

PATROLLING

SUMMER 2001 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 15 ISSUE II



Jayhawk LRRPS at the Glenn H. English, Jr., MOH, Memorial From left, George Montgomery, founder of Firebase Eagle, Kirk Gibson, Theo Knaak, Bob Griffin and Joe Chetwyn.

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CHINA - BURMA - INDIA VIETNAM IRAN GRENADA PANAMA IRAQ SOMALIA

The Special Operations Memorial

The US Special Operations Command Memorial Foundation, Inc., is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating an everlasting memorial to all special operations personnel of all Services. The concept was a vision of the late Richard Leandri who was also the driving force for the Ranger Memorial now in place at Fort Benning, Georgia.

In 1995, Dick Leandri contacted a select few civilians and special operations retirees from the Tampa Bay community, and formulated his plan. The original concept placed the memorial in the traffic circle immediately to the front of the headquarters of the U.S. Special Operations Command. This vision was supported by (then) USCINCSOC, General Wayne A. Downing, and the Memorial Foundation was born. Within each Service there are many fine memorials depicting the courage, missions, and accomplishments of their members. The Special Operations Memorial located at MacDill AFB is the first joint/all-Service special operations memorial to be placed in the United States. A monument long overdue to memorialize those quiet professionals often unrecognized who have maintained the safety and integrity of our great nation. Dick Leandri passed away unexpectedly in 1998. On 2 November 1998, at a ceremony at Headquarters, USSOCOM, General Peter J. Schoomaker, posthumously awarded the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal to Dick Leandri.

Major General Joseph C. Lutz, USA (Ret), the first military retiree member of the Foundation passed away in 1999 as he was serving as the Foundation Chairman. Plaques commemorating Richard Leandri and Major General Joe Lutz are placed, one on either side, of the entrance wings of the memorial site.

During the tenure of General Henry H. Shelton, following General Downing as Commander in Chief, USSOCOM, the location was next planned to be immediately to the front of USSOCOM, augmenting the security to the front of the building. This requirement ceased as USSOCOM, under the command of General Peter J. Schoomaker, became the focus of much tighter and more stringent physical security measures, in part due to terrorist targeting of United States facilities overseas. In order to retain accessibility to the memorial site, General Schoomaker strongly supported discussions with Brigadier General Solingen, (then) Base Commander, MacDill AFB., to place the memorial in its present choice location close by the primary entrance to the USSOCOM complex.

The statue was unveiled and dedicated during ceremonies hosted by General Schoomaker on 6 April 1999. The statue is the focal point of the memorial, with surrounding walls designed to accommodate engravings to memorialize past, present, and future special operations personnel and organizations.

The first donations came from the Tampa Bay civilian community, a continuing source of revenue. In 1997 the Special Operations Association (SOA), who had earlier considered funding a similar memorial in Washington, DC, elected to join the Special Operations Memorial Foundation at MacDill AFB. Inspired by Committee Chairman Larry Trimble, SOA collected more donations than any other single organization. The Special Forces Association took up the challenge and became a co-sponsor in 1998, also boasting a sizeable combined donation to the cause. In late 1998 the Foundation welcomed the UDT/SEAL Association as a co-sponsor, to honor and perpetuate the memory and traditions of their special operators.

Phase I was the installation of the central figure and the placement of the adjacent walls, the next phase will be to expand the monument with engraving plazas to the left and right. The walls are intended to hold concise histories of the generic special operations forces of all Services. The central, prominent wall holds engravings of those special operations personnel awarded the Medal of Honor (and the three Australian posthumous recipients of the Victoria Cross, earned while working with U.S. Special Forces in the Republic of Vietnam). On either side of the MOH and VC recipients are the special operations personnel killed in action or killed in training since the first modern-day joint special operations mission - the Iran Hostage Rescue attempt (Operation EAGLE CLAW) in 1980.

We challenge you to keep the flame of freedom burning brightly, by participating in our Engraving Program. Varying in size, as described in the accompanying application, have been requested to honor the memory of fallen or past comrades, and also keep alive the names of today's special operators. They have been purchased as farewell gifts for personnel departing units for reassignment, for prior-Service members, and by individuals adding their own name in support of this worthy cause. One contributor purchased an engraving for each of his twenty-two comrades who lost their lives, or have since passed on, who served with his Special Forces unit in the Republic of Vietnam.

The Special Operations Memorial currently provides a unique tribute to special operations forces as the first and only joint (all-Service) memorial paying tribute to SOF personnel of all Services. This is made possible only by the voluntary contributions being made by today's active force, from their predecessors, relatives of SOF personnel, the civilian community, and through their respective special operations fraternal organizations.

We sincerely thank you for your support.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Presidential Determination No. 2001-15

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Cooperation by Vietnam in Accounting for United States Prisoners of War and Missing in Action

As provided under section 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Other Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, as contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2001, Public Law 106-553, I hereby determine, based on all information available to the United States Government, that the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is fully cooperating in good faith with the United States in the following four areas related to achieving the fullest possible accounting for Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Vietnam War:

- 1) resolving discrepancy cases, live sightings, and field activities;
- 2) recovering and repatriating American remains;
- 3) accelerating efforts to provide documents that will help lead to the fullest possible accounting of POW/MIAs; and,
- 4) providing further assistance in implementing trilateral investigations with Laos.

I further determine that the appropriate laboratories associated with POW/MIA accounting are thoroughly analyzing remains, material, and other information and fulfilling their responsibilities as set forth in subsection (B) of section 610, and information pertaining to this accounting is being made available to immediate family members in compliance with 50 U.S.C. 435 note.

I have been advised and believe that section 610 is unconstitutional because it purports to use a condition on appropriations as a means to direct my execution of responsibilities that the Constitution commits exclusively to the President. I am providing this determination as a matter of comity, while reserving the position that the condition enacted in section 610 is unconstitutional.

In making this determination, I have taken into account all information available to the United States Government as reported to me, the full range of ongoing accounting activities in Vietnam, including joint and unilateral Vietnamese efforts, and the concrete results we have attained as a result.

Finally, in making this determination, I wish to reaffirm my continuing personal commitment to the entire POW/MIA community, especially to the immediate families, relatives, friends, and supporters of these brave individuals, and to reconfirm that the central, guiding principle of my Vietnam policy is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of our prisoners of war and missing in action.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to publish it in the Federal Register.

GEORGE W. BUSH

CONTACT: White House Press Office, 202-456-258

DISCLAIMER

DISCLAIMER: This series of articles entitled 'LEGISLATIVE HELP LINE' is meant to be an informative aid in assisting you in protecting your rights. It is also meant to keep you informed of the ever-changing legislative forum that may affect you. There is a caveat here. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association is not allowed to assist you in this effort. Our Constitution has a stipulation that forbids this. I quote: "2. Politics. The Association shall not engage in any political activity. Directors and members are specifically prohibited from engaging in any form of activity that relates the Association to political activity." Therefore, no Officer, Unit Director, Advocate or Member may present himself as a representative speaking for or on the behalf of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Now, this does not prevent you from acting for yourself on your own behalf, I quote: "3. The foregoing does not preclude the Association from being supportive of U.S. policy and objectives nor does it prohibit any member from engaging in the normal rights of any citizen as long as the members do not relate their activities to the Association. Any violation of the foregoing prohibited activities will result in loss of vested right to membership." As I said, this section is provided as a service to inform you. You must act on your own. Do not attempt to act on behalf of the Association. Thank you, Emmett W. Hiltbrand - President

HEALTH

Maintaining Your Health as You Age

The three principles to staying healthy as you age are to (1) adhere to living habits that have been proven to help prevent disease, (2) conduct routine screening tests to detect disease early (when they are treatable), and (3) to obtain immunizations (shots) that have been proven to be effective in preventing disease.

Many of the recommendations made by U.S. health care providers in support of these three principles are based on research reviewed by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), a panel of private sector health experts (15 experts from the specialties of family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, preventive medicine, geriatrics, behavioral medicine, and nursing) convened by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ, formerly the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research).

The USPSTF, selected for their expertise in prevention, evidence-based medicine, and primary care, was first convened by the U.S. Public Health Service in 1984 to systematically review the evidence of effectiveness of a wide range of clinical preventive services, including screening tests, counseling, immunizations, and chemoprophylaxis. The pioneering efforts of the Task Force—to rigorously evaluate clinical research in order to assess the merits of preventive measures—culminated in the Guide to Clinical Preventive Services which is currently in its second edition. The Task Force, which will serve through 2002, will update the 1995 recommendations and will evaluate evidence on prevention interventions not assessed previously with the goal of releasing a third edition of the Guide to Clinical Preventive Services by late 2002.

What Can You Do To Stay Healthy?

Evidence shows that improving personal health habits often can prevent some of the leading causes of death in the United States, such as heart disease, cancer, stroke, lung disease, and injury. Eating right, staying physically active, and not smoking are a few examples of good habits that can help you stay healthy. Weighing too much or too little can lead to health problems. After age 45, many people gain too much weight. You can control your weight by eating healthy foods and being physically active.

Eat Right

Eating the right foods and the right amounts of foods can help you live a longer, healthier life. Research has proven that many illnesses—such as diabetes, heart disease, and high blood pressure—can be prevented or controlled by eating right. Getting the nutrients you need, such as calcium and iron, and keeping your weight under control can help. Try to balance the calories you get from food with the calories you use through physical activity.

Eat a variety of foods, especially:

- Vegetables. Choose dark-green leafy and deep-yellow vegetables.
- Fruits. Choose citrus fruits or juices, melons, and berries.
- Dry beans (such as red beans, navy beans, and soybeans), lentils, chickpeas, and peanuts.
- Whole grains, such as wheat, rice, oats, corn, and barley.
- Whole grain breads and cereals.

Eat foods low in fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol, especially:

- Fish.
- Poultry prepared without skin; lean meat.
- Low-fat dairy products.

Physical Activity

Research shows that physical activity can help prevent at least six diseases: heart disease, high blood pressure, obesity (excess weight), diabetes, osteoporosis, and mental disorders, such as depression. Physical activity also will help you feel better and stay at a healthy weight. Research suggests that brisk walking can be just as good for you as an activity such as jogging. Try to do a total of 30 minutes of constant physical activity, such as fast walking, most days of the week.

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Injury Prevention

Following basic safety rules can prevent many serious injuries. Use smoke detectors in your home. Make sure that hallways and stairwells are well lit. Remove or repair things that could make you trip, such as loose rugs and electrical cords. Put handrails and traction strips on stairways and in bathtubs. Always wear seat belts while in the car. Never drive after drinking alcohol. Always wear a safety helmet while riding a motorcycle or bicycle.

Taking Medicines

Getting information about the medicines that you are taking is important for people of all ages. It will help you get the full benefits from your medicine. It will also help avoid problems such as taking too much or too little of a medicine. Taking medicine in the wrong way can make you worse instead of better. Know what your medicine is supposed to do, what to avoid while taking medicine, and what side effects and interactions to expect.

Alcohol and Other Drug Use

Abusing alcohol or using illegal drugs can cause serious medical and personal problems. Alcohol and drug abuse can lead to motor vehicle and other accidents, depression, and can cause problems with friends, family, and work. Drug use can cause heart and breathing problems. Alcohol abuse can cause liver and heart problems and throat and mouth cancer. If you drink alcohol, limit the number of alcoholic drinks—no more than one drink a day for women and two drinks a day for men. Do not drink alcohol before or while driving a motor vehicle or operating heavy machinery. If you have concerns about your alcohol or drug use, talk to your doctor. Read the questions below. A "yes" answer to any of the questions may be a warning sign that you have a drinking problem. Talk to your doctor or other health care provider.

- ☐ Have you ever felt that you should cut down on your drinking?
- ☐ Have people annoyed you by criticizing your drinking?
- ☐ Have you ever felt bad or guilty about drinking?
- ☐ Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or to get rid of a hangover?

Smoking

Research shows that smoking causes more major diseases than any other personal habit. Some examples are cancers of the lung, mouth, bladder, and throat; heart and lung disease; and strokes. If you stop smoking, you can help avoid these diseases. It is never too late to stop smoking. Half of all people who have ever smoked have quit.

When you are getting ready to quit:

- Pick a date to quit.
 - Begin by not smoking in places where you spend a lot of time, such as at home or in the car.
 - Get support and encouragement—you may want to join a quit smoking program.
 - Talk with your doctor about using nicotine replacement products such as gum, patch, nasal spray, or inhaler.
- Research shows that almost everyone can benefit from using these products.

Once you have quit:

- Don't try even one puff, and try to keep yourself away from all cigarettes.
- If you fail the first time, don't give up. Keep trying and learn from your experiences. Ask yourself what helped or did not help you in trying to quit.

Every time children and others you care about are around cigarette smoke, they breathe in poisons that can cause asthma or cancer. Please, don't expose others to secondhand smoke. Quit for them.

Depression

Everybody feels "down" or "blue" at times. But, if these feelings are very strong or last for most of the day, nearly every day, they may be due to a medical illness called depression. The good news is that depression can be treated. But first you have to know you have it. People do not always know the warning signs of depression. Some of these signs are listed below. If you have four or more, be sure to talk to your doctor about depression. If you print out this list, place a checkmark next to each sign that you have.

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Warning Signs of Depression

Changes in the way you feel:

- ☐ Feeling sad, hopeless, or guilty most of the time.
- ☐ Feeling tired, low energy, or feeling "slowed down."
- ☐ Crying a lot.
- ☐ Having thoughts of suicide or death.

Changes in eating and sleeping habits:

- ☐ Sleep problems, either too much or too little.
- ☐ Changes in appetite or weight (up or down).

Changes in your daily living:

- ☐ Loss of interest and pleasure in daily activities.
- ☐ Problems making decisions or thinking clearly.

Treatment

The earlier you get treatment for depression, the sooner you will begin to feel better. *The longer you wait, the harder depression is to treat.* Depression usually is treated with medicine, counseling, or medicine combined with counseling. Medicines for depression are not addicting or habit forming. They work for people with severe depression and may be useful for people with mild to moderate depression. Treatment works gradually over several weeks. If you do not start to feel better after this time, call your doctor. It may take some time to find what works best for you.

Ask Your Doctor about Checkups, Tests, and Shots You Need

All of the checkups, tests, and shots covered in this booklet have been proven effective in preventing disease, according to scientific evidence.

Teeth and Gums

- Visit your dentist once or twice a year for checkups.
- Brush after meals with a toothbrush that has soft or medium bristles.
- Use toothpaste with fluoride.
- Use dental floss every day.
- Eat fewer sweets, especially between meals.
- Do not smoke or chew tobacco products.

Hearing

Hearing loss is one of the most common health problems. Because it doesn't cause pain and is not visible, many people refuse to admit that it exists. Hearing loss increases after the age of 50. How can you tell if you have a hearing problem? You may have to strain to hear a normal conversation. Or you may find yourself turning up the volume of the TV and radio so loud that others complain. Talk to your doctor or nurse about your hearing. They may suggest a hearing test. Hearing aids can often help you hear better.

Vision

People that are age 45 and older are most affected by vision problems. By age 65, you should see an eye doctor for regular eye exams. Eyeglasses or contact lenses can improve your vision. Doctors also have other methods to improve your vision and prevent you from losing your sight. After age 45, glaucoma becomes more common than it is earlier in life. It is a disease that can lead to problems seeing and even to loss of vision. Early treatment—with medicine, surgery, or both—can prevent or delay the serious vision problems caused by glaucoma. You are more likely to get glaucoma, and you should see an eye doctor for a glaucoma test, if you:

- Have diabetes.
- Have a family history of glaucoma.
- Are over age 65.
- Are over age 40 and African American.

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Tests To Catch Diseases or Conditions Early

The USPSTF has found that some tests that doctors perform have not been proven effective for healthy, average-risk persons. These tests include the PSA test for prostate cancer, blood tests or ultrasound for ovarian cancer, chest x-ray for lung cancer, urine tests for bladder cancer, routine blood tests for anemia, routine urine tests, and routine electrocardiogram or stress tests for heart disease for people without symptoms. If your doctor or health care provider recommends any of these tests, you may want to ask why you need them. Talk to your doctor or other health professional about what is right for you.

Blood Pressure

High blood pressure can lead to heart disease, stroke, and kidney disease. It is most common in African Americans and people over age 45. Scientific evidence has shown that eating healthy foods and being active are two ways you can keep your blood pressure under control. Some people need to take medicine to keep their blood pressure at healthy levels. If you take medicine, be sure to talk to your doctor about how to take it. Do not skip any doses of medicine.

Cholesterol

Too much cholesterol, which can clog your blood vessels, is a major cause of heart disease in men and women. Cholesterol levels start to increase in middle-aged men, in women just before menopause, and in people who have gained weight. The risk of heart disease starts to increase in middle-aged men and women. Research shows that you can lower your cholesterol level and keep a healthy level by eating the right foods, losing extra weight, and being physically active. Your doctor or other health care provider may suggest you take medicine to lower your cholesterol. Most experts recommend checking your cholesterol every 5 years. Your health care provider may suggest you have it checked more often, especially if your cholesterol is too high. If you have high cholesterol, talk with your doctor about a plan for lowering it.

Diabetes (High Blood Sugar)

Diabetes can lead to problems with vision, kidneys, and how well your blood circulates, especially to the lower legs and feet. Most people who have diabetes have type 2 diabetes, the kind that tends to come in middle age. Finding and treating diabetes early can cut your risk for these problems. The chances of getting the most common type of diabetes—type 2 diabetes—increase once you reach age 45. Almost 1 in 5 people aged 65-74 has diabetes. You may need a blood test for diabetes if you have a family member with diabetes or are overweight. If you have diabetes, make sure that you schedule regular visits for eye and dental exams, blood pressure and cholesterol checks, blood sugar (glucose) checks, and yearly flu shots.

Tuberculosis (TB)

TB is a growing problem in the United States, especially among older people. It is an infection that affects the lungs and eventually other parts of the body. This infection can be passed from one person to the next. It is treated more easily if caught early. You are at greater risk for TB and may need a TB test (called a PPD) if you have been in close contact with someone who has TB, traveled to Asia, Africa, Central or South America, or the Pacific Islands, have kidney failure, diabetes, HIV, or alcoholism, or injected or now inject illegal drugs.

Tests To Find Cancers

Colon Cancer

Colon cancer is the second leading cause of death from cancer. Older people are more likely to get colon cancer than younger people are. But if caught early, colon cancer can be treated more easily. Effective tests are available to find colon cancer. However, many people do not take advantage of these tests. Starting at age 50, you should have tests to detect colon cancer. The tests you may have are:

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Fecal Occult Blood Test—To test for small amounts of blood in your stool (should be done yearly).

Sigmoidoscopy—To look inside the rectum and colon using a small, lighted tube. Your doctor will do this in the office or clinic. This test should be done once every 5 to 10 years. Tell your doctor if you have had polyps or if you have family member(s) with cancer. If so, you may need to be tested more often.

Oral Cancer

Oral cancer includes cancers of the lip, tongue, pharynx, and mouth. Most oral cancers occur in people over age 40 who use tobacco or alcohol. People who are in the sun a lot also are at risk for cancer of the lip. If you chew or smoke tobacco and drink a lot of alcohol, you may want your dentist to examine your mouth for signs of oral cancer during your regular dental checkup. You may also need to see your dentist more often. Scientific evidence shows that you can help prevent oral cancer by not smoking and cutting back on the amount of alcohol you drink. If you are outdoors a lot, you should use a sunblock on your lips.

Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer is most common in men over age 50, in African Americans, and in men with a family history of prostate cancer. Tests such as a rectal exam and PSA (prostate-specific antigen) blood test can help detect prostate cancer. Based on current research, it is not yet clear whether these tests save lives, so ask your doctor for the pros and cons of tests for prostate cancer.

Skin Cancer

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. Most skin cancers can be cured, especially if they are found and treated early. You may need to have your doctor examine your skin if you have many moles (large freckles) or have been in the sun a lot. To prevent skin cancer, limit the amount of time you spend in the sun and/or wear clothing or sun block that protects you from the sun.

Shots To Prevent Diseases

Influenza (flu) shots

Everyone over age 65 needs this every year. You may need flu shots before age 65 if you have lung, heart, or kidney disease, have diabetes, have AIDS or are infected with HIV, have cancer, or are a health care worker.

Pneumococcal (pneumonia) shot

Everyone needs this once at about age 65. If you have diseases of the lung, heart, or kidney; diabetes; HIV; or cancer, you may need this shot before age 65.

Tetanus-diphtheria shot

Everyone needs this every 10 years.

Hepatitis B shots

Generally, you should receive hepatitis B shots if you or your partner have had other sexual partners within the last 6 months, have had a sexually transmitted disease (STD) within the last 6 months, have injected illegal drugs, are a health care worker who is often exposed to blood or blood products, had blood transfusions between 1978 and 1985, or if you are traveling outside the United States.

For More Information

To learn more about staying healthy and preventing disease, you may want to contact the organizations listed in this section. You can get free information by writing, making toll-free telephone calls, or by searching the Internet.

H E A L T H

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S**AIDS***Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*

CDC National AIDS Hotline: 1-800-342-2437

CDC AIDS Hotline in Spanish: 1-800-344-7432

CDC AIDS Hotline for the Deaf: 1-800-243-7889 (TTY)

CDC National Prevention Information Network:

1-800-458-5231

1-800-243-7012 (TTY)

<http://www.cdcnpi.org>**Alcohol and Drug Abuse**National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

Administration

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

1-800-729-6686

<http://www.health.org>

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

(NIAAA)

National Institutes of Health

(301) 443-3860

<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov>**Alzheimer's Disease**

Alzheimer's Association

1-800-272-3900

<http://www.alz.org>

Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center

(ADEAR)

National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health

1-800-438-4380

<http://www.alzheimers.org>**Cancer**

Cancer Information Service (CIS)

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

National Institutes of Health

1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)

1-800-332-8615 (TTY)

<http://www.nci.nih.gov>**Diabetes**

Lower Extremity Amputation Prevention Program (LEAP)

Bureau of Primary Health Care

Health Resources and Services Administration

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

1-800-400-2742

<http://www.bphc.hrsa.gov/leap>National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney
Diseases

National Institutes of Health

(301) 496-3583

<http://www.niddk.nih.gov>**General Health Information**

Administration on Aging (AoA)

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

(202) 619-7501

National Aging Information Center

<http://www.aoa.dhhs.gov/elderspage.html>

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

1-800-358-9295

<http://www.ahrq.gov>

AARP

1-800-424-3410

1-877-434-7598 (TTY)

<http://www.aarp.org>

healthfinder™

Provides electronic information on a wide variety of
health topics. Can direct you to medical journals and other
publications, clearinghouses, databases, hot lines, medical
research, support groups, organizations, and libraries.<http://www.healthfinder.gov>

National Institute on Aging Information Center

National Institutes of Health

1-800-222-2225

<http://www.nih.gov/nia>

National Women's Health Information Center

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

1-800-994-9662

<http://www.4women.gov>**Hearing**National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication
Diseases

National Institutes of Health

1-800-241-1044

1-800-241-1055 (TTY)

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/>**Heart, Lung, and Blood Diseases**

Information Center

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institutes of Health

1-800-575-9355

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov>**Mental Health**

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institutes of Health

1-800-647-2642 (English and Spanish)

1-888-826-9438 (Information on anxiety disorders)

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov>

Depression

Depression Awareness, Recognition, and Treatment

(D/ART) Program

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institutes of Health

1-800-421-4211

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov>

HEALTH

Nutrition

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Office of Consumer Affairs
1-888-463-6332
<http://www.fda.gov>
<http://www.fda.gov/oc/olderpersons/>

Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis and Related Bone Disorders
National Resource Center
National Institutes of Health
1-800-624-BONE
(1-800-624-2663)
<http://www.osteoporosis.org>

Stroke

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institutes of Health
(301) 496-5751
<http://www.ninds.nih.gov>

Urinary Problems

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
National Institutes of Health
(301) 496-3583
<http://www.niddk.nih.gov>

Vision

National Eye Institute
National Institutes of Health
(301) 496-5248
<http://www.nei.nih.gov>

The information provided in this article was extrapolated from the Internet citation: *Staying Healthy at 50+*. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD. AHRQ Pub. No. 00-0002, January 2000.
<http://www.ahrq.gov/ppip/50plus/index.html>

Provided by: MAJ. Kowtol, Battalion Surgeon,
3/75 Rangers

DISEASE ASSOCIATED WITH EXPOSURE TO CERTAIN HERBICIDE AGENTS: TYPE 2 DIABETES.....

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its adjudication regulations concerning presumptive service connection for certain diseases for which there is no record during service. This amendment is necessary to implement a decision of the Secretary of Veteran Affairs under the authority granted by 38 USC 1116 that there is a positive association between exposure to herbicides used in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam era and the subsequent development of TYPE 2 DIABETES. The intended effect of this amendment is to establish presumptive service connection for that condition based on herbicide exposure. Effective date: July 9, 2001.

Title 38 USC 1116 requires that a veteran have served "in the Republic of Vietnam" to be eligible for the presumption of exposure to herbicides. We believe that it is commonly recognized that this term includes the inland waterways, as well.

The VA is accepting benefits claims from Vietnam veterans with TYPE 2 DIABETES, although new rules authorizing the benefits won't take effect until 60 days from their May 8th publication in the Federal Register. The cost of the new benefit over the next 5 years is projected to be \$3.3 billion dollars, with about 220,000 veterans receiving benefits. Veterans affected by the new rules will receive priority for VA health care and, depending on the severity of their illnesses, disability compensation from \$101.00 to \$2,107.00, monthly. "The hazards of the battlefield include more than bullets and shells," said VA Sec't Anthony Principi, May 8th. "As our understanding of the health risks faced by our military personnel increases, VA will adjust its programs and benefits to fit the needs of veterans."

Since November, the VA has been notifying veterans who served in KOREA in 1968 or 1969, that (1) AGENT ORANGE WAS USED IN KOREA, and (2) that Agent Orange Review (AOR) exams, consultations and counseling will be furnished ON REQUEST.

The number of diseases recognized by the VA as being associated with AGENT ORANGE has steadily increased since the early 1990s. These conditions now are considered service-connected for all Vietnam veterans: chloracne (a skin disorder); porphyria cutanea tarda (a liver disorder); acute or subacute peripheral neuropathy (a nerve disorder), and certain cancers, including non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, soft-tissue sarcoma, Hodgkin's disease, multiple myeloma, prostate cancer and respiratory cancers including cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea and bronchus.

Submitted by Dan Nate, Ranger Advocate & F co. LRP

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HEALTH

Gentlemen: the following article was printed in "STARS & STRIPES", Oct. 1995. It concerns the manifestations I've discussed previously that seem to hound many of our members, yet are refuted by VA medical experts when we seek answers, i.e. apples don't always COME from apples, ect.

"A study of Air Force veterans exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War has found no increase in cancer risk but possible links to DIABETES AND HEART DISEASE, the Defense Dept. said last month. The latest report in a 20-year study of veterans of Operation Ranch Hand, which sprayed the defoliant to remove tree and brush cover for the Vietcong, also found LIVER and CHOLESTEROL effects. The findings, released 6 Oct. are at odds with previous studies used by the VA in COMPENSATING VICTIMS of Agent Orange exposure. Currently, the VA treats as service-connected 11 illnesses, only 2 of which-HODGKIN'S disease and PORPHYRIA CUTANEA TARDA-are not forms of cancer. The VA's compensation regulations are based on recommendations by the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine as mandated by a 1991 law. The next NAS review is due in December (1995)-but the deadline for submitting the Air Force study has already passed, the VA said. In fact, the VA spokeswoman said, the agency still hasn't seen the full 5,000 page report. "We're trying to arrange an independent review," said the VA's Linda Stalvey. "Obviously, because of the importance of the study, we're not going to hold it."

The Air Force study found that 24 members of ground crews most exposed to Agent Orange have died of HEART DISEASE, against a normal expected rate of about 15 deaths for such a group. "Even though there is no cause and effect established, the study does suggest some association," said Donna Tinsley, spokeswoman for the Air Force surgeon general's office. She said the study found no increased risk of heart disease or heart attack among pilots and other Air Force personnel exposed to smaller amounts of Agent Orange than the ground crew veterans. A Defense Dept. statement said the study also found BLOOD GLUCOSE LEVELS and INSULIN INCREASED with Agent Orange dioxin exposure in NON-DIABETICS and INSULIN DECREASED in DIABETICS. "A possible association between DIOXIN and GLUCOSE METABOLISM and INSULIN PRODUCTION is suggested but remains to be proved," it said. It also said SERUM CHOLESTEROL and TRIGLYCERIDES INCREASED with EXPOSURE TO DIOXIN, though dioxin has not been proven to be the cause. It also said the study found SMALL LIVER EFFECTS, suggesting the dioxin alone would not cause LIVER DAMAGE but could increase the risk of DAMAGE WHEN COMBINED with other DAMAGING CONDITIONS SUCH AS HEPATITIS OR ALCOHOL ABUSE. In a sidebar article, the AMERICAN LEGION contends that the VA wrongfully failed to carry out a congressionally mandated study of the effects of Agent Orange exposure on Vietnam Veterans.

As I have recommended previously, vocally, IF your doctors are diagnosing you with DIABETES and/or CONGESTIVE HEART DISEASE, DO NOT MERELY ACCEPT SAME AS "NEW". Carry this and ASK if it applies to you. Take along any previous diagnosis that contained any references to ANY pre-existing items, such as these mentioned, from earlier stages of your POST-VIETNAM health issues that were considered un-founded at THAT TIME.
Submitted by Dan Nate, F.CO.

SAN DIEGO RESEARCHERS DEVELOP BLOOD TEST TO DETECT HEART FAILURE.

SUBMITTED BY Dan Nate, Ranger Advocate and F co.LRP

The expensive and time-consuming tests doctors currently use to detect congestive heart failure may soon be a thing of the past. Cardiologists from the VA San Diego Healthcare System have developed a quick and simple blood test to accurately detect heart failure in people admitted to hospital emergency rooms experiencing shortness of breath. The new test is easy; anyone can do it, said Alan Maisel, MD director of the Coronary Care Unit at the San Diego VA Medical Center and professor of Medicine at the University of California at San Diego. This test helps save lives in time. With 2 drops of blood, you get results in 15 minutes. Maisel reported these findings in a study published in the February issue of the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. Researchers say the blood test detects elevated levels of the hormone B-type natriuretic peptide, or BNP, which is secreted by heart ventricles when pressure goes up, signaling the potential for heart failure. The test is analogous to a white blood cell count; it is more accurate than PAP smears for cervical cancer, PSA tests for prostate cancer and mammograms for breast cancer, with very few false positives, according to Maisel. Until now, no blood test has been available to diagnose congestive heart failure in urgent-care settings. Patients brought into hospital emergency rooms experiencing shortness of breath are often required to take a series of protracted tests, including a physical exam, X-rays, stress tests and an expensive echocardiography test, which is not readily available in all hospital emergency rooms. The BNP test, which was approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration late last year, is expected to be available soon for use with patients in hospital emergency rooms. VA physicians annually diagnose approximately 100,000 veterans with congestive heart failure.

HEALTH

DAV URGES END OF DELAY OF VETERANS REGULATIONS.....US Newswire

Washington, Feb. 7/US Newswire/. The Disabled Veterans (DAV) applauds the chairman and ranking Democrat on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for urging Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi to finalize regulations that would provide eligible veterans priority medical care and disability compensation for certain illnesses presumed connected to their military service.

The regulations covering the presumption of service connection for certain veterans with Type 2 diabetes, hepatitis C, and illnesses associated with exposure to radiation from nuclear weapons have been put on hold pending a review of executive orders issued by former President Clinton during his last days in office.

"House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Chris Smith and the Committee's Ranking Democrat Lane Evans are to be commended in calling for swift implementation of regulations to provide needed health care and appropriate disability compensation for these veterans' illnesses," said DAV Washington Headquarters Executive Director David W. Gorman.

Under one of the stalled Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regulations, Type 2 diabetes in Vietnam veterans would qualify as a service-connected disability based on the veteran's pre-sumed exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange.

Another VA regulation would provide veterans who were exposed to ionizing radiation the same consideration civilians receive under the recently amended Radiation Exposure Compensation Act of 1990. Civilians exposed to "downwind" atomic particles or employed at nuclear facilities currently are eligible for compensation for bone, lung, colon, ovarian, brain and central nervous system cancers. The same conditions are not now presumed service-connected for veterans exposed in Japan and at Pacific and Nevada test sites.

Also put on hold are regulations to update disability ratings for liver disease associated with Hepatitis C infection. Current ratings were issued 50 years ago, long before the existence of Hepatitis C was identified. Last August the VA proposed revising the ratings to reflect current medical terminology and to establish unambiguous criteria. Some veterans exposed to risk factors for hepatitis C during military service have difficulty proving service connection because symptoms are slow to appear and a reliable test for the virus was not identified until 1992. The delayed regulations would provide a presumption of service connection for veterans exposed to blood transfusions and other risk factors.

The million-member Disabled American Veterans, a non-profit organization founded in 1920 and chartered by the U.S. Congress of 1932, represents 2.3 million disabled veterans. It is dedicated to one, single purpose: building better lives for our nation's disabled veterans and their families.

(Submitted by Dan Nate, F.co.)

VA CLAIMS-GETTING THROUGH THE DOOR

Most veterans know that if you caught a disease or were injured in the service, you can go to the VA and apply for disability compensation. Most, however, do not understand the process. The VA is a huge organization. It has billions in its budget, thousands of employees and hundreds of programs. Yet, as with any bureaucracy, if you understand what's required, it is easier to succeed.

To get VA disability compensation: YOU must prove your claim is "well-grounded;" obtain service connection; have your disease or injury rated for the correct percentage; and get the right "effective date." Let's talk about the "well-grounded claim."

Think of a "well-grounded" claim as the price of admission. It is a "screening" or "gate-keeping" device. The VA will do very little for you until you establish that your claim is well grounded. That saves them time and money because they don't have to work on a claim that has no merit. In other words, to get through the door, YOU must get the necessary evidence. But, because the VA provides minimal help, you must establish only that your claim is "probable" or "possible" or "more likely than not." Claimants must answer THREE QUESTIONS: Do you have medical evidence of a "current disability?" Did your disability begin or was it aggravated while you were in the service? Is there a medical connection between your current disability and whatever happened to you while in the service?

The "current" disability requirement is easy. You go to a doctor, maybe even a VA doctor, if you are hurt or don't feel well. Let's say your left knee is bothering you. The doctor says you have arthritis and torn cartilage in that knee, and he agrees to give you a memo to that effect. Proving that the injury occurred or it was aggravated "in-service" may be more difficult. Did you have trouble when you stumbled and twisted your left knee while doing PT? Your knee began to swell, so you went on "sick call" and got excused from PT for a week (or, more likely, for only one day). That sick call should be in your medical records, which can supply the second element. There are other ways. Statements from your friends, called "buddy statements", saying that you had an accident may help. If you were at certain places at certain times, "in-service incurrence" may be presumed. For example, if you were in Vietnam and possibly exposed to Agent Orange, the "in service incurrence" may be satisfied. Finally, is there a connection (the medical "nexus") between your knee injury while in service and your current problem?

The easiest way to prove this is to see your doctor and ask: "Is it possible that my left knee problem began or was aggravated when I twisted my knee in the service?" This may not be an easy question for the doctor, but he may say it is "possible" or even "probable" that the knee problem you had then caused or contributed to your knee problems now. With that evidence, the VA should agree that you have a "well grounded claim" ...and you're "through the door." Are you home free? No. It only means that the VA now has a duty to help you establish service connection. They will get records, set up medical examinations and work with you.

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H E A L T H

HOW TO CHOOSE A REPRESENTATIVE FOR YOUR VA CLAIM, and why should a Veterans Service Organization represent me?

Re-printed from Military Order of Purple Heart's PURPLE HEART MAGAZINE, Vol.LXIII, #5

Greg A. Bresser, National Service Director

Over the years many people have asked me how they should go about choosing a VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION to represent them. Rather than just recommend one of our national service officers I recommend an approach that was originated by the MOPH's National Service Officer in Louis-Ville, Kentucky. Do not get me wrong, I am not selling our NSOs short, it's just that I have faith in the MOPH National Service officers.

When we are compared to other organizations for knowledge, efficiency, expertise, and dedication, most veterans choose us as their representative. Therefore, I would highly recommend that you keep the following guidelines handy. You never know when someone will ask you who would you recommend as a representative on a VA claim.

HOW TO CHOOSE A REPRESENTATIVE FOR YOUR VA CLAIM

Why should a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) Represent Me?

The VA is required by law to have certain evidence in order to establish service connection for a disability. Quite often veterans do not understand exactly what the VA is asking for when they receive a VA letter developing evidence for a claim. Veterans' service organizations (VSO) are familiar with the complex VA law and regulations and consequently are able to assist the veterans in obtaining the necessary evidence to substantiate their claims. Additionally, when claims are not settled to the veteran's satisfaction, the VSO can assist the veteran in the appeal process. VSO's are particularly helpful if the veteran has to go in for a personal hearing.

Remember there is an old legal axiom. A lawyer who represents himself has a fool for a client. The same can be said of a veteran who represents himself in dealing with the Veterans Administration. Veterans are usually too emotionally involved in the outcome and lack the necessary knowledge and training in dealing with the complexities of VA law and regulations.

WHICH ORGANIZATION CAN REPRESENT ME?

Any veteran's service organization can represent a veteran for Veterans Service benefits whether or not you are a member. Also, there is no charge for representation. VSO's that assist veterans on VA claims, cannot require veterans to join their organizations as a prerequisite to represent them.

HOW DO I GO ABOUT CHOOSING AN ORGANIZATION TO REPRESENT ME?

Make an appointment with the two or three organizations you have heard can help you. When you go in to talk to the National Service Officer, give him a brief thumbnail outline of your claim and ask him/her three basic questions, listed below. When you get answers you are comfortable with, then you have found your representative.

- (1) What approach do you recommend on my claim?
- (2) What kind of assistance will your organization provide on the prosecution of my claim?
- (3) What kind of success rate have you had with this type of claim?

If you feel your claim may be turned down by the Board of Veterans Appeals, you might consider asking if their organization is representing veterans before the Court of Veterans Appeal. Not all VSO's provide Court of Appeals representation.

WHO MAY REPRESENT ME ON MY CLAIM?

The organizations that have offices in the same building as the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office generally have their phone numbers listed under the VA's heading in the section dedicated to government offices. You can find a list of all of the addresses and telephone numbers of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Officers on our World Wide Web site. Just type in the URL: www.Purpleheart.org. This will give you the listing of the Service Officers in your area.

HEALTH

"HOME FREE ?"

Have you heard about the recently enacted Veterans' Claim Assistance Act of 2000? This law is a major step forward, but each veteran must understand that there are limits in the way the VA is implementing it. The legislation eliminated a requirement for a well-grounded claim before the VA has a duty to assist you with your claim. THAT is a major step FORWARD. Guidelines issued Dec. 14, 2000, by Robert Eplay, director of the VA Compensation and Pension Service, provide procedures for the VA to follow.

There are positive aspects here. For example, when the VA requests records from a federal department or agency, the statute requires "[the VA] to continue attempts to obtain these records until they obtain them or until it is reasonably certain that the records do not exist, or that further efforts by VA to obtain them would be futile.....They must receive a response from [the person in charge of the records] before assuming they have met their duty to assist." However, there is always a "however." There are some items of concern as well. If your claim was denied as not "well-grounded", between July 14, 1999, and Nov. 9, 2000, the VA will re-adjudicate your claim "as if the denial or dismissal had not been made." GOOD! However: [A] claim will not be re-adjudicated unless a request for re-adjudication is filed by the claimant..no later than two years from Nov. 9, 2000; "and" the VA is not required to initiate a special review to locate and re-adjudicate claims denied as not well-grounded during this period in the absence of a timely request by the claimant. "This second condition is very important! The VA agrees they will re-open these claims, but only if you bring it to their attention before Nov. 9, 2002. Therefore, all veterans who have had their claims denied because they were not well grounded should find their paperwork and see what date their claims were denied! If the denial was after July 14, 1999, contact the VA immediately and ask them to re-consider it under the Veterans' Claims Assistance Act.

Don't wait....do it now,or you may lose an important opportunity! Once the VA has re-opened your claim,your file must contain: "Competent medical evidence that the claimant has a current disability, or competent evidence that the claimant has persistent or recurrent symptoms of disability. The veteran is not competent to provide this information unless he/she is a doctor. You can describe symptoms, but the veteran is not...competent to diagnose his or her own medical condition or to offer a medical opinion...". The VA will not help you satisfy this requirement. (No change here; this is the same as the first step of the well-grounded claims test.) **"Supporting evidence from service records or other sources that the claimant suffered an event(s), injury or disease in service that may be associated with the claimant" current disability or symptoms of disability.** **"But: the file does not contain" sufficient medical evidence for them to make a decision on the claim."** At that point the VA will provide a medical examination. Actually, this third provision is understandable because they are trying to conserve scarce medical resources before ruling on your claim. They can still deny your claim if your file does not contain items 1 and 2. Remember that you must still provide competent medical evidence of your current disability. They won't "assist" you with that.

The VA will continue to develop their rules, and the courts will review their procedures. But remember, just because VA has a duty to assist does not mean they will do it all for you. You must be an active participant and follow up on your claim. If you neglect this duty,your claim may be denied and you won't understand why.

Submitted by Dan Nate, Ranger Advocate,and F co.LRP
Reference materials from John E.Howell,Stars and Stripes

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H E A L T H

WHY ARE OUR CLAIMS TAKING SO LONG?

Submitted by Dan Nate, Ranger Advocate

Most veterans with pending VA claims have noticed that rating decisions and other documents are taking longer and longer to come from VA offices. As with any workload problem, there is no single answer. But many of the VA's current problems can be traced to the Veterans Claim Assistance Act (VCAA). Statistics and comments from VA friends indicate that a large number of cases are being sent back to the regional offices for re-adjudication based on the enhanced "duty to assist" from the VCAA. While this new law was a great step forward and long overdue, here is a noticeable catch-up effect in the VA system. While it is understood that new people have been hired in some VA offices, veterans should be prepared for delays. It takes time to train new people and to re-adjudicate claims. New claims are coming in, and the pressure is on! I am not an apologist for the VA, but I am a realist. Many of these cases require time for more development work. If the law had not been changed, many of those cases would have been denied, and those veterans would have been out of luck. With the change in the law, veterans now will have a much better chance of having their claims service-connected. The price we will all have to pay is delay. There are several ways to help the VA help you.

If you are submitting a new claim, submit it as soon as possible so that you can take advantage of an "early effective date." You may get a handsome "past-due benefits award" when your claim is finally approved. There are documents you must file when you open a claim. If you don't have them available, file your claim anyway and then forward these items as soon as you can. You need a doctor's statement or other evidence that you have a "current disability," plus your DD-214 or other document that verifies your military service. You may also have documents such as medical records showing when or how your disability was incurred. Get these items together and send them in "all at once." If you send them one at a time, you will get letters from the VA asking for more evidence. Each time they write to you, your file goes back on the shelf and must take its turn when your reply arrives. To speed things up, reduce the need for the VA to write to you. If you have a claim pending, the same advice applies. Cut down on the number of times the VA has to write you for information. Try to gather everything they might want into one package and send it to them.

If you are seriously ill (life-threatening) or in serious financial difficulty (verge of bankruptcy), you can ask the VA to "advance your case on the docket." This means your case jumps the queue and goes ahead of others who do not have your problems. This is a tough standard to meet, and you must prove you are seriously ill or in financial trouble; but if you convince the VA they should move your case forward, it can save you a lot of time. After all, for a person seriously ill or facing bankruptcy, time is your problem and the VA should be sensitive to that.

Be sure to keep good records. The VA does make mistakes. They may ask for a document or for medical records that you have already sent them, or they will decide that there was no evidence that you incurred your disability while in the service. That is when good record keeping pays off. You can save lots of time and anguish if you can pick the documents you need out of your file and send them in. I recommend that you keep a complete file of everything related to your claim. If you are lucky, you will never need that file, but the day may come when you will wish you had those documents. This file is a "time-saver" because you don't have to go back to the doctor for a copy of his statement, or search files for the same records. Good record-keeping makes good sense.

Finally, if you can, be patient! We all hope the VA will not take too long to process claims, but we should do what we can to help them. The VA employees don't enjoy being behind, so it is to everyone's advantage to "work together."

By: Dan Nate

BUT FOR THESE VILE GUNS

By Kenn Miller

If a Ranger's accomplishments in civilian life qualified him for induction to the U.S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame, the late Charlton Ogburn Jr (1911-98) would be a shoo-in. Ogburn was an adventurer, a novelist, a science and nature writer, an expert on birds and American railroads, a diplomat, and a soldier who served as an enlisted man, junior NCO, and officer. During World War Two he served as a commo platoon leader and intelligence officer with the 5307th Composite Unit, Merrill's Marauders, in Burma, and his postwar book, *THE MARAUDERS*, was a bestseller that was made into a popular movie, and is still considered a classic of military writing. But for all his many and varied accomplishments, Ogburn will probably be best remembered as a literary scholar. For almost four hundred years, there have been questions and doubts about the authorship of the Shakespeare poems and plays. There is almost no credible evidence that William Shaksper (one of the six spellings on his six surviving signatures) really wrote anything except his own name---and that very poorly. Increasingly, Edward De Vere (1550-1604), the 17th Earl of Oxford, is recognized as the real author. Charlton Ogburn's book on De Vere's authorship, *THE MYSTERIOUS WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE*, is the landmark work on the subject. Among the many things cited as evidence of De Vere's authorship is the fact that along with no known schooling, William Shaksper had no known military experience, while De Vere served his queen in combat as both an army and a navy officer. De Vere's broad and deep military experience is reflected in the Shakespeare plays. The following rant, from *Henry IV, Part One*---in which a fellow nicknamed "Hotspur" is talking to King Henry IV after a battle in which he served Henry, and before his own rebellion against the king---came to mind during the recent fuss about over the actions of former Senator Bob Kerrey's SEAL squad on 25 February, 1969.

(From HENRY IV, Part One, Scene 3)

HOTSPUR: I remember, when the fight was done,
When I was dry with rage and extreme toll,
Breathless and faint, leaning upon my sword,
Came there a certain lord, neat and trimly dress'd,
Fresh as a bridegroom; and his chin new reap'd
Show'd like a stubble land at harvest home.
He was perfum'd like a milliner,
And 'twixt his finger and his thumb he held
A pouncet box, which ever and anon
He gave his nose, and took't away again;
Who therewith angry, when it next came there,
Took it in snuff; and still he smil'd and talk'd;
And as the soldiers bore dead bodies by,
He call'd them untaught knaves, unmannerly,
To bring a slovenly unhandsome corse
Betwixt the wind and his nobility.
With many holiday and lady terms
He questioned me, amongst the rest demanded
My prisoners in your Majesty's behalf.
I then, all smarting with my wounds being cold,
To be so pest'ed with a popingay,
Out of my grief and my impatience
Answer'd neglectingly, I know not what-
He should, or he should not; for he made me mad
To see him shine so brisk, and smell so sweet,
And talk so like a waiting gentlewoman
Of guns and drums and wounds- God save the mark!-
And telling me the sovereignest thing on earth
Was parmacity for an inward bruise;
And that it was great pity, so it was,
This villanous saltpetre should be digg'd
Out of the bowels of the harmless earth,
Which many a good tall fellow had destroy'd
So cowardly; and but for these vile 'guns,
He would himself have been a soldier.

You can see that the author knew what he was talking about, and that things haven't changed all that much. The "popinjays" who might have been soldiers "but for these vile guns" are still mincing around, sniffing their perfume, passing judgements on matters they don't understand. The guy who wrote this play, however, obviously *did* understand. And I believe that old Marauder Charlton Ogburn understood pretty well just who did write the Shakespeare poems and plays. The man was a soldier.

BLACK BERET OBITUARY

October 17, 2000 started out as a normal day then turned into a nightmare for many. Some are calling it Black Tuesday. Personally and professionally, I'm glad the first reporter who called me for an interview did not quote me on exactly what I had said. That day was the beginning of a fight we had to fight. It may have seemed to many an impossible fight and one that we would not win. But it was a fight we were required to fight. We were out gunned and out manned from the onset but we were destined by a greater creed to wade into this fight. From start to finish there were nay sayers and opponents on both sides. We started with nothing and were fragmented. Eventually we attained focus and direction. Forces started to rally and an offensive was mounted. Momentum built like a tidal wave and we turned fragmentation into a multi-pronged attack. We finally had our adversary's back against the wall and were waiting for a well-deserved victory. Suddenly, we were out maneuvered and victory was pulled from our grasps. It honestly wouldn't be on the Book of the Month Club list and I doubt that you would ever get an actor worthwhile to play any of the roles. But it was a very intense and interesting time for all involved. It was an experience worth remembering, I think. There were high spots and a few times we dug bottom but throughout we maintained our honor and integrity. We fought a good fight and should be proud of what we accomplished. Despite losing the black beret we did win some very substantial concessions.

To begin with, the CSA was not going to allow the Rangers to go to another color. In his desire to have an Army of ONE, there was no place in it for other colors. I fear that the Maroon and Green would have been in his sights next. He was going to make them stay in black like the rest of the Army. Granted, the Rangers would have still been in black but so would every Tom, Dick and Harry in the Army. Nothing would have set the Rangers apart from the rest of the Army to make them feel special. I think that over time that would have eventually demoralized the Rangers even further. Our efforts forced him to concede to let the Rangers go to a Tan Beret. I feel that we can say that if the black beret is dishonored now, it will not have been done during our watch.

Second, we united the Ranger community like it had never been united before. All the Ranger Associations united together for the first time. Rangers of all eras had formed up as one. What was so especially gratifying was the support we received from our fellow Green Berets'. The entire Special Forces Association was the first one to stand shoulder to shoulder with us. Many if not all of the Airborne Associations took a stand with us. We had the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars and many other groups on our side. This unity in brotherhood continues and remains that way today.

And lastly, almost the entire nation has heard about not only the black beret, but who we were and are. Many in our great nation saw first hand what Rangers can and do accomplish on a daily basis. There is no doubt that our country knows more about who Rangers are and from hence they came.

Why black in the first place you ask? The CSA and his SMA are both armor. There had always been a running battle with armor forces and others over whom had worn the black beret here or there at this time or that time. So many little groups of units rose up and tried to get on the bandwagon during this episode. They wanted it so bad that they stooped to dishonorable acts and under handed tactics. Well let them have it. Now we don't have to hear their crying crap any more. No one in the US forces past or present has ever worn the Tan Beret. From information provided to me, the only ones worldwide who have ever worn the Tan Beret are the Australian, New Zealand and British Special Air Service (SAS). Those are good guys to keep company with. They have a fine reputation.

I always try to find a sliver of good even in the worst of times so here's my optimistic outlook on this issue. I project that the Rangers will last for a 1000 years or more. OK, so we wasted 50 years on the black beret. Better than wasting 500 years. As I see it, from this day forward and the next 950 years or more we will make the Tan Beret better than the black beret ever thought of standing for. Perhaps the Tan Beret should have been considered in lieu of the black when a beret was first selected during the Korean War era or at the start up of the current day Regiment. General Shinseki has an armor background and armor units' worldwide wear the black beret. There are several images I see constantly on news events that tell us this is fact. Remember General Montgomery, of the British forces during WW II, wearing a black beret? Look at Iraq's Republican Guards, they wear black berets.

Shortly after I was informed that we had lost the fight for the black beret, I had a meeting with Col. P. K. Keen, Commander of the Ranger Regiment and his Regimental Sergeant Major. We discussed many of the chronological events surrounding the entire beret issue. I admire the man for the decision he had to make. It was not an easy one and there were not any real viable options made available to him. I will say that he was working off of a larger map sheet than the rest of us had. It was at this point in time that the only logical solution was to support the Regiment in going to the Tan Beret. Col. Keen had already talked to the president of the Ranger Battalions of WW II, Bing Evans before I had arrived. When he finished talking to me, he was going to call the Korean War Ranger president, Minor Kelso. Col. Keen was attempting to heal the wounds in the Ranger Associations. I admire him for this effort. It was not a required effort but one he felt obligated to perform out of respect. One of his ideas that I thought was an effort in maintaining the unity within the Ranger community we had established was to include the Associations in the beret donning ceremony that the Ranger Regiment was going to execute. His plan was to beret the presidents himself. I agreed with his offer and accepted as president of this Association. This does not mean anyone else has to participate in this ceremony or accept the Tan Beret as our headgear. The choice is yours. If you would like to participate then contact me by any means and provide me with your beret size. The ceremony will take place at the Ranger Memorial on 26 July at 1600 hours. The Regiment will be furnishing the berets. Two hours after this ceremony the Regiment will conduct their beret ceremony and a change of command ceremony on York Field in front of Infantry Hall.

As of this writing, it is still not sure yet if the black beret issue is alive or dead. There are still lingering side affects springing up in the Halls of Congress from what we did while we were up there. I will pass on any information I receive and update as I can.

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association will always continue to support the Regiment and the Ranger traditions. We will continue to remember those who wrote the Ranger standards before they were called Rangers.

Rangers Lead The Way. Emmett W. Hiltbrand

WHAT THEY CARRIED

They carried P-38 can openers and heat tabs, watches and dog tags, insect repellent, gum, cigarettes, Zippo lighters, salt tablets, compress bandages, ponchos, Kool-Aid, two or three canteens of water, iodine tablets, sterno, LRRP- rations, and C-rations stuffed in socks. They carried standard fatigues, jungle boots, bush hats, flak jackets and steel pots.

They carried the M-16 assault rifle. They carried trip flares and Claymore mines, M-60 machine guns, the M-70 grenade launcher, M-14's, CAR-15's, Stoners, Swedish K's, 66mm Laws, shotguns, .45 caliber pistols, silencers, the sound of bullets, rockets, and chop-pers, and sometimes the sound of silence. They carried C-4 plastic explosives, an assortment of hand grenades, PRC-25 radios, knives and machetes. Some carried napalm, CBU's and large bombs; some risked their lives to rescue others. Some escaped the fear, but dealt with the death and damage. Some made very hard decisions, and some just tried to survive.

They carried malaria, dysentery, ringworms and leaches. They carried the land itself as it hardened on their boots. They carried stationery, pencils, and pictures of their loved ones - real and imagined. They carried love for people in the real world and love for one another. And sometimes they disguised that love: "Don't mean nothin'!" They carried memories.

For the most part, they carried themselves with poise and a kind of dignity. Now and then, there were times when panic set in, and people squealed - or wanted to, but couldn't; when they twitched and made moaning sounds and covered their heads and said "Dear God" and hugged the earth and fired their weapons blindly and cringed and begged for the noise to stop and went wild and made stupid promises to themselves and God and their parents, hoping not to die.

They carried the traditions of the United States military, and memories and images of those who served before them. They carried grief, terror, longing and their reputations. They carried the soldier's greatest fear: the embarrassment of dishonor. They crawled into tunnels, walked point, and advanced under fire, so as not to die of embarrassment. They were afraid of dying, but too afraid to show it. They carried the emotional baggage of men and women who might die at any moment. They carried the weight of the world.

THEY CARRIED EACH OTHER

Author Unknown

INTENTIONALLY DISFUNCTIONAL?

I came across these 10 items while I was reading Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law. I thought they were funny at first but after reading them again, I noticed some resemblance to things I'd seen happening in our Association. I've applied them to myself for your viewing interest. When your done, how about taking the test yourself.

Ten ways to wreck an organization:

- 1) Don't come to the meeting.
- 2) If you do come, come late.
- 3) If the weather does not suit you, don't think of coming.
- 4) If you attend the meeting, find fault with the officers and the other members.
- 5) Never accept an office, as it is easier to criticize than to do things.
- 6) Feel hurt if you are not appointed on a committee, but if you are, do not attend the committee meetings.
- 7) If asked by the Chair to give your opinion on some matter, tell him you have nothing to say; after the meeting tell everybody how things should be done.
- 8) Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary, but when members roll up their sleeves and willingly and unselfishly use their ability to help the organization, say that the unit is run by a clique.
- 9) Hold back your dues as long as possible, or don't pay them at all.
- 10) Don't bother about getting new members; let someone else do it.

Most times these things don't happen intentionally but sometimes they do happen none the less.

- 1) Rather it is by an accident that you couldn't come to a reunion and participate or something came up at the last minute. Accidents happen. It has happened to me before. My worse one was finding out the meeting happened and my mind was set to a different date time group.
- 2) Never came late to a reunion myself but left a little early once. I also had a friend who came out by military hop (space available) and was routed all over the country before he could get close enough to rent a car and just drive the rest of the way in. It wasn't his fault. He tried. Got there just as we were leaving.
- 3) I don't believe weather has ever been used as a valid reason for not coming to a reunion or not. I guess I could see this as an excuse if we scheduled a reunion in Savannah right as a hurricane was in bound. Actually, that might be fun.
- 4) Been there and done that. I bet most of us have. But I did it to their face and not behind their backs. Now don't get this confused with having a private discussion with friends to determine how you feel about a topic. But later, I had either said the same conversation with the individual involved.
- 5) I've seen overly qualified people turn down an office and regretted that they did it. I have also seen unqualified people accept an office who had no idea what in the world they were doing. Remember what they use to drilled into your head about volunteering? After 10 months in this office, I'm wondering what was in my mind when I volunteered.
- 6) There were times that I wanted to get assigned to a committee or group but missed out. Best guess was that I wasn't good enough or they had too many good people on it already.
- 7) Boy, am I guilty here. I have to work on this one. Won't even give you any excuses as why I did this once but I'm guilty.
- 8) This is the one I've seen most often in our Association. A lot of it has stopped thank goodness. If allowed to continue, it would self-destruct us.
- 9) Low on funds or complete lack there of is not a reason. Contact your Unit Director. We have provisions in our Constitution for this problem. Now, my sometimers kicks in and I forget or I could sworn to death that I paid that bill. But guess what. I didn't. Does this sound familiar?
- 10) Not guilty on this one concerning the Association. Guilty concerning going out and rallying support for a political figure and then he didn't win. Guilty there. Thought we had it in the bag. Sure proved me wrong. Had to live with that mistake for four years, which turned into eight.

Emmett W. Hiltbrand, President, 75th Ranger Regiment Association

MARCH TO WASHINGTON

David W. Nielsen
14 May 01
Black Beret Road March

I have said this many times over, and it bears repeating: I was truly blessed in being able to march from Columbus to DC for the Black Beret. When I first heard about it on the Ranger listserver I subscribe to, I got pretty fired up. It had been a while since I'd felt that fired up.

I had started road marching on my own about six weeks before I heard about the 750 mile walk for the beret. I'd had back surgery about a year prior, and was ready to get in shape. I would go out at night in the snow and walk six or eight miles with a light ruck in the Virginia countryside, taking it easy. Then I heard about the march. I kept thinking "this guy *can't* do this alone". I pictured him walking alone and camping alone, and I said, no way. We don't do things alone. The problem was, I had just registered for the spring term at George Mason University, I had just turned Junior. I thought I might walk the start and finish, then that I might walk every weekend, driving back for school...then I prayed, talked to my wife, and decided to go the distance- taking the semester off.

I thought the walk would be harder than it was. Yes, there were times when I was just sick of it- remember feeling angry on road marches? There was plenty of that. But I was truly just so elated to be able to do *something* for the Black Beret. It is so frustrating to have to sit at home and watch politicians destroy our history, our lineage, and sometimes our Rangers. So it felt really good to be able to walk, walk hard and fast, and with a purpose. I walked it one day at a time.

It was just like a field mission; look forward to sleep and chow, hope it doesn't rain, walk all day and into the night. I really tried to start as early as possible most days, but almost inevitably some form of media would slow us down. There were two cell phones in the RV that rang constantly - TV, radio and newspapers. I couldn't stand those things by the end of the march.

Low points were my pain plateaus at days six and twelve. I had a toe just blow up, lost a nail and it was purple and infected. My hips hurt extremely bad too, I had never experienced that. They felt like empty butter churns working. This was when Bill Round Egelston a.k.a "Bone" F company LRP, met us in North Carolina. We barbecued and ate together while working on media strategy, and at that point I can say the end was in sight. Also high on the list of fond memories were those beautiful crisp Georgia mornings; I remember one morning walking north up an empty four lane highway, in cow pasture land, and I was listening to John Coltrane on headphones, as happy as humanly possible.

Every day this thing would happen- a spiritual boost. The people in Georgia were amazing, it really astounded me. Somewhere between Columbus and Macon, a guy named Marvin Little met up with us. As we walked past his humble estate, he stood on the porch staring with his many kids; or, he may have been one of the kids, I don't know. When he realized we were the guys in the paper, he came running across his yard in bare feet to meet us. He just had the biggest smile I had ever seen. He pulled out his wallet to donate and found it empty- his smile disappeared. We gave him a few dollars and asked him to buy ice cream for the kids. He promised he would, as well as pray for us, as he walked away backwards smiling and waving.

We had Johnny Burns (Somalia vet), Jason Denny and I, Bill Round and Steve Simonetti and my old team leader, SFC Robert Rummells, all in the RV in DC. We parked at the base of the Lincoln Memorial and just claimed that patrol base as ours. Paul Hickson, Colorado road marcher, met up with us. That was a crazy week, and another story. However, the seven of us walking in a wedge wearing starched uniforms, spit-shined boots and black berets was a sight to see. I was blessed and honored to be the point-man of that wedge, and we assaulted Capitol Hill.

WHAT HAPPENED TO CHU LAI?

By: John Fritzinger

It was Sunday, March 14, 1999. As I arose that morning, I went through my usual routine of lighting a cigarette; getting a cup of coffee and retrieving the newspaper from my front lawn. Everyone dissects a newspaper differently and I usually check the Business section first, Metro second, National third, Sports fourth, and never bother with the other sections. However, today would be an exception. For some odd reason, the travel section was being advertised on the front section of the paper and I kept finding it while selectively going through my newspaper dissection ritual.

Of course, you can imagine what headlined the travel section; it was none other than Vietnam, but this was not your usual syndicated travelogue about Vietnam by some author unknown to me. It was quite the opposite. The four page in-depth article was written and experienced by a fellow journalist and friend of mine, Jim Varney.

Jim had been to Vietnam in '93 and again in '98. In 1998, he had traveled extensively in the Da Nang, Chu Lai, and My Lai areas of what I used to know as southern I Corps. For the first five months of my tour, I was with the Duc Pho LRRP platoon and knew the area well. I was transferred to Chu Lai in March 1969 and finished out my tour there.

After reading his article and late that day, speaking with him by phone, my aspirations of returning to Vietnam were rekindled. I made some phone calls to travel agencies and tour groups that specialize in taking trips to Vietnam, but none of them had the itinerary I had in mind.

So I called several fellow LRRP's to see who would be not

only interested in going back to Nam, but who would be willing to do it my way, which would be very unconventional.

Michael Chu from Hawaii and Dave Swires from Nebraska said yes. When they said yes, the seeds of an idea began to germinate in my mind: to put this trip together and rediscover a land and her people whom we had left 30 years ago. As for my unconventional way of doing things, it's very simple; on our return trip to Vietnam, let's just get there and then decide what we're going to do and how we are going to do it.

It was both a scary and challenging way of doing things, but this way we were free to come and go, as we desired. All the travel agencies and tour groups told me we would have a very difficult time of it, especially with three former LRRP's traveling around the country so freely. We'll see?

So tickets were purchased, passports were updated with visa and a date of July 18, 1999 was our ETA in Vietnam. As many of you know, Murphy's Law went into effect about a week after Chu, Swires and myself finalized our trip itinerary. Chu was called back to Seoul, Korea on business and would miss the first six days of our trip. So, as fate would have it, because of time and flight in country, Swires and I were forced to do Da Nang and Chu Lai without Chu. Michael, you don't know what you missed.

Swires and I spent the first three days of our trip in Saigon typical tourist traps and making plans for our journey to Da Nang. We decided to stay in Da Nang our first day there and try to obtain transportation to Chu Lai, Duc Pho, and My Lai on the second and third.

WHAT HAPPENED TO CHU LAI? (CONTINUED)

By: John Fritzinger

So it was off to Da Nang and things went as planned or we thought it did. After checking into the Furama Hotel and Resort on China Beach, we decided to wander around the deserted Vietnamese beach area and grab a beer. We found this one establishment and the bartender was the singular human being in the place. We each ordered Tiger beer and before we finished them, there were 30 Vietnamese in the joint, wanting to know all about us and if we were Americans.

We told them that we were Americans and smiles abounded everywhere on the premises. I bought a round of drinks for everyone and the party began.

Soon a middle-aged woman named Lan appeared and she spoke excellent English. She offered to be our tour guide with transportation for a price, naturally. Swires was always better than I at cutting deals and I told him to handle everything.

The next day, it was off to Chu Lai, Duc Pho, and My Lai at 7:00 a.m. I realized about a half-hour into the trip that it was going to be a very long day. The driver was only going about 30 to 35 miles per hour and that wasn't going to get it. I told Lan, our guide and interpreter to ask the driver to go faster because cars and tour buses were passing us. She did.

We reached Chu Lai only to find our presence not welcome and were not allowed down the beach road to our old LRRP headquarters. This was very disappointing for Swires and myself. We didn't waste any time and were on our way to Duc Pho for I had wanted to see what remained of L.Z. Bronco and Father Bich. He was a catholic priest who befriended LRRP's at Duc Pho in 1968 and 1969. He also ran an orphanage, which we adopted. And Roth, Thomas, Thiele, and Franklin, teammates of mine during that era, all wanted to know if I could find him during my return trip.

After about three more grueling hours in the car, we reached Duc Pho. Quite simply, we found one old woman that remembered him and told us he was transferred to Cam Ranh Bay about 1974, the VC destroyed the orphanage and L.Z. Bronco was dismantled. With my mission completed in Duc Pho, it was off to My Lai with a stop in Quang Nhai for a very late lunch.

Upon entering the village of My Lai, there was some guy killing a dog with a shovel on the side of the road. How appropriate. Swires turned to me and said, "There's dinner!"

As we pulled into the parking lot of the My Lai Memorial Park, I was amazed at what I saw. Huge statues and tombstones were scattered around the area where certain events took place on that dark March day in 1968. The entire site was enclosed by fence and an admission fee of two US dollars was

collected upon entering. The entire site of the actual massacre isn't very large and we traversed it in about a half-hour.

Upon leaving, we stumbled onto an indoor museum that had even more painful memorabilia to look at. It was in the museum where I had my most unsettling experience. Having gone almost all the way through the place, I ran smack dab into Ron Ridenhour's picture on the wall.

As many of you know, Ron exposed the My Lai Massacre and only recently died of a heart attack in May 1998. Ron was a true friend and always sought the truth. As I turned to walk away from his picture, I glanced to the other side of the room and saw Lan, our guide, sobbing. I know why she was crying, but I still had to ask her if she was all right. I felt just awful!

On the way back to our car, Lan thanked me for my kindness and told me that she had heard about the massacre but had no idea it was to the magnitude of what she had just experienced.

It was getting late and we were a long way from Da Nang so we started heading back. All the way back, all I could think about was all of our missed opportunities, trying to do too much in one day and not getting to see in Chu Lai what we really came for.

It was about 5:00 a.m. and I couldn't sleep. I decided to go out to China Beach for a walk and maybe come back and try to get to sleep later. First light was just beginning to peek out of the South China Sea. It was a very calm and windless morning, but I started hearing the lively laughter of children playing in the ocean and on the beach.

My ears were surely playing tricks on me because the only fools up at that hour were my insomnia and I. I reached the end of the walkway from the hotel to the beach and to my surprise; there must have been five hundred children on the beach. They were surprisingly natural, partaking in swimming, soccer, or karate. I was in total amazement, but not surprised. These people make every waking hour of the day be productive for them.

I was very restless and was feeling guilty about not seeing more of Chu Lai and my old headquarters or the mountain ranges that I used to patrol. So I went to breakfast, then a swim in the South China Sea, then a walk down China Beach and nothing seemed to repress my feelings.

Later that day, Swires and I went to the Kim Do Restaurant in Da Nang and I told him about my feelings and that I might hire another taxi to take us to Chu Lai. He said he was game.

We found the same taxi driver waiting for us outside the Kim

WHAT HAPPENED TO CHU LAI? (CONTINUED)

By: John Fritzinger

Do and he said he could get us to Chu Lai in one hour. I told him that was total insanity, because Chu Lai is 108 kilometers away and Highway 1 is a heavily traveled two lane road cluttered with bicycles, motorcycles, cars, busses, and water buffalo traffic, not to mention pedestrian movement and construction.

However, we like pushing the envelope and said, "Let's do it!" So off we go and about 10 minutes into our trip, I realized I had a death wish. Mario Andretti had nothing on our driver, Jon. He drove like the wind with an attitude. He was constantly weaving in and out of ongoing and head on traffic and speeding up and slowing down to get back in our lane so we could avoid any and all types of collisions.

At one point, we even passed a Red Cross ambulance with its siren and light going. I kept lighting cigarettes thinking this might be my last. Finally, after an hour and fifteen minutes, we were in Chu Lai. Jon drove us around what was once one of the biggest airbases and division headquarters in Vietnam during the war.

We drove for miles and found everything had been razed. The place was barren and desolate. Anything and everything that had anything to do with the American presence during the war was gone. I was awestruck and speechless for this place at one time, were home to the Americal Division, two Marine Air

Wings, several helicopter companies, numerous Army Surgical and M.A.S.H. hospitals, dozens of engineering and transportation outfits, and a whole host of support groups.

As I gazed over this vast razed area toward the cloud covered mountain range, I wondered what type of labor accomplished this and to what end. I could only speculate that it was re-education labor. After the fall of Saigon in 1975, the North Vietnamese who had been trying to re-unify the country since 1954 had to re-educate the people of South Vietnam according to their communist doctrine and beliefs I'm sure it was a difficult time for many in the South, especially if you were wealthy, politically involved, or well educated.

As we proceeded down the road to the beach area, the same guards who gave us the same line once again stopped us: we couldn't go any further. So I said I know another way and then we were met with much more stern resistance and soldiers with AK-47s. It was definitely one of those experiences that brought us to our senses and we decided to let well enough alone. We had seen enough.

So it was back to Da Nang, for the next day we were going back to Saigon. Our driver asked if he could drive a little slower on the way back to Da Nang and in unison we shouted, "YES!"

GLENN ENGLISH, JR. MEMORIAL

Glenn English, Jr. Memorial
May 19, 2001
Altoona, Pennsylvania

I think that you have to be in a small town to really see America as it really is. On Armed Forces Day 2001, in the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, members of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Association, the Jayhawk (VII Corps) LRRPS and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association dedicated the former headstone of Glenn English, Jr., MOH to his memory at Veterans' Square in downtown Altoona. Joe Chetwyn and Kirk Gibson, former Jayhawk LRRPS, were instrumental in making this possible. (See companion article, following).

Altoona went all out for the Armed Forces Day weekend. This is where a 250' traveling version of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall found a permanent home. It is installed in much the same way the original in Washington, DC, and is located in front of the VA Hospital in Altoona. There were events, choral groups, color guards, bagpipers and memorial ceremonies for participants and casualties of all wars. There was also a static display of a Medivac helicopter, two Cobra Gunships, a Blackhawk and two Huey slicks. Along with a heavy equipment display by a local National Guard Engineer Unit, these events provided opportunities for people to talk to the soldiers who operated the equipment and aircraft, and to see the things their tax dollars purchase, close up and personal.

John Chester

Once the black beret issue had ended, I thought life would slow down and things would get back to normal. Whatever is normal now days. Instead, other 'important' issues have replaced that time consuming venture and there is no sight of any reprieve in the near future. We spent some time tending to the wounded that were left on that field of battle because of the beret issue and tried to regroup our forces in an effort to get on with our lives and move forward. As of this writing, I'm still in the process of writing letters of Appreciation for those who arose to the occasion and excelled to meet the challenge in true fashion.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP - In an effort to reward probably the most deserving veteran of the black beret issue, I placed David Nielsen at the top of my list. I pondered for days on what we could say or give to this man who gave so much of himself and his time. What do you give a man who walks some 700 miles? A new set of feet was one of my initial ideas or maybe a good comfortable pair of shoes. Perhaps a lifetime membership to a foot massage center. Hmm, Lifetime Membership. Now there's an idea. So I got on the phone and called each and every one of the Unit Directors and asked for their input. Granted, I can give away a Lifetime Membership, for exceptional service to the Association, on my own as president, but having it come from a unanimous consent of the entire leadership would be even better. Personally, I feel that at the cost of \$250 to the Association, that more than one person should be involved in that decision making process. Without question, every one of your Unit Directors was in agreement. I notified Ron Edwards to record it as such and send it out to him immediately. I called David myself and informed him of our best effort to show him our appreciation for his sacrifices. I think without a doubt that this was one of the most well deserved Lifetime Memberships that have ever been awarded. David was delighted by our gracious offer and this Association will benefit for life from his future contributions.

GOLD STAR MOTHERS - I was also thinking of Mrs. Sandee Rouse who also gave the beret issue so much of her time and effort. I had begun to think along the same lines for her award as I had for David Nielsen. But somewhere along that path, my thought process kept taking me to the 'Gold Star Mother' title she carries. I thought many times of young James Markwell, her son who was killed in Panama. I thought of him and his mother Sandee and I thought of our many other fellow comrades who had fallen over time and their mothers. Then this bright light came on, and my wife said, "Get up you lazy bum". No, but a light did come on in the old brain housing group, honestly. I thought, why don't we honor all of our fallen comrades' mothers? They are after all, 'Gold Star Mothers' too. So I asked the Unit Directors about this also. They were all for it. What I didn't know was that there are 'Gold Star Wives', also. Of course we will have to ratify this 'Gold Star' class of membership at the next General Membership Meeting for it to be official. I asked each Unit Director to find their units 'Gold Star Mothers' and 'Gold Star Wives' and ask them if they would like to be a part of us. I cannot think of a better way for us to

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Emmett Hiltibrand

remember and memorialize our losses then to honor their mothers and wives. Keep in mind, that some of these mothers or wives will not want to dredge up the past

because they may have already come to terms with their losses. They may have finally obtained closure with their loss and want nothing more than to be left alone. Our hearts and prayers will still go out to them. But for those who still keep the candles burning and prayers of remembrance going then we may be of service to them and they to us. I had a unanimous agreement from all Unit Directors to offer them a Life Membership in their son's or husband's name. Ron Edwards will print out a special Life Membership Certificate and send it to me for signature. I will have it matted and framed then send it to the Unit Director for him to present to the mother or wife. I would hope that the units would invite their 'Gold Star Mothers' or 'Gold Star Wives' to our future reunions. The units can help defray the costs of travel and lodging and the Association can pay for their banquet dinner. During the ceremonies we can identify and recognize each and every one of them. What better tribute could we pay them then to show them our love? We cannot replace their loss but a mother could go away from a reunion with 50 more sons. I've asked Sandee Rouse if she would help get things started for the 'Gold Star Mothers' within our Association and have offered her a section of the Patrolling magazine to write articles on this issue.

PATROLLING MAGAZINE - I am very pleased at the size and content of our last printing of the Patrolling Magazine. Almost every unit contributed to it. It was such a success that we ran out of copies almost immediately. For that issue, I had asked the Secretaries of the Regiment and Battalions to write articles. I've asked COL. P.K. Keen, the outgoing Regimental Commander, to submit an article for this issue. It is my intent to solicit articles from different areas on a regular basis. If you have any suggestions on improvement, please send them to your Unit Director, the Association Secretary, the Patrolling Magazine Editor or myself. If you would like to submit an interesting article, then please do so. Submit it to your Unit Director and he will send it on in. The development of the Patrolling Magazine into a first class publication was one of my goals while in office. So far it has exceeded all of my expectations and desires, mainly because I've stayed out of it and left it to better men than I. All credit goes to Ron Edwards and John Chester for the outstanding magazine we have today. I can tell you one thing about the behind the scenes publication of this magazine that many do not ever consider. About the time that you are getting this issue, they are working on putting together the next issue. It is a thankless and vicious cycle that never seems to end. My hopes are that the magazine will continue to grow and evolve just as our Association is doing.

MEMBERSHIP - Membership was another one of my goals for improvement while in office. Membership to me is not about having numbers or increasing income for the Association. My motivation is more deeply seated than that. I am frustrated that we have fellow veterans, particularly from the Vietnam era, that are dying from service connected illnesses and they don't

GLENN ENGLISH, JR. MEMORIAL (CONTINUED)

By Joe Chetwyn

During the summer of 1999, I was working in Baltimore, MD on the restoration of the U.S.S. Constellation, and I was staying at the house of John Fisher, a fellow former member of VII LRRP CO (ABN). It was natural that a lot of our conversations revolved around our fellow Lurps and where they might be some thirty five or so years removed from our days in Nellingen, Germany.

John and I began to compile a list of names as we recalled them, and between us we amassed maybe fifty or so names, some complete, some not, some only nicknames. We even had a small core of known addresses for the handful with whom we had had some contact over the years.

When I returned home to Massachusetts, I located a few pieces of Army memorabilia and found a folder of old medical records and orders which contained names in abundance, along with their ranks and serial numbers. Surprisingly, there was a long-forgotten typed list of some fifty or so names and full or partial addresses, which I had compiled a few years after I got out of the Army in 1964. I took that list and started confirming by telephone and mail the validity of the names, numbers and addresses. It was remarkably fruitful, somewhat encouraging and very disappointing at the same time, in the final tally.

Among these names was Glenn English. I had an address and telephone number in Pennsylvania. When I called the number, it was an entirely different family at the other end. Apologizing to them, they nevertheless were kind enough to get their telephone book out and gave me all the local listings for the name English. None was listed under Glenn, however. Thinking that there may be family in the area who would know him and his whereabouts, I began calling the numbers. After several negative replies, I tried the last number.

The young man I talked to said "No", he did not know of a Glen English. I thanked him, and was in the process of hanging up when he interrupted me to say that his uncle was in the next room, and that he was back from California, and perhaps he would know about Glenn. In my mind, I thought, "Sure, why not, what's to lose?" So, I talked to the uncle who said, "Sure, I knew Glenn English"! He went on to say that they had grown up together as children, and that Glenn had even lived with his family for several years. I was stunned. I had finally found a link to Glenn English. I asked him where Glenn was living and how I could get a hold of him to invite him to our upcoming reunion. He answered that Glenn was "in Washington DC - on The Wall", having died in Viet Nam.

I asked if Glenn had any family in the area - a widow, children, parents, siblings. He was very vague and a bit hesitant, but offered that Glenn's sister lived near him in California, but that she was not well and was very much affected by Glenn's death. As for other family, he gave me Glenn's daughter's name and his brother's name. I thanked him for his generosity and gave him my name and address, should any of the family be interested in contacting me. I certainly did not want to intrude on their privacy.

I next went to my computer and the web-site for the Wall and located Glenn H. English, Jr. and learned the sad particulars of his death in Viet Nam. I was stunned to learn that he had been awarded the Medal of Honor, posthumously. I quickly grabbed the telephone, called information and got the number for the Medal of Honor Society in Maryland, who confirmed the facts and were kind enough to send to me a copy of his citation and other general information which they had on file. Among those pages were the names of Glenn's two daughters, his widow, his parents and his place of burial at Fort Bragg, NC.

I then called SMG David Clark (RET), our 1SGT from the VII LRRP CO (ABN) who now lives in Fayetteville. He was quite surprised to learn about all this, and gave me the telephone number of the Main Post Cemetery, which I immediately called. I finally reached Mr. John B. Calton, Cemetery Director, and inquired about the location of Glenn's grave,

GLENN ENGLISH, JR. MEMORIAL (CONTINUED)

which he was only too happy to share. I asked him if, to his knowledge, the gravesite ever received visitors, flowers, wreath, etc. He replied that he did not believe that anyone ever comes to the grave, and added that Glenn is the only Medal of Honor recipient there. He later remarked that all the headstones were scheduled to be replaced, including Glenn's. That begged the question, "What do you do with the old stones?" Mr. Calton replied, "We break them."

My mind was racing, so I asked, "Could the old headstones ever be given to a Veterans' organization or appropriate agency that would erect it in a dignified and honorable place and manner?" Mr. Calton thought that this might be possible, and I told him I would get back to him.

Remembering that Glenn was born in Altoona, PA, I called the city hall there and spoke with Ms Linda Rickens, the City Clerk. After talking with her about the availability of the headstone and the significance of Glenn's heroism, she immediately put me in touch with George Montgomery, who is president of a local veterans' association, Firebase Eagle. They, Ms. Rickens had told me, were responsible for purchasing and installing the scale replica of the "Traveling Wall" Viet Nam veterans' memorial wall, on the grounds of the Van Zandt VA hospital in Altoona. After talking with George, he felt that they could muster the forces necessary to provide a dignified and honorable place for Glenn's headstone to be installed. I called back to Mr. Calton and informed him about all this, and we began to make plans to secure the headstone at the end of March, when the new one was to be delivered, and bring it to Altoona for cleaning and repainting to prepare it for presentation on May 19, Armed Forces Day, at a veterans' memorial plaza in Altoona.

Among the veterans' organizations participating in this "mission", along with ourselves of VII LRRP CO (ABN) and Fire Base Eagle would be the 173d Airborne Brigade (Association), with whom Glenn served in Viet Nam at the time of his death.

All was now in place for a simple, coordinated and dignified and honorable plan to secure, transport, refurbish and install the headstone of Glenn Harry English, Jr., MOH in the place of his birth, Altoona, PA.

I was getting ready to head out of town on another project and would be away from home and convenient communication with all parties involved. In my stead, I asked Kirk Gibson to monitor the situation and keep everybody informed when necessary and apprised of any changes or developments that might crop up. Otherwise, all should go off smoothly and in an orderly fashion. Enter, Kirk.



The 250' replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

GLENN ENGLISH, JR. MEMORIAL (CONTINUED)

By Kirk Gibson

I was only too happy to serve as the communications center. After all, how hard could that be? Joe had the project on auto-pilot, and May 19 was a long time off.

March came and went without further communication. But about mid-April, I started to wonder if the new headstone had arrived. I established contact with Mr. Calton, and was told that it had not, but not to worry. It had been ordered in November, so was due any day now. Forgive me, but I am a bit of a skeptic. As no specific date could be established, I started to worry. May 19 was no longer a long way off.

Meanwhile, other things were happening. Jim Haynes, president of the 173d chapter in Columbus, OH had made arrangements to drive to Fort Bragg to secure the headstone and bring it north. We planned to meet somewhere in western Pennsylvania, where I would take it and transfer it to Altoona. Good plan. Piece of cake!

The 173d Glenn English Chapter, in Philadelphia, was similarly busy locating Glenn's daughter in eastern Pennsylvania, his brother and his foster parents, to invite them to the ceremonies. Firebase Eagle was preparing an agenda, having worked through the morass of rules and regulations of city politics, veterans' priorities, and the other scheduled ceremonies in Altoona over the weekend.

I was starting to feel the weight of others' expectations, so I started to call Mr. Calton with some regularity. Each time, I learned that the office in Washington, which handles the purchasing and priority of headstone replacement, was offering little help. After all, they had thousands of stones to replace nationwide, and really did not seem interested in our situation.

In late-April, I called Mr. Calton again. By now, he knew my voice well. He promised to call Washington and set an answer, and told me to call him back in an hour. I suspect that he, too, was starting to feel the sense of panic that I was trying to suppress. When I called back, he sounded somber, and my heart sank when he said that it was unlikely that the stone would be in on time. Therefore, the old one would be unavailable. He learned that it had not even been ordered from the manufacturer.

Being the designated communicator meant that I had to deliver all the news, good or bad, so I started communicating this information. I could sense the disappointment. I got the dimensions and specifications of the headstone from the kind folks at the nearby Fort Indiantown Gap cemetery, and started to plan a wooden replica, which could be a temporary but poor substitute. We discussed the possibility of a brass plate. We discussed the possibility of no ceremony at all, perhaps rescheduled for another date, but these all seemed to be the elements of a failed mission. So I tried another tactic - call Washington and kick butt! Sure.

Calling Washington was a study in frustration. After reaching several layers of bureaucracy and explaining the mission, I was finally told that "It couldn't be done". That was the wrong answer. I started a new plan.

I discussed my plan with Mr. Calton, and he said he would stand by - and wished me good luck. I also called Dave Clark, and asked him to do a little recon at Ft. Bragg in case we needed some sudden assistance.

I'm not generally one to go to the top, but in some cases, why not? So I called the Washington office of the Ninth Congressional District, which represents Altoona. Unfortunately, they were fresh out of congressmen, due to the resignation of the incumbent. The election was on May 15! No time. But they asked me to write a letter of explanation, which turned out to be more of a desperate plea, I fear. I also called my Senators' offices and left long detailed tales of woe. And Mr. Calton was becoming an irritant in Washington, as well. It was now April 26.

GLENN ENGLISH, JR. MEMORIAL (CONTINUED)

I let things lie for a few days to let things bubble up a bit. But during the first week of May, I couldn't stand the silence any longer, so I called Mr. Calton, to see if he could see what, if anything, was going on. His response, "Call back in an hour." I'd heard that one before, but I had no option. I called back. "You won't believe it", said he, "The stone is on a ten-day rush order!" he blurted out. A little over two weeks to go. "No sweat", thought I.

Ten days of anticipation is both exciting and excruciatingly long. Ask any child in mid-December. But on May 11, I started calling. No news! Believe me, no news is NOT good news. "But Monday, for sure", we thought.

Jim Haynes was calling daily from Ohio. His availability was waning, as he had to go to Michigan on other Association business. I can only imagine that Fire Base Eagle was thinking that we LRRPs must be crazy (actually, we just may be!), and the folks in Philadelphia, who had done so much, had to be down.

I had to drive to Roanoke, VA on business on Wednesday, May 16, through Thursday. While driving down, I called Mr. Calton, who reported that he was expecting a shipment of stones imminently. "Call back in an hour." Again. And I did. "There was only one stone on the truck", Mr. Calton said in a somber tone. "BUT IT WAS THE RIGHT ONE!" I nearly drove off the road. I called Jim Haynes and told him to hit the road, I could meet him on Thursday on my way back. But his driver could not go. We were sunk. So close but yet so far.

My meetings on Thursday ended a bit earlier than expected. The mission was again clear. Ft. Bragg was only a couple of hundred miles south, and I was off in a flash, arriving in time to meet Mr. Calton and throw the 240-pound stone into the back seat, somehow. I was on the way home in a matter of five minutes, but there was one last element of the mission there.

I called Dave Clark, who said he would meet me. Being involved most of his career in Special Ops, Dave sensed the dedication of a lot of people in this venture, and wanted to say his thoughts to me. I asked him what he remembered about Glenn English that I could report to his family, and he told me about a quiet young man, always clean-cut and well prepared. No nonsense, but thorough, take charge and professional. "Not a bad legacy", thought I.

By one a.m. on Friday I was home. In mid-afternoon, Joe Chetwyn and Theo Knaak, another VII LRRP (ABN) comrade, had arrived at my house in Harrisburg, PA. When I dragged myself home from work that evening, we scrubbed the stone and placed it under an American flag for its trip to Altoona the next morning.

Bob Griffin, another of our Lurps, had driven to Altoona, and on a warm Saturday morning, the four of us carried the flag-draped stone to the plaza, where a wonderful ceremony took place. Glenn's daughter, Dawn, was there with her husband and three sons, as was his brother and foster parents. It was finally Glenn's day in Altoona, and we were proud and honored to be a part of it.

Mission accomplished. I will never know which event or combination of events changed the course of this effort, but I thank everyone who touched it. Mr. Calton, the people of Veterans Affairs in Washington, the Congressional and Senate offices, and the Good Lord watching over Glenn H. English, Jr.

Funny how sometimes things can "go off smoothly and in an orderly fashion."



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

Unit Director - Tom Brizendine



This shot was taken of the 1st platoon of A/75 at Ft Hood. The Platoon Sergeant on the left is Freddy (The Flash) Dash. Unit Director Tom Brizendine is holding the guidon. Alan Campbell is 4th from the left in the middle row. Arthur "Rob" Roberson is 5th from the left, front row.

Another LRRP from the Benning era of the Company has surfaced and joined the 75th Rgr Rgmt Assn. He is Noah Halfacre who was 2nd Platoon Leader in the second half of 1969.

Many thanks to Ron Alexander for posting me one of his company crests. I had my graphics artist make up a company crest last year, which is available in .jpg format for those of you on the net. Will send on request. Let me know on bobmurphy2@compuserve.com

Ron was in the Company in Germany where he was in Commo and qualified as a radio technician. He kept the radios working.

Ron has strong memories of the long range CW AN/TRC-77. "I still have a scar on a finger from that 300W single power tube. I think I only did that once. The RF burned right through my finger! Those lead-acid batteries were a pain in the ass and hard on fatigues. The worst thing about the TRCs was the leaking batteries and the seals that didn't.

"I remember turning them in when we

left Germany. I can still see them in my mind sitting on the floor of the commo



shack. No one in their right mind would throw them away, but knowing the waste in the military, I wouldn't be surprised if that's the way they went. They were easy to work on as they folded open, modules, and only one tube. I had little trouble with the radios. The PRC-25's, R-390's. I only remember one transmitter needing work.

"We did work hard at getting ready to leave. I turned in all the radios except PRC-25s. When we got to Benning, that's all we had. We were the ghost unit. "Get lost," was the order of the day for the last six months I was in. The unit guarded Lt. Cawley of My Lai fame when he went to and from

court. There was only 1 field trip for the 17th in Nov. of 68. We went to the edge of the Okefinokee Swamp in S. Georgia for 4 days.

Former C.O. Norm Carlton stopped in at Lee Farley's place near Ft Benning on April 26th to catch up on old times and visit the Ranger Memorial. They had not seen each other since 1965.

As for early history of the company, Lee Farley and Ray Cardinal arrived at the Wildflecken barracks from the 504th ABG LRP patrol in Mainz on 14 August 1961. 1SGT Martinez, SSG Kindoll, and 2LT Robert C. Murphy were already there. Lee says they did almost nothing for at least a month. "Training did not begin until we had 30 or 40 people in the Company. We did lots of drinking and I found time to process most of my OCS application.

The Company often jumped with sister German III Korps LRRPs, Fernspahkompanie 300 with unforeseen results for some LRRPs back in 1964 which, of course, was only 20 years after the Normandy Invasion booted the Nazis out of France.

Norm Carlton tells what happened. The German wings we were awarded looked like the World War II Wehrmacht emblem with the swastika removed. When I went to Caen, France for the coordination meeting just prior to the company's glorious appearance at the 20th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion, like an idiot I wore the newly earned German Wings. The French Military reminded me of the similarity, and the French civilians in the Hotel and restaurant would not have anything to do with me. I quickly came to my senses and removed the



A/75 - D/17 LRP - V CORPS LRRP (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Tom Brizendine



Bill Maxwell exits CH34, skydiving shot by Chet Smith. Chet Smith, Bill Maxwell, Bruce Warmoth, Lee Farley and Tom Sullivan were into skydiving big time in the mid-60s at Gibbs Kaserne. This shot was taken by Chet Smith with a helmet mounted camera and shows Bill Maxwell exiting a CH34 in 1965."

wings from my uniform. I was then welcomed into the fold, and enjoyed my brief stay in Normandy.

Sorry to hear about the recent death of Chet Smith's youngest brother Robert. Our condolences to Chet and his family.

Retired Lt Col Ed Mitchell, formerly of VII Corps sent an article with a paragraph about modern comms gear for SOCOM. I thought it might be of interest to readers who have been following the story on the Company's AN/TRC-77s.

"SOCOM, anxious to reduce the number of different radios that have to be carried by its commandos, has been instrumental in forcing the development of lighter-weight radios that operate across two or more different bands. In December 1999, it selected Raytheon's PSC-5 (V) Shadowfire as its Multi-Band Multi-Mission Radio. MBMMR will operate across both the VHF and UHF bands, even providing

UHF satellite communications links. It will replace up to nine different radios and encryption devices currently in use. The Raytheon radio was completing Qualification Operational Test & Evaluation at year's end and was slated for a production decision last month. Schulte said SOCOM plans to buy 880 radios that will all be delivered by September 2001.

This yarn comes from Alan Campbell who served in B-2/75 after A/75 was wound up.

"When I joined A Company Rangers at Ft. Hood in '73, most of the men were a combat vets. Many, including CPT Nolan, the CO, had a tour with LRRPs or SF in Vietnam. I was a PFC fresh out of AIT and jump school and eager to learn what they had to teach, but on my first FTX, I learned a trick from a West Point cadet that even they didn't know.

"Since I was the new guy, I carried the radio for my PL, Tom Brizendine. We had a couple West Point Cadets assigned to each platoon. We started the exercise with squad sized patrols, and then linked up for platoon maneuvers after a couple days. One of the cadets was squared away, but the other was a pain in the ass. We spent several hours looking for him one day, and when we found him, he told us that we were the ones who had been lost.

"For the conclusion of the FTX, the platoons linked up for a company assault on an objective. As we approached the objective we were spotted by a LOH. We tried to lose him by moving down into some brush, but he stayed with us, dropping red smoke along our column. One of the cadets was beside himself, he fired off a magazine of blanks at the LOH hovering over us, but the helicopter wouldn't play dead. Before long, the cobras started making gun runs on us. As were

getting on line for our final assault a cobra made another pass at us from the rear. As he passed overhead, I heard the distinctive sound of a star cluster being fired and saw a trail of white smoke in hot pursuit of the cobra.

"I couldn't see the impact because my view was blocked by trees, but the traffic on the radio left no doubt that the star cluster had scored a hit: "Who fired that star cluster, we've got an aircraft down on the objective." As we came out of the trees I could see one extremely pissed off aviator climbing out of a smoke filled cockpit. The whole exercise fell apart at that point as we stood around and watched the aviator flail his arms and scream at the our CO.

"Of course, after CPT Nolan took his ass chewing, he came looking for the man who fired the star cluster. I don't remember whether we gladly gave the cadet up, or he confessed. It was quite a spectacle, but we never tried it again, it takes too long to pay for a cobra.

This column was put together at the last minute due to a computer crash and work pressures. We will try to get more info about D/151 and D/17 at Ft Benning and the interaction between the companies there for the next issue.

We are looking for photos of the Company barracks at Wildflecken and Drake-Edwards Kaserne.

Anyone with any news for the next issue of Patrolling should e-mail me at bobmurphy2@compuserve.com or snail mail it to Bob Murphy, PO Box 111, Campbells Creek, Victoria, AUSTRALIA 3451.

Unit Director Tom Brizendine's contact details are at the front of this magazine.

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

Unit Director - Stanley Harrell

**7th CORPS LRRP Co. (Memories)**

Ezequiel B. Evaro
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King, N.C. 27021

(Please note, some of the dates and events may not be exactly correct, close to forty years have gone by and this is the best that I recollect.. May God bless all of you)

Looking back to late November of 1961, Lee Barracks, Mainz, Germany, (by the way, do you all remember Deo's Bar?) Anyway, I was on KP duty that day at the 505th Battalion Mess Hall. It was late November of 1961, and I was up to my ears in pots and pans. It was a bad day to be on KP. (ANY DAY WAS A BAD DAY TO BE ON KP). Why was this a particular bad day? Because recruiters were on hand at the local theater looking for volunteers for a new unit called the 7th Corps Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Company, and I "Zeke" had been waiting for this day; this made it a bad day to be on KP.

After asking the Mess Sergeant for a few minutes of time so that I could run to the theater and sign the register, I received another disappointment. The Mess Sergeant reminded me that I was on KP. (As if I didn't know) and that under no uncertain terms was I to go anywhere. Knowing that this was the only opportunity available, and being in a slight military bind, I decided that I was going to go to the theater come rain, hell or hot water. The Battalion Commander had said that all those who wish to join the new unit should be given the opportunity, so after finishing the pots and pans, I walked out the back door and headed straight to the theater, where I was told to sign a register and sign some papers. Needless to say, I caught hell from the mess sergeant who threatened to separate my head from my shoulders and called me all kinds of nice words. (He did turn me in for being absent from duty).

About seven days later, a whole bunch of called Nellingen. If my memory serves me Gonzalez, Nunez, English, and James recall correctly, I think we arrived in the company area, 1st Sgt Flynn and Major briefing, and met Capt Garbers and Capt Hunt. I was assigned to a patrol in the 2nd platoon and my patrol leader was SFC Egeiston. I was raised in the cotton fields of West Texas, tulas are, but Morse Code, I never heard of it. PFC Ghini. These two guys were from Team scouts.

SFC Egeiston greeted us and told us to that there was to be a PT formation bright and and t-shirts and to get a good night's rest. We drunk as a skunk. About five o'clock next getting us up and cleaning up the patrol room. the first platoon, House, the second platoon, and I think that "Pappy" Thomas had the third platoon. I don't remember who had the Commo Platoon, but I think it might have been a SFC nicknamed "Granny". First Sergeant Flynn received the report, was posted by Major Maltese, and off we go on this early morning run, colder than the dickens. One hour later, we were still on the double time, no big deal, surely he is going to turn around pretty soon. Two hours later, we were still on the double time and heading up to the next village. Three hours later we were still on the double time and heading for the next hill, finally we turned around and headed in the direction of Nellingen Kasern, what a welcome sight. Surely, everyone in this run had this unit in their heart, because I don't recall any one falling out of the run. (Thereafter, running around the horn was kid's work.)

At this point different names come to mind. Major Maltese was promoted to LTC, and CAPT Hunt to Major. LTC Maltese and First Sergeant Flynn derosed, Major Hunt took over the company, and First Sergeant Arnett came into the picture. Country Grimes, Bob Searcy, Charles Allen, and Brewer were patrol leaders. If I am not mistaken, I think it was Allen who designed the 'EYES BEHIND THE LINES' Crest. I don't remember which patrol "Theo Knaak" was in, I do remember Altieri being one of the patrol leaders and so was Johann Hansen. Roland Frazier was another squad leader. (Hey, Roland, do you remember the box full of C-ration cigarettes we gave you?) Barr, Attaway, Earley, Tom Lake, I don't remember what their jobs were. I do remember Attaway being one of our Jumpmasters whenever we jumped the Beaver or the L-20. I remember a SGT Bates receiving a direct commission to 2nd Lieutenant.

Running around post and demeaning the local legs didn't go over too well with the local brothers in arms. SFC House was ambushed one weekend and beaten up by a group of legs using 2x4s as weapons. Thereafter we had to be extra careful so as not to be caught with our pants down. One Saturday night a call came in for help. Kraxner and Anderson had been ambushed at the B-29



**B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP (CONTINUED)**

Unit Director - Stanley Harrell



Bar, right next to post. Myself and Roland Smith arrived at the scene. Kraxner was picking up the guys and slamming them against the cars, Anderson was hooking against two guys, had one on the floor stomping him and a head hold on the other. Roland Smith had already put the lights out on one guy. (Roland Smith packed a mean wallop on either hand). One of the "legs" pulls out a blade and is sticking Kraxner, suddenly a brick comes out of nowhere and takes the guy out. By this time, we are surrounded by MPs with M-14 rifles and fixed bayonets. (end of story). Frank Kraxner was from Hungary and one of the nicest guys I ever met. He also was the meanest and the strongest guy I ever met. In a work-out one time, I saw him bench pressed 545 lbs without even squirming. Frank left us, exactly when, I don't remember, but he joined the 10th SF Group at Bad Tolz. He did come by and visit with us a couple of times driving his brand new Ferrari.

During this time SFC Egeiston derosed and a SFC Jack Luce came in and took over the patrol. It would be 38 years before I would make contact with Pappy Egeiston again, what a guy, I never once saw this soldier get shook up about anything. In the summer of 1963, a young SFC by the name of David L. Clark came into the company and took over our platoon. In the fall of that year, ISG Arnett got killed in a jeep accident outside of Nellingen. David L. Clark took over as first Sergeant and was subsequently promoted to ISG E-8. Jack Luce moved up to platoon sergeant and I moved up to Patrol Leader. (I had graduated from the 7th Army NCO Academy and I thought I was hot stuff. (PS, I didn't know dickens).

I think that it was in the fall of this year that we received the bad news on Jack Luce. While resupplying the patrols in the field, he flipped the jeep he was driving, (trailer jackknifed), and lost his life. We felt like we had lost a portion of our souls when we heard this.

(Story to be continued on a later date and different articles written on different individuals)



1962 VII Corps LRRP Co (A10)
NELLINGEN, GERMANY



1985
WILLIAM R. "COUNTRY" GRIMES
Dec 6, 1936 - Feb 23, 1993

A TRIBUTE TO "COUNTRY"

*The bugler stands on a distant hill,
He blows a mournful sound;
It's TAPS for William R. "Country" Grimes,
It can be heard all around;*

*Today we say a fond farewell,
But only to the man;
For his memory will live eternally,
As only a legend can;*

*He started very early,
Living the soldier's life;
He fought for America,
Enduring hardship, danger, and strife;*

*But he never once complained,
About things that ought to be;
Even in his final days, .
His courage one could see;*

*"Country" was a founder,
And helped us through tough times;
We owe much of what we are,
To William R. "Country" Grimes;*

*Many called him a quiet man,
But a strong man all would say;
Yes, he had the strength of Sampson,
In his own way;*

*He gave us courage when Toe needed it.
He never showed any fear;
He stood like a solid rock,
Even when death lurked near;*

*So each of us is better today,
Because we knew this man;
He made us all proud,
Of our service to this land;*

*Yes, he's made his last jump,
And he's marched his last mile;
But the mention of his name,
Always brings a smile;*

*Because we see him all around us,
His name's engraved on the wall;
In our hearts and our minds,
He'll always be 10 feet tall;*

*Each of us should truly hope,
That one day others will say;
When my son grows to be a man,
He'll be like "Country" one day,*

by Gen. William Boykin USA

**B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP (CONTINUED)**

Unit Director - Stanley Harrell



I first met Command Sergeant Major Grimes when he was Sergeant Major of the Special Forces School under the late Col. Charlie Beckwith. Then, when Beckwith formed the Delta Force in late 1977, he selected "Country" to be the first CSM of the unit. He remained the Sergeant Major throughout the formative years of Delta, including the ill-fated Iran raid, serving as the CSM for about five years. It was during that time that CSM Grimes showed himself to be the rock solid foundation on which that elite unit was, is, and always will be built. I have often been asked to describe the Delta Force, and I can think of no better description than to call it the finest collection of Non-commissioned Officers ever assembled. From the time CSM Grimes assumed the duty as CSM until his departure, he set the example for all of us, both commissioned and enlisted. It was not required that Sergeant Major Grimes undergo the rigorously demanding Delta selection course, but he did so nevertheless, one of the two oldest men to ever successfully complete it. There are many ways to describe him, I suppose; quiet, competent, steady, level-headed, courageous—just about any soldierly superlative you can think of would describe him. But he will always best be described, in my mind, as the Rock Solid Foundation on which the Delta Force was, is now, and always will be built.

LTC (ret) Lewis H. Burruss
Former Deputy Commander
Delta Force

As a member of both a Reconnaissance Team and a Hatchet Force Company with SOG in 1970-71, I had the great pleasure of serving with "Country" Grimes. He was a soldier's soldier, highly professional, intelligent, and above all, extremely concerned about the welfare of his fellow SOG members. As a "Covey Rider", he was entrusted with the lives of hundreds of SOG men. "Country" was without parallel in directing air strikes and coordinating Air Force and Army aircraft in the insertion and extraction of teams under extreme duress.

Without a doubt, there are many of us who owe our lives to "Country". His name will live forever in the annals of Special Forces.

Rich Ryan

Highly respected by his SOG comrades, "Country" Grimes served two tours in SOG, first in recon and with a "Hatchet Force" raider platoon, (1967), then as a Covey Rider, (1970) flying with U.S. Air Force FACs directing air strikes for SOG teams, and extracting them by helicopter. During his first tour, he led a platoon in Laos that captured one of the largest caches of the war, some 250 tons of rice, enough to feed an entire NVA division for six weeks. While flying with the Air Force on his second tour, he directed thousands of air strikes, including those that enabled the extraction of a company-size SOG raiding force in September 1970 — Operation Tailwind, made famous in 1998 when CNN and Time Magazine falsely claimed this mission had employed nerve gas. Actually, this operation was one of SOG's most successful, inflicting very heavy losses on an enemy caught by surprise, and capturing the most important documents ever to come out of Laos.

John L. Plaster
Iron River, WI



C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director - Worth Bolton



No Submission



D/75

Unit Director - John Kingeter



By Tom Delaney

My how time flies! Seems like just yesterday I was penning our article for the Spring issue of Patrolling Magazine. Now I'm in the "Double Time" mode trying to catch up. Sounds like the story of my life sometimes but working under pressure is what keeps the "old ticker" in tune. You know the drill, "Hop and Pop!" Since our last mission brief, "Sitreps" have started to flow timely back to the TOC providing the needed information to sustain our patrol members. Hopefully, I'll get organized one of these days. To continue with our theme, "The Phoenix", the high ground mail are operational medians of comms that work nity.

As promised the journey begins for D/75 at its' on this one and by no means do I have the complete however I'll "Dog Leg" at one point to pay homage based on some "Sitreps" from our guys on the they may reside.

The time frame is at the end of March 1970. down procedures. By the afternoon of 4 April 1970, deactivated on 10 April 1970. Now that I look back Where did we all go? I suspect just about every- nities, and back to the "The World", via the

I can account for three of our teams via Special (Bruce Demboski, John Donahue, Terry Ellenburg, Gary Graham, and Jordan Jeffcoat), Team 35 (Tom Delaney, Kenneth Dern, William Fitzgerald, and Richard Nelson) and Team 37 (Stanley Moore, William Stevenson, Michael Mendell, and Nathan Smith) went to L/75. Not everyone on these orders made it to L/75 though. I'll cover that ground in the next issue. The plate is full this time around, but that's the way it should be. We reported to L/75 on or about 6 April and continued our patrolling missions after some training and AO orientation.



roots, the deactivation. I had to do a little research picture. I'll stay on azimuth for the most part, to a D/75 Ranger who gave all. This article will be ground in the boonies pulling the patrols wherever

D/75 ceased operations and commenced stand- D/75 was reduced to zero strength and officially on the whole process things sure went down fast. where, in-country line units, sister Ranger compa- "Freedom Bird".

Orders Number 93 dated 3 April 1970. Team 25

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

even know it. Dan Nate has been doing a fantastic job of informing our members of health problems that they may have as a result of their service. For those who receive the magazine and take the time to read it and apply the precautions that Dan suggests, then perhaps that may make a difference in their lives, hopefully, a significant difference that may save their lives. But it's the guys out there that are not getting the magazine and are not being informed that gets me. They don't even know they're sick or dying or in many instances, what to do about it. Many realize that something is happening inside them but just haven't linked the service and their sickness together. This should not be just an important issue to me but to each and every one of you. For every single member of our Association, he has 4 or 5 close friends who are not members. It is those guys we must reach out to and help. The Association dues just went up from \$20 to \$25 this June. It's not the money. For that matter, the cost of dues just fairly well covers the cost of printing and mailing of the Patrolling Magazine 4 times a year. The magazine itself is worth the dues amount for the entertainment and information value alone. Membership also goes beyond that into comrade and friendship that reunions provide. As I've said before we can unite and stand together now or we can remain isolated and be alone when we die later. I am open to suggestions from every one as to how to improve membership and help our friends.

BYLAWS - My third goal as president of this Association was to rewrite the current Constitution and Bylaws and two Amendments into one single easy to read document. This caused me to do a lot of reading about Parliamentary Law, which is some really dry stuff. Stuff wasn't my first choice of words but Ron won't allow me to use colorful adjectives. I first solicited representation from all the units. In almost every case your Unit Director is on the committee. I also included the Past Presidents in this endeavor because they have so much institutional knowledge. I've sent them all the necessary working papers and we have begun working on these recommended changes. Once we are finished, we will publish a 'Special Edition' of the Patrolling Magazine devoted entirely to this topic. You will be presented with the current Constitution & Bylaws and also our proposed changes. In this 'Special Issue' will be each of the proposed changes and a corresponding ballot for you to cast your vote on. Do not miss the opportunity to speak in your own behalf in this matter. This will all be voted on during the next General Membership Meeting at the 2002 Reunion.

WEB SITE AND QUARTERMASTER - This also was one of the recent topics of discussion I had with the Unit Directors. We were having more problems in this area than I felt were necessary. In retrospect, perhaps it was not a good idea to have person who runs the Association web site and the Association Quartermaster store as the same person. Administratively, I could have replaced the web master on my own. Again, I wanted input from the Unit Directors on this issue. I received unanimous support in my request to accomplish the above. As of this publication we will have a new web site and the information is contained else where in this issue. It will be a web site that we own and

control as an Association and it will require active input from all of the leadership to maintain it. We will have a web site that will get the attention that we as an Association need. Our Association is growing fast and evolving constantly and we need an Internet vehicle that responds to the ever-changing demands of the Association. Additionally, as of this writing we have disassociated ourselves from the current quartermaster. Whether or not we have another quartermaster or provide a link for that service is not known at this time.

UNIT DIRECTORS - I mentioned earlier that I had contacted each and every Unit Director by phone about several topics that I wanted their input on. This was one of the most rewarding ventures I've undertaken in a long time. I had some truly outstanding conversations with these guys. I am not a one-man band. I do not have all the answers. I can't do this by myself. I have without a doubt the best Unit Directors any President has ever had. For one thing, one way or another, I am in e-mail contact with every one of them. Communications is the key to success and their input represents your wishes. I got a lot of good ideas from the Unit Directors when I talked with them. I feel very fortunate to have their guidance and support. They are your link to the Association and you need and should demand that the link works in both directions. You, as unit members did a good job in selecting your Unit Directors and I thank you.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS - Dan Nate is doing a fantastic job in researching and presenting information to the membership on some very sensitive subjects. Your health and welfare are the corner stone to this Association existence. Without you guys we are not an Association. Dan can and will present you with the essential information to help yourself but it is you, the reader, and the veteran that has to take the next step. I beseech each and every one of you to schedule an annual physical as soon as possible. Additionally, if you observe anything out of the ordinary in your physical condition, then contact your doctor immediately. If something is out of the ordinary, you must catch it in the early stages and treat it before it goes too far or gets out of control. I'm still not clear as to why, 30 years after the fact; our guys are coming down with HEP C and Diabetes. Both of these are potential killers if left unattended and untreated. Both of these if identified, can be treated and leave the person with a good quality of life. This doesn't even cover some of the side affects that are now being discovered about Agent Orange. I'm sure there is still more to come and after listening to Dan I know there will be more.

REUNION 2002 - The dates are not locked in concrete yet for the 2002 reunion. I can only project that it might and hopefully occur in the July time frame. I will push for this time frame because I feel it is the best time for many of you to break free from your jobs and attend. Once I have something firm, I will let you know. Also, once they announce the dates, I will hold them to it. I suggest we make an early decision to lock in dates and hold to this even if the active guys decide to change them later. This last minute change in dates happened once before and caused a lot of problems. Granted it is nice to watch all the

**D/75****Unit Director - John Kingeter**

I find it quite appropriate and honored to initiate a "Dog Leg" from azimuth at this point to honor a fellow D/75 Ranger who was Killed In Action on 22 May 1970. While on patrol with TL Bruce Demboski's team, John Donahue was killed serving with L/75. That's 31 years ago this month. In your own way please find a special place in your heart to remember and honor the memory of John Donahue, one of our fellow D/75 Rangers. First Sergeant Robert (Bob) Gilbert conducted the roll call for John Donahue's memorial service at 1830 hrs on 25 May 1970. His TL Bruce Demboski conducted the eulogy.

Richard ("Bear") Papp mailed me a poem written by someone he knows and I would like to share it with you guys as a sort of tribute to the memory of John.

Reflections from the Wall

Written in tribute to the men and women who served during the Vietnam era and their reflection from the wall.

Beneath a wall of sorrow
There, gathering in the rain
Lei's of flowered garlands lie
Whispering every name

They called it, "peace with honor"
The bombing and the stall
A game of chess and checkers
A victory for the fall

The French could not contain it
So now we'd give it a try
There was no will to win it
in fields where we would die

Among the casts of gallantry
Of which there is no claim
The bitter taste of victory
the sixty thousand slain

Brave hearts, ye sons and daughters
For yours is not the shame
Where stands a wall of sorrow
a wailing wall of pain

Why, "those are our reflections"
the times we use to share
When we were young and foolish
the times before the stare

Listen to the silence
no sorrow shall we bear
Our souls were purged in fire
no guilt and no despair

We fought for love of country
across a distant sea
Left our homes and loved ones
so others would be free

And as we stand here solemnly
with tears and fervent prayer
To wash away the memories
the fear, the silent tare

"welcome home", ye sons and daughters
our torch is passed to thee
To light the path you travel on
in this land of Liberty!

penned by J. Schwendeman

5/2000



**Staff Sergeant John T. Donahue
Company L (Airborne), 75th Rangers
Killed In Action
22 May 1970
Republic of Vietnam**



D/75

Unit Director - John Kingeter



Back on azimuth guys, no talking, got some Sitreps to share from the TOC. "Bear" if you're getting tired walking point I'll walk some, take slack for me. Thanks for the poem! Here's what's happening! John Kingeter, D/75 UD is off to Germany from 8-24 May for R&R. Just because the cat's away doesn't mean the mice can play! The word is starting to circulate, D/75 is up and running, don't rest on your laurels. Many more "clicks" to "Hump" D/75 Rangers. Keep it rucked up, stay tight, Ranger file!

Talked with Rusty Hawk up in Washington State, he dodged the bullet when they had their earthquake a few months ago. He's still working through the computer thing. Rusty, "old dogs" can learn new tricks! Besides, I believe your wife's in charge and she only lets you think you're "the man". Good talking to you all again, wanna trade phone bills, ha, ha!

Richard ("Bear") Papp is still going strong in Texas. "Bear" hosted the 2nd mini Reunion and deer hunt at his spread in Oakwood, Texas. Fellow rangers that showed up were Rusty Hawk, Jerry Greene, Norwin Gaby, Ronnie Wice (101st Abn) and his good friend Kenny McCracken. "Bear's" report confirmed six deer were KIA. The weather was a little rainy; all had a good time, and especially enjoyable were the fireside chats reminiscing about old times. Brothers in arms at its best! Oh, by the way the hunt occurred in January. Jet lag must have caught us here!

Received an e-mail from KrazyKevin, Tango 2/2 (Kevin Curran) 2nd platoon. I don't know where he is located. I'm confident he'll stay in touch and contribute to the D/75 effort by sharing his memories with us. Kevin served with D/151, D/75, and E/75. Francis (Frank) Hall has just jumped on-board as a new member and Kevin is trying to establish a commo check with his old teammate. Hopefully the info provided to him enabled a successful link-up with Frank. Stay in touch brother.

More commo checks are in. Good thing we're all using the same CEOI and checking in at irregular intervals, my "LL" has been busy. Talked with Jim Macchia since last issue. Jim's up in New Jersey, he's definitely got the "Jersey" accent. He humped the "hog" in teams 34 and 36, another "Bailey's Bastard" (3rd platoon nickname taken from our platoon sergeant). He's ready to "rock and roll" with Sitreps to keep D/75 on a roll. Jim mailed me a copy of "Diary Of An Airborne Ranger", by Frank Johnson a former L/75 ranger. Thanks Jim! I haven't had time to start reading it yet. It's on my list of high priorities. Good talking with you, I'll stay in touch.

Managed to get a commo check with Steve Meade up in Kentucky. Steve's managing to stay busy. I'm sure he'll be snail mailing me his Sitreps for incorporation into future issues of Patrolling Magazine. Brother were on a roll!

That's a rap guys! I've missed getting around to everybody and I apologize. One percent of something is better than one hundred percent of nothing! Hey Frenchy, sorry I haven't called ya this go around. You're first on my list. I'll call shortly. Keep "Bear" straight!

Oh, I almost forgot! Keep up the good work guys. Network with D/75 members wherever they may be. Snail mail, e-mail, telephone, and yes we can accept carrier pigeons if they are house trained. Send in the Sitreps, let's bring all we can into the fold, this is about us. **Don't forget your dues!** The treasurer doesn't accept *Military Payment Certificates* (MPC's), aka "Funny Money" to the best of my knowledge. Ya gotta use the "Green Back! There's been a slight increase in dues, five dollars more (\$25 total). **One less six pack!**

Send your Sitreps to:

Unit Director, D/75

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526 Lavina Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
PH: 717-766-1484

Tom Delaney
2628 Edmonton Road
Fayetteville, NC 28304
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e-mail: del_t@msn.com

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

Unit Director - Robert Copeland



By Bob Copeland

Greetings to all Unit Members and their families! Here we are again and spring has sprung. The next big event on the calendar is the Company Reunion in Washington and I hope all of you who can get away will be joining us. Ken Mullinax and Greg Whitson are busy getting everything in place to make this reunion a memorable one. It's been 31 years since the company left Vietnam in October 1970 and returned to the world so let's all get out and celebrate and renew old friendships! Come alone or with the family and have some fun! Don't forget to send the \$25.00 registration fee to Ken Mullinax, at P.O. Box 87, Glenoma, Wash, 98336-0087 (that is \$25.00 per unit member which includes your family at no additional cost). The Banquet fee will be separate from the registration fee and is \$25.00 per person attending the Banquet. Hope to see you all there!! See the Reunion section for details.

On the subject of Michael Dewain McDaniel the Imposter and Wannabee I have forwarded my report to the appropriate authorities for their attention and action! The person who identified himself to be Michael Dewain McDaniel SSN 496-44-9527, D.O.B. 1943-07-19, U.S. Army, Deceased 1997-10-24 is in reality Michael D. McDaniel SSN 417-82-4183, D.O.B. 1961-01-23 with a Texas State Prisoner Identification No. of TDC 655953, Eastham Unit, Lovelady, Tx. 75851-0016. I have confirmed the death of the real Michael Dewain McDaniel SSN 496-44-9527 with the Veterans Affairs, who issue benefits to his spouse, who they have confirmed as such and with the Social Security Death Index System. The deceased person was in fact an Army Veteran. The imposter used his DD214 and 201 Records under the deceased SSN and altered D.O.B. to make application to the 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc. Inc. for membership. On the original application, which I have been sent, it shows the name Michael Dewain McDaniel, Eastham Unit PO Box 16, Lovelady, Texas, 75851-0016. He also lists under new Members Unit Info Co A 2ND BN 75th Inf (Ranger) March 1st 1982 to Aug. 5 1982 as well as E Co 75th Inf (Ranger), February 1970 to October 1970 (stand down). Under Occupation-Unemployed Artist. Under comments and questions he stated he had lost his DD214 but was includ-

ing service records and was having his DD214 reissued. The imposter corresponded with myself and numerous other members of the LRRP/LRP/RANGER community and requested info on securing documents from the personnel office in MO. This individual sent me copies of a DD214 and 201 file records etc., with a return address of the one on his application, as well as the Prisoner TDC 655953, which I was later able to identify him with, in the Eastham Unit, of the Texas State Prison System. This TDC Number identified him as one Michael McDaniel D.O.B. 23 Jan. 1961 and SSN 417-82-4183, an imposter. (confirmed by Eastham Unit, Texas State Prison). To date the imposter still claims to be the deceased Michael Dewain McDaniel. One of this imposters many claims was that he served on Teams 2-2 and 1-4 with E Co. 75th Inf Ranger(Abn) RVN, TAN A from Feb-Oct. 1970. As I served on both teams as a team member and assistant

Team Leader on 2-2 and as an ATL and TL on 1-4 during this time frame and do not recall a Michael McDaniel as being on either team or in the company. Stew Koontz TL 2-2 and Terry Leishman TL 1-4, who both were my Team Leaders do not recall a Michael McDaniel. Frank Hood who was my ATL on 1-4 and took over the team from me as TL 1-4 did not recall a Michael McDaniel. No Michael McDaniel was listed on the July 1970 E Company roster. The Recondo Number listed on the DD214 sent to me by the imposter was issued to a Sgt in the 25th Inf Div. As a result of the imposters claim

to have been a member of our company I conducted an investigation which lead to the aforementioned revelations as to the true identity of the imposter. As I previously mentioned all information relating to the imposter has been turned over to the appropriate authorities for their action.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Reunion and trust you will have a safe and uneventful trip to Washington in July. All the best to you and yours and have a great day! Hooah! **RANGERS/LRP/LRRPS LEAD THE WAY!!!! DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BERET AND ALBUM!!!!**

Bob Copeland
Unit Director



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

Unit Director - Joe Little



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Mr. Norton Singman of Hopewell VA, passed away on 4/25/96 of natural causes. He served with us in 68-69. Rest in Peace

Hi Everyone: Greetings from Joe, Dan and Fred. I would like to start out with a few words about our unit. I recall speaking with some of the original members from LRRP 25th ID. Most of those that I spoke with were before my becoming a member of the association. The type work I do is dealing with veterans so I meet many vets. I did notice the pride and camaraderie they shared with having to be the ones that started our unit. After a couple of emails with Captain Mark Ponzillo (LRRP 1, as his men refer to him, and very deserving of the title), I began to reflect on some of the positive things these men accomplished. They pioneered a unit no one had any idea if it would work. Set up mission tactics they hoped would benefit the team's success and made modifications when necessary. Those of us that followed had a lineage an image to carry forward. Those men of 50th LRRP 25th ID showed that it would and did work and they passed down to those that followed that same belief and camaraderie we share today. I Thank You for showing those of us that followed how to be a LRRP, Lrp and F/Co 75th Ranger, something we are all proud of to this day.

Well, there is another subject I would like to bring up and that is our get-together. Currently Dennie Callahan of Odessa, Texas is setting us up for a rafting trip on the Rio Grande for Aug 11-14 I could be off a day, but Dennie is planning a four day trip for our unit. The only expense will be your transportation to Texas. Rafts and food is taken care of for members and family. Dennie will tell you it is some of the most

beautiful countryside you will experience in a long time. So plan on bringing something to sleep on under the stars and a be ready for a great time. Please contact Dennie Callahan Callahan@cs.com, Joe Little, joelittle@qwest.net or Daniel Nate, dannate1@home.com for more information and to let us know who is showing up so we can plan logistics and food and number of rafts needed. I would also like to add that David Regenthal had this idea and spoke to me about it with us doing the Colorado River except I did not have the right contacts. Thanks David, for a great idea and for Dennie, for helping implement this worthwhile reunion for F/Co. members and family from all eras.



Association has asked me to remind you of membership dues and that Patrolling Magazine has a year date on address label, when your membership expires, if yours is due, please get that into Ron Edwards julieron@bellsouth.net his mailing address is in Patrolling Magazine.

We are also trying to complete an update of addresses and try to get a newsletter out at least twice a year. What we need is some input for it.

I would like to thank those who have given me some guidance in this endeavor as your unit director from past directors and some good friends. I welcome all input for the benefit of our unit.

Strength and Honor
RLTW
Joseph C. Little UD.

"I Told You to Get Them Not Shoot Them"

It was one of those days in June or July hot and long; waiting for the chopper to pick you up and insert you for another mission. We were using _ Cav. Centaur for our ships for a long time and Division made a change for us to work with Diamond Head. Team 2-7 Sgt. Stone, TL, Sgt Hicks, ATL, Spec 4 Paul Wright, Point, David Regenthal, Joe Little and Ted Miller, rear security. The team was ready for some time for early morning insertion. That had turned to sometime in the afternoon, so we waited on the Cu Chi chopper pad, making small talk about how it would be neat if it started snowing now, you know one of those philosophical type conversations that we happen to get into trying not to think about what lies ahead.

Our mission as usual for a light team, to recon an area in the Iron Triangle (not a nice place) and if opportunity came up, do a capture. Finally our ship comes in and we are whisked away not as smooth as Centaur, but just the same we gain altitude

**F/75 - F/50 LRP - 25TH DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)**

Unit Director - Joe Little



which I always liked the best especially during extraction time. As we fly to our insertion point, I could feel my mouth forming a cotton ball that absorbed all the moisture from my throat and mouth. The crew chief taps Sgt. Stone, my mouth turned to sand. As we lock and loaded, the ship started it's decent. The pilot flew low and pitching in different directions then a sudden dip and rock forward, we were off in the middle of eight-foot high elephant grass. Sgt. Stone told us to roll down our sleeves as I found out that stuff is sharp; mosquitoes loved open cuts. After Stone made his checks on the radio and looked over the map, we started to head out. After about ten or fifteen minutes we came to a sudden stop, Paul found some pits with pungee-sticks, he was a damn good point man and loved it, I was also thankful he was our point man. After that little detour, we ended up next to "Highway 1," which I did not know was there because of the elephant grass, hell we could not see each other more than two feet or less away. Well we are taking a short break and we were spread apart while Stone talked on the radio. I just sat back against my rucksack and I looked up and there were three V.C. looking at me, but the one still had his SKS on his shoulder. I looked at Stone and stuttered "goo-goo-gook-gooks" Stone said "get them" so I let loose with one magazine after another maybe firing 8-12 shots per magazine from three magazines. I was afraid of my bolt locking forward if the magazine was emptied and scared at the same time. I was wondering why no one else was shooting. Apparently I was in everyone else's line of fire, David wanted me to move so he could get a shot in and Ted had no idea what was going on, because he was rear security and was far from the team. When I stopped shooting I looked at the tape, that once covered my barrel smoking and melting down the barrel. Stone looks at me and said "I told you to get them not shoot them", I said "Oh" he also asked why I did not shoot my full magazine; I had no answer just adrenaline pumping. I was going out onto the road and he asked me what I was going to do, as he called for the gun ships. I responded that I wanted the SKS off the one V.C. his saddles were heels up on the other side of the road. I thought I missed him, after action report stated three kills. Well, I was going out on the road and by this time, the rest of the team came up on line near the road. I looked both directions and suddenly started to hear voices coming from my left, the road had a curve that went around a small hill. I looked back at Stone while he was on the radio talking to Diamond Head and started to stutter again: Now Sgt. Stone is African American and when he saw my face and my trying to say mo-mor-more gooks he started to turn white. Sgt. Stone only had a couple of weeks left in-country and this fairly new guy was not making life to easy for him or Sgt Hicks, both being very short. Stone asked how many. I could tell he did not like my answer when I said 40 maybe 50. At the same moment when I said that, we all took up positions and were ready for action.

The gun ship came on station and the NVA and V.C. were right in front of us. Well, the gunship started to buzz the road and some female V.C. carrying a Chi COM machine gun yelled out some orders and everyone cleared the road and sat on both sides majority next to us. The female walked right up to Paul, he was on top of a termite mound, and almost sat in his lap. We had gooks within arms reach all over the place. You could hear pins pulled and selectors going to rock and roll while the enemy got off the road to avoid being spotted by the gunship. We all sat motionless ready to pass out from not breathing, listening to the squelch break on the radio from the pilot trying to call Sgt. Stone and he could not answer. It seemed like an eternity listening to my heartbeat the gunship buzzing the road, and I was hoping that no one moved so the pilot would not open up on them, taking us out as well. The ship having no success raising us on the radio and not seeing anything finally cleared the area. The female yelled out some orders and everyone got up and started to walk away. The last three stared at me and one started to take his AK 47 off his shoulder and then paused and walked away. I sort of got a rush when they walked away and not really knowing if they saw us and if they did not see us; I guess that is what you would call being a LRRP meant to me.

The team leader was on the radio ASAP and they decided to send a reactionary force out for us. The Wolfhounds from 25th Division came out and they were frightening with all the noise they made. They made there sweep and found the three bodies and some tunnels, but no sign of the large enemy force except footprints. The footprints are the only thing I believe that made the company commander with the line unit believe us. For many years, I have wondered why they never heard me shoot or the last few NVA never attempted to take us out. After talking with David the only thing we could figure was that the small hill deflected the sound of my Car 15 and the closeness of the gunship maybe made them think the gunship did the damage. In addition with the cover we had it was possible they did not see us or they did not want to take a chance that there were more of us hiding in the grass.

After thought is that if I would have tried to capture them, we would have been in some deep stuff. In addition, we would have been in deep stuff if it were not for the gunship making some covering noise. I made the mistake of shooting the point element of a company. Someone was looking over us, it could of turned out very ugly, but something tells me we still had the drop on them even with six against 43 I believe that was the count; their backs were against us and they would have been in a cross fire. I would say it was a lucky day we did not have to test all our abilities.

Joseph C. Little F/Co 50th LRRP 25th ID



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

Unit Director - Steve Crabtree



Darmstadt Germany with E 51st Rangers LRS

The heritage and tradition of the U. S. Army Rangers (Long Range Patrol) is alive and well in an elite group of young men know as Company E 51st Infantry. A young 1st Lieutenant met our plane by the name of David Painter and his beautiful and charming wife Cory. The nickname of L.T. quickly attached and he proceeded to take charge of our transportation and housing requirements. Lt. Painter is 1st platoon leader and we had two of his people as our constant escorts and drivers. L.T. insured that we had everything we needed to make our visit one of the most memorable events in our lives.

Upon arriving at the company area just outside of Darmstadt, and just down the road from our hotel, I couldn't help but get a nostalgic twinge when I saw the Co. E 51st Infantry Long Range Patrol blue and white scroll above the door of company headquarters. Captain John Scott Nelson who enthusiastically welcomed us to Germany met us. We were told that we would be going to the field with the men of his command for the various events, which make up the Pruden Competition. We sat in on a briefing session with the other company officers and senior NCOs. An equipment check came next and each item carried by these soldiers was displayed with an explanation of how each piece functioned. The sophistication and complexity of several pieces of equipment, espe-

cially their various radios and encryption devices was remarkable. My mouth began to water when I saw the night vision scopes each man carried. The jungle would have been ours for the asking if we had any of these devices on our teams.

We spent a great deal of time talking and interacting with the men of Echo Company. We ate in their mess hall and enjoyed their youthful enthusiasm. They treated us like royalty. We accompanied them to the Odenwald Forest for night navigation exercises. All members of our party including the ladies feasted on MRE's. They tasted better than LURP rations as far as I was concerned. But the individual packets were too heavy to be taken to the field with out stripping them of unneeded items. Danny, Frank and I had an opportunity to sit down with these guys and we told how LRRP missions were pulled in the Nam. Several came up to us later and said how much they admired what

we did in Nam and how they wanted to follow in our footsteps. A full dress military ball aboard a ship that sailed up the Rhine topped off the week. Ranger units from the past, including those from Nam, and present were honored and toasted. Danny and Larry Pruden made sure that Bob Pruden was the focal point of the celebration. Danny did a great job in showing the human and funny side of Bob and Larry told what it was like growing up with his brother.

I can honestly say that I have never been treated better then we were by Captain Nelson and the officers and men of his command. If any members of the Association have an opportunity of going to Germany to meet these fine young men, I would highly recommend that they do so.

We can rest comfortably knowing that the dedication, enthusiasm, heritage and traditions of the U.S. Army Rangers (Long Range Patrol) are in good hands.

Tom & Sharon Robison



The winning team at the Pruden Competition in Germany.

**H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1ST CAV LRRP**

Unit Director - William Anton



No Submission

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

Unit Director - Roger Anderson



No Submission

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

Unit Director - Bob Stack

**FROM THE UNIT DIRECTOR****Quarterly greetings to my fellow LRRP's & Rangers:**

First of all, my apologies for not submitting my last quarterly publication for the Spring 2001 issue of Patrolling, so here is my summer edition: I hope that this finds all of you and yours well and moving along the path of life without too many obstacles in your path.

Apparently there was an off year "mini-reunion" questionnaire sent out by Jack Werner, a former 4th I.D. LRRP who is the current 75th RRA Treasurer. This questionnaire asked you to make a choice of either Reno, Nevada or St. Louis, Missouri as the location for a mini reunion and, as I was not informed of this letter going

out prior to my receipt of it in the mail I was, to say the least, somewhat surprised about receiving it. To add more surprise here, I was



evenmore confused when I recently got a Reunion Registration Form

with Wayne Mitsch's return address on it and instructions to send him a \$10 "drink & snack" fee for this event which is planned for September 14 through September 17 in St. Louis, MO, especially in light of the fact that I have been diligently organizing a "mini-reunion" in Reno, NV between Thursday, September 20th, 2001 and Sunday, September 23, 2001 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, NV! You all will be receiving a letter in the mail about this "West of the Rockies" Reunion in the very near future, so stay tuned! There is **ABSOLUTELY NO REASON WHATSOEVER THAT THERE CAN'T BE TWO MINI-REUNIONS GOING ON WITHIN A FEW DAYS OF EACH OTHER IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.**

K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Bob Stack



Although there are no exclusions whatsoever of any former LRRPs, I am looking forward to seeing all those bad asses from the 2nd Brigade LRRPs from "The Oasis" in the time period I was there in 1968 and, YES, this means you guys who aren't yet members of the 75th RRA but who are in contact with those who are!!!!

There is currently a great publication out about the history of the 4th I.D. called "Utah Beach to Pleiku" which contains stories from 325 WWII soldiers, 25 Cold War soldiers and 120+ Vietnam troops and information on purchasing this book can be had by contacting Gerry W. Howard at 205.879.2911 or at ghbamal@aol.com. He can also give you all the poop about the dedication of the 4th I.D.

Monument at Arlington National Cemetery on July 5, 2001, an event which appears to be a real upscale ceremony filled with side events. There is also a 4th I.D. Museum at Ft. Hood TX and, for \$45.00, you can have your fairly lengthy message engraved on a 8.25" x 5.5" brick on the Veterans Walk there. The POC is Elaine Wells, Treasurer, 1503-A Sharron Court, Cleburne, TX, 76031, 817.645.5913, elainewells@htcomp.net. For those of you with the bug to travel to far off exotic lands (yeah, I know, we've already been there, done that), Milspec Travel group is organizing a Central Highlands tour from November 13th through November 23rd, 2001. If at all interested, their address is P.O. Box 340, Flourtown, PA, 19031--340, 215.248.2572, gomilspec@aol.com. The History Channel is currently (mid May 2001) showing an absolutely great series entitled Special Ops and this show has 4 parts entitled "Silent Heroes: LRRPs", "Recondo School", "Mike Force" and "Operation Desert Storm". Although I just heard about this airing from five different friends I haven't seen it yet but am looking forward to it, as there is an interview in it with someone we all might recognize. That's about all for now, boys and girls, and I'm still begging for any stories, anecdotes, LRRP pictures, copies of orders, whatever from any and all of you which I might use in future publications. As of yet, I haven't received squat so, get it together troops and get me some, O.K.? I would also like any suggestions you might have about ANYTHING which pertains to us from our Vietnam days, or currently with K/75 Rangers, your current status (family, kids, big house, need some help but too proud to ask, etc.)

I think my next publication will partially deal with the Veterans Administration, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and similar issues. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU IN RENO, NV THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20-23, 2001 FOR WHAT WILL BE AN OUTSTANDING EVENT WITH PLENTY OF SIDE TRIPS AND ENTERTAINMENT, GAMBLING, SHOWS, A BANQUET, ETC. SO CHECK YOUR MAIL SOON!!!!

Finally, it appears as if this veteran was walking down a California beach one afternoon deep in thought when he stumbles across an old lamp laying in the sand. He picked it up and, all of a sudden, out popped a Genie. The Genie says to him, "O.K., so you released me from this lamp, yadda, yadda, yadda, but this is the fourth time this week this has happened and I'm getting a little sick and tired of these wishes, so you can forget about three, buster, you only get one wish! The man, who was taken aback by this, then thought about it for awhile and said to the Genie, "You know, I've always wanted to go to Hawaii, but I'm too scared to fly there and I also get very seasick, so a ship is out, too. Could you build me a bridge to Hawaii so I can drive there?" The Genie laughed at him and replied, "Do you have any idea of just how impossible the logistics of that would be? How would the supports ever reach the bottom of the Pacific Ocean, do you know how much concrete, steel, cement and asphalt that would take? No, I'm not going to do that, so think of another wish."

The man thought about it again and then said to the Genie, "O.K., I've been married and divorced four times, all my wives have said that

I'm insensitive and don't care and I really wish that I could understand women, to know what they're thinking when they give me the silent treatment, to know why they cry, to really know what they want when they say 'nothing', why they love to go shopping all the time, things like that....." The Genie then looked at the man and replied, "Do you want that bridge to Hawaii to be two lanes or four?"

Out here, RLTV, Sua Sponte (Of Their Own Accord) and.... see ya in Reno, Bob Stack, K/75 Unit Director

4TH DIVISION LRRPs/RANGERS REUNION

SEPTEMBER 14 - 17, 2001

St. Louis, Missouri

Days Inn Convention Center

1133 Washington Street

314-231-4070

Rooms - \$59.00 Double Occupancy

Reservation Deadline; August 14, 2001

This will be an informal gathering in order to minimize cost. Come and visit with old comrades. Please fill out the registration form & return to Roger Crunk.

Plenty to see & do in St. Louis:

Cardinals baseball Riverboat cruise Casinos & Dining
Gateway Arch Meramec Caverns

MORE INFORMATION

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

Unit Director - Bob Stack



Roger Crunk
1159 - 19 Road
Fruita, CO 81521
Phone 970-858-4579
rterunk@aol.com

A reunion survey card was returned by Wanda Ingersen of Springfield, MO. It reads---

"I'm sorry to notify you of the death of my Brother, Bill Estill, St. Joseph, MO on Feb. 8th 2001 from lung cancer. He thoroughly enjoyed his association with your organization."

Wanda, as one of our Brothers his friendship, his wit and unrelenting humor will be missed at our next gathering. As with all our Brothers who have gone before, he will not be forgotten. R. Crunk

John asked me to write something for this issue but I'm not sure I can do this but here goes.

There is so much that I have wanted to put on paper during the last thirty years. The memories come fast and furious and it's difficult to slow down and put them to pen.

I should really speak of business first. Several of us have talked about a mini-reunion for several years so I decided to run with it. You should have received a flyer or e-mail regarding that by now. The task of putting together a 4th Div. mailing list has been in progress for several weeks

now and is by no means complete. At present there are 230 names on the database, I know there should be twice that many. There are still so many out there who would benefit from meeting with or corresponding with old friends; been there, done that. If you're looking for someone let me know and I can check it against my list. If it's just a last name or nick name we can still put them in the database and hopefully fill in the blanks later.

As a result of the canvas regarding a reunion, we received a card from Bill Estill's sister telling of his death from lung cancer in February. I knew Bill was sick the last time we met at Ft. Benning but he didn't talk about it. That dry wit and relentless humor were as strong as ever. Wish I could have talked with him about it but it is ever thus, we miss so many opportunities. I miss you Bill! Guys, if you know of one of our Brothers who needs a lift for whatever reason, give them a call just to say hi, it means more than you might think.

I don't think I'll tell any stories, I'll never, make John's deadline. Come to St. Louis if you can make it, we'll remember and toast those who can't be there. Bring your slides, pictures, or anything else you want to share. You have plenty of time to practice your war stories.

Note: Disregard the Days Inn 800 number and call the motel directly to make your reservations. Be sure to mention that it's for K/Co. reunion.

Roger Crunk

**L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP**

Unit Director - Randall White



Up here in Michigan, we say we have 8 months of winter and four months of poor snowmobiling, but these four months are beautiful. This article should catch you in the middle of all your favorite summer activities, please have a safe one.

The past winter brought our community a host of new issues, the major one being the "Battle for the Black Beret". As I write this, the topic is still being fought and a clear outcome is yet to be decided. Support for House Resolution 1770 is being sought which would limit the issue of Army berets to Airborne, Special Forces and Rangers. Please write or call you local representatives for their support, and look for more information in this issue. For those of us in e-mail contact, timely distribution of the latest news such as the Beret fight is an everyday occurrence. For those of you not yet on line, you don't know what you're missing. I urge anyone who gets this

issue of Patrolling to contact me if you have an e-mail address. If you don't have a home computer or access to one at work, you're simply being left out of the loop if I don't have your e-mail address. Gentlemen, computers are here to stay, and it's the fastest and best way to stay current on the latest Association and 101st news, or visit the L Company and 75th Association web sites. You'll discover many old friends in our mailing group who'd love to say hi and see how you've been. At this time we have 87 members on the group e-mail list, and messages come and go out to everyone everyday. Some of us have made contact with people we haven't talked to in 30 years. At the L company web site, you can look at hundreds of photos, read our history, visit our fallen comrades and find links to all the 101st Aviation web sites and more. If you don't have a computer, and still have kids at home, have them





L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Randall White



teach you how to use a one before they leave. If they've all flown out of the nest, take a couple classes to get up to speed, or have a friend get you started. It's not that hard to learn a few new tricks,....even at our age.

Another item that your unit directors and officers are working on is a revision of the current 75th Constitution and By Laws. Mainly this consist of clearing up a few cloudy wordings, spelling errors and combining it into one easy to read and understand document. All members of the board of directors are on line and involved in the process, and nothing will be changed without our approval and your vote on those changes at the next general membership meeting next year at Ft. Benning. That's right, only another year to our next reunion, so start planning to be there now. I was stationed at Benning for 4 months and haven't been back since. I'm looking forward to a trip down memory lane and a chance to visit all the sites to see both on and off post. Talk about it is already picking up and it looks to be a great gathering of what are now middle age LRRP/Rangers who have somewhat mellowed with age. Be there if you can at all means, and we'll keep you posted when more details are available.

Emmett Hiltabrand has indicated he'd like to locate all of our "Gold Star" mothers and wives for inclusion into the 75th Association. Some will be found, some will have died and others will never be found, but it's well worth an effort to offer them the option of membership. I'm sure that some of them will not want to be bothered, and have put the memories of their lost loved ones to rest, while others will be eager to learn more about their son's or husbands service and meet people who knew them in Nam. This will be a daunting task and any help you guys can lend would be greatly appreciated. If you live in the home town of one of our KIAs, please take a moment to check the phone book, V.V.A., VFW or American Legion and see if their relatives are still living in that area, and send me their contact information. Also, most cities or counties have memorials to their war dead, and there's usually someone from the area who's familiar with the names on those memorials, and the histories of those names. See if you can locate those individuals and ask for their help.

Wannabees. Seems like there's a bunch of people living in fantasy worlds who claim to have been members of one of our units. Most unit directors have had to deal with one or more of these individuals at one time or another, and it's an unpleasant task. Some of them have never even been in the military, some might have been in the service at one time or another, and some are Vietnam Veterans. While it's easy to disprove and blow off the first two groups of people, the Vietnam Vets who claim to be eligible for membership are a harder group to address. Many of

them served in Brigade or Battalion recon outfits, and are confused as to why they can't be give membership, and offended when told they don't qualify. None of us wants to downplay anyone participation in the Vietnam War, or make them feel their service doesn't deserve recognition or respect, but we do have requirements for full membership. Part of the C&BL changes we're working on will address these classes of membership and their requirements, and attempt to clarify them. Another solution to the problem is for each unit to build a complete list of everyone who was accepted into one of our units. I'm not talking about guys who did one or two missions and then left voluntarily, didn't fit in or was assigned to do a specific one or two mission job. But I do mean anyone who pulled mission as a regular member of one of our outfits and was accepted. If the guy was wounded on his first or second mission and went home, we want him too. The best way to build this list of former members is to send me copies of your orders or any awards during your time with the unit. I have about 300 pages of personnel orders, awards orders and company rosters, but there are many names missing. If you don't have copies of your military records, you can get them for free from the National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, Missouri 63132-5100. Write them and request form SF180, or visit their web site at <http://www.nara.gov/regional/stlouis.html> and print out a copy. [See what you guys without a computer are missing?] They're slow to respond, but they do eventually get it done, and you'll have a set of records to keep. Then, please make copies of anything during your time with the LRRP/Rangers and send them to me for the list. If you can't make copies, send the originals and I'll copy and return them. We hope to build a complete list of everyone who ever served in the unit. Over the years similar requests have gone out and you've responded very well, but many of the copies have been lost with time. With a computer, we can safely store all information for posterity.

Well I'll sign off for now and hope I've brought everyone up to speed on the latest news. This is your association and it can only be helped to grow and improved with your support. If you know of a patroller who isn't a member urge him to hook up with us and come home to the a/o.

Now, when things slow down again, I'll write up another mission story. RW

e-mail: ranwhite@jamadots.com phone: 906 387-2318
L Company web site: <http://www.geocities.com/bemrich9>

activities that they put on for us but many of you have to place your vacation time in to your employers early and they are not receptive to changing them later. If we have to miss some extra-curricular activities that the active side of the house has to put on, then so be it. The main thing is that all you guys get together and see each other at a reunion.

RANGER HALL OF FAME – I have just attended a Ranger Hall Of Fame selection Committee meeting last week. We selected the inductees for the next Ranger Hall Of Fame. Our Association only submitted one nominee and fortunately he was selected. We are capable of submitting up to three nominees each session. The preparation of the submission packets is not a function I do. It is a unit function. There are 23 units in this Association and we only submitted one man. I have recently sent each Unit Director a sample packet of a submission along with the RHOF Bylaws covering submissions. Hopefully, next year we can have a better representative showing from our Association. There are many deserving individuals out there who should be submitted but have not been. I would hate to see a lesser deserving individual inducted because he was the only choice available presented before the Board. Please contact your Unit Director and recommend an individual from your unit who deserves to be honored. It is a lengthy process of gathering the proper paper work to include in the submission packet. So, get started now and please do not be late. Our Association can only submit three each selection period. Therefore, we will not be able to submit all that will be turned in. It will not be based off of a first come first submitted basis. It will be based of the strength of the submission packet that I receive from the unit. I will select the three that I feel have the best effort in winning

selection before the Board. I will carry the remaining packets to the Board of Directors meeting at our next reunion and our Officers and Unit Directors will select the next two years nominees then and there. I feel this is the only fair and convenient way. Don't be left out in the rain by not submitting.

RANGER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION – I have also recently attended a Ranger Memorial Foundation meeting last week. There are plenty of bricks still available for purchase. I hope the RMF was able to place an ad in this issue. Please see Ranger Memorial Foundation scholarships below.

SCHOLARSHIPS – The Ranger Memorial Foundation has set up a Scholarship Fund for several segments of the Ranger community. One of the things I made sure of was that all members of our Association were qualified to be eligible for this offer. That includes the LRRP, LRP and Ranger eras. The scholarship is for \$500 for each applicant. There is a procedure that each applicant must follow to apply for the scholarship. This information can be obtained on line at the Ranger Memorial Foundation web site. Just type it in and when the site comes up, you can find out the full information. Fill it out and send it in for your wife or children. This might not pay for the full tuition but it will help in buying books and defraying some costs. Gentlemen, it is an offer that is out there and it is available to you and it is not being used. This year only seven applications came in and all seven were approved. Information concerning this offer was contained in the last issue of the Patrolling Magazine. Please take advantage of this offer.

Emmett W. Hiltibrand
Strength and Honor

MEMBERS OF THE 75TH RRA

Members of the 75th RRA.

By unanimous decision of the President and all 23 Unit Directors of the association, the 75th Ranger Regiment Association has asked Mr. Peter Neves to step down from the association webmaster duties, and turn over all association property, website materials, and money owed.

As of press time, he has refused to do so, and instead pulled the site off the internet, leaving only a link to his Quarter Master Store.

As of press time, Mr. Neves still owes the 75th Association approximately \$2,500 from the original inventory turned over to him several years ago. He also owes an undetermined amount on royalties for selling items with the 75th Association logo. He has repeatedly refused to open his books for an audit to determine the proper amount.

Further, there have been several complaints lodged by mem-

bers against Mr. Neves for merchandise that was purchased, but never delivered. If anyone has ordered merchandise, and has not received it, please contact the 75th Ranger Regiment Association at the following address:

John Chester
3208 Rueckert Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21214-2919

We will keep the membership advised of the status of the debt and merchandise issues in each issue of Patrolling Magazine until the matters are fully resolved. As of this time, the 75th Ranger Regiment Association is not associated with, or is it endorsing Mr. Neves' websites or Quarter Master store in any way, shape or form.

A new website is under development, and will be posted at <http://www.75thrra.org/> shortly.

Signed,
Emmett Hiltibrand, President



M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP

Unit Director - Jack Fuche



by Steve Houghton and Jack Fuche

Where has the time gone! Emmett just keeps "hounding" us for the next issue article. What a pain in the a...! He must have been a sergeant, but then so was I. He's doing a good job, keeping this unit ship shape. Thanks for the boot job. We'll get our article in.

I talked with Jack Fuche last night. He says we need to remind some of you that your dues arewell due!

I just got off the phone with Dave Wolfenbarger. He said to say "Hi" to everybody. He said they are having a hot spring, been 80's since March, after a hard winter. Not much happening with Dave. I keep nagging him about sending me his "story" to post on our web site. All you guys who served with the 71st LRP & M Co. 75th, should write your story to post on our web site. You send it. I'll post it! I want to thank Rick Del prince and Bob Smalinckas for writing their stories. Thanks Bob too for the photos of Lt. White and 1st Sgt. Overpeck, and others. You guys are a part of history. If you don't believe me....just watch the History Channel. They had a good special on us Lrrps this last Tue. night, and tonight May 10th, they have one on Macv Recondo School. There are not that many of us Lrrps. Write down your historical memories boys, and let me post them. Send 'em snail mail or e-mail. (escort@pathwaynet.com) or Steve Houghton 6300 Lake Rd. Sixlakes MI 48886. It will be my honor to post your story.

I put our web site together, and of course I recall things from MY experience. The site leans heavy to my time as far as stories and photos goes. You guys send me your photos and your stories and they will go on the site. Some have done that, and its a better site for it. Thanks Rick Del Prince and Bob Smalinckas for you stories, and Larry Hall, Bob Sampson, and Dave Wolfenbarger for the photos. Now send in the stories. For our site and this magazine too.

I heard from Tom Blue.....some of you guys know him? He is looking for Russell Wiggins.....I don't know him either. If you know his whereabouts, send it to me, I'll get it to Tom.

I just finished watching the History Channel special on Macv Recondo School. It bought back a lot of memories. You guys who didn't get to see it the first time or don't have cable access can always get the video tape through the History Channel site, or pay attention and catch it the next time around. By the way, "thanks" Emmett for the heads up on the specials. It is nice to get a little recognition. It may have been a screwed up war, with the politics and all, but like the program said the other night, "the Lrrps won their part" of it. Bob Smalinckas said about the History Channel programs, "I thought it did us justice". He went on to say, "how could we expect others to believe what we did, they always thought I was exaggerating. Heck, I didn't believe what we did! The show helped." I have to say it did Bob.

My daughter told me Saturday May12th that she was proud of me, and never knew really understood just what I did over there." I felt pretty good to hear her say that, I must admit.

Well I have been waiting on an overnight package from Jack for the last three days. Nothing yet, so I guess the Army must have taken over the postal system! SNAFU. Sorry Jack, I can't wait any longer. Emmett will have our combined a-- if I don't get this in.

I screwed up this time not getting a photo in for the unit article. I have taken a new job and have been way to busy. I promise a photo next time. I have over 100 photos sent to me from the 67-68 period of the unit from Rick Del Prince and Bob Smalinckas on a CD. I just need some info about them to post, get the hint fellas?

The Beret issue still keeps simmering away. I sure hope the "new" Army feels proud with their "Chinese" made Berets. I guess there is some question about getting them on time. Maybe the Chinese could fly the first batch over here for delivery to General "feel good about yourself" or what ever his name is, on that Navy plane they still have! Hope there ain't too much blood on them from the slave labor camps. Whoops, sorry, I couldn't resist that! Somebody slap me! I better shut up now.

Keep thinking reunion! Till next issue.
Steve





N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Unit Director - Dave Gowen



Another Loss

It is with a deep sense of regret that I inform those of you who don't already know of the passing of Phil Kossa. Phil took his own life on March 9, 2001. He was fighting a losing battle with Hepatitis C and from what I am told was fading fast.

Letter to Phil's Widow

The following is a letter which I sent to Linda Kossa on behalf of all of you.

219 Frontier Road
Perkasie, PA 18944
215-249-9171

March 14, 2001

Dear Linda,

In this time of your profound loss, no words that I can write can do justice to how badly I feel for you and Phil's family and friends. On behalf of all the former members of the 173rd LRRP, 74th LRP and November Company Rangers, I wish to express our sincere condolences.

Of all the side effects of the Vietnam War, Hepatitis C seems to be the most insidious. In July of 1969 a booby trap detonated in the An Lo Valley. Phil caught the worst of that blast. Phil did not die that day but the events of that day may have killed him just the same. I believe that he is as much a fallen hero as the ones who did not return.

Phil is now in a place where there is no pain and there is no sorrow. My only hope is that you can find some consolation in that fact. If there is anything I can do for you, please do not hesitate to call me.

With sincere regards,

Dave Gowen
Unit Director

Summary of Phil's Life

Linda Kossa sent me this brief summary of Phil's life.

Phillip was born in Beeville, TX to Edwin and Velma Kossa, the youngest of 4 children. He attended St. Joseph Catholic School and graduated from A.C. Jones High School. He joined the Army on his 18th birthday in 1967 and was assigned to Viet Nam in February of 1968 where he served until July, 1969 with the 74th Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP's) and later the 173rd Abn Long Range Patrol (LRP's) Ranger Regiment / November Company. In



July of 1969, while with the Nov. Co. he was seriously wounded in the An Lo Valley when he stepped on a land mine. He received the Bronze Star with Valor Device, the Republic of Viet Nam Campaign Medal and the Viet Nam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation among others during his 16 months of service there. It was during this injury that he received numerous blood transfusions which would later cause his infection with Hepatitis C. After this injury he was told he would never walk again and was honorably discharged from the Army. He would not only walk again but became an avid hiker and backpacker with the Appalachian Trail Club and ran the Peachtree Marathon in Atlanta in 1994.

During his time out of the Army he owned and operated an air conditioning business, taught school in Florida and served in the Florida National Guard. He also was a certified SCUBA diver and had black belt in karate. He rejoined the Army and in 1980 was the honor graduate of the Officer Candidate School. Throughout his military career he excelled at being a soldier. He graduated from Advance Officer School and Command and General Staff College and obtained his B.A. Degree in Business Administration.

In 1990, while stationed in Germany with the 1st Armour Division, he was deployed to Saudi Arabia and Desert Storm. He served in Kuwait and Iraq also and received his second Bronze Star. In 1995, he was assigned to Ft. Bragg, N.C. where he resumed paratrooper training and trained for the Best Ranger Contest but did not get to participate in this elite Ranger competition due to the Haiti Crisis where he was the mobilization officer for all the reserves activated for that mission. During his tenure at Ft. Bragg he received the Meritorious Service Medal. He also obtained his Masters Degree in Computer Systems Management. He was promoted to Major and transferred to the 88th RSC in Minnesota and then back to Ft. Bragg with Special Operations Command where he remained until his death. He was promoted to LTC on March 9, 2001.

Phillip was the consummate soldier. He once told me that he had fought for great generals and great armies in another life. I told him if he came back again, be sure he was on our side. Phil loved his country above all else and only knew the life of a soldier. He was looking forward to our life together and being part of a close knit family like I am blessed to have. We were married in March, 2000, when his illness became so critical that time became a great factor. He told

me once that I was strong enough to be a Rangers wife- I did not know how strong I would need to be.

Phil is survived by his daughter, Mitzi, a granddaughter, Harley; his mother, sisters, Helen and Judy, and brother, Ray. Phil was diagnosed with Hepatitis C in mid 1999 and still carried wounds both mental and physical from that long ago war. These are two quotes from his buddies: "Phil did not die that day (July, '69) but events of that day may have killed him just the same. I believe that he is as much a fallen hero as the ones who did not return", and "My wife does not understand why I am crying, she will, when I tell her another Ranger has fallen and another name is not on the Wall."

Thank you all for your support and love today in honoring this man who gave so much and asked so little. It is only through love that we heal and go on with life. I know he is watching and has joined an even greater Army and is with his "Great Ranger."

Linda Pettus Anderson Kossa

Interment

Phil was interred at Arlington National Cemetery on March 19. Members of our Company who attended were Dick James, John Lawton, Roy Boatman, Pete Lynch, Tom Eckhoff, Fletcher Ruckman and Pat Tadina.

The ceremony was conducted by the 3rd Infantry Divisions, Old Guard. It was complete with six horses drawing a caisson, a band, color guard and honor guard.

Roy Boatman delivered a stirring eulogy. To paraphrase Roy he said that

Linda knew Phil as a Husband
His Mother knew him as a Son
His Sisters knew him as a Brother
His Daughter knew him as a Father
But for 33 years Roy knew
him as a Warrior
And that is how he shall be
remembered by the men
who served with him.

Roy then placed his Black Beret in the crypt on top of the urn where it will remain.

Since Phil's death I have received \$320 in donations to our Special Fund in his name. Linda wrote that in many ways we were as much Phil's family as his blood relatives were.

Philadelphia Viet Nam War Memorial

On May 5th, a dedication was held by the Philadelphia Chapter of the Society of the 173rd Airborne Brigade. The ceremony paid homage to the 26 Philadelphia residents who were killed in action with the brigade.

Four veterans of our company were in attendance. They were Pat Tadina, Fletcher Ruckman, Delono Stones and myself. Pat Tadina was the featured speaker for the event.

Tad played a tape which was recorded in our T.O.C. The tape was of radio transmissions between A co. 2/503, the Battalion Commander, the Brigade Commander and various aircraft. On that day in the Dak To area, A 2/503 came in contact with an NVA Regiment. A portion of the company was cut off and annihilated resulting in 76 KIA. The wounded among those troopers who were cut off were systematically executed where they lay. Surprisingly though they were then covered up by the NVA in a somewhat caring manner.

Once Air and Artillery assets had driven the NVA off, Tadina's Team was inserted behind them. His team followed them for 72 hours, back to Cambodia, calling in Airstrikes the whole way. The final airstrike was by B-52's. The Team captured a Sergeant Major from the NVA Regiment. He was asked why his troops treated the bodies with some care. Tad's voice broke as he related the soldier's answer. He said because we are as professional as you. It was out of respect for the way those men conducted themselves against our

overwhelming force.

Even someone as hard core as Tad is moved by the gallantry that young soldiers seem to be capable of.

After the ceremony the four of us had lunch with about 20 173rd Troopers. Hopefully we have picked up a new member as Stones was given an application. It was good seeing Tadina and though I hate to admit it, Ruckman again.

Jump School Graduation

I attended my nephew's Jump School Graduation on April 27th at Fort Benning. I was accompanied by my uncle, 11th Airborne-1946, and my son. Charlie Kankel spent the day with us and acted as our unofficial guide. I was sorry to miss Dave Cummings and Sam Schiro. The Army sent them to a conference in Illinois.

At the 250' Towers, I watched a lot of guys do the same kind of PLF's that I used to do. Feet, ass and head. Why is it that those T-10s are always going backwards when you hit?

One thing is a little different from our time. Apparently if you're female and a lieutenant, you don't have to complete the runs to graduate. That same rule doesn't apply to enlisted males or females. I guess General Shinseki hasn't quite completed his changes for the Feel Good Army. Here's a suggestion - why not just make the girls jump rope to graduate.

Just a little warning to anyone planning to attend a friend or relatives Jump School Graduation. I traveled 1000 miles to Fort Benning to find out that I was not eligible to participate in the Pinning Ceremony. Only grandparents, parents and siblings who were airborne qualified are allowed.

General Shinseki should check this out right away. Eventually someone's Don't ask, Don't Tell Partner is going to be offended by this rule.



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Rickey Hogg



Rangers Make History

Unit-Company O (Arctic Rangers) 75th Infantry-Alaska

Operation Name-Ace Band Polar Cap

Location-The Polar Ice Cap 120 miles north of Pt. Barrow on the Beaufort Sea

Time-March 4, 1971

Mission-Training-to prepare a small force to serve in search, rescue, first aid, and recovery actions in conjunction with any flight emergency occurring along trans-polar airline routes.

Equipment-Full combat gear including snowshoes

Special Equipment-28 fiberglass sleds loaded with stoves, tents, and rations.

Insertion Method-Parachute from 1250 ft. on to soft carpet of snow

Weather-minus 35 degrees with winds at 6 knots, and visibility at 15 miles.

At 0900 hrs. On March 4, 1971 three C-130 aircraft loaded with 124 Airborne Rangers, lead by Major George A. Ferguson, left Elmendorf Air Force Base in route to a drop zone about 120 miles north of Pt. Barrow on the Beaufort Sea and inside the Arctic Circle. The mission had been scheduled for March 3 but temperatures ranging down to 55 degrees below zero and winds 10 to 15 miles per hour caused military officials to delay the operation. Another C-130 had left Elmendorf AFB at 0800 hrs loaded with the equipment that the men would use while on this mission.



Arctic Rangers - Lt. W.T. Anton - Alaska - Dec. 1970

The Rangers parachuted on to the drop zone shortly after 1200 hrs. And began to set up a base camp and established patrols to the simulated site of a downed aircraft. After spending the night on the ice cap the men were picked up by Army and Air Force Helicopters and transported back to Pt. Barrow. They then boarded C-130 aircraft and flown back to Elmendorf AFB.

There are 16 commercial airline flights over the polar ice cap on a daily basis from Alaska to Europe. It was deemed necessary to have a small force ready to render assistance in case there was an emergency occurring along these routes.

This was the first mass paratroop in history onto the Arctic ice pack. For the Rangers, it was a "mission accomplished."

Thanks to Larry Lee, who was a participant in the Arctic paratroop, for supplying several newspaper articles and pictures of the operation. The pictures are black and white and didn't come out very well so I couldn't use them. I will be submitting more information about the Arctic Rangers in the near future.

The O Co. web site is up and running and you can log on to it at www.o75thranger.com I'm still working on it and making changes. If anyone spots a mistake or wants to make suggestions then please do so.

I have noticed my computer address list has really grown in the last 12 months. That means more and more of us are staying in contact with one another. Please don't forget to renew your membership and remember our sick and disabled! Later, Rickey Hogg.



FALLING IN FOR ARCTIC BAIL OUT

The 124 members of the 104th Army Arctic Rangers who jumped on the polar ice cap today are shown in formation on the flight line at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Juneau, Alaska.

Command C130 transports in below zero weather about 8 o'clock this morning. From Elmendorf the paratroopers were flown north of Barrow to the drop zone, 120 miles offshore.



P/75 - 79TH LRP

Unit Director - Riley Miller



Written by Terry B. Roderick

Anticipation is building for the 4th Papa Company Reunion to be held in Biloxi, Mississippi and the surrounding AO in July. I'll be attending that one with Rick Ehrler (past Grand Poobah of the 75th RRA.... 1996-98) who is flying in from Boise, Idaho to Orlando, Florida and he and I will drive to Biloxi from here. When we leave there, we are driving to Boise where Rick will fly (he has non refundable tickets and it will give him a break from me) to Tacoma for the E/50th LRP/ E/75th reunion there. I'm going to drive from Boise and join the E/75th guys and see if they will let me hang out with them for a few days. I have a few friends in the Seattle area and will visit the Beckwith's and the McDuffy's, who live in the area. Since I'm taking my H-D with me, I may go back through Sturgis, S.D. for the rally there August 6-12 on my way back to Florida. I suggest that any of you out there who see a unit having a reunion in your AO check with them and see if you can attend and get to know some of the others who were as crazy as you were back in the 60's and early 70's. How else could they have gotten us to go to some of the places where they sent us ?? I personally have been to many other unit reunions and have always had a good time and came away with a few more friends and places to flop when in their AO's. Talked to Mike Rossi this AM. He tells me he had the S.W.A.T. team in his yard the other night. His neighbor pissed him off (some sort of animal dog vrs cat thing) and he discharged a weapon in the air three times to show his displeasure before doing anything drastic he tells me. Garry Norton is busy with his photography business, etc. He said he recently won some sort of International award for his photography endeavors. He's quite good and also has a school yearbook business that keeps him jumping this time of the year. I was up in the Smokies in April doing some motoring about and visited with Eddie "Hardcore" Johnston, Kitten, Nick, and Mason in Janesville, VA. Seems like Nick and Mason were just little whippersnappers not too long ago, but they are growing into fine young men. I know they are proud of those boys and I wish they were my own. They're that good. Many of you have already met them. I also spent some time with my good friend from the 4th Division LRP's, James Testerman of Marion, VA. The Johnston's are planning to be in Biloxi as are Steve Printz and Gerald Cornelius I'm told. Not sure who all else will be there, but I can see that with Steve Printz, Hardcore, and I there, it will be entertaining enough for me. I'm anxious to see my old teammates again. Steve was an AO from the 5/4 Arty(1st Bde., 5th Inf. Div. (Mech) who came to P/75th with another "leg" FO (Ronald Muehlhauser... deceased) to assist our teams with artillery

support and placement in 1969. They both ended up joining the company and served extensions in addition to their regular tours in the Company. Both were outstanding "field soldiers" and were welcome additions to our group. Steve Printz caught so much hell from us that he eventually went to Jump School after he left Vietnam and P/75th. He's the first guy I met in the company when I arrived and has a special spot in my heart. Serving on the same team with him was my good fortune. Jim Femiano, who was also on this same team (TM 1-5) in 69-70, has been in touch and he is alive and well in Peoria, IL. We're hoping Jim will join us in Biloxi. Hope you had a nice Mother's Day Mom !! (aka Marion Dushane..... she and Duke adopted me "conditionally" after my Mom and Dad died a few years back. Yes, there are strings attached !!)

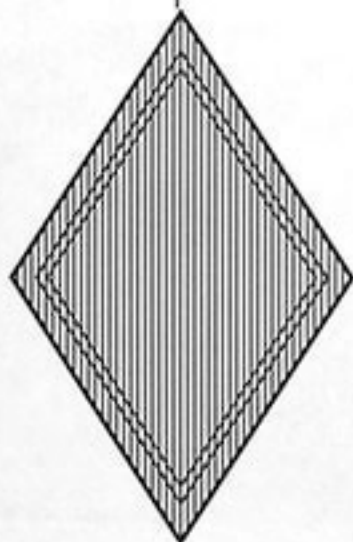
Please be sure to make your reservations for the reunion ASAP. Jerry Yonko and Mitch Brown will need the information to assist them in making plans for our reunion. Terry Bishop and Dave Gates..... haven't heard from you guys in a while. Just as much my problem as yours. I need to find Gregg "Spud" Gain. Anyone help me out ??? Riley, I hear you and Spud stay in touch. I'm trying to get James Schooley's (KIA..... 1971) sister and family in touch with some of you who knew him personally. I had already pissed the NVA off and left by that time..... and YES, we (myself and others who left before it was completely over) did leave you guys a hell of a mess to clear up and some pissed off soldiers on the other side. I recently sent a check (\$86.00) for some paperwork to the National Archives has that may or may not be relevant to us. I ordered this stuff and will see if any of it may be of interest to anyone. They said 6-8 weeks and it's been about a month as of this writing (May 14th, 2001).

Let's get off our Duffs and get registered for the reunion. We got a late start getting the information out, so get in touch with your close buddies and get them headed that way. If you've never attended one, you'll be glad you did.

July 12-14..... "A BEACH ODESSY"
Biloxi, Mississippi

Contact:

KAY COUCH.... BRYAN TOURS.....1-800-647-5296 or
JERRY and/or MARIE YONKO.....(601)-992-6822 914
Riverchase Dr., Brandon, MS 39047





D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



REUNION FOR D-151 LRP RANGER AUGUST 10, 11 & 12, 2001

It is most important that you make arrangements to attend the D-151 Reunion immediately.

LOCATION: CAMP ATTERBURY, near Edinburgh Indiana On South I 65 and US 46, 30 minutes south of Indianapolis

FRIDAY AUG 10 - Golf outing at 12:00, point of contact Tom Blandford Friday afternoon and evening: Hospitality at King Hall (317-846-6374)

SATURDAY AUG 11 - 151st Infantry LRS demonstration, equipment display, dedication of Sgt. Smith drop zone, PTSD seminar. Association business meeting.
Dinner speakers: Emmett Hiltibrand of the 75th Ranger Association and Jim "Patches" Watson of SEAL fame and Ranger Class 7 1964.

SUNDAY AUG 12 - Tour of Indiana National Guard Museum

Make your vacation plans now to attend the reunion. Get in touch with the Point of Contact, Gary Porter to receive a registration. He's at 765-747-0584. Address is 6121 South Cowan Rd., Muncie In 47302, email 22990267@starband.net

A couple of the helicopter pilots of the "Annie Fannies" will attend. It will be interesting to hear what they "really" thought about us. I only remember that I hated them when they dropped us off in the jungle but loved them when they came to retrieve us. I also hated those wide turns they made 2,000 feet up and I felt my butt sliding out the door.

Other news

A group of us met at the gravesite of Robert Smith KIA on the anniversary

of his death, April 12, 1969, this time without the CBS cameras filming us. As always, it was a heart tugging experience. Pappy Hayes said aloud the names of our fallen comrades: both those killed in Nam and those who have died since. The list grows each year. Every time we have these ceremonies the uneasy feelings get stronger. Also attending were Doug Hagan, Jon Ellis, Darrell Holder, Phil Cravens, Gary Porter, Chuck Eads, Terry & Yavonne MacDonald. Fortunately we went back to Terry MacDonald's pole barn for some R&R. I'm telling you guys, it is worthwhile to attend these cere-



monies! Get in touch with Pappy so you can attend the next time. Pappy @ 317 577-9201. He'd like to hear from you. By the time this issue is out we will have had Pappy's birthday party, he'll be 74 on May 14 (He can still drop and do 10)

I received the following note from a man I met recently in my office. He noticed I have a picture of The Wall behind me. His brother's name is on The Wall. I hope you can appreciate his thoughts about us.

Dear Tom,

Back 31 years ago when my brother was killed in Vietnam, I was 13 and out of touch with the reality of the world as it was. Young men like my

brother and yourself went off to a war that was complex and complicated. Many (all) of the soldiers had inner turmoil, as did the fathers and mothers, of the rightness and justice of the cause.

The more I have read about that conflict the more I have come to understand the courage and commitment such a task required. In the face of so much turmoil back home our soldiers (you) gave the supreme sacrifice in energy, time, blood, sweat and tears. I have missed my brother for all these many years, more lately than ever before. But I have always been proud of him and his sacrifice and the sacrifice of his comrades.

Though you never met him, thank you for serving with him. He served during the same year as you, striving for the same cause. I and our country are indebted to you for what you endured for us.

You and I may never meet again nor have another conversation, but I wanted you to know that I appreciated what you have done for me as a citizen of this country and a comrade of my brother.

Yours truly, Phil Lamboov

Memories.

Do any of you ever think back to your thoughts while on guard at night in the jungle? Do you remember what it was like to be awakened for your turn? How hard it was to wake up. The triple canopy would allow only a faint moonlight through the trees and brush. I would see what could possibly be the silhouette of a man that I would watch for several minutes, praying that it wasn't. How long did it take to be able to distinguish sounds? There was that "focus of hearing" to decide whether the sound was an animal or a

**D/151 LRP/RANGER (CONTINUED)**

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



man, or the termites. I remember hearing the termites, they had a soft crunching sound when they were close. Then in the morning finding the underside of the ruck (your "pillow") covered with their dirt nest, just inches from your head. Then there were those nights during the rainy season, but I seem to have removed from my memory how uncomfortable that

was. I hated the burden of knowing the lives of my teammates depended on my being alert. Do you remember what a relief it was for your turn at guard to end, so you could force yourself to go back to sleep? Did you think, like I did, "what am I doing here"?

If you are interested in writing an article for our space here, let me know. I would appreciate some of you contributing stories.

Are you computer connected? Go to www.geocities.com/151ranger.

SEE YOU AT THE REUNION

**F/51 LRP**

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



I was going through a trunk in the attic when I came across an old HURRICANE magazine from II FIELD FORCE that has an article in it about F/51 LRP's. The article was written by SP4 Paul Temple, and is titled "On patrol with F Co., 51st Infantry". Here it is in its entirety.

The Long Range Patrol (LRP) team gathered in the briefing tent the night before its ambush mission to go over the location of the ambush site, radio frequencies and artillery support. A specialist checked out the team's equipment and supplies and a helicopter pilot pointed out LZ's on the briefing map and detailed insertion procedure. The patrol leader presented his plan and asked questions. After discussion, the men returned to their billets for final preparations.

Preparations for a routine patrol? No, because LRP teams stay out for as long as six days, operating in contested and enemy controlled areas. Although they have support of the most modern army in the world behind them, members of the LRP are in a real sense alone all the time they are out.

Twelve men a "heavy" team, were on this patrol. Six-man teams, used for reconnaissance, avoid contact. The heavy team seeks it, attempting to kill the enemy in his own territory. The team is equipped with enough automatic weapons and claymore mines to

engage and maul a large enemy force in a devastating ambush.

Members of the team work together, complementing each other's actions. But each man is also an individual and his uniqueness is reflected in his gear. Each pack is different, according to the habits and physique of its owner. Some team members prefer the issue rucksack and frame, while others cut down the frame and mount the sack



higher than usual. Some use claymore bags tied together and to the pack frame with quick release knots. Others use canvas rucksacks "scrounged" from ARVN sources. While the equipment carried is uniform, the manner in which it is packed varies as much as the rucksacks them-

selves.

The object in packing is to place the weight as close as possible to the body and make it comfortable, with no sharp protrusions into the wearer's back. The equipment is arranged in order of priority. Armament, of course, is the most accessible.

At 0600 the next morning the team arose, camouflaged them selves and had breakfast. The choppers- two slicks and a light fire team escort- moved the team to the LZ.

The first chopper came in and its passengers made a quick sprint to the tree line. The second came in and there was another sprint. The team drew no fire; it was a "clean" insertion. Then the team waited for an hour for the Forward Air Observer (FAO) to come overhead and establish contact.

The team assumed its order of march and moved out through heavy bamboo and undergrowth. Progress was slow, with frequent stops to check position with the FAO by mirror and radio signals and listen for the enemy. The dry season had made the underbrush and bamboo brittle and absolute silence was impossible. But daylight sounds, rustling leaves and broken twigs, don't carry like coughs, clanking of metal or voices. There were no unnecessary sounds.

After three hours, the team had not reached the ambush site and the FAO



F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



had to go back for fuel. The team leader decided to establish a perimeter in a small clearing near a stream.

Mines were set around the perimeter and patrol members, soaked with sweat sprawled in the grass among the bushes. A few minutes later a VC was spotted down stream filling a water pail, he was less than 35 meters away. The point man from the LRP climbed a tree to spot the enemy and saw a small campfire and poncho spread for a sunshade. Headquarters decided to keep the patrol in the clearing to ambush the VC when he returned for water and wound him, if possible to take prisoner.

The wait, the greatest part of a LRP, began. Twelve people huddled in a small circle, not communicating, turning either to sleep, introspection or a microscopic examination of the tiny universe around them. There were grasshoppers of different hues, red ants fighting black ants and sounds from birds and crickets.

As darkness settled, each man cleared the area his body covered of

anything that might make noise as he slept. At dusk, when the jungle slipped into night, sounds became distinct. Men tightened at each one, then relaxed as an insect noise or wind in the trees was recognized. Much later, something unnatural moved in the brush not far away. It was impossible to tell how far away- darkness had removed all size from the tiny clearing. Then flashlights shone through the trees and seven VC moved through one end of the clearing, silhouetted by flares in the distance. The team held its breath, but the VC passed and removed the possibility of a firefight and a terrifying night extraction. LRP's have found that firefights at night are unsatisfactory unless the team is in position for an ambush.

The night settled again, left to the insects, the breeze and the birds. The team pulled guard in shifts, waiting for dawn when the VC are likely to attack. Dawn passed with no attack. The team lay in the clearing all day and into the next night. The stillness was bro-

ken by small arms fire close to the team position and gun ships sent death through the trees and artillery moaned overheads.

Headquarters, over the radio, announced that another LRP team had made contact and been extracted. The patrol would be picked up early in the morning because infantry was going to sweep the area.

There are two ways to move in the jungle, quickly or quietly. The LRP used the same LZ for extraction as they had for insertion but, while it took three hours to reach the clearing, it took 12 minutes to return.

The extraction was uneventful but all members of the patrol seemed disappointed that there had been no contact and no opportunity to take a prisoner. There was no disappointment about returning to showers and hot meals.

Russ Dillon - Unit Director F/51 LRP
Commo

F/51st LRP

Unit Columnist: Bill 'Teacup' Houser

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

At the request of Russ Dillon I've been asked to do this column again. What you have here is what I've got to pass out, limited as it is.

Well, for Gene and Ted up there in AK, we now have a new US president. Fortunately we still have the same First Sergeant. 'Psycho' visited the Boss and said he's doing well. Simone is going to visit him on 18 May and per her E-mail she intends to get him out of Fayetteville for a while and take him to the beach. Sure wish I was going on that trip!!! (Hi Boss!)

By the way, 'Psycho' will be attending the NY "Police Games" in June. Per his E-mail of today he was hit 3 times with a stun gun while in training for this event. He said he liked it! He did say that!!!!

This is from Maureen Lovick: "Let the LRP Rangers know they can purchase the series Spec Ops without the commercial interruptions. It comes in a nice series of three tapes housed in a beautiful gold case for 39.99. It can be found at this web address." <http://store.historychannel.com/cgi-bin/ae.store-front/0/Ext/OutsideFrame/UT/32/Product/43203>

Editorial: I don't get the History Channel and was not able to view this mini-doc, but I hear it's focused on the 101st.

I'm extremely proud for us all that Don Hall's rewrite of "I

Served" is steadily gaining in sales. I bought the book when it first came out I was impressed with the rewrite and especially the segment on what happened after Don DEROS'd the hard way. Even the 199th LIB Nam Vets are interested in it in that we were OPCON to them on many occasions not to mention their Reaction Forces who bailed us out. There seems to be some confusion about how to order this book about us so I'll set the record straight now. Trafford Publishing, 1-888-232-4444. For computer jocks: Sales@Trafford.com. The documentary film about us, "Silent Victory" won a 'Bronze' out of 11,000 entrants at the "Telly Awards" festival this year.

Chuck 'Priest' Luczynski's son Matt has earned his 'blood wings' and is participating in the "pre-Ranger program at Benning. 'Priest' and 'Teacup' are very proud of this young man, as I'm sure we all are. Gentle winds and soft landings to Matt Luczynski. 'Continue Mission' Matt!

I'm sorry to report that at this time I have no Class A information on the reunion that is to be held in Las Vegas sometime in October of this year. I do not know who the man on the ground is in Vegas. For those of you who keep asking me, regrets. I haven't a clue as to how we're supposed to drop or repel Vegas without a 'plan' and time is growing short for that kind of a plan!

Bill 'Teacup' Houser
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HQ/75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Vacant



COL KEEN

Fellow Rangers, Emmett asked that I submit an article to the Patrolling Magazine. So with the deadline facing me, I wanted to make sure I honored his request with the primary purpose to say thanks for all that our veterans have done and continue to do for our Rangers. First, to serve as the 11th Colonel of the Regiment has been not only an honor but also, more importantly, it has been a privilege to be able to serve along side the best warriors in our Army. General Abrams' charter has been and continues to be fulfilled --- These warriors are recognized wherever they go as the best light infantry in the world and "Lead The Way" way in everything they do. Our Rangers continue to "Lead The Way" in our Army, particularly in maintaining a high state of combat readiness; ready to deploy anywhere in the world, no-notice, and defeat our nation's enemies. Below are just a few of the major operations and training exercises Rangers have executed over the last year: RRD Team 2 conducted combat Reconnaissance and Surveillance missions in Kosovo for 4 months (Dec 00 - April 01). With this operation, RRD wrote another chapter in Ranger history as it was the first such combat operation by a RRD Team. It was also the longest deployment to a combat zone for Rangers since the reactivation of 1st Ranger Battalion in 1974. Deployments for Training to the following OCONUS locations: Ecuador, Korea, Kuwait, Jordan, Canada, Balikpapan, Thailand, and France. Four Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercises to locations such as Ft. Campbell, KY; Ft. Pickett, VA; and Camp Blanding, FL. Four Ranger Battalion Airfield Seizure multi-lateral exercises and four Ranger Battalion Air Assault Live-Fire Exercises where each Ranger Company executed both day and night live-fire air assault raids. Three Joint Readiness Exercises where the readiness of Ranger units was validated on key go-to-war mission tasks. Today as I write this note we have Rangers training in Balikpapan; Thailand; France; Ft. Knox, KY; Ft. Lewis, WA; and Ft. Benning, GA, on



individual and collective skills that will ensure Rangers stay combat ready. Over the last eight months, while our Rangers have continued to conduct operations and training around the world, the Ranger community and our Army have been dealing with the announcement that the Army will adopt the Black Beret as its standard headgear on 14 June, 2001. As a result of the Army's decision to adopt the Black Beret, I announced on 16 March, that the 75th Ranger Regiment would transition to the Ranger Tan Beret. This will occur on 26 July, as part of the Regimental Change-of-Command ceremonies. Additionally, I have requested that the President of each of the Ranger Associations take part in a veteran

Tan Beret ceremony on 26 July, 1600 Hrs, at the Ranger Memorial. This is the beginning of a new era in Ranger History, an era that will be symbolized by the Ranger Tan Beret. The Black Beret has served as the most visible symbol of Rangers in the 20th Century; it will always have a special place in Ranger history. Like the Black Beret, the Ranger Tan Beret will be the most visible symbol of Rangers in the 21st Century. It acknowledges that Rangers are distinct within our Army and are expected to "Lead The Way." The purpose of the Ranger veteran Tan Beret ceremony, on 26 July, is to acknowledge the unity among the Ranger community and the fact that the Ranger Tan Beret will serve as a symbol of that unity between Rangers of the past, present, and future. Please join the Ranger Regiment during this year's Ranger Rendezvous as we honor the past and pave the way for Rangers to continue to "Lead The Way" for our Army in the 21st Century. I wish to thank all members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association for their service to our nation and support you continue to provide to today's Rangers. RLTW! Keen, 11th Colonel of the Regiment.



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - James Kinney



By James P. Kinney

Greetings fellow Rangers. A few things to report this month. First, congratulations go out to Ranger David Neilsen for accomplishing what he set out to do, road marching all the way from Ft. Benning to Washington DC to get the message out for the Black Beret. Ranger Neilsen has been awarded a life membership in our association for his efforts. We thank all those who contributed in support of this mission. Next, we send out big Hooahh, to CSM (Retired) Donald E. Purdy who was nominated and elected into the Ranger Hall of Fame. CSM Purdy was my Platoon Sgt. in Charlie Co. back in 1980. He came to us from Charlie's Angel's. If memory serves me correctly, at that point in his career the Purd had 14 years in the Army, 12 of which were in Ranger units and 2 in SFOD. He was an original. I met up with Ranger Purdy again in 1984 when I attended the Jumpmaster course at Ft. Benning. He was then ISG of HHC/3/75TH. CSM Purdy completed a 27-year career in the US Army and retired in 1995. He is currently in the Middle East training Airborne and Ranger troops.

Several projects are in the works. There is a committee working on updating and reviewing the associations Constitution and by-laws. Once this is completed, the membership will be advised of the proposed changes and will get to vote on them as an association. More information will be provided in upcoming Patrolling articles. Another project we hope to get started on is the Gold Star Mothers. Any Ranger from our unit that was KIAS will have the honor of having their Mothers inducted into the association as an associate member. This is our small way of honoring their sacrifice, and to show the families that we as an association of Rangers have not forgotten their fallen Ranger. I fully support this endeavor and need your help. We need to somehow contact the families of the Rangers who were KIA'd in the various conflicts, missions and wars that our unit has participated in. Anyone who has such information please forward it to me.

Any Ranger, who would like to be on a committee to work on this project, please contact me as well.

There was an inquiry some time back on what happened to the photos that were taken last reunion at the Ranger Ball. I have been informed that the photos are at the 1/75th S-5. The telephone number there is (912) 352-5077. The former S-5, Capt. Pearson informed us that the photos that had no address were placed in the S-5 office. If an address is provided, they will gladly mail them out. If for any reason anyone has a problem receiving the photos, let me know. I can check on this when I visit Savannah for the June 7th Ranger Ball, hosted by the 1/75th at the Savannah Civic Center. Also on June 6th there will be a Banner Day at Daffin Park in Savannah.

I plan on leaving as Unit Director effective at our next reunion. I wanted to give plenty of notice to you and to allow time for a replacement. Any Ranger in good standing with the association can be a Unit Director from that unit. The responsibilities of Unit Director are; a member of the board of directors, participates in decisions of the association, maintains communication with association officers, writes unit article for the Patrolling magazine, responds to information and inquiries related to the association to present and prospective members, assigned to committees when needed by the association, maintains communication with unit members, and a host of other tasks, all at no expense to the association. Any Rangers interested please notify me at my e-mail or telephone listed on the association officer's list in the Patrolling magazine. Lastly, I want to welcome Capt. Kenneth J. Burgess as the new 1/75th S-5. As a unit director it is the Bn. S-5 who we have regular contact with regarding 1/75th affairs and activities. I look forward to working together with Capt. Burgess and wish him all the success in his new assignment. RLW,

James P. Kinney
1/75TH Unit Director

1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment

By CPT Kenneth J. Burgess

The following are some of 1st Battalion's recent activities. Rangers have continued to display their mental toughness in a number of grueling physical competitions. A total of eight (8) Rangers from the 1st BN competed in the Best Ranger Competition held the weekend of April 27th at Ft. Benning, GA. Three teams consisting of 1/75 Rangers finished in the top ten. They were: 4th Place, SGT Kevin McGurk who competed with SGT Waechter from REGT; 7th Place, SGT Louis Sisneros who competed with SGT Jeremy Waechter from REGT; 10th Place, SGT Brandon Millard and SPC Jonathon Kingsley. On April 1, 2001 we had a team of Rangers finish first in the "heavy" category (35 lb. Rucksack) at the 12th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March held at White Sands, New Mexico. The march consisted of 26.2 miles through hilly, sandy, desert terrain. The team consisted of SSG John Pugh, SGT Louis Sisneros, SGT Kevin McGurk, and SGT Brad Millard. The team finished 18 minutes ahead of the 8 time champion team from England.

MEMBER ADVISORY

By John Chester

We are requesting your assistance in the following matter. If you have had dealings with our former quartermaster, ordered items, or had any dealings in which any of the following occurred, please notify the editor. My e-mail, home address and telephone number are at the front of the magazine.

1. Ordered items and found that the credit card charge was more than it should have been.
2. Returned items because they were the wrong size, color, etc. & did not receive a replacement or refund.
3. Ordered items that were charged to a credit card or paid for by check, which subsequently was cashed, and the items were not received.

If any of the above happened to you, or something else not covered above, that had a negative affect, please let me know.

John Chester

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim McLaughlin

Hello All,

Due to personal problems I missed the last issue but I'm BACK and ready to go to work. (Emmett are you listening) In the last issue they printed the picture of my family and I. I thought that I would give you a little more information about them. When I was assigned to the 75th Regiment in 1988, my oldest son was already in 3rd Battalion. Shortly thereafter my other son Jason was assigned to the 1st Battalion. With me being the OPS SGM, both my boys caught hell. Fortunately for me they were gone when we went to Panama, because worrying about two sons jumping in would have been a bit much. My daughter was a butter bar Military Police Platoon Leader in the Gulf War assigned to guard one of the POW compounds. Of course the sons and I stayed home, but if we didn't hear it when she got home to tell us how she upheld the family name. TYPICAL OFFICER. But it was then and even now that they continue to make me very proud of them.

I would like to tell you a little story about a young soldier that was in L Co. 75th in Vietnam during the time I was there. The first time I noticed him he was sitting on the steps holding a letter from home and crying. He looked like he was about 15 yrs old. I sat down and asked him what the problem was. The kid handed me his letter and I read it. The letter was from his parents. They had disowned him because he joined the army and volunteered for Vietnam. I mean the kid was only 18 yrs old and in a combat company and his parents told him this. I did not really know what to say to him but the one thing I did notice was that the bright life that you see in a youths eyes was gone. He eventually was released from the company for falling asleep while on watch in the field. This happened more than once. The last I heard of this soldier is that he was sent to a line company in the 101st. In 1974 I ran into Ron Edwards at Ft. Benning and he showed me the newspaper article where the kids parents had went to our nations capitol to receive our country's highest honor, The Congressional Medal Of Honor. I wished at that point I could have been there. But over the years I have realized they are paying for the letter they sent their son. When I was stationed at Ft. Campbell, I drove by a gym one day and there was his name in big letters, I turned around and went in. On the wall with his picture was his citation. I just stood there looking at his picture and remembered the young kid sitting on the steps crying. What a waste of youth. His name was Frank R. Fratellenico but those from L Co would remember him better by the code name he was given - "Sniffles". See you next time. Rangers Lead The Way.

**1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT**

Unit Director - James Kinney



Change of Command- CPT John M. Paganini took command of C Co. from CPT Michail S. Heurter on April 19th.
Change of Responsibility- ISG. Darrin J. Bohn took over as ISG A Co. from ISG Bradley K. Meyers on April 13th.

Training- A Co participated in the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference (JCOC) at Ft. Bragg, NC from 19-24 April. They conducted a combined arms LFX for diplomats, politicians, etc to educate civilians on our capabilities. They then remained at Ft. Bragg until May 3rd for marksmanship training. 7-11 May was RSOV (Ranger Special Operations Vehicle) Gunnery at Ft. Stewart where they refined their mounted battle drills and maintained their proficiency on the MK-19 and .50 Caliber.

B Co has remained busy throughout April and May with a Machine Gun Battle Rattle, CQB, AMT and Demo training. From 7-11 May they conducted a Machine Gun Support by Fire, LFX.

C Co sent its 3rd Plt to Ecuador for Jungle Training from April 23 to May 4. The rest of the company conducted marksmanship training at Ft. Pickett, VA.

HHC sent its combined Sniper Platoon to the French Mountain Warfare School followed by participation in the Normandy Celebration from May 19 to June 8.

Upcoming Events- The Battalion is conducting a Mass Tactical Airborne Assault during the Hunter Army Airfield Open House on May 26 at 1300. This is an event open to the public. June 6 is our Semi-annual Banner Day being held at Daffin Park, Savannah. Come cheer for your favorite company! June 7th is 1st Battalion's Annual Ranger Ball being held at the Savannah Civic Center in the heart of the historical district. It should be quite the gala event for active and retired Rangers alike!

Rangers Lead the Way!

CPT Kenneth J. Burgess
S-5, 1/75th REGT

**2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT**

Unit Director - Rich Hecht



Hi,

I'm taking a little break from writing a long unit director article to spend some time with my family. My wife Cindy and I had our second child, Alison, on April 27th. He joins our two-year-old son Justin and 7-year-old chocolate Lab, Darby. (The dog gets mad when I don't include him.) In preparation for this, I asked some of our members to send me some of their HOOAH stories for your enjoyment. This is a feature that I would like to include in future issues of Patrolling. You can write about whatever you would like to, some of it can even be true! Send it to me and I will include it in future issues. A few other things need to be addressed before the entertainment, first, if you have email, write to Ranger Ken Kovac and ask to be added to our 2/75 email update list. He needs your full name and that you want on the list. kkovac@aol.com. Next, is membership. You will be reading this in about June or so and membership is due. Association membership runs summer to summer and we can't carry you on the roster if you don't pay up. You are the life blood of this organization and for every few new guys that join a couple don't renew or forget to let us know when they move and we lose contact. We simply can't exist that way. AND GET YOUR BUDDIES TO JOIN TOO! It's only

\$25 a year and is the best way to keep informed on the happenings in the ranger community.

EXTENDED FTX

I remember when a grenade was "lost" during field exercise/live fire training. I was pretty darn new to the unit at the time. And it was a bad time not to be "tabbed". When the NCOs were counting up all of the ammo and grenades they thought that one was missing. From that point on we were held out in the field until the grenade was found.

During that two or three weeks it got very monotonous. There was not a lot to do. The NCOs tried to keep us busy with training but soon they got weary of being held out in the field as much as anyone else. One of the members of our platoon decided that we would improvise and play some baseball. After all we were locked out in the field during the play-offs and World Series. So someone came up with a tape ball that we used as the baseball. A 2x4 was made into a makeshift bat with the help of a K-Bar knife. It was all fun



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Rich Hecht



and games until I hit my squad leader in the back of the head with the ball as he was eating chow. Needless to say I did a lot of pushups.

Being the RTO I was able to listen to some of the World Series on the PRC-77. It wasn't great as far as reception but I was a big baseball fan so it was better than nothing.

When the Battalion Commander made us road march in for a Battalion level meeting we were quite upset. The whole company looked pretty ragged and weary when we showed up dirty and tired after two weeks in the field with no showers. Everyone did it without a question. Then we were granted a four hour block to shower and shave in the barracks. And then we marched right back out to the range.

Though it was quite a pain in the butt being out there in the field with little to do I remember it fondly now. I don't think I will ever experience something like that again. That group of guys stuck it out together, passed the time and got along amazingly well. I could not imagine being locked out in the field with all of the officers in my precinct without arguments and fights many times a day. It just puts in perspective the true bonds that we had as Rangers that no one else but people in those types of units make.

Chris Gray
B Co 2/75
1989-1993

NEWBIE

In September of 1978 I stood at the assembly area of Friar Drop zone and was awarded my Jump Wings. It was a Wednesday morning. The pride we all felt, then the hand shakes, then the Black Hats yelling at us to board the cattle ears back to our company areas. Back to the cables. We had just completed a course few would have. We were Airborne! Great now I have my wings. I'm somebody. Wrong, I get selected for chute shakeout detail. So much for feeling special.

A few days later I'm given my orders to report to Ft. Lewis Washington, the 59-something replacement detachment, I'm on my way. I arrive at SeaTac in my class A's, new spit shined jump boots, and less than Hooah garrison cap, with duffel bag in tow. I board the bus to Ft. Lewis. At the Replacement Detachment I'm given bedding and a place to bunk as well as a load of paperwork and instructions. All the time amazed at the total lack of yelling and being told what to do. People actually just spoke in normal tones. Still not

sure of what I'd volunteered for, I kept my mouth shut and did as was told, not mentioning where I was to go next. Here I met Chuck Soileau. (sorry about the spelling) He also was to go to 2d Batt., he informed me. I remember seeing him in our jump school class. We only speculated as to the training we were about to start. Our guesses were quickly quelled by the vast knowledge of the permanent party and other legs at the 590 something Replacement Detachment. Over the next few days we were in this leg land limbo, they tried to fill our heads with all kinds of wild stories of the training we were about to embark on. Yea Right! The uninformed speaking of the unknown. But we soon found out. A few days later, as we sat around the area, our names are called and we meet with some SGT wearing a Black Beret and slash pocket cammies. Highly starched I might add. At this point I still had no clue that the Berets or for that matter, cammies were to be part of our uniform. He informs us to prep to move out. We grab our gear and follow this SGT out to a vehicle and load up. Not so bad I think. We soon pull up to the battalion area.... It's very quiet. Doesn't seem to be anyone around. We get shuffled up to PAC and immediately the yelling starts by some PAC Spec 4. The papers flying, copies of orders all over the place, now go sit by that desk. I go through yet another mound of paperwork. Soon more Rangers appear and haul us off to tour new companies. At a double-time across the quad of course.

At the barracks a sign "Charlie Company 2d Bn (Ranger) 75th Inf" on a tall log built entry to the barracks. As we approach, I notice the black and yellow painted rocks and the pull-up bars next to the sidewalk. I knew what the bars are for, but the rocks? (Later I'd find out) We enter the orderly room and are told to sit. I remember being greeted by I SGT Donovan. Seems to be an OK guy, I figure. All the time standing at parade rest, mind you. We are asked our MOS's, and in turn, I inform the I SGT that I'm a 13E! A hush falls over the room, a 13 what? Well, I'm told, "we don't have any arty here, but we do have the next best thing *the 90!*" Cool, great, the 90, what's a 90? In due time I'll find out, God I hate it when they say that! You'll be on Chester Hill's gun team! Like I had a choice. Soileau is an I I C, no problemo, he goes to the mortars.

On to the platoon area. We haul our gear back across the quad, over to a building that has a sign that reads "9th Aviation" Hmm, oh well, in we go, and up the stairs. Charlie Company is empty. I'm told this was my room. Soileau goes somewhere else. The rooms are not really clean but a far cry from spit shined. With no one there to tell me what to do, I wait, and wait. Hours later, SGT Little is hollering up and down the halls. I had just become a "volunteer". SGT Little has me get whatever gear I could muster and we head to the arms room. He draws an M-14, I a 16. He finds another "volunteer" and we load into a vehicle. It's dark by the time we arrive at our destination. I find that we are at one end of an



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Rich Hecht



old bridge. My introduction to the Nisqually River Bridge. SGT Little plants the one troop at this end of the bridge and he and I cross to the other side. He positions me under some brush and says he's goin' huntin' for Charlie Co. I strain to see anything, my ears hearing every critter on Ft. Lewis. Later I hear SGT Little return. He then has me follow him. As we jog down a dirt road, we are met by a flash and a boom! Sticks, twigs, rocks and pebbles engulf us inflicting pain. Through the ringing in my ears I hear muffled laughter from the direction of the blast. Little is screaming at somebody named Coward or Hill as he fires his M-14 into the treeline and the offending pipe humpers. I had just been introduced to the 90. Later, or earlier the next day, we return to the company area, clean and turn in our weapons. A day later I met my new platoon and gun team.

After a week or so after a visit to CIF and Ranger issue, I was told to report to RIP. Ah yes, Ranger Indoctrination Program. In our OD issue fatigues and patrol caps, we reported to our instructors over at the PT pit in front of Alpha Company ready for inspection. There was about twenty or so of us in the class. Compass, Ranger Handbook, note pad and pen. Push-ups were, of course, the order of the day for every and any infraction. As we assumed the "front leaning rest position", a window of A Co. slowly opens. Out pop three

heads with, of all things, Mickey Mouse ears on, one sporting a trumpet. TA, DA, DA, DAT TA, DA! RRRRIIIII-IPPPPPPP!!!! They all yelled and quickly closed the window.

Our RIP instructors, doing all they can to keep from laughing, continue their verbal abuse at us. This is more of what I expected. Every morning at first formation of RIP, we were greeted by those three and their trumpet. Back then RIP was only a week long and was held in the Battalion area. We were taught all the history, customs and courtesies of our Ranger Battalion, as well as basic patrolling, uniforms and equipment, classroom and field instruction, and all the harassment one could fit into one week. I won't say it was very difficult yet we did lose a few RIPies, but it's one of those memories I'll cherish for as long as I live.

I never did get to know who the three Rangers from A Co. that greeted us every morning, but I'd like to thank them where ever they are, these twenty or so years later.

Jeff Pribyl
Co. C 2/75
1978-1980



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Peter Squeglia



Hello to everyone! I know it has been awhile since we have had an article updating our training and other events that have gone on in the battalion. I will cover what has gone on within the battalion since the beginning of the year and hopefully that will get everyone current on the status of 3d Ranger Battalion.

The battalion took leave late this past year because we were the Ranger Ready Force over the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The battalion did not take leave until the middle of January.

In the first part of the year, three companies changed commanders. Prior to everyone signing out on leave, MAJ William Butler relinquished command of Alpha Company to CPT Matt Seifert, who came over from HHC after being the S4 and will join 1SG Kevin Martin. After block leave, MAJ Steve Gilland relinquished command of Bravo Company to CPT Dan Wilson who was previously the S3 Air. CPT Wilson will join 1SG Hu Rhodes on the command team. Following right after Bravo Company, MAJ Mike Foster relinquished command of Charlie Company to CPT Shawn Daniel who

was the Training Officer. He is joining with 1SG Frank Coke. HHC is comprised of CPT Chris Stone and 1SG John Burns.

In March, the battalion deployed to Fort Pickett, Virginia and got to enjoy some northern weather. Throughout the operation, each company participated in airborne operations, as well as a MOUT attack, and platoon live fire raids. Alpha Company seemed to have drawn the short end of the straw, as anytime the weather seemed to turn for the worse, they happened to be out in the field. Some say the cold weather and rain makes you tougher, I am sure Alpha Company could have come up with other ways of getting tough. It did however turn out to be a great training event for the Rangers and prepared them for the upcoming training cycle that would be one continuous event after another.

Two weeks back from the deployment to Fort Pickett and the Rangers were back to doing what they do best, training for combat operations. For two weeks the companies trained up for the Fixed Wing (FW) and Rotary Wing (RW) Bilateral Training Exercises by following a training path that allowed each company to validate their Standing Operating



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Peter Squeglia



Procedures (SOPs) and battle drills. They then immediately jumped right into the FW missions with two Airfield Seizures. It was a great training event as the battalion had attachments of Abrams Tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles. This gave many of the Rangers the opportunity to work with some of the Army's conventional forces—something they do not usually get to do. The battalion also conducted Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) as a part of the training event.

Three days after finishing up FW training, the battalion participated in a RW exercise. During this training event, each company participated in a company air assault live fire raid and a company MOUT air assault attack with the assistance of the United States Army and Air Force Special Operations Aviators. During the live fire raid, many new Rangers experienced for the first time the firepower available to the Rangers as many of battalion's fire support assets came to join in the training. For the live fire portion of the exercise, the Rangers attacked a fortified compound, which had tangle foot, concertina wire, and a chain link fence surrounding a trench line with bunkers and buildings on it. During the

MOUT attack, the Rangers got a different look as they went against an enemy in an urban environment which was complimented with about thirty to forty civilians on the battlefield (COBs). This demonstrates the wide spectrum in which the Rangers can operate.

A few weeks after completion of Rotary Wing Bilateral training, the battalion will participate in a Joint training exercise with sister units in order to further validate the combat capability of the unit. When the battalion returns, Rangers will get a well deserved break by going on block leave, but not before the battalion change of command.

On 27 June 2001, LTC James C. Nixon will relinquish command of 3d Battalion to LTC Stefan J. Banach who will have completed command of 3-15th Infantry (Mechanized) at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

I hope this brings everyone up to speed. We would like to thank all the Veterans for their continued support. Enjoy the summer. Rangers Lead the Way!

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

3rd ID LRRP Detachment By Mike McClintock, Unit Director

This past week as I sat watching the History Channel's presentation of Special Operations "LRRPs" and "Recondo School," I reflected back on what it was that made LRRPs special people, and how after all these years there is still a strong bond of brotherhood among all of the LRRP, LRP and Ranger units of the past 50 or more years. I was proud to see the accomplishments of the Vietnam LRRP/LRP/Ranger units presented in a positive light when so much of what we see in the media today is short-sighted, biased and, more often than not, outright propagandistic.

A case in point is the commotion over the purported actions of

Rep. Bob Kerrey's Navy SEAL team at Thanh Phong. No one but those who were there will ever know what actually happened at Thanh Phong, but the media used this as an excuse to resurrect the bogeyman of "U.S.



atrocities in Vietnam," including My Lai (again). This is a tired old theme that is dragged out from time to time by leftist activists to maintain the myth of Vietnam as an immoral war, and to justify their lack of participation therein. But to my mind, the constant rehashing of these incidents without placing them in the context of the overall situation in

Vietnam amounts to nothing more than a clear bias against those who served in Vietnam, and the U.S. military in general.

Let me tell you why I feel this way. I was born in the middle of World War II, and I grew up believing that the good guys always wore white hats and the bad guys always wore black hats (cowboy hats, not berets). I was almost seven years old when the Korean War started and among my earliest memories are pictures of dead GIs lying frozen in a roadside ditch with their hands tied behind their backs with commo wire. They had been captured and executed by the North Koreans/Red Chinese. Pretty powerful stuff for a seven year-old, but as I got older I read about WWII and the Battle of the Bulge. At a place called Malmedy the Germans executed captured GIs in a similar manner.

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

My point is that unless you have studied history, and not the kind of history that they teach in school today, you would not know of these events and the media's portrayal of Thanh Phong would only give you one side of the story. Former Secretary of the Navy, James Webb, commented on the Kerrey story and cited the example of a VC assassination team attacking a peaceful meeting of villagers in the hamlet of My Loc, where a number of innocent men, women and children were killed. An event that was likely never reported by the media. Webb goes on to say that "For many who went through extensive combat in Vietnam (the second guessing by journalists) brings back an anger caused by memories not of the war but of the condescending arrogance

directed at them upon their return, principally by people in their own age group who had risked nothing, and yet microscopically judged every action of those who had risked everything and often lost a great deal."

I stand with Webb and Kerrey, and believe that for every My Lai and Thanh Phong there are probably a hundred or more My Locs that were never reported. How many times have you heard about My Lai lately in comparison to the Tet offensive in Hue, where the VC/NVA purposely slaughtered an estimated 5,000 civilians, including public officials, school teachers and other community leaders? At the end of the History Channel's presentation on the Mike Force and the

Montagnards, it was noted that after the fall of Saigon in 1975 the forces of "liberation" systematically slaughtered some 65,000 Montagnard tribesmen. I'll shed a tear for the "victims" of Thanh Phong when I get a full accounting of our MIA in Vietnam, and when Jane Fonda apologizes for Tet and the killing fields of Cambodia.

On a lighter note, I would like to know who the bozo was who was supposedly pulling rear security for the LRRP team shown on the History Channel, and whose exposed dog tags were flashing in the sunlight as he turned to run into the bush? If you didn't catch that, you're losing it, Bro!

**ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)**

Unit Director - Mike Martin

**Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:**

Allow me the space in this article to reminisce on the forming of the modern—day ranger battalions and the Best Ranger Competition held at Fort Benning on 27—30 April 2001:

"It's a great day to excel," exclaimed Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Leuer, to a formation of selected officers, noncommissioned officers, and enlisted rangers some 27 years ago. "You have been hand-picked to form the nucleus of the 1st of the 75th Ranger Battalion—the first ranger battalion activated since World War II."

Leuer informed the small group, that they would be the most elite light infantry unit in the world. Their bearing, standards, and professionalism would not only epitomize them and the battalion, but would have a profound influence on the entire army in the coming years.

He went on to become a major general, and the ranger battalion expanded into a regimental size unit.

As with their predecessors, their training, physical fitness, and fighting ability would become legendary; and as Leuer had predicted, as Ranger Officers and NCOs rotated overseas and to other units throughout the army, their expertise and leadership from squad to army level was accentuated; Ranger standards became the norm, not the exception in all commands—this ripple effect continues today.



As one of the four original First Sergeants of the 1st 75th Ranger Battalion, I witnessed the start of the 19th Annual Best Ranger Competition and what MG Leuer had forecasted at the beginning: that in the future Rangers would be the torchbearers, the standard carriers for all elite forces and armies of the world; they would be



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

Unit Director - Mike Martin



America's premier fighting force.

Watching the two-man teams struggling with their equipment and donning their parachutes for the Airborne phase of the competition, their uniforms wet with perspiration, the heat-induced haze rising from the tarmac and their already fatigued bodies, I wondered why a soldier who has proven himself in Airborne and

Ranger units would put himself through such pain in this physically and mentally demanding course—despite their intensive training and preparation, most are shocked by the intensity of the event.

Conducted by the Ranger Training Brigade, it is a sleep deprived, grueling three day course, consisting of a multitude of rigorous tests to include: infantry tasks, marksmanship, rappelling, parachuting, land navigation, helo-casting, obstacle courses and a road march.

Named after famed Ranger, Lieutenant General David E. Grange, Jr., U.S. Army retired, the Best Ranger Competition is contrived to push the competitors to the limit physically, but a team effort and self-discipline are the key elements in completing the event...it is one course where you cannot fall back on position or rank, only your ability to "drive on."

Motivation and the underlying ambition to — be — the — best are some of the reasons that teams participate, but truly it is the heart and spirit of the individuals competing...the desire to excel, to test their endurance

under the most stressful conditions; these, like thousands of other soldiers, are the backbone of America's Army.

So, as I viewed the Ranger Teams, silhouetted by the hot Georgia Sun with a backdrop of southern pines and the red mother earth, heaving with exertion as they wobbled to the waiting Black Hawk helicopters with

heavy rucksacks dangling between their legs, I recalled General Leuer as he spoke in his command voice at that first formation in 1974, "RANGERS LEAD THE WAY."

EVENTS, WARNING ORDERS AND SITREPS

RANGER HALL OF FAME: BDQ and an Airborne Advisor MSG(R) John D. Minatra, was selected for the Ranger Hall of Fame (25 July 011600 hrs, Ranger Memorial). From his service in 1953 as an Airborne Rigger to



Sergeant First Class John D. Minatra (11th BDQ Bn.), receives the Distinguished Service Cross in April, 1968 for his exceptionally valorous actions during combat operations near Dak To. General W.C. Westmoreland (commander, US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam) is presenting the award; Minatra is serving with the Vietnamese Airborne when this photo was taken, he is the inductee for the Ranger Hall of Fame in July 2001.

his retirement in 1973 as the NCOIC of the Patrolling Committee, MT Ranger Camp, "Big John" epitomized the name Ranger. Minatra was an Advisor to the 11th Vietnamese Ranger Bn. in 1964; 1967—68, he served as an Advisor to the Vietnamese Airborne Division and in 1971, served his third tour in Vietnam. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism at Dak To. Nominees from the BDQs for next year's Ranger Hall of Fame are:

BDQ Richard Wandke
BDQ Harris Parker
BDQ Walter A. Gunn, Jr.



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Mike Martin



TEAM MEMBERSHIP: We salute BDQ Walt Sanders (Senior Advisor) for having all his team members "on board;" we appreciate his efforts.... This is a good example: seek out missing members; set a goal to locate your team members and have them become members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association ASAP.

UNIT DIRECTOR: I have appointed BDQ Jim Waters to contact BDQ members in reference to the selection of a BDQ Unit Director. Ability and involvement with the Biet Dong Quan community will be required. Jim will provide details to the membership. Also, again, I take this opportunity to thank Jim for his support and the vast amount of work he does daily for the BDQs and the Association.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER: The Vietnamese Rangers' publication, Tap San Biet Dong Quan, printed Emmett's letter of appreciation to their association for their Color Guard performance during our Washington DC, reunion. I thank him for his time and effort to express a part of the correspondence into Vietnamese...it was greatly appreciated by the Vietnamese Ranger community.

BERETS: As a civilian, you have the right to wear any type or color that you desire—the active duty 75th Ranger Regiment will present the tan beret to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association during their change

from black to tan—you may wear this too, but for BDQ functions and reunions, we will continue to wear the BDQ maroon beret; the one we wore in combat. Many of you, as I did, served as Instructors in the U.S. Army Ranger School and wore the black beret and a

few of us served in the Ranger battalions when they were formed and the black beret was authorized. We salute "All".

VN RANGER GENERAL ASSOCIATION IN THE USA: An excerpt from a message presented to the American Advisors by President Tran Tien San:

Friends and former colleagues, you have all our respect. We know that to carry out your duties as

Advisors to each branch of the Armed Forces of Vietnam, you made a very noble sacrifice. We especially want to focus on the Advisors to the Rangers because we have fought and struggled together. We have shared together the victories and the agonies, at times, the little food we had and the worries when death was just around the corner. Our military units and our country were foreign to you. Our living conditions and our traditions were so different from yours, but you were always cheerful, always diligent in your duties without a word of complaint. You were ready to help with your superb knowledge and special capabilities and considered our units as your own. How can we ever forget the ultimate sacrifices that you and your families have made for us. For that we are deeply grateful.



Can Tho (IV Corps) 3 April 1968--Vietnamese Rangers in the Mekong Delta are being equipped with the M-16 rifle to increase their fire power in combat with the Viet Cong. Looking over one of the rifles at 4th Ranger Group headquarters near Can Tho are, left to right, Lieutenant Pham Van Thuan of the Rangers, Sergeant First Class Alfred Hill, a Ranger Advisor, and Sergeant Cha Van Mang, also of the Rangers.



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Mike Martin



Field quarters for Ranger Advisor, Captain Gary Chittester, Senior Advisor to the 52d Vietnamese Ranger Bn. Location is Nhon Trach, South Vietnam, November 1966. On his next tour Chittester would be one of the key individuals in setting-up the U.S. Army Sniper program in Vietnam. The poncho is for rain, the thatch for heat.

Sergeant John Sexton, of Warren, Michigan is carried by a Vietnamese Ranger Advisor (US Colonel) towards an evacuation helicopter after he walked into Loc Ninh, ending two years of Viet Cong captivity; he had walked for 8 hours without boots.



I believe that you still have in your minds and hearts, both the happy as well as the sad memories of the time you served as BDQ Advisors to the Vietnamese Rangers. But we haven't lived or worked together since thirty years ago. Your duties as Advisors to the Rangers have finished and we, the Vietnamese Rangers, are trying to live a new life and adjust to life in a new country. We believe all the difficulties will be overcome because as you know, we are Rangers!"

"The unfailing formula for production of morale is patriotism, self-respect, discipline, and self-confidence within a military unit, joined with fair treatment and merited appreciation from without... It will quickly wither and die if soldiers come to believe themselves the victims of indifference or injustice on the part of their government, or of ignorance, personal ambition, or ineptitude on the part of their military leaders."
--General Douglas MacArthur, Annual Report of the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, June 30, 1933

Small men speak rash words and act inconsistently.
Mediocre men focus only on one weapon or technique.
True warriors use all skills, share with their brothers, learn from their betters, and understand all things for their improvement.
—Emblems of the Three Bonds (1432)
"SHOOT LOW I'll see you on the High Ground."
Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director

CHAPLINS CORNER

By Rev. Charles Keogh

Independence Day, July 4th, marks one of the most special holidays for Americans. On this day, all Americans do well to recall the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on that date in 1776. Remember, too, that no small aspect of that freedom and independence was fought for and won by Roger's Rangers ... the forerunners of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

Americans are big on independence. We like freedom from the control and influence of others. We like to do 'our own thing' without getting help from others. We like to think of ourselves as independent, thinking people. We tend to act and work independently and as we please. We want to run our own lives and not depend on others.

But has it ever really been that way; or, should it ever be? How can there be a team of one? What team in the field wanted to be out of radio communications or artillery range? When weren't we thankful that someone was always there in the T.O.C. for us? Whose heart didn't beat faster when a Huey was making its final approach to our extraction LZ? Didn't we depend on and hope for getting support from others? Who ever hoped that medivac choppers would all be standing down while we were out? Don't we still rely on and trust on someone other than ourselves to care and help?

We have and will continue to fight for freedom. But that does not mean independence from what's good and right and needed. Freedom from the Law leads to anarchy. Two great laws remain. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." And, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But well have we ourselves kept these Laws? In the highest court, in God's court, who among us could not be court-martialed for failing to follow orders to the letter and spirit of the Law?

But to our rescue, off in the distance, comes the 'whop, whop, whop' sound of someone who cares; someone who comes to our rescue in our time of need. No guns are blazing, however. It's not sound of chopper blades. It's the sound of a hammer driving nails into the hands and feet of Him who determined that He would lay down His life to save others ... to save us and our loved ones. He took the hits that we had coming. He went down in the process of saving us. And, His resurrection from the dead is proof of "mission accomplished"!

The warning order has been issued by none other than God Almighty. Christ's mission was carried out perfectly. "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should never perish but have eternal life." Therefore, having been rescued, extracted from guilt and sin and failure, we are set apart, not to be independent of others but there for others. For even as our eternal life depends on God's rescue of us, others have and are depending on us to be there for them.

Those with this faith lead the way by coming to the rescue of others with the determination that the mission given will be accomplished! Like with Christ, it's the kind of thing that can get you killed. And, like Christ, it's the kind of thing that makes the enemy afraid and establishes the love and honor that can only be earned. It is such things as these that are the hallmarks of true independence.

In His service and yours,
Rev. Charles Keogh
Chaplain, 75th Ranger Regiment Association

FAREWELL

By Dan Nate

FAREWELL TO A FRIEND AND FELLOW LRP

By: Dan Nate

Unbenownst to the rest of us, our friend and comrade, Norton Burman Singman, died of natural causes back in 1996. Because no one in his family knew of our friendship-ties, we were never notified. He is buried in the Chapel Hill, NC Antioch Baptist Cemetery. Maybe one of our members living nearby can pause and pay him a visit, as we have with so many others, in our relatively short lives. Dennie Callahan, another of "our guys" found out through SSEARCH, a privately owned unit specializing in tracking down missing friends.

We of F co. will miss him. Ms. Connie Moore, a friend of Dennie's has written the following poem to help ease us through this sad time. It is called:

THE WAY THINGS WERE.

You asked if He was my friend...
 Yes, He was that and so much more.
 We went through Vietnam together,
 Not clear what we were fighting for.
 We each had a job to do,
 That was just the way things were.
 He was good at what he did,
 His aim was straight and sure.
 It was a miracle in and of itself,
 The fact that we both came home.
 More than 58,000 others didn't,
 And their names are carved in Stone.
 I went one way and He went the other,
 That was the way things were.
 We promised to keep in touch,
 This one thing we could do for sure.
 It's funny how time gets away from you,
 Traveling down the road of life.
 You turn around once or twice,
 And Time has stabbed you with its knife.
 You start to think of better times,
 And your mind goes wandering back.
 You decide to find this friend and can't,
 Your search found him gone .. from a heart attack.
 Of All the things it could have been ...
 To Take Him after what we had to Endure,
 I'll never forget Him, I'll tell you that!
 I can almost hear Him say.....

Thanks to Connie Moore, May 14, 2001

POINTMAN'S JOB IS DIFFICULT**POINTMAN'S JOB IS DIFFICULT,
FILLED WITH CONSTANT TENSION**

A tall, broad-shouldered soldier slowed to a stop as he approached the thickly vegetated ravine. He un-sheathed his machete, and moved forward again, hacking viciously at the tangled clump of vines blocking his path. Beads of sweat swelled beneath the band of his helmet.

More than 100 miles to the north, another soldier was crouching low in the swaying elephant grass, his rucksack more than half his weight, pushing heavily at his shoulders. As the rest of his platoon approached, he pointed out the well-camouflaged Viet Cong booby-trap to each man, and they moved around it quietly.

For both of these men, it was a familiar scene, in a typical day pulling point—a day filled with constant tension, muscular motion and the realization that one mistake could bring an abrupt end to both themselves and the squad, team or platoon behind them.

In appearance, the point man looks just the same as the infantryman that follows him, except perhaps if one takes a closer look and notices the hands, scarred by cuts and bruises left by breaking trails through the thick and thorny brush, or the fact that he's just a bit more lean because he sometimes has to walk twice as far as the rest of his group. When the unit breaks for chow, he is the last to eat. First he must move ahead to find the best route for the group to take. He is then of course, the first to move out again.

I look for four things in a good point man, says his commanding officer. He must have intelligence, mental alertness, good physical condition and guts, lots of guts. A good point man will usually mean the difference whether you surprise Charlie, or he surprises you.

It is perhaps not surprising to find that this job is an easy one to get. Often all a man has to do is to volunteer. Usually only the better men volunteer. They know the task, have confidence in themselves, and want to help the rest of the unit. "I walked point for six months before becoming a squad leader, or ATL, and I'd say the main thing to remember is not to take Charlie for granted. Just when you think you have him figured out, he'll change his tactics. A point man must be alert every minute. You may go for weeks without making contact, but Charlie will always be watching you. He'll watch and wait, hoping that you'll become lax and over-confident. All you have to do is stay alert and don't give him any slack. You look for anything out of the ordinary," admonished the Team Leader.

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By Ronnie R. Edwards

Hi Guys. Summer is here and time for another issue of Patrolling. I hope you have liked the changes we have made in the format and content of the magazine. Most of the comments we have received are good and the "zingers" are usually right after the magazine comes out and pertain to mistakes we made in that issue. Last issue I put the wrong unit down for a couple of the new members, we messed up the name of James A. Champion a MIA from L/75, and really screwed up the mailing address of Rich Hecht, Unit Director for 2/75, and the email addresses he had put in his column. Hopefully we will get it right this time.

Membership is always on my mind, and I am sorry to report that we have lost about 125 members this year for non-payment of dues. I have notified their Unit Directors of the names, but do not think it appropriate to list them in this magazine. A few have disagreed with the actions of the association leadership in respect to the handling of the Black/Tan Beret issue and some have moved and simply lost contact with us. I am sure that we also have lost some simply because they did not feel able to put out \$25 at this time. That should never be the case because we have funds to cover situations like this. Many members pay more than their dues and say to use the remainder to pay the dues of

members in financial distress and the Association has already carried several members this year at the recommendation of their Unit Directors.

With the assistance of Jack Daniel, the Association is sending out postcards to past members who have been dropped from the active roll in the last 10 years. We hope to remind them that the Association is still here, they are still eligible for membership, and we want them back on active status. Hopefully there will be a good response and we will be able to rebound from the loss of members this year.

This summer marks the halfway point in my tour of duty as secretary of the association and already I am anxiously awaiting my "turtle" replacement. Those of you who have a little time left over in your daily schedule, should give thought to pulling a tour in one of the leadership positions. I must say that being computer literate to the point of sending and receiving emails is just about a requirement for the secretary position but you don't have to be a web head or anything close to it (I'm proof of that). Give it some thought and let me know.

"See you back in the world", - Ron

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Jack Werner

My Comrades

They've gone away.....scattered wide
Lost behind the hills of life
Some have passed the great divide
And given up the endless strife....

Of living in a troubled world
Where man must toil and fight
To live in peace and freedom
And believe in what is right

In dreams I see their faces
Sometimes I speak their names
And though I can hear their voices
Still, I call for them in vain

Someday, I'll cross that great divide
To leave this troubled world behind
And then, perhaps they'll not return
To the shadows...of my mind

John C. Love
COL, USMC Retired
Friend of Jack Werner

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The membership year runs from 1 July of the current year to 30 June of next year. If your magazine-mailing label has 2001 on it your membership renewal is due on 1 July for the 1 July 2001 through 30 June 2002 membership year. Dues are now \$25 and your subscription to PATROLLING is included. Members can send in their dues ahead of time or wait until after July 1st. You can also pay for several years at a time if you desire, your magazine label will always reflect your ending year.

For our newer members, dues are not prorated or based on the month you joined. For simplicity in our accounting, all dues run out on 30 June. That means that even tho you just joined in Jan or Feb of this year, your renewal for the 2001-2002 membership year is still considered due on 1 July. HOWEVER, I will never drop a member from active status before a full year has elapsed from the date he joined and he has received a years worth of the PATROLLING magazine. That means that if those that joined in Jan or Feb want to wait until then to send in their dues, they can do so and not miss an issue of the magazine. Most members send in their dues in the July/August timeframe. The mailing address for your dues is on the application/renewal form. Use the form to update any address changes or just mail your dues to: Secretary, 75th RRA, PO BOX 921, Heflin, AL. 36264.

THE BEAT OF YOUTH BY JJ CRASH MAKOOL

By JJ "Crash" Makool

Many years ago when I was young, I had the Beat, and I'd Beep and Bop and I would Do Wop Do Wop Wop at dusk and at dawn, and all day long. Then one day this old Uncle of mine, sent me a letter, and said Son you're gonna have to come along.

So I said goodbye, to the Belle of my eye, and told the MotorHead boys, to save me some Whiskey and Rye. And I parked my two 57 Chevy's up on blocks, and told my kid brother and sisters, not to wear holes in their socks. I kissed my Mom on the cheek, gave her a hug, and told her not to worry, that I would pay attention, and learn well, and not get in a hurry.

When all along I was pretty sure, that I was riding The Express Train Straight to Hell's Fury. But I paid attention, and I did excel, and somehow I did pretty damn well. I flew and I crewed and I shot a hot 60, But somehow I never did get tore up by a 50.

They stuck a hot RPG up my sash, and that earned me the nick-name of lucky ol' "Crash" And somehow as I came of age, The DoWops turned into the British Invase, and Love Me Tender became Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band.

And the Beat Rolled On, and the young men died, while on the radio, They still played Bye Bye Miss American Pie. And I remember when I came of Age, with a 5th of Old Crow, and an open up picture of Miss May. But somewhere along the way, I forgot to turn the page, and I lost my place, and no longer recognized my face. And I lost the Beat, and We must have suffered a Great Defeat. But I don't remember cause by then, I had Smoked my Mind, and had forgotten all about Time.

But I do Remember when I got so Tanked, about all the Birds that They purposely had Sank! And the Drag Racing that I used to Love, was now not so Neat, and somewhere over there I had lost the Beat, In the midst of a great, terrible, unnecessary Defeat.

But the worst thing that happened was I Lost the Beat.

"Crash" Makool was with the 101st AVN BN in Vietnam

NEW MEMBERS**New Members List**

The Following Members are new to the 75th RRA, have rejoined after an absence or we just plain left their names off the last New Member list (oops).

James T. Jr AyersB/2/75
 Steven G. BairdHHC/3/75
 James M. BarrettH/75
 Gerald H. Bethke2/75
 Chris A. CoyB/2/75
 Daniel C. DoyleA/1/75
 James W. FinneyC/2/75
 Tim FrankeB/3/75
 Mitchell S. GanzA/2/75
 Jared GrzanichB/3/75
 Curtis JereczekRANGER REGT
 Tarren KingsleyHHC/3/75
 Jonathan W. LauriaA/3/75
 Kim MaxinB/75
 Jack MooreV CORPS
 Ronald Norton4th INF DIV
 Peter C. OstasewskiC/1/75
 John T. PaschalB/1/75
 David K. ProbstC/1/75
 Loren RogersA/1/75
 Shannon R. SaylorB/1/75
 Bryl G. TrostelF/75
 Ted TruebloodK/75
 Daniel K. WagonerP/75
 Jeffery E. WaltersRANGER REGT
 Joesph R. WelkeN/75
 Frederick E. WhiteC/75
 Kurt BourneA/2/75
 Peter W. Perkins25th INF DIV
 Frank J. SalazarL/75
 Jack McFarland4th INF DIV

**Apologies to Rey Martinez and Chet Smith Jr. for mis-Labeling their unit in the last issue. Rey served in 1st Bde, 101st LRRPS and Chet in Co D LRP 17th Inf. Abn

REUNIONS**D-151 LRP RANGER**

AUGUST 10, 11 & 12, 2001

LOCATION: CAMP AFTERBURY, INDIANA

CONTACT: GARY PORTER (765) 747-0584

E-MAIL: 22990267@STARBAND.NET

4TH DIVISION LRPS K/75 RANGERS

SEPTEMBER 14 - 17, 2001

LOCATION: ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

DAYS INN CONVENTION CENTER

CONTACT: ROGER CRUNK (970) 858-4579

E-MAIL: RTCRUNK@AOL.COM

P/75 79th LRRP

JULY 12 - 14, 2001

LOCATION: "A BEACH ODESSY"

BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

CONTACT: KAY COUCH, BRYAN TOURS

1-800-647-5296 or

JERRY &/OR MARIE YONKO (601) 992-6822

*For complete information, please see the
Unit Directors' reports in this issue.*

General Information

The week of May 7, 2001, the History Channel Ran a four part special called Special Ops. If you do not have cable & are interested in acquiring the set go to TheHistoryChannel.com & click on Special Ops Set.

If you do not have internet access the tapes can be ordered by calling 1-800-708-1776

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

JULY 25 - 29, 2001

LOCATION: HOTEL SUITES & ROOMS
 FEDERAL WAY, WA TEL: 1-800-59-583-2272

CONTACT: BOB COPELAND (403) 962-0114

ODE TO THE LONG RANGE PATROL

ODE TO THE LONG RANGE PATROL

He's five-foot four, he's six-foot five,
He weighs one-ten to two-o-five.
His hair is parted in many ways; his
Pre-occupation is counting "his" days.
He's 50 % courage; he's 50 % guts,
Or maybe he's just 100% nuts.
A mission is called; he's ready in 10,
His tiger-suit, weapon, and four other men.
Rations for five, and survival needs-
No time to look for his rosary beads.
The "chopper" is loaded, and off they go,
To slip through the jungle and challenge the foe.
Once off the "chopper" the transition begins,
He can't be a man and still hope to win.
He must be an animal, crude in his ways;
In eating and sleeping and passing the days.
He fights the VC in their terms, in their place,
The results in our favor; we're setting the pace.
The mission is over; He returns to lament,
The miseries endured; the lives that were spent.
A shower, and shave-dry clothes are in need;
A cold beer to drink, some back-mail to read.
In so doing, he's accomplished his goal-
He's a hard-core member of LONG RANGE PATROL.

Written by Sgt. James Martin, HHC LRPD, 9th Sup. Div.
And published in "THE OBSERVER", RVN, 1969.
Saved and submitted for "PATROLLING" by Dan Nate.

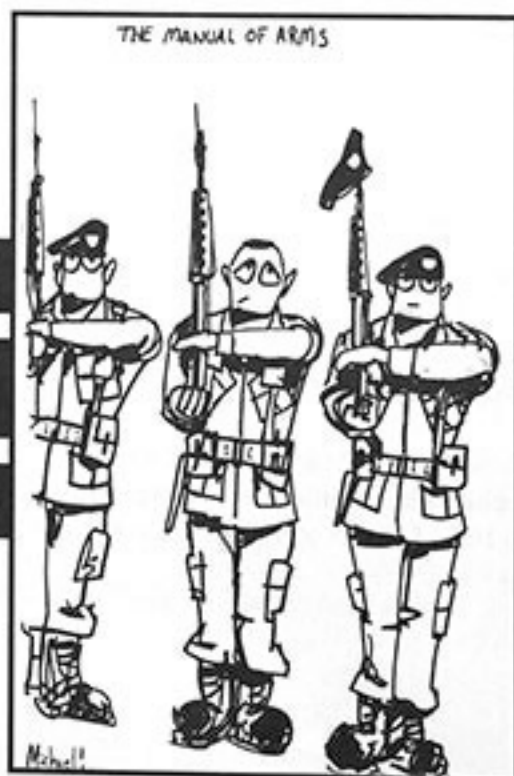
Hello,
May 2001

My name is Sandee Rouse. I am the Gold Star Mother of Ranger James Markwell, 1/75Bn medic KIA 'Operation Just Cause' Panama 1989. I am writing to tell you about 'Extended Arms.' This addition to your association was the brainchild of SGM Hiltbrand. He asked me to bring this into existence and I have agreed. I have called it Extended Arms because when I thought about what we are trying to accomplish, that was the picture that I saw. Gold Star mothers, wives and Rangers reaching out to each other with love and support.

As a result of a Rangers unwavering commitment to his chosen profession our numbers will continue to increase. We hope this will be the link to these families and the surviving Rangers so that we may be a comfort to each other when needed and to also work side by side on issues and agendas that affect both the families and the association. By forming a strong bond we will also continue to honor our fallen heroes.

I welcome any suggestions you may have as to how you think you can help these ladies and how we may help you. I hope to have the Mission Statement for Extended Arms put together in the near future. If you know of the whereabouts of any Gold Star mothers or wives please either forward their info and the info on their Ranger to me or have them contact me at GoldStars75thRRA@aol.com. Until next time God Bless each of you.

RLTW
Sandee



LIFE SUCKS

AN OLD ARMY PROVERB

THE GRUNT



THE RANGER



THE GREEN BERET



THE AVIATOR



DRAWN BY CW2 MICHAEL SHANE



Save, Earn, and Raise NEW! 4.9 cents



State to State Long Distance Service

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. and ACN, Inc., have combined forces to raise money for the Ranger Association. You, your friends, family, and neighbors can all save.

Benefits:

- No complicated forms
- Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- 6 second billing, not rounded up
- Toll-free service, just 10¢ min.
- Discounted International rates
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- \$4.99 monthly fee (Plan 1)
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| COMPARE Cost of 3.5 min call* | Peak M-F 7am-7pm | Off-Peak nights & weekends | Cost w/ ACN | Savings |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Sprint Sense Anytime | 10¢ | 10¢ | 48¢ | 50% |
| AT&T One Rate | 7¢ | 7¢ | 37¢ | 35% |
| MCI 5¢ everyday | 15¢ | 5¢ | 36¢ | 33% |
| ACN Global Connect (Plan 1) | 4.9¢ | 4.9¢ | 24¢ | |

All rates, facts, and figures are accurate as of July, 2000. Rates are subject to change.

* Cost includes prorated portion of monthly recurring charge based on usage of 250 minutes per month. Assumes usage of 30% weekdays and 70% nights and weekends.

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association earns up to 8% every time you make a call!

If you are an infrequent caller, ACN has a program for you, too! 8.9¢ per minute for state to state calls, with no monthly fee (Plan 2)

Enroll Now...

Call...1.877.794.1900...Anytime, from the phone line you wish to switch.

Follow the simple instructions from the automated authorization system.

Select either Plan 1 (4.9¢) or Plan 2 (8.9¢)...when prompted, enter the Ranger ID

0 3 4 8 0 5 4

For commercial accounts, or any questions, call Craig Brucks (ACN)
Toll Free 1.800.556.5642





75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc
P.O. Box 921
Heflin, AL 36264

Membership Application Form

Annual dues: \$25.00

Life membership: \$250.00

Subscription Only: \$25.00

Checks Payable to:

75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------|----------|
| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | MI | DATE |
| STREET ADDRESS | CITY | STATE | ZIP PLUS |
| AREA CODE/HOME PHONE | AREA CODE/WORK PHONE | OCCUPATION | |

UNITS SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| FROM (DATE) | TO (DATE) | UNIT (Company or Battalion) | NAMES OR ORDERS |
| FROM (DATE) | TO (DATE) | UNIT (Company or Battalion) | NAMES OR ORDERS |
| FROM (DATE) | TO (DATE) | UNIT (Company or Battalion) | NAMES OR ORDERS |

REMARKS: _____

CHECK ONE: NEW APPLICATION _____ RENEWAL _____ SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER _____

MEMBERSHIP CONTINGENT UPON PROOF OF SERVICE: ORDERS OR NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS YOU SERVED WITH IN THE UNITS LISTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. UNITS MUST CARRY THE LINEAGE OR BE IN THE HISTORY. WE ARE NOT JUST A VIETNAM ERA ASSOCIATION. ALL UNITS OF THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP



*Ranger Memorial
at
Pont-De-Hoc
Normandy, France*



Anybody remember this stuff? A whole pocketful of money & you're still not rich. Personally, I used to think a lot about the woman on the cents notes. She was rather intriguing.



Ranger Museum, Normandy, France

Special Operations Memorial

MacDill AFB, Florida

USSOCOM Special Operations Memorial Foundation, Inc.,
75th Ranger Regiment Association,
Special Forces Association,
Special Operations Association,
UDT/SEAL Association.



The walls flanking the central generic SOF warrior will hold individual engravings in addition to special operations organizational histories. Engravings may be purchased, and designed to reflect either the buyer's name and/or organization, or may memorialize another (past or present) special operator. To maximize the available space, the same individual will not be memorialized more than once. The memorial is located adjacent to the entrance to the US Special Operations Command Headquarters complex, MacDill AFB. Engravings are limited to eighteen (18) letters per line (including spaces); the number of lines may be purchased as follows:

2 lines (4" x 12") - \$100.00; 3 lines (8" x 12") - \$250.00; 4 lines (12" x 12") - \$500.00

The Foundation will center the verbiage, and reserves the right to modify engravings to retain uniformity.

Special Operations Memorial Foundation, PO Box 6696, MacDill AFB, Florida 33608-0696

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 Lines - \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 Lines - \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 Lines - \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Did the Honoree serve with SOF? (Y or N) ____ If YES, which unit: _____

Name: _____ Telephone: _____ Mbr: SFA ____ SOA ____ UDT/SEAL ____ RGR ____

Address: _____

Amount: \$ _____



Rangers from Bravo Company 3rd Battalion fly off into the sunset aboard an Air Force HH-53 Sea Stallion helicopter during CSAR (Combat Search and Rescue) training at Ft. Benning Ga.

Photo by Patrick Bissanti



75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 921
HEFLIN, AL 36264

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PERMIT #75

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

The beret issue still seems to be dogging us, it just won't go away. One by-product of the conflict was an increase in the dialog between Associations in the Special Operations area. That's something that we can use to our advantage and cannot help but make us stronger. I think the Association took the high road on this issue and I think that our President, Emmett Hiltibrand did a great job as our representative. Anger might keep you alive on the battlefield, but it can kill you in the boardroom, and Emmett did what needed to be done. I know by the volume of e-mails he generated, that he put in many, many hours on our behalf.

You will notice that the pages for each unit column are adorned with the patches, scrolls and unit crests that belong to each unit (I hope). I am not an expert at this, so bear with me, if I got something wrong or left something out, it was without any attempt to slight anyone. Just send me an e-mail (or hardcopy) of what is correct, and we will get it right for the next issue. I want to thank Geoff Barker for his book, *A Concise History of U. S. Army Special Operations Forces*. Much of the insignia and Unit Histories came from his book. Geoff is also one of the guiding lights of the Special Operations Memorial at MacDill AFB, Florida. (See related piece in this issue.) The 75th Ranger Regiment Association has become a sponsor of the Memorial at no cost to the Association. We get credit if our members buy engraving space on the memorial.

We have added some cartoons drawn by former Ranger CWO2 Michael Shane. He has had an interesting Army career. He started life as an Army illustrator, decided that the Infantry was the place to be, and ended up a Ranger for 6 years. After making E-6, Michael decided to go to flight school and is now a Cobra pilot and safety officer in the 17th Aviation Brigade. We are trying out the concept of injecting a little humor to lighten the message in the magazine. If you have a funny story, (doesn't even need to be true), anecdotal or otherwise, send it to your unit director, and we'll get it in the magazine.

Speaking of the magazine, I had no idea that there was so much involved in putting one of these things out. And remember, I'm sleeping with the printer's sister. I have been very fortunate so far, in solving problems as they develop. There is always something that I want to do, that the computer won't let me do. I learn as I go. I did figure out that most of the time, not always, but most of the time, I'm doing something wrong. I spent 4 hours on the phone with tech support last week. There was a problem with my (new) computer. The only real smart thing I've done all year was to buy the best service policy I could when we got the computer.

We still need photos and articles for the magazine, especially photos in color for the front and back covers and insides. Hard copies are better to reproduce. If you look closely at the photo of David Nielsen on the cover of the last issue, you can see some of the pixels. It was sent by e-mail as a GIF file. I got it as the issue was at the printer and forwarded it to him. Because of the beret issue, and considering David's march to Washington I decided to run it anyway. The bigger you blow up one of those type photos, the more visible the pixels become. I have not failed to return the photos that were sent in. You can mail them to me direct. I can scan them and send them to Emmett and Ron. My address is in the front of the magazine. The longer I have before an issue goes to the printer, the easier it is to do a professional job on the layout, so get me some stuff for the September issue as soon as you can. Put your name and address on the back of the photos, along with a caption, (who, where, when, what). I actually start on the next issue as soon as the previous one is at the mailer. I start bothering Emmett and Ron about content, articles, etc. I try to find outside sources for items that would be of interest to our members. The interesting thing is, I get 75% of my total input the 5 days prior to the deadline. Imagine what we could do if I got it all a month ahead of the deadline.

On an administrative note, we have a new Website and a new Webmaster. The Webmaster is Peter Parker. You will notice the lack of a quartermaster ad in this issue. We are, for the time being, without a quartermaster. We will notify the membership when the quartermaster is replaced.

The June issue of Popular Mechanics has a pretty good story on the modern Rangers. It examines it mostly from the technical and weapons perspective, but it is interesting.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

By John Chester

I've had a number of inquiries about former Senator Kerry from people that know that I'm a Vietnam veteran. I'm asked what I think of the issue, did he do it, was he guilty? Of course the people asking the questions wouldn't understand the answer anyway. The lines contributed by Kenn Miller from Henry IV are a pretty good answer. The inevitable next question; did anything like that ever happen to you? I've made it a point not to second-guess decisions that I made 33 years ago. I found that being aggressive kept my people alive and that was what I wanted to do. Maybe there are a few rounds I'd call back if I could, but I can't. Most important, in light of the objective of keeping my people alive, I can live with the consequences. There were times that I wondered who the enemy really was, the NVA or the Staff Officers at Brigade or Division who wanted things done that a four man team just couldn't do and wanted to commit teams far beyond the Division or Brigade capability to support them. These people who had never been on the ground in any war, including the present one, yet got to make the decisions that got other men killed. They got to put soldiers in positions where survival was dependent on how fast you returned or initiated fire. When survival is measured in milliseconds, mistakes will be made.

If the politicians didn't send young men and women to clean up their mistakes, those decisions would not need to be made. The basic fact is, the politicians never take the blame. They are responsible for the circumstances, but are able to distance themselves from the consequences. Let's blame those who are really responsible for a change.

They say that any military force, in order to be successful, must be able to move, shoot and communicate. Which of these is the most important? Each, in its own moment of need, is the most pressing, but communication may be the one thing that makes or breaks an operation. I was leading a team about 10 - 12 klicks southwest of LZ Mile High near Kontum. After we were inserted we moved off the LZ when I heard one of the gun ships that had covered the insertion open up a couple klicks away. I immediately got him on the radio to see what was going on. This very Deep South voice says, "We saw a couple danks (dinks) moving toward you." I thought he said "tanks". There was quite a degree of concern, as you can imagine. I probably shot more artillery that day than I had in my tour up to that point. I never did find out if we got the "danks".

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS: If a 1LT outranks a 2LT & a LTC outranks a MAJ; & if gold is more valuable than silver, why is the insignia for a 2LT & a MAJ gold, while the insignia for a 1LT & a LTC silver? In the 18th & 19th Centuries, the insignia were attached to epaulettes (worn on the shoulders). Junior Company & Field grade officers had silver epaulettes, hence gold insignia. When epaulettes were abolished, the insignia were retained 'as is'.