

PATROLLING

SUMMER 2002 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 16 ISSUE V



HELOCAST - BEST REANGER COMPETITION

Photo by Emmett Hiltibrand

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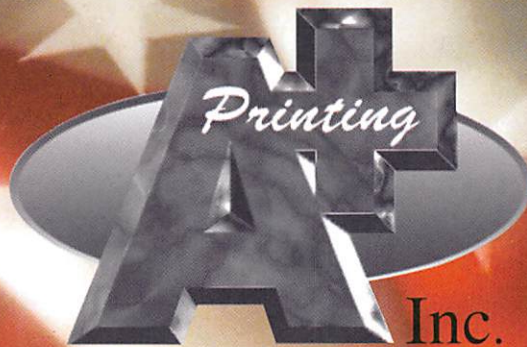
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Email: mcolledge@aplusprintinginc.com
Website: www.aplusprintinginc.com

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UNIT DIRECTORS

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

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

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

Stanley Harrell
PO Box 16193
Surfside Beach, SC 29587
(843) 488-3840
rgrrharrell@hotmail.com

C/75-E/20 LRP

Worth Bolton
PO Box 31412
Raleigh, NC 27622
(919) 962-4371
lwbolton@email.unc.edu

D/75

John J. Kingeter
526 Lavinia Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
(717) 766-1484
del_t@msn.com (Tom Delany)

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

Robert Copeland
8 Fieldstone Gate
Spruce Grove, AB Canada T7X2Z2
(780) 962-0114
copela3@attglobal.net

F/75-E/50-25th DIV LRRP

Joe Little
10129 W. Highland Ave
Phoenix, AZ 86037
(623) 877-3797
jclittle1@cox.net

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

Steve Crabtree
2255 N. Azurite Circle
Mesa, AZ 85207
(602) 948-3737
Stephen.Crabtree@Boeing.com

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

William T. Anton
11918 Hall Shop Rd
Clarksville, MD 21029
(301) 854-3359
polar_bear_01@runbox.com

I/75-F/52 LRP-1st DIV LRRP

Barry Crabtree
4470 HWY 16 N.
Denver, NC 28037
(704) 483-0418
FAX (704) 483-0418

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

Robert Stack
PO Box 611
San Anselmo, CA 94979
(415) 990-6400
Pager: (415) 485-7075
icu@pacbell.net

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

Randall White
N4256 Powell Lake Rd
Wetmore, MI 49895
(906) 387-2318
ranwhite@jamadots.com

M/75-71stLRP-199th LRRP

Jack Fuche
3488 East M-72
Grayling, MI 49738
(517) 348-1220
escort@pathwaynet.com
(Steve Houghton)

N/75-74th LRP-173rd LRRP

Dave Gowen
219 Frontier Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944
(215) 249-9171
Rangern@verizon.net

O/75-78th LRP

Bailey Stauffer
175 E. Stauffer Lane
Safford, AZ 85546
(520) 428-3696
fcolrp@aznexus.net

P/75-79th LRP

Terry Roderick
6940 Bright Ave
Cocoa, FL 32927
(321) 631-1144
rgrock@cfl.rr.com

D/151 LRP/RANGER

Tom Blandford
5882 Hollow Oak Trail
Carmel, IN 46033-9567
(317) 846-6374
tblandford@gllickco.com

F/51 LRP

Russell Dillon
39 Pearl St
Wakeman, OH 44889
(440) 839-2607
redmjd2@accnorwalk.com

HQ, 75th RANGER REGIMENT

Tom Pendelton
pendlett@att.net

1st BN, 75th RANGER REGIMENT

Jimmy Kinney
GPO Box 361621
San Juan, PR 00936-1621
Jklk175@earthlink.net

2nd BN, 75th RANGER REGIMENT

Rich Hecht
16706 132nd Ave E.
Puyallup, WA 98374
(253) 446-9928
Rich275RGR@aol.com

3rd BN, 75th RANGER REGIMENT

Peter Squeglia
30 Meadow Brook Lane
Reading, MA 01867
(781) 942-0601
suasposte@mediaone.net

LRP DETACHMENT-3rd ID

Michael McClintock
2323 Armada Way
San Mateo, CA 94403
(650) 341-7331
oldlrp62@aol.com

ARVN RANGER ADV. (BDO)

Mike Martin
803 West Lincoln St
Tullahoma, TN 37388
(931) 455-3824
bdq@75thrangrs.org

A NEW DAWN

RANGERS ARE THE BEST, PROVEN EVERY DAY;
THE MAN IS WHAT'S MEASURED, NOT THE COLOR OF BERET
THE BERET ISSUE WAS LAID TO REST,
IT'S HISTORY SIMPLE, WORN BY THE BEST.

OF FLESH AND BLOOD, NO LESS, NO MORE,
TRAINING DAY AFTER DAY, PREPARING FOR WAR.
THE TAN BERET NOW DONNED WITH PRIDE,
HONORING THE LIVING AND THOSE THAT DIED.

DUTIES ARE MANY, A SOLDIER'S EVERY NEED,
THEY HAVE THEIR GUIDELINES, "THE RANGER CREED."
FAITH IN THEMSELVES AND IN WHAT THEIR LEADERS SAY.
RANGERS ARE TRAINED TO BE LEADERS ANOTHER DAY.

RANGERS YOUNG AND OLD GATHERED ON THE PARADE FIELD.
HONORING THEIR LINEAGE, NEVER TO YIELD.
RANGERS REMEMBERED, BOTH LIVING AND DEAD.
THEIR SERVICE COMPLETE, NO MORE BE SAID.

MICHAEL 'POET' MONFROOE
(E/3/S06TH RECON-, L/7STH)

75th Ranger Regiment Association
P. O. Box 921
Heflin, AL 36264
www.75thrra.org

President

Emmett Hiltibrand
6459 Adams Park Dr
Columbus, GA 31909
706-323-5426
ranger2c@mchsi.com

Vice President

Jim McLaughlin

Secretary

Ron Edwards
P. O. Box 921
Heflin, AL 36264
redwards@cableone.net

Treasurer

VACANT

Patrolling Editor

John Chester
3208 Rueckert Ave
Baltimore, MD 21214
410-426-1391
FAX 410-426-0243
macchester@erols.com

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500 32nd Street
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(814) 942-7711
mccolledge@aplusprintinginc.com

**DUE TO OPERATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS,
WE WILL NO LONGER RUN PHOTOS
THAT IDENTIFY ACTIVE DUTY RANGERS
OR THEIR SPOUSES**

The following individuals are appointed by the President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association to their respective positions in order to facilitate the day-to-day operation of the Association.

Association Chaplin West

Charles L. Keogh
2724 Timber Drive
Olympia, WA 98513
chelseakid@hotmail.com

Association Photographer

Patrick Bassanti
743 King Street
Franklin, MA 02038
(508) 541-7046
bizphoto@earthlink.net

Association Advocates

Dan Nate
408 Elm Street
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097
(856) 848-9174
Dannate@comcast.net

Steve Morey
21709 132 Street, East
Sumner, WA 98390
(360) 897-2018
LRP50@earthlink.net

Gold Star Mother Advocate

Sandee Rouse
Mrsr@aol.com

Gold Star Wife Advocate

Sandy Harris
SANDY5790@aol.com

Association Legal Counsel

John Chester
macchester@erols.com

James Savage



Pat Bassanti, Association Photographer "Now"



Pat Bassanti, "Then"

"Get 'em on the line," the Sergeant said;
they hit us hard, we had some dead.
I got out the wheel and wrote down the code;
The PRC-25 & my ruck was a hell of a load.

Savoy1-7 was our call sign, I remember it well;
my job was dangerous, any vet will tell.
The antenna was agive-a-way, I was a marked man;
I was an RTO you do the best that you can.

'Birds en route,' I would yell for all to hear;

please God Almighty, let the skies stay clear.
The birds come in fast, firing as they Hoover;
me & my buddies, we run from our cover.

I was safe this time, silently I would pray;
Then I heard higher, we'll be back the very next day.

"Good job," the LT said, he wanted me to know;
"Stick close to me," he said, "you're my RTO."

Michael Monfrooe
L/75

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

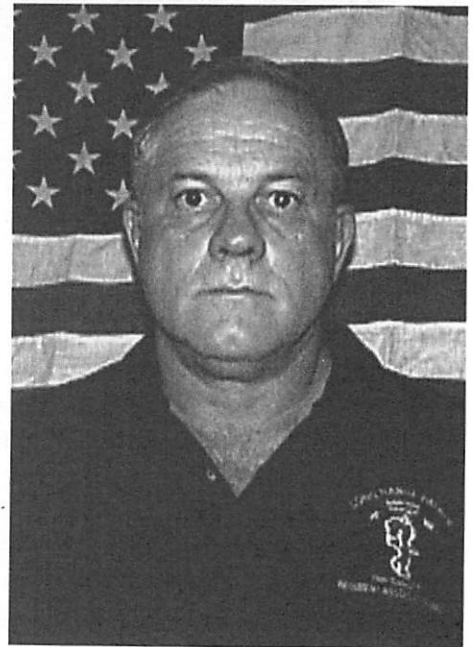
By Emmett Hiltibrand

MEMBERSHIP SEARCH

A few months ago I started an effort to help our units find their missing members, people who had been in their unit at one time or another and could not now be located. Four units took advantage of this offer. We are using the services of a 'Private Detective' who is only asking for what the search costs him, which is \$5 per search. In the past these searches have cost \$35-\$50. I enhanced this offer in that the Association would pay half the bill for each search, which is \$2.50. So far only four units have sought use of this invaluable and exceptional offer. They are the (VII CORP LRRP, Company D/17 LRP and Company B Ranger), (25th Infantry Division LRRP, Company F/50th Infantry LRP and Company F/75th Ranger), (196th Infantry Brigade LRRP, Company E/51st LRP and Company G/75th Ranger) and (79th Infantry LRP and Company P/75th Ranger). The Unit Directors sent in their share of the cost with their lists of names and SSAN directly to the Private Detective. I've recently received the Associations share of the bill and have forwarded it on to be paid. From talking to the four Unit Directors there are mixed results that each have experienced. Some are finding that they inadvertently sent in bad SSAN and even still some are coming up with no possible leads. But on the positive side, they are finding some of their members. More than what they were finding before this venture, I assure you. At this cost, if we only find a few of the missing members, I feel that the cost was well worth the effort. I also feel that it is the Associations responsibility to help the units find their men with our financial resources. I implore all of you to contact your Unit Director and make full use of this source to find your missing brothers. We may never see an opportunity like this again. Make use of it while it lasts. If a member wants to find a friend or missing member, he must go through his Unit Director or representative appointed by his Unit Director.

RANGER HALL OF FAME

I recently attended A Ranger Hall Of Fame selection committee meeting for this year's ceremony. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association had submitted 4 nominees for this year's selection. We were able to have 3 of the 4 selected for nomination for induction. This is a very good ratio for selection from past years profiles. The selection's were **Glenn H. English** of the VII CORP LRRP, **Harris L. Parker** of the BDQ and **Victor D. Valeriano** of E/51st LRP. This was the best group of nominee's I've seen come before the selection committee. Last year we only had one candidate and he was selected. This year we had 4 and 3 were selected. Now is the time to start working on those packets for next year. There are many good men out there that are highly deserving of being inducted into the Ranger Hall Of Fame. It does not happen by magic. The initial recommendation and all the paper work must come from the unit with the Unit Director's approval. It does not start with the Association President. There is no way the President could possibly construct and draft up the packets on your men. If your unit is not submitting men from your unit, I suggest you discuss this with your Unit Director. **The Ranger Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place at BLDG 4, Marshall Auditorium and will be conducted on 9 July at 4:30 and will continue until finished.** I commend the Unit Directors who submitted nominees this year for a job well done. The packets that were sent in were very good and were strong contenders. A packet on a nominee does not have to cover just one specific act of heroism or bravery. If not a posthumous nomination, a packet should in MG KC Leuer's words, "provide types of actions and other career contributions that warrant consideration -i.e., city, state and national government, education, athletics and things that people look upon as standing above others". Another point KC Leuer said that is very true is, "the Ranger Hall Of Fame is the single most important contribution the Ranger alumni gives to those currently serving, we must present our best". The one packet that was not selected was strong and I liked it but the over all quality of the entire submissions was just too overwhelming for this year, I hope it will be resubmitted next year. As I stated, this was my second year sitting on the 'Selection Board' for the Ranger Hall Of Fame, and I found it to be run most professionally. The active duty personnel who set it up did a superb job in preparing the packets and getting them out to the 'Board' members in ample time for us to review them



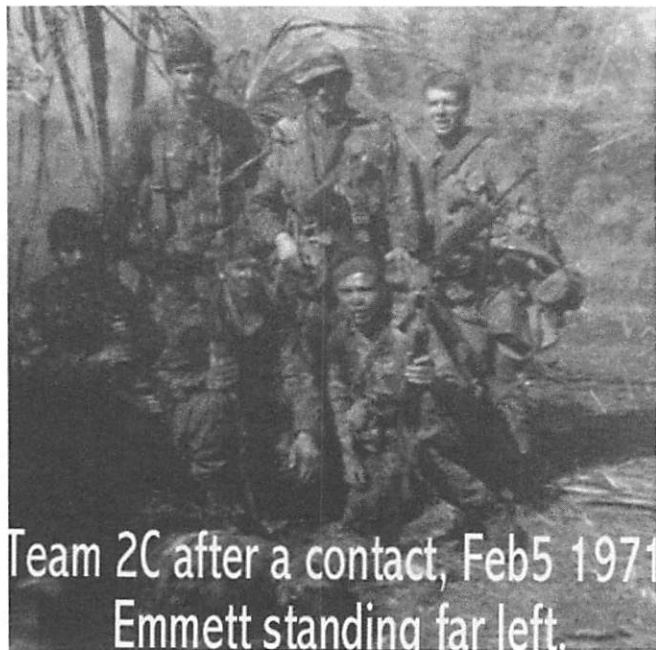
Association President
Emmett Hiltibrand

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

before hand. They also did an outstanding job in directing us through each packet with Power Point Presentations and followed this all up with a final tally count of the voting before we left. The 'Board' members did a herculean job in wading through some very strong and qualified packets to select this years inductee's. After having seen two years worth of real Ranger hero's come before the 'Board', I am determine more than ever to encourage the rest of our Association to submit more of our deserving Ranger hero's. Hopefully, while they are still alive and can be honored in person. It has been an enjoyable learning process sitting on this 'Board' and I commend all of the 'Board' members for their fair and impartial observance in selecting the most qualified nominee's as inductee's into the Ranger Hall Of Fame.

MOUNTAIN RANGER CAMP OPEN HOUSE

Traveling again last weekend to my old stopping grounds at the Mountain Ranger Camp in Dahlenega, Georgia. I spent more time up there than the law allows. More time than I wish I had. I primarily went up there because one of our E/75 KIA's was going to be honored by having a street named in his honor. As I neared the camp, I began to have flash backs



and broke out into a cold sweat. The camp cadre put on a spectacular demonstration for the crowd. One of the best I have ever seen. Afterwards, was the dedication and a moving one at that. Bob Copeland gave the remarks for Lt. Mark Toschik. I admired Bob for giving a recount of Mark's heroism and doing so without faltering himself. Your President here realized that this would be one great photo opportunity and when I reached for my camera, I realized that I hadn't even brought it. The look on my face was a Kodak moment. It is truly time for you guys to get rid of me and put me out to pasture. I immediately approached Bob and encouraged him to submit Mark for nomination into the Ranger Hall Of Fame for next year. Of all the acts of heroism I've ever heard of, this one was top notch. Bob presented Mark's mother with our Association's Gold Star Mother Life Membership certificate jointly in her name and Mark's. Once again, I got to see a great effort our Association has made in trying to reach out and make a difference. I gave Mrs. Toschik a great big hug for all of you. She was and is the typical mother who is very proud of her son still to this day. Bob Copeland, marvelous job my friend in honoring one

of our own. While up there, I got to see several of my old friends and signed up a new member for the Association. For some reason, the drive back seemed longer than the drive up there. Haven't figured that one out yet. Make it a nice green pasture, will you?

MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Since writing for the last Patrolling Magazine, I've attended 2 Memorial Services. At both services, the respective Battalion was in full force. The Eulogies were first class and the ceremonies were very well conducted and respectable.

3/75 Ranger - One was at Ft. Benning for the two 3/75th Rangers' who were killed in a helicopter accident in Afghanistan. While at the Memorial Service, I presented Mrs. Ruth Stonesifer with a Life Membership in our Association as a Gold Star Mother. On the certificate was her sons name jointly with her. I'm hoping that we will be able to publish her Eulogy to her son that I obtained from her in this edition. It was a eulogy that only a mother could write. I also presented Anne Edmunds with a Life Membership certificate with her husband Jonn and her named jointly on it. I am having the one for Mrs. Edmunds (mother) made up now and get it to his mother when we can. I have established that we would first obtain the mothers or wives permission or concurrence before we offered them this status. So far we have not ever been turned down and every certificate has been hand presented. I hope we never have to just mail one to a survivor. I recently mailed a certificate to one of our members who is willing to drive 7 hours one way to present it to the mother. My grateful thanks go to John Punches for doing this for the Association.

1/75 Ranger - The other Memorial Service was for the three 1/75th Rangers' who were killed in ground combat in Afghanistan. I don't know if it was the long drive there in my kidney busting jeep or the very emotional Memorial Service

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

or the long drive back in the same kidney busting jeep that wore me out so much. I wouldn't miss one of these things for anything in the world but it sure does take its toll on you. An opportunity to say good-bye to a warrior has always been and will always be worth any amount of discomfort.

GOLD STAR ADVOCATE

Another program I started was the Gold Star Mothers and Wives Program within the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. No, I didn't start the Gold Star Program; I just made it a part of what we as an Association do. It is a most honorable thing to remember not only our fallen comrades but their loved ones as well. Granted, in most cases we are 30 years after the fact for the Vietnam era guys but it is never too late to do the right thing. I selected **Sandee Rouse** as our Gold Star Mother Advocate, who lost her son in the invasion of Panama. She is a vibrant woman who is loyal and concerned about her convictions to do this job to her fullest. Sandee is driven as only a mother can be to contact all of our Gold Star Mothers in our Association. We have given her the football and she is running with it. Sandee attended both of the funerals in Florida and has written a very nice article about one of the funerals that I hope is published herein. It is up to each unit to help her find your fallen comrades mothers. I can only say shame on you if you do not help her. Consider your own situation if you had died at war. Wouldn't you like for someone to help and look after your own mother? For our Gold Star Wife Advocate, I selected **Sandy Harris**. She is just like Sandee. She is driven to do the right thing for the Association. Her job will be a lot harder in finding wives of our fallen comrades. Many of these women have probably remarried by now and have a new family and will not want to revisit the past. Sandy will probably find her work cut out for her more in our current day situation as we lose more and more Rangers to small and isolated combat actions. Her job is no less important than the other one. She also needs the units help in contacting these wives. Gentlemen, both of these women are determined and have a full head of steam built up. I strongly suggest you keep well in front of them or they will run you over. I would like to note that both Sandee and Sandy were at the Memorial Service in Savannah. Both of them were doing their jobs for this Association. Isn't it time we started supporting them? Work with your Unit Director to find your Gold Star Mothers.



Mountain Ranger Camp Instructor
C. 1976, Emmett far left

REUNION 2002

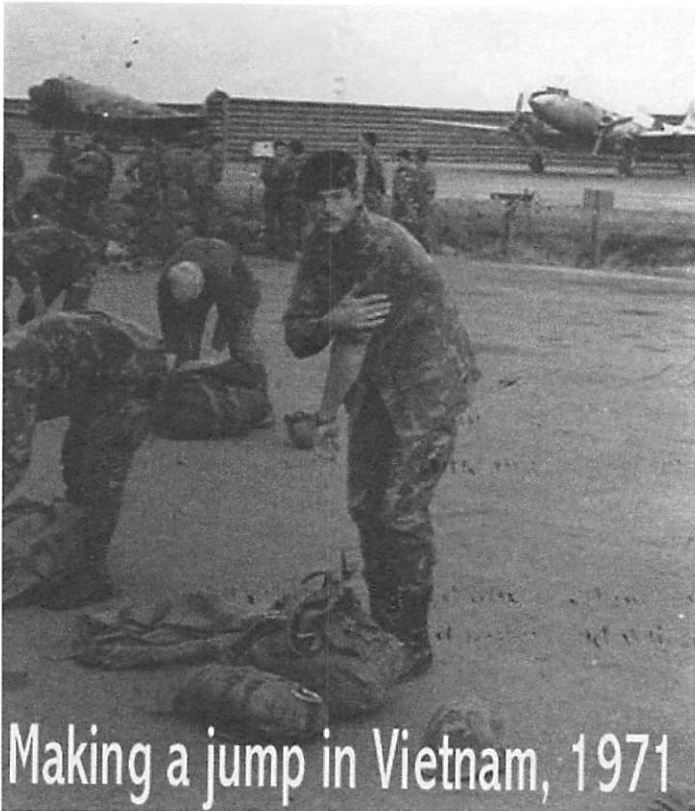
By the time you get this, we will be right at reunion time. I hope you made your reservations at the hotel already. If not then just come to it any way. It's never too late. Pay at the door but just get there. We only have these things once every two years and they are so worth it. We have procured several door prizes at not cost to the Association. We have three autographed prints by Dietz, several knives, several other pictures and some real special surprises. We are having the T-shirt printed now along with some other give-a-way items. When you sign in you will get your welcome packet, a free T-shirt and some other goodies Ron and I have collected for you. Just let it be a surprise. I can't make the claim that this will be the biggest or best reunion ever but I'm looking forward to it.

PATROLLING MAGAZINE

I think all of you will agree that the Patrolling Magazine has come a long way. In reality, it is our lifeline. It keeps the members informed of what is going on in the Association and an outlet for the units to provide input. The quality of articles has improved over time and will continue to do so. For the last few issues, we have had almost 100% contributions

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

from the units. It is essential for each unit to see an article coming from their own unit. The articles do not have to come strictly from the Unit Director every time but all articles do have to go through the Unit Director prior to being printed. You elected the Unit Director from your unit but you should also support him in his duties from time to time. This is not just articles for in the Unit Directors columns but in the main body as well. We need articles, pictures and suggestions on how to improve the magazine. We have one sponsor now who supplies us with beer at our reunions. We are looking at several other sponsors for other services too. Help us out here. If you have a business that would be a sponsor, contact John Chester, the Editor. If you have an article that you would like to publish, send it to your Unit Director. If you have a suggestion on how to improve the magazine or the Association for that matter, send it to your Unit Director or one of the Officers. This is your Association. Make it better. It is our hope that the Association Web Site will eventually come up to the level of quality as the Patrolling Magazine.



Making a jump in Vietnam, 1971

UNIT STRUCTURE

The Association in and of its' self is merely an umbrella for all the individual units. Without the units, we would not be an Association. There are four elected Officers in the Association. I can attest to you from experience that no one man could run this Association by himself. It would be just too much. There are too many things that have to be done both on a continual basis and major projects. The same goes for the individual units for all tense and purposes. We have 23 separate units in this Association. I have seen units that have formal; semi-formal organization and I have seen units that are a 'one man band'. I can tell you from two years of experience dealing with these units and Unit Directors that a unit with some structure runs better than a unit with no structure. A 'one man band' structure falls apart if the appointed individual gets sick or falls behind on his duties to the unit and the Association because of job or family. A 'one man band' has just too much to do and more often than not, it just doesn't get done. There are four articles to write each year for Patrolling. There are packets to prepare for the Ranger Hall Of Fame. We won't even mention the seldom but time consuming things like member search, Gold Star, deaths, funerals, member verification, constant communications, questions about this thing or answers about that thing. We won't even mention about voting on Board Of Directors issues, disseminating information from the Association down to the members or questions or issues from the members up to the Association. I would suggest from my observations the following structure. Each unit should form it's own Association. This does not have to be a formal or incorporated entity. A 'President' of the unit's Association to direct and guide the unit. A Vice-President for each and every individualistic element that served in the major unit. If a unit had three Brigades of LRRP, then there should be three VP. One VP representing each separate element is what is really needed. One VP for the LRP element and one VP for the Ranger element. Seeing how we are about to include the LRS as an authorized element of each unit then a VP for the LRS is also in order. These VP's work for and report to the unit Association President. These VP are the ones who know the guys who served in that element. I'm not suggesting a division of units within the Association, just a little refinement and restructuring at the unit level. If the unit publishes a newsletter and surely it maintains some sort of members roster then a unit Secretary is also needed. If the unit wishes to collect money for separate reunions, funeral flowers or newsletters then a unit Treasurer is needed. Last but not least, the unit Association should select a Unit Director to do nothing but interface with the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. It is this Unit Director who writes the articles for Patrolling and communicates between the unit leadership and the Association. I've seen one man try to be the unit leader, finder, writer, treasurer, secretary and chief juggler all at once. See, there is a lot to do, isn't there? One man can't do it. There is a lot of extremely good talent in each unit. You guys need to pull together and tap those natural resources. It will make your unit better and will take some of the burden off just one man.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

BYLAWS

Ron Edwards tells me that we are having a good return on the mail in ballots. I won't discuss what way the ARTICLES are being voted but the main thing is that members are getting involved. Each new member will get a copy of the Bylaws and all existing members can use their Special Edition as their copy when all is said and done. It's not too late to have your voice heard. **VOTE!**

ASSOCIATION ADVOCATES

I've discussed the Gold Star Advocates earlier. There is no way I could do the job as a Gold Star Advocate. The same goes for the Editor of the Patrolling Magazine. These are appointed positions. They are appointed by the Association President to help facilitate the day-to-day operations of the Association. Sort of spreading the workload so to speak. Each Advocate is especially selected to become a subject matter expert in his or her area. **Sandee Rouse** and **Sandy Harris** are wonderful Gold Star Advocates for us. **John Chester** has done a marvelous job as Editor, in transforming the Patrolling Magazine into a '1st Class' publication. I have also appointed two Ranger Advocates. The first was **Dan Nate** to write VA, health and legislative articles. This soon became too much for Dan so we found **Steve Morey** with a lot of willingness and time on his hands. Morey, aka 'Bouncer' seems to be a night owl who can't sleep, so he does the searching for data that Nate publishes in the Patrolling Magazine. They work very well together and are fast becoming very proficient in their field. Because of our growing size and the complexity of the ever-changing world we live in, I've found the need for legal advice on matters from time to time. It also seems that a handshake doesn't mean what it used too. I've appointed **John Chester** and **James Savage** as our Legal Advocates. Both of these men are lawyers and between them they have guided the Association in the right and just direction. We wisely did away with the Quartermaster element within the Association so there is no need for that position. We still do not have a dedicated Web Master yet. There will come a time when additional Advocates will be needed. I don't know what, where or who they will be or for what reason. I just know from the experience of the last two years, that the more minds that are involved in making a decision the more just it will be for the best interest of the Association. This Association has had a very good group of Unit Directors who have given of their time and energy. I also made full use of the Past Presidents Advisory Council, made up of all Past Presidents of this Association. They have a wealth of institutional knowledge from when they were Presidents of this Association. I want to thank all Officers, Past Presidents, Unit Directors and Advocates for their time, contributions and efforts. You have truly made the Association better. Keep in mind that no position, either elected (Officer or Unit Director) or appointed (Advocate) is a paid position. We are all volunteers and what we do for the Association is purely a labor of love. So, before anybody goes casting stones at the leadership, please consider that.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

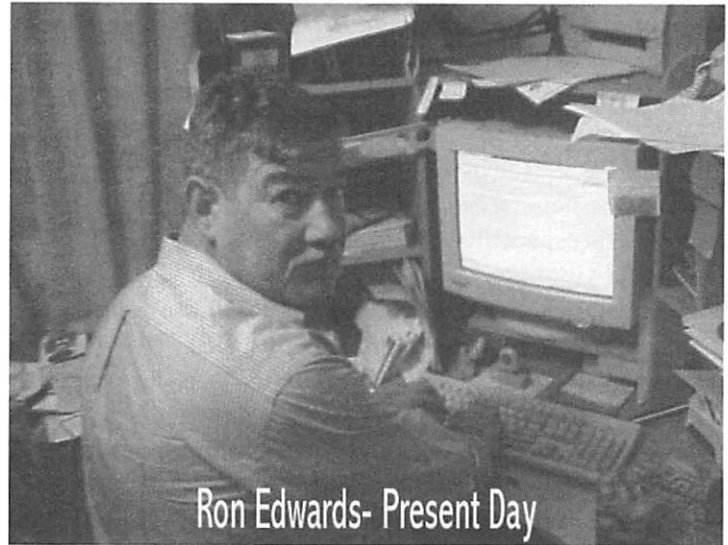
This summer at the reunion we will elect new Officers. Only Ron Edwards, our Association Secretary, has indicated that he would be willing to run for his existing office. After two years in office, I can go back to leading a normal life. Whatever normal is? There is a lot of work in being one of the Associations Officers. Terry Roderick once told me, "You reap what you sow". I think we sowed a lot this past two years. We've had our up's and down's but there were many more good times than there were bad. The Association is stronger and bigger than it ever has been. We are doing a lot more than we ever have done in the past. We are more involved both within the Association and outside than we have in the past. We're getting big time guys and more of you need to get involved. This is not a 'one man band' here. It takes teamwork to keep this Association going. Yes, it requires a lot of work on a constant basis but it is very rewarding in terms of self-gratification. I get to see a lot of good that we have done both for our own members and those outside of our Association. As I've said before, being in this office has been therapeutical for me. I've enjoyed it and have no regrets for having served this Association. Now, it's your turn.

Thanks for allowing me to be your President for the past two years and I'll see you at the reunion.

Emmett W. Hiltibrand – President
75th Ranger Regiment Association

SECRETARY'S MESSAGEBy **Ronnie R. Edwards**

Hi Guys, first up lets all cuss these damn computers. OK all together now: !@#\$\$%^&*()!!! Oh, I know, "computers are wonderful" and all that crap, and yes they certainly do have great advantages and do help keep everyone up to date. Type a message and send it to 100,150, 200 people at the push of the send button. That is really hot stuff! On the other hand I lost everything I had on my computer in the crash before this one. This time when retribution came at least the computer shop was able to save about half of what was on my hard drive. Yes, I know all the computer nerds out there will say, "Well, if you had backed everything up properly you would not have lost anything". Right, and if you polish every inch of that tractor trailer every week it will last 20 years and still look good. I'll admit that I am a "cradle robber" and my wife Julie is a "Generation X'er" for those familiar with that term. She is the main computer resource in this house of four complete computer terminals. She has learned to gauge the commotion pretty accurately and is now able to get to my little room off the kitchen just before I put something through the screen of the monitor. That, I suppose is another little parable, how we destroy the monitor when it is the little devil under the desk that won't do what we are trying to tell it to. As I often tell her "It's not permanent until it's on paper and in the filing cabinet!"



Reunion is coming up guys and it looks good for attendance. It is still early May as I write this but we have filled up the primary hotel and are having to go to the alternates for reservations. The schedule of events has changed since last issue and it will most likely change some more before July, but that is just the way it goes when you are trying to plan things so far out.

John Chester asked for a "then and now" photo for this issue and that led to looking at old photos for a "then" shot and brought back to mind some of the "old days". The following is some of what I remember of my introduction to L/75 back in 1970.

While I was at Camp Evans for In-Country or "P" training, they sent all the Airborne qualified men to a separate briefing. There were about 40 -50 of us in all. The briefing was from a representative of the 101st recon unit L Co Rangers, 75th Inf. He briefed us on the company and what they did and asked for volunteers. About six of us volunteered, and after our 2 weeks of "P" training when everyone went on to their units, our group of six guys got on a 2 1/2 ton truck and had a dusty ride down to Camp Eagle just outside of Phu Bai and Hue.

When we arrived we were assigned bunks in an empty hooch or barracks. It, as the others, was just simple one floor plywood building. There were screens for windows with plywood flaps you could let down when it rained. Tin roofs with sandbags on top to help it stay on in the wind. Also sandbags around the outside of the buildings up to window level and a sandbag blast wall about three feet out from each door to protect the entrances. This particular building was empty because the six-man team that had occupied it had been wiped out shortly before we arrived. This hooch had been completely stripped when they cleared out the dead teams equipment and personal effects, not a bunk or broom remained. I did that myself once or twice, clean out a dead guy's area and prepare his personal stuff to be sent home. We used a little common sense in this. If the guy had some porno magazines or something like that we didn't send them home to his mother. Same if we knew the guy was married but was writing to an old girlfriend (or new girlfriend) we'd separate those letters and trash them. Not a desirable task anyway you look at it, especially if it was a friend of yours. Although different teams moved in and out of this hooch while I was there it was never prime real estate and was always known as "the dead team's hooch".

Usually a team would try to more or less bunk together-it was easier to pass out information. It wasn't a requirement tho and sometime when they were trying to piece together a team for a mission or two people would be bunked all over the company. It wasn't one team per hooch tho, usually at least two teams would share a hooch and most times divide it into smaller rooms or area's with scavenged plywood.

After arriving in the company we had an additional two weeks training to teach us the Ranger companies SOPs and

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

to get us up to par on things LURPs did differently from line companies. One of the things we learned was to give IVs to each other. I was a frequent guinea pig as I had big veins easy to see and hit. That continued while I was there, whenever an I.V. class was given and I was available they wanted me to be the pincushion. After the two weeks of local training we were sent out on a "training mission". It was a regular mission, no use to waste all that manpower, but we went with ten men instead of the regular six-man team. So I guess we had four experienced men and us six newbies. I think the T.L. on the training mission was SSG Kline, and I went on at least one mission with SSG Zetner as the T.L. before settling in as a member of Team 1-1; (First Platoon, team #1) and finally was able to move out of the dead team's hooch. I stayed with team 1-1 the whole time I was there although I sometimes filled in on missions with other teams. I think SSG Delaney was my first regular team leader. Later on as guys came and left, Team 1-1 was run by SSG Hund, SGT Clark, SGT Smith (Fish), SGT Frazier, and finally by myself SP/4 Edwards.

The company had a basic SOP of the minimum of equipment and ammunition to be carried, but every team leader would add to this according to his own experience and that particular mission's requirements. I went out with some team leaders who wanted every man to carry two claymores and with some team leaders who would not hear of anything less than four claymores apiece. So what you carried in the way of ammunition and equipment depended a lot on the team leader. But we all went out carrying too much weight according to the D.A. guys that came out and took a survey of the recon units. The theory is that a recon unit shouldn't carry much weight (ammo) because they should cover a lot of ground and not get into firefights. As a guy that was actually going out there however, I understand that I do not intend to run out of ammo when I'm in the middle of nowhere and Charlie is being up close and personal. I don't know the actual weight of my rucksack but I do know I usually had to sit down with my back to it, slide my arms through the straps, roll over on my hands and knees, then use my weapon to brace me while I stood up. No, we did not move fast or far quickly, but we did move carefully!

Some of the things I normally carried: 35 twenty round M-16 magazines, tho we only loaded each with 18 rounds. Twenty rounds seemed to compress the spring too much and cause a double feed jam. Once you were there for a while you developed you own method for carrying magazines. The best I found was the 1-quart canteen cover. You can put seven 20-round magazines in a 1-quart canteen cover where the standard ammo pouch could only hold 4 or 5 magazines. True, the ammo pouches had little holders for 2 grenades on the sides but an additional 1-quart canteen cover could also hold six hand grenades and you didn't have to worry about a tree or bush accidentally pulling the pin on them. Most of the men removed the shipping safety from their grenades and wrapped some black tape around the pull ring to hold it flat and help avoid accidental pin pulls. We left a little piece of doubled over tape to make it easy to pull the tape off. In the excitement of a firefight it was too easy to forget to remove the shipping safety and pull the pin. With the tape method you had to remove the tape to get to the pull ring. After I had been there awhile my LBE had nine 1-quart canteen covers around it; five held 7 magazines apiece of M-16 ammo, two had 6 hand grenades apiece, one had my E&E gear and one actually had a quart of water in it. The E&E gear consisted of a penlight flare, a fluorescent distress/identification panel, and a couple of pre-mixed dehydrated rations. And a small emergency radio that only tuned in to the aircraft emergency channel that all aircraft monitor. I also carried a flashlight (with a red filter to reduce the light for reading the map or code book at night), a hunting knife or bayonet, 1st aid dressing, lensatic compass, and a strobe light (for signaling aircraft) all on my LBE. I initially carried a bayonet that I sharpened to knife-edge but later ordered a "K- Bar" knife from a magazine. I tried several ways of carrying it; on the pistol belt, but there wasn't much room with 9 canteen covers, I tried sticking it down in my boot and strapping it to my leg, which looks good in the movies, but in the real world it kept getting caught in the bushes. I finally ended with it taped to the front LBE suspenders. That seemed to be the most popular way to carry it and just about everyone carried a knife of some type. The AR-15s (CAR-15s) many of us carried were not made to attach a bayonet, still a knife in the woods has many uses. It could be cutting a makeshift litter, or digging a cat hole (shithole), and of course always that possibility of using it to kill somebody being too up close and personal. Mine was never used for much besides digging shitholes. Whenever you were out on a mission you always dug a hole to shit in, a "cathole" officially, so you could shit and cover it up. Wouldn't want the enemy to find our trail because he stepped in shit. I still have the knife I carried tho the handle is slightly chipped.



Ron Edwards, L/75
Vietnam, 1970

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Inside or attached to the rucksack were generally two or four claymore mines, (great weapon!) three smoke grenades, a CS grenade (tear gas) and a white phosphorus grenade, nine to fifteen quarts of water (depending on the individual), food for seven days (a mixture of C-RATS and LRRPS) extra machine gun ammo if the team had a M-60 on that mission. Extra socks, the Team Leader and Assistant Team Leader carried their own radios, everyone else carried extra batteries, handsets, or antennas. Some men carried rain suits or full ponchos, I just carried half a poncho and half a poncho liner and wrapped it around the frame to help pad my back. Sneaking around in the jungle we couldn't put up any type of shelter anyway. I carried 11 quarts of water and only ran out when another guy ran out and I had to give him a couple of quarts. Some guys drank more and carried more, some less. We also carried a repelling rope for the team and everyone carried their own 15-foot rope and snap links for a Swiss seat in case we needed to repel or be lifted out my McGuire Rig. We each carried a small gas mask that was only good for CS.



Ron Edwards, L/75

Maps, compasses, codebooks, and I'm sure many other items I just don't remember right now. I carried a lot of candy and lifesavers. Each morning I would put four candy bars in my shirt pocket to eat during the day while we were on the move. The lifesavers I'd use during the night while on guard to help me stay awake. Oh yeah, we also carried some plastic explosives in case we had to blow up a bunker or knock down some trees for an LZ. Also one or two LAWs for the team and one or two concussion grenades. I'm sure there's more but give me a break, it's been almost thirty years! I never had a reason to use the concussion grenade and didn't want to throw the white phosphorus grenade.

That was some bad stuff with a bursting radius of 35-40 meters, now tell me when you are in triple canopy jungle you can throw anything 35-40 meters without hitting some type of tree that will bounce it right back at you? There were a couple of missions in the Khe Sahn plains in that elephant grass that I could maybe throw it that far but then it would start a fire and you'd have to make sure you were up wind! A good weapon for last resorts but not one you want to use without thinking about it.

That's enough for this time guys, see you at the reunion - Ron

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

One of the perks of this job is that I get phone calls from all over the country. Last week Sid Smith (N Co) called to let me know that he received 1/2 a magazine. I took the information in order to send him a new one, and of course, we began to talk. Seems that he was there in 1966 – 67, even before I was (67- 68). When we were there the units were designated LRRP which was short for Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol. Some time in 1967, the term was changed to LRP, (Long Range Patrol). We discussed the change and wondered if it was changed to cover the expanded mission, who could cover ambushes and raids or perhaps it was done to make the designation shorter and simpler. Sid's opinion was that the change took place because some clerk in a headquarters somewhere couldn't spell 'reconnaissance'. I think he hit the nail on the head.

A story making the headlines around here concerns a family that lost a husband and father in the 9/11 attacks in New York. The gist of the story was that they were unhappy with the 'mere' 1.5 million dollars or so (plus life insurance and the employer's benefits) that they will receive in compensation for their loss. It occurred to me that the men currently fighting and dying in Afghanistan could expect an amount of compensation for their families that is a tiny fraction of this amount. What kind of message are we sending to our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines with this grossly unfair comparison of benefits?

Without trying to minimize anyone's loss I question a concept that treats those who intentionally go in harm's way so

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

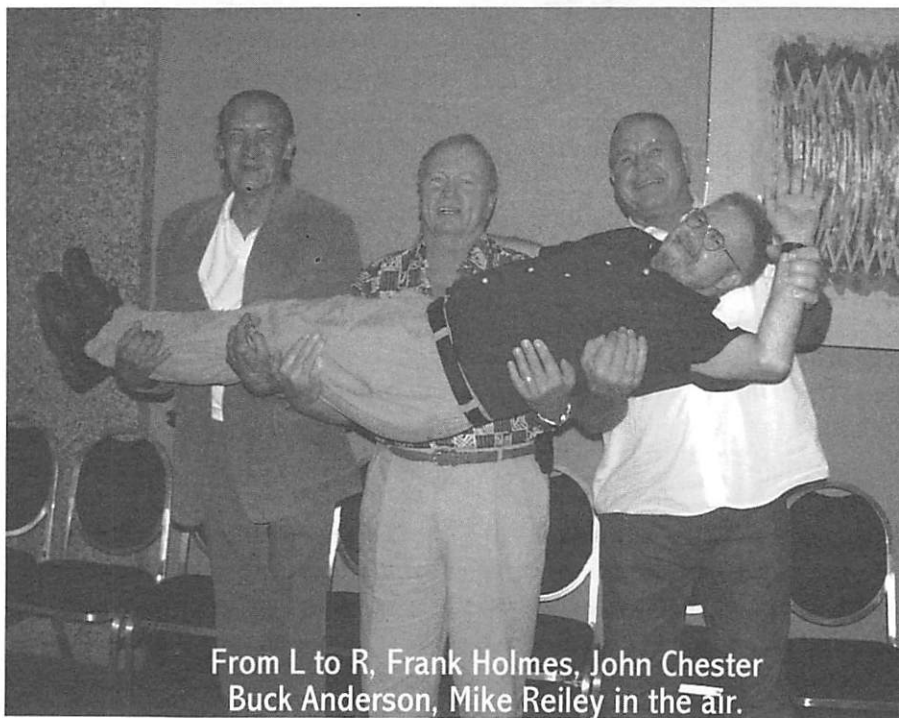
differently than the people who were killed as a result of a surprise attack. The casualties in Afghanistan are a consequence of 9/11 in exactly the same way and to the same extent as the casualties at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

A young woman whose husband, a SP4 Ranger, was wounded in Afghanistan in the same action that killed three other Rangers, was unable to afford a ticket to Washington, DC to be with her husband at Walter Reed Hospital. I find it completely unbelievable that a Government that spends \$100,000.00 for a toilet seat, cannot afford a \$175.00 ticket to send a wife to be with her husband who damn near lost his life in the service of his country. I am proud of the fact, as we all should be, that the 75th Ranger Regiment Association found the means to send the woman to be with her husband. (See story in 'Recap' in this issue).

I suppose a Vietnam Veteran should be used to this by now, but personally, I am mortified at the actions of our Government. I believe that it is time to address this gross inequity, that those who give the most, get the least. I have written to my Congress Persons and Senators. I urge you to do the same. It may not do any good, but I feel better.

We usually go to the local VFW for dinner every two weeks or so. I am a life member at the Post, have been for 30 years, but no one usually talks to me, even if I try to talk to them. Imagine my surprise when a young man recognized the Association Tee shirt I was wearing, (worn mainly to P--- Off the legs & clerks that frequent the place) and came over & introduced himself as a 3rd BN Ranger recently off active duty and now assigned to the same SF Detachment that I served in more than a few years ago. Of course I had a few magazines in the car. I got them out & signed him up on the spot. Welcome aboard Tom Regul. Now I have to talk him into attending the reunion this year.

We are running as many photos of unit directors, advocates, appointed persons and other contributors as we can. It's a small way of recognizing their time & effort. These are the people who make the organization and the magazine function. Most members only get a glimpse of what goes on behind the scenes. The amount of effort expended on something as simple as ordering Tee shirts for the Reunion would surprise most folk. There are many people whose names never get mentioned in *Patrolling*, who do a great deal of work on the Association's behalf. I want to thank these unsung persons for their efforts on all our behalf. Again, I want to thank everyone who made this job a little easier. And some of you that made it harder, it keeps me alert. As my Daddy used to say, "Just because you're paranoid, doesn't mean they're not after you."



From L to R, Frank Holmes, John Chester
Buck Anderson, Mike Reiley in the air.

Another member of my LRRP Detachment has surfaced. Fred Fones has joined the Association. He was with us from Feb '68 to October '68. I left in late July '68 however. I was at Emmett's house for the Best Ranger Competition last week when Ron Edwards let me know Fred had joined. Seems that my little secret is out. As part of the required documentation, Fred sent in a photo of me and a newspaper article of my **COURT MARTIAL**. That's right, court martial. I

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

thought Emmett would choke. I had to tell him the whole story to protect his health. The people who were with me and are now in the Association know the story, but knowing how things get exaggerated, I think I better tell the real story before it gets out of hand.



**Before a mission – Duc Pho,
I Corps, 1967**

I took over the unit in October of 1967. There was a requirement for each Division or Brigade size unit to have a LRRP detachment. Most of the folk in command had no idea what LRRPS did or how they should be employed in '66 – '67. The added fact that there was no TOE despite the requirement to field LRRP Units only contributed to the confusion. Some of the luckier units had LRRPS from Divisions in Europe to handle the organization and deployment of these units.

From the beginning I had to scrounge everything we needed, including weapons, radios and camo fatigues. It got so that Staff Officers tied their CAR-15's to their body. If you put it down, it walked. The one thing that we did get was LRRP rations. We soon discovered that we could trade them for damn near anything. We no longer needed to steal anything. We could pay others to steal for us, and be miles away when the deed occurred. We could also do ordinary swaps for some of the things we needed. The S-4 met every request for supplies and equipment with, "Not in your TOE". For example, we needed a couple M-60's for the times we put out a heavy team. No chance. There was a Cav Squadron at the base camp. You know how many M-60's there are on one of those tracks? They didn't need them if they spent all that time in the firebase.

The brass knew what was going on, but as long as we were effective and accomplished our mission, no one was going to make waves. They didn't know how to solve the TOE lack either. While we were in Kontum two things happened, our only vehicle, an old jeep, died, and one of my people was in Plieku & needed to get back. It was already dark & he was technically AWOL at the time. Knowing of my legendary temper, he helped himself to a jeep & drove back to Kontum. At night. Two problems. I was in the field & wouldn't have known (or cared) if he came back the next day, and he took an Air Force Liaison Officer's jeep. Wrong color.

When he got back it was obvious that something needed to be done to hide the jeep so these geniuses decided to bury it. In a ravine. Now covering a jeep with dirt is a lot of work, as they soon found out. They compromised & used brush & tree limbs. They forgot about the antenna. I returned from the mission, blissfully unaware of all this. I soon discover that we have no transportation & there is a blue jeep in a ravine behind our area. Well, the Air Force owed us one. Another man & I had retrieved the body of a FAC pilot that had flown into the side of a mountain & we damn near lost it doing it. I went to the Air Force LTC & fessed up. He actually thought it was funny, he got his jeep back & all was well.



After a mission – Duc Pho, 1967

In the mean time we had traded many cases of LRRPS for a 3/4 Ton that was assembled out of several dead ones. Everything was great for a couple months until the CID came down with both hammers. Seems they wanted to make an example of units like ours. I guess they meant highly successful ones that had no friendly KIA'S for ten months. I & a few others were read charges. Mine was for dereliction of duty (not reporting the stolen jeep), and theft (the 3/4 Ton). The interesting thing is, I was still in command of the detachment and pulling missions. The trial was brief. Since I was gone when the jeep was taken, I couldn't have reported it, and since the 3/4 Ton was made of a number of dead one's, it

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

was not in the Army inventory and couldn't be stolen. I was on an extension, but when the proceedings were over, I said to hell with it & went home. The CG of the 4th Division really loved me. I am told that he referred to me as that "----ing LRRP Lieutenant."

The only thing that really got me mad was the fact that every award that was pending, and we had a couple DSC'S and Silver Stars, was downgraded to a BS with "V" or an ARCOM with "V". That seemed like a petty, chickenshit thing to do. In retrospect, I guess we were the 'hoodlums' that the modern Rangers were warned against. Maybe you need to be a little bit of a hoodlum in combat. The foregoing is the whole truth. I guess it had to come out someday.

You will notice a message of support from Gerber Knives. We are grateful for their corporate sponsorship, and urge you to patronize our sponsors when possible. I bought a Gerber MK II in 1967, before I went to Vietnam. They recently brought out a 35th Anniversary model, and I bought one so I would have a set. I almost passed out when I found out what the old one was worth. I have used Gerber's knives exclusively over the years & have never been disappointed.



During a mission – Kontum, March, 1968. On hill 1773 about 10 – 15 klicks north of LZ Mile High. We made contact & evaded out of the tree line. The slicks were inbound. That's me with the URC-10. The photo was taken by Sean Flynn, son of the actor, Errol Flynn. He stayed with us for about a month. He is probably the only correspondent to ever go to the field with a LRRP team. He carried a weapon. He was given quite an exhaustive training program prior to the mission, and had been in more than one war zone. He left us in April to go to Laos. He disappeared there and was never seen or heard from again. He told me before he left that he was investigating the involvement of 'Officials' in the opium trade.

We are getting more corporate sponsors now, which is in line with my goal to publish the magazine for little or no cost to the Association. I have been in contact with Jason Knasinski at Silvertowne Mint, and we hope to have coins available at the reunion. They are giving us a huge break on the die cost. We will be able to have solid silver coins for around \$20.00. I'd like to get an idea of interest, so drop me an e-mail, (or snail mail) & let me know if you are interested.

From the VFW Magazine:

Edward Lee Daily, a 'witness to the No Gun Ri 'atrocities' in Korea in 1950, has been charged in an attempt to defraud the Federal Government. Daily was indicted on the charge of receiving \$324,911.00 in VA payments & \$87,928.00 in VA health care. It was discovered that he was not present at No Gun Ri, nor was he wounded or held as a POW as he claimed.

How do you collect over \$400,000.00 in benefits that you are not entitled to? Who is watching the store? This is even more disturbing in light of the people who have a legitimate need for benefits and health care and are not receiving it.

I lost the entire contents of my computer a couple of weeks ago. The 'KLEZ' virus or worm that has been going around got me, and a few of our unit directors as well. Putting this issue together was challenging to say the least. During the course of a conversation with another victim, the question "Why would anyone set one of these things loose? What do they get out of it?" was discussed. I then had a great idea. Who cares what they get out of it? If caught, the punishment should match the crime. Send them to Afghanistan or Bosnia or Laos or wherever there are large quantities of land mines, and let them work in mine clearing operations. Give them a mine detector and a shovel and have at it. While we're at it, let's send the wannabe's with them. The guy who lied about No Gun Ri would be a great start. It would relieve honest soldiers of a dangerous task and serve a useful purpose.

Interesting web site:

I have a Communist Party flag captured in December, 1967. An individual that I think is a world-class wannabe offered to buy it, and the price was astronomical. Seems he wanted supporting documentation as well. By accident I found a place on the Internet that sold VC/NVA/PAVN flags and other memorabilia. Having the profound grasp of the obvious that I do, I bought one. They are out on the back deck aging as we speak. You get the idea, I'm sure. They are at <http://www.sampan.com>.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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

Ed Note: The following article furnished courtesy of Jim Cooke, 35th Inf (Cacti) Assn.

VA Disability Rating Criteria: A former 30 year employee of the Veterans Administration wrote the following after his retirement. He is also a disabled vet. It addresses the lack of knowledge many applicants have about what is involved in processing their disability claims. His statements are not to be interpreted in any way as being officially sanctioned by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The information is meant for general understanding only. There are always exceptions and the law is subject to change. We hope this helps alleviate some of the anger and frustration many experience due to the seemingly endless delay in processing their claim. When a veteran submits a claim to the VA, he/she should understand there are several prerequisites for a successful disability claim. Among them are:

1. The evidence of record must show the claimed condition was incurred in (first occurred or diagnosed) during military service. That means the medical evidence provided by the veteran and/or the service department (usually the Fed. Records Center in St. Louis) must show the claimed disability. If the disability pre-existed service, such as a knee condition, the evidence must show that the condition became worse during military service. That is one reason it is important to insist on a discharge physical examination. It is your last chance to make certain disabilities are in your record. REMEMBER, if the claimed disability is not shown in your service medical records it DIDN'T happen. Exceptions to this rule are conditions, which may not manifest until after military service is complete. For example PTSD. In such cases, the veteran's service record is requested to determine if his/her service was under such conditions, that the present diagnosis can clearly be associated with military service. The fact that

your drill sergeant was mean to you would not qualify.

2. Assuming service medical records show the claimed disability exists, then it must be determined how disabling the condition is at the present time. Usually the claimant is scheduled for an examination at the nearest VA Medical Center. The examining physician completes a report showing his/her diagnoses and clinical findings. Keeping with the knee example. The doctor will check for range of motion, looseness of the joint, pain, etc. For sake of our discussion, we will assume the knee was initially injured during military service.
3. The report is sent to the Regional Office for review. The rating specialist reviews all the medical evidence, with special consideration to the examining physician's report. The rating specialist then consults a rating schedule. The diagnosis tells him/her under which disability to rate the knee. For example, chronic knee strain, torn ACL, traumatic arthritis, etc. The clinical findings will be compared to descriptions given to various percentages. The percentage, which closest agrees with the physician's findings, will be given as the evaluation of the disability.
4. If the veteran has more than one disability, each of which is considered at least 10% disabling, they will be applied to a combined rating schedule to yield a combined evaluation. The individual disabilities are not added to give a final percentage. For example. Assume our hypothetical veteran has 3 disabilities: knee, heart, and psychological. Each disability is considered 50% disabling. The veteran is not considered 150% disabled. What happens is Each % is applied to the remaining healthy person. With no disabilities the veteran is considered 100% healthy. When the knee condition is considered, the veteran is now 50% disabled and 50% healthy. The 50% evaluation of his heart is applied to the remaining healthy 50% and he/she is considered 75% disabled and 25% healthy. Since evaluations are only in even 10%, the evaluation is rounded off to 80% disabled and 20% healthy. The final 50% psychological condition is applied to the remaining 25% healthy person. Remember the actual combined evaluation was 75%. It was just rounded to 80%. He/she is now 88% disabled. The evaluation is rounded to 90% disabled and 10% healthy.
5. The veteran would automatically be considered for individual unemployability. The rating specialist would determine that if based on the veteran's education, skills, etc. are his/her disabilities so severe as to render him/her individually unemployable. If the answer is yes, he/she is paid at the 100% rate although his/her disabilities only warrant a 90% evaluation. Although the monetary benefit is the same, there is an important distinction between a combined scheduler 100% and 100% due to individual unemployability. If the 100% is by the schedule, the veteran may, if able, hold a regular job. If the 100% is due to being unemployable, he/she may not engage in anything other than marginal employment. The VA checks annually through the individual states for veterans, who are considered unemployable and are holding a regular job. It can become very ugly financially for the veteran, if he/she is caught. It could result in anything from a reduced evaluation, to full repayment, to jail time. Contrary to popular belief, the mind set in the VA is to resolve all doubt in favor of the veteran. Consider, if the claimed benefit can be granted, there is a happy veteran and one less file someone must review.

TFL & HMOs: Your membership in an HMO may make it difficult for you to use TFL benefits and may make it impossible to use your preferred Medicare physician. Federal law requires Tricare to be the last payer to all other coverage with the exception of specially written Tricare supplements and Medicaid-like programs. That means you must use your Medicare and HMO coverage before you can use Tricare. HMOs generally require their member to assign their Medicare benefits to the HMO. After Medicare and the HMO have provided their benefits, you may file a claim with Tricare for any out-of-pocket expenses such as your HMO's copayments. By law Tricare cannot pay your Medicare or HMO premiums.

If you do not have an HMO you can use the Medicare provider of your choice. Medicare would process the claim, pay its share to the provider and forward the claim to Tricare. Tricare would pay what Medicare did not, up to the amount of your legal debt as established by the Medicare/Tricare laws. In this situation you would have no, or very limited, out-of-pocket expenses for the vast majority of your health care. [Source: James Hamby article 18 FEB 02 Navy Times]

AFRC Orlando to Close Temporarily: On April 1, the Shades of Green hotel at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla., will close for 18 months. The shutdown will allow construction of 299 more rooms at the 287-room Armed Forces

Recreation Center hotel. During the closure, service members and families eligible for Shades of Green will receive the same room rates at other Disney hotels. However, they will have to pay an additional 11 percent in state and local room taxes. The four hotels in Garmisch, Germany and in Chiemsee will not be closed during construction of a new 330-room hotel in Garmisch. The AFRCs are open to military active-duty members, reservists, retirees, and their families, as well as Defense Department civilian workers and their families. Room rates are determined by pay grade. [Source: AF News 7 MAR 02]

Republic of China Badge of Honor Medal: Since 1998, the 823 Badge of Honor Association USA, has made annual certifications to the Ministry of National Defense, Republic of China (MND/ROC), of a list of USA candidates to receive the 823 Badge of Honor. "823" refers to the 23 August 1958 bombing of the Republic of China by Communist China. The Association membership consists of Vets from WWII, Korea, Vietnam & later. If you have been of service to the ROC, on Taiwan, Quemoy, Matsu, the Tachens, in the "Straits" or otherwise (TDY, R&R, or 'Nam Liberty Call" you meet eligibility requirements to receive this medal. Proper DD-214 documentation is required in order to request for this medal. Applications can be made at: www.taiwanvets.com/.

Those without e-mail write: BOHAUSA, 639 Page Av., Lyndhurst NJ 07071-2514, or fax 413-375-7953. Provide your full name and all contact data along with your Taiwan "experience" (be brief). All will receive a reply. Certification is being done now (ends June 2002), for the October 2002, thirteen city ceremony sites. Posthumous awards are also being presented. [Source: C. Sterling NY State Div. of Veterans' Affairs 3 MAR 02]

US Military personnel stationed in Taiwan also qualify for the medal Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal if they spent 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days of duty at Quemoy & Matsu Island between 23 AUG 1958 and 01 June 1963 or the Taiwan Straits between 23 AUG 1958 and 01 JAN 1959. For more information contact, Raymond Wong, Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars District 15, 1634-38th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-3002 E-mail: wongrad@pacbell.net.

Veterans Health Deductible Plan: The House Veterans Affairs Committee has killed a Bush administration proposal that would have forced veterans to pay a deductible for health care. The President's plan to charge a new \$1,500 annual deductible for some veterans receiving medical care from the VA received stiff opposition from members of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans Affairs, national veterans advocacy groups, and the men and women who would have been effected by the plan. Although exact figures are not available the VA projected that the new charges would reduce its number of patients drastically next year. In New Mexico alone the estimate was about 120,000 veterans. The numbers include veterans who use the VA's community outreach clinics, hospitals, and prescription drug programs. The new rules would have applied to Priority 7 veterans, those who lack a disability related to their military service or whose income is higher than the current VA eligibility standard. [Source: Tom Udall (D-NM) msg. 11 MAR 02]

The President campaigned on a pledge to be a friend to the veteran. This is his second major effort to uphold that pledge. The first was his plan to force disabled retirees to choose annually VA or DoD health care but not both. That proposal was also squashed by Congress.

Lt. James "EMO" Tichacek, USN (Ret)
Director, Retiree Activities Office & U.S. Embassy Warden Baguio City RP
Email: raoemo@mozcom.com (PRI) or raobaguio@hotmail.com (Alternate)
Web: http://downloads.members.tripod.com/post_119_gulfport_ms/rao1.html
Tel: (63-74) 445-6786 or 446-2087 to record msg. or FAX 1-801-760-2430
AL/AMVETS/CORMV/DAV/FRA/NCOA/PRA/TROA/USDR/VFW/VVA member

What is a VA Burial Allowance ?

A VA burial allowance is a partial reimbursement of an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs. When the cause of death is not service-related, the reimbursement is generally described as two payments: (1) a burial and funeral expense allowance, and (2) a plot interment allowance.

Who Is Eligible ?

You may be eligible for a VA burial allowance if:

- you paid for a veteran's burial or funeral **AND**
- you have not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased veteran's employer **AND**
- the veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

In addition, at least one of the following conditions must be met:

- the veteran died because of a service-related disability **OR**
- the veteran was receiving VA pension or compensation at the time of death **OR**
- the veteran was entitled to receive VA pension or compensation but decided not to reduce his/her military retirement or disability pay **OR**
- the veteran died in a VA hospital or while in a nursing home under VA contract

How Much Does VA Pay ?

Service-related death -- VA will pay up to \$1,500 toward burial expenses prior to September 1, 2001. For deaths on or after September 1, 2001, VA will pay \$2,000. If the veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of moving the deceased may be reimbursed.

Nonservice-related death -- VA will pay up to \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses, and a \$150 plot interment allowance for deaths prior to December 1, 2001. For deaths on or after December 1, 2001, VA will pay \$300. If the death happened while the veteran was in a VA hospital or under contracted nursing home care, some of all of the costs for transporting the deceaseds remains may be reimbursed.

How Can I Apply ?

You can apply by filling out "<http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/candpforms.htm>">VA Form 21-530, Application for Burial Allowance . You should attach proof of the veteran's military service (DD 214), a death certificate, and copies of funeral and burial bills you have paid. Mail the completed form and documents to the nearest VA Regional office.

For More Information Call Toll-Free at 1-800-827-1000

Vet Consortium Pro Bono Program: The Veterans Consortium is an organization established to provide free attorneys for unrepresented veterans who have an appeal pending before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and who are not otherwise able to obtain counsel to assist them. This is a co-operative effort by four veterans' service organizations - the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, the National Veterans Legal Services Program and the Paralyzed Veterans of America. The Consortium recruits and trains volunteer attorneys to help needy appellants with their appeals at the Court. If a veteran has filed an appeal with the Court and has not been able to obtain his or her own attorney within 30 days, he or she can then request assistance from the Pro Bono Program.

Contact Veteran Issues vetsprobono@rcn.com directly or check out www.vetsprobono.com if you need assistance at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. You can also write Ronald B. Abrams, Esq., Director, Outreach & Education Components, 601 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 1010, Washington D.C. 20004-2935 Tel: [202] 628-8164/8169 Fax or [888]] 838-7727. [Source: ColonelDan@worldnet.att.net msg dtd 4/21/02]

NDAA FY 2003: The House Armed Services Subcommittees are marking up their portion of H.R. 4546, the FY03 National Defense Authorization Act (FY03 NDAA). The full committee mark is next on Wednesday, 1 May. House floor action is scheduled for 6 May. Floor action includes debate of the bill, amendments and vote on the final product. The differences between that bill and the one passed by the full Senate will be resolved in a joint conference and voted on by both chambers. Major provisions of the bill are to:

Provide authorization and funding for concurrent receipt of military retired pay and veterans disability compensation. Adopted the House Budget Resolution proposal to eliminate the offset for disabled retirees with ratings of 60% or more starting in FY03. First year payments range from \$125 to \$750 per month with incremental increases in subsequent years.

Increase active duty end strengths.

- Provide a 4.1% active duty pay raise across the board.
- Target 6.5% pay raises for active duty mid-grades.
- Require GAO to review TRICARE reimbursement rates, turbulence and trends.
- Require GAO to review TRICARE claims processing.
- Eliminate TRICARE certification requirement for Medicare certified health care providers.
- Eliminate pre-authorization requirement when Medicare is primary payer.[Source: NAUS Leg UP 26 APR 02]

AAFES Shoplifting Weapon: The Civil Recovery Act, which went into effect March 1, allows the Army and Air Force Exchange Service to collect a flat administrative cost of \$200 in addition to the value of the shoplifted items from those caught shoplifting in an AAFES store. The \$200 is meant to offset the expenses AAFES incurs because of shoplifting. Military exchanges spend millions of dollars each year to foil shoplifters, including measures to deter and detect thefts. Under the terms of the new program, sponsors are responsible for their family members' actions. Parents of minors caught shoplifting will be billed for the costs. This administrative charge is separate from any criminal prosecution or military disciplinary action. AAFES apprehends more than 11,000 shoplifters each year. [Source: Armed Forces News 26 APR 2002]

Budget Process/Deadlines: Although these deadlines are rarely met, here's how the budget is supposed to come together:

- Feb. 1: President submits budget to Congress. This is considered the president's suggestion, and has no legal force.
- April 1: House, Senate Budget Committees each write budget resolution, which is a framework for the next year's spending. Note: Does not include spending for individual programs.
- Early April: Committees present resolutions. Full House/Senate debate, amend and approve them. All votes pass by simple majority.
- Early May: Conference committee negotiates final single version of budget resolution. This is called the concurrent budget resolution.
- May to early June: Appropriations committees in both houses develop 13 spending bills, under limits set in budget resolution. Both houses pass bills by majority vote, with the House acting first.
- June 30: Conference committees resolve differences in all 13 bills, agree on a single version of each.
- House, then Senate, approves each bill by majority vote.
- Oct. 1: President receives bills; has 10 days to decide what to do:
 - A) sign a bill, making it law;
 - B) veto it, sending it back to Congress for reconsideration;
 - C) let it become law without his signature

[Sources: Congressional Research Service; Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget; Graphics reporting by TOM REINKEN / Los Angeles Times]

2002 REUNION SCHEDULE

MON – 8 JULY:

	HOTEL CHECK-IN	HOLLIDAY INN
	REUNION REGISTRATION	
0900-0100	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	

TUE- 9 JULY:

	HOTEL CHECK-IN	HOLIDAY INN
	REUNION REGISTRATION	
1700- ?	UNIT ACTIVITIES	
0900-0100	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	
1630-1900	RANGER HALL OF FAME	MARSHALL AUDITORIUM

WED – 10 JULY:

0830	MOVEMENT	
0930-1030	MEMORIAL SERVICE	3/75 MEMORIAL

2002 REUNION SCHEDULE CONTINUED

1000-1130 3/75TH STATIC DISPLAY / TOUR/ BRIEF
 1230-1400 LUNCH AT 3/75TH MESS HALL
 1400 MOVEMENT
 1415 ARRIVE BLDG 4, INFANTRY CENTER
 1430-1530 TOUR RANGER MEMORIAL
 1400-1600 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS / UNIT DIRECTORS MEETING**
 1915 MOVEMENT
 2000-0100 HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN

THU - 11 JULY:

0900-1200 **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** BANQUET ROOM
 1200-1800 HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN
 1900-? **ASSOCIATION BANQUET** (music pool area 19-2200 inside to 0100)

FRI -12 JULY:

A. RANGERS IN ACTION VICTORY POND
 B. RGR GRADUATION VICTORY POND
 LUNCH at Victory Pond
 1400-1600 TOUR RANGER HALL OF FAME RTB
 1300 -0100 HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN

Sat - 13 JULY: CHECK-OUT

Ladies and Gentlemen

The personnel listed below are scheduled to attend the Board Of Directors Meeting at 1400-1600 hours, on 10 July, in the Holiday Inn dinning room. Only those listed below are invited to attend. No substitute or alternatives will be admitted unless prior arraignments have been made with me. If you have changes, the UD must get with me. 2002 Reunion Schedule attached.

Emmett W. Hiltibrand - President
 75th Ranger Regiment Association

President - Emmett Hiltibrand
 Vice President - Jim McLaughlin
 Secretary - Ron Edwards
 Treasurer - Vacant

A/75 - Tom Brizedine
 B/75 - Stan Harrell
 C/75 - Worth Bolton
 D/75 - John Kingeter
 E/75 - Robert Copeland
 F/75 - Joe Little
 G/75 - Not Attending
 H/75 - Not attending
 I/75 - Barry Crabtree
 K/75 - Robert Stack
 L/75 - Randy White
 M/75 - Jack Fuche
 N/75 - Dave Gowen
 O/75 - Bailey Stauffer
 P/75 - Terry Roderick

F/51 - Russ Dillon
 D/151 - Tom Blandford
 BDQ - Mike Martin
 3ID - Mike McClintock
 1/75 - Jimmy Kinney
 2/75 - Not Attending
 3/75 - Peter Squeglia
 HQ REGT - Vacant

Past President - Bob Gilbert
 Past President - Billy Nix
 Past President - Duke DuShane
 Past President - Roy Barley
 Past President - Rick Ehrler
 Past President - Terry Roderick

Patrolling Editor - John Chester
 VA Advocate - Dan Nate
 VA Advocate - Steve Morey
 Legal Advocate - James Savage / John Chester
 Chaplain Advocate - Charles Keogh
 Gold Star Mother Advocate - Sandee Rouse
 Gold Star Wife Advocate - Sandy Harris

H E A L T H

Traditional Chinese Medicine and HCV*By Liz Highleyman*

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is an ancient healing system that has been practiced for over 2000 years. TCM is based on the premise that various treatments can restore harmony and help the body heal itself; the philosophy emphasizes treating the whole person – body, mind, emotions, and spirit -- rather than specific symptoms.

Chinese medicine is based on the idea that illness results from imbalances in yin and yang, the two polar principles that are present to varying degrees in each individual, and disruptions of the flow of vital energy, or qi (also called chi). A wide variety of symptoms can occur when there is a depletion or congestion (interrupted flow) of qi or blood (xue). TCM employs a variety of techniques including acupuncture, herbal remedies, diet modification, moxibustion, exercise, and massage to restore the body's balance and stimulate the proper flow of qi.

TCM recognizes five major organ systems: heart (xin), kidney (shen), liver (gan), lung (fei), and spleen (pi). The Chinese understanding of these organ systems goes beyond the Western view of a specific organ's function. For example, in TCM the liver system governs the storage of blood (xue), the flow of qi, and the regulation of emotions and temperament. Chinese medicine also recognizes five climatic factors: dampness, dryness, cold, heat, and wind. Dampness is associated with symptoms related to excess fluids (for example, phlegm and edema), dryness is associated with chapped mucous membranes, and heat is associated with inflammatory conditions.

In Chinese medicine, hepatitis is primarily associated with the liver, spleen, and gallbladder, but symptoms related to HCV many involve various other organ systems as well. Common Chinese medicine diagnoses for people with chronic hepatitis C include toxic heat, liver qi stagnation, spleen qi deficiency, and liver yin deficiency. Progressive HCV complications such as ascites (abdominal fluid accumulation), pruritis (itching), and cryoglobulinemia are associated with their own specific Chinese medicine syndromes. TCM treats people with HCV by reducing liver inflammation, strengthening the immune system, relieving symptoms and side effects due to conventional drugs, and improving overall health.

Chinese medicine practitioners diagnose illness by feeling the pulses, examining the color and form of the tongue and face, and taking an extensive medical history (including living and work habits, physical environment, and emotional state). Practitioners do not focus on specific symptoms in isolation, but rather look at an individual's overall health status and how various symptoms and disease manifestations interact.

Chinese medicine is a complete healing system, and TCM practitioners use a variety of different therapies. Acupuncture is based on the idea that qi and xue flow through the body in channels called meridians; each organ system has its own set of channels. An acupuncturist inserts very thin needles into defined acupuncture points on the body to stimulate the flow of blocked qi. Needles are left in place for several minutes, and usually treatments are repeated over a period of time. Some people require only a few treatments, while others may continue acupuncture for months. Although acupuncture may sound painful, most people report minimal or no discomfort; some feel tingling, warmth, or numbness. Many find acupuncture treatments highly relaxing. Acupuncture is particularly effective for

H E A L T H

relieving pain, decreasing fatigue, and overcoming addictions. Clinical trials have shown that acupuncture can reduce liver enzyme levels, and many people with HCV report that it relieves symptoms and improves their overall sense of well-being. To prevent the spread of blood-borne infections, needles used for acupuncture should be properly sterilized; most practitioners today use disposable needles. Acupressure works similarly to acupuncture, but points are stimulated with finger pressure rather than with needles.

Chinese herbalists typically use various herbs together to enhance their actions. Whole herbs may be used to make teas, and many processed formulations are available. These include tonic or strengthening formulas, regulating or decongesting formulas, and purging formulas. For example, a formula called xiao chai hu tang (containing bupleurum and other herbs) is used to reduce liver heat. Studies done in China suggest that bupleurum can help lower liver enzyme levels, repair liver damage, and reduce hepatitis symptoms in people with HCV. However, bupleurum formulas have been associated with serious side effects in people taking the herb with interferon. Schisandra (also known as wu wei zi) is another herb traditionally used in Chinese medicine to treat liver conditions.

Chinese dietary therapy is used to restore bodily balance. For example, cooling foods are generally recommended for people with excess heat conditions, and warming foods are prescribed for people with cold conditions. Often Chinese medicine practitioners use dietary therapy to prevent severe symptoms by correcting minor problems (such as deficient or stagnant qi) at early stages. In fact, prevention is such an important concept in traditional Chinese medicine that in the past wealthy Chinese paid their doctor as long as they stayed well, and stopped paying him if they became ill.

Moxibustion involves applying heat to different areas of the body by burning the herb moxa (also known as mugwort). T'ai chi and qigong combine aspects of both exercise and meditation to promote the healthy flow of qi. These gentle, non-strenuous, low-impact exercises that are good for people experiencing fatigue or muscle and joint pain.

Traditional Chinese medicine has a long history and is used widely in large parts of the world. Many Western health-care providers are not very familiar with TCM, but – despite the shortage of Western-style controlled clinical trials -- are increasingly open-minded about its benefits. Many people use Chinese medicine as a complementary therapy along with conventional treatments. TCM tends to be beneficial for chronic, long-term conditions such as pain and fatigue, and is useful for relieving many of the side-effects of pharmaceutical treatments. People interested in Chinese medicine should contact a knowledgeable and experienced practitioner, and should tell their Western medicine doctor about any alternative or complimentary therapies they are using or considering.

Sources:

Misha Ruth Cohen, Robert Gish, and Kalia Doner. *The Hepatitis C Help Book: A Groundbreaking Treatment Program Combining Western and Eastern Medicine for Maximum Wellness and Healing*. St. Martin's Griffin, New York. 2000.

Understanding Chinese Medicine. Health World Online.

www.healthy.net/clinic/therapy/Chinmed/specifics/underst.asp

<<http://www.healthy.net/clinic/therapy/Chinmed/specifics/underst.asp>>.

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H E A L T H

MyDiabetes

part of the MyHealthyLife Network

Submitted by: Steve Morey, Association Advocate

Dear MyDiabetes Member:

This month sign in to learn:

- How having a chronic disease often increases your chances of developing depression
- How to protect your eyes from winter hazards
- What questions to ask your healthcare provider about your antidiabetic
- How keeping your hemoglobin A1c level low will help you stay healthy
- About a resource guide that provides dozens of practical tips to help you live with your diabetes

Visit <http://www.mydiabetes.com> to read the full text of these articles.**Ask the Specialist**

Denise De Angelis, RN, MSN, NP-C, CNS-C, a certified adult nurse practitioner and psychiatric clinical nurse specialist, will answer you questions about the emotional impact of chronic disease.

Sign in at <http://www.mydiabetes.com> to send her your questions.**How We Can Help**

Did you know that you can print your diaries, graphs, and reports and share them with your healthcare provider?

Sign in at <http://www.mydiabetes.com> and choose the Diary, Graphs, or Reports tab.**MyLife Story**

"Hi, my name is Julie. Over 30 years ago, when I was 10 years old, I was diagnosed with diabetes. Since then, I have tried to have a positive attitude, facing the challenges of each new day and doing my best."

Sign in at <http://www.mydiabetes.com> to read Julie's story.**Contact Us**

If you have any questions about the site or suggestions for new features, e-mail us at mydiabetes@pdhi.com.

If you do not wish to continue receiving e-mail newsletters from mydiabetes.com, sign in, go to the Profile tab, and choose Preferences.

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Emotional memorial service proves Rangers are people, too

By Tom Barton Savannah Morning News

Last Thursday, on a glorious spring morning in Savannah that was made for skipping work for the beach -- or, just walking out the nearest door and savoring life -- they came to honor the dead.

The Rangers from 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment from Hunter Army Airfield filed into the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist and filled most of the pews, washing this splendidly colorful holy place in a sea of Army green. Most sat ramrod straight. Expressions were stoic.

But the eyes were the giveaway. As they always are.

The extra moisture, if not tears, that dampened the faces of some of America's toughest warriors were among the most sincere and eloquent expressions of remembrance and respect for three comrades killed in combat far from home:

Sgt. Bradley Crose, Spc. Marc Anderson and Cpl. Matthew Commons.

They say that the rituals that follow any death, military or civilian, are for the living. Not the dead. Funerals, wakes, memorial services and similar ceremonies help provide a comforting -- and needed -- bridge between a person's life and the memory of that life after death. Ideally, the survivors are better able to cope. And soldier on.

There was never any question that the mother church of the Catholic Diocese of Savannah would be filled to standing room only by 9:30 a.m., when the Rangers said goodbye to three of their own. It's also a matter of duty and pride. They never abandon a fallen comrade. That goes for the spirit as well as the body.

The gleaming, twin-spired cathedral, trimmed in bunting in the Ranger colors of black and gold, has seen its share of send-offs. The lives of statesmen and near-saints have been celebrated and honored here through the decades. And, to be honest, so have the lives of a few scalawags and ne'-er-do-wells.

But last Thursday was a day for the brave.

The memorial service for the fallen Rangers, who were killed March 4 in Afghanistan while trying to rescue a Navy SEAL, helped provide closure for those who knew or served with the three men. It gave them a chance to pay their respects to the families who lost sons -- and possibly ease the personal burdens that survivors can drag around like anchors.

Rangers may be volunteers who are fully aware of the risks they assume in this elite unit. They are expected to "move farther, faster and fight harder than any other soldier," according to the Ranger Creed. They have to learn how to make ice water flow through their veins when the action gets hot.

Rangers are highly trained, which lowers the odds in their favor in a fire fight. But they also know



1st BN Memorial Service - Savannah, GA.



families, loves, fears, hopes and dreams. They laugh. They cry.

Most Savannahians probably know the Rangers by what they see of them in the community. They cheer the ones who march in tight formation in the streets in every St. Patrick's Day Parade, occasionally planting a kiss on a cheek. They spot them at the mall, or a restaurant or down on the waterfront, doing what young people normally do. Indeed, they can't hide. Their distinctive, scalp-baring haircuts make them stand out like lighthouse beacons at midnight.

But do Savannahians really know them? Probably not.

However, after seeing how this band of brothers bid farewell to three Rangers last week, Savannah should understand and appreciate them a little better. And, be reassured that Rangers are leading the way.

Inside the cavernous house of God, in front of an overflow assemblage of about 1,100 souls, stood three rifles. Each was adorned by a helmet, a visible reminder of what brought everyone there.

Finally, the tough part came -- a final roll call.

"Sergeant Crose," barked a first sergeant from the back of the cathedral. He was greeted by deafening silence.

"Sergeant Bradley Crose," he repeated. More dead air.



"Sergeant Bradely S. Crose," he bellowed. A pin could be heard hitting the marble floor, like a cannon shot, had someone dropped one. "Ranger Crose," he said, "killed in action, 4 March, during operation Enduring Freedom."

Then came the names Anderson and Commons, followed by a 21-shot salute by an outdoor rifle team, the playing of "Taps" and the recitation of the Ranger Creed.

They say that big boys don't cry. But some big men did. And bully for them. Because the heat of battle isn't the only thing that tempers the heart of true warriors. So does a tear.

Tom Barton is the editorial page editor of the Morning News. His e-mail is tbarton@savannahnow.com.



Dear All,

We attended the funeral of Ranger Bradley Crose yesterday. It was without a doubt one of the most moving tributes I have ever been privy to for an American hero.

Over 1000 people were in attendance. Brads Mom Sheila and stepdad John as well as his dad Rick, stepmom Diane, brother Aaron and step sister Hannah were a model of courage, love and mostly faith. They are all sure where Brad is and that God has an important mission in store him.

His buddies in Afghanistan that couldn't make it back sent emails to the family that were read at the service. One told them how he had always been told when you see a hawk flying over head it was sent to watch over you. He said he was high up a mountain ridge when he heard about Brad being killed. It was shortly after that he saw 2 hawks 1 small one and a big one flying overhead. He said he looked up and said I see you Ranger buddy, you will always be near by. The service ended with Lee Greenwoods Proud to be an American. While that was song, the over head screen flashed pictures of all the people that died in the mission and ended with Brads.



**Sandy Rouse - Gold Star
Mother Advocate**

The drive from the church to the cemetery was about 10 miles and took almost 45 minutes. For 10 miles the side walks and in the medians were lined with veterans, school kids, military, policemen, firemen with fire truck ladders extended, and everyday people all waving American flags, hands over their hearts, heads bowed tears running down their faces in salute to this fallen warrior. The Rangers were there in full force, cars full, trucks, the familiar blue military buses. Between Ranger Crose funeral here in Jacksonville, Ranger Andersons' in St. Petersburg, FL and Ranger Commons funeral in Arlington I doubt there was anyone at 1st Bat yesterday.

We were able to attend both visitations. On Sunday we left home at 8 AM drove to St. Petersburg for Ranger Anderson's visitation in the afternoon and then drove back home and were able to be at Ranger Crose visitation Sunday evening. People said you drove 550 miles in one day just to be at here. I said well, they flew 40 hours to a foreign country and died for me it's the least we could do.

Ranger Andersons parents, Judy & David Anderson are the dearest people. They are originally from Alliance Ohio and that's where Marc was raised. They only moved to Jacksonville 3 years ago. Marc was the youngest of 3 boys. This family has had more than their share recently. Their middle son Steven was diagnosed with colon cancer last fall and given less than a year to live. He has a brand new baby daughter and swears he will walk her down the aisle. Brandon our son, in the National Guard in Columbus, Ohio told me Marc's story has been all over the news. They are naming the new Gym that is under construction at Alliance high school after Marc. His Parents have, like the Crose family been overwhelmed at the outpouring of love and support.



**Sandy Harris - Gold Star
Wife Advocate**

I have been privileged to talk with and provide support for these families over the last week since their Rangers were killed. Knowing that we have been where they are walking now has seemed to make a difference to them. I will continue to keep in touch with them and hope to form a lasting friendship with all of them. The hardest part for me is when Sheila or Judy say how long does the pain last Sandee? When does the hurting stop? It is then when it is deja-vous. Their pain is so real for me. I am glad God has given me the opportunity to help these families.

Well, gang that's what's been going on here. Will write more later. God Bless and love to each of you.

Sandee Rouse
75th Ranger Regiment Association
Gold Star Mother Advocate

February 28, 2002 Fort Benning GA 3rd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment, Operation Enduring Freedom Dedication Ceremony for Kristofor T Stonesifer

Written by and presented by Ruth Stonsifer:

If my son Kris were here with us today, he would not understand all the fuss being made over him. He would be amused and bewildered that so much attention was being made about his life and death. He would understand and respect our need to pause and pay tribute to fallen Rangers; however, he would not define his death as a sacrifice for his country. It was just 'another day' for him; to do the best job he could and protect his fellow Rangers to the best of his ability.

Kris's buddies have told me he was where he wanted to be, doing what he wanted to do. Long before Kris became a Ranger, he wrote in his journal 'People take questions like "What is worth doing?" Far too superficially.' On another occasion he wrote to his aunt disagreeing with her statement "one's death has little to do with how one should live." Kris countered with the argument, "If it is worth doing with only two weeks to live then it's probably worth doing the rest of your life. One needs to find something worth doing in the face of death, which is not easily done."

Friends have written to me saying he died for his country. This may be true, but I believe that Kris died for what he valued most, Friendship and Truth.

Kris wrote in his journal: "Love of friends, that is the noble love." On Truth he wrote: "I want to be happy in truth or miserable in truth. But either way I want the truth, the phenomena that comes with it, is beside the point. Truth no matter how beautiful or how ugly."

After the terrible events of September 11th came crashing down on America, I numbly went to work that evening. There was an uneasy quiet everywhere. The parking lot was practical empty and the American flag at half-staff. My boss knew that both my sons were in the Army and inquired about them. I felt an immense pride when I responded about their service in the military. I said that my youngest son was a Ranger and would probably be one of the first to 'go in.' I naively did not think it possible that he could be killed.

It was not a smooth journey that took Kris from his struggles in life to his death in a foreign land. He was a little older when he finally enlisted in the Army. For ten years in my letters to friends, I would report on Kris's return to some type of university philosophy study. This was just one of those things he did every now and then, probably to tease us into thinking he was joining the establishment. He and I had a standing joke that our favorite Star Trek characters the "Borg" were just imitating Kris' reluctance to join society. "You will be assimilated, it is futile to resist." What a giggle that line of dialogue would produce from both of us, as he strove to find his purpose in life.

Kris's private educational journey took him to the Tom Brown, JR Tracker School in NJ where he met members of the "Special Forces" who were attending just for fun. Tom was also affected directly by the September 11 tragic events. His brother in law was the co-pilot of the second plane to strike the World Trade Towers.

Kris read all of Tom's books and took many of the scout classes, which were weeklong intensive training in everything related to living off the land with just your knowledge and the ability to create your own tools. He learned to make fire several different ways, build protection from the elements using existing materials and to forage for food. Kris put these skills to the test on numerous treks into the Montana wilderness. Kris toyed with the idea of going into the backcountry with just a knife and living for several years. I thought that I might not see him again if he disappeared into the wilderness, so I made him promise to call me each year on his birthday. Somehow he would have figured out how to do that.

Just before he join the ultimate establishment, the Army, he wrote in his journal: "Often times I'll look at the bookshelves looking for some book that isn't there, some book that has the next step. I'm sure my sub-conscience is telling me something, what I don't know. Somehow I feel now I must swirl my past with my present, and good ideas and thoughts, good influences. I have a direction. I understand at least at this point my life, isn't to live fully primitive in the woods. I must live in both worlds. I can do that happily there are good things in society and good things to learn,

enlightenment will be to straddle both worlds."

Kris came into his own by becoming a Ranger. Thanks in part to a zany group of friends who took him into their own intensive weekend training program. Kris enjoyed these specialized ops with the guys. Of course Kris shared with his friends some much-needed skills from his own manual like: free beer maneuvers, hot tub incursions, and the great dolly launch. What was not to like about this guy who would amuse himself and his passengers by his absurd challenge to drag race the muscle cars at a stop light in his four door Saturn?

Kris was a shy and unassuming person with a smile that would light up the room, dimples that would melt a girl's heart, and a twinkle in his eye that always gave way to one of the brightest giggles. He listened more than he spoke and enjoyed verbal debate. It did not matter which side he took. When you finally saw merit in his arguments, he would laugh and say that your opinions were right all along. You never heard him complain about anything including the MRE meals. That must stem from eating a lot of pine bark soup in the wilderness.

He was proud to be a Ranger. I asked him if he wanted me to write letter to the 'powers that be' over the Black Beret controversy. He said he did not care what color he wore on his head. He knew that he was a Ranger and that did not depend on any particular color. He just wanted the rest of the Army to wear it correctly!

My lifetime experience has been especially blessed by two gifts, my sons. I was lucky; my mission in life was handed to me with each child I bore. I signed a 'mother's contract' at each son's birth, it even had a clause that I was permitted to worry about them. Kris's goal to become a Ranger was awesome to behold and really scary for a mother to accept; however, my contract also had a 'support their decision' clause.

Most of you have that same contract with your mothers. That is why you are here defending the Freedom that American cherishes even more after September 11th. I have to agree with Lieutenant Colonel Banach when he described the Ranger establishment to me as a National Treasure. After meeting the Rangers Kris called his friends, I have come to the conclusion that I would rather have the respect of just one Ranger than the sympathy of the entire nation.

When my son was killed, I believed that his job as a Ranger was so much more important than mine. I wanted to pick up 'his gauntlet' and rush to my Army Recruiter and join up. Kris would have had such a giggle over that vision. Luckily I came to my senses and realized that my original job of being a mom was my best mission. My job has been slightly modified to include being the best Grandmother I can be for Camrin, Dereck and baby Kristofor. I am blessed again to continue a mission that I love. Children are our brightest hope.

Kris wrote us a last letter. In it he said, *"I don't know if you'll ever get an explanation of how or why I died. I'd like to think I died for something important or vital to the mission here. But I don't think it is. It's just a 'gravy' mission and I fully expect to come back without firing a shot. So if you are reading this something went horribly wrong or it was just a bad luck Murphy's Law type fluke. All of you are in my thoughts. I've had a good life and I'm happy to have spent it with all of you. Love Kris"*

I must respectfully disagree my son's assessment of his mission. I agree with our President who said my son did not die in vain, even if it is just means that this one mother refuses to live in fear.

Kris knew how much I enjoyed being a mom. One Christmas I received a most treasured note, he wrote: *"Dear Mom, on a day when gifts are exchanged in a dazzle of mediocrity and meaninglessness. You have given me an authentic gift, by being a Mother true. That I thank you for. Love Kris."*

Total strangers have written me that my son Kris is an American hero. I prefer to describe Kris in much loftier terms—Dear Kris, during your lifetime, you gave me an authentic gift, by being a true loving son. That makes me very proud and very humble. I thank you for that gift. Love Mom.

Ruth Voshell Stonesifer



In the war on terrorism as well as in any armed conflict there is always the possibility of losing men. We lost two men in a tragic helicopter crash that needlessly took them from our presence. We lost another three to ground fire since then. We had made arrangements for Association members to attend all three memorials and funerals. Just prior to the funerals, a 1SG called me from 1/75 and asked for help. It seems that several additional Rangers were wounded or hurt during that ground conflict and all refused to leave their buddies but one was hurt severely and was forced to be sent to Walter Reed Army Hospital near Washington DC. The 1SG was asking for help in sending the man's wife from Savannah up to Walter Reed so she could be with him. He was a young Sp-4 and they did not have the funds for her to travel or for lodging. I got in touch with our Gold Star Mother Sandee Rouse and she was able to obtain three nights free at a very nice Hotel in the DC area. By the time we had notified the 1SG he had already obtained a room for her in the guest-house in Walter Reed. So much the better. The round trip plane ticket was \$171 and they were having difficulty coming up with these funds. I ended this problem by writing an Association check for \$250 and sending it to him. This is what we are all about ladies and gentlemen. Helping out our fellow brothers (and wives) in time of need. Attached in this issue is a 'Thank You' letter from this wife. It needed to be shared with you members. You deserve to be 'Thanked' for what you did and who you are. This Association is constantly breaking new ground in doing the right thing, the honorable thing and just down right noble. I am very proud to stand amongst your number.

Emmett W. Hiltibrand - President
75th Ranger Regiment Association

Susan & Aaron Lancaster

75th Ranger Regiment Association
Emmet Hiltibrand
6459 Adams Park Drive
Columbus, Georgia 31909

Dear Mr. Hiltibrand:

It is hard to put into words Aaron and I's appreciation to you, and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association for your kindness and assistance during our troubling time. It would not have been possible for me to travel to Walter Reed Hospital to be with Aaron without the assistance of the association. I understand the association was started for such a mission, and it is with much contentment that I inform you, it works. Once again we thank you for everything.

If we can ever be of any assistance to you or the association, please do not hesitate to ask for same.

Yours truly

Susan Lancaster
Susan Lancaster

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VIET NAM AND HOLLYWOOD

(The author served with the 4th Infantry Division in Viet Nam as a Ranger, Artilleryman, Infantryman, and Combat Engineer. He is creator of "The Viet Nam War Veterans Oral History Project.")

"The History of War is written by the Victor." This is so true it is a cliché.

Hollywood has produced such clichéd Viet Nam War movies as "Platoon," "Born on the 4th of July," "Full Metal Jacket," and "Casualties of War," these being perhaps the most (in)famous in that genre of LA LA land film. As they meet the standard of "perspective from the victor's" point of view some of these films are favorites in Hanoi.

Hollywood deposits soldiers of my era on the screen and animates them, but they are as unreal as so many Frankenstein's. Earlier generations of war films had characters played by John Wayne, Richard Widmark, Robert Mitchum, Lee Marvin, and Robert Taylor. They portrayed soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen who were real, or at least believable. Many were portrayed heroically.

We got 'Forrest Gump' and a litany of other screwball characters the likes of which I never saw in the Army. Gump, a half-wit, at least isn't evil like the bizarre character in 'Full Metal Jacket' who murdered his DI, or the character played by Sean Penn in 'Casualties of War' who raped and then murdered, in a scene of prolonged vicious and brutal agony, a young Vietnamese woman with a Marine issue K-BAR knife.

America also had to endure the tap-dance of murders, atrocities, toxic sergeants, incompetent officers, and confused soldiers in 'Platoon' (Best Picture Oscar 1986). This film is a sumptuous feast for haters of all things 'Viet Nam.'

Perhaps because American soldiers were portrayed as oppressors in 'Platoon,' few people were outraged at the Nazi Battle Flag flown on an American Tank after the big battle scene. This movie so completely degrades the American soldier that a member of the Vietnamese Politboro, Bui Tinh, openly praised it. Comrade Tinh was a North Vietnamese Army General Staff officer during the war. They use it, he said, to teach young Vietnamese about the American's "Imperialist" war.

80% of 'The Deer Hunter' had nothing to do with Viet Nam. That which did was so implausible it's a wonder anyone went to see it, but America was hungry for Viet Nam War movies and almost every single movie about that subject achieved either critical acclaim (undeserved) or box office success, including 'Deer Hunter.' The main character in "Deer Hunter," played by Robert Deniro, exhibits psychotic and antisocial behavior by stripping his clothes off in public and parading naked right down Main Street – behavior that would rightly get anyone arrested and taken away for psychiatric evaluation. 'Deer Hunter' won two Oscars, Best Picture and Best Director (1978).

In Jane Fonda's anti-veteran film, "Coming Home," another psychotic episode unfolds as her Navy officer husband, just returned from Viet Nam also strips buck naked in public. We see him fully nude, babbling as he strolls nonchalantly into the waves and commits suicide in the Pacific Ocean. His part is played by actor and antiwar activist, Bruce Dern.

Jane Fonda won an Oscar for her performance in 'Coming Home' (1978), and she is as guilty of treason as OJ is of murder and everybody knows it.

Conceivably Fonda and her Hollywood friends, like Dern, Donald Sutherland, Peter Boyle, and other "celebrities" who visited Hanoi during the War wish a similar fate for all Viet Nam War veterans. Figuratively, Hollywood has done just that: The films made about the Vietnam War may as well have turned veterans and their history into a gas and released it into the stratosphere.

Fonda and Deniro came to my home state of Connecticut in 1988 to make a film about an illiterate, dysfunctional (surprise) truck-driving Viet Nam Veteran. She was met here with protests that were global in scope. But Fonda's

advance team had prepared for these protests and made deals with some of the local vets (shame on them) to whom she could make her 'apology.' When I exposed this, I was physically attacked in a VFW hall in Naugatuck, Connecticut. This incident was widely covered in the press. I was not invited to the session where she 'apologized.'

This 'apology' was played sympathetically by Barbara Walters on ABC. Apart from Walters' own palsied and not very unique left sided media bias, she served up softballs to Fonda and allowed her to put a soft face on treason. It is not widely known that Walters' husband's company, 'Lorimar Productions,' produces and markets Fonda's workout tapes...cozy arrangement.

On the screen battlefield, American soldiers in Viet Nam are habitually portrayed by Hollywood filmmakers as making war on civilians (Platoon, Casualties of War, Full Metal Jacket, Born on the 4th of July) and running from the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army.

In "We were Soldiers once and Young," a departure from thirty or more years of humiliation by Hollywood, the Viet Nam Soldier is finally, and too late, portrayed as a soldier, standing up in battle, and meeting an armed enemy that has shown himself quite capable of making war on civilians and living by 'atrocities.' Of course, I am referring to the communists, who first and foremost make war on their own civilian populations to advance 'the revolution,' as they did in Viet Nam long before any American soldier jumped out of a helicopter there.

In, "Apocalypse Now," (two Oscars, 1979) another surrealistic and bizarre film about Viet Nam, a shaved bald and very fat Marlon Brando (Marlon Brando?) portrays a Special Forces Colonel. Martin Sheen, the Anti-war diplomat himself, is the hero who emerges from a murky jungle river, knife in his teeth, to cut Brando's throat. What was the point of 'Apocalypse Now?' Except that one American soldier kills another, I never did see the point of it.

In "Born on the 4th of July," viewers are subject to the usual hype of war crimes and atrocities, this time committed by American Marines who cut and run from the VC in a battle - Marines running away? Later in the film, the spectacle of wheelchair-bound veterans spitting all over each other is another twisted, uniquely Hollywood metaphor on the American soldier: "We spit on you..."

Even in films which were not overtly about Vietnam, this disgraceful treatment persists to the point of being nearly universal. The promotional press release for a 1969 movie by legendary Hollywood filmmaker, Sam Peckinpah, 'The Wild Bunch,' states:

"The 'Bunch' also represents contemporary American soldiers in the late 60's, out of place in the jungles of Vietnam, unchanged men in a changing land, out of step, out of place and desperately out of time. Suddenly it was sundown...suddenly their day was over...The 'Bunch' is a gang of desperadoes, criminals assaulted in the film's opening ambush and then brutally destroyed in the film's conclusion."

Another colorful series of Hollywood metaphors, this time overt.

Oscar Wilde, a literary figure of the 19th Century, said that when art develops a purpose it becomes propaganda. This is as good an observation as any that can be made for the Vietnam War genre in American film.

PBS' Vietnam: A Television History," is a masterpiece of propaganda, carefully edited and with sounds like gunshots and flies buzzing around corpses added for effect. Watching this tedious 13 hour 'documentary' will convince anyone that Viet Nam was a hopeless and ill conceived venture criminal in its execution. I would agree with that, but for very different reasons as those alluded in this 'documentary.'

The best and most complete criticism of PBS' "Vietnam: A Television History," was done by Reed Irvine's Accuracy In Media, a Washington based think tank dedicated to exposing the major media shortcomings. AIM has also done a great deal of reporting on the film industry's portrayal of the Vietnam War and they have good archives.

Contemporaneous with PBS' "Television History," PBS produced and released, "Frank, A Vietnam Veteran." 'Frank' is an alcoholic drug addicted crying slob who 'became' a homosexual because he 'could not find love' after Vietnam.

Does anyone see a pattern here?

'Hanoi Hilton,' a film by Lionel Chetwynd, was released in 1987 (same year as Platoon). It is set in Hoa Lo prison, Hanoi, from 1964-73. Chetwynd stated that his purpose in making the film was "to pay tribute to their [POWs] sacrifice." The loneliness of isolated confinement, lack of food, beatings, and the torture with ropes, clubs, electric shock and whips, and psychological torture.

In 'Hanoi Hilton,' The Vietnamese commander of the Prison camp remarks, "The real war is in Berkeley, California, Washington, D.C., and in the cities of America, and what we do not win on the battlefield, your journalists will win for us on your very own doorstep."

One scene in this film exposes Cora Weiss, another true life American traitor who was an agent of the North Vietnamese Army in their use of psychological warfare against the POW's, their families, and against America. The segment ends by her hugging the Vietnamese commander and thanking him for his efforts.

Weiss openly declared herself not a pacifist, led a group in the 60's that tried to force American POW families to make pro communist propaganda in exchange for contact with their family members being held in Hanoi. Though desperate for contact with their loved ones, not one family accepted Cora Weiss' tainted offers.

Largely assailed by the nation's movie critics, Hanoi Hilton was well received by the men and women of the American armed forces and the prisoners whose story he told. Chetwynd wrote and directed the film as a personal statement. It took him ten years to make the film in the U. S. because Hollywood had other notions of how it wanted to portray the Vietnam War and the soldiers who fought in it. (The Left engages in blacklisting, too...)

The impact Hollywood has had on shaping American opinion of the Vietnam War and the veteran cannot be downplayed. It is significant, corrosive, beyond truth, hallucinatory, anti-war, anti-veteran, anti-American, shameful, insulting, and not accidental.

List of Vietnam War genre Films:

317th Platoon, The
365 Days
Anderson Platoon, The
Apocalypse Now
Battle of Dien Bien Phu, The
Bloods of 'Nam
Born on the 4th of July
Casualties of War
Coming Home
Dear America
Deer Hunter
Dogfight
Face of War, A
First Blood
First Vietnam War 1946-1954
Forrest Gump
Full Metal Jacket
Gardens of Stone
Go Tell The Spartans
Good Morning Vietnam
Green Berets
Hamburger Hill
Hearts and Minds
Heaven and Earth
In Country
Interviews With My-Lai Veterans

Jacob's Ladder
JFK
Killing Fields, The
Medal of Honor Rag
Nixon
Peoples' Century: Guerrilla Wars: Cuba, Vietnam and Afghanistan.
Platoon
Scent of Green Papaya
Some Kind of Hero
Streamers
Television's Vietnam: The Real Story
Television's Vietnam: The Real Story
The War At Home
Vietnam Reconsidered
Vietnam: A Television History
Vietnam: Chronicle of A War
Vietnam: In The Year of the Pig
Vietnam: In The Year of the Pig
Vietnam: Red Hot War
Vietnam: The 10,000 Day War
War At Home, The
Who'll Stop The Rain
Why Vietnam
Why Vietnam
World of Charlie Company

John Puzzo

BEST RANGER COMPETITION

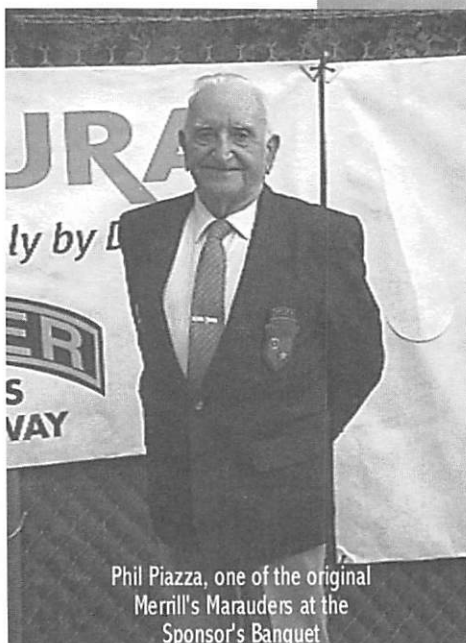
By: John Chester

The 20th Best Ranger Competition was held at Ft. Benning, GA, From 26 to 29 April, 2002. One of the most demanding athletic events in the world, the 2 day event is open to two man teams that contain individuals that are both Airborne and Ranger qualified throughout the Army. Indeed, it is considered quite prestigious to even be the best qualifying team from a major unit.

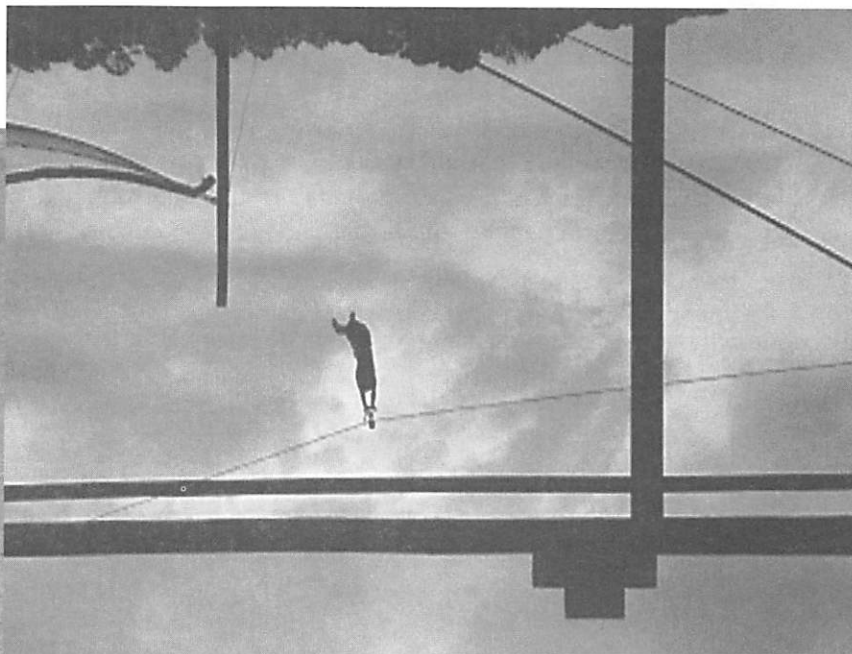
This year saw 47 teams entering. Twelve teams finished the entire course, a feat in itself. The competition consists of a course of 29 military tasks that involve moving, shooting and communicating contained within 15 events. The competition lasts 60 continuous hours and contestants who finish the entire course will cover 60 miles on foot. There is no programmed sleep and the events continue around the clock. The foot march, orienteering and night Ranger stakes are conducted at night.

Interestingly enough, there is no Government funding for any part of the competition. The entire competition is supported solely by corporate sponsorship. All the awards are either donated or contributed directly by the above sponsors.

This year's winners were SSG Jenkins and CPT Patin of the 5th Ranger Training Battalion. A brother team, CPT Vanantwerp and 1LT Vanantwerp, secured second place from the 25th Infantry Division. I left Ft Benning impressed with the level of readiness that these men had achieved, and with a firm resolve to get back in shape.



Victory Pond



Victory Pond



Helocast at Victory Pond



Darby Queen

RECAP OF JULY, 2000 THROUGH JULY, 2002

By: John Chester

The last two years have seen a great deal of activity by and on behalf of your Association. I am going to refrain from naming names and individually thanking individual people because I will almost certainly leave someone out, and even though it would be unintentional, I would still feel bad. My memory is not what it used to be. Even if I write it down, half the time I forget what I did with the note.

Almost from day one we became embroiled in the Black Beret issue. That seemed to drag on for 6 months or longer, it was sorta like Vietnam, you knew you were going to loose, but the only honorable thing to do was to fight on. The road march to Washington, D.C. may have been the high (or low, depending on perspective) point of the struggle. When it was more than apparent that the entire army was going to get the Black Beret, we did the prudent thing and moved on, knowing that we took the high road. No one ever won a battle by falling on their sword. We go to Ft Meade to use the commissary & the PX. One thing the CSA did prove: A fat, pot bellied, leg REMF Warrant Officer in a black beret is still a fat, pot bellied, leg REMF Warrant Officer.

The Christmas funds, both this and last year, were a huge success. We were able to reach out to our brothers in the Regiment and to demonstrate that they are not alone. One of the original reasons that the Association was formed was to benefit the Ranger community at large. It made no difference if someone was a LRRP, LRP, VN era Ranger, or later, we all pitched in together.

After the horror of 9/11/2001 receded a bit, we began procuring bricks at the Ranger Memorial for those killed in Afghanistan, took steps to assure that an Association representative was present at all Memorial Services and Funerals, and had the KIA's names added to the SOCOM Memorial at McDill AFB in Florida. There was Gold Star Mother or Wife recognition extended to the wives and mothers of the above. A letter writing campaign was initiated to the Rangers in Afghanistan, and boxes of reading materials sent to them as well, (novels, comic books and Patrolling Magazine).

Financially, we have provided support to the Rangers on active duty: We contribute \$250.00 to each Battalion to offset cost of their Ranger Ball, as well as have representatives at each Ball; paid for an entire squad from 1/1/C-3/75 to attend the Korean Ranger Ball; provided laser engraved knives as momento's of the experience; we make a nominal contribution to the Best Ranger competition. We also provided the means for a young woman whose husband was wounded in Afghanistan to travel to Walter Reed Hospital in order to be with him. We provide Regimental Soldier of the Year awards, NCO of the Year awards, and the Honor Graduate RIP Award.

We also have representative to attend all RIP Graduations, Change of Command Ceremonies at the Regimental and Battalion level, attend Ranger School class graduations and assist the family readiness group. A Gold Star Mother and Gold Star Wife Advocacy was established and is actively seeking those who have lost sons and husbands in combat and training accidents. Your Association has also become a major sponsor of the Special Operations Memorial, along with Special Forces, Navy Seals and the Air Force Special Operations. Some of our units have seen to it that their KIA's from the Vietnam era are enshrined on the Memorial.

Of course, one of the major accomplishments was the complete re-write of the Association Bylaws. As everyone knows, getting a bunch of (mostly) older and testier LRRP'S, LRP'S and Rangers to agree on anything is kinda like herding cats. It was accomplished, however and we have a new set of bylaws to vote on in July at the Reunion.

The number of appointed positions was increased. This greatly eases the burdens on the elected officers and admits expertise other than theirs to address problems and situations that confront the Association. A Gold Star Mother and Gold Star Wife Position were established. This greatly facilitates the search and recognition mothers and wives who have lost a Ranger. Two Ranger Advocate Positions were created to deal with health issues and other issues that affect the Ranger Community, both young and old. We now have two legal advocates, both lawyers, (don't tell my mother I'm one of them, she thinks I'm a male prostitute). We now have a means to review any short-term agreements and to offer informal advice and opinions on legal issues.

By the time of the reunion, we will have coins, Tee shirts (reunion) and bumper stickers whose design belongs to the Association. We will own the artwork and can reproduce the items as we see fit. The designs are finalized and will be available at the reunion. One Tee shirt goes to each registrant, coins and bumper stickers will be available.

In spite of my reluctance to name names, I do need to mention Emmett Hiltibrand. He was the guiding force for most of the above. Some of the ideas were not his, but he gave credit where it was due and his opinion was shared with those who would benefit from it. He was (relatively) easy to work for, decisive when he needed to be and reasonable most of the time. I enjoyed working with you and for you Emmett, take a long vacation after the reunion.

UNIT REPORTS



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

Unit Director - Tom Brizendine



**A/75, Co D/17 LRP, V
Corps LRRP Co, USA
LRRP Co (Abn) 3779**

By Bob Murphy

REFORGER 1973: PARTIES, PARACHUTES & EATING DEAD HORSE

More LRRPs are coming into the perimeter, mostly on the net. Since the last issue they include:

Ron Bishop
Roy H Bissey
Virgil Craft
Bill Fitzpatrick
Robert Johnson
Gary Lyda
Larry Montague
Darryl White

Ron Bishop, Bill Fitzpatrick and Robert Johnson are from the very early days in Wildflecken, Virgil Craft was 1st Plt Sgt in Frankfurt and bashful Roy H Bissey just had to be in while the company was in Texas.

Larry Montague reports that his



buddy, popular Germany-era LRRP Billy Sandlin and his wife were killed in a car accident back in 1972 in Ocala, Florida. Larry was managing Billy's singing career at the time. That's the first I heard of it.

Unit Director Tom Brizendine turned 60 in early May and Charlie Hinkle turned 50 on May 15.

Hans Zaglauer is travelling more after retirement than he did while he was in the Army. He's currently on a 10 week visit to Germany visiting family, drinking proper beer and hunting deer.

Bill and Sandy Bohte have sold their house in the Sacramento area and hit the road in a motorhome to travel around the US.

Sounds like Mark Ross is dividing his time between his van and his boat. It must be like a LRRP Navy with Bill "Seadoggie" Round, Henry "Bone" Egelston and Ranger Nate all having boats berthed in the same area. Pics please, gents. We want to see how the other half lives.

Dale Hansen is getting company baseball caps together for the Ranger Reunion and they sound like a good deal with A Co Ranger scrolls, Ranger Eyes, name tags, wings, and miniature CIBs, EIBs and Ranger tabs for those that earned them. Contact Dale on dhansen@h2ofire.com for more information.

REFORGER

The company returned to Germany in its role as V Corps LRP for the last time during the Reforger FTX in 1973.

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

But its tour of the border area was well south of the company's old haunts around the traditional East-West invasion route through the Fulda Gap.



Clyde Bayless and Mike Cantrell in Germany on Reforger FTX, 1973. Homesick for the 1st Cav, they had to make do with a German horse.

Norm Thomas remembers a house that was on the East German border around Coburg. "We took a little tour of the fence line when we were there and there was a house with the border fence going right through it -- I remember an old woman lived there and if she wanted she could have just climbed out



This is Al Agoneya on the East German border during the Reforger FTX in 1973, the last time the company operated in Germany. Everyone remember the no cameras on or anywhere near the border demand? Heheheheheh

her window and been in West Germany.

Roy Barree recalls that "We were all dumfounded by the fact that in that situation she was so poised".

Norm Thomas recalls while cantrell and others got to play around frankfurt, our team (Sgt Nobles, I think Weir, Bain, Rothrock, and me) drew the short straw and spent a week in the boonies making map corrections and commo checks about a click in from East Germany near a little town called Schweinsaupten, I think, population less than 100.

We came out of the woods on a freezing drizzly sunday morning, and took some cover in a hogshed. A window cracked open across the street and a little towheaded face peaked out, to be joined by another, then the man of the house motioned us over and shared some homemade with us.

The town put us up in an abandoned kindergarten and we went to the annual party to celebrate when they put a clock in the church tower. We stayed there a week, operating out of the town by day and alternating between the two guest houses in town at night. There was an old fellow that had been a prisoner of war at Camp Bullis, Texas. We played soccer with the kids in town, had some home cooked meals, and had a great time. I think another team hooked up with us for the last couple of days.

Sgt Carpenter paid us a visit toward the end of the week; and I made the mistake of coming back to the kindergarten feeling a little too good about 3:00 a.m. and waking up "daddy" to tell him what a

good time we had. He just smiled, told me to go to bed, and at 0500 got a few of us up for a little walk; would never be accurate if I tried to give the distance, but I vividly remember that the hills were alive with the sound of ralph.

When we trucked out of there, half the town showed up to say good bye. I haven't thought about that in a while. Our team never did get to go to any big town, but listened attentively as others told us about crazy sexy. Norm Thomas

"We had a new NCO that came in just before we left, and we were on patrol somewhere and a nice German woman brought us some noodle soup . Our NCO ate so much that it was shameful and when he finished, asked her what it was. Turned out it was HORSE meat and noodles. and that boy didn't have a strong stomach. A little later his boots burnt in a fire. No more field problem for him." Floyd White

"After the fun jump, we started supper by eating first or drinking first, as we lost track of everything.

"I remember about midnight trying to find my rucksack with sleeping bag to find out that all field gear had been moved at least once or twice. Each Platoon had a GP Medium that was turned into part tents somewhere in the middle of eating supper at 0 dark thirty.

Having about 3 tents and 3 different countries involved: American Rangers, French Recon, And German LRRPs, we immediately started drinking each others beer and other spirits and by midnight

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

we had exchanged boots, beret's and anything else we could wear.

So at the morning formation we had to present the Airborne Wings to each other countries, you might say it was a dry run as all of the enlisted wore so many pieces of each others' uniforms, only the officer's were in the right uniform.

Then the ultimate insult as the French commander was presented his American jump wings, he really made fun of them for being so small compared to the French Wings. A riot almost started as we were dismissed.

A few days later we headed back to Fort Hood, as we were supposed to be gone for 8 days and were gone for some 2 or 3 weeks. It was a Reforger to remember." Albert Gonyea

Normandy

CO Captain Norm Carlton took the company to Normandy to represent the US Army Airborne at the 20th

anniversary of the Normandy Invasion.

He recalls, "The Marine Detachment Commander was Marine Commandant General Chesty Puller's Son.

"Just prior to our midnight march at OMAHA Beach, Captain Puller walked up to me and saluted smartly and said, "Skipper, I never thought I would say thisto anyone except to another Marine, but you have the sharpest troops on the beach".

"We always say the Marines are looking for a few good men, I believe the US Army Rangers have found them". My chest got about the size of a GP Large tent. Even though I was marching with a broken leg, sustained jumping at Fritzlar with our sister company FS300, my walk got lighter, and taller, and more determined than ever.

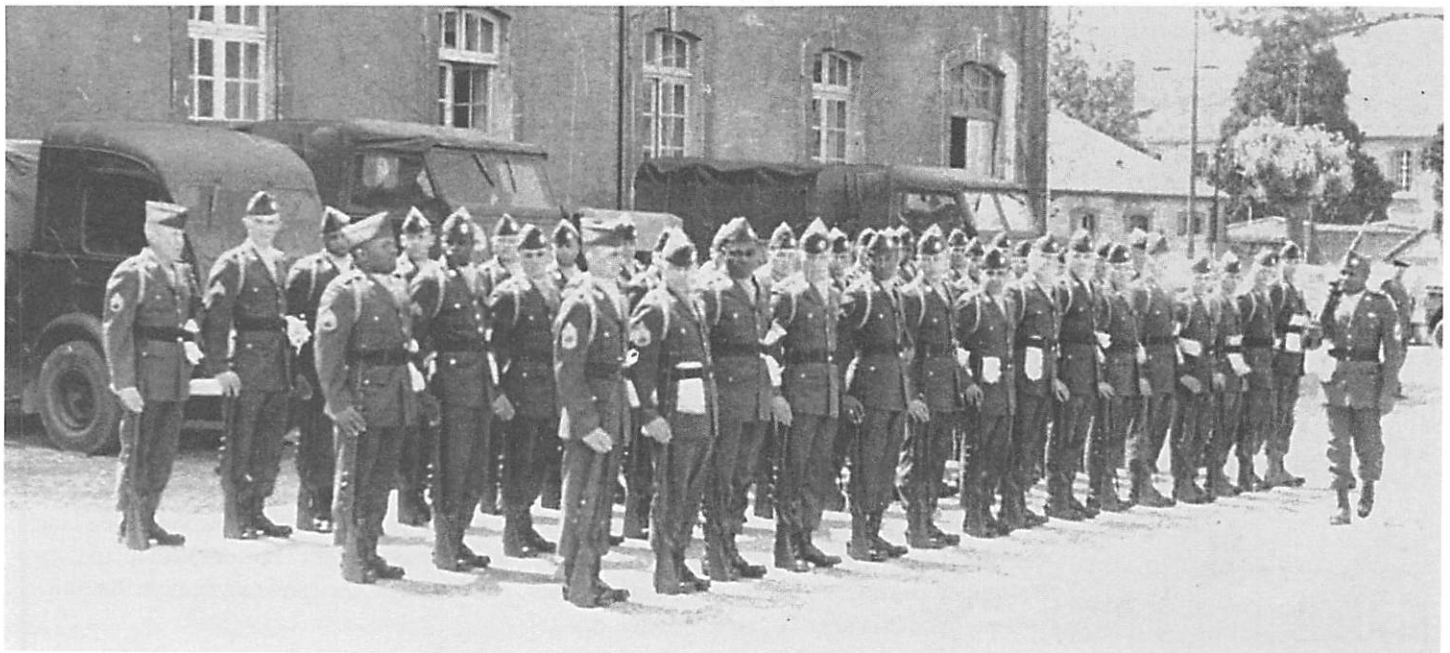
"I was always proud of you all, but never any prouder than on that day. I can truly say I would have gone to Hell and back, right then for

anyone or all of you. Thanks for the memories!" Norm Carlton.

Darrel Mourning of 2nd platoon also remembers, "I got to the company in April of 1964 and went to Normandy for the 20th celebration of D Day. The thing I remember most was the straw mattresses we had to sleep on in the Frog barracks and the bugs that went along with them. Also the parades on the beaches and cemeteries and especially the one down main street in St. Mere Eglise. I still remember the church with the stained glass windows with paratroopers in them. Darrel Mourning

It was 20 years after the invasion that we pulled that Honor Guard in Normandy. It has been almost 40 years since we went there. It will be the 60th anniversary of the invasion on 6 JUN 04

The next unit column will have a look at this company's main fanged critter and legg repellent, Ralph the Rattler. Send us your Ralph the Rattler story on bobmurphy2@compuserve.com.



V Corps LRRPs outside the bedbug infested French barracks in Normandy were they stayed when they pulled Honor Guard at the 20th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion.



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

Unit Director - Stanley Harrell



Joe Chetwynd, our unit leader, asked me to recall something of significance that happened during my tour with LRRPS, well here it goes. I came into LRRPS as a leg from a transportation outfit at head quarters in Stuttgart. I could not stand it there and asked my company commander how I could get a transfer to some other outfit. He said the only way that I could get out was to volunteer to go to this new company called LRRPS and I would have to go airborne once I got there. I said do it and was there in a weeks time.

I had just gotten out of high school where I was a jock type that was heavy into sports. I was in top shape and thought that this Airborne school would be a snap. When I got to Nelligan I was greeted by SGT Arnet, man the look on this guys face was so mean I thought he was going to eat me. They gave me a couple hours to get my gear then I meet some of the Sgts. that were going to give me my pre training. Sgt. Pappy Thomas was one of them and I guess he took a liking to me and took me aside and explained the facts of life of being a Paratrooper and how this was an even more special type outfit. After about three weeks of the pretraining, thousands of PLF's, push ups and endless PT we were off to jump school at Weisbaden AFB. Sgt Hart was sent along with us to make sure we did not screw up; little did I know how important he being with us would be at the end of our school.

The guys I went to jump school with where, Stan Harrell , David Stacy, Peter Brardt (Pete took top of the class honors



Richard (Bluto) Black

of the hundred or so guys that went to this class), Joe Chetwynd, Kenny Swift, Jim Wiesman and myself. When we went to school we all stayed real close to each other and made sure no one fell behind in a run or even thought of dropping out. The class lost about fifteen to twenty guys in the first few days. We all did well in school and after the end of our training and just before our

celebrate. Well, we did celebrate and we were rapidly getting pretty drunk, not really looking for trouble but boy did it come our way. There was about fifty or more AF legs in this club, girls and a band. I guess someone must of said something that the legs did not like and I heard a table go over and the next thing I know some one is pouring beer on me to wake me up, I think that was my class mate Stan Harrell, some leg had hit me from behind with a beer bottle knocking out my two front teeth and putting a gash along the side of my eye. It did not take me to long to figure out that we had a major fight on our hands, Swifty told me to hit anything that moved and we where back to back duking it out. I saw one

of our guys on the floor with two legs on top of him, I pulled one of them off and got the other guy in the balls, and the guy on the bottom got up and grabbed one of those small round tables and just started whacking guys. The next thing I here was some one saying the AP police where coming. The legs started to scatter and so did we. All of our guys went out the front door, but me and Swifty went out the back door. I heard an AP say stop or I will Shoot, Swifty said f--- you, shoot. We just ran like hell and lost the police and made it to our barracks. When we got inside I realized that my two front teeth where gone, I was covered with blood and what a head ache. The next thing I know Sgt. Hart is waking me up at

4am telling me I had to go to medics and get my head sewn up. I found out later the other guys were in the AP jail and Sgt. Hart had got them out. The school commander wanted to boot us all out of school but Sgt. Hart went to bat for us and with him and Top Sgt. Dave Clark, they let us finish our school. The next day we had a twenty five mile run and we all survived it. We still had to make our first jump and Sgt. Hart told me to keep my helmet on and my mouth closed so the jump master would not see my face.

When we got back to Nelligan, First Sgt. Clark was waiting for us and we all thought that we where going to be doing PT till we died. Top said I heard you guys caused a little ruckus at school, with kind of a half smile on his face, he said something like, you dumb

f----s should try for better odds next time. Then he came right up to my face and said you look like hell Black, welcome to Airborne...you will do. Even though I felt like hell I felt good inside. I found out some weeks later that Fatback Hathaway went up to Weisbaden with a few guys on a laundry run and found the guy that got me from behind and settled the score, but that's his story and maybe he will tell it some day.

Rick Black (Bluto)

Faced Death More Than Most

SFC Luse: Legend in His Time

Head and chest injuries brought

Attendees Rites

When Gen Edmundson heard of the fatal accident, he made arrangements to attend the memorial services.

Gen Edmundson, who was guided through Fort Benning's rugged

airborne training course by Sgt Luse in 1988, commented:

"I've never known a soldier with so many outstanding qualifications as Sgt Luse. He had an outstanding record and I think that

On the day Sgt Luse's comrades gathered to pay tribute to him, Gen Edmundson was there, escorting the sergeant's widow, Vivian, and their two children, John

Another tribute to the sergeant came from the Bundeswehr's 1st Airborne Division. Since coming to Germany in late 1982, Sgt Luse

had made many friends with the German paratroopers.

Following the sergeant's death, the Bundeswehr unit presented Mrs. Luse a plaque commemorating the bonds of friendship that

existed between the division and Sgt Luse was pinned beneath it.

When the jeep overturned, caused the vehicle to go into a spin. The pavement, slickened by rain,

stretch of highway near Kromach, by the sergeant along a lonely

riding in a jeep-trailer rig, driven the unit's operations officer, were

He and 1st Lt David B. Tucker, commissance Patrol — was ironic.

Seven Army's Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol — was ironic.

Sgt Luse's death, which came during a mission for his unit —

crossbars, thus stopping his fall. SFC Luse

onto one of the lower's supporting

aged to grab

to 40 feet, he managed to grab

After plunging a distance of 30

through the air. Luse's fall

and his footing and

Luse as he lost

was with John

Lady Luck

jump training

feet parachute

the top of a 250-

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

LRRP REUNION III

July 08th to 12th, 2002

Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Listen up !!!

Time is getting short. If you have not already done so, you need to make your reservations ASAP. The supply of rooms at the **HOLIDAY INN** are going fast. **REMEMBER.** When you call, tell them that you are a 75th RRA member and get the \$69.00 daily rate. You can share a room or not, as you wish. Don't delay! Enclosed is a copy of the **Registration Form** which you need to send to the 75th RRA address, NOT to the VII Corps Association, please.

Dave Clark has recommended that we attend the 75th RRA Banquet, Friday evening, at 1800hrs, on the 12th. You will need to send in your Registration Fee of \$25.00 which entitles you to hospitality room, beverages and bus transport to events you wish to attend. An additional fee of \$20.00 entitles you to dinner at the banquet. Again, you are urged to reply ASAP.

Enclosed is a copy of the Schedule of Events for the 75th RRA. You may wish to join them on any or all of their events, but we "Jay Hawk" Lurps are planning a few of our own, as well. As it stands now, we are planning to have a jump, from a plane in actual flight somewhere about 4,000 feet above the earth, or better, for those hearties who just cannot get it out of their blood. We will be joined by a contingent of seven, so far, "Victory" Corps Lurps who share this primal desire to hurtle through space hoping to fetch up under a queer rectangular canopy of nylon. Yea. Right !!! Tentatively, this is scheduled for Thursday, the 11th with a possible move to Friday. We will know better well before hand. This will be a once (?) in a life time happening, at least. Hope you will join us, either as a participant or as a spectator.

Jim Jackson is heading up a graveside memorial to S/Sgt John "Jack" Luse, who rests eternal at the post cemetery at Fort Benning. Many of you, if not all of you, know or knew about "Jack" Luse. Many of you probably attended his memorial service at the chapel on Nelligen Barracks in November, 1963. As we did for S/Sgt Glenn H. English, Jr, and Sgt John Nunez, and also for Cindy Clark Boyd, we will join together in company and prayer and planned ceremonies to honor another of our brothers. Sgt Luse was many things to many people. To some, he was a fellow veteran of W W I I. To officers he was a a quintessential soldier. To other NCO's, he was a model for their careers. To many of us enlisted men, he was a "soldier's soldier" and, in some cases, a father figure. There were few men as well liked and admired and respected as was Sgt Jack Luse. His tragic passing cut deep into all our hearts. It is fitting and a perfect opportunity to come together again as we did in the chapel at nelligen and remember this remarkable man, soldier, friend, and above all, father. We invite you and yours to join

with us for this memorial service. It is tentatively scheduled for Thursday morning, the 11th, at 0900 hrs at the Main Post Cemetery. We will either convoy or bus there from the Holiday Inn at 0830 hrs. Plans are in the works, now. Jim Jackson is trying to arrange for a Baptist minister who will join with our own "Zeke" Evaro to lead the prayers. In addition, Jim is also looking to secure both military and civilian spokespersons, an honor guard, as well as a Mayoral Proclamation by Columbus' newly elected Mayor Robert Poydasheff, an ex Army Ranger during Vietnam, himself. Members of Jack Luse's family will also be present. Final arrangements and details will be announced as they are known, and as readily as we can convey them to all of you. The invitation is open to one and all.

In the past several weeks we have located several more former Lurps. They are Sgt Art Dolick ('61-'62); SP/4 John Visel ('62-'64); and SP/4 Clifford Andrus (C/58 '64-'68). We have finally begun to locate several of our officer corps, namely LTC Rodney Goehler ('61-'62); LTC Edward Hunt (C.O. '62-'63); and most amazingly, the man responsible for the development of the Lurps, Gen. Edward V. Maltese (C.O. '61-'62). We have a lead on LTC Robert Bates, as well, but have not yet made contact with him.

Only a few months ago, as a result of his placing an inquiry in the "Para-Glide" newspaper, looking for former VII Corps and V Corps LRRP members, we are also in touch with SFC Donald W. Wagaman, ('61-'63). He lives in Fayetteville. He had no idea that we had held our reunion there only last September. Don, of course, was one of THE original Lurps.

We have also located Mrs Frank L. Garbers, whose late husband was C.O. from '64 to '65. Most regrettably, LTC Garbers passed away in Nov. 1998. Mrs Garbers said that her husband always wondered what ever happened to all those 'old Lurps', and why had he never heard from any of them since his days there. We deeply regret his loss. He was a good and well liked commander. His absence will be felt by all of us who were fortunate enough to know him and served under him.

Mrs. Garbers also recalled that SP/4 Melvin King, who was her husband's driver at Nellingen, had passed away a few years before her husband. He had been living in the Alexandria, VA area at the time of his death. Many will remember Mel. He was always turned out sharply in crisp starch, polished Corcorans and always had a grin from ear to ear. He was one of the handful of black soldiers that joined our company in those early years. He was a fine soldier and good man. He, as much as any other man in the company, made the Lurps the great outfit it was. Rest in peace, our brother.

We all join in welcoming our fellow Lurps 'into the fold' and look forward to seeing you in July in GA. We cannot now rest on our laurels, though. There are hundreds of missing Lurps not yet accounted for. We need to continue the search with even greater vigor and commitment. To that end, we have begun to use the services of a locator to help find the others. Three of the above were found as a result of information received through that service. However, there are many, many, many more 'leads' that need pursuing, far too many for one or even several persons to take on by themselves. A group effort is

required to sort through the myriad of names, some with, but many without telephone numbers listed. The added good news is that the 75th RRA has graciously offered to pay half the cost (\$2.50 ea.) for those new found lurps.

The much coveted "Jay Hawk" crest, designed by our own Sargent Theo Knaak, is being reproduced with the utmost fidelity of detail, color and finish as the originals. John DeCosta has contacted a firm that specializes in making military crests of the best quality. Amazingly, they produce another of Theo's earliest designs, made when he was a man of 'modest rank' with the 101st Airborne (when the screaming eagle was just a chick) at Fort Benning. This company executed Theo's design as faithful as can be done. Theo has thrown his full weight in support of this company reproducing our crests, and that is a considerable endorsement.

At this time, one hundred pieces will be made. A die will be made from an original crest and 75 pieces will be of a nickle finish on copper base metal, while 25 pieces will be sterling silver finish. It is expected that they will be sold for about \$6.50 and \$10.00 each, according to the finish, but we are awaiting final cost information from the manufacturer. At this time, John is taking "orders", but do not send any money at this time. Shipping costs will, of course, be additional and modest. They are expected to be completed in time for the reunion, we understand. Three cheers for John. Great job.

Send your name, address, zip and tele, e-mail, along with your 'order', to :

John DeCosta 1810 Cornerbrook Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46240

Last year, Gary Baura had made (at his own expense I should add) the beautiful VII Corps LRRP "challenge coins", which he sold at the reunion. While he sold a lot of them (reasonable and affordable at \$5.00 ea, I recall) and a goodly number were presented as gifts to various commanders in SF and Special Op's and Airborne Brigades by Dave Clark, there remains ample coins for sale this year, as well. For those who missed out, or only bought a few, and for those who were not at the reunion last year, you have another opportunity to 'stock up' and not get caught short at the bar. Woe be unto ye who hath no coin of the realm. Put up or pay up, brother. Don't say you wern't warned. Four cheers for Gary. Another great job.

There is an abbreviated deadline for submittal of stories for the JULY issue of PATROLLING mag. Stories must be sent to unit director Stan Harrell by June 1st. The 75th RRA wants the mag printed in time for the reunion. If you have a piece you want printed, I urge you to get on it now. We do not want to have empty pages for VII Corps. You also can't expect others to do all the writing. That is not fair. You all have things to offer. We welcome your participation. Write what you know. That works the best. Thankyou all who have contributed to our pages in the recent and past issues. All of your stories were just wonderful. Keep 'em coming. There is much that needs be said.

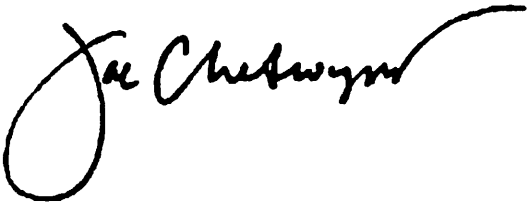
See you all in July. AIRBORNE
Joe

S/Sgt Glenn Harry English, jr will be inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame, in ceremonies to be held on Tuesday, July 9th, at 1630 hrs. This will be held at Bldg #4, Marshall Auditorium, located near the 250 ft jump towers, at Fort Benning, GA. The 75th RRA is trying to arrange for busses to depart from the Holiday Inn at 1500 to 1530 hrs to take people there, avoiding a caravan of cars going through the check points.

Members of the VII Corps LRRP Co (Abn) Assoc. are cordially invited to attend this important event. We would join with the 75th RRA as a group, and enter the auditorium in company with them, and be seated along with them, as well.

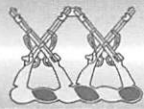
This is a great and fitting honor to the memory of our brother, Glenn, which the Ranger Association has chosen to bestow upon him for his heroism and ultimate sacrifice of his own life to save that of others. It has been a long journey for him, since his days in the early 1960's at Nellingen, Germany, and so to that day, September 7, 1970 in Vietnam when he died so tragically. It had been almost thirty-two years, perhaps, since anyone had visited his grave at Fort Bragg, NC, until his fellow Lurps came last September 21 to pay our respects to him. It was sixty-two years from the time when Glenn was born in Altoona, PA. in 1940, until his headstone was brought 'back home' as a memorial to him, by his brother Lurps. Now, only two years after learning about Glenn's heroism and sacrifice, we are blessed with this wonderful opportunity to share in one more long awaited honor for this American hero, our brother, Glenn Harry English, jr. Please join us, will you?

Thank you,
Joe Chetwynd, pres.
VII Corps LRRP Co. (Abn) Association



P.S.

If you are flying - we recommend that you fly to Atlanta and rent a car for a 1 1/2 - 2 hr drive to Columbus. Try to hook up with someone else if you can and share the expenses.

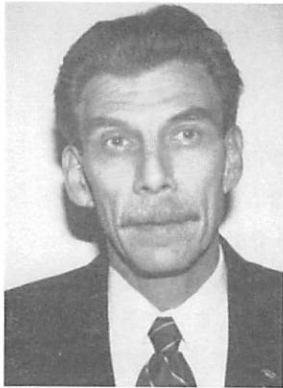


C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director - Worth Bolton



As we move towards the 75th RRA's Reunion this July this edition will update you on the brief news and announcements that have come my way since the last edition concerning our unit. For the sake of brevity I will use a shortened format.



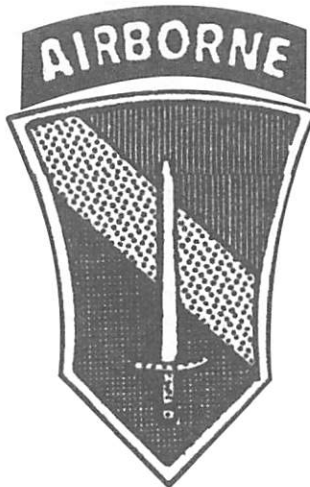
Worth Bolton
Unit Director C/75

Ranger Mom Needs Assistance

We have been trying for several weeks to make contact with anyone who was with PFC James Loisel in Cambodia in a 1970 contact that resulted in Jimmy's death. His Mom wants to have his Bronze Star upgraded and needs a statement(s) from those who were present to complete the paperwork. After she ran an ad in a vet newsletter she was contacted by several bogus sleezebags who told her that they can get this done for \$300-\$500 bucks! . . . paid in advance of course! Michael Warner caught the ad and contacted me to see if our Unit Association might lend a hand. Please contact me if you can help with this situation. The 75th RRA has awarded her a Gold Star Mother Certificate and she is being connected to the Gold Star network for additional assistance.

Unit Members Attending July Reunion

If you are planning to attend the Reunion in July for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association at the Holiday Inn in Columbus, Ga. please contact me by email or telephone. I am trying to organize a brief meeting of our unit members who are in attendance to update all on issues that emerge at the Reunion before the business meeting. I will post my room number on the message



board there also so if you change your mind and show up at the last minute you can still contact me and hook up.

E/20th - C/75th Unit Reunion for 2003

Tentative plans from the July 2001 E/20th-C/75th Reunion was to return to Fort Benning in July 03' but information received from Sam Pullara, Unit Secretary indicates that an alternative proposal has been submitted and a special edition of our unit newsletter will put this item to the unit membership for a vote and action heeded. As always is the case, any plans for a reunion site needs to be

backed up with hands on action by someone who can take the responsibility to make it happen.

Memorial Day 2002- Airborne/Special Operations Museum - Fayetteville, NC

Any past or present Ranger who wishes to join us at the museum to formally dedicate our stone marker please contact me for additional information on dtg. We will roll call our KIA's and render honors to dedicate this site. Skip Resch did a great job of getting this done for our Unit and now we need to make it official. Hopefully, any Rangers in the Carolina's will join us on this special day and for those of you who have not seen the museum itself, you will be impressed!

Unit Director's Position Help Wanted

As I end this article I want to remind any of you who would like to serve as the Unit Director for the next two-year term (03-04) that contact with Gary Dolan, Unit President, is needed immediately. This appointment, made by the Unit President and Board of Directors, is an essential link to keep our Unit Association connected to the larger 75th Ranger Association. The ideal situation is that you would be at Benning in July and be in on the ground floor of the new Board of Directors and meet the essential players. It is a lot of emails and a lot of phone calls but it is also very rewarding. I want to thank the Unit Board of Directors for their support of my service in this capacity. Additionally, it has been great to work with Emmett Hiltibrand, the 75th RRA Board

C/75 - E/20 LRP (CONTINUED)

of Directors, John Chester, Editor, and the other Unit Directors during this period. Many people put in a lot of long hours to stay on top of issues that

affect all Rangers and their families. As the old saying goes, "it's real and it's fun but it ain't always real fun!". If you might be interested and want to know more

about what is involved drop me an email or give me a call. Stay safe and have a great summer! Hope to see you all in Columbus in July.



D/75

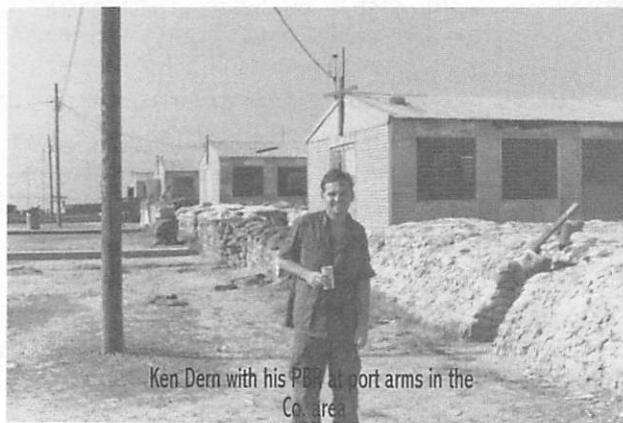
Unit Director - John Kingeter



By Tom Delaney

I've been pretty much on the go since our last issue of Patrolling. My job keeps me busy as usual, throw in a TDY trip to Reno, NV, and a week's vacation on a fishing trip with my fishing partner and the hourglass of time empties quickly. I haven't had time to make the rounds as I normally would like to. When I last talked with John he is making plans to attend the reunion, however, it's dependent upon getting vacation time from work.

I don't have anything new to get out with this issue of Patrolling except that I'd like to remind everyone to ensure that they get their vote in on the Constitution and By-laws rewrite. Your vote is critical to the future direction of our Association. Additionally, mark your calendars for our reunion the week of 8-12 July in Columbus, GA. The "window of opportunity" to rekindle old friendships from our younger days narrows with each grain of sand flowing through the hourglass. Let's make this year's the best gathering we've ever had.

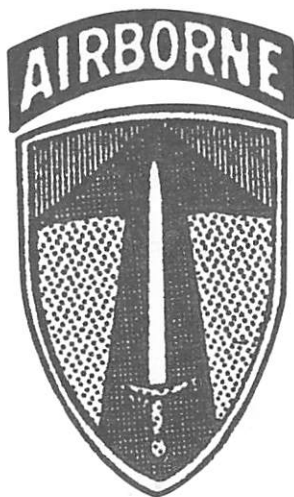


Ken Dern with his PBR at port arms in the Co. area

The TOC is still operational so send me an e-mail, use snail mail, or pick up the telephone and contact John or myself so we can get your feedback for inclusion into the Patrolling magazine. I'm going to bring my digital cam-

era this time so I hope we can get some nice group pictures for our next Patrolling article.

I'm including some "flicks" from the old days to hopefully jog the old memory banks. Mine are probably shot, so if you know who the guys are in the pictures drop me a line. This will be the last issue of Patrolling under our current Association officers, as we will also be holding elections at the reunion to establish the new Association officers for the next two years.



Emmett and his team have brought the 75th Ranger Regiment Association to a new plateau and positioned our Association to achieve greater success in both short and long term future endeavors. Patrolling magazine has become a first class publication and the envy of other organizations to say the least.

Thanks guys for your numerous accomplishments. Your plate was exceptionally full during the past two years. The Association has some big shoes to fill and many uncharted trails to



Richard (The Herd) Nelson recovering after being hurt on an 'infil'.

recon that you have mapped. You have clearly demonstrated that teamwork and synergy will get the impossible done every time! Rangers Lead The Way!

See you all in Columbus, GA in July. I don't have a list of D/75 attendees so we'll just go with the flow and check

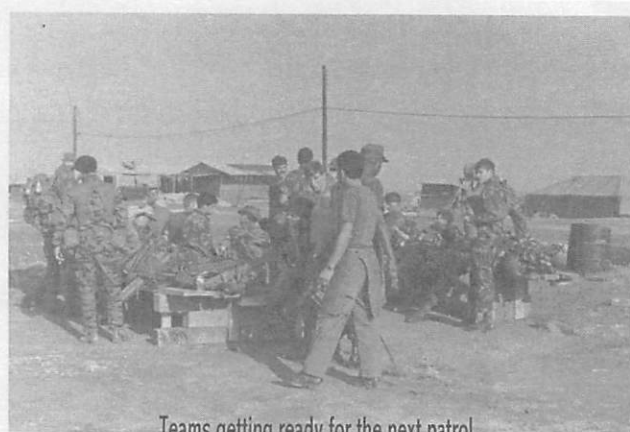
D/75 (CONTINUED)

the sign in rosters. Tote the family, have a safe journey, and enjoy the vacation. Bring your D/75 pictures and

memorabilia to the reunion so all can share. God Bless!
All Gave Some, Some Gave All!



Steve Johnson, a 3rd Platoon Team Leader.
In doorway of hooch, unknown.



Teams getting ready for the next patrol.



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

Unit Director - Robert Copeland



By Bob Copeland

The first order of business is to say a special thanks to our outgoing President of the 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSN. Emmett Hiltibrand who will be stepping down this summer at the Reunion in Columbus/Ft. Benning, Ga. Having WELL and FAITHFULLY served his two years in office he will now have more time for his family and a little R&R. Emmett has done an OUTSTANDING JOB and deserves more than a well deserved thank you from the BROTHERHOOD AND RANGER COMMUNITY so let's all shake his hand at the reunion and by him a drink of his choice!! Don't forget to attend the 75TH REUNION and support the ASSN and your candidate of choice for the election of your ASSN. OFFICERS!!

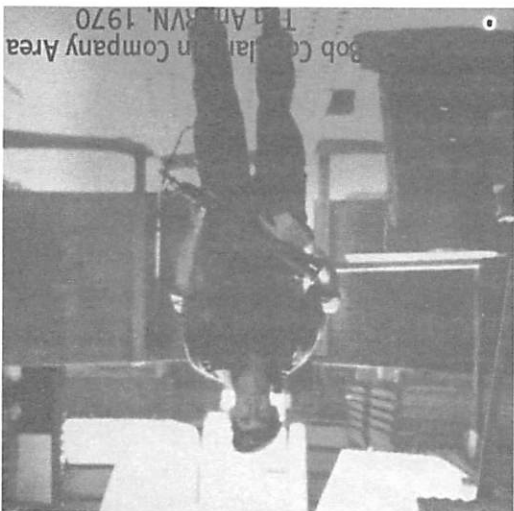
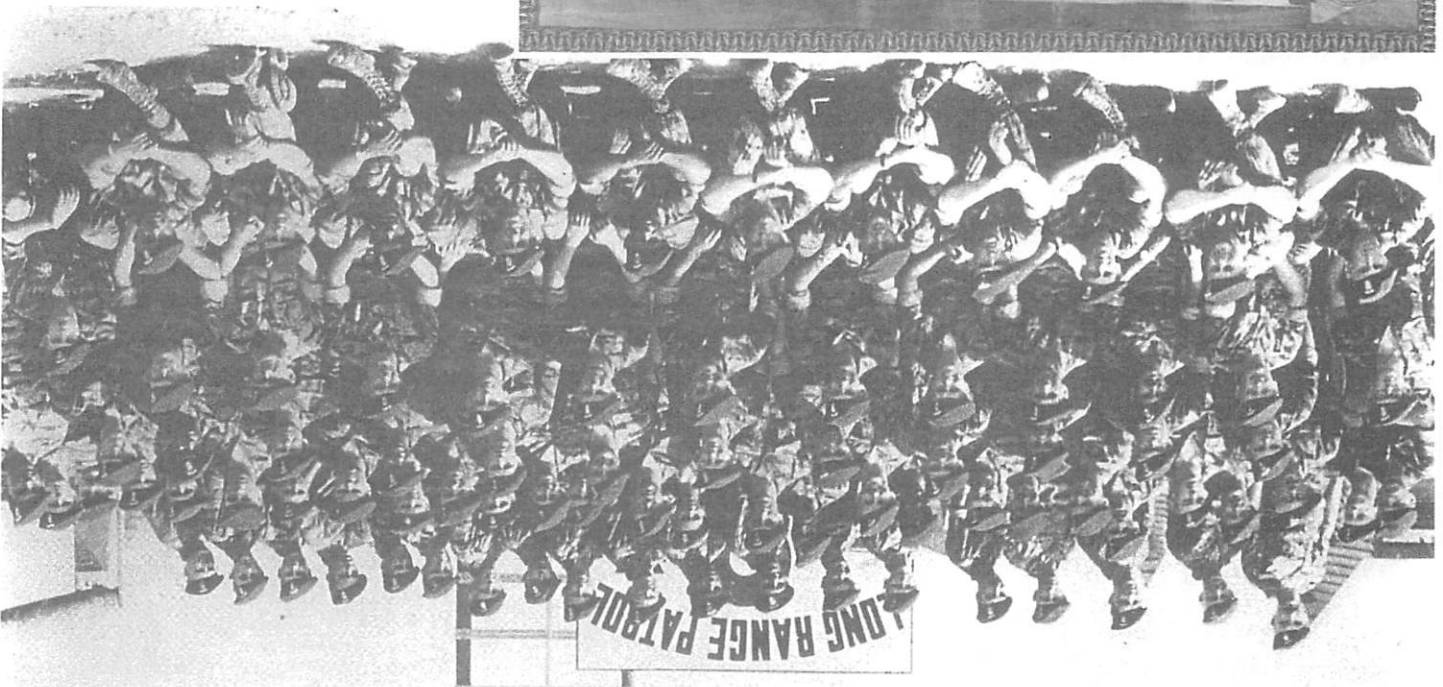
In March I attended New York with my family and had the pleasure and honor of presenting the Gold Star Mother Certificate to Mrs. Catherine Colombi the mother of Richard Roy Bellwood KIA 25 Jan. 1969. The presentation of the Certificate was attended by Joan Bellwood and her son Erik (sister and nephew of Richard Bellwood), a friend of the family, my wife Cathy, my son Spencer and Brent Gulick (2nd Ptl. Ldr., Co. E 75th Inf. Ranger, Tan An, 1970). It was an extremely enjoyable day and an Honor for me to welcome Mrs. Catherine Colombi along with her daughter Joan Bellwood and her grandson Erik into the RANGER/LRP/LRRP FAMILY, HOOAH!!!!RLTW!!!! We look forward to the new

members of our family attending our reunions and joining in our celebrations. After doing a little sightseeing in N.Y. such as going up the Empire State Bldg., seeing a couple of Broadway shows, attending museums, taking the ferry to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty and paying our respects at Ground Zero we returned home. Thank you New York for your hospitality and enduring spirit!!!



On 11 May 2002 I will be attending the 5th Ranger Training Battalion Open House at Camp Frank D. Merrill in Dahlonega, Ga. As a member of the U.S. Mountain Ranger Assn. I will be making a presentation on behalf of 1Lt. Mark Joseph Toschik, KIA 11 Aug. 1970, 1st Ptl. Ldr. CO E 75TH INF RANGER (ABN), 3/9TH INF DIV, TAN AN, RVN. The Street Sign Award is best described as follows: I quote from the USMRA Web Page, "Each year at the 5th Bn Open House, the USMRA has the honor of placing the names of six fallen Rangers

on a road sign at the bridge that crosses the Etowah River on Camp Frank D. Merill. Every student who has trained at CFM has crossed this bridge at some time during his time in the mountains. As the Ranger students walk in the shadow of the sign, they can be inspired by the dedication to the "Ranger Way" that each man named there represents." The following Rangers have indicated to me that they will be attending the ceremony, Brent Gulick, Rick Stetson, Noah Halfacre, Gerald Johnson and Emmett Hiltibrand. Mr Larry Toschik and his wife Ceil (Gold



E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)



Bob Copeland
presents Goldstar
certificate to mother
of Richard Bellwood



Group photo of family & friends at banquet

Star Mother), the parents of Lt. Mark Toschik will also attend the ceremony. It is my hope that many others will also attend to Honor Mark and the other five Fallen Rangers on 11 May. I will report back in the next Patrolling issue on the event.

I received an email from Joan Bellwood who advised that her son Erik would be going for some medical tests for an ailment he has been suffering from for the past 18 months and has asked for our prayers that all will go well for Erik. Please keep Erik and Joan in your prayers and thoughts and wish him a speedy recovery! Our prayers also go out to all those who have been or are suffering from illnesses or have suffered the loss of a friend or relative. We wish you all God Bless and a speedy recovery!

It is my understanding that Roy Barley, Hilan "Jonesy" Jones and Wayne Fentress are all making a good recovery at home. Thanks again Joan for getting the flowers out while Jonesy was in hospital!! Joan Bellwood was also successful in getting Hallmark Cards to publish Veterans Cards which will be out prior to 11 Sept 2003. Great work Joan, they wouldn't have done it without you taking the idea to them and your fortitude in convincing them of the need to honor our Veterans.

Col. Clancy Matsuda and the members of the Unit History steering committee are doing a great job and are hard at work. As unit members I am requesting that you all get behind the committee and send along your thoughts, memories and recollections of your time in the unit so that we can have as complete and accurate account of our history as possible. A big thank you and Hooah!! to all those who sent in write ups for our last Unit Newsletter!! Thanks Jonesy as always for getting the Newsletter out and for all your hard work for the Unit!!

Don't forget the Unit Reunion coming up in 2003 and make sure to set holidays aside to attend. As always lets try to make it the biggest gathering yet!! See you all Hooahs in Columbus in July for the 75th Reunion, Hooah!!!! RLTW!!!!

U.S. military personnel from New York City
who died as a result of their service in Vietnam,
1957 through 1975,
including Missing In Action, Prisoners Of War,
and those Killed In Action.
Listed alphabetically by name and age,
as of November 1997:

BEEK, ERWIN	age 23
BELASCO, CHARLES T.	age 18
BELLACH, LOUIS W. JR.	age 19
BELLEMARE, ANDRE R.	age 20
BELLINGER, RONALD L.	age 20
BELLWOOD, RICHARD R.	age 20
BENBOW, EVANS JR.	age 20
BERDY, MICHAEL E.	age 23
BERLANGA, RAFAEL A.	age 24
BERMUDEZ, JOSE D. JR.	age 21
BACO, JOHN	
BAILEY, DE	
BAILEY, FR	
BAINES, TO	
BAJIN, EN	
BAKER, CH	
BALDERA,	
BALDWIN,	
BANNA, W	
BARRAB	

Detail of New York City Vietnam Veteran's Memorial

Well folks that's about all for now so STAY SAFE AND
KEEP THE FAITH!!!!
RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

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



THE COMMUNIST FLAG

I will attempt to tell you how that communist flag came to belong to the unit. We did not have team numbers. Our team which consisted of myself Gene Tucker, Hugh Howerton, Jerry Spicer, Perry, (sorry no first name) and Charles White. We departed on a mission to locate a Battalion of NVA located about twenty miles North West of Cu Chi.

This mission began on the 7th or 8th of August 1966. We were inserted by helicopter using the usual technique of false landings with us jumping out on one of them.

Well, things went well the first evening. The next day as we moved through the area we began to notice numerous signs of what we thought were several large enemy units of a battalion size or larger. We decided to report on our usual sitrep instead of jumping the gun. We also moved farther into the wooded area and began to see even fresher signs of large-scale movement. After our setrep we then set up near a trail where we could watch it, we did so for a day but did not see any enemy.

The third day we began to hit the edge of a rubber plantation. Since it was a rubber plantation we moved very slow and cautious. Apparently we were not as stealthy as we thought we were. About 1530 hours

we were startled when a VC began to run from a position about ten meters in front of us. We later determined that we had surprised him and he had lay low until he felt that we were getting too close. Anyway the first three of us

saw that his rifle was pointed in our direction and we all fired one shot. He went down. He was dead, he had a courier bag. Upon inspection we noticed that it contained what seemed like important information on troop positions and movements. There was also a communist flag.

At approximately 1600 hours while we were reporting this information, our security element, of which I was a member, came under fire from a Viet Cong machine gun. While we were pinned down I saw Hugh Howerton and Charles White crossing a small clearing and the machinegun took them under fire. Seeing them being fired upon and pinned down, I began to place fire on the machinegun and they were able to get free. We began to run and broadcast the words "Flaming Arrow", which was our emergency distress signal.

We ran from a large unit, size unknown but they sure were not afraid to make noise and they wanted us badly. They were on line so when we turned to go in another direction, they were there. They knew our tactics to get them off our tail. It took about 40 minutes for the D Troop gun ships to arrive on station. We

used the usual means to mark our advance and get them off our backs with the two smoke grenades. The gun ships strafed and used rockets to keep them down while we were extracted.

When we returned we gave the flag to the unit and it hung in the command shack. Cpt. Ponzillo can relate

to you the information we had captured. Ask him about it.

Gene Tucker
25th Division LRRP



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

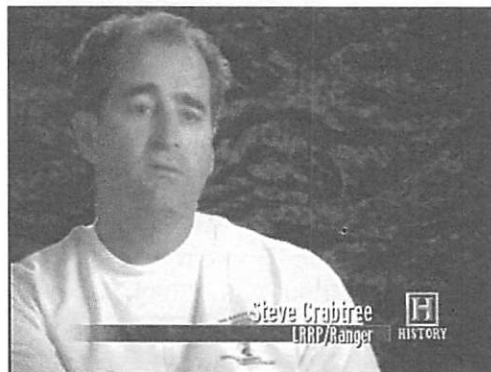
Unit Director - Steve Crabtree



Reunion Time

I would like to apologize for the poor showing of Golf Company at the 75th Ranger Regiment reunions over the years. Again we will be poorly represented this year as we are holding our unit reunion in San Diego in June. Yearly reunions have put a considerable strain on those wanting to attend both. Under the leadership of Tom Nash our annual reunions will now be every other year on the odd years meaning that more members of Golf Company will now be able to attend the national reunion on the even years. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2004.

No reunion will ever be able to take the place of your first one. That fact shouldn't keep you from continuing to attend.



Twenty-eight members of Golf Company got together back in 1990 for our first.

Some of you may have seen the special Charles Krualt program of it for his Sunday Morning News program. The following letter pretty much sums up the weekend and hopefully will inspire you to attend this year's and upcoming reunions.

30 August 1990

Dear Ben,

Although I've addressed this letter to you, I plan to send a copy to everyone, both those who could and could not attend the reunion, in hopes it will inspire them to attend the next one.

I really missed seeing you again. 20 years is much too much time for friends to be apart. I remember you as a 21-year-old kid – I guess we all were. I remember the fire-fights we were in together – hell even a couple of them were with the enemy.



Words cannot properly describe last weekend. 28 of us converged on Firebase Sacramento, guys I remembered – some I never met. But we all had one common bond – our LRRP/Ranger brotherhood. I don't think the hotel had any idea of what they were in for. We partied, we laughed, we talked, and we cried. It had to be the most emotional weekend of my life, and the most fun. I took my wife Lori and two of our daughters. None of them ever expected to see the love and camaraderie that they witnessed in us.

I toasted you and your "RANGER" exploits in Georgia during dinner. Every one of us stood up and screamed, "Right on Ben!" You thought nobody would remember you. You were wrong, we all remember you. I guess the next time we go to war together; I'll have to teach you how to be a good Ranger.

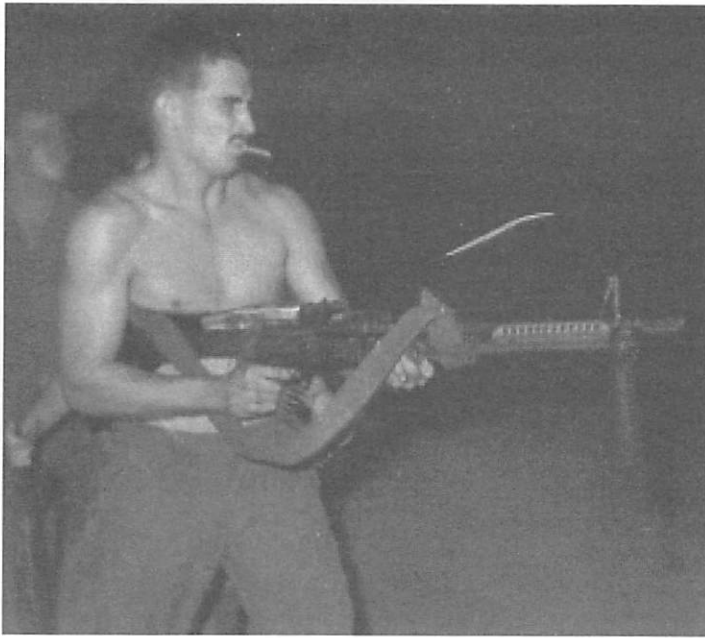
After dinner we all went to the bar for more lies about each other. No matter what Buffalo says, he really did think we were going to throw him out the second story window during our early morning raid. It was really a gas to see him crying & begging, "Please don't throw me off the balcony!" Next year we'll make sure he has a ground floor room.

Saturday morning we all went to the California Vietnam Memorial. Having been raised in San Diego, I knew too many of the names. I don't know how I'm going to be able to handle "The Wall" next year, but I wouldn't miss it for the world. If you don't come – I'll personally organize a POW snatch and we'll kidnap you & your whole family. Be there or pay the price.

Afterwards, we all moved to LZ Chief for beer, pictures, beer, dancing, beer, pie (you'll have to see the pictures), beer, talk, beer, and a slide show that would have knocked "MAD MAC'S" boots off. Lori had heard of the snake (not MOTHER'S), but couldn't believe how big that sucker really was. Every time they showed rappelling or McGuire rig, we all screamed "RANGER," "AIRBORNE" or whatever. We all woke up horse the next morning. It was just too much.

About 20 of us had breakfast Sunday morning. I bought a round of beer and toasted, "Don't be sad guys, we only

G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP (CONTINUED)

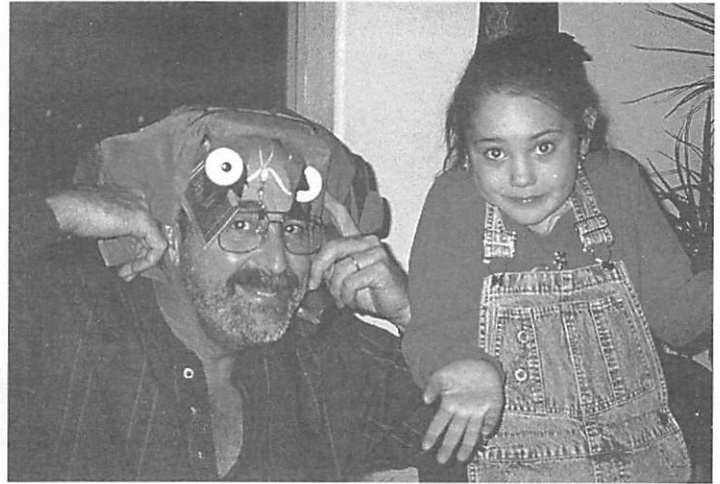


Crabs Then

have 363 and a wake up to go!" That brought a huge roar.

About noon we were walking back to our room to check out. I watched Labrie & Hardy get in their car to leave, Hustler & Buffalo were waiting for the Hotel car and Gerber & his wife were walking back to check out. I realized that the reunion was over. I actually broke down and cried like a baby. Gerber came over & hugged me and

started crying also. What a sight we must have been, two tough Rangers crying like babies. Who cares? I'll never, ever forget this weekend.



Crabs Now

I've had my ups and downs in life, but now I know two things no one can ever take away from me: my non-issue Airborne Ranger Scroll and the memory of the greatest group of men ever assembled.

Twenty-eight this year, next year everyone,

CRABS



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

Unit Director - William Anton



No Submission



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

Unit Director - Barry Crabtree



Written by: Barry Crabtree

Barry Crabtree

As we near our summer reunion date a real sense of anticipation exists. A chance to see my brothers both old and the new from returning Ranger units is the greatest feeling in the world.

Please find enclosed an article submitted for publication by Bill Faulkner. The letter with the accompanying poem is as real and true as emotions can become. Read it and you will begin to get a sense of the really stern stuff of which our very proud Vietnam Vets are made. What you will not read is some of my following recollections of the

telephone conversation Bill and I had this spring.

Bill told me that as they approached The Towers in their last minutes of existence. it gradually became plain that the ..debris" falling off the tower at first was in fact human bodies. As they drew closer the sounds of bodies bursting on the overhang like watermelons still ring in Bill's ears today. As the rescue efforts got underway Bill's team, while working, had the towers collapse around them. The part of his team that dove left died, and the part of his team that dove right lived - Billy's corneas were shredded and his knee was totaled but he worked on, first to save others, then to save himself and his team, and then on to help in any way possible.

I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)



The Team ready for war Laikhe Run 1968

lives of his friends and comrades but it may take the remainder his career because of the knee. He goes to therapy and funerals on a continuing basis. When Bill and I first talked this spring they had just recovered the bodies of his fellow court officers. That's an aspect of this horror that we don't see. The fact that the bodies are being progressively recovered and identified means re-living the event weekly for months to come, like a nightmare that just won't go away.

The very special "right stuff" that all of us brought back from the War in Vietnam to The World is still saving us today. Bill is evidence of that, and there are many other aspects of the world we live in today that have been shaped by the actions of those few who were tempered by the wars that we lived through. That right stuff is in evidence in the kind of things that my Ranger Brother Dave Flores has been doing. Dave told me that his connections with the family of his best friend from Vietnam - Reynaldo Arenas, KIA

Some of you, as you read this, may have triggered memories of catastrophic scenes from your war past. May those memories become your GHOSTS OF GLORY. Bill tells me that he is still laid up from his injuries. The attack took not only the

12/ 31/ 68 - was turning into a real blessing for him in his life. Dave has been in contact with the family members of his fallen comrade and just recently through Bill Goshen's book, "War paint", made an interesting discovery. A mutual friend of ours, Bob Roossien's mother read the book and



Barry Crabtree/Team Leader
Laikhe Run 1968

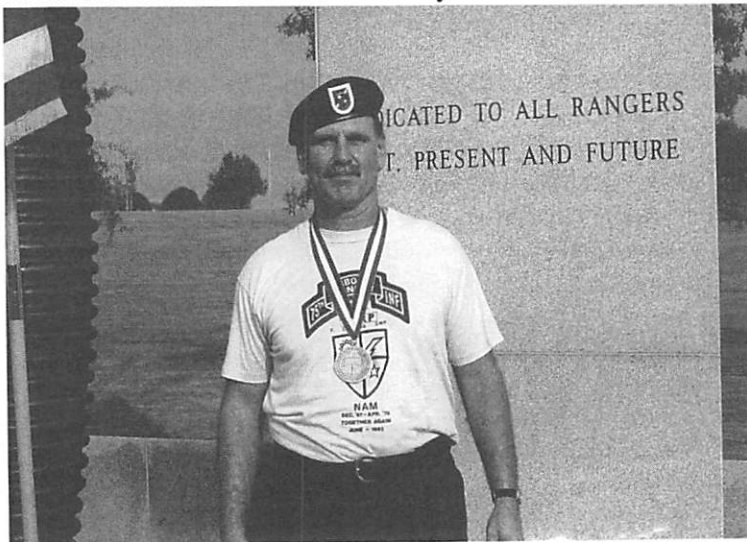


somehow got hooked up with the Arenas' in Michigan from a nearby city. Bob was KIA on a mission I controlled on 5/12/69. The mother, who as it turns out lost her husband in Korea, was interested in the details of her son's last days if she could get them. As only a merciful God would do - Dave called me with a sit rep. You know, even after all these years, the journey home continues for a war veteran for his entire life. That's why it is so important for each of us to come to grips with our worst fears and turn

them into our own personal Ghosts of Glory . Dave Flores is a captain in a big city Fire Department. Like so many of our Ranger Brothers, they are still saving lives and setting an example that is not attainable by the normal mortal.

It was Confucius who said, "I hear, and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand." We understand what compelled Bill to go rushing to the aid of his fellow citizens. It's the same type of feeling that makes us write books and to visit the relatives of slain brothers. You can't believe how these survivors back in the world hang on our every word, our every description of the way it was in Nam. These actions are the cure for the demons that dwell within each of us. Bringing them out of the darkness and into the light exposes many of their good parts that gradually make them a Ghost of Glory. Re-living the experience of Roossien's death reminded me of how totally heroic he was in trying to save my ass from harm's way. Just like Billy. Just like you and you and you.....

I can say with absolute assurance that for any combat war veteran of any era, but especially the Vietnam era vet, that the way to walk out of the darkness and into



Barry Crabtree, Ranger hall of fame Induction, August 15, 1996

1/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)

the light with THE FEELINGS OF HEALING, is through an association with your fellow vets. Those that have tasted the bitter water of death and defeat in the pursuit of a noble cause, and who have dealt with the knowledge of the power of healing through your Ranger Brothers. Our own 75th RRA is the very best vehicle for re-entry into our world for brief periods of time - otherwise known as the REUNION this summer. Plan to come and experience our own unique brand of healing fun. You'll get it nowhere else on the planet. Plan now and get down to Georgia. Lots of stories yet untold that get an audience like no other. Come on home!!!!

AN OLD SOLDIER'S GIFT

His old medals covered in dust,
old blade turned to rust,
Memories of a cause that was just.
What does an old soldier have
but three decades of dreams
and screams in the night,
longing for one last chance to fight.
But younger men now carry his gun,
He is too old to keep up the run.

But on a sunny, late summer day
a jet came roaring
To pierce the peace of a beautiful morning.
Gray hair now blowing in the wind,
One last chance to ride
to the "Sound of the Guns"

With comrades-in-arms from that old fight,
they rode together to that unholy site.
Fire and death they had seen before,
but nothing like this could make ready
For the evil in store.

Another attack approached in the sky,
out of time to save any more lives,
but thousands saved, huddled in fear
rushed to the safety of the rear.

Young men and old now stood at the front,
shoulder to shoulder, refusing to retreat,
Two towers of freedom now lay at their feet.
Burying brothers and civilians too,
oh what evil men can do.
But out of the ashes the Eagle flies,
bringing justice to the one's that gave their all,
our nation once again stands tall.

Now the medals they place
on the old soldier's chest,
tell him he is America's best,
but too many now he lays to rest.
Taps now play almost every day

over a fallen comrade lost that day.
Lines of blue stretch ramrod straight,
the old soldier snaps his last salute
to gallantry and valor and American pride,
And the chance for one last ride.
As he marched away, covered in dust,
grateful for the gift of one last fight,
his children's love
and his father's pride
were worth the price of that last ride.

When history asks what the old soldier did,
they will be able to say
that he answered the call a second time,
after he was well past his prime,
for love of his country,
the home of the brave
is something the old soldier
can take to his grave.

Senior Court Officer
William Faulkner
April 4, 2002

F CO., 52nd Infantry
Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol
1st Infantry Division
Vietnam 1967 - 1968

Dear Brothers:

On 9/11/01, while doing my morning sweep of the perimeter of the Courthouse at 111 Center Street in Manhattan, a jet plane came roaring overhead. Seconds later it slammed into the World Trade Center ten blocks away. We immediately knew that there would be catastrophic injuries. Ten Senior Court Officers under the command of MAJ Reginald Mebane jumped into a jury bus and sped towards the WTC. I don't know why, but as I looked around, I could see that the majority of the Officers were Vietnam Veterans, and I felt secure that we could handle the grim task ahead. With first aid gear in hand, we flew through the traffic down Broadway and could see the smoke and paper flying everywhere. Then a second plane hit the towers and no one said a word. We knew instinctively that we were at war. As we pulled up among the fire trucks, police cars and ambulances, debris was falling everywhere. We gazed into the two gaping holes spewing flames and smoke and saw what we thought was debris falling from the tower, but as we got closer, we could see, to our shock, that it was desperate people jumping from the upper floors to in an attempt to escape the inferno. Rushing to #5 WTC where the main evacuation & rescue was being coordinated, we started to treat and assist the civilians coming out of the South Tower. Like an old fire brigade, we passed the

I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)

civilians officer to officer down the line to safety on Broadway. Bloodied, burned innocents, whose only crime was going to work that day, poured out by the thousands. I had seen death and carnage as a LRRP during the '68 Tet Offensive, but nothing like this. Thank God my training from those days in Vietnam just kicked in, everything that I had learned came out. I could see everything, I kept my men close, directed the wounded on the correct path away from danger, but then at 9:50 AM the South Tower came down.

The shocker was that no one ever thought the towers would fall, but brave men and women were being crushed to death floor by floor in a surreal scene that only Hollywood could think of. With my partner, SCO Ed Kennedy, we jumped behind a pillar at Borders Bookstore, pulling a female police officer with us out of the path of the blast that came at us like a tornado, flying concrete and glass all around us for what seemed an eternity. The building buried us under what had been a 110-story tower. Blinded and bloodied, I called for Eddie. He answered while groping for the female NYPD officer who had fallen. Then SCO Ric Seobarrat, a former Green Beret, answered up. We were buried, but alive. You could not see your hand in front of your face; it was pitch black, eyes cut and full of gray dust. Suddenly it was stone quiet, the roar of a few moments ago became the silence of the tomb. Regrouping and checking our situation, we formed a human chain of four officers and two civilians and worked our way along the bookstores' twenty-foot high windows, which held thank God. For half an hour we felt our way along, tripping over debris and bodies as we went. Then we heard firemen yelling, "Is anyone under there?" I thought that I was hearing Angels, and believe me, those firemen were Angels. Finally day light and we were out from under the collapse, radio blaring in my ear asking for my location. I could not see where we were. Someone handed me a bottle of water and helped flush out my eyes and reported that we were on Church & Versy Streets, a block from where we had been trapped. We were ordered to report to the Major on Broadway & Leonard Streets. Major Mebane, covered in gray dust, was trying valiantly to make contact with his men. While trying to regroup and give a sit-rep back to command, the second tower came down. Out of the frying pan and into the fire. We were

forced to retreat with the North Tower falling, and debris everywhere, we were once more engulfed in a cloud of dust, forcing us back eight blocks on Broadway. When the dust lifted, this 'Band of Brothers' limed the two blocks back to the Courthouse. The look of shock on the faces of our fellow officers was amazing. They immediately came with water and first aid gear to wash our faces and tend our wounds. Twenty officers, ten from Center Street and ten from the training academy on Williams Street responded to the WTC, but by 1:30 PM we could only account for seventeen, three of our brothers were missing.

With grim determination, hundreds of court officers from every courthouse in the city responded to find their lost brothers. In the ensuing days, thousands of officers from every department in the city, and many from out of state went to what has become 'Ground Zero' and dug by hand to find the fallen. No race, no color, no religion, just Americans trying to save their fellow Americans. I don't think I will ever see this kind of humanity again. The seventeen officers that survived the holocaust were awarded the Medal of Victory by Chief Judge Judith Kaye in Albany, but the real heroes that day, CPT William Harry Thompson, SCO Thomas Jurgens and SCO Mitchell Wallace were awarded the Department's highest award, the Medal of Honor, Presented to the families by George Pataki, Governor of New York.

Five months later when they found the remains of our fallen comrades, they were only twenty feet from where we were trapped that day. The NYC Fire Department reported that they found Harry, Tommie and Mitch together by a column. Beneath them were the remains of several civilians that they had tried to shield with their bodies when the tower collapsed. How do you speak of such heroism? On the darkest day in America's history, the American people showed the evil ones what we are made of. God bless them and God bless America.

Sincerely, Your Brother,

William Faulkner

PS: To all my LRRP and Ranger Brothers who called and sent cards and letters, thank you, they helped.

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

Unit Director - Bob Stack



There will be a meeting of 4th DIV LRRP'S, E/58 LRP, & K/75 for the purpose of forming a Unit Association. The meeting will be

held at 1300 on 11 July, 2002, immediately after the 75th Ranger Regiment Association General Membership Meeting. The location

of the meeting will be announced at the Reunion. We will need to elect a slate of officers, (Pres, VP, Sec & Tres.) Wayne Mistch has

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

consented to continue as Treasurer. We will need to fill the other three positions. The meeting is being organized by Jim Testerman, Bob Smyers, Wayne Mistch and John Chester. Commo is thru John Chester at macchester@erols.com or 410-426-1391.

UNIT REPORT

By: Bob Stack

To All My Ranger Brothers: Well, it's now two years later, we're all two years older and, hopefully, we're all two years wiser! These past two years as your Unit Director (UD) have been most enlightening and informative for me and I have learned what a truly great Association this is and what truly great members belong to it. I have been a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) member of the American Legion (AL), the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), but this 75th RRA by far surpasses any of those other great military/fraternal organizations. For example, just look at his fantastic membership publication of Patrolling, which, I believe, has grown from Gary Linderer's "Behind The Lines" some years ago to what it is today! That's pretty much the same as the 75th RRA from its inception about 12 or 13 years ago to an absolutely exceptional Association today with ever increasing membership and, because of that, the ever increasing re-bonding of the tightest alliances and bonds warriors make with each other which were forged in lead in steamy, hot, humid jungles a long time ago when "We Were Soldiers Once...And Young" to paraphrase the title of an excellent Vietnam history book. The Association, from its former, and current, Presidents down to the newest member, has seen some

vast improvements over the years and will see more growth and improvements in the coming years. 2002 REUNION: I am looking forward to seeing those of you whom I have come to know more closely over the years and also look forward to seeing those of you whom I haven't seen since the Summer of 1968, 34 years ago this Reunion! As usual, this 2002 Reunion should be another great one as your leaders have done the blood, sweat & tears thing again this year and it should go down in the annals of the 75th RRA history once again! Also, it's still NOT TOO LATE to come to this Reunion and, for those of you who might not be able to justify the



financial expenditure for it this year, the Association has made provisions for taking care of lodging for you, so please make contact with me BEFORE the Reunion. There are ALWAYS guys who have a room with two double beds and who would be more than happy to share a room with someone so, don't be prideful or bashful and get your butt down to Benning in July, copy that? 2003 K/75 MINI REUNION: This thing, which wasn't able to happen last summer because of some logistical problems, IS GOING TO HAPPEN in the Summer of 2003 and, most probably, in "The

Biggest Little City in The World", Reno, NV. This will be for rangers AND their families and there will be all kinds of great entertainment available for all to enjoy. I've also received promises of assistance from several Rangers who live in Reno, so this will be a GO! 2004 REUNION: As we haven't had a Reunion at the home of the 2nd Battalion/ 75th Rangers in beautiful Ft. Lewis, WA in some years, I'm going to make a motion on the floor of the General Membership meeting, which takes place on Thursday, July 11, 2002 at 1300 hours, that the 2004 Reunion take place at Ft. Lewis, WA! I would hope that all of you K/75 PAID UP MEMBERS attend this meeting, at least for this IMPORTANT vote, so that this Reunion happens at Ft. Lewis. There are a whole bunch of "West of the Rockies" Rangers who have stated that they're tired of having to travel all the way back to either Ft. Benning or Hunter Army Airfield, both in the great peach tree state of Georgia, to attend Reunions at either the 1st or 3rd Battalion HQ's, so PLEASE, PLEASE come to the general membership meeting and vote, O.K.? This is also the time and place to elect your new Association officers for the next two years! FINALE: As this is my last Patrolling submission prior to the Reunion (what's that loud cheering in the background for?) in July, I would like to say to all of you, my Brother Rangers, the FIRST ones in, the Cream of the Crop, the Tip of the Spear, the Best of the Best, the Warriors, the Pride of America... I am deeply proud to have served with you, to have walked with you, to have been among you fine men, ALL OF YOU, LRRP'S, LRP's and Rangers

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

in a time period which was probably the most trying, taxing and stressful period of any of our lives! We have all come back scarred in varying degrees but have triumphed over that adversity and will triumph over any future roadblocks of life, because we were,

AND ARE, first and foremost, Rangers!
My very best wishes to you and your families and always remember that, when we were in the chow lines in Basic Training and the clerk with the clipboard had us

sing out, US, RA, NG or ER... that spells U.S. RANGER, so don't ever forget it! Out Here and God Bless you all and See you in Benning.
Robert S. Stack, K/75 Unit Director, 2000-2002

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

Unit Director - Randall White

**The Birth of an Association**

By Randy White

Associations don't just happen; they are created for a purpose and with a vision for the future. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association [RRA] is no different than any other organization in this regard. The efforts and labors of a few men created the seeds that have grown into the association we now enjoy and sometimes take for granted. I feel it's only fitting to record the founding and early growth of our association before those who were there at the beginning move on to their last mission, and the story is lost forever. For those of you who were at the first meeting at Fort Campbell in 1986, it should bring back some memories of what many 101st people call the greatest reunion ever. For those who don't know the full history of the early years and our struggles, read on.

The history of the 75th RRA started with telephone call during March of 1985 from Donald H. Lynch, Company "F" 58th Infantry, Long Range Patrol, 101st Airborne Division to retired Command Sergeant Major Robert F. Gilbert a former First Sergeant for Company L, Ranger 75th Infantry. This phone call set the stage for the first ever reunion fourteen months later of 101st Airborne Division Reconnaissance members, and ultimately the formation of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association.

First a little background: During the late summer of 1985 Bob Gilbert attended a meeting of the Airborne Walk Committee at Fort Benning, Ga. after noting in the Airborne Static Line newspaper that the 75th Rangers were not represented at the Airborne Walk. At that meeting the editor of "Static Line" Don Lassen, mentioned that they had been meeting and talking for

eighteen months concerning the walk and that it was time for the various Airborne units to "put their money where their mouths were." He demanded they talk to their organization Presidents and bring their funds for individual unit monuments to the next meeting. Following the meeting, his first, Bob Gilbert asked Henley Woods, President of the Airborne Walk Association what the cost of the individual monuments was. He was advised \$2,500. Not having an organization or President to talk to, Gilbert called Lynch who immediately notified the LRRP, LRP and 75th Rangers he had addresses for. After three weeks, enough money was collected to pay for one round of beer for six people. As the day for his second Airborne Walk meeting was closing in on him, Gilbert decided to withdraw the \$2,500.00 memorial funding from his personnel Bank account with Columbus Bank and Trust Company, [CB&T] and provide it to Don Lassen for a 75th monument. Recognizing that later on no one would believe he was obtuse enough to buy that rock for a unit with no association, Gilbert went to Sergeant

Major Riley C. Miller (P/75th) who was then Operations NCO for the 75th Ranger Regiment. He wanted a witness to the withdrawal and the purpose for it. Miller accompanied Gilbert to the Bank and observed the transaction. After Gilbert presented his \$2,500.00 check for the 75th Ranger monument on the Airborne Walk, Don Lassen used that same check in photos with other members of the committee so that he could place the pictures in Static Line newspaper and push the other Airborne units into providing their share of the money to the Airborne Walk Committee.

During the autumn of 1985 Lynch located Billy J. Nix a former member of Company L/75th Rangers, who became the third of the three principal founders of the Association. Donald Lynch had expertise with comput-



L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP (CONTINUED)**Early Association Photo**

ers to include graphics work and began establishing a series of rosters for the association. He formulated not only an alphabetical roster he also provided rosters by state, by Zip Code and one by units of the LRRP, LRP and 75th Rangers. Lynch also provided a series of proposed logos one of which was used on the initial t-shirts offered by the association. Lynch was using the space in a computer

at the business he worked for in Minnesota to perform all of these extra tasks. He rose early in the freezing, blustery mornings to go to work long before he was due there to perform all of the budding association business. Meanwhile down in Georgia, Billy Nix in his line of work was able to access discharged and retired veteran's addresses searching for missing men. As more individuals became aware of these efforts, unit orders that men still had copies of were forwarded to Billy. Billy spent a great deal of his time locating these men and was responsible for locating the addresses and phone numbers of approximately one thousand eight hundred members out of the approximately twenty-two hundred names from all units whose names appeared on the initial rosters and those still in use today. Some of these men had moved and efforts were successful in tracking down and bringing many of them into the budding association. Those names Nix determined were still on or had returned to active duty with the Army, were turned over to Bob Gilbert who was able to track active duty personnel through his contacts.

During the winter of 1985-1986 Lynch notified Gilbert

that the 101st men were making noises about holding a reunion, and after agreeing it should occur Lynch took action to establish the first ever reunion at Clarksville, Tennessee. Adjacent to Fort Campbell Kentucky, home to the 101st Airborne Division Screaming Eagles, a more fitting location could not be found. The list was growing by the time the "Eyes of the Eagle" men came to Tennessee and Fort Campbell during June 1986 for "Week of the Eagle." Near the close of the reunion on Saturday morning June 7th 1986 at approximately 09:00 hour, Lynch called the first ever meeting of the 101st members to order. Lynch promoted Gilbert into talking to the assembled 101st members after first asking them "where do we go from here?" This became the theme Gilbert used to address the crowd before him that fateful morning. Knowing that the Army had recently activated a 3rd Ranger Battalion and a 75th Regimental Headquarters, and that the men before him were their history, Gilbert asked the men if they would like to form an organization. With a resounding yes from the group, the finest Ranger Association in the world was born. He suggested using the name 75th Ranger Regiment Association, which would allow the new organization to tie into the active duty units and be supportive of them in their peacetime and wartime endeavors. Following a short break and discussion, the assembled members of the 101st Airborne Division voted unanimously to follow this recommendation and the resolution was passed. After the meeting, a table was set up and the men stood in line to join the new associa-

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

tion and pay their membership fee. I was number twenty-five in that line. Also present at the reunion were two members of other units when the 101st members formed the association. These were retired Sergeant Major John Kingeter who had served with Delta and Mike Companies 75th Ranger Infantry and an earlier LRRP unit, and a now deceased member of Charlie Company 75th Rangers. These two men along with the 101st Airborne LRRP, Company F/58th Infantry LRP and Company L/75th Ranger Infantry were the Co-Founders of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Principal founders were Donald H. Lynch, Robert F. Gilbert, and Billy J. Nix. They were joined by a fourth principal founder Nicholas Gibbone, a Certified Public Accountant from L/75th who assumed duties as Treasurer and worked through the IRS for the tax exempt status beginning at that reunion. Bob Gilbert agreed to act as interim President, with the others assuming duties as Secretary [Don Lynch], Vice President [Billy Nix], and Treasurer [Nicholas Gibbone]. During the following months at Columbus Georgia, Gilbert opened the association bank account at CB&T, and Lynch sent additional funds collected at the June reunion to boost the account. Gilbert also obtained the 75th RAA charter from the Georgia Secretary of State and began writing the initial Constitution & By-Laws [C&BL] for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. During the first reunion of the new 75th Ranger Regiment Association in 1988, Billy Nix was elected President and this C&BL was approved unanimously on July 27th at Columbus, Georgia with all units being represented. When members of the LRRP, LRP and 75th Rangers learned about how the 75th Ranger Monument was obtained they contributed \$1,250.00 to Gilbert to help refill his personnel coffers. All of these men own a piece of the monument at the Airborne walk.

These early years of the association were marked by a constant struggle to gain credibility and recognition of the association by other established organizations. When Fort Benning officials failed to fund a social event for the Annual Best Ranger Competition [ABRC] in 1988 Gilbert saw an opportunity, should it present itself again. When no social event was funded by Fort Benning Officials during the 1989 David Grange ABRC, the fledgling association stepped forward with a plan to sponsor the event. With the urging of Gilbert, the new association officers authorized the spending of the funds and catapulted the 75th Ranger Regiment Association into the limelight among the other established Ranger Associations. This single move drew the attention of the other Ranger organizations that would

not then recognize the 75th Association as a legitimate organization and made them stand up and take notice of the upstart association. When the other Ranger organizations learned of the event being sponsored by the 75th Ranger Regiment Association they went wild. One President was heard saying, "Who are these guys? Where do they get that kind of money from? How many members do you have in the 75th?" That financial move made by Billy Nix and the others, made the 75th Ranger Regiment Association one to be reckoned with. In a further effort to gain notoriety for the organization, Gilbert undertook writing a column concerning the exploits of the LRRP, LRP and 75th Rangers in Vietnam for the "Static Line" newspaper. For thirtynine months these articles appeared in that monthly publication, exposing the deeds of the Vietnam era LRRP/Ranger units to a wider Airborne audience, and no doubt adding further recognition to the association. All this was done before the proliferation of computers we enjoy today. Despite these moves, battles continued to be fought for credibility. During this time period from 1985 to 1989, an attempted was made by another Ranger Association to remove the 75th Ranger Regiment from Army rolls. A phone call by Gilbert's to the Merrill's Marauders Association President helped prevent that disastrous event. These same detractors wrote several articles for Soldier of Fortune and Association of the US Army magazine claiming the 75th Regiment Rangers and their Vietnam predecessors were not, "REAL RANGERS." Imagine if you can trying to build an organization from scratch, not being accepted by any other Ranger organizations and having to simultaneously fend off attacks like these.

Every good association offers its members a newsletter, and the Patrolling magazine you look forward to reading was named by Bob Gilbert. To publish the initial copies of Patrolling Magazine, Gilbert wrote the first two issues on an electric typewriter and obtained the services of a local printer before mailing the magazine.

During July 1990 at the Association reunion Gilbert was again made President this time by the election of the members, and without his knowledge. He only learned about it when Roy Nelson congratulated him! Billy Nix and Roy Boatman stood by laughing because they knew Gilbert was unaware of his election due to poor hearing caused by concussion damage.

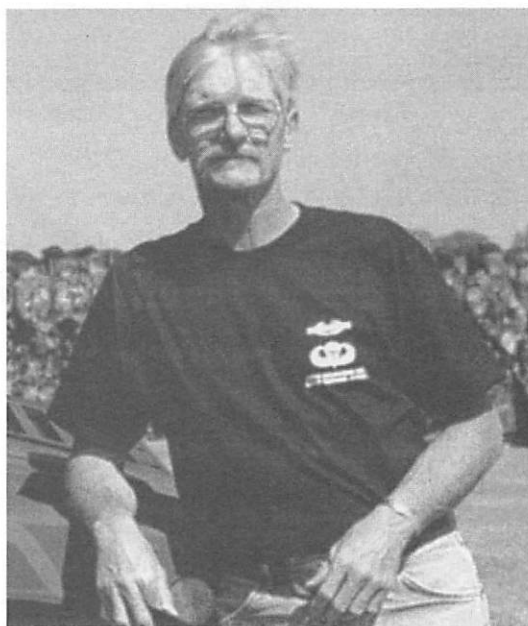
During March 1991 Gilbert and Duke DuShane (who was elected Vice President) met a WWII Ranger in charge of the events planned for honoring fifty years of modern Rangers, scheduled for 1992. The events had been planned for several years, however we were the

L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP (CONTINUED)**Randy White 'Then'**

first Association to offer any assistance to the WWII Ranger Association. They were astounded and most appreciative for the offer. During this fifty year reunion planning the Ranger Memorial planning was concurrent and the overall event was truly outstanding. The initial Ranger hall of Fame inductions were initiated and Gilbert acting as the 75th President entered the three Medal of Honor recipients from the LRP and Ranger units in Vietnam. During planning for the fifty year event, Gilbert learned that the Ranger Training Brigade Headquarters was going to be named and he approached the then Command Sergeant Major of the Ranger Training Brigade CSM Heckerd and informed him that a Ranger School Graduate from Company G/75th Ranger Infantry had earned the Medal of Honor in Vietnam. He recommended that the Ranger Training Brigade be named for the Medal of Honor recipient from G/75th Robert J Pruden. It was accomplished. Following seven years and three months of building the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, the two remaining original founders Billy J. Nix and Robert F. Gilbert

decided it was time to release control of the association. Accordingly no one among the founders or co-founders from the 101st Airborne Division stood for election as President during the 1992 reunion or has since.

The drive, hard work and tenacity of a few men with a vision for the future resulted in the association we now hold in such high esteem. Without their dedication and tireless efforts towards a common cause, the brotherhood we now share as members of the finest Ranger Association on the planet might never have happened. If you should meet one of these founders at a reunion, take a minute to say thanks for a job well done.

**Randy White 'Now'**

RW

e-mail: ranwhite@jamadots.com

The 101st LRRP/Ranger web site: <http://www.lcompanyranger.com/>

**M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP****Unit Director - Jack Fuche**

by Steve Houghton

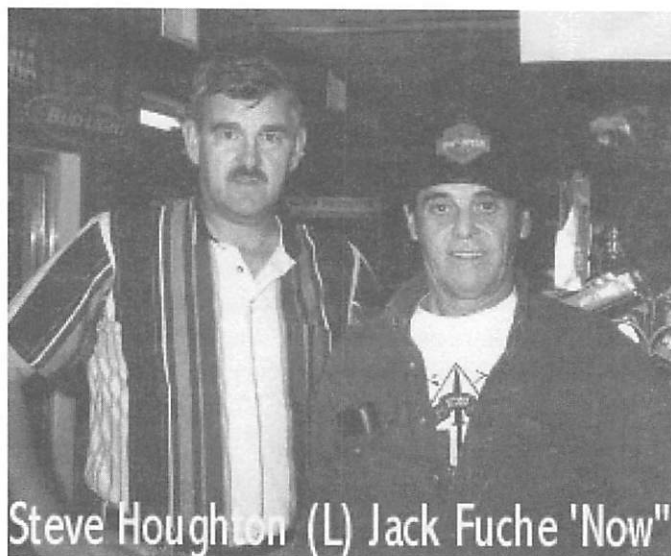
Well May is here already, where does the time go? When you read this article the reunion will be just a few weeks away. I hope your plans are made, and we have a good turn out. I know Jack Fuche is going for sure and I believe Tim Hinderliter, Larry Hall, Charlie Hunt and a new member Terrell Ross. I talked to Terrell on the phone in April and he plans to attend at least some of the days depending on his work schedule.

I will attend if my wife's failing health permits. I think Dave Wolfenbarger said he would try to make it too. God willing and the creek don't rise, maybe we can have a good turn for the 71st and M Company.

There is not much happening right now to report. I'm including an email I got from Bob Smalinckas. It reads as follows

"Just a quick hello. Del Prince reminded me of a

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



story or two about Dave Dalton but it wouldn't be proper for print. He was my room mate and wasn't liked by me or any of the men. Both Rick and myself threatened to kill him.

I'm in the process of having a denim jacket made up, similar to the pin sent to me after I joined the Ranger Association. I'll be using the jacket when I get and ride my motorcycle next year.

Went to a gun show two weeks ago and found one dealer who had many pins and shoulder patches for the Rangers and LRRP/LRP's. Even though we were rappelling out of choppers we were not officially Airborne so I'm being careful not to buy anything with Airborne on it.

According to Mascitelli, Don Tillish, our XO, was trying to make arrangements to send us to Airborne training but TET-68 stopped those plans.

I understand that the LRRP/LRP's were given jump pay because they were repelling from choppers. Maybe those of us that weren't Airborne should be given that status and given jump pay retroactively. Just think how much money they would owe some

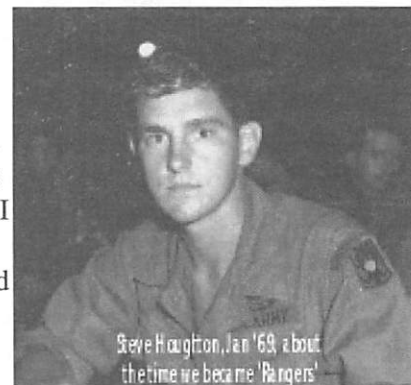


of us. Fat chance of that happening. Once again I'm babbling, talk to ya soon."

Bob Smalinckas

We were asked to send photos of the unit director, then and now. To help build interest in the reunion. So here is one of Jack in Nam and Jack today. Here are the same for me also. Last summer I got to visit Jack who I hadn't seen in 30 plus years. I

It was a great time sharing memories and looking at photos. The day was just too short. I am looking forward to meeting old friends and meeting new ones. Take care all, hope to see you at the reunion. Steve



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Unit Director - Dave Gowen

**2002 Reunion**

This is the last edition of Patrolling before the Reunion. By the time you read this, you will have probably heard from

me on the phone. In the two years since I assumed the duties of Unit Director, at least six of our brothers have gone on their final patrol. As we collectively age, that rate is only likely to

increase. For those of you who have not made up your mind, consider this. Some of the guys you want to see may not be around for the next reunion. Hell, you might not be around

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

for the next reunion!

Unit Director's Position

I've heard from several of you recommending names to be the next Unit Director. So far I haven't heard from anyone recommending themselves. I can think of several of you who would make an outstanding Unit Director. Pretend it's a hawk mission and volunteer.

Taps

I heard from Dave Maloney that he got mail returned which he sent to Norman Ryman in prison. Reason for return was listed as Prisoner Deceased. I don't know what Norman did wrong to end up in prison but I do know that at one time he did one thing right. He served his country.

I also heard from Roger Brown that Tony DaPello has also passed away.

Godspeed Brothers!

Suoi Cai Mission

Roger Brown sent the following newspaper article, probably from the Stars and Stripes.

Black Berets Grab Bad Guys' Booty Suoi Cai Valley -- "N" Co., 75th

Infantry Rangers, in support of 173d Airborne Brigade units fighting the North Vietnamese regulars in the Nui Cung Chap Mountains, made a company-size combat assault in the Suoi Cai Valley to keep the enemy reinforcements from aiding their comrades trapped in the rugged Nui Cung Chap hillside.

The Ranger teams were inserted late Tuesday afternoon, April 6, on the western periph-



ery of the Suoi Cai Valley.

At sunrise Wednesday morning, Ranger Kilo and Oscar teams linked up. The enemy, unaware of the Ranger presence in the area, ran into their ambush. The teams, lead by Staff Sergeant Juan S. Borja, a native of Guam, discovered two enemy killed at their ambush site.

Ranger Lima team found themselves in a rather awkward predicament. Early Wednesday morning, the team was surrounded by an unknown size NVA element. Specialist Four

Michael Bowers, Albuquerque, N.M. called in artillery that pounded the area all morning long to keep away the enemy.

On Wednesday, April 7, Tango team's mechanical ambush went off. Before long, the team, led by Staff Sgt. Walter Solgalow, Bloomington, Ind., realized they made contact with an unknown enemy size unit. When the smoke cleared, there were four enemy KIA and two WIA who were taken prisoner.

The loot included five AK-47's, 60 mm mortar, seven mortar rounds, and various equipment and supplies.

On the same morning, Echo team, led by Platoon Sgt. Roger Brown, Fresno, Calif., was inserted as a reaction force for Tango team. The team found a large enemy base camp in the eastern periphery highlands of Suoi Cai. The base camp included several bunkers and hootches.

Plat. Sgt. Brown requested artillery support from FSB Crystal, namely Alpha and Delta Batteries, 3d Bn., 319th Arty., which pounded the enemy base camp.

Friday, April 9, was an even luckier day for the Rangers. Their Echo and Tango teams ran into an enemy way station about half a kilometer from the base camp. The way station included three hootches and bunkers.

See You in July!



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Bailey Stauffer



BY: Bailey Stauffer

Well guys, here we go again. Not much happening here on the old Rancho. Dry as hell, and today windy also. I'm getting ready for the Special Forces Memorial Service the Saturday before Memorial Day. I will BBQ for them & let them see what lazy BS beef tastes like. If any of you guys are around, come on over to Safford. The Arizona Airborne Association will have the 5th annual All Airborne Day on August 17 at Rockin' R Ranch, 6136 E. Baseline Road in Mesa, from 1200 to 1700 hours. They will have static

displays. The banquet will be from 1800 hours at the same location and same day. I have run into some



Rangers at past events, but not nearly enough. This year we will honor Airborne Veterans of the Vietnam Era. There will be veterans from WW II, Korea, Vietnam and the present days.

I saw Ed Emanuel's documentary, "Silent Heros" on the History Channel a couple nights ago. Ed, you did us proud.

I have about half of my hay in the barn. If you need a cardiovascular workout, come visit and we will do the rest.

Airborne Bailey



ARIZONA AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 26797
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85068-6797
AN AIRBORNE INVITATION
TO ATTEND THE



5TH ANNUAL AIRBORNE CELEBRATION
SPONSORED BY THE

ARIZONA AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION

DATE: Saturday, 17 August 2002
PLACE: Rockin' R Ranch
6136 East Baseline Road, Mesa, AZ
TIME: Static Displays 1200-1700 hours
Admission Free
TIME: Banquet 1800-2000 hours +/-
Price: \$20.00 per person
Includes Country Music and Western Shootout
OCCASION: Honor Airborne Veterans of the Vietnam Era

Additional Information: Dave Gollem, Chairman, 480-983-0309

Comments: Each year the Arizona Airborne Association honors various Airborne missions, such as World War II, Korea and Arizona Airborne Native Americans. This year the AAA will honor the Airborne Veterans from the Vietnam Era, 1960-1975, for service in Vietnam and elsewhere.



Serving Arizona's Airborne Community



From left, Richard Martin, Me in doorway, Herkiet Toitice, Clarence Possoy



That's me, on my way home.



P/75 - 79TH LRP

Unit Director - Terry Roderick



Papa Company "Patrolling" Article Summer 2002

I'd like to start out by thanking Emmett Hiltibrand, Mr. Paul Moody, and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association for their generous offer to assist our many units in finding our lost brothers. I'm taking advantage of the opportunity afforded us by Mr. Moody to find our former mates by using his locator service. A very reasonable fee of \$5.00 per name is being charged and the 75th RRA is sharing the cost 50/50 with those units who take advantage of this opportunity to find their guys. I must admit I had more names than I thought to run, but after sending over 70 names, I got back nearly a 90% listing with what I hope will be current mailing addresses and sometimes a phone number. I have received financial support for this venture from several of my brothers from P/75th and I'd like to thank them too. I'm going to run about 70 more names and I urge you all to take advantage of this service while it is available. I don't know how long the program will remain in place, but it is a huge savings and a great opportunity.

The past few months have been very informative for the Rangers who served in P/75th in Quang Tri. Thanks to the Internet and newly reunited Papa Company Ranger, Bill Davis, we recently were able to get in touch with some pilots and aircrewmen who flew for us in 1969-70. Most of these aviators are from the 158th Assault Helicopter Battalion (AHB), 101st Airborne Division, Camp Evans, RVN. Some were on station December 21st, 1969, when we lost Team 16 (aka Dowd's Dirty Half Dozen), except for Larry Smith. Also, one of the door gunners jumped from the aircraft before it crashed and survived too..... he had also survived a crash a month earlier by doing the same thing. Most of us were under the impression that Larry was the only survivor that day and it was great news to know another soldier survived this disaster. Other events they discussed were the loss of Harold Sides' team, Team 18, in September 1970 in a similar helicopter crash where there was only one survivor, David Slone. Rodney Mills was KIA in a contact on 5 May 1970. A Cobra gunship making his final run for

the team was shot down and caught fire. A P/75th team was sent out to secure the site and to remove the pilots from the aircraft. Other events included a late night, lights out evacuation of a injured team member that was quite hairy when reading the pilots perspective. We just had some great exchanges and I wish I could share them all with everyone who served in our unit. Those of us fortunate enough to have computers have had a whole new world opened up to us by this wonderful invention. We have about 45 people on the net right now. Former members of our unit, their families, and several of our KIA's families are on this list. Passing information, asking questions, and getting answers has

given a lot of comfort and satisfaction I think. Guys are finding out that they were on the same missions by just general discussion. Imagine the surprise to know a guy you have been talking to for a month spent time in the bush with you and you didn't remember !! Quite a common occurrence actually.

We also had a fellow from an Air Force radar site check in. This radar site was set up just above the mess hall we used with some of the 5th Mech support units. The Air Force set up a radar site to track B-52's and their air strikes. A Major Tracy (since deceased we were told) was the man in charge there and he immediately made the nosey, information seeking, curious Rangers from Papa Company feel right at home when we

would show up in his AO trying to figure out what was going on so close to our AO. All the new plywood, 2 by 4's, bunks with springs instead of cots, conex's full of beer and soda, air conditioned buildings, recent movies, and overall elevated level of personal comfort obviously got the larcenous Rangers attention. As it turned out, we never did have to abscond with their stuff. Major Tracy and all the Air Force guys were always very generous to us and we tried to respond likewise with war souvenirs for them to take home that they would never see inside their air conditioned compound. Did I say it was AIR CONDITIONED ?? If not, it was air conditioned !! They had to have it for their electronic gear..... and their personal living areas had it too..... as did their club !! Their club became a popular meeting area for us because it was well stocked, it had a better film projector that always



P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

worked, they let us drink for free usually, it was cleaner and new actually, and they got a much better selection of movies than we did from the Army, and it was AIR CONDITIONED !! Our own company club stayed open for the less sociable guys and we always left the AF Club closing to head down the road to help close our own. We had times when the Army PX would run out of beer or soda and the AF would have pallets flown up to us from Danang for our own club via the Air Force. They could get anything and Major Tracy was the man !! It was a great relationship with these guys and much better than we had with the rest of the 5th Inf. at Camp Red Devil. It was good to have this fellow check in and give us his take on us back then.

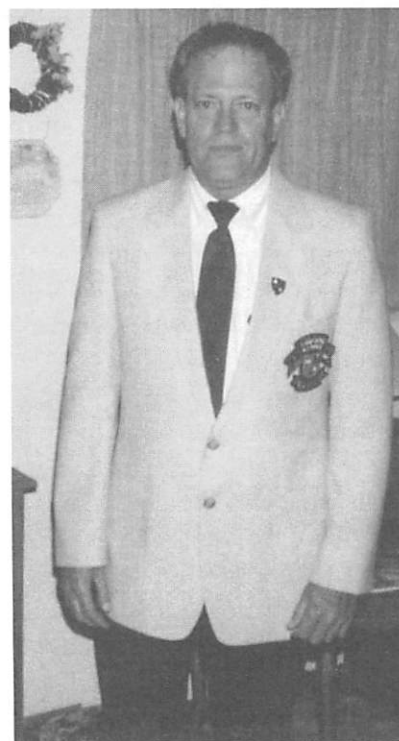
Bill Davis, circa December 1969 through June 1970, found us through the net recently and has been very busy. Bill lives in Oakland, California and is challenging me for mileage visiting P/75th Rangers he served with. Bill recently flew to Florida for some family business and linked up with Jay Lutz. They were on the same team the day the bunkers blew prematurely in June 1970 and Jay and a few others were injured severely. A large bunker complex was discovered and C4 and crystallized CS was brought in to blow up the bunkers and contaminate the area so they couldn't use the bunkers again anytime soon. While setting the charges, and no one knows for sure to this day what actually happened, the whole mess blew prematurely. Since there were NVA nearby, it became a bad situation in a hurry but when the subject came up, we got about 3-4 different perspectives on it from those who were there. Bill had an old list he saved of missions he was on with the team number, Team Leader, the date they went out, and short notes concerning the completion of each mission. Reading the list with his short notes brought back a lot of memories and put many other events into some chronological order for me personally. Well..... Jay and Bill came to my home and we decided to go and track the infamous William "TROLL" Lloyd down again. It was fairly easy as anyone who has been in downtown St. Augustine, Florida for any length of time knows who "TROLL" is !! They may not know Bill Lloyd, but they do know "TROLL". I think "beloved in St. Augustine" would not be out of the question here. He's doing the "Miami Vice" thing right now (minus the gator) and living happily on his boat in a lovely, quaint marina that sits off the Indian River and the Intracoastal Waterway. We had a nice visit together until about 0100 hrs. (SF time..... Troll and Bill Davis went through SF training together) and headed back to my house, as Troll's boat is "not yet a yacht" !! Say that 3 times real fast !! I'm writing this

May 7th and Bill just got back from visiting with Dan "DKW" Wagoner in Southern California. He's headed out to Illinois and Michigan later this week to visit Jim Femiano and Rick Auten and take care of personal and family business.

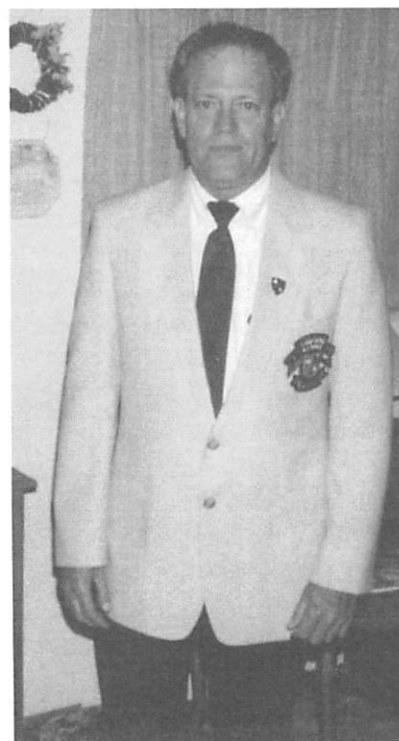
The thing is..... he's taking time out in his travels to look you guys up and visit you from his home in California. It's been over 30 years for him and he is really enjoying himself, I can tell you that. I wish more of you would do the same thing. If you go somewhere, look and see if we have

any one nearby you can visit. I have a database I'll share with you and can do it by state very easily.

The 2002 Ranger Rendezvous/75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion is nearly here. If you don't have reservations yet, please make them soon. If



Terry Roderick 'Then'



Terry Roderick 'Now'

you don't have reservations and decide at the last minute to attend, DO IT !! You can sleep in my room !! I'd love to see as many of you guys come as possible for a change. We've had some nice turnouts, but I keep waiting for the "BIG ONE" !! Come join us on the Internet..... rgr-rock@cfl.rr.com or www.75thrra.com RLTW !! In Ranger brotherhood, Terry B. Roderick



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



A little history about Company D 151.

On May 13, 1968, Company D 151 entered active federal service with 8 officers, 1 warrant officer and 195 enlisted men, a total of 204 men. The main body of which traveled from Greenfield, Indiana by military truck convoy to Fort Benning. Ironically, that was the start of the Vietnam War "peace talks" in Paris, France.



Spec 4 Tom Blandford, the RTO, on his way out to the chopper pad.

The Army in Viet Nam had the policy of "infusion" which meant transferring in new men as others left a unit. This enabled the Army to keep entire active units with sufficient strength, man-power-wise. But the National Guard units wanted to go as a unit and come back as a unit. This was the basic National Guard policy since 1636, yes sixteen-thirty-six. The Army tried a "reverse infusion" method

with Company D by adding men during the time it was at Fort Benning. They gradually added 60 newly trained active Army, (R.A. and U.S.) airborne trained soldiers over several months. Then in October 1968 the unit was directed to reduce its size to 214 man ceiling. It was left to the Company to determine who to keep. Several of the National Guard men would have had their expiration of terms within 2 or 3 months would be left behind. A few others were left off



for various reasons but 80% of the original 214 remained with the unit. (Eventually, "infusion" as a general policy was looked upon in retrospect as not the way to go in the future. The Army over the years came to understand that a constant stream of soldiers coming and going in a unit prevented the soldiers from identifying with the pride and esprit de corps of the unit. It was a deterrent to long-term morale building.)

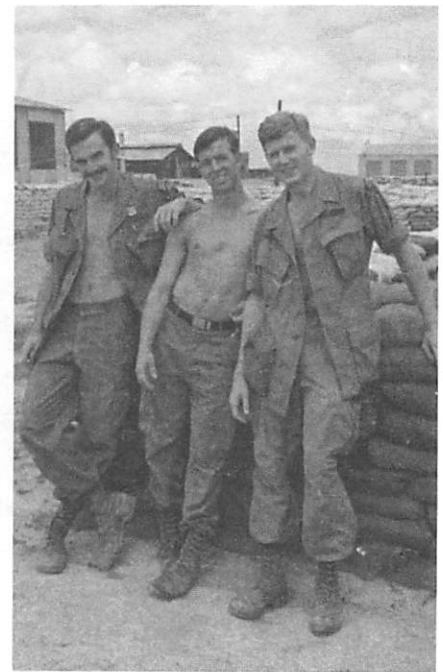
On December 30, 1968, the main body of the unit arrived by military air at Bien Hoa. It was learned

that we had been assigned a new company commander, a Major George M. Heckman, a regular Army graduate of West Point and the current commander of Company F 51st Infantry (LRP). Company F was being "dismembered" and most of its team and platoon members were being transferred to divisions as platoon sized reconnaissance elements.

Remaining Co. F personnel were to be merged with Co. D after its arrival in force and Co. F would then go out of existence as a unit. It was very fortunate for Co. D to receive training from the Co. F members before they left. They were damn good warriors.

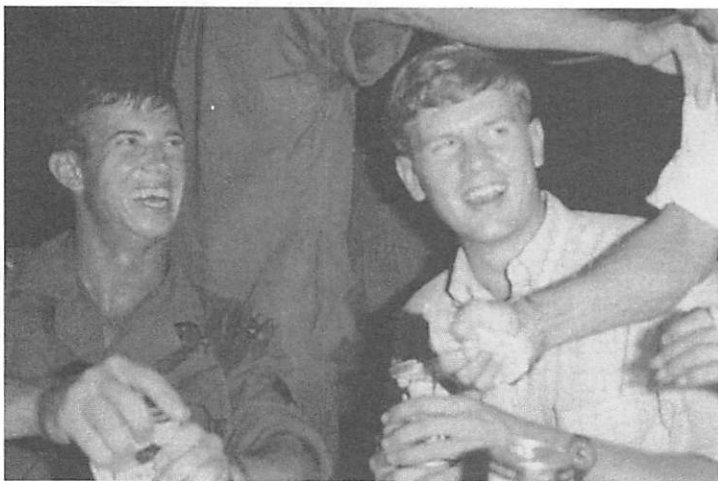
There is a book by a former

Lieutenant of F 51 that states that there was no good reason to dis-



The core of Team 3-1, Dave Drysdale, the best "rear guard" in the unit and a Canadian, Tom Blandford an NG RTO and Jim Bohanon another NG and the best Team Leader there.

D/151 LRP/RANGER (CONTINUED)



Jim Bohanon and Tom Blandford enjoying the suds and social EM Club, in 1969.

band Co. F. That's true, their performance was exemplary. Naturally some of the former Co F members resent being replaced. Who can blame them? I apologize for forgetting the name of the book and author.

down the Indiana State flag. It would be, but would be raised back after a few minutes. After we tired of the game, we put the Indiana State flag in our Club (which we had to build ourselves).

It is said that Major Heckman learned to live with some of the unorthodox methods frequently used by the Hoosiers as long as the results were satisfactory and not illegal. Or at least not caught. But, it

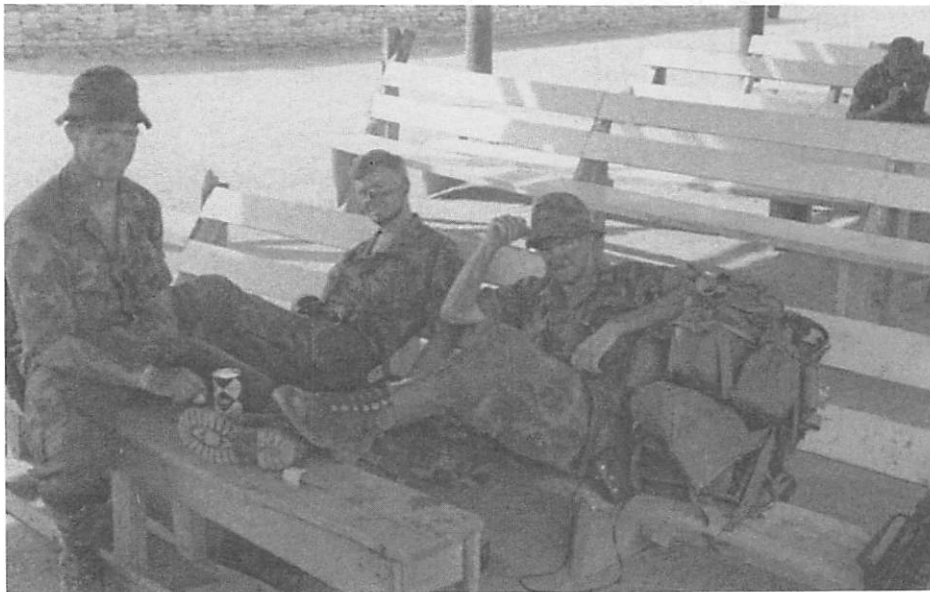
percent of the unit earned the Army's Combat Infantry Badge (CIB) for individual action in combat against the enemy. Five hundred and thirty eight decorations including 19 Silver Stars, 1 Soldiers Medal, 123 Bronze Star Medals (88 with "V" device for valor), 101 Purple Hearts, 111 Air Medals, and 183 Army Commendation Medals. Sadly, some of these were awarded posthumously. As with all the combat units in Viet Nam, "many acts of heroism were performed, some of them got awarded." I don't know that any of the men who received the awards did so by their own design. There was no competition for medals.

In November we were informed that D 151 would be going home at the end that month but the R.A. and U.S. men that were assigned to our unit back at Fort Benning in 1968 would not. They had to complete their one-year duty cycle in Nam. It had never occurred to any of us that they would have to stay behind while we went home. So the Army in its infinite sadistic wisdom succeeded in devastating the morale of 2 units by its "reverse infusion," both Co. F 51, with our arrival, and the men who had to stay behind, with our departure.

On November 20, 1969, there were 75 of the original National Guard unit that landed at Fort Knox Ky. to begin processing out of the active Army.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion July 8 – 12, 2002 I will be arriving



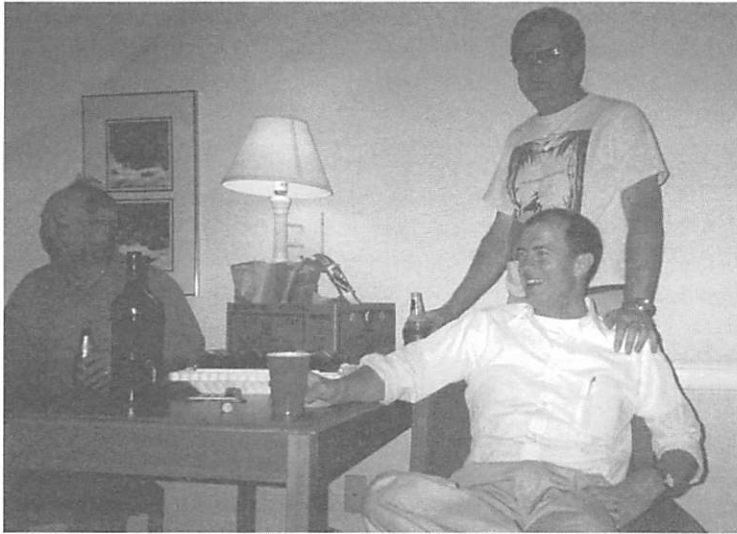
Jim Bohanon, the team leader with Tom Blandford the RTO and Dave Drysdale the "rear guard" before a mission in 1969.

Upon arrival of Co. D, both the United States flag and the Indiana State flag were raised on the same staff every morning over "Camp Atterbury East," as we named the area. Frequently a 199th Brigade goof ball would order us to take

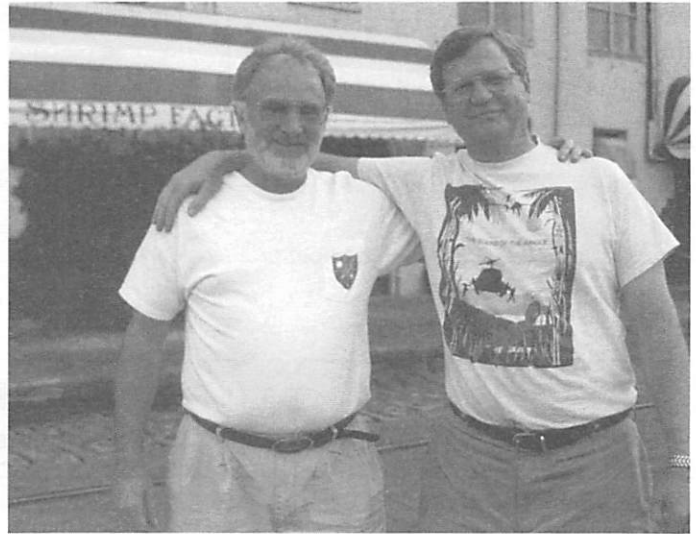
probably bothered the hell out of him. One thing is for certain, the unit had the utmost respect for him.

Company D compiled one of the most remarkable combat records of the Viet Nam war. Ninety eight

D/151 LRP/RANGER (CONTINUED)



Tom Blandford behind Jim Bohanon at the Ranger Hall of Fame ceremony in 2001.



Dave Drysdale and Tom Blandford at the 75th RRA reunion in Savannah 2001.

Wed the 10th and leaving Sat the 13th. Hope to see you there. D 151 has had a fair representation at the 75th RAA reunions, but we could do better. I hope many of you can attend this year's event.

- George Kleiber gravesite ser-

vice Sept 8 Sunday, 1:00

- Kokomo Indiana "Firebase Indy" Sept 20 - 22.
- Veterans Day, Nov. 11 We will be in the parade in Indianapolis. Join us!

THANK YOU

Thanks to the outgoing officers of

the 75th RAA. No one could have imagined the challenges they would have in their tenure. They are all fine men and helped to raise the stature of the association. Good luck to them.

Tom Blandford Team 3-1, Out. RLTW.



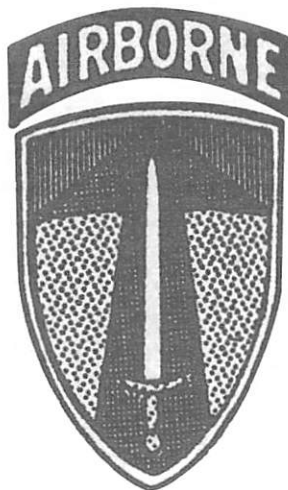
F/51 LRP

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



As summer and warmer weather gets near and everyone becomes involved in family activities, it is easy to put off staying in touch with friends that we have made while we were in Vietnam. I know myself how easy it is to get preoccupied in various activities as we are getting ready for my daughter's wedding and getting caught up with the yard work and other activities that always seem to appear as warm weather gets here. Let's not forget to write a short letter or drop a short note by way of email just to stay in touch with everyone during the summer.

I don't know what it is, but it seems the older we get the time



seems to slip away quicker. I was thinking about this and it dawn on

me that our friends and we are getting older too. This is just one more reason not to lose contact. Thank God for the Internet or I probably never would get a note written, stamped and mailed as my wife does that.

For the guys that didn't make the Vegas reunion for F/51 LRP, John "Pappy" Burke has volunteered to host the next reunion in Tampa, FL. More information will be made available as the time for the reunion nears in 2003. I believe that it is going to be in Oct. again.

I have a request for those who

F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

were in F/51 LRP, even for a short time. We would like to update everyone's address and if you have

an email address we could use that also. You can send the information to: Russ Dillon 39 Pearl St

Wakeman, OH 44889
email redmjd2@accnorwalk.com
or Bob Edwards



HQ/75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Vacant



No Submission



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - James Kinney



Rangers, this is my last article as your Unit Director. It has been quite a rewarding experience being directly involved with this association. I have seen a lot of hard work by the officers, some progress for the good of the association, and some things I wish were different. One of those is more younger era Rangers belonging to this association. If there were one thing I wish I could have improved it would have been recruiting more former 1/75TH Rangers. This association was founded, formed, and ran by Viet Nam era Ranger/LRRP's. It continues to be run by Viet Nam Ranger/LRRP's. There is nothing wrong with that, but one day this association is going to need new blood and hopefully the bloodbank will not be empty.

We accomplished many things since June of 2000. We dealt with the Black Beret issue. That certainly brought many of us together and gave us insight in having an association like ours. We updated and improved our constitution and by-laws. We increased our Patrolling magazine to a reputable publication. Not to say it wasn't reputable before, but it sure looks much better.

We have our reunion July 8th – 12th in Columbus, GA. Hopefully, those of us from the 1/75th, young and old, former and present, can enjoy the memories, comradeship, and honor we all felt being a part of the Ranger community. I would like to inform you that I can no longer stay on as UD. My schoolwork doing my master's, my family after our tragedy in March, prevents me from doing so. I hope someone will step up to the plate and be ready to serve. You guys are going to need someone. We can take a vote, or we can just pick someone. Or perhaps, like last reunion, when nobody was willing to do the job and you see the next Patrolling without an article from our unit, someone will take the initiative and charge and get the job done. I certainly hope so.

Looking forward to meeting as many of you and your families as possible. The one thing I most enjoyed

in being Unit Director was hearing from former unit Rangers and having the chance to talk about our past involvement with the best unit in the entire military anywhere! Rangers Lead The Way!

Jimmy Kinney
C 1/75TH Ranger
1978-1980
Opn. Eagle Claw



James Kinney (L) with Kurt Massey stabo ladder rigging at Special Ops Training a Ft. Bragg, August 1979



James Kinney reciting part of the Ranger Creed at an early C 1/75 dining-in, Circa 1980

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

Unit Director - Rich Hecht



I hope all of you are having a good summer. Here in the Great Pacific North-west we are creeping very slowly out of the rain towards two of the best weeks of summer anywhere! For those of you attending the reunion at Benning (July 8-12) have a great time. I am not able to attend, so please have a beer on my behalf.

I would like to take a moment to thank outgoing Association President Emmett Hildebrandt for all his hard work, dedication and most important, leadership. Under his watch this association has grown much stronger and will continue to lead the way in the Ranger Veterans community. We were able to overhaul the governing by-laws, no easy task, and it was through Emmett's oversight that we now have a document that will allow us to function more effectively and grow as we should.

**The New Web Gear**

The two active duty Rangers in the pictures are SSG Bryan Hammes and SGT Justin Vienes from the S5 shop. They have been extremely helpful in allowing

me access to the new gear and equipment. Regiment has been issuing new field gear, helmets and rucks. The helmet has real ballistic protection and is lighter weight and has a lower profile than the standard K-pot. It also has a fully adjustable harness, custom padding and a cover that reverses from woodland to desert.

The ruck is about the same size as the Alice pack but features an upper and lower compartment. Its best feature is that the shoulder harness is adjustable to the individuals height. They say it makes wearing it on the road much better.

The web gear is a vest and belt that have rows of webbing sewn across. Pockets can be attached in any manner by "lacing" the pockets to it. This is very secure and again allows the user to customize how the gear is worn. The pockets themselves are a mix of ones that are issued with the kit and those that are privately purchased to fill other needs. For an "old timer" like me, I find it very hard to understand that there doesn't seem to be an SOP. (Actually, except for parades, I never understood why we all had to wear our gear the same.)

Permitting an individual to set up his gear in a way that allows him to access it more efficiently will allow him to be a more lethal soldier. A big HOOAH to the Regiment for letting this happen. Lastly, let's just pretend that the tan beret isn't actually there!

The other pictures are of yours truly and my two kids, Justin who is 3 and Alison who is 1. The picture with the SAW is of a young PFC Hecht from August 1988 during the deployment to Ft. Campbell, Ky. and the other is of SGT Hecht after jumping back into Lewis in August 1991 at Pt. Salinas DZ, after the deployment to Ft. Bliss, TX. Also, for those of you who were lucky enough to go, Juarez, Mexico. This was my last jump and the sign I'm holding says, "No Mas!"

Lastly, enjoy Part 2 of our series, "2/75, the Early Years."

Have a very good and safe summer & enjoy the reunion if you will be attending. Rich

David C. Lukoskie
Co C 2/75 RGR
Wpns Plt
'75---'76

I arrived at Fort Lewis in early April of 1975. I was fresh out of Jump School, and didn't quite know what

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

to expect. I spent one day at the 525th Replacement Company, before being picked up by a “body-snatcher” from the 2nd Bn.

I was taken to Charlie Company, and led unceremoniously to the hallway outside of the 1st Sergeant's office. I waited there briefly, and was then motioned inside. Our First Shirt was a small, wiry man with an unmistakable accent, and the look of a combat veteran. His name is Jan Schalavin. (CSM ret'd) A former “freedom fighter” with the Hungarian resistance movement, he cut his teeth as a youth, fighting the Nazis in WW II. Top Schalavin “served with The Herd”, (173rd Abn), in Vietnam.

He quickly put me at parade rest, then proceeded to get up from his desk, and circle me without speaking. He smacked me gently on each shoulder, then without emotion said; “Lukoskie, I think we put you in Weapons Platoon”. I'm guessing it was my size, 6'2 and 190 lbs, that made that decision easy for him. Since I was an 11B and not an 11C, I thus became a member of the 90mm recoilless rifle section.

Our CO was initially a Cpt. Kelly. He was replaced soon after I got there, by another Captain, William Ohl. Cpt. Ohl was a good CO, and an impressive physical specimen. He didn't seem to need sleep or food. He never looked tired, and really pushed us physically. Privately, all of us E-3 nobodys called him Bionic Bill. He wore the combat patch of the 101st, a CIB, and a slew of other badges on his uniform tunic. He scared the hell out of me.

My platoon sergeant was SSG Turney. He was an American Indian, from Minnesota I think, and had served with the Special Forces in RVN. He moved like a ghost in the woods, and could run anyone into the ground during our morning PT.

At that time, the 2/75 was still on the old North Fort. We were, as a battalion, much less than a company strong. We lived there in old WW II-era barracks, until around July '75, when our new home was ready on the Main Post.

Since the 2/75 was so newly formed, we were somewhat limited in the types of training we could do.

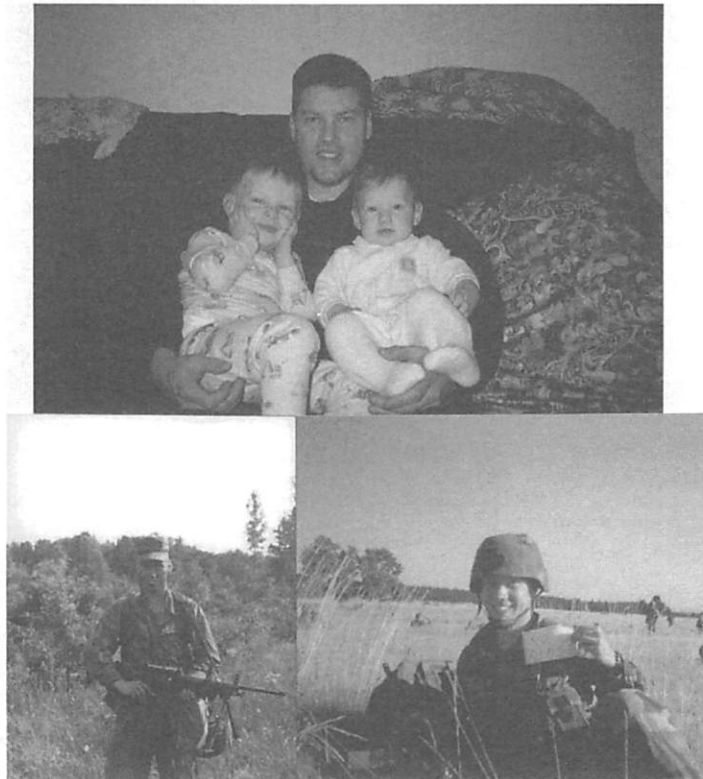
There was morning PT, some classroom activity, jumping from whatever aircraft we could scrounge, weapons training, and of course, lots of walking around with heavy rucks.

Our main priority was to continue “in-processing” new Rangers, and increase our numbers to get the unit to full strength. I once heard that we went through about 300 guys in the first 9 months, in getting that done. I don't doubt it.

When the 2/75 was formed, in October of '74, the goal was to develop the finest light infantry battalion in the world. I firmly believe they succeeded. Our cadre was outstanding. Most of our officers, and all of the senior NCO's were combat veterans of Vietnam. Several of those officers are now General Officers, and still “active duty”. Many of them were wearing the right-shoulder combat patches from SF, 101st, the 173rd. Amongst them was at least one MOH winner, and several with the DSC and other indications of valor under fire.

I, like many others, was awed by their collective history and accomplishments. They all knew their business, and were “good in the woods”. There could be no better people than them, to teach us the business of Ranger-ing. I remember when Saigon fell in late April of '75. There was a strange melancholy, almost palpable in those who'd fought in Vietnam. I often wondered what they were thinking, about the end to that war.

As the 2/75 grew and filled up, we began to train more and more outside. My dim recollection is that we spent at least 20 days each month, doing our thing in the cold and wet, preparing for our 1st ARTEP in Dec '75. We routinely spent 4 to 7 days at a pop, training as Rangers should. We did not carry tents, sleeping bags or rain gear. Since this was the “pre-Goretex” era, we were most often cold and wet. We ate C-rations and sometimes LRRP's. Who could forget the joy of having cold spaghetti and meat balls for breakfast? Or “rocks and slabs”, or “pork and nasties”, with that layer of cold, congealed fat, floating above the entrée. The veterans taught us all the little things that made life in the field less miserable. Things like not wearing underwear or socks, to minimize the tendency for fungal problems.



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

They showed us how to fill a LRRP ration with water, then fold it over and keep it in our pants cargo-pockets. Hours later, when we stopped to eat, the LRRP was somewhat warm. This also allowed the water to be absorbed by the ration, and made for less crunchy meals.

We tended to train as a company, and had few occasions to get to know the Rangers from the other companies. As a 90 gunner, I was usually farmed out to a line platoon. We spent a lot of time attached to all 3 of those line platoons. They did this with both our 60mm mortar teams, and the 90 mm teams. This was a great benefit, as it made it easier to get to know everyone in the company. The pace of the training increased steadily throughout our preparations to take the first ARTEP. By Dec '75, we were more than ready, and passed that mandatory exercise with little difficulty. Again, a tribute to the fine officers and NCO's, who had done this for real in Vietnam, where the stakes were much higher, only a couple of years earlier.

After Christmas, we went as a Battalion to Alaska for 7 weeks. We went to Ft. Wainwright, near Fairbanks. It was brutally cold, and again, we spent a great deal of time outdoors. Hooked up like dogs to a sled, pulling Ahkios (sp?) across the frozen tundra. We did 2 jumps in Alaska, I think. That far north, and at that time of year, the air is very cold as you leave the aircraft; and wearing all that arctic gear made "full equipment" jumps most interesting. I think I weighed about 350 lbs when I fell with my 90mm, from the doorways of those aircraft.

After Alaska, the 2nd Bn made it's first trip to Coronado. Then to Panama, and later to Yakima. It was a highly mobile unit from Dec '75 thru the end of summer, 1976. People continued to come and go. There was always a half dozen or more, filling slots in Ranger School. Some ETS'd, others were hurt and had to transfer out, and some just "terminated" and went to other units.

When we were not TDY elsewhere, we continued to train hard, and spent most of our time lurking in the woods of Ft. Lewis. The spooky and thick, tangled mass of vegetation known as the Rainier Training Area, was like a second home to us.

Despite the rigors of that level of training, and the harsh reality of being cold, wet, tired, and hungry most of the time, our morale was always high. We took great pride in wearing that "Old Scroll", and being a part of that great Ranger tradition.

It was quite an education, and all things considered, I wouldn't trade my time there, for anything. I believe that in many ways, that experience forged our personalities to a degree that stays with us even today. We were

special, and we knew it.

We were very well trained and highly motivated, and had quite possibly the finest cadre available in the Army, at that time. We were Airborne Rangers, and proud to be associated with such a fine group of soldiers. And, as everyone knows,

Rangers Lead The Way!!!-----Dave Lukoskie

What: Ranger Reunion V

When: Aug 22---24 (3 nites)

Where: Sheraton Hotel New Orleans

Room Prices: \$85/nite---choose a room with 1 King or 2 Queen beds specify bed choice and SMOKING vs NON

This reunion is for any/all Rangers, Tabbed or not, any era. We've had great turnouts in Reno. Lots of guys from the Rgr Bn's and RVN-era Rangers/LRRP's. We even have a couple of old Rangers who were with Darby's Rangers in WW II.

I do all the logistics, and coordinate things with the Sheraton folks. To reserve a room, send me a check for \$120. Of that \$\$, we put \$25 towards our Entertainment Fund, and the balance to your room. You pay the remainder of the room cost at "check-out" time.

If 2 Rangers share a room, each guy pays only about \$135 for the entire 3-nite stay. We usually have a banquet 1 night, and some "female entertainers" for a while, later that same night. The \$25 to the Entertainment Fund pays for the Hospitality Suite and also for "the girls". Nothing too raunchy, just Hooter Shooters and some good clean fun.

The Sheraton is a 4-star resort. It borders the French Quarter, and is across the street from the Harrah's Casino in the Big Easy.

Lots of guys brought wives, girlfriends, and kids to our Reno Reunions. N'Awlins is a very fun town. You can buy airfare to N'Awlins on Southwest Airlines for only \$99 each way, from any city SW Air flies from.

Direct all questions to me. Let me know if you need add'l info. Thanx much.

RLTW!!!! DCL

David C. Lukoskie

Co C 2/75 RGR

'75--'76

916-774-0435 (hm)

916-919-1015 (msg/cell)

DCL55@msn.com

Dave Lukoskie

9618 Swan Lake Drive

Granite Bay, Ca. 95746

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 2D BATTALION, 75TH RANGER REGIMENT
FORT LEWIS, WASHINGTON 98433-9500



Office of the Commander

14 February 2002

Mr. Emmett Hiltibrand
President
75th Ranger Regiment Association
6459 Adams Park Drive
Columbus, GA 31909

Dear Mr. Hiltibrand,

Second Ranger Battalion is exceptionally grateful for the generosity and warm-hearted support that we receive from the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. We are most thankful for the \$2000 that we received this past holiday season. We used the entire donation to provide toys for Christmas presents for our most financially needy Ranger families.

The Battalion Chaplain solicited a list of needy Ranger Families from the Company First Sergeants. The consolidated list included 35 children in 22 families. Every penny of this donation was spent at a local "Toys R Us" store - for our Ranger Families. The gifts were given to the Company Chain of Command to make final distribution of the toys and toy certificates (from Toys R Us).

Many rangers expressed their appreciation - commenting that this was the best Christmas ever because of the extra support they received this year in purchasing toys for their children. This special Christmas for these Second Battalion Ranger families is a direct result of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association's generosity expressed with the financial donation at the exact time it was needed most by our families. God bless you for magnanimous holiday spirit.

Our families in Second Ranger Battalion, along with this chain of command, are indebted to you for your generous and outstanding support. Thanks again for all that you do and all that you have done in the past to assist our Battalion and our Ranger families! The 75th Ranger Regiment Association "leads the way" in service to our nation, as well as service to our Ranger families!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin C. Owens".

Kevin C. Owens
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Battalion Commander



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Peter Squeglia



To The 75th Ranger Regiment Association,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful contribution to the 3/75 Ranger Battalion this month. We received a donation from your association to provide some Ranger families with childcare at Tot Town on post for the 3/75 Ranger Ball. For those families the opportunity to bring their child to a safe and happy place during the ball really helped them relax and enjoy the evening.

In addition, I'd like to thank Mr. Ron Edwards and Mr. Emmett Hiltibrand for their wonderful support of our unit. These men communicate your concern for Ranger families in a sincere and positive manner.

To all the men in the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, thank you for your generosity and care!

Sincerely,
Margie Banach
3/75 FRG

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

By Mike McClintock,
Unit Director

I'd like to add my voice to all the others in this issue thanking Emmett Hiltibrand for his service to the Association and commend him for a job well done. Emmett you had a tough job and some of the issues you have dealt with must have been like trying to herd

cats. Rangers have always been a breed apart and I guess when we don't have an enemy to fight we'd just as soon fight among ourselves. That's probably why most of us never made colonel (let alone E-6



in my case)! Anyway, thanks for a job well done, Emmett.

As his parting shot at us Emmett asked that the unit directors provide pictures of ourselves when we were younger and as we are today. Well, I couldn't find any baby pictures of myself, but here's me when I was a young buck sergeant with the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment in Bad Kissingen, W. Germany in 1963.

Bad K is a resort town in the

Franconia region of Northern Bavaria. Germans still come to the town today to "take the cure" (i.e., drink the mineral water). The town is located in a beautiful wooded valley about 90 kilometers east of Frankfurt and, at the time, about 15 miles from the East German border. The 3rd ID LRRPs worked the border with the 14th Armored Cavalry Regiment. The Cav was a 7th Army unit and we were with the 3rd Infantry Division. Obviously, we did not get along. But that's a different story. We were stationed at Daley Barracks, which was also known as Mannteuffel Kaserne to the locals. It seemed that the Kaserne was a former Wehrmacht post. Most of the U. S. Army posts in Germany were in former German Army barracks, some going back to the late 1800's.

In December 1934, the Lord Mayor of Bad Kissingen began negotiations to have a garrison of troops in town for the purpose of

THEN AND NOW



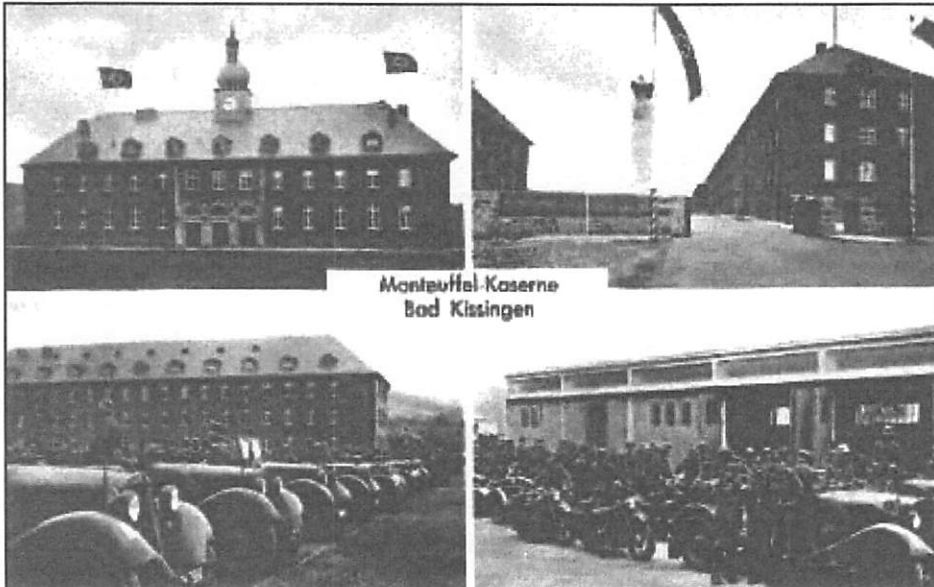
SGT "Geek" McClintock in 1963...
"Leading the way to E. Berlin!"

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID (CONTINUED)

improving the economic situation, especially during the winter months when no spa guests were present. The city provided an area of approximately 20 acres for the garrison, and as training grounds. The barracks were constructed between August 1936 and May 1937 by the German Army. The construction of the Officer's Club (which became our NCO Club) on the Kaserne was started in April 1937. For this another 28 acres of land were acquired. On June 1, 1937, the Motorcycle Machine Gun Battalion #2 Battalion (Krafradschuetzen-Bataillon #2),

Kaserne was completely renovated and reoccupied by the U.S. Army. General Order #1, HQ U.S. Army, Europe, dated 17 February 1953, was published, redesignating Manteuffel Kaserne as "Daley Barracks" in honor of Technician Fifth Grade William T. Daley, of Headquarters and Service Troop, 94th Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), U.S. Army. Daley was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the armed enemy near Greussen, Germany.

and Post Commander had the other half. B Company, 10th Engineers had the upper floors. All things considered, Bad K was a paradise compared to some of the other posts that the 3rd ID LRRPs transferred in from, including Schweinfurt where I was originally

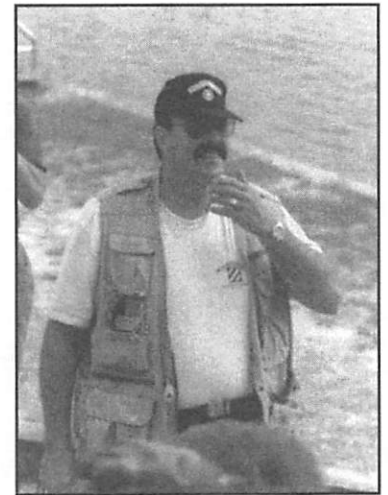


Manteuffel Kaserne
Bad Kissingen

light infantry, which formerly had been stationed in Eisenach, Thuringia, moved into the barracks with about 900 men. The rest is history as they say....

From 1948 to 1950, Manteuffel Kaserne was headquarters of the International Refugee Organization (IRO) for Europe. In 1951, the

The above picture is of Manteuffel Kaserne in 1937. The picture in the upper left was the mess hall that the 3rd ID LRRPs shared with the 14th AC. The picture at the bottom left was our barracks. The 3rd ID LRRP Detachment had the first floor on the right hand side of the building. An MP detachment



Geek in 1997...
"Now where did I park
that damned car?"

posted with the 30th and 38th Infantry.

Anyway, that's enough 3rd ID LRRP Detachment history for this issue. More to come in future issues, especially about FTXs where we operated with both the V Corps and VII Corps LRRPs (ABN)—(as ham-fisted a bunch of CW radio operators as I've ever seen).

Lastly, here's a picture of me taken in 1997 at the first 3rd ID LRRP Detachment reunion at Fort Benning. I'm still lost.



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Mike Martin



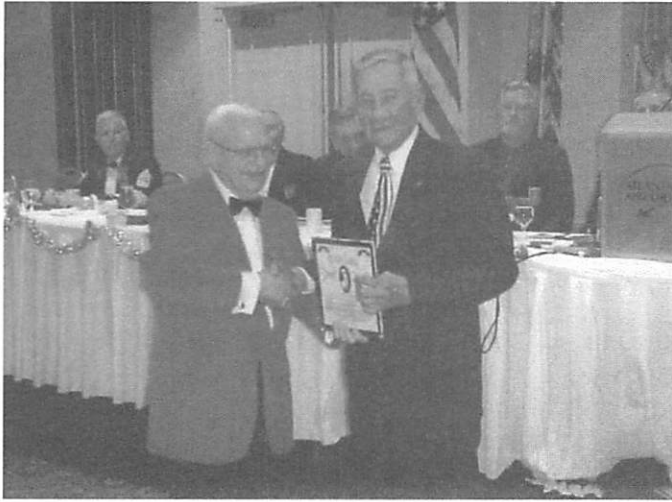
BDQ Mike Martin

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

"Ah, yes, the mysterious East, " I ponder in the early morning darkness as I sit listening to the ice tinkling in my glass; successive flashes of lighting revealed trees twisting in the storm. Warm rain accompanied the hail

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

in its attack against the window panes and as it merrily dances along the deserted street



BDQ John (Russ) McDonald, receiving the Airborne "Man of the Year" award for the 75th Ranger Regt. Assn., from Don Lassen (Static Line), on Saturday, 13 April 02, at the 25th Airborne Awards Banquet in Atlanta, Georgia. As a professional soldier and NCO in two wars--Korea and Vietnam--Russ has led a challenging and colorful life.

In Korea, he fought with the 7th Infantry Division, 1950-51, and with the 45th Infantry Division in 1952. McDonald arrived in Vietnam in 1963, and helped form the 32nd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion. In 1965-66, he served as a First Sergeant with the 1/327, 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. He returned in 1967 as a 1SG to the 3/506, 101st ABN. Division. Russ was wounded with the Biet Dong Quan in 1963, and in 1968, was wounded with the 101st, and medevacuated from Vietnam to Fort Campbell, KY. His wife Faye, and family members were in attendance as were others who served with him. McDonald retired on jump status as the Command Sergeants Major, 1/72 Arctic Light Infantry in Alaska; he is a Distinguished Member, 327th Airborne Infantry Regiment.

I have come to the conclusion, that--as many who served extended tours in Asia have--maybe, I have Yellow Fever...not the contagious plaque of the Far East, but that colorful metaphor used by those who deemed the Orientals as inferior and those of us who respected and related harmoniously with them as getting a little "too close".

Of course the same nondescript individuals were appalled at the idea that as soldiers many of us regarded

it as our duty to seek combat, and the harshness that encompasses war. These same noncombatants would be disdainful, even physically sick at the thought of sitting next to your counterpart, rice bowl in hand, pecking away at the sliver of fish With chopsticks, and actually feeling blessed with your assignment. Even now, the pungent smell of spices, pho bp (Vietnamese beef noodle soup) and ngoc-mam remind me of how much I miss Vietnam and its people.

Now I will apologize to Ranger Al Hill for not running his story--AL, its a great tale and it will be in the next issue of Patrolling.

In this issue we have included the first of a two-part narrative on the 39th Vietnamese Rangers (Biet Dong Quan) and their U.S. Marine Advisor, Willie D. Tyrone (a few Marine NCO's were assigned as Advisors to Ranger and Airborne units in the '60's) by Ranger Fred Caristo.



Caristo served as an Advisor to the 37th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion and also, several extended tours with MACV SOG. He is the ultimate covert warrior: speaks several languages, including Vietnamese, Cambodian, French, and dialects spoken by the Montagnards and the Chinese Nungs. Fred was awarded the U.S.

Distinguished Service Cross for his actions in an attempt to rescue two American pilots held prisoners in Cambodia...initially, he was the only American on the ground in the middle of an NVA battalion's base camp, conducting lone assaults through a mine field. His service to the nation has continued in other parts of the world. . . "la vie militaire." Fred, thanks for the article and your support.

Trying to set the record straight

Fred Caristo 37th BDQ, 1st BDQ TF

The following appeared in the Stars and Stripes Newspaper, 2 June 1965

"The top of a nameless hill west of Quang Ngai was littered with the mutilated bodies of 107 Vietnamese army men.

Two slain Americans, a blond Army Captain with two months to go in Vietnam, and a Marine Sergeant lay

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

among the dead on this Memorial Day in South Vietnam. It was the burial ground of the 39th



NOW: ARVN Ranger Advisors (BDQ) Unit director Mike Martin, 2002. a member of the US Army ranger hall of fame and a distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger regiment. He was the original First Sergeant of B company, 1st 75th Ranger Battalion when the unit was formed. Martin retired in 1986, as the Command Sergeant Major of the Combined field Army (ROK-US) in Korea.

Helicopters were unable to get in to evacuate him and he was killed in the final communist assault. His last radio message was that the position was being overrun. Bullets apparently had been pumped into the bodies of both Americans after they were dead, but they were not mutilated as were many of the Vietnamese. Some of the Vietnamese Rangers were found with their stomachs cut open. Most of the faces mirrored terror, agony, and violence they had experienced during their last moments. A Vietnamese Lieutenant who was not with the battalion during the fight went in with the body recovery detail. He murmured: "Where is my battalion? I have no battalion now. My battalion is dead." End of the article.

An Army "Eyes Only" After Action Report (AAR) provided to the family of the deceased Marine Sergeant, by a friend, reflected the following: In interviews with both a US Army Major, and an Army Captain (both of whom shall remain nameless), and three Vietnamese Rangers who were present at the battle stated: The VC had killed

Vietnamese Ranger Battalion. Fewer than 80 men of the 265 man battalion are known to have survived a brutal series of Viet Cong onslaughts which ended before dawn when the hill was overrun.

The Viet Cong guerillas by mutilating the bodies of dead men and shooting wounded prisoners at point blank range and had left behind a scene of horror. "The article continued "The American Captain had died early in the fighting. The Leatherneck Sergeant was wounded during the night.

dying prisoners. That the Marine Sergeant had been wounded in the leg, and there were several bullet holes in this head (the bullets being fired after death). The AAR provided that a "Communications Officer" was with the Marine Sergeant throughout the battle, and that he "took off" leaving the Marine Sergeant just prior to the final assault. It also stated that at some time after 2400 on the 31st of May, the Marine Sergeant suggested "if they could get a chopper in, it might not be a bad idea to evacuate him, along with the body of the Captain who had been killed early in the battle."

In February 2002, I was contacted by the daughter of Staff Sergeant Willie D. Tyrone, the Marine who was killed 37 years ago this month in Ben Song District, Quang Ngai Province, RVN. Donna Tyrone was only three years old when her father, S/Sgt Tyrone died. She had a number of questions as to what really happened to her father that

Memorial Day in 1965: "Why did the article published in Stars and Stripes in 1965, omit her father's name?", "Why was a Marine serving with an Army unit in RVN?", "Was he an assassin? as someone had suggested to her", "Why was her father not Med-Evaced? when it was known that he was wounded", "Why did the Communications Officer "take-off", and leave her father to the final onslaught?", "Should her father have received the Medal of Honor? , as some had suggested", and so on and so on!

The Viet Cong attacked the District town of Ben Song on the evening of 29 May 1965. Their plan was to draw ARVN into committing troops piece-meal down the road between Quang Ngai City and Ben Song, thus ambushing each unit prior to its deploying for battle. On the morning of 30 May, the onerous General



THEN: ARVN Ranger Advisors (BDQ) Unit Director Mike Martin, 1965/66. Advisor to the 44th Diet Dong Quan, with captured Viet Cong; he is wearing field cap with Ranger Tab and Jump Wings.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

Lam, Commander of the ARVN, 1st Division, was more than willing to oblige the Viet Cong. As the lead



Ranger William L. Schwartz, Trung Lap Vietnamese Ranger Training Center, 1962. Phot was taken near Trung Lap, after the BDQs and their Advisors fought there way into a hamlet. Bill gives of his time and efforts to support all activities within the Ranger Community.

Infantry Battalion fell into the trap, the inept Lam attempted to "reinforce defeat" by sending a second Battalion to its doom! Meanwhile, both the 37th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion (BDQ) and the 39th BDQ were alerted for deployment to Ben Song. Cpt Wallace Crain, Senior Advisor to the 37th BDQ, sent me, the Assistant Battalion Advisor, to act as liaison, to the temporary

Command Post (CP) for the operation, at Quang Ngai Airport. As the 39th BDQ was already at the Airport, the decision was made to deploy them first. The Province Senior Advisor had managed to obtain US air assets from Da Nang, thus hoping to avoid another road ambush. The "package" consisted of a Command and Control (C + C) helicopter, two B Model Huey gun ships, and six slicks (troop carriers).

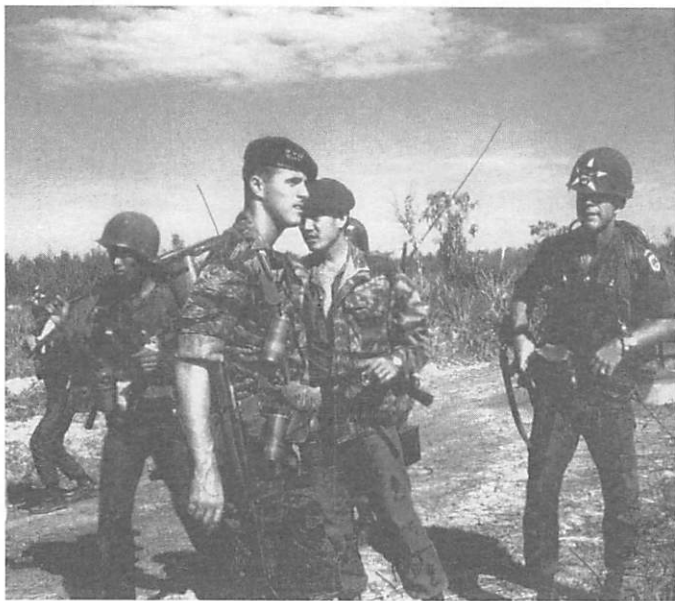
Arriving at the CP, I was instructed to "stand by" to accompany the 39th BDQ on their helo insertion. The rationale for sending me in lieu of Captain Christopher O'Sullivan, Senior Advisor to the 39th (and the "blond Captain" referred to in the Stars and Stripes article), was that he just returned from R & R, and was "too short" in country to accompany an operation of this magnitude. I was preparing my gear for the op, and speaking to S/Sgt Tyrone, when the proverbial "crap hit the fan". Cpt O'Sullivan let it be known that as long as he was in RVN, no one, but no one was going to replace him with HIS battalion. This was the right position for him to take, but the "Compound

Commandos" could not follow this manner of thinking! Why go to the field when you don't have to? Thus, Cpt O'Sullivan, S/Sgt Tyrone and the 39th BDQ choppered into history.

While exiting the helicopter on the LZ, Cpt O'Sullivan was struck by a single bullet in the head, and killed instantly. It now fell upon S/Sgt Tyrone to accomplish all the co-ordination for US support, as he was the ONLY American on the ground during the entire operation. A valid question at this point is; where were the District Advisers? And where were the Advisers to the already deployed Infantry Battalions? Maybe some questions are best left unanswered! After inserting the 39th the slicks returned to Da Nang, leaving the C & C ship, and the two gun ships on station. The gun ships could not fire because the combatants on the ground were so intermingled that any fire from the air would endanger the friendly forces. When the news of Cpt O'Sullivan's death was relayed to the CP from the C & C ship, it was a real shock to all the Americans. Chris was a great guy, with a wife and children back in Astoria, NY. Now our apprehensions turned to the plight of S/Sgt Tyrone, who was the lone American on the ground, and also the fact that he was "slightly wounded" in the left shoulder. I was again alerted to stand by for insertion, but there was another problem, we were losing the daylight rapidly. Now S/Sgt Tyrone was reporting, the 39th was no longer a cohesive fighting unit. The Battalion had been broken down into several small pockets of resistance, all of which were running low on ammunition. Even more troubling, the choppers were also running low on fuel, and their departure from the area would leave S/Sgt Tyrone without US ammo. The decision was made that all the "birds" would return to Quang Ngai Airfield for refueling. To my surprise the C & C ship landed, dropped its passengers, refueled, and departed for Da Nang, leaving only the two gun ships at the airfield. Now, another baffling occurrence took place! The Vietnamese suddenly packed up their temporary CP and headed home for the night. The Province Advisory Team also began to pack, and moved out for their compound, some five miles away. Prior to the Advisor's departure there was much discussion reference an ammo re-supply to the surrounded 39th. Both gunship pilots volunteered to fly in with ammo for the 39th. Those of us remaining at the airfield rounded up ten cases of ammo, and loaded them into one of the gunships. I was instructed by the Province Senior Advisor to take the ammo in, and join S/Sgt Tyrone on the ground. As soon as we were airborne, I established commo with S/Sgt Tyrone via PRC-25 radio. Despite all that deadly happenings around him, S/Sgt Tyrone was one calm, and collected Marine.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

The amount of fire on S/Sgt Tyrone's position was increasing as the VC attempted to inflict the maximum number of casualties while they still had sufficient light to identify their targets. Everywhere, you looked there was "green shit" (slang for the green Russian/Chinese supplied tracer of the VC), but no red stuff, meaning the



III Corps Ranger Group--August 1966 Ranger Advisor John K. Thomas (LTC Ret) is in the foreground carrying an M-2; John was the Operations advisor to the Group. The Vietnamese Ranger Captain in the center, wearing his maroon beret was an acting Ranger Battalion Commander. On the right is the American Senior Advisor wearing the Tiger helmet. He was with the 33rd or 35th BDQ. If anyone can identify him, please contact me.

Ranger machine guns had been silenced. Chaos reigned in the chopper, as some of the "green shit" started arching toward us. The door gunners were screaming for permission to fire, the co-pilot was attempting to fly the bird, and acquire targets for the 2.75 rockets, and the pilot was attempting to navigate, and scream at me, "what do you want him to do? Where do we land?" In the meantime I was fumbling with my gear, and attempting to get some answers from S/Sgt Willie Tyrone~ Are you badly wounded? No, Can you make it to a clearing? No. How much commo do you have? Not much. Then in a very calm, but assertive voice, S/Sgt Willie Tyrone, sealed his fate. "Do not land, I repeat, do not land, put the ammo on my green smoke. There is too much automatic weapons, and recoilless rifle fire for you to land." We made one pass at about 100 feet over the green smoke, and with the help of the door gunners, "kicked" all ten crates of ammo. Then we were gone! Upon arriving back at the airfield I was instructed that I was in charge of the airfield?? So here I was with

five US NCOs, and two gunships. Quite a fighting force should we do battle with the same troops who just annihilated two ARVN Infantry Battalions, and one of the best fighting units in Vietnam, the 39th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion!

The next installment will feature the attack (?) on Quang Ngai City the night of 30 May 1965, the answers to Donna Tyrone's troubling questions, and finally how we Rangers are finalizing a tribute to S/Sgt Willie D. Tyrone, the real hero of the battle of Ben Song.

EVENTS, WARNING ORDE~ AND SITREPS BIET DONG QUAN, VIETNAMESE RANGER ADVISOR REUNION:

"As You Where," the reunion will be in Huntsville, Alabama; also, the date is the first weekend of May 2003, not April as printed in the last issue of Patrolling. Detail information will be provided to all BDQ's NLT November 2002. Counterparts will attend...SAT CONG!

COUNTERPARTS:

My friend and Ranger Brother, BDQ Trung Pham, 52d Ranger Battalion, recently returned from a visit to Hanoi--he was accompanying his Father on an ancestral visit. He has presented me with a most unique gift, a bottle of Cobra wine; he drove 60K outside of Hanoi, to purchase it and then, had to hand carry it for 22 hours on the plane. I would like to sample it, but there is a hissing sound when I open the top...Ha-Ha.

RANGER SALUTE:

To Emmett Hiltibrand, for your leadership of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, and your support of Vietnamese Ranger Advisors. From day-one, Emmett put his point man out, and checked his compass often. There may have been a few doglegs, but the "direction" was maintained...the BDQs salute his tenure!

The wise Man who fares strenuously apart, Who is unshaken in the midst of praise or blame Even as a lion that trembles not at noises Or as the wind that is not caught in a net A leader of others, and not by others led, Him verily the discerning proclaim to be a sage.

--Buddha, Sutta-Nipata

Now already night has fallen.

Whoever wishes to buy sorrow by the handful,
I have any amount to sell

-- Song of the prostitutes of Ancient Annam

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

Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director

CHAPLINS CORNER

By Rev. Charles Keogh

SECURITY IN THE FACE OF TERRORISM

The peace of the Lord be with you.

There's hardly a national news broadcast these days that doesn't address the issue of terrorism. Terrorism, the systematic and planned use of deliberate violence by some against others, has reintroduced itself into the American way of life at a scale that many were not prepared for. Hence, the impact seems even more severe; the need to respond all the more urgent; the search for security now a top-level priority. When America needs answers to situations like this one group that stands ready to lead the way is the 75th Ranger Regiment. One group that stands ready to support them and their loved ones is the 75th Ranger Regiment Association.

But above and beyond all is none other than the Most High Himself, God Almighty! In the face of terror, who has ever provided better security? Remember the rounds shredding the area you were trying to secure? Remember the artillery shrapnel tearing through the trees over your head like a car door? Remember the enemy that looked you straight in the face from three (3) paces away but never saw you? Remember counting the bullet holes in your blanket, backpack, or canteen after a firefight? Remember who it was that kept you around to see loved ones again? Remember who looked after your loved ones while you were away?

While some only look as high as incoming choppers for help, those with faith see the One who dispatches all for the good of all. Therefore, "I will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; My God, in whom I trust!' For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper, and from the deadly pestilence of word games by the wicked. He will cover you with His feathers; and, under His wings you may seek refuge. His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark. You will not be afraid of the terror by night or the arrow that flies by day (see the 75th Ranger crest); of the disease that stalks in darkness or the destruction that lays waste at high noon. A thousand may fall at your side; ten thousand at your right hand. But it shall not approach you (Psalm 91:2—7)."

Firefights, planes crashing into buildings, bombs in mailboxes are all terrorizing things. But terror can come with a loved one's cancer, a homeless or impoverished future, the death of a parent, and a husband and father's assignment to some far off corner of the planet. Now, who'll take charge when these incoming RPGs hit home? Now, who will care and be kind?

The designated rescuer is Jesus. He's the One who was assigned from heaven to come to rescue you and your loved ones in time of need. In the face of overwhelming odds, He drew the fire to Himself. With sin, death, and the devil in full assault, He threw Himself on top of us and lost His life. He endured the terror of crucifixion, abandonment and death. But on Easter He rose again to prove that in the field of any and every battle He is the ultimate champion who fights for us and secures the eternal victory.

When security in the face of terror is something you the ones you care about is at stake, when trouble is invading and seems to be gaining ground, call on Him and turn to Him like America keeps turning to and relying on Rangers. Like the Ranges, He will answer. He will rescue. He will honor you with life. You will be satisfied by Him. He will let you see and experience salvation and keep you secure forever.

In His service and yours,

Rev. Charles Keogh
Chaplain,
75th Ranger Regiment Association

HONOR ROLL

We have recently learned that the following members of VII Corps LRRP are deceased.

MAJ	Frank L. Garbers	Nov 1998
SFC	Victor D. Fawcett	Apr 1990
SFC	William R. Cleaves	Oct 18, 1993
SP/4	Melvin King	1990c
SP/4	Tom McDaniel	Apr 20, 2002

MAY GOD GRANT THESE RANGERS THE
PEACE OF THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED
THEIR COUNTRY HONORABLY AND WELL.

Joseph John Steimbach

KIA

April 12, 1968

Age 22 years

Vets, Family, and Friends:

Again it is time to pay tribute to one of our brothers, who was killed in action, in defense, of the liberty we enjoy in this Nation. Many of us reading this, were of the same mind as Joe, ready to give it all, in defense of what we believe to be right; "all men are created equal" and should have the right to choose how they will live. This is not an idea of man but of the creator of all things. God in his infinite wisdom gave man a free will, a will where he has the liberty to choose, however dictators around the world usurp this intended freedom, by imposing their own will on the least able to defend themselves.

It is people like Joe, and he has many who sleep with him, and many that carry on that belief, that all should have a right to choose. To protect this belief, some must give all, while others must continue to see, that the giving of one's life was not in vain.

Though Joe is not present in the physical, he can and will live on as long as we remember him. Surely on this day his loved ones recall him and are saddened. Especially with what we see going on in the world today. They must ask what was it all for? If anyone has contact with any of his family, please let them know, it was not for naught. But that Joe as many like him, having made the ultimate contribution, has kept freedom alive in our Nation and the hope alive for many oppressed Nations around the world.

Let each of us take a moment off to give a deserved 21 gun salute to Joe, along with the sound of taps, resounding in our memory, as a reminder, that as long as we have men and women like Joe, freedom will prevail.

I will add a few of my comments at the end and I invite others to share their thoughts about Joe.

Lord.... we thank you for the privilege of having served along side of men of this caliber. Help us never to forget, nor allow others to forget soldiers like Joe. Encourage and embolden each of us, to continue maintaining the belief, that all men are created equal, and deserves the right to choose. May we never accept injustice as an option, but as a threat to freedom, for which many have served to prevent, and some like our brother, honored here, have even died! We the comrades of like Ranger, ask it in Jesus name.... Amen.

Bob Smyers

Chaplain, 2Bde, 4th I.D., LRRP/Rangers

Attachment:

I remember interviewing Joe for the LRRP platoon along with his close friend John (Festus) Gibson. They were both eager soldiers and came together. Joe was a good man as well as a contribution to our platoon as a soldier, always ready and willing to do whatever needed done to accomplish the mission. He was proud of the LRRPs and made it known. He even wrote a story about what he felt the men of the LRRPs were about. Called, " Kind and Deadly". Someone carried it back to the world and it is now on the internet. Joe would have been pleased. You can see it at: <http://myshell.veri-omail.com/~wgal/> Joe may be gone, but he lives in the hearts of those whom he fought along side of and is thought of often. I remember the last time I saw him, March 25, 1968. I had just came in off a mission and was headed for home. Joe as always had his camera and took pictures of the team and me with a promise he would send me some. I got word 16 days later he had been killed while on patrol. I had never during my tenure lost a man and now Joe was the first. It hit really hard. In July (2000), I stopped at Fort Benning, Georgia where I paid tribute to him and others at the Ranger Memorial, where his name is engraved, a long with many of America's best, in the Ranger Walk. SUA SPONTE....RLTW...

Bob Smyers

ARMIN JOCHAIM BLAKE

KIA
MARCH 22, 1969

Vets, Family, and Friends:

Once again it is time to pay tribute to a brother who drew his last breath in defense of the right to freedom for all. Armin served part of his time with the LRRP/Rangers of the 2nd brigade 4th Infantry Division. He was then reassigned to the 2/8th Mechanized Infantry as Platoon Sergeant.

On March 22, 1969 as his unit was moving to their area of operation, they were ambushed by a superior North Vietnamese force, using B-40 rockets and intense small arms fire. Armin in an attempt to counter the attack was mortally wounded when his armored personnel carrier was hit by a B-40 rocket. The irony of the situation was a LRRP/Ranger team was on a hill watching the ambush take place. Armin their former plsg was in trouble and neither knew the presence of the other. The team did all they could to help as they called in the ambush and directed Artillery fire to break up the attack. It however was too late for Armin as he had already given his all.

Let us take a moment to remember Armin. A career soldier who had already served his country for 16 years before this fatal day. In the face of battle he never shirked his duty for self preservation over his men and his country. He gave all! In the past I have said, our brothers in arms have only died when we forget or allow others to forget. This truth will always stand and we should have that emblazoned upon our hearts to remember.

Some of you knew Armin personally so, may we ask any who will to share a little about him. Anyone knowing family members is urged to call and let them know we have not forgotten men such as Armin.

Heavenly father, it seems like these tributes come around too often. It is no burden to pay tribute, but as we do, help us to realize the senseless loss of life just because men refuse to love their neighbor as themselves. You gave man dominion over the earth when you turned over the deed to Adam, but through his disobedience, he forfeited dominion and gave it over to the evil of the world. We ask why you allow such acts as this, in truth it is man who allows it, as you meant for man to be in charge. When good men do nothing, evil will always prevail. Forgives us for this and help us all to understand what it means to love you neighbor as yourself, not only to understand, but apply. Thanks for the contributions to peace of this brother and the many more that have gone before or stand ready today, be they man or woman, let us stand in support of them, never leaving them nor forsaking them. May you give your peace that passes all understanding to Armin's family members as they remember this day, we ask it in Jesus name...Amen..

I end this tribute to our brother with the words to Taps;

Day is done
Gone the sun
From the Lakes
From the hills
From the sky.
All is well, safely rest.
God is nigh.

Fading light
Dims the sight
And a star
Gems the sky,

Gleaming bright
From afar, Drawing nigh,
Falls the night.
Thanks and praise,
For our days,
I end this tribute to our brother with
the words to Taps;
'Neath the sun,
'Neath the stars,
'Neath the sky,
As we go, This we know,
God is nigh.

Bob Smyers
Chaplain, 2Bde., LRRP/Rangers, 4 I. D.

James Bruce McLaughlin

KIA

April 16, 1971

Age 22

Once again it is time for all of us to take a moment to remember one of our brother WARRIORS, James, who was known as Jim to all who knew him. I was not privileged to have known him, but still I feel kin to him, as we both, like the many reading this, had been given the WARRIOR spirit at the time of conception, to one day respond without reservation to defend those less able to defend themselves, willing to go wherever, whenever, to do whatever was right, to insure justice for all the oppressed, and of his own accord.

James not only went once to fight a war that was very unpopular with many of the people of this great nation, and in large part, not supported by our government. No, not once, but twice, and again of his own accord. Unknown to someone out there, James took their place by returning back to Vietnam. Not only returning, but to do the same dangerous job, Long Range Patrol... We who served in the Long Range Patrol Rangers, accept the fact of people thinking we must be a little strange to want to step into the unknown with three other men in most cases, to face the enemy in his own backyard. James and the many reading this of like mind, thought themselves not strange, but it was a compelling call from deep within. Thanks to James, he stepped up twice to the call, not knowing this would be the final call, the call he had been born to answer. As I said I never knew him in the flesh and I am sure many of you never knew him either, but we know him in the spirit. Larry Flanagan said on patrol James was very aggressive, but off patrol he was a real fun guy. Let us on this day take a moment to remember James for his gift to mankind and let it be known to all who will hear.

Anyone who knew him and has contact with the family, please give a call and let them know, he is not forgotten

and never will be as long as we refuse to let him die.

Lord, We of like spirit, given to us by you, to go the extra step for the good of others, thank you for James and his contribution to the freedom enjoyed by all who truly seek it. He performed as a true friend, not only to the ones he knew, but for all. Your Word says, "no greater love hath a man, but to give it for a friend" James is one of your heroes, for which we owe you praise and thanksgiving. We can only hope James receives his due reward for the yielding of his young life, a life like most young people, full of dreams, hopes, and expectations, but in obedience to his calling, did forfeit his precious life, so that others could live, and move, and have their being. Our hope is he is in your presence and has been from the moment he took his last breath. May his loved ones this day feel the peace, that passes all understanding, that only comes from you. We offer our humble praise, and thanksgiving to you for our brother. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord...Amen

Bob Smyers
Chaplain, 2Bde LRRP/Rangers 4 I. D.

Attachments:

Anonymous Writes -

James Bruce McLaughlin "Jelly Belly" James did a complete tour in the 1st. Bde. LRRPs 1968-69 he went home and for one reason or another he decided to come back. He didn't return to the 4th Inf. Div but instead he went to the 101st Airborne Div. LRRPs. His second tour of duty started on Nov. 30, 1970, and he was killed in action April 16-1971, by small arms fire. Anyone who knew Jelly Belly, knew that he was not your average LRRP, he had more courage than he should have, going from one wild firefight to another with hardly a deep breath in between. In the end his wild life caught up to him. Rest in peace old friend, we miss you.

Clay Marston (Biographical Researcher-US Army)
Writes - You are not forgotten nor shall you ever be.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS MEMORIAL UPDATE

By: Geoff Barker

The Special Operations Memorial Foundation is pleased to report no business for two weeks (at the time of this writing) in the placement of special operations names killed in action or killed in training on the Special Operations Memorial at MacDill AFB, Florida. Since 11 September 2001 and the implementation of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM the U.S. Special Operations Command has grieved the loss of 26 personnel killed in action and one killed in training.

Special Forces Major Wallace Cole Hogan was assigned to the Special Operations Division of the Joint Chiefs of Staff when the terrorist attack was launched against the Pentagon. He was the only special operations forces (SOF) casualty on 11 September..

Two Rangers, Specialist Jonn Edmunds and PFC Kris Stonsifer were the first losses of *Operation ENDURING FREEDOM* when they died on 19 October 2001 in a helicopter accident in Afghanistan. On 5 December the loss of three Special Forces soldiers, MSG Jeff Davis, SFC Dan Petithory, and SSG Cody Prosser brought the total KIA for 2001 to seven.

Hopes for no further casualties in 2002 were short-lived when another Special Forces soldier, SFC Nathan Chapman, was killed on 4 January. On 22 February the catastrophic loss of a helicopter resulted in the deaths of SP4 Thomas F. Allison, SSG James O. Dorrity, CW2 Jody L. Egnor, Major Curtis D. Feistner, SFC Robert Foster, SSG Kerry W. Frith, Captain Bartt D. Owens, and SSG Bruce A. Rushforth all of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment; and USAF MSGT William L. McDaniels II and SSGT Juan M. Ridout. The following day on 23 February Lieutenant Tallas Tomeny was shot and died during Special Forces qualification training in North Carolina.

On 2 March 2002, CW2 Stanley L. Harriman was killed by a sniper in Afghanistan bring the Special Forces total of KIA to five. During a Ch-47 mishap, Ranger losses included SFC Marc A. Anderson (whose father had served with Company C (Ranger) in Vietnam), SGT John A. Chapman, PFC Matthew A. Commons, and SGT Bradley A. Crose. Also lost were USAF-PJ SRA Jason D. Cunningham, and U.S. Navy SEAL, ABH1 Neil C. Roberts.

A second U.S. Navy SEAL, HMC Matthew J. Bourgeois was killed on 27 March, and the latest killed in action in Afghanistan was Special Forces SFC Daniel A. Romero of the Army National Guard while conducting mine clearing operations.

The Special Operations Memorial at MacDill AFB, Florida is the only JOINT Special Operations Memorial in the country. This stated not to take away from such magnificent memorials to our fallen comrades such as the Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning, Georgia; the UDT/SEAL Memorial at Fort Pierce, Florida; the Special Forces Memorial at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; the Air Commando Memorial at Eglin AFB, Florida, and other memorials perpetuating the traditions of the Quiet Professionals. We have come a long way from the inter-service special operations rivalry that existed prior to the establishment of the U.S. Special Operations Command in 1987 to integrate, support, and maximize the capabilities of the entire SOF community. Thus it is fitting that our SOF that now train, work, and fight together, be memorialized together. Especially fitting are the names of those comrades who fell earlier, providing the legacy of today's SOF by their own legendary exploits in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Haiti, Panama, the Gulf War, Mogadishu, Bosnia- Herzegovina, Kosovo, Afghanistan and wherever the war to eradicate terrorism takes us. The Special Operations Memorial Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that meets all funding, at no cost to the deceased's unit or family, to be placed on the Memorial, for all special operations personnel killed in action or training since *Operation EAGLE CLAW*, the aborted attempt to rescue U.S. hostages from Iran in 1980. Since that mission, 324 names had been added to the SOF Memorial, to include all SOF recipients of the Medal of Honor, and three Australian recipients of the Victoria Cross, all received posthumously while attached to the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in the Republic of Vietnam. More than 500 names of 'legacy SOF', who built the traditions that USSOCOM has built upon, have also been added, to perpetuate the memories of former SOF and their SOF organizations.

11 September 2001

Maj Wallace Cole Hogan	USA	SF	CPT Bartt D. Owens	USA	SOA
			SSGT Juan M. Ridout	USAF	PJ
			SSG Bruce A. Rushforth	USA	SOA

19 October 2001

SPC Jonn J. Edmunds	USA	Ranger	<u>23 February 2002</u>		
PFC Kristofor T. Stonesifer	USA	Ranger	LT Tallas Tomeny	USA	SF

5 December 2001

MSG Jefferson C. Davis	USA	SF	<u>2 March 2002</u>		
SFC Daniel Petithory	USA	SF	CW2 Stanley L. Harriman	USA	SF
SSG Brian Cody Prosser	USA	SF			

4 January 2002

SFC Nathan Ross Chapman	USA	SF	SFC Marc A. Anderson	USA	Ranger
			SGT John A. Chapman	USA	Ranger
			PFC Matthew A. Commons	USA	Ranger
			SGT Bradley A. Crose	USA	Ranger
			SRA Jason D. Cunningham	USAF	PJ
			ABH1 Neil C. Roberts	USN	SEAL

22 February 2002

SP4 Thomas F. Allison	USA	SOA			

(Special Operations Aviation)

SSG James O. Dorrity	USA	SOA	<u>27 March 2002</u>		
CW2 Jody L. Egnor	USA	SOA	HMC Matthew J. Bourgeois	USN	SEAL
Maj Curtis D. Feistner	USA	SOA			

SFC Robert Foster	USA	SOA	<u>15 April 2002</u>		
SSG Kerry W. Frith	USA	SOA	SFC Daniel A. Romero	ARNG	SF
MSGT William L. McDaniels II	USAF	PJ			



UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMANDER IN CHIEF
 7701 TAMPA POINT BLVD.
 MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5323

March 20, 2002

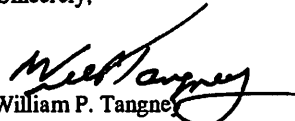
SGM Emmett Hiltibrand, USA (Ret)
 President, 75th Ranger Regiment Association
 6459 Adams Park Drive
 Columbus, Georgia 31909

Dear Sergeant Major Hiltibrand,

It was with great pleasure that I recently noted the addition of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association engraved plaque on the Special Operations Memorial as a major contributor. As demonstrated in the Ranger heritage, Rangers are recognized among the very early members of the special operations community, and have continued to demonstrate their unique qualifications from the Revolutionary Wars to our current missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. As long as special operations play an integral part in our nation's defense, we will regretfully continue to add names to our memorial, and as such, the combined donations of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association will allow us to continue to recognize those unselfish sacrifices, and for this we thank you.

Please pass my personal regards and best wishes to your entire membership, and for the solid legacy that they have provided to USSOCOM.

Sincerely,


 William P. Tangney
 Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
 Deputy Commander in Chief

SOF MEMORIAL

Three years ago I volunteered to begin a campaign. My goal was to acknowledge and recognize all the modern Rangers from their beginnings during WW II until present for a job well done. It is through the generosity of USSOCOM and their great leadership that I have been provided the means to do this. It is my privilege to thank all the CINC's, DCINC's, Protocol, Public Affairs, Graphics, the Chaplin's office, and all of the rest of the wonderful men and women at USSOCOM who have demonstrated their belief in us over the years.

I have been able to give out USSOCOM coins, calendars, signed pictures and books, decals, stickers, USSOCOM bibles, SOCOM St Michael Medallions, tie-tacs, pens and many other USSOCOM memorabilia. I may have missed a few, but rest assured the oversight was unintentional.

At the Ranger Rendezvous and next years reunion, I will be totally dedicated to sharing every item I have received from USSOCOM with all of the LRP, LRRP, and Nam Rangers.

I have heard it said about me that "...he only wants to hang out with the general officers." This is only partially true. I am honored to have met and know many senior officers, from whom I have learned a great deal, and who have taken the time to listen to my desires to be a "grass-roots" liaison with the troops on the ground - the cutting edge. The support that has resulted from my camaraderie at USSOCOM has enabled me to provide good will to our fellow



Rangers. It comforts me to remember the smiles and good comments from Rangers of the 1st battalions to whom I gave St Michaels Medallions and USSOCOM Bibles last summer, and helped to ease the pain when I assisted in placing the engravings with their names on the SOF Memorial. I will always treasure the memories of their thanks and smiles, but Dear God, how it hurts sometimes.

I am continuing to do the best I can to touch

everyone's heart that has helped to carry and pass the Ranger lineage from WW II through to USSOCOM. We provide a significant portion of that lineage through our achievements as LRP, LRRP, and Ranger Companies of the 75th Infantry (Airborne) as we fought in Southeast Asia. Many of you maybe do not realize the "big picture" where USSOCOM is concerned. This is the headquarters that is responsible for funding, training, equipping, deploying, and caring for ALL special operations forces (of all Services) in today's military.



I also help in physically attaching the finished engravings on the SOF Memorial, and was so proud when (through the donations made by our individual members to place more than fifty Vietnam-era names on the Memorial), our 75th Ranger Regiment Association was added to the list of major contributors to the SOF Memorial. This is the only memorial that includes the names of ALL special operations personnel killed in action and killed in training. As part of the SOF legacy, all of our members are eligible to place their name on the Memorial today!

It touched my heart to see those great soldiers that gave their all as members of the 173rd LRP, then as the 74th Infantry LRRP, who became Company N (Ranger), 75th Infantry (Airborne) all together again, occupying an entire section of the memorial. That is tremendous.

It is my desire, with the help of the USSOCOM and the SOF Memorial Foundation, to try to set up a display at the hotel during the next Ranger Rendezvous.

RLTW
Smokey Wells
USSOCOM Representative

Smokey Wells at the Special Operations Memorial

BOOK REVIEW:

"Ghost Soldiers" by Bill Goshen

This excellent memoir features a non-career army member's firsthand view of Ranger and long-range reconnaissance patrol [LRP/LRRP (lurp)] experiences with the Big Red One in the Vietnam War. He volunteered and became a member of the F Company (LRP), 52d Infantry Regiment that became India "I" Company, 75th Ranger Regiment during his tour. Bill Goshen went out on combat missions; never knowing whether the next moment would bring an ambush, a firefight, or eternal oblivion. Bill Goshen was 20 years old when he volunteered to serve his country and he had had no previous experience with the military. This book provides an excellent, heart-felt history lesson that cannot be found in American school textbooks. Thank you, Bill, for putting your story into a book so these dangerous missions in American history can better be understood.

Departing Rangers from Vietnam often did not get to share their "big mission" story with their fellow Rangers. Too often they left their comrades quickly and without advance notice. Bill Goshen's story was one of those - he left quickly for emergency medical treatment and a permanent Army retirement. Now 32 years later his book gives the details that lead up to and followed his "change of life" day. I am sure that Bill could have written a treatise on that short life period. It has been a long time for many since the war in Vietnam. Today many still live their battles over and over as fresh in their thoughts and dreams. Four young men on Bill Goshen's Long Range Reconnaissance Team died in a skirmish deep in enemy territory with thousands of NVA in their midst. That changed Bill's and his other team's survivor's (Larry Wenzel) life forever.

Now, with the unflinching honesty that only an eyewitness could possess, he relives the deadly adrenaline rush of firefights conducted on the run, capturing the savage courage and sacrifice of his LRRP team. His ability to convey the sights and sounds of war are awesome. His men on many missions undertook some of the most daring and heroic operations that were too often required by Headquarters with scant regard for their own well being.

If you have ever heard the author share his testimony, you will know that he is a man of impact and is on the frontline with God - and not just a temporary "foxhole Christian." He began his lifetime conversion during his deepest hours as he lay dying waiting for rescue. Bill's book can help Viet Nam vets understand that God can help them, and does forgive them, and help them understand that God understands. Bill's personal accounts of the lingering effect of the war on those who fought it are deeply moving. His experience as a veteran and as a Christian gives him a powerful credential to speak words of truth and of hope.

How he persevered makes a vivid portrait of war is inspiring and devastating. His account rises above the specific ordeal it chronicles to present facing the ultimate challenge, dealing with it in ways he would have found unimaginable only a few hours earlier. Bill tells that mission strengthened and began life that hopefully will lead to his eternity. It reveals his most heroic and horrendous endeavor. His book shows readers what combat Rangers are...simply the best of this country!

As a young college student who volunteered to serve his country, Bill Goshen was only twenty years old when he arrived in Vietnam in 1968. His only combat experience had been limited to reading books, watching movies and playing soldier. His first night at his new home base at "Rocket City" (Lai Khe, Vietnam) was the beginning of a "Welcome to Vietnam" that provided persistent and constant incoming rounds, mortars, and loud explosions throughout his tour.

At our first reunion of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association in the late eighties, a few First Infantry Rangers from Vietnam gathered in a hotel room late and stayed until the early morning attempting to find the "missing facts" about our missions. Bill and Larry's story and those that rescued him did not let anyone fall asleep. It was our first get together since Vietnam. I had arrived in the Company shortly after Bill's emergency medical evacuation so I was not as familiar as was Larry Wenzel who was there helping work the details. Their mis-

sion was known to me since it had been discussed when I was there as were numerous other prior missions. For example, we had also earlier lost our "Little Ranger" Team in Cambodia where the US supposedly was not at that time.

Until the reunion, the veterans really did not know what really had happened to each other as they left Vietnam. With rare exception they had not seen or spoken with each other since Vietnam. One interesting exception not mentioned in the book was that Bill was speaking to a large church audience in the 1980s and commented about rescuing one of his Ranger brothers who had been medivac-ed from a horrendous battle about a month before Bill had. Bill did not believe his friend's life had been saved. Out of that audience came a 100% disabled veteran who was Reverend Ron Crews - this fellow Ranger, whom he did not know was still alive. Ron thanked Bill for saving his life. Ron was with us that night and it was an emotional story. There were recollections of the many battles we faced - 196 contacts with the enemy out of over 300 missions in a year for the smallest Ranger unit in Vietnam.

The Big Red One Rangers varied anywhere from approximately 25 to 80 men at a time. Most Ranger/LRRP missions were for 3-4 days and were composed of six men, although size sometimes varied, e.g., 12 men hunter killer teams or four men recon teams. The First Infantry Rangers lead the Division in the number of KIAs of enemy and also suffered the highest casualty rate of any Ranger unit in Vietnam. Their enemy KIA count did not include the much larger enemy count when they called in artillery and air strikes on the positions that they found. A Ranger's main purpose usually was not killing the enemy but to gather the intelligence that the Army desperately needed to know what was going on behind the lines and what the enemy was planning for next. In doing that, Rangers perhaps had the most battles.

A Ranger has to react instinctively. In that game there's no second place, only the quick and the dead. Every day our team members were the strongest and bravest in the Army. No one wanted to mess with Rangers - either the enemy or even fellow non-Ranger soldiers. Too often, the next day, a Ranger could be wounded, killed or transferred to Japan and/or stateside for medical emergencies.

People on dangerous missions of life and death frequently have dreams and intrusions of dangerous events that they may be placed. Bill was no exception. He is like most Vietnam combat Rangers who today relive these events. During War those thoughts are frequently on a combat member's mind. A few days before Christmas 1968, Bill dreamed that his team of six, not knowing that they were walking into the killing zone of Charlie's hostile neighborhood filled with "hundreds, perhaps thousands of enemy soldiers waiting for them." He writes that they were in "double-canopy jungle somewhere around the Angel's Wing, less than a klick from the Cambodian border." His dream left him as the sole survivor since during the night; the enemy had infiltrated his team's perimeter and sliced everyone's throat except for his. Little did he know that his premonition dream would come close to the truth a few weeks later.

On his return by plane from a vacation R&R mission in Japan shortly before his last mission, Bill writes of his back-in-country thoughts of his fellow Rangers.

"What had happened in my absence? Was everyone okay? I could not help but worry. These guys were part of me, my brothers in arms. They were more than just friends and comrades. They had become my family. It is very difficult to explain to the uninitiated the type of bond we had formed. Once a Ranger/LRP, one was always a Ranger/LRP."

Unfortunately, one of Bill's close Christian friends, Specialist Bob Law, had sacrificed his life the week by covering a hand grenade for his fellow Ranger team members (He was posthumously presented with the Medal of Honor).

Bill was then assigned to the mission that he recalls as the "ugliest and 'baddest' experience of [his] life." On February 23, 1969, he joined a new team of "Ranger Team Victim Eight" after two members of his former

team had been wounded. The Commanding General needed this Ranger team for a highly classified mission to locate an NVA regiment of 4,000 plus men on the Cambodian border in the Fishhook area. Anything that the Rangers would run into would be hostile. They got ready and were inserted after a few false helicopter landings to confuse the enemy as to their where they were dropped off.

After a few hours of staying put and monitoring in the midst of a heavy enemy concentration, suddenly the bark of "RPD machine guns, AK-47s, and the dull blasts of exploding hand grenades.... within seconds, [Bill recalls] our world had been transformed from a healthy keyed-up silence to a collage of mixed mud, metal, confusion, and blood." One minute there are six team members and the next minute three survivors were severely wounded, and then two conscious severely wounded survivors with another Ranger unconscious. Larry Wenzel and Bill lay bleeding with no communications in the jungle midst of thousands of enemy seeking to locate them and to kill them.

Bill writes that his "only way to overcome fear of the unknown was to replace it with faith" in God as the key to the whole scenario as to what he was experiencing. Bill continues "... in the darkened jungle that night, I ... put my trust in Him." He sensed that God was watching over Larry and he. He had faith that Christ's blood was the "war paint of love that won the greatest battle of all." He could hear the enemy searching the area, and then an enemy point man came within ten meters of their dead team members and began firing on the dead Rangers. In a rage, Bill shot and killed that person [a NVA lieutenant] with the last bullet of his damaged M-16. Then he began tossing hand grenades at the enemy and using all the ammunition still available.

A hand grenade ignited a smoke bomb in their abandoned rucksack. An LOH helicopter then spotted them. Shortly later a Cobra helicopter dropped a PRC-25 radio that allowed them to reestablish communications. After a more hours of waiting for the rescue to be achieved, Bill radioed that he had lost most of his blood and could not remain conscious much longer. He said that he was so dizzy that he was going to pass out.

Shortly thereafter, after twenty hours of losing most of his blood, a Rescue Team arrived. Larry and Bill first insisted that the Rescue Team remove their four dead Ranger comrades prior to them because "Rangers don't leave Rangers behind!" Upon arrival of their rescue helicopter to U.S. controlled territory, Larry and Bill were met by their Commander, 1Lt Jerry Davis and 1SG Carl Cook. Their leaders had "stayed with them" every minute since their disappearance from the beginning. Larry and Bill's new life began. Bill grew to be a deeper Christian.

As Bill was being medivac'ed, he remembered that he had been told prior to the mission that if at least one of them probably would not make it back alive if the mission was accomplished. The members of "Victim Eight" exemplified the First Infantry Division's motto: "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great, duty first." Many "why's" still remain with Larry and Bill.

Bill was recommended by 1SG Cook for the Army's "Distinguished Service Cross." Unfortunately, the award review process downgraded the nomination to a Silver Star partially because of the lack of sufficient eye witnesses (all but one witness were killed). In my opinion, Bill's efforts warranted consideration of the Medal of Honor.

While reading this book, I had the uncanny feeling that I had been transported back to my youth. As a soldier, I especially enjoyed some of Bill's included "small" memorable information and feelings that was everyday life for our members. Perhaps, I have written more than you need to get started. In closing, I must add that Bill's real exciting story only begins when you start reading- so don't wait any longer.

Sua Sponte, RLTW,
LTC Jim Savage, Retired Army
Former Ranger Operations and Intelligence Specialist

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

A reminder to all that the **Membership Year** for the association runs out on 30 June 2002. We continue to send Patrolling to all members to the end of the calendar year to give everyone time to get their dues in but it helps me if you pay as soon as possible because it is one less invoice I have to send out.

Our reunion comes right after the yearly dues expire so for those attending the reunion please check your mailing label, it will have your membership number followed by a year, for example, 0628 2002. If the year is 2002 that means your dues will run out on 30 June 2002. **You must be a current member for the 1 July 2002 through 30 June 2003 membership year to attend the business meeting on Thursday morning July 11, 2002 at the reunion!**

This especially affects many of the new members that just joined in January or February of this year. You will continue to receive your "Patrolling" so that you receive at least 4 issues for your initial dues but to attend the business meeting you will need to send in your dues for the membership year beginning 1 July

NEW MEMBERS

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

ADKINS	JEFFREY L.	V CORPS LRRP - A/75 - D/17
ALDERSON	HENRY L.	4TH INF DIV - K/75
ALVEY	BRIAN M.	D/151
AUTEN	RICHARD P.	5TH MECH - P/75 - F/51
BAKER	SIDNEY F. JR	BDQ 43RD
BANKER	GARY W.	173RD ABN BDE - 74TH
BISHOP	RONALD H.	V CORPS
BOLZ	FARRELL P.	BDQ
CLEMENTS	DWIGHT	II FFV - F/51
DICK	STEVEN D.	1ST FFV - C/75 - E/20
EHRKE	MICHAEL D.	23RD INF DIV - E/51 - 196TH INF
FONES	FREDERICK H.	4TH INF DIV - 3RD BDE
FRASER	ROBERT W.	4TH INF DIV - K/75
HALL	COLIN K.	25TH INF DIV - F/75
HAM	DAVID B.	4TH INF DIV - K/75 - E/58 2ND BDE
HAMMER	ALAN R.	23RD INF DIV - G/75
HENRIKSEN	ROBERT	173RD ABN BDE - N/75 - 74TH
JOYCE	JAMES S.	4TH INF DIV - K/75
LARSEN	ROBERT A.	4TH INF DIV - K/75
LAWTON	STEPHEN J.	25TH INF DIV - F/50
MARTY	RAYMOND E.	1ST RANGER BN
MAYS	TRUMAN L.	RANGER REGIMENT - 1ST BATT - HHC/1/75
NGO	HONG M.	BDQ 5TH GRP VN
NOVELLA	TONY	173RD ABN BDE - N/75 - 74TH
O'HARRA	MICHAEL B.	23RD INF DIV
PECK	DOUGLAS J.	25TH INF DIV - F/50 - 3RD SQD 4TH CAV
PHAM	TRUNG	BDQ 52ND VN
REGUL	THOMAS J.	RANGER REGIMENT - 1ST BATT - B/1/75
ROGERS	JIM D.	4TH INF DIV - K/75
SANDELL	JEFFREY E.	25TH INF DIV - F/75 - F/50
SAYERS	KURT A.	RANGER REGIMENT - 3RD BATT - B/3/75
SERRANO	JUAN F.	4TH INF DIV - K/75
SMITH	CLANCY A.	9TH INF DIV -
SMITH	TERRANCE W.	101ST ABN DIV - L/75
SNOW	WILLIE	RTB
THOMAS	JOHN K.	BDQ - 34TH BN
WALKER	STEVE	RANGER REGIMENT - 1ST BATT - A/1/75
WARNER	MICHAEL	1ST FFV - C/75
WATERHOUSE	GARY E.	1ST CAV DIV - H/75
WHITE	DARRYL K.	V CORPS - A/75 - D/17
WILLIAMS	DAVID M.	BDQ - 42ND
WILLIAMS	LAURENCE E.	RANGER REGIMENT - A/1/75 - HHC/1/75

THE BRACELET

WE WEAR THE BRACELET TO HONOR A FEW,
THEIR RETURN TO FREEDOM, WAY PAST DUE.
WE CAN'T BEGIN TO IMAGINE THE SACRIFICES THEY MADE,
MAY THE MEMORY OF THESE HEROS NEVER FADE.

FROM THE FIGHTER PILOT TO THE GRUNT ON THE GROUND,
THEIR PATHWAY TO FREEDOM HAS NOT YET BEEN FOUND.
TO THE VETS AND THEIR FAMILIES THEY WILL ALWAYS BE MISSED,
WE KNOW IN OUR HEARTS THAT THEY STILL EXIST.

FALLEN HEROS REMEMBERED IN MARBLED SLATE,
HONORING OUR MISSING IS NEVER TOO LATE.
THEY HAVE EXISTED FOR YEARS, THEY ARE ALONE,
RETURN OUR MEN TO FREEDOM, RETURN THEM HOME.

EXCUSES & PROMISES EARMARK THE TIME,
FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM THEIR ONLY CRIME.
WE WEAR THE BRACELET TO HONOR A FEW,
THEIR FREEDOM THEY SACRIFICED FOR ME & FOR YOU.

Michael Monfrooe, L/75

ALRIGHT MEN
DIG IN FOR
THE NIGHT!



The Sentinel At the Gates

C John Puzzo 2002

Without the Standing Sentinel, and ever must there be.
Without the Standing Sentinel, not one could long live free.

I know they're all still out there, together evermore,

From Continental Army, Or maybe long before,
When the 1st American casualty,
fell on these now ancient shores.

They wear tri corner hats, coonskin caps and kepis,
wide brimmed cowboy hats, steel helmets and berets,

But just the same, They belong to us.
It is from us they came.

Through mists of time and place,
There they stand and wait, for those to come,
and come they will,

To the Sentinels at the gates.

They wait, They wait,
one day they'll welcome me.

For once I was with them,
and privileged that to be.

A soldier for my country,
that's the best to say of me.

Father son, husband brother,
Important things these are,
But to stand a man of honor,
Is a better thing by far.

For without such men of honor,
ready to give their most,
what father, son, or brother,
would be left with any hope,

That there would even be tomorrow, for this Nation proud,
Lest men as these we find, fit my Country for a shroud.

Yes there they all are waiting, they're all together now,
from every war and conflict, shot and shell they found,
At peace eternal wait they now, On holy, hallowed ground.

How can we ever thank them, these selfless angels past.

But thanks are unimportant,
unless we dedicate
our every waking moment,

To the sentinels at the gate.

For there they stand awating,
watching how well we do.

Will we let slip away,
That which they loved so well

Their full measured honored duty,
Will we so cheaply sell?

Yes there they stand awating, they're all together now,

They know some soldier stands at ready
and he will show them how.

Then they'll welcome him, as they all once were called:

"Brother, home my brother,
See your name upon the wall."

"You have done what was your duty,
The load you proudly bare,"

"Is left to them to carry,
Those others, over there."

"So take your place beside us, hang your cap upon the tree,"

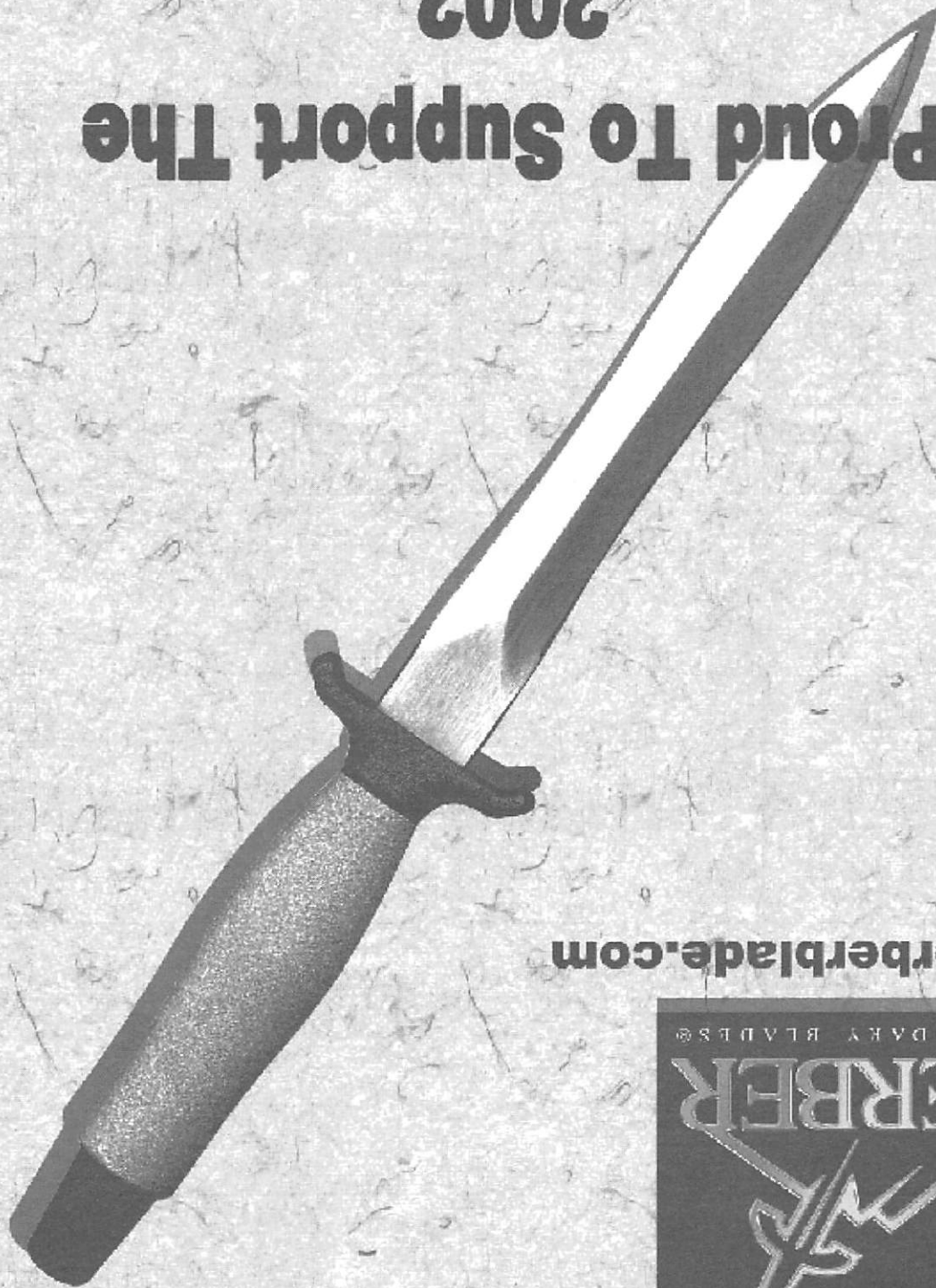
"And wait not long you Sentinel, In time you too will see,
Another coming to the gates,
"That others will live free."

Without you Standing Sentinel, and ever you must be.
Without you Standing Sentinel, not one could long live free.

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AREA CODE/HOME PHONE	AREA CODE/WORK PHONE	OCCUPATION	

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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

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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

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75th Assn. Polo Shirt, Green	S M L XL, +\$2-> 2XL 3XL		X	\$25.00	
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Legend Continues Shirt	M L XL, +\$2-> 2XL		x	\$15.00	
Warrior Spirit Shirt	M L XL, +\$2-> 2XL		x	\$15.00	
LRRP-LRP-Ranger Recon Shirt	M L XL, +\$2-> 2XL		x	\$15.00	
Earned, Not Issued Shirt	M L XL, +\$2-> 2XL		x	\$15.00	
Ranger Rendezvous 2002	M L XL, +\$2-> 2XL		x	\$15.00	
Ranger Tab Black Tee	M L XL, +\$2-> 2XL		x	\$12.00	
LRRP-LRP-Ranger Recon Mousepad			x	\$10.00	

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THE RANGER QUARTERMASTER

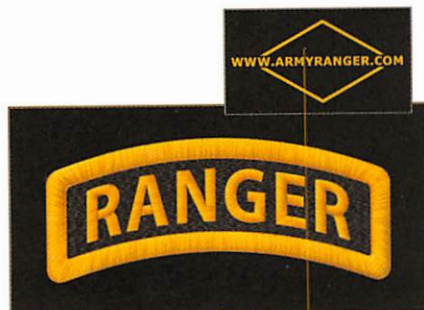


Smokin' like a HOT Barrel



Be sure to check out our brand new web site, located at:

ArmyRanger.com



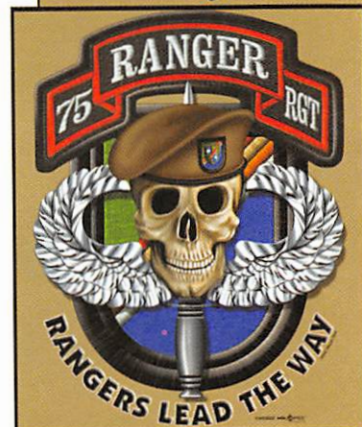
Ranger Tab Black Tee

Our New Ranger Tab shirt has it big and bold across the chest. Small www.armyranger.com WWII Ranger inspired logo is small/high/center/back.



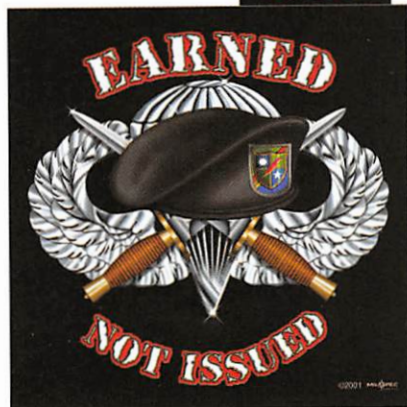
Ranger Rendezvous 2002

Rangers have been schooling the enemy across the planet for the last 60 years. This new DuShane original design celebrates that with a shrieking Eagle, 1942-2002 Scroll, Marauder Crest and the American Flag cloaking the globe.



The Legend Continues

Honoring those in the 75th Ranger Regiment who have done the unit proud and once again distinguished themselves in combat.



Earned Not Issued

'Nuff said. Last chance to get this design. Don't say we didn't warn you.



Warrior Spirit

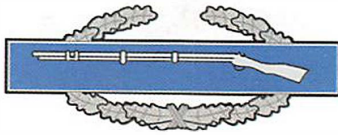
New Duke DuShane Design features a warrior's shield emblazoned with the Marauder Crest.



LRRP-LRP-Ranger Recon

Stressing the continuum of mission between those who once hunted the VC/NVA in South-east Asia and those serving the Regiment today.

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