



July 13, 2007

Subject: Meeting Minutes for Proposed VFW Post (Chiang Mai, Thailand)

Attendees:

Jim Oden District 5 Commander  
Ken Chapman  
Jerry Dunham  
Samuel Santisuk  
"J" Sapp  
Mike Holmes  
Bill Johnson  
Jerry Buffington  
Leonard Cozzo  
Mike Spain  
Randy Torrence  
David France

Absent:

George Olson  
Phil Williams  
William "Gador" Arnold  
Larry Fraser  
Herb Brown  
Bob Johnson  
Peter Noyes  
James Bogle

Meeting was convened with participants providing a brief background of their Service.

Jim Oden commented on the importance of a Chiang Mai Post and what could be offered. Of Particular interest was a discussion regarding the Service Officer position that would be filled to provide services to the Chiang Mai Post Members.

"Comrades" in Distress.

A discussion regarding William "Gador" Arnold with Jerry Buffington providing some very helpful information. Jim Oden, Mike Holmes and Jerry Buffington will make a house visit today and determine what additional assistance can be provided to William.

General discussion regarding the benefits of belonging to the VFW as well as information sources for veterans.

Mike Holmes indicated that he would be more than happy to be the interim Service Officer, until the Post is Chartered.

Mike's contact information: can be reached on his mobile. The number is: 0818419342.

Address: 83/29 Country Parkville  
Chiang Mai – Samoeng Road  
Hang Dong 50230

There was a discussion regarding SS Benefits as they relate to a spouse. Mike Spain was kind enough To provide some details as shown below.

Regarding the Social Security benefits that were discussed .

If you like, you can take a look at this url: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10137.html#additional> . Under the heading

### **Additional residency requirements for dependents and survivors ... is :**

The residency requirement will **not** apply to you if you meet any of the following conditions:

- You were initially eligible for monthly benefits before January 1, 1985; or
- You are entitled on the record of a worker who died while in the U.S. military service or as a result of a service-connected disease or injury; or
- You are a citizen of one of the countries listed below; or

#### **Status of Membership:**

Leonard Cozzo (application submitted with DD214)

Mike Spain (application submitted with DD214)

Gerald Raithel (application submitted with DD214)

Gene Hammer (application submitted with DD214)

“J” Sapp (application submitted with DD214)

Herb Brown (application submitted with DD214)

Peter Noyes (application submitted with DD214)

Larry Fraser (application submitted with DD214)

Randal Torrence (application submitted with DD214)

Arden Davis (application submitted pending DD214)

William “Gador” Arnold (application submitted with DD214)

Bill Johnson (application and DD214 pending)

Daniel J. Brown (application and DD214 pending)

Gerald Buffington (application pending submitted DD214

Once the pending information is submitted for the above, we will be at 14 for Charter purposes.

**Looks like we will have about 56 % of our goal for a Charter which is a full 16 % ahead of last month. Only 11 more members to go.**

**A big WELCOME to “Gador” who signed up during the “house visit” by Mike, Jerry and Jim.**

**For those of you who have expressed an interest to join and could not make the July Meeting I would like to suggest that you contact me via email and I can forward to you an application. My mail details have already been listed above which should make it easy for you. Remember that your first year dues will be paid for you. My email id is [coketaka@hotmail.com](mailto:coketaka@hotmail.com) . All I need is a completed application and a copy of your DD214 that shows a ribbon or medal from a conflict.**

**Note: Korean service over 30 continuous days or 60 days non-continuous anytime since 1949 to Date will qualify a person.**

Len Cozzo has made contact with potential members who are currently on active duty. Let's cross our fingers for some good luck

**Item:** Meetings will be held on the Second Thursday of the month beginning at **11:30** hrs.. The location will be the Bali Restaurant located in Muban Home in Park 1.4 kilometers south of the Chiang Mai – Samoeng Road, along Klong Road. This will be in effect until further notice.

**Status: Ongoing**

**Comments:**

The RAO in the Phillipines url is: [http://post\\_119\\_gulfport\\_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html](http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html) Cut and paste to your browser and prepare to be informed ! You can also subscribe for updates from Jim.

In the event that I have made an error in recording the minutes, please let me know and I will make the necessary change,

**NEXT MEETING – August 9, 2007 11:30 HRS.**

For the group:

Michael E. Holmes  
(original signed by)