

PATROLLING

FALL 2004 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 19 ISSUE II



Recon Team from F/50 LRP (ABN) C. 1968-1969. L to R; David Regenthal, Tom Fevurly, Douglas Pollock, Patric Carr, Ivan Brown & Charles Long.

Officers' Messages -----1-9

General -----10-25 & 60-72

Unit Reports -----26-59

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



CPT Mike McNamara, Senior Advisor, 32nd Vietnamese Ranger BN. (far right), flanked by CPT Xuan (center), 32nd BDQ BN Commander & COL Sid Berry, Senior Advisor, 7th ARVN Division. Xuan is holding the noted Secretary of Defense McNamara's sign. (See BDQ Article).

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

Tom Brizendine
14424 Magnolia Creek Dr.
Foley, AL 36535
H-251- 945-3278
Email: tdbriz@gulfnet.com

B/75 – C/58 LRP – VII CORPS LRRP

Marc L. Thompson
80 Rock Ridge Road
Morgantown, PA 19543
H-610-913-8183
C-610-763-2756
F-610-873-8665
marc@roinet.com

C/75 – E/20 LRP

Steve (Doc) Gove
425 Keenon Dr.
Cataula, GA 31804
H-706-660-9353
Email: gawronski_1999@yahoo.com

D/75

John J. Kingeter
526 Lavina Dr.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
H-717- 766-1484
Email: Tom Delany: del_t@msn.com

E/75 - E/50 LRP – 9th DIV LRRP

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

F/75 – E/50 – 25th DIV LRRP

Joe Little
10129 W. Highland Ave
Phoenix, AZ 86037
H-623- 877-3797
Email: jlittle1@cox.net

G/75 – E/51 LRP – 196th LRRP

Tom Nash
9 Prospect Place
Kearny, NJ 07032
Email: tnash@lrrpranger.org

H/75 – E/52 LRP – 1st CAV LRRP

William T. Anton
H-702- 307-1428
C-702-592-1850
F-702-924-7700
Email: polar_bear_01@runbox.com

I/75 – F/52 LRP – 1st DIV LRRP

Dave Hill
564 Everglades Ln.
Livermore, CA 94550
H-925- 373-1363
Email: hill@lsil.com

Unit Directors

K/75 – E/58 LRP – 4th DIV LRRP

Roger T. Crunk
1159 19 Road
Fruita, CO 81521
H-970-858-4579
Email: RTCUNK@aol.com

UNIT DIRECTORS

L/75 – F/58 LRP – 1/101st LRRP

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

M/75 – 71st LRP – 199th LRRP

Steve Houghton
6300 Lake Road
Six Lakes, MI 48886
H-989-352-7308
Email: escort@pathwaynet.com

N/75 – 74th LRP – 173rd LRRP

Reed Cundiff
125 San Ysidro
Las Cruces, NM
H-505- 523-5081
Email: cundiff@zianet.com

O/75 – 78th LRP

POSITION VACANT

P/75 – 79th LRP

Bill Davis
50 Montell Street
Oakland, CA 94611
H-510- 655- 8962
Email: beol@sbcglobal.net

D/151 LRP/RANGER

Tom Blandford
5882 Hollow Oak Trail
Carmel, IN 46033-9567
H-317- 846-6374
Email: tomblandford@hotmail.com

F/51 LRP

Russell Dillon
39 Pearl St.
Wakeman, OH 44889
H-440- 839-2607
Email: redmjd2@accnorwalk.com

HQ, 75th RANGER REGT

Richard (Rick) Barella
PSC 45 Box 1248
APO AE 09468
PH 011-44-1423-507480
Cell 011-44-7711-129772
Email: dabarelas@msn.com

1st BN, 75th RANGER REGT

Roger B. Brown
8588 McKee Road
Upatoi, GA 31829
H-706-561-4079
Email: Ranger18588@aol.com

2nd BN, 75th RANGER REGT

Rich Hecht
16706 132nd Ave E.
Puyallup, WA 98374
H-253-446-9928
Email: Rich275RGR@msn.com

3rd BN, 75th RANGER REGT

John R. Edmunds
54 Lee Road 985
Phenix City, AL 36870
H-334- 448-4724
Email: jedmunds@bww.com

LRRP DETACHMENT- 3rd ID

Michael McClintock
2323 Armada Way
San Mateo, CA 94403
H-650- 341-7331
Email: oldlrrp62@aol.com

ARVN RANGER ADV. (BDQ)

Mike Martin
P. O. Box 1463
Tullahoma, TN 37388
H-931-455-3824
Email: bdq@75thangers.org

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

Association VA Advocate

Dan Nate
408 Elm Street
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097
H-856-848-9174
Dannate1@comcast.net

Web Master

SJ "Peter" Parker
peter2004@airborne-ranger.com

Health – PTSD

Mike Wise
wmwise@bellsouth.net

Health – Cancer

Tom Athanasiou
toma@computer.org

Health – HEP-C

William (Bill) Schwartz
billschwartz@west-point.org

Gold Star Mother Advocate

Sandee Rouse
GoldStars75thRRA@aol.com

Gold Star Wife Advocate

Sandy Harris
SANDY5790@aol.com

Association Legal Counsel

John Chester
john.chester3@verizon.net
James Savage

Association Photographer

Patrick Bassanti
bizphoto@earthlink.net

Graphic Artist

Dave Walker
lrp67aviator@prodigy.net

State Coordinator

Tom Gage
thegages@comcast.net

Reunion Coordinator

David Cummings
David4f4@aol.com

Association Chaplin

Bob Smyers
hotel2alfa@msn.com

75th Ranger Regiment Association
P. O. Box 10970
Baltimore, MD 21234
www.75thrra.org

President

Emmett Hiltibrand
6459 Adams Park Dr.
Columbus, GA 31909
H-706-323-5426
Cell-706-587-0745
Ranger2c@mchsi.com

Vice President

Bill Bullen
P.O. Box 34
Palm, PA 18070
H-215-679-8856
Cell-215-828-5645
Fax-215-679-4756

Secretary/Patrolling Editor

John Chester
3208 Rueckert Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21214
H-410-426-1391
Cell-410-382-9344
Fax-410-426-0243
john.chester3@verizon.net

Treasurer

Richard K. Benner
543 Maple Court
Bensalem, PA 19020
Cell-215-205-1230
rkb3058@juno.com

Patrolling is published quarterly by the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., and is mailed third class postage, under postal permit #75, Duncansville, PA

The opinions expressed by the Officers, Unit Directors, Editor and other writers are entirely their own and are not to be considered an official expression or position of the Association. Advertisements for products or services do not constitute an endorsement by the Association.

Manuscripts, photographs and drawings are submitted at the risk of the individual submitting the material. Captions must be submitted with any photographs or graphics.

The Officers and the Editor reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and space constraints. Every precaution will be taken to preserve the intent and scope of the author. The Officers and Editor reserve the right to refuse any submission, that is in bad taste, offensive or that discredits unnecessarily any individual or group.

Deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November for the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter Issues respectively.

POSTMASTER

Send address corrections to: *Patrolling*,
PO Box 10970,
Baltimore, MD 21234

Patrolling is printed by:
A Plus Printing, Inc.
500 32nd Street
Altoona, PA 16602
(814) 942-7711
mcolledge@aplusprintinginc.com

WEB SITE & MAGAZINE NEWS

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

Web site:

Somehow I have talked S. J. 'Peter' Parker, into taking over the job as webmaster. A little intimidation, blackmail and coercion goes a long way. At any rate, Peter is a real professional at web site management and will jump start our web site's entry to the next level.

Peter's vision includes making access easier for Unit Directors and Officers of the Association to add content to their section of the web site.

Peter is also the CEO of an active Company, so if anyone out there can help with HTML, Dreamweaver, PHP, Mysql, Database, CSS Etc., please contact Peter (see Web Master article), or me. We also need graphic artwork, pictures and articles for the web site.

Any Association is only as good as the people who work to keep it going. Please help by volunteering your time and talent to help the Association. If it can't be the web site, help with the magazine. There is always something that needs doing. We have such a diverse pool of talent, if everyone pitched in, we will be the best an Association can be.

RLTW - Strength & Honor Emmett W. Hiltibrand

Patrolling Magazine:

Now that I'm wearing two shirts for a little while, I need to get some help with the magazine. What I envision, is a group of Associate editors. Ideally, if we had five or six, each could be responsible for several units and for some of the health and legislative articles. They would dun the Unit Directors, edit the copy that they receive from them, and then forward them to me for layout and final edit. This would save time and apportion the workload a little more equitably. If you can send and receive e-mail and attachments (TEXT AND PHOTOS) and have MS Word, and have some time to donate to your Association, please give me a call or drop me an e-mail. I talked to several people at the reunion & I will try to get to them in a day or so, but if I lost the contact information, please get ahold of me anyway. I have been like a one armed paper hanger for the last couple weeks and I haven't found all the stuff I brought back from Tacoma yet.

Notice

No part of this publication or article contained in this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Author and/or the editor of *Patrolling* Magazine. This does not apply to certain non-profit Veteran's organizations that have been granted permission to reproduce Health and Legislative articles.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Emmett W. Hiltibrand

I'm not a masochist for wanting to return to the Office of President of this Association. If you believe that then stop reading this article and return to the comic book you were reading before. I returned purely out of love for my fellow brothers and I care about this Association and what I see that it can do for all of us. The many who have served in leadership positions in the 75th Ranger Regiment Association know that this is the best means for the few to help the many. I know that I am not alone because of the large amount of men who came forward at the last reunion to volunteer their assistance or services to the Association had that same vision.

Two years ago, I couldn't leave office fast enough. I was tired and need a break. Yeah, a break. I immediately began learning HTML code to be the Associations web master, some break. But, actually I needed a break from the day-to-day running of the operations of the Association. I needed to step back and see how it was doing. While in Office last time I stirred up a lot of dust by moving things around and setting a new course for the Association. Each and every President who has presided over the Association did the best he or anyone could have done at the time and effectively led the Association down the correct path. Each in his own way was just what the Association needed then and there and left the Association in a better condition than what they got it in. I have repeatedly read the historical trail left by them and I salute them for making a good Association into an even greater one. It takes two full years to effectively get your feet on the ground and then and only then accomplish good things. One year is not enough and not fair to any one person. Two years is just enough time to tire out the normal man and drain him of his life forces. It is therefore time to give Dana a break and let him

enjoy a normal life again. I'll tell you here and now, normal in Dana's life is rather bizarre.

I had asked Dana if he would list his accomplishments in the last two years during the 'General Membership Meeting' and he was too modest to do so. I can't personally because I stayed outside the operational loop intentionally. I can tell you that our books are better during the last two years than any previous time during the Associations history. Dana read off the financial figures and I believe the members gave him a well-deserved applause. I also know that membership is way above what I got it at and what I left him with when I gave him two years ago. I was talking to him over the phone one day and he jokingly said, "And see how well the web site has grown under my term in office". There's some sick but truthful logic in that man. Dana and Peggy McGrath, the Association and I thank you for the two years you have given unselfishly. Rest now so we may call upon you again in the future.

I had to volunteer for a two-year term in office as per the Bylaws, but I first made sure we voted to conduct the reunion at Ft. Benning next year instead of the normal two-year wait. By holding it at Ft. Benning next year, which requires a 'General Membership Meeting' and 'Elections', that supersedes my being required to serve the full two full years in office. Therefore I will only be in office for 1 year. The leadership discussed this modification of our time cycle for several reasons. Two years ago at Ft. Benning and about three weeks before our reunion, we found out that 3/75 was going to be deployed during our reunion time frame. This was unexpected and could have been disastrous to our activities had it not

been for some very fast footwork by our 'Reunion Coordinator' David Cummings. David filled in the gaps with a lot of activities and events so that no one was bored. Then again this year the same thing happened to us at Ft. Lewis. The planning committee was able to work around it again but the main reason we go to these outlying locations is to associate with those units and see them. By skipping a cog in the two-year cycle and conducting our reunions in the odd year instead of the even years, we will get in sync with the Ranger Regiment change of command. Then, even if one of the Battalions is deployed, we will at least get to see the vast remainder of them. Also mass tactical parachute jumps, change of command, pass in review and most likely a Ranger in action demonstration. Always during this time, there is a Ranger Hall Of Fame induction ceremony being conducted. At worst we'll get to see more than we saw at Ft. Lewis. If the reason for having reunions is to see the Rangers then we need to go where we can be assured of seeing the most we can. I think seeing the young Hooah's and where they live and train is only a secondary part of where we pick to go. We have reunions to reunite old friendships and the camaraderie of being with our fellow Brothers in arms. So, if the reason is not just for seeing the Hooah's then we could begin having reunions in a multitude of cities around this great country of ours. Let's get the most for our dollar while we're still in an upright position. By the way, I had already secured an agreement from David Cummings to coordinate for the coming reunion at Ft. Benning. Thanks David.

Whether we continue with this odd year time cycle or return to the even year one is an issue that can be addressed by the members at the 'General

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Membership Meeting' conducted at each reunion. Point being, either be there and vote or hold your complaints for not liking the way it was done. The vote to change was a unanimous one. Gotta be there to have a say in matters and a vote on issues. If you don't like something or want to change something then come to a reunion and voice your opinion. If you really want to see change, then run for office and take the lead in getting things done. I had a choice early in life and that was to either be a mind reader or good looking.

In my first term as President of this Association there were three things that I knew for sure I wanted to accomplish. One was to take our quarterly publication, the Patrolling magazine from where it was to a first rate magazine. Mission accomplished. Dana and John have taken it a step further in the last two years. Second was to re-write the existing Bylaws. They were twelve years old and did not reflect the current condition or keep pace with our growing Association. The present Association and the times necessitated that the Bylaws be condensed in some aspects, expanded in other areas and improved upon in general to properly represent us. Mission accomplished. There are some minor tweaks that are needed and we will attempt them during this one year term. Lastly was a desire of mine to double the Association membership rolls. The potential was there, the resources were there and the ability was there but I failed to meet this goal. In Dana's term, he damn near reached that goal. He apparently understood the mechanic's of recruitment and retention better than I did. Perhaps the goal of doubling membership was just a little too jealous on my part. We did strike some high marks and membership was on a solid footing when I handed over the reins to Dana but I hate to fail in anything. Dana and

crew deserve the mission flag on that one.

Before I go on to my desires for this short term, there were two by-products from that first term that rose as unforeseen opportunities and we capitalized on them. First was the 'Children's Christmas Fund' program and the other was the 'Gold Star' mothers and wives program. Both were and are very worthwhile ventures.

What can a crew accomplish in just a one-year term? Usually, I'd say probably not much. But we have a great set of Officers this time around and the set of Unit Directors just keeps getting better. With that combination the climate is ripe for success. What you may very well see in the next year are some minor Bylaw changes being presented for vote. A new web site is already being built in the background as we speak. Streamlining and propelling the Patrolling magazine to an all-new dimension. A State level coordination and information network that is member powered. We are also going to breathe new life into the 'Gold Star' program, the 'Ranger Hall Of Fame' submission process and once again the topic of 'Membership' will be high on my agenda but in realistic terms this time.

We bid farewell to Ron Edwards at the Banquet dinner. Ron gave more than his fair share to this Association and the cost of that was in his personal time raising his family. Not many people saw that. There were times when seeing kids do what kids do growing up was missed as Ron held our Association together doing what was needed. There have been many other dynamic Secretaries in this Association's history that accomplished Herculean jobs but Ron did it during an awesome transition period. Thanks Ron, now lie around and watch those children grow.

There was an extremely short fuse this time around after the reunion. As soon as we got back, there was this magazine to put to bed, Ranger Hall Of Fame packets need sending in and a reunion needs planning. We've already spoken to the hotel people and have initial plans in place for next year. We have plenty of volunteer positions open and there is never a shortage of talent needed. If you'd like to just try your hand a little in the helping department, just let us know. Send one of the Officers an e-mail or call them. We can find something for you to do that suits your talents and time restraints. Warning, helping and doing good things is contagious and may be habit forming. As I've mentioned before, if you like this Association and what it does for you then by all means get involved. It does feel good and has it's rewards.

As a side note, last year around mid May, my wife and I took the Amtrak train up to Baltimore to visit John Chester and his wife. On Memorial Day my life long friend Rick Benner came down to visit also. Also Bill Bullen came over and we all had lunch. After lunch the four of us guys went to Arlington National Cemetery to present a 'Gold Star' Mother certificate to one of the K/75 mothers who lost her son in Vietnam. You talk about a coincidence of the four of us together then and where we landed 14 months later. There's a picture that one of us has when we did this and I'd like to find it and post it in the magazine someday. Never pass up the opportunity to do an Honorable thing and always take the opportunity to reach out to a Brother. Rangers may Lead The Way but it was you LRRP's and LRP's who wrote the book.

Thanks. Emmett W. Hiltibrand

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Bullen

Greetings, I had a real good time on the Left Coast this past 3 weeks, hope everyone had as good a time. If you have any comments and or suggestions, please communicate with this administration. CSM (ret) Don Keller has prepared a Reunion SOP and checklist, to learn more about this contact John Chester; I believe he is handling this business.

As the new VP of the 75thRRA I'll try to follow the lead set forth by one of the greatest people I know, the previous Vice President, Wayne Mitsch. Wayne and I were together in Viet Nam and were acquainted the way many of us were back then, in the field you knew one group, out of the field you met up with those who may have been on a stand down at that moment. Whenever I talked to Wayne, he always had time for me, a younger 18 year old at the time. As you may recall an 18 year old kid, may or may not have been as cool or as mature as a 19 or 20 year old man! Yet Wayne always had time for everyone. I'm only sorry that he is too busy to hold another position at this time. Thank you, Brother Mitsch!

Keeping the commo shop OPEN will be my main endeavor. If anyone needs to communicate call me, I'll do my best to put you in contact with the Right Person. Call the old numbers in the black book we all had in country, there may be a good one. Get in touch with some of the guys who missed the reunion and tell them about our reunion in Benning next year. Get your orders to your Unit Director; we will do searches on all ssn#'s. I figure we can sign-up 10% of the guys on the first call, this may sound ambitious but this thing starts to steamroll!

The main thrust is to give your Unit Director a call and introduce yourself, even if you don't know the guy. You may be surprised at the real friends you do have here in the 75thRRA.

In closing, I'd like to request pictures and stories or at least captions to be printed, we all love to see and read this stuff!

Bill 'Ichabod' Bullen
K/75 '69 - '70

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

BY: John Chester

I'm writing this as we are coming home from the reunion. The first thing I need to do is to thank Fred Fones and Brian (Jellyroll) Radcliffe for all their help at the registration desk. I had intended to ask for some help from some of my people who were scheduled to attend, so I was quite gratified when they volunteered (sort of). Mike Reiley and his significant other, Bev Brondz, were also put to work. On Sunday beer and munchies magically appeared thanks to Pat Nesbitt and my wife Mary Anne. Mary Anne and Dana's wife Peggy also exchanged beer kegs a couple times. There was lots of help from lots of people, thanks guys.

One of the results of the general membership meeting was my election as secretary of the association. I am still editor of the magazine, so there was a certain amount of speculation that I would subject the membership to two exercises in tedium each issues, an editor's column and a secretary's column. I admit that I was tempted, and if my name were Dana I might succumb to the

temptation, but ultimately laziness won out, so there will be but one combined secretary/editor column until someone else takes over the secretary position. I'll divide the column into sections appropriate to each activity and label them as such.

EDITOR: At the general membership meeting, I requested that some people come forth to volunteer as associate editors. The thought was that if each associate editor be responsible for 3 or 4 units, they could harass the unit directors for input, edit the material when received, and then forward the finished product to me for formatting and inclusion in the magazine. I have a few volunteers, but I need at least 5 or 6 more.

It's not 'rocket science' so just get in touch with me and we will work out specifically what you can and are willing to do. It's your Association, so help us make it better. We've gone from an administration where about 2 people did all the work to an Association where there are at least 15 or 20 helping, not counting the Unit Directors. The more people who help the easier it is for everybody. And always remember that helping someone is a good thing.

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

SECRETARY: The first thing I'm not going to do is to make a lot of changes. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Ron Edwards has done a hell of a job and I want to expand a few things and change nothing. Some of my goals are as follows:



Back Row, L to R, Mike Reiley, Bev Brondz, Brian Radcliffe (Jellyroll), John Chester, Fred Fones. Front, Mary Anne Colledge. Mike Reiley, Jellyroll and I were part of a 7 man team that hit a political meeting in a house near Duc Pho a few days before Christmas, 1967. We killed 23 and captured several bags of documents, including plans for the upcoming Tet Offensive.

Send out annual dues statements. The system in use now uses the member number and expiration date on the *Patrolling* Magazine mailing label as the prompt for payment of dues. Many members are confused and don't realize that dues have not been paid until the magazine stops coming, about a year after the expiration date. The dues statement will be designed so that it is its own return mailing envelope. There will also be provisions for Family Fund contributions and other correspondence. Even Life Members will get a statement, so there will be one more point of contact each year.



My wife, Mary Anne (L), and Bill Bullen's wife Donna. Two long suffering women. When they get together and compare notes, Bill & I catch grief for quite a while afterwards.

I also want to get all the hard copy membership information scanned into electronic files and to do away with paper copies of membership records entirely. We are simply getting too big to keep voluminous files that have to be shipped back and forth across the country every couple years. We will continue to keep hard copies of financial records, but not membership records, once the membership of an individual is approved.

Recruitment; this is a goal for every incoming administration, and this one is no different. One of my goals will be to maintain members that we have already recruited. It doesn't make sense to keep recruiting the same guy over and over. It is my hope that the annual dues statement will be a great help in that area. I believe that many of the members that we loose, we loose inadvertently, they just don't realize their membership expired. We also need to recruit the young men coming out of the Battalions. These guys are the future of our organization. Our founders very wisely rejected the 'last man standing concept', and ensured that our Association will exist as long as there are Ranger nits.



Bob Smeyers giving the invocation at the banquet.

We are also going to allow life memberships to be paid for in 5 installments. There will be a place on the dues invoice to indicate that that is what the member desires. We are looking at allowing members pay for either a 2 or 4 year segment in advance at a slightly reduced rate. If during that time period they decide to go ahead and make the jump to a Life Member status, all they have to do is pay the difference. We would like for all members to recruit at least one new member during the next year. Membership is important to the Association because we place some pretty good info in the magazine and non-members just don't get the full benefit of this stuff unless they are getting the magazine. So go out and recruit a friend. Remember what Emmett said about giving away membership in the Association as a Christmas present. He sends the Secretary \$100 each year and is credited for 4 memberships. Then all he has to do is notify the person who is to get one and have them send in a membership application. The Secretary connects the paid dues to the application and we all benefit from the act of kindness. I'll keep

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)



Dana as the MC at the banquet.

a separate record of paid in advance dues and marry them up with applications when you inform me. Please make sure you let me know ahead of time about the members' application and your running credit. We shall also begin now and all during this next year to encourage all members to come to the next reunion during the July time frame. Exact dates are not known at the time but we will get them out as soon as possible.

Happiness and PTSD

Mary Anne and I drove to Michigan, picked up Brian Radcliff, (Jellyroll) and then drove to Tacoma for the reunion. About a 3,200 mile drive each way. Lots of time to talk. One of the topics



At the banquet. Standing L to R; Brian Radcliffe, John Chester, Fred Fones, Seated L to R, Bev Brondz, Mike Reiley, his Aunt, Hermaine Deshaies, his Uncle Fred Deshaies and his daughter, Tina. Mike's Uncle Fred was with Merrill's Marauders during WW II.

kind of settled down to happiness. The question posed was 'Is happiness possible for a person, once that person has been exposed to a trauma that causes PTSD?' I immediately said, "Sure, PTSD doesn't preclude happiness." An explanation was requested. I answered, "First, let's define happiness." "Happiness is when you feel better than usual," Replied Mary Anne. "If that's true," I replied, "happiness is a state that is not the usual state, true?" "I guess so she answered." "Well then, we are clearly

describing an extra ordinary state, and we can also say the sadness and depression are states that indicate that we feel worse than usual. If that's so they are both extra ordinary states, one above (happiness) and one below (sadness & depression) the baseline. I guess the base line could be described as the 'NORMAL' state of being, the way we feel most of the time." "Remember," said Mary Anne, "Your first shrink said 'NORMAL' was a setting on the dryer, and that's all it was." "That's right," I replied, "but If I didn't have that baseline, the way I feel most of the time, I wouldn't know if I was happy or sad. I'd either be sad & depressed all the time, in which case I'd probably kill myself or I'd be happy all the time and someone else would kill me out of annoyance. If we know that happiness is above the baseline and sadness & depression is below the baseline, we can take steps to avoid the things that take us below the baseline and promote the things that take us above it." "Give me an example." She said. "What if someone had trouble sleeping and took a few drinks to get sleepy. This soon became the 'Normal' practice, but



"After the Rapture, I won't need a parachute." Training for the VII Corps LRRP parachute jump. On the left is Ben Defoe a WW II Darby's Ranger. He took off his hearing aids because he was afraid he'd lose them in the slipstream, consequently, he did not hear the commands, delivered by a small radio on the parachute harness, from the drop zone. He had grass stains on the top of his shoulders but partied until 0300 the next morning. Way to go Ben.

each morning the individual woke up feeling like hell and despising himself. Once he discovered he had PTSD, he should come to realize that this behavior, (drinking himself to sleep) was taking him below the baseline, and he should take whatever steps are necessary to change the behavior.

The conversation continued in this vein for several hundred miles. We also discussed PTSD as an excuse for outrageous behavior. My opinion is pretty simple. Once you **know** you have PTSD, you have been diagnosed, are being treated, are receiving benefits; whatever, at that point you have an obligation to avoid whatever pushes your buttons and stay above that baseline. If you know that certain behavior of yours will set your wife off, you need to either avoid the behavior or avoid your wife. If that will

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

cause a confrontation, either change the behavior or leave. That's one fight you won't (can't) win. We had an incident at the reunion in Tacoma. An individual was acting out a bit in the smoking area outside the building. Several of us went out & talked things over. One of the individual's buddies whispered to me that he had PTSD. I laughed pretty loud I'm afraid. I told him that about 95%



First one in 20 years.

of the 300 people attending the reunion had PTSD to a greater or lesser degree, (mostly greater). PTSD is not a blank check to have confrontations with your wife, drink yourself unconscious, abuse your friends, make a public spectacle of yourself or otherwise act in an inappropriate manner. When I was a young boy of 10, I found out that I must be very careful with a loaded gun. One second of carelessness can change your life forever. Unfortunately, whether we like it or not, those of us with PTSD are loaded guns, and just as a person with a loaded weapon has a greater responsibility because of that weapon, so we have a



Coming off the drop zone.

greater responsibility for our actions. If you have a problem with that, get help. Every time you let that weapon go off, I guarantee someone will get hurt. One of those people will always be you.

Good news from the home front, Pete, the male pheasant, finally got enough & fought back. Our neighbor Jerry, who checks on them while we are away, told me that about 2 or 3 days after we left, he heard a screeching and cackling and ran over to see what



VII Corps LRRP Jumpers & Ben DeFoe; L to R Stuart Lane, Kirk Gibson, Ben Defoe, Rick Hathaway, John Visel, Gary Cross, Patrick Smith, John Repecko, Front - John Fisher, Bill Hill

was going on. He saw old Pete kicking some serious ass, on chicken at a time, until they left him alone. I noticed that he was out in the run when we got home, a place he could not go without drawing serious fire prior to his coming out. Now the hens ignore him, he goes pretty much where he wants. It must have been the counseling session I had with him before we left. I told him how disappointed I was at his behavior, especially in light of the proud warrior tradition I was associated with. I told him I didn't think I could hold my head up among all those LRRPS, LRPS and Rangers, what with the fact that I had a REMF pheasant that would not even defend itself. The best I can tell, the confrontation occurred just about the same time we visited the 2nd BATT at Ft Lewis. He must have known, thanks guys.

At the reunion this year we were, for a number of reasons, unable to engage ant speakers or experts on PTSD. A number of people, women, (wives and significant others) approached both Mary Anne, (my wife), and me as well to talk about PTSD and its' associated problems. Many of the women had questions relative to their own problems. We were both so moved that I asked Mary Anne, and she agreed, to write an article on Secondary Traumatic Stress Disorder, (STSD). Thanks, honey. (See the Health Section).

A final note of humor. One of the attendees, who was quite a bit of help to me at the reunion, was with me in Vietnam, Fred Fones, from Arizona. Now Fred has just a little bit of an attitude. He had it back then and it has not diminished very much in the last 35 years. He was telling this story to whoever would listen, so I guess I should tell my side of it. It was after Tet in 1968, in the Central Highlands. I had been out with a team, made contact and was extracted. On the way back in we were notified that Fred's team was having radio trouble. I asked and was told where they were and over flew the position and contacted his team. I had two other teams out that were told to lay low while all this was going on. I had the chopper hoover over Fred's position and lowered him a replacement PRC-25 (from our team) and a bag of

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

grenades. Then we flew away. What Fred didn't know was that there were two rifle companies less than two clicks away from his position. He asked why I sent the grenades along with the radio. I said "Well, I figured you were compromised, so I figured you might need them." "Oh," He replied, "I wondered about that for years."

I want to thank Kirk Gibson and the VII Corps LRRPS for letting me straphang on their parachute jump. First one in about 20 years and first time I ever jumped a square. I thought it would be no big deal, but the adrenalin glands still work. Ben Defoe, a WW II Darby's Ranger jumped with us. He was 79. HOOAH, way to go Ben. I'm going to close with some photos of the reunion.



The drop zone with Mt Ranier in the background. Prettiest drop zone I ever saw.

WEB MASTER

By S.J. "Peter" Parker

75th Ranger Regiment Association



ALVIN WINSLOW FLOYD



Alvin Winslow Floyd died in the service of his country while serving in F Company (Ranger), 75th Infantry (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division



GENERAL / PERSONAL

Last name:
First name:
Home of Record (official):
State (official):
Date of Birth:
Marital Status:

MILITARY

Branch: Army
Rank:
Component: Infantry
MOS (Military Occupational Specialty code):
Major Organization:
Unit of assignment:

ACTION

Entered Service:
Start of Tour:
Date of Casualty:
Age at time of loss:
Casualty type: Hostile, died
Reason: Gun, small arms fire, ground
Country: South, Vietnam
Province:

TRIBUTE

Vietnam Memorial Wall: Panel , Row Picture of Vietnam Memorial
Ranger Memorial Stone: Section , Column Picture of Ranger Memorial Stone
You may submit your Remembrance for
Alvin Winslow Floyd to be posted on this page.

WEB MASTER (CONTINUED)

By S.J. “Peter” Parker

Reunion & Website

I attended the 75th Ranger Regiment Reunion and association Meeting last July 31 – August 4th at the home of 2/75, Ft. Lewis, WA. And I learned something there. I opened my mouth twice - and I got assigned two jobs. I'm sure there's a lesson in there somewhere... Note to Self: Keep Your Mouth Shut Next Time...

The first job is Webmaster. Although I have been offered this job several times before, I have had to turn it down each time. This time they were ready for me. I didn't think those pictures still existed. Never assume, Rangers, never assume. And don't ask Dana McGrath to hide incriminating pictures for you.

Three years ago, Emmett asked me to design a new website for the 75th RRA, and project manage the implementation team for that new site (the now current site). Although I was unable to accept the position of Webmaster at that time, Emmett stepped into that role when he stepped down from the Presidency and has done a fine job as Webmaster. Now that he is back in the Presidents position, he immediately volunteered me to be WebMaster. This occurred very shortly after I opened my mouth about what was wrong/needed with the website. I'm gonna have to watch that next time!

Help Needed

We will be reworking and improving the current site at <http://www.75thrra.com> adding many more features and areas, including making it easier for the unit directors to add content of their own.

We are planning on reworking and revising the current website to enhance it substantially. We're going to need volunteers for coding and database work. I intend to (again) project manage it, because I'm still the CEO of a small company. So any Rangers wanting to help out with coding, let me know. You will need experience with one or more of the following: HTML, Dreamweaver, PHP, Mysql, Database, CSS Etc. We also need graphic artwork, pictures and articles.

Next Issue:

The Other Job...

A Hooah Story: The Story of Hooah!

**CONTACT YOUR UNIT DIRECTOR, NOW.
GET INVOLVED, NOW.
LET'S HONOR THESE MEN, NOW.**

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

GOLD STAR...



Sandee Rouse being inducted as an Honorary Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

Can you believe it? We are getting ready to go into the fall of 2004 already. It seems like just yesterday I was writing the June Patrolling article and saying we were going into the summer season. Boy, how time gets away from you!

As I try to gather my thoughts about all I want to share with you I am still overwhelmed and in awe of what all has transpired over the last month in my life.

There are no words to express how I feel about becoming an Honorary Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment. I was in awe of just being nominated but to have our active duty Rangers select me, honors and humbles me. July 8th 2004 will forever be one of the greatest days of my life. I can only hope I will be allowed to continue to serve the families of our fallen Rangers for a long time to come. Thank all of you, especially Linda Davis, Secretary for the Regiment and Col. Nixon from the bottom of my heart.

My Congratulations to all the Rangers inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame especially Ranger Brown

The following week was spent in Savannah at 1/75 celebrating their 30th anniversary. We were blessed to have Jim's 14 year

old daughter Britnay with us. She got to attend the ball and meet several people who knew her dad. We ate lunch at the RDF and saw a demonstration at the Sgt. Bradley Crose Advanced M.O.U.T Training Facility. Last but not least we visited the newly name Markwell Street. Also in attendance for the weeks activities were, Gold Stars Judy and David Anderson (Ranger Marc Anderson) Sheila Maghun,(Ranger Bradley Crose) Pat Marek,(Ranger Matt Commons) and Bonnie Powers (Ranger Brandon Miller). The week concluded with the Change of Command. That is always such a bitter sweet time. It is hard to say good bye to good friends like LTC & Mrs. Kershaw and still, great to look forward to getting to know LTC & Mrs Clark. A Special thanks to Sheila and the Rangers of 1/75 for a great week After that it was back home to Florida to show up at work for a few days, do laundry and repack to fly off to Seattle/Tacoma for the 75th RRA Reunion. What a great time we had and what a privilege and honor for Bill & I to meet some of you for the 1st time and to once again feel the pride that I always do in being associated with such a fine organization. While there we were also privileged to meet some of our Rangers from 2/75. They treated us to a tour of their place including sharing some of their



Sandee Rouse being inducted as an Honorary Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

GOLD STAR... (CONTINUED)



Sandee Rouse being inducted as an Honorary Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

great MRE cuisine. The 75th RRA had their Change of Command as Dana McGrath stepped down as President and Emmett Hiltibrand took over. Dana was great to work with and I will miss him and his sense of humor. What a class act. Emmett I look forward to the next year working with you and as always am here when you need me.

I am pleased to say that while in Seattle our 2/75 Unit Director Rich Hecht put me in touch with the widow of Ranger Tillman. Marie is a lovely young woman and I am glad we will be able to care for the Tillmans in 75th RRA fashion.



30th Anniversary week, 1/75

At the beginning of this piece I spoke about how time gets away from us. Those of you that were at the reunion know where I am going with this. I once again am pleading with you to find the families of your fallen buddies. You have a wonderful gift to give them. But time is running out. None of us are getting any younger. Don't wait until it is too late to that family. To those of you who have found families I want to thank for stepping up to the mission. When you find a Gold Star please forward the following to your unit director for approval **AND PLEASE COPY ME.** It is so important we have accurate and up to date info on our Gold Stars. The info needed is: Gold Star Name, Address, phone, email, fallen Ranger name, rank, unit, KIA location and date.

I want to address something that often comes up. I am asked "What if they do not want to talk when I find them?" Let me say



Bill & Sandee Rouse with Britnay, Sandee's Granddaughter (James Markwell's daughter).

that has happened and that's OK. I would like you to leave your contact info with them. Tell them how much you cared about their Ranger and let them know you are available if and when they would like to talk to you at a later time. Then let them take the lead. You can know in your heart your buddy would be so grateful that you tried. I must tell you we have run into this in



Britnay at the street named after her father, Markwell Street.

the past and we have had the Gold Star change her mind or have been contacted by other family members who do want to hear your stories.

Please act Now !!!

Until next time I am as always Honored and Privilege to serve you God Bless and RLTW

Sandee



Sandee Rouse and Britnay.

GOLD STAR AFTERNOON..

BY: Bill Bullen & John Chester

On Memorial Day, 2003, four people traveled to Arlington National Cemetery in order to present a Gold Star Certificate to the mother of a K/75 man that was killed in Vietnam. The four men were Emmett Hiltibrand, Rick Benner, Bill Bullen and John Chester. Ironically, these are the same four elected as the Association Officers at the reunion in 2004. Before going to Arlington, I don't believe that any of us were looking forward to the event, indeed only Bill Bullen had actually know the deceased, Roy Olgyay, at all. The balance of us went simply as a gesture of respect to the mother of a fallen warrior and as representatives of the brotherhood that is our Association. I think each of the four of us was very pleasantly surprised. No one blamed us for surviving, we were not given the slightest reason to be uncomfortable, Elizabeth simply wanted to know about Roy, and Bill filled in what blanks he could. She stated that she was glad to have met us and felt like she now had four sons. Hard to keep a dry eye at that point. I promised her that we would do lunch, but it was a little over a year before that happened.

An afternoon with Elizabeth Olgyay is always a pleasure. With her strong Hungarian accent she shares points of interest with Ranger enthusiasm. The mother of, K/75 Ranger Roy Olgyay, deceased 19 Sept 1970, brought John Chester and Bill Bullen and their wives, Mary Anne and Donna, to Alexandria, Virginia, her home, for lunch and to meet her daughter Joy and son-in-law Bill on the day after the 4th of July, 2004. Joy and Bill have a Ranch on the Left Coast and are in the U.S. Foreign Affairs, somewhere in Africa, at the moment. Needless to say both are very interesting people in their own right. After learning about their pet lamas at the Oregon ranch, Joy explained how a household is acquired, from predecessors in Africa. When you are transferred, you purchase all the prior individuals' possessions from house to furniture to Land Rover to pots, pans, ect. Sounds a little different, eh?

My main interest was to meet Joy. Her brother Roy spoke of Joy and his Mom often, and how proud they'd be of him. Roy was an intellectual, whose father was a Princeton Professor, and sometimes came off a little abrasively. I knew him and knew it was not his intent. I was teaching him to patrol, ambush and play guitar, he was TRYING to teach me to play chess, not an easy task, when we were separated. I was sent to Tuy Hoa to pull missions for a MACV team. Roy was left behind to pull missions for a

Commander who would not extract teams when in full contact; unfortunately he was the victim of mis-utilization of LRP/ Ranger teams. But, to meet Joy was curiously not unlike sitting and talking with her big brother Roy, very articulate, intelligent and sincere. The only big difference is, Roy was a real Hawk and Joy is a very peaceful person and more pleasing to the eye! Thanks for the good time Joy, Elizabeth and Bill.

Interesting conversation, a pleasant meal and good company; what more can one want? I had listened to Sandee Rouse talk about reaching out to Gold Star families, and I agreed with her in principal, but it was not something that I was completely comfortable with. After the initial contact, it was easier. The survivor's guilt was discernable but much easier to control. There are rewards for everyone involved, the family gets reassurance that their loved-one was loved and cared for by his comrades and we know that what we did was the right thing to do, then and now. There is also strength in numbers, get some of your buddies together and contact some of the Gold Star families from your unit. You won't regret it.

Photo Below:

Gold Star lunch; Seated L to R, John Chester, Donna Bullen, Joy Olgyay, (Roy's sister), Elizabeth Olgyay, her son-in-law Bill; Standing, Bill Bullen.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

DISCLAIMER

DISCLAIMER: This series of articles entitled ‘LEGISLATIVE HELP LINE’ is meant to be an informative aid in assisting you in protecting your rights. It is also meant to keep you informed of the ever-changing legislative forum that may affect you. There is a caveat here. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association is not allowed to assist you in this effort. Our Constitution has a stipulation that forbids this. Article IV: Sec. 2. The Association shall not endorse any political candidate, platform or party. Sec. 3. Officers, Directors and Members shall not engage in any form of activity that implies or specifically relates the Association to any form of public activity without first obtaining approval from the Association. 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 Article IV, Section 5: The foregoing does not restrict or prohibit members from engaging in activities which are the constitutional right of any citizen. As I said, this section is provided as a service to inform you. You must act on your own. Do not attempt to act on behalf of the Association. Thank you, Emmett Hiltibrand - President

COLA 2005 UPDATE 01

In the initial COLA 2005 article I reported the House passed HR 4175, which will provide a 1.7% cost of living increase for veterans disability compensation and pension if no changes are made by the Senate or the conference committee. This is a straight increase and has nothing to do with the 2005 COLA. As with all bills it must first go to a conference committee composed of House and Senate members to iron out any differences with the Senate's proposal before it goes to the president for signature. On July 22, the House Veterans Affairs Committee (HVAC) favorably reported a number of veterans' benefits bills. The Committee approved a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for veterans receiving VA disability compensation, as well as to surviving spouses and dependents of disabled veterans who receive monthly Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). The COLA is tied to any adjustment to Social Security benefits and is projected to be in the range of 3.4%. If approved the VA COLA will take effect on December 1 and be reflected in January 2005 checks. [Source: MOAA's Leg Up 6 AUG 04]

GWOT MEDAL UPDATE 02

The GWOT Expeditionary Medal is destined for service members who deploy to fight. It is currently under legal review at DoD and then it must receive formal approval and guidance to the services by Deputy Secretary of Defense. When completed the services will be authorized to issue the medals. The Pentagon in June released the following list of specific qualifying areas:

1. LAND AREAS: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Crete, Cyprus, Diego Garcia, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea,

Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey (East of 35 degrees east longitude), Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and Yemen.

2. OFFSHORE: Arabian Sea (north of 10 degrees north latitude and west of 68 degrees east longitude), Bab el Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Aqaba, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Suez, Mediterranean Sea (east of 28 degrees east longitude), Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Strait of Hormuz, and Suez Canal. Military personnel records will not be updated until this fall regarding eligibility. Vets must have served 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days in the above areas. Proof of service can consist of travel orders, letters of evaluation, or flight logs. Eligibility for the award meets the Veteran of Foreign Wars criteria for membership. [Source: VFW Magazine AUG 04]

VA OBLIGATION TO HELP VETS

Military obligations lack conventional worker's compensation coverage. Instead, the VA is tasked with the responsibility and assumes the obligation to help those who gave up their right to decline dangerous assignments. For any medical conditions that result from these assignments and other chronic illnesses or injuries incurred during or worsened by military service vets are entitled to disability compensation and medical care. A recent study showed that one in six troops returning from the war in Iraq may be at risk for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental problems due to the psychological impact of war close to deployment, in the field, and after returning home. Although a significant number need or require help many

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

do not seek treatment upon discharge. Fortunately, the door remains open for these vets and others as there is no time limit for them to seek help and submit a claim. Whether a vet's condition is the result of recent or long past duties the VA will accept a claim application. Each claim submitted is processed and answered with an explanation of why it was or was not approved. Once answered the vet has the right to appeal the decision if he is not satisfied with it and has some basis for appeal. Appeal with no new information will normally result in the same results. The VA receives more than 100,000 new disability compensation claims annually. Policies governing how it processes claims have become increasingly complex and time intensive because of court rulings that expand VA procedures. Also, the number of new claims submitted each year has increased. There are more than 60 steps in evaluating an initial claim and there may be a delay of 2-3 months to receive information requested of other federal agencies and private sources with medical records. Of the estimated 25.5 million vets alive, more than 14% have had an illness or injury officially declared "service-connected" and 9% of all veterans receive monthly payments from the VA. About 70% of initial claims are approved in whole or in part. However, the approval process takes an average of 205 days. The VA is incorporating two new ways to reduce its time to process claims.

1. A web-based system for filing claims. This enables vets to fill out their disability compensation, pension, and rehabilitation benefits claims forms online and cuts the average time for claim processing to about a month. To use the online application systems go to www.vabenfits.vba.va.gov or call (800) 827-1000. The online program:

- Ensures medical examinations are consistent with the VA's standards for rating disabilities.

- Makes referrals to other VA services such as vocational training.

- Establishes a complete service medical record so no matter how far in the future a veteran decides to file a claim the need to request military medical records from an outside source will not exist.

2. Assignment of a Case Manager. Each veteran will be given the name and phone number of a case manager assigned to handle his/her claim. This will improve communication, speed service, and resolve misunderstandings. This veteran's service representative will combine the traditional jobs of:

- Benefits Councilor (i.e. the person who initially accepts the vets application and gathers information).

- Claims Examiner (i.e. the person who decides a medical problem's official connection with service as well as

the nature and severity of the disability and its financial compensation). For additional information on filing claims refer to www.va.gov. [Source: Navy Times 26 JUL 04 Veterans Advocate Alex Keenan milretired@atpco.com]

CANDIDATES RESPOND TO DAV QUESTIONS

The Disabled American Veterans sent President George W. Bush and Sen. John F. Kerry the following questions:

1. Mandatory Funding for VA Health Care: Do you support a fundamental change in the manner VA health care is funded? If so, how would your administration ensure its implementation? If not, why?

2. Disabled Veterans Tax: Do you support provision of concurrent receipt to veterans rated 40 percent or less and will your administration actively work to bring it about? Why or why not?

3. Do you support elimination of the phase-in period for concurrent receipt? Why or why not?

4. Making Veterans a National Priority: What specifically will your administration do to make veterans a national priority?

5. Will your administration propose or support legislation to authorize VA to revise its premium schedule for SDVI to reflect current mortality tables?

6. Will your administration propose or support legislation to increase the face value of SDVI?

7. Will your administration propose or support legislation to authorize concurrent receipt of SBP and DIC?

If interested, a www.dav.org/voters/documents/-president_views_on_dav_priority_issues.pdf are posted the candidate's unabridged responses to DAV's questions. [Source: Armed Forces News Issue 6 Aug 04]

VET OVERSEAS RESIDENCY CONSIDERATIONS

The decision to live overseas is a personal one and, if taken, requires vets to do without some of the benefits they would enjoy if living in the states. Vets need to know what to expect before they make the decision and decide if the advantages, mostly economic, outweigh the disadvantages. It is not our government's responsibility to provide equivalent facilities overseas that are available in the states. To live overseas the following factors could impact on you as your dependents:

- There is no current legislation to delete the 30% tax leveled on U.S. source income of veteran alien citizen widows. This includes SBP, pensions, interest, and social security but not DIC or widows pension.

- Low income widows of vets are eligible for a VA non-taxable pension that will bring their total monthly income up to \$600 if they have income less than \$600 monthly. Widows eligible for SBP which their husbands

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

paid for over a 20-30 year period can be penalized for being in the program. In many cases alien widows would be eligible for the pension which would exceed their SBP net payment if allowed but they cannot. That is because the VA considers their SBP gross payment entitlement to the widow prior to the 30% offset to compute their total income. Thus an alien widow entitled to \$600 SBP receives only \$420 monthly vice the tax-free \$600 VA pension.

- Vets (unless disabled or retired from the military) and their dependents have no health care coverage available to them when they turn 65. Medicare is only applicable in the states and does not allow any claims for medical care reimbursement for care received and paid for overseas.

- Disabled vets regardless of age can obtain local medical care for their service connected medical conditions under the VA Foreign Medical Program [FMA]. In countries other than the Philippines they cannot receive medical care for non-service connected medical conditions which they could expect to receive at a VA facility in the states. In the Philippines they can only receive treatment at the VA OPC in Manila and then only within the limits that can be provided by that facility. Non-service connected conditions that require hospitalization or other treatments, medicines, tests not available in the Manila OPC is the veterans responsibility to obtain and pay for. Unless 100% disabled no CHAMPVA claim can be submitted.

- No fix has been implemented under DEERS to provide Tricare Standard health benefits for widows of retirees who turn 65 and cannot sign up for Medicare Part B because of SSA's 5-year U.S. residency rule. Thus the existing Tricare Standard health care benefits they were receiving is terminated when they most need it in their older years. With no Medicare Part B they are not allowed to sign up for Tricare for Life [TFL] even though they are SS eligible under their spouse's account. At present DoD requires a letter from SSA stating they are not eligible for social security benefits and SSA cannot do that because they are eligible if they move to the states for whatever period is required to meet the 5-year residency rule. However, to move to the states they must obtain a visa. INS will not grant one if they cannot meet the minimum income and sponsor requirements. DoD and SSA apparently cannot rectify this catch 22 situation set up by their conflicting regulations.

- The VA home loan program is available for use in the states only.

- Military retirees, their dependents and widows plus 100% rated disabled veterans are eligible for FPO/APO mail service use provided there is a facility in their location to receive it at. Mail is limited to letters,

magazines, newspapers, non-commercial personal cassettes, VCR's & CD's, boxes of blank checks, and medicine from a government pharmacy. Packages are not authorized and no single item can exceed one pound.

- Space "A" air travel is available to retirees and their dependents if traveling with the retiree. In many areas facilitates and on base quarters to support retiree travelers is limited.

- Commissary and exchange privileges are in many countries limited or not available to military retirees because of SOFA agreements required to maintain military establishments in those countries.

- SECNAV instructions require a Naval Retiree Assistance Office (RAO) be associated with a U.S. military base to receive financial and material support from DoD. The instruction allows for "Independent" offices but they must be self-supporting. Unless some vet is willing to volunteer and establish an office in the geographic area he resides in and assume the associated financial responsibility of keeping it going, there is no assistance available for other retirees/dependents residing in that area if a overseas U.S. base is not located nearby. There is no program to establish new offices or replace offices that have closed because of lack of resources/volunteers. [Source: Various AUG 04]

KILAUEA MILITARY CAMP

Kilauea Military Camp is a Joint Services Recreation Center located on the big island of Hawaii. The center features 77 conformably furnished cottages and apartments right in the heart of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park near the Kilauea volcano crater's edge. Cottages and apartments vary from one to three bedroom units. Selected units contain a Jacuzzi and kitchen. All contain a fireplace, cable TV, mini refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, hair dryer, iron and ironing board. The facility has a café, general store, recreation lodge, meeting rooms, gas station, theater and chapel. KMC offers an array of activities inclusive of tennis, golf, biking, bowling, hiking, and guided island tours. It is open to all military and DoD ID card holders and their guests. Rates range from \$46 to \$120 per night for double occupancy. Reservations may be made up to a year in advance except during peak season at 428-6706 from Oahu, (808) 967-833 from mainland, email reservations@kmc-volcano.com or by writing: Kilauea Military Camp, HQ Building 40, Attn: Reservations Office, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, HI 96718. Other information and photos is available at www.kmc-volcano.com. [Source: RAO Los Angeles Newsletter Spring 2004]

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.

GENE EMERY

BOSTON (Reuters) - A widely used test for prostate cancer may not be as safe as once thought, according to a study released on Wednesday that sparked debate on whether the screening process should be overhauled. The study found that 15 percent of men with a "normal" reading on the PSA blood test had a prostate tumor. In 2 percent of the men, the cancer was life-threatening. "There are many men walking around with high-grade prostate cancer who think they don't because they have a normal PSA," Ian Thompson of the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, the leader of the study, told Reuters.

The team, writing in this week's edition of the New England Journal of Medicine, said the finding "underscores the need to consider fundamental changes in the approach to diagnosing prostate cancer." But in an editorial in the Journal, Ballentine Carter of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine said there were good reasons for not changing the PSA standard. Carter said there was no evidence, at least not yet, that lowering the definition of "normal" would save lives or help men live longer. "The unexpected detection of cancer at lower PSA levels is more likely to identify disease for which treatment may not only be unnecessary, but also may fail to improve survival," Carter said. The PSA test has been around since 1979 and is increasingly used as a harbinger of prostate cancer, the second-most common cause of cancer death among U.S. males.

NOT FOOLPROOF

The test, credited with cutting that death rate, measures a chemical called prostate-specific antigen in units of nanograms per milliliter of blood. A nanogram is

a billionth of a gram. A reading of 4.0 or less is regarded as normal. If the reading is above 4.0, a doctor may recommend the removal of small bits of tissue from the walnut-sized prostate to check for cancer. Doctors have known for years that the test is not foolproof. Men with low readings can turn out to have deadly tumors, but some prostate cancers can grow so slowly there's little point in treating them — especially in older men, who are more likely to die of something else.

To gauge the risk of having cancer with a normal PSA reading, the Thompson team evaluated volunteers who had been involved in the seven-year study of the prostate drug finasteride. All 2,950 men had been given a placebo instead of the drug, their PSA readings had remained below 4.0, and rectal exams showed no evidence of a swollen prostate. At the end of the study, biopsies showed that 15 percent of the men had prostate cancer and, among those tumors, 15 percent were in an advanced stage. The risk varied depending on the PSA reading, although the men found to have cancer were more likely to have a life-threatening tumor if the PSA reading was higher. The problem with lowering the "normal" range from the PSA test is that it would mean a lot more men — most of them healthy — would need to have tissue samples taken, which can be painful. Thompson said the trick was to find better markers that that combine diagnosis and prognosis. "Most men will develop prostate cancer if they live long enough. I don't want to find them. I want to find the ones whose prostate cancer poses some risk," he said.

Secondary Traumatic Stress Disorder: A Personal Chronicle

By Mary Anne Colledge

"You're such a Pollyanna!" he said.

"No, I'm not. You're just paranoid and negative all the time. Besides, this relationship won't work because our world views are dramatically different," I claimed to my date the second time we went out.

"Don't be silly," he joked. "Do you realize that less than 2% of the world's population even **has** a world view, let alone able to articulate it? That right there means that we already have a lot in common" (Have you ever met a LRRP who wasn't charismatic and eloquent?) Five weeks later, I asked him to marry me. In the thirteen years we have been together my world view and my perception of the world has become

HEALTH

frightfully similar to that of my DH (Darling Husband or Dumb Head, depending on my mood.)

In 1991, I was 34 years old and had never been married. I was a school library media specialist with a master's degree. I had bought a house, owned a car, and had a network of friends. I was not looking to get married because I was in love with my work and my life. I was in the process of beginning a doctoral program in Urban Education. Although I was aware that my husband was a Vietnam veteran when we married that year, he rarely talked about it. I had never heard of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), let alone of Secondary Traumatic Stress Disorder (STSD). When within a short period of time my DH began to talk about his Vietnam experiences, necessity demanded that I educate myself about the consequences of my husband's combat experience. Along the way, I have discovered yet another deadly consequence of war, STSD.

This article is an attempt to share information about this condition and to help those of us who live with someone has PTSD. (A friend of mine is fond of saying, "Well, there are the saints, and then there are those of us who live with the saints.") A counselor once told me that if my vet has PTSD, then so do you." Only in the past few years have I discovered that STSD is, in fact, the proper term. And just as the Vietnam War and PTSD changed my vet's life, STSD has changed mine.

Over the next several years, my DH began to talk about Vietnam for the first time since he had been there in 1968-69. The horror of his stories was so real to me that I started having nightmares about being chased by VC in thick jungle. How nuts is that? Then, everything started to change. I found myself slowly, but incrementally shifting my thoughts on how I saw the world. Issues, institutions, situations, the government, people, society, spirituality, the future. . . . You name it; I was becoming more negative and cynical about it. I forgot about my doctoral work because it was seemed like a waste of time in light of my growing hopelessness and apathy. I found myself isolating and becoming distrustful and started to believe my husband that the world truly is an evil, soul-sucking place.

Friends began to notice my negativity and did not have a clue why my personality appeared to be shifting from someone who had always loved people and saw the good in them to a pessimistic misanthrope (someone who hates people). I began to distance myself from

them because I felt that they couldn't possibly understand these war stories or the emotional trauma that my husband was revealing to me. They knew the reason that I was an educator and librarian was because I wanted to contribute to humankind in a positive and meaningful way. So, then, why was I becoming so angry all the time, so quick to bite off everyone's head, so terrified in the work that I had loved and saw as my true calling? I was starting to believe that the only worthwhile people on the planet were those who had suffered deeply. I had no time for anyone who hadn't suffered. If they had suffered deeply, then I believed that they also knew what I knew – that the world is not a safe place. I desperately wanted to understand what was going on with me, but I was clueless.

In retrospect, I believe I was experiencing what novelist Alexandra Fuller refers to as "the extended heartbrokenness of war." How does one ever see the world in the same light after one hears the horror and terror of your loved one's war stories? Not until I read Jonathon Shay's book *Achilles in Vietnam* did I realize a.) What PTSD is, b.) my husband has it, and the most shocking part, c.) I had the same symptoms. Anxiety, paranoia, nightmares, the inability to trust, a feeling that I have no control over my life – my issues were now identical to his. He and I would talk endlessly about writing a book together about the similarities between being a grunt in Vietnam and being a teacher/librarian in the public school system. An unhealthy feeling began to develop between the two of us that we were the only two people we can trust in the world; it was him and me against the world and god help the person who tried to come between us.

I am still unclear as to where the line is between STSD and PTSD, but I do know that at some point, I simply melted down and was incapable of teaching and operating in the violent public school system in which I worked. Between my husband's PTSD and the broken down public school system, the stress was killing me. The existential angst paralyzed me.

By this time, my DH was 100%, Permanent and Total for PTSD from combat stress. When I sought help from the VA for my problems, the first psychiatrist I saw there advised me to leave my husband "because you have so much on the ball; he's so messed up and he won't ever get any better." I stopped seeing her and a year later tried a second VA psychiatrist who wrote in his report on me that "this is a very bizarre presentation of 'folie (sic) a deux PTSD.'" In addition to his

N
O
T
E
S

HEALTH

arrogance and condescending attitude, he clearly was incompetent for his failure to diagnose what I have come to realize is STSD.

The only support group or counseling he offered was a group for female trauma victims. After the first meeting, I quit because I was the only member of the group who had not been raped and/or beaten by her husband. Goddess bless them all, but my issues are different than theirs.

My ability to function at work became inversely proportionate to the rising level of violence in the school. After numerous violent incidences that involved breaking up fights between students, bomb threats where the principal refused to evacuate the building, death threats made by students that were followed up with bullets being dumped on my desk, my car being vandalized in the school parking lot, daily verbal abuse from students (I started to think that my name was “White Bitch”), exposure to blood from a sexually active, drug-using special education student, it was suggested that I retire on disability. Given the choice of my sanity or my job, I chose sanity and retired on disability.

For several years I was in counseling with a licensed social worker twice and sometimes three times a week. I found it re-traumatizing that she insisted that I am simply co-dependent instead of experiencing STSD/PTSD. When I questioned her about STSD, she told me she wasn’t familiar with it! I think she thought that I was manipulating the system for monetary gain. I quit her. I still get angry when I think of her lack of understanding. I truly wanted someone to understand and to help me help myself.

Fortunately, two good things happened. I found an excellent private psychiatrist who is extremely helpful and understanding when I meet with him regularly. And secondly, I was introduced to Patience Mason’s work at a Ranger Reunion. Patience is the author of *Recovering From the War – A Guide for all Veterans, Family Members, Friends and Therapists*. As I sit at my desk and flip through my highlighted, underlined, dog-eared, totally worn out copy, I read on page 262 Patience’s words, “the vet with severe intrusive PTSD can be really hard to live with.” In the margin of my copy, I neatly penned “NO SHIT” the first time I read this. This woman understands! If there is one thing you can count on, it’s that Patience has been there too. Married to Robert Mason, a helicopter pilot in Vietnam and author of *Chickenhawk*, she offers hope to us all by

choosing and sharing her compassion, wisdom and spiritual growth which is the result of her experiences with PTSD. Theologian Mary Daly writes about the concept of “God as a verb.” When Patience wrote this book, she wasn’t just writing; to me, she was “goddessing” because her book is a work of love in action. She has certainly saved more than a few lives with not only this book, but also with her website (www.PatiencePress.com). Buy this book!

I have battled depression for the past several years and have worked hard to regain the sense of hope and vitality that I believe is essential to be fully alive and engaged in the universe. After I retired, I felt hideously alone. I stopped seeing friends or talking to them on the phone. I stopped working out at the gym even though I had worked out my entire life. The only time I left the house was to see my counselor. When diagnosed with some medical problems during that time, I thought what a relief it would be if I would just die. Life didn’t seem worth living anyway. But my medical problems were treatable and physically, I was going to be fine.

Like my husband, the losses I have experienced over the years have been almost unbearable. The loss of innocence, the loss of faith, the loss of safety and trust, the loss of friends and family who just don’t understand, the loss of my career – there has been so much loss and I am still so angry. I love my husband, but I despise PTSD. I love my husband, but I abhor war. I love my husband, but I miss terribly the passion I once had for my profession and for life. I love my husband, but I hate the military mentality that answers conflict with killing and the destruction of Mother Earth.

The long term effects on women married to vets with PTSD can be devastating and profound. If you don’t think that PTSD is hard on marriages, take a quick survey of the number marriages your vet and his vet buddies have. Between my husband and three of his LRRP team members (all 100% with PTSD) they have plowed through a total of 19 marriages. That’s nineteen women’s lives (not to mention their children) who may or may not have had STSD and who certainly were exposed to PTSD.

My experience with the Baltimore VA has not been a positive one. I am not looking for them to miraculously solve all my problems, but by not providing adequate help for spouses with STSD, I get the feeling that the VA feels that we women are expendable, our families are expendable and our children are expendable. I get the feeling that they

N
O
T
E
S

HEALTH

think, “Oh well, there will always be other women that vets with PTSD can marry.” When our men returned from war with PTSD, the VA didn’t want to acknowledge their problems either. Not until 1984 did they finally recognize and acknowledge PTSD among vets. How many more women’s /spouses’ lives are going to be devastated by STSD before the VA acknowledges the extent of our problems? Once again, I’m not looking for a savior, but it would have been so much easier if I hadn’t thought that I was losing my mind these past several years. Surely other women married to vets with PTSD have had similar feelings. Only later did I find out through the internet (see websites listed below) that my experiences are common among women married to Vietnam vets. The VA could, if they wanted to, be instrumental in helping us find each other to lend support to each other.

My husband complains that I turn everything into a feminist issue. . . well, duh! I’m a feminist, what did you expect! (We call that the YKT argument... You Knew That When You Married Me.) STSD is a feminist issue, as I see it. War is a breeding ground for PTSD. As long as returning soldiers continue to return to our families with PTSD, spouses and children will continue to develop STSD. As the economic, environmental, emotional and spiritual cost of war continues to spiral heavenward, I question what my responsibility is to work to end war and to deeply analyze its root causes.

In December, 2003 my husband mysteriously became ill a few days after dental surgery at the Baltimore VA. For over two months I helplessly watched him dying as doctors scrambled to diagnose his illness. He lost over 50 pounds and powerful painkillers did nothing to touch the pain he had 24/7 in his sterno-clavicular joint area on the right side of his upper chest. After dozens of tests, doctors, hospitals, and biopsies, a private infectious disease specialist diagnosed him with “an unusual presentation of a usual staph infection.” The doc put in a pic line to administer heavy duty antibiotics directly into his heart. He is alive and well today, but the silver lining to this cloud was that during that time before he was diagnosed, I found it unbearable to sit and helplessly watch him die. The support and concern among the Ranger community was overwhelming, but I needed something to help to relieve the pressure of dealing with his illness. I joined a women’s - only gym and started taking yoga classes daily. Intuitively, I knew I needed to be around nurturing, caring, strong women. The effect has been

tremendously positive on my spirit. I feel strong physically and for the first time in years, I look forward to life.

My DH’s PTSD has improved with meds and counseling and for the first time, in a long time; I see a light at the end of the tunnel. I think it was the Dalai Lama who said he isn’t optimistic about the future, but he is hopeful. I agree.

I invite others to share their stories as well. Please contact me at ma.colledge@verizon.net or (410) 426-1391.

Some resources that I have found valuable during this time are listed below.

Living with PTSD Vietnam Wives
www.livingwithPTSDVietnamWives@groups.msn.com

The Aftermath of War
www.AftermathofWarcopingwithPTSDtoo@groups.msn.com
Especially good is the section on “Boundaries” by Patience Mason.

Patience Mason’s website and resources (to order Recovering from the War)
www.Patiencepress.com

Gift from Within
www.giftfromwithin.org
Especially good is the “Partners with PTSD” article by Frank Ochberg, M.D.

David Baldwin’s Trauma Information Pages
www.trauma-pages.com

National Center for PTSD
www.ncptsd.org
Excellent article on PTSD and the Family – A NCPTSD Fact sheet by Eve B. Carlson, Ph.D. and Joseph Ruzek, Ph.D.

Peace Is Every Step by Thich Nhat Hanh

The Heart of Understanding by Thich Nhat Hanh

Full Catastrophe Living: Using the Wisdom of Your Body and Mind to Face Stress, Pain, and Illness by Jon Kabat-Zinn, Ph.D

N
O
T
E
S

FEATURE ARTICLES

Vietnam Deaths Spread Over Economic Spectrum

STUDY FINDINGS:

Vietnam Deaths Distributed Across Economic Spectrum

By Charles H. Ball

News Office The widely held belief that many more poor and working class youths died in the Vietnam War than their middle- and upper-class counterparts is “a great exaggeration,” say MIT researchers who studied the family incomes of the 58,000 American war dead in Vietnam.

In a report based on the study, the researchers said that their data analysis “offers substantial evidence that, in terms of the bereavement it brought to America, Vietnam was not a class war.”

The study, funded by the US Army and MIT, found that affluent communities had only marginally lower casualty rates than the nation as a whole, while poor communities had only marginally higher rates.

Furthermore, the report said, “Data about the residential addresses of war casualties suggest that, within both large heterogeneous cities and wealthy suburbs, there was little relationship between neighborhood incomes and per capita Vietnam death rates.”

The authors of the report—which appears in the September-October issue of the journal *Operations Research*—are Dr. Arnold Barnett, professor of operations research at MIT’s Sloan School of Management, and two former graduate students, Captain Timothy Stanley, who now teaches at the US Military Academy, and Michael Shore. Professor Barnett specializes in applied probabilistic and statistical analyses related to health and safety. His earlier studies on such topics as air safety and homicide have been widely reported.

The researchers believe that their study was “the first comprehensive scientific analysis relating Vietnam war casualty patterns to economic status.” They undertook it, they said, because of a “strong public interest in the historical accuracy of judgments about the bitterly controversial Vietnam War” and because the belief about class war “continues to influence contemporary policy debates” and even the current presidential election campaign.

The existing perceptions “contribute to a sense of pervasive unfairness in which the benefits of being rich go well beyond material possessions,” the authors said. They took note of present Vietnam War-related controversies about Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton’s draft status and Republican vice presidential candidate Dan Quayle’s National Guard duty.

The perception that Vietnam was a class war, they said, “seems to arise more from anecdotes and personal impressions than from any systematic study” relating casualty patterns to economic status.

Citing several examples, the authors declared that “prestigious newspapers and magazines and Academy Award-winning movies have depicted the conflict as a ‘class war,’” and “distinguished defense analyst James Fallows explicitly described it as one.”

They added: “If untrue, the belief that affluent citizens were conspicuously missing from the Vietnam war dead is harmful to all Americans. It demeans the sacrifices of the wealthy by implying that such sacrifices were nonexistent. It demeans the sacrifices of the nonwealthy by suggesting that, manipulated and misled, they shed their blood in a conflict in which the privileged and influential were unwilling to shed theirs.”

The study concentrated on US servicemen killed in the war, reasoning that they and their families were presumably the Americans who suffered the most in the conflict, the researchers said. It considered how the families of the 58,000 war dead compared with a random sample of 58,000 contemporary American youths.

In their analysis, they said, they used information about the deceased that appears in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Directory of Names, supplemented by more precise data from the National Military Archives in St. Louis, MO, about key subsets of casualties. Through scrutinizing the data in conjunction with diverse statistics from the 1970 census, they were able to make inferences about the economic backgrounds of the war dead.

The authors performed numerous analyses of local, regional and national data, some based on a random sample of essentially every 40th name in the alphabetical list of US casualties. While the data analyses were individually imperfect, their weaknesses did not overlap, the researchers stated. Hence, “the credibility of their collective outcome may far transcend that of any isolated result.”

In analogy with a widely used economic indicator, the authors devised a “disparity score” under which “zero” means no net link between economic status and casualty rates, and “one” means an extreme concentration of war deaths among the poor. They estimated the national disparity score for Vietnam to be about 0.06, which suggests only weak association between income and per capita casualty rates.

The researchers said they also undertook several specialized calculations, one of which examined the contention by Fallows that, with gold stars going to families in rural and working-class areas, “the mothers of Beverly Hills [CA] and Chevy Chase [MD] and Great Neck [NY] and Belmont [MA] were not on the telephones to their Congressmen screaming ‘you killed my boy.’”

“We found,” they said, “that per capita death rates exceeded the national average in three of the four ‘upscale’ communities, as did the overall rate for the four.”

Another calculation involved the fact that public discontent with the war grew steadily over time. “A concentration of casualties among wealthy citizens towards the start of the war, therefore, might imply that such citizens rapidly withdrew from participating in the conflict once they ceased supporting it,” they said. “Date-of-casualty data indicate, however, that deaths of servicemen from the richest 10 percent of the nation’s communities had essentially the same distribution over time as

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

the deaths of other servicemen.”

Other specialized calculations estimated that, among the dead, those from prosperous communities were about twice as likely as the others to have been officers (24 percent vs. 13 percent) and that men from such communities who went to Vietnam were about 10 percent likelier to die there than were other servicemen.

They explained: “That excess reflects the disproportionate presence of the affluent in such hazardous roles as pilots or infantry captains and lieutenants. Even if few affluent youths were among the ‘grunts’ in the Vietnam front lines, it could be fallacious to infer from that circumstance that well-off Americans were out of harm’s way.”

Because few conscripts become officers, the relatively high ranks of affluent servicemen also raised the issue of voluntary vs.

compulsory Vietnam service, the researchers said, and whether “the real difference between rich and poor was that Vietnam service was optional for the former and mandatory for the latter.”

“One should be cautious in advancing that viewpoint,” they said, “given strong evidence that many ‘volunteers’ only enlisted as an alternative to imminent induction. But suppose that middle- and upper-class youths were in fact far better equipped than other Americans to avoid the military draft. To reconcile that premise with the findings in our paper, one would have to infer that the affluent did not proceed en masse to exploit their special advantages. Less vulnerable than other youths to unrelenting pressure to serve in Vietnam, they nonetheless appear to have gone there in sizeable numbers.”

Good Evening: by Mark Lisi

I am humbled by the invitation to speak to you this evening. I am also left wondering why I was asked, given all the newly minted heroes of the Republic who are in our midst tonight, who might well have something cogent to share. I am but a humble old man who was fortunate enough to have served in 2nd Bn in the very early days. What could I possibly have to share with this august body? Then, of course, I reconsidered my question....it IS me “The Magnificent One”, my Nom de Guerre name was Jaws, and I have never been a wall flower...simply Ranger Lisi....and not the original Ranger Lisi, he was truly Ranger’s Ranger, but the Ranger Lisi of the modern (pre-goretex) era, with his Jimmy Carter CIB (the expert Infantry Badge) and bad joints. These boys over here (point), are the giants of our time, they have seen the elephant in the thin air of Afghanistan, and done close combat with the enemy in the dust of Iraq. A very common thread in the world of Ranger is that we idolize other generation of Rangers. The boys from 2nd Bn who scaled the cliffs at Point De Hoc, the 6th Bn and their daring raid on the Japanese POW camp rescue in the PI, the efforts of the 1st Ranger Company at Chipyeong Ni, the Airborne assault at Munson by the 2nd Company, the legendary patrolling exploits of the LRRP/Ranger Companies in Viet Nam, and the airborne assault on the Island of Grenada. It seems that every generation of rangers has a list of heroes and their own chapter of Ranger history to write.

Walk with me to the Ranger Bn of my youth. In the greater scheme of things, and certainly compared to the combat exploits of today’s Rangers, we did not go anywhere and did not do anything (no actual combat.) We did, however, do our bit, humble though that might be by today’s standards. That is, we – the pre-goretex generation, - laid the foundation of today’s modern Ranger. We were a motly crew; mostly college drop outs and reformed delinquents. Young men of great conviction and character, who sought something extra in the era of the 70’s. What we did accomplish was the validation and establishment of

2 Rangers Bns that would grow into the Regiment that will long endure.

I chose to believe that the government offered me and my 1.6 GPA a 3 year scholarship as an Airborne Ranger, but that is simply my vision. I am pleased to see some of my ranger buddies out there like, Dennis Hilburn who spent 8 action packed hours as the POW Camp dog in the FRC Prison Camp. Bob Campbell, now a Dr of Chiropractic, who fell off of the 30 foot cliff in MRC, got up one morning and walked up Mt Rainier and back in a day, and repelled off the Carbon River bridge with insufficient rope and crashed into a vertical rock face. Other events of note were the first or validation ARTEP, (combat readiness test) at Dugway Proving Grounds (9 days after my ranger class graduated) 13 C-130s blew out of McCord and 7 got to the target. Ahhh...Dec in Dugway with no Hawk gear...hmmmmmmmm, three days seizing a frozen airfield and we finished with a light infantry ARTEP in the Rainier Training Area when they got back to Ft Lewis. There was also the Panama Death March, the Yakima Death March, who knows how many death drops, amphibious training, and trips to Alaska. We were molded into what everyone in the pre-special operations era thought rangers should be. Hard was a mind set, the value was in the suffering, and we could do everything faster and better than the rest of the Army.

Boys, I have to tell you that Alice is a bad girl;...oh yes, we started with the old Jungle Ruck and got the Alice large ruck sack. John “Beak” Brasher looked into the bag at the New Equipment training on the rucksack, and said “Leese, this is huge, you can pack a VW in it, we will never fill this up.”...but as you all know, we did fill it up.

STORIES...WE GOT STINKIN STORIES, but None of them about real combat. The Battalion did suffer pretty bad casualties after we returned from Panama the first time. Many of the boys picked up an abdominal parasite, got very sick and we

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

collected stool samples for the Dr for about a month. We spent weeks collecting stool samples in plastic cups for the doctors to check....very manly work.

I would like to talk a minute about the impact of being a ranger. These are observations that are not clear to the current practitioners....you know, those steely eyed killers who are currently doing the Nations bidding. Rather the middle aged mutant ninja rangers who are into their other lives.

It is a universally held that Rangering will define who you are to become, and mold the standards with which a ranger measures the balance of his life. Rangers go on to become very successful at what ever they do. Hell, look around at each other, you all know what you do. Just in my small circle there are several General Officers, more Colonels, even more Sergeants major, a judge, lawyers, an MD, couple PAs, lots of police officers (color me surprised), a fire Captain and Lt, educators and one Medal Of Honor recipient.

We all take some of our ranger buddies with us and we collectively weave the fabric of rangerdom. We become who we were trained to be. Not that all was cold beer and dry sheets. Every now and again we had to play in the rain, road march, jump off a foot locker, eat a worm and yell hooah, just to feed our egos.

I was and am an enlisted Ranger. The enlisted Rangers are the pointy end of the Ranger spear. They are the killers, the doers of great deeds and the foundation of legend. My most legendary act was, as a gesture of absolute defiance, to shave my head and eye brows in an effort to exceed a grooming policy at JOTC after week in that stinking jungle...."Hair cut, Ill give them a ##### hair cut...." Years later, while a couple of rangers I did not even know, were helping me move my parents, while my dad, the real Ranger Lisi, was dying, were sharing a post work beer, that story came up, and a boney finger pointed my way..."That was you?" I was asked... yup, that was me.

To reinforce this point, I recently received an email from Ranger Chuck Waters, the 1st Ranger Co Coordinator, on the occasion of a discussion on my efforts to get across the pond; roughly quoted, his email said, "Boy, killing is young man work; Colonels just get in the way.." and that is the name of that toon.

The currency in the world of Ranger is the blood and lives of our fellow rangers. Ranger is a harsh and demanding madam. She demands a great deal and offers little in return, other than the love and respect of your fellow Rangers, and that is all that is required. The absolute faith that the Ranger creed is in effect and that you will never be left wanting is all you need to know. Any request that starts with "Hep me ranger buddy, hep me", no matter how painful, will be responded to. Your Ranger buddy will come to your aid, he may only want your ammo, water, knife, watch, or pistol, but he will come and get you, plug your wounds, rub dirt on your broke parts, prop you up, and tell you to be hard, but he will be there for you.

We all know a Ranger who is no longer with us. It is dangerous work to play on the kick off team. I dare say that

rangers do not fall nor do they intentionally make the "ultimate sacrifice". Ranger lives must be taken, in the most violent of ways; generally in a direct fire gun fight. Rangers, long known for their tenacious fighting spirit, however are not bullet proof.

We grieve for our brothers and during our personal catharsis, seek to find meaning and reason. Often there is no reason; cosmic events bring rangers into harms way and theirs is a high energy, relentless, and violent world. Never lose your grip on the fact that young men pay the toll in combat.

What I do know is that age greatly increases the pain of losing a ranger. In middle age, the loss of a ranger friend I like being punched in the heart (hard). We must remember them and keep their spirits in our hearts. My heart is heavy every day when I hear that another soldier has been killed or wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan. I pray for their safety, and that their Fire Team and Squad Leaders are keeping a boot in their butts, making them do the right and smart things.

Like many of you, I have had the honor of rangering with some bonafided heroes....men whose individual actions beg the question..."would I have done what he did."

Lastly, I think a few words about creditability are in order. I expect that many, if not all of you have encountered at least one fellow who starts with " oh yea, I was a ranger" only to find out that it is not true. The good news is that we can quickly decode these bums and call their markers. We, as a group, are also compelled seek the approval for our fellow rangers, particularly the young studs of today.

I recently had the honor of attending the Ranger Ball here at Ft Lewis as the guest of the Bn XO. I did not receive the invitation until after I had placed my Blues in the cleaners and had to attend the Ball in my Tuxedo.....badgeless...There I was, ME, Ranger Lisi, in the midst of all those high speed, light weight, low drag, long range Rangers and narry a badge..."no, no boys..I am a GER...no really, I was in B Co when it started"....very hard on my fail ego. The good news I prevailed.

So here we are, at a major Chow-ex, eating meat, swilling beer and doing those things that old fat men do, while the boys, my beloved rangers (as I refer to them) are out keeping us safe.

Lastly, I want to leave you all with a 1876 quote attributed to Lakota Sioux War Chief, Crazy Horse at a war counsel prior to operations against LTG Crook in the Powder River and Custer at the Little Big Horn,

"...this will be a different kind of war....a war of killing, a war of finishing..." how true those words are today, and our beloved rangers are up to that task.

Drink with me now to the Rangers are currently a field and on combat patrols and raids even as I speak....toast....and again drink with me to the lives and spirits of all our brothers who gave their last full measure to their ranger buddies and their nation.....toast...(pipes)

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

Plaque Honors Uncounted Vietnam Vets

By CONNIE CASS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - A granite plaque was unveiled Thursday near the Vietnam Memorial to honor uncounted veterans who died after their war service from the lasting effects of Agent Orange, post-traumatic stress disorder or other unseen wounds.

"It will remind people that the price of war goes way beyond the battlefield," Ruth Coder Fitzgerald, founder of the grass roots movement behind the plaque, said during the ceremony at the memorial.

Her brother, John Coder, died in 1992 from non-Hodgkins lymphoma related to his exposure to Agent Orange as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam two decades earlier.

Coder and other Vietnam soldiers whose lives were cut short by exposure to Agent Orange aren't included on the memorial wall, which is engraved with the names of more than 58,000 service members who died of wounds sustained in combat or in direct support of combat. The military branches determine which of their members qualify. A few names continue to be added each year, and the criteria still cause controversy.

Americans will never know how many soldiers' lives were shortened by the Vietnam War, Fitzgerald said.

"No statistics have been kept on how many people died as a result of Agent Orange or post-traumatic stress disorder suicides," Fitzgerald said. "I have heard 60,000 to millions."

Fitzgerald's group, the Vietnam War in Memory Memorial, raised money and lobbied for the memorial, which was approved by Congress in April 2000. Later, more financing and design work were provided by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, which wanted to ensure the monument would fit in with the three-acre site.

The American Battle Monuments Commission installed the granite plaque, 2 feet tall and 3 feet wide. It sits flush with the plaza at the statue of three servicemen, who gaze toward the memorial wall.

The plaque reads: "In memory of the men and women who served in the Vietnam War and later died as a result of their service. We honor and remember their sacrifice."

"There's never full closure, but this helps," said Capt. Mike Fluck of the Pennsylvania National Guard. His father, James C. Fluck, suffered post-traumatic stress disorder after serving in Vietnam and took his own life in 1976, when his son was 7.

"He was a very gentle man, just very troubled," said Fluck. A formal dedication ceremony for the plaque is planned Nov. 10.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

As of 10 August 04

1ST PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1986-1988

Robert Gilbert, 3657 Irwin Way, Columbus, GA 31906, H(706) 689-3595, no cell listed, no fax listed, PPVTG@aol.com

2ND PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1988-1990

Billy Nix, 637 Dover St., Marietta, GA 30066, no cell listed, no fax listed, BJN999@aol.com

3RD PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1990-1992

Robert Gilbert, 3657 Irwin Way, Columbus, GA 31906, H(706) 689-3595, no cell listed, no fax listed, PPVTG@aol.com

4TH PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1992-1994

President: Roy Nelson (resigned)

5TH PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1994-1996

Roy Barley, PO Box 233 Lords Hill, Springville, NY 14141, (716) 496-8803, no fax listed, no cell listed, Lordshill@aol.com

6TH PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1996-1998

Rick Erlher, P. O. Box 1332, Boise, ID 83701, H(208) 343-3047, no fax listed, no cell listed, R.Ehrler@earthlink.net

7TH PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1998-2000

Terry Roderick, 6904 Bright Ave., Cocoa, FL 32927, (407) 631-1144, no fax listed, no cell listed, rgrock@cfl.rr.com

8TH PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 2000-2002

Emmett W. Hiltibrand, 6459 Adams Park Dr., Columbus, GA 31909-3571, H(706) 323-5426, C (706) 392-6895, F(706) 323-5426, ranger2c@mchsi.com

9TH PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION: 2002-2004

Dana McGrath, 68 Pondella Rd., Ft. Meyers, FL 33903, W(941) 995-2436, H(941) 574-7866, F(941) 995-7605, no cell listed, ranger75@cyberstreet.com

WWII Jump

I had always hoped that my sons would be airborne and when my son Nino joined the WWII Airborne Demonstration Team of Alderson Oklahoma I went to watch him make his first jump.

I was so proud of him! Only a dad could know. It's because of him that this story takes place....

The WWII Airborne Demonstration Team is an international organization, whose mission is to Remember, Honor and Serve the WWII US Army Airborne Veteran's community by conducting living history airborne operations. Each member is a graduate of

either the US Army parachutist course at Ft. Benning, Georgia or they have completed a rigorous sixty-hour WWII ADT ground school and 5 qualifying jumps.

The weekend with the ADT was exciting – great to be in such a group of "go getters!"

They asked me to join the team. "Of course you'll have to shave off your beard" said 1st Sgt. Richard Wolf. That took me back a bit—I've had a beard for over 25 years..my kids wouldn't recognize me!

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

... A month later comes a phone call from the 1st Sgt. "We're going to Normandy. You can go. No guarantee on jumping since you're new to the team. Come and take a two day refresher course and you'll have a 30% chance of jumping with your son. The old beard came off. I took the refresher. The first jump was going to be on Friday...I was #13 on the stick...and it was my 13th jump...Well the wind kicked up so the Friday jump was cancelled. Now, I'm not superstitious but I was grateful for the wind that Friday.....Saturday we did four training jumps, did a few LF's – landing falls – forgot the P. Still needed lots of work on exits. In May we attended our last training weekend and everything was great – until my son made a bad landing and broke his leg on his 9th jump–No jumping in Normandy for him. What a disappointment.

June 2nd – Off we go to Normandy courtesy of Continental Airlines. Our entire group of 50 included seven original D-Day Veterans, and one pilot. In Normandy the French called the vets "Ancient Combatants." Everyone was so very friendly and the WWII Vets were treated like royalty.

Our jump was to be at LaFiere Drop Zone on June 5th. It was "on and off" and only until Thursday was it confirmed that we were jumping. Dominique and Jill Lunay held a reception for us and the local Dignitaries. They were greasing the wheels to get the jump approved. Dominique is a member of the Team and jumps with us and Jil is an Army brat whose father is a retired Colonel from the 101st WWII.

Without their help our jump would have been postponed to Monday with no spectators.

At the reception SFC Eric told me that the LRSD's were jumping. Now I was on Cloud 9 - not only was the team jumping, but I might find the "kids" – the LRSD – whom we had several reunions with before they went to Iraq.

June 5th we load our C-47 in Cherbourg, flew down to St. Mere Eglise. We packed into the plane as tight as possible – 28 of us sitting on the floor. Three sticks – First stick of 6 was the Brass.

I was 3rd stick #9 of 11 - All went well. Can't say we weren't nervous.

It was an incredible feeling jumping at LaFiere at Noon. The Fifi Kate was the first plane over the crowd for the 60th Anniversary Celebration. The landing was soft – grassy marsh. Walking up through the cheering crowd was indescribable. Soon the 101st and 82nd Airborne started dropping from the C130's and C17's – It was an awesome sight. The sky was filled with chutes. As it turned out we had 50,000 spectators. The Jump of a Lifetime!

Once the paratroopers had all landed I walked out to the DZ to find the LRSD. I thought it was going to be easy to find them with their Maroon Berets...Well the 82nd wears maroon berets too...I just kept asking "Any of you guys LRSD's?" Finally "Yea! We are LRSD's" So you see my bodacious day kept getting better. We took a picture on the DZ and made arrangements to meet that night by the Stop Bar at St. Mere Eglise. We can't get enough of being with them. They remind us of us just a few years back.

Arnie Rossi, Jan Patronek 173rd, Company Commander SF retired and currently our Parachute Company Commander and I had a good patrol. We found the LRSD armed with beers. SSgt Matt and Sgt Bravo kept both of my hands full of spirits the entire night.

The common thread that bound everyone together that week was almost surreal...time stood still. The past blended into the present and here we were drinking beer in Normandy – me a Vietnam Vet with WWII Vets and Afghanistan and Iraqi Vets, my son and my friends all raising our glasses together! Hooah!!

Two weeks later my wife and I attended the 101st LRRP Ranger Reunion at Ft. Campbell. I met Scott – ex LRSD, currently a helicopter pilot and told him about my lucky jump for D-Day in Normandy. He had already heard of me!! "Your're the one the guys were telling me about. They said it was really cool that this "Old Dude" jumped with us and celebrated with us at St. Mere Eglise with a few beers.

My reply was "OLD DUDE? I'm only 57!" My bubble burst! ...old dude....am I really that old? Well, nobody fessed up to calling me an "Old Dude" so Bravo volunteered to take the blame. Linda Cox was the lovely hostess of the LRRP Ranger hospitality room and she kept it well stocked with kegs of beer, Jack Daniels – all free and as much as you could hold.. Trading stories back & forth with the LRSD every night was so much fun.

The LRSD invited us "Old Dudes" and our wives to their compound for a BBQ and for "show and tell." Boy I remember when I finally got a strobe light! They have some awesome stuff and they are a bunch of awesome guys. The LRRP Ranger Banquet later that week was great – Bravo and Lewis joined us at the 506 LRRP table.

The sad part of our reunion was the deactivation of the LRSD. Can you imagine you're looking at yourself 34 years ago and the brass says "We don't need you anymore" Well!! Have you ever seen new LRSD's and old LRRPS 3/506, L Co. 75th Ranger Recon Patrol, Rangers F-58 LRRP 1-101st LRRP all cry?

There was not a dry eye in sight as we the 101st LRRP Ranger Assn presented official Assn hats to the young soldiers with the L Co. 75th Airborne Ranger 101 LRSD. I felt such pride and sadness. Pride that we part of the birth of the Long Range Patrol and sad to see it end. I hope that all their training and esprit de corps will not be wasted. My wish is that we all stay connected throughout the years and not lose touch with each other.

Throughout our reunion, this "Old Dude" made a point of being the last man standing every morning – 3 a.m. mostly – 5:30 a.m. on the last night. I reminded Bravo "Old Dude Last Man Standing" – I didn't say "barely standing!"

The LRSD did a demonstration jump for the crowd at Week of the Eagle Airshow! I wish I was with them for that one!!!

Airborne All the Way – Jerry Gomes 3/506 LRRP 67-68-69



UNIT REPORTS



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



30th Reunion 12-15 July

Our 30th reunion was a great success. It was a good time to be had for all. Rangers that attended were from the original members of the Battalion to the present day members.



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)



Here are two picture of Art Cobb and Mike Wages. Two of the 9 Original Rifle PSGs 30 years later.



Gold Star Mother for the 75th Ranger Regiment

Association at the 30th. Sandy Rouse and her granddaughter.



Ranger Hall of Fame: 8 July 2004

Three members of the Battalion were inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame on 8 July. From left to right: CSM (Ret.) George Horvath, CPT (Ret.) Ranger Brown, CSM (Ret.) Frank Magana.



Distinguished Member of the Regiment

CSM Mike Etheridge was inducted as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment on 8 July. Mike was one of the original members of the Battalion. He is presently the CSM of Southern Command and plans to retire at the end of October. Mike is the last Ranger that was part of the original members that are still on active duty. (We are proud of you Mike.)

Heard From

Glenn Miller. Glenn was in A Co. along with his twin brother. Glenn lives in Kiana, Alaska.

John Toney. John was in C. Co. He is presently a Deputy Sheriff in South Carolina.

Mike Wages. Mike has spent the last 15 years in Saudi Arabia. However, he has no intention of returning. He and Linda now reside in Tennessee.

‘Get Together’ at Ranger and Linda Brown’s House: 8 July





2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Rich Hecht



Hi Rangers,

Well, the 2004 Reunion is just over a week behind us and I'm trying to get back into the normal swing of life. For those of you who were not there, we had a great time without you! It was one of those events in life that at the same time you don't want to end, but are glad when it's over. Even with 2/75 being out of the AO and a smaller than I expected turnout of 2/75 veterans, we still managed to enjoy ourselves, make some new friends and hook up with old buddies. Most important of all, we hung out with some of the Rear-D active duty guys, many of whom had BTDT in the War on Terror and were now on their way to other things in the Army. Thanks for drinking beers with us and putting up with all our stupid questions. I will tell you that no matter when you were in, how long you were in or how long it's been since you were in, you always want to be part of the greatest group of guys that there are, 2/75 Rangers!

Saturday was spent signing in and hanging out at our host hotel with some free beer and getting to meet many of the Association Officers that I have only met via email. The reunion T-shirt is great looking and I was not expecting the very nice, Association coin key ring and commemorative pen. Sunday morning we conducted our Association business and elected some new officers, congrats to each of you and best of luck! Ranger Ken Kovac-Panama, came in from Chicago and we hooked up with Rangers Nate Smith -late 90's, Kevin Ingraham- late 70's and Bill Andrews- early 80's. It was pretty cool to have four generations of 2/75 Rangers hanging out together for the weekend. Sunday afternoon we made it to Ft. Lewis for an open house in the Battalion area. After a near agonizing two hour wait to get a pass to get on base, almost all was forgotten once we were within the fence. Both Kevin and Bill had not seen the fence, as it wasn't there during their time.

The tan beret was almost tolerable as they do look pretty good, but the "long" hair was at times a little bit challenging. As I have regular contact with Bn, I'm used to the beret, but had only seen the hair just a few weeks after the high and tight standard was lifted. Some of the Hooah's were definitely stretching the regulations! (Not that Rangers would test the limits) We were allowed to walk around the Bn area and a lot of guys were taking pictures in front of their old company buildings, they had a nice weapons display and even coerced the Stryker Brigade (the latest leg unit on base) to bring over one of their pretty cool vehicles. Our little band of brothers took a trip over to Noble Hill but there really wasn't much to see. We then drove out to Pt. Salines DZ, where the new mock city has been built at the far end. This was an extremely cool place with dozens of building, some of which

have four or five stories. This is an all concrete village and should provide the Ft. Lewis units with lots of opportunities for very good, realistic training.

Monday night after the banquet (nice tie and cummerbund Ranger Lisi!) we hung out at the hotel, drank more beer, told stories (lies) and had a good time buying the beers for the active duty guys, who were not allowed to buy their own. There were many good stories from the early days of 2/75, the WOT, Panama, Grenada and general "life in Bn" stories. One of the best however, was told by Ranger Kovac and I've asked him to put it in writing for everyone to share. Truly gross is all I can say! See his accompanying story.

I know that I didn't get to meet all of the 2/75 Ranger Veterans who attended and I apologize to you if I didn't at least get to say hi and shake hands. Many of the Vets I did speak with were interested in a separate 2/75 Ranger association. I would like to hear your thoughts on this. I am not for or against the idea, but I'm not currently sure what would be accomplished by such an association,

that can't be done via the 75th RRA. Let me know if you have an idea on this.

If you attended the reunion and have pictures from it (that can be published here) please send them to me with a caption that ID's who is in it and I will get them published for everyone to see.

Here is a partial list of 2/75 guys that were at the reunion, Tom Smithlin, Kevin Williams, Greg Doing, Rick Barela, Dave Lukoskie, Michael McKennay, Taft Yates, John Borden, Mark Lisi, Rob McCarthy, Ken Kovac, Rock Shiffer, Doc Wentzel, Bob Sampson, Ron Piper, Russ Dilon, Mike Hines, Vic Kave, Erik Nelson, Peter Neves, Nate Smith, "Peter" Parker, Kevin Ingraham.

Enemies

A Ranger has many enemies. Aside from the Germans, the North Koreans, the Vietcong, Panamanian Defense Force, Somalians, Iraqis and Al-Qaida, a Ranger also has many domestic enemies. These usually include leg units down the road, MP's, ex-girlfriends, ex-wives and if you're a Private, a tabbed out Specialist.

Well, aside from the Panamanian Defense Force, and an occasional tabbed Spec. 4, I was able to escape all of the aforementioned problems during my four-year enlistment in B Company, 2nd Ranger Battalion. I did however face one of the most formidable enemies that not only attacks swift and silently



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

but also hits you so hard, you get knocked on your back and even your best Ranger buddy doesn't want anything to do with you.

The summer of 1989 was one of the best times that I can remember, as an Army Ranger. I was a senior Private, who was semi-squared away and didn't have too many problems. Some of my Private friends were coming back from Ranger school and really not concerned with smoking me; they were looking more at the newbies to haunt. I was in great shape; I was pretty quick and was scoring perfect scores on the PT tests. I was ready for Ranger School and more than that, ready for combat.

A Ranger's dream is to go to combat and earn a CIB and even better, a gold star on a set of jump wings. Well, we were preparing to earn both. Panama was beginning to become a hot zone and started to gain the attention of our government. The powers to be apparently had decided that enough was enough and had temporally moved the 2nd Ranger Battalion to Savanna Georgia (the home of the 1st Ranger Battalion who, by the way, was deployed out of country) in order to stage and plan for an invasion.

After several days of hurrying up and waiting, our command staff had decided to allow the troops to enjoy the climate and everything that Savanna had to offer. Big mistake! We tore that town up so bad; I still hear it from ex-1st Battalion Boys. Apparently we ostracized any and all Rangers from most of the local drinking establishments.

We were having a blast. We were going to the beaches, the malls, making fun jumps helocasting and soaking up the sun. This of course was a great pleasure for us 2nd Batt, Washington State Boys. I was on year two of not having a tan! On top of it all, we were coming up on a block leave and with a little luck, we would be very tan combat vets for the girls back home.

Well, it didn't quite work out that way for me, I was attacked by that swift and silent enemy, it snuck up on me so quick, I didn't know what hit-it started with a few small itching legions on my back. The chicken pox got me. I was a nineteen-year-old man, who just got his butt kicked by a virus. It not only hit fast, it hit hard. By the time I knew it, I was covered with these itchy legions and kicked out of my squad's AO. With nowhere else to put me, the company commander had decided that my best place was the weapon's room, with a cot. Boy, was that fun.

I was sequestered to a room, that was the size of a closet with nothing more than several books and the occasional plate of food being slid under the doorway. The sores got so bad; guys would start to refer to me as "The Fly" (the monster that Jeff Goldblum turned into in the movie).

After a week or so, a few of the guys who already had the chicken pox started to keep me company. A group of the headquarters' guys (I suppose) started to feel sorry for me and began to get me things from the store and would keep me company. One of the men, the company's armorer and a larger

fellow, was exceptionally decent to me. In fact, he assisted in clearing some of the pox! One day he was wrestling with some of the guys in the hallway and had decided to attack me. Now for the most part, everything was starting to clear up and I was feeling better so I didn't really mind the attack. Being a wrestler in high school, I was able to semi keep up with this guy but he gained an advantage by head butting me! Now, as I said before, this was a larger fellow and he got me good. I saw stars for a second but was brought back by the uncontrollable laughter of several of the hoochas that were watching us. You see, I still had a quarter-sized puss filled chicken pox on my forehead that had broke and splattered on my opponent's head when contact was made. I couldn't stop laughing I felt like John Belushi in the movie Animal House.

After a few more days, I had completely recovered and with that, had grown a full beard. We still didn't get a word on Panama but were now looking forward to a great block leave. Better yet, I now had a beard and a full head of hair. It was great! Being of Italian decent, I was able to tan well and don't really have a problem with the facial hair thing. This really became apparent when the men started to refer to me as Castro (when I was in BDUs and formation).

In closing, as silly as it sounds, that summer was the best in my life, I made several friends in the Headquarters Plt., had a great time in Savanna, and went home on block leave looking like a Delta Operator. We did however have to wait for Panama. The invasion didn't take place for another six months. Believe me I was ready; the PDF was nothing compared to the dreaded chicken pox. But that's another story.

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



Photo By Nate Smith. From left to right, Bill Andrews, Rich Hecht, Ken Kovac, Nate Smith, Kevin Ingraham.



This picture was sent to me from 2/75 Ranger Kevin Williams.



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - John R. Edmunds



I would like to take this opportunity to thank SSG Bartucca, S-5 3d Ranger Battalion, Ms. Kimberly Laudano, 75th Ranger Regiment Deputy PAO, and CSM Greenway, Ranger Training Brigade CSM for providing information for this article.

We are approaching the 20th Anniversary of 3d Ranger Battalion and the 75th Ranger Regimental HQ. On 3 October 1984 the activation ceremony took place. Today we can look back and acknowledge the wisdom of those leaders responsible for creating the most proficient fighting force in the world.

The impact of General Creighton W. Abrams, JR. original charter for the formation of 1st and 2d Ranger Battalions in 1974 was truly visionary. In 2004 we celebrate the 30 year anniversary for 1st and 2d Ranger Battalions and the 20 year anniversary for 3d Ranger Battalion and the 75th Regimental HQ's. Try to imagine, the United States response to the attacks on September 11 2001, without the 75th Ranger Regiment and the Rangers who have served in Regiment over the years and now serve in different capacities...

- John R. Edmunds

The following information submitted by SSG Bartucca and Ms. Kimberly Laudano. Pictures, courtesy CSM Greenway

Over the past couple of years, the 3rd Ranger Battalion has seen some time out of the country, from Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia



Colors and Guidons move into Position

to Iraq and Thailand. Some of these trips were in support of the Global War on Terrorism, while others were for training exercises. During each of these rotations, Rangers from 3rd Battalion set a high standard and have shown the world what it means to be the best at what they do.

In addition to multiple deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, Rangers continue to train in the field and successfully complete Army

schools. These schools include Ranger school, Sniper school, Jumpmaster, Pathfinder, Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Mountain Warfare and advanced Special Operations skill training; including Survival Evasion Resistance Escape.



COL (R) Ralph Puckett, Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, presents LTC LaCamera the outgoing 3/75th Commander and Mrs. LaCamera with well deserved awards, prior to Change of Command Ceremony

Just recently the Battalion conducted training and testing for the



In position to conduct the passing of colors. COL (R) Puckett, Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, LTC LaCamera, Outgoing Commander, LTC Castles, Incoming Commander, and CSM Walker, 3/75th CSM

Expert Infantrymen's Badge. Comprised of the Army Physical Fitness Test, 12 Mile Road March in 3 hours, Qualify Expert with they're assigned rifles, and receive a Go at each station, with only three second try

Go's. The Rangers showed they're dedication and perseverance, and performed above and beyond the EIB standards, with over 95% of the Battalion earning they're EIB.

And to keep up with the Technology of today, Rangers are always testing and assessing new cutting edge equipment. Always looking for that specialized equipment for the Army and its soldiers, with feed back for the best possible equipment to be manned. Such items include vehicles, weapons, load carrying vests, rucksacks and some gadgets that I have no idea how they work. But as the saying goes with some items, "If it's not broke don't fix it," goes into play with a lot of the equipment still in the inventory. But this is no longer your father's Army where

3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

Soldiers carried M-16 rifles or wore their equipment in LCE's or aging Rucksacks. Now the new names in the industry are Molle,



Pass in Review!

the Battalion has had three Battalion Commanders leading the Rangers into combat: Lt. Col. Stephan Banach, Lt. Col. Paul LaCamera and now Lt. Col. John Castles. The Battalion just recently held a Change of Command ceremony, saying farewell to Lt. Col. LaCamera and his family and welcoming Lt. Col. Castles and the Castles family. Lt. Col. LaCamera will be attending Naval Warfare School in Rhode Island. For the first time in 2004, all three incoming Battalion Commanders joined the 75th Ranger Regiment from the 82nd Airborne Division.

During this same time, the Battalion has had four Command Sergeant Majors leading Rangers into combat: Command Sgt. Maj. Jay Brimsen, 1st Sgt. Hugh Rhodes, Command Sgt. Maj. Alfred Birch and now Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Walker.

Oakley, Wiley X, and Eagle. All looking to assist Rangers with their product to complete the Ranger Mission.

Since the beginning of the Global War on Terrorism,

Command Sgt. Maj. Birch is now the Regimental Sergeant Major.

Since 2001, seven rangers from 3rd Battalion have paid the ultimate sacrifice while fighting in support of the Global War on Terrorism:

Pvt. First Class Kristofer T. Stonesifer and Spc. Jonn

Edmunds while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Cpt. Russell Rippetoe, Staff Sgt. Nino Livaudais, Spc. Ryan Long, Cpl. Andrew F. Chris and Sgt. Timothy M. Conneway while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. They will forever be missed and never forgotten.

The Rangers of 3rd Battalion stand ready to support any future missions they may receive. Whether it is training or to be called to help fight the war on terrorism, Rangers will continue to lead the way.
RLTW!!!



Legacy of Greatness, CSM Greenway, Original Member 3d Ranger Battalion (3 Oct 2004) with today's Younger, Leaner, Better looking ... I better stop here.



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

Unit Director - Tom Brizendine



No Submission



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

Unit Director - Mark L. Thompson



2004 RRA Reunion

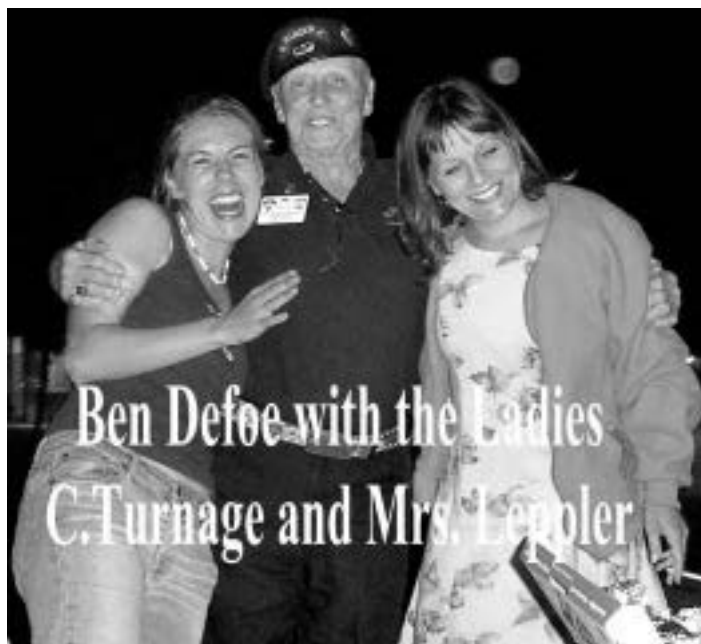
This will be the unit's first Patrolling article you read after the 75th RRA 2004 reunion at Tacoma, WA, near Ft. Lewis. Due to the short time frame following the reunion, this will not be a lengthy report, but we hope to do better in the future. We had several attendees from B Company, and a large contingent of VII Corps LRRPs. It seemed that a good time was had by all who attended, and we got the opportunity to refresh old friendships with guys from our own units, as well as the other units attending the reunion. The Hospitality Room was operational throughout the reunion and of course, the drinking lamp was lit, which will account for any omissions in this report.

The hospitality room hosted many video presentations and guest speakers, capped by the banquet Monday night with a

presentation of the BAT21 documentary and speaker, many other speakers and presentations, and a raffle.

There was a golf tournament and parachute jumps (organized by Kirk Gibson and the VII Corps LRRP's). Several old rangers and LRRPs jumped, including WWII Darby Ranger veteran Ben Defoe, (1st, 3rd and 4th WWII Ranger Bn.'s) who made his first 2 static line drops ever (he had a single previous tandem jump). Not only was his face lit up like a Christmas tree the night after his first solo jump, but he was also still up at 3am partying the night before, upholding the Ranger tradition (don't ask me how I know...).

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



We visited the 2nd Battalion HQ at Ft. Lewis, and were well hosted by the members of the Battalion present (the unit is currently deployed) and many of the currently-serving young Rangers joined us in the evenings, when their duty schedule allowed. Without them to carry on the tradition, the Ranger legacy would not continue, and it was a pleasure to meet these young troopers, many recently back from multiple tours in Afghanistan and elsewhere.

Kirk Gibson, who has done a magnificent job as the Unit Director for the past 2 years or more, was elected President of the VII Corps LRRP Association, replacing Joe Chetwynd.

Kirk was wary of the dual responsibilities the new position and the UD post would impose on him, so he asked if I would consider replacing him as the Unit Director (all those who don't want to volunteer take one step to the rear... OOPS, Thompson was sleeping in ranks... you are now the new UD). If I discharge the responsibilities of this post half as effectively as he did, then we will have accomplished something. During Kirk's tenure, the VII Corps LRRP's membership in the RRA really mushroomed, and the unit itself became very active in the association. We have the same goal for the B Company Rangers, and hope that we can be well represented as a unit at the summer 2005 reunion at Ft. Benning.

New Association officers were elected at the business meeting, with Dana McGrath and Ron Edwards stepping down, Emmett Hiltibrand being elected president, and Rick Benner of B Company becoming treasurer. Other business items were covered, with perhaps one of the most important being the establishment of an annual schedule for the reunions. The next one will be held at Ft. Benning next summer.... Stay tuned for details. I'm sure the other official news from the reunion will be covered elsewhere in this issue.

Attendees from B Company included: Rick Benner, Curtis Christopherson, Mike Hines, Doc Jeans, Vernon Lund, Dave Walker, Doc Wentzel, John Henry Voyles and brother Tom, Bob Woolstrum, and Marc Thompson. We tried to linkup with Bill Walter while we were there, but it didn't work out. Maybe next time. If I left anybody out, the fault is solely mine... I tried to keep up and take notes, but the Hospitality Room refreshments impaired my note-taking ability at times.

VII Corps was heavily represented by Kirk Gibson, Joe Chetwynd, and too many others to mention (honestly, I'm afraid that I might leave someone out, and fear the consequences).

And, for the first time in over 30 years, someone walked up to me and said "Little T...". Skip Ettinger from SOG was there and informed us that he has contact information for "Big T" (Lyn Thompson), as well as others, so we'll try to run him down ASAP.

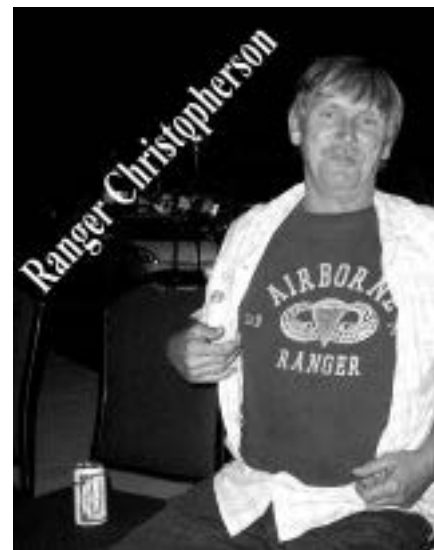
Several B Company members who wanted to attend were unable to do so because of professional or personal obligations, including Richard Stutsman, Ed White, Steve Gamble, Steve Silverman, Kim Maxin, Jim Coughlin, and Bob Parker, among others.

We also got several other good leads for more members of the company at the reunion. If you have seen the website, you know that hundreds of Rangers were members of this unit at various times, and we still haven't compiled a complete roster. We have located or contacted well over one hundred members to date, and this effort is ongoing. If you have any information about the current whereabouts of other members, please pass it on to us, and we will attempt to contact

them, get their consent to add them to the contact and distribution list, and perhaps get them to join the association.

Stutsman

After the reunion your humble correspondent made a detour to Miltonvale Kansas on the way back to Pennsylvania. Richard Stutsman had intended to attend, but the Kansas law enforcement folks are having some issues with the legislature, and his vacation was put on hold. Since he couldn't come to us, we went to him, and spent a few days with



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

Stuts and the family. It was great to see him too, and he hopes to attend the next reunion.

Heard from:

Don Aguilar, Eldon Bargewell, Dick Beahm, Jody Bicking, Felix Blinn, Bill Bradigan, Steve Bump, Larry Coleman, Jim Coughlin, Richard Fleek, Joe Griesi, Steve Gamble, Stan Harrell, Don Harris, Tom Harris, Pappy Haugh, Paul Housemans, Dennis Lucas, Kim Maxin, Harold Miller, Gary O'Neal, Bill Nissen, Robert Osier, Bob Parker, Ray Peck, Wild Bill Ramsdell, Charley Skewes, Dale Stannard, David Tyler, Bill



Uzmack, Bob Wittwer. This is by no means a comprehensive list... more later.

Memorial Tributes

Ed White and Richard Stutsman had a good idea... since we recently lost CSM Joe Gooden, Bill Wilson, and Melvin Stewart, and none of us is getting any younger, we want to establish a written memorial to all the deceased Rangers amongst us while we are still able to. Unfortunately, we have also determined that many of our past company members are now talking to the Big Ranger in the Sky. We will be updating the website roster with the names of those we have determined to be deceased. If you have any anecdotes, remembrances or tributes you would like to make about any of them, please forward them to me and we'll find a place and a way to accommodate that.



Ed White reported that a large contingent of B Company attended Melvin Stewart's funeral in Colorado Springs. After the service, they retired to Mel's house to give him a proper Ranger sendoff, and a plumbing problem was encountered, so they "volunteered"

to repair the problem for Ranger Stewart's wife. Ed said he just knew that Mel was looking down laughing and saying "Gotcha..."

Ranger Memorial

Doc Wentzel (Yes, he still sounds exactly the same.... You'd know that gravelly voice anywhere...) encouraged me and any others who served to subscribe to a brick at the Ranger Memorial. The funds will be put to good use, and it is a good way to honor our buddies who served. Contact the Ranger Memorial on the web, Doc, or myself for info.

B Company Sweatshirts, ReIssued

Do you remember the black sweatshirts we used to wear to PT? Both Mike Hines and Christopherson showed up with theirs on. Cheryl Visel of Airborne Supply said she would be able to have them reproduced for us in either silkscreened or embroidered versions on both sweats and tees. She had a large selection of various sweats, shirts, hats, rings, jewelry, and other items available at the reunion, and it was all good quality. We'll check, and if this isn't something George Mendes already has available, we'll get the design to Cheryl. Check this space for future updates.

State Coordinators

Elsewhere in this issue you are certain to see references to the state coordinators for all the states. Emmett and the rest of the officers are trying to get a coordinator appointed for each state. If you live in a state not yet represented by a state coordinator, please consider serving in this important capacity.

Favorite Things Heard at Reunion

Bob Cantu (N Co., A Co.):

It was a night jump. Of course, basically, for me at that time, they were all night jumps...(open those eyes, Bob...)

Doc Wentzel (B Co., 2nd Bn.):

(referring to the great bear caper, after John Henry finally found some ammo in the bottom of a duffel somewhere and the marauding bear was slain...)

So I asked Lund... "Can you cook a bear...?"

He looked at me for a minute and said... "Well, sure..." with a head movement that told me he wasn't overly positive, but it was meat, and we're rangers, so what the heck...

We skinned it, and traded the skin for some beer at a place done the road so we'd have the correct ranger refreshments to go with fresh bear. Pretty soon they had that bear on a spit over a big fire roasting away... and when we finally went to eat it, it was charred black on the outside and the inside was still raw, but damn, it was good. (...think the beer influenced your evaluation of the taste, Doc...?)

Appeal for RRA Membership

If you haven't joined the 75th Ranger Regiment Association yet, we would like to urge you to do so. We're all busy and have many things to occupy our time, but attending the reunion made

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

many of us first timers realize the great friendships and brotherhood we have been neglecting over the years

Most of the members of B Company were also members of the other Vietnam and –era LRRP units, Ranger companies, and SF detachments. As such, their first allegiance is usually to their other combat units. But, as Doc Wentzel and others said, the core of the NCO cadre for much of the 1st and 2nd Battalions came from the only operational Ranger units left in the early 70's: A, B, and O Companies. Bill Bradigan noted that very few of the current and later members of the Ranger community are aware of the contribution made to the Ranger lineage by those few companies. One way we can raise the visibility of the units is to join and become active members of the Association.

Emmett related a good idea to all of us at the reunion. Every year for Christmas he asks his wife for \$100, and submits 4 annual memberships to the RRA on behalf of 4 other Rangers who are not yet members. If several of us do so, in a short time we could really increase our membership and let the other members of the units see the value of membership in the Association, not the least of which is the arrival of this publication in your mailbox every quarter. I plan on doing that for my birthday and Christmas this year, and hope to help getting other members in contact with each other that way.

Another good idea brought up at the membership meeting was that the Association send SASE renewal envelopes to all the annual members when their membership is about to expire, in order to make it as easy as possible to remember to renew every year. We vote for that idea, Emmett and John.

VII Corps LRRP CD

The LRRPs have put together a CD including unit histories, photos, copies of orders, etc. which is extremely well done. We would like to include the B Company material of the same nature, and are collecting it to include in the unit history CD. We are looking for photos, copies of orders, unit history information, and any other things pertinent to the unit. We have already begun collecting quite a bit of this information, and would like to have all of you search through your footlockers and trunks for more that we can share.

Patrolling Magazine Information

This publication of the Association is published quarterly, and one of the responsibilities of the unit director is to solicit, gather, and submit articles for Patrolling. Please briefly review this edition and any past editions and see what sorts of articles or contributions you all can make. I'm certain that you'd all prefer not to read my deficient ramblings once a quarter, so please consider sending me photos, articles, remembrances, and memorial tributes for publication (don't worry, I'll be pestering you in person too).

Well, I'd better sign off and get this submitted to John Chester (another very hard-working officer of the Association and

generally decent guy) prior to publication or will be in the doghouse for my first official Patrolling submission, and Kirk will be un-volunteering me.

CONTACTING US

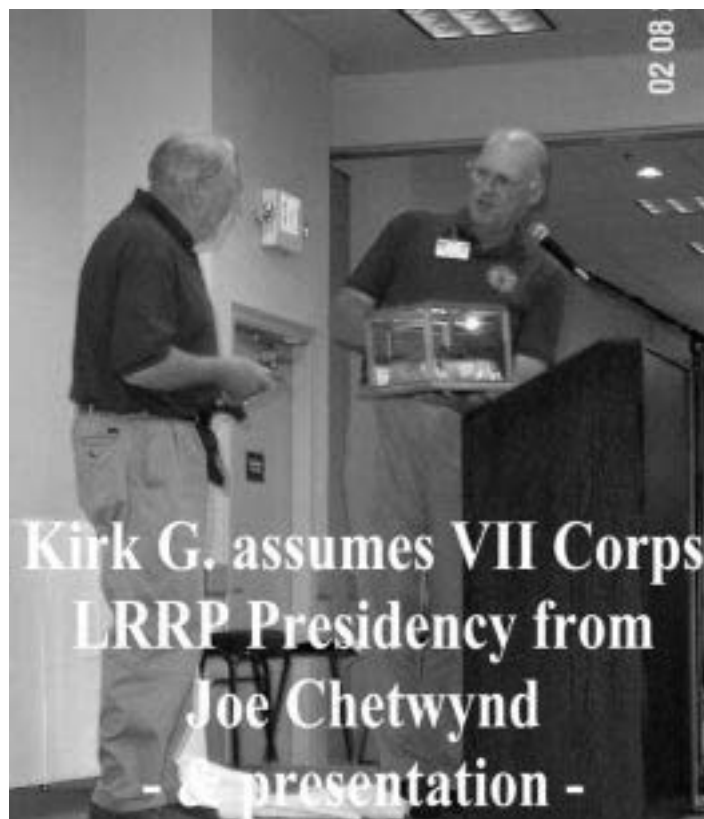
By the time you're reading this, Richard Stutsman and I should both have rectified our email difficulties and gotten back into posting unit updates, and the unit roster. Please call or email us with any questions relating to the Association, Patrolling magazine, or any other things you can think of. We'll do our best to help and answer all questions, and if we don't know the answer, we'll direct you to someone who does. Questions and information regarding VII Corps LRRPs are best directed to Kirk Gibson, except for submissions to the Patrolling magazine, which should come to me (don't worry, guys, I'll be pestering you, too...)

Thompson Out.

VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Assn.

Kirk Gibson is pleased to announce that Marc Thompson was elected Unit Director of B/75 RRA. "I have really enjoyed my term as UD, but have always thought that it should be filled by someone who actually served in B/75. Marc is the right Ranger for the job, and I wish him well."

The VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Assn. elected Kirk Gibson as President, succeeding Joe Chetwynd, an original founder of the group, who has served in the position for five years. At the banquet, Joe received a plaque of appreciation and an encased V-



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

42 stilleto like the ones issued to the LRRPs and later were recalled and destroyed. As has become their custom, the LRRPs conducted their annual reunion jump at a local drop zone. Several LRRPs jumped, and were accompanied by incoming 75RRA Secretary John Chester and 79-year old Darby Ranger, Ben DeFoe, who made his first static line jump. That's all.

Kirk out

B/75 & C/58 & VII Corps LRRP CONTACT INFO

Marc Thompson
80 Rock Ridge Road
Morgantown, PA 19543
home: 610-913-8183
office: 610-873-0300
email: marc@roinet.com

Kirk Gibson
2441 Fishing Creek Valley
Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 599-5896
email: khgibson@paonline.com

Richard Stutsman
101 Ash Street
Miltonvale, KS
Home: 785-427-3270
email: cdso79rs@yahoo.com



C/75 - E/20 LRP
Unit Director - Steve 'Doc' Gove



ASSOCIATION HELPS E20 LRP GET'S HIS CIB! 35 YEARS LATER!

I am, so far as I know, the only E20 LRP who received his CIB in the 21st century.

I enlisted in the Army in April, 1966, and I volunteered for the infantry, volunteered for jump school, volunteered for Vietnam, and volunteered to be a LRP. This meant getting through jump school, Recondo School and later combat as a 101st grunt and E Co LRP, about 6 months each.

One of the many things I learned is that combat is not at all what it looks like in the movies. It's a lot scarier and dirtier, too. Just being there getting the job done is the important thing. One of the things I liked better about being a LRP than being a grunt was that it was almost always very clear what to do.

I was there for a year in combat. I don't claim to have been really brave during this time—a shot here, a stab there, some grenades in the dark, a few panicked moments of inspired effort, perhaps, but mostly drudgery—but I do claim I was really there and I mean the whole damn year. I thought the record was clear on this

but I was surprised and, to say the least, disappointed when I learned it wasn't.

Even though I'd spent 3`years as a paratrooper, showing a not inconsiderable amount of extra effort, I never thought of myself as much of a hero and the Army agreed with me entirely—I left Vietnam with no medals at all, not even the CIB! I would think it way beneath me to have to prove I was brave in the war, but the CIB was just for having been there in combat units with my 11B2P MOS. I don't claim to have been brave but I do claim to have been there!

After Vietnam, I wore the CIB the rest of the time I was in the Army unknowingly and nobody ever questioned it—Why would they or I?? Everybody I was with was wearing one and it really was a humble enough award among the people I was with—lots of them had other medals. I even went through a Soldier Of the Month (HAR!) interview wearing it. It was only when I was clearing for ETS that they told me it wasn't authorized. I knew this could only be a clerical error—if I knew it was my job to

C/75 - E/20 LRP - LRRP (CONTINUED)

make sure I was awarded all the medals I was entitled to, I would have paid a lot more attention to it, you betcha! I knew then and know now that they could have cut the orders right then but they elected not to do so, being happy enough to show me the door with an blank DD214 as their way of saying , “Thanks for your participation in the Vietnam War!

I walked out of The Army grinding my teeth, clutching my honorable discharge and feeling very, very screwed though happy enough just to be alive. Over 35 years of time has not changed that perception much, But I walked away essentially in one piece from 3 years as a paratrooper, a year of it in Vietnam as a grunt and a LRP, so after some reflection I put the whole thing in the Win Column and moved on to other issues. I didn’t need a parade to tell me who won and it was very clear I wasn’t getting one anyway.

I put away the whole Vietnam experience for over 30 years—When I walk away from something cursing it, it STAYS cursed! The CIB thing became a non issue over time but it definitely rankled whenever I thought of it.

We’ll fast forward to 1999. I had just come up on the internet and one of the first things I did was make contact with the E Co/C Co organization. It was only then I learned that the LRPs had been morphed into the Rangers.

When I told the story about the CIB to the Association Secretary, he immediately got an award request letter together from the Association and mailed it back to me to sign. And there it set, right on the mantle piece for over a year. I couldn’t force myself to sign it and mail it in.

A big part of this was I was scared I’d mail it in and they would say there was no evidence of my being eligible for it and I’d go bonkers. I could picture myself going postal and I did learn some people skills there in the LRPs that were truly alarming. After a year of looking at it I started to get creepy about it and my son asked me if I was ever going to mail it. So I thought finally: Well, what the hell?

So I mailed it. First it came back, mailed to the wrong place. So I mailed it again. Then it came back with a form letter saying—you guessed it: There is no evidence that you are eligible for this award. Then I got angry! I mean enough is enough!! But it wasn’t. During this time, I had come in contact with several people who knew me from the E20 LRP, knew what we’d done and some of whom I had actually been on patrol with. I also have pictures and 65 letters I mailed to my mom that year giving dates, names, places, etc.

I mailed in the application again with statements from 3 people I served with in the LRPs including the secretary of the E Co/C Co organization (now president) and my former platoon leader, someone I served with in A Co/1st 327/101st and copies of pictures that indisputably put me right there. It came back months later (there’s months between all communications) saying again: Sorry, but.....Then I got REALLY ANGRY!!! Enough is enough is enough!!! Time for the Congressman. So I went to see my Congressman, George Miller, CA, and told the story to an aide. I asked them also for aid in getting my records which I had been trying to get for over 2 years in conjunction with filing for disability.

The waters parted!!! Within a few months (of course) they’d got my records and they call me up and asked me where I wanted the CIB ceremony to take place. And guess what?? The records said EXACTLY what I’d been saying all along—that I’d been where I said I was and did what I said I did—right there in B&W. DUH!

So ultimately, finally, there we find the old LRP standing on the back porch of an office park getting his CIB awarded in June 2002. They gave me copies of the orders and a nice letter from the very same person (Col Deborah Ivory) who had turned me down the first 3 times, saying what an honor it was. I almost feel it should have a star on it as I had to fight TWO wars to get it—one to get eligible for it and the other to get it. But I did get it, when I had truly lost all hope of things ever being made right.

So I’ll bet not only am I the only LRP who got his CIB awarded in the 21st Century, I’m the only one you know who had to apply for it 4 times (not counting the time it was mailed to the wrong place). I’m putting this one in the Win Column too, finally.

I really want to thank everyone who helped me get this but especially The E20 LRP & C75 Ranger Association who got it rolling where I never would have on my own. Thanks! It truly would not have gotten done without you. James Worth

Foot Note: I want to thank Sam Pullara, and to show the LRRP/AIR-BORNE RANGERS things CAN GET DONE! YOU are not asking for a handout YOU WHERE THEIR...YOU EARNED IT!!

Steven ‘DOC’ Gove

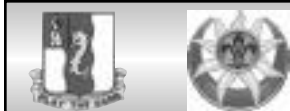


D/75

Unit Director - John Kingeter



No Submission

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

By Bob Copeland

Hello everyone and especially those who attended the 75th Reunion in Tacoma 31 July to 4 Aug. We had a blast and for those who missed coming you should have been there! Once again the Reunion was second to none and the attendance for E Co. was as follows: Bob Copeland, Rick Ehrler, Terry Leishman, Marshall Larsen, John Berg, Greg Whitson and wife Carla, Duane (Poncho) Alire, wife and mother-in-law, Brent Gulick and Jesse DeLeon and wife Jan. As you can see we were well represented but we did miss the rest of the unit members and their families. The next 75th Reunion will be in Ft Benning/Columbus Ga. next year in July 2005. What next year you say, yes that is right as we voted at the Assn Meeting to reorder our reunion dates to coincide with the Change of Command of the Regt. This means we have the advantage of being in Ft. Benning for Change of Command when HQ and all three Batts are there and get to enjoy the comradery of all the young Ranger Warriors now serving with the exception of those who are on deployment. We also get to enjoy the Ranger Training Bde demonstrations at Victory Pond as well and the Ft Benning Post hospitality, as well as all our Assn Rangers and their families. It was decided at the Assn Meeting and elections that all people elected this year will be elected for a two year term, but that the by-laws would be changed this year to allow for the reordering of the reunion year and therefore next year at Ft Benning in 2005 we will have Assn Elections again for all positions, with the currently elected Assn Representatives only having served for one year of the original two years. The bottom line is that all people elected this year will have to stand for re-election next year. The newly elected President Emmett Hiltibrand has agreed to hold this position for the one year only to fill the void. All positions were filled at the elections with the understanding that elections would take place next year, with the changing of the reunion year, when the bylaw change is voted on this year. We also said goodbye to Assn President Dana McGrath who has done an outstanding job in his two year term and has brought the Assn finances to new heights of stability and fiscal strength as well as increasing the membership in the Assn. Many thanks Dana for all you were able to accomplish over the last two years and in making this 2004 Reunion a success along with the all the other Board Members who also worked so hard on our behalf. We also say goodbye to Vice President Wayne Mitsch who also did a great job as well as Secretary Ron Edwards who has served several terms of dedicated duty to the Assn and our membership with an outstanding job being done. Thanks to all our outgoing past Board Members of the ASSN and WELCOME to all our new ASSN BOARD MEMBERS who you will find listed at the front of the Patrolling Magazine. HOOAH!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

The Reunion started with registration at the hotels on Sat 31 July and the opening of the Hospitality Room. A movie called "IN THE SHADOW OF THE BLADE" was introduced by Huey Pilot Steve Vermillion. This movie was made by taking a Vietnam era Huey across the USA with stops at various places and involving Vietnam Veterans taking rides in the Huey and reliving their Vietnam Service experiences. This is an actual Huey that flew missions in Vietnam as a dustoff chopper and the documentary movie which has been put together is fantastic!!

Many people were given the opportunity to fly on the Huey and relive the past, as well as bring some closure to their Honorable Vietnam Service. Cudos to the group of men and women who made this movie which will be released as a documentary this year. Thanks especially to Steve for bringing this Excellent and moving documentary film to the Reunion and making it possible for all present to experience the dedication of all those involved in the making of the movie. I would recommend that everyone see this Documentary Movie when it is released this year!! Enough said as I don't want to lessen the impact of this movie, when you all have the chance to view it.

After the movie we all continued to enjoy the hospitality room and renewed friendships. John Chester ran some slides and film of pictures from the Nam which everyone thoroughly enjoyed throughout the reunion. Thanks John for compiling all the pics. Sunday after breakfast, shopping at the Airborne Kit Shop stand, viewing raffle items and buying raffle tickets which were to be drawn at the Banquet, we all filed into the hospitality room for our General Meeting at 11-14:00 hrs. The meeting went well, discussion was had, elections were made, acknowledgement-

ment of the outgoing boardmembers was loudly applauded and the meeting was adjourned. How's that for a brief. Check under the Boardmembers comments in the front of the Patrolling Magazine for all the details. For those of you who are not 75th Members and are reading this article in the Unit Newsletter and missing out, it is time to join and get in on the action and comradery, RIGHT!! After the General Meeting some stayed to enjoy the hospitality room and others went off to do their own thing, visit Ft Lewis and the HQ 2nd Batt displays, the base museum and the local sites. Our E Company Group piled into cars and went to the warf for an excellent seafood meal. Jesse and Jan DeLeon picked the eatery which was excellent and we all enjoyed each others company and had a few drinks and for me, great halibut and fries. We then returned to the hotel and the hospitality room.

Monday was dedicated to Unit Meetings and Functions. Those who had registered for the

Golf Tournament went golfing thanks to Ranger Bob Stack and the rest got together for meals, went shopping, bought raffle tickets or shopped at the Airborne Kit Stand. Our E Co. group piled in cars and went out to Ft Lewis and visited the HQ 2nd BN and the Base Museum which had opened up the 9th Div exhibits on the 2nd floor for our group to go through. The second flr is not handicap accessible and it is therefore only opened by request. It is worth seeing and displays the history of the 9th Div., so if you are at Ft Lewis, don't forget that you have to request the upper floor exhibit area be opened for your viewing. We all then went out to lunch and then back to the Hotel to get ready for the Banquet.

The Banquet seated approximately 404 RANGER/LRP/LRRPS and their families and guests. 28 Rangers from the 2nd Bn attended and were seated throughout the banquet room. We were fortunate to have one young Ranger at our table. The speakers were as follows: Assn President Dana McGrath who did the opening remarks and acted as MC; LTC Mark Lisi who spoke of his Ranger Career, the Ranger Creed and the hardcharging young Rangers, their dedication to duty in peacetime as well as in the current war on terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq. All but the rear party and a special group, preparing for deployment, of the 2nd BN Ranger, were deployed at the time of the Reunion. LTC Lisi did a superior job in



E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9th div LRRP (CONTINUED)

representing the 2nd BN Ranger and bringing us up to speed on their participation in the war on terrorism. Many thanks to LTC Lisi for taking the time out of a very busy schedule to come to the Banquet and share his experience and dedication with us. Hooah!!!!RLTW!!!!; Kiet Van Nguyen who was a Vietnam Rescue Mission Member of "BAT 21" spoke to all assembled of the harrowing mission to rescue downed aircrew members and the ultimate success after many attempts and further loss of life, in completing the rescue. A film was run depicting the actual events in Vietnam before Kiet spoke of the harrowing exploits conducted by himself and others in carrying out the rescue mission. Kiet was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions on this Rescue Mission. Thankyou Kiet for what you accomplished, the sacrifices you made on behalf of the downed aircrew members and your devotion to duty as a Warrior. We all hope to see more of you at upcoming reunions; Sandee Rouse, our Gold Star Mother Advocate, made a very special address on behalf of the Gold Star Mothers and as always brought a tear to many an eye at the Banquet. Thank you Sandee for doing what you do and do so well in representing Gold Star Mothers and for the sacrifices you have made through the loss of your young Ranger Son and your devotion to the cause in representing the other Gold Star Mothers who have suffered a loss; outgoing President Dana McGrath then had all the RANGER/LRP/LRRPS stand to represent each era of service and when the young Rangers representing the War on Terrorism stood the house rocked with appaulse for these young Warriors who so Honor us with their service today. Many of these young Warriors have served multiple tours on deployment to Afghanistan and Iraq. Well done Rangers!!!!HOOAH!!!!RLTW!!!!; our newly elected Assn President Emmett Hiltibrand was our last speaker and after introducing himself and giving a short accounting of things to come turned the floor over to outgoing Pres. Dana McGrath who after some comedic remarks enjoyed by all brought the Banquet proceedings to a close after making the raffle draws and thanking all for attending. The meal of course was excellent. I forgot to note the Ranger Randy White, L Co. Ranger lead Roll Call for our KIA's. Thank you Randy and all those who participated in the Roll Call.

After the Banquet all retired to the Hospitality Room and outer areas for some sharing of old war stories and renewing old acquaintances, as well as making some new ones. All in all it was a great evening. Thanks to Greg Whitson for the fine handmade pens that he gave to each E Co. member who was in attendance at the Banquet. I would also like to thank Joan Bellwood who was unable to attend but donated a framed Veterans Day Card and Book by John McCain for the Raffle, thanks also to Jesse Deleon and Jan for their donation as well as Greg and Carla Whitson for their donation. If I missed anyone please let me know and I will include your name in the next article.

Well folks Tuesday was an open day and many went to the Base and attended the range were a few rounds were fired and others went sight seeing in the Tacoma/Seattle area. The hospitality room remained the centre for activity for the remainder of Tuesday.

Wednesday morning was checkout and goodbyes with a few of us remaining over until Thursday to catch our flights.

Thanks to all who attended and contributed to this great gathering and especially to the 2nd Bn Ranger for their hospitality and for all they are doing for us in the WAR ON TERRORISM AND THE DAY TO DAY SACRIFICES THEY ARE MAKING ON OUR BEHALF AND THAT OF FREEDOM, HOOAH!!!!RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!!!

A couple of poems gathering dust in my drawer. I think we can all relate to this first one, not healthy to be in this frame of mind too long, eh!

"PADI DREAM"

TODAY WE WALK THE PADI DREAM
IN SILENCE GAZING AT THE MYSTIC SCENE
THE SUN SHINES DOWN WITH BRILLIANT RAYS
EACH SOLDIER'S MIND RECOUNTS PAST DAYS
A GENTLE BREEZE ALAYS ALL FEARS
OUR BODIES LOOSE UNDER HEAVY GEAR
MUD CONCEALED BY THE WATERS SHEEN
SHOOTS OF RICE FLOATING IN A SEA OF GREEN
WISPS OF CLOUD IN A TRANQUIL SKY
NO BIRDS OF PREY GO STREAMING BY
AT ONE WITH NATURE WE DRIFT ALONG
REALITY CONCEALED, MOMENTARILY GONE

AUTHOR

RANGER SGT/E5 ROBERT S. COPELAND (RET)

I thought Greg Whitson, Jim Norgaard and Jim Sterling might enjoy this one along with the rest of you "One SHOT, ONE KILL" guys.

"SNIPER"

LONG AND BLACK
SLEEK AND CLEAN
LIGHT AND DEADLY
A KILLING MACHINE
LOADED WITH EIGHTEEN
SELECTOR ON READY
TAPE OFF THE ELIMINATOR
IN TIGHT AND STEADY
EYE ON THE TARGET
TARGET ON SIGHT
EXHALED AND HOLDING
FOCUSED, HOLD TIGHT
SQUEEZE OF THE ROUND
DOWN GOES THE PREY
EASE OFF THE TRIGGER
SUCCESS, SLIP AWAY

AUTHOR

RANGER SGT/E5 ROBERT S. COPELAND (RET)

Well folks that's it for now, hope to see you all in Orlando in May 2005 for the Company Reunion. If you haven't already done it please sign up for the 75th Ranger Regt Assn and send in your application and dues. Remember that there is strength in numbers. You can also send in donations for the Ranger Children's Christmas Fund and remember to designate that it is for the Ranger Children's Christmas Fund, your name and E75/E50 LRP/9TH DIV LRRP so that they can record it properly. No amount is too small or too large. Remember that this is a great way to support the families of our Rangers who are going in harms way to protect our way of life and freedom. You can forward the donation to Jonesy our Secretary Treasurer who will forward it on to the 75th Ranger Regt Assn. I have started the fund off with \$300 this year so the challenge is there for all of us to beat our total donation for 2003!! As you know Jonesy was in hospital for inflammation of an artery and had approximately a two day stay before being put on his medication and returning home. When I asked him were he wanted the flowers and card sent to he said he really didn't care for flowers but would appreciate it if I sent a \$50 donation on his behalf to the Ranger Children's Christmas Fund in his name. This has been done and thankyou Jonesy for thinking of the Ranger Children!! HOOAH!!!!RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9th div LRRP (CONTINUED)

SUPPORT YOUR BROTHER RANGERS!!!!

To all of our active duty Warriors who have gone in harms way. we wish you GOD SPEED, GOOD HUNTING AND A SAFE RETURN HOME!!!!HOOAH!!!!RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

To all of our Unit Members and Unit Family Members and Friends who have been ill or in hospital we wish you a speedy recovery. To those who have passed on from this world our

deepest sympathy goes out to the families and friends who have suffered this loss. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM ALWAYS!!!!HOOAH!!!!RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!!

Bob Copeland
Unit Director



Greetings to all, some of us are just attempting to take a breath of air and process what happened at our association re-union. I do know that I barely returned and back at work I received a notice that I have a few short days to submit an article for Patrolling magazine. I am temporarily using my government email until my new system is set up in my new home.

My new address is
3616 West Bohl Street
Laveen, AZ 85339
Phone # 602-237-0282 Home
602-640-2981 Office
602-315-9227 Cell

Email to follow when hooked up.

Some of you met my new Bride to be and you know how lucky I am feeling, we will have a traditional wedding 9/18/2004.

Well some recap of what took place in Tacoma, WA reunion 2004. We elected our very own Emmett Hiltibrand as association President and a change in our re-union dates to coincide with the change of command at the Ranger units. One of the reasons for the change was to give us the opportunity to be a part of some of the festivities that take place, such as the Ranger competition, boxing matches, and all sorts of programs to observe as part of the change in command. I am sure I will just observe and not participate as you all know I suffer from that thing called over the hill after fifty.

I would like to thank all the men and family members that made the trek to Tacoma it was a pleasure seeing and talking with all that were able to make the re-union. Seeing Tom Pease with an enormous smile after he made his parachute jump was really something. There were many from the original "66" LRRP unit present. Even David Regenthal who seemed to be missing in action showed up. I would like to say thanks to all for your continued support as your unit director I could not do this position justice without those that went before me and the support of many very special men that care about our unit and camaraderie we all share. I noticed as I had my table set-up for the Vet Center some brought their fellow team members to talk and assist them with some of the problems they encountered with the VA system, just another sign of how we took care of our own and still do.

TAPS

Plaques were made up for the following men to be presented to

family members. Bob Camp, David Jacob, Steve Morey (Bouncer). The plaques were very nicely engraved and our 25th ID coin set in as a centerpiece. Marshall Huckaby was able to put an idea I had into an art form that was an Honor to present to Val Morey. She could not wait around, because of what she felt and her strong desire to show their son and put in a place of Honor. The following is inscribed on the plaques and those present voted to make this the standard.

THE US FLAG IS LASER CUT ON TOP
& the following words as well.
IN MEMORY OF
_____ NAME _____

WHOSE SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY
WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

<OUR COMPANY COIN INSERTED HERE>

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION LRRP
F.CO - 50TH INFANTRY (LRP)
CO.F - 75TH INFANTRY RANGER



Other votes taken and ratified were a memorial wreath with appropriate scroll bearing our unit name for all funerals that we have notice about so keep in touch. We do not want any of our brothers to be alone. We also voted to put family members up at following re-unions to get to know more about the man we served with in combat and they could tell us about husband, father and the man he became. The later idea is something David Regenthal came up with I liked the concept and so did those present. However, these very important plans take some operating expense to keep them working. There was a box, (not a hat) passed around to collect some contributions and there was \$567.00 donated to add to our account of just over \$2000. We are not a non-profit organization, however as I stated

you do not need a receipt for any donations under \$250 and you can still count it as a charitable donation.

Another area whiled we are on the topic we are looking for one preferably two representatives from each state that can represent the unit and be supportive to family members and keep us posted and assist with arrangements. Ron Harrison, Jim Hargett, Ray Armstrong, Don Purdy, Emmett Hiltibrand, Steve Grezik and many others have helped in the past. They have helped with arrangements of color guards and making contacts to various organizations for proper honors for our brothers, PLEASE TAKE A STEP FORWARD TO HELP THEM AND OTHERS WITH

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

THIS HONORABLE TASK. I would like to report that our unit has all the states taken care of for our unit. I can assist with benefits for families if they qualify and there are many most of us are unaware of, such as education and survivor benefits for those service connected disabilities and there has been some rule changes, so call me and we will attempt to find what is due the family members.

Well I hope I did not miss anything, and if I did I am sure someone will advise me that I suffer with CRS. I am open to ideas that will strengthen an already strong unit that I am very proud to serve with such honorable men.

Joe Little UD

25th ID LRRP – F/Co 75th Ranger

Please take time to write to these Men of the 25th ID 125th MI BN.



Following submitted without his knowledge that I am printing his story by Gene Tucker.



The Communist Flag

I will endeavor to tell you how that communist flag came to belong to the unit. We did not have team numbers the L R R P Detachment was so new. Our team

which consisted of myself Gene Tucker (SGT) Assistant Patrol Leader, Hugh Howerton (SSG) Patrol Leader, Jerry Spicer (SGT) Point Man, Perry, Nathaniel (SP/4) Radio Operator, and Charles White (SGT) Scout, departed on a mission to locate a Battalion of NVA situated about twenty miles North West of Cu Chi near Tay Ninh and North of the Bol loi Woods.

This mission began on the 7th or 8th of August 1966. Three (III) Corps Headquarters sought information on enemy units and movement in the area we were to recon. We were inserted by helicopter using the usual technique of false landings with us jumping out on one of them. It was last light and we went into our Security mode after running several yards into the wood line. This was our initial defensive position, everyone facing outward in a tight circle. We were all able to touch one another in case we needed to communicate. We certainly did not want to talk, as it was life or death. This way we were able to touch each other, use hand and arm signals and therefore not give away our position. It became so quiet that we could hear any movement around us and even our own breathing. I was afraid that the enemy would hear

my heart pounding, it sounded like a bass drum to me. After about 30 minutes we moved off for several hundred yards and doubled back on our own trail. We were then able to determine if anyone had followed us, no one had so far. We set up our night defensive position (NDP) or remain over night (RON) position and attempted to get some rest. We placed out our "claymores" and got ready our hand grenades and magazines for our weapons. No one wanted to be fumbling for them during the dark while in a firefight. SP/4 Perry had the radio turned off; we did not turn it on until we were ready to use it. Using the radio was as rules only done at a pre-arranged schedule so as to not have it give away our position. Team leader Howerton assigned us an hour and a half of security each. Needless to say we had company when we were pulling security. It was too difficult for us to get any uninterrupted sleep and most of us if not all remained awake. It was a long night with many familiar and not so familiar sounds to keep our interest peaked. One cannot describe the thoughts that go through your mind when in situations such as this.

Well, things went well the first evening. We were all awake before first light and sent out two man patrols to insure that no one had moved up on us during the night. Security was provided and we gathered our claymores and policed our area. We did not want to leave any sign of our being there. We then moved out before first light so if we missed something and they attacked there would not be anyone. We then moved several hundred meters before we stopped to get our bearings and eat. Some of the team ate their PIR rations and prepared another for later use. PIR rations were made especially for Special Forces and/or Long Range Patrol units; they consisted of foods similar to what the Vietnamese ate. Little dried fish and rice for example. Therefore if we left or dropped some of the food it was similar to the enemies and may not give us away. The wrapping for the PIR's was usually written in Japanese, and English also. We always kept our trash picked up and in our rucksacks.

We had some fairly reliable information from the III Corps and 25th Infantry Division G-2 that there was at least one Battalion of NVA in the area and we did not want them to have the chance to catch us unprepared. Jerry Spicer and Chuck White did a "clover leaf" recon around our position for added security before we began to move again. We searched all that day without any significant sightings but Spicer who was on point said several times that he had a feeling that we were close to enemy units. We always paid attention to any of our team that had a feeling such as this; we insured that we moved cautiously and quiet. It began to rain in the afternoon. The rain came down like a monsoon, hard and steady. We had ponchos but did not want to use them in the rain (they were made of a rubbery, plastic substance) for they caused entirely too much noise when the raindrops hit them. We needed to be able to hear any noise, movement, or sounds not conducive to the area. The rain could be a good time for the enemy to sneak up on us if they knew where we were. This also caused us to be extremely cautious not to leave tracks or broken grass, limbs, or any other sign for the enemy to track us by. Myself also being the rear guard had the job of covering our trail.

Several times during the day we doubled back on our own trail to see if we were being followed. When we stopped to watch our trail the rain made it miserable, as we sat in the rain it fell so hard that it completely soaked us and ran down our bodies like a river. The rain running down our bodies like that took away all of our body heat and we were constantly shaking from the cold. It was like sitting in a cold pond of water. We were concerned about hypothermia and not being able to shoot well because of the shaking. We found a wooded area for our RON and decided to watch a trail that was only a few meters away from us. The rain

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

stopped around nine thirty or ten o'clock. It only took about an hour and a half for our cloths to dry out. That sure did make a difference in our attitude.

Several times during the night we heard noises. We thought it was personnel or animals but were not sure which it was. The noises were faint and across an open area. Since we were hearing those noises we maintained fifty percent alert during the rest of the night. We were unable to determine just what they were, Howerton and I decided that we would move in the direction of the noise the next day. We also made sure each team member knew where we were located both on the ground and on the map.

The next day as we moved through the area we began to notice numerous signs of what we thought were several large enemy units of a battalion size or larger. The number of foot prints, ox cart tracks, and bicycle tracks were too numerous for the number of local populace in this particular area. We realized now what we were hearing the night before. The trail they used was under a heavy canopy of trees leaves; the footprints and tracks were deep in the earth leaving us to believe that they were carrying heavy loads of ammunition and equipment. There being only five of us we knew that we must put to use all the training that we had between us. We knew that we were placing our lives in each other's hands. This size of enemy unit or units could cause us more trouble than we could handle and our support was at least 40 minutes away. There was no artillery within range and only small outposts of Regional Forces (RF) and Popular Forces (PF) commonly known as RF-PF in the area guarding bridges or villages. They were not about to leave their defensive positions to aid anyone.

We decided to report on our usual situation report (sitrep) instead of stopping so close to the trails, besides if these units had radio triangulation capabilities we might give away our position using the radio too much. We knew that the larger NVA units had some very sophisticated equipment. The less chance we gave them to locate us the better. We moved farther into the wooded area away from the open areas. Soon we began to see even fresher signs of large-scale movement. We knew for sure now that there was more than one battalion of enemy troops in the area. Perry made this sitrep in a whisper. It was so low that I could hardly hear him and I was very close by him. After our sitrep we set up near a trail where we could watch it, we did so for a day but did not see any enemy. They had apparently moved out very quickly. We again moved during the night and put our RON on a small hill where we could see all around us and watch our own trail. Howerton and I decided that we should check around the edges of the rubber plantation the next day. We wanted to know if the NVA was using the plantations buildings and roads. There was no real rest this night either. Rarely did anyone get any rest during one of these missions. We again were up before first light, gathered our equipment and claymore mines. We moved out to prevent anyone from attacking us in case they found us during the night. We were aware that the NVA had some trackers in the area so we doubled back a ways on our own trail and watched it for a while.

The third day we began to hit the edge of a rubber plantation. Since it was a rubber plantation we moved very slow and cautious. It was extremely easy for us or anyone looking for us to see down the rows of rubber trees. There was no real cover or concealment. The rubber trees had been cut (leached) in order to allow the raw rubber to drip in small cans tied just below the small spout which was placed at the bottom of the leached area and there were a lot of those cans being filled. We knew that there were civilians around and we now had to worry about the civilians that worked in the rubber plantation as well as the enemy soldiers.

Apparently we were not as stealthy as we thought we were. About 1530 hours we were startled when a VC began to run from a position about ten meters in front of us. Spicer had just stopped and we sensed that something might be wrong. We all seemed to know what the other team members were doing with out a word being spoken. We knew that he had heard or saw something. We later determined that we had surprised the enemy soldier and he had lay low until he felt that we were getting too close or perhaps he was asleep. I am not sure who was more surprised, the enemy courier or our team. In any case there certainly was fear in us all. Three of us fired at him when he pointed his weapon in our direction and we all fired one shot at the same time. He went down. Jerry Spicer being the point man was the first to his body. He was dead and was carrying a courier bag with a bullet hole in it I might add.

I being the assistant patrol leader immediately placed out security as the team leader (Hugh Howerton) accompanied Spicer began inspecting the enemy soldier and his belongings. Upon inspection they noticed that a courier bag near the dead enemy soldier contained what seemed like important information on troop positions and movements. There were maps and orders for battalion sized units. There was also inside the Couriers bag a communist flag (Russian). There appeared to be a couple of bullet holes in the flag. We covered the enemy soldiers body with earth as best we could, being a rubber plantation there was no foliage available.

We then moved out of the plantation, we knew that we had to get out of there because the enemy certainly must have heard the rifle fire. Also it was extremely important that we let the LRRP detachment know of our find and what we thought the importance of it to be. At approximately 1600 hours while we were reporting this information our security element, of which I was a member came under fire from a Viet Cong machinegun. They had managed to track us even though our rear security had attempted to cover our tracks.

While we were pinned down I saw Hugh Howerton and Jerry Spicer being taken under fire by the machinegun. Seeing them being fired upon and pinned down, I moved to a small clearing so that I could see the machine gun clearly and began to place fire on the machinegun, they were able to get free. The brush was very thick and breaking trail was not easy. We were making more noise than I wanted but we wanted to get as much distance from the enemy as possible. We began to run and broadcast the words "Flaming Arrow", which was our emergency distress signal. These words would bring our helicopter support and our extraction bird. Since we were attached to "D" Troop ? Cav. we also had the Aerial rifle platoon on stand by. We were aware that we were in extreme difficulty and could use all the help available.

We were running from a large unit, size unknown but they sure were not afraid to make noise and they wanted us badly. It sounded like a swarm of hornets coming after us, the rifle fire was intense. Since they were not afraid to let anyone know where they were we felt that they knew the size of our patrol and they were not going to let us get away. They were moving fast behind us on our tails. As we fell back each member of the team remained back until all the others passed and then we fired one magazine on full automatic spraying the area behind us. We used every immediate action drill that we had practiced and they were still right there. If this kept up we certainly would be captured or killed. We were able to leave one booby-trapped rucksack behind and soon we heard the explosion of our hand grenade. Even this tactic did not slow them down. It appeared that they knew our tactics to get them off our

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

backs. It took about 40 minutes for the D Troop gun ships to arrive on station.

We used the usual means to mark our advance and get them off our backs with the two smoke grenades. Perry threw one smoke grenade and the gun ships identified it. After we ran about a hundred yards I threw a second smoke grenade and the gun ships identified it. If we would have announced the color of our smoke the enemy had them also and could have thrown the same color, this would have confused D Troops aircraft and we might not have made it out. The gun ships gave us about thirty seconds to make a 90 degree turn and then they strafed with mini guns and used rockets along a straight line between the smoke grenades to get them off our backs. It slowed them down and gave us time to get a little distance away from them.

We ran for about another fifty yards to a small clearing for our extraction. It must have been a slash and burn area for someone because the grass was about shoulder height. There were still enough NVA to go around and they took the helicopter and the team under fire. Chuck White and I lay down a heavy volume of rifle fire on automatic with our M-16's while the others got on the helicopter. It was a miracle that no one got hit. I don't know to this day if the helicopters took a hit or not. The gun ships continued to fire all the miniguns and (ARA) aerial rocket artillery (rockets) that they had as Chuck and I got on with the rest of the team. Howerton, Perry, and Spicer were firing their M16's and the door gunners were firing their machineguns. That small space in the helicopter, even with all the enemy fire coming our way felt like a safe heaven.

We were all overjoyed at being safe and flying back to the base camp. Every one of us never said another word as we flew back to the base camp landing-pad. All you could see was that distant stare in our eyes. We did not have to say anything we were a team and understood each other's feelings.

We knew that there were many chances for us to become wounded or killed (KIA) during this mission but we had faith in our training and our brother soldiers in our team that we would make it out alive.

The entire LRRP detachment was waiting for us to land. We were given a beer and taken to the Division G-2 for a debriefing. The G-2 took possession of the documents and the courier bag. Jerry Spicer kept the flag in his shirt but later during the debriefing turned it over. It was an indication that perhaps those units had Russian or Chinese advisors. We did not want to give it up and we let everyone know our desire. It was returned to us immediately after the debriefing. (I feel that Captain Ponzillo had something to do with that) We had confirmed that the NVA battalion that the G-2 had thought there was in fact there. And we also confirmed for III Corps that several other NVA units were present as identified from the documents. Order of battle and attack plans were also obtained, the NVA had to change most of them since they knew we had the documents.

All of this time we were attempting to get out of this situation Capt. Ponzillo and Bill Brantley were on the radio in the LRRP headquarters. They were in constant radio communications with our team, D. Troop ? Cav., the air extraction team, and Headquarters 25th Infantry Division, keeping them apprised of our situation and insuring that we were getting our support we needed to escape from the enemy and for the immediate extraction of our team. There were several LRRP's along with the Cav's Aerial Rifle Platoon on those helicopters standing by to providing

assistance and fire support during our extraction. The LRRP's not on duty always made it a practice to be available to assist the team in trouble. One of the LRRP's was in the command and control ship (C&C) directing the fire support and extraction; it was the XO Lt. Traxler since he had placed us in it was his duty to get us out. The radios were monitored all the while we were running but no one spoke unless we asked for something. They did not want to give us something else to think of except getting out of there with our lives. One thing we were all glad about was that the guys on the other end of our radio had been there and done that (LRRP's). They were one of our own. You'll never know how good it feels even if you are in a firefight and your life is on the line to know that another LRRP is there talking to you.

They understand your concerns and know how you feel. They will do everything they can to help you. They are a brother LRRP.

The information that we had captured later became vital to our conventional units during operation Attleboro in November 1966. Those enemy units mentioned earlier were moving fast in order to begin training and practicing for this operation. I believe that we must give the NVA credit for their determination and courage. They fought a very resolute and good battle. It was the largest and most fierce battle to date in the 25th Infantry Division area of operations (AO). The 196th Light Infantry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, and several Special Forces Mike Forces were involved. The U.S. Air Force participated with their C-130's and combat aircraft also. I won't attribute it to our information but the 25th Infantry Division and those other units fought well and inflicted an extremely massive amount of dead and wounded upon the NVA during this operation.

When we returned we gave the flag to the LRRP detachment and it hung in the command Post. We had all taken a picture with the flag for our memories.

I later learned that Jerry Spicer had taken the flag home when he returned to the (World) United States and it now hangs on a wall in a VFW post in Denton, Texas.

Hugh Howerton and Jerry Spicer now live in Texas, Gene Tucker lives in Colorado and we have not been able to locate Perry and Chuck White. We are still looking for them. We want to get the entire team together again and perhaps we can all take another picture with that "Communist Flag". So Perry and Chuck White if you read this please contact Gene Tucker, Hugh Howerton, or Jerry Spicer. You may also leave a message on the web at www.lrrp.com.

Eugene G Tucker
(SGT E-5) Retired
MSG/1SG
25th Infantry Division
LRRP's 1966

Next issue Captain
Ponzillo with snake





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

Unit Director - Tom nash



No Submission



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

Unit Director - William Anton



By Lawrence M Curtis

Greeting all:

At this time I would like to think all the Rangers and their family for making or 18th annual reunion in Milwaukee, WI One of best. Though the weather was a little wet. A good time was had by all.

At this year's reunion we had 20 Rangers present of which two were first-timer attendees I would like to commend the new attendees for their effort. I know it can be very hard to make the first reunion not knowing what to expect after so many years. I hope you felt welcome and will be joining us in the future.

At the luncheon we had two special guests just back from Iraq. SPC Paul Hasset with the 1st Cav. Div. and SGT Dan Carpenter of the West Virginia 459th Engineers Army Reservist. Welcome home Guys. Job well done!

This year was an election year. The new officers for the next two year are: President Larry Curtis; Vice President –Keith Phillips; Treasurer- Doug Parkinson; Secretary-Dave Klimek; Sergeant at Arms- Doc Gilchrest; Trustees-Sam Dixon, Forest Decker, Benny Gentry, and Walter Seymour. Bill Anton is our Unit Director with the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. At the breakfast Col. Pete Booth honored Bob Gill with a life membership to the 1st/9 Blues. Congratulation Bob!

Now let's have a roll call on who made it to this year's reunion. Sam and Cathy Dixon; John LeBrun and Barb; Doc. Gilchrest; Benny and Sandy Gentry; Keith and Frankie Phillips; John and Judy Trumbull; Bob Gill; Danny and Beverly Svoboda; Bill and Pam Carpenter, their son Dan, daughter Stacy and their two grandchildren; Peter Eisentrager; Bob and Barbara Raab; Doug and Debbie Matze; Lee and Vicki Fix; Ken White; Stan and Danita Freeborn; Larry and Jeannie Curtis with son Chris and wife Rochelle; Mike and Beverly Brennan; Howard Shute; James and Geri Rovana; and Doug Parkinson.

I have just received word that Doc James Dempsey just passed away in June. Doc Dempsey will be miss by all he was a hell of a LRRP/Ranger. I know his stories will live on just ask any LRP who serve with him in 1966or 1967

Bill Anton is our contact with the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Writing for the Saber will be Keith Phillips and Larry Curtis. I am looking forward to serving our chapter in this new capacity and to continue working with the 1st Cav. Association and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association for the next two years.

Next year's reunion is in Killeen, TX, June 22-26, 2005 and I hope to see you all there.



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

Unit Director - David Hill



Submitted by Dave Hill, UD

Well, the 2004 75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion has come and gone. For myself and, I am sure, all of the other attendees, it was a great time in a great location. It was well organized, the accommodations were great, the weather was spectacular, and all in all, a great occasion. Congratulations to Association President Dana McGrath and the other 2003-2004 Association officers on a great performance guiding our association these past two years. Congratulations also to Emmett Hiltibrant and all of the other newly elected officers who will be carrying us forward through this upcoming year. Ft. Benning, Georgia, home of the 75th Ranger Regiment, will be the hosting site for the 2005 Association Reunion and we are very much looking forward to that event. Please make plans to be there; it will be worth your while.

Once again, I have included in this issue of "Patrolling", the story of one of our unit's missions. This is a very special one, concerning a very special Ranger, Robert David Law.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." [John, 15-13]

Co I/75th Infantry (Ranger), 1st Infantry Division, had such a man, Sp4 Robert David Law, who on 22 February 1969, unhesitatingly laid down his life in order that his teammates would survive. Ranger Law was awarded our nation's highest military honor, the Medal of Honor, for his actions that day. The following is an account of and background to that mission, as related by Ranger Law's Team Leader on that mission, Sgt. Danny Wiggins.

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

It was the period of “TET 1969”. Heavy movement had been recorded by monitoring devices and other intelligence sources and part of I Company had been tasked to the area near Song Be to perform reconnaissance and intelligence gathering operations. On 19 February my team had just completed a successful five-day mission, without enemy contact, as part of that effort. We returned to base, looking forward to our scheduled two-day “stand-down” to rest and prepare our equipment for another mission.

During such stand-downs, team leaders were required to pull “FOB” (radio duty) shifts in the company Tactical Operations Center (TOC) to ensure that combat-experienced Rangers leaders would be the ones responsible for communicating and supporting Ranger teams out in the field. During my two hours of “FOB” duty that first night, things were quiet in the field and my mind began to drift. Having only 74 days remaining of my tour of duty in Vietnam, I had started counting down my days on my “short timer’s” calendar. My thoughts of going home, as well as my fears of not making it there, were now much more active in my mind. Many things go through your mind when you’re alone and this was especially true for me that night.

I had a very good relationship with Captain Patrick (Co I commanding officer at that time) and had been instrumental in his application for and acceptance of his assignment to our company. During the past couple of weeks, I had been joking (really hinting) with him about making me a permanent “FOB” (forward observation base). While I was on “FOB” duty one night, Captain Patrick came into the bunker and stated, “Wiggins, I’m going to make you a permanent FOB”. In my surprise, I replied “Sir, you are hitting me”. Jokingly, he grinned and replied, “Yes, you will be a permanent fired-on bastard”.

That was, of course, not what I had had in mind and the joke was on me. [Ironically, I never again went to the field on any mission that my team didn’t make some type of contact with the enemy. Truly, I was to be a “fired-on bastard” for the remainder of my tour.]

On February 20th, one of our Ranger teams came under enemy fire and two members of the team, Donald Hildebrandt and Gene Lowery, were seriously wounded and had to be medivacced. An important element of the planned multi-team mission had thereby been temporarily eliminated. However, due to the importance of these missions (and maybe also the need to seek vengeance on “Charlie” (Viet Cong) for what he had done to part of our LRRP family), volunteers were requested to replace the LRRP team that had to be extracted along with the wounded Hildebrandt and Lowery. I was asked to lead the volunteer Ranger team, comprised of Mike Cannon, Bob Law, Bill Powell, Bob

Roossiene and Ray Cervantes.

Never as a full team unit, but as individuals, I had worked with each member of this team and had full confidence and respect for each and every member. I agreed to lead the team if others were in agreement. Each volunteer team member agreed and positions for this mission were assigned. Law would take point, Cannon would walk his “slack” (2nd position in order of march) Powell would be the RTO, Roossiene would carry the M-79 and Cervantes would take the position of rear security. This was a great LRRP/Ranger team and we were prepared to be immediately deployed to continue the mission of the team we were to replace.

We quickly conducted an over flight of the mission Area of Operation (AO) and selected a primary and secondary Landing Zone (LZ) for insertion into the area. The area near the primary LZ was not especially dense and appeared to be ideal for insertion of the team. We returned to base camp and completed our preparations, including inspections, for this mission.



Late in the afternoon of 20 February our team was inserted into the LZ and quickly entered the nearby wood line, circled-up, accessed the area, and made contact for a “situation report” (“sitrep”). After completing the sitrep and releasing the chopper, the team formed up and proceeded to put some distance between the LZ and us. Soon it would be necessary to locate a point for “Remain Overnight” position (RON). After having traveled approximately 1000 meters, Law, the point man, came face to face with VC to his front and immediately opened fire. The entire team supported and conducted an “immediate action” (IA) maneuver, operating like a unit that had work together numerous times. We received only a few rounds from AK-47s and no one was hit as we broke contact and began

evading from the scene. After having moved for approximately 100 meters without receiving any additional fire or hearing anything, the team gathered in a defensive “wheel” (each Ranger with his feet to the middle, facing outward to cover their own individual area of responsibility) to access the situation and establish radio contact with the home base and apprise them of our new situation.

Knowing that our brief firefight could trigger other enemy soldiers to move in, we requested artillery support. Powell requested the Artillery Unit “fire P4”, one of the five pre-plotted artillery locations for this mission. I walked the artillery into the area of contact with the enemy and gave the command to “fire for effect”. After completion of the artillery fire mission, we made a request for extraction, since the mission and the teams safety had been compromised by the enemy contact.

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

**Robert David Law, 1969.**

However, since the team was not presently in direct contact with the enemy, and by the time a chopper could make it to the area the extraction would have to be made after dark, our request for extraction was denied. Instead the order from our base was to locate a RON for the night and continue the mission as planned.

Not knowing the status or location of the enemy with which we had made the contact and

having expended part of our ammunition we felt very ill at ease, at best, about the decision, but understood that it would indeed, under the circumstances, be much to dangerous to attempt a night extraction. I made a request to plot the last artillery round fired. The request was implemented and the location was plotted as "P6". Next we requested artillery to fire two of the pre-plotted artillery positions to re-confirm the team's exact location.

The team stayed very alert during the night, with 100% security until midnight and 50% alternating security until daylight. However, at any rate, nobody could sleep even after midnight, though things remained calm and no movement was detected. The appearance of daylight on our position was a welcome site, but we were afraid Charlie was looking for us or waiting for us to give away our position. I had an eerie feeling about leaving our position. I discussed our situation with the team and we decided to remain in position for a brief time further to continue to observe and listen to try to ensure that nobody had approached us during the night and was laying in wait for us to move. We contacted the FOB and relayed our plan. The team didn't see or hear anything during this time and, after checking the surrounding area, agreed that our current location was not ideal for monitoring activities in the area.

Law again assumed the point position and we headed in the direction of our planned recon area. After having traveled approximately 2000 meters, we located a stream that was shown on our map. As we cautiously moved adjacent to a stream, we came upon a major trail that had signs of heavy recent activity. Additional checking revealed a log personnel bridge that crossed the stream. We scouted the immediate area for the best position for the team to remain hidden while monitoring the trail. We located a place that we considered ideal and started setting out our claymore mines adjacent to the trail in what we considered the 'kill zone'. In the center of the zone we set two claymores connected by det-cord. In the event Charlie came from an unexpected direction other claymores were set facing directions all around the team.

Two Rangers, Cervantes and Cannon, were well hidden up on the banks, with trees and thick brush as protection, while the other four were down in the thick cover alongside the streambed. If

any gooks pasted along the trail, it seemed unlikely they would become aware of our position. Time passed without movement, except for a seven or eight foot king cobra, which crawled into our position while making his way to the stream.

Thankfully the cobra was equally surprised and scared and had no trouble moving in the opposite direction when our presence was detected.

For quite a while, all was calm when, suddenly and quietly, Cannon snapped his finger to gain our attention, pointed to the trail in front of our position, and held up three fingers to indicated three gooks (enemy soldiers). In the streambed, Law was closest to the bridge, Powell approximately 3 meters to his left, and I was 2 meters to the left of Powell. Roossien was about 7 meters to my left. Everything went well until the point man neared the bridge, whereupon he turned about 3/4s to his right, bent forward and looked down the streambed. He was looking directly toward the Ranger team, and though they were well hidden, he must have in some way caught site of one of us. He didn't have his AK-47 in the ready position and seemed to be in slow motion as he tried to ready his rifle. Law and Powell immediately emptied a magazine in the direction of the point man and he fell to the ground without having got off a shot. Cannon immediately detonated the claymore mines in the kill zone. Fortunately, the last gook, who carried a machine across his shoulder, was positioned directly in front of the double claymore mines and was killed instantly. Cervantes emptied a magazine in the direction of the center soldier while the team tossed grenades and Roossien popped M-79 rounds toward the wood line behind them.

Two of the three enemy soldiers refused to die and tossed grenades in the direction of the Ranger team. They must have been too weak, from injuries, to get the grenades into our position. As close as they were to our position all the grenades came up a little short of the streambed and exploded on the opposite bank. Cannon remained on the hill under cover of the trees. From his vantage point he could partially see one of the gooks and could direct our grenades to the target. One grenade landed just left of the downed enemy soldier and the second landed about 15 feet too far. This is well within the kill zone of the grenades. Law and Powell tossed grenades in the direction on the point man. "What does it take to kill these bastards?" we wondered.

Fearing that these three individuals could be the point for a larger unit Powell and I began requesting artillery support. I did not want to force any enemy into our location by walking the artillery in too slowly, so I quickly made a major adjustment. When it landed, I adjusted to drop 200, left 50 and gave instruction to fire for effect. Meanwhile, the two Rangers on the bank slipped down behind the streambed to take cover from the artillery, as it would be extremely close to our position. As the artillery rounds landed, small trees were being cut down above our heads. It was really scary how close this was to our position.

Suddenly, an enemy powder grenade landed on the bank of the stream and rolled into our position, stopping about a meter from

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

Law. Powell and I were shocked when the grenade landed at Law's feet and we didn't make a move. The grenade was definitely within the possible kill radius for both Powell, myself, and possibly Roossien. Law had to spontaneously make a decision to jump toward the stream or try to toss the grenade out of our position. I cannot explain how I felt as Law's head and eyes slowly turned to look at us as he moved forward and placed his body over the grenade. All we could do was watch helplessly as Law made his life ending decision. The grenade then exploded beneath his body, shielding the rest of us from its deadly blast. Ranger Bob Law's body had absorbed the full force of the explosion. We dashed to Law's side and rolled him over, but we immediately discovered that it was too late.

I almost lost it within the next few moments, but somehow gathered my composure and continued to perform my duties as team leader of the Ranger unit. We secured the area, awaiting further shots or grenades, but the grenade thrown among us was the final activity of the enemy force. I called the situation into our base, reported Law mortally wounded and requested a medivac. A Cobra gunship arrived just prior to the medivac chopper and, after marking our position with smoke, we directed the gunship where to lay down covering fire. We felt so helpless and it seemed to take forever for the medivac chopper to come in. Finally the medivac chopper sat down in a one-ship clearing on the opposite side of the stream from our position and not one person would get out of the chopper to assist in attending to Law. Two of the Rangers, I don't remember which ones, helped me carry Law's body across the stream while the others secured the area. As soon as we got Law on the chopper, an extraction chopper came in for the rest of the team and we took off for our Lai Kai base. [Time can really run in slow motion when what you really want is for things to speed up.] Upon arriving at Lai Kai, I sat down at the base of nearby rubber tree and cried like a baby. Many tried to comfort me, but there was no comfort for me or the others on the team.

We went to the TOC for debriefing and discovered they were sending an ARVN unit to the contact location to do an assessment and look for documents. Their After Action report confirmed three dead enemy soldiers, including an officer. One had died, crawling away, about 25 meters from the scene with several bullet wounds, including two to the head, three to the chest, and shrapnel wounds from head to feet. This gook's AK-47 rifle was also battered by bullets and shrapnel to the point that it would not fire. It was really difficult at times to understand the motivation that kept these soldiers alive and fighting in the face of all the firepower our supporting arms and we could bring to bear upon them.

After we had been in Lai Khe for a while, we made another discovery—Powell and I had each received a small piece of shrapnel from the grenade. Powell's injury was a little worse than mine, so I told Powell to go have it removed and he would receive his purple heart. I thought he went for medical attention, but; I guess he felt the same way I did. Law had saved our lives and would only receive a purple heart for his actions and the

sacrifice he made; no way did I have any intent of receiving the same award for a little piece of metal that I didn't even realize had hit me.

Every time I look at the scar on my right arm, I'm reminded of this time in Vietnam. I'm proud that the scar is there to continuously remind me. I think of Robert D. Law very often and I hope I continue to do so until my last breath of life. Robert D. Law is a very special individual to whom I will be indebted forever.

I could not understand Robert D. Law's actions but I will forever be indebted to a truly great ranger.

CITATION

MEDAL OF HONOR LAW, ROBERT DAVID

Rank and organization: Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, Company I (Ranger), 75th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division Place and date: Tinh Phuoc Thanh Province, Republic of Vietnam, 22 February 1969 Entered service at: Dallas, Texas Born: 15 September 1944, Fort Worth, Texas Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sp4c. Law distinguished himself while serving with Company I. While on a long-range reconnaissance patrol in Tinh Phuoc Thanh Province, Sp4c. Law and 5 comrades made contact with a small enemy patrol. As the opposing elements exchanged intense fire, he maneuvered to a perilously exposed position flanking his comrades and began placing suppressive fire on the hostile troops. Although his team was hindered by a low supply of ammunition and suffered from an unidentified irritating gas in the air, Sp4c. Law's spirited defense and challenging counter assault rallied his fellow soldiers against the well-equipped hostile troops. When an enemy grenade landed in his team's position, Sp4c. Law, instead of diving into the safety of a stream behind him, threw himself on the grenade to save the lives of his comrades. Sp4c. Law's extraordinary courage and profound concern for his fellow soldiers were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.



L-R, Julian Rincon, his Wife, Wife of Danny Wiggins, Danny Wiggins; 2001 1st Div. LRRP/Ranger Reunion, Indianapolis



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

Unit Director - Rodger Crunk



It's a week out from our reunion in Washington and those good feelings are still with me. Unfortunately the 2nd. Battalion was deployed so there was not much going on at Ft. Lewis but that's okay. The highlight for me is to just be with my Brothers again and our time together is always too short.

K-Co/4th Div. had the largest turnout of all the units represented.. Great to see so many 2nd Brigade people show up. Also several former Officers were in attendance, keep coming back sirs, we need you now as we did so many years ago. A big thanks should go to Bill Bullen for his efforts while unit director to find as many of our brothers as possible. It was obvious that his hard work is paying off. Thanks Bill!!!

At this point I should say, "Thanks Brothers" for hijacking- uh, I mean electing me as your unit director. I am humbled by the confidence that you place in me. If I can be of service to any of you on a personal level or as the Unit Director please feel free to contact me.

Some items of note... Of course our search and membership work should continue as before. We are not getting any younger guys. If you have found any of your buddies or have some info on them please get that to us if you haven't already. Should you know someone who is reluctant to join, a gift membership is a great idea and it's not that expensive. Remember our Christmas Fund is an ongoing effort also. So many of our younger Brothers are deployed and are in need of our help for their families. On that note Bob Fraser still has quite a few T-shirts left. He will send one to any who donate to the fund. It's black with K/Co-Airborne Ranger front and back..Nice shirts. Thanks Bob!!! Also in this mode, if you know a Brother who is in dire financial straits and could use our help please let me know, we can get the word out with no names mentioned. We've done it before with great success.

As per the membership vote at the reunion, our next regular Assoc. Reunion will be next year, 2005 at Ft. Benning. This was done to put us in sync with Ranger Rendezvous and Change of Command Ceremonies. Please read your Officers articles, I'm sure they will speak to this in more detail. Just remember it's one year out instead of two. It will be on us in no time.

San Antonio has been put forward as the site for our off/year 2006 reunion. We have a volunteer who will help put this together for us. We have time to kick this around so if there are other suggestions we will make the final decision next year at Benning.

I came across this in the novel "Hard Rain" by Barry Eisler— The average person is surprised at the extent to which a soldier has to deal with hesitation before the fact and regret afterward. Of course the average person has never been required to kill a stranger at close range. Men who have survived close-quarters killing know that humans are possessed of a deep-seated, innate reluctance to kill their own species. I believe there are evolutionary explanations for the existence of this reluctance, but that doesn't really matter. What matters is that the fundamental purpose of basic training for most soldiers is to employ classical and operant conditioning techniques to suppress the reluctance. I know that modern training accomplishes this objective with ruthless effectiveness. I also know that the training deals better with the reluctance than it does with the regret.— Think about it. If you need help with the regret it is out there through

many sources. It's hard to ask but it's worth the effort. I know that for me our Assoc. and coming to the reunions plays a big part in helping me deal with the regret.

I'll end with another big thanks to Bill Bullen for his leadership the past two years.

Roger T. Crunk
Rtcrunk@aol.com
970-858-4579
K/75 Unit Director



RADIO RELAY MISSION, LZ BLISTER, 1970, L to R IRVIN MARIANO, ROBERT WHITE, ROGER CRUNK.



Group photo of K Company attendees. Taken at the 75th RRA banquet in Tacoma, WA



Jaw breakers, squid and wine

As the last days of summer in 'da UP wind down, I've offered myself a few minutes to relax and reflect on the events of summer, before I start stacking fire wood. The 101st LRRP/Ranger Association reunion at Fort Campbell was a huge success that witnessed the growth of the bonds between the young men of today, and the older men who have had the honor of serving in L Company and its successor units. I consider the past June reunion to be the best gathering of 101st patrollers since the first reunion at Campbell in 1986. I don't know the actual numbers of those who attended, but I'd guess there were over 100 plus their wives and girl friends. Also well represented were pilots who flew us or supported us and men from other 101st units who came by and just wanted to see what our party was like and wanted to meet some of those in attendance. As these reunions at Campbell evolve and men from these diverse units and time periods get to know each other, the new faces seen in our hospitality room grow. The gathering was also well attended by members who had once served in the 101st LRSD after its activation in 1986, that many of us were witness to during the Campbell reunion held that year. What this represents is the building of a continuing bond of members from Vietnam and extending into the modern era. Unfortunately I was also witness to the deactivation ceremony of L Company at this same reunion this past June. It was with more than a little sadness that I saw the colors of L Company once again rolled up and slid into a canvas case, to await a recall to duty when the Army again sees the need for boots on the ground behind enemy lines. The LRSD detachment saw service for 18 years, a time period twice as long as all the Vietnam era units combined. This also means that during this time a large number of men passed through the unit, and they are out there in civilian life or still on active duty and need to be brought into the fold of the 101st LRA brotherhood. If you know of anyone who served in 101st LRRP, F-58 LRP, 3/506 LRRP, L Company Ranger or 101st LRSD please get their contact information to me or Linda Cox. During the 101st LRA businesses meeting a few new items were discussed and a couple things are needed to be reported upon. A new position was created called a membership director. George Murphy volunteered to hold this position and will enter into searches for our missing brothers who may not be aware of the 101st LRA or

the 75th RRA, and offer them membership and inform them of upcoming reunions. It was also decided to hold the 2005 LRA reunion in Branson MO. on a date yet to be settled upon. Check the web site or future issues of Patrolling for an update.

Discussion was also made of the 2006 reunion tentatively to be held again at Fort Campbell during the 101st ABN. DIV. "Week of the Eagle" festivities. What is significant about the 2006 reunion is that it will mark the 20th anniversary of the first ever reunion of 101st LRRP/Rangers, and which eventually saw the birth of the 75th RRA. My goal for 2006 is to make this reunion the largest ever gathering of 101st LRRP/Rangers, and to mark this anniversary by having the 101st LRA act as host for a special 75th RRA reunion to be held at Campbell during WOTE. Over the course of the next year, I'll be working towards this goal and lobbying with the unit directors and board members from the 75th RRA to make this 20th Anniversary Reunion a reality. This brings me to the 75th RRA reunion held in Seattle in early August. Without delving into a lot of details that are probably covered elsewhere in this issue, suffice to say I had a very nice time in Seattle. Though attendance by 101st members was low, those that showed up were

for the most part left coasters who seldom venture east for the reunions. One of my personnel highlights was greeting my old buddy from Nam, Terry "Fish" Smith. Fish and I met in Oakland during processing to make the long flight over the Pacific. My first tour and his 3rd or 4th, his earlier tours were with SF and CCN. I also spent an enjoyable afternoon and evening talking to "Doc" Rosey, the last medic to serve with L Company in 1971, and who went on to witness the final days of the 101st in Vietnam and the withdrawal south to DaNang. His tales of those final months in country were stories I'd never heard and he was witness to events few men were around to view. If you can ever get Doc Rosey to sit down and talk, ask him about the pilot and the jaw breaker....you'll split a gut. I've asked Doc to write up some of these stories for Patrolling and I hope he does because I know you'll love 'em. I also met a few new guys who served in the unit after I left. I was greeted by Steve Barr, Chuck Rielly, Dave Cooper and Nick Gibbone to name a few. Another highlight of the reunion for myself was our guest speaker, Kiet Van Ngyuen. I had been e-mailing with Kiet for a couple years and I saw the need for another featured guest speaker. For those who



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

don't know of Kiet, I'll clue you in. Kiet was a Navy Seal in the South Vietnamese Navy and took part in the rescue of "BAT 21" which was made into a movie starring Gene Hackman and Danny Glover. Kiet accompanied Jim Norris in a sampan through enemy held territory to effect the rescue of Iceal Hamblin, an American aviator who was shot down and surrounded in enemy controlled territory just south of the DMZ. Norris was awarded the Medal of Honor and Kiet was given a Navy Cross. This represents the highest American award ever given to a Vietnamese during the conflict. It was truly an honor to have Kiet attend our gathering and speak to us, and on a personnel level it is an honor to call him my friend. Kiet brought 50 books to the reunion, autographed by author Darrell Whitcomb, and sold all but one copy. Kiet was kind enough to sit patiently and also sign every copy he sold and to suffer through an unknown number of photo sessions with admirers. Late that evening Kiet asked me to come to his house and share a drink and his hospitality for a while. It was an opportunity I'm glad I accepted and a couple hours I'll never forget. Over glasses of wine and a plate of fried squid, peanuts and spaghetti, we talked of the war, his country of birth, politics and friends and family. I also was privileged to view his Navy

Cross and his other awards in the case where he proudly displays them, and was shown his garden and his fish pond of Koi, which he was almost equally proud of. It was a memorable evening that I'll always cherish and a cap stone for me for the reunion.

Please read the messages presented by the association officers for more information concerning the association's business and the proposed changes we'll be hammering out among unit directors and the executive board over the coming months. I'll give you a hint of things to come....a reunion next year at Fort Benning during the 75th Ranger Regiment change of command ceremony.

Randy White
N 4256 Powell Lake Road
Wetmore, Michigan 49895

906 387-2318
ranwhite@jamadots.com

<http://www.lcompanyranger.com/index.html>



M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP

Unit Director - Steve Houghton

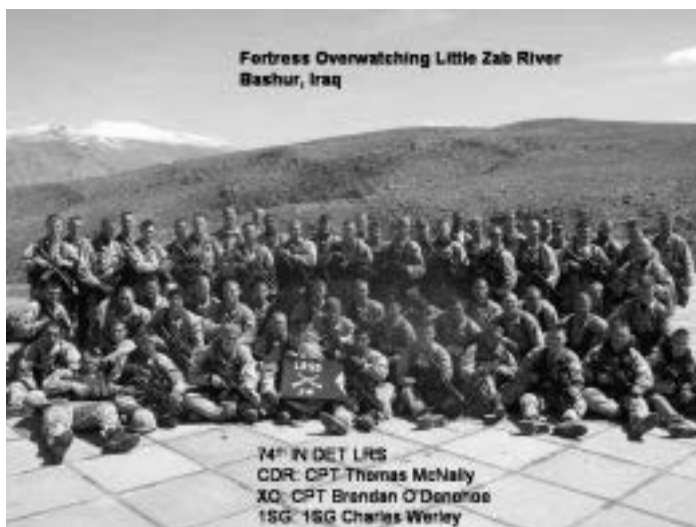


No Submission



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Unit Director - Reed Cundiff



A photograph of the 74th LRS Detachment, 173rd Abn Bde. These guys went in early to secure the DZ for the 173rd's jump into northern Iraq. They are a direct descendent of the 74th LRP (ABN) that became N/75.



Reed, Who knew?! I just received my translator (she speaks, reads, and writes 5 languages) and my driver (a female MP/wheeled vehicle mechanic). I had no idea the Army was like this up here. I do have my General's permission to accompany Squads on patrol and the SOCCE said I'd be welcome on their "tamer" stuff. If this is my last deployment, I don't want to leave without living like a soldier. Take care and HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Sergeant Major Jeff Horne MULTI-NATIONAL BRIGADE (East) OPNS SGM "I am Humbled to have the Great Privilege to Serve in the United States Army"



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Position Vacant



Due to family commitments and time constraints, Bailey Stauffer can no longer serve in the position of Unit Director of O/75. When I talked to him at the reunion in Tacoma, he expressed his regret at his inability to fill the position that he had filled so well for more than four years, but also was hopeful that someone from the unit would step forward and take over the responsibilities of the office. The positions entails, not only the Directorship of O Company, but a position on the Board of Directors of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. The net result is that if the

position remains unfilled, O Company will not be represented in any deliberations by the Board of Directors. I urge someone to step forward and take charge of this responsibility. I would not like to see a proud unit go without representation. If anyone has questions as to the responsibilities and/or mechanics of the job, please contact me (Secretary/Editor). Information is in the front of the magazine in the edit box.

The Editor



P/75 - 79TH LRP

Unit Director - Bill Davis



Papa Company Fall Patrolling

LEST WE FORGET!!

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

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

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

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

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

HUBRINS, EDDIE BARRY SP/4 OCTOBER 15, 1971 DEC 28, 1948 LOS ANGELES, CA 2W L39

Rest in Peace!!

Just returned from the Reunion at Ft. Lewis. It is always a gratifying experience to be able to catch up on old times. Unfortunately, due to many unforeseen circumstances there were only three of us from Papa Company that were able to attend. John Beckwith was there with his wife Bonnie. Although I hadn't seen John for some thirty-four years I recognized him immediately. Although his hair was a bit greyer than it was, he still looked like he was ready to pick up his ruck and move out

on a mission.

Also in attendance was Edward 'Carney' Walters with his wife Mary. It was the first time I had actually met him. He and Mary were at Ft. Benning in 2002, but never figured out who he was at that time in place. My first contact with Carney was when I was first introduced to the Company and went on an Internet search regarding the men. I went to a site called the Virtual Wall and found that on every one of our KIA's there was a message from Carney remembering them as Hero's and Warriors!! That meant a lot to me.

I will have to share one thing with you that Carney had written on the back of his 'then' photo. I am only doing this because I am sure that all of us had the same thoughts when they sent their photos home. On the back of the photo was "Mom, here is your big bad 'RANGER' son, Eddie 1971" We certainly

were!!

I was able to take my 22-year-old nephew, Ryan Hall, to the reunion. He had some business to take care of in Seattle the following week and talked him in to coming along. He was sure that he was going to be bored to death by a bunch of old men. He was certainly surprised. He never believed a bunch of us old farts could party the way we did. He gained a vital insight into what we did in Vietnam. He told me that he left with a sense of pride and honor to meet all of these men. Hell, we might make a Ranger out of him yet!!

One of the pictures I included was of a combat knife that one of our members donated to raffle off for the Company fund. I would



P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

love to acknowledge our member, but he insisted that his contribution would remain anonymous. As a matter of fact he promised that if I mentioned his name he would have to hunt me down, so I'd leave it at that. The raffle generated \$235 towards the fund and a special thanks goes out to him. The only problem that I found was that I had to go up on the podium to raffle off the knife. I thought I was nervous about getting on that huey to go out on a mission, well getting up in front of those four hundred Rangers, families and friends was a real rush. Real scary, but I got through it!! One final point about the knife, it proved itself quite effective. Within the first hour it was out on display, three people had managed to cut themselves with it.

I do have to mention one of senior Rangers. His name was Ben DeFoe. He had lied about his age and landed on Anzio as a Ranger at seventeen. At seventy-nine he jumped with Alpha Company at 3300 feet. He was a little banged up, and said he landed on his head. He said he felt he was lucky, as that was probably the hardest part of his body. Later at the bar he impressed me. He had more ladies around him than I could count. A comment was made about Viagra. His comment was 'I don't need no damned Viagra'!! Spoken as a true Ranger. It was an honor to meet him.

Finally the Association has decided to try and coordinate it's reunion with the Regimental change of command. That means that there will be another Association reunion at Ft. Benning next summer. It seems only logical that we hold our reunion in conjunction with that event. I have talked to Ted Tilson and he is willing to coordinate our next Company reunion in 2006 in the Maggie Valley area. I'll have a newsletter out before that to inform all, including those who aren't on line, nor are receiving Patrolling.

In Ranger Brotherhood,

Bill Davis



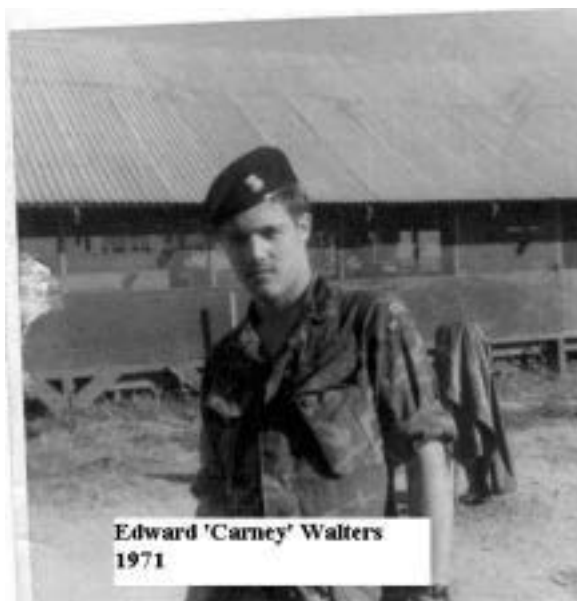
Bonnie and John Beckwith
with Bill Davis



Maj. Edward 'Carney' Walters (ret)
today
with Mary



Combat knife donated by one of our
members that was raffled off for the
Company Fund



Edward 'Carney' Walters
1971



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



No Submission



F/51 LRP

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



Operation Kickoff II

Operation Kickoff II was a continuation of Operation Kickoff. On December 17, 1967 Operation Strike/Uniontown was terminated and became Operation Manchester/ Uniontown. Except for the name change in operational areas, F/51 LRP operating area stayed the same with operational control under 199th Light Infantry Brigade. F/51 LRP mission remained the same as from Operation Kickoff, which was to locate the enemy and report back so the 199th Light Infantry Brigade could reinforce the team or exploit team sightings. During the fourteen days of this operation F/51 LRP inserted 28 teams with 5 of the teams being "Heavy" (10 to 12 man teams) and the rest of the teams being "Regular" (5 to 6 man teams). Total results of Operation Kickoff II were 1 F/51 LRP Killed In Action, 13 F/51 LRP Wounded In Action. There was a total of 13 VC/NVA sightings with 7 VC contacts and 7 emergency extractions of teams. Reaction force of the 199th was inserted 5 times to exploit team sightings. Artillery was requested 4 times on sightings supplied by teams in the field. The total number of VC/NVA that were believed Killed In Action (KIA) was 8 along with various equipment and weapons were recovered during enemy contact. Individual team activities follow.

Team 15, was inserted into their landing zone on December 13, 1967 at 1731 HRS (5:31 PM). During Team 15's mission they had no enemy activity to report and on December 17th at 1055HRS (10:55 AM) Team 15 was extracted on schedule.

Team 23, was inserted into their landing zone on December 13, 1967 at 1746HRS (5:46 PM). On December 15th at 2130HRS (9:30 PM) Team 23 reported seeing a bright light that seemed to be searching for them. During the night there was no further development from the sighting. On December 16th at 1338HRS (1:38 PM) Team 23 reported 2 VC wearing rucksacks and one carrying a weapon. Also on December 16th Team 23 was extracted as scheduled at 1434 HRS (2:34 PM). After the extraction artillery was called in on the coordinates of Team 23's sighting.

Team 12, was inserted into their landing zone on December 14, 1967 at 0645HRS (6:45 AM). On December 15th at 1700HRS (5:00 PM) Team 12 reported 8 VC moving 200 meters from their position. The rest of the mission was uneventful with no further enemy sightings. On December 16 at 1447HRS (2:47 PM) Team

12 was extracted.

Team 20 "Heavy", was a 12 man "Heavy" team that was inserted into their landing zone on December 14, 1967 at 1323HRS (1:23 PM). At 2045HRS (8:45 PM) on December 14 Team 20 reported 1 signal shot 100Meters from their position and requested an artillery concentration on the area where the shot was heard. On December 15th at 0040HRS (12:45 AM) Team 20 reported 5-20 VC moving in their vicinity. On December 15th at 0717HRS (7:17AM) Team 20 requested gunship support as they were in contact and receiving small arms fire. At 0806HRS (8:06 AM) the reaction force was landed and the gun ships started making their runs at 0811Hrs (8:11 am). At 0821HRS (8:21 AM) Team 20 reported they had 1 WIA (Wounded In Action) that was not serious. At 0853HRS (8:53 AM) the reaction force reported that they were in

contact and at 0943HRS (9:43 AM) the reaction force and Team 20 were reported to be linked up. On December 15th at 0956HRS (9:46 AM) Team 20 reported that they were in contact and had 1 KIA (Killed In Action) and 3 WIA (Wounded In Action). At 1011HRS (10:11 AM) all of Team 20 was extracted.

Team 21 was inserted into their landing zone on December 16th at 1716Hrs (5:16 PM). On December 17th at 1114HRS (11:14 AM) Team 21 reported movement in front of them. Then at 1150HRS (11:50 AM) Team 21 reported a VC base camp and at 1353HRS (1:53 PM) Team 21 reported hearing 3 shots. The remainder of December 17th was uneventful as was December 18th when Team 21 was extracted at 1739HRS (5:39 PM).

Team 16 was inserted into their LZ on December 16th at 1700HRS (5:00 PM). On December 17th at 1345HRS (1:54 PM) Team 16 reported being probed by an estimated squad of VC. At 1417HRS (2:17 PM) an aero-rifle team platoon was landed but negative contact was made by Team 16 or the aero-rifle platoon. On December 17th Team 16 and the aero-rifle platoon were extracted at 1712HRS (5:12 PM).

Team 11 was inserted into their LZ on December 18th at 0658HRS (6:58 AM). During their recon Team 11 reported no unusual activity or enemy sightings. On December 22nd Team 11 was extracted at 0806HRS (8:06 AM).

Team 24 "Heavy" was inserted into their LZ on December 18th



F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

at 0653HRS (6:53 AM). On December 19th at 1855HRS (6:55 PM) Team 24 reported spotting VC nearby. At 1952HRS (7:52 PM) Team 24 reported being probed by small arms fire. At 2013HRS (8:13 PM) Team 24 reported being probed by hand grenades at which time they blew their claymores and moved to the LZ and were extracted at 2028HRS (8:20 PM).

Team 36 "Heavy" was inserted into their LZ on December 18th at 1727HRS (5:27 PM). During their recon time Team 36 reported no unusual activity or enemy sightings. On December 20th at 0745HRS (7:45 AM) Team 36 was extracted.

Team 32 was inserted into their LZ on December 18th at 1736HRS (5:36 PM). During their stay in the area they were reconning they reported no unusual activity or enemy sightings. On December 21st at 1402HRS (2:02 PM) Team 32 was extracted.

Team 43 was inserted into their LZ on December 18th at 2020HRS (8:20 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. On December 19th at 0625HRS (6:25 AM) Team 43 was extracted with no enemy activity to report during the night.

Team 41 was inserted into their LZ on December 18th at 2013HRS (8:13 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. At 2218HRS (10:22 PM) Team 41 reported small arms fire about 400 meters from their position. On December 19th at 0635HRS (6:35 AM) Team 41 was extracted with no other enemy activity.

Team 31 "Heavy" Was inserted into their LZ on December 19th at 1930HRS (7:30 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. During their stay in their recon area they reported no enemy activity. On December 20th Team 31 was extracted at 0634Hrs (6:34 AM).

Team 34 was inserted into their LZ on December 19th at 1936HRS (7:36 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. While in their recon area Team 34 reported no enemy activity and was extracted on December 20th at 0638 (6:38 AM).

Team 13 was inserted into their LZ on December 20th at 1700HRS (5:00 PM). At 1945HRS (7:45 AM) Team 13 reported an unmanned bunker complex. At 2207HRS (10:07 PM) Team 13 reported movement all around them. At 2330HRS (11:30 AM) Team 13 reported movement that was about 25 Meters from their position and estimated that there were three VC. On December 22nd at 0850HRS (8:50 AM) Team 13 reported hearing a gunshot. At 1942HRS (7:42 PM) Team 13 requested an immediate extraction, at 1945HRS (7:45 PM) Team 13 blew their claymores and moved to their extraction LZ where they were extracted 1958 HRS (7:58 PM).

Team 37 was inserted into their LZ on December 20th at 1945HRS (7:45 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. After their one day mission Team 37 reported negative activity in their area and was extracted on December 21st at 1756HRS (5:56 PM).

Team 33 was inserted into their LZ on December 20th at 1945HRS (7:45 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. After their 1 day mission Team 33 reported negative activity in their area and was extracted on December 21st at 0556HRS (5:56

AM).

Team 10 "Heavy" (two six-man teams) was inserted into their LZ on December 21st at 1724HRS (5:24 PM) with the mission of reconnaissance. During Team 33's mission they reported negative activity and on December 24th at 0650HRS (6:50 AM) Team 33 was extracted.

Team 45 was inserted into their LZ on December 22nd at 1935HRS (7:35 PM). On December 23rd at 0838HRS (8:38 AM) Team 45 reported mortar fire and automatic weapons fire approximately 300 Meters from their location. On December 24th at 0736HRS (7:36 AM) Team 45 reported a rifle shot and at 0743HRS (7:43 AM) the team reported automatic weapons firing. On December 25th at 0628HRS (6:28 AM) Team 45 was extracted.

Team 44 was inserted into their LZ on December 22nd at 1828HRS (6:28 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. During the one day mission Team 44 reported negative enemy activity in their area and was extracted on December 23rd at 0630HRS (6:30 AM).

Team 46 was inserted into their LZ on December 22nd at 1819HRS (6:19 PM). On December 23rd at 1135HRS (11:35 AM) Team 46 reported that they were in contact. At 1217HRS (12:17 PM) a reaction force from F/51 LRP were landed and at 1450HRS (2:50 PM) the reaction force and Team 46 were extracted, as was 1 VC KIA.

Team 47 was inserted into their LZ on December 23rd at 1912HRS (7:12 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. On their one day mission Team 47 had negative activity in their area and on December 24th Team 47 was extracted at 0629HRS (6:29 AM).

Team 32 was inserted into their LZ on December 24th at 1903HRS (7:03 PM) with the mission of mortar watch. At 2032HRS (8:32 PM) Team 32 reported talking on the trail and gunshots in the immediate area. At 2036HRS (8:32 PM) Team 32 reported vehicles with their motors running. At 2110HRS (9:00 PM) Team 32 reported a mortar round being fired and one rifle shot fired. At 2124HRS Team 32 reported five more mortar rounds being fired. On December 25th at 0630HRS Team 32 was extracted.

Team 33 was inserted into their LZ on December 24th at 1847HRS (6:47 PM) with the mission of



1/Lt John H. Latta, Jr.



F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

mortar watch. At 2032HRS (8:32 PM), Team 33 reported hearing mortar fire. The rest of the night was uneventful and on December 25th at 0630HRS (6:30 AM) Team 33 was extracted.

Team 36 “Heavy” was a twelve-man team that was inserted into their LZ on December 25th at 1744HRS (5:44 PM). During Team 36’s two-day mission they reported negative enemy activity in their area. On December 27th at 1806HRS (6:06 PM) Team 36 was extracted.

Team 24 “Heavy” was a twelve-man team that was inserted into their LZ on December 25th at 1605HRS (4:05 PM). On December 26th at 1235HRS (12:35 PM) Team 24 reported one VC moving through their area. Also on December 26th Team 24 had two members that got sick and at 1755HRS (5:55 PM) the two members were extracted. At 1845HRS (6:45 PM) Team 24 reported a 50’ rope ladder hanging from a tree and movement to the South of their position. At 2331HRS (11:23 PM) Team 24 reported being probed by grenades. At 2345HRS (11:45 PM) Team 24 requested a fire mission that was fired as Team 24 requested. On December 27th at 0220HRS (2:20 AM) Team 24 reported being probed again and that the VC were very close. At 0234HRS (2:34 AM) Team 24 blew their claymores and moved to the LZ. At 0245HRS (2:45 AM) Team 24 reported that they had two WIA (Wounded In Action). On December 27th at 0341HRS (3:41 AM) the complete extraction of Team 24 was completed.

Team 42 was inserted into their LZ on December 25th at 1910HRS (5:10 PM). On December 26th at 0015HRS (12:15 AM) Team 42 reported movement of seven individuals in their area. At 0415HRS (4:15 AM) Team 42 reported movement about 15 Meters from Team 42’s location and that they fired upon the location and did not receive return fire. On December 26th at 0650HRS (6:50 AM) Team 42 was extracted without any other sightings or contacts.

Team 14 was inserted into their LZ on December 26th at 1930HRS (7:30 PM). On December 27th at 0130HRS (1:30 AM) Team 14 reported a large number of VC that they estimated to be about a squad or platoon in size moving north of their position. AT 0730HRS (7:30 AM) Team 14 reported that they were in contact and that they were receiving automatic weapons fire and rocket propelled grenades (RPG’s). At 0755HRS (7:55 AM) Team 14 reported that six members were wounded. At 0805 HRS (8:05 AM) Team 14 was extracted and a reaction force inserted and found two VC KIA by body count.

Some of the lessons learned from Operation Kickoff II include:
1) The need for F/51 LRP to be informed of any operational changes which would effect F/51 LRP operations- this comes after it was discovered that an expected Aero-rifle platoon was not available when it was needed. 2) Areas of operation need to be monitored continuously for firefly activity, friendly artillery and friendly units that may be in the areas. On December 21st and 22nd teams had firefly’s and artillery being fired into team areas of operation. 3) Request for an LFT will come from and be coordinated by operations personnel at TOC Tactical Operation Center) and not from relay personnel so that the request get prompt attention. 4) During emergency situations or extractions, Control must be notified when gun ships are down to 30 minutes

of fuel. This will allow time to get replacement gun ships scrambled and arrive before the gunship that is low on fuel has to leave. 5) Patrols going out need to be checked for adequate medical supplies and equipment and upon return that all unused equipment is checked back in. 6) When a team gets in contact, all other teams are to stop and set up defenses and wait till the team in contact is extracted before moving again. 7) Company alert procedures should be made known to all personnel. 8) Teams should move only while O-1 Birdog is available. The request was for 24 hour coverage but only 6 hours was approved.

It is worthy of note that the KIA referred to above was 1Lt. John Lattin. He was our second KIA and the camp was Co-named for him.

The only other thing I have is a heads up to those that were in F/51 LRP, either old hands or new guys that came in towards the end of the Company. We are having a reunion in Nashville in 2005 and would like to invite all of you to attend. The contact person is Dave Barfield, his e-mail address is rangerdave0007@aol.com for more details. We also have a new web site for F/51 located at elitebastards.com It is a new site and is looking good so far.

Take care.

Photo is from the Tampa meeting.

Russ Dillon F/51 LRP U.D.



Photo from the Tampa Reunion.



75th Reunion in Tacoma F 51 LRPs, L to R. Tom Grzybowski, Russ Dillon, Bailey Stauffer, Mark Eastman and “Mr. Patrolling” John Chester, (not a F/51 LRP). Graphics credit M. Eastman.



LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

Wow! What a summer this has been. It began with the reunion of the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment in Branson, Missouri on May 14-16. This was the 3rd ID Lurps third reunion since 1997. For those of you who have never been there, Branson is a great town for holding a reunion. The Surrey Inn was gracious and accommodated our every need, including letting us use the owners lounge as our HQ and hospitality room and giving us recognition on the hotel's marquee. A total of twenty people attended the reunion, including eleven old Lurps, six wives, two daughters and one granddaughter. The guys were disappointed that our old unit commander, COL (ret.) Ed Jentz could not make it, but he was still recovering from serious back problems (too many bad PLFs from his days with the 10th SFG or was that BLFs? [barstool landing falls]). To make him feel better, we all signed the banner used to decorate the hospitality room and sent it to him.

We had two new faces at this reunion. Loren "Buck" Sayers brought his wife and daughter up from Kansas to join us. Buck is a really old Lurp, having served with a Battle Group-level LRRP unit in 1960. This was one of the predecessor units to the V Corps Long Range Patrol. Buck's son, Kurt is a staff sergeant serving with the 75th Ranger Regiment. Kurt was wounded in Iraq and was subsequently sponsored for life membership in the Association by A/75 (V Corps LRRP). Thanks Terry and all.

John DeCosta was another new face at the reunion. John came up from Indianapolis, IN with a pot of goulash soup from his new restaurant. He said the recipe was from Theo Knaak, who said it had been in his family for generations. Needless to say, that pot of soup was gone quicker than a pit stop at the Bahnhof snack bar five-minutes before curfew in Bad Kissingen. John reminded me that I had recruited him for the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment in 1963 just before I rotated home. I must have been a pretty good judge of character, because John went on to the VII Corps LRRPs after our unit was disbanded in August 1964. John, it was good to see you again after all these years.

A special thanks needs to go out to Ron Scott, his wife Pat, John Quinn, and his wife Donna, for pulling all of this



L-R) McGeek, Buck Sayers, Dan Ochoa, Kent McMichael, Ron Scott, Marvin DeWall, Frank Wagner, John Davis, Jack Quinn, Mel Stelling.

together. We all had a great time, and are looking forward to our next reunion.



My wife and I were in Paris at the end of July to see Lance Armstrong win his sixth straight Tour de France. Say what you like about the French Government, but the French people like Americans. The 60th Anniversary of the liberation of Paris was in August and there were lots of signs and pictures posted around the city announcing this fact. The Palace of Justice had large posters on it of scenes from the liberation, including many with American GIs. The only ugly incident I observed was



(Back L-R) McGeek, Marv Dewall, Jack Quinn, John Davis, Kent McMichael, Buck Sayers.

Front L-R) Mel Stelling, Ron Scott, Gavin Speirs, Dan Ochoa, Frank Wagner

LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID (CONTINUED)

on the day that the Tour de France entered Paris. I observed a short, fat, gray-haired, pony-tailed, middle-aged hippy-type running down the street with a large American flag flown upside down. Before I could cross the street to get to him (my wife was hanging on to my camera strap trying to slow me down) several Frenchmen cornered him and engaged him in a lively discussion. I couldn't hear what was being said, but by the body language I observed, I gathered that they did not appreciate his open display of contempt for America. This obscenity was, however, offset by a different kind of display a few blocks later on. While waiting for the riders to come by I was watching the crowd and observed a small boy, about 8-10 years old. He was dressed in the US Postal Team's colors and was proudly waving a small American flag. As far as I was concerned, the kid had it right and the hippy was just another loser.

Lastly, in August my wife, son and I had the honor and the privilege to visit the Commando Memorial and Museum in Spean Bridge, Scotland. The memorial commemorates the elite force known as the "Commandos" who trained in the area around the monument from 1942-45. US Army Rangers also trained with the Commandos at their Achnacarry training center, including Darby's Rangers. Like the LRRPs, if someone did not measure up, or could not hack the training, they were "returned to unit." The Commando Museum, located in the Spean Bridge Hotel, has some Army Ranger memorabilia, including the dates and numbers of Rangers who trained with the Commandos, and some original Sykes-Fairburn fighting knives. The British Army Commandos, the original Green Berets, existed only from 1942-1946. The tradition of the Green Beret lives on today with the US Army Special Forces and the Royal Marine Commandos. We wanted to stop in at the Hotel's Commando Bar to tip a few in honor of our predecessors, but it was being remodeled. Maybe some of you can cover this for me in the future.



Rear L-R) Buck Sayers wife, Sally Speirs, Hannelore Davis, Donna Quinn.

Front L-R) Pat Scott, Kent McMichael's daughter and granddaughter, Buck's daughter, Shirley DeWall.



The Commando Memorial at Spean Bridge, Scotland



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) Unit Director - Mike Martin



Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

The drowsy heat of August lays heavy as an old "OD blanket" over the middle Tennessee countryside as I begin this article; an early morning with slanting yellow sunlight....

At times like this, impressions and memories are like sampans that drift with the current: each remembered event

dislodging in turn another incident, another sound, another image from the deep lagan of my memory; some transcend, some lay buried in a secluded cache of my mind.

Years ago—late '50's—I sat alone at an out-of-the-way cafe in Berlin, sipping cognac on a bleak, dismal morning, holding imagined conversations with long lost acquaintances as the rain pummeled

the cobblestone street outside an open doorway; the plaintive lyrics from the movie China Gate, sung by the legendary crooner Nat "King" Cole, evolved from an old corner juke box. The barkeep would cast a timid glance each time that I would stomp my foot to ensure the blouse hung—just right—over my spit shined Corcorans (Jump Boots). Since I was the only customer at this time of the day, he was definitely uneasy with a sole patron

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

(young paratrooper) who was monopolizing his business with a one-way dialogue.

There is a kind of melancholy bridge between today and that distant morning: memories I recall, but find it difficult to express; memories that entwine with my sojourn through 30 years of military service. But the intervening years have failed to distort the images of the great soldiers I served with, and the camaraderie of Airborne and Ranger warriors: these images are like bold calligraphy strokes done on snow-white rice paper with a fox hair brush; they are as unblurred and pronounced as crimson blood drops on a jungle trail....

One such anecdotal recollection became tangible recently after receiving an article from Ranger Mike McNamara. McNamara was the Senior Ranger Advisor to the 32nd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion, that I was assigned to when I arrived in Vietnam in 1965. His accomplishments in the military are indicative of the type of professionalism he displayed as a combat leader...his comments are as follows.

COLONEL MIKE McNAMARA

Ranger Mike, I recently came across this photo (enclosed) taken sometime in late 1965 in IV Corps, somewhere in the Plain of Reeds, when I was the senior advisor to the 32d Ranger Battalion at Tan Hiep, near My Tho. The battalion commander, Colonel Xuan, is holding a VC sign that reads something like "Down with the strategies of McNamara." We first picked this up, after overrunning a VC base, and like an idiot, I thought the sign referred to me. I was quickly set to rights by the Colonel on the left, Sid Berry, then the senior advisor to the 7th ARVN Division, who had come to Vietnam from Secretary Robert McNamara's office in the Pentagon. (No relation to me.) In fact, Col. Berry was carrying on a correspondence with the Secretary about his experiences in country. (As his MA he'd previously accompanied McNamara to Vietnam four times.) Berry asked if he could have the sign, and with great glee sent it back to McNamara, who had it framed, and mounted it overlooking his desk in the Pentagon.

Berry won two Silver Stars in Korea as a

company commander in the first year of that war and would win a least two more for his actions as an Infantry commander in Vietnam. After his tour as an Advisor, despite being severely wounded, he remained in country to command a brigade in the 1st ID, under General DuPuy. Promoted to BG below the zone, and first from his USMA Class ('48), he was Assistant Commandant at the Infantry School from '68-70. I went there in '68 for a refresher course before heading back to Vietnam, and got called to his office. General Berry had two surprises for me: Lunch with him, and



Colonel Xuan, who unbeknownst to me was also a student at the Infantry School. I returned to the same area in the Delta that I'd covered with the Rangers, to the 9th Infantry Division, but lost touch with the Dai-Uy. General Berry returned to Vietnam to be the ADC Ops in the 101st Airborne, subsequently commanded the 101st at Fort Campbell, and was later Superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point from which he retired as a Lieutenant General...He was certainly the best all around General Officer I ever knew; a great soldier, and a hard, fine man.

Note: After Nam, Ranger McNamara taught at the U. of Hawaii, then went back to the Delta as the XO of the 4/47 Riverine Infantry and SGS 9th ID. After Leavenworth, he flew with the USAF in the USCINCEUR command post out of the UK; then back to the 18th Corps, but no battalion, so he took over the 1/50 at Fort Hood for Brigade 75 under five separate Brigade Commanders and Major Generals Fair and George Patton. Instead of the National War College, he went to

the British Royal College in London, then to a NATO assignment in the Netherlands and the NATO College in Rome. McNamara came back to the states and worked in OSD POLICY in DC and then overwatching the MPRI contra-t in the Bosnian Army and then the Afghan Army resuscitation. He is now doing writing, mostly non-military stuff—Just your average Ranger Advisor. Ha-Ha; the BDQs are proud of you Mike, and I'm proud to have served with you for a short period....

DAI HOI KY NIEM 44 NAM THANH LAP BINH CHUNG BIET DONG QUAN

A historical 44th anniversary celebration was observed in Dallas, Seattle and Westminster, California during the month of July in honor of the founding of the Vietnamese Rangers—Biet Dong Quan: Ranger units were established by President Diem in 1960 as antiguerrilla or counterinsurgency units; US Army Ranger Advisors were assigned to South Vietnam the same year. Large numbers of hardcore Ranger veterans were in attendance at these "get togethers". A unique and unified group...all had seen combat for several years; some had fought at Dien Bien Phu!

RANGER HALL OF FAME

We are proud to introduce the BDQ inductees for the 2004 Ranger Hall of Fame. These extraordinary Rangers are: **STAFF SERGEANT HAROLD G.**



Photo taken at Dong Ha/Quang Tri battle, 1972, L to R MAJ Tho (S3), LTC Hong, 5th Ranger Group Cmdr, LTC Han, G3 Ranger High Command, LTC Hoa 5th Ranger Group XO, MAJ Ngoc G3 Ranger High Command.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

BENNETT-33rd BN. ("first" American soldier to be executed by the Viet Cong)
COMMAND SERGEANTS MAJOR GEORGE HORVATH—1st Ranger Group

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER M. SANDERS—43rd BN.

Their profound character stands as an example to all Rangers.... Since the Hall of Fame was founded, 26 US Army Ranger Advisors have been inducted; a commendable feat for our elite warriors—our berets are "off" to these inductees!

BDQ SPRING 2005 REUNION

It's time to go "On Guard" and prepare to attend this major event. As stated in the last issue of Patrolling, all information for the reunion will be in the winter issue of Patrolling and on the web site at the same time....

VIETNAM TIDBITS

In the final days of the war in South Vietnam, the city of Saigon was defended by at least three Ranger Groups; the last and the largest fighting force of the Republic. Their Commander, Major General Do Ke Giai was still in command...the Rangers fought gallantly, side-by-side and held their positions with resolute courage until they received the order to lay down their arms—it was around noon on 30 April 1975.

NEVER SURRENDER

In 1284, when the Mongols advanced to Hanoi, the capital, King Tran Nhan Ton and his entourage had to flee to Thanh Hoa, a city to the south. Fearing the inevitable destruction and suffering to his country and people, the King asked General Tran Hung Dao whether he should consider surrendering to the enemy or not. General Tran responded, "If Your Majesty chooses to surrender, please decapitate me first!"

From; Speak Vietnamese by Thomas XT Nguyen

CONTEMPLATIONS

Show me the leader and I will know his men. will know the leader.

Show me the men and I
 ... Aurthur W. Newcomb

These painters with their colors and their brushes prate about the works of art they produce, but what are they in comparison with a work of art that is produced when your paints are living men and your

brushes wit and cunning?
 ...speech by Machiavelli

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

Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director



Ranger Advisors at the dedication of the second Vietnamese Ranger and American Ranger Advisor Memorial 15 August, 1996; Headquarters, Ranger Training Brigade, Ft Benning, GA. L to R Co Vans Willard Langdon, Walter A. Gunn & LTG Jack Woodall.



General Tran Van Hai, former Ranger High Command Commander and Division Commander, ARVN 7th Inf Div. A soldier of distinguished courage; he committed suicide at about 1500 hours on 30 April, 1975, in lieu of being dishonored by the Communists. General Hai had refused an offer to be evacuated by President Thieu. His last comments were to his aide-de-camp, LT Huynh Van Hoa: "I thank you for standing by me at this last hour. It is the destiny of our nation, nothing more can be done—as a soldier we must obey the order from our superior....absolutely!"



The "First" American and Australian Advisory Team at the Duc My Ranger Training Center, 1960. L to R Maj. Harper (SA), CPT Wade (Aussie), Maj Clark (Aussie), CPT Coleman, LT Imes, & CPT McKenzie.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By: Bob Smyers

THE KEY

THROUGH OUT THE AGES MAN HAS ALWAYS HAD THE IDEA HE COULD BRING PEACE TO THE WORLD THROUGH THE WISDOM CREATED THROUGH FLESHY THINKING. WE SEEM TO ALWAYS HAVE MANY IDEAS AND POLITICAL SOLUTIONS WHEN IN FACT WE HAVE NEVER REALLY COME UP WITH THE RIGHT FORMULA. CONFLICT BEGAN LONG AGO IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN, THE PLACE WHERE GOD STARTED HIS EARTHLY FAMILY. THEY WERE TO LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY WITH ALL CREATIONS. EVERYTHING ONE COULD WANT HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR THEM, BUT IN COMES THE LIAR THAT DECEIVED ADAM AND EVE CAUSING THEM TO VIOLATE THE WILL OF GOD, BY CAUSING THEM TO BREAK THE TRUST GOD HAD BETWEEN HE AND THEM. THEY WERE TOLD WHEN THEY DID A CERTAIN THING THEY WOULD DIE, BUT THE LIAR TOLD THEM AND THEY BOUGHT IT, THAT THEY WOULD NOT SURELY DIE. WHEN GOD APPROACHED THEM AS TO WHAT THEY HAD DONE, THEY SAID THE SERPENT ENTICED THEM AND THEY HAD BELIEVED HIM. THEY HAD COMMITTED THE FIRST SIN THAT WOULD BRING BROTHER AGAINST BROTHER. THIS CAME ABOUT BY CAIN KILLING ABLE. BY THIS TIME GOD HAD THROWN ADAM AND EVE OUT OF THE GARDEN OF LIFE AND LUXURY TO TOIL WITH THE GROUND FOR A LIVING. THE GARDEN WAS SHUT OFF TO THEM FOREVER. THE QUESTION COMING TO MANY READING THIS IS, I THOUGHT GOD SAID THEY WOULD DIE, BUT HERE THEY ARE TRYING TO SCRATCH OUT A LIVING. THE LIFE IN THE FLESH STARTED IMMEDIATELY AGING. REMEMBER THEY WERE CREATED TO LIVE FOREVER, BUT THEY FORFEITED IT. NOW AS SOON AS YOU EXIT YOUR MOTHER'S WOMB YOU BEGIN TO DIE A PHYSICAL DEATH. HOWEVER GOD WAS NOT REFERRING TO THE BODILY DEATH, NO HE SPOKE OF THE SPIRITUAL DEATH, BEING TOTALLY SEPARATED FROM GOD ALMIGHTY FOREVER. FROM THE DAY CAIN AND ABLE HAD THEIR FIGHT, WHICH RESULTED IN ABLE BEING KILLED, TO THIS VERY SECOND, WAR HAS BEEN A MAINSTAY IN HUMAN HISTORY. MAN WILL ALWAYS CHASE AFTER FREEDOM, BUT IT IS LIKE TRYING TO CATCH THE WIND IN YOUR HAND, IT WILL FOREVER BE ELUSIVE. SO, WHAT IS THE KEY?

LISTEN TO WHAT GOD SAYS; WE ARE TO LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART, SOUL, MIND AND STRENGTH, AND SECONDLY TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR AS OUR SELF.

THE KEY IS THE WORD LOVE! LISTEN TO HOW GOD DESCRIBES LOVE; GOD SAYS ONE MAY HAVE THE GIFT OF PROPHECY, AND UNDERSTAND ALL MYSTERIES, AND ALL THE KNOWLEDGE, AND ENOUGH FAITH TO MOVE MOUNTAINS, YET WITHOUT LOVE, YOU ARE NOTHING. MANY MAY GIVE MONEY TO HELP FEED THE POOR OR GO OUT OF THEIR WAY FOR ANOTHER, BUT, UNLESS THEY ARE DOING IT IN LOVE, WHAT DO THEY PROFIT.

“LOVE” SUFFERS LONG AND IS KIND, “LOVE” ENVIES NOT, “LOVE” DOES NOT BOOST OR BRAG OF SELF, “LOVE” IS NOT PUFFED UP, “LOVE” DOES NOT BEHAVE IMPROPERLY, LOVE DOES NOT SEEK HER RIGHTS, “LOVE” IS NOT EASILY PROVOKED, “LOVE” THINKS OR DOES NO EVIL, “LOVE” DOES NOT REJOICE IN INEQUITY, BUT REJOICES IN TRUTH, “LOVE” BEARS ALL THINGS, BELIEVES ALL THINGS, HOPES FOR ALL THINGS, AND ENDURES ALL THINGS. “LOVE NEVER FAILS IF ONLY HUMANITY COULD LOVE THEIR NEIGHBOR AS THEMSELVES“!

THINK UPON THE WORD LOVE AND DECIDE FOR YOURSELF, IS LOVE THE KEY FOR ENDING ALL WARS AND ATROCITIES AGAINST ALL HUMAN BEINGS. GOD SAYS YES.

THANKS FOR ALLOWING ME TO SHARE.

BOB SMYERS, CHAPLAIN FOR THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION AND FORMER TMLD/PLTSGT 2ND BRIGADE LRRP/LRP, 4TH I.D.

REFERENCES USED: 1 CORINTHAINS 13: 3-8, GALATIANS 5:14 WITH PARAPHRASING.

MERRILL'S MARAUDERS



It was a great pleasure and honor to receive the invitation from Ron Edwards to submit a column for your publication. The Marauders have always had a special affinity for the Viet Nam Rangers who wore our insignia & in our estimation conducted themselves so well, with little on no recognition, under very adverse conditions. You carried on the traditions set down by those Rangers who come before you and we are really proud of you.

Two Marauders were recently honored at the Rendezvous by being inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. Unfortunately I was hospitalized that week in a VA Hospital and had to miss the ceremonies for the first time.

Technical Sergeant John "Red" Acker was one of the recipients. He did an admirable job when my Battalion, the 2nd Bn, was trapped on a hill at Nhpum Ga for two weeks, receiving direct artillery fire from a Japanese unit on the hill opposite, causing tremendous casualties, as the Marauders had no artillery to return the fire. The battalion was finally able to break through on Easter

Sunday morning, after two 75mm Pack Howitzers were dropped by parachute. Sgt. Acker got a crew of mule skinnners together to man the guns and very effectively was able to return fire and even the score. He also acted as observer in a piper cub, and was seriously wounded when it crashed.

Technical Sergeant Grant J. Hirabayashi was also inducted into the Hall of Fame after a very distinguished career as a military intelligence specialist with the Marauders. Even though he and his family were forcibly relocated from their home in Kent, Washington, he was patriotic enough to volunteer to go with the Marauders during their hazardous seven months behind the enemy lines in Burma. He also was joined by thirteen other Japanese of American Descent, and he and the others acquitted themselves heroically, under very adverse conditions, during this period, and were largely instrumental for the success of our campaign. After the war Sgt. Hirabayashi had a very distinguished career in Government Service, including the State Department & Library of Congress. He also served as Translator and Court Monitor at the War Crimes trials & while interrogating a Japanese officer Prisoner of War, he found out that the Japanese had developed an Atomic Bomb

By Phil Piazza – President, Merrill's Marauders Association

UNITY



STRENGTH



PURPOSE



BATTALIONS

ASSOCIATION

NEWS

The 1st Ranger Battalion

Activated 19 June 1942 Inactivated 15 August 1944

Rangers found their introduction into the pages of American History with America's entry into World War II. Major General Lucian K. Truscott, U.S. Army, in liaison with the British General Staff, submitted proposals to General George Marshal that "we undertake immediately an American unit along the lines of the British Commandos" in 1942. A cable from the War Department quickly followed to Truscott authorizing the activation of the 1st U.S. Army Ranger Battalion.

After much deliberation, Captain William Orlando Darby, a graduate of West Point with amphibious training, was chosen as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Ranger Battalion. Promoted to major within a few weeks of receiving this assignment, Darby performed the impossible by organizing the unit. Of the 1500 men to volunteer for the original Ranger Battalion, only 600 were chosen and on June 19, 1942, the 1st Ranger Battalion was officially activated.

A select team of four officers toured the existing Commando Training Camps and selected the Center at Achnacarry, Scotland for the Rangers. Here they underwent intensely rugged training. Coached, prodded, and challenged by the battle-seasoned Commando instructors (commanded by Colonel Charles Vaughan), the Rangers learned the rudiments of Commando warfare. Five hundred of the 600 volunteers that Darby brought with him to Achnacarry survived the Commando training, many could not endure the

The 1st Ranger Battalion (CONTINUED)

exercises, one Ranger was killed, while several others were wounded in training so realistic, it was actually executed under live fire.

The first Americans to see active combat in the European conflict of WWII were forty-four enlisted men and five officers from the 1st Ranger Battalion. Dispersed among the Canadians and the British Commandos, these men were the first American ground soldiers to see action against the Germans in the famed Dieppe Raid. Three Rangers were killed, several captured, and all won the commendation and esteem of the Commandos in this raid. The first American soldier killed in Europe in WW II was part of the Dieppe Raid, and a Ranger, Lieutenant E.V. Loustalot. During this raid, he took command after the British Captain leading the assault was killed. Loustalot scaled a steep cliff with his men, was wounded three times, but was eventually cut down by enemy crossfire in his attempts to reach the machine-gun nest at the top of the cliff.

The first efforts to stop the German infiltration of Europe was by the 1st Ranger Battalion. In efforts to prevent German occupation of seaports in North Africa, the 1st Ranger Battalion spearheaded an invasion at the Port of Arzew in Algeria. This was accomplished by executing a surprise night landing, silencing two gun batteries, and opening the way for the capture of Oran. In Tunisia in 1943, the 1st Battalion executed the first Ranger behind-the-lines night raid at Sened Station for the purpose of gaining information and terrorizing the enemy. Later, in March, American units were shot to pieces, time after time, trying to break through the critical mountain pass at Djbel Ank. Given this mission, the 1st Rangers undertook a twelve-mile night march through rugged terrain to reach the heights of Djbel Ank where, at dawn, the Rangers surprised the enemy from the rear, capturing two hundred prisoners and giving General Patton an opening though which he began the final and victorious battle in North Africa. Rangers played a crucial role in the battle of El Guettar which immediately followed, for which the First Ranger Battalion won its first *Presidential Unit Citation*.

The early successes of the 1st Ranger Battalion precipitated the creation of the 3rd and 4th Battalions. The original 1st Battalion was divided into thirds. One third of the Headquarters and each company was placed in each of the Battalions 1-3-4. The battle seasoned 1st Battalion moved into their newly assigned positions and trained their Ranger brothers. The 1-3-4 Battalions were trained under Darby in Nemours, North Africa and prepared for the invasion of Sicily and Italy.

Had it not been for the accomplishments of the 1st Ranger Battalion in the early entry of WWII, there would be no Rangers today. Their successful invasions in North Africa opened the sea and its ports for the Allied forces. The Allies were now able to move ships and equipment into the campaigns and raids that followed, enabling the later forces to successfully achieve the infiltration along the coast of Africa, into Sicily, and up into Italy.

Following the invasion of the Anzio beachhead, the 1st, and 3rd Rangers were destroyed behind enemy lines in a heavily outnumbered encounter at Cisterna, Italy. The 4th Ranger Battalion suffered massive casualties while attempting to break through enemy lines to rescue their Brothers in the 1st and 3rd Battalions. See the story below, an account of Christmas at Oflag 64 by one of the officers captured at Cisterna. The 1st, 3rd, and 4th Battalions were known as Darby's Rangers.

The 2nd and 5th Ranger Battalions proudly carried on the Ranger reputation as they entered the war on D-day on the beaches of Normandy. The 6th Battalion carried on in the Pacific Theater as they fought in the jungles of the Philippines. These stories are documented more comprehensively by the Rangers who were there on the 2-3-4-5-6 Battalion pages.

-Contributed by S&D

Christmas at Oflag 64

Let me tell you a story. There were two times in my 15 months at Oflag 64 Prison Camp, that I cried. One of them was the 4th of July. We were standing in an *appel* formation and the orchestra came out. We wondered what in the world was going on. After they were through counting us, we all still stood there. From somewhere, somebody produced an American Flag. There was a strong enough breeze to make it stand out and it seemed to be flapping at us- cocky like. As it waved in the breeze, the orchestra played the *Star Spangled Banner*. And I stood there looking at it. Although we heard afterwards, the Germans had tried to confiscate the flag, remarkably, they didn't interfere. That surprised us! At that moment, I was so proud! Tears came to my eyes.

The other time was at Christmas. We had a play that night, one of our small theater productions I had been a part of it, I remember in the chorus. Later, we started to sing Christmas Carols with the orchestra and the piano. The Germans enjoyed that, too. I remember while we were singing *Silent Night*, the guards were singing along with us in German. So, we sang a lot of Carols. Then afterwards, we went back to our barracks. It was deadly serious again. The spotlights were on us, rotating around. The lights were shining on our Christmas tree. Earlier we had all helped a couple of guys who were pretty adept. make a Christmas tree out of the Red Cross parcel boxes. It stood about two feet high. They had fit some branches in and had used the opener ribbons from the Wooly Beef Cans for decorations. The Wooly Beef and the Spam cans had metal ribbons about a quarter inch thick. The cans were opened by rolling up these metal ribbon keys. They were our icicles for the Christmas tree. We even had made little Santa Claus out of cardboard and hung them on the branches.

We put the Christmas tree in the window. And of course, it was cold. But when I went to bed that Christmas night, after it was all over, I laid there in the dark in my bunk. Every now and then the spotlight would come by and the light would flash on our little Christmas tree. Because of the change in temperature and the wind outside, it would move the ornaments and make them twinkle and shine. I got to feeling kind of blue- kind of lonesome. I thought of home and what they were doing for Christmas. That night I cried myself to sleep.

-Contributed by Warren (Bing) Evans

From the Ranger Battalions Association website at www.rangerfamily.org with permission of Tom Herring, Secretary of the Ranger Battalions Association

RANGER INFANTRY COMPANIES AIRBORNE (RICA – KOREA)

by Bob Black



Start planning early – RICA Ranger Roundup for 2005

RICA is hosting an All Ranger Roundup in St. Louis, MO, on 20, 21, & 22 Oct **2005** at the Marriott West Hotel. This is one of the very best hotels. It is oriented to serving the corporate world but is interested in servicing military reunions and especially the Army Rangers. For Reservations call Ms. Rhonda Foti at (314) 878-2747 and mention **Ranger Roundup**

Rooms normally cost over \$100.00 in this hotel, and ones like it. RICA has negotiated a deal wherein we Rangers will pay only \$59.00 + tax per night for the three nights listed above. Actually, the rooms cost more but RICA is paying the additional amount for the 3 nights of 20, 21, & 22 Oct 05. For the three days prior and the three days after the Roundup, we Rangers may secure a room for \$70.00 + tax per night. So, if you desire to come, up to 3 days early, or stay 3 days after you still will get a great deal for those nights.

This event could very well serve as the annual business meeting for any association. RICA is planning a schedule with a banquet, military honors, etc. that will allow plenty of time to have unit meetings (extra meeting rooms are available), go sightseeing, and offers ample free time to do whatever. There will be at least two topics in which all will be invited to discuss during an All-Ranger meeting: The Ranger Monument in the Arlington National Cemetery and the All Ranger Roundup in Fairbanks Alaska in June of 2006.

Rangers in Korea

The outbreak of hostilities in Korea in June of 1950 again signaled the need for Rangers. Colonel John Gibson Van Houten was selected by the Army Chief of Staff to head the Ranger training program at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

On September 15, 1950, Colonel Van Houten reported to the Chief of Staff, Office of the Chief of Army Field Forces, Fort Monroe, Virginia. He was informed that training of Ranger-type units was to begin at Ft. Benning at the earliest possible date. The target date was October 1, 1950 with a tentative training period of 6 weeks.

The implementing orders called for formation of a headquarters detachment and four Ranger infantry companies (airborne). Requests went out for volunteers who were willing to accept “extremely Hazardous” duty in the combat zone in the Far East.

In the 82nd Airborne Division, the results of the call for volunteers was astounding. Some estimates were as high as 5,000 men (experienced Regular Army Paratroopers). The ruthless sorting out process began. Where possible, selection of the men was accomplished by the officers who would command the companies, similar to colonial days when Robert Rogers was recruiting.

Orders were issued and those selected shipped to Ft. Benning. The First group arrived on September 20. Training began on Monday, October 9, 1950, with three companies of airborne qualified personnel. On October 9, 1950 another company began training. These were former members of the 505th Airborne Infantry Regiment and the 80th Anti-aircraft Artillery Battalion of the 82nd Airborne Division. Initially designated the 4th Ranger Company, they would soon be redesignated the 2nd Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne), the only Department of the Army authorized, all-black Ranger Unit in the history of the United States.

All volunteers were professional soldiers with many skills who often taught each other. Some of the men had fought with the original Ranger Battalions, The First Special Service Force, or the Office of Strategic Services during World War II. Many of the instructors were drawn from this same group. The faces of this select group may have appeared youthful, but these were men highly trained and experienced in Ranger operations during World War II.

The training was extremely rigorous. Training consisted of amphibious and airborne (including low-level night jumps) operations, demolitions, sabotage, close combat, and the use of foreign maps. All American small arms, as well as those used by the enemy, were mastered. Communications, as well as the control of artillery, naval, and aerial fires, were stressed. Much of the training was at night.

The 1st Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne) departed from Ft. Benning, Georgia on November 15, 1950, and arrived in Korea on December 17, 1950, where it was attached to the 2nd Infantry Division. It was soon followed by the 2nd and 4th Ranger Companies, who arrived on December 29. The 2nd Ranger Company was attached to the 7th Infantry Division. The 4th

RANGER INFANTRY COMPANIES AIRBORNE (RICA – KOREA) (CONTINUED)

Ranger company served both Headquarters, Eighth US Army, and the 1st Cavalry Division.

Throughout the Winter of 1950 and the Spring of 1951, the Rangers went into battle. They were nomadic warriors, attached first to one regiment and then another. They performed “out-front” work: scouting, patrolling, raids, ambushes, spearheading assaults, and as counterattack forces to regain lost positions.

Attached on the basis of one 112 man company per 18,000 man infantry division, the Rangers compiled an incredible record. Nowhere in American military history is the volunteer spirit better expressed. They were volunteers for the Army, for airborne training, for the Rangers and for combat.

The Rangers went into battle by air, land and water. The 1st Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne) opened with an extraordinary example of land navigation, then executed a daring night raid 9 miles behind enemy lines destroying an enemy complex. The enemy installation was later identified by a prisoner as the Headquarters of the 12th North Korean Division. Caught by surprise and unaware of the size of the American force, two North Korean Regiments hastily withdrew from the area. The 1st Company as in the middle of the major battle of

Chipyeong-Ni and the “May Massacre.” It was awarded two Distinguished Unit Citations. The 2nd and 4th Ranger Companies made a combat jump at Munsan-Ni where Life magazine reported patrols operating North of the 38th parallel. The 2nd Ranger Company plugged a critical gap left by a retreating allied force. The 4th Ranger Company executed a daring over-water raid at the Hwachon Dam. The 3rd Ranger Company (attached to the 3rd Infantry Division) had the motto “Die Bastard, Die!” The 5th Ranger Company, fighting as an attachment to the 25th Infantry Division, performed brilliantly during the Chinese “5th Phase Offensive.” Gathering up every soldier he could find, the Ranger company commander held the line with Ranger Sergeants commanding line infantry units. In the Eastern sector, the Rangers were the first unit to cross the 38th parallel on the second drive North.

The 8th Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne) was attached to the 24th Infantry Division. They were known as the “Devils.” A 33 man platoon from the 8th Ranger Company fought a between-the-lines battle with two Chinese reconnaissance companies. Seventy Chinese were killed. The Rangers suffered two dead and three wounded, all of whom were brought back to friendly lines.

From the Ranger Infantry Companies Airborne (RICA) website

Membership Information

A MEMBERSHIP YEAR in the association runs from 1 July this year to 30 June next year and the mailing label on your “Patrolling” will always reflect your dues status. For example if above your name on the label it says “0628 **2004**” it means your membership number is 0628 and your dues were paid through **30 June of 2004**. Annual dues are \$25 and you may pay them at any time during the membership year or if you want to pay ahead you can pay for multiple years. Check your address label now and see when your membership year ends. **WE WILL BE MAILING STATEMENTS THIS YEAR. EVEN IF YOU ARE A LIFE MEMBER, YOU WILL GET A STATEMENT.** Life Membership is \$250 and can be paid by check in up to five monthly installments or by credit card. Mail your dues to: **75th Ranger Regt. Assoc., P. O. Box 10970, Baltimore, MD 21234**. If you have a question on your membership status you may contact me at that address, or email: john.chester3@verizon.net or call (410) 426-1391. The following have joined, rejoined, or became Life Members in the association since the last issue of “Patrolling”.

LM	ALIRE, DUANE L.	E/50
LM	ANDERSON, FRANK W.	L/75, F/58
LM	ARMES, TOMMY	K/75
LM	BAILEY, LILLARD R.	K/75
LM	BRADSHAW, KEN	2 nd Bde 4 th Div LRRP
LM	DAVIS, FRANCIS X.	F/75
LM	DOMINGUEZ, JOSE	P/75
LM	DOUGLAS, JOEL T.	K/75
LM	DUNN, TED	D/151
LM	FLETCHER, LARRY A.	N/75
LM	GUDBRANSON, ROBERT M.	A/2/75
LM	HOCHADEL III, CHARLES B	D/151
LM	INGRAHAM, KEVIN R.	2/75
LM	JAKOVENKO, VLADIMIR	173 RD LRRP
LM	JOYCE, JAMES S.	K/75

Membership Information Cont.

LM	KRAFT, BRIAN L.	F/58, 1-101
LM	McINTIRE, ROBERT D.	D/151
LM	MCKINNEY, RONNIE L.	F/75
LM	MULRONEY, EMMETT	4 th Div LRRP
LM	NESBITT, ALFRED M.	2 nd Bde, 4 th Div LRRP
LM	PONZILLO, MARK	25 th Div LRRP
LM	RUCKMAN, FLETCHER	74TH LRP
LM	SANCHEZ, THOMAS A.	D/17 LRP
LM	SCHULER, CHRISTOPHER D.	B/1/75
LM	TIPPIN, JOHN H.	37TH VN Bn
LM	TRIMBLE, JAMES T.	2 nd Bde 4 th Div LRRP
LM	UMBERGER, JAMES E.	2 nd Bde 4 th Div LRRP
LM	WENTE, ALLEN	9 th Div LRRP

ALLION, ROGER W.	F/75
ANDERSON, STEPHEN	B/3/75
AVELLINA, SALVATORE	A/1/75, B/1/75
BARBE, ROGER L.	D/75, D/151
BARGE, GRANT	C/2/75
BARTEL, ADAM	HHC/2/75
BEALS, WAYNE	A/2/75
BERNATE, ROBERTO	B/1/75
BORDEN, JOHN	A/2/75
CATES, DAVID M	D/151
CROSS, GARY	VII CORPS LRRP
DOUGHERTY, PATRICK	71 st LRP
DUBOIS, JOHN R.	K/75
EDER, Jr JOHN	C/75
FIGUEROA, JAMIL	E/51
FLAHERTY, KEVIN	F/51
FOULK, WILLIAM	A/2/75, HHC/2/75
FRANKLIN, WILLIAM D.	C/2/75, A/1/75
FRINK, GENE D.	2/75
GIEST, BRUCE	V CORPS LRRP
GREGORY, JOESPH D.	L/75, F/58
GRISWOLD, JOHN	2 nd Bde 4 th Div LRRP
HAKE, MARTIN	23RD VN Bn
HANNEMAN, RICHARD A	E/20
IKERD JR, JOHN E.	3779 LRRP
JOHNSON, STEPHEN O	G/75
KEITH, DAVID M.	1/75, 2/75
KOLLAR, STEVEN J.	2/75
LENGEL, STEPHEN	C-58, VII CORPS LRRP
LEWERS, HAROLD G.	HHC/2/75
LUBAS, JOHN	2/75
MAGED, JAMES L.	VII CORPS LRRP
MATTISON, JOSEPH L.	A/3/75, A/1/75
MCCAULEY, TERRY	Combat Photographer
McDERMOTT, MARK A.	C/2/75
McELRATH, PATRICK	C/2/75
McKINNEY, BRENT A.	HHC/1/75
NAVARRO, HENRY R.	C/1/75

Membership Information Cont.

NELSON, ERIK	A/2/75
PERA, JAMES	B/3/75
PETERSON, DALE	C/2/75
POSTELNIC, WILLIAM M.	K/75
SCOTT JR., LESTER L.	L/75, F/58
SIVERLING, REUBEN	K/75, E/58
SLOYER, WILLIAM D	F/75, M/75, F/50
SMITH, NATHANIEL G.	A/1/75, B/2/75
SMITHLIN, THOMAS J.	C/2/75
STOKES, JAMES D.	B/1/75
TAYLOR II, NOBLE A.	2 nd Bde 4 th Div LRRP
VAN ARSDALE, RUSSELL L.	C/2/75
VOYLES, JAMES E.	RANGER REGIMENT
WILDER, KEVIN	C/2/75

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 all sizes, and some black hats with the 75th Scroll. Tee shirts are \$15.00 and hats are \$10.00, or \$5.00 with a Tee shirt or coin. Shipping is \$8.50. Call for more info.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS MEMORIAL UPDATE—AUGUST 2004

It is with great regret that I report our continued special operations losses, however it could be significantly higher than it is based upon inherent the high risk of special operations missions.

Specialist Robert D. Lund assigned to Company B, 1st Bn, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment was killed in action on 26 March. SFC Randall R. Oler of the 1st Special Warfare Training Group was killed through a fatal training incident. On 14 May CSM Edward V. Barnhill of the 431st Civil Affairs Bn was KIA followed the next day by CW2 Bruce Price of the 1st Bn, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne). A land mine on 29 May destroyed the vehicle carrying PFC Joseph A. Jeffries of the 320 PSYOP Company, USAR; CPT Daniel W. Eggers, Company C, 1st Bn, 3rd SFG (A); and SGT Robert J. Mogensen, Company A, 1st Bn, 3rd SFG (A).

On 15 June we lost HMCS Theodore Fitzhenry, a SEAL with NAVSPECWARGRU-ONE, on 16 June Major Paul R. Syverson of HHC 5th SFG (A) was killed in action; and Navy SEAL BM1 Brian J. Ouellette was killed on 29 June.

The last combat loss of this reporting period was SSG Paul C. Mardis of the 3rd Bn, 5 SFG (A) on 14 July.. Non-fatality additions included SGT John Coppinger, Capt John Barnes, USAF FAC, and MSG Bob Cole added to the ODB-36, 5th SFG(A) Section from Vietnam. Gary Dolan of Charlie Rangers was added, and 1SG James Jarrett, formerly with MACVSOG and the 5th SFG(A).

I did note when checking the published list of all 3rd Battalion losses in the Spring 2004 edition of Patrolling that not all names are on the Special Operations Memorial. The Special Operations Memorial Foundation funds all names killed in action and killed in training (KIA/KIT) since Operation EAGLE CLAW, the Iranian hostage attempt in 1980, as the first joint special operations mission. My source for expending resources to place those names on the memorial is the official U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Casualty Roster, maintained at USSOCOM Headquarters, MacDill AFB, Florida. Input to the Casualty Roster is from the losing unit, through their chain of command to their respective Service Components of USSOCOM – U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) at Fort Bragg, NC; Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), Hurlburt Field, FL; Navy Special Warfare Command (NAVSPECWARCOM); and the forward deployable headquarters of USSOCOM, the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), also at Fort Bragg. Regretfully, in the early days of USSOCOM, this requirement was not always known and carried out, thus we have some gaps – until they come to light. I am currently pursuing through USSOCOM to get the Casualty Roster updated. I would like to do the same for the 1st and 2nd Battalions, and hopefully if their representatives read this, I can receive a similar list to make sure all Rangers are accounted for.

Names of personnel on the SOF Memorial can be accessed through our web-site at SOFMemorial.com and clicking on 'Directory' at the upper left side of the Home Page. Numbered units that appear on the web-site (75th Infantry, Companies C and N) are accessed by clicking “#” on the green directory panel.

Unfortunately, as names are added, the availability of remaining space proportionately decreases, and we continue our fund-raising efforts for our proposed expansion to triple the current size of the memorial. Following our Valor-Day ceremonies on 11 May, the Raytheon Company made a \$10,000 donation. The Boeing Company, in order to raise their total donation to \$10,000 made a follow-on donation of \$7,500. As shown in the photo included in the Winter 2003 edition of Patrolling, the 75th Ranger Regiment Association cumulative totals for purchasing engravings place them in the \$5,000 major contributor category. Continued contributions like Gary Dolan has helped to bring the Association total contribution to \$9,150, leaving just seven more to top \$10K and I can move the Association engraving to the four-spear top category. I do not normally send out pleas for help, but we need maximum support and contributions to expand the SOF Memorial to meet the space requirements to memorialize our departed SOF personnel.

Geoff Barker

BULLETIN BOARD

ALL RANGERS INVITED

DEEP SEA FISHING TRIP, SATURDAY, 09 Oct 04 LOCATION: MOODY DOCK ,DESTIN, FL

COST \$10.00 EACH (A TIP FOR CREW AND FUEL)

LENGTH OF TRIP = 10 HOURS - DEPART 07:30 AM, CT, - RETURN 5:30 PM, CT.

BRIEFING STARTS AT 7 AM, CT, AT THE BOAT (MOODY DOCK)

TOTAL FISHING SPOTS W/TACKLE = 90 - TOTAL ROOM ON BOARD = UP TO 120 , I.E., 30 RIDERS.

THEY CAN SHARE RODS & FISH IF THEY LIKE.

DRINKS/FOOD = ON BOARD FOR PURCHASE: BEER, SODA, & LIGHT SNACKS. SMALL

COOLERS WITH FOOD AND DRINKS ARE WELCOME.

DRESS: CASUAL, BRING A COAT/JACKET.

BRING THE FOLLOWING: HAND TOWEL, CAMERA, HAT, LOTION, & SUNGLASSES.

GOOD LUCK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

THE FIRST 120 TO DEPOSIT THE \$10.00 TIP WILL HAVE A SEAT RESERVED ON ONE OF THE BEST FISHING BOATS IN FLORIDA - DONATED BY RANGER CAPTAIN TOM MOODY. A FISHING TRIP SUCH AS THIS USUALLY COSTS \$100.00 OR MORE.

SEND DEPOSIT TO: WAR Inc, 8 SPIES RD, FT MITCHELL, AL 36856 - MAKE CHECK OR M.O. TO "WAR". REMEMBER: ONLY THE FIRST 120 WILL GET A SEAT. AFTER THE FIRST 90 DEPOSITS I will contact you for your decision. I will return checks and M.O.s if you are too late to get a seat.

COOK OUT SUNDAY, 10 OCT 04

LOCATION :MOODY'S DOCK, DESTIN, FL

COST: COMPLIMENTARY

START: 11:00 AM TO 1:30 PM

MUST HAVE HEAD COUNT NOT LATER THAN 01 OCT 04 - AND AN UP DATE SATURDAY MORNING (NO LIMIT)

MENU: HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, BAKED BEANS, POTATO SALAD, COLD SLAW, BEER, SODA ,AND ALL THE FIXINGS.

DRESS :CASUAL, WEAR YOUR SPECIAL HAT !

MISCELLANEOUS: BRING A CAMERA AND A BIG APPETITE.

HOSTESS: RANGER-ETT CAROL MOODY. HOST: RANGER CAPTAIN TOM MOODY

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE COOK-OUT. Email: rgrpegleg@aol.com .

Ph:334 855 0348. Write: WAR Inc, 8 Spies Rd, Ft Mitchell, AL 36856

PLEASE NOTE: DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER WE WILL BE MAILING MEMBERSHIP STATEMENTS TO EVERYONE, INCLUDING LIFE MEMBERS. THERE WILL BE A PROVISION ON THE MAILER TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RANGER'S FAMILY FUND OR THE ASSOCIATION FUND. YOU MAY ALSO COMMUNICATE ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU CONSIDER SIGNIFICANT. **IF** YOU ARE A LIFE MEMBER, YOU **WILL** GET AN INVOICE. YOU DO **NOT** NEED TO PAY ANTHING IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO. IT IS SIMPLY MORE COST EFFECTIVE TO MAIL TO ALL MEMBERS.

Ranger Hall of Fame packets must be turned in by November 15, 2004. Unit Directors, check with the President, Emmett Hiltibrand, for rules, procedures, etc.

STATE ADVOCATE

For those who were unable to attend the 75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion at Fort Lewis/Tacoma, Washington there was a great showing of old and new Rangers. Guest speaker Lisi and guest of honor Kiet who was a former South Vietnamese Navy Seal. One Darby Ranger in his latter 80's sky dived with a local club and attended dinner with the association that evening. The 2d Ranger Battalion exhibited the new weapons, vehicles, and provided cases of the new meal-ready- to- eat (MRE); surprisingly they also include vegetarian dishes. There were Rangers from Merrill's Marauders, Korean War, and every Ranger unit since World War II represented. It was a time to reunite and discover forgotten details of the past. Also the voting of new officers occurred as you'll learn of while reading this Patrolling issue. I left the reunion as the newly appointed State Coordinator.

As the State Coordinator, I was awed by the youthful PFC's, SPC's and NCO's of the 2d Ranger Battalion. Their professionalism shined through as they answered questions at the standing display. The strong bond and concern for the unit they would shortly rejoin in Iraq was uppermost in the conversations they shared. Some had already been deployed with these units in Afghanistan and Iraq and had reenlisted to rejoin their brother Rangers. Old men we may be now, but looking at them was looking once again at ourselves thirty or more years ago. The same comradeship that has swelled the ranks of this association to its prominence still survives in these brave young Rangers and will continue. As your new State Advocate, I will do everything in my power to promote the further growth and ensure support to each and every fellow Ranger as well as the families left behind.

To achieve the growth and necessary support to Rangers and their families will require more than the energy of myself and a handful of individuals. It requires every state to have a State Representative who will work to ensure the following functions are met for Ranger Association members:

- * Provide Ranger representative(s) to and coordination for the funerals services of deceased members.
- * Coordinate visitation to incapacitated members.
- * Establish an alert roster system for the state (NOT TO BE SHARED WITH NON-MEMBERS OR ORGANIZATIONS).
- * Solicit new membership and renewal of memberships.
- * Pursue business advertising in the Patrolling issues.
- * Maintain communication and disseminate time sensitive contact with in-state members and the State Coordinator.
- * Post changes of state membership to the organization web site.

As I stated, this is not a job for one member but will require a volunteer from each of the fifty states to accomplish these duties of the State Representative. Reimbursement for expenses incurred in the execution of the State Representative duties cannot be made by the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. The Unit Coordinators should not hold the position of State Representative. Volunteers for State Representative should contact me through my e-mail address or leave a message on my answering machine. The roster of members for each state will be provided the State Representative once they are assembled.

Tom Gage
 1424 Francis Station
 Knoxville, TN 37909
 (H) 865 693-3293
 (C) 865 386-3293
thegages@comcast.net

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



Special Operations
Memorial Foundation



DIRECT FROM NAM
Authentic Montagnard bracelets,
weavings, bows
Vietnamese arts and crafts
NVA/VC militaria and collectibles
Hundreds Of Items

FREE CATALOG WRITE:

Sampan Imports, 11893 N. 75th St, Longmont, CO. 80503
OR ... check out our online catalog at: www.sampan.com



GEM REAL ESTATE, INC.
*Residential,
Commercial,
Mobile Homes,
Manufactured Homes*

Dana P. McGrath, Broker
Ranger K/75th
(239) 995-2436 (ofc)

68 Pondella Road
North Fort Myers,
Florida 33903

www.homesforsale-florida.com



**All-American
Recycling
Incorporated**

Roger Brown
1616 Murray Street
Columbus, GA 31906

Office: (706) 324-3249
Fax: (706) 322-3059
Email: ranger18588@aol.com

Preferred Financial Systems, Inc.
Bookkeeping and Tax Services

68 Pondella Road
North Fort Myers, Florida 33903
(239) 656-4544 (ofc)

Dana and Peggy McGrath



*The Now
and Zen*
LRRP

Stained glass, mosaics,
tables. Custom made and
custom design.

410-426-1391 John Chester



PUBLISH YOUR BOOK

1-800-948-2786

Dept. P • 5122 Bur Oak Circle • Raleigh, NC 27612

Spiritual Warrior Camps for PTSD

By: Volunteers & Veterans for Social Service, Inc.

For all veterans and those suffering from:

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and the Aftermath of War

Program: Three 2-1/2 Day, Weekend Camps. **Location:** WV, PA & CA
Cost: No Profit, No Loss. You pay Food, Lodging & Materials.

Models, Methods & Tools Utilization: VVA 12 Step Manual for PTSD,
based on Love & War, Buddha's: Four Noble Truths, Neo-Humanism,
Tantra Yoga, Christian Mysticism and The Way of Love.

For Information, Contact: lrrp52els@epix.net or bob elsner.

Sponsored by: Veterans for White Peace & Justice for All.

Correlative-Correctional & Corrigendum: Towards the Fix & Solution/s.

God Bless, Paul Robert Elsner

Mike Kelley

Ranger, 1st BN, 75th Inf

SMOOTH SHOT
GUN TUNER

A Super Gun Oil

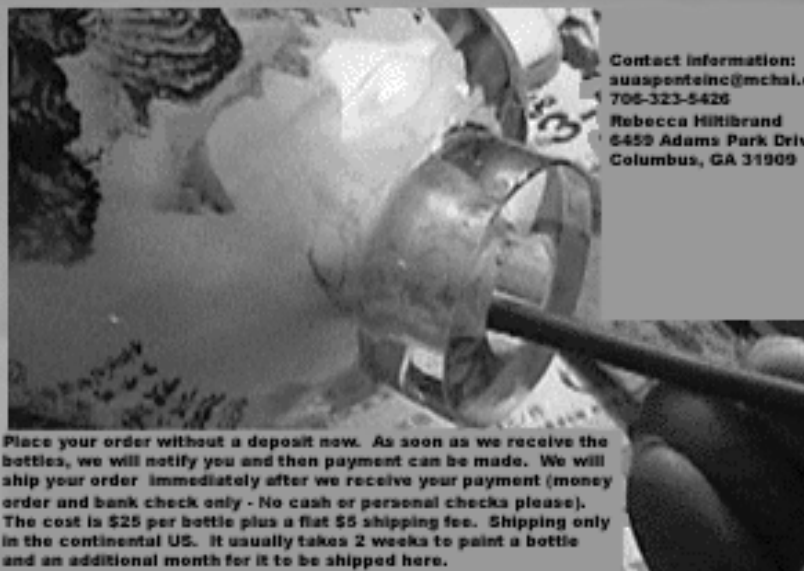
Improves Performance
Reduces Friction and Wear
Reduces Operating Heat
Provides Rust Protection

Phone: 772-461-9000

Toll Free: 1-866-710-0212

FAX 772-489-0007

These bottles are painted from inside!!! This is not a decal nor is it painted on the outside. The bottle itself is made of crystal and the lid is made of amber. It is 2.75" w, 4" h & 1.5" d, and it comes in it's own black silk box. We currently have bottles made for the 4th, 9th, 25th and 101st organizations. Interest has been established for a bottle for the VII CORPS LRRP and D/151 organizations. Requests for additional organizational bottles are welcome. Requests for custom made bottles are also welcome.



Contact information:
aasapointeinc@mchsi.com
706-323-5426
Rebecca Hillbrand
6459 Adams Park Drive
Columbus, GA 31909

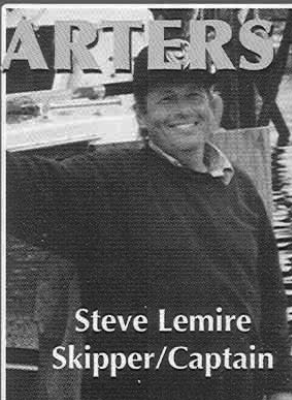
Place your order without a deposit now. As soon as we receive the bottles, we will notify you and then payment can be made. We will ship your order immediately after we receive your payment (money order and bank check only - No cash or personal checks please). The cost is \$25 per bottle plus a flat \$5 shipping fee. Shipping only in the continental US. It usually takes 2 weeks to paint a bottle and an additional month for it to be shipped here.

LEMIRE CHARTERS

P.O. Box 293
Klawock, Alaska 99925

(907) 755-2424

lemirecharters@yahoo.com
www.lemirecharters.com or
www.outdoorsdirectory.com/akpages/lemire



Steve Lemire
Skipper/Captain

AIRBORNE SUPPLY

Airborne Supply can provide you with all your reunion and patriotic gear. We specialize in embroidered garments and promotional products that identify your specific group.

Special orders are Welcome!

Visit our Web site @ www.airbornesupply.net

Airborne Supply is the Official Quartermaster for
The VII Corps LRRPs

Owner: Cheryl Visel Phone: 517-596-2908

Oblique VENTURES

Custom Canes

Customized Canes are much stiffer and stronger than just wood.

Society J. O'Steen, Owner
Oblique Ventures Canes
11348 U.S. Hwy 431
Union, Ky 40376-9030
eMail: bewjor@aol.com
Ph: 1-270-733-4840
Fax: 1-270-233-9141

Express your Unit or
organization's pride
while using the cane
for a personal message.



Come visit us at our
Website:
obliqueventures.com

The card ads on these pages allow the Association to bring you a quality product (the magazine) at a cost that is sustainable by the Association. These card ads are a great deal, the cost is only \$100.00 for **four** issues. That's a years worth of advertising. If the advertiser has a web site, we will provide a link from our web site (75thrra.org) for an additional \$50.00, so for \$150.00 you will have a years worth of exposure as well as a link to your web site, for a total of \$150.00. We mail around 2,200 copies of the magazine each issue. The copies that go to the 3 Battalions and to the RTB are seen by many more people than the number of copies would indicate. That's a lot of exposure for a minimum cost.

As members, we should make an effort to patronize our advertisers. Most of us would prefer to deal with one of our own given 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.



75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 10970
Baltimore, MD 21234

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: _____

VISA or MASTERCARD # _____ EXP. DATE: _____

CHECK ONE: NEW APPLICATION _____ RENEWAL _____ SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER _____

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

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS/FAMILY FUND

Once again this year the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. will make a sizable donation to each of the three Ranger Battalions, in order that the children of the younger Rangers, who might be financially challenged, will be sure to have a Merry Christmas. The money we collect also funds other activities throughout the year. We recently have assisted family members to stay with their sons and husbands that were wounded in Afghanistan, we have assisted in framing portraits that were donated by artists to be presented to the families of Rangers that were KIA, we have purchased learning soft ware for the son of a young Ranger that was disabled as a result of the removal of a brain tumor.

One hundred percent of the money collected goes to the families of the men in the Ranger Regiment. There are no fees charged for the administration of the fund. The funds are in an account separate from the operating funds of the Association, and are used solely for the benefit of the families of individuals serving in the Regiment. They are not used for parties for the troops or similar activities.

Send donations to:

75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
P O Box 10709
Baltimore, MD 21234

Please make checks payable to "75th RRA" and indicate that it is for the Family Fund.

Ripples of War

S.F. SURVIVOR™ BOOT

\$64

Factory Direct Pricing



These high performance ripple sole boots are designed for real land warriors.

Your feet will survive.

- Removable contoured cushion insole
- Genuine S.O.G. welt construction
- Cordura® nylon upper
- Water repellent leather
- Reinforced nylon webbing
- Subdued speed laces and eyelets
- Drainage vents
- #69 thread, 145 stitching
- Ht: 10"
- Wt: 3 lb.
- Import.

Sizes: 5-11½, 12-14.
Reg. and Wide widths.

OD - 9078, Black - 9079

Tested by U.S. Special Forces serving in Iraq.



We ship to military bases and APO/FPO addresses.

Ranger Joe's International

www.rangerjoes.com

1-800-247-4541

Contact us for a free color catalog.



SSGT. Larry Carber holding a CAR 15 at the L Company compound. Larry came up north with Tom Delaney and other former members of D/75 when that unit stood down. Tom Delaney photo.



75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 10970
BALTIMORE, MD 21234

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DUNCANSVILLE PA
PERMIT #75

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED