

PATROLLING

FALL 2007 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 22 ISSUE II



*Beginning of Mass Tactical, August 6, 2007.
Photo by J. Chester*

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



WHO WE ARE: The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., is a registered 501 (c) corporation, registered in the State of Georgia. We were founded in 1986 by a group of veterans of F/58, (LRP) and L/75 (Ranger). The first meeting was held on June 7, 1986, at Ft. Campbell, KY.

OUR MISSION:

1. To identify and offer membership to all eligible 75th Infantry Rangers, and members of the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Companies, Long Range Patrol Companies, Ranger Companies and Detachments, Vietnamese Ranger Advisors of the Biet Dong Quan; members of LRSU units that trace their lineage to Long Range Patrol Companies that were attached to Brigade or larger units during the Vietnam War and the 75th Ranger Regiment.
2. To sustain the Association. *Unlike the WWII Battalions and Merrill's Marauders, the 75RRA accepts members and former members of the Active Ranger Battalions. By doing so we are perpetuating the association. It will not "die off" as these two organizations someday will.*
4. To assist, when possible, those active units and their members who bear the colors and lineage of the 5307th Composite Provisional Unit (CPU), 475th Infantry Regiment, 75th Infantry (Ranger) Companies (Merrill's Marauders), 1st and 2nd Battalions (Ranger) 75th Infantry, the 75th Ranger Regiment, consisting of Regimental Headquarters 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Ranger Battalions, successor units, or additions to the Regiment.

WHAT WE DO:

During the last five years we have provided financial support to the young men of the 75th Ranger Regiment. Each year, through contributions from our members and some outside sources, we have provided about \$4,000.00 to each of the three Ranger Battalions and \$2,000.00 to the Regimental HQ. These funds enabled the families of the junior enlisted men, (E-5 & below) to get certificates for toys for the children and turkeys for Christmas dinner.

We have funded trips for families to visit their wounded sons and husbands while they were in the hospital. We have purchased a learning program software for the son of one young Ranger who had a brain tumor removed. The Army took care of the surgery, but no means existed to purchase the learning program. We fund the purchase of several awards for graduates of RIP and Ranger School. We have contributed to each of the three Battalion's Memorial Funds and Ranger Balls, and to the Airborne Memorial at Ft. Benning.

We have bi-annual reunions and business meetings. Our Officers, (President, 1st & 2nd Vice-Presidents, Secretary & Treasurer), are elected at this business meeting. This reunion coincides with the 75th Ranger Regiment's Ranger Rendezvous, and is at Columbus, GA. (Ft. Benning). We have off year reunions at various locations around the country.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

SECTION 2: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol

- A. V Corp (LRRP)
- B. VII Corp (LRRP)
- C. 9th Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- D. 25th Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- E. 196th Inf. Bde. (LRRP)
- F. 1st Cav. Div. (LRRP)
- G. 1st Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- H. 4th Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- I. 101st Abn. Div., 1st Bde. (LRRP)
- J. 199th Inf. Bde. (LRRP)
- K. 173rd Abn. Bde. (LRRP)
- L. 3rd Inf. Div. (LRRP)

SECTION 3: Long Range Patrol

- A. Co D (LRP) 17th Inf.
- B. Co E (LRP) 20th Inf.
- C. Co E (LRP) 30th Inf.
- D. Co E (LRP) 50th Inf.
- E. Co F (LRP) 50th Inf.
- F. Co E (LRP) 51st Inf.
- G. Co F (LRP) 51st Inf.
- H. Co E (LRP) 52nd Inf.

- I. Co F (LRP) 52nd Inf.
- J. Co C (LRP) 58th Inf.
- K. Co E (LRP) 58th Inf.
- L. Co F (LRP) 58th Inf.
- M. 70th Inf. DET (LRP)
- N. 71st Inf. DET (LRP)
- O. 74th Inf. DET (LRP)
- P. 78th Inf. DET (LRP)
- Q. 79th Inf. DET (LRP)
- R. Co D (LRP) 151st Inf.

SECTION 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

- A. Co A (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- B. Co B (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- C. Co C (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- D. Co D (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- E. Co E (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- F. Co F (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- G. Co G (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- H. Co H (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- I. Co I (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- J. Co K (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- K. Co L (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- L. Co M (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- M. Co N (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- N. Co O (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- O. Co P (RANGER) 75th Inf.

- P. Co D (RANGER) 151st Inf.

SECTION 5: Vietnamese Ranger Advisors BDQ

All units of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ).

SECTION 6: 75th Ranger Regiment

- A. 1st Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974.
- B. 2nd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974.
- C. 3rd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1984.
- D. 75th Ranger Regiment HQ's Company, activated in 1984.

SECTION 7: Long Range Surveillance:

Any Long Range Surveillance Company or Detachment that can trace its' lineage to, or is currently assigned to a Brigade or larger element that was deployed to Vietnam as listed in section 2, 3 or 4 above.



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

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WEB SITE & MAGAZINE NEWS

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

MAGAZINE

I have said this so many times, but I still have problems in this regard. Please **DO NOT IMBED PHOTOS WITHIN A TEXT FILE**. I cannot use either the photos or the text. The only way I can make it work is to print the whole mess and then to try scanning the text in and then the photo. The result is awful and I just don't have time to do it. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

WEB SITE

Greetings from cyberspace! I am happy to report that since implementation of PayPal and some new forms that we had 100 folks sign up for the reunion on-line, 75 paid on-line and over 135 have paid or renewed annual dues through the website. Not bad for the short period of time we've utilized it.

I would encourage you to use this option as it saves a fair amount of work for the secretary and treasurer who are always up to their 3rd point of contact in alligators. Remember, you do not need to have a PayPal account . . . you can use your credit card with the PP option.

The goal of your website is to increase communication and serve the membership. How can we accomplish this? Simple . . . send your reunion (or In Country) pictures for posting. Get your unit level reunion notices to me in advance of the event. Looking for an old buddy? Try the guestbook—you never know who's reading that. Unit directors: Take a look at the points of contact on the website. Could it be that your message needs updating (or is non-existent) or perhaps your picture looks more like Marlon Brando that you (see Apocalypse Now)? Might be nice if one of your old unit members you haven't seen since Vietnam happened upon the website and saw a picture of someone he remembers and would like to make contact.

So, Unit Directors, out of respect for others and your desire to serve . . . if your "mug shot" is not up to date please e-mail something appropriate to me or by way of mail to the secretary. I promise you good service.

Remember, we can do pretty much anything you want. There are forms on the website for you to notify us of your change of address (or e-mail address). You can post event notices, personnel loss, news, and anything else you wish on the guestbook (except political or negative personal comment).

Hey, you gentlemen in the Battalions or deployed—I'm talking to you too! I know you guys have some pics or stories that would be appropriate to share with your buddies!

And one of the most frequent posts to the website is a past 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Batt member trying to make contact with those with whom he served. And if I've not said so before . . . there's no reason we shouldn't be hearing from a significant other as well . . .

Got video? We can do that too! There is some footage available now from this years Memorial Service, and the basic airborne training. Whatever you want let me know and I'll get it done. It's your website—lets make it rock!!!

Notice

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Bullen

Thank you one and all for coming to the 2007 75th Ranger Regiment Association reunion. As the newly elected President, I will have a smooth transition thanks to the past president Steve Crabtree.

**Bill Bullen**

All the past presidents: Bob Gilbert, Billy Nix, Duke DuShane, Roy Barley, Rick Erhler, Terry Roderick, Emmett Hillenbrand, Dana McGrath, and most recently Steve, have contributed to this association to make it what it is today. Gentlemen I'll do my very best to be a good steward of the establishment you all believe is worth maintaining.

The group of men I have: Bill Postelnic - 1st VP, Joe Little - 2nd VP, John Chester - Secretary, and Reuben Siverling - Treasurer, along with all the unit directors, are all professionals and will make this administration gel. I've had offers from most of the past presidents to help me if I will only ask. To this I say, I will be talking with you all and I'm sure to need your guidance.

As I have said before, the Unit Directors are the true operators of the Association. They also need the help of the members. Fellows, give your Unit Director a call and tell him what a fine job he is doing and offer your assistance to him in whatever way you can. They can sure use it.

The past reunion was a huge success, thanks to Dave Cummings and the staff at the Airport Holiday Inn on Manchester Expressway. The 2009 Reunion will surely be an even greater event. As you read this Bill Postelnic, along with Duke DuShane and Dave Cummings, are in the preliminary stages of planning.

Sandee Rouse, Gold Star Mother will be taking on the new roll of "Gold Star Families". This new position will encompass all who suffer from the loss of a loved on. She is a tireless worker, but she too needs help. We as members need to get her the information she needs to contact the family members of your fallen comrades and to welcome and comfort them as only she can do. Give Sandee a call and ask her how you can help.

John Chester is trying to get this edition of Patrolling out in less time than is possible so I'll keep this short. We know there were things that need attention for the next Reunion banquet and these are being addressed. I do have to say the food provided was some of the best I've had at any Association banquet or any other banquet for that matter. Good Job Holiday Inn!

Keep in touch with your Unit Directors and take care of yourselves so you can make it to Columbus in 2009.

Rangers Lead the Way
Bill

FIRST-VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Postelnic

From the sage advice of a Sergeant Major, I learned that you are not who you are because you became a LRRP or Ranger... you became a LRRP or Ranger because of who you are.

It is that common bond that ties our Brotherhood together and transcends generations - from those who served during WWII, Korea, Vietnam... to those who have served and serve today in the 75th Ranger Regiment and LRS Units. We are all brothers. Nowhere was this Brotherhood more evident than at the Reunion.

The Association continues to grow and we now have more than 2,000 members. It is no surprise that a majority of our members are from the Vietnam Era because of the size of the Army at that time, and it was they who formed the Association. But most of our new members are coming,

and will continue to come, from those who have served, are serving, or will serve with the 75th Ranger Regiment. The future of our Association depends on them.

At the Association Business Meeting, a Membership Committee was formed to attract new members. But recruiting new members should not be left solely to this committee. All of us should be involved in building the strength of the Association and our Brotherhood by bringing in new

members. In most cases, the only reason a LRRP or Ranger is not a member is because he is not aware that an organization such as ours exists. Whenever you meet a

**Bill Postelnic**

FIRST-VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

man who shares our heritage, let him know about the Association and urge him to join and attend a reunion. Many of you attended the Ranger Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at Ft. Benning during the Reunion in August. I am sure most of us have heard comments about a deserving LRRP or Ranger who should be in the Hall of Fame. Many of us have personal knowledge of someone who deserves to be. The only way to make that happen is to submit a Nomination Packet. To be successful, nomination packets must be very well written and adhere precisely to the required format.

The administrative requirements and a sample packet will be distributed to all Unit Directors. If you know someone who should be nominated, work with your Unit Director to put a packet together. I am asking that nomination packets for 2008 be submitted to me no later than 15 November 2007 either by mail or e-mail. The reason for this is that I

plan to review every packet to be sure it meets all administrative requirements before we submit it to the nominating committee. It takes time and effort to prepare, review and revise packets. The time to start gathering information and writing is now. If there is any way I can help, contact me.

I have never been known for being the sharpest bayonet in the rack, but I do fully understand that I was elected because Bill Bullen probably could find no one else who would take the job. But still, I consider it an honor and privilege and I pledge to drive on and do my best to represent you and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association.

R.T.L.W.

Bill

SECOND-VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Joe Little

Well, another great reunion has gone by with many records broken; especially the amount of beer consumed. The ladies had a blast with their making their first jump; some I heard was their first and last. I am not so lucky my wife Heidi wishes to continue filling her jump book even after I reminded her of the expense. She looked at me with that glow in her eyes and I knew it was not me; she was still on the adrenaline high from her two static jumps.



Joe Little

How about something from the second VP about who am I and how will I serve so many that alone are a force to reckon with let alone a whole room full. When I was nominated someone spoke up and wanted to know more about me; my first thought was I hope so and maybe someone would not like what I had to say and nominated someone else. Not quite my luck.

Yes I am the new guy, but not an FNG. I have worked in service to Veterans for over twenty years as a readjustment counselor for the Phoenix Vet Center mainly dealing with PTSD treatment. I do not work for the hospital as the Vet Center is separate entity funded by congress since many of us did not want anything to do with the VA hospitals. It started out as a store front place for Vietnam veterans to

come in and vent. We work in the area of treatment to help men and women make adjustments from military life to civilian life. My main area of work is helping individuals with PTSD. The claims stuff is secondary and I will tell anyone that come in to see me for claims purposes. I advise them to see an advocate that is more knowledgeable than I am. I am the therapist that treats PTSD and other disorders. I do have a working knowledge of the VA and claims process as some in the association will attest since some were helped by some of the work I have done for them. However; I am not



an expert in VA claims, but might be able to point anyone in the right direction.



I served an almost complete two tours with F/Co 51st LRP and with F/75th Ranger 68-69. My last tour put me in the hospital for one year with follow-up surgeries throughout the past years; mainly due to my high risk behavior. Speaking of

SECOND-VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

which, I went in for my forth back surgery day after the reunion. So if you find what I am writing makes no sense at all that must mean my pain medication has kicked in finally.

I am married as mentioned earlier and have two beautiful children and two granddaughters.

I also worked in prior life as a financial planner for insurance industry dealing with corporation with pension plans and heath benefits and buy outs.

I mentioned that I am the new guy. Well, I will need some help with contacting more state coordinators for Gene Tucker, since I know he could sure use some assistance with his assignment. He is doing such a great job, but I can't help feel he could use some of us to step forward and say yes when he calls you; better yet why not call him.

I am in awe when I know I am working in an association that Duke DuSHANE, Roy Boatman, Gilbert, Copeland, Randy White, Terry Roderick, Dana McGrath, Emmett Hiltibrand and many others that have created some large shoes to fill. It is my desire not to disappoint the men of 75th RRA or myself.

Joe Little, 2nd VP 75th RRA



SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By John Chester

As I sit and put this into the computer, I have a constant reminder of the reunion, a pain in my lower back. At the jump a Tuskegee, I stalled my parachute about a foot too high and took a skid and landed on my rump. I tried not to show my discomfort as I bundled up the canopy and started off the drop zone, but it must have been apparent, Roy Barree came out to help me carry it in. I must have been pretty exhausted, because I let him carry it.



John Chester

This is no excuse, but it was 104 degrees. Then they put me in a BLACK, QUILTED jump suit. This thing would have been great if we were jumping the North Pole, but Tuskegee, Alabama? Then the guy tells me to hang on the airplane's wing strut. Yeah, right. My hands were so wet with sweat, I wasn't going to hang anywhere. It was a memorable event for all of that. I'm glad I did it. Bill Postelnic, Bill Bullen and I were



About to board the aircraft, (note the black jumpsuit). L to R John Chester, Bill Bullen, Bill Postelnic.

in the same plane, so we got to do some elected officers bonding on the way up.

I was fortunate that 4 of my guys from Vietnam were able to attend. Fred Fones arrived on Monday, followed by Brian Radcliffe (Jellyroll) and Mike Reiley on Wednesday and John Harris on Saturday. They all



L to R – Fones, Jellyroll, me, Sid Smith & Mike Reiley.

helped during the course of the week, and we had the added fun of Mary Anne's father, Pete Colledge as a guest. Pete is an avid aficionado of the Civil War and WW II, and found a wealth of things to do in the Columbus, Ft. Benning area. He and John Harris & Jellyroll and Fones went to see Andersonville, the site of the infamous Civil War POW stockade and present day POW Museum for all the conflicts. Pete also got to see the Confederate Naval Museum and the Infantry Museum. I'm afraid that Fones, Reiley and Jellyroll corrupted Pete a little bit, but he got to meet a bunch of the WW II Rangers, and between them and

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

my people, he got to hear a lot of war stories. A couple might have even had a grain or so of truth.

I want to thank the people who helped at the registration desk. Marc Thompson, Bill Postelnic, Tom Robison, Bill Bullen, Kevin Ingraham, Herb Reichel, Steve Crabtree, and all the others. If I forgot anyone, it's because I'm chasing a deadline here and can't think straight.

We drove down to Columbus in a two car caravan with Bill & Donna Bullen.



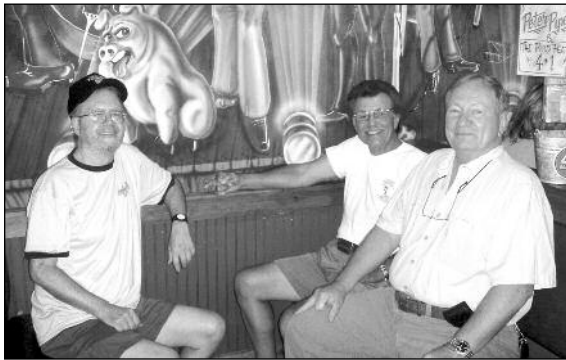
On top of Lookout Mountain – Bill Bullen, Donna Bullen, me & Mary Anne.

We stopped to eat & get gas together and even stopped for a while at Look Out Mountain out side of Chattanooga TN. We spent the night (Saturday), at the same hotel and started the reunion party a little early.

We have a new slate of elected officers and some new plans in the works that might increase membership and streamline operations. This organization belongs to all the members. If you have a suggestion or complaint, take it to your unit director or to one of the elected officers. Because we do something a certain way, does not mean that we always need to do it that way. I think we should consider a reunion every year. We always have a good time and when I think that the next one is 2 years away, that seems forever. We ain't getting any younger. There were lots of guys at this reunion who won't be around in 2 years. I'm sorry to say that, but it's true. Something to think about.



Bill on top of Lookout Mountain contemplating his up-coming stint as President. DON'T JUMP BILL!!!!



At the K/75 gathering. Note that something's missing? We had a place to sit, but no table. Who says those guys don't take it out on us 3rd Brigade guys?



At the banquet, L to R Fred Fones, Pete Colledge, Mary Anne's father, Patience Mason, Bob Mason, author of *Chickenhawk*.



My guys at the banquet, L to R Jellyroll, John Harris, Mike Reiley, Fred Fones.

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, William Bullen - President

FISHER HOUSE EXPANSION UPDATE 01:

The newest Fisher House was dedicated 6 AUG 07 at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa, Florida. The new Fisher House will provide families free lodging, making it easier to participate in the care and recovery of loved ones. Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson participated in a ceremony transferring ownership of the Fisher House to the VA. It will operate and maintain the home at no cost to its residents. This is the 38th Fisher House built by the Fisher House Foundation and the ninth operated by VA. At 16,000 square feet, the Tampa Fisher House is among the largest of these comfort homes, which can accommodate up to 21 families. Some families travel long distances to Tampa's Polytrauma Center - one of four unique VA polytrauma facilities in the United States where the most severely injured and disabled veterans are treated. In addition to polytrauma patients, those receiving care in the hospital's other specialized programs, such as spinal cord injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, will benefit from the Fisher House. [Source: NAUS Weekly Update 10 Aug 07 ++]

SALUTING THE FLAG:

The Senate has passed legislation to ensure that veterans and service members can salute the flag when not in uniform. The bill S.1877, sponsored by Sen. James Inhofe [R-OK] would address the ambiguity of current law, which states that veterans and service members not in uniform should place their hand over their hearts, without specifying whether they can or should salute the flag. Inhofe said, "The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one's military service. Unfortunately,

current U.S. law leaves confusion as to whether veterans and service members out of uniform can or should salute the flag." Inhofe said he believes this is "an appropriate way to honor and recognize the 25 million veterans who have served in the military and remain as role models to others citizens. Those who are currently serving or have served in the military have earned this right, and their recognition will be an inspiration to others." The House would have to agree to the legislation before it could become law. The bill does not address the ambiguity of veterans saluting during The Pledge of Allegiance and playing of the National Anthem. Present policy for saluting is:

- When the flag passes in a procession, or when it is hoisted or lowered, all should face the flag and salute.
- To salute, all persons come to attention.
- Those in uniform give the appropriate formal salute.
- Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over the heart and men with head cover should remove it and hold it to left shoulder, hand over the heart.
- Members of organizations in formation salute upon command of the person in charge.
- The pledge of allegiance should be rendered by standing at attention, facing the flag, and saluting. When the national anthem is played or sung, citizens should stand at attention and salute at the first note and hold the salute through the last note. The salute is directed to the flag, if displayed, otherwise to the music.

[Source: ArmyTimes Daily News Roundup 3 Aug 07 ++]

VA LOCAL ACCESS:

The Department of Veterans Affairs is represented by numerous Regional offices (VARO), state Benefit Offices,

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Vet Centers, and medical facilities throughout the U.S. and its territories. Locations of these facilities can be found at:

- VARO: <http://www.vba.va.gov/benefits/ROcontacts.htm>

- State Benefit Offices: <http://www.va.gov/statedva.htm>

- Vet Centers:

<http://www1.va.gov/directory/guide/vetcenter.asp>

- Medical, cemetery, and all the above:

<http://www1.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp>.

- The yellow pages of your local telephone directory under “Government Offices”

For questions or information you get an email response by asking your question at

<https://iris.va.gov/scripts/iris.cfg/php.exe/enduser/home.php>. To talk to someone you can go to your local VA office or call the following

- VA Benefits: 1(800) 827-1000 for Burial; Civilian Health & Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA); Death Pension; Dependency

Indemnity Compensation; Direct Deposit; Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices; Disability Compensation; Disability Pension; Education; Home Loan Guaranty; Life Insurance; Medical Care; Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment.

- Education (GI Bill): 1(888) 442-4551

- Health Care Benefits: 1(877) 222-8387

- Income Verification and Means Testing: 1(800) 929-8387

- Life Insurance: 1(800) 669-8477

- Mammography Helpline: 1(888) 492-7844

- Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation: 1(800) 749-8387

- Status of Headstones and Markers: 1(800) 697-6947

- Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD): 1(800) 829-4833

- Suicide Call Center: 1(800) 273-TALK (8255).

[Source: VA website www.vba.gov Aug 07 ++]

The men I am writing about could well have been the boy next door or the gentle blond-haired kid from the corner supermarket of not so long ago. These “boys” are bound together by their trade. They are all volunteers. They are in their spine-tingling, brain twisting, nerve wracking business of Long Range Patrolling. They vary in age from 18 to 30. These men operate in precision movements – like walking through a jungle quietly and being able to tell if a man or an animal is moving through the brush without seeing the cause of movement. They can sit in an ambush for hours without moving a muscle except to ease the safety off the automatic weapon in their hand at the first sign of trouble. These men are good because they have to be to survive. Called LRP’S for short, they are despised, respected, admired – and sometimes thought to be a little short on brains by those who watch from the sidelines as another team starts out on another mission to seek out the enemy. They are men who can take a baby or small child in his arms and stop his crying. They share their last smoke, last ration of food, last canteen of water – kind in some ways, deadly in others. They are men who believe in their country, freedom and fellow men. They are a new kind of soldier, in a new type of warfare. They may look the same as any one you may have seen in a peace march, draft card burning, or any other demonstration – but they are different. Just look in their eyes. Better yet, just ask them, for they are men. These men stand out in a crowd of soldiers, it is not just their tiger fatigues, but the way they walk, talk and stand. You know they are proud because they are members of the Long Range Patrol,

Article from

Stars and Stripes

Early 1968

Author Unknown

Submitted by

1SG Joey “Brasso” Welsh, USA (Ret)

E CO (LRP), 20th INF (A) & C CO (RGR) 75th INF (A) IFFV Association

Historical advisor #0003

HEALTH

DISCLAIMER

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

ACID REFLUX DISEASE:

Acid Reflux (i.e. heartburn) is caused when acid from the stomach flows upwards into the long feeding tube that connects the stomach and throat (esophagus) causing a burning sensation. Unlike the stomach, which has a lining that protects it from the acid, the esophagus is delicate and easily irritated by acid. Nighttime heartburn is heartburn that occurs at night. Anyone can have occasional heartburn as might occur after a spicy meal. Frequent and recurring heartburn, however, may be a symptom of a more serious condition. Gastroesophageal reflux disease is caused when the opening between the esophagus and the stomach becomes looser or relaxes at the wrong times. Normally, this opening allows food to travel only from your esophagus into your stomach. A muscular valve, called a sphincter, normally keeps stomach contents, including stomach acid, in the stomach. When the sphincter between the stomach and the esophagus becomes loose or relaxes at the wrong time, the stomach contents can flow up from the stomach into the esophagus. This irritates the esophagus, which doesn't have a special lining to protect it from acid like the stomach does. Studies have also shown that if you lie in bed, the protective effect of gravity can become lessened.

New research from scientists at UT Southwestern Medical Center and the Dallas Veterans Affairs Medical Center underscores the importance of preventing recurring acid reflux while also uncovering tantalizing clues on how typical acid reflux can turn potentially cancerous. In research published in July and August, scientists discovered that people with acid reflux disease, particularly those with a complication of acid reflux called Barrett's esophagus, have altered cells in their esophagus containing shortened telomeres, the ending sequences in DNA strands. Combined with related research to be published in AUG, the findings indicate that the shortened sequences might allow other cells more prone to cancer to take over. "The research supports why it is important to prevent reflux, because the more reflux you have and the longer you have it, the more it might predispose you to getting Barrett's esophagus. So you want to suppress that reflux," said Dr. Rhonda Souza, associat professor of internal medicine at UT Southwestern and lead author of the paper which appears in the July issue of the American Journal of Physiology - Gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology.

Over time, the persistent acid bath from acid reflux can cause normal skin-like cells in the esophagus to change into tougher, more acid-resistant cells of the type found in the stomach and intestine, a condition called Barrett's esophagus, explained Dr. Stuart Spechler, professor of internal medicine and senior author of the paper. "Unfortunately, those acid-resistant cells are also more prone to cancer," Dr. Spechler said. According to the National Cancer Institute Adenocarcinoma of the esophagus, the cancer that is especially associated with Barrett's esophagus, is currently the most rapidly rising cancer in the U.S., with a six fold increase in cases during the past 30 years. Understanding how and why the cells change in some cases and not others has been a major challenge for investigators. The research was funded by the Department of Veteran's Affairs, National Institutes of Health, the Harris Methodist Health Foundation, the Dr. Clark R. Gregg Fund and AstraZeneca. [Source: UT Southwestern Medical Center article 10 Aug 07 ++]

AGENT ORANGE DISEASES UPDATE 01:

The VA has determined that a presumption of service connection will apply to certain claims based on exposure to herbicides that were used during the Vietnam war era. This determination is based primarily but not solely on the Institute of Medicine's [IOM] ability to determine association exists. The following categories of Association are applicable to presumptive conditions:

HEALTH

- Sufficient - Evidence is sufficient to conclude that there is a positive association. That is, a positive association has been observed between exposure to herbicides and the outcome in studies in which chance, bias, and confounding could be ruled out with reasonable confidence. For example, if several small studies that are free from bias and confounding show an association that is consistent in magnitude and direction, there could be sufficient evidence of an association.

- Limited or Suggestive - Evidence suggests an association between exposure to herbicides and the outcome, but a firm conclusion is limited because chance, bias, and confounding could not be ruled out with confidence. For example, a well-conducted study with strong findings in accord with less compelling results from studies of populations with similar exposures could constitute such evidence.

The National Academy of Sciences “The Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2006” IOM report has assigned association categories on the following medical conditions:

1. Sufficient Evidence of Association:

- Chloracne
- Cancers:
 - a. Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).
 - b. Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma.
 - c. Hodgkin’s disease
 - d. Soft-tissue sarcoma

2. Limited or Suggestive Evidence of Association:

- Early-onset transient peripheral neuropathy.
- AL amyloidosis.
- Hypertension.
- Porphyria cutanea tarda.
- Type 2 diabetes (mellitus)
- Cancers:
 - a. Larynx
 - b. Lung, bronchus, or trachea
 - c. Multiple myeloma
 - d. Prostate
- In offspring of exposed individuals - Spina bifida

[Source: Various Aug 07 ++]

AGENT ORANGE DISEASES UPDATE 02:

The VA has determined that a non-presumption of service connection will apply to certain claims based on exposure to herbicides that were used during the Vietnam war era. This determination is based primarily but not solely on the Institute of Medicine’s [IOM] ability to determine if association exists. The following categories of association are applicable to non-presumptive conditions:

- Inadequate or Insufficient - The available studies are of insufficient quality, consistency, or statistical power to permit a conclusion regarding the presence or absence of an association. For example, studies fail to control for confounding, have inadequate exposure assessment, or fail to address latency.

- Limited or Suggestive Evidence of No Association - Several adequate studies, which cover the full range of human exposure, are consistent in not showing a positive association between any magnitude of exposure to the herbicides of interest and the outcome. A conclusion of “no association” is inevitably limited to the conditions, exposure, and length of observation covered by the available studies. In addition, the possibility of a very small increase in risk at the exposure studied can never be excluded.

HEALTH

The National Academy of Sciences “The Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2006” IOM report has assigned association categories on the following medical conditions:

1. Inadequate or Insufficient Evidence to Determine Association

- Neurobehavioral disorders (cognitive and neuropsychiatric)
- Movement disorders, including Parkinson’s disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Chronic peripheral nervous system disorders
- Respiratory disorders
- Gastrointestinal, metabolic, and digestive disorders (changes in liver enzymes, lipid abnormalities, ulcers)
- Immune system disorders (immune suppression, autoimmunity)
- Ischemic heart disease *
- Circulatory disorders (other than hypertension)
- Endometriosis
- Effects on thyroid homeostasis
- Cancers:
 - a. Oral cavity (including tongue), pharynx (including tonsils), or nasal cavity (including ears and sinuses).
 - b. Pleura, mediastinum, and other unspecified sites within the respiratory system and intrathoracic organs.
 - c. Esophagus.
 - d. Stomach.
 - e. Colorectal cancer (including small intestine and anus).
 - f. Hepatobiliary cancers (liver, gallbladder, and bile ducts).
 - g. Pancreas.
 - h. Bone and joint.
 - i. Melanoma *
 - j. Non-melanoma skin cancer (basal cell and squamous cell).
 - k. Breast *
 - l. Reproductive organs (cervix, uterus, ovary, testes, and penis; excluding prostate).
 - m. Urinary bladder.
 - n. Kidney.
 - o. Brain and nervous system (including eye) .
 - p. Endocrine cancers (thyroid, thymus, and other endocrine).
 - q. Leukemia (other than CLL).
 - r. Other and unspecified sites.
 - Abnormal sperm characteristics and infertility.
 - Spontaneous abortion (other than for paternal exposure to TCDD).
 - In offspring of exposed individuals:
- a. Neonatal or infant death and stillbirth.
- b. Low birth weight.
- c. Birth defects (other than spina bifida).
- d. Childhood cancer (including acute myelogenous leukemia)

* Indicates the committee could not reach consensus as to whether the evidence for these health outcomes related to exposure to the chemicals of concern was “limited, suggestive” or “inadequate,” so they were retained in the inadequate category.

2. Limited or Suggestive Evidence of No Association - Spontaneous abortion following paternal exposure to TCDD

[Source: Various Aug 07 ++]

H E A L T H

AGENT ORANGE & HYPERTENSION:

A new report from the Institute of Medicine (IOM) finds suggestive but limited evidence that exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides used during the Vietnam War is associated with an increased chance of developing high blood pressure in some veterans. The report is the latest update in a congressionally mandated series by the IOM that reviews every two years the evidence about the health effects of these herbicides and the type of dioxin - TCDD - that contaminated some of them. The committee that wrote the report also concluded that there is suggestive but limited evidence that AL amyloidosis is associated with herbicide exposure. Characterized by the accumulation of protein deposits in and around organs, this rare condition affects one in 100,000 people annually in the United States. The committee based its conclusion on the fact that AL amyloidosis shares many biological and pathological similarities with multiple myeloma and certain B-cell lymphomas, which have been found to be associated with exposure to herbicides.

A finding of “limited or suggestive evidence of an association” means that scientific studies of adequate quality have yielded information pointing to a possible statistical link or plausible biological means by which exposure to the chemicals of concern could result in a particular health effect, but that contradictory results from other studies, biases, or other confounding factors limit the certainty of the evidence. Two recently published studies of Vietnam veterans who handled Agent Orange and other defoliants provide evidence that these veterans have higher rates of hypertension. Defined as blood pressure exceeding 140/90, hypertension affects more than 70 million American adults and is a major risk factor for heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular ailments. It is often associated with age, race, being overweight, or having diabetes. The two new studies were able to adjust for the impact of common risk factors for hypertension on the results. The results also were consistent with findings from several other studies that looked at the health effects of herbicides and their contaminants on Vietnam veterans but were not adjusted for known risk factors and had poorer measures of exposure. At the same time, a new environmental study and an earlier study of workers in an herbicide manufacturing plant did not find evidence of an association between herbicide or dioxin exposure and increased incidence of high blood pressure. Given the studies’ limitations and inconsistent results, the committee found the cumulative body of evidence suggestive of, but insufficient to conclude with certainty, an association between high blood pressure and herbicide exposure.

The committee also reviewed studies that provide intriguing findings on rates of ischemic heart disease and exposure to defoliants or dioxin. However, many of the studies did not have information necessary to adjust for the impact of weight, smoking, and other known risk factors on the results, and their measures of heart disease were somewhat imprecise. The committee members could not agree on whether these factors distort the studies’ results. The report presents scientific data only and does not imply or suggest policy decisions that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs might make. Also, the findings relate to exposures and outcomes in populations. Researchers’ abilities to pinpoint the health risks faced by individual veterans are hampered by inadequate information about veterans’ exposure levels during their service in Vietnam. The report series is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and can be read at <http://national-academies.org>. Established in 1970 under the charter of the National Academy of Sciences, the IOM provides independent, objective, evidence-based advice to policymakers, health professionals, the private sector, and the public. Pre-publication copy of Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2006 can be read on the Internet at <http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?isbn=0309107083>. [Source: NAS New/Report 27 Jul 07 ++]

FEATURE ARTICLES

Beltway Rangers



On Monday, 28 May 2007, in Washington, DC, the 25th Annual Memorial Day Observance at The Vietnam Memorial Wall was an opportunity for Rangers to gather. The Keynote address was presented by General Barry R. McCaffrey (USA, Retired). The featured entertainer was Ranger Keni Thomas who sang several patriotic songs, including his hit “Last Band of Brothers.” Following the program, Rangers Schmidt(HHC, 75 Ranger Regiment), Maier (1st Ranger Bn) and Waters (42d Vietnamese Ranger Bn) joined Keni (3d Ranger Battalion, Somalia) and his father John Thomas (34th Vietnamese Ranger Bn) for a coin exchange.

Ranger Rendezvous

Susanna Avery

savery@wrbl.com

Tuesday, August 7, 2007

More than a thousand Rangers from the 75th Ranger Regiment have invaded Fort Benning for the bi-annual Ranger Rendezvous,

The week long rendezvous is a tradition that coincides with the unit’s change of command.

It includes demonstrations and an inside look at the Ranger Regiment which doesn’t come often since the rangers are a covert special operations unit.

Army Rangers have been around since the Revolutionary War. “They are the cutting edge. They are the elite. “We’re proud of them,” said Robert Copeland, who was a Ranger in the Vietnam War, “Knowing your legacy and what the guys before us have done and we’re all very proud,” said Staff Sergeant Robert Shoup, a current Army Ranger.

A thousand plus of the Army’s elite have come together for the Ranger Rendezvous, which happens every two years. “It’s a great deal of respect and honor for me to be a Ranger. Especially on a day like today when you’re around all these old Rangers, and they’re telling their stories, hearing what they’ve done,” said Shoup .

The first Ranger Battalion was activated during World War II. That’s when Don McCormick was a Ranger. “For the longest time, I didn’t tell people I was a Ranger because people didn’t know what they did,” said McCormick. Times haven’t changed. Ranger missions are still top secret.

“ What helps us do our jobs is that we’re quiet professional. It’s almost better that people don’t know what we do, because it helps us accomplish our jobs,” said Shoup. It’s a job that runs through the veins of each man who calls himself a Ranger. “You’re always a Ranger. You’re never not a Ranger. Most of us are still willing to serve but we’re a little bit too old for that. They’ve got younger fellas to do that for us now, said Copeland.

The week long series of events caps off on Thursday when Colonel Richard Clarke assumes command of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

Patriotism prevails over protest

By SHAWNE K. WICKHAM

New Hampshire Sunday News Staff

Sunday, Apr. 22, 2007

Hampstead – Her heart was breaking, until the man with the flag restored Monika McGillicuddy's faith. It was last Wednesday, and the town of Hampstead was saying goodbye to one of its beloved sons, Army Capt. Jonathan Grassbaugh, who was killed by a roadside bomb in Iraq on April 8.

The funeral for the 25-year-old Army Ranger was being held at St. Anne Catholic Church. Just down the street, at the real estate office where she works, McGillicuddy noticed the protesters on the corner. Three members of a Topeka, Kan., organization that calls itself the Westboro Baptist Church were there, their signs shocking. The group uses extreme language and Biblical references to claim that a variety of events — from the death of soldiers in Iraq to, most recently, the Virginia Tech shootings — are God's punishment for America's tolerance of homosexuality. The Kansas group has been in New Hampshire before, including a protest outside the ceremony installing the Rev. Gene Robinson as the Episcopal bishop of New Hampshire. But this is the first soldier's funeral they've picketed, and the experience left local residents deeply shaken.

McGillicuddy, who lives in East Hampstead, was among several who confronted the protesters, and found herself the target of one woman's hate. "She was saying that all the deaths were my fault, and negative stuff about God. Like God wanted death and that it was our fault this was happening and we were godless and we're going to burn in hell." "No, I think it'll be you," McGillicuddy finally told her before walking away, shaken. Her biggest concern was that Capt. Grassbaugh's parents, brother and young wife would see the signs, and hear the hateful speech and chanting. "My heart was breaking," she said. "I can only imagine the horrific pain they're feeling, and to see something like that ... I was devastated."

That's when she noticed the man. He was carrying a large American flag, and he placed himself squarely in front of the protesters. Pat Langlois of Kingston also works at the Hampstead real estate office. When she first saw the man with the flag, Langlois feared a confrontation; she could tell he was upset. But he just stood there, defiantly, proudly, with his flag. "I felt for that man," she said. "He was so hurt by what they were doing." "Then all of a sudden, other people started to gather around him. Then a whole procession of other people came up the street with their flags," Langlois said.

She went outside and shook the man's hand, "and thanked him for standing there in that cold." "He said all we can do is outnumber them." "He was a proud American," Langlois said. "He wanted that family to know that these people were insane, crazy. I think he just wanted to be a part of honoring this young man and trying to outnumber these other people." Langlois also confronted one of the protesters. "I said to her she was dishonoring this young man and his family. Then she started talking about hell and how all these soldiers are going to hell." "She tried to quote verses from the Bible and I could tell just listening to her and looking at her that it really wasn't coming from the Bible. I go to church. I read my Bible." "That's not God's way. That's hatred, in my book," Langlois said. McGillicuddy wrote a blog about the experience, and included a photo of the mystery man with the flag. She'd like him to know how much the counter-protest inspired her. "It was just really heartening to see," she said. "It made me smile, even though the rest of it was so horrible to look at."

The Kansas group's picketing at other soldiers' funerals across the country led Congress to pass, and President Bush to sign last Memorial Day, the Respect for America's Fallen Heroes Act, which restricts protesters at funerals held at national cemeteries. The group's protests also gave rise to the Patriot Guard Riders, an amalgam of veterans and motorcycle groups who attend military funerals. A "news release" posted April 13 on the WBC website had warned it planned to picket the hometown funerals of service members killed that week, held at churches of numerous denominations. It listed Capt. Grassbaugh on its "roster of the damned." Paul Boore of Milford is a ride captain for the New Hampshire PGR. He attended Capt. Grassbaugh's funeral in Hampstead; it was his first encounter with the WBC protesters. "It made my stomach roll," he said. "The hate that they spewed out was overpowering." But he said his group's response was to walk quietly by without confronting the trio. "In the tradition of a biker, basically you turn your back on them and don't acknowledge them," he said. "That's the ultimate insult."

Boore said the PGR members do not attend the funerals because of the protesters. "We will only be there if we're invited by the family, and then we're only there to pay respect to the soldiers." David Slone of Ruckersville, Va., was one of the Patriot Guard Riders "ride captains" for Capt. Grassbaugh's burial services, held last Thursday at Arlington National Cemetery. He said the WBC did not picket that service, but they have been outside the cemetery gates at other military burials. "These guys are fighting to give them the freedom to talk about these guys in these ways," said Slone, who lived previously in Hooksett. "It's just heartbreaking."

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

The PGR's primary mission is to honor the fallen heroes and take care of their families, he said. "I've buried 23 heroes." Slone said the riders, armed with 3-by-5-foot American flags, line the road across from the WBC protesters. "And when the WBC starts singing their chants, we've been known to break out into all sorts of patriotic

songs ourselves. If it really gets bad, we've been known to start up our motorcycles and drown them out." Slone said the founders of the group were Vietnam veterans, who knew firsthand the pain of returning home to disrespectful protests. "And they said never again. That was the genesis of the PGR."

THE VERY FLAWED MAJOR ROBERT ROGERS

By Charles Reilly

The history of Major Robert Rogers is really a tale of two personalities intertwined in the same man. Although our Founding Father Ranger was a superb Indian fighter and motivator of men, his illustriousness seemingly ended on the battlefield and in the forests of the northeast. There were probably many factors that formed this dichotomy of his personality. Since there is very little (if any) documentation of Rogers' early years, except for the fact that he was born in New Hampshire, one can only guess what those factors were. For all his heroism and achievements in war, Rogers certainly demonstrated an unlikable side off the battlefield. As it turned out in the end, this unlikable side became his undoing.

In the early years of the French and Indian War (mid 1750's), Rogers' exploits became legendary, and the missions that he and his Rangers undertook and succeeded in carrying out were nothing short of spectacular. Yet for some strange reason, Rogers' logic and sense of duty apparently left him as soon as he headed back to the barracks. In both garrison and civilian life, he had all the characteristics of an itinerant gambler and con-man. His own rationale for this behavior was a sense of entitlement for his services to the British Crown that manifested itself in a total disregard for the rule of law.

Rogers' greatest success during the French and Indian War was his famous attack on the French settlement of St. Francis in 1759. The settlement included a garrison of French soldiers and hundreds of Abenaki Indians. The Abenakis had been preying on New Englanders for years and Rogers' goal was to wipe them out, which he pretty much did. The operation itself was a textbook version on how to attack and destroy an enemy by surprise without sustaining casualties. Rogers' subsequent escape after this famous ambush became legendary and the highlight of writer Kenneth Roberts' historical novel, "Northwest Passage". That book and the well-received movie it spawned in 1940, remains the general public's view of Rogers. In the film, Spencer Tracy made Rogers seem almost super-human and larger than life—as only Hollywood can do.

After the successful end of the French and Indian War,

Rogers headed to England to cash in on his fame. For a short time, he was very successful in this endeavor. Besides publishing several novels and histories, he was also granted an audience with King George III. He soon found himself among the elite society of London and cultivating many new friends and associates. But despite his newfound fame and upper class associations, Rogers' finances were still mired in the middle-income range and he began to accrue substantial debts. This financial "reality check" did nothing to hamper Rogers' lifestyle, however, and he continued his merry ways—until he invariably ended up in the infamous Fleet Prison for debtors. With the help of some friends, Rogers' stay in jail was brief and he soon embarked on another undertaking that might have established his good name for all time.

Rogers had secured a new commission from King George to find the famous and elusive Northwest Passage to the Pacific Ocean. After arriving back in the Colonies,

Rogers headed to the Detroit area (Ft. Michilimackinac) with supplies and men to begin what should have been the highlight mission of his career. Unfortunately for Rogers and his expeditionary force, they were waylaid at the fort due to bad weather and there his troubles began in earnest. Always one to bark out orders, Rogers (being the senior officer) began to boss around the garrison and was soon swindling them out of money through rigged gambling games and other activities. Rogers discovered that it was more profitable for him to remain at the fort and postponed his mission until further notice. When word got back to his superiors at a nearby Canadian command post, Rogers was immediately arrested and thrown in irons. The arresting officer, General Thomas Gage, had been hostile to both Rogers and his mentor (General Jeffrey Amherst) during the previous conflict. He was more than willing to subject his adversary to a court-martial. Since Rogers had at least temporarily aborted his mission, the charges included treason. Although subsequently acquitted, Rogers' Northwest Passage "adventure" was never attempted and he returned to England in disgrace.

Some sympathetic historians are of the belief that Gage's vindictiveness and false impressions had much to do with Rogers' inevitable decline. Others place the blame for the Detroit debacle squarely on the shoulders of Rogers. For the next few years, the now disgraced Major did all he

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

could to stay one step ahead of his creditors and try to salvage is reputation. To distance himself further, he eventually (and very reluctantly) returned to the land of his birth.

The War for American Independence, which began in 1775, gave Rogers a final opportunity to save his sagging fortunes. His career as an officer in the Continental Army never got off the ground, however. General Washington, perhaps remembering Rogers' loyalty to the Crown during the French and Indian War, didn't trust him and the Major soon found himself out of favor with the Colonists. When Washington heard about Rogers' attempts to join the revolutionary cause, he suspected him as a spy and collaborator for the British and had him arrested. Those charges weren't proven, but after a brief incarceration, Rogers went over to the Tory faction and fought the rest of the war on the side of the British Loyalists. His infamous reputation solidified when he was instrumental in fooling Nathan Hale into giving away his identity to him during a rigorous interrogation. As every American knows, Hale was convicted as a spy for the Continental Army and immediately hanged. The death of young Hale was certainly all of Rogers' doing and a black mark on the man. The unpleasant incident and its consequences followed him everywhere, and Rogers' previous good luck soon ran out in the war. His former victorious ways never again materialized during the long struggle.

After Lord Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown, Rogers returned to England for good. He met with little success there and more debts piled up, finally sinking the old soldier into permanent bankruptcy and prison. He died in 1795 at the age of 64 with few friends, a failed marriage and stacks of unpaid bills. Ironically, when his wife Elizabeth finally left him after his numerous infidelities, she married a gentleman sea captain named John Roche who commandeered a frigate with the telling name of "Ranger." Maybe in the final analysis, Rogers perfectly fit the character of most warriors of the past. Yes, he was a flawed man—like everyone else. But he *was* unique, and no one was more original in the tactics he developed than this one-of-a-kind Indian fighter. What remains of his reputation is permanently etched in the Ranger Handbook and in the pages of the history he made.

Author Kenneth Roberts described him best as an incomprehensible personality with all too-human qualities. In a key scene from the film "Northwest Passage", Spencer Tracy gives his Rangers another impossible assignment and hears the grumbling among the men. He leans towards a subordinate and says with as much sincerity as he can muster, "I'm not a man now—but a leader of men. Someday you might meet me when I'm just a man. If you do, show me a little sympathy." I'm certain we can all do that for our Founding Ranger.

The Jumping LRRPETTE's

Respectfully Submitting By Heidi Little.

Can you remember when you joined the Army and made your first skydiving jump? I bet you were a little nervous and may have even questioned your sanity. Eight Ranger wives can now relate to that emotion. What separates these women from their husbands is that this group of women was not 18 or 21 years old, when they made their first jump. Their ages range from the mid 30's to 66 years old. These are women of courage.

Each "Jumping LRRPETTE" has their own story. Our day began at 7:00 am chow and ended at 11:30 pm. Sound like boot camp? We drove to Alabama's historic Moton Airfield Drop Zone in Tuskegee, Alabama. It was a humid 104 degrees with a heat index of 114 degrees. Does our Ranger training ever end? These Ranger wives are no wimps, that's for sure. You can't be, if you are married to a Ranger. In addition to the wives, there were 19 Rangers jumping, including an 82 year old WWII Ranger. We were split into two groups, tandem jumpers and static line jumpers. The rest of the story is from my perspective. I was in the static jump group.

Static line training would be condensed from 6 hours to 2 hours, since most of the group was seasoned jumpers. During our training session, one of the non-jumpers poked her head in the door to tell John Chester that one of the Rangers flared at 25 feet and came down hard on his tail bone. He had feeling, but could not move. He was being air lifted to the nearest hospital. We were told he would experience a full recovery. About ? hour later, she poked her head in again and asked the Jump Master for a first aid kit, because someone had a bloody face due to an unconscious tandem landing.

I thought to myself, hmmm, two injuries, one serious, and four hours cut off of the normal training. WHAT AM I THINKING!!! Being the Ranger wife that I am, I sucked it up and continued with the mission as planned. We learned about major malfunctions and minor malfunctions. I actually had to ask why a May West was called a May West. If only I had that malfunction, and I'm not talking about my parachute.

It was now my turn to jump at 4500 feet. My brain was on red alert, telling me humans just don't do this. I don't need to tell you what came next, except when I counted to five

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

one thousand after exiting the plane and looked over my shoulder, my lines were twisted something terrible. It was strange, because I was perfectly calm after yelling, "Oh my God!" I remembered from class this was classified as a minor malfunction. I grabbed the lines, spread them apart and did the bicycle faster than Lance Armstrong racing for the finish line. I don't know how many times I went around in a circle, but was relieved when I popped to a stop. I didn't want to have to cut away my main chute and use my reserve on my first solo jump. I think I would have had a heart attack.

About half way down, I started bouncing rather violently. I looked up to see what was wrong with my parachute this time. Then I remembered this was a very hot day and I realized I was caught in a thermal layer. It was actually awesome, because I was just hovering. It almost felt like I gained altitude. It was a very strange sensation.

After floating for 17 minutes, my landing was almost picture perfect. I had to remember to watch out for the power lines, the swamp, the runway, the buildings, the cars, the people, and stay in the DZ no matter what. I flared at the right time, touched down one knee and stood up. It was a very light landing. I was informed I had the only vertical landing of the static jumps. Chalk one up for the LRRPETTE's. The Jump Master later pulled me aside to tell me that I was a natural, which was rare. I thanked him but explained I wasn't a natural. I was scared to death and followed instructions to the letter. Then again, I couldn't

have been too scared, because I jumped again. You guys warned me it was addicting!

The jumping LRRPETTE's share a bond for life. We can now share in your courage, not to mention the adrenaline rush. However, for some of us, this jump was more than just a jump. Jo Ponzillo told me she now realizes she can do anything. We were each given a set of jump wings when we returned to the hotel. Jo hasn't taken hers off yet. I'm so proud of her. What a woman! Rick Ellison's wife, Georgia, said she did it; it was a great experience; and once was enough. She had achieved her goal. Now Georgia has something great for show and tell in her kindergarten class. When the jump master gave me my jump log, it felt like he gave me the keys to the world. I can officially say the sky's the limit! When my HALO jumping husband, Joe Little, heard I was a natural and made two jumps, he said, "You know parachutes are really expensive." Ha! I told him there's a great jump school in Eloy, Arizona.

You can't hide the fun anymore! The secret's out. Look out Golden Knights, here we come! Can you tell we had the time of our lives?

The Jumping LRRPETTE's (not all from F-Company):

Jo Ponzillo	Stephanie Allen
Georgia Springs-Ellison	Donna Bullen
Heidi Little	Robin Bissey
Nancy Bucy	Regina Bahten



FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

AFTER ACTION REPORT RANGER REUNION & RENDEZVOUS 2007 FT. BENNING, GA

by John Chester

Well gentlemen and ladies, you've done yourselves proud again. This has been another record setting reunion. We had no one killed, (though several threats were overheard), and only a few wounded, most of them being related to parachute jumping, (more to the point, with parachute landings). One of our older WW II brethren decided that the proper body part to begin the PLF process was his face.

You managed to consume 74 kegs of beer, (leave no keg untasted), though to be honest we had a little help on that score from the young men in the Regiment. When the magic words "free beer" were heard, they did not hesitate to do their duty. When they heard that the only cost was to listen to a bunch of old guys telling war stories, they came in droves. They were a breath of fresh air, it is really good for both groups to meet & mingle, we certainly learn from each other. The financial info is as follows:

Income:	
Pre Reg.	\$12,125.00
Pd @ Reunion	7,835.00
Credit Cards	2,845.00
Pay Pal	<u>6,210.00</u>
Total Income	\$29,015.00
Expenses:	
Holiday Inn (beer)	\$8,700.00
Speakers	3,546.00
Banquet	10,275.00
Tee shirts	4,430.00
Misc. (tents, water, pop, etc)	<u>542.61</u>
	<u>\$27,493.61</u>
Profit	\$ 1,521.39

Since we do not really aim to make any money from the reunion, (we run it as close to a break even point as we can estimate), this is pretty close. If we had to be a little over, that was considered better than a little under.

In addition to the beer record, we also set an attendance record. As near as I could calculate, we had 425 LRRP's, LRP's, Rangers and their guests and family members present. Add to that the WW II Rangers and their guests and family members, and we have more than 500 attendees. We had over 475 at the banquet Saturday night. This is the first time we have used Pay Pal and it certainly makes the Secretary's job easier. For those who pre-registered a trip to the registration table was only a matter of picking up their pre-printed badge(s), picking up a Tee shirt and moving on. I have found that the more I can get done prior to the reunion, the easier time we all have at the reunion.

The banquet speaker, Joe Galloway, did double duty, he spoke and autographed the three magnums of Ranger wine that were raffled off. I heard a little flack because Cheryl Visel of Airborne Supply won two of the bottles. I will only say that a WW II Ranger drew the ticket and she did buy over \$100.00 worth of tickets. Patience Mason gave three seminars on PTSD that were well attended, and her husband Bob Mason, author of *Chickenhawk* gave a seminar on writing about your wartime experiences that was also well attended.

Another first for this reunion was the offering of Yoga classes each day of the reunion. The teacher was none other than my wife, Mary Anne Colledge, who is a certified Hatha Yoga instructor. I heard nothing but good things about her classes, and I know from personal experience that she is an excellent instructor. There is certainly a mind – body connection, and Yoga can help establish or re-establish that connection. Is it a valid treatment modum for PTSD? Anything that will alleviate stress will help with PTSD, and Yoga can be a valuable tool in stress relief. (See additional story, this section.)

Here are some commentary and photos by Kevin Ingraham. Kevin was a lot of help and has a jaunty and fresh view as well as an active sense of humor. I am trying to get him to contribute more to the magazine. (hint)

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

Ranger Yoga . . . Welcome Om!

By: Mary Anne Colledge

Warriors rose to the challenge of yoga at the 75th Ranger Rendezvous at Columbus, GA during the week of August 6-11. Daily classes were offered by Mary Anne Colledge, M.Ed., RYT 200 hours, (Registered Yoga Therapy) for Rangers, their spouses and families. Class attendance numbered a total of 60 with a strong showing from “N” Co. Way to go, guys! The Warrior spirit lives on!



My desire was to introduce participants to yoga and to the concept that yoga can be used as a tool that may be useful when dealing with symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Numerous studies have shown that a regular practice may relieve symptoms of anxiety, insomnia, depression, high blood pressure, and heart disease. My understanding of Rangers is that they are risk takers and the numbers that participated in my classes proved that belief to be a true one. With tremendous courage to step into the unknown, participants opened their minds and their hearts to experience the possibility of physical, emotional and spiritual healing that can be possible with this ancient practice.

A popular saying in yoga circles is that if you can breathe, you can do yoga. Classes were gentle, yet challenging

options were always offered for those who desired a less strenuous session. Classes began with a body awareness meditation to get in touch with the senses and one's experience of being in one's own body. The concepts of mindfulness, non-judgment and self-acceptance were explored during the course of the week through guided meditations, through pranayama (breathing techniques) and through the practice of asana (poses). Yoga Nidra or yogic sleep was taught on another day and emotions ran deep, heartfelt and were overflowing by the end of the class.

Some Rangers and participants reported a very pleasant “shock and awe” at the amazing calm they experienced after only the first class. Stress relief was one of the goals of our classes and that goal was experienced by many of the participants. One Ranger confided the day after his first class that he was so relaxed after class that he had slept straight through the night for the first time in 35 years! That comment cracked my heart wide open! I was thrilled to offer this tool to help to relieve what all the pills, talk therapy, and counseling had come up short in addressing over the years....to offer a possible path towards self exploration and personal growth and peace. To quote Patience Mason, “you cannot heal what you cannot feel.” Yoga offers a safe place to begin to feel and to heal.

A bibliography of resources (including books, journals and magazines, DVD's, music CD's and websites) was e-mailed to class participants after the reunion. If any class member failed to receive this list or if you were not in attendance, but would like to receive this list, please contact me at ma.colledge@verizon.net. Namaste!

WWII Rangers

August 2007, an event took place involving a unique community. They met in Columbus, GA for operations planned in conjunction with Ranger Rendezvous (RR) at Fort Benning, GA. Few in our great nation were privy or invited to this event. Those who were, are members of a comparatively small, unique brotherhood spanning every generation, era, and conflict of silent heroes having served as elite U.S. Army Rangers. Among those present were 23 Rangers representing all six Battalions serving in the now legendary Ranger Battalions, WWII.

There were Original 1st Bn Rangers, hand selected and trained at the Commando training facility at Achnacarry,

Scotland. Also represented were 3rd and 4th Bn Rangers, known (with the 1st) as “Darby's Rangers.” Of those Darby Rangers attending, seven were captured in the disaster at Cisterna, Italy, spending 15-18 months thereafter in the infamous Stalag POW camps, a few managing escape.

Joining the group were members of the 2nd and 5th Ranger Bns that endured the landing on the beaches of Normandy, and Rangers who replaced those lost that day to join the others in their movement across Europe. Among this group was a Ranger whose LCA went over, dumping he and other Rangers into the ice cold waters of the English Channel while enroute to Normandy, and another who found a copy machine and a German typewriter he put to good use publishing a 2nd Bn Newsletter while serving active duty (AD).

FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)



photo courtesy Ron Hudnell

Completing representation of the WWII Ranger Bns, were four members of the 6th Bn that served in the Pacific. Of note, was RHOF member Robert Prince, who led 6th Rangers in the greatest rescue mission in American history. Teamed with Alamo Scouts, Filipino Guerillas, and civilians he led the successful mission that freed 500 survivors of the Bataan Death March held at Cabanatuan.

The generous assistance from COL Gregory Hagar, Commander RTB, was outstanding. Not only did he ensure escorts for those Rangers and families of the WWII Rangers inducted into the RHOF, but he also ensured the assignment of escorts, vans, and a luxury bus to transport all attending WWII Rangers, families and friends (approximately 100) to planned events spanning the entire week. The escorts were representatives of today's AD Rangers who befriended the WWII's in relationships that will extend well beyond the August event.

Many AD Rangers who had served as escorts in the past, dropped into their HQ at the Holiday Inn hospitality room to renew old friendships. The hospitality room was hosted by S&D members Steve Ketzer, Jr. and wife Vicki Thayer, who flew in from Fairbanks for well over a week to cater to the WWII's, families, friends, and other era Ranger visitors.

In addition to the kindness of RTB, was the generous offer for the WWII Rangers to join the events of the 75th Ranger Rgmt Assn reunion, also held in conjunction with RR. Due to their generosity, the WWII Rangers and their families enjoyed the comradeship of Rangers serving as their counterparts in other eras and conflicts, finding common ground in their bond and experiences. The WWII's and related attendees enjoyed comradeship, a poolside BBQ, and other perks offered by the 75th Assn (pres Stephen Crabtree). They kept John Chester and his team of Rangers at the registration table busy, testing their patience at times, but passing all with heroic self-control so befitting Rangers.

Among the highlights, was Wednesday's RHOF when the WWII Rangers "led the way" into the auditorium, as all Rangers marched in by era. There were some 20 plus WWII Rangers present to do so. The Thursday Memorial service was appropriately held at the Ranger Memorial (thanking the National Ranger Memorial Foundation for their cooperation in setting up chairs and canopies to keep all reasonably comfortable) where WWII Rangers representing their respective Bns stood to read the names of those passed since their last Reunion. The WWII Rangers were treated by their S&D to a banquet at the Benning Club immediately following the service. They were honored with distinguished guests COL Gregory Hager and his CSM. Friday, the World Army Ranger Assn (WAR), Ranger Joe's, and Willie Snow teamed up to sponsor an event for WWII Rangers and all family and friends, at Ranger Joe's. A rifle shoot was the featured entertainment, where WWII Rangers were teamed with AD Rangers, Generals, and Fort Benning Commanders for the competition. Among the top winners in this competition was a 3rd Bn medic, one not designated to carry a weapon in combat, but rather issued a Red Cross armband. He must have acquired his expertise with a rifle in hobby after war's end, but this is doubted. All WWII Rangers and family members wish to thank Ranger Joe's (owner P. Voorhees), WAR (pres Ranger Bob West, and dedicated member, Ranger Bill Spies), and Ranger Willie Snow who funded the deli lunch for all attending!

Taking in account the extreme heat, the WWII's can boast of not one fallen Ranger at any outdoor event. They credit the AD escorts who were ever present with water on ice, making multiple runs between coolers in the vans and events to keep the WWII group well hydrated. The mass drop on Monday, the Memorial Service and other smaller side trips were well catered by these outstanding and dedicated AD Ranger escorts!

The Saturday night banquet hosted by the 75th Rgr Rgmt Assn was the grand finale of the week. Seated in the front, the WWII Rangers were better able to see and hear, and enabled an easy gathering for a legendary and rare opportunity for one more group picture. The celebrity of the evening was a 2nd Bn Ranger who wanted his airborne wings, jumping Friday, earning them in full. He returned from this jump with the scars to prove it and was the Ranger of choice at the banquet by those seeking to be photographed with him while still bearing the open wounds of this mission. His action indeed secured the airborne wings of one of the 75th Ranger Assn members who unselfishly pinned his own wings on this now "Airborne WWII Ranger."

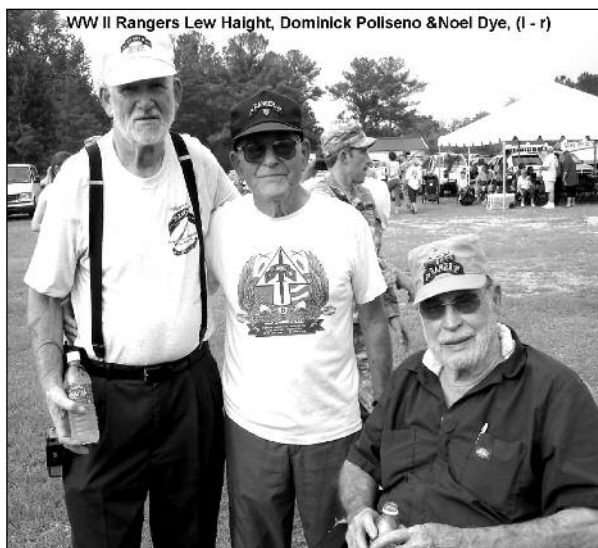
FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

It was the best of times in Columbus as the generations united as one brotherhood. The WWII Rangers are requesting a return visit next year, those not attending bemoaning ill health, and reluctance to register and join us. These seasoned Rangers don't see themselves as anything other than soldiers doing their job in service to their country. The reception by the brotherhood to their attendance told them otherwise. We thank all responsible for making this reunion a huge success and in demonstrating to those WWII Rangers present, the respect held for them in the generations that followed. It is a case of mutual admiration, as they take great pride in witnessing firsthand, the quality, integrity, and humble honor yet enhanced in all generation Rangers that followed. They see each and every one of you in higher esteem than they see themselves. They are proud of what you've done, who you are, what you too have endured, and treasure the friendships made with you. We thank you for making them feel special. You are their heroes and their pride and joy in all that you, too, have endured, accomplished, and view humbly (as they do) as "just doing your job." A list of all WWII Rangers who attended follows. These are the Rangers who thank all who made this visit possible! The S&D that sponsored this, led by pres, Jerry Styles, also thank you.

In closure, and as punctuated in the WWII Ranger world, stated by Norman D. Coda while under heavy machine gun fire, desperately seeking exit off the deadly Dog White sector of Omaha Beach, relieved to find a group identifying themselves as "Rangers" capable of accomplishing a lead off the beach, and ever after the Ranger motto, he commanded those now famous words,

"Rangers! Lead the way!"

WWII Rangers attending: Fran Coughlin 5/HQ, Noel Dye 1/HQ/F, 4/HQ/F, Ted Fleser 1/D, R. Page Gary 2/A, Lawrence "Red" Gilbert 1/F, Clarence Goad 3/B, Lewis Haight 5/E, James Hudnell 2/D, George Kerchner 2/D, Carl Lehmann Original 1/B, 3/C, Norm Lever 6/A/D, Frank Mattivi Original 1/F, Don McCormick 3/D, John McKnight, 3/E, Dominick Polisen 3/C, Bill Powell 6/B, Bob Prince, 6/HQ/C, Micky Romine 3/HQ, Alvin Rustebakke 2/HQ, Leo Strausbaugh 6/B, Harold Westerholm Original 1/C/F, 4, Robert Widdows 1/A, Zeke Zyrkowski 2/D



FEATURE ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

Shots by Kevin



Our Gold Star Family Rep. Sandy Rouse and husband Bill Rouse



Pres Steve Crabtree RRA Memorial Ceremony 8-9-07



Kevin Ingraham & Association Photographer S. J. 'Peter' Parker



Tuesday morning. Left: Don McCormick, 3Bn, who was captured at Cisterna. Right: Zeke Zyrkowski, 2Bn, at the STB equipment display.



"But they have such cool toys!" Your intrepid reporter wonders how he's going to get this souvenir home past airport security...



Sid Smaith, Mary Anne & 1st attendee Bob Stouch.



Vicky McKinney & Bob Copeland hawking their wares 8-11-7 RRA banquet.



Julie Edwards, Mary Anne & Georgia



LtoR:.....Oh hell, you know who you are!
Kevin Ingraham



2d Bn A Co.'Old Scrolls' Larry Jordan & Rocky Shiffer at the banquet. SGM Shiffer was the first EM to sign into the resurrected 2d Battalion in 1974. He is one of the handful of 'old scroll' era Rangers still serving.



Old 2d BattBoys Mark McDermott & Bob Snyder enjoying some good Army chow at the Regimental BBQ. Photo: Ron Books.

GOLD STAR...



Hello Rangers & Families

By the time this gets to you it will be several weeks since the 75th RRA Reunion and Ranger Rendezvous 2007. Right now I am still riding the high from all the Blessings that I received while attending.

Bill & I arrived late Wednesday the night of 8/8 so we missed all the great events that went on the first 3 days. I am sure those of you unable to attend will be updated by the other articles being written for this edition of Patrolling

We started out Thursday morning at the Ranger Memorial for a service honoring, and roll call of, all the fallen Rangers since WWI. The record breaking Georgia heat was already hot enough to fry eggs and not a breeze stirring but it didn't deter a large crowd who had come for one thing, to honor our Fallen Ranger Warriors. Prior to the service I had the honor of meeting William & Mary Shea parents of Ranger Timothy Shea 3/75 KIA Iraq 8/05 and Ray & Flo Breneman parents of Ranger Timothy Ray Breneman formerly of 3/75 and who was a Warrant Officer serving in Germany when killed 9/06 in a training accident. These meetings alone would have made this trip worth the heat. I let them all know they are in our prayers daily and we will never forget.

That evening in 104 degree weather we said good bye to Colonel & Mrs. LaCamera who are heading to Ft. Bragg and welcomed Colonel & Mrs. Clark as Regimental

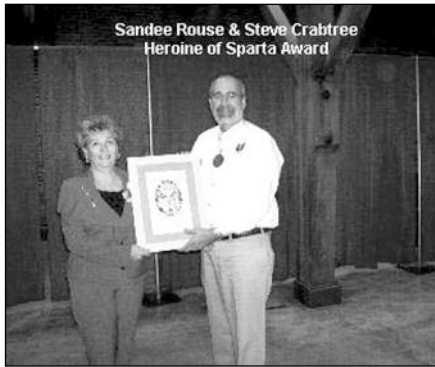
Commander. We had met the Clarks on occasion at 1/75 during their assignment there so we reintroduced ourselves and let them know we are available whenever needed. I am looking forward to working with them over the next couple of years. We also caught up with another couple of long lost friends General and Mrs. Wagner. Although we had spoken off & on and exchanged notes we hadn't seen them since they left 1/75 and it was really good to get a hug and talk to them in person after so long. Mrs. Votel, wife of General Votel, past 1/75 and past Regimental Commander was there and it was, as always, good to see her and catch up. It seemed for us to be a real Home Coming of sorts.

We caught up with Miss Linda who was warm and welcoming as always. She is still the quiet force around command central and next time you see her or talk to her remember to thank her for all she does.

Another person it was good to meet was Oscar Edwards who has taken the brand new position of Family Liaison. Oscar comes from a long Military background that includes 1/75 among his Ranger days. We spent several hours together learning what we can do to work together to support and care for our Ranger Families. I am so looking forward to working with him and am grateful to have made a new friend.

We missed the trip on Friday to Tuskegee Airfield to see the seasoned Rangers, (like that term guys?) and some of their wives jump. I understand it was worth the trip in the heat.

GOLD STAR (CONTINUED)



Saturday night the Reunion wrapped up with the Banquet. There we said another goodbye to Steve Crabtree the out going President but not before he surprised me with the Heroine of Sparta award. Way

to make a lady cry Steve !! Thank you from the bottom of my heart I was then and am still speechless and humbled by this. I will treasure this always and try to live up to the meaning and essence of the Heroine of Sparta. The Best of everything in the future and may God continue to bless you and Lori.

Bill Bullen and Team, the future is yours I look forward to working with all of you and know that in the words of Emmett, "you will leave this organization a little better than you got it and that is all that is asked of each of you."

I am excited to announce our Gold Star program is evolving and has a new name. It is now the "75th RRA Gold Star Family Program" and I thank the incoming board for approving this



change. I came to the realization that we were not living up to what we are all about by titling these programs the GS Mother & Wife program. I am well aware that Bill and our son and daughter lost as much as I did when Jim was killed. Although the loss was distinctly different for each of us we are a family and had a family loss. This is the case in each of our GS families. Therefore this organization will in Ranger fashion "LEAD THE WAY" and acknowledge the family and address the family needs. This announcement at the banquet was met with rousing approval.

While at the banquet I was privileged to meet Ann Sherman Wolcott mother of Fallen Ranger Rex Sherman and past President of the National American Gold Star Mothers.

We spoke for a while and I told her their organization was the inspiration for our program. I hope to stay in touch with this wonderful lady.

I would also like you to know we are in the process of getting our 75th RRA Gold Star Family Emblem on pins/necklaces, patches and car magnets. Stay tuned for their availability in the near future.

I will sign off for now reminding you as always there are Fallen Ranger Families out there who need you to find them and bring them home with the assurance that neither their Ranger nor they are forgotten.

God Bless Each of you and as always it is a privilege and honor to serve you.

God Bless & RLTV
Sandee

FAMILY FUND CONTRIBUTORS

M/M Harry Bell

RGT

CO F LRP 51ST Inf (Abn) Assoc.

John M. Lindhurst

RGT

Thomas H. Burton Atty

Buffalo Wheelchair, Inc.

James Marchese Agency, Inc.

David A. Morrell

John Lindhurst, of Upstate New York, has hosted a golf tournament each year for the past several years, and has donated the proceeds to the Family/Christmas Fund. Thanks to his efforts, the Fund is richer by several thousand dollars. Thank you for your efforts John.

UNIT REPORTS



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Bill Acebes



The 1st Battalion Memorial is progressing toward dedication in October; in conjunction with the Ranger Ball. The web link to view all pictures; and Ball information is as follows: <http://www.1stbn75thregtmemorial.com>

I hope everyone enjoyed the articles submitted by Rangers for publication in the previous issues of Patrolling – Always looking for more. If you have a story you would like to have included send it in.

Phil Hanaburgh has suffered a stroke and has been in the Tampa hospital. His daughter kept everyone informed with a hospital webpage. Phil is recovering and is at home – up to his old tricks. If you want to get in touch with his daughter; you can write her at jessicatomsic@gmail.com

Jerry Gibson would like to hear from his old buddies from Bravo Company jgibsonconsulting@gmail.com

Don Feeney is hanging out in the Phillipines. Congratulations to Matt Nelligen; retired from the Guard in 2004; now working in the Savannah area. Carol Schetrompf has been elected as National Director of the Southeastern Region of Vietnam Veterans of America. Sam Spears has retired from the Federal Government as have I. YEAHHHHHH

Went to the Mountain Ranger Camp in May - A special trip this year as Brenda's uncle (MSG Jessie P. Davis) was inducted into the Fallen Ranger Memorial. His daughter and her family were able to attend from the Knoxville, TN area. Brenda's mother, brother and nephew also attended. The Mountain Ranger Association showed them around the camp and the family feels honored to have MSG Davis remembered in this way. He was inducted along with five other Ranger heroes - see the website

www.usmountainranger.org/memorial

Was at Fort Benning for the Ranger Rendezvous in August. The Battalion (as well as the rest of the Regiment) looked remarkable during the Change of Command. "Nobody does it better" Saw lots of former 1st Battalion members. Plenty of pictures on the website. Our Gold Star Mother, Sandy Rouse, and her husband (Bill) were in attendance; LTG Wagner was the speaker for the Regimental Change of Command; and it was great to see his wife PJ. Picture attached of the four of them.

Saw Herbie Baugh; Larry Rapp (former 2nd BN member);



Joe Heckard; Steve Murphy (and son Craig); Negrete and his family were in (again) from California; Terry Roderick; Fran and Theresa Coughlin; Jane Herring; Phil and Emma Piazza; Sam and Linda Spears; John and Lynnette Edmunds; Gen and Mrs. Joe Stringham; General Kernan; John and Margie Mitchell; Mark Pentecost; Kevin Connell; Dick Stewart.

Roger and Linda Brown hosted a fabulous get together at their place in the country. Posted the colors – Enjoyed watching his cows lounge around in the swimming pool for cows (pond). Have included a few pictures from that get together.

Major (R) John E. Hurley III was inducted as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment. MAJ Hurley was a medic in 1st BN then went on to be the PA for 3rd BN. CSM (R) John Edmunds was also inducted. Inducted as an Honorary Member of the Regiment is Mr. Richard Eckburg. He is a driving force and staunch supporter of the 1st Battalion. Congratulations to MSG(R) Gil Berg — General Greb to all the old 1st Bn members. He was inducted as an honorary Member of the Ranger Hall of Fame. I well remember the days of carrying him on a litter thru the Fort Stewart swamps while walking thru CS. He appreciates being dumped in the mud (not); but we consider it payback for his not losing weight.

Contact has been established with Tommy Shook – He is resting in My Tho Viet Nam; after having spent many months in Iraq.

Heard from Rob Rush; retired in 1999 as a CSM; continued his education and now has his PhD – Working with the Department of the Army Center of Military History. I

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

appreciate all his help with my mortar problems before I went back to Special Forces. His email address is Robert.rush@hqda.army.mil

Congratulations to Bill Bullen on being elected as President of our Association. All units reported having a great time in Columbus at this year's rendezvous.

While Joe Caligiure was prowling around Hinesville, he found Ranger Richard D. Keener, former member of 2nd Bn, is the pastor of the "New Testament Christian Church"

in Hinesville. Anyone wishing to contact him; his church phone number is 912-368-4485. We have decided to adopt him as we need all the spiritual help we can get.

I've received no bids on the ground breaking shovels so far. These could be collectibles one day!! Or... You could use them to dig yourself out of the hole you find yourself in.

Until the next time, keep your head down; powder dry; and see you on the high ground.



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Nate Smith



The 2007 Association Reunion & Ranger Rendezvous

Where to begin...every year this seems to get bigger and better. More comrades from your particular period of service show up each year for the first time and there's all the friends made at previous reunions to meet and greet. This time was no different.



With new seminars, events and tours offered for 2007, there was never a time when you could say that you had nothing to do.

The first week home afterward was anticlimactic, with all the mendacity of 'normal' life, made me appreciate our community all the more.

First, some comments are in order. Once again, our association officers deserve a tip of the beret for all the hours

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

they put in to make this thing happen and to keep it running, sacrificing many hours of time with old comrades for meetings, laptop screens and ‘putting out the fires’.

The Holiday Inn North has bent over backward to accommodate us. Essentially, they turned over the facility to us for the week, with the only ‘interlopers’ being other guests who managed to make their reservations before many of us did. Several members volunteered time to help keep the place policed up & everyone cooperated in keeping the place from resembling a battle zone to begin with.

While the hotel isn’t perfect, the reunion committee reported that there simply wasn’t another place around that would take care of us like the Holiday Inn did. We were told that they will have renovated before 2009 so hopefully the place will be nicer and more convenient.

Of special note is that we were joined this year by the Ranger Battalions of WW2 Association. This was the first time that I ever met members of the original 2d Battalion, the men who led the way for the battalion I served in in the 1970s. Time spent with Rangers of the Greatest Generation was a high point of the week for many of us.

I hope RRA members made the most of this opportunity to connect with the founders of our modern heritage as this is one of the last reunions they’ll ever have, as time is remorselessly cutting their ranks.

Some noted authors appeared. Colonel (rtd) Robert Black, who wrote a number of important Ranger histories, was present, as was Robert Mason, author of the autobiography ‘Chickenhawk’. Chickenhawk was one of the first popular books about Vietnam to appear and remains the best seller of the Vietnam genre. Mr. Mason led the way for many a Vietnam warrior, including many of our own, to have their experiences published. Bob gave a seminar on writing your story with useful leads on getting published.

Patience Mason, Bob’s wife, is one of the leading writers on PTSD and veteran adjustment issues, made two presentations on PTSD, one for the Rangers, and another for the wives and families who live with their soldiers PTSD.

There was even a seminar on yoga and stress reduction for combat veterans, led by Mary Anne Colledge, she who ‘endures’ life with our association secretary, John Chester and so by extension, with all of us!

Something I noted this year is the mutual admiration of the Vietnam era LRP/Rangers and the young Rangers currently serving. Perhaps this is motivated in part by the common experience of sacrifice in increasingly unpopular wars with no apparent end. Many “old” warriors imparted hard learned knowledge to fresh Rangers, waiting for their first or second deployment to the wars.

For their part, many serving Rangers grew up in the Nineties reading the books written by their Vietnam forbears and credit the Sixties warriors for inspiring them to become Rangers today.

And now, without further ado, the highlights of the Columbus – Fort Benning Campaign of 2007...

The Regiment infiltrated Monday evening onto Fryar DZ led by a HALO insertion by a patrol from the Regimental Reconnaissance Company. The remainder of the non deployed elements of the Regiment followed in a mass tactical jump from the new C-17s, led by MC-130 Combat Talons.

Tuesday saw the Regimental Commander’s ‘state of the Regiment’ brief.

The Regimental Special Troops Battalion (‘Ranger STB’) was detailed to hold the equipment static display. This was like a trip into a ‘Ranger Toys-R-Us’, especially for the veterans of wars gone by. Today’s Rangers have such cool toys, and what’s more, the damn things are said to *work*. Not something Sixties and Seventies era Rangers could count on. Several young Rangers spent the morning kitted up as for a day out in the ‘Stans or downtown Iraq demonstrating the latest in commo, weapons and vehicles to an appreciative audience.

Regimental elements fought a number of competitions, from boxing, combatatives and stress shooting.

The Ranger Hall of Fame inductions were made and honors were presented to the WW2 Rangers Wednesday.

That evening hundreds sweltered in a hanger at the Regimental BBQ. While fresh 5-jump Privates awaiting the start of the next RIP course bussed the tables and pulled KP, the rest of us tied on the feedbag for some excellent chow, cold beers and camaraderie.

The mood was somber Thursday morning as the Association held a memorial service at the Ranger Memorial to honor our Fallen. Unit representatives read the names of their fallen comrades, every name from Vietnam to the previous week was read, followed by a Regimental Honor guard firing the salute and rendering ‘Taps’.

Later the Regiment passed in review and command was passed to former 1st Bn and RRD commander Col. Richard Clarke from Col. Paul LaCamera.

(see

http://www.thebayonet.com/articles/2007/08/17/community/awards_and_honors/awards01.txt).

Friday, several dozen Rangers and their ladies headed out

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

to Tuskegee, Alabama for some parachuting. A lot of men whose bones hadn't experienced a PLF in two or four decades hit the silk. Basic classes were given for cherry free fallers who had their first sport jump, although they still had to use static lines that first time out.

Still, a far cry from rushing the door with sixty-eight other madmen bearing rucksacks!

Some chose instead to experience freefall while snapped to an experienced HALO instructor in tandem jumping. Go for the ride and the instructor does all the work – parachuting *can* be fun.

I overheard one wife say that she got in two jumps, doubling the fun!

I don't believe that this was an 'official' Association reunion event, but it was great to have the opportunity.

(Hey, active duty Rangers: how about some range time in '09 with some of those new shootin' irons!?)

Come Saturday morning the association business meeting passed with a minimum of bloodshed and mayhem. Decisions arrived at and the new officers elected are covered in the opening article. Many attendees are said to be recovering well.

But seriously...

A theme brought up that bears repeating here is a basic Ranger tenet: You see something that needs doing or have a good idea; don't wait for the Association to do it – man up and do it yourself. We all are the Association and are needed to make this brotherhood function. If you have an idea or suggestion and really aren't in a position to follow though, by all means, pass it along to the appropriate unit director or association officer.

The best thing otherwise is to just 'git-r-done'.

Another subject is membership. We need new blood, young and old. Met another Ranger at work or the VFW? Sign him up.

Involved in one of the Ranger forums on the internet? Then place a link to the Association website in your tagline & prod the other posters to join up.

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

Growing our association is everyone's responsibility.

Finally, another great feed at the Columbus Ironworks for the banquet. Joe Galloway was the guest speaker. Joe co-wrote "We Were Soldiers Once..." and is the sole civilian to earn a Bronze Star Medal with V device for valor. He held to the guest speakers Rule #1: Make your speech like a woman's dress: long enough to cover the essentials and short enough to be interesting. I can't comment on his content. As he began to speak, it was my table's turn to get in line to be served and he finished up as we returned to our table.

The World War Two Rangers received a five minute

ovation at one point. It was an honor to have them with us this time; hopefully, the Korean War Rangers will see fit to join us as well in 2009.

Throughout the reunion, a steady undercurrent ran through the garden and hotel common areas as Rangers met, reunited, made new friendships and bonded with the old.

Bonds were formed between the generations, experiences traded, skills and tips exchanged.

I left recharged, almost willing to face civilian co-workers for just a little while longer and already looking forward to the next northeastern Ranger linkup to tide me over until 2009.

Some good video of reunion events has reached the internet. Check YouTube for an official Army release (actually pretty cool) and a Columbia newspapers coverage – there's some familiar faces in that one, especially for the denizens of the armyranger.com forums. That reporterette knew how the find the more photogenic amongst us, right Ron?

Links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McS5LmA6a4A>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuSCDwMynN8&mode=related&search=>

Until 2009...

Ranger Kevin Ingraham

Any corrections, comments and especially proper IDs of the Rangers in the photos, please contact Kevin at kingraham@stny.rr.com

By: Rich Hecht

2/75 had two KIA this past August. We lost Cpl. Kessler in Iraq and Spc. Libby in Afghanistan. RIP

Rangers.RELEASE NUMBER: 070802-06

DATE POSTED: AUGUST 2, 2007

PRESS RELEASE: Army Ranger killed in Iraq

U.S. Army Special Operations Command FORT LEWIS, Wash. (USASOC News Service, August 1, 2007) — An Army Ranger assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, here was killed while engaged in combat operations July 30. Cpl. Jason M. Kessler, 29, of Mount Vernon, Wash., was killed when the tactical vehicle he was riding in was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in northern Iraq. Kessler volunteered for military service and entered the Army in January 2005. After completing One Unit Station Training, Basic Airborne Course and the 75th Ranger Regiment's Ranger Indoctrination Program training at Fort Benning, Ga., he was assigned to 2nd Bn., 75th Ranger Regiment in August 2005. Kessler was a graduate of Mount Vernon Christian High School in Mount Vernon, and he graduated with a

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (CONTINUED)

bachelor's degree in biblical studies from The Master's College, Santa Clarita, Calif. He was a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

His awards and decorations include the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, and Ranger Tab.

Kessler was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

He is survived by his parents, C. Michael and Pamela K. Kessler, his brother Mark, and his sister Katelyn all of Mount Vernon, and his long-time girl friend Erin Jacobson of Kirkland, Wash. **Services were held on August 9th and were attended by a number of local Rangers and an Honor Guard from 2/75. His service was held the same day as the Ranger Memorial was held at Ft. Benning during this years' Rendezvous.**



**2nd Batt Omaha Beach vets
James Hudnee & Al Rustabakke**

RELEASE NUMBER: 070822-04

DATE POSTED: AUGUST 22, 2007

PRESS RELEASE: Army Ranger killed in Afghanistan

U.S. Army Special Operations Command FORT LEWIS, Wash. (USASOC News Service, August 22, 2007) — An Army Ranger assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, died of injuries sustained from a non-combat related incident. SPC George V. Libby, 23, of Aberdeen, N.C., died on Aug. 20 in the vicinity of Khowst, Afghanistan.

The cause of the incident is under investigation. Libby enlisted in the Army in March 2005 and has been assigned to the Ranger Regiment since completing basic training and the Regiment's Ranger Indoctrination Program training at Fort Benning, Ga., in Sept. 2005. He is survived by his wife, Valorie Avent Libby of Tacoma, Wash.; mother, Nell E. Allen of Aberdeen; father, Thomas M. Libby, Jr., of North Carolina; and a brother and sister, Ira Allen Libby and Rebecca A. Allen of Aberdeen.



**Monday afternoon. We weren't in the
hospitality room 2 minutes before the
first coin check hit the table.**



**The 2d Battalion Rangers shown here at the reunion banquet
represent almost the entire history of the modern battalion.**

**LtoR: SGM Rocky Shiffer - the first EM to sign into the
resurrected 2d Bn; Peter Parker; Kevin Ingraham; (UID),
Jason Hudson, ((UID), Rudy Teodoshio; Larry Jordan,
Mark McDermott, Steve Mattoon, Mike McKinney.**



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Scott Billingslea



BY: Scott Billingslea

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Scott Billingslea and I have recently volunteered for, and been given the distinct honor of representing and serving the men, both past and present, of 3/75.

From December 1991 to August 1995, I spent every single day in 1st Platoon, Alpha Company, 3rd Ranger Battalion. I graduated from class # 10-93. After I got out, I moved to Texas. I live in the Dallas/Fort Worth area with my wife and 3 children.

One of the biggest things I hope to accomplish in this position is to increase the membership of this Association and use it as a vehicle to get Rangers back in touch with old buddies. I have been lucky in that the last year or so, and I can tell you the experience has been cathartic. For those of us that left the Regiment and moved into the private sector, finding old Ranger buddies is like winning the lottery. Josh Gamboa (2/75 97'-05'), who now teaches ROTC at the University of Texas, invited a number of Rangers to a football game last November. I think the final headcount was 14. Keep in mind that hardly any of us had met in person before, but had met at a website made for and by Rangers. As I made the 3 hour trip South with Ranger Wesley Jurena (1/75 87'-93'), it was immediately apparent that the Scroll is an incredible common denominator. Here I was on a trip with a Ranger I had never met, driving to link up with another Ranger neither of us had met, and when we all finally got together, it was like being back in the dayroom again. I have been to a number of linkups since then, and they have all been similar in that regard. I



have had the opportunity to meet Rangers that served at Desert One, Grenada, Panama, Desert Storm, Somalia and the GWOT. This Brotherhood we all belong to is impressive, but you have to tap into it. If you're looking to reconnect but don't know any Rangers in your immediate vicinity, let me know. I may know of someone in your AO. One of the things I will be working towards is creating a 3/75 database of POC information.

Another critical mission is to support the men currently serving in 3/75 and their families. This is an honor I take very seriously. If you know of someone that the 75th RRA can help, please contact me. I'll talk more about this in the next issue.

In closing, I want to thank Ranger Bill Dodge for his service as the 3/75 Unit Director. His guidance and experience will be invaluable for me in the days and weeks ahead as we make a transition. Thanks Bill for all your hard work. You've left big boots to fill, but I'm looking forward to the challenge.



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

Unit Director - Bill Bohte



Reunion 2007

It looks like the Reunion was a success to the eyes of this remote observer. From the pictures and email comments I have received there was a great turnout and a good time was had by all.

From a count of the sign in sheet there were 24 members that signed in, but again not everyone signed on the list. The largest participation coming from the V Corp. LRRP part of the unit, shown in this photo from Paul Edwards.



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



From the left standing:

Bill Gross, Jack Moore, Bob Murphy, Everett Grady, Paul Edwards, Chuck Joyce, Don Marah, Glenn Rucker, Henry Lightfoot, Stan Harris, and Chet Smith.

Kneeling from left:

Leon Roy, Bob Clark, Lee Farley and Ron Bishop.

Many of these smiling faces were accompanied by their wives and I hope they enjoyed the week also. One of the old LRRP guys to be found was John Jersey who did not make the picture but hangs his hat with the 173rd contingent of N/75. Chet Smith making his first trip to a Georgia reunion said he had a great time and the reunion was organized well. His only disappointment was the loss of the older ties on the shirts. He says there was no mention of the LRRP, LRP and BDQ units on the logos. Not being a Ranger he would not wear his. While this is a common thought from many and I have not seen the shirts I would hope that it's the 75th RRA that is depicted on them and I think it's history should be included.

Roy Bissey and his wife Robin drove down from Wyoming and I have included a couple of emails that he sent me that better tell the story of his time there.

Aug. 10th

Well, for all you who didn't, couldn't, wouldn't or otherwise ain't here, it's been a hoot. Went to Tuskegee, Alabama today and made static line and tandem jumps until the sun went down. Roy Barree, Beatle Bailey, Robin Bissey, Roy Bissey, women, children, WWII Rangers and old LRRP's made the effort. Buddy Blue's skydiving troops made a hell of a show and packed a lot of chutes in 100+ degree Alabama heat to accommodate us. One of the jumpmaster's final comments at 2100 hours was "y'all just about kicked our ass today...almost". Only bad part of the day was Lee Farley of the V Corps LRRP's crashed and hurt himself to an unknown extent. He was airlifted, I assume to Montgomery and a call from his wife later indicated he will "be in the hospital for a few days". We hope he did not break anything too seriously. Report to follow. Cantrell showed for a day on Wednesday, was good

to see him, meet the "good lookin' gal" (and that ain't no shit) and the five perfectly behaved grandkids. RH1H OUT

Aug. 11th

Holy crap-a-rony boys, ran into Herbie and Country Owens tonight at the banquet. They're even still recognizable. Bob Cantu was around all week and he even cleans up pretty good when he goes out in public. And the other lucky pick of the week? Went to Commando Supply Outfitters on Victory Drive this afternoon, Roy Barree wearing his A/75th Tee and a jarhead cover with an A/75th scroll. A short guy with a big mustache walks up and taps him on the back. The Baby Lieutenant Garrett was in town preparing for another trip to Afghanistan. Got pictures, will post when I ain't using this slow assed motel computer. RH1H

Some of those mentioned by Roy did not make the sign in sheet. Terry Roderick made it as usual but he hangs with the P Co. group. Ted Tilson from the Ft. Hood period was listed but I don't know if anyone saw him and Larry Stotts was there from the company's time in Germany yet I have not heard if anyone had run into him. This was a good turnout guys and it sounds like everyone had a great time.

As of Aug. 17, Lee Farley reports he is doing well. He does not have much pain and feel pretty good in general.

Sick Call

On July 16 we got word that Betty Carlton, wife of one of the early COs of the company Norm Carlton was in a head on collision and in critical condition. After more than 15 days in ICU and reconstructive surgery, Betty is hanging in there. Get well Betty, this Band of Bandits is pulling for you. Sandy Bohte went into the hospital with pancreatitis and came out minus a gallbladder. She is recovering well.

Mini in the Meadow

By Mike Cantrell

A75 just completed their semi annual meadow trip in April near Whiteleyville, Tennessee.. Among the attendees were, Mike Fisher, Red Herman, Stan Jones, Mike Cantrell, Mark Carlisle, Stan's dog Roscoe the sheltie, Fisher's dogs Chia and CC, and Red's new blue healer mix, along with my not so well behaved border collie/ Australian Sheppard cross, maxie. I think Red's dog's name was Sadie. Red was accompanied by his son and Mike Fisher by his nephew. Red's son and his buddy were just in from one of the sand boxes, both on the E7 list and those were two fine specimens of professional soldiers and warriors I would have been proud to serve with. If these two guys were any indication of our present day special operations forces, we are in good hands. Red's son is also a fine young man. Mike Fisher's nephew is looking like a potential Ranger candidate; it took Mike a few trips to talk him out of being a Navy Seal. It is really ironic that we found ourselves

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around the fire, watching these two young NCO's shoot and telling them they would soon be the old guys sitting around the fire. It really does not seem that long ago we were in their shoes, makes you wonder how life passes by so fast. We pulled out a lot of weapons and ice chests, did a lot of shooting, drank a lot of beer and shot a lot of bull. Mike brought his famous wursts from a meat shop in Chicago, Red cooked his delicious marinated chicken and we all had a great time. Seems somebody crashed into one of the chairs and had a spill, last trip someone came out of Red's camper at o dark thirty and did not bother opening the door on the way out. No one has fessed up to either crime as of today. Among the missing this trip were Roy Bissey, Mark Bowen, Bain Smith, William Bowman Tom Wier, Fred Stuckey, Raymond Nolen, Wade Peterson, Tom Adamson, Rocky Burke, Mark Hallmark, Thomas Kampass, Mike Diegel and a score of others whose faces I remember but names have slipped my mind at the present. We lifted one for all the light weights that did not show and all the guys who have passed on. Mr Carlisle was a gracious host, as usual, allowing us all to congregate on his property in beautiful Tennessee. We are all looking forward to the October trip.

Mike Cantrell
A75
Ft Hood, Texas
1972-1974

A Post Script by Stan regarding an antique in the arsenal.

Stan Jones brought his WW2 Jap relic, a 7.7 Arisaka that had the 1st 3 rounds fired by an American, were sent down range by an active duty special operations forces troop. For having been stored in a closet for the last 60+ years, I was impressed that it shot right on the money.

Stan



Ol Warriors and their Beasts

Mike Cantrell and Maxi from a prior meadow trip.

Memorial in Ohio

In 2002, when I was the local VFW Commander, one of our members donated about 5 acres of land to the Village of Richwood Ohio for a an extension to the local park. His stipulation was to have the adjoining street named Veterans Way. The land is next to the lake and park.

A portion of the land is now a Pony League Baseball Diamond and the remainder is an area about 400' long by 100' wide dedicated to a memorial for local veterans of all Wars.

At the time of the donation, I asked my Junior Vice Commander to chair the committee for a memorial. I did not stipulate any rules, because I was not certain just what would be appropriate. She, named Gail, is a retired SMGT from the USAF with 24 years of service.

She put together a planning board consisting of committees for, fund raising, design, financing and an executive board. We were all challenged to be fund raisers. There was no monetary limit, just a starting point. She contacted builders, monument companies, architects etc. The first design was prohibitive in costs. The plan was scaled down and was finally at a point that the costs were within reason.

After nearly 5 years of fundraising we have raised \$98,000. The money was raised through selling bricks (pavers), getting donations, having coin canisters throughout the Village, etc. Also we had a big garage sale and had other fundraisers. Gail even conned her husband into selling some of his collectables to raise money and sold raffle tickets on his second car that raised additional funds.

In September 2006, I mentioned on our web site I was involved in the memorial project, and our V Corps LRRP's donated enough money to purchase a 16" X 16" Granite Star. The Star is within the Circle of Honor, which has only the bricks dedicated to individual veterans. If you ever happen to visit Richwood Ohio, you will find this black granite star that has the inscription "V CORPS LRRP" "AIRBORNE BANDITS".

The entire memorial consists of about 6000 bricks. In the Circle of Honor are about 600 engraved bricks with the names of the veterans. The sidewalk leading to the Circle of Honor has bricks with the names of non-veterans and others who wanted to donate to the Memorial. Just recently, the 3 and 1/2 ton Monument is now in place and dedication is scheduled for the Fourth of July 2007.

The landscaping project is ongoing and plans are underway to continue that venture as time passes. Completing the entire site may take some time.

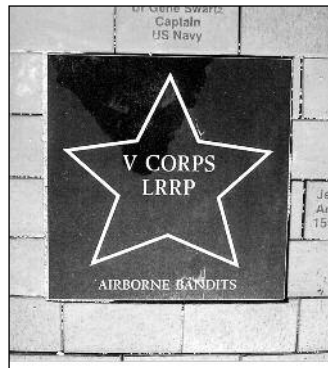
A/75 - D/17 LRP - V CORPS LRRP (CONTINUED)

I'm more than excited when I think of this small village and the surrounding townships residents that took it upon themselves to recognize All Veterans of All Wars and All Veterans in Peacetime. It does the Heart "Good".

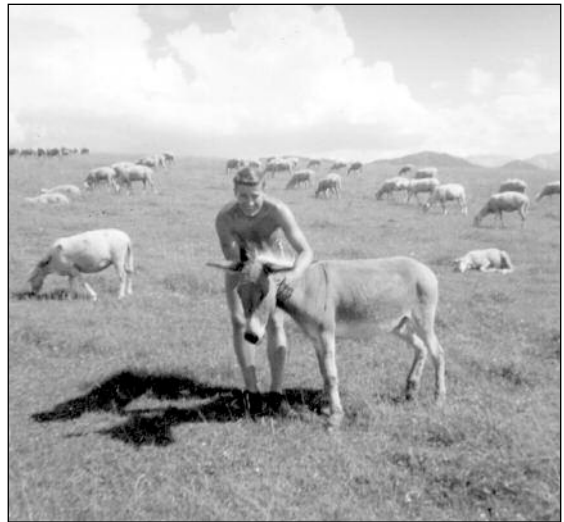
Jack A Moore U S Army (Ret)
V Corps LRRPs 1965 to 1968



Star at the Richwood Veterans Memorial donated by the V Corp LRRP.



Out of the past



Vacation in Bavaria? No this is Bob Clark in Bavaria at German Ranger School. Leave it to those Germans. Circa 1962.
Look for Bob in the reunion picture



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

Unit Director - Mark L. Thompson

VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Report

On August 6, 2007, the VII Corps LRRP Co (ABN) Assn. began infiltrating Columbus, GA, to partake of the festivities of the 75th RRA Ranger Rendezvous at Ft. Benning. The early arrivers saw the regimental mass jump at Fryar DZ, while others straggled in over the next few days. The weather for the week was a smothering 100-degrees F. plus, although it cooled to a milder 95-degrees at night. As usual, the 75th RRA agenda offered plenty of activities and, also as usual, we created some of our own. Jim Jackson, our indigenous point man, did a great job of arranging our accommodations and significant events. This year we had 21LRRPs turn out, one of the largest groups present. We got a lot of praise for our distinct maroon shirts, berets and other LRRP headgear, and were frequently complimented for the esprit de corps we maintain. The LRRP attendees were: Col (RET) Ellis ("Call me Bing"), Bingham and his daughter Jacqui, John and Cheryl ("Call me Quartermaster") Visel, Steve Lengel and his friend Kaylene, Zeke and Jane Evaro and grandson Christian, Jim and Genny Jackson, Stuart "Workhorse" and Diane Lane, Tom and Diane Lake, Kirk and Sally Gibson, Joe Touchon, Dom Manio, Nazario Aviles, Bill Hill (if it were a golf tournament, he would certainly have won long drive – from Utah!), Rick "Fatback" Hathaway, Richard

"Bluto" Black, John DeCosta, Jim Beecher, Richard "Boss" Foster and newcomers Joe Miles and Toby Ivey. We were also pleased to have with us Randall S. Malichi, son of LRRP (KIA) Bobby Malichi, and his two cousins, Darryl and Ronald Thomas.

On Wednesday evening, Jim Jackson wrangled an invitation for us to join Ranger Roger Brown at his nearby ranch for barbecue and refreshments. That was a great alternative to the mass mess at Lawson Airfield, as it was really hot over there. The trees and lake at Ranger Brown's greatly eased the pain of the heat (as did the beer). Thursday was our traditional jump day, once again at Buddy Blue's "Little Drop Zone" over in Tuskegee, AL. In all, six LRRPs jumped this year, Bingham, Gibson, Hill, Hathaway (four freefalls!), and Stuart Lane with an antique Paracommander and front-mounted reserve, from which



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

the riggers were expecting moths! And Toby Ivey jumped for the first time in over 42 years – and the SE grin is still all over his face!



Bingham, Fatback and Ivey suited up with Jumpmaster Bobby.

family to meet and share stories with the LRRPs. He said it gave him better insight to the life of his father, who was killed when Randall was quite young, and brought a sense of closure to his memory. That sure raised an Adam's apple or two, and strengthened our pride as VII Corps LRRPs.



Zeke Evaro remembers past LRRPs

passed unanimously to donate 10% of our treasury to Fisher House, as in the past.

Then we met at the Hospitality Suite with Mark Thompson, Unit Director of B/75 to chat about common issues such as better communications, especially regarding *Patrolling* magazine. Mark will give us better notice of deadlines for future quarterly issues, so we can again get our two cents' worth in.

On Saturday, some had to leave, while others found interesting things to do both on and off post. Diane Lane had Stuart take her out to Warm Springs, in search of the elusive praline. Kirk and Sally Gibson also went there, to visit the Warm Springs health facility that Franklin D. Roosevelt built and frequented in his effort to cure his polio. Kirk's father also had had polio as a young boy, and was treated there with FDR. Bluto (Call me "punctual") Black enticed Fatback Hathaway to leave for the Atlanta

airport right after lunch, to avoid any unforeseen difficulty in getting there. There was no traffic, and they had a couple of hours to kill, so they remained in the Hertz Car Rental lounge rather than fight the masses at the airport bar, and held an impromptu meeting with a Mr. Daniels ("Call me Jack") of Kentucky. He was very friendly to them, and convinced them to stay long enough to miss their plane!

The LRRPs disbanded after Saturday evening's Ranger Dinner, during which we were well represented at the raffles, highlighted by Cheryl Visel's TWO winning tickets for the two raffled magnums of wine, and a final social hour at the hospitality room. We broke camp on Sunday a.m. and filed our good memories for reunions to come. May we all keep our health, that we shall be together again.

God Bless Our Troops

B/75 UNIT REPORT

2007 Reunion

I'm writing this during and immediately after the 2007 Ranger Rendezvous and 75th RRA reunion in Ft. Benning Georgia. The reunion was well attended (don't have the final numbers yet from John Chester, but we believe it went well).

I assume that there will be plenty of coverage elsewhere in this issue of the magazine about changes to the officership of the Association and official 75th RRA business, so I will cover only things which apply to the unit, or are of general interest.

Unfortunately, I am not always able to report firsthand on all the activities which occur during the reunions, since the registration desk and sales of association goods occupies a good deal of my time. I rely therefore, on reports from other members, and firsthand observations of the events I am able to attend.

A partial list of those who attended from VII Corps and B Company follows:

For B/75(alphabetically): Eldon Bargewell, Dave Cummings, Mike Hines, Jim Jackson, Steve Murphy (and his son), Gary O'Neal, Larry Rapp, Sam Snyder, Marc Thompson, Dave Walker, and Doc Wentzel.

For VII Corps:

Kirk Gibson, John Visel, Joe Touchon, Ellis Bingham, Steve Lengel, Dick Foster, Theo Knaak, John DeCosta, Tom Forde, and Richard Black. I know there were more VII Corps members in attendance, but as I write this I am out of the state, and can't access other information, so will supplement the list in the next issue.

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

Several of the VII Corps LRRP's made parachute jumps on either Thursday or Friday, as well as some of the World War Two Rangers who were in attendance.

We'd like to thank Cheryl Visel and Kevin Ingraham for their assistance in taking pictures of the VII Corps and B75 members together, posted in this article.

UNIT MEETING

VII Corps elected a new president to replace Kirk Gibson, who has held the post for 4 yes, and must step down according to their bylaws. We also had a "get-to-know-each-other" meeting of the B Company attendees and VII Corps LRRP's. We will cooperate on submissions for the Ranger Hall of Fame, the addition of stones for VII Corps to the Memorial, intra-unit communications, and website enhancements. Steve Murphy, Larry Rapp, and Gary O'Neal were not able to attend the meeting since Charlie Rangers were having their unit meeting at the same time, but were there by proxy.

We want to thank Steve and Marilyn Mattoon personally for their assistance in helping us travel to the various events I was able to attend, and hosting the B Company and 2nd Battalion Hospitality Room Table, so our wandering members would have a home to return to. We did manage to take over a thousand photos for John Chester for the magazine, so we know he'll have fun plowing through all those.

We all regret that Stan Harrell was not able to attend due to a personal emergency, and that Mary Hines had to dispatch Mike by himself to attend to her father after a heart attack. Our best wishes go out to both families. Updates to follow.

Recruitment for the Association

Larry Jordan (of 2nd Battalion, who attended his first reunion this time), suggested that we attempt to recruit as many of the active duty Rangers as possible while we were at Ft. Benning. E4's and below are able to join for free the first year, and as a result of Larry's suggestion and Dave Cumming's copying of the applications, we were able to

recruit quite a few new members. Numbers to follow as we are able to get this edition published and all the new applications processed.

RANGER MEMORIAL STONES

One of the functions conducted during the reunion was the memorial service for the fallen Rangers of all the units, at the Ranger memorial itself.

Included in this article is a photo of the stones we purchased for CSM Gooden, CSM Schmidt, and CSM Haugh. There are still stones to be added from VII Corps, and as soon as we have definitive information concerning these, I will forward it to you all and include it in the future issues. Again, anyone wishing to help defray the cost of these stones may contact me, Doc Wentzel, or John Henry Voyles.

Website

Dave Regenthal should have posted the photos for both VII Corps and B75 by the time you read this, along with the updated company roster. If you want a copy of the current unit contact roster, please contact me directly, and I will provide you with one.

Email

Please check the Unit Director's email address to make sure you have the correct one:

T out.

Marc Thompson

mthomp@dejazzd.com





C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director - Chuck Vaughn



As I am writing this article, I am looking forward to the upcoming reunion. Getting together with the old gang is a high point in my life, but this year is going to be very special for me.

We all remember the Kit Carson scouts that became part of many of the teams. In team 2-2 we had a South Vietnamese Ranger, SSG Nguyen Van Trinh, who volunteered to be in our team, after he was brought in an interpreter for the company at that time. We ran many missions together, and saw enough action to make us very close.

When we parted, he asked me, "Please don't forget me." I have wondered for years if he survived, or not, after the fall. Well, I got a call from Cal Rollins back in June of this year asking me if I knew a guy named Trinh, that he was looking for me on our web page. Of course, it was the same Trinh that I had not heard from in almost forty years (Talk about a Blast from the Past).

We have been catching up on each other's lives. It was great to find out that in fact he did survive. He hid from the commies for about a year before they found him, then he was placed in a camp for another year. Since that time he has managed to raise 8 kids, even with that government breathing down his neck.

Working with Cal, we have managed to get him and his wife a visa, and they will be at this year's reunion at Benning. I have attached a few photos of Trinh to this article, one from Nam in 1968, and one more recent. From the look on his face, it looks like he has kept his good humor.

We are hoping that we can find a way to get them resettled here in the US. I'm really praying we can make it happen. Anyone that can possibly help in this endeavor, please contact either myself, or Preacher.



This issue's profile is on one of the greatest guys we have in our unit. Cal Rollins, better known as Preacher, has done so much to provide us with a great web page, and he is always there to lend a helping hand to any of the brothers and sisters in our unit.

Cal (**Preach** to those who know him) is of course our secretary, who does an outstanding job in that capacity. He is one of the "crusty old dudes" who was there in the

beginning of Echo Company. I got to know Cal working hand in hand with him since I was assigned Unit Director, and it has been a pleasure working with him.

I believe this profile is served better coming from Cal himself, in his own words, so I coaxed him into sending me the following:



"In 1966 I dropped out of college to join the Army. Went to Basic for a new basic group (Airborne Basic) Ft. Campbell KY, then Airborne AIT at Ft. Gordon, GA, Jump School at Benning, then Campbell again, then Nam.

I was first assigned to 1st BGD (Separate) 101st ABN DIV, HHC 2/502 Recondos, MACV Recondo School in early 67. I happened to have a home boy at USSF in Nha Trang, a Major A.J. "BO" Baker, who put me in contact with a Major who was forming up a new LRP unit, Major Dandridge 'Mad Mike' Malone.

Mad Mike introduced me to the biggest guy I had ever met, a 1SG Frank Moore, who told me he would be waiting for me...I didn't sleep for a week when I went back to the 101st.

In July of 67, Mad Mike and Frank came back to the 101st recruiting more bodies and the Major told me to "pack my stuff." I went with him back to MACV RS."

I stayed at MACV RS during the training of the first four platoons of the original Echo LRP's (attached photo) and finally went to Echo Company in October of 67.

In late November, or early December of 67, I was sent to B Co Omega Recon. There were several of us who went. I stayed there until December 68, when I was medivaced out of country (Never had the opportunity to say so long to anyone).

I was then 'Medically Retired' as a SSG in May of 69. I came home and went back to college, and received my degrees in Electrical and Civil Engineering.

I worked until 2000 when my left leg/knee and right ankle came apart, so I was forced to retire from the work force.

I am at 100% total and permanently disabled now, and drawing my SS Disability. I have four beautiful grown

C/75 - E/20 LRP (CONTINUED)

daughters ages 36, 31 and 30 (twins) with four grandsons.

I am currently serving as Secretary of E20-C75TH Rangers since May 2006.

Love every minute of it.”



PHYSICAL M-16

I love my weapon. I hold it dear. I trust to it, my life, my blood.

None other can compare in prize, or be attractive to my eye.

Its body firm and cold and black; matte colors adorn it front to back.

Lying, resting in my grasp: awaiting life to spring at last, when called to Action, with a Rat – tat – tat!! And belching flame upon my foe, to slam him Hard and bring him low.

I love my weapon. I hold it near. I trust to it my life, my blood.

Its body firm, and cold, and black; matte colors adorn it front to back.

I do my part, I clean, I brush. I feed it daily bright shiny brass.

With joy I heft it all day long; a comfort to me like a song.

When dusk, then darkness, then stars all bright, usher in the jungle night.



When terror would have me for his own, to shake my body to the bone.

When fright would chill the blood in me, my weapon speaks, its talks, you see.

“Fear not, it whispers in silent tone,

I’m here with you, you’re not alone.”

“Just touch me, feel me, and hold me tight; together we shall face the night.

You need no other, when I am here, I’ll protect you, you need not fear.

Just hold me close and keep me clean, brush me, feed me bright shiny brass.

Your fears shall vanish, with my muzzle blast. Most lethal is my voice, my thunder;

My flaming breath will reap asunder, the terror of the jungle night;

Just keep me close, and hold me tight.”

Jet black the darkness, jet black the night. The jungle moans it’s songs of fright,

To sap from me my will, my soul, I cannot let it take its toll.

I touch my weapon, I feel it’s form, and pray that I shall see the morn.

It whispers back to my caress:

“Devotion, love, and constant care, is my demand to see you there.”

It’s body firm and cold and black; matte colors adorn it front to back.

And through this nightmare of suspense, I trust to it my life, my blood.

What madness grips my soul, my bones, when in the darkness, my weapon groans:

“I’m here with you; you’re not alone;”

“I’m here with you; you’re not alone.”

Chessy Cat



D/75

Unit Director - Richard “Herd” Nelson



Well another successful reunion has come and gone and everyone had a great time. We had 14 members of Delta company 75th Infantry regiment sign in on the roster for this reunion, and several of these rangers brought their wives with them. For three of these families it was their first 75th Ranger Regiment Reunion attendance.

Ed (Maddog) Krause and his wife Janice flew down from Wisconsin this was their first attendance. We located them after our last reunion, and were very happy they could attend. Maddog served in the second platoon and was an M-60 gunner and team leader. He transferred to L Company after D company deactivated.

Tom Delaney and his wife Janice drove over from Fayetteville N.C. They have attended several reunions. Tom was my team leader on team 3-5. Tom remained in the service when he came home and had a long and distinguished career. After he retired from the Army he

took a civil service job at Ft. Bragg and will retire from that job next year.



Marc (Moe) Lamphere & his wife Cindy flew in from South Dakota and this was their first Ranger reunion attendance. We also located them after the last reunion. Moe is currently a fencing contractor & Volunteer Fireman. They almost lost their home the month before the reunion due to the huge brush fire in South Dakota that made national news. He was in the third Platoon and carried an M-60. He transferred to C Company when we deactivated.

Daniel (Winter) Hughes was in attendance with his wife Diane. They drove over from South Carolina. At the time of the writing of this article he was in the hospital recovering from knee surgery. Daniel carried an M-60 while with the Rangers; seems like all of us who carried the M-60 have both knee and back problems now. He was one of the troops who

D/75 (CONTINUED)

remained behind when D Company 151st went home. He was able to return to the world on Christmas Day of 69.

Bill (Fitz) Fitzgetrald drove down from upstate New York. Fitz was the ATL for team 3-5 & carried both an M-16 and



an M-79 to the field. He was severely wounded on our last mission with D Company before we deactivated and spent more than a year in the hospital recovering from those wounds. Later he

became an US Marshall where he had a long and distinguished career. He retired before the last reunion and this was his second attendance.

Frank Park came down from NE Pennsylvania, where he still works for the US Postal service. He served in the 1st platoon team 1-5 and carried both an M-16 & an M-79 to the field. When he returned to the world he was stationed with the 82nd Airborne. Frank has attended every reunion since 1998.

Carl Norris call sign Warlord 1-6 and his wife Rosie drove over from Arizona. We are all honored that Carl still cares enough for us that he is willing to attend our reunion. I have a special love for this pilot as he medivaced me out of Cambodia after I was injured on the infill. This was their second attendance at our reunion; He also helped Bear with his articles for the patrolling magazine since Bear doesn't have a computer at this time. We all hope he continues to join us fore these great celebrations.

Ken Dern and his wife Linda drove up from Jacksonville Fl. Ken was the RTO on Team 3-5; he broke his foot on the same infill that I was injured on. He currently is a painting contractor in Jacksonville, and yes he still enjoys the occasional poker game. This was their second reunion attendance.

Mike Warren and his wife Sharon drove in from Kentucky. Since Mike is still serving our country as an Army reservist this was the first Ranger reunion he could attend. He had planned to attend the last reunion but received orders one month before we met and had to cancel. He has retired from his career as a mine inspector, but is now an advisor in the ROTC program at local college near where he lives.



Gary Olson Drove over from Ozark Alabama. Gary ran special ops missions with Delta Company, and after we deactivated he was transferred to the 173rd Airborne Brigade, although N Company didn't need any replacements so he was assigned to a different LRRP Company. While there he was wounded and medically retired. It was good to see him again especially to remind us of some of the crazy things we did over there.



Rusty Hawk's widow Lou & his son Shane came in from the west coast. Although they didn't sign in on our roster we still consider them members of the Delta company family. Rusty's son Shane made his first parachute jump at this reunion and we are all very proud of him. Frank Park presented him with a jacket that evening to honor this feat.

I drove up from Orlando Fl. This was my second reunion attendance. I was the M-60 gunner on team 3-5; Maddog



taught me how to pack my ruck when I got to Delta Company. Since I had transferred in from The 173rd Airborne Brigade I kept talking about the Herd a great deal and Ken Dern started calling me

Herd and the nickname stuck. I am currently retired due to the heart trouble I experienced after the last reunion. I was elected as unit director for the next two years. Since I had several health problems since the last reunion I was informed I was not allowed to die for at least two years and directed to lose 25 lbs per year before the next reunion. I was given a few sets of orders for awards and decorations that have people's names on them so I will try to locate some of these people over the next two years. One problem I will have is that some of the people I knew over there I only knew them by their nick name and not by their real name. If you have some one you want me to try and track down before the next reunion please contact me with as much information about them as you can and I'll try to find them through the internet for you. I am also going to try to find the official roster of D Company so we can get everyone's name on our web page.

Don Vic Viccaro, Billy Faulks & Steve Meade were also in attendance. Although I didn't get a lot of time with these three Rangers, I hope that changes before my term a unit director is over.

D/75 (CONTINUED)

Maddog, Fitz and Moe brought their photo albums with them, and I was able to scan those pictures into my laptop computer. Gary Olson also gave me a disc of his photos and I will get them posted on the D Company web page on the 75th Ranger Regiment Web site as soon as I finish editing them. There are some of these photos that we can't remember the names of the individuals in them, although we recognize the faces and in some cases where they slept in the barracks. After we get them posted I will inform everyone that has given me their contact info. If you recognize any of these Rangers please let me know so I can get their name on these pictures.

We all spent a lot of time reminiscing about the good old days when we felt ten feet tall and bullet proof; during these times the wives seemed to enjoy hearing about the exploits of their husbands 37 years ago. Many of the stories that were told were the funny things we did while we served with one of the best units in the Army. The wives seemed to bond with each other and made several new friends. I heard a couple of them say that they would never miss another reunion, because they had so much fun at this one.

There were several WWII Rangers in attendance, some were original members of the Merrill's Marauders, and some were members of Darby's Rangers. I have included a photo of these legends that I took during a photo opportunity at the banquet.

The weather in Georgia this time was extremely hot but didn't stop us from attending the functions that our Regimental Officers worked so hard to provide for us. The food at the Bar-B-Q out at Lawson Field was plentiful and very tasty. The memorial service at the Ranger Memorial was very moving. We also enjoyed the entertainment in the hospitality room on Friday night.

Although Dick Badmilk had planned to attend he had to change his plans at the last minute due to work, he is a school principal where he lives in South Dakota. We also missed Bear Papp who told me he just had too much on his plate to be able to attend this year as he was doing some remodeling on his house and couldn't get away. He also told me he would not miss another one as long as he was above ground and breathing. We certainly enjoyed the articles he wrote for the patrolling magazine during his term as unit director. That is why I agreed to accept the nomination as unit director at his request. I would just like to tell him mission accomplished. It is an honor to serve Delta Company again, and I hope we can find some more of our brothers before the next reunion.

RLTW

Richard (Herd) Nelson Out



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

Unit Director -Rick Stetson



Another reunion of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association is in the books and the reception given to the Rangers attending from all over the US and Canada was even warmer than the triple-digit temperatures that greeted us upon our arrival in Georgia. The blast of oven-like air at the Atlanta airport brought back memories of the sensation one had when stepping off a plane at Thon Son Nut in Saigon. One can only imagine what it must be like for our present-day soldiers who have to operate in Iraq under similar conditions while wearing body armor.

Due to assorted SNAFU's, my departure to Atlanta was delayed a day and then the schedule was further set back when we had an extended wait in Charlotte for a truck to top off the plane with jet fuel. It was comforting to know that Bob Copeland, past E Company unit director, was on the scene in Georgia



and as always, had everything under control. Bob read a roll call at the Ranger Memorial of our fallen E Company comrades and then at the business meeting, introduced a resolution to have the tan beret adopted as the official headgear of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Bob explained that half of the Association's members had never worn the black beret and pointed out that the percentage would continue to grow in the coming years. Those who have black berets, ball caps or other headgear distinctive to their units could continue wearing them to Association functions. I was bitterly opposed when the Army chief of staff decided to adopt the black beret to be worn by all soldiers, but I remember predicting that our active duty Rangers

would one day make the tan beret just as honored and coveted as the black beret, which has happened. The

E/75 - E/50 LRP (CONTINUED)

resolution will now be presented to the 75th Ranger Regiment commander who will have to sign off to make it official.



HQ display of K54 Pistol & Holster, taken off the KIA body of General Ny Trang Commander Military Region 111 who was ambushed by Ranger Mike Kentes on a Mission in the Plain Of Reeds, RVN, in the summer of 1969. LTC Albert C. Zapanta, former CO of E Company, 75th Infantry (Ranger) Abn., presented this weapon and holster to the Ranger HQ Display on 11 June 1987.



Static display, Ranger Regiment Open House.

wines and we were sharing some of our Nam experiences when it was announced that the group of men up front forming for a photo were WWII Rangers. Suddenly, the Rangers were surrounded by younger vets, many with cameras in hand, who wanted to get a good look at some of the men who had climbed the cliffs at Normandy. The Rangers, all of them well into their 80's or more, were still "standing tall and looking good." It was a honor to be in the same room with such distinguished warriors.



Static display, Ranger Regiment Open House.

The temperature outside was still well above 100 degrees as we entered the Columbus Convention and Trade Center for the evening banquet, but inside, everything was "cool, calm and collected" under the direction of outgoing president Steve Crabtree. One of the enjoyable aspects of attending a 75th Regiment reunion is the opportunity to meet

veterans from other units as well as interact with some of the Rangers serving on active duty. I was seated at a table with Vietnam veterans Doug Pye, a Canadian who served with lurps in the 82nd Airborne and Rufus Bacon who was in the 101st. Bob Copeland joined us after he had circulated among the tables selling raffle tickets for autographed bottles of



Static display, Ranger Regiment Open House.

Steve Crabtree told of a WWII Ranger who had fought at Anzio and then

served as a role model as he was growing up. Steve said it had been an honor to serve as the Association's president and then introduced Sandy Rouse who had lost a son during Operation Just Cause. Sandy said that the organization known as Gold Star Mothers is now called Gold Star Family as all family members are affected when a loved one is lost in battle.

Our featured speaker was Joe Galloway who co-authored with Lt.Gen. Harold "Hal" Moore, "We Were Soldiers Once...and Young." He said that



Static display, Ranger Regiment Open House.

instead of a speech, he wanted to "tell a few stories" and went on to describe being inserted into a LZ in the Ia Drang Valley when all hell broke loose. Galloway, a reporter, was hugging the ground trying to stay as low as possible when he felt a thud in his side. It was the boot of the battalion's sergeant major, Basil L. Plumley, a veteran of four combat jumps with the 82nd in WWII. Plumley looked down and said, "Sonny, you are not going to get any photographs while lying on the ground." The book about the battle went on to become a best seller and then was made into a movie so we were delighted when Galloway announced that he and Hal Moore had just finished a second book, "We Are Soldiers Still," which will be published in April.



Static display, Ranger Regiment Open House.



Helo Print Raffle at 75th Assn Ranger Banquet, (Print was won by Bob Copeland.

Galloway's remarks were enthusiastically received by the audience. He was followed by incoming president, Bill Bullen, who introduced the organization's officers and recognized the contributions of past presidents including E Company's Roy Barley, who was in attendance, and Rick Ehrler. Bullen went on to say the 75th Ranger Regiment Association could use additional membership, so if you are not already a member,



John Chester (75th Assn Secretary) and Steve Crabtree (Outgoing President 75th Assn) at Business Meeting

E/75 - E/50 LRP (CONTINUED)

you should consider joining. Patrolling magazine alone is worth the annual dues, not to mention the pride one feels when attending the Regiment reunions. The chance to meet Rangers who have served with other units is a great experience.



John Chester (75th Assn Secretary) and Lt. Phillip B. Piazza Merrill's Marauders (Assn President) at Ranger Memorial (Ed Note, Phil has always been one of my personal heroes. It's an honor to be in the same photo with him.)

The banquet concluded with John Chester conducting a raffle during which a number of nice prizes were given away. Copeland had the winning ticket for a framed print of a patrol moving off an LZ while a Huey flew overhead. After the banquet, a number of us adjourned to the hospitality room at the Holiday Inn where past battles were discussed late into the evening. While we were there, Cheryl Visel of Airborne Supply announced that a 75th Ranger Regiment Association auxiliary

was being formed. A sign-up list was passed around the room and a number of ladies present indicated they were interested in joining which is encouraging because as any member of the American Legion can attest, a well-functioning auxiliary can greatly contribute to the success of any organization. Those with a spouse or significant other who might be interested in an auxiliary and missed the sign-up list, can contact Cheryl at 208 Portage Lake Road, Munith, MI 49259 or by going on-line at: <http://www.AIRBORNESUPPLY.net>.

Before ending this transmission, I want to remind all E Company members to be sure and circle the dates of 14-18 May 2008 on your calendars. That's when our next unit reunion will be held in Colorado Springs. Jonesy has provided a link to the reunion on the E Company web site and as of this writing, 28 members have indicated they plan to be there. Mac reports that Colorado has a lot to offer so be sure and let Jonesy know if you can join us there. In the meantime, stay safe and remember, Rangers Lead the Way.



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

Unit Director - David Regenthal



Some years back Admiral James Stockdale, Jr. made the statement "Who am I and why am I here?" I'll skip the who, as more than a few of you know me, and speak to the "why."

At some point immediately prior to this reunion in Columbus my friend, Emmett Hiltibrand shared some of his thoughts regarding service to this organization and, more specifically, to our 25th Infantry Division brothers (1966 thru 1971). This immediately brought the question, "What can I do to help?" to the forefront of my thinking. Long story short, after 7 distinguished years as Unit Director Joe Little was moving up to become the 75th RRA 2nd Vice President and that created a vacancy.

So, I volunteered to attempt replacing him for the next term. There was sufficient support at the unit meeting for this so, for the next two years, here I am. Please understand that I am feeling something of a duck out of water but confident that with Joe's (and previous Unit Directors) counsel I will get the job done. I will thank you for your support in advance and hope that one of you will be ready



and willing to fill this slot when the next opportunity to serve opens up. Please be advised that you don't have to wait for a unit director vacancy to offer your services – there are many different types of contributions that any of us can make . . . My experience is that many of the best ideas come from unsung hero's in the crowd, so step up and/or fire at will!

Joe, Marshall, and myself have formed something of an ad hoc advisory committee to discuss and decide things on your behalf between reunion times when our general membership is unavailable. I personally like the idea of having three (or more) brains working on your behalf instead of just one. Gene Tucker has already volunteered to be our unofficial "XO" or "Go To" guy . . . I like

that a lot and intend on making great use of his generous offer – hopefully without wearing him out! At this stage of our lives it's probably a good idea to maintain a backup anyhow because you just never know.

I've asked Joe to continue his maintenance of our banking. His stewardship of company funds has been impeccable and this also serves continuity . . . so that's taken care of. Joe tells me there is something like \$3180 in the account, plus another

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

\$330 collected when we passed the hat in Columbus. I do not have the current liabilities but will make that information available in future issues (or the unit newsletter/website). I have requested that Heidi become an additional signature with the bank so that, again, we have back-up. This way those records are all under one roof, but can be reported (or otherwise available) as necessary. (please see Heidi's article in another section of this issue of Patrolling).

All of this leaves me to what I consider to be my primary responsibility as your Unit Director: Increasing communication. So how are we going to do that Dave? Good question! One thing we have decided is to resurrect our company newsletter. I don't know if it will be called the Pointman or something else but we'd like to get two issues out each year. This, of course, will only be a successful exercise if someone writes for it (duh). So consider yourself "on notice" that we'd like to hear from you with items of interest, stories, comment, and pictures for the newsletter. We can assemble and mail it but need content from you to make it go.

As a significant number of the wives/significant others, and children have begun to attend the reunions and various events with you . . . I think it's high time we heard from them as well. Let's face it—whether they've been your "rock" for thirty-some years or are new in that arena, many of them have valuable insights that ought to be shared with others in similar circumstance. (Please see a note from reunion "First-timer" Lynne Eberhardt near the end of our section). You go girl!

Information is continuously posted at the Association website (and guestbook). Our own LRRP.COM has been on-line for 11 full years now but could use some fresh material . . . pictures, comment, etc. Speaking of which, for those who are not aware, all of the After Action Reports (AAR's) we have collected have been on-line at LRRP.COM for some time now and are freely available to you. The bulk of this work (and expense) was on the efforts of Bill Mrkvicka with some backup by Joe Gentile. The AAR's are in the special "Members" section. If you don't already have a password or have forgotten what it is, simply e-mail me and we'll take care of that. The reason they are in a section not accessible to the rest of the globe is simple: Our names are on them—sometimes people were wounded or worse. I did not want to make it easy for Internet lurkers to spam us or otherwise have easy access to sending, "I knew your brother, son, etc." and am presently down on my luck (or need money).

Look for some new video on the website from this year's reunion. I have posted the memorial service on the association website already but plan on putting up parts of some short interviews we did so that people unable to

attend can at least see a couple of familiar faces. Anyhow, that website is yours—no part of the unit funds are used to maintain it. If you want to make it better, send in your stuff or just tell me how.

Marshall came up with a great idea for postcards . . . There may be times when we need to get the word out quickly. A unit postcard can accomplish this quickly, efficiently and without great cost. (and probably look pretty snappy on the refrigerator door).

What can you do? Oh, that's easy . . . If you move, or change e-mail address, let us know! There are forms on the website for this and you can also just send an e-mail or pick up the telephone. Bill Mrkvicka has tirelessly maintained the unit roster (also available on LRRP.COM) for something of the magnitude of 15 years now. At the 2005 reunion he requested that someone else assume this responsibility (with no takers). At the very least we can keep our information current—this will insure that you receive the word when we do a mailing, and make his job fractionally easier.

You can join (or renew) with the 75th RRA. This one couldn't be easier — through the association website. I understand that some people don't consider themselves to be "joiners" but, in my view if nothing else came with membership, the Patrolling Magazine alone would be worth the expense. If you simply don't have the funds please e-mail me and I will see that a solution is reached on your behalf (privately).

My personal favorite (and one I hope to see a lot more of), is to pick up the phone and call. There are probably many things you can do to increase effective communication within our membership . . . few will do more to increase the common good, your sense of well being and/or that of the person you contact.

I am going to re-double my efforts at telephone contact. No, I'm not going to waste phone minutes trying to drag someone to a reunion who is not going to come. In truth, I've had enough of that—they know where we are and how to find us. The message has always been clear, that "the door is wide open—we miss you and would really like to see you come." Hopefully before time runs completely out, they will.

I'm talking about calling a brother. Perhaps they weren't ready for that call a few years back (or I wasn't ready to make it)? I've been to the woods with some of you guys so there isn't a lot I have left to be afraid of in this life. Maybe they're not coming to the reunion(s), but they're still out there, some of them. I very much would like to (re)find Dwight Hampton . . . Even if I can't see them I'd sure like to hear Jesse Moreland or Randy Kemp's or (you fill in the blank) voice on the phone. Couple of bucks? Sure, but very few and money well spent.

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

The biggest part of the reunions (see upcoming reunion clips on LRRP.COM) is how much everyone that attends enjoys being re-connected. What you did in service of your country is no small deed. Many served—few in elite units such as ours . . . Let's talk.

I can't completely close this report without saying thank you to Joe Little. I also wish to acknowledge the efforts of past unit directors and persons whose contribution may be unknown to you (as it was their wish). I also wish to thank existing and present Association staff for all that they do . . . and on a personal note I would like to nominate John Chester for sainthood . . . the guy is unbelievably talented. How it is that he, and in a supporting role, his wonderful bride manage not to run out of energy amazes me.

I wish to express my humble gratitude to Duke, Roy's Barley and Boatman, and the others who worked so tirelessly to get this organization off the ground in the first place. Kudos also to Emmett and Crabs for their stewardship along the way.

Personal Note

Many of you knew Mr. Roy Boatman (and know that he passed on last year). I knew him too, though certainly not as well as his crew (or nearly as much as I would like to have). I will never forget Roy Boatman. He was a friend to all and a great role model both as an Association officer and a human being.

Part of what struck me about Roy is how he always remembered your name. I witnessed this time and again at various reunions . . . how he did that I will never know but it must have been important to him. Roy was exceedingly helpful to me during the infancy of the Pointman Newsletter and when I wanted to establish our LRRP.COM website. He was an incredible asset to the Association and a genuine friend and brother to each of us.

I am as certain as I can be that when each of us departs this life we will find that Mr. Roy Boatman has saved a place for us at the campfire, and he will know your name.

Well Guys it has been a great reunion with forty men from our unit poking in and out during the week.

My wife is hard to be around since she made two static jumps and has her own jump book. She reminds me of some of us when we completed jump school and we were calling everyone dirty no good legs. Yes we were somewhat arrogant at times.

Some might have gotten the word that I stepped out of the unit director position after about seven years.

As I reflect on those years all that comes to mind is it has been a great HONOR to have served a great bunch of men. Some of my personal goals were not met; however there were many that were.

I was humbled when Bobby took me down the Ranger Memorial after I completed the memorial service. I was looking for bricks we had ordered as a unit for those whom had fallen due to health problems. Bobby would not let me alone and it was very hot and humid and I was dripping wet. I started to drip from my eyes as he showed me a brick the unit members managed to keep secret from me that had my name engraved on it in the memorial walk way. Thank you all for the surprise. Yet when we held a unit meeting and I conducted some unit business for the last time Marshall had another surprise a laser cut wood plaque presented to me for my service. I mention this, because I was the one blessed with getting know so many over the years and humbled many times by everyone's willingness to help when asked; well sometimes they might have been reluctant.

I am sure David will be a very good unit director, and he will have the help of myself and Marshall to keep pointed forward.

Thank you very much for allowing me to serve.

RLTW

Joe Little

Searching for Hermann

So where do you look when you are looking for a "long lost" soldier? You can search the archives as we did at the Army War College in Carlisle, PA. There evidence of our lost soldier was in the archives for the 25th Infantry Division Folder. It was a picture of him receiving an engraved K-Bar from General Westmoreland for being the Honor Graduate of MACV Recondo Class # 1.

We have done internet searches; we searched the rolls of various veterans' organizations, read books about the war in Vietnam. Searched Army records and all we found were bits and pieces. A picture of him as an instructor at the Recondo School was found. But still no evidence a real person.

I am starting to believe that you should look in your own AO first. Capt. "P" was found living about 30 miles from me. Such is the case of our lost soldier.

I was at work trying to get out so I could head to Ft. Benning for the Ranger Reunion when I got a call from fellow 25th ID LRRP (1966) Rick Ellison who said "*Huck, guess who I*

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

found?" I replied "who?" Rick replied "Hermann". But the name hardly registered so I again asked "who?" Rick replied "Sgt Hermann. Irvin K Hermann!"

"I was going into the Ft. Benning PX with my 25th ID LRRPs shirt on when this guy said hey I served with them. So I asked his name and he replied Hermann. I then said not Sgt Irvin K Hermann?", and he said that he was".

All these years we have been looking for the man with the title **"RECONDO #1"**, and here was living within 1 hour from me. I have been in the Ft. Benning PX numerous times, and been to the post many times with my job. I may walked right by him and not known it.

Hermann spent most of the reunion with us and he even ran into so of his old 11th Airborne Division Paratrooper buddies. It was good for all of us. We got him now and look forward to re-hashing some old times

Sgt Irvin K Hermann, RECONDO "1, back into the fold. Last year we found Major Mike Squires, who flew us on most of our insertions and more than that, came back and got us. On a mission I was on, he was awarded the DFC for getting us out from a hot LZ.

We've now found the First Commander, our main Pilot, and now Recondo "1, but there are others, and I guess this proves that these lost soldiers are out there somewhere, so we gotta' keep looking. I plan attend the D Troop ? Cav reunion in June 2008 to talk to other people I have been in contact with since I left Nam in 1967. Maybe I'll find some more of our guys.

Marshall Huckaby
25th ID LRRPs 1966-1967

First time impressions

By: Lynne Eberhardt

Before the trip, I was hesitant as to what my role would be - would I be the only woman with 200 men, who spent their day talking about "army stuff"?

Whatever my trepidations may have been, this trip ended up being one of my most positive experiences, yet.

What amazed me was how these men all appeared to share the same hopes, fears, frustrations; that Bill was not the only one whose life was forever shaped by his army experiences. And, how each and every wife (and marriage) was also affected in some way by their husband's participation in the Vietnam War.

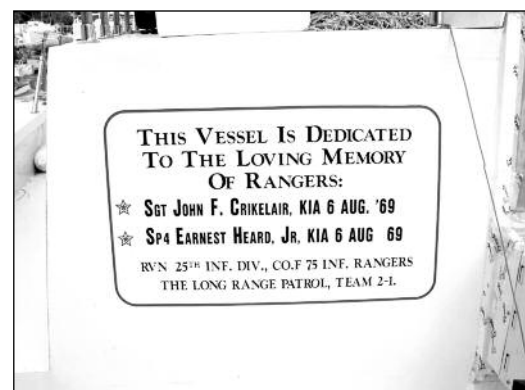
All shared stories, became one, leaving me with a sense of patriotism I have not felt since I was a child. Every man there is my hero.

Concurrently, while the men have always known they were

Brothers, over the course of the week the women were also imbued with a sense of sisterhood. Addresses and emails were exchanged and I value these new friendships, as much as I value my "old" friends.

It's a pleasure ! Glad to help the cause! So, why not have a reunion on the West Coast or the Midwest on the year the Rangers are not in Georgia?

Below are several photos of Phil Mayrand's boat, (Melbourne, FL), which is dedicated to Team 2 - 1. During the course of one Mission on 6 August, 1969, SGT John Crikelair and SP4 Earnest Heard, Jr. were KIA.



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

Unit Director - Clifford M. Manning



**MASTER SERGEANT
GEORGE BEACH
COMPANY G “RANGER
AIRBORNE” 75TH
INFANTRY AMICAL
DIVISION
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
INDUCTION INTO THE
RANGER HALL OF FAME**

Master Sergeant George Beach retired after 20 years of service in the U.S. Army.

On August 8, 2007 at Fort Benning, Georgia, MSG George Beach was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his 20 years of military service and contributions to the Ranger and Special Operations communities.

George served for four consecutive years in a combat role in Vietnam, including three years in LRP-LRRP and Ranger units. He later served three years with the 5th Special Forces Group.

During the three years George served with E/51LRP and its successor organization G CO (Ranger) 75th Infantry. George Beach became a legend who raised the performance level of the unit with his courageous and valorous conduct, his outstanding leadership and guidance, and his willingness to voluntarily take on the most difficult missions. His remarkable record and examples of individual bravery and outstanding team leadership include logging over 100 missions and becoming the heart and soul of the unit. George was the most decorated and respected soldier and leader of the unit.

As First Sergeant of Company G “Ranger” 75th Infantry Amical Division from February 1969 through February 1970 I can truthfully state that George Beach was and still is a true American hero. His individual bravery and ability to lead men contributed immeasurably to the success and molding of the men of Company G “Ranger” into effective responsible Rangers.



Through George’s untiring efforts and professional ability he consistently obtained outstanding results. His personal efforts and leadership raised the standards of morale, esprit-de-corps, and professionalism of all men of Company G “Ranger”.

George’s extraordinary leadership and his ability to lead men earned him the respect of all who served with him enlisted and officers alike. Master Sergeant Beach was a soldiers’ soldier: a dedicated professional of the highest quality. He possessed those outstanding qualities and traits which all US Army soldiers would like to have.

Master Sergeant George Beach’s Awards and Decorations include:

The Silver Star

The Bronze Star with five oak leaf clusters (three with “V” device)

Purple Heart with one oak leaf cluster

Air Medal

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Army Commendation medal with two oak leaf clusters (one with “V” device)

Good Conduct Medal (6th Award)

National Defense Service Medal

Vietnam Service Medal with 10 Service stars

Army Service Ribbon

Army Overseas Service Ribbon (7th award)

Vietnam Campaign Medal (3rd award)

Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Unit Citation with Palm

Combat Infantryman Badge

Parachutist Badge

Expert Badge (M14)

Sharpshooter Badge (M16)

Ranger Beach is a truly exceptional example of what it means to be a Ranger. He defines the expression, “Rangers Lead the Way”.

**H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1ST CAV LRRP****Unit Director - William Anton**

Wow! What a great reunion in Riverside, CA! This was the 1st Cavalry Division Association's 60th Annual reunion and the LRRP/Ranger's 21st reunion. Things started off a little slow on Wednesday, but by Thursday we were in full swing! Thursday evening a group of us ended up at GRAM'S BBQ. We enjoyed dinner and catching up on everyone's lives. Next thing we knew the DJ showed up and we were singing and dancing in the streets until the early morning hours!! Friday some of the guys played golf, and the rest of us went on a small group tour of Riverside, which somehow included shopping with our wives. At the luncheon on Saturday the guest speaker was Joyce DENKE. In 1967, Joyce was the fiancée of David IVES. David was the first LRRP/Ranger to be killed in our unit. Joyce gave a nice tribute to David and then went on to share a documentary on the "Donut Dolly's" in Vietnam. When Joyce finished her presentation there wasn't a dry eye in the room. We look forward to the future airing of the program. Thanks again to Joyce for contacting us.

Time for a little news: Doug and Debbie MATZE's son, Ben is just back from his third tour in Iraq. Mike GOODING's son, Chad is going back for his second tour. This time he will be with the 101st Airborne. God Bless to both of them and all of our troops serving in harms way.

Next year in Jacksonville, FL there will be an election of new officers. If you would like to run for an office or know somebody that would like to run, please contact Bob GILL. This is a great opportunity to be involved. Many of you

have ideas on how to increase membership and involvement. Now is the time to step up and be heard.



The dates for next year's reunion in Jacksonville FL are June 18-22, 2008. I will be getting with the Cav. in the next few days begin preparations. Watch for details in future newsletters.

Thanks to all of those who attended the reunion in Riverside. It is always great to see you: Andrew ALLEN, Gair ANDERSON, David COOPER, Bill CARPENTER along with daughter Stacy and grandkids Ali and Rhett, Steve CURTIS, Larry CURTIS and wife Jeannie, Daniel DeMARA AND wife Kathy, Sam DIXON and wife Cathy, Pete EISENTRANGER, Stan FREEBORN and wife Danita, Bennie GENTRY and wife Sandy,

Doc GILCHREST, Bob GILL, David KLIMEK, Curtis KIMES, Dennis JOBE, John LeBURN, Doug MATZE and wife Debbie and daughter Holly, Jim McIntyre and wife Sue, Bob OAKES, Wayne OKKEN, Keith PHILLIPS and wife Frankie, Bobby PERZ, Donald (Skeeter) PETTIBONE, Dan ROBERTS and wife Bonnie, Jim (Spanky) SEYMOUR and wife Katie, Howard SHUTE, John TRUMBULL, Al VOELKEL and wife Karen, Client VOORHEES, Terry WANISH and wife Shan, Bernard WELLS, Ken WHITE, Richard WILKIE and wife Karen, Mike WIRTZ, and Ted YOSHIMURA.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!

Lawrence M. Curtis

lcurtis123 @comcast.net

**I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP****Unit Director - David Flores**

I had planed to write my first article about the company reunion we just had, but because of other events I will write two separate stories. The first story of course is about the reunion this past May were it seemed everyone had a great time.

Our reunion cruise was schedules for May of this year on Carnival Cruise Lines out of Long Beach, California. It began on Monday with everyone boarding before 5:30 pm the time the ship was scheduled to set sail. Happy to say everyone got on board with out any problems. For those who got there early there was lunch being served all afternoon then dinner in the evening. The Busby's Bob and Sharel came up a week earlier and had been staying at our house. On the weekend before the cruise Danny and Brenda Wiggins and Harry (Frenchy) and Shyron Suire also arrived and stayed with us.

As Greg and Ramona said in the newsletter we had a great reunion this May, what a way to live! The evening meals were five different main courses you could pick from meat; fish or



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

poultry and all were great. Diner is when we all got together as a group and dined at our three a joining tables.



We also took over an alcove near the pool thanks to Jerry Davis, Bill Crawley and Carl Cook and Sue Cook, which became our staging area from there we all went on separate missions.

Bob and Judy McGath brought Bob's sister and brother-in-law, Terri and Ken Reed from Tucson, Arizona. Those of you who did not know this it was a special occasion for Greg and Ramona Catherwood they had been looking forward to this cruise celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary and this was their present to them selves. Dave Flores again came by himself as usual, though urban legend says he does have a better half and that some of the guys and wives have met her. Also attending were both John and Patti Candiloro and Don (Giant) and Becky Hildebrandt. After the cruise John and Patti stayed with Don and Becky at their place in Gresham, Oregon. My cousin Irene and her husband Joe (Wanna be Ranger) Reynoso he is a Vietnam era marine joined us on the cruise. I think everyone had a great time at our stop on Catalina Island and even a better time in Ensenada, Mexico at La Bufadora (blow hole) and after numerous shots of tequila at "Papas and Beer" everyone boarded for the trip home. On the way home we

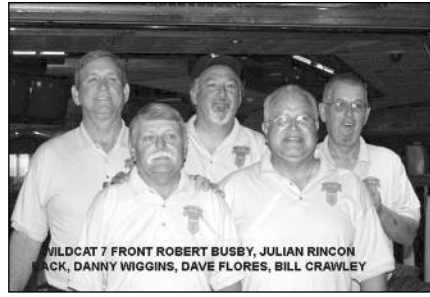
had our reorganization meeting to elect new officers; Robert Busby was elected President. Danny Wiggins was elected Vice-President. John Candiloro was elected Treasurer. Greg Catherwood was



elected Secretary and Julian Rincon was elected Unit Director. There was a couple of highlights on this cruise first was we had a full complete team for the first time, Rincon's team wildcat 7 consisting of Danny Wiggins, Robert Busby, Bill Crawley and David Flores. Second this was the first time Bill Crawley had attended a reunion and that any of us had seen him in thirty-eight years. This brings us to the second part of this article Bill Crawley.

The phone rang, I answered on the second ring it was Robert Busby, President and pointman on wildcat 7. I remembered his exact words, "Are you sitting down?" I

asked, "why" having all these bad thoughts that something terrible had happened or was going to happen he finishes



with "Bill Crawley passed away". I succinctly remember the loss and empty feeling that came over me. After not seeing Bill in thirty-eight years this came as a great shock. I

remember when I left Vietnam I gathered what little possessions I owned walked out of basecamp and never looked back thinking I would never see any of my team or anyone from my company again Boy! Was I wrong! Fast forward thirty-eight years later only a few men on team 7 are missing. Two years ago while my wife Diana and I were visiting with her Aunt and Uncle in Bellingham, Washington we drove to the Makah Indian Nation, Neah Bay Washington to find Glen Ellis one of our team members. I met his sister Rita Markishtum who told me Glen had past away on his birthday October 2, 1988. I then traveled to Salem, Oregon to find Bill Crawley but was not able to locate him and left for home to California. So when I heard that Bill would be attending our reunion I was really happy on more member of our team had been located and attending. He called me prior to the reunion and we stayed in touch with each other until the day of the cruise. Finally the day came when I would see and talk to Bill in person he had changed physically quite a bit but his soul and spirit were the same it was the Bill Crawley I knew thirty-eight years ago. He was still the happy easy going friendly Bill I knew. Everyone made plans for after the cruise I knew Bill and Don (Giant) Hildebrandt had made plans to go fishing since they lived very close to each other. Bill loved fishing next only to his beloved USC Trojans.

Bill passed away on August 5, 2007 in Salem Oregon. Gone would be the heroic soldier, team member, jokester, husband, father and a life long friend. My wife and I flew to Portland, Oregon to attend Bills services scheduled for Wednesday August 15, 2007 at the Willamette National Cemetery The most beautiful National Cemetery I have ever seen lush green rolling hills and beautiful pine trees. It would be a gravesite service with Military Honors. I am glad to write that Both Don (Giant) and Becky Hildebrandt and David Flores attended. Bill Crawley will always be deeply rooted in my being having experience the same dangers and fears all of us went through while in Vietnam as Bill Gave his last "Sit Rep."

**K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP****Unit Director - Rodger Crunk**

Greetings to all my Brothers,
For many it has been a long hot summer. Hopefully by the time you receive this issue we will be experiencing some cooler days. I got home late from the reunion in Ga. so I'm working against the extended deadline for this issue. I know, so what's new.

On July 16th Tom Sove and Rick Noble arrived from California for a few days. The 18th myself, Tom, Rick and David Bristol traveled to Colorado Springs for the 4th Infantry Div. reunion. The attendance was very poor for reasons I don't know. We did visit with a couple of Div. LRRPs Burke, Francoviak, and Steffens. Also met Medal of Honor recipient 1Sgt David Mcnerney at the dedication of a new barracks in his honor. Google his name and read his inspiring story. We returned home early and just hung out for a day before Rick and Tom returned to Ca. It was an honor to have them in my home.



Then it was on the road again August 3rd for the Ranger Reunion. Stopped in Oklahoma City to visit Jack Werner. We attended the American G I Forum convention while there. It is an association whose membership is

primarily of Hispanic descent who work tirelessly for the recognition and honor these Veterans deserve.

On to Memphis the next day and an overnight visit with my cousin. The heat was something out of Hades. Then on to Sauwanee, Georgia and a couple of days with another cousin. His home is a few minutes from Wayne Mitsch's in Berkley Lake. The heat was not any better. Tom & Cass Sove, Rick & Carrol Noble were staying with Wayne & Fran. We all drove on to Columbus on the 8th. I forgot, Bob Fraser and Jim Joyce stopped in at Wayne's also. He had a houseful. Wayne and Fran are the best hosts in Georgia.

Once again the Holiday Inn in Columbus had a house full of Rangers. Once again the 4th Div. LRRPs & Rangers were the largest group in attendance. That says a lot about us. The bond that developed so many years ago is still there and always will be. And just to brag a bit. Four of ours are Association Officers. Bill Bullen-President, Bill Postelnic-Vice- President, Reuben Siverling-Treasurer, and John Chester-Secretary. That says a lot too. Again I have been hijacked as your Unit Director and Wayne Mitsch is

again the Treasurer. I think I speak for Wayne also in saying that it is a great honor to serve you.



Too some business items. We discussed the idea of forming a LRRP chapter of the 4th Div. Assoc. at our business meeting. It looks like that is a go. Tom Sove reports he has about thirty of us who wish to do this. It only takes ten members to form a chapter. Tom and I," mostly Tom" will follow through with this in the near future. I spoke about helping Charlie Elkins get his 201 file changed to include a Silver Star and purple Heart that he received in Nov. 1970. I'm happy to report that I will submit a letter of testament about one of the contacts he was involved in and three others who were present at the awards ceremony will be writing letters

also. I'm hopeful that our testimony will be enough to correct this oversight. Thanks Charlie for your actions in support of your Brothers. Reuben Siverling is working enthusiastically on our mini-reunion in Kansas City for 2008. He is working with many of his contacts in KC to help defray costs and make this a memorable gathering. I think it will be centered around June 29th. That's the Sunday before July 4th so everyone should be home for any who have 4th plans. So mark your calendars. We should have all pertinent information in the winter issue. Thanks Reuben for your hard work. The search for our Brothers is ongoing as usual. Tom Sove has a contact with a search service using SSN numbers. That will cost about \$4.00 per name. We hope to get that going soon also. It is up to individual units in the Assoc. to do our own searches so we will be using unit funds to do this. There are approximately 300 names on our search list so if you can donate to this effort your help will be greatly appreciated. If you have someone you wish us to search for please let me know so I can check him against the list or add him to the list.

Wayne reports that he received \$260.00 in donations at the reunion to our unit fund so a big thank you to all those who donated.

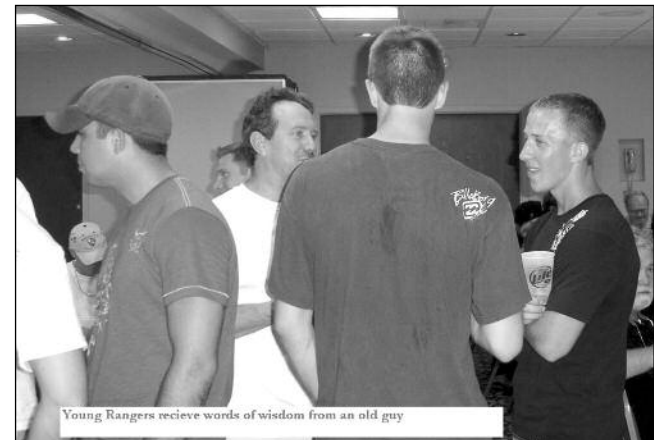
I recently received an e-mail from Jill Lingle, sister of Danny Lingle who died in 2004. She would like to correspond with anyone who knew and served with Danny. Her address is jilllingleva@msn.com.

I hope everyone enjoyed the reunion as much as I did. Somehow I did not get home with the sign-in sheet so I have resurrected it from memory and help from others. If I have left anyone out I apologize. You can hit me over the head next time. Those in attendance were-Ray Allen, Harry Phair, Rick Noble, Tom Sove, Victor Dalton, Bob Fraser,

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

Wayne Mitsch, Willie Williams, Bill Stacy, John Gibson, Jerry Mele, Ed Mateer, Larry Massoletti, Rodger Lamkin, Mark Estopare, John Puzzo, Reuben Siverling, Bill Postelnic, Jim Joyce, Jake Rakauskas, Bill Bullen, James Burke, Bryant Middleton, Sherman Tilley, Alfred Nesbitt, Noble Taylor, John Chester, Ken Nelson, Brian Radcliffe, Ron Kaiser, Herb Riechel, Tom Reed, Billy Powers, Ray Barrio, Fred Fones, Mike Rieley, Roger Crunk.

Enjoy some of our photos.



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

Unit Director - Ralph Timmons

*No Sumission***M/75 - 71ST LRP - 199TH LRRP**

Unit Director - Steve Houghton



Sit rep

Just back from Benning and the Reunion. For those of you who were not able to attend, in a word, it was HOT. But it was a great time too. We had a couple of first time attendees, Terrell Ross and his lovely wife Kay, and Bob "Slinky" Smalinckas. They along with Bob Sampson, Gary Olson, Don Tillish, Jim Hell, me and my wife Lorraine represented our unit. Jack Fuche arrived in Columbus only to turn immediately around and go home due to a death in the family. He never got to sign in. We're all sorry Jack for your troubles, we missed you buddy, We were all looking forward to seeing you. I'm attaching a photo of our group taken in the Hotel Lobby just before the Ross's headed home.

We all had a great time! It was the first time Terrell and Jim have seen each other since Vietnam, and the same was true for me and Terrell also. I'm attaching a photo of the three of us.

The WWII Rangers were having a reunion at the same time and their headquarters was in the same Holiday Inn. It was an honor to meet some of them and their families. The Rangers from Ft Benning provided transport and support for them through out the weeks activities. Lots of the new Rangers from the Ft "Baby Rangers" as my wife referred to them, got wind of the hospitality room (free beer) and showed up in droves each night. The total beer consumption was a whopping 74 kegs.....and new record!

Two very courteous Rangers, SSG Nema Mobar and SSG Jacob Gilmer took a liking to us, and whenever they were relieved of support duty for the WWII Rangers, drank beer and swapped War stories with us old "lurps" from the 199th. These two men didn't fit the "Baby Ranger" category. These two men have 7 and 9 yrs in the Army, and two or more tours each in the Middle East!

They're not Baby Rangers.....but compared to us "old guys" they sure do look young. These two men identified with us old "lurp" types, as they have done several deep recon missions inside Iraq and Afghanistan. One such mission having a team 500 clicks inside Iraq 3-4 days before the war started. These men are instructors for the Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leaders Course that's provided at Ft Benning. They arranged for us to visit their classroom and see some of the latest gear available, and it's just amazing what's available to the modern recon teams. I could talk for hours about it, but I won't. I just have to say it was something to see. I'm

attaching a photo of these two also.

It was taken at the mass Jump, the day we met them. These two were great hosts. They took great care of the WWII rangers and hung around and swapped war stories with us whenever they could.

In the area of news, I'm sorry to report that Tommy Files has passed away. I guess he died after suffering a stroke. Those in attendance at the Reunion agreed to see to it that we acquired a "brick" for Tommy at the Ranger Memorial and have it in place by next reunion. The next reunion, by the way has been voted on by the members to be at Fort Benning in two years, date to be determined later. Jack Fuche has also established that there are three additional casualties from our unit and I think we should do the same for them also. Let me know your views on this matter.

We also became aware at this reunion, with the help of Gary Olson, that some of the "official" history of the unit is in error or at least delinquent. The history of our unit according to the 75th website makes mention of the 71st being formed with a nucleus of members from the 51st. I don't know of anybody who can name anyone who came from the 51st, do you. Gary Olson and Bob Sampson



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

remember being 199th lrrps and nothing else. Ron Piper, you were their in the early days too, what's your recollection. We should get this matter settled if at all possible. Anyone out there who has information, please share it with me.

I'll close this unit article with some photos from the reunion and a short story from Ron Piper. I have been begging for stories from you guys and Ron has responded. Thank you Ron! His story and photo follows. See it's not hard to do guys and we all love to hear the stories, so send yours in!!! Ron's story follows in an email he sent me.

Steve,

Probably not great, but here is the story I promised you. Take care

While time makes us all forget certain names, dates, time and places. I will attempt to get this story of the finest group of young men I had the privilege to know into story format.

I arrived at the 199th in January of 1968. This was my second tour, and I was a 23 y/o newly promoted E6. I was approached by Lt Don Tillisch of the 71st INF Det (Abn-Lrrp) to see if I was interested in joining their merry little band. Of course having run recon in 1966, I immediately agreed. Once all the paperwork was completed I reported to the Detachment and 1st Sgt Overpeck, who then introduced me to the Co, Lt. White. After in processing, I was shown the barracks and where I would bunk. As I recall, each team bunked together at that time. Because of my experience, I was immediately assigned as a team leader. I THINK THIS UP SE T A COUPLE OF FOLKS, BUT THAT WAS JUST LIFE.

One day a young, did I say young? I meant OLD draftee by the name of Jack Fuche showed up to join our little group

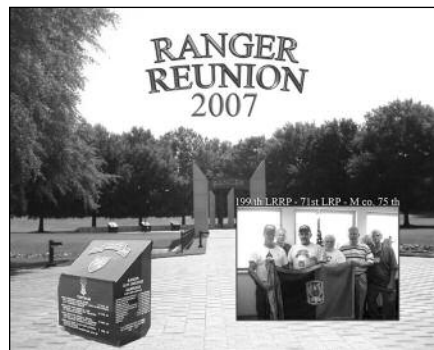
of "WHACKO'S". I can say that since I was a card carrying member during those years, and continue to carry the card today. While all members of the detachment were not airborne qualified, I was and old Jack Fuche had just arrived from Jump school. Well, I am here to tell you that his arrival breathed new life into the "HOW DO WE SCREW WITH NEW GUY SCENARIO". Some of the folks like Sherm Cattrell and Scotty Hokoana suggested we stand him on his head and have him chug a beer. I told them, naw that's beneath a "Cherry Paratrooper". While I was thinking of something devious to welcome our new comrade, I believe Larry Saville (RIP) suggested PLF demonstrations off his footlocker. I agreed, but only after Jack consumed a half a case of Carling Black Label. Jack was up to the task and took us on at our game. After about 15 PLF's off his foot locker and constantly be critized for incorrect form and made to repeat the maneuver, Jack looked at the balcony, which as I recall, was perhaps 25-26' AGL, and said" If I do a descent PLF off the balcony will you guys get of my ass? We all replied"Absolutely".

We all went downstairs, except Jack of course, and waited for the big moment. Without a blink of an eye here comes Jack over the balcony and does as close to a perfect PLF as I'd seen (we think perhaps Carling had something to with it). He picked himself up, dusted himself off and from that moment on, Jack was one of us.

While this may not be Pulitzer Prize winning writing, I think it's reflective of the great and noble men I served with in Vietnam. Attached is a photo of me the day I saw Jack coming

Ron Piper

Till next time
Steve



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

Reed Cundiff

Reed.cundiff@gmail.com

(505) 635-5220 (cell)

I was unable to attend reunion due to evolving family travel plans. I should like to start up "Teams" as a newsletter that can be sent out every three to four months. It cost over \$100 an issue for stamps and ink when sent out by regular mail. This can be far more unit specific than articles submitted to "Patrolling". Will need e-mail addresses of those who are interested in receiving this. John Lawton said that he would like to see a lot more about what folks have done since N Ranger times, what they and their families are up to etc. An e-mail received last week suggested much the same thing. There is interest in unit t-shirts (such as Dave Walker and Rudy Teodosio have produced), polo shirts (such as the Boatmans produced) and belt buckles and other memorabilia (Rudy's great buckles). This on-line approach will allow a lot more interplay between N Rangers.

Yesterday, we were able to visit with Jim "Ben" Harden and family at his home in Colorado Springs, CO. Ben was with 173rd LRRP from October 1966 through November 1967. He dug up his old SLR pictures to see if I could help him identify the folks and, surprisingly, I was able to identify most of them. Ben later bought a small camera to take with him on all of his patrols in the summer and fall of 1967 (A Shau Valley region) and brought back 12 full rolls of film to find out that the camera had been malfunctioning.

Roy Boatman was finally inducted into the RHOF. The groundwork for this was done by John Lawton, Richard James and Gene Gowen six years ago. Roy said at that time that he felt there were men more deserving of this honor than himself and would not permit having his name submitted. Everyone else felt he, more than anyone else, should be inducted. It took encouragement from a large number of N Rangers, primarily Tad, to get him to finally accept

A number of folks showed up for the first time. Tom Eckhoff e-mailed that Don Bizadi planned to attend and asked me to contact him. Don and his wife drove from Chinle, AZ. Bob Henriksen sent this list of the N Rangers that attended the reunion.

Rodolfo A. Teodosio - Team Juliette

Ronald S. Wafer - Team Juliette

Don "The Biz" Bizadi - Team Fox

Jack Ramsland - Team Hotel

David P. Walker "Varmint" - Team Hotel

Joseph Lerhinan - Team Fox

Bob Cantu - Team Kilo

Tome Roubideaux - Team Hotel

Joyce Boatman

Robert Henriksen "Twin"

David D. Chaisson "Frenchy"

Pat Tadina

Herbert Baugh Team Alpha

Sid Smith - Team 3, 173rd LRRP

Rick Jones

Hal O. Herman

Dick James - CO N Rangers

John Lawton - CO N Rangers

Irving Moran "Bugs"

Tom Eckhoff

Dave Cummings

Sam Schiro - Team Echo

Carl "Milli" Millinder

John J. Kirk

Ronald K. Wooley

Eva Rabel

Bill Wilkinson

Mike Hines - Team Bravo

Carlton Vencil - First XO of 173rd LRRPRoger Brown - Team 7 173rd LRRP and Plt Sgt N Ranger

The following was sent in by Dave Cummings.

Ranger Rendezvous 2007 was conducted 6-11 August at the Holliday Inn North in Columbus/Ft. Benning. 173rd LRP/Rangers were well represented, as usual. We had 30 names on the sign in roster, and a bunch of folks coming in and out for only certain events that didn't sign the roster. Sharing the hotel with the 75th RRA was a reunion of the WWII Rangers. If you could not attend, you missed out on a unique experience. I had occasion to be standing around the beer trailer (had a lot of those occasions come to think of it) swapping war stories with my Vietnam buddies. There was one of the original Darby's Rangers there telling his story, and several young Rangers from the Regiment relaying their adventures (which were every bit as exciting as anyone else's). Of course we were all in awe of one another. The 3rd Batt Open House allowed us a look into their world. They had a great display of weapons, vehicles,



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

and equipment, and were eager to answer questions. These guys are great professionals. They look up to us as their predecessors and will tell you that they strive to uphold the standards set by us, RICA, and the WWII Rangers. (Yes guys, we are ancient history). I was in awe of the commo gear these guys use. You would not believe all of the laptop computers. No more sitting on the Hawk's Nest pulling radio relay. Ranger Roy Boatman was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame Wednesday and a testimonial dinner for Roy was held that evening at a local restaurant. The dinner was well attended by N-75th. Among the attendees were Joyce Boatman and the extended Boatman family, former N Co. commanders James and Laughton, fellow Hall of Famer Pat Tadina, and Eva Rabel, widow of MOH recipient Lazlo Rabel. The testimonials presented were appropriate for a Boatman event; rude, crude, and full of humor. Ranger Roger Brown had his now customary and much anticipated BBQ country spread in a beautiful spot by the lake. It was unfortunate that, due to the Rendezvous schedule, it also had to be held Wednesday evening prompting our folks to have to choose between events. Thursday morning had the memorial service for our fallen at the Ranger Memorial on post. This was supported by the 75th Rgt who provided a chaplain, ushers, a firing squad, and bugler. Opening remarks were delivered by retired General Ken Leur, first commander of 1st Batt. Then the WWII Rangers read the names of their fallen. Very inspirational, they stood tall and sounded strong, even though the heat and humidity was brutal. Then the Vietnam era, I was privileged to read the names of our LRP/LRRP/N Co. guys. We were followed by the Battalion reps of the 75th Rgt reading their names. The firing squad was sharp and the bugler played an outstanding rendition of Taps. Finally, Steve Crabtree, outgoing 75th RRA president, delivered the closing remarks. His speech was very inspirational. He spoke of the effort of our fight in Vietnam, hampered by critics, yet ultimately successful as a major battle of the Cold War that eventually defeated the threat of world communism. He then tied this to Iraq, not going well and hampered by critics, yet essential as a battle in the greater struggle against Islamic Fascism. Saturday was the business meeting and election of officers. Bill Bullen succeeded Crabs as president. Saturday night was the Association Banquet at the Columbus "Iron Works" Convention Center. Guest Speaker was journalist Joe Galloway of "We Were Soldiers Once..." fame. Some 500 people attended, the food was great, and Joe mercifully refrained from any political speech. In between it all, the 75th RRA (assisted greatly by the young Regiment guys) consumed a record 76 kegs of beer. Bonds of fellowship were renewed, war stories recalled (like fine wine, they get better with age), our fallen remembered, wives bored to

death (god bless 'em), our egos stroked by today's young warriors, and our linkage to the regiment strengthened. Adding to the overall air of nostalgia was a heat wave quite reminiscent of Southeast Asia. Already looking forward to the next one.

Dave Cummings N Co. 70-71

Robert Henriksen took quite a few photographs at the reunion and he is putting them onto a CD with the help of Dave Walker. Robert plans to put out future CD's of earlier reunions. I think that getting everyone to submit photos of earlier times and current days that we can put on a CD would be an excellent idea. There is space on the 75th RRA website for 200 photos from each unit. I am retired now and will have time to put into this. It would greatly help if the folks in the photos can be identified (as best it can be done) and a short paragraph describing the photo be included. Ranger Roger Brown has often suggested that we write up an "unofficial" unit history. He thinks that folks write up their "interesting" patrols for posterity before the participants pass on. This could be done on CD's and mailed to those interested.

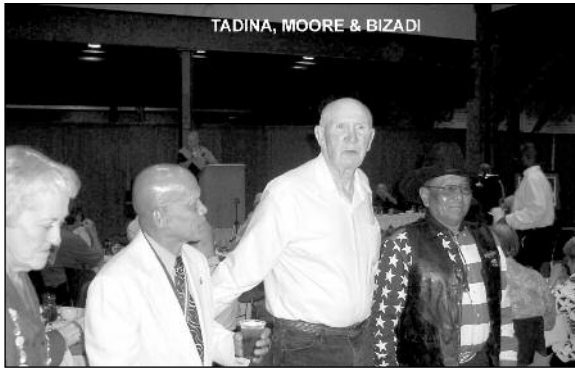


Ron Wafer, Robert Henriksen; Dave and Sherill Cummings; the Tadinas (Pat, Karen and daughter), Bob Cantu; Eva Rabel; Tome and Mrs. Roubideaux; Sid Smith



Joyce Boatman w/Sherril Cummings and Karen Tadina

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



TADINA, MOORE AND DON BIZADI



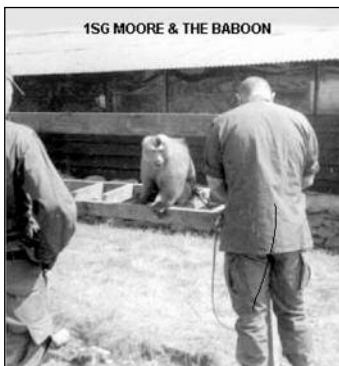
DON BIZADI and WIFE



FRANK MOORE and N RANGERS

John Kirk, Rudy Teodosio, Mike Hines, Frank Moore, Ron Wafer, Dave Walker and Don Bizadi

I received the following photo from Cal Rollins of Charlie Rangers. It was taken when Frank Moore was 1st Sgt of Charlie Rangers. Charlie Rangers thought it was a Gibbon but Cal and I both believe it to be a baboon. They must have obtained it from a zoo since baboons are only found in Africa.



**1ST SGT FRANK MOORE
AND FRANK THE BABOON**

Robert Hendriksen wrote that he wants to do post-war short stories on all N/CO members since we each do not know what each one of us has done. I was an engineer with Rockwell Int. at a Dept. of Energy nuclear steam -



generator test facility for 18 years. Raced Off-Road with my Bronco during that time from 1975/1986. My Brother (Delta-Team) lives in Idaho and wasn't able to make reunion. Below is Robert's one paragraph post Vietnam history

After Vietnam tour my brother, Sven (Delta team) and I returned to work at Us Borax Chemical Corp. I left that job in 1975 for a position at Dept. of Energy (DOE) nuclear steam generating testing facility in Ca. operated by Rockwell Int. Spent 18 years there and reached the position of engineer specialist level 3. I've been married for 35 years and have two daughters 18/28 years old. To continue the adrenalin rush from Nam, I started racing off-road racing with a Baja bug first and 1974 built the Class 3 Bronco for the roar of a V-8. Races were 250 to 500 miles long with times of 7 to 16 hours behind the wheel. At the 1979 Las Vegas Mint 400 race, I started in front of Mickey Thompson and pitted with Bill Stroppe Racing most of the times. I quit racing in 1986 after the Fireworks 250 in Barstow, CA where I finished third. The Bronco and I are retired and are making the car shows from Texas to the West coast. The Bronco has a big N/CO 173rd graphic decal on the door. My goal at the shows is to talk with veterans and current soldiers to give information/support.

Robert "twin" Henriksen N Ranger Company - Golf Team

Below is a photo of Robert's bronco, Thor's Hammer



THOR'S HAMMER



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Michael Feller



MSG [retired] Bruce W. Cotton sent in the following. Cotton now residing in Old Hickory Tenn.

It was the beginning of a new year. Our unit, F Company 51st Infantry, Long range Patrol, was standing down. Rumor had it we were switching to the 75th Rangers. The let up was welcome, First Platoon had a rough month in November 1968, making contact several times and having a few soldiers wounded.

On 3 December we consolidated teams 14 and 16 into a heavy team of 12 soldiers. The mission was to initiate contact and bring back POWs if possible and gather Intelligence from the uniform and weapons on the enemy soldiers. Two other teams were also consolidated into another heavy team.

We carried mostly ammunition; 25 magazines 5.56, M16 and 8 frag grenades each. 2000 rounds 7.62 belted for the M60 machine gun, and one WP grenade. The M79 Grenade launcher with its basic load. There were also signal devices; smokes, flares etc. We took 2 meals and 5 quarts of water for we were going out to make contact. We were going to an area called War Zone D close to the Cambodian border. Hard corps North Vietnamese soldiers were suspected to be in the area.

The Hueys inserted us and we immediately received fire from somewhere on the LZ, the choppers hovered as we dropped into 3 feet of mud. We finally made it to the tree line and secured our perimeter. The rounds were a trick to lure us to fire back so the enemy would know for sure that we had landed on the LZ, hoping a FNG would open fire. No one around the 12-man team would fire back at the unseen VC on the LZ leaving the enemy to believe that they had seen a false insertion.

We waited 30 minutes then set off toward out objective. Every one was very professional setting up the perimeter. Claymores were laid on the trail in a classic kill zone; the M60s were each set up to maximize their fires down each direction of the trail. Trip flairs were set where the claymores were not placed. The Airborne LRPs were prepared to fight. But for now all they could do was wait on the enemy to show.

We heard them coming down the trail, talking

lordly, playing music from a small radio. Each of the three were carrying their AK-47s loosely not believing the LRPs were in their back yard. A claymore took two of the enemy down quickly, the other went into the jungle and started moaning. We threw a few hand grenades and all was quiet as the search team went forward to retrieve documents that the G2 would later receive. As well as 2 AK-47s 1 SKS sniper rifle and a knife we quickly set up some trip flares, boobie trap grenades and toe-poppers. Moving away 50 meters we set up a perimeter for the evening. An hour latter the grenades went off causing screaming noises that lasted well into the night.

The evening passed with few LRPs getting any sleep. I wondered why I ever volunteered in this Army, why I volunteered to be an Airborne soldier, and why I had volunteered to be a LRP. I thought about how six months earlier I had Left Killeen and McRay High Schools where I had played Football and Basketball. A town of 462 rural Americans.

Despite my laments the morning came with a quiet spell covering the jungle, lizards, birds and insects were still. The two NVA soldiers were moving slowly, deliberately through the jungle following our trail looking for us. Their AK-47s ready to fire, eyes shifting to and fro.

One soldier looked directly at me from five meters away his eyes grew large as he brought his AK up to fire at me. With my weapon in possession I fired at the same time an older Sgt on the team did and the two enemies fell to the jungle floor. The rest of the heavy team opened fire as we engaged the NVA in a 15-minute firefight, quickly going through over half our ammo.

A giant hand suddenly pushed us to the jungle floor as heaver machine-gun fire and RPG s was suddenly brought into play against us. A RPG round exploded behind and I was hit. Seven others received frag wounds at the same time.

We had to move. The NVA squad had become a platoon with heavy weapons and we were in danger from being cut off from our PZ 5 clicks away. We moved quickly giving covering fire for one another, I remember asking "am I ok?" "of course I was told " Ya, you're ok keep moving "



O/75 - 78TH LRP (CONTINUED)

I remember getting on the chopper and going to the hospital where I told the nurse to tell me before they put me under the knife so I could say a prayer. I woke feeling dizzy, disoriented and confused. The other seven of the team had already awaked and were laughing at me.

An hour later we received our Purple Hearts from a Major. We learned later that the other team, operating a few clicks away from us had 4 LRPs killed and 4 wounded as they met another heavy Platoon from the 84th Regiment. I had light duty up till the 26th of December when we went out on a normal and quiet 5-day mission, returning for New Year's Eve.

June marked my 6th full month in country. F Company 51st Inf Long Range Patrol had split up I was now a member of the newly formed Oscar Company of the 75th Rangers Attached to the 3rd Bde of the 82ed Airborne Division. I had been selected to attend the MAC-V Recondo School at Na Trang, Vietnam, taught by 5th Special Forces. I was excited, for I had taken a team out a few times and was anxious to be a SGT., Team Leader, and get FIFTY-dollar raise. I was already drawing Hazardous duty pay \$65 and jump pay \$55, so I was sending \$200 a month home to my folks to hold for me [I would have \$1800 saved and would buy a 1966 Chevy SS327 in Little Rock Ark. Sgt. Bryant a Mormon from Utah had recommended me for the school. Sgt Bryant was later to recommend me for promotion to Sgt.; and he was the one to get me hooked on Lewis Lamoure books, which I still read to this day.

The C130 landed between 2 huge mountains on a landing strip that seemed a football field in length. The first week was excellent training. We ate some of the best food I had ever eaten, the SF knew how to feed you and train you. I met a R.O.C. for the first time. They [their 5 man team] had finished 1-4 in the first, 3 mile, run through the village. The fifth South Korean Marine had finished behind an American soldier, a loud gung-ho SEAL. After the run I noticed the ROK leader hitting the ROK knocking him to the ground and striking him again. I assumed it was because he had not finished with the rest of the Koreans. As it continued it seemed to get out of hand. I started over but a Green Beret stopped me and

told me to let it be. I did. The next morning on the four-mile run in full combat gear with weapons locked and loaded, the ROK team finished 1-5, ahead of all non-ROKs

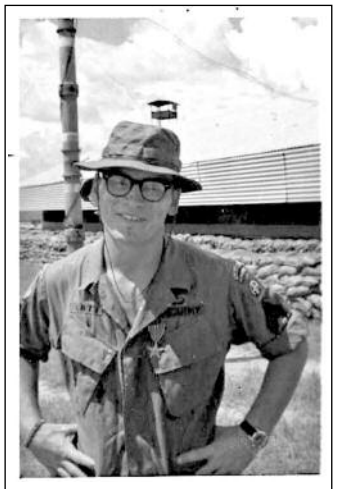
Also seen some “Kung –Fu” action between a South Vietnamese and a ROK sparing in the ‘pit’ the ARVN soldier lost for sure.

We went by Huey to an island off the coast in the South China Sea to call in Artillery fire and F105 fighter jets. On the way back we were all leaning out of the chopper looking at the cleat ocean when we saw these small objects swimming around. As it suddenly dawned these objects were sharks we all slid back into the chopper.

The third week of training we went out on a three-day mission into a hostile free fire zone. We did not make contact but the ROK team did as did another. The American team had run into some heavy opposition resulting three soldiers being wounded, two by a WP that was struck by enemy fire.

After an informal graduation I returned to my unit Proudly wearing my MAC-V Recondo patch. A month later returning from a mission in my Tiger Fatigues and needing a bath and a shave I went before the Board to compete for my E-5 stripes. I still remember the finance clerks, cooks and mechanics wearing starched fatigues. Spit shined boots and clean-shaven. I answered two questions and was told I could leave. Feeling low I returned to my unit finding that due to the low cut off scores I had passed the board and would receive my stripes in less than 17 months. Only to fear loosing them a month later, But that's another story.

Will Sgt Cotton keep his stripes will he even survive to submit this story tune in next issue for “Willie Maket”



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



No Sumission



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Blandford



Hello to Rangers, LRPs, friends and family.

08 20 2007

Everyone had a great time at the Ranger Reunion. I have heard lots of good stories. I was not able to attend because I started my chemo therapy and I can't be around people, most certainly Rangers.

I asked for pictures but, no has sent any to me. Shame-shame.

The most common high points mentioned were the discussions with WW II Rangers and Doug Hagan's performance which was really well received. Some idiots, oh I mean, brave ones jumped out a perfectly good airplane. No report of broken bones so they were still good Airborne Rangers.



In attendance were: Jim Bohanon, Don Viccaro, Ted & Karen Dunn and his Ranger son Nathan, Charlie & Brenda Manis, Doug Hagan, Chuck Wallace, Mike Reisman, Jim Owens, Billy Faulks, Leon Moore, John Mason, HC Cross, D 75th buddies: Frank Park, Lou Hawks and her son Shane, Larry Rhodes, Gary Tichnor, and I'm probably missing some.

Operation Support Our Troops - Brenda Manis is still sending packages with food and personal necessities to our deployed troops. She could really use your donations to pay for mailing expense. Just \$15.00 pays for a 40 pound package of material. Please send a contribution if you can. To: Brenda Manis, 605 Turnberry Lane, Yorktown IN 47396 Email: 'chasbren@comcast.net

The D 151 Assistance fund is to help those of us that are having severe financial difficulties and families of deployed Indiana National Guard troops that are deployed. If you know of someone that is in need, please get word to me. We will try to help. If you are able, please consider a tax deductible donation to the fund. Co. D 151 Assoc. Assistance Fund, c/o Tom Blandford, 5882 Hollow Oak Trail, Carmel IN 46033. Phone 317 846 6374 and cell 317 902 1577.

Ted Dunn is our quartermaster. He has D-151 shirts, caps, pins, rings and other items for sale. Reach him at 9591 N. CR 600W, Middletown IN 47356. Phone 765-354-4058.

Dues for D 151 is \$12.00 per year. Please send to Gary Bussell, 5000 W. Connie Dr., Muncie IN 47304. Thank you to those of you who have paid dues. How about bring in a new member?

My wife, Ann, and I came across a Huey and Nam memorabilia display in Peru Indiana that had weapons, radios and gear that we had. Lots of memories came back to mind. The group was the "American Huey 369" organization. Web site is AMERICANHUEY369.COM. They will be at the Hancock County Viet Nam Reunion this Sept. (Which is after this magazine comes to you.) It's a great event that you should attend. It's in September every year. I'll have a reminder about it next year too.

Get on Zita Moore's email list so you will be up to date on our unit activities. She is the D 151 administrator and her email address is:

zita.moore@us.army.mil

How many of you took my advice and visited your local "Vet Center". They are a branch of VA and offer counseling to "combat vets". They are skilled in dealing with PTSD symptoms. Like anger, irritability, rage and depression. Also difficulty trusting others, hyper-alertness, startle reactions, isolation, problems with authority, nightmares, trouble sleeping, anxiety, substance abuse and problems feeling good about oneself. Since you have most of these symptoms, some of you not admitting it, see if there's a Vet Center near you. They have individual and group counseling and spouse counseling. They are getting a lot of new veterans from the war on terrorism. If you or a vet buddy have had bad experiences with the "counselors" at the VA hospital you need to try this. I hate the damn idiot "counselors" at VA but the people at the Vet Center can actually relate to our condition. They advise on VA benefits too.

Website – We don't have one anymore. We need one. We need one of you to step up to the job. Pretty please.

Please note that my email address is now; tomblandford151@msn.com (Note the d151)

Please pray for our own members, spouses and friends that are experiencing health problems. Mine is under control, I'm receiving great care. Mike Slabaugh's wife Karen is the latest victim of cancer. Thank you.

Tom Blandford, Team Ranger 31 – Out. RLTW



F/51 LRP

Unit Director - Russell Dillon



OPERATION TOAN THANG PART 3

This part covers from April 21st 1968 till April 25th 1968 Operation Toan Thang is a multi part series, this third part is from April 21, 1968 through April 22, 1968. The operational area was Northeast of Long Binh and was called Columbus II. F/51 LRP was under operational control of 199th Light Infantry Brigade. On April 22nd F/51 LRP through April 29th went under operational control of 2nd Brigade 25th Infantry Division in the Operation

Areas of Pineapple and Orange areas as a continuation of Operation Toan Thang. Team missions consisted of trail, canal, and rocket watching and to detect any enemy movement. If the enemy was located at a fixed location and a reaction force was available it would be used to develop the situation.

Team 42 was a 6 man light team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on April 21st at 1438HRS (2:38 PM). As the team was moving off the LZ the team received 1 shot and observed 1 Vietcong 100 meters West of the team's location. At 1446HRS (2:46 PM) Team 42 reported movement 100 meters West of the teams location and that the team was moving toward the movement to make contact with the enemy. At 1457HRS (2:57 PM) Team 42 reported 2 Vietcong on the LZ 100 meters approximately East Northeast of the team location after chasing the lone Vietcong. At 1520HRS (3:20 PM) Team 42 had gunship support. Both the team and the gunships reported receiving carbine fire. After the gunships made their runs, Team 42 swept the immediate area of the contact and were extracted at 1539HRS (3:39 PM) with negative casualties.

Team 43 was a 6 man light team that was fired on by a 50 caliber machine gun on insertion into their primary Area of Operation on April 23rd at 1854HRS (6:54 PM). The insertion helicopter, using their door gunners fired up the area until the one door gun jammed and became inoperable. Before the machine gun became inoperable, the gunfire started a large ground fire and the insertion was aborted. As the helicopters were leaving the area newly built bunkers were sighted all along the East to West canal.

Team 43 was reinserted into another Area of Operation on April 24th at 1415HRS (2:15 PM). At 1515HRS (3:15 PM)



Team 43 reported finding 2 dugout firing positions. At 1800HRS (6:00 PM) Team 43 reported automatic weapons firing 300 to 400 meters approximately North Northwest of the teams location. At 1823HRS (6:23 PM) Team 43 reported hearing voices 150 meters approximately Southeast of the team location. At 1957HRS (7:57 PM) Team 43 reported lights moving towards the team from the South at 200 meters. On April 25th at 0715HRS (7:15 AM) Team 43 reported hearing small arms and automatic weapons firing from the North and headed towards the teams location. It sounded as

if it was a recon by fire. At 0739HRS (7:39 AM) Team 43 reported movement 200 meters approximately East of the teams location. At 0741HRS (7:41 AM) Team 43 reported AK-47 and carbine fire 40 meters North of the team. At 0804HRS (8:04 AM) Team 43 reported hearing voices and movement 300 meters approximately North Northwest of the team. At 0820HRS (8:20 AM) Team 43 reported seeing 3 Vietcong 150 meters North of the teams location. At 0828HRS (8:28 AM) Team 43 thought that the team had been seen and extraction helicopters and gunships were scrambled. At 0853HRS (8:53 AM) the gunships began firing passes to Team 43's North. At 0901HRS (9:01 AM) Team 43 initiated contact on the 3 Vietcong and then swept the area as Vietcong ran down the hill to the West. At 0905HRS (9:05 AM) Team 43 reported that a 50 caliber firing at the C&C (Command and Control) helicopter 300 meters Southeast of the teams location. At 0925HRS (9:25 AM) Team 43 was extracted with negative results. As the extraction helicopters and gunships were leaving the area heading West at tree top level, the helicopters reported receiving heavy 50 caliber, small arms fire and automatic weapons fire from the ground.

Team 41 was a 6 man light team that was inserted into their Area of Operation on April 24th at 1423HRS (2:23 PM). At 1452HRS (2:52 PM) Team 41 reported finding a sampan docking site 10 meters Southeast of the LZ and blocking the team from moving. The team RONed (Remain Over Night) at the docking site to monitor the area. At 1650HRS (4:50 PM) Team 41 reported 1 Vietcong with a weapon and web gear 50 meters approximately West of the team location. At 1709HRS (5:09 PM) Team 41 initiated contact as they came within 20 meters of the Vietcong, he jumped up and ran off. Team 41 fired after the Vietcong and continued to sweep the area and at 1745HRS (5:45 PM) Team 41 was extracted.

F/51 LRP (CONTINUED)

Team 41 was a 6 man light team that was reinserted into their Area of Operation on April 25th at 1152HRS (11:52 AM). At 1305HRS (1:05 PM) Team 41 reported crossing a small well-used trail. At 1315HRS (1:15 PM) Team 41 reported crossing a well-used large trail. Both trails ran from the Northwest to the Southeast. At 1316HRS Team 41 reported that they had 1 man with heat exhaustion, remedies were applied but the team member was not getting any better. At 1537HRS (3:37 PM) the team member was extracted and the extraction chopper reported receiving carbine fire. At 1746HRS (5:46 PM) Team 41 reported 2 people 50 meters approximately East of the teams location. At 2040HRS (8:40 PM) Team 41 reported that the movement was 20 meters from the teams location. On April 26th at 1832HRS (6:32 PM) Team 41 reported hearing 50 caliber machine gun fire 200 meters approximately East Northeast of the teams location. At 2005HRS (8:05 PM) Team 41 reported hearing movement of an unknown number of people 30 to 50 meters South of the teams location. At 2132HRS (9:32 PM) Team 41 reported 3 Vietcong closing in on Team 41 from the West. At 2222HRS (10:22 PM) Team 41 reported that the Vietcong were 25 meters from the teams location. On April 27th at 0200HRS (2:00 AM) Team 41 reported 5 Vietcong were circling the teams position. At 1308HRS (1:08 PM) Team 41 reported that they had one very sick team member. At 1350HRS (1:50 PM) Team 41 and the sick member were extracted.

Team 26 was a 6 man light team that aborted their primary LZ on April 24th at 1450HRS (2:50 PM) because of people on the LZ with sampans and 10 bunkers being sighted 200 to 300 meters North of the intended LZ. The secondary LZ insertion occurred on April 24th at 1859HRS (6:59 PM). At 1913HRS (7:13 PM) Team 26 reported 2 fresh foxholes and a trail leading to the canal at the teams location. At 2000HRS (8:00 PM) Team 26 reported Vietcong moving past the teams location at 30 meters East of the team. At 2005HRS (8:05 PM) Team 26 reported 20 people moving past the team and that there was movement to the teams East and North. The team also reported hearing voices to the Northeast. At 2020HRS (8:20 PM) Team 26 reported that the movement had stopped 50 meters around the team. There was also 1 Vietcong 15 meters from the team breaking twigs. At 2100HRS (9:00 PM) Team 26 reported hearing a large group of Vietcong digging a large hole and at 2112HRS (9:12 PM) the team reported the digging had stopped. An artillery mission was called in at 2140HRS (9:40 PM) and ended at 2156HRS (9:56 PM). Team 26 reported that the Vietcong were moving west. At 2248HRS

(10:48 PM) Team 26 reported movement from the North to the South on a trail near the teams location. At 2251HRS (10:51 PM) team 26 reported a sampan with people moving South on the canal East of the teams location. At 2309HRS (11:09 PM) Team 26 reported another sampan moving South. At 2320HRS (11:20 PM) Team 26 reported 2 more sampans moving South and at 2334HRS (11:34 PM) Team 26 reported another sampan moving South. The sampans were 12' to 14' long and each had 1 person in each sampan. On April 25th at 0455HRS (4:55 AM) Team 26 reported 3 or 4 Vietcong 15 meters in front of the team. At 0637HRS (6:37 AM) Team 26 reported another sampan heading South. At 0810HRS (8:10 AM) Team 26 reported hearing a .50 caliber machine-gun firing at a FAC (Forward Air Control) 500 meters approximately East of the teams location. At 1130HRS (11:30 AM) Team 26 reported voices 25 meters approximately North Northeast of the teams location. At 1150HRS (11:50 AM) Team 26 reported that the movement was moving in on them. At 1155HRS (11:55 AM) C&C (Command & Control) helicopter reported seeing 1 sampan, with 2 people, docked on the East side of the canal 75 meters Northeast of the teams location. At 1212HRS (12:12 PM) Team 26 reported people 50 meters North Northeast of the team. At 1215HRS (12:15 PM) Team 26 reported an oxcart moving North on the trail. At 1255HRS (12:55 PM) Team 26 reported automatic weapons and heavy machine-gun fire 1000 meters North Northeast in the vicinity of Xom Huong village. At 1314HRS (1:14 PM) Team 26 reported finding trip wires near the 2 empty cache holes. At 1449HRS (2:49 PM) Team 26 reported hearing voices of approximately 4 people 50 meters approximately North Northeast of the team. At 1541HRS (3:41 PM) Team 26 reported hearing automatic fire 200 meters approximately Northeast of the team. At 1623HRS (4:23 PM) Team 26 reported movement of 2 to 5 personal 50 meters North Northeast of the team. At 1650HRS (4:50 PM) Team 26 reported initiating contact with 3 Vietcong on the East side of the canal with 1 possible KIA. The Vietcong were moving along the canal with their weapons slung and carrying canteens and wearing dark clothing. At 1710HRS (5:10 PM) Team 26 reported movement on the East side of the canal. At 1732HRS (5:32 PM) Team 26 was extracted with negative casualties. The extraction helicopters and gun-ships drew heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from the East side of the canal. After the extraction artillery and gun-ships fired up the area.

**LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID**

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

No Submission



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Mike Martin



Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

September is the “Month of the Chrysanthemum” for many orientals: like the lone monk who treads aimlessly through the countryside, in my mind I can still hear the autumnal melodies of the crickets or the rustling of dry leaves in old-fashioned gardens and on shadowy boulevards of Asian and European cities where I used to stroll at this time of year...crisp fall evenings and the serving of ceremonial tea in reverent silence added to the dignity of these moments, dedicated to tranquility and contemplation of a way of life; a sojourn that I have had the honored privilege of being a part of...



At times, a simple piece of music or an unexpected sighting will abruptly stir some long-forgotten but sensual nerve: like a desolate cemetery, a quaintly-roofed low temple or a flag or ancient monument planted on a plot of ground in some out-of-the-way corner of a forgotten empire, but still enshrined in the hearts of old soldiers. Somehow, these inconsequential glimpses stick in one's memory....

“Sometimes,” when I am feeling in a pensive mood, I like to confront these images of the past and sink into the darkening waters that are veiling the past from the present—today is one of those times as I contemplate the necessities of our reunions and our service in Vietnam; a country that defies description, yet its beauty and charm while so elusive, are beyond forgetting: like the rain which would appear as glittering sheets, as dark shafts, as amorphous curtains that hid the jungle and the enemy within.

It is next to impossible to try and illuminate certain aspects of our overseas assignments to those who didn't serve, even to family members. Many of us have stored facts and personal impressions in the recesses of our minds like old-world parchment scrolls stored in long forgotten tombs...history is seared by this lack of revelation; it is our duty to revitalize our experiences—that is foremost in the purpose of our Vietnamese Ranger Advisor reunions!! Don't let the twilight of our lives blur the decades of past and present: **“STAND-UP”** and be counted for at our April 2008 reunion—Biet Dong Quan.



BDQ Advisors at the 2003, Critter Cookout in Pine Valley (near Dahlonega, Ga.) sponsored by the Mt. Ranger Camp Assn.; left to right: Joe Corino, Earl Singletary, Doug Perry and Jack Daniel

SURRENDER IS NOT A RANGER WORD

Tong Le Chan (or Tong Le Chon) base in **MR-III** was a border camp lying astride enemy lines of communication between War Zone C (Tay Ninh) and Binh Long and Binh Duong Provinces. Its presence forced the enemy to make long detours. As a result, on 25 March 1973 he began an intense effort to force the evacuation of the base. The Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) 92d Ranger Battalion which manned the base found itself cut off from all communication and supplies by road; it was unable to conduct patrols around the base. Helicopter supply became increasingly difficult due to heavy enemy antiaircraft fire. Supplies had to be dropped by fixed-wing aircraft. During **sixteen** consecutive weeks, the enemy shelled the base **300** times, using more than 10,000 assorted rounds, and launched eleven attacks by infantry and nine by sappers (assault engineers). In the meantime, the enemy also stepped up propaganda activities urging the Rangers to evacuate the base. But the defenders held fast and successfully drove back all enemy attacks. By 11 April 1974 the situation within the base became utterly untenable. The badly mangled 92d Ranger Battalion finally had to break out and fall back on An Loc. The commander, Lt. Col. Le Van Ngon, was promoted ahead of schedule in recognition of his unit's valiant performance.

***By General Cao Van Vien, Chairman of the South Vietnamese Joint General Staff.



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

ECHOES OF VALOR

Time has eroded the awareness of the ground-level advisor in Vietnam and how extraordinarily difficult his job was, also his lack of amenities that were provided to troops serving with regular U.S. units. I also contend, through my years of research, that on the ratio to other units, including Delta—in size and number of personnel assigned—the Ranger Advisors suffered the highest percentage of KIAs and WIAs....Most of the Ranger Advisors served one or more tours with SF or an American Infantry unit too.

One thing that is for sure, families do not forget their loved ones and neither does the Biet Dong Quan; we are pledged to honor our “fallen comrades.”

Ms Syrenna Swett (daughter of Ranger Leroy C. Martinson) and her husband Jim Swett, have graciously provided us with information on her father who was killed fighting with the 43rd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion. Leroy received the Bronze Star w/V for his actions in a previous battle with the Rangers; he had also received a Bronze Star while serving with the U.S. 9th Infantry Division....On the day of his death he was awarded the Silver Star for his valor. His daughter Syrenna,—who was born in Germany while Martinson was stationed there—was only two years old at the time of his death. BDQ Leroy Martinson's Silver Star citation reads as follows:

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR
(POSTHUMOUSLY)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announded.

MARTINSON, LEROY C. RA17580314 SFC USA

Awarded: Silver Star (Posthumously)

Date action: 7 to 8 December 1968

Theater Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: Sergeant First Class Martinson distinguished himself by gallantry in action during the period 7 to 8 December 1968 while serving as an advisor to the 43d ranger battalion, army of the republic of Vietnam. On 7 December, Ssergeant Martinson was accompanying the friendly unit on a heliborne combat sweep into Vinh Binh province, Republic of Vietnam when suddenly, his lead element came in contact with a strong enemy force occupying well-fortified positions. The ensuing battle

raged throughout the day and into the night. Completely disregarding his personal safety, Sergeant Martinson fearlessly exposed himself to the intense enemy fire as he directed and adjusted supporting fires onto the hostile emplacements. As the battle continued, portions of the friendly unit were trapped by the heavy barrage of enemy rocket, automatic weapons and small arms fire. Sergeant Martinson remained with these elements and the headquarters element and deployed into a night defensive position. Throughout the night the hostile force launched assault after assault against the friendly position, but were continuously forced to withdraw. In the early morning hours, the reinforced enemy unit initiated a vicious attack which threatened the allied perimeter. Sergeant Martinson, although seriously wounded from earlier contact, continued to expose himself as he directed the defensive actions of the friendly force. He moved from position to position, encouraging the defenders and directing air support onto the onrushing enemy soldiers. Sergeant Martinson's exposed location was located by the hostile personnel and he was finally halted by the fire of the assaulting force. Sergeant First Class Martinson's conspicuous gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflected great credit upon himself and the military service.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918



Leroy Martinson as a young trooper attending jump school. Martinson distinguished himself by gallantry in action while serving as an Advisor to the 43d Ranger Battalion. He was killed on the morning of 8 December 1968, while fighting with the 43d BDQs against a reinforced enemy unit in Vinh Binh Province, South Vietnam.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renewals (dues) were due on 1 July 07; if you have a date prior to "2008" listed by your membership number on the Patrolling or if you are not receiving the Patrolling, you need to pay your dues; membership is the lifeline of any association and the dues support many projects as well as the cost of the Patrolling.

Take a small portion of your time and make an effort to locate your former teammates and persuade them to become members...be pertinacious in your pursuit (like a tracker); lure them into the fold...."That's what I'm talking about".

"SOUND-OFF"

Make your hotel reservations now for the 2008 Reunion! You will receive invitations and Registration information (by mail) NLT 1 October 2007...don't procrastinate, registering you and your guests early helps with the planning and expenses....



BDQ REUNION 2008

Mike Martin
US Army Ranger Advisors Association
P.O. Box 1463
Tulahoma, TN 37388

Dear Mike Martin,

Greetings from Hamilton Place, Tennessee's largest mall in Chattanooga, TN. As Tennessee's largest mall, we are extremely proud of our 202-acre development that attracted approximately 20 million people during 2006. With more than 200 stores, 30 eateries, and 17 movie screens, Hamilton Place has become an oasis at Exit 5 on I-75 for the weary traveler, summer tourist, and day-tripper. Chattanooga is strategically located at the intersection of I-75 and I-24. Traveling time to Nashville, Knoxville and Atlanta is under 2 ½ hours, making it a hub location for this Georgia/Tennessee metro region. Chattanooga is home to the Tennessee Aquarium, IMAX Theater, Ruby Falls and the famous Rock City Gardens on Lookout Mountain.

Hamilton Place extends a special welcome to all tour groups visiting or traveling through Chattanooga. Our Food Court has a variety of eateries, such as Chick-B-I-A, Sbarro's, Bourbon Grill, Fiesta Grill, Great Wraps and many more. We also have Piccadilly Cafeteria and American Café located inside Hamilton Place. The outside perimeter of Hamilton Place has numerous restaurants such as PF Changs, Bonefish Grill, Olive Garden, Sticky Fingers, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster and more!

To find out more information about Hamilton Place please visit us on-line at www.hamiltonplace.com. You will be able to see our store directory, free coupons, special events, movies and entertainment.

If you are planning to visit Rock City, Ruby Falls and the Incline Railway, our Customer Service Center sells discount combo tickets to all three attractions. Adults are only \$38 for all three attractions and children (3-12) only \$19. *cash only please*

We hope to see you soon!


Susan W. Hoff

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Accessibility: Call us at 1-800-423-8531 for more information.

BDQ REUNION 2008

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO - HOLIDAY INN FACT SHEET

GENERAL HOTEL INFORMATION:

Address: 1400 Market Street Phone: (423) 266-5000
Chattanooga, TN 37402 Fax: (423) 265-4633
Web Page: www.choochoo.com
Location: Downtown Distance to Airport: 12 miles
Total number of rooms: 364 Suites: 11

PARKING FACILITIES:

Spaces Available: 600
Complimentary to Hotel Guests.

TRANSPORTATION:

Airport Shuttle Service Available: Yes
No Charge to Hotel Guests.
CARTA Downtown Shuttle Service: Yes

RATES:

Standard Single or Double: \$129.00
Victorian Railcars: \$139.00
Suites: \$225.00 and up
Special Group Rates Available

SAFETY & SECURITY:

Number of Floors:
Building I 2 Floors 1 Elevator
Building II 3 Floors 1 Elevator
Building III 5 Floors 2 Elevators

Year Hotel was Built: 1973
Last Major Renovation Completed: Spring 2002

Guest Room Security:
View Holes: yes Dead Bolts: yes
Smoke Alarms: yes Opening Windows: yes
Public Security: 24 Hour Security on Duty
Nearest First Aid: Erlanger Medical Center
2 Miles From Hotel

UNIQUE FEATURES:

Hotel Lobby Housed in Chattanooga's Terminal Station.
Listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
All American Rose Garden Society.
Peaceful Garden Paths Featuring Formal Rose Gardens,
Annual Beds, Water Garden, Daylily Beds, Antique
Fountains, Gazebos, Benches, and Gas Torch Lights.

ENTERTAINMENT ON PROPERTY

In-room Movies 3 Tennis Courts
2 Outdoor Pools 1 Indoor Pool
2 Hot Tubs 10 Unique Shops
Antique Trolley Ride Model Railroad Display

Live Music (seasonally) Arcade/Games
Candy Factory
Ice Cream Shop



CHOO-CHOO 1(800) TRACK 29

IN ROOM FEATURES:

Coffee Maker Hair Dryer Iron/Board

RESTAURANT FACILITIES:

Name	Type	Seating Capacity
The Gardens	Family - Southern Style	160
The Station House	Casual - Steak, Seafood, Ribs	210
Diner in the Diner	Casual	24
Cafe Espresso	Delicious Selections, Gourmet Coffees, & Desserts	20
Room Service	Available	

CONTACTS:

General Manager	Jim Bamberg
Director of Sales	Annie Still
Director of Marketing	Julie Dodson
Food & Beverage Director	Yaser Hanieh
Director of Catering	Lynn Casey
Guest Services Manager	Rachel Lea
Group Reservations Manager	Vanessa Robbs

NEARBY FACILITIES & ACTIVITIES

Shopping:

Warehouse Row - Name Brand Outlet Mall
Hamilton Place Mall

Sports:

Golf - Moccasin Bend (Public Course)
Baseball - Chattanooga Lookouts/BellSouth Park
Health Club - Sports Barn
Fishing - Tennessee River Park
Hawessee River
Hang Gliding - Lookout Mtn. Flight Park
Walking/Jogging - Tennessee Riverwalk
Whitewater Rafting - Ocoee River

Museums:

Metal of Honor Museum
Hunter Museum of American Art
Houston Museum of Decorative Art
Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum
Chattanooga African American Museum
Chattanooga Regional History Museum
Creative Discovery Museum

Attractions:

Southern Belle Riverboat
Tennessee Aquarium
Imax 3-D Theatre Center
Rock City Gardens
Ruby Falls
Incline - Lookout Mountain
Raccoon Mountain
Tennessee Wildlife Center
Coolidge Park Carousel
Chattanooga Visitors' Center

Historic Sites:

Chickamauga Battlefield (Civil War)
Point Park (Civil War)
Red Clay (Trail of Tears)
Walnut Street Bridge (Pedestrian Walkway)

PRESENT ARMS

Donald Stafford (85th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion) passed away at 18:30 hours 26 July 2007 at Williamsburg, Kentucky.

I served with Don in the 504th Airborne in Germany in the late 50's, and also together as instructors at the Mountain Ranger Camp. Don was a Team Sergeant for Major General Ed Scholes with the Special Forces. Our berets are off for Don and his wife, Faye.

Mike Martin

CONTEMPLATIONS

Then he was told:
Remember what you have seen,
because everything forgotten
returns to the circling winds.

Lines from a Navajo Wind Chant

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (CONTINUED)

In the practice of international politics there are two blunders worse than crimes. One is to threaten the use of force without being prepared, if necessary, to implement it. The other is to start using force and break off under outside pressure before the aim has been reached.

...William Henry Chamberlin

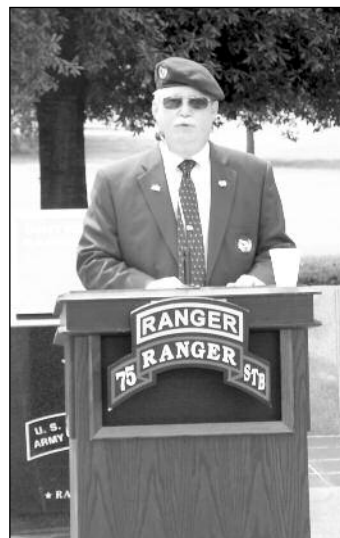


David Jewell (RTO 52d BDQ) with two Vietnamese Rangers and a captured VC submachine gun and a claymore mine; Hoi My Phuc Tuy, 15 July 1966



52nd Vietnamese Ranger Advisors: Left to right: 1st Lt. Keith Nightingale (DSA), Capt. All Shine (SA), SFC John Swyers, SP4 Elephant

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



**All Gave Some,
Some Gave All:**

In solemn remembrance,
Vietnamese Ranger
Advisor Bill Miller reads
the names of the ARVN
Ranger Advisors killed in
Vietnam at the Ranger
Memorial Service on 9
August 2007 at Fort
Benning, GA.



**75th Ranger Regiment
Association Coin Presentation**

Vietnamese Rangers (L to R) Trung Pham, Colonel
Nguyen Thanh Chuan, and Major Dinh, present
the Association's Coin to Madame Hong in honor
of her husband, Colonel Ngo Minh Hong (see
Patrolling, Volume 22, Summer 2007) at the 47th
Anniversary of the Biet Dong Quan, on 22 July
2007, in Southern California.

STATE COORDINATOR – ADVOCATE

BEHIND THE SCENES, YET IN THE FOREFRONT:

Ken York attended the funeral of PFC Kristofer D. S. Thomas of Roseville California. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion in Afghanistan. PFC Thomas was in a helicopter crash in February. The services were held on February 28, 2007 and he was interned at New Castle Cemetery in New Castle California. Ken made arrangements for the family to receive an engraved silver 75th RRA coin and sent a bouquet of flowers from the association. Ken will also present PFC Thomas' mother the 75th RRA's "Gold Star Mother Award".

Ken's two sons are due to deploy with the 1st Battalion during its next rotation. **We will all keep them in our prayers awaiting their safe return.**

Thank you Ken for your representation of the 75th RRA.

John Kiefel attended the services of **Sgt. Michael Louis Vaughan**. Sgt. Vaughan was not a ranger but it was his next step in his military career to become one. John was representing the 75th RRA. The services were held on May 8, 2007. It is to be noted that the Governor of the state of Oregon attends every funeral for the soldiers of his state.

Thank you John for your representation of our association.

NOW THAT IS WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT!

New State Coordinators:

We still have states with no State Coordinator at all. Please consider supporting our Association, LRRPs, LRPs or Rangers with this tremendously important mission.

States still needing Coordinators are:

Alabama	Alaska	Arkansas	Idaho
Maryland	Mississippi	Missouri	Montana
Nebraska	New Hampshire	North Dakota	Ohio
Oklahoma	Oregon	South Dakota	Utah
Vermont	Wyoming		

Actually we can use State Coordinators for all states even if we have one already for your particular state. You are the person that demonstrates our devotion and love for one another.

I have been out of the loop for a while this year.

If you attend any services or events representing the 75th Ranger Regiment Association please let me know so we may recognize your efforts.

John Chester has certificates and silver coins that you may present to the families of our departed brothers. Be sure to visit any wounded, injured, or ill brother also.

Please consider being a State coordinator for your state. As you can see our volunteers do a great service for the families, and the association.

Now is the time to step up and be counted!

Gene Tucke
State Coordinator – Advocate
75th Ranger Regiment Association

Special Operations Memorial Update

May – August 2007

During this reporting period we have sustained fourteen Special Operations losses.

Our first loss was SSG Joshua R. Whitaker of the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) on 15 May. The 7th SFG also lost MSG Arthur L. Lilley on 15 June. SSG Charles L. Glenn, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), was lost in action on 17 May. Two more Special Forces combat losses included SFC Nathan L. Winder of the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on 26 June; and the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) lost SSG Ross L. Roling on 30 June. SFC Sean K. Mitchell, also assigned to the 10th SFG was lost during training on 7 July.

The 96th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne) lost Major James M. Ahearn and SSG Keith A. Kline during combat operations on 5 July.

CCT1 Steven P. Daugherty, SO1 Jason D. Lewis, and MC1 Robert R. McRill, assigned to SEAL Team 10 were lost in action 6 July.

Our Ranger loss during this period was Ranger CPL Jason M. Kessler assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.

Regretfully I am adding two more names as I write this update. On 12 August we lost SSG Jesse G. Clowers Jr. and Duana Kettle, both assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne).

Also added to the Memorial was SFC Chet May, assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) who died during training in September 1990.

Our prayers go out to all of the families of our lost heroes, and to all of their comrades who continue to fight the global war on terrorism.

Engravings were purchased for CMSGT John Hoffman who previously served with USSOCOM D-Cell; and for COL Warner (Rocky) Farr, former SF Medic and currently serving as the USSOCOM Surgeon.

Two major donation were received since our last report: \$15,000 from Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), and \$10,000 from ITT Industries. Both organizations have now moved up to become \$25,000 contributors.

I have saved the good news until last. The new Special Operations Memorial is complete in the shape of the USSOCOM spearhead. All of the engravings from the original Memorial have been transferred over. I am currently awaiting delivery of a shipment of blank tiles to completely cover the interior walls. They should arrive this coming week, and upon completion I will send photographs. We anticipate a rededication later this year.

Geoff Barker
Director of Site Operations



GENERAL WAYNE DOWNING

“A Fallen Comrade”

Most armies train and fight by similar standards, but the one thing that makes us—U.S. Military—different is the way that we honor our dead: General Wayne Downing will be so honored on 27 September 2007, when he is laid to rest among fellow legends and heroes at one of the most hallowed spots on earth, the West Point Cemetery. Family members, classmates and honored alumni will be a part of this ennobling occasion.

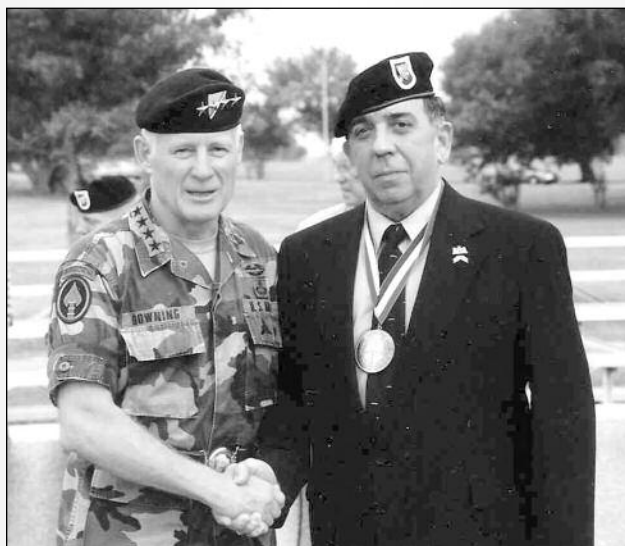
This gentlemanly Soldier, Ranger, and former Special Operations Commander died on 17 July '07, in his hometown of Peoria, Illinois. He was 67 years old.

I first met Wayne when he joined the 1st 75th Ranger Battalion in 1975...he was a major at that time who had fought with the 173rd Airborne in Vietnam. I was the First Sergeant of B Company, 1st 75th. He quickly gained the respect of the NCOs and Officers of the battalion, but it is doubtful if he was aware of his destiny and that we could have visualized his future laurels, recognition and contribution—both on and off the battlefield—to the Rangers, Special Operations, and the war on terrorism. As retired Colonel Fred Caristo (the consummate covert warrior) stated, “He was the real Thing....”

Later in our careers, and after retirements, we would correspond throughout the world; he never failed to respond on questions and theories of a retired Command Sergeants Major or to any other soldier that I'm aware of....

If I am correct in my surmise, I would have to believe that two other old soldiers will be looking down as General Downing receives his final “Salute”, his father, PFC Francis Wayne “Bud” Downing—killed with the 9th Armored Division in WWII, and his longtime friend Joe Powers, a wounded 101st Airborne veteran from WWII; saying, “well done Soldier, well done!”

By Mike Martin



General Wayne Downing (US Special Operations Commander) and Mike Martin (BDQ Director) at the 1995 Ranger Hall of Fame Induction at FT. Benning, GA.

In Memory of CSM (RET) Donald C. Stafford

Honors are bestowed upon Ranger Instructor and Vietnamese Ranger Advisor Don Stafford on 29 July 2007, at his internment in Williamsburg, KY. The Color Guards and Firing Detail are from the **5th Ranger Training Battalion**.



Price of the above coins are \$30.00 each.
(The price of silver has doubled).
They are solid silver. To engrave a name &
member number add \$2.00 & add \$5.00 for
shipping. Total cost delivered is \$37.00.
(shipping is \$5.00 per order) If you order more
than one coin, add only \$5.00 for the shipping.
We have available through the coin company,
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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 **2007**” it means your membership number is 0628 and your dues were paid through **30 June of 2007**. 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. Dues can be paid by check, credit card (MC/VISA), or payment can be made online using Pay Pal. 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

MUCHER	KEVIN B.	RGT	ROCKHOLT	DONALD K.	173 ABN BDE
BROWN	MILTON E.	TAB	LINDSEY	JOHN	RGT
WILSON	JOHN J.	BDQ	BROOKSHIRE	BRUCE C.	BDQ
MORRIS	TYLER D.	RGT	WHITE	DAVID T.	RGT
ISITT	JAMES P	RGT	KRIZ	PETER	LRS
SHIPPEY	WILLIAM H.	173RD ABN BDE	WILLETT	ALAN	RGT
GROSS	WILLIAM T.	V CORPS	SILVERTHORN	GARY L.	RGT
NICHOLS	GARY G.	BDQ	CHRISTIAN	DAVID A.	1ST INF DIV
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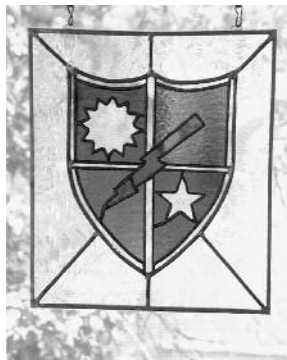
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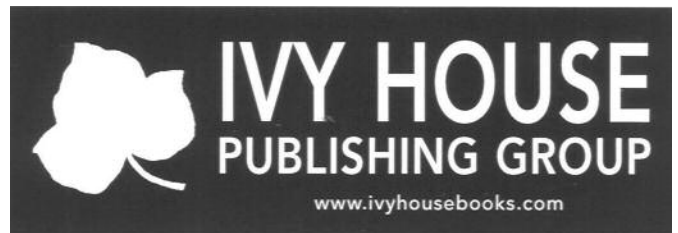
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