

From the Editor | August 2026



How Miller
Sentinel Editor

A dream trip combined with a pilgrimage, that's what 6 Chapter 78 members and some wives undertook, along with a thoroughly involved tour group, **Walk Among Heroes**. Some of them describe the intense experience here. You will also see pictures of some of the tributes that have been added or preserved through the ensuing years since **6 June, 1944** along the Normandy coast. Among the surprises were the very appreciative attitudes of the local residents. **There is more to come next month in Part 2.**

But first, another Green Beret has recently been awarded the **Medal of Honor** for his actions in Afghanistan before he joined Special Forces. Then **2LT Nicholas Dockery** helped his unit survive by having them charge an ambush and placing himself repeatedly between members of his unit and enemy fire, including a grenade. See the writeup to hear this incredible tale.

Author **Greg Walker**, received an unusual request from **COL Martin Stanton** when he picked him up to drive him to the Green Zone in Baghdad. The Colonel wanted to stop by the Al Rasheed Hotel on the way for personal reasons. After readily agreeing, Greg found out why. When the Colonel was in Iraq before, he was being held there by Sadaam Hussein's youngest son Uday as a hostage/ human shield during the runup to desert Storm. This time he was visiting as a victor.

The Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation announced another milestone in their years-long process to realize the memorial. They have revealed the **initial design concept** after a long outreach for input from the public for what they wanted the memorial to convey. The reveal was live and videotaped: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMbjt0-hHNg>. You might want to skip the first fifteen minutes which is dedicated to current sponsors.

The Special Operators Association (**SOA**) is a sister organization, comprised largely of MACV SOG Green Berets.

A large percentage of their members are also SFA members. **Jim Suber**, a Chapter 78 Gold Star Member is also a member of SOA due to having lost his brother **Randy Suber** on a SOG operation. Jim shares with us his address to an SOA convention about his brother Randy, Jim's experience of Randy's loss, and how SOA has brought him and his family comfort.

With our chapter president James McLanahan in Normandy and VP Don Deatherage also on vacation, Chapter Secretary Gary Macnamara led our June meeting. **James Stejskal** told us about **T.E. Lawrence** (of Arabia), a WWI special operative, and his book about him **Masters of Mayhem**. We invite you to see some photos of our meeting.

As always, please enjoy and keep sending in your stories about your SF deployments. Thanks again for the many stories we have already published. ❖

How Miller, *Sentinel* Editor

Independence, California Veterans Memorial Park Proposal Moves Forward



MG John Singlaub, an Independence native and Special Forces legend, will be honored at the proposed memorial.

By Debra Holm

In the September 2025 *Sentinel*, we reported that a proposal to create a Veterans Memorial Park in Independence met unexpected resistance when it was presented to the Inyo County Board of Supervisors the previous July.

The plans for the memorial are alive and well. The working committee will soon return before the Board to seek approval for the project once again, having spent the past several months revising the plans based on the feedback received.

Although some believed the memorial proposal had come to an end just a few months ago, the widespread support from the community has inspired the committee to persevere.

Recently, the Turner Barnes VFW Post 8036 Auxiliary sent a letter to the Board expressing its strong support for the project. Dr. Bob Reed, a member of the working committee, shared the letter with the *Sentinel*. In it, the Auxiliary endorses the project and, in particular, the park's four key components:

- The prominent display of a 30' x 50' American flag, surrounded by the flags representing each branch of military service, serving as a powerful symbol of unity and sacrifice.
- The monument honoring Major General John Singlaub, a distinguished third-generation war hero who served our nation in three wars.
- The Wall of Honor, recognizing Inyo County veterans who have received combat decorations ranging from the Medal of Honor to the Silver Star.
- The inclusive element of engraved bricks, benches, and features that will honor all veterans of Inyo County, ensuring every service member's contribution is remembered.

As we receive updates on developments and progress, we will pass them onto you. ❖