

# VFW



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U. S.  
DISTRICT V  
DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS

## TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

The background for this project was while attending ANZAC DAY in Kanchanaburi, Thailand (The site of the Bridge on the River Kwai), a number of years ago, I noticed that there was no recognition that the prison camps ever had United States Armed Forces incarcerated in those camps. I thought this very strange and asked many persons if they knew why there was no remembrance of them.

The cemetery has plaques and of course graves. We had removed our dead at the end of WWII.

After several turn downs, both oral and later written, we were able to convince Mr. Rod Beattie, who is the Group Supervisor of the allied cemeteries in and around Kanchanaburi, and he agreed to try and help us in our endeavors, and locate a suitable site and permission to place a plaque and monument.

He notified us on 11 March 1997 (copy of FAX attached) that we could place the plaque and monument near the bridge and next to the railroad in Kanchanaburi.

At the present we are awaiting information in order to set an appropriate dedication date, after more than fifty years.

Yours in comradeship,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leon R. Vileo".

Leon R. Vileo  
Commander  
District V  
Department of Pacific Areas

ADDRESS: LEON R. VILEO  
JUSMAGTHAI  
BOX R-3057  
APO AP 96546