

PATROLLING

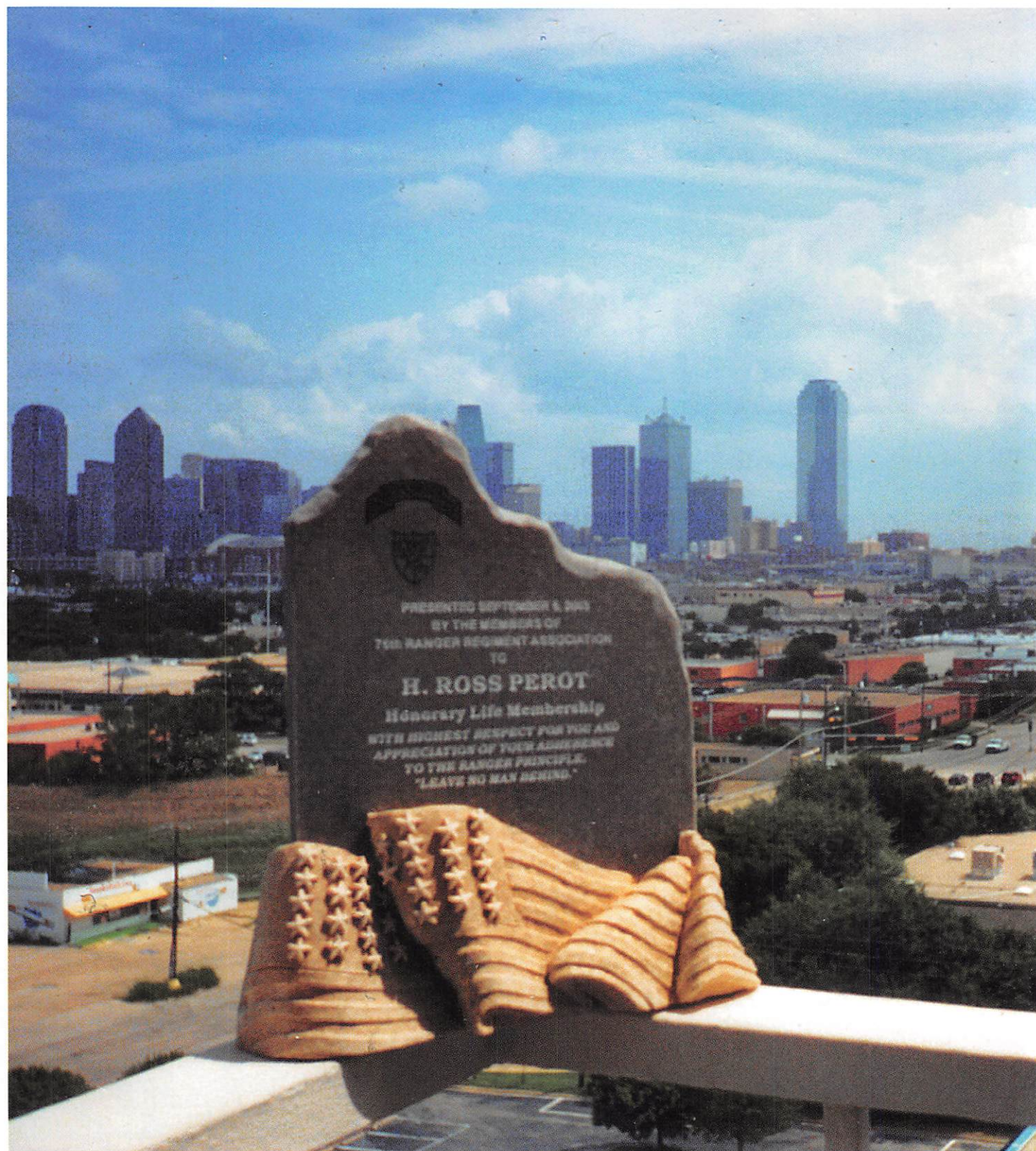
FALL 2003 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 18 ISSUE II



RANGER RENDEZVOUS, 2003

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CHINA - BURMA - INDIA VIETNAM IRAN GRENADA PANAMA IRAQ SOMALIA AFGHANISTAN



Here's a close up of Ross Perot's plaque, with downtown Dallas in the background. The plaque reads; "Presented September 5, 2003 by the members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association to H. Ross Perot Honorary Life Membership with highest respect for you and appreciation for your adherence to the Ranger principle, "Leave no Man Behind".

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Manuscripts, photographs and drawings are submitted at the risk of the individual submitting the material. Captions must be submitted with any photographs or graphics. The Officers and the Editor reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and space constraints. Every precaution will be taken to preserve the intent and scope of the author. The Officers and Editor reserve the right to refuse any submission, that is in bad taste, offensive or that discredits unnecessarily any individual or group.

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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: The changes made to the web site are too numerous to list here. Please read the section set aside for the Web Site. I'm to a point where I need help on the web site. If any of you members know how to construct a web site or work on it, please contact me at ranger2c@mchsi.com or call me at (706) 323-5426. I need help in the area of photograph processing, meta tag key word and description writing and gathering data in preparation to post it to the web site. There are a few who are helping me now but there is so much more to do. Take a look at you unit's portion of the web site. If your unit's portion is missing the "Unit Directors Message", contact your Unit Director to have him post one. If your unit KIA's are missing data or data is wrong, contact your Unit Director. I've heard nothing from all but C/75, F/75, G/75 I/75 and P/75. If your "Unit History" is not accurate or missing all together, contact your Unit Director. If there are no pictures in your unit "Photo Album", contact your Unit Director. I've gotten a few pictures from even fewer units. Gentlemen, this Association is a fraternal organization made up of volunteers. All of us are volunteers. If the one who volunteers is not doing all he can, he becomes a liability for all of us. This is your Association, step up and contribute to the good of the team. The same goes with this *Patrolling* Magazine. Too many people enjoy it so much but it is put together by so few. All of you should be willing to supply data to it. We were all volunteers once, what happened? We need to recapture the spirit that once propelled us the forefront and make this Association, web site and magazine the best in the military community

Emmett

Patrolling Magazine: This is the first issue with the modern Ranger Battalions being first in the unit report pages. We felt that this order of unit reports better reflected the chronological order of what was happening, (Present happenings reported first). It is not intended to be a slight to anyone, in fact the entire Board of Directors, including one of the three Battalion Directors, are Vietnam or pre-Vietnam vets. There were very few who were not in favor of the change.

Sid Smith has agreed to assist in selling advertising and sponsorship for the magazine. He brings a great deal of promotional experience to the job and will be a great asset to the publication.

I hate to harp on something, but I received several submissions with photos imbedded in the text. **I cannot open these photos.** Please send the photos as separate files, or they will not be in the magazine.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dana McGrath

Rangers,

In the past weeks, I've had the opportunity to visit Ft. Benning a couple times and enjoyed every minute of my time there (did I say "Thanks" for this "job"? You tasked me with hanging out with my personal Heroes more than I otherwise would have had the chance!).

The Dedication / Memorial Services in June were heart-wrenching in all directions, sad as one gets for those who gave it all, proud as one can be of those who walked the walk of the last few months, and both for those who "earned" the Purple Heart for their Service.

They each have my (our) undying Respect and Gratitude for their commitments to the freedom of people they don't even know, but are willing to risk their own lives to gain something the "newly-freed" don't even yet understand. The French don't understand it after all these years and we've freed them more than once - don't mean nuthin', Rangers - keep up the good work.

The Ranger Regimental Change of Command / Rendezvous in August was eye-opening for this old Ranger - I saw the first Mass Tactical Jump I'd ever seen, coupled with some EXCELLENT Boxing and Ranger-level games, had some Ranger-time with the Rangers who just came in from their most-recent world tour (and couldn't tell me any stories - don't you just HATE that?). You Battalion Rangers are still NUTS as Rangers have been for all time, and one day you're going to have to tell us a story (when you are allowed to so do, of course!).

Our media and actors here in the U.S. are helping the newly-freed understand how badly we're treating them, so we won't be listening to them, either. No movies for me, Thanks - I'd rather watch a Communist Training Film (re: Platoon, CNN "News", Time Mag, etc.) for free, because I at least know whose side they're on and won't be paying at the theatre for them to defeat us on the

battlefield from home. The United States has freed FOUR Countries in the last 20 years and THAT no one will ever be able to take from today's Soldier. This Ranger is on a Hollywood boycott and it might just last a lifetime.

RANGER HALL OF FAME: Now Is The Time For All Good Men To Come To The Aid Of Their Brethren (sorry, a lapse to my Clerical days there). It's the right time to get your RHOF Packets together - believe it or not, the time is running fast, and the window will close before you get it done if you don't start NOW. The recent RHOF Inductees were a vivid example of Service and Combat Mentors whose lives and actions are icons to us all, especially that Ranger Trainee who needs a light for the path he's trudging along as I type this article - remember - all he ever wanted to be was YOU. Congratulations to those inducted - I was honored to have met many of them and they're all they seem to be, I assure you. THANKS to Emmett Hiltibrand for Chairing the 75th RRA Ranger Hall Of Fame Selection Committee - if you think that's easy, just say so and we'll give you a turn in the barrel. I'll be doing that job for the near term (unless somebody tells me how easy it is), and will be putting together a Committee of the same type soon (don't answer your phone).

RANGER REUNION: This thing is coming together - SEATTLE/TACOMA/FT. LEWIS - HOME OF THE SECOND BATTALION, SUMMER, 2004. Dates as of today (subject to immediate change if we get dates for the Change Of Command there) are 7/31/04 to 8/4/04. LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE DEFINITELY ATTENDING - we're trying hard to project needs of space, booze and Ranger games at Ft. Lewis - NOW'S THE TIME if you know you're going. We're working on a Hotel in the AO and will update through the Website & the Unit Directors as things come together. THANKS to the folks working on this project (Buck, Hank & Rich and many others) - it hasn't been easy and won't be, but that's the Ranger world and

we'll do an outstanding job of it, as usual.

I attended the K/75th Ranger Reunion (the best-looking Rangers ever, you know) in Fayetteville, North Carolina right after the Rendezvous at Benning. You have to go from the Active-Duty Ranger world to the RVN-days Ranger Reunion to recognize that Rangers haven't changed a bit in all the years such Men have served. (Tom Herring and Ben Defoe of WWII Rangers can still kick some serious butt, by the way.) Our First Sergeant, Don Keller (CSM Retired, but always the First Sergeant to us) got us a special visit to the Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, where the first LRP/LRRP/Ranger display was newly placed - a real fine job in the making and well worth the visit if you are in the AO. A couple of us offered the use of their Berets and/or K/75th Aussie hats, Drive-on Rags, etc., but Don said they were "too grungy" for the display - imagine THAT? The "Officers and Men of K/75th Rangers" (why do they say that - if not "Men", what are they exactly?) presented a gorgeous plaque in commemoration of First Sergeant Keller's fine service in the early days of Rangers in Vietnam. He's got a wall FULL of such mementos and deserves each and every one of them. Thanks, First Sergeant, from Rangers everywhere - we know who "Lead" us and we won't forget soon. I don't know of a better way to spend a few days of vacation than with the folks we used to know so well - felt like no time had passed since we were bickering and picking on each other as Young Rangers, although the beer consumption dropped significantly since the 60s and 70s. It's still awesome, but not the same - the liver can only stand so much, even over decades. DON'T MISS YOUR COMPANY REUNION or the 75th RRA Reunions - I've never regretted the money or the time, and I've attended several after 27 years of no-Ranger contact after DEROS/ETS. My Wife now knows I'm not the only nut in the world.

FAMILY FUND: Already this year, this Fund is receiving donations from

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Rangers, both Active and Former, and folks who just believe in the Ranger world and its Families. Please begin thinking about what you can afford to donate so the Christmas Season can be brighter for the Active-Duty Ranger Families, and we can help in other ways throughout the year. We've helped in areas where no other help was available and will do so as long as YOU make it possible to do it through your donations. Most of us can remember when no such support was available, so we sure know why it's important now. Imagine your Ranger wounded, in a hospital distant from your home and you haven't enough money to afford to stay near his bedside - THAT's the kind of thing we helped with recently with YOUR donations. Many of us lived in the "Xin Loi, so sorry, tough to be you" days of Service, and it's now up to us to make sure it doesn't return. You've done it RANGER LEVEL and I'm sure we'll continue to be able to assist today's serving Ranger and his Family when called upon. A personal Thanks from me for letting me walk point in this project - I ain't worthy, but WE are.

UNIT DIRECTORS: Let's help these beleaguered Rangers get the job done at the Unit level. Call yours and volunteer to do something to offload the ruck of the guy who "volunteered" to do this job. Emmett's working with the UD's to list every KIA Ranger we can find, and the effort is well-displayed on the Website already for Units who have gotten the data to Emmett. Other projects (Company Reunions during 75th RRA Reunion?) are being worked on as possible, but there's only ONE Unit Director for each Unit, and that's why things take so long.

GUESTBOOK: Read the www.75thRRA.com guestbook often and you'll find interesting posts from former Rangers you know, and rather demeaning posts at times about other things (me, for instance). We try to keep it "clean" of those things no guestbook was ever meant to include, but it's there and good reading (especially the things about ME - a lowly Clerk-turned-Field-Dude) for all. Use "CTRL F", which will open a "find"

box - enter your name (or mine) and hit "Find" - it'll scan the whole page for what you're looking for - quick & easy. The folks who post there often mention who they're trying to find, but often get no answer because so many don't visit the Guestbook. Try it - you'll like it (probably get sued for using that phrase, now).

Keep Driving On and stay in range of commo - use a Radio Relay where necessary, but don't lose commo with YOUR Association and Unit Director. I'll see you in it again in the Summer of 2004 if not before.

Dana McGrath

An interesting email I recently received:

"We obviously don't pay enough tax. Not one of these taxes existed 100 years ago and our nation was the most prosperous in the world, had absolutely no national debt, had the largest middle class in the world and Mom stayed home to raise the kids.

Accounts Receivable Tax / Building Permit Tax / Camping Fees (Tax) / Capital Gains Tax / CDL license Tax / Cell Phone Tax / Cigarette Tax / Corporate Income Tax / Court Fines (indirect taxes) / Dog License Tax / Drivers license (indirect tax) / Electrical Repairs Tax / Federal Income Tax / Federal Unemployment Tax (FUTA) / Firearm License to Carry (indirect tax) \$10. in Alabama / Fishing License Tax /

Food License Tax / Fuel permit tax / Gasoline Tax (42 cents per gallon...Even more?) / Gambling Tax / Garbage Fees (Tax) / Hotel Tax / Hunting License Tax / Inheritance Tax / Intangibles Tax (Savings Account Tax) / Interest Expense (tax on the money) / Inventory Tax / IRS Interest Charges (tax on top of tax) / IRS Penalties (tax on top of tax) / Liquor Tax / Local Income Tax / Luxury Taxes / Marriage License Tax / Medicare Tax / Motor Oil Tax (proposed in Alabama) / Plumbing Repairs Tax / Property Tax / Real Estate Tax / Septic Permit Tax / Service charge taxes / Social Security Tax / Road usage taxes (Truckers) / Sales Taxes (ex. Nails Tax, Tacks Tax) / Recreational Vehicle Tax / Road Toll Booth Taxes / School Tax / Sewage Tax / State Income Tax / State Unemployment Tax (SUTA) / Telephone federal excise tax / Telephone federal universal service fee tax / Telephone federal, state and local surcharge taxes / Telephone minimum usage surcharge tax / Telephone recurring and non-recurring charges tax / Telephone state and local tax / Telephone usage charge tax / Toll Bridge Taxes / Toll Tunnel Taxes / Traffic Fines (indirect taxation) / Trailer registration tax / Utility Taxes / Vehicle License Registration Tax / Vehicle License Plates (indirect tax) / Vehicle Sales Tax / Water Tax / Watercraft registration Tax / Well Permit Tax / Workers Compensation Tax"

Makes a person wonder how we became such a great Nation without protecting the World, doesn't it?

K CO Reunion Attendees



VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Wayne Mitsch

HOW STRONG IS THE BOND?

In my previous writing I talked about the bond that we formed in "the war". I have told many of my friends about my experience as to how strong I think this bond is. And a lot of you K/75 guys have already heard this story but I think it is worth telling again. I hope sharing this with you will give you the courage to seek out and find those that you still have this bond with.

I had been found and contacted the previous year by Bill Bullen and encouraged to join the Association. I did join and was watching the date of my first reunion rapidly approaching. Up to this time, I had not been in contact with ANY of my team members and close friends from the "war". I came back from Vietnam and had no further contact with anyone until Bill contacted me. And I believe that was limited to one letter and one phone call up to that point. I wasn't sure whether I wanted to reopen that portion of my life.

I took a lot of Super 8 movies in Vietnam (state of the art for the time, I might add - no video camera invented yet). I would drag them out occasionally over the years and set up the projector and screen. One night while watching my movies with my wife Fran and trying to decide whether or not to go to the reunion, a close up of my best buddy showed up on the screen. Rick Noble was not only my best buddy, he was my team leader, we spent so many nights in the bush together, he taught me a lot about jungle life and survival, and gave me his CAR-15 when he left country. But other than sending him a couple of letters right after he left Vietnam and I took over the team, I had no further contact with him.

So, I live in Georgia, he lives in California and **we had no contact** from when I last saw him in AnKhe in 1970. **Twenty or so years later**, while a close up of his face was on the movie screen, I said to Fran: "If I knew that Rick was going to be there, I'd go." **The phone rang**. I had to pause the projector while Fran answered the phone. It was for me and the voice at the other end was unmistakable. **It was Rick**. He called to ask me if I was going to the reunion! He said he had been out jogging and I came into his mind and he had to stop and call me. Do you call it coincidence? Or just how strong is the bond? **You be the judge.....** Sure, he had gotten my telephone number from the Association previously and was planning on calling me but to make that call at that instant? Of course, we both went to the reunion and the 20 years of no contact immediately disappeared as quickly as if it never existed.

Take the time to try to find your buddies you have had a bond with - because the bond is still there. Take the time to make that telephone call - it could change your life. Plan on coming to the next reunion - you never know who might be there.

I wrote this article a couple of months ago for a future publication. However, last weekend I attended a reunion of the 4th Infantry Division LRRPs in Fayetteville, N.C. (Ft. Bragg). There were FNGs there who hadn't seen their buddies in 30 or so years. It is always overwhelming and fulfilling watching the bond and the renewal of old times. If you don't believe me that the bond is still there, just ask the new guys!

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By Ron Edwards

The 101st LRRP / RANGER Association (my own unit) had their annual reunion in Laughlin, Nevada this year. I rode in a plane out to Las Vegas, though I just don't like to fly anymore, (it isn't any of the terrorist crap, I just find it harder & harder to sit still in a confined space and have my time completely controlled by someone with a different agenda). The booking agent (my wife) thought I said the reunion was in Las Vegas so she only booked a flight to there. By the time I noticed, it was too late to change so I flew to Vegas and took a Rental Car down to Laughlin. I have worn glasses or contacts since I was in the eighth grade (1961) but could see well enough to have been a member of the US Army Rifle Team (for a short time). I must admit though that lately I seem to have a lot more trouble seeing anything at night. I landed in

Vegas at 2300 hrs, got my rental car and tried to find all the different controls as I tried to find my way out of Vegas. Driving in a strange city, in a strange car, and not able to read the signs until just before I passed them made it a memorable, though not pleasant trip. I made a circuit or two around Vegas but finally got on the right road and fell in behind a truck going in the right direction. The truck might not have been going as fast as I could have but I figured he probably could see a hell of a lot better so I followed his tail lights for most of the way. The 101st held the reunion in Nevada to try to get more of the west coast guys involved but aside from a couple of exceptions most of those that came were from east of the Mississippi River. Makes me wonder about the 2004 reunion at Fort Lewis and if the west

coast guys will show up in good numbers.

This past Memorial Day Sunday I presented a Gold Star plaque for Jackie Leisure, a KIA from the 1st Infantry Divisions F/52 LRP, to his sister Patsy Beauchamp who received it for their mother who did not feel up to the emotional strain of receiving it in person. I will let some of Patsy's emails tell the story for me:

(5/26/03) I can't tell you what your visit meant to us. After you left, Christy, our daughter, said "Man I hate to see him leave, I could sit and talk to him all day long", and of course the rest all agreed.

The fact that you drove all the way down here just to present the certificate in person was overwhelming. I know you

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

said it's part of the job, but that wasn't what I saw in your face and heard in your voice and felt when met. I'm not the only one that feels that way either; although, I felt like I was greeting an old and dear friend upon your arrival, and as it goes, it was like bidding farewell and a safe trip to a member of our family, that we were saddened to see leave. I felt that kindred spirit when we said our good byes. The comfort of a quick embrace from a caring "family" member done this ole girl a world of good. (I thought Woody was gonna hug you there for a minute.) He's that kind of caring person, I did see the tear in his eyes when he shook your hand goodbye. Did you hear what Christy said to you just before you left? She shook your hand and said "I want to thank you for all you've done for our family AND for what you have done for our country".

You'll never know how much it means to us now...especially me. I'm sooooo very glad that you didn't let me talk you into mailing it to me.

(6/4/03)

Hey Dave and Ron,

Mother said she was ready to see the plaque, so today I took it to her. She agreed to let me take her picture with it. Thought maybe you would like to see it. She was very pleased with the way it looked. She wanted to see it, but she wanted me to bring it back home with me. I offered her the shirt (that was so generously given to us) and the pins. She wanted me to have them at my house. I told her I was planning on putting the shirt and pin and ink pen in a shadowbox; then hang them together, with the American flag (incased) between them plus a picture of Jackie. She thought that was a great idea, so that's the plan.

To end on a sad note, Patsy has notified me that her mother died on August 16, 2003.

I was able to spend only a short time at the Ranger Rendezvous but did attend the Distinguished and Honorary Members of the Regiment ceremony and the Regiment BBQ at Lawson Field. Ross Perot was there and was awarded "Honorary Member of the Regiment" for his support of Special Ops in the past and his current support of Ranger Feldbusch

who lost his vision in the carbomb attack that killed several other Rangers. The moderator laid it out pretty straight that Ross' personal plane had been at the call of the Feldbusch family, that Ross had paid for modifications to the family home to make it easier for Ranger Feldbusch to live as normally as possible. That he had covered the families travel costs and will continue to help the family and cover any medical expenses to assure Ranger Feldbusch receives the best care available.

We did not have advance notification of the honor for Ross and it is quite possible the Ross requested that it not be publicized. There were the normal family and Rangers taking pictures but I do not recall seeing any except local newshounds there. Ross came in with the line of the 2003 Distinguished and Honorary Members of the Regiment, about 18 as I recall, and patiently waited his turn (third from last). He first had Range Feldbusch stand up to acknowledge who it was all about and then gave a short speech about some of the great special ops men he had known. Ross received a standing ovation after the moderator read his honors and Ranger Feldbusch received one when Ross introduced him. They were the only standing ovations during the ceremony.

There had been some discussion of awarding Ranger Feldbusch Life Membership in the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Although Ranger Feldbusch would certainly deserve it, so would many others who were wounded and permanently disabled from Vietnam through the present. And we do have many members who receive 100% disability. A better answer (I believe) was found when Roy Bissy, Bob Murphy and the members from A/75 said they would make the payment for Ranger Feldbusch's life membership.

This ain't no shit now...continues;

It seems like any Ladder Extraction always has a story to it, they just never seemed to happen without another "Learning Experience". This one was after I had been in the company long enough to move up to Assistant Team Leader. The mission was mostly uneventful, we followed a trail and

reported several signal markers we saw. We did have a problem with one guy who had received some letters about his wife running around on him. His mind was just not on what was going on in Vietnam. He was making too much noise and other things like that. He had been out with us before and did OK so we noticed the difference. When we did finally get back to base the team leader agreed with me that it would be better to go out a man short next mission than have him in his present condition. The interesting thing about this mission was it's ending. On the last day we went to a likely PZ we had seen. The only problem was one old scraggly tree about 20 feet high. Without that one scraggly tree there would be room for the helicopter to land and pick us up. The plan was to use a claymore mine to blow the tree down just before the helicopter came in on final approach to pick us up. That way we would be gone before anyone had time to investigate the noise. To blow a tree with a claymore you attach the back of the claymore to the tree(pointed away from you of course) because at close range the concave shape gives more power to the backblast. Well, the helicopter started in, we blew the claymore and when the dust cleared that old scraggly tree was still there. Something to remember-If you think it will take one claymore to blow a tree-USE TWO! Our pickup ship couldn't land but fortunately it was already rigged with ladders for use on a different mission. Being ATL now I held one of the ladders while the team climbed up than went to the team leaders side to climb up myself. As I was reaching the level of the floor of the helicopter, one of the men moved to make room for me. When he moved he accidentally fired his M-16. The round could not have missed my head by over two inches. A little faster climbing and I would have caught it right between the eyes.

Another day, another mission. This one must have been about November of 1970 because bad weather had set in (Monsoon). We were inserted during a break in the clouds. We landed on a narrow ridgeline somewhere up in I Corps. I said "landed" I should have said jumped off, because the helicopter never stopped it just slowed down as it passed over this very narrow ridgeline. Now that

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

is also a thrill. To get out of the helicopter faster it was SOP that as the helicopter made its final approach two men on each side would climb out on the skids. You would be holding your weapon out ready to fire if necessary and holding on to the helicopter with the other hand. On a mission like this in mountainous terrain, even tho the helicopter was on final, you were climbing out on the skids while still 500 feet above the valley floor. As I said, it was a thrill. After jumping off we moved along a well-used trail towards the top of the hill. Walking a well-used trail is an invitation to trouble but I must say it was necessary in this case. This ridgeline was no more then 20-30 feet wide and dropped off at an 80-degree angle on each side. The sky we saw that day was the last we saw for 5 days. During the night the

weather settled back in and next morning we were in the middle of a cloud. The Team Leader did not want to move because if we had contact we would not have any support. We were well outside artillery range and helicopters couldn't fly in that soup. Of course sitting on that trail on the ridgeline was no prize either. We found a slightly wider spot and sat there for at least three days without ever seeing the sun. Couldn't see more than 10-15 feet in that soup. It is hard to sit in one place for 3 days and not make any noise. I had the lifesavers I used to help me stay awake on guard rationed out so I could have one every 20 minutes or so. During those three days or so I went through my memory and fantasized about making love to every single female I could remember. While we were there we

heard wood chopping in a valley just beyond the next hilltop. I wanted to go check it out but the 'Team Leader did not want to lose our fragile communications by going into the valley. When we were finally extracted during another break in the clouds another team was inserted on the other hilltop to check out the wood chopping in the valley beyond. This team ran into a pile of trouble while discovering a missing NVA Regiment. The team moved back to the hilltop and was reinforced with more and more ground troops. It turned into a full scale battle before it was over, the whole reinforced mass ended up surrounded and had to break out to another PZ to finally get out of there. Our dead on that mission were Drapp and Stoddard. It was just another lucky miss for me.



Jackie Leisure's mother Clare Leisure with Certificate



Secretary Ron Edwards presenting Gold Star Certificate to Patsy Beauchamp sister of Jackie Leisure.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

Beginning on July 24, 2003 the 35th Infantry Association held its reunion in Buffalo, NY. This is essentially the Association of the 3rd BDE of the 25th Div that swapped colors with the 3rd BDE of the 4th Div in August 1968 at Duc Pho, RVN in I Corps. This gets a little confusing since there are members who were only in the 25th Div, some who were in only the 4th Div and some who were in both. I attended because some of my people who were LRPS in 1967-68 were going. One of them, Brian Radcliffe, I haven't seen since 1968. In all there were 4 of us there, Buck Anderson, Brian Radcliffe, Mike Reiley, and me. We had a good time, and it was great catching up with Radcliffe after all these years. It didn't hurt that he brought 50 pounds of smoked salmon

with him. We tried to look at the slides that he & I brought, but of course, the damn slide projector wouldn't work.

You will notice that the three active duty Ranger Battalions are now at the beginning of the unit reports. It made sense that we go from the most recent to the oldest. As I said in the last issue, there is no intent to disrespect anyone or to minimize their contribution, it is simply logical to start with the organizations that are currently operational. If this Association is to perpetuate itself, it will be the men coming from these battalions that will accomplish that end. Remember, old Rangers never die, they just

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

shift towards the end of the book into “. . . and they all lived happily ever after.”

Believe it or not, I received a few articles with photos imbedded in the text. People, I cannot open those photos. The program I use to set up the magazine, (Quark) will wrap text around boxes that contain photos or graphics, but if there is a photo or graphic imbedded, the text cannot be wrapped. My only recourse is to isolate the text, usually by scanning it in, and to cut & paste it into another document. That loses the photo. Whether you have a perfect understanding of the foregoing or not, please, please send everything separate. I would rather you send hard copies than imbedded documents. I have not failed to return any photos so far.

While I've got a good bitch session going, I may as well keep it up. Two things. There is a lot of effort on the part of a few people to keep the magazine & the web site going and to keep it interesting. This is where we get the bulk of our new members. We need input from every one to keep it up. You might have noticed (some did), that page 66 of last issue was a couple of shots of me & one of my people. Some one actually had guts enough to call me and say, “How come you get in the magazine so much?” You want the short answer? I needed to add a page or take out three. **That's all I had!!!** We print this thing in a “4 up” format. That means that each piece of paper off the press contains 4 pages, in other words the number of pages in the magazine will always be divisible by four. If, for example, I end up with 67 pages, (which is exactly what happened last time), my options are to cut it to 64 pages or increase it to 68. If I go up, I need filler. I have asked for articles, photos, anecdotes, etc. in virtually every issue since I have been editor. Those who know me are aware of what a shy and retiring individual I really am. (Ask Emmett.) They know it pains me to use material that pertains to me and my people. So give me (and yourselves) a break and send me some photos with captions, some anecdotal stories, articles from unit newsletters printed at the time of the action, etc., and I will have some interesting things to add to the magazine.

Here comes bitch number two. The last issue was a couple weeks late. I need the material from the unit directors on time. It takes me between a week and ten days to receive, edit and lay out the magazine. During those ten days Mary Anne is what she calls “a *Patrolling* widow”. Trouble is, during that whole time I am still getting articles. In fact I will typically get articles (unit reports); right up to the time I take this to the printer. In some cases that is understandable, but not for unit reports. The deadline for each issue is listed in the magazine (page 2), and on the editor's page in the web site. If the unit director is unable to write an article, then ask someone else to write it. As long as the unit director knows what's going on, anyone in the unit can write the article. We have several units that have their column written by someone other than the unit director. I have one in Australia, and many times he's the first one in. If he can do it, everyone should be able to do it.

I coordinate with the printer when I will bring the magazine to him. Ours is not the only publication he prints. If I miss the time when he can begin work, someone else moves up & we are bumped to the back of the line. If I strictly adhere to the deadlines, I would publish less than half a magazine. Your call. You tell me what you want to do. E-mail and phone numbers are on page 2.

I was feeling sorrier for myself than usual the other day; I found out that a friend was pretty sick, and I had just received my copy of *Vietnam Magazine*. It had a story of an action at Duc Pho, a village in I Corps. I happened to be there at the time and actually participated in the action. There were some refugees involved from a resettlement program, and there was a considerable loss of life (the refugees). To make a long story short, seems the District Chief and the MACV Senior advisor lied to the troops on the ground (of which I was one), because they were afraid of their security. Artillery shells caused most of the casualties, in an effort to suppress mortar fire coming in on the MACV Compound. They shot too close to the refugee camp, and lots of them, mostly small children were killed and wounded. I had nothing to do with the artillery fire, but PTSD knows no boundaries and so I was more than willing to take responsibility. As I was wallowing in my little misery pit, complaining about life in general and the Vietnam Vet's lot in particular, my wife, Mary Anne, made the following observation. She said that the WW II vets get the credit for being the “greatest generation” (Brokaw's book) but that that was a misnomer. She pointed out that this “greatest generation” was in fact responsible for the involvement in both the Korean and Vietnam wars, including the less than successful conclusions, and the perpetuation of the idea that war leaves no mark on the warrior. For the most part, they never communicated what we all discovered later, that war is hell. How many of us believed that we were operating under the same mentality and politics of the “Good War”? It took the generation that saw service in Vietnam to finally have the courage to look deep into ourselves, find the trauma and then do something about it. We told/tell the truth as we experienced it. They never told us. In spite of the government's (at the time, made up primarily of members of the “greatest generation”) efforts to sweep everything under the rug, we faced what needed to be faced, about ourselves and the nature of war.

They say that history is written by the guy that wins the war. The guys that won the Vietnam War were the liberal press. For many years they wrote the history of the war in a light most unfavorable to the men and women who fought it. There has been a quiet rehabilitation of the image of all veterans, Vietnam Vets in particular, for the past decade or so, and the public has slowly come to the realization that there was a purpose to the war and that we were there to prevent a Communist takeover of the country (which occurred almost as soon as we pulled out).

Historians are now of the opinion that the United State's

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

involvement in the Vietnam War was a major contributor to the downfall of the Soviet Union and the destruction of Communism in all but a few countries. So, maybe now I'll try to stop feeling sorry for myself and start being proud of the fact that I am a Vietnam Vet, and of the things that my people and I accomplished. There are a few bullets I would call back if I could, but I can't, and so I'll have to live with them.

The greatest generation? As Mary Anne said musingly, the greatest generation will be the one that figures out how to do away with wars altogether.

Just when I get to the point that I'm feeling OK, some one comes along & does something to p__ me off again. (I've been in quite a state lately.) I just read in the morning paper the former PFC Jessica Lynch just signed a one million dollar deal for the book rights to her life story. I wonder how the guys that risked their lives to haul her sorry butt out of there feel? Or the pilots and crew members of the aircraft that picked her up or flew cover for the mission. First, the 9/11 victim's families get a million plus dollars for their loss, while the servicemen & women killed in the line of duty get a few thousand and a couple attaboys (or girls), and now this. Go figure.

Some words to consider. Oliver Wendell Holmes was perhaps the greatest of all Justices of the Supreme Court. He was also a veteran of the Civil War and was wounded at the Battles of Ball's Bluff, Antietam and Fredericksburg. The other two you probably already know. They were veterans too.

"Beware the leader who bangs the drums of war in order to whip the citizenry into a patriotic fervor, for patriotism is indeed a double-edged sword. It both emboldens the blood, just

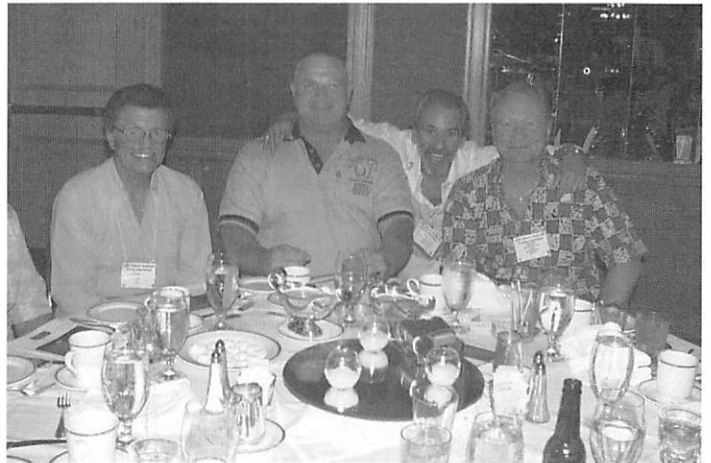
as it narrows the mind. And when the drums of war have reached a fever pitch and the blood boils with hate and the mind has closed, the leader will have no need in seizing the rights of the citizenry. Rather, the citizenry, infused with fear and blinded by patriotism, will offer up all of their rights unto the leader and gladly so. How do I know? For this is what I have done. And I am Caesar"

"To announce that there must be no criticism of the president, or that we are to stand by the president, right or wrong, are not only unpatriotic and servile, but are morally treasonable to the American public."

—Theodore 'Teddy' Roosevelt

"Between two groups of men that want to make inconsistent kinds of worlds, I see no remedy except force..... It seems to me that every society rests on the death of men."

Oliver Wendell Holme



At the Banquet, 35th Inf Assn. L to R, Brian Radcliffe, Buck Anderson, Andy Cardinale (35th Inf) and me.



Niagra Falls. We were going to ride Buck over the falls, but they wouldn't let us into Canada. From L to R: Mike Reiley, Brian Radcliffe, Buck Anderson, three 35th guys, me on the far right.



At the banquet. That award presentation lasted forever. Brian Radcliffe and Buck Anderson, (asleep).

WEB MASTER

By Emmett W. Hiltibrand



Have you ever wanted to know where to find the following things?

MAROR SEARCH ENGINES: CEO Express, VNIS, Google, Altavista, Excite, Alltheweb, Beaucamp, Lycos, Yahoo, Ask Jeeves, Military.com, Billboard, WhoWhere?, Download.com, Teoma, Ancestry.com.....

ALL THE NEWS: ABC, CBS, CNN, MSMBC, MBC, Fox, New York Times, Reuters, USA Today, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Drudge Report, Chicago Tribune, Early Bird.....

INFORMATION CHANNEL: Discovery, Travel, Health, TLC, Merrian Webster, NOAA, History.....

TRAVELING HELP: Cheap Tickets.com, Contiental, Delta, Expedia.com, Travelocity.com, Discount-Airlines-Tickets.com, United, Priceline.com, Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, National, Payless, Hertz, Hotwire, Mapquest, Hotel.com, Best Western, Hampton Inn & Suites, Hilton, Holiday Inn, LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Marriott, Radisson, Sheraton.....

WEB STUFF: MS Internet Explorer, Netscape, Opera, MSN, AOL, CNET Download.com, Tucows, ZDNET, DogPile, HotBot, QuickTime, ProFusion, NorthernLight, Symetic, McAfee.....

LEGISLATIVE SEARCH: Congress.org, Thomas, First Gov, Library of Congress, Numbers USA, US Census Bureau.....

CHARTERED VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS (VSO): Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Wives, American Legion, American Red Cross, American Veterans, Blinded Veterans, Disables American Veterans, Legion of Valor, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Amputation Foundation, National Veterans Legal Services Program, Non-Commissioned Officers, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Swords to Plowshares, The Retired Enlisted Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Veterans of the Vietnam War, Fleet Reserve Association, Navy Mutual Aid Association, National Association of Black Veterans, Woman's Army Corps Veterans Association, Military Chaplains Association, Marine Corps League, Jewish War Veterans of the USA, Air Force Sergeants Association, Blue Star Mothers of America, Catholic War Veterans.....

NON-CHARTERED VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS: Air Force Association, American Merchant Marine Veterans, American Military Retiree's Association, Association of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade, Association of the US Army, Blinded American Veterans Foundation, NAM-POW's, National 4th Infantry Division Association, National Association for Uniformed Services, National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, National Gulf War Resource Center, Naval Reserve Association, Navy League of the United States, Reserve Officers Association, The Retired Officers Association, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, United States Army Warrant Officers Association.....

LINKS TO ARMY UNITS: Divisional, Regimental, Brigade, Battalion, Company and others.

<http://www.75thrra.com/>

WEB MASTER MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

LINKS TO OTHER ASSOCIATIONS: Merrill marauders, Ranger Battalion's Association WW II, Ranger Infantry Companies Airborne, United States Army Ranger Association, World Wide Army Ranger Association, The Regiment Association, The Ranger Association, The Mountain Ranger Association, The Ranger Hall Of Fame, The Ranger Memorial Foundation.....

LINKS TO ALL GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE US:.....







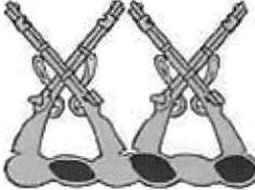

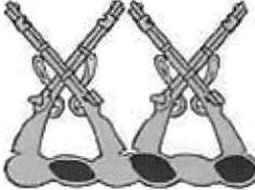

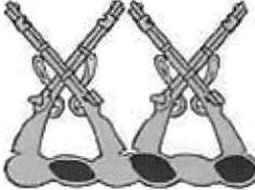
HEALTH & WELLNESS: HEP C, Diabetes, PTSD, Agent Orange, Cancer, Physicals, VA Claims, VA Info, DOD Info.....

Last but not least, all the contact information you would ever need to know about the units in this Association.

LINKS TO THEIR: [Unit Director](#), [UD Message](#), [Unit History](#), [Unit Photo Album](#), [Unit Roster](#), [Unit Web Site](#), [Unit KIA](#).... including unit patches, unit crests and unit guidons.....

All this for the following units: A/75 RGR, D/17 LRP, V CORPS LRRP, B/75 RGR, C/58 LRP, VII CORPS LRRP, C/75 RGR, E/20 LRP, D/75 RGR, E/75 RGR, E/50 LRP, 9 ID LRRP, 9 ID LRS, F/75 RGR, F/50 LRP, 25 ID LRRP, 25 ID LRS, G/75 RGR, E/51 LRP, 196 LRRP, H/75 RGR, E/52 LRP, 1 CAV LRRP, 1 CAV LRS, I/75 RGR, E/58 LRP, 4 ID LRRP, 4 ID LRS, L/75 RGR, F/58 LRP, 1/101 LRRP, 3/506 LRRP, 101 LRS, M/75 RGR, 71 LRP, 199 LRRP, N/75 RGR, 74 LRP, 173 LRRP, 173 LRS, O/75 RGR, 78 LRP, 82 ID LRS, P/75 RGR, 79 LRP, D/151 RGR, D/151 LRP, D/151 LRS, F/51 LRP, F/51 LRS, BDQ, 3 ID LRRP, 3 ID LRS, HQ/75 RGR, 1/75 RGR, 2/75 RGR, 3/75 RGR.....

We cover **every** unit in many ways. Take a look at what we offer:




	<p>A/75 RGR & D/17 LRP & V CORPS LRRP HISTORY</p>									
	<p>B/75 RGR & C/58 LRP & VII CORPS LRRP UNIT DIRECTORS MESSAGE</p>									
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="454 1480 869 1543">C/75 RGR</th> <th data-bbox="869 1480 1300 1543">E/20 LRP</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1543 869 1753">  </td> <td data-bbox="869 1543 1300 1753">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="454 1753 1300 1795"> <p>History Photo Album Roster KIA Web Site</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="454 1795 1300 1856"> <p>UNIT DIRECTOR - Gary E. Dolan (Gary's Message)</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		C/75 RGR	E/20 LRP			<p>History Photo Album Roster KIA Web Site</p>		<p>UNIT DIRECTOR - Gary E. Dolan (Gary's Message)</p>	
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<p>UNIT DIRECTOR - Gary E. Dolan (Gary's Message)</p>										


WEB MASTER MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

 	<p>D/75 RGR PHOTO ALBUM</p>	
 	<p>E/75 RGR & E/50 LRP & 9th ID LRRP & 9th ID LRS LOSSES</p>	
 	<p>F/75 RGR & F/50 LRP & 25th ID LRRP ROSTER</p>	

.....And the list just keeps going.....

If you want to see a copy of our Association Bylaws, go to the “ABOUT US” tab.

 	<p>Association Bylaws</p>	
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 <p>Submit Article</p> <p>Past Issues</p>
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This symbol on the “HOME” tab takes you to past issues of the ‘Patrolling Magazine’. Tell your brothers who are not members to see what they are missing.

There is more to the Association WEB SITE than you might have thought of. It is a portal to everywhere you wanted to go. Bookmark the Association web page or add it to your ‘Favorites’. Better yet, go into your browser and make it your opening web page. When on the Association “HOME” page, go to the top of your browser where the envelop is located and send either a link to or the actual page to a brother by e-mail.

WEB MASTER MESSAGE (CONTINUED)



On almost every page in the Association web site, you will see the 'Uncle Sam' man. Sometimes he looks like this, other times, thanks to Dave Walker, the 'Uncle Sam' may have on a different hat. All you have to do is click on the 'Uncle Sam' where ever you see him and it will take you directly to the 'Application form'. Use this to join or renew your membership. Send this link to a friend also.

Application Form

The purpose of this site is to promote the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, it's members, and membership in this association. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association is composed of members of Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol companies, Long Range Patrol companies, Ranger companies and the Biet Dong Quan of the Vietnam War era. Additionally, are members of the V CORP and VII CORP Long Range Reconnaissance companies from Germany. Additionally, are members of the 1st and 2nd Ranger Battalions prior to the formation of the current 75th Ranger Regiment and all former and current active duty members of the current 75th Ranger Regiment. Additionally, are members of any Long Range Surveillance Unit that has historical ties to one of the existing units authorized membership in this Association.

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Emmett W. Hiltibrand

GOLD STAR...

**Hello all From the Gold Star Corner,**

Since the last issue of Patrolling we have added 6 new Gold Star families to the ranks. Five were from Iraqi Freedom and 1 was a training accident.

They are Spc Ryan Longs 3/75 Family, Staff Sgt. Nino Livaudais 3/75 family, Capt. Russell Rippetoes 3/75 family, Cpl Andrew Chris 3/75, family, Sgt. Tim Conneway 3/75, family and Brandon Miller 1/75, family.

I have had the privilege of speaking with all but one of the families and have personally met and made the RRA presentations to the Longs, Livaudias and the Rippetoes. What brave and honorable people they all are. We continue to pray for them and will forever embrace them.

I attended the Regimental Change of Command. Colonel Joe Votel will be moving on to Pentagon. Colonel Craig Nixon has command of the Regiment. I am sure we all wish both of them and their families God speed as they move onto the next phase of their lives. How lucky we are to have such Honorable men serving and protecting us.

We also have some devoted members finding Vietnam Gold Star families and making arrangements to bring them into our family. I will let these men tell you about their finds in their own words. A special thanks to Ron Edwards who spent his Memorial holiday driving 5 hours each way to see to it Jackie Leisures mother and family received their lifetime membership plaque and pins. Ron as always you went above and beyond the call in true Ranger fashion. Words can't say how much I appreciate all you do. Thanks again.

This issue I would like to feature Anne Edmunds and Ruth Stonesifer. They will tell you about their Rangers in their own words.

Kristofor T Stonesifer, KIA Oct 19 2001

How do I condense the six million pages roaming around in my head about the son I called Kris? On the second anniversary of his death I have been asked to write a story about our special relationship for Patrolling. Since I knew him better in the civilian world and than his military career, I would like to tell you what I fondly remember Kris enjoyed doing in this world more than anything else.

He wrote in his journal that his passion was 'Wilderness Survival.' He devoured the books written by survivalist Tom Brown JR and took many of his courses over the years. He would come back so exhausted, so exhilarated and so very, very dirty. The tub in my house still does not drain well to this day.

I think that Kris would have applied to become an Apache Indian

Scout if that occupation were still in demand. So instead he practiced the skills of tracking and building all that you need to exist in the wilderness with just the material you forage in natural surroundings. This became his real life's work.

One skill he practiced was to walk through the woods without making any noise. The ultimate goal was to touch a deer. One day he came home and said he had finally touched a deer. I said, "Great, tell me about it" "Well?" he said, "it probably didn't count." He explained that the deer he touched was actually a very young fawn. I replied, "Well, that counts." Then he had to confess to me that the baby deer was also sound asleep.

The story was even more interesting when Kris filled me in on the details of his close encounter. The fawn was asleep on the bank of a small stream. Kris quietly made his way through the streambed until he was nose to nose with the fawn. He waited patiently for quite some time until the fawn awoke and focused on Kris's face. The fawn hesitated a long time looking eye-to-eye and nose-to-nose with my smiling son before it decided to get up and stumble off into the woods in search of his mother.

I gave Kris the 'sleeping fawn merit badge' even though he never really reached out to touch the deer. He intended to work on touching a grazing deer, with ultimate Apache Indian Scout goal still looming in the distance, 'swat the bear on the behind, and run like the wind'.

He built his first 'debris hut' in the woods behind my home. It was a cold January day when he went outside and was gone for a long time. I thought, 'Boy is he taking along hike.' Then he started showing up regularly passing by the front window, first taking a rake from the garage, and then he came back for a tarp. My curiosity was getting the better of me; but I waited until I was invited out to see what he had been working so diligently. He came back finally to get me to put on my jacket and come with him. Some hundred yards back into the woods, he introduced me to his project.

It was an amazing structure, ribbed branches interlocked neatly on either side of a center pole leaning against the fork of a tree. There were dried leaves about four feet deep covering the rib foundation. There was also a corral for holding the leaves that would be used to cover the entrance and insulate his head from the cold night air once he had entered feet first. Kris' face was marked by fresh large scratches that all those branches had inflicted on him, but he seemed quite proud of the structure even though he felt the use of the rake and tarp were not in accordance to the 'strict' philosophy of primitively made. Because he had started this hut in the early afternoon, he simply ran out of time to complete structure he wanted to test that night so he modified

GOLD STAR MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

his standards and use some tools. He planned to spend the night in his new shelter without a sleeping bag or blanket, which sent a few 'mother alarms' off in my head but I was curious as to the success of his experiment. About midnight Kris left the warm house setting off the security light at my bedroom window as he made his way to the shelter. A few hours later, the light came on again as he returned to the warmth of the house. He told me the next morning that his first shelter only lacked sufficient insulation underneath his body. The cold awoke him as the ground drained away his body heat. But he was glad that the rest of the shelter worked well enough for him to fall asleep—the true test. The leaves on his first shelter have all blown away now, however the wooden rib structure was still standing some eight years after construction. He did perfect his insulation skills by the time he reached Montana where his friends say that Kris' shelters were so tight they were even too hot. He built several structures in the state parks around Missoula that are still standing undisturbed as of 2002. These debris structures are great for surviving in the wilderness, but they do have one drawback, you have to check yourself for ticks five times a day. I told him he should think about perfecting a wheel chair ramp because I joked about moving in with him when I became old and opinionated. We laughed at that vision of me rolling along the bumpy forest path in my wheel chair. He practiced walking barefoot and blind folded using all of his other senses to detect the obstacles in his path. When he would come home to my house from visiting his friends, he could enter and close the doors and actually move through a room without making any noise, much like the silent flight of an owl. It was uncanny and would have been a great source of amusement had he wanted to scare me out of my wits. However, I had a Mother's secret early warning devise, he never knew about. From my chair in the living room, I look directly at a picture of a Lakota Indian Scout. Everything that happens in the hallway is reflected in the glass of that apropos picture. While I never heard his sounds, I could always see his brief reflection just before he rounded the kitchen to greet me with his quiet, 'Hello there'

My son walked very softly upon this earth, however his impact on my life was immense. He is invisible now but always in plain view in my memories and stories. My true comfort lies in the fact that I actually appreciated the great gift of this special child while he was still alive.

Anne Edmunds, Jonn's wife writes

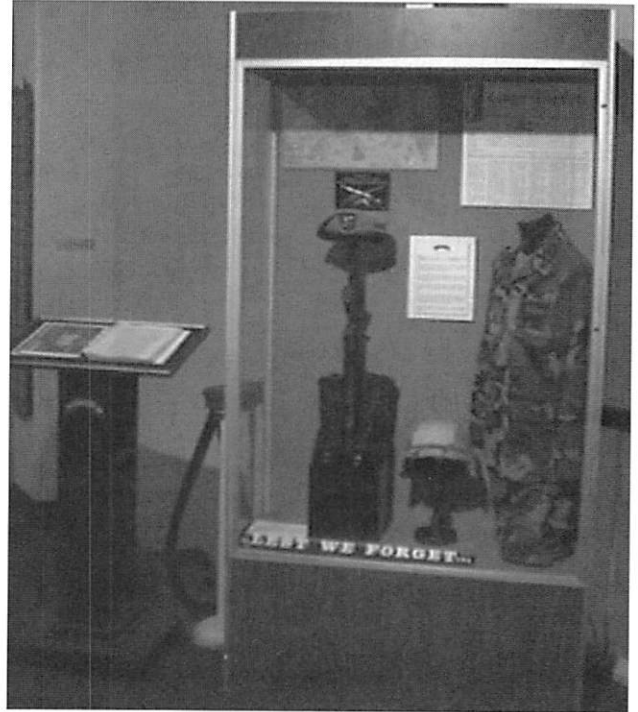
Jonn Joseph Edmunds was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado on January 3, 1981 to Donn and Mary Edmunds. Jonn and his family moved to Cheyenne, Wyoming when Jonn was six weeks old and never relocated again.

Jonn was a very active child. He was always organizing games of laser tag, camping out in the windbreak, playing paintball, building snowball forts and on and on. Jonn started playing soccer in the third grade and later played on a competitive team. Jonn loved competitive games and not just ones that involved running. He loved chess, Chinese checkers and monopoly along with most card games. Perhaps Jonn had been training to be a Ranger all of his life.

After graduating from Cheyenne East High School in May 1999, Jonn entered the Army in Denver, Colorado on July 20, 1999. He attended One Station Unit Training, Airborne School, and the

75th Ranger Regiment's Ranger Indoctrination Program at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was then assigned to 3rd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning on December 16, 1999. Jonn returned home to Cheyenne, Wyoming in December 1999, where he married his wife, Anne, on December 27, 1999. Jonn returned to Fort Benning with Anne in January 2000. Jonn moved up quickly as a Ranger. He graduated Ranger School, straight through, on March 16, 2001. He then moved up to Gunner Team Leader Weapons Squad 1st Platoon Bravo Company. Jonn enjoyed his life as a Ranger, and he also enjoyed his life at home. Jonn and Anne loved to travel and were able to see many places including Jonn's favorite, Washington D.C. and Cape Hatteras, North Carolina in July 2001. Jonn loved his two four-legged children Darby, his dog, and Aspen, his cat. He was always at peace playing with them. Jonn volunteered at Anne's work at the Columbus Health Department and SafeKids of Georgia on the weekends. Jonn really enjoyed the simple things in life such as going for walks, yard work, barbecuing, watching movies, star gazing, and watching the sunset. Jonn left his familiar and happy life at home in early October 2001 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Jonn was sad to leave Anne and his life, but he was anxious to make a difference for his family and his country. Jonn died in a helicopter crash on October 19, 2001 in Pakistan. Jonn is not a hero because he died. He is a hero because he lived. Jonn has touched so many lives, he is a hero to his wife everyday, and he is an outstanding American and US Army Ranger.

SPC Jonn Edmunds' awards include the Army Service Ribbon, the Parachutists Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Ribbon, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart, and the Bronze Star.



Memorial to Kris Stonesifer and John Edmunds, Infantry Museum, Ft Benning GA

GOLD STAR MESSAGE (CONTINUED)



John & Anne Edmunds

Ed. Note: The following article, written by Ruth Stonesifer, mother of Kristophor Stoneifer who was killed in Afghanistan in the early part of US involvement, appeared in *USA Today* in July, 2003.

Mother finds true grieving begins after cameras leave

By Ruth Voshell Stonesifer

My son, Kristofor T. Stonesifer, was one of the first two soldiers to die in the war on terror. He was killed Oct. 19, 2001 in a helicopter crash during a rescue mission near Kandahar, Afghanistan. I knew when his name was officially released that the media would be hot on our trail to find out everything they could about my son. After all, his death happened during America's first installment of "payback" for 9/11.

I envisioned the picture on the cover of some national news magazine: My family and I would be lined up quietly witnessing the flag-draped casket of my son being carried to a hearse by his fellow Army Rangers. Americans would see the dignity and honor afforded a hero returning home after giving his life for his country.

In other words, I almost fell victim to the American obsession with fame.

Fortunately, I had a more valuable experience, one I am reminded of whenever I hear another news report of a U.S. soldier being killed in Iraq: I learned that true grieving begins after the TV lights go out and the media move on.

After Kris' death, I knew instinctively that chaos would rain down on my family if I appeared on the early morning talk shows. I saw these live interviews as a diversion from our family's need to remain strong and focused on preparing for Kris' memorial.



John Edmunds — Ranger School Graduation

One of the best

My son had volunteered three times to be halfway around the world, first to join the Army, then to become a Ranger and finally to go on this rescue mission — while I thought he was safely sleeping in Georgia. His platoon leader told me later that he chose the best men to go that night. Kris must have been proud to be one of the few to climb aboard that Black Hawk helicopter.

But despite his bravery, Kris was a quiet and shy person who recoiled from undue attention. I'm sure he would have had such a laugh if we had done a "crying tour" of TV interviews — so we didn't. Still, I was astounded as cameramen filmed our front door, mailbox, lawn and garage door.

The only time I thought I would be unable to control the cameras was at the Philadelphia airport, where my son's flag-draped casket was returned to us by a Ranger honor guard. So I prepared for the "perfect" media picture of a family steeped in military tradition. There would be Kris' father, a retired Navy captain, and my oldest son, Ric, an Army warrant officer. My brother, John, who flew an A-7 in Vietnam, would don his old uniform. And, of course, the Rangers from Savannah, Ga., would salute my son as he was carried off the plane. If the world had to witness anything publicly about our family, I thought, it would be how proud we were of him and his service.

Facing reality

Here's what really happened at the airport: After a long wait, we walked to the dark open cargo door of an enormous plane. We turned to face one lone video camera that the 75th Ranger Regiment was using to document the ceremony for Kris' battalion.

To my surprise, there were no national or local media cameras, even though the public affairs office had notified the media. Kris

GOLD STAR MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

must have been laughing at his mother's "all in vain" planning and worrying. But my thoughts were in turmoil. Had America lost interest already? Was my son's death old news? How would Kris' legacy be documented?

After Kris' casket had been secured in the hearse and I could focus my eyes elsewhere, I noticed that what had been a busy construction site next to us was quiet. With a start, I realized that all activity in the area had stopped. Every construction worker, every security guard, every person within sight of this small, simple ceremony had come to a standstill, paying respect for this fallen soldier. Many were saluting.

They may not have known my son's name, but they knew that a soldier who had died in defense of his country was coming home to his family. I was grateful that I could see through my tears and witness this poignant tribute.

I started out thinking a magazine cover was what I needed to move on. But I discovered I would rather have the respect of a

few strangers on a runway than the empathy of an entire nation.

Ruth Voshell Stonesifer, who lives in Kintnersville, Pa., is writing a book about her experiences and the life and death of her son.

The following was added by our Gold Star Mother, Sandee Rouse.

USA TODAY Editors need to do something to keep their jobs so they tried to improve on what was already a well written piece. The biggest and worst change they made was to the last paragraph of Ruth's article.

What she actually wrote was:

"When I finally got to meet the other Rangers Kris called friends, I was paid a high compliment. They told me that they admired the way I did not go on TV and display my private grief. The Rangers are a breed apart and respect their own privacy. Meeting and becoming friends with these brave men, I have come to the realization that I would rather have the respect of just one Ranger than the sympathy of an entire nation."

Members of the 101st Abn Div take the re-enlistment Oath at one of Saddam's former palaces



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, Dana McGrath - President

Legislative UpdateConcurrent receipt

CR Update 14: The score on the partisan Discharge Petition to bring H.R. 303 to the floor for a vote remains at 202. Only one Republican has signed of the 171 Republican cosponsors of the bill. Many retirees do not understand why Republican Congressman Michael Bilirakis, who authored the bill, has not signed. He has been our leading Congressional proponent in eliminating this retiree disability tax since 1985 and deserves to be heard. All those fighting for concurrent Receipt should be aware of his position, which is explained in the following letter to one of his constituents: "Thank you for contacting me to express your interest in the discharge petition that Rep. Marshall has filed on my bill H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act. I appreciate hearing from you. As you may know, I first introduced this legislation during my 2nd term in office and have introduced it in every subsequent Congress since 1985. For close to two decades, I have led the fight to eliminate the offset between military retired pay and VA disability compensation. There is no stronger proponent of concurrent receipt in the US Congress than myself.

At this time, I have not made any decisions regarding the discharge petition filed by Rep. Marshall - - not because I do not support concurrent receipt, but because I am not convinced that this is the best means by which we can accomplish our goal of eliminating the current unjust offset.

Let me stress that I am interested in achieving real results and not using the concurrent receipt issue as a "political football." As you may know, the "discharge rule" of the House provides a

means by which a measure that has not been reported from committee may be considered on the House floor. It is important to note that discharge petitions are rarely successful. Since the present form of discharge rule was adopted in 1931, 563 discharge petitions have been filed, of which 47 obtained the required signatures. In these instances, the House voted for discharge 26 times, and passed 19 of the measures involved, but only two became law. During the past 35 years (1967-2002), only discharge petitions on 12 measures have obtained the required signatures.

Even if this discharge petition is successful and the House of Representatives debates and approves H.R. 303, it still does not guarantee that retirees will receive any benefits. The legislative process requires approval by both the House and the Senate, and there is nothing in the discharge petition process that requires the Senate to act. This means that if the House were to approve H.R. 303, it would be sent to the Senate for further consideration where it is likely to die because there is no procedure that can be utilized to force Senate action on H.R. 303. Therefore, we have a higher probability of success if we include a concurrent receipt provision in a piece of legislation such as the annual defense authorization bill that the Senate must consider.

Moreover, if the Congress were to send the president a stand-alone concurrent receipt bill, his advisors would most likely recommend that he veto it. If a veto occurs, many members will be reluctant to vote to override a presidential veto. So once again, I believe that we are better off trying to get concurrent receipt language into a bill, which includes other provisions that the president wants signed

into law. While this does not guarantee that the president will sign the bill, he will be less likely to veto it. The leaders of the House (i.e. the Speaker, the Majority Leader and Majority Whip) work closely with committee chairmen to set agenda of the House of Representatives. Members must work to gain the support of House leaders and committee chairmen if they hope to secure action on their legislative initiatives. Because discharge petitions seek to usurp the authority of committee chairmen and the leaders of the House, they often cause animosity between petition supporters and those who directly control the House's agenda in a given Congress. If a discharge petition is attempted and unsuccessful, it can make future action on an issue nearly impossible because the House leadership will be less likely to lend their support to a legislative measure. While some may try to discount the importance of working with the House leadership, I believe it is important to note that in the 18 years that I have been working on this issue, the only real progress that resulted in benefits being paid to disabled retirees has been under a Republican controlled Congress. This progress would not have occurred without the leadership's support.

In light of these challenges associated with a discharge petition, I am holding off signing the Marshall petition while I pursue other options. During consideration of S. 1050, the Fiscal Year 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, the Senate approved an amendment that would completely eliminate the current offset. Since the House has also approved its version of the defense authorization bill, the next step in the legislative process is for a conference committee to resolve the differences

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

between the two bills. I am already working with many of my colleagues to secure the inclusion of a concurrent receipt provision in the final defense bill, and I believe this is the quickest way to advance our goal without creating animosity among those who have direct jurisdiction over the concurrent receipt issue. By no signing the discharge petition now, my colleagues and I will have greater leverage with the leadership on this issue and we will increase our chances of success. If our efforts are , I will then consider signing Rep. Marshall's discharge petition.

Once again, thank you for your continued interest in this issue. I look forward to working with you and other disabled retirees as we continue to fight to restore the military retired pay and benefits that you earned through your service to our nation.

Sincerely yours, Michael Bilirakis,
Member of Congress

CR Update 13:

The Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld sent another emphatic message this week that he opposes spending any more money on health care or disabled retirees. His July 8 "heartburn letter" to House and Senate Armed Services Committee leaders said he would "join other senior advisors to the President in recommending that he veto the FY2004 Defense Authorization Bill if it includes Senate-passed provisions authorizing concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and veterans' disability compensation benefits, or expands TRICARE." It said he'd also recommend a veto if the defense bill includes any change that would hamper a new round of base closures in 2005.

The Administration's opposition to concurrent receipt is nothing new. It's what made Congress backpedal last year after both chambers passed substantive concurrent receipt plans. The pressure is on again this year, as the Senate-passed bill would authorize full concurrent receipt, and 202 representatives have signed a discharge petition that would force a vote on the issue in the House. Unfortunately, this has become a partisan issue and because of presidential pressure only one republican has signed the petition this year, Secretary Rumsfeld has stooped further to oppose much-needed health coverage continuity for drilling

members of the National Guard and Reserve. Tens of thousands of these families have experienced significant health insurance problems in recent years because of the change in their coverage status when mobilized to and from active duty. Many had to try to find new doctors who would take TRICARE when they were mobilized and then switch providers again when reverting to their private health plan. Members called to war had to worry whether their families would get information about TRICARE, find a participating doctor, or encounter billing hassles. Too often, their worries proved well founded.

The Senate responded by passing a plan to let drilling Guard and Reserve members enroll in TRICARE coverage year-round (for a fee) or elect to have the government pay part of their civilian insurance premium while mobilized. Virtually all military and veterans' associations think such health coverage continuity is essential to protect Guard and Reserve families hurt by multiple mobilizations to fight our country's battles around the world. If national policy requires frequent mobilizations of the Guard and Reserve, we can't keep disrupting their families' health care. We can either build a retention tool or ignore a problem that causes many service members to think twice about reenlisting. The signature total for Rep. Jim Marshall's (D-GA) concurrent receipt discharge petition has only increased by one to 202, but that doesn't mean the issue is going away. Legislators are being deluged by messages from veterans in support of the petition. Those co-sponsors of H.R. 303 who have not signed on are finding it harder and harder to explain their paradoxical behavior to their constituents. Many who haven't yet signed are putting pressure on the House to work out a substantive concurrent receipt deal. Non-signers are faced with a choice between deferring to their leadership or deferring to their constituents.

Combat Related Special Compensation

CRSC Update 8: Approved Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) applications will only be granted to a very small percentage of retired Disabled Veterans. Those who will not receive it must wait until the administration allows

Concurrent Receipt (CR) to be made into law. The latest official count of CRSC applications that have been received at the services' CRSC boards are Army — 14,500; Air Force — 5,549; and Navy/Marine Corps — 4,700. So far only about 600 have been approved. The gain of a new computer at the Air Force Board to access the Department of Veterans Affairs data base and another one to be connected soon are expected to help the their application processing. Lack of documentation is still the leading cause for delays. A copy of the original VA rating is crucial since it has all the reasons the VA allowed the condition and might be all this is needed to show a CRSC connection. Subsequent VA ratings only have the increase or decrease, but don't explain the reason the condition was given service connection or what it is connected to (like hypertension to Diabetes).

Individual Un-employability (IU) and Special Monthly Compensation pay (SMC) are two other issues holding up at least 900 applications which are 90% approved. The decisions regarding them are stalled in DOD's policy/legal review process. The initial delay was over compliance (legal) issues, but now the policy has carried over to discussions with the Armed Services committee leadership. All this translates to a longer delay when the Defense spending bill is reconciled, later this year. DOD is considering adding IU and SMC as CRSC payable conditions, which are not VA rated items, but provide additional dollars to disabled veterans for meeting certain conditions. To keep current on these issues veterans can monitor www.crlegislation.com. Following are the latest figures on application evaluation progress:

Air Force During the week ending 1 Aug 601 applications were received of which 27 were approved and 82 disapproved. During the week ending 8 Aug 419 applications were received of which 12 were approved and 42 were disapproved. A total of 5,549 have been received of which 266 cases have been approved and 332 disapproved. The Air Force has over 200 cases that have been approved for CRSC, but have an IU or SMC condition and cannot be completed until a DOD policy decision is made on the IU/SMC issue. **Army** Of the 14,500 applications received 203 have been

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

approved and 128 disapproved. Their contractor team is composed of retired officers with a combat arms background and an experienced medical officer. As of 4 August, the Naval board had on hand 4700 applications of which the Case Builders have built 1300. At that point, 97 applications were approved and 103 were denied. The number pending SMC/IU resolution is 160. DOD estimates the Navy/USMC should expect 22,000 applications during the first two years of this program. The Navy CRSC branch is staffed to process about 50 in and 50 out each working day once CR determinations for SMC/IU can be made. [Source: Various AUG 03]

Cold War Recognition Certificate

Cold War Recognition Certificate [CWRC]: In accordance with section 1084 of the Fiscal Year 1998 National Defense Authorization Act, the Secretary of Defense approved awarding Cold War Recognition Certificates to all members of the armed forces and qualified federal government civilian personnel who faithfully served the United States during the Cold War era from 2 SEP 1945 to 26 DEC 1991. Thus far, about one million people have responded out of the 22 million entitled to receive the certificate. You may apply for a Cold War Recognition Certificate if you qualify. Online application is preferred; however, the application form may be printed and mailed, or faxed with the required supporting documents. The Army Personnel Command is the executive agent for the recognition project. The minimum turn around time is six months. More information on the certificate can be found on PERSCOM's Cold War Web site or by calling customer service at (703) 325-5864. You can preview the certificate at:
<http://147.103.18.232/preview.htm>.

Those qualifying for the certificates can apply via the Internet at <http://coldwar.army.mil>, e-mail at cwrs@Fairfax-emhl.army.mil, or fax at (703) 275-6749. Applicants can also mail requests to: Cold War Recognition, 4035 Ridge Top Road, Suite 400, Fairfax, VA 22030. Applicants must present proof of service. Army officials caution applicants not to send original documents because they cannot be returned. Applicants must use fax or mail to submit supporting

documents. Military personnel can use any of the following documents as proof of service: DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release/Discharge from Active Duty); WD AGO Form 53-55 (War Department Separation Document); or Oath of Office-Military Personnel, or Letter of Appointment. Copies of these records can be obtained by writing to: National Personnel Records Center, (Military Personnel Records), 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. Qualifying civilian service can be proved with a Standard Form 50 (Notification of Personnel Action); Standard Form 2809 (Health Benefit Registration Form); an award certificate with employee's name, name of service or agency, and dates; or retirement forms with the employee's name, service or agency and dates. Federal civilian personnel may obtain employment verification or copy of their records by writing to: U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Employee Service and Record Center, P.O. Box 45, Boyers PA 16017-0045. [Source: Veterans digest 1999-7 dtd 12 JAN 99]

The Secretary of Defense announced in JAN 02 a Cold War Service Medal will not be cast and any such medals are not authorized for wear on military uniforms. While former Secretary of Defense William Cohen approved a Cold War certificate, a Cold War Service Medal was not approved. Although servicemembers can buy the unauthorized medals, the Office of the SecDef points out that unless Congress authorizes them, they cannot be worn on a military uniform. [Updated AUG 03]

Bronze Star for WW II Combat Veterans

Bronze Star Medal - WWII: World War II veterans who earned the Combat Infantry Badge (CIB) or the Combat Medical Badge (CMB) are eligible to receive the Bronze Star Medal (BSM). Army Regulation 680-8-22, which governs Military Awards states the BSM is authorized for all servicemembers who earned a Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medical Badge. The award of either of these badges is considered as a citation in orders of documentary evidence of exemplary conduct in ground combat against an armed enemy prior to 1 July 1947.

Executive Order 9419 dated 4 February

1944, which was superseded by Executive Order 11046 dated 24 August 1962 established the BSM. The BSM is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Army of the United States after 6 December 1941, distinguished himself or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an armed enemy; or while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party. The BSM based on the award of the CIB or CMB before 1 July 1947 may be awarded by a letter application submitted to National Personnel Records Center, Medal Section (NRPMA-M), 9700 Page Ave, St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. [Source: NAUS Update 11 JUL 03]

Tricare Standard Over Age 65

Tricare Standard Over Age 65: Tricare standard eligibility expires upon reaching the social security Medicare eligibility age which is at 12:01 a.m. on the first day of the month in which the beneficiary becomes entitled to hospital insurance benefits (Part A) under Medicare. There are no plans to raise this age even though social security full retirement age is rising to 67. Anyone who is a military dependent and is not eligible for Medicare benefits can retain Tricare Standard benefits provided they can provide to the ID card issuing activity or DEERS a notice of disallowance of Medicare Part A benefits. This applies to many alien dependent widows because they do not meet the U.S. five-year residency requirement to draw on their sponsor's social security account and have elected to continue to reside overseas.

DEERS requires all dependents upon turning age 65 to obtain a new ID card which allows them to update their records on each individual's Tricare eligibility. Eligibility is removed for those who are eligible for Medicare and do not elect to pay for Medicare Part B. Unless otherwise advised all widows are assumed eligible. To obtain a notice of disallowance they must write to Social Security Administration, Office of Central Operations, PO Box 17769,

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Baltimore MD 21235 Attn: W. Burnell Hurt, Associate Commissioner for Central Operations. The letter should include:

- From. A current mailing address.
- Reference. Sponsor's SSN & Widows SSN (if any).
- Enclosure. DFAS-DE Form 2203
- Purpose. To have your records at Department of Defense, DEERS indicate you are not eligible to receive social security benefits.
- Authorization for SSA to release directly to DEERS Support Office, Attn: Research & Analysis, 400 Gigling rd., Seaside CA 93955-6771 and DFAS, PO Box 7130, London KY 40742-7130 any information relating to eligibility to receive Medicare benefits.
- Country of citizenship, country of residence, and that you do not meet the five-year U.S. residency test or any exceptions to that test.
- Request for SSA to notify DEERS & DFAS that you are not receiving Medicare benefits from your deceased spouse's social security account and the reason why you are not. Also, that you have not earned any Social Security credits.
- Reason for Request. Required to continue your eligibility for Tricare benefits which were lost at age 65 because DEERS was not aware of your ineligibility for Medicare.
- Comment on Enclosure purpose. For forwarding to DEERS & DFAS Retired Pay

Complete and sign the annuitant section of the Social Security Administration Statement (Annual Rectification) DFAS-DE Form 2203 and include it as an enclosure to your letter. A blank form can be obtained from your RAO Office or from DFAS. A sample letter is available upon request to raemo@mozcom.com. When action has been taken you should receive a notice from DEERS stating that based on the document sent they have been able to confirm that you are not entitled to social security benefits. Therefore, your DEERS record will reflect your continued Tricare eligibility. You can present this notice to the ID card issuing activity with your application for a new ID card. The card's expiration date and Medical Civilian (yes) EXP DATE should be the same, four years after issue date. If you do not have a SSN or ITIN number they should assign a FIN number

[i.e a number that has an "F" in front and starts with a "9"] in the SS box on the card. [Source: RAO Bangkok, THEMS & Tricare Pacific Lead Agent msg's AUG 03 and 32 CFR, Part 199.3 www.tricare.osd.mil/tricaremanuals/]

Nonavailability Statements: DoD has published the long awaited interim final rule (IFR) implementing sections of the FY 2001 and FY 2002 National Defense Authorization Acts (NDAA) titled "Elimination of Nonavailability Statement and Referral Authorization Requirements and Elimination of Specialized Treatment Services Program". Under current rules TRICARE Standard beneficiaries residing within 40 miles of a military treatment facility (MTF) must either use it as the first option for care when undergoing inpatient procedures or document that the MTF is unable to provide the care. Apart from the hassle of obtaining an NAS, this requirement eliminates any continuity of care that has been established between a patient and his or her provider. Patients may go through an entire pre-treatment regimen with one doctor or facility, but could then be required to switch to the MTF when that doctor is needed the most.

Specifically, the proposed rule eliminates the requirement for:

- Standard beneficiaries living within a 40-mile radius of an MTF to obtain an NAS (December 28, 2003);
- Standard beneficiaries who live outside the 200-mile radius of a specialized treatment services (STS) facility to get an NAS (June 1, 2003);
- Preauthorization from an MTF before receiving inpatient care (other than mental health services) and maternity care from a civilian provider (December 28, 2003); and
- Prior authorization for referral to a specialty care network provider (starting next year under the new TRICARE contracts).

For obstetrical care, the NAS requirement will be eliminated if the first prenatal visit takes place on or after December 28, 2003. The NAS for inpatient mental health care will continue to be required. The STS program was eliminated on June 1st of this year. This rule does not eliminate the need for prior authorization for specialty care when referred to a non-network provider. In

addition, prior authorization may still be required for specific procedures and other services ordered by network specialty providers. For example, a network provider may recommend a procedure such as a MRI; the MRI may still be subjected to medical necessity review. The new rule does include a number of exceptions for non-maternity care (the department can no longer require a NAS for maternity care for any reason). DoD still has the authority to reinstate a NAS requirement if: - Significant costs would be avoided by performing specific procedures at the affected MTF; - A specific procedure must be provided at a particular MTF to ensure that the providers at the facility can gain or maintain their skill proficiency (known as Graduate Medical Education); or - The lack of NAS data would significantly interfere with TRICARE contract administration.

In order to require a NAS, DoD will have to specify in advance and document by individual MTF and by each type of procedure that: - It would be less expensive to perform it at the MTF, - Military providers need to keep their skills up by doing the procedure in the MTF, or - There would be problems with the civilian contracts.

So far, DoD has not announced any requirements for NASs for any facilities or procedures and must give 60 days advance notice if they intend to require a NAS.

Once the IFR becomes policy there is concern regarding how DoD will communicate these individual requirements to beneficiaries and providers since not all MTF's will be following the same criteria. Beneficiaries should not learn after the fact that an NAS was required and then be held accountable for paying for care they thought was otherwise covered under TR CARE. The rule is available on the web at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-19452.htm>. Written comments are invited and will be considered for possible revisions to this rule. Comments need to be forwarded by September 29 to: Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Systems, TRICARE Management Activity, 16401 East Centretech Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011-9066. [Source: MOAA's Leg Up 15 AUG 03]

HEALTH

DISCLAIMER

The following articles dealing with health issues that concern or could concern our members are presented for your information and should not be construed as an endorsement of any of the treatments, medications or procedures outlined herein. It should be understood that there are new medications and treatments being developed that are largely untested, and though they show promise in the treatment of a given illness or condition, they may not be effective or safe for all individuals.

PREPARING A VA CLAIM

By: Bruce Melson with Dan Nate

*****I constantly read about the VA messing things up, but I never hear of anyone taking the bull by the horns and doing anything about it. Most people rely on the VA to do the right thing. Or you rely on the service organization to do the right thing. Don't count on them. You have to be responsible for your own actions.*****

Having helped several veterans and having done the prep work for the appeals, I can state one good reason why they take forever. You as the veteran did a lousy job of documenting what was needed to win. You had enough evidence to raise doubt in their minds, but not enough evidence to justify or prove you have a existing issue and if the issue was aggravated by the service, or voc rehab or your visit to the VA. Follow the steps below to gather as much evidence as possible. If that fails, the BVA paralegals have 3-5 4" binders full of address and other resources that they can call upon to develop your case. If you want to win, you have to do a better job at preparing your case.

1. Gather all the military, private and VA medical records (get copies made).
2. Review your military medical records and make a list of every ailment that you had while on active duty.
3. Cross reference all your military ailments with your civilian ailments. If the problem persists or a secondary issue has cropped up as a result of the issue that developed during your time in the military then you need to apply for that issue (as a secondary issue).
4. Go to the VA web site and download all the Fast Letters, Memo's and any other documentation that will support your case.
5. Go to the DAV, PAV and any other VSO web sites and bookmark them (and download anything related to your claims).
6. Get statements from all private doctors or other medical provider, have them state that your problems are DEFINITELY service connected. If the doctor uses the word possibly or probably the Medical Provider will have given the VA the excuse it needs to dismiss the doctor's statement. But, if all the doctor can say is probably, don't throw it away. Get more than one doctor to say the same thing, then write if two doctors say the same thing, then the reasonable doubt rule should apply and the probability is slim that the issue ISN'T service connected.

7. Get statements from anyone who knows you and your issues. Have these individuals state how the problems affect you (example: It is hard to bend over, or squat, or hear, etc..) Did you know you can get statements from anyone that knows you, yes your wife, kids, parents, co-workers even the guy/gal walking along the street. All of these people can contribute! All their statements are evidence that must be considered. If you have them put their phone number down on the statement and request the adjudicator to call (not if they have any questions), the adjudicator is required to call.

8. Go to <http://www.findlaw.com> or <http://www.veteransresources.net/database.html> and look up all Court of Veteran Appeals, US District Court, US Court of Appeals and Supreme Court decisions that affect your issues. Use these sites to support your other evidence. Do your own legal research!

9. If you have been going to a Vet Center, ask for their records on you. They are independent of the VA medical system (CAPRI) so you need to get a statement or copy of your providers notes or both from your treating Social Worker.

10. If you have gone to Vocational Rehab, you were evaluated by them. Do a Privacy Act request and get all copies of evaluations and anything else (to include reports of contact [ROC]). The Voc Rehab evaluations carry some weight, since they are independent evaluations. Get copies of the contractor evaluations and the VA's Voc Rehab evaluations.

11. Go to <http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/bookc.html>. Look up what your issue is and determine the percentage that you want to apply for. Now 98% of the Veteran Service Rep's (VSR's) will tell you not to give a percentage, but if you don't ask for a percentage and you are awarded 0% for an issue, you can't complain because they gave you exactly what you asked for. If the adjudicator denies your issue and you did not ask for a certain percentage, then you have to prove they didn't follow proper procedure (this is very hard to prove). Your VSR will tell you that the law can change. Great, if it increases then just fax, email (w/receipt) or mail in an updated request. If the percentage decreases, you don't need to do anything. The Veterans Claims Assistance Act of 2000 allows you to the law that is most favorable to you to be applied to your claim so don't change your percentage.

12. If you have been seeing a counselor at the VA

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Hospital, then get him/her to write you a statement of how bad they think your conditions are. Plus, write up your own statement. Let the adjudicator know about your background, your stressors and how this affects your daily life. Always and I mean Always have this statement lean towards your being suicidal, wanting to kill people and your wanting to harm not only yourself but others.

13. Current law favors the Vet. The VA fights it but you can use this to your advantage. Invoke VCAA. Read, understand and learn what VCAA can do for you. If you are within a year of the VCAA letter you received, then you have rights to reopen old cases, don't let that pass.

14. Go the VA web site, go to the <http://www.va.gov/vbs/bva/> or <http://www.veteransresources.net/database.html> to research all BVA opinions on your issues. These legal opinions as well as the courts opinions narrows the focus of how the adjudicator can look at the evidence. 15. You need to put together a narrative that reads like a graduate paper. You will refer to evidence that you collected (items 1-9) as well as. You tell your story as to how you were injured. I would also compile all the evidence by issue. Yellow highlight all that pertains to you and your issues. Cite this in your narrative.

16. You are entitled to claim all periods of active duty, all periods covered under Vocational Rehabilitation and any injuries suffered under the care of the VA for the purposes of disability claims (issues). You need to list all periods of active duty, to include ADT and reserve time. There are limited benefits for non-active duty personnel. By stating the periods of active duty, and providing documentation (such as copies of orders), you will increase your chances of winning your claim.

17. Go to your private doctor. Have him do the C&P exam the correct way. Go to the C&P office at your local VA Hospital (if your too far away, have them either email or fax to you the exam criteria). Make sure he is a specialist (preferably board certified) in the field. Then show him the exams you were given by the VA as well as all your personal medical records on this issue. Ask him if he concurs with their exam. If he doesn't, get him to put it in writing and cite the different tests that he performed to support his conclusions. Thus you beat them at their own game. When you write it up, make sure you had the "COMPLETE" C&P exam done by a private doc and the VA doc's refused to perform the proper tests. Under the reasonable doubt rule, you have proven your case, and they failed to prove theirs.

The VA can be like a willful child. You have to pull the child by the ear and lead it in the direction that you want it to go. If you let anyone else do this for you, then your doing yourself a disservice. The VSR's are overworked and after you leave their office, will pull up a template and plug in the issues and submit a formatted claim.

Which one do you think will have a better chance?

The only way to speed up your claims is for you to be dying. There is no accelerated claim process. Trust me when I say this, your situation is no worse than most, I have seen worse. Some individual's claims had gone on for 22 years. I have heard of longer. My guess is you will get something but not what you expect unless you follow the steps I have outlined above. The money you get will be minimal compared to what you need. If you have a rating of at least 20%, then you should apply immediately for Vocational Rehabilitation (if you haven't already done so). Voc rehab will give you between \$500 to \$600 a month while you're in school (full time). You can retrain for a new career at the same time.

You all know your stories, tell the VA how you were injured, cite the times you went to the medial facility, and later the follow-up care you have received from your private doctor. Invoke the REASONABLE DOUBT clause as well as VCAA. Cite VBA and Court of Appeals legal cases that support your claim and the fact that you are entitled to a certain percentage rating.

YES, review the ratings percentages. Think of your worst day (pain, etc.) and rate yourself on that basis. After a few years your pain will probably be at that level, unless you can get the symptoms reversed somehow.

I listed every time I went to the doctor, provided a copy of that medical record, highlighted the medical record and bunched them together in a group so the claims examiner did not have to hunt for the information. I IDIOT proofed the claim! I wrote my claims and other peoples claims (and they received everything they have asked for) because I anticipated the weaknesses in the claim and found the law or regulation that supported that weakness.

I also looked up medial studies to support my claim and provided those studies (were my case might be weak or a secondary issue) to help in the adjudication process. I especially like VA or DoD or National Institute of Health medical studies. It's hard to argue with yourself when yourself (the government) has come to the conclusion that the problem exists and what the symptoms are (which are the same symptoms you're reporting).

Remember, the service organizations receive thousands of requests for representation. These organizations use canned letters that are ok, but not necessarily in your best interest. If you provide them with most if not all of the research, it will make their life easier when they go to write the cover letter. They will know what cases to cite and can do a better job in supporting you (if you choose to use them).

Ed. Note: Help is available to our members in preparing and filing claims. Contact me, (John Chester) and I will set you up with someone who can help. Contact numbers and addresses for me are in the front of the magazine.

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VA Rating Procedures For PTSD Claims

By: Bruce Melson with Dan Nate

ED. Note: The following, in conjunction with the companion piece on claim preparation, should be referred to by anyone who is filing a claim for service connection as a result of PTSD, or is in the process of filing such a claim.

The below info comes from M21-1 - Adjudication Procedures VA manual

http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/M21_1.html

CHAPTER 11. RATING SPECIFIC DISABILITIES

http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/part6/ch11.doc

11.36 PSYCHIATRIC CONDITIONS

a. Reductions. Do not make drastic reductions in evaluations in ratings for psychiatric conditions if a reduction to an intermediate rate is more in agreement with the degree of disability. See also 38 CFR 3.344. The general policy to be observed is a gradual reduction in evaluation to afford the veteran all possible opportunities of adjustment.

b. Attempted Suicide. A finding of "mental unsoundness" under the provisions of 38 CFR 3.302, in the absence of any underlying psychiatric disability subject to service connection, does not in itself constitute a service-connectable disability. See *Elkins v. Derwinski*, 8 Vet. App. 391 (1995).

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD)

Service connection for PTSD requires medical evidence establishing a clear diagnosis of the condition, credible supporting evidence that the claimed in-service stressor actually occurred, and a link, established by medical evidence, between current symptomatology and the claimed in-service stressor (38 CFR 3.304(f)). The issue of service connection for PTSD is the sole responsibility of the rating specialist at the local level. Central Office opinion or guidance may be requested on complex cases.

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

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

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

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

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

(5) Every decision involving the issue of service connection for PTSD alleged to have occurred as a result of combat must include a factual determination as to whether or not the veteran was engaged in combat, including the reasons or bases for that finding. (See *Gaines v. West*, 11 Vet. App. 113 (1998).)

b. Evidence of Stressors in Service

(1) Conclusive Evidence. Any evidence available from the service department indicating that the veteran served in the area in which the stressful event is alleged to have occurred and any evidence supporting the description of the event are to be made part of the record. Corroborating evidence of a stressor is not restricted to service records, but may be obtained from other sources (see *Doran v. Brown*, 6 Vet. App. 283 (1994)). If the claimed stressor is related to combat, in the absence of information to the contrary, receipt of any of the following individual decorations will be considered evidence that the veteran engaged in combat:

Air Force Cross

Air Medal with "V" Device

Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device

Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Combat Action Ribbon

Combat Infantryman Badge

Combat Medical Badge

Distinguished Flying Cross

Distinguished Service Cross

HEALTH

Joint Service Commendation Medal with "V" Device
 Medal of Honor
 Navy Commendation Medal with "V" Device
 Navy Cross
 Purple Heart
 Silver Star

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

(2) Evidence of Personal Assault. Personal assault is an event of human design that threatens or inflicts harm. Examples of this are rape, physical assault, domestic battering, robbery, mugging, and stalking.

(a) Alternative Evidence. If the military record contains no documentation that a personal assault occurred, alternative evidence might still establish an in-service stressful incident. Examples of such evidence include, (but are not limited to):

- Records from law enforcement authorities
- Records from rape crisis centers, hospitals, or physicians
- Pregnancy tests or tests for sexually transmitted diseases, and · Statements from family members, roommates, fellow service members or clergy.

(b) Behavior Changes. Behavior changes that occurred at the time of the incident may indicate the occurrence of an in-service stressor. Examples of such changes include (but are not limited to):

- Visits to a medical or counseling clinic or dispensary without a specific diagnosis or specific ailment · Sudden requests for a change in occupational series or duty assignment without other justification · Increased use or abuse of leave without an apparent reason, such as family obligations or family illness · Changes in performance and performance evaluations · Episodes of depression, panic attacks, or anxiety but no identifiable reasons for the episodes · Increased or decreased use of prescription medications · Increased use of over-the-counter medications · Substance abuse such as alcohol or drugs · Increased disregard for military or civilian authority · Obsessive behavior such as overeating or undereating · Unexplained economic or social behavior changes, and · Breakup of a primary relationship.

(c) Development Requirements. Do not deny a post-traumatic stress disorder claim that is based on in-service personal assault without first advising the claimant that evidence from sources other than service medical records, including evidence of behavior changes, may constitute credible supporting evidence of the stressor. Allow the veteran the opportunity to furnish this type of evidence or indicate its potential sources.

(d) Interpretation of Secondary Evidence. In personal assault claims, secondary evidence may need interpretation by a clinician, especially if it involves behavior changes. Evidence that documents such behavior changes may require interpretation in relationship to the medical diagnosis or an opinion by an appropriate medical or mental health professional as to whether it indicates that a personal assault occurred.

(3) Credible Supporting Evidence. A combat veteran's lay testimony alone may establish an in-service stressor for purposes of service connecting PTSD (Cohen v. Brown, 94-661 (U.S. Ct. Vet. App. March 7, 1997)). However, a noncombat veteran's testimony alone does not qualify as "credible supporting evidence" of the occurrence of an in-service stressor as required by 38 CFR 3.304(f). After-the-fact psychiatric analyses which infer a traumatic event are likewise insufficient in this regard (Moreau v. Brown, 9 Vet. App. 389 (1996)).

c. Development

(1) For instructions regarding development of service records, medical treatment, and evidence of stressor or personal assault, refer to Part III, subparagraphs 5.14b and 5.14c.

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

d. Incomplete Examinations and/or Reconciliation of Diagnosis. If an examination is received with the diagnosis of PTSD which does not contain the above essentials of diagnosis, return the examination as incomplete for rating purposes, note the deficiencies, and request reexamination.

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

(2) Exercise caution to assure that situational disturbances containing adjustment reaction of adult life which subside when the situational disturbance no longer exists, or is withdrawn, and the reactions of those without neurosis who have "dropped out" and have become alienated are not built into a diagnosis of PTSD.

e. Link Between In-service Stressor and Diagnosis. Relevant specific information concerning what happened must be described along with as much detailed information as the veteran can provide to the examiner regarding time of the event (year, month, day), geographical location (corps, province, town or other landmark feature such as a river or mountain),

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and the names of others who may have been involved in the incident. The examining psychiatrist or psychologist should comment on the presence or absence of other traumatic events and their relevance to the current symptoms. Service connection for PTSD will not be established either on the basis of a diagnosis of PTSD unsupported by the type of history and description or where the examination and supporting material fail to indicate a link between current symptoms and an in-service stressful event(s).

f. Review of Evidence

(1) If a VA medical examination fails to establish a diagnosis of PTSD, the claim will be immediately denied on that basis. If no determination regarding the existence of a stressor has been made, a discussion of the alleged stressor need not be included in the rating decision.

(2) If the claimant has failed to provide a minimal description of the stressor (i.e., no indication of the time or place of a stressful event), the claim may be denied on that basis. The rating should specify the previous request for information.

(3) If a VA examination or other medical evidence establishes a valid diagnosis of PTSD, and development is complete in every respect but for confirmation of the in-service stressor, request additional evidence from either the Center for Unit Records Research (CURR) or Marine Corps. (See Part III, paragraph 5.14.)

(4) Do not send a case to the CURR or Marine Corps unless there is a confirmed diagnosis of PTSD adequate to establish entitlement to service connection. Correspondingly, always send an inquiry in instances in which the only obstacle to service connection is confirmation of an alleged stressor. A denial solely because of an unconfirmed stressor is improper unless it has first been reviewed by the CURR or Marine Corps.

(5) If the CURR or the Marine Corps requests a more specific description of the stressor in question, immediately request the veteran to provide the necessary information. If the veteran provides a reasonably responsive reply, forward it to the requesting agency. Failure by the veteran to respond substantively to the request for information will be grounds to deny the claim based on unconfirmed stressor. (See Part III, paragraph 5.14.)

VA Pharmacy Rules Change: Some veterans waiting to see VA physicians for the first time may be eligible to receive medications that were prescribed by private doctors from VA mail-out pharmacies under a new policy announced on 24 July. The first prescriptions will be filled under the new program starting 22 September. To be eligible for the new benefit, veterans must meet all of the following conditions:

- Have enrolled in VA health care by July 25, 2003, and
- Requested their first primary care appointment with VA by July 25, 2003, and
- Must be waiting more than 30 days for their first appointment with a primary care physician on Sept. 22, 2003.

Eligible veterans will be unable to get prescriptions filled before that date. The period between 24 July and 22 Sep is intended to give VA time to identify and contact eligible veterans and to put new systems and procedures in place. The policy is short-term to help the vets who were enrolled and waiting for the appointment before 25 July, the date the benefits details will appear in the Federal Register. It does NOT apply to vets put on the waiting list after 24 July. VA estimates that 200,000 veterans will be eligible for the benefit. Vets covered by the new rule will receive information by mail from their nearest VA medical facility about filling prescriptions by mail from non-VA doctors, including information for the doctors themselves. [Source: VA News Release 24 JUL 03 www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/opalist_listserv.cfm]

John—

As usual I found my summer issue of Patrolling to be one of the best veterans organization publications that I read, from layout to content. My sincere compliments for a job well done. I do however have a comment on one of your articles.

On page 13 of the issue there was a write up entitled "Hepatitis C Drug Breakthrough." I believe it is inaccurate in describing the effects of HCV and its current treatment to the degree that it might convince vets who have the disease not to undergo current treatment because current treatment modalities don't work. This is not the case.

Forty to sixty percent of those taking the current medication will have the disease go into remission and be adjudged cured. I'm one of those. The difference in success (40% vs 60%) is linked to the genotype of the HCV virus the patient has. The new treatment described in the article won't be available for years. Thus veterans who believe the current treatment doesn't work and put off treatment waiting for the new meds, could increase their chances of contracting cirrhosis or liver cancer.

Current data indicates that 85% of those who contract Hepatitis C develop a chronic version. Fifteen percent are able to fight off the disease by virtue of their own immune

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system. Of the 85% who develop chronic disease, as I wrote, 40 - 60% are able to eliminate any trace of the virus by using current treatment modalities—specifically pegylated interferon with ribavirin. After four years without any indication of the virus, the patient is adjudged to be cured—my category. Of the 60% whose treatment was not successful, about 20% will run the risk of contracting cirrhosis or liver cancer.

So though HCV is a nasty virus capable of killing 20% of those whose treatment is not successful, which is still awful, far, far fewer are at risk of death than was indicated in the article. It is not a death sentence if you are treated, even if the treatment didn't work.

I've been involved with Hepatitis C issues since being first diagnosed with the disease in 1997. Its been attributed to

my service in Vietnam, probably when I was a BDQ advisor, though it also could have happened my second tour. Since being diagnosed I have served as Chairman of the East Bay Committee of the American Liver Foundation and a member of the Board of Directors of the Northern California Chapter of the American Liver Foundation. I am Co-Chair of the Alameda County Hepatitis C Coalition, a group of 20 organizations dealing with aspects of HCV. I am also a member of the VA National Advisory Committee on HCV and a member of the Community Advisory Board for the HCV Center of Excellence at the San Francisco VA Medical Center. I lay my bonifides out so that you know I've got a pretty good basis for my comments.

RLTW

Bill Schwartz

Growing up Fast

*More now than not, I remember when
We fought a war we weren't allowed to win
We were so young, just old enough to shave
Like warriors before us, we wanted to be brave*

*We had to learn fast or end up dead
We listened to the old timers, everything they said
Stay off trails, don't make a sound
When the point man signals, go quickly to the ground*

*After several missions, it's your big day
That's when you are awarded the black beret
We all think our unit's the best, all do their part
We were the Rangers, we knew it in our heart*

*As months passed, missions passed by
You saw many friends leave, many friends die
You carried the pig, walked point or slack
The key to survival was to never look back*

*We became old timers at nineteen years of age
We lost close friends, our hearts filled with rage
We cared for the new guys, we extended to stay
For we were the Rangers, we led the way.
Michael 'Poet' Monfroee, L/75*



FEATURE ARTICLES

I've written a lot of articles for this Association since first becoming its' President and afterwards but never once had a problem with what I wanted to say or a point I wanted to get across to you guys. It all sort of just flowed out once I knew what I wanted to express to you. Right now, I don't even know where to start. I know and realize that I'm on an emotional roller coaster that goes from sadness, to anger and to the tearful state and all back again. My brothers, this is not a high point in my life.

Rebecca and I spent 10 days around Memorial Day this year with John Chester and his wife, Mary Anne up in Baltimore. Most of the time was used taking individual digital photographs of each name of our Killed In Action that resides on the Vietnam Wall. As remorseful as that may sound to some of you, it was some what therapeutical for me after having spent months typing in each name and then sorting them by alphabetical, by month, by year and finally by unit for use on the web site, Patrolling Magazine or for your private individual use. There's somewhere near 500 names of men, real men who gave or lost their lives for this country while in the service with a unit of this Association.

But that's not the turmoil I currently find myself in. Nearing the end of our AMTRAK journey, I called home and found out that Val Morey had been trying to get in touch with me concerning the downward turn of Bouncers health. I had known for some time that Bouncer had been diagnosed with cancer and that the VA had estimated that he had about 6 months to live. I had already planned on going out there in July to spend some quality time with him. After getting in touch with her, I find out that he had sharply digressed and has days if not just a week left. Within minutes my wife had my plane ticket booked and I began repacking my just unpacked clothes.

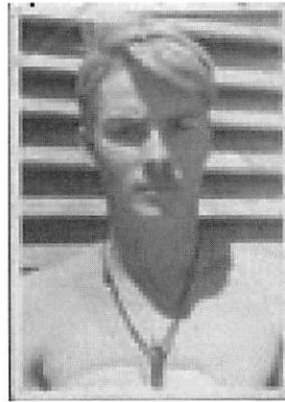
I'd never met Val before this time but I soon would. I had of course talked to her many times over the phone and by e-mail. She first contacted me in '98 and said her husband had served in F Company 50th Infantry Long Range Patrol Company in Vietnam and that they, just having acquired their first computer, typed in LRP and found our Association and our company unit. She said he was beside himself with joy and especially since a reunion was coming up that year at Ft. Benning. Unfortunately they couldn't afford for him to go and she wanted to know if I could help in some way? The devotion of this woman and life companion to a fellow brother is just a part of this saga.

A few others and myself from the company sent her money and she purchased a plane ticket for him to attend. I had him stay at my house to save the cost of a hotel room and even picked him up at the Atlanta airport. It must have been very scary for him to attend that first reunion. First, he couldn't remember any body or much about when he had accomplished in the unit and on top of this, he was staying with a complete stranger. Don't let your mind drift. Yes, I'm strange but we don't have to dwell on it that much right now. Let's move on. OK? At this first reunion, someone told me they saw Bouncer standing out in the hall way of the Hospitality suite peeking through the crack in the door watching everyone else having fun. Over a five-year period, he went from this quite timid person to one you couldn't shut up. Once or twice I took my life in my own hands and told Bouncer to shut up but that was not something he was used to hearing. I would not have recommend any one else saying it to him either.

Val picked me up at the Tacoma / Seattle Airport (SEATAC) and took me to where Bouncer was. I will not go into detail

about what I saw or his condition. Sometimes, those things are better remained unspoken.

Legends evolve around events or people based on spectacular or exceptional circumstances related to them over a given time. Bouncer once related an event that happened after he left the LRP Company and went to a line unit. His unit was in a running contact with an enemy force. They had come upon some tunnels that needed to be searched. Now you know we can't pass up these things without checking them out. There is always a need for some crazy guy and of course he has to be somewhat small to fit in the holes. 'Someone send Morey up here.' They gave Morey a .45 cal pistol and he went in first followed by a guy with a rifle who for some reason had fixed a bayonet on the end of it. I can see the wheels rolling in your head but don't jump ahead, stay with the story. So Morey finally comes face-to-face with the VC and a firefight ensues. Morey screams, 'Let's get out of here.' And he starts back peddling out of the tunnel as fast as he can. Unfortunately, he was moving backwards faster than, you guessed it, the guy with the bayonet. Morey got it in the ass. When he emerged from the hole screaming and bleeding, the medic gave him a shot of morphine and everybody moved back to the running firefight. A short time later, another medic arrives on the scene and after evaluating the wounded Morey, gives him a shot of morphine knowing an ass wound like that must hurt like hell. When Morey was finally medivaced to the rear, the doctors charged him under the UCMJ for a drug overdose. And you thought you got it in the shorts?



Another time, he was assigned as a track driver with a mechanized unit over there. While the unit was standing down near a rather large bomb crater filled with water, Morey wanted to see if his track really could float like they said it would. He battened down the hatches and drove it on into the water. He told me he first began watching the water rise and rise and then eventually it reached the turret windows. As he peered upwards he saw the surface disappear left only by a steady flow of air bubbles racing to the surface where he wished to be. Once he settled on the bottom of the bomb crater he popped the hatch and swam to the surface. Everyone around the bomb crater was laughing their asses off because he hadn't closed the drain plugs or turn on the bilge pump to pump out the water. Not sure but I think he got in trouble for that too. I've often wondered at what point in Bouncer's short Naval career, he realized something was terribly amiss with this submarine idea of his.

One last Bouncer story. Bouncer came to the 1998 and 2000 reunions. He also came out to my house in 1999 and we drove up for his first trip to the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. We had spent most of the day walking back and forth looking for names and just soaking in the breath taking majesty of the Wall. We were standing in the middle of the Wall, near the grass, to be away from the usual heavy foot traffic. We were standing side by side just staring at the Wall and saying nothing when all of a sudden a little 12-year-old little girl walked up and

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

stood squarely in front of us. We both looked down at her and she said, "Welcome home." I don't thank either Bouncer or I could at that moment said thank you without embarrassing ourselves. Neither of us would look at the other. We stood there for some time until we reinstalled that macho facade we all carry around, before we made our exit.



Bouncer worked really really hard at trying to maintain his rough and tough exterior that most often offended people or rubbed them the wrong way. It would have been an extremely rare occurrence if one ever saw any sign of weakness or overt compassion coming from this man. You had to really know this man and be able to observe him from afar to discover that he had a heart of GOLD. He was an exceptionally compassionate and kind man in all actuality to an extent I've rarely witnessed in another man before. It was sort of like watching a contradiction of terms when holding up and comparing the image against the actual man himself. It embarrassed him for people to be able to see through his façade and discover the real Bouncer. I got it, and for that reason, I got my fair share of threats and harassments from him to keep his secret safe. My mother nick-named him Baby, does that give you an idea of what was inside this man. No, you don't get to know what they nick-named me, so live with it.

I wrote an article recently where I mentioned that the two most honorable men I had ever known, had beards, long hair and no teeth but I never stated their names. I did this intentionally, because if you knew what honor was, you knew to whom I was talking about and if not then there was no sense naming them because you still wouldn't get it. Bouncer was one of these men I had used as an example to describe what honor was. I thought

I knew what honor was but Bouncer enlightened my education of this trait even farther.

Bouncer my brother, I came to your side as soon as I was summoned. I held your hand and made my promises to you. We had our last words and you gave me my last instructions of life. I did all that was within my ability to help your family through this trying time. What I did, witnessed and went through was not pleasurable by any means. I did what I did because it was the right thing to do. I did it out of respect and love for a brother.

The time I spent at Bouncer's place was an experience that I shall not forget easily. What I saw there made me envious of the man. I got to see what an extended family really was. I saw men who could have been potentially the meanest and roughest men to walk the face of the earth visit and pay their respect in the most profound and docile manner imagined. I saw young and old emotionally distraught with remorse. I saw segments of society that Bouncer had formed around himself that only he could navigate within with the greatest of ease. For he had touched all these people in a way no one else could. They all got it. They all knew what they had lost and it was a time for them all to come together and pay their respect in their own way.

I would be remiss of my responsibilities if I didn't mention just a few of these people out of my own respect for the relationship they had formed with my friend. Claudette and Mike were and most likely will be the single most source of stability, love and friendship this family has ever known or ever will know. Wally and Chris were neighbors any one would cite as a reason to move next door. Chuck was probably the one person that caused Bouncer to be so mentally sharp. And finally to the Campbell clan who vacated their house to let Bouncer live in their home in comfort. To all of the above, thank you for being there for our brother and being such a vital part of his life.

I need to address Bouncer's family that was the joy of his life. I never met any of them until I went there and this alone totally set me back. Bouncer's wife, Valerie (Val) was a jewel. No man could ever ask for a better soul or life mate as she was to him. She took care of him as each of us hope we may be cared for in our final days. She was the strongest of us all. He was definitely spoiled. His daughter Corey has gone on to raise a wonderful family of her own which I know gave Bouncer much comfort. His son, Erick is a fine example of a man that I know Bouncer was proud of and will guide the family in the right direction. His son John, is another fine example of a young man who has the whole world waiting anxiously for him to make his mark in life. He is the man of the house now. And then there is his son Trevor, who may give the rest of the family a run for their money.

Steven Leroy (Bouncer) Morey passed away on 4 June 2003 at 5:10pm at his home with his family in Sumner Washington. No mushy words here. He wasn't into that sort of stuff. If you didn't know this truly exceptional brother of ours, you messed up big time. If you didn't know this man, then you don't know what we just lost. If you didn't know this man, you don't get it and wouldn't understand anyway. Bouncer was a Diamond in the rough. Bouncer, I love you brother, always have and always will. Rangers Lead The Way but you LRP's showed the rest of us that followed how to do it. I've lost a Brother and it hurts like hell.

In closing, I viewed an e-mail where an individual said he didn't need to go watch another man die. He'd see him on the other side and that was good enough. I have come to the

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

conclusion that these are the words of a fearful man who will reap what he sows. As I stated, this was not a pleasurable experience and not one I looked forward to doing. It was the right thing to do. The right thing is not always the most desirable or pleasant course of action in life. Imagine laying in a hospital bed, not recognizing anyone around you; not knowing what was going on; not knowing what they were doing to you; not being able to participate in the decisions of the care you were receiving; being in pain with no comfort in sight and worse yet the fear of the unknown. I wouldn't want to be placed in this situation. And for that reason, I will never allow any of my friends to have to be placed in this situation. It is for this reason that I do these things and go to my friends' side when they need me. The rest of you better begin to start laying the groundwork for your own final days. If you don't want to experience the above situation then

you better start paying your dues now. No brother deserves to walk the final few steps by himself. No man is an island unto himself. Get off your ass and start doing the right thing. Lying in that bed is not the time to wish you had listened to me on this matter. When you're lying in that bed, it is too late to pay your dues.

For this reason, I'm instituting a Georgia State Brotherhood within the Association. It will not be a leadership position nor is it to be considered a Sub-Chapter in any way. Neither of which are authorized by our Association Bylaws. For more information concerning this and how to establish on for your State, see my article titled 'Georgia State Brotherhood' located in this edition.

Bouncer, I love you brother.
Emmett W. Hiltibrand



Did you say attitude?

I believe John Whitney was only seventeen when he joined the Army. He was maybe a year older at the time of this photo and actually looked even younger than his age but, he had more confirmed kills than most guys in our unit at the time.

Brian West, K CO

Ross Perot Honored by the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn

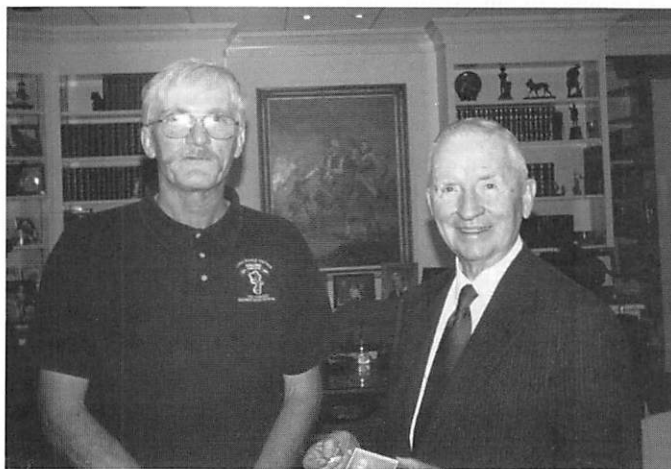
By: Randy White

On Friday, September 3, 2003, Randy White, Unit Director of L CO, traveled to Texas in order to make a presentation to H. Ross Perot on behalf of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. Mr. Perot was made an honorary life member of our association for the aid and assistance and philanthropic acts that he has extended to the Ranger and Special Operations Community. His aid to Ranger Jeremy Feldbusch, who was wounded and is blind as a result of an action in Iraq, was just one of many acts of kindness that he has extended to our people. Randy presented Mr. Perot with several past issues of Patrolling Magazine, a silver challenge coin, engraved with his name, a life member pin, a certificate signed by the Association President and Secretary, nine autographed copies of books about LRRP/LRP/Ranger Operations, and finally, a very unique granite plaque.

The plaque has a story of its own. It was donated to the association by Neil Gentry, Jr. Neil's father, Neil Gentry, was the author of the original Rangers Creed. Thank you so much, Neil Jr. We also want to thank Reynel Martinez, Ken Miller, Gary Linderer, W. T. Grant and William C. Meacham, the authors that signed and donated the books mentioned above. The plaque is featured on the inside front cover.

And most importantly, Thank You, Mr. Perot.

On Friday September 5 2003, it was my distinct honor to represent the 75th Ranger Regiment Association in Dallas Texas by presenting H. Ross Perot with an Honorary Life Membership in the 75th RRA. Whatever your political persuasion might be, you can not deny the fact that Mr. Perot has supported the veterans and special operations community of this country to the fullest extent. In my humble opinion Mr. Perot is a true American who is cut from a patriotic cloth that few citizens can equal. Without detailing all his contributions to our country and our military community, his support of wounded 75th Ranger Jeremy Feldbusch justifies his receiving this most deserving honor. Mr. Perot did not seek this recognition nor did he make it publicly known that he was going to great lengths to provide Jeremy with the finest medical help available. Instead he prefers to be a doer and not a talker, and to quietly work in the shadows. Sometimes a light must be shown on people such as Mr. Perot, and they should be sought out for recognition. My thanks to the association for allowing me to shine that light on such a person and represent our members, and at the same time have a once in a lifetime encounter with a true patriot. And yes, I voted for him.....both times.



Randy White, L/75 presents a life member pin and challenge coin to Mr. H. Ross Perot, at his Dallas office.



SP4 Jeremy Feldbusch

Pittsburg Tribune May 26, 2003

By Joyce Shannon

TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Monday, May 26, 2003

On April 3, Army Ranger Spec. Jeremy Feldbusch, of Derry Township, was injured in Iraq when shrapnel hit him the face. Slowly, he is coming back to the world he knew before. But he never will see the world the same way.

continued next page

Pittsburg cont...

The soldier -- friends and family call him a hero -- lost his right eye in that battle, and the status of his left eye is "uncertain," according to an Army-approved statement from a family spokesperson. Feldbusch also suffered a traumatic brain injury. "Jeremy and his team were serving on the front lines and were receiving heavy fire. Incoming mortar rounds were exploding all around them, and Jeremy sustained a direct injury," reads the statement from family friend Gail McCrady, who has known the Feldbusch family for nearly 30 years. Feldbusch, of the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, was evacuated from the site and eventually taken to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. To remove the metal bomb fragments lodged in his head, he underwent a seven-hour brain surgery there.

Feldbusch's parents, Brace and Charlene, have been with their son at Brooke since he arrived April 9. "At this point in time, Jeremy needs both his parents there," McCrady said. After the surgery, Feldbusch was weaned off a ventilator, but at first he could communicate only through gestures. On May 19, he was moved from intensive care to a step-down unit. Although he is beginning to walk and talk more each day, he continues to be at risk for infection. He also has lost more than 50 pounds. Feldbusch requires more operations, but they were put on hold after he developed an infection that weakened him.

His brothers Shaun, 25, and Brian, 16, have flown to Texas to be with him as much as they can. "We're praying for the best," said Feldbusch's aunt, Sandy Avalli. "It'd be sad for this kind of thing to happen to anybody, but it's especially sad for something like this to happen to a kid like Jeremy." Still, Avalli was impressed by how much her nephew has improved, she said. "Jeremy has made great strides," one statement from McCrady said. "He has been able to speak with some close family friends via phone and has been visited continuously by his Ranger brothers."

On the same day Feldbusch was injured, three Rangers from his battalion were killed, according to the Department of Defense. In a separate release, U.S. Central Command

confirmed three coalition soldiers were killed and two were injured that day in a car bomb attack at a coalition checkpoint in western Iraq near the Hadithah Dam, several hundred kilometers northwest of Baghdad. Whispers started flying that Feldbusch was one of those injured in that attack, in which the driver of the car and a pregnant woman also were killed. But McCrady said that it is not true, according to Army officials. While in his hospital bed, Feldbusch received a Purple Heart, presented by Lt. Gen. James Peake, the surgeon general of the Army. He also was awarded his Combat Jump Wings and the Bronze Star with Valor Device. McCrady praised the "brotherhood" of soldiers that has stuck by Feldbusch. She has had opportunities to talk to some of them. "They're wonderful," she said. "They're a great group of guys. I haven't met a Ranger who wasn't. They have a creed that once you're a Ranger, you're always a Ranger."

Meanwhile, back home, residents of the Derry and Blairsville areas have been holding fund-raisers to help the Feldbusch family. "There have been so many people wanting to help," McCrady said. "Jeremy's parents are in Texas, so they're not working." At Feldbusch's alma mater, Derry Area High School, funds were solicited at the prom and at the high school choir's spring concert. The concert collection gleaned about \$287 for the family, and the prom collected \$430. Students at Blairsville Elementary have, with their teachers' encouragement, written letters of support to Feldbusch. New Derry Elementary students also have made cards and sent get-well wishes. In addition, Feldbusch's former geometry teacher, Becky McGann, has collected \$3,000 from district employees. She also started a drawing based on today's Daily Number in the Pennsylvania Lottery. All the tickets were sold, generating another \$3,000 for the family. McGann is planning a second drawing for the Fourth of July, and tickets soon will be for sale. "People have been real supportive. Everybody wants an update each day," said McGann, who graduated from high school with Charlene Feldbusch. "It's tough but (we know) he's making daily improvements. We hope to get him closer to home soon. "He was a good kid, a good student," she added. "He's just an all-around good American boy."

A Tour of Military Museums

BY: John Chester

Airborne - Special Operations Museum - Ft Bragg, NC

K/75, E/58 LRP, 4th Inf Div LRRP had its reunion at Ft Bragg, NC., 8 thru 11 August, 2003. There were 32 people in attendance and a good time was had by all. On Saturday morning we all assembled at the Airborne & Special Operations Museum in Fayette, NC., and had the privilege of being the recipients of a serenade in our honor by the All American (82nd Airborne Division) Chorus. This was a rare treat indeed. These young men were really good. There was considerably more involved than a singing show, these guys were performers! They had us in the palms of their hands and they knew it.

After the performance, we all attended the dedication of the

memorial stone for the K/ 75, E/58, 4th Div LRRP soldiers, (see Photo), and then we were free to tour the museum. This is a very impressive edifice. I had spent many years at Ft Bragg, but the museum did not exist when I was there.

There are exhibits from each of the wartime periods that employed Airborne or Special Operations Forces. The history of Airborne Forces is traced from the first balloon ride in the late 1700's to the forming of the airborne test platoon in 1941. As you might imagine, there is quite a large exhibit relative to WW II, from the first airborne assaults in North Africa and Sicily, to the Normandy invasion and Market Garden. There are also sections

A Tour cont...

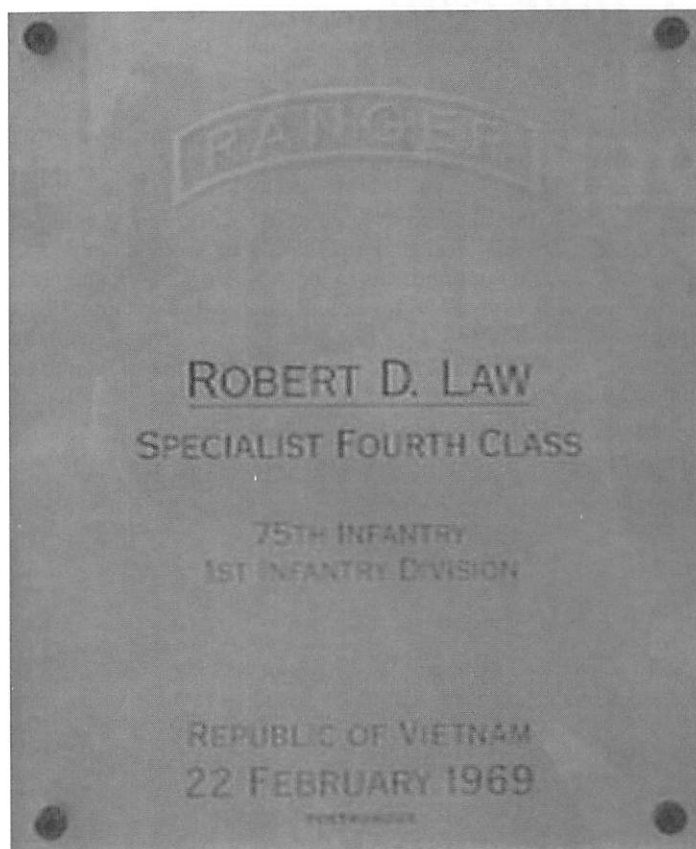
devoted to Korea, Vietnam, the forming of the Ranger Battalions, Grenada, Panama and Desert Storm. There is also a section devoted to the forming of the first LRRP units, (see Photo). The edifice itself is quite impressive, and, if you are fortunate enough to be there on a clear day, the gardens are really worth seeing.

In the main hall of the museum is a display of all the Medal of Honor winners that were in Airborne or Special Operations Units, from WW II to present. Also in the main hall are life sized displays of a static line jumper and a military free fall parachutist, complete with parachute and equipment. There is also a gift shop, (where we bought a CD of the All American Chorus), that sells everything from miniature CIB'S to Tee shirts, denim shirts, books, CD'S and more.

The attached photos are of the exhibits in the Airborne – Special Operations Museum.

National Infantry Museum – Ft Benning, GA

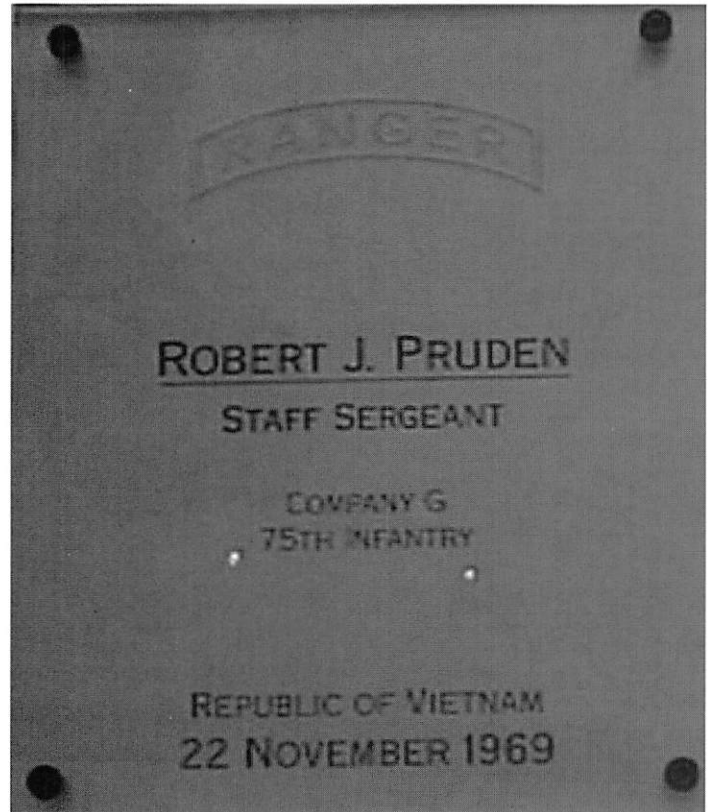
The Infantry Museum is located at the main post area at Ft Benning, GA. Located in a very stately, turn of the century building, surrounded by tall trees, the museum consists of three floors of displays. The infantry's evolution is traced from the middle Ages to the present day, and includes exhibits relative to all the major conflicts in American history. There are exhibits of weapons, equipment, insignia and any thing that you can imagine that relates to warfare in general and the Infantry in particular. There is a section devoted to trophies (loot), most of it taken from Hitler's Headquarters at the end of World War II.



A Tour cont...

The first thing that greets you as you enter the main hall, is a memorial to two Rangers killed in Afghanistan, Kris Stonesifer and Jon Edmunds. There is a memorial book, containing comments from friends and family and a case with assorted memorabilia, (see Photo in the Gold Star Section).

Out side the exhibit hall are a large number of infantry vehicles and tanks from all eras, and memorials to various units and divisions. There are monuments to the scout dogs of Vietnam and the Rangers of World War II, among others. These monuments are on the edge of a large park like area that is dedicated to all the men and women that lost their lives in all the wars in American history. Though it sounds strange, the setting is very peaceful, as a battlefield sometimes is after the guns are silent.



2003 DISTINGUISHED AND HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT

Distinguished Members of the Regiment

MG Dell L. Dailey
BG Mark T. Kimmitt
COL Bernard S. Champoux
COL (R) Ralph Hagler
COL (R) Robert L. Click
LTC Campbell P. Cantelou
LTC Stefan J. Banach
CSM Michael A. Kelso
CSM Hugh A. Roberts
CSM Frank A. Grippe
CSM (R) George Horvath
1SG (R) David Mark Keith
SFC Robert Miller

Honorary Members of the Regiment

BG Howard W. Yellen
COL Thomas F. Spellissy
Mr. H. Ross Perot
Mr. Randal Collinsworth
Mrs. Carol Darby

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION		
	EMMETT W. HILTIBRAND 6459 ADAMS PARK DR. COLUMBUS, GA 31909 (706) 323-5426 ranger2c@mchsi.com	
GEORGIA STATE COORDINATOR		

This is the introduction of a new concept for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. A need has presented itself for a single point of contact located in each State to organize and coordinate activities within that State. This point of contact, henceforth known as the State Coordinator, is not a leadership position within the Association. The sole purpose for creating this concept is for the Association to have the flexibility to coordinate critical activities geographically within each State regardless of an individual's unit affiliation. Up to this point, the Association has not had the means to reach out to individual members, to coordinate funeral services, to visit sick members, the retention of current or lapsed members, the recruitment of new members or the solicitation of Corporate Sponsors in a State-by-State capacity.

The approving authority for each State Coordinator position shall be the Association President. State Representatives report to and work directly for the Association President. State Coordinators will be allowed to post articles in the Patrolling Magazine related to their State matters. They will also be provided space on the Association web site to post information. This is a purely volunteer position and State Coordinators serve at the discretion of the Association President. There will be no reimbursement by the Association for any expenses incurred in the execution of these duties.

The following are a list of functions the State Coordinator may be required to fulfill:

- Contact non-members and attempt to assist and recruit them in joining the Association.
- Contact members whose membership has lapsed and assist them in renewing.
- Organize and coordinate for funeral services.
- Organize and coordinate visitation of incapacitated members.
- Establish an alert roster system for all members within the State.
- Maintain an informal contact with all members within the State.
- Solicit local State businesses for advertisements and sponsors in the Patrolling Magazine.
- Present a limited article for publication in the Patrolling Magazine for each edition.
- Present current information to the web site. (More space available here.)
- Disseminate time sensitive information to members by alternative means.

(The above list is not mandatory or all-inclusive of the duties or functions for the State Coordinator but serve rather as a guideline.)

Each State Coordinator may cross unit boundaries and / or lines to fulfill the duties listed above in behalf of the Association. As a common courtesy, the State Coordinator should keep the Unit Director informed concerning pertinent information of any given individual within that unit. Once appointed by the Association President, the State Coordinator should contact the Association Secretary for the necessary information concerning individuals located within his given State. The State Co-ordinator may not share this information with third parties without the expressed permission of the Association President or Secretary.

The responsibility and actions of the State Coordinator is essential and critical to the day-to-day operations of the Association. The ability for the Association to be able to reach members outside the normal chain of command or in conjunction with the unit is paramount. The work sharing of funeral duty assures that no member is left to make the final walk to his grave a solitary one. The assistance in recruitment and retention of members assures the Association strength well in to the future. The potential impact that this position could have on the Association can only be a win / win situation.

I have volunteered for the first assignment to this new concept by seeking the position of State Representative for the State of Georgia. My friend Sid Smith has volunteered for the State of Florida. John Chester has volunteered for the State of Maryland. My friend Mike Wise who lives in Georgia has already consented to assist me. Those of you wishing to contribute to the success of the Association should contact the Association President as soon as possible. Volunteering, contributing and participation in these activities is rewarding. The ability to give something back to the Association and fostering Brotherhood is rewarding. Don't look upon this as extra work or an inconvenience. Serving the Association has been therapeutical for many who have served and are still serving. I look forward to working with each State Representative in the future.

Emmett W. Hiltibrand

Ranger Hall of Fame Inductees, 2003

The members of the Ranger Hall of Fame Selection Board are proud to introduce the 2003 Ranger Hall of Fame inductees.

The Ranger Hall of Fame began to honor and preserve the spirit and contributions of America's most extraordinary Rangers. The members of the Ranger Hall of Fame Selection Board take particular care to ensure that only the most extraordinary Rangers earn induction, a difficult mission given the high caliber of all nominees. Their precepts are impartiality, fairness, and scrutiny.

Select Ranger units and associations representing each era of Ranger history impartially nominate inductees. The Selection Board scrutinizes each nominee to ensure only the most extraordinary contributions received acknowledgment.

Each Ranger association and U.S. Army MACOM may submit a maximum of 3 nominations per year. Medal of Honor recipients, if otherwise qualified for the Ranger Hall of Fame, will be inducted without regard to quota.

Selection criteria is as unique as our Ranger history. Eligibility for selection to the Hall of Fame includes the following: a person must be deceased or have been separated, or retired from active military service for at least three years at the time of nomination. He must have served in a Ranger unit in combat or be a successful graduate of the U.S. Army Ranger School. A Ranger unit is defined as an Army unit recognized in Ranger lineage or history. Achievement or service may be considered for individuals in a position in state or national government after the Ranger has departed the Armed Forces.

Honorary induction may be conferred on individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to Ranger units, the Ranger foundation, or the Ranger community in general, but who do not meet the normal criteria of combat service with a Ranger unit or graduation from the U.S. Army Ranger School.

The 2003 Selection Board published the nomination criteria and accepted nominations. Nominations were accepted from the Army at large and nominations were also accepted from the following Ranger associations:

a. Ranger Battalions Associations of World War II. b. Merrill's Marauders Association, Inc.
c. The Ranger Infantry Companies (Airborne) of the Korean War. d. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. e. United States Army Ranger Association, Inc.

On behalf of the 2003 Nominating Committee and Selection Board, we would like to extend our congratulations to the Ranger Hall of Fame inductees. These inductees represent some of the most extraordinary Rangers in the history of our nation. Their seemingly endless list of significant contributions, selfless sacrifice, loyal service, and profound character stand as examples to all professionals. They are a tremendous source of pride and inspiration to us all.

SERGEANT MAJOR VLADIMIR JAKOVENKO

Ranger Jakovenko is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his actions as a professional soldier in the truest meaning of a soldier. Ranger Jakovenko distinguished himself gallantry in action on November 21, 1970, as a member of an all volunteer joint United States Army and Air Force assault mission to rescue United States' military personnel held as prisoners of war at Son Tay Prison in North Vietnam. With contempt for danger, Sergeant Jakovenko exposed himself to enemy fire to place effective machine gun fire on the enemy and neutralize their automatic weapons positions. Sergeant Jakovenko performed in a heroic manner while under hostile fire. He provided covering fire to ensure the safe withdrawal of other units throughout the raid, fighting valiantly and fearlessly until the mission was completed. His extreme devotion to duty undoubtedly saved many lives during the mission. He earned a Silver Star for his actions.

Ranger Jakovenko's twenty nine years of outstanding service included two tours of combat duty in Vietnam earning him three Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart.

SERGEANT MAJOR ANDY MARKIVICH

Sergeant Major Andy Markivich is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his distinguished military career that truly mirrored the life of a professional noncommissioned officer and that of a U.S. Army Ranger. He saw combat with a small group of Americans handpicked as Advisors to the Vietnamese Rangers and Airborne during his three combat tours in South Vietnam. An honor graduate of the German Ranger School, and an original member of the V Corps' Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Company, his military service spanned from postwar World War II, to the Cold War era, to the unconventional warfare operations of the Vietnam conflict.

Among numerous highlights of his audacious service are a Combat Tactical parachute jump with the Vietnamese Airborne Division and a Commendation for his efforts in rescuing Americans and Vietnamese from the American Embassy in Saigon, after a Viet Cong bomb was detonated, killing two Americans 17 Vietnamese and wounding 51 Americans and 94 Vietnamese. He was selected as the "first" Ranger class tactical NCO, with the U.S. Army Ranger Department/Florida Ranger Camp, under a new system that featured having both an officer and NCO to mentor and teach a student class. He was recommended for a battlefield commission, which he declined, and was awarded the American Spirit Honor Medal during his U.S. Marine Corps' basic training for displaying "Outstanding Qualities of Leadership Best Expressing the American Spirit-Honor, Initiative, Loyalty and High Example to Comrades in Arms."

In recognition of his courage and high personal qualities while fighting with the Vietnamese 52nd Ranger Battalion, Ranger Markivich

Ranger Hall cont...

was designated as an enlisted aide to Brigadier General John K. Boles. Decorated by both the U.S. Military and the Vietnamese during each of his combat tours, Sergeant Major Markivich has exemplified the spirit of the American Ranger.

1ST LIEUTENANT MARK JOSEPH TOSCHIK

Ranger Mark Toschik is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his conspicuous heroic service to his country in time of war and for his devotion to the Ranger Creed in never leaving a fallen comrade behind.

In March, 1970, 2nd Lt. Toschik volunteered for Ranger duty as platoon leader with 1st Platoon, Company E (Ranger), 75th Infantry, 3d Brigade, 9th Infantry Division in Tan An, Long An Province, Republic of Vietnam, engaging in combat operations against hostile forces in the Mekong Delta and in Cambodia.

On 11 August 1970, 1st Lt. Mark Toschik was killed in action in Dinh Tuong Province, Republic of Vietnam and was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action and the National Order of Vietnam, Fifth Class. The circumstances leading to these awards are as follows: Ranger Toschik was flying Command and Control and had inserted Team 1-4. As the helicopter lifted off, it came under intense automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire. Ranger Toschik moved to the left door to assist the door gunner in engaging three enemy soldiers firing from the ground. Although wounded twice, he continued to place highly accurate fire on enemy positions. The action was quick and fierce, and Ranger Toschik fought back savagely with all available resources. Having expended his 30 round magazine, he grabbed up and emptied the 20 round magazines of two additional M16 rifles. He was then wounded a third time as the helicopter received a direct hit from a Rocket Propelled Grenade round. Ranger Toschik now fired all the rounds of his 9mm and, to attest to the relative closeness of the encounter, he threw the empty pistol at the enemy. He then ripped the .38 cal. pistol from the copilot's shoulder holster and emptied it before the helicopter hit the ground and burst into flames. Upon impact, Ranger Toschik, though mortally wounded, disregarded his own wounds and managed to pull the copilot and pilot from the aircraft and then moved to the far side of the craft in search of other wounded aircrew. Ranger Toschik could go no farther and succumbed to his wounds. Ranger Toschik's conspicuous valor and unwavering dedication to his comrades, for whom he willingly and without reservation made the ultimate sacrifice, exemplifies the highest ideals of the Ranger Creed, "I WILL NEVER LEAVE A FALLEN COMRADE TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE ENEMY." RLTW!!!!

Ed Note: These men were nominated from units that are members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.

Necessity, Invention's Mother

AQUBAH, Iraq — American soldiers eat match heads in the desert. "The sulfur in them gets in your system and you sweat it out and it keeps the mosquitoes away," explained Pfc. Joshua Joe, an artillery forward observer from Buena Park, Calif. A folding pack of matches comes in every Meal Ready to Eat (MRE), so some soldiers chew up — or lick, depending on their preference — as many as 20 per day.

That's just one of the tricks GIs have devised to cope with life in Iraq's hostile environment. In the 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood, Texas, many soldiers carry tampons to plug bullet holes in case they are shot. They stick Condoms on the muzzles of .50-caliber machine guns to keep out dust, and shoot right through the latex when the time comes to fire. There are soldier-made port a-johns: folding metal chairs with a Hole cut in the seat and a toilet seat bolted around the hole. More primitively, the folding shovel used to dig foxholes can be locked in an L shape and the blade used for a seat under one buttocks cheek. The thigh pocket of deser fatigues is perfect for carrying a flattened roll of toilet paper.

"We do a lot of things to make life a little more comfortable," said Sgt. 1st Class Curtis Elliott of Cincinnati. "Like making automatic washing machines." An empty box that held about 20 MREs is lined with a plastic trash bag and filled with water and detergent. Socks, brown T-shirts, underwear and fatigues are loaded in and the top of the bag tied shut. "Then you stick it in the back of the truck and drive around with it for a couple of days," said Elliott. "Then you take out the clean clothes and rinse them." Clothes are dried by stringing a cord between the radio antennas of two combat vehicles.

Need to stay awake on an all-night patrol? Many soldiers swear that chewing tobacco or snuff will do the trick. "You can also put

the instant coffee that comes in MREs under your lip like Copenhagen and the caffeine will keep you up," said Sgt. Gabriel Graan of Las Vegas. Some soldiers even mix the coffee and snuff for a double kick. "Baby anythings are popular," said one soldier. Baby wipes for bathing. Baby powder to prevent chafing. Baby salve to cure chafing. Even baby food, because the small containers are easily packed and don't need can openers.

Various gear is used for weight training. A 50-pound tow bar makes a good barbell. A .50-caliber ammunition can weighs 30 pounds and can be held on the chest during sit-ups. "You're going to lose weight in the desert because of the heat anyway," said Pvt. Matt St. John, a scout from Lake City, Fla. "You might as well take advantage of the time to work out and come home all ripped up."

For every problem, there is an innovation. Flea collars on wrists and ankles keep away ticks. Pencil erasers are used to clean communications equipment. For creative cooks, bouillon cubes and spices are musts, said Sgt. Jason Thompson of McMinnville, Ore. "You can eat any MRE with the right spices." With Starbucks a distant memory, mixing milk shake powder with coffee makes great lattes.

There is debate on the wisdom of wearing underpants. You can change underwear more often than fatigue trousers, and that promotes cleanliness, some insist. Others say underwear gets all sweaty, and going bare prevents chafing. Both sides swear by talcum powder. "I had a gunner that used the dust from the ground" when he was out of talcum powder, said one soldier. "I called him 'Dusty.'"

Ed Note: I received this article from Ben Youmans, Secretary of the Cacti (35th Inf Assn)

Montagnards: Our Friends and Allies

By: Dave Bristol

The War in Viet Nam produced few subjects that Vets universally agreed upon, but the admiration of the Montagnards is one such topic. These people were great soldiers, and good allies. They were respected and admired by virtually everyone who worked with them. In the spring of 1998, I found a group called "Friends of the Central Highlands". This group, made up of former 4th Division soldiers, works to provide Montagnard children with educational help. I contacted Charles Burt, one of the founders of FOCH. It was the beginning of an educational experience for me. During several discussions with Charles, It became very clear that there was much to learn about our former allies. This is not an exhaustive article, and I am not an expert on the topic. The intent is to share some background information, and perhaps to spur discussion and support for our former allies.

Special Forces units had operated with the Montagnards for several years prior to 1965. In 1965, The CIA made it clear to the South Vietnamese Government that if the Highlands were to be held, the Montagnards must be allies. The Americans also demanded that the historical discrimination against them be stopped. As a political expedience, the South Vietnamese Government agreed to several "autonomous regions" and to treat the Montagnards as equals. The RVN probably never intended to honor these agreements, and the montagnards probably knew that. The Montagnards, wanting a sovereign nation, chose to treat this as an opportunity to divide the North and South Vietnamese. They chose to fight with the South and the Americans, reasoning that they could deal with the South Vietnamese later. Some served in NVA and Viet Cong units, but the vast majority were pro American.

The names, Montagnard, or "Yards" were used by American units through out the highlands and reflected the earlier French involvement in the area. The French term means "mountain People". This group of people is ethnically distinct from the Vietnamese. They call themselves Dega, meaning "the people". There are several different "tribes" with in the Dega people. Each has a slightly different dialect and culture. The Army handbook on the Dega people describes them as primitive, but capable soldiers. Most Americans would agree that this was accurate information. Other information was not as accurate. The Dega are described as "animist". This was only partially true. Most American soldiers were aware of the relatively longstanding presence of the Catholic Church in Viet Nam. Few realized that protestant missionaries had worked in the highlands. As early as 1948, there were Christian missionaries in the highlands and some Dega had converted to Christianity. This may explain, at least in part, their willingness to form the close bond with the Americans. (John Long, a Mennonite missionary and Patrick Cohen, a Wycliffe bible translator, were among those who were in the country in 1948. In the Tet Offensive of 1968, at least 5 missionaries were killed at Ban Me Thout. Two may have been Americans.) For many reasons, the Dega people forged a tight alliance with the Americans, while tolerating the South Vietnamese. Few Americans realized that there was any organized leadership that went beyond the local village. In fact there was a fairly sophisticated "national" leadership and many of these leaders were well educated by the standards of the country. The Dega leadership was a loose confederation of the different groups. They also had formed an organization called FULRO, (The French acronym for Front for the Liberation of Oppressed Races) for the purpose of establishing the independent Dega homeland. The Army had close ties to this leadership through Special Forces, Civilian Action Teams, CIDG units, advisors and LRRP units. This alliance continued until the United States military completed the pullout from Vietnam. In 1975, after the North Vietnamese captured the key city of Ban Me Thout, the leadership of FULRO was called to Saigon. Several different accounts of this meeting exist, but it is clear that the Dega leadership, and FULRO believed that they had been told to go back to the highlands and continue the fight. Whether this was a dilberate attempt to deceive FULRO or a

misunderstanding of "diplomatic language" by the "primitive" Dega leadership is in doubt. What the FULRO leadership understood is not! They believed that they were to return to the highlands and continue to fight. They believed they were going to receive support in the form of weapons and supplies at the very least. That is exactly what they did! They returned and fought!

By the most conservative accounts, FULRO had 10,000 men under arms. The number may have been 25,000. This army began a guerrilla war against the North Vietnamese army that was to last until 1992! Most information indicates that the FULRO Army was reduced to less than 20% of its original strength by 1980, but the leaders in the field refused to quit fighting. In 1985, FULRO resistance groups left Vietnam and sought sanctuary in Cambodia. In an uneasy union with the Khmer Rouge, they continued to fight for their homeland, further reducing the number.

Only 400 people of the original group were still alive. They were essentially slaves of the Khmer Rouge. They were starving and they had no idea where the rest of the leadership was. (The president of the Dega Highlands Liberation Front was executed by Cambodian Khmer Rouge in late 1975.) This small group was eventually located and most of them were brought to the U.S. This was one group under the command of Col. Y peng Ayan. It is not known if other groups may have been lost. Some experts believe that several other groups of 150-200 surrendered in Vietnam at about the same time. Incredibly, this was not the end of resistance!

In early 1990, The Vietnamese Army reported that between 1985 and 1990, some 63 raids were mounted against FULRO troops. It also reported that 202 were killed, and 167 captured! Another 10,000 collaborators were said to have surrendered. In late 1998, there were still some acts of sabotage occurring, and many areas are off limits to travelers because of this unrest. As incredible as it may seem, some Dega actually joined the Peoples Republic of Vietnam Army and used the positions to supply arms, ammunition and intelligence to the resistance. The Vietnamese Government has closed off the area. There was civil unrest and demonstrations in the highlands in 1999 and 2000. Americans who had been visited previously were prohibited from traveling to the country and especially onto the highlands. Many Dega leaders and pastors are missing.

Today, The Highlands are a very different place. The Vietnamese Government has moved millions of ethnic Vietnamese into the area. The forests have been substantially removed in many areas and plantations have replaced the traditional Montagnard methods of agriculture. The schools are all taught in Vietnamese, and it appears that the efforts of the Vietnamese Government are directed at assimilating the Dega people. Their traditional ways are rapidly becoming a thing of the past. The very materials for constructing the "long house" are no longer available. The practice of religion in any form is restricted and is quite dangerous. While the Dega children are allowed to attend school, they are very likely to drop out. Life in the Highlands continues to be difficult for these former allies.

Groups like FOCH find it increasingly difficult to get help into the country. Money for educational support and for agricultural projects is very difficult to get to the Dega in the highlands, and several groups have shifted the focus of their work to the support of those Dega people who have managed to get out of the country and are resettling in the United States. The war for independence is not over for these people. For many it is just beginning again in the United States. For those still in the Highlands, little is known about their struggle.

Most of the material for this article came from references provided by Charles Burt and FOCH. If you have any additional information or questions, please contact me at my e-mail address djbristol@msn.com. If you want to know more about FOCH you can visit the web site at www.foch.org.

UNIT REPORTS



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Roger Brown



By Ranger Roger Brown

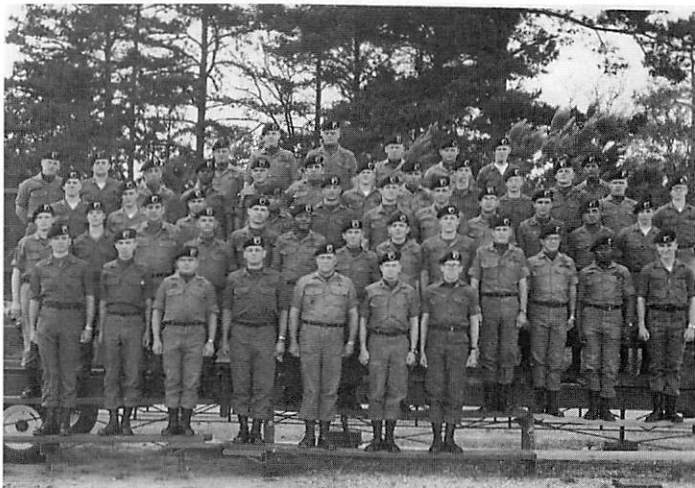
On behalf of all of us old Rangers, I want to personally thank all of the Rangers that are still serving our country. When we formed the Battalion in 1974, I knew it was going to be big and you present day Rangers have made us proud. You all are great warriors.

Combined Federal Campaign

This will kick off in September. The Ranger Memorial will run for 3 years locally (Georgia) if it is successful, we will be accepted nationally. Anyone that wants to make a contribution for the Ranger Memorial there will be a four digit number by the block designated for the Ranger Memorial.

The Ranger Memorial foundation offers 15 scholarships a year. Any past or present Rangers or their family members are eligible.

I have forgotten to post this picture in the last two issues. This is the Battalion in its early infancy. (April 1, 1974) (Note: We were still wearing the follow me patch.)



1st Row: L-R: CPT Culreth, MAJ Browning, MAJ Hudson, LTC Leur, CSM Gentry, CPT Taylor, LT. Moses
2nd Row: L-R: PFC Nelson, PFC Birdsall, SSG Fowler, CPT Nightingale, ISG Cobb, MSG Skinner, ?, SFC Spain, SFC Smith, SFC Williams, PFC Demoskis
3rd Row: L-R: PFC Youhouse, PFC Bates, 1LT Favati, CPT Clark, 1LT Knight, 1LT Boykin, SFC Alderman, SSG Aviles, SSG Doran, SGT Peovarde, PFC Dizney
4th Row: L-R: 1LT McCoy, SP/4 Jolley, SSG Tetrault, 1LT Price, CPT Rokosz, ISG Martin, SP/4 Hendricks, SSG Lour, SP/4 Cramer, SP/4 Mattison, SGT Champion, 2LT Brown, PFC Stockwell.
5th Row: L-R: SSG Conrad, CPT Barnhill, ISG Schmidt, SFC Cobb, SSG Reeves, PFC Woodfill, SFC Kaimi

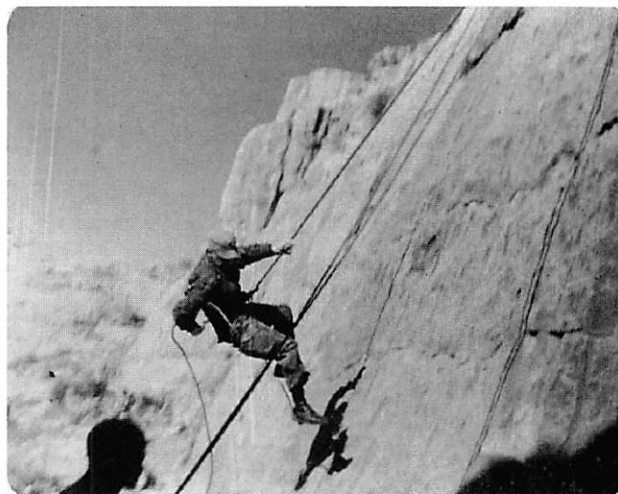
Our first year was over and we jumped into the second year with a week in the field conducting Battalion operations.

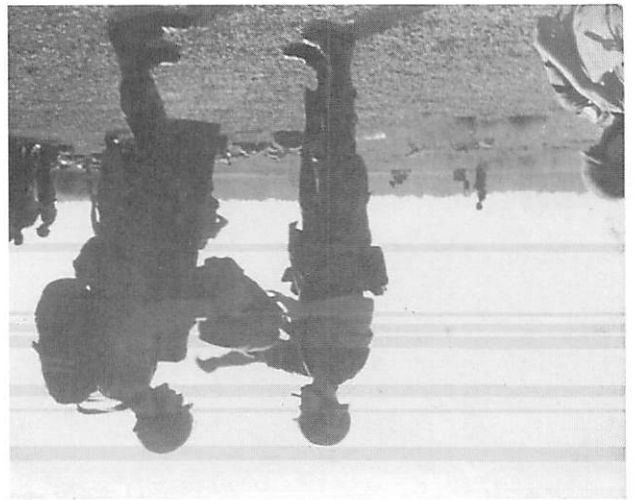
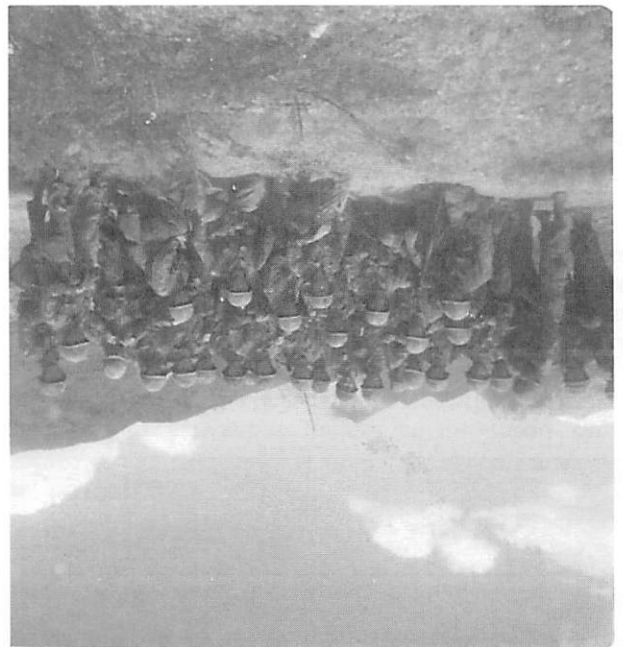
We would soon learn that we would be losing our Battalion commander, LTC Luer. He was promoted to Colonel and formed the 1st Brigade of the 24th Division. LTC Leur was a great Battalion commander, every day we all knew where we stood with him (position of attention).

Our new commander, LTC Stang, assumed the command of our Battalion in February 1975. LTC Stang would prove to be a great commander.

April 1975.

Desert training at Ft. Bliss, Texas

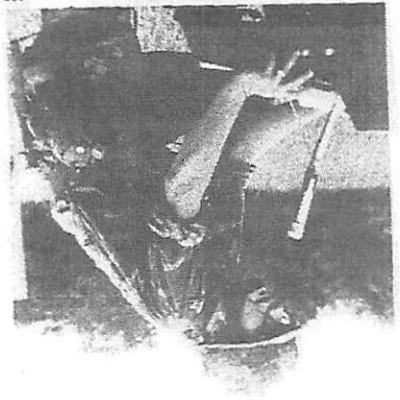




June and July 1975

Ft. Leonard Wood

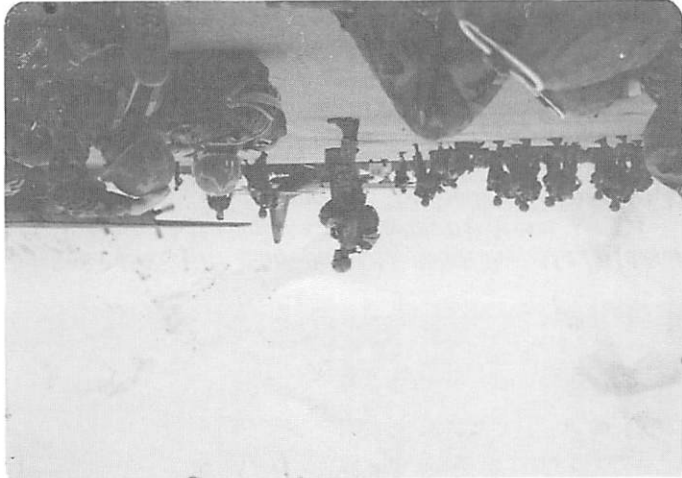
"Men you each have 5 lbs. of C-4 and no one will use it to heat C-rations."



The bad guys won't be in the wire for long.



Lt. Brown, the expert at all Infantry subjects, to show the troops how it's done.



CSM Retired George Horvath was inducted as the distinguished member of the Regiment 2003 on August 6, 2003

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)



RHOF Inductees 2003

**COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR (RETIRED) WILLIAM H. ACEBES**

CSM(R) Acebes is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his 30-year career as a Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) in the U.S. Army. He began his career as a paratrooper in the 173d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam, fighting numerous engagements. He also served his country overseas in the Berlin Brigade during the height of the Cold War. When CSM(R) Acebes eventually returned to the United States, he served in the 82d Airborne Division as a team leader and then a squad leader, using his already vast knowledge to train paratroopers. He decided to further hone his war-fighting skills by attending U.S. Army Ranger School in November, 1972.

CSM(R) Acebes volunteered for Ranger duty with 1st Ranger Battalion at its inception in 1974. He initially served as part of the original cadre that trained the Battalion to become the elite modern-day Ranger force that continues to uphold the highest standards today. CSM(R) Acebes dedicated himself to training the new Ranger Battalion so it would be ready for anything the country might call it to do. He held every NCO leadership position, from squad leader and platoon sergeant to company first sergeant during his first tour in the 1st Ranger Battalion.

CSM(R) Acebes left the 1st Ranger Battalion to attend the SF Qualification Course and was assigned to 10th Special Forces Group in Germany. There, he continued training soldiers in accordance with the Abrams Charter, bringing what he learned in the Rangers to the rest of the Army. However, CSM(R) Acebes couldn't stay away from his Rangers long and returned to 1st Ranger Battalion as Charlie Company's First Sergeant where he prepared, led, and brought his company home from Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada. He left the Battalion only to return to the Rangers three years later as the Regimental Chief Intelligence NCO at Regimental Headquarters. CSM(R) Acebes finally returned to 1st Ranger Battalion in 1988 to serve as the Command Sergeant Major and lead Rangers once again.

When he left the battalion, it would be for the last time, but he continued to make a difference in the Army as the CSM of the 2d Infantry Division and finally as the CSM of the U.S. Army Infantry School. CSM(R) Acebes lived the Ranger Creed every day of his career and dedicated his life to training and leading Rangers. He continues to be an outstanding role model for all Rangers to emulate. CSM(R) Acebes' career brings great credit upon him, the 1st Ranger Battalion, and the U.S. Army.



CSM Retired Bill Acebes CSM Retired Sam Spears

Rangers Christmas will be upon us soon. Last year our organization gave the regiment \$13,000 for the Children's Christmas Fund. I think it is great that we can help out the lower ranks so their children can have a super Christmas. Send your donations to our secretary (Ron Edwards) and insure you designate the Children's Christmas Fund.

Heard From

SSG CONRAD

CSM Retired George Conrad. George is in Afghanistan, lives in Las Vegas and seems to be doing great.

Richard McIntosh. Richard is going great, his health is great and seems to be happy with running his business and spending time with his family.

New Lifetime Member

SSG BUMP

Charlie Co. CSM Ret. Steve Bump. For anyone who does not know Steve, he is as big and as means as a gorilla and a great soldier. Steve came to us from (B/75 Ft. Lewis). Steve lives in Tulsa Oklahoma

I attended the 1st Battalion Ranger Ball on 12 June. I was fortunate to be seated with our gold star mom (Sandee). Others from the past that I recognized were CSM ret Bill Acebes B CO. CWO ret Big Murphy B CO and CSM ret Shetromp B Co.

Next year we will be having our 30th anniversary. It will probably be on 20 August 2004. (Depending on the Battalions operation status.) As soon as I find out I will post the date. It will be a good time for us all to reunite.



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Rich Hecht



08-15-03

Lots and lots of news. So much news, that I've had to ask our editor to give me some of 3/75's space since they don't really do that much stuff anyway! All of 2/75 has returned to Ft. Lewis after very successful combat deployments to both Iraq and Afghanistan. 2/75 left in mid-March to support OIF, at the same time, there were also elements from Bn conducting operations in Afghanistan. All personnel returned to Ft. Lewis in late June.

The Bn conducted numerous combat patrols and raids in both AO's and B Co participated in the rescue of PFC Lynch. Elements of the Bn also took part in a raid in Iraq which used assets from the USAF, including JDAM munitions, SPECTRE and little birds.

Even after all that, the boys were met with stiff resistance and took incoming fire during the air assault. SGT.

Waters lost a leg as a result of an RPG explosion. SGT.

Waters continued to fight, directing his squad to clear the area before turning over his team and calling for a medic.

He made sure that no one else in his team was hurt before being evac'd. Talk about

the epitome of a Ranger! SFC Folino was awarded a Bronze Star with V and Cpl. Olsen was awarded a Silver Star for their actions during OIF, both are from B Co. In some other war news, former 2/75 Ranger Chris Willoughby from C Co in the mid 90's, was killed in Iraq while serving with his reserve unit, the 221st MI Bn. He was killed when the vehicle he was riding in overturned on 7-20-03. He is survived by his wife Jeanine and two sons, Blake 9 years old and Collin 16 months old.

In other 2/75 news, both Ray Fuller (Bn armorer) and Jane Veragas (Bn secretary) have retired. Ray made sure that our weapons worked when needed and Jane is the real reason that the place ran as well as it did. Both will be missed. Cpl. Jason Parsons and Sgt.(P) Jesse Underwood, were awarded the SOCOM soldier and NCO of the Year respectively. Congratulations! Former 2/75 Ranger David Lane was one of the residents on the CBS show Big Brother 4. I'm not a fan of the "reality" shows but did catch the episode when he was evicted from the house. He said his good-byes and said something to the effect that what was going on inside the house isn't real and that what is real is that our troops are fighting and dying for us. RLW!

In August, 2/75 attended the Ranger Rendezvous at Ft. Benning

along with the rest of the Regiment. They won 1st Place in combatives, tug of war and basketball. On October 25th, Bn will be holding a service to honor the 20th Anniversary of Operation Urgent Fury. Next summer the Assn. reunion will be held at Ft. Lewis so start thinking about being there. Your dues will need to be paid up, so make sure that you are current. On your address label there will be a year listed. If it says 2003 or earlier, you need to pay for the upcoming year.

In some local area news, many of you will remember the Lakewood Bar and Grill. I recall many nights (ok, I recall some parts of some of the nights) spent there in pursuit of some female companionship. I happened to be in the area a couple months ago when I drove by. The LBG is out of business and

the building is now occupied by a real estate office. For those of you who go back more than ten years, the old Leslie's (sleazie's) has been a Blockbuster video store about the last ten years. The good news is that the Black Angus is still in business, but I have no idea what is on their menu! Do you remember reading HOOAH books while you were in? I still

read HOOAH books, but mostly I collect them when they relate to modern Rangers. Here is a list of the ones I have, both fiction and non-fiction, along with some other Ranger related reading.

The Day Before Midnight by Stephen Hunter 1989 from Bantam Books. Terrorists seize control of a nuclear missile silo. Ranger are brought in to assist with the assault.

Night of the Ranger by Mark D. Harrell 1988 Lynx Books. Two Ranger students stumble into a neo-Nazi training camp during Ranger School Mountain phase. Fact or fiction, you be the judge.

Twilight Warriors by Martin C. Arostegui 1997 Bloomsbury. Overview of a variety of special forces.

At the Hurricane's Eye by Greg Walker 1994 Random House. Mostly SF and Seals, but a lot of good info.

Commandos by Douglas C. Waller 1994 Simon and Schuster. More SF and Seals. Author was given unprecedented access.

Elite Warriors by Lance Q Zedric and Michael F. Dilley 1996 Pathfinder Publishing. Everything you ever wanted to know about special forces from pre-Revolutionary war times through the mid-nineties.

Just Cause by Malcolm McConnell 1991 St. Martin's Press. A good overview of the Invasion of Panama.

U.S. Rangers, From The Fighting Elite Series by Ian Padden 1985 Bantam Books. Condensed version of Ranger History up



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

through the mid-eighties.

Mogadishu! by Kent DeLong and Steven Tuckey 1994 Praeger Publishing. Account of Operation Gothic Serpent.

Black Hawk Down by Mark Bowden 1999 Atlantic Monthly Press. If you haven't read this, do!

U.S. Army Rangers 1983-2002 by Mir Bahmanyar 2003 Osprey. Interesting account of life in the battalions. Good pictures from those who have "been there, done that" including yours truly with a picture on page 48 during Just Cause.

To Be a U.S. Army Ranger by Russ Bryant 2003 MBI Publishing. A very good account of Ranger life. The book takes the reader from civilian through the stages required to make it to battalion. A good showcase of current gear and equipment.

To Fight With Intrepidity by John D. Lock 1998 Pocket Books. In depth detail of Rangers in combat from pre-revolutionary War through Somalia.

Rangers by Joel B. Paskauskas II 2001 Concord Publications. Good color photos of Rangers during the late 90's.

Airborne Rangers by Alan M. and Frieda W. Landau 1992 Motorbooks. Covers Ranger history, RTB, Regiment and aviation assets through the early 90's.

Panama 1989-90 Osprey series 1991 Osprey Publishing. Overview of Operation Just Cause.

U.S. Army Rangers & LRRP Units 1942-87 1987 Osprey Publishing. The title says it all. Popular Mechanics June 2001. As you would expect the article features the technology used by Rangers. Well written.

America's Special Forces by David Bohrer 1998 MBI Publishing. Good info from the mid-90's. Most of the Ranger pics are from 2/75.

Hopefully, I will be able to add some new ones to the collection that will be filled with the HOOAH accounts of our brothers who served in Afghanistan, Iraq and wherever else they may be sent.



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Peter Squeglia

**MOGADISHU RAID 10th ANNIVERSARY****WASHINGTON, DC****Weekend of October 4, 2003**

I have blocked 25 rooms at the Key Bridge Marriott with no financial obligation. We got a good rate of \$89.00 per night. Here's the website. <http://www.marriott.com/dpp/PropertyPage.asp?MarshaCode=WASKB> If we go over the 25 rooms they will still honor the price.

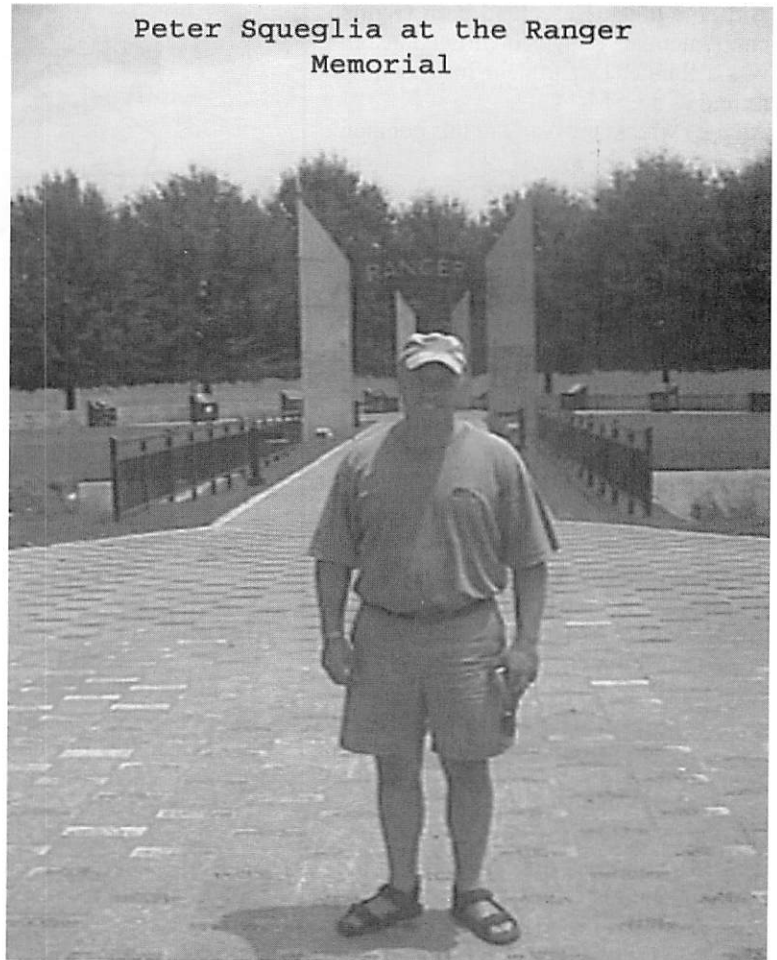
Essentially, about .5 miles from Georgetown, 2 miles from the Pentagon, Arlington Cemetery 1 mile, White House 1.5 miles. Right on the Potomac River, real nice facility.

For more information contact:

Peter Squeglia; suasponse@attbi.com

Unit Director 3/75

Peter Squeglia at the Ranger Memorial





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

Unit Director - Tom Brizendine



Patrolling column notes August 2003

SOUND OFF, BATTBOYS!

We may be moving back in the book a little with our company column to let the Batt boys get a word in where they belong, up front, guys.

It's time to encourage those modest young men to sound off and the Association is looking to put their unit columns up front, which I strongly support.

C'mon batt boys! Some war stories from Iraq and Afghanistan are in order. "There I was up to my armpits in grenade pins..." Sound off!

RANGER HALL OF FAME

Original V Corps LRRP and Patrol Leader Andy Markivich has been inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. Andy did three tours of Vietnam as an adviser to Vietnamese Ranger and Airborne units. He earned both German and American Ranger qualifications and was a Ranger Department Instructor. He retired as a CSM.

Anyone who knew Andy in this company and afterwards knows why he richly deserved that award and recognition. His RHOF Citation notes he knocked back a battlefield commission in Vietnam. Well done, Sir!

RIP GENO

Eugene "Geno" Karnish died from natural causes on 23 APR 03. Geno was in the company in Frankfurt and Ft Benning and was highly regarded by his peers.

Sp/4 Geno Karnish and Sp/4 Lynch were the first people from the company to attend Ranger School after the company was redesignated A Company, 75th Infantry (Ranger) in 1969 at Ft Benning.

Terry Roderick remembers, "Lynch and Karnish were great choices because they were the sort that you figured would get the job done and that's why they were selected, regardless of what platoon they were in. Rational thinking would be that you send guys from the Killer Platoons who had 11B MOS's, but Lynch and

Karnish were held in such high regard by everyone in the company that their selection was largely viewed as smart in the end. They both did the job and were promoted to Sgt. along with their tabs upon graduation as I recall. I think Karnish had to be recycled after an overzealous Ranger Buddy kicked him hard enough in the gut to make him piss blood in the hand to hand pits. He recovered and went back and finished. We all looked up to both of these guys and envied their new status."

Geno had been involved in building and launching rockets in recent years, multi-stage ones, in fact. He had heart problems and a major operation a year or so ago.



Until that time, he was in contact with his buddies on the net.

We'll miss him.

**HEARING & OTHER
COMPENSATION CLAIMS**

A lot of us have service related hearing losses from explosions, gunfire and the like and it's damned hard getting compensation from the VA as we mentioned in the last Patrolling.

Tom Brizendine has hearing aids in both ears and gets no compensation for it. "Years ago, a smart assed VA doctor said why didn't you wear your ear plugs? Evidently he didn't think that getting knocked across the perimeter by a mortar blast and blood running from both ears and me going in circles and falling down

had anything to do with my hearing loss. Sometime these "doctors" are so damn smart, it hurts!

Tom

Part of the problem with compensation for injuries is the lack of documentation and that is common for all LRRP/Ranger units from that era. Face it, guys. We were bastard units and the legs hated us (they just didn't have any senses of humor, especially leg lifers). Even when our companies were assigned to Airborne units, we were a bit suspect by conventional standards. And because we weren't fully part of our host units and they hated our guts, our records disappeared when our companies were stood down.

Without those records we have problems getting compensation claims processed.

Dennis Rick has a few words on compensation claims. "All good here; still recovering from my knee surgery, but its going alright. By you (Duane Wilkes) not having a final exam hurt you. That's where a lot of the foundation for claims start; then they work backwards from there (VA). What it looks like they are saying is that, your hearing was bad (by means of testing) when you first came into the service. Do you have all your medical records? Does your very first physical say your hearing is bad? If so, you gave them a big hole to drive thru, they don't look for a way to give you your claim, they look for a way not to. Always remember that. Do you have records from the Rangers at Ft. Hood? If so you are one of the very few. I spent almost 5 years at Hood and not one record (medical) not even a shot, its all gone...I have been fighting the VA for 13 years now but I haven't quit yet...I just keep filing one appeal after the next. But my knee couldn't wait any longer. I couldn't walk any more so I had it done, but if I win the VA has to pay me back for what it cost me. Hang in there Duane. Oh yeah; I filed for my hearing also. They make some kind of claim that I wasn't subject to noise hahahahahahahahahahahahaha. But they are making me an appointment to be tested. Hey it took me 13 years, but at least I'm getting an exam by the VA. That's the first step." Dennis

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

On a slightly different compensation note, there were a lot of outstanding professional soldiers (let's keep lifers for most legs and all wimps) in the company and they can be helpful with compensation claims in the absence of records.

When they offer, take them up on it.

It's a measure of the man that Gary Carpenter stepped straight up to the plate with an offer to help when I mentioned one guy's claim to him recently. He asked for specific basic information which I relayed to the guy to give Gary a chance to get his hooks into it. Two months later I haven't even received the requested info.

That's the way the REMFs win, guys.

Speaking about compensation and disability, Unit Director Tom Brizendine now has a scooter from VA for getting around and a lift hoist to put it in the bed of his pickup. But as usual there are complications.

"I did get my scooter from the VA, but the thing is sitting in my back yard! Seems the VA forgot I needed a ramp built to get it in the house. Now I have to get bids from two contractors, submit the bid to the VA and wait for their decision on who they will award the contract to. Although I have it covered, in this Alabama humidity, it just might be a pile of rust by

the time the VA decides to have the ramp built". Tom

C-124-GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Those of us on the company discussion group on Yahoo were talking about the planes we have jumped.

Seems the C-124 Globemaster is rated as the mother of all blasts.

Those double-decker, radial engine beasts had your number, even when you weren't jumping. I remember a never-ending journey from Athens to Chatareoux, France like it was yesterday, sitting there staring at the pallets and a deuce and a half in the belly of the very loud beast. And jumping them meant a compulsory rivet check unless you were jumping Hollywood. And you got a few extra tumbles before the chute deployed compared with a C-130.

Tom B remembers flying in them and former CO Norm Carlton remembers jumping them. Read on.

"I flew on those Birds four times" Tom remembers. "Once on a hop from Fairbanks Alaska to San Francisco in '60, Then from Germany to North Africa in '61. The flight from Alaska was nice. I flew in the crew's cockpit. Nice and quiet. On the other ride to North Africa, we rode on the decks. Noisy as hell and our playing cards kept vibrating all over the place. We then flew from Casablanca

to Madrid, Then back to Germany. Beat the hell out of Troop Ships though."....

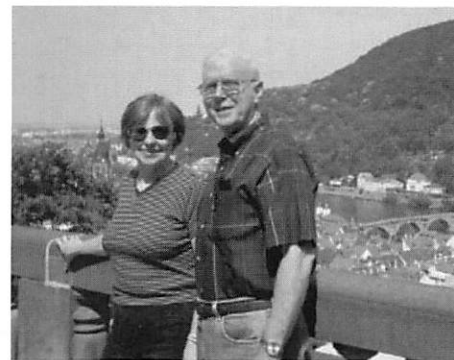
Norm recalls a C-124 jump in early 1964 in the caption to a photo he sent.

"This here is that huge MF that ran over me in mid-air! I polished every rivet from the port side exit door to the tail. I would hav counted them but I was hurting sooooooo bad This was not the premier jump platform."

Anyone who has done an equipment jump out of that old double-decker will know exactly what he's talking about.

I still laugh when I think about FSK 300's C-124 blast with us in autumn, 1966.

Boy, were they impressed! But then again, old kamerade was never all that good with four engine planes.



Mary & Manley Jones-Heidelber

It was nice to see a photo of an LRS unit on the last front cover of Patrolling Magazine. Those boys are the true LRRP/Company Ranger descendants and I for one don't hear enough about them.

They are as isolated as we were and need all the support they can get for their specialised missions which are rarely understood by the units they are assigned to provide intelligence for.

And some of us would really like to know what they got up to in the Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq.

We need more input for this column, guys. Especially from our "commo challenged" brothers who are not on the net.



Note the open jump doors on the C-124 in the air. It had the first lift of troops for Bettenhausen DZ including 20 guys from the Bundeswehr III Korps Fernspahkompanie 300. The plane was taking off from Rhein-Main AFB in Frankfurt on 2 AUG 66.

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

Please post your news snippets to Bob Murphy, PO Box 111, Campbells Creek, Victoria 3451, AUSTRALIA. Yep. Better make that e-mail.

Ron Dahle ronalddahle@adelphia.net from the Wildflecken and Frankfurt era is going to be writing stuff for the next column. We also need a Ft Hood and perhaps a Ft Benning guy living in CONUS to round up news items from our guys who aren't on the net and e-mail them to me, or post them.

I'm happy to edit this column but need more news than I get from here. Send me anything you get and I will sub-edit it. Don't worry about grammar, spelling and that sort of stuff, just get me some grist for the company mill.



Pictured to the left:

Bill Bothe & Sandy with Roy Bissey & Robin in Sheridan, Wyoming, Aug, 2003

Pictured to the right:

The Wildflecken mob-Everett Grady, Chet "Skinny Injun" Smith, Dennis "Foos" Mulloy and Mike Martin get together for a friendly drink in Reno.



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

Unit Director - Kirk Gibson



Marc Thompson sent several stories, but as this is his first PATROLLING, we'll start with his first jumping recollection with B/75

My First Jump with B Company Rangers (Or, You really wanted to go swimming today, didn't you??)

I reported to B Company Rangers at Ft. Carson in early 1972. I was manifested for my first jump shortly thereafter. My first jump promised to be interesting, since I was to be a wind dummy with 2 or 3 other rangers. It was a Hollywood Huey (UH-1) daylight jump at Ranger drop zone next to Butts Army Airfield.

Bugs Moran was the jumpmaster. During the pre-jump briefing, he stressed that he wanted to make sure none of us got hung up on the skids due to failure to properly push off and clear the door, and several stern reminders that the wind-dummies were not to touch the risers, pull any slips or attempt to influence the free earthward travel of the jumper and his parachute.

We boarded the aircraft, assumed our seated positions in the open doors, and took off. I was in the starboard door, sitting on the deck plating, closest to the pilots. Next to me was **Mike Pace**, and beyond him, in the first jumper's position, was **SSG Harlan**, who wore master parachutist wings. I believe that there was another jumper in the port-side door, and it may have been **Sgt. Jackson**, but my memory is a little fuzzy after 30 years or so. After we had hooked up and received all the necessary jump commands, we were sitting in the door waiting to begin our trip earthward. It was a bright and sunny day, with a light-to-moderate wind moving across the drop zone toward our aircraft as we approached from downwind. We enjoyed the excellent view of Ft. Carson and the Rockies, as we headed toward the DZ, from somewhere between 1200-1500 feet. We could see the Post itself, see the lake we were passing by on the way to the drop point, feel the air rushing past the open doors of the chopper, and scope out the scenery below us.

A road ran next to the lake and continued past to the airfield. A



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string of power lines traveled along the road to provide power in the airfield area, the poles jutting up from the ground like miniature Lincoln Logs paced on end. Across the road and power lines from the lake area was a large area of scrub, sagebrush and cactus, and farther from the drop zone, a large stand of leafy green deciduous trees.

As we traveled toward the drop zone sitting in the door, we were heading into the wind. Having already received all the jump commands except "Go", we were ready to perform the up-and-out maneuver necessary to clear the skids and hang there like dummies under our canopies as we drifted toward the drop zone so the jumpmaster, the OIC, and the ground detail could determine the direction and velocity of the wind at altitude.

Suddenly, well short of the drop zone itself, SSG Moran yelled "Go", and slapped SSG Harlan on the back of his helmet, prompting the most amazed look I have yet seen on the part of a jumper in the door. He looked at Bugs with an "are-you-out-of-your-freaking-mind?" look, his neck craned back into the cabin to look straight into Bugs's face.

Now, when a master parachutist sitting next to you in the door looks at the jumpmaster like he's nuts, I don't know about you, but it reinforces my feeling that the "Go" command is coming a little early in the aircraft's travel toward the DZ.

Bugs yelled more strenuously "Go, Go, GO?" past the mike in front of his face, repeatedly slapping Harlan on the back of the helmet. Harlan, the good Ranger that he was, swiveled his head toward the door, and pushed up and out, his feet swinging around in the slipstream of the chopper toward the tail as the wind caught him and carried him away from the Huey. Mike Pace and I followed in rapid succession as Bugs urged us out the door. I was relieved as I saw the skid drop away past my right shoulder, the tail slide by my right side, and felt the beginning of the tugs at my back from the static line, my hands gripping the sides of my reserve.

We felt the tug of the deployment bag as we reached the end of the static line, and felt it slew our bodies around a little from side to side as the old T-10 parachutes deployed. We immediately looked up to check canopies, determined that we each had one, and then looked down.

What I heard was simultaneous exclamations of "OH SHOOT?!!!" (or something to that effect) from every jumper in the air, as we realized that there was no way on God's green earth that we would land anywhere near the drop zone. The wind was pushing us steadily and inexorably toward the lake we had just (barely) passed by. From that altitude, it didn't look particularly deep, but I wasn't sure I wanted to test that impression, and quickly mentally reviewed the procedures for a water landing. I also mentally reviewed the proper landing procedures for power lines (yeah, right, like don't stinkin' land in 'em). All thoughts of wind-dummydom immediately disappeared, as the pucker factor kicked in and each of us started trying to climb the upwind riser in an effort to avoid the lake. I believe that this was after a very brief conversation with SSG Harlan, who instructed us that it was every man for himself at that point.

At one point during the descent I had the riser pulled down so far

that the suspension lines were pulled down all the way to or slightly past my left knee. I was considering trying to use my left foot placed inside the suspension line anchor point to relieve the strain on my arms and possibly pull the riser down farther. This led me to a brief contemplation about how far down you could pull a T-10 riser slip before the chute collapsed. Was it possible to slip the riser so far that you spilled all the air out of the chute and wound up with a streamer? What if I got my foot stuck in the lines and couldn't get it out in time to land? It's amazing how many different things you can think of in a very short period of time.

Below, we could see jeeps and other vehicles running down the road toward us from the DZ. I briefly considered whether they thought they would be recovering bodies, or just policing us up for the meat wagon to cart us off. They may have been shouting instructions, but if so I was too busy to listen at the time. Luckily, we all landed just short of the lake. I can't remember whether anyone briefly flirted with the power lines, but seem to remember that one guy landed on the asphalt road next to them. I landed on the scrub side of the lines, probably 5-15 yards away from them. Oddly enough, not much was said about our failure to properly execute the wind dummy duties. Although I think SSG Harlan had a few comments for the MACO. We really had to make a latrine stop after that one. Welcome to B Company!!!!

VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Assn. Reunion - AFTER ACTION REPORT

From June 18-22, members of the VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Association descended upon Ft. Campbell, KY for their fourth annual convention. With HQ at the Holiday Inn Express Oak Grove, nearly forty ever-youthful LRRPs and wives enjoyed the Ops Plan devised by "Jungle Jim" Joiner, and the arrangements prepared for us by CSM (RET) Joe Bossi, Public Affairs Officer Chapter 38 SFA, who was our gracious resident host at Ft. Campbell. Keeping us all together was like herding squirrels, but he did a great job.

Unfortunately, most of the 101st was deployed in the Middle-east, and Jim Joiner was unable to be with us, but there was still plenty to do. Highlights included the 101st Air Assault School, the Fifth Special Forces Museum, the 101st Airborne Museum, (and the Class Six Store). We respectfully observed that the new Ft. Campbell Education Center is named after our own Glenn English MOH.

We dined with the troops in the 1st Brigade Dining Facility (very fancy mess hall where Jim Joiner's and Joe Bossi's portraits hang in honor) and had the opportunity to interact with several soldiers and medical personnel who had recently returned from Iraq. And, of course, we partook of the fine local dining at Charley's, The Sportsman Lodge, and enjoyed the "bodacious" pork barbecue catered to us for our final dinner by Lois Robinson of Ribb Doctor BBQ.

At the Air Assault School, we learned from instructor SFC Anderson how the 101st has transformed from traditionally Airborne to a newer method of rapid, precise placement of troops on the ground. After a demonstration of the Obstacle Course by Sgt Wood, we were asked if anyone wished to attempt the first obstacle. Without hesitation, Cheryl Visel scampered up the

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rope and across the wooden beams. Not to be outdone, **Pete Brardt** not only completed this obstacle, but also the next two! In recognition of their feats, they were awarded the honorary Air Assault Badge, to the cheers of all.

As has become the tradition, **CSM (RET) Dave Clark** organized another memorial jump for us, this one in memory of **Jerry B Wood** and **Harold "Pappy" Egelston**. On Friday, June 20 we went out to the Russellville/Logan County airport in Russellville, KY, where owner **Harry Rooks** runs Nashville Skydiving. A beautiful day it was, but very windy, so we decided to hold the instructional sessions with hopes of improved conditions the next day. But as it turned out, about the time we had learned from Harry and instructor Mike just about everything we needed to remember about jumping, the winds died down and we were 'chuting up. For various medical reasons, many of our prior jumpers were relegated to the ground support team. Pete Brardt and **Kirk Gibson**, survivors of the two previous memorial jumps, were joined by **Col (RET) E. D. "Bing" Bingham**, the first LRRP Co Commo officer, and jumpmaster Randy for a 4,000' static line jump. All hit the target (planet Earth) on schedule and without incident. Dave Clark and **Jim "Fatback" Hathaway** made solo freefalls, Hathaway discovering a part of Kentucky some distance away from the drop zone known to the locals as a "corn field."

Once more, not to be outdone, Cheryl Visel, **Lucie "The Sainted One" Knaak**, and **Sally "The Bat" Gibson** made their first jumps - from 11,000 feet, attached in tandem to Harry and videotaped by "**Captain America**" **Jason Halloren**. At the final dinner, the new "LRRP Angels" were awarded their jump wings by Dave Clark and were, of course, properly prop-blasted immediately thereafter.



Upon return to home base New Jersey, **Theo Knaak** wrote to Glenn English's daughter, **Dawn Leslie**, to tell her about the Education Center. She replied,

Hello Theo,
I did not know about the Education Center. That is so nice to hear. I have never seen so much caring in this world until I met my father's friends, so unbelievable how kind everyone is. I'm very glad to see that my father hasn't been forgotten.
Dawn Leslie

Our next VII LRRP Co (ABN) Assn. reunion will be next summer at Ft. Lewis, WA in conjunction with the 75 RRA convention.

CAN ANYONE ANSWER THIS? IF SO, PLEASE RESPOND THRU THE WEBSITE

My name is Dave Walker, and I've been replacing all of the graphics on the 75 RRA Website. I understand that VII Corps LRRP-B/75 RGR had a Recondo school at Ft. Carson. Did you folks have your own Recondo brand, and if so, could you send me a copy of it? All I need is a rough copy with the appropriate colors, and I'll make you a new one for your unit director's page. Thanks, Dave sends.

Bill Wilson has been bugging me to put some of his pictures in *Patrolling*, and I have been remiss. Here's one you Ft. Carson guys might remember. Thanks, Bill.



Bill Ramsdell's B Company picture, submitted by **Marc Thompson**

Lidio Kercado writes:

I don't have stories, just a little anecdote which involved **SFC Haugh** and myself.

We had a one o'clock formation, so instead of going to chow, a buddy of mine who lived off base and I head off the base and had chow at his house since he was married. His last name was **Brogelman**. We arrive about five minutes late to formation while the First Sergeant is giving out information. I, like an idiot, try to catch up on the information, by asking the guy next to me. My Platoon Sergeant, **SFC Haugh**, walks from in front of the formation to where I was and says in firm low tone says, "Keep Your Mouth Shut." Brother, talk about snapping to attention.

When we break from formation I hear "Lidio!!". It was **SFC Haugh**, and I knew I was in trouble because he called me by my first name. I said "Yes, Sergeant Haugh". He said, "Go and police the hedges around the platoon barracks and make sure it's trimmed." After around 30 minutes **SFC Haugh** with one of the squad leaders comes to check the hedges. I ask him if it all looks O.K., and he says it does. Then I ask him if I could go and he says, "Ya, go ahead" Till this day I don't know why I did this. I turn around

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and start singing "Oh! We're off to see the Wizard, the wonderful Wizard of OZ" as I am going back to the barracks, and my arms are swinging like the scarecrow, back and forth, like in the movie. I went through the whole chorus of the Wizard of OZ all the way into the barracks. I was waiting for Sergeant Haugh to come through the barracks doors, but he didn't and that was a relief. I found out later from the squad leader, that Sergeant Haugh just stared and after I disappeared, just shook his head. Any way thought you might get a kick out of it.

Take care,
Lidio

"All THE WAY"

Here's another. Anyone care to name these soldiers on the Website?



Recently, **Marc Thompson**, **Richard Stutsman** and **Lidio Kercado** emerged from obscurity. Welcome back! Marc has begun to muster the troops, and has written the following:

This is an interim message for all B/75 Rangers.

A group of us are in the process of compiling a complete company roster, which will allow you all to contact other company members. Some of us have discussed getting as many of the company members as possible together at the 75th RRA reunion in Washington next year, and we are possibly working toward that end. We will also be trying to get as many photos as possible from that era digitized and placed on the 75thRRA Website.

This process began in June of 2003, so please be patient as we develop our contributions to the 75th RRA, our section of the site, and Patrolling Magazine further. We could use as many volunteers to help us with this process as are available (hint, hint?). We would also like to submit articles to the Patrolling Magazine, so if you have any good ideas in that vein, please let us all know and we will get them to Kirk Gibson.

We have already prevailed upon **Ed White** to relate the story of the Reforger capture of the OPFOR Commanding General, and hope to have it in the next issue of Patrolling.

We need:

Your names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses;
Scanned copies of your photos from that era;
Original photos which we will have scanned and returned to you;
Any articles or B/75 related info, which can be placed in this publication.

For the time being, please contact **Richard Stutsman**, **Stan Harrell**, or **Marc Thompson**, via email or telephone.

Richard Stutsman (cdso79rs@yahoo.com)
Stan Harrell (rgrharrell@hotmail.com)
Marc Thompson (marc@roinet.com)

Richard Stutsman: 785-427-3270 (home)
Marc Thompson: 610-913-8183 (home)
Marc Thompson: 610-873-0300 (office)

MISSING PERSONS

Can anyone help this person? If so, please post answer on the Website.

My name is **Stan Gray**, formerly of the 176th AHC, Americal Div.

A neighbor of my sister had a brother in B/75 who was later killed in a civil shooting in Dehlonaga, Ga. I looked that place up and found it was formerly the 2nd RTBn and now the 5th RTBn. The man's name is **George John Nick, Jr. SSG** (date of rank ?) and he served with B/75th Rangers in RVN 1970-?

He was killed on Dec 15th, 1981, a few weeks before transfer to Korea. He had a broken leg from a recent jump at the time.

On behalf of his sister, **Gladys Nick**, I'm trying to get info on the death of SSG Nick and where he was buried. She says he was buried in Arlington Cemetery, but I could not find his name in the lists available over the internet.

I've seen the pictures of SSG Nick in Class A's, and for sure he wears the ranger patch and CIB.

Thanks for any info on the events requested.

Regards,
Stan Gray
Minuteman 14
176th AHC 70-71

LAST WORD

During these times of political and social differences, **Bob "POGO" Brevig** wrote from New Zealand to offer this, which reminds us that we all have the Right of Free Speech, and the duty to respect the views of others:

Here is a wonderfully perceptive proverb by a native Hawaiian writer, who lives quietly and simply on the island of Moloka'i in the Hawaiian archipelago, an area still rich in spiritual and practical wisdom retained nobly among the few remaining Kupuna (elders), which summarizes a truth that relates to us all. It is as follows:

"History, as anything else, is seen and understood by where a person stands on the mountain. All people climb the same mountain. The mountain, however, has many pathways -

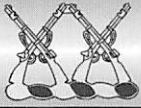
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each with a different view. A person knows and understands only what he sees from his own pathway and, as he moves, his view will change. Only when he reaches the top of the mountain will he see and understand all the views of mankind. But who among us has reached the top of the

mountain? Tomorrow, we too will see a different view. We have not yet finished growing."

Let's make sure none of us falls off the mountain!

Pogo



C/75 - E/20 LRP Unit Director - Sam Pullara



"Charlie Rangers Reunion, 2003"

The Vietnam veterans from Company E (LRP) 20th Infantry (Abn) & Co C (Ranger) 75th Infantry (Abn) Association, Inc. "Charlie Rangers", held our semi annual reunion at Fort Benning, Georgia, from August 6th through 9th. The reunion was located at the Columbus, Georgia, Country Inn & Suites. Our reunion was held in conjunction with the "Ranger Rendezvous" of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

On Wednesday the 6th we gathered and registered in our hospitality suite (the beer was free!) and then went to the Ranger bar-b-que that evening. The next day we attended "Ranger Honors", and watched ranger heroes from Iraq receive decorations for courage under fire. Watching those young Rangers receive Silver Stars, Bronze Stars, and ARCOMS for valor was a moving experience for all who attended. It is wonderful to know that our country can still produce men who are willing to stand between their loved ones and wars desolation, and render to terrorists the justice they deserve.

Later that evening we attended the Change of Command Ceremony for the 75th Ranger Regiment. While the ceremony itself is impressive, watching the all those young Rangers pass in review is always the high point for me. It is such an honor to be associated with them through time and service.

On Thursday we had our election of officers which resulted in Sam Pullara being elected President; Jim Perdue, Vice President; John Eder, Secretary; Dean Barker, Treasurer, and Jerry "Rocky" Stone being elected Sergeant-at-Arms. In addition, Dean Barker, Rocky Stone and Sam Pullara were recognized for their outstanding service to the Association as long term board members; Gary Dolan and Jim Perdue were

recognized for their service as President and Vice President during a difficult period. All honors were voted unanimously by the General Membership. Thanks guys for the recognition.

On Friday, we held our memorial service at the Ranger Memorial. Dressed in



black hats, black shirts and khaki pants three ranks of Charlie Rangers read the names of our fallen brothers who gave their lives for their friends and their country. The honor guard was provided by Co C 3rd Bn, 75th Ranger Regiment volunteers lead by their First Sergeant, James Pippin. After all 30 names were read taps were played, and once the last haunting notes drifted away there was not a dry eye in the ranks. Until the last of us is gone we will remember those who gave all they had for us.

That night we held our Banquet at Ruth Ann's restaurant. Our guest speaker was Jerry Bussell, Director of Homeland Security for the state of Nevada, and he spoke to an overflow crowd of old Rangers, young Rangers and guests. A wonderful time was had by all!

The next day we parted with handshakes and hugs all around, looking forward to our next reunion at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, in 2005! Sua Sponte!



The outgoing board, Jim Perdue, Vice President (re-elected); Sam Pullara, Secretary (elected President), Michael Rosensweig, standing in for Rocky Stone as acting Sergeant-at-Arms; Ann Sherman Wolcott, President of Gold Star Mothers (mother of Rex Sherman who was KIA serving in Charlie Rangers); Dean Barker, Treasurer (re-elected); Doc Gove, Association Chaplain, and Gary Dolan, outgoing President.

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

No Submission

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

By Bob Copeland

Well the Reunion is over in Kalispel, Montana and we owe a great vote of thanks to Terry and Dorothy Leishman for hosting such a super event. The weather was hot and the drinks were cold in the hospitality room, what more could you ask for other than good fellowship which was had by all. Those Unit Members attending were as follows: Jerry Morris, Bill Christiansen, Norm Breece, Bob Martin, Bob Hernandez, Marshall Larsen, Joe Florio, Greg Smith, Brent Gulick, Ron Tessensohn, Hilan Jones, Freddie Jenkins, Bruce Lessig, Doug McCallum, Buster Bosarge, Rick Ehrler, Roy Barley, Steve Szabo, Ron Bird, Emory Parrish, Tyronne Muse, Greg Foreman, Greg Whitson, Don Gibson, Ken McConkey, Jim Godbolt, Phil Katsis, Terry Leishman, Ray Davis, Bill Pelloux, John Berg, Don DuPont, Ed Chaffin, Don Gibson, Wayne Fentress, Dale Dickey and Bob Copeland. (Sorry if I missed anyone)

I would like to say a special thankyou to all the wives, children relatives and friends of Unit Members who attended the reunion and made it such a great success!!! We hope to see even more family members and friends out for the next Reunion in Orlando, Florida in 2005!!

The Reunion started with everyone checking in at the Outlaw Hotel over several days and frequenting the hospitality room on more than one occasion, Right!! The hospitality room was well stocked with drink and snacks and everyone enjoyed the fellowship which included numerous group photos and a few fish stories (the big ones didn't get away and they brought pics to prove it!!!)

The dinner with the guest speaker on PTSD went well and no, you are never cured of PTSD you just learn how to manage it. The first thing is to realize you may be suffering from it and if this is the case the next step is to seek someone knowledgeable and get some help. I believe that point was made clear and the fact that it not only affects you but may also affect your family and friends and other relationships. Greg and Carla Whitson are qualified VA Advocates and can help you with a claim or seeking out someone to help, so give them a call and get things started!!

For activities we went on a Cruise Boat trip on Flathead Lake which proved to be very enjoyable. The bar was open and Ron Bird brought some cool beer in his travelling cooler and shared them with the group, thanks Ron!! It proved to be a little smokey on the lake as we progressed along but it did not deter us from have a good view of the shoreline and the many large and expensive homes which proved pleasing to the eye and melted in with the daydreaming. A few in the group nodded off and moved

into the full relaxation mode. While they slept Rick Ehrler took the wheel of the boat and demonstrated how easy it was to handle the bridge of the boat and stay on course, even if you can't see where you are going. Good work at driving the boat Rick, actually it was so smokey we couldn't see where you were going so there wasn't a worried sailor in the crowd. Well done Rick!! The ones that didn't go for a boat cruise went for a drive into the mountains to see the glacier and others stayed around the Hotel or went shopping for relaxation.

The Memorial Service was one of the best organized that we have seen to date and the credit for this moving and meaningful remembrance of our Fallen and Deceased Comrades goes to Tyrone Muse. Tyrone coordinated music with ceremony and created an atmosphere of peaceful remembrance and reverence which flowed throughout the length of the service. Tyrone opened the service after a reflective period of music with the invocation followed by Roy Barley reading the

Role at which time the presenter answered to the name with here 1st Sargeant, then approached the candled area set up at the front of the service area and lite a candle, stepped back, rendered a slow salute, and broke off at which time the next name was called from the role. After all the names on the role had been called Taps were played and the service was concluded by Tyrone. Thanks from all of us Tyrone for the wonderful service in remembrance of our Fallen and Deceased Comrades. Tyrone also had some CD's made up for everyone as well as Memorial Service Programs. Many thanks from all of us Tyrone for your dedication and thoughtfulness!!!
RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!



The Business meeting went well and discussion was held on how to proceed with the gathering of material for the book on our unit. The two avenues to pursue were 1. to continue to collect data, information and stories and add to, subtract from and eventually put everything between two covers for the use of the unit members only, this way we could continue to gather info and add it to the Unit History as we go along and not have to worry about the factual or historical correctness of the material which could be changed as was necessary or 2. continue to gather info with the idea of eventually publishing the content once it was refined, edited and scrutinized for correctness. A disclaimer would have to be written in so that if someone took offence to the correctness of the content or nature of certain acts or descriptive passages we would be covered from any legal action. We would have to have people who contribute sign off on any claim to proceeds of income should a profit be made and establish a trust for the Company setting out how the income would be spent. We would have to address whether the book would be fiction or

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

nonfiction given the fact the most recollections are 30+ years old and in a team of six all members may see things from a different viewpoint. As you can see we first must get the book published and that in itself is an undertaking. Well we have much to think about and obviously to talk about and as of this point nothing is final. I believe the Steering Committee has its job cut out for it and must endeavor to evaluate and eventually arrive at a sound conclusion. I thank everyone who attended the business meeting for their input and patience.

On the topic of candidates for the Ranger Hall of Fame I pointed out the if a person is to put a name forward they must be prepared to do the background investigation, collect the pertinent documents i.e. request records by having the family fill out a 180 form for personnel records in St. Louis for the 201file and personal awards and decorations. A complete copy of the file is advisable to complete to RHOF package. You will also require the family to write up a biography on the candidate covering the time prior to entry into the service. If the candidate is alive you must request the same info from him in order to prepare the RHOF package. I have examples of the successful packages submitted and will supply you with a copy and will assist you but the bottom line is you must be prepared to do the majority of the work within a reasonable time frame. It is a great honor for a person to be submitted to the RHOF and it is also a great honor for the submitting Unit and the Ranger Community and is not something to be taken lightly. Above all make sure before you put someone forward for this honor that you do a cursory investigation to see that he meets the criteria and then be willing to see the process through to completion. It is not fair to the nominator or the nominee if we do not approach the RHOF in a thoughtful, fair and judicious manner. This Award is the highest honor that the Ranger Community can bestow on a fellow Ranger.

It was decided that the next company reunion will be in Orlando, Florida in 2005 as was determined at the last reunion in Federal Way, Wash. Ken Mellick (407) 522-9414 volunteered to be the pointman as I recall at the last reunion. Stephen Sazbo(941)778-0192, Ed Cahffin (727)397-0842, Don DuPont (813)677-7181 and Emory and Shirley Parrish(813)677-8341 have volunteered to assist Ken Mellick with setting up the next reunion in Orlando. Get in touch with each other and let's plan for a great reunion in Florida. Remember to decide on Spring or Fall. Thanks all and I'm sure you'll do a great job!!

Brent Gulick stood and addressed the assembled group on a method of gathering information from veterans through a Survey called the Vietnam War Era Service Survey Questionnaire. Brent spoke of just finishing a project to gather information on his father's WW11 Airforce Unit to compile a history of the unit by using a standard questionnaire which asked a number of pertinent questions. The same questions were asked of each individual in the unit which established some continuity of information and facts. He was suggesting a form such as the one used to do his father's Unit history could be useful to our unit in compiling our history. Good idea Brent and a proven one at that

An article from the New York Times Newspaper dated 26 May 2003 titled BLACK GRANITE ROLL CALL IS NOW 58,235 was brought to my attention at the Reunion. Rick Ehrler had asked me some time ago if I could find out whether or not a

person who dies of combat related wounds was eligible to have his name placed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. It would appear from the article that this is now possible and has been done. Roy Barley stated he was looking into this in relation to Ray Gallardo.

Jonesy mentioned the Children's Christmas Fund was doing well and the our Unit was leading the way again this year. We encourage all members to sponsor a KIA or Deceased Comrade with any amount that you can and this money will go to the Ranger Childrens Christmas Fund this year. Jonesy came up with the idea to sponsor each of our KIA and Deceased Comrades up to \$100 each. You can put \$10 on a person and someone else can put \$25 etc with a view to having \$100 sponsored on each one. Great idea Jonesy and the Fund is growing in leaps and bounds. Send your donations to Ron Edwards, Secretary, P.O. Box 921 Heflin, AL36264 Phone: 256-831-7146 redwards@cableone.net Please send cheque or money order and indicate the name of the person you are sponsoring for the Childrens Christmas Fund.

Elections were held and nominations made and voted on. Yes I have accepted a third term and will endeavor to do my best for you all in the next two years as your Unit Director. Hilan "Jonesy" Jones was re-elected and will continue on as Secretary/Treasurer and will continue to do the fine job in this position that he has demonstrated in past terms of office.

The Banquet was informal with no head table. We had an excellent turnout at the banquet and a buffet dinner with tables selected randomly and at the end by skill in picking numbers between 1-10 etc. The food was hot, plentiful and very good. Draws were made throughout the night and toasts made. We had a live DJ supplied by Terry and Dorothy Leishman and the music was very good. Our thanks go out to the couple who supplied the great music for the banquet!! Please convey our gratitude to them for us Terry and Dorothy. Thanks to all those who supplied the raffle gifts and to Tyrone and Shirley Parrish for arranging the items and doing the draws. Congratulations also go out to all the draw winners. Many of the Raffel items were supplied by the late Jack Delaney's wife Barb and the Unit due to her generosity has donated \$240 to by Jack Delaney a Memorial Brick in the Ranger Memorial walkway at Fort Benning, Ga. Dorothy Leishman donated a quilt which was signed by all the Unit Members present, Greg and Carla Whitson donated a Skinning Knife which was hand crafted, Bob and Cathy Copeland donated a limited edition Wolf Print named Lone Survivor, and Ron Tessensohn donated a Reunion Shirt with the signatures of all the Unit Members on it. If I missed any of the donors please let me know and I will include you in the next newsletter. Thanks to all the donors and the people who supported the raffel. Jonesy and I presented a Plaque to Terry and Dorothy Leishman on behalf of all the Unit Members and their families for all the hard work they put into organizing this terrific Reunion. I also presented a limited edition Wolf Print named Lone Survivor on behalf of the Unit for Terry and Dorothy Leishman's efforts to make this Reunion the most memorable reunion ever!! Brent Gulick presented me with an Eagle Trophy from the Unit Members and their wives for my work as Unit Director for Echo Company. I wish to thank you all for this lovely tribute and promise to double my efforts in the next two years to continue to bring honor to our unit and those who served and gave all and to those who continue

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

to serve our unit and their families. Hooah!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!! Thanks again for the kind words and good thoughts!! At the end of the Banquet the music went on and the hospitality was open for business till the early hours of the morning. Good-byes were said and in the morning the majority of the attendees left for the airport or jumped into their cars and drove off into the morning sun. See you all again in 2005 in Orlando!!! Well done Terry and Dorothy Leishman!!! You made us all Welcome and Montana is indeed the BIG SKY COUNTRY and the home of hospitality.

This past Sunday I just returned from a trip to Ft Benning, Ga. to see one of our Fallen Comrades honored by being Inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. In December 2002 I submitted 1st Lieutenant Mark Joseph Toschik to be Nominated for Induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame to the President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn. Dana McGrath. After going through a long and competitive selection process Ranger Toschik's Parents, Larry and Ceil Toschik were advised that the Nomination had been successful and that the Induction Ceremony would take place on 6 Aug 2003 at Ft. Benning, Ga. On the morning of 6 Aug I picked up Larry and Ceil Toschik along with Mark's cousin Cathy and her husband Dormal Newberry and conveyed them to Infantry Hall at Ft. Benning, Ga. At Ft. Benning we visited the Ranger Memoria and found Mark's Memorial Brick in the walkway and then proceeded into the Memorial passing the Ranger Creed and Rogers Rangers Standing Orders. We viewed the Stone Markers representing the Rangers from WW11 to the present. On the back wall of the Memorial is inscribed the names of all the Ranger Hall of Fame Inductees by year and it was under 2003 that we found the name of Mark Joseph Toschik. We returned to Infantry Hall and after a bite to eat and a drink we went to the auditorium. Mr and Mrs Toschik were then taken to one of the classrooms to be briefed on the RHOF Ceremony and advised of their role in the ceremony to be held at 14:30 hrs. I left Larry and Ceil in the classroom from which they would be escorted along with the other inductees and returned to the Auditorium to form up with the 75th Ranger Regt Assoc. to march in for the RHOF Ceremony. At 14:00 hrs we moved into the Auditorium by Assoc. to be recognized and seated. The Inductees were lined up outside the Auditorium and were announced by name as they came in and were seated in the front row of seats. As Mark's name was ready to be called Larry and Ceil were escorted to the stage and lead to the presenting party, after Mark's Citation had been read the Ranger Hall of Fame Medallion was placed around Larry's neck as he received the award on behalf of Mark. Larry then gave a short acceptance speech after which he and Ceil returned to their seats. At the conclusion of the ceremony congratulations were given all around and numerous pictures taken. Larry and Ceil were congratulated by Ranger Dana McGrath President of the 75th Ranger Regt Assoc., by Ranger Emmett Hiltibrand (past Pres. of the 75th Rgr Regt Assoc.), Ranger Rick Stetson, other RHOF Inductees and by myself. On leaving the Infantry Hall we proceeded to Lawson Airfield for the Ranger Barbaque. On arrival we were parked in the VIP parking area and made our way into the hangar and found some available seating. While Emmett and I secured some food and drinks Rick Stetson visited with the Toschik's and the Newberry's. The food was plentiful with large steaks, slabs of ribs and half chickens along with all the accessories. After our meal and having enjoyed the atmosphere of dining with all the Rangers past and present it was time to say

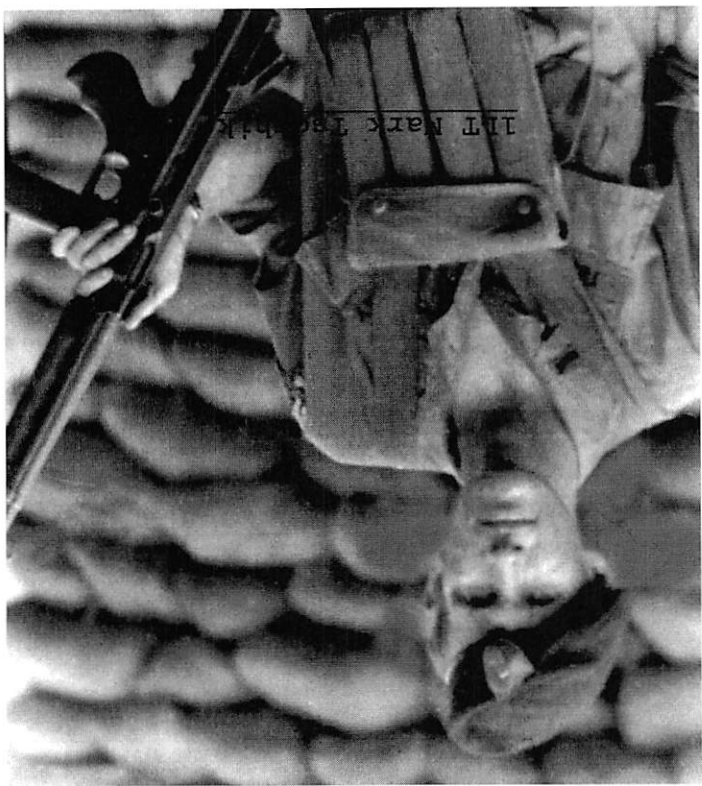
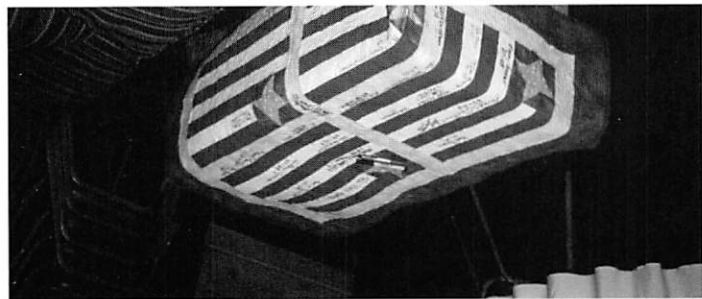
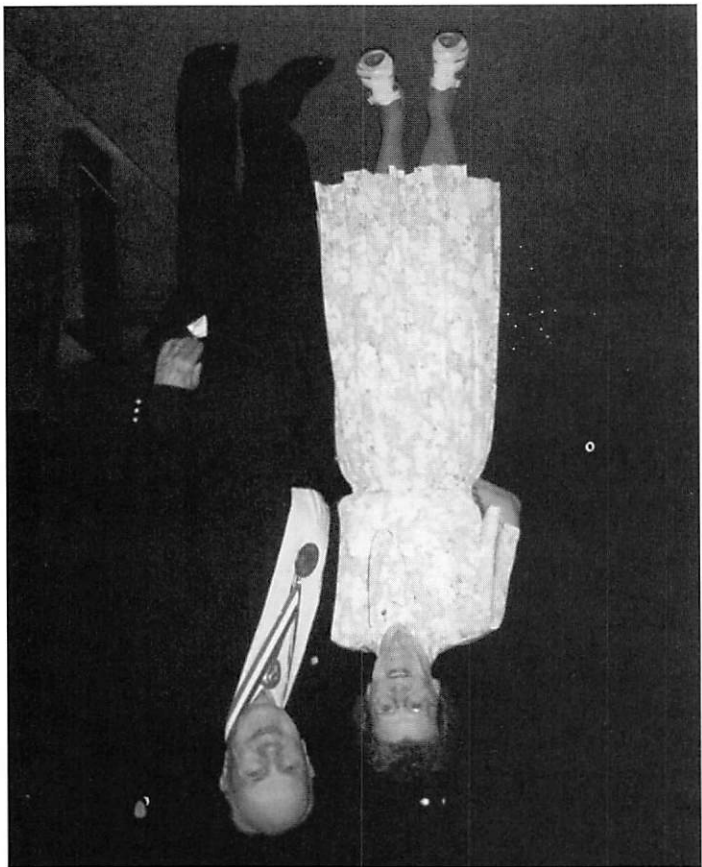
farewell to the Airfield and return Larry and Ceil along with Cathy and Dormal Newberry to the Comfort Inn Suites so that they could rest up for their trip to the Atlanta Airport in the morning. We bid each other farewell and thus concluded a very eventful and notable day on which one of our own, a Ranger Warrior, received the highest honor a Ranger can receive from his fellow Rangers and the Ranger Community. HOOAAH!!!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

Well that concludes my news for this edition, so I take this opportunity to wish you all well and hope you enjoy the remainder of your summer. To all the Gold Star Mothers and our extended Ranger Family I wish you all the best in your daily endeavors, take care and stay safe!!!! To all those who are ill at home or in hospital we wish you a speedy recovery and we will keep you in our prayers.

To all our Warriors with Special Operations Command who are in or are going in harms way I wish you God Speed and Good Hunting!! HOOAH!!!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

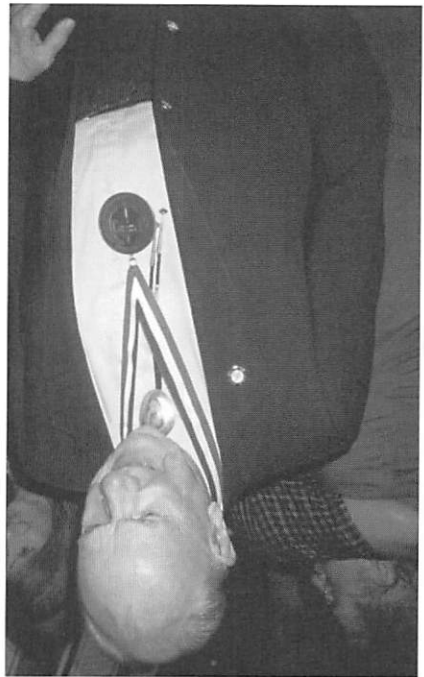
Bob Copeland
Unit Director
RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!





PATROLLING - FALL 2003

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



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

Unit Director - Joe Little



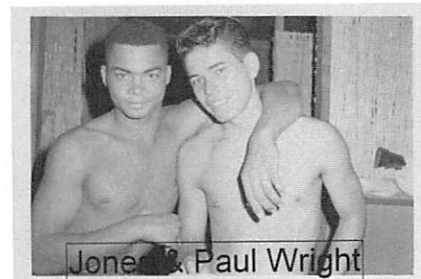
Hey guys, I almost forgot, the time frame of when you receive this will be around the beginning of the holiday season and I wish all a happy start of the season. The season kicks off with Halloween with the Horn of Plenty; remember there are many that do not have plenty, so let's be generous especially to a brother Vet. I would like to remind all that our association does a donation thru a Christmas fund to active duty Rangers that can not afford the holidays and we as a unit would like to contribute to this fund. If you feel inclined to reach into your pocket and pull some spare change out and make a charitable contribution, write a check to me/Company F (Rangers) 75th Assn.

Another holiday or a day of Honor is Veterans Day; I will be at the Wall in DC as I have been with my group for the past 15 years as a counselor.

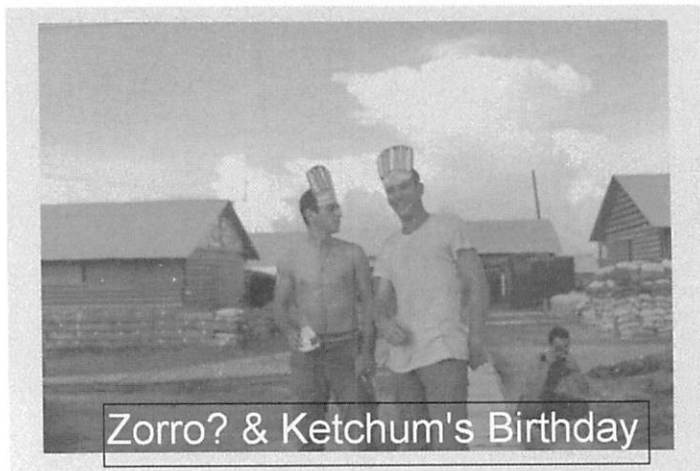


You may recall that Dan wrote a piece about Operation Freedom Bird that takes 50 Combat Veterans to the wall for four days free of charge as part of ongoing treatment through the Arizona Vet Centers. I welcome all that may happen to be in DC to look me up. I arrive on the 9th and leave on the 12th of November every year; I will stay at the Marriott Crystal City, and I may be able to get you a room at our rate of \$80 per day, no guarantee here, just need to know in advance. So much for the plug; I want all to have a safe and happy holiday season for you and your family.

Joe Little F/Co UD



Jones & Paul Wright



Zorro? & Ketchum's Birthday



This was our standown just a little P

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

Unit Director - Steve Crabtree



G Company/E51 Sitrep

Golf Company Ranger Association held their fourteenth annual reunion in San Antonio, Texas, last month. This will be our last "annual" reunion as we are going to every other year on the odd years. This will allow our members to attend the 75RRA's reunions on the even numbered years. Our reunions started off in Sacramento in 1990 where 28 former LRRPs & Rangers from our unit met. It was covered by Charles Krualt

on his Sunday Morning News program. The following year we all met in Washington, DC, for a trip to the "Wall." Over 100 men from our unit attended, many brought their families. Our reunions have dropped off in attendance ever since. I would personally like to thank our President, Tom Nash, for his support of reunions every other year. This will benefit both of our Ranger Associations in the years to come.

The son of one of our men dropped by the other weekend. It is

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

hard to imagine that my Vietnam buddies have children in their late twenties but they do. We watched "Who Were We," a documentary produced and directed by John Fritzing (See, "The Legend of John Fritzing in the last issue of Patrolling). We shot the shit for a couple of hours and then he went on his way. After he left I couldn't help but to reflect on the fact that many of the guys I watched in the documentary were now dead. Over half of the deaths can be directly attributed to Vietnam. Cancer, heart problems, suicide and old wounds were just some of the causes. We may not be dying off as fast as the WWII vets but we're going at a much higher rate that the



average persons in their mid 50's. I spoke with Gary Linderer a couple of days ago. He told me that Lima Company has lost over a hundred men since Vietnam. I know that when I was diagnosed with colon cancer, I was really pissed off; both at the Army and later the VA. I guess I summed it up better in my article, "You, Me, Cancer & the VA," when I said, "When the last tally is done it will show that the United States Government killed more American GI's than the North Vietnamese ever dreamed of." Think about that when you remember these and your KAA's (Killed After Action).



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

Unit Director - William Anton



Greeting from the 1st. Cavalry.
LRRP/RANGER,

I can't believe this year's reunion has already come and gone. These early summer reunions come up very fast and catch you off guard. Those of us that live in the mid North East states did not get a real change from spring to summer and that really throws your timing off. Next year's reunion will be around Fathers' Day again, 2004.

This year was probably the first year since 1987 that we did not have someone coming for the first time. In the 16 years of reunions, we have enjoyed the pleasure of one to four first time attendees. This year we were without a special guest family. If you know of someone or family, now is the time to get things started. I would like to remind everyone that reunions can be a fun family get-together. The LRRP/Rangers have always extended a warm welcome to all family members. In past years, parents, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren and in-laws have been a part of or the entire reunion program. This year our group had two notable men attending the reunion, Mike GOODING, for his second reunion and Jim REGAN for his third reunion. Both men were part of the outstanding leadership that helped the 1st Cavalry LRRP/Ranger Company achieve

the respect it still holds.

This year we had 18 members plus some of us brought wives and family. The following members and family were at the reunion: Gair ANDERSON; Bob



CARR; Terry COMBS with wife Della; Larry CURTIS, wife Jeannie, daughter Gerri, son-in-law Mark, grandson Mitchell; Sam DIXON, wife Cathy; Pete "Dutch" EISENTRAGER; Bennie GENTRY, wife Sandy; Doc GILCHREST with a drop-in visit by wife Louise, daughter Amie; daughter Jessie, daughter Jennifer; Mike GOODING, wife Joan; Dave KLIMEK; John

LEBRUN with Barb; Mike MCCOY, wife Cathy; Keith PHILLIPS, wife Frankie; Jim REGAN, wife Lois; Jim SEYMOUR; Danny SVOBODA; Clint VOORHEES; and Ron WOOD.

I know many of 75th RRA members and other friends have missed the LRRP/Rangers of the 1st Cavalry. official website. I am very sorry it has taken more than a year to get our website back up and running. As many people know it takes someone who really wants to do it. Dutch EISENTRAGER is our new webmaster and caretaker for our LRRP/Ranger website. Dutch has gotten the old website backup with a few minor changes.

If you have access to the Web, you can now use www.tomah.com/lrrp_ranger/ to get to our website. Please be patient. It may take a little while longer to get all the links working again. Please keep in mind that all posted photos are restricted to "G" ratings. The LRRP/Rangers of the 1st Cavalry are proud to have a website that everyone from 1 to 100 can enjoy. Please take some time to drop in.

I received this article just in time to include it with this newsletter. Doc Gilchrest is the contributor.

"Texas Proud Custom Cycles (previously

H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1ST CAV LRRP (CONTINUED)

owned by Ron Hall), held their first "Ron Hall Memorial Charity Poker Run". The proceeds were to be donated to the Killeen Free Clinic. An estimated 350 to 400 motorcycle enthusiasts and friends took part in the event. July was not too hot for these riders to pay tribute to their friend's memory and to continue his legacy giving.

Four members of the 1st Cavalry LRRP/Rangers also attended this

memorial to Ron Hall. David Russell and wife Joann, Keith Phillips and wife Frankie, and Doc Gilchrest all of Texas were joined by Bennie Gentry and wife Sandy from Tell City, Indiana. A lot of motorcycle miles later and a better tan, we all said our goodbyes and went our separate ways. Bennie Gentry, being the kind-hearted and caring type of individual that he is, donated his winnings of \$150 to the free clinic. A tribute to himself and the LRRP/Rangers

of the 1st Cavalry Division. Thanks, Bennie, from all of us."

In closing, I have one more special friend, gentleman, retired officer and supporter for the LRRP's and Rangers during the Vietnam war and is still a close friend of our chapter. Pete BOOTH. We all thank him very much and always enjoy having him and his wife at Sunday breakfast.

Everyone take care, Sam



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

Unit Director - David Hill



I hope by the time you are reading this you will be enjoying a nice, temperate Fall. Out here on the "Left Coast" it has been one of the hottest summers in a long time, though our heat pales in comparison to that being endured by our brothers in Army, Marine and Air Force units in Iraq. Keep them in your prayers.

In this issue, I wanted to present the Viet Nam War from a somewhat different perspective than the "normal" (usually anything but!) missions of our teams. The first item is a contribution from Tom McMahon, one of our Co. F/52nd Inf. (LRP) members. The second covers the 75th RRA "Gold Star Mother Certificate" program and the great impact it had upon the family of one of our fallen brothers.

Tom McMahon served on various teams in Co. F/52nd Inf (LRP), 1st Infantry division during the period 3 Jan 68 through 4 March 1969. Late in his tour he became part of an intelligence electronic trail monitoring team of the Big Red One's Combat Intelligence Battalion and served there until the end of his tour of duty. Though he was in many contacts and firefights during his tour as a Co. F Lurp (sometimes as one of my teammates), none of that prepared him for the events which occurred in the Big Red One's headquarters base camp of Lai Khe on 5 May 1968. That incident, above all others, has stood out in his memories all these years, and has been his own personal demon. Years later, he decided that to write down his memories of that horror-filled day was ultimately the best way in which to come to terms with it. In 1998 he began that process, a bit at a time. The following account is the result of that effort. While it was a scene perhaps not unfamiliar, to some degree, to other Lurps and Rangers who served in Vietnam, this is Tom's own personal experience, in his own words.

Rockets in Lai Khe

On the morning of 5 May 1968, at 7 am, I was shaving, using the

entrance to a bunker to support my inverted steel pot (the helmet rarely having been used for its designed purpose as head protection) and shaving equipment. Suddenly, the sound of a freight train coming through the sky momentarily froze my hand, as 122mm rockets began making a descent into our Lai Khe basecamp. Without further thought, I instinctively hurled myself into the bunker.

First came the impact, blast, concussion, and then shrapnel and debris showering throughout the area. Three rockets in tight formation had cut the peace of the morning. A brief moment of silence separated the noise of the rockets from the calls for help. Calls for help that went from shouting to yelling, yelling to screaming. Screams from those now forever silenced, and silent screams molded onto the faces of those who moments ago had been living.

I grabbed my web gear, that contained one bandage, to answer the calls for help and came upon a macabre scene that I was not prepared for—a place I can't get out of my head even to this day.

This was the scene at the "Combat Indoctrination School," Located across the road from F Co. 52nd Inf (LRP), 1st Infantry Division, on 5 May 1968. Though it occurred over 35 years ago, it still seems like yesterday.

These soldiers, now casualties, had been in Viet Nam less than one week; many had not even had the opportunity of sending their first letter home. This place was a school to orient new arrivals to the stark differences between stateside training and duty and the combat environment of Viet Nam. Never had anyone thought they would receive such a savage and early exposure to some of the very worst of Vietnam.

Over 100 men had been standing in morning formation in the shade of the jungle foliage when the terrifying roar of 122mm



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

rockets interrupted the announcements of the day. These uninitiated and unsuspecting youths standing in close formation were caught in the open, surprised by the roaring slam of the incoming rockets. Dispersing hot pieces of shrapnel, fragments the size and severity of straight razors, were accelerated by the blast as the warheads detonated in the trees above. Blood was the common denominator on this field of green.

Blood pumped from the severed, flailing forearms, creating crimson arches with each desperate movement. A teenage boy sat in green jungle fatigues, his face twisted with screams of denial. Trained to be a soldier, he was instead soon to be a civilian with no hands—never to pick up a weapon again as a soldier. No one ever found his hands, but there were many other hands to be found.

A young soldier, whose blond hair still showed through the blood, held his left leg across his chest like one would hold a baby, looked at me and asked for help for his friend, who was face down next to him. I rolled his friend over to try and help, only to reveal his bowels spread under his lifeless sticky red and green mass.

Screams, confusion, fear, anger, frustration, blood and bones. I turned away, only to gaze upon another soldier, with a gaping air hole where a face had been just moments ago, still hungering for life-giving air, a geyser-like ejection of air mixed with blood as his lungs spasmed to expel all but air. He was kneeling, his hands and arms expressing the shocking loss, and in a mime-like silent dance he kept his balance in that position.

I turned away. The intensity is increasing; shock and desperation now enters the group: "Help me, help my buddy, help, somebody just f***** help", is heard. I find myself face to face with a now angry, screaming soldier with flailing bloody arms. He embraces me and screams in my face, I can't hear him, I am angry with him. I can't look at him. I turn my head to avoid his eyes; but there was no turning away entirely from the scene before me. I am in the middle of a nightmare that will last for the rest of my life. Even as I later sat to write of this event, I could still—in my mind's eye—see a boot with only a calf protruding from it, the sock drawn neatly up the leg with one fold all around, severed just above the boot.

Lai Khe base camp, headquarters of the First Infantry Division, was the target of many hundreds of "incoming" rounds—some were benign, all were frightening, and many were killers. In 1968 it was tagged with the name "Rocket City". Whoever launched those rockets on this day, however, scored a record hit. Everyone under those trees went home. Even those that didn't go home in body bags were not of any further use to the military as soldiers, and so they too went home, their war over.

Five months had passed since I had arrived in Viet Nam. But until this day, I had never encountered carnage of this magnitude. Walking among these men, with their bodies mutilated, can only be described as a scene from "Dante's Inferno". A private little

hell where everyone had just come face to face with their demons, and the demons took control of the moment, a moment that I cannot forget, and a moment that would give birth to more demons.

As more help started to arrive, shock was everywhere, on every face. Slowly confusion became order, as hollered commands organized the chaos. Stretchers were taken to ambulances and away, but there were so many—so many. Turning again to the scene, I looked for whoever is next, who needed me, who I could still help. By this time more medical personnel had arrived and had begun to perform *triage* so their efforts could be focused on those they might still be able to save. When all of the dead and wounded had been evacuated, I returned to the Co.F area, having started the day as a 20-year old youth, but now feeling more like a 70-year old man.

This was yet another cruel lesson of that war in Vietnam. You didn't necessarily have to be in the field, nor even be a combatant, to get killed or maimed. On this unforgettable day of 5 May 1968, the enemy brought the war directly into the relative safety of Lai Khe base camp. At least in the field, we could return fire. But here, on this day, the enemy had launched from faraway, unknown positions and all I could do was take it, try to recover and move on for the rest of my tour.

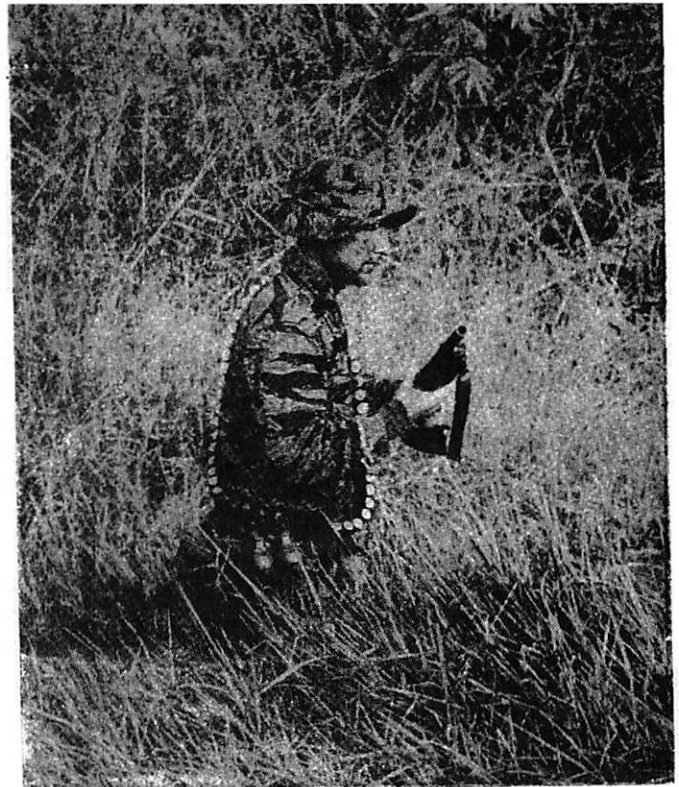
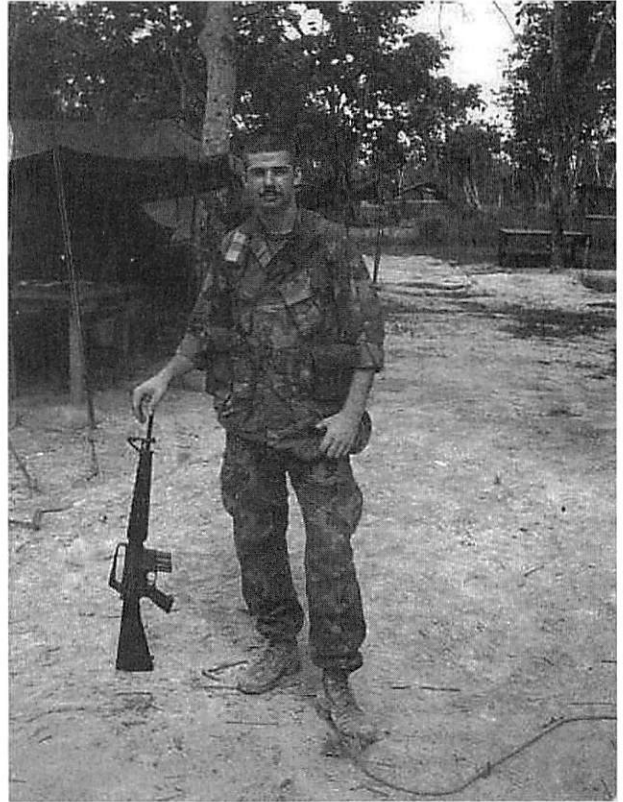
[By Thomas McMahon—with a little help from his friend, Dave Hill.]

While we who made it home from Vietnam alive have been grateful for that, we have never forgotten the teammates, brothers we lost over there so many years ago. Those fallen heroes also left behind fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, other family and friends. Those left often had only slight knowledge about what their family member's tour had been like, what they had done in Vietnam, who their teammates were, and how they had died. Many younger sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews would know them only through the memories of others—not having had the chance to meet some of the greatest guys who ever walked the earth. It has been our honor to have made contact with some of those family members and friends over the years, particularly now, aided by the internet. It was through the net that I first came into contact with Patsy Beauchamp, the sister of one of our fine team leaders, SSgt. Jackie Leisure, who was killed on a mission 12 May 1968. [That mission is described in Bill Goshen's book, War Paint, in the chapter entitled "The Nightstalkers".]

The Vietnam Memorial Wall webpage allows one to look up the names of those killed in Vietnam and add brief messages, pictures, links, etc. about those whose names reside on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC. [Go to: <http://thewall-usa.com/>] In September 2000, I had placed beneath his name a small tribute to Jackie and a picture (taken just two days before he was killed). I also left a link to our Co.F/52nd(LRP)/Co.I/75th (Ranger) company memorial website and my e-mail address, in case any of them should want to get in contact with me or anyone else in our unit who had served with

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

Jackie. In some small way, I just wanted his family, friends, or anyone else who happened upon that page, to know the high regard in which he was held by those of us who had served with him, been on missions with him, and like them, missed him. About six months later I received an e-mail from Patsy Beauchamp. She told me that the Army had been able to tell the Leisure family very little about his loss. For nearly 30 years, she had tried to make contact with any of us that served with him and find out more about his time in Vietnam and particularly his last mission. She knew some about LRRPs and Rangers through her readings, but nothing directly about her brother's tour. Though I had known Jackie for only a few months, and not as well as some others in our unit, I told her all I could about her brother. I told her of the resolute, aggressive way in which he ran his team, Wildcat 1, about our joint "heavy team" missions, and the final mission near Phu Loi, on which he was killed and Roger Anderson, his Assistant Team Leader (ATL), badly wounded. I then sent her a few pictures of him and of our teams, a newspaper clipping with his picture and "filled in the blanks" of his tour as



CAMOUFLAGE. With tiger fatigues and crayoned face, Staff Sergeant Jack Leisure holds down rear security position as his ambush patrol returns to the perimeter in the morning. Leisure, of Jal, N.M., and other LRRP members from the Long Range Reconnaissance Detachment had set up an ambush.



Jackie Glenn Leisure

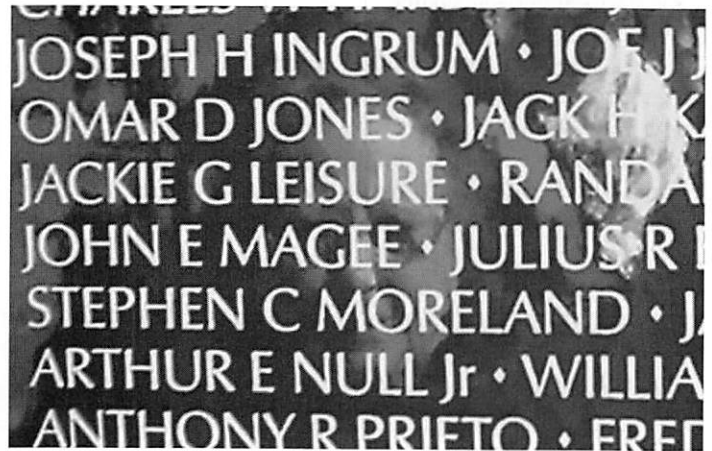
I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)

much as I could for her. I then advised her to contact Roger Anderson, his ATL, who knew him real well, having served on his team for nearly six months by that time. Over the course of the past nearly 3 years, our e-mail contacts have continuous and frequent. It has been a great long-distance friendship with her and her family.

In late 2002, I was advised by James Savage, one our Co.F Lurps, and Legal Advocate to 75th RRA, that the Association had an excellent "Gold Star Mother Certificate" Program and was seeking to award the certificate to the mothers of our fallen comrades. He asked if I was in contact with any of the families of those we lost and if I thought that any of their mothers would be interesting in receiving the Certificate.

I immediately contacted Patsy Beauchamp and asked if she thought her and Jackie's mother, Clara Leisure, would be interested in receiving the Certificate—75th RRA's way of letting our brothers' families know that neither our teammates nor their families would ever be forgotten. Though Patsy was very interested in the program, her mother, being in poor health and still in grief over losing her son, could not directly receive the Certificate. I understood, but thought that perhaps an alternative arrangement could be made for Patsy to receive the Certificate on behalf of the Leisure family. Patsy said that she would be honored to represent her mother and receive the certificate if that could be arranged. Still unsure if this arrangement could be made, I contacted 75th RRA Gold Star Mother Advocate, Sandee Rouse. She immediately understood, and agreed that presenting the Certificate to Patsy, under the circumstances, made sense and that we should work toward that.

Over the course of the next few months, Patsy, Sandee, Ron Edwards (75th RRA Certificate presenter) and I communicated on how best to get the presentation made to Patsy, who lives near her mother in western Mississippi. Since no 75th RRA officer lived in that part of the country, a number of alternatives were considered: send the certificate to the local VFW for them to present; have a Lurp or Ranger in the vicinity make the presentation; just send the Certificate via courier without an actual presentation. None of them, however, would serve to adequately convey the meaning and impact of the Certificate in the way intended and needed. Finally, Ron Edwards took it upon himself to make the presentation in person. He would just not hear of "sending" the Certificate—not on his watch. Ron drove from his home in eastern Alabama all the way to Patsy's home and made the presentation. It meant more to Patsy and her family than she or I could have ever imagined. To quote Patsy: "We were so anxious to meet Ron. When he pulled into the drive, it was like greeting an old friend, but when he left it was like saying bye to a dear family member. We had a great visit and hated when it came to an end. The plaque is beautiful and now after all is said and done I'm soooo thankful and grateful to Ron for not listening to me about dropping it in the mail. It would have taken away so much. The short time we spent with Ron was and always will be unforgettable. I now SEE and FELT the compassion and dedication that the Rangers have for their fellow comrades (brothers). The kindred spirit brings a closeness that



Jackie's name and Clara Mae Leisure's Reflection on the Moving Wall



Patsy Beauchamp receives Gold Star Mother Certificate on behalf of family, from Ron Edwards



cannot be described unless you've felt it for yourself. Even though it's his "job" to do this, you can tell it's soooo much more!!" A few days later, her mother felt well enough to see the Certificate herself and was mightily pleased as well. Pictures of Clara Leisure, Patsy Beauchamp and her sisters, and Ron Edwards accompany this article. I have also include a picture Patsy took of her mothers image reflected in the "Moving Wall"

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

as she gazes at her son's name.

The Gold Star Mother Certificate program is an extraordinary program and an amazing comfort to the families of our brothers. I urge you to find opportunities among your units to find potential recipients and forward the information to Sandee Rouse or Sandy Harris ("Gold Star Wives Certificate Program"), whose contact information resides on the 75th RRA website. It is but one more tribute we can make to those we have lost.

Ed Note: I received this just before the magazine went to the printer.

Hello John - I unfortunately need to ask you to add a postscript to my Fall article on the Gold Star Mother Certificate which was awarded to Clare Mae Leisure. After a long illness, Mrs. Leisure passed away today, 17 August 2003. A sad ending indeed.

-Best Regards, Dave



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

Unit Director - Bill Bullen



Dear Members, Soon to be members and Friends, Thank you so much for attending the K/co, 4th Div LRP, E/58 LRRP 2003 Reunion. A good time was had by all, in spite of the abuse the Unit Director took, for being absolutely useless in preparation for said reunion. Don Keller did a wonderful job in organizing, locating and convincing people to attend. The itinerary to include a Dedication of a nice sized paver stone at the Special Operation Museum, was adhered to precisely. We were honored by the presence of the 82nd Airborne Chorus, if you've never heard these young men, you need to buy the CD. My son swiped it from us to take back to collage with him. Again, Don, thank you for single handedly, pulling this off. Anyone who intends to host a reunion should get Don's after action report.

We saw so many new and old acquaintances I only wish more had been present.

Next year, tentatively the first or second week in August, will be the Regimental Association Reunion, Tacoma, Wash. We'll get even more members at that one. Send in your dues now so you receive your information in a timely fashion.

FELLOW VETS HONOR DAN HARMON

I apologize for no picture, but all my computer capabilities have been attacked by a worm or bug or virus. Anyway I can't mail any pics. Bob Crawford informed me of a reunion of four LRRPs in The Kodiak's Woody Island. Fallen Lrrp Danny Harmon was being remembered by his Tribe, in the highest honors. Present were Harmon's Tribe, Tribal Council, family and friends, to include two fellow LRRPs Ron Coon, Jim Umberger and Bob Crawford and the LRRP Detachment commander Mike Lapolla. In the middle of a firefight, during a foiled enemy ambush, wounded himself, Danny had just pulled a wounded Ron Coon from harms way and then had then gone back to rescue a severely wounded Sgt Ronald Bonert and was struck twice in the heart and died calling for his mother. Bonert died twelve days later in a hospital.

At this four-day retreat, Father Benjamin Peterson, Dean of St Herman's Seminary, made this memorial service the highlight of

the event. This was a moving and very closing, to say the least, for these fellow warriors. I'd like to thank Bob Crawford for sharing this event with me. I'd also like to apologize again for my inability to send the picture. I'll submit it in the next issue of Patrolling.

JIM TESTERMAN

Jim Testerman has something to do for the next couple of years. He is the proud grandfather of a young RTB (Ranger to be), Lucas Mark. Now he gets to spoil him and hand him back to his mom when he's finished.



REUNION MEETING ISSUES

We discussed and voted to maintain a minimal amount in the, K/75, 4th Div LRRP, account. Anything above and beyond this will be sent to the 75th Ranger Regiment Family Help Fund. We agreed that with Rangers being deployed all over the world, they'll need it now more than ever. We also decided that individual dues to K/75, 4th Div LRP, would not be requested, because individual contributions were very successful and plenty to carry the load. We also discussed a fellow Ranger in need, thank you to all who came to this man's aide, YOU KNOW

WHO YOU ARE, THANK YOU! So if you feel so inclined, send your contribution to Wayne Mitsch, 826 Lakeshore Dr, Berkley Lake, Ga 30096. Wayne has been handling the K/75 funds for at least 10 years now, and has been doing a superb job. Last year his company matched K/4th's contribution to the Ranger Family Fund. Not only is he a fine officer but a generous and merciful man, THANK YOU WAYNE MITSCH

Also I asked for a volunteer to step forward, spearhead and organize the (2005) mini-reunion. NOT! So if anyone cares to have an event in there hometown or in a specific area let me know. I'd like to do it at some beach somewhere, sit in the sun with a cold drink and listen to a steel band? Sound doable? Someone have a place in mind?

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

Attendees at the Fayetteville reunion, K CO, 2003

Brian West
Tommy Armes
Herb Reichel
Tom (Rags) Ragland
John Chester
Bob Mott

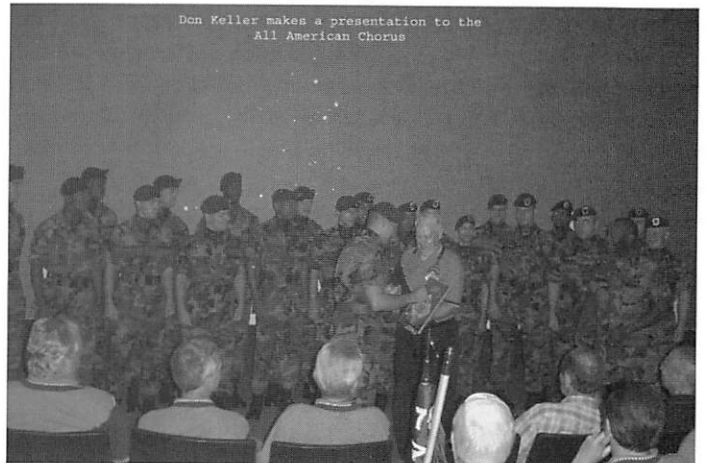
Bob Fraser
Roger T. Crunk
Doug Childers
Joel Douglas
Jerry Alford
Don Keller

Ken Nelson
Roy Allen
Wayne Mitsch
Hank Alderson
Mathew Moore
Jim Joyce

Bob Larsen
Bob Wawak
Bill Bullen
Bill Postelnic
Ray Bailey
Bob Smeyers

Enough for now,
K/75, 4th Div LRP U.D.
Bill 'Ichabod' Bullen
Box 34
Palm, Pa 18070
k75ranger@comcast.net
215-679-8856

Ed. Note: Bill asked me to apologize to everyone because his computer was attacked by the worm or virus or whatever that's going around. I told him that it wasn't necessary to apologize for something that was not responsible for, but he insisted. Any photos, etc. that did not get in this issue will go in the next.





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

Unit Director - Randall White



The dog days of summer are in session as I write this article. The June reunion of the 101st LRRP/Ranger Association is now history, and from what I hear it was a rewarding time for all. I didn't attend the reunion, the first I've missed in 3 years. Vacation time and family commitments didn't allow me to make it, but you betcha' I'll be at both Campbell and Seattle next year. The 75th RRA reunion at Seattle next year will bring with it the vote to decide where the following reunion for the year 2006 will be held. That year will mark the 20th anniversary of the start of our gatherings, and I made it know at the Benning reunion of 2002 that I thought the 101st LRRP/Rangers should host the reunion at Campbell, where it all started in 1986. I hope that as many of you gentlemen as possible will attend in Seattle and vote in favor of holding the bash at Campbell in 2006. The Seattle reunion should show us some new faces from the left coast who haven't made the trip east in a number of years for the 75th RRA reunion. I'm already looking forward to a good time and seeing some guys who have said they'll be coming, that I haven't seen in many years....'ya hear me Fish?

In July I made my annual trip to Indiana to visit the folks and while in the Hoosier state I had a chance to hook up with Chuck Stillo...AKA Wop. He lives about 35 miles from my folks and rode his Harley over for a visit. We spent the day cruisin' around checkin' out my buddies drag cars and hot rods, and getting reacquainted after not seeing each other in 30 years. Wop still looks like he's 30 years old and is laid back as ever. It was great to spend some time together, and I'm sure it won't be the last time we do this, as I make the trip south every year.

Ken Hardy....AKA Pugsly, is another one I stop in and see from time to time. Pugsly lives about 60 miles east of here in Newberry MI, and is on the highway going to Canada from my place. I try to find time to stop and say high when I can catch him at home, and always make sure to give Billy Nix a sitrep after paying Pugsly a visit.

There were others from the company who lived near me over the years, but that was when I lived in Indiana. I'm afraid I now live in the boonies and don't get to see too many old Nam buddies, unless it's at a reunion and that's what makes these gatherings so special. Where else can you hook up with a bunch

of old friends and shoot the bull with others who have walked the same path as you have, except at a reunion. Start making plans to get to Seattle and Campbell next year and do not put it off. I've never heard anyone say, they were sorry they went to one of our reunions. I'll sign off now and keep this one short. The dog days may be here, but old man winter is just around the corner here in 'da U.P. I've got fire wood to stack.

Randy White
ranwhite@jamadots.com
 906 387-2318

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

L-R: F-58th 1st SGT. Darol Walker, C.O.
 CPT. Pete Fitts and unknown. Darol Walker photo.



M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP

Unit Director - Jack Fuche



71st LRP - M/75

by Steve Houghton and Jack Fuche

Today is Sept 1st 2003 and I have missed my second deadline to submit a unit

article. John Chester emailed me today and said he would extend the deadline. Thanks John, I owe you, I don't have it coming. No excuses, but I have simply been out of town when these two last

deadlines snuck up on me. I apologize to all of you, (members of the 71st LRP- M CO 75th) who expect to see something in writing to represent the fine unit we served in long ago. I'll post a photo of

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

one of the teams that predated me. It's nice to see some photos from yesterdays gone by. I have heard very little from unit members so I don't have much in the line of news. Again, my fault, I just haven't been home much.

I did talk to Jack Fuche today and he tells me that he has been in contact with a retired Sgt Major who is involved with one of the 199th Redcatcher organizations that the 71st and M Co 75th was attached to. Anyway this person has a detailed list of casualties of the 199th and attached units. Jack tells me that we have two more KIA's that what we thought based on his conversation with this man. Maybe some of you guys out remember these two names. It seems a Theodore Taylor JR was killed while TDY after Recondo School. He is listed as KIA 1-4-68. He was killed apparently in a firefight, being listed as killed by small arms fire. The other soldier listed as a member of the 71st LRP and lost was a Joseph Hargrove Midgyette. He apparently drowned

during a river or stream crossing of some kind. His death occurred 7-31-67. If any



of you men remember these fellows or know anymore about there deaths, let us know about it. Jack is making arrangements to have bricks engraved with their names for the Ranger memorial. If anyone wants to help with the expense they should contact Jack for

details. I understand there is no question about their serving the unit, only the fact they were one of our casualties. Jack tells me he has been in contact with Lt Tillish, one of our CO's, who supposedly has been in contact with another of our officers Lt. White. Jacks trying to get them to join. Nice work Jack. I'm including in this article a photo from the 67-68 period. This is team one-one. Left to right- JJ, Timmons, Nowlin, Bonnington, Sampson, & Ciccotto. The other photo is of two men I served with, Charlie Hunt and Terrell Ross. They are holding two weapons we took off of a VC unit we hit pretty hard on Christmas day 1968. We were part of a heavy team and they were no match for us.

If you have a photo you would like to see get posted here in this magazine or on my website, send it to me through my e-mail address. Until next issue, take care and start thinking about the Ft Lewis Reunion.

Steve



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Unit Director - Reed Cundiff



The prime event for our unit for this quarter was the off year 2003 Ranger Rendezvous and Ranger Hall of Fame induction. CSM Vladimir "Jake" Jakovenko from the original 173rd LRRP (Provisional), class 0 of Recondo School and an original team leader was inducted. Larry Cole, Roger Bumgardner and Reed Cundiff from Jake's last patrol as a LRRP team leader attended

(this patrol was written up in the spring 2003 "Patrolling"). Others from our various incarnations 173rd LRRP/74th Infantry (LRRP)/N Rangers attending included: Dave Lang, Colonel Carroll, Colonel Palmer, Fletch Ruckman, Hal Herman, Joe Brand, Dave "Varmint" Walker, Dave Cummings, Chris "Turtle" Christenson and Joe Marquez.

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

Retired Major Roger "Hog"/"Ranger" Brown set up a briefing by Captain Larsen, Commander of the Reconnaissance Surveillance Leadership Course at Harmony Church. We were all really impressed by the quality of the folks at the school. "Ranger" Brown and his wife Linda hosted a barbecue and roast for Jake the night before the RHOF ceremonies. All three 75th RRA inductees or surviving family members attended this barbecue: CSM retired Sam Spears, retired CSM Bill Acebes and members of retired CSM Bill Gergens family. There were a number of other distinguished guests at this barbecue: CSM, of Southern command Mike Ethridge, CSM of Ft. Benning Mike Kelso, CSM ret. David Liberstat (former CSM of Ft. Benning) Command Sergeant Major of the Army from 1984-88 (Glenn Morrell) Commander of the RSLC (Captain. Larsen) and his ISG Irwin, Dana Mc Grath, Terry Roderick, Ehlera) Larry Alexander (helicopter pilot in RVN) and retired Major Bill Spies. As Roger Brown wrote: "...There was around 100 attendees, A lot of them were friends of friends. I guess I should have had a sign in register. Rangers are always recording history and I should have learned by now to take notes..." The barbecue and roast were a delight although the Unit Director for N Rangers does need some instructions on putting together an "LRRP punch". The alcohol should be a part of the punch, not the whole punch. The punch wound up a bottle of Bier 33, one-fifth of Russian vodka for Jake's birth in the Ukraine, one-fifth of Ouzo (bad idea) for Jake's SF service with Greek Special Operations, one-fifth of Hawaiian rum (where he met his wife Sandy – and yes Sandy was his jump master and married Jake with only two jumps to go for master wings – what women give up for the men they love), one-fifth of Kentucky bourbon (for where they now live) and a bottle of Thunderbird (for Jakes wine connoisseur days). Ranger Brown did say that he had the bottle since he had told Linda that he really wanted a '57 Thunderbird and she bought him the quart bottle). It was noted that folks started leaving in droves as this potion was being concocted. Those that did partake (and they were few in number though it was felt that it would have been rapidly consumed 35 years ago) felt that the bouquet and taste were reminiscent of camphor, creosote and formaldehyde, interesting and almost, but not quite, drinkable.

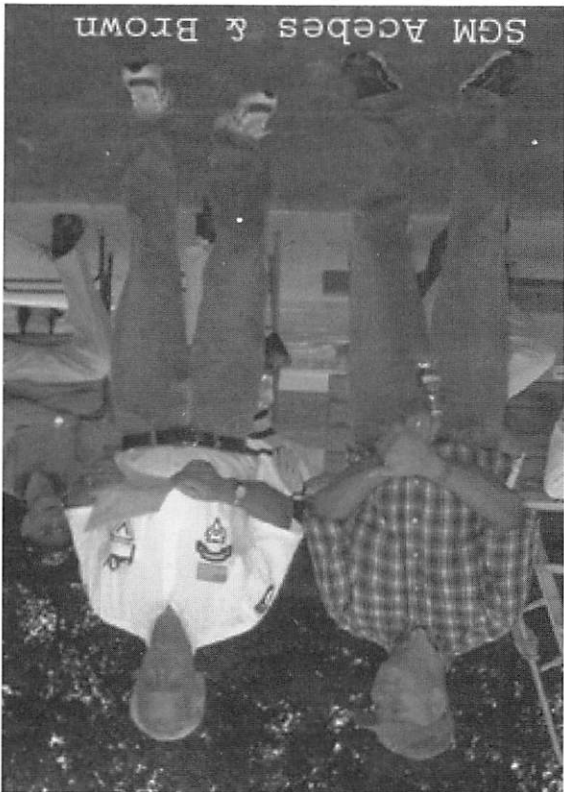
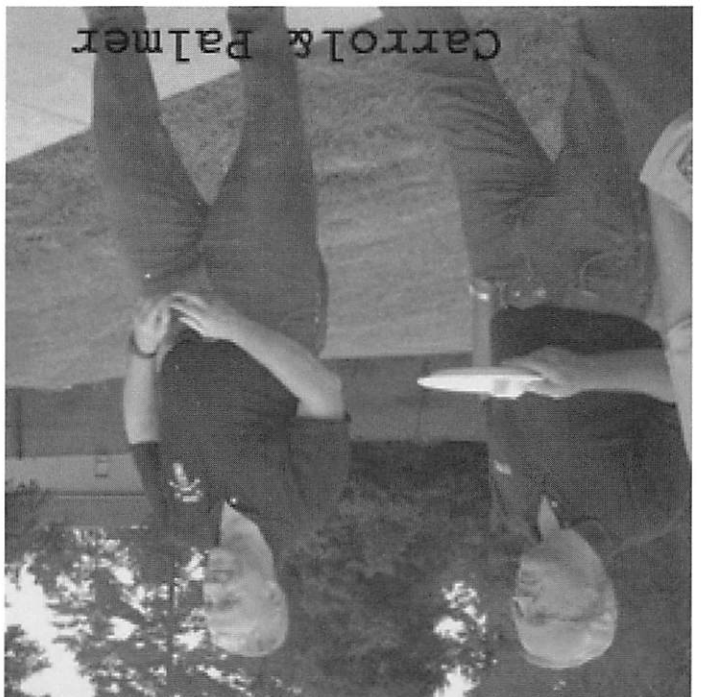
We all attended the RHOF induction on Wednesday. I felt that the look that the young Rangers gave us was "We sure hope we never look that bad if we ever get that old!" The ceremonies were quite moving and Jake's acceptance speech was extremely moving. The Unit Director for N Rangers then spent an almost futile half-hour trying to find his rental car (there are an awful lot of silver colored cars out there that look alike). Fortunately, Dave Lang found me and we drove around for 10 minutes before we

found it – just about where I was sure it was. Most of us wound up at the Ranger Regiment barbecue and a couple of guys had run into Lang who had asked them if I had been totally lost my entire time in RVN. We were all impressed with the guys we met at the barbecue. Dave Walker and Fletch Ruckman had struck up conversations with folks from B/2/75th who had just returned from Iraq and invited them over to our hotel. About six of them to include the 1st Sgt Roethke and the CO came on over and the conversations went on for quite a while.

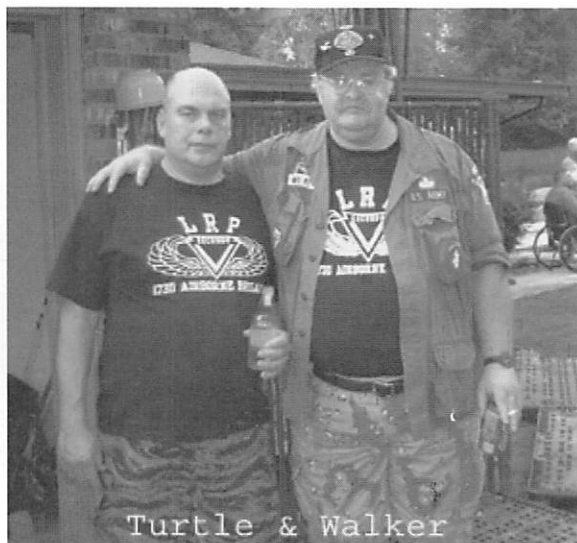
Dave Walker has designed a new Tee shirt for 173rd LRRP / 74th Inf / N Rangers and the front and back of this design is found below.



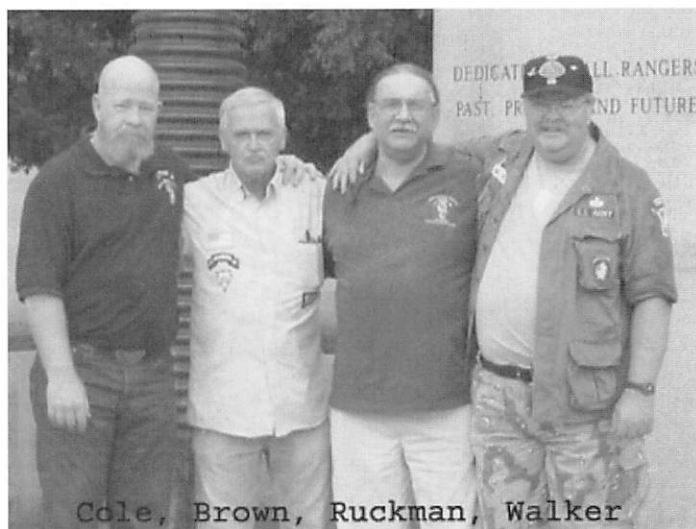
Three new members of 75th RRA have joined up from the 173rd Abn: Joe Marquez, Joe Brand and retired MSgt Larry Jones. Attached is a photo of Jones, Jakovenko and Brown on the right with SSgt Smith down below (two guys on the left I don't know)



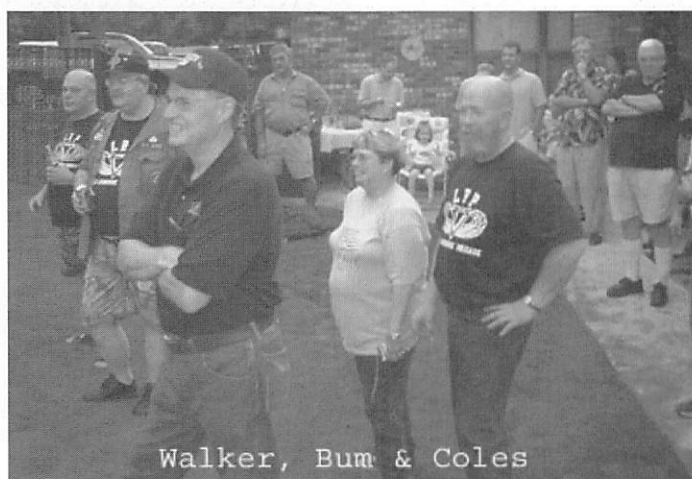
N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (CONTINUED)



Turtle & Walker



Cole, Brown, Ruckman, Walker



Walker, Bum & Coles



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



Well here is another go at trying to come up with something. We still ain't had any rain yet. Been selling cows trying to keep some of them alive. At least prices are good. Eileen and I will go to Phoenix next weekend for All Arizona Airborne Days. The 16th of August this year falls on the anniversary of the airborne. I just got our tickets to Florida this morning. Eileen's son Jeff is in Baghdad we have had his son with us off and on for the summer. Despite what some of the Politicians that are running for President say. On Fox news a while back they had an expert from the Rangers and he was also from F CO 51st Lrsu's. I can't remember his name.

CHARLES HERMAN WRIGHT

Charles H. Wright was born April 5th 1947. He entered the Army from Beckley West

Virginia. He arrived in Viet Nam July 7, 1969 the day after I left. Rickey Hogg wrote me a story- about how Charles got killed but I filed it and can't find it. Too many Senior moments. Any way while on a mission with Sgt. Harris as team leader, not Don Harris, the other one, Herbert Tortice and Rick Hogg. A sniper opened up with an AK47 and got him. Herbert says that one of the rounds hit his LBE. This was September 19, 1969. In Binh Duong Province. He is honored on panel 18W, Line 115 of the Vietnam Veterans Wall. I'm sorry I don't have a picture. If any body does, send it to me and I will try and get it included in a future issue. I sure need help if anyone wants to take over as Director I would appreciate it.

Vietnam and Alaska, Airborne Bailey



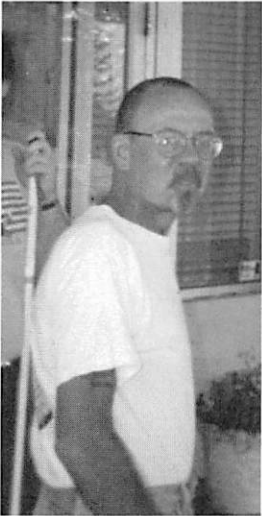


P/75 - 79TH LRP
Unit Director - Bill Davis



Papa Company

We have just finished with our Company reunion in Ohio and it was a rousing success. We had about forty folks in attendance with fifteen of those being Company members. A special thanks goes out to Mike and Mary Rossi whose work made all of this possible!! HOOAH Mike and Mary.



It was great to see Duke and Marion Du Shane at the reunion. Marion has been struggling with some health problems, but was determined to make the reunion and make it she did. It certainly wouldn't have been the same without them. Remember to keep Marion in your prayers as she continues her struggle. They would all be appreciated.

Of course Terry Roderick was there. It wouldn't have been any fun without him. There would have been no one to give a hard time to at the pool. Our golfing trio, Jim Hussey, Gregg

(Spud) Gaine, and Steve Nash did a pretty good job of getting to him. Also there telling stories about Terry were Jim Femiano who was there with his son Peter, and Eddie (Hardcore) Johnson who brought his family along. It was my first opportunity to meet Kitten and the boys, Nick and Mason (who are hardly boys anymore). Steve Printz, who had brought his friend Jake Jensen along, also was giving Terry no mercy.

The stories were flying thick and fast. According to Terry, he carried everyone's rucksack and was

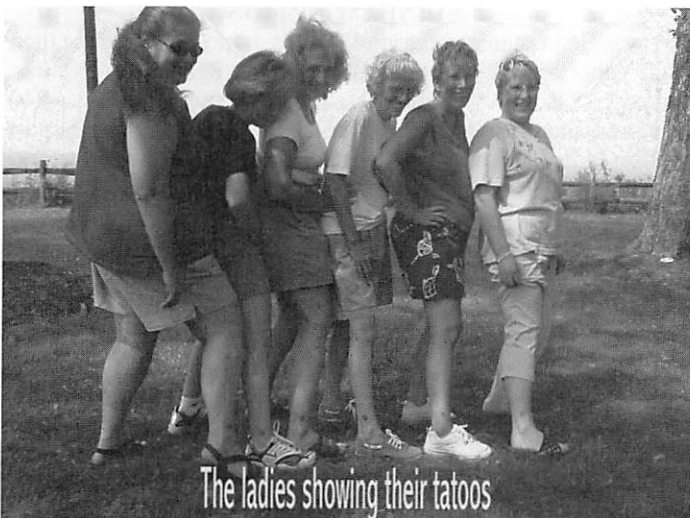


generally SGT Rock (or is that Spec 4 Rock). The others seemed to remember the stories a bit differently. It seems they remembered carrying his ruck, and keeping him warm and dry. It was a hoot. I don't think I've laughed that hard in years!!



We were all a bit surprised when Bill (Troll) Lloyd showed up from St. Augustine. Troll's always good for the unexpected and many laughs. His midnight swims in the pool was one? Still debating whether it was intentional or not, as he still had all his clothes on.

Gerry and Marlene Cornelius were there with the boys Kevin and Eric. Gerry couldn't be with us all the time, as he had to spend some of his time protecting and serving us as a member of the local constabulary in Ashtabula, the town the motel was in. Clyde and Susan Tanner were there with their daughter Sarah, and her friend Sarah. Quite a Ranger paint job on Clyde's truck!! Bud and Debbie Weiss came on their cycle, and quite a rig it was.



The ladies showing their tatoos

Last but not least, I have to mention these two Rangers in the same paragraph. They were the beginning and ending of Papa Company. Ken and Susan Emmick were there. Ken came up with F 51st to originally form the Company. Scott and Jennifer Whaley were there with their daughter Jennifer. Scott came to the Company in Dec of 1970 and stayed to close the Company.

A special thanks to Grace Mayer for making it. Her husband Ranger Rocky Mayer passed last year from Agent Orange related events. Keep her in your prayers as she continues to cope without her Ranger. Also let this be a reminder to all of you to take care of yourselves as best you can. Get to the VA when you need to and be proactive about your own health.

We also had a number of honored guests. The first I want to mention wasn't a Ranger, but certainly was the Ranger's best friend. Bobby Hampton was a cook in our mess hall in the 5th Mech. If we had 12 men in the field, Bobby would know who

P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

was out and when they were due back. There wasn't a team that didn't come back from a mission, no matter the hour or circumstance, that Bobby didn't have chow ready for us. He was quite a guy, and the only non-Ranger type that my feeble brain remembered!

We also had some prominent Ranger guests who honored us with their presence. First I want to mention Rick Ehrler (E 75th). Rick is a past president of the Association and continues to pour energy into our group. Roy and Joyce Boatman were there, along with his sister Faith Brown. For those of you who know Roy realize how Roy can brighten a room. For those of you who don't, well it's too much to explain, you'll just have to meet him. Good to see ya'll. Last but not least Roy and Sharon Barley (Echo 50th LRP) were able to make it. We were honored.



It was quite a success, even with the power going out. (Yes we were there for the great blackout) That generated stories that I think are left best untold. Although you may want to give Steve Nash a call. The power came back on for us at reasonable time so it was actually sort of entertaining instead of a pain. Anyway it was great to be there. Better than any therapy the VA can prescribe. I am looking forward to Ft. Lewis next summer. Hope to see you all there.

Bill Davis
RLTW !!



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



No Submission



F/51 LRP

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



F/51 LRP CONDENSED HISTORY

First I want to thank those who put together the original text and pictorial history of F/51 (LRP). In particular, the men who helped with pictures and reference material, SGT. J.D. Barrow for getting this undertaking published, Captain Thomas P. Meyer-proof editor, Specialist Mark G. Eastman and Dave Peace- art work, Specialist William D. Ellis- cover and emblems. I would also like to thank John W. "Pappy" Burke JR for a copy of the above pictorial history that one of our reunions. Gary D. Ford for the total list of missions on the Companies Activities Board, from his book "4/4 A LRP'S NARRATIVE", and Shelby L. Stanton, for the information about D/151 replacement of F/51 from his book "RANGERS AT WAR, LRRPs IN VIETNAM". To Naamon Grimmer's web site that is linked to by going to military.com unit pages and going to F Co INF ABN LRSC for the inception of F/51st and their lineage to Vietnam. Finally to David Peace and Mark Eastman for their help in suggestions and corrections and keeping me straight.

F/51 INF INCEPTION

F/51 was first organized during WWI on June 6, 1917. Since then it has gone through a number of redesignations and activation. Lineage is as follows: WWI assigned to 6th Division, 1946 converted and redesignated as Troop C 10th Constabulary as part of 14th Constabulary Regiment. Dec, 1948 converted and designated as C/10 Armored INF Battalion a part of 4th Armored Division, Feb 1953 became C/510 Armored INF Battalion and still part of 4th Armored Division. July, 1959 designated as Headquarters Company 6th Battle Group, 51ST INF. Aug., 1967 designated as Co, F (Long Range Patrol) 51st INF (AIRBORNE).

As the above lineage shows we have a long history, rich in tradition. F Company was reactivated and organized for Vietnam and was designated as a LRP unit on 9/27/67. The company was formed at Bien Hoa, where we were stationed, somewhat permanently. F/51 LRP became fully operational on 11/28/67.

F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

F/51st INF ABN LRP VIETNAM

F/51 LRP's first commander was Major William C. Maus, who started the company in September of 1967. Our second commander was Major Joseph J. Zummo who assumed command in February of 1968. Major George M. Heckman replaced Major Zummo in November of 1968 and remained until the Company was disbanded in January 1969.

The company differed from other infantry companies in that it had 4 independently operating line platoons with each having seven six-man patrols. In addition, F company had it's own TOC and motor pool. The Company was placed under the control of G3, II FIELD FORCE and were OPCON to specific Brigades and Divisions operating in III Corps Tactical Zone. The only other company to have the distinction of a FIELD FORCE company is E/20 LRP AIRBORNE who were assigned to I FIELD FORCE and operated in and around the Central Highlands. As I am finding out, being assigned, as we were, makes it difficult to find records of actions where F/51 and E/20 were involved in. I commend those who have found the information for their books on LRP and RANGER books.

F/51st INF LRP Airborne was reactivated in 1967 due to the relocation of Special Forces to cross boarder operations and the relocation of 173rd to the upper part of South Vietnam. This left General Weyland's II Field Force without any long range patrols for intelligence gathering that the infantry units needed. Westmoreland, realizing that the line Companies needed intelligence, authorized the formation of E/20 and F/51 LRP Airborne. F/51st LRP was for the most part filled by taking volunteers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade LRRP, with the remainder coming from the 1st Infantry Division, the 25th Infantry Division, the 101st Airborne, the 1st Cavalry Division, and various units from the States, Canada and the 90th Replacement Battalion. The main prerequisite for service in F/51st was that every volunteer was to be Airborne qualified.



On 11/22/67 F/51 LRP sent its first team out and compiled an impressive combat record until it's deactivation in 2/1/69.

Operations that F/51 LRP were involved in include the following operations: Virgin- 11/28/67 to 12/2/67, Kick-Off I- 12/3/67 to 12/5/67, Kick-Off II- 12/13/67 to 12/27/67, Uniontown III- Boxspring- 2/10/68 to 3/28/68, Wilderness-Toan Thang I- 4/2/68 to 5/23/68, Toan Thang II- 5/23/68 to 6/22/68.

Operational areas included but not limited to Bien Hoa- Long Binh Uyen area, The Mountain of the Black Virgin (Nui Ba Dinh), Phouc Vinh, Cu Chi area, Catchers Mitt, and the Pineapple Plantation area.

CONTROL AND SUPPORT

When we became operational we were under the operational control of II FIELD FORCE who assigned us to units that needed us for their eyes and ears in areas that they were interested in. Since we were under FIELD FORCE command along with LRPing for IIFF, they would assign us to other units, such as

199th LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE, and 3rd BRIGADE 101st AIRBORNE (when they first arrived in-country).

Our support came in the form of a ground reactionary force and support for helicopter insertion and air fire support. The ground support was provided by D Troop, 3/17 CAV. Our insertion and extraction helicopters and Cobra gunships were provided by a variety of units. One unit was 195th AHC who went by the call signs "Ghost Riders" and "Thunder Chickens" that supplied insertion and extraction helicopters and the gunships respectively. The other units were 117th AHC "Annie Fannie" for insertion and extraction and the 334th AHC "Playboys" for the Cobra gunships.

DEACTIVATION

Before the company's deactivation we were told that an Indiana National Guard unit - D/151 (LRP) - was taking our place as we were slated to be part of the nucleus for the formation of the 75th Rangers. Part of the Company was slated for O and P Companies of the 75th Rangers, while the remainder went with D/151.

When D/151 arrived in country and got settled, training and familiarization with their area of operation began under the guidance of seasoned F/51 veterans. It included insertions to give them actual experience with patrolling methods used in our area of Vietnam.

POST VIETNAM

F/51st INF ABN was reborn again in 1986 in Germany as F/51st INF ABN LRSC (Long Range Surveillance Company) and was attached to VII Corps, and was used in Desert Storm in 1990. They were again deactivated along with VII Corps in Germany in 1991. In 1993 F/51st was reactivated again as a LRSU under the 519th MI Battalion, 525th IM Brigade, XVIII Airborne Corp.

VIETNAM ACTIVITY BOARD

Taken from Gary Ford's book that is mentioned above. The Activity Board of F/51 LRP from 11/22/67 to 1/23/69 stands for itself as to the job we did.

Number of days operational	438
Number of light team infiltration's	638
Number of heavy team infiltration's	133
Number of times enemy sighted	808
Number of contacts made with enemy	403
Number of enemy killed, body count	293
Number of probable killed, visual	189
Number of enemy wounded by	
Visual report not counted as probable	54
Number of captured enemy weapons	45
Number of enemy POW's taken	45
Number of Artillery fire missions to support F/51 LRP	292
F/51 LRP's KIA/died as result of combat action	12
Wounded in action	139
Missing in action	None
Other friendly KIA in action	4
Other friendly wounded in action	7

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

Like most of us, I was very upset by the actions of the French government in thwarting our efforts to bring down Saddam Hussein. I had also heard all the stories about how the French do not like Americans, are arrogant, etc., and was an avid supporter of the boycott of French products. You can imagine my dismay when my wife suggested that we visit France this summer. I said it was totally out of the question—no way was I going to France! Then she said, “Well, you know we can go to Normandy and the D-Day beaches and Pointe du Hoc.” Let me tell you about our trip!

I still don't care about Jacques Chirac or his policies, nor do I care much for the European media (they're just as bad as our own), but let me tell you that the French people were great. We spent two weeks in France and everywhere we went the people were very open and friendly, even if we couldn't speak French. And, yes I did get to visit Pointe du Hoc and this brings me to the point of my article for this issue. **Pointe du Hoc is a sacred place to U.S. Army Rangers, but the Ranger Monument is now fenced off and is in danger of collapsing into the sea.** We cannot allow this to happen.

For those who may not know, the Pointe

du Hoc Ranger Monument is located on a cliff eight miles west of the American Cemetery near Colleville sur Mer, which overlooks Omaha Beach. The monument was erected by the French to honor elements of the U.S. 2d Ranger Battalion under the command of LTC James E. Rudder, and is administered by the American Battle Monuments Commission. The Ranger Monument consists of a simple granite pylon positioned atop a concrete German bunker with tablets at its base inscribed in French and English. The monument was



formally transferred to the American Battle Monuments Commission for perpetual care and maintenance on January 11, 1979. Formally part of the Omaha Beach invasion area (assault sector Charlie), it was the object of a daring assault on D-Day by 225 U.S. Army Rangers, who scaled its 100-foot cliffs with the aim of silencing artillery pieces placed on its heights. At a high

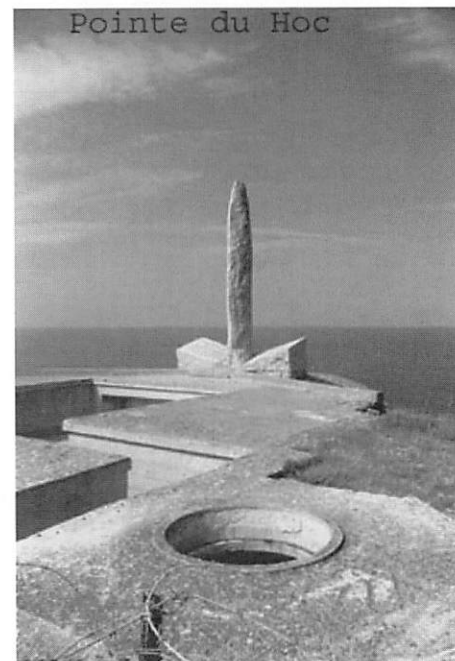
cost of life, they successfully defended against determined German counterattacks, even though the Germans had removed their big guns from their concrete emplacements to escape destruction by aerial and naval bombardment. This battle scarred area on the left flank of Omaha Beach remains much as the Rangers left it almost sixty years ago.

Pointe du Hoc itself is an ominous piece of land jutting into the English Channel.

It provided a vantage point from which five large-caliber (152 mm) German guns with a range of 15 miles emplaced in reinforced-concrete casemates could deliver fire onto both Omaha and Utah beaches. Allied commanders believed that the neutralization of these guns was the key to the fate of the Omaha and Utah beach landings. The task of neutralizing the guns, and of cutting the road running behind the Pointe

from Saint-Pierre-du-Mont to Grandcamp, fell to the 2nd and 5th Ranger Battalions. The plan was to land Companies D, E, and F of the 2nd Battalion in a cliff-scaling attack on Pointe du Hoc while Company C landed to the east to destroy gun positions on the western end of Omaha Beach. While

Cliffs Opposite Pointe du Hoc



F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

these assaults were taking place, Companies A and B, along with all of the 5th Battalion, were to mark time off the beach and wait for a signal that the cliff scaling had succeeded. If the signal came, they were to follow in and also scale the heights. If the signal did not come, they were to land at Omaha Beach and attack the Pointe from the rear.

Companies D, E, and F landed at the base of Pointe du Hoc at 0710 hours, 40 minutes later than their planned landing time. They were the victims of heavy seas and winds, one of their landing craft having sunk on the way in. Once landed,

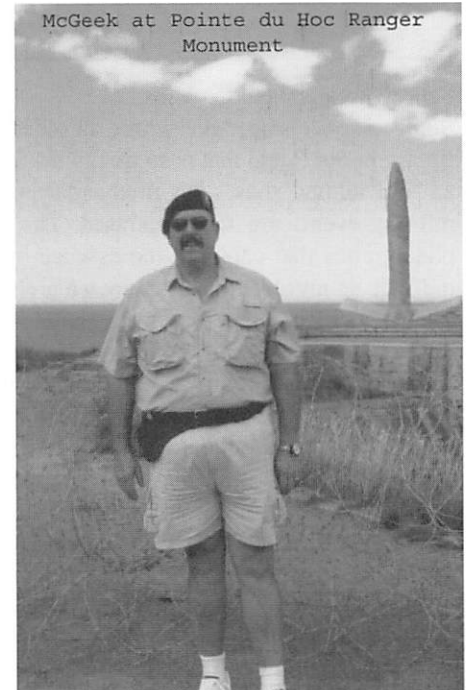
offshore, not seeing the signal from the Pointe, landed at Omaha Beach but were not able to accomplish their mission of attacking Pointe du Hoc since they became involved in the desperate fighting on Omaha Beach itself. They were, however, a key to the eventual success of the landings on Omaha Beach.

Although early reports characterized the attack on Pointe du Hoc as a wasted effort because the German guns were not there, the attack was in fact highly successful. By 0900 hours the Rangers on the Pointe had cut the road behind the Pointe and had put the relocated guns out of action.



German Gun Emplacement at Pointe du Hoc

however, the Rangers engaged the Germans on top of the cliffs in a heavy firefight, and within minutes the first man was up. In small groups the Rangers fought their way to the casemates, only to find them empty of the big guns. They moved forward and cut the road behind the Pointe, and then a two-man patrol went down a narrow road leading south and discovered the guns some 550 yards from the casemates. The guns were zeroed in on Utah Beach, and a German force, totaling some 100 men, was assembled a short distance away. Using thermite grenades, the two Rangers melted and destroyed the guns' elevating and traversing mechanisms, rendering the pieces immovable. They then returned to their positions. The other Rangers



McGeek at Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument

They were thus the first American unit to accomplish its mission on D-Day—at a cost of half of their fighting force. By the end of the day they were holding onto a small pocket on the heights of the Pointe, and the Germans were counterattacking. The Rangers held out for two days until help arrived. Their actions of almost sixty years ago will live long in the annals of military history. Next year is the 60th anniversary of the D-Day invasion. It would be a shame if the Ranger Monument were not restored to its honored status.



Normandy American Cemetery



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Mike Martin



Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

Someone once said, "every time an older person dies, it's as if a library burns," and that is so true, but I feel more of a loss when an "old soldier" dies. . .his firsthand accounts of military events are forever erased. The same with the loss of photographs that captured the essence of time, local, units and individuals involved; that is why we are striving to print as many pictures as possible, and to maintain an archives of uninterrupted continuance of research as an educational resource and as a tribute to Rangers and the individual Advisors.

Our combat-experiences and the history of the Vietnamese Rangers—with tangible documentation—must be preserved. We are collecting oral recordings, stories, orders, after action reports and photos. Our goal is to put a display and collection in the Airborne & Special Operations Museum and at the Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks. Proper documentation and cataloging of items presented, will be required from any Curatorial source!

SOMETHING EXTRA and SPECIAL—
Advice and Support: The Early Years,
1941-1960

As the seriousness of the insurgency became more apparent during the early weeks of 1960, American and South Vietnamese leaders began to consider what new measures might be adopted to deal with the deteriorating security situation. President Diem had his own ideas. On 15 February 1960, without consulting General Williams or any other American, the President began a new program by ordering commanders of divisions and military regions to form Ranger Companies composed of volunteers from the army, the reserves, retired army personnel, and the civil Guard. Trained in anti-guerrilla warfare, each company was to have 131 men; an 11man headquarters and three 40-man platoons. The military regions and divisions were expected to organize 50 companies by early March. Of these, 32 would be attached to the various military regions and 18 to the divisions.

General Williams first learned of the project on 20 February from Nguyen Dinh Thuan, Under Secretary of State for National Defense, who explained that the new units were to train at Nha Trang during March, April, and May. Thuan requested that the Military Assistance Advisory Group arrange for U.S. Army Special Forces teams to be assigned to Vietnam to assist in training. The idea of forming Ranger or Commando units was not new to the advisory group. As early as 1958, the Vietnamese general staff had proposed setting up special units variously called Scout, Commando, or Ranger Companies, but General Williams had always firmly opposed such a course. His deputy for training, General Myers, recalled that the small Commando School at Nha Trang "had been started by the French. The French Army has Commandos and the American Army doesn't have

Commandos; it never has had Commandos and he (Williams) didn't think very much of having that school and that's probably the reason it was so small and its efforts never got expanded.

Williams also questioned how the Ranger Companies, once created, could be employed. Recent experience in the delta had shown that it was risky to employ units smaller than a battalion in counterinsurgency operations. Consequently, the Commando Companies would have to be attached to some larger unit

Diem was unimpressed with these objections. To the visiting commander of the US Army, Pacific, General I. D. White; he explained that since the guerrilla threat to internal security had been added to the long-standing external threat posed by North Vietnam, 20,000 Rangers were needed above and beyond the regular army to deal with the new threat. To many American observers in Saigon and Washington, the Ranger project appeared to be simply a device to enable Diem to add more troops to the army

beyond the 150,000-man ceiling that the United States had agreed to support. Some also wondered whether the demand for Ranger units was not evidence of serious shortcomings in the American training program, particularly of a failure adequately to train and prepare the South Vietnamese Army for anti-guerrilla warfare.

In Washington, Army Chief of Staff Lyman L. Lemnitzer was reading reports from the American Ambassador on the gravity of the situation and becoming impatient with what he considered the "routine" way in which the State and Defense Departments were dealing with the deteriorating situation in Vietnam. General

Lemnitzer directed the Army staff to recommend actions which might be taken both to focus attention on the situation and to provide increased help to Vietnam.

One obvious measure would be to make available the Army's specialists in guerrilla warfare, the Special Forces, to help develop Diem's Commando Forces. General Williams favored such a plan but worried that the introduction of Special Forces personnel would cause the total advisory strength in the country to rise above the allowable maximum. This difficulty was met by assigning them to Vietnam on temporary duty. In May, at the invitation of President Diem, 3 US Army Special Forces training teams of 10 men each from the 77th Special Forces Group on Okinawa, arrived in Vietnam, along with 13 U.S. Army Intelligence Specialists and 3 Psychological Warfare Specialists.

Although Special Forces representatives had recommended to General Williams a minimum training period of 7 weeks (9 weeks was the norm for U.S. troops), the Vietnamese Ranger Course was restricted to 4 weeks. Emphasis was placed on training officers and non-commissioned officers of commando and rifle companies. The teams established courses at Nha Trang



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

and at the headquarters of the 5th Division at Song Mao. After two or three four-week courses had been completed, the Americans were to revert to the status of Advisers, and South Vietnamese graduates of the Ranger Course were to become the Ranger Instructors.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

The 2004 membership year runs from 1 July 2003 through 30 June 2004. It's past time to pay your dues! !! Step forward and seek-out new members; locate your old team members and have them join ASAP. The Ranger Advisors' membership is growing...we have several Life memberships and members from all Biet Dong Quan Battalion Advisors.

Nothing makes a man more nationalistic than to think his country's owned by foreigners. He can adjust in time to losing a war—that only means the enemy was stronger—but to lose his economy means the enemy was smarter. The period of occupation lasts longer, and so do the scars.

Robert Ludlum, *The Bourne Identity*.

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

Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director

Vietnamese Rangers come to the aid of PFC Norman Moniz after he was wounded. Moniz was the RT0 for the 11th BN. Advisory Team.



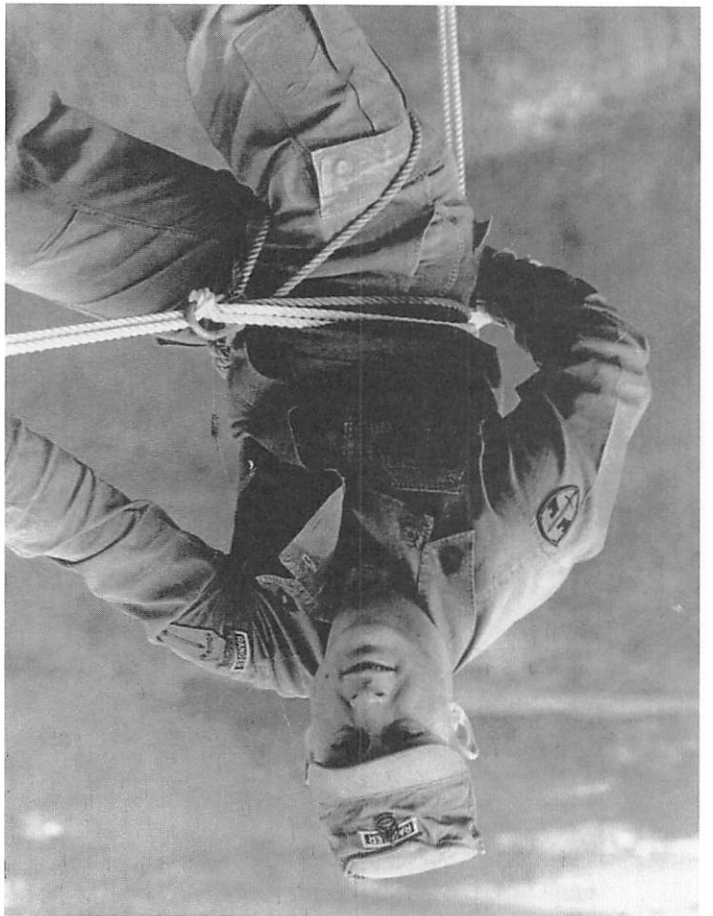
WO Robbie Robinson
Australian Army Training Team Vietnam
Duc My, 1968.



BDQ (bac si) Roy E. Davidson with Biet Dong Quan flag,
ARVN Ranger Reunion, 3 May 2003.



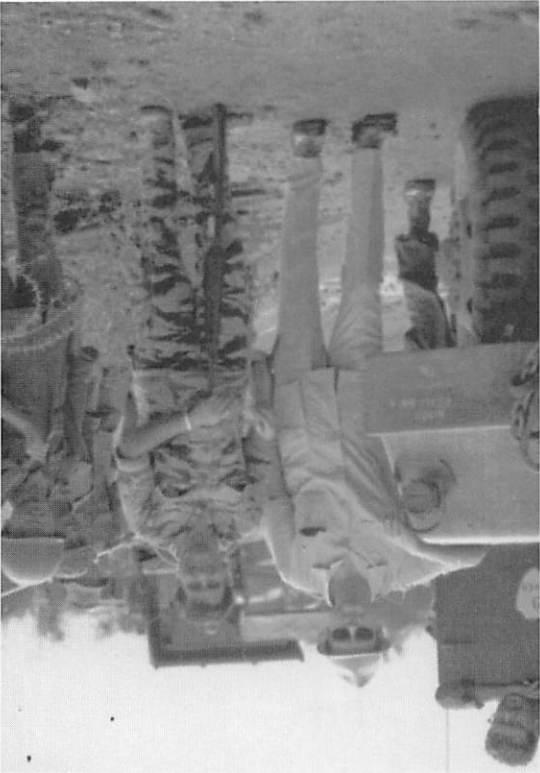
#2 May, 1961 - Maj Tom Ware preparing patrol w/squad, 605th Ranger Co



BDQ Doug Perry(42d-44th)Instructor Mountain Ranger Camp; Doug served several tours at the MT. Camp, Dahlonega, GA.



BDQ Ranger Advisors gather for a group photograph on Sunday morning, 4 May 2003, in Big Springs Park, Huntsville, AL.



BDQ Rich Mantoux, 32nd Ranger BN. (Cambodia in providing security for a "Dapper Dan" CIA guy.

Highly decorated Biet Dong Quan, Col. Hong M. Ngo, served in the military from 1954 until the fall of Saigon; he was released from the Communists' re-education camp in 1983. 1960-1964, Hong was a Ranger Instructor Team leader at the Trung Lap Ranger Training Center and the Jungle Camp Commander at the Duc My Ranger Training Center. He served as the assistant G-3 Ranger High Command 1964-1968; as the Battalion Commander, 38th Vietnamese Ranger BN, 1969; from 1970 to 1972, he was the Commander 5th Ranger Group. Col. Hong was severely wounded at the battle of An Loc.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By: Bob Smyers

FROM THE ASHES

THE VIETNAM WAR LAY DORMANT FOR MANY LONG YEARS. PERHAPS NOT SO IN THE COMMUNITIES OF MILITARY STRATEGISTS, HISTORIANS, SCHOLARS, AND PHILOSOPHERS, BUT CERTAINLY IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE.

HOWEVER, THE VETERANS RETURNING FROM THIS WAR WANTED, IN MOST CASES, TO TELL OF THEIR EXPERIENCES AND FEELINGS CONCERNING THE WAR, BUT MOST FOUND THEIR VOICES FELL ON DEAF EARS, EVEN THOSE CLOSEST TO THEM. THIS CAUSED MANY TO SUBMERGE INTO SOCIETY TRYING DESPERATELY TO DISCONNECT FROM THE WAR. MANY FELT REJECTED, AND WITH THE HEAVINESS OF HAVING BEEN THERE AND STILL NOT BEING SURE AS TO WHY, IT TOOK A TOLL ON MANY, LEADING TO TORMENTING AND HAUNTING MEMORIES.

MORE RETURNING VIETNAM VETERANS HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE THAN DIED ON THE BATTLEFIELD. MANY HAVE ALSO DIED FROM DOING DRUGS AND ALCOHOL. GOD ONLY KNOWS HOW SOME MANAGED TO GET OUT OF THEIR SITUATION. MANY YEARS LATER WE STILL HAVE MANY SUFFERING FROM POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER. MANY ARE BEING TREATED BUT HOW MANY ARE STILL DENYING THEY HAVE THIS PROBLEM? AGAIN GOD ONLY KNOWS.

"FROM THE ASHES A FIRE SHALL BE WOKEN, A LIGHT SHALL SPRING FORTH"

FOR MANY VIETNAM VETERANS IT SEEMED BEST NOT MENTION YOU WERE A VIETNAM VETERAN. THUS, WE BECAME THE "ASHES" IF YOU WILL OF A WAR GONE WRONG. WE DID FOR MOST PART LAY DORMANT FOR MANY YEARS. OH, THE NEWS MEDIA MADE SURE TO MAKE MENTION OF ANYTHING A VIETNAM VETERAN DID BUT ONLY, IF IT KEPT UP WITH THE PROFILES THEY HAD TAGGED US WITH. DRUNKS, DRUG ADDICTS, RAPIST, AND BABY KILLERS. THOSE OF THE VIETNAM WAR CONTINUED TO REMAINED SILENCED FOR YEARS THEN, A WIND (THE VOICES OF VIETNAM VETERANS) BEGAN TO BLOW ACROSS THE "ASHES" AND A "FIRE" WAS STARTED, A FIRE THAT CONTINUES TO GROW AS MORE AND MORE VIETNAM VETERANS ARE RAISING UP AND SAYING, HEY, WE DID NOTHING WRONG. WE ARE NOT TO BLAME FOR LOSING THE WAR. NO, WE DID OUR PART AS SOLDIERS SENT TO WAR. WE WON THE MAJOR BATTLES AND HAD WE NOT BEEN RESTRICTED AS TO HOW, WHERE, AND WHEN WE COULD ENGAGE THE ENEMY, WE WOULD HAVE RAISED OUR FLAG OVER ALL THE COUNTRY, NORTH AND SOUTH, SYMBOLIZING A FREEDOM LOVING NATION THAT WAS WILLING AND DID SACRIFICE FOR ANOTHER NATION IN PURSUIT OF FREEDOM. HOWEVER THE PRIVILEGE TO RAISE THE FLAG IN VICTORY WAS NOT TO BE OURS. WHY? MANY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT THE TIME, ALONG WITH MANY OF OUR COUNTRYMAN, LACKED IN THEIR COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT OF THE VERY SOLDIERS, THEY HAD SENT INTO COMBAT. SOLDIERS, THAT WILLINGLY FOUGHT AND DIED FOR A JUST CAUSE. "FREEDOM".

THROUGH THE RISING OF THE VIETNAM VETERAN AND THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE SPAWNED FROM IT, THE "FIRE" HAS BECOME A BRIGHT AND GLOWING "LIGHT". YES, A LIGHT THAT WAS ONCE IN THE SHADOWS HAS SPRUNG FORTH! IT CONTINUES TO GROW BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER BECAUSE OF THE DETERMINATION OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS TO BE RECOGNIZED AND HEARD. WE ARE NOT ONLY RECOGNIZED AND HEARD MORE TODAY, BUT WE HAVE ALSO CREATED MUCH CURIOSITY IN PEOPLE OF YESTERYEAR AND YES, IN THE PEOPLE OF TODAY, INCLUDING THE YOUNG. TODAY'S YOUTH, THOSE BORN MANY YEARS LATER, WANT TO KNOW, WHAT AND WHY OF A WAR GONE WRONG AND WHY THE SOLDIERS WAS BLAMED FOR ITS LOSS. THEY HAVE READ MUCH OF WHAT WAS WRITTEN ABOUT THE WAR BUT STILL, REALLY WANT TO HEAR IT FROM THOSE THAT WERE THERE. THIS IS NOT ONLY OUR PEOPLE OR OUR YOUTH, BUT ALSO MANY FROM AROUND THE WORLD. I FOR ONE HAVE SUPPLIED INFORMATION BY EMAIL TO STUDENTS IN JAPAN, ENGLAND, AND GREAT BRITAIN DOING STUDIES OF THE WAR. I ALSO HAD OPPORTUNITIES SOME YEARS BACK, TO ASSIST MANY STUDENTS IN FORT LAUDERDALE SEEKING TRUTH OF THE WAR. I AM SURE MANY READING THIS HAVE EXPERIENCED THE SAME THING. I HAVE ALSO HAD MANY APOLOGIZE TO ME FOR THE WAY WE WERE TREATED.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER (CONTINUED)

WE VIETNAM VETERANS "THE LIGHT" FROM THE SHADOWS, HAVE SET A "STANDARD" THAT SAYS, "NEVER AGAIN" WILL OUR SOLDIERS BE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF TRUE FREEDOM LOVING PEOPLE. OUR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, SHALL ANSWER TO THE PEOPLE WHO ELECTED THEM IF OUR SOLDIERS ARE EVER AGAIN EXPOSED TO SUCH NEGLIGENCE AND ILL TREATMENT.

AS VIETNAM VETERANS, WE SHOULD TAKE PRIDE IN OUR CONTRIBUTION. THE IMPROVEMENTS IN ATTITUDE AND TREATMENT THAT OUR PRESENT DAY SOLDIERS ENJOY ARE A DIRECT RESULT OF THE SACRIFICES THAT WE MADE IN THE PAST 35 YEARS. THE QUESTION AS TO WHY OUR GENERATION HAD TO BE THE ONE STIGMATIZED, RATHER THAN HONORED, I DO NOT PRETEND TO KNOW. GOD ONLY KNOWS THE EXACT REASON WHY WE WERE CHOSEN TO AWAKEN OUR NATION, AND ALL FREEDOM LOVING PEOPLE, AS TO HOW NOT TO TREAT YOUR SOLDIERS DURING AND AFTER THE WAR. WAS IT GOOD FOR US? NO. WAS IT GOOD FOR OUR SOLDIERS AND OUR COUNTRY? YES.

WERE THE SOLDIERS IN MOGADISHU SUPPORTED BY THE PEOPLE? I BELIEVE SO, BUT THE DECISIONS FROM HIGHER DID LEAD TO MANY BEING HARMED OR KILLED. THIS MUST BE CORRECTED BY IGNORING THE POLITICALLY CORRECT AND ALLOW OUR COMMANDERS ON THE GROUND TO MAKE THE DECISION. IT WAS, I BELIEVE, THE PROTOCOL IN THE GULF WAR AND IS IN THE WARS OF TODAY. TODAY OUR PEOPLE AND OUR GOVERNMENT ARE IN SUPPORT OF OUR SOLDIERS. HOWEVER, ONLY THE COMMANDERS AND THE SOLDIERS CAN TRULY TELL.

WE VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA AND THOSE OF ALL WARS, MUST BE UNITED AND BE THE VOICE THAT REMINDS THE PEOPLE OF THIS GREAT NATION, OF THEIR OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THOSE DEFENDING OUR WAY OF LIFE. ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO DO THIS IS BY HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT, WHICH CAN BE DONE AS INDIVIDUALS AND BY GROUPS.

THE HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT I SPEAK OF IS PERFORMED ON BENDED KNEES WITH HANDS CLASPED TOGETHER, TRUSTING IN THE POWER OF PRAYER. KNOW THAT WHEN WE ARE PRAYING FOR OUR MILITARY, MANY AT HOME AND AROUND THE WORLD ARE JOINING WITH US. THE SPIRIT OF OUR PRAYER (S) IS JOINED TOGETHER AT THE THRONE OF GOD AND ALL PRAYERS PRAYED IN FAITH, GOD HEARS. TODAY MUCH PRAYER IS NEEDED IN THE TURBULENT WORLD IN, WHICH WE LIVE. PRAY FOR OUR NATION, OUR SOLDIERS, AND YES, EVEN FOR OUR ENEMIES.

OH GOD, RIGHT NOW, AS WE READ THESE WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT, DO STAND BEFORE YOU IN THE SPIRIT, THANK YOU. FIRST, WE THANK YOU FOR WHO YOU ARE, AND FOR THE GOOD THAT HAS AND IS COMING FROM THE VIETNAM WAR. BECAUSE OF THIS, WE ARE A BETTER NATION AND OUR SOLDIERS ARE MORE SECURE, KNOWING THEY AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE NOT ALONE. NOT ONLY DO OUR PRESENT SOLDIERS BENEFIT BUT ALSO THOSE OF THE FUTURE. WE DO HAVE AS YOU KNOW, MANY MEN AND WOMEN DEPLOYED IN HOSTILE ENVIRONMENTS AND WE ASK SAFETY FOR ALL AND CARE FOR THEIR FAMILY. WE PRAY IN MASS AND INDIVIDUALLY AT TIMES NOT EVEN KNOWING, THE NAME (S) FOR WHOM WE PRAY, BUT EACH, YOU KNOW BY NAME. WE ALSO ASK YOU TO GIVE THEM STRENGTH MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY TO COPE WITH BATTLE, ALSO GIVE THEM INSIGHT AND WISDOM THAT WILL ENABLE THEM TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR MISSION AND GET THEM HOME SAFELY.

LORD I WOULD FURTHER ASK, THAT EACH VETERAN OF THE VIETNAM WAR, REALIZE THAT THEIR SACRIFICES, DURING THE WAR AND THEIR EFFORTS OF TODAY, WERE AND ARE NOT IN VAIN, BUT RATHER, A CONTRIBUTION TO THE WELL BEING OF OUR SOLDIERS OF TODAY AND THE SOLDIERS OF THE FUTURE. COVER EACH, I PRAY, WITH YOUR GRACE AND MERCY, GRANTING THEM THEIR REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR WILL. OUR PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING IS OFFERED IN THE NAME OF THE LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF GOD. AMEN!

BOB SMYERS, CHAPLAIN OF THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

SUA SPONTE

TRIBUTE TO MEN KILLED IN ACTION-MEN OF THE LONG RANGE RECON PATROL/LONG RANGE PATROL/RANGERS OF THE VIETNAM ERA

RANGERS IT IS MY PRIVILEGE AND HONOR TO RECALL THESE "VALOROUS RANGERS "TO YOUR REMEMBRANCE. THOUGH THE PERSON (S) MAY BE UNKNOWN TO MANY OF US, BE ASSURED WE KNOW THE SPIRIT WHICH DWELT IN THEM AND STILL TODAY, DWELLS IN US. THE SPIRIT OF DETERMINATION TO BE THE BEST, NO MATTER THE COST, FOR WHATEVER THE TASK. THESE BROTHERS HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL OF THE ALMIGHTY AND ARE TOGETHER IN TOTAL PEACE.

DAVID BRUCE TUCKER MAJ OCT 1, 1967 E-20-LRP
 CALVIN ARTHUR GREENE 1LT DEC 19, 1967 E-20-LRP
 PATRICK LEE HENSHAW SGT DEC 19, 1967 E-20-LRP
 JOHN RICHARD STROHMAIER SGT MAR 12, 1968 E-20-LRP
 DONALD RAY KINTON SP/4 MAR 25, 1968 E-20-LRP
 DAVID ALLEN PARKER SSG APR 6, 1968 E-20-LRP
 EDWARD GILBERT LEE SGT MAY 13, 1968 E-20-LRP
 FREDERICK WILLIAM WEIDNER SGT MAY 20, 1968 E-20-LRP
 EMORY MOREL SMITH SSG JUN 13, 1968 E-20-LRP
 ERIC STUART GOLD SGT JAN 5, 1969 E-20-LRP
 PAUL ROBERT JORDAN SGT JAN 24, 1969 E-20-LRP
 ELTON RAY VENABLE SGT FEB 19, 1969 E/20-C/75
 RONALD WILLIAM CARDONA SSG JUL 6, 1969 C-75-RGR
 FRANK DANIEL WALTHERS CPL AUG 1, 1969 C-75-RGR
 HAROLD DAVID WILLIAMS SSG AUG 1, 1969 C-75-RGR
 WILLIAM RUSSELL SQUIER JR. SSG SEP 13, 1969 C-75-RGR
 KEITH MASON PARR SGT OCT 26, 1969 C-75-RGR
 WALTER GUY BURKHART CPL NOV 11, 1969 C-75-RGR
 REX MARCEL SHERMAN CPL NOV 19, 1969 C-75-RGR
 RICHARD GARY BUCCILLE SP/4 DEC 20, 1969 E/20-C/75
 WILLIAM JOSEPH MURPHY SGT FEB 16, 1970 C-75-RGR
 STEEN BRUCE FOSTER SSG MAY 14, 1970 C-75-RGR
 JAMES LEE LOISEL CPL MAY 14, 1970 C-75-RGR
 MICHAEL EDWARD KISCADEN SSG JUL 1, 1970 C-75-RGR
 HILBURN M. BURDETTE JR. SGT JUL 12, 1970 C-75-RGR
 JOHN WILLIAM RUCKER SGT DEC 14, 1970 C-75-RGR
 EDWARD EARL SCOTT JR. CPL FEB 22, 1971 C-75-RGR
 KEVIN GARNER THORNE SP/4 FEB 27, 1971 C-75-RGR
 GORDON KEITH SPEARMAN JR. SSG MAR 10, 1971 C-75-RGR
 LOYD EUGENE ROBINSON SP/4 JUN 11, 1971 C-75-RGR
 JIMMY LYN DUNAGAN SGT JAN 21, 1972 C-75-RGR

BOB SMYERS, CHAPLAIN 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION.
 FORMER T/L AND PSG 2BDE LRRP/LRP, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUPS CAN BE LIKENED TO THE EAGLE

"Eagles are proud and patient".

They have keen eyesight and will watch hours for prey....

And when the prey comes into their sight, they strike swiftly and with amazing accuracy.

I liken the special operations soldiers to the Eagles. They too are proud and patient. In past wars they were a major player in successful military operations. Again, they are called to perform in the war on terrorism. We who have served in these type units know some of what they are up against, but we also know they are ready, proud, patient, and will strike at the right moment with the speed of lightning and accuracy! They will step into the unknown together and do so of their own accord. They are the soldiers who walk on the edge to find, fix, and finish the enemy.

These are men who come from the air, sea, and land. They are a nightmare to all that oppose them! May we, who must sit this one out, keep them in prayer and if possible drop them a line of encouragement, often. Any one having the names of any of these men please share them so that we too, may drop a line.

God bless these brave souls as they answer the call to fight the enemy of all freedom loving peoples throughout our planet...Men who put the welfare of our nation and other free nations, before themselves. Selfishness does not fit the men of the "ELITE" units of our armed forces. We, men of similar units of wars past, do salute and whole-heartedly give our unfailing support.

Written on behalf of those of like spirit not only to honor and express our support, but also to let them know we are proud of them and recognize there commitment, and realize the "COURAGE" it take to go deep into enemy territory, with four to six men. This perhaps is the reason our love and brotherhood stands strong.

"RANGERS LEAD THE WAY" FACT OR FICTION"? WE WILL LET OUR HISTORY ANSWER THIS QUESTION.

SUA SPONTE.

*By Bob Smyers, Chaplain 75th Ranger Regiment Association
Former T/L and PSG 2Bde. LRRP/LRP 67-68*

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



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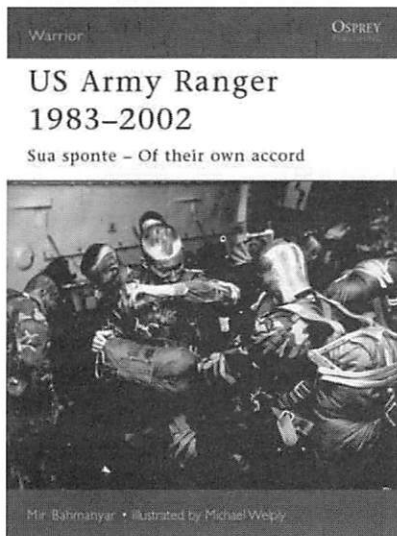
e-mail: macchester@erols.com

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

BY: Ken Kovac



US Army Ranger 1983-2002

Sua sponte - Of their own accord

I was asked by Rich Hecht to review the following books: *US Army Ranger 1983-2002* (Mir Bahmanyar) and *To Be A US Army Ranger* (Russ Bryant). First of all, I was able to get a great deal on the two through Amazon.com. I had purchased both, as a set, for just under \$26.00. Being an ex-2nd Batt. Boy (88-92), I couldn't wait to get the books and read them. Upon receiving my order, I flipped through both of the books and saw several pictures of old friends that I haven't seen in a long while (Houlihan, Horsely, Rangle, Tottman, Flex, Hecht and several others). Most of the photos in Bahmanyar's book were taken by John Galetzka who was an excellent photographer and in B Co., during my time.

Upon quickly reading the two, I was happy to see that they weren't full of fluff and misconceptions. The photos were all valid (i.e., none of 82nd guys portrayed as Batt. Boys). This of course is due to both of the authors being ex-Batt. Boys themselves and I'm assuming that they both knew that their main body of readers would be ex-hoohas looking for a reminiscence of their younger days.

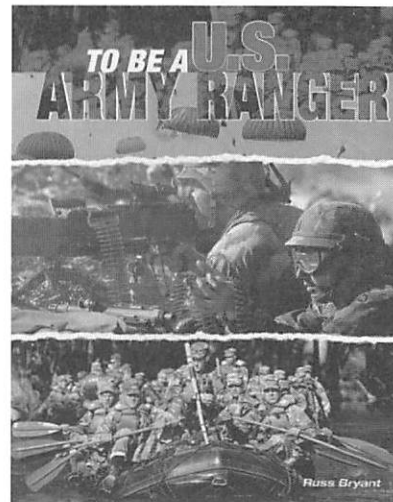
Although both books were the same in nature, both had many differences which, when purchased together, complimented each other. Bahmanyar's was interesting because it seemed to cover the many changes in Battalion through out the years and concentrated more on the equipment and gear. He [being Bahmanyar] also included inserts from ex-hoohas describing

recent combat incidents to include Panama and Somalia and a quick summary of the fierce battle of Takur Ghar (Afghanistan). The only thing that slowed my reading was Bahmanyar's writing style. He continually flipped from 1st to 2nd person, past and current tense. As an avid reader, I wasn't used to this style and had to read some segments over twice in order to have a complete understanding of what the author was trying to convey.

Bryant's book (*To Be a US Army Ranger*) was a little larger in size than Bahmanyar's book. It included many full color photos (as opposed to Bahmanyar's, which were all black and white). Bryant was able to describe the path of a civilian to a Ranger better than any author that I ever have read. Bryant's book really went in depth into current training and schools. He covered Ranger School a little better than Bahmanyar (both however skipped the now defunked Desert Phase and the famous blueberry pancakes of Mountain Phase)

In closing, both were great books which I highly recommend. While reading both, I was able to recall the many great times that I had as a Ranger. I thank both Russ Bryant and Mir Bahmanyar for taking me back to the good old days of being a proud Airborne Ranger.

Ken Kovac, B Co., 2/75 88-92



RANGER HALL OF FAME 2003 INDUCTEES

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LTC Walter N. McIlwain

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Ranger Hall of Fame Members
CSM Theron V. Gergen
SGM Andy Markivich

2003 Honorable Inductee

United States Army Ranger Association
Mr. Howard H. Callaway

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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 are 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 membership year dues. If you have any questions about your membership contact the association secretary Ron Edwards at (256) 831-7146, PO BOX 921, HEFLIN, AL 36264, or email: redwards@cableone.net

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

LM	ARNOLD	ARTHUR S.	101ST LRSD
LM	BELL	HARRY C.	B/2/75
LM	BUCKSATH	MARK A.	2/75
LM	BUMP	STEPHEN M.	B/75 B/1/75
LM	BURKE	JAMES J.	4TH DIV LRRP
LM	FELDBUSCH	JEREMY	A/3/75
LM	FERRARA	MICHAEL F.	H/75
LM	FRASER	ROBERT W.	K/75
LM	JOHNSON	ROBERT J.	L/75 F/58
LM	LAMKIN	RODGER J.	4TH INF DIV LRRP
LM	LICHNOVSKY	GERALD J.	4TH INF DIV LRRP
LM	LIGHTFOOT	R. HENRY	3779 LRRP
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LM	STANKIEWICZ	JOSEPH M.	N/75 74TH
LM	THOMPSON	MARC L.	B/75 B/1/75
LM	WOOD	MICHAEL W.	25TH DIV LRRP
ARMES	TOMMY	K/75	
BARR	STEVEN B.	L/75 K/75	
BLISS Jr.	TONY A.	F/58	
COLE	LAWRENCE	173RD LRRP	
DONOHUE	DANIEL F.	11TH VN 1/75	
DOW	RICHARD K.	B/2/75	
FROMM	PETER D.	A/1/75	
FUJINAGA	MICHAEL	3/506 LRRP	
GARDNER	FRANK H.	C/75	
GAWORECKI	DANIEL T.	3/506 LRRP	
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GIBSON	JERRY W.	B/1/75 HHC/1/75	
GRIFFIN	DANIEL	C/75 E/20	
HAGAN	DENNIS P.	D/75	
HARLEY	ANTHONY	B/75 A/1/75	
HAZUDA	GEORGE M.	F/75	
JOHNSON	KENNETH	C/3/75	
KERCADO	LIDIO	B/75	
KETROW	JAMES L.	H/75	
KING	RANDALL F.	I/75 M/75	
KRONE	JOHN W.	K/75	
MARQUEZ	JOSEPH W.	N/75	
MARTIN	WILLIAM J.	G/75	
MCCONNELL	ROBERT L.	C/3/75	
McDONALD	ROBERT A.	RTB	
McKENNEY	MICHAEL D.	HHC/3/75	
MILES	BRAD E.	C/2/75	
MILLER	KEVIN	2/75	
MORALES	JUAN E.	HHC/1/75	
PARRISH	ROBERT D.	RTB	
REHMET	TUCKER C.	N/75	
ROTHROCK	PETER H.	A/75	
SCHMID	MICHAEL R.	A/1/75	
SCOTT	STEPHEN J.	C/1/75	
SEIFERT	CHARLES M.	A/3/75 C/1/75	
SHIMKUS	JOHN J.	A/2/75	
SPEARS	SAM B.	B/1/75 C/1/75	
SPEELBERG	JERRY R.	N/75	
TARENTINO III	FRANK A.	HHC/1/75 C/1/75	
TILLISCH	DONALD C.	71ST LRRP	
WADSWORTH	MICHAEL W.	C/1/75	
WANOVICH	JAMES A.	C/3/75 HHC/3/75	
WEYHENMEYER	HAROLD J.	G/75	
WOHLFEIL	CARL H.	L/75	

Special Operations Memorial Update, September 2003

I regret to report that our losses through combat engagements and realistic special operations training have continued. Our thoughts and prayers are will the families of our fallen comrades.

Special Forces Sergeant First Class John Taylor unfortunately died from a heart attack in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Mark Raker, Special Warfare Training Group, died during a HALO jump in May; and Ranger Brandon Miller also died in May while participating in a parachute jump at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

Corporal Andrew Chris of the 3rd Ranger Battalion was killed in action on 26 June in Iraq, and Sergeant Timothy Conneway died on 28 June from wounds received during the same action.

US Navy SEAL IC1 Thomas Retzer died from wounds received in Afghanistan on 26 June; and Petty Officer Mario Maestas died during training on 3 July.

Also in July we lost First Sergeant Christopher Coffin and Corporal Mark Bibby.

USN SEAL Petty Officer David Tapper was killed in action on 20 August in Afghanistan, and on 29 August in Afghanistan, Sergeant First Class Mitchell A. Lane, 3rd Special Forces Group, fell and died during a fast-rope infiltration into a known enemy cave complex. Also in August, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony L. Sherman, 304th Civil Affairs Brigade, died of non-combat related injuries in Kuwait.

The latest Army Special Forces casualties were occurred on 12 September when Sergeant First Class William Bennett and Master Sergeant Kevin Moorehead were killed in action in Iraq. These two engravings are on order, all other casualties have been engraved and placed on the Memorial, funded by the Special Operations Memorial Foundation.

An engraving was purchased for the

170th Assault Helicopter Company for their support of MACVGOG during 1966 through 1971, and for Al Buckelew who served with Operation WHITE STAR during 1961-62.

Another Vietnam-era engraving memorialized L. D. Kerry and L. A. Parker of Recon Team CRUSADER assigned to Command and Control North, MACVSOG.

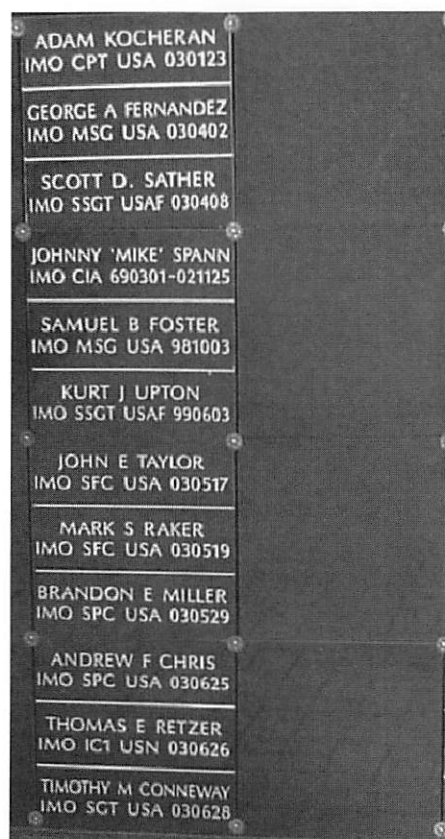
An engraving was donated in remembrance of the attempted hostage rescue mission on 24 April 1980 in Iran; and another in memory of "Duke" Wiley a highly respected Air Commando legend.

From John Taylor on the left side and Mario Maestas on the right side. You recall we alternate columns on either side of the rear (KIA/KIT) wall.

Tom Lum the first representative of the Director of Central Intelligence to be assigned at US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) was recognized on the Memorial, together with Cliff Engle the former J-6 of USSOCOM during 1990-93.

It is rapidly approaching the time when we must expand the size of the Special Operations Memorial, and so on the brighter side, I am happy to report that corporate donations received since our last report ranged from \$1,100 to \$10,000.

Geoff Barker

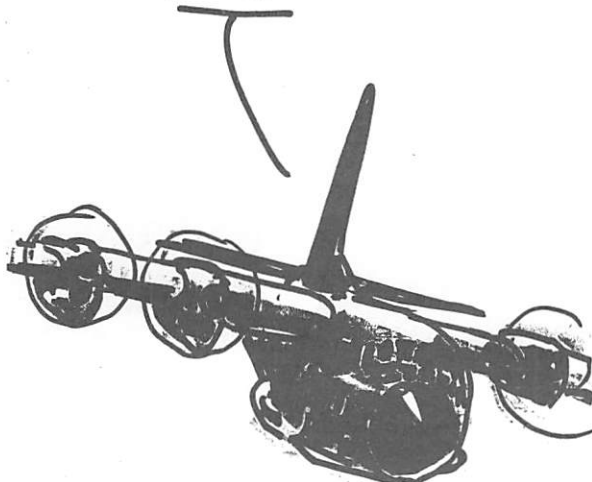




RANGER RENDEZVOUS, 2003



OH YEAH! STEP OUTSIDE
AND SAY THAT!



Michael!

Young Warriors

*You went forth, young
Rangers, onto the
battlefield
Never to retreat, never to
yield
The cause is simple, keep
America free
Searching out the enemy
where ever he might be*

*Death in battle is not noble
or right
It's a predestined fate when
enemies fight
You are now at war in a
distant land
Death and destruction will
prevail, war's demand*

*You trained to be hardcore,
the very best
You have earned the CIB
proudly on your chest
We owe so much to you, our
warriors at the gate
We will always remember
whatever your fate*

*You shed your blood, you
shed your tears
You have faced your
enemies, overcome your
fears
Without reservations you left
your families at home
Your country's behind you,
you won't be alone.
Michael 'Poet' Monfrooe,
L/75*

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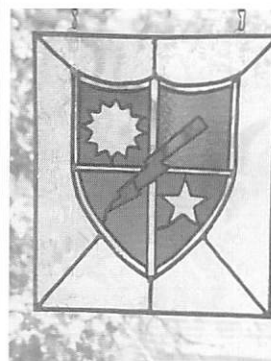
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Card ads are still available. This is a great deal at \$100.00 for **FOUR** issues. Let the Ranger community know what you do and what you can supply. Most of us would prefer to deal with one of our own if we had the opportunity. Give it a chance,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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL
DETAILS

Date:
 Last Name:
 First Name:
 Middle Initial:
 Street Address:
 City: State: Zip Code:
 Home Phone: Work Phone:
 E-Mail Address:
 Occupation:

UNIT DETAILS

Date From:	Date To:	Unit (Company or Battalion)	Names or Orders:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

REMARKS

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Membership in the Association shall consist of several classes of membership with specific qualifications for each class of membership. The eligibility criteria for each class of membership are outlined below. Except for voting rights being reserved for Regular membership only, each class of membership shall enjoy equal privileges of membership. All classes of membership shall be considered in good standing through the payment of annual dues or as Life Members, unless such membership is terminated in accordance with ARTICLE VII, SECTION 2 of this Associations Bylaws. Rights and privileges of membership include participation in Association events, activities, functions and mailings of Association literature.

PLEASE CHECK ONE

☐ REGULAR MEMBER ☐ NEW APPLICATION ☐ RENEWAL

Regular membership is afforded to any individual who served honorably in any of the predecessor or successor units, or who is presently serving in a current or successor unit listed in ARTICLE V of these Bylaws. Regular active members enjoy the full rights and privileges of membership, to include the responsibility and the right to vote on all issues and matters presented to the membership, which include elections of all Executive Board Officers of the Association and changes to this Associations Bylaws. Only members afforded Regular membership status may hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. Applications for Regular membership, along with the prescribed supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

☐ ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Associate membership may be afforded to any member of the United States Military, or civilian accredited by the United States Army, who accompanied or served in a direct combat role supporting any element listed in ARTICLE V on combat operations in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Iran, Grenada, Panama, Somalia, Iraq or Afghanistan. Also eligible for Associate membership are graduates of the US Army Ranger School and who have been awarded the US Army Ranger tab. Associate members enjoy the full rights and privileges of membership except the right to vote on any issues and matters presented to the membership. Associate members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of voting in elections of Executive Board Officers of the Association or on changes to this Associations Bylaws nor may they hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. Applications for Associate membership, along with the prescribed supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

☐ AFFILIATE MEMBER

Affiliate membership may be afforded to any parents or children of any deceased member, for the remaining period of that member's membership year, and for any year thereafter, by payment of annual dues, unless otherwise qualified for Gold Star Membership. Also eligible for Affiliate membership are foreign members who served in, with or accompanied any element listed in ARTICLE V of these Bylaws. Affiliate members enjoy the full rights and privileges of membership, except the right to vote on any issues or matters presented to the membership or in elections of all Executive Board Officers of the Association. Affiliate members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of voting on changes to this Associations Bylaws, nor may they hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. Applications for Affiliate membership, along with the prescribed supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

☐ GOLD STAR MEMBER

The surviving mother or wife of any qualified member, killed while in the line of duty, while serving in one of the units listed in ARTICLE V, shall be eligible for Gold Star membership. A Life Membership certificate shall be issued in the name of the deceased member and the Gold Star recipient, jointly. Gold Star members enjoy the full rights and privileges of membership except the right to vote on any issues and matters presented to the membership. Gold Star members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of voting in elections of Executive Board Officers of the Association or on changes to this Associations Bylaws, nor may they hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. The Unit Director shall be the approving authority for Gold Star membership applications. Applications for Gold Star membership, along with the prescribed supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

☐ HONORARY MEMBER

Honorary titles shall be bestowed upon those individuals, as deemed by the Association President, whose service, commitment or actions are in the highest traditions and best interest of this Association. Acceptance of Honorary membership incurs an obligation on the part of individual(s) so designated to continue efforts to assist the organization without remuneration, unless specifically authorized via action of the full Board Of Directors. Honorary members enjoy the full rights and privileges of membership except the right to vote on any issues and matters presented to the membership. Honorary members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of voting in elections of Executive Board Officers of the Association or on changes to this Associations Bylaws, nor may they hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. The Association President shall be the approving authority on Honorary membership applications. Applications for Honorary membership, along with the prescribed supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

☐ SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER

Subscription membership may be afforded to any individual who wishes to receive an annual issue of the Association's Patrolling Magazine. Subscription members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of other classes of membership which include voting on any issues or matters presented to the membership. Additionally, Subscription members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of voting in elections of Executive Board Officers of the Association or on changes to this Associations Bylaws nor may they hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. The Association Secretary shall be the approving authority on Subscription membership applications. Applications for Subscription membership shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

☐ CORPORATE MEMBER

Corporate membership may be afforded to business entities that wish to support the Association in the form of monetary contributions, services or support which is in the best interest of the Association or its members. Corporate members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of other classes of membership, which include voting on any issues or matters presented to the membership. Additionally, Corporate members shall not be extended the rights or privileges of voting in elections of Executive Board Officers of the Association or on changes to this Associations Bylaws, nor may they hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. The Association Secretary shall be the approving authority on Corporate membership application. Applications for Corporate membership shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

DUES INFORMATION

The fiscal year for the Association will be the calendar year from 1 July of the current year through 30 June of the next year. All classes of membership, with paid dues, receive a subscription of the Patrolling Magazine.

- Annual:** \$25.00
 - For all classes of membership, except as noted below.
 - Dues must be paid by 30 June to remain current for the year beginning 1 July.
- Life Membership:** \$250.00
 - For all classes of membership, except as noted below.
 - Members may arrange a deferred payment procedure with the Secretary for Life Membership purchases only.
- Gold Star & Honorary:**
 - Payments are waived.
- Corporate Member & Association Member**
 - Terms must be negotiated.

Please do not send cash. Please make checks or money orders 'Payable' to:
75th. Ranger Regiment Association

Send payment to: **Secretary**
75th. Ranger Regiment Association
P.O. Box 921
Heflin, AL 36264

One of the best things you can do for a friend is to make a photocopy of this application form and mail it to him. Explain to your friend the benefits of joining this Association and the fulfillment he will enjoy out of being a member. Show him a copy of your 'Patrolling Magazine' so he will see what he will receive. Show him the web site and take him on a guided tour.

Every year at Christmas time, my Christmas present I enjoy is to buy 4 annual memberships for friends who are not members. It's the best thing "I" can do for a friend and fellow brother. All I have to do is send Ron Edwards \$100 and the 4 names and addresses of my friends. Four times that year, my friend will remember what I did for him when he receives the Patrolling Magazine. It's a good thing to do and it's the right thing to do.

Another thing you can do is to bring up this page in your web browser. Once it is on the screen, go to the top of the page where the envelop is and click it. Send him either a link to this page or this exact page that will appear in his e-mail. Tell him to fill it out and join. He'll thank you later for doing this.

We are all that we have. Let's keep what we got. Emmett

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75th Assn Polo Shirt, Tan	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	_____	x	\$30.00	_____
75th Assn Fleece Jacket	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	_____	x	\$47.00	_____
75th Assn License Plate Frame		_____	x	\$3.00	_____
75th Assn Ranger Coin		_____	x	\$10.00	_____
Ranger Advisor Hat		_____	x	\$15.00	_____
75th Ranger RGMT Black & Hat		_____	x	\$15.00	_____
75th Ranger DUI Lighter		_____	x	\$15.00	_____
75th Ranger DUI Flask		_____	x	\$15.00	_____
Killer Man Son 75th RGMT Tee	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	_____	x	\$15.00	_____
Equal Opportunity Destroyer Tee	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	_____	x	\$15.00	_____
Earned Not Issued Tee	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	_____	x	\$15.00	_____
Earned Not Issued Coffee Mug		_____	x	\$12.00	_____
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This is the third year of our association's Christmas / Family fund and I have been surprised every year by the donations. This year as members became more aware of the program contributions have come in all year not even waiting for the holiday season to arrive. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association simply could not support the active duty Ranger Families without the generous people that contribute to the fund. Hilan Jones, secretary of the 9th Infantry Division LRRP / RANGER association started a program for their guys to contribute \$100 to the fund in memory of each of their KIAs. Jay Lutz of P/75 not only contributes yearly, so do his kids! I have never met Tim Kelley of I/75 but almost every month I get a check from him for the Family Fund. There's a Ranger alumni from 2/75 that contributed \$1,000 last year and insisted that he not be named. As the good use of these funds spread within the Ranger Community, several families of our Ranger KIAs, in their deepest time of grief, requested memorials be sent to our association for use supporting other Ranger Families.

This year we have already used funds to support the Family Readiness Group activities of the families of Rangers who are deployed, to support the "Gold Star" program for the families of Rangers who died while assigned to the 75th Infantry, and also to help the family of a hospitalized Ranger, who were staying far from home, but by his side, while he fought for his life. The holiday season is not yet upon us but we plan to support with Thanksgiving and Christmas turkeys and to make sure that all Ranger Kids have a good Christmas. The Family fund is a good thing but it is a program that can continue only as long as you support it.

As we kick off the Family Fund campaign for this year I will remind you that all contributions go completely to the Fund. Nothing is skimmed off for "administrative costs" or "advertising" or anything else, as many major charities are known to do. Whatever you contribute you know that 100% will go to support a Ranger Family.

IF YOU CAN AFFORD IT, SEND A CONTRIBUTION TO THE FAMILY FUND. MAKE THE CHECK PAYABLE TO 75TH RANGER REGT. ASSOC. AND WRITE IN THE MEMO LINE OR ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER THAT IT IS FOR THE FAMILY FUND

All contributors will be listed in a future issue of "Patrolling"

Ron Edwards

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!



Black Assn. Fleece Jacket



Tan Assn. Polo Shirt



75TH RANGER REGT. ASSOC. INC.



75th Ranger Regiment Association License Plate Frame



Regiment Hat



BDQ Hat



Distinctive Unit Insignia Lighter



DUI/Sua Sponte Flask
(Four Ounce Capacity)

(front)



I'M NOT THE KILLER MAN
I'M THE KILLER MAN'S SON...

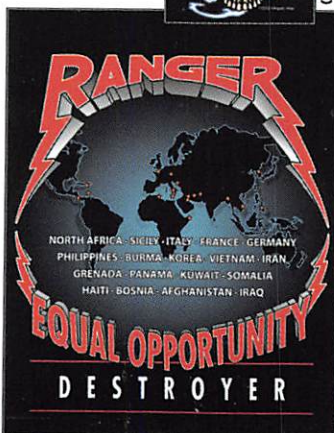


BUT I'LL DO THE KILLING
TIL THE KILLER MAN COMES!

Ranger with 90mm Recoilless Rifle
M60 MG & Tripod, Ghurka Knife and
Distinctive Unit Insignia Shield &
the coveted Black Beret. Text is from
a cadence.

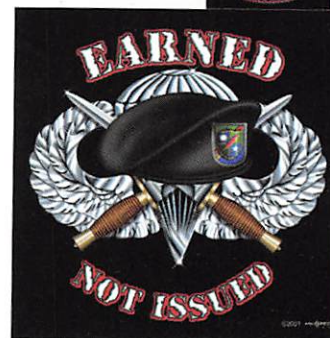


(front)



(back)

Rangers have provided the enemy in
the 18 locations noted by a gold star
on this global map, with an equal
opportunity to be destroyed.



The pride in a job well done and a
symbol earned, not freely given
remains strong among all Rangers
who earned the Coveted Black Beret.

ONLINE AT WWW.75THRANGERS.COM



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