



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78
NEWSLETTER OF THE SILENT PROFESSIONALS

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MARCH 2011



In This Issue:
Presidents Page
Day at the Range
ROTC



National Convention
1SFG Reunion
SFA 78 Shooters Cup





Please visit us at www.specialforces78.com

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President Louis (Lonny) Holmes D-6067	Sergeant At Arms/ Quartermaster Art Dolick D-1765
Vice President Ramon Rodriguez D-1978	Coordinator of Special Events Mark Miller D-8296
Vice President, Lost Commandos Thai Van Tong A-2527	Coordinator of ROTC Program Ed Barrett M-11188
Vice President, Nungs John Du A-3257	Chaplain Rob Richmond D-7306
Secretary Tom Redfern D-7907	Immediate Past President Terry Cagnolatti M-9747
Director at Large Brad Welker M-2319	
Director at Large Sentinel Editor John Joyce M-11877	
Director at Large Lou Smith D-6535	
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In This Issue:

- 3 Presidents Pages
- 4 Day at the Range
- 5 ROTC
- 6 SF National Convention
- 7 1st Group Reunion
- 8-10 SFA 78 Cup
- 11 Meeting info and Map

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The Presidents Page



Lonny Holmes
President SFA 78

PRESIDENTS COLUMN March 2011

Chapter 78 has a new face! Take a look at Chapter 78's new web-site at www.specialforces78.com which is the same address as before, and behold a transformation into the 21st Century. The new web-site is very high-tech, user friendly and contains all the information that our old site held, and will have even more since we are developing the historical information of our chapters founding. Starting with the pull down tabs at the top and continuing on the faces of the members pages, just click and see what 78 has to offer. The Ballard of the Green Beret is still playing.

This new web-site was developed because of the need to up-date our old site and the need for easy access of all those old hidden pages. The electronic program of the previous site was difficult to use and offered little in comparison to today's formats.

Please thank John Joyce and Terry Cagnolatti for their hard work and coordination with Andrew Gabroy and his associate of G35 Grid for the success of this project. Grid 35 said it could be done in 6 weeks and they met their goal. Previously Chapter 78 had the best web-site of the 85 current active Special Forces Chapters-now we are truly the leader.



Cal State Fullerton Cadets taking part in the "Ranger Challenge"

In the past year we have seen a lot of changes and additions within the Chapters activities to include the new web-page, A Day at the Range (May 7th this year) and now the planning of the 'Shooters Cup' for October 8. These have occurred because of the memberships' ideas and their participation-such as Steve Cowan who is the lead in developing the 'Shooters Cup.'

For the past 12 years we have had a little participation with 5 ROTC programs; the once yearly the presentation of the Special Forces Medal for Excellence. This year I have moved forward and established a closer relationship with the Cadet Battalion Commander of California State University Fullerton, LTC Zach Hartley, by inviting him to the 2010 Christmas Dinner. Two weeks ago I asked him to start something entirely new, write an article for the Sentinel. In this issue of the Sentinel you will see his first contribution and several pictures from his battalion. Zach will graduate in June and I hope to continue this endeavor with the new Cadet Commander.





Chapter 78 Annual DAY AT THE RANGE



To all Chapter 78 Members. Tom Redfern is again setting up the Day at the range. It will be on Saturday, May 7th 2011 at the Burbank Revolver & Rifle Club. www.brrc.org

We will be having a barbeque following shooting activities. Please talk to Tom for additional details.



Chapter 78 Members at last years Day at the Range



Cal State Fullerton ROTC

By Cadet LTC Zackary Hartley



California State Fullerton's ROTC program is helping average citizens become the leaders of tomorrow. ROTC has made me the future leader of America's soldiers by teaching me time management skills, problem solving, small unit tactics, and leadership skills.

When I joined the program, I was immediately interested in a program called "Ranger Challenge." This program is the "varsity sport" of ROTC and is modeled after the "Best Ranger Competition, but instead of a 2 man buddy team, the teams are made up of 9 cadets and has to include one female. Ranger Challenge trains separately from the battalion and involves intense physical training, technical and tactical proficiency in military tasks, and teaches teamwork, character, and determination. We did PT and classes 5 days a week instead of the average 3 for other ROTC members. We practiced first aid, rope bridge, leadership reaction courses, hand grenade assault courses, basic rifle marksmanship, field stripping different weapon systems, small unit tactics, patrolling, and did tons of ruck marches. My freshman year, we got second place. Although that was a let down, the training and knowledge I received set me apart from my peers.

After that first year, I was hooked. I have participated in Ranger Challenge all four years of my ROTC career. We won first place at my sophomore and junior year competitions. When it came time for me to become the Ranger Challenge Captain and lead the team, I was excited, willing, and ready. With the help of our cadre (especially a Sergeant First Class from the 75th Ranger Regiment) and after 4 months of intense 2-hour PT sessions, smoke sessions, and early mornings of training, we were ready. Throughout the ruck march course, we completely dominated all of the physical events, but had made some mistakes on the Land Nav Course and in Map Reading. Out of ten teams, our Team 2 got fifth and Team One got 2nd.



After the shocking news, I called both teams together. I told them, "Don't treat this like a defeat. You have all worked so hard achieved so much. You all are more disciplined, have tons of military knowledge, and could out-PT any of the other teams here. And bring the trophy home next year." I also heard another cadet from the teams say, "Fullerton takes Ranger Challenge way too seriously." Needless to say, he is right.



Thanks to the CSUF ROTC Ranger Challenge program, I have gone to Airborne School, the 26-mile Bataan Death (ruck) March in New Mexico, the German Armed Forces Badge of Proficiency, an Infantry Officer internship program with 2/35, 25th ID in Scholfield Barracks, HI, as well as helping me immensely with my accessions process and branching Infantry. Second Semester, I was made Battalion Commander of the ROTC Battalion and I contribute all of my success to Ranger Challenge. My future goals are to attend the Infantry Basic Officer Course, Ranger School, and submit my packet to the Ranger Regiment or try out for selection. CSUF appreciates the support Chapter 78 SFA gives to Titan Battalion and we look forward to helping/participating in future events together.





2011 SFA NATIONAL CONVENTION

A CONVENTION FOR THE AGES AND FAMILY
AS WELL



DATES: 22 to 27 June 2011

LOCATION: ORLANDO, FL

VENUE: ORLANDO WORLD CENTER MARRIOTT

Chapter LXXXV has been planning and preparing for the 2011 Convention for the past two years. Their goal is to present not only a truly memorable SFA Convention but also one with a strong commitment to an event that the total family will enjoy.

The Convention will take place at one of the largest convention hotels in the country. The "Orlando World Center Marriott" (www.marriottworldcenter.com) is located in the heart of the Orlando vacation and entertainment area with direct access to and from the airport. It is a family vacation oriented golf and spa resort.

The Resort is the hub for a very large full service destination. The facility has almost a million square feet of convention space, an 18 hole golf course, five outdoor swimming pools, one indoor heated pool, driving range (for us to use for drop zone, helicopters and hot air balloons), tennis, beach volleyball, game rooms, a full service spa, a dozen bars and restaurants, complimentary use of saunas, steam rooms, whirlpools, Nautilus equipment, cardio theater, and a fully equipped health and fitness center. All hotel rooms having balconies, free Internet service, coffee, daily newspaper, etc.

The daily room rate for the convention is only \$114.00 plus tax (for singles, doubles, triple or quad rooms), and if anyone wishes to stay longer, the rate will be honored for three days before and after the convention dates. The hotel will begin accepting room reservations after the first week in July 2010 for SFA members and guests (800-228-9290 or 800-621-0638). Our website SF85.ORG should be up and running by July 5th 2010 that will allow you to register for the convention online, register for a hotel room online, view the entire hotel and the Orlando attractions, shopping, dining, etc. Our website will also have the information for those Chapters, businesses or individuals that are sponsoring one of the SF wounded (with or without family) or one of the SF KIA families to attend the convention.

We strongly recommend anyone wanting a room for three, four or more occupants, that you reserve a triple or quad room in July or August, and the same goes for the limited number of handicapped rooms.





1ST SPECIAL FORCES REUNION
2011
TAMPA FLORIDA

ANNOUNCEMENT

1ST SPECIAL FORCES GROUP REUNION

TAMPA FLORIDA JUNE 17 TO JUNE 22

2011

DATE: JUNE 17, 2011 (Check-in, Friday) to JUNE 22, 2011 (Check-out, Wednesday) Total 5 Nights

In deciding the dates, we gave consideration to the timing of the Special Forces Association convention for those that wish to attend both. The SFA has its national convention in nearby Orlando immediately following our 1st SFG Reunion (starting June 23rd). Travel time from Tampa to Orlando is approximately 1 hour by US Interstate 4.

LOCATION: **DOUBLETREE GUEST SUITES TAMPA BAY**
This is an all-suite hotel on the water overlooking Tampa Bay in the Rocky Point area and minutes from the Tampa International Airport.

RESERVE ON LINE

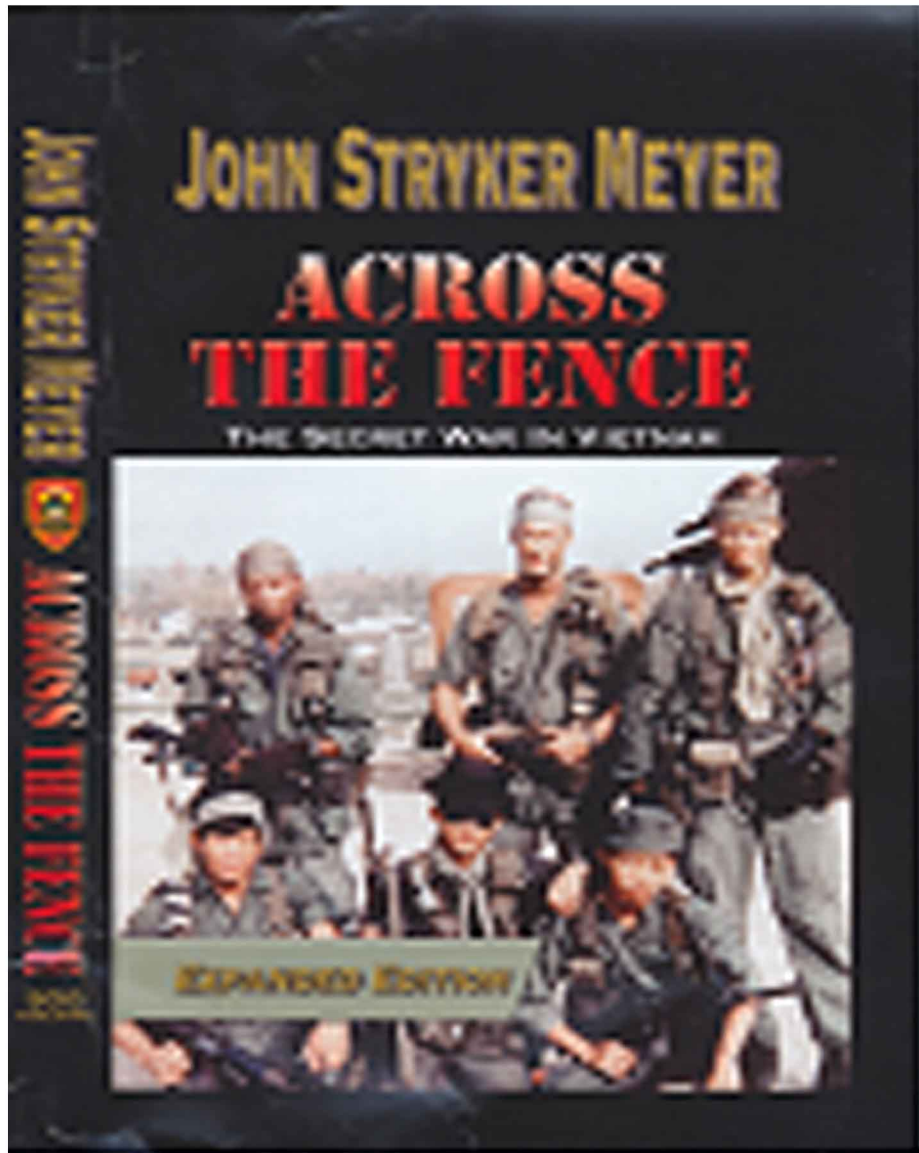
<http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/TPARHDT-SF1-20110617/index.jhtml>

Remember: Suites are \$99 plus tax including standard American Breakfast; access suites are the same price; bay views are \$5 more per night. Upgrade to full buffet breakfast is \$8 more per night.

OR RESERVE BY TELEPHONE

1 (800) 888-8800

Be sure to say that you are attending the 1st Special Forces Group Reunion to get your special room rate. Don't delay: you must make reservations prior to 07 May 2011 or we lose the rooms.



John Stryker Meyer's stunning new book is finally here! His book, "Accross the Fence" was a behind the scenes look at SOG activities from the eyes of a real Operator who did it all. This new expanded version includes new stories and additional information never before released. Beat the rush and get one ahead of the line. Tilt will be selling books at the Chapter meeting this Saturday and will autograph it for you. If you can't make a metting then you can always email him at: idaхоonezero@sbcglobal.net



Special Forces Association Chapter 78

Next meeting

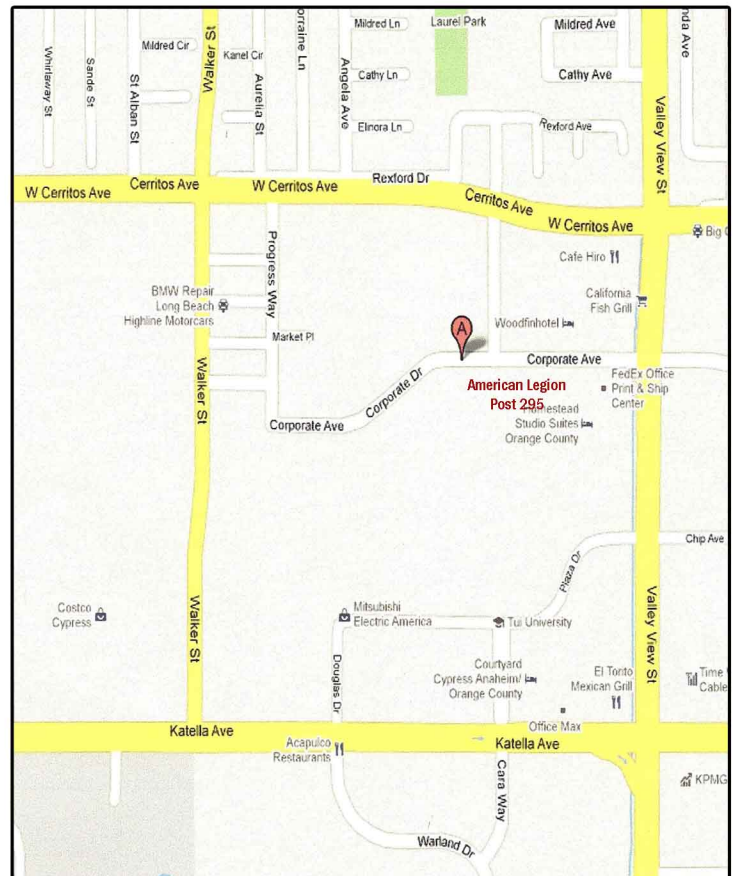
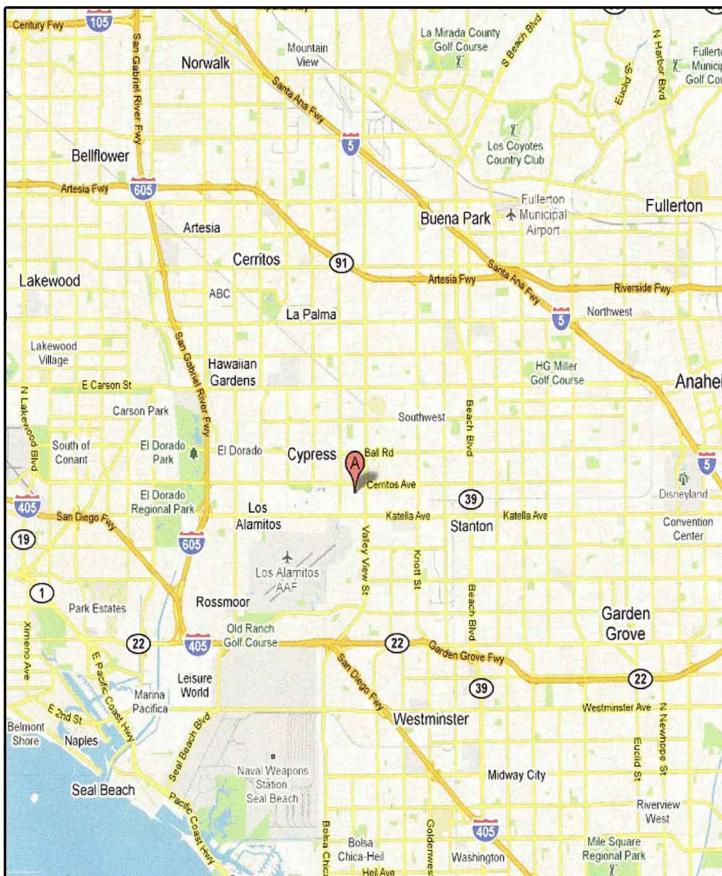
March 12, 2010 0900 Hrs

Guest Speaker

Dr. Driedre Lopez will address the Chapter 78 membership regarding Combat Related Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Dr Lopez is a graduate of Columbia University Class of 1995. She has been treating Combat PTSD patients and Substance Abuse behavior at VAMC Long Beach for the past three years. She will discuss the causes, symptoms and what treatments are available at VAMC Long Beach. All members are urged to attend this informative meeting and discussion.

5646 Corporate Way Cypress, CA 90630

Map to the Post 295



**Raffle, guest speakers, breakfast and more.
American Legion Post 295**

Special Forces Association Chapter 78

Shooters Cup

08OCT2011



To be held at
Mike Raahuage Shooting Enterprises
Corona, CA

A fundraiser for The Green Beret Foundation
sponsored by Special Forces Association Chapter 78



Special Forces Association Chapter 78

Inaugural Shooters Cup

08OCT2011

WHO:

SFA Chapter 78 is hosting this 1st Annual Shooters Cup. Military Teams, Military Veteran Organizations and Law Enforcement teams are welcome. Only a limited number of teams will be allowed to compete.

WHAT:

A 5 Event Team Action Pistol Shoot. SFA Chapter 78 is hosting this 1st Annual Challenge Cup. Events will test the team's accuracy speed, physical stamina and target selection. Only 5 shooters per team.

WHEN:

08OCT2011 - 0730

WHERE:

Mike Raahuage Shooting Enterprises
14995 River Rd., Corona, CA 92880 (951) 735-7981,

WHY:

To help our own. Please help us to raise money and awareness to benefit
THE GREEN BERET FOUNDATION.

To be a part of this SFA Chapter 78 1st Annual Shooters Cup please contact Special Forces Association Chapter 78 at Sfa78shootercup@gmail.com

Teams must pre-register. There will be no registration on the day of the event.

Please visit us at

www.sfa78cup.com



Date: 08 OCT 2011/0800

Sponsoring

Organization: SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78

Location: MIKE RAAHUAGE SHOOTING ENTERPRISES
14995 River Road, Corona, CA 92880

Purpose: To help our own. Raise money and awareness to benefit THE GREEN BERET FOUNDATION. Green Beret Foundation provides financial resources for various health and welfare programs that assist the wounded, ill or injured Special Forces warrior where other organizations cannot or will not assist. They also provide family assistance and care for those families affected by their loved one's death, illness, or injury due to their service.

Concept: Chapter 78 is hosting the 1st Annual Challenge Cup. This is a 5 event team pistol shoot. Events will test the team's accuracy, speed, physical stamina and target selection. Teams consist of 5 shooters per team with a goal of 10 teams this first year. Invitations will be extended to the South West Region Special Forces Association Chapters, 19th SFG(A), USASOC, MARSOC, NAVSOC, LAPD, LA County Sheriffs Dept and other local law enforcement agencies. Chapter 78 will recover the operating cost of the event and then donate 90 percent of the remaining earnings to the Green Beret Foundation.

Entry Fee: The entry fee is \$250 dollars per team.

Awards: The Cup will be awarded to the winning team by Medal of Honor awardee COL. Roger Donlon United States Army Special Forces (RET). Col. Donlon was the first soldier to be awarded the MOH of the Vietnam War and the first Special Forces soldier ever to receive the medal. The cup will remain with winning team for a period of one year. At the end of that year the team will be invited back with the cup to defend the title or lose and give it up to another team. We will also recognize the best individual shooter with a Top Shooter Award. This event is being hosted by Special Forces tabbed guys so there is nothing for second place and below except "Thanks for playing and see you next year."

Donations: We are actively seeking support in the form of monetary or a product donation from our local community and the industry that helps protect our warriors in harm's way. You prayed for them, provided them with helmets, gloves, and body armor while they fought. Now these warriors and their family's need your support. Their battles may be over but they are still fighting for their lives.

