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Meetings

The Chapter 120 membership meeting will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Machinists Union Hall, 357 Main St., East Hartford.

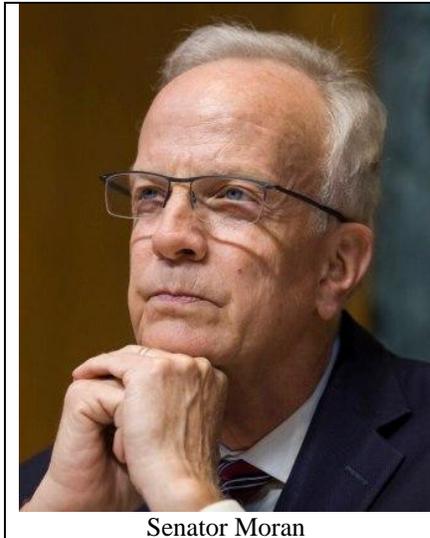
The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, February 27 at 7:00pm. Call the Chapter office for any changes in schedule. Chapter members are welcomed to attend.

Notice

If you have moved or changed your address, PLEASE notify us immediately. Call the Chapter office at (860) 568-9212, mail us at the address on the back of this newsletter or e-mail the Newsletter editor at ctchapter120@aol.com.

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Meet the new boss: Moran named chairman of Senate vets committee



Senator Moran

Senate Republicans officially named Kansas Sen. Jerry Moran as the new chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, putting him in line to be a pivotal figure in veterans' policy in the months ahead.

The move was anticipated for months, since former chairman Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., announced his retirement in late summer. Moran was considered the likely replacement, but no formal action was taken until after Isakson stepped down from his Senate seat at the end of December.

In a statement, Moran said he is committed to "ensuring our veterans

have the right resources at the right time to achieve success after service" in his new role leading the committee.

"There is no group of people I hold in higher regard than those who serve our nation, and I take seriously the responsibility of providing our veterans with the best our country has to offer," he said. "I have always relied on veterans to help drive policy decisions in Washington, and I will continue to look to those who have served for ideas and solutions to improve the lives of their fellow service members."

Moran has served on the Senate veterans committee since his election to the chamber in 2011. Before that, as a representative from Kansas, he served for 12 years on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

In recent years he has been an influential voice on veterans' health care issues before the committee, pushing for expanded community care options outside the VA health system. He has said suicide prevention and toxic exposure issues will be atop his priority list for the coming congressional session.

Moran's chairmanship comes amid significant leadership changes in veterans' policy for Republican lawmakers on Capitol Hill. Along with Isakson's departure, House Veterans' Affairs Committee ranking member (and former committee chairman) Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., announced last week he will not seek reelection this year.

Isakson's replacement in the Senate, Georgia Republican Kelly Loeffler, will also sit on the chamber's veterans committee.

CHAPTER 120 OFFICE 568-9212

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All Telephone Numbers are Area Code 860 unless otherwise noted

Chapter/State News

Chapter members deliver coats to Newington VA



Chapter 120 members delivered winter coats to Newington VA in January. The coats were donated by Ocean State Job Lot via Easter Seals of Norwich CT. **Left to right:** Phil Morneault, Frank Zizzamia, Peter Lund, Roger Anderson, Pamela Moran (VA Volunteer Services Coordinator), Kathryn Lechause and her brother Fran Macsata (Iraq War veteran)

Evelyn F. (Arnett) Feder



Evelyn Faye (Arnett) Feder, 75, of Manchester, CT, passed away January 3, 2020 after fighting a courageous battle against breast cancer and congestive heart failure. She was born January 28, 1944 daughter of the late John Arnett and Doris (Bowman) Arnett.

She worked for over 30 years for Thrall's and First Student School Bus Co. Evelyn enjoyed 40+ years at her summer home at Indianfield Campground with many friends. She enjoyed boat rides around the lake, sitting by the campfire and cooking breakfast and dinner for the

family. She loved to square dance and was a member of the Marlboro Country Squares.

Along with her parents, Evelyn was predeceased by her sister Lynda Arnett. She is survived by her husband Roger C. Feder; her son Robert J. Campanelli Jr; her daughter Lynda D. Feder-Craney and husband Tom Craney; three very special grandsons Carl and wife Abby, Christopher, Cody; her siblings John, Don, Al, Andy, Nancy. She also leaves many nieces and nephews.

Calling Hours were held Thursday, January 9, 2020 at Holmes-Watkins Funeral Home at 400 Main St., Manchester, CT. A Graveside Service was on Friday, January 10, 2020 at East Cemetery 220 East Center St Manchester, CT, assembly at the gravesite.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to National Breast Cancer Foundation, www.nationalbreastcancer.org, American Diabetes Association, www.diabetes.org, American Heart Association, www.heart.org.

Chapter 120 extends our condolences and prayers to our Brother, Chapter 120 Life member Roger Feder and his family.

Birthday Wishes

Birthday wishes go to our members born in February. May you have many more!

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Vernon Bertrand</i> | <i>Paul S. Egan</i> |
| <i>Michael Kane</i> | <i>Kathryn M. Lechause</i> |
| <i>Richard Linnon</i> | <i>Robert Longworth</i> |
| <i>Diana Mello</i> | <i>George T. Miller</i> |
| <i>Joseph Rinaldi</i> | <i>Roger Rowley</i> |
| <i>Robert Savino</i> | <i>Earl J. Schofield</i> |
| <i>Francis T. Schulze</i> | <i>Timothy M. Siggia</i> |
| <i>Joe C. Visco</i> | |

Happy Birthday!

POW/MIA News



Pilot Accounted For From Vietnam War

On January 9, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced that Air Force Maj. Neal C. Ward, 23, of College Station, Texas, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for July 19, 2019.

In June 1969, Ward was a pilot assigned to the 602nd Special Operations Squadron. On June 13, 1969, Ward was piloting an A-1H Skyraider (tail number 52-134614, call sign "Firefly 20") as the lead in a flight of two on an armed reconnaissance mission in northern Laos. Both aircraft made four bombing runs on a target, after which Ward started a strafing run. His wingman followed but broke off when he could not complete his run without entering the clouds. During his recovery, the wingman saw automatic weapons muzzle flashes coming from the target area, followed immediately by a large fire and explosion. The wingman could not make contact with Ward and did not observe a parachute or hear any distress calls. The wingman made a pass over the target area and saw debris, but was unable to identify it as aircraft wreckage. Because of hostile enemy activity, a ground search could not be conducted. On June 20, 1978, the Department of the Air Force changed Ward's status to deceased.



Between 1993 and 2018, joint U.S./Lao People's Democratic Republic teams investigated a crash site allegedly associated with Ward's loss, recommending it for excavation. The site was excavated and teams recovered possible human remains and personal items. The remains were sent to the DPAA laboratory for analysis.

To identify Ward's remains, scientists from DPAA used anthropological analysis, as well as material and circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) analysis.

Today, 1,587 American servicemen and civilians remain unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. Ward's name is engraved on the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, and the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with others who are unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Ward will be buried in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. The date has yet to be determined.

On The Hill



From Stars & Stripes

House VA committee's top Republican will not seek reelection

Rep. Phil Roe, the ranking Republican of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, announced Friday that he will not seek another term in Congress.

"As someone who practiced medicine for over 30 years, I said I would serve five or six terms because I never intended this job to be a second career. After prayerful consideration, I have decided to retire at the end of the 116th Congress," Roe said in a statement.

Kathleen McCarthy, a spokeswoman

for Roe, declined to comment further on the reason for his retirement.

During Roe's time on the VA committee, the Tennessee congressman played a critical role in high-profile legislation on veterans' care including the Mission Act, a landmark effort to help veterans seek care outside VA facilities. He said he will finish his current term, which ends in January 2021.

"As a veteran, I was honored to be selected to chair the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs in 2017," Roe said. "I had one, three and six-year legislative goals for the committee: to increase access to care, improve the electronic health records system, review VA assets to ensure an effective use of resources, and bring true accountability to the department."

From Stars & Stripes

Thousands of Korean-American veterans could get VA care under new bill

Thousands of Korean-American veterans could be eligible for health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs if a new bill introduced in the House granting them federal care is approved.

The Korean American Vietnam Allies Long Overdue for Relief Act, introduced by Rep. Gil Cisneros, D-Calif., would entitle roughly 3,000 Korean American veterans, who are naturalized citizens, access to health care through the VA. So far, only naturalized foreign troops from World War I and World War II have been allowed to receive care at VA facilities, according to the department.

"Korean American Vietnam Veterans may have served under a different flag during the Vietnam War, but they served with the same duty, honor, and valor as our United States service

members,” Cisneros, who serves on the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, said in a statement.

Korean Americans suffered from the same injuries as American troops in the Vietnam War, including post-traumatic stress disorder and exposure to the chemical herbicide Agent Orange.

However, despite becoming naturalized citizens, they are not recognized as U.S. veterans because they served in the Korean military during the war. Additionally, since South Korea considers them foreign nationals, their access to benefits in that country is limited.

“Suffering significant injuries from service, it’s unacceptable that nearly 3,000 of these patriots and United States citizens are unable to access health care from the VA,” Cisneros said.

More than 325,000 Korean soldiers served in Vietnam between 1964 and 1973, making them the largest contingent of troops sent by allies of the United States other than South Vietnam. Soldiers from Thailand, the Philippines, Canada, Australia and New Zealand also served in Vietnam. During the war, 4,407 Republic of Korea troops were killed and 17,606 were injured, according to Korean American Veterans of the Vietnam War, a veterans’ advocacy group.

Veterans Affairs News



From MilitaryTimes

Study results on new Agent Orange diseases not expected until ‘late 2020’ says VA secretary

The day President Donald Trump signed a funding bill including a provision ordering VA to announce its plans to add four conditions to the list of Agent Orange-linked diseases within 30 days, VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said the decision wasn’t likely to come until at least “late 2020.”

In a letter to Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., dated Dec. 20 and obtained by Military Times, Wilkie said he would not make a decision until the results of two long-awaited studies are submitted to or published in scientific journals.

In March, VA officials told members of Congress that the decision would be announced within 90 days.

Then Wilkie said he was just awaiting the results of the studies — the Vietnam Era Health Retrospective Observational Study, or VE-HEROES, and the Vietnam Era Mortality Study — expected in 2019.

But the requirement that the results be analyzed, peer-reviewed and in the publication pipeline could add months to the process. VE-HEROES results are currently “being analyzed,” while data from the mortality study is “expected to be available for peer review and publication in late 2020,” Wilkie wrote in the letter.

It’s unclear whether VA plans to comply with the new law that requires it to announce its plans on a decision within the 30-day requirement.



For the 83,000 veterans with one of three conditions under consideration, including bladder cancer, Parkinson’s-like symptoms or hypothyroidism, as well as an unknown number of Vietnam veterans with high blood pressure, the wait continues.

“Since we first spoke in 2016, I have been diagnosed with bladder cancer ... I also have hypothyroidism,” retired Army Sgt. Maj. John Mennitto told Military Times. “My greatest concern for me and my fellow veterans who have debilitating diseases caused by exposure to Agent Orange is that our family members will be left with nothing.”

Just how many Vietnam veterans have one or more of the four proposed presumptive conditions is unknown; VA did not have the data readily available by press time.

What is known is that some veterans will die waiting. While the 10-year survival rate for bladder cancer is high — 77 percent — the mortality rate for in the U.S. bladder cancer is 4.2 deaths per 100,000 people, according to the National Cancer Institute.

“William F. Brown. DECEASED. 10/31/2019. Can a claim be filed since he is now DECEASED?” recently widowed Debra Brown asked in an email to Military Times.

Senate Democrats stepped up pressure on the Trump administration to issue a decision after documents surfaced that showed Office of Management and Budget Director and Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney was personally involved in blocking an announcement of the decision on three of the diseases planned in 2017 by former Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin.

Mulvaney and other OMB officials said VA must provide more “compelling evidence” to prove the link between the proposed diseases and exposure.

Lawmakers, including Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York, and Rep. Josh Harder, a California Democrat who previously introduced a House resolution urging President Donald Trump to add the diseases to the presumptive medical conditions list, have said “VA needs to get its act together.”

“We have the science. We have the backing of our veterans. We even have bipartisan agreement in Congress. It’s time for the VA to catch up,” Harder said.

From Stars & Stripes

VA inspector general warns long wait times could continue with Mission Act reforms



Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General

Department of Veterans Affairs patients seeking private sector health care saw a nearly two-month delay for medical appointments in 2018 and the problem could worsen under the new Mission Act, the VA Office of Inspector General reported Thursday, January 16.

The inspector general’s report based its conclusions on the region of VA hospitals that includes 1.6 million veterans across Florida, South Georgia, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. VA officials in that region referred more than 206,500 requests in 2018 for community care at clinics outside the VA network, with veterans facing a 56-day wait on average before receiving care, according to the report.

The findings highlight the wait times problem could balloon under the VA reforms of the Mission Act, which was approved into law in 2018. The Mission Act, one of the most consequential veteran care efforts in years, aims to expand the scope of private sector care that veterans can receive outside the VA network. The measure was a response to the VA wait-time scandal in 2014, hoping to expedite veteran’s access to treatment. An investigation by the VA inspector general into the scandal found 35 veterans died while waiting for care from VA facilities in Phoenix and found a pattern of officials in the department falsifying records.

The inspector general said the number of patients seeking community care will increase from 684,000 to 3.7 million, now that the eligibility for veterans to seek private care has expanded under the Mission Act.

The VA inspector general found in its report that the problem in 2018 was driven by the lack sufficient administrative staffing at VA medical centers. In 2018, 39% of patients were sent for treatment outside a VA hospital because the government’s facilities could not provide care in a timely manner, investigators reported. Now with the Mission Act passed, the workload to transfer VA patients to private hospitals could swell.

“While the VA is in the process of hiring well-trained staff to streamline the scheduling process, they will also need the right technology and data solutions to make community care appointments more seamless for veterans,” Sen. Jerry Moran, R-Kan., chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,

said in a statement. “The VA’s implementation of the VA Mission Act is a top priority and an issue the committee will be examining closely in the coming months.”

Investigators put the bulk of the blame on Health Net, a contractor who handled some of the VA’s referral process, but no longer does business with the department. But after the VA stopped working with Heath Net, department staff still struggled to keep up with workload of referrals to community care, according to the IG’s report. Despite the VA beefing up its hiring every year, federal auditors found five out of seven facilities in the region lack enough administrative staff as of October 2018. A VA spokesperson said the region has remedied some of the issues with lag time.

“This report focuses on events that occurred two years ago and highlights the fact that community care providers had issues getting claims processed through Health Net,” said Mary Kay Rutan, a VA spokeswoman. “[The region] has now implemented an industry-standard referral and authorization management system that streamlines community care consults and referrals.”

Operation Babylift Veterans receive retroactive benefits through VA help

VBA and Air Force Historical Research Agency (AFHRA) researchers recently discovered military records confirming the participation of Air Force personnel who deployed to Vietnam for Operation Babylift.



Babies are strapped into airplane seats enroute to LAX during "Operation Babylift" with airlifted orphans from Vietnam to the US. April 12, 1975.

Since many Veterans’ personnel files didn’t include participation in this operation, these Veterans could not prove Republic of Vietnam service. The discovery has led to VA awarding retroactive benefits to eligible Operation Babylift participants and survivors.

Evacuating Saigon

Operation Babylift began during the evacuation of Saigon from April to June 1975. Hundreds of Air Force security, police and other service members went on temporary duty (TDY) orders to travel from Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines to Tan Son Nhut, to evacuate US, Vietnamese and other third-country nationals at the end of the Vietnam War.

Clara Beheler, a VBA Quality Review Specialist at the Roanoke Regional Office, was working a claim for an Air Force Veteran who stated that he was sent TDY to Vietnam in support of these operations. She was unable to verify the Veteran's participation based on the documents in his personnel file, service treatment records, or through extensive online research.

Beheler, however, was not deterred. She contacted Barry Spink, a researcher from AFHRA at Maxwell AFB, Ala., to assist her in finding records for this event. After an exhaustive search of archival records that lasted many months, Spink found the records that confirmed participation.

"I was so excited for all of the Veterans and survivors that I knew would be helped by finding these records," Beheler said. "Whenever I can find information that places a Veteran in Vietnam, it makes my whole day."

Above and beyond

The TDY orders that Beheler and Spink found didn't just confirm Vietnam service for the Veteran whose claim she was working, it also confirmed in-country service for hundreds of other Veterans—many of whom had claims previously denied due to a lack of documentation. The list included the names of 296 security forces personnel that supported Saigon airlift operations.

As a result of the find, VBA was able to grant the first claim. It paid benefits to the 87-year-old surviving spouse who was previously denied Dependency and Indemnity Compensation in 1988. Ironically, the spouse had also participated in Operation Babylift. She lived at Clark AFB at the time and greeted the women and children as they stopped there on their way to the United States.

Beheler's team didn't stop there. With this new-found information, the records research team began examining other similar claims.

"Finding these records are life changing for so many people," Beheler said.

To date, VBA has awarded nearly half a million dollars in retroactive benefits to 16 Veterans or survivors—with more coming in the next few months.

From the Service Rep's Desk



VA Fact Sheet: Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act 2019

Public Law 116-23, (Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act 2019) Public Law 116-23, (Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act 2019) was signed into law on June 25, 2019 and takes effect January 1,

2020. The law extends a presumption of herbicide exposure to Blue Water Navy Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam and the offshore waters. Blue Water Navy Survivors, and certain dependents may be entitled to benefits if the Veteran was exposed.

Under the law, certain Veterans, who served in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam and Cambodia, or who had service in the Korean Demilitarized zone (DMZ), may be entitled to disability compensation for conditions that are related to herbicide exposure. The law also provides benefits for children born with spina bifida whose parent was a Veteran with verified herbicide exposure in Thailand.

To be entitled to VA benefits, these Veterans must have served between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, and have one or more of the conditions that are listed in section 3.309(e) of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations.

Conditions related to presumed herbicide exposure:

- Amyloid light-chain (AL) amyloidosis
- Chloracne, or other acneform disease consistent with chloracne
- Chronic B-cell leukemias
- Diabetes mellitus, Type 2
- Ischemic heart disease
- Hodgkin's lymphoma, formerly known as Hodgkin's disease
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma
- Parkinson's disease
- Peripheral neuropathy, early-onset
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx or trachea)
- Soft-tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma)

How do I file a claim for disability compensation or survivor benefits?

- Apply using the guidance at www.va.gov, www.va.gov/disability/dependency-indemnity-compensation OR
- For initial compensation claims, submit a VA Form 21-526EZ;
- For initial DIC claims, submit a VA Form 21P-534EZ;

- For previously denied claims, submit a VA Form 20-0995 OR
- VA-accredited Veterans Service Organization representative, attorney, or claims agent OR
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you. You can find your regional office on our Facility Locator page at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/offices.asp>

What should be included when filing a claim?

- State on your application that you are filing for one of the conditions related to presumed herbicide exposure such as Agent Orange.
- Include any evidence you have of service in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam during the required timeframe.
- Include the name(s) of the vessel(s) and the date(s) you served within 12 nautical miles of the Republic of Vietnam, if you have that information.
- Provide medical evidence showing a diagnosis of a current condition related to exposure to herbicide such as Agent Orange or tell us where you are being treated.

For more information on how to apply and for tips on making sure your claim is ready to be processed by VA, visit our Disability Compensation web page at www.va.gov/disability/

Receive “The Connection” by E-Mail

The monthly Chapter 120 newsletter, *The Connection*, is available by e-mail. Currently, 100 members receive the newsletter by e-mail, saving the Chapter over \$1,600 in printing and postal fees annually. The newsletter is available in Adobe format (.pdf), attached to your e-mail. If you wish to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please e-mail the newsletter editor at ctchapter120@aol.com

VVA Membership Change

On October 20, 2018, VVA's National Board of Directors passed a motion to have one class of membership: Life membership. All active and pending three-year members have been converted to life members. This change was reflected on the October 2018 membership roster. After October 31, 2018, all dues payments received for one-year membership will be refunded along with instructions for renewing as a life member. Active one-year members will remain active until their current term expires and are invited to renew as life members thereafter. The link to the membership renewal application is <https://vva.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/VVA-Member-EZ-Renewal-Form.pdf>

From *Vietnam Magazine*, February 2020 Edition

Army Holder of the Top Three Awards for Valor in Combat: Robert Lewis Howard



Robert Lewis Howard was the consummate warrior. Wounded 14 times in 54 months, he earned eight Purple Hearts and was the only Army member in Vietnam to earn all three top combat decorations: Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star.

Howard, born in Opelika, Alabama, in 1939, enlisted in 1956 and deployed to Vietnam in July 1965 with the 101st Airborne Division. After the first of four Vietnam tours, he went through Special Forces training and returned in 1967 as a sergeant first class in the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne).

On Nov. 27, 1967, he was an adviser to a reconnaissance patrol that discovered an enemy bunker complex near the Laotian border. Moving to a point right next to one bunker and pinned down by machine gun fire only 6 inches above his head, Howard threw a grenade into an opening, killing those inside. Later, coming under more machine gun fire, he grabbed an anti-tank weapon, “stood up amid a withering hail of bullets, fired his weapon, and completely demolished the position,” states an award citation. Howard was nominated for the Medal of Honor but received the Distinguished Service Cross.

In a battle deep in enemy territory Nov. 12-20, 1968, Howard was wounded repeatedly in fighting that resulted in heavy casualties requiring an evacuation of several men. A medevac helicopter was shot down in flames, and a wounded Howard dashed some 150 yards to the crashed chopper to rescue a trapped pilot. Three hours later, another helo arrived for the wounded, but Howard refused to leave the battle. He was nominated for the Medal of Honor but would be awarded the Silver Star.

Howard displayed more heroics a few weeks later. On Dec. 29, 1968, Green Beret Sgt. Robert F. Scherdin was part a 10-man team helicoptered into the area where Laos and Cambodia intersect with South Vietnam. The team split up, and both elements were attacked. Scherdin, leading four Montagnard tribesmen in the rear patrol, was severely wounded, unable to stand.

Enemy fire forced the patrol to withdraw, leaving Scherdin behind.

The following morning Lt. James Jerson was inserted with his Special Forces commando platoon and a small group of Montagnards to rescue Scherdin. Howard was the platoon sergeant.

As Jerson and Howard moved up a small hill, a remotely detonated mine exploded. Howard fell wounded. Upon regaining consciousness, he saw his lieutenant seriously wounded, his own weapon destroyed and the platoon under attack by a two-company force.

Howard, wounded in the legs and hand by a grenade, moved through a hail of fire to reach Jerson and began dragging him to cover while administering medical aid. A bullet struck a magazine on Jerson's ammunition pouch, causing several rounds to explode. Ducking for cover, then quickly returning to his lieutenant's side, Howard stuffed one of Jerson's legs into his armpit and dragged the officer to nearby undergrowth. Both men hid as an enemy patrol passed by to engage the main body of the platoon.

Howard then moved downhill, where he found a fellow Green Beret and obtained a .45-caliber pistol. The two men fought their way to Jerson and got him to the unit's perimeter. For 3½ hours and despite additional wounds, Howard "crawled from position to position, administering first aid to the wounded, giving encouragement to the defenders and directing their fire on the encircling enemy."

Finally, a helicopter rescued the platoon. Jerson died of his wounds, and Scherdin was missing in action, his remains yet to be recovered. For the third time, Howard was recommended for the Medal of Honor. President Richard Nixon presented the medal on March 2, 1971.

Howard died Dec. 23, 2009, and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



Newsletter articles/ stories/photos

Any articles, stories and/or photos submitted for the newsletter must be received by the "cut off" date for any given month. Photos must be accompanied by text which describes the event, names, dates and any other pertinent facts so our readers understand the story behind the photo(s). The newsletter editor will announce the "cut off" dates at each Chapter meeting. The "cut off" date for our March 2020 newsletter is 21 February 2020. Due to space availability, the editor reserves the right to include or not include photos for a given month.

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