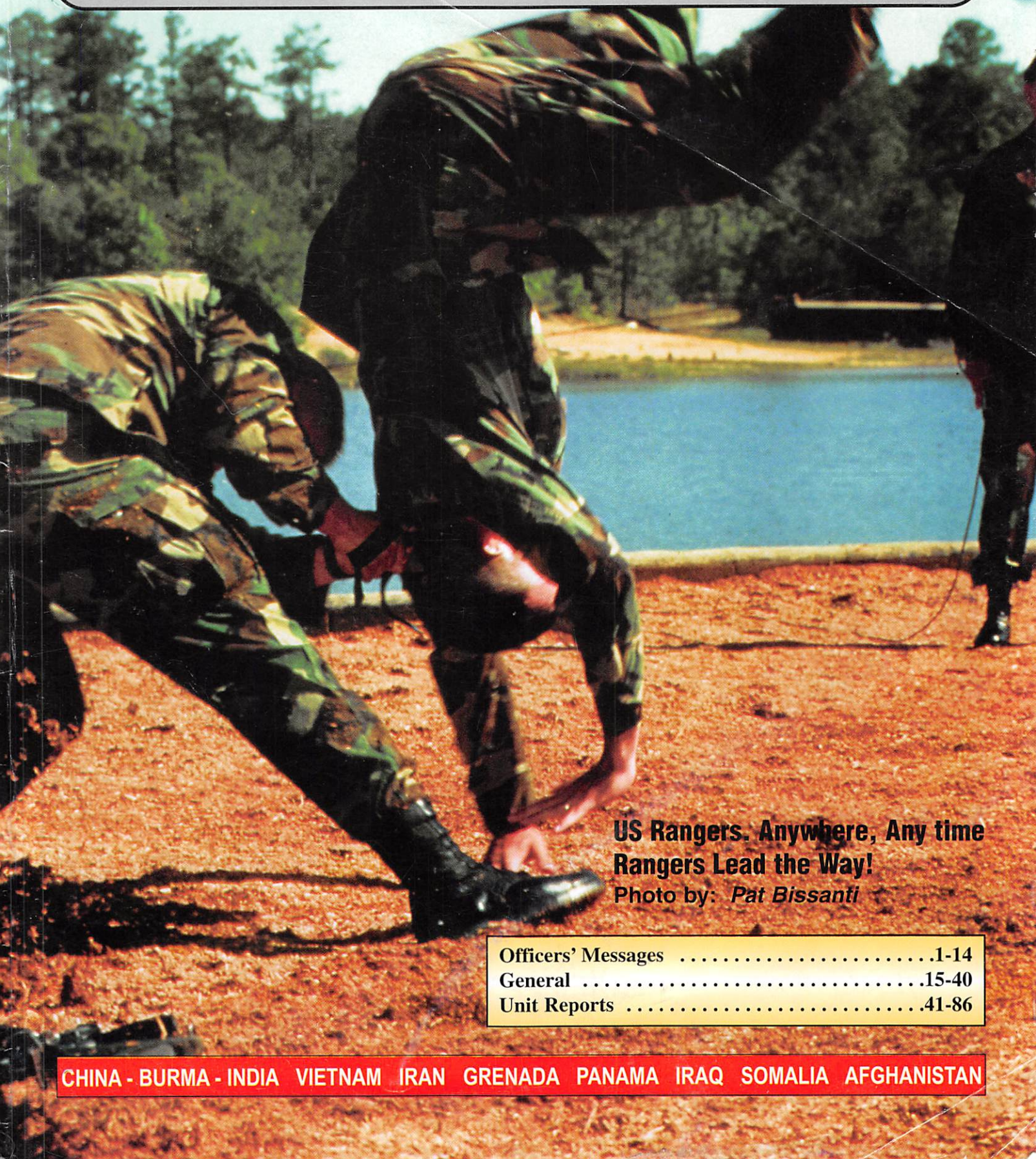


PATROLLING

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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 submitter. 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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dana McGrath

CURRENT EVENTS: The Columbia Is Lost - February 1, 2003 ... No one missed the feeling of loss as this event unfolded, and we add to the many thoughts and prayers our own for these Men and Women and their Families. The Astronauts know when they sign up the danger incorporated into the job, but none are fully prepared when the inevitable becomes reality. The Families are brought into the deal by proxy, and I personally hope they are taken care of by this Nation as best we can. I hope their future care is not entrusted to the Veterans Administration and our Representatives in Congress, lest their tragedy be never-ending as it has been for my personal Heroes and their Families. I hope the Families of the lost Astronauts can find some peace from the daily reminders of the event by the time this article is published. I am additionally hopeful the Press isn't successful in halting the Space Program, as we must continue to explore the unknown with vehicles built by humans and sent into God's own creation to discover what we must know in the future. If there is anything the readers of this article know, it's what RISK and LOSS is about and just how deeply each can affect us all. My sympathies are heartfelt for the loss, as it is for the lesser-known losses of the Soldiers who are RIGHT NOW serving, being wounded and dying in Service to this Nation. I hope their Families get the same level of compassion and sincerity of purpose as time goes on.

RANGER CHRISTMAS/FAMILY FUND: THANKS for what you did for the Ranger Family Fund this Christmas - the end result was a bit over \$13,400 collected for the Active Duty Rangers and their Families. These funds were used to ensure a Ranger Family Christmas and the balance will be used throughout the year as needed by the Battalion Families in need. I think that whole program was one of the largest surprises to me as President, because I had so little information about it before and didn't fully understand its uses. It is only a couple years as an Association project at this point, but a GREAT success because of YOU.

MEMBERSHIP: We're growing, and we're beginning to increase our Membership of the Active-Duty and recently-ETS'd Battalion Rangers. As this happens, I notice more GREAT stories from the Battalion Rangers each issue, and I sure enjoy those "There I was" writings. I didn't know there was a word "HOOAH" until the late 90's and these guys have taught me through Spirit and Action just what is meant by the word. To them I say "HOOAH" and THANKS for what you've done and are still doing - keep those articles coming and all of us who are too old will keep dreaming we could do as well any day. This Association was formed by Rangers who were beyond duty age when they decided to start it, but it's TODAY's recent-ETS and TODAY's Active Duty Ranger who are our future. Without you, we have no future as a Ranger Association, and if we ever forget it, you'd better take our job and run with the torch as you have with the REAL torch. The 75th Ranger Regiment is going to be around long after most of us pass from this world, and you'll sure want a place to gather and tell each other Ranger stories in the next few decades. DO IT NOW - get involved, bring your Ranger buddies and take a job if you can. If you find things you think should be improved, we sure have room for more help getting it right. We captured a Battalion Ranger for Treasurer and he hasn't yet escaped.

REGIMENTAL CHANGE OF COMMAND: As of this submission, the only date set is August 7, 2003, at the Ranger Memorial at Ft. Benning, GA. This will be the Award Ceremony for Regimental Commander Votel and the beginning of

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

the Change Of Command Ceremony, with the as-yet-unscheduled "Mass TAC" displays which surround this event. Stay tuned for dates as the schedule of events is set and plan to attend if you can. I'll be there, as I want to see all three Battalions as they do what they do "en mass". Col Votel has done a Ranger-level job of leading the Regiment and we hope for him all the best in his future roles. The incoming Commander has some large boots to fill, but history shows he'll be well-suited to fill them admirably.

THE RANGER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION: A Board Of Directors Meeting was held on February 12, 2003. The RMF Board passed motions to increase Annual Scholarships from \$500 to \$750, and to increase the cost of Ranger Memorial Bricks to \$280 (from the current cost of \$240) beginning in October of 2003. Roger Brown attended the Meeting as the Representative for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Our thanks go to Ranger Brown for his commitment to the Association and to this worthy project.

FINANCIAL MATTERS: We're doing well and improving as we go forward. As of this date, all contractual obligations of Vendors/Supporters have been satisfied, some of which have been infamous by rumor and changed as necessary to get it done. Milspec is back on board and has paid the obligation taken on a few years ago, a HUGE burden to both sides of the deal, but paid as of today and off our "things to do" lists. This agreement caused strife through the years and only by determination on both sides was the agreement able to change in order to satisfy the amount of the original deal. It wasn't easy from day one, but all parties kept at it until it got done - it's what we do best. The Ranger-type items Pete sells through Milspec have been of high quality and creativity, and I'm glad to have access to them again.

WEBSITE: If you haven't visited and cruised through the changes to the site, you've missed a lot. Take a look at what information is now available there (Thanks, Emmett) and tell others about it. I can't believe how much Veteran information is already presented and it's being improved constantly. It's YOUR site - if there is something you'd like to see, let us know and we'll give it a shot.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF MOGADISHU - this one is coming up this year and it is important, Rangers. Our history is made from such heroism and we will be helping those who participated Honor the fallen and celebrate surviving the battle as we can. What can we do? I don't know yet, but sure want to. Few battles in history had the coverage of that one and it's up to US to see to it the facts are not lost in the re-writing of its history. I have heard personal stories of the time which haven't made it into the light as they should. I hope we can memorialize the event on our site and elsewhere as possible.

REUNION: Summer 2004 - Ft. Lewis. It's coming together a piece at a time - if you're in the West Coast AO and want to pitch in, Buck Anderson is the Point Man doing the work on the ground. There's never enough help with this huge project. Buck's trying to schedule it with 2nd Battalion's Change Of Command, so the show should be GREAT and the place will be full of Rangers from history to today.

If you'd like to help, start with your Unit Director - no position I know of is in more need, as their job is enormous and it's where the "meat" of the work is done to bring you this Magazine and organize our Reunions.

BEST RANGER COMPETITION - We just got Official Notice this event has been cancelled due to deployments and current events. We'll miss seeing the competition, but will start our planning to make next year's event even bigger. Sign of the times - change with them and Drive On.

See you at the the Change of Command Ceremony if you can make it. I'll see you at Ft. Lewis in Summer 2004 for the GRAND Reunion being planned there, too.

God Bless This Nation and its Soldiers in harm's way.

RLTW & Sua Sponte,

Dana McGrath
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VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE

By Wayne Mitsch

A CHALLENGE

I was sitting in church the other day looking around at all of the people around me. I couldn't help thinking that I had something in common with all of them. Then I thought about all the people I know who are pilots like me – I have something in common with them. Fraternity brothers have something in common. I have something in common with the guys I was in basic training with, and on and on and on. However, the guys I was in Vietnam with are different. We have a special bond – so much more than having something in common. A bond that is unexplainable, and a bond that is unbreakable.

This bond is so evident when you make contact with someone you were in country with. It is also evident if you have ever watched the reunion of two buddies from the “war”. Vietnam was 33 years ago for me – over half my life ago. Vietnam consumed one year of my teenage life – but a lifetime of memories. All I had when I left Vietnam was memories because there was no “organization” to rally around, no “organization” to reunite us, no organization to help us heal our wounds.

But, then we got lucky. Our forefathers (a few good men) got together with an idea and formed our Association. For nearly 20 years I had no contact with anyone from “the war.” Then I was found. This Association has spent its entire life finding us – you and me.

Our present day active duty Rangers have such an excellent opportunity to be part of this organization. You can leave the Army and already be a member of this Association. Better yet, you can become a member of this Association while you are still in the Army. There doesn't have to be a 20 year lapse in continuing or renewing the bond. We must do whatever we can to get this message to you. You are young and don't understand. You really don't know what you will wish you did 20 years from now. You must be given the opportunity and wisdom and guidance that wasn't there for us. We have to be the ones to tell you that your memories will wane. We have to be the ones to tell you to keep a diary of your missions, to take pictures and to put names on the back of their pictures because you will forget. You never should have or could have – you only can.

My challenge to the Vietnam era Rangers and before – our time is running out to complete the mission from our founding organizers. We don't have a lot of years left to find all those who need finding. To the post Vietnam and the present day Rangers, it's your organization too. It's your time to join and get involved. There is no better Association that has the ability to share and renew the bond.

With that said, as this publication is going to press, I would assume that all of the Ranger battalions are deployed. War is not inevitable, but sure appears eminent. What the future holds this very minute is anyone's guess. God's speed Rangers. You are in our thoughts and prayers and we wish we could give you the wisdom we already have. We will be here no matter what, with open arms to welcome you back and into our Association.

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE**By Ron Edwards**

It is amazing what a little story can do. Last issue I told about losing a good friend in Vietnam and since then I have talked to or emailed with both a sister and a brother in his family. This was all through the coordination of Rey Martinez, author of "Six Silent Men" Book One about the early years of 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division LRRPS. The 1/101 LRRPS turned into F/58 LRP in 1968 and into L Co, 75th Rangers in 1969. Rey was long gone by the time Steve England and myself came to the company in 1970, but the connection is still there with common friends and experiences. I had talked to Rey before in getting permission to use his photo for the back cover of the fall issue of "Patrolling" and knew he worked on the railroad between Washington State and Idaho and may have even mentioned I used to know a fellow from Pocatello Idaho. But it was not until Rey received his copy of the winter issue of "Patrolling" and read my remarks about Steve being from Pocatello, Idaho that sparks begin to fly. Rey mentioned the story to a fellow he worked with and that fellow said he knew that name, his sister used to be best friends with Steve's sister! Through Rey I made a telephone connection with Steve's sister and cleared up some misinformation for both of us. Later on Rey found out that a close friend of his, one he had been hunting with for years, also knew Steve and had even mentioned in the past that he had a friend that died in Vietnam though he hadn't known what unit he was in. Also Rey's wife had worked with Steve's mother many years ago. Coincidence happens but damn!!! I really want to thank Rey for taking the time and effort to connect me with Steve's family. I really don't know how to say it but it "helps".

John Hastings sent in a comment about the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum in Chicago, IL. They are the ones that have a display of over 58,000 dog tags hanging from thin wires from the ceiling of the museum. Their Website is www.NVVAM.org and you can submit photos or view photos of the Vietnam War. You can also "sponsor" one of the dog tags of a specific person who died in Vietnam. Go to the website for more information or call Jerry Kykisz, Director of Photography, (312) 326-0270

Ralph Harter from E/50 LRP, 9th Infantry Division has been making our plastic membership cards since way before my time in office. Ralph is getting out of the full time card making industry, but is setting us up with enough membership cards to keep us in good stead for a few more years. For the thousands of cards he has made (including a full reissue to everyone in 2000) Ralph has charged us a grand total of zero, zip, nada, nothing. He and his good wife Sylvia also volunteered to make new silver cards for all our association Life Members and they will probably have them in hand by the time anyone reads this in "Patrolling".

Here is another episode of my time with Team 1-1 in L/75.

There is a method of being picked up by a helicopter when the helicopter cannot land and the trees are too high for the ladders to reach the ground. At that time it was usually called a McGuire Rig when using your repelling Swiss seat or a Stabo Rig when using a set of straps worked in with your LBE. I know SGT Terrance Smith (FISH) was the team leader on this one because everyone else in our company had to use the Swiss seat version and he had acquired enough of the Stabo Rigs for our whole team. The Stabo Rigs are much quicker, safer, and more comfortable to use. Fish had come to us from Special Forces but he obviously still had some connections. This particular mission we were working along the series of ridgelines on the eastern side of the A Shaw Valley. The night before our planned extraction day we went right to the tip of a ridgeline overlooking the Valley. The ridgeline was only about 30 meters wide and at the end dropped off on three sides like it was cut with a knife. That night we called in artillery on some NVA trucks moving down the valley. I don't know if we somehow gave ourselves away or more likely the NVA knew someone had to be there somewhere and sent troops to check all the likely observation points. We were scheduled second for pickup the next day. Another team had been on the same type

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

mission a few miles north of us. They had to use McGuire Rigs and it took them 8-10 minutes to get everyone hooked up. With our Stabo Rigs we were all hooked up and gone in about two minutes. As I said, we were scheduled second for pickup, so once they were finally in the air and headed back, Their cover Pink Team came on over to our location to find us and be ready when the slicks dropped the first team and came back for us. A helicopter could only pick up three men at a time on "strings" so it took two slicks to pick up a team. When the Pink Team arrived at our location they immediately reported that a platoon of NVA were a couple hundred meters down our ridgeline coming straight towards us. The pickup ships still had to drop off the other team and come back for us so we prepared for a fight. Because of the sharp drop-off on three sides it was obvious that there was nowhere to retreat to and this was Team 1-1s last stand. It seemed kind of melodramatic, but I very seriously took out my knife and stuck it in the ground next to my position. As I said, there was no place to go... The other guys near me understood and did the same. Fortunately our last stand was not necessary. The gunship kept the NVA pinned down until our pickup ships finally got back and picked us up. That is a very dangerous time for the helicopter, just hovering there, being a perfect target, while waiting for us to get hooked up. I know that feeling because as the helicopter slowly lifts you up, you are also a perfect target just dangling there on the end of a rope waiting for the bullets to hit you. It all worked out OK, and after clearing the area all we had to worry about on the 25 minute ride back to a firebase was whether the rope might break, or a knot slip, and how it would feel to fall 2000 feet into the jungle. That, and the fact that a strap had caught me wrong between the legs and it was a very painful ride for me. When we reached the firebase the pilot slowly lowered us so we could hit the ground first then pull the ropes out so he could land. Our pilot did a good job, some pilots seem to forget you are down there and drag you a bit either taking off or landing.

Again the good luck that followed me through my tour kept me from a bad situation. I was covering that trail down the ridge and if the Pink Team had not come on ahead of the pickup birds and kept that NVA platoon pinned down, we would have been in a hell of a fight.

If anybody has any questions I'll be at the bar - Ron

TREASURERS MESSAGE

By Joe Niblett

Well Rangers this is my third short and sweet article since being railroaded err elected as Treasurer by that midget I mean ughh.. The current President Dana McGrath. I am not a man of many words, except when I have been plied with tekillya around a bunch of Rangers, then I don't know when to shut up. I know a few of the members have been the recipients of my wrath while I was being influence by that devil juice tekillya. Well on to my article, I have had the honor of meeting many of the members of this great association. I have also been seeking out old Ranger buds and attempting to get them to join our association. Not much success so far, must be my reputation of being an idiot. One major problem exists in getting specifically the so called "Battboys" to join... some of those younger Rangers do not feel they are "worthy" of joining our association and being members with you guys that led the way and set the example for us to follow. I know specifically that I am not worthy walking amongst you giants...you guys just needed some battboy stupid enough not to run from the room at the last reunion to be the Treasurer. So on to the task at hand, I NEED YOUR HELP.

I want each of you "OLD" Rangers to seek out a young Battboy and solicit him to join our association. We need our membership to grow, we are the 75th Ranger Regiment Association.... We need more members that served in or still serves in the Ranger Regiment to join this association. Now granted I never served in the Regiment, I was a Battboy before the current Regiment existed, but there are a bunch of young men that you never got the chance to

TREASURERS MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

know that you mentored. All of you company Rangers/LRRPS are looked up to by these young men, so take the opportunity to seek one out and get that man to join. But don't just seek out the young ones....seek out your buddies as well. We do have a great and financially sound organization. We also have a great quarterly magazine that many people enjoy reading.... Except for the Treasurers article, I think we all enjoy it. I know that John Chester does one hell of a job on editing this magazine. We need to get more participation from the post Vietnam era Rangers and get them to join. I have seen you guys enjoy listening and watching the young Rangers in action, as well as I have seen the looks in young Rangers eyes while they are mesmerized by your stories. Regardless of age or unit affiliation we are all Rangers and therefore brothers in arms. Lets work to bring us all together.

Now on to another subject at hand, there is a certain group of Rangers... I will not name names...but they are members of a certain website. Not ours, but well they like to tell lies about visits to my house, make terrorist threats against my cement pond in the back yard and other lies about serving with me in my younger days. Well they just generally lie. All lies I say. But I will say this they are useless and they don't even have a hair on their... errr I digressed.... If they do not join our association... Ok I said it guys....lets see those membership applications coming in...

Regards,

Joe Niblett
Treasurer
1/75 80-83
Ranger Class 6-81

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

PLEASE NOTE NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

john.chester3@verizon.net

The big news for me this New Year is that we found another of our people from Vietnam. Welcome home to Brian Radcliffe. I'd like to take credit for finding him, but it was really Mike Reiley who tracked him down. I got to talk to Brian on the phone a few times at some length and it was good to catch up. I went on my first ever LRRP mission with Brian a couple weeks after I reported in to the unit. It was the first time I had been in Indian country with four men instead of thirty. There was certainly a need to adjust my attitude. We were west of Duc Pho in I Corps about 25 klicks from the coast. The Infantry Battalions didn't even go there. We were just barely in range of the 105 MMs from one of the Battalion firebases, and at least 20 minutes from any kind of extraction or gunship support. We were moving through an area of foothills where scrub gave way to jungle. I was walking slack, and I noticed that the point man, a LRRP named Gene Harris was getting a little too far ahead. I could barely see him. I started to cautiously move up to contact him when I heard an M-79 shotgun round go off, obviously fired by Harris.

We all went into an immediate action drill, waiting for Harris to come running back through the formation so the rest of us could pick up the fire and didi in our own turn. The drag man had a claymore with an 8 second fuse ready to go and another around his neck to put down further along our back trail. No Harris. We hear some stomping around and muttering, but no Harris, no AK'S firing, no nothing. After a hurried conference, I went forward,

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

(very slowly) to see what the hell was going on. I found Harris trying to stomp about 100 frogs into the ground. I asked him what was wrong and he said "Frogs, G__D__ed frogs." I rather forcefully persuaded him to rejoin the patrol. When we got back, Radcliffe asked me what had happened. When I told him about the VC frogs, Radcliffe says, "Oh sir, Harris hates frogs." I was convinced then that I was among lunatics. We made a hard turn and a high speed move out of the area.

A few months later it occurred to me that you needed to be a lunatic to do this kind of crap. It was much better after I embraced my lunacy and accepted it. Brian was with me on a later mission on the night of 21 December, 1967, when a 7 man heavy team landed on the beach east of Duc Pho, moved inland and found a house in which some sort of rally was being held. We got 23 VC, a Communist Party flag, many weapons and two large bags of documents. One of the genius staff officers at the BDE asked me if we couldn't have got some prisoners too. I told him that I never could see the point.

I must add that Mike Reiley (who was also on the mission) & I have been arguing for the last 2 or 3 years whether there were 6 or 7 men on the above mission. I swore it was six, Reiley said it was 7. I was so sure I bet him \$100.00 it was 6. Well, one of the results of getting in touch with Brian Radcliffe; Reiley was correct, it was 7. The evidence was so strong that even I am convinced.

Just when you think you've got it all figured out, when you know that life sucks and then you die, when you figure out that all the world is conspiring to mess up your life and that the world is full of thieves and scoundrels, something happens that messes up your comfort zone and makes you re-think the whole equation.

When I was in Law School many years ago I became friends with another student, a single mother with two children. It was tough enough going to Law School without kids, so she had a tough row to hoe. I occasionally would watch her youngest son (in school) while she did something she needed to do. One summer I even helped him learn how to swim. Rick was a very personable young man even then. Over the years his mother and I became close friends (despite our personality disorders), and Rick has grown up and has a family of his own.

For the last several years we have enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner together and last year Mary Anne and I did so again. While at dinner I had a copy of Patrolling and Rick happened to read it after we left. Some time later I received the following letter from him:

December 23, 2002

Dear John:

It was great seeing you and Mary Anne at Moms for Thanksgiving. Thanks again to both of you for making and bringing such great food.

The reason for this letter is that I picked up and read one of the Patrolling magazines that you had brought in to give Dorothy.

I was really amazed and touched by all of the articles, emotions and effort you all are putting into making sure that the Rangers can stay in touch with each other. Even as an outsider it is easy to see how important it is that you all have a vehicle to keep in touch and share the bond that only you all have.

I can never imagine all of the sacrifice and pain that many of you went through in serving our country, I can only offer my sincere and humble appreciation and gratitude.

I wanted to at least do something so I am sending in a small donation that hopefully can help you all search for and help more Rangers become part of the association.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Anyway, take care and Happy Holidays.

*Sincerely,
Rick Tepel*

Somehow the most unexpected things have the most profound effect. I was certainly touched.

Last issue we ran an article that dealt with the down side of contacting relatives of our KIA'S. To be sure, it can be quite devastating to be forcefully rebuffed when your only intention was to do an act of kindness. Mike Reiley, one of my guys from Vietnam, sent this e-mail to me. He had contacted relatives of one of the men killed in his Infantry Company (before he was a LRRP) and the following letter was the result:

I have searched my log of old emails and was not able to retrieve the letter that I sent to 'Mike Riley'. But it went much like this:

I am so grateful that you made that call. I know that it wasn't an easy one to make. Maybe it was even harder for you than it was for me. There was a reason that you made the call when you did and that I was the one to receive it. You see, I was ready. I went many years refusing to read about Vietnam, watch movies, or even discuss it. In the past year, I have found myself more open to learning more.

Your call was truly a gift for me and my family. For all these years we had the image that Danny, who was no more than a boy, was killed in a foreign hostile country, alone, without family or friends. We couldn't imagine that he could have had friends when he had only been in the service for six months. We grew up with a large, close, extended family who had been with us from birth. It was hard to imagine that relationships could become strong in such a short time.

So to realize that he had such a friend as you---who would remember him even thirty-five years later and call his family is truly a gift. You have brought a great deal of comfort to those who loved him with this thought alone. It offers us a particle of peace in the turmoil of our memories. If you had called at an earlier time, it might have felt like opening old wounds. But at this time, it offered more of a closure or a feeling that we could let Dan's spirit be free. As if he didn't need to be held any longer by our guilt from not being there when he needed us.

Since your call, which I shared with all my extended family, many others have been lifted up by your sharing. Many men my age have Vietnam in their past and as I expressed my gratitude to them for your contact, they felt there were people they should contact too. Please encourage others to do as you have.

I am glad that you didn't call my mother first. She would have had a hard time since she lives alone and might not have had anyone around to talk with after the call. She was touched by your courage and thoughtfulness. We always wondered who might have known him and what they were like and where and how they were.

Your call came to me when a close friend of mine since college in the 60's was in the intensive care unit here after being mortally injured in a car accident. I was in Germany when she died the next week. All these events made me realize again how precious life is and that the most important things in life are the relationships we have. Family and friends. Thanks for counting our family among yours.

Please come to Hardin and visit our family. I live in Great Falls but spend the summers in Red Lodge. Try to come during the Custer Battle Re-enactment, which is always the weekend near June 20. You would enjoy that and it is the one time of year that Hardin has any action. Many members of our family still live in the Hardin area and they would like to visit with you. Three of his male first cousins were his age and none of them served for mostly physical reasons. They all have lots of unresolved issues. A visit with you might help them. I think you got a sense of this when you talked with Dennis.

My younger brother, Bob-47, still lives on the farm as does my mother who just turned 80 last month. My sister,

EDITOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Jean Stolle-49, lives in Vancouver, Washington. Dan was three years younger than I. Thank you for the names of the other men. I would like to talk with them too. When your reunion is held in an area that would be easier to get to, I would like to attend so keep me posted.

Dan's body was buried at the Little Big Horn Battlefield National Cemetery near Crow Agency, Montana. It is a lovely, peaceful, spot on the prairie about 12 miles from our farm. The site of the fort that was built after the infamous battle was actually on our property and we spent many days in our youth gathering relics from the soldiers that had lived there--shell casings, lead, boots, bottles, it was a real treasure hunt.

Thanks for calling again, I'm so sorry you didn't get my response immediately. You must have thought I was insensitive to your efforts.

Donalee

So there can be happy endings when contact is made. I suspect that more people would welcome the contact with friends of their deceased loved ones than would not. I do think we have a moral obligation to try. I also know it's difficult. I have a hard time contacting the live ones sometimes.

More of this article has been about Reiley than anything else. Mike, you get to write the next one.

Occasionally, for whatever reason, a unit column is empty. I have been trying to harass and intimidate the Unit Directors to furnish me a filler piece that I could run in the event that a unit misses a submission. Since that didn't work, I'm going to try the members. The piece can be anything, a personality profile, a war story (substantiated) or photos and captions. Make sure that it is not time sensitive, and make sure that you send it to me and to your Unit Director at the same time. If I have one of these (or more than one) for each unit, there need never be more empty unit pages. Those pages belong to your unit, use them.

You might have noticed that the insignia and DUI graphics have improved. I want to thank David Walker for the much-improved graphics. He sent me a short bio and in the craziness of the last couple of weeks prior to deadline, I lost it. I didn't really lose it, I just can't remember where I put it, and so I'll run it next issue. Thanks again Dave.

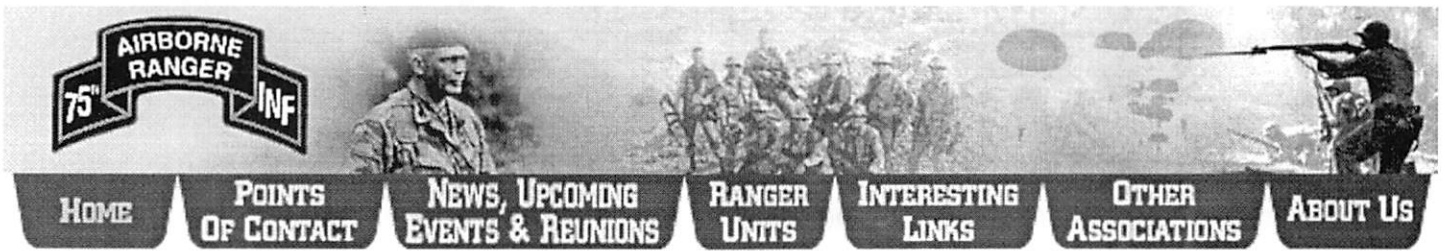
PLEASE NOTE NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS
john.chester3@verizon.net

From left: Will, Mike Reiley, (kneeling with carbine) Brian Radcliffe, John Chester, Frank Holmes, Gene Harris (the frog man).



WEB MASTER

By Emmett W. Hiltibrand



If you have not visited the web site recently, you've been missing out big time. I made myself a goal to make the web site as dynamic as John Chester has made the Patrolling Magazine a first class publication. Dana gave me a bit of advice, that was, to make the site a portal rather than an end destination. Didn't quite realize what that meant or entailed at first but I forged ahead anyways. I didn't have a clear idea of what I wanted or a set design in my head in the beginning, I just began. As I started to build, it began to take on a life of its own. Then it began to expand and grow. I'm at a point now where I don't know when to cut it off.

Most of what I'm going to cover in this issue is what has happened in the "Interesting Links" tab as seen above. When you click there you will see many new menu's on the left side. At top is the old single Interesting Links title. That will eventually go away in time. I took most of what was in there and placed it in their own categories below. I began with **Veteran Service Organizations**. These are important to you as veterans in that they can assist and support you in your claims. Below that I listed all the **Association Units** as they were listed on the "Other Associations" tab, which will eventually go away also. This will free up this whole tab for other items down the road. I placed more detail in the Units section and allowed a break-out for LRRP, LRP and Ranger lineages. There are a lot more graphic's now and much improved graphics thanks to David Walker of N/75. He has re-worked all the graphics until they are now first class. From this location a member can e-mail his Unit Director, view his message, see unit photo's, unit history and if the unit wishes a unit roster.

Next below this, I began a list of **Military Links** to all Divisional and lower units other than Association Units. This section needs to grow a lot and will in time. Below that I listed the **Related Links** that will connect you to all the other Ranger Associations along with links to the Ranger Hall Of Fame and the Ranger Memorial Foundation. Next, and even though we are not to become 'Politically' aligned, I listed links to all our major **US Government** entities. From there you can link to any one from the President to members of Congress, Senate or the Presidents Cabinet. What you want to know, do or say from that point is up to you. All I'm doing is providing you the source.

The next link down is where I sort of got carried away. **Mega Links** takes you to a page that lists major categories of links at your disposal. I kind of, sort of had fun here. You can conduct Major Searches using any number of search engines and find anything you ever wanted to find. On this page are also listed Major News Agencies for all the news you ever wanted to know about. This page sees no end in sight. Next on the Mega Information Links are things like the Discovery Channel, TLC, History Channel, Weather Channel or a Merrian Dictionary maybe. Thinking about traveling in the future? Well check out the Mega Travel Links. Airlines, hotels and cars galore are there for you. More to come. Ever wondered where something was on the World Wide Web or how to get something you needed? Check out the World Wide Web Links next time. There are a lot of download sites there now and more to come. Finally, in the Mega Links, I place some Legislative sources for you.

http://www.75thrra.com/

WEB MASTER (CONTINUED)

[Interesting Links](#)
[Veteran Service Organizations](#)
[Association Units](#)
[Military Links](#)
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[US Government](#)
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[Personal Links](#)
[Sponsor Links](#)
[Memorial Links](#)
[Health & Wellness](#)

[Add a Link](#)

The next menu item on the left side is where all the **Personal Links** or personal web pages are located and any **Sponsor Links**. Just below that are any **Memorial Links** that people have sent in. I felt they deserved their own site. I hope more will be added to honor our friends as time goes on.

The last item on that page is the Health & Wellness Links. This we hope will be of the most help and benefit to the members. We have topic's on there like HEP C, Diabetes, PTSD, Agent Orange, Cancer, Physicals, VA claims and many more to come. There is a team of guys like Dan Nate, Steve Morey, John Chester, Jim Savage and Mike Wise who are writing these articles up for you.

So, a lot has happened and you may have been missing the boat. If so, then stop wasting time and go to your web site today and see what it has to offer. The computer is the way of the future. Get out of the Stone Age and get with the program. If your still operating off an old computer, may I suggest you upgrade. If you're still using a dial up ISP may I suggest upgrading to fiber optic's or what is called DSL. You have to get with the program. You have to be informed. One cannot make an informed decision unless they have all the facts. Get with the program. Visit your web site and see what it has to offer you. If you see that you have a talent that we can use there, please contact me soonest to offer your support.

The web site is evolving. It is far from complete. There is much to do and we are working on it as fast as we can. You will notice the direction we are going with it and what we have accomplished so far. Check back often to view the changes. If you have idea's as to what you'd like to see, let us know. This is your Association and it will only be as good as the men who make it run and get involved. Now is not the time to be shy.



Other area's of interest are on the "About Us" tab. There we have posted the newly approved Association Bylaws. Also on that page is the start of a Ranger History menu item that is in its developmental stages. Go ahead and see what you've been missing. Take the tour today. Make the 75thrra.com your web browser home page. It has so much more to offer.

I'm just about finished learning HTML and going into XHTML. Next will be CSS and then JavaScript. I plan on touching up my skills with a little PDF and mastering Dream Weaver 4 Ultra DEV. See you soon.
 Emmett W. Hiltibrand

Hello from Your Gold Star Mom:

Hope this finds each of you well and ready for spring. Spring, a time of new life and Growth. May we rise to the occasion.

I am so pleased to report some of our Rangers are initiating contacts with the families of Steve Hathaway and Frank Harold Miller. We also have a unit that is going to try and contact some of their Gold Star families and have the presentation ceremony at their upcoming reunion. WAY TO GO GUYS!!

You will never regret it and the families as well as yourselves will find it a most rewarding experience. (See our editor John Chester's column if you haven't already)

I am your Gold Star Advocate and am here to help you in anyway I can but this is a Mission only you can do. WE ARE DEPENDING ON Y-O-U !

At the end of this article you will find a form that you may use when making Gold Star contacts. Several of you have asked what the procedure is. Hopefully this form will help.

I am sorry to report that we waited too long to make the presentation to Jackie Leisures mother. His sister Patsy has informed us her mother is in failing health and has only a short time until her and Jackie will be together again. Patsy has been our contact point. She is such a great lady and loved her brother dearly. She would have loved for her mother to get what she was entitled to from us. I will stay in touch with her and have assured them they are all a part of us.

Please, DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN TO YOUR FALLEN BUDDIES FAMILIES! Time is of the essence.

Starting with the next issue I will try and profile at least one of our fallen Rangers family for you.

This month I am sharing a poem Sarah Moore, mother of Ranger Harvey Moore, shared with me after she saw the poems in our December issue of Patrolling.

The Death of a Ranger

The life, the death

So much is given, so much is taken away.

Each day a new objective, the next challenge,
to conquer.

Somewhere there is a Ranger in waiting,
for instructions from higher.

Separated from his men by some unforeseen circumstance.
Where is the contingency plan?

'O Sergeant your platoon is waiting,
to be released from this hellish mission.
It's over, time to go home, the job is done.
We have everything that's not worth anything,
but you.

'O God, each day we sacrifice, for many reasons,
No one but ourselves really know,
yet this we chose, freely.
Gladly we would march a hundred miles.
Pay any price but not give up our own.

So here we stand Sergeant Moore, waiting, searching,
forever more, looking to the Heavens for the brightest of stars,
to guide our way... The Airborne Ranger in the Sky.

'O if I could wish upon a star,
That no Ranger would ever die.

How it would be dark and treacherous,
With no precious starlight.
As it is there are to many stars,
But they do not burn in vain.
For every Ranger knows that the night is his friend.
Farwell for now, for we will drive on,
Just as you have it.

May God keep and bless you, Sergeant Moore, until we
All can join you as Airborne Rangers in the Sky.

Rangers Lead the Way!

Ranger Regan Edens and 3rd Platoon

GOLD STAR MOM (CONTINUED)

GOLD STAR FAMILY PROFILE

RANGER NAME _____

UNIT _____

DATE & LOCATION KIA _____

FAMILY CONTACT NAME _____

RELATIONSHIP TO KIA RANGER _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

PERSON WHO CONTACTED FAMILY _____

DATE FAMILY WAS CONTACTED _____

WHO WILL ARRANGE PRESENTATION _____

WHERE PRESENTATION WILL BE MADE _____

DATE OF PRESENTATION _____

Use this form to gather all of the needed information. Please forward all info to your unit director, Dana McGrath, Ron Edwards and Sandee Rouse or Sandy Harris.

I will contact Emmett and see if he can get this form at our web site so you could just cut and paste it and fill out the info once online and send it to us.

For right now just use this as your model.

We give one lifetime membership and one Gold Star pin per family.

Gentlemen it is an Honor and privilege to serve you.

God Bless & RLTW

Sandee

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

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 UPDATE**LEGISLATIVE RECAP**

Ed Note: While the source of this information is believed to be accurate, each individual should ensure that any parts that pertain to them are correct to their own satisfaction.

Presidential Memorial Certificate: A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans who have not been convicted of a capital crime. This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces. Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided. Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail only. Requests cannot be sent via email. All requests must be in writing. There is no form to use when requesting a PMC however, a copy of the veteran's discharge and death certificate must be included with the request. These documents will not be returned. You can Fax your request and supporting documents to (202) 565-8054 or mail it to: Presidential Memorial Certificates (402E12), National Cemetery Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420-0001. If you have any questions about a certificate you have received, a request you have already sent in, or about the program in general, you may call (202) 565-4964 or email PMC@mail.va.gov. [Source: www.cem.va.gov/pmc.htm 11 DEC 02]

VA Compensation Rate Tables 2003:

Basic Disability Rates - 10%-100% Combined Degree Only (Veteran Only Rates)

Monthly Rating & Percentage Benefit

10% \$104 ~ 20% \$201 ~ 30% \$310 ~ 40% \$445 ~ 50% \$633 ~ 60% \$801 ~ 70% \$1,008 ~ 80% \$1,171 90% \$1,317 ~ 100% \$2,128.

Additional amounts payable for spouses, children and parents to veterans with ratings of more than 30% Dependency And Indemnity Compensation [DIC] For Surviving Spouses. Veteran's Death Was On or After 1 January 1993: Basic Monthly Rate = \$948

Additional Allowances: Add \$204 if at the time of the veteran's death, the veteran was in receipt of or entitled to receive compensation for a service-connected disability rated totally disabling (including a rating based on individual unemployability) for a continuous period of at least 8 years immediately preceding death AND the surviving spouse was married to the veteran for those same 8 years (Combined amount \$1,152)

- ~ Add \$237 per child allowance for each dependent child under age 18
- ~ Add \$113 if the surviving spouse is entitled to Housebound

Veteran's Death Was Before 1 January 1993

E-1 through E-6 \$948 ~ E-7 980 ~ E-8 1,035 ~ E-9 \$1,080

W-1 \$1,001 ~ W-2 1,042 ~ W-3 1,072 ~ W-4 \$1,134

O-1 \$1,001 ~ O-2 1,035 ~ O-3 1,107 ~ O-4 1,171 ~ O-5 1,289 ~ O-6 1,453 ~ O-7 1,570 ~ O-8 1,722 ~ O-9 1,843 ~ O-10 \$2,021

Additional Allowances:

~ Add \$204 if at the time of the veteran's death, the veteran was in receipt of or entitled to receive compensation for a service-connected disability rated totally disabling (including a rating based on individual unemployability) for a continuous period of at least 8 years immediately preceding death AND the surviving spouse was married to the veteran for those same 8 years

~ Add \$237 per child allowance for each dependent child under age 18

~ Add \$113 if the surviving spouse is entitled to Housebound

To inquire concerning the status of compensation, DIC, pension, burial, accrued, clothing allowance, automobile, specially adapted housing, or Spina Bifida claim or to ask any general Compensation & Pension (C&P) benefit question, call the VA toll-free number

1-800-827-1000 [Source: NAUS Update for 27 November 2002]

CHAMPVA: Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs [CHAMPVA] is the VA version of Tricare Standard. The VA shares with eligible beneficiaries the cost of covered health care services and supplies. Due to the similarity between CHAMPVA [administered by the VA] and CHAMPUS [administered by DoD] the two programs are easily and often mistaken for each other. Only the CHAMPVA Center, PO BOX 65023, Denver CO 80206-5023 is authorized to process applications, determine eligibility, authorize benefits, and process claims. Veterans can speak to a benefits counselor from 09-1330 and from 1430-1700 EST at [800] 733-8387 The VA Outpatient Clinic, Manila is now authorized to provide medical care to CHAMPVA eligible beneficiaries on an outpatient basis. However, this care must be administered at the clinic and will not be provided through the Fee-Basis Care Program. The benefit of obtaining care from the clinic is that the cost to the patient will be limited to travel only. The VA will absorb the cost of pharmaceuticals and medical care. If you have any questions contact the VA Clinic Coordinator at (202) 833-4566 to 69 EXT 201.

Eligibility - Those eligible for CHAMPVA benefits, providing they are not eligible for CHAMPUS or Medicare Part A as a result of reaching the age of 65 are:

The spouse or child of a veteran who has been rated by a VA regional office as having permanent and total service-connected disability.

The surviving spouse or child of a veteran who died as a result of a VA rated service-connected condition(s); or who at the time of death, was rated permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected condition(s), The surviving spouse or child of a person who died in the line of duty and not due to misconduct within 30 days of entry into active military service.

Surviving spouses who remarry after age 55. There is a 1-year open season from date of enactment of the Veterans Benefits Act of 2002 for otherwise eligible spouses to apply for benefits. Effective date is 60 days after enactment of Act.

Note: Survivors of USAFFEE, Guerillas and New Scouts are not eligible for CHAMPVA. Survivors of Filipinos with US service are eligible for CHAMPVA under the exact same criteria that applies to survivors of any other veteran!

Individuals 65 or older, who lose CHAMPVA eligibility by becoming potentially eligible for Medicare Part A or who qualify for Medicare Part A benefits on the basis of disability, may re-establish CHAMPVA eligibility by submitting documentation from SSA certifying their non-entitlement to or exhaustion of Medicare Part A benefits.

Application - Applicants for CHAMPVA must submit a completed "Application for Medical Benefits for Dependents or survivors - CHAMPVA [VA Form 10-10d.]. Upon receipt by the Center it will take approximately 60 days to gather the supporting records necessary to verify eligibility and make notification to the applicant. The Center will also verify the applicant's eligibility status with the local VA Regional Office that has the sponsor's VA claims folder. To ensure there is no CHAMPUS entitlement, these records will also be verified through DEERS. [Source: CHAMPVA Handbook Jun 95 & Veterans Benefit Act of 2002]

VA Insurance Dividend 2003: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced its distribution of more than \$568 million in dividends to 1.5 million active policyholders of veteran's life insurance. Over the next year, veterans will receive the payments on the anniversary date of their policies, with the specific dividend amount varying according to age, type of insurance and length of time the policy has been in force. Recipients will automatically receive their annual dividend through one of the nine payment options they have selected in advance.

For current active-duty service members and reservists covered by Service members' Group Life Insurance, no dividend is paid. Dividends cover only veterans with government life insurance policies who served between 1917 and 1956. Veterans of subsequent eras are covered by government insurance programs that do not pay dividends. Only those with policies that have been kept in force when premiums were required are eligible for the payout.

Inaccurate stories periodically surface suggesting that those who have not maintained insurance are eligible for a special distribution if they contact VA, but this is false. Dividends are automatically sent to eligible policyholders. The largest group receiving 2003 payments will be 1.3 million veterans of World War II with National Service Life Insurance ("V") policies. Total payments are expected to reach \$461.5 million. Dividends totaling \$2.2 million will be paid to the 12,499 veterans holding U.S. Government Life Insurance ("K") policies. Some 206,367 veterans who have maintained Veterans Special Life Insurance ("RS" and "W") policies can expect to receive dividends totaling \$88 million.

Veterans who hold Veterans Reopened Insurance ("J", "JR" and "JS") policies, currently numbering 57,048, will share a \$17.2 million dividend. Although VA also administers a special life insurance program for disabled veterans and a program offering mortgage life insurance coverage, neither pays dividends. Veterans who have questions about their policy may call the VA Insurance number: 1-800-669-8477, or can send their e-mail to: VAinsurance@vba.va.gov.
[Source: VA News Release dtd 10 DEC 02]

VA Disability Claim - Reasons to File: It is most important that a veteran file a disability claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs to service connect those disabilities, diseases, or injuries or residuals thereof, which were incurred in or aggravated by military service. Compensation is payable to any veteran with a service connected disability rated (10) percent or more, provided that his/her service was under conditions other than dishonorable. Although there is no time limit for filing a VA claim, it should be done at the time of separation or as soon thereafter as possible. Following are some of the reasons a veteran should file a VA compensation claim:

1. Compensation is payable to a veteran for service-connected disabilities rated from 10% to 100%, with additional amounts for statutory awards or certain multiple disabilities plus additional amounts for dependents when a veteran is rated 30% or more.
2. VA compensation is not subject to Federal or State taxes.
3. Many states have special programs and benefits for veterans with service-connected disabilities.
4. Filing a disability claim establishes a VA file, which will help expedite other claims and applications, which may be filed at a later date.
5. VA will consider a rating for all disabilities diagnosed and treated during military service, when such disabilities are included within the claim.
6. If a service-connected disability worsens, VA will reconsider the rating upon receipt of medical evidence showing an increase in severity.
7. Certain chronic and tropical diseases have presumptive periods ranging from 1 to 40 years. Service-connection may be granted if diagnosed within the proper period and rated to a compensable degree of at least 10%.
8. If service-connected disabilities rated at 60% or above and unemployable, the veteran may be rated 100% by VA.
9. If a veteran is hospitalized for 21 days or more or undergoes major surgery for service-connected disabilities, he/she is entitled to a temporary 100% rating during the period of hospitalization and/or convalescence.
10. Certain severely disability conditions, e.g., blindness, paraplegia, loss of limbs, carry special VA ratings and payments.

11. VA pays an annual clothing allowance to veterans whose prosthetic devices or service-connected disabilities tend to wear or tear their clothing.
12. A service-connected disability rating provides preference points for State and Federal employment under certain conditions.
13. Retirees with service-connected disabilities may waive the monetary amount of VA compensation from military retired pay for federal income tax purposes.
14. Educational benefits are available to the spouse and other dependents (to include dependent parents) of a veteran who dies as the result of a service-connected disability, regardless of the rating percentage.
15. DIC and Educational benefits are payable to eligible survivors of veterans rated totally disabled by VA from service-connected disabilities continuously for ten years preceding death, or rated totally disabled on retirement and for the following five years, regardless of the cause of the veteran's death.
16. A veteran with a service-connected disability is eligible for a maximum of \$10,000 of National Service Life Insurance (RH). A totally disabled veteran is eligible for a maximum of \$20,000 of National Service Life Insurance (RH).
17. Premiums for NSLI may be waived by VA Insurance Center if the veteran is considered totally disabled and this condition has existed six months or more prior to the 65th birthday.
18. Veterans rated 10% or more service-connected and in need of training may apply for Vocational Rehabilitation Training (Chapter 31).
19. Outpatient dental care is authorized for veterans rated 100% service-connected, including those rated 100% due to unemployability.
20. Veterans (not retired military which are eligible for full ID card benefits) rated 100% service-connected and their dependents are eligible for military ID cards (commissary and exchange privileges). Dependents may also be eligible for CHAMPVA benefits.
21. Payment of burial benefits up to \$2,000 if a veteran dies from service-connected disability; or up to \$600 if the veteran was in receipt of VA compensation at the time of death and death is rated as non-service connected.
22. Filing a claim and establishing service-connected disabilities provide advantages in obtaining medical care at VA expense. These advantages include:
 - a. Instant proof of eligibility for medical care, thereby expediting the receipt of treatment.
 - b. Establishes eligibility for treatment of non service-connected disabilities on a space-available basis at VA hospitals and clinics.
 - c. If rated 50% or more for service-connected disabilities, may be treated for all non service-connected disabilities.
 - d. Retirees may use both VA and military medical facilities for care.
 - e. The VA may pay for emergency hospitalization in private facilities for service-connected disabilities if VA facilities are not available. The VA medical facility of jurisdiction should be notified within 72 hours of admission to the private facility.
 - f. The VA may pay for outpatient medical treatment from private doctors for any service-connected disability, and for all disabilities if the veteran is rated 50% or more for service-connected disabilities, if the veteran resides outside a certain miles radius, which is determined by the nearest VA medical facility.
 - g. The VA furnishes free of charge medicines required for treatment of service-connected disabilities, and for all disabilities if the veteran is rated 50% or more for service-connected disabilities.
 - h. Prosthetic appliances and services are available at VA expense for eligible veterans.
 - i. Medical care is provided for any condition while a Veteran is enrolled in Vocational Rehabilitation Training (Chapter 31).

[Source: Military Service Coalition Newsletter NOV 02]

For Release: February 4, 2003

Evans Calls President Bush's Budget Request For VA "Devastating"

Washington, DC -- Lane Evans (D-IL), senior Democrat on the House Veterans Affairs Committee, has sharply criticized the budget request for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) programs for fiscal year 2004. The request was released this week by the Bush Administration.

"This budget will have a devastating effect on VA programs," said Evans. "When you get down to brass tacks there is absolutely no increase in this request for medical care that does not come from shifting additional costs to veterans or their health care insurers or achieving hypothetical management efficiencies that will essentially require VA to take resources out of its hide."

The Administration has claimed to add \$2.5 billion to the expected baseline for medical care in fiscal year 2003. If Congress passes an appropriation of \$22.7 billion for fiscal year 2003, the Administration purports that this will increase the budget to \$25.2 billion.

"Instead of requesting the full appropriation required to provide medical care to all veterans seeking medical care from the Veterans Health Administration, the Bush Administration budget proposal says "no veterans need apply" to some veterans by prohibiting their enrollment in VA health care. For many other veterans already receiving VA medical care, the Bush Administration requires a new user fee for VA health-a new annual enrollment fee of \$250, and increased copayments for primary care and pharmaceutical drugs. For all but the very highest priority veterans it means no more access to nursing home care," said Evans.

Evans called the advertised funding hike both extremely misleading and disappointing. "When you think of a funding increase you tend to think of program enhancements, not elimination of services and increased co-payments for veterans."

ANATOMY OF VA MEDICAL CARE INCREASE

Proposed Increase for VA Medical Care \$2.5 billion

Management Efficiencies - \$1.4 billion

Legislative and Administrative Proposals including increased cost-sharing and curtailment of services - \$1.1 billion

TOTAL "DOLLARS" AVAILABLE FROM INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS \$0

Evans was equally critical of other parts of the VA budget. "The Bush Administration fails to request even one dollar for the \$280 million in maintenance already identified by VA as needed now for our national cemeteries, the final resting place of America's veterans. A nation can never truly honor the men and women who have served in uniform if it fails to maintain their final resting place as a memorial to their service and sacrifice." "This budget proposal further demonstrates that veterans are not a high priority by this Administration. It fails to request the funding needed to fully honor our national commitment to the men and women who have served in uniform," said Evans.

VA TO GRANT BENEFITS TO MORE VIETNAM VETERANS

SUBMITTED BY Dan Nate, F CO. LRP/Source: VA Press Release Item

Based upon a recently released review of scientific studies, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi has decided to extend benefits to Vietnam veterans with CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA (CLL).

“Compelling evidence has emerged within the scientific community that exposure to herbicides such as AGENT ORANGE is associated with CLL,” Principi said. “I’m exercising my legal authority to ensure the full range of VA benefits is available to Vietnam veterans with CLL.”

The ruling means that vets with CLL who served in Vietnam during the War don’t have to prove that illness is related to their military service to qualify for DVA disability compensation. Additionally, for more than 20 years, VA has offered special access to medical care to Vietnam veterans with any health problems that may have resulted from AO exposure, and this decision will ensure higher-priority access to care in the future.

The decision to provide compensation was based upon a recent report by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) that found among scientific studies “sufficient evidence of an association” between exposure to herbicides during the Vietnam War and CLL.

“This latest IOM study and my decision to act upon it are the latest examples of VA’s continuing efforts to care for the needs of our combat veterans.”

VA will publish further details, when available, on it’s web site, located on-line at:

<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/benefits/herbicide/>.

VETERANS BENEFITS IMPROVEMENTS ACT, 2002

(SUBMITTED BY Dan Nate, F CO.Lrp)

The Veterans Benefits Improvements Act of 2002, originally sponsored by Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman John D. Rockefeller IV (D-WV), began it’s journey as a bill to award disability compensation to veterans who suffer hearing loss associated with service in specific military specialties. Along the way a number of other veterans benefit bills were incorporated into this, S.2237, which Congress finally approved and sent to the President who signed it on Dec. 6, 2002. It has now become Public Law 107-330, and will:

Continue VA health insurance coverage for eligible surviving spouses who remarry after attaining age 55.

Establish a presumption of service-connection for hearing loss associated with certain military skills (to be determined by the VA in consultation with the National Academy of Sciences) and authorize compensation for service members who have a rated hearing loss in both ears.

Clarify the entitlement to special monthly compensation for female veterans who have service-connected mastectomies.

Increase the Medal of Honor stipend from \$600 to \$1,000 per month, authorize an annual adjustment to the stipend, and authorize a lump-sum payment of the stipend retroactive to the date of the act of valor.

Authorize economic protections for National Guard service members under the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act when called by a governor to state active duty (Title 32) in support of a federal national emergency.

Permit the construction of a privately funded memorial to the veterans of the Battle of the Bulge at Arlington National Cemetery.



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits Administration
Washington DC 20420

In Reply Refer To: 216B

**ALL FEDERAL BENEFITS OFFICERS
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADAB**

SUBJ: Combat Related Special Compensation

The President signed Public Law 107-314 on December 2, 2002. Section 636 of the law created a new benefit, *Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC)*, for certain disabled military retirees.

The Department of Defense (DOD) has sole execution responsibility for CRSC and is developing the operational policies and implementation plan. DOD has asked that we tell retirees to be patient, and that they will have the opportunity to apply for the benefit in the spring.

An initial fact sheet is attached to assist your staff in answering questions they may receive. This fact sheet discusses only those issues we believe to be settled. We will provide additional information as it becomes available.

/s/

Diane C. Fuller
Assistant Director, Veterans Services Staff
Compensation and Pension Service

Enclosure

cc:

A. Maxine Lonon-Rice, DOS, OCS
Ted Girdner, SSA, OIO
Jim Morrissey, Washington RO
James Wear, Washington RO
Noami Villareal, Houston RO
White River Junction RO

Fact Sheet
COMBAT RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION
Current as of December 10, 2002

Background

The President signed Public Law 107-314, *Defense Authorization Act of 2003*, on December 2, 2002. Section 636 of that law added Section 1413a to Title 10, USC. Section 1413a provides a new benefit for certain disabled military retirees.

What is the new benefit?

The new benefit is known as *Combat Related Special Compensation* (CRSC). It is an additional special compensation that DOD will pay to certain uniformed service retirees with COMBAT RELATED disabilities. The monthly payment to these retirees would be the amount to which the retiree would be entitled to solely for the COMBAT RELATED disability consistent with Chapter 11, 38 USC (disability compensation).

When can an eligible retiree expect to receive CRSC?

The program does not begin until June 2003.

Who is eligible for CRSC?

To receive CRSC, the retiree must:

- have completed at least 20 years of service in the uniformed services that are creditable for purposes of computing the amount of retired pay to which the member is entitled, and
- have a *qualifying COMBAT RELATED disability*.

What is a qualifying combat related disability?

A qualifying COMBAT RELATED disability means either of the following:

- A disability attributable to an injury for which the member was awarded the Purple Heart; and is rated at not less than 10 percent disabling as of the date on which the member is retired from the uniformed services under DOD criteria, or by VA.
- A service-connected disability that was incurred (as determined by DOD) as a direct result of armed conflict, while engaged in hazardous service, in the performance of duty under conditions simulating war, or through an instrumentality of war; and is rated at not less than 60 percent disabling as of the date on which the member is retired from the uniformed services under DOD criteria, or by VA.

Who determines eligibility for CRSC?

DOD has sole responsibility for determining an individual's entitlement to CRSC.

Will a retiree have to apply for CRSC?

Yes. DOD is currently developing an application that must be submitted (probably with supporting documentation).

Must a retiree be in receipt of VA disability compensation to receive CRSC?

Yes.

Will a new retiree applicant for compensation still have to waive retired pay to receive VA disability compensation?

Yes. This law does not affect current procedures. CRSC is *not* retired pay and must be applied for directly to DOD.

Will there be other eligibility requirements?

DOD is responsible for developing the rules associated with this program. DOD has not finalized those rules.

Will a retiree have to provide specific information with his/her application?

Yes. DOD expects to require retirees to submit copies of correspondence from VA establishing service-connected conditions.

How can a retiree get the application?

DOD is developing the application to be available no later than May 2003.

Will CRSC reimburse a retiree for the full amount by which his/her retirement has been reduced?

Not necessarily. CRSC will only reimburse for those conditions that meet the definitions in the law.

Is there a web site or telephone number for more information?

DOD is developing a communication plan for retirees. Thus far, neither a web site nor a telephone number have been established.

RECENT LEGISLATION

Hearing Aids: Veterans may be entitled to free hearing aids from the VA if they meet any of these categories:

- Service connected for hearing loss; ear disease or Tinnitus.

- Service connected - any medical problem at a rating of 10% or more.

- Former prisoner of war.

- All WWI veterans.

Guidelines have been revised to include any veterans with a 10% or more rating for any problem [including veterans without service-connected hearing loss]. VA must consider the hearing loss in a nonservice-connected ear when rating a service-connected ear when the nonservice-connected ear is 10% or more disabling. While federal directives allow for this category of veterans to receive hearing aids, individual VA hospitals/clinics have the right to further determine local policies regarding access to hearing aids for veterans without service-connected hearing loss. Depending upon the availability of services at your local VA facility, you may be required to have a confirmed service-connected hearing loss to receive hearing aids. To obtain clarification of policies in your area, telephone your nearest VA regional office. [Source: Los Angeles AFB Retiree Newsletter Fall 99]

The Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 2002, established a presumption of service-connection for hearing loss associated with certain military skills (to be determined by the VA in consultation with the National Academy of Sciences) and authorized compensation for servicemembers who have a rated hearing loss in both ears. [Source: Hanscom AFB Retiree Newsletter Summer 2001 & Naval Hospital Bremerton ltr, and Milton Bell msg. Dtd 4 FEB 03]

THE FOLLOWING APPLIES IN FLORIDA ONLY

Tax Exemption for FL Disabled Vets: A new Florida state law increases the exemption from property taxes from \$500 to \$5,000. The increased exemption applies only to homestead property (the home in which the veteran lives). Many county appraisers' offices have indicated the increase in the exemption will automatically be granted.

However, those veterans currently receiving the \$500 exemption should contact their county appraiser's office soon if they have not received notification from their appraiser's office.

Also, veterans who are not currently receiving an exemption for their service-connected disabilities should contact their county property appraiser's office. Veterans applying for the exemption for the first time will need a letter of certification of their service-connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, or the U.S. Government. The legislation took effect Jan. 1, 2003. Applications for property tax exemptions are due by March 1 of every year. Disabled veterans may apply for the additional exemption at their county property appraiser's office. Call your Florida county appraiser's office, or visit their website: www.myflorida.com/dor/property.

Additional information can be obtained at www.floridavets.org/benefits/hmsted.html#partial [Source: MOAA Benefit Update FEB 03]

Vietnam Veterans of America - January 23, 2003

(provided courtesy of the Department of Veterans Affairs)

January 23, 2003 - 4 p.m.

VA To Grant Benefits To More Vietnam Veterans

WASHINGTON - Based upon a recently released review of scientific studies, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi has decided to extend benefits to Vietnam veterans with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).

"Compelling evidence has emerged within the scientific community that exposure to herbicides such as Agent Orange is associated with CLL," Principi said. "I'm exercising my legal authority to ensure the full range of VA benefits is available to Vietnam veterans with CLL."

The ruling means that veterans with CLL who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War don't have to prove that illness is related to their military service to qualify for Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation. Additionally, for more than 20 years, VA has offered special access to medical care to Vietnam veterans with any health problems that may have resulted from Agent Orange exposure, and this decision will ensure higher-priority access to care in the future.

The decision to provide compensation was based upon a recent report by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) that found among scientific studies "sufficient evidence of an association" between exposure to herbicides during the Vietnam War and CLL.

The IOM review, conducted at VA's request, was the latest in a series spanning the period since 1993 when the independent, non-governmental agency first published a report for VA that examined thousands of relevant scientific studies on the health effects of various substances to which American servicemembers may have been exposed in Vietnam.

"On the modern battlefield, not all injuries are caused by shrapnel and bullets," Principi said. "This latest IOM study and my decision to act upon it are the latest examples of VA's continuing efforts to care for the needs of our combat veterans."

VA requested the IOM panel of experts to focus on CLL in their report because of veterans' concerns that CLL shares some similarities with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, which the IOM had previously connected to Agent Orange exposure.

Principi ordered the development of regulations to enable VA to begin paying compensation benefits once a final rule takes effect. Publication of that regulation is expected in the near future. VA will publish further details, when available, on its Web site at <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/benefits/herbicide/>.

In the meantime, veterans with questions about health-care, compensation and survivor benefits may call a toll-free help line at 1-800-749-8387 for information. VA also encourages Vietnam veterans who have not done so to request a subscription to Agent Orange Review, VA's free newsletter that will keep them abreast of developments on this issue and other policies and scientific findings in the future.

Newsletter subscription information is available from the help line number above. Back issues and additional information about Agent Orange are available at another VA Web site at <http://www.va.gov/agentorange/>.


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.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE SECOND PART OF BOB SMYER'S ARTICLE ON THE POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER PROCESS THROUGH THE VA.

OMB Approved No. 2900-0075
Respondent Burden: 15 minutes

 Department of Veterans Affairs		STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM	
<p>PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION: The law authorizes us to request the information we are asking you to provide on this form (38 U.S.C. 501(a) and (b)). The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). They may be disclosed outside the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) only if the disclosure is authorized under the Privacy Act, including the routine uses identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22, Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. The requested information is considered relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits under the law. Information submitted is subject to verification through computer matching programs with other agencies.</p> <p>RESPONDENT BURDEN: VA may not conduct or sponsor, and respondent is not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, call 1-800-827-1000 for mailing information on where to send your comments.</p>			
FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME - LAST NAME OF VETERAN (Type or print)		SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	VA FILE NO.
			C/CSS -
The following statement is made in connection with a claim for benefits in the case of the above-named veteran:			
<p>FORM 21-4138 IS TO BE USED FOR THE COVER SHEET FOR INDIVIDUAL SECTIONS. SPACE DOES NOT ALLOW ME TO SEND EXAMPLES OF ALL THE SECTIONS. SECTION ONE IS TO EXAMPLE ON DEVELOPING OUTLINE OF THAT TO BE INTRODUCED AS EVIDENCE OF YOUR CLAIM. IT PROVIDE THE OVERALL PICTURE OF ALL SECTIONS. THE FONT SIZE IS 26 AND BOLD.</p>			
SECTION ONE COMPOSITION OF CLAIM			
SECTION TWO DD-214			
SECTION THREE ORDERS FOR MILITARY CITATIONS, PURPLE HEART, CID, BRONZE STAR W/V DEVICE..			
SECTION FOUR: INTRODUCTION TO LRP/RANGERS ORGANIZATION, TEAM COMPOSITION, TYPE MISSIONS.			
SECTION FIVE REMINDERS OF BROTHERS KILLED IN ACTION. READING TRIBUTE, ANNIVERSARY DATES, MEMORY.			
SECTION SIX BASIC SUMMARY OF LIFE BEFORE, DURING, AFTER VIETNAM			
SECTION SEVEN MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS WITH MEDICAL REPORTS FROM BY DOCTORS CIVILIAN AND VA.			
SECTION EIGHT MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES (IF NEEDED), DIVORCE PAPERS (IF NEEDED), BIRTH CERTIFICATES IF CLAIMING CHILDREN. (CONTINUE ON REVERSE)			
I CERTIFY THAT the statements on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.			
SIGNATURE		DATE SIGNED	
ADDRESS		TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Include Area Code)	
DA FORM 20 (DATES AND MILITARY UNITS SERVED WITH DURING SERVICE)		DAYTIME	EVENING
PENALTY: The law provides severe penalties which include fine or imprisonment, or both, for the willful submission of any statement or evidence of a material fact, knowing it to be false.			

VA FORM
JUN 2000



21-4138

EXISTING STOCKS OF VA FORM 21-4138,
APR 1994, WILL BE USED

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 Department of Veterans Affairs		STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM	
<p>PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION: The law authorizes us to request the information we are asking you to provide on this form (38 U.S.C. 501(a) and (b)). The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). They may be disclosed outside the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) only if the disclosure is authorized by the Privacy Act, including the routine uses identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22, Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records. VA, published in the Federal Register. The requested information is considered relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits under the law. Information submitted is subject to verification through computer matching programs with other agencies.</p> <p>RESPONDENT BURDEN: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Clearance Officer (723) 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20420; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (2900-0075), Washington, DC 20503. PLEASE DO NOT SEND THIS FORM OR APPLICATIONS FOR BENEFITS TO THESE ADDRESSES.</p>			
FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME - LAST NAME OF VETERAN (Type or print)		SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	VA FILE NO.
ROBERT E. SMYERS		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
The following statement is made in connection with a claim for benefits in the case of the above-named veteran:			
<h2>SECTION ONE</h2>			
<p>IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 18, 2002, WE ARE PROVIDING ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT MY SERVICE CONNECTED CLAIM FOR PTSD.</p> <p>1 - DD 214 (ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE)</p> <p>2 - ORDERS FOR MILITARY CITATIONS: BRONZE STAR WITH V (VALOR); C I B (COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE; COMBAT AIR MEDAL</p> <p>3 - STRESSORS (TOTAL SEVEN) PROVIDED IN NARRATIVE FORM A - SEVEN MISSIONS STRESSOR. B - TRIBUTE TO FALLEN COMRADES STRESSOR C - SUMMARY OF PRE AND POST VIETNAM EXPERIENCE STRESSOR.</p> <p>4 - VA MEDICAL RECORDS (DAILY PROGRESS NOTES) OAKLAND PARK VA OUTPATIENT CLINIC.</p> <p>5 - DA FORM 20 (DATES & MILITARY UNITS SERVED WITH IN MILITARY SERVICE.</p> <p>6 - COPIES OF MARRIAGE & DIVORCE DOCUMENTS OF ROBERT & WANDA SMYERS.</p> <p>THIS IS A COMPLETE CLAIM FOR PTSD, AND ADVISE THAT THEREIS NO ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE TO BE SUBMITTED. THEREFORE IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED, IF THE VA WOULD ADJUDICATE THIS CLAIM BASED ON ALL OF THE EVIDENCE SUBMITTED TO DATE.</p> <p>YOUR PROMPT ATTENTION, IN THE HANDLING OF THIS CLAIM WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.</p>			
<p>I CERTIFY THAT EXAMPLE OF FORM 21-4138.. USE TO OUTLINE CLAIM</p>			
SIGNATURE		DATE SIGNED	
		7-2-02	
5035 SW 34TH STREET		DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)	
DAVIE, FL 33314		(954) 587-6778	
<p>PENALTY: The law provides severe penalties which include fine or imprisonment, or both, for the willful submission of any statement or evidence of a material fact, knowing it to be false.</p>			
VA FORM 21-4138 OCT 1993		EXISTING STOCKS OF VA FORM 21-4138, APR 1992, WILL BE USED.	
*U.S. GPO: 1993-301-790/94805			

PTSD CLAIM PROCESS: Part two

By Bob Smeyers

SECTION FOUR

June 22, 2002

From: Robert Eugene Smyers

Subject: Statement In Support of Claim RA

HEALTH

Realizing the importance of your time in matters such as this, I humbly ask for a few minutes of that time to lay a foundation for what I am going to convey for your consideration of my claim.

I know not how much is known by you concerning the organization and missions assigned to the Long Range Patrol/Rangers. Thus I feel I need to give a brief introduction which will help understand the danger to life and the awesome stress it causes one.

LRP units were brought into existence near the end of 1966. There was a need for such a unit to penetrate deep into enemy held territory. This was to provide information to higher command to plan and execute successful operation.

Men of this type unit all had to be voluntary. The Army did not assign anyone directly. The unit members would be ask to go beyond what was ask of a regular infantryman. Life expectancy for a Lurp (generic word to describe LRP/Ranger) was short at best. Dangerous but yet men saw the need and answered the call.

Lurp teams were made up of two to six men and were inserted deep in enemy territory. Most of the time out of reach of any ground or mechanized forces. Team missions were normally for a five-day period. This however was dependent on team's ability not to be compromised. Once contact was made the team depended on four lifelines; their position and ability to overcome the enemy, the ability to communicate the situation to command, the support of Artillery, and air. Air normally consisted of helicopters designed for insertion and extraction of military forces. Some were assigned to be gun ships heavily armed for the purpose of support. Air support was hindered by weather conditions. This created a real dilemma for a team in contact with the enemy. They were left to their own skills to fight and evade the enemy until help could reach them. The weather had no affect on Artillery but it is almost if not impossible to direct their fire while on the run. Personal experience allows me to make this statement. Team members or at times, whole teams were lost. Loss of members or teams also happened on insertions into hot (under fire) landing zones. This was also true when being extracted from a firefight.

Lurps according to captured soldiers were feared. After the war Vietnamese Officers interviewed stated they feared the LRRP/Rangers more than any force in Vietnam.

The enemy knew more about the Lurps than did American forces, media, and the people back home. The North Vietnamese government put out rewards for any Lurp captured in the amounts of \$1000.00-\$2500.00. They also initiated special tracker teams to hunt us down, once they suspected a Lurp team in the area. In February 1969 the Lurp units were renamed Lrp/Rangers and merged into the 75th Ranger Regiment. Our lineage goes back to Merrill's Marauders. We are the sons of the Marauders. The Lrp/Rangers pulled some of the most dangerous missions in the history of the United States Army.

Thank you for your time spent reading the forgoing. With this having been shared I now will offer in as condensed form as possible, the ever-present memories from that war that have and continue to trouble me.

Smyers, Robert. Statement in Support of Claim

2Bde.LRRP/Rangers, 4th Infantry, Division Team call sign: Hotel2alfa

Number one

All missions pulled by Lurps were extremely dangerous by the mere definition though they may have been un-eventful Those missions I remember bits and pieces of but the ones I share in these statements are residual and constantly surfacing as tormenters of those days.

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HEALTH

NOTES

On this mission we were to seek out a large enemy force believed to be moving into the area. The normal routine in preparing and coordinating the team for the mission was carried out to include aerial recon of the area of operation (AO). Ready, the team boards the choppers for the insertion. Two ships called slicks one to carry the team, the other for emergency extraction if hot landing zone (LZ). The command ship is up above at 3000 feet guiding the pilots to the landing zone. Two gun ships one on each side for support and slipping at great speed across the jungle canopy. Then you feel the chopper begin to reduce speed and the warning comes to prepare to jump. Once over the landing zone they hover and out you go. When you hit the ground you do so with great force. Your body weight and equipment of 80-100 pounds and the height can be 10-12 feet with the chopper still moving.

The landing zone picked from the air seemed ideal but that deduction was to be proven incorrect. When we hit, our legs continued to go down up to our knees and my first thought was oh, hell, is this quick sand? Then I realized we were dropped in a swamp, which had not been recorded on the map. We could hardly move the mud was so deep. The chopper pilots seen our problem and stayed close until signal to get out. I spotted a piece of dry or at least solid ground and moved the team. Progress was slow. Choppers left and we recovered and looked for a way to go. In all directions the swamp was before us and we had no choice but to walk through it.

This was tiring and really scary. If we had to fight it would almost be impossible to survive.
[Continue the narrative in as many words as you need to communicate your feelings.]

SUGGESTIONS: During the claims process I became aware of the following and want to share the following with any of our members that need to file a claim.

DO'S AND DON'TS

DO'S

1. EXPECT TO WORK IF YOU WANT TO PRESENT A GOOD CLAIM.
2. NOT LET HASTE IN PREPARING CLAIM BE A HINDRANCE. DO IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME OR EXPECT DELAYS.
3. PLACE NAME, SOCIAL SECURITY, OR CLAIM NUMBER ON EACH SHEET OF INFORMATION YOU SUBMIT.
4. FILL IN ALL BLANKS AND HAVE REQUIRED RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS
5. KEEP A COPY OF EVERYTHING YOU SUBMIT AND THAT YOU RECEIVE.
6. SEND ALL INFORMATION ASK FOR BY VA VIA REGISTERED MAIL REGULAR MAIL HAS TO BE HANDLED TOO OFTEN RESULTING IN LOSS OR DELAY. IT GETS INTO THE RIGHT HANDS QUICKLY. CO-OPERATE WITH YOUR VSO. IF HE SEEMS TO BE SLACK, REQUEST ANOTHER. BUT DO STAY INVOLVED.

DON'TS

1. FALSIFY ANYTHING.
2. START CALLING VA ABOUT YOUR CLAIM UNTIL AMPLE TIME HAS ELAPSED. TRY GOING THROUGH VSO FOR PROGRESS REPORTS, ETC.
3. LOOSE YOUR TEMPER.
4. FORGET TO DO THE DO'S.
5. STAPLE ANYTHING TOGETHER.
6. USE VULGAR LANGUAGE.

SUGGESTED BOOK, WHICH GUIDES YOU THROUGH ALL PHASES OF PTSD CLAIM AND MORE AND WRITTEN BY A VIETNAM VET.

HOW TO ORDER BY MAIL OR INTERNET: INFINITY PUBLISHING COMPANY 519 WEST

HEALTH

LANCASTER AVE. HAVERFORD, PA 19041-1413.

EMAILINFO@BUYBOOKSONTHEWEB.COM/WWW.BUYBOOKSONTHEWEB.COM. CALL 877-BUY BOOK. IT COST ME \$27.00 W/POSTAGE AND HANDLING. IT MAY HAVE CHANGED.

FINALL Y I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT KNOWN THAT I AM IN NO WAY THE EXPERT ON FIL-ING A CLAIM. I OFFER NO GUARANTEE BUT IT WORKED FOR ME. OTHERS OUT THERE HAVING GONE THROUGH OR GOING THE SYSTEM ARE INVITED TO OFFER WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED. THIS CAN BE DONE BY SENDING IT TO 75thrra.org. WEBMASTER EMMETT HIL TI BRAND (FORMER PRESIDENT) MUST APPROVE ALL ARTICLES/INFORMATION BEFORE IT ENTERS THE SITE. GUEST BOOK IS OPEN FOR YOUR COMMENTS ALSO.

OUR BROTHERHOOD BIRTHED BY THE WAR IN VIETNAM, BROUGHT ABOIJT BROTHERS HELPING BROTHERS. STILL TODAY THIS IS WHAT IT IS ALL ABOIJT

BY BOB SMYERS
RLTW

Ed. Note: I want to thank Bob Smeyers for the courage and commitment that it took to write this article. It is very difficult to share what is a very personal and closely held experience. I am often humbled by the spirit of Brotherhood displayed by current and former LRRPS, LRPS and Rangers. Rangers Lead the Way!
John Chester

INFORMED CONSENT-A PATIENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW

(SUBMITTED BY Dan Nate, F CO. LRP)

It is your medical provider's responsibility to provide you with enough information about your treatment options for you to make an informed decision. Your healthcare provider must have a consent form signed by you that reflects that this process has occurred before performing any non-emergency procedure. Your right to the informed consent process continues throughout your illness.

While the formal informed consent process is common with procedures carried out in hospitals, clinics, and private practice offices, it is not common in other environments. In other situations, the responsibility of being informed falls on you, the consumer/patient. It is important that you ask questions and learn what you can before you move forward with any healthcare option.

The requirement for informed consent has several purposes. It outlines the healthcare provider's responsibility for explaining exactly:

- a...what treatment will be given.
- b...what the effects-both positive and negative-are likely to be.
- c...why the treatment is being given or the procedure is being done.
- d...what the expected outcome is, with and without the treatment/procedure.
- e...what your alternatives are to receiving the treatment or procedure.

By signing the consent form, you are saying that you understand the reasons for the proposed treatment or procedure and that you give your consent to proceed with same. Take the time to read the form carefully. If there is anything you do not understand or do not agree with, ask questions until you understand everything completely. If you don't agree with something on the form, discuss the changes you wish to make with your healthcare provider. Along with your other rights, you have the right to refuse treatment.

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PATIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS

(submitted by Dan Nate, F CO. LRP)

The movement toward patient empowerment was started in the early '70's, when the American Hospital Association developed the following Patient's Bill of Rights. This Bill of Rights has become standard for the ENTIRE healthcare industry. You may find it helpful to keep these rights in mind throughout your experience with your treatments and procedures.

- 1...The patient has a right to considerate and respectful care.
- 2...The patient has a right to obtain from his or her physician complete current information about his or her diagnosis.
- 3...The patient has a right to obtain from his or her physician information necessary to give informed consent prior to the start of a procedure and/or treatment.
- 4...The patient has the right to refuse treatment to the extent permitted by law.
- 5...The patient has a right to every consideration of his or her privacy concerning his or her own medical care program.
- 6...The patient has a right to expect that all communications and records pertaining to his or her care should be treated as confidential.
- 7...The patient has a right to expect that, within it's capacity, a hospital must make a reasonable response to the request for patient services.
- 8...The patient has a right to obtain information as to any relationship of his or her hospital to any other healthcare and educational institutions insofar as his or her care is concerned.
- 9...The patient has a right to be advised if the hospital proposes to engage in human experimentation affecting his or her care and the right to refuse to participate in such research projects.
- 10..The patient has the right to expect reasonable continuity of care.
- 11..The patient has the right to examine and receive an explanation of his or her bill regardless of the source of payment.
- 12..The patient has the right to know what hospital rules and regulations apply to his or her conduct as a patient.

IF I were you, and you are dealing with a large healthcare entity that insists upon allowing trainees/interns and "others" to sit in on your discussions, to include mental health appointments, despite your discomfort and against your wishes, I would copy, carry and produce this very list to said physician. You do NOT have to put up with this sort of invasion of privacy, nor can they threaten you or decide against your wishes. These are YOUR RIGHTS AS A PATIENT...ENFORCE THEM IF YOU MUST !!!

DON'T DISPAIR; DEPRESSION IS VERY TREATABLE TODAY

(SUBMITTED BY Dan Nate, F CO. LRP)

The most common psychological problem today is depression, which, in itself, is depressing. But every cloud does have a silver lining: depression is the most treatable of mental illnesses.

What is depression? You are tired, you lack energy, you feel empty inside, sad all the time you feel anxious, you gain weight-or lose weight-when you shouldn't. You don't sleep well, cry a lot,

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and have aches and pains that last and last. It's hard to concentrate, to remember things, or to make decisions. You feel guilty, helpless, worth-less. You are irritable. And you harbor dark thoughts of death or suicide. You don't know why. You don't know what's wrong, or even when it began.

The awful thing is that none of us is immune to having one or more of those symptoms now and then. It's like the bumper sticker says: "If you are always happy, you don't understand the situation."

Too many symptoms for too long can point to a serious problem. Being down in the dumps for a long time is not considered to be a normal part of growing older. Such a person needs competent help, but not every doctor can give it or spot it.

When you are depressed, existing health conditions get worse. Confusion or attention problems caused by depression can mimic Alzheimer's disease or other disorders of the brain. High blood pressure and heart disease can also cause mood changes.

Some illnesses create depression by changing the chemical balance in the brain. In past issues I have written about how depression can arise from a lack of the chemical reaction we fed off of...acute adrenalin. We lived it, ate it and loved it, then were cut off from it. This is when the chemical imbalance begins to show. You no longer stimulate the brain's sending of the chemical we craved...serotonin, and as it's level falls off, we fall into depression.

In addition, hormonal disorders, hypothyroid disease, stroke, brain tumors, some cancers-in fact any disease that produces fear, chronic pain, disability, dependence and social isolation can produce or worsen depression.

For depressed people who live alone, feelings of despair or loneliness can change briefly when someone stops by or calls to say hello, but you can spot depression when visiting friends or relatives. If that person complains about being down, or that no one cares, he or she might be crying out for help. Ditto if that person has always taken pride in the way he or she looks and suddenly seems not to care any more.

A National Institute study says 60% to 80% of depressed people can be treated successfully OUTSIDE of a hospital with psychotherapy alone or with drugs. Anti-depressants have been around since the late 50's. The original imipramine and then amitriptyline were the pace setters, and many new antidepressants have come along making great headway over what was once just a marginal improvement. The key is recognizing the symptoms, assessing your feelings, and convincing your doctor that "something is wrong".

So called "talk therapies" are useful and some last only three to five months. One method helps patients recognize and change negative thinking patterns that have led to the depression. Another focuses on improving a patient's relationships with people as a way to reduce depression and feelings of despair. The most used, and successful, treatment primarily involves drugs. The choice of medication often rests on which drug produces the fewest side effects. This choice can only be made through your doctor, once you have admitted to yourself that (1) something's not right, and (2) I want to feel better.

Depression is a real illness and it does no good to tell the patient to "snap out of it", say the medical experts. It's a mistake to think you had it too long, or are too old to be helped; just admitting it is the first step toward one's recovery process. And if your doctor dismisses your concerns, insist that they be taken seriously, and immediately, before your symptoms become worse. And do

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NOT expect psychotherapy drugs such as Zoloft and others to begin to change your symptoms immediately, as they take months to enter and begin the repair to your system's problem. Give them some time to work. Continue your prescribed therapies, and be honest with your doctor. These drugs come in different dosages like any other drug, and you need to stay on yours consistently so that your doctor may note the difference in your feelings as you relate them, and increase or decrease as needed, or even change the type of drug prescription accordingly.

But the first step is up to you...you know yourself...and when you are not yourself, others notice. If you ignore your symptoms, they too will notice that, and thus begins the downslide into further and deeper depression. Don't wait, and don't quit.

HIGH BLOOD SUGAR LINKED TO MEMORY LOSS

(Submitted by Dan Nate, F CO. LRP)

Scientists have found another good reason to slim down: the high blood sugar so common among the overweight may contribute to the fogged memory of "the elder years." (CRS ?)

A recent study showed that middle-aged and elderly people with high blood sugar actually had a smaller hippocampus, the brain region so crucial for retaining recent memory. The good news is that if the findings are confirmed, simple diet and exercise could help many people protect their brains, and will benefit most diabetic patients.

"That's a great motivator to stay off the calories AND stay off the couch," says Dr. Antonio Convit of New York University.

Blood sugar was a natural suspect because scientists have long known that diabetics are at higher-than-normal risk for memory problems. Diabetes harms blood vessels that supply the brain, heart and other organs. The new study found that people's memory may be harmed long before they ever develop full-fledged diabetes-and that it's a problem of fuel, not plumbing.

Unlike most other tissues that have multiple fuel sources, the brain depends on blood sugar (glucose) for almost all of its energy. The longer the glucose stays in the bloodstream instead of being metabolized into the body tissues, the less fuel the brain has to store memories. Once that metabolism reaches certain levels, it becomes a condition called impaired glucose tolerance, or pre-diabetes. It strikes mostly in middle-age, although people of any age who are overweight and sedentary are at risk. Without treatment, pre-diabetes usually turns into full-fledged diabetes, which in turn brings deadly heart attacks, kidney failure and numerous other ailments.

So to lower the chances of suffering further CRS, get off the couch, and drop a few pounds by watching your caloric intake, and do exercise, as simple as walking 30 minutes per day. You do not need to count miles, but minutes, and you needn't do all of your exercise at one time. Walking 30 minutes in the morning, then again in the evening will double your exercise output-and protect your precious brain.

Meanwhile, the diabetes association already recommends pre-diabetes testing for everyone 45 or older, and for younger people who are significantly overweight and have one other risk factor: i.e., a diabetic relative; bad cholesterol; high blood pressure; diabetes during pregnancy; birth to a baby bigger than 9 pounds; or belonging to a racial minority.

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OPERATION FREEDOM BIRD

(Experienced by and submitted by Dan Nate, F co. LRP)

"America, America, God shed His grace on thee..." Thus began my odyssey with one of the "most together", finest organized group of veterans I have ever had to good fortune to spend time with since my return from the 'nam and F company. It all started with a phone call from Joe Little, our unit director, and resident target...he has more holes in him than Swiss cheese!! He called and asked if I'd like to join him and a few friends from Arizona, as they were "coming east" to visit "THE WALL", as our nation's Vietnam War Memorial is most often termed by vets. The government doesn't like it, but eh! who asked then, right? And it's OUR WALL, right? Anyway, what Joe failed to mention was that an entire airplane load of "first time ever" WALL visitors, all Vietnam Veterans were his traveling companions, and what a crew. "Birdie" Murillo, an ex-199th'er, from Phoenix, and a "real trip"; Juan "Tony" Tercero, a former 101st'er out of Peoria; Mike Thomas, a former 75th ranger, out of Parker. The list goes on and on. And the weight of their accumulated awards (including those of the staff members) would sink the Battleship, New Jersey.

OPERATION FREEDOM BIRD was begun fifteen (15) years ago, as an annual trip to provide veterans with a unique opportunity to share their wartime experiences and confront their feelings at THE WALL, while paying tribute to their fallen comrades. Arizona Vet Center counselors select all participating veterans from their roles of those veterans seeking counseling and nurturing from the Vet Centers.

This annual trip was initiated in 1988 at the suggestion of America West Airlines pilot, Captain Pat Lynch. Lynch had completed his Vietnam tour of duty with the U.S. Army's 158th Aviation Battalion, 101st Airborne Division in 1969. Heavily decorated for his actions (Silver Star, Bronze Star, Air Medal w/"V"), he had first hand knowledge of the 'nam, and what it could do to a man; any man. Nearly two (2) decades later, as a pilot with America West, he sought a means of reaching out to his fellow veterans. Lynch conceived of the idea of the Freedom Bird, named in honor of the Freedom Bird flights that transported members of the service back to the United States at the end of their Vietnam Tour.... at least "the lucky ones", or so he thought. Lynch took his idea to America West who gave the program their complete support, completely funding the trips for ten (10) years.

The first Freedom Bird flight took off in November 1988. During its first two (2) years, the group was composed strictly of veterans from Phoenix, AZ. In 1990, their Las Vegas counterparts joined Phoenix veterans. Phoenix, Las Vegas and Albuquerque, NM vets made the trip in 1991. In 1992, which marked the 10th anniversary of The Vietnam War Memorial, the program included vets from Phoenix, Albuquerque and Columbus, OH. In conjunction with the dedication of the Vietnam Women's Memorial in 1993, the group included participation by women vets from San Francisco. In 1994, the program hosted vets from Tucson and San Diego. Since it's inception, 750 Veterans have participated in this therapeutic program.

In 1998, Operation Freedom Bird began it's first year as a separate organization funded by private contributions with the sponsorship of the Home of the Brave Foundation, a non-profit foundation dedicated to education regarding the Vietnam experience. Trish Kinney, daughter of a Vietnam Veteran, founded the Home of the Brave Foundation. Under the current structure, all veterans are now from Arizona. This year, Phoenix, Tucson, and Prescott Vet centers and outreach stations on the reservation selected the participating veterans.

Since Pat Lynch has resigned from Operation Freedom Bird, it is now under new stewardship, and has become a non-profit organization that works to coordinate and obtain support, sponsorship, and raise the funding necessary to cover all expenses. Because of the generous contributions and efforts of many in their community, the Phoenix-based Freedom Bird tradition continues.

The Phoenix Vet Center plays an important role in selecting appropriate clients to make the journey on Veterans Day to visit THE WALL. The veterans selected have been receiving on-going treatment for psychological and Post Trauma Stress Disorder caused by their service in Vietnam. Those selected are prepared emo-

tionally and psychologically to make the trip. The clinical staffs of the Vet Centers are responsible for preparing the participants for it's impact through individual and group counseling. Representatives of the Vet Center join the veterans on each trip to provide counseling and emotional support and leadership.

"It began as a chance to help the vets from Arizona to come to THE WALL; to make peace with themselves, and with THE WALL, and the healing process that comes to help them get rid of the Demons that they have inside themselves-to leave them-at THE WALL." Ken Benckwitz, USMC, 1st RECON, CO.A, RVN, 1969 and present head of the Phoenix Vet centers pronounces..."then to return home to Arizona with a better outlook of themselves and to be able to better deal with their lives, their wives, their families."

Worthwhile and liberating for some, it is shocking and fearsome for many others; they all have personal concerns, and thus are encouraged to go. The first visitation of THE WALL is at night, after the dinner hour. To anyone who has made this pilgrimage, you know the strange, eerie silence that lends to the beauty and bizarreness of the mall during the night. Some of these first timer visitors look forward to the encounter, as they anticipate fun and adventure, a chance to see and meet old friends. Others see it as a chance to meet old friends on THE WALL - to bring an end to problems that have plagued them for 34 years. Some don't know what to expect. Honored to go, but still unsure and nervous. Many can't attend - can't face it - despite invitations and proffered hands - can't face the truth, the names again, the fear of the unknown on their faces, and in their eyes. But eventually the air of prevailing anticipation, of let's do it, wins out and the assembled groups slowly, ever so cautiously make their way down the well worn path.

The next day, their first spent in DC, is spent at THE WALL. The darkness of last night has set the tone for today. Blue skies, sunshine and each other, together. Emotions and personal stories begin to be voiced and heard. For many, this is the first time they have opened up since the war. It continues to build all day, as does the self-healing; tears and trembling hands give way to more stories, letter rubbing, and eventually, photos. A new sense of confidence takes the place of the original fear and in trepidation as they get stronger and braver again - instant order - they begin to feel honor for themselves and their cause. The entire while the Vet center's staff, all decorated veterans, is there to back them up should they need the comfort and care of counseling.

The day of discovery gives way to the night, and what gathering of veterans would be without a dinner, and with dinner come guests. And man, what a lineup these Arizonians Put together. Good food, and better guests Hal Moore, hero of the Ia Drang Valley, and co-author of the book "WE WERE SOLDIERS ONCE ...AND YOUNG". The highly decorated Lt. General, an expert commander, parachute pioneer, himself a helicopter pilot and great speaker, has returned to Vietnam seven (7) times since 1990 and met with the commanders who opposed him in battle and walked the battlefield with them. His lovely wife, Julie, also an expert speaker - a natural, accompanied him. Their ever-present friend and companion of many years, Mr. Joe Galloway, followed the Moores. Besides being the other co-author of the New York Times bestseller, his credentials are as imposing as the Generals. Twenty-two years as a foreign war correspondent, he has covered everything since Japan-Vietnam, Indonesia, Singapore. He pulled four (4) tours in 'nam as a war correspondent, as is known for having traded his camera for an M-16 on many an occasion. From Refugio, Texas, Joe now serves as special consultant for Knight Ridder Newspapers.

We heard from Linda Caldwell, a former US Army nurse, herself a highly decorated Vietnam veteran, having served in the Qui Nhon region. Very active in Veterans causes, she has worked with, and chaired committees with and for NJ and two (2) governors, Keane and Whitman, and now is the Director for Patient Care for Schering-Oncology/Biotech, also in NJ.

There was Bonnie Carroll, Deputy White House Liaison for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in Washington, DC, coordinating between the White House and the V.A. Also an active Major in the Air Force Reserve, her husband was Vietnam Veteran Brigadier General Tom Carroll, KIA in an Army C-12 crash in 1990. But her credentials, like all the others, are just too plentiful to attempt to cover in this publication.

Dr. Alfonso R. Bates, Ph.D., Chief Officer of Readjusting Counseling Service, Dept. of Veterans Affairs. His father, and his son, both American Veterans. And there was Charlotte R. Moreland, Committee Staff

Special Projects Director for Senator Rockefeller, and another more-than-just-active veterans rights advocate in her own right. And Dr. Artie L. Sheldon, a Colonel in the US Army, and serving as a VA Consultant, perhaps the most decorous of the entire field of guests. These people, these kind, caring people can FILL A ROOM LIKE NO ONE ELSE! I want these same speakers on my side if I ever have to plan a dinner. How could you lose?

The next day is again spent at the National Malls, and at THE WALL, following a great VIP visitation at a ceremony held in Arlington National Cemetery. Escorts direct us to chairs set up facing the dais in the amphitheater of THE WALL, and all members of this group adorn themselves with the official baseball cap for the occasion, emblazoned with OPERATION FREEDOM BIRD upon the front. Speakers like John Kerry, and Jan Scruggs, Esq., singing groups and Color Guards of every possible kind and this group of "now seasoned" post-war veterans are seated "right there, Man", "like right in front of them. You should have seen it!" Soon the closing ceremony arrives, and I notice a few of the baseball caps have been exchanged for berets and even one (1) Mexican hat, beautifully molded, but having to weigh at least 10 pounds. They are marking their territory, these brave soldiers. They are showing the world that Arizona was here. We were here. I have been here. I have come Home! I am whole again!

Sadly, some of the group begins to feel like it's all over too soon. But they still have tonight to shoot the breeze, and believe me when I tell you that these unsuspecting veterans have NO IDEA what awaits them back in the halls of the airport in Phoenix. You don't think these gracious people are going to just let these heroes of theirs just walk away, do you? Nah, by now your gotta know better than that. These people do it up right. These people care. And it shows, again and again, every Veterans Day.

God Bless you all, my brothers, and thanks for letting me tag along for a while. Rest.

RUSSIAN MILITARY ARCHIVES REVEAL INFORMATION ABOUT 51 U.S. PILOTS CAPTURES IN VIETNAM. ASSOCIATED PRESS

(submitted by F co. LRP's Dan Nate)

Moscow, Mon. Feb. 17, 2003... Russian military archives have yielded information about 51 U.S. pilots captured in Vietnam during the war, the Russian lawmaker who heads a joint U.S.-Russian panel probing the fate of prisoners of war said Monday.

Seven pilots have been identified, said Nikolai Bezborodov, deputy chief of the parliamentary defense affairs committee and co-chair of the U.S.-Russian panel on POWs, according to Interfax-Military News Agency.

"The fate of 19 more servicemen can be determined by the Americans on the basis of the lists presented to them," Bezborodov was quoted as saying.

He said the archives dealt with 38 incidents involving 51 captured Americans. In all, 1889 Americans are still missing in Vietnam and nearby countries.

The panel looked through Russian military archives for possible clues about what happened to the Americans. The Commission also studied reports and notes on Soviet military aid to Vietnam and combat reports about Vietnamese air defense and Air Force operations.

Last week, Bezborodov complained that the probe was being hampered because Russian military archives remained largely classified. But he voiced hope that the search would become easier as the military archives from the Vietnam War are expected to become declassified this year, 30 years after the War's end.

Earlier, Bezborodov said that while the panel had found information about 5 cases of Soviet intelligence offices questioning American POWs in Vietnam, no evidence was found that any Americans were transferred to the Soviet Union.

The U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on POW/MIAs was set-up in 1992 to determine the fate of missing servicemen from the Cold War foes. The main focus has been on the Korean War, as Moscow and North Korea had close ties. But the Commission has looked at the Vietnam War and investigated the fate of Soviet troops missing in Afghanistan.

(ref: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/international/AP-Russia-US-POWS.html>)

RANGER HALL OF FAME

This was a bumper year for Ranger Hall Of Fame nominations from the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. The first year I was President of this Association, we had only one submission. We submitted it and he was nominated into the RHOF. The Unit Directors and I worked on this problem and in the second year of my term we submitted 4 packets. We can only submit three from the Association but one of them was a Medal Of Honor recipient and it did not count against our three, so all four were submitted. Three of the four were nominated which is still good odds. This year we received 6 packets. We can only submit three packets from the Association, so I convened a board of prior RHOF inductee's and along with a helpful grading sheet they presented me with an order of merit for those six packets. The Association will submit the top three the in-house Association board picked. The RHOF Executive Board changed the Bylaws for the RHOF last year and now prior inductee's can submit without having to go through any Association. I communicated with the submitters of the packets not selected by our in-house board and they have found prior inductee's to submit the other packets. This years submissions from the Association are Mark Toschik of E/75, Vladamir Jakovenko of N/75 and James D. James of H/75. Also received but are now being submitted through other means are Jim Bell of K/75, Andy Markivich of BDQ and Walter Sanders of BDQ.

It pleases me to no end that we are finally honoring our hero's. I would be more pleased if we received 23 packets next year. I say 23 because there are 23 units in this Association. Each and every unit should be submitting someone within their ranks. If you haven't or are not planning to, then I say there is a disconnect at the top leadership level. I'm not slamming anyone. Some guys are really great mud bunnies but can't write to save their lives. OK, I understand. After I get this current year's board done I plan on setting up an easy to use and understand downloadable sample packet on the web site. It will give examples and walk you through the whole process of developing a packet. Then there will be no excuse to not submit your unit's heroes. By hero's I mean the man who went a step farther. Who did more than what was required of him. Who placed his life in peril so others may be safe. Who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that others may live. You know of the guys I speak. You were there. You saw it. Now is the time for you to show your appreciation. I personally have heard recounts of some incredible acts of heroism that have not been rewarded yet.

Start now. It is not an easy process and takes time. There are a lot of items that must be gathered to reinforce the packet to make it a winner. I am willing to help as are others who I've seen construct good packets. Start now; do not procrastinate till the last minute. Start now. In closing, again, congratulations to those who constructed this years packets. They look great. Start now goes to the rest of you guys. I'll keep you updated with the selection results.

Emmett W. Hiltibrand

Dan Nate submitted this photo of Denny Callahan, F co. LRP, 1968-1969, on his 2-2 team. "When I left F Co. for E Co. 2nd of the 12th Inf., 25th Inf. Div., C.R.I.P. platoon, he also 10-49'd to follow me, as did two other good friends, Warren Nucum and Ed Jones. We saw more action in CRIP than we ever saw before, from the minute we left the Cu Chi gates, drove west on Hwy.1 and into Trang Bang, where we were housed in MAC-V's french fort. Trang Bang was one hot area, being exactly on the riverbank, and with the Hobo and Boi Loi Woods just north of us."



By: John Chester

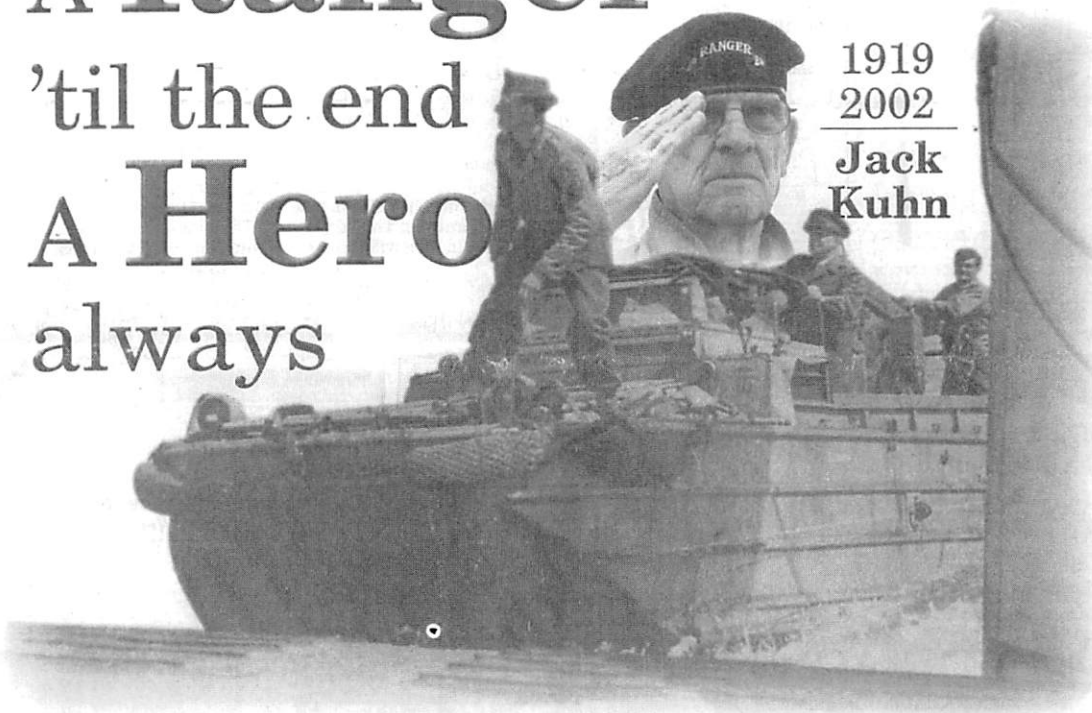
Some folk live out their lives without meeting anyone larger than life, a hero in every sense of the word. I don't mean the football type hero or poor guy who goes to work and gets blown up; I mean a hero in every sense of the word, a man or woman who is willing to risk it all for what they believe in and what is valuable to them. I had the privilege of meeting one such man, Jack Kuhn.

Jack Kuhn was a member of the Second Ranger Battalion, the Battalion that stormed the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944 and climbed the heights of Pont du Hoc in search of a battery of German 155 MM guns, weapons that would wreak havoc on the invaders and their ships. Despite the fearful casualties the Battalion suffered, they gained the top, only to find that the guns were not where they were supposed to be. Jack Kuhn and another Ranger, Len Lomell left the security of their hastily fortified perimeter in search of the guns. They followed a road that led inland and, after several contacts with German soldiers, discovered that the guns had been moved. They placed the charges that they had on the guns, but had insufficient explosives to destroy all the guns. They retraced their steps, secured sufficient demolitions to do the job, and returned to the guns and completed their mission.

Had it not been for the courage and persistence of these two men, the mission of the entire battalion would have been compromised; all the sacrifice and casualties for naught. As in many human endeavors, much can depend on only a few. Jack Kuhn was not a man who would let his unit or his friends down. He took seriously what he had sworn to protect. After the war, Jack joined the Altoona, Pennsylvania police department. He rose through the ranks and retired as the Chief of Police.

A Ranger 'til the end A Hero always

1919
2002
**Jack
Kuhn**



After he retired as Chief of Police in 1976, Jack was persuaded to address history classes at local area schools. What better teacher of history than a man that had made it? He was reluctant to talk of his time in the Rangers, and was persuaded only because of the positive impact his talks had on the students. I met Jack Kuhn when he was giving an Armed Forces Day talk at the Blair County Historical Society. My wife grew up in Altoona, and her father saw the notice in the local newspaper. After his talk we briefly spoke of our experiences as Rangers in different wars. We discovered many similarities and we both remarked on the brotherhood that we shared among the men with whom we were in combat. I gave him a few copies of *Patrolling*.

Jack Kuhn, a member of the Ranger Hall of Fame, died the first week of December, 2002. I did not see him after that initial meeting. That is my loss. He will be buried, as he requested, with his police chief hat and Ranger Beret. After making his request during his final hour at Altoona Hospital, Kuhn fought hard for his final words, "Ranger forever". Indeed. MAY GOD GRANT THIS RANGER THE PEACE OF ONE WHO HAS SERVED HIS COUNTRY FAITHFULLY AND WELL.

Christmas / Family Fund

The 2002 Christmas / Family Fund drive was a much greater success than I had thought possible. In 2001 during the aftermath of "911" we had several major corporate contributors that boosted our totals. Without those I thought we would have a considerable lower total. To my surprise almost the same amount was contributed but this time by twice the number of individuals!

Through the generosity of the contributors listed in at the end of this column \$2,500 was sent to each Battalion the 1st week of December. I received several Battalion & Company letters of appreciation thanking the association and telling of how the funds were used. Among these were; providing presents for the children at unit Christmas parties, First Sergeants providing names of families that needed help and providing them with gift certificates. One battalion had a couple of their Rangers kids in the base hospital children's ward. It was rather dreary place with only a TV for entertainment, so they used some of the funds to buy a VCR and a bunch of children's movies for the ward. We also provided extra funds for Thanksgiving and Christmas Turkeys for some units to hand out. From the responses I received I believe that your donations reached all the way to company level and to the children and Ranger families for which it was intended. These are a couple of excerpts from the letters I received;

"Your financial support of our 2002 Christmas party ensured a first class event for the Rangers and their families. Additionally, some of your contribution was used to help 20 of our younger Rangers with extraordinary circumstances provide a special Christmas morning for their young children"

From another:

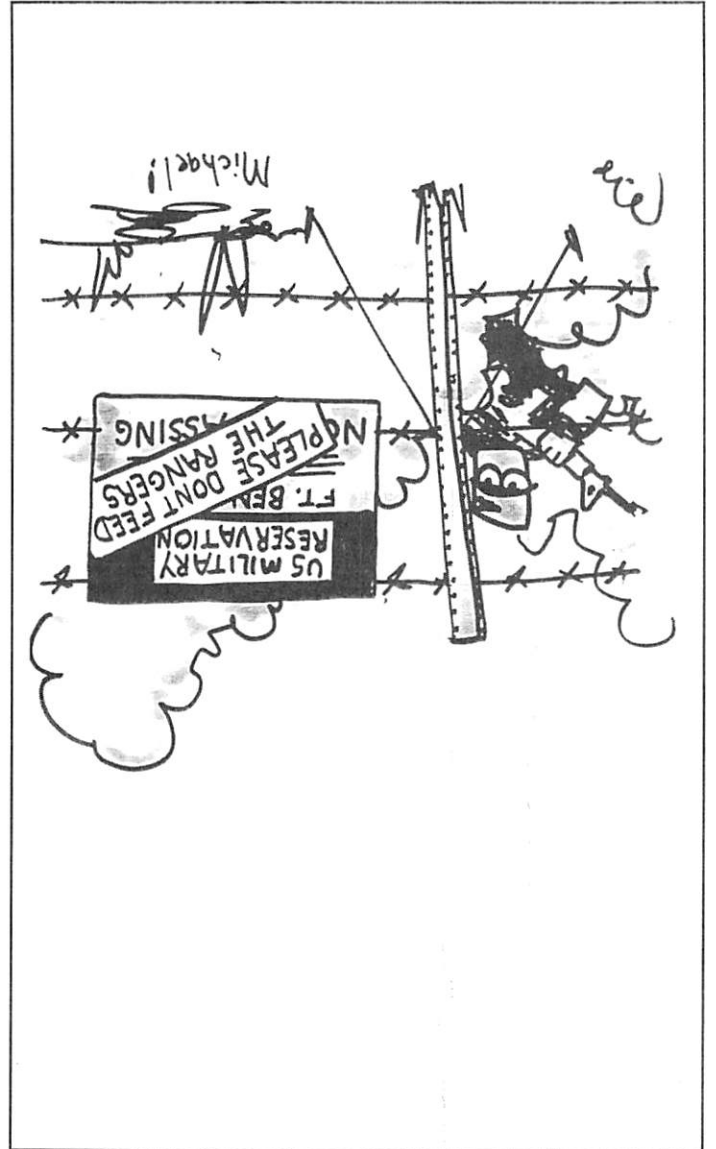
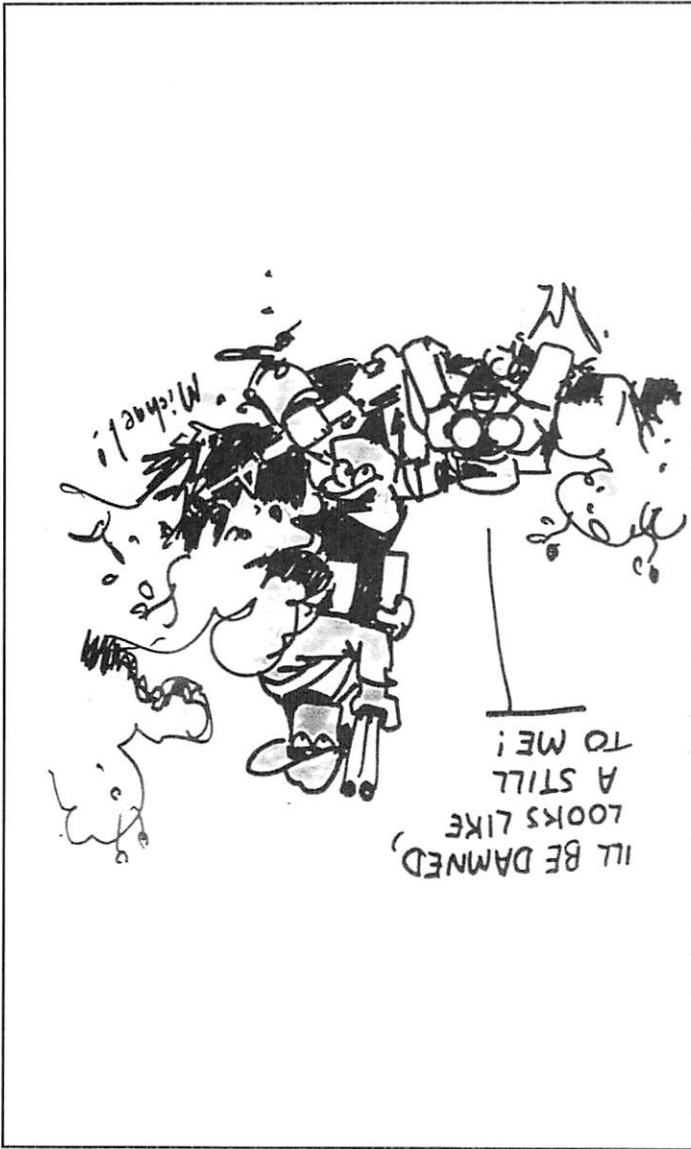
"I personally appreciate the consistent support that the RGT receives from our veterans. You of all people truly understand the sacrifices Rangers make and the burden their families bear. Your faithful encouragement and interest means a great deal to the current Ranger chain of command at all levels. We strive to maintain the prestige and honor that you established as the Ranger standard."

4TH INF DIVISION ASSOC	4TH INF DIV	J.W. BOLES	
9TH ID LRP ASSOC		ALAN D. BOOTH	9TH INF DIV
ACES A/C SUPPLY	friend of 101st	DONALD D. BOOTH	9TH INF DIV
ROY A. AGUERO	101ST ABN DIV	HANK J. BOURG	9TH INF DIV
HENRY L. ALDERSON	4TH INF DIV	CHARLES D. BOURNE	1ST FFV
RICHARD W. ALDRIDGE	173RD ABN BDE	JOHN F. BRASHEARS	4TH INF DIV
GEORGE ALGEO	3RD INF DIV	MICHAEL BRECHTEL	25TH INF DIV
PETER E. ALVAREZ	B/75	THOMAS L. BRIZENDINE	V CORPS
MICHAEL ANDERSON		MITCHELL L. BROWN	5TH MECH
DONALD F. ANDREWS	9TH INF DIV	ROGER B BROWN	RANGER RGT
ANONYMOUS	9TH INF DIV	WILLIAM A. BROWN	9TH INF DIV
ROBBIE BALLARD	1ST INF DIV	GARY L. BUSSELL	INDIANA N.G.
ROY E. BARLEY	9TH INF DIV	MICHAEL J. CALOG	9TH INF DIV
GARY D. BECKHAM	9TH INF DIV	ROBERT E.CAMP	25TH INF DIV
GILBERT M. BERG	RANGER RGT	DONALD R. CARNAHAN	II FFV
JOHN HENRY BERG	9TH INF DIV	DAVID D. CHAISSON	173RD ABN BDE
MEL T. BERNARD	25TH INF DIV	CHARLES CHEEK	9TH INF DIV
DANIEL S. BIEN	9TH INF DIV	JOHN W. CHESTER	4TH INF DIV
RONALD H. BISHOP	V CORPS	WILLIAM CHRISTIANSEN	
TERRY W BISHOP	5TH MECH	SAMUEL G. CLARK	FT. RUCKER
ROY H. BISSEY	V CORPS	DWIGHT CLEMENTS	II FFV
DARIN W. BISTODEAU	RANGER RGT	RICHARD A COLLIER	23RD INF DIV
THOMAS R BLANDFORD	INDIANA N.G.	CHRIS COMPERCHIO	101ST friend
JAMES BLANKENSHIP	9TH INF DIV	SEAN R. COOK	RANGER RGT
DAVID W. BOILARD	25TH INF DIV	ROBERT S. COPELAND	9TH INF DIV

(Continued from page 39)

PATROLLING – SPRING 2003

CHRIS A. COY	RANGER RGT	CHARLES KURLA	4TH INF DIV
PHILIP G. CRAVENS	INDIANA N.G.	DENNIS R. LASTINE	9TH INF DIV
In Memory of Currie Stetson	9TH INF DIV	LAZAR K. LAZAROV	1ST FFV
RONALD K. DAHLE	V CORPS	KEVIN W. LEE	RANGER RGT
JOHN S. DANIEL, JR.	BDQ	DAVID L. LONG	9TH INF DIV
DONALD M. DAVIS	25TH INF DIV	CLINTON L. LOUNSBURY	25TH INF DIV
RAYMOND P. DAVIS JR.	4TH INF DIV	CHARLES LUCZYNSKI	82ND ABN
ROBERT W. DEARING	101ST ABN DIV	KURTIS R. LUKEN S	SPECIAL FORCES
BARB DELANEY	9TH INF DIV	JAY P. LUTZ	5TH MECH
DALE E. DINWIDDIE	9TH INF DIV	KRISTEN (dau of Jay)LUTZ	5TH MECH
MYLES C. DOWNEY	25TH INF DIV	KATHRYN & CHRIS	
WALLACE DOWNEY & family Publishing 187th		LUTZ & PELHAM	5TH MECH
PATRICK H. DOWNING	82ND ABN	MARK BRANDER / MARGIE LEAR	
JOSEPH B. EACHUS	9TH INF DIV	JIM MARSHALL	RANGER RGT
RICHARD EDGELL	INDIANA N.G.	MICHAEL D. MARTENS	25TH INF DIV
RICHARD S. EHRLER	9TH INF DIV	C.G. MATSUDA	9TH INF DIV
GLENN S. ELSBERRY	101ST ABN DIV	ROBERT E. MAUSHARDT	9TH INF DIV
GENE W. ERICKSON	1ST FFV	DOUGLAS MCCABE	BDQ
GEORGE EVANGELISTA	1ST FFV	MIKE McCLINTOCK	3RD INF DIV
RICHARD EWALD	25TH INF DIV	SIDNEY E. McDANIEL	1ST FFV
BENJAMIN FAJARDO	9TH INF DIV	WILLIAM M. McDANIEL	RANGER RGT
LEE FARLEY	V CORPS	DANA P. McGRATH	4TH INF DIV
KARL FEE	BDQ	THOMAS W. MCMAHON	1ST INF DIV
PAUL(bro of Karl) FEE	BDQ	GERALD F. McMULLAN	
DON L. FERRARO	9TH INF DIV	LARRY C. McNEAL	BDQ
PAUL B. FITZSIMONS	9TH INF DIV	DONALD J. MEDD	199TH INF BDE
LAWRENCE FLANAGAN	4TH INF DIV	JOSE MENDOZA	101ST ABN DIV
WELCH FOODS, INC	BDQ	ALMO M. MERCIER	BDQ
GREGORY A. FOREMAN	9TH INF DIV	MICKY'S BAR & GRILL	RENO, NV
DEWAYNE FORTUNE family	5TH MECH	ROBERT E. MILLER	VII CORPS
EDWARD T. FRIEL		CARL E. MILLINDER JR	173RD ABN BDE
JOHN F. FRITZINGER	23RD INF DIV	MICHAEL MONFROOE	101ST ABN DIV
GREGG F. GAIN	5TH MECH	JERRY R. MOORADIAN	9TH INF DIV
JAMES GLAZE	9TH INF DIV	EDGAR MORALES	VII CORPS
KAREN GLEN (dau of J. Lutz)	5TH MECH	EDWARD P. MUSCHONG	5TH MECH
JAMES P. JR GODBOLT	9TH INF DIV	ROY D. NELSON	9TH INF DIV
EVERETT GRADY	V CORPS	DAVID A. NETHKEN	RANGER RGT
ROBERT M. GREENE	II FFV	JOSEPH H. NEWBY	9TH INF DIV
GLYNN J HALL JR	4TH INF DIV	ANTHONY J. NEWTON	RANGER RGT
RALPH D. HARTER	9TH INF DIV	PETER C. OSTASEWSKI	RANGER RGT
WILLIAM W. HAUSNER	RANGER RGT	SONNY JOE O'STEEN	V CORPS
WILLIAM F. HAYES	INDIANA N.G.	CARL J. OSTROM	101ST ABN DIV
EMMETT W. HILTIBRAND	25TH INF DIV	ASTOR PAGAN	9TH INF DIV
GARY C. HOLLENBECK	9TH INF DIV	S.J."Peter" PARKER	RANGER RGT
KEVIN R. INGRAHAM	RANGER RGT	JAMES A. PFAFF	RANGER RGT
BOBBY J. JACKSON	BDQ	DANNY C. PHILLIPS	9TH INF DIV
DOUGLAS C. JACKSON	V CORPS	PHILLIP PONSERELLA	9TH INF DIV
HILAN JONES	9TH INF DIV	GREG POORMAN	173RD ABN BDE
THOMAS A. JONES	4TH INF DIV	STEVE PRINTZ	5TH INF DIV
KAISER, MITSCH & ASSOC.	4TH INF DIV	LARRY J. PUTMAN	25TH INF DIV
CLEVE KENDALL	V CORPS	MATTHEW J. REILLY	RANGER RGT
JOHN J. KINGETER	II FFV	WAYNE F. RHODES	1ST FFV
TARREN KINGSLEY	RANGER RGT	WILLIAM G. RUDGE	9TH INF DIV
JAMES P. KINNEY	RANGER RGT	ROBERT T. SAMUEL III	RANGER RGT
JAMES A. KIVIPERTO	25TH INF DIV	WALTER SANDERS	BDQ
KNIGHT CHIROPRACTIC	PORTLAND, OR	CHARLES & WENDY SAUERS	
CHRISTOPHER R. KOCH	RANGER RGT	RENEE SAUERS	9TH INF DIV
STEWART E. KOONTZ	9TH INF DIV	DAVID G. SCHOFIELD	BDQ
GREGORY J. KORKOWSKI		DAVID W SELLENS	9TH INF DIV



VII CORPS LRRP ASSOC
RONALD WAFER
ROBERT WALLACE
WELTON WARDELL SR.
MICHAEL WARNER #709606
JAMES K. WATERS
WEATHERTROL, INC
VINCENT C. WEBB
ROBERT W. WELLS
JOEY WELSH
ALLEN WENTE
DARRYL K. WHITE
DAVID R. WIEDER
BERT E. WIGGINS
LESLIE T. WILLIAMS
ROBERT T. WIMMER
JAMES WINDISCH
STEVEN O. WOODSON
ALBERT F. ZELLER

1ST FFV
4TH INF DIV
5TH MECH
RANGER RGT
9TH INF DIV
9TH INF DIV
9TH INF DIV
173RD ABN BDE
5TH MECH
101ST ABN DIV
4TH INF DIV
101ST ABN DIV
4TH INF DIV
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX
A/75
4TH INF DIV
101ST ABN DIV

CARLOS A SEPULVEDA
MICHAEL J. SHEA
THOMAS H. SHERMAN
COLIN E. SHIPLEY
JAMES M. SIMPKINS
SCOTT H. SLAUGHTER
PRESCOTT L. SMITH
RAYMOND J. SONNIER
THEODORE SPEROFF
JOSEPH M. STANKIEWICZ
CLYDE TANNER
RONALD L. TESSENSOHN
JOSEPH R. THOMAS
CHARLES W. THOMAS JR.
DENNIS H. THUNANDER
ERNEST O. TREVINO
FRANK TRIFARO
TED TRUEBLOOD
CRAIG D. VEGA

UNIT REPORTS



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

Unit Director - Tom Brizendine



By Bob Murphy

Tom and Donna Brizendine have finished moving. "We now live in Foley Alabama on three acres and no trees to block the fields of fire. Made my appointment with the VA prosthetics, and they are going to give me a scooter. Just waiting for the doctor's letter. I SHOULD get the scooter in 4 to 6 weeks. The good news is I get to keep my original hip joints. They told me the reason I can hardly walk is because of real bad arthritis in my hips. (I don't believe them for a second)

SGM Rick "Red" Herman was due to retire from the 101st at Ft Campbell after 30 years on Friday, February 28 as this article went to press.

You done us proud on that one, buddy. (Some people will hang around forever to get a combat patch).

Hope to have photos and story for the next Patrolling.

SICK CALL

Ron Dahle, ex-commo platoon (Wildflecken and Frankfurt) and bashful sensitive new age guy (heheheheheheh), just had arthroscopic surgery on his knee and is back up on cross-country skis. He and Russell Grazier and Russell's missus seem to be out running the

New England woods rain and shine.

Bill "Maxx" Maxwell has had a knee replacement and is back on his feet.

Lee Farley has got a couple of stents to open up his arteries and how someone so lean gets clogged up is a mystery to me.

Ex-CO Norm Carlton has had a



couple of stents adjusted and is doing well.

Anthony (Tony) Cummings is home from hospital after a car accident.

Big Roy Bissey reckons the yuppies setting up very expensive digs in a 700 acre "planned unit development" on the other side of his Wyoming valley have doomed some of God's own country to the fate of Jackson Hole, complete with golf courses and huge houses. Roy says he's waiting for com-

plaints about him discharging his shooting irons and is considering a move further out into the country.

Lee Farley has been around so long he was stationed in Germany with the 11th Airborne (flying red assholes) Division, then went to 504th LRRPs before becoming one of this company's first troops. He recently ran into ex- 504th LRRP SSG Rodney Goehler. He retired as a Major and says he is going to get onto the net.

Darryl White who was in the company when it returned to the land of the round doorknob read my query on the whereabouts of Ralph Cade (1st Plt). Darryl was on the advance party that left early for Benning and the last he saw of Cade was him with a beautiful blonde on his arm and looking like he was going nowhere in a hurry. "He's probably still over there", Darryl says. Seeing his German was as good as his English, and the way he liked that place, that's probably right.

Ft Hood 1st Plt member Michael Baird has just joined the company server. Alan Campbell recalls Mike was one of the few tabbed SP/4s in the company when he got there.

Hal Boyd from Hood has also showed up, with stories. More details next issue.

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Welcome, guys

Lee Farley has been in contact with former Capt John H. Wilson (Germany era) who now heads the Pennsylvania parole system. Ummmmmm. Do they have to be back by midnight, Tony?

This for the historical record from Roy Bissey.

Mike Degel and I volunteered for service in August of 1972, too late for Vietnam but just before the end of the draft. The Army had just started what they called "Unit of choice recruiting" and the "Modern Volunteer Army" (VOLAR). Mike and I were allowed to choose "buddy basic" at the basic training center at Ft. Ord, California and were further guaranteed assignment to Co. A 75th Infantry at Ft. Hood, Texas upon completion of basic. Buddy basic meant that we would be assigned to the same unit for basic training. The part of the story that caught the attention of some of the older guys was that at the end of basic we were sent directly to Ft. Hood and assigned as permanent party to A/75. We were attached to A/75 on 25 Oct 1972 quoting the orders, "for a period of approximately 8 weeks or upon successful completion of OJT in MOS". We then completed an **on-the-job training AIT** administered by cadre from A/75, 1st/5th, 2nd/7th and it seems like we had some guys from the 1st/8th. We were trained together with personnel from these other units as well in 11B "light weapons infantryman". There were others in that AIT cycle from A/75 but the only name I'm sure of is Norman Thomas. I thought I had a set of orders that would name us

all but it looks like they did individual orders rather than one with everyone on it. Our MOS was awarded on 26 Feb 1973 and we began training "the Ranger way" immediately. As slots came available in Airborne school and Ranger school the company sent us to Benning a few at a time. Tom Brizendine remembers this and in fact I think he participated in some of the unit of choice recruiting

got captured, we were to break out the shelter halves and bivouac until daybreak. Well now, at that time me and Big Mike Degel pretty well filled one of them shelter half pup tents with some left over for the fresh air. We arrived at the bivouac site sometime very late at night and with frozen hands got the old tent set up and crawled inside. With our feet out one end and our heads halfway out the



V Corps LRRP Co. C-124 Globemaster jump
Bettenhausen DZ, Germany 2 Aug '66
Photo by SP4 Louis Bielma, Jr 2nd Platoon

trips the company made to various area schools.

There are two things I remember vividly about that AIT course. First is the fact that we from the Ranger company were already issued our normal field gear including rucksacks rather than fanny packs like the legs had.

The second thing that sticks with me is the land nav/escape and evasion course that ended the AIT.

Central Texas in February can and usually does SUCK, weatherwise. On the above mentioned course (at night naturally) we were blessed with a freezing rain storm. When we finished the course, unless we

other, we made z's. At dawn we were frozen to the inside of the canvas because we were touching the sides. Once we finally got out of the thing we removed the poles at each end and there was so much ice on the outside it stood up all by itself. Thought we were going to crack the canvas when we tried to fold those things up.

Walter Buchanan recalls Vietnam orientation training.

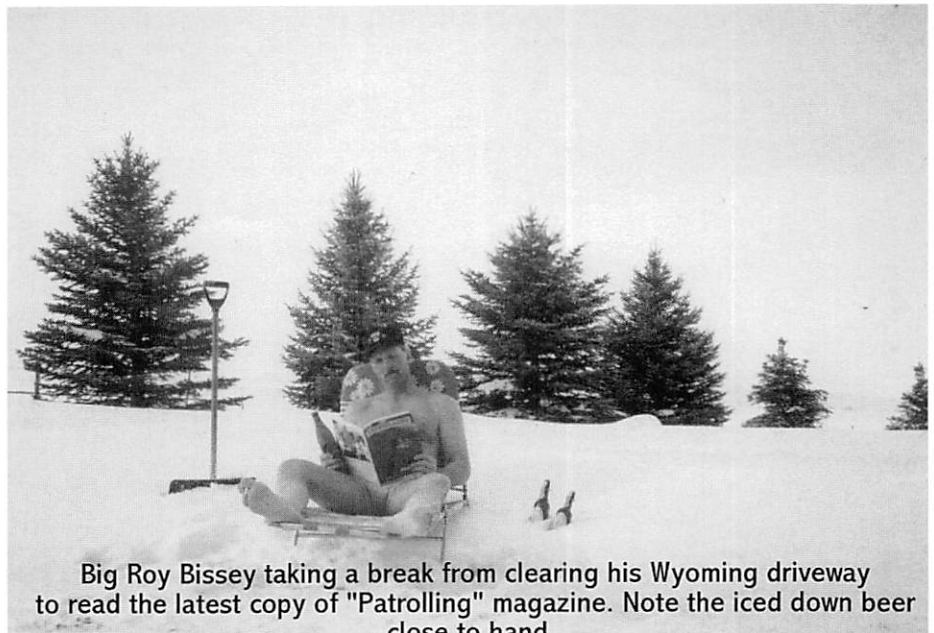
After a Tour with the Screaming Eagles and then with the nurses for a while ...was assigned to A/75th -

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Benning and moved with the Company to Hood then back to the University of South Vietnam with C/75th...I was given an article 15 for toooooo much det cord at Benning for the final ambush of the orientation of all the cherries going to Vietnam.

After we moved the company to Ft Hood, we were the indigenous personnel (VC) for the training exercises when the Army was trying to convert tank guys into infantry. I could tell stories about the G.D. chiggers but that is for another time. This story is the end of us using artillery simulators, seems the brass did not like us being so realistic. After we let a couple of simulators go right in their hooch and I think one found its way under one guy sleeping, they decided not to let us use the simulators any more. Gee I wonder what happened to those guys when an RPG was smiling at them. I guess it got real, then, and yes I got another Article 15 for that.

Terry recalls the Benning training.



Big Roy Bissey taking a break from clearing his Wyoming driveway to read the latest copy of "Patrolling" magazine. Note the iced down beer close to hand

"I actually remember seeing the "legs" doing their final RVN Training crying in the back of the deuce and a half's the day you blasted them with 3-4 rows of det cord buried under the sand during the convoy ambush "experience", Walter. I didn't know it was you in charge back then, but when the jeeps with the 50 cal's mounted on them (Rat Patrol style at Benning) came over the hill firing up the

convoy and the ambush was blown, it was big and it was loud. People on the trucks were crying and bitching and moaning... and bleeding !! Some were bleeding slightly due to some real light sanding Walter's overzealous use of the det cord had "possibly" caused. Hell, he had already been to Vietnam and he knew what it was supposed to sound and feel like and he wanted them prepared when they left the states. Good job Walter... except the word got out in A/75th that the NCO who was running RVN training had his butt in a sling for using too much det cord on the ambush. I had seen it but figured it would all just be some pissed off soldiers and they'd move on. Some of them bitched about it and the Old Man had to get some ass I guess. There were Officer's, senior enlisted, and fresh troops taking the training at the same time. Everyone in the company laughed about it for a long time. It's still funny when you think about it, but it could have really hurt someone I guess. Shame on you Walter..... Let's go and do it AGAIN !! Ha! Ha!



Stan Jones during his "adventure based learning" with his long time employer, the US Postal service at Norman, Oklahoma.

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This is the earliest known photo of the Company taken in 1962 by Ron Bishop. Note the tanker jackets and out of control collection of uniforms

RLTW !! TR

Hood era Stan Jones recently got the opportunity for some "Adventure Based Learning" with his employer, the US Postal Service in Norman OK. He even got to rappel with the girls and

boys from work.

Former Germany-era Supply Sergeant Jack Moore has just showed up on the net. Any former buds that want to contact him let me know.

Old hands might remember that shortly after taking over as supply sergeant, Jack warned then CO Edward Haislop about problems with the property books but nothing happened. The shit hit the fan during a big inspection and the CO left shortly afterwards.

Jack eventually became the battalion S-4 and then did a tour in 'Nam with the 173rd in 1968-69. He retired in 1971.

I'm hoping this is the last column I write for awhile, gents. We need some fresh talent to step up to the plate. There are lots of guys from the company around that have the gift of the gab. I've been doing this about as long as I was in the Army. And I haven't retired yet and am up to my ass in alligators.

Step right up, folks!

Cheers,

Bob Murphy



This shot of Bob Murphy & James Porter was Taken at the 5 KM demarcation line by Louis Bielman on an FTX in 1964.



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Unit Director - Kirk Gibson



Jack Luse Memorial

Last July, while at the 75RRA Reunion at Fort Benning, GA several VII Corps LRRPs gathered at the Main Post Cemetery for a memorial to honor one of our fallen members, SSG Jack Luse, who was tragically killed in a jeep accident in 1962, in Nellingen, Germany. Following are some memories of SSG Jack Luse, whose military history is what legends are made of (Patrolling, Summer 2000).

Sergeant Luse had a profound effect on so many of us, and it was a privilege to bring his memory to his family that day, as beautifully described by his daughter, Sharon, in a recent letter to Joe Chetwynd.

How do I begin this story? Many tears accompany these words.

My earliest memory of my father, Jack Luse, was of being thrown into the air, then caught, by a very tall man. I remember riding on his shoulders, holding onto his curly hair, and him wearing fatigues. I couldn't have even been two years old. I even remember wearing a pique' sunsuit, with multicolored balloons on it, the day he came to see me, at my grandparents' home. I have vivid memories, which even go back to infancy, I don't know why. I recall pictures, in an old, cedar chest, which my grandmother kept in a hall closet. They captured the image of the most handsome man I'd ever seen, my own illusive father. Occasionally, I dug into a photo album, and saw photographs, in sepia tones, of my beautiful, chestnut-haired mother, standing shyly, beside the handsome man, who was holding me. They were smiling; I was squinting at the sun. So long ago, so very long ago. For many years, my father was a shadowy figure in dreams, the object of a lonely child's prayers, a stranger in old, musty-smelling photos.

I was the child of divorce, a filthy, vulgar word, in the small town where my mother and I resided, with my grandparents. Because of that word, I was tormented by hateful children, daily, in school. Teachers, supposed to be my mentors, took it upon themselves to make an example of me, when discussing the evils of divorce, asking me, "Where is your Daddy?" Then, years later, when my mother remarried, my name was changed to that of my stepfather. Some of my teachers refused to call me by my new name, so the kids taunted me on the playground, like chickens pecking at one of their weak siblings, until they peck it to

death. I never told my mother or grandparents the things I suffered at the hands of my "friends."

Fortunately, I became stronger, rather than weaker, from the attacks against me. I have inherited good genes from my parents. My mother, who is a dedicated Christian, did her best to raise me in a proper way. She taught me self-respect, honor, discipline, responsibility, giving, compassion and determination. I had a good stepfather, who taught me how to work hard, be persistent, forgive others, think for myself, and never to wallow in self-pity. My grandparents were fabulous friends and mentors. Though they've been dead many years, not a day goes by, when I don't think of them, or use some of the knowledge they shared with me. My grandfather, George Zeiger, overcame amazing odds, to make a prosperous life for himself and his

family. He was unable to get the formal education he craved, but taught himself, by becoming a voracious reader. He even taught adult reading classes, before it was fashionable to do so. He was the most brilliant man I knew, as a child. His vocabulary was huge! He'd use multi-syllabled words in a sentence to me, never baby talk, then give me a grin I'll never forget. I'd ask, "Granddaddy, what does that mean?" His standard answer was, "Look it up." I always did, and learned to love the dictionary, and words and reading. I knew I could always count on him, for protection, love, understanding, wisdom. My precious grandmother, Catherine, loved me, corrected me, taught me, endured me. She was a fabu-

lous cook, and could have opened her own restaurant; her skills were quite refined. Instead, she opened her heart and home, to many strangers, soldiers, during the war, and long after it ended. She had the heart of a servant, as did Christ, her example and Lord. Many hungry souls went away full and satisfied from her table. She was generous to a fault. I miss her still.

I tell you this, to show you the kind of people who helped to fill in the gaps, made in my young life by the absence of my father. Many nights, I cried myself to sleep, asking God to bring him back into my life. Then, one day, when I was twelve years old, there was a call. My parents and grandparents were whispering with each other, when I came into the room. Finally, my mother told me that my father wanted me to come to his home for a two-week visit. Wow!!! I was so excited. I would finally get to see my daddy, and meet my baby brother and sister, whom I'd seen only once, or in pictures. I wanted to pack right away. Then, on a



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

Sunday afternoon, my tall, handsome father drove up. All the words I'd saved, for so many years, to tell him, all the unanswered questions in my childish heart, disappeared, and we rode in silence, for the thirty miles to his home.

I was so happy to see my brother Johnny, and sister, Cindy. I thought they were the most beautiful children I'd ever seen. Oh, how I loved them, and being with them! I recall sleeping on a sofa in a small room. Early in the morning, while it was very dark, I heard my father get up, prepare his lunch, and leave for work on a little scooter he had. All day, I'd play with my brother, until our dad returned in the afternoon. It seemed we went shopping, or to the pool, or to buy groceries each day. Then, it was time for me to return home. My two-week stay had only lasted a week. I was thankful to have had that. I never had much of a conversation with my father. We drove back as silently as we'd come. I never saw him alive again.

Several years later, a friend of my mother's came over with a folded newspaper. She showed it to my mom, who had a dreadful look on her face, after reading it. The next day, my mother told me that my father had been killed in an accident, and we were going to Columbus, Georgia to attend his funeral. No one from his family ever called. It seemed the drive to the church took us forever. I had on an itchy suit, and wore a hat. I looked so cute. A long line of mourners filed past my father's casket, as did I. I saw my little sister, and my handsome, young brother, now the man of the family, wearing a dark suit, and standing so straight. His face was expressionless. They never saw, or acknowledged me that day. I couldn't believe this was all I'd had of him. I'd never have the chance to know the father I'd loved for all my life. I cried. For many years.

I found Christ, as my Savior, when I was twenty. I'd always prayed, as I'd been taught as a child. But now I knew Him! I really knew Him. Little by little, He began healing all the hurts of my childish heart. He became the father I'd never known. He taught me the things only a father can teach to His daughter. I became whole. I still prayed. Now, for the brother and sister I'd seen as a child. I asked my Heavenly Father to reunite us. One day, I was home from school, working on a project. I had the radio tuned to a station seldom listened to, and heard a familiar name, as the winner of the anniversary cake of the day. I called the station, gave my name and number, and waited. The next day, I had a call from my brother. I cried and rejoiced and gave thanks to God, who answers the prayers of a child, as well as those of a woman. The next day, we were reunited. Over the last few years, we've grown to know and love each other. I think Jack would like that.

During the last thirty years, I have married, given birth to four wonderful sons, and now have become a grandmother. I have helped my husband run our plumbing and electric business, and have become a teacher of the Word of God. I have much to learn, still, and am an eager student. We live on a 50-acre farm, in beautiful Harris County Georgia, which is for sale, by the way, as we are downsizing, and don't need the space. I have written, and created a local, cable television program, "Good News Girls," which is directed toward helping women become all God meant for them to be. I am in the process of writing a book, for which I hope to soon have a publisher. I wonder what Jack would think.

Early this year, I got a letter from Joseph Chetwynd, who was asking me about participating in a ceremony to honor my late father. I told my husband. I wanted nothing to do with that. I was reluctant to reopen the wounds of the past. Adamantly reluctant! My brother encouraged me to become involved. Joe and I played phone tag. Finally, I relented, and am ever so glad I did. I recall how excited and anxious I was, the morning of the ceremony. I expected a typical, steamy hot, July day, but was pleasantly surprised, by bearable temperatures and a light breeze. My brother was in a white dress shirt. Again, I wore a hat. How impressed I am with the men who served with my father. I sensed such a unity between them, though their ages varied. I heard many accolades for my late father. I saw a man I hadn't known. One man touched many lives, and they still remembered, three decades later. An honorable man, dedicated to his work, openhearted to fellow veterans, and new recruits alike. I saw a man of experience and excellence, a hero, even, in the eyes of his comrades. I witnessed something I'd never known, not having been raised in the military, or around career servicemen. I saw the hearts of brave men, willing to give their lives for their families and country, men who'd risked it all to keep strangers free and safe. I was awed by the experience. I felt great love, the love a family shares, from those gentlemen. But, I saw a toughness, which I'd known in my grandfather, who was fearless. I love that! These are men. Real men, who have met the challenges of life most of us only read about, or view in warped movies from writers who've never seen or smelled a battle.

I came away from that July day, with a new respect for the soldier, and for my father. I met, through them, a man I'd never known. I am proud to be the daughter of a soldier, Jack Luse. And I say, "Thank you," to those of you who introduced me to him.

Sharon Virginia Luse Meigs

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Cheryl Luse Mieg and John Luse and Families

The Kind of Guy He Was – A Memory of Jack Luse

by Michael Hartmere 2/1/03

Everyone remembers where he or she was on November 22, 1963. I was in Victoria Station in London with Mark Whiteside, dead broke and exhausted, when someone told us that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated. Needless to say we both were devastated. We were just embarking on the long trip back to Deutschland, thanks to an advance against our hefty salaries by the United States Consulate's office. Knowing nothing about the circumstances of President Kennedy's death, we thought that the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol might be heading somewhere cold in the very near future. We began to wind our way back to Nellingen.

Upon our arrival, we received the additional terrible news that Sergeant Jack Luse also had died. I know just where we were standing when we received that information, as well. That sinking feeling. Our troubles and sadness had multiplied.

To me, Sergeant Luse epitomized a paratrooper. As all who knew him recognized, he could be a very tough man. Notwithstanding that toughness however, he was such a good and decent man. I remember him as a devoted family man, not one to hang out ad infinitum at the Rod & Gun Club. On occasion, however he would appear there and was always a magnet for the attention of the mere mortals like myself who were trying to emulate him. The stories and sage advice were memorable. As we know, Sergeant Luse lived a thrilling life. He pointedly would make it seem that any one of us could and would do the same, given the right set of circumstances. I remain unconvinced. I am an adherent to Tom Brokaw's theme in "The Greatest Generation". I continue to believe that some of the individuals I was privileged to know and work with in the Army were unique. Jack Luse was one. When you came in contact

with him somewhere and he looked your way, smiled and said "Howdy, partner," you felt you had arrived.

It's amusing to me that as I go through life certain memories never fade. I still run most mornings and almost daily, especially on longer runs when things start to get a bit more difficult, I find myself pondering Airborne morning runs, sometimes Fort Bragg, but more frequently Nellingen and environs. That is when I can hear some of the voices from the past. Some of those voices were quite distinctive, e.g., the perfect command tones of First Sergeant David L. Clark. One recurring memory is that of a particularly arduous run in late May or early June 1963. During this longer run up and down the hills surrounding Nellingen, at the time where things had gone silent and the strain could be felt in the air, suddenly the unmistakable voice of Sergeant Jack Luse could be heard with an original Airborne cadence song, everyone repeating his words as we ran:

Gonna jump
June 6th
Just like
Forty four

The song continued and recounted what had happened during the D-Day jump at Normandy. We did have a jump scheduled and did jump on June 6th. Talk about inspiration! All the discomfort and pain immediately assumed its proper place of insignificance in the overall scheme of things. Obviously, it worked for me and to this day continues to work. Of course, there are deeper feelings and meanings which may well have been intended. There should be no doubt about Sergeant Luse's leadership qualities. It is my hope that this little remembrance may give one some idea why every trooper I knew would have followed Sergeant Jack Luse to the ends of the earth. I believe that is literally true. That's the kind of guy he was.

**ATTENTION ALL FORMER VII LRRP (ABN),
C/58 AND B/75 MEMBERS.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP, ESPECIALLY YOU C/58
AND B/75 GUYS, IN LOCATING YOUR FELLOW
COMPANY MEMBERS AND ENLISTING THEM
TO JOIN THE 75RRA.**

**MANY OF US WERE NOT 'JAYHAWK' LRRPS,
AND MANY WERE NOT B/75 RANGERS. THAT
DOES NOT MATTER. WE ARE ALL ONE IN
THE 75RRA, BUT WE ARE LEAVING TOO
MANY BEHIND! PLEASE CONTACT ME WITH**

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

**ANY LEADS AND THOUGHTS ABOUT OUR UNIT.
THANK YOU, KIRK GIBSON UNIT DIRECTOR**

For several weeks, the President of the VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Association was on an undercover mission somewhere, doing something, but not communicating. This caused great unrest among his faithful followers, prompting the following sentiments:

A.W.O.L. Joe

We've searched high, we've searched low,
But ain't seen hide nor hair of Joe.
Not by day, nor by night,
The S.O.B. 's been out of sight!
From the kitchen, or the hall,
Don't you think he'd think to call?
Just because he works alone,
Doesn't mean that he can't phone.

What the hell gives him the right
To shun us all, not even write?
I know he thinks that we're a mess,
But can't he send us his address?

A little note, just a smidgen,
He could have sent by carrier pigeon
Or on the back of some old snail
Which faithfully delivers mail,

Or even by an old Marconi
In dits and dahs, or such baloney,
Pneumatic tube, or by pea shooter,
There're other ways than by computer.

What have we done, for him to hate us,
And not emerge from his hiatus?
But to be fair, we shouldn't doubt him,
Can't we just go on without him?

Though, I suppose, I should remind,
We've pledged to leave no man behind.
Not even Joe, that insolent twit,
Who cares for us not one small bit.

Search the oaks, the birch and pines.
Get our eyes behind the lines.
Find that bastard in the grass,
AND THEN LET'S KICK HIS AIRBORNE ASS!

LEWIS GARBERS

On December 4, 2002, Joe Chetwynd, Theo Knaak and

Kirk Gibson went to Arlington National Cemetery to pay our LRRP AIRBORNE respects to Lewis Garbers, son of former VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) CO Frank Garbers and his widow Betty. She was touched that we came, and that we remembered (then) Captain Garbers so well. Garbers had been an enlisted man in WWII and Korea, then was commissioned and was assigned to Germany. He also served in VietNam, and retired as LTC.



Sat, 18 Jan 2003 From Harry McMorro
"I HAVE JUST GOT RELEASED FROM HOSP. YES-
TERDAY. THEY ROTO - ROOTED MY ARTERIES.
EVERYTHING IS JUST FINE, HAVE A GREAT
DAY."

VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Association
SPECIAL ORDERS FOR ALL MEMBERS

VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Association will have a
reunion at Fort Campbell, KY

on

June 18 through 22, 2003.

HQ at the Holiday Inn

FORT CAMPBELL-OAK GROVE, KY

12759 Fort Campbell Boulevard

OAK GROVE, KY 42262

Toll-Free: 18774390022

Tel: 1-270-4390022

Fax: 1-270-4391499

Email: HIXPRESFTC@aol.com

The following was sent by "Jungle Jim" Joiner, who has graciously accepted the assignment of 2003 Reunion Coordinator. There will be more information to come as it develops, but the important thing to do now is block out as much time as you can between June 18 and 22.

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

"Kirk, Good to hear from you last night, sorry to heave you guys hanging as to my health, but it was a bad time.

The Holiday Inn North of Gate 6 has been booked for June 18 thru 22. Check in Wednesday and check out Sunday. The price is \$55.00 per night plus tax.

These are the things in the works now:

- 1) Division Museum.
- 2) Air Assault School Demo.
- 3) Eat in 1st Bde Dinning Facility.
- 4) Meet with Active Duty LRRPs and 5th Group SF
- 5) Dinner at the Sportsman Lodge on Ft. Campbell, memories of the Lodge next door to our LRRP Co.(Rod and Gun), famous for their Schnitzel Dinners.
- 6) Dinner at the famous Charlie's Steak House, been there since the 50's
- 7) A Saturday night dinner at the hotel or the Officers Club on Ft. Campbell.
- 8) Hospitality Room at the Hotel.

Now, all of this said, it looks better and better (more likely) that the 101st Division will be gone by June. This will leave a lot of what we are working on in flux.

'Jungle Jim' Joiner"

Let's make this the biggest and best reunion yet.

Wives and kids are especially welcome.

AIRBORNE

Kirk Gibson

Fellow Lurps

I wish to announce that my son, SFC Mark Chetwynd is deploying next Thursday morning for "Desert Storm- Part II", subtitled, "Unfinished Business." He is a member of the 1058th Transportation Co., Mass National Guard. This unit also served in Desert Shield/ Desert Storm (I), attached to the 82nd ABN Div. Mark served in DS/DS (I) with the 23rd Inf. Div. from Ft. Stewart, GA.

I am enormously proud of my son and his commitment to service to his / our country. He is a good man, a loving husband and a fine son. I ask that you all add him and his fellow soldiers to your prayers for the safe-keeping of all of our brave and committed and patriotic men and women who are serving us today on foreign and domestic soil. Thank you all.

Sincerely,

Joe Chetwynd

TO ALL:

Just a SITREP on Jim Craig, who has been incommuni- cado for a few months, also. I talked with him today and he said that he had been down with a bad back slipping out of kilter. He was away from his home when it gave out. He is back home, now, but his 'puter is also suffering some grave malady. He has a techno - type at his house, presently trying to resuscitate the "devil box" as I write this e-mail. He encourages any of you who need to talk with him to call him on the land- line until the problem is resolved. His number is (386) 752-0015.

Joe

A Blast from the Past

In this period of time when we are all thinking of ways to help the morale of our troops overseas, Joe Chetwynd thought we would enjoy his story from the past. He recalls.....

I thought I would share a few stories with you about when my son was with the 24th Infantry in the Gulf in '91. He once wrote home to me that with fall coming on he wished he could be home for the leaves turning. I was thus inspired. I went out to a local landscape shop where I purchased six bags (approx. 1 bushel) of real leaves in real fall colors that they treat with some kind of preservative. They are used for decoration and hold up well. Then I bought a bushel basket with a wire bail and a small bamboo rake. When they asked me what I was doing buying these things, I explained that they were for my son who was in the Gulf. The owner sold me the stuff at cost. What a good lady.

I mailed the leaves, in the basket in one box, marked in military jargon... LEAVES, FALL TYPE, SIX DOZ, MIXED marked on the box. I marked, Part "A"... Do Not Open without Part "B".

Next, I built a small wood and cardboard "box", shaped like a piece of pizza, with the rake inside. That was appropriately labeled TOOL, GATHERING TYPE, LEAVES, ONE EACH ... and marked Part "B", with a notice... Do Not Open Without Part "A".

Inside was an "instruction manual", drawn in stick figure, describing how to throw the leaves out onto the ground and how to rake them into a pile, then run and jump into the pile, scattering the leaves all over, then how to rake them all up again and repeat.

Well, I must tell you that Mark was the talk of his unit.

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

When mail call came. The boxes arrived at separate times and everybody was wondering what was in the boxes, "curiously marked" and "odd shaped." Then, he opened them up in front of everybody.

People were always amazed at the odd ball stuff that he constantly got in the mail. They would look at him and say things like... "Your father sent that ???.. "You have some odd friends"... But then, they all lined up to try out the leaves and rake. It was great fun for them all, Mark would tell me later. They really appreciated the humor of it all. I can tell you, it kept me sane during that whole war. There were other things, which I will share with you some time later. For now, I need to crawl into my Dr. Dentons and get some sack time.

God bless and protect our brave warriors, men and women...

Joe

On Patrol

By Cheryl Visel

October was our first adventure. John and I had planned a trip to Atlantic City for 36 hours. My family was meeting there and we were going to have a family weekend. It was about a week before the flight, and I was talking with Theo about our trip, in our conversation he told me he was just an hour away and should stop in to see us. Well the plan was set and we both decided not to let John in on it. Surprises are fun and that is how Theo and I agreed to go with it. The next day it occurred to me a few other LRRPs were near by as well. After a few phone calls and brain storming with Theo, our group had grown to include Rick Hathaway, George Sitar, Tom Barron, Tom's pilot Kevin and his mechanic Sal. John was so surprised to see his long lost friends, and what a wonderful time we had. Bally's was a wonderful place to get together. We all ate, gambled, drank, and made some very special memories.

On the road again



After the Atlantic City trip John and I decided to keep with us at all times the LRRP mailing list. On a recent trip to Florida we decided to seek and surprise. John Decosta and his wife Andie, in Indianapolis, were first on the list and such gracious hosts. We arrived in the middle of a party they were giving for a friend, and literally crashed the party. After a few glasses of wine and some old stories and laughter we called Theo laughed some more and shortly later tucked in for the night. The next morning we visited John's new Restaurant "**Blackwoods**" and then went on our way.

Sam Storey was next on our route, and he did promise me he would show me his mountain. If you ever have a chance to be in Tennessee, you have to stop in and see Sam and his wife Donna. Oh what a mountain! Sam lives in the heavens. One of the most beautiful places I have ever been. We spent a few hours with Sam, got a tour of his 600 acres, and spent some time with the largest horses I have ever seen. We had to leave that night but we promised to stop back on our way back to Michigan. The cell phones were dead, so we couldn't call Theo.

Florida was so cold, and after a week and a half we decided to head back home. We had a few more stops to make and that excited us. Rowe Attaway was on our route. I hadn't had the pleasure to meet Rowe yet, and he had just returned to Florida the day we were leaving. We meet Rowe and spent the day with him at his cottage on his lake. Rowe is a very special man, and a wonderful storyteller. What was to be a short visit turned out to be a lovely afternoon. We talked drank wine, and made some more memories. Oh and we did call Theo.

Georgia was the next stop and Jim Jackson was the next victim. He and his wife Genny were home and we were on our way. Jim and Genny welcomed us as if we were family and served us a wonderful breakfast. Jim is a great cook. After spending a glorious morning, sharing our stories of surprise visits, we meet up with Dom Manio, and all of us spent a few more hours catching up. Dom surprised me with a box filled with wine, which we felt obligated to test when we arrived home. Does anyone see a pattern here?

Sam's Mountain was the final stop, and it was daylight this time. I really didn't think this mountain could be more beautiful then the last time I saw it, but it was. It had snowed and everything was covered in a blanket of crystal white. Sam was set to do some chores and John had volunteered to help. I really don't think John has worked that hard in years. We all went down the mountain to town to fill the hay truck. Poor John, after about 127 bales of hay and standing on top of them on

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

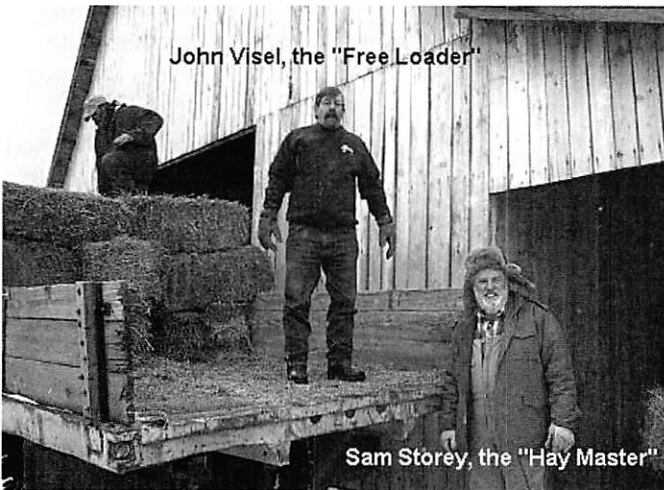
the truck, had to use his rappelling skills to get down. We slowly drove back to the top of the mountain. Sam had a treat planned for us. We were now to see the treasures of his mountain, the waterfalls, the forests, the cliffs, and the breathtaking views. We visited his barn filled with horses and cows, and enjoyed this marvelous wonder of Big South Fork, Sam's Mountain.

Sam, his wife Donna and their daughter Rachel, gave us a day we will always remember.

John and I will also always remember the wonderful time we had on our trip and the dear friends that helped to make it one to remember.

To be continued: Next, LRRPs invade Jamaica!

YOU MUST BE GROWING OLD WHEN S.O.S. TASTED GOOD!



Many years ago, I actually craved for creamed beef on toast. Reminiscing of Sgt Wooley's stomach warmer from yesteryear. Great on a cold winter's morning with snow on the ground, after having spent the best part of

the evening in a mummy sack. Amazing, but I assure you I did miss those days and still do.

My current CO (wife Dolly) told me to FGI, she wasn't even going to try to cook anything that even resembled SOS. She had had enough growing up in Ringold, Ga. With those words, I decided to give it a try and make my own white gravy and substitute some ground Sirloin for the chipped beef. Don't have to tell you but what I came up with tasted like shit, I can't cook worth a darn.

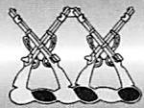
A few days later at the local Safeway for restocking of our pantry. Dolly came up with, "You still want some SOS?" Those words almost brought tears to my eyes. That very next morning Dolly surprised me with some decent SOS at the Sunday breakfast table. It wasn't quite like Sgt Wooley's but damn close. Here is what she did.

She browned some Ground Sirloin, drained the fat and set the beef aside. Next she just made a package of instant white Gravy mix (makes about two cups worth per package). She then mixed the browned Ground Sirloin and Gravy and VOILA!!!! Hot Creamed beef on toast that Sgt Wooley would have been proud of. Now, even this old LRRP can fix his own and does! Just thought I'd throw this in to today's email ramblings.

Please note: Dolly might be screening this email so YES, my wife is a decent cook and can make scratch white gravy, but instant is just as good for this old man. It just dawned on me that Dolly knows how to use a skillet, cast Iron no less, and can fling that sucker a mile with accuracy when she wants too. Up close she could be deadly, and...most important...she is also a Postal Worker!

Take care,

Sam (Rodriguez) C/58 LRRP (ABN)



C/75 - E/20 LRP Unit Director - Gary Dolan



C/75 - E/20 LRP

Brothers:

As I sit gazing out upon the winter scene in my back yard with the howling wind disturbing the settled snow, I reflect on the recent loss of two of our brothers. The barren trees look so lifeless, and I feel a penetrating chill through my bones to my soul. Two valiant warriors, two mighty

Rangers, two of our brothers have been rewarded with halos to adorn their black berets.

Bobby "Moose" McClure died in his sleep this past December due to complications resulting from liver disease. He is survived by his wife, Robbin. "Moose" was a best friend of Daniel Pope in Nam. They served in E/20 and C/75 together. There is a picture of the two of them in

the Association web site Camps Photos section, Ahn Khe, 4th picture down, crashed out on their bunks after radio watch.

Ranger John LaBarge died of lung cancer on January 13, 2003. John served two tours in Nam with Charlie Rangers and with the Herd. A number of brothers have confided with me how fondly they remember John being a special character. John took great

C/75 - E/20 LRP (CONTINUED)

pride in our Association and even quietly paid the dues on behalf of one his buddies to ensure a brother stayed connected to us through membership. It seems that Ranger LaBarge received numerous medals, and his family is contemplating donating them to an appropriate place for display. Our own Mark Miller attended the funeral and has promised to provide me pictures, which I will share here in future articles. Ranger Gerry Rush, Ranger Class 10, June 1956, proudly represented the 75th Ranger Regiment at the funeral. He presented the American Flag to Ranger LaBarge's sister, Mrs. Gene Arnold, following the US Army Military Funeral Manual, but added: "This flag is presented to you by the President of the United States of America and all the Rangers, Past and Present of the 75th Ranger Regiment."

As certain as life, we are bound together through our service in the Ranger Brotherhood; as certain as death, we shall all be eventually called to a final formation together with the Almighty. Therefore, it is imperative that we make every effort to gain and stay in touch with each other and to provide that solace and comfort, which only our Association can deliver to its members, who have a unique bond.

The best way to cement that bond is to attend our reunion. The next reunion will be at Fort Benning, August 6th through August 9th. Be there! Sam Pullara has already been working hard to make all the arrangements the best possible for us, especially with our requirement for a Hospitality Suite and freedom to provide our own source of beer (for which we are especially grateful to Walter "Sunshine" Buchanan and Miller Brewing

Company). As the details for the reunion are finalized, the information will be widely disseminated to all our members. However, it is not too early to start planning and blocking the time off so that you can participate in all the activities. Be certain to bring all your mementos and pictures to share not only with each other but also with the "Baby Rangers!" The current strac Rangers love to attend our Hospitality Suite, listen to our war stories and share our beer. And, we love to attend our



Hospitality Suite, tell our war stories and share the free beer! Our last reunion was a major cathartic experience for me—it helped heal my soul of wounds that had long lingered without my realization, and it helped liberate me by reuniting me with my Ranger Brotherhood. I am sure this year's reunion will be just as grand an event as possible, and it may even be better if we all attend!

We are fortunate this year to have as our guest of honor and speaker at our banquet the esteemed Jerry Bussell, Nevada's newly appointed homeland security advisor. Jerry was inducted into the University of Tennessee

at Martin Military Hall of Fame and was recently selected as its most outstanding alumnus. Jerry has a Masters of Science Degree in Public Administration and is a graduate of The Army War College and the Logistics Management College. I am personally delighted because not only is Jerry a fellow Ranger; he is "The Big Ranger in the Sky" to me. Jerry "Seahorse 11" piloted my front seat in the O-1 Birdog, providing phenomenal support to the Ranger teams in Charlie Rangers in Nam in 1970 and 1971.

Although we were all worried for a while, I am happy to report that Daniel Pope is convalescing at home. His surgery went better than even he expected and the prognosis is that he will recover to a normal Ranger lifestyle provided he takes care and allows some TLC! Please take care, buddy! We all love you. By the way, I have it from the most trusted sources that Daniel WILL attend the reunion this year!

I am saddened to acknowledge the resignation of Skip Resch as Chaplain to our Association. The service he provided to us as Chaplain was extraordinary. I was genuinely moved by his poetic invocation at the RHOF during the ceremony for our fallen brothers at the last reunion. I have also been inspired by the many special emails he has continued to share with us. His frequent reminders did always tend to lessen our burdens and lighten our hearts with messages of the Almighty and stories about the kinder side of men. We certainly are a rough group of sinners, but our hearts are in the right place. We sorely need the type of guidance and reminding that Skip so eloquently

C/75 - E/20 LRP (CONTINUED)

provided. By his active participation, he taught us the role of the Almighty watching over Rangers. By his humble presence, he elevated us. Although he may not recognize that his messages are always felt because they are not always heeded, we have been enriched by his attempts. Thank you, Skip, and from all of us for all you have done.

Earlier this month, I was surprised and delighted to hear from my predecessor, Peter Hamlin, who was the platoon leader of my 2nd Platoon before I joined the unit. I was amazed to note that he enjoyed at an earlier time the exact same experiences I had as Platoon Leader with Charlie Rangers. Peter wrote: "I read with interest in my first copy of *Patrolling* Gary Dolan's article and his comments about not really talking about Viet Nam. I can only echo his comments. As a recently enrolled member let me introduce myself: I served as Platoon Leader of the 2nd platoon of E Company 20th Infantry Long Range Patrol from August 1968 until February. We had our tense moments but the thing that I'm most proud of is that no one was killed during that time. We only had one man who was seriously wounded and that took place the first day that I was there.

We were operating in the same AO as the Fourth Infantry. During one 10-day period we had more confirmed kills than the entire division. For one month we were directly attached to a brigade in that division. The first week I had to send out a team to do a bomb damage assessment after a B-52 strike and was told by the XO "Don't come back unless you find 75 bodies". The team found 3 so I reported 78

KIA. Three weeks later I was called before the brigade's CO and was royally chewed out because we were exaggerating our body count. It turned out that for the month we had a body count that was greater than his whole brigade. The only time that I exaggerated a body count was the 78 from the BDA.

As a platoon leader I had more challenges dealing with base camp issues than problems in the field. When I took over we operated from a base with a Mike Strike Force about 12 clicks east of Ban Me Thout. It was difficult for the men to get to the PX or "other" establishments so they asked me if they could borrow a jeep. With reluctance I agreed, not thinking that they would come back with a chaplain's jeep. I had them re-paint the bumpers right away.

I don't know how many times I had to go to the MPs to pick up men who had got into fights with legs. I do remember making a trip Christmas Day to get two men.

Once we were changing base camps by convoy and had an escort of MPs. When we arrived I had a MP captain spitting mad because one of my people dropped a CS grenade out of the deuce and a half after it had gone around a curve and gassed the MP jeep.

When it came time to do their job in the field I don't believe that there were any finer soldiers in country. Years after I worked with someone who interrogated prisoners and he told me that the weapon that NVA feared the most was B-52 strikes and after that was LRP-Rangers.

I felt then and feel the same today that it was truly an honor to serve with the best soldiers in Viet Nam.

Today my wife and I live in Mitchellville, Iowa, just a mile from Interstate 80; so if anyone is driving across country, we would love to have them stop for a visit."

Since the writing for the last issue of *patrolling*, I have received two communications from Ranger Michael Warner, who is currently incarcerated in Lubbock, Texas, which he wrote is home of Buddy Holly & The Crickets. Michael spent most of his time in 1970 & 1971 in C/75 in 4th platoon with SGT Hart. When 1st PLT (LT Windham) got sent to Pleiku to train and run missions with ARVN Rangers, he was sent along with them. Michael is a combat veteran with over thirty missions. Although found guilty by our criminal system at trial for alleged kidnapping, I personally believe him to be innocent of the charges, based on what I have learned from various sources. Nevertheless, regardless of the facts, what most disturbs me was the prosecutor's distorted use of Michael's patriotic service to our country. In line with the grossly false image of the Vietnam veteran concocted and perpetrated by the media and entertainment industry, the prosecutor used Michael's heroic service as a Ranger Point Man to show he was a "menace to society with a history of violent, criminally aggressive behavior" even though Michael had no criminal record anywhere in this great country. I am proud to call Michael my brother and wish him well, despite his unfortunate circumstances. I thank him for providing me a sheet with copies of pictures that I have included with this article. The pictures show William Klino, Mike Warner (on his first mission) and Tom "Lurch" Ensor, Team 4-3.

C/75 - E/20 LRP (CONTINUED)

Next, I am proud to report that the Board of Directors of your Association approved a great tribute to our KIA's in purchasing the engravings to place their names on the Special Operations Memorial at SOCOM Headquarters, McDill AFB, Florida. We can also claim satisfaction in not only memorializing our comrades, but we have also assisted in elevating the level of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association on the Memorial. I salute Laz Lazarov, who initiated this worthy tribute. I am further grateful to Sam Pullara, who supported the Board's actions with tactful initiative. As a sample of Sam's enterprise, I am providing here a copy of one of Sam's emails:

"FYI

----- Original Message -----

From: Tucker, Christopher, COL, JCS J8
To: 'sampul@comcast.net'
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2003 3:15 PM
Subject: RE: Major David B. Tucker

Sam,

really appreciate the note - my brother was a great soldier - one day I'll live up to his level of courage, strength and determination.

a tremendous honor for you all to think of him and recognize his service, which he was deeply proud of - albeit for a short period of time.

pls keep me in mind for August - will do my best to attend.

COL Chris Tucker
 OJCS, J8

christopher.tucker@js.pentagon.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: sampul@comcast.net
 [mailto:sampul@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2003 3:58 PM
To: Tucker, Christopher, COL
 Fort Carson
Subject: Major David B. Tucker

Col. Tucker, I thought I would let you know that Company E (LRP) 20th Infantry (Abn) & Company C (Ranger) 75th Infantry (Abn) Association, Inc. (Charlie Rangers), has voted to include your brother's name along with those of our 29 fallen brothers to be engraved at the SOCOM Memorial Located at McDill AFB, Tampa, Florida. We will recognize both units that claim him as their own, F/52 & E/20.

It is our intention to have a Memorial Service dedicating the addition of the names of our men to this Memorial as soon as we can after the engravings are com-

pleted. I will keep you informed.

We will also be holding our Reunion at Fort Benning, August 6-9 during the 75th Ranger Regiment Rendezvous. You are invited to attend. I will forward the information to you when it becomes available. HUR, Sam"

Finally, predicated on a motion by Sam in response to an alert by Laz of coveted three remaining spaces on the Memorial, your Board approved the purchase of those spaces to honor Daniel Pope, Worth Bolton and Jerry "Rocky" Stone. The names of these fine men are now honorably linked with the names of our fallen brothers as a special recognition and appreciation for their unique contributions to our Association.

I wish all a healthy and cheerful Springtime and a Happy St. Patty's Day!



KILO
 WILLIAM KING

Mike I heard about your situation in Texas. I will try to help as best I can. Scott Norton and I are in Quincy CA writing each other and remembering all the good and hard times we wish you could be here now. Maybe one day soon you will get out and we will have a great time. My address is on the back of this page. Write when ever you can.



Hey Mike, Charley RANGERS
 MEET June 5-8 Savannah, GA
 you are on the agenda
 Steve Jackson



**D/75**

Unit Director - John Kingeter

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

Unit Director - Robert Copeland



By Bob Copeland

Hello again and lets get those reservations made for the Co E Reunion, 23-27 July 2003!!! Call or email a friend and arrange to be in Kalispel, Montana at the Westcoast Outlaw Hotel for the big event. Call Gail at 1-800-223-8786 or on her direct line at 1-406-751-5407, Flathead Travel, to book your hotel room at \$91 per day. " NOTE THAT THESE ARE CORRECTED

CONTACT NUMBERS". Terry and Dorothy Leishman are co-ordinating this event and are doing a SUPER FINE JOB of putting it all together. YOU WILL HAVE A GREAT TIME, HOOAH!!!! Please send your registration fee to Terry and Dorothy Leishman, \$25 per person, i.e. member, wife and child, 3x25=\$75. You can contact Terry and Dorothy by email leish@gliacierpeaks.net Please book your flights early in order to get the best fare possible. More details will be included in the Company Newsletter coming out shortly from Jonesy. Mail for Terry and Dorothy Leishman should go to: 650 Birch Grove Road, Kalispel, MT 59901. Home number is (406) 755-1538.

Thanks to all for the contributions to the Ranger Children's Christmas Fund. The total amount collected this year from all areas was \$13,400. The Ranger Children had a great Christmas and funds will also be used throughout the year to meet their needs. Every single penny goes to help the Ranger Families!! Hooah!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!! Lets all try

to top last years donation for Christmas 2003!!!!

Our prayers and best wishes go out to all our members who are currently ill, hospitalized or undergoing treatment for their illness. We all pray for your speedy recovery! To the families of the Unit Members who have passed away we continue to offer our heartfelt sympathies for you loss and for that of our fellow comrade. Thanks again Jonesy for all you do in getting the cards and flowers out to the members and families and of course the Newsletter.



Our best wishes go out to all the troops who are on deployment in the Gulf Region and Afganistan. To our Ranger Brothers we wish you God Speed, Good Hunting and a Safe Return to your friends and families!! HOOAH!!RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!!!

I hope to see all company members and families and friends and of course our Gold Star Mothers at the Reunion in

Kalispel, Montana. Don't miss this chance to get together and enjoy the fellowship of your comrades, families and friends of the RANGER/LRP/LRRP FAMILY!! See you all in Montana in July!!

STAY SAFE AND KEEP THE FAITH!! HOOAH!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

Bob Copeland
Unit Director

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

Unit Director - Joe Little



Ladies and gentlemen, due to time and health constraints, Joe Little will not be writing his normal unit directors letter this month. I will attempt to fill his shoes, which will be difficult but necessary. Let's all wish Joe a healthy recovery from his recent stroke, which he hates to speak of, but which nevertheless

occurred. Oh, and by the way, it was a small metal fragment which caused the stroke...10 guesses where he picked that up !

I want to thank Bill Mrvicka for again taking the time, and expense, to compose another fine issue of " REAR SECURITY", F Company's newsletter, and

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

kudos to Ron Harrison for his excellent dedication piece to our fallen brother, John Rowland. Outstanding piece Ron, and a moment of silence again for John, a true hero in many ways.

Speaking of heroes, and I don't want to embarrass him, but we should all stand up and salute F company's CSM Don Purdy, our RHO member. The newsletter posted the words from his induction ceremony citation in a most excellent way. Don's actions truly represented those of a brave and dedicated soldier, and further expounds upon the excellence of the Ranger community; living proof that "Rangers Lead The Way".

I know many of you read the list of "new names found" and want to reach out to them. To do so, you must have further information, right? Well, to get that contact information, you must contact Bill Mrvicka and ask for an updated version of F Company's roster. It is the only way you're going to be able to keep up with all of the names that Paul Moody has been tracking down for us so expertly, and so affordably. Spread the word that to contact/trace or find a missing LRRP/LRP/Ranger, all that a member must do is to

write/contact his unit director, request that the search be initiated, and the U/D will pass it on to the next point in the chain. It's only \$ 5.00 per search, and if they are one of ours, and join in the association, the cost is cut in half. For \$2.50 you can find that friend you've been talking about for the past 34 years.

Mike Rohly has been burning up the presses with his paperwork in preparation for our own off-year reunion. His letters may read a bit harsh, but sometimes that's what it takes to get some action out of us. We spoke of having these "mini re-unions" at the last 75th RRA re-union held at Ft. Benning. Nothing was firmed then, and unless we get Mike and his committee some response, it never will be firmed up. I'm all for it. It will be centrally located and with you all there, it will be a fun and worthwhile adventure.

Thanks Mike for heading this one up. I only wish I could impress upon the members the importance of maintaining our direct contact with each other. Age and health have begun to take their toll. So please guys, send in your information and response sheets, ASAP.

Our final thanks should go out to the two members of F CO. who so diligently put in the and effort to research our archives history through their pursuit of our "missing" AARs or "after action reports" for those who didn't know. Bill Mrvicka (again?) and Joe Gentile have amassed a bunch this time, and somehow Dave Regenthal found the time to post them on

the www.lrrp.com site. Go to'em and print them out guys. You would not believe how much weight these carry in proving and grounding your VA claims and your pursuit of the awards and medals that you know you have coming, but somehow disappeared, what with the command problems we incurred during the 1968-1969 period. Thanks for a real good job, Dave Joe and Bill. Special people like these think and act for the good of us all, not just for themselves. That's why they're our friends and brothers. And while you're at the lrrp.com site, check out

all of the new photo albums, and the excellent re-arrangement of them by year now, done by Dave. Steve Teems has sent in a great amount of them for our enjoyment. Must have been using one of those beautiful, half-frame Olympus-Pen EE's, right Steve? Damn things took twice the number of photos per roll that was stated upon the roll. Lots of pixs but real hell in the development stage as they incurred double the cost.

Let's stay in touch, men of F company, and continue to search for those who are a step behind..it's only a short step..we've just got to reach out our arms to help them get with us again. It's what friends and comrades do for one another. God Bless, and keep your powder dry.

Dan Nate, Assistant Unit Director



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

Unit Director - Steve Crabtree



The Legend of John Fritzinger

By: Steve Crabtree

My first encounter with Fritz was as a student (puke) in the Americal Division Recondo School in May of 1969 where he was an instructor. He was like all the rest of the TAC's with one exception, he had a heart. Even so, Fritz did everything he could to get us to quit. Upon completion of the training, Fritz took me out on my "Cherry Mission."

We were inserted on top of Hill 1362 about twenty clicks West of Chu Lai. We preferred to call it "Mad Mac's Mountain" (affectionately named for our CO, CPT James B. McWilliams). Our mission was to walk off the mountain back to Chu Lai & see what we could find. About two clicks down from the OP on the summit, the weather got really bad. We crawled under our ponchos while the rain pelted us unmercifully. About that time the brightest light I've ever experienced flashed simultaneously with a huge explosion. Fritz was flying through the air as if he had been shot out of a cannon. What had actually happened was he was attempting to contact the OP when lightning struck the long whip antenna. He landed in a lifeless mass; no heartbeat and not breathing. We got his heart going, breathing stabilized, called for a medivac and started making our way back to the OP. When we reached the summit the lightning started again setting off the Claymores. Quite a welcoming home party! We got Fritz safely on the bird and on his way to the field hospital.

Our paths crossed several more times until he DEROSed back to the states & got out of the Army but never again as teammates. We met again in Washington DC in 1991 at Golf Company's second

reunion. Fritz had become a video photographer for CBS and was filming a documentary of our unit, "Who Were We?" It was great to see him again. We reestablished out "special" friendship and promised another twenty years wouldn't go by without our keeping in contact. We met again the next year in Las Vegas for our third reunion which was to be the last time we would be together. We continued to communicate via the phone every six months or so. Fritz got on with his life and I mine.

I was pleased to read in last month's Patrolling that Fritz had joined the 75RRA. He had called me about six months ago after I had written him & asked him to join. He said something to the effect that if I was willing to send him a self addressed stamped envelope, the least he could do was fill out the application & send it in. We laughed & talked about the first time he "died," what each of us had been doing and when were we going to get together again.

Fritz never received that issue of Patrolling. He was found dead from a massive heart attack back in October. He has since received accolades from WWL-TV in New Orleans, the New Orleans television community, the members of his former unit purchased a brick for him at the Ranger Memorial and he is dearly missed by many. I miss our phone calls.

John closed his documentary on E Company, 51st Infantry and Golf Company Ranger, 75th Infantry talking about how we survived Vietnam and how each and every one of us should strive, "to make this world just a little better than when we first entered it." He did! How about you?

"Gentlemen, let's get on with the mission."

CRABS



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

Unit Director - William Anton



Hello to you all:

I would like to thank Ron Edwards for his patience with this group from the 1st Cavalry because we have been very slow about working with the 75th RRA. Bill Anton our unit rep to the 75thRRA has had to bear the full load for several years. I will be helping to provide articles in "PATROLLING" as will as several other members in the LRRP/Ranger chapter of the 1st Cavalry Div. Assn. Jim Ross took the lead for doing an article in the last issue. Jim also took the lead this past summer for getting a Ranger Memorial Stone for Ron Hall.

Jim kept a flow of emails going out over this country.

The following is a quote from Jim Ross's final email message on completion of his mission.

"Sam: I am pleased to provide the final accounting of funds from our ranks toward the purchase of a Ranger Memorial Stone for Ron. \$240 was spent on the stone which will be etched with Ron's name and 1st Cav LRRP '66-'67 designation and laid within the Ranger Memorial walkway at Ft. Benning sometime next June. We have the official confirmation in hand. The remaining \$445 was been sent to the 1st Cavalry Division's Scholarship Foundation, as a contribution to that fund in Ron's name. Ron would be proud to know that a deserving young student will benefit from his memory. Here is the final listing of the contributors: Bill CARPENTER, Russ CARON, Ron CHRISTOPHER, Art GUERRERO, Jim JAMES, Gregg JOREGENSON, Geoff KOPER, Michael MCCOY, Richard MODOLO, Robert OAKES; Pat "OB" O'BRIEN, Jim ROSS, Ted SCHERCK, Howard SHUTE, John SIMONES and Johnny SUGGS. Sam, I request that you do us the honor of passing this along so that all will know the final outcome. Thank you for the ongoing assistance you have provided. I am reminded in times such as this that our loyalty for one

another hasn't diminished over several decades. I don't suppose that it ever will. I find that truly amazing and yet very special. Best Regards! Jim ROSS"

I have few tidbits of Intel that has come by me recently. within the LRRP/Ranger group. Bill Carpenter, our newsletter chairperson has a son in Kuwait serving with a Combat Engineer Company. There several others in the group have sons, daughters and in-laws on active duty. With everyone on duty has been moving around a lot in recent months, I am not aware of their status. We all send

a prayer out to them too. Even though Jim Boyles says 51 is not old, I just do not think I have that kind of get-up-in-go. He is the CSM for 3/144 Inf. 49th Armor Div., Texas National Guard. Jim has been on full active duty since last Aug. at Ft. Lewis, WA.

For all you guys who like to read or collect books, one of our chapter members and a 9th Cavalry Trooper has had a book published: A Troop, 9th Cavalry: The Boldest Cavalrymen the World Has Ever Known by Ronald Lee CHRISTOPHER. Ron's book is available through Publish America online or call toll free at 1-877-333-7422.

Please do not forget that Gregg P.J. Jorgenson and David Klimek have also had books published about the Vietnam era.

The LRRP/Ranger chapter has had two active reunion members retire. Bob GILL, one of our past chapter presidents, has taken up retirement and now lives by the lake most people dream about. David KLIMEK, our current Secretary for the chapter, took an offer for early retirement and has been spending sometime seeing friends, doing some golfing and traveling.

Everyone STAY AWARE, STAY SHARP and PRAT-ICE SAFETY.

"Rangers Lead The Way"

Sam Dixon, Chapter Pres. for LRRP/Rangers of 1st Cav.

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

Unit Director - Barry Crabtree



By: Barry Crabtree

The beautiful poem which introduces this edition's space for I CO. is particularly eloquent for several reasons: It comes from a wife of a Ranger I had the privilege of having on my team as RTO for many months through lots of combat; and it represents the sequence that we all followed into Vietnam; and it highlights the very strong lifelong

bonds that our experiences created that will never be duplicated. These thoughts are heavy on our minds at this time because our own company's reunion is coming up this May 1. We will elect a new Unit Director, which makes this my last contribution as I CO. representative. The intro poem by Susan is meaningful to me because it charts poetically what all my Ranger brothers are going through in

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

our continuing process of COMING HOME TO THE WORLD. I am so much of a better person because of re-established relationships with the guys that I depended on for my life in a war which we are only now coming to understand. The FEELINGS OF HEALING that I have referred to in each of my Patrolling pieces grow out of these precious few days that we share during reunions and visits that our hectic lifestyles will allow us to have. Thank God for all of my Ranger brothers.

I suppose that most of you have noticed the growing anti-war movement in this country?? This is the first war in history where this movement has gained strength and momentum before the war has even started!!! Let this be a warning shot over the bow so to speak.

I've warned about this phenomenon ever since 9/11 and it's gaining strength. The war in Iraq has heated up considerably with 30 to 40 bombings on Iraq soil since the beginning of this year. On Jan. 8, we bombed 8 different sites. The cries of foul are already arising out of the embargo on Iraq concerning the effect on children and medicine and food and on and on. I'll simply quote President Bush to answer these claims - "...to the people of Iraq, your enemy is not surrounding you, he is ruling you within your own country. The USA is not your enemy. we are going to be your liberator!!!"

Let this be a warning to all Rangers past, present, and future. A recent survey of 3000 people indicated that 1 in 3 thought that President Bush was a greater threat to world peace than Saddam. Many of the same forces that made our Vietnam experience such a nightmare for our Rangers are coming into play in a major way at this time. The world is truly a much different place and we must as the biggest and best association of Rangers on the planet, take note of these forces and do everything in our power to protect and shelter our 1000's of Rangers returning to the New World Order here in the USA - from the scorn and misguided feelings of a public that does not and never has had the ability to understand what it is like to be the object of such controversy after you've risked it all for them. That can be TOUGH!!! Our I CO. members and the growing 100's of other Rangers from other era's can be the buffer between our Rangers coming home in the near future from fierce combat and an unsympathetic public that can only count body bags. Let's let our motto of Rangers Lead The Way mean that we also lead the way back home for our precious young Rangers that will need help to adjust. Man would that ever have been a blessing

in my life upon my coming home in July 1969. I can say with assurance that my life would have been dramatically different with the kindness and understanding that we are in a position to give through our 75th RRA.

Make sure you attend all of your individual company reunions and our Association's reunions so that you can know what is going on in the special op's community. I'm going to quote Ranger brother Steve Crabtree (no relation) about the Vietnam era's veterans, "..... if you are still haunted by the PTSD monster that dwells within us all, get it fixed. Now!!!" We need you and the returning Rangers need you at your very best to help. HE CLIMBS HIGHEST WHO HELPS ANOTHER UP!! Let that be our motto

going into our war on terrorism. Don't fight a separate battle with no support from 35 years ago. Put that one away and "gird your loins" about for the coming battle that we are likely to be involved with for some time against a foe that is every bit the equal of Charlie and there's more of them. And they are spread all over the world - even in our own country, or have we forgotten.

I'm really not trying to make a political statement so much as I am a human statement on behalf of all my brothers in I CO. We have elected leaders that make the decisions about war and our Rangers are simply the messengers. We follow orders..... not create them. Let me quote

a thought from my Hall of Fame induction speech in 1996 that I think is meaningful:

"if you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat; If you know neither the enemy nor yourself you will succumb in every battle; however, if you know the enemy and you know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles!!" Sun Tzu from the Art of War 2500 years ago.

The art of war is of vital importance to the state. It is a matter of life and death, a road either to safety or to ruin. Hence under no circumstances can it be neglected. Ranger Brothers from all era's - don't neglect your important responsibilities in the New Millennium. Let's be in a strong position to help our young Rangers coming home from a war that has probably been declared by the time you read this in print. Who would have ever been able to tell us that the real meaning of love was to be discovered through our devotion to a cause and to each other over 35 years of coming home, so help me God!!!!!!!



*I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP (CONTINUED)***GOOD MORNING VIETNAM**

In May of '68 came a notice from the draft,
I can get out of this with a little bit of craft.
Report to Milwaukee for your physical exam,
you've passed with flying colors, go see your Uncle Sam!

Ten weeks of basic training, Ft Campbell here I come,
I did so many pushups, my fingers all feel numb.
Shine your boots, clean your gun,
they'll shave you bald, and that's no fun.

Ft Polk, Louisiana, PFC'S front and center,
the time has come for all to enter.
Buff the floors, make your bed,
we're taught first aid if you get a lot of lead.

Next stop California, off to Ft Ord,
after these days of processing, I became quite bored.
The paper work is finished, everything is typed,
I'm not excited, nor am I hyped.

I pray and pray to the Lord above,
please Dear God, show me your love.
I guess it's now or never if you give a damn,
twenty hours later, Good Morning Vietnam.

Now it's time to learn KP
I thought it would be easy for me.
Peel potatoes, wash pots and pans,
I wish I had lotion for shriveled up hands.

Follow me Private, to the Long Range Reconnaissance
Patrol,
Spec 4 will show you your ultimate goal.
Tape your dog tags, clean your rifle, climb those ropes
and ladders,
you must have this down pat, 'cause that's what really
matters.

Let's begin our mission as a Ranger,
don't kid your self, there's plenty of danger.
Sitting in tall grass, the water is waist high,
suddenly a rat crawls across my thigh.

You can't jump up or scream and holler,
there could be a sniper with a rifle on your collar.
There's lizards, snakes and biting ants,
if they start crawling, off come your pants.

One hot night, I remember an attack,
I hollered "Crabtree, I'm shot in the back".
Turn over it's only a shrapnel wound,
I feel like I was harpooned.

Hours later the medivac chopper landed near,
almost immediately, I lost my fear.
He plucked me up with utmost care,
the throbbing pain was hard to bear!

February of '69 my first child was born,
Mac and I had our shoes full, come the next morn.

Seven pound nine ounce baby boy,
David Thomas was truly my pride and joy.

The troop went home November of '69,
we got together for one last glass of wine.
Said our goodbyes and got on the plane,
I hope we can all still remain sane.

Some men left with medals,
others with Purple Hearts.
Some were not so lucky,
they left with missing parts.

The embarrassment of dishonor, a soldiers greatest fear,
the Rangers carried each other, it always brings a tear.
Now there's bitter feelings about the Black Beret,
some were earned, some were issued and some were
given away.

Twenty five years later where the heck is Mac?
I called and searched, but had no contact.
Then I remembered, I'll call Cox,
how can I find Mac, that sly old fox?

Call Savage, he's got names and numbers up to date,
you know what they say, "It's never too late".
I have thirty names, that's quite a sum.
the last name on the list was Newcombe.

I'm trying to find Mac, have you any trail?
I'll start searching and contact you by mail.
Two years later I finally got word,
Mac's in California, that's all I heard.

I searched and called, day and night,
I'll try one more number, this has to be right.
can I take a message, I'm his wife, Sandy.
Give him this Wisconsin number, my name is Brandy.

Two days later, I'm shaving in front of the mirror,
no, there's no one named Brandy living here!
In a split second I shouted from the back,
hey, that's my old Vietnam buddy, Mac.

After twenty eight years and so far apart,
we talked about war, love and our Purple Heart.
I have a big favor I would like to ask,
will you be my best man or is it a task?

With Sandy as Matron of Honor,
and Mac as best man,
they witnessed Brandy putting
a ring on Sue's hand.

I anxiously await the next reunion
whether it be far or near,
hoping to see old faces
of Rangers from yesteryear.

**K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP****Unit Director - Bill Bullen**

By: Bill Bullen

Greetings, I hope this finds you and yours in a healthy spirit, the Lord has been good to us here in Palm, Pa. Hopefully He is with our President and Troops at this time.

We're having a mini-reunion Aug 8, 9, and 10 2003, you have to read through to get the details.

To start with, we did very well in the Ranger Children Christmas Gift Fund. Beside the private contributions sent directly to the 75th RRA, the 4th Div LRP, E/58, K/75 donated \$1000.00. This was done with a check from the general fund. So far we have recouped \$445.00. The folks who contributed were Don Keller, Dana McGrath, Bob Smyers, Bryant Middleton, Tom Reed, Brian West, Willie Williams and Bill Bullen. We sent this money from the general fund, and as you know, the general fund is built from an unofficial dues program. For those of you who don't know of it, for the past 12 years some members have given \$10.00 a year for our unit fund. This practice has recently; over the past few years, dwindled to almost nothing. This is why we are asking asked 4th Div LRP/Rangers to give this year. If you feel so inclined, send Wayne Mitsch a check for \$10.00 or any other amount you see fit to send. This will help bolster the \$344.47 balance we have in the general fund year to date, 7 Feb 2003.

Do you have any lost teammates? We can use this magazine as a vehicle for these searches; we can put it to the masses. Some other Ranger Buddy may be talking with that individual. This is your page; if you have the desire

to be published in a not so small way, send in your stuff, anything decent will be used. Tell of your most memorable mission or situation. Mission pictures are great or teams packing up, insertions or extractions. You can go to Staples or Office depot and get quality copies made.

While your sorting through these pictures send copies to Don Keller. "SEND PICTURES, SEND PICTURES, SEND PICTURES" (quote by Don Keller) He is trying to assemble a display for the Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, N.C. Thus far Don has purchased a stone on behalf of



K/Co, E/58, 4th Div & Bde LRPS. He has done so with his own funds, if you want to help send a contribution to Wayne Mitsch, earmark the money Spec. Ops museum. He is not only honoring RVN Rangers but WWII, Korea RVN, Grenada, Panama, Desert Storm, Somalia to the present. Don is going to be our guide to the museum and other interesting Fayetteville Museums and Hot Spots this August. A Mini-Reunion is being scheduled at this time, August 8th, 9th and 10th. All will

have a great time. This will be a good time to meet with our own, without the distractions that go with an Association reunion. For information and a schedule contact Don Keller. Don will be the point of contact.

Don Keller:

E-mail Address (es):

donellenkeller@aol.com:

510 Dashland Dr.

Fayetteville N.C 28303

Phone: (910) 867-6985

If you need to talk with me, call.
Bill Bullen

K75ranger@comcast.net

PO Box 34

Palm, Pa 18070

215-679-8856

Fax 215-679-4756 (call first)

Hopefully this is information will be convenient as August 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, will be Ranger Rendezvous, 2003 at Ft Benning. Thursday after the change of command, I'll drive up to Ft Bragg, NC. Hopefully others will do the same.

I'm honored to serve as Unit Director, but it is a challenge others before me have realized. A lot of work is done with very little input or feedback. So please work with me by responding one way or another, and share your pictures with Don for his project. I feel he is doing the right thing for the right reason. People at the Regiment have expressed their gratitude and support in this venture, so guys, gets on board, please.

Bill Bullen

Unit Director 4th Div LRP, Bde

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

LRRP, E/58 & K/75 Ranger Rgt
K75ranger@comcast.net
 215-679-8856

Fellow LRRPs, LRP's, and K Company Rangers..

We recently purchased a "paver stone" at the Airborne Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, N.C. The stone is inscribed as follows: "A Tribute to all who served in 4th Inf Div/Bde LRRPs, E Co, 58th Inf, and K Company 75th Ranger Regt" The paver stone has been permanently placed at the entrance for all to see. A small item but it does represent all those listed thereon.

This did not come about without cost (\$500.00). Portions of this amount have already been donated and the remainder will be paid out of the "unit fund". This same fund from which the Children's Christmas money is paid each year. There are other expenses that are paid from this same fund and it has to be maintained for many reasons, and one very good one is a mini reunion in August of this year (8-9-10th). There will be more on that later. K Company now has a guide on, just made, that will be present at every activity that K Company has a part in.

We are working with museum

here in Fayetteville to establish a display that will chronicle all LRRP, LRP, and Ranger activities/actions from WWII, Korea, RVN, and all actions since including those of today. The story will be told---told to give all credit to those who were there and gave of themselves, with distinction, some with their lives. It is an ambitious and time consuming endeavor but a worthy one. But needless to say, many things in the way of information, etc. will have to be gathered and in some instances paid for. Much searching must be done to gain valid facts and numbers. Many items will be purchased by individuals who have already been tasked to cover their individual assignments. The "Unit Fund" should repay in kind for the out of pocket expense. So, in short, our "fund" needs each of you to support it by giving what ever you are comfortable with. If that amount is nothing, then that will be fine and no one will keep track of it.

Remember this though, what is being done here is for every single man who served with the units listed thus insuring his place in history, perhaps not by name but assuredly by the unit in which one served. Some day you might have the time to come here and while standing in front of this very dis-

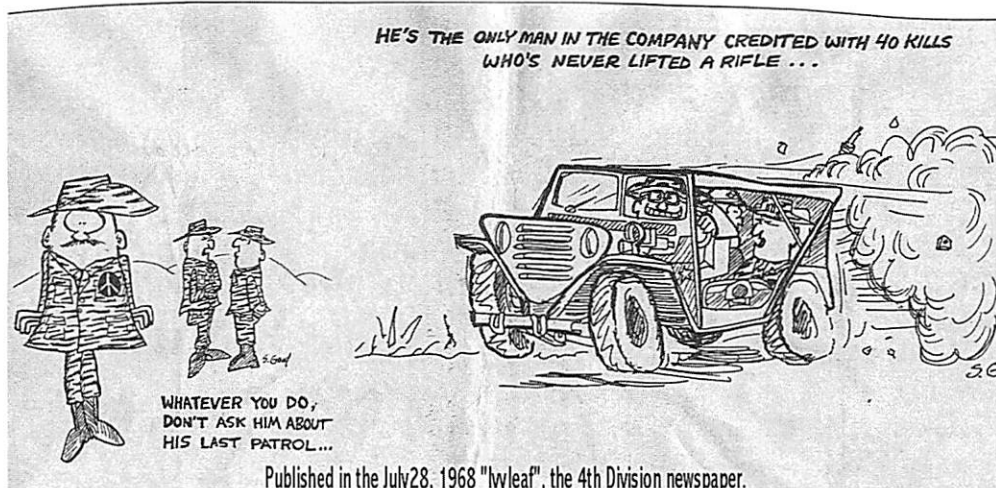
play about which I am speaking and say, "I am part of that history and no one can ever take that away."

Whatever part you opt to play is and always will be an important one. Please be as generous as you are able. Each of you should remember that you played a part in making this history but to make a living tribute you are the very one to keep it alive. I surely intend to do my part to make this all happen, not just for myself, but for each and everyone who served and for those who gave their lives for our country.

D. G. Keller, CSM (Retired)
 1SG, K Company



Shirt & Guideon made up by CSM Don Keller. Shirts will be available at the mini-reunion August 8 - 10, 2003



Published in the July 28, 1968 "Hyleaf", the 4th Division newspaper.



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

Unit Director - Randall White



Five Names

I hope this edition of Patrolling finds the men of the 101st LRRP/Rangers in good health, and the end of winter coming near wherever you might live. This summer will bring with it the reunion of the 101st LRRP/Ranger Association in Laughlin NV.

The 2003 101st LRRP/Ranger reunion will be June 18-22 at the Ramada Express, in Laughlin, NV. The banquet will be held on Friday the 20th. To make reservations call 702-298-4200 and be sure and let them know that you are with the 101st LRRP Rangers. **WE MUST HAVE 50 ROOMS BOOKED!** Room rates are cheap, cheap, and cheap! For additional information contact Linda Cox. 303 838-4403 or e-mail:

lrc@purplemtn.com The 75th RRA reunion will be in 2004 with additional information forthcoming as things firm up. Get that change jar started now!

This past October I made a trip down to Indiana to visit my folks and pick up some items that had been in storage for years. I make the trip about every 2-3 years, but usually don't have much time for bummin' around with pop. He's finally sold his businesses and is semi-retired at 74, so this trip we did a little hangin' out. One day we made the few mile trip from his house to the old home town of Chesterton to visit my aunt. She told me about a new Indiana Vietnam Veterans Memorial that had been built out near the by-pass. It's a very nice memorial, but located in a noisy and out of the way location. It deserves to be by the quiet of Coffee Creek that meanders through town, or at least in the town park where others could be made aware of it. I suppose local politics played a role in its location, but nevertheless it's a nice memorial. It was a beautiful autumn day, so my father and I stopped and paid our respects to the names presented there. The first person I knew who was killed in Vietnam was Loren Long. [Panel 47W - Row 047] [My mother and Loren's mom were CHS classmates and friends. I can remember playing with Loren when the families visited. He was a couple years older than me, but never picked on the snot nosed kid that pestered him. Loren was good friends with the Humphrey kids, who lived down the

alley from us on 9th street...less than a block from the basketball courts and parking lot behind the high school. I hung out at Humphrey's a lot because Jack, who was a year younger than I, was a chum from the "hood". Loren was a good athlete and popular kid in school, and it tore everyone apart when he was killed. I was in the kitchen when the phone rang and my mom answered it. I'll never forget the look on her face as she looked at me after a few seconds of listening to the caller. The expression on her face, years later told me what she was thinking..."in a few years would he be next?" I think that eventually the Longs were divorced. If his death played any role in that event, I couldn't say. But things

around the hood were never quite the same again. We sophomores and juniors who knew Loren and didn't have collage in our future, silently pondered the years to come and realized our time to answer the call would soon be upon us. Another name that is on the Wall is Randy Taylor, [Panel 03W - Line 62] class of 68 and was Larry Taylor's younger brother...class of 67...my class. He was in the 101st Airborne Division, and killed 4 days after I left Nam. No, I never saw him in country. But during my time in Vietnam I remember seeing Frank Spiron, Danny Prybyz, Scott Haney and Jerry Taubert, all guys I went to school with in Chesterton. "Tuna" Taubert worked in a finance office across the street from my company area where I was assigned with

2nd Brigade in 71. We got together quite often and the common bond of Chesterton eased the remaining time we had in country. Frank was a grunt in the 101st and I saw him a few times before he left for the world, about two months after I came in country. Frank was the first "homey" I ran into while in Vietnam and one of the crowd I hung with back in high school. We still stay in touch. Danny Prypyz was a member of the Americal Division and took an in-country R&R to pay me a visit. We also went through basic together, along with 5 others from CHS. He made the trip north from Chu Lai and spent a couple days hangin' out at Camp Eagle with me shortly before he left country. I haven't seen him since he left me at Camp Eagle. I have pictures of these three guys with me taken in Vietnam. Late in my tour I made a trip down to Da Nang and looked up Scott Haney, who was a Marine. We spent a night drinkin'



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

beer and talkin' old times, but I didn't get a photo. Scott left for home a few weeks later where I met him and we spent many nights playing monopoly that next winter. There were a couple others from Chesterton who I saw in Vietnam, but their names escape me, and probably forever will. Terry Francis is on the wall [Panel 35W - Row 064] and was from Burdick Indiana, just a few miles from Chesterton. He was "Greasy" Francis's older brother, who was also a high school friend. He was home on leave before heading over and I ran into him on the night before he was leaving. I didn't really know him that well, but he seemed to be at a loss for something to do and for someone to hang out with during his last night home. We found some beer and cruised the night away listening to WLS radio out of Chicago, while I quizzed him about the Army. I'm glad we hung out that night and I had a chance to know him a little. Behind his wildness was a real nice guy. Allan Rippe [Panel 10W - Row 110] is also on the wall. He was one of those guys who existed on the edges of "the crowd", and I can barley see his face. He was one of those guys who today would be called a "bad boy" but back then considered a "hood." A tough exterior covering what-

ever insecurities he might harbor on the inside. He answered the call when summoned and paid the ultimate price as a grunt with the Americal. There are others from town that were killed, but from the Chesterton area I only remember or knew these boys. The last name I know on the Indiana Wall is Harry Henthorn. Harry was from southern Indiana near Richmond. He was a member of my unit, L Company Rangers, and I watched as he and 3 others died when the helicopter they were in was shot down. I can faintly remember standing bunker guard duty with him. It was nice to visit these guys and say hi when I was home last October, especially doing it in Indiana. It was also nice to know, that in an old home town I no longer live in, Harry is remembered by people who never knew him. There were 5 names I knew on that "Indiana Wall". One of them I saw die. My father turned away when he saw me start to cry...for that I silently thanked him. But I think he was crying too, and for that I'll always love him.

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**M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP**

Unit Director - Jack Fuche



71St LRP - M/75
by Steve Houghton

Hello everybody. It's Feb 10th and time for another unit article. It's a snowy time right now here in Michigan. Hopefully by the time this article is in print, winter will have had it's back broken and spring will be full swing. We can hope anyway. What's new for members of the 71st and M Company since we last talked? I only know what's happened to me of course. I'm going through a period of adjustment since my wife's passing. I've changed jobs. I'm back in the construction world, working with my daughter and son in law's construction business, traveling the Midwest building "Family Video" stores in Iowa Ohio and Penn. It keeps me busy and my mind off things, so I guess it's a good thing for now.

I've had a chance to talk to a few old friends, some from my NCO school days and some from our 71st- M

Company brotherhood, all caring, well wishing words of comfort and sympathy. From guys like Terrell Ross, Charlie Hunt, Jack Fuche, Tim Henderlieter, the list goes on. Guys I knew from the Nam, and men I've only met through e-mails and contacts through my small web site, all offering words of comfort and well meaning. I just want to say I appreciate them all.

This past Jan 10th I had a chance to meet Tim Henderlieter, whom I haven't seen in 33 yrs. It seems Tim is working for a company called Valspar, that specializes industrial coatings, and Tim is one of their application engineers. They send him all over the country, and he has been visiting this area of Michigan that Jack and I live in. Well we finally worked it out and got with Tim on his last visit to the area. We got together for half a day in Ludington Michigan. Now I haven't seen Tim in 33yrs, but I knew him instantly

when he walked up the sidewalk to the restaurant where we met. He's a little heavier and a lot grayer than I remember, but aren't we all. It was the first time him



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

and Jack to see each other since Vietnam. We visited in his hotel room for a while and proceeded to a local watering hole called "Michael's on the Avenue" in Ludington Michigan. We had a great time and a great waitress there. We met a young lady named Lauren Gnatkowski. She was a great waitress. And when she found out we were three old Army Rangers getting together for the first time since Vietnam, she was even more gracious, kind and respectful. It seems she has a friend who is a recent new addition to the Ranger ranks. She was so good to us, I promised to include her photo in this unit article. It really did seem good to have a little respect shown to us that we didn't get when we came home. Jack and Tim fell in love with her I think! Anyway Jack told her there are lots of young Rangers who read this magazine who might like a pen pal right now, all the young men away from home in the current political unrest in the mideast. So here is the way to contact her. Now I'm not giving her address to anyone, but you guys might try contacting her where she works. A nice place who treated us old Ranger right. "Michaels on the Avenue" at 129 W Ludington Ave., Ludington, Michigan 49431. Just put attention Lauren, a very nice young lady. If I were about 100yrs younger, I wouldn't be putting her info in here for you young Rangers. And I promised her a copy of this issue of Patrolling too. So her it is Lauren. Jack, Tim and I want to thanks again.

I had such a great time talking with Jack and Tim that day that I'm absolutely determined to make the next reunion. I just have to say a couple of things about Tim. I remember Tim as the man who had the inside

track on the listening devices we used to insert in enemy territory. Tim served 23 months in Vietnam, without an R & R or leave back home between tours. When he got home he couldn't buy a beer or vote for the President who was his commander in charge while he served in Vietnam. Tim joined the Army when he was 17 years old. Tim is a real "Hero" as all of the rest of you men are who read these articles, because you volunteered to serve in the LRRPs- Rangers, and did things most people will never appreciate or understand. But we do, all of us who were there. So if at all possible let's make the next reunion. I knew a few of you Heros personally, and I would like to see you again. The rest of you I'd like to meet, and shake your hand.

I haven't had any other news articles submitted to date, so I'll have to close with this.

Peace to you all. Till next time.

Steve Houghton

**N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP**

Unit Director - Reed Cundiff



I believe there should be interest in the development of the LRRP units. Our second CO, retired Colonel Robert C. Carroll has kindly provided me with a monograph on LRRP operations during Operation Sioux City written by then Captain Robert C. Carroll while he was attending the Advanced Infantry Officer Course in 1967-68. Retired Colonel Bill Palmer was the "godfather" of the 173rd LRRP and was responsible for its founding as a formal "Provisional" platoon in June of 1966. He commanded it until September of that year and accompanied it to the last Special Forces LRRP school that month, basically Recondo School Class 0 as it was made up entirely of 173rd LRRP personnel. He has said that we will go over the very early days at the next Ranger Reunion

TANGO

The monograph Operations of the Long Range Reconnaissance Platoon, 173rd Airborne (Separate) prior to and during a Brigade Search and Destroy Mission in the Republic of Vietnam (Operation Sioux City), 26 September – 9 October 1966 (Personal Experience of a Long Range Reconnaissance Platoon Commander

INTRODUCTION**WRITER's PREFACE**

At the outset I would like to make a few comments

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as to the purposes and background of this paper. I wanted to describe, and in so doing to analyze, the operation of a long-range reconnaissance organization as it conducted patrols in hostile territory over a specified period of time. The unit is the Long-Range Reconnaissance Platoon of the 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate); the hostile territory is War Zone D; the period of time is 20 September to 2 October 1966, before and during Operation Sioux City. The lack of comment on the LRRP activities in the Operation Sioux City after-action report provides me with the advantage of painting the picture as I saw it, or better, as I remember it. It also provides me with the disadvantages of inherent inaccuracies. These inaccuracies are certainly unintentional, and hopefully, they are inconsequential.

LRRP BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

The 173rd Airborne Brigade was the first conventional unit to employ the LRP as it is now conceived (written in late 1967). Our operations modeled very closely those of Project Delta, 5th Special Forces Group. As early as April 1966, personnel from the 173rd LRRP were sent to the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrolling School (later renamed the MACV Recondo School), and our unit benefited greatly from this and subsequent sessions.

Our provisional TOE provided for personnel to fill ten LRPs. It was understood that only eight of these would be operational because of training requirements, "R and R", injuries and ailments. We had not expanded to the TOE strength and at the beginning of Operation Sioux City, we had seven LRP's. All patrols were controlled by the LRRP commander or in his vice, the LRRP operations officer. The LRRP commander worked directly for the cavalry troop commander (an authorized major), and this relationship included tactical control as well as administrative support. The next link in the chain was the brigade commander or the S2 speaking for him. Often the troop commander was left completely out of the picture due to cavalry mission or some other commitment. The troop commander was also commander of the autonomous battalion on field operations: E/17th Cavalry, 173rd Engineer Company,

173rd MP platoon and D/16th Armor. [Unit Director's note, this made the LRPs quite the wayward child: 173rd Provisional LRRP, attached to the Autonomous Battalion of the 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate)]

The experience of the 173rd LRRP prior to Operation Sioux City included infiltration by UH-1D helicopter, vehicle drop-off, helicopter rappel and stay-behind. The unit had also experienced the need for emergency rope extraction technique developed by Delta for use when a patrol was compromised but when no clearings for helicopter landings were available.

THE EXISTING SITUATION

The brigade had been alerted for an operation into War Zone D. The initial assault was to occur on 26 September 1966. The intelligence picture was sketchy and outdated and the commanding general decided to use the LRRP prior to the brigade operation. His instructions to me included the following guidance: (1) to put in five patrols initially, (2) to concentrate my attention in the northern sector of the map sheet, and (3) in addition to performing the normal reconnaissance and surveillance mission, to bring back a prisoner.

There were no friendly units north of the Song Dong Nai except for a Special Forces "A" Camp at the confluence of the Song Be and Song Dong Nai (YT153284). The 173rd Airborne Brigade's base camp served for most of the operation as both the LRRP command post and the helicopter stand-by location about sixteen kilometers south of the patrol area.

PREPARATIONS

The initial plan involved five patrols; each prepared to stay for three days and each hoping to get an unwary enemy soldier or small group of enemy soldiers into their ambush. We planned to have three of the patrols link up after two days if we still had no prisoner. The purpose of this move was to be able to hit a sizeable force. This contingency plan was discarded because of the distance between patrols and the difficulty of linking up. The 173rd had never



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before had more than three LRP's in enemy territory at one time and no LRP had ever before attempted a prisoner snatch. Since this was my first operation at the helm of the LRRP, I found my feet getting warm. My request to decrease the number of patrols infiltrated was denied by the commanding general. Whether we had three or five patrols in the jungle, we could only extract one at a time without doubling the aircraft support requirements. Therefore, the only thing new with five patrols was a higher degree of risk and little bigger control problem. General Smith felt the risk was worthwhile and the control problem manageable.

Five patrol leaders were assigned AO's, and after a map study, the men were taken on a reconnaissance flight. Each sergeant (with his pilot's advice) picked primary and alternate landing and pick-up zones. In some case, alternates were not available. The total flights over the area were limited to three, and an attempt was made to fly common routes and not to pinpoint areas.

A Forward Air Controller was requested over the area for the first two hours of daylight, as this was considered the most critical time. An Army fixed-wing radio relay aircraft was to be in the air the rest of the day. Both a/c were provided LRRP frequencies, call signs and code words. Artillery concentrations were sent to the 1st Division, and we obtained their fire direction frequency. This gave us 155mm-howitzer support in most of our zone and 8-inch howitzer support throughout.

The exigency of our mission, at a time when the brigade was doing very little, opened up the not too cooperative supply channels and enabled us to obtain one wristwatch for each patrol (*Unit Director's note: in October of 1966, four wristwatches arrived at the Brigade PX and were immediately grabbed by four Command Sergeants Major - the PX had nothing but green T-shirts and some canned meat*). Operating under a provisional TOE that included no equipment and dealing with people who had only a hazy concept of the LRRP created real problems in the supply field.

NARRATION

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

As it turned out, three of the five initial patrols were extracted within twenty-four hours and the deci-

sion was made to put patrols back in those general areas for more information. In the first six days prior to the start of the brigade operation, ten patrols had been placed into the area yielding various degrees of success. For ease of fire control, all patrols were pulled out of the area prior to the brigade assault. The LRRP was again employed on 29 September in an attempt to discover lucrative targets for the searching battalions. A total of four additional patrols were conducted over a four-day period; however, the mission for the LRP's no longer included the prisoner snatch. An account of the entire LRRP operation will now be presented in a day-by-day description

20 SEPTEMBER

The seven UH-1D helicopters formed a trail as they left the helipad of the 173rd base camp. I was in the command and control ship. The next five helicopters carried the five patrols. The last helicopter was the alternate command and control helicopter with the platoon sergeant, SGT Rice. Four gunships escorted the formation.

We flew to the release point, and as each LRP "slick" went to its own area, the two relatively empty control helicopters orbited over a central point. As each helicopter dropped its patrol, it reported to my pilot on its own net, and when each patrol was safe in the woods, the team leader called in on our frequency. All helicopters monitored both nets.

The first phase went exactly by the time schedule and all patrols were infiltrated without a shot. Returning to base camp, I experienced a feeling that is unique to this type of business. I had just placed thirty men in extremely precarious positions, yet I was on the way back to a beer and a safe bed.

21 SEPTEMBER

The rescue team waited at the brigade helipad during daylight hours. It included myself (or Lt. Vencill) and SGT Rice. The three helicopters were rigged with ropes so that each helicopter could pull two men out of the jungle if a clearing were not available.

At about 1000 hours SGT Jakovenko called for an emergency extraction. Within twelve minutes LRP-4 had been extracted from AO-C. They had ambushed two VC on a trail. Both had been wounded. One had escaped and the other was killed as they came under fire from another VC unit. Thirty minutes later, LRP-6 in AO-D was seen by a VC force of unknown size. In the firefight that took place at

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extremely close range, one VC was killed and one was possibly killed. The patrol used CS gas and fragmentation grenades to break contact. The patrol called for emergency extraction and headed for an LZ. Enroute they came upon a camouflaged truck about the size of deuce-and-a-half. SGT Hamilton destroyed the truck by dropping a fragmentation grenade in the fuel tank.

Not long after LRP-6 had returned, LRP-7 got into the act. Three VC were casually strolling down a trail with Moisin rifles slung over their shoulders. One was in khaki and two wore black pajamas. All three had web gear of some sort. SGT Brown gave the word to fire and the ambush was completed in a few seconds. The action netted two VC killed and one wounded. The wounded and weapons were extracted with the patrol. After minor surgery, a MI team interrogated the VC. The POW gave the location where a platoon was living with their families. A message was found on the POW stating that someone had observed a helicopter drop a six-man unit into a small clearing about dusk.

At about 1600 hours, SP5 Sipes reported that he had experienced unusual difficulty with his radio and asked for an extraction. I denied the request and kept LRP-3 in AO-B. I regretted the decision the next day when I was unable to reach the patrol for six hours.

22 SEPTEMBER

I received word on the morning of 22 September, to put three more patrols in the area. Williams, Brown and Hamilton were alerted. As their ATLs started preparing the men and equipment, the patrol leaders picked the landing zones from a reconnaissance flight. Sometime after this flight, SP5 Sipes reported that his unit was on the outskirts of what appeared to be a small base camp. They had spotted a few structures and a vehicle. A khaki-clad VC spotted the patrol. LRP-3 shot the man and swiftly departed the area. When the patrol was about 1000 meters from the installation, an air strike was brought in which yielded a secondary explosion of what looked to be petroleum and uncovered a few demolished huts.

LRP-3 was directed to return to the camp for a bomb damage assessment. In the process of circling back to the bombed area, the last man in the patrol detected movement to the rear. Feeling that the unit was being followed, SP5 Sipes made a small loop and set up an ambush on his own trail. The patrol

luckily had just enough time to set up a Claymore mine facing the trail. It was placed only a few yards from the soldiers with a large tree serving as a backblast screen. The Claymore was detonated when the VC came into view and each man threw a fragmentation grenade. SP5 Sipes reported three more VC KIA. LRP-3 was ready to come out and were directed to a small clearing about 800 meters from their position.

LRP's 2, 6 and 7 were then ready to be infiltrated. Each of the three patrols would touch down five minutes apart. Lieutenant Vencill controlled this operation and decided to place the patrols in from south to north into areas H, F and G in that order. LRP-7 had just left the helicopter in AO-H when the received fire from the woodline. SGT Brown and his men scrambled back into the helicopter and were flown home. LRP-2 under SGT Williams touched down in AO-F with no trouble. SP5 Hamilton and LRP-6 never got off the helicopter into AO-G since they came under fire when they were thirty feet from the ground. They received the same welcome at their alternate LZ. The armed helicopters returned fire in each case where fired had been received. The 1st Division Artillery fire their preplanned concentrations into the hot LZs. The day ended with only two patrols in, LRP-1 in AO-A and LRP-2 in AO-F

23 SEPTEMBER

SGT Smith and his men had spent three nights on their mission and had been successful at the two ambush sites they had used. Enroute to their pick-up they heard what they thought were men moving through brush. As the patrol was running for the helicopter, a handful of VC was seen in the woodline not far away. One of the helicopter doorgunners reported killing one VC.

Meanwhile LRP-2 in AO-F had set up its ambush on the main trail (secondary road). Three VC came into view, each looking left and right with their rifles at the ready. The VC were spread out 10 to 15 meters between men. The point man spotted a member of the patrol and opened fire. Contact was broken with automatic fire and fragmentation grenades. The patrol was picked up about 500 meters away.

SP5 Sipes had banged his ribs during the extraction and I decided to lead LRP-3 on this mission. Lt. Vencill was left in charge of the LRRP. SGT Hamilton led LRP-6. My patrol went into AO-I with no difficulty or so I thought. It turned out that the last man out of the helicopter heard automatic fire com-

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ing from the opposite side of the clearing. He assumed that the rest of us heard the rounds. He was wrong and I did not have the benefit of this knowledge until the patrol was debriefed back at base camp. SGT Hamilton's LRP-6 gained access to AO-J but were run out within 15 minutes by an estimated 15 VC. The extraction was poorly illuminated but successful. Again the gun ships and artillery retaliated with unconfirmed results.

24 SEPTEMBER

This left only LRP-3 in AO-I. We moved cross-country towards the intended ambush site. We thought we heard a dog barking and chickens clucking but we were unsure. We did hear three rounds fired from a heavy caliber weapon to the north. The consensus was that it was a recoilless rifle at about 500 meters. This was reported in along with our conjecture that it was practice firing. The enemy later used recoilless rifles again the APC's of the brigade's D/16th Armor within 1000 meters of the coordinates we gave. No more missions were given to the LRRP because of the imminent assault.

25 SEPTEMBER

No VC ventured into LRP-3s ambush in AO-I and the patrol was pulled out shortly after noon on the 25th.

26 – 28 SEPTEMBER

During these three days the brigade operation was initiated. There was no LRRP combat activity during this period.

29 SEPTEMBER

I was directed to place patrols in the general areas K, L and M. LRP's 6, 2 and 1 were given these respective areas. Lt. Vencill took over the job of SGT Hamilton, who was in the hospital with a minor ailment. The patrols were infiltrated on at a time and none received fire. I had dispatched all the helicopters but the C&C in which I was riding. My helicopter was remaining over the area for an extra five minutes or until the sun was almost out of sight. When the other helicopters were nearing the Bien Hoa base camp, I received a call from SGT Williams of LRP-2. He was in a fight and wanted emergency extraction. I relayed the code word to the other helicopters and they headed back for AO-L. I told

Williams to throw smoke in order help the gunships suppress the enemy fire. This was answered not only with smoke from LRP-2 but also from the enemy 1000 meters away. Unfriendly ears were monitoring the radio net. The pick-up was made in close to total darkness. It was lucky that SGT Williams had used the corner of a large open field for his LZ. The pilot was able to accomplish the extraction as the patrol location was made known by the ignition of a trip flare that SGT Williams had been carrying.

30 SEPTEMBER

LRP's 1 and 6 spent a relatively uneventful day. That night SGT Smith's patrol in AO-K received 10 rounds of 105mm-howitzer, the closest landing within 100 meters.

1 OCTOBER

The patrols led by LT Vencill and SGT Smith were extracted without further incident. I was later instructed to place another patrol in the vicinity of AO-N. This mission was unusual in that one of the battalions was within 1000 meters of the area and moving towards it. The idea was to watch a trail hoping to detect the movement of the enemy when the battalion moved. The mission gave us the advantage of nearby reaction force. LRP-5, under the leadership of SGT Guill (Unit Director's note: SGT Guill had made the WWII combat jump with the 11 ABD and both Korean drops with the 187th RCT).

2 OCTOBER

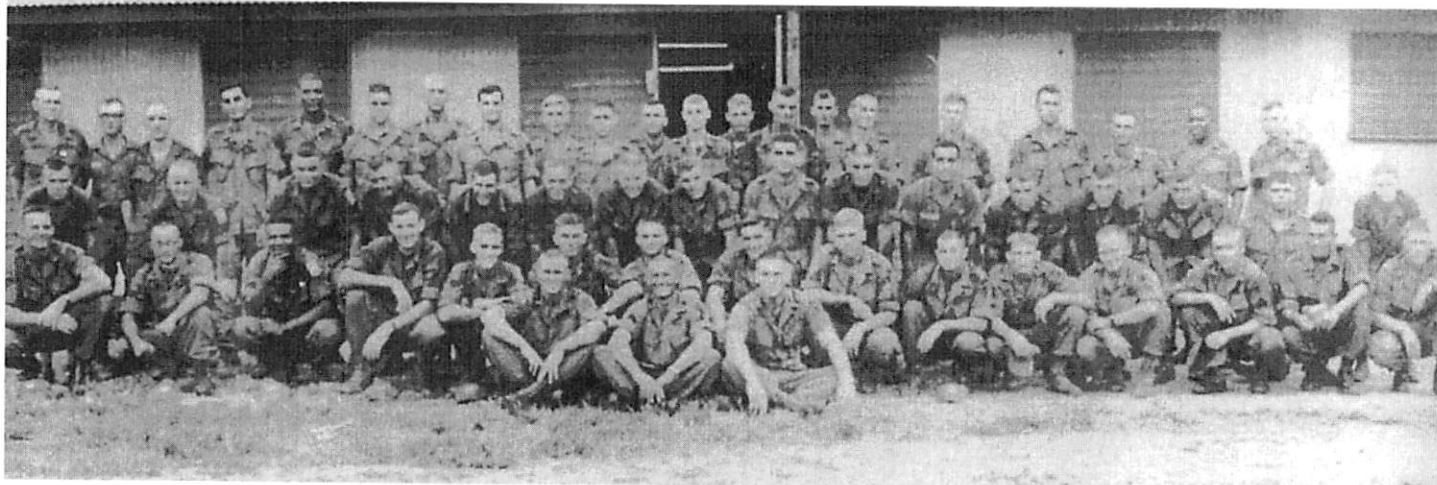
SGT Guill failed to come up with any intelligence reports and the team was pulled out. This terminated the LRRP participation in Sioux City.

SUMMARY OF ACTION

The 173rd LRRP placed 14 patrols into War Zone D between 20 September and 2 October and incurred 13 contacts with the enemy.

1. VC casualties
8 killed 1 killed (possible)
2 wounded (one POW)
2. US casualties
0 killed
1 wounded

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



Unit picture of 173rd Provisional LRRP taken in October 1966 (personnel mentioned in monograph)

Very front row (Captain Carrol, SGT Shefflet and Lt. Vencill)

Second row (SGT Williams at far left, SGT Smith third from left, SGT Jakovenko sixth from left, SGT Hamilton sixth from right, SP5 Sipes fifth from right, SGT Brown third from right); SGTs Rice and Guill are not in picture.

3. Destroyed items”
 - 1 2 1/2 ton truck
 - 1 small base camp (probably fuel supply point)
4. Captured items:
 - 3 enemy weapons, bolt action 7.62 x 54R mm Moisin
5. Significant Intelligence Obtained:
 - Confirmed enemy locations 13 times
 - Heard recoilless rifle fire (significant in that Brigade APCs were fired upon within 1000 meters of location)
 - Enemy knowledge of LRP, reported by prisoner
 - General description of enemy clothing and equipment
 - Numerous reports of lack of enemy activity

GENERAL ANALYSIS AND CRITICISM

The intelligence needed by brigade headquarters to achieve major combat success was not provided by the LRRP. Altering our plan could have done a much better job of intelligence gathering. Instead of going after the prisoner, the LRP's should have gone after intelligence. Instead of using their hands and weapons in the offensive role, they should have used their eyes and ears in the scout role. By doing less moving, less ambushing, and more trail watching, a better overall enemy picture would have been developed. This method of operation would have enabled the patrols to concentrate on stealth instead of com-

bat power. The result would have been far few patrols spotted and LRRP effectiveness would have increased. Contact certainly located the enemy, but it also located the LRP; more important, it told the enemy we knew where he was and so he moved.

There has been no mention of any reaction force in this narrative. If an LRP had discovered or developed good intelligence, no unit was prepared to assault. If an LRP had gotten into more than it could handle and was unable to be extracted, there was no unit prepared to go to their assistance.

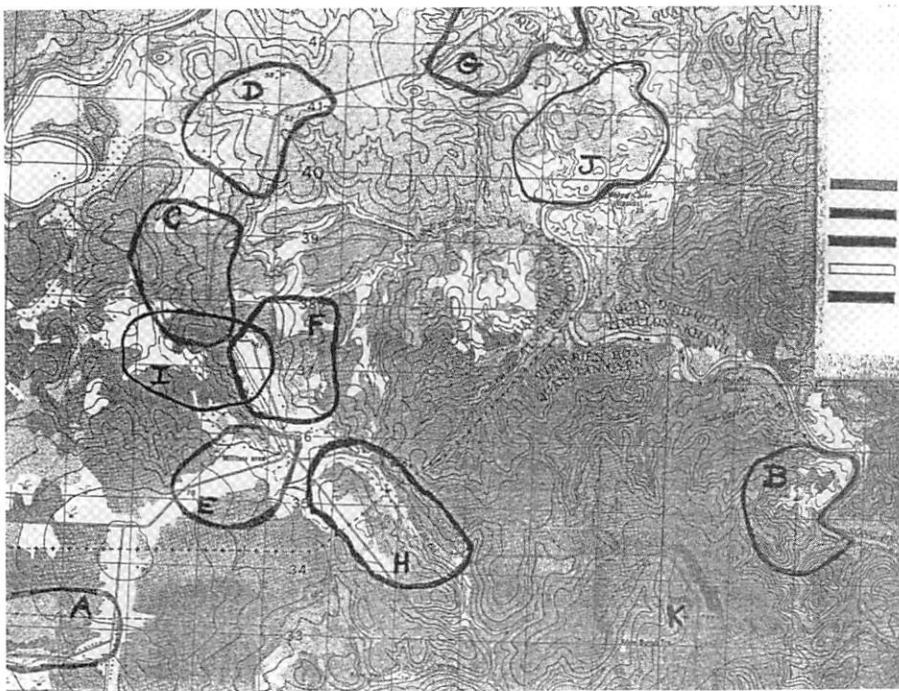
The withdrawal of LRP's prior to the brigade assault was a poor move. The influx of a large unit into an enemy sanctuary is going to cause the enemy to move, either to flee or to contact. LRP's scattered throughout War Zone D, observing trails would have been an extremely valuable asset to the brigade.

(Unit Director's note: retired LtCol Homer Van Zandt, CO of 172nd MI 1965-66 lives nearby in Las Cruces, NM and has said that he will help write-up the extremely early days of the 173rd LRRP, the "ad hoc" operations of 1965 and 1966)

IN MEMORIUM

I received word from Dave Gowen that Russel Weyl succumbed to cancer on Friday, 7 February. Dave said that his ashes will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery sometime in April or May. Russel was severely wounded in the same firefight that Dave

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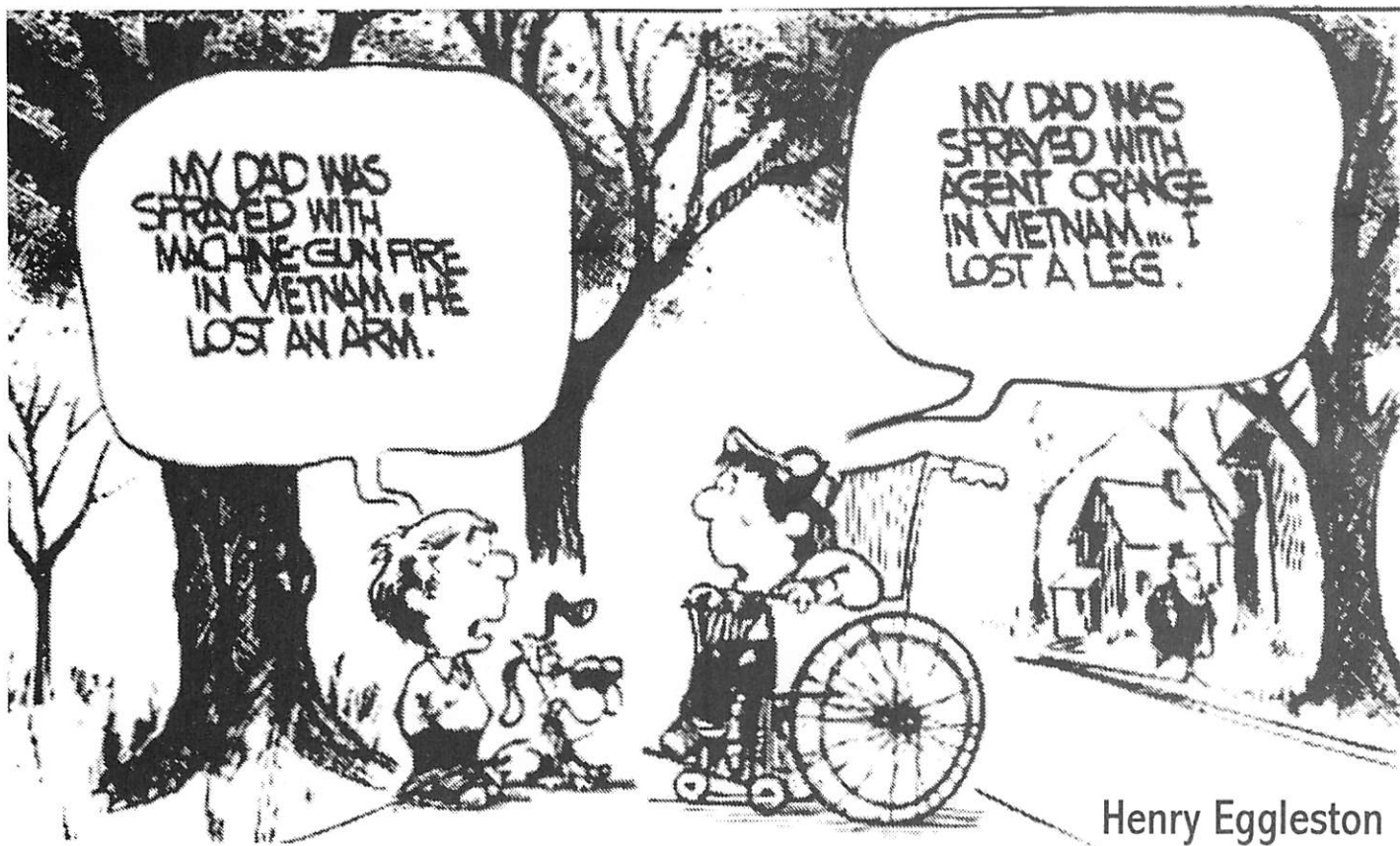
Topographical map of unit operations during Sioux City (AO-L and AO-K are off of map) 173rd Abn Bde base camp is approximately 16 km due south of AO.



SGT Brown with 3 Moisins captured during Sioux City (photo taken three months Later after OD berets were issued in Jan 67)

was wounded and Ray Reeves was mortally wounded. Dave wrote up this action and the memorial service in the last edition of *Patrolling*. Dave told me that Russel was hit five times in the 1968 action but

returned for further service with the 173rd within a year. I hope to be able to write a fitting tribute to this heroic Ranger in the next issue of *Patrolling*.



Henry Eggleston



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Bailey Stauffer



Well guys here goes, it's the first of Feb. and we ain't had winter yet. All last week it was in the 70's. We ain't had any rain yet either. Eileen started taking down the Christmas lights she had up. It took a separate line from the REA to light them all, it seemed like. About the time this issue of "Patrolling" comes out we are going to Tucson to a spring into Summer conference of the Eighty douche. No stop lights between here and there.

When I was getting short, CPT Peters kind'a felt sorry for me so he took me out of the field and decided to make a truck driver out of me. We got a brand new _ ton truck and it was mine. The first trip out the gate the battery blew up. It seems that it was slated to go to Alaska instead of Viet Nam, and had too high of a concentration of acid in it. Later after fighting with a motor Sgt. and changing oil until he liked it, the Company sent me up towards Chu Chi to pick up a team. Victor Robinson was riding Shotgun for me and after we got about 20 Kilometers out of Phu Loi we were cruising along having a good time when it seemed like we had hit a mine. I just knew I was dead and Victor jumped about 2 ft. in the truck. When I got the truck stopped I looked down and saw a hole in the floorboard. After stopping the shakes I got out and realized that the front drive shaft had come loose. Victor hitchhiked back towards Phu Loi and I was sitting out in the open. I crawled under the truck and found out that all the bolts in the U joints were only finger tight. I got enough of them put together to get every thing going and I limped back to Phu Loi at about 10 Kilometers an hour. I decided that I didn't like being a truck driver either but it beat packing a rucksack.

SSG John Lapolla

On the 14 of April 1969 with Sgt. Don Harris as team leader and SSG John Lapolla as assistant team leader a heavy team of ten men was inserted by river boat in the Gia Dinh province of Viet Nam. After a

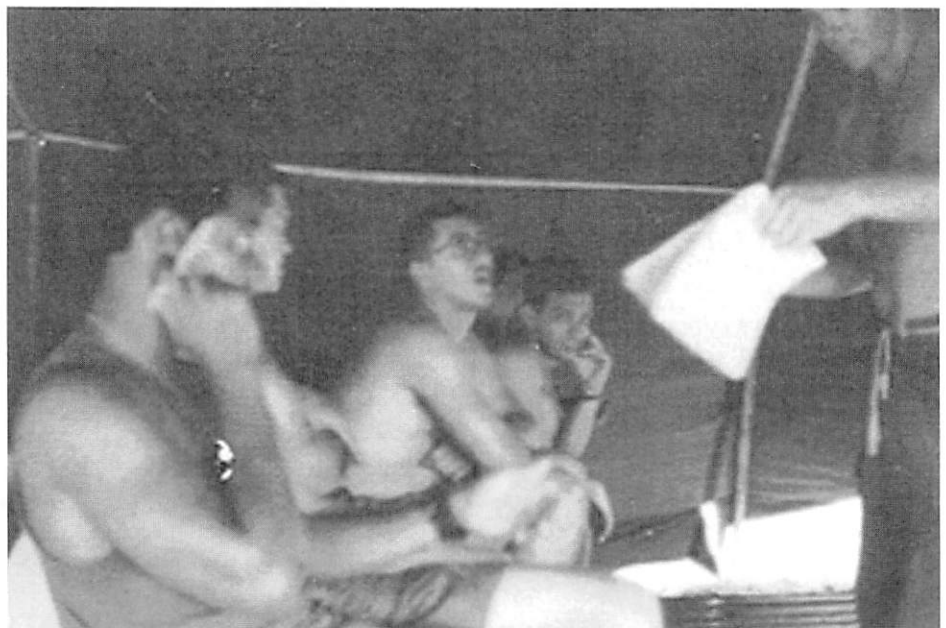


night of recon and laying up during the day of the 15th and being compromised by a troop of mechanized infantry we laid up the night of the 15th. During the night we saw lights from the village that was across the rice paddy from the tree

line we were in. During the night John stuck his head up to see what was going on and was killed by a round fired across the perimeter by a guy only known as Smitty, who came from the 82nd and wasn't with the LRP's from F 51st. You can read more about this mission in Gary Linderer's book "Phantom Warriors."

John LaPolla was born on May 14, 1948 and joined the Army from Frankfort, NY. He went to The NCO Academy and Ranger school before coming to Viet Nam in Feb 1969. He is honored on the Vietnam Veterans wall on Panel 27W row 88.

If any of you could send me the story of Michael Kelly I would appreciate it I have some of the details but would appreciate more also I need a Picture of Charles Wright. If any of you are interested in writing an article for Patrolling, I would appreciate that also. Airborne Vietnam and Alaska. Bailey Stauffer



From left: Ed Emanuel, Clarence Passey, Kieth LaFee, John LaPolla, Jerry Beck, standing.



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



PAPA COMPANY PATROLLING SPRING 2003

The first thing that I wanted to address in this issue was to remember and honor the Heroes that gave their all during the spring of 1970.

1. **BIEGERT, RONALD LEE SP/4 MARCH 15, 1970 AUG 27, 1948 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 13W L129**
2. **KASTENDIECT, WILLIAM PETER SP/4 APRIL 1, 1970 NOV 05, 1950 LINDEN-HURST, NY 12W L69**
3. **MILLS, RODNEY KENNETH SSGT MAY 5, 1970 DEC 19, 1948 ALMA, MI 11W L104**
4. **RILEY, VERNON RAY SP/4 APRIL 28, 1970 NOV 16, 1948 MASSILLON, OH 11W L64**

We also want to remember the families of those lost. I'll be continuing this in each issue

There was one more thing that I wanted to touch on before I move on. That is our thoughts and prayers go out to Marion DuShane. She got out of the hospital faster than anyone expected. Of course, what more could be expected from Duke's wife! This will be a difficult recovery, but I'm sure she loves those cards and letters. She's still a bit weak for phone calls so let's wait for Duke to give the OK!! Her mailing address is 4085 HARRIS RD. ELLERSLIE GA 31807.

Now for the more fun stuff. I had to give Jay Lutz a little bit of razzing. He had me clandestinely place a picture of the girls with his Purple Hearts placed in strategic positions on their bodies. I figured a minor payback was only appropriate. When I saw the picture of his bandaged head, I couldn't resist. It also might be a warning for the rest of this. The piece of shrapnel had been in his head since June 6, 1970. He was suspicious of someone sneaking in his house at

night, and beating his head with a baseball bat. He went to the VA, got an X-ray and was in surgery within a half hour. I guess the point is for all you hard-headed Rangers, get it checked before it gets infected!! We've all heard ourselves say "It's OK, it'll go away in a day or two."

The final picture of the Lutz's is the picture of a proud Ranger Family. They have, as a family, been instrumental in many of the philanthropic aspects of the Association, and have been doing so for year. Not the least of which was being one of those that has been insuring that all deceased members of Papa Company have bricks at Fort Benning.



The picture of the family consists of Kris, graduate of USF, Karen, with her Masters in Business Acct., with a CPA. Jay and Marcia (who will have been married 32 years on April 17. Finally there is Katie, who is a CPA and has her eye on becoming a judge!

While I'm on the topic of bragging, just wanted to mention that our XO while I was in country just retired as Commanding General of the Alaska National Guard. Here are some outtakes from his e-mails.

Co P Ops Offer, Killer 3, Jun '69-Jun70, 1lt. COs Gary Hall and Luke Ferguson.

I officially retired on 31 January 03. Off AD in Sept 75, last as CO, B/4/9 IN at FT Wainwright, AK. Started work as an adult probation/parole officer immediately for the state. Joined the AK Army National Guard in November, '76.

GETTING HIS STAR

Commander 207th Infantry Group, Colonel Stephen Korenek is promoted to Brigadier General in February of '97. He became the first commander of his unit to gain flag rank while in this position. In a short time, General Korenek would assume command of the entire Alaska Army National Guard. Becky Korenek and MG Jake Lestenkof do the honors.

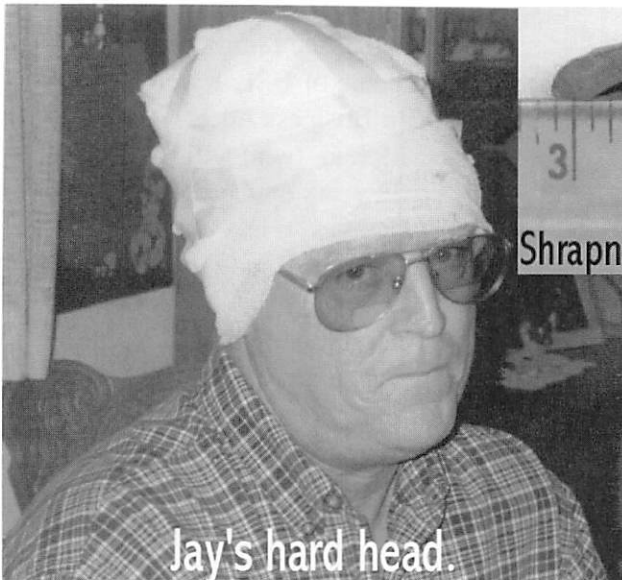
P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

Finally, leaving the best for last, we have the reunion coming up on the shores of beautiful Lake Erie. The dates have been set for August 13-16 Lot's to do for all. Here is a part of one of Mary Rossi's e-mails which pretty much explains the basics.

OK HERE'S THE SCOOP. COMFORT INN 800-516-3268. YOU MUST SAY YOU ARE WITH 75TH RANGERS. RATE IS 85 PER NITE PLUS TAX. THIS INCLUDES CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BUFFET (THEY DON'T KNOW THIS GROUP] I HAVE BLOCKED 20 ROOMS. RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE AS OF TOMORROW- BUT MUST BE MADE BY JULY 13TH. IF YOU DECIDE YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME A FEW DAYS EARLIER YOU CAN STILL GET THE

GROUP RATE. THIS MOTEL IS RIGHT OFF OF INTERSTATE 90. AT RT 45 NORTH. IT HAS AN OUTDOOR POOL- LOUNGE- AND RESTAURANT. I THINK THAT IS ALL WE NEED. IF YOU ARE DRIVING AND NEED DIRECTIONS JUST LET ME KNOW. IF YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT- ALSO LET ME KNOW. THATS ALL I HAVE FOR NOW. CAN'T WAIT TO SEE ALL OF YOU!!!! RLTW MARY & MIKE p75mike@sceinet.com

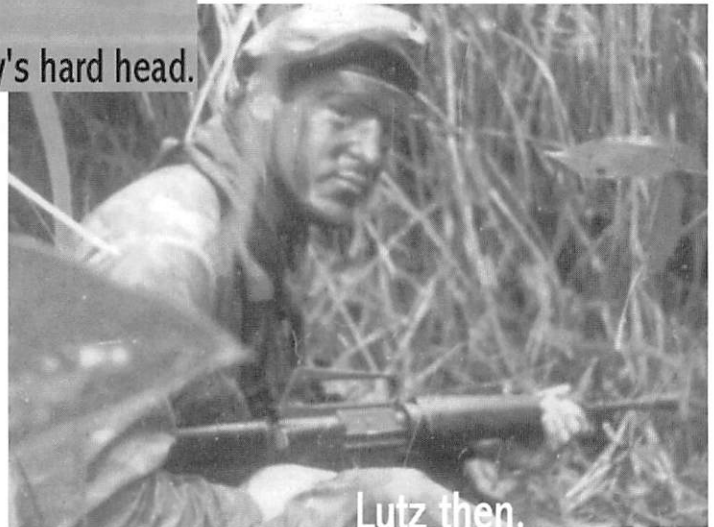
There will be a newsletter out in March to give more details and try and touch base with some of those who might not be getting Patrolling. RLTW!!!
Bill Davis



Jay's hard head.



Shrapnel in Jay's hard head.



Lutz then.



Korenek promotion.



Kris, Karen, Jay, Marcia, Katie Lutz



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



The D 151 Indiana Ranger reunion will be August 8, 9, 10, 2003 at Camp Atterbury. Put it on your schedule now. Call your old buddies and tell them to attend too. Friday the 8th, golf outing, call Tom Blandford to sign up. There are a lot of guys out there that would have a good time and benefit from the fellowship, call a couple of them and come together.

We're in the history book. **USAMHI Rangers Since WWII** by Mancini, John. "The Elite Indiana Rangers Were the Only National Guard Infantry Unit to Fight in the Vietnam War." Vietnam (Jun 1990): www.army.mil/usamhi/bibliographies/. "Elite"?

The ARNG's first official history was published by the Government Printing Office last year. The title is "Civilian in Peace, Soldier in War". The cover includes a nice use of a picture of one of the Indiana Rangers from Vietnam. The cover can be viewed at the following link. www.kansaspress.ku.edu/print-byauthor.html. Click on "D", scroll down to the author, Michael Doubler and click on the entry for the book. The book is available in a soft cover format for less than \$20.00 from any of the big book-seller web sites (Amazon, Borders, Barnes & Noble).

Prayer for our soldiers.
"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless

acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen."

Commissary still has T-shirts, polo shirts, hats, scroll patches, airborne ring wings, coins & bumper stickers. Images are on the Indiana Rangers webpage, <http://www.geocities.com/151range>. If you would like to order send a check or money order to: Terry MacDonald, 4362 W. 1050 N., Fountaintown, IN 46130. Use the U S Postal System to send check



or money order. Don't forget to include \$3.00 shipping and handling.

Hat \$12.00 Bumper Sticker \$ 3.00
 Scroll Patch \$8.00 Ring \$25.00
 Coin-Limit One \$10.00
 Golf Shirt \$35.00 T-Shirt \$15.00
 NEW lapel pin \$8.00

AFTER ACTION REPORTS
 TEAM 1-3/1-2, 24 JAN 69, 1239HRS, LK PROV: 9km N TRANG BOM ENGAGED 5 ENEMY. SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE EXCHANGED. LOFT SUPPORT. CONTACT LOST 1243HRS.

TEAM EXTRACTED 1325HRS. RESULTS:4 ENEMY CONFIRMED KIA. 3 AK47's, 13 AK47 MAGAZINES, 13 82mm ROUNDS, 3 75MM ROUNDS, 1 GAS MASK, 2 CANTEENS, 4 HAMMOCKS, 2 PONCHOS, 4 SETS WEB GEAR, 1 MEDICAL KIT AND 1 DOCUMENT CAPTURED. 1 US WIA(MINOR).

TEAM 2-6, 27 JAN 69, 1634HRS, LK PROV: 5km N TRANG BOM ENGAGED BY ESTIMATED 5 ENEMY. RECEIVED 1 RPG AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE. RETURNED FIRE WITH ORGANIC WEAPONS. LOFT SUPPORT. CONTACT LOST 1644 HRS. TEAM EXTRACTED 1708HRS. RESULTS:UNKNOWN ENEMY CASULTIES. NEGATIVE US CASULTIES.

TEAM 3-2, 29 JAN 69, 0058HRS, LK PROV: 13km NE TRANG BOM ENGAGED UNKNOWN NUMBER OF ENEMY. SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE EXCHANGED. LOFT SUPPORT. CONTACT LOST 0130HRS. TEAM EXTRACTED 0152HRS. D/3-17 CAV RELEASED AT 0155HRS. RESULTS:UNKNOWN ENEMY CASULTIES. NEGATIVE US CASULTIES.

II FIELD FORCE G-3, 31 JAN 69, MAJ HECKMAN INFORMED G-3 TOC THAT ONE LRP TEAM WILL BE INSERTED IN THE VICINITY OF YT184169, 1330HRS, TO CHECK REPORT OF 1000 ENEMY IN AREA.

TEAM 4-2, 1 FEB 69, 1212HRS, LK PROV: 14km NE TRANG BOM

D/151 LRP/RANGER (CONTINUED)

ENGAGED ESTIMATED 10 ENEMY. NEGATIVE ENEMY RETURN FIRE. LOFT, ARTY, TACAIR SUPPORT. LOFT IN SUPPORT RECEIVED RPG FIRE. CONTACT LOST AND TEAM EXTRACTED AT 1300HRS. RESULTS: 1 ENEMY CONFIRMED KIA. UNKNOWN NUMBER OF PROBABLE ENEMY KIA. NEGATIVE US CASULTIES.

TEAM 5-12,3 FEB 69, 0909HRS, LK PROV: 18km N TRANG BOM ENGAGED ESTIMATED 5 ENEMY. SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE EXCHANGED. CONTACT LOST 0934HRS. TEAM EXTRACTED 0952HRS. RESULTS: 2 ENEMY

CONFIRMED KIA. 2 ENEMY POW(WIA). 2 AK47's, 1 9mm PISTOL, 3 107mm ROUNDS, 4 107mm FUSES, 2 HAND GRENADES AND 4 SETS WEB GEAR CAPTURED. NEGATIVE US CASULTIES

TEAM 3-2/3-3,5 FEB 69,0740HRS,LK PROV: 15km N TRANG BOM

ENGAGED ESTIMATED 15 ENEMY. SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE EXCHANGED. LOFT SUPPORT. CONTACT LOST 0745HRS. TEAM EXTRACTED 0839HRS. RESULTS: 1 ENEMY CONFIRMED KIA. UNKNOWN NUMBER OF PROBABLE ENEMY KIA. 1 AK47 CAP-

TURED. 1 US WIA(MINOR).

Upcoming Event

Gravesite ceremony for Robert Smith will be April 13, 2003, at 1:00. It seems more convenient to have the ceremonies on the Sunday closest to the actual KIA date so more can attend. Sixteen of attended the ceremony for Charles Larkins on Feb 9.

I need a replacement for this job as Unit Director for D-151. I have been proud to do this for several years but for personal reasons I need to find another capable person. Can somebody step forward?

Tom Blandford, Ranger Team 3-1, out. RLW



F/51 LRP

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



Russ Dillon Unit Director F/51 LRP, article for March issue.

A little bit of this and a little bit of that article.

Well, here it is the middle of February and winter should be over on a couple of months (hopefully), here in Ohio. We are having an old fashion winter, of which we haven't had for about 5 or 6 years, so people have to get use to the snow and cold weather again. Enough about Ohio, on to other items.

Attention all F/51 LRP people. The reunion place and time have been set and rooms have been blocked. The place is Maderia Beach Tampa Bay Florida Holiday Inn, the date is October 6 through October 12, there are 20 rooms at present that have to be filled up. The contact people are John Burke

JR at 913-914-0781, Bob Edwards at 810-395-2726, or Mark Eastman at 509-334-03697 for more information. Hope to see everyone there.



I have been giving some thought of getting F/51 LRP history entered on the Ranger web site. I hope to get started on getting the information together and see what needs to be done for it to get post-

ed to the web site. Will keep all informed on how everything is going.

It is surprising how long it takes to get almost everything back on to a computer that has lost it's hard drive. We have as much back that we had before the hard drive went bad. The things that you can't get back are those that you thought you would not lose and that you used for reference. Those things, if you have a paper copy you can reenter the information and still use it, if you are lucky enough, so one last time backup, backup, backup. That is one of the best things that you can ever do if you don't want the aggravation of having to reenter your information by hand instead of off a backup disk. That is the end of that tail. Hopefully my reviling my trials and tribulations will help others avoid my mistakes.

F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)



Holiday Inn



Maderia Beach

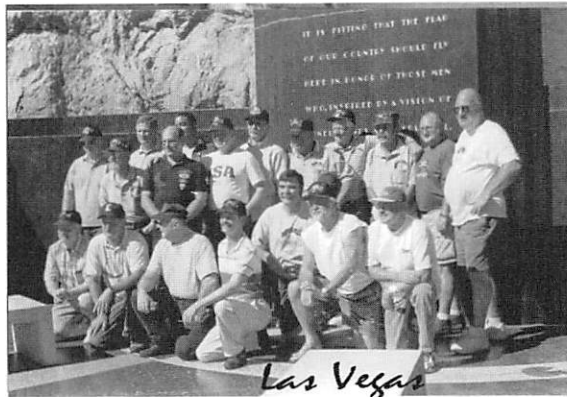
Florida

Tampa Bay Reunion

October 6 -12, 2003




20 rooms are reserved for us just call 1 (800) 360-6658 or Direct at (727) 392-2275



Bien Hoa



Layfayette

We partied then, so lets do it again



1968 O&P Rangers Welcome



2003

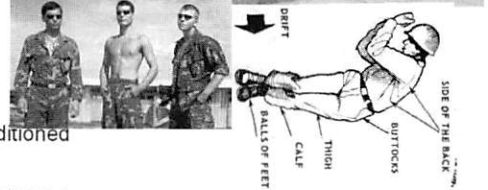


LANGASTER



Chicago

- Crappy transistor radios
- Reveille
- TOC Briefing
- NO TV
- Canteen cup/C-4/Lrp Ration coffee
- Ha!
- PRC 25
- World War II Lockers
- What Hair??
- Stars & Stripes Newspaper
- Mama San Laundry
- Outdoor movies
- NO Bath
- shower (if water truck showed up)
- Screened upper half of walls
- Turn off radio - throw boot
- AM/FM Radio
- Alarm Clock
- All News Cable channel
- Cable TV
- Coffee maker
- Color TV
- DATAPLOT on Phone
- Separate Hanging Closet
- Hair dryer
- Internet access
- Iron/Ironing Board
- In Room Movies
- Private Bath
- Private Shower
- All guest rooms air conditioned
- Remote Control TV



For More Information Call John Burke Jr. 913-914-0781
Bob Edwards 810-395-2726 Mark Eastman 509-334-0397

GRAPHICS
Eastman/O'Sullivan



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Roger Brown



BY ROGER BROWN

AFGANISTAN (Operation Anacoda) 7 silver stars and 27 Bronze Stars were awarded to Rangers of the First Battalion, fine tribute to our fine soldiers.

For the next 6 issues I will be writing on how the Battalion was formed, how we got to the point of combat readiness status, the hardships that we endured and the comradery of those Rangers that survived.

FIRST SIX MONTHS

I arrived in the Battalion in late January 1974. There were only 4 people that had arrived before myself, they were LTC Leur (Battalion Commander), Major Donald Hudson (Rock) the (Battalion XO) Command Sergeant Major (Neal Gentry) and the operation NCO (Master Sergeant (Richardson).

We were billeted within the Ranger Department area at Ft. Benning. The Ranger Department supplied the Battalion with limited logistics such as their mess hall and barracks for our future incoming troops.

Major Hudson gave me my first assignment and that was to set up a ranger mile through the woods. Being assigned to the Ranger Department a couple years prior, I knew the surrounding area pretty well. I jumped in my truck and measured off 1 mile. I asked the Major to ride with me so he would approve the Ranger Mile. He immediately informed me that a Ranger Mile was 5 miles long, hell I didn't know a Ranger mile was different than a regular mile. After we ran that 5 miles a few times, I was assigned to improve it, in Ranger terms (make it harder), like setting up several stations like pull up bars and so forth. We did a lot of PT. and Road Marches.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

There were none, Training Objectives was a new concept for the Army, so therefore we had to write our own. For an example, (throw a hand grenade) this is what I knew about a hand grenade. When I entered the Army, throwing a hand grenade was one of the 5 events on the Physical Training Test (the only event I couldn't max). It is an excellent offense and defense weapon. While in Vietnam it was used extensively, such as on an ambush, once we swept an ambush site and noticed a bad guy had escaped, we would throw a hand grenade close to get the S.O.B. to surrender. However we were determined to make everything we did perfect.

RANGER CREED

Command Sergeant Major Neal Gentry was assigned the task of coming up with our Ranger Creed. I think learned about 3 versions of the Creed. Major Browning's wife had a one over the world degrees in English and bless her soul, she kept detecting Dangling Participles, so we had to change it a couple of times.

Once we got the bugs worked out, all members of the Battalion were required to memorize our Creed.

As we started to get NCO'S and Officers in the Battalion, we started training that consisted of PT and more PT. When we were up to strength of about 75 members, we departed for the Mountain Ranger Camp, for a week of mountaineering training. After Delong we returned to Ft. Benning for training on firing ranges, airborne techniques, dismounted drill, bayonet training, road marches and more PT. It was about this time that I observed about as many Rangers arriving were departing. We were told from the beginning there would be no misfits. By the time we arrived at Ft. Stewart on 1 July our attrition rate was around 30-40%. Not everyone was cut out to be a member of the finest Infantry Battalion in the world.

1 JULY 1974

The Battalion (about 150 Rangers), jumped into Taylor Creek DZ at Ft. Stewart Georgia, which would be the new home for the First Battalion. After the Battalion jumped in, we assembled for the road march to the cantonment area, once near the cantonment area, we formed the Battalion in a column formation and marched to our barracks and greeted by the Commander of Ft. Stewart (Col. Dietrich the devil in baggy pants himself).

FALLEN RANGERS

Ranger Shutler, Charlie Company 1974-77 passed away on 5 December 2002.

Major Vince Lombardi First Battalion when enlisted and Second Battalion as an officer for anyone that knew Ranger Knuckles, who was an instructor at the Florida Ranger Camp passed away on 1 Feb. 2003.

NEWLY WED

Retired Command Sergeant Major Donald Purdy was married to MS Janis Elaine Ricks on the eleventh of Jan. 2003.

WELCOME HOME RANGERS

Chris Marks B.CO 1982-84 joined our organization in December 2002.

Joe Proctor B.CO. 1980-83

Jerome Schaub C.CO. 1975-77

HEARD FROM

Steve Williams C.CO. 74-76

Deane Durham B and C.CO. 74-77

Frank Hand C.CO. 74-76

Retired SGM. Matt Hodge B.CO> 74-77. Matt is one hard corps dude, the only person that I know of that absorbed a direct hit to the stomach with a 90 MM flechette round and lived to tell about it.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

RANGER ROGER BROWN



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Rich Hecht



MY TIME WELL SERVED

When I stepped off of the bus in front of the Bn Hq it was a typical Ft Lewis day on 20 November 1975. By that I mean cold and lots of liquid sunshine (great Ranger weather). I was greeted by SP5 Keller. He was wearing camouflage fatigues and a black beret I was wearing the old lizard skins and ball cap. As we walked past the 9th and 10th aviation BNS and all of the legs were yelling from their windows that I would be sorry and to turn around and go back; we both held our heads high and proud, I knew I was where I wanted to be. As we got closer to C Co I could see a formation of rucksacks all lined up on the gravel and wondered what was going on. There was only one man outside; he was guarding all the equipment. We entered the barracks and I was escorted into an office where everyone was cammied up. I thought are we going to war and then the question was answered. The company was going to the field (where we would spend many sleepless nights and learn to deal with in the very near future). I was then introduced to 1SG Schalevan, the XO LT Thurman and none other than CPT Bionic Bill Ohl. Then taken to 3rd PLT by PFC Pike and introduced to my squad leader SSG Ronald Klumper and then SFC Allen who was the PSG and 1LT Kidder. Then all of the other NCOs in the platoon such as SSG Palacios, SGT Ray, SSG Peavy gave me the once over. I was in the 3rd squad and SGT Stone was my team leader SGT Owens was the, A team leader. I was one of the few in the platoon who had not gone to airborne school yet. I remember fondly the long sleepless night strolls through South Rainier training area. A place where a person could not see his hand in front of his face and Ranger eyes looked purple. Crawling over deadfalls then falling down the other side. And wondering why are we out here knowing that no enemy in his right mind would be out here. Then all hell would break loose and grenade simulators exploding and now you are really blind. Somehow we fought through the objective, conduct our special teams activities all undercover of darkness then move out ever so silently. We would walk for hours till we found a suitably miserable hiding place for a patrol base and would sleep for what seemed like 15 minutes. Then we would move out again the enemy was

regrouping and we had to stop them. This seemed to go on for eternity. The colder and wetter it got the more we trained and do not dare ask to put on a rain parka. Then we would finally come home and get ready for inspection. How could I forget the 6 minute per mile, 3 milers in boots, cutoff fatigues, sweatshirt and black gloves. Man what fun we had.

Now it was time for a fun jump. You will have fun whether you like it or not. We all loaded up on a cool Saturday morning after sustained airborne training and wet to Abrams DZ (for you new Rangers that's PT Salinas). Families were out watching. I begged SSG Klumper to let me jump. He just said wait till I get back from jump school and for now hand out the chutes and load them up when we are done then shake them out on Monday. It was that day I saw Lt Thurman have a 4 lobe May West and he used the old pull drop method to activate his reserve and it wrapped around him. I could see him pulling it back in and trying to throw it out again. Now Cpt Ohl was running toward him yelling for him to keep his feet and knees together. It must have worked; he did eventually jump again. I did get to jump school and eventually made 554 jumps, 2 of which were combat jumps.

Then there was SFC Boom Boom Mattoon. If you could not get the formula right then use the U P method (use plenty) and we will pick up the pieces later. Who could forget SFC Portis the Former Marine. Man we had a crew. Times were rough but great.

A quick pre-Ranger story. We went on an ambush patrol (in south rainier of course). Mike Wadda was the PL I was right flank security and Mike Hall was left flank security. We had TA 1s and we laid commo wire to our positions. Mike told us to give him a ring when we were set in position. So we did just that. At this time we thought we heard big foot. We heard the most blood curdling scream followed by many choice words and a lot of laughing. Then dead silence. We found out later Mike was stripping the commo wire and had one end in his mouth and the other in his hand when we lit up his world.

I have so many fond memories of my 9 years in 2/75.

SFC (RET) T. Yates Abnrgr43@hotmail.com

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

Hi Guys,

I must first say thank you to SSG. Bryan Hammes. He is the outgoing S5 NCOIC and without him during the last couple of years, I would not have been able to get you "insider information" on the current developments at 2/75. He was my first Bn. point of contact when I took over as your UD in the Summer of 2000 and has allowed me access back into the HOOAH world in order to bring you the latest news. He has spent the last 8 years with 2/75 and has decided to ETS and explore his options back in the world. Bryan, whatever you do, you have been and continue to be a good friend. Thanks and take good care of your family.

Ft. Lewis will soon begin construction of a \$35 million urban combat training facility. It will have more than 50 buildings, including one that is 5 stories tall, the site will be _ mile in length and be hooked

up to a fiber-optic video network to record and play back the action for review.

It will be concrete and brick so that it should last and it will be built in phases over the next couple of years.

I am in the early stages of a project that may require your help. I want to have complete biographies on all the 2/75 combat casualties completed by and displayed at the 2004 reunion at Ft. Lewis. I have begun laying out some groundwork, so keep reading the column or check the Association web site for updates. If anyone is in direct contact with the families of any of our KIA's, please contact me by phone or email.

Lastly, and you will hear this from me again, the 2004 Assn. reunion is here at Ft. Lewis. Start making your plans, contacting buddies and saving your money. Remember how nice it is here in the Summer?

FYI, There will be a mini-reunion at Ft. Benning this summer in conjunction with the Regimental Change of Command. If you make it down, have a great time. Check the Assn. web site for details. RLTW,
Rich Hecht



**3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT**

Unit Director - Peter Squeglia



Ed. Note: I was privy to an exchange of e-mails concerning a wannabe named Rudy Mejia who claimed service in the Regiment & in Somalia & Panama. The following really warmed the cockles of my heart. Don't let your kids read this, there is some strong language.

John Chester

Sorry I forgot to forward this on the update of "wanna be" Rudy Mejia

Schwartz. Both Brian Duff and Steve Lovette confronted Rudy at last Thursdays American Legion meeting. Things got so heated and stressed that Rudy literally tried to throw himself out the second floor window. Brian and others were able to grab him halfway out however Rudy squirmed even more and fell two floors into a BBQ pit on his shoulder. This would've been worth the price of admission! Please read below.

RLTW,

Pete

----- Original Message -----

From: "Brian Duff" <b_duff@earthlink.net>
To: "Peter Squeglia" <suasponte@attbi.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2003 4:22 AM
Subject: MISSION ACCOMPLISHED
Pete,

FYI, "Joint Task Force Ranger - Operation Fraud Eradicator," has been successfully launched. Rudy was confronted, and outed tonight, at our American Legion meeting. He continued to deny that he is a fake and a fraud until the bitter end. Perhaps his head going through a Legion Hall window jogged something loose? Then again, perhaps it was being hung by his foot out of that very second floor window while his head was being bashed into it that jogged his memory? Of course, being the good, concerned, and kind-hearted Rangers that we are, we were only trying to keep him from hurting himself by jumping out of a perfectly good building. Although, I am not sure what possessed him to try that jump from the window. Perhaps it was two irate Rangers confronting him? But then, what do I know. I sure hope he can wash the blood off himself though. I hear it can leave a stain. Oh, and that glass in the scalp can be mighty unsanitary too!

Once confronted, Rudy the Fraud, denied he has stolen any money from Veterans, which is a bunch of bull. We had the proof. He also kept up his lies about being in Somalia and Panama. By the end of the exorcism his story went through several changes. When he was confronted with the B Co Somalia roster, he backtracked, saying he was there in support, but still captured. I then informed him that I hadn't heard of any cooks who were captured! Later he finally admitted he was lying about Somalia. He did it as he was crying like a little school girl, and begging me, "not to ruin his life," by further exposing him. The answer he received was "F___ off!, you ruined your own life!, Now it's time to pay the Piper you shit bird!"

He then kept up his B.S. about jumping into Panama with Bco. This line of spewing crap was stopped with the production of the B Co manifest for Panama. To which he answered, "Well, actually I jumped in with Regimental HQ." That whole train of thought was quickly derailed by Ranger Lovett, who just happened to have been in Panama.

Next we outed him about never attending Ranger School, which he says he graduated from. He twisted his own words around, and basically admitted to stealing Ranger Lovett's Ranger School diploma. (If there is any way to get a copy let me know. He was in 4-88)

On and on the night went. We outed him on everything from his fake Purple Hearts and Silver Star, to his Scuba Bubble, Ranger Tab, Pathfinder Badge, etc. I informed him that he was already told to cease, all of his lies, by the Ranger community. He still says that Jeff Struecker is his friend, even though we STRONGLY advised him otherwise. He was told that there would be serious consequences if he tries to contact any members of Task Force Ranger, their families, their friends, or even their mailmen for that matter.

He was terrified by the end of it all. Sadly though, something tells me he is going to just go somewhere else, and start going at it again. I will keep all the files I have on him, and send you a copy of the 30+ page presentation folder we put together on this guy and his bullshit. I believe Ranger Lovett has a video clip of part of our outing to send to you. I think as a community we Rangers need to be vigilant

3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

with this guy. He babbled something about moving. Undoubtedly, it will be to a new area where he can weave another web of deceit. If anyone hears of him surfacing again, feel free to contact me for a complete rundown on this ass. Although, if LAPD has their way, he might be locked up very soon. If any members of TFR are unwillingly contacted by this douche bag, please let me know. It will be handled!

Finally, to any non-Rangers who may read this. Yes, the Ranger community is small. Yes, it may even be small enough to pull off being a fake Ranger, without getting caught....that is for a while. Eventually though, you will be caught. For some reason, Rangers tend to be compulsive, and tireless bastards. Once you are confronted, like Rudy, we'll see how much of a Ranger you really are. RLTW!!!

Duff

B Co 3/75

WHEN I ASKED BRIAN IF I COULD USE THE E-MAIL EXCHANGE HE ANSWERED:

No problem John.

I was in the Regiment from mid 1993 to late 1996. After attending RIP, I as held at regiment until I could get my 11H mos reclassified 11B. Once that happened, I was sent to B co 3/75 sometime in 1994. I was born, raised, and live in Southern California, Los Angeles. I now work as a firefighter/paramedic, which is the job I gave up to become a Ranger. (Pat Tillman isn't the only one who gave up the bucks. I was 25 years old and making \$80,000 - \$100k per year when I left to become a Ranger. No regrets about it though. It was the best experience of my life, and I still wish I was back in Batt.) I'm 34 years old, and still single, so if there are any hot Rangeretts out there, send them my way. ;-)

I hope that helps. By the way, how does one get your magazine/newsletter?

~RLTW

Brian Duff

I SENT HIM ONE. LET'S HOPE HE JOINS THE ASSOCIATION. WE NEED GUYS LIKE HIM AND RANGER LOVETTE.

John Chester



LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock



The histories of the 3rd ID, V Corps and VII Corps LRRP units are largely interwoven and tied together through close associations among our members. Many of the original 3rd ID LRRPs from 1961 came from the provisional V Corps LLRP company founded at Wildflecken in October 1960, and several of our guys transferred to the VII Corps LRRP company when our unit was disbanded in August 1964. But not many people know that there were LRRPs in Germany prior to 1960.

These LRRP units were formed at the battalion (they were called battle groups back then) level among the infantry battle groups of the 3rd Infantry Division and other 7th Army divisions. My knowledge extends only to what was happening within the 3rd ID at that time, and is based on information provided by Loren J. (Buck) Sayers—one of the original “old LRRPs.” Buck sent me a newspaper clipping from the 3rd ID newspaper, “*The Marne Rock*,” dated December 23, 1959. The newspaper article is entitled, “*Patrol Training Completed by 28 3rd*

Division Men at Special School.” The article was written by the PIO of the 2nd Battle Group, 38th Infantry that was based at Ledward Barracks in Schweinfurt. World War II history buffs know about Schweinfurt and the bombing raids on the ball-bearing factories in August and October 1943. Now that the Vietnam War

has been over for almost thirty years, it is interesting think about the fact that our time in Germany was only fifteen years after the end of WWII—and that war ended over fifty years ago!



The newspaper article talks about the “Long Range Patrol School” held in Schweinfurt from December 7-12, 1959. The school was conducted under the auspices of the 38th Infantry and included men from the 3rd ID and 4th

Armored Division. LT Luciano C. Salamone (B/2/38) was the school's OIC. The men were schooled in patrolling techniques, target acquisition by patrols, map reading, escape and evasion, and field survival. Communications and cold weather practices were also stressed. The school's objectives were to “refresh the

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID (CONTINUED)

principles involved in long range patrolling” to better qualify the men for future exercises, according to LT Salamone. The course climax was a 22-hour field exercise. The entrance requirements for the school were rigid. “Our enrollees are elite soldiers – men who’ve demonstrated high interest, resourcefulness, ability to learn quickly, and who have a strong desire to succeed in any mission given them,” said LT Salamone. LT William Westgard (15th Inf.) and SFC Melton Dougan (B/2/38) served as instructors. Other than Buck Sayers,

the only two other EM credited for attending the school in the article were PFC Jackie Veitch (D/2/38) and SP5 Joseph Swilley (15th Inf.). Many of the men who attended this school, but were not named in the article, were among those who helped form the provisional V Corps LRRP Company in 1960.

The attached picture shows PFC Veitch getting “culinary advice” from LT Salamone as they prepared a field-dressed rabbit.

Wednesday, December 23, 1959

THE MARNE ROCK

**ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)**

Unit Director - Mike Martin



Fellow Rangers Co Vans:

The tide of time is rolling out to sea for many BDQs; Ranger Advisor (44th BDQ) and Ranger Instructor Bill Nuckols, passed away on 7 February '03, after a long bout with cancer; Ranger Billy Thames died on 10 February '03, he was the first Senior Advisor to the 32nd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion. Our footprints will be erased from the sands if we fail to record our history -- we Lone Wolves of the Second Indochina War. Our tracks must be visible in the annals of military history ... they are the evidence of an interlude in time when we stood tall under the shimmering rays of the mid-

day heat, and on the mist-shrouded fields of battle for South Vietnam. It is our duty -- and must be our commitment -- to honor those Rangers, like Nuckols and Thames, in more than faded memories; our history must be in text and film that will stand the test of time.

The 41st BDQ TET CAMPAIGN (Part II)

As was mention in Part 1, Ranger Advisors Al Hill and Hans Tees, had remained at Trung Lap with half of the 41st Ranger Battalion while Major Mowery and two other NCOs had accompanied the other half of the unit back to their home base at Ben Tre, for the Tet holidays

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

of 1968. Even President Thieu had decided to spend the holidays with his wife's relatives in the town of My Tho, leaving Vice President Ky in Saigon.

A joyous, festive spirit enveloped the Vietnamese people and the countryside, even though there had been ample indicators of a pending offensive by the Communist forces, but nothing of a multifarious scale as the enemy had prepared for, during the summer and fall they had moved supplies, weapons and ammunition into or near villages and cities; most of which was buried in cemeteries and concealed caches. Their plan was to attack all American installations and cause a general uprising among the Vietnamese people couple with the shock and surprise of a stunned military force and the nation during this sacred occasion.

Of course, these ever-widening clandestine operations and infiltrations into populated areas by the enemy was unbeknownst to Lieutenant Tees and Sergeant First Class Hill, as they were enjoying their "down-time" in the team house, taking advantage of the US Armed Forces TV programs seldom seen by Ranger Advisors it was the night of 30-31 January 68 and the main communists attacks were in full swing.

Brief reports of scattered Viet Cong attacks and guerrilla ambushes gained the attention of the Advisors using their command net (the traffic was normal), they contacted the U.S. 25th Division's TOC at Cu Chi; they listened in astonishment as the center informed them nothing unusual was happening a small skirmish had taken place in Cu Chi, but was squelched by troops from the Division.

The following morning, the 41st minus and their two Advisors, conducted a routine road clearing from Trung Lap to the intersection at QL4, where the direct road connected to the main road running from Saigon to Tay Ninh. The stretch from Trung Lap to the hardtop was ceremonially dubbed "Thunder Road" by the Americans, because anyone traversing it would encounter the mines any booby traps laid nightly in its reddish-orange soil by the local Viet Cong.

While conducting some pre-designated fires with their mortars, the Rangers received an immediate recall to Trung Lap.... Hill and Tees were instructed to make ready for a major redeployment -- enemy forces had moved into Cholon, the Chinese sector of Saigon, and an all-out enemy offensive with fierce fighting was raging in and around the city. A makeshift armada of a

variety of VNAF helicopters would provide ad hoc transport from the small airstrip at Trung Lap to a staging area near Tan Son Nhut air base in Saigon.

Amid reports that VC main units were advancing through the Bol Loi forest, the Ho Bo woods and the Michelin Rubber Plantation, LT Tees and SFC Hill loaded the Rangers and departed the Ranger Camp en route to Saigon, for a direct-action mission full of speculation...

Unloading from the helicopter, after a quick landing, the Rangers moved into a guarded perimeter; an American Colonel met the two BDQ Advisors as they disembarked: "One of the Advisors would come with him to the 5th ranger Group Command Post for an operation order," he stated. LT Tees said he would stay

with the unit, Hill would go with the Colonel. The Vietnamese 5th Ranger Group had taken over the security of Saigon from U.S. Forces prior to Tet.

The ride through the war torn city would leave an indelible impression on Sergeant Hill as he and the Colonel, riding in an open jeep, witnessed the extensive destruction from enemy rockets and automatic weapons fire. Heavy fighting with sniper fires was on-going--an ominous atmosphere shrouded the city: grotesquely waxen face bodies laid unattended, smoke lingered from

destroyed homes and buildings as explosions erupted from ordnance fired by friendly and foe.

Arriving at the 5th Ranger Group Command Post at 15:30 hours, Hill reported to the Group Commander that the 41st Biet Dong Quan was present and awaiting their orders. He was given an overview of the tactical situation: Viet Cong Main Force Battalions and local VC units had attempted to seize several crucial sites throughout One capital; including the American Embassy, Tan Sun Nhut Airbase, the Presidential Palace, and were establishing strongholds in the Cholon district. They were also occupying the Phu Tho race track. The 41st BDQ mission was simple: engage and destroy the enemy in the Cholon area.

The fading light cast lengthening shadows among the intact dwellings in the residential sections as Lieutenant Tees arrived with Advancing toward the Chinese district, they passed the police checkpoint where Police Chief, Nguyen Ngog Loan, had become infamous when he executed the Viet Cong prisoner. Stopping for the night, they were befriended by the local residents; hot rice, soup and nuoc mam, was rel-



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

ished by the two Advisors as much as by their comrades-in-arms.

CHOLON

Uncertainty masked their thoughts, but not their confidence, as Rangers Hill and Tees moved with the battalion the next morning in the direction of the An Quang Pagoda. The VC had used the pagoda as an observation point, directing their fires. A "mech" unit moved in to position to support the Rangers, one track setup an over watch position about twenty-five yards in front of the Advisors. Water lines had broken on one side of the road next to the vehicle—Hill and Tees had just came up to the rear of the armored vehicle planning on taking advantage of the gushing water to "cool off" when an RPG round slammed into the front of the track, luckily the rear ramp was in the "up and locked" mode when the round hit, causing the two Americans to receive only a forceful blast.

As by a prearranged signal, the enemy commenced indiscriminate firing with automatic and small arms weapons, using RPGs at random. LT Tees moved with a maneuver force to the left of the road, SFC Hill went with the attacking Ranger to the right of the road; confronting the communists in concealed and hardened positions the Vietnamese Rangers fought courageously with the help of gunships called in by Ranger Hill. Two hours into the battle, Hill got word that a Co Van (Advisor) was hit. Going back to an open space he found a slightly wounded LT Tees and a Vietnamese Ranger; over a swath of cleared area he moved them to a protected spot.

Elimination of their unyielding foe would require two more days of sustained ground combat with meticulous fire support from the air. The Viet Cong were dislodged from their hide-outs by the Rangers and simultaneously cut off from retreat by the gun-ships. Blood coagulating on the musty-smelling clothing of dead enemy guerillas, muted thudding of rounds fired as gun-ships circled low, summarized the mandate of the lone Ranger Advisor (AL Hill) as he kneeled in-place and radioed his "sitreps" to higher.

The 41st Ranger Battalion would continue to conduct operations within the Cholon sector of Saigon for two more weeks. The unit launched a fierce assault against the enemy defensive positions at the Binh-Tay Brewery (operated by the French) inflicting heavy losses upon them. They fought door-to-door battles, evicting the Viet Cong from homes the French had abandon: in one home, they were surprised to find an elderly French lady and her two dogs locked in a bedroom.

The VC for some unknown reason made no effort to harm her. She was overjoyed by the arrival of the Rangers and their Advisors.

The Rangers also conducted search and destroy missions at the Phu Tho race track and the old cemetery to eradicate remaining pockets of resistance. Seriously injured of the enemy had left obvious blood trails to caches and muck sumps where the Rangers located bodies and hidden weapons. The battalion made security sweeps in the vicinity of the old US PX in Cholon and on the perimeter of Tan Son Nhut Airfield.

On or about 20 February 68, the Rangers were Airlifted to Can Tho, headquarters for IV Corps, and issued M-16 rifles. Major Max Mowery (Senior Advisor 41st Bdqs) and Sergeant George McVey had rejoined the battalion at this time – an epoch of heroic and professional commitment for Ranger AL Hill...

The 41st BDQs were heli-lifted into an operation in the Cao Lanh area of the Mekong Delta on 22 February 1968. On the first day of action, Major Mowery was wounded and evacuated; on the third day of the battle, LT Tees was again wounded and evacuated. SFC Hill, immediately and aggressively assumed the duties of the Senior Battalion Advisor. From 24 February, to 9 March 1968, Hill coordinated medevacs and resupply aircraft; he directed air strikes and armed helicopters strikes with deadly accuracy. His leadership and rapport with the Vietnamese Ranger Commanders and the US Chain of Command during this 13 days of ground combat was cited by Colonel John P. Geraci (Senior Advisor, 44th Special Tactical Zone and later) as exceptional and reflected great credit upon Ranger AL Hill and the entire Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

The history of a unit is its life;
without a lineage the blood shed,
the deaths, battles, valor and
sacrifices are for naught...it is
the "life line" of its heritage:
from past to present

Mike Martin

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

Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)



Outskirts of Tan Son Nhut Airbase; one of the objectives of the Communists' during the 1968 Tet Offensive.



Local Vietnamese fleeing the fighting in Saigon-Cholon, Tet, 1968. This is the scene viewed by Ranger Advisor Al Hill in his ride through the city – bodies are dead Viet Cong.



Vietnamese Rangers engaged in tough house-to-house fighting in Cholon.

Rangers checking dead VC after a battle – BDQ'S gave little "quarter" to the enemy.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By: Bob Smeyers

THE ULTIMATE RANGER

Allow me to put before you the following for your consideration. All will agree that Rangers are among the world's most elite combat units, in shape to go anywhere, at anytime, to engage the enemy swiftly and destroy him. Since this is basically a Ranger Magazine, though many others read it, I will consider Rangers not only as sons of Merrill's Marauders but also sons of the Ultimate Ranger.

This history began thousands of years ago, long before men with courage became today's modern Rangers. These were men from all walks of life that were willing to take such risks, risking not only their reputation and worldly goods, but even the ultimate sacrifice, the risk of one's life. Even so, they took the risk to challenge the unknown with a fury. I will call them Risk Takers. Risk, interpreted here would be to expose their very being to dangers, dangers that few were willing to face. Such men have walked among us, even to this day. Without such people the world might still be in the Stone Age. I define Taker as one who takes possession or charge by force, skill, or both. Risk Takers in this scenario are Rangers, men who of their own accord voluntarily walk into the unknown, conscious of the possible consequences, performing missions that others would not dare to attempt. People that are able to do such deeds are endowed with the same spirit, one that seeks intrigue, adventure, a person that is an achiever.

Rangers of the past, present, and future had the standard by which they would build upon, set for them long ago. This is so, according to Biblical accounting of men and women, of courage. They are too numerous to give count of all; thus I will only touch on a few.

Noah is one example of a Risk Taker. He risked losing his reputation, and even his sanity would come into question as, he with his wife, sons and the sons wives did what God commanded. He was told by God to build the Ark and though Noah was in a desert-like environment and even though he had never witnessed rain, he never questioned God as to how it was going to float, but willingly accepted the mission.

Noah in those times was the only righteous one of God, and did herald the Word as he worked on the Ark. Doing so put him at risk of not only losing his life, but the lives of his loved ones. It was not beyond the sinful and angry people living in those days to kill him and his family for this very thing. Regardless, he knew the gain for humanity and all living creatures was worth the cost. As you may know, he completed his mission successfully. Noah along with his family members and two of all creation, male and female did survive the wrath of God and did replenish the earth.

Moses was also Risk Taker. In returning to Egypt to call upon the Pharaoh to let his people go, he did so at great personal risk. He had been forced out of Egypt some 40 years ago and was told he would die if he returned. However in obedience to God, he willingly returned and eventually Moses, by the power of God, convinced the Pharaoh to let them go. Once they were released they started for

the land of milk and honey. Upon reaching the land, many years later, Moses sent a patrol of 12 men to recon the land and report back to him. As they patrolled they came upon giants and instantly 10 of the 12 quickly departed to the main body. The ten that had seen the giants were horrified and they told Moses it was too dangerous and not worth the risk. (Wannabees) Some days later, the two Risk Takers named Caleb and Joshua returned carrying a large vine of grapes so big and luscious they had to use a pole to carry the vine. They confirmed that there were giants in the land but said, we can take it. Having done a complete recon and finding the land to be very fruitful, they concurred that the land was worth the risk, knowing some would die, but in dying, they would enable others to have a chance to pursue a better life. Caleb and Joshua stand in the ranks of Risk Takers. All through the Bible we find men and women like them. Putting themselves in harms way for the good of others, without hesitation. (not unfamiliar to the majority us).

Then the Ultimate Ranger is sent on a one-man mission to lead the lost out of the prison camp. He knew the exact path for them to take if they were to escape the horrible doom coming to the earth. His entry was the way all flesh coming into the world, by the birthing process. Mary, his biological mother was told to name him Jesus (meaning Savior). He was no special child except to the ones who recognized him from the written Word of God. He grew up as most kids and was the son of a carpenter. He worked as such until he reach the age of 33 years, at which time he began his mission of delivering the Good News (meaning Gospel) to all that would hear. This Good News if followed would assure them of deliverance from the hell that is coming upon the earth. This really put him at high risk. His infiltration into the enemy camp with such news would not nor could it, be kept to himself. Before being compromised, he had gained many followers that would provide him with an invisible wall. They would stand between him and the evil ones. The evil would have killed him but knew doing so would make him a martyr and would add even more fuel to his cause. The evil ones eventually did trump up false charges that would cost him his physical life, and for a short time, his spirit and soul would suffer that he might pay the full cost of all the sins of the world. He had beforehand selected 12 men as team members, to assist Him in the awesome mission. Support him they did, until the time came for him to become the Ultimate sacrifice, it was then that they left him to stand-alone. After he died, he did as he said he would and appeared before them.

The cost of continuing his mission was no longer a threat. The reward was too wonderful to worry about living in the physical. The mission continued, though all but one would later suffer horrific death. Even then they were offered a chance to live. All they need do was deny their leader, the Ultimate Ranger. The disappointment came when all of them would not deny the Ultimate Ranger as being the way, the truth, and the life. This sparked many to continue the mission and it continues even today. "THE ULTIMATE RANGER- JESUS CHRIST" left us with the highest of standards to follow. Yes, there were Rangers through out times and they had the same spirit as those of today, but without the prestigious name of, "RANGER"!

Rangers Lead the Way!

Bob Smyers, Chaplain of the 75thRRA

Former TL/PSG, 2 Bde. LRRP 4 I.D.

REMEMBERING SOME OF THE MONTNGARDS (YARDS)

HI RANGERS,

I WOULD LIKE FOR ALL US TO TAKE SOME TIME AND REMEMBER THE YARDS WE SERVED WITH. THE ONES ON MY TEAMS, I REALLY RECALL. I AM SURE MOST OF US REMEMBER SOME OF THEM AND SOME OF US OWE THEM A DEBT OF GRATITUDE FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER. THEY WERE BRAVE SOLDIERS, SOLDIERS I WOULD COME TO LOVE AS BROTHERS. ONE ADMIRABLE TRAIT I REALLY NOTICED WAS THAT IN HOT FIREFIGHTS THEY WOULD REFUSE TO WITHDRAW, LEAVING YOU TO COVER THEM. IT WAS WE ALL GO OUT OR WE ALL STAY. I AM SURE MANY OF US WITNESSED THIS ONE TIME OR ANOTHER.

I SPOKE FLUENT VIETNAMESE AND THIS BEING THE CASE, 95% OF MY TEAMS WERE COMPOSED OF ALL YARDS. WE BECAME VERY CLOSE DURING THIS TIME AND WHEN NOT ON MISSION, I LIKE MOST, TRIED TO CATCH UP ON MY SLEEP. WE WERE ONLY MONTHS INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LRRP PLATOON AND IF I RECALL RIGHTLY, ONLY E-5 AND ABOVE WERE ALLOWED TO LEAD TEAMS. THE SHORTAGE OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ALLOWED TEAM LEADERS VERY LITTLE BREAK TIME. WHEN I DID WAKE UP I MOST ALWAYS FOUND THE YARDS SITTING ON OR NEAR MY COT. WHY? THEY WANTED TO LEARN MORE ENGLISH. THEIR KEY MOTIVATION WAS "DESIRE" TO LEARN. THIS MADE TEACHING EASIER AND MORE REWARDING AS THEY BEGAN TO GRASP OUR LANGUAGE. THEY BECAME MY SHADOW WHEN NOT ON MISSION. THEY LEARNED QUICKLY; IN FACT MOUI WAS LATER TAKEN TO BE AN INTERPRETER AT DIVISION. I WAS GLAD FOR HIM.

ON ONE MISSION WE HAD NOT SEEN ANYTHING IN THE WAY OF ENEMY ACTIVITY, AND THIS WAS OUR SECOND DAY. ONE YOUNG YARD WAS SLACKING OFF AND WOULD THIS DAY REALIZE WHAT THE COST COULD BE. LUCKY NO ONE GOT KILLED OR INJURED. I QUICKLY LET HIM KNOW OF MY DISPLEASURE AND REMINDED HIM OF HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE TEAM. HE WAS SOON TO LEARN THE IMPORTANCE OF VIGILANCE. HE AND I HAD NOT BEEN ON MORE THAN TWO PATROLS AT THIS TIME, SO I MADE MY POINT KNOWN DURING THIS ONE MISSION. BOB CRAWFORD, DOC, MOUI, AND MYSELF MADE UP THE TEAM AND WE WERE PATROLLING NEAR THE IA DRAG RIVER. THINGS HAD BEEN UNEVENTFUL TO THIS POINT. WE HAD BEEN MOVING PRETTY MUCH ALL MORNING AND AROUND NOON WE JUST DROPPED IN PLACE FOR A BREAK. THE VEGETATIONS WAS MAINLY UNDERBRUSH AND SMALL SAPLING UNDER A SINGLE CANOPY OVER HEAD. LARGER TREES WERE TOO FAR APART TO POSITION MEN EXCEPT ONE. IT WAS TO THE RIGHT AND I PUT ONE HERE TO OBSERVE THE RIGHT. SHORTLY, I NOTICED THE SLACK ONE WAS NOT REALLY PAYING ATTENTION AGAIN. I MOVED TO HIM AND ASK IF HE WANTED TO STAY IN THE PLATOON? YES WAS HIS ANSWER AND I TOLD HIM HE HAD BETTER PROVE IT TO ME. I THEN MOVED BACK TO MY POSITION AND IT WAS NOT LONG BEFORE I CAUGHT MOVEMENT OUT OF THE CORNER OF MY EYE TO MY RIGHT. THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT FLANK WAS NOT EVEN AWARE OF THIS ACTIVITY. NONE OF US WAS AWARE THAT ABOUT FIVE YARDS TO OUR FRONT WE WOULD SOON FIND A HEAVILY TRAVELED TRAIL.

THE MOVEMENT WAS THREE NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS, ALL WITH AK-47s. THEY TOO, WERE NOT ALERT AND SOON MOVED ACROSS OUR FRONT AT SPITTING DISTANCE. ONCE PAST WE REGROUPED AND SET UP IN A DIFFERENT LOCATION FOR BETTER OBSERVATION. WE WATCHED AND REPORTED ALL THE ACTIVITY FOR A COUPLE DAYS AND THEN

WE WERE EXTRACTED. ONCE WE DID OUR JOB, IT WAS UP TO HIGHER TO DO SOMETHING WITH THE FIND.

WHAT WE HAD COME UPON WAS A MAJOR SUPPLY ROUTE WITH HEAVY TRAFFIC. THE NVA MOVED BACK AND FORTH NONCHALANTLY CARRYING TOOLS, WEAPONS, AND EVEN 60 MM MORTARS. IT WAS EVIDENT THEY FELT SECURE, THINKING NO ONE WAS AROUND. BOY, DID THEY PROVIDE TEMPTING TARGETS. I WANTED TO AMBUSH THEM WITH ARTILLERY FIRE BUT WAS TOLD, STRICTLY RECON. AFTER EXTRACTION THE ONE I HAD TO CHEW ON A LITTLE CAME AND TOLD ME, NEVER AGAIN WOULD HE FAIL THE TEAM. HE DID BECOME A BETTER SOLDIER. I BECAME PLATOON SERGEANT AFTER THIS MISSION FOR MY LAST SIX MONTHS.

AFTER NEARLY SIX MONTHS HAD PASSED I TURNED THE PLATOON SERGEANT'S DUTIES OVER TO DENNIS THUNANDER AND WAS BORED. I ASKED CAPTAIN GARNETT IF I COULD TRY A NEW TECHNIQUE AND HE AGREED. USING TWO THREE-MAN TEAMS TO SCOUT THE AREA OF OPERATION, BOTH WORKING SEPARATELY BUT NEAR BY AND UNDER MY COMMAND. ONCE INSERTED, WE MOVED IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS, BUT ALWAYS REMAINED CLOSE AND IN RADIO CONTACT. WE KNEW VIET CONG INFESTED THE VILLAGE. OUR PLAN WAS TO ENTICE THE VC BY HAVING ONE TEAM SET UP FOR AMBUSH. I WOULD GO IN AND OUT OF THE VILLAGE TO CONVINCE THEM WE WERE IN THE AREA AND WERE A SMALL TEAM. WE WERE ACTUALLY BAITING THEM BY MY TEAM WALKING IN AND OUT OF THE VILLAGE. DOC WAS ONE OF THREE YARDS ON THIS MISSION. IN FACT DOC WAS ON ALL MY MISSIONS EXCEPT TWO. I WILL PRESENT A FEW ANECDOTES AND I WILL START WITH HIM.

DOC, AS HE LIKED TO BE CALLED, WAS A LITTLE OLDER AND WISER THAN THE OTHERS. HE, LIKE THE OTHER YARDS, ALWAYS HAD A SMILE ON HIS FACE. HE WAS POPULAR WITH THE OTHER YARDS AND ALL THE AMERICANS LOVED HIM. I REALLY GOT CLOSE TO THIS GUY. I REMEMBER US HAVING FINISHED THE MISSION DESCRIBED ABOVE. IT WAS ABOUT NOON ON THE DAY I WAS TO GO IN FOR PROCESSING HOME. OUR MISSION HAD COME TO AN END AND WE WAITED ON EXTRACTION. DURING THIS TIME I POSITIONED THE TEAMS ON THE HIGH GROUND ABOVE A SMALL STREAM. SOME WERE EATING RATIONS AND OTHERS WERE OBSERVING. SUDDENLY I SAW SIX NVA WALKING WEST TO EAST ALONG THE STREAM. KNOWING WE HAD SLICKS AND GUN SHIPS IN ROUTE I DECIDE WE WOULD ENGAGE THEM AND HOPEFULLY THE SHIPS WOULD ARRIVE IN TIME TO USE THEIR MINI-GUNS. I SIGNALLED THE TEAMS TO FIRE AND DID WE EVER SCARE THE SH--T OUT OF THEM. THEY RAN LIKE A BAT OUT OF H-LL. THEY WERE ABOUT 75-100 YARDS DOWN BELOW US AND ONCE WE OPENED FIRE THEY SOON DISAPPEARED. OUR SHIPS ARRIVE AND ONCE WE WERE ABOARD THEY PEPPERED THE AREA WITH MINI-GUNS ALONG WITH M-60's. MY LAST SHOW OF FIREPOWER AND DID THEY EVER CHURN AND CHOP UP THE GROUND. ANYWAY, AFTER EXTRACTION DOC AND I SPENT MOST OF THE AFTERNOON TOGETHER. TALKING ABOUT SOME OF THE MISSIONS WE PULLED TOGETHER AND HOW I WAS EXCITED TO GO HOME. I TOLD HIM I WAS GOING TO MISS HIM AND THE OTHERS. I GAVE HIM ALL MY CLOTHING, LEAVING WITH WHAT I HAD ON. WE DID SHED SOME TEARS AND I STILL THINK OF HIM AND KICK MYSELF FOR NOT TRYING TO GET HIM TO GOOD OLD USA. DOC AND I HAD BEEN ON SEVERAL EXCITING MISSIONS AND HE WAS ALWAYS AN ASSET.

SAUL WAS ONE OF THE BEST MOUNTGNARDS OUR PLATOON HAD BEEN FORTUNATE TO GET. HE WAS ALWAYS ALERT AND KNEW THE SOUND OF THE JUNGLE, WHICH PROVED TO BE VERY HELPFUL. I ALWAYS PLACED HIM AS REAR SECURITY AND IT PAID OFF. ONCE IN VC VALLEY HE SAVED OUR BACON. WE HAD BEEN IN CONTACT THE DAY BEFORE AND USED MOST OF OUR AMMO SO WE HID ALL-NIGHT AND RECEIVED AN EARLY MORNING DROP OF SUPPLIES. HAVING AMMO MADE US FEEL A LITTLE MORE SECURE, SO WE CONTINUED NORTH COMING UPON A HEAVILY TRAVELED TRAIL. HERE WE SET UP WITH SAUL TO THE REAR. IT WAS NOT LONG BEFORE SAUL OPENED UP. I SWUNG AROUND AND SAUL WAS STANDING UP FIRING WITH ONE HAND TO THE REAR. I SAW VIET CONG FALLING AND RUNNING AWAY. WE ALL POURED LEAD THEIR WAY. I GAVE REPORT AND SINCE WE HAD BEEN COMPROMISED AS THE DAY BEFORE, HIGHER EXTRACTED US AND WAS THAT EVER A RELIEF. LATER SAUL WAS KILLED ON ANOTHER MISSION.

DONG WAS A RATHER HANDSOME YARD. PERHAPS HE HAD A FRENCH FATHER. HE WAS REALLY QUIET AND CARRIED HIMSELF WELL, ALWAYS PORTRAYING CONFIDENCE. WELL LIKED IN THE PLATOON, HE SPOKE ENGLISH PRETTY WELL. I WAS PSG. NOW AND NEVER TOOK HIM ON A MISSION.

LIA WAS A YOUNG SLENDER YARD AND SMILED ALL THE TIME. HE WAS ALWAYS HANGING WITH WHOEVER WAS NOT ON PATROL. RON COON SEEMED TO BE SPECIAL AS HE WAS AROUND HIM A LOT. EVERYONE LOVED COON. LIA WAS A PEOPLE PERSON. I WAS PLATOON SERGEANT WHEN HE CAME AND NEVER KNEW HOW HE OPERATED, BUT NO ONE EVER COMPLAINED. HE WAS WELL LIKED BY ALL.

THEN THERE WAS CHUIE, YOUNG, WISE, EFFECTIVE, AND HATED ALL VIETNAMESE. TALKING WITH RON COON HE SAID "COON ONCE WE KILL ALL NORTH VIETNAMESE YOU COME BACK AND WE KILL ALL SOUTH VIETNAMESE." HE WAS PROBABLY ONE OF THE FUNNIEST YARDS IN THE PLATOON AND LOVED BY ALL. HE WOULD HAVE STAYED WITH THE PLATOON UNTIL THE WITHDRAWAL, IF HE HAD NOT BEEN KILLED. HE WAS SHOWN ON THE DOCUMENTARY SOME TIME BACK, CALLED "LRRPs SILENT HEROES".

THESES ARE JUST A FEW I REMEMBER, BUT THEY WILL REPRESENT ALL THE YARDS I EVER SERVED WITH WHILE IN VIETNAM. LET US PAUSE IN PRAYER AS WE THINK AND HOLD THEM IN OUR HEART.

HOLY GOD, WE PAUSE IN SILENT PRAYER AS WE REMEMBER THESE BRAVE YOUNG WARRIORS WHO, THOUGH NOT ACCEPTED BY THE VERY GOVERNMENT THEY WERE FIGHTING FOR, DID WAGE A GOOD FIGHT. THOSE ASSIGNED TO ME AND THE MANY OTHERS ARE REMEMBERED AS BROTHERS AND I AM SURE THEY, IF LIVING, THINK OF US IN THE SAME WAY. WE KNOW WE CAN NOT TURN BACK TIME BUT IF WE COULD, WE CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE WORKED TO BRING THEM OUT. YOU GOD, KNOW ALL ABOUT THEIR PLIGHT. IF THEY ARE WITH YOU, THEY HAVE THE GREATEST REWARD, BUT IF STILL ON THIS PLANET, MAY YOU EXTENDED FAVOR TO THEM, AND PLANT IN THEIR HEARTS THE KNOWEDGE THAT THEY ARE STILL WITH US IN SPIRIT AND ONE DAY WE WILL MEET AGAIN. TILL THEN BLESS AND KEEP ALL OF THEM IN YOUR GRACE. WE ASK IT IN JESUS NAME.

BOB SMYERS, CHAPLAIN 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

Special Operations Forces Memorial Update, January 2003

We have been busy since the last issue of Patrolling.

The good news is that we have not lost any more SOF personnel through operational requirements (Afghanistan, Colombia, Philippines, etc.), and the better news is that Charlie Rangers' combat losses will all be fully represented on the Special Operations Memorial. Thirty names recognizing every member lost from Company E, 20th Infantry through the transition to Company C (Ranger), 75th Infantry (Airborne) in the Republic of Vietnam have been ordered for placement on the Memorial. We will follow the same procedure as we did for the November Rangers. The names will be placed alphabetically by date of loss, regardless of rank/grade.

The following Charlie Rangers' names have been ordered to be engraved and will soon join their brothers from November Rangers:

Major David B. Tucker, 1LT Calvin A. Greene, Sgt Patrick L. Henshaw, Sgt John R. Strohmaier, Sp4 Donald R. Kinton, SSG David A. Parker, Sgt Edward G. Lee, Sgt Fred W. Weidner, SSG Emory M. Smith, Sgt Eric S. Gold, Sgt Paul R. Jordan, Sgt Elton R. Venable, SSG Ronald W. Cardona, Cpl Frank D. Walthers, SSG Harold D. Williams, SSG William R. Squier, Jr., Sgt Keith M. Parr, Cpl Walter G. Burkhart, Cpl Rex M. Sherman, Sp4 Richard G. Buccille, Sgt William J. Murphy, SSG Steen B. Foster, Sgt James L. Loisel, SSG Mike E. Kiscaden, Sgt H. M. Burdette, Jr., John W. Rucker, Cpl Edward E. Scott, Sp4 Kevin G. Thorne, SSG Gordon K. Spearman, and Sp4 Loyd E. Robinson.

What a fantastic and appropriate tribute for the men who served together and died serving their unit, to be back in formation side by side, preserving, protecting, and memorializing their individual names, and the reputation of Charlie Rangers. We now have all the losses of both Charlie and November Rangers back together in their respective formations.

Separately funded and added are two Charlie Rangers who died after serving in the Republic of Vietnam. They are **Sgt Jimmy L. Dunagan** and **Robert L. "Moose" McClure**.

Finally, the name of the Director of Charlie Rangers, **Sgt Lyndin W. Bolton**, and past Directors, **Sgt Lonzo D. "Dan" Pope**, and **Sgt Jerry H. Stone** were added.

A special tip of the beret goes to **Lazar K. "Laz" Lazarov III** and **Joey Welsh** for their coordination of this action and their validation of the names and dates.

As the engravings are completed and **Smokey Wells** and I place them on the SOF Memorial, photographs will be included that same day on our official web site, now located at: <http://www.specialoperationsmemorial.net> When accessing our web site, click on "Directory" at the upper left side, select the letter to search for the last name, and click on that name to view the column on the Memorial where that name is placed. Scroll to below the column and click on "Close-up" for the specific engraving.

Geoff Barker

The Hurricane Hunters

Special Ops for Weather

Quote from NOAA Backgrounder, "The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) conducts research and gathers data about the global oceans, atmosphere, space, and the sun, and applies this knowledge to science and service that touch the lives of all Americans."

I am writing this story, to recognize the 87 heroes, both men and women, who are among the most elite and special operators. They dedicate their whole lives to serving our country and our neighbors. To meet them is inspiring, they have the same drive-on spirit and can do attitude that we all have in the Spec. Ops community.

Friday Sept. 13, 2002; 8:30 am this morning I got the call I've been waiting for 3 years to get; be at MacDill AFB. At 10:45. There's a charm all right! No way I was going to be late or miss this flight. When I arrived I was taken to the hanger, introduced to the flight crew and Miss Piggy (P3 Orion) C 130 class. We got a briefing on the flight plan and airborne 11:50 am. We were on our way to fly

through tropical storm Hanna in the Gulf of Mexico. Remember, this is Friday the 13th.

I was escorted to each duty station manned (everyone has a place and job, very limited seating) by a scientist and shown how and what their job consisted of and how to read the computers, where the info was gathered and sent, every agency that gathered and assimilated the data to predict how the storm would travel, how fast it would move and if it would turn more severe or weaken. Every detail is taken into consideration from the weather and air temperature to the temperature of the water which feeds these storms. Water temperature is a giant factor in creating hurricanes.

I finally got up to the cockpit and was briefed on their instruments, what the pilots do and how they handle different scenarios, how much pressure and vibration the plane can withstand. It was roughly 13:30 hrs. and we were about 100 miles from the center of Hanna. I was surprised at how steady the plane was flying. Visibility was spotted and you could cut the clouds with a knife. As we got closer one of the pilots said we were heading into the soup. We were dropping (a blast) from 13,000 feet at 1,000 foot increments and then dropped 200 feet above the water or deck as they call it. Just as we reached 10,000 ft a large bird hit right under the cockpit and split the hull, so we had to do an emergency turn around and not pressurize the plane. Kermit the Frog, another P3 who was 5 minutes behind also called in an electrical fire so it also had to turn around and head for MacDill AFB. So here we were, both planes crippled and having to go back under emergency conditions. We landed and looked at the damage the bird strike caused when Kermit came in and pulled up safely. Everyone stood in silence for a few minutes and one of the pilots said this has never happened before in the history of NOAA, I said HEY it's Friday the 13th.

Sept. 18th, got an e-mail from NOAA, be there by 12 noon. We would be flying Gulfstream-IV: NOAA'S High Flying Meteorological Platform, Gonzo around TS Isadore, P3's fly through the storm or hurricane and Gonzo (only one) fly's 45,000 ft. above the storm taking readings, it is a 9 hr flight.

Within an hour we had reached our altitude over Cuba, I was impressed, I was given ear phones to monitor Cuban transmissions with our plane, NOAA has the only authorization to fly over Cuban air space and they work well with NOAA, after all it helps them too. We were dropping AVATS (Airborne Vertical Atmospheric Profiling System) this gives a reading every _ second with the drone that's dropped from the plane till it hits water, altitude, pressure air temp, humidity, wind speed wind direction and gps readings. We flew around the coast of Cuba (seeing Havana) to Jamaica, and then to central America, Honduras, Belize and back into the Gulf of Mexico and finally back to MacDill AFB. The flight is long and tedious and at that altitude you loose body water (dry to say the least). Being that high, you can see the beauty of the storms and admire these great professionals. What they do is not duplicated anywhere else on earth.

For Lori: IMO Robert L Moose McClure E-20 / C-75

Regards USSOCOM Rep.

Smokey Wells



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



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

We can now accept VISA or MASTER CARD.

To Order:

Call or e-mail John Chester

Phone: 410-426-1391

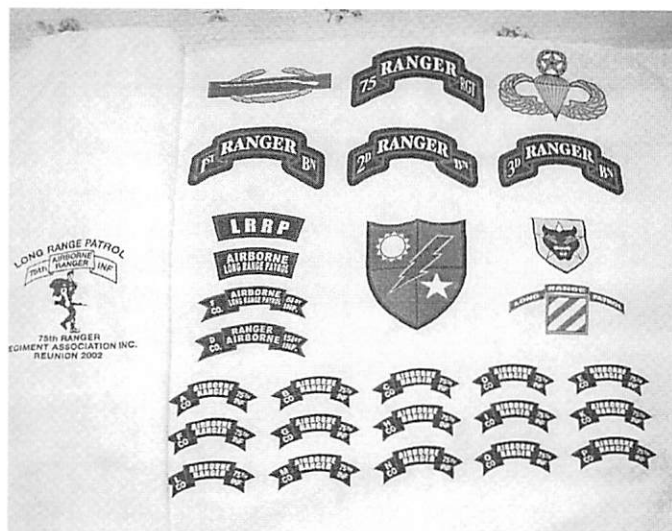
Fax: 410-426-0243

e-mail: john.chester3@verizon.net

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.



IMPORTANT NOTICES

REUNIONS: The following organizations will have reunions in the coming months. Check your unit pages for more details.

D/151: August 8 – 10, 2003 at Camp Atterbury, IN; Call Tom Blandford 317-846-6374

F/51: October 6 – 12, 2003; Tampa, FL, Holiday Inn, Mederia Beach, FL Call Mark Eastman 913-914-0781

L/75: June 18 – 22, 2003 Ramada Express, Laughlin, NV Call Linda Cox 303-838-4403

B/75: June 18 – 22, 2003 Holiday Inn, Oak Grove, KY (Ft Campbell) 877-439-0022

I/75: April 30 – May 3, 2003

C/75: August 6 – 9, 2003 Ft Benning, GA

K/75: August 8 – 10, 2003 Fayetteville, NC Don Keller 910-867-6985

BEST RANGER COMPETITION:

Due to increased deployments, Best Ranger Competition has been cancelled for 2003. Similar action was taken during the Gulf War in 1991.

RANGER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION:

A Board Of Directors Meeting was held on February 12, 2003. The RMF Board passed motions to increase Annual Scholarships from \$500 to \$750, and to increase the cost of Ranger Memorial Bricks to \$280 (from the current cost of \$240) beginning in October of 2003.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The 2003 membership year runs from 1 July 2002 through 30 June 2003. We continue to send magazines to the end of the calendar year to give everyone time to send in their dues but **if the address label on your "Patrolling" has 2002 on it and you have not recently sent in your dues, this is your last issue!** If you have any questions on your status, please contact the secretary Ron Edwards at PO BOX 921, HEFLIN, AL 36264, or phone # (256) 831-7146, or email redwards@cableone.net We can also now accept credit cards for annual or life membership dues.

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

LM BOYLE	CHARLES	F/75	DAVIS	STEPHEN S.	C/75 F/51
LM BULLEN	WILLIAM B.	K/75	DECLUE	LEONARD D.	H/75
LM BUSSELL	JERRY	183RD AIRPLANE CO.	DeMARA JR	DANIEL J.	H/75
LM CUNDIFF	REED	173RD	DODSON	WELDON E.	A/2/75
LM DILLON	RUSSELL E.	P/75 F/51	DOMINGUEZ	RUBEN N.	HQ REGT
LM FERRELL	HOWARD E.	1ST BATT	DUGGAN	FRANCIS J.	H/75
LM GALGAY	ERIC J.	A/1/75	DURANT	CARL A.	25TH INF DIV
LM HAUSNER	WILLIAM W.	HHC/1/75	EASTMAN	F. R.	F/75 G/75
LM KESHLEAR	JOE	N/75 74TH	FEDUFF	KENNETH A.	HQ REGT A/3/75
LM LININGTON	BARRY	P/75	FISHER	ANDREW D.	A/1/75
LM MAJOCKA	STANLEY J. III	C/3/75	GOOCH	CHARLES M.	P/75 H/2/75
LM MAKINO	ROBERT K.	I/75 F/52	HAMLIN	PETER R.	C/75 E/20
LM MANIO	DOM H.	C/58	HARTE	THOMAS D	D/151
LM MORALES	EDGAR	VII CORPS LRRP	HIGGINS	LARRY K.	F/50
LM MORTON	HENRY B.	D/75 M/75	KISER	AARON W.	F/51 LRS
LM RANKIN	KURT A.	REGT HQ	LANG	DAVE	173RD LRRP
LM SEARS	WILLIAM C.	C/1/75 A/2/75	LANG	JOHN E.	1/101 LRRP
LM SHIPLEY	COLIN E.	B/3/75	LEBRUN	JOHN	H/75
LM SLATTERY	PATRICK J.	F/75 D/75	LINK	ROY A.	V CORPS LRRP
LM VAUGHAN	JOHNNY L.	L/75	MARKS	CHRISTOPHER H.	B/1/75
LM VENCILL	CARLETON P	74TH LRP	MARKS	STEPHEN M.	BDQ
			VAUGHN	DAVID J.	A/2/75
BAKKIE	MICHAEL J	H/75	WILKES	DUANE L.	A/75
BOBO	DAVID P.	K/75 E/58	WILLIAMS	STEVEN M.	C/1/75
CARR	ROBERT L.	E/52	WINDHAM JR.	CHARLES D.	H/75 E/52
CLARK	JAMES L.	G/75	JACKSON	JAMES	L/75 F/58
COLVIN	GERALD F.	C/75	SCHIBBELHUT	TIMOTHY	B/2/75
CORINO JR.	JOSEPH	BDQ			

Earned Not Issued, the video.

Reviewed by Rich Hecht

"Honor, absolute honor. We won't tolerate anything less."

This is video account of the efforts that surrounded the Ranger family's attempt to secure the Black Beret as an exclusive item for the Rangers. Using a combination of military footage and video shot specifically for this documentary, the tape follows the history of the beret fias-

co; from Gen Shinseki's announcement on 10-17-00, through the road march to Washington D.C.

Along the way we meet the family of 1/75 Ranger James Markwell (KIA Panama), the road march team led by Ranger David Nielsen and other Rangers in their efforts to influence members of congress and the public.

One of the finest parts of the video, is Pres. George H. W. Bush reading a part of James Markwell's letter to his mom, that he wrote prior to going to Panama, during his 1/31/90 State of the Union address. The tape moves on to show portions of the road march and shows groups of Rangers walking together and the public cheering along way. I only wish that there had been more footage and interviews with the marchers during the long, lonely times on the road and the visits through the many towns along the route.

There is some great footage and speeches during the Beret Rally in front of the Lincoln Memorial at the end of the march. Ranger Bob Black (Korea) is especially direct in his attack on the Beret decision and speaks specifically about Ranger history and tradition. He states that the Black Beret is the only link that the (then) current Rangers have in their uniforms with the Rangers from Korea, the first Airborne Rangers. He states that when all else fails in combat, that all we have to fall back on is our traditions. How very true.

Next comes a visit with various members of Congress, including Senator John Warner. The Rangers are cautiously optimistic about their chances for success in having the Beret authorized only for Rangers.

Sandy Rouse, mother of James Markwell, addresses the Rally and Road March Ranger Nielsen presents her with James' Black Beret. The Beret she gave him at the start of the march and which he carried over 700 miles to D.C. Nothing could be more moving and a great show of Esprit de Corp. The video concludes with the Army beginning to issue the beret to the masses and prior to the Regiments decision to switch to a Tan Beret.

Each of us had many ups and downs during this time period. While I was always optimistic regarding having the Beret only for the Rangers, I knew that the effort would end as it did. And yet, it was a battle that we had to fight, even knowing the outcome beforehand.

With a running time of around 40 minutes, this is a great tape and one that every Ranger should have in his collection to share with friends and family.

You can purchase a copy and have it shipped to you for \$25. It is produced by former 101st LRSU soldier, Joe Tally, who does us right.

Tango Alpha Productions
2022A Broadway
Santa Monica, CA 90404
www.tangoalpha.com

Editorial Announcement

As the 75th Ranger Regiment Association has grown over the years, the *Patrolling* magazine has also matured, both from the perspective of having more and higher quality content, but also, in the area of advertising. In the future, we anticipate having gradual increases in the amount of advertising and also space allotted for those who desire to wish us well (card ads). This advertising will not be accepted at the expense of maintaining a high-quality publication for the members. The advertising is a benefit to the association, as it helps to financially sustain the magazine.

Patrolling will be carrying advertising in the following categories:

Association Advertising: This advertising may consist of membership forms, association event announcements, silver coins and hats and tee shirts left over from the Association's reunion. These items are being sold by the Association.

Paid Advertising: Paid advertising, except on the card ad page, will be always be marked with a single bar and the text message "Paid Advertising", an example of which is shown here:

PAID ADVERTISING

The relationship between the association and all paid advertisers is contractual. The association bears no responsibility for the performance of any advertisers, or for the members who do business with them. If you have any questions about any products or services you are considering purchasing, or have purchased from an advertiser, please contact the advertiser's business directly, not the association's officers or the editor of *Patrolling* magazine. The Association will ensure that adequate contact information for each advertiser exists before accepting paid advertising to facilitate this process.

Welcome Back: The Association would like to welcome back Milspec Group, Inc., who operates the Ranger Quartermaster and is a paid advertiser. Association member Peter Neves, veteran of 2/75 Ranger is the president of Milspec Group.

The Association and Milspec Group have agreed on a new paid advertising contract to provide association members with logo items with the association's name and logo. This agreement continues on a quarterly basis so long as the Association and Milspec Group wish to continue the agreement. It also provides paid advertising space for the Ranger Quartermaster on the inside back cover of *Patrolling* Magazine, as well as a sponsor link on the association's website.

Please direct any questions or advertising requests to the editor of *Patrolling* magazine, John Chester, via phone at 410-426-1391 or by e-mail at john.chester3@verizon.net.

Thanks for your attention.

John Chester

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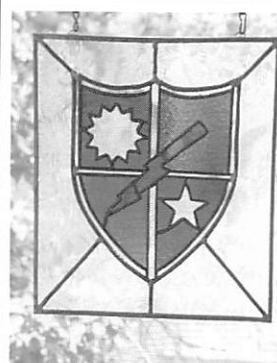
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COMPLEMENTS

of
Rick & Paula
Tepel

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

THE OTHER THINGS WE CARRY

(SUBMITTED BY Dan Nate, f co. LRP/written by Ron Leonard, 25th aviation)

Many years ago Tim O'Brian wrote a poem called "The Things They Carried". You've seen it here in our pages, but since we are older now, and our lives have changed, it needed updating, and below is Ron Leonard's version of the update, through his own perspective, printed with his permission. So enjoy.....

It's been 35 years since a Huey's whine
And midnight missions in the nick of time
It's been 35 years since a claymore mine
And ground attacks, so clear your mind.
And only yesterday it was '69.

We carried Ammo, and rockets, and beer, and mail
We carried body bags that could make you wail
We carried friends in our arms, as we turned pale
We carried buckets of water to wash out blood stale

We carried medals of valor for feats un-believed
We carried purple hearts for wounds we received
But most of all we carried each other.
Today we carry other things, some real, some imagined

We carry cancer of every kind known to man
Agent Orange poisoning, malaria, and lymphoma, and Diabetes, and Hepatitis C,
And many still have PTSD.

We carry arms with no hands, and legs with no feet, and scars both mental and real.
We carry crutches and walkers, and wheelchairs and canes, with honor its no big deal.

We carry horror stories of the Veterans Administration, of six-month waits,
And lack of funds, and shoddy care, of indifferent employees, and crummy food, and broken promises and downright lies.

But we still carry each other.

We carry memories from the past, and pictures of our youth, and through it all still have our dignity.
For many it is all we have.

Now and then, there are times when panic will set in and we have hideous dreams, And people squeal, they twitch and make moaning sounds, and cover their heads and say "Dear God", and hug the pillow and cringe and beg for the dreams to stop, and make stupid promises to themselves and God and their wives, hoping they will go away, but they don't.

But we still carry each other.

We carry the weight of shattered dreams, and broken marriages, and deformed children with insidious wounds, and twisted faces, and deformed legs, and broken spines, lost for all time.

We carry the thoughts of the future, of honor, and pride, and tradition.

We carry fear for our children in far off lands

The outcome can only be in God's hands

The midnight runs as the Huey whines,

The rescue missions in the nick of time,

The muffled blast of a claymore mine,

And only yesterday it was '69.

But we still carry each other.

Ron Leonard, Diamondhead 085, web-master, 25th Aviation Battalion

(<http://25thaviation.org>)



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

Membership Application Form

Annual dues: \$25.00
Life membership: \$250.00
Subscription Only: \$25.00
Checks Payable to:
75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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

UNITS SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

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

REMARKS: _____

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CHECK ONE: NEW APPLICATION _____ RENEWAL _____ SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER _____

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

The Ranger Quartermaster: Quality Ranger Gear

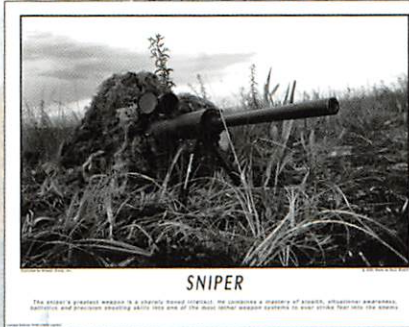
Black Sweatshirts, indicate size & quantity, add \$2.00 for 2XL:			
No Tab: 1/75 ____ 2/75 ____ 3/75 ____ 75th RGMT ____	_____	X	\$25.00
W/Tab: 1/75 ____ 2/75 ____ 3/75 ____ 75th RGMT ____	_____	X	\$27.00
Black Polo Shirts, indicate size & quantity, add \$2.00 for 2XL:			
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W/Tab: 1/75 ____ 2/75 ____ 3/75 ____ 75th RGMT ____	_____	x	\$27.00
Black Fleece Jacket, indicate size & quantity, add \$2.00 for 2XL:			
W/Tab: 1/75 ____ 2/75 ____ 3/75 ____ 75th RGMT ____	_____	x	\$47.00
Assn Polo Shirt, Black	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	x	\$30.00
Assn Sweatshirt, Black	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	x	\$30.00
Assn. Fleece Jacket, Black	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	x	\$47.00
Legend Continues Tee	M L XL, + \$2-> 2XL	x	\$12.00
Earned, Not Issued Coffee Mug	_____	x	\$12.00
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Ranger Sniper Print	_____	x	\$20.00
HAAF 'Night Power' Print	_____	x	\$15.00

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E-mail: _____	1st Item = \$5, Each Additional +\$1.00	
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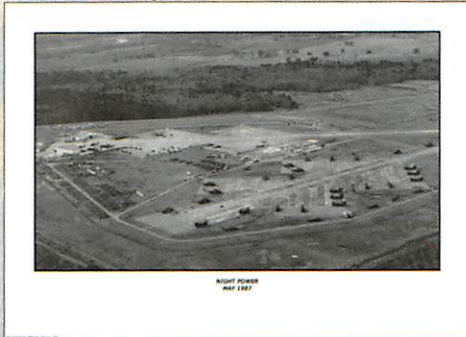
PAID ADVERTISING

28" wide x 22" high, photo by Russ Bryant



Ranger SR-25 Sniper Print

22" wide x 16" high



Hunter AAF Aerial Photo
75th Ranger Regiment Special
Ops Training Mission - Night Power '87

THE RANGER QUARTERMASTER

Smokin' like a HOT Barrel



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75th Ranger Regiment Assn. Logo Fleece Jacket with Full Zipper and two velcro enclosed pockets. Also available with each Bn and the 75th Ranger Regiment Scrolls, each with Tab.



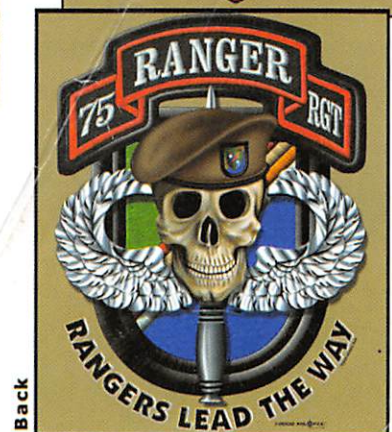
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Available with all 3 Bns & 75th Ranger Regiment Scrolls (with and without Ranger Tabs) and the Logo for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association.

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Back

The Legend Continues

Honoring those in the 75th Ranger Regiment who have done the unit proud and once again distinguished themselves in combat.

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Adam "Mac" Macias of L Company in the Tennessee Valley of I Corp, bringing in the extraction bird for Team 21 on April 6 1971. Team call sign 19N Lucky Strike got their frag order on March 31, 1971. Insertion was the 4th of April at YC 543 986. On the 6th the team heard a truck coasting down a hill on the road to the team's west and below their ONH. Extracted on the 6th at YC 452 980 due to poor commo and Vietnamese speaking or jamming the team's frequency during the night of the 5/6th. Photo Courtesy of Randy White, L CO.

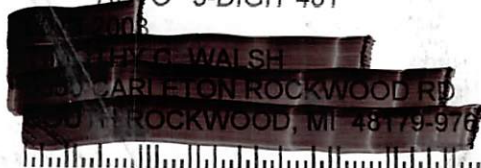


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