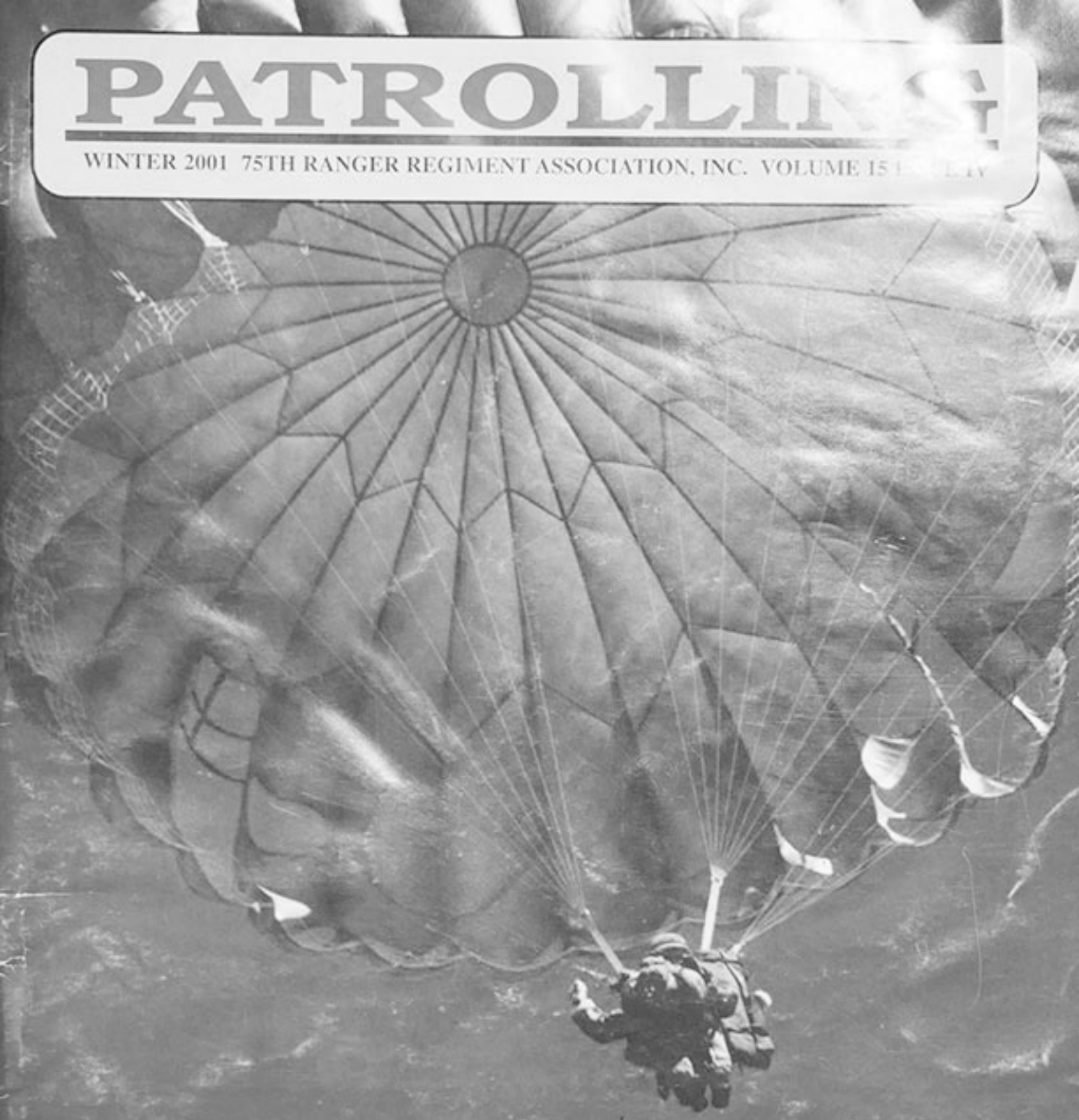
PATROLLING

WINTER 2001 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 15 [illegible]



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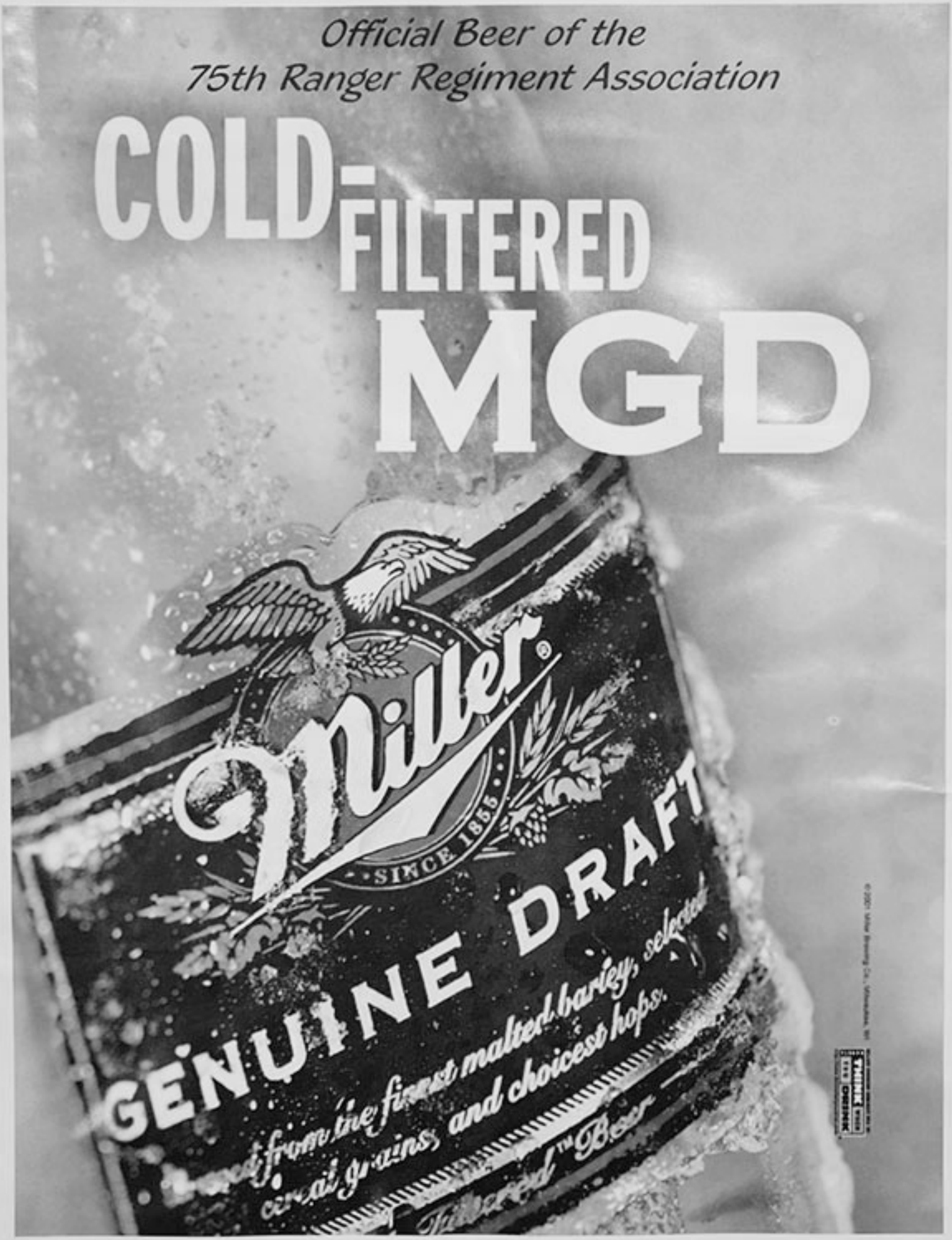
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Emmett Hiltibrand

There are aspects of running this Association that many members never see. The required day-to-day operations that are required to meet the expectations of you, the members, is a never-ending cycle. It doesn't happen over night. Just a few days ago, I received my advanced copy of the last issue of Patrolling Magazine, which was FEDEX'd to me straight from the printer. Ron Edwards and John Chester also got theirs at about the same time. This is so we can proof and preview it before it actually goes to print to correct errors and ultimately produce a first class publication for you guys. What you don't see is that about the time that last issue was going to print, many of us, your Officers and Unit Directors included, are preparing content for the next issue three months in advance. So much has happened in just the few days since the drop-dead date to submit articles for that one and the items for inclusion for the next one. I have a lot to say because a lot has happened. Have a seat and get your favorite drink. Light'em up if you got'em.

2002 REUNION: The dates are set. Printed somewhere in this issue hopefully is the schedule of events. David Cummings is working full speed to bring all this together. You guys did well in selecting David.

2001 RANGER RENDEZVOUS: Back in July we said farewell to COL. Ken Keen and welcomed in COL. Joe Votel to the Regiment. He hit the ground running and hasn't stopped yet.

C/75 - During that Rendezvous my wife and I had the pleasure of being invited to the C/75 reunion that was being held simultaneously in Columbus. We had a great time. I wish to thank Regis Murphy and Sam Pullara for inviting us. I found a new hero when Walter Buchanan came to my defense when having a war of words with a slime ball reporter. In Walter's finest fashion of diplomacy, tact and pose he threw the obnoxious reporter out of the C/75 hospitality suite. Actually, I think Walter saw it as a way to save more beer for himself. Thanks for standing by my side Walter. And you C/75 guys have got to stop kidnapping my wife.

D/151 – My wife and I also took a long drive up to Indiana for the D/151 reunion that we were invited to. We had a great time and I can tell you that the caliber of men and wives at this and all reunions are indistinguishable in war stories, politeness, pose and sincerity. Tom Blandford, thank you for inviting us to your reunion. We were treated with all the hospitality one could ever expect to receive.

- I want to side bar this event for a second and commend SFC Moore for an outstanding job well done in setting up this reunion. SFC Moore is the Liaison for the Indiana National Guard and did most of the planning and hard work that goes on behind the scenes that most people never see. I saw it because I've had to do it and I'm more aware and conscientious of it. Moore was here then there and next I saw Moore running off down a dusty road to get something done. I seriously doubt if an active duty person could have done a better job. So, you ask, why is he telling us all of this. I learned something while I was up there at that reunion. I already knew D/151 was a National Guard unit before it was brought to active duty status and sent to Vietnam. While there they performed with unquestioned valor as well as any other unit in Vietnam. SFC Moore displayed a degree of proficiency that had qualities of unquestioned professionalism of any active duty guy. My lesson learned was that it doesn't take active duty status to make someone perform as a professional. I saw it miles and states away from any active duty post. I saw it in one SFC Zita Moore. She wore US ARMY on her name tag just like everybody else in the Army. Did I fail to mention that SFC Moore was a woman? Another lesson I learned. Our female soldiers are expected to perform as well as our male soldiers. Just as our National Guard and Reserve soldiers are expected to perform as well as our active duty soldiers. I have a new respect and outlook on our partners in uniform. Thank you SFC Moore for teaching an old dog a good lesson.

ATTACK ON AMERICA: In the last few months, I have been constantly reminded just how frail and fragile life can be. I wish we could all live forever. We have lost several members to various causes, we just lost two Rangers in the line of duty and I lost my best friend. I will not dwell on the September 11 attack on America. I was able to get in a commentary at the absolute last minute thanks to some fast footwork by our Editor, John Chester. The other night, I watched with elevated patriotic emotion, as our Commander In Chief, President George W. Bush gave his speech in his State of the Union Address to Congress, concerning our commitment to this war on terrorism. I wasn't born when President Roosevelt gave his famous 'Day of Infamy' speech but have seen it many times on the television. I'm not sure where I was physically when President Johnson gave his captivating speech about President Kennedy's assassination but I too have seen that replayed on television numerous times. Last night's speech was to say the least, moving, emotional and chalked full of patriotism. There have been two things I have vocally expressed to others many times before. One was that either 'We can stand together and fight now or we can die alone later'. The other being with the dissatisfaction of the state-of-affairs that our country had digressed to, that 'I wanted my country back'. I see in last night's speech the possibility of both those wishes coming true. I am grateful that before I cross over to another life that I may see a united America once again.

WEB SITE: Our web site is still logging an enormous

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

amount of hits every month. I try to check it every day and again at night before I turn in. The web site alone has produced a substantial amount of membership interest. We are about to embark on a phase two of the web site by redesigning some aspects of it, restructuring others and adding several new features. We had to first get it up and running with what we had and my hat is off to that crew. We also had to see what was working and what was not. Anything worth while takes time and effort. We don't want to be making numerous changes too quickly. We sure could use some helpful comments as to what you would like to see on our web site.

MEMBERSHIP: For the first time in about 12 years membership is up. The thanks for this effort go to several people. Ron Edwards, our Association Secretary has come up with some very innovated ideas and has pursued them with much success. With the help of Jack Daniel in one effort, they did a mail out campaign to 1900 qualified and eligible candidates who were drifting around as nonmembers. Another effort by Ron was to mail out extra copies of the Patrolling Magazine to one of the units. Ron has several more efforts in the works, which should leave the Association healthier than it ever has been. Membership is a responsibility of each and every one of us. Membership will always be an issue of concern. I got a call from Roger Brown the other night saying he was planning on buying memberships as Christmas presents for some of his men. What a great idea Hog Brown. I've got rocks in my yard that aren't as old as Hog Brown.

BYLAWS: Revisions in the Associations Bylaws are coming along quite well. I'm very pleased with the work the Authorship Committee is doing in this area. The final product should be finished as of the printing of this issue of Patrolling Magazine. We will be sending out a 'Special Edition' of the Patrolling Magazine to voting members only in the next two months.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP: John Chester, our Patrolling Magazine Editor is looking for Corporate Sponsors for our magazine. We feel that with Fee's in the form of Corporate Sponsor dues will help greatly to defray the cost of publication of the magazine. If anyone out there has any suggestions, comments, recommendations or wants to help, please contact John.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: This train we've been on is still got a good head of steam built up. If it's not one thing it's another. But one thing is for sure, we are running out of track. July 2002 is our scheduled reunion and a new slate of Officers will be voted in. I promise to not cop a short timers attitude. But I really would like to see my replacement and be able to bring him up to speed before that day. Surprises are good but one of you is playing musical chairs and the music stops in July. Not me said I. The rest of you are fair game. Yeah, that means you too.

GOLD STAR MEMBERS: We started a program of inducting our KIA's mothers and wives into the Association under a joint membership alone with their loved ones. We have a few Gold Stars already and I know more are being submitted. This is a good thing for all concerned. It is a win / win situation.

DEPLOYED RANGERS: I've met with the Regimental chain of command and it was a very worth while meeting for all in attendance. Our Association has a few programs already instituted and have the green light to continue them. We received heartfelt thanks for our children's Christmas fund to help the young Rangers who have children. As of now we can only officially say that some Rangers are deployed. We cannot say who is deployed, to where or how many. We should not speculate as to how long, who's next or what they may or may not be doing. We as an Association understand Operational Security and will abide by it. We as an Association wish our Rangers God speed and a safe journey home. We support you 100% and then some. Many of you old coot's have expressed a desire to be young again so you could be with them. So do we all.

Emmett W. Hiltibrand - President

REUNION & DEDICATION & VOWS, I DO

As I mentioned in my Presidents article, my wife and I drove up to Camp Atterbury, Indiana before the weather even thought of getting cold, to attend the D/151 reunion. I personally had high expectations that it would be a good time for all, and I sure wasn't let down. We drove all day Friday to get there and arrived late Friday night to the sounds of light partying, happy greetings and moderate war stories. All of which grew as the reunion progressed, and of course, more good cheer was consumed. The gist of the itinerary was social until you dropped that night only to be followed by the next day's main activities.

Sgt. Robert T. Smith was one of the D/151 Indiana National Guard members who deployed to Vietnam as a unit on December 28, 1968. (The unit was mobilized on May 13, 1968 and conducted training until deployment). I didn't know much of the history of D/151 before I went up there, but was sure I would learn as I went. I'm not going to say D/151 heroics or accomplishments surprised me. That would imply I had thought less of them and was amazed that they performed so well. I knew better. I knew they had

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

stood tall and preformed well before I ever went up there. What did surprise me was just how well they had performed. I heard first hand accounts of bravery, camaraderie, uncommon valor, friendship, love and tragedy like none other that I had ever heard of before.

Imagine, life long friends and relatives going in mass together to a war zone, and loosing one of their own. Then later coming back to your own hometown and seeing that man's family. The first two casualties of this unit were in each other's weddings. I found myself thinking that this was probably much more traumatic then loosing a buddy you had only known for a year or maybe less. It must have been both difficult and rewarding but this was not the par for the majority of units who served in Vietnam. Almost all units were piecemealed together with varying stages of new guys and old hands. Of the eight National Guard units mobilized for service in Vietnam, D/151 was the only one that was not infused into other units already serving there. The unit stayed intact while deployed. It was also the only INFANTRY National Guard unit mobilized for service in Vietnam. I believe it must have been a unique experience to rotate in that fashion.

The Indiana National Guard is very proud of their Vietnam Veterans. Several units from across the state sent equipment and personnel for a static equipment display. The Camp Atterbury staff pulled out the red carpet for these guys. The 151st Infantry Detachment (LRS) would be performing a demonstration jump at the dedication. I would later learn that the lineage and honors of Company D (Ranger) 151st Infantry now resides with the 151st LRS, and D/151's guidon and Combat Infantry Company Streamer hang in a frame in the LRS Armory in Darlington, IN. The men of D/151 and the men of the LRS share a bond that I could see that evening at dinner.

We awoke Saturday morning, and assembled with the swelling crowd of veterans and family members outside the hospitality suite. We convoyed to a remote location on the west side of Camp Atterbury for a Drop Zone dedication in the honor of Sgt. Robert T. Smith. The dedication of the Drop Zone at Camp Atterbury into "Drop Zone Smith" was moving to say the least. It is never too late to make a memorial or dedication to a fallen comrade. Never too late, unless it is never done. Though Drop Zone Smith had existed
At Camp Atterbury for almost two decades, it had never been officially dedicated, only surveyed as Smith Drop Zone. Another Drop Zone, and a Landing Zone to two other fallen D/151 soldiers had been officially dedicated. Drop Zone Kleiber (1LT George L. Kleiber, KIA 4 Sep 69) was dedicated in 1971 by an Officer's Candidate class from Atterbury's Military Academy, where he received officer's training. LZ Larkins was dedicated at the 1999 D/151st reunion to Spc Charles K. Larkins. Larkins and Smith were in each other's weddings. The timing for this dedication some 30 years after the fact was right on schedule and most appropriate. Wounds had healed with time; pride had swollen to the entire community, and Dawn had arrived - not the "early light".

For those of you that do not know who "Dawn" is, let me give you some background. Dawn Smith was born November 4, 1968 to Karen & Robert Smith. Bob Smith saw his daughter twice before deploying to Vietnam. One of the two times he went AWOL to see her, and the guys covered for him. On April 12, 1969 while on a combat patrol in Vietnam, he was fatally wounded. Thirty years (to the day) later, Dawn contacted SFC Zita Moore about the 1999 reunion. She wanted to meet the men that served with her father. She attended the reunion in 1999, and it was very healing not only for her but also the men that always wondered what happened to her. She attended this reunion in 2001, and helped dedicate the Drop Zone on Camp Atterbury to the memory of her father, "Drop Zone Smith".

One of the most moving testimonies I have ever heard in my life was given right then and there by a daughter who never got to meet her father. Those of you that missed it, and those of you that requested it, here it is. Got Tissues? This is to Dad, from Dawn.

"Today, part of Sgt. Robert T. Smith stands here with you. I am so proud to be the daughter of such a highly regarded man. I wish that I had my own memories to share with you today, but unfortunately, I didn't get the opportunity to get to know my Father.

"I've never seen a moving picture of him, and the only time I have spoken to him is through my prayers. He has always been beside me though, and I think of him every time I see an American Flag waving, a soldier in fatigues, or hear the thunder of a helicopter overhead.

"His medals hang in the office of our home next to the Ranger hat that was given to me at the last Co D Ranger reunion in August of 1999. This is where I got to meet the gentlemen of this remarkable unit for the first time.

"I want all the members of Co D Rangers 151st Infantry to know how much I appreciated the warm, heartfelt welcome I received. What an incredible opportunity this was for me to get to meet my Dad's buddies, his friends, his fellow Rangers. Most of the last year of his life - he spent with you.

"You shared your memories and opened your hearts to me and helped me get to know my Father in a different way. I know that talking to me about my father is not an easy thing

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

to do. It has always been very hard for everyone, including my family, to talk about him. You guys said such great things about him - not only about what a fine soldier he was but also about what kind of man he was.

"Thank you all for your courage, kindness and respect. I wish that there were something that I could give back to you, for what you have given to me.

Dawn Smith at the D/151 Reunion.

"I am very proud that my father was part of your unique and highly decorated unit. Many men traveled to the same strange place, but you were fortunate, because you had your friends ... your brothers with you - men that you had trained with, and knew well. So many men who served this country alongside you didn't know anyone before they left and didn't know anyone when they got there - and yet they had to rely on strangers to stand beside them in the heat of it all.

"I know that everyone that went to Vietnam lost something - If you didn't lose your life - your life was never the same as it was before you left. Only you know what your eyes have seen, your ears have heard and your hearts have felt. Hopefully, you can find a kind of solitude with the brotherhood of those who returned.

"My mother gave me the letters that my father wrote to her from Fort Benning and Vietnam. Even though I can't hear his voice when I read them, I can hear the words in his heart. The majority of the letters from Vietnam talked about many things that I'm sure everyone wrote about, like how hot it was over there, how hard the PT was, about sandbagging and more sandbagging, the chow and care packages. He always told my mother how much he loved and missed her and how much it meant to him that she was waiting for him back home. It is astonishing that no matter how bad things were over there, he still managed to ask my mother if someone was cutting the grass for her, if the car was running ok, how the finances were and if I had gotten all my shots or not. At one point I must have had a cold or something, and my Dad wrote, "I hope that Dawn gets over the coughing. I am sure she will. She will have a constitution of steel, just like yours and mine." These are the words of a 24-year-old soldier far away from home in a Terrible place, still having the resolve to be a responsible, loving husband and father.

"As for my Mother, all of the things that Dad wrote about you in his letters were true. You are such a symbol of strength to me - just like he is. Thank you for not giving up after losing Dad. I don't know how you endured the pain and kept going so gracefully. I never felt shorted of anything growing up. You have given me such a rich life, full of love and laughter. I don't know if I could've been as strong as you. I want you to know how much I love you and appreciate all of the sacrifices that you have made for me. This world would be a greater place if everyone could be blessed with a mother like you.

"In closing, I am truly humbled by the patriotism, loyalty and respect that has been displayed here today in honor of my father. I want to thank everyone who made this possible and those who traveled here today to share in this memorable occasion.

"I would like to say to my father: Dad, thank you for being so good to my mother and for being such a fine role model. All of the people that knew you remember your mild, kind nature, your integrity and your steadfast allegiance and commitment to all aspects of your life. Your letters make it clear that you had enough love in your heart for my mother and I to last a lifetime. I know that you were eager to give me so much - and I want you to know that you have. You are with me in body and spirit as my Guardian Angel, and you will ALWAYS be "my" hero.

I'll tell you that there was not a dry eye in the place. I saw grown men turning away so no one would see them

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

cry. There is no embarrassment in crying for the loss of a buddy and friend. It really was a first class ceremony and tribute.

One would think that this article ends on this note. Wrong. I'll admit that when Dawn stepped down off the platform and her fiancée went to the microphone, I was a little perplexed. Now Derek Garcia mounted the platform and began with the usual acknowledgments and courtesies. Being polite, as I always am, I listened attentively. But what I was hearing wasn't what I expected. Yes, there was the expected commitment of love to Dawn and utmost sincerity, but this guy was not only really serious, he was nervous as long tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs! I thought any minute here; this guy is going to have a heart attack. I've never been this nervous except when I asked my wife to marry me. Wait, 'that's' what I'm actually hearing here. He's calling Dawn back up on the stage. Dawn's turning around and looking at the crowd in bewilderment. Now Dawn's up on the stage and this guy is down on one knee holding up a ring to her. Now come on Derek! What girl in her right mind is going to refuse with an offer like that in front of so many friends right after an emotional speech? OK, you guessed it, she said, "yes!" One would think that this article ends with this accepted marriage proposal. Wrong.

This guy is good. I mean, really good. He has a whole wedding planned without the bride ever knowing it (I did mention she said, "yes!" didn't I?) He had the perfect preacher lined up. He has the marriage license (on a Saturday), flower girl, ring bearer, best man, and brides' maid, family, not to mention a very willing and motivated audience to witness this event. I'm not sure if Dawn ever stopped crying from this point on. You talk about having everybody's attention and listening to every word, this crowd was captivated. So, right then and there, on DZ Smith, August 11, 2001, they were married in front of God and everybody. The preacher was "Big" Jon Ellis, or SSG Jon Ellis, as he was known by Fourth Platoon (Jon's Fightin' Fourth), Company D (Ranger) 151st Infantry. Ellis married Derek and Dawn with what he called his "Dollar Special Ceremony", as Derek had requested a quick and simple ceremony. And the ring? Thirty-two years earlier Bob Smith married his sweetheart, Karen, with the very same ring. What a fantastic tribute to SGT. Robert Smith.

The 151st Infantry Detachment (LRS), Indiana National Guard then performed a demonstration jump on DZ Smith. If there had not been a low ceiling, time on target would have been right at the moment Derek kissed his bride. Derek, this was a class act. I've never seen one better and don't think it will ever be topped. Way to go.
Written jointly by SFC Zita Moore and Emmett W. Hiltibrand

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By Ronnie R. Edwards

I keep telling John Chester that it cannot be time for another issue of "Patrolling," we just finished the fall issue. He however has been persistent that it is not only time for my quarterly notes, but that I am the "tail end Charlie" of this march.

We have recently completed a membership drive for the 9th Inf Div E/75, E/50 LRP, and 9th Div. LRRP. With the help of Hilan Jones, secretary for the 9th ID LRP Association, we sent a letter to all his members who were not already members of the 75th RRA. I also added them to our regular mailing list for the Fall issue. The effort brought in 33 new members so we will try a similar technique with other units. This issue we are trying to do the 25th Div and Steve Crabtree is working with John Chester on recruiting for his G/75, E/51 LRP and 196th LRRP guys. Hopefully we will eventually get around to all the units.

The Christmas Fund is off to a great start this year, the checks just keep rolling in and the fund grows a little bigger. Most of the donations come from members of our association, but others seem to come out of nowhere, and I have no idea how these generous people even heard of the program.

Elections for Association Officers are upon us. We must have a new president and vice-president and I am not running for reelection myself, so we need some folks to step up and put on the saddle, I mean mantle. We have a lot of talented members in this organization and I think we will be better for passing the responsibility around than having one or two people in charge for a decade or two.

I am looking forward to the reunion this summer. We are trying to get as many members of team 1-1 L/75 as we can to this reunion. I don't know all the team 1-1 guys but we hope to get Bob Clark, Gary Hund, Tom Delaney, Terrance Smith (fish), myself, others like Frazier, Jackson, Christian and others I can't name at the moment need to make themselves known and BE THERE. So if you ever pulled a mission with team 1-1 in L/75 contact me.

That's a wrap for this issue guys, we'll do it again in three months. - Ron

TREASURERS MESSAGE

By Jack Werner

Form **990-EZ**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

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- ☐ Final return
- ☐ Amended return

Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.

C Name of organization
75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO BOX 26085

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4
OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73126

D EIN

E Telephone no.

F Check ▶ ☐ if application pending

H Enter 4-digit group exemption no. (GEN) ▶

G Accounting method: ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual ☐ Other (specify) ▶

I Organization type (check only one): ☒ 501(c)(7) (insert no.) ☐ 527 or ☐ 4947(a)(1)

*Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).

J Check ▶ ☐ if the organization's gross receipts are normally not more than $25,000. The organization need not file a return with the IRS, but if the organization receives a Form 990 Package in the mail, it should file a return without financial data. Some states require a complete return.

K Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If $100,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ $ 36,688

L Check this box if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990 or 990-EZ) ▶ ☐

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See Specific Instructions on page 34.)

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received		
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts		
	3	Membership dues and assessments SEE STMT 1		25,302
	4	Investment income		2,323
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (e. 5a less e. 5b) (att. sch.)		
	6	Special events and activities (attach schedule):		
	a	Gross revenue (not including $ ____ of contributions reported on line 1)	6a	
	b	Less: direct expenses other than fundraising expenses	6b	
	c	Net income or (loss) from special events and activities (line 6a less line 6b)		
	7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a 5,607	
	b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b 2,285	
	c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (line 7a less line 7b)		3,322
	8	Other revenue (describe ▶ SEE STMT 2)		3,446
	9	Total revenue (add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6c, 7c, and 8) ▶		34,403
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (attach schedule) SEE STMT 3		2,358
	11	Benefits paid to or for members		
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits		
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors		650
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance		2,098
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping		12,265
	16	Other expenses (describe ▶ SEE STMT 4)		14,804
	17	Total expenses (add lines 10 through 16) ▶		32,215
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (line 9 less line 17)		3,288
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)		62,543
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (attach explanation)		
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year (combine lines 18 through 20) ▶		65,731

Part II Balance Sheets– If Total assets on line 25, column (B), are $250,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ

(See Specific Instructions on page 37.)

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22	Cash, savings, and investments	62,543	22	65,731
23	Land and buildings		23	
24	Other assets (describe ▶)		24	
25	Total assets	62,543	25	65,731
26	Total liabilities (describe ▶)	0	26	0
27	Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	62,543	27	65,731

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see page 1 of the separate instr. DAA

Form 990-EZ (2000)

The optimist says we live in the best of all possible worlds;
The pessimist fears this is true.

James Branch Cabell

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

• Please see the L/75 Unit Directors report for an account of Tessa Champion, sister of SSG James Champion, MIA in Vietnam, and her trip to Vietnam.

Editor's message.

An acquaintance of mine, one who has no military service, called me soon after the 9/11 incident. Along with just about everyone else in the country, he was trying to make sense out of the horror that occurred in New York. This individual was one of the folk that think that PTSD is a sign of weakness or moral defect, and has, on many occasions, shared his low opinion of "psychobabble" and therapy in general. He related to me that he was now afraid to be in a crowd, looked up every time he heard an airplane, had trouble sleeping, saw the impacting airplanes over and over, and was more depressed than he ever had been in his life. "What's wrong?" he asked. I replied, "Welcome to Vietnam, congratulations, you now have PTSD." He later related to me that he now understood the effects of trauma and the price that many vets have paid for many years after their combat experience. He apologized. I thought, "What a terrible price to pay for understanding."

Many people I know, normal people, people who have gone through life up to this point, free of any nightmares, flashbacks or any of the other signs of PTSD, have now developed a healthy and thriving case of paranoia. It appears that a large segment of the population is now experiencing life as it is always for combat veterans. One of the reasons that we run a number of articles concerning health issues is due to the makeup of our membership. A very large portion of our members have been involved in combat operations. The stress of combat does lead to heath complications in later years. We should be aware of the dangers. Most, if not all, can be treated. That being said, if they are not treated, the results can be deadly. Get it checked out, what ever it is!

(While I'm at it, I want to thank Steve Crabtree, Dan Nate and Daniel Pope for the very well written and informative health articles they have submitted. They are always on time & require virtually no editing. Thank you gentlemen, you are lifesavers.)

Civilization is under attack by a ruthless, savage and unprincipled enemy. Civilization has been under attack since the first few humanoids built shelters and huddled around their fires. The people who had no shelters, and who didn't understand fire were the enemy of those who did. Our present enemy is as savage and murderous as any we as a Nation have ever faced. Make no mistake, they are a formidable foe. They teach their children to hate us from the cradle. Their Imams tell the fighters that it is a virtue to murder innocent children and women and men who cannot defend themselves. It is a tenant of their religion that Paradise awaits those who die in a holy war, and they name the United States as the enemy of their God.

As long as civilization has existed there have been those who have defended it from those who would destroy it. Many times the issues have not been as clear as they are now. The folk inside the walls most often cannot identify with the people that man the walls and keep the forces that would destroy civilization at bay, sometimes the defenders are despised and hated. Vietnam was a war that became unpopular because the Government lied and the press had no respect for the efforts of the senior military and politicians to evade the truth. Many, both within the Government and without, were unable to separate the war from the warriors and the men who fought the war were vilified and blamed for the failure to win. The warriors were blamed for the loss of time, talent and treasure that characterized the Vietnam experience. I've got a clue for the Liberal Left. Look at the news accounts of the people we are fighting now. See those people dancing in the streets in celebration of the deaths of people who wished them no harm? See the weapons they're carrying? That's a Kalishnikov, better know as an AK-47. That's the same weapon our last adversaries carried. It's the terrorists' weapon of choice.

When we were in Vietnam, we were fighting the same war that our younger brothers will be fighting now. This is the same enemy, trained in the same camps run by the former Soviet Union, supplied with the same weapons, told the same lies by their leaders, reciting the same tired old slogans. It's not difficult to delude people who have no hope. They are

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

being used by their leaders to achieve who knows what ends, all in the name of God. The process of vindication that began some ten or fifteen years ago is complete. For all Vietnam Veterans, welcome home.

We have a responsibility to ensure that the young men who come home from this war are told the truth and treated with honor and respect. We must never let another Vietnam take away the honor of those who fought the battles.

CHRISTMAS FUND

It's not too late to contribute to the Christmas Fund. The purpose of the fund is to buy toys and other Christmas presents for the children of the young Rangers with families. These men are not paid a princely wage for defending our country, and some undoubtedly are short at Christmas time. This year, the fund is doubly important, many of these men may not be here to share Christmas with their children. A gift and the knowledge that people are indeed thinking of them and do care, might ease the pain of separation for these kids.

You can be sure that every penny collected will go to the children for Christmas. The fund will be divided among the Battalions and administered by the Chaplin of each unit.

I have only told the following tale to one or two people. One of the men I was in Vietnam with and whose opinion I respect has sort of leaned on me to relate the story in light of the recent awareness of PTSD and the effect it can have in later years. I suppose you all know the difference between a war story and a fairy tale? No? A fairy tale starts out, "Once upon a time" and a war story starts out, "This is no s__t".

Well, once upon a time, quite a few years ago, in the early 1980's, I was a faculty member of a very well known and prestigious East Coast University. Most folk would recognize the name. I was attending a gathering of the faculty members of the Department in which I taught. The Christmas party was a sort of must attend affair, held at the very trendy in town home of the Department Chairperson. She lived in a section of Baltimore called Federal Hill. It overlooked the harbor and, at the time, was THE place to live in the City.

There was talk of a Vietnam Veterans Memorial to be built in Maryland, and one of the sites under discussion was the small part of Federal Hill owned by the Federal Government. Now in those days I didn't talk much about having been in Vietnam. I discovered, after quite a few disappointments, that a resume that stated simply "member of the armed forces" for the appropriate period of time, was far more likely to get a position, that a resume that detailed my military experience, especially if it included Vietnam. Consequently, no one on the faculty was aware of my Vietnam service.

I was in my normal public persona, conservatively dressed, very quiet, and accompanied by my good friends Perry Noia and Jim Beam. I never got really drunk, at least not in public, but I did keep at it pretty steady. I was in my normal hyper vigilant state when I heard my boss, the Department Chair, holding forth in her whiney little voice, about the evils of having the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial across the street from her house. I asked her why she had a problem. She replied that she didn't want to have a parade of losers in her neighborhood paying homage to a war they lost anyway. She went on to berate Vietnam Veterans as a collection of drunk, homeless and extremely violent men. She confidently shared with everyone that most of the violent crimes, murders and robberies were the work of Vietnam Veterans (not true), that virtually all domestic violence complaints involved a Vietnam Veteran, (also not true), and that she wouldn't be surprised if they were child molesters too.

I was leaning against a doorway into a large room, next to a cabinet full of very valuable ceramic figures and crystal glasses. I was a little shocked because the Department of which this woman was the Chairperson was charged with, among other things, teaching the law as it applied to Civil Rights and discrimination, and the woman herself was a member of a minority. I asked her what she based her beliefs on, personal experience or something else. She replied that her opinions were based on what she read and heard in the news, and things that people had told her. I asked her if she had ever known a Vietnam Vet. "No", she replied. I asked her if she had ever talked to a Vietnam Vet. "No", again. I then asked her if any Vietnam Vet had ever done the slightest thing to hurt her or cause her pain. "Why no" she replied, "we don't get any at school". "So no Vet has ever hurt you?" I asked again. " No" she again replied. Making sure that no one

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

was near, I very carefully pushed over her cabinet full of glass. "One has now" I replied. I turned and left the party. No one said a word.

Needless to say, I didn't get tenure. It did occur to me that I was pretty much guilty of the behavior she accused all Vietnam Vets of displaying. It also occurred to me that maybe some of the things I did were a little off the wall. I didn't know anyone else who had a bunker in their basement or a gun in every room of the house. I began to, very slowly, attempt to manage my problem. It was (and is) a long process. I can say, from personal experience, PTSD won't go away completely. It can't be cured, but it can be a hell of a lot better than if left untreated. Don't ignore it. You owe it to yourself and your family to manage PTSD.

As we grow older we are told that memory is always the first to go (almost always). It does become more difficult for me to remember what happened 30 odd years ago. Remember the difference between a fairy tale and a war story. Some of the memories we have of our combat experiences depart somewhat from the reality that others who were there experienced. My personal opinion on the matter is that if no one's honor is directly attacked, so what? I really do not understand the anger, invective and personal attacks that are generated by these different memories. It has happened in my own unit, and frankly, I don't know how to handle it. It seems pretty extreme to end a 30+ year friendship over a relatively trivial matter. It wasn't even my war story.

Some interesting web sites:
Did you know that LBJ was in WW II less than a year, went on one bombing mission that turned back, and was awarded the Silver Star? Check out this web site:
http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/johnson.silver.star/story/storypage.html

The phonies and wannabes seem to be taking over the world. Seems like every Vietnam Vet, real or imagined, when asked who he was with in country, was either a SEAL, Ranger, Special Forces or something so secret, he'd have to kill himself if he told me. The next time someone tells you he was a SEAL, check him out at:
www.cyberseals.org

Two other websites dealing with phonies are:
www.stolenvalor.com & www.phonyveterans.com

I have received so many e-mails from Vietnam vintage LRPS, LRRPS and Rangers expressing their willingness to go to Afghanistan that I am going to forego my usual informative ending and close with a poem by John McCrae, a Canadian Officer who died in France after four years service on the Western Front. We have passed the torch.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That marks our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard among the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

WARNING ORDER

I. SITUATION: We have fallen brothers to remember and honor. We are the links that connect the glorious history and heritage of the American Ranger to those presently serving. There are friendships to renew, stories to remember, beer to be drank, and lies (er, ah, war stories) to be told.

II. MISSION: The 75th Ranger Regiment Association will conduct a reunion, 8 thru 12 July 2002, Columbus, Georgia. You WILL have a good time.

III. EXECUTION: Return registration form ASAP. Make reservations now! Call the Holliday Inn North at 1-800-605-8266. Reservations must be made by June 20th. After that date remaining rooms will be released and will cost regular rates.

Teams will conduct infills by air or vehicle. If arriving by air at the Columbus Airport, and you are not planning on renting a car, call the hotel (324-0231) for the hotel shuttle bus. The hotel shuttle is available for travel within the AO to restaurants and shopping.
Bus transportation will be provided for those events taking place at Ft. Benning (see schedule). It is HIGHLY recommended that you use this mode of travel, especially if you do not have a DoD ID card.

Be sure your membership is current, only those current active members will be admitted to the General Membership Meeting.

The banquet this year will be a more casual affair. It will be a Luau theme with the dinning room opening onto the pool area, with live music.

Guarantee the musical entertainment will be memorable.

IV. SERVICE and SUPPORT:

Beer will be provided in the Hospitality Room by the good folks at Miller Genuine Draft. Soft drinks and coffee will also be provided. Water will be positioned at all outdoor events.

Packing List- July in Georgia is HOT. Bring lightweight clothing, hats, sunglasses and sunscreen.

V. COMMAND / SIGNAL:

Emmett Hiltibrand, our Association President, will be onsite. The reunion coordinator, Dave Cummings, will be onsite. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions, problems, or complaints. Phone (706) 569-9882, davidf4f4@aol.com

2002 REUNION SCHEDULE

MON – 8 JULY:		
	HOTEL CHECK-IN	HOLLIDAY INN
	REUNION REGISTRATION	
0900-0100	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	
TUE- 9 JULY:		
	HOTEL CHECK-IN	HOLLIDAY INN
	REGISTRATION	
1300- ?	UNIT ACTIVITIES	
0900 – 0100	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	
1800	STUDENT JUMP (no trans)	FRYER DZ

WED – 10 JULY:		
0800	LOAD BUSSES	
0900-1030	FINAL ROLL CALL SERVICE	RANGER MEMORIAL
1045	LOAD BUSSES	
1100-1230	3/75TH STATIC DISPLAY / TOUR/ BRIEF	75TH HQ
1230-1400	LUNCH AT 3/75TH MESS HALL	
1430	LOAD BUSSES	
1500	ARRIVE BLDG 4	
(1400-1600 Unit Directors Meeting Bldg 4 third floor conference room)		
1600-1900	RANGER HALL OF FAME	BLDG 4 AUDITORIUM
1930	LOAD BUSSES	
2030	RETURN TO HOTEL	
2000-0100	HOSPITALITY RM OPEN (music 2200-2400)	
THU – 11 JULY:		
0900-1000	RTB CHANGE OF CMD (no busses)	RGR MEMORIAL
1300-1600	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING	BANQUET ROOM
0900-0100	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN (music 2200-2400)	
FRI -12 JULY:		
0900	LOAD BUSSES	
1000-1800	RANGERS IN ACTION / RGR GRADUATION - VICTORY PND	
1230	LOAD BUSSES	
1330	RETURN TO HOTEL	
1200 – 1700	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	
1800-?	ASSOCIATION BANQUET (music pool area 19-2200 inside 0100)	
Sat – 13 JULY:	CHECK-OUT	

INVITATION TO REUNION 2002

I want to personally invite you, to please come and join us in Columbus, Georgia this July. In addition to Columbus' famous southern hospitality, the Ft. Benning Ranger community is extending a special welcome to the association. Both the Regiment and the Ranger Training Brigade are anxious to include us in their activities. Today's Rangers are proud of their history and heritage, and look up to you who helped forge that heritage. They are aware that the sacrifice made in Somalia in 93 was done in the spirit of the creed they live by, "I will never leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy." And they know the origins of that creed lie in an unwritten oath made in the jungles of Vietnam among LRP / Ranger teams. Come share in the camaraderie.

Let me also take the opportunity to extend a special invitation to wives and family. We plan to leave plenty of time in the schedule away from Army stuff to allow for sightseeing and enjoying our beautiful town. Reunion headquarters is the newly renovated Holiday Inn. I am sure you will be pleased by the accommodations. This years banquet is being planned as a more casual affair. It will be a luau theme, with the banquet room opened onto the pool area, with live music.

As I write this invitation, our nation is reeling in the aftermath of terrorist attacks. Our forces are engaged in a war on terrorism. Our economy has been affected, travel and tourism has come to a standstill. Today, our President is calling on Americans to get on with our lives, and to get the economy rolling again. By the time this is published, hopefully, we will be returning to a more normal state of affairs. But no matter, this association will support the President's call. We will have our reunion. As it has always been, RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!

Dave Cummings N/75
Reunion Coordinator
Columbus, Georgia

REGISTRATION FORM
ASSOCIATION REUNION (8-12 JULY 02)

MAIL TO: 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION (REUNION)
P.O. BOX 921
Heflin, Alabama 36264

YES! I WILL ATTEND THE REUNION AT COLUMBUS, GA. 8-12 JULY 2002.

NAME _____ MEMBERSHIP# _____ UNIT _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ST _____

ZIP _____ PH (_____) _____ - _____

I will be accompanied by: _____ guests, Please list names:

Name	Relationship	Special needs (wheelchair, diet, etc.)

REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON $25.00 $ _____

BANQUET TICKETS# _____ @ $20.00 $ _____

TOTAL FEES PAID $ _____

(MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOC.)

THE REUNION WELL BE HELD AT:

HOLLIDAY INN NORTH-AIRPORT
2800 MANCHESTER EXPRESSWAY, COLUMBUS, GA 31904
PHONE: 1-800-605-8266
BEGIN MAKING RESERVATIONS NOW! *BE SURE* TO MENTION YOU ARE WITH THE 75TH RANGER RGT. ASSOC. ROOM RATES: $69.00/DAY

*FEE INCLUDES HOSPITALITY ROOM W/BEVERAGES AND BUS TRANS TO EVENTS.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

VETERANS ENTITLED TO FULL SET OF MEDALS
Submitted by Dan Nate, F co.

All honorably discharged Veterans, or their families, are entitled to a one-time, FREE of charge, replacement set of their authorized medals, ribbons, awards, and devices, from the U.S. Gov't. Simply submit your request for same , in writing to: US Army Reserve Personnel Center..ATTN: ARPC- SFE, 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis,MO. 63132-5200. Your request MUST contain the Veteran's FULL name, service serial number or social security number, branch-of-service, dates of service, and signed with the signature of the Veteran in quest of same. IF DECEASED, next of kin CAN SIGN the request in his or her stead. It is helpful to attach a copy of the Vet's DD-214 but not a requirement. The form most often used for this purpose, should you visit a VA or VSO facility is number DD-180. They can be copied from the

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (CONTINUED)

National Archives and Records Admin's "fax-on-demand system. On their page the form 180 is numbered #2255. NOTE.....you must call this system from a fax machine, using the phone that is attached to the unit., in order to receive documents. Voice instructions will guide you. There is no charge for this service, either, except for your long-distance phone call, itself, which will appear on your bill. The phone # for the Fax-on-demand system is: 301/713-6905.

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. Hiltibrand - President

WE DID IT ALL FOR YOU.

In rememberance of so many of us, nurses, and what we experienced.
Dedicated to so many of you, soldiers of an unwanted War.

(by SARAH LEAH BLUM,
12 EVAC NURSE,1967,Cu Cui.
Submitted by Dan Nate)

We heard about you on the radio,
We saw you on the TV.
We knew you were hurting so,
We went to the 'nam country.

We took you as you came,
We felt the mud and dirt.
We knew we would go insane,
We knew we couldn't stop the hurt.

We tore off your fatigues and boots,
We searched your parts and your holes.
We saw your limbs torn off like roots,
We suffered with you, for all our souls.

We stood for hours in your lost blood.
We screamed inside at those awful sights.
We cursed and raged and slid in the mud.
We knew the results of your frustrated fights.

We held your hand and said to hang in,
We prayed in silence for your sweet life.
We knew full well our country's sin,
We hoped in vain for an end of the strife.

We went to be with you, and help you too,
We weren't prepared and neither were you.
We couldn't believe what we all went through,
We worked to heal but who ever knew?

We pumped the blood and helped you sleep.
We changed your dressings and cut the pain.
We turned you over and scrubbed your feet.
We talked and listened and went insane.

We couldn't cry or we couldn't work,
We tried to be calm to do our job.
We never knew where the enemy lurked,
We daren't let out, even one sob.

We sorted you one from another,
We chose-if you live or die.
We struggled so much for you our brother,
We knew in our hearts we needed to cry.

We were there inside the operating room.
We cleaned your wounds, we put you to sleep.
We cut and sawed from noon til noon.
We swallowed and choked and sighed so deep.

We saw you at your very best, proud and smart.
We saw you at your worst, torn and wounded,
We held your maimed and mangled parts,
We lifted, pulled, pushed and turned your head.

We yelled for supplies we didn't have,
We cringed when we read the media lies.
We held our breath as we applied the salve,
We wondered when America would open her eyes.

We hated the mud, and the rain and dust.
We hated the protests and lack of support.
We drank and danced and how we cussed.
We hoped and prayed for the war to be short.

We wondered how you did perceive us,
We worried how well we were really doing.
We came to help, to heal and not to fuss.
We couldn't control the war we were viewing.

We felt angry, enraged, sad and sick inside.
We wanted to protect you from anything more.
We didn't understand and we wanted to hide.
We couldn't leave you, we were all in a war.

We were frustrated and mad at all of the news.
We hoped in vain for the telling of the truth.
We found some solace in beer and Moody Blues,
We took pictures of the war to record the truth.

We didn't all make it, and neither did you.
We became numbers, counts and stats !
We were killed and lost, and wondered who knew?
We were people but were counted like rats !

We came Home in the dark, broken or boxed.
We were the shame of this country we served.
We were attacked or shunned like we were poxed,
We whores and dykes, names so undeserved.

We loved America and you our dear sweet brothers,
We were nurses true blue and oh so few.
We cared, we suffered 'nam sisters and brothers,
We want you to know we did it all for you !

Written by Sarah Leah Blum,May,1984
Operating room nurse
12th Evacuation Hospital
Cu Chi,Vietnam,1967

HEALTH

NOTES

Type II Diabetes; how does it differ from Type I, and what causes it?

by Daniel G. Nate, Sr.

Ok, so now the VA has decided to include type II diabetes as "presumptive with service-connection" for Vietnam Veterans, and for Korean Vets of 1968-1969. Great news! But just what is it and how do you or I know if were affected? In other words," now what?"

The two major forms of diabetes are type I (previously called insulin-dependant diabetes mellitus (IDDM) or juvenile-onset diabetes) and type II (previously called non-insulin dependant diabetes mellitus (NIDDM) or maturity-onset diabetes). They share a central feature: elevated blood sugar levels due to absolute or relative insufficiencies of insulin, a hormone produced by the pancreas. Insulin is a key regulator of the body's metabolism. After meals, food is digested in the stomach and intestines; carbohydrates are broken down into sugar molecules, of which glucose is one, and proteins are broken down into amino acids. Glucose and amino acids are absorbed directly into the bloodstream, and blood glucose levels rise. Normally, the rise signals important cells in the pancreas, called beta cells, to secrete insulin, which pours into the bloodstream. Insulin, in turn, enables glucose and amino acids to enter cells in the body, importantly, those in the muscles, where, along with other hormones, it directs whether these nutrients will be burned for energy or stored for future use. As blood sugar falls to pre-meal levels, the pancreas reduces the production of insulin, and the body uses its stored energy until the next meal provides additional nutrients.

TYPE II DIABETES...

This is by far the more common form of diabetes, accounting for 90% of cases. About 16 million Americans have type II diabetes and half are unaware they have it!!! Most type II diabetics produce variable, even normal, amounts of insulin, but they have abnormalities in liver and muscle cells that resist its actions. Insulin attaches to the receptors of cells, but glucose does not get inside because of a condition known as insulin resistance. Because many type II diabetics seem to be incapable of secreting enough insulin to overcome insulin resistance, it is likely that in such cases an additional defect exists in the beta cells that impair insulin secretion. Other factors may also play a role in type II diabetes.

DIABETES SECONDARY TO OTHER CONDITIONS...

Conditions that damage or destroy the pancreas, such as pancreatis, pancreatic surgery, or CERTAIN INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS can cause diabetes. Certain drugs can also cause temporary diabetes, including corticosteroids, beta-blockers, and phenytoin. Rare genetic disorders (Klinefelter's Syndrome, Huntington's chorea, Wolfram's syndrome, leprechanism, Rabson-Mendenhall syndrome, lip atrophic diabetes and others) and hormonal disorders (acromegaly, Cushing's syndrome, pheochromocytoma, HYPERTHYROIDISM, somatostat-inoma, aldosteronoma) also increase the risk for diabetes.

WHAT CAUSES TYPE II DIABETES?

Causes of insulin resistance.

Elevated levels of three factors are believed to be involved in development of obesity and insulin resistance leading to type II diabetes. They are: free fatty acids (acids in the blood produced by breakdown of fat); lepton (a protein produced by fat cells); and tumor-necrosis factor, or TNF (a component of the immune system). How each of these factors produce or contributes to type II diabetes is still under investigation.

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GENETIC FACTORS.

Genetic factors play an important role in type II diabetes, but the pattern is complicated, since both impairment of beta cell functions and an abnormal response to insulin are involved. Researchers have identified a number of genetic suspects. In certain Caucasian populations, a single gene may alter the metabolism of fatty acids that leads to insulin resistance. They have also identified the P2 gene, which appears to be critical for the link between obesity and insulin resistance. Australian researchers have identified a defective lipoprotein lipase (LpL) gene, which poses a risk for CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE and type II diabetes in people who have it.

Others have identified a defective gene that regulates glucose metabolism which may provide the link between low birth weight and a later risk for type II diabetes AND insulin resistance. A defective gene has been detected that reduces activity of a protective substance called B3-adren- agric receptor, which is found in visceral (organ) fat cells. The result is a slow-down in metabolism and an increase in obesity. The defective gene has been found in Pima Indians and other populations with a very high incidence of type II diabetes and obesity.

One theory suggests that some cases of type II diabetes and obesity are derived from normal genetic actions that were once important for survival. Some experts postulate the existence of a so-called "thrifty" gene, which regulates hormonal fluctuations to accommodate seasonal changes. In certain nomadic populations, hormones are released during seasons when food supplies have traditionally low, which results in resistance to insulin and efficient fat storage. The process is reversed in seasons when food is readily available. Because modern industrialization has made high-carbohydrate and fatty foods available all year long, the gene no longer serves a useful function and is NOW HARMFUL, because fat, originally stored for famine situations, is not used up. Such a theory would help explain the high incidence of type II diabetes and obesity found in populations with nomadic histories and WESTERN DIETARY habits.

THE REAL UNDER-LYING DANGERS.

If you were to ask a person with type II diabetes about the possible complications of their chronic disease, most would "tick-off" kidney failure, blindness, and amputations of feet and other lower limbs. Those answers are all correct, but they miss a key point, the one I've been harping about for a couple of years now. "Peel away all these well-known complications, and you are left with the real killer; HEART DISEASE!!! This is why we have fought so hard and so long for the V.A. to recognize the type II factor as presumptive with service-connection, and this is still the most unrecognized, and most often ignored, culprit. (16) Sixteen million Americans with type II diabetes are about 3 times more likely to have a heart attack or stroke than are other people of the same age, race, and gender, who don't have diabetes. This means that a diabetic has the same risk for heart attack as someone with KNOWN HEART DISEASE, but does NOT KNOW IT!!! The diabetic patient is blissfully unaware of the ticking time bombs that are their HEARTS. Of 500 Americans polled, only 33% of them listed heart disease as a potential complication. But among this same group, 46% had high blood pressure, 28% reported problems with circulation in their feet, and 28% said they knew they had high cholesterol. ALL SIGNS OF HEART DISEASE!

What is found happening is that patients separate the complications of diabetes from "what they consider everyday events. For example, they will tell you that "they had an uncle who went blind from diabetes and, oh yea, he died from a heart attack, but that can happen to anyone…that doesn't have anything to do with the diabetes." The irony is that heart attacks and strokes have everything to do with diabetes, but that this message isn't being delivered to diabetics. The focus has been on the importance of glucose (blood sugar) control to avoid well-known complications such as blindness, amputations, and kidney-disease. The medical

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authorities have NOT been forth-coming in sharing with the patients (diabetics) about the importance and connection of heart disease and insulin resistance. But this has got to change because of the dire public health consequences of diabetes. Most diabetic patients either HAVE heart disease, or are well on their way to developing HEART disease. Blood pressure, cholesterol, and weight control are now becoming the focus of treating diabetics, and ALL of these patients should start by taking daily aspirin. That's a $5 a year cost that can save the lives of diabetic patients.

There are actually several medications that can be used to fight heart disease in diabetics, and all have demonstrated efficacy in clinical cases. Cholesterol-lowering drugs called statins, blood-pressure drugs called ACE inhibitors, have been shown to reduce the risk of fatal heart attacks in diabetics, and, of course, aspirin reduces the risk of blood clots, which can cause either heart attacks or stroke. A well-designed and well-implemented public education initiative must begin soon. "This is not so much a case of having stumbled onto some new information or in uncovering a new epidemic, we just need to focus world-wide attention on diabetes and heart disease."

The VA has opened the door, making diabetes type II presumptive with service-connection in South East Asia. With their new health Guidelines, and a new outlook concerning the "dioxins" associated with Agent Orange, they are urging ALL veterans, of ALL eras, especially The Vietnam Veteran, to take full advantage of better, more thorough Testing and medications. Please consult with your VA clinic, hospital or Private medical practitioner concerning this "silent killer".

Submitted by Daniel G. Nate, Sr., NJ State Dept. Surgeon, MOPH
(Reference authorities supplied upon request, per mail, or on line)

HEP "C", THE VA, AND DISABILITY

by Dan Nate

When Mark Morgan-Brown received his liver transplant in April, 1999, he held two beliefs that have helped him through the struggles that have come since: A belief that GOD will help him, and a belief that HE WILL GET BETTER. Unfortunately, the 49 year-old Vietnam Veteran has been forced to start post-transplant combo-therapy after a liver biopsy indicated his liver was in 2-stage fibrosis, 18 months after his transplant surgery. The husband and father received his transplant at Houston's Methodist Hospital. When first diagnosed with HCV in 1991, he worked as a teacher, and had hoped to return to his chosen profession afterwards, but the virus started taking a toll on his new liver.

He has been certified as 100% service-connected disabled by The Department of Veterans' Affairs and receives a monthly pension. Morgan-Brown says the VA accepted his claim that he contracted the virus on active duty while working as an MP at the US Army Hospital in Saigon, during the Vietnam War. "I was assisting in loading and unloading wounded from the helicopters and carrying them into the emergency room and stuff like that."

Prior to the transplant, Morgan-Brown was unable to take INTERFURON therapy because of the poor condition of his liver. Now, with the newly transplanted liver, Drs. hope to rid his body of the virus. He is praying that he will be one of the lucky ones; only 1 of 4 who do the recommended therapy actually

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"clear" the virus from their body. 1 of the remaining 3 will seem to have cleared it, but it will return. The remaining 2 of the 4 will NOT CLEAR AT ALL. These are usually people of the geno-type A and B.

So far M-B hasn't really faced any severe side effects from the INTERFURON-RIBA- VARIN combo therapy. Even if he had he says he has too much to live for to discontinue the therapy. "I just expect that I am going to live a normal life". Although he feels the limitations he faces after the transplant really don't amount to much. "I don't work in the yard, and I don't do a lot of weight lifting", said the former Hep "C" Hope Foundation volunteer. His activities as a volunteer have stopped, so he can better concentrate on his health and the lengthy treatment, a full 12-month year of needles every other day, self-injected, and up to 6 pills a day,every single day. He does not anticipate returning to teaching or to the foundation." Mentally, I don't think I could handle the stress," he said.

You, Me & PTSD

By: Steve Crabtree

Over thirty years ago I was a LRRP or an Airborne Ranger, or whatever you want to call it. I attended the toughest schools the United States Army had to offer. I fought in Vietnam with the Americal Division's Ranger unit. We pulled missions deep into enemy-held areas, many times on the "other side" of the border. I was there when one of my teammates was shot in the face. I pulled John Bennett's dead body out of the South China Sea. I was young, brash, and cocky. Nothing bothered me then. I was Superman!

And nothing bothers me now. **BULLSHIT!**

We were all brought up to believe that "men don't cry;" "Take it like a man;" "Crying is for sissies." When I came home from Vietnam I wanted to tell everyone what was really going on over there. Nobody cared. It took me about six months to realize this before I smartened up and quit talking about it. I locked up everything inside me and wouldn't even admit to having been there.

In 1990, 28 men from my unit got back together. The following year over 80 of us met at the Wall in Washington, DC. Getting together again after all those years was one of the greatest things that has ever happened in our lives...and one of the worst. Two have withdrawn from society, their wives, their friends and their families. Another took a buddy to seek help for delayed stress only to discover he was hurting more than his pal was. He no longer will have anything to do with any of the men from his unit. Another put a gun to his head last month and blew his brains out. All of us have nightmares, some more than others, some more horrible than others, but we all have them. Why? Because we were trained to "hold it together and get the job done" under conditions that most people (yes, even most men) would be unable to function in.

I have a friend who claims that PTSD doesn't exist in her household. She refers to her husband's problems as TWT, or too-well-trained. She was a social worker, and knows that contrary to what the VA psychologist told her and her husband she is NOT an "enabler" because she lets him sit with his back to the wall in a restaurant. She simply honors the training that saved his life and the lives of his buddies, more than once. She is very aware that the handgun her husband keeps on the headboard is NOT a threat to her or anyone else in her house, unless they don't belong there. Her husband is TWT and would always identify a target prior to firing it up. How many of you know that Audie Murphy slept with a handgun under his pillow until he died? He came back from WWII to great acclaim and success, but never stopped doing perimeter checks. How much worse is it for the ones who did not achieve what he did or have the support that he had?

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My father-in-law is a retired Navy commander. He honorably served his country for 22 years. Prior to WWII he was stationed on a destroyer; during the war on aircraft carriers. His ship, the USS Wasp CV-7, was hit by torpedoes and sunk off Guadalcanal. Although he treaded water for over six hours waiting to be picked up, he was credited with saving the life of one of his crew. All this time he watched his wounded crew members drowning around him, one by one. At the same time he also watched his buddies in the air, with no where to land, crash into the sea because their carrier was gone. Talk about carrying some baggage! He never filed for PTSD because: 1) Men don't cry! And 2) Why should he file for Government compensation for service related disability only to have whatever dollar amount he might be awarded deducted from his military retirement? He did ask the VA to pay for his hearing aids only to have them "decide" that his hearing loss was not attributable to working the guns on a destroyer or having an ammunition bay explode under your feet on your aircraft carrier.

There are many men in our situation that have never filed a claim for PTSD, and refuse to admit that they have a problem because they have all their body parts intact. I have heard many times "I wasn't hit like so and so," or "I didn't have anyone I was really close to die." These phrases when spoken by a former combat veteran show the deepest wounds of all, wounds to the soul. They live daily with the question, "Why Me?" or rather "Why NOT Me?" Survivor's guilt is an overwhelming and horrible wound that leaves no external scars that you can show the VA or your family; but never the less, is one that continues to bleed for a lifetime. It may "close over" for a while. You just keep yourself very busy, keep that adrenaline flowing at maximum speed and you don't have to deal with the wound. Perhaps that is why combat veterans have a 50% higher rate of heart disease and heart attacks. But eventually you have to sleep, and in that sleep the wound is picked at, the scab lifts and you start to bleed all over again.

On October 3, 1993, Ranger and Delta Force personnel got into a 26-hour firefight in Mogadishu, Somalia. Six Rangers were killed. One dead Ranger's body was drug through the streets and shown on national TV. If this isn't enough to cause nightmares, what I'm about to say certainly will. It is considered a psychological weakness to seek counseling for PTSD if you are on active duty in a Special Operation Unit. Should one of these young troopers seek counseling, he would be immediately removed from his active Ranger Unit. What's wrong with this picture? We won't even allow our men on active duty to mourn their dead comrades.

I still have nightmares about Vietnam. Most of them have something to do with water. This is kind of odd because all but two of my missions had nothing to do with water. Could it be because we were playing football on the beach one-minute and the next I was pulling a friend's dead body out of the South China Sea? Combat is not the only cause of PTSD. Any shocking or traumatic experience can plant the seed, and just about anything can trigger the reaction. The death of someone dear, rape, extreme stress, an accident (or near accident) or any traumatic incident can be contributing factors. There doesn't even have to be a specific incident. If you served 365 days in a combat zone, you have had 365 POSSIBILITIES that you could be wounded or killed. Living through that time with the constant anticipation of danger leaves you with a heightened awareness of your surroundings and an elevated startle-response. These are two of the most common symptoms of PTSD. The reaction to these stresses can be immediate, or they can lay dormant for years. The key to what I'm trying to say is acknowledge you have been exposed to PTSD causing factors and then do something about it.

Having been awarded the Combat Infantry Badge (CIB); the VA acknowledges your exposure to PTSD contributing factors. If you file a claim with them, you will be awarded a minimum of 10% disability. It has been suggested that because of the types of missions the LRP's, LRRP's and Rangers pulled in Vietnam that any of them filing should, and I stress the word should, be awarded 100% disability. Many of the men from units like ours did receive a 100% disability rating in the past. However, in November of

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1998 the rules became more stringent regarding a 100% rating due to the number of "wannabes" that received a high rating without having to present their DD-214 or any evidence of how or where they served. But it is not uncommon for a LRRP, LRP or Ranger to receive a 70% rating with 100% disability under the regulations regarding individual unemployability.

What can you do to prevent PTSD? Nothing, you already have it, but you can prevent the symptoms from ruling your life. Talk! Talk to a friend who was there. Each of us carries a different cross made from the same material. Each of us was there and can understand the mindset of a brother veteran. You'll find that the memories that bother you the most are also shared by your buddies. You're not alone and your feelings (both love & hate) are mutually shared. Talk! Talk to a trained professional. Most people specializing in PTSD treatment are veterans who were there and did that. The ones who weren't have been trained to assist. If you don't want to go to the VA for help, and have private insurance, call your local Vet's Center and have them recommend someone who has experience dealing with delayed, combat related PTSD. If you don't have private insurance, see if you can get help through the Vet's Center, or if there isn't one in your area, contact county and state mental health associations. And, most important of all, talk! Talk to your family. Your parents and siblings know that you aren't the same person that left for Vietnam all those years ago, however, they may be wondering when YOU will come home. Let them know that the anger you sometimes express, even if it seems to be directed at them, is actually directed at those internal demons you carry around. Let your wife and kids know that you love them, and if it seems that you expect too much of them at times, it's because in Vietnam, in your type of unit, anything less than perfection could get you killed. In the unit you served with, there were no shades of gray, only black and white, right and wrong. They need to know that you have an overdeveloped sense of responsibility toward them and that you love them AS IF THEIR LIVES AND YOUR LIFE DEPENDED ON IT! ! Your loved ones probably don't understand why you have no patience with or consideration for them, while you show so much for the guys you served with. Let them know that the guys you served with not only share your problems, but that you accept them because they have proven themselves dependable to you over and over on the field of battle. At one time they were more important to you than your mother, father, wife or children. Your very life depended upon their actions. Most of all, what you can do to help yourself, is to forgive. Forgive yourself. While no one has ever put a name to it, you are probably, in your own way, doing penance for those 58,000+ names on that Wall in Washington. I know that I am, every day of my life. What if your name was on that Wall, instead of someone else's? Would you want those that returned from Vietnam to be chained to your grave? NO, of course you wouldn't. So remember, you have the responsibility to live the best life you can, not only for yourself and your family, but also for them.

Authors' note: This article is dedicated to Richie Burns. Richie fought in Vietnam with the 1st Cav, 101st Airborne Division, 162 Advisory Group and since his return has been counseling Veterans with PTSD problems. He was diagnosed with colon cancer in 1997. Rich died last night (10/18/01) after a long and valorous battle. He leaves behind his wife, Cathy; his daughter, Erin (27, a West Point graduate); and his son, Shane (25, a former United States Army Ranger and now a Police Officer in Florida). The VA does not recognize colon cancer as having any relationship to exposure to Agent Orange. This fact gives both a warm and comforting feeling to: Richie's family, Tony Avgoulis' family (deceased, 1998), myself, Dennis Nye, Paul Green and the many, many other Vietnam Veterans who have been diagnosed with or the families of those who have died from this disease.

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PTSD...still there, still a mystery plaguing many.

Submitted by Dan Nate, F co. LRP/Ranger, from VA M-21-1,part 6

We know about it, yet it still beats us up. It's still wrecking lives and destroying families. Just how much longer it can be ignored and mis-regulated is unknown. We are recognizing many new additions to the presumptive with service-connection plate, but this one piece is just too hard to chew and swallow without more work. We have beaten it up before, and tried to get our groups to listen-up, but I'm going to try one more time, just for those hard-cases that don't listen until it's too late. I'm going to copy the VA's definition of PTSD AND the VA's standard that MUST be met if one is to garner a well-grounded claim for PTSD. Do not deviate, do not ignore the obvious. Pay attention to the symptoms and honestly answer them with your own feelings when you read the parts that most closely resemble your behavior patterns or thoughts. And then GO GET HELP! It's been 34 YEARS my brothers. Get it fixed!

ESSENTIALS of DIAGNOSIS: The diagnostic criteria for PTSD as required by DSM-III-R are as follow:

(1) The person has experienced an event that is outside the range of usual experience and that would be markedly distressing to almost anyone; i.e., serious threat to one's life or physical integrity; serious threat or harm to one's children, spouse, or other close relatives and friends; sudden destruction of one's home or community; or seeing another person seriously injured or killed as the result of an accident or physical violence.

(2) The traumatic event is persistently experienced in at least one of the following ways:
(a) Recurrent and intrusive distressing recollections of the event.
(b) Recurrent distressing dreams of the event.
(c) Sudden acting or feeling as if the traumatic event were recurring (includes a sense of reliving the experience, illusions, hallucinations, and dissociative flashback episodes, even those that occur upon awakening or when intoxicated.)
(d) Intense psychological distress at exposure to events or occasions that symbolize or resemble an aspect of the traumatic event, including anniversaries of the trauma.

(3) Persistent avoidance of stimuli associated with the trauma or numbing of general responsiveness (not present before the trauma), as indicated by at least 3 of the following:
(a) Efforts to avoid thoughts or feelings associated with the trauma.
(b) Efforts to avoid activities or situations that arouse recollections of the trauma.
(c) Inability to recall an important aspect of the trauma. (psychogenic amnesia)
(d) Markedly diminished interest in significant activities.
(e) Feeling of detachment or estrangement from others.
(f) Restricted range of affect; e.g., unable to have loving feelings.
(g) Sense of fore-shortened future; e.g., does not expect to have a career, Marriage, or children, or a long life.

(4) Persistent symptoms of increased arousal (not present before the trauma), as indicated by at least 2 of the following:
(a) Difficulty falling or staying asleep.
(b) Irritability or outbursts of anger.
(c) Difficulty concentrating.
(d) Hyperviligance.
(e) Exaggerated startle response.
(f) Psychological reactivity upon exposure to events that symbolize or resemble an aspect of the traumatic event; e.g., a woman who was raped in an elevator breaks out into a sweat when entering any elevator.

(5) Duration of the disturbance (symptoms in sub-paragraphs 2,3 & 4 above) of at least 1 month. If the onset of symptoms was at least 6 months after the trauma, the delayed trauma must be specified.

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STRESSORS: In making a decision, exercise fair, impartial, and reasonable judgment in determining whether a specific case of PTSD is service-connected. Some relevant considerations are:

(1) PTSD does not need to have its onset during combat. For example, vehicular or airline crashes, large fires, flood, earthquakes, and other disasters in most involved persons. The trauma may be experienced alone, (rape or assault) or in the company of groups of people (military combat).

(2) A Stressor is not to be limited to just one single episode. A group of experiences also may affect an individual, leading to a diagnosis of PTSD. In some circumstances, for example, assignment to a grave registration unit, burn care unit, or liberation of internment camps could have a cumulative effect of powerful, distressing experiences essential to a diagnosis of PTSD.

(3) PTSD can be caused by events, which occur before, during and after service. The relationship between stressors during military service and current problems/symptoms will govern the question of service connection. Symptoms must have a clear relationship to the military stressor as described in the military reports.

(4) PTSD can occur hours, months or years after a military stressor. Despite this long, latent period, service-connected PTSD may be recognizable by a relevant association between the stressor and the current presentation of symptoms. This association between stressor and symptoms must be specifically addressed in the VA examination report and to a practical extent, supported by documentation.

REASONABLY SUPPORTIVE EVIDENCE OF STRESSORS IN SERVICE:
Any evidence available from the service department indicating that the veteran served in the area in which the stressful event is alleged to have occurred and any evidence supporting the description of the event are to be made part of the record. Corroborating evidence of a stressor IS NOT RESTRICTED TO SERVICE RECORDS, but may be obtained from other sources. If the claimed stressor is related to combat, in the absence of information to the contrary, receipt of any of the following individual decorations will be considered evidence of participation in a stressful episode: Air Force Cross, Air Medal w/V device, Army Commendation Medal w/V device, Bronze Star Medal w/V device, Combat Action Ribbon, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Infantry Badge, Distinguished Flying Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Joint Service Commendation Medal w/V device, Medal of Honor, Navy Commendation Medal w/V device, Navy Cross, Purple Heart, Silver Star.

Other supportive evidence includes, but is not limited to, plane crash, ship sinking, explosion, rape or assault, duty on a burn ward or in Graves registration unit. POW status, which satisfies the requirements of Title 38,CFR 3.1(y), will also be considered conclusive evidence of an in-service stressor.

DEVELOPMENT:

(1) For instructions regarding development of service records, medical treatment, and evidence of stressor, refer to part III, paragraph 5.14.CFR.

(2) Unless medical evidence adequate for rating purposes is already of record, request an immediate examination. When requesting an examination, state in the remarks section of VA Form 21-2507,REQUEST FOR PHYSICAL EXAMINATION,"CLAIMS folder to be made available to examiner upon request."

INCOMPLETE EXAMINATIONS AND/OR RECONCILIATION OF DIAGNOSIS:
If an examination is received with the diagnosis of PTSD, which does not contain the above essentials of diagnosis, return the examination as incomplete for rating purposes, note the deficiencies, and request reexamination

(1) Examples of an unacceptable diagnosis include not only insufficient symptom logy, but also failure to identify or to adequately describe the stressor, or failure to consider prior reports demonstrating a mental disorder, which could not support a diagnosis of PTSD. Conflicting diagnoses of record must be acknowledged and reconciled.

(2) Exercise caution to assure that situational disturbances containing adjustment reaction of adult life

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which subside when the situational disturbance no longer exists, or is withdrawn, and the reactions of those without neurosis who have" dropped out" and have become alienated are not built into a diagnosis of PTSD.

LINK BETWEEN IN-SERVICE STRESSOR AND DIAGNOSIS:
Relevant specific information concerning what happened must be described along with as much detailed information as the Veteran can provide to the examiner regarding time of the event (year, month, day),geographical location (Corps, province, town or other landmark feature such as a river or mountain), and the names of others who may have been involved in the incident. The examining psychiatrist or psychologist should comment on the presence or absence of other traumatic events and their relevance to the current symptoms. Service connection for PTSD will not be established either on the basis of a diagnosis of PTSD unsupported by the type of history and description or where the examination and supporting material fail to indicate a link between current symptoms and an in-service stressful event(s).

REVIEW OF EVIDENCE:

(1) If a VA medical examination fails to establish a diagnosis of PTSD, the claim will be immediately denied on that basis. If no determination regarding the existence of a stressor has been made, a discussion of the alleged stressor need not be included in the rating decision.
(2) If the claimant has failed to provide a minimal description of the stressor (i.e., no indication of a time or a place of a stressful event), the claim may be denied on that basis. The rating should specify the previous request for information.
(3) If a VA examination or other medical evidence establishes a valid diagnosis of PTSD, and development is complete in every respect but for confirmation of the in-service stressor, request additional evidence from either the Environmental Support Group (ESG) or branch of service.
(4) Do not send a case to the ESG or branch of service unless there is a confirmed diagnosis of PTSD adequate to establish entitlement to service connection. Correspondingly, always send an inquiry in instances in which the only obstacle to service connection is confirmation of an alleged stressor. A denial solely because of an unconfirmed stressor is improper unless it has first been reviewed by the ESG or branch of service.
(5) If the ESG, or the branch of service requests a more specific description of the stressor in question, immediately request the veteran to provide the necessary information. If the Veteran provides a reasonably responsive reply, forward it to the requesting agency. Failure by the Veteran to respond substantively to the request for information will be grounds to deny the claim based on unconfirmed stressor.

If, as you read this, you noticed the "changes of tense", it is because the information I am providing you in this detailed report was written by the VA for all branches of the service, but especially for distribution to service officers who help Veterans prepare their claims. This is THEIR guidelines information pamphlet. There can be very little doubt that IF YOU READ, DIGEST and FOLLOW the directions within this article, that your claim will come back as a "not well-grounded claim". It is spelled out for you, word-for-word, as the VSOs must follow, so if YOU prepare your claim with a VSO, you now know each and every item that you can or should be able to recall, remember or provide in order to get your comp and pension correct, and then GET YOUR PTSD FIXED, REPAIRED or TREATED. I know most of you, and I also know most of you have PTSD, in some form, whether you care to face the truth or not. It is time for all of us to get rid of this ugly monster.

I have written this with some "force" because I care, not because I think I know it all. I want all of us to feel the freedom we deserve to feel, for the efforts we put out, then and now. We are all carrying" unneccesary baggage"; baggage we did not sign up for. Don't you think we've carried it around long enough by now?

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COPTER RESCUE WAS A REAL CLIFF HANGER

26 July 1969...Cu Chi, Vietnam. From "THE ARMY REPORTER"

The toe of the light-observation helicopter's right skid perched precariously on a boulder. The rotor blade chomped furiously at nearby trees. The chopper's body hung menacingly to the cliff's edge.

At the base of the cliff nestled a Viet Cong base camp. The six-man long-range patrol (LRP) realized their fate hung on the cliff with the chopper. They were out of food and water, and the VC knew they were there.

The series of events bringing the courageous pilot to this perilous mountainside began four days earlier, when a 25th Inf. Div. LRP patrol left the U.S. base on the 3,200-foot summit of Nui Ba Den, in Tay Ninh Province.

Their mission was to gather intelligence as they moved down the 45-degree, enemy-infested slopes. They were to call for extraction two days later in the rice paddies at the base of the mountain.

On the second day, the men neared the bottom only to find their planned exit blocked by a VC base camp. "We couldn't get through CHARLIE, so we tried to go back up and around and come down again," explained Sgt. Willard R. Ethridge, 19, of Atlanta, Ga., leader of the F Co., 50th Inf. Patrol.

They tried...once, twice, three times. Each time they ran into CHARLIE. Finally, on the third day, they stopped in a rocky gulch one third of the way up the mountain and radioed for help. One man's leg had been injured by a falling rock. Another man was suffering the effects of heat exhaustion.

"We were out of food and water. When it rained we could catch the water running off the rocks in our canteens-a little dirty, but man, it was good." said SP4 Joseph Hitchens, 20, of New Orleans.

Two other LRP units at the foot of the mountain started moving up toward the trapped patrol. They both ran into enemy .50-cal. machine-gun and rocket-grenade fire and had to be extracted.

A 25-man reaction force from F co. got 200 meters up the mountain before nightfall. The next day they tried to reach their beleaguered buddies but got pinned-down in a firefight with the VC.

Shortly after noon, two Huey gun-ships from D-troop, 3rd Sqd., 4th Cav., arrived and began spewing hot lead and rockets on the enemy in an attempt to clear the area for a helicopter extraction.

A medevac chopper arrived to get the injured man out first. There was no clearing near the six men large enough for the "slick's" big rotor-blade, and the plan was to drop a hoist for the man. The pilot hovered over twice, but both times enemy fire drove him off.

Maj. Fred R. Michelson, 35, Commanding Officer of D-troop, from Clayton, MO., was flying "command and control" in the OH-6A Cayuse light observation helicopter (LOH). He called for more firepower. Two Cobras from "B" Co. of the 25th Aviation Bn. arrived. Soon after two Huey gun-ships from the 4th Cav. Sqd., and two Air Force tactical jets soon joined the Cobras in pounding the enemy.

A second dust-off ship with a hoist arrived. As the pilot tried to get in close enough to drop his lift, enemy sniper fire knocked out the communications between the pilot and the hoist operator. To add to the problems, the clouds opened-up and a tropical downpour forced the helicopters to return to the 25th Div.'s base at Tay Ninh. By the time the storm cleared, it was nearing dusk. "Michelson decided that the only choice was to try to re-supply the patrol and hope they could make it through the night.

The gunship again lit-up the foot of the mountain with their rockets and mini-guns as W.O. Stephen R. Patterson piloted the LOH in over the men. Michelson leaned out on the skid and swung a bag of food, water and radio batteries toward a granite ledge. It bounced, fell over the cliff, and rolled into the Viet Cong base camp below.

Then Patterson, 22, of Riverside, Calif., spotted a boulder in a clearing just wide enough to get one skid in." I hovered down and put the toe of my right skid on the rock to steady the aircraft because of the bad updrafts. The LRPs handed-out the injured man to Michelson," said Patterson.

Having made it once, Patterson decided to take his 4-seat chopper back for the other men. Alone this time, he again perched his bird on the rock. Two more men leaped from the rock to the skid and into the chopper." Every time they jumped on the aircraft, it would lurch, and I'd cut down a few more small trees with my rotor," recalled the pilot.

Three men remained, and it was getting dark. They had one more smoke grenade. By Radio, Patterson told them to save it in case he didn't make it on the third try. He began hunting the mountainside for the spot. At one point he flew right over the VC base camp but did not draw any fire.

(Continued from page 24)

Finally he found the ledge and hovered in again. The men threw on their radio and rucksacks. Two men jumped on first. To the last man, PFC Merilan Henry, 20, the tiny helicopter looked full. And Patterson was fighting to recover the ship from a lurch caused by the weight.

"I just couldn't wait. I just dove in," Henry said. "All I could do was throw my feet on-the rest of my body was hanging over the side. I had my right hand up on the pilot's chair, and the Team Leader was holding on to my left hand."

With Henry hanging out the side, the LOH lifted away from the steep slope 1,200-feet up. What had looked impossible had been accomplished not once but three times. Modestly Patterson admitted: "It did get a little hairy there for a while."

NOTE…this article, while reported by THE REPORTER newspaper in Vietnam, was copied off of the 25th Aviation's Website page, where it is listed under "THE REPORTER STORIES". It is an excellent site for ALL of us to communicate through. These are the brave, silent men who risked all to get every man, woman and child out to safety, whenever called upon for help. It is these men who came to the aid of our LRP teams each and every time the call for help was given. It is because of their bravery and professionalism that we were able to get Bobby Ethridge and the other members of his team "back home" again, to Cu Chi, and finally here to the states. We are fortunate to be able to share these memories and stories with the men who flew for us, and they in turn are just as overcome with joy at being able to place names and stories with their own memories of what transpired throughout our "combined war-time". I congratulate the men mentioned in this article, and thank them whenever I can, like right now. Thank You, Men of the 25th Aviation, wherever you are. Strength and Honor, Gentlemen! And to you men of F Co., you too can commo up with Ron Leonard and the rest of the fly-guys we knew, but didn't really know, if you know what I mean. Just go to http://www.members.tripod.com/ronleonard/id260.htm

(Submitted by Dan Nate, F co.)

Warlords and Terrorists

By: Matthew Eversmann

Tuesday, 2nd October 2001. Tomorrow will be the 8 year anniversary of the Battle of the Black Sea. As I sit here safe in my office, I can't help thinking of similarities between the events of 3rd October and the attack on our soil on 11 Sep.

Capturing fugitive warlords or heads of terrorist cells is within our abilities.

In 1993 we left the battlefield with unfinished business. Today is a different day; our resolve is greater. Here are some facts the press conveniently leaves out of their stories.

The mission on 3rd October was to capture Somali warlord Aideed's lieutenants, not Aideed himself. We captured them. But, in the largest ground fight since the TET offensive, 18 soldiers died, 70 were wounded, and 1 was captured, Mike Durant.

Various reports say we killed between 500 and 2000 enemy militiamen. 2000 of those bastards. When US Special Envoy Robert Oakley spoke to Aideed to broker Mike Durant's release, Oakley said in no uncertain terms that Durant was to be released or we would unleash the fury of American war power that would make 3 October look like a picnic. Durant was released.

The same resolve should guide the search for Bin Laden. We can dismantle his infrastructure as we did with Aideed's. When the money starts to dry up, and the militias run out of backers, they will make mistakes. Their survival depends not on Allah, but on moolah.

When arrogant enemies get bold, they offer us opportunities. We need the combined effort of agencies from the FBI to Interpol to Swiss bankers. When laundry banks start closing, legitimate businesses will find other legitimate firms to handle their accounts; the bad guys will lose support and their banks will eventually close.

When targets of opportunity present themselves, we shall strike, day or night. There is nothing wrong with that tactic. We would rather fight at night, but we can hit the enemy whenever and wherever he shows up. We hit Aideed in broad daylight and were successful then, but... we own the night.

As for the Jihad and these "fearless" fighters who are not afraid to die for their cause. So what? Just because we value life doesn't mean that we are afraid to fight. On the contrary, we are ready to go. We now have a green light to kill terrorists, no strings attached. My guess is that the lads at Hereford have been excited about the opportunity to go do their job. Our operators are fired up at the prospect of going down range. Sudan, Libya, Northern Ireland: wherever these terrorists lurk, they sleep with one eye open these days. This is real. Our volunteers joined these units for one reason: to go to war and win. We are ready now as we were ready on that fateful 3rd of October. Our learning curve has been steep. This will be a
"first" for the majority of our young warriors. However, when the first round is fired at us, we will deliver. If I was able to do it in 1993, the soldiers of this millennium can do it now.

I don't wish to glorify war and make it sound sanitary. These are the facts of life:

-Soldiers will die in combat, ours and theirs.
-Aircraft will go down in combat, ours and (mostly) theirs.
-Weather and terrain now serve the enemy in his backyard.
-Weather and terrain can serve us if we exploit those mountains and can the cold.
-Their air force is doomed, their air space sealed, their pilots dead men flying once they get in a cockpit.
-We will kill terrorists. Their disregard for life is not an issue. We can make that easy for them.
-We should learn lessons from the Soviets; it can happen to us. However, we are not the Soviets: our Republic is still around, unlike theirs. Go figure.
-The sooner we shift into the unconventional warfare mode, the sooner we will see results. When lead starts flying, Special Ops soldiers learn quickly.

We learned in Mogadishu how to fight in the city. For many of us it was OJT. We learned and produced results. In spite of the Pol Pot techniques we were undaunted. Personnel fear left us undaunted: we got on the helicopters and slid into the furnace. Death and carnage around us only drove us to fight harder, every one of us. We shed our naiveté, we matured in minutes, and fought back. We regret our dead but not those we killed. We don't ask for forgiveness. This is not a confession; it is my view of war as I lived it eight years ago now. There is nothing noble about seeing your men die, and there is no training for that.

But there is something noble about launching our army in a just cause to do its job. Now, however, the intellectualizing starts. We question our capabilities, our will, our resources. This agonizing does not concern me. It is the bitter irony of our profession. We protect those who disdain us. There is a line between an understandable need to analyze and debate this attack and the necessary need to protect and defend our republic. Maybe it is revenge. I don't know. I do know that in a civilized society, atrocity must be punished and repudiated.

Terrorists understand a bullet in the head. They live in caves not because they are crafty warriors, but because they are stupid. I wouldn't give them an iota of credit for anything else: four years to organize a hit that two Ranger E-4's could have worked out on a cocktail napkin at Wendy's? A suicide bomber is not brave, no matter what CNN says. Stupid. Effective, but stupid. He and his brothers will make mistakes; they always do. And when they present a target, they will pay.

For now, though, we have to be resolute and tough. Our nation is, even if some don't acknowledge it, is resolute and tough. Terrorists are not giants: we will beat them. We will set the time and place, and they will die. Then we'll mourn our dead and go back about the business of Freedom.

Ed. Note: Matthew Eversman is a SFC currently stationed at Carlisle Barracks, PA. He enlisted in December, 1987. From 1992 through Mar, 2000, he was assigned to 3/75 and RHQ. In August, 1993 he deployed to Mogadishu with 2 PLT, B Co, 3/75 as a squad leader. On 3 October, 1993 he was Chalk leader for Chalk 4 (aircraft Super 67), acting PSG. Matthew is currently the Operations Sergeant, US Army War College.

Commission Removes L.A. Judge

By Erica Werner
.c The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) - A judge who falsely claimed he had once worked for the CIA in Laos and fought in Vietnam was ordered removed from the bench Wednesday.

The state Commission on Judicial Performance found Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Patrick Couwenberg guilty of willful misconduct in office, conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice and improper action under the state constitution.

``He lied to become a judge, elaborated on his misrepresentations for his enrobing ceremony and subsequently lied to the commission in an apparent attempt to frustrate its investigation," the commission said in an order signed by Chairman Michael A. Kahn.

Couwenberg's attorney, who admits his client is a compulsive liar but says it is because of a curable mental condition called ``pseudologia fantastica," said Couwenberg has not decided whether to challenge the decision.

``This removal has nothing to do with his on-the-bench conduct," attorney Edward P. George Jr. said.

Couwenberg, 56, was the 16th judge removed in the commission's 40-year history, commission director Victoria B. Henley said.

Couwenberg's lies included misrepresenting his educational background, and telling the judge who introduced him during his swearing-in that he was a corporal in the Army and received a Purple Heart.

Couwenberg also falsely told a group of attorneys that he went to college on the G.I. Bill, had a master's degree in psychology and had shrapnel in his groin.

Couwenberg was appointed by former Gov. Pete Wilson in 1997. The commission said that when Couwenberg asked other judges for advice on getting a judicial appointment they told him it was important that Wilson know of his war record ``because both (Wilson) and his judicial appointments secretary, Mr. John Davies, were ex-Marines."

Davies told commission investigators he remembered interviewing Couwenberg partly because of his ``unusual war experiences."

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Rally Round The Flag

Our Battle Cry is "FREEDOM!" (We have, in fact, now learned since I set this section up for mailing, that the name of our war on terrorism is Enduring Freedom.) I've noticed once again thru' these last two weeks that we Americans do not respond in the streets like what we've seen after attacks ~ or even sometimes attempts at helpful aid ~ in other countries.

We don't burn effigies nor defile others' flags ~ we cling to our own Old Glory, sing National and Godly praises, thank Heroes, help our Neighbors, and pray. A reporter ask NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani what the value of prayer is. And others may ask why we rally 'round our flag. In both cases, if one has to ask, how can another explain? The following has been published several places and may be a rerun; but, perhaps, due for a reread.

LESSONS OF THE AGES RALLY 'ROUND THE FLAG

By Lieutenant Colonel Wes Martin

"We will rally 'round the flag, boys, we will rally once again, shouting the battle cry of freedom...We will rally from the hillsides, and gather from the plains, scouting the battle cry of freedom."

Long before this Civil War call-to-arms song was written, warriors of many nations and causes had rallied to mark-

ers identifying their assembly points. Because a field of battle is fluid, the markers were moved as the forces moved. The markers required ease of both identification and mobility. Pieces of cloth on staffs or poles well served both requirements. These cloths have taken many names: flags, banners, standards, and colors to mention a few.

Two of the oldest records concerning the use of flags are found in the Bible, Numbers 1:52 and 2:2 respectively: "And the sons of Israel shall camp, each man by his own camp, and each man by his own standard, according to their armies." "The sons of Israel shall camp, each by his own standard, with the banners of their fathers' households."

Ancient Egyptian carvings and Persian paintings also attest to use of banners as identification markers and signaling devices for base camps and military units on the move. Through the ages, the banners became more elaborate. As villages, clans, and minor kingdoms became absorbed by modern day nations; banners representing religious, heraldic, or genealogical backgrounds were replaced by national standards.

During the earliest days of the American Revolution, a series of flags emerged. Most famous are the Gadsden and Culpepper flags, both stating "Don't Tread on
Me." Gadsden featured a coiled rattlesnake on a yellow background while Culpepper's was a crawling rattlesnake on a red and white striped background. Another early Revolution flag depicted a rattlesnake broken into thirteen pieces, each piece identifying a colony, above the words "Join or Die."

General Washington, commanding the siege of Boston, needed a symbol representing something of higher quality than a poisonous snake if he ever hopes to give legitimacy to his quest. Washington addressed this issue with Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Lynch, and Francis Hopkinson (American statesman, poet, future signer of the Declaration of Independence, and writer of a parody of Yankee Doodle titled "Battle of the Kegs"). History cannot confirm, but all evidence indicates that Hopkinson took the lead. The result was the Grand Union flag. Thirteen stripes were used, seven red starting at the top and finishing at the bottom, divided by six white.

In the upper left corner, the British Union Jack crosses of Saint George and Saint Andrew were placed. Overall, it was a current version of the American flag with the Union Jack in the place of the stars on a field of blue. On January 1, 1776, Washington raised this flag at Charlestown, Massachusetts across the bay from British occupied Boston. The Grand Union flag represented colonial unity against oppression. It also represented the intent of future reconciliation with Great Britain. At this time, only among the most die-hard revolutionaries was there a determination for a complete break with England.

New England was heavily composed of such die-hard revolutionaries. Boston's most adamant revolutionary was also President of the Continental Congress -- John Hancock. It would be short order before formal rejection of British presence on American soil was declared. That came six months later, on July 4th, when John Hancock led the Continental Congress in the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Also by this time, the British had completed their evacuation of Boston. As went New England, so went the nation.

When the resolve was made by the Continental Congress to remove the British from this new nation, the need also arose to remove the Union Jack from the American flag. It is long since forgotten what person or committee arrived at the recommendation to replace the Union Jack with a union of thirteen stars embedded in a field of blue. This union was to represent a new constellation that would light the skies of freedom. Congress approved the new flag on June 14, 1777. In this legislation, the Continental Congress also defined the symbolic meaning of the colors: white was designated to signify purity and innocence; red for hardiness and valor; and blue for vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

Almost a century would pass before the grandson of Betsy Ross claimed that she designed the first American Flag. It is known that following the death of her husband in 1776, Betsy Ross did manage the family upholstery business and did make flags for the Continental Army. It is very possible that she stitched the first flag. It is also likely that most of her work supporting American patriots in the field was for charity. The Continental Congress was unable to pay for most of the new nation's needs. However, to claim that Betsy Ross designed a flag that inspired the Continental Congress into complete acceptance holds the same validity as Washington's cutting down of the cherry tree. Both are examples of folklore and storytelling being substituted for facts.

The new flag was manufactured just in time to be initiated into the field of battle at Saratoga. British General Burgoyne had marched south from Canada with the intent of breaking New England away from the rest of the colonies. Just as the Stars and Stripes was baptized in battle at Saratoga, it was also baptized in victory. This victory resulted in French support of the colonies, which in turn became a deciding factor in the successful outcome of the American Revolution. The American flag was off to a good start and was destined to witness many rough times between Saratoga and the final victory at Yorktown.

Almost thirty years later, the Stars and Stripes came ashore at Tripoli. Mediterranean pirates had been warned by President Jefferson to leave American ships alone. When they failed to heed the warning, American Marines were sent to

confront them. Less than ten years later, back on American shores during the War of 1812, "Old Glory" remained aloft throughout the night as British warships shelled Fort McHenry. This amazing sight caused Francis Scott Key, an American detainee of the British fleet, to write: "Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming! And the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there."

That Star-Spangled Banner marched into Mexico City where a young lieutenant named Ulysses Grant pulled his cannon up the stairs into a church tower to better effect his accuracy. The American flag rode with Grant fifteen years later to the preservation of the Union. It also charged up San Juan Hill with Teddy Roosevelt and a daring cavalry captain named John Pershing.

Less than two decades later British and French allies were stalemated in trenches and left to slugging matches with German armies on European battlefields. American military forces bearing the Stars and Stripes, and under the leadership of General John Pershing, turned the tide of victory. This same banner was in the process of being raised over Pearl Harbor when an unwarranted air attack came from the East. It was with the American military at Wake Island, Bataan, Corregidor, and every other battle zone during this nation's hour of desperation. Just as it held at Valley Forge, the burning of Washington, D.C., and the Civil War; the Stars and Stripes remained flying. Meanwhile, our military forces kept fighting. Old Glory was present at the Battle of Midway, when the Philippine Islands were retaken, and when American tanks smashed through the gates of Nazi extermination camps.

Anyone who doubts the beauty of the American flag needs only to ask Holocaust survivors what it meant to them when soldiers displaying this flag brought an end to a Hell created by twisted minds. Our flag represents more than the military accomplishments of this nation. It stands for all our accomplishments, military and civilian. Just as it flies over military bases, it flies over courthouses, businesses, and homes. It flies on American ships and it is displayed on airplanes, both military and civilian.

One of our Association's Australian members is in their Army's only Para Battalion. Johnny Flowers says they spend a lot of time in the bush in "section patrolling tasks". They also regularly go to their jungle school at Tully where it averages 6 meters of rain per year and to their close country school at Caunangra and "some other holes that don't get put in tourist brochures". Johnny met Limey Walker and Riley Cox, from the old 1/101 LRRPS, in Colorado last year and had a look in at the 101st LRS detachment with Troy Henderson. The photo is of Johnny and a couple of mates in a Blackhawk while they were over in East Timor. He's the one in the middle wearing the headband.

This flag belongs to every American, those who have gone before, those who are here today, and those who will come tomorrow. It also represents those who have fought our wars, worked our fields, and labored in our factories. It represents those who have built this nation out of the resources of the land and out of American ingenuity. While the Constitution provides our nation with guidance and legitimacy, the flag provides American citizens with inspiration and unity. Just as the Flag represents the ideals of this nation, it also represents the people.

From the very beginning, no one star stood for any specific state any more than any one stripe represented a specific colony. The flag was molded together, like the nation it represents. People came to be citizens of the United States by many different means. Today this nation is composed of every race, established religion, national origin, and background on Earth.

It was recognition that this nation and its flag belong to all citizens that resulted in the 1923 National Flag Convention change to the original Pledge of Allegiance. Written in 1892, the Pledge originally stated: "I pledge allegiance to my flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. "My" flag became "the" flag.

The Constitution prevents any one person or group achieving from sole power. The flag, representing the nation,

likewise is not to be claimed by any one person. Unfortunately, there are always those who wish to degrade the American flag. To do so is to degrade the entire nation, its Constitution, and the laws that were set to protect this land and its citizens. To do so would also be degradation of the people who have built this country and those who fought to preserve it.

The American Flag is still this country's rallying point. When Americans stand up to protect their flag from abuse, they are not just upholding a piece of cloth. They are protecting the identification of their nation. Too many have died in the field of battle, fighting for the principles and defense of this nation, to allow the banner we rally around to be defiled. From Valley Forge to present day responsibilities, this Nation has withstood the test of time. From those early days, to the present, the Flag has been with us.

What started in ancient times for other people as simple identifications to mark encampments and geographic gathering points has evolved for this nation into an emblem that symbolizes the heritage and spirit of a people. That spirit was well reflected in a John Wayne ballad: "Face the Flag, son, and face reality. Our strengths and our freedoms are based in unity. The flag is but a symbol, son, of the world's greatest nation; and as long as it keeps flying, there's cause for celebration."

Just as the United States has always picked itself up after defeats and setbacks, it has at one time or another picked up just about every other nation of Earth. "Old Glory" began symbolizing this nation over two hundred years ago. General Washington was in want of a standard to rally the colonies into one nation. He found it in thirteen stripes and thirteen stars entrenched in a field of blue. Yet, even the father of our country could not have had any idea how important this flag would become to the entire world.

Each time this nation has rallied 'round its flag, for the citizens of the United States, its principles and its responsibility are not just to remember the past, but to recognize and accept the future. Our past, our heritage, woven into every stitch of the American flag is our guide to the fulfillment of that responsibility. The most colorful and distinctive national banner on Earth marks this nation, whose encampment is freedom from oppression. Especially in the last century, when the world has been caught up in a sea of darkness and despair, the United States has served as a stream of light and hope.

Francis Scott Key's words in the second verse of The Star-Spangled Banner are as pertinent today as when they were written: "In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream. 'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner, Oh, long may it wave...O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

SAS REPORT

Submitted by 'Robbie' Robinson, BDQ

SAS REPORT -In the death zone: It is one of the wildest places on earth. High in the mountain passes vehicles are useless and in winter the snow is neck deep. Then there are the Afghans, devastatingly effective guerrilla fighters, says ex-SAS man Tom Carew. And he should know - he fought alongside them against the Soviet army. Welcome to Afghanistan, a land not conquered since Alexander the Great.

Special Report: Afghanistan into battle with the Mujahedin

(Wednesday, September 19, 2001 The Guardian—Written by a member of the British SAS who served in Afghanistan, Desert Storm and Somalia

We were there to assess their fighting capability and to retrieve Soviet equipment. It was 1979 and the Afghans were fighting a superpower with tactics they had used against the British before the First World War. Watching them fight was like watching an old western: the cowboys would come into a valley and down would come the Indians. My task was to teach them modern guerrilla tactics. Without them, they would be exterminated. I tried to go without preconceptions, but it was hard. Before leaving Britain, everyone said be careful, they are barbaric, and they'll chop you up. My boss at MI6 gave me a Flashman novel about Muslim brutality - his idea of a joke.

After a few months adjusting, however, I found the Afghans to be very pleasant. We got along. I respected their bravery; they respected the way I instructed them. I had more difficulty coping with the physical terrain. When I arrived in Peshawar, an Afghan military leader warned me, "I hope you are fit, my Men march very quickly." No problem, I thought. I was used to march-

ing. But my God; up, up, up we went. We entered the Hindu Kush Mountains and started climbing. Above 3,000m the oxygen started to thin and my concentration to lapse. The Afghans were used to it, but anyone feels really light-headed.

As fighting terrain, it is an absolute nightmare. It's a natural fortress. You can't get very far with vehicles; you get bogged down and the passes are too steep. The Russians had a bloody awful time. They really got stuck. It's one thing to put in your infantry, but you've got to keep them within range of your artillery and your mortars. With bad mountain passes, this is almost impossible. None of this matters to the Afghans: they have it all organized, moving from one village to the next, where they have bases stocked with food.

This is how they have fought and won wars for the past 200 years, with little bases all over the place and holes in the ground where everything is buried. This allows them to carry as little as possible and to cover ground much faster than a western force could. We didn't use tents. We lived in caves or slept rough.

There were guys in the army just carrying a weapon, three magazines and some naan bread, wrapped in a shawl on their back. There is no way a western soldier could carry heavy equipment and keep up with them. For a foreign army, establishing a supply route would be very difficult. To try to carry food and water up those mountains, some of which are 4,000m high, would be madness.

Because of bacteria, you have to carry bottled water and each gallon weighs 4.5kg. On some days, we were going through 11 to 15 liters. A soldier marching in those hills is going to burn between 4,000-5,000 calories a day. You need high-calorie, Arctic rations. Meat doesn't last more than a couple of days, so must be killed fresh. I contracted hepatitis from bad food.

And, of course, there is the weather. Towards the end of this month, the winter will start setting in. It begins with rain; then it freezes, then it snows. By the middle of October the snow will be very deep, up to neck height. A journey that takes three days to walk in summer will take 10 days in winter. The freezing conditions rule out helicopter support. The mist in the valleys invites crashes. The Afghan fighters know the mountains as well as a farmer from Wales knows his hills. They are like mountain goats.

I heard someone on the radio say, "Yeah, we can put in a load of four-man teams." Well, that's ridiculous. The Hindu Kush is a vast expanse of land. What can a four-man team do that you can't do with a satellite? Never mind a needle in a haystack; it's like a needle in the middle of a stadium. Besides, a western task force will stick out like a sore thumb in the Hindu Kush. Most of the Afghan fighters wear sandals with old car tire treads on the bottom. So a western boot print is instantly traceable. Once identified, the soldiers are sitting targets. We trained the Afghans in the art of "shoot and scoot"; they would lay a little ambush, let rip and disappear. They picked it up very quickly. Before long, they had learned to let the Russian convoys get halfway up a pass and then blow a hole through their middle. The lucky ones died instantly. The unlucky were chopped to pieces in the aftermath. In the Hindu Kush, don't expect to appeal to the Geneva Convention.

The Taliban don't have much in the way of weapons. Their best defense is their terrain. When I first arrived, all they had were old 303s, sniper rifles, and some bolt-action guns. Very few had Kalashnikovs - they weren't used to semi-automatics. Now of course, they are much more sophisticated, although their weapons maintenance is virtually zero; a lot of it won't have been upgraded since the Russian war. They might have a few Stingers left - one of the best, shoulder-held, surface-to-air missiles. But whether they're serviceable or not is debatable. They have a Jot of old ZSU23s, one of Saddam Hussein's favorite weapons, which can be used in ground or air support. It's a three-barrel, 5O-caliber machine gun, usually arranged in groups of two, three or four, and it's fearsome. It has a range of about 4,000rn, so if you're coming in on a helicopter and have four of these blasting away at you, it's devastating. They drive their Toyota pick-ups around with these things mounted on the back.

Then there are the landmines. In the early 1980s, they cleared a buffer zone between Pakistan and Afghanistan - an area equal to four days' walk - then put in observation posts on the high ground and mined it all. Everything that entered the area was obliterated and it is possible that the ground is still mined. They are small mines, the size of tennis balls, made of plastic so you can't detect them.

As for the composition of the army, most of the men were 17-24 years old. In some ways, the Afghan soldiers were no different from young guys everywhere; there was camaraderie. They might go and smoke a bit

of opium, but for religious reasons, they wouldn't drink. They would get up at first light for prayers and would cover some distance before the sun came up. They would stop five times a day for prayer, although never during battle. I believe the Koran says that if you are engaged in combat, then you are excused from prayers. But they always prayed afterwards. They were normal Muslims, not fanatics. Still, in terms of their efficiency as an army, their biggest problem was the mullah's influence over them. Because of the doctrine that it's a great honor to die in a holy war, they were fearless and took risks that western soldiers perhaps would not. This is not the point of a military exercise, which is to defeat the enemy and live to fight another day. If you are reckless with your life, you risk depleting the army before it has won. But it was almost impossible to raise this issue with them; it would have invited a lot of trouble.

It is, in my opinion, extremely unlikely that Bin Laden is hiding in the mountains. He must have a base from where he can communicate. He can't communicate from inside the Hindu Kush. He is more likely to be on the northwest frontier of Pakistan, a heavily populated area that the west will be loath to attack. It is like the IRA tactic of hiding behind women and children; of hiding in a kids' playground. Besides, he will want to be somewhere where he can get CNN coverage of the attack on America, to admire his work.

Most of the Afghan military leaders I encountered operated from the comfort of Peshawar in Pakistan. They didn't take part in any fighting, because they wanted to be around when the fighting was over, to reap the benefits. If it comes to a ground war, I believe the western forces will have a very slim chance of victory. The last army to win in Afghanistan was that of Alexander the Great; everyone else has got mauled and pulled out. The CIA made an awful lot of maps when they were there, but a map is only as good as the person using it, and there is no safe way to get troops in.

The Afghans are a formidable enemy. I should know. We in the west pointed them in the right direction, and with a little bit of training, they went a long way.

UNIT REPORTS

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

Unit Director - Tom Brizendine

ARMADILLOS, NUKES, TROOP SHIPS AND PT

Sometimes I think old LRRPs have reached the heights of class and culture but then someone comes up with one better. On the net recently a bunch of us were telling, "No shit, there we were up to our armpits in grenade pins" type stories when the subject of armadillos came up.

ARMADILLOS

Yep. Eating armadillos. Some cooked. Some not. Worst of all, some without chili sauce. Three different stories. Read on. What's for lunch, jokers? Germany era LRRPs are authorized to feel culturally deprived. This is a Ft Hood thang.

"The last thing I remember doing in the company was the trip to Camp Bullis", Mike Cantrell writes. "I think Adams was the XO

and we got no aircraft to pull us out of the field so we ended up walking a long way home. Some nurses were bussed out from Ft Sam for a party. Someone had caught and skinned an armadillo. Diegel and Bissey had consumed quite a few beers and were eating the armadillo out of the mess pans. I looked at the animal in the pan; it was covered with barbecue sauce but not cooked. I wonder if anyone ever told them those animals carry leprosy?"

They've got more than leprosy, according to Alan Campbell. "I remember hearing of an armadillo eating incident that happened when I was in Ranger school. Sander's team killed one in the field and roasted it on a spit. When they ate down to the bone they found all kinds of little worms and got so sick at the sight they had to be

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medivaced." More Louisiana hot sauce next time, gents.

"Hell, I thought I was the only one to ever eat an Armadillo", Dale Hansen says. "I caught one while we were out in the field at Hood. I

Co. sign designed & painted by Chet Smith. Outside Barracks at Gibbs Kaserne 1964-1967. SGT Barber on left.

kept him a coupla days with a string around his head for a leash. One night we had a big fire blazing and I was frying scorpions. Ever seen a mother with all the little babies on her back? They cook up real nice. Anyhow, got bored with the dillo so we tried cookin' his ass. Tasted like the worst beef jerky you've ever had. Actually, I don't think we could chew enough of it to swallow. Bad shit, trust me."

JUMPING

In the last Patrolling we spoke

Company sign Gibbs Kaserne 1967-1968 Bill Maxwell on right.

about the company's robust attitude towards parachute jumping. Check Mike Cantrell's cherry jump. "I remember returning to the unit from Airborne and Ranger training at the Ft Benning Infantry School for boys. Our first jump was a Huey and I had my parachute on and was looking for a jumpmaster and one of the sergeants looked at me and said, if you don't know how to put it on you deserve to die, get on the aircraft." Class.

TACTICAL NUKES

"Speaking of nukes, I found out one of my buds was with the "Davy Crockett" Platoon at Bragg.

Taken on a FTX at Ft. Benning in March 1969 by Mike Shea. Anyone remember these guys names? Let me know.

Heard of it? He said it had been classified up until a coupla years ago. He also said it didn't take him long to get out of the unit when he discovered the killing radius was greater than the firing range. They told him that was okay, he had a jeep!"

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION

Some of our retired guys have near death or Monty Python experiences with the Veterans Administration. Tom Brizendine gives this account.

"Two years ago, The VA put me in a civilian hospital for pneumonia. The VA didn't have any beds available.

When I got out, I received a nice bill from the civilian hospital to the tune of about 250,000 dollars. I

Kelly Hill, Ft. Benning, 1969.

took the bill to the VA who said they would take care of it. Well, you know how slow the VA is. I kept getting these bills with threats to sue me for none payment. Finally I went to the hospital and had a face to face with them about stupidity! I asked them if they had billed the VA, as they were the ones who put me in the hospital. Unsurprisingly I was told no, that they had a better chance of getting the money out of me faster! Finally got them to file on the VA, who was responsible for the bill to start with.

"Speaking of bad luck, I had a heart attack and a stroke in '95. My Heart specialist put me in the hospital for five days. While I was there, my heart specialist died of a heart attack. Shame too. The man was good."

TROOPSHIPS

Yep. Some of us guys are so old we deployed overseas on troopships. "Those were good old days....The Patch, Rose, Buckner and my favorite the William O. Darby. Those were some rides, weren't they!", Tom Brizendine

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Shot taken in Strasbourg, France in 1965 by Chet Smith with a Helmet camera. That's Bruce Warmoth with Bill Maxwell in the door. The plane is a DH-69A Dragon.

says. Ummm. Maybe so, but it was no pleasure cruise.

I came to the Company in Germany on the General AM Patch from Brooklyn Army Terminal to Bremerhaven. Those old tubs weren't so crash hot for us newbies. I was on the bottom of a column of bunks six high so every other mongrel used my bunk for a step. I was only 6" off the deck.

It was a rough trip. The fat-assed legg on the bunk above would lie there like a beached whale and puke over the side every time we hit a particularly big wave or did a roll. The puke would hit the deck and splash on me. After awhile I just started punching him in the head every time he puked. I wouldn't even get up, just hook him from my bunk.
After awhile he got scared to puke. So THERE IS a cure for motion sickness, at least there was for him.

In the morning they would make every latrine off duty for cleaning and then whine if you pissed over the rail. Plus we had to do KP.

I much preferred the civilian airliner on the way back to the world, Tom. Bugger those old tubs.

Another company guy reports a trip on the Rose in 1961 and "going through the English Channel that crazy ol boat had both ends out of the water at the same time. Not a pleasant trip."

Bill Bohte wasn't impressed, either. "I took the Buckner to Germany in 64. We spent one night in Southampton and as the tugs shoved the Buckner into its berth it sideswiped the Queen Mary. Put an idiot rash about 150 feet long down her side just about the promenade deck. I think I heard "WHOOPS" way down in the ship where we stayed."

ROLL CALL

A couple more old LRRPs have showed up on e-mail including Jeffrey Adkins, Mike Farmer, James "Tex" Bryson and Frank Archer.

Jeffrey is a Federal Wildland Fire Officer and spends most of his time in the field from June until November. He just got back and says, "I am elated beyond belief to have made contact with my buddies from my time in the LRP". Any of his old buds that want to contact him, let me know on bobmurphy2@compuserve.com and I'll give you his e-mail address.

I last saw Tex Bryson when I was driving streetcars in San Francisco about 1968. Tex went back on active duty in 1988 at the age of 41 and is currently an E8 with the National Guard. He says he saw

NOW

"Bill Bohte sent us the "Then" pic of Hans at home on the range in Germany with James Porter on the left paying homage or tying his bootlaces. Hans sent us the "Now" shot of him hunting near Bad Tolz in southern Germany last year. As you might gather, Hans gets along well in Germany and the US. He retired recently (for the second time) in Montana and spends much of his time hunting and fishing."

THEN

Hans Zaglauer was a corporal in V Corps LRRPs in the mid 60s in Frankfurt, Germany when there was only one way to make corporal. He did several tours of RVN and retired as a CSM after a career in LRRP, Ranger and SF units. Hans was no shrinking violet in LRRPs.

Wallace Croom (Germany era) in Little Rock in 1995. He's second time married with a 23-year-old son.

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Mike Farmer was in Commo platoon in 1971-72, is retired and lives in Abilene, Texas.

Frank Archer was in 3rd platoon at Ft Benning.

Anyone know where Ron Kiser has gone? Looking for an e-mail address or any other contact details. I'm at bobmurphy2@compuserve.com.

We're also looking for ex-CO Captain Meyer and would like to hear from Ralph S. Cade from the Germany era. Ralph might have retired in Germany. He loved that place.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

"Back in company days I used to run about a 4:30 mile, on my own", says Mark "Ranger Nate" Ross, But you just hated running those five mile runs on Monday morning. By about the three and a half-mile marker you were sucking in the fumes from the alcoholics, take yer pick. If you liked beer. stay behind Weir. if you liked the harder stuff, get behind Bain and Rothrock, if you liked moonshine, get behind Carlisle. if you wanted to get a residual buzz from pot.. Well, you could find a place for that too. Any run longer than five miles on Monday and about all you could smell was puke. And none of this falling out to lean over to puke crap either... puke in place and wear it like a Ranger... that sadistic ass Carpenter loved it when he could count puke stained boots as we made our way back into the barracks. I remember the first day (Captain) Nolan ran with us. He was talking trash about how good of shape he was in and Carpenter about killed us trying to get the old man to quit."

"Ex 1st shirt Bob Searcy is recovering after a serious heart attack recently. Tom Lake from VII Corps LRRPs visited him and reports he is alert
and doing well. Bob was V Corps LRRP First Sergeant in 1967 and 1968. Before
that he was a working man and Patrol Leader in VII Corps LRRP down South in
Stuttgart."

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

Unit Director - Stanley Harrell

VII LRRP(ABN) REUNION 2001

On Wednesday, September 19th, 2001, members of the VII Corps "JayHawk" Lurps began descending on Fort Bragg, NC for their second reunion in as many years. All told, about 36 members came together for what would be a more than memorable time. In addition, there were three father-son teams amongst us. Several members brought their lovely brides, perhaps to dispel the notion that we are too uncivilized for the fair sex.

With our country in a State of War, we all converged on Ft. Bragg, N.C., the home of the 82nd Airborne, Special Forces and Special Ops and other such groups. The post was in a high state of alert. Every car, truck and motorcycle was subject to thorough search and everybody was required to produce a photo I.D. We could all see ourselves in the faces of those young paratroopers who are prepared to give a full account of themselves if called upon.

With seven cases of cold German Dinkelacker, Spaten and Warsteiner Bier, graciously donated by our own good man John Fisher (who owns the Staples Corner liquor store near Annapolis, MD), and several cases more donated by others, these grizzled, graciously-aging, gnarly old paratroopers once again gathered together to bond and BS. The hospitality suite of Moon Hall ably substituted for the Nellingen Rod and Gun Club, and served nicely as our field HQ. Hundreds of old photographs were on display there, as were many articles of memorabilia and even a 300-odd word "LRRP MEMORIES" crossword puzzle, created by Kirk Gibson.

THURSDAY, Sept. 20th
AIRBORNE MUSEUM

After a fine, early breakfast of S.O.S. and some other tasty traditional fares at the NCO Club, we all assembled at Moon Hall for a bus ride to the new, recently opened Airborne Museum. It is a wonderful facility, dedicated to the history and spirit of the Airborne. We were all treated to a wonderful short movie in the theater, which told the story of the paratroopers, beginning with 1940's film footage and end-

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ing with newer footage of "special Ops" teams. Those grainy, B&W shots of the WW II drops from the venerable C47's were a real highlight of the film. It was a fine production, and it got the old juices running again. Now, where did you say we could sign up, again?

Before we left the museum, we were drawn to a wall with etched glass plaques, bearing the names of members of the airborne brotherhood who had been awarded the Medal of Honor. In the top row, three in from the left, was the name of SSgt Glenn H. English, Jr. We would be visiting the grave of our former company comrade on Saturday.

That evening, we headed off to the Rod and Gun Club out on Raeford Road. When we got there, there were two "Master Roasters" hovering about a 55 gallon drum customized to hold and cook a whole pig. Our friend and former 1SGT, CSM (RET) Dave Clark, along with his lovely wife, Betty, hosted this motley crew of ruffians and scoundrels to a "Pig Pull". It was a fine evening of reminiscence and brotherhood, at the expense of one unfortunate (but delicious) pig.

FRIDAY 21 Sept.
PRE-BAC

As the sun rose over Fort Bragg this morning, there was a bit of cloud cover, as well. Today was "jump day". Dave Clark had made arrangements with the Green Beret Sky Diving Club for aircraft, pilots and an instructor in the fine art of falling out of an airplane, hurtling to the ground briefly before fetching up under the odd contraption of nylon resembling a series of hollow tubes stitched together in tandem, then making our way safely to the ground. This was a real departure from the old dome shaped T-10 'chutes of our youth.

About 16 of us packed ourselves into a small classroom, and into even smaller desks - at least they seemed small for some reason. After filling out all manner of liability release forms, next of kin stuff, initialed, dated and witnessed to a fair-thee-well, we were introduced to the "new, improved " way of combating the effects of traditional gravity on the "enhanced" human body form. SFC Kip Lohmiller, our outstanding instructor, was quite surprised with the larger-than-expected turnout of old troopers, champing at the bit to "do it one more time."

We adjourned to the DZ at Raeford airfield, where we were familiarized with the aircraft that we would be jumping from. It was a Cessna 182 Sky Lane, single engine high winged aircraft. Our jumpmaster, SFC Charles "Mac" McBride, took us through the loading, shifting and exiting of the plane. Kip's lovely wife, Suzie, herself an accomplished skydiver, assisted us in the donning of our parachutes. All squared away, we then fitted our helmets, strapped on our altimeters, adjusted the goggle straps, and sat and waited (of course!) for the plane to fuel up.

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Finally, the call was made to head over to the aircraft. We were told to leave our watches, wallets and other valuables with someone we trusted. Sam Storey was the man with the loot. His arm was covered with watches, and his pockets burst with wallets as we headed to the plane. We would be jumping static lines from 4,000 feet, in three man sticks.

The following is a list of those who jumped, this day, by stick. FIRST: Joe Chetwynd, Rowe Attaway, and Mike Hartmere; SECOND: Patty Smith, Riley Smith and Peter Brardt; THIRD: Theo Knaak, Kirk Gibson and Joe Touchon; FOURTH: Jim Handlin and Richard Black. The two who jumped tandem were Fred Knaak and Wes Martinek.

One by one, we stepped out onto a small plate over the wheel, worked our way out on the wing strut, hung from it and fell away, each in our own modified version of what we were instructed to do. Some bad form perhaps, but gravity resolved all that rather quickly and there was the reassuring ruffling of the nylon canopy deploying and filling with air. There was the sudden relative quiet and the immediate awareness of the wind in the face, and the comfort of the snug harness around the torso.

It was as far back as in 1964, some 37 years ago, when many of us had made our last jump over a German hay field. It immediately brought back long dormant recollections and feelings. It was just great to be able to do this again, after so many years, and especially with so many of those who served together, so long ago. It was also just plain exhilarating, like the first jump in jump school. Those who jumped today did so to honor the memories of all our late and beloved brothers.

By mid-afternoon, all the jumps had been made, and all watches and wallets reclaimed. Everybody had been met on the DZ at landing by several of our fellow Lurps, and lustily congratulated and photographed. It was a great feeling of accomplishment for everyone. Not everybody gets this incredible an opportunity to relive such a moment of personal meaning and friendship. Savor it, guys. It may not come again for a while.

That evening, we all gathered at a local restaurant where we recounted the heroics of the day and generally enjoyed each other, amid testimonials, awards and toasts to one and all.

Friday, 20 August
MEMORIALS
At 0900 we again met at Moon Hall to caravan out to the Ft. Bragg Main Post Cemetery. Led by Sgt Zeke Evaro, our spiritual minister, we arrived at the graveside of our late heroic brother, Ssgt Glenn H. English, Jr. (MOH). We formed up in a semicircle, facing the stone. Zeke stood behind the headstone and, bible open read from scripture. His words were clear and gentle and comforting to hear in the warmth and silence of the morning. Glenn, you are not forgotten anymore. Rest in peace, Amen.

We then moved to the nearby grave of SFC Frank Nuanez, who was also a former member of our LRRP Company. Again, we stood in a semicircle as Zeke Evaro again read from scripture. A bouquet of flowers was brought forward and placed at the headstone. We all saluted and stood silent for several moments, before quietly retiring to our cars.

From there, we proceeded to another nearby cemetery, to pay our respects to Cynthia "Cindi" Clark, the late daughter of David and Betty Clark. We again stood around in a semicircle. Some of us gathered there remembered Cindy from her childhood days at Nellingen, in the early 1960's when Dave was our First Sergeant.

This was to be the finest moment of the entire reunion for many of these old soldiers. We all began to say our good-byes. There was much hugging, lots of handshakes and some arms draped over someone else's shoulder. It was the best and most reverent and meaningful way to say good-by. It was a most memorable reunion. It will be hard to top. These are the best of men. They will be hard to top. AIRBORNE!

C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director - Worth Bolton

By Worth Bolton

It's Veteran's Day and I couldn't make it down to Dan Pope's annual Ranger Camp & Cook at LZ Daniel nor could I get up to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington, DC – these being my usual choices since the early 90's. This year I had to see what my local area had to offer for veterans and their families. Here is what I found;

In January of 2001, the "Vietnam Veterans Living Memorial", in Durham, NC was vandalized by someone using a Back Hoe to the extent that it was all but destroyed. The large granite memorial sets up in a beautiful park area that is part of the Johnson Rec Center in northwestern Durham. It was originally dedicated in 1992 and was funded totally by donations. The cowards who tore it down were never caught but within 24 hours after the story hit the news rebuilding began and in less than one year the memorial was completely restored. Not just restored to the original but with some really nice additions and improved park area around the main memorial site. This was accomplished with donations from Vets and their families and supporters of Vets.

The re-dedication service was conducted with great care and rather than have a long string of politicians to wag on about their commitment to Vets, Vietnam Vets conducted the entire service! The color guard and gun squad was provided by local law enforcement and although the service competed with many others going on in our area this date, all seats were filled with many more standing three or four rows deep. The turnout far exceeded any of the planning committee's wildest dreams. It was truly done with dignity, respect, and a sense of resolve that is needed in these troubled times. I hope all who read this article were as fortunate as I felt on that day. It's not

WHERE you are that makes the day, It's WHO you're standing with that does it!

As far as our Unit's current activities, Sam Pullara gave an excellent accounting of this past summer's Reunion at Benning in the last edition so I will update you on what is currently on the front burner. For the sake of brevity I will list as follows:

1) Continuing to use the web site to follow-up leads on new hits from our vets and their familys. Also to finish finding pictures for our KIAs and posting them at the site.
2) Developing funds for the active duty Rangers' Children's Christmas Fund.
3) Continuing to work with Univ. of Texas for our Unit's Archives & storage.
4) Planning a dedication for our Unit's Plaque at The Airborne & Special Ops Museum in Fayetteville, NC near Fort Bragg.
5) Working with the 75th RRA Board of Directors in the revision of the Constitution and By-Laws.

And, last but not least;

6) Continuing to find ways to carry out the stated mission and purpose of our Unit's Association and to build memberships.

By the time this hits your mailbox we should be well into the holiday season and we send best wishes to all Rangers and their loved ones, past and present. We can only hope that all the flag waving and patriotism will continue as our active duty brothers head into a hard winter campaign in tough terrain. Freedom is not free, if our guys are going to pay the price, let's keep the support loud, visible and steady.

Stay safe and enjoy the holidays!

Worth Bolton

D/75

Unit Director - John Kingeter

By Tom Delaney

I don't really know where to begin this article other than to say the TOC is still completely operational. We're making some slow, but steady progress by increasing our D/75 membership. Seems like the events of September 11 and beyond have for many reasons changed our lives forever and shadow the old ways of life as we know them. Patriotism and the American "fighting spirit" will eventually prevail on these issues and hopefully we won't get bogged down in Afghanistan. Support the President, Congress, and most importantly our troops in the field during these times of national crisis. I believe sooner, rather than later the "down and dirty" will have to be executed as demonstrated by our brothers, the modern day RANGERS. Two of those young Rangers have already made the ultimate sacrifice.

So much for geopolitics, it's not really my game, but I shall watch the national news with interest to see how future events unfold. By the way if you haven't got **"Old Glory"** displayed, get with it! It's time to rally round the flagpole to show support. If I could afford one of those new, high tech "Drone Gizmos" I would conduct some over flights of my own.

I've started to go around the horn via the **"LL"** to get the latest *Sitreps* from the guys in the field. Everything appears to be rather quiet! Anybody out there detect any movement? Breaking squelch won't get it; I need a live voice, snail mail, or send your carrier pigeons. If you have any input for the Patrolling Magazine please get it in early to me so I can get it included in future articles. Time moves quickly, so "hop and pop" and by no means be bashful, your input is valuable.

Since last issue I've talked with Richard **("Bear")** Papp out in Texas. He's getting setup to host the annual deer hunt on his place and he expects to have a good turnout of D Company Rangers in November. I'd tell a short story on him, but I promised him I wouldn't just in case his wife read Patrolling Magazine. To keep it short, let's say "Bear" is a little *"rusty"* at doing a good PLF. Other than that he's doing great! "Bear" send me the brief back so I can include it in the next issue.

Got a good and reliable anonymous Sitrep pertaining to **"Frenchy"** and his recent driving exploits on Texas roads. **"Frenchy"** they don't drive new cars in "demo derby's" and the key to success is keeping all four wheels on the ground. Hang in there brother! Bet you'd like to borrow my night vision goggles! Talked with Rusty Hawk up in Washington State recently. He's going to send me some info for the Patrolling Magazine. Rusty I've got the bird feeder out for your carrier pigeons and I'll issue them a map and compass for the return trip to Washington State. Your *Sitrep* will make it in the next issue. How's the "computer thing" going? Old Dogs-New Tricks equates to progress, you know the "deal"!

Received an e-mail from David Phelps he's just submitted his application for membership. He's a former D/75 ATL and TL for Team 11. Seems to be currently located up in Virginia. David welcome home. I'll stay in touch via e-mail. Hopefully as time permits you'll be able to provide *Sitreps* for Patrolling Magazine. The D/75 puzzle needs many hands to assemble all the paths and foot trails that we've traveled together.

It's that time of the year again and the Holidays are rapidly approaching. Veterans Day is upon us once again! Hopefully, everyone was able to spend some quality time and reminisce in your own special way about why this is such a special day to us. This issue should be out in time for the Christmas Holidays. John Kingeter wishes everyone a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year. I'd like to take this opportunity to echo John's thoughts and render the same holiday greetings. Hug your children; they are our future and our great "American Treasure Trove"! Almost forgot, Happy Thanksgiving Day also.

An old photograph of Team 35, circa 1970 off patrol. Front row left to right; Steve Johnson, Le Van Can, Tom Delaney. Rear row left to right; Greg Montoya, Robert Prichard, and Wallace (Hawkeye) Hawkins.

Enjoy the coming holidays with family and friends. God Bless, and talk to you soon, D/75 Sitrep; *"same, same"* Roger Out….!

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

Unit Director - Robert Copeland

By Bob Copeland

Well folks here we are again entering our winter months and hoping for good weather. Tomorrow is 11 Nov. and hopefully all will be out supporting our troops who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom we enjoy today! The weather here is forecasted to be good and therefore a bigger turnout for the Remembrance Service is expected. We have much to give thanks for and many to remember, to include all those who were killed on 11 Sept. by the terrorists. As the War progresses, we will no doubt have more names to add to those we honor next year. Our Warriors of the past, present and future will always be remembered and never forgotten!! Hooaah!! A big thanks goes out to all those who are contributing to the RANGER CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS FUND by mailing your donation made payable to the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn., to Ranger Ron Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer, PO Box 921, Heflin, Al 36264. Please send whatever you can, no amount is too small or for that matter too large and it will all go to make this Christmas a Merry Christmas for all those Ranger Children. I know we would all like to be over there lending a hand in Afghanistan or wherever our brothers are fighting on our behalf, so the least we can do is support their families at home, when they need it the most!! Hooaah!! I know I can count on you all, RANGER/LRP/LRRPS LEAD THE WAY!! Jonesy our Unit Secretary/Treasurer is keeping a running record or our contributions and as of the writing of this article it stands at $1,700.00. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU FOR DOING SUCH A FINE JOB AND KEEP IT COMING!!!!

The 2002 REUNION for the 75th Ranger Regt. Assn. will be held at Ft. Benning, July 9 through July 13. Make your vacation plans for these dates and book at the Holiday Inn by calling (706) 324-0231, ext.286 and make sure to advise them on booking that it is for the 75th Ranger Regt. Assn. Reunion rate. Hope to see you all there and lets have the biggest turnout ever!!!!

Col. Clancy Matsuda has sent out an email regarding the writing of our Unit History and wants everyone to be involved in contributing. Send in your memories and articles to Jonesy and he will sort through them for us and put them in order. This is your History so let's all lend a hand and not forget anyone who served. Clancy will be giving you more info on this in the Unit Newsletter in December.

Brent Gulick aka Lt. and Marshall Larsen have been busy with the Veterans Affairs and have come up with an article to be published this Nov. 11 stating our Vietnam Veterans support for our Warriors during and after the current conflict in Afghanistan and the War against Terrorism. Our Unit contributed $100.00 from the Unit Fund and donations were received from numerous other sources, to make the publication of the article, in as many newspapers as possible, on the west coast. Great work guys!!! I am sure this statement of support on the part of the Veterans will be well received by our comrades-in arms that have gone in harms way and carry on the Warrior Tradition!!! in the War against Terrorism, Hooaah! RLTW!!!! Don't forget to send in those letters for the Rangers overseas!!

Jonesy continues to track down our missing members and send out the addresses and email address, thanks again Jonesy from all of us and for the great job you do on the Newsletter as well!!! Thanks also to Rick Ehrler for getting the email updates out to us!!!

Our prayers and best wishes continue to go out to our members who are currently ill or hospitalized. We all pray for your speedy recovery! To the families of the unit members who have passed away we offer our heartfelt sympathies for your loss and for that of our fellow comrade. Jonesy publishes the names of the sick and deceased in the Unit Newsletter. Thanks Jonesy for your attention to this important area and for sending the cards and flowers.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our two Gold Star Mothers and their families to the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn. and to E 75 RANGER/E 50 LRP/9TH DIV LRRP, Mrs. Ceil Toschik and her husband Larry Toschik and family, parents of 1st Lt. Mark Joseph Toschik, KIA 11 Aug. 1970 and Mrs. Catherine Colombi, as well as her daughter Joan Bellwood and Joan's son Erik Spink, parent and family of Richard Roy Bellwood, KIA 25 Jan.1969. WELCOME TO THE RANGER/LRP/LRRP FAMILY!!!!

Well folks that's about all for now, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2002!!! Keep safe and keep the faith, all the best to you and yours from the Copeland Family and may you prosper in the New Year!!!!

Bob Copeland
Unit Director
E 75 RANGER/E 50 LRP/9TH DIV LRRP

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

Unit Director - Joe Little

Gentlemen, it's Dan Nate, again !! Oh, no !!

See, once I get my hands on the control stick, I never relinquish it. Joe, our real U.D. has his hands, and plate, full again. He's just come back from his annual trip to D.C., with his group, of which he is the advisor, and doesn't know we're rushing to complete this issue way before the Holidays begin, for varied reasons, none of which I know.Emmett called and you get me again. That's how it goes. And here We go…….The 25th had it's big birthday bash and re-union in, of all places, Hawaii, so Chuck Reau', God Bless Him, finally gets one in his region. Hope it was a good one for all. I received the following information from one of the attendees, and want to pass it on. We of the 25th have been awarded more citations than your DD-214 shows, unless you've had yours up-dated recently. We now qualify for (3) Presidential Unit Citation awards….(3) Valorous Unit Citations and awards….(1) Presidential Unit Citation and Award for the association with 3/4 Cav, and some Awards representing the (11) Vietnam Campaigns fought between 1967 and 1971, the effective 'due to pull out date". I have also been told by Warren Nycum, that our newly up-dated DD's have a couple more items added to them, to wit: another Valorous Unit Award, The Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal and unit citation, and a silver star on our Vietnam Service Medal. I suggest those of us who DO NOT HAVE PENDING CLAIMS AT THIS TIME, to write to St. Louis and request an up-dated DD-214, and request the issuance of these awards, along with copies of the citations themselves. IF YOU HAVE A PENDING CLAIM, DO NOT write anything for anything that might delay the rating of your claim. Wait until you hear from the VA first, THEN freely send for the up-dated form, and your due awards. If you have a claim pending, it has reached a certain point. And each time you submit more info., or re- quest changes, your claim paperwork gets re-routed, placed in a pile on another shelf, and you are going to have to wait even longer for a rating or decision. Remember this when filing additional info for a claim; let the last bunch of paperwork make it's way through the system first. Then, after they decide, send the new info, along with your disagreement and your appeal papers. This goes the same with your DD-214. If the VA has made a favorable decision on your claim, a factor may change your existing one (dd), and they are going to do the change themselves. If you interfere with their progress, you only delay matters.

We've almost found David J. Zonfrilli, a long lost LRRP of the 1968 class. So far, regardless of what the records had indicated, we know he stayed until 1970, serving with the SF 3rd Mobile Strike Force, along with Rick (Patrick) Carr. He has a son, Al, who is a cop in Providence, R.I. However, so far, after many messages, still no try to "commo-uo" again. But we have made progress, and the messages have been delivered. There are a lot of Zorro's people in R.I. One of them will help, I'm sure. And we're doing good! The SF people had no idea of his service, or his release.

You all should know we have found Lloyd Dunbar. He's alive and living in Williamstown, NJ, of all places, and has been there for all of these past 30 years. He tends bar at a local VFW, nights, 6:00 PM till closing. No computer, so his address and phone numbers are: 407-B, Church Street, Williamstown, NJ..856/629-2861 at home, and 856/629-8963 at the VFW. He'll take all calls, but he suffers from Emmett's disease, CRS, and needs help remembering names, faces, dates, etc. One wife, Diane, 2 kids and 5 grandkids. Hooaah!

Steve Grzesik visited the Special Operations Memorial at the MacDill AFB site, in Tampa, FL., a couple of weeks ago. He has a few photos of bricks from it's wall with his, Tom Besser's and my names and dates on them, though there is a mistake in the years. It will be his pleasure to include them in this or the next issue, if any are interested. Ask him on his web site, or e-mail him. It is an impressive monument. Tom Besser dedicated his stone in memory of Steve Collier.

Many of you don't know about the Sharon Lane Memorial Clinics movement, started by Kathleen Fennell, a former 12th Evac nurse. Sharon Lane was killed while helping save lives in a field tent hospital, and in her name, the movement builds clinics today, in the 'nam, in her name, and in the names of the other 67 women who died while there. They often ask me for volunteers who might like to travel back in time, back to the place of our lost youth, to help them get their supplies and KEEP them, and to dedicate the buildings once completed. It's a great cause, and a chance to do a safe tour this time, and you get

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

time to travel and re-visit your old haunts. Let me know if you're interested. I'll connect any & all who are. Another 25th ID nurse from the 12th Evac has been writing us and has written a poem, which I'll get to at the end. Her name is Sarah Leah Blum, and she was there in 67-68, I believe. Her poem is about why they did what they did, and for whom. Good read.

I have to remind you about the DUES again, guys. We have to stay on top of this issue and cannot falter. We are all we have left from our history. And to lose someone because of DUES is criminal, so pay up and relax, and read the issues…then do like Brother Bouncer, Steve Morey's done, submit an article in your own name. Hopefully his is in this issue. It's about a "patrol" and is also a fine read. Send some stuff in, pictures especially. They'll get returned to you, and we ALL love to see each other back when we had hair AND balls, no?

That's about it for now. And admittedly stealing a phrase from someone we ALL know, "Until our next Patrol", God Bless.

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

Unit Director - Steve Crabtree

Vietnam: Defeat or Victory?

By Stephen C. Crabtree

Did we lose in Vietnam? When I came home in 1970 I had that shoved down my throat along with the "fact" that every Vietnam Veteran was a loser, a time bomb waiting to explode. It got to the point that I would not talk about having been there or even having been in the Service.

About 1990, the perception of the Vietnam Veteran began to change. At first ever so slightly but as time passed, by leaps and bounds. I remember the first time I was thanked for going. It meant a great deal, even though it was twenty years later.

Larry Chambers, a former 101st Airborne Division LRRP, wrote the book Recondo. Although his book will never win a Pulitzer Prize, the epilog should. It talks about the time we bought for Democracy in the smaller nations that were teetering between Democracy and Communism at the time. While Russia and Communist China were supporting North Vietnam they did not have the resources to put pressure on these smaller nations to force them into Communism. If any of you think that China was not involved in Vietnam, talk to my friend Ben Dunham. Before his nineteenth birthday he was awarded the Silver Star for capturing a Chinese colonel over 100 miles below the DMZ.

Now it's over thirty years later and I have been blessed with a 7 year old Granddaughter, Alexis Christine Ogilvie. She's just the most beautiful gift anyone could receive. She will NOT grow up learning to get under her desk and put her hands behind her head at the sound of an air raid siren. She will NOT grow up fearing a nuclear holocaust. She will NOT grow up fearing the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, for the big bear is no more. She will NOT grow up in a world where cities are divided by huge policed walls with Democracy on one side and Communism on the other.

Did we lose in Vietnam? Did these 58,000 men and women die in vain? Just as those brave men at the Alamo lost the battle, they won the war. You may say that we lost in Vietnam and I would have to agree. Yes, we lost the battle; but we won the war. We won the war!

To every man and woman who has ever worn the uniform of the United States of America and especially those who served in Vietnam: God bless each and every one of you, thank you for a job well done and WELCOME HOME!

LRRP Volunteers

At first glance I saw Airborne troops in French tiger fatigues carrying a shorter M16. They wore black berets with beret flashes like those worn by the Green Beret Soldiers and some kind of badge on their right jacket pocket; An arrowhead with a black V inside the arrowhead. Their jungles boots were tan from no polish and long wear in-country . He and the others in his group were pretty impressive to me and a few of my friends. In was Apri11968 and we were cherries, dressed up in new fatigues, boots, and steel helmets.

The regular infantry grunts that had been in Vietnam longer than us, the ones that had dinydau bracelets and

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peace symbols on their helmets covers, the ones that called us FNGs? SP/4 John Dane turned and said the ones in the berets and tiger fatigues are Lurps and we can volunteer for them after two months in country. SP/4 Steve Franklin and I just looked respectfully at them as they walked by our P-training tents at the Americal Combat Training Center. Dane said in his English accent they are some tough looking customers huh fellows. I said nothing, but I'm sure Steve and I both agreed with Dane.

At Landing Zone Liz we set up our 81mm mortars over-looking a hill and a sparse village. We were sent there to support the unit stationed there. It was rumored the NVA were coming through that area soon and we were to beef up the LZ's defense. We left Landing Zone Thunder at Duc Pho two weeks ago. At LZ Liz we met more of them Lurp guys, Dane went and talked with them for a while. It was at that time that Dane volunteered for the Long Range Reconnaissance Company in Chu Lai. Dane made Corporal back at LZ Thunder before he left in late May for the Lurps. We had been in the shit and got the combat experience we needed to be well rounded soldiers. We lost some friends and got bloodied in a couple campaigns. Late May 1968 the company passed out medals for valor and wounds during the last campaign at My Lai and adjoining hamlets. Franklin, Dane and I got our Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB) and we were going back into the bush without Dane. As we pulled patrols and operations close to the Quang Nyai River, Franklin and I volunteered for the Lurps writing our request on a c-ration box. We had our squad leader at gun point because we knew he wouldn't sign it. He couldn't do anything, we had something over his head, besides, and with that he needed us gone. I took both requests to the 1 SG while Steve covered him with his rifle. Our squad leader was one who was a real sneaky lifer. Anyway, as time moved on we watched each other's backs around this lunatic sergeant.

We move further North past Tam Ky into the Antenna Valley and set up as a company on a remote Americal Division artillery unit's hill. Again these Lurp guys were there. They say the shit was going to be rough in the valley. B-52s bombing day and night for 48 hours before we went in. They had everybody there including the ARVN s. The 1ST Cav, 101ST Airborne, Americal and others like Marines and the Special Forces. It was there that our Battalion Executive Officers (XO) yelled out for Franklin and Starnes to report to the TOC. Steve and I would miss the operation and head back in to Division's rear area for our interview and training. When we got to the company, Dane had already passed the ARTC and promoted to E5 and was now assisting with training. It was reported that Dane was a British Commando from his previous occupation as an English subject. I knew Dane as a crack shot with any weapon. He was more mature than most soldiers due to his age. Dane went through LRRP training at 30. On 1 June 1968 we were assigned to Company E (LRP), (Abn), 51ST Infantry. Seven months ago the unit was called Long Range Reconnaissance Patrols (Abn), (Provisional), 196TH Infantry Brigade.

Anyway, Steve Franklin and I (John Starnes) along with Dick Roth, Jessie Seamon (Jessie sprained his ankle and had to re-take Recondo School again), Ben Thomas, Larry Mosley, Clift Johnson, Don Scheerer, Tom F. Campo, Jerry Thompson and Richard Lett, Ronald Labrie, Patrick Theile, Larry White, Zimmerman and others the ones that did not pass the course will not be mentioned. I think we graduated in June or July 1968 from the Americal Recondo Training Course #7-68. I still remember SGT Paul Reynolds taking me out on my first patrol in July 68 before being sent to 5TH SFG (A) MACV Recondo School. My Platoon Sergeant was PSG Howard Slaughter, my first team was Winston 1-4 commanded by SGT Gerald Richardson. Shortly after my assignment I departed with Johnson and Lett to Nha Trang. I was later assigned to LZ Baldy after my return to Chu Lai from Recondo School.

Steve Franklin and some of the others were sent south to LZ Bronco in Duc Pho in support of the 11 TH Infantry Brigade.

This story is for those Veterans that have fuzzy memories like me. Gentlemen, we were those LRRP Volunteers that shared a brief history by our need to control our own movements, thoughts and dared to be the best. As I look at the unit roster I see more faces from the past like SP/4 Walter A. Boyd, my buddy after Americal Recondo School and cannot believe I will not see him at any reunions to come. I must have looked at this roster a hundred times and finally, today, I remembered my friend's name. May God grant this Ranger peace.

Sua Sponte-Rangers Lead the way-Airborne!

John "Gunner" Starnes United States Army (Retired)

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

Unit Director - William Anton

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery!

I have heard of, and witnessed, Civil War reenactments, but was unaware that such existed with regards to the Vietnam War. I was enlightened by Rich Farinelli, Team Leader for the reenactment team shown below. The team emulates a Co. H (Ranger), 75th Inf. (Airborne) team! This tribute to our unit by volunteer citizens was both a surprise and honor to me and all of the LRRP/Rangers of our unit. Our job, though misunderstood and unappreciated by many, WAS appreciated by these men, enough to be emulated and presented to the public by them. Thank you, gentlemen for your efforts.

Rich and his team actually do patrolling exhibitions and reenact our missions complete with the enemy! Reenactments are also done of the 1st Cavalry Division. The photo below is of the reenactment members of the 1st of the 7th.

Thank you, gentlemen, for making history come alive!

Reenactment team - Back row l to r: Eric Alsager (RTO), Paul Caprio (ATL), Don Doolittle (Scout) Kneeling l to r: Bill Puzzella (Scout), Rich Farinelli (TL)

REMEMBERING

I can remember my family,
their smiles so warm;
Sitting on my porch watching
a summer storm.
It's things like these I miss so much;
Likes my baby's laughter,
my wife's soft touch.

It's been so long since I've seen
them, too damn long;
It's only their memory that keeps
me strong.
I remember when the bombing quit,
so long ago;
I have so many questions, the
answers I don't know.

I was flying recon when I went
down in '68;
The rescue birds were in sight, but
just too late.
They caught me, beat me, put me
in a cage,
I was scared, hurting, filled with
rage.

In time others joined me in this
place;
friends for years, yet to meet face
to face.
There aren't as many as there was
before;
ours was a friendship born out
of war.

Guards tell us we've been forgot,
people no longer care;
Please let them be lying, it would be
so unfair.
No matter how I try, sometimes I
can't remember home;
I feel like I'm dead inside, forever to
be alone.

We were pawns in a war we were
not allowed to win;
To leave us here to die would truly
be a sin.
I love my country, I'll obey the oath
I've sworn;
Today I'll sit in my cage & watch
a summer storm.

Michael Monfrooe
L/75

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

Unit Director - Barry Crabtree

I stand in amazement at the global havoc created by a seemingly small number of individuals bent on terror at any costs. My tree crew and I watched in horror at our local cafe that morning as the second plane crashed into tower #2. The comments most heard from the working people there were," I guess America will have to start taking care of our own now!" It must be the general perception of people in the USA that we have spent a lot of time looking out for other countries and their people rather than concentrating on our own American well-being and security. If that were the case, then surely the attitude of people will begin to change radically ~ especially as it regards our military and society's other public servants that have learned to face death on a regular basis.

Many of our company members pursued careers in law enforcement and with the fire departments all over this great land of ours. Truly a new understanding of the risks and rewards of such occupations have achieved a new visibility in the eye of a once complacent public. When the public discovers that our military is about one half of what it was for DESERT STORM, would questions begin to be asked about how much is enough for our security in the New Millennium? I think yes.

It seems that every new conflict has within it the need for "special forces" to conduct the types of operations necessary to locate and destroy a small fanatical group with no regard for human life or their own safety. After the operations in Somalia, many of our best Rangers were upon reenlistment transferred to other outfits to upgrade the other outfits' level of combat proficiency. I hope that these veterans of the fight against Adid and other terrorists from Africa can be reunited and our very best are going overseas to find Osama. Let's let them get it done the way we knew Vietnam should have been done if it had been left up to the military!!!

If the war on TERRORISM has any effect, I hope that our government's disregard for the primo importance of special operating forces is finally at an end. The similarities to what we as Vietnam-era veterans experienced are numerous:

The domestic war on terror is very much a 360 degree war. Not knowing where the next attack will come from or it's direction is very similar to our old enemy VICTOR CHARLIE and the terrorists operations we witnessed.

The Jihad or struggle that our new enemy had pursued is a very old war that predates most of the people fighting it and involves tactics and strategies that are centuries old. Our old nemesis "Charles" had been fighting a several generations old struggle for freedom, self determination, and his time frame outlasted my 1 year tour and the nearly 10 years that our government put into it.

I haven't heard many comparisons to Vietnam yet. Maybe our current military leaders are just beginning to understand the true nature of our new enemies just as we got to know Charlie through our many missions to find him, watch him, and tell what they were doing. I discovered a considerable enemy to be taken dead seriously. It really breaks me down that my kids are going to have to accommodate this new terrorism and not have the kind of uncaring freedom from fear I enjoyed through my life. Let's hope our young Rangers take into account that this enemy has no fear and nothing to lose by fighting and dying against us.

I believe that the mission most of us Vietnam guy's have with this new war on Terrorism is to ask questions about the nature of our enemy. What's it going to be like to drag them out of the caves and kill them like we did with our enemy from his or her tunnel. Always seek to reinforce the resolve to devote the very best training and resources to keep our soldiers the very toughest and best in the history of the world.

I believe that all the Vietnam - era Ranger/ LRRPS shared something that helped us survive. It will take many more years than the Vietnam War to control, then conquer our new terrorists enemies. Our steely resolve to accomplish the mission and the way we went about it will be an example that our young Rangers will also use to survive.

Almost anyone who fought in Vietnam has a very real memory of civilian casualties that are comparable to what is to be found in the villages of Afghanistan today. Just the faintest hint that we shouldn't be attacking Afghanistan is heard and maybe since we've already taken 5000 to 6000 civilian casualties of our own, for now we should pursue the enemy aggressively into his stronghold and we must kill him. The Vietnam era veterans were not rewarded by the public, let's make sure this time around that that we sound off and actively support these special brothers. All the while making our extended campaign against terrorists

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more effective with a generation of freedom fighters, the likes of which have never been seen in the world to date. Contribute to the various Ranger funds for Christmas and the holidays beyond. When you see a job application in the future with Ranger background on it, hire them and train them for your best, most responsible jobs,

Vietnam veterans were also conditioned to multiple tours because the war lasted so long. I had guys on my team that had 2 and 3 tours with different outfits and had a big helping of experience that made my team better. Our new Rangers would do well to condition themselves to cycles of combat that could extend through this century. There may never be a better time to be a professional special ops soldier than in this new millennium. I sit back a little and I remember what it's like to sit on the chopper pad with the excitement of the new mission pounding in my head and chest. These new Rangers go at a level that is hard for mortal man to comprehend .

All you Vietnam guys pause for a moment and remember a time when you had to be willing to give it all – then go tell that story to some people that will in turn tell it over again and we will be doing our new Rangers a favor by paving the way for a new warrior class of veterans to be honored as a group as no others have before them. And, oh yes, we would have to remind them that a lack of an enduring commitment to our emerging warrior class results in failure – Vietnam was lost because we as a nation forgot to honor our warriors. It shall not happen with our new Rangers if we as the keepers of a warriors' honor, build the mystique by telling the story. Become active in your support of our new war on terrorism and look for opportunities to correct the mistakes of the past, which has so sorely haunted most of us since our return to the world.

Barry Crabtree

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

Unit Director - Bob Stack

St Louis Reunion

I was in Kansas en route to St Louis on Sept. 11, when our world and our reunion plans were turned on end. My first inclination was to return to Colorado ASAP. After some thought, I decided to go on to St. Louis and check in early in order to make phone calls etc. That evening the price of gas went to $5.00 per gallon in several locations, I was sure I would have to take out a second mortgage just to get home. Fortunately the Attorney General intervened and the price quickly returned to normal. After several calls around the country to some of those planning to attend we decided to go ahead with the reunion for those who were able to make it. Unfortunately that left me with two days by myself before anyone else arrived. Luckily Mark Estopare called and he and his wife came early to keep me company. We had not seen each other in thirty years so we were able to catch up. Thanks Mark.

As things turned out only those who were driving were able to attend. The airlines were just not

able to get up and flying for the weekend which was what most of us expected. Those in attendance were----

Mark Estopare, Ray Allen, Jack Werner, Tom Reed, Dennis Ferguson, Roy Simpson, Herb Reichel, Ken Nelson, Michael Smith, Dan Madden, Roy Dixon, Roger Crunk, Terry Wade, Ken Bradshaw {aka} Huston Whitlock, Jerry Renz, and Al Moreria who rode the bus all the way from New Jersey. That was half of those registered so not a bad turnout all considered.

As you can imagine St Louis was a dull town, all major events were canceled. We had a good time just visiting with old friends and old memories. Some did the golf thing, casinos, Arch and museum, riverboat cruise etc. Saturday we made an unscheduled stop at Fat Tuesdays, "a tavern" on our way to dinner because some Ranger locked his keys in his vehicle. It was a nice place to wait for the tow truck and a great prelude to a wonderful dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory. I'm not mentioning any names to protect the guilty, just suffice it to say it only cost me $45 but I made it up at the casino.

A Special thanks to Mr. Magoo, that's Ken Bradshaw, for his nonstop humor, he kept things lively. To have lived his life and

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survive with that sense of humor is remarkable. I'll let him tell you his story. Thanks Ken, it was a pleasure to meet you and hope to see you in Ga. next year. Considering what happened to our country that week and despite the hotel, {honest guys it was all I could get at the time I made the arrangements} it was a success just to be able to share some of what we experienced so many years ago.

Afterwards it was on to Tennessee to see my parents and that long road back to Colorado. Made a detour to Chattanooga [Wayne Mitsch drove up from Atlanta to meet me], we had a good visit over dinner. Thanks Wayne.

In closing please keep in your thoughts and prayers our younger brothers who are once again leading the way to places where few will follow.

Roger Crunk

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

Unit Director - Randall White

The following trip report, severely edited to omit non essential detail and personal messages is from Tessa Champion, sister of SSGT James A. Champion, Missing In Action, Company L, Ranger 75th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, Vietnam. More than two years late in coming, it was received during July 2001. Ms. Champion's explanation for not reporting her trip sooner is included and stands alone.

I feel very ashamed it has taken me this long to write to the Rangers regarding my trip to Vietnam. When I returned I did speak by telephone with Roy Boatman about the trip and promised to write. As time passed it became more difficult to write. I felt like a failure and ashamed that I never gave a full accounting of the trip. I ask everyone's forgiveness. Without the financial support from individual Rangers and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association it would have been impossible for me to make that trip. I remain eternally grateful to all of you Rangers and members of the LRRP and LRP for your generosity.

Three days prior to the trip, my husband (Mr. Gonzalez) was arrested and jailed in Mexico. He was apprehended with two trailers of clothing, which, in Mexico, is considered contraband. He assured me he would be out in no time and for me to proceed with my plans. I arrived back in the USA mentally and emotionally exhausted from a difficult trip seeking closure. When I did not find it I felt like a failure that let many down including my family and the Rangers. Upon arriving home I found my husband still in jail in Mexico and myself alone with seven children. He remained in jail for eight months. When he realized the authorities were simply bleeding him he basically escaped and made it home safely. Our mother is deceased and Dad has Alzheimer's now. I take care of him also. The time in jail affected my husband. He became jealous of my relationship with the Rangers, my trip to Vietnam, the whole ball of wax. He demanded I drop it and not have further contact with the Rangers. I felt threatened and I complied to save my family. How could I explain to all of you why I had not written? Now, God has helped me, and here is the report of my trip.

I was in Vietnam from November 13 to December 9, 1998. (This is the Monsoon season in I Corps area of operations.) I distributed photos from 1971 plus age enhanced photos of Jimmy whenever and wherever I could. The entire trip cost approximately $12,000 dollars. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association contributed $5,000 of that and numerous individuals, many of whose names I can no longer recall, came to me pressing various amounts of cash into my hand including one gentleman who handed me $500.00. Everyone at that reunion just lined up and began providing me financial and emotional support. " I shall never forget that. May God bless them all." The balance of the money for the trip came from family and friends, including of course Team Leader Marvin Duren who led that patrol. I am especially grateful to Marvin for accompanying me on the trip and search for Jimmy. It was quite an emotional trip for me to be in Vietnam, to be there with his Team Leader and stand on the very ground they had patrolled through on several missions. I stood on the same ground many of you did and realized how much blood had been shed there, possibly even Jimmy's . I am certain in Marvin's mind he must have been going over scenes of wartime activities now three decades old. I collected some soil from the Ashau where Marvin's Team fought for three days against numerically superior enemy

forces, some of who were later found by the Ranger reaction force chained to their automatic weapons.

The trip began in Saigon then on to Hue, from there by vehicle to the Ashau Valley arriving there November 16th, my brother Jimmy's birthday. The guide for the trip was not cooperative . He would not allow me to place posters or to speak with villagers about Jimmy. Fearing trouble I cooperated with his demands. Because of the close proximity to Laos it is difficult to obtain permission to enter this area. The guide said, "NO," but we insisted and went through all their red tape to obtain permission. He allowed few photos and would not allow us to go up the mountain where Jimmy was last seen. I was so close.

For other reasons, I knew I wanted to look elsewhere, in the Northwest, along the border with Laos and China. We proceeded to travel north , to Hanoi. There I met with the Detachment Commander of the U.S. MIA Office. I also spoke with a Mr. Nhu who heads up the Vietnamese MIA Office there. I was given permission to place posters of Jimmy and talk to villagers, which was denied me in the South. We were well received and people spoke openly with us. We were provided an excellent guide this time, a top student who had also studied in Moscow and who spoke fluent English. I explained the entire story about Jimmy's last mission to him. He was astonished. I told him we were not there to sight see, we wanted answers to questions and he agreed to help as well as he could. We began on a loop of the Northwestern part of North Vietnam, directly West from Hanoi to Dien Bien Phu , stopping at all the villages and putting up posters. Our guide talked with villagers asking if they had ever seen anyone resembling Jimmy.

No one recalled having ever seen him. No one dares to provide false information concerning MIA's. They would get into very deep trouble with the Government. The MIA problem is a very sensitive issue with the Vietnamese since they have about 300,000 MIA's also. The Vietnamese showed great empathy toward our goals and us and wanted to assist, however none had seen Jimmy. We continued North towards China speaking with people along the way and distributing posters. At the village of Ba Tan when our guide was placing a poster in the Post Office a man approached the guide. He and a couple of other men were staring at Jimmy's picture and talking with the guide. The guide said to me, " I am amazed." The men told him they recalled seeing a man fitting the description of Jimmy about three years ago. He was with the Hang Ngi people who live in the mountains along the border with China. They recalled the man they saw as "different," not a member of the tribe, but was staying with them. While they did not say he was a Westerner, they described him as very tall and one who could speak the language; however , they knew he was not of that tribe. They stated he looked like the man in the posters we had.

Our guide was astounded to obtain that response and reminded us that these people knew the penalties connected with false reporting of MIA's. This village where these people recognized Jimmy is along the Chinese border. When I called Colonel Martin at the MIA office he advised he had already received a call from Ba Tan village regarding Jimmy's photo. He said we had done a good job and that he had notified General Terry Tucker with the JTF-FA in Hawaii. They were putting a team together to investigate this lead. I was encouraged. The following morning we returned to Ba Tan village because our guide wanted to reach the Hang Ngi tribe in the mountains. A local boy proceeded to guide us. It was not easy in the mountains, but I was desperate. The climb was steep and dangerous with narrow paths, which in some places dropped straight down the mountainside. We, Marvin and I were slowing down the guides so we stopped and allowed them to continue. They returned by nightfall advising they had spoken with a village Chief , who said he did not recall seeing or knowing anyone living in that area who might be an American. We tried for two days to reach the village where the Hang Ngi people live to no avail.

The mountains are too vast. I was exhausted physically and mentally. I desperately wanted to reach this village or find the person who resembled my brother. I was encouraged by the fact the JTF-FA was going to perform an investigation and was certain they would perform a thorough job and further, they had helicopters that could get into those mountain villages. I believed then that my work was completed. They would take up the search. Marvin told me he would continue on the trip and continue passing out posters for me since I decided to return to the States a week earlier than anticipated.

A week after returning to America I received a telephone call from General Terry Tucker who discussed the details of their investigation. He advised they concluded the person seen at the village three years earlier had not been an American. I asked if they accessed the area where the Hang Ngi villagers live in the mountains. He stated they could not fly there because it was too close to China. He also said they did not make any attempt by foot as we had. All the JTF-FA did was talk with the same villagers we had spoken with earlier. My depression became deeper learning this. I was very angry but did not know how to express it. I believed I had let down my brother, my family and the Rangers

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

who helped me get to Vietnam to search for him. THE JTF-FA LET ME DOWN !

There you have it. Two and a half years late my Ranger friends and I shall never forget that experience. I want to thank two others among you who shall remain nameless here, who, on your own initiative and personal investigations, exposed much of the Army cover up and/or poor investigation concerning that three-day battle of Marvin's Team and who/what caused it to happen. Many of the 2/17th Air Cavalry's Blues lost their lives plus men from two rifle companies of 101st Airborne Division Infantry who also left many dead and wounded on those mountains of the Ashau Valley.

Once again, I hope you Rangers can forgive me for not providing you a final closure on that trip sooner. I want all of you to understand that ever single penny you provided was well spent and that without your support the trip was impossible. I accounted for every penny to a Certified Public Accountant when I returned from Vietnam. I kept all receipts for expenses and documented everything the monies were spent on. I also kept the non-profit organization open, the James A. Champion Foundation, Inc., for any further possible need. The Bank account was closed and all monies accounted for to the penny.

I do not regret the trip because if I had not gone, I would have always wondered ---could I have found him? I have some peace.

While this letter was edited to shorten it and omit personal comments to two Rangers, I must tell you without equivocation, that while reading it, one could easily determine, without being a professional, the serious depression Tessa Champion is experiencing.

Bob Gilbert

M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP

Unit Director - Jack Fuche

by Steve Houghton

Well here we are again, time for another unit article. A lot of incredible things have happened since our last "Patrolling" magazine. The world we live in today is a crazy and dangerous place. Sept 11th woke a lot of people up to reality. So many in this nation, especially the younger, ones have not really had to deal with the serious sober business of possibly dying in a war. We older fellows, the guys who make up a lot of the association, remember those emotions rather well I suspect, I know I certainly do. I remember when the Maddox was fired on in the gulf of Tonkin. I was a sophomore in high school. I was helping my uncle on a small construction job when we heard about it on the radio. And I remember saying something to the effect that "there is going to be a war, and I'm going to be in it." It took a few years, but that just how it happened. I can't help but think about the young "Rangers" who listened to radio and television Sept 11th, and the thoughts and emotions that they experienced. And I think about them, and where they are at right now. I know we all relate to what's happening. I know too, that they will not return unscathed or unaffected. They will do their assignment as best they can, like we did. I'm rambling, I know.....I just think about them.

Well, I talked to Jack a couple of nights ago, and was able to tell him that Rick Wintermute got in touch with me the other day. Rick served with the 71St from June of 68 to March of 69. He found us on the Internet. He was pretty excited to find my small site on the 71St, and of course I directed him to our Associations site. I remember when I first made contact.....it's a pretty exciting time. He has sent me a couple of emails. He lives in Southern California today. He was originally from Michigan. I'll be placing his story on our 71St LRP web site soon. Hopefully he will join the "Association". Jack and I are sending him information about membership. It's always nice to reestablish contact with an old friend.

I got a mail from Bob Smalinckas about mid October. Bob had some surgery about that time. Spent four days or so in the hospital...he says he's doing OK. He said he lost 32 pounds in 11 days! Sounds like he's ready for "Recondo School" phase II! We all gad to hear you're on the mend Bob.

I got double shipped on the last magazine (Patrolling) so I forwarded two copies to Peter Groom and Terrell Ross, along with subtle hints to join the association. Last August, when Jack Fuche and I got together after 32 years that "we sure would like to drink a beer one more time with the men we served with so long ago Men

M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP (CONTINUED)

like, Dave Wolfenbarger, Peter Groom, Terrell Ross, Charlie Hunt, Rick Wintermute, Jack Fuche, and Larry Hall. There are others, we haven't made contact with yet, but will I hope. I've met others through our small web site and this association. Bob Sampson, Rick DelPrince, Bob Smalinckas, Roger Blanchard, Tom Files etc.....there is not a Lrrp alive that served with the 71St that I wouldn't want to drink a beer with. If we could get those of us left together, wouldn't that be some kinda party! Jack said he'd even start drinking again, at least for that weekend! Think reunion!
Until next time.....take care, be safe.

Steve

PS This is what Jack and I look like today.....ouch!

Jack Fuche & Steve Houghton
August, 2001

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Unit Director - Dave Gowen

Bob Foti submitted an Epitaph he wrote for Kenny Perry. Kenny passed away on 11/17/97.

A Ranger's Epitaph

Ken Perry and I first met in March 1969. We'd both already been "in country" for 6 months, he with November Company and myself with C/1/503. Our "new guy" act was already long gone. Although not on the same team, for whatever reasons we hung around together when in the rear. Not a planned thing. Maybe instinctual? "Great Minds Think Alike?" Don't know. Just happened. When on stand down, most of our time was spent getting ready to deploy again and retraining. But we partied as much as possible with more than a few beers and a lot more laughs. "Ken Perry" stories abound, but my favorite involves nothing more than a truck ride. We had attended a nighttime USO show at LZ English and at the conclusion were separated in the crowd. On the way back to the Hill, the Company truck drove past, stopped, and a couple of us piled in. Slowly driving towards our hootches, I thought I saw Kenny

walking along the road so I yelled "Perry, c'mon!" He, or who I thought to be Ken, quickly jumped on the back bumper. Turned out his name was also Perry and when I realized it wasn't "our Ken" I said, "Hey, you're not Perry!" Just then, a figure sitting on the bed of the truck, not noticed before, jumped up and unceremoniously dumped the Perry imposter off the tailgate and proclaimed, "I am the Real Perry!" Kenny, lurking in the shadows, had said nothing and let the matter play out. A great example of "Classic Kenny". Whenever he was around, you had to prepare for the unexpected!

Still, no matter where we were or what we were doing, we knew and accepted that we'd deploy on operations again and soon. It's what Rangers do and will always do. We had an unwritten code of loyalty to our unit, each other, and vowed to "never let another Ranger down." You had to do your job and do it well, or you'd be done. I never doubted Kenny was a great guy. But I wondered if in another time and place if many of us would be as good a man as we were Rangers.

Since Kenny's illness, Bill Nissen

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (CONTINUED)

and I had the good fortune to be able to spend time, all too brief, with him at his home.

It can be said "One can be judged by their family, who you spend your life with, and who your friends are."

After meeting Nancy, the children, Ken's mother, brother and Brian and his family, let no one doubt that Kenny Perry was and is as good a man as he was a Ranger.

Kenny was a definite topic of conversation amongst the guys since the last two reunions and will always be. As we dealt with "the Reaper" and lived on the edge for so long in Vietnam and in other places and times, many of us, and due to his illness, may not have known what to say or how to act. "Touchy-feely" just isn't Rangers. It was us being us and driving on, so to speak. If any of the guys came across as a bit subdued, it was not due to lack of concern or caring.

Ranger Sergeant Kenny Perry, be advised the Word is:

We were all 100% max'ed out proud as to how you handled your situation. Not a complaint. Not a word of regret. If confronted with the same, we all hope we would handle it as well.

Kenny was one of the best, if not the best guy in the world to hang with and have fun. Never, ever a dull moment. We laughed with you countless times and enjoyed every minute of your company.

Rangers don't volunteer to be Rangers for accolades or medals. Ask about a team member and if the guy is good, about the most you'll get is "we'll run the bush with him."

Ken Perry, you were a superb, extremely courageous and tough soldier. Nature did what the NVA and VC couldn't do in 33 months. We'll run the bush with you anytime, anywhere, and you'll always be our Teammate and friend. Until next time, Brother.

St. Peter, be advised: Ranger Sgt. Kenny Perry is on the way. You'll be letting him in. Are you prepared for the unexpected?!

- Ranger Bob

SEASONS GREETINGS

To: Osama Bin Laden

MERRY RAMADAN

TEAMS OCTOBER 2001

In the October Teams Newsletter, there was a picture titled Downtown Bong Song. I can only positively identify four individuals. They are Gayler (Spanky), Mossman, Riley and Nesby (Arab). I'm looking for names of the others. Please contact me if you can help.

ORDERS

I am trying to put a historical record of orders together. Orders frequently include several individuals not just the man they were issued to. These orders are valuable to me for the purpose of finding men who served with us and verifying the service of individuals who apply for membership. If you have any orders on yourselves that pertain to your time with our unit, please make me a copy and send it to me. Don't be humble. If the orders are for valor decorations, it is not any form of showing off for you to send them to me. They are a historical document.

HOLIDAY VISITORS

Tommy Eckhoff sent some of his friends to visit me for the holidays. Where is an F-14 or an Apache when you need one?

BILL NISSEN

I still can't print any more information on Bill's participation in the Combat Missions TV series. Bill just wants me to tell you all in advance that he took no part in the determination of the nickname

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (CONTINUED)

they hung on him. It should be interesting to find out what it is. I hope it doesn't have anything to do with Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I have received a request for verification of service of a Jim Brockmiller with our Company. He cannot produce any orders proving his service but that is not unusual. He was an F.O. He states that his team leader was Osborn and he mentions Staff Sergeant Turner and a guy named Frizell. This is the first time that I am not certain whether I am dealing with an individual who did or did not serve with our company. Does anyone have any recollection of him?

TEAM 5 PHOTO

(Left to Right): Front - Evans, Miller, and Schoonover.

Rear - Cordaro, DaPello, Unknown (Can Anyone Identify)

O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Bailey Stauffer

I was the O. Co director before Ricky was. I want to thank him for an outstanding job and wish him well with his health. We just got back from the F/51 reunion in Las Vegas. Jim Bergeron, Ed Emmanual, Norm Carraher, and myself were there. A good time was had by all. I will send more next time with some pictures. Airborne!
Bailey

P/75 - 79TH LRP

Unit Director - Terry Roderick

It's my misfortune to inform you all of the passing of our P/75th brother, Daniel "Hobby" Hobson. Dan died of a heart attack on October 23, 2001. Duke Dushane and Roy Boatman both attended the service for Dan in North Carolina. Seeing Dan at our reunion in Biloxi, Mississippi in July, everyone commented on what great physical shape Dan appeared to be in. He looked like he could patrol today to most of us. It just reminds us all how fragile we really are physically. We can take a lot of crap, but when the ticker acts up, it just don't matter. Several of us from the company have had various heart problems over the past few years and I want to tell you all..... Don't screw with it. If you are having chest pains, find out why and you can possibly extend your time with your loved ones. Dan attended all of our P/75th events and those of the other units he served in before he retired a few years back as a Sgt. Major. Dan's father was also a retired Sgt. Major, so you know his family has been dedicated to the service for a long time. I wish I knew more about Dan's per-

P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

sonal life, but he was a bit of a private man. I recall his wife's name is Enid, and they have a young daughter that he was very proud of. Rest in Peace Daniel. Your life was exciting and honorable. What more can any of us ask from life??

Regarding the fairy tale Garry Norsworthy submitted to "Patrolling" for the Fall 2001 issue, "SIMPLE, REAL SIMPLE" on pages 19 and 20..... and several of you asked me about..... Well, Garry and I (and Troll Lloyd, Frank Rhodes, Duke, Mike Rossi, and maybe some others I don't recall off hand) discussed this exact mission that he purports to have pulled while he was with the 1/61st Inf. in late 1970 several years ago. I knew him by sight from my time in D/17th LRP and/or A/75th RGR at Ft. Benning in 1968-69, before either of us ever went to Vietnam. I saw him in the P/75th company area the day I left country to come home (late October or early Nov. 1970). He was wearing OD fatigues and had the 5th Mech red diamond and the P/75th scroll on his left shoulder. I haven't been able to find anyone who remembers going on missions with him, but I saw him anyway, so he was with us for a few days anyway. I have personally spoken to two of the gentlemen he referred to as having pulled this mission with him back in 1970. One never heard of him (Norsworthy) and was pissed that his name was used for such a preposterous story. He had some choice comments concerning the collaborator, Michael Servino too. Some of the names he used were good, but this mission he wrote about must have been a dream, even though they didn't really accomplish anything from what I read. I'm not sure why it took these guys from 1/61st two weeks to learn how to patrol there anyway. With a team that big, you ain't gonna be very stealthy anyway. Norsworthy has gone so far as to tell myself and others that we (P/75th) just didn't know what was going on in our own AO. Go figure. Though we operated in "free fire" zones, we had to have arty fire cleared and our CO would have surely known if the 1/61st was operating inside the DMZ as Norsworthy and his cohort swear happened. To make a long story short, I thought I had an understanding with Norsworthy about this story in 1997 and that he would quit throwing this BS around and let it die. He did. For a while. Long enough for myself and anyone else who might know him to move on from our leadership roles in the 75th RRA. The story has changed from what he used to tell before into the tale he related last issue. No guys, we're not crazy. This never happened and Norsworthy told me a long time ago that he would stop telling this fairy tale. That's the gist of it and I have contacted some of the supposed participants as they suggested in the article and it never happened guys. I have much more to say, but will not use my precious space in Patrolling to go into detail.

I've been on the road quite a bit this Summer and Fall. I visited Duke and Marion the first week of October and as always enjoyed their company. I linked up with Dan "DKW" Wagoner in Southern California around the 15th of October while I was out there for a few days visiting some friends nearby. Had a nice time with Dan and he remembers a lot more than many of us. Of course, he spent almost 2 years in the company. He's got a lot of memories from that time in our lives since he was the Commo Sgt. for a long time and privy to much of what went on in our TOC and the company. I might add that he has been very supportive of me personally and has been a good sounding board and source for information recently. Dan's wife is a nurse and he has two beautiful children. They have a real nice home in Glendora, California and Dan's black hair has gone the way of Duke's (silver). We had a real nice visit. I was in the St. Petersburg/Tampa area in late October and visited with Jay Lutz and his family. Marlene and Gerald Cornelius had been down a week or two earlier and they were able to get with Jay and Marcia and spent some time together. Marlene had called me to let me know they were in Florida, but I happened to be in California that week, so I missed them. We'll try it again. I'm trying to get someone else to do some "ghost writing" for this article so you guys get to hear someone else's thoughts and adventures. I thought I had a couple of takers earlier, but it didn't happen YET !! Feel free to let me know if any of you want to write something. You don't have to be a professional to do it. I'll be glad to help you too.

We still don't have a site selected for our 2003 reunion, so anyone who is interested in hosting us, let me know and we can start making plans for 2003. I don't hear from many of you very much anymore. 4Finger has broken his damn foot and been out of work for a few weeks. He calls me fairly regular as does "The Fam", Jim Femiano. Heard from Dave Gates recently and Thomas and Gaynelle Wilson keep my mailbox full of the latest jokes. I talked to Ed

P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

Muschong recently too. He lives North of Tampa now. I thought we had a line on Dan Bagley recently, but he appears to have moved again and no forwarding address. Gerald Cornelius is looking for Jose Dominguez. Last known AO for Jose was Las Vegas. Garry Norton checked in recently. He provided the photo of Dan Hobson that you'll see in this issue.

For those of you who get this rag, "Patrolling", let me know if you hear from anyone. I've had some good commo with David Slone recently. David was the lone survivor from Team 1-8. One of the 1/61st Inf. officers checked into the net recently and was with the reaction force that responded to the accident that day. I got some good information from 3 different views from that day. We have about 40 of the guys on the internet using e-mail these days. I'd like to see you all who are on the net as members of the 75th RRA so you can see the great job that the Association is doing for all of us.

Not much else for right now guys. Check in when you feel the mood. I should be home more for the next few months as it gets colder up north of Daytona Beach. Since this will be last time you hear from me this year, Happy Holidays to you all and your families and loved ones. Best wishes for the upcoming NEW YEAR !!! Also, the 75th Ranger Regiment Association has begun to interact with the different active duty Ranger battalions and we are taking any donations that you may want to make to help the young Rangers and their families to have a nice Christmas. It's still a tough deal being married and having kids in the service and your modest contributions can do a lot of good if you decide to participate. You can send to me or you can send to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, c/o Ron Edwards, Secretary, PO BOX 921, Heflin, AL 36264. RLTW !! Terry B. "Rock" Roderick

In Memoriam

Daniel F. "Hobby" Hobson
November 28, 1948, October 23 , 2001
Buried with full Military Honors:
Special Forces Honor Guard
Military Service: 24 years
Retired : 1990
Rank : Sergeant Major , Special Forces selection committee
Combat Service:
173rd Airborne Brigade - Vietnam 65-66
Co E (LRP), 20th INF (ABN) & CO C (RNGR), 75TH INF (ABN) 68 -69
Papa Company Rangers 75th Inf. - Vietnam 69-70
US Army Special Forces CCN - 71-72

Those of us who served with Hobby in Papa Company Rangers had a fondness and respect for the Soldier and the man. Dan Hobson was a person of high intellect and very quick wit, often not understood by those who were not real fast in the thinking process. Dan was a man who knew a great deal about many subjects, to the point that if you didn't want to know all there was to know about a subject, don't ask Dan to explain it. Thinking back to those wild days in the Papa Ranger club, I can't help but remember someone had put together a song about Dan called "Dangerous Dan" after he was wounded by his own claymore (One should never stand up when blowing a claymore) This song was sung to the tune of "Dangerous Dan McGoo". I know some of you will remember us singing this to the frowning Dan Hobson. Several years later when Dan and I meet at a company reunion I asked Dan if he remembered that song, In true Dan Hobson style and now being a retired Sergeant Major he replied "There are things in my past I would like to forget, That song is one of them" and you know out of respect of the man that song was never song at one of our many reunions. Dan Hobson was loved and will be missed by all, he was one of those rare people who could be all things: Soldier, Husband, Father, Brother, Son, and above all else a good friend. Dan is holding formation with the Big Ranger in the sky, he'll have things ready when the rest of us get there.

Rest in peace my friend.
Duke

P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

Every Veterans day, Dan Pope has a gathering. Hobby is usually there cooking. Not this year. This memorial was set up.
Emmett Hiltibrandt

War Stories

Received my fall 2001 issue of Patrolling and was reading thought it when I came upon an article which turned my stomach! I won't mention which one but the guy who wrote it will know. First and foremost I want to get this straight. I served in Papa Company Rangers in 69/70. I wasn't any Hero there, didn't receive any Hero's medals. I did what I was told, went out on every mission I was assigned to, and then some. I'm proud as Hell to have been an 'Airborne Ranger" and with that said, I'd like to address this article. No one who served as a Ranger in Vietnam has to make up stories to fit in! Our service in these Ranger Companies makes us ALL credible warriors! There is no need to embellish what we did. Just by going out on missions we have earned the respect of our Ranger Brothers, and for me, as it should be for the rest of us, ALL we need or want! This "WAR STORY" should never been put in to print! I believe this is an insult to all those who carry the scars of this WAR and we who do carry them carry them with Honor and PRIDE in Our service to our country! Let it end here. No more WAR STORIES PLEASE!!!

Jay Lutz

Below, Jay Lutz, P/75 1969 - 1970

D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford

Reunion

The reunion was great is so many respects. Attendance was high. The golf outing was fun even though Loren Dixon threatened the golf pro. (The pro was rude and deserved it.) On Saturday everyone went to the Camp Atterbury drop zone that we used back in 1967 and 68. Although it has been called DZ Smith, after Sgt. Bob Smith, it was never formally dedicated. Chuck Eads made the opening comments and introduced the guest speaker Colonel (Retired) Emmette Ade. Col. Ade was Special Forces in Vietnam and served for years as a Chaplain in the Indiana National Guard. His speech was excellent and very moving.

Then something remarkable happened. The daughter of Sgt. Bob Smith, Dawn Smith, spoke to us at the dedication. Bob only got to see her when she was a baby just before we all left for Nam. We were all very moved by her words of respect to her father and to us. Her speech follows.

After Dawn's speech her fiancé, Derek Garcia, took the stage. Although he seemed like a very nice person, he was so nervous I couldn't understand why he was there. Then he called Dawn up to the stage with him and for-

D/151 LRP/RANGER (CONTINUED)

mally proposed to her, even getting down on one knee. She said yes. Then he announced that the wedding would take place then and there. The families of the bride and the groom were all there and took the stage. (You'll love this part.) Big Jon Ellis from Big Jon's Fighting Fourth officiated the wedding. He is legal so the marriage is legal.

After all the ceremonies the LRS unit performed a parachute demonstration. Those guys are great representatives of airborne troops. We also enjoyed their company at the dinner that evening.

The dinner was a good event too. Gary Porter, President of D/151 made opening comments, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the National Anthem was played, then Pappy Hayes performed the remembrance for those that have gone before us, including all members that passed away since Vietnam, and the two LRS soldiers killed in training accidents. After dinner Emmett Hiltibrand spoke to us about the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. He gave a great speech with good information and humor. He said "I expected to attend a reunion, a dedication, and watch a parachute demonstration. I wasn't expecting to attend a wedding! Let me tell you, that was one of the classiest things I have ever seen!" Then Chief James "Patches" Watson, one of the original Navy Seals and Ranger trained spoke to us. His speech was very interesting and informative.

D 151 Association business

At the business meeting, Loren Dixon was elected the new president of the association, Tom Blandford the new vice president, Phil Cravens remains the secretary and Gary Bussell remains the treasurer. The Board of Directors is Gary Porter, Steve Justus, Bill Riggins, Ron Himsel and Jim Johnson. Thanks to outgoing president, Gary Porter for his exciting term as president. Also at the meeting the Adjutant General of the Indiana National Guard, MG Robert Mitchell presented the unit with two proclamations, one from the Indiana General Assembly and the other from the Indiana Governor's Office officially making November 26, 2001 as Indiana Ranger's Day. Tim Ramey, Bob's son, was instrumental in acquiring those acclamations for us.

A bronze plaque was given to Camp Atterbury from the D/151 association listing the names of our men killed in action. It lists Sp.4 Charles Larkins, Sgt. Robert Smith, Sp.4 Pete Fegatelli, Sp.4 Bishop (Skip) Baranowski, Lt. Kenneth Cummings, Lt. George Kleiber and the dates they were killed. It will be placed near the Huey in front of the Camp.

Thanks to all who helped make the reunion a great event including, but not limited to, Jane Justus for the tasty treats, Sue Cravens, Gary & Connie Bussell, Zita Moore and the good people of the Indiana Guard and Camp Atterbury. Terry MacDonald and Gary Bussell still have items for sale; shirts, coins, rings.

Veterans Day

Next is Veterans Day. Some of us will attend the ceremonies in Indianapolis on Nov 12. (Some REMFs in Indianapolis decided that the honoring of fallen veterans shouldn't take place on a Sunday, so they are having it on Monday) But many of us will meet on Nov. 11 to give proper honor. The fun news is that one of our U.S. type buddies has found us. Billy Faulks is coming to see us. He came across the D/151 web site. A bunch of us will party with him on the 11th. For you out of town guys, we generally have pretty good parties for guys we haven't seen for 30+ years.

Pictures

I will put pictures from the reunion here in the next issue. Not enough room this time. The same goes for Bohanon's article.

Dawn's Speech

"Today, part of Sgt. Robert T. Smith stands here with you. I am so proud to be the daughter of such a highly regarded man. I wish that I had my own memories to share with you today, but unfortunately, I didn't get the opportunity to get to know my Father. "I've never seen a moving picture of him, and the only time I have spoken to him is through my prayers. He has always been beside me though, and I think of him every time I see an American Flag waving, a soldier in fatigues, or hear the thunder of a helicopter overhead.

"His medals hang in the office of our home next to the Ranger hat that was given to me at the last Co D Ranger reunion in August of 1999. This is where I got to meet the gentlemen of this remarkable unit for the first time.

"I want all the members of Co D Rangers 151st Infantry to know how much I appreciated the warm, heartfelt welcome I received. What an incredible opportunity this was for me to get to meet my Dad's buddies, his friends, his fellow Rangers. Most of the last year of his life - he spent with you.

D/151 LRP/RANGER (CONTINUED)

"You shared your memories and opened your hearts to me and helped me get to know my Father in a different way. I know that talking to me about my father is not an easy thing to do. It has always been very hard for everyone, including my family, to talk about him. You guys said such great things about him - not only about what a fine soldier he was but also about what kind of man he was.

"Thank you all for your courage, kindness and respect. I wish that there were something that I could give back to you, for what you have given to me. I am very proud that my father was part of your unique and highly decorated unit. Many men traveled to the same strange place, but you were fortunate, because you had your friends, your brothers with you - men that you had trained with, and knew well. So many men who served this country alongside you didn't know anyone before they left and didn't know anyone when they got there - and yet they had to rely on strangers to stand beside them in the heat of it all.

"I know that everyone that went to Vietnam lost something - If you didn't lose your life - your life was never the same as it was before you left. Only you know what your eyes have seen, your ears have heard and your hearts have felt. Hopefully, you can find a kind of solitude with the brotherhood of those who returned.

"My mother gave me the letters that my father wrote to her from Fort Benning and Vietnam. Even though I can't hear his voice when I read them, I can hear the words in his heart. The majority of the letters from Vietnam talked about many things that I'm sure everyone wrote about, like how hot it was over there, how hard the PT was, about sandbagging and more sandbagging, the chow and care packages. He always told my mother how much he loved and missed her and how much it meant to him that she was waiting for him back home. It is astonishing that no matter how bad things were over there, he still managed to ask my mother if someone was cutting the grass for her, if the car was running ok, how the finances were and if I had gotten all my shots or not. At one point I must have had a cold or something, and my Dad wrote, "I hope that Dawn gets over the coughing. I am sure she will. She will have a constitution of steel, just like yours and mine." These are the words of a 24-year-old soldier far away from home in a terrible place, still having the resolve to be a responsible, loving husband and father.

"As for my Mother, all of the things that Dad wrote about you in his letters were true. You are such a symbol of strength to me - just like he is. Thank you for not giving up after losing Dad. I don't know how you endured the pain and kept going so gracefully. I never felt shorted of anything growing up. You have given me such a rich life, full of love and laughter. I don't know if I could've been as strong as you. I want you to know how much I love you and appreciate all of the sacrifices that you have made for me. This world would be a greater place if everyone could be blessed with a mother like you.

"In closing, I am truly humbled by the patriotism, loyalty and respect that has been displayed here today in honor of my father. I want to thank everyone who made this possible and those who traveled here today to share in this memorable occasion.

"I would like to say to my father: Dad, thank you for being so good to my mother and for being such a fine role model. All of the people that knew you remember your mild, kind nature, your integrity and your steadfast allegiance and commitment to all aspects of your life. Your letters make it clear that you had enough love in your heart for my mother and I to last a lifetime. I know that you were eager to give me so much - and I want you to know that you have. You are with me in body and spirit as my Guardian Angel, and you will ALWAYS be "my" hero.

Web site
www.geocities.com/151ranger/

Remember, November 26, 2001 is Indiana Ranger's Day. Celebrate it wisely.
RLTW
Tom Blandford, Out

From D/151

Jimmy Worley - Jimmy Worley was laid to rest on 10 September 2001 in a well-attended ceremony. The funeral home did not have enough chairs for the friends and family of Jimmy, a true testament to the many lives he touched. The American Legion provided an Honor Guard, and the Indiana National Guard Ceremonial Unit provided a flag detail. Afterward everyone went to the VFW post where he often cooked. It was later noted that Jimmy is now cooking green eggs for God. We will miss him dearly.

F/51 LRP

Unit Director - Russell Dillon

UD Russ Dillon F/51 LRP

For those of you that didn't make the reunion in Vegas, you missed a good time. There is a lot more to do and see out there than just gamble. Las Vegas is a life style of it's own. The many themes that the casinos have are only limited by the money they have to spend on them. The scenery out there is unbelievable. For being desert there is a variety of scenery, some of which is surprising. We also had a trip to Hoover Dam, which was impressive. The Dam looks impressive when you see it on television or on videotape, but to get the real feel for the size of the dam, you have to see it in person. Thursday was the picnic and company meeting. Both were help in the Red Rock Canyon area. This area is for sightseeing and rock climbers.

On the down side of the week is that we learned that 1st Sgt (ret) Butts and our mess cook SFC Bill Mortenson are on the sick list. For those who would like to send them a card, their addresses are:

Walter P. Butts 1st Sgt (ret)
3628 Carlos Ave.
Fayetteville NC 28306

William Mortenson
414 Marley Dr
Fayetteville NC 28314

The next reunion is in late October of 2003 and will be hosted by John "Pappy" Burke in Tampa Florida. We had 39 people attend the Vegas reunion and hope to see more of you when we are in Florida.

Anyone from O and P 75 Rangers that were in F/51 we would like to hear from you. Also if you have anything you would like to put in the Patrolling magazine, you can sent it to:

Bill Houser
6100 S. Madison
Hinsdale, IL 60521
e-mail Teakup17@aol.com

Russ Dillon
39 Pearl St
Wakeman, OH 44889
e-mail redmjd2@accnorwalk.com

That's about all that I have, hope everyone has a good holiday season.

Russ Dillon UD F/51 LRP

F/51 LRP (ABN) REUNION 2001

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA • OCTOBER 21-26

Bill Walsh and I (Mark Eastman) promised Bob Edwards that we would write an account of the latest reunion for the newsletter and possibly an entry in the Patrolling magazine. Bob, as you know, has been steadily working hard at many jobs to keep this organization functional and viable. The Dick Moyer Family did and excellent job of planning and executing our collective Las Vegas vacation. This was a reunion to remember! There were twenty one LRPs and fourteen wives present and a smattering of kids. These reunions provide more face time with some of the long range people than we had in the Nam. The women bonded better than the Oprah show and really classed up this whole trip.

There were some minor travel delays due to the various security scenarios.

In any case, some of us got together for a late meal, some hugs and then off to bed for the normal sweaty sex (and then we realized it was a dream).

The Stratosphere Hotel was our base camp and features a birds eye view of the city from 1,149 feet in the air. Enough to warm old paratroopers hearts. Moyer had arranged for $50 rooms and a couple of 12 person vans and with one POV, we were all set to patrol the area. This was not stress free for Dick, what with all the valet parking, head counts and anxiety about everybody's pleasure index approval. Relax Dick, you did just fine!

We generally gathered in the hospitality room at a civilized hour and from there went off to a nice mixture of attractions and events. Monday, day one, was spent just socializing and getting acquainted. Bill and his entourage spent a fair amount of time lolling by the cement pond. Some of us went to the Imperial to admire the automobile collection and got in free with

our coupons. Al Sousa was considering buying an attractively priced, formerly owned by Tom Jones Mercedes, and driving home to Massachusetts. That night we overate at the Circus Circus buffet, and then were off to the Rio for the Mardi Gras Style floor to ceiling show.

Tuesday morning another perfect day we loaded up and drove south to Hoover Dam. The tour was somewhat abbreviated thanks to the Taliban. Everybody played tourist clicking away with their cameras. We took platoon group shots and fourth was first in number, represented with seven LRPs.

Back to the city, and then on to Old LasVegas. Moyer had arranged for us to see a floor show at Lady Luck featuring impressions of the stars of the strip. A couple of the cast members were in the church choir where the Moyer's worship.

They made a fuss over us and provided fabulous entertainment. Then we soaked up the glitz and glamour of Old Las Vegas.

Wednesday was a full plate. We Headed north 55 miles to the Valley of Fire. The van time was some of the best. All sorts of chatting and good natured badinage mile after mile. Discussing war stories and the VA health system. Dwight was driving our van and Peggy asked him why he didn't get shot like everybody else in the van seemed to have. Just unlucky I guess Dear. We saw a friendly coyote and fed him cheese crackers, bizarre looking rock formations, cactus, petroglyphs and the Lost City Museum. Now I know where the inspiration for Indiana Jones came from. A late lunch at McDonalds of Overton and back to Vegas. A little pick me up and a tour of the fabled Las Vegas strip. The place cooled down a little at sunset but was still shirt-sleeve weather. We started at the Bellagio and their incredibly lush indoor gardens. Then to the dancing water fountains reminiscent of Cobra gun runs on a blue feature. A life sized battle of windjammers at Treasure Island. The British always loose this battle, to the mild chagrin of the Duffields our English-Canadian LRP family. And all for this for gratis. Late night slots and sandwiches, yawn, and off to bed. Business meeting tomorrow!

Saddle up and head for Red Rock Canyon. Mari and I got to cruise with the elite in the rented Mercury. The Greens , the Walshes and of course we missed the turn off and had to ask directions. This is how aging affects some of us especially if we are preoccupied trying to remember the theme song from Rawhide. No harm done! We arrive at the picnic site in the foothills of the dry rugged mountains. We promptly conducted our business meeting which will be reported by the secretary Tom Grzybowski. The one thing of interest to everyone is that our next Company Reunion will tentatively be held in Florida. Then the women called chow time. A picnic breaks out, a leisurely afternoon and roll for the city. This is our final night out and we go out for econo steak & lobster at the Stardust, Wayne Newtons place.

But we took a miss on his show. New York New York for a final taste of excessive opulence and till the next time we say good-bye!
Your Eyes and Ears on Vegas,
Bill & Mark

HQ/75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Vacant

No Submission

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - James Kinney

Fellow Rangers, I have very little to report this month. I am late on my deadline so this will be short. Additionally, I am at school as I write this with very little time to devote. For that I apologize. I will no longer be able to write the articles for the Patrolling magazine. I'm requesting for a volunteer to collaborate and also train as I am trying as all heck to finish up to the reunion next year. I do have a new e-mail: JKLK@att.net. Please feel free to e-mail me. School has become a greater priority so we need and you need to determine how our unit can continue to be represented in this forum.

As previously reported we are revising our Constitution and By-Laws. This has been no easy task and has taken some time for the authorship committee to perform. There have been several suggested changes to our C&BL's one of which is to add LSRU units to our association. This is a change from the lineage tradition of the units that compose our association from the founding up to now. There are some units that were previously admitted under a special status, such as the BDQ Rangers, who in fact do not have a lineage to

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

Merrill's Marauders, or the 75th lineage tree. This is to inform you of one of the proposed changes. You as members will have to ultimately decide this and any other changes to the C&BL's. An edition of this magazine will be fully devoted for this purpose in the future. I hope you educate yourself on these issues and make an informed decision which direction our association should go related to these changes. Any member who has any questions regarding this feel free to contact me via telephone or e-mail.

I hope all of you and your families enjoy the holiday spirit and we remember the active Rangers and theirs, as we all continue to deal with the world terrorist climate in these challenging times. Forever, Rangers Lead The Way!

JAMES P. KINNEY
Unit Director 1/75TH

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Rich Hecht

11-12-01

Hi Guys,

This Veterans Day has taken on a different tone in light of the attacks on 9-11-01.

I never thought of myself as a Veteran. Veterans were "old guys" wearing funny hats, marching out of step in a local parade and talking about what happened during the "Big One" or some other far away war. But this Veterans Day was different and never again will it be the same. Our nation has come full circle and now understands a little bit better what it means to be a Veteran. For those of us that served, in peace or during conflict, we must now stand tall again and take the lead in whatever we now do in life. We must continue to be the best, with our families, jobs and life in general. While most of us don't have a common war that bonds us together, we are all in this new war together. Those funny old guys have passed on to us the right to be proud of our service and set the example for the next generation to look at us and say, "I want to be like them."

2/75 has not been deployed. They have been conducting very heavy training in preparation for any missions that may come up in relation to the war or wherever else they may be needed.

In Association business, this past year the Board of Directors and all the Unit Directors have been revising the Association By-laws. These are the rules that we use to operate the Association. Most of what we have done is to "clean things up" and other administrative things. The By-laws had not been seriously updated in over ten years. With all that has been done, myself and the other modern ranger unit directors, Jimmy Kinney 1/75 and Peter Squeglia 3/75, have mostly agreed with the other UD's. However, with Article V, all three of us agree that a modification put forth by some of the other UD's is the wrong thing for the Association to do. We have cast our votes accordingly and will continue to fight this battle. Article V deals with who is eligible to become a Regular Member (can vote and hold office). The new proposition is to allow in, soldiers that serve in Active Duty, Reserve or National Guard LRS units. We have tried to persuade the others that these troops do not hold any Ranger lineage, directly or indirectly, and have no business in a "ranger" association.

What I have come to learn about the reason behind this is interesting and never included in any Ranger history lesson. Modern rangers are taught that the LRPs in Vietnam were changed over to Rangers and that was that. Not so, it turns out that many of the soldiers that served as LRRP/LRPs, didn't think of themselves as Rangers. Ranger were the W.W.II Battalions or guys that had been through Ranger school. When the Army made them Rangers, literally overnight, many of the LRPs felt that something special had been taken away from them and indeed it had.

Fast forward to today. The Army now has LRS units that do nearly the same job for their units that the LRRP/LRPs did in Vietnam. As missions go, they have a lot more in common than with today's Ranger Regiment. If you receive the By-laws package I ask that you read it carefully and vote accordingly.

Hopefully you will read this before you receive the packet. This is your Association.

If you have email, contact me and get on our 2/75 update list.

rich275rgr@aol.com.

I need your name, years served, company and RS class number.
RLTW,
Rich Hecht

What a past few months -- just a couple of days following Ranger Rendezvous, the Battalion departed on Block Leave. Then, just a few days back from leave, the Battalion went wheels up to another continent! It had been nearly two years since we trained in Germany. On this trip, we broke a lot of new ground.

It was a first in many ways. It was a first to conduct a non-stop mass tactical parachute assault originating in Washington and ending on the rolling fields of Western Germany. A first to jump in with members of the German Airborne Brigade into the exercise, Centurion Crusader. And it was also a first to conduct three days of small unit infiltration through the German country side towards a Battalion assault objective, a huge inactive French Caserne.

Centurion Crusader 2001 started with C17s screaming overhead, local townspeople with mouths opened in awe as the battalion (-) descended towards the wheat fields. Shortly after assembly, the Rangers moved off the drop zone and started on a three day, 60 km overland movement. The culmination event was a Simunitions (9mm paint round) exercise against a company (+) from the 1st ID. What a way to start off 5 weeks of training in Germany!

The Battalion moved east to Grafenwohr Training Area and linked up with counterparts from the Belgian 1 Para Regiment, Portuguese Pathfinders, Dutch Airborne Brigade, Czech Republic 6th Special Forces Brigade and of course the Fallschirmjager Bataillon 263 of the German Airborne Brigade. The Rangers conducted combined jumping followed by a wing exchange and then a sampling of Germany's finest. Over the course of the following week, our counterparts stayed with the Battalion, allowing us the opportunity to shoot a myriad of weapons and share some basic small unit tactics and individual fighting techniques such as hand to hand combat.

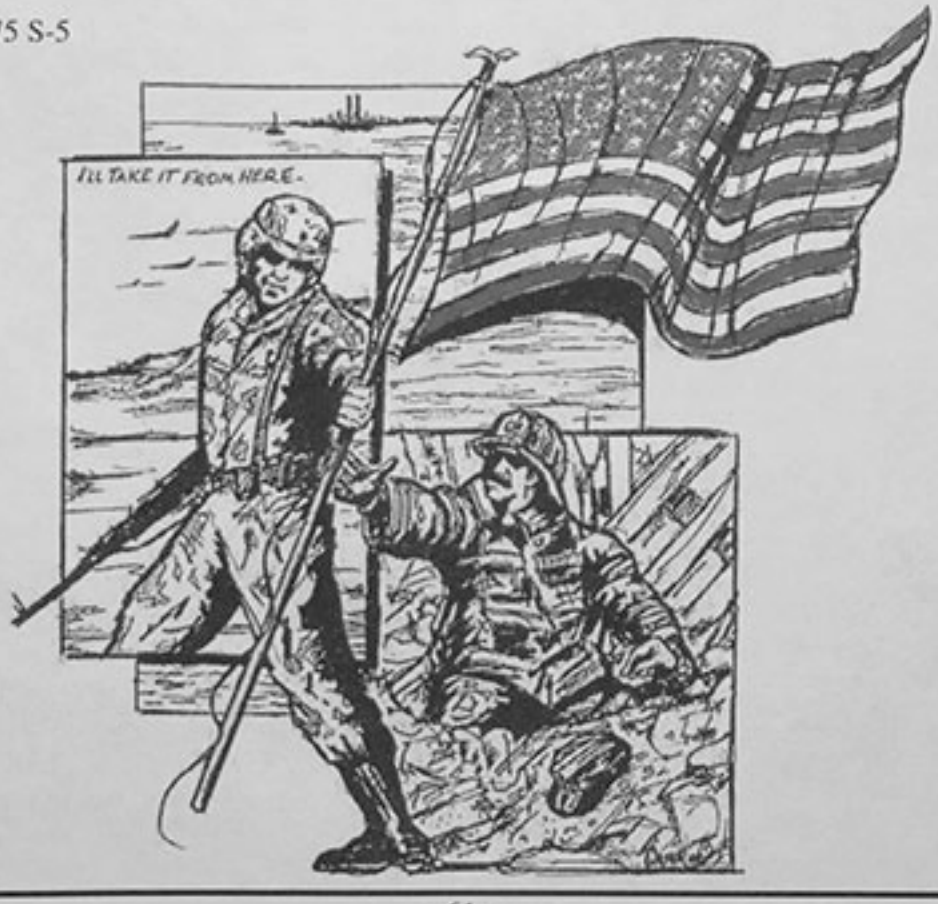
Once our guest departed, the Battalion was ready for some good collective training. B Company and HHC snipers and mortars headed south to the CMTC where they took part of a rotation with the 173d Airborne Brigade. Quite simply, they kicked butt on every mission - garnering much praise from the SETAF Command and Staff along the way. C Company and the remainder of HHC conducted some fantastic squad live fires and platoon MOUT Attacks. The Battalion culminated the training in Grafenwohr where every rifle platoon had an opportunity to conduct a platoon live fire raid.

While the Battalion was in Germany, our A Company remained at Fort Lewis where they conducted collective training of their own. They departed for an exercise in the Middle East on the same day the rest of the Battalion returned from Germany.

We just spent a few weeks in Yakima where we got a taste of walking over mountains and across rocky and barren terrain. We also took our level of training a notch by conducting Company CALFEXs for all three companies.

After the pace of the past few months, we are all looking forward to some good recovery and Holidays at home.

Cpt. Mike Loos 2/75 S-5
RLTW!



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Peter Squeglia

The last few weeks have been the most traumatic of this generation in the United States. I'm not going to say much in this section but instead attach a few pieces that others have said more powerfully and poignantly then I ever could, read on and be inspired....
God Bless America
Rangers Lead The Way!

Peter Squeglia

We Band of Brothers...

Whoever does not have the stomach for this fight, let him depart.
Give him money to speed his departure since we wish not to die in that man's company.
Whoever lives past today and comes home safely will rouse himself every year on this day, show his neighbors his scars, and tell embellished stories of all their great feats of battle.
These stories he will teach his son, and from this day until the end of the world, we shall be remembered.
We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; for whoever has shed his blood with me shall be my brother.
And those men afraid to go will think themselves as lesser men as they hear how we fought and died together...

RLTW

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

As this is being written the United States has committed ground troops to the war against terrorism in Afghanistan. And, as in the past, U.S. Army Rangers are leading the way. The old Lurps of the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment stand beside our Ranger brothers and, were it not for age and infirmities, would like to be there with them. But our time has passed and it is up to today's generation of young Americans to show the world what they are made of. We are proud of each and every member of our Armed Services who have been called upon to do this job. We know that they will complete their mission successfully and with honor.

On the other hand, I am not so optimistic about the home front. Clearly the majority of Americans support our war on terrorism. We did not ask for this, it was thrust upon us on September 11, 2001. At a time when our Country should be united against a common foe, we have a resurgence of the 1960"s peace movement that wants to place the blame for the terrorist attack on America. I didn't buy their propaganda in the '60's and I'm not buying it today.

I asked myself what I as an individual could do to support our troops. In addition to providing a monetary contribution to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association's Christmas Fund for the children of Ranger families, I have written letters to the editors of my local newspapers whenever I have read an article or Op-Ed piece that casts aspersions on our war effort and our military. There are a lot of unrepentant hippies and peaceniks still out there who still think only in terms of "Peace and Love," and if we listen to them a lot of good people will be killed for nothing. My responses to their tired rhetoric are generally brief and to the point. I simply tell them why I think they are wrong and suggest that maybe

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID (CONTINUED)

it is time for them to open their eyes to what is really going on in the world.

Several of my letters to editors have been printed, but what really gets to these individuals is when you send them a direct e-mail letter. In some cases I have shared the more egregious comments and letters from so-called "experts" on the Middle East with my Ranger friends, and asked them to respond to their remarks. It has been remarkably effective because many of these people, especially the college professors, are not used to being confronted. It hasn't shut any of them up, but it has tempered their dogmatism to the point that they are more careful about what they say.

As many of my Ranger colleagues have said, the Constitution guarantees their right to free speech, but that doesn't mean we have to let them bash our Country without letting them know that they will be taken to task for. I urge all of you to speak up for America when you hear or read things you know to be wrong and hateful toward our great Country. We all once served to protect our Nation, so now is not the time to sit back and let others do all the work. Support our troops and stand up for America by expressing yourselves about what is right with America. Write letters to the editors of your local newspapers, send e-mails to talk shows, and tell those who deride our Country that they are flat---ed wrong! The other side has had the limelight for too long. Now is the time to expose them for the snakes that they are.

Other than that, things are fine here in Berkeley.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Mike Martin

BDQ Nov 2001

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

As the shadows of winter encroach upon the changing of the seasons and the drums of war echo across our nation again, the world witnessed the warriors of the 75th Ranger Regiment parachuting into battle...the tan beret that was donned by the Regiment in summer, has now been christen in combat.

The legendary lineage Spirit of Rangers from all eras exited the aircraft with these brave fighters over their Drop Zone. As they conducted their assigned missions, threads of "black and gold" were being woven into the tapestry of Ranger history. The coveted Ranger Scrolls and Tab are again, crowned with feats of valor and professionalism during an epoch of covert warfare.

While the first two casualties of Afghanistan were eulogized, their souls joined the ranks of other Rangers--past and present-who "gave all'. "Rangers Lead The Way,'1 is not just a term or slogan jargon used by the military--it is the heart and minds of all who step forward...it is a title earned in battle, seeped in blood; it is the battle cry of America's Spartan Warriors!

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

EVENTS, WARNING ORDER~ AND SITREPS

On the tenth of October, of this year, I had the privilege of being the guest speaker at the 17th Air Support Operations Squadron--building dedication--at Fort Benning, Georgia, in honor of Captain Hilliard A. Wilbanks, who was killed while saving the 23rd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion and their U.S. Army Ranger Advisors from an NVA ambush.

I have included his bio and his Medal of Honor citation, which is self-explanatory. To elucidate the intensity of the battle and the actions of the Ranger Advisors and too, the supporting helicopter pilots, I will add: Captain Wilbanks' plane crashed then flipped over; the bottom of the fuselage was covered with blood so the other pilots knew he was still alive, but due to the amount of ground fire they were unable to extract him. The choppers received several hits when trying to go in. Captain Gary F. Vote (Assistant Senior Ranger Advisor) and his Vietnamese counterpart, with other Vietnamese Rangers fought their way to the plane and were able to successfully get Wilbanks out of the wreckage and move him to an area where a chopper could pick him up. Captain Wilbanks expired during the flight to a medical facility. Senior Ranger Advisor Captain R.J. Wooten, and SFC Cliff ton Tanksley, who were fighting with the Vietnamese Rangers (Biet Dong Quan) that day, give Captain Wilbanks full credit for preventing a murderous defeat. In spite of the heroic efforts of Wilbanks and the U.S. helicopter support, the Rangers suffered more than 150 casualties--KIAs and WIAs--due to the size of the attacking force and the fierceness of the battle.

Captain Hilliard A. Wilbanks

Captain Wilbanks was born in Cornelia, Georgia on 26 July 1933. After graduating Cornelia High School in 1950, he enlisted for fours years in the United States Air Force. In 1954, he was accepted as an Aviation Cadet and began flight training at Laredo AFB, Texas where he earned his commission and pilots' wings. Afterwards, he served as an instructor pilot at Greenville AFB, Mississippi, where he met and married the former Miss Rosemary Arnold. His follow-on assignments were flying F-86 Sabres and maintenance officer at Eielson AFB, Alaska; and at Nellis AFB, Nevada.

On 31 March 1966, Captain Wilbanks was assigned as a Forward Air Controller (FAC) to the 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron flying O-1E Bird Dogs in South Vietnam in support of the 23d South Vietnamese Ranger Battalion. On 24 February 1967, Captain Wilbanks was Killed In Action while saving the 23d Ranger Battalion from an ambush by a North Vietnamese Army regiment in Lam Dong. Although rescued by American and South Vietnamese Rangers after his airplane crashed, he later died from wounds sustained.

Capt Wilbanks was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary Arnold Wilbanks, and his four children: Thomas Eugene Wilbanks, Paula Ann Tharp, John Hilliard Wilbanks, and Deborah Louise Almand.

Medal of Honor Citation

As a forward air controller, Captain Wilbanks was pilot of an unarmed light aircraft flying visual reconnaissance ahead of a South Vietnamese Army Ranger Battalion. His intensive search revealed a well-concealed and numerically superior hostile force poised to ambush the advancing rangers. The Viet Cong, realizing that Captain Wilbanks' discovery had compromised their position and ability to launch a surprise attack, immediately fired on the small aircraft with all available firepower. The enemy then began advancing against the exposed forward elements of the ranger force which were pinned down by devastating fire.

Captain Wilbanks recognized that close support aircraft could not arrive in time to enable the Rangers to withstand the advancing enemy onslaught. With full knowledge of the limitations of his unarmed, unarmored, light reconnaissance aircraft, and the great danger imposed by the enemy's vast firepower, he unhesitatingly assumed a covering, close support role.

Flying through a hail of withering fire at treetop level, Captain Wilbanks passed directly over the advancing enemy and inflicted many casualties by firing his rifle out of the side window of his aircraft. Despite increasing intense anti-aircraft fire, Captain Wilbanks continued to completely disregard his own safety and made repeated low passes over the enemy to divert their fire away from the rangers.

His daring tactics successfully interrupted the enemy advance, allowing the Rangers to withdraw forces. Captain Wilbanks was mortally wounded and his bullet-riddled aircraft crashed between the opposing forces.

Captain Wilbanks' magnificent action saved numerous friendly personnel from certain injury or death. His unparalleled concern for his fellow man and his extraordinary heroism were in the highest traditions of the military service and have reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

BDQ LOGO CAPS:
Top-of-line caps. Heavyweight, adjustable, with unit scroll and the BDQ badge on the front, black in color. To order, call Ranger Rich Mantoux (32nd BDQ) at Tel # 254-699-5355.

NOMINATED:
Mike Hood, former advisor to First Vietnamese Ranger Group (LD1BDQ) has been nominated to be Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army.

CHRISTMAS (Giang sinh) AND NEW YEAR (Nam moi)
I wish all Co Vans and BDQs a very special thanks for your support and a great holiday season. We remember Tet, the Lunar New Year (Tet Nguyen Dan); it is a time for family reunions, drinks, and great food and. new clothes--if the VC and NVA aren't in your AO! MERRY XMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR.

TWO COMMANDERS

TWO KINDS OF COMMANDERS, MY COMPANY NEEDS,

ONE FOR THE WORDS, THE OTHER FOR DEEDS.

ONE TO PARADE US WITH GUIDONS HELD HIGH,

THE OTHER TO LEAD US WHEN STEEL STARTS TO FLY.

ONE WHO WILL PUSH US TO GET OURSELVES SQUARED,

ANOTHER TO PULL US WHEN WE GET DAMNED SCARED.

ONE TO INSPECT US TO MAKE US STAY CLEAN,

ANOTHER TO TRAIN US AND MAKE US "REAL MEAN".

A CAPTAIN WHO ALWAYS IS STARCHED, PRESSED AND STRIKE,

A CAPTAIN WHO'S BOOTS MAY SHOW WEAR FROM OUR HIKE,

A LEADER WITH RIBBONS DISPLAYED ON HIS SHIRT,

A LEADER WHO'S FACE WITH SWEAT STREAKS IN THE DIRT.

WE NEED A COMMANDER WHOSE ACCOUNTS ARE JUST RIGHT.

WE NEED AN OLD MAN WHO CAN TEACH US TO FIGHT.

WOULD IT NOT FIT A MAGNIFICENT PLAN

IF BOTH OUR COMMANDERS COULD BE THE SAME MAN?

--PFC David B. Farley CO A, lst BN, 30th INF

LEST WE FORGET:

"NO SWEAT, SIR. YOU CAN COUNT ON ME. WE'LL STOP THEM. " --Last words of SP4 James K. Stoddard as he lay bleeding out. And he knew it. 26 FEB 1968- Hill 614

" IT DON'T MEAN NOTHIN" --Words of SP4 Henry Lawrence when told his unit was surrounded by 66th and 174th NVA Regiments-26 FEB 1968- Hill 614

"I'M DYING, AIN'T I, SARGE? I'M DYING, AIN'T I, SARGE? --Last words of radio operator SPS Paul Sperry, spoken to SFC Herb Lloyd 17 SEP 1962- Near Village of Bau Tron

"THEY HAVE KILLED CAPTAIN CHE. NOW WE MUST KILL ALL VC." --Last words of CPT Nguyen Van Phouc while fighting the VC Phu Loi Regiment, Easter 1963, in Tay Ninh Province

"This IS RED HAT EIGHT-ONE, WE NEED A MEDEVAC BAD, THREE SOLDIERS ARE HURT BAD BY A MINE AND MY LEGS ARE BLOWN OFF. TELL THEM TO HURRY!" --Last words of lst LT Chuck Hemingway on "The Street Without Joy" - 9 JUN '67

"NO, NO, CAPTAIN! MANY VC HERE ALREADY." --Last words of Corporal Phu (radio operator) inside DMZ - 13 APR 1967

RED ARMY IN AFGHANISTAN:

"I Think WE'LL BE HERE FOR A LONG TIME. " --201st Tank Commander, LTC Grigory Dyomin

SHOOT LOW, I'll see you on the High Ground.

Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

DAN-CHI-92 (Operation 92) Dec. 5, 1964. On 14 November 1964 SFC David Williams 42nd BDQs, received the second award of the CIB (Combat Infantryman's Badge).

Special Forces and Vietnamese Ranger Veterans at a cookout in San Jose in November. They collected $1,100 for victims of the World Trade Center. Ranger Kinh N. Nguyen, third from left, served with Mike Martin in the 44th BDQs in 1965. Roy Russell in green beret, is a respected member of the Vietnamese Ranger community. Roy speaks Vietnamese...and sings in Vietnamese too. Ha-Ha

BDQ Unit Director Mike Martin, presents a plaque in honor of Captain Hilliard A. Wilbanks, USAF; from President Tran Tien San, Vietnamese Ranger Association, to Lt. Colonel Keith Maresca (17th Air Support Operations Squadron) on 10 October 2001. Martin also presented the Vietnamese Ranger Badge on behalf of all Ranger Advisors to Captain Wilbanks' wife, Rosemary Arnold Wilbanks.

Advisors, 42nd Ranger BN., 1964 L to R: Lt. Dale Shipley, SFC David Williams, and CPT. Robert Butler.

Captain Doug McCabe, with 1st Ranger Group Commander Colonel Dai, 1972.

BDQ Doug Perry (42d and 44th BDQs), receives a Vietnameses award at ARVN 21st Division HQs., Bac Lieq, South Vietnamese.

Ranger Advisor Doug McCabe, 1st Ranger Group - 1972, sharing a meal with the Group XO, Major Pho.

CHAPLINS CORNER

By Rev. Charles Keogh

CHRISTMAS and SPECIAL OPS

The reason for the Christmas season remains the same. While some would prefer to transform Divine History into a cultural history of elves and themselves ... sales and shopping, the true meaning of Christmas remains Christ. Without the "Christ" in Christmas there's only a "mas (mass)" that's left, a mass of bills and boxes. Originally, Christmas was God's "Special Ops". His mission ... insert Himself into a hostile environment full of conflict, take out the opposition, rescue all hostages, and secure a new life for everyone.

The Lord would assemble a select team to get that job done. Gabriel would handle commo and even deliver the 'warning order'. Another advance commo relay team of angels would be dispatched to the hill country to the south around Bethlehem. Mary, a young virgin in a one-horse town called Nazareth in northern Israel, would take the lead in service. Joseph, a carpenter, would provide cover and all-around security on a day-to-day basis. The landing zone: Bethlehem. Touch down would be in a stable. Forward observers would be local shepherds operating under cover of night. Wise men, using a secretly disclosed stellar night navigation tracking system, would provide logical support.

Children have a distinct understanding of Christmas. Perhaps, it's because Almighty God chose to save the world by starting out as a child. Women have a distinct connection, too. Perhaps, it's because the Lord chose to carry out His plan through a woman. Men. How do we relate to Christmas? Who do we relate to? Shepherds? Joseph? Magi? God? Yes, yes, yes, and yes.

Like shepherds, as rangers we came from out of nowhere, received word from higher up, followed orders, and then slipped out of sight and into the night again. Like Joseph, we worked with our hands, did the dirty work, carried the loads, and knew how to take orders, improvise shelter, and carry out escape and evasion in an international setting. Like magi, we traveled far, covered all terrain, read the signs, negotiated the enemy, reached our objective, delivered the goods, and accomplished the mission.

In the fashion of God, rangers carry out special ops. For the sake of the freedom and security of others, rangers become like Christ ... regarding others as more important than themselves. To the point of death, rangers are obedient ... even if it means getting nailed. Old and new generations of rangers are all the same that way. Rangers are special ops men ... and, Christmas is a Divine special ops. "His mercy is upon generation after generation towards those who fear Him. He has done mighty deeds with His arm" (Luke 1:50-51).

Rangers serve like Christ; faithful throughout, suffering for the sake of what's right, mindful of what will benefit others. Rangers are members of God's special ops team ... gifts to the world from the hand of God; feared by enemies but beloved by those who know them and what they do.

Christmas is one of God's special ops. The overall beneficiaries are the population of the whole world. The immediate beneficiaries are those whose faith, trust, and loyalty is to the Lord God Almighty's Son, Jesus. He is the "Christ" of Christmas. Working undercover, the Holy Spirit continues to carry out special ops in the hearts and lives of people. May we ever and always be faithful team members.

A blessed Christmas to you and your loved ones!

In His service and yours,
Rev. Charles Keogh
Chaplain, 75th Ranger Regt. Association
(Sgt.; L / 75th, 101st Abn. Div.)

RANGERS REMEMBERED

"No greater love hath a man then to give his life for a friend"

4th INF DIV LRRP, E/58 LPR, K/75 (RANGER)

JOSEPH JOHN STEIMBACH. killed IN ACTION ON APRIL 12,1968

MICHAEL EUGENE LAWTON. Killed in action on December 1, 1968.

KENNETH CHARLES HESS. Killed in action February 8,1969.

GERALD QUINN HANCOCK, RALPH GERALD DUNN, HUGH RUFUS McKINNEY, and JACK LEE RIGHTMEYER. Killed in action February 16. 1969.

ARMIN JOCHAIM BLAKE. Killed in action March 22,1969.

EDDIE DEAN CARPENTER and LUIS A N HILIERO-PADILLO. Killed in action on November 13,1969.

ROBERT JOHN SILVA and KENNETH JAMES SMOLAREK. Killed in action on November 27,1969.

MICHAEL LYNE, LA-ROY- ROTH, and CHARLES WILLARD. Killed in action January 7,1970.

WILLIAM H. BARTHOLOMEW JR. and DEAN ALLEN BORNEMAN. Killed in action on January 23, 1970.

I personally served with some of these men, as I am sure others of you reading this have. It is our duty to share with others, the memories we have of them. Regardless whether we knew them or not, we must never forget we all are of a kindred spirit. The spirit of intrigue and adventure, with like brothers, not in numbers, but in small teams. Teams build with men of courage, integrity, and commitment to one another and the cause. Men, who of their own accord overcame the natural fears, to perform a job of vital importance to their commanders. Performing missions that not only saved many lives of the larger units, but did in fact terrorize and demoralize the enemy. Often times we heard the remark from line soldiers and others; are you guys crazy being out here by yourselves? Maybe we were a little crazy, but my observation was of men who wanted and was different, ones who wanted to take it to the enemy, ones with guts of steel. Men such as these are listed here, the very ones we must honor, by never forgetting what they died for, and never, never, let anyone enjoying freedom, to forget them.

We who have seen war can only hope, that it was swift and as painless as possible. With the further hope being, the angels of God was there to carry them into their new AO (area of operation). One of peace and rest from their labors. With the hope we will one day reunite with our brothers. We must realize a bonding took place the day we decide to be different than the majority. A bond and allegiance that remains strong in commitment to the ones living and to the one who died. Whether due to war causes or other, they were and remain "RANGERS"!

Hopefully each of us will take a moment to honor these men with twenty-one gun salutes in our hearts. Being grateful to

God, for sending us these warriors. Men who for the belief, that all freedom loving people should have a right to choose, the way they will live, did give their life.
As we pause in a moment of silence, lets us remember one is not dead as long as he is remembered. Let us not forget nor allow others to forget. These brothers must live on through us. Take any and all opportunities to talk about them to all who will listen, especially, our young people. Use these men as real examples of what a "HERO" is!

It is important we remember their loved ones, that were deprived of their presents all these many years. Surely they will reflect on this day and wonder if anyone else remembers. If anyone is in touch with any family member, please let them know we remember their loved one.

Lord, many of us have ask ourselves, why was I spared? Hopefully we will pause to consider, you have a and purpose for each of us. These brothers we remember today and hurt along with others, this loss. As we remember these brothers, help us to understand, these were warriors sent by you, to give as your Son did, their very being, that others may live in peace and harmony. Help us to have the faith that they are with you and are rejoicing, and will forevermore. Help us to be hopeful and with expectation of being together once again, after our labors are finished here on earth. Comfort the loved ones of these brave young men, giving them the peace, that passes all understanding of man, a peace that only you can give and one that can not be adequately expressed, but must be experienced. Cause us to see, that though these men be gone from our physical presence, they are still glorifying you in their death. For as we remember them , we most often call out and remember you, as we seek comfort in our grief and sorrows. Help us understand that if these senseless deaths are to cease, all mankind must realize, that the use of weapons will not bring an end to it, but rather we must work to change the hearts and thinking of men. We must love our Lord and our neighbors and realize love does no harm, but promotes goodness. We thank you for the privilege to have known these brothers and to live, and to move, and have our freedom, in this great nation. A nation where men are still willing to go the second mile, for the good of all, and to the glory of God the Father.. We offer our prayer in Jesus name .... Amen!

By Bob Smyers, 2nd Brigade, LRRP, 4 I.D.

VETERANS DAY

My wife, Lois, may be the best Kindergarten Teacher in the world. Last night, she asked if I would stop by as a "Veteran", and do a little show and tell. The heat was on. Performing for the world's best is not to be taken lightly.

On leaving the house this AM, I grabbed some memorabilia: The "ice cream" cap we wore with our Class B uniform, the black beret worn (without approval) by our River Boat Outfit, my dog tags and a photo collage Lois did for me a long time ago.

The kids, about age 5 were focused.

Q. "Does anyone know what special day today is?" I ask. "Veterans Day", answers a lad.

Q. "What's a Veteran?" No one knew.

Q. "Do you know what a soldier is?" Widespread, positive response--soldiers are well understood.

I told them I used to be a soldier, but now I'm a Veteran. I said soldiers are usually much younger than me. I passed the photo, the headgear and dog tags.

Teaching Point 1) A Veteran is someone who used to be a soldier. I had them repeat it three times.

Q. "Why do we have Veterans Day?" A very little girl responds that we have it to appreciate all the soldiers who fought to protect our country.

Teaching Point 2) Whenever you discover someone is a Veteran, shake their hand and say "Thank You"--or give them a hug.

As I fielded a question on my right about dog tags, there was movement to my left. As I turned, there stood a little girl, her open hand outstretched. "Thank you", she said in her tiny voice as she shook my hand.

I lost it. Sixteen handshakes later, we had a group hug. I think Lois had tears in her eyes--it was hard to tell through the tears in mine.

These kids understand and are innocent and unencumbered enough to allow it to show.

There can be no doubt about it. What we have is worth dying for.

ED Note: Kirk Gibson received this from Tom Wonseiwicz. He was a 1LT with the 458th Tran Co. (river patrol boats). They were attached to the 95th MP Battalion in Ton Sohn Nhut. They were patrolling from Cat Lai, Vung Tau, Quin Nhon & Nah Be. This was the Army's only PBR Unit. Sort of like floating LRRPS.

Hooah

Subject: You might be too "Hooah" if . . .

1. Your newborn must attend the newcomers' orientation briefing within the first 30 days.
2. Your wife's two favorite shades of lipstick are light green and loam.
3. You go to a barbecue and insist that your family feed tactically.
4. You make your children clear housing before they go off to college.
5. You require your mechanic to replace the sandbags on your floorboards as part of a tune-up.
6. Your POV is equipped with blackout lights.
7. Your kids call their mother "Household 6."
8. Your kids volunteer to pull air guard on the school bus.
9. Your doorbell sounds off with the current challenge and password.
10. You have sector sketches and range cards posted by every window in your house.
11. You give the command "Fix Bayonets" at Thanksgiving Dinner.
12. Your kids show their meal cards at the kitchen door, except the oldest, who is on separate rations, and must pay for the meal.
13. You make your daughter sign out on pass on Prom Night.
14. Your kindergartner calls recess a "smoke break".
15. Your wife "takes a knee" in the checkout line at the supermarket.
16. You do your "back to school" shopping at the U.S. Cavalry Store.
17. Your kids call the tooth fairy "Slicky Boy."
18. Your son fails the third grade, but tells everyone he was a "phase three recycle".
19. Your kids salute their grandparents.
20. Your wife's "high'n'tight" is more squared away than your Commander's.
21. Your kids get an LES with their allowance.
22. Your grandmother won "All American Week" and "Best Ranger."
23. Your kids initials are AR, FM, TM, or DA.
24. Your pick-up has your name stenciled on the windshield.
25. Your kids are hand-receipt holders.
26. Your older kids call the youngest one "Cherry" or "FNG."
27. Your kids recite their ABC's phonetically.
28. Your wife keeps mermites in the china cabinet.
29. Your wife left you and you held a "Change of Command" ceremony.
30. You call your in-laws the "slice elements."
31. Your dog's name is "Ranger."
32. All your possessions are military issue.
33. Your kids call their sandbox "NTC."
34. You have pull-up bars outside the kitchen door.
35. Your daughter's first haircut was a flattop.
36. Your kids pull fireguard.
37. Your newborn's first words were "all OK Jumpmaster."
38. You decorate your Christmas tree with chem lights and engineer tape.
39. You've given your children an Article 15.
40. And you are "Too Hooah" if you understood all of these expressions.

LONG RANGE PATROL

"Lurking amidst the Jungle gloom, knowing not whether the next sunrise shall greet us with its warm, reassuring rays, a sense, of foreboding prevails, amongst "We Six".

"The snap of a twig; an abrupt silence; a disturbance, in the triple-canopy rain forest enveloping us;

"All I can, and have, spelled instantaneous oblivion for others of our unforgiving and deadly profession.

"Vigilance, proficiency, and indeed', luck, are our keys to survival in this all-encompassing, hostile, environment.

"For there is no quarter in this game.

"The atmosphere is, electrified with "His" presence.

"Our eyes and ears are as one; every sense keenly attuned;

"Searching for; listening to; analyzing;

"That which is not of ours, or nature's.

"For "He" is out there; by no timetable must "He" abide;

"Watching for, awaiting; anticipating; our fatal err.

"Stealth, discipline, and caution, have, on this mission, proven to no avail.

"Our hearts cease; minds race; as we simultaneously detect the firing device's telltale action.

"A millesecond's blinding flash of light is accompanied by an ear-shattering thunder.

"And then there is nothing.

"We Six" have embarked upon our journey through the infinite expanse of time..

David P. "Varmint" Walker
Team Hotel, N/75 Ranger
LZ English, RVN (1970)

Special Operations Memorial Update

As reported in the last issue of Patrolling, the Special Operations Memorial is the site for many significant activities at MacDill AFB, Florida. The site has become the backdrop for awards presentations and promotions of our current special operators of all Services - Rangers, Special Forces, SEALS, Combat Control Teams, etc. This was the site for the memorial service for CSM Doug Miller, MOH, when he succumbed to cancer; this was where General Peter J. Schoomaker held his retirement as the Commander in Chief, U.S. Special Operations Command. Visitors arrive here from around the globe.

Shown are the entire losses of Company N (Ranger) and their predecessors from the 173rd Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol and the 74th Infantry Long Range Patrol. Thanks to the initial coordination of Frank Vans Evers, the goal of full accountability was established and a list was provided to Geoff Barker at USSOCOM, MacDill AFB who reserved sufficient space to enable our fallen comrades to be placed together in memoriam.

The response to the information in the last edition of Engravings ordered since the last edition of Patrolling has reached a cumulative total of $4,500. As this reaches $5,000 the name of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association will be engraved on the wall as a major sponsor where they will joining the Special Forces Association, the Special Operations Association, and the Air Commando Association.

To the Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank one of our members who has succeeded in bringing recognition to our 75th Ranger Regiment Association. As you know we initially fought to receive acceptance from the Ranger Regiment, a situation that has now been remedied. Initially, our acceptance was not based upon the many accomplishments in the field, but the lack of formal school training (i.e. receipt of the Ranger tab) prior to accomplishing those missions. Today the Vietnam-era Association veterans are accepted for their accomplishments and contributions to the history and lineage of the Ranger Regiment.

Geoff Barker was instrumental as the (then) President, Special Warfare Museum Association at Fort Bragg, for including the three Ranger Medal of Honor recipients into the Hall of Fame of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School. None of them, (Spec. Robert D. Law, SSG. Robert J. Pruden, and SSG. Lazlow Rabel) were graduates of the Ranger Course. This recognition caused their names, photographs and 7 citations to be placed on permanent display at the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, and the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) at MacDill AFB, Florida. As the Secretary of the Special Operations Memorial Foundation at MacDill AFB, Geoff Barker made sure that our three Rangers were included with all Special Operations recipients of the Medal of Honor at the centerpiece of the Memorial. Later, as the current Vice Chairman of the Memorial Foundation, he has recognized our Association as a sponsor and included our logo on the donation applications and certificates of appreciation and recognition for the Foundation. As an example, I am enclosing a copy of a portion of a Certificate of Appreciation that was recently presented to RADM Tom Steffens, US Navy SEAL, and the outgoing Chief of Staff, USSOCOM. You will note that we are prominently displayed with the Special Forces Association, Special Operations Association, Air Force Commando Association, and the UDT /SEAL Association. I can truly report that the 75th Ranger Regiment Association has been accepted and recognized as a special operations organization at the very highest levels of the special operations community. His continued support of our association enables our departed comrades and members to be included on the Special Operations Memorial, with the Association recognized as a Sponsor.

23 October 2001

Regards

Smokey Wells USSOCOM Representative

It is coming close to reunion & association election time again. Below are the past and present officers of the association. We must have a new President & Vice President and we need a new secretary. Who will throw their hat into the ring? Contact Emmett Hiltibrand to volunteer.

Present & Former Officers of the Association

Year	President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Editor
1986	Bob Gilbert L/75	Billy Nix L/75	Don Lynch F/58 – L/75	Nick Gibbone F/58 – L/75	
1988	Billy Nix L/75	Roy Boatman N/75	Don Lynch F/58 – L/75	Nick Gibbone F/58 – L/75	
1990	Bob Gilbert L/75	"Duke" Dushane P/75	Roy Boatman N/75	Nick Gibbone F/58 – L/75	Jim England
1992	Roy Nelson E/50	Milton Lockett L/75	Roy Boatman N/75	Gregory Krahl F/58 – L/75	Roy Boatman N/75
1993	*Milton Lockett L/75	Riley C. Miller P/75	Roy Boatman N/75	Gregory Krahl F/58 – L/75	Roy Boatman N/75
1993	"Duke" Dushane P/75	Riley C. Miller P/75	Roy Boatman N/75	Gregory Krahl F/58 – L/75	Roy Boatman N/75
1994	Roy Barley E/50	Richard Erhler E/50	Roy Boatman N/75	C. Larry Rhodes D/151	Roy Boatman N/75
1996	Richard Ehrler E/50	Terry Roderick D/17 – P/75	Thomas Sove K/75	C. Larry Rhodes D/151	Gary Linderer F/58 – L/75
1998	Terry Roderick D/17 – P/75	**David Weeks III F/58 – L/75	Roy Boatman N/75	Jack Werner K/75	Roy Boatman N/75
2000	Emmett Hiltibrand F/75	Jim McLaughlin L/75	Ron Edwards L/75	Jack Werner K/75	John Chester 4th Div LRRP

* 1993 : Milton Lockett resigned for personal reasons and Duke Dushane finished the term.
* * David Weeks resigned for personal reasons before completing term.

"A SOLDIER"

I was that which others did not want to be.
I went where others feared to go,
And did what others failed to do.
I asked for nothing from those who gave nothing,
And reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal loneliness
Should I fail.
I have seen the face of terror;
Felt the stinging cold of fear;
And enjoyed the sweet taste of a moments' love.
I have cried, pained and hoped...but most of all,
I have lived times others would say were best forgotten.
At least someday I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was.....

A SOLDIER.

(written by George L.Spypeck,1978.Submitted by Dan Nate,F co. LRPs)

NEW MEMBERS

The following have joined, rejoined or upgraded their memberships since our last publishing:

Donald F. Andrews .....9th Inf. Div.
Thomas C. Athanasiou .....Ranger Regiment
John Henry Berg .....9th Inf. Div.
Ken Bradshaw .....4th Inf. Div.
James Brockmiller .....173rd ABN BDE
William A. Brown .....9th Inf. Div.
Donald R. Carnahan .....II FFV
Edward A. Christiansen .....BDQ
James H. Collier .....BDQ
Kenneth Crawford .....1st Inf. Div.
William R. Crow .....14th RGR Inf. Co.
Leonard Daniel .....Ranger Regiment
John D. DeCosta .....VII Corps
Salvatore Di Sciascio .....9th Inf. Div.
John M. Dixon II .....9th Inf. Div.
Joseph B. Eachus .....9th Inf. Div.
Michael P. England .....Ranger Regiment
Calvin B. Everhart .....V Corps
Benjamin Fajardo .....9th Inf. Div.
William Fitzgerald .....II FFV
Paul B. Fitzsimons .....9th Div.
Michael R. Gayler .....173rd ABN
Marshall C. Girard .....4th Inf. Div.
James Glaze .....9th Inf. Div.
James P. Godbolt, Jr. .....9th Inf. Div.
Christian W. Grant .....Ranger Regiment
G. Brent Gulick .....9th Inf. Div.
Larry J. Hanford .....9th Inf. Div.
Michael Hartmere .....VII Corps
Gary C. Hollenbeck .....9th Inf. Div.
Walter J. Hume, Jr. .....5th Mech.
Renard Hutchinson .....Ranger Regiment
Freddie D. Jenkins .....9th Inf. Div.
Gerald W. Johnson .....9th Inf. Div.
Hilan Jones .....9th Inf. Div.
Ron Kaiser .....4th Inf. Div.
Dennis T. Karalow .....101st ABN Div.
Jame M. Keane .....25th Inf. Div.
William G. Koutrouba .....BDQ
Robert J. Krumeich .....Ranger Regiment
Leo I. Kurtz .....101st ABN Div.
Rodger J. Lamkin .....4th Inf. Div.
Dennis R. Lastine .....9th Inf. Div.
Houston G. Ledbetter .....9th Inf. Div.
John M. Lindhurst .....Ranger Regiment
David L. Long .....9th Inf. Div.
James B. Long .....173rd ABN BDE
Wesley I. Martinek .....VII Corps
John J. Masick .....9th Inf. Div.
Robert E. Maushardt .....9th Inf. Div.
John K. McGee .....25th Inf. Div.
John C. Miller .....4th Inf. Div.
Robert Monteleone .....Subscription
Jerry R. Mooradian .....9th Inf. Div.
Albert M. Moreira .....4th Inf. Div.
Kenneth E. Nelson .....4th Inf. Div.
Alfred M. Nesbitt .....4th Inf. Div.
Luther Newby .....4th Inf. Div.
Astor Pagan .....9th Inf. Div.
Frank Pajarillo .....9th Inf. Div.
Bobby J. Pegram .....Ranger Regiment
Robert A. Press, Sr. .....9th Inf. Div.
Craig A. Ramsdell .....Ranger Regiment
James B. Rawlinson .....Indiana Nat. Guard
Johnathan Redmond .....LRS
James F. Rhodes .....5th Mech
Roger A. Rudder .....9th Inf. Div.
William G. Rudge .....9th Inf. Div.
Charles F. Santose .....4th Inf. Div.
John W. Schloerb .....9th Inf. Div.
Wayne Seehausen .....9th Inf. Div.
Colin E. Shipley .....Ranger Regiment
Marvin L. Sinclair .....4th Inf. Div.
Michael E. Smith .....4th Inf. Div.
Andrew J. Spano .....Ranger Regiment
Theodore Speroff .....9th Inf. Div.
Dan T. Stouffer .....9th Inf. Div.
Marshall R. Sullivan, Jr. ....9th Inf. Div.
Michael T. Swisley .....173rd ABN BDE
Robert M. Syndram .....9th Inf. Div.
James M. Testerman .....4th Inf. Div.
Fransisco Villanueva .....1st CAV
M. Wadeterry .....4th Inf. Div.
Ronald Wafer .....173rd ABN BDE
Richard (Tex) Wandke .....BDQ
Brett A. Watson .....173rd ABN BDE
Frank Weimann
Gregory T. Whitsom .....9th Inf. Div.
John J. Wilson .....BDQ
William M. Wise .....1st INF. Div.
Stephen Wolfe .....4th Inf. Div.
Miles D. Woolley .....9th Inf. Div.
Donald E. Worthington .....Indiana Nat. Guard

75 th 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

CHRISTMAS FUND

Last year, we developed a Christmas Fund for the children of the enlisted men of the Ranger Battalions. These funds were given to each of the battalion chaplains with the express understanding that they were not to go into a "general fund" they were not to be given to the local AER, they were not to be used for "Unit Christmas Parties". They were to be used for the children. This request, as far as we can ascertain, was strictly adhered to. In the national charities, they pay big bucks to their directors, big bucks for advertising, big bucks for fancy offices, big bucks for different levels of administration, and what ever is left they dole out to the people who actually need help. Here, no one gets paid, There is no charge for this space, 100% of what you donate goes to the children of soldiers of the 75th Infantry. If you want your donation to have the maximum effect, you give it to the lowest coordinating point you can. If you donate to this Christmas Fund your donation goes to three battalion chaplains and they know where it is needed and where it will do the most good.

The Christmas fund is off to a great start this year. It is still early December as of this submission and we already have $5,500.00 in contributions to the fund. The following people are early contributors to the fund, the Spring Issue of Patrolling will list the one's that come in after we have gone to print on this issue. Thank you all for helping make some of our young Rangers have a better holiday season. A special thanks to Bob Copeland & Hilan Jones of the 9th Inf Div. Through their support, we have already received 16 donations from members or friends of the 9th Inf. Div. LRP Association.

(Continued from page 75)

9th Inf. Div. LRP Assoc.
Roy E. Barley
Gilbert M. Berg
Robert E. Camp
Casanova Passquale
Charles Cheek
John Chester &
Mary Anne Colledge
Wallace Downey
Ted Dunn
Joseph B. Eachus
Richard S. Ehrler
Angel Enriquez
John W. F. Gibson
Robert F. Gilbert
Emmett W. Hiltibrand
Gary C. Hollenbeck
Douglas C. Jackson
Hilan Jones
Robert B. Kerr, Sr.
John J. Kingeter
Lazar K. Lazarov
David L. Long
Jay P. Lutz
Douglas Macabe
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C. G. Matsuda
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Larry C. McNeal
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C. Larry Rhodes
Charles & Wendy Sauers
Renee Sauers
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Carl F. Shefferd
Thomas H. Sherman
Prescott L. Smith
Raymond J. Sonnier
Donald P. Viccaro
Vincent C. Webb
James H. Webb
Joey Welsh
Ronald A. Zellner

These were received just before the issue went to press. Thanks for your support.

3RD INF DIV LRP ASSN.
Donald F. Andrews
John Henry Berg
Larry Chambers
Robert S. Copeland
John S. Daniel, Jr.
Salvatore DiSciascio
Gregory A. Foreman
James M. Handlin
Douglas C. Jackson
Bobby J. Pegram
Terry Roderick
Edison E. Scholes
John A. Vitullio
Aces A/C Supply
Gary D. Beckham
William Bongiorno, Jr
CJO Enterprises
Philip G. Cravens
Jack C. Delaney
Michael P. Flynn
Karen Glen
(daughter of J. Lutz)
Peter J. Huston
Peter C. Lemon
Ranger Joe's
John Rowland
Michael J. Shea
Darol D. Walker

Ed. Note:
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75th Association Polo (Green)	M L XL, +$2-> 2XL		X	$30.00	
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Earned, Not Issued, Long Slv (Grey)	M L XL, +$2-> 2XL		X	$22.00	
Don't Mess W/America Shirt (Black)	S M L XL, +$2-> 2XL 3XL		X	$16.00	

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