

Roland the Headless Thompson Gunner – Warren Zevon

Roland was a **warrior** from the **land** of the midnight **sun**
With his **Thompson** gun for **hire**, **fighting** to be **done**
The **deal** was made in **Denmark** on a **dark** and stormy **day**
So he **set** out for Bi-af-ra to **join** the bloody **fray** ...
/ Bm D - G / - D - A / 1st / G D A Bm - /

Through '66 and 7, they fought the Congo war
With their fingers on their triggers, knee deep in gore
For days and nights they battled the Bantu to their knees
They killed to earn their living and to help out the Congolese

Roland the **Thompson** gunner
Roland the **Thompson** gunner
/ G D Em Bm / G D Em Bm - /

His comrades fought beside him, Van Owen and the rest
But of all the Thompson gunners, Roland was the best
So the CIA decided they wanted Roland dead
That son of a bitch Van Owen blew off Roland's head

Roland the **headless** Thompson **gunner** ...
(Time time time for another week of war)
Norway's bravest son ...
(Time stands still for Roland til he evens up the score)
/ D A G - / D - A - /

They can **still see** his **headless body** **stalking** through the **night**
In the **muzzle** flash of **Roland's** Thompson **gun** ...
In the **muzzle flash** of Roland's Thompson **gun** ...
/ Bm A DA G Bm / D A Bm - / DA - G - /

Roland searched the continent for the man who'd done him in
He found him in Mombassa, in a barroom drinking gin
Roland aimed his Thompson gun, he didn't say a word
But he blew Van Owen's body from there to Johannesburg

Roland the headless **Thompson** gunner
Roland the headless **Thompson** gunner
Roland the headless **Thompson** gunner, **talking about** the man
Roland the headless **Thompson** gunner

The e-ternal Thompson **gunner**, still **wand'**ring through the **night**
Now it's ten years **later**, but he **still** keeps up the **fight**
/ Bm D - G / - D - A /

In **Ireland**, in **Lebanon**, in **Palestine** and **Berkeley** ...
Patty Hearst **heard** the burst of **Roland's** Thompson **gun**
And **bought** it ...
/ Bm D - G - / - - - A / Bm - /