti (M-9747), John Creel (M-1090), Len Fein (M-9697), Robert Foley (M-9807) Lonnie Holmes (D-6067), John Joyce (M-11877), Tuong Lau (A-2592), Bruce Long (D-7464), Tai Moc (A-2406), Tom Redfern (D-7907), Ramon Rodriguez (D-1978), Sal Sanders (A-1986), Richard Simonian (D-7920), David Sullivan (A-3670), Thai Tong (A-2527), Jim Weldon (D-8104), Brad Welker (M-2319)

Guest Attendees: Aaron Anderson, Jean Ramos (Honorary Member)

Secretary's Report: Presented by Terry Cagnolatti, Motion to accept by Lonny Holmes, Seconded by Tom Redfern, Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Richard Simonian, Motion to accept by Ramon Rodriguez, Seconded by Terry Cagnolatti, Approved.

Order of Business: Scheduling of this meeting was revised in advance to enable Ch 78 members adequate travel time to also attend the annual "San Onofre Barbecue" hosted by SFA Ch 12.



SFA President Lonny Holmes



Richard Simonian Leads Chapter 78 in Prayer



Terry Cagnolatti Fills in and delivers the Secretaries Report



Chapter 78 members enjoying a great meeting.



SFA Chapter 78 Minutes *For September 11, 2010* *continued.....*



GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES continued

- Lonny Holmes led off by presenting an informative music-accented PowerPoint overview of upcoming TV movie "The Ripple Effect", depicting and based on actual events of an SF "A" Detachment's interactions & trials in ultimately winning the credibility & trust of a war-torn Afghan village. The sequenced photo showed making of the movie, Director & various set personnel action, character cast members, and an entertaining "behind the scenes" perspective. Numerous photos of several SFA Ch 78 members who contributed their time & energy in serving as Technical Advisors and assisted in tuning the scripts to optimize accuracy of the SF Teams clothing, weapons, and tactical actions, were also included . . .

Old Business:

Chapter 78 Website:

Terry Cagnolatti provided an upbeat progress report on the CH 78 website, underscoring that the prior webmaster had at last been jettisoned and replaced. New Web-making software has also been purchased by the Chapter, enabling internal control of additional changes and improvements. Bruce Long's Bio has now been added to the site as well.

Guest Speaker: Aaron Anderson, Staff Sergeant United States Army Special Forces, Retired, gave an excellent presentation on his foundation; The Green Beret Foundation. Aaron was seriously injured in an IED attack in Afghanistan and had to undergo 24 surgeries to recover. Aaron's experiences with the US Army care system led him to found the Green Beret Foundation, a non profit organization to help post 9-11 Green Berets injured in the line of duty. Aaron has also joined Chapter 78 and lives in Huntington Beach.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.



Brad Welker, Lonny Holmes, Steve Cowan and Terry Cagnolatti on the set of "The Riple Effect"



Bruce Long prepares for The Chapter 78 Raffle



Aaron Anderson talks about the Green Beret Foundation



Terry Cagnolatti presents Aaron Anderson with a Chapter 78 T shirt and coin



Table of Raffle prizes



Special Forces Association Chapter 78

Christmas Party

Hosted by Richard Simonian

**Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club
Newport Beach, CA**

Saturday December 18th, 2010

1630 Hours

*Join Special Forces Association Chapter 78
for a night of fine dining, the Newport Harbor
Boat Parade, Raffle and Hosted Bar*

Please RSVP Prior to 11-31-10



detach here

SFA 78 Christmas Party

RSVP

I will be attending the SFA 78 Christmas Party

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

@ \$30 per guest: _____

**Please return this RSVP to
SFA 78
P.O. Box 11927
Santa Ana, CA 92711**

-Or-

**Return this at Chapter 78 October
or November meeting to Chapter
Secretary.**

*** Make checks payable to SFA Chapter 78**



Editors Page:

I have added this column to our monthly newsletter and it is titled: Special Forces; Past, Present and Future. These articles will look at events or things surrounding Special Forces. It seemed fitting to start with this one, "The origins of the Green Beret".



The Origins of the Green Beret

The origins of the Green Beret which Special Forces personnel wear can be traced to Scotland during the Second World War. U.S. Army Rangers and Office of Strategic Services (OSS) operatives who underwent training from the Royal Marines were awarded the Green Beret upon completion of the grueling and revolutionary commando course. However, this Green Beret was not authorized by the U.S. Army among the Rangers and OSS operatives who earned them. Edson Raff, one of the first Special Forces officers, is credited with the re-birth of the Green Beret, which was not originally authorized for wear by the U.S. Army. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy authorized them for use exclusively by the U.S. Special Forces. Preparing for an October 12 visit to the Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the President sent word to the Center's commander, Brigadier General William P. Yarborough, for all Special Forces soldiers to wear green berets as part of the event. The President felt that since they had a special mission, Special Forces should have something to set them apart from the rest. In 1962, he called the Green Beret "a symbol of excellence, a badge of courage, a mark of distinction in the fight for freedom."



Brigadier General William P. Yarborough (left) meets with President John F. Kennedy at Fort Bragg, N.C., Oct. 12, 1961

"It was President Kennedy who was responsible for the rebuilding of the Special Forces and giving us back our Green Beret," said Forrest Lindley, a writer for the newspaper Stars and Stripes who served with Special Forces in Vietnam. "People were sneaking around wearing it when conventional forces weren't in the area and it was sort of a cat and mouse game," he recalled. "When Kennedy authorized the Green Beret as a mark of distinction, everybody had to scramble around to find berets that were really green. We were bringing them down from Canada. Some were handmade, with the dye coming out in the rain."

Special Forces have a special bond with Kennedy, going back to his funeral. At the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of JFK's death, Gen. Michael D. Healy, the last commander of Special Forces in Vietnam, spoke at Arlington Cemetery. Later, a wreath in the form of the Green Beret would be placed on the grave, continuing a tradition that began the day of his funeral when a sergeant in charge of a detail of Special Forces men guarding the grave placed his beret on the coffin.

From Wikipedia





Major General
John K. Singlaub

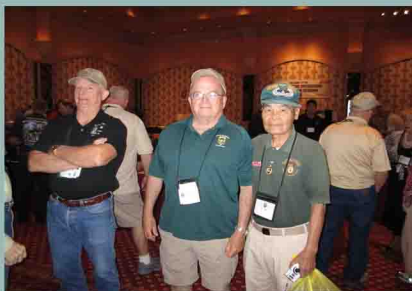


Chapter 78 members
attend the SOAR 2010
Banquet

34th Annual Special Operations Association Convention

The 34th Annual Special Operations Association Convention was held from Monday September 13 to Friday September 17 at the Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Many Chapter 78 Members were in Attendance to include: Lonny Holmes, Brad Welker, John Joyce, Ramon Rodriguez, Ed Barret and John Stryker Meyer.

One of the highlights was Eldon A. Bargewell's talk on The Future Of The SOA. Lieutenant General John Mulholland Jr., Commanding General, US Army Special Operations command was the guest speaker at the banquet. A good time was had by all attendees.



Lonny, Brad and Col Moc



John, Ozzy and Ramon



TGIF Fridays



Brad Welker and Ozzy Joyce



Ramon and Martha Rodriguez



Chapter 12 Annual San Onofre Picnic



Terry and Ramon presenting Chapter 12 president Frank Zamarripa a check from Chapter 78.

Chapter 12, Annual Picnic - September 11, 2010

Chapter 12 held it's annual picnic at the Marine Corp Base at - Camp Pendleton, CA., as they do every year. They extended an invitation to Chapter 78's members to join them at this event. Members in attendance from Chapter 78 were: Ramon Rodriguez and family, Terry Cagnolatti and family, Sal Sanders, Jim Weldon, and members of Chapter 78's Vietnamese counterparts.

The meeting started off with a special prayer for the victims who lost their lives in the terrorist attack on America - September 11, 1991.

As always the food was excellent and the company was great. All had a good time! Chapter 12 member, Ted Sleser, World War II Veteran, graciously invited members and their families from both chapters to join him and his family at their campfire on the beach. Chapter 78, is looking forward to attending next years picnic. We would also like to thank Frank Zamarripa, president of Chapter 12 for his hospitality.



Terry and Ramon at the beach



Chapter 78's Vietnamese Counterparts



Green Beret to Get Posthumous Medal of Honor

WASHINGTON -- President Obama will posthumously honor Army Staff Sgt. Robert Miller with the Medal of Honor in a White House ceremony next month, making him the third servicemember to receive the award for actions in Afghanistan.

Miller, a weapons sergeant assigned to Company A, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group Airborne, was killed by small-arms fire on Jan. 25, 2008. White House officials said Miller sacrificed his life to protect the lives of his teammates and 15 Afghan soldiers.

Army officials said Miller's unit was supporting an Afghan Border Police security patrol in the Chenar Khar Valley in Kunar Province when they were ambushed by Taliban fighters hiding in nearby buildings. The unit called for close-air support to bomb an insurgent position, but were attacked again when they moved in to survey the damage.

Miller's team captain was seriously wounded. Fellow Soldiers said as he was moved to safety, Miller remained at the front of the patrol and continued to lay down suppressive fire on multiple insurgent positions, ultimately saving his commander's life, officials said.



Even after being wounded by enemy machine-gun fire, Miller, 24, continued to fire his M249 Squad Automatic Weapon and throw grenades into Taliban positions. Army officials said his courage enabled his teammates and the Afghan security forces to gain cover and return fire.

At his memorial service two days later, Lt. Col. Samuel Ashley, then commander of Special Operations Task Force 33, said Miller was the type of Soldier who never backed down from a challenge.

"He understood the hazards of combat and the risks of his service to our nation," he said. "He willingly bore the burden of the Soldier. He was the epitome of the Special Forces Soldier. He was a warrior among warriors."

Miller's parents, Phil and Maureen, will attend the service on Oct. 6 to "commemorate their son's selfless service and sacrifice," according to a White House news release.

Miller, a Harrisburg, Pa., native, graduated from Wheaton North High School in Wheaton, Ill., but moved to Florida shortly thereafter. He joined the Army in 2003 and became a Green Beret in 2005. He was based at Fort Bragg in North Carolina before his death.