

2011 USDGC Roc

Rolling Thunder© 2011 / POW-MIA Commemorative
Official Collector Guide

Mission

To support the Rolling Thunder© organization and their efforts to bring full accountability for Prisoners of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA) of all wars, reminding the government, the media and the public by the watchwords: "We Will Not Forget."

Rolling Thunder© First Amendment Demonstration Run

The Founders of Rolling Thunder were ordinary men who understood that they had a right to have their voices heard and proceeded to lay down the plans for a gathering in Washington, D.C. during the 1988 Memorial Day weekend.

They reached out to their families, fellow veterans and veteran's advocates to unify and form a demonstration in the Nation's Capital.

Their arrival would be announced by the roar of their motorcycles, a sound not unlike the 1965 bombing campaign against North Vietnam dubbed *Operation Rolling Thunder*. Hence, they would call themselves "Rolling Thunder" a title that would endure time and be trademarked in 1990. Word spread quickly and by Memorial Day weekend in 1988, approximately 2,500 motorcycles from all over the country converged on Washington, D.C. to demand from our leaders a full accounting of all POW/MIAs.

As the Founders of Rolling Thunder made their stand that day in front of the Capitol, they were thankful for the people who came in support of the POW/ MIAs and for the unity that they felt. This was Rolling Thunder's first demonstration.

On that Memorial Day, the foundation was laid for the annual "Ride for Freedom" to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall (also referred to as the "Ride to the Wall"). The number of participants/spectators in the Memorial Day weekend Ride for Freedom has grown from 2,500 to an estimated 900,000.

USDGC Rocs

On Memorial Day weekend 2011, the USDGC released 200 POW-MIA Commemorative discs to show our support for the Rolling Thunder© organization. Discs were numbered #001-200 and were accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity with a matching serial numbered sticker.

The USDGC departed from its tradition and will intentionally withhold specific run details. The absence of this information creates a degree of uncomfortable uncertainty, which is appropriate for this release. On behalf of all Prisoners of War and those still missing, if you want details, go find them.

The USDGC extends its gratitude to all those who purchased Rolling Thunder© Rocs, and to all of our men and women in service.

Thank You.

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