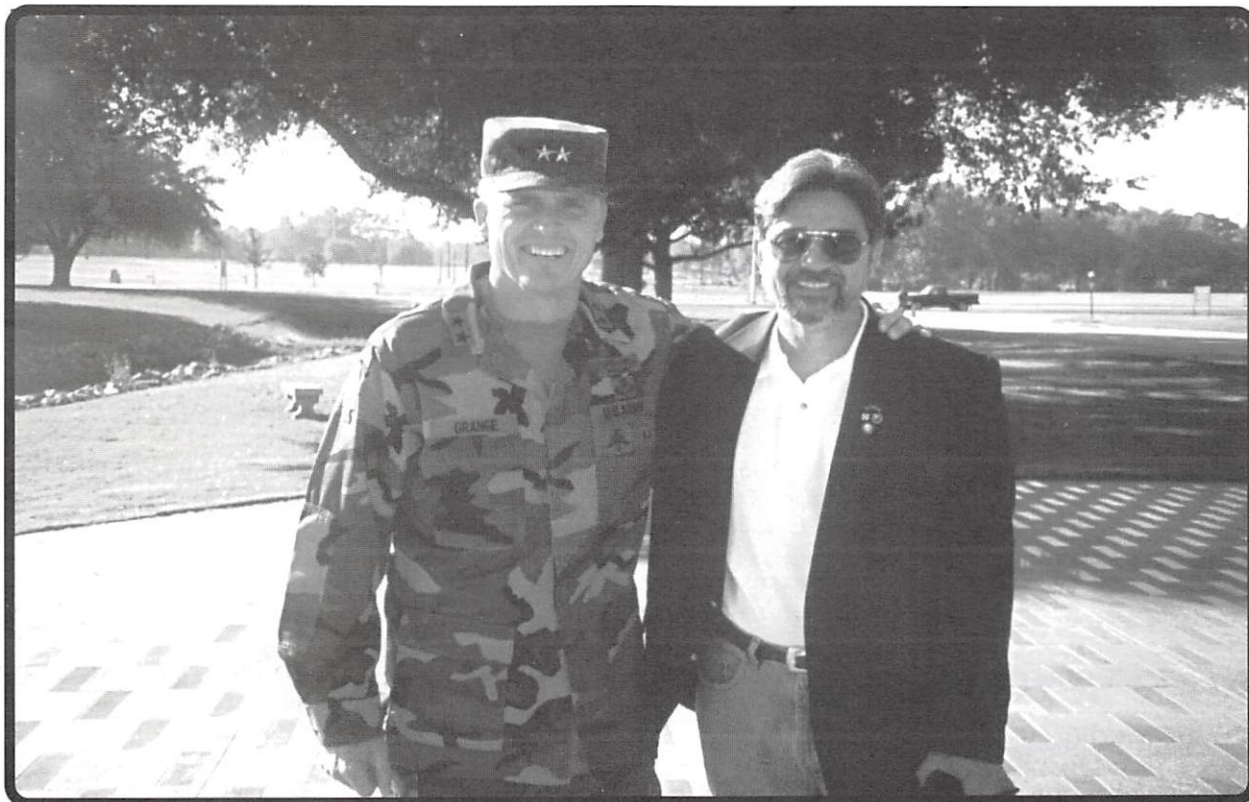


PATROLLING

DECEMBER 1999 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 13 ISSUE I



MAJOR GENERAL (RET) DAVID L. GRANGE AND CSM (RET) DAVE GATES
AT GENERAL GRANGES RETIREMENT CEREMONY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS ***TO ALL THE MEMBERS***

REGIMENTAL NCO AND EM OF THE YEAR

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COBRA EXTRACTION OF LRP TEAM (F/52)

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UNIT COLUMNS

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CHINA - BURMA - INDIA VIETNAM IRAN GRENADA PANAMA IRAQ SOMALIA

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Terry Roderick
6940 Bright Ave.
Cocoa, FL 32927
407-631-1144
Email: rgrrock@brevard.net

VICE PRESIDENT

David F. Weeks II
43232 Fortner Dr.
Sterling Hgts, MI 48313
810-254-9865

SECRETARY / EDITOR PUBLISHER

Roy Boatman
187 Paddlewheel Road
Fayetteville, NC 28314 - 0332
910-864-1787
Email: Roy_Boatman@email.msn.com

TREASURER

Jack L. Werner
PO Box 26885
Oklahoma City, OK 73126-0885
405-528-1555
Email: werner9889@aol.com

COMPANY & UNIT DIRECTORS

A/75 - D/17 LRP - V CORPS LRRP

Tom Brizendine
14975 HWY 104
Silver Hill, AL 36576
334-945-6764
Email: tdbriz@gulftel.com

B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP

VACANT

C/75 - E/20 LRP

Worth Bolton
PO Box 31412
Raleigh, NC 27622
919-876-7119
Email: lwbolton@email.unc.edu

D/75

John J Kingeter
526 Lavina Drive
Mechanicsburg PA 17055
717-766-1484

E/75 - F/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP

Robert S. Copeland
8 Fieldstone Gate
Spruce Grove, AB Canada T7X2Z2
403-962-0114
Email: copela3@ibm.net

F/75 - F/50 LRP - 25TH DIV LRRP

Thomas G. Cahill
2105 Diana Loop
Harker Heights, TX 76548-6085
254-698-8686
Email: tcahill@earthlink.net

G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP

John Starnes
180 Beinville Dr.
Fayetteville, NC 28311
910-482-0125
Email: starnes@intrstar.net

H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1st Cav LRRP

William T. Anton
11918 Hall Shop Road
Clarksville, MD 21029
301-854-3359
Email: wta@clark.net

I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRP

Roger M. Anderson
15 Calamint Hill Road N.
Princeton, MA 01541-1714
978-464-8077
Email: LRRP52@AOL.COM

K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

Buck Anderson
P.O. Box 165
Cottonwood CA 96022
530-347-7224
Email: lrrptl@gateway.net

L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101st LRRP

John Looney
No. 2 Leawood Ave
Wheeling, WV 26003
304-232-5244
Email: rgrlooney@juno.com

M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP

Jack B Fuche
Rt 2 Box 2553 E. M-72
Grayling MI 49738
517-348-1220

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Roy Boatman
187 Paddlewheel Road
Fayetteville NC 28314-0332
910-864-1787
Email: roy_boatman@email.msn.com

O/75 - 78TH LRP

VACANT

P/75 - 79TH LRP

Jim Femiano
124 Devion Circle
E. Peoria, IL 61611
309-699-1655
Email: RgrJim75@aol.com

D/151 LRP/RANGER

Tom Blandford
11005 Tottenham Dr.
Carmel, IN 46032
317-846-6374
Email: TBLANDFO@GlickCo.com

F/51 LRP

David Peace
8502 S.W. 4th Place
Gainesville FL 32607
352-332-6892
Email: peace@neocortex.health.ufl.edu

HQ. 75TH RANGER REGT.

Howard (Max) Mullen
1571 Creel Circle
College Park, GA 30337
770-991-6823
Email: Howard.Mullen@forscom.army.mil

1ST BN. 75TH RANGER REGT.

Bill Acebes
3246 Erica St.
Cocoa, FL 32926
407-633-8587
Email: acebes175@aol.com

2ND BN. 75TH RANGER REGT.

Mir Bahmanyar
6708 Aldea Ave.
Van Nuys, CA 91406-5407
818-881-6025
Email: cinemir@ecom.net

3RD BN. 75TH RANGER REGT.

Peter Squeglia
9 Warren Ave.
Reading, MA 01867
Email: peter.squeglia@berkshirecp.com

ARVN RANGER ADV. (BDQ)

Michael Martin
803 West Lincoln St.
Tullahoma, TN 37388

LRRP DETACHMENT - 3RD ID

Michael R McClintock
1442 Cedarwood Drive
San Mateo CA 94403
650-341-7331
Email: oldlrrp62@aol.com

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
BY
TERRY RODERICK**

Another year is nearly gone and the preparations for the 2000 Reunion in Savannah are going to be picking up in intensity after the first of the year. You can use the accompanying information in the newsletter to make your reservations now and get it out of the way. We have tried to do this to help us gain a better idea of the numbers we may have attending and as a convenience to the members. Please take advantage of the lead time and help us out with our planning too. With the holidays coming up, I want to wish each and every one of you and your family, friends, and loved ones a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

In the coming year, we will be electing the new Officers to lead the 75th Ranger Regiment Association for the next two years, 2000-2002. Right now, I have about 7 months or so left in my term and it is time for those who wish to run for office next year to stand up and be counted. The past two elections have been very "vanilla" as each elected office had only one candidate and that makes the elections seem pretty silly. I know from being the Vice President and the President for the past 3 plus years that many of you have your own ideas on how this organization should be run and you are very free about dispensing that advice. I say that very soon will be your opportunity to jump in and do some positive things for the entire organization. I don't say that facetiously, but in all honesty. If you do run for office, expect to reap what you sow. If you spend no time, expect very little progress or payback. That's how it works as it does in life. We have many, many, qualified people out there and it's just a matter of stepping up. I would never want to say that you HAVE to have a computer and be connected to the World Wide Web to hold office, but I can say that you would be much like the guy who went to the gunfight with a knife if you approach it that way. The times are a changing and for this Association to keep abreast of it, we have to be computer literate. Our website, www.75thrangersonline.org, operated by Webmaster Peter Neves, has been a boon to our recruiting efforts for the Association for more than a year now. It is a jackpot of historical and current in-

formation concerning Rangers from all eras. It is a state of the art site and we can be proud of the work Pete has done for us all. With e-mail, FAX, and the other technological advances available to us and others, I just don't see how a person could stay current and get things done timely in this day and age without it. I'm sure someone will read this and think they can prove me wrong, but I would have to see it done to believe it. Roy Boatman has informed me that he will not be in consideration for the Secretary office next term and he will be the hard one to replace. We will need someone who has the time to handle the position properly and do the administrative work promptly. To do this and the other stuff he does, it is not a part time job at times, and he could best express the time and effort needed if you are considering that office. We have grown to over 1100 members and the membership numbers are increasing weekly. It takes time to properly administrate to these numbers of people and the job is probably the most important of all the officers we elect. Things sort of revolve around the Secretary when he is active and easily accessible. I think we may soon be looking for a new newsletter editor too, but I will leave all that to Roy to announce. It's hard to know the amount of time and work that man performs. It doesn't mean you have to agree with him all the time, but he is the hardest working man in any Ranger organization, in my humble opinion, and I don't know where the 75th Ranger Regiment Association would be without him. Perhaps we will be finding out soon. I would hope that he like all the rest of us who have held office will remain available for consultation and moral support at times when it is needed by the new Officers you elect. Anyway, if you have any intention, or an inkling of perhaps becoming a candidate for one of the 4 elected offices, please get a hold of that person and ask them what they think, what they do, and gain some sort of idea what might be expected from you. I know in the past there has been some shuffling back and forth, and some secretive efforts for this person or that person is going to/not going to run for office, etc. I don't see much need for any sort of maneuvering or anything, but mostly just let the members know who is running as soon as possible to give them the opportunity to consider their selection. All of us who have served in a national office, presently and in the past, are interested in seeing that we get the highest quality of leadership possible in

place as we move back into the general membership. This also means making decisions that may or may not make you more or less popular with your peers. Like life, some work out and some don't. I've tried to do what I felt best for the entire membership, not necessarily myself. Some may disagree with that, but it is their privilege and I respect that. You may or may not have had "the highest quality of leadership" for the past year and a half, but I'm what you have until July and I will continue to work hard for everyone.

The Ranger Tab issue is pretty much a non-issue at this point. Not sure where this thing will go in the future, but for the time being, it is being shelved by this administration until some new information, or a new way to approach it is investigated by someone else. The Army, the Ranger School, and the USAIC have made their position very clear by their lack of response to direct inquiry, and I'll just say I was personally very disappointed in the way the active duty Army (regardless of unit, school, individual) handled this issue. The lack of respect shown, the untimely responses and non responses, and the discourteous manner in which this whole thing has been handled over the years is very annoying, but not unexpected if you know the history of this story. Nevertheless, I say to continue to proudly display what YOU WORE, when you want to, (as we always have) and don't let this episode erode the good feelings you have towards the young active duty Rangers who serve our country proudly. We are the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and we support all of our guys, past, present, and future !!

I attended MG David Grange's retirement ceremonies at Ft. Benning October 28-29, 1999. He held his retirement ceremony at the Ranger Memorial instead of the Washington, D.C. area, as most Generals do. There was a nice reception held the 28th at the Hilton and the ceremony was held the next day. MG Grange had a nice assemblage for his retirement and it was nicely done. Wayne Parker, Duke Dushane, Dave Gates, and myself attended. Not sure who else might have been there, so if I missed mentioning you, it's "my bad" !! Oh yeah, Max Mullen was there too and is back from Korea at his old contacts in Georgia, and is wanting to get the HQ, 75th RR group up and going. Please contact him if you served in (Presidents Message Cont') HQ and give him

MAJOR GENERAL **DAVID L. GRANGE RETIRES**

Major General David L. Grange came home to the Fort Benning, Georgia area to retire after faithfully and honorably serving his country for 30 years. A more appropriate place could never be imagined. In addition to serving our country for 30 years, General Grange was largely responsible for the beautiful memorial built to honor Rangers, LRRP's, and LRP's of all eras. The Ranger Memorial was one of his pet projects and The Ranger Regiment Association was founded when he was the Commanding Officer of the 75th Ranger Regiment. He served with the Rangers from L/75th in Vietnam and has steadily climbed the leadership ladder in the Army ever since. He is revered by his peers and left a large void by his retirement. He could have had his retirement ceremony in Washington, D.C., Fort Myers, or any place he chose, but he chose the Ranger Memorial, and it is most fitting that he ended his active duty career there.

Thursday evening, October 28th, 1999, a reception was held at the Columbus Hilton for General Grange and his family. Guests came from all Ranger eras and from the many periods in General Grange's military life. His father, General David E. Grange, and his mother were both in attendance. Many soldiers who had served with General Grange over the years attended and he was presented with some gifts by some during the reception. A short video that highlighted some events in General Grange's life and military career was shown and enjoyed by the attendees. General Grange got up to speak to the group for a moment and he became a bit choked up. He mentioned if it was that hard the night before, it would really be hard to keep his composure the next day at the retirement ceremony. He asked that those in attendance allow him to save his remarks for the following day and he acknowledged those who came to honor and visit with him that evening. The rest of the evening was spent enjoying a nice buffet and liquid refreshments. The Hilton Hotel and friends of General Grange did a very nice job of decorating the reception area. A great time was had by all.

On Friday, October 29, 1999, the retirement ceremony for Major General David L. Grange was held at the Ranger Memorial. It was a beautiful, sunny day and appropriate for the ceremony. General Grange, his wife

Holly (who I found out was a West Point graduate and jump qualified), and their two sons, David and Matthew arrived and the ceremony began. Lt. General Hendrix, the Commanding Officer of the 5th Corp in Germany was the speaker who introduced General Grange prior to his retirement speech. General Grange's last command, the 1st Infantry Division, fell under the 5th Corp group in Europe and they have been very busy in Bosnia and the surrounding hot spots for the past few years. General Grange gave a moving speech and thanked a lot of people who have helped him along the way. A reception line and refreshments were available after the ceremony and it was well attended.

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association would like to offer General Grange, his wife Holly, and the boys, David and Matthew, smooth sailing and a long, healthy, and happy life. I understand General Grange will be moving to the Chicago, Illinois area and go to work in the private sector. Rangers Lead the Way !! By Terry Roderick.

Major General David L. Grange was born in Lake Ronkonkoma, New York. After receiving his commission from North Georgia College in December 1969, he was assigned to duty as the Reconnaissance Platoon Leader with the 2nd Battalion, 505th Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division. —

In 1970, he was sent to Vietnam as a Rifle Platoon Leader with the 101st Airmobile Division and later served as a Reconnaissance Platoon Leader in Co. L (RANGER) 75th Infantry. During a second tour in Vietnam, he served as Reconnaissance Advisor to the ARVN 81st Airborne Ranger Group. He returned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina in 1972 as Executive Officer and then Commander of the HALO and Scuba Detachments in the 3rd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group.

After Fight School in 1974, MG Grange was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky where he served as Flight Platoon Commander in the 158th Aviation Battalion. Later, he commanded a rifle company in 2/503rd Infantry and then served as Current Operations Officer in Division G3.

After attending the Infantry Officer Advanced Course in June, 1978, MG Grange

served as the Battalion Adjutant, Ranger Company Commander, and Battalion Special Operations Liaison Officer in the 75th Ranger Regiment.

After the British SAS Course in 1981, he studied at the USMC CGSC and then served as Squadron Commander and Operations Officer for SFOD.

MG Grange commanded the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea from 1987-1989. He returned to the United States and served as a Special Operations Officer with the SOCOM, Washington, D.C. office, enroute to the National War College. Upon completion of the War College, he reported to Fort Bragg as the Deputy Commander of the 1st SFOD, where he commanded a Task Force during DESERT STORM. From 1991-1993, he commanded the 75th Ranger Regiment.

Prior to becoming the ADC of the 3rd Infantry Division, he served as DCO, Army Special Operations Command. In 1995, MG Grange was assigned to the Pentagon as Deputy Director, and later as Director for Army Operations, Readiness, and Mobilization.

In July 1997, MG Grange took command of Task Force Eagle in Bosnia and commanded the "Big Red One" until August 1999.

He is married to the former Holly Getz, and they have two sons, David and Matthew.

some idea where you guys want to go with your group. I think there may be another more detailed story concerning General Grange's retirement further into the newsletter so I'll stop.

With the holidays coming up, please remember to stop and take a few moments to call one of your buddies and just say Hi and wish him a Merry Christmas. I know you are all "bad asses" out there, "unsentimental ass kickers" and lousy dance partners, but doggone it, everyone will forgive you if you just take one moment (you'll probably do it over and over after the first one as it feels pretty good), and just check in and make sure a buddy is still meeting YOUR standards !! PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE and don't be afraid to use a cab or a good looking driver (They all look good at a certain point). Be safe and let's not lose anyone needlessly over the holidays !! With that uplifting finish, I must go on a bit more to try to change the tone of this article. I hope you all get whatever you ask Santa for this year. Back in 2000!!

**SECRETARY'S
EDITOR/PUBLISHER
MESSAGE
BY
ROY BOATMAN**

First of all, I hope you and your families have a great holiday season and that you and your loved ones can be together. For those who are still serving our nation overseas, we of the association thank you for your service and you are thought of, remembered, and appreciated in the Boatman household.

New membership has slowed down during the fall, as it always does, but will pick back up again in the spring. There are currently 200 plus members who have not renewed for (yr 2000) and will not be receiving this newsletter. If you talk to anyone who says they haven't got the December edition of "PATROLLING", ask them if they have paid their dues. For those who renew now and want the December issue, they will have to send \$2.00 along with the renewal fee of \$20.00.

There are a number of members who have had a change of address and did not inform the association of their new address, they also will not receive the current edition or the last issue of PATROLLING until they send the association \$2.00 to forward the returned newsletter to them. The entire mailing of the 1300 copies only cost around \$245.00 yet the returned newsletters for bad addresses (35) cost \$80.00, that's the reason for the \$2.00 charge.

Terry mentioned in his column about the election of new officers at this years reunion in Savannah. I have received notice from two of the members that will be running for the positions of President (Mike Martin) and Vice President (Buck Anderson). Mike is eminently qualified and was a former member of the V Corps LRRP, BDQ and one of the original cadre of the 1st Ranger Battalion. In addition he has authored two books concerning the advisory role of U.S. personnel to the Vietnamese Rangers and Airborne forces of the Republic of Vietnam. His current book concerns the advisory role to the Vietnamese Marines. Buck Anderson has served as the director for the 4th Infantry Division units

for the last four years and is well known by all of us. He usually carries the colors in all of our parades without a harness as they don't make one to fit him, he is large to say the least! Buck also has some contacts concerning the newsletter and that will certainly help the association in the transition. If you would like to serve the association as an elected officer of the association, please notify the President or myself as soon as possible. Nominations will still be taken from the floor during the general membership meeting.

Appointment/Election of unit directors will also be on the agenda and all units should notify us who their unit representative and director will be for the next two years. The unit director sits on the Board of Directors and represents his unit(s) in all aspects of the association business. In addition he also writes the unit column for his unit(s) and submits it for the Patrolling magazine. The Vice President did submit a column for this issue but it was not received on the cutoff date, probably through no fault of his own but due to the post office changing to a new location. Numerous other units did not submit anything for this issue and if I was a member, I would ask them why. It doesn't take too much to just write a small article or submit a picture about you unit(s). The Long Range Reconnaissance Leadership Course (LRSLC) submitted an article that will be in the next issue (March). Seems that they (the Army) are talking about abolishing the course or cutting way down on the frequency it is given

I have received a number of calls and Emails in the past couple of months and truthfully, there are a few that I haven't got around to answering. I have been extremely busy with family, sickness, two hurricanes, floods and the building of a new home in the flood ravaged area. Some of the rivers crested at over 18 feet above flood stage and roads were washed away. I have put what time I have had towards the new members and the administrative aspects of maintaining the roster and doing this newsletter, which is a massive undertaking of time. I'm not an expert at producing this newsletter but I manage to save the association thousands of dollars a year by doing what I do. And I hope all of you support the next person who produces this magazine.

There was one article that I would have really like to have gotten into this edition and it will be in the next edition. The article is concerning **Hepatitis C**. I along with many of the membership have recently become aware of the health threat that this disease is presenting to the Vietnam era LURP/RANGER. Seems that those of us that were wounded and received blood transfusions are at risk of having Hep C. It was not tested for until 1982. Left untreated, it is terminal and the VA in an unprecedented move to my knowledge has accepted that Hep C is service related. Some forecasters of such things, predict that Hep C will be the Number 1 killer (from disease) by 2010. My ATL during the 68 - 69 time frame is now in treatment for Hep C.

Many of you have asked how the house is coming along and it is slow but it is coming, just not at the pace that my wife would like. We now have the plumbing in, foundation poured and the framing has started. I have two storage sheds on the property and recently went to Virginia and purchased a used tractor/bush hog/finish cutter to cut the 9 acres that the house sits on. Expected occupancy date is this spring.

Most of you know that my wife and I have a business (tax preparation and accounting) and with tax season rapidly approaching, I will be real busy between now and April 15th. The work will go on but at a reduced rate.

I'd like to apologize for some of the pictures in the September issue. The pictures of Jim Stamper, John Daniel and Santos Matos and some of the others became distorted in the printing. We still don't know what happened but the printer reduced his price and we have taken measures to see that it doesn't happen again.

I'd like to thank again Karen Tadina who puts the labels on all the newsletters and helps me at the Bulk Mail Center at the post office. See will be leaving for Christmas Vacation so I need to get this to the printer so she can get the labels on NLT the 16th and we can get it out in the mail. With the Holiday season and Bulk Mail getting the last priority, this issue may take a while to get delivered. Again, as we close out the millennium, the best from my family to yours. Remember to register for the reunion, early!!!!!!

TREASURER'S MESSAGE
BY
JACK WERNER

While participating in the Army 10 Miler in Washington, D.C. during the week of October 10th I attended a briefing on the future of Special Ops, by Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Lt. General William P. Tangney.

The United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) is one of nine unified commands in the U.S. military's combat command structure, the result of the Nunn-Cohen Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987. The command was activated 16 April 1987, and has approximately 47,000 members made up of active, Reserve, and National Guard from the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

USSOCOM's current overall mission is to prepare special operations forces to successfully conduct world wide special operations, civil affairs and psychological operations in peace and war, in support of the regional combatant commanders, American Ambassadors and their country teams, and other government agencies.

1: There are four commands involved in Special Ops's

*Joint Special operations Command JSOC at Fort Bragg, N.C. is a sub-unified command under the Commander in Chief, U.S. Special Operations Command (USCINCSOC). JSOC, established in 1980, oversee matters pertaining to joint special operations and missions. JSOC's prime directives are to:

- *Study joint special operations requirements and techniques.
- *Ensure interoperability and equipment standardization
- *Plan and conduct joint special operations exercises and training.
- *Develop joint special operations tactics.

2: U.S. Army Special Operations Command is made of Special Forces (SF), Ranger, psychological operations (PSYOP), civil affairs (CA), special operations aviation (SOA) and headquarters units.

3: Navel Special Warfare Command Spell this SEAL (Sea-Air-Land) teams. Navel special warfare (NSW) forces conduct maritime special operations in support of fleet commands and theater special operations commands (SOC's) Some NSW forces directly support national missions.

4: Air Force Special Operations Command consists of uniquely equipped fixed and rotary-wing aircraft operated by specially trained aircrews whose missions include inserting, extracting, re-supplying, aerial fire support, refueling and PSYOP.

The principal Missions of Special Operations Forces are:

*Direct action: short-duration strikes to seize, destroy, capture, recover, or inflict damage.

Special Reconnaissance: Actions to obtain or verify capabilities, intentions and activities of an actual or potential enemy, including data concerning characteristics of a particular area.

Foreign Internal Defense: Necessary actions to free and protect a society from subversion, lawlessness and insurgency.

Unconventional Warfare: Support military and paramilitary operations conducted by indigenous or surrogate forces. This includes guerrilla warfare and other offensive low-visibility operations.

Combating terrorism: Includes any defensive or offensive measures necessary to oppose terrorism.

Counter proliferation: Actions to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Civil affairs: Activities that influence relations between military forces and civil authorities and the civilian population to facilitate military operations.

Psychological operations: Conveying selected information to foreign audiences to facilitate the originator's objectives.

Information operations: Negatively impacts adversary information systems and protects our own.

Collateral Activities

Coalition Support: Coordination, synchronization, integration, and training.

Combat search and rescue: Recovery of distressed personnel. Counter drug Activities

Countermines activities

Humanitarian assistance Signal Activities:

Special Activities: Actions conducted abroad that require a presidential finding and congressional oversight

The Army chief of staff, General Eric Shinseki, has said that our goal is to be able to put a potent force here on Earth within 96 hours. That "potent force" will usually involve Special Operations Forces. A Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown's aircraft crashed in Croatia, SOF was the first Americans on the ground and conducted the recovery operation under very severe conditions. While completing that operation the commanders received an SOS from the U.S. Ambassador in Monrovia, Liberia within 48 hours the SOF were in Liberia securing the embassy and evacuating more than 2000 people by the time the U.S. Marines arrived in force.

Whether the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) is delivering a 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment security element or a 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), they all know four SOF Truths:

- *Humans are more important than hardware. "Equip the man, don't man the equipment" Human sacrifice and courage will always be the tools of war that make the difference.
- *Quality is better than quantity. Andrew Jackson said, "One man with courage is a majority." If we can give that man the most specialized and regroup training in the world, a few can stand against many, and prevail.
- *Competent special operations forces cannot be created after emergencies occur. It takes from six to eight years before an individual is considered fully mission qualified in SOF.
- *Special operations forces cannot be mass-produced (There is a 50 to 80% attrition rate.) Lowering the standard to get more people is not acceptable.

Defense Intelligence Agency cites a dramatic increase in the operations tempo of U.S. and allied forces that will continue at a rapid pace as the global dynamic spurs numerous regional and local crises.

We did an important job in Vietnam and we did it with courage. We were not as educated in warfare, as trained or as supported as the Rangers (or other SOF troops) of today. We will always be proud of our service and we should swell with pride when we look at the strong warriors of today that are grounded in moral and ethical values, ready to respond when needed. Rangers Lead The Way!!

Jack Werner served two tours in Vietnam with the 4th Infantry Division and K/75th Airborne Rangers. He is a lifetime member and the treasurer for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Jack's PHD is in finance. His wife, Cyndee McCartney, is an active duty (AGR) Capt. in the U.S. Army Reserves. Chad Werner, the oldest son, served three years with 101st Air Mobile Division and Cord Werner is in the U.S. Army Infantry.

Tribute to Veterans

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye. Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel in the leg - or perhaps another sort of inner steel: the soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity. Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem. You can't tell a vet just by looking.

What is a vet?

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

She - or he - is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another - or didn't come back AT ALL.

He is the Quantico drill instructor that has never seen combat - but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks and gang members into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade - riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor dies unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket - palsied now and aggravatingly slow - who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness, and he is nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

REUNION 2000 UPDATE

BY DAN POPE

PRIMARY HOTEL AND HQS

Holiday Inn Midtown
7100 Abercorn St.
Savannah, Ga 31406
(912)352-7100
Fax: (912)355-6408

Group Name: 75th Ranger Regiment
Assoc., Inc.
Group code: RRA
Group rate: \$78.00 + 12% tax
Block dates: 5 - 9 July, 2000
Room block: 65 rooms

1ST OVERFLOW HOTEL

Best Western - Savannah
(912)355-1000

Group Name: 75th Ranger Regiment
Assoc., Inc.
Group code: RRA

Room block: 65 rooms
Group rate: \$75.00 + 12% tax

2ND OVERFLOW HOTEL

Club House Inn - Savannah
(912) 356-1234

Group Name: 75th Ranger Regiment
Assoc., Inc.
Group code: RRA

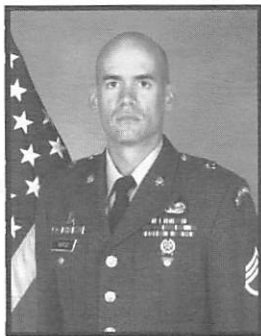
Room block: 80 rooms
Group rate: \$63.00 - \$89.00 + 12% tax

MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATIONS!

Please Use Primary Hotel First!
See Schedule of Events

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REGIMENTAL NCO OF THE YEAR



SSG MORSE

Staff Sergeant Morse was born and raised in Wassaic, NY. He attended Millbrook School where he participated in lacrosse, and cross-country. Upon graduating in 1982 SSG Morse entered the United States Marine Corps. He attended basic training at Parris Island, SC and went on to train as a Supply Specialist at Camp Lejeune, NC. SSG Morse's assignments in the Marine Corps included 3d Force Service Support Group, Camp Kinser, Okinawa, 2d Force Service Support Group, Camp Lejeune, and 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Camp Lejeune. He was honorably discharged in

1986, after serving for four years.

SSG Morse then enrolled at the Ohio State University where he received a B.S. in Wildlife Management. While at Ohio State he competed in bicycle racing with the universities cycling team. After graduating in 1992, he worked as a field biologist for Wildlife International LTD and the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation. In order to broaden his career skills, SSG Morse enlisted in the US Army in 1995.

While attending Imagery Analyst (96D) AIT at FT Huachuca, AZ, SSG Morse volunteered for assignment to the 75th Ranger Regiment. After completing Airborne Training and RIP he was assigned to the 75th Ranger Regimental Headquarters to work as an imagery analyst for the Military Intelligence Detachment. SSG Morse is currently the Imagery NCOIC of the Collection Management and Dissemination section of the Military Intelligence Detachment.

MILITARY EDUCATION: BASIC TRAINING (USMC), BASIC SUPPLY SCHOOL (USMC), NCO SCHOOL (USMC), PRIMARY MARKSMANSHIP INSTRUCTOR SCHOOL (USMC), BASIC TRAINING (ARMY), ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL TRAINING (MOS 96D), AIRBORNE SCHOOL, RANGER INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM, PRIMARY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE, BASIC NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY, **CIVILIAN EDUCATION:** BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NATURAL RESOURCES FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:** SEA SERVICE DEPLOYMENT RIBBON (2, USMC), NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION (USMC), ARMY SERVICE RIBBON, NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL, NCO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RIBBON (2), ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL, PARACHUTIST BADGE, GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (1 x USMC, 1 x ARMY)

A LATE ANNOUNCEMENT

Joey Welsh E/20, was recently awarded the Bronze Star with V device for an action that occurred nearly 30 years ago. Joey is now retired from the Army and lives in San Antonio, TX. Joey has also volunteered to help any member who has a legitimate claim to an award that was never granted or considered. I know there are a few of our members from the Vietnam era who did not receive any awards or decorations for certain actions. Joey asks that his offer to help will include the format and packet information that is needed for consideration by the Army. He cannot and will not do the work but will gladly assist anyone who desires his help. Address / Phone / Email Address below.

JOEY WELSH

15114 SPRING BLUFF DR.

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78247

PH: 210-637-1735

EMAIL: namlrp@gateway.net

SOLDIER OF THE YEAR



SP/4 NELSON

Specialist Dale A. Nelson was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington. He attended Clover Park High School and participated on the football and track teams. He was also involved in French Club, Mathematics Club, and Vocational Industrial Clubs of America. It was in high school that he met his future wife Christy Ann Irons. After high school he became a member of The United Federation of Laborers local 9252 out of Everett, Washington. He worked as a laborer for Lumpkin Construction for 8 months

before starting at Pierce College. After 1 quarter of school he was then accepted to The University of Puget Sound. During this time he took a semester of ROTC at Pacific Lutheran University. It was at this time that the money for college became short.

With the rising cost of education Spc Nelson had to leave school and went to work at The Great Wall of China restaurant and casino. He received a license from the Washington State Gambling Commission and was given the responsibility of running a poker room, being responsible for thousands of dollars on a daily basis.

This was the time that he started to talk to his brother, Darrell C. Nelson (formerly B co. 3/75), about what it was like to be in 3rd Ranger Battalion. He was told stories of Operation "Just Cause" and of what it means to be part of the brotherhood in a ranger unit. Having always wanted to join the military, he went and enlisted in the Army with a guaranteed airborne and RIP contract and was put into the Delayed Entry Program. On 06 Nov 97 he attended basic training and advanced individual training at Ft. Benning, Georgia. In March 98 He graduated from Airborne School and then went on to RIP. Upon completion of RIP he was assigned to weapons squad, 1st Platoon, Company A, 3rd Ranger Battalion.

He was in weapons squad for 2 years and then was switched over to a line squad, where he has been for the past 3 months. His PT score has increased from 243 to 300 and his bench press has gone from 180 to 275. He has earned his Ranger tab, EIB, and expert weapon qualification. He has been a Gun Team Leader, Senior Gunner, M240 gunner, Fire Team Leader, and currently holds the position of M249 gunner. He has won Soldier of the month; for the months of Jun 98, Sep 98, Jan 99; Soldier of the Quarter; for 4th Quarter 98 and 3rd Quarter 99; and 3rd BN Soldier of the Year for 99.

MILITARY EDUCATION: One Station Unit Training (MOS 11B), Airborne School, Ranger Indoctrination Program, Combat Life Saver, Basic Life Support, Jungle Expert (JOTB), Pre-Ranger, Ranger School, Infantry Weapon Specialist Course (Correspondence), Demolition Handlers Permit, Team Leaders Course, Radio Telephone Operator Certification Course, Safety Swimmer Course, Boat Operators Course **CIVILIAN EDUCATION:** Pierce College, 10 credit hours, Pacific Lutheran University, 6 credit hours, University of Puget Sound, 18 credit hours. **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:** Army Service Ribbon, Army Achievement Medal (2), Expert Qualification (Rifle), Parachutist Badge, German Parachute Badge, Ranger Tab Expert Infantryman's Badge, German Expert Infantryman's Badge (Silver Qualification), Soldier of the Month for 3rd Ranger BN (Jun 98, Sep 98, Jan 99), Soldier of the Quarter for 3rd Ranger BN (4th Quarter 98, 3RD Quarter 99) Soldier of the Year for 3rd Ranger

Information supplied by the 75th Ranger Regiment
on the NCO and Soldier of the year.

A CHRISTMAS STORY

This incident took place in the Central Highlands of Vietnam on my first mission as a LRRP team leader. Since I was a new team leader, CPT Kay, our LRRP Platoon Leader, gave me an easy mission. My team was choppered out to some high ground within sight of Dak To village, perhaps only a kilometer or so away. We could even see some lights from the village that night, and could have seen the LRP compound on the 1st Brigade Firebase, except for the exceptional light discipline customarily practiced by the LRRPs occupying the basecamp at night.

Like I say, it was an “easy” mission. Or supposed to be, but somehow these things never seem to go according to plan. The jungle was quiet, with no sign of enemy movement. But it seemed too quiet, with no chatter even from crickets or lizards. I called in our night location to HQ, set out the claymores, then settled in to read a Micky Spillaine novel in the waning daylight hours. After getting shot up with McBain and Aoki on 1 November, I was glad to draw a couple easy missions and relax.

But then it started, slowly, like a spooky movie scene that you just know is going to erupt into something nasty. I could observe a strange aircraft hovering over Dak To village, but could not hear any rotor sound at all, even though we were in range to hear a chopper. And more baffling was that the aircraft was using navigation lights, because I could see a red beacon near the front of craft. Since it was now dark, we could not make out the craft distinctly, but it was clearly airborne, hovering at times, and moving methodically above the village at other times.

I called this in right away, and the Air Liaison Officer on duty at the Brigade TOC claimed that there were no friendly aircraft in the area that night. I don’t think he really believed me when I had told him this one was even using navigation lights, at least that damn steady red beacon on the front. It was beginning to get somewhat foggy, and the light seemed to grow in intensity, but still did not give us a clear view of the craft from a kilometer away.

We decided to engage the aircraft with gunfire if it come near us, and radioed this intent to CPT Kay. He said OK, but double checked with the air operations people first. Again, no known friendlies in the area. He suggested it might be a civilian aircraft, but none of us could figure out how it could hover so quietly, and why it stayed right over the village without going near the military compound down the road. A civilian aircraft seemed possible, however, as no military aircraft from either side would use navigation lights at night in a combat zone. I told my team not to fire unless we were directly threatened.

No sooner were these words out of my mouth than the aircraft picked up airspeed and began moving rapidly toward us, flying a low, nap-of-earth pattern. One of the guys whispered that he thought he heard some bells or something, but otherwise it was silent — no rotor, no engine, nothing. Was the enemy using some kind of glider? If so, how could it hover, and how did it pick up airspeed when approaching us?

It flew directly overhead, maybe one-five meters off the surface. We held our fire until it went into a sudden left bank and started to circle to take a look at us. It was now after dark, and I had no idea how we were spotted, but obviously our position had been compromised. I heard a man on the craft shout something indistinctly, and it was at that moment that one of the team members, I think it was Zwibel, blew off a magazine of M-16 rounds at the craft, full automatic. The weapons roar shattered the still jungle night and the red beacon was extinguished immediately. He hit it! The rest of us opened up. The craft was beginning to lose airspeed and we didn’t know if it was going to crash or was just lining us up in its gunsights. Pender put an M-79 rocket grenade round right in the tail end of the aircraft, and we heard the pilot curse and saw the craft begin to slow more and shudder as the pilot fought the loss of control.

I was on the radio to Kay at HQ trying frantically to get gunship support and an extraction chopper. The Captain told me the choppers were already turning the rotors on the pad and would be on station in “five mikes” as he put it. I was not sure if we could hold out that long. It was 24 December, and I thought if I live through this it would be the strangest Christmas ever.

Still no noise from the aircraft, except now the earlier sound of the bells was distinct and clearly coming from the craft. This eerie sound was beginning to rattle us, like the classical Wagner played by the PsyOps choppers in Apocalypse Now.

The ship pulled directly overhead and we finally got a good, close look at it. A sleigh! And being pulled by eight reindeer! The lead reindeer appeared to have been hit in the initial M-16 barrage, but the red beacon flickered back on, and we could hear the pilot shouting “On Donner, on Blitzen! More airspeed, dammit.” He regained control of his craft, and rapidly disappeared towards the West at at least 90 knots.

I called off the support aircraft, and never told the full story of what happened, which is why you’ll never find this engagement written in the S-2 logs for that day. But every word of this is absolutely true — just ask those guys who were with me.

Bill Manderfeld, Team Leader K. Co., 75th Rangers (LRRP)



HUMOR

Three Marines were walking through the forest when they came upon a set of tracks. The first Marine said, "Those are deer tracks." The second Marine said, "No, those are elk tracks." The third Marine said, "You're both wrong! Those are moose tracks." The marines were still arguing when the train hit them.

A Ranger NCO and an General were sitting in the barbershop. They were both just getting finished with their shaves. The barbers were reaching for some after-shave to slap on their faces when the General shouted, "Hey, don't put that crap on me! My wife will think I've been in a whorehouse!" The NCO turned to his barber and said, "Go ahead and put it on. My wife doesn't know what the inside of a whorehouse smells like."

A couple of A-10's are escorting a C-130 Hercules, and their pilots were chatting with the pilot of the transport to pass the time. Talk fell on the subject of relative merits of their respective aircraft with the fighter pilots holding their planes were better because of their maneuverability, weaponry and the like. The C-130 pilot replied "Yeah? Well, I can do a few things in this old girl that you'd only dream about." Naturally, he was challenged to demonstrate. "Just watch," he tells them. The C-130 continues to fly straight and level, and after several minutes the Herk pilot returns to the air and says, "There! How was that?" Not having seen anything, the fighter pilots say, "What are you talking about? What did you do?" He replies, "Well, I got up, stretched my legs, got a cup of coffee, then went back and took a leak."

FISHING IN KODIAK

I didn't give much thought to winning when I bought the raffle ticket for the Alaska hunting or fishing trip at the 1998 Rendezvous, especially since the next guy bought \$200 worth of tickets. As far as I was concerned, it was a \$5 donation to charity. Well it didn't work out that way, and the next thing I knew I was accepting a #14 Randall knife and a certificate for a day of hunting or fishing in Alaska, courtesy of Jim Venable and Riley Morton (L/75).

I was looking forward to going back to Alaska. I hadn't been there since 1976 when I spent two weeks learning how to crash and burn at ski school, and another seven weeks playing lead dog to my team of akio pullers at Ft. Wainright. Now here was a chance to actually have some fun in Alaska.

The literature promised a 15 percent chance of an elk, and a 90 percent chance for deer. I made contact with Jim and Riley, and asked them about the terrain, since I planned on bringing my 11 year old son, Matthew, along. Riley wrote back and said things would work out fine, as long as Matthew could handle a .375 H & H magnum, or a 12 gauge loaded with slugs. It seems you have to be prepared to defend your kill from bears when you're hunting on Kodiak Island. Kodiaks are bigger than grizzlies, and there are about 4,000 of them on the island, which works out to about one for every 4 human residents. Since Matthew is still a little light in the aft end, we decided to go fishing.

Working the trip into my schedule wasn't easy, but we finally made

the arrangements, and one day in late August we were standing in Kodiak making a call to Gary Salter, the owner of Magnum Charters (www.magnumcharters.com). Gary was having some engine trouble with his boat, but he had lined up a replacement for us, and the next morning we were heading out of the harbor.

Kodiak is a place of incredible beauty. The harbor is nestled at the base of a forest covered hillside, and is filled with fishing boats. We threaded our way through a maze of small islands and made our way out to sea. We spent several hours trying our luck at two or three locations, tending our lines, and watching the scenery. A whale swam by, blowing a spout of mist in the air, and we watched the puffins, sea birds with parrot-like beaks, diving for fish. On the other hand, one of our party spent most of the his time hanging over the side and watching breakfast float away. Then the tide changed. It wasn't long before someone yelled "fish on", and everything, including sea sickness, was completely forgotten.

We were catching salmon off the bow and halibut off the stern, almost as fast as the hooks could be baited. Within a few hours, everyone had caught their limit and we headed back into Kodiak where the processor met us at the dock side. We put in our orders on how to process the seventy-three pounds of fish we'd caught, and got a ride with Gary back to the bed and breakfast.

Jim Venable stopped by that evening to say hello and get acquainted. It was unfortunate that my scheduled only allowed us one day of fishing, as Jim was ready to give us the full tour of the island in his plane and put us up at his home. He wanted me to put the word out to the next winner that all you have to do is get there, and he will take care of the rest.

All too soon we were at the airport, catching our flight home. Still, I have the memory of the look on Matthew's face when he caught his first salmon, some great pictures, and 73 pounds of fish which we've had poached, baked, grilled, smoked, and deep fired. Halibut even makes a decent taco. **ALAN CAMPBELL A/75 & B/2/75**



ALAN CAMPBELL AND SON (MATTHEW)

THE ASSOCIATION THANKS ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE SUCCESS OF OUR REUNIONS. THIS TRIP HAS BEEN OFFERED FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS AND WE HOPE IT IS OFFERED AGAIN.

INTERVIEW OF THE 1ST REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE 75TH RANGER REGT.

BY: GARY R. CARPENTER

Hi Folks,

Just a little of an explanation about the article. First of all the magazine, PRVA LINIJA is translated First Line. This is an Army of the Federation magazine. The article on the Bosanski Rendzers begins on page 50 and ends on page 59.

As you read the translation, remember, this interview with me was conducted by a Bosnian writer. I used my interpreter, and then after the article was written it came out like this when translated back to English. (Attached). Not quite what I had in mind but you will get the idea.

Example, we are coming close to Gary's "wigwam". Gary's wigwam was his poncho shelter with Vietnam silk hammock under it and the story goes on. If you use a little imagination you will be able to decipher what I actually said. Of course all you Rangers know exactly what I am saying in the article. 1, 2, 3, came from Rogers Rangers 19 standing orders, it was told keep your musket clean, and I think belt translates to sixty rounds powder and ball, but you get the drift. Well no matter how the article came out after two translations, we conducted 3 weeks of waterborne training at Jablinica Lake, small boat, expedient river crossing techniques, one, two, and three rope bridges. It was good solid Ranger training. Please enjoy and pass on to your friends.

HOOAH! Gary R. Carpenter CSM US Army (Retired) 1st RSM of the 75th Ranger Regiment

Quotation from the article "Bosnian rangers in water, on the ground and in the sky", from the military magazine 11 Prva linija" (First line)

It was getting dark by the lake. We were coming closer to Gary's "wigwam", with the small awning, made from a tent-half, mounted in front. There was a lot of tidy, folded reconnaissance equipment under the awning and the sleeping net stretched between two trees. Our host made coffee and he was probably impatient for us to join him. Let's say that as we were approaching that man, with the full name Gary Carpenter, we felt awe, because we were told that he is the one of the most famous rangers across the Atlantic. His membership in the Ranger's Hall of Fame proves it. To be a member of that club is the life dream of every American ranger.

Who are the American Rangers?

We were sitting for a long with Mr. Carpenter, by the pot of always-hot coffee and campfire, listening carefully to the interesting story about the American Rangers. Here, we will try to retell that story. But first, I want to say that, before Gary's story, we were prejudicial; we thought that rangers are the followers of the spirit showed in many movies about Wild West. Wrong! The rangers use to be policemen and nowadays, rangers are infantry soldiers. Rangers were formed during the Second World War, when there were six ranger battalions. They fought in Normandy, in scary fights for the liberation of France and Europe. On Gary's T-shirt we saw the sign "75 Ranger Regiment". He said it was the sign of modern American rangers. Forerunners of modern rangers fought in India, Burma, Vietnam, Nicaragua, Panama, and Gulf War. The story about old American rangers-policemen is something else. They belong to the past, to the first days of American history, 150 or more years ago. They were Roger's rangers, who had a code of 19 standard obligations (commands), which are also respected by the modern rangers. We state three first rules:

1. Rifle belt must be always dry.
2. Ax must be always sharp.
3. Never come back from the patrol by the same road.

Those rules should be understood in their literal and figurative meaning. Modern rangers have a code with not so many rules. We will paraphrase some of them:

1. All rangers are volunteers.
2. Rangers know they are elite.
3. Never let your fellow-soldier down.
4. I will always be - in physical, moral and psychological perfect shape.
5. I will show to the world that I am a specially chosen and trained soldier.
6. I will meet my enemy on the battlefield, and I will win, because I am trained better, and I fight with my brain, not only with my strength and arms.
7. I will show fast my inner strength, because I am asked to fight by rangers' rules, which obligate us to complete our mission, even though you are the last one to survive.

Today, the U.S. Army has three Rangers Battalions. They are under a Regimental Commander. Their mission is to fight whenever and wherever around the world. Rangers can get the call one hour before the operation starts. Of course, that happens just in cases when their country or friendly countries are attacked.

Later we met Gary, and we drank coffee again. He is a friendly man. He was glad we were interested in the story about American rangers. We told him that we had seen a ranger's emblem on the uniform of Wesley Clark, NATO Commander for Europe. Did it mean that Clark use to be a ranger? "One who was a ranger always stays a ranger," said Gary puzzlingly. And he explained immediately: "Yes, General Clark was a ranger." He passed command course and strict psychophysical training that is really scary and "ordinary" people wouldn't be able to survive it. Psychophysical training consists of training of surviving in the nature, in wood and desert areas, where people experience really stressful situations. For example, they are not supposed to sleep for some nights one after another. That is the way of getting a rangers' patch. When some high commands look for the men for their headquarters they took for men with ranger's patches, because it is the sign of quality. "So, once you get a ranger's patch, you are proud to wear it during all your service, no matter which unit you belong to," said Gary. And he added something that made us happy: "In the American Army we have a ranger's program for the foreign students. Here, we are looking for some to send on the training to the U.S." Through the conversation we got to reach the most important subject for us-how do our guys fit in high professional program requirements of American rangers? Gary said that the basic precondition was achieved, soldiers and officers are enthusiastic, and during the training they insist to keep up with the all elements of American requirements, no matter how tough they are or how impossible they are to achieve. "Really, they achieve them every day. Most of them know exactly what they want. All of them are career soldiers, I know and they know-if they cut their vein there would appear olive green blood," Gary said seriously. In six months between 20% and 25% of our rangers (Gary said literally like that, "our rangers") will achieve required standards for getting ranger's patches, which will be always worn proudly. That's why we need to tell more about our guys who will be recognized by their ranger's patches. By American experience, those will be guys who can stay in a regular ranger compound three or four years, because they "bum out" from continuous training which lasts day and night. That's the working period of rangers, people who completely sacrifice themselves for their service. When they are out of the ranger unit they continue their work as the trainers in other units. American rangers promote their officers quickly. That's why commanders of ranger battalions are easily promoted to three or four star generals. At the end we asked Mr. Carpenter to tell us his rank. He answered proudly: "I was Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Pacific (Chief Fleet) Command. I was an active ranger for 34 years. Trust me, that is not short period."



SMALL BOAT TRAINING (BOSNIAN RANGER TRAINING)

COBRA EXTRACTION

CO F 52ND INFANTRY (LRP)

BY: ROGER ANDERSON

Incident: LRRP Team Extracted by Cobra Gunship, Republic of Vietnam

Date Of Action: 18 June, 1968

Units Involved: Co.F/52nd Infantry (LRP), 1st Infantry Division
D Troop (Air), 1st Squadron/4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division

On 14 June, 1968, Team Wildcat Two of Company F, 52nd Infantry (LRP), 1st Infantry Division, was sent to an ARVN Regional Forces-Popular Forces ("Ruf-Puf") compound located 18 kilometers northeast of Saigon, from where it was to conduct patrols for the next 7-days period. Supporting the team from the compound would be a Forward Operations Base (FOB) communications relay team, also from Co. F. Two days later, the team, led by PFC Robert P. Elsner (New York City, NY), was given a warning order to conduct a two-day reconnaissance mission near the village of Ap Go Cong, a long suspected VC sanctuary, two kilometers northeast of the ARVN compound. Elsner, though a PFC, was an excellent, experienced and much-decorated team leader, and that was rightfully the criteria (not rank) upon which Co.F team leaders were selected. Ap Go Cong, with only 1500 inhabitants, was not a large village, but over the years had earned a reputation for being staunchly sympathetic to the enemy (this assessment was later proven to be a significant understatement). Without benefit of the usual helicopter overflight, the team was ordered to walk off the compound at dusk on 18 June and patrol toward the village, reaching it by 1900 hours. Once there, they were to remain hidden until dark, then move into a gully that reportedly ran across the mouth of the horseshoe-shaped village. If they were able to reach that point unobserved, they were to pause, then move slightly east of it and set up an observation post (OP). Their primary mission was to monitor the village and a large rice paddy area to the east of it, which ran all the way to the river. They were to watch for a VC company that was reportedly using the village routinely for resupply and recreation. If they spotted the enemy column, the team was to avoid direct contact and instead, engage them with artillery. Contact was expected, as the team had briefly engaged a VC force of unknown size two nights previously, closer to the river.

This was not Elsner's usual Team 2, generally comprised of five men. He still had his regular Assistant Team Leader, Sgt. Billy Cohn (Old Mystic, CN), carrying his M-79 grenade launcher. Cohn and Elsner had been working together continuously for many months. Walking "slack" (number two position, right behind the "point man") and carrying the team's radio, was a relatively new team member, Spec. 4 Gerald Paddy (Maryville, TN). The patrol's "rear-security" was Sgt. David Hill (Visalia, CA), a scout-dog handler who had been attached to Team 2 since March 1968. A bad experience on almost the first night patrol using the dog team had convinced Elsner and the previous Team 2 Leader, Sgt. Ronnie Luce (Kansas City, MO), that the German Shepherd was far too noisy to accompany a long range patrol, and the decision had thus been made in back in March to leave the scout dog behind in base-camp. However, this did not apply to the dog's handler. Hill had proven over the following months to be a more-than-capable team member without the dog, and stayed on as a regular team member. Hill, instead of carrying his usual weapon, the M-79, was carrying an M-2 carbine (borrowed from the ARVNs), as Elsner wanted to have at least one weapon which would not immediately, by sound alone, identify the patrol as American should some nearby target need to be taken out.

Walking point, Elsner led his four-man patrol out of the compound nearly an hour before dark. The weather was high/overcast. It was not supposed to rain during the mission, but Elsner knew that any cloud cover could have some adverse effect on the capabilities of the "starlight" scope he was carrying. The starlight, a relatively new and very effective night-vision scope, was carried by the team whenever one was available to them, and it would prove to be a key factor to the team's survival on this particular night. The team initially moved to the west to deceive any prying eyes, then swung to the north until they hit a treeline. The terrain bordering the rice paddies was covered by low brush and single canopy trees, and offered only minimal cover to the team. From his map, Elsner knew that the treeline they were moving within ran almost to edge of Ap Go Cong village. They followed it until it intersected with another treeline that extended out from the south wing of the village. Taking advantage of what cover the thin brush and trees offered, the team moved to within approximately two hundred meters of the village. They quickly set up in a circular perimeter, all facing outward, and remained hidden there until full darkness.

As the sun was nearly set, Elsner began to scope out the approaches to the village. He could see that at the end of each leg of the horseshoe-shaped village, a treeline extended another two hundred meters or so, ending at the leading edges of the vast rice paddy. He quickly spotted a trail in front of them that snaked from the end of the southernmost treeline and ran out across the the rice paddies toward the distant river. Elsner decided that this was most likely the trail the enemy regularly used to enter and depart the village. The team leader also spotted a waist-deep gully that separated the area inside the village horseshoe layout from the rest of the huge rice paddy. As soon as Elsner felt that it was dark enough to move in closer, he led the team into the southern treeline and stopped 60 meters from the nearest point of the village. Even without the starlight scope, the LRRPs could see the shadowy forms of the village's

inhabitants moving back and forth between their hootches. They could also hear the sounds of Vietnamese music, and soon realized the villager's were carrying on some sort of celebration. The music seemed to be coming from points throughout the village. Faint lights shown from the hootches and a few outdoor fires burned in various parts of the village.

The team remained in that position for nearly fifteen minutes, quietly observing—Elsner using the starlight scope. He could clearly see the activity in the village, but saw no movement outside of it. To get a better view, Elsner led the team out of the trees and northward, initially paralleling the gully, then turning in toward the center segment of the village. When they got within 30 meters of the nearest hootches, Elsner again motioned for the team to halt. From this new vantage point, the LRRPs could hear dogs barking in the village, but with the slight breeze apparently in the team's favor, the domestic canines did not seem to notice them. It was now nearly 2000 hours and the team was on schedule per the original plan.

While able now to closely observe the village itself, Elsner decided that a large mound to their rear denied them a clear view of all of the trail that ran across the rice paddy and into the village. That probable approach route by any VC was too critical a sector not to be under complete observation by the team. While the team remained in place, Elsner backtracked slightly toward the treeline to find a better observation position, and quickly found one—now able to see about 300 meters into the rice paddy through his scope. Now all critical portions of the village, the rice paddy, and the trail were as visible to the team as the scope's limited range would permit. Elsner advised the team that they would remain in that location until 2100 hours, then move twice more in succession further out into the large rice paddy until they were within approximately 50 meters of the primary trail he had spotted, which is where G-2 wanted them to be not later than midnight. As it turned out, they would never make it to that final objective.

At 2100 hours Elsner gave the signal for the team to get ready to move. Silently, with Elsner leading, they formed into a file, five meters between them, and began heading toward the next point he had selected. They had gone only about 10-15 meters when the hair on Elsner's neck suddenly began to tingle. He had not seen or heard anything, but his "sixth sense" was telling him that something was amiss. He immediately raised a clenched fist to stop the team. He raised the starlight scope toward the gully and out beyond it to the large rice paddy. They were no longer alone! Despite the team's seemingly successful infiltration, enemy soldiers had apparently detected the team and had themselves moved to set a trap for the LRRPs. The VC, down among the bushes on top of the gully, had not been visible on his previous scans of the area. However, Elsner could now make out an enemy soldier behind a tripod-mounted .30 cal. machine gun set up directly in their current path, on the near side of the gully. As Elsner scanned slowly right to left, he counted another fifteen VC strung out along the gully on either side of the machine gun, laying in the brush and seemingly relaxing. Continuing to pan around the team's position, Elsner quickly spotted another machine gun and crew at the point where the southern treeline ended at the large rice paddy, and yet another group of VC toward the edge of the northern treeline. Why they had not been visible previously was not known, but they clearly had the team effectively trapped. The team's precise position was apparently not yet known, but their possible routes had been accurately predicted. Now, with the village at their backs, and only the two foot high paddy berms to protect them, the team was effectively boxed in, with no safe place to run.

Elsner turned to the team, apprised them that they had "gooks all around them", and to form up in a "wheel" against the junction of two berms, their feet to the center, each to cover their assigned sectors of fire. They quickly put out five claymore mines in a circle around them: two facing the gully to their front, one each on the flanks and another facing the now quiet village. While his teammates pulled security, Elsner took a few moments to evaluate their situation. He was certain that the VC knew the team was out there somewhere, though not its exact location. But it was clear that there would be no escaping the trap without supporting fire—lots of it.

Soon, the LRRPs detected movement in the section of the gully to the team's left front. Elsner told the rest of team to stay in place, while he crawled out to toward the gully, grenade in hand. When he reached the gully, he heard more movement, and now, whispering. He slowly pulled the pin from a white phosphorous grenade and lobbed it toward the sound. In the resulting flash, he could see that he had caught two VC in the blast. He could also hear more of them running back up the gully. Jumping to his feet, he threw a fragmentation grenade as far as possible up the gully toward the end where it merged with the treeline, then quickly moved back to the team's tiny perimeter. Amazingly, the VC did not respond with fire of their own, perhaps themselves surprised that the initiative had been momentarily seized by the as yet unseen LRRPs.

Gerald Paddy had already contacted the LRRP company's Tactical Operations Center (TOC), and as soon as Elsner dropped down in the center of the perimeter, he took the handset and gave his CO a brief sit-rep (situation report). Elsner advised him that the team was boxed in by the surrounding village and treelines, with over 30 VC between them and the river. Without waiting for a reply, Elsner also asked for helicopter gunship support. The CO recommended that Elsner call in artillery while the gunships were being scrambled out of Phu Loi. Meanwhile Elsner had also advised the other team members that they were to use "grenades only, no shooting yet", as the VC apparently had not yet pin-pointed the team's exact position and Elsner wanted to keep it that way as long as possible. For the next few moments, each of the team moved slightly outward from his respective sector and over the paddy berm, flinging fragmentation grenades as far toward any movement/noise or the VC machine gun and rifle positions as they could, then quickly crawled back

behind the small berm. Still the VC did not assault toward the LRRPs position, seemingly hesitant for some unknown reason. Elsner proceeded to radio for artillery fire, based on the pre-plotted concentrations he had established with their artillery support prior to departing on the patrol. He called for a "marker" round at the first concentration, estimated to be approximately 500 meters out along the trail, toward the river. Giving the artillery battery's Fire Direction Center (FDC) the azimuth to it the concentration, he advised them that rounds would need to be "danger close" to the team's own position to be of any value. An appropriate time after the artillery radio operator advised: "Shot", no round was yet in evidence. Sensing something was wrong, Elsner then called for a drop of 300 meters and a second marker round. Nearly 30 seconds later, far in the distance, they spotted a flash—so far away that they barely heard its sound. Frustrated, and unsure why the rounds had been nowhere near where they should have been, Elsner reconfirmed the azimuth and the team's approximate position to the FDC. He was preparing to continue adjusting the rounds in toward the enemy position in increasingly larger drops, when suddenly a voice broke in: "Wildcat 2, this is Dark-Horse 32". Lt. Larry Taylor (Chatanooga, TN), piloting a Cobra helicopter gunship, was trying to establish contact with the team. That night Taylor was the Flight Leader of a two-ship flight of Cobras from D Troop (Air), 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, which had been immediately scrambled out of Phu Loi in response to the team's predicament. Flying with Taylor as his co-pilot/gunner was WO Bill Ratliff (Cody, WY). Flying as aircraft commander in the second Cobra was Capt. Roger Trickler, with Capt. LeMay as his co-pilot/gunner. The sleek, two-man gunships were "loaded for bear" and nearing the LRRPs location. Taylor advised Elsner that he expected that his running lights should be visible to the team in "about two minutes", and in which general direction the team should look, as he would need a precise vector into the team's location once he had been spotted by them. Elsner felt momentary relief: the pilots of the "Quarter-Cav" (as the unit was known throughout the 1st Division) had never let any of the LRRP teams down, and they were now clearly on the way to help his team. Elsner immediately canceled the artillery, deferring to Taylor for any further calls for artillery support, then switched to the gunship frequency and gave Taylor a sit-rep. He advised the pilot that he would get him started in the right direction upon sighting his lights,

then, when the gunships were close on station, the team would fire star-clusters (hand-fired flares) over the known and suspected enemy positions. With that agreed to, Taylor proceeded to, himself, contact the supporting artillery battery. Having reconfirmed the coordinates of the village on his map, he advised the artillery unit that as soon as he had clearly marked the team's location he would be calling for illumination rounds to light up the village and treelines which surrounded three sides of the team, as well as the large rice paddy behind the closest enemy positions. The battery was to commence firing the artillery flares only upon Taylor's command and he would adjust their rounds as needed. [Starting the artillery illumination prior to his arrival over the team would needlessly expose the LRRPs at this point; he did not want to "flip the switch" until he and his wingman were in position to deal with the enemy troops surrounding the team.]

When the LRRPs were first able to pick out the lights of the Cobras, they appeared to be still over a full click (kilometer) away. Elsner advised Taylor that he had the gunships in sight and their estimated distance and direction from the team. He then turned to the team and reiterated his make-shift marking plan. He told his team that he would fire a starcluster over the machine gun and troops nearest them, Cohn was to launch his towards the northern treeline, Hill was to fire his at the southern treeline, and Paddy was to fire his toward the village. [No enemy had yet been spotted in that direction, but it had to be assumed that some were, or soon would be, there.] This would not only give the pilots target reference points, but would also pinpoint the team for the gunships. The Cobras carried a huge, deadly arsenal, but they had to know precisely where they could safely deliver it around the team. Once that was known, everything outside the team's position would be "enemy", and thereby a target for the Cobras.

Elsner got on the radio, advising Taylor of the plan with the star-clusters. Taylor answered that he understood and told them to go ahead and launch them, as he was nearly in position. When the LRRPs complied, it seemed that everyone began firing at the same time—the VC, the gunships and the LRRPs. Each of the star clusters had been "on the money", marking the enemy positions for the Cobras, now roaring in on their gun runs. The team was now receiving intense fire from the gully to their front, and also from the north and south treelines, but as yet still no fire from the village itself. While calling for the artillery illumination to commence, Taylor and his wingman split on either side of the team, hitting the treelines on each flank with six 2.75 in. rockets each. They were on target and devastating. Taylor then came back around and sprayed the gully with mini-gun fire, the team scrunching down as far as possible below the top of their meager paddy berm. Both Cobras then circled out into the large rice paddy to commence a second run. This time the gunships came in simultaneously on parallel runs close on either side of the team. Returning over the team, they took turns pivoting directly over the LRRPs, spraying rockets and mini-guns all around the team's position. The air over the team was split with the explosions as the rockets left their pods, the impacts coming immediately thereafter at points all round the team. The gunships then again made runs down the length of the treelines, culminating at the edge of the village, firing dozens of rockets in the process. The enemy, however, was still returning heavy fire at the gunships and the trapped team. While the firing was now concentrated on the Cobras, as Taylor and Trickler had known it would be, there seemed to be plenty left over for the LRRPs as well.

For the next 30-40 minutes, the Cobras kept up there forays toward VC positions, now judiciously firing their rockets and mini-gun rounds at the points of heaviest enemy fire. Then, as the Cobras once again turned out over the rice paddy, Capt. Trickler reported that he was now also receiving fire from an enemy machine gun on the northeast corner of the north treeline. He could see that another large force of VC were apparently attempting to reinforce the VC already being engaged in the horseshoe. With the newly arrived VC unit trying to blow his Cobra out of the sky with machine gun and small arms fire, Trickler went around again and came back at them

firing nearly everything he had left. He succeeded in knocking out the machine gun with the last of his rockets and scattering the remaining VC.

Meanwhile, Taylor, hovering at about 50 feet out over the rice paddies east of the team, conferred with Trickler. Trickler informed Taylor that he had just expended the last of his rockets. Taylor responded that he, too, was out of rockets, but they would stay with the team and cover them as well as possible with their remaining mini-gun rounds. By that time, the Cobras had already fired 152 rockets and nearly 16,000 rounds of mini-gun ammo.

For the next 15 minutes, the LRRPs remained heavily engaged. The enemy fire coming from the gully had been totally, devastatingly eliminated by the Cobras and team. However, muzzle-flashes were still winking at them from the trees, followed by the "thunk" of bullets hitting the berms behind which the team still lay. Only 2-3 feet high and across, the sun-hardened earthen berms had certainly borne the volume of fire well to this point. Fortunately most of the enemy fire remained on the Cobras. Still making gun runs to keep the VC occupied and discourage any further assault on the team's position, the Cobras fired what little remained of their mini-gun ammo.

Taylor called Elsner and advised him with that he would hit the VC in the treeline to their south, but the team would have to handle the remaining enemy by themselves, as he and Trickler were definitely now down to their final mini-gun bursts. Elsner acknowledged Taylor's transmission. Taylor soon radioed the team that he had just run out of ammo and could only make "dry-runs" to try to distract the VC and continue to draw fire toward his now unarmed helicopter while he and Elsner hurriedly identified the best "escape and evasion" (E and E) route for the team to exit the area. Capt. Trickler reported that he was down to a single one-second burst of mini-gun fire. Taylor told him to save it, and then immediately broke into a series of dry runs, even turning on his Cobra's searchlight to further distract the enemy. The team now supported the unarmed gunship as best they could, firing at the muzzle flashes from guns aimed at the Cobra. Increasingly now the team was receiving small arms fire from the village proper, a direction from which the team had far less cover from the paddy berms. However, Taylor had an innovative way to deal with that threat. Quickly contacting the artillery battery, who had been continuously firing illumination rounds for him throughout the night, he requested them to adjust the bursting height of the flares to minimum altitude over the village (so the magnesium would still be burning when it fell into the hootches on the village's near side). He quickly succeeded in thus starting some spot-fires among the hootches, rooting out or at least temporarily distracting the VC who had been firing from the village.

Soon, however, the VC were on to Taylor's dry-run tactics and stood their ground, increasing the fire directed at him and the team. Taylor told Elsner that the LRRPs needed to be prepared to "di di" (run) across the gully and out into the open rice paddy toward the river. Elsner was told to move his team out on an azimuth of 135 degrees as far and fast they could go, timed to coincide with Trickler's final run on the northern treeline. Elsner said he understood, and advised that the team would first fire all of their claymore mines, then use "fire-and-maneuver" to make their way further out into the large rice paddy.

Though the team did not yet know it, Taylor had decided that he would extract the LRRPs on his Cobra. He knew that the team were themselves nearly out of ammunition, and would soon be overrun at any rate now that the gunships could no longer protect them. No relief gunship teams had yet arrived and Taylor did not know when any would, and no Huey "slicks" (troop transport helicopters) were yet available. The Cobra had no internal cargo hold to carry the team, but Wildcat 2 had to be lifted out of the area immediately and Taylor knew his Cobra was the only option available to the LRRPs. The "Quarter-Cav" never left LRRPs in contact, and he was determined to not even leave this team on the ground, regardless of what that entailed. He, Trickler and their co-pilots could not sit helplessly by while the team got massacred. But Taylor had yet another problem, learned of only later by the LRRPs: When Taylor had radioed his plan to extract the LRRPs on his Cobra, he was ordered by successively higher-level ground commanders that he was not, under any circumstances, to expose his valuable ship and crew in such an unorthodox maneuver. He was told that since the LRRPs were now committed to escape and evade across the rice paddies to the river, they would just have to continue with that strategy until a slick could be brought in to extract them—in the "standard" manner. Taylor immediately, and in no uncertain terms, responded that he was "exercising his prerogative as the senior on-scene commander and was proceeding with the Cobra extraction, regardless of the consequences".

Taylor stopped all illumination rounds except those over the village, and upon his command, the team detonated their claymore mines and moved out, each team member firing up his designated area of responsibility and covering each other. They immediately came under increased fire from the treeline to their south and the village behind them, but kept running and firing. Once they had crossed the gully, unbeknownst to Elsner, Cohn dropped off to lay down covering firing for the rest of the team with his M-79. Hill, still on rear-security, fired a final magazine at the VC in the village and passed through Cohn's position as the rest of the team ran further into the rice paddy.

The team was nearly a hundred meters out into the large rice paddy when they suddenly felt a powerful blast of warm air and noise coming from directly overhead. It was Taylor hovering over them without any running lights. Hill, suddenly realizing that Cohn had

still not caught up to the team, turned and screamed for Cohn to “come on”. As Cohn leaped to his feet and began running towards the team, now 70 meters away, he failed to see two VC pursuing and shooting at him. Elsner and Hill immediately opened fire on the two VC and took them out before they could get Cohn. At that point, Taylor was still hovering 50 feet up in the night sky above the team. Then just as Cohn arrived, Taylor dropped the Cobra to the ground ten meters from the team’s position and frantically motioned for the LRRPs to climb aboard. The LRRPs at first looked at Taylor and then each other, thinking that the pilot must be insane, but then figured it out and quickly ran to the Cobra. Taylor knew that, given the grim alternatives, the LRRPs would devise some way to secure themselves to the Cobra. Cohn and Hill continued around to the other side of the aircraft, each climbing onto and straddling one of the rocket pods while hanging on to the leading edge of the ordnance pylon. Meanwhile, back on the other side, Elsner quickly snapped off Paddy’s extended antenna, and each fired off a final magazine at the enemy weapons flashing in the treelines behind them. As the aircraft began to slowly lift off of its landing skids, the two LRRPs still on the ground secured themselves with elbow locks on the skid, finally climbing fully onto the skid as the Cobra continued its ascent from the rice paddy.

Moving carefully but steadily upward and away from the area, still taking hits from VC small arms fire, Taylor was finally able to level off at 2,000 feet (out of small arms range) and turn southwest toward Saigon. After about 15 minutes of “white-knuckle” piloting, the “Cobra-turned-troop transport”, with all of the LRRPs still aboard, landed gingerly (Taylor could not be sure where Elsner and Paddy had latched onto the Cobra, but suspected they were on the right-side skid) within the fenced confines of the Saigon Waterworks, near Tan Son Nhut Air Base. The team quickly jumped off, motioning their thanks to the Cobra crew via “thumbs-up” and salutes, as Taylor lifted off for his Phu Loi base.

Team Wildcat 2 were later picked up by a Huey slick and taken to 1st Division headquarters at Dian, where they got hot showers and clean clothes and were debriefed by G-2 officers. They were congratulated and told they had done an excellent job. The next morning, Company F Commanding Officer, Capt. Price, and First Sergeant Morton (who had monitored the battle via the radio relay from the FOB team still at the ARVN compound) arrived to congratulate the team and accompany them back to their own base in Lai Khe.

Captain Taylor, whose Cobra had taken sixteen hits supporting the team during the battle and subsequent extraction, received a Silver Star for his heroic actions that night (though the team had enthusiastically recommended that he receive the Medal of Honor). Elsner, Hill and Cohn were each awarded the Silver Star, and Paddy a Bronze Star with “V” Device, for their actions.

This possibly was the first, and one of the very few, “Cobra extractions” of the Vietnam war, would go down in the annals of the 1st Infantry Division’s Long Range Patrol/Ranger unit and that of D Troop, “Quarter-Cav”.



ARVN RANGER ADVISORS (BDQ)

"Chao ong, BDQs," and to all our new members, we welcome you as part of the Team. As you read this issue of Patrolling, most of our members will be taking part in the festivities of the holiday season and contemplating a new millennium, hopefully optimistic about the future.

As we approach the year of a new century (with deaths and lost or destroyed documentation) it is of paramount necessity that we record our experiences and reflections, and that we advocate historical accuracy; as military Ranger Advisors in Vietnam, we had an insight into the war, the governments, and the cultural differences of our Allies that most Americans are unaware of.

In the September '99 issue of Patrolling we provided a concise history of the Vietnamese Rangers and the U.S. Ranger Advisor. In this column I have included excerpts of a letter from Ranger Gerard (Jerry) Devlin—author of Paratrooper and Silent Wings and the Senior Advisor to the 44th BDQs—that presents a portrait of the life-and-death situations embodying his team—usually three to four members—and their grievous loss in a one-year period. It also serves as a composite of the brave and dedicated BDQ Advisory Teams and the loyal and courageous Vietnamese Rangers they united with.

EVENTS, WARNING ORDERS AND SITREPS

Warrior's Retirement: Against a backdrop of the Ranger Memorial, past and present Rangers and family and friends, paid honor to Major General David L. Grange, at his retirement ceremony on 29 October '99, at Fort Benning, Georgia. Under a clear Indian summer sky, this absolute Ranger and Special Operations Commander, delivered his poignantly meaningful farewell speech. General Grange (among his many special operations assignments) was a Recon Platoon Leader in Vietnam with L Company, 75th Rangers and an Advisor with the legendary Vietnamese 81st Airborne Ranger Group. His combat leadership and Special Ops forte' will be sorely missed by the U.S. Military, but more so by the troops he led.

San Jose: The Vietnamese Ranger veterans' of Northern California, hosted a goat barbecue for my wife (Hilda) and I on 3 October, in San Jose. The duck's blood was red, the meat burned, and the peppers hot, but the cognac was plentiful and consumed in large amounts. Ha-Ha, just like old times!

My old friend and V Corps LURP member SGM(R) Gene Grady, provided quarters for us in Reno, and transportation to San Jose. Grady was an Airborne Advisor and was severely wounded at the battle of An Loc; he pulled several tours in Nam.

It was a pleasure meeting David Williams (42nd BDQ, 1964) at the cookout.... David also fought in the Korean War and is still ramrod straight.

The highlight of the trip was introducing Hilda to BDQ Kinh Ngoc Nguyen. Kinh and I served together in the 44th Battalion in 1965—he was the S-3 officer. At that time—fighting in the Delta—it would have been impossible to have vision us, and our wives, sharing dinner 34 years later in San Jose, California. Kinh was a Major at the time of his capture... he was a prisoner for 12 years.

Devlin's excerpts: Sergeant Roy E. Allen was with the 44th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion when I joined it. He was a tremendously great and courageous soldier. On 12 August 1965, Allen was struck by a bullet which pierced the right front of his helmet at a very sharp angle, cracked his skull, then exited out the helmet's right rearward side, forward of and above his ear. Almost killed him, but thank God he survived.

Only a few minutes before Allen got hit, my team lost a guy by the name of Lt. Robert H. Fuellhart, KIA. Fuellhart died on the exact same day his wife gave birth to a baby girl back in the states. He was a USMA grad and had been a football star at the academy. He was absolutely fearless. I had to council him about rushing in on the final assaults and overexposing himself during the hellish shootouts when landing on the LZ's.

Sergeant Wallack was the other team NCO when I arrived in the outfit; a great guy and a good soldier. Had quite a sense of humor and was tough as nails. Wallack was the one who had his picture on the front of Newsweek—he Was later Medevac. He was replaced by an NCO named Sergeant David Hallbaur. Hallbaur was also very courageous and efficient. Unfortunately, he was killed after being with us only a few months. An officer by the name of Lt. Bowman was the team's other officer, he was killed shortly after I joined the 44th.

Sergeant Benjamin Barnes replaced Hallbaur. I know I keep saying this about all my team members, but Barnes too, really was an extremely good and efficient combat soldier. He got clobbered in October 1965, along with Lt. Walsh and me, and was sent home. "Mike," as you know, the 44th didn't utilize fire and maneuver; instead, everybody just leaped off the slicks—even before they had fully touched down—and began running toward the objective like a bunch of crazies, screaming and yelling and shooting all over the place.

They didn't stop until the objective had been secured and all the VC were dead. Scared the HELL out of me every time they did that!

NOTE: Devlin was wounded and had to be medvac with other team members in October 1965. He received the DSC for his actions during the battle. Devlin also fought in the Korean War as an EM with the 187th RCT.

"I'LL SEE YOU ON THE HIGH GROUND" Mu Nau Mike Martin Unit Director



PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

THE WHITE HOUSE

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded

THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION to THE 44th RANGER BATTALION REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES for EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM

The 44th Ranger Battalion is cited for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in Chuong-Thien Province, Vietnam on 6 April 1965. On this date the 44th Ranger Battalion was reserve element of a larger force engaged in a search and destroy operation against two Viet-Cong force battalions. At 1830 hours the Battalion was lifted by helicopter into battle when the lead infantry battalion accompanied by an armored personnel carrier troop were halted by intense fire delivered on their positions by the well entrenched and camouflaged enemy. Although the enemy delivered withering machine gun fire on the men of the 44th Ranger Battalion as they entered the landing zone, they showed undaunted courage and indomitable fighting spirit as they immediately launched an assault through the infantry and armored units, freeing them for future commitment. Despite numerous casualties this gallant unit carried out their fierce assault against an estimated enemy battalion. After routing the determined insurgents from their position by demolishing hand-to-hand combat, the 44th Ranger Battalion turned their heroic attack directly into the main enemy defensive positions located on a main canal. In spite of the loss of their executive officer, a U.S. Army Advisor, and three helicopters during the fight, the remainder of the battalion pursued the attack with undaunted courage and steadfast determination against the fanatical forces manning the main defense. They succeeded in rolling up the flank of the enemy and causing them to withdraw in confusion, leaving behind over fifty dead and numerous weapons. The determined, courageous heliborne assault by the 44th Ranger Battalion was the major contribution to the success of the operation and was of the highest inspirational order. The actions of the 44th Ranger Battalion reflect conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on the Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1965

VIỆT-NAM CỘNG-HÒA
: QUÂN LỰC VIỆT-NAM CỘNG-HÒA
VÙNG 4 CHIẾN-THUẬT
TIỂU-ĐOÀN 44 BIỆT-ĐỘNG-QUÂN

BẢNG TUYÊN DƯƠNG VÀ HUÂN CHƯƠNG NÀY ĐƯỢC CẤP CHO :

Tha Sĩ Cường - Cường Sq. 134.184
Đã tham dự cuộc Hành-quân Đơn-Chí 129/SĐ ngày 6 tháng 4 năm 1965.

K.B.C. 1517 ngày 01 tháng 01 năm 1966

CH. HUYỀN NGUYỄN-VĂN HUY
Ch. HUYỀN Tiểu-Đoàn 44 / BĐQ.



3RD INF DIV LRRP

I renew my pledge to the families of those listed as missing in action, that this nation will work increasingly until a full accounting is made. It's our sacred duty and we will never forget them.

**Ronald Reagan
President of the United States**

I had the opportunity to go to Vietnam from October 9 to October 19 this year as part of an official trade delegation from the City of San Francisco. Unlike most of you reading this, this was my first trip to the 'Nam. My time as a Lurp was 1962-64 in Germany, but many of my comrades from the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment went on to Special Forces and other units that served in Vietnam. Therefore, when given the opportunity to make the journey, I jumped at the chance to see a place that had so much meaning for so many of my friends. I tried to combine the business aspects of the trip with some of my personal interests, including the question of our MIAs.

During our stay in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) we had several functions with the US Consulate. The US Consul General for Ho Chi Minh City is Charles A. Ray. Charlie Ray is a retired Army officer who, I believe, also served in Vietnam. I mentioned my interest in MIAs to Charlie, and he referred me to his deputy, Eric John. Eric told me that the US Embassy in Hanoi was the center of MIA activity in Vietnam and arranged for me to be briefed on the subject when I got to Hanoi. When we arrived in Hanoi, the US Ambassador, Douglas "Pete" Peterson, and his staff gave our delegation a briefing on conditions in Vietnam. Ambassador Peterson was a career Air Force pilot and had been a POW in Hanoi for over six years. As a result of my request to Eric John in HCMC, LTC John M. "Mike" Peppers was present at the briefing to discuss the activities of the Joint Task Force—Full Accounting (JTF-FA) in repatriating American MIAs. The following is from my notes, and is supplemented by other published sources and information from POW/MIA web sites.

How Many Missing?

At the end of Operation Homecoming in the spring of 1973, 2,583 Americans did not return from Southeast Asia—they were "unaccounted for." Since then 536 have been accounted for by having been returned alive; the recovery and identification of individual remains; and the recovery of group remains with individuals not separately identifiable. Any Americans repatriated after Operation Homecoming were largely turncoats or deserters, including Bobby Garwood, Douglas Beane, and Veto Baker.

There are currently some 2,047 unaccounted for Americans in Southeast Asia, as follow:

Vietnam	1,525
North	552
South	973
Laos	440
Cambodia	74
China (offshore)	8

In comparison, there are over 78,000 Americans still unaccounted for after W.W.II and over 8,000 from the Korean War. The Department of Defense also publishes a listing of Americans who were prisoners and missing in Southeast Asia. The document is entitled "U. S. Personnel Missing, Southeast Asia (and Selected Foreign Nationals), Alpha, Chronological and Refno Reports." The document is not classified and is available by writing or calling the Defense Prisoner of War and Missing Persons Office. The report contains the names of every American who was ever missing or captured in Southeast Asia. The names are listed alphabetically by last name and chronologically by date of loss.

Joint Task Force-Full Accounting

The JTF-FA is part of the US MIA Office. The mission of the US MIA Office is to coordinate and execute all US DOD efforts in Vietnam to achieve the "fullest possible" accounting for Americans still unaccounted for as a result of the conflict in Southeast Asia.

It is widely known that the Vietnamese had a process for burying Americans who died in captivity or whose remains they recovered. The Vietnamese recorded the locations of these sites. The question is have they returned all these remains? In a June 1999 study prepared by the Defense Prisoner of War and Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) entitled "Vietnam's Collection and Repatriation of American Remains," an analysis of Vietnam's collection and repatriation process was carried out. The report concludes that:

1. Vietnamese authorities unilaterally located, collected and stored the remains of approximately 300 Americans.
2. Available evidence indicates that no more than 280 have been repatriated.
3. It cannot be determined if the discrepancy between 280 and 300 sets of remains is real or attributable to incomplete data. Vietnam

undoubtedly has records that will answer this question.

4. Vietnam had greater success in recovering remains in the North, with lesser success in the South and Cambodia.
5. There is no evidence of Vietnam ever having recovered American remains from Laos.
6. Vietnam probably completed recovery of American remains in the North before 1980. The last centrally recovered remains from the South and Cambodia reached Hanoi in 1983.

These remains were stored in Hanoi and the last restoration to the US was in 1990. Since then, Vietnam has repatriated only remains that were recovered by joint excavation teams or by Vietnamese citizens acting on their own. The DPMO report concludes that no remains recovered by Vietnamese authorities and then stored have been repatriated since 1990. Vietnamese officials also maintain that their government no longer holds remains and has no reason to do so. There is however, evidence that some American remains were forwarded to the central authorities by regional or district officials, but no records can be found. US authorities have asked Vietnam to continue to research these cases.

In any case, it appears that Vietnam does not have additional large numbers of American remains it could repatriate as may have been previously believed. Instead, accounting for missing Americans will continue to depend on our own ability to recover remains at loss sites throughout Southeast Asia. For this we are dependent on the continued cooperation of the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian governments.

This is where the JTF-FA comes in. The mission of the task force is to work with the governments of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to locate, identify, and return the remains of missing US personnel. The JTF consists of three detachments. Detachment 2 is based in Hanoi and is responsible for Vietnam. The JTF fields small teams consisting of US military and civilian contract personnel. The members of these teams are experts in various specialties, including EOD, forensics, surveying, geology, and other technical specialties. The teams work with local Vietnamese officials and military personnel to conduct extensive searches of battlefields, crash sites and other areas where Americans were lost. The teams work under very harsh and dangerous conditions. Many of the aircraft crash sites are located in remote, mountainous areas. Not all the natives are friendly, and unexploded ordnance abounds. For those on-line who want more information on the activities of the JTF-FA and its missions you can go to <www.vietvet.org/jtffa.htm>.

MAJ Larry Thorne

Contrary to what one might think of a delegation from San Francisco, our group was profoundly interested in the MIA issue and was very supportive of the JTF's efforts. I was very proud of our group, which included several veterans of W.W.II, Korea and the Cold War. Since I had served with men who had known many of our MIA's, I felt I should do whatever I could in the short time that I was in the country to get as much information as I could. The trade delegation gave me the opportunity to speak directly with the Ambassador's staff on the subject. The case of MAJ Larry Thorne was of particular interest to me.

In a previous issue of the 3rd ID LRRP-Letter, COL Ed Jentz (ret.) related a story about Larry Thorne, a remarkable Special Forces officer who disappeared after the helicopter he was riding in crashed near Da Nang, RVN. Here's the Larry Thorne story. Larry Thorne (Lauri Thorni) was born in Finland in 1919. During World War II he served in the Finnish Army where he attained the rank of Captain. His valor against the Russian invaders earned him the Mannerheim Cross, the Finnish equivalent of the Medal of Honor. He also joined the German Army for a short while to fight the Russians after the Finns had been defeated by the Russian Army. After Finland's second defeat by the Russians, the communists imprisoned Thorne. He escaped prison three times and made his way to the United States where he enlisted in the US Army as a private.

It was during this same time that the Army was building its unconventional warfare capabilities with the development of its Special Forces units. In its early days the Special Forces attracted a number of hardy, proven, and versatile volunteers from Eastern European countries under the Lodge Act. Among these highly motivated and skilled fighters was Larry Thorne. He was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in 1956, and served with the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Bad Tolz, Germany from 1958-1962. In November 1963 he went to Vietnam with the 7th SFG (Abn). In April 1964 he established a Special Forces A camp at Tinh Bien in the Mekong Delta. This detachment killed so many VC, that they became a serious threat to the VC's lines of communication into Cambodia. In December 1964, Captain Thorne was transferred to the 5th SFG (Abn.), and was assigned to the B Detachment located in Phuoc Vinh Province. In mid-1965 he was reassigned to Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV), Studies and Observations Group (SOG). On October 8, 1965, CPT Thorne went on a MACV-SOG mission and did not return. The Vietnamese Air Force CH-34 helicopter he was in crashed about 25 miles southwest of Da Nang. When a rescue team arrived at the crash site, they recovered the remains of the Vietnamese crew, but found no sign of CPT Thorne.

Although Major Thorne (he was promoted posthumously) was listed as killed in action on October 19, 1966, his remains were never found. Men who served with him believe that he is still alive, even considering that he would be 80 years old today. Certainly, few men were better equipped to survive than Larry Thorne. In Finland, Lauri Thorni is a national hero. In the United States, Larry Thorne is

forgotten by all but a few. Larry Thorne hated the threat of communism so much that he was willing to join any army to fight it. We must never forget men like MAJ Thorne. It is to them that we owe our freedom. We also owe them theirs. There are many more like Larry Thorne who have disappeared in captivity in Southeast Asia. It is time for a full accounting.

For those who may be interested, Pathfinder Publishing released a book about the life of Larry Thorne in June 1998. It is called "Soldier Under Three Flags" and was written by H.A. Gill, III. Mr. Gill is a graduate of the Citadel and served as an infantry officer. The book costs \$14.95 and can be ordered directly from the publisher at (800) 977-2282.

LARRY THORNE UPDATE

After the formal JTF-FA briefing in Hanoi, I asked about MAJ Thorne, as I had heard that a delegation from Finland had gone to Vietnam to search the crash site. What I found out was that the crash site had been reinvestigated and that non-Asian remains had been recovered along with a machine pistol of the type favored by Larry Thorne (a Swedish-K).

Whether or not the remains were turned up by the Finns or the JTF I never determined, but the remains have been sent to Hawaii for forensic testing. As I understand it, no announcement of this discovery has been made pending the outcome of the forensic analyses and, if the remains are determined to be MAJ Thorne's, notification of next of kin. Upon my return, I shared this information with Ed Jentz, who confirmed that he had received similar information through his own sources prior to my trip. So much for my scoop.

That's about it. The JTF people told me more than they probably should have on this subject. However, the information was provided for me to pass on to Larry's friends and fellow soldiers. Maybe we can bring him home finally. If so, I know many of us will want to be there to honor this American hero when he finally returns. **Mike McClintock** (McGeek) Unit Representative

Note: Peter Neves is working with McGeek to post the rest of McGeek's Vietnam Chronicles on the Association's web site. Look for them shortly on our Internet site.

D/75



FOUR GENERATIONS OF ARMY RANGERS. PICTURE TAKEN AT INDIAN TOWN GAP, PA DURING THE ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING OF THE 82ND ABN ASSOC.

L-R: MATT MATTESON 6TH CO, RICA - HERM BOLDT 6TH CO, RICA - JOHN KINGETER D& M/75 (VIETNAM) - MOOSE LAWLOR 4TH BN, WWII - FRANK PARK D&F/75 (VIETNAM) - JOHN MUMFORD 1ST BN (81-83)

9TH DIV LRRP - E/50 LRP - E/75 RANGER

Several months ago we got back in touch with Gene Boyd, 1968-69 LRRP/Ranger, and he filled in the details about one of our more famous NCOs. Most all of us who served in 1967-69 remember fondly Herb Frost...the infamous Frosty! Below is Gene's story of how Frosty managed to get the LRRP teams kicked off the Mobile Riverine Force in 1968. Frosty made such an impression with the Navy that they did not allow LRRP teams back on the MRF until after an enemy sapper team swam out to the USS Westchester County in early November 1968 with a big load of plastic explosive and blew two massive holes in the side of it. Then, they relented and once again let the LRRPs return to pull missions off the ships.

Note that Herb Frost was killed in action on June 21, 1969 after spending almost two years in continuous combat duty. He was offered non combat assignments in the company several times but he got bored being operations NCOIC and just had to keep going out in the field. Because he was in the unit longer than just about anyone else, most of us knew him and many of us have at least one funny Frosty story to tell at the reunions. He was a great team leader and a hell of a guy. I'm sure he is overseeing production of heavenly Jack Daniels under the Great Recondo in the sky now. He will never be forgotten by his troops! **Rick Ehrler** E/50th

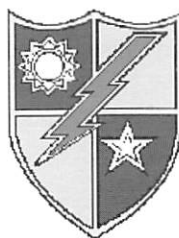
Another piece of great LRRP history comes to the surface:

The following is a short recollection of the event. Both teams, mine and Sgt Frost's team, were outside the USS Benewah on the large pontoon attached to the side of the ship cleaning weapons and just hanging out. There were large metal CONEX containers on the pontoon that was assigned us to store our gear and weapons in. Sgt Frost had two guys on his team, one from New York and one from Texas, as I remember was called Tex, that for some reason could not get along. I remember after about a half bottle of Jack Daniels, (Yates and I always kept a couple of fifths in the equipment CONEX), Frosty decided that the bull shit was going to stop and they were to solve their differences. They chose to fight. It was the damndest fight that I had seen in a while. Frosty and myself sat calmly as the fight progressed. As I looked upward toward the top of the ship, I could see almost the entire third brigade hanging over the side of the ship watching the fight. Sgt Frost refused to let anyone break up the fight. At that time he was in total control. Within minutes I saw a small guy coming down the stairs that had been built up the side of the Benewah to allow access from the pontoon to the ship at a very fast rate and told Frost that he needed to stop the fight. Naturally, he refused and the little guy jumped into the middle of the circle and shouted, "who is in charge here?" Naturally, Frosty replied that he was and what was going on was none of anyone's business. The little guy that only came up to about Frosty's shoulders was either the 3rd brigade Sgt Major or the First Sgt. I don't remember which. The little guy started chewing Frosty's ass out bad. Of course, I knew it was going to happen. Frosty took a swing at the little guy that missed and he started running back up the ladder that he came down on. Now I am not going to say it was smart, because I knew that what he was doing was serious shit, but I'll tell you what, watching Sgt Frost chase that little guy up the ladder about two steps behind him and cussing all the way was the funniest damn thing that I had seen since I entered that damn hell hole. I honestly believe that had Frosty caught the little guy, he would have thrown him overboard. After they broke over the top of the ship we could not see anymore. however, I was told the following: Sgt Frost chased the little guy all the way into the Commanding Officer's Office before he came to his senses. At that time he was asked to leave the office. A short time after that, we received orders from Capt. Dickey to leave and come back to Dong Tam. When we got back to Dong Tam, Frosty made the two guys continue the fight until both of their faces looked like hamburger meat

The following message came from Stew Koontz by E-mail. I thought it may be of interest to some of you.

I just received a commemorative MACV Recondo School bronze coin and it is of a real nice quality. The coin can be ordered through:

Paul Brubaker
PO Box 30, Route 28/5
Circleville, WV 26804-0030
phone: 304-567-2227
Email: paulbru@access.mountain.net



D/151 LRP - D/151 RANGER

More notes from the D 151 Ranger Reunion this past summer. The Indiana National Guard and the 151st Infantry Detachment (LRS) held various ceremonies at Camp Atterbury to dedicate a Memorial, a Museum and an airport. The airport was dedicated for Ken Himself. His brother, Ron, our former executive officer made a fine speech in his brothers honor. A DZ was dedicated to one of our fallen troopers, Charles Larkins who was killed in Viet Nam. There are already DZs dedicated to Robert Smith and Vince Fegatelli. Besides the somber feelings felt and observed at the reunion, we all seemed to have a very enjoyable and worthwhile time. The next reunion will be 2001.

New officers of our Co D (Ranger) 151st Association were elected. Gary Porter is our new President and Loren Dixon is vice president. Let's all wish them the best. Thanks to out going president and vice, Darrell Holder and Daryl Dassel. Darrell Holder deserves a special thanks from all of us for all the work he did in preparing the reunion. Several people worked hard to bring off the event, especially Connie and Gary Bussell, Sue Cravens, Zita Moore & Chuck Eads.

I experienced a real feeling of patriotism recently. I had the great pleasure of meeting a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. While a PFC on an artillery firebase in 1967 in Viet Nam, Sammie Davis distinguished himself by saving the lives of 3 soldiers while gravely wounded himself. Davis was wounded by our own artillery fleshettes, RPG fire, AK 47 fire and by his own artillery piece when it was blown upside down on top of him. A truly remarkable story. **Sammie Davis visits schools whenever possible to impress the children, not with his heroism although that gets their attention, but by his patriotism. His message is from the words Rangers know so well "Duty – Honor – Country". As he says, children of today will only learn of the patriotism this country needs to remain the greatest country on earth if we veterans tell them.** It was upsetting to me to learn that our children do not say the pledge of allegiance in school anymore. Why not? Non-veterans cannot know the real taste of freedom because they did not fight for it. Don't ever pass up a chance to meet a CMH recipient, it's an awesome experience. **Tom Blandford**, Unit Director



General Wright is talking to CPT Ron Himself, Commander, Company D (Ranger) 151st Infantry as they are preparing to leave. Ron Himself replaced his brother Ken Himself as the Company Commander. Throughout the mobilization and deployment of Co D, Ron would hold the positions of Executive Officer, Commander, then Executive Officer again.



Harold Hargrave of Evansville was the unit's Top Sergeant. He flew with the advanced party to Long Binh and reported to the 199th Lite Inf Bde. Based on conversations and stories I've heard, this was probably the last time Co D and the 199th were civil to each other.

1ST BN 75TH RANGER REGIMENT

October marked the 16th anniversary of our assault into Grenada. In December, the 10th anniversary of the Battalion's assault into Panama. We should all take time to remember those that paid the ultimate sacrifice and to remember that all the hard training that we went through to prepare ourselves for these missions resulted in our success.

Major General Grange retired on 29 October 99 - Retirement ceremony held at Ranger Memorial. He was 1st BN S-1 and C Company commander "in the early years". My best memory of MG Grange was when he jumped from the helicopter into the Yellow River, swam to shore and linked up with C Company and gave me more cigarettes for myself, then LTC Stringham and BN CSM Morrell. Congrats and best wishes to MG Grange and his family.

The year 2000 will have MANY Ranger celebrations. Check the 75th Ranger Regiment Association website for up to date information.

As the deadline approached for this newsletter, requested input from various sources and CPT Mike Harper, 1st BN S-5, came to my rescue with the following:

A Company returned on 6 November from Operation Bright Star (Egypt). The company had participated in several joint operations with foreign countries. The company also received foreign jump wings after participating in a Rotary Wing Airborne Operation with several countries, Egypt, Great Britain, Italy, United Arab Emirates, and Jordan. Following training the company received some R&R and visited Cairo and the Pyramids.

B Company conducted unilateral training at Fort Bragg, NC. During this deployment the company conducted marksmanship training on the ranges and also conducted advanced urban warfare training at various shoot houses on post.

C Company participated in Operation Foal Eagle in Korea. During this deployment the company conducted platoon raids on separate objectives during the entry mission into the country. Later the company conducted a raid on a trench complex in the vicinity of the DMZ. C Company also received their foreign jump wings after completing a balloon jump with the South Koreans.

Other news: PROMOTIONS: MAJ LaCamera selected for BZ LTC. CPT O'Donnell (HHC CO), CPT Vanek (B Co CO), CPT McGee (C Co CO) selected BZ to MAJ. SSG Elliott (B Co FS NCO), SSG Dupon (Bn FS NCO), SSG Chance (B Co Supply), SSG Fernandez (Bn S3 Air NCO), SSG Masson (B Co WSL). All selected from secondary zone to SFC. HOOAH... Congratulations to all.

New Family Member: Savannah Grace Hampton, Baby girl

Bill Acebes, Unit Director

HEADQUARTERS 75TH RANGER REGIMENT

Greetings fellow Headquarters 75th Ranger Regiment members. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Howard "Max" Mullen, your unit director. As you can see, I have been "MIA" for the last couple of years. I have now come off my extended patrol and ready to get down to some serious Ranger business such as getting the HQ 75th Ranger Regiment organized and in motion. I am looking to receiving pictures and stories to share so if you have any, please send them to me. Originals will be returned to you. I will be working with Roy Boatmen on getting a roster of the HQ 75th members and I will be contacting you each by phone or e-mail. I am looking forward to meeting you at the Ranger Rendezvous this summer in Savannah, Georgia. As you probably know 1/75th Ranger Regiment will be hosting this Hooah event. I will be making contact with the active duty HQ 75th Rangers and I'm looking forward to soliciting some good stories from them along with a membership drive. I have been receiving e-mails from Rangers who are interested in joining the association so dig through those old address books and spread the word. For those of you who missed the retirement ceremony of MG David E. Grange Jr. you missed an awesome event. I must say that his retirement came as a total surprise to a lot of people. It was a sad day in the Special Operations community. We are losing a true legend who is retiring in the prime of his military career. Bar none, he is one of our best war fighting Generals in the Army today. MG Grange has served as a Ranger in Vietnam and has a long and colorful career in Special Operations with out getting in to politics. I just want to add that the United States Army can not afford to lose real War Fighters of MG Grange's caliber. If I ever had to go to war again I would not hesitate to volunteer to serve under MG Grange. I am just glad that he never learned to dance the "Pentagon Two Step". His absence will be felt well into the future. We, the men of the HQ 75th Ranger Regiment, wish nothing but the best for MG Grange and his family. If you have any stories you would like to share or things you would like to see in this column, drop me a line or a call. **Max Mullen**, Unit Director

IMPORTANT

**REMEMBER TO FILL OUT AND SEND IN
YOUR REUNION REGISTRATION FORM**

TODAY!

We need to know who and how many are coming in order for us to make arrangements for Dinner and transportation. Early registration will also save you money. This reunion at the home of the 1st Ranger Battalion promises to be one that will long be remembered!

As many of you know The Ranger Rendezvous year 2000 will be in Savanna GA. I'm hoping Papa Company will have a large turn out for this Grand occasion. This copy of Patrolling should have all the necessary information you need to prepare yourselves for this event!

Like all our reunions, Company and rendezvous alike, there are surprises. This year at Maggie Valley was no exception to the rule. A great time was had by all. Some of the other highlights besides the fact that Thomas Wilson joined us (no one had seen this man since we were in country). This year was the first we displayed our Company Guide -on. I have to tell you all; it was truly great to see the colors fly again. On the down side when I arrived at our AO in Maggie Valley I was informed by the resort staff that Ed Walter's went down on his motorcycle while en route and would not be able to attend. The good news was that he wasn't hurt too badly. However I'm sure Ed would love to say the same for his Harley. Seems he totaled it! Also a week before the reunion was to take place Terry Bishop phoned me and extended his regrets on not being able to make it. He had a prior family commitment to keep. Below I have included a group shot we took in front of the Marquee of the Jonathan Inn. I also included a shot of that darn hog (PIG) we roasted. The latter is being proof positive that we finally did bag that puppy! On a final note concerning my statement about Boys Grabbing the Hawaiian shirts & Girls the Grass skirts, it seems that some of us may be having difficulty hearing or reading in our old age! Needless to say, boys this is not what I had in mind! If you look closely at Jay Lutz & Terry Roderick you'll get my drift.

NEWS: Bob Dowd has put together a web site in honor of Team K 1-6 (Dow's Dirty Half Dozen). Bob still needs help with inf. and pictures so if any of you can, please help him out. Please read on...

Hello All

Just wanted to let you know that I have been working on putting a web Site together for my brother and his team. Well, I have almost finished the web site and wanted everyone's feed back. I have omitted some information because I don't quite have the answers and or pictures or stories. If you or anyone else wants to contribute to the site with pictures or stories of the following members I would appreciate all the help. I am in need of pictures and stories of the following members of Team 1-6:

Dave Barber, Roy Burke, James Dean, Gary Sinclair and Larry Smith.

If you know of anyone out there who could share a scanned photo or a Personal story of any of these guys, I would appreciate all the help. I want to finally complete this long over due web site, to pay tribute to Their memories Take a look at what I have done so far and please let me know your thoughts and insight. Thank you each and every one of you. Web Site Address is, www.p-75th-ranger-team-1-6.com/

Regards, **Bob Dowd**

Guys this is a Great site. Bob has worked hard on this, please visit!

I'm not surprised but amazed at some of the interesting activities that some of our guys are into! The following is an excerpt from a letter Dave Gates wrote up concerning Tom Wilson and family. I'll publish the letter in its entirety in the Company newsletter.

Letter By Dave:

Linda and I recently returned from Laurens, S.C. where we attended the 50th Birthday celebration of Thomas Wilson. It was a surprise affair put together by Tom's lovely wife, Gaynelle. She had contacted some Rangers who had served with Tom in Papa Company as an additional surprise. Larry Smith, aka "The Mountain Man" and I arranged a "friendly party link-up" at the Laurens Post Office for 1500 hours on D-Day. In true Ranger fashion we rendezvoused at the appointed time. Smitty had old "General Lee" looking good, and I honestly thought he had a new paint job. Gaynelle did a great job of getting family and friends together to celebrate Thomas' 50th. The Wilson's put the Rangers up at their country estate. They live on a portion of the old Wilson family farm, land that has been in the family for over 200 years. Duke and Marion stayed in the "Big House", Larry slept in the "Man Room" and Linda and I had the pleasure of staying in the log cabin built by Thomas, Gaynelle and Junior. It is furnished with antiques throughout and in a word are incredible. It rained that evening and the sound of rain on a tin roof lulled us into a good night's sleep. Prior to departing we toured Tom and Gaynelle's labor of love. They have built, in addition to the cabin, a barn, corn crib, chicken coop and old country store with lumber from trees cleared off the property. I can't adequately describe what these two have done over a period of twelve years. Suffice to say, it is unbelievable. You have to see it to truly appreciate the workmanship and detail they have put into each building and room. Larry Smith said it best—"It looks like a scene from the Civil War" Thomas and Gaynelle are a unique couple and Tom tells me you're apt to find him in bibbed overalls and

Gaynelle in a Granny dress working on their project and living life when times were simpler and honest and a man's word was his bond. I, for one, wish there were more folks like Thomas and Gaynelle around. God Bless 'em and Thomas—many, many more. Ranger Buddy, **Dave Gates**

MEMORIUM: Ranger Patrick Brennan, JUNE 7TH 1999.

See ya Pat... **Jim Femiano**, Unit Director



With pig, Dan Hobson!



Jay Lutzs, Jim Hussey, Ken Emmick, Larry Smith, Steve Loggins, Jerry Yonko, Second row, Dan Hobson, Eddie Johnston, Jim Femiano, Duke Dushane, Dave Gates. Front row, Terry Roderick. Not Pictured Tom Wilson & Roy Boatman.

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IT'S TIME FOR
A GOOD OLD
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IT'S MILLER TIME.

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As the year and the century come to an end, I wanted to focus on yet another reason to contact old friends and let them know you were thinking about them. In several past articles I have talked about the value of getting to a reunion or making the effort to find a lost buddy who shared the experience of Ranger Operations with you. At our Reunion this past summer (July 1999) at Ft. Bragg, Lazar Lazarov, Chairman of the Membership Drive Committee, reported in with an updated roster of those who served in our unit during it's tenure in VietNam. His dedication and hard work to try and locate as many of our men as possible continues to pay off with new faces showing up at every reunion. Working with Hershel Hoy and Sam Pullura, Laz scrubbed the list against Social Security numbers and various databases to try and track down as many of our guys as possible so they could know about our organization and the larger 75th Ranger association. Current best estimates indicate that as many as 1100+ men served in E/20th or C/75th during Vietnam. This article will focus on those men who served with E/20th (LRP) and C/75th (RGR) and who have gone to join the Great Ranger in the Sky since serving with our Unit in Vietnam. This purpose of this memorial to them is twofold; first, as we enjoy time with family and friends through the holiday season we would want to remember those who cannot be with their loved ones, second, you can see that as each year passes we will continue to lose those with whom we served and fought in the jungles of Vietnam. Hopefully, you will take the time and make the effort to look up that guy you always wondered about, find that person with whom you experienced a significant event in your life, and spend some time talking with them or planning to meet with them at a reunion or visit to their town. Don't put it off, make the connection! Do it today!

In Memorium

MAY GOD GRANT THESE FELLOW RANGERS THE ETERNAL REST OF THOSE WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY HONORABLY AND WELL!!

Ralph B. Adams
Robert J. Adams, Jr.
William G. Albright
Tommy R. Allen
Arnaldo Alvarez-Ardorno
Thomas Y. Atchley
Richard Bean
William T. Beardon
John A. Beer
Paul R. Bleacher
Richard P. Bloniarz
Richard C. Boone
James R. Brown
William R. Bunting
Bobby E. Carter
Galen J. Colgan
Thomas L. Cunningham
Joe DeLeon
Lee DeVault
Jimmy L. Dunagan
Gary F. Frye
Roel Garcia
James E. Gibson
Richard C. Gorski

Stephen W. Greene
Richard B. Hanson
Robert Harrington
Kirk Hester
J.D. Hill
Ariel E. Inabet
James H. Keller
Jimmie B. Kessler
Christoph Kosinski
Michael Krantz
Donald E. Larve
Thomas F. Latour
Terry M. Lemunyon
Frank G. Lincoln
Richard E. Ludwick
Dandridge M. Mallone
William Marcum
Randal H. McCoy
Alan M. McNeill
Walter C.B. Moran
Richard A. Murillo
Loren Needles
Clevando H. Pacis
David Parker

J.W. Parson
James J. Perkhiser
Allen Piney
Charles M. Plott
Ronald E. Renau
Donald F. Robinson
Edward J. Rose III
Frederick R. Rouze
Santiago Rudolfo
Talbert Loren Schorn
Arthur L. "Doc" Seager
Kevin B. Smith
Samuel A. Sneed
Gary D. Stuart
James L. Thompson
Henry Van Utrecht
Jerry Walters
Robert D. Webster
Arthur J. Wells
Rudy Wheeler
Patrick D. White
John B. Wilkin
Walter Zah

(Note: If any names are misspelled, omitted and should have been included, or included erroneously, please forgive the error and notify the E/20th & C/75th Association Secretary ASAP!) **Worth Bolton**, Unit Director

F/51ST LRP

If as they say, "no news is good news", then this issue's column is nothing but good news simply because I don't have any *hard* Company news to pass along. There are some notes of interest from some of the brethren which I will pass along.

1SG Butts is alive and well. He sent me a letter advising that he is getting his house (our museum) ready to sell in year 2,000. New French Doors, new Bay Windows, etc. He painted all new wood outside in Infantry Blue (what else?), and, it sounds like he has a ways to go to finish this project. No problem, he's always been a patient man (oh ya!)

Mike 'Brazza' Frazier checked in. He's out there in CA enjoying life and watching his 'grand-kid' grow into a person. His family is all fine and no further incidence of heart problems. Good news from my brother Michael.

Dave Peace related an interesting story. Back in 1969, Dave was the TL of Team 2/3 at D/151st LRP and they'd run into Charley big time. They were extracted immediately to the evac hospital as one team member, Paul Bezayiff, had been hit in the eye with fragments from an enemy grenade. This man was the last member of any of Dave's patrols to get wounded. Now, thirty years later, Paul found Dave via the Ranger web site. I've said it before in this column and I'll say it again. There is a wealth of information in the 75th web site, so, Lerp it out. Even if you don't have one of these machines, somebody on the block does. Here it is again:

<http://www.75thassoc.org>

Clark Etterman advises that former noted unofficial combat sketch artist Mark Eastman has made the jump to cyber-space. His E mail is: JesseEastman@cs.com, so, give him a commo check.

Ted Godwin via Gene Slyzuik advised that there is a 'cold war medal' out there and we are included in eligibility. So, if any of you 'hot war' F/Troopers have any room left on your Class A's, or walls, for another medal, let me know and I'll get you the details. I'd bet there are many of us out there still waiting on the 'hot war medals' that never came in. I'm still waiting for my second Bronze Star simply for having survived 1SG Butts my first tour.

Don Hall and Long Range Productions are right on schedule and still editing the documentary film. In his words: "The project took off on it's own. I did not direct it. It took off because the TL's stepped up and got it all rolling at Ft. Benning GA." He would like to publicly thank the following individuals: Dennis 'Little Sarge' Lovic, Jim Forman, Dave Peave, Dick 'Rigger' Vincent, George Gentry (USA Rtd), 'Big Al' Souza, John 'Spoon' Witherspoon, Bruce Houghton, Dave Deshazo, Les Ervin, Clark Etterman, Joe Havrilla, and Bill 'Teacup' Houser. Special thanks to Jim Miller, 'Speedy', Clyde Tanner, and Al Souza for combat photographs. (Now who did I forget, probably in trouble somehow!)

And now an eventful year for F/51st LRP comes to an end. I'm sure we all greatly enjoyed the various mini-reunions as well as the official one. One highlight for me was to finally meet and swap history with the Col. Maus family. Certainly we are all grateful for their kind hospitality at Wilmington NC. So to them, F/51st LRSU, all the brethren of F/51st LRP and their families, merry Christmas and a happy, safe, healthy, and prosperous new year. See you on the LZ in 2,000 if the creek don't rise. Bill 'Teacup' Houser: 6100 S. Madison, Hinsdale, IL 60521 (630)323-0031 E-Mail: Teakup17@aol.com

V CORPS LRRP - D/17 LRP - A/75

This is my second unit column in Patrolling. This column is yours so sound off like you got a pair if you want to get something in or have an item of interest to guys from the company. Best to e-mail me on bobmurphy2@compuserve.com or post input to me at Bob Murphy, PO Box 111, Campbells Creek VIC AUSTRALIA 3451 or call on +613 5476 4408.

Ron Kiser has stepped down as unit director after many years of representing the company for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Ron, and Doug Keim have been stalwarts representing the company at Association events for 10 years (along with A/75 veterans Mike Martin and Terry Roderick who have primary affiliations with other units in the Association).

The new Unit Rep is Tom Brizendine who you can reach on tdbriz@gulftel.com. Tom agreed to serve as unit director after discussions with about 30 people from the company on the A/75 listserver and was appointed by Terry Roderick, President of the 75th Assn.

I've heard from a couple of old buddies from the unit including Richard A. Herman who was in the company in Germany in the mid 60s and was the first Unit Director for the company when the Association got off the ground. Dick was a wild man. I still laugh about one party we had on the top (5th) floor of our barracks in Gibbs Kaserne, Frankfurt. It was Saturday night and when kamerade's rooster started crowing at first light, way too early, Dick pulled a .22 automatic pistol from under his wall locker, put in the long barrel, grabbed an M-16 bipod to steady it against the window frame and shot the rooster and two hens standing next to it. It was a very quiet Sunday morning with no silencer, and several Germans came running out of the building across the street with shotguns and Mausers scanning our windows to see where the shots came from. By that time we had the windows closed and the artillery well away.

Andy Markivich, one of the original V Corps LRRPs is alive and well and living in West Virginia. I will try to contact him and Leon Roy who now lives in Florida for the next Patrolling Column.

The last unit column had a lot about the early days in the company in 1961 at Wildflecken so here is a bit about the end in 1974 at Ft Hood.

A/75 Final Parade aka Red's last bayonet charge:

I couldn't put it better than Red Herman who was there during the company's last days and helped put a colourful (mostly red) end to a colourful unit. "Here we were standing in formation on December 19, 1974 getting ready to go to the parade where they would case our guidon, the final hooah for A/75. We always did parades with fixed bayonets. We were at order arms waiting to go when PSG Alfonso T. Marlow said, "If you tot them, smoke them". Well, I was in the last rank and yelled if you don't have them get them from your PSG. He being the kind and lovable sort that he was, threw one back to me. It landed between Jeff Sheperd and myself. He decided that he wanted it more than I did so he bent over to pick it up, thereby running my bayonet through his rib cage. As he stood up I saw the blood on his hand where he grabbed the bayonet and cut his fingers to the bone. I, of course, said dumb ass you cut your hand and he said "If you think this is bad look at this removing his other hand from his side showing me where the bayonet had gone in. Like any good Ranger I told him to go tell the PSG which he started to do but only made it halfway before he kissed the road. They took him away in an ambulance and I finished the parade with his blood running down my rifle. By the time we got back CID was there waiting to ask me why I was trying to kill Jeff. Two weeks later when he got out of the hospital he and my evil twin went to Mexico...but that is another story.

Captain Fitter was the last A/75 CO and Gary Carpenter the last A/75 1st Sgt.

Alan Campbell says the last parade was a depressing day and the company dying through attrition towards the end with a large group already gone away to the 1st batt. Most of the NCOs with Vietnam experience had gone and morale was down.

Afterwards:

The new Ranger battalions sent people to get personnel from A/75 when it disbanded. Captain Clark and 1sgt Romo from 1st batt were former A/75 CO and 1st Sgt and took a lot of guys with them, according to Red.

Alan Campbell recalls 2nd batt CO LTC A.J. Baker (who founded the MACV Recondo School) came down to Hood with his SGM and addressed the company. Then he had individual interviews with everyone who was interested in joining the 2nd batt.

A lot of the A/75 guys were turned off by his style and rules about high and tight haircuts and no mustaches. But 2 or 3 dozen guys went to 2nd batt.

"A/75 was a great unit. Times were wild. I still can't believe some of the shit we did. I'm amazed no one went to jail. Even some of the officers would have qualified as brigands. Still, we did our jobs better than anyone on Ft Hood.

Return to Ft Hood:

Mark Ross (aka Ranger Nate) and Stan Jones did a trip to Ft Hood in October to look over the old company stomping grounds. Talk about gluttons for punishment. Seems they were followed all around the post by an MP car. And a CQ runner E4 showed them around the old barracks which Stan reckons seemed small with narrow halls. "The floors looked really bad and there was no pride in taking care of their home like we used to have", Stan says. The rappelling tower is gone, 2nd AD is gone, no sign of A/75 ever having been there including no company colors in the 1st Cav museum. Downtown is looking dirty and the headshops are all gone, but you can still get a Coney Dog at the Sonic Drive-in. They tried to link up with Fred Stuckey but he was in a VA hospital in Shreveport having an AK-47 round next to his spine looked at. Mark Ross mentions that two people in Fred's team were Mike Fisher and Mike Carlisle. Fisher became a chopper pilot after leaving the company and is now a dentist in Batavia, Illinois. Carlisle owns a lumber mill and a cabin in Tennessee which has been the scene of several Ranger get togethers. Ranger Nate who is no lightweight whines that Stuckey "has not gained weight, lost teeth or gone deaf".

Geno Karnish who was in the company when it moved from Gibbs Kaserne in Frankfurt to Ft Benning in 1968 is recovering from a heart attack in October. He is doing fine and says it was stress related and claims he has given up women. But he didn't say anything about giving up his rockets. He had 1,300 e-mails to go through when he got home.

Several people have asked the exact date when Co D, LRP, 17th Inf officially became A/75 Ranger. It was 1 FEB 69.

The Field Marshal surfaces.

I recently caught up on the phone with SFC Cleve Kendall aka "Field Marshal" who was in the company from 1961 to 65. He retired in 1965 after 20 years including a tour with the 187th during the Korean War. He was a veteran of the all black 555th Airborne Inf. He worked for General Motors for 20 years after that, retired again and went to work as a warden for the Department of Corrections where he stayed for 10 years before retiring again. He lives in Flint, Michigan and sounds like he is in great form over the phone.

Ex company LRRP Garlon Rogers ran into him at a recent reunion of the 555 in Kansas City. Anyone wants to catch up with the Field Marshal, I've got his contact details.

Cleve told me he was sent to the LRRP from the 82nd at Ft Bragg, no question of volunteering. They just sent him straight to Wildflecken where he spent the next 18 months humping the hills, then went to the 505th in Mainz.

Gary Carpenter is in Bosnia training their new Army's Rangers, but is on the A/75 server if anyone wants to catch up with him. Several people from the company chipped in money to have "Rendzer" tabs made up for his new Rangers.

Luis Palacio is also in Bosnia training their Rangers. He retired as a CSM at the mountain camp.

Column Written By: Bob Murphy Note: There were pictures submitted but no room for them in this newsletter. *Editor*

173RD LRRP - 74TH LRP - N/75 RANGER

The following is a letter that I recently received (as the secretary) and my reply to it. I wouldn't normally put this in the PATROLLING column but I haven't had time to do a "TEAMS" newsletter in the last two couple of months.

"Dear Sir, enclosed find my overdue and very late dues. Please ask Roy Boatman why he has not sent me the company formation picture of "N" company from 1971. That was the first time that I saw the picture when the PATROLLING mag published it. I would like that picture! I am very busy with my job and was just promoted to Inspector (SFPD), so I am relearning as an investigator. I get upset with the poor lack of coverage and contact our organization has with contacting all of the members of each company. The "N" Co. Rangers of the 173rd had a lot of vets who are not listed or even wrote about, why? I know of 4 ex "N" Co. Rangers who never receive the magazine or are listed, "Why"? If this organization is to be a credible historical part of the Vietnam story then the leaders need to stop giving themselves awards and start finding the ex members and get them to join up. Start doing a history on each ex member and talk about what they are doing now, their families and their jobs. Show how being an veteran effected their lives and show how they overcame and adapted to being good citizens after the Nam part of their lives was over. Lets not turn the organization into a club for alcoholic old men who pat themselves on the back and alienate themselves into history.

My Reply: First of all I am going to give you, the benefit of the doubt, concerning your uninformed note to the secretary. I have attached a copy of your note in case you forgot what you wrote. I am going to go down it, in what I hope is some type of order and answer you comments and questions.

Please ask Roy Boatman why he has not yet sent me the company formation picture

Answer: Apparently you are not aware that the Secretary and Roy Boatman are one and the same person. I am also your unit director. Please see the rest of my reply to you, to see why I have not been as quick as you would seem to like for me to be. I have the picture and have had it reproduced in color, which took time and dollars. Have you offered to reimburse me for the cost of the reproduction or am I just to shoulder the cost. I have sent it out to 5 other people who all offered to pay and did, for the cost of reproduction. There is no cost on my time as I am a volunteer.

I am very busy with my job.

Answer: Well join the crowd, so are all of us who work for this association as volunteers. In addition to families, jobs, sickness, floods, and hurricanes many of us who do the work for the association and its members (approx 6 hours per day in my case) still have managed to: Mail out 65 new member letters/ copy of last issue of Patrolling/and temporary membership cards. Mail 130 permanent cards to members. Process and confirm the eligibility of the 65 new members. Publish and mail 1300 copies of PATROLLING. Answer or respond to 20 or so Emails (every day) Plan and help coordinate the Association reunion (Yr 2000) Talk to 4 or 5 members everyday. Process 50 change of address for members. Mail 15 newsletters to overseas addresses. Attended 3 events (Best Ranger Competition, Hall of Fame – Change of Command, and Anniversary of 1st Ranger Battalion, all at my own expense and as a representative of the association. In addition I arranged a company reunion complete with memorial service and dinner. Process and forward over \$11,000.00 of monies for the association funds. Published the company newsletter "TEAMS" and mailed 125 copies. Found and sent copies of TEAMS to 12 former members of our units – 173rd LRRP/74th LRP/N-75th and asked them to join. The above was all done within the last 3 months. Now please forgive my ignorance but what have you done?

I get upset with the poor lack of coverage and contact with all companies. I know of four ex "N" Co. Ranger who have never received the magazine or are listed, "Why"

Answer: Contacting the prospective members is the job of the specific "Unit Director" Now, our units have more members than any of the other units and we were one of the smaller companies. When I first started as the unit director there were 30 people listed and only 6 had good addresses. We are now in contact with over 220 of us and over 110 who are members of the association. Most of these were recruited by unit members looking to find old friends and teammates. Our members have done an outstanding job in finding and staying in contact with them. I do my part and then some. Two of the names on your list were sent the TEAMS newsletters and were asked to join, never heard back from them. Teammates are the ones who can do the best at keeping in touch. Have you ever reproduced the newsletter (TEAMS) and sent it to the men you listed?

The leaders need to stop giving themselves awards.

Answer: What awards are we are giving each other? I've been doing this for twelve years and other than the Plaque(s) and other small tokens that I've received at the reunions (every two years) I've never received anything nor do I want recognition. In fact I've asked many times to just be left off any recognition lists. So you need to explain that one to me.

Start doing a history on each ex member..... Talk about their families, jobs

Answer: Fine idea, you are now in charge of writing to the names on our last roster that you got and get them to reply about what you would like to know about their personal lives. Many of us have adjusted just fine but we still have (from our units) 3 people in jail for numerous murders rapes and other felonies. Association wide we have over 20 that I am aware of that are currently incarcerated. Now we can write about the "doing just fine" members but many are not and truthfully I don't have the time to "type" and yes it requires a typed document for all of our members let alone the 1100 members of the association. That's a full time job, and it's yours for the taking.

Let's not turn the organization into a club for old alcoholic men who pat themselves on the back and alienate themselves into history.

Answer: Maybe I'm wrong here but have you ever attended a national or company reunion? There are a few who drink way too much in my opinion but I'm not the judge of what they do with their lives. We conduct ceremonies and have monuments honoring our Vietnam era service as well as all the wars/ conflicts fought by Rangers since then. I wrote our company history and have sent it to Carlisle barracks and the Army history Department. I put our history on our WEB site. The association has a WEB site and we are constantly trying to see that our sacrifices and deeds are remembered with the active duty elements. This organization has done nothing but grow because of the dedication of a few individuals who have sacrificed the time and money to see that it does. I am lucky to count myself among these few individuals who have been elected by the membership. You are certainly more than welcome to throw your hat in the ring for any of the elected positions and if you would like to become the unit director, you would have my blessing (if it meant anything).

I will not be running as secretary/editor/publisher and will not be the unit director. I've put in twelve years as a labor of love for my teammates (unit) and for the association as a whole. That's enough in my opinion. Most of the letters I get are from members saying what a good job we are doing, not this one! I spoke to the member who wrote the letter shown above and he asked that when I printed his letter that I inform the readers that he wrote it in frustration with the other Vet's organizations he belongs to: (VFW- American Legeion, etc). I still fail to see how he can compare when he hasn't attended one event we've ever had. Roy Boatman, Unit Director

25TH DIV LRRP - F/50 LRP - F/75 RANGER

After much consideration and with great regret, circumstances beyond my control force me to resign effective 11/15/99 as unit representative for our association, all combat veterans of the 25th ID LRRP Company; Company F, 50th LRP; and Company F, 75th Infantry (Ranger)

Unfortunately the responsibilities and requirements of my job are demanding more and more of my time; and everyone has only 168 hours a week - no more - to work, eat, sleep, and perhaps share a little family time. Currently I find myself working late at night, weekends, and holidays to assist the owner to expand and relocate his four businesses, all while we continue with current operations and bid on three new government contracts - hopefully all at a profit! (The time that I wasted on eating and sleeping was first to be cut back.

I discussed this situation with our other elected officials, Tom Cahill, our Secretary / Treasurer, and Bill Mrkvicka, Chairman of our Hall of Fame / Awards Committee.

Tom has agreed to take over as Unit Director until the attending membership can elect a new unit director at the 2000 reunion in Savannah, GA. Bill will take responsibility for periodically publishing a newsletter, which I think will be entitled "Rear Security." He plans to publish the first issue early in December and send it to all our brothers for whom he has an address.

I ask all of you to throw your full support behind Tom, Bill, and Terry Roderick, President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association; and participate to the maximum in the Savanna reunion as you have for the last few reunions at Tacoma and Columbus.

I consider myself extremely fortunate to have had the great honor to serve as your unit director for the past three plus years and be involved in the successful effort to memorialize each of our war dead with an engraved brick installed in the Ranger Memorial walkway at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, GA. I would not have missed the marvelous experience of working with and for you all. I salute you.

Our new unit director's address is: CPT Tom Cahill, 2105 Diana Loop // Harker Heights, TX 76548 // Tom's phone number is: 254-698-8686 // Tom's e-mail address is: <<tcahill@earthlink.net>>

Again my thanks to Tom & Bill, and to each of you. // I wish you every success. My best days are when I can help a friend, so if you ever need anything from me, "fire a flare and I'll identify for assistance." **Ron Harrison**, former Unit Director

78TH LRP - O/75 RANGER

I have just spent four months in the hospital with various medical problems. These problems are long term and life threatening. I have spent the last 16 years of my life in a wheel chair, not being able to walk. My life as I knew it before the injury in Jan. will not be the same. Therefore, I regrefully must resign as Unit Director for O Co. effective immediately. **Ricky N. Hogg** Unit Director

**NO UNIT COLUMN SUBMISSION
BY THESE UNIT DIRECTORS****ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT****VII CORPS LRRP - C/58 LRP - B/75****196TH LRRP - E/51 LRP - G/75****1ST CAV DIV LRRP - E/52 LRP - H/75****1ST DIV LRRP - E/52 LRP - I/75****4TH DIV LRRP - E/58 LRP - K/75****1/101ST DIV LRRP - E/58 LRP - L/75****71ST LRP - M/75****2ND BN 75TH RANGER REGIMENT****3RD BN 75TH RANGER REGIMENT**

Cut off date was 15 November 1999 for
columns and articles.

Next cutoff date 15 February 2000 for
March issue.

**PATROLLING VIA EMAIL
& ON THE WEB SITE**

As a service to the members, PATROLLING is available from the editor/publisher via E-Mail or from our WEB Site. In order to receive the electronic version, you must have "Acrobat Reader installed on your computer. Acrobat Reader is a free download from the following URL's:

**Adobe Acrobat Reader 3.01
for Windows 95 or 98:**

URL: www.wpafb.af.mil/software/acrobat/arwin95.html

Adobe Acrobat Reader 3.01 for Windows 3.1 and Windows 3.11

URL: www.wpafb.af.mil/software/acrobat/arwin3.1.html

After you have downloaded and saved Acrobat Reader on your hard drive, send an Email to the secreatary and once a week I will download the latest version of Patrolling to your email address as an attachment. The file is rather large at 1.4 megabytes (Dec. Issue) and may take some time to download depending on your system and and the speed of your Internet Service Provider. Prospective members can get a look at our publication (one time). Members can receive it as often as they request it. If you are using one of the free Email providers such as HOTMAIL or JUNO, it will not work. **Editor/Publisher**

WEB SITE URL: www.75thassoc.org

EMAIL: roy_boatman@email.msn.com

REUNIONS - UPCOMING EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION REUNION 5 - 8 JULY 2000 SAVANNAH/HAAF, GA

This is our reunion and we are looking for a great turnout. The membership voted to have the reunion at Savannah, at the general membership meeting in 1998. Dan Pope is our man on the ground, doing the coordination and work. We are giving a ten month lead time for all of you to make your plans and reservations as soon as possible. The schedule listed below is tentative at best and changes will no doubt occur in the future. The dates will not change. Our reunions are family oriented so please feel free to bring your family and enjoy all that Savannah has to offer before and after the reunion.

Schedule of Events

Wednesday (5 July)

Early Arrivals
Registration
Hospitality Room Open

Thursday (6 July)

Registration
Open House (1st Battalion)
BBQ
Hospitality Room Open

Friday (7 July)

General Membership Meeting
Tours
Banquet (evening Hours)

Saturday (8 July)

Unit Dinners
Tours
Hospitality Room Open

**MAKE YOUR PLANS TO
ATTEND. IF YOU CAN ONLY
MAKE ONE EVENT THIS
YEAR, THIS IS THE ONE!**
(SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS)

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "AIRBORNE RANGER" 4 - 7 OCT 2000 COLUMBUS/FT. BENNING

This event is in addition to the Association reunion that will be held at Savannah in the Summer of year 2000. Hosts will be the Ranger Infantry Companies (Airborne) of Korea (RICA)

Schedule of Events

Wed 4 Oct

1600 Ranger Hall of Fame induction and activities
1830 RICA hosted Barbeque at Hanger 2492 Lawson Field.

Thurs 5 Oct AIRBORNE DAY

0930 Airborne 5000, Silver Wings parachute team jump, 34' tower, swing land trainer and mock door, Visit Airborne Walk Monument, attend Airborne class graduation and perform wing pinning.

1700: Retreat Parade including Airborne Ranger veterans: After passing reviewing party RICA and other Airborne Ranger Associations swing off line and take review as part of reviewing party.

FRI 6 Oct: RANGER DAY

1000: Rangers in action demonstration, Class graduation. Ranger veterans award tabs and RTB Open House.

1900 or 2000 (to be determined) Night Memorial Service at Ranger Monument. This service will include pipes and drums, buglers, Inf Ctr Band, solo vocalists and a choir. During this service we will lay a memorial wreath at the Sykes Knife. The wreath will be laid by RICA

Sat 7 Oct:

1300 Rehearsal for participants in Ceremonial Banquet.

1800— (to be determined) Cocktails at

Columbus Iron Works, followed by Ceremonial banquet in main hall. Full ceremony of the Ranger Bowl, dinner, pipes and drums and other musical organizations perform. We are developing an audio visual sound and light show to accompany the narration of the first 50 years of the Airborne Rangers. At the close of the evening we will have a grand finale exit to another room where big band dancing will go on for several hours.



A reunion and memorial ceremonies are being organized for Vietnamese Ranger Advisors and Vietnamese Rangers (Biết Đông Quân - BDQ). The events are planned for Veterans' Day Weekend, 11-12 November 2000, in Washington, D.C.

We will gather to recognize and honor the sacrifices of our fallen brothers and to share Ranger camaraderie and fellowship. We will also be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the founding of the BDQ as well as the 5th anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnamese Ranger and American Ranger Advisor Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

All former Vietnamese Ranger Advisors and Vietnamese Rangers are cordially invited to attend. We particularly welcome as our special guests, family members of our comrades who were killed while serving as Ranger Advisors.

POC:

Jim Waters, e-mail: james-waters@usa.net
Bobby Jackson, e-mail: bjackson@nma.org
Mike Martin (931/455-3824)

NEW MEMBERS - MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NAME	UNIT
DONALD M. DAVIS	3/4 CAV LRRP
LARRY C. BOSTICK	E/75
PRESLEY L. PIPPIN JR.	21ST BN BDQ
JEFFREY K. BRACKENRIDGE	C/1/75
LAWRENCE COLEMAN	B/75
JUAN F. SERRANO	4TH DIV LRRP
WILLIAM J. MANDERFELD	4TH DIV LRRP
DOUGLAS BALDWIN	HHC/75TH
FREDERICK JG CARISTO	37TH BN BDQ
JAMES REGAN	BDQ & H/75
STEVE TOWNES	1/75
MARK D. BUTLER	A/2/75
THOMAS L. WILSON	P/75
CLARENCE E. MAYO	2/75
EDDIE OGLESBY	P/75
STEVE LOGGINS	P/75
JOHN R. DANYLCHUK	25TH DIV LRRP
BILL BUTLER	D/151
RICHARD D. SCHWEIN	TF 160
ROBERT SMYERS	4TH DIV LRRP
WILLIAM L. SCHWARTZ	TRUNG LAP BDQ
ROBERT THOMAS	4TH DIV LRRP
PHILLIP SCAGLIONE	HHC/1/75
FRANCIS FRANCOVIAK	4TH DIV LRRP

WELCOME TO THE ASSOCIATION

RECENT LIFE MEMBERS

PETE MOSSMAN - N/75
 DOUGLAS BALDWIN - HHC/75
 JOE NIBLETT - 1/75
 HENRY BANKS - N/75
 STUART YETMAN - H/75
 THOMAS LYONS - C/75
 C.G. MATSUDA - E/50

THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT!

DONATIONS

JOSE DOMINGUEZ
 JAMES WEBB
 THOMAS ZIRKELBACH
 JOAN BARTZ
 BRIAN DANKER
 CHARLES ROSE
 ROBERT SAMPSON
 ROBERT DISCHINGER
 GARY LINDERER
 C. LARRY RHODES

HAVE YOU MOVED?

HAD A CHANGE OF
ADDRESS?

NEW TELEPHONE #?

PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE!!

The members shown below need to send an address change to the secretary along with \$2.00 if they want to receive the September issue.

BAD ADDRESSES

NAME	DATE LOST CONTACT
HERBERT OWENS	23 SEPTEMBER 1999
KENNETH YOUNG	23 SEPTEMBER 1999
RICHARD EWALD	23 SEPTEMBER 1999
JASON A LIEFER	2 OCTOBER 1999
CLYDE TANNER	4 OCTOBER 1999
MICHAEL TRANCRELL	4 OCTOBER 1999
ROBERT D. HARRIS	4 OCTOBER 1999
EUGENE KARNISH	4 OCTOBER 1999
GREGG GOULD	6 OCTOBER 1999
CLEMENT ROSS	8 OCTOBER 1999
LARRY M. STAFFORD	8 OCTOBER 1999
MICHAEL C. MCCANN	8 OCTOBER 1999
RICHARD EWALD	8 OCTOBER 1999
RAYMOND ARMSTRONG	10 OCTOBER 1999
DARIN BISTODEAU	10 OCTOBER 1999
WILLIAM PRINCE	10 OCTOBER 1999
MARVIN WALDRON	10 OCTOBER 1999
CHARLES CHEEK	10 OCTOBER 1999
GLYNN HALL	12 OCTOBER 1999
KY AZLEIN	12 OCTOBER 1999
PETER NEVES	12 OCTOBER 1999
GILL WELLS	12 OCTOBER 1999
CHRISTOFER ROLLAND	14 OCTOBER 1999
JOHN WISE	15 OCTOBER 1999
HUNG VAN LY	15 OCTOBER 1999
MICHAEL MELENDREZ	15 OCTOBER 1999
ROBERT SAMUEL	15 OCTOBER 1999
JEFFERY YOUNG	15 OCTOBER 1999
LAWRENCE O. BASHA	18 OCTOBER 1999
THOMAS D. MONAHAN	18 OCTOBER 1999
FREDERICK WHITE	18 OCTOBER 1999
WILLIAM C. LLOYD	18 OCTOBER 1999
FREDERICK W. JACKSON	18 OCTOBER 1999
OLIVER F. WILLIAMS	20 OCTOBER 1999
DEAN D. HOHL	27 OCTOBER 1999

75TH RANGER REGT. ASSN. WEBSITE

75THRANGERS.ORG