

PATROLLING

FALL 2005 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 20 ISSUE 2



Officers' Messages	-----1-10
General	-----11-22 & 55-72
Unit Reports	-----23-54

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

Ranger Memorial
© Copyright 2005 Peter S. Parker, All Rights Reserved

AIRBORNE SUPPLY

Airborne Supply Specializes in Patriotic Related Garments and Memorabilia, We do Custom Embroidery and Image Transfer on Garments and Promotional Products.

www.airbornesupply.net

OR Call Cheryl at:

517-937-1441 or 517-596-2908

Catalogs available

PATCHES



PINS



T-SHIRTS



LICENSE PLATES



CUSTOM MUGS



NEW!



75TH RANGER ASSO. LOGO

HATS



CUSTOM SHIRTS



LANYARDS

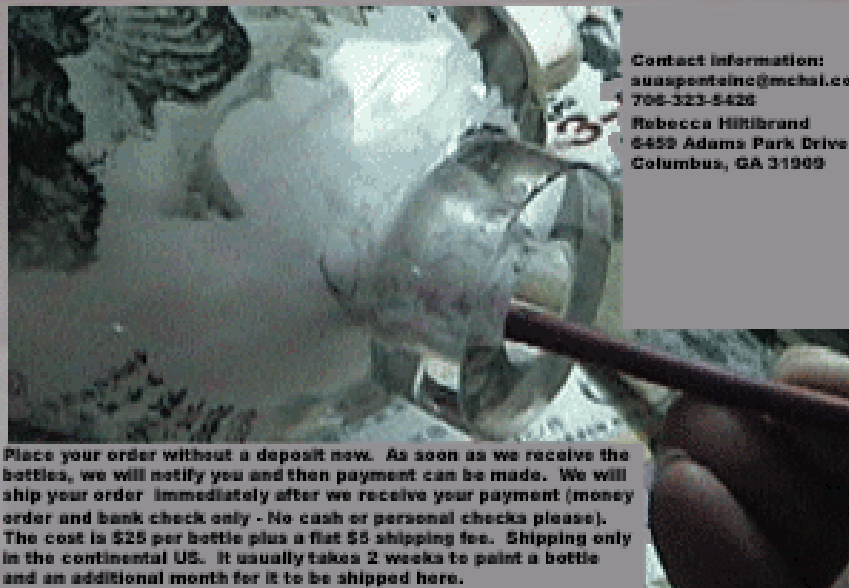
BUMPERSTICKERS

U.S. PARATROOPER

INFANTRY

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, WE WILL FIND IT FOR YOU!

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, 5th, 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:
suspenteinc@mchsi.com
 706-323-9426
 Rebecca HixBrand
 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.

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

Dennis Rick
1285 East Crown Circle
Casa Grande, AZ 85222
(520) 836-1489
Email: dman00194875@msn.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
Email: 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

Richard “Bear” Papp
PO Box 405
Oakwood, TX 75855
H-903-322-3768

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
3616 W. Bohl St.
Laveen, AZ 85339
H-623- 877-3797
Email: jlittle1@cox.net

G/75 – E/51 LRP – 196th LRRP

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

H/75 – E/52 LRP – 1st CAV LRRP

William T. Anton
H -702-648-9836
Email: polar_bear_01@runbox.com

I/75 – F/52 LRP – 1st DIV LRRP

David Flores
5116 Lanai St.
Long Beach, CA 90808
Email: lurpteam3@hotmail.com

K/75 – E/58 LRP – 4th DIV LRRP

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

L/75 – F/58 LRP – 1/101st LRRP

Randall White

UNIT DIRECTORS

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

M/75 – 71st LRP – 199th LRRP

Steve Houghton
2116 Howard City-Elmore Rd
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: rcundiff@zianet.com

O/75 – 78th LRP

Michael L. Feller
16676 6th St.
Wellston MI 49689
231 848 4948
Email: michigami@kaltelnet.net

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: tomblandford300@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

Bill Acebes
PO Box 2784
Richmond Hill, GA 31324
912-884-2772
Email: acebes175@hotmail.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
William ‘Bill’ Dodge
7117 Willow Oak Drive
Columbus, GA 31909
H 706-317-5259
wdodge777@msn.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: bdc@75thrangr.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

Da ve Regenthal
David_regenthal@comcast.net

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

S. J. “Peter” Parker
Peter2004@airborne-ranger.com

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

Stephen Crabtree
5069 Kingsbridge Pass
Powder Springs, GA 30127
H-678-524-5223
cogranger@bellsouth.net

First Vice President

Bill Bullen
P.O. Box 34
Palm, PA 18070
H-215-679-8856
Cell-215-828-5645
K75ranger@comcast.net

Second Vice President

Thomas Robison
204 Innsbruck Ave.
Roscommon, MI 48653
c-517-231-0840
e51lrp@netscape.net

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

Reuben Siverling
7924 NW Anita Drive
Kansas City, MO 64151
c-816-221-7777
rsiverling@firstbankmo.com

Associate Editor

Dave Hill
wildcat268@yahoo.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
mcollodge@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.

A decision was made by the Board of Directors that we would hire and pay a new web master. The complexity of operation and hours required for the maintenance of the web site is simply too great to rely on volunteer (amateur) labor. The web site and the magazine are the principal doors into our Association. We average about 30 membership inquiries a month from the web site. For a time early in the summer, the web site was down & I received no inquiries for about 6 weeks. That's potentially 45 members that we lost. It's fixed now, but we have had problems with the host prior to this incident.

It was decided to hire Dave Regenthal of F/75 to be the new web master. He will design, set up and maintain the web site. We will have a written contract with him, with everyone's expectations there for all to see. Dave has set up and maintains the F/75 web site and it is very well done indeed.

We will eventually have a completely new web site, but there will be a phase in period as Dave builds the new one while maintaining the old one. They will look pretty much the same as they do now. Below is a photo of Dave Regenthal.



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 Stephen Crabtree

As your newly elected President I would like to thank each of you for your support. I have received numerous e-mail and phone calls of congratulations. With the addition of Tom Robison (Retired Attorney, 2005 Ranger Hall of Fame



**Stephen
Crabtree**

Inductee) and Reuben Silverling (US Army Major, retired) and the return of John Chester and Bill Bullen, our organization's leadership is on solid ground. Our charter for the next two years is to increase our membership, continued support for the Ranger Communities (both civilian and military), to establish & ensure financial stability and basically to leave the Association in better condition than we found it. Emmett has already put some of these projects in work;

some are in the planning stages.

I had the privilege of attended the funeral of COL Hal Van Meter in Buena Vista Georgia on August 12. The service was beautiful but more so the number people in attendance. There must have been close to 100 Rangers plus the family & friends. The church was overflowing so we had to stand in the entryway. I hope that when I pass, there will be Rangers there to perform the "Once an Eagle" Ceremony as they did for Hal. The funeral solidified my support for our State Coordinator Program. Tom Gage, thegages@comcast.net, is in charge of this effort where volunteers from each state help the Ranger community by going to funerals/burials, visiting hospitalized members, recruiting new members and retaining old members. Gene Tucker has just volunteered to work for the state of Colorado. We still need coordinators for the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont and Wyoming.

Our Fiscal Committee has been formed with Roy Barley at the helm. Roy along with Tom Nash, Wayne Mitsch, Larry Rhodes and Peter Parker will be looking into our financial stability at the balances, returns, investments, bonding of Officers and reporting to back to the Officers to further strengthen our organization. They are appointed positions and make recommendations only.

Our Family Fund is still financially sound and I plan on continuing Emmett's support of the Battalions and the Regt.

HQ Company. If any of you know of a Ranger or Ranger's family that needs help, please let me or one of the other officers know. We can't help people if we don't know who needs it. Most Rangers and Ranger's families won't ask so it is up to us to find them and help out however we can.

Some time ago DOD ruled that active duty units could not sponsor Boy Scout Troops and Emmett was approached last year to sponsor the Fort Benning Troop. I have agreed that we will continue to sponsor the Troop on Fort Benning this coming year. This is no cost to us, is great PR for our organization and is a truly worthy cause. I will be signing the Adult Leader Application for Mr. Cliff Christian, the new Scout Master, as the Charter Organization Representative shortly.

Our off year 2006 reunion will be held in Branson, MO this year along with Gary Linderer's Operation Homecoming. I will be in Alaska at the time and have asked Bill Bullen to represent me. Last year's turnout was in excess of 10,000 and was a huge success. Gary and I have been friends for years. I feel somewhat like a rat as this will be three of his functions in a row that I have missed. I sincerely hope we have a large turnout. Randy White will be our point of contact for the Branson affair. He may be contacted via e-mail at: ranwhite@jamadots.com.

We have grown to where some of the requirements of the organization require more than volunteers. Our website is one of these areas. Dave Regenthal has been hired to create and maintain a new website for us. As reconstruction will take some time we have contracted Dave for one year and will renegotiate his contract then according to the time required to maintain the website. Dave runs a company site at <http://www.lrrp.com/> and may be reached at: david_regenthal@comcast.net. If any of you can speak website or URL or just want to help out, please contact Dave.

There have been considerable discussions as to weather or not to comment on the following. I have my personal opinion which will remain silent as to allow each of you to form your own. On November 20, 1968, Team 24 of F Company 58th Infantry LRP got caught in a nasty shitstorm. Four men were killed; the other eight were all seriously wounded. The story has been substantiated by the men who survived along with the pilots and reactionary force that pulled them out. This mission has been openly challenged and serious accusations have been made. The story has been well researched and presented by Kit Jarrell and Heidi Thiess in their blog "Brother Against Brother" at: <http://euphoria.jarkolicious.com/>. I ask that everyone read

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

the story and form your own opinion. If you do not have access to the internet, let me know, and I will send you a copy.

December is right around the corner. Again it is time to submit our men for induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame. I have prepared a pseudo package that may be used as guideline in preparing a packet. Contact me if you need one or if you have any questions on this issue. I prepared the first packet for Tom Robison and, believe me, it takes time & effort. Don't expect to construct one over the Thanksgiving holidays & have it to me by December 1st. Start now! Your packets will be better organized and your nominees will have a much better chance of being selected if you take your time. I've see 15 page packets and I've seen 50 page packets. Quality, not quantity, will get your man inducted.

I was invited to the Ranger Training Brigade to address the Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leadership Class (RSLC, pronounced R-slick) graduation. On August 12th, I gave the following speech:

Ladies, Gentlemen, Captain Swartwood, Major Flesch (CCO), CSM Kirkover, Lieutenant Colonel Mingus (BCO), CSM Greenway, Colonel Chinn and most important of all **distinguished R-Slick graduates**, I can't thank you enough for having me here today. It brings back memories of thirty-six years ago when I graduated from Recondo Training in Vietnam. I will remember that day forever, just as each of you will remember today. As I look out at the new graduates, I'm somewhat baffled. You see the men that I trained and fought with certainly didn't display the professionalism I see here today. I can't begin to tell you how proud of each of you that we, the LRRPs and Rangers of Vietnam, are. You carry on our tradition that was forged in the jungles of South East Asia over 40 years ago.

I've met many people during my life. I would like to tell you about a few.

My dad died when I was seven, my mom ten years later. At the age of 17, I had no choice but to hit the streets. Where would I go, how would I live? I went to spend the weekend with a high school friend. This is where I met Preston Hogue. Pres insisted that I live with his family. I learned that Pres had been at Anzio where two battalions of Rangers, 1500 men, were caught between two German Panzer Divisions. 1200 Rangers died that day, 300 were captured. Pres later escaped and made his way back to friendly lines. I stayed with Pres for the better part of four years before being drafted in April of 1968.

In December of 1969, while serving with Company G Ranger, 75th Infantry in Vietnam, I received word of a death

in my family. The Army sent me home on an Emergency Leave. Pres' wife, Jeannie, answered the door late that Saturday night with, "Oh, my God, he's AWOL!" Pres said, "No he isn't! Come here and let me see your Ranger scroll?" You should have seen the look of pride in his eyes as he looked at me. He said, "I've got two tickets to tomorrow's Charger Raider game. I'll take you if you promise to wear your uniform."

So there it was, Sunday afternoon, I'm 72 hours out of combat and sitting on the 50-yard line watching a football game. Do you know what they do in San Diego when the Chargers score? THEY FIRE OFF A CANNON! I dove for cover, knocked a half dozen people down while Pres laughed and laughed. I went back to Vietnam & finished my tour. Pres & I remained friends until the day he died about ten years ago.

I met Ken Leuer thirteen years ago at the 50th Anniversary of the birth of the Rangers. While on active duty Ken formed the Ranger Battalion here at Fort Benning. His pet project, The Ranger Memorial, will stand forever. After his retirement, Ken worked for the Goodwill for about ten years. Ken remains active in the Ranger Community today. I never dreamed that a Buck Sergeant and a Two-Star General would become good friends. By the way, the first time you call a Major General by his first name is really, really scary.

Colonel Chinn and I met in his office about a year ago. We were discussing a topic that we disagreed strongly about. The outcome wasn't exactly what I wanted but we were able to come to a mutual agreement. I joked with KK at the RHOF Induction that "Being the CO of the RTB has got to be the best job in the world." He asked if I wanted to trade. I replied, "No thanks, I couldn't afford the cut in pay!" I consider him my friend and I will be there when they pin a General's Star on his lapel.

John Fritzinger took me out on my "cherry" mission in June of 1969. On that mission, he was hit by lightning and had to be medivaced out of the field. Fritz got out of the Army and became a cameraman for CBS. He shot footage of Golf Company's reunions and made a great documentary called "Who Were We?" The proceeds from the sale have made our organization financially sound. Fritz accepted only the cost of his materials. He died of a massive heart attack about two years ago. They say that those who survive lightning strikes are five times more likely to have serious heart problems in the future. I am lobbying to have his name engraved on the Wall at Washington DC.

Bob Pruden was a great guy and a great soldier. He was always the first to pull a joke on a buddy and always the first

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

in a firefight. Because of Prunes' actions on 20 November 1969, five of my friends are alive today. You can see his citation and Medal of Honor in the entryway.

Enough said about my friends. I'd like to talk about then and now.

Did we lose in Vietnam? When I came home in 1970 I had that shoved down my throat along with the "fact" that every Vietnam Veteran was a loser, a time bomb waiting to explode. It got to the point that I would not talk about having been there or even having been in the Service.

About 1990, the perception of the Vietnam Veteran began to change; at first ever so slightly, but as time passed, by leaps and bounds. I remember the first time I was thanked for serving. It meant a great deal, even though it was twenty years later.

Larry Chambers, a former 101st Airborne Division LRRP, wrote the book *Recondo*. Although his book will never win a Pulitzer Prize, the epilog should. It talks about the time we fought for Democracy in the smaller nations that, at the time, were teetering between Democracy and Communism. While Russia and Communist China were supporting North Vietnam they did not have the resources to put pressure on these smaller nations to force them into Communism. If any of you think that China was not involved in Vietnam, talk to my friend Ben Dunham. Before his nineteenth birthday he was awarded the Silver Star for capturing a Chinese colonel over 100 miles south of the DMZ.

Now it's over thirty five years later and I have been blessed with three grandchildren: 10 year old, Alexis; 3 year old, Cheyenne and just last May, on my 58th birthday my namesake, Stephen was born. They are just the most beautiful gifts from God that anyone could ever hope to receive.

My grandchildren: will **NOT** grow up learning to get under their desks and put her hands behind their heads at the sound of an air raid siren.

My grandchildren: will **NOT** grow up fearing a nuclear holocaust.

My grandchildren: will **NOT** grow up fearing the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, for the big bear is no more.

My grandchildren: will **NOT** grow up in a world where cities are divided by huge policed walls with Democracy on one side and Communism on the other.

Did we lose in Vietnam? Did these 58,000 men and women die in vain? Just as those brave men at the Alamo lost the battle, they won the war. You may say that we lost in Vietnam and I would have to agree. Yes, we lost the battle; but we won the war. **We won the cold war against communism!**

And now, thirty some years later, we are again "policing" in the Middle East. Every day, the American public daily grows more weary of the war; much like they did of the Vietnam War. President Bush declared victory after we took Baghdad and I agree. The problem is that we won the war outright this time. America's Jane Fonda followers will never see the results of the efforts of Tommy Franks and our magnificent service personnel. The sacrifices of the men and women who gave their lives in the line of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan were not in vain. Perhaps we should not have invaded Iraq. Perhaps we should have waited for al Qaeda to detonate a "dirty bomb" on our streets. Had San Francisco, Chicago or Atlanta been hit, at a cost of millions of lives rather than "merely" the 3000 on 9/11, surely then the American liberal public would have been able to see the justification for war. I can only comment that, thank God we are fighting the war against terrorism on their turf and not on ours!

To every man and woman who has ever worn the uniform of the United States of America and especially those who served in harm's way: God bless each and every one of you and thank you for a job well done. I only wish that when each of you returns from combat that I could be there personally to say, **"WELCOME HOME!"**

What is the point of my speaking about the people in my life and what does it have to do with each of you? It is about sharing. Pres Hogue, Ken Leuer, Colonel Chinn, Fritz and Prunes (Bob Pruden) didn't just sit back and live off the accolades of their past accomplishments. They continue to give back today (or gave back to the very end of their lives) the gifts that the Good Lord bestowed on them. Because of their actions, this world is better off than when they first came into it. You men have been given some of the best training the United States Army has to offer. Go forth to your units and share what you have been given. Become teachers and mentors like the men I have spoken of here today. Make the world a better place than the way you found it.

I leave you quoting Fritz at the end of his documentary, "Gentlemen, we are in good company. Let's get on with the mission."

FIRST-VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Bullen

Greetings from Palm, Pa. Hopefully all who attended the Reunion 2005 had as good a time as I did. I believe the off-year reunion is being slated for Branson, Mo. This should also be a great time.

After the dust settles take a look at your contacts and address books. See who did not make it this year and encourage them to be there next time. Get them to join if they have not. Also be on the look out for Rangers who are recently separated from active duty, and get them in.

Communication is the major factor in any organization; we need to keep in touch. Unit directors get a system that works for you. Ask your fellow Rangers how they would like to be kept aware of the happenings within your individual units and the Association. Whether it is by news letter, letter, e-mail or phone calls, make something happen.

On the topic of communication, I had a real scare Tuesday before the Reunion. Our guest speaker who had not been contacted in several months e-mailed me saying he'd not be there because nobody had been in contact with him. This was my responsibility, and I let the communications network break. Thank the Lord, I had my new GI computer with me, or I



Bill Bullen

would not have gotten this e-mail until I'd gotten home. Well as you know he was good enough to for give my lack of commitment to responsibility, and come to our Reunion. Thank you Michael Durant!

We need to communicate! Some subjects are better done by verb rather than text. I was having a dialog with a fellow Ranger and the whole thing was lost in e-mail interpretation. I should have continued the dialog by means of the telephone. As it turned out this fellow Ranger was insulted hurt and alienated, for this I am truly sorry. All I'm trying to say is stay in contact and do it correctly. If your people do not hear from you, they do not think you care.

Disability claims seem to be the talk of the day. If you are pursuing a claim, I'd recommend subscribing to a news letter by a fellow named Dennis Latham. It is called the "S-2 Report", Copyright Latham Publishing. Domain, (www.combatptsd.net) e-mail (dlatham@suscom.net) Dennis also writes some rather bazaar novels. I loaned one to a very good Ranger Buddy and he has not returned it yet, it must be a good book!

Spread the word Rangers, we've got a good Association let's make it grow.

RLTW

Bill Bullen

SECOND-VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Thomas Robison

ED Note: A Bylaws change was passed at the reunion General Membership meeting in Columbus, GA this year. As a result of this change, we now have 2 Vice-Presidents (First & Second), one will concentrate on membership and the other will concentrate on administrative matters. We also now have two people in the loop and able to take on the job as President when necessary. Below is a short bio and photo of Tom Robison, our 2nd Vice President.



Thomas Robison

After retiring from the military in 1969, Tom received a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University in political science and history. HE worked on Capitol Hill in D.C. for six years, first as a congressional aide and later as a consultant. He received his J.D., (law degree), from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 1984, where he continues to teach Juvenile and Family Law. He maintained a private practice for five years. During that time, he was appointed by the Governor of Michigan to be the Executive

Director of the Great Lakes Water Resources Planning Commission, charged with the responsibility of developing a water resources management plan for the state. For a number of years he was on the Board of Directors of the Institute for the Advancement of Prosthetics in Lansing Michigan. For eleven years he was the administrator of the Eaton County Probate and Juvenile Court along with being the attorney referee for the court. he was later hired as a court administrator for the Michigan Court of Appeals. After that he was hired as the Unified Court Administrator for the District, Circuit and Probate Courts for Tuscola County Michigan. He retired from that position in October of 2004. He was one of the original founders of the Co. G, 75th (Infantry) Ranger Lrrp Association. He incorporated and obtained the tax exemption for the Association and has been corporate counsel ever since. His wife , Sharon and he have been married for 34 years. She is a retired Program Manager from General Motors. They have three adult sons who all live in Michigan.

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

BY: John Chester



John Chester

Well, another reunion is behind us, and most of the comments that I heard were very favorable, with several, “best reunion ever” type comments. Lots of people did lots of work to make everything a success. I always hesitate to recognize individuals on the off chance that I’ll forget someone, but I really need to thank these guys. First of all, Dave Cummings did his usual outstanding job. This is the second time that Emmett talked Dave into taking point on a reunion; I don’t know how Emmett does it, but he does. You don’t know all the stuff that starts as early as 6 months prior to the reunion. Dave was on top of everything, and it came off without a hitch, thanks to him.

I also want to thank Ron Coon, Herb Reichel, Marc Thompson, Fred Fones, Brian Radcliffe and Mike Reiley for helping out at the front desk. In true LRRP/LRP/Ranger fashion, they jumped in and did what was needed to make everything work smoothly, (well, smoother anyway). Our new president, Steve Crabtree, even pitched in and saw that I had some relief at the front desk, and Roy and Joyce Boatman helped with bank deposits, calling in credit card receipts and related administrative matters. I also want to thank Terry Rodericks for bringing some humor into what I thought was a very serious moment and demonstrating, once again, that it don’t mean nothing. I do have a tendency to take things too seriously. Thanks Terry. Thanks to all, and thanks to anyone I’ve forgotten and to all those who pitched in when a job needed done.

Drama in Columbus

This reunion will go into the record books for drama if nothing else. On Thursday afternoon, a Ranger from the state of Washington, Kevin Wilder, was attending the reunion with his 10 year old son, Logan when Kevin became ill. He commented to another former Panama vet that he was hanging out with, Paul Mercer, that he didn’t feel well. Paul thought that he was perhaps dehydrated and had him lie down in the lobby of the Holiday Inn. Paul had the hotel staff call for EMT assistance, and went to the hospital with Kevin. At this point it starts to sound like a day time soap opera with a bad plot line.

Paul accompanied Kevin to the hospital and at the time, everyone believed that the incident would be concluded in an hour or two and that all would be back to normal. Wrong. Seems that Kevin had a blood clot in an artery in his brain and

required immediate and very serious surgery. Paul stayed with Kevin in the hospital all night while Mary Anne and I took care of Logan. Luckily, we had accommodations that had two rooms and a pull-out bed for him, so he was not too uncomfortable.

Now, this is the spooky part. Kevin and Logan lived in Washington State, but Kevin’s mother and two sisters lived in Florida. Since Kevin was divorced, his mother was called as his next of kin. She immediately left for Ft. Benning with her two daughters, (one of which was 8 months pregnant and with a two year old little boy), for the 8 hour drive to Columbus. They left early Friday morning and arrived around mid-afternoon. By this time, Paul was still at the hospital with Kevin and Logan was still with Mary Anne and me, (mostly with Mary Anne). After they arrived, we found out that Kevin’s mom and sisters live only a few miles from Paul in Florida. Kevin’s folks moved into his room, but Mary Anne was still keeping Logan while his grandmother and aunts were at the hospital, since he was too young to visit his father in the hospital.

Paul took Logan to the banquet on Saturday night, and Mary Anne saw that he got to sit at the head table with the movers and shakers, which he thought was great, (see below for more on the head table concept). I want to say that, even though I am not the world’s greatest fan of little kids, that being said, I thoroughly enjoyed the time we spent with Logan. He is an exemplary young man and a credit to the family that raised him. Mary Anne, a former public school teacher, who knows kids inside out, wanted to take Logan home with us.

The bottom line was that Kevin Wilder underwent a very serious operation that saved his life. At noon on Friday, his condition was still in doubt, but he will make a complete recovery as we understand it now. On Sunday afternoon, Mary Anne and I took Logan to find a place to shoot some pool. We found a bar that had a pool section off to the side, and when I asked them if it was OK to bring Logan in, they said it was fine. We shot a couple games, (Logan won), and then the management reversed itself and said that only 18 year olds and above were allowed in. As we were leaving, I remarked to Mary Anne that Logan was a true Ranger’s son, not even eleven years old and thrown out of a bar for the first time.

The elected officers had a brief consultation and decided to pick up the cost of Kevin’s mother’s room at the Holiday Inn out of the member’s fund, which is the type of expense that the fund was designed for. Luckily, Kevin was released Tuesday morning and left for Florida with his mom & sister. What would have been the consequences had Kevin & Paul not

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

become acquainted? Had Paul not known that Kevin's condition was potentially serious, and taken steps to get EMT assistance? Had Mary Anne not been available to care for Logan? What are the chances that Paul and Kevin's folks lived within a few miles of each other in Florida? Someone would probably have stepped in, but the point is, no one had to. Somebody remarked that if this had to happen, this was the best place in the universe that it could have happened. Mary Anne overheard Logan's friend, the son of another Ranger, say to Logan, "that's what we do. . . we're family. We take care of each other." Brother and sisterhood starts young.

Kevin's mother and sisters were shocked at the level of assistance that was extended, including the fact that Paul stayed at the hospital with Kevin, that we took care of Logan while they were in the hospital with Kevin, that Paul took him to the banquet & that he got to sit at the head table, that the Association would pick up the cost of their room, etc., etc. Someone pointed out that it was no big deal, that that's what we would expect to do for each other. I don't think that I've ever been as proud to be a member of anything. Good job, gentlemen and ladies.

I am happy to report that Kevin and Logan are back home in Washington State, and that Kevin is back at work, none the worse for the experience, and that Logan is back at school with some pretty neat war stories to tell. And Kevin's sister had a baby girl.

Head Table

Let's talk about the head table concept. I don't think I've ever been more uncomfortable than I was sitting at that damn thing. Mary Anne flat refused at first, I don't want to tell you what I had to promise her to get her to sit there. We are not believers in the Orwellian theory of equality, ie., that all people are equal, but some are more equal than others. Every member of this Association is no different than any other member. When I saw the arrangement of those tables, I almost croaked, but it was too late to do anything about it.

There is no question that there needs to be a podium and that the people who are moderating the banquet, usually the elected officers of the association, need to be near the front, where presumably the podium will be. They **do not** however need to be six feet higher than the rest of the room. In the future I think the 'head table' concept needs to be overhauled. It should be where ever it needs to be in order to move the event along, but most certainly should be at the same level as the rest of the room. If any table is to be elevated, it should be the one for the Missing Man and perhaps the Gold Stars.

Life after PTSD

During one of our many discussions about PTSD and its

effect on the daily life of the people in a family of a person who suffers with PTSD, (if one has it, they all do to some extent), we discussed the half full – half empty concept, or basically how you perceive the consequences of any given act. I have been accused of always looking at the worst case scenario and projecting the most dire consequences of any given situation. When this was first a discussion item, I suppose that I was willing to go along with this assessment of my attitude.

After many years of therapy, thousands of hours of discussions with experts and amateurs, a constellation of drugs prescribed by doctors, (hence legal) and not a few bottles of Crown Royal, I have reached a conclusion. My attitude is just fine. I don't need to apologize for being a realist. Terrible things do happen to nice people. Any one who has PTSD has been, by definition, subjected to a trauma. Traumas are terrible things.

The LRRP, LRP and Ranger units in Vietnam were subjected to some of the most intense combat situations in that war or any other. As I used to say to my people, "It's a simple game, there are a lot of them trying to kill a few of us. The way you stay alive is to be better trained, better equipped and be whole lot meaner and more vicious than the lot of them."

Would a 4 to 6 man patrol deep into enemy controlled territory survive if they **did not** plan for the worst case scenario? Every time we went out, every member of the team, from the team leader to the newest member of the team planned for the worst to happen. If nothing happened, no harm, no foul. If it did happen we were prepared for it.

The point here is to recognize what is operating when we blame ourselves for looking at the worst case scenario. Once you realize what is operating, you can put it in perspective and deal with it in a rational manner.

After I left the military, I was trained as a lawyer. This is another profession that is notorious for looking at the downside of every situation. There's a reason for that. When an attorney drafts a contract or agreement between 2 parties, it is drafted with an eye toward the consequences if something should go wrong with the transaction. If all goes well, there is no need for a contract, every one is happy. It's only when things jump the track that we need to define the deal.

Give yourself a break the next time you feel negative all the time. Put it in perspective, once you understand what is operating, it does a great deal toward lessening the depression.

Setting the Record Straight

I want to conclude with something I have thought long and hard about. I felt guilty a number of times during the past year,

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

because our then President, Emmett Hiltibrand was taking a lot of flack from a lot of people for some of the things we were trying to accomplish. I was going to let this go without comment, but, as a friend of mine used to say, "This is the right thing to do".

Part of the problem is, I sort of talked Emmett into taking the President's job for one year. The point of the exercise was to get our reunion in synch with the Ranger Rendezvous, and to accomplish a few other things. It was felt that an additional Vice President would contribute to the leadership pool in the future, that a finance committee was necessary to guide the future financial development and security of the Association and that it was important to recruit the young men coming out of the Regiment now. It was necessary to have by-laws changes in order to accomplish some of these items and Emmett was experienced, having engineered the last major change.

During the course of the last year I was astounded at some of the invective, insults and unadulterated crap that was slung his way. He was accused of being power hungry by seeking to become president a second time, (blame me for that); of being a dictator, (no decision was ever made without consulting Bill Bullen, Rick Benner, or me); and a number of other crimes against the Association.

I just want to set the record straight on a couple points. In the time that I have been involved with this Association, 5 years as editor and 1 year as secretary, I have observed pretty much everything Emmett has done for this Association, as president, web master, and again as president. I have had many, many conversations with him, on the phone, at his house, at my

house, etc., etc. During the course of the above relationship, we became friends. We were not in Vietnam together, did not share any time in the military together, or even know each other prior to him drafting me into the editor's job. When I was sick, he dropped everything and drove 600 miles to my house. When he needed a back operation, I went to his house. The point of this is, I think I can say that I know him. He was responsible for the by-laws change in 2002, for the Gold Star program, for the family fund, state coordinator program, etc. etc. He has done a lot for this Association, and he did not do it for any sort of personal gain or agenda. He & I both feel that this Association is worth working for and worth preserving.

Emmett has his faults, but there are a number of things that he is not; he is not petty, he is not self-serving or selfish and he is not vindictive. He is generous, honest, hard working and honorable. Everything that he has attempted to accomplish for this organization, I am confident, has been for the good of the Association only. I don't want to make this into a love fest or to blow sunshine up his butt, I just want to set the record straight. We were lucky to have him when we did.

When you examine these thoughts in light of the points I was making about guilt and the worst case scenario, it sort of puts both topics in context.

Parting Shots

"True heroism is remarkably sober, very un-dramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others, at whatever cost." Arthur Ashe

Over heard in the hospitality room at the reunion, a group of women of course, "When he was circumcised, they threw the best part away." Ouch. No, I won't divulge who they were talking about.

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Reuben Siverling

What a great time to meet with many of you again at the reunion in Columbus, Georgia. Thank you to so very many who made the extra effort to be there. My special thanks to all those who devoted hours, weeks and months into coordinating all aspects of the reunion. A "Job Well Done!" does not even begin to express the gratitude I feel. Stay well and let's meet again soon and often.

As your newly appointed, elected, volunteer, etc Association Treasurer, I assure you I appreciate your comments on funds availability, funds management, short and long-term investment



**Reuben
Siverling**

possibilities and all matters concerning funds control and accountability. I am excited to hear about the newly formed Finance Committee and hope to enter into and retain an on-going dialogue with them. I am confident that by the time this issue of Patrolling is released, our very worthy Secretary John Chester will have contact names and numbers to assist us in this open book communication. Steve, John, Bull and I have been in communication but have intentionally attempted to try to not get too many more irons in the fire until the of income and related reunion expenses has been reconciled. Again my thanks for the privilege in serving. Please accept my invitation and the openness of all our officers and Unit Representatives to keep us informed of your wants, needs and desired improvements.

GOLD STAR...



Received the following info yesterday from Ruth Stonesifer
Will forward details & info to you ASAP. Our hearts are once
again heavy and our love & prayer are with this families.

God Bless & RLTW

Sandee

They died on Aug. 4, in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, when their
vehicle left the road and went into a river. The soldiers were
assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort
Benning, Ga.

Killed were:

Pvt. 1st Class Damian J. Garza, 19, of Odessa, Texas.

Pvt. John M. Henderson Jr., 21, of Columbus, Ga.

DoD Identifies Army Casualties

The Department of Defense announced today the death of two
soldiers who were supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

When I think of a Veteran

When I think of a veteran
I see in my mind
A person tough on the outside
But inside really kind.

The person who is willing
To lay down his life
For any buddy or country
Through any battle or strife.

I see someone who was called
By the powers to be
Or someone who felt it their duty
To help anywhere on land, air, or sea

I see that person angered
By what the enemy can do
Yet I can see them praying
“Lord, help us see it through.”

So much senseless warfare
So many comrades left behind.
So much senseless brutality
Some wish that they were blind.

Yet along with those in battle
There were others with jobs to do
Such as clerks, cooks, and cleaning crews
Doctors, nurses that soldiers never knew

There were many others doing their work
That are owed our honor and thanks
Too many that can never be named
All workers who made the ranks.

But after the world is quiet and
The wars have come to an end
The veteran becomes a changed person
and is everybody's friend.

They can be a father or mother
A preacher, teacher or “upstart”
But we must always remember
They are a veteran at heart.

And then finally I can see them
As life is fading away.
And they stand so very proudly
As the parade passes their way

I can see the tears that are falling
as the flag comes into sight
And their hands are across their hearts
shaking
Still knowing what they did was right.

A veteran adds up to many things
That through his life he has done
And we all owe them our lives
For we are their daughter or son

Would we still be American
Had they not answered the call
We must never, ever, ever,
Let our country fall.

Finally a point to think about
and in your heart and answer seek
If all veterans hadn't done their duty
WHAT LANGUAGE MIGHT WE NOW
SPEAK??

Author unknown.
Submitted by Don Keller

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, Steve Crabtree - President

VA HEALTH CARE MANDATORY FUNDING UPDATE

01: Recent announcements that the Department of Veterans Affairs had underestimated its fiscal 2005 and 2006 health care budgets by billions of dollars came as no surprise to the four veterans' service organizations that co-author The Independent Budget. Senior leaders from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans and Paralyzed Veterans of America are telling the administration and Congress that the VA's funding formula was flawed and The Independent Budget recommendations were far more realistic than the administration's. The budget shortfall is causing VA medical centers and clinics to take drastic measures from now to the end of the government's fiscal year on 30 SEP. The VFW has alleged that some facilities are shortening hours, not filling employee vacancies, or not accepting new patients. Others are prescribing less expensive medications, or have replaced expensive temporary staffs with less expensive, less skilled employees. [Source: Armed Forces News 5 AUG 05]

VA VISION LEGISLATION: Rep. Tom Udall (D-NM), has announced he is cosponsoring legislation that will enhance current disability benefits for veterans with service-connected vision loss. This legislation will bring vision-loss compensation in line with benefits paid for loss of use of other paired organs. The Disabled Veterans Equity Act, H.R. 2963, will provide increased disability compensation at 10% or greater vision impairment in the second eye after a veteran has completely lost sight in the first eye due to a service-connected injury. Potentially thousands of vision-impaired veterans stand to benefit from this legislation. Combat-related vision loss is an unfortunate consequence of service for many veterans. Current law provides compensation for the service-connected eye injury but withholds additional disability benefits for the remaining eye until the veteran is completely blind. This same legislation gives special consideration for other paired organs such as the ears for which a veteran may receive additional disability compensation at 10% or greater hearing loss in the second ear. Udall has been a member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs since 1999 and currently sits on the Subcommittee on Disability and Memorial Affairs. [Source: New Mexico e-

Veterans News 10 AUG 05]

PTSD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS: As a result of service experiences 10 to 20% of veterans will subsequently develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a psychiatric disorder that occurs after a life-threatening event, such as personal assault, natural disaster, or military combat. The affects of PTSD can be debilitating with symptoms ranging from severe nightmares and flashbacks to insomnia and increasing social isolation. In recent years, the focus for the military has been on the rising occurrences of combat-related disorders as more and more soldiers return from war. It is common for soldiers to deal with post-combat depression, insomnia, nightmares and family issues; however, it's the duration and intensity that differentiate normal reactions from a diagnosis of PTSD. According to clinical psychologists it's normal to be affected by combat. However, when the nightmares become so vivid and horrible they wake the soldier from sleep or the soldier develops a profound anger that the symptoms become problematic. If these and other symptoms continue for six months, PTSD is a strong possibility. To start the healing process, psychiatrists recommend a variety of methods, such as relaxation techniques, sleep strategies and, in some cases, medication. Each military branch has programs for its servicemembers, and the Department of Veterans Affairs offers free counseling sessions. For more information on PTSD or VA assistance, refer to The National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) website www.ncptsd.va.gov or contact the local military mental health facility. [Source: Military.com Report 18 JUL 05]

VA MALPRACTICE OR WRONGFUL DEATH: Prior to 1946, Americans could not sue the United States for personal injury or wrongful death caused by employees of the federal government because the federal government had immunity from civil suits. Victims of this negligence generally had to rely on members of Congress to pass individual bills of relief. However, after World War Two, as a direct response to the claim that citizens were left with inadequate remedies against the federal government, Congress passed the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA). When Veterans or others sue the VA or any other agency of the Federal Government, they are actually suing the

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

United States of America. And once in Federal District Court the claimant is known as the Plaintiff, and the United States of America is known as the Defendant. Additionally, there are no provisions for jury trials in the FTCA. Therefore, only a Federal Judge will preside and decide the outcome of the case. When applied to the VA, the FTCA provides relief for any injury or loss of property or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of any VA employee while acting within the scope of their employment including but not limited to malpractice, neglect, physical or verbal patient abuse, intimidation, exploitation, wrongful discharge from a VA Hospital, Domiciliary or Nursing Home, or wrongful death while a Veteran is hospitalized or receiving treatment or examinations provided by the VA, or while in a VA vocational rehabilitation or compensated work therapy activity or program. The statute of limitations for bringing a claim under the FTCA is two years from the time a claimant learns of the injury's existence and cause. However, before a filing a complaint in Federal District Court, the FTCA requires that all claimants must first file an Administrative Tort Claim against the VA by filing a Standard Form 95 at the VA facility where the injury or death occurred. Once claimants state an amount in damages on their filed standard Form 95 they cannot later ask for a larger amount should it become necessary to file a lawsuit in Federal District Court, unless the increased amount is based on newly discovered evidence. After the claim is filed the VA has six months to dispose of the claim (approve or deny the claim). If the VA does not dispose of the claim within six months, their failure to act within this time period with or without written notification also constitutes a denial. Therefore, if an Administrative Tort Claim against the VA is denied, claimants have six months to file suit in Federal District Court. After six months, the claim is forever barred. Although there are no provisions for punitive damages in the FTCA, according to Federal District Court statistics in which Plaintiffs won, the median damage for medical malpractice was \$463,000. In 29% of those same cases, damages awarded were over \$1million, and in 9% awards exceeded \$10 million. If you believe that you have a valid claim against the VA, you should seek the advice of an experienced Attorney, immediately. The FTCA provides a limitation on Attorney fees for claimants of 20% in settlement and 25% once the case is in litigation. [Source: New Mexico e-Veterans News 13 JUL 05 reprint of 2003 article of Veterans Advocate Terry Richards]

VETERANS DISABILITY BENEFITS COMMISSION:

The Veterans Disability Benefits Commission was created through a provision in the 2004 Defense Authorization Act. It held its first meetings in May and June during which it took testimony from invited groups. The 13-member panel is tasked with issuing its final report to Congress in AUG 06. Congress has instructed the Commission to examine the appropriateness of:

* Compensation for disabled vets and survivors of vets who died from causes related to military service.

* The level of such benefits.

* A standard for determining whether a disability or death of a veteran should be compensated.

VFW and other veterans advocates are concerned that the commission panel will attempt to roll back increases in benefits disabled vets and dependents of deceased veterans have gained since 1999 by suggesting current VA rating evaluations are too generous. The belief is that the commission's goal is to cut future benefits and remove veterans from VA compensation rolls. Some issues under review that would do this are:

- Changing the definition of when an active-duty service member is actually on active duty. Last year Dr. David Chu, the Pentagon's undersecretary for personnel and readiness, questioned whether active-duty GIs who get hurt while participating in activities during their free time—like weightlifting or other forms of physical training—should be eligible for service- connected benefits.

- Consideration of a controversial proposal to offer lump-sum payments to veterans with current disability ratings of 20% or less. Proposed by VA's Inspector General (IG), the payments would disqualify disabled vets from future compensation or appeals and supposedly allow Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) employees to concentrate on more complex claims.

- Consideration of an IG suggestion during their June meetings that the VBA review post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and individual unemployability claims for errors or evidence of fraud. The plan is for 10 VBA staffers to review an initial batch of 2,100 cases before moving on to the main task of inspecting 100,000 of those ratings.

VFW will be monitoring all of the commission's open meetings in order to keep their membership informed of the Commission's progress and potential impact of their decisions. [VFW Magazine Tim Dyhouse article AUG 05]

MILITARY LODGING: Active duty and military retirees can check on the availability of Army billeting at military facilities anywhere in the world through one toll-free call. The toll-free number (800) 462-7691 connects callers with a central reservation system that can provide information on availability's and book rooms. Navy Lodge guests can reserve rooms by logging onto NEXCOM's Website www.navy-nex.com. Guests can reserve a room or change, cancel, or confirm a reservation by accessing the Navy Lodge online registration link on the Website. The request is sent to the Navy Lodge Program's Central Reservation Center (CRC) in Jacksonville, Fla., for processing. Guests should receive an e-mail confirmation on any change made within 24 hours. If no confirmation number is given, guests can call the CRC at 1-800-NAVY-INN. Internet reservations cannot be made, changed, or canceled later than two days prior to the arrival date. For more information, visit <http://www.navy-nex.com/> or telephone 1-800-NAVY-INN and speak with the customer service representative. Personnel can also check on the availability of billeting and make reservations at Air Force facilities worldwide at (800) 235-6343. A military Bed & Breakfast Club

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

is available for a fee at (703) 525-3372 or retrveille@aol.com [refer to Bulletin article].

The Armed Forces Vacation Club (AFVC) is a space available program offering Department of Defense affiliated personnel the opportunity to take affordable vacations at resorts. The AFVC makes this possible by utilizing available inventory at timeshare resorts through RCI (Resort Condominiums International, LLC). This program allows active duty and retired military personnel the option to rent a vacation condo either in seven day increments or choose to stay for one night or more. Resort properties are available in the U.S. and Canada in daily and weekly increments. Nightly Getaway rates start as low as \$75 during peak season; with peak period weekly rates as low as \$199. Rentals come in a variety of sizes: one bedroom and larger condos, studios and cottages. Many of the vacation properties come with fully equipped kitchen, washer and dryer, living room, dining area, swimming pool, hot tub, fitness center and handicapped accessibility features. To make any AFVC reservation, members will need their AFVC installation identification number obtainable from one following offices, depending on the military installation: MWR (Moral, Welfare & Recreation), ITT (Information, Tours & Tickets or Information, Tours & Travel) and ITR (Information, Tours & Recreation). Nightly Getaway reservations must be made within 60 days of travel. Weekly rentals can be made up to 12 months in advance, based on availability. For Nightly Getaway reservations call 1-888-338-0970. For weekly reservations call 1-800-724-9988 or

go to www.afvclub.com.

You can choose from a variety of Bed & Breakfasts, Guest Homes, Inns and Lodges in the Colorado Springs and surrounding areas at www.coloradorandr.com/ or the Pikes Peak area at <http://pikespeakareabnbs.com/>. Armed Forces Recreation Centers (AFRC) can also offer excellent accommodations in scenic areas. Check out:

1. AFRC Seward AK <http://143.213.12.254/mwr/seward.htm>
Tel: (800) 770-1858 /(907) 384-3474/(907) 384-0248Fax
2. AFRC Europe
<http://troll.redstone.army.mil/mwr/afrcs/index.html> or
vacation@afrc.garmisch.army.mil
<<mailto:vacation@afrc.garmisch.army.mil>>
Tel: 011-49-8051-803172/803158F
3. AFRC HI "Hale Koa Hotel" information@halekoa.com
<<mailto:information@halekoa.com>>
Tel: (800) 367-6027/425-3329F
4. AFRC Keystone CO "Rocky Mountain Blue"
www.rockymountainblue.com
5. AFRC Korea "Dragon Hill" www.dragonhilllodge.com
Tel: 011-822-790-0016/792-0036F
6. AFRC Orlando FL - Shades of Green Resort
Tel: (407) 824-3600/3665F
7. AFRC Tokyo "New Sanno Hotel" www.thenewsanno.com
[Source: Various AUG 05]

WASHINGTON - The Army announced today the design for the Combat Action Badge.

The design was approved by Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, Army chief of staff.

The CAB, featuring both a bayonet and grenade, may be awarded to any Soldier performing assigned duties in an area where hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay is authorized, who is personally present and actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy, and performing satisfactorily in accordance with the prescribed rules of engagement, according to its authorizing language. Award is not limited by one's branch or military occupational specialty.

"Warfare is still a human endeavor," Schoomaker said. "Our intent is to recognize Soldiers who demonstrate and live the Warrior Ethos."

"The Global War on Terrorism and its associated operations will be the first era of conflict considered for this award," said Lt. Col. Bill Johnson, Human Resources Command chief of military awards. "September 18, 2001, is the effective date for the new award. That is when President Bush signed Senate Joint Resolution 23, authorizing the use of military force against those responsible for the recent attacks launched against the United States."

The CAB will go into immediate production and should be available late this summer or early fall through unit supply and military clothing sales stores.

H E A L T H

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.

VA Study Gives New Hope to Shingles Sufferers

WASHINGTON (June 1, 2005) - Relief from the painful symptoms of shingles is closer for millions of Americans, thanks to a pioneering study by researchers from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

"This latest study is the most recent example in a long string of medical accomplishments - from the pacemaker to space-age prosthetics - that came from VA researchers," said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

In one of the largest medical studies involving the Department, VA researchers found that an experimental vaccine cut the incidence of shingles in half and dramatically reduced its severity for other victims.

Shingles is a painful nerve and skin infection that afflicts

half of the people who live to age 85. It can last months, or even years. Victims develop painful blistering, and some may have permanent nerve damage. It afflicts about 1 million Americans each year.

The study involved 38,000 people, all aged at least 60, who agreed to participate. Half the participants received a new vaccine, the other half a placebo. The study's results were reported in the June 2 edition of the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine.

"I'm proud that, in serving veterans, our VA researchers are also serving all Americans," Nicholson said. "As we enter our 75th anniversary year, this is another VA tradition that is stronger than ever."

VA to Review 72,00 PTSD Cases Rated at 100%

By Tom Philpott

August 18, 2005

Ronald Nesler of Las Cruces, N.M., a Vietnam veteran rated 100-percent disabled by post-traumatic stress disorder, learned this month that his case, as decided in 1997 by the Department of Veterans Affairs, lacked documents to support the finding of service-connected PTSD. The VA regional office in Albuquerque advised Nesler in an Aug. 11 letter that he has 60 days to provide evidence he was exposed to the stressful wartime incidents described in his claim papers years ago. "Otherwise, benefits, if confirmed entitlement is not established, may result in a change in your disability claims compensation," the VA letter warned. The sentence was set off by bold-face and underlined type. Nesler's "permanent and total" disability award is suddenly at risk because of a VA inspector general review of 2,100 randomly-selected PTSD cases with 100-percent disability awards. The IG found that 25 percent, or 527 of them, lacked documents to verify veteran-reported evidence.

The IG review of PTSD cases was released in May, as part of a 200-page report on variances in VA disability compensation across the nation. Many more than 527 PTSD cases are at risk, however. The VA has announced it will review documents of 72,000 PTSD cases, those awarded 100-percent disability ratings from Oct. 1, 1999, through Sept. 30, 2004. Over those five years, the number

veterans awarded compensation for PTSD jumped by 80 percent, from 120,000 cases in fiscal 1999 to 216,000. The planned review of the 72,000 cases likely won't begin until January, said VA spokesman Scott Hogenson. "Everybody talks about how PTSD is a very subjective diagnosis. This is not about diagnosis," said Hogenson. "This is about collecting the empirical paperwork that says, 'Yes, this individual was in this set of circumstances during this time in which these things happened, which may have led to post-traumatic stress.'"

Legitimate stressors in a veteran's service jacket might be descriptions and dates of combat engagements or "de facto" stress indicators like a Combat Infantry Badge or Purple Heart. The aim is to verify exposure to conditions that might leave a veteran with PTSD. The IG study suggested that claim examiners have been lax in demanding documents. From 1999 to 2004, the IG said, PTSD payments jumped by 149 percent, from a \$1.7 billion total a year to \$4.3 billion. To show the potential cost of not seeking evidence of stressors in PTSD cases, the IG said a 25 percent error rate would have caused "questionable payments" of \$860 million for VA in 2004 and \$19.8 billion over those veterans' lifetimes.

Nesler, who has a wife and handicapped step-daughter, receives PTSD compensation of a little over \$2500 a month. He said VA officials have assured him that a decision to lower his PTSD rating would reflect a VA

HEALTH

mistake. It should not raise suspicion of fraud. They also have assured him, though not in writing, that his VA compensation won't fall. They do so, most likely, because Nesler has a 100-percent rating for prostate cancer. The VA presumes this cancer, if suffered by Vietnam veterans, presumably is from exposure to Agent Orange, a defoliant used widely during that war. Nesler said his disability for cancer is not "permanent and total" like his PTSD award. He knows of many veterans treated for cancer who have seen their rating, and thus their pay, drop sharply following treatment.

A 1967 draftee, Nesler reached Vietnam in 1970. He served for 13 of his 14 months as a meteorological observer for B Battery, 6 th Battalion, 32 nd Artillery, part of the 1 st Field Forces Vietnam. The whole war experience was stressful, Nesler said, though his unit came under fire only seven or eight days while he was there. His most disturbing memories, he said, are of atrocities committed by soldiers. Nesler said he saw an American soldier detonate a directional mine toward a small bus, filled with Vietnamese women and children, near the town of Ninh Hoa. The incident, he said, was covered up but the screams and faces haunt him still. Nesler said he also feels guilt for not having filed an official incident report.

Nesler, a staff sergeant, was discharged in 1975 after eight years. He wasn't feeling well and, as the years passed, he grew more anxious, had nightmares, insomnia and difficulty concentrating, all of which the VA later would tie to the war. In 1997, before VA approved his PTSD claim, Nesler gave to VA the names of a senior officer, two warrant officers and several senior enlisted soldiers who likely could verify the bus incident. "I thought that was my proof," he said. A VA official told him only recently that the names were never contacted. Still, the VA ruled in 1997, based on "un-refuted evidence," that Nesler had served in a combat zone, had witnessed "a bus being bombed" and had a well-founded diagnosis of PTSD. It found "total occupational and social impairment" from a variety of symptoms. Yet, Nesler said, he was in far better shape then than he is today. "I have emphysema. I have cancer. I have a torn ligament in my shoulder. I have severe arthritis. I have PTSD...And I get this [letter] dropped in my lap. Right now my life is on hold 'til I find out what's going to happen."

If the VA experience with 2100 PTSD cases is repeated in a review of 72,000 next year, one quarter of these vets, about 18,000, might feel their own stress levels rise as VA presses them to better document their claims.

PTSD AS A DISEASE

Contributed by Jim Cooke of the Cacti Association.

In 1980, the American Psychiatric Association added PTSD to the third edition of its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-III) nosologic classification scheme. Although controversial when first introduced, the PTSD diagnosis has filled an important gap in psychiatric theory and practice. From an historical perspective, the significant change ushered in by the PTSD concept was the stipulation that the etiological agent was outside the individual (i.e., a traumatic event) rather than an inherent individual weakness (i.e., a traumatic neurosis). The key to understanding the scientific basis and clinical expression of PTSD is the concept of "trauma." In its initial DSM-III formulation, a traumatic event was conceptualized as a catastrophic stressor that was outside the range of usual human experience. The framers of the original PTSD diagnosis had in mind events such as war, torture, rape, the Nazi Holocaust, the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, natural disasters (such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and volcano eruptions), and human-made disasters (such as factory explosions, airplane crashes, and automobile accidents). They considered traumatic events to be clearly different from the very painful stressors that constitute the normal vicissitudes of life such as divorce, failure, rejection, serious illness, financial reverses, and the like. (By this logic, adverse psychological responses to such "ordinary stressors" would, in DSM-III terms, be characterized as Adjustment

Disorders rather than PTSD.) This dichotomization between traumatic and other stressors was based on the assumption that, although most individuals have the ability to cope with ordinary stress, their adaptive capacities are likely to be overwhelmed when confronted by a traumatic stressor. PTSD is unique among psychiatric diagnoses because of the great importance placed upon the etiological agent, the traumatic stressor. In fact, one cannot make a PTSD diagnosis unless the patient has actually met the "stressor criterion," which means that he or she has been exposed to an historical event that is considered traumatic. Clinical experience with the PTSD diagnosis has shown, however, that there are individual differences regarding the capacity to cope with catastrophic stress. Therefore, while some people exposed to traumatic events do not develop PTSD, others go on to develop the full-blown syndrome. Such observations have prompted the recognition that trauma, like pain, is not an external phenomenon that can be completely objectified. Like pain, the traumatic experience is filtered through cognitive and emotional processes before it can be appraised as an extreme threat. Because of individual differences in this appraisal process, different people appear to have different trauma thresholds, some more protected from and some more vulnerable to developing clinical symptoms after exposure to extremely stressful situations. Although there is currently a renewed interest in subjective aspects of traumatic exposure, it must be emphasized that events such as rape, torture, genocide, and severe war zone stress are experienced as

HEALTH

traumatic events by nearly everyone.

The DSM-III diagnostic criteria for PTSD were revised in DSM-III-R (1987), DSM-IV (1994), and DSM-IV-TR (2000). A very similar syndrome is classified in ICD-10 (The ICD-10 Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders: Clinical Descriptions and Diagnostic Guidelines). Diagnostic criteria for PTSD include a history of exposure to a traumatic event and symptoms from each of three symptom clusters: intrusive recollections, avoidant/numbing symptoms, and hyper-arousal symptoms. A fifth criterion concerns duration of symptoms. One important finding, which was not apparent when PTSD was first proposed as a diagnosis in 1980, is that it is relatively common. Recent data from the national comorbidity survey indicates PTSD prevalence rates are 5% and 10% respectively among American men and women². Rates of PTSD are much higher in postconflict settings such as Algeria (37%), Cambodia (28%), Ethiopia (16%), and Gaza (18%)³. Criteria for a PTSD diagnosis As noted above, the “A” stressor criterion specifies that a person has been exposed to a catastrophic event involving actual or threatened death or injury, or a threat to the physical integrity of him/herself or others. During this traumatic exposure, the survivor’s subjective response was marked by intense fear, helplessness, or horror.

The “B”, or intrusive recollection, criterion includes symptoms that are perhaps the most distinctive and readily identifiable symptoms of PTSD. For individuals with PTSD, the traumatic event remains, sometimes for decades or a lifetime, a dominating psychological experience that retains its power to evoke panic, terror, dread, grief, or despair. These emotions manifest in daytime fantasies, traumatic nightmares, and psychotic reenactments known as PTSD flashbacks. Furthermore, trauma-related stimuli that trigger recollections of the original event have the power to evoke mental images, emotional responses, and psychological reactions associated with the trauma. Researchers can use this phenomenon to reproduce PTSD symptoms in the laboratory by exposing affected individuals to auditory or visual trauma-related stimuli⁴.

The “C”, or avoidant/numbing, criterion consists of symptoms that reflect behavioral, cognitive, or emotional strategies PTSD patients use in an attempt to reduce the likelihood that they will expose themselves to trauma-related stimuli. PTSD patients also use these strategies in an attempt to minimize the intensity of their psychological response if they are exposed to such stimuli. Behavioral strategies include avoiding any situation in which they perceive a risk of confronting trauma-related stimuli. In its extreme manifestation, avoidant behavior may superficially resemble agoraphobia because the PTSD individual is afraid to leave the house for fear of confronting reminders of the traumatic event(s). Dissociation and psychogenic amnesia are included among the avoidant/numbing symptoms and involve the individuals cutting off the conscious experience of trauma-based memories

and feelings. Finally, since individuals with PTSD cannot tolerate strong emotions, especially those associated with the traumatic experience, they separate the cognitive from the emotional aspects of psychological experience and perceive only the former. Such “psychic numbing” is an emotional anesthesia that makes it extremely difficult for people with PTSD to participate in meaningful interpersonal relationships. Symptoms included in the “D”, or hyper-arousal, criterion most closely resemble those seen in panic and generalized anxiety disorders. While symptoms such as insomnia and irritability are generic anxiety symptoms, hyper-vigilance and startle are more characteristic of PTSD. The hyper-vigilance in PTSD may sometimes become so intense as to appear like frank paranoia. The startle response has a unique neurobiological substrate and may actually be the most pathognomonic PTSD symptom. The “E”, or duration, criterion specifies how long symptoms must persist in order to qualify for the (chronic or delayed) PTSD diagnosis. In DSM-III, the mandatory duration was six months. In DSM-III-R, the duration was shortened to one month, which it has remained. The “F”, or functional significance, criterion specifies that the survivor must experience significant social, occupational, or other distress as a result of these symptoms.

Assessing PTSD

Since 1980, there has been a great deal of attention devoted to the development of instruments for assessing PTSD. Keane and associates, working with Vietnam war-zone veterans, have developed both psychometric and psychophysiological assessment techniques that have proven to be both valid and reliable. Other investigators have modified such assessment instruments and used them with natural disaster victims, rape/incest survivors, and other traumatized individuals. These assessment techniques have been used in the epidemiological studies mentioned above and in other research protocols.

Neurobiological research indicates that PTSD may be associated with stable neurobiological alterations in both the central and autonomic nervous systems. Psychophysiological alterations associated with PTSD include hyper-arousal of the sympathetic nervous system, increased sensitivity and augmentation of the acoustic-startle eye blink reflex, a reduced pattern of auditory evoked cortical potentials, and sleep abnormalities.

Neuropharmacologic and neuroendocrine abnormalities have been detected in most brain mechanisms that have evolved for coping, adaptation, and preservation of the species. These include the noradrenergic, hypothalamic-pituitary adrenocortical, serotonergic, glutamatergic, thyroid, endogenous opioid, and other systems. This information is reviewed extensively elsewhere.

Longitudinal research has shown that PTSD can become a chronic psychiatric disorder and can persist for decades and sometimes for a lifetime. Patients with chronic PTSD often exhibit a longitudinal course marked by remissions and

HEALTH

relapses. There is also a delayed variant of PTSD in which individuals exposed to a traumatic event do not exhibit the PTSD syndrome until months or years afterward. Usually, the immediate precipitant is a situation that resembles the original trauma in a significant way (for example, a war veteran whose child is deployed to a war zone or a rape survivor who is sexually harassed or assaulted years later).

If an individual meets diagnostic criteria for PTSD, it is likely that he or she will meet DSM-IV-TR criteria for one or more additional diagnoses.

Most often, these comorbid diagnoses include major affective disorders, dysthymia, alcohol or substance abuse disorders, anxiety disorders, or personality disorders. There is a legitimate question whether the high rate of diagnostic comorbidity seen with PTSD is an artifact of our current decision-making rules for the PTSD diagnosis since there are not exclusionary criteria in DSM-III-R. In any case, high rates of comorbidity complicate treatment decisions concerning patients with PTSD since the clinician must decide whether to treat the comorbid disorders concurrently or sequentially.

Although PTSD continues to be classified as an Anxiety Disorder, areas of disagreement about its nosology and phenomenology remain. Questions about the syndrome itself include: what is the clinical course of untreated PTSD; are there different subtypes of PTSD; what is the distinction between traumatic simple phobia and PTSD; and what is the clinical phenomenology of prolonged and repeated trauma? With regard to the latter, Herman⁸ has argued that the current PTSD formulation fails to characterize the major symptoms of PTSD commonly seen in victims of prolonged, repeated interpersonal violence such as domestic or sexual abuse and political torture. She has proposed an alternative diagnostic formulation that emphasizes multiple symptoms, excessive somatization, dissociation, changes in affect, pathological changes in relationships, and pathological changes in identity.

PTSD has also been criticized from the perspective of cross-cultural psychology and medical anthropology, especially with respect to refugees, asylum seekers, and political torture victims from non-Western regions. Clinicians and researchers working with such survivors argue that since PTSD has usually been diagnosed by clinicians from Western industrialized nations working with patients from a similar background, the diagnosis does not accurately reflect the clinical picture of traumatized individuals from non-Western traditional societies and cultures. Major gaps remain in our understanding of the effects of ethnicity and culture on the clinical phenomenology of posttraumatic syndromes. We have only just begun to apply vigorous ethnocultural research strategies to delineate possible differences between Western and non-Western societies regarding the psychological impact of traumatic exposure and the clinical manifestations of such exposure.

Treatment for PTSD

The many therapeutic approaches offered to PTSD patients are presented in Foa, Keane, and Friedman's comprehensive book on treatment. The most successful interventions are cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) and medication. Excellent results have been obtained with some CBT combinations of exposure therapy and cognitive restructuring, especially with female victims of childhood or adult sexual trauma. Sertraline (Zoloft) and paroxetine (Paxil) are selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI) that are the first medications to have received FDA approval as indicated treatments for PTSD. Success has also been reported with Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), although rigorous scientific data are lacking and it is unclear whether this approach is as effective as CBT.

Perhaps the best therapeutic option for mildly to moderately affected PTSD patients is group therapy. In such a setting, the PTSD patient can discuss traumatic memories, PTSD symptoms, and functional deficits with others who have had similar experiences. This approach has been most successful with war veterans, rape/incest victims, and natural disaster survivors. It is important that therapeutic goals be realistic because, in some cases, PTSD is a chronic and severely debilitating psychiatric disorder that is refractory to current available treatments. The hope remains, however, that our growing knowledge about PTSD will enable us to design interventions that are more effective for all patients afflicted with this disorder.

There is great interest in rapid interventions for acutely traumatized individuals, especially with respect to civilian disasters, military deployments, and emergency personnel (medical personnel, police, and firefighters). This has become a major policy and public health issue since the massive traumatization caused by the September 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Currently, there is controversy about which interventions work best during the immediate aftermath of a trauma. Research on critical incident stress debriefing (CISD), an intervention used widely, has brought disappointing results with respect to its efficacy to attenuate posttraumatic distress or to forestall the later development of PTSD. Promising results have been shown with brief cognitive-behavioral therapy.

FEATURE ARTICLES

THE AMERICAN RANGER MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

On a warm summer day we buried Ranger Tom Herring of the 5th Ranger Battalion at Arlington National Cemetery. Tom trained as a Ranger at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, Fort Pierce, Florida and in England. He participated in the allied invasion of the European continent at Normandy on June 6 1944 and was present on blood stained Omaha Beach when Brigadier General Norman Cota uttered words that are the true motto of the Rangers. Those words are “Rangers Lead The Way!” From Omaha Beach to the heart of Nazi Germany, Ranger Tom Herring lived the Ranger motto. When the war that many people thought would make future wars unthinkable was finished, Tom Herring became an engineer. Throughout his life he never forgot his Ranger roots and he contributed much of his time to the Ranger Associations.

When taps was played, the volleys fired and the flag folded, we said a Ranger farewell to this friend and brother with a final roll call. Rangers who fought in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq, participated.

Arlington National Cemetery is hallowed ground. Within its 200 acres are the graves of 250,000 service personnel and their families. President John Kennedy is buried there and beneath a simple stone lies the body of Audie Murphy. Though burials at Arlington began during the Civil War, there are veterans of our Revolution and all our other wars who now rest in peace in the green, rolling hills of Arlington.

Presidents, kings and millions of visitors from at home and abroad come to Arlington. Some four million visitors a year come to pay their respects to our honored dead. There are over five hundred unknown service members buried at Arlington and our National Cemetery is the home of the tomb of the unknowns. An unknown dead from World War I, is interred there, one from the European and one from the Pacific Theater represent World War II. An unknown from the Korean War is also interred. Vietnam was represented but DNA testing proved the body to be that of Air Force Lieutenant Michael Joseph Blassie who was shot down in 1972. The Vietnam War crypt remains empty and advances in DNA identification may keep it so.

When the millions of visitors come to Arlington there is ample opportunity to pay recognition to units in which our warriors served. The 101st Airborne and the 4th Infantry Division are among those with imposing monuments to the valor of their men.

The Rangers need such a monument where these millions of visitors can see it and recognize the sacrifice of the American Ranger in nearly 400 years of service to our beloved homeland. Our Ranger ancestors were the guardians of the frontier. We came into being in the early 1600s and fought six wars before the United States was formed.

In its military sense the word Ranger is an American word,

born on these shores. That is not a matter of dispute. The British equivalent of our Center For Military History has concurred in writing that “Ranger” is American.

From the Colonial Wars, the Revolutionary War, thru the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Indian Wars and World War II, Korea, Vietnam and all those that have followed, the Rangers have fought with skill and valor. Beginning with the Korean War the proud title Airborne was added to Ranger skills.

History is not kind to those who remain silent. If men are not willing to tell their own story they should not be surprised when no one else does it for them. The U.S. Marines know that well and they leave no stone unturned in making certain the American public and the world knows of their exploits. They justly earned their pride and show it. The Rangers can greatly benefit by the American public knowing of their worth, indeed it may be the Ranger salvation in the budget battles and military transitions that are ever before us.

There is a great monument to the Rangers at Fort Benning, Georgia, but how many thousands let alone millions of Americans will see it. For most Americans even trying to get on a military base means being subject to delays and searches and while Columbus, Georgia is a fine city it is hardly a bastion of national tourism. The monument at Benning is a treasure to those who visit Fort Benning but it cannot and does not help to educate an American public a scant few of whom ever get to see it.

THE AMERICAN RANGER MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION INC. has now been formed for the initial specific purpose of erecting a memorial to American Rangers who have fought in wars past and present beginning with the 17th century. We seek to accomplish this where it may be seen by the millions of visitors to Arlington National Cemetery. There are other monuments to the Rangers in Europe and in the United States but none would be viewed by as many members of the American Public as the one now proposed. This monument is being taken to the people.

The proposed monument is not a threat to any other established monument and we have no interest in turf or ego conflict. We Rangers have fought wars since the early 1600s and fought world wide. Surely the Rangers are capable of having more than one commemoration of their exploits. -

Ranger Bob Black

FEATURE ARTICLES

BELTWAY RANGERS

BY: Jim Waters

The unofficial “Beltway Rangers” conducted a Ranger Reception and Oral History Program on Tuesday, 19 July 2005, at the Army Navy County Club in Arlington, Virginia the event offered an opportunity to meet, visit and share camaraderie with fellow Rangers. The program was sponsored by Rangers Jim Littig and Grayson Winterling of Congressional Strategies, LLC.

There were two distinguished speakers:

Colonel K.K. Chinn, Commander of the Ranger Training Brigade (RTB) provided a briefing on the current state of Ranger Training in today’s demanding special operations environment. COL Chinn has commanded the RTB since July 2004; he has served in numerous command and staff positions including two tours with the 75th Ranger Regiment. He is a veteran of Operations Urgent Fury, Just Cause, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

MG (Retired) Jerry White, President of the National Infantry Association and Chairman of the National Infantry Foundation. MG White briefed on the plans to build and operate a new and impressive National Infantry Museum and Heritage Park on a 200-acre site at Ft. Benning. The goals of this remarkable project are to educate, honor and preserve the Infantry legacy of valor and sacrifice.

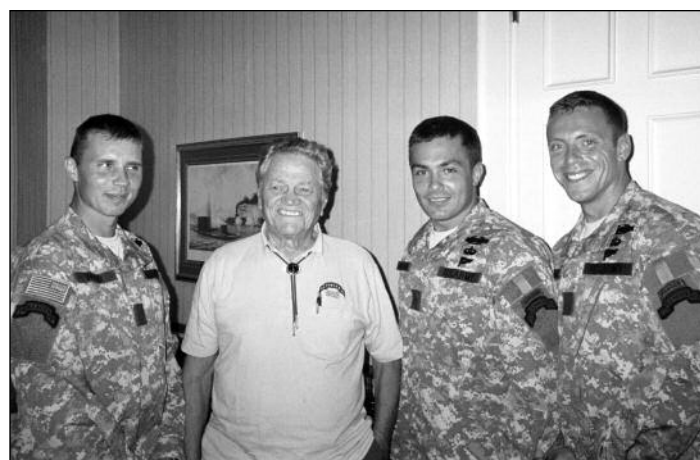
As always, the Reception and Oral History Program was open to all U.S. Army Rangers from any era, whenever and wherever Rangers have served. In addition to Rangers from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Granada, Panama, Gulf Wars, Somalia and Afghanistan, several active duty Rangers from Walter Reed Medical Center attended.

A highlight of the program was a static display and demonstration equipment currently employed by members of the 75th Ranger Regiment. Three NCOs from the Regiment manned the display and answered questions.

Overall, it was a successful evening of camaraderie and education.



COL KK Chen, assisted by RTB CSM Greenway, Commander, Ranger Training Brigade makes a point during his briefing to the Beltway Rangers on 19 July 2005.



Ranger Carl Lehman, a member of Darby's original 1st Battalion in Northern Ireland, North Africa, and Sicily. He transferred to 3d Ranger Battalion and was captured at Cisterna following Anzio. SSG Joe Wood - SSG Jesse Navarro - SSG John Fader from the RTB.



Static weapons and equipment display provided by members of the Ranger Training Brigade.



FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

RANGER BALL

On June 3, 2005, the First Ranger Battalion held their Ranger Ball at the Savannah, GA Trade and Convention Center. The photographs below were taken at the Ball.



Six (6) veteran's of Operation Eagle Claw were present at the 1ST /75 TH Ranger Ball on June 3, 2005 marking the 25th Anniversary of the mission to rescue the hostages in Iran. The 75th Ranger Regt. Association provided a plaque to be presented to the unit commemorating the mission. Pictured in the photo L to R: Rangers, David Lewis, Gene Peters, James P. Kinney, Steve Murphy, and Charles Laws. Missing from the photo was Dwight Drury.



This is a photo of "Golf Team" the Landing Zone extraction teams for Operation Eagle Claw, the mission to rescue the hostage in Iran, April 24, 1980. This photo was taken a month or two before the mission during the intensive training that lasted five straight months. Pictured in the photo: Front row- Rangers, Doc Rodriguez, Sampson, Troller, Unknown. Second row- Rangers Phillips, Kinney, Unknown, PL Wall, Baillargereon, Muro, Laflex.

Ranger Rendezvous & Reunion 2005

First, if you haven't yet attended an Association reunion, start making plans to do so for 2007. The opportunity to connect with brother Rangers, whether newly met or old comrades, is priceless.

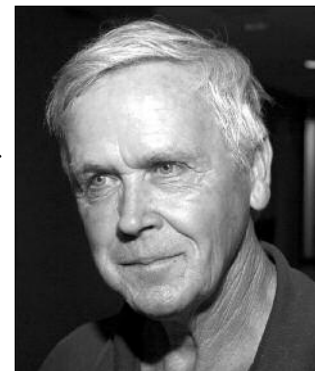
Those present ranged from original Darby's; Merrills Marauders and almost every recognized Ranger unit since and veterans of every modern Ranger action. It was an honor to be in such company.

I'd like to really commend the association officers and volunteers who gave up major portions of their reunion to staff the registration table and handle admin problems for members. Also deserving is the staff at the Holiday Inn North whose



service and support was excellent. They put last year's hotel to shame. A Tip of the Beret to all who planned and ran this convention! This year's reunion coincided with the active duty regimental Ranger Rendezvous and change of command. Throughout the week, our days were full as the Ranger community ensured that there was plenty to see and do.

The week opened on Fryar Drop Zone with the Regimental Recon Detachment performing an impressive HALO insertion and tactics demo, followed by the static line arrival of the 1st and 3d Battalions via C-17 before an audience of family and vets. Later that night, the Regiment and Association members were treated to an exclusive screening of the new Ranger movie 'The Great Raid'.



FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)



This film was premiered only to 'insiders' at Hollywood, and to the Rangers at Ft Benning a month before it opened anywhere else.

On the first full day 3d battalion and Regimental HHC put up an open house. On display were current weapons, equipment, commo gear and vehicles. We were given the chance to see modern barracks, remember the 40 man bays from North Fort? The new Ranger barracks now resemble college dorms. With privates having their

own rooms, two men sharing common baths and kitchenettes, 3d Batt is living large compared to their dad's army. Many currently serving Rangers manned the displays and answered questions while they proudly showed off those 'really cool toys'. And the new tools of the trade are impressive, from hi-tech commo to laser sights and off road vehicles. But far more impressive to this 'old scroll Ranger' from circa 1975 are the young troops employing these tools today. Throughout the week, every serving Ranger I encountered was enthusiastic, well spoken and highly motivated. These "kids" can't wait to come to grips with the enemy. The afternoon was filled with unit competitions in boxing, shooting and sports. The fighters were not pulling any punches as battalion rivalry is as strong as ever!



Back at the hotel, Rangers were arriving throughout the day. The hospitality rooms were open and remained so all week, providing a rally point for members and units to link up until all oh-dark-thirty nightly. I have to say, we proved that beer isn't just for breakfast anymore.

Thursday morning began with a 'State of the regiment' brief by the outgoing regimental commander, Col Craig Nixon, followed by the Ranger Hall of Fame induction. Inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame was our own long ago A Co and HHC commander, Col. Robert K. Howard. That night the Regiment put on a massive BBQ at Lawson Field. Anyone not present for the BBQ should be sorry, you missed one great feed, prepared by regimental cooks – no 'army chow' here, this stuff was great! Besides the full menu, present were hundreds of Rangers, old and new. 2d Battalion notables present included Col Howard and General William 'Buck' Kernan. General Kernan had also commanded HHC and A Co. Our 'hometown guy' who made good, he retired with four stars as CinC, Joint Forces Command. Entertainment was provided lots of us old timers and the new



desert vets. Variations on "there I was" and "9-76, the last Hard Class" were heard all around. Music was by country rockers 'Cornbread', fronted by 3d Battalion Somalia vet Keni Thomas. Good tunes.

Sadly, the association wasn't well represented at the day's events. This is unfortunate. The young troopers miss an opportunity to connect with their heritage and the vets don't get to see how our regiment has evolved. Or closer to some hearts – you miss some fine times if you pass up these events. Aside from the events being impressive, we had a lot of fun, and the hospitality rooms did not go away while we were on post.

On Friday morning, July 8, command of the 75th Ranger Regiment passed from Colonel Craig Nixon to Colonel LaCamera. From there I headed off to see the 'Rangers in Action' demo put on by the Ranger Training Brigade and graduation of Ranger class 7-05. Guest speakers included

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

James Kimsey, founder of AOL and a Ranger alumnus of the early 1960s. Then back to the hotel and another great BBQ, this time provided by our association and followed by a medical miracle.

Ranger Kevin Wilder, a 2d Batt Panama vet, went the extra mile to bring some excitement to the reunion by collapsing Friday evening, having had a blood clot reach his brain. A fast reaction by Kevin, Paul Mercer and John Chester dialing 9-1-1 got Kevin to emergency surgery quick enough to save his life and prevent permanent damage. We learned shortly after the banquet that Kevin was alright, but would be hospitalized for another several days. What some guys won't do to get an extra week off! Seriously, we can be glad that turned out well. Kevin settled in the Sea-Tac area after he ETSed and would enjoy hearing from old comrades.

The membership business meetings are reported



elsewhere. The reunion concluded at the Columbus Ironworks convention center with a memorable banquet event. The Indiana Rangers of D Co – 151st Infantry kicked off the banquet with a presentation that was not only completely unexpected, but hardly left a single Ranger untouched. With a tribute to our MIAs, accompanied by bagpipes and some haunting melodies, D-151 presented the Colors to the Association and concluded with one of their Rangers singing 'An American Soldier'. They earned a long standing ovation and will be an act that is truly hard to follow. The convention guest speaker was WO4 Mike Durant, of 'Blackhawk Down' fame, who made a good presentation and took questions afterward. He proved to be a great speaker and was soft spoken and humble. Mr. Durant also signed copies of his recent book 'In the Company of Heroes'.

The week had passed all too quickly, although not quick enough for my wallet. 0530 Sunday morning saw Mark McDermott and I, and a trunk load of new t-shirts and



memories turning back north. The unit S-5s made a killing off me with the latest generation 'hooyah' t-shirts, caps and coffee mugs. Thanks Mark (C Co, late '70s), for keeping us on course and being a great traveling companion for the 32 hours we spent on driving down and back. I look forward to meeting and seeing many more of you at the 2007 Rendezvous and reunion.

Sua Sponte.

Kevin R. Ingraham 577L

Ed. Note. All the above photos are by the Association Photographer, S. J. 'Peter' Parker.

UNIT REPORTS



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Bill Acebes



25th Anniversary of Operation Eagle Claw.

I can remember like it was yesterday. Thanksgiving Day 1979. I was walking from the mess hall, with my roommate Jim Phillips, when we received word that our Christmas block leaves were cancelled. Something was up. Strangely, only Charlie Company had their block leave cancelled. This was beginning of what was to be the involvement of the 1st/75th Ranger Battalion's first real-world mission.

Our embassy in Iran was overtaken on Election Day November 4th, 1979. The nation was in a crisis like never before. Terrorism was now ours, on our televisions, in our lives. Little did we know then about how to respond to these types of threats. Luckily, there were some who foresaw what was needed to get the job done. Delta Force had just been formed. SOT training had been going on for some years but never tested. Not on a large scale. Of course there were Special Opns. of many kinds in our history, but this was different. Hostile country and government, unfriendly alliances, hostages in a foreign, far off land, with no clear path to the objective, all during a peacetime military. Boy, was this going to be an undertaking.

As the diplomatic clock ticked, plans were made to develop a mission to rescue our American hostages, in the event a military option was necessary. Charlie Company 1st/75th Ranger became part of that plan.

We all knew something was up when in company formation the Monday after Thanksgiving that year, we were separated into teams. First, all NCO's and Ranger qualified were put in one formation. Another formation contained those who were not Ranger qualified or were new to the unit. We always had several Rangers attending schools. There must have been about 80-85 of us in the first formation.

We began to train harder than ever before. New equipment arrived out of nowhere. New weapons broken out of crates. Anything we asked for or needed, we got it.

Teams began to organize into what was to become the airfield seizure mission. Did we know what we were doing? Not really. Nobody asked any questions like why we were doing this. We just did it. We hoped it was for real. For five straight months we trained like we were deploying any minute. Fly-aways, special training for teams and individuals.

I remember our first fly-away. It was on Dec. 9, 1979. We did a night assault on Lawson Army Airfield at Ft. Benning, GA. I remember because that is my Mother's birthday. We did a lot of firing on the ranges that trip too. This was just the beginning.

We were broken into teams. A team up to about L team. I was



on Golf Team. We were to become the landing zone extraction teams at what was to be Desert Two. An undisclosed airfield outside Tehran, Iran where Delta Force would arrive with the hostages and whoever else after the assault on the embassy compound.

Following the first flyaway to Ft. Benning, GA training intensified. We did numerous trips to Eglin AFB and trained out at Hurlbert Field. You could actually feel the history of that place. It is where the Son Tay Raiders trained. We did many fly-aways from there to unknown airfields around the country, mainly out in the West/Mid-West. There were a few full dress rehearsals with the other units involved. But all weighed on the diplomatic negotiations going on along with the high media attention.

Then one night in April we were taken out like many times before, but this time the atmosphere was different. We were fed steaks and shrimp in the mess hall. We began a long flight to an unknown destination. We changed into regular army fatigues complete with leg caps. Quite different from our distinguishing jungle cammys and patrol caps. We landed in what I believe was Maguire AFB in New Jersey. I could just tell it was Maguire being from New York. We had to exit the birds while they refueled. We were ushered into waiting buses with paper covered windows, so we wouldn't be noticeable. We then loaded again and flew for many hours. I remember we were able to walk around the bird, go to the cockpit, but not ask the crew any questions. During that night I looked out the window. It appeared we were approaching the European coast. I had never been there, but some long before geography lesson told me so.

We landed again to refuel. This time we did not deplane. Back in the air for a lot more hours. A second visit to the cockpit I was able to see the River Nile basin as we flew over it during daylight hours. Wow, we were really going this time. We landed and Col. Potter, Delta XO came aboard. He gave our CO Capt.

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)



Photo of AC-130 and MC-130's on tarp waiting for go ahead of Operation Eagle Claw. All photo's are from the Initial Staging Base in Wadi Kena, Egypt, where Delta Force and the Ranger Contingent rallied prior to insertion into Iran to rescue the hostages at the American Embassy in Tehran, Iran. The MC-130's were to airland the Rangers on an airfield in Manzariyah, Iran, Desert Two, with the AC-130 providing air support.

Dave "Hurricane" Grange some instructions. Capt. Grange's only words to us at that time was "You're in the ISB" (initial staging base). Some Ranger in the rear of the aircraft commented that there were pyramids in the distance. "Toto, I have a feeling we are not in Kansas anymore" was my thought!

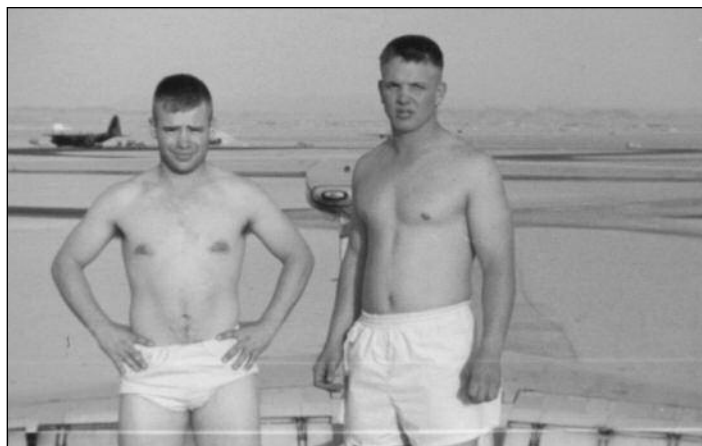
We spent 2 days at an airbase somewhere in Egypt. We did final rehearsals and briefings and we were ready to go. The last night LTC. Williford took us aside and told us that the President of the United States had decided to rescue the hostage by force and that we were chosen for that mission. Five months of intensive training was behind us. It was now time to execute. I can recall the electricity among us in accomplishing the mission.

One of the more comical things I recall in the final briefings was when some British or Australian SAS guy got up to tell us what the E&E plan was. He spoke about in the event we were

separated or had to make a run for it in case no birds could get us out, to commandeer a car and try to make about 400 miles to Turkey. Wow, that was a trip I was not looking forward to. My roommate Jim Phillips said to me quite seriously, let's go the other way Kinney and fight the Russians in Afghanistan!

A Ranger roadblock team departed with Delta Force to another staging base. From there they went to Desert One. The remaining Ranger contingent did final preparation and was about 15 minutes from boarding when we got the code to abort.

I cannot explain the letdown we all felt about the mission not being able to be conducted as fully planned. I believe today it just wasn't meant to be. But back then it seemed to me just too many complication existed to pull this thing off. We learned of the crash at Desert One immediately but did not know details. We were concerned about our fellow Rangers there and all of our fellow Special Opns. Brothers. We had to immediately vacate our host country. It was a bit chaotic for a few minutes. But our Ranger



Rangers Jim Kinney and Mark Bailarger of C Co. 1ST. Bn. Ranger 75th Inf. atop a MIG-21 hangar in Egypt, the day prior to Operation Eagle Claw.

About 90 Rangers from C Co. and some other attachments from Bn. Hdqtrs. made up the Ranger Contingent.

training kicked in and we were accelerated into withdrawal mode.

I remember feeling very confused and concerned for a few minutes. I had the crazy thought that the Russians may come bomb us at that airfield. After all, most of our training during those years was closely related to the Warsaw Pact threat. As fast as those thoughts raced through my mind, our teams and leaders were executing new orders for a new plan. It was a major shift from the mode we were in for the last several months.

We returned stateside after a very long and exhausting flight. We sat thru many debriefs while locked down in Charlie Company barracks. It was a strange time for me. I recall learning more about the crash at Desert One through the news on television. Scenes of American pilots being dragged through the streets of Tehran were incredibly upsetting. It felt like my guts were ripped out. Those scenes replayed again for me over a decade later when in Mogadishu, Somalia the same thing happened. It brought those feelings back. When you are a Ranger you feel for all Rangers.!

We were all given a 15-day administrative leave. Charlie Company and its Headquarters Company attachments finally got



Photo of MIG-21 hangar in Egypt where some of the 6-Day war was fought in 1967. The hangars allowed Soviet MIGs to park and take off from inside. This airfield was used for the Initial Staging Base (ISB) for Operation Eagle Claw, April 24, 1980. I believe we spent two or three nights there.

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)



Another view from atop the hangars at Wadi Kena, Egypt, the initial staging base for Operation Eagle Claw. Note some of the holes out in the desert are from Israeli airstrikes during the 6-Day War in 1967.

their Christmas block leave at the end of April 1980. For some of us, this was only the beginning of long careers in the military and particularly Special Operations. For others, we returned home to civilian lives, forever branded in the Ranger life. This mission, with its mistakes and failures, its successes and accomplishments, forged the blueprint for the forming and birth of Modern-Day Special Operations. Something good came out of something bad.

I still remember my Ranger Brothers, Capt. Grange, all the fly-aways, the singing of songs when we had to break the stress from the times away from family, the time to train, time to have fun, the camaraderie, the Brotherhood, the feeling of defending our Nation, the commitment to do the best we could to rescue Americans held by force in a foreign land, and the feeling of being in the best unit in the entire world. Rangers Lead The Way, Sir!

James P. Kinney

C Co. 1st. Bn. Ranger 75th Inf.

Nov. 1978- Nov 1980

75th RRA Life Member



Ranger David Lewis, C Co. 1st. Bn. Ranger 75th Inf. atop MIG-21 hangar with ISB backdrop of supporting aircraft. All photo's are courtesy of Ranger Lewis. When we were ordered to be sterile after the mission was aborted, Dave held on to these photo's and luckily was able to get them back undetected. Dave later was one of the Jumpmaster's for the Airborne Assault into Grenada earning a Bronze Star.



Line-up of MC-130's accross the airfield in Egypt. These were most likely the birds to fly Delta Force and a team of Rangers to a Forward Staging Base (FSB) in Oman, and eventually onto Desert One, where ultimately the misson was aborted due to lack of aircraft to safely fly all hostages and commando's out and back to safety. Desert One was where the fatal crash occurred killing 8 Special Operation's Servicemen from the Air Force and the USMC. A plaque was awarded this past June to the 1ST/75TH Ranger Regt. at their annual ball, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the mission, and in honor of those Special Operation Warrior's who lost thier lives on the mission



Photo inside the MIG-21 hangar where the Ranger contingent housed awaiting final rehearsal and preparations for Operation Eagle Claw. Sand, dust, and alot of large flies, not to mention scorching heat, were part of the order in these hangars. I remember we had to be inside when the Soviet satellites passed over to keep the mission from being detected. Notice the mosquito nets and tight quarters.



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

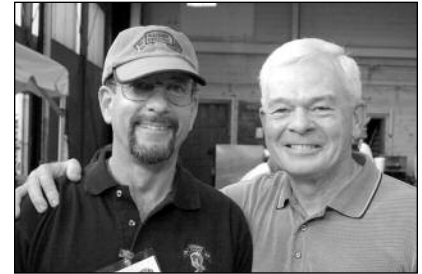
Unit Director - Rich Hecht



Memorial block for original 2d Bn S-4 and company CO, Richard Malvesti.

Photo: K.Ingraham

1977: A Co. CO and his RTO. 2005: "I remember when.." Gen Kernan and Kevin Ingraham.
Photo credit: Pete Parker.



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Bill Dodge



I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ranger John Edmunds for his service as unit director. It is my sincere hope as the new unit director for 3rd Ranger Battalion that I might serve the ranger community as honorably as John did and that I too may encourage the growth of this organization. John is a Christian brother, a Ranger buddy, and a fine American. I am always proud to know men like him. I am honored to fill this position.

I have learned right away that the leadership of 3/75 is ready to help me in my efforts to support the rangers of the battalion. CSM Matt Walker (3/75) and Ms. Kim Laudano of the Regimental PAO office were the first to offer their assistance. It is my hope to have my feet on the ground soon so I can keep up with all the actionable items.

As always the Ranger Rendezvous was a great opportunity to see old friends and make new friends as well. I consider the 75th RRA banquet to be my highlight of this year's rendezvous. Mike Durant (Blackhawk Down) was a great guest speaker and the presentations made by the units were awe inspiring. I think everyone had a truly good time and a great meal.

It has become abundantly clear to me that the life blood of this organization rests with the Vietnam era veterans. As with any organization it is important that we reach all potential members and recruit them in order to continue to grow the organization. I am remiss in this myself but vow to do better with recruiting. I



would be happy to entertain any ideas that you may have to help make membership more appealing to younger rangers. Many of the modern era rangers (after the 75th Regiment reformed) are senior leaders now and as professionals should continue their support of the ranger community by joining our professional organization. Besides, is there any better way to keep up with your ranger buddies? I ask each of you to make it a personal goal to recruit a new member this year.

Allow me to state again that it is my honor to serve in this position. I have learned that I can support these fine men by caring and doing nothing for them or serve them by caring about them and their families *and* doing something for them. I choose to serve.

RLTW Bill Dodge, PMP

3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

**Rangers inducted to the Order of St. Maurice
For Immediate Release**

FORT BENNING, Ga. — Eight Rangers from 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, were inducted as Legionnaire's to the Order of Saint Maurice during a ceremony here today.

The Order of Saint Maurice, awarded by the National Infantry Association and the Chief of Infantry, recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to the infantry community, served with distinction and upheld the highest standards of conduct.

Presented with the medallions were 1st Sgt. Richard Sirry, 1st Sgt. Eddie Noland, 1st Sgt. Daryl Thies, 1st Sgt. Ed Sealey, Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Duncan, Sgt. 1st Class John O'Conner, Staff Sgt. Jarred Van Aalst and Sgt. 1st Class Randy Duncan.

"When we nominate Rangers for the Order of Saint Maurice, we try to identify those Rangers who maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, integrity, moral character and who embody the Warrior Ethos," explained Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Walker, command sergeant major, 3rd Bn., 75th Ranger Rgt.

"The Ranger leaders honored today have demonstrated an outstanding degree of professional competence," he said. "These Soldiers are the future of the Infantry and the 75th Ranger Regiment."

Sirry was inducted for his outstanding service as a Paratrooper and Ranger. According to his citation, Sirry's experience as an infantryman and excellence as a noncommissioned officer were evident through his ability to coach and train more than 40 Soldiers that earned the Ranger Tab and 70 Soldiers that earned the Expert Infantryman Badge. In the early stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom the battalion commander selected his platoon to serve as the round-out platoon for the battalion's main effort company during the seizure of Hadithah Dam.

Noland was inducted for 16 years of continuous service in the 75th Ranger Regiment. According to his citation, Noland's technical and tactical prowess in both conventional and special military operations were critical to the regiment's success during the invasion of Iraq while serving as the regimental operations sergeant major. Noland is a veteran of the Panama, Haiti, Afghanistan and Iraq military campaigns.

Thies was inducted for 14 years of continuous service in the 75th Ranger Regiment. According to his citation, Thies' dedication to excellence and commitment to the individual Soldier as the regimental force modernization noncommissioned officer resulted in the regiment developing and fielding state of the art load bearing equipment, cold weather clothing, enhanced ballistic protection, and significant redesigns to small arms that ensured the regiment would continue to be the most agile and lethal light infantry force in the world.

Sealey was inducted for exceptional contributions both as a Paratrooper and Ranger for the past 18 years. According to his citation, Sealey's devotion to his Soldiers and commitment to excellence as a fire team leader, squad leader, platoon sergeant, staff noncommissioned officer and first sergeant resulted in more than 50 Soldiers earning the Ranger Tab and 100 earning the

EIB. He is a veteran of the Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Afghanistan and Iraq military campaigns.

Jeff Duncan was inducted for exceptional performance as a squad leader, staff noncommissioned officer and platoon sergeant. According to his citation, Duncan's expertise and tactical ability as an infantry leader were evident in his platoon's success during the battle of Hadithah Dam in the opening days of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

O'Conner was inducted for outstanding performance as a squad leader, ranger training detachment cadre and platoon sergeant. According to his citation, O'Conner's commitment to excellence was instrumental in the development of 650 Soldiers to successfully pass the Ranger Indoctrination Program and serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment. He was also responsible for recruiting more than 1,500 volunteers for service with the Rangers as the 75th Ranger Regiment liaison noncommissioned officer to the Airborne School here.

Van Aalst was inducted for outstanding service as a team leader, squad leader, sniper and platoon sergeant. According to his citation, Van Aalst's exceptional field craft skills and ability to master marksmanship fundamentals resulted in him distinguishing himself as a five-time All-Army Service Rifle Champion. As an expert trainer, he has produced six Sniper School distinguished honor graduates, eight honor graduates, eight top guns and five honor graduates from the Special Operations Target Interdiction Course.

Randy Duncan was inducted for outstanding performance of duty as the battalion reconnaissance detachment sergeant. According to his citation, Duncan was hand-selected to form, equip, train and deploy this detachment, which was the first such unit in the history of the battalion. The detachment proved invaluable to task force commanders in the prosecution of targets during the battalion's most recent deployment to Afghanistan.





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

Unit Director - Dennis Rick



By: Ronald Dahle

The following article was originally prepared for the May issue, and is still wandering around in cyberspace looking for a place to land. Being inherently lazy, and wanting to insure the article as prepared got printed as written I made the decision to enter it for this issue.

TAPS



It is with great sorrow that we must report on the passing of Roy A. Link and his wife, Judy. Roy was one of the first members of the

3779th LRRP in the early 60's. Roy's wife passed away in the 4th of July, and Roy joined her on the 12th of July. The cause of death of Judy is unknown, while Roy passed after a long confinement and illness. Roy has had numerous bypass operations and 7 stints installed over the last several years.

The fastest three month increment in existence is the 90 days between deadlines for PATROLLING issues. The last three months has marked a period of increased membership in both the A/75 and the V Corps LRRP iterations of the company, with both groups having gained several new members. The V Corps LRRP has increased its numbers by about 12-15 new members.

I am presently writing this column in a guest bedroom of one such new member, Bob Byrd, in Marietta Georgia. Bob and I were the proverbial "tweedle dee and tweedle dum" in Frankfurt. I can't go into details on many of our exploits, as they are well

beyond the scope of this publication. J Bob followed his heart after a very successful business career and opened the Atlanta Judo Academy. Bob is currently a sixth degree black belt, and still competes nationally and internationally. In the last year, Bob has.....

received a Bronze medal at the World Judo competition, and a Gold medal in the United States competition.



A side benefit of all these new members are the numbers of new photographs of the old Company they brought to the site.

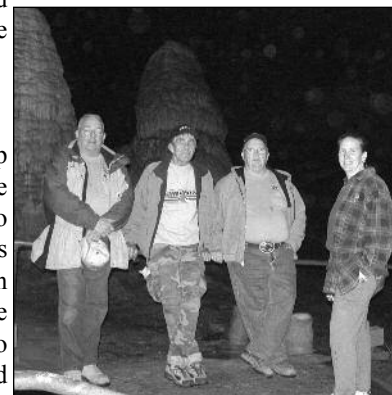


In this photograph we have SFC Tom Gattis totally involved with the map, and has totally mesmerized a group of young admirers. A lot of these photos are of a fairly high quality and do an excellent job of telling the story of our formative years in Wildflecken and Frankfurt.



The V Corps LRRP segment is notorious for small mini-reunions, whereby we take turns freeloading off each other in a series of visits amongst us. We seem to look for excuses to make these reunions happen, case in point, I live in Missouri, and am on my way to Maine, via Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, and New Hampshire, all in the name of visiting fellow company members. By the time I get to my destination in Maine it is likely that I will have linked up with 5 or 6 members of the old company, in as many different states. In February Lee Farley, George Allen and Larry Montague migrated Missouri to visit with me for about a week.

seems that A/75 is a step ahead other eras of the company when it comes to mini-reunions, as is evidenced by their "Cabin Trips". They seem to have the mini-reunion down to an art form. It's intrigued



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

this old man enough to where I am considering crashing one of their trips. The following article Prepared by Mark Ross gives a good feel for the “cabin experience”.

The Cabin

by Mark Ross

The A Company boys had their first Rendezvous of the year in March, the other one being in the fall. Roy Bissey, who got the nickname RH1H, or RH for short, because he was big and was often treated like a mule, had driven in from Wyoming, Mike Cantrell from Atlanta, Mike Fisher and his nephew Chris Fisher from Chicago, Bill Bowman, Stan Jones and Corey Ross from the Indianapolis area. Later in the week Rick Herman from nearby Ft. Campbell showed up. As usual when it comes to SGM types, the recently retired SGM started bossing everyone around, calling first dibs in the chow line and appropriating everything that he liked.

RH1H took his name seriously and had lugged in a bunch of



German beer, which the SGM quickly laid siege to. RH also hauled in a bunch of mesquite for Carlisle, the owner of the cabin, to use in his smoker. In turn Carlisle sent RH home with a bunch of hickory and oak to do the same. It was RH's first trip to the cabin and was eager to make a better impression than what our collective memories had been over the last thirty some years. Trying to underscore his radical personality change, he whipped up some of his original recipe and rather outstanding mule deer sausage and eggs for morning chow. We held off on our vote to see what else RH would do to make amends and sure enough, he brought toys for us to play with. Between playing with toys, drinking beer and with Bowman, Fisher and RH making a culinary festival out of the meals, we had a blast. Lies were told, although I don't think any were actually corrected, nevertheless, told they were. It goes without saying that those not in attendance but should have been had their reputation more than a little besmirched. Not caring whether or not they felt left out we waited until oh dark thirty and called them to give them some much needed and copious amounts of beer influenced grief.

Speaking of grief, rumor has it that Cantrell might be banned from any future Rendezvous. Seems he has more “war stories” than Carter has pills and he has never been shy about embellishing them to all within earshot. Did I say embellish, sorry, meant relate as we know a Ranger would never lie to another Ranger. Least not knowingly. To add to Cantrell's litany, there was never a dull

moment as long as Fisher was around since he didn't take aim when he took shots at guys, he just shot. RH finally climbed out of his bashful shell and on a full moon night with no lit lantern on the back deck kept us mesmerized by his tales when he hitchhiked around the country the first month after he processed out. Cantrell, a former test pilot/maintenance guru and W4 extraordinaire, and Bowman, an electrical engineer with multiple patents, tried for hours to fix the grill only to be greatly offended when Stan walked by and turned on the gas valve, thus proving the tank was empty, something he suggested that if it were him it would be checked first before whipping out the blueprints and micrometer. Of course the only time Carlisle showed up was whenever the chow was ready.

The days were warm and the nights were cool. Everything went well until a nest full of wasps woke up and let us know we were in the woods. The last two days were beset by cold rains but they only put a slight damper on the week because as you all know, when it comes to being in the field we only get Ranger weather so we were all well versed to suffering. Well, all but Corey. He just isn't the adverse weather sort of guy and it seemed that for hours he was feeling the damp cold more than he wanted. To warm up and get dry he used the excuse of the cabin needing more light so he dashed off to Wal-Mart for more lamp oil since earlier in the day he threw new unopened bottles into a fire to see if they would explode. His dad says he is a good kid but I have my doubts about the lad, as in, the acorn never falls too far from the tree. Even though it was his first time with all of us, Fisher's nephew Chris fit in as if he had been part of us all his life. He more than tested the waters though when he said he wanted to be a SEAL when he grew up. Upon hearing that, Uncle Mike immediately made him dig a trash pit to get him used to the mud. The more we tormented him about the job he was doing the more square he made the corners to spite us. Consensus opinion is the only flaw that kid has is he is related to Mike. Corey also represented himself well as the other second generation type when he was more than threatened with a severe beating said he would explain away any bumps and bruises to his loved ones by saying he got jumped at the old folks home. Have to admit though; he did bring a couple of great toys.

With such a group of master story tellers in one sitting there were glorious tales of the countless struggles the legg community had with us on several continents, how the rotary wing types dropped their guard and let a couple of tabbed pilots in the fray, and how the scores of conversations that week were dedicated to beer, politics, religion, dogs (which a few had been brought along) and



toys. Seems each of us has our proclivities when it came to toys and to prove their point the toys were liberally passed around for a few rounds of usage.

Even with the steady flow of beer and the differences of opinions of The Big Ranger In The Sky, the old

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

saying of “praise the lord and pass the ammunition” was never taken personal, even though Cantrell did whip out his bible to stress a point or three. Speaking of which, this year three new nicknames were officially assigned. Fisher brought a ton of presents to everyone and due to his profession, became the ether bunny. Cantrell being the quasi preacher that he is, and fond of quoting Deuteronomy during the many debates that ran late into the night, became Deutrell. And Rick, having recently retired from 187th Infantry Regiment, became Rakkasans Red. Such is the case of that these Rendezvous’ tend to end too soon and the goodbyes are still hard to say.

As always there are names tossed about of those that mentored us, such as John Keneally, Daniel Sedillo, Robert “Pop” Crepeau, Raymond Nolen, Bonifacio Romo, Ernest “Duke” Snider, Gary Carpenter, Wiley Nobles, Robert Allchin, Maurice Zepeda, Alan Childress, and a host of others that space won’t allow. But one in particular this time was Clyde Bayless. Clyde was more than a character. Maybe he wasn’t large in stature; he was however immense in character, ability and most of all exuded a commitment to make everyone around him as superior a soldier as he was. Sadly, Clyde left us back in 1992, but he left us doing what he loved doing, not that that fills the void we all feel at his passing.

Many at the cabin this time had served very closely with Clyde and it was hard to come to reality about his fate.

There has been a bi-annual Rendezvous going on since the early 90’s but not many had been on the morning report in those days. The last four or five years more guys have been showing up. Funny how little time it takes to fill that gap and in many ways we feel as if we are right back in the company since there is no electricity or running water. That and since no wimminz are allowed we aren’t subjected to any adult supervisor types so we act as young as we feel. Might enact that caveat to include SGM’s to that list of unauthorized personnel allowed if someone we know doesn’t quit acting like he be SOMEBODY.

On the schedule for the fall Rendezvous will be beer drinking, setting the time frame for the Wyoming elk hunt in 2007, beer drinking, playing with our toys, beer drinking, telling more lies, beer drinking. I think you get the idea.

Ed note: Well, other than needing a CEOI and set of KAC codes to decipher their nicknames it sounds like A/75 has got the mini reunion down pat

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

Unit Director - Mark L. Thompson

**VII Corps LRRP, C/58 LRP, and B/75 Rangers****75th RRA 2005 REUNION**

The reunion at Ft. Benning was a great success, and gave many of us the opportunity to meet others we haven’t seen in many years,

Attending for B Company, among others, were: Rick Benner, Larry Coleman, Mike Hines, Jim Jackson Sam Snyder, and Marc Thompson. Doc Wentzel was scheduled to attend, but was unable to travel at the last minute due to issues beyond his control.

Representing VII Corps, among others were: Kirk Gibson, Dick Foster, John Visel and Steve Lengel. VII Corps LRRPS held a reunion in the Washington area, reported in the last issue of Patrolling by the President of the Jayhawk’s Association, Kirk Gibson, and as a result, fewer members of VII Corps were able to attend the reunion.

It was a pleasure to have the opportunity to meet the young soldiers currently serving in the Regiment who are carrying on the traditions established by so many of the older Rangers in our lineage. They are truly professional and inspiring to be around.

REUNION BANQUET CEREMONY

I’m sure that you will see the tribute provided to the American soldier and our fallen comrades provided by the

members of D/151 described elsewhere in this issue, but it was truly a great experience to be privileged to be there and experience it firsthand. I know that there have been comments to that effect posted on the message board at the website, and I agree that any description I could give would be completely insufficient to describe it. Thank you to D/151 for an amazing and moving presentation.

Mike Durant (of “Blackhawk Down” fame...) was the guest speaker, and was present at the reunion hotel in the days prior to the banquet, graciously providing autographs for all reunion attendees who desired them. Hats off to Dave Cummings (the reunion coordinator) and all of the officers of the 75th RRA for a very well organized and planned event.

JOHNNY H. LAWRENCE INFO

Jaci Glidden (nee: Lawrence) is seeking information about her father, who was KIA after leaving B/75 to return to Vietnam to join Papa Company in RVN. He was killed on 4 April, 1971, and she would appreciate any information that unit members could give her about her father prior to his death, since she was very young at the time. Dan Bagley of Papa Rangers attended



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

his first reunion to accompany her to Ft. Benning to assist her in her quest, and chaperoned her during the process. Dan was also Johnny's Ranger Buddy during Ranger school in the spring of 1970. If you have any information you would like to pass on to her, please contact the unit director, and I can provide you with email addresses or phone numbers to do so. We prefer not to put her private contact information in the magazine or the website for public consumption, for obvious reasons.

Larry Coleman was at the reunion, and he was on the funeral detail which traveled to California to represent the unit and provide support to the family during the return on Johnny's body to the States and his internment. Other B Company members who were on the detail included Bob Henderson, John Toney, Al Adams, Bugs Moran (deceased), and Ranger Smith (first name unknown at this time).

WEBSITE

Regarding the website, there have been some technical issues in updating the pages due to factors beyond the control of most of us. We hope that by the time you read this issue of Patrolling, we will have rectified those issues, and the updated roster, contact lists, misdirected links, unit history, vacant photo areas and message sections will have been updated. Stay tuned to this channel for further news, and check the website for updates.

VII Corps LRRP CD

We are providing unit histories, photos, and other documents to the VII Corps LRRP Association for inclusion in the very extensive CD-ROM they produce. If you have any other photographs, documents, or other items of interest suitable to include on the CD, please forward them to me, or ask me for the contact information for the VII Corps LRRP's so that you can send them to Kirk Gibson or Sam Rodriguez directly. We already have photos and documents from Mike Hines, Richard Stutsman, Steve Bump, Bill Bradigan and others, and hope to have more to include in the future from the B/75 members.

PHOTO ID REQUESTED

John Chester has received photos attached to this article, which appear to be of VII Corps LRRP's in Germany during their early years. If anyone could help us ID the individuals in these photos, we could post the names in captions on the picture section of the website.

REUNION NEXT YEAR ???

Randy White of Lima Company Rangers has informed us that it is possible for us to have an "off-year" reunion in Branson, Missouri next year, which may be more effective in allowing some of the unit members not located on either coast to attend. This would not be the "official" Regiment reunion staged at an active military post in conjunction with the change-of-command ceremony. Richard Stutsman and Ed White were again unable to attend the reunion this year due to personal issues, but remain well and in touch with us. Perhaps if we have enough interest in the Branson event next year, we can dragoon them into coming to that one, and as Steve Bump put it... "conduct a company-size raid on downtown Branson". More later.

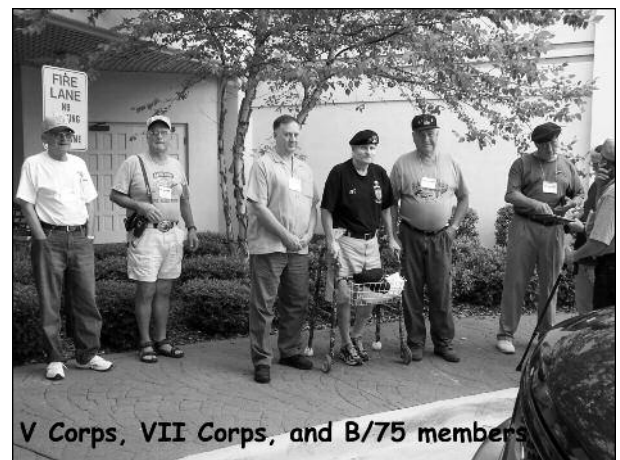
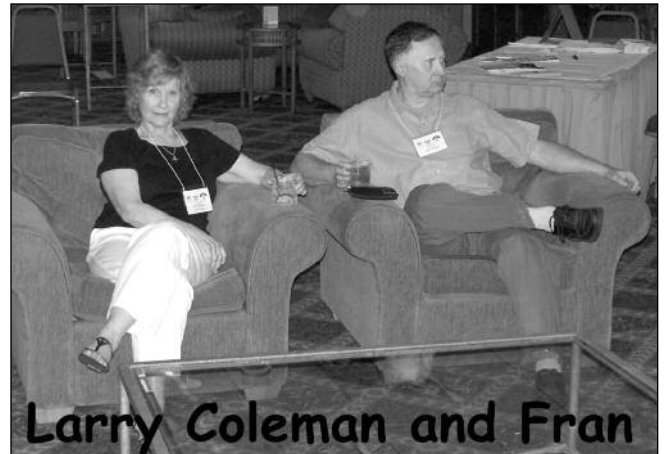
CONTACT INFO:

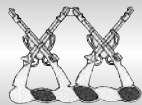
You can contact the VII Corps, C/58 and B/75

representatives at the following:

Marc L. Thompson
marc@roinet.com
(home) 610-913-8183
(cell) 610-763-2758

Kirk Gibson
khgibson@yahoo.com





C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director - Steve 'Doc' Gove



A FORGOTTEN HERO, SPECIALIST BOBBY L. SCALES

I would like to dedicate this article to the memory of Spec. Bobby L. Scales, 1st Platoon E Co. (LRP) 20th Inf. & C Co {Ranger} 75th Inf. Abn.

To all draftees, volunteers who were always loyal, team members, dedicated to the mission and always looked out for his fellow rangers. An excellent example of this type of ranger was Bobby Scales. Bobby may never have received a Medal of Honor or a Silver Star, but Bobby was a hero numerous times and never received or asked anything for it. Bobby was happy with a thanks from his team members.

On approximately 10 Nov. 1968 while Team 1-6 was on a reconnaissance mission in the Republic of Vietnam, Team 1-6 spotted numerous enemy hooch's, high speed trails and bunkers. Serving as point man I moved along a man-made bamboo fence while Bobby was my slack-man. Just prior to approaching some hooch's an enemy soldier was in a tree with his weapon pointed at me, which I was not aware of at the time. With no warning a couple shots rang out from my slack-man Bobby. As I hit the ground I observed one enemy falling to the ground. I just looked back at Bobby and said thanks. Bobby, with a serious look said, "I think he was going to shoot you." After that contact all hell broke loose for the next couple hours with approximately 30 enemy soldiers, until Team 1-6 was safely extracted by helicopter.

On approximately 17 June 69 while 1st Platoon was attached to 173rd Abn. Bde., 1st Plt. was co-located with N Co. Rangers 75th Inf. Abn. At LZ English on Ranger Hill. 1st Plt, along with its 6 teams was assisting N Co. Rangers on numerous missions in Binh Dinh Province. Team 1-6 was taking a break in their tent area after returning from a mission that involved enemy contact. At approximately 2300 hrs. numerous mortars and rockets hit the LZ English area, including the 2/17 Cav and Ranger Hill. At the same time, numerous enemy sappers had penetrated the perimeter and were running around shooting at anything that moved. At that point., Team 1-6 was attempting to take up a defensive position when a mortar round hit outside our tent. Shrapnel from the mortar hit me in the face and head knocking me to the ground. A piece of shrapnel hit my nose causing profuse bleeding that temporarily blinded me. I couldn't shoot my weapon or protect myself because I couldn't see clearly. With total disregard for his life and safety, Bobby ran to my location, with shooting and explosions all around us he picked me up and physically carried me to a bunker and placed me inside. Bobby then left the safety of the bunker to find medical help. When help

arrived Bobby made sure I was secured and Medivaced to the hospital. I told Bobby thanks again prior to my departure. Bobby said again, with that serious look, "I'll see you when you get back." I found out later when I returned to my Unit that Bobby had also helped numerous other Rangers and soldiers that were

hurt or wounded that night to safety. Bobby never received anything for his heroism but a "Thanks." Bobby was a hero to me and still is today 37 years later. Bobby died on December 24, 1987, the day before Christmas in Marietta~ GA. from a series of seizures. I didn't find out about his death until 2004. I was so shocked, that I still have problems with it today. If any of you Rangers had a friend and team member like Bobby you need to go out and find them as soon as you can (ASAP). I will never get over not finding Bobby before his death because now I can never truly thank him for saving my life on numerous occasions. Don't let what happened to me happen to you, get out there and find your Ranger buddies that at one point in your life probably meant more to you than your own family members and closest friends did. I

talked to Bobby's wife Fannie, and she was very supportive of this article. I also advised Fannie that I wanted to get Bobby a Ranger brick at the Ranger Memorial at Ft. Benning, GA. Bobby had 5 children; 3 daughters and 2 sons. One of his daughters died of a brain tumor when she was 14 yrs. old. Fannie still lives in Georgia where Bobby was laid to rest in 1987. Fannie advised me that one of their grandson's is in Iraq in the U.S. Army (Active). Fannie seemed very proud of her grandson. God Bless Bobby and his Family.

Written by:

SFC (Ret.) Bill Wilkinson (Wilkie)

E Co. (LRP) 20th Inf. Abn/C Co. (Rangers) 75th Inf. Abn.

Teams 1/6 1-5, N Co. (Rangers) 75th Inf. Abn.

Team Leader/Juliet Team



LRPs Say It With Claymores

HEADLINDER BRIGHTS through tangled underbrush, they discovered a well-camouflaged, bullet-riddled "tree," the elusive perimeter to establish an ambush, the LRP's set up two Claymore mines back to back at a thirty yard.

"It was late in the afternoon when we heard them coming down the trail, taking and making all kinds of racket," said Private First Class David Olson. "They were dressed in black shorts and carried machine, machine guns and small arms. From the noise they were making, they sure didn't think we were anywhere near them."

The LRP's remained perfectly still as the closely-packed one through tangled underbrush, they discovered a well-camouflaged, bullet-riddled "tree," the elusive perimeter to establish an ambush, the LRP's set up two Claymore mines back to back at a thirty yard.

"I kept watching them until about 14 had entered the kill zone of our mines," explained Specialist Frank. "Suddenly, one VC looked off the trail and saw me. For a second I hesitated and then I shot him. We tripped the Claymores and hoped for the best."

"The enemy outside the kill zone began to open up when we returned fire with everything we had," said Private First Class Joseph Kline.

Still firing, the LRP's continued to make the area and began to move toward the pick-up zone.

"We weren't sure that they were running the other way so we stopped short of the original extraction point and waited to see a new one," PFC Kline continued.

The extracting shot however, over the machine gunning zone and removed the LRP team by two leaders. The LRP's were credited with four confirmed enemy kills.

ENCL 1

**D/75****Unit Director - Richard "Bear" Papp**

By: Richard "Bear" Papp

Well guys, the 2005 75th Ranger Regiment Association's reunion has come and gone. For me, this was the best one I've attended. This reunion had the most people, and hopefully, they will keep getting bigger. I want to thank every one who voted for me as your Unit Director. I promise that there will be an article and pictures on us and our unit in each issue of *Patrolling*. I will try to make up a current roster with every one's name, address & phone numbers as soon as possible. If you're looking for someone in the meantime, call me!!!

The Memorial ceremony for D/151 and D/75 really touched my heart and soul, and I hope that it did the same to ya'll. For me it was very personal, as most of you know, Rusty Hawk was my best friend. It won't ever be the same without him around, but I know that now he's at peace, and his spirit is free again. There are a few people I would like to thank; Major General, (R) Kenneth C. Leuer, Bill "Pappy" Hayes, John Chester, Tom Blandford, Cpt. (R) Paul Harrington, Garry Olson, the 75th Ranger Regiment, the Ranger Association, and a BIG thank you to SSG Nathan Dunn of the Ranger Training Brigade for presenting the American Flag to Rusty Hawk's wife, Lou and son Shane Hawk. I know that in her heart, this memorial ceremony helped a great deal to ease some of her pain and hurt, when she saw Rusty honored and given the respect a Ranger deserves. Thank you each and every one of you.

Now on the other side of the coin, the last mission that D/75 pulled in March, 1970 was a real "Bear". I got to see team members and good friends of mine that I had not seen since that day, 35 years ago. It was very 'special' to see Bill Fitzgerald, Wally Hawkins, 'Herd' Nelson, Ken Dern, Jim Kaiserski, who saved my life that day, and it's always special to see my team leader, Tom Delaney. It's always great to see every body at these reunions. The big surprise for all of them was meeting 'Warlord 16', one of our Annie Fannie pilots, Carl Norris. He and his wife Rosie were my special guests. They drove all the way from Sierra Vista, AZ. Some of us would have been KIA if it wasn't for him.

I also want to say a big Thank You to all our wives that attended the reunion. I can't say enough about them, they do put up with us. Now a roll call on who made this year's reunion.

Steve Meade	Roger Barb	Tonto Martinez
John Kingeter	Frank Park	Gary Olson
Jim Kaiserski	Gerry Greene	Dave Capik
Tom Delaney	Earl B. Hanson	Bill Fitzgerald
Ken Dern	Wally Hawkins	Richard 'Herd' Nelson

If you attended and you're name is not here, I'm truly sorry,

I'm probably going brain dead.

Saturday night at the Banquet we called Mike Warren, and a bunch of us talked to him. He got orders to Ft. Lewis, WA, or he would have been at the reunion. Last of all, I would like to thank John Kingeter, he has done a great deal for D/75, Thanks John.

'Till next time, Bear Out



At the Ranger Memorial, L to R, Frank Park, Bill Fitzgerald, Tom Delaney, Bear Papp.

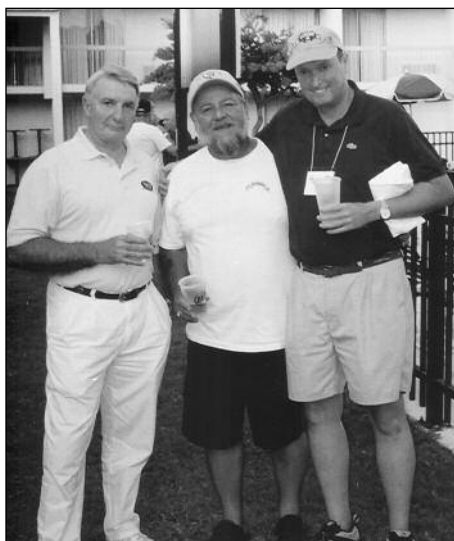


D/75 at the reunion; Back, L to R; Kingeter, Hawkins, Fitzgerald, Papp, Norris, Dern, Front, L to R; Hanson, Park, Nelson, Delaney.



At the Ranger Memorial; L to R; Shane Hawk, Lou Hawk, Bear Papp.

D/75 (CONTINUED)



Thirty Five year later. L to R; Wally Hawkins, Bear Papp, Bill Fitzgerald.



75th Ranger regiment Reunion
Dec. 15th Ranger Airborne Co Dec. 75th Airborne Rang
Ft. Benning
July 6-10th 2005



At the Ranger Memorial, Sitting, Shane Hawk, Lou Hawk, Standing, SSG Nathan Dunn, Bear Papp.



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

Unit Director - Robert Copeland



By Bob Copeland

Today it is overcast and raining in Alberta, Canada but at the 75th Reunion 6-10 July it was hot and sunny until the day of the banquet when the sky clouded over and the rain came down. I drove to Atlanta after the banquet at the Iron Works to avoid the impending Hurricane weather closing in from the Gulf. Fortunately I was in the air before the heavy rain and winds hit the Atlanta area. Prior to my hurried departure I had a great stay in Columbus area and at Ft. Benning. On the 6th of July I attended the Regimental Open House and the active duty Rangers from the 3rd Bn did an outstanding job of setting out the current equipment used by them and taking the time to explain to all who were interested how this equipment was being employed by the Regiment in Afghanistan and in Iraq in the war against terrorism. On departing the Regimental HQ I headed down to the hanger at the airfield and watched the boxing and combatives which they engaged in with great enthusiasm as the Ranger Battalions battled. Even with the occasional bloody nose and cut lip all the combatants congratulated each other before departing the ring after receiving a booming HOOAH!!!! and a round of appreciative applause. On 7 July I attended the Ranger Memorial and paid my respects to our Fallen Comrades and then off to Infantry Hall for the procession into the Ranger Hall Of Fame Ceremony. Once again a stellar group of Rangers was inducted into the RHOF and

we all applauded their well deserved acceptance speeches. As always the ceremony was attended by Rangers past and present along with the families and friends of the inductees. The NO HOST BBQ at Lawson AAF was exceptional with the all you can eat menu and entertainment by Ranger Keni Thomas and his band. Keni is a Task Force Ranger Veteran who having survived the Mogadishu Raid has gone on to become an exceptional singer and song writer. Congratulations from all of us Keni, HOOAH!!!! RLTHW!!!! Keni has a CD out called KENI THOMAS FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS, A SOLDIER'S STORY. Ranger Thomas is the son of a Vietnam Veteran and donates part of the money he receives from the sale of his CD to the HERO FUND which donates these dollars to the SPECIAL OPERATIONS WARRIOR FOUNDATION. This fund provides college educations to children of our Special Operations personnel who are killed in action or in training. Do yourself a favor and buy one of Keni's CD's at www.morainemusic.com / www.kenithomas.com. The company, food and entertainment at the BBQ was second to

none!! Our thanks also go out to the Ranger Cooks who prepared the food that we all enjoyed so much!! HOOAH!!!! RLTHW!!!! On the 8th of July I attended the Change of Command Parade which was impressive as always and then off to the Ranger Training Bde to watch the demonstrations and the new Rangers Graduation as they received their Ranger Tab,



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

HOOAH!!!! Congratulations to all the new Rangers!!!! The RTB staff do a bigger and better job every year and it is always exciting to attend and take part in the comradery that is a significant part of this well organized event. The final day of the reunion I attended the election and general meeting at the Holiday Inn at which we said goodbye to Emmett Hiltibrand our now past President and welcome our new President Steve Crabtree. Thanks Emmett for all your hard and dedicated work for the membership of the 7th RRA and good luck with your future endeavors!!!! HOOAH!!!! RANGER/LRP/LRRP LEAD THE WAY!!!! Congratulations also to T. Robinson-VP Operations, Bill Bullen-VP Membership and to our hard working and dedicated Secretary/Patrolling Editor John Chester. Congratulations to Reuben Siverling, our new Treasurer and to Dave Hill, Assoc. Editor. The Banquet at the Iron Works was great and was attended by the following Co. E members and wives: Duayne Alire, Roy and Sharon Barley and myself Bob Copeland. Prescott Smith attended the reunion but had to leave prior to the Banquet. The guest speaker at the banquet was Mike Durant author of the book "IN THE COMPANY OF HEROES" and the pilot of Blackhawk call sign Super 64. Mike was taken captive after his Blackhawk was shot down in Mogadishu, Somalia during the Raid by Task Force Ranger on 3 October 1993. Chief Warrant Officer 4(Ret.) Michael J. Durant signed the aforementioned book in the afternoon before the banquet at the Holiday Inn and then attended the banquet and was seated at the head table. After Mike gave his address to all assembled at the banquet he made himself available to answer questions from the attendees. Thank you Mike for your Service and for your inspiring address at the banquet!! HOOAH!!!! After the banquet we went back to the Holiday Inn and enjoyed the hospitality room which had more than ample items for sale. The 75th RRA is to be commended for having arranged for numerous venues to be set up in the hospitality room and for providing a goodly quantity of drink and food for the association membership.

At the membership meeting it was suggested that we have a mini reunion next year in Branson, MO., this will not be a regular 75RRA gathering but will afford those who wish to get together on an off year to enjoy a general Ranger gathering. I will keep you informed as I receive more info on this event.

To all those who have been ill at home or in hospital our prayers go out to you for a speedy recovery. We especially wish to mention Emory Parrish at this time and asked for your prayers as he suffers from a serious illness and is under constant care. Shirley will keep Jonesy informed as to his ongoing condition. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Emory and Shirley. I would like to express our condolences to Jesse Deleon and his family on the passing of his father and to all those unknown to us who have suffered a loss of a family member or friend.

As a matter of interest there was a Ceremony held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada on Sunday 14 August 2005. Canadian members of the FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE, THE DEVIL'S BRIGADE, an elite special service force established in 1942 as a joint U.S.-Canadian commando unit, were presented with the Combat Infantryman's Badge by a U.S. Army

representative. Of the 2400 men selected for this elite unit only about 100 veterans remain alive. This event was the 59 Reunion gathering. The 60th Reunion will be held next year in the United States. In 1999, the highway between Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada and Helena, Montana was renamed the FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY in honor of the DEVIL'S BRIGADE. It was a route many Canadians took to join the unit. The training took place at Fort Harrison, near Helena, Montana. The unit was the first Allied troops to march into Rome in 1944. About 70 of the remaining 100 veterans attended the reunion in Calgary. "They're a unique group of men. They have maintained a relationship since the war ended and have never stopped caring about each other," said Margarette Brick, a reunion organizer and daughter of one of the brigade's surviving Calgary members. The aforementioned text was extracted from articles written in the Legion Magazine July/August 2005 issue and the Edmonton Journal Newspaper dated Sunday, August 14, 2005.

Well folks that's about all I have for now, stay safe, keep the faith and remember to consider joining the 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc., you won't regret it!!

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





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

Unit Director - Joe Little



Where do I begin, how about greetings, to all of our brothers of 25th ID LRRP, F Co 50th LRP and F Co 75th Rangers? This has been one very awesome summer.

To begin with as some may already know David Regenthal met with my wife Heidi and me at Rolling Thunder on Memorial Day and we ran into Sandell, Emmett, John Chester and few others. We had a nice evening as guest at John Chester's home in Maryland for a Barbeque with some great company.

David had his camera with him to take that sorry photo of me telling an expressive type of joke which somehow made it to the LRRP web site; since then there have been less hits on our web site.

We had a very nicely attended re-union in Columbus, GA and I might add this desert person was not ready for the relentless humidity. I arrived a few days early to attend a get together at Marshall Huckaby's home in Atlanta.



There were quite a few of the men from the "66" era with their lovely wives. Captain Ponzillo presented the long overdue award of the Purple Heart to??? (I hate it when I am unable to remember names some call it CRS perhaps a photo will do) while 1st Sergeant Huckaby read the citation you could tell it was very personal, Marshall put some feelings in the reading, great job Marshall.



Many attended the re-union in Columbus and went to Ft. Benning to watch the mass jump of I guess about 2500 active duty Rangers. Those

of us that remember the drop zone know that it took quite a few passes to complete and those C-117s are awesome.

There were a few first timers attending this year, let see if I can recall some of their names or find a photo. Rick Booth came in with some prodding from Tom Pease. David and I were looking at some old photos and had a hard time remembering one man's name then it came to us and then we walk outside to see Billy Thornton. There was also Dan Rodman and he managed to hook up with some familiar faces. In all we had about 40 of our guys attending.



Some of our group at banquet being normal

Mike Wood won the raffle of a custom walking stick and Rebecca won the quilt with a large Recondo patch. I was surprised that both were won by those in our unit.



The quilt

Fred Stuckey is now Mrs Stuckey or is that Mrs. Tresina Stuckey

He really did get married

We also had a meeting where Capt. Mark Ponzillo, Marshall Huckaby, Bill Mrkvicka, David Regenthal, Ron Harrison, Emmett Hitibrand, Tom Cahill and Mike Rohly were recipients of awards for service to country and unit. Sorry no photo clear enough, but it was and



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

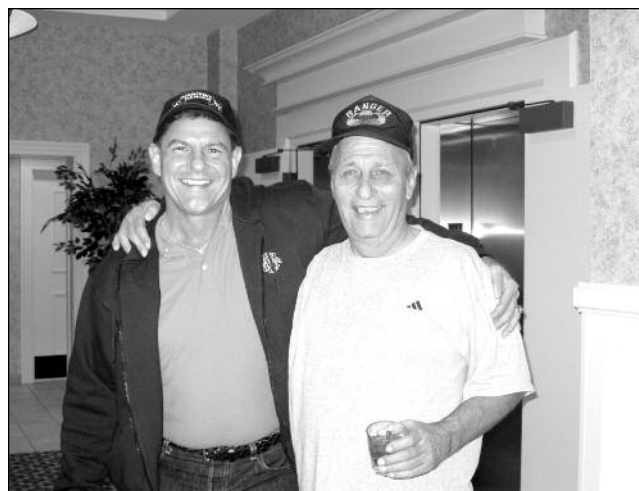
engraved clear plaques each with personal engraved coins. Did you know some of the women went and actually did go horseback riding? Rebecca did not fall off; they really had her tied down on the horse. The horse also had ear pugs for when she screamed, which I heard was often.



Taps

No I do not like to write this portion, however we are not getting any younger. We also served in an area that according to military spray maps was the heaviest exposed area in all of South Vietnam.

Dennie Callahan was called back to his maker on June 5, 2005 he was with 2nd platoon in 1969 and worked with me as ATL for a few missions. He attended his first reunion in Colorado Springs. He was to have bypass surgery and became worked up the day before surgery and did not make it before his heart quit.



Carolyn called to inform me that Warren Nycum's battle with terminal cancer Agent Orange related had ended. He also served in 2nd platoon in 1969 and was called back to be reunited with his maker on July 17, 2005.



May we all have a prayer for them and their families in our hearts for they awaited the call of the Master to set them free.




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



Greeting fellow Rangers by Larry Curtis

On behalf of the LRRP/Rangers Chapter, I want to thank the 1st Cav. Div. Assn, the CG of the First Team, officers and the troopers of the Cav. for their hospitality during this year's reunion.

The LRRP/Rangers Chapter had an average attendance this year. We would have had a better turn out but a few of the regulars had scheduling conflicts and had to cancel at the last minute. Everyone not it attendance was missed. I really would like to see a great turnout for next year's reunion in Louisville, KY. Next year is an election of officer's year. So if you know of anyone who wants to run for an office let us know.

This year we had 27 members plus wives and family. The following members and family were at the reunion: Gair ANDERSON; Bob CARR; Larry CURTIS and wife Jeannie; Sam DIXON and wife Cathy; Bennie GENTRY and wife Sandy; Doc GILCHREST and wife Louise; Mike GOODING, wife Joan and son Chad; Dave KLIMEK; John LeBRUN and Barb; Keith PHILLIPS and wife Frankie; Jim REGAN and wife Lois; Dan SVOBODA; Ernest SQUIRE, JR.; David RUSSELL; Rudy TORRES, wife Inez and grandson; Ken WHITE; Richard WICKIE; John TRUMULL and wife Judy; Ron HAMMON; Howard SHUTE; Bob GILL; Stan FREEBORN and daughter Lisa; Doug MATZE Jr. and wife Debbie; Bob ANKONY, wife Cathy and son Mike; John HUTTER; Doug PARKINSON; and Mac McSWAIN.

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

This year Ernest SQUIRE Jr was in attendance for the first time.

Ernest, we hope you had a good time and we look forward to seeing you at next year's reunion. Gair ANDERSON organized our first ranger golf outing. I think the guys that went had a good time but they never said who won. Must have drunk too much beer and wine! Great job Gair! Maybe we can do it again next year and a few more guys will play. Everybody was kept laughing at night in the hospitality room with the stories that Bob CARR and Rudy TORRES were telling. Now if we could have had Bill HAND and John BARNES there, I know the lies would have been a lot bigger. On Friday night a large group of us went out to Lake Belton for dinner at Franks. The food was great and the atmosphere perfect. At the luncheon on Saturday we had a special guest, Mike



GOODING's son SFC Chad GOODING, who had just returned from Iraq. Welcome home Chad!!

In closing, I would like to thank Col. Pete BOOTH for his support for the LRRP's and Rangers. We always enjoy having you at Sunday breakfast.

Everyone take care and start thinking about making plans to be in Louisville, KY next year!

THE LATRINE

Long ago and far away, in the Vacation land of Southeast Asia...Shortly after my arrival at the Company (E Co, 52nd Inf LRRP) the Commander, CPT "P", took me on a guided tour of the Company area. Usual places like the: Supply tent, the Mail Hut, Orderly Room, TOC, Platoon Billets, Bunkers et al. He save the best for last. Strolling through the AO, we headed back toward the Latrine and Shower area. I knew as we approached that we were coming into an area of concern for the Boss. I smelled the latrine before I saw it. The usual aromas of RVN aside, this was truly an area where we needed some change/help. The OI man just inclined his head and I got the message loud and clear.

We were "blessed" to have one of the most flexible and creative R&U guys in PV. Otto! He did everything that needed to be done to keep things moving along. Mail, laundry runs, scheduling water drops from the engineers and all the small repairs needed to keep the Southeast Asia huts and buildings up to snuff. He and I took the jeep and traveled around the airfield to the Pacific Architect and Engineers (PA&E) area. These civilians built/fabricated all sorts of stuff. There were a couple of brand new "4 holers," just sitting there, begging to be taken. I checked with the head guy and found that lots of paperwork was required for stuff that left his yard. There was a Vietnamese Guard at the entrance to the area. "Let's go Otto!" Over to the airfield we ride and contact the Airman who operates the Giant Forklift for the Phuoc Vinh airfield. We make a deal. Tomorrow at noon, bring your forklift to our Company area and meet us. We'll give you a case of Coca Cola for your time. "Deal!" he says.

Next day, we get a detail together to "G I" the latrine, (after the morning rush hour.) Bunch of happy guys!! I know they would rather be in the "Bush" than "G I'ing" a latrine. We opened a section of the barbed wire fence and laid PSP across the ditch. Oh, you should have heard the gripin' and bitchin'!

At noontime, here comes this giant forklift down the road. I walk the guy back and show him where we will put the latrine. "What latrine?" he asks. Wait and see. Just follow us, do as I tell you, and don't talk to anyone. Off we go. Around the airstrip road, headed to the PA&E yard. We pull up and the Vietnamese guard stops us. We're in the jeep with the forklift in trail. Since it's noon hour, all the workers are at lunch or goofing off some where. I wave a clipboard at the guard and tell him that I need to get in because, as you can see, we have to pick up something. He looks at us, then the forklift and waves us through. The operator goes to the first 4 holer in line, gets it picked up, secured to the forklift, and turns around to head back to the gate. I tell him not to stop for anything and follow me.

Out towards the gate we bolt! The guard steps out in front of us! The forklift guy "guns" the engine and the guard disappears! As we scream through the gate I wave the clipboard and smile. Here we go. Barreling down the road, headed for the Company AO. Me and Otto are laughing

like the devil and driving as if he were chasing us. Then it happens. I hear strange sounds. TWANG...TWANG...Double TWANG!!! The top of the latrine is catching hold of commo wire, that was strung over the road, about latrine high, and snapping the wire clean through. Lord, we're going to jail for sure! Drive on!

As we turn down the side road toward the latrine site, it looks as if the whole company has turned out to greet us. In goes the new latrine. Forklift guy gets his case of Coca Cola and he's gone in a cloud of dust. Then, what appears to be Ali Babba and the Forty Thieves, start to repair the barb wire fence, remove the PSP and cover up all the tracks of the forklift into and out of our AO. Good job!

The old latrine is "G I'd" to my satisfaction and I get the troops to "set up" the new latrine for business. Then I have a thought, and to this day I'll never know what made me do it. I tell Otto to get me a hammer and a couple of nails. He and the rest of the guys look at me as if I'm nuts. Any way, I just develop a case of the hips and nail the old latrine door shut. That'll fix them I think.

Every evening, 'bout 18:00 hrs, there is a briefing. Intel & Ops, up at the head shed (TOC). That evening, the briefing is over, the Old Man grabs a Stars and Stripes, and says that he's going to "Christian" the new latrine. A few minutes later, the sirens go off announcing "Incoming!" We all scurry for the bunkers and wonder what in the world "Sir Chuck" is doing mortaring us at this time of day. Rounds impact and they don't all sound like 82 mm. Then we get one that sounds as if it's in our company area. PANIC! PUCKER FACTOR! Stay cool, wait for the "all clear", hang on guys!

The "All Clear" sounds and we hustle to check for casualties and see what took the hit. It's easy to see where the round impacted, smoke dust, debris, fire. But it's not a hit on the troop billets. Happy Days! Guys are crawling out of the ditch alongside the road. They had been at the shower area or the new latrine and decided to take cover there instead of trying for a bunker. The CO is standing there surveying the damage. Nobody hurt. Maybe a few "skid marks" in shorts, but that's it. The only casualty was... THE OLD LATRINE!!! Took a direct hit from a 107 mm Rocket! Nothing was in the latrine, no 1/2 barrels from the 55 gal drums, not even a roll of TP.

CPT "P" looks at me as I stare at the latrine. "We sure must be living right Sergeant Regan," he says. As I told you before, to this day, I have no idea what drove me to do that stupid, crazy thing. Nailing shut a perfectly good latrine. No, we did not press our luck and replace the latrine.

Some wonderful pictures of THE LATRINE are on our web site and a really good Pics on Bruce Judkin's web site.

Jim Regan
DEC '68-Dec'69



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

Unit Director - David Flores



What to write about, I have the hardest time trying to come up with the subject of the article. I am always hoping for stories to be sent to me from the guys, but memories are fading. Times, places, names are all harder to remember now. So I sat, shaking those marbles in my head, trying to come up with what to write about. Thinking back to those days across the pond, I thought, how in the hell did I end up with the "LURPS"!

First of all, I found out that most had come from line units, volunteering for the larp unit. So they came with some experience under their belts. Some in house training on small unit tactics and procedures, what the goals of the unit were and then you were assigned to a team. What follows is how my first month went following my arrival at Cam Ranh Bay.

I and eleven others were drafted into the company! I arrived in country, May of 1968. I had orders for the 173rd Airborne Brigade. During the processing of everyone and getting them all on the right trucks, the sergeant in charge hollered out, "When I call your name, stand over here". Well, he collected the orders we had and gave us our new ones. We were all now assigned to, F Company, 52nd Infantry, (LRRP) Airborne Det.

1st Infantry Div. the twelve of us where all Airborne qualified and now we were all headed for a leg outfit! We were headed for Bien Hoa, right next to Saigon. During our trip South, we asked anyone who looked like they had been around, if they knew what the "LURPS" were. A little laugh, a "you guys are screwed", and they would walk. Most people we asked had no idea what kind of outfit we were headed for. The Big Red One's replacement depot was located Di An. Once we arrived there, we were told to hang out and a truck from our company would be coming to get us. That happened the next day. You remember, "hurry up and wait"! Another thing that confused the heck out of us was those guys that kept yelling, "SHORT", and then laughing at us. Well, we lonely twelve still were clueless as to where or what kind of outfit we were headed for.

Next day the truck showed, a young, thin sergeant hollered out, "all those for F Company, 52nd Infantry, get on the truck". He introduced himself as sergeant Mike Sharp, and we were headed for Lai Khe base camp, on highway 13. This was about 35 miles N/W of Saigon. He told us Lai Khe is known as "Rocket City" and the commanding general of the 1st Division lives there. I asked if we would get weapons before we left Di An. He said, "I have one and that's enough". With that, we were on the road out of Bien Hoa.

The base camp was located in the middle of a rubber plantation. Highway 13 ran right through the middle of it. The company area had barbed wire strung around it and appeared small.

The truck stops, and there to our right is this painted sign, our company sign. Seems everyone is outside and in formation. No one had shirts on and every one was heavily sweating. An NCO came over to the truck and hollered, "get the _ _ _ off the truck and fall into



that formation without your shirts". We did so and the formation was moved onto the road where we heard those words, DOUBLE



TIME. Yes, we were going on a run! Led by our 1st Sergeant, SFC Morton, tall, lean, deep voice and in charge! I did not finish that first run and I did not finish the run the next day. The heat was kicking my butt and I just hadn't adjusted yet. Well, 1st Sergeant Morton laid it out, "make the runs or you'll be transferred out of the company". Our company had PT and Sergeant Morton was great on all the runs.



You see, all those grunt and REMF units (though definitely not equating one with the other) around the base camp just loved to holler all kinds of crap at us as we ran by. Sergeant Morton would stop the formation and call them



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

names or invite them to come over for an “ass whipping”. Understandably, he never got any takers, and we ran on down the road.

Within a few days we all started our in-house training. Small unit operations, forget what we learned in AIT. Compass reading, immediate action drills, E&E tactics, equipment, and radio. Also lots of time at the firing range to practice what we learned. Soon we started taking little walks outside the base camp, going little father each time. Before we knew it, we were assigned to a team. I was assigned to Sergeant Mike Sharp’s team. This was the first guy I spoke to from the company, the truck driver! As he looked us over, he just started pointing to guys and telling them their job on the team. I got the radio! I told him I knew nothing about radios, and he said, “don’t worry, I’ll teach you all you need to know”. More training now, only this was with your own team.

Right next to our company area was this replacement company. New guys would go there before going to their real companies, some sort of indoctrination jive. During one of the many rocket attacks, this area took a hit. We all ran over to help; this was my first sight of dead or wounded GI’s. It let me know this place was for real, in not a very nice way. I also thought that I have damn near a whole year to go.

All this time in the company, we new guys are listening to the radio transmissions from teams in the field. We are hearing their stories when they return from the field. We are asking questions. It’s now June of 1968, there’s a team in the field, and things are getting pretty hairy for them. They need an extraction and there were no choppers close. There is one; it’s a Cobra Gun ship! The team leader knew they would be done if they didn’t get picked up quick and I think the Cobra pilot knew this too. Well, the pilot went for the pick up and the team jumped on! A ride is a ride! Everyone made it out and the only extraction of its kind during the entire war! Based on what I had seen since my arrival to the company and my new training, being drafted into this company was a good thing!

With Sergeant Sharp’s team ready to go, we packed up and were headed to Quan Loi base camp along with Sergeant Mattoon’s team. The brigade up there called for two teams to do recon work for them. The two teams pulled quite a number of patrols. Some we operated together and others we worked separately. Let me say at this point, sergeants Sharp and Mattoon taught us a lot more once we started working in the field. I know that I and “Giant” (aka, Don Hildebrandt) feel that those two sergeants made us survivors. We operated out of Quan Loi till October of 1968, when we returned to Lai Khe base camp.

Time moves on, and so do your Sergeants, your team leaders and friends. Some gets orders for home, some get wounds that send them home, and some go home in a way they never expected. From what I have read, 1968 was the highest year for casualties. Of the twelve of us that were drafted into the company, four came home.

Many things happened to me during my tour and on patrols. Some of these things changed me forever, as with many of us. We are all glad that we made it home, we love seeing everyone at our reunions and we enjoy the get-togethers so much. As we think

back at those times, some of our own experiences come in, and some think, “WHY DID I MAKE IT HOME, AND NOT
_____???”

Unit Director, Dave Flores

This subject I am sure has been covered before, but I wish to throw my two cents in.

As we all look to put together some sort of company history or just to get information about something that happened during the war, we find ourselves unable to get much info. Now for those that write books, they either have great memories or they wrote a lot of stuff down when they were there. In short, what I am asking for is how we get items like, after action reports, morning reports, company rosters, etc. Is this particular to companies keeping good records or what? If someone was KIA on a patrol, I would think that would have a record someplace.

So, would someone please tell me how I go about this endeavor? I have not had much luck in the past 20 years!

Thanks



Paul Elsner behind F Co. sign in Lai Khe: “No Peace For Charlie”



Some of the “Cobra Extraction” air-ground team, 1999 Branson, MO unit reunion.

L-R: Dave Hill, Wildcat 2; Larry Taylor (“Darkhorse 32”, Cobra pilot); Paul Elsner, Wildcat 2 Team Leader.

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



1st ID LRPs/Rangers at 2005 Ft. Benning 75th RRA Reunion.

L-R: Noble Cox, Berry Crabtree, Mike Wise, Randy King



1st ID LRPs/Rangers at 2005 Ft. Benning 75th RRA Reunion.

L-R: Randy King, Noble Cox, Jack Franks, Berry Crabtree



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

Unit Director - Rodger Crunk



BY: Roger Crunk

Greetings to all my fellow LRRPS/Rangers. I have been very busy since I returned from the Reunion so once again I have put this aside until the last thing. My apologies to John again. It was

so good to see my Brothers again. I hope all who attended enjoyed it as much as I did. Once again I think we were the largest Unit in attendance. Wayne tells me there were 42 with 20+wives or other family members. We received \$425.00 in donations plus \$400.00 from the sale oft-shirts donated by Bob Fraser. Thanks to Bob and all those who donated. That gives us a balance of \$1642.00. We

will have a mini-reunion in San Antonio, TX next year, 2006. So be planning for that. We were looking at the latter part of July but if you guys would prefer late September when it's much cooler we can change it. I need some input on that ASAP. Hopefully we will have it put together by the Winter issue so everyone can make their plans.

Once again it is my sad duty to report another Brother has passed. Danny Lingle of Romeo-1 fame died Oct. of last year. Another Brother will be remembered with love and our thoughts and prayers go out to his Family. I also want to mention the passing of Top Keller's wife in March. Our thoughts are with you Top. I'll include a little something he wrote about their life together. Thanks for everything you do for us Top.

Roger



1949-2004
Daniel W. Lingle, 55, of Cambridge, died Thursday (Oct. 7, 2004) at Riverside Hospital, Columbus. He was born April 22, 1949, son of Ada White Lingle of New Concord and the late James Leonard Lingle Sr. Mr. Lingle was a decorated Army veteran who served in Vietnam. He retired from Central Ohio Coal Co. as a first class mechanic. He was assistant manager of Western Guernsey Water, attended East Union Presbyterian Church and was a member of Point Pleasant Masonic Lodge 360. He was a football fan, his favorite team was the Steelers and he was a NASCAR fan who loved D.W. He leaves his wife, Judy, of Cambridge; his mother; two sons, Daniel L. Lingle of Cambridge and Jeremy (Beth) Lingle of Zanesville; a daughter, Sherry Kafary of Columbus; two step-sons, Michael (Jan) Burt and James "Bo" (Ann) Burt, all of Cambridge; a step-daughter, both of them Moore of

Cambridge; two brothers, Bill (Bernice) Lingle of Cambridge and James (Barbara) Lingle Jr. of Canton; two sisters, Jill Lingle of Springfield, Va., Peggy (Max) Boyd of New Concord; 13 grandchildren: Corey, Tony, Tori, Courtney, Gage, Sydney, Cody, Nicholas, Caitlyn, B.J., Reagan, Mackenna and Chloe; and in-laws, Bob (Shirley) Vance of Cambridge and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Thorn-Black Funeral Home, Cambridge, where services will be 1 p.m. Monday with the Rev. Gary Moore officiating. Burial will be in Zion Cemetery in Clayville. Memorial contributions may be made to The American Diabetes Association or the American Heart Association. PAID




BY Don Keller

My wife and I met on the 28th day of June, 1953 at Ft George G, Mead, MD and were married on the 24th day of July, 1953, just 26 days after we met. A long courtship but the courtship lasted for nearly 52 years. Ellen died on the 17th of March after a very long illness and complications that were brought on by Hepatitis C. Hepatitis C Virus was contracted through tainted blood transfusions given when she had heart bypass surgery in 1984. There was no medical test to identify Hep C then, until 1990. However, she was not diagnosed with it until 2000. By this time many health problems had already set in.

In 1953, I was at Ft Meade training ROTC and Ellen was in the Army, and working as an Army Medic at the hospital there. We knew one another for 3 ? days and really proposed to one another at the same time. Of course, all of the "powers to be" tried to talk us out of it but with no success. We waited until we heard from

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

all of our relatives, then we were married. She remained in the Army for a year and got out to be a wife and mother.

Ellen was a full blooded American Indian, Choctaw and Cherokee, born and raised in Kiowa, Oklahoma and married me, a German and Irish New Jerseyite. We had five children with four surviving. The loss of our first son wore heavily upon us both but we went on. What Ellen meant to me and the positive impact she always had upon me over the years can not be put into words, so I shall not try. We really grew up together, matured and aged together. I could always count on her to be by my side and on my side. We made nearly every single decision together. Neither of us ever tried to win and we both won—deciding together. She was a beautiful lady and made an impact on all of my men and they all treated her like the queen she was. She never had a harsh word for anyone and was always ready with a helping hand and that smile that won many an event. She quickly won over the enlisted wives and pulled them all together for whatever the cause or need.

While in the Army, we traveled as a family, covering most of the fifty states and a lot of foreign countries. Our five children were born in different places; North Carolina, Germany, California, Kentucky, and Ethiopia. We have six Grandchildren and three Great Grandchildren ranging in age from 29 years to 6 years. They live across the US and into Canada and all are doing extremely well.

Ellen became seriously ill this past February as I was working on a project that was extremely important to me. Into March she became increasingly ill and had to be hospitalized. No matter what her own health problems were, she always worried about everyone else. Of course she was concerned about what I had been working on and had to know about it, I assured her that

when she got out of the hospital I would take up the concern once more. Her words were, “You continue now!!” She then said “You have your marching orders from me, CSM, you hear me??” She gave a deep sigh, as if to rest but said, “I will always love you with all my heart, Don.” She closed her eyes never to open them again. In a short while, as we all looked on, Ellen took several shallow breaths, and with a few light beats of her loving heart, passed away very calmly and peacefully. My heart was torn and a-part of me would be lost forever.

As she did not wish to be buried, she was cremated and resides here with me, in our home, occupying a special place surrounded by the things she loved also, her “animals”. But that’s another story.

The photo is of us the day after we were married. We were married on July 24, 1953. The photo was taken on July 25, 1953.



			L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP Unit Director - Randall White		
--	--	--	--	--	--

No Submission

	M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP Unit Director - Steve Houghton	
--	---	--

By Steve Houghton

Here it is the 23rd of August and another unit article is late! The reunion at Ft Benning has come and gone. I'm happy to report that we had a pretty good turnout this summer with the following 71st Lrrps attending. Tim Henderlieter, Ron Piper, James Hell, Charlie Hunt, David Wolfenbarger, Don Tillisch, Jack Fuche, and Myself, Steve Houghton. We had a total of eight in attendance but only six there at a given time. Tim and I didn't arrive until July 8th and as a result we missed seeing David and Charlie. They left for home on the morning of the 8th, and Tim and I didn't arrive until about midday. I haven't seen those two since

1969, and to miss them by a few hours was very disappointing. But it looks like I might get a chance next year as another off year reunion is in the works, this time at Branson Missouri.

I missed the activities of the first few days at Ft Benning, and from what I heard they were pretty spectacular. If they outclassed the banquet activities, they had to be very good. Our guest speaker, Michael Durant was on hand for a book signing of his new book “In the Company of Hero's”. I'm sure we all recall Mr. Durant as the sole surviving chopper pilot of “Black Hawk Down” fame. He was our guest speaker at the Ranger Banquet held at the “Iron Works” building in Columbus Ga. It was hard

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

to decide which was better, Mr. Durants speech or the tribute to the fallen and missing preformed by the Indiana Lrrps. The banquet site and food were top rate, but to be in the company of all those hero's was outstanding.

I'm including a photo send to me by Tim Henderlieter taken at the Reunion site. Left to right we have Jack Fuche...our first Unit corridinator...whom we all owe a debt of gratitude for his early efforts to find members of the 71st Lrrps. Jack lives in Michigan. Next is Ron Piper from Texas. Ron was in the unit from the earliest days. He went on to serve in SF, was wounded, eventually to return to Nam as a "Snake" Cobra gunship pilot. He flies for American eagle today. He is about to retire here in the next few months. Next is Don Tillisch.

Don was one of our officers in the beginning of the unit's history. This was Don's first reunion. Don is in commercial real estate investment. Don lives in Fargo North Dakota. Next is myself, Steve Houghton. I currently reside in Michigan, a couple hour drive from Jack. Next is James Hell. James lives north of Seattle, Washington. This was James first reunion. He said he was a little apprehensive about attending at first but was very happy he did. James served the unit the same time as Jack Fuche and Tim Henderlieter and me. Next is Tim Henderlieter. Tim served with Jack, James and myself, and Lt Tillisch. Tim lives in Missouri, and travels all around the nation as an application



engineer for his company.



Two Lrrps not shown in this group photo, but who attended the reunion are David Wolfenbarger and Charlie Hunt. I was hoping to have a photo of them from the reunion, but I don't yet. Send me one guys. David and Charlie served with Jack Tim, James, and myself. Dave lives in Okalahoma and Charlie in West Virginia. Tim and I are still bummed out that we missed seeing you two by a few hours. Just a

quick note to wrap up this late article, since the reunion I have received information on SSG Victor Bosquez. His son sent me the following in an email: Steve, I told my father about your website and he wanted me to pass his info to you. His name is Victor Bosquez #1265 but was known as "Sgt Rock" in the army. You can contact him at phone# (210)924-0612 or at address 9119 Buda San Antonio, TX 78224.

Any of you who remember Victor, feel free to contact him. Until the next time.

Steve Houghton

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

Unit Director - Reed Cundiff



Reed Cundiff
ercundiff@comcast.net
(505) 523-5081

We had a fairly good turnout at the Ranger Rendezvous. Retired Colonel William Palmer, the found of the 173rd Provisional LRRP, was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame and Ranger Roger Brown held a great barbeque at his place on Friday night. Dave Walker was finally awarded his Master Wings, some 30 odd years after he should have received them.

Two good friends asked me to look up their sons who are serving in 3/75th Rangers. Dick Lind's son is CO of HHC/3/75th. HHC was supposed of have deployed that morning but we were able to get together for a few minutes. SGM Jeff Horn's son Josh had just finished Ranger Indoctrination Program ten days previously but 1st Sgt Slaney (C/3/75th) was able to get us together for a few minutes. I think Josh at first thought this was just another test.

The 1st Sgt checked with Josh's squad leader to see when he could take off to meet some of his dad's old team mates at the reunion. I picked him up on Friday afternoon and he was able to meet with Wilkie and retired CSM Rudy Teodosio. Vladimir Jakovenko joined us for the drive out to Roger Brown's where he was able to meet a lot more of the older guys as well as Cantu's son who is a squad leader in the 82nd Airborne. Josh was one of only two newbies in C/3/75th. Everyone else in the company has already had at least one deployment to theater. Josh said that he had wanted to get some humorous stories about his Dad but everyone said that Jeff had just been a very serious and dedicated Ranger. Jeff will be in Bosnia until February of next year.

A couple of folks have promised articles but they had not arrived by today's deadline so I include one of mine.

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED: OR WHAT THEY HADN'T TOLD US

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

In December 1966, as part of Operation Canary-Duc, the 173rd Abn and 11th Armored Cav provided screening and covering force for the 9th Infantry Division along National Route QL 15 between Vung Tau and Saigon as that division was landing at Vung Tau. The primary purpose of the 173rd LRRP during this operation was area reconnaissance and trail watch to determine major VC troop movements into the 9th Division movement region. Almost all insertions resulted in contact and hot extraction's. Ranger Hall of Famer Vladimir Jakovenko had led Team 4 (Havoc) from the founding of the 173rd Provisional LRRP but Jake had left the 173rd for the 82nd Abn and Team 4 was down as a second line team. The team was inserted with several possible new team leaders on Arc Light bomb damage assessments (BDA) and one day patrols. The only evidence of the Viet Cong on these BDAs was on a double team insertion led by Captain Carlton Vencil when one set of bare foot prints was found on a dusty trail, each print about 10 feet apart - the 500 and 1000 pounders apparently had definite effects on his morale. A second double-team BDA patrol was led by Captain Phillips into the area that SSgt Rivers Evans team had been run out on December 9th. Tony Dapello found his uncle's trench knife (his uncle had carried it as a Ranger in Europe in WW II) trench knife where he had lost it on exfiltration under fire. Another series of patrols were into regions near National Route QL 15 looking for movement and assembly areas.

The Second Battalion of the 503rd got involved in a major firefight on LZ Stump (YS365865) four days after and exactly 2 km due west of where we had been run out on 8 December. The Arc Lights were a direct result of this fight. The battalions and the Aero Cav platoon from E/1/17th Cav were then checker-boarded through the AO and the LRRP teams were put into the general area to determine where the VC units were moving. Team 4 was led by the LRRP platoon sergeant, SSG Harold Kaiama, on his first unit insertion after hospitalization after falling from near the top of the rope ladder on the rappel tower at the 5th SF Group Project Delta LRRP School in September. Photo 1 is of Miller, Evans and Kaiama during the Iron Triangle operation of February 1967. The landing zone was about 150 meters long and 100 meters wide at coordinates YS311889, exactly bisected by maps 6430 III and 6430 IV (a British Field Marshall once said that battles are always fought at the junctures of maps of widely diverse scale). I was ATL and was supposed to be last out but the lift ship made the insertion 180 degrees out of sync and I went out first. It was one of those tall grass insertions where the crew chief thinks he's five feet off the ground but you're really dropping about fifteen feet. Knees went into the chin and all I could see was big boots dropping down on

me. Couldn't see a thing since my glasses had fogged as soon as we hit the ground. I thought I heard a shot but was not sure in my stunned state. The clearing was a traffic circle with four high-

speed trails (three to four feet wide) leading from it. We moved off the LZ through some light brush and into heavy brush onto a slight knoll and laagered in pitch dark. There was a considerable amount of U.S. harassing and interdiction artillery fire (H&I) into our general area during the night and the sounds were highly unusual for first experience.

We moved out before first light and covered about 750 meters when we laagered for the morning sitrep at 10 am. Discovered the shot had occurred when one of the team member's weapon had discharged when he landed. The "lessons learned" later taught at RECONDO School were in the process of being learned. The teams had been using the same frequency and same shackle points for over a week. Kaiama gave our shackled position and was discussing trail observations on the radio when a loud report was heard. I took a quick back azimuth and a detonation went off about 100 meters to the

west. Kai stated this fact over the radio and requested that friendly artillery cease firing. A second loud report and six seconds later a second round impacted about 50 meters to the west. My second back azimuth was within 3 degrees of the first attempt. Kai reported the second round and its position. The weapon fired again and the round impacted in a tree just above us. Roger Bumgardner and Larry Cole were knocked flat. Larry and I discussed this event briefly at this year's Rendezvous. I should like to say that we fixed bayonet and followed that back azimuth to source but we followed the advice of brave Sir Robin and ran like hell. We had probably been spotted on entry and the local VC Radio Reconnaissance Unit was on their toes. Kai had cleverly adjusted the other side's light artillery (probably a 57-mm recoilless or a 60 mm mortar on minimum charge). We changed frequencies and shackle points daily after that. The evasion route took us into extremely thick broken bamboo and the only way through was to work our way through it was on hands and knees in mud on wild pig trails. Several hours of this without running into any wild pigs got us back into fairly open double/triple canopy. We finally got out of the wetlands and found a major trail that Kai decided was worth observing for a bit longer. We moved on and finally stopped at a 25-foot wide stream, the Song Ca, for the afternoon sitrep. Kai was told to hold position since the Aero-Cav platoon of E/1/17 Cavalry had gotten themselves into a hot action about 2 km from us and we were to await developments to either join the action or see what might try to move in or out of the area along the stream. An F-100 flew directly over us in a shallow dive at about 1500 feet AGL as it made a gun run with 20 mm in support of the beleaguered Cav. The expended shell casings cascaded directly onto us. A second gun run again dropped the casings within 10



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

meters of our position. The third run turned out to be CBUs but they dumped these 2-km short of their target and about 100-m to our south. We were just glad he hadn't followed the two previous gun-target lines.

The next day we moved into an area that had been heavily B-52ed earlier that year. The 1000-pound bomb craters were interlocking and we were told to prepare for pickup. There were two O-1Es above us, one of which was our air relay ship. A very loud roar went overhead and a very large artillery round impacted

several hundred meters away. Kai reported this to our air relay just as a second round landed about one hundred meters showering great clumps of dirt in our vicinity. These were major league shells and not the normal VC light artillery. Our air relay saw the bursts and realized that the other O-1E was an artillery spotter who was bringing 8" guns onto us. He couldn't get the artillery spotter on his frequency and it quickly turned into a short dogfight as the air relay aircraft drove the artillery observer out of our area.



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Michael Feller



Ambush & Friendly Fire

Part 2

When we heard the sound of the River Patrol Boats we threw out a smoke grenade and leisurely watched the smoke drift out over the Song Saigon river waters. One of the boats headed in our direction and we saddled up. Higher HQ, the 82nd ABN, called on the radio and advised that we would be reinserted up river a couple miles to perform a reconnaissance of that area on the other side of the quite large river.

When the Patrol Boats came in to pick us up we were amazed that, in fact, it was the South Vietnamese Navy crews who were providing the vessels for our reinsertion. This did not sit well with SSG Frazier or Chico for obvious reasons. In short, both men felt that our cover was blown before we even got reinserted and unfortunately there was nothing we could do about it. It became more apparent to us that the 82nd ABN had no conception of the stealth and secrecy we were accustomed to as LRP's in Co F (LRP) 51st Inf (ABN). It troubled us, made us jumpy, and PO'd.

We made the only choice we had which was to continue mission. The reinsertion was uneventful and we made our way through the mud along the bank of the river and settled down in the tree line that ran all along the river. There, following Long Range Patrol tactics, we simply blended in with the foliage and kept as quiet as church mice during this security break to watch and listen to see if our presence was known. Or, if anything moved other than the sun. Frazier looked at the map, figured our position, and said to me: "Teacup, we've been in this AO three times before. There's no enemy around us". I looked at the map and for sure, we'd walked over almost all of this AO without seeing anything. The word went out to relax, saddle up, and move inland.

Once we cleared the tree line and headed in from the river there was not a lot of natural cover for us for about 300 yards in every direction except behind us at the Song Saigon. Everything else was wide open space with scrub brush and not much else. There was, however, a 'house', right there in the middle of nowhere. This 'house' had obviously seen it's share of bad times. It was

virtually destroyed by war, no roof, some mini walls made of concrete up to about 3ft high, however it was large and could accommodate all 14 of the LRP/s/Rangers remaining on this assignment. In addition the house provided a very good defensive position by being close enough to the river for extraction if we needed it, and, the house provided us with unlimited visibility in 3 directions. Frazier decided that we'd set up in the house, and based on the terrain, we all agreed with his order. We went about the usual set up for offence/defense by putting out Claymore Mines completely circling our area and as an added plus, we also put out trip flares in proximity to the Claymores. I must say that we were so hunkered down in our 'Fort' that the odds were almost non-existent that we could get hit by surprise by any enemy troops.

Frazier sent out a couple of 2-man recon teams just for a look-see especially along the river. We felt that even the river would be free of enemy Sampan traffic due to all the Patrol Boats going up and down. In short, we were home free for the remainder of this mission. The stress was off. Night fell upon us and guards were posted with the usual rotation. I can't speak for what the others did but I crawled into a concrete kind of room divider and went to sleep. At approximately 0Dark30 something tripped one of our flares and the area lit up like high noon. Of course, all 14 of us came alive real quick. We didn't react immediately by blowing the claymores, we just watched and listened in the attempt to obtain a target. It became apparent that nothing was going on enemy wise and we figured that what had tripped the flare was probably a river rat.



Second Day (in this place)

The eternal sun came up right on time and everything around us was peaceful except for the sounds of motors on the river. We knew that the enemy would not be using the river in broad daylight and wondered what it might be. Soon enough we got a call from the 82nd on the radio informing us that the South Vietnamese River Patrol Boats were heading up river and would be doing a Reconnaissance By Fire mission on both sides of the river. For those who might be reading this and do not know what

O/75 - 78TH LRP (CONTINUED)

a 'recon by fire' means, it is simply a tactic where you fire up an entire area and see what pops up, shoots back, or tries to get away.

Frazier gave the order to abandon rucksacks outside the back wall of the house and head inland at the double time, which we did. I don't think we made it 30 yards before the boats opened up not far down river from us and there we were, out there, right in the open for the whole world to see, and absolutely nothing to hide behind. Frazier had a change of plan and told us to all get back to the house and take what ever cover we could find as fast as possible. Naturally, he didn't have to give that order twice! So, we double timed back to the house and sought shelter amongst the ruins of the house.

We got lucky, Lerp Lucky. Sure enough those Patrol Boats fired up everything. We guessed they couldn't see our house from the river, however they put an awful lot of lead into our house. I hid out in that concrete kind of room divider I'd slept in the night before and couldn't see what was going on, nor did I want to!!! Pieces of our 'Fort' kept falling down around us and I really thought the game was over for some of us. We all must have been seriously thinking of shooting back at these idiots. I know I had the thought. I was thinking that these were the same people that inserted us the day before and couldn't figure out why they would pull a stunt like this right where we were. Mind boggling!!!!

The Patrol Boats kept going up river and became no longer a threat. By the grace of God none of us got hit, though Frazier missed getting it in the head by 3 inches. My elephant with the Buddha riding on it that I'd carried all the way from our initial assignment took a round and shattered into pieces. Mom Teacup/Houser would never see it except for a photo. We kept to our mission the rest of the day. Didn't see or hear a thing. Night came and we were back to our normal defensive routine. Again, at about 0Dark30, we heard an explosion on the other side of the river and a little down river from us. We called

it in. Almost immediately following the explosion, which sounded like a hand-grenade, we heard a man screaming in pain and speaking Vietnamese. None of us know what happened, but after about an hour the screaming stopped. We thought that some VC had made some kind of big mistake which took him a little over an hour to die. Peace and quiet returned to our AO and no further incidents during that night.

Third Day (in this place)

Again, though we were wishing it wouldn't, the sun came up right on time. The 14 of us were about our business when one of us, probably Chico, noticed a Forward Air Controller (FAC) airplane heading towards us. We didn't pay it much concern except for waving at it. The pilot did an immediate U-turn in the air and gave us another fly-by and who knows why, but he fired us up with 2 White Phosphorous marking rounds about 50 yards from us. Needless to say we all 'freaked' out figuring the next step was to have some F-104's dropping 500 pound bombs on us. Frazier got on the radio real fast, everybody else that had an orange panel was out there flashing the thing at the FAC. We presume it got the message as we are all still here to this day. Following that incident Frazier called in to the 82nd ABN and requested extraction. His request was granted, but it would take a while. During that wait for the Patrol Boats we spent our time leisurely taking photo's and simply fooling around. We retrieved the Claymores and trip flares, packed up, and got ready to bail out of this friendly fire death trap.

Our group was extracted without incident and we reported to CPT Peters when we got back to Co O (Ranger) 75th Inf (ABN) that our mission had been accomplished, albeit the hard way. We also did a lot of bitchin, which didn't really do any good anyway. The End, file under LRP lessons learned the hard way.

Bill (Teacup) Houser

**P/75 - 79TH LRP**

Unit Director - Bill Davis

**"Lest We Forget"**

Lawrence, Johnny Harold SSGT Apr 4, 1971 Nov 24, 1946 Manteno, IL 4W L106

Sides, Harold Erwin SGT Sept 20, 1970 Mar 09, 1950 Dallas, TX 7W L79

Apellido, Raymond Hugh SP/4 Sept 20, 1970 Oct 15, 1940 Bakersfield, CA 7W L75

Ritchie, Jr. Glenn Garland PFC Sept 20, 1970 Sep 28, 1950 Mt. Pleasant, NC 7W

Gallina, Anthony Joseph SP/4 Sept 20, 1970 Jan 31, 1952 Maplewood, MO 7W L77

Gray, Dale Alan SP/4 Sept 20, 1970 Jul 19, 1950 Mesa, AZ 7W L77



A great time was had by all who attended the Reunion at Fort Benning. I have always found it to be a time of rejuvenation and retrospection. While some of the memories that come back to me can be a bit sad and melancholy, they are for the most part refreshing and invigorating. Some of the highlights were the ceremonies for the Ranger Hall of Fame induction. There were also the Rangers in Action. It was quite a show seeing these young Rangers go through their paces. We got to see a mass tactical jump, and a demonstration on how they deployed after the jump. It was an honor and a privilege to be able to watch those young Rangers at work.

As a Unit we had a couple of very poignant moments. The first of these had to do with one of our Fallen Hero's, Johnny

P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

The Men of Papa Company



Top L-R Hussey, McNulty, Tilson, Smith, Dowd, Wilson, Johnston, Beckwith
Lower L-R DuShane, Bagley, Roderick, Tanner, Auten, Davis
Not shown Walters, Williamson, Patterson, Foringer

Lawrence. His daughter, Jaci Lawrence Glidden was able to attend the festivities. She was only two years old when her father fell. She has been in touch with us for the last couple of years, and was finally able to be around some of those who served with her father. Ted Tilson and Daniel Bagley served closely with Johnny. I need to mention here that Dan was in attendance with his wife, Jennifer and two year old son, Daniel (the Hurricane) Bagley III. Ah, the energy of a two-year old!!

Jaci was able to spend a lot of time with Dan and Ted filling in the holes she had in her memories for her father. There were many laughs and smiles, along with a few tears with these recollections. It was a great sense of closure for Jaci, as she was able to hear things about her father that she hadn't heard before. There was a great sense of closure for Jaci. Before I forget let me mention that Jaci's husband Lance was able to make it for our banquet. He would have made it for more to the reunion, but was busy flying F-16's in the service of our Country.

The Women of Papa Company



L-R Bagley w/Daniel III, Mayer, Rossi, DuShane, Beckwith, Glidden, Auten, Wilson, Tanner

There was another moving moment at our gathering. When I arrived, the first two I encountered were Larry "the Reb" Smith and his son Joseph Smith. Joseph, by the way, is a Navy man with 8 years in, working with computers and 'shh' crypto. It was always good to see the 'Reb'. A surprise was awaiting the 'Reb'. A brick in the Ranger Memorial had been placed for him by his family on the sly. Needless to say, Larry was a bit overwhelmed and choked up by his family. To round out the surprise his sister Kim Worley, her son Jeff and his fiancée Kelly showed up. Jeff is a Hero in his own right. He spent these precious hours honoring Larry, while on his two week R&R from Iraq. This is his second tour to that theatre. It was quite a tribute to Larry.

Jaci Lawrence Glidden



There were members from all over the nation in attendance. John and Bonnie Beckwith were in from Seattle, WA. I was in from Oakland, CA. Dave Mc Nulty was in from Vermont. Ed 'Carney' Walters and his wife Mary were in from Texas on their 'Hogs', while the wild one, Terry Roderick, came up from Florida.

Jim Hussey was able to take time from his busy schedule as a veteran's rep to attend. Rick Auten and wife Sherrie had driven down from Michigan. From New York came Clyde Tanner accompanied by his wife Susan and daughter Sara. Thomas and

At Ranger Memorial



Top L-R Tanner, Beckwith, DuShane, Johnston, Smith, Glidden, Tilson, Roderick, Bagley, Dowd
Lower L-R Davis, Worley, Smith

P/75 - 79TH LRP (CONTINUED)

Gaynelle Wilson were able to make it as was Eddie Johnston, but we missed Kitty and the boys. Mike Williamson showed up from OK with his sharp license plates. Thanks to Mike for those. Rick Foringer also showed, and was able to share the time with his friend Margie.

It was quite a family affair for some. Pat Patterson was there. Accompanying him were his Mother, Martha and his sister, Lynn Lennin. It was also a family affair for two of the women in our family who have recently lost their Rangers. Mary Rossi, widow of Mike was there with two of her grandsons, Keith Riggle and Billy Parsons, while Grace Mayer, widow of Rocky was with two of her granddaughters, Shawnee and Kayla Skogeba.

Finally rounding out the group were Duke and Marion DuShane. I want to take a moment to thank Duke for the tour of Ft. Benning

that he gave to my brother and me in July. I was happy to be able to share with my brother some of our Ranger heritage. Last, but certainly not least Bob Dowd made it. He is our webmaster and brother of our fallen Hero, Dave Dowd. Kudos again to Bob for helping bind our family together with his website.

I am off now to Nashville for a gathering of LRRP's and Rangers from F 51st LRRP's. This is the unit that split and formed both Papa Company and Oscar Company in 1968. It should be a lot of fun, and I'm sure very informative in gathering knowledge of our lineage. Till next time.

In Ranger Brotherhood!!

Bill Davis



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



Everyone had just a wonderful time at the reunion. There are some pictures posted to the website, which has a new address, www.indianarangers.org. If you have pictures, please send them to the webmaster, Jerry Hiron, with a caption of what is in the picture. Some folks flew, and some folks drove, and there were a few brave folks that actually rode motorcycles all the way there. When everyone arrived, they all got reacquainted. There was a great hospitality room, and it was pretty neat to see everyone getting together. Day 2 everyone hit the ground with their feet running, but loved every minute of it. There was a huge barbeque for all the Rangers, and the food and fun was outstanding. Our guys also took some time out to go to the "William E. Butler Warrior Training Center". They got a first hand view of what type of training is done at the center and met with some of the young men that are training there.

Another event was a memorial service for Rusty Hawk, who passed away earlier this year. His widow and son were there. He was honored at the Ranger Memorial on Fort Benning Georgia, and his widow received the flag. Ted Dunn's Ranger son Nathan had just arrived back in-country to present the flag. Welcome back Nathan. That evening was the Company D (Ranger) 151st Infantry Dinner in Columbus. D/151 basically took the whole place over, and all present had an awesome time.

Honorary D 151 association membership has been given to Brenda Manis recognizing all the great work she has done in sending care packages to our troops overseas, she has sent over 600 care packages to our troops. Thank you Brenda.

The next day the business meeting was held, and Tom Blandford will step down as president, and Loren Dixon will prepare for his second term as President of the Company D (Ranger) 151st Infantry Association. Vice-President Bill Schoettmer will hand off duties to Bob McIntire. Other officers have been selected and will be announced on the next newsletter.



But the icing on the whole reunion was the 75th Ranger Regiment Dinner. Company D (Ranger) 151st Infantry opened the dinner with Doug Hagan's now famous, heart rendering, missing man table. If you have never seen this, you are truly missing something. When he finished narrating the table, there wasn't a dry eye in the place. He was amazing. After that he burst into the Toby Keith song "American Soldier", and no one was in their seats. Yep, I'd have to say the D/151st stole the show.

I have been told by more than a few of the fellers to send out a special THANK YOU to the D/151 Rangerettes. Without them this reunion could not have been as special, nor ran as smoothly as it did. Also to Greg Brown, who put together a DVD of D/151st footage from Vietnam to now, as well as making sure some of the raffle items (a bottle of Jack Daniels engraved with the D/151 scroll and four matching glasses, among other things) got to the reunion in time. Plans are in the works for the next reunion, so keep your eyes peeled and your email address current. You won't want to miss this one either. Also, if you have pictures of the reunion that you would like to share, please forward them to the webmaster.

Tom Blandford - Out

D/151 LRP/RANGER (CONTINUED)



D 151 and D 75th Memorial Ceremony for Rusty Hawk at the Ranger Memorial.

**F/51 LRP**

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



Submitted by: Russell Dillon, Unit Director

What follows is a chronology of F Co./51st Inf. (LRP) missions in support of Operation Uniontown III, in the month following the 1968 "Tet Offensive".

Operation Uniontown III—Part 3

Team 35 was a "light" 6-man team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on 21 February 1968 at 1347HRS (1:47 PM). 1404HRS (2:04 PM): Team 35 reported a safe insertion.

February 22nd at 1635HRS (4:35 PM): Team 35 reported its new location.

2356HRS (11:56 PM): Team 35 reported rockets being fired about 1200 meters southeast of the team's location. The rockets seemed to be aimed to the northwest of their launching point.

23 February at 0835HRS (8:35 AM): Team 35 reported hearing Lambrettas and voices approximately 300 to 500 meters northeast of the team's location.

1003HRS (10:03 AM): Team 35 reported shots being fired about 800 meters north of the team's location.

February 24th : Team 35 reported negative significant activity in its area.

On February 25th at 0908HRS (9:08 AM): Team 35 was

extracted without incident.

Team 44 was a "light" 6-man team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on 21 February 1968 at 1423HRS (2:23 PM). After some communications problems, Team 44 report a safe insertion at 1625HRS (2:25 PM).

1905HRS (7:05 PM): Team 44 reported an AK-47 being fired 200 meters northeast of the team's position.

22 February at 0954HRS (9:54 AM): Team 44 reported hearing "friendly" mortar fire about 200 meters north of the teams position.

1545HRS (3:45 PM): Team 44 reported one team member with heat problems and at 1557HRS (3:57 PM): Team 44 reported that the heat causality was all right at this time.

23 February at 1130HRS (11:30 AM): Team 44 reported his new location.

24 February at 0711HRS (7:11 AM): Team 44 reported automatic weapons being fired 200 meters north of the team's position between the hours of 2100HRS (9:00 PM) through 2300HRS (11:00 PM) of 23 February. Team 44 also reported hearing mortar fire South of the teams position at the same times as the

automatic weapons fire.

24 February at 0853HRS (8:53 AM): Team 44 reported 2 or 3 shots being fired about 200 meters north of the team's location. 2131HRS (9:31 PM): Team 44 reported mortars firing 200 to 300 meters north of the team's location..



F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

25 February at 0912HRS (9:12 AM): Team 44 was extracted without incident.

Team 36 was a “light” 6-man team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on 21 February 1968 at 1430HRS (2:30 PM).

1445HRS (2:45 PM) Team 36 reported a safe insertion.

On 22 February at 0615HRS (6:15 AM): Team 36 reported that they had moved and reported their new position.

25 February at 0910HRS (9:10 AM): Team 36 was extracted without incident. During Teams 36’s mission there were no significant enemy activity reported.

Team 20 was a “heavy” 10-man team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on 22 February 1968 at 1609HRS (4:09 PM). The insertion was inside the perimeter of the 3/11 ACR Armor unit.

1615 HRS (4:09 PM): Team 20 reported that the armored unit had discovered a base camp at the southwest corner of the LZ (Landing Zone).

1713HRS (5:13 PM): Team 20 reported coming across foot tracks with expended carbine cartridges scattered among them.

1825HRS (6:25 PM): Team 20 reported that the trail junction that they were at had a heavy dust layer that had NVA boot tracks leading to the south towards the previously discovered base camp.

23 February at 0052HRS (12:52 AM): Team 20 reported 122mm rockets being fired from a position 400 to 600 meters south of the team’s position. Team 34 also reported hearing rockets being fired at the same time and location that Team 20 had reported.

0820HRS (8:20 AM): Team 20 reported hearing movement near their LZ (Landing Zone).

1040HRS (10:40 AM): Team 20 reported hearing people talking 10 to 15 meters from their location.

1918HRS (7:18 PM): Team 20 spotted 1 Vietcong on his right flank.

1931 (7:31 PM): Team 20 reported movement to their rear, about 15 meters away.

2008HRS (8:08 PM): team 20 reported movement to his right and left and a metallic click to its front.

2043 (8:43PM): Team 20 reported that everything had settled down.

On 24 February at 1020HRS (10:20 AM): Team 20 reported that the night before, the team had movement around them and the Team Leader (TL) thought his claymore had been tampered with and that one of the other claymores had gone off in the early morning hours for reasons that no one could explain.

On 25 February Team 20 reported negative sightings.

On 26 February at 0903HRS (9:03 AM): Team 20 was extracted without incident.

Team 45 was a “light” 6-man team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on 25 February 1968 at 1348HRS (1:48 PM). 26 February at 0655HRS (6:55 AM): Team 45 reported smelling something cooking but was unable to tell precisely from where

it was coming.

0750HRS (7:50 AM): Team 45 reported small arms and automatic weapons firing about 1500 meters south of the team’s location.

0945HRS (9:45 AM): Team 45 reported that they were in contact with 1 Vietcong who was 25 meters from the team’s location. The team checked out the area but could not find the Vietcong.

0953HRS (9:53 AM): Team 45 reported a base camp about 100 meters long with fresh tracks. There were no bunkers but there were trenches and air vents.

1020HRS (10:20 AM): Team 45’s Team Leader (TL) reported that he thought the area contained a tunnel complex. A mechanized and armored reaction force, call sign “Battle 36” radioed that it “was on the way” to the site to provide heavy support.

1340HRS (1:40 PM) and 1345HRS (1:45 PM): Team 45 reported that they had found sticks stuck in the ground with rags rapped around them.

1420HRS (2:20 PM): Team 45 reported finding a number of dirt mounds with small holes in them.

1427HRS (2:47 PM): Team 45 reported that they had blown one of the mounds and that the whole thing (ground) caved in.

1517HRS (3:17 PM): Team 45 reported that as they dug down, the vents just got deeper. It was decided by the team to use its C-4 (plastic explosive) and hand grenades to blow as much of the complex as possible.

1920HRS (7:20 PM): Team 45 reported movement that sounded like a pig being killed on the trail 25 meters South of the teams position.

1924HRS (7:24 PM): Team 45 reported that all movement and noise had ceased.

27 February at 0800HRS (8:00 AM): Team 45 reported “pounding” 500 meters north of the team’s location and that the team smelled smoke.

0813HRS (8:00 AM): Team 45 reported tanks coming by their position. [The tanks were those of Battle 36C returning to finish blowing the rest of the base camp that had been found the previous day.]

1010HRS (10:10 AM): Team 45 reported that 2 Vietcong were following them.

1045HRS (10:45 AM): Team 45 reported that all movement had stopped.

1747HRS (5:47 PM): Team 45 reported that 1 team member was sick and needed to be extracted.

1809HRS (6:09 PM): the sick team member was extracted without incident.

1828HRS (6:28 PM): Team 45 reported that they were in contact with an estimated 5 Vietcong.

1829HRS (6:29): the gun-ships began making their gun runs on the Vietcong. Team 45 reported the Vietcong were firing 2 carbines and 1 SKS or an AK-47.

1837HRS (6:37 AM): Team 45 reported 1 team member slightly wounded.

1839HRS (6:39 PM): Team 45 reported movement 15 meters west of the its position. At 1855HRS (6:55 PM): Team 45 was

F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

extracted while under fire, with the extraction “slicks” (troop carrier/cargo helicopters) and gun ships also receiving ground fire.

1902HRS (7:02 PM): artillery was being fired into the [extraction] area.

Team 46 was a “light” 6-man team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on February 15, 1968 at 1404HRS (2:04 PM).

1420HRS (2:20 PM): Team 46 reported movement and the voices of about 6 men. The team also reported seeing what appeared to be a radio antenna just off of a trail that ran north to south.

1440HRS (2:40 PM): Team 46 reported finding a bunker.

1505HRS (3:05 PM): After a recon of the area, Team 46 reported finding 2 firing positions and a booby-trapped hole.

1543HRS (3:43 PM): Team 46 reported finding where 3 men had been sitting with the radio (whose antenna had earlier been spotted). Team 46 also reported movement 75 to 80 meters north of the teams location and fresh ox cart tracks.

1546HRS (3:46 PM): A fake extraction was executed at Team 46’s location.

1622HRS (4:22 PM): 12 rounds of artillery were fired into the area.

On February 25th at 0649HRS (6:49 AM): Team 46 reported hearing hammering and wood-cutting that started just before dark on February 24th and stopped at dawn on February 25th.

0800HRS (8:00 AM): Team 46 reported hearing contact across the river south of the team’s location. Team 46 also reported an ox cart going past their location heading south.

February 26th at 0601HRS (6:01 AM): Team 46 reported

hearing hammering about 1500 meters north of the teams location.

0759HRS (7:59 AM): Team 46 reported hearing a contact 1200 meters south of the team’s location.

1340HRS (1:40 PM): Team 46 reported small arms fire 400 meters north-northeast of the teams location. The above was verified by Team 45.

1400HRS (2:00pm): Team 46 reported movement 50 meters south of the team’s location.

1952HRS (3:52 PM): Team 46 reported 1 mortar round landing 150 meters south of the team’s location.

On February 27th at 1500HRS (3:00 PM): Team 46 reported that they had 2 sick team members, one of which had symptoms of malaria and needed extracted.

1558HRS (3:58 PM): the sick team member was extracted without incident.

1759HRS (5:59 PM): Team 46 reported automatic weapons firing 600 meters southwest of the its location.

February 28th at 0500HRS (5:00 AM): Team 46 reported 20 Vietcong ,10 to 15 meters east of the its position.

0525HRS (5:25 AM): Team 46 reported monitoring fire from mortars being fired from the orth to west, 150 meters from the team’s position.

0547HRS (5:47 AM): Team 46 reported more Vietcong moving north on the trail to the teams east. The trail was big enough for a company-sized unit.

0647HRS (6:47 AM): Team 46 reported a group of about 40 men and then a second group, which was a large mass that the team thought was a NVA element marching in column.

February 28th at 0753HRS (7:53AM): Team 46 was extracted without further incident.



LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

No Submission



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Mike Martin



Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

Superimposed on a backdrop of Ranger camaraderie, the stanzas’ of the Ranger Creed trumpeted in unison from members of the 75th Ranger Regiment at the conclusion of the 13th Annual Ranger Hall of Fame—7 July 2005—ceremonial induction. It was a “rite of Passage” for the young Rangers in attendance as a time-line of Ranger history and valor, transcended from the World War II era to the present in living form...a saga of courage on fields of battle throughout the world. 43rd Biet Dong Quan Ranger



Advisor, Colonel Rodney J. Wijas, was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for extraordinary valor and unparalleled leadership during combat operations in South Vietnam, and a thirty-two exemplary military career. As an army staff sergeant with the 43rd BDQs, Rod was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars with “V” Device and the Purple Heart. He retired as a colonel in the United States Marine Corps—I am proud to have him as a friend and a comrade-in-arms. Several of our BDQs were in attendance,

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)



*Ranger Advisor John Tippen spent about three years with the 37th Battalion, 1st Ranger Group. This photo was taken at Da Nang, South Vietnam in 1968. John has become quite a celebrity; he has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey show and is the author of *I DID IT! My Life After Megabucks*. He lives in Honolulu with his wife Stella. John still has the Ranger spirit.....*

including: Walt Sanders, Doug Perry, "Tex" Wandke, Harris Parker, Frank Casey, Jack Daniel, Andy Markivitch and myself. Advisors to the Vietnamese 81st Airborne Rangers, James Collier, Thomas Humphus and General David L. Grange, also attended John Minatra, who served with the 11th Bn. and as an Advisor to the Airborne, was a guest too.

VIETNAMESE RANGER ADVISOR REUNION (11-13 May 2006)

Reminiscence of the central highlands and the city of Dalat—the City of Eternal Spring—with its beautiful mountain scenery, mist-

shrouded valleys and waterfalls, lakes and rivers and cool climate is the Unicoi State Park situated on 1,023 acres of wilderness, a little over two miles from the **Alpine Village** of Helen, Georgia. Our reunion site will be The Lodge at Unicoi State Park; Unicoi is a convenient access point to the North Georgia Mountains, which are known for their scenic beauty, wildlife, and a variety of visitor's attractions—one being Anna Ruby Falls.

The Lodge is a 100-room accommodation with all services and



L To R: Major Van, Commander 21st Bn, 2nd Ranger Gp; Cpt Freddie McFarren, Senior Advisor to the 21st Battalion, 1968. MsFarren retired as a Lieutenant General.



Ranger Advisor Bob Andreas, 34th BN, 5th Ranger Group, 1970 – 71.

amenities underneath a canopy of forest with a restaurant that serves three meals daily. It is 89 miles from Atlanta via I-85. For cultural aficionados, Helen, Georgia is a hidden treasure that offers a combination of Austria, Germany, and Switzerland as one; picturesque half-timbered shops with flowers tumbling from window boxes and hanging pots add to the charm of the town and will brighten your shopping experience with unique European gift items available and local restaurants serving authentic German cuisine. Of

course, for those who have honed their palates for the exclusive nectars of the region, German beers, wine and the local brews are to be enjoyed day or night, in a delightful setting guaranteed to soothe the soul and restore the spirit.

In addition to the shopping, sight seeing and out-of-doors forages such as gold panning, there will be a Ranger Advisor dinner at The Lodge on Friday evening (12 May) with a special guest speaker; but

the highlight of our reunion—along with the camaraderie—will be our visit to the Ranger Open House and Training Demonstration with a most unusual Critter Cookout at Camp Frank D. Merrill, Dahlonega, Georgia on Saturday 13th May, hosted by the 5th Ranger Training Bn and the Mountain Ranger Camp Association.



Standing with hands on beret, LT Dau; far left standing is LT Stevenson: advisor Bill Miller is sitting by the M-16 on the ground; to his right is SFC Bill Harden. Ranger Advisors, 23rd BN (BDQs), 1968, Bao Loc.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)



One of the few photographs to come out of the Communists' re-education camps: ARVN soldiers being punished because they refused to Kowtow to their captors. Where was the public outcry over the treatment of South Vietnamese prisoners by the NVA and the Viet Cong? General Do Ke Giai, the last Commander of the Vietnamese Rangers, spent 17 years in a Communist re-education camp.....most Vietnamese Rangers were internees for 8 to 12 years.

With reorganization, the Mountain Ranger Camp was officially designated "Camp Frank D. Merrill" in honor of Major General Frank D. Merrill, Commander of Merrill's Marauders during Burma Operations of World War II. On October 1, 1988, the 2nd Ranger Company (Headquarters for the camp and Ranger Instructors) was redesignated the 5th Ranger Training Battalion. We are indebted to BDQs Doug Perry (42nd-44th Bns) and Earl Singletary (5th Group), former Mountain Camp Instructors, for their expertise and hard work in laying the groundwork for this meaningful—Reunion-occasion. We can assure those attending, it will be an event to be remembered...a reunion of style and significance. A thought to ponder: Doug Perry is the "chef de cuisine" for the highly acclaimed Mountain morsels—all edible—that will be served at the cookout. This menagerie of wild game may be unpalatable for some, so there will be an abundance of hamburgers and hot dogs for those desiring the more mundane....

Doug, passed on this tidbit of wisdom to me in regards to the Critter Cookout: "I reckon the hankering for wild things just comes naturally to me; Rangers once had to live by gun and fishing pole, 'cept what they trapped...even wimmen folks learnt

how to cook~~Yea,Right, Doug! He also stated, "that his secret to any food preparation was to add a heap of liquor and a smidgeon of sweetening to all makins and to the ladies too..a man after my own heart.

NOTE: Those who wish to make a contribution to help defray necessary expenditures required for the reunion i.e., postage, printing, phone calls, hospitality suite and transportation etc., can do so by sending a check of any amount, payable to Doug Perry at his residence. This would be in addition to the registration fee...

REUNION POINTS OF CONTACT

Doug Perry

50 John Caldwell Dr Dahlonge, GA 30533; perryd@benning.army.mil Home Tel# 706 864 2732 Work# 706 864 5630 Ext 613.

The Lodge (Lynn Lovell)

Reference: Vietnam Ranger Advisor Reunion (Cluster D)

Reservations: 706 878 2201 ext 220
lynn_lovell@dnr.state.ga.us

Helen, GA Welcome Center
www.helenga.org

Tel# 706 878 2181

Helen Chamber of Commerce
www.helenchamber.com

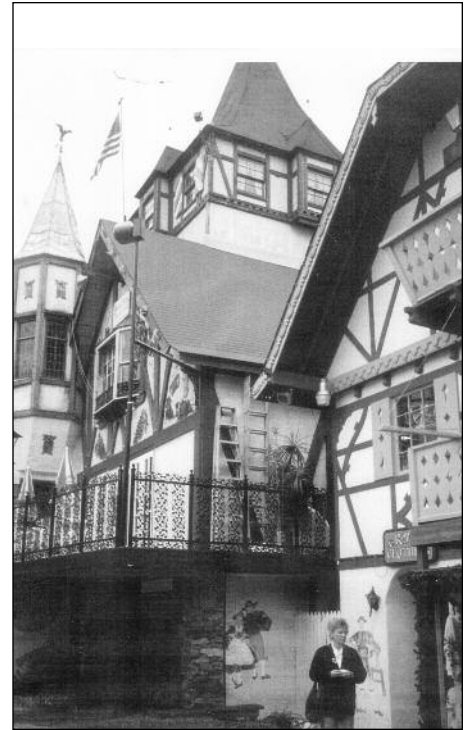
ARVN RANGER ADV (BDQs)
bdq@75thrangrs.org

AN EPOCH OF THE RANGER SPIRIT

Clenching his teeth and skaking his fist in the face of the Vietnamese Ranger prisoner, Hai Chau, the Communist political commissar (from a regiment of the 10th NVA Division) of reeducation camp Z-80, yelled, "Hey you—what is your name?"

First Lieutenant Ho Su (Nguyen Su), remained calm, not responding to the Commissar; in an act of defiance he pointed his index finger to his nametag, which was sewn over his pocket, instead. Trying to maintain control, the Commissar said, "You are an undisciplined"

"It has been more than ten days since you became a prisoner and you still address yourself as a First Lieutenant; "you are an 'Undisciplined Puppet Soldier' !!"



The European façade is evident on the shops and buidings of the Alpine village if Helen, Georgia....site of the Vietnamese Ranger Advisor Reunion, (11 – 13 May, 2006). The German "agent" in the lower right hand corner, (looking for a dead letter drop, or me) has been identified as Frau Hildegard Martin.

Ignoring the shouts and derogatory remarks of his enemy, Ranger Ho Su's indifference caused the Commissar to lose control...pulling out his knife, he ran towards Lt. Ho Su with slashing moves as the camp internees held their breaths' hoping he was just trying to scare the Ranger.

Suddenly, the Commissar swings at the chest of Ho Su...a cry of "KIAI" came from the maroon beret warrior as he kicked the knife from the hand of the commissar, disarming him, then using his martial arts skills, threw him to the ground as his brother Rangers (prisoners) screamed their feared battle cry, "Biet Dong Quan Sat—Ranger Kill!" Losing "face", the Commissar got up and tried to pullout his K54 pistol, but this time Lt. Ho Su gave no quarter; in the midst of shouts of Rangers Kill from his fellow Rangers he moved in with blows and kicks... the Commissar fled, covered in

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

blood....

As on the battlefields, the Ranger internees accepted the inevitable - Communist guards opened fire with their AK-47s, killing the brave Ranger Lieutenant. The maroon beret hero had fought for his country for years, he would do so until the very last minutes of his life-becoming a Ranger Legend. From the "Biet Dong Quan" publication number 14, May 2005, by Hoang Duc Thac, translated by Hieu D. Vu and condensed by Mike Martin.

Note: First Lieutenant Ho Su's real name is Nguyen SU: he was a company commander in the 62nd Ranger Battalion; the author Hoang Duc Thac was an internee in the Z-80 reeducation camp

(not a Ranger) and was a witness to this epic event.

CONTEMPLATIONS

This was the **regiment**, a small ideal because humanity cannot encompass a larger one, and imperfect as its ends were imperfect. The spirit of the **regiment** took little heed of efficiency, discipline, or even loyalty. It had been built by generations of men, one after the other, wearing the black IV in their hats, who all came to realize their continentality, one with the other, with those who had gone and those who had not yet come. It was for this spirit that we drilled together, got drunk together, hunted, danced, played, killed, and saved life together. It was from this spirit that no

man was alone, neither on the field of battle, which is a lonely place, nor in the chasm of death, nor in the dark places of life.

...John Masters, British Soldier and Author

VIETNAM (BDQ) HISTORY

The Dunlap Enlisted Open Mess, Saigon, was named in honor of Ranger Advisor SFC Wilbur Dunlap, Killed in Action in 1964.

SHOOT LOW, I'll see you on the High Ground. Mu Nau Mike Martin, Unit Director

Our Fate

We fought the enemy in the jungle so dense,
Bamboo thickets growing like a picket fence.
Each step halted by "Await a minute vine,"
Entangling the earth like endless twine.

To clear the jungle they had to spray,
Slow death to surface another day.
Our children born retarded, some maimed & blind,
The effects of the spray have not been kind.

I survived my hell, I did not die,
I feel their pain, I hear them cry.
We did not lose, we did not win,
Our children are paying for our dreadful sin.

I hurt inside; the pain is so real,
It's not for me but for the children I feel.
I went to war, I made it home,
Please let me do the suffering, me alone.

Michael Monfrooe, L/75

NAM KNIGHTS of AMERICA

BY: Dan Nate

The NAM KNIGHTS of AMERICA, Delaware-Valley Chapter, escorted the “sole” driver and the “TRUCK THAT HEALS”, containing THE WALL THAT HEALS out of her southward trip from Connecticut to here, New Jersey, at West Deptford’s RIVERWINDS Complex. A neat and proud reason to ride awhile. All went well. The woman in the picture is the driver/operator, Barbara Smith. Her female cohort/partner had to see to her folks in Mississippi, so she said she’d continue alone. Brave, competent woman, and (1) big truck. (53 ft. trailer). We’ll pull night watch around the campfire while it’s here, just in case. Leave date is the 18th. Lots of festivities and several schools will travel here to see it up close, and to learn of the forgotten history of RVN. Have several. Thought you could use/look at/enjoy, whichever. Still chugging along. Dan Nate, F Co. Oh, yeah...I’m the handsome one at your far left, Brother.



Here are a few more, including the truck, itself. Now comes set-up time!!! This time I’m the handsome guy 2nd from your left! The nerve of some people.....!



I Regret to Inform You

I regret to inform you of the loss of your son,
He is on his way home, his job is done.
Know in your heart he died being brave;
He chose death over life so his friends he could save.

He was proud to be an infantryman, standing tall,
He was a true hero; he answered the call.
I try to understand why young men die;
In sending them to their death, I’ve no time to cry.

Your son truly loved life and thus he died;
Remember he gave his life; remember with pride.
I must finish your letter for I have others to pen;
For soon I’ll lead them in combat, boys not yet men.

For whatever reasons our song must die,
Let it be for truth and not a lie.
I regret to inform you that your son is coming home;
His name is etched forever in the Ebony Stone.

Michael D. Monfrooe, 1995



Mary Anne and Steve Lemire from Alaska. Steve and his wife Jan run a fishing guide service out of Klawock, AK. Mary Anne & I, along with Buck & Jan Anderson went with him a couple of years ago & had a great time. (See card ad in this issue)



Patience Mason and Emmett Hiltibrand share a moment and a libation in the Hospitality room.



Bill Bullen, (1st VP), Mary Anne and friend in front of the Ranger quilt.



Opening day drop a Fryar DZ.

I REMEMBER WHEN

The day you made team leader was scary to say the least,
You would be leading LRRP's into the belly of the beast.
You sat on your bunk and wondered "What the Hell".
Could you do what was expected, could you do it well.

You had to face the realities of that awful war,
You could only do your best, no one could ask more.
You trained them hard, no one asked why,
All knew in their hearts that some would die.

With each decision you make, you pray to do no wrong,
The unexpected happens, you just ruck up and move on.
You ask deep in your soul, "Am I Good Enough".
Would you let your team down when the going got tough.

You led a mission in the Ashau, a place remembered well,
Full of wild orchids and exotic birds, grunts called it hell.
Your point man got down, pointing to the ground,
You both look at the tracks, Charlie had been found.

You listen hard, hearing voices nearby,
Reality hits, some one is going to die.
You signaled your team, get ready to fight,
Each man prayed in his own right.

For those that have experienced it, combat can be unkind,
One of your men will be going home before his time.
You were a LRRP team leader, you brought your team home,
Your friends remembered in a black marbled stone.

Michael Monfrooe USA Ret

Nov. 9, 2004

Dedicated to "L" Co. 75th Ranger Team Leaders Sgt's
Sheppard, Lambert, Distretti, Ackley and Wyatt "E"
Co. 3/506th

Recon Team Leaders Sgt Fischer and Brandt
and SSG Vennard.

THE BEST OF THE BEST

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By: Bob Smyers

28 PENNIES

WHEN I WAS GROWING UP I DID NOT THINK A PENNY WAS WORTH VERY MUCH. HOWEVER MY DAD TOLD ME IT TAKES PENNIES TO MAKE DOLLARS. THIS WAS NOW A TRUTH TO ME. HECK, I WOULD EVEN TAKE ANY SILVER I HAD AND CASH IT IN FOR PENNIES, THINKING IT WOULD APPEAR I HAD MORE MONEY. KID THINKING YOU KNOW. YET AS I GREW OLDER, I BEGAN TO SEE THE PENNY AGAIN, AS OF LITTLE WORTH AND AT TIME I WOULD THROW THEM AWAY. LITTLE DID I KNOW GOD WOULD USE THE PENNY AS A SIGN LATER IN MY LIFE. GOD USES ALL KINDS SIGNS FOR HIS DESIRE TO BRING A BLESSING INTO OUR LIFE, BUT TOO OFTEN WE MISS THE SIGN BECAUSE WE ARE PREOCCUPIED WITH LIFE, AND GAINING THOSE THINGS THAT BRING US COMFORT, AND THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT, BUT TOO OFTEN WE THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT OUR FLESHLY NEEDS, AND LITTLE ABOUT OUR SPIRITUAL NEEDS. YOU KNOW THE SAYING THAT SAYS, STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES. WELL GOD WANTS US TO STOP AND HEAR HIM CALLING TO US AND THE EXPRESSION OF HIS LOVE FOR US. GOD CREATED IN US A CONSCIENCE THAT WE COULD KNOW RIGHT FROM WRONG. WHEN YOU HEAR THIS VOICE WHICH IS NOT AUDIBLE, YOU ARE HEARING IT AS YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS VOICE. THEN THERE IS ANOTHER VOICE THAT IS NOT AUDIBLE, BUT YOU CAN HEAR IT. THIS IS THE STILL SMALL VOICE OF GOD, AND IT GIVES YOU UNLEARNED KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM. IT COMES TO US FOR MANY REASONS. FOR EXAMPLE; TO GIVE US THE PATH HE WANTS US TO FOLLOW, THINGS HE WANTS US TO DO, IT ALSO WARNS US, AND EVEN URGES AT TIME TO ACT UPON WHAT YOU ARE HEARING. ALL OF US ON NUMEROUS OCCASSIONS HAVE HEARD THIS STILL SMALL VOICE. YET, HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE SHRUGGED IT OFF AND LOST A BLESSING, OR BEING A BLESSING TO OTHERS. WELL WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH PENNIES? GLAD YOU ASK. ONE DAY WE WENT TO WAL-MART, AND WHEN I GO THERE I ALWAYS PARK FAR AWAY FROM OTHER VEHICLES. THE SPOT I WOULD BE GUIDE TO TODAY WOULD BRING ME A GREAT BLESSING, A BLESSING I OR ANYONE COULD USE. I OPEN MY DOOR TO GET OUT AND IMMEDIATELY NOTICED SEVERAL PENNIES ON THE GROUND. AS YOU KNOW PENNIES IN MY MIND WHERE USELESS. I GOT WANDA OUT INTO HER CHAIR AND STARTED FOR THE STORE. ALL OF A SUDDEN, I WAS HEAVILY URGE TO GO BACK AND PICK UP THE PENNIES. I WAS RELUCTANT, BUT DID AS I WAS URGED. I BEGAN TO PICK UP THE PENNIES AND I AGAIN HEARD THE STILL SMALL VOICE. THIS TIME IT SAID, THE NUMBER OF PENNIES YOU COUNT WILL EACH BE WORTH A THOUSAND DOLLAR, WHICH WILL BE ADDED TO YOUR INCOME. AS I OFTEN DO, AND UNDER MY BREATHE I SAY, YEAH, RIGHT. BUT BY FAITH I KNEW GOD WAS ONE OF HIS WORD, SO I ACCEPTED IT. IT WAS BUT A FEW MONTHS LATER THAT IT HAPPENED, MY INCOME WOULD INCREASE \$28,000.00 ANNUALLY. HAD I NOT LISTENED TOO THE STILL SMALL VOICE AND ACCEPTED IT BY FAITH, WOULD I HAVE RECEIVED THE GIFT? ONLY GOD KNOWS. HAVE YOU MISSED OR ARE YOU NOW MISSING A BLESSING? THE WORD OF GOD SAYS, FAITH IS THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR AND THE EVIDENCE OF THINGS NOT SEEN. "JESUS SAYS, ONLY BELIEVE"!

BOB SMYERS, CHAPLAIN 75TH RRA.

AUTHORS NOTE:

HOPE TO ENCOURAGE YOU IN YOUR HOPE AND FAITH. AT TIMES I DO THIS THROUGH PERSONAL TESTIMONIES. SO THAT IT IS NOT ALWAYS TESTIMONIES OF MY WIFE OR ME, I ASK FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO SHARE, TO SEND THEM TO ME. EMAIL hotel2alfa@tampabay.rr.com HOWEVER, UNDERSTAND THAT I ONLY GET SPACE IN THE MAGAZINE FOUR TIMES A YEAR. I WILL PUT THEM IN IN THE ORDER RECEIVED. ALL I ASK IS THEY BE TRUE AND TRY TO KEEP IT WITHIN 700 WORDS. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

BOOK REVIEW

Shadow Warriors: A History of the US Army Rangers

By: Mir Bahmanyar

Osprey Publishing, Midland House

Oxford, UK, \$29.95; Contact Sheeba Madan,
212-685-5560

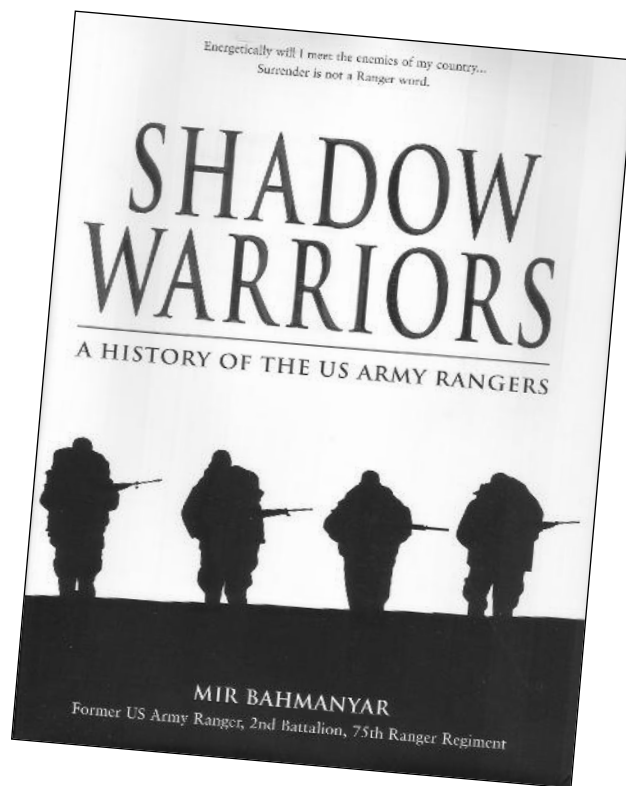
This history, essentially of the modern day Rangers, will be a fine addition to any Ranger's library. It is well written, with a sort of insider's perspective, and the author is clearly an insider. I do believe that the author's inability to distance himself from his subject, kept this history from being a scholarly work, and given the nature of the stakes involved, perhaps that is understandable. It is well researched and well written, (except for the minor discrepancy that the 505th PIR, the smokejumpers, an all black unit, were actually the 555th PIR, the Triple Nickels), and the author pulls no punches when it comes to assigning blame for any real or imagined miss cues on the part of the Commanders, from Platoon Leaders to the Secretary of Defense and the President himself, I applaud such candor.

The author begins with the Colonial and Pre-Colonial Rangers and very briefly covers all the conflicts involving Rangers, (80 odd pages out of 336), up to the formation of the first of the present day Ranger Battalions in 1974. The remainder of the book is devoted to the modern day Ranger Battalions from 1974 to 2005. I think that there is no doubt that we are awash in Ranger Histories from Vietnam and prior years, I personally have lost count of the number of books that I have read on the subject. I don't really understand why the author did not confine himself solely to a modern history and simply cover the historical lineage in a few pages and have done with it. It is almost axiomatic, that, if you mention one unit as a shining example of Ranger-hood or LRRP-hood, you will piss off all the others.

I was impressed with the level of detail of the early years, including the philosophy and politics that went along with the eventual formation of the 75th Ranger

Regiment. Also extremely interesting were the personal accounts of the participants in the various shooting conflicts, Iran, Grenada, Panama, Somalia, etc. These seemed to be very frank and honest accounts of what really happened, free of any attempts to glorify any one or any thing, (when an individual was terrified, he said so). Also impressive were the very detailed 60-some pages of Appendices, Endnotes, Bibliography and Glossary. As I mentioned prior, this is almost a scholarly work, but in spite of that, it is also a good read.

John Chester



MERRILL'S MARAUDERS



Merrill's Makeshift Artillery

By Sgt. DAVE RICHARDSON, YANK Staff Correspondent
From Yank the Army Weekly British
Edition Vol 3. No. 16 Oct. 1 1944

Jap artillery was pounding Merrill's Marauders again. Three weeks before, the enemy guns had sent shells whistling into Marauder positions facing the Walawbum garrison. Two weeks before, a Jap battery had ranged in on the Marauders during their attack on the enemy supply route at Inkangahtawng. One week before, a couple of rapid-fire guns had hammered the Marauders all night after their capture of a section of the Shaduzup-Kamaing road.

And now Jap artillery was concentrated on a unit of Marauders on Nhpum Ga hill. Another Marauder unit was driving through to relieve the outfit the Japs had surrounded.

As the 70-mm shell blasts reverberated through the jungles. Maj. Edwin J. Briggs of La Grande, Oreg., CO of the attacking unit, sent for a mule skinner and offered him a new job.

S/Sgt. John A. Acker, the mule skinner, was an ex-mineworker from Bessemer, Ala., who had shipped overseas a year before with a pack howitzer outfit. The outfit had gone to New Guinea. After sitting around for months without going into action, Acker and several others grew restless. When a call was made for animal transportation men to join Merrill's Marauders, they volunteered. That was seven months before.

"Acker," said the major, "I understand you and some of the other mule drivers who used to be in the pack artillery would like to fire some howitzers back at these Japs. Is that right?" The Alabaman said it was.

"Well, Acker," the major grinned, "this is an emergency. Two 75-mm pack howitzers will be parachuted to us tomorrow. Get two gun crews together and be ready to fire them."

Next day an expectant bunch of mule drivers stood on the airdrop field, watching brilliantly colored parachutes drift lazily down. When the "parachutes hit the ground, the mule skinnners became artillerymen again. They grabbed the dismantled howitzers and went to work assembling them. The guns were brand new and clean of cosmoline. Within two hours they were assembled, dug in on the airdrop field and firing.

A mile away the Marauder unit that was driving through Jap machine-gun positions along the trail to Nhpum Ga heard the shells whistle overhead. "What the hell is that?" one rifleman asked another. "Jap artillery behind us, too?" Then a radio message explained that it was Marauder artillery. Soon infantry-

directed fire was blasting the strong 'points holding up the rifle platoon.

Two days later Acker and his impromptu artillery crews put their howitzers on mules and climbed the winding trail for three miles. They emplaced their guns on a ridge overlooking the Jap positions between the trapped Marauder unit on Nhpum Ga hill and the attacking unit. While the guns were being set up again T-4 Robert L. Carr of San Luis Obispo, Calif., started for the front as artillery observer with a walkie-talkie.

The point platoon had run smack up against one of the strongest Jap positions yet. This was a perimeter atop a little knoll from which Jap machine gunners commanded a clear field of fire for several hundred feet down the trail. The steep sides of the knoll made flanking difficult. It would have to be taken frontally. The point platoon asked for artillery and mortar support.

Carr, the observer, took his walkie-talkie up to the first squad. "Jap position approximately 700 yards from guns," he radioed, adding the azimuth. "Fire a smoke shell, and I'll zero you in."

The smoke shell whistled over, followed by a few more as Carr adjusted the firing data. Finally he okayed both range and azimuth. Lacking an aiming circle, the only piece of equipment that was not dropped with the guns, Acker and his men were obliged to use an ordinary infantry compass to gauge azimuth.

These mule skinnners gave up their mules for a pack howitzer when Merrill's Marauders needed artillery.

The order came to fire five rounds. Up ahead all morning there had been constant mortar, machine-gun and small-arms fire. But as soon as the howitzers opened fire, Jap bullets began singing over the artillerymen's heads. All day the Japs reminded Acker's men that they were firing practically point-blank at 700 yards.

Just after the howitzers fired the five rounds, S/Sgt. Henry E. Hoot of Shepherd, Tex., radioman with the guns, shouted to Acker: "Holy smoke! Some Infantry officer is on the radio. He's excited as hell. Says you're right on the target. "And get this" he wants us to fire 'Battery 100 rounds'."

There's no such order in artillery parlance; actually the correct order for a lot of firing is "Fire at will." Acker chuckled at the order. "Okay, boys," he said. "Open those shell cases fast. Gun crews, prepare to fire at will."

In the Next 15 minutes, the jungle hills rang as the two pack howitzers threw 134 shells into the Jap perimeter. The crews had been a bit slow two days before because they hadn't seen a howitzer in seven months, but now they performed as artillerymen should.

Up front the point platoon drove through They found parts of Jap bodies in trees and all over the ground, virtually blown out of their holes. The dense" jungle had become a clearing under the terrific blasting. A platoon leader going through the area, a few minutes after the barrage. discovered two shivering Japs deep in a foxhole, unhurt but moaning with fear. He killed them with a carbine. Apparently they were the only ones who had survived and stayed in the area. The platoon moved through unopposed.

MERRILL'S MARAUDERS (CONTINUED)

For the next few days the artillery worked hand in hand with the point platoon in blasting other Jap positions. On one of these days Pvt. John W. (Red) Seegars of Kershaw, S. C. walked up to the guns with a broad smile. Seegars had been requested by Acker as No. 1 man on one of the howitzers but because he was a rifleman and was needed in the drive, he had not been sent back to the guns. Now Seegars was wounded in the left arm.

"As a rifleman I can't crawl with this arm wound," said Seegars, "so they sent me back to the aid station for evacuation. But I'm not going. I can still pull a howitzer lanyard with my right arm." Acker was glad to get him.

MEANWHILE Carr, the artillery observer, found things pretty hot at the front. On an advance with a ride platoon, he was pinned down on the side of a hill by Jap machine guns and grenades at the top. Two men were wounded near him. He left the radio and dragged each of them back through the fire to an aid man. Returning to his radio, Carr egged the Japs into revealing their positions by throwing grenades, thus drawing fire on himself. Then he radioed the howitzers to shorten their range and swing their azimuth until the shells burst near a Jap heavy machine gun 30 yards away.

All this time, a Jap dual-purpose antiaircraft gun was throwing 70-mm shells into the midst of the trapped Marauder unit on Nhpum Ga. Acker got a liaison plane to spot the ack-ack gun's position. Then the howitzers fired on it all day. At dusk the Jap gun tried to fire back at the howitzers, but its trajectory was too flat to hit them. The shells either hit an intervening hill or whistled harmlessly high over the artillerymen's heads.

And that morning the Marauder attacking unit broke through to relieve the unit that had been cut off by the Japs for 10 days. Acker and his men, mule skinnners no more, fired a salvo to celebrate.

S/SGT John Acker was entered into the Ranger Hall of Fame in July 2004

From the Merrill's Marauders website with permission of Phil Piazza, President, Merrill's Marauders association



Ranger Tom Herring died on 30 May 2005. A lot of the WW II Rangers have died and more pass on every year. We do not do notices on all that go on to the Great Ranger in the Sky, but Tom is different for me because I knew him. In my past life as a secretary for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, I had occasional correspondence with him on business matters and I met him at several different Ranger gatherings. The last one was this years Best Ranger Competition in April. I along with Dana McGrath (a past president of the 75th RRA) and Steve Crabtree (current president), a couple of young "Rangers to be" going into RIP, Tom Herring and a WWII Ranger buddy of his spent an evening socializing in the hotel bar. The evening grew longer and I thought it was well past these old Rangers bedtime but Tom & his buddy kept driving on. Then it went past what I felt like should have been my bedtime but I was damned if I was going to let these two old Rangers see me walk out the door. It was past 0200 when they decided to call it a night, and I happily staggered out the door behind them leaving Dana to close the bar. Tom was all Ranger, I hope I can live and die with half his style. - Ron Edwards

Ranger Herring joined the 5th Ranger Battalion when it was activated at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, September 1943. He was a Mortar Squad Leader when he hit the beach at Normandy where the motto, "**Rangers Lead The Way**" originated, and fought with the battalion in all of its major campaigns. He was hospitalized in November 1944 and forced to leave the battalion. Ranger Herring was discharged from the Army in February 1945.

Following WWII, like many returning veterans, Tom Herring entered college under the GI Bill. He graduated from the University of Florida as a Graduate Engineer in February 1950. He worked in international construction for 40 years, retiring as an Estimating

The 2nd Ranger Battalion (CONTINUED)

Manager responsible for major construction projects from \$1 million to over \$300 million dollars. In his construction career, Herring worked in 38 countries throughout the continents of Europe, Africa, Asia and North America.

Ranger Herring has given his talents and dedication to the Ranger community by serving as Ranger Battalions WWII Chapter Secretary since 1986 and its National Secretary since 1995. During 1988 through 1990, he demonstrated even more outstanding leadership ability while serving as President, U.S. Army Ranger Association and is considered to be the wise mentor of that association's national officers.

Ranger Thomas E. Herring is a living example of the Ranger Creed. His contributions as a young enlisted Ranger who crossed the beaches of Normandy and fought across the continent of Europe in WWII to save the world from tyranny are an indelible part of Ranger heritage and history. Throughout his civilian career and through his leadership positions in two Ranger associations, most especially his assistance in revitalizing the U.S. Army Ranger Association, he has distinguished himself as a Ranger who has the ability to fight on to the Ranger objective, while never leaving a fallen comrade on the field of battle. His everyday service to these Ranger associations reflect that day on the beach when "Rangers Lead The Way" became a way of life.

You will be missed, Ranger Tom!

From the RBA website

The 5th Ranger Battalion

Activated 21 July 1943 Inactivated 22 Oct 1945

In the Beginning

The 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion was formed on 1 September 1943 at Camp Forrest, Tennessee. Thirty-four officers and 563 enlisted men joined the battalion over the next three days. Major Owen H. Carter was the battalion commander and Captain Richard P. Sullivan, the executive officer.

After four months of strenuous training in the States, the battalion shipped out of the Port of New York on 8 January, 1944 aboard the HMS Mauretania, arriving in Liverpool, England on the 18th.

Training in England

Training resumed at Leominster, England, but there was some free time and the pubs got a lot of business. And, no, the 5th Rangers had nothing to do with the midnight raid on the QM truck company located just outside town in a tent city. Two months later to Scotland where the battalion endured Commando training. From Scotland to the Assault Training Center where Major Schneider joined us as the new battalion commander. Then to Swanage for cliff training. The final examinations on our training came in late April during the Fabius II landing exercise.

The Invasion

On 1 June, the battalion moved to Portland Harbor and boarded its invasion ships, the HMS Prince Leopold (Battalion Headquarters, "C", "D", and "F" Companies). At last, the maps, aerial photos, and sand tables had names on them: Vierville-sur-Mer, Point du Hoc, Grandcamp-les-Bains and Maisy.

At H-Hour, 0630 hours, we circled offshore waiting for a signal from the 2nd Ranger Battalion. Had they been successful in their assault of the cliffs at Point du Hoc? No word. Circle. No word. At 0710, ten minutes beyond his deadline, Colonel Schneider ordered the three waves of eighteen Ranger boats under his command to divert to Omaha Beach, landing at Vierville-sur-Mer.

As Colonel Schneider's first wave, Companies "A" and "B" of the 2nd Rangers landed at Vierville, they were cut to pieces by massive German machine gun, mortar, and artillery fire. Colonel Schneider diverted his remaining forces, the entire 5th Rangers, to the east. Approximately one mile and ten minutes later, the 5th Infantry Battalion landed intact astride the boundary between Omaha Dog White and Red Beaches.

Schneider immediately ordered the battalion to proceed to rallying points by platoon infiltration. Four holes were blown in the wire that trapped the American forces on the beach. Rangers poured through those gaps in the wire and stormed the crest

The 2nd Ranger Battalion (CONTINUED)

of the smoke covered bluffs, taking the German defenders by surprise. At this point, the 29th Division ordered the battalion to assist in establishing the beachhead rather than relieve the 2nd Rangers at Point du Huc. By late afternoon, the 5th Rangers had occupied Vierville, securing the right flank of a beachhead about a mile deep. Plans to push on to Pointe du Huc were vetoed by the 29th Division and the 5th Rangers remained in Vierville overnight defending the right flank of the beachhead. On D+1, most of the battalion remained in and around Vierville, mopping up German resistance and defending the beachhead against counterattacks. Two companies, "C" and "D", were part of an Infantry and Tank task force attacking toward Grandcamp-les-Bains. This force advanced through the German defenses to a point about a mile past Point du Huc when heavy artillery fire and extensive anti-tank defenses drove it back to St. Pierre du Mont, just short of the Pointe. When the tanks were recalled to Vierville to help defend the beachhead for the night, the task force dug in at St. Pierre, sending out patrols that were able to contact the forces at Pointe du Huc.

On D+2, the 2nd Rangers at Pointe du Huc were relieved in an early morning attack by the Rangers at St. Pierre du Mont. Simultaneously, Companies "B" and "E" of the 5th Rangers led the attack on Grandcamp-les-Bains with the 116th Infantry and 743rd Tank Battalion putting the finishing touches on the capture of the town.

Early on D+3, "A", "C", and "F" attacked and captured the German artillery and infantry strong points surrounding the German Headquarters complex at Maisy.

Casualties of the Invasion Operations 23 KIA, 89 WIA, and 2 MIA. Total 114 or 22%.

Respite

The next few weeks brought a brief respite to the 5th Rangers. Training occupied most of the time. However, part of the time was occupied guarding prisoners of war at Foucarville and part guarding the west coast beaches against possible German landing operations from their forces on the Channel Islands.

The Brittany Campaign

On 29 August, Companies "A", "C", and "E" relieved elements of the 2nd Infantry Division northwest of Brest. Patrolling and sporadic fighting occurred over the next few days.

On 1 September, the rest of the battalion was attached to the 29th Division with a mission "to straighten out the lines". Heavy fighting erupted the following day when the battalion attacked Ft. Toulbrouch, the first of many forts defending Brest that were captured by the 5th Rangers. Fighting was so violent that the battalion reserve had to be committed to stop a counterattack and Headquarters Company had to be reorganized into a Ranger Company and placed in reserve.

The attack on the fort continued the next day with artillery and air support. "B" Company following 20 yards behind the strafing P-47s ricocheting bullets, captured the fort in 6 minutes after the last P-47 strafing pass.

The next day was notable when the battalion attacked another fort south of Kernies. Headquarters Company and "D" Company made the final assault, taking more than 300 prisoners.

On 5 September, Companies "A", "C", and "E" rejoined the battalion as it began an attack on Fort de Mengant. In this see-saw battle, "F" took the fort with a bayonet charge.

Heavy fighting continued as the battalion moved to the Le Conquet Peninsula, west of Brest. On 17 September, Lieutenant Green led an "E" Company patrol to attack a pillbox that had resisted many attempts to capture it. One hundred thirty pounds of C-2 were placed against the pill box and lit the skies for 40 minutes.

Brest surrendered the next day and many believe Greene's patrol did the trick. Casualties for the Brittany Campaign: 25 KIA, 130 WIA, 2MIA. Total 156 or 37.5%.

Respite Revisited

The 5th Rangers moved into Belgium and Luxembourg, mostly by rail, finally ending up in and around a Marist Seminary at Differt, Belgium. Although the training cycle began all over again, there was free time to visit Arlon and Differt, where the Belgian populace were truly appreciative of their recent liberation by the Americans. There were banquets and home cooked meals. In their spare time some of the Rangers organized a soccer team which played the local championship team. We lost.

The 2nd Ranger Battalion (CONTINUED)

All good things must come to an end, and no, it wasn't because someone stole the seminary's communion wine. On November 7, 1944, the 5th Rangers moved back into France and danger.

The Saar Campaign

The 5th Rangers were attached to the 6th Cavalry Group, part of General Patton's battlefield eyes and ears. First to Toul, then Nancy, with minor patrol actions. Back into high casualty combat during the first week of December, with heavy fighting erupting in the L'Hopital, Carling, Aspenhubel and Ludweiler areas. In Lauterbach, "F" Company carried on a running battle with a Tiger tank proving conclusively that a bazooka round will not penetrate the frontal armor of the Tiger.

Patrolling with occasional bloody firefights followed for the next few days as enemy patrols grew more aggressive. And then on 21 December, following feints by "C" and "D" Companies, two battalions of artillery laid a box barrage around an objective. A raiding party from "B" Company rushed into the objective area, killed 28 enemy, wounded 25 and took one prisoner, a German officer needed for questioning by higher headquarters.

On 24 December, the battalion was relieved and moved to Metz for Christmas celebrations. Casualties for the Saar Campaign: 18 KIA, 106 WIA, 5MIA. Total 129 or 25%.

St. Avold to Weiten

That respite lasted three days and back into combat. The Battle of the Bulge was still in full swing and the 5th Rangers' mission was a defensive one at St. Avold. The German attack on St. Avold never materialized and the battalion moved back into a training mode in early February, the battalion was attached to the 94th Division. Heavy fighting ensued as the battalion fought through Wehingen, Oberleuken, Hellendorf, and Weiten. At Weiten, the battalion received a new 48-hour mission to seize high ground behind the German lines near Zerf, this to prevent the enemy from using the road network around Zerf to counter-attack the 10th Armored Division as it crossed the Saar. By this time, 22 February, replacements had brought the battalion up to a strength of 398, 108 below TOE strength.

Irsch-Zerf

The following night, under cover of darkness, the battalion crossed the Saar River on a footbridge. Just prior to midnight, the battalion passed through the 302nd Infantry and began to move in two columns into enemy territory. Night movement by compass azimuth was difficult over the rugged, heavily wooded terrain. The columns were constantly harassed by enemy artillery fire and infantry firefights. Many prisoners were taken and these soon became a severe burden, but the advance kept on through thick woods that obscured any terrain features. Reaching the edge of the woods, the real fighting began. Pill boxes and buildings were captured. More prisoners taken. Enemy infantry blundering upon the Rangers attacked violently, but still the German command did not seem to realize the Rangers were behind their lines. Unfortunately, escaping prisoners brought artillery fire on the battalion. The battalion continued to move toward its objective throughout the night.

By 0800 hours on the 25th, advanced elements of the battalion reached the objective with the rest of the battalion closing soon after. German counter-attacks began immediately. Rockets, artillery, and infantry smashed at the battalion positions. Ammunition, water, food, and medical supplies ran low. Aerial re-supply efforts managed to drop some supplies within the perimeter. On the 28th, during a lull in the enemy attacks, the battalion fought its way to a better defensive position, higher ground to the south. And the Germans counter-attacked again and again. Finally, on March 3 it was over. The two-day mission had taken nine days and bled the battalion dry. Casualties for the Irsch-Zerf Campaign: 34 KIA, 140 WIA, 12 MIA. Total 186 or 47%.

Rebuilding

On 6 March, the battalion moved to Schwebsingen, Luxembourg to rebuild with 191 replacements and a nucleus of the 180 who survived the Irsch-Zerf action. Two weeks later, the 5th Rangers entered into a new profession, that of Military Government, at first for Freidberg and then for Erfurt, Gotha, Apolda, Weimaar, and Jena. - *Contributed by John C. Raaen, Jr. 5th Ranger Battalion*

From the RBA website with permission of Lynn Towne, president of the Son's & Daughters of WW II Rangers association



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 1-800-352-1175 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 at the Arlington National Cemetery and the All Ranger Roundup in Fairbanks Alaska in June of 2006.

Korea and War by Ranger Bob Black

We sailed into the Korean port of Pusan, gathered our gear, and disembarked into a place of filth and pandemonium. Pusan had docks inhabited by hordes of Korean civilian laborers. Dressed in soiled white, many carried huge loads on their backs by means of a crude but effective carrying device called an "A-frame." I saw a railroad train completely covered by this mass of humanity. It looked like a caterpillar being devoured by maggots. Pusan had the smell of a giant latrine.

Our three Ranger companies next boarded an LST (landing ship, tank) and sailed from Pusan for the port of Inchon, scene of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's end run amphibious invasion that set the stage for the North Korean collapse. On arrival, we marched to truck convoys to be taken to the various infantry divisions to which our companies would be attached. The word "attached" meant with and under the direction of, but not part of. Every American army division in Korea now had an Airborne Ranger company attached to it. The 1st Ranger Company was with the 2d Infantry Division. The 2d Airborne Rangers were the only all-black Ranger unit in history; they were with the 7th Infantry Division. The 3d Ranger Company went to the 3d Infantry Division. The 4th Rangers were with the 1st Cavalry Division, while the 5th Rangers joined the 25th Infantry Division. My 8th Ranger Company boarded trucks and moved to join the 24th Infantry Division. At this time, the 24th had never been stationed on the mainland of the United States. It was one of the divisions whose roots were in the Hawaiian Islands, and the taro leaf of those islands was its insignia. Men of the 24th Infantry Division had been in Korea since the earliest days of the American involvement. They were now fighting in Central Korea.

We were on these trucks, not knowing where we were going or when we would get there. We only knew we were going into war and we trusted our leaders. As the day ended, we traveled through the rubble that was the South Korean capital of Seoul. Our forces had recently retaken the city. What we saw was utter devastation inhabited by furtive figures scurrying about. The trucks drove through the night, at length stopping along the road beside some railroad tracks. Those of us in the lower ranks had no idea where we were. We dismounted in darkness and put out security. A Ranger from my platoon was searching for straw to make his rest more comfortable. Some unit had been in the area before and had used an open communal latrine. Walking in darkness, the Ranger pitched headfirst into the hole and was covered with feces. Normally an immaculate soldier, he was now doomed to several weeks of ridicule. Spreading our ponchos on the ground and placing our sleeping bags on them, we quickly went to sleep with Mother Earth as our pillow. I was awakened for guard duty before dawn and took up station at the corner of a deserted Korean thatched-roof hut. I peered into the blackness, feeling the responsibility of my comrades' lives on my shoulders. Save for the occasional call of a bird, the night was quiet. The breeze came in gusts, and one of them brought the distinct smell of garlic. Because garlic was part of the diet of an enemy soldier, my imagination began to travel its own path. I disengaged the safety on my BAR and strained my senses, listening for the man or men who were obviously creeping toward me. These were terrible hours of tension, but the enemy did not come. In the welcome light of dawn I looked about and saw a bundle of garlic hanging from the eaves of the house directly above my head. Imagination can be the worst enemy of a soldier.

We were located at a railroad stop called Sangezon. The railroad was not in service, but we soon were. The 24th Infantry Division had as its infantry fighting arm the 19th and 21st Infantry Regiments and the 5th Regimental Combat Team. We would see service with each of these regiments.

Prior to these missions we would assemble behind our lines, blacken our faces and hands, and check all weapons and equipment. I cleaned my Browning automatic rifle and my .45-caliber pistol. I checked each round of ammunition before it was loaded into a magazine for the BAR or a clip for the pistol. We passed boxes filled with cast-iron, corrugated fragmentation grenades. Each fragmentation grenade weighed some 22 ounces and was filled with two ounces of TNT. The safety pins were pulled by hand and required a pull of 10 to 35 pounds. Film heroes of the period gave us many laughs when they were shown pulling the safety pins on grenades with their teeth. When the safety pin was pulled and the safety lever released, the grenade would explode in four to five seconds. The theory was that if the grenade was thrown too soon, it might be thrown back. It took a patient man to stand there with a live grenade in his hand. As a javelin thrower, I had a powerful arm. Most of the time I relied on being able to out-throw my opposition.

Most men took four, but some selected six or more "pineapples," as they were known. We were briefed and, when possible, we rehearsed the mission. Any equipment that would rattle was taped down; even the metal identification tags we wore around our necks were taped to prevent any sound. Our canteens were filled to prevent any sloshing noise. We wore soft caps to reduce the noise of movement. To preserve our night vision, we would permit no light after darkness fell that could harm our night vision. The unit through which we would pass usually provided a guide to lead us

Ranger Inf Co. ABN (CONTINUED)

through their lines, so we could avoid their barbed wire, land mines and napalm “foo” gas mines (see Glossary: Korean War), and booby traps. As we crossed into no-man’s-land, the men in foxholes beside the trails turned their faces toward us, their eyes conveying thoughts, one of which was probably “better you than me.”

Ours were combat patrols looking for trouble. As such, they usually were of platoon strength-thirty-two enlisted men and one officer. On occasion the raids would involve the entire company. Sometimes we quickly encountered the enemy, and at other times we would spend hours moving through the darkness, searching. There were no night-vision devices at the time. The leaders set the direction by compass heading, pacing, and stars. We frequently moved slowly, each man holding on to the cartridge belt of the Ranger in front of him in a technique we called a “daisy chain.”

Trying to get through enemy positions to strike their rear, we would often crawl for long periods. The night battlefield was an eerie place. To expose Chinese movement, American searchlights would bounce light off low-hanging clouds, creating an artificial moonlight that was not helpful to those of us in enemy territory. Conditions of low light were best for our operations. Daisy chaining through the darkness, we would freeze in position at the pop that signified a parachute flare was about to ignite. The flare would hiss and sway until it fell to earth. I would close one eye to preserve my night vision and scan the lighted area to search for the enemy with the other. I often felt a temporary feeling of imbalance after a flare burned out.

We fought the enemy through the night. As a result of our airpower, night was the time the Chinese were most active. We often encountered their specialized reconnaissance units. In our hit-and-move forays in the blackness of night, there was little accounting of the damage we were causing. On some raids Rangers were wounded. To have a man wounded on a night action behind enemy lines created great difficulty. “Cat” Berry of my platoon was shot through the thigh and Doc Gregory felt the arterial blood spurting. Kneeling in a rice paddy in the darkness, Gregory used Berry’s belt to put a tourniquet on the leg. Doc pulled hard, breaking the belt buckle with the force of his pull. But he stopped the bleeding. Tom Nicholson was also severely wounded. We always brought our wounded home, carrying them on our backs when necessary.

Sometimes we were on the Chinese before they spotted us. Some of my comrades have said they killed with the knife; I was not faced with that necessity. On some nights an alert sentry would shout a challenge, unintelligible to us. Gunfire would be followed by hot pursuit, and we would “How Able”-haul ass, breaking contact as quickly as possible. Our leaders, Lt. Berk Strong and Sgt. Bill Cox, always put Rangers with Browning automatic rifles (BARs) at the tail end of the column for these circumstances. It became normal for me to act as a “tail-end charlie” during our patrols. These were nights that drained our strength. Once we had passed through our own lines and into our assembly area, the men collapsed. It was not only the physical exertion that took a toll but the constant strain on the senses. Trying to locate the enemy before they found us drained our energy.

We were gypsy warriors, cooperating first with this infantry regiment and then with that. As attached troops temporarily serving with another unit, we were sometimes forgotten when ammunition, food, and water were being supplied. The supply people of the regiments were very busy or, as sometimes happens in war, the information had not been passed down that we were with their unit.

A Ranger company had a considerable supply of weapons from which to draw for tailoring a mission. On many missions we operated as high-firepower rifle platoons carrying automatic carbines, BARs, .45-caliber submachine guns, and M1 rifles. We had two BARs per squad, Nick Tisak and myself. We each had an assistant who, in addition to his own ammunition load, carried spare ammunition for us. Light machine guns, rocket launchers, recoilless rifles, and demolitions were available as necessary for the task we were engaged in.

As we became more accustomed to life with grenades and men began to be less careful with the safety pins, some men tried loosening the pins and using adhesive tape from the medics to keep the safety lever in place. I thought it took just as long to take the tape off as to just pull the pin. I tried holding a live grenade for a few seconds in the hope of having it explode in the air. One of them went off quicker than I expected and made me think about quality control at the factory. I went back to bending my grenade safety pins wide and throwing long.

From “A Ranger Born” by Col. Robert W. Black, Random House Publishing Group with permission of Ranger Bob Black



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 shipping.

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, Tee shirts are \$10.00. Shipping is \$7.50. Call for more info.

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”.

LIFE MEMBERS

HAYES	JOSEPH J.	I FFV
HOWARD	TIMOTHY W.	101ST ABN DIV
JOHNSON	JEFFREY A.	RGT
MACINNIS	JOSEPH R.	V CORPS
MCCONKEY	KENNETH L.	9TH INF DIV
<u>REGULAR MEMBERS</u>		
ALLEN	GEORGE D.	V CORPS
ANDREWS	BOBBY G.	173 ABN BDE
BOHRER	RAYNOND F.	1ST FFV
BOOTH	RICHARD E.	25TH INF DIV
BOYLE, JR.	WILLIAM D.	RGT
BREDELL	RONALD E.	173 ABN BDE
CHIGI	GEORGE	BDQ
COPEN	WILLIAM D.	RGT
DEMARCO	CARMEN J.	1ST INF DIV
DERN	KENNETH E.	101ST ABN DIV
ESTELL	LAWRENCE L.	RGT
FRAGAS	THOMAS	RGT
GILL	ROBERT L.	BDQ
GUERRA	JOSEPH L.	BDQ
HAMILTON	RICHARD E.	A/75
HARRIS	STANLEY V.	V CORPS
HAWKINS	WALLACE H.	II FFV
HICKS	CARL	82ND ABN DIV
JACOB	BRETT A.	RGT
LESTER	GENE K.	9TH INF DIV
ORICCHIO	DENNIS P.	25TH INF DIV
PORTER	EDWADR J.	VII CORPS
POSEY	EDWARD L.	RGT
RAMSLAND	JACK	173 ABN BDE
RIPPETOE	JOE	RGT
RODMAN	DANIEL W.	25TH INF DIV
RUCKER	GLENN H.	V CORPS
RUSH, JR.	TOPPER	RGT
SCHOETTNER	WILLIAM J.	INDIANA NAT GD.
TABOLINSKY	PAUL E.	VII CORPS
THOMAS	RONALD E.	173 ABN BDE
WEIBEL	FRANK D.	LRs
WOOLEY	RON	173 ABN BDE
GOTTS	CALVIN L.	4TH INF DIV
MURPHY	ROBERT C.	V CORPS
PALMER	WILLIAM M.	RGT
ROBERTS	GARY B.	INDIANA NAT GD

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

CAI	TRUNG VAN	BDQ
CAO	VUNG	BDQ
DO	CHIEN D.	BDQ
DO	HUNG MINH	BDQ
DUONG	XUAN	BDQ
DURANT	MICHAEL	160TH SOAR
GREBINSKI	MICHAEL A.	TAB
HA	DAO VAN	BDQ
HO	HAC VAN	BDQ
HOANG	LIEN NGOC	BDQ
HUYNH	PHAT MOC	BDQ
HUYNH	QUOC LAP	BDQ
LAM	TIEN DUY	BDQ
LE	LUAN VAN	BDQ
LE	THA HUU	BDQ
LE	GIAI QUANG	BDQ
NGO	AU HUU	BDQ
NGUYEN	BINH VAN	BDQ
NGUYEN	CAU VAN	BDQ
NGUYEN	CHANH M.	BDQ
NGUYEN	CUONG NGOC	BDQ
NGUYEN	DINH THANH	BDQ
NGUYEN	HOC VAN	BDQ
NGUYEN	KHANG HUU	BDQ
NGUYEN	KHANH V.	BDQ
NGUYEN	KHOAN NGOC	BDQ
NGUYEN	KHUE QUOC	BDQ
NGUYEN	LAC V.	BDQ
NGUYEN	LIEN B.	BDQ
NGUYEN	TAI	BDQ
NGUYEN	TAN DUNG	BDQ
NGUYEN	THE VAN	BDQ
NGUYEN	THI	BDQ
NGUYEN	TU V.	BDQ
NGUYEN	VAN T.	BDQ
PHAM	DIEN	BDQ
PHAM	MAN VAN	BDQ
THUAN	TRAN THANH	BDQ
TRAN	CHANH CAO	BDQ
TRAN	TRONG QUANG	BDQ
TRAN	THUAN V.	BDQ
TRINH	MINH Q.	BDQ
TRUONG	HIEP PHUOC	BDQ
TRUONG	PHUOC HUU	BDQ
VO	PHUONG V	BDQ
VO	TRI HUU	BDQ



AIRBORNE SUPPLY

IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE NEW 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION LOGO



Association Shirt
\$25.00



**Windbreaker Pouch
Jacket
with Logo**
\$25.00



Polo Shirt
\$25.00

We have a large selection of patches
and Military designs. Call for quote
on your custom shirt.



Tribute Patch
Honoring all our Heros!
6" \$12.00 12" \$25.00



All Hats
\$15.00
Get yours with the
Association logo



Sweat Shirt
\$30.00



Custom T-Shirt
\$15.00
your design



Custom Mugs \$12.00
Custom Steins \$25.00



Item #MIL-415
\$12.00



Item #MIL-449
\$12.00



Item #MIL-114
\$12.00



Item #MIL-048
\$12.00

Date

AIRBORNE SUPPLY
208 PORTAGE LAKE ROAD
MUNITH, MI 49259
517-937-1441

NAME:

ADDRESS:

Phone#

Official Supplier for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association

Shirts come in Black, Hunter Green, Tan, Maroon, White, and Navy. T-shirts and Button Down shirts come in long sleeve as well, add \$5.00 for long sleeve shirts. Hat colors: Black, Tan, Navy, Maroon.

QTY	ITEM	COLOR	DESCRIPTION	DESIGN	SIZE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL

We take: Visa, Master Card and Checks.

Shipping: Please add \$5.00 for Orders under \$25.00, \$8.00 for Orders over \$25.00.
Please call if you have a special order or question, we are always here to answer your call.

Airborne Supply is a VETERAN Owned company.

Credit Card #	
Exp Date	
Date	
Amount Enclosed	

Subtotal

Shipping

Total

AIRBORNE
SUPPLY
ORDER FORM

BULLETIN BOARD

OFF YEAR REUNION – The membership passed a resolution that will enable us to have an off year or social reunion in 2006. There are several purposes behind this move. Perhaps the most important is that none of us, especially the Vietnam era guys, are getting any younger. Any excuse to see each other is a good one. Each year brings the sad news of yet another of our brothers who has gone before his time, suffering from some strange malady picked up on his all expense paid tour of South East Asia. It won't be too long before natural attrition kicks in, and it won't be before his time. Besides, our reunions are fun for the most part. Even for the people that work them. The reunion will have no business meeting, election of officers or other official type meetings. We will have an informal, "State of the Association" meeting & suggestion period, and we will have a banquet so that we can share a meal together. The reunion will be held **June 12 – 18, 2005** in **Branson, Missouri**. That's right, not adjunct to an Army base. There are many, many things for non-military types, (spouses & kids to do). We will be there at the same time as the annual "Welcome Home" festivities, so there will be a lot of military-related stuff going on as well. **Room prices will be in the \$50.00 - \$60.00** range, so this will be an affordable stay. The December issue of *Patrolling* will have the prices, hotels and all the sign up information.

INVOICES

INVOICES

INVOICES

INVOICES

Dues Invoices will be mailed in late September as they were last year. **EVERYONE** will get one, Life Members included. The invoice will have the year of membership expiration on it. If you are a Life Member, it will have 'LM' in that place. If you wish, simply throw it away if you are a life member. If you wish to make a contribution to the Family Fund, use the envelope to do so, as well as to pay your dues. It is most beneficial to the Association to receive the bulk of the dues at around the same time. It gives the officers a more valid idea of the items to budget and the amounts of money that we will receive.

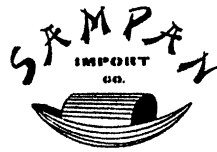
Family Fund – Once again it is time for the family fund last year your Association contributed \$3,000.00 to each Battalion and \$1,500.00 to the regimental HQ for Christmas presents for the children of the young men in the Regiment who might be financially challenged at Christmas time. We also bought turkeys and paid for some Family Readiness Group (FRG) get-togethers at the same time, all-in-all, we spent about \$12,000.00 on the above endeavors.

This is a good thing we do. If you have it, read the "Thank you" letters that were published in the March, 2005 issue, you'll see what I mean. Every penny that is collected goes into a separate "Family Fund" account. This money is not co-mingled with the funds that are the property of the Association, nor does the Association take any money for this service. Some Unit Associations prefer to give through their organizations, if this is the case, if the Unit Directors let me know, I will see to it that every contributors name is in the magazine.

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**

68 Pondella Road
North Fort Myers,
Florida 33903

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

www.homesforsale-florida.com



**All-American
Recycling
Incorporated**

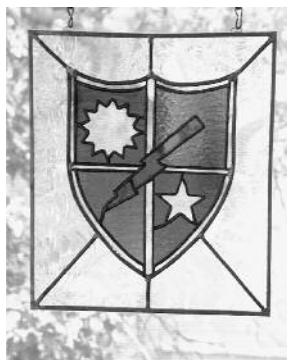
Roger Brown
1616 Murray Street
Columbus, GA 31906

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)

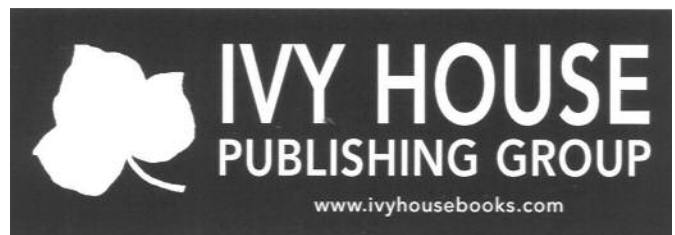
Dana and Peggy McGrath



*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

AUSLEY & McMULLEN

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

JOHN T. "TIM" LEADBEATER

BOARD CERTIFIED TAX LAWYER

227 SOUTH CALHOUN • P.O. BOX 391 • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32302
PHONE (850) 224-9115 • FAX (850) 222-7560 • tleadbeater@ausley.com
www.ausley.com

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

LEMIRE CHARTERS
P.O. Box 293
Klawock, Alaska 99925
(907) 755-2424
lemirecharters@yahoo.com
www.lemirecharters.com or
www.outdoorsdirectory.com/alaska/lemire



Steve Lemire
Skipper/Captain

Oblique VENTURES

Custom Canes
Laminated Canes are much stiffer and stronger than just wood.

Sonny J. O'Steen, Owner
Oblique Ventures Canes
11348 U.S. Hwy 431
Utica, Ky 42376-9030
eMail: bowjoe@aol.com
Ph: 1-270-733-4840
Fax: 1-270-733-9141

Express your Unit or organizational pride while using the cane in a practical manner.



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.



June 16, 2005

Dear 75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC.,

It is my distinct pleasure, on behalf of the entire Second Ranger Battalion, to thank you for your donation towards the Ranger's Ball to be held on August 26, 2005. Your donation contributes to the morale and welfare of every Ranger in the Battalion.

Your unprecedented generosity lets every single man know that what he is doing, and the sacrifices he and his family makes on a daily basis are appreciated. Again, thank you for your kindness and support of the Second Ranger Battalion. We are forever grateful for your generosity.

Sir,
Thanks for the Contribution,
the 75th Association has always provided. Thanks
CPT John Martin

Rangers Lead The Way!
David B. Haight
LTC, IN
Commanding in IRAA



ELITE DEFENSE SYSTEM, LLC.

GERALD W. WILSON II
WILLIAM "BILL" DODGE
OWNERS AND CHIEF INSTRUCTORS
COLUMBUS, GA
106 ENTERPRISE COURT
SUITE C

SPECIALIZING IN CLOSE QUARTER COMBAT FOR MILITARY & SECURITY APPLICATIONS, CIVILIAN SAFETY & SELF-DEFENSE

Mr. Wilson 706-566-8018 e-mail gww2@earthlink.net
Mr. Dodge 706-442-7526 e-mail wdodge777@msn.com
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT

Sitting In the Dark

As I sit in the dark fighting back the tears;
Remembering the past, remembering the fears.
I miss my buddies, friendships dear;
It's been so long, so many years.

We looked for the enemy wherever they might be;
We saw the side of war that most never see.
We were the infantry, we trained to be the best;
We had pride in our unit, we stood above the rest.

I remember my friend falling, I still hear his screams.
I still see it after all these years, see it in my dreams
I held him close, medivac was on the way;
I could see death in his eyes, I didn't know what to say.

The world turned silent as I gently closed his eyes;
I wondered if when a soldier passes, do the Angels cry.
As if he were a child, I carried him to the bird;
The medics took him from me, no one said a word.

The mission wasn't over, the enemy was close by.
There was no time to mourn, no time to cry.
Remembering the past, remembering the tears;
Sitting in the darkness, fighting back the tears.

Michael D. Monfioee
November 17, 2004

"Dedicated to Leo, who helped me cope, I saw it in his eyes".



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

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Membership Application Form

Annual dues: \$25.00
Life membership: \$250.00
Subscription Only: \$25.00
Checks Payable to:
75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.

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



Log on or call for a free color catalog!

- Field Equipment
- Sta-Brite® Insignia
- Uniforms and Accessories
- BlackHawk® Tactical Gear
- Under Armour® Apparel
- Tru-Spec® BDUs
- CamelBak® Gear
- **RANGER JOE'S DIRECT** Footwear
- Dog Tags
- Embroidered Name Tapes
- Embroidered Helmet Bands
- Class A Name Tags

Ranger Joe's International
rangerjoes.com / 800-247-4541 / 706-689-0082

The HOOAH place for tactical gear!

ESS® Profile NVG Goggles

Army Combat Uniform Boonie Hat

Under Armour® HeatGear T-Shirt

BlackHawk® Fixed Stock Sling

BlackHawk® CQB Rigger Belt

Army Combat Uniform Pants

Centurion™ Knee Pads

Pro-Med™ Desert Boots



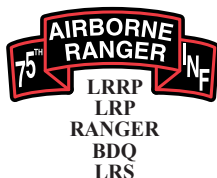
1-800-247-4541

www.rangerjoes.com





General William C. Westmoreland(founder of the 101st Abn Division's RECONDO School and the MACV Commander, Vietnam) greeting the Instructors at the Mountain Ranger Camp, 1971. He is shaking hands with BDQ Unit Director Mike Martin. General Westmoreland died at the age of 91, on July 19, 2005.



75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 10970
BALTIMORE, MD 21234

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DUNCANSVILLE PA
PERMIT #75

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED