

**Subject: Re: I Know have the names of the 174th folks that flew into LZ Lolo, 03 Mar 71**

**Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 07:47:37 -0400**

**From:** "Robert Clewell" <[redacted]>  
**To:** "Mike Sloniker" <[redacted]> " [redacted]" <[redacted]>  
 "VHFCN-L" <[redacted]>  
**CC:** "Walker A. Jones" <[redacted]> "Tom Marshall" <[redacted]>  
 "Thomas Payne" <[redacted]>  
 "Stephen Knowles" <[redacted]> "Skip Butler" <[redacted]>  
 "Ron Turner" <[redacted]> "PJ Roths" <[redacted]>  
 "Pat Dougan" <[redacted]> "Neal Varner" <[redacted]>  
 "Mark Byrd" <[redacted]> "Mac Jones" <[redacted]>  
 "Kevin Crabtree, Shark62" <[redacted]> "Ken Mayberry" <[redacted]>  
 "keith d wysong" <[redacted]> <[redacted]>  
 "Jim Williams" <[redacted]> "JC Pennington" <[redacted]>  
 "Fred Thompson" <[redacted]> "Don Armstrong" <[redacted]>  
 "Dale Spratt" <[redacted]> "Butch Elliot" <[redacted]>

Cherish the memories. Kind of makes a man humble just to have been in and out of Laos a few times. Those boys earned their awards and were operating in a rough, new environment.

Easter is a special time of the year, and so is April 30th to many. We remember their gallantry on March 3rd well, but we also remember that of many others who performed nobly, often alone, often at night. (CAV, Recon, and SOG, true, but also fuel truck drivers, perimeter guards, operating room personnel, duty folks, and so many others, including ARVN). As well, the Easter Offensive in '72, and what came later in April '75.

One also has to say that the North Vietnamese were courageous. They died in great numbers. Meanwhile, the Vietnamese people themselves are just as freedom loving today as they ever have been. For every American who died in the war, there are at least a dozen Vietnamese-Americans living here today who would echo these sentiments. At least I hope they would.

It is very gratifying to see Army aviation serving just as proudly today, as we did then, and in some trying circumstances.

Every good wish Mike, and thanks for including me in the distribution.

Bob Clewell 'Boss 20 at LoLo' Comanchero 6 Oct '70-May '71

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mike Sloniker <[redacted]>  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]> VHFCN-L <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Walker A. Jones <[redacted]> Tom Marshall <[redacted]>  
 Thomas Payne <[redacted]> Stephen Knowles  
 [redacted] Skip Butler <[redacted]> Ron Turner  
 [redacted] Robert Clewell <[redacted]> PJ Roths  
 [redacted] Pat Dougan <[redacted]> Neal Varner  
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 [redacted] Kevin Crabtree, Shark62 <[redacted]> Ken  
 Mayberry <[redacted]> keith d wysong <[redacted]>  
 [redacted] Jim Williams

< [redacted] JC Pennington < [redacted] Fred Thompson  
< [redacted] Don Armstrong < [redacted] Dale Spratt  
< [redacted] Butch Elliot < [redacted]

Date: Friday, April 28, 2000 11:22 PM

Subject: I Know have the names of the 174th folks that flew into LZ Lolo, 03 Mar 71

>Fred Thompson, sent me the awards listed below of the 174th participants  
>that flew into LZ Lolo, or tried to fly into Lolo on 03 Mar 71  
>Picture at: <http://www.americal.org/174/lolo-pix.htm>  
>History at: <http://www.americal.org/174/lolo.htm>

>There are NO blanket statements on the awards listed below. They are  
>all different and specific concerning the person being honored:

- >SP4 Patrick Wade-DFC
- >WO1 Jack Fischer-DFC
- >SP5 William Wilder-DFC
- >SP4 David Rios- DFC
- >SP5 Larry Osborne-DFC
- >Maj Dale Spratt-SS
- >SP4 Bernie Bowers- AM/V
- >CPT Delbert Waugh-DFC, second award
- >SP4 Carl B. Ives- AM/V
- >SP4 Michael B. Hall-AM/V
- >SP4 Edwin H. Halverson-AM/V
- >SP5 Abel Gomes-AM/V
- >SGT Robert M. McGowen-ARCOM?V
- >SP5 Casey Reaves-DFC
- >SP4 Michael Swafford-SS
- >SP4 Thomas H. Petty-SS
- >CW2 Charles Blake-DFC
- >SP4 Gary Munson-DFC
- >1LT Robert H. Hackett-DFC
- >SP4 Danny Davison-DFC
- >SP4 Samuel G. Barnhurst-DFC
- >CPT John Bishop-DFC
- >WO1 Frederick Taylor-DFC
- >CPT Donald A. Peterson-DFC
- >PFC Jose M. Ahumada-DFC
- >PFC David P. Shereda-SS
- >SP4 Mark F. McEvoy-DFC
- >1LT Ronald A. Gishel-DFC
- >CPT Edward F. McGaffick-DFC
- >CPT Gregory Smith-DFC second award
- >SP4 Robert Jansen-DFC
- >CPT Charles Hays-DFC
- >SFC James Skelly-DFC
- >1LT Michael E. Edgecomb-DFC
- >SP5 Joseph A. Feazell-DFC
- >SP4 Henry Russell-DFC
- >WO1 Guy Martin-SS
- >WO1 Gregorr T. McMahon-SS
- >CPT Charles T Hays-SS
- >SP4 Charles T. Kinneman-SS
- >WO1 Dennis Fisher-SS
- >CPT William S. Early-DFC
- >1LT James. M. Morran-DFC
- >CW2 Gary Harter-SS

>SP4 Lawrence R. Rhodes-SS

>1LT Carl Flemer-SS

>SP4 Lawrence R. Rhodes-SS

>SP4 Gary Padilla-SS Posthumous

>WO1 Steven Grooms-DFC

>PFC Frank Martinoz-AM/V

>PFC Frank Thompson-AM/V

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>I recall over the past six years, numerous discussions concerning how  
>the EM never go the gold. This blows that theory out the window, with a  
>couple PFCs and SP4s getting Silver Stars. What is unique about them  
>is the writeups that show how they engaged the NVA ground fire and  
>singularly saved their aircraft because of their defensive fires.

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>One could really write a book using the award writeups alone.

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>Mike Sloniker

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