



CHINA-BURMA-INDIA
VIETNAM
GRENADA



75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

PO BOX 670174 MARIETTA GA 30066



PATROLLING

JUNE 1988

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 2

Reunion Update

About the Reunion

Remember, you do not have to be a member to attend. Being a member insures you receive the newsletter, **Patrolling**, on a quarterly basis. The labor for that is free.

Some of you served in several Long Range Patrol or Ranger Companies. When you get to the reunion, please sign in on sheets for each unit and put your room number on the sheet. Periodically people return to re-check their unit list looking for buddies.

Expenses

Your canceled checks serve as receipts. You will not have to tip waitresses at the Ironworks. Their wages have a built-in system so that your registration for those events such as the BBQ & banquet are advanced tips. On the other hand, if a Lady does really well by your table and you wish to provide something extra, that is strictly up to you.

Reunion, continued on page 2



(L-R) CSM Tom Delaney, Randy White, Paul Morguez, Bob Gilbert, and Billy Nix (holding his breath). These Rangers representing D/75, H/75, and L/75 visited our Indiana Rangers from Co. D (Ranger), 151st Inf during their reunion, Summer of 1987, and presented the 151st Rangers a plaque for their service in Vietnam.

The Final Ranger Reunion

*A few LURPS and RANGERS from awhile ago,
Held, one day, their last reunion,
Led in by their grandchildren,
They were now all old and gray.*

*Doddering old Tigers assembled,
Their final reunion had begun,
One stood, and to the others said,
Men, these reunions are no longer fun,
For there are just a few of us left now,
And it is a heck of a strain to meet,
If we had to recon a city block ourselves,
We would all be dead on our feet.*

*A RANGER/LRP legend will die along with us,
But RANGERS and LURPS will LEAD THE WAY,
Centurions like us belong in the past,
LRSU and RANGERING is done so different today.*

Like the lance, the bow and arrow,

*Musket, catapault, mace and sword play,
Our rugged trooper's glory has come and gone,
Those eras have all passed away.*

*Now I just had a call from out of the past,
In my dream it came without warning,
It was time for me to report in,
That I am due for roll call in the morning.*

*So this will be my last reunion on earth,
But I'll attend a bigger one tomorrow,
With the Big Ranger in the sky,
And see old buddies from long ago.*

*So I'm bidding you all a fond farewell,
And I'll say a prayer for those who remain,
My next reunion will be held up yonder,
Where we will all be recruits, once again.*

Reunion, continued from page 1

Photographs

Bring yours. Please! Some of you may be the holders of the only remaining photographs of individuals, teams, units and the like. We may want to ask you for a copy of specific ones in your possession. You have no idea of the convoluted history we have beginning with the early provisional LRRP units, formed in Vietnam by individual Commands with a need for a special breed of men who could bring home the intelligence information required. The Army stands by its (unfortunately) rigid policy that, first, a reconnaissance unit was not supposed to make contact (don't tell that to Dan McIsaac and the 1/101 LRRP), however, commands selected the LRRP for Ranger missions without regard for Army Doctrine which OFFICIALLY states the LRRP does not make contact or conduct Ranger missions. HA! They were followed by the Long Range Patrol, (LRP) or LURP's as they are commonly referred to. With a stroke of the pen from the five sided puzzle palace and with half the assets in the enemy's rear areas the LURP's came back from their missions to be told they were RANGERS. Hey pal, **the acid test** is combat... not Fort Benning!

Climatic Conditions

Normal Annual Mean Temperature: 64.8 (everything's mean here).

Normal Annual Rainfall: 39.65 inches.

July: Mean Maximum 89.8; Mean Minimum 71.1; Mean Monthly 80.5.

Mean Rainfall: 4.53 inches.

How to Dress

You can expect hot weather with high humidity because we are in a valley with the Chattahoochee River separating Georgia and Alabama, and the river is right across from the Hotel, behind the Ironworks.

a. Dress casually and to be cool. Wearing a hat won't hurt in this heat.

b. Bring your blue jeans for the BBQ, Tuesday night, 26 July.

c. THE BANQUET & ENTERTAINMENT: Wednesday night 27 July. A coat and tie will be appropriate. Cammies will be out of place here. On the other hand we are meeting to have a relaxing and enjoyable time, so use your own good judgment... come on down and enjoy yourself.

WHAT IS THE IRONWORKS? It used to be a Confederate Cannon factory and later the first ice boxes were made here. You will see a beautifully restored building here where we hold the BBQ banquet, our business meeting and elections; the latter from 0900-1200 Wed. 27 July.

Transportation

We know. You are used to walking all over the place, but don't take a cab from the Columbus Airport to the Hotel. They have a van at the Hilton that can pick you up. Just notify the Hotel of your arrival

time(s). **SPECIAL NOTE:** Ranger Fred Shepherd, a holder of three Combat Infantrymen's Badges, (WW II, Korea, and Vietnam), is the Chief for Airport Security at Columbus Airport. If you run into any problems there check in with Captain Shepherd. Incidentally, he made both combat jumps with the 101st during WW II. **DON'T** tell him any War Stories. He never tells any himself. For the 173rd LRP's and Rangers Fred used to be the Battalion Sergeant Major for (some of) you. We have a discount arrangement worked out for rental cars with **Budget Car Rental** if you wish to rent an auto. You can rent a four-door compact, midsize, or full-size car for only \$25.99 per day. The first 150 miles **per day** are **free**, with a charge of 20¢ per mile after 150. To reserve a rental car call toll free, **1-800-772-3773**; provide your date of arrival, point of arrival, and that you are with the Association. If you want something flashier than a four-door sedan you will have to negotiate your own rate.

Selling at the Reunion

If you plan on selling anything at the reunion you need to touch base with Jim England, Association Secretary. Whether it's patches, books, t-shirts, or whatever, vendor space will be available for rental. Call Jim at (404) 322-7204 for more information.

Reunion Conduct

You and your families are coming here to have a good time and see old friends and buddies who shared a lot of your life. We dislike talking in negatives, however, boorish conduct, especially any directed at the ladies, any of them, is an **OOO**. That's **OUT OF ORDER**.

Reunion Registration

We will need some help here. Attendees will register at a place designated on the Hilton Hotel announcement board. Times for registration will also be posted. You will need the info in your registration packet, so do not procrastinate and fail to pick it up. **Pre-paid registrations should be in my hands prior to your receiving this newsletter.** If not, you may have to eat at McDonald's. There is no reunion committee, it is a one man operation and I cannot fool around with any foot draggers. Food has to be ordered, catered, and as you were told in the last newsletter, all meat will be fresh and trucked in from Atlanta. If you have dragged your feet, best you express mail the registration fee ASAP, otherwise you will feel like A SAP when things are not in place for you.

Hilton Reservation Service

1-800-445-8667 or Columbus Hilton 404-324-1800

Delta Airlines

1-800-241-6760, Code #U0511 (75th Reunion)

Fly Saturday, July 23, for about 1/3 coach fare

Travel Adventures: In One Day

The Little White House: Warm Springs, Georgia, located on GA Hwy 27 in Warm Springs, an hour from Columbus. President Roosevelt's summer home from 1921-1925. Admission fee.

Westville: A half hour south of Columbus you will find a working 1850's village depicting the Southern way of life during that period. It comes alive with a variety of activities. Enjoy Southern cooking, wagon rides, candle making, quilting, basket making, the blacksmith's shop, and more. Admission fee.

Callaway Gardens (Lake Robin)

A 1,200 acre resort located in Pine Mountain, Georgia, just forty-five minutes from Columbus, hosts special events and activities all year long. A tour of the John A. Sibley Horticultural Center is a must. You will enjoy breathtaking seasonal floral displays here. A complete resort facility; you will find something for everyone here. HORSEBACK RIDING, TENNIS, BIKING, AND FOUR CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF COURSES. A trip you will not forget. Part of the area is devoted to Lake Robin, a wide, curving sandy beach where you can swim, relax in the sun, take the kids on paddle boats, play miniature golf or just crash in the sun or shade with your old buddies and families. A GREAT PLACE TO GO ON TUESDAY... **FAMILY DAY**. Then get back in time for the BBQ at the Ironworks across from the Hotel. Admission fee.

We are four hours from the Gulf of Mexico, five from the Atlantic Ocean, two hours from Atlanta (one if you drive like Billy Nix), and four from the Great Smoky Mountains.

Fort Benning Infantry Museum

Don't miss it! There are twelve separate galleries on three separate floors packed with memorabilia. Everything from President U.S. Grant's Liquor Chest to Mussolini's summer uniform epaulet. An original copy of *Mein Kampf*. All exhibits are the real thing excepting a 1775 reproduction of a uniform. Weapons alone number over 2,500 and exhibits change frequently because of the huge inventory. The top floor is divided into Japanese-Fascist and foreign displays. A life-sized diorama of a Paratrooper making a jump into enemy territory. Military equipment of the VC and NVA are there too. The second floor contains Revolutionary War pieces and follows action all the way to Grenada. On the lower floor is the Presidential collection featuring signed, original documents by each of our forty Presidents. For directions, stop at the Main Gate for a map of Fort Benning and instructions.

ALL THE
POWs

ARE NOT
HOME
YET!



Rangers/LRPs enjoying themselves along Idaho's Salmon River during 4th of July weekend 1987. LRRP River Runners: (Top, L-R) Allen Gaskell, 1st Bde LRRP and F/58; Tony Tercero, F/58; (Bottom, L-R) Larry Chambers, F/58 and L/75; Dan McIssac, 1st Bde LRRP; Ken Miller, 1st Bde LRRP, F/58, and L/75; Ray Martinez, 1st Bde LRRP and F/58; Marty Dostal, 1st Bde LRRP; Jay Magill, 1st Bde LRRP and F/58; Loyld Smith, 1st Bde LRRP; and, Dennis Keene, 1st Bde LRRP and F/58.

James A. Champion, MIA Update

Champion is still officially listed as: **Missing in Action**. Some of the information provided in an earlier newsletter was found to be F-6 (in error). Champion was on an E&E route with a 2/17 Cav door gunner. The gunner returned to SSG Vodden's location in a bomb crater to remain with his pilots who were shot down inserting Vodden as a replacement for seriously wounded Team Leader Marvin Duren. A firefright broke out about one hour later on the valley floor for about five to ten minutes. This has been confirmed through two sources. We do not know for certain if that was Jim Champion; however, SSG Vodden, who was seriously wounded himself, allowed, "If that was young Jim Champion, he gave a good accounting of himself." TASK FORCE OMEGA OF IOWA POW/MIA 712-262-7528 (day) or 712-262-4424 night.

JAMES A. CHAMPION
MIA - APRIL 23, 1971
Co. L (Ranger), 75th Infantry

"We have not
forgotten"



P/75th Rangers, Quang Tri, RVN, circa October 1970. Cpt Fred Johnson, CO left, and SFC Chuck Crosby, 1SG and Ops Sgt.



*James K. Hus...
He is curre...
the US Army...
and Post CSM*



P/75th Ranger Team, Quang Tri, RVN, circa October 1970. Team Leader is SSG Leonard L. Valeen (Top row, far right, with pipe).



*P/75th Team Leader Rile...
with team members Scot...
Gregg "Spud" Gain, Jim...
Neil (KIA - bottom cent*



, Jr., spent 1970-71 with P/75th.
y the Command Sergeant Major of
ommunications-Electronics Command
Ft. Monmouth, NJ.



Cpt Fred Johnson, P/75th, with a Rumanian
AK-47 captured from a Chinese "advisor"
near the "Rockpile," near the DMZ. Quang
Tri, RVN, circa February 1971.



iller (standing center),
Whaley, "Casper" Hoppe,
epchild" Gates, and Bill



P/75th Ranger Team, Quang Tri, RVN, circa
October 1970. Team Leader is SSG Willie
J. Gavin (Front row center).

Letters

Brother Nick:

Please accept my tardy dues. I really forgot about them being due. The guys running the association are doing a standup job. The newsletter, **Patrolling**, is very well done... sorry about the late payment.

STEVE PETERSON

1/101 LRRP and F/58th LRP.

Hi Bob:

Will get the reunion information into **Paraglide** ASAP. Better tell you now before I forget again... I appreciate the time and energy all of you put into the reunion and especially thank you for the letters and help you have given me in contacting my former team members. I see it as a labor of love... I appreciate it. My reservations are made and I will talk up the Ranger reunion. Drive on!

Sincerely,

ROY BOATMAN

74th Inf Det LRP and N/75th.

Congratulations to the new Ranger Department Sergeant Major, SGM Fred Weekley.

GREG EACKER

C/58th LRP, D (Ranger) 151st, and D/75th

Dear Mr. Gibbone:

Enclosed is my application; thank you for the honor of allowing me membership in your elite organization. Respectfully,

CW2 FRED BEHRENS

DUSTOFF 913

Dear Bob:

Been meaning to write sooner; thanks for the membership card. You really cannot imagine how good it is to belong to an organization that shares mutual experiences. Belonging to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association gives me quite a sense of well being. It's comfortable to know there is an organization of men with a common bond who experienced desperation and fighting to keep yourself and others alive. I am grateful you invited me to join the 75th Ranger Association.

Very respectfully,

ROGER MADISON, Lt Commander, US Navy

EAGLE DUSTOFF

President's Note

Fred and Roger voluntarily flew a dustoff for a Ranger Team in heavy contact, without gunship cover, on 23 April 1971. After extraction of the seriously wounded Team Leader Marvin Duren, they returned to the same LZ, again sans gunship cover, and extracted the Team. Shot down by NVA fire Fred executed an autorotation into the LZ while wounded. They spent three days fighting with the Team. Fred and Roger, we Rangers are proud to have you as members of this outfit. Both of you met the acid test of a Ranger in combat. A reaction force from L/75th assaulted through the NVA positions to linkup with the

survivors. An Air Cav Troop and a Rifle Company were stopped dead in their tracks when five Rangers, including the CO and led by Cpl Dave Quigley, made the assault reaching Fred first. Fred was described as looking like a piece of Swiss cheese he had so many holes in him. He spent over three years recovering from the wounds. We allude to Rangers Lead The Way, however, in this case, DUSTOFF SAVED THE DAY!



Dave Quigley (Standing - R), veteran of L/75th, with fellow jumper in Guatemala in July 1987, preparing for a jump with Guatemalan Paratroopers.

Contributions

You guys have been doing a great job supporting the Association beyond regular dues. We use the extra for a number of items such as plaques for the enlisted Honor Graduates for the 75th Ranger Regiment's Ranger Indoctrination Program (RIP) and to take up the slack for members who cannot afford to join for one reason or another. You also assist in providing gratuitous copies of **Patrolling**, our Association newsletter, to the Ranger Training Brigade and the 75th Ranger Regiment. Thanks to: Bruce (Doc) Johnson, C 2/75, who is in Arabia now; Cpt Barry Lowe, former CO for LRSD 101st; Sgt Jim Samples (Ret), N/75th; Richard Ewald, F/75th; Bob Glasser (Night Meat Cutter), F/75th LRP & L/75th; Jim Schwartz, F/58th LRP & L/75th; and Jim Jordan, L/75th.

Awards and Decorations

You may apply to the Army for any awards you never received by contacting: Commander, U.S. Army Administration Center, 9700 Page Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63132. Of those attending the reunion we will have a list of unit awards and campaigns available for the 75th. The LRP information was almost completed when the Army went back to the Regimental system and my LRP info has been on hold since 1986.

President's Note

Some of you have been doing a great job in identifying for us those LRP & 75th Rangers who are in poor health or out of work at this time. We especially appreciate those of you who are doing a number of selfless things I want to cover here. First, thanks to those who purchase membership for a buddy they KNOW is ill or unemployed. Secondly, thanks to those among you who have rented or intend to share your room with buddies who can only afford part of the reunion trip. First Sergeant Tilson P/75th lives right here in Columbus and rented a Hilton room in case a buddy needed a DZ. Thanks, Ed Tilson. Guys like you make our effort worth it. Just keep us informed of who needs a newsletter and cannot afford it whether you take out a membership for them or not.

Orders, Orders, Orders

If you have not made a search and sent us **copies only** of orders reflecting names of other LRRP, LRP and 75th Rangers, get up and do it now! When we closed out the first ever reunion at Ft. Campbell during June 1986 we had 186 people on our rosters. We have more than 1,400 now. Sergeant Samples, N/75th who took over Roy Boatman's team was so elated when we located him he says he is driving his wife bonkers talking about the reunion. OUTSTANDING! (Not the bonkers part doll)

Membership Lists

We keep getting requests for these and I want to clear up a point here. Since we stopped providing names, addresses and phone numbers routinely through the newsletters, competition vanishes. After the reunion we will consider a membership list, for members only. It will not contain names of hundreds of other located LURP's and Rangers; however we will provide you that information on a "need to know" basis. Two reasons: first, we do not want anyone selling membership lists, and secondly the privacy of individuals is also at stake.

Of Special Note

We have three Medal of Honor winners, all posthumous. Effective now, following receipt of a letter this week from Mr. Dick Leandri, this association will provide one plaque to each member of the winning team of the annual LTG David E. Grange, Jr., Best Ranger Competition here at Fort Benning, GA. This plaque honors and is a means of memorializing these soldiers who gave their lives to save their buddies. **Medal of Honor Winners:**

SSG Laszlo Rabel, 74th Infantry Detachment Long Range Patrol, 173rd Airborne Brigade, Vietnam.

SP4 Robert D. Law, Company I (Ranger) 75th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, Vietnam.

SSG Robert J. Pruden, Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry, 23rd Infantry Division (Americal), Vietnam.



SSG Libassi, L/75th, now with the 372nd QM Bn (USAR), in Taegu, ROK, during Annual Training '88 (Old Rangers are forever young). He joined the Reserves in 1980.

Book Reviews

Randy White, L/75th, sent along a copy of **US Army Rangers & LRRP Units 1942-87**, by Gordon L. Rottman, published in 1987 by Osprey Publishing, Ltd., London. Sixty-four pages long, there are numerous color plates plus black & white photographs. A good book with some inaccuracies.

A second book was located, called **The Illustrated History of RANGERS: The Vietnam War**, by James R. Arnold, Bantam Books, March 1988. It contains inaccuracies like L/75th Ranger support from F Troop 8th Cav 23rd Div called the Blue Ghosts. How do I know? Because another Master Sgt. and I put the six Snakes out from C Troop, 4th Bn 77th ARA, 101st Abn Div (Camp Sally) for Lobo, without anyone knowing about it. 2/17th support arrived **after** all six Snakes expended their ordnance. Team Opel survived.

For the New Members

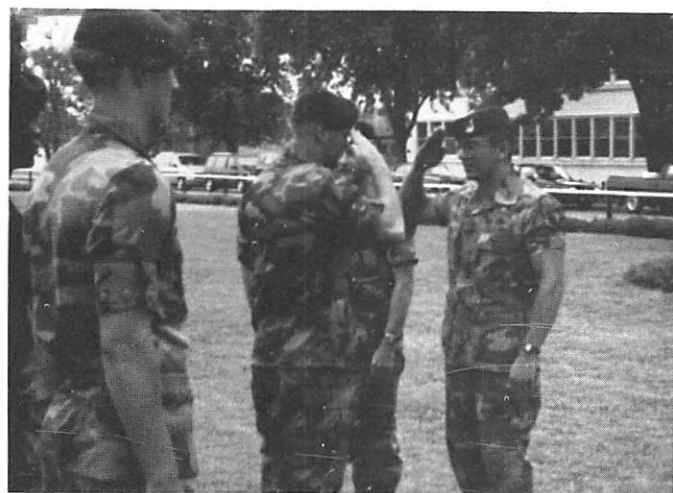
There is an all Airborne and Ranger newspaper you can subscribe to called, **Static Line**. The Editor, Don Lassen, a former member of Company E, 595th Parachute Infantry Regiment, WW II will be glad to send you a gratuitous copy of the paper to determine if you would like to subscribe to it. From a personal standpoint, it is not unlike our Association in that you will find old buddies through Static Line also. I certainly have found a good number of troopers I served with through the paper. Write: Don Lassen, PO Box 87518, College Park, GA 30337, or call: (404) 478-5301.

Did You Know

On 15 September 1969, 8½ months after all Long Range Patrol Companies and Detachments had converted to Ranger Companies of the 75th Infantry, Secretary of the Army Stanley O. Resor awarded the traditional designation, **"Merrill's Marauders"** to the Vietnam Rangers from the 75th Infantry. The **Neo-Marauders!**

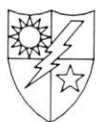


(Sunglasses) Roy Boatman (L), N/75th and Bob Gilbert (R), L/75th attending September 1987 ceremonies establishing a separate Special Forces branch.



(Right) Cpt Barry Lowe, departing Commander, 101st Long-Range Surveillance Detachment, 101st Abn, salutes during change of command ceremony June 11, 1987.

LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE PATROL



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75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

PO BOX 670174 MARIETTA GA 30066

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75th Ranger Regiment Association IRS Tax-exemption Status #22-2753787-C

PATROLLING

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75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

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Reunion '88 . . . BE THERE !