

Twister - 06

By: Skypilot

Some Brothers, Sisters and myself headed for Birnamwood, Wi on the 26 July at o - dark thirty for a big bash my Wisconsin Brothers have at the end of July every year. We decided to drive all the way through. That was fine until we hit Chicago, one of the worst places to be if your riding through the mid-west. The heat was up and the traffic was moving slow, as it always does when you have to go through Chicago. Illinois state motto should be "Land of Traffic Jams". Thank God we had the CB on and were getting all the latest traffic alerts, otherwise we could have been worse off then what we were. Even with the heat and traffic we did see some cool stuff. The Sun was going down a brilliant red with clouds passing in front of it, which made for some interesting pictures.

Some twenty two hours later we pulled in to the area and with the help of Brothers were able to get backed into a temp. location so we could get some well needed sleep. The next day when we could see we were able to set up our camp for the party. It was great being back there it gave us all a chance to see people we had not seen in awhile.

Our Brothers as always gave one heck of a party (as they always do), not sure of the exact count, but it was wall to wall people there. Bands were playing from the time it started until after the Huge fireworks display and bonfire to close out Saturday night. Sunday morning everyone was packing their stuff up to pull out (like a bunch of beavers trying to finish a dam before the water hit), these people were quick and the camp ground emptied as fast as it had set up.

The crew and I waited until Monday to pull out so we could get a good sleep Sunday evening. We had a small stop in Madison, Wi to get some transmission fluid emptied out of the RV. Well we headed out toward and through Chicagoland, that's what it should be called, just like an amusement park. After getting through the amusement park we headed across Indiana and part of Ohio. Not far from Toledo the RV decided to take a dump again (thank god it was right by a rest area), we pulled in and the other Brothers



headed back east (we told them we' ed catch up) us not knowing it was a bigger problem then we thought. I got on the phone to Good Sam's Club and they sent out a repair service to our location. When they arrived the repairman and I talked with what happen, he traced the problem to a bad alternator, which he removed and took to get rebuild. Well it wasn't that easy, they had to fly one in overnight.

A Brother, our Ladies and myself set at the Service plaza from around 11 p.m. Monday until about 4 p.m. Wednesday. I'm telling you it had to be at least 100 degrees on that blacktop, unable to run the air and getting close to running out of water.

When another repairman came out he slapped on the alternator and said "you should charge up on the way home and you will make it" HA HA HA !!! We got into PA and the first service plaza had to pull in and let the rig cool down so we could finish the last leg of our trip (without air), we managed to pull in my drive around 3 a.m. Thursday. It seems they did not put the alternator on correctly and it would not let the RV charge or cool right.

Even with all the mechanical problems, we all had a pretty good time out at the party (TWISTER). Got to see a lot of Brothers, listen to some great music, saw some beautiful fireworks (and woman, besides the ones we took with us), great Bike games and two Memorial services. One for the Wisconsin Sisters that they lost over the years and the other one for Brothers lost over the years and the POW~MIA still unaccounted for.

If I had to make a guess I'd say there had to be around 6000 people and not one problem from the partyers. The one big thing we had happen was the lost of a Brother from Wisconsin who was one of the founding Brothers who started the "TWISTER PARTY" years ago. Rest in Peace My Brother, you will be truly missed by the Brotherhood and the people who attended the Twister every year who knew you.



If you are ever out Wisconsin way toward the end of July you owe it to yourself to attend this function. It is located in "Birnamwood Wildlife Refuge", Birnamwood, Wi. If you attend it one time you will never forget it. When I was there I looked for Preacher from "Free Riders Press" a local Biker rag they have out there, but was unable to find him. "Sorry Preacher".

Well until next month "Keep on Triken" and may the "Great Spirit ride with you at all times". Be safe out there and have fun. As always remember our POW~MIA and the Men and Woman who serve our Nation. Skypilot



Sending The Wrong Message

A little noticed Associated Press Article, dated May 27th 2006, described the contents of recently released papers belonging to Dr. Henry Kissinger. According to the AP article, "Henry Kissinger quietly acknowledged to China in 1972 that Washington could accept a communist takeover of South Vietnam if that evolved after a withdrawal of U.S. troops — even as the war to drive back the communists dragged on with mounting deaths."

"President Nixon's envoy told Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, "If we can live with a communist government in China, we ought to be able to accept it in Indochina." Kissinger's blunt remarks surfaced in a collection of papers from his years of diplomacy released Friday by George Washington University's National Security Archive. The collection was gathered from documents available at the government's National Archives and obtained through the research group's declassification requests."

"Kissinger's comments appear to lend credence to the "decent interval" theory posed by some historians who say the United States was prepared to see communists take over Saigon as long as that happened long enough after a U.S. troop departure to save face."

"But Kissinger cautioned in an interview Friday against reaching easy conclusions from his words of more than three decades ago. "One of my objectives had to be to get Chinese acquiescence in our policy," he told The Associated Press. "We succeeded in it, and then when we had achieved our goal, our domestic situation made it impossible to sustain it," he said, explaining that he meant Watergate and its consequences."

"...The meeting with Zhou took place in Beijing on June 22, 1972, during stepped-up U.S. bombing and the mining of harbors meant to stall a North Vietnam offensive that began in the spring. China, Vietnam's ally, objected to the U.S. course but was engaged in a historic thaw of relations with Washington."

"Kissinger told Zhou the United States respected its Hanoi enemy as a "permanent factor" and probably the "strongest entity" in the region. "And we have had no interest in destroying it or even defeating it," he insisted.

"He complained that Hanoi had made one demand in negotiations that he could never accept — that the U.S. force out the Saigon government.... While America cannot make that happen, he said, "if, as a result of historical evolution it should happen over a period of time, if we can live with a communist government in China, we ought to be able to accept it in Indochina."

"Pressed by Zhou, Kissinger further acknowledged that a communist takeover by force might be tolerated if it happened long enough after a U.S. withdrawal."

".....The envoy foresaw saw the possibility of friendly relations with adversaries after a war that, by June 1972, had killed more than 45,000 Americans. "What has Hanoi done to us that would make it impossible to, say in 10 years, establish a new relationship?"

How long did it take the Chinese to relay Kissinger's thoughts to the North Vietnamese? Is it any wonder they violated every aspect of the Paris Peace Accords, chose not to account for POWs known to be in their custody, failed to acknowledge others they held and moved on the South Vietnamese government.

Almost 2,000 men died between Kissinger's trip to China and the signing of the Peace Accords in January 1973.

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