

GORDON L. BOCHER, Author of STORMRIDER



Major Bocher served 11 1/2 years in the U.S. Air Force where he flew 177 combat missions as a Fire Control Officer (FCO) aboard the AC-130A Gunship and he also served as a rescue navigator for three years. He taught celestial navigation for four years as a platform instructor. His last active duty mission was the abortive attempt to rescue the 53 hostages held in Iran. Bocher was awarded two Distinguished Flying Cross medals including one for valor, eight Air Medals, the Purple Heart, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Conspicuous Service Award from Gov. Mario Cuomo (NY). In addition, he received two nominations for The Silver Star. The VFW Monthly Magazine listed the 10 most dangerous missions of the last three years of the Viet Nam War...he flew in three of them. His personal story was chronicled in *Newsday*, *People Magazine*, *the Colorado Star*, *the Veterans of Foreign Wars Magazine* and *The Book of Man* (pp. 417-424) written by William J. Bennett. His book, *STORMRIDER*, provides an accurate history of the end stages of the Viet Nam War and why our attempt to rescue our hostages in Iran failed so miserably. Bocher also worked as an Air Traffic Control Specialist for 24 years and he worked for Lockheed-Martin as a Quality Assurance Engineer for three years before fully retiring. He is a past Commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 126 located in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

POWER POINT SUBJECTS

- His unique story (When fate gives you lemons, make lemonade!)
- The last year of the Viet Nam War (one hour presentation)
- The factual account of what really happened in the 1980 failed attempt to rescue hostages from Iran (35 minute presentation)
- History of The Vietnam War and Its Aftermath (2 Hours)
- Three Rescue Missions (50 minute presentation)
- Three times I disobeyed orders and the aftermath
- Other topics and/or any combination of the above

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