

CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 717 "WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY"

The Department of California via District 22 is pleased to give our "Bravo Zulu" to Assemblyman Paul Cook, a retired USMC Colonel from USMCAGCC and local political figure from Morongo Valley for introducing and bringing, at last, a long overdue recognition of the service to our country to the Veterans of the Vietnam era.

On behalf of Governor Schwarzenegger, the VFW, Department of California was cordially invited to attend the signing ceremony for Assembly Bill 717 on Friday 25 September.

Representing the Department were Past Dept. Cmdr. Everett Martin and Chief of Staff-South Ron Rich. District 22 was represented by Commander Lee Quarcelino, Past Commander Fred Vogler, and Past District Presidents Jeannie Vogler and Judy Rich. Comrades from Joshua Tree Post 7264 Mike Hammer and Steve Dell (Vietnam Purple Heart recipient) and Sisters from Ladies Auxiliary Joshua Tree Gerry Hammer and Cathedral City Patty Chastain.

One of the speakers of unique involvement with the Vietnam era was actor John Voight.

The general opinion of all attendees was that the Bill was one more important step in healing the mental wounds of the Vets who were met by many with disrespect upon their return from honorable duty in Vietnam.