TEAM 1, 173RD LONG RANGE SURVEILLANCE.

Photo by Pat Bissanti
Photos & text by: Pat Bissanti
The 173rd Long Range Surveillance (LRS) detachment is a function of the Rhode Island Army National Guard. During War time the 173rd is attached to the 42nd Infantry Division and is the eyes and ears for the division commander. The detachment consists of approximately 56 men, in three different MOS’ 31U/C Base Radio, 92/Y Supply, and 11/B Infantryman all of which are airborne qualified, Ranger qualification is mandatory for all detachment officers, NCOS, team leaders and assistant team leaders. There are six teams, each of which has six members.
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WEB SITE & MAGAZINE NEWS

The Association web site and Patrolling magazine are the windows of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. They are the principal means of communication from the Officers and Unit Directors to our members and the principal means of attracting new members. These two media sources, like the Association itself, are the property and responsibilities of all the members. We are going to highlight, in each issue, new features of each, and what our members can do to support and enhance both.

Web site: If you have not visited the web site lately, you owe yourself a look. Emmett has made many changes and additions. Here are some suggestions:

1. Visit the guest book. You just might find someone you knew that is looking for you or for someone from your Company. If you click on the left side of the book graphic, it will take you to view the guest book entries. If you click on the right side of the graphic, you can make an entry.

![Guest Book](image)

2. Leave a guest book entry. Someone who knew you and might not have left a message could respond to your message.

3. Emmett is trying to update each unit page to include a list of all KIA’S from each unit. The ultimate goal is to have a photo of the Ranger/LRRP and a photo of his name on the Wall along with a photo of his brick at the Ranger Memorial.

4. Clicking on Uncle Sam takes you directly to an application.

![Uncle Sam](image)

Patrolling Magazine: We have new graphics, courtesy of David Walker. Here are some of the things we need:

1. It would be great to have a backup story or article from each unit. If you have a non-time sensitive war story, personality profile, etc., send it to the editor and your unit director. If a unit is not represented in an issue, I can plug in that piece.

2. Photos (with captions) are always welcome. We can use them to fill a partial page when needed, and I always need cover shots, front & back.

3. Issues are published in March, June, September and December. Deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August and November.

4. We need advertising. Card ads and inside cover ads help pay the cost of printing and mailing the magazine. The web site has a minimal cost, but the magazine costs Thousands of Dollars per issue. We need to lower this cost through advertising. We have grown, through the efforts of many people, from a newsletter to a slick magazine. It is every members’ responsibility to keep it that way. Help us find people and organizations to keep us going.
Rangers,

Never in our lives has so much happened militarily in so short a time.

We’ve seen the highest of “ups” and the lowest of “downs” all packed in the last couple months, during “The Greatest Show on Earth” put on by those who serve this Nation’s Freedom and the Freedom of our Friends. The battle continues and the going will be hard to accept as those who enjoyed the former power in Iraq fight to regain it through political and terrorist means as best they are able. Our Soldiers remain at the forefront, yet the Press has already turned to other events for their daily gruel. Such is the life of the Soldier, as it has been forever and likely will be forever more.

We’ve seen our former Allies become our adversaries in freeing those enslaved by a dictator, and most realize it was all about the money and NOT about the principles held dear by people who desire Freedom as their first requirement of life. Politics makes for strange bedfellows, but money and power still appear to be primary motivation to those who would be King - that will likely never change. What CAN change is history’s record of forgetting who stands with us and who stands against us. President Bush made it quite clear and I am hopeful he will continue to get the support needed to finally hunt down those who would be terrorists and Kings wherever they are harbored in the world.

Our Nation stood on the side of Freedom at great cost to Soldiers and Families in our Nation and those of our Allies, and Freedom has won out. The cost will NOT be forgotten by those who served, nor those who wait and watch - the names of the wounded and killed in the pursuit of Freedom will ring out to us through our Memorials and memories.

During the course of this mission, an old-but-familiar Ranger difference showed itself clearly. While other Families and Soldiers communicated from the front at times, Rangers and their Families did not. Ranger Families had not a clue as to the assignment of their Ranger, his whereabouts or conditions under which he lived and fought, whether he was eating regularly (NOT), etc. The 75thRRA Officers and Unit Directors were often contacted by those Families for help in this “interesting” difference in the Ranger Life. I sure have a new appreciation for the hard parts of having a current-serving Ranger in the Family. To those who lost track of their Rangers and had the experience from that perspective, I salute you for your courage and hold you in the highest regard. To those who lost their Rangers forever, my heart and soul goes out to you for your loss. We are all willing to do what can be done to ease the pain, and we all know how little that is in these mournful times.

During this war, the Rangers lost several fine Men in combat. To my personal surprise, these losses were mourned and noted nationally as were all the KIAs of the battles - Memorial funds were set up for the future needs of the Families of these Rangers and this is, for me, a new experience. My respect for those who went the distance to have this done is impossible to put in words, and I only hope the future is as bright as possible for those who lost their Husbands, Sons, Dads and Brothers as a result of such offerings. I also hope the Nation can forever react similarly when a Soldier gives all there is to give in the service of this Nation. Captain Russell B. Rippetoe’s Family named the 75th Ranger Regiment Association as the recipient of memorial donations in Russell’s name and that fund has grown beyond $4,000 for the assistance to Active-Duty Rangers and their Families’ needs in the future. CPT Rippetoe was the only Son of (Ranger LTC, Ret) Joe and Rita Rippetoe and this act for future Rangers is Above and Beyond the Call when faced with such a tragic loss. I was further humbled when I spoke with Joe and found their worries at that moment were for those wounded in the same action which had taken their Son. That surely threw me for a loop, but this is a RANGER Family and I guess you never stop realizing just how different our Rangers and their Families tend to be.

Lost were:

Ranger Staff Sgt. Nino D. Livaudais, 23, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga. Livaudais was from Utah.

Ranger Spc. Ryan P. Long, 21, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga. Long was from Seafood, Del.

Ranger Capt. Russell B. Rippetoe, 27, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga. Rippetoe was from Colorado.

My personal THANKS go to every Ranger who was able to attend the Memorial Services of those Fallen with special emphasis on the following (those in the area who I asked to be our Representatives - many of whom found others who wanted to attend). We all have a tough time with these events, and those I contacted made me proud to be a Ranger when they were honored to have been asked to Represent the rest of us at the Memorial Services.

Ranger Karl Fee
Ranger Christian Grant
Ranger Bobby Jackson
Ranger Charles Laws
Ranger Jim Waters

I have no-doubt failed to name a few of you, and that is due to my poor Clerical skills (I have references from my Clerical days), and you have my apology for the oversight, and my THANKS as a Man and a Ranger for your willingness to attend such a sad event in our lives.

Each Memorial Service was attended by Members of Military Units, Generals and Civilians who came to say a last “Goodbye” to Soldiers they either knew, or wished they’d known, and the Honors
bestowed were the best I’ve ever known. It isn’t much to fill the huge void left by the passing of a Hero, but I certainly hope such feelings are shown forever for every Soldier who gives all one can give.

We’ll remember those who were wounded in this action, and we’re keeping up with their progress as possible - the support for all these Soldiers is the best evidence of the Nation’s pride in being a part of establishing the SECOND free Nation in recent history through the efforts and price paid by our Military Men and Women. We are proud of our Service to the United States, but I doubt we’ve ever been prouder of the Military and the Leaders of our Country than we are today.

There are at least fifty other subjects I should include in this article, but time and space limitations keep me from doing so. Here are a few anyway!

August 3 through August 7, 2003 - Ft. Benning - Regemental Change of Command. Congratulations go to Col “soon-to-be-General” Joseph Votel, although leaving this position has to be one of the toughest changes in a Military career. This is the largest gathering of Rangers on Earth, so if you can get there, BE THERE.

75thRRA Reunion - we’re still working on the dates, but plan to BE THERE (Ft. Lewis AO), Summer of 2004.

KIA Project - Emmett Hiltibrand is trying to gather as many of our KIAs as possible through your Unit Directors. I know this can be a hard thing to recall, but as time passes it just won’t get easier. If you have information about any of our Fallen Brothers from your time, get it to your Unit Director ASAP so we can do what we can to build this historical database for the future - we must NEVER forget the cost of Freedom, and the best way to do that is to perpetuate the memory of those who paid the most for it.

May we NEVER forget those who died in any conflict whose goal was FREEDOM, and may we help those whose future is limited by wounds received from their Service to that lofty goal.

Dana McGrath
President

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VICE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
By Wayne Mitsch

IS ANYBODY LISTENING?
By: Wayne Mitsch

I joined the Association around 1990. Those were the “old days” with regard to this association as well as the Internet. Back then, the only way of hoping to find our fellow comrades was calling relatives or searching the telephone directory in the city where you thought your buddy was from. Bill Bullen actually tracked me down in Atlanta by his persistent efforts at dogging one of my aunts in Philadelphia. Then along came the “web”.

Have you surfed our website lately? A lot of people have been found through the advent of the Internet. Or should I say a lot of people have found us through our website? Take some time and look at the Association website, follow the links but pay special attention to the Guest Book. And when you finish with the Association's Guest Book, go to your unit's website and read that Guest Book. My take on it is that we (our association) really means something to a lot of people, even to many who do not belong to our organization.

You can spend hours reading the Guest Book. Yeah, I know, there are some sick characters out there too – with no real purpose in life – just passing through the website leaving unintelligible messages and other “graffiti”. I’m not talking about them. I wonder what the statistics are for reading the website and Guest Book but not signing it? My guess is we will never know. Then we have those who sign the Guest Book who are not members, some who are not qualified to be members and some who are. We need to do a couple of things here – first of which is try to get some of these people to join the association. Also, those who need reaching out to, need to be reached out to – even if they are not potential members. Is anybody listening?

I hope we can all take the time to respond to some of those signing. It becomes more apparent every time I read through. Let me give you some examples and quote a few messages just as they appear:

"Hello, all… Just checking in (first time here…) Impressed with the site. Contact welcome!" or how about "I need info on becoming a member" or this one: "….some of you will understand I’m having a hard time typing can’t stop the tears! I have been looking for this page for about 4 years…" Is anybody listening?

Do any of us take time to respond to these messages? As said so many times before, it is your website. Your board of directors and the unit directors can’t do it all.

One more thought on this, just in case you need more encouragement about the power of our website and our Association. Go visit the Association website (www.75thRRA.com), go to the guestbook and read the entry from August 31, 2001. Then read it again. It’s time to get involved. This guy – hopefully- got at least dozen’s of responses from us – right? Is anybody listening?
I'm sure Roger Crunk (K/75) won't mind if I quote part of a message he posted on K Company's website Guest Book regarding our brothers in Iraq: "...in a life and death struggle that in reality may only last mere minutes or even seconds but will remain with them for a life time. Sometimes the hardest struggle comes afterwards." That statement is a reflection from the past, of the present and a vision of the future. We need to respond and react to those needing this help now! Both those from the past as well as our brothers who are returning now from Iraq. The website and email is not the only answer but it sure is a start. Is anybody listening?

And a great big thank you to Emmett for our outstanding website and all of those other "techies" who designed, monitor and maintain the individual unit's websites. There is no telling how many countless and thankless hours of work go unnoticed.

OK, I'm through. I think I am going to take a week's vacation now and spend it sitting in front of the computer and visiting all of the links in the Association website and the links that those links take me to. Then when I run out of links I'm going to log into K Company's site and start over again.

According to the media there has been a whole friggin' WAR since our last issue! Combat, yes; firesights, yes; danger, yes; but a WAR? In the good (?) ol' days a war lasted three, four, or even eight years. Now it is over in a month (at least for us non-combatants). I am not a big TV watcher, oh I flip through and watch a few Star Trek reruns, the History Channel, and A&E, but that's about it for regular viewing (besides the all important weather channel). And I have not seen a single episode of any of the new wave of reality shows (Survivor in Paris or wherever). But I have to admit that real military conflict, the ultimate "Reality Show" got me glued to the TV. The first two weeks I did not do anything before or after work except continuously flip through five different channels that gave continuous war news. After two weeks (duh) I realized that there was really only five minutes worth of news, they just kept saying it over & over with different words. Then I managed to reduce myself to just a morning and night fix and almost got my life back to normal. I could get started on expounding about the evil but necessity of wars but I would be "preaching to the choir" so I will let it be without even a "but".

Although I can stop myself from pontificating about Operation Iraq Freedom I cannot stop its ramifications. Part of that is the death of three rangers of 3/75 and several others that were seriously wounded. One of the KIAs, Capt. Russell Rippetoe of A/3/75 was aware of our association through the Christmas / Family Fund donations to the battalions, and according to his father LTC (R) Joe Rippetoe, a former LRRP himself, they had even talked about both of them joining the association but had just never got around to it. LTC Rippetoe put out notice that in lieu of memorials to his son that contributions should be made to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association in his name. We therefore started a Rippetoe Fund to account for these donations and as of today I have received $3,500.00 in contributions. These funds are being maintained as a sub-account of the Christmas / Family Fund.

One Saturday in mid April I had the pleasure of meeting Tom Kim, Russell's brother-in-law, and SSG Matt Minnick the 3/75 liaison to the family. Tom had been to Fort Benning to clear up Russell's affairs and to pick up Russell's Harley and return it to Colorado. Seeing that the current official address of the association is in Heflin, AL, Tom & Matt who was traveling with him, called to say they would be passing through the area on the way. Being a lowly minion in the postal system I have to work on Saturdays so they stopped by the Heflin Post Office for a few minutes to visit. I gave Tom a list of the contributors to the Rippetoe fund and he gave me a set of dog tags that had been made to hand out at the memorial for Russell. In trying to coordinate the visit Tom had talked to my wife several times and me once. I knew someone was with him but I did not know who. When Matt Minnick first introduced himself I said I had heard his name before but didn't know where. Once I returned home I went back through my emails and sure enough one mentioned SSG Matt Minnick as the family liaison. So I was right Matt, I had seen your name; body goes first, then the mind. Tom wanted a picture so we got one of us three between the two Harleys (good think I didn't ride any of my rice burners that day) Quite a sight, these two slim & fit young fellows on Harleys and a slightly over the hill fat "used to be". I don't think I want to see that picture.

The summer months are prime time for reunions and I wish I could attend them all (still a party guy I guess). The 9th ID guys are set to have what sounds like a great whing ding up in Montana, 4th ID at Fort Bragg, VII Corps LRRPS at Fort Campbell... just can't afford it or get the time off. I did make the banquet at the BDQ reunion in Huntsville, AL on May 3rd and got to meet several more members I knew the name of but not the face. Mike Martin and crew put together a good dinner and honored their lost but not forgotten comrades. I am planning on making the reunion of my unit the 101st LRRP / RANGER Association in Nevada in June. I was planning to make the Ranger Rendezvous at Fort Benning in August but that has been cut down to one day, maybe, I can get off work. For those of you who have never attended one of these gatherings, I encourage you to do so, but beware, they are addictive. Buck Anderson already has his crew going full speed on the biannual 75th reunion at Fort Lewis, WA in the summer of 2004.
I'm going to put in a call to GB and ask him to put France on the back burner till our reunion is over.

Anybody that takes the time to read the secretary’s comments has got to be a serious member of the association. So talking to you serious members, membership is a primary concern of mine and I am always trying to get and keep members in our association. If you know of someone who is qualified to be a member but is not, send me his name & address and I will send him a copy of “Patrolling” and an application. If it encourages him to join great! If he is still not interested, it has not been a great intrusion of his privacy.

As usual I will include a small episode of my time in the barrel. When the 101st LRRPS first started they took only combat experienced men, but by the time I arrived in early 1970 L/75 was short of men and would give most any volunteer a chance. Thus we had newbies like me learning on the job. Although I learned and survived, it was not a good policy.

After our training mission I was assigned to team 1-1. SSG Delaney was my first Team Leader. He was capable and competent and had been in D/75 before moving to L/75 when Delta deactivated. He was probably the Team Leader when I had my first contact. It was just the 1st or 2nd mission after I was assigned to team 1-1. It had been a quiet mission, we had seen or heard nothing for 4 days. During our travel we had passed a good PZ (pickup zone), so on the night of the 4th day we moved back to spend the night there and wait for pickup the next morning. It was late in the afternoon and we were setting up for the night. I was going out to set up a claymore mine about 30 feet down a small finger. Since I was going to be setting up the claymore the SOP was that someone else would go with me to watch the jungle and provide “cover”. I was kneeling down placing the claymore in front of a tree (so the back blast wouldn’t hit us). My cover guy was standing beside me to keep watch. The enemy opened up on us. My cover guy fell down beside me saying “I’m hit, I’m hit!” I could not see any of the enemy so I asked him “where, where are you hit?” He said “I don’t know where, but I’m hurt” “Come on, I said, give me an idea.” “The shoulder, I think it’s the shoulder” he said. I was looking at his shoulder but I didn’t see any holes so I kept asking him if he was sure he was hit. I finally found it, the hole had been hidden in a fold of his fatigues. The bullet went through clean so there was only a hole smaller than a dime going in and coming out. It didn’t bleed much either. I was going to help him back to the perimeter but the team leader told me to stay there and cover while someone else came up to get him. At first I was looking but not firing because I didn’t see anyone. The team leader told me to shoot anyway. I was thinking of conserving ammo, but in a case like that the Team leader told me later, he would rather have me waste the ammo but maybe make the enemy duck his head or at least spoil his aim. At any rate I stayed out on the finger shooting up the jungle while someone else came out and dragged my cover guy back. Once they were back, everyone covered me while I crawled back. That was a good feeling in itself, I had been feeling very lonely and vulnerable out on that finger by myself. There were some old foxholes on our little hilltop about mid-thigh deep, not allot but better than nothing. The Team Leader called for the immediate reaction force and we kept up a sporadic fire into the jungle. The wounded fellow was yelling and cussing us all saying we were letting him die. Someone had bandaged his shoulder and a Medic was on the way so there was nothing anyone could do, but he was still cussing us all. As I said, he just took one round in the shoulder that went straight through so he wasn’t in danger of dying soon except maybe from shock. The Medivac came and got the wounded guy, the reaction force arrived and since it was late in the evening we stayed with them through the night and were extracted the next morning. They searched the area but did not have any more contact. I did not know it at the time, but the wounded fellow had been with me in Basic Training, AIT, Jump School, and had been one of the six volunteers with me for L Company. We had always been in different platoons, and didn’t know each other at all. His turned out to be the “Million Dollar Wound”, the bullet creased his lung and he was sent straight back to the “World” the United States, with a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star.

TREASURER’S MESSAGE

By Joe Niblett

As usual I am late in sending in my article, and John Chester is no longer referring to me by my name. That’s what happens when you go out of town for a couple of weeks. Your laptop hard drive crashes and someone steals your cell phone. I had a nasty message on cell phone when I replaced it this past Saturday, from our fearless leader Dana telling me to get off my butt and do my job.

We have lost many great men and women of our country over the past few months. I offer my condolences to the families of these men and women. As we look to the future we also need to remember those still deployed to Afghanistan. I read an article that featured the 126th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) of the California National Guard. A photo in the article was of my old teammate Ranger Teves. As association members, we need to actively pursue old teammates to get them to join our association. The future of our association is depends on membership growth.

The Association is currently in sound financial position. However, over the next few months I will be working with to board of directors to assess our future outlook, specifically, plotting trends and projecting the cash flows of our organization.

Ranger Leads the Way!

Joe Niblett
Every once in a while we need to do things that we don’t want to do. Some can be very difficult; indeed they are things that any normal person would shy from. I experienced one such event recently. On Wednesday, April 16, 2003, Mary Anne and I attended the interment of SSG Nino Livaudais, A CO 3/75th Ranger Regiment, who was KIA in Iraq. It was with profoundly mixed feelings that I attended this ceremony. I was honored to represent our Association and at the same time, thoughts of other military funerals that I had attended thirty or more years ago intruded.

It was a perfect day in April, warm, sunny and with the breath of spring in the air. The cherry blossoms were slightly past their prime, but still impressive. The long rows of perfectly aligned headstones and monuments dominate this garden of stone. On that morning a young Ranger was put to his final rest and we were all present here to honor him and in so doing, honor his commitment to his country and to his chosen profession, the profession of arms.

As I looked around me, and I saw several General Officers, one of whom is the Chief of Staff of the Army. SSG Nino Livaudais probably never met the General while alive, but he was there to honor his death. The sounds of Taps echoes among the monuments, and even though I knew it was coming, I still jumped at the crash of the first volley from the firing detail. My wife’s hand on my arm brought me back to the present; my war is over. This one belongs to younger men. Younger but not really different, they are still risking everything for what they believe in, just as we did, and just as our Fathers and their Fathers did.

The ceremony proceeded with Military precision, the Old Guard, resplendent in their immaculate dress blues carefully folded the flag and presented it to SSG Livaudais’ pregnant wife and their two little boys, not yet six years old. Another was presented to his mother, the widow of a survivor of the Bataan Death March. Service is indeed a part of Nino Livaudais’ heritage.

At the close of the ceremony a line of people, lead by the Chief of Staff of the Army and his wife, filed by the bereaved to pay their respects and to extend their condolences. Mary Anne and I were at the bottom of the crowd as the CSA and his wife passed by in his black beret and greeted us. We exchanged a few words and he moved on, his demeanor as solemn as the proceedings.

If anyone thinks that there is such a thing as a cheap war, there was an article in our local paper recently that will dispel that notion. It seems that Gertrude Janeway, 93, recently died in Blaine, TN. She was the last surviving widow of a Union veteran of the Civil War. Her husband had died more than 60 years ago. They were married when she was 18 and he was 81. And this was long before Viagra. She died in the 3 room log cabin in which she had spent most of her life. She described her husband, John Janeway, as the love of her life. She never remarried after his death more than 60 years ago. She received a $70.00 check each month from the Veterans Administration. The punch line? The last Confederate widow, Alberta Martin, 95 is still alive in Elba, GA. Remember, this war ended almost 140 years ago.

I have received a number of inquiries about the prosecution of wannabes or imposters, persons claiming to be former Rangers, SEALs, Special Forces, etc. There is an excellent book that has been very recently published, Fake Warriors, by Henry Mark Holzer and Erica Holzer (Xlibris Corporation). (See review in this issue). The authors are both attorneys, so there is some technical jargon throughout. They go into quite a bit of detail about Federal Statutes that are available to prosecute phonys, but State law can differ greatly among the States.

It’s worth reading.

I have been meaning for some time to write an informal summary of some of the changes that occur when a veteran’s disability has been adjudicated as 100% service connected. I could be mean & do it here in the largely unread regions, but if you look in the regular articles section, it will be there.

I want to welcome Sampan Ltd to the magazine. They purchased a card ad & now have a link from our website (75thra.org) to their website. I purchased some NVA & VC flags from them last year. The quality was great and the service was fast rate. Give them a look, their website is www.sampan.com.

Were you a LRRP? Or were you a LRP? Or maybe a Ranger? Thirty plus years after the fact, there still seems to be a little cyclone of controversy over the distinction. During the Vietnam War all three of the above did the same thing in the same AO, carried the same weapons, wore the same uniforms and accomplished the same missions. Yet we still fight over the names we called
ourselves. A great philosopher once said, “Men don’t fight because they have causes, men have causes so that they can fight.”

I have talked to a number of people in the last couple of weeks, two of them Unit Directors, and they have said that a significant number of the people that are members of their unit associations won’t join the 75th Ranger Regiment Association because of the emphasis placed on the Ranger Battalions, and because they were LRRP’S or LRP’S and don’t identify with the present day Rangers. That’s a little like being angry with your son because he wasn’t there before he was born. Whether we like it or not, the present day Rangers trace their lineage to us old broken down LRRP’S and LRP’S. And yes the old broken down Rangers too. If you want to be real technical, the mission for all three of the Vietnam era organizations was a whole lot closer to the present day Long Range Surveillance Units than to the present day Rangers. But you know what? I’m damn proud of both of them, I don’t care what they’re called.

Is there a common ground here? After all it was the Army that arbitrarily changed the names from LRRP to LRP and finally to Ranger. I was a LRRP and then I became a LRP. I was doing the same thing after the change. I got a young man into the unit when we were LRRP’S. He was there when we became LRP’S. He was killed, after I left and after he became a Ranger. Should I forget him because he was a Ranger when he was killed and I was a LRP? I still mourn him, though I had nothing to do with his death, and I visit him each time I go to the wall. To me, he is just one of my people who didn’t make it and I will probably always blame myself a little bit for his death, regardless of what he was called and despite the fact that I was 12,000 miles away when it happened.

If it’s possible for a bunch of old warriors to lay down their weapons and make peace, maybe this is as good a time as we’ll find. There is a new generation that has done a magnificent job fighting a new war, and in spite of the differences we do have a common ground whether you were a LRRP, a LRP, a Ranger or a LRS. That common ground is the word Range. It is in every name. That’s what we are. We are the people that Range out in front of every one else, who find the enemy, find the danger and protect those behind us. We did it then and our sons and brothers are doing it now. As Shakespeare said, “After all, what’s in a name?” If you want to stay bitter and remain isolated from the rest of your family, don’t use a name as an excuse. The LRRP’S, LRP’S and Rangers of the Vietnam era will most probably never be awarded the Ranger tab. Deal with it and get over it. We all know what we did and the price we paid. If you choose to be bitter now, you are the only person who will suffer. The rest of us are going to read the magazine, enjoy the web site, talk to our friends, both old and the new one’s we’ll make, go to the reunions, help the people we can and sympathize with the one’s we can’t. In short, we’re going to have a life. You’re invited to join us. Welcome home.

The above doesn’t apply to every one, but if you know someone it does apply to, maybe you can share it with him. We are strongly considering placing the unit reports in reverse chronological order, in other words, the present day Rangers will be at the beginning and the first LRRP’S will be at the end. I wrote the above anticipating a storm of controversy. There is no slight or precedence intended for or against anyone. It simply makes sense to go from the new to the old. Your comments are invited.
I'm getting almost good at this stuff. I've made so many changes to the web site that I'm not sure if I can remember to list them all here. I think I'm having too much fun. Once I learned that writing source code for a web site wasn't rocket science, I went wild. I'm starting to get a little fancy with some of the stuff on the site. For you old time computer geeks, you'll notice there is a lot more Cascading Style Sheet code on the pages. It seems to be the way web site development is going. I've taken two HTML courses and passed them and now beginning the CSS series. Next in my education will be in the line of XHTML and then straight into XML. Lastly, I want to round off my web knowledge with some JavaScript. OK, no more fancy talk.

The Top Tabs lead you to 7 major regions in the web site. The Left Side Menu of each region leads you to different sections within that region. Each section of the left menu is a complete or self-contained thought or idea. You're going to have to explore each portion to see what is there.

As you can see to the left, I've changed some of the Left Side Menus on the sheets to make things more assessable. You'll have to check each page to see what's new there.

I've also added a little Uncle Sam guy to all pages and left side menu's so you or anyone can click straight into an Application Form from almost anywhere and join the Association.

My next trick will be to add a Guest Book icon so regardless of where you are, you can shoot to the guest book to make an Entry or View Entries.

On the "Home" Tag, I've place some direct links to places within the site that are either new and interesting or important for you to see and know about. Click on them and see what they are and where they take you. I will change these from time to time. Just above the Top Site Choices are the most current news entries. These automatically change to reflex the newest entry and are ever changing.

The table graphic you see above is located as a header for several pages. Each is related to a specific unit and from this header the links will take you to pages of interest concerning that unit. David Walker has done a fantastic job on reworking all of the graphics for unit crests and patches. I think I've created another monster because he's starting to like this stuff. The History portions probably need
WEB MASTER MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

to be reworked by the members of the unit. I will post photos if the Unit Director sends them to me. Roster is optional if the unit wants one posted. Simple name and dates plus if they are located or not is all that is needed.

I’ve been working for months on these KIA rosters. So before you start getting upset because I’ve left off a name, misspelled a name or have a wrong date; I’m working off data I rounded up. I’ve sent the pages to the Unit Director for his review. Some have responded back and most have not said anything. Are there Unit Directors even out there? Most Unit Directors do not have a message posted and it is not because I have failed to post it. In most cases, I post information sent to me that very same day.

Below is a table located on the “About Us” tab, left menu, ‘Ranger History’ top item. It lists all the KIA’s for this Association. I have them broken out by Alphabetical, by Year, by Month and by Unit of death. If you are not sure when someone died, there are several ways to find your friend.

IN “RANGER” MEMORIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listed Alphabetically</th>
<th>Listed by Year</th>
<th>Listed by Month</th>
<th>Listed by Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

As an example, if you were to click by Unit, you would see the table below. There it lists all the units. Just click on the unit of choice and view that units KIA’s.

THIS UNIT IN “RANGER” MEMORIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOME C/75</th>
<th>RGR, E/20 LRP</th>
<th>E/75 RGR, E/50 LRP</th>
<th>F/75 RGR, E/50 LRP, 25 DIV LRRP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G/75 RGR, E/51 LRP</td>
<td>H/75 RGR, E/52 LRP</td>
<td>I/75 RGR, E/52 LRP, 1 DIV LRRP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/75 RGR, E/58 LRP, 4 DIV LRRP</td>
<td>L/75 RGR, E/58 LRP, 101 DIV LRRP</td>
<td>M/75 RGR, 71 LRP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/75 RGR, 74 LRP, 173 LRRP</td>
<td>O/75 RGR</td>
<td>P/75 RGR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ 75 RGR RECT</td>
<td>1BN 75 RGR RECT</td>
<td>2BN 75 RGR RECT</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HQ 75 LRRP</td>
<td>1BN 75 LRRP</td>
<td>2BN 75 LRRP</td>
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<tr>
<td>HQ 75 BDQ</td>
<td>1BN 75 BDQ</td>
<td>2BN 75 BDQ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interesting Links
Veteran Service Organizations
Association Units
Military Links
Related Links
US Government
Mega Links
Personal Links
Sponsors
Memorials
Health & Wellness
Legislation

Without a doubt, the most interesting tab on the web site is the “Interesting Links” tab. I have spent a lot of time securing links to about any place of interest you might want to go to. Even more important on this left side menu is the ‘Health & Wellness’. This link just might save your life. It’s not completed yet but we are working on it. Visit it often. Matter of fact, I suggest you go into your browser and set the Association Home page as your web site ‘Home Page’. That way, when you start up your web browser, it automatically opens to our Association Home page and you can see what’s current.

The “Other Association” tab is blank. There is nothing there. I’m open for suggestion’s as to what you guys want there. It’s your web site. If you have some HTML skills or more advanced skills, please let me know if you would like to help with the site. If you have pictures of your unit and want them posted, route them through the Unit Director and he will send them to me. Oh, by the way, if your Unit Director has not posted his Unit Directors Message, ask him why he hasn’t done so yet.

The web site is evolving. It is far from complete. There is much to do and we are working on it as fast as we can. You will notice the direction we are going with it and what we have accomplished so far. Check back often to view the changes. If you have ideas as to what you’d like to see, let us know. I can use all the help I can get. If you see an error in any of your unit data, let your Unit Director know so he can contact me to fix it.

We are peddling this bike as fast as we can so please be patient. Please go to the Guest Book often and just post a simple comment. Write to me and give me suggestions. Submit articles through your unit to the site. Contribute and be a working part of your Association. It will only be as good as you make it. This Association has come a long ways since it first began and that is due to men like you. Now is not the time to sit back and be timid. The only thing that kept you guys alive was your boldness and aggressiveness. Now put it to good use and help your fellow brothers. Until next time. Emmett
Gold Star...
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

Miscellaneous Legislative News

VA Copay Refund: Veterans insured by the Hartford Life Insurance Company or the USAA Life Insurance Company may be eligible for a refund of their VA co-payments. In a recent settlement with the Department of Veterans Affairs and a coalition of insurance industry groups, Hartford and USAA paid VA approximately $11.1 million. The settlement involves payments for care provided by VA to insured veterans with Medicare or Tri-care supplemental coverage from Jan. 1, 1995 through Dec. 31, 2001. The settlement clarifies the claims reimbursement process. It not only resolves the litigation but also reimburses those veterans whose co-payments to VA should have been covered by their insurance. Veterans insured by Hartford or USAA who paid VA co-payments for VA medical care they received from Jan. 1, 1995 through Dec. 31, 2001 may ask VA for a refund of their co-payments on a first-come, first-served basis. All requests for refunds must be postmarked by April 1, 2004. VA will notify by mail those veterans who may be eligible for refunds according to records on file. Other veterans who believe they may be eligible for a refund may obtain a claims application form by calling 1-866-258-2772 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., EST, M-F. They also may download the application from the VA website at www.va.gov/hottopic. [Source: VA News Release 25 APR 03]

Medicare Rehabilitation Therapy Caps: Barring quick action to change the law in the next two months, Medicare is making plans to institute an annual cap of $1,500 on outpatient services for occupational therapy and speech and physical therapy on June 30. For TFL beneficiaries, this means that after the cap is met, TRICARE will become first payer, leaving patients with a 20 or 25 percent cost share until the $3,000 TRICARE annual out-of-pocket catastrophic cap is met. It is estimated that 13 percent of all Medicare beneficiaries will be impacted. H.R. 1125 (Rep. English, R-PA) and S. 569 (Sen. Ensign, R-NV) have been introduced in Congress to stop the implementation of these caps, which were originally put in law in 1997. The effective date has been delayed several times but will go into effect unless the new legislation is approved. [Source: MOAA’s Leg Up for May 2, 2003]

CRSC Update 3: At an informal meeting of various veterans’ service organization representatives and DoD officials this week procedures governing the new special compensation for certain military retirees with combat, operational or training-related disabilities were discussed. CRSC, pro-announced as “kursek” is on track for the 1 June implementation date. DoD hopes to be able to release the new rules sometime after mid-May. A clarifying point was made regarding Purple Heart recipients. The example involved a retiree who received a Purple Heart for an injury for which VA awarded a 20% disability rating and the retiree incurred a subsequent combat related disability that was also VA rated at 20%. Under these circumstances, the retiree’s CRSC monthly payment would be the amount of the 20% VA disability rating only, which for 2003 is $201. DOD’s logic for this is that the combined disability rating total of 36% rounded off to 40% is less than 60%, which is the qualifying percentage requirement when no Purple Heart was awarded. However, if subsequent increases in disability are granted that are specifically derived from a Purple Heart related injury, the CRSC will be adjusted accordingly. Although the draft procedures were not released to the participants, the below outline of the process emerged during the informal talks.

Officials stressed that this is preliminary, unofficial information only, and that procedures/forms have not been officially approved:
1. Application instructions should be released in the next few weeks.
2. Instructions will be available via the Web and retiree newsletters. Once approved, applicants will be able to fill out and print an electronic application on the web at https://www.dmde.osd.mil/crsc for mailing to the retiree’s parent service for consideration by its review board. The website is currently under construction and will be operation no later than 31 May 2003. There are no provisions for electronic filing.
3. Each Military Department will establish review boards to award or deny the special compensation for retirees with at least 20 years’ active federal service who have VA-rated disabilities that are associated with a Purple Heart (10% or higher) or that are related to
combat or military operations (60% or higher). Appeals of adverse decisions may be made to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).

4. Applicants can speed consideration by attaching readable copies of any available supporting documents to the application. Originals and/or certified true copies are not required nor desired.

5. The Pentagon is asking potential applicants NOT to request supporting documents from the National Personnel Records Center [NPRC] or the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. DoD has made separate arrangements with these agencies to obtain needed documentation on an expedited basis (as quickly as one week, in some cases). Retirees can help speed decisions by attaching copies of documents they already have in their possession, but individual requests for records (which normally take months) will only add to the record centers’ workload and delay the process.

6. Regardless of when claims are submitted, approved applicants will receive compensation retroactive to June 1, 2003 provided the qualifying disability was rated by the VA on or before that date.

7. CRSC payments will not be taxable and will not be subject to divisions enforced by the Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act.

8. VA disability rating codes will be used in the evaluation process, and VA’s presumptive combat-related/service-connection rules (such as for Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam, battle-related post-traumatic stress syndrome, etc.) are expected to apply. [Source: MOAA’s Leg Up & NAUS Update 2 May 03]

**Hepatitis C Drug Breakthrough:** According to University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center scientists, new drugs to fight hepatitis C reduce the virus to nearly undetectable levels in a matter of days. Clinical trials are currently under way to examine the effects of these new drugs on patients with the virus. Tests carried out in the United States suggest they will have a dramatic impact on the health of people with hepatitis C. They belong to a class of drugs called protease inhibitors, which have been used to treat patients with HIV. The drugs work by blocking a part of the virus called the protease enzyme. With the protease enzyme blocked, hepatitis C makes copies of the virus that are defective and cannot infect new cells. Since hepatitis C blocks the immune system the result is to enable the body to fight back using its own natural defenses. Virus levels are reduced within days.

The findings will offer hope to thousands of people with hepatitis C around the world. At present, 85% of those who are infected with hepatitis C develop chronic infections that are not responsive to drugs. Around 70% of these go on to develop liver cancer and nearly 3% of those with long-term infections die of related illnesses. There is currently no cure for hepatitis C although a number of companies are working on potential vaccines. The virus is found in the blood and can be passed on by intravenous drug users who share needles, from contaminated blood products, and by sexual contact. The study is published on the website Science Express. [Source: Colonel Dan Veteran Issues msg. 18 APR 03]

**VA Combat Vet Health Care:** Effective immediately, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has implemented policies and procedures for providing free health care services and nursing home care to combat veterans for a period of 2 years beginning on the date of separation from active military service. This benefit covers all illnesses and injuries except those clearly unrelated to military service; for example, a common cold, injuries from accidents that occurred after discharge, and disorders that existed before joining the military. Care may not be provided for any disability found to have resulted from a cause other than the military service in combat operations. Combat veterans seeking treatment for health conditions claimed to be related to combat operations are evaluated clinically by means of a physical examination and appropriate diagnostic studies. In making this determination, the physician must consider that the following types of conditions are not ordinarily considered to be due to occupational or military service:

1. Congenital or developmental conditions, for example, scoliosis,
2. Conditions which are known to have existed before military service, and
3. Conditions which have a specific and well-established cause and that began after military combat service. Coverage extends for a two-year period following separation from active military service. Dental services are not included.

Veterans are eligible if they served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of “hostilities” after November 11, 1998 and have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions. “Hostilities” is defined as conflict in which Armed Forces members are subjected to the danger comparable to that faced in a period of war. National Guard and Reserve members are also eligible for VA health care if they were ordered to active duty by a federal declaration, served the full period for which they were called or ordered to active duty, and have separated from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Active duty, National Guard and Reserve members who were activated to a combat mission and then separated from active duty receive a DD Form 214, which should show an award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. Individuals seeking services under this authority should bring their DD Form 214 when reporting to a VA health care facility.

Unlike other veterans who do not have VA-adjudicated service-connected conditions, veterans who qualify under this special eligibility authority are not subject to VA means testing or copayment requirements. There is no burden placed on these veterans to prove that their health problems are related to their military service or prove that they have low income to qualify for cost-free VA health care. The co-payment status will depend on whether the veteran’s illness or injury is found to be service-connected or whether
the veteran is otherwise qualified for VA health care. Each veteran will be enrolled for VA health care in the appropriate priority group. Some veterans - those in the lowest priority group - whose income is above the means test threshold must agree to make required co-payments. If the veteran does not agree to make co-payments, the veteran will be ineligible for VA care. Additional information is available at the nearest VA medical facility. The telephone number can be found in the local telephone directory under the “U.S. Government” listings. Veterans can also call (800) 827-1000 or (877) 222-8387. [Source: Veterans Health Administration, Washington, DC 20420  IB 10-162 December 2002]

**Purple Heart Postage Stamp:** The U.S. Postal Service is set to issue a stamp honoring the nation’s oldest military decoration - the Purple Heart. The formal first day of issue ceremony will be held at Mount Vernon, George Washington’s home in Virginia. Washington ordered the creation of the Purple Heart citation in 1782, during the Revolutionary War. Originally a “badge of distinction for meritorious action,” today, the Purple Heart is awarded to members of the U.S. military who have been wounded or killed in action. The $0.37 stamp features a photograph of a Purple Heart awarded to Mr. James Loftus Fowler, a Marine lieutenant colonel, following action in Vietnam. The new stamp will be available at post offices nationwide beginning May 30th. For more information go to: www.usps.com. [Source: VFW Washington Weekly, May 2, 2003]

**Exchange Consolidation:** The DoD announced 16 MAY 03 that Paul Wolfowitz, deputy secretary of defense, initiated a multi-year effort that may culminate in the consolidation of the three Armed Service Exchange Systems into a single defense organization. Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Charles Abell will oversee this effort. After reviewing recommendations from numerous studies and considering the views of the military departments, Wolfowitz has charged Abell to determine the most efficient and cost effective way to organize and operate the exchanges as a single entity. These actions will be transparent to the individual soldier, sailor, airman, Marine, or military family member. The look and feel of each store will maintain the service culture to which they are accustomed. The business processes that operate the system will be more efficient and effective, yielding a benefit that is not only preserved but enhanced. [Source: DoD News Release No. 334-03; dated 16 MAY 03]

**Commissary Agent Rule:** Known as the agent privilege, it’s for any authorized commissary shopper who needs assistance shopping or who cannot shop on his or her own behalf because of disability, illness or infirmity. That privilege also extends to grandparents, guardians or caregivers of children of service members who may not be available due to deployment or remote assignment. The installation commander who controls who enters the installation authorizes agent privilege. The agent does not have to be an authorized commissary shopper. The military member may request an agent pass for approval to allow an individual designated to shop for them because of disability, illness or infirmity or who is the primary caregiver for the children of deployed parents to enter the installation. Non-military primary caregivers should contact the identification card section on the installation to determine what legal documents, i.e., power of attorney, may also be needed to establish proof of caregiver status. At the same time, the individual can also ask what documents are required to enter the installation. Upon verification of caregiver status, the individual receives written authorization from the commander’s representative designating him/her as an “agent”. Usually, the letter is for a 12-month period, but it can be extended in cases of continued hardship. Children are allowed to enter the confines of any commissary as long as an adult accompanies them. The military does not require children less than 10 years old to have an identification card. [Source: Air Force Retiree News 29 Apr 2003]

**VA Erectile Dysfunction Rating:** If you are suffering from service connected diabetes and cannot get an erection you can submit a claim for an erectile dysfunction rating. If approved it increase your current disability combined rating by 10 or 20%. Erectile dysfunction can also be a complication of depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or physician prescribed treatment for other disabilities that includes medications that cause the dysfunction. [Source: Silver rose Newsletter MAR/APR 03]

**POW Benefits:** About 40 percent of the Americans held prisoner in the past five conflicts still are alive, according to the American Ex-Prisoner of War [AXPOW] Association’s search of records. More than 140,000 Americans were captured and interned during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, and the Somalia and Kosovo conflicts. However, only about 35% of surviving POWs have contacted the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) to accept benefits for which they are eligible. These include benefits Related to health maladies that are presumed related to severe conditions suffered in the hands of the enemy during internment. Any former POW or his representative desiring to obtain benefits should contact the DVA. If help in preparing the claim is needed a volunteer accredited national service officer of the AXPOW can assist at no charge in submitting a claim to the DVA. They can be contacted at axpow@flash.net or (817) 649-2979 or 3201 East Pioneer Parkway, #40, Arlington TX 76010. [Source: 26 NOV 02 Stars & Stripes article & March ARB RAO Newsletter Spring 03]

**VA Home Loan Funding Fee:** The VA home loan program is a veteran’s benefit for which details can be found at website http://www.home loans.va.gov/elig.htm. To defray the cost of administering the VA home loan program, each veteran must pay a funding fee to VA at loan closing, unless the veteran is disabled. The limitations on borrower-paid fees and charges when making VA
Gold Star Certificate
By: Bill Bullen

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2003 Emmett Hiltibrand, Rick Benner, John Chester and I traveled to Arlington National Cemetery in order to present a Gold Star Certificate to Elizabeth Olgyay, mother of Spc Roy Olgyay, KIA on September 19, 1970. Roy was in Company K with me and I participated in some of his training. Roy is buried in Portsmouth, England with his father. It was necessary to cremate his remains because his body was lost for two months while transporting it from the west coast to the east coast.

Elizabeth Olgyay is a remarkable woman, she was a medic with the Hungarian Air Force on the Russian Front during World War II. After the war she worked for the US Government during the Cold War, (she speaks five languages).

The presentation was made in front of the 4th INF DIV Memorial at Arlington. She was presented with the Gold Star Certificate, a life member (75th RRA) pin, a heart shaped 75th DUI and a K/75 scroll. In the photograph Elizabeth is wearing her National Gold Star Mother uniform.
From Pine Valley to Camp Merrill, Rangers Lead The Way

By Sharon Hall
This article was published in The Dahlonega Nugget

Water still dripped from the tall pines, but for the most part the rain had stopped when the Camp Frank D. Merrill color guard marched across the soaked earth. They strode through ranks of lean young men and white-haired grandfathers with arthritic hands, but all stood straight and gave a crisp salute to the passing American flag.

Pine Valley, a site south of Dahlonega on Highway 9, was being dedicated as the first Ranger training camp in Georgia Saturday, and about 450 Rangers and former Rangers, their families and friends had gathered to mark the occasion. Steve Hawk, president of the U.S. Mountain Ranger Association, told the group that when he first contacted the Georgia Historical Commission about placing an historical marker at the site he wasn’t sure about accomplishing the task. He was told by a “very southern lady that she couldn’t see a tie between Georgia history and the Rangers,” Hawk said. “As far as she was concerned, and I quote, ‘the Rangers were a bunch of short-haired hooligans running around Savannah.’” But Hawk, a former Ranger and trained to overcome insurmountable obstacles, persevered. He told the lady, among other things, that if it hadn’t been for Georgia Coastal and Highlander Rangers the official language of the state might well be Spanish today. It was a handful of Rangers, a part of the Georgia Militia formed by Gen. James Oglethorpe, who repelled 200 elite Spanish Grenadiers at the Battle of Bloody Marsh near St. Simmons Island in 1742. “After two hours of expending ammunition at men that would hide and shoot, the Spanish withdrew—not knowing they severely outnumbered the Georgia Militia. After this encounter the Spanish would completely withdraw from Georgia, never to invade again.”

Ranger history pre-dates the American Revolution, with Ranger companies being formed and disbanded throughout times of all American conflicts. In modern times Rangers have played vital rolls in combat, drawing first blood for the American forces in the European theater during World War II, leading assaults in Africa, joining with British troops to sweep across Sicily and into Italy, loosing three battalions at Anzio, and playing a major role in the D-Day invasion at Omaha and Utah beaches. Rangers cleared islands in the south Pacific, rescuing the survivors of the Bataan Death March from the Cabanatuan Prisoner of War Compound in the Philippines, moving men and supplies along the Ledo road in Burma, fighting the Japanese the entire time. Most of the men who volunteered as Rangers during World War II were trained by the British and Scots, or by veterans from their own ranks.

It wasn’t until 1950s that the U.S. Army developed a course of instruction to train officers and NCOs to be sent back to their units to spread the training, esprit-de-corps and attitude of the U.S. Army Ranger. Rangers participated in Korea, mostly in actions behind the lines or on specialized missions. They worked in small teams, acting as the eyes and ears of for the divisions of U.S. troops spread throughout Vietnam, conducting raids and ambushes and disrupting enemy operations. They were involved in the attempted rescue of American hostages held in Tehran, Iran in 1980, parachuted into Grenada to secure Salinas Airfield, dropped into Panama and were deployed to Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm, took part in a raid to capture Mohammed Aидid in Mogadishu, Somalia and are today fighting terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Since 1951, every Ranger in every conflict has passed through Lumpkin County, home of the mountain phase of the U.S. Army Ranger School. The first Mountain Ranger Training Camp was established at Pine Valley, now a recreational area of North Georgia College & State University, in 1951 under command of Lt. Ralph Puckett. Puckett, now a colonel, along with five of the original cadre of 29 Ranger Instructors, was present at Saturday’s dedication. He was among the dignitaries speaking at the ceremony.

Puckett has many memories of Lumpkin County. He and his wife, Jean, started their married life in Dahlonega in a $50-a-month rental house. He remembers the days when the telephone operator knew everything going on in town. She was the one who dialed all the numbers in those days. He remembers being up at 4:30 a.m. to eat the breakfast his wife prepared, “I trained her right,” he says, but he also gave praise to all Ranger wives. “They often go unrecognized, but I couldn’t have made it through my career without my wife,” he said. He was at Pine Valley by 5:30 a.m. It was a “tent city” then, he recalls. The mess hall was a circus tent and the food would get cold between the kitchen tent and the mess hall. He remembers warning trainees about coming across a moonshine still while out on maneuvers. “I told them the leave the moonshiners alone and they’ll leave you alone,” he said.

The other four surviving members of the original cadre have memories of those days, too, and of the man they served under. Johnny Burt recalls Puckett giving him a three-day pass so she could marry the girl he’d met working at the Holly Theater. “He said, ‘Son, if the Army had wanted you to have a wife, they’d have issued you one.’ But he gave me the pass, 51 years ago this August,” he said. Bob Bigart remembers a little building out near the road with a “two-holer” behind the house the cooks used to burn the garbage. One day a cook told Sgt. Close, “How about burning down the shit house,” and he doused it in kerosene and burned it down. They used the same site as an open pit for garbage burning after that.

The time the Etowah River, which runs through the site, flooded the camp out is what Jim Allison remembers most clearly. “It woke us all up at 2 a.m. We got called out of the tents and headed for high ground,” he says. He remembers Puckett well. He was his hero, he said. “I was just one of 29 men, a small piece of a larger puzzle. Puckett, he was my hero; a good man and the best commanding officer anyone could wish for.” “We had some of the best NCOs and officers I’ve ever been with here,” Billy Bratton recalls. “We played hard, but we worked hard. Just about all the cadre had combat experience. We’d run into obstacles we didn’t have the training to overcome. That’s what we wanted to provide in training Rangers, how to overcome all obstacles, large or small.”

Puckett spoke of the training men have received at the Mountain Ranger School, and the men who trained them. He said it is the best life insurance a military man could have, and praised
Ranger Instructors past and present. “How well you do your job,” he told them, “determines whether men will live or die on the battlefield; whether we will win or loose on the battlefield. The Rangers fighting today in Iraq and they are your legacy.” Though the camp has moved from Pine Valley to Camp Wahsega to its present location on national forest land at Camp Frank D. Merrill, that same training is on-going today, preparing men to overcome all obstacles, as Rangers Lead The Way.

2003 Critter Cookout

The 2003 Critter Cookout was held April 5, 2003, at Pine Valley—the original site of Mountain Ranger Training—just south of Dahlonega, Georgia. The menu was the same, some brought along any road-kill and threw it on the fire. However, this year we traded in our GP medium in for a metal roof. For those who didn’t like the idea of sleeping under a roof that doesn’t leak, they brought a poncho and crashed under the towering pines.

Thanks to all who attended!
Ranger Hall of Fame

On 9 April 2003, I participated as the representative for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, on the Executive Board of the Ranger Hall Of Fame selection committee. That was a mouth full wasn’t it? Our job was to review the packets presented to us in an overall view and place them in an order of merit listing using numbers 0 through 5. With 0 being the lowest and 5 being the highest. Once this was done, we handed our grade sheet to the Board Recorder who placed our collective numbers with each selectees name and then he tallied them up. At the end of this process of his, he produced and overall merit list, which showed us the selectees who were within top 15 rated overall.

About a month prior to this meeting, I was hand delivered my portion of the packets to preview them. This is done mainly to expedite things while in the meeting itself. During the actual review process as each individual packet is being reviewed, anyone is allowed to comment for or against any packet or ask questions or for additional data or clarification. There were 25 packets submitted. Actually, there were a lot more than that. In our Association alone, we had 6 packets submitted. But, we could only send 3 forward to the selection board. What I did with the other 3 that we did not send forward was to get prior inductee’s to submit these 3 packets. So, in essence, all 6 of our packets were submitted in one manner or another. Unfortunately, only one of those other 3 could finally be submitted to the board.

We submitted 3 from our Association and 2 were selected. One selectee was, Mark Toschik of E/75 who was killed in action in Vietnam. The other one was Vladimir Jakovenko of the 173rd Abn. Bde. LRRP. Of the 3 that we submitted by other means, the one that was finally submitted was nominated, which was Andy Markivich of the BDQ. The RHOF induction for this year is tentatively scheduled for 6 August 2003. The exact time is unknown at this time but will most likely be around 1000 hrs at Marshall Auditorium inside of the Infantry Hall.

This year’s nominees were not unlike any other years nominees. There was a good crop submitted and it was a most difficult job in determining a rating scheme for these fine warriors. But it had to be done. Only 15 of the overall could go forward, period.

I personally commend those who spent the time to construct these packets. That in and of itself is no small task. It takes a lot of time and effort to put one of these packets together. There is a lot of supporting documentation that is needed for these things. Yes, it requires work, but the rewarding of a deserving individual for his contributions to the Ranger Community far out weighs the work required. I strongly suggest that those wishing to submit a packet begin to do so now. NOW. Do not procrastinate. It will bite you in the ass in the end if you delay. There are many well deserving men out there who deserve to be in the Ranger Hall Of Fame. I encourage anyone to construct a packet and route it through their Unit Director to the President of this Association.

I have sat on this board for 3 years now. The first year we had only 1 packet submitted, which was selected. The second year we had 4 packets submitted, of which 3 were selected. This year we had 6 packets submitted, of which we submitted 3, of which 2 were selected. One of the other 3 was also selected. Our numbers are getting better. The packets are getting better. Again, I commend those who put forth the effort. As I said, I’ve led this effort for 3 years now. I’ve informed Dana, our Association President that I will not be heading up this effort next year. Anyone wishing to volunteer for this assignment please contact Dana. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Emmett W. Hiltbrand

Air Assault Badge Controversy

by Guy C. “Doc” Lamunyon

During the development of current Air Assault Badge (1978), the Army discussed and rejected the retroactive awarding of this badge to Vietnam combat veterans. Retired Army Captain Ed Harris, founder of the 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Association, reports that the reason the Army did not award this badge to the troops who tested and refined Air Assault technology under combat conditions was the unpopularity of the Vietnam war at that time. Despite having won all major conflicts, the veterans of the Vietnam war were seen as having lost. The Army apparently did not wish to associate the “new” Air Assault technology (originally developed in 1964 by the 11th Air Assault Division) with the pioneers of that technology. Since that time, Vietnam combat veterans of 101st Airborne Division have not only felt rejected by the public but also by the Army and their former division affiliation. Three studies by the Army Awards Branch (PERSCOM), initiated at the request of Vietnam combat veterans to retroactively award this badge were unfavorable to these veterans. A recent congressional inquiry has caused the Army Awards Branch to defer this issue to the 101st Airborne Division.
The original Air Assault Badge was awarded in 1964 to the 11th Air Assault Division by Commanding General Kinnard, before the 11th Air Assault Division was merged with the reactivated 1st Cavalry Division and shipped to Vietnam. The original Air Assault Badge was “designed to duplicate the esprit that the paratrooper and aviator wings achieved.” The original Air Assault Badge was never approved by the Army and was lost with the merger of the 11th Air Assault Division with the 1st Cavalry Division, just before the deployment of the 1st Cavalry Division to the Republic of Vietnam. During the Vietnam Era, the original Air Assault Badge was worn as the original Airmobile Badge by some units of the 101st Airborne Division. The criteria for wear of the original Airmobile Badge was six months honorable service in the Division.

After the Vietnam era, new criteria were developed for the awarding of the Airmobile Badge. In 1974, General Sidney Berry set new standards for the Airmobile Badge, including 90 days service in the division, MOS qualification, excellent conduct and efficiency ratings, weapons qualification, physical fitness testing and completion of the Division Airmobile School of one week in length. In 1978, the Army recognized the new Airmobile Badge as the current Air Assault Badge. The Army had, “considered and rejected” retroactive awards to former members of the air assault units, due to a difference in standards.

Vietnam era veterans have strongly disputed this failure to recognize their contributions to Air Assault technology every since. All Vietnam era Screaming Eagle replacements were required to attend replacement training of at least six days (80 hours) in length. This training was conducted at 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division’s base camp at Phan Rang in Ninh Thuan Province of II Corps and later at the Screaming Eagle Replacement Training school in Camp Eagle, I Corps in the Republic of Vietnam. This training included helicopter assault training and AN ACTUAL COMBAT ASSAULT INTO ENEMY TERRITORY! Both tower and helicopter rappelling were taught and practiced at Camp Eagle, in addition to helicopter combat assault techniques. The Vietnam era training, which is well documented, seems to EXCEED the 1974 standards for the Airmobile Badge. Lieutenant General John J. Tolson, Commander of the 1st Cavalry Division during the Vietnam war, explains in the Department of the Army publication Vietnam Studies: Airmobility 1961-1971. “A civilian might be surprised to learn that the most important training takes place in combat. This would hardly surprise the veterans of World War II and Korea.... every unit in Vietnam had to adapt many of its airmobile procedures to fit its mission.” After surviving six months of combat and carrying huge rucksacks through the jungles or rice paddies, it is likely that Vietnam veterans could have easily qualified with a weapon and passed a PT test as required for the ‘new’ Airmobile Badge.

In 1978, personnel awarded the new Airmobile Badge with only one week of training were eligible to wear the new Air Assault Badge. Vietnam veterans authorized to wear the original Airmobile Badge, based on six month service in a war zone were excluded. The Army was, however, recently (2000) able to retroactively award the Aviation Badge BACK TO 1947! The Aviator Badge can be awarded EITHER by performing in-flight duties OR for completing required training. The new Airmobile Badge and Air Assault Badges, developed during peacetime, are skill badges, earned by completing prescribed training. The original Airmobile badge, developed during wartime, was a combat badge, earned by exposure to combat, much the same as earning a Combat Infantry Badge or a Combat Medical Badge. The Parachutist Badge, a model for the original Air Assault Badge, could always be earned EITHER by training OR by making a combat jump. The Glider Badge, which is no longer awarded, but likely most analogous to the Air Assault Badge could also be awarded EITHER by training OR by making least one combat glider landing into enemy-held territory.

In 1995 Vietnam veterans began letter writing to correct this injustice. Inquiries to the 101st Airborne Division were referred to the U. S. Total Army Personnel Command Awards Branch. In 1998 the Military Awards Branch, U. S. Total Army Personnel Command promised an extensive study and research with several months to complete. The “exhaustive study and research” concluded that since the majority of soldiers who served in these divisions never participated in Air Assault operations, a retroactive award could not be justified. The Military Awards Branch further stated that, “to attempt to identify and recognize those soldiers who did participate in Air Assault Operations, and retroactively award the AAM, is not feasible.” A request by the author to the Military Awards Branch for reports and documents from this “exhaustive study and research” was ignored, despite the Freedom of Information Act. Contrary to the findings of this “exhaustive and extensive study”, only a minority of Vietnam era Screaming Eagles were rear echelon types. Many Screaming Eagles in the rear areas were there because of injuries sustained in combat. The Military Award Branch does not have to “identify and recognize” eligible veterans; they can apply for such recognition with the same methodology used for the recent ‘Cold War’ award (make direct application with supporting documentation).

After a Congressional inquiry requested by the author, the Military Awards Branch referred the Air Assault Badge controversy back to the 101st Airborne Division, as the
“proponent for the Air Assault Badge.” The 101st Airborne Division has ignored requests to add, “or participated in at least one combat assault prior to 1 April, 1974” to the criteria for the Air Assault Badge or initiate an ‘authorized for wear’ policy for Vietnam air assault pioneers who met the criteria for the original Airmobile Badge (six months honorable service in the Division). This failure to “do the right thing” and finally recognize Vietnam air assault pioneers is in conflict with current army values (Integrity) and contrary to orientation given Screaming Eagles replacements. ‘While you are with the Division, you wear the Eagle on your left shoulder, and he is looking out for you. When you leave the Division, you wear the Eagle on your right shoulder, and he is covering your ass.’

The 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Association (Florida) strongly supports actions to retroactively award the Air Assault Badge to Vietnam era combat veterans. The 101st Airborne Division Association and the 1st Cavalry Division Association have no official position on this issue and have been requested to develop official positions. Similarly, the Veterans of Foreign Wars has no official position and will be requested to take a formal position by the author. The Vietnam Veterans Association has not respond to inquiries on this issue. Many members of these organizations, however, are very concerned about this issue and are willing to support a Congressional action to recognize Vietnam era veterans and all others who have courageously ridden helicopters into combat, with or without approved training.

Since the Army has failed repeatedly to follow its own values and ‘do the right thing’ by correcting this injustice and the Eagle has given former 101st Airborne Division members a boot in the ass instead of assistance, a coalition of these veterans (the Air Assault Parity Coalition) has been established to initiate Congressional action to add “or participated in at least one combat assault” to the criteria for the current Air Assault Badge, bringing this award into parity with the current Parachutist Badge and former Glider Badge. Stars indicating the number of combat assaults are also being planned, as used on the Parachutist Badge. Congressional support for such a bill or amendment is being sought now by the Air Assault Parity Coalition.

References


For copies of official communications and links to other materials discussed in this article, visit the Air Assault Parity Coalition homepage at http://airassault.bizhosting.com

About the author:


RW http://www.lcompanyranger.com/
PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS FROM VIETNAM TO PRESENT—

SUBMIT YOUR NAME FOR A FREE TRIP TO THE 2003 ARMY-NAVY GAME, DECEMBER 5-7, 2003, PHILADELPHIA, PA

For those Purple Heart recipients selected, you will receive transportation to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 5-7, 2003, two nights hotel accommodations, $100 for expenses, two breakfasts, one ticket to the game and transportation to and from the game.

FILL OUT THIS FORM AND ENTER TODAY
DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 5, 2003
(winners will be notified via e-mail or mail by September 30, 2003)

NAME: ________________________________

ADDRESS: ________________________________

CITY: __________________ STATE ____________

ZIP CODE ___________ HOME PHONE ____________

E-MAIL ADDRESS: __________________________

What military action (period) from Vietnam to present did you receive the Purple Heart?

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Dates of honorable military service: ____________________________

• I certify that I am a U.S. military veteran from Vietnam War to present time and I have received a Purple Heart.

• If selected, I will provide my discharge paper or other documentation showing the awarding of a Purple Heart.

• I have not been a previous VFW sponsored trip winner to an Army-Navy game or 20th Anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial.

Send Completed Form to:
Assistant Adjutant General – Programs
VFW National Headquarters
406 West 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

ENTRY DEADLINE – SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

Purple Heart Medal Recipients

The VFW, through an endowment left to it, is sponsoring a trip to the Army-Navy game on December 6, 2003, for 40 Purple Heart veterans. The trip will include round-trip transportation to Philadelphia, December 5-7, 2 nights hotel, $100 expense money, 2 breakfasts, a ticket to the game and transportation to and from the hotel.

We have been asked to make this information available through any publications or any other means of communication. A copy of the entry form is enclosed for you to reproduce or there is an entry form on the VFW web site under News and Information.

The endowment is the Kahle Fund and previous winners will not be accepted.

The entry must be into VFW National Headquarters by September 5, 2003. The drawing will be on September 10.

If you need further information, please feel free to contact me.

John Chester
SGM Rick “Red” Herman retired on February 28 after 30 years but we won’t have pictures, cuz there was no ceremony.

His Rakkasans left for Iraq that week and needed to stay focused on their mission.

“Didn’t have much of a retirement from the Army but that is OK. My boys left Thursday again and I wanted them to stay focused. They had bigger things to worry about. So I just slipped away into the night as all good Rangers should. My guys gave me a black powder 1860 Army Brass .44 cal, 8” Hartford replica. It is awesome.”

“I have been on terminal leave for about 45 days now and am going to find a job soon or the old woman is going to have me bumped off. Got a lot of riding my beast in between the tornados and he needed it.

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Gene Vance’s son was killed during the campaign in Afghanistan and was featured on a recent ABC show called “Profiles From The Front Lines”. Larry Montague and Chet Smith caught the show which was about some surgeons at a field hospital during the conflict there. “They showed 3 or 4 injuries being medevaced into the air base for medical attention. One of the injured was Gene Vance, Jr., who died upon arrival. They showed his picture. Quite ironic and moving.”

“It was quite a program”, says Chet Smith. “It left a lump in my throat...and my wife in tears.”

The program showed bringing Vance Jr., into the field medical unit, and then interviewing the surgeons after they were not able to save Gene’s life. As the program continued...it showed them bringing his body to Ramstein AFB in Germany, and later his funeral in the states. The program also showed quick snapshots of Gene senior, and Gene Jr...and interviews with Vance Jr’s widow, and his Mother. I felt the program was very well done. The military seemed to go “all the way” in giving honors to Gene Jr and family.

It’s good to see a few people in the media still care about the people that stand guard over their freedoms.

***

William (Bill) Gross showed up on the company website a month ago, and has since gone off the air, with e-mail to him bouncing.

Bill was in commo platoon and later went to Killers when the company was at Gibbs.

***

Russ Grazier and Ron Dahl still seem to be bike riding, walking and skiing all over the place (should be out of snow for this season). I get tired just hearing about it.

They just got back from another trip in one piece (each).

So they’re doing a bit better than their off-duty trip down the Rhine River in the mid-60s when they crashed a P0V after a tipple or two in Rudesheim. They crashed near the Lorelei Rock where the legendary maidens sung so sweetly they lured riverboat sailors to their deaths on the rocks. Russell named his oldest daughter Lorelei.

Someone told me Capt John Wilson also named a daughter Lorelei.

Are those girls forming a choir, guys?

***

Dahl has also been skiing in northern Vermont with George Allen. And they’re both still mobile and with no casts.

***

Mike Farmer and Norm Thomas have been visiting Ranger Jeremy Feldbusch in the Texas hospital where he is recovering from massive injuries sustained from a suicide bomber in Iraq.

Ranger Feldbusch’s parents are with him full time. And he is also being looked after by Sgt Allan Rushing from his batt who is also a patient.

***

Bruce Warmoth lobbed at Chet Smith’s place in Sacramento recently for the first time in 15 years.

Our good natured mail clerk and skydiver has gone feral, discovered God big time and lives in the bush up in the Mother Lode country panning for gold. He recently retired from the Air Force Reserve.

And he’s happy as hell, Chet says.

He now calls himself Harry Smith after his real father.

***

Bill and Sandy Bothe had jobs at a concession stand at the Indy 500 during their travels and got paid to watch the race.
And Dahl’s at it again, this time doing a 100 km “Tour de Cure” long distance “benefit” bike ride for the American Diabetes Association.

If you let the Patrolling unit columnist know in time next year, Ron, we can try for some sponsors.

Anyone that served in A/75 remembers camp Bullis. When I was there the first time, I was on a night patrol with “Duke”, Ranger Bolan, Mike Degal and a guy named Hendrix but I can't remember his first name.

We were creeping through the tree line thinking we had it made when a Huey appeared above us and dropped artillery simulators on us. One of them bounced off my shoulder and went off by my left ear. Poor old ear has been ringing ever since! In the true RANGER style I didn’t say anything. The next day we had a jump. A member of my patrol took the air out of SSG Allchin’s canopy and Allchin broke his neck. Allchin was my platoon sgt.

I’m deaf as a post, trying find out what happened to him and everybody thinks I got retarded overnight! I still can’t believe Allchin was jumping six months later. Is there anything else that needs to be said about A/75?

The VA says I had the same hearing as I had when I took my induction test. I never had an exit physical! If you can tell me how they figured that out, let me know. The VA has given me hearing aids for both ears, but denied my claim. Duane A/75 72-77

Wildflecken era LRRPs Gary Crossman remembers a jump out of Nord Atlastes with the Bundeswehr in 1963-64.

We had some bad weather the morning that we were due to make a jump into Grafenwoehr so I went up to the German club with a couple of the German students who were in my class and hanging on the bar were a group of German Airforce Sgts laughing and downing large mugs of beer.

Next time I saw the loud mouth flyboys they were the pilot and co pilot and crew of the Nord Atlas I was flying on. I almost shit my pants hoping that the beer would not effect them from flying and getting my ass to the drop zone.

I was sure glad to see the green light come on that afternoon. That jump manifest is posted on the other web site. I made five jumps out of a Nord Atlas while at the Ranger school which also got us our German wings.

Gary

Wildflecken-era LRRPs Russ Graizer and Ron Dahle meet in 2002 after many years. They’re both still skiing, bike riding and backpacking.

Tony Bergeron introduced Tabasco to some of the guys at the Ft Benning Reunion and it’s been a move upmarket for us that still use plain old generic Louisiana Hot Sauce after all these years.

Seems a lot of guys are talking about the merits of green label Tabasco vs the traditional fire-in-the-bottle plain label.

Some old habits die hard. I keep a bottle in the glove compartment in my van and in my ruck and I’m not the only one. And I remember LRRPs being overcome with emotion when they broke their bottles of hot sauce early in FTXs and faced the prospect of C-rats without fire. That’s when you found out who your real buddies were.

For all you other die hard hot sauce freaks, Tony sends:
http://www.tabasco.com/

Duane Wilkes from the Hood era recalls:

Wildflecken era LRRP Gary Crossman

Some of our guys are already making noise about getting a blast organized for the Ft Lewis Reunion next year.

Roy A. Link chuting up for a night blast at Wiesbaden in 1963. Pic by Chet “Skinny Injun” Smith. Roy has just had some extra long stints put in, but we’re wondering why someone that’s 5’5” needs them extra long.
The jumps Dave Clark (ex-VII Corps LRRPs 1st shirt) organized at Tuskegee at the last reunion went down as a treat for a bunch of guys from the two original LRRP Companies.

If we can find a C-47 for a real old time blast we'd get half the guys at the Reunion to go.

Seems there's a bunch of us feel culturally deprived for never having jumped that old WWII workhorse and there's not many guys who have jumped them in any condition for another blast.

***

Sometimes it's impossible to add to the exchanges on our company server. Here is a short example from Mike Cantrell.

"I also forgot to tell you I survived a scorpion bite on my male member; it was painful but did not kill me. The worst thing I ever got was a yeast infection in the desert, I am still trying to figure that one out, it damn near took me out of operations."

"Next question, Mike. Where was your old fella that a scorpion had a sporting chance of getting at it?"

Let me see, it was on the yellow river in danger school, I had cut my underwear off several days before, and he was waiting with an open hole for the hole in the crotch of my jungle fatigue.

Mike

Ummmm. Yep! Sounds reasonable to us, Mike.

***

Mike Baird from the Hood-era of the company recently broke scrub and has a bunch of old pics he took on a good 35mm camera at Ft Hood and on Reforger in Germany.

He's looking for a scanner.

***

And Dale Hansen has been made a "DMOR" that's Distinguished Member of the Regiment for the 327th Inf of the 101st Airborne Division for getting Vietnam-era members of the 1/327 and 2/327 together after all these years.

Dale was in this company in Germany and at Benning.

Good on ya', Dale. We won't tell them you're a LRRP and ruin your profile.

That's all, Folks!

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**REUNION UPDATE**

This June 18-22, Fort Campell, KY will be the location of our fourth VII Corps LRRP Reunion. We are expecting another good sized crowd of about fifty-plus persons, including several more wives and a "lady in waiting.") An agenda has been developed by "Jungle Jim" Joiner, and we expect to have once again another "memorial jump," in honor of our fallen comrades, which is being organized by CSM Dave Clark (RET - sort of). We will have a few new members joining us this year including (Capt) Ellis D. Bingham ('62-'65) and (Sgt) Eugene "Gino" Doe ('61-'63). We were looking forward to having the opportunity to meet some of the 101st ABN Div. LRS units that are stationed at this post, but owing to the war in Iraq, the entire 101st was called to play a major roll in that operation. Such is the nature of a life in service to your country.

As we all know, now, the war was prosecuted with incredible swiftness and brazen maneuvering of the allied forces. In a little over three weeks from the opening salvo, the combined forces of the U.S. Marine Corps, the U.S. Army 3rd Div., 10th Mountain Div., the 101st Abn., the 75th Rangers, U.S. Navy, SEALs, DELTA Force, and our allies, British Commandos, Australian and Polish troops moved further and faster than any mechanized military force since Gen. Patton took the 4th Army across Germany in the winter of 1944. With the swift victory over the "hallowed and vaunted" Iraqi Republican Guard, there was the sobering loss of over one hundred and fifty American and thirty British lives. Those brave men and women who died in this noble adventure touched many parts of this nation. They came from all strata of society. They were enlisted men and women, they were NCO's, and they were officers. Most were strangers to most of us. Many seemed to come from Camp Pendleton, California. Then, suddenly, they all came from Fort Hood, Texas. As the weeks passed, they were coming from many different posts, camps and bases. Some came from Fort Campbell, KY. When we come to this venerable home of the "Screaming Eagles", we will walk about respectful and mindful of the sacrifices of the many thousands of brave troopers that call this place home, from the days of WW II, through today,......and for many tomorrows.

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**FOUND.....**

In our never-ending search for long-lost Lurps, we have found several more of these old buzzards. Thanks to Cheryl Visel, again, we now have Terrence Pratt ('61-'63) in tow. Terry was
one of the original VII Corps LRRPs and was instrumental in getting the company organized, establishing training and securing radios and camouflage uniforms for the patrols. Terry's wife, the late Margrit Sokoloski, the assistant librarian at Nellenberg, sewed the company's black and gold guidon which years later went on a "great adventure" in the clutches of the latter day Lurp, Bob "Pogo" Brevig, and which we detailed in a previous issue of Patrolling.

Another long-lost Lurp was found hiding out in a Boston suburb. He is Eugene "Gino" Doe. Gino came to the LRP's from Mainz, Germany. While he was there, he and two other young soldiers volunteered to swim across the Rhine River in an attempt to show that the river could be forded in this way by combat troops. They all stripped to the buff, wrapped their clothing and weapons in a poncho and swam across the freezing cold river. Gino recalled that his manhood retreated halfway into his crotch during the ordeal. It might have been a week or more before it re-emerged, he thinks. This little swim got mentioned in a book, Gino said, but his and the others' names were never cited. Fame is ever fleeting. Following his tour with the LRRPs, Gino went with Special Forces and was highly decorated in Vietnam, receiving the Purple Heart (1 OLC) the C.I.B., the Bronze Star (1 OLC) and the Silver Star, and several other medals. He also holds parachute wings from Vietnam and Canada. He retired from the Army in 1976 and returned to his townie roots at Bunker Hill Street, Charlestown, Mass. He joined the Longshore Workers Union and only a few years ago, retired for good. Welcome home, Gino.

Among the others we have located is (Gen) Robert Disney, (Ret) (’65), who served as C.O. for about six months before being ordered to Vietnam. Gen. Disney regrets that he will not be able to attend this year because of scheduled business commitments. He wishes, however, to express his best wishes to all the members of our association and wants you all to know that he feels very honored to have served with such fine soldiers as those in the VII Corps LRRP / C 58th Inf LRP.

Others now found are James Cahill; Tom Gould (B/75); Bill Gleason (VII LRRP); Robert Parker (B/75); Richard Cole (B/75); LTC Tom Harris (B/75); Gilbert Vaughan (B/75); Jim Simpkins (B/75); Jim Taylor (B/75); Stan Parker (C/58)

And finally, Bill Ryan, former Unit Director for C/58th & B/75th Rnrg who had dropped out of sight for a while, is now back with us and sent us a little story about the 50th Reunion back in 1992. Check the following photo.

Also a photo from 1970 at Fort Carson was taken right after a jump demo. Ryan lives right outside Ft. Campbell and will be at the reunion in June.

...AND LOST

Last November we lost our brother, Jerry B. Wood. He had had a heart transplant over a year earlier and he had been making steady progress to his rehabilitation. He said that if he were able, he would be willing to come to our reunion this June. It was just not to be, however. After returning home one day from a routine check-up and biopsy, "Jerry B", as we all called him, dropped dead in his living room. There was a wake held for Jerry and his very good friend, Sam Storley, came to say goodbye and also to represent us LRRPs. Jerry’s family had placed his treasured beret in his casket for all those mourners to see. They knew that Jerry was very proud of his service and for having been a LRRP and would have wanted that. Sam came to the funeral parlor and knelt in prayer at Jerry’s casket. When he finished he met with some of the family to offer his and our condolences. When he left, he stepped outside and set his own beret on his large head
and began to walk towards his car. Two of Jerry’s sons saw this
“stranger” walking away with a red beret on his head. They
immediately thought that he had “stolen” their father’s beret.
While one kept an eye on this miscreant, the other ran inside to
see if Jerry’s beret was still there. Relief...it was. The young
man ran outside and confronted Sam, and the boys introduced
themselves as Jerry’s sons. Sam introduced himself to them and
they soon found themselves huddled around one another
listening to Sam tell them story after tale after “Lurp Lie” (not a
sin) about their late father. Jerry B was “salt of the earth.” He
was always in a good natured, fun loving mood, slow to anger,
quick to smile. There was also a bit o’ the Devil about him, too.
His wife, Judy, recalls with a bit of horror how Jerry had
conceived the “brilliant idea” of packing their new-born
daughter in a canvas bag and taking her for a jump. Well, that
was just not going to happen, if Judy had anything to say about
it, and she did. There would be no jump for their daughter, not
this year, at least. There was nothing funnier than watching Jerry
B. take out his set of teeth and touch his chin to his nose. This
was always a bigger hit at the local Gasthaus after a few mugs of
lager, for some odd reason. There was nobody quite like Jerry B.

He was a good soldier every day. He was not a big man in patrols
but he carried his weight and then some. He was universally
beloved by everyone who came to know him. He was very proud
of his modest Tennessee roots, and he returned to them to raise a
wonderful family. We join with them in mourning his passing.
He brought a great deal of joy to us all. A “Jerry B” story still
brings a smile to our lips, though. AIRBORNE, Jerry. We’ll all
see you on the D.Z.

Another fellow LRRP who passed this year was Tom McDaniel.
He died in February from cancer. Tom came to the company
from the 237th Combat Engineers at Heilbronn, Ger. He joined
along with Mark Whiteside and Patty Smith. Tom, Mark and
Patty all went to jump school together at the 8th Inf ABN School
at Weisbaden. Tom was a CW radio operator in Base Station 2.
He was a fairly quiet and private man, although he would break
that mould once in a while and get a bit “agitated” and
confrontational. He never looked for trouble, but he never shied
from it, either. Tom returned to his Pennsylvania roots and took
up the mason trade. By all accounts, he was a good tradesman.
Several years ago, Tom contracted throat cancer and lost his
voice. Some years later he was able to speak a little, but rarely.
When we located him four years ago he refused to come to a
reunion because he did not want any one to see him in that
condition. While that is completely understandable, it is
regrettably that we could not have at least had an opportunity to
see him once more before it was too late for us all. His daughter,
Lisa, said that he never lost that great head of hair, combed back,
and it never went gray, either. He was as thin as he was in the
60’s, too. Lisa was very distraught at the loss of her father, but
she was going to make sure that there was a set of parachutist
wings and the letters VII LRRP on his tombstone. She said that
Tom often spoke about his wonderful years in the LRRPs. He
was also the third paratrooper in his family, the others, his older
brothers. Tom was the only one who was LRRP, and he let them
know that. We will see you, too, Tom, on the D.Z.

This April we received word from Bob Murphy telling us that
Harold “Pappy” Egelston had died at a nursing home in
Dudley, NC, where he had been living for the past several years.
Just three days earlier, he was preceded in death by his older son,
Harold, Jr. He is survived by a son, Henry “Bone Head”
Egelston. Pappy was 83 years old. “Pappy” was one of the
original members of our company. He was a veteran of the jump
at Normandy with the 504th. His name is said to be inscribed on
the “Dunbar Cup,” along with all the other names of those who
made that combat jump in 1944. He also served in the Korean
War. He has served with the 82nd ABN, the 101st ABN, the
11th ABN, and with the armored and artillery. He was also once
an instructor at West Point. Pappy and his son, Harold were
cremated and interred at a cemetery in Goldsboro, NC. Among
those who were in attendance was Zeke Evano, our unit
chaplain. Zeke gave a soldier’s eulogy that brought tears to the
eyes of the mourners, as only he can do. Hardly a finer farewell
can be given than one from Zeke. As Bone wrote,
“All in all, as sad as things were it went very well. There were
tears most when (VII Corps LRRP Co ABN Assn. Chaplain
“Zeke”) Evaro spoke. Man can be preach. It came from the
heart, but when the tapes played only a couple ol’ LRRPs and one or
two others had dry eyes. I wish I had a recording of the words
Evaro spoke. Man if my time comes, I want him to speak words
over me and Dana (McRath) to write the eulogy, hahahahahahaha. Words alone can’t express the gratitude pride
and thanks to VII Corp LRRPs and Rangers felt by me and my
family.”

Pull a slip, there, Pappy. There are a lot of LRRPs on that D.Z.
waiting to welcome you home, brother. May They All Rest in
Peace. AMEN.
AND REMEMBERING FALLEN HEROES

As we all watched the war in Iraq progress with great speed and twenty-four hour media cover, there suddenly came a stop in the action for the family of Capt. James F. Adamouski, a Black Hawk helicopter commander. We LRRPs first learned about his death from an e-mail message sent out by Ed Mitchell, “Jimmy”, as Ed liked to call him, was his nephew. He had died, along with another man, Matthew Boulet of Dracut, Mass. Ed shared a few details about this brave young man’s life. He was a graduate of West Point and was planning to attend Harvard Business School in the fall. By all accounts, Jimmy was the epitome of the All-American boy. He was a wonderful grandson, son, brother, friend and team mate. He was also a newlywed husband of only seven months, the last four were spent in Kuwait and, finally, Iraq. When funeral and military honors were finally arranged, it was to be held at Arlington National Cemetery. It was decided that we LRRPs would send some representatives to the funeral, in support of our brother, Ed Mitchell, and to join with those who would come to honor Capt. Adamouski. A while later, Ed sent out a letter describing the service and honors Jimmy received that day, in which he wrote,

“Kirk Gibson, Joe Chetwynd and John Fisher were kind enough to join me in my sorrow and to remind me that this was only a passing moment for beautiful young man who will always live in our hearts and in our minds.

Goodbye, Jimmy, for now.”

OVER THERE...AGAIN! (Sons of Lurps in the desert)

With the end of the major hostilities and the destruction of the Iraqi so-called Army, there came orders of particular concern to two of your fellow Lurps. Kirk Gibson IV, aka “Bear,” has been sent to Kuwait with the 1st Armored Div. At this writing, he is at Camp Pennsylvania, and will be in Iraq by the time this is read. His main pastime, for now, seems to be herding the fat scorpions and fuzzy rats that abound in that Allah-forsaken sandbox. “Capt. Kirk”, as he was inevitably dubbed, sends several missives a week to his Mom and Dad. which chronicle his days and general observations in this “Persian Paradise.” The letters make good reading, which this writer (Joe Chetwynd) can attest to. Grad school (read Mexico Holiday) is presently on hold for this semester. Rumor has it that he has been seen walking around evenings in the desert in a white flowing Arab robe and headgear...something about looking for train tracks and a white horse. Could be the heat, huh?

After being called up last February and then sent to Fort Drum, New York with the Mass. Nat’l Guard 1058lh Trans Co, SSG

Mark Chetwynd found himself bound out for Kuwait... again. He was there in ‘91 with the 24th Inf’ Div. According to him, there has not been a marked change in the great, hot, Kittery Litter Box known affectionately as Kuwait. His unit has moved five times already and they now refer to themselves as “The Bedouins”. The latest report has them doing some truckin’ with the 1st Armored Div. Maybe he will meet “Capt. Kirk” in the desert. It shouldn’t be difficult to pick him out, especially in the evening, eh? Bear has already started the search, and we hope to report on a second-generation meeting in the next Patrolling.

All joking aside, we ask your prayers for the swift and safe return of all our sons, and daughters and fellow warriors. The war may be over, but there are still battles to be fought. God Bless and protect them all. If there are others among us who have sons, or daughters serving, please let us know and we will include them in our thoughts and prayers.

CHEAP COMMERCIAL COMMENTS

If you haven’t seen it yet, check out Cheryl (Much better half of John) Visel’s link on the LRRP Website, http://www.geocities.com/lrrp/corps/index.html and click on LURP MEMORABILIA, or simply go to http://airbornesupply.net/, from which she sells her LRRP, Ranger, Airborne apparel and other wares. The stuff is great, and a portion of the proceeds go to the VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Association.

AIRBORNE, Cheryl

Sam Rodriguez has recently completed LRRP CD V, an enormous collection of pictures, stories, history, and all sorts of LRRP memories. It’s available if you send a $15 check to Kirk Gibson, Treasurer. And get your stuff together for submittal to Sam for Volume VI, but not until he calls for it. He needs a rest after his fine effort.

OTHER SITE

John Wood has his own Website, as well. It’s Ranger Wood’s Hooch, and can be found at http://www.2fords.net/yukanteeme4/, and it’s got a lot of good pictures and history. Go there!

DUES NEWS

Sorry to be the bearer of sad news, but in case you forgot to notice, 75RRA dues are due NOW! See back page for details.

And you VII LRRP Co (ABN) Assn. Folks, you have until December 31, but really should be paid up for 2003 in order to participate in some of the functions at the reunion. Please remit to Kirk Gibson, Treasurer.
The 75th Ranger Regiment Rendezvous will be ongoing during the week of August 3-9, and we will avail ourselves of the opportunity to attend many of their numerous events. Of course, the “Baby Rangers” are invited and do attend our Hospitality Suite, which will be located at Country Inn & Suites, 172 Fountain Court, Columbus, GA 31904, ph: 706-660-1880. Remember to bring your pictures and war stories. Thanks to “Sunshine,” plenty of Miller Beer will be freely flowing and free!

Proposed Schedule:

Wed Aug 6th: Registration 12 Noon and beyond

Thurs Aug 7th: 75th Ranger Regiment Change of Command, our Association General Meeting will follow around 3:00 PM to include election of new officers.

Friday August 8th: Memorial Service 10:00 AM, Banquet 7:00 PM. Outgoing officers to oversee these and formally pass the baton to new officers at the Banquet.

Sat Aug 9th: Fond Farewells.

I would like to share the following email I received: “Dear Gary, My name is Bob Johnston. I served with E Co. 20th, from it’s conception in 1967 to when I was wounded on Feb. 19th, 1968. I was a team leader with team # 4, 4th

Plt. Sgt. Crow was the Plt. Sgt. and Lt. Stein was the Plt. leader at that time. I joined the 75th association a few years back. I wish I could have written more down, like names, etc., but getting wounded and sent out of country sort of cut things short. I’ve never been able to make a reunion for one reason or another, but hope to do so for the upcoming one in Ga. Prior to the 20th, I served with the 101st. LRP’s. After my service time I entered Police work. I was accepted into the U.S.Marshal Service in 1974. I retired in 1994 as a senior Inspector assigned to the Witness Protection Program. Over the 20 years I ran into numerous Vietnam Vet’s, but never anyone from the 20th. So before I get any “older” I’d like nothing more than to have a few beers with some of the finest men I ever served with, so my intent will be to make the reunion this year. Thanks for doing the job as unit director, without guy’s like you our past would just slip away. “Airborne” Sincerely, Bob Johnston. PS Look forward to meeting you.”

In the last issue, I was proud to report that the Board of Directors of your Association approved a great tribute to our KIA’s in purchasing the engravings to place their names on the Special Operations Memorial at SOCOM Headquarters, MacDill AFB, Florida. I subsequently received the following letter from Deputy Commander Lieutenant General Bryan D. Brown: “Dear Mr. Dolan: I was impressed by the inclusion of Company E (Long Range Patrol), 20th Infantry (Abn) and Company C (Ranger), 75th Infantry (Airborne) personnel, who were killed in action in the Republic of Vietnam, to the Special Operations Memorial at MacDill Air Force Base. The 75th Ranger Regiment has done a great service to these fallen heroes, and their families, while continuing the legacy of the Rangers of World War II and Korea. Please pass my sincere congratulations to your membership for this outstanding display of solidarity and camaraderie. Bringing our departed comrades together ensures they will always be remembered and recognized with the honor and dignity they deserve.”

Signing off until I embrace you at our Reunion, I wish you and yours Good health and God speed.

D/75
Unit Director - John Kingeter

No Submission

E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP
Unit Director - Robert Copeland

By Bob Copeland

Once again I am writing to you about the events that have transpired over the past few months and it has been a busy time. First off is a reminder that the Reunion is fast approaching and many have not as yet notified Terry and Dorothy Leishman of your intention to attend during the period 23-27 July 2003. Please make your reservations and send in your registration fee to Terry and Dorothy at 650 Birch Grove Road, Kalispel, Montana, 59901. The registration fee is 25.00 per person i.e. you, wife and child=75.00. You can contact Terry and Dorothy at leish@glacierpeaks.net or by phone at 1-406-755-1538. To make your reservation for the West Coast Outlaw Hotel call Gail at Flathead Travel at 1-406-751-5407 or 1-800-223-8786. The rate is 91.00 per day. If you have trouble with the numbers for Flathead Travel call Terry or Dorothy at the number I previously advised of or call me at 1-780-962-0114. You should be making your travel arrangements now in order to get the best airline rates. Terry and Dorothy are doing a SUPER FINE JOB so lets get on board and make this the best-attended Reunion yet!!!!
You can go to www.markpepper.com/ranger/-default.htm to access the Reunion Schedule of Events. Is this Leishman point team well organized or what?!?! I am sure Terry and Dorothy will have info in the Newsletter so don’t forget to read it.

On the 8th of May I traveled to Dahlonega, Ga. to attend the 5TH RTB OPEN HOUSE and most importantly the U.S. Mountain Ranger Assoc. Fallen Ranger Memorial to honor one of our own, Ranger Sgt. Robert Bryan KIA 13 July 1970. As a member of the USMRA I nominated Robert Bryan for this award and honor for 2003. With the steadfast support of Brent Gulick, Marshall Larsen and Gregg Whitson from our company as well as Lamar Bryan (Roberts nephew) and the Bryan family, the nomination was successful. I will quote from the USMRA web page to give you the background on this honor. “Each year at the 5th RTBn Open House, the USMRA has the honor of placing the names of Fallen Rangers on a road sign at the bridge that crosses the Etowah River on Camp Frank D. Merrill. Friend and family members are invited to attend and help honor our fallen comrades. Every student who has trained at Camp Frank D. Merrill 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 named there represents.

On my arrival at the Airport in Atlanta on 8 May I was joined by Marshall Larsen and Gregg Whitson (both had served with Robert on team 1-7 in 1969-70). We drove from Atlanta to Dahlonega and checked in at the Holiday Inn. Brent Gulick had arranged to meet us on evening of the 9th at the Hotel. We had a good meal at the local Bistro and renewed our friendship then back to the hotel to get some rest. On Friday we had a bite to eat at the hotel and then drove up to the Camp. We spent most of the morning and some of the afternoon walking around Camp Frank D. Merrill taking photos and talking to some of the Ranger Cadre who greeted us warmly. 1st Sgt O’Rear was especially helpful and I’d like to take this opportunity to thank him for taking the time out of his busy schedule to spend time with us and lend us some assistance. Everyone on the base was busy getting things set up for the 5th RTBn Open House and we were able to preview some of the layouts in the tents etc. We dropped into the NCO Club and had a drink and a bite to eat before paying a visit to the PX to do some shopping. We were told that the mess hall or dining facility as it is now called was laying on snow crab for lunch and Marshall represented us in sampling a little of the crab which he advised us was delicious. After a few more photos we left to find a seamstress to sew on some badges in town. We did pick up a few items at the PX such as Ranger T shirts etc. What a surprise eh?! Having found a shop to get the sewing done we drove around to find a few good eateries for our evening meal and then headed to Wal Mart after picking up our albums to exchange some Vietnam pics and make some copies. Needless to say we spent the rest of the day at Wal Mart with Marshall honing his skills at the film copier. We left there with a large number of copied pics and having made a substantial donation to Wal Mart. The lady running the photo area was a great help and her husband dropped over to see us. It turned out he is a retired Ranger and was a Vietnamese Ranger Advisor in Vietnam, BDQ. The hospitality in Dahlonega was second to none!! We had pizza and beer at an Italian Restaurant just off the square in Dahlonega and it was great. We were all asked for our ID by the waiters and were flattered to say the least. She advised us that all persons ordering beer or wine were required to show identification. Apart from that being the law we had our moment of experiencing a youthful flashback. If you’re going to experience a flashback this is definitely the one to have!! Right!! We returned to the hotel after checking several times to see if Brent Gulick or Rick Stetson had arrived. Earlier when out driving we spotted a runner and as he neared the passenger side of the vehicle running toward us we identified this speeding bullet as Rick Stetson. Unfortunately we were heading in opposite directions and we could not attempt to flag him down. Rick was out for a run conditioning him for the 15K event he had entered to run in at the RTBn Open House. Rick made us all proud by placing 4th in the run on Saturday!!! Well done Rick, RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!! HOOAH!!!! Being just a young fellow I am sure Rick had no difficulty in bypassing all those young Rangers to place 4th, once again Rick, HOOAH!!!! 15K and I’m sure you still had gas to burn!!! On arriving back at the hotel we found the Bryan Family waiting for us in the lobby as well as Brent. It was a great and welcome surprise for all of us and we immediately after having gone through the introductions, retrieved our albums from our rooms and sat down to a session of exchanging memories of Robert.

We decided to call it a night after going through a few albums and exchanging memories and agreed to meet at the Days Inn were the Bryans were staying at 08:30 and convoy to the Camp for the Open House and the Fallen Ranger Memorial Service. Just after 08:30 in the morning on 10 May we headed to Camp Frank D. Merrill. On arrival we drove through security after showing our picture ID and parked our cars. We decided to go to the PX and check out the shopping but were a little early so we had our first photo op in front of the Memorial for the Ranger Past Present and Future. We asked a passing Ranger if he would do the honors and we all of course gave him our cameras. He was definitely busy for the next short while taking a picture with each camera and did a super job. In the true Ranger tradition we thanked him, he smiled and carried on. If you happen to read this article in Patrolling we would like to thank you again!!! After the photo we headed to the display area to check things out. It was just after 09:30 and already heating up. I believe the temp went well over 88F but we did get some breeze. The equipment layouts were great as well as the demonstrations put on by the Rangers and Army and Marine aircrews during the Rangers In Action Demo portion or the Open House. The Demos were
excellent involving an air assault by the Super Cobra in support of an insertion by Rangers from a Black hawk. A ground assault by Rangers on an enemy vehicle and troops. A parachute demo in a precision landing by 4 paras. A hand-to-hand and ground fighting demo. An assault from the tower using a cable harness to deploy to the ground while engaging the enemy with small arms fire. And Yes guy’s lots of explosions and smoke!!!! You should have been there, you missed a great day!!!! Congratulations and many thanks to all the Rangers, Air Crew and Support Staff who made the Open House a memorable and enjoyable day for all those who attended!!!! HOOAH!!!!! RLTW!!!! I would like to thank Steve Hawk, President of the U.S. Mountain Ranger Assoc., who got together with the Bryan family and us and made everyone feel welcome at this memorable event. Steve was able to supply walking sticks to everyone, which provided them with a memento which will last a lifetime. Thanks again Steve. Thanks also go out to Bob Williams and the other members in attendance from the USMRA for helping to make this day a memorable one. HOOAH!!!! RLTW!!!!

The last event of the day was the Fallen Ranger Memorial Ceremony. It was an honor to be present and listen to the presenters give a brief history of each Ranger being honored for their service to their country and their fellow comrades. We were truly standing among heroes and the memory of heroes. We listened to their deeds of selfless sacrifice and heroism, felt pride and were honored to share in the Warrior Spirit that forms the bond between our fellow comrades and us in this lifetime and beyond. The Ranger Brotherhood lives on through the Warrior Spirit as an eternal flame, which can never be extinguished. After reading Robert’s Citation, which briefly covered his short but, accomplished life of 20 years and the Warrior Spirit which he exhibited to the end. At this time fellow Warriors, Family and Friends were given the opportunity to share their thoughts. I called on Brent Gulick to speak next. Brent read a literary work that had come to his attention on the Internet, which he felt, personified the soldier who fought during the Vietnam War. It spoke of the things we carried in our daily life in combat and ended with the most meaningful thing of all,” WE CARRIED EACH OTHER!!” The bottom line in any conflict is indeed the one who stands beside you and shares with you in the BROTHERHOOD of the WARRIOR SPIRIT! Robert’s twin sister Rebecca was the next to speak on behalf of the Bryan Family and in a soft voice spoke of hope for peace and of her sense of loss. Gregg Whitson spoke of his friendship with Robert and how he had been taken under his wing when he came into the Ranger Co. He spoke of how Robert had saved him from making some mistakes and how he appreciated how Robert put his comrades before himself. He spoke of his sense of loss when Robert was killed in action on 13 July 1970.

Steve Hawk made his closing remarks and we then all gathered for pictures around the Road Signs. The Fallen Ranger Memorial Service is a very emotional experience and I have not set out at length what each person had said. We all departed for the NCO Club and enjoyed some cool drinks before we headed into town for an early meal. After eating and exchanging addresses we returned to the hotel were we broke out the albums again and enjoyed each other’s company. Thank you Bryan Family for the great dinner. Later in the evening we said our goodbyes and talked of getting together sometime in the future at a Company Reunion or other event. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Bryan Family for all their support and the members of our Unit who could make it to the Ceremony for Robert. It was a great honor and privilege for me to meet with the Bryan Family and stand with them and my fellow Ranger Warriors to honor a fallen Ranger Warrior, Hero and Brother after all these years. Robert continues to live on through the Warrior Spirit and our memories and has given us the gift of extending our Ranger Family to include the Bryan Family. The Warrior Spirit lives on HOOAH!!!! RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!!!

U.S. MOUNTAIN RANGER ASSOC.
FALLEN RANGER MEMORIAL CITATION
RANGER SGT. ROBERT LAMARR BRYAN
KIA 13 JULY 1970
RVN

Well that’s about all I have for now and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the Reunion. Let’s make this gathering the best ever. Leave you troubles and personal problems at home and come our and enjoy the company of your RANGER/LRP/LRRP BROTHERS and family and friends. All the best to you and yours and see you in July!!!!

Bob Copeland
UNIT DIRECTOR
RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

In from of Camp Frank
D. Merrill Sign, L-R
Ranger Gregg Whitson
and Ranger Marshall Larsen.
At Fallen Ranger Memorial Induction Ceremony for Ranger Sgt. Robert Bryan, KIA 13 July 1970, RVN and 5 other Fallen Ranger Brother Inductees. L-R Ranger Marshall Larsen, Rebecca (Bryan) Myers (Robert’s twin sister), Allan Myers (Rebecca’s husband), Lamar Bryan (nephew of Robert), Back Row Larry Bryan (brother of Robert) and Jeffery Bryan (nephew of Robert).

Ranger Brent Gulick reads, “Things They Carried” on behalf of Ranger Sgt. Robert Bryan at the Fallen Ranger Memorial Service.

Camp Frank D. Merrill, 5TH RTB Open House, L-R Ranger Brent Gulick, Ranger Steve Hawk-Pres, USMRA and Ranger Marshall Larsen.

Ranger Robert Copeland, Unit Director E 75 RANGER/E 50 LRP/9TH DIV LRRP, MEMBER USMRA reads the Citation at the Induction Ceremony for Ranger Sgt. Robert Bryan at the Fallen Ranger Memorial Service.

Street Signs placed on a post at the bridge cross over where every Ranger Student attending the Mountain Phase at Camp Frank D. Merrill must pass by at some point in his training. The names of the Fallen Rangers on these signs are ment to inspire all who pass with DEDICATION to the “RANGER WAY” and “WARRIOR SPIRIT” that each Ranger named there represents. RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!!!

Sgt Robert Bryan in VC attire and AK webgear

Memorial Service set up with Black Beret on Butt of inverted M16 in ready area Tan An, RVN 1970.
In front of Camp Frank D. Merrill Sign, L-R Ranger Gregg Whitson and Ranger Bob Copeland.

Sgt. Robert Bryan in VC attire, head band, AK webgear, Bronze Star on chain around neck and CAR 15 lying across his lap.


Marine Super Cobra at 5TH RTB Open House Demonstration, Camp Frank D. Merrill, 10 May 2003.


USMRA Fallen Ranger Memorial Citation
Read by: Bob Copeland

Sergeant E5 Robert Lamarr Bryan was born on October 18, 1949 to Riley and Vera Arlene Bryan. He had two older brothers Larry and Roger, an older sister Ginger and a twin sister Rebecca. When Robert was four weeks old, his parents took the twins to northern Michigan deer hunting for two weeks because they were too young to be left behind. Perhaps this partially explains why Robert grew up adventurous and loving the outdoors. Robert’s parents lived on a farm near Colon, which is a small community of 1,000 people in south-western Michigan. When each child reached a certain age, they got volunteered to milk the cows and help bale hay. Many a hot summer day ended down at their favourite swimming hole. The family went on numerous camping and fishing trips to northern Michigan and Minnesota. Robert was fortunate to have his Grandma living just next door and she would be the first person packed and ready to go on these family vacations. Robert was a happy, fun loving person and developed a great sense of humour. He attended Colon Community Schools. If you were a blonde, you stood a much better chance of getting a date with Robert. He graduated from Colon High School in 1967 winning the Most Valuable Player trophy for the varsity baseball team. Like his father he was a talented baseball player. Robert met his military obligations head on by enlisting in the Army in January 1968. The family appreciated his bravery in such perilous times. Robert came home for a visit after completing his first tour of combat in Vietnam and informed the family he planned to return for a second tour. Family members couldn’t understand why he would volunteer for another tour, but he said, “They need me” He certainly was a man of dreams, passion, strength and loyalty.

Robert Bryan commenced his tour in Vietnam on 14 Oct 1968 serving with Co A 4/47th Inf, 9th Inf Div as an indirect fire crewman on a 81mm mortar crew. He then served with HHC 4/47TH Inf, Co A 3/39th Inf, Co F 2/60th and Co A 2/60th, 9th Inf Div. Having volunteered for Co E (Ranger) 75th Inf 3/9th Inf Div. Robert joined the company of Rangers in Tan An, Long An Province in Nov. 1969 and became a team member on an Airborne Ranger Team engaging in combat operations against hostile forces in the Mekong Delta. Robert came to the Ranger Company with combat experience and skills, having been awarded his Combat Infantryman’s Badge in 1968. During his time in the Ranger Company Robert exhibited exceptional leadership and was a tenacious Warrior who gained the respect of his comrades. Robert quickly adapted to unconventional warfare tactics and gained a reputation as an aggressive and innovative Team Leader both on land and on water. Having been decorated for bravery on several occasions with the Army Commendation Medal for valour and the Bronze Star Medal for heroism as well as having received the Purple Heart for wounds, he would on the 30th of April receive the Silver Star for Gallantry in action. The circumstances of the action leading to this award are as follows: While serving as Team Leader-70n an overnight ambush operation assisted by U.S. Navy Patrol Boats. Sergeant Bryan positioned a three man element of the team about 75 meters from the shore, leaving the remaining members in the boat. Spotting approximately five enemy soldiers 200 meters from his location, Sgt Bryan immediately exposed himself to initiate contact with the enemy, eliminating one instantly. Sergeant Bryan while leading his men through the intense hostile fire heard someone whistle. Again spotting another enemy soldier twenty meters from his position, he exposed himself to hurl a grenade at the insurgent, eliminating him. Sergeant Bryan then directed his team back to the boat. Upon reaching the craft, two enemy sampans were observed on the river coming toward them. As the insurgents initiated contact, Sergeant Bryan once again exposed himself to the enemy fusillade to direct the fire of his team. The four enemy personnel aboard the sampans were eliminated. Later, while sweeping the contact area, the team again received intense fire from an enemy soldier concealed in the nipe palm within ten meters of the ranger team. Reacting instantly to the critical danger, Sergeant Bryan charged forward and eliminated the insurgent at point blank range with rifle fire. Sergeant Bryan’s actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

On 11 June 1970 Sergeant Bryan was again to be honoured with a second Silver Star for Gallantry in action. The details of this action are as follows: Sergeant Bryan distinguished himself by heroism in connection with ground operations against a hostile force while serving as a Team Leader with Co E (Ranger) 75th Inf 3/9th Inf Div in RVN. While his element was proceeding along a river bank, Sergeant Bryan observed an enemy soldier to his front. The enemy attempted to react, but Sgt Bryan immediately eliminated him. As the team moved further along, Sgt Bryan observed two more enemy soldiers on the opposite shore. Without regard for his personal safety, he immediately moved to an exposed position and eliminated one while another team member fatally wounded the other. Shortly thereafter, the team encountered three more enemy soldiers about fifteen meters to their front. Sgt Bryan and other team members immediately rushed the enemy, eliminating them before they could fire back. When a bobby trap detonated, causing several members of the team to receive fragmentation wounds, Sergeant Bryan, without hesitation, applied first aid, then directed a helicopter to pick up the wounded. Sergeant Bryan’s actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. Sergeant Bryan continued to lead his Ranger Team 1-7 in the warrior tradition, leading by example, encouraging and inspiring his fellow Rangers to give 100% and then some. His dedication to his fellow Rangers, duty and mission directly contributed to the high rate of efficiency and success of the Ranger Operations conducted against enemy forces by Echo Rangers.

On 13 July 1970, just 24 days away from Robert’s departure from Vietnam, he was killed in action by enemy ground fire, while conducting a visual reconnaissance from a light observation helicopter preparing for yet another mission.

Robert was killed within three weeks of completing his second tour in Vietnam. He was so close to coming home again. The American Flag that covered his casket was flown for one year over Colon Elementary School, where Robert had attended and where his two nephews were attending. Robert took time to visit this school when he was home on leave and talked with the children. The students in turn wrote letters to Robert while he was serving his country. Memorial contributions were used to purchase equipment for Colon Elementary and Colon High School.

No one who is remembered is ever truly gone. Robert will live on in the hearts of many who will never forget. Death is not extinguishing the light; it is putting out the lamp because dawn has come. His Warrior Spirit lives on!! RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!!!
Hello I’m back at you with just a short note to those that called and sent their messages of concern about my health. THANK YOU.

I heard that Mike Rohly is putting together a company re-union in October. I do not have the registration form on hand or I just have it buried somewhere in my office; anyway the gathering is held in Colorado so drop me an email or letter and I should have info available as to dates and events that he had put together for us, let’s make it happen. jclittle1@cox.net or drop him a message at dalford@classicnet.net and use LURP/Ranger reunion as subject with a six digit date mmdyy.

I know this will arrive after Memorial Day, however, it is my wish to all that we take a moment and remember; some with sorrow, laughter and peace and most of all the camaraderie we all shared.
F/Co. 25th ID LRRP/LRP/Ranger
Joe Little UD

Sick Call:
Bill Mrkvicka received a call from Debra Dasher. She is the wife of Frank Dasher (served with Co F in 1968 and 1969). Frank is going through some tough times right now. He has diabetes and is in the hospital. They are trying to save his leg.
If you have a few minutes, drop Frank a note or a card. His address is: Frank Dasher 764 Golden Rule Dr New Enterprise, PA 16664

I asked, and Lrrp I sent me this concerning our infancy into what we are today. Captain Mark Ponzillo was the company’s first CO and was given the responsibility of setting up our unit 25th Infantry Division LRRP’s. Those that were present at the reunion may recall the photo and the surprise on his face as those that served with him and many that followed had a brick placed in honor of Capt. Ponzillo.

If you’ve had the pleasure of talking to those MEN that served with Mark, you would be very proud to have been associated with those that gave so much to build and establish a rich heritage for the unit we served with. These guy’s had me in constant laughter at the last re-union, with stories of how they managed to secure various badly needed equipment that others did not really need. I learned of a generator that found it’s way into our company on the back of a dune and half one night, with wires still sparking on the road because the person that receive the donation was so happy, he hurried back to show Capt. P. without shutting down the generator. I believe the donor did not have time to disconnect the wires either. So that same tradition still carried on & on & on.

Our Heritage:
I just re-read your request for info and was struck with the idea that we, as a group, may need to be re-briefed on who we are, what we were and what we turned out to be as a result of our LRRP/LRP/Ranger experiences. So, here goes - thoughts from one of the “special few”. During World War II America discovered that “Special Operations” (operations preformed by a few for the betterment of the many) were indeed valuable when conducting large-scale operations against a large determined enemy; Thus the creation of the Office Of Strategic Operations (OSS). The original OSS was made-up of an interesting cross section of idealist, patriotic and just plain crazy people looking for a way to fight the enemy without getting tied-up in a conventional organization within a very structured military. Some of the first OSS operators were civilians who would never consider joining the military but wanted to contribute to the war effort. The officers who created the OSS were told that their careers and efforts would be for naught and that their future(s) [in the military] would be limited. The original enlisted men and women were told that their service might not even count as combat service - no glory, no awards, no decorations, no recognition. The civilian volunteers, for the OSS, were told nothing-at-all except that they may be of some use to the overall war effort but would never be acknowledged as significant to the winning of the war and defeating the enemy.
But they showed-up anyway. There were no TDA’s, no TO&E’s, no SOP’s and no administrative or logistical support established or budgeted for their operations. There were more than enough volunteers, and then some. All of those men and women who wanted to be part of the OSS did not or could not make the grade, pass the test(s), fit the mold or meet the standard necessary for expected success. But still they came, tried, (some re-tried) and others just faded away. There was always someone ready to take the place of the next open position.

During the war these people did things that were unheard of during the 1940’s. They worked in small groups behind enemy lines, existed without the protective umbrella of large unit fire support and recovery capabilities, lived off the land, learned the ways of the enemy and beat him [the enemy] at his own game. Sound familiar - it should.

Today you LRRP/LRP/Rangers stand as a reminder that the spirit of the unknown, the desire for something over-and-above normal service and the ability to succeed in a hostile environment lives on. After World War II the concept of Reconnaissance went the way of the Army Air Force. During the Korean conflict the ground commanders looked for ways to fix the enemy and bring fire upon him via airpower, sea based firepower and the combined capabilities of the conventional land forces. Guess what - the need for special operators who could provide the necessary enemy information were recruited, trained and exploited throughout the remainder of the conflict. With the draw down of the Korean situation, away went the “special types” who were seen as not being needed any longer. Sounds doesn’t it?

During the 1950’s the American military effort in Europe was static with a continuing requirement for up-to-date information concerning the disposition of the Soviet Bloc forces spread throughout Eastern Europe behind the Iron Curtain. Surprise, surprise - the creation of a Long Range Reconnaissance [Patrol] capability was recognized, acted upon, created, trained and operated. The men involved in this effort were - now this will probably knock you out of your socks - volunteers, a cut above the conventional recon soldier and a adventurer. There were only a few units organized to conduct reconnaissance throughout central and Eastern Europe. These units were designated Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol companies and were assigned to the SHAPE headquarters. Not many conventional units or their commanders were aware of these units, their capabilities and their potential. Note: Has anyone ever heard of such a thing?

Enter you guys. It’s the start 1966, it’s hot, it’s wet, it’s dangerous and it’s - “guess where” - Vietnam. The 25th Infantry Division has just arrived from Hawaii - with it’s ice cream and bread machines, air conditioners and GP mediums without fans for the troops and with fans for the headquarters’ types. The food was not exactly five-star level, the weather left a lot to be desired and the Viet Cong were in the perimeter - at will - via the “Tunnels of Cu Chi”. God, does it get any better than this?

The boss said “let there be reconnaissance” and the original LRRP’s, LRP’s and F Company 75th Rangers were created, from volunteers, out of nothing, to do things that were “not usual” to bring the picture of the enemy to the table of the division commander and to fix, fight and kill the Bad Guys. Y’ all did good. That should never be forgotten. If you have - shame on ya; get on the stick. If you haven’t, nice going you deserve the good memories if the memories you are experiencing are good ones. If the memories are dim or not overly positive you need to (let’s all say it again together) - get on the [proverbially] stick. Remember how this diatribe started? Talking about Units without anything or anybody or not even really wanted who did things for those who - didn’t - because they couldn’t.

Memorial Day 2003 is right around the corner. It may have come and gone as of this writing/reading. In spite of that the author would like to thank each and every one of you for your service, your dedication to your personal principles, your fellow Rangers, your unit, the United States Army and the United States of America. We are living in difficult times. We have lived in such times and will probably experience some of the same before we checkout. But never forget that your accomplishments did not go unnoticed and your continuing influence on “all that is good” in the military Recon Community will always be appreciated. Your life and your service are important.

Due to health and family considerations I will not be able to attend the “Weekend at The Wall” celebration this year. I wish I could. To those of you that I personally know and served with God Bless you and yours and all that you do. To those that I did not serve with two things will always remain evident - I really do know who you are, what you are, what you did and how you did it. God Bless you and yours and all that you do. Enjoy your Memorial Day holiday men - you earned it.

Till Our Next Patrol:
Cpt “P”

1966 25th ID LRRPS meet in Florida.

Members of the 25th ID LRRPs met in Melbourne Florida in conjunction with the Florida Viet Nam Veterans Reunion.

LRRPs, Bill Brantley, Ronald Dunn, Rick Ellison, Marshall Huckaby, Dutch Lane, and Sam Wright, accompanied by their better halves, met to re-tell old tales and rekindle old their old friendships.

Each year the Florida Viet Nam Veterans Association hosts a reunion the first week of May. The reunion this year had fewer displays and the flyby was limited to a single UH-1 due to the ongoing Iraq deployments.

Members of the 27th Infantry (Wolfhounds) were in abundance and were eager to share their food as well and liquid refreshments with their LRRP friends.

Members of the 1966 LRRPs resolved to travel to middle America to visit other 25th ID LRRPs who have been absent from previous meetings. The sentiment was “we’re not getting any younger and need to see each other”.

Submitted by: Marshall Huckaby
Hello all,

I hope that everyone is doing well. My heart goes out to those living in the Midwestern states. Spring has not been good to them after having a rough winter.

The LRP/Rangers of the 1st Cavalry are still trying to get a second member in the Ranger Hall of Fame. I know that every man who has made it into the Ranger Hall of Fame earned the right. Jim Ross has worked hard at putting a packet together for Col. James D. James (ret.). Col. James was at the right place at the right time with the right mindset to get the first Long Range Patrol teams active for the 1st Air Cavalry. These teams were the foundation for those who followed. Many good officers and team members kept that heritage going from 1966 to mid-1972.

I recently had a Cavalry Trooper referred to me through the 1st Cavalry Division Association. The gentleman was making a request to the 1st Cavalry Association to let all recon soldiers who served in company level recon be admitted to the LRP/Ranger Association Chapter of the 1st Cavalry.

This is not the first time someone has made such a request to our Cavalry chapter. There were several back and forth emails along with the best tact I could pull from myself. I hope by now he understands that he does not qualify for membership in our chapter. I have met guys like this gentleman while serving in the many LRP/Ranger companies throughout all the Divisions in Vietnam was their ability to evolve and grow. That professionalism is still growing today in our service men and women. Let’s all of us stand shoulder to shoulder in pride for an ever-growing number of professional, dedicated, honorable men and women of today’s Rangers, S.F., Special Ops, and, yes, the Seals and MC Force Recon.

The LRP/Ranger Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association will be in Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas on June 11 to 15 for our annual reunion with the 1st Cavalry. I am working on getting some first hand accounts for our part of the 75th RRA website. If you have not seen the web pages, you have the opportunity to browse through a good website.

Don’t forget it’s our turn to show support for our young service members.

“Rangers Lead the Way”

Till next time,
Sam Dixon, President for the LRP/Rangers of the 1st Cavalry Division during the Vietnam War
PATROLLING - SUMMER 2003

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On behalf of all of us, Big Red One LRBs, LRP, and Rangers, and to everyone who has given so much, I would like to thank Barry Crabtree, our past Unit Director, for his tireless efforts and for continuing to solicit and utilize the writings and thoughts during my tenure in this position. As a parting message, Barry has graciously provided this last article to Patrolling, reporting on our May 2003 Reunion held in Tucson, Arizona.

This actually happened to me as I arrived home from being gone over the weekend. While I was gone, a tornado went through town. I'm not sure what it does for me when I'm out of town, but I think it's safe to say that it's not good! People started calling for help, but I was too far away to get there in time.

Barry Crabtree—Then and Now

It's been a while since I returned from the '93 Ranger Reunion in Tucson, Arizona. CSM Bob Tipp with the Special Forces team had been a part of the planning for the reunion for years, and it was a great experience. We've had the opportunity to meet and chat with a lot of old friends since then, and the bond between us has only grown stronger.
depending on how we come to grips with the horror. What I’ve often called my personal GHOST’S OF GLORY.

Which takes me back to the Ranger Reunion. As the 35 or 40 of us began to create a crowd around our hospitality suite, Tapia moved us to expanded quarters that created the perfect environment for the meetings and conferences and huddles that mark a gathering of old soldiers like us. I felt so honored to be a part of a group that at one time shared the thoughts and aspirations of every Ranger dating back to WWI. We as a group heard for the first time the 2 surviving members of Remote Trail 1 - a LRRP team wiped out in an ambush by NVA. My team was set up a couple of clicks away and we called in the contact. I heard both Billy Goshen (author of WARPAINT) and Larry Wenzel’s recount in every excruciating detail how they fought off a persistent enemy all night and the next morning while losing 21 units of blood and Larry all shot up too, losing half his hand and most of his mind - THAT’S A JOKE. He’s cool and runs a printing company in Texas. Hearing their own words and crying and laughing with the guys all at the same time it seems, was for me an experience of a lifetime. And just when you thought it couldn’t get any more exciting, guess what !!!!

The 80 year old mother of the Team Leader I Bob Roosien who came to rescue my ass and ended up being killed by a sniper, and 2 of his 5 brothers and his sister who was 9 years old when he died, are there with our permission to hear the story. It was surprisingly easy for me to talk with them since Bob has been my own biggest GHOST OF GLORY for many years. When I get in a tough scrape in life, the thoughts of Bob’s sacrifice reminds me of how my life is purchased so to speak, at the expense of others around me and we best not waste the opportunity. The next sniper round nearly took off the right foot of my RTO behind the rubber tree to my left. I was spared to tell the story and I hope be a testament for Ranger pride. That sequence just described has been bringing me back home for years and years. Being able to tell the Roosiens of my feelings and how important Bob has become in my life through his death, has been truly a healing feeling for me. When Bob’s sister came up to me and hugged me she said, “I feel like I’m holding my brother.” The tears flowed and the emotions were hot like lava inside of me as I mourned and gloried in the memories of my friend and her brother. I’M COMING HOME.

And just when you think it couldn’t get better, we met the brother and sisters of William P. Cohn, a LRRP team leader lost with his whole team as his chopper was lifting off from a hot extraction. Hearing the explosions over the radio in the Operations hootch was all that a lot of us ever got until now, when more of the story comes out from teams that were out at the same time and we get the human side of the combat action from the family back in the world, now standing in front of us seeking knowledge of a 19 year old that they didn’t get a chance to really know. We did get to know him WELL, and in a way that they find very heart warming and fulfilling in the sense that we confirm what they thought all along - That Vietnam LRRP’s were a rare breed that sowed the seeds of greatness that today are what we identify as the Ranger WAY OF DOING BUSINESS. The Legend Continues!!!!!! It’s an attitude.

Interestingly, one of the most asked questions wasn’t Who are You, it was, WHEN WERE YOU IN THE COMPANY? Followed by who’s team were you on? And the jigsaw puzzle-like mind of the Vietnam combat veteran begins to unravel like a thread of a 1000 strands. One strand at a time comes the
recollections both good and bad that made the 1 year to the day of our tour of hell. The questions also bring up the fact that many Vietnam LRRPs still don’t feel welcomed properly by the current Ranger community. It’s only our reclusive nature and the years of scorn that make us act the way and think the way we do - BUT ITS ANEW DAY RANGER BROTHERS. There is probably some basis for some of these TET LRRPs not identifying with our Association because they left the company long before the ARMY changed our name.

Many 100’s of Vietnam era LRRP’s have become the backbone of the 3 Ranger Batt’s that now perform so excellently under conditions that we never imagined in RVN, unless you were at Hue maybe?? The stories are now being retold by the survivors who are at long last telling the story for all to hear and begin the healing process. The Ranger reunion included a SF guy that wasn’t operational as a LRRP, but being a student of Special Op’s wanted to be with us to hear the stories and to meet the guys who pulled off what were commonly identified as SUICIDE MISSIONS by everyone except the team’s members. I didn’t discover that fact until our 2nd reunion when one of the Company officers at the time reflected on the thoughts of the G-2 and S-2 officers present at the op order briefing, before the over flight recon. I remember being a little confused about the somber tone at these meetings and now I understand why?? I’m glad I never figured it out. I was too busy learning to stay alive.

Our next newly elected Unit Director is Dave Hill who has his own very unique story of his route to the F Troop. Like me, Dave volunteered from another combat unit to be a LRRP, back around TET. Back in the day we were the 1st Div. or the Big Red One. Dave is our stepping stone into the very early LRRPs of the war during TET. They are some of the most tested and tried by fire guys from the LRRPS 3 year lineage through 1970. These guys have proven the hardest to find and the most reluctant to come even when found and called and called and -...... well you know the drill. There are first time guys at this reunion that are just now sketchily putting the pieces together. We’ve got guys I know went out on missions with me, and other team leaders, that can’t recall even one detail. Go figure. It’s that PTSD thing that dwells within every combat veteran - especially LRRPS. God only knows the level of destruction we inflicted and endured for a thankless cause. My Ghosts of Glory involve people who believe that the person you face every day in the mirror to shave is the one who needs the proof. “WE HAVE SEEN THE ENEMY. AND THEY IS US.” Pogo. Man. I feel great about being a Ranger, and those feelings of healing are growing and translating into a better Barry for me, my kids, my wife, and the world.

Dave has asked me to continue writing upon request and I of course agreed. I’m currently developing a few (sometimes) humorous themes about how the Vietnam combat vet doesn’t live of the edge he lives on the LEDGE. And some other ideas about our HOT BUTTON TEMPER. My son laughed at me when I said that my wife could really light my fuse. He said, “You don’t have a fuse, you have a button.” I’ve discussed this at length with our veteran advocates, Billy Goshen, Mike Wise, and Ronnie Imel. They are extremely capable at helping veterans with the VA application process. I admire all of these men for their dedication and love of their fellow veterans and their country. Please contact them with any questions you may have about getting benefits.

In closing I can say being part of the Ranger tradition has done a lot to bring me home. It took me away but is now bringing me back. Being a part of something so much bigger and better than you are gave strength when I needed something extra. My Ranger brothers are all my ghost’s of glory that sustain me every day. I wish it wouldn’t sustain a 300 yard drive with half a hand like Larry - he beat us like a drum on the golf course but that’s even another story. Let’s listen to Dave and some of his stories in the next issue - the Dog Man !!! RLTW/SUA SPONTE.
Greetings to all, from the Valley of the Upper Perkiomen Creek area of S.E. Penna.
It seems our armed forces have been gainfully employed and once again, proven their value. May we pray for the President and all our leaders, that they may make the righteous and prudent decision?

Spring has sprung and Reunion season is drawing near. For those of you who have not received the info, there will be a 4th Div. Lrrp/ K/75 Ranger Bde Lrrp reunion this Aug 9 and 10, in beautiful Fayetteville, NC. We will be dedicating a Memorial Brick to the fallen LRRPs and Rangers of the 4th ID. Don Keller is the contact man. Please use the provided form to order your shirt, register for the reunion and up-date your vital stats. We have tried to contact everyone via e-mail, Patrolling Magazine and telephone. If you don’t feel like filling out the form, then call me, Dave Bristol, Bryant Middleton Buck Anderson, Bob Smyers or Matt Gentilella. We need to get an accurate database. Also if you have a list of contacts you’d like to share, please do so even if it is one name. We’ll send the person a free Patrolling Magazine with a welcome letter. Remember the future of this association depends on memberships.

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Up-date info, order a shirt and register for the Reunion use the attached form:
Please mail this info ASAP, even if you will not be at the reunion!!!!!

Name: ______________________ Number people attending:_________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________

City and state: Zip:____________________________

Phone: ______________________ E-mail address:__________________________

Shirt size: S M L X/L (these run very big!)

These shirts are very high quality golf style shirts with embroidered scroll and patches affixed. Very sharp!
$44.58 ea (includes S&H and tax)
You can also contact Don Keller to order K/75 scrolls, The Gold pocket patches we used to wear. He is having these made in regular and X-large sizes. Proceeds are going to the unit fund. Hopefully we can get that to the point of a sizable donation for the Ranger Children’s Christmas fund.

This month we hope to award two gold star mothers a certificate and life memberships, one going to an old teammate of Jim Testerman, Steve Hathaway’s Mother and another to a teammate of mine Mrs Elizabeth Olgyay, mother of Roy Olgyay. Hopefully Emmett Hillenbrand, John Chester Jim Testerman and I will have made this presentation at the wall by the time you get this issue. These are long over due, lest the sacrifice of these mothers and sons never be forgotten.

This brings me to searches. We need to seek out and ask these mothers if they would care for this recognition. It is healing for the individual soldier and can also be for the survivors. I remember Roy Olgyay very regularly. He was eager to learn, very intelligent, great chess player, and had a very high opinion of himself, he was a lot like every other Ranger I’ve ever met! So think about it and if you’re so inclined please do the same. You may present the awards yourselves.

Again if you are getting this magazine, it does not mean that the unit director has your information. The Association is not at liberty to divulge this info, so please contact one of the aforementioned members, so we can update our database and have something solid to hand off to ROGER CRUNK, when he takes the baton at Ft Lewis in 2004.

In closing I want everyone to call Don Keller and give him a telephone hug! He has been working very hard on this Mini-Reunion and is very sensitive at this point; you can all remember how sensitive he was as our First Shirt? Well he is even more so now.

Ltc (ret) Wm Postelnic has LRRP’d us out so drop him a line.

**Postelnic, Bill**

bpostelnic@Carlson.com

He fired me in 1970 for lobbing a 79 round at Bill Tenkate’s team during a POW Camp raid rehearsal; I must add it was a dry rehearsal. I probably should have been thrown in jail. But the shame of “effing” up, that big, was punishment enough, I guess. I ended up pulling K.P. while the company was on that raid. In retrospect, I probably should have been on that mission, maybe I could have killed someone with my 79, in that camp, and before they all ran away!

MIA: Mark Estopare, anyone seen or heard from him in the last year? Let me know. Also Warren (Half-breed) Russell, William Wade, Edgar Web, Billy Powers, if you have any names of people, you’d like to find let me know, we’ll do a search. We just did a search on Dennis Schurr, but to no avail.

Hope to see y’all in August

Yours in service,

Bill ‘Ichabod’ Bullen

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

Unit Director - Randall White

Back in our day.

Things have certainly changed for the men and women of our country who are now in uniform. Recent military actions have shown an outpouring of support not witnessed in America since the end of WWII. We can only hope this level of support continues and the hard lessons America learned and the lack of support suffered on U.S. troops during the Vietnam War will never be forgotten. Wars are won and lost on the political and home front just as much as on the battlefield. The resources available for the American public to show their support have vastly changed with the proliferation of computers and the internet, and with vastly improved communications around the world. Though not a complete covering of what’s out there to help show your support, I’ll try to hit the big ones.

Back in our day, we could only dream of calling home from Vietnam except through a MARS station. Very annoying having to say over to your wife, mother or girlfriend. Today you can donate to Operation Uplink [http://www.operationuplink.org/](http://www.operationuplink.org/)

Using contributions from supporters, they purchases phone cards and distribute them to servicemen and women who are separated from those they care about. The term “phone card” was still 30 years in the future when I made my last MARS call.

If you’d like to send a greeting card there are a couple resources available. Through Operation Dear Abby, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Department of the Navy’s Life Lines 2000 Services Network in association with SPAWAR SCC [National Capitol Region] is providing this private and secure online resource that will allow you to send a Sailor, Marine, Soldier, Airman, or Coast Guardsman a holiday greeting or message of support. [http://anyservicemember.navy.mil/About.html](http://anyservicemember.navy.mil/About.html) I can’t remember ever getting a card from anyone in Nam, but eh, that was over 30 years ago. I couldn’t tell you if my wife gave me a card last Christmas. Defend America [http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html](http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html) is another site run by the D.O.D. that lets you send an on line virtual card to “any member of the service.”
PATROLLING – SUMMER 2003

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

If you have a few extra bucks and want to make a donation, you can find a host of agencies willing to take your money for a good cause. The Army Emergency Relief http://www.aerhq.org/ is the Army’s own emergency financial assistance organization and is dedicated to “Helping the Army Take Care of Its Own”. AER provides commanders a valuable asset in accomplishing their basic command responsibility for the morale and welfare of soldiers. AER funds are made available to commanders having AER Sections to provide emergency financial assistance to soldiers - active & retired - and their dependents when there is a valid need.

The Navy-Marine Relief Society http://www.nmrs.org/ and the Air Force Aid Society http://www.afas.org/ are those services versions of the Army’s AER. Oh and don’t forget the Coast Guard, they too have their own C.G. Mutual Assistance program. http://www.cgmahq.org/

Many civilian agencies are out there helping to support the troops. One of the soldiers most popular is the USO http://www.usocares.org/ Who can forget a USO show they might have seen, or a visit to one of their clubs. Probably the oldest supporter we have is the Red Cross. http://www.redcross.org/services/afes/ They’re the ones who brought us the “Donut Dollies” we all tried to impress and whose round eyes we stared at with lust.

If you’d like to volunteer to help at an area V.A. hospital you can check out the Veterans Day web site http://www.va.gov/vetsday/ for information about their programs. The Fisher House http://www.fisherhouse.org will take donations to help support families who have a loved one being treated at a V.A. hospital, by providing housing close to that V.A. facility. The VFW http://www.vfw.org/ has its “Adopt-A-Unit” program that helps you adopt a military unit. This is a program that is very popular with communities and organizations across the country.

If you still can’t find an organization that you’d like to volunteer for, or financially help support, try visiting the U.S.A. Freedom Corps http://www.usafreedomcorp.gov/ As a Coordinating Council housed at the White House and chaired by President George W. Bush, they are working to strengthen our culture of service and help find opportunities for every American to start volunteering. This includes all aspects of American life and culture beyond the military.

This is just a sampling of how you can get involved and is not met to slight those who have taken it upon themselves to organize support on their own. Linda Cox 303 838-4403 has been sending the LRSB guys packages for months and could always use a few bucks to help cover her costs. Make your checks out to Linda and mail them to 111 Smokey Rock Rd. Bailey CO 80421

Top Walker is involved in supporting the families of the LRSB troops left behind at Campbell through the Family Readiness Group. Maggie Haupt at 1142-A Goodwin Street, Ft Campbell KY 42223 can help answer your questions and take donations for these families. Checks should be made out to the FRG.

Yes, America has learned the lessons of the past well, and we should never forget those lessons in the future. I can only guess at the outcome of the war fought back in our day, had the American people and political system shown the support that now bolsters the service members of today. There will always be the Jane Fondas and Dixie Chicks in our world, but their actions must be diminished with the voicing of support by we who remember and choose to honor and support the people who defend our liberties. The price those pay for turning their backs on America’s fighting men and women must be shown at the voting polls and box offices across the country, and with your shopping habits. Back in our day French Fries were something we could only dream about in a former French colony. Now the very word makes my blood pressure rise. French wine? I don’t think so. Maybe a German Lager beer? Sorry, not today…or ever. Thousand of fallen American heroes buried on foreign shores demand we have a Bud and American fries instead. Back in their day, they would have felt the same way, had they known what the future would bring.

Randy White
ranwhite@jamadots.com

101ST LRRP/Ranger web site: http://www.lcompanyranger.com/

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

No Submission

- 47 -
N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP
Unit Director - Reed Cundiff

Retired Sergeant Major Vladimir Jakovenko was the N Ranger nomination for the 2003 Ranger Hall of Fame. He was one of three selected from 75th RRA for induction this July.

Enclosed is the Ranger Hall of Fame nomination letter for retired Special Forces Sergeant Major Vladimir Jakovenko.

S/Maj. Jakovenko was one of the original team leaders when the 173rd Airborne Brigade’s Provisional LRRP was founded and his record with the unit was unsurpassed as may be noted in the letters of recommendation provided by the first two commanding officers of the unit. He transferred to Special Forces upon his PCS to Ft. Bragg in 1967. He subsequently spent 21 years of exemplary service in Special Forces. His exploits with 5th SF Group in 1968-69, upon the Son Tay raid as well as for a further 18 years on SF operations to include service as team sergeant on SF HALO teams are legendary within the Special Forces community. It is indicative of S/Maj. Jakovenko’s character, spirit and dedication to the military that his fondest military memories are the two years he spent developing young officers as the Chief Instructor of the ROTC Department at the University of Guam.

Jake is the third team leader of Team 4, 173rd LRRP to be selected for the Ranger Hall of Fame. The earlier two were S/Maj. Pat Tadina and S/Sgt Laszlo Rabel. I was privileged to serve with Jake on his last patrol with the 173rd LRRP.

O/75 - 78TH LRP
Unit Director - Bailey Stauffer

Well here it is time for another article for Patrolling. First things first. F Co. will have their reunion in Maderia Bay Florida. Oct. 6–12, 2003. Eileen and I went to the Jump into Spring All Airborne Conference in Tucson the middle of March. There were 90 troopers and their wives from WWII to the Gulf War. It was pretty impressive. We went to a Spring training game between the Cubs and the White Sox, Chicago won. We went to the VA and had a barbeque with the Veterans. Afterward Eileen and I tried out some of the Casinos, no good. We had a Banquet and dance on Sat. night, lots of fun. On Sunday we had a real good barbeque lunch again then home. It really is great to go to reunions and if you get a copy of the Static Line or Airborne Quarterly, I’m sure that there will be some kind of function going on near you soon. The 24th of May the Special Forces will be coming to Safford. Eileen and I will serve them some Lazy B S beef and beans. In Aug we will have Arizona all Airborne Days again. In Aug 2004 the Rakkasans will have their National Reunion in Tucson. It looks to be pretty interesting.

As for me besides work at the Post Office, last weekend we brought most of the cows down from the upper pasture. We have a lion working on us, he has gotten at least 6 calves that we know of. We still need to find about 20 more head and we will be done until about the 4th of July when we have to brand again. Our calf crop is late this year. This morning I finished shearing all the sheep. It is hell, me 55, and my Dad 88, out wrestling those big ewes. We can’t find any young lads that want to work. Friday Dad has fun day at his house for the kinder garden.
MICHAEL JOSEPH KELLY

Michael Kelly (the Professor) was born June 27, 1948 and entered the army in Syracuse, NY. He was assigned to the fourth platoon, F Co., 51st Inf LRP's on Nov 13 1968. He went to O Co. 75th Rangers on Feb. 1, 1969. He went out on a mission with a five man team in the Gia Dinh province about the 21st of April. While they were being extracted on the 25th of April another team was inserted. It only had 4 men so Mike said he would stay with them so they had 5 men. While they were getting him some water a sniper opened up killing one Gung Ho Ranger. This was the first KIA in O Co. that I was not with, so this story is what I can remember some of the people telling me about that mission. April was a bad month for O Co. We lost our first four men that month and then no more until September of that same year.

PAPA COMPANY SUMMER PATROLLING

LEST WE FORGET OUR HEROES:

CARTER, DAVID EDWARD SFC AUGUST 10, 1969 FEB 27, 1941 HAMILTON, OH 20W L121

SIDES, HAROLD ERWIN SGT SEPTEMBER 20, 1970 MAR 09, 1950 DALLAS, TX 7W L79

PELLIDO, RAYMOND HUGH SP/4 SEPTEMBER 20, 1970 OCT 15, 1940 BAKERSFIELD, CA 7W L75

RITCHIE, JR. GLENN GARLAND PFC SEPTEMBER 20, 1970 SEP 28, 1950 MT. PLEASANT, NC 7W L79

GALLINA, ANTHONY JOSEPH SP/4 SEPTEMBER 20, 1970 JAN 31, 1952 MAPLEWOOD, MO 7W L77

GRAY, DALE ALAN SP/4 SEPTEMBER 20, 1970 JUL 19, 1950 MESA, AZ 7W L77

By the time this issue reaches you, we will be gearing up for our reunion in Niles, Ohio. While it may be too late to make arrangements at the motel, I’m sure we can make any last minute arrangements for those who had to decide at the last minute to come. I’m sure ‘Troll’ Lloyd would be more than happy to have a slumber party in his room. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with me. Remember the dates are from August 13-16

I want to thank 1st Sgt Gregg Gaines (Ret), and Tom Perry for their recollections of the following mission. It was with great interest that I read this. I had left the unit about eight months before this mission and had heard nothing about it until the reunion at Fort Benning. It reminded me of the fiasco that was well publicized when we left RVN. I’ll be sharing these recollections through Gregg’s perspective.

“With the Vietnamization of in full swing in May of 1971, Company P (Ranger) was assigned a joint task force mission
with an ARVN Ranger to prove that they were able to handle our type of operation in northern I Corp. P Company, just having come off Lam Son 719, was ordered to put together a heavy team of their most experienced men, as this was considered and extremely high priority mission at Corps level. The Rangers that Gregg remembers on that mission were SSG Jim Hussey, SGT Tom Perry, SGT Mike Williamson, Sp4 Steve Loggins, Gregg, and CPT Funderburke. There were other Rangers on that mission but their names are lost in the fog of time. If any of you remember being on this mission, get in touch!

When first briefed on the mission the CO said no way. Instead of pulling a LRRP mission or Hunter Killer mission, they wanted us to go in and secure an old Marine Firebase, set up a defensive perimeter and operate recon patrols from that base. This was a conventional units normal operation, and was not at all in skills we were operationally suited for. Our organizational structure didn’t leave us the manpower to secure an entire firebase. Needless to say, the orders for Vietnamization had come down and the General was in no mood for compromise and the mission went ahead as planned. On May 28th or 29th we saddled two slicks and headed out for the Marine firebase. Tom Perry and I think it may have been the old Saigon firebase in I Corps but we’re not sure. At any rate, we linked up with the ARVN’s in the air and proceeded to the firebase. The U.S. heavy team came in first and secured the LZ and then the ARVN’s landed. After everything was secure the Di Oui came in by himself in his own bird. We cleared all the old bunkers and fire pits for booby traps and set up our own defensive perimeter. We only had enough personnel to secure half the base. The base was no more than a bald hilltop surrounded by higher mountains. Talk about feeling naked. Late that afternoon SSG Hussey grabbed me and took us on a two man recon about 500-700 meters from the base. We found a well used trail as well as several fresh sleeping positions. We returned without incident, setting up trip flares on the way back in. When we got back in the Di Oui was showing the picture of LBJ pinning a Silver Star on him. We figure that these must be some top-notch soldiers.

At about 01:00-2:00 we were probed by an unknown number of NVA. A five to ten minute firefight erupted with red and green tracers going everywhere. Sgt Petty and his team spotted the approaching NVA and opened up. They dropped three and continued to suppress the area. The weather started a bad turn and visibility dropped to about fifty meters. The decision was made to extract us at first light. At daylight the weather lifted and no bodies were to be seen from the contact. Not knowing the size of the force we engaged, we did not search the area, as the birds were inbound. The ARVN’s loaded up first with the Di Oui being the first out in his own bird. As the second bird left started receiving small arms fire from the area where we had discovered the fresh sleeping areas. We immediately laid down suppressing fire and called in the gunships on the suspected location. After they made several runs we were extracted without further incident. But unlike other missions, we were then ordered to secure yet another abandoned firebase. Once that was secured we would be resupplied. So again the Rangers went in first. As we exited the first bird a mortar round landed by the LZ. The bird immediately left and even though we tried to inform the other birds not to land they dropped off the rest of the unit with the exception of the Di Oui. This was on the backside of a ridge like a hilltop and they didn’t have the LZ zeroed in yet. We proceeded to the military front of the ridge on the opposite side. They continued to fire mortars on our position, we could hear the tubes but we could not see where they were firing. During this mortar barrage, Sgt. Macoy was slightly injured in the neck. The ARVN Rangers were all huddled on the backside of the slope. One took an almost direct hit from a 82mm. Needless to say he was history. The gunships worked out the area the tubes were located and they stopped firing.

Another chopper came in with more supplies and CPT Funderburke got of to join the party. That bird did not receive any fire. Another bird tried to land and retrieve the KIA, but the mortars opened up again and he aborted the landing. The decision was made to extract us again and insert us on hill 1015 just outside of Khe Sahn. We had the gunships work out in the area of the mortars and did a tactical withdrawal along the backside of the ridge, leaving a few of us there to lay down fire as if the whole unit was still in place. There was another LZ at the other end of the firebase and the plan was to get extracted before they could readjust their tubes. We policed up the body and brought it with us as we withdrew. Rangers leave no one behind.

As the last members of the team, including CPT Funderburke made it to the LZ, the mortars started to find the range. As I made my way for the bird the CO jumped out to make room for me. Just as I boarded a mortar round landed right in front of the bird spraying it with shrapnel. The pilot immediately took flight leaving CPT Funderburke and two other Rangers on the ground. In retrospect the pilot made the right decision, saving the bird and all those on board, but we still had three-stranded Ranger on the ground. A new set of gunships showed up on station to suppress fire and the three stranded Rangers were picked up.

Now you might think this would be enough for one mission, but the General couldn’t let the mission end without the ARVN’s proving their fighting their fighting ability. What he didn’t know that up to this point that not one ARVN had fired his weapon, nor would they throughout the entire mission. So off to Hill 1015 we went. Again the Rangers went in first to secure the LZ. Somebody popped smoke on the LZ, but it wasn’t us. As our birds touched down we started receiving fire. CPT Funderburke was hit, as was a door gunner. The NVA had dug in bunkers on the LZ and had us in crossfire.

We had secured this hill a couple of months ago for an engineer unit. When they left they had left some bunkers still in tact and plenty of construction material. Needless to say the NVA made good use of them. A 60-gunner with us had it shot out of his hands making the weapon useless. We took cover behind these fresh mound of dirt. It took us a little while to realize that these
Goodbye Cruel World!!! This picture was taken in May of “71” This team, from P CO Rangers at Quang Tri, was put together for a high visibility mission with the ARVN Rangers. Sgt. Mike Williamson is sitting in the door next to the 60 gunner. Next to him is Sgt Gregg “Spud” Gain. The mission resulted in a 3 day running contact with the NVA. The results were 7 NVA KIA, 1 ARVN Ranger KIA, Two U.S. Cobra Pilots KIA, and 2 U.S. Rangers WIA. The slick is from “Charl leagues’” which did many of P CO’s insertions. P CO was the northern most Ranger Company and was the smallest, never being larger than 60 men at any time. Members of the team not visible; SSGt. James Hussey, Sgt. Tom “Mongoose” Perry, Sp/4 Steve “Jarhead” Logins.

creased his thumb. Hussey fired one more round and the duel was over! He then crawled back to help patch up the CO.

‘Red’ Davorichek was on a hill overlooking all of this. He was our radio relay. He had a couple exciting days when the NVA overrun that hill and he had to E&E back to Khe Sahn. Anyway we called in the gunships again and they located the bunkers as we marked them with smoke and we laid out our panels, as the fire was that danger close. I gave them my initials to open fire. They made a couple of runs using 2.75” rockets and miniguns. On the last pass one NVA stood up and put an RPG through the canopy of one of the gunships killing both men. He did not live to savor the moment. Loggins, Perry, and Williamson went down with some other Rangers to clear the bunkers. I called in the Medivac and got the wounded off the ground. There were four dead NVA in the bunkers.

The decision was finally made to end the mission now that there was a body count. One of the Rangers coming back from the bunkers parted the bush in front of me to show that I had been a foot from a Chinese claymore for the firefight and it obviously never went off. With the helicopters inbound, we were able to convince the ARVN’s to come out of their hiding places and be ready to go home. They departed without ever firing a shot. I think the ARVN’s put the Company in for the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry for this action. The mission ended June 1 1971. We later found out that their RTO was working for the other side. I had been sharing Intel, frequencies, and grid coordinates with him. It sure made Charlie’s job that much easier. I will say that there were some good ARVN Ranger units in country, but this certainly wasn’t one of them. End result: 7 NVA KIA, 1 ARVN KIA, 2 Cobra pilots KIA and 2 U.S. Rangers wounded.

Oh, I almost forgot to mention I only had sixteen days left in country after this mission!! SHORT!!! RLTW!! Spud!
D 151 REUNION NEWS
The Reunion for the D-151 association and friends will be August 8, 9, 10, at Camp Atterbury, Edinburg Indiana. The purposes of the Bi-Annual reunion are to dedicate a plaque that honors our fallen comrades, reconnect with our past, plan for our future, and honor our fallen comrades from battle and from life. We shall never forget a fallen comrade.

SCHEDULE

Friday the 8th
- Motorcycle ride  9:00 am – 3:00
  Doug Hagan heads the ride – call him for info at 765-643-2174.
  The ride leaves from Atterbury.
- Golf outing  12:00 – 5:30.
  Tom Blandford heads the golfing – call him at 317-846-6374 to reserve a place.
  Tee time is 1:00. Cost is $43.
  Meet at Timber Gate GC, Edinburgh In. I-65 Exit 80.
- Hospitality at the NCO Club from 12:00 am to 11:00 pm.

Saturday the 9th
- Plaque dedication.  9:00 am
- LRS demonstration.  10:00 am
- Business meeting.  2:00 pm
- PTSD/VA round table discussion.  3:00 pm
- Hospitality at Kings Hall.  4:30 pm – 7:00 pm
- Banquet begins at 7:00 pm. At Kings Hall. Speakers at 8:00 pm.

Sunday the 10th
- Shooting Contest - 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
  Bin laden is the target. A legal AR 15 will be provided.
  (Do not bring any illegal weapons!) Cost is $10.
  Open to all attendees. At the Atterbury firing range.
  You cannot bring weapons to Camp Atterbury, they will be confiscated.

Registration will be available Friday 5:00 pm through 7:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am to 9:00 am and 12:00 through 1:30 at the Camp Atterbury NCO Club.
All times listed are just a guess.

The NCO Club serves breakfast from 6:00 – 8:00, lunch 11:00 – 1:00.
Kings Hall serves dinner from 6:00 – 7:30.

Reunion news about housing.
The Post Commander assured us that Camp Atterbury would be able to support the reunion using King Hall. The only problem that could be foreseen would be availability of on-post rooms. Make your motel reservations with either:
- The Hampton Inn on Highway 31 just off the I-65 Tayorsville exit. Room rates are approx. $74.00 plus tax. The direct phone number is 812-526-1000.
- The Holiday Inn Express on Highway 31 just off the I-65 Tayorsville exit #76B. Room rates are approx. $55.00 + tax. The direct phone number is 812-526-9899. Ask for the “military rate.”
- Camp Atterbury Housing on Camp Atterbury. Room rates vary from approx.$10.00 for single and $16.00 for a double. Direct phone number is 812-526-1128 or 1-800-237-2850, ext. 1128. If you stayed there last reunion, you are still in their database.
- Camp Grounds- Camp Atterbury has a small camp ground $5.00 per night, phone 812-526-1116.
- The Johnson County Park, across the road from Camp Atterbury, also has campgrounds, with water and electricity $10.50 per night.

Indiana Rangers Documentary Film
Gregg Brown (brother to unit member Alan Brown) will present a documentary film project he is planning that includes interviewing members of Co. D (Ranger) 151st Infantry. He will attend the reunion in order to get some of the interviews, with the permission of
each interviewee. He may also call members for interviews. Some believe there will someday be a book or film about the unit so it would be better if we actual participants tell our stories so that the stories will be accurate. Your participation is your decision.

Souvenirs
Commissary still has a bunch of nectar kewl D/151 stuff. If you would like to order any of the stuff, send a check or money order made to our quartermaster: Terry MacDonald, 4362 W. 1050 N., Fountaintown, IN 46130. Please do not email your credit card numbers. Use the US Postal System to send check or money order. Don’t forget to include $3.00 per order for shipping and handling.
Hat $12.00  Bumper Sticker $ 3.00
Scroll Patch $ 8.00  Ring $25.00
Coin-Limit One $10.00  Golf Shirt $35.00  T-Shirt $15.00

Reunion fee: includes dinner Saturday night. $ 25.00@
Membership Dues: $12.00/ year.
Donation to the association (optional)

__________________________ I will attend the reunion. __________________________ I cannot attend the reunion.
Check payable to Co D 151 Association
Return to: Gary Bussell, 5000 W. Connie Dr., Muncie IN 47304

Please respond soon so attendance can be determined and arrangements can be made.

Photo Album Survey
There has been a lot of interest in what you have been doing since Nam. We will assemble an album with pictures of you “then & now” along with your personal history. Feel free to include any interesting stories of then & now, any greetings to old friends, etc.

We would like this information even if you are not attending the reunion. Pictures are not required to be included, but would make it more interesting.

Please attach 2 photos, one from Nam and one recent. (Send a copy of pictures, these will not be returned.) The album will be assembled and made available a few weeks after the reunion. A sample of the album will be available at the reunion if we receive your response soon enough.

Bio of military history: (Team #, Platoons assigned to, job assignments, when/where attended: Basic, AIT, jump school, Ranger school, rank at end of tour, etc.)

Bio of personal history: (wife’s name, occupation, # children & grand, hobbies, goals, etc.)

Your narrative can be printed, typed or electronic. Please make it as easy as possible for the people assembling this album.

Suggested format: Pictures, Military History, Personal History.

Stories, greetings, etc.: Best memory of Nam.
Mail to: Gary Porter, 6121 S. Cowan Rd., Muncie IN 47302.
Or, email to: 22990267@starband.net

RECONDO SCHOOL
Phil Cravens, of our D151 unit, wants to know if anyone out there knows anything about a Recondo School graduate book. Please let me know or call him at 317-888-9069. And he wants to buy a Recondo school coin. He’s getting to be a real pain.

Robert T. Smith Memorial Service - There was a graveside memorial service for Robert T. Smith on Sunday, April 13, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. in the Morristown Cemetery. The weather was absolutely fabulous for this event, and many of the guys showed up on motorcycles. Those that attended included Pappy Hayes, Phil & Sue Cravens, Chuck & Sandy Wallace, Tom & Sharon Harte, Jon Ellis, Doug Hagan, Steve Justus, Terry & Yvonnie MacDonald, Gary & Pam Porter, Michael Slabaugh, Dennis Engi, Dennis Wood, and Mike Bronnenberg. Also attending were members of the Morristown American Legion, and a high school friend of Bob’s who was also a Vietnam War Veteran, and pallbearer at Bob’s funeral. Pappy called the group into formation and thanked the Lord for taking care of those that went before, and recited the name of each departed member. A couple of the men played “Taps” on harmonicas. There was fellowship at the Morristown American Legion following the service.
The Annual 117th Reunion June 19-22. Yo! Warlords! From Al Bennett (Beachbum 718) - Reunion “will be held in Atlanta in conjunction with the VHCMCA at the Atlanta Airport Marriott, 4711 Best Road, College Park, GA. For information on this reunion, go to: http://www.vhcmca.org and click on their “Reunion” link.

Brian Zirklebach Update - From Ann & Tom Zirklebach - April 18, 2003 “Just a short note to let you know that Brian is now in Baghdad. He called last Sunday morning and said he was leaving that night. He has been stationed with a special forces HQ co. So I assume he is still with them. He said that if we didn’t hear from him for a while that we would know for sure that he was gone. April 22, 2003 - “Hello! We got a call from Brian last night. He can’t say where he is or anything about what is going on or he could lose phone privileges. He did say he had really seen a lot of sites. He sounded very tired but that he was doing okay. We were cut off after about 5-10 min.

“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.

Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.”

Twin’s Arrival - Well, after months and months, they’re finally here! On May 6, 2003, Dawn gave birth to her and Derek’s babies. Yes, babies. For those of you that are late let me catch you up. At the last reunion (2001) Robert T. Smith’s daughter, Dawn, received a surprise wedding on DZ Smith at Camp Atterbury (DZ Smith was named after her Dad & dedicated at the last reunion). She didn’t know she was getting married, so how could she know that Jon Ellis would be performing the ceremony? Anyone that missed it really missed something great.

New Unit Director
I am still waiting for somebody to step forward and take over the Unit Director position. Do you need a challenge? Do you think you can contribute something to the Ranger association? Call me.

F/51 LRP
Unit Director - Russell Dillon

No Submission

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT
Unit Director - Roger Brown

By Ranger Roger Brown

The history of the United States Army Rangers is still being written as this is being typed. Somewhere in the world, Rangers are supporting the freedom of Americans.

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Rangers welcome home. Keep your rucksack packed, this old Ranger has a feeling that this thing is going to last awhile. We all are proud of each and every one of you. After every war in history, Ranger units were deactivated, one good event after the Vietnam War, the Army made a wise decision to activate the Rangers and the present day Rangers make us all proud. We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

The Second 6 Months of Our Existence

Banner Day 1 TAC X Ft. Stewart, GA July 1974

This would be the first of many Banner Days. Unless we were on operation, we would have a Banner Day. Normally, it would be on the last or the first part of the month. The more rank that you had the more chance you had of getting killed.
August 20, 1974: The 1st Battalion was activated. While LTC Leuer was our Battalion commander, the Secretary of the Army (Bo Calloway) officially activated our Battalion.

Now it's my turn.
September 1974

The Battalion was completely up to strength and was wrapping up individual training and moved on to squad training. The month of September was primarily squad training to include live fire exercises. Of course, we also had another gruesome Banner Day that was complete with a lot of contact sports. Normally, there were at least two 2 ¼" trucks spotted for medevac.

Banner Day 2: 27 September 1974

October 1974

Training in October consisted of one week of pathfinder training and platoon training. This training culminated with platoon arteps.

November 1974

Training in November shifted gears to company size training, again culminating with company size arteps.

December 1974

By the first part of the December, the Battalion had completed individual, squad and platoon training. The Battalion as a whole moved to the field so as to conduct Battalion size operations. Before Christmas, the Battalion had passed its’ first artep with flying colors, was designated combat ready and was added to the Army’s deployment list. That was one ass-kicking year and I personally would have spent 3 tours in Vietnam in place of that one-year.

On 5 April 2003, I attended the unveiling of the historic sign, marking the site of the first mountain Ranger camp. Afterwards, the yearly critter eat out was conducted. One of the original members of the first Battalion (Steve Hawk) was the main organizer and commentator.

The first mountain Ranger training camp was established at what is now Pine Valley recreational area of North Georgia College and State University. It was here that the mountain Ranger training camp set up tents to begin another proud chapter in Ranger history. The site that most of us know (the present day site) was to be the third and last Ranger camp. In attendance of this great day in history are the following former members of the first Battalion.
A CO. Steve Bishop 1SG retired lives and works near Dahlonega, GA
A CO. John Doyle retired as a Chief Warrant Officer and spent a number of years in Special Forces. He now lives in Peachtree City, GA.
B CO. Steve Caldwell owns a business in Marietta, GA and lives in Dahlonega, GA.
B CO. Steve Hawk is now a Deputy Sheriff in Dawson County Georgia and will be running for sheriff of Lumpkin County next year. I told Steve that I would be contributing to his run for sheriff.
B CO. Matt Hodge, retired from the Army with the rank of SGM. Matt has a Masters Degree in teaching and is presently teaching school near Dahlonega, GA.

HEARD FROM

B CO. Jerry Gibson: Jerry is doing great. He retired as a captain in his local police department and is presently teaching Criminal Justice.

B CO. Mike Etheridge: Mike departed the 25th Infantry Division as the Command Sergeant Major of that division and is presently the CSM of Southern Command in Miami, FL.

RANGER HALL OF FAME

CSM Retired Bill Acebes will be inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame in August. Bill was one of the original squad leaders in 1974. He later on became the CSM of the Battalion. Afterwards, he was the CSM of the 2nd Infantry Division and then was the CSM of Ft. Benning, prior to retiring.

2/75 has been involved with combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.
As I write this, both 1/75 and 3/75 have already returned home, but 2/75 is still in country.

Hopefully by the time you read this they will all have come back. If so, I will have put the info by email update. There have been very few mentions of Rangers in the media, however a good source for information is Jane's Defense www.janes.com.
They have reported that three airfields (H1, H2, H3) were seized during the first days of the war, with elements of the 75th Ranger Regiment conducting combat airfield seizures, not like the dry hole jump of the 173rd from Italy, that received so much media attention. I have no doubt that as more information is released, we will learn the true extent and heroism of our Brother Rangers.

In some other war news, former B Co CO Joe Anderson, is now a full Colonel and is commanding the Division from the 101st Abn. that is currently in charge of the rebuilding of the Mosul area of Iraq. Col. Anderson has been featured in several news stories and has been on TV a number of times. He served as B Co’s CO during Operation Just Cause.
I will bring you further information as it comes forth, as long as OPSEC is not violated.
Check the Association web site for more information and reunion updates.

Have a great Summer,
Rich

3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT
Unit Director - Peter Squeglia

No Submission

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID
Unit Director - Michael McClintock

Question: What is the difference between Iraq and France?
Answer: At least the French had the good grace to wait a few years before starting to resent the United States for liberating them.

Wow! What a campaign! You can imagine the pride with which our old dog-faced soldiers of the 3rd ID watched our division roll-up the Republican Guard and move into Baghdad. We were equally proud of the way all of our soldiers, sailors, airmen (and airwomen?), and Marines performed. They were fantastic.

We are particularly proud of our young 75th Rangers. You didn’t hear a lot about their operations in Iraq, but we do know...
that they were intense. The severity of some of the action endured by these dauntless young men was brought home to me by a call from the father of one young Ranger who was severely wounded in an action outside the town of Tikrit. This Ranger’s father had served with the 3rd ID in Germany in the early 1960’s and was with one of the first LRRP units in Europe, a predecessor unit to the V Corps LRRP Company and the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment. His son joined the Army, went airborne and then to Ranger School. This young man served with distinction in the 75th Ranger Regiment in Afghanistan and Iraq. During his periods of deployment overseas, he and his buddies carried 3rd ID LRRP Detachment scrolls in honor of us “old Lurps.” I wish I could give you more details, including this young SSgt’s name, but that will all come in time. For now it is suffice to say that he has come home and is on convalescent leave. Maybe someday he’ll let me fill you in on the rest of the story. May God’s blessing be on him and all Rangers and their families.

In other news from our unit, our old detachment commander, COL Ed Jentz (Ret.), became a grandfather for the first time a few months ago. Congratulations Ed. I understand that Ed already has his grandson decked out in tiger-stripe diapers and jump-booties. Speaking of jumping, I really liked the airborne tab over the 3rd ID patch in the last edition of Patrolling, but, unfortunately, it is not correct as our unit was not on jump status (ok, ok, we were legs). That’s not to say that those of us who were not jump-qualified didn’t want to go to jump school. As a matter of fact, most of us volunteered for LRRP duty because we were promised the chance to go to jump school. The guys in our unit who went on to the VII Corps LRRP Company finally became parachute qualified. The rest of us just returned home as lowly legs, but secure in the knowledge that as LRRPs, we were the best the leg infantry had to offer.

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

U.S. Space & Rocket Center, Redstone Arsenal and the Von Braun Center are relevant and long established landmarks of Huntsville, Alabama, but on 2-4 May, a most diverse group—the American Ranger Advisors of Vietnam—contributed a “first” in a repertoire of historic honors for this antebellum, southern metropolis. . .holding their “Biet Dong Quan” reunion in the Huntsville Hilton.

Combat anecdotes and natural springs’ bourbon, flowed amid the comradeship from days of the past...many attending had served three or more, combat tours in South Vietnam; from the Mekong Delta to the Central Highlands, from the late ‘50’s to the ‘70’s, the experiences of these Ranger Advisors clothed the premises of this special occasion.

All, who attended the reunion, were honored guests; amazingly the 43rd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion advisory team during 1964-65, were all present: Rangers Walt Sanders, David Keefe, Richard Wandke, and Rod Wijas—more commonly referred to as the “Bandits of the Mekong”. Four Advisors at the reunion were Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) recipients, five were members of the U.S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame, and nine had served as instructors in the U.S. Army Ranger School; two others of distinction:

Brigadier General(R) John G. Zierdt Jr., 33rd BDQs, and Major General(R) Edison E. Scholes, Senior Advisor to I Corps Ranger Command (ARVN).

General Scholes was the guest speaker—an officer of deep-rooted values and a courageous troop leader. He graduated from North Georgia College, Dahlonega, Georgia on 4 June 1961, with a BS degree (cum laude) in Physics. On that same day, he was designated a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned a Lieutenant of Infantry in the Regular Army. He was trained as a Special Forces Officer in 1963, and served with the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Bad Tolz, Germany. On his first tour in Vietnam, he was the Commander of D Company, 2nd Battalion (ABN), 8th Cavalry.

In 1970, he returned to Vietnam where he served as Senior Advisor to I Corps Ranger Command (ARVN). As the Senior Advisor, he was responsible for training and assisting the Vietnamese Rangers in planning, supporting and conducting combat operations (special and conventional) throughout the I Corps tactical zone. MG Scholes served as the Assistant Division Commander of the 82nd Airborne Division from July 1988, until November 1989. He was then assigned as Chief of Staff, XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg. In this capacity he served as Chief of Staff, Joint Task Force-South for Operation “Just Cause” in Panama...he led the
initial XVIII Airborne Corps elements into Panama for the Operation. On 8 August 1990, General Scholes led the first plane load of combat troops into Saudi Arabia, to begin Operation Desert Shield. Major General Scholes assumed the position of Deputy Commanding General, Allied Land Forces Southeastern Europe (NATO) and Commanding General, U.S. Army Element, Turkey in October 1993. He retired from active service on 29 February 1996.

EVENTS, WARNING ORDERS AND SITREPS
Memorial Dedicated: Ceremonies were conducted on 27 April 03, in Westminster, California, at the dedication of a memorial (a statue of American and South Vietnamese soldiers) honoring the service of both nations in the Vietnam War; many of the Vietnamese Rangers—Biet Dong Quan—attended the event.

BDQ Beret Badge Lapel pin: Item is of a high quality, made in 14 karat white and yellow gold. For orders use this e-mail: www.sandane.homestead.com/homepage.htm

Biet Dong Quan Reunion: The Vietnamese Rangers will hold their annual reunion in San Jose, on 4 July 03; Co Vans (Advisors) are invited.

Ranger Hall of Fame: BDQ Andy Markivich, was selected for induction into the U.S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame. Andy served with the 52nd Ranger Battalion; he also served with the Vietnamese Airborne Division. He was an original member of the V Corps Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Company (3779).

Distinguished Member of the Regiment: BDQ George L. Horvath, was selected as a Distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment. George was an Advisor to the 21st Vietnamese Ranger Battalion. In 1974, he was hand-picked to be the first platoon sergeant of 1st Platoon, B Company, 1st Ranger Battalion when the unit was formed. Horvath retired as the Command Sergeant Major of the United States Army Europe and 7th Army, with 32 years of military service.

Huntsville Reunion: Our berets are “off” as we salute all of you who attended the reunion, and those of you who called or sent cards with favorable comments—Thank You!

The bamboo creaks and speaks in crackle tones, Nourished by the winds of Ancestral kin . . . .
Does it mourn loss, or sing praise of our country from within.

...MIKE MARTIN

“And yet we know that deep within We’re winsome, bright and fair Just as we were when we were young and life was ours to dare.”

...Charlotte Pease

“SHOOT LOW - I’ll see you on the High Ground.”

Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director
Ranger Advisors gather for a photograph on Sunday morning, 4 May 2003, in Big Springs Park, Huntsville, AL.

The Fallen Ranger Table — Ranger Advisors paid homage to the Vietnamese Rangers and Advisors who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Distinguished Special Operations Warrior, MG (Ret) Edison E. Scholes, former Senior Advisor I Corps Ranger Group, addresses the Ranger Advisors and guests attending the BDQ reunion banquet on 3 May 2003.

Co Van My
Biet Dong Quan
HONOR TO WHO HONOR IS DUE
THE SOLDIERS OF THE IRAQI WAR

The Iraqi war, like no other war, has allowed the world to see its ugliness first hand. This ugliness was enhanced by front line reporting that enabled all having access to uncensored television, to see what the brave men and women were seeing as they took the fight to the enemy. The ability to watch much of it as it was happening, hopefully did not cloud our understanding of the reality of real war, with that of fictional war. Many veterans of past wars can relate to the sights and sounds our men and women saw as they clashed with the enemy. Technology has allowed the world to see the true results of war, "Death and Destruction".

War is not the best way to resolve differences but at times it is necessary. In the days before Jesus was to go to the cross, he asked his disciples, when I sent you on missions, did you lack anything? Nothing was the reply. But now he instructs them to add to their daily needs a sword. They replied, we have two. Jesus acknowledges it is enough. His reply that two would be enough, I believe implies our first approach in settling our differences is not the threat of war, but rather we are to negotiate to the point of exhaustion. The foundation of which should be "LOVE" for our fellow man. If he had said no, two is not enough and had insisted they all have one, I believe would have implied that force first and talk later. The Word of God says we are to pray for our enemies. This shows force is not the first action. If it was then where is the love for all mankind Jesus exemplified and taught?

Further more, Jesus knew the disciples would not have all the favor they experienced while he was with them. Many of those that had followed and supported Jesus and the disciples, would now do just the opposite, once he was gone. They would have a few supporters but the fear of the Roman Government would silence many, thus they would have to go it alone. Much like the situation that developed concerning the Iraqi war.

No war has been fought without casualties. You always have those that are physically or psychologically wounded while engaged with the enemy, still others were mortally wounded. We search for words to express our feeling, for actions to compensate for the lost to our country and lost of the families, friends, and neighbors who are the hardest hit. However we can honor them by never allowing them to be forgotten; by teaching our kids, and grandkids their responsibility in remembering the fallen of this country and our allied brother/sisters that suffered the same fate. Honor is also rendered by insuring that the widows and orphans are supported for as long as it takes. These heroes have also brought honor to the Word of God that said, no greater Love has a man/woman than to give his/her life for a friend. This being true, then how much more love when dying for the freedom of the Iraqi people? Certainly our soldiers did not know them, they were strangers. The answer would have to be "TOTALLY UNCONDITIONAL LOVE".

The people of United States, Great Britain, and all Freedom Loving People of the world can be "PROUD" and give "THANKS" to all the brave men and women engaged in the war. They exemplified co-ordination, co-operation, cohesiveness, courage, professionalism and determination while at the same time they showed compassion for the Iraqi people, even to the Iraqi soldiers being taken captive. This compassion though necessary, puts the soldier at more risk, especially in a nation that feels that blowing one's self up is an honor.

The concerted effort of America and Britain, and other Coalition members contributed to the successful accomplishments of the mission by all members working together. Therefore we recognize all the men and women of the "ARMED FORCES" that fought this war in a way that showed the world, "That When Good Men and Women Do Nothing," evil will prevail. Hopefully all freedom loving people every where will join the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, as we "SALUTE" each of you for a job well done! Hooah!
We also give a hardy "THANK YOU" to the mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, wives and children. We wish to extend our condolences with much gratitude for the contribution of your loved ones. They have once again underlined the unselfish act of giving, giving of their very life that others may enjoy and pursue happiness he/she would have wanted. This motivation to face the enemy of freedom only re-enforces the slogan, "HOME OF THE BRAVE AND LAND OF THE FREE".

Last but certainly not least, we "THANK" the American people and those of the other countries for the true support shown our soldiers and their immediate families.

Lord of heaven and earth we thank you for sending us men and women destined by you to be peace keepers and defenders of those who can not defend themselves. We take comfort in the fact that your angels were there to carry them swiftly to their home in Heaven. Your Word says to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. In this we take solace. Our prayer now is that you help and comfort the love ones that must continue the journey without sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, husbands, fathers, and friends. We ask it in Jesus Name. Amen!

Tribute by Bob Smyers, Chaplain 75th Ranger Regiment Association
Former team leader and platoon sergeant Vietnam 67-68.

Special Operations Forces Memorial Update, May 2003

We have continued to memorialize our fallen comrades on the Special Operations memorial.

In March we added Don Haase who served with the 19th Assault Helicopter Company supporting MACVSOG in the Republic of Vietnam; Sergeant John Baker who served with Strike Command during 1967-68, and Sergeant Orlando Morales (posthumously promoted to Staff Sergeant) serving with the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) when he was killed in action in Afghanistan.

In April we added Larry Little, another former member of the 195th Assault helicopter Company, and three former Rangers assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment – Staff Sergeant Nino D. Livaudais, Specialist Ryan P. Long, and Captain Russell B. Rippetoe. Next we added four Night Stalkers from the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, who died from wounds following a helicopter crash in Afghanistan: Staff Sergeant Gregory M. Frampton, CW3

Thomas J. Gibbons, Staff Sergeant Daniel L. Kisling, and CW3 Mark S. O'Steen. Also in April we added Staff Sergeant Jacob L. Frazier, USAFR who was killed in Afghanistan; Staff Sergeant Scott D. Sather, Air Force Special Operations killed in Iraq; and Master Sergeant George Fernandez, who was also killed in action in Iraq.

During May we have added Johnny ‘Mike’ Span, CIA, who was the first casualty in Afghanistan while supporting the Special Forces Operational Base. Also this month we added Staff Sergeant Melvin J. Wright who was killed in training during a parachute free-fall demonstration by the 46th Special Forces Company (Airborne) in Thailand in 1974; and finally we added Lieutenant Colonel Jim Savage, former NCO with Company I (Ranger), 75th Infantry (Airborne) in the Republic of Vietnam. Jim is alive and well in Massachusetts.

Geoff Barker

WE NOW HAVE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION COINS IN SOLID SILVER.

Price of the above coins are $20.00 each. They are solid silver. To engrave a name & member number add $2.00 & add $5.00 for shipping. Total cost delivered is $27.00. (shipping is $5.00 per order) If you order more than one coin, add only $5.00 for the order.

We can now accept VISA or MASTER CARD.

To Order:
Call or e-mail John Chester
Phone: 410-426-1391
Fax: 410-426-0243
e-mail: macchester@erols.com

We also have some left over reunion Tee shirts in Sizes X-Large, and some black hats with the 75th Scroll.

Tee shirts are $12.50 and hats are $10.00, or $5.00 with a Tee shirt or coin. Shipping is $8.50. Call for orders of multiple items. Order as above.
Book Review
Fake Warriors
By: Henry Mark Holzer and Erica Holzer
Xlibris Corporation, Copyright by authors, 2003

All of us have had some experience with the Fake Warrior or Wannabe phenomena. Now there is a book that deals with the subject. Fake Warriors is a welldocumented and well-written treatise on the subject. Both of the authors are attorneys and bring the ability to clearly demonstrate their points and to make cogent arguments to the work.

The book is divided into six main topic areas. We are taken from the revealing or identifying phase, through a discussion of the harmful consequences of Fake Warrior conduct to a discussion of the techniques used by some of the imposters and the methods used to construct and embellish their false identities. I was amazed at the lengths some of these people will go to in order to create their false personas, and the items (uniforms, medals, etc.) that they get their hands on for purposes of making their claims credible.

We are next led through the process of identifying and exposing these fakers. There is a brief discussion of the “why” of fake warrior conduct, (I really don’t care), and the punishment of these individuals and the conclusion. There is a very detailed synopsis of the Federal Statutes that are violated in the course of an individual making false claims of Military Service or wearing uniform items or medals that were not awarded to him or her. That’s right, her. There are apparently some women who have

followed the wannabe’s trail. I suppose that it was inevitable.

The author’s legal experience gives them the ability to discuss in great detail just what legal steps are necessary in order to prosecute someone under one of the Federal Statutes. They also point out that such prosecution rarely occurs. Most of the time the prosecuting attorney, (Federal or State) will decline to bring charges for a variety of reasons, which are discussed.

One of the events alluded to was the attempt of Rudy Meija to jump from a second floor window of an American Legion Hall when confronted by Rangers Brian Duff & Steve Lovette about his false claims of service in the Regiment and in Panama and Somalia. (See page 81 of the March, 2003 issue.)

This is a book worth having if you are at all interested in staying on top of the fake warrior syndrome. The book can only be ordered from Xlibris Corporation by calling 1-888-795-4274 or online at www.Xlibris.com.

Book Review
Nine Of The Ninth

Nine Of The Ninth is a must read especially for anyone who served in the Mekong Delta in 111 and 1V Corps. The three stories have elements of both humor, tragedy and heroism. RANGER/LRP/LRRP UNIT MEMBERS know how we fought for each other when no one else seemed to care. We formed a

Brotherhood under extreme conditions and this Brotherhood lives on and binds us together still, through our shared experiences and the indomitable WARRIOR SPIRIT that continues to exist in all of us today and beyond. To gain an understanding and unique insight, of some of those who experienced the Vietnam War under the most trying and perilous combat conditions, I would encourage you to read this book from cover to cover several times. Once you have opened this book you will not be able to set it down until the last page is read Hooah!!!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

Ranger Robert S. Copeland
Unit Director
E 75TH RANGER/E 50 LRP/9TH DIV LRRP
The 2004 membership year runs from 1 July 2003 through 30 June 2004. You may pay your dues at time during the year but after 30 June they will be late. Check the address label on this issue of “Patrolling”, above your name will be your membership number and the membership year. If it says 2003 then get to your checkbook and send in $25 for the 2004 dues. Save the association a stamp for the reminder and send them in early! If you have any questions about your membership contact the association secretary, contact information is listed at the front of the magazine.

The following members have joined, rejoined, or became Life Members since our last issue:

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To the
75th Ranger Regiment Association
With Regards and Best Wishes

Special Operations Memorial Foundation

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Card ads are still available. This is a great deal at $100.00 for FOUR issues. Let the Ranger community know what you do and what you can supply. Most of us would prefer to deal with one of our own if we had the opportunity. Give it a chance, it helps the Association bring you a quality product at a reasonable price. Thanks to everyone that has signed up.

The Now and Zen LRRP

Stained glass, mosaics, tables. Custom made and custom design.
410-426-1391  ÌÛJohn Chester

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FREE CATALOG WRITE:

Card ads are still available. This is a great deal at $100.00 for FOUR issues. Let the Ranger community know what you do and what you can supply. Most of us would prefer to deal with one of our own if we had the opportunity. Give it a chance, it helps the Association bring you a quality product at a reasonable price. Thanks to everyone that has signed up.
By: John Chester
I got in touch with Fred Fones last year after a 30+year separation. Fred went with me to extract a team in contact & I damn near got him killed, but at the same time I shot a dink off his back, so it's kinda a love/hate thing. He very generously allowed me to borrow his scrapbook. Here are a few items from it. The hemorrhoid tower.

Filler2-0603
I recently also got in touch with Brian Radcliffe. This is a photo of me (glasses) and Brian. The shorts were pink silk, (mine).

Safe contact pass dropped west of Kontum in the Central Highlands. Come to think of it, I never saw a live NVA with one of those things.
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<td>FROM (DATE)</td>
<td>TO (DATE)</td>
<td>UNIT (Company or Battalion)</td>
<td>NAMES OR ORDERS</td>
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<td>NAMES OR ORDERS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REMARKS: ____________________________________________________________

VISA or MASTERCARD # ____________________________ EXP. DATE: ________________

CHECK ONE: NEW APPLICATION ___________ RENEWAL ___________ SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER ___________

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

The Ranger Quartermaster: Quality Ranger Gear

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Polo Shirts, indicate size &amp; quantity, add $2.00 for 2XL:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Tab: 1/25</td>
<td>2/75</td>
<td>3/75</td>
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<tr>
<td>W/Tab: 1/25</td>
<td>2/75</td>
<td>3/75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75th Assn Polo Shirt, Black</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75th Assn Polo Shirt, Sand</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranger Advisor Polo, Maroon</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75th Ranger RGMT Assn Coin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Be A US Army Ranger</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black and Gold Commando Knife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sykes Fairbairn Commando Knife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legend Continues Coffee Mug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned Not Issued Coffee Mug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killer Man Son 75th RGMT Tee</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: ____________________________

*Surcharge: ____________________________

Total: ____________________________

*Shipping Charges: ____________________________

1st Item = $5, Each Additional = $1.00

*Hawaii & Alaska shipping = $15

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City/ST/Zip: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________

Send to:
Milspec Group, Inc.
1845 Prater Way
Suite I
Sparks, NV 89431
(775) 284-4327 - Phone
(775) 284-0175 - Fax
Circle Payment Method:
Check Visa Mastercard
Card Number: ____________________________
EXP: ____________________________
Signature: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________
Black and Gold Commando Knife
Commando Style Knife with Stainless Steel Blade and Brass and Black Fibre Handle. Complete with black leather belt sheath, as shown. Manufactured by Sheffield, original producer of the Sykes Fairbairn Commando Knife.

75th Association. Coin

Ranger Advisor (BDQ) Polo
Maroon Polo Shirt with the Vietnamese Ranger Breast Badge in sharp detail on the left chest.

Full Back
Sykes-Fairbairn Commando Knife
Made by the original manufacturer and to the same specs as the knife carried by Darby's men. Blade = 7", Overall Length = 11.5"

Killer Man's Son T-Shirt
Revised Artwork from the early 1980's Ruben Dominguez original art.

To Be a US Army Ranger
Author/Photographer Russ Bryant, veteran of 1/75 Ranger and Ranger School graduate, has expertly captured the difficult and challenging process of becoming a Ranger. Bryant chronicles the day to day process, from OSUT, Airborne School, RIP and Ranger School endured by those bold enough to become Rangers. 160 pages w/150 color and 50 B&W photographs.

Complete the order mail form on the facing page, or visit the website @ www.75thrangers.com
This picture was probably taken in late December 1967 and shows a team from 101st ABN. F-58 LRP shortly after arriving in country. L-R: Joe Gregory, Franklin Lee, John Renear, team leader Roger “Hog” Brown with cigar, Richard “Doc” Clark and Chris “Turtle” Christenson assistant team leader.
Photo courtesy Randy White