This is when I was the Safety and Training Officer R&D for the USAJFKSWC Military Free Fall School, where I was training the Rangers and SF troops for tandem combat insertion. To be able to take in mission essential personnel that are not MFF, I am the Tandem pilot and one of the first tandem master instructors in the Army.

Gary L. O’Neal


Photo by Scott Billingslea
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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

There are scholarships available to family members of our Association members. Check out the Feature Articles section to see the web site where applications can be made.

There is a whole new body of information on our old friend Agent Orange. This information is also in the Feature Articles section. You owe it to yourself and to your family to check it out.

Unit Directors: Please send a photo of yourself to me for inclusion in the magazine. I will forward it to Dave Regenthal for the web site. I agree with Dave, I think that it’s good for the members of a given unit to see what their representative looks like. Who knows, you might jog someone’s memory that you served with of their time as a LRRP, LRP or Ranger.

John Chester

SEE BELOW FOR REUNION 2011 INFO

WEB SITE

Rangers, Hello from Cyberspace!
The important news is that our website is up and running for your early sign ups for the RANGER RENDEZVOUS 2011. That’s right, all the news that is news regarding next summer’s reunion will be accessible to you from the main page of www.75thrra.com

We already have the signup form and shopping cart (for on-line payments) in place. As we move along and things begin to fall into place, commitments are made, etc., we’ll post that information ASAP so that you can remain in the loop.

By the time you read this we will have all the host, and overflow motel information up there so you can begin to make your plans and reservations.

We have learned that, in previous years, some of our brothers were not able to come to the Rendezvous due to extreme financial hardship. Maybe we can’t do everything for everyone but this is no longer a reason to stay home. If bunking up with a fellow Ranger or partial sponsorship will make the difference then please contact your Unit Director for assistance.

Let’s leave no one behind! Rangers helping Rangers . . . it’s what we do.

Dave Regenthal 68-69’
Agent Orange
Agent Orange was bad enough when it was confined to Vietnam, but now we have something else to worry about. I recently found out that Agent Orange was tested within the confines of the United States, prior to it being used in South East Asia and other locations. At present I have somewhat limited information, but I will expand it as it becomes available. (See story in the Feature Articles section).

There is confirmed information that Agent Orange was tested at several stateside locations in the early sixties, including Ft. Dietrick, MD, Ft. Gordon, GA & Eglin AFB, FL. As most of you are aware, there are three phases of Ranger School, and one of them takes place at Eglin AFB, FL. It became a matter of concern to me, when, along with the latest release of a number of additional “presumptive” diseases and conditions associated with Agent Orange exposure. It is entirely possible that some of our members could have been exposed to Agent Orange, developed one of these ‘presumptive’ diseases, and subsequently died from it. All of the above without having served a day in an area where Agent Orange was actually deployed tactically. There is a list of these expanded presumptive diseases & conditions elsewhere in the magazine.

There are means to compensate survivors (spouses) if an individual’s death was service connected, even if that service connection was established years after his death. If you know of someone to whom the above may apply, contact me and I will point you (or his survivors), in the right direction. As I stated earlier, I will update this information as it becomes available, and I will also make available some information and a profile on the individual that brought this issue to my attention. There was, apparently, a great deal of reluctance on the part of the relevant authorities, to share information concerning the domestic use of defoliants within the continental United States. Thanks to the Freedom of Information Act and the persistence of Lou Kreiger, the information was obtained and shared with me, and now with our members.

New Editors
I have two individuals who have expressed interest in the Editor’s job; more importantly, they are both capable of doing it. It is also fortuitous that one live in California and the other in New York, if all goes well, and the individuals involved both agree, there will be TWO editors to share the burden and to counsel each other. An added bonus, they are both Batt Boys, (Post 1974 Rangers), so the hand over to the modern generation will be proceeding on schedule. I have just received an interesting proposal from an individual that is involved in the management of another organization of members of a specialized military unit, much like ours. He proposes that he perform a similar service for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. We will discuss this among the elected officers and unit directors, and if things look positive, bring it to the general membership for a vote at the business meeting in Columbus, GA at our reunion in July.

This just might be the answer to our prayers. As I have stated more than once, we are too big to have one guy do almost everything, (the Secretary), and too small to hire someone to do it for us. If this individual can figure out a way to do it so that he gets compensated and it doesn’t cost us an arm and a leg, I would be all for it. As we begin to turn the organization over to the people we old farts call the “young Rangers” I believe that it will become apparent that they actually have lives and will need to be in a supervisory rather than an actual administrative role. If we can do this without giving away the farm, I’m all for it. More later.

Secretary’s position
While we are on the subject of the Secretary’s job, let me expand a little on that theme. As most of you know, the individual that was elected to the position at the business meeting in 2009 at Columbus, GA was unable to continue in the position due to an increased workload at his place of employment. Tom Sove volunteered to take over the position, and did so in January, 2010. There was a backlog of work that he needed to catch up with, and that was pretty well accomplished by the summer of 2010. At about that time, Tom’s wife Cass, had been diagnosed with a very serious disease. The place where the most promising treatment was available was Portland, OR, (they lived in
Modesto, CA), so of course they went there for the recommended treatment. When I became aware of the situation, I asked Tom if he could continue in the position, and he assured me that he could. I told him that he didn’t need to write a column for the magazine for every issue, and that we would do what we could do to help him in the accomplishment of the attendant duties of the position. What I am trying to get at here is the following; Tom is back & forth from Modesto, CA to Portland, OR, so I would solicit the understanding of the membership. If things don’t get done quite as fast as you think they should be, give us the benefit of the doubt. The Secretary’s position is the most labor intensive of all the elected officers. He is responsible for collecting all the money, posting the dues to the database, so that the dues are current, paying all the bills, filing the tax returns, processing all new membership applications, (this includes weeding out the phonies who are a pain in the ass & a colossal waste of time), mailing out the new membership packages, all correspondence with other associations and others, handling Family Fund donations and writing thank you letters, etc., etc., etc. Having done the job for five years I appreciate what the job entails. I’m not bitching, but I do want the membership to have an appreciation of the Secretary’s responsibilities.

There have been many suggestions about spreading the responsibilities among several ‘Secretaries’, but the problems with access to the database, (and the funds) remained; no one in the position felt comfortable with non-members having access to the database, to say nothing of the funds. We have quite a few active duty members and many, many recently separated members, and that was even more reason to protect the database. The bottom line? Cut the Secretary some slack guys, it’s a tough job. My fear is that some day we are going to get down on the guy, (sometime in the future), and he’ll quit. We would really be up the creek then.

**State Coordinator**

After a number of years of outstanding service, Gene Tucker is no longer able to continue in the position on State Coordinator. What this means of course, is that we are looking for his replacement. Let me first give a short synopsis of the duties of this position. This is what the job entails.

- Maintaining a roster of individuals from each state that are willing & able to attend funerals, visit members & current Rangers in hospital or sick, etc.
- Serve as point of contact for family members or other interested parties desiring the presence of 75th RRA representatives at funerals, interments, etc.
- Contact our members on the roster and arrange for them to attend the above mentioned functions. Order coins to be delivered (mailed) to the families of the deceased.

The individual should have the capacity & knowledge to e-mail and should have the capacity to maintain an Excel data base. If you are interested in the position and are interested in giving something back to the Association and to the Ranger Community, get in contact with me. I have a current State Coordinator roster, so you will not be starting from scratch.

**Trauma Sensitive Yoga**

Mary Anne has been teaching Yoga at a local Vet Center in Baltimore for the last two years. She was recruited by another Vet Center in Annapolis, MD, last summer, (she’s actually getting paid at this one). Her classes have veterans from Vietnam up to and including the present conflicts. What she is doing is referred to as “trauma sensitive Yoga”. She attended a class taught in Boston, MA by David Emerson and Dr. Bessel van der Kolk, both of whom are well known for their work in the field of post traumatic stress disorder treatment. This course was designed as a practicum in offering Yoga to individuals suffering with PTSD.

There are links between the mind and the body. While PTSD has been thought to be primarily a psychological problem, it is well established that the condition can cause physical problems as well. Yoga as a treatment moderm for PTSD exploits this mind-body interface, and uses the body’s movement patterns to calm the mind and to deal with many of the symptoms associated with PTSD. Yoga is not a strenuous activity, and an individual need not be an athlete in order to participate. It is also very non-threatening and there is no ‘belief system’ involved. One need only relax and follow very simple instructions.
If any of you suffering from PTSD, think they are about as good as you are likely to get, given the present scope of treatment, you might consider Yoga as an additional treatment technique. If you attend any programs at your local Vet Center, you might request that they look into the services of a Yoga Instructor, if not many gyms and health clubs offer Yoga classes and there are many Yoga studios around. By all means let the Yoga teacher know what you are after concerning your PTSD, and go into the process with an open mind. What have you got to loose?

President’s Message (COn tinUed)

Mary Anne at work. Yoga for Combat veterans.

Mary Anne at work. Yoga for Combat veterans.

Mary Anne & her class from the Pikesville Vet Center.

Welcoming Home the Heroes

Joe Little

Veteran’s Day is an important holiday as we honor those who have and who currently serve our country in the armed forces. This year, across the nation, there were many events to honor veterans, including two at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. Twenty-five World War II veterans arrived in Terminal 4 on November 11. They were welcomed home by family and friends, cadets from the Deer Valley Civil Air Patrol Squadron, and with a water arch from the Phoenix Fire Department over the Southwest Airlines plane.

These World War II Veterans were part of a group who traveled to Washington DC to visit the WWII Memorial with the support of a national non-profit organization called Honor Flight. Thanks to the organization, veterans travel to Washington DC at no cost to them and are escorted by Honor Flight volunteers. This opportunity gives veterans the chance to remember and reminisce with each other about their experiences.

According to Susan Howe of the Northern Arizona hub of Honor Flight, this program was started in 2005 by Earl Morse, a former physician’s assistant who cared for World War II veterans on a daily basis. After asking one of them if he would like to see his memorial in Washington D.C., the veteran broke down in tears and said that he would love to see it, but didn’t have the means. The Honor Flight organization was founded at that moment.

When the veterans arrived back at Sky Harbor after their journey, they were greeted with cheering, applause, and thanked by people of all ages. It was a positive day of remembering and honoring these veterans who served our country.

On Friday, November 12, fifty Vietnam Veterans from
Arizona were welcomed home by friends and family members as part of the Operation Freedom Bird Event. Red, white and blue balloons and patriotic tunes filled the Southwest Airlines hangar.

This event, which partners Southwest Airlines with the Arizona-based Operation Freedom Bird organization, gives Vietnam veterans the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., to pay tribute and acknowledge their feelings about the war and serving their country. This celebration welcomed them home, and ultimately, gave friends and family the chance to give these deserving veterans the homecoming they never had after the Vietnam War.

As the Southwest Airlines flight taxied toward the hangar, the Phoenix Fire Department welcomed the plane with a water arch. Once they got off the plane, friends and family applauded, whistled and waved little flags to show support and patriotism. There was the Presentation of Colors by the Luke Air Force Base Honor Guard and country recording artist Aaron Tippin sang a few songs.

Each year, Operation Freedom Bird selects veterans in Arizona to take part in this event. Over the course of the year, veterans speak with counselors to confront the feelings they had from being involved in the Vietnam War. The culmination of the process is the four-day trip to Washington D.C. While in D.C., they visit the Vietnam War Memorial several times both during the day and at night. They also tour Arlington Cemetery and the Iwo Jima Memorial. Participants also attended a Veteran’s Day Ceremony at the Vietnam Memorial and a Memorial for the Marine Corps Exchange.

After the Vietnam veterans were welcomed home, they had the opportunity to visit with family and friends as the sacrifice they made to our country was celebrated. Thank you again to all of the veterans who have and who are serving our nation.

BY: Joe Little

The 1st Vice President’s Message (CONT inUED)

The annual journey was initiated in 1988 at the suggestion of America West Captain Pat Lynch. Lynch completed his Vietnam tour of duty with the US Army’s 158th Aviation Battalion, 101st Airborne Division in 1969. He was awarded a Silver Star, Bronze Star, and an Air Medal with a “V” for valor. Nearly two decades later, as a pilot with America West, he sought a means of reaching out to his fellow Veterans. Lynch conceived of the idea of the Freedom Bird, named in honor of the Freedom Bird flights that transported members of the service back to the United States at the end of their tour in Vietnam. Lynch took his idea to America West Airlines and they gave their approval. Then he took it to Ken Benckwitz, MSW of the Phoenix Vet Center for implementation. Ken involved the Vet Centers as a means of working with participants that were on their therapeutic journey and exhibited a strong desire to improve their quality of life. America West Airlines gave the program their complete support and completely funded this program for ten years.

The first Freedom Bird flight took off in November 1988. During its first two years, the group was composed strictly of Veterans from Arizona Vet Centers. In 1990, their Las Vegas counterparts joined Arizona Veterans. Arizona, Las Vegas, and Albuquerque Veterans made the program in 1991. In 1992, which marked the tenth anniversary of the Vietnam War Memorial, the program included Veterans from Arizona, Albuquerque and Columbus, Ohio. In conjunction with the dedication of the Vietnam Women’s Memorial in 1993, the group included participation by women Veterans from San Francisco who were joined by a group of Arizona Veterans. In 1994, the program hosted Veterans from San Diego.

In 1998, Operation Freedom Bird began its first year as a separate organization funded by private contributions. Under our current structure, all Veterans will be selected from Arizona Vet Centers.

In 2010, the program is now extending this “Healing Journey” to a new generation of Combat Veterans. We welcome those that served in Iraq and Afghanistan brotherhood of Combat Veterans that served this great nation.

Operation Freedom Bird has evolved to become a non-profit organization that works to coordinate and obtain support, sponsorship, and raise the funding necessary to cover all the expenses including travel, lodging and meals for the annual Operation Freedom Bird journey.

Because of the generous contributions and efforts of many in our community and YOU, The Freedom Bird tradition continues.
An Important Question: Who Really Supports Veterans?
A Journey of Discovery…

Around the time of the last Presidential election, a local veterans’ group asked for my help in getting politicians who supported veterans elected. It sounded like a great idea, and although I hadn’t been involved in politics in the past, I accepted the challenge. What happened next was a journey I did not expect. I soon found out that I really knew little about veterans’ support and that many of my previous assumptions were about to be challenged. First, I had to do some research and ask, “Who is supporting us?” and more importantly, “Who isn’t?” If I was going to spend my off time, normally reserved for family and fun, on political candidates, I wanted to make sure the candidates really supported veterans. Support as in how they vote, because that’s how veterans get help: Voting on bills, voting on allocating money, and voting on laws that have a direct effect on the lives of veterans. ‘Talk is cheap’ has always been my theory. No candidate has ever gotten on the microphone and said, “I’m anti-military,” but surely some have voted as such. What I found was confusing and didn’t depend on conventional political party wisdom. One must look beyond the 24-hour news cycle and its buzzword hypnotism, and seek the truth in order to place a vote where it counts.

Before the 2008 election, I looked for sources and first went to groups I respected: The American Legion, the VFW, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Association, as well as Congressional voting records. Here’s what I found:

From the American Legion:
“Any attempt to characterize a congressional member, of either political party, as pro- or anti-veteran is not conducive to the legislative process. The Legislative Division staff work with Members of Congress on the basis, not of whether they are a “D” or an “R,” but on an individual subject. For example, few members are more polarizing than Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (NV). He became a lightning rod for criticism when he proffered “the war is lost.” Yet, Sen. Reid has championed resolution of the Disabled Veteran Tax and stood by with a vote in favor of the Flag Amendment. Both of these are cornerstone issues for The American Legion. Similarly, Representative Chet Edwards (TX-17) has done more good for veterans as chairman of the House Appropriations VA Subcommittee than nearly anyone in Congress. The annual increases in the VA budget over the last decade can be credited in large part to Rep. Edwards’ efforts. It’s impossible to objectively argue the relative importance of Reid over Edwards. Both have served veterans well in unique roles and both have been criticized for not doing enough.”

*Edwards sadly was voted out of office in the most recent mid-term election after 20 years of Veteran’s support.

“Congressional members have many complex reasons for voting as they do. The needs of their constituents are paramount to many, while others are more concerned with “doing the right thing.” Oftentimes, national organizations have little understanding why a Member votes they way he or she does. It would be irresponsible for The American Legion to tell someone how to vote in a district in rural America without a clear understanding of the local issues, concerns of the electorate, and “broader picture.”

Who do you think they endorsed in 2008? Hint, starts with an “O”.

From the 2008 Presidential election:
(The Washington Independent 7/8/08)
During a testy exchange with a Vietnam veteran who questioned Sen. John McCain’s voting record on veterans’ issues at a town hall meeting in Denver yesterday, McCain boldly asserted that he has “a perfect voting record from organizations like Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, and all the other veterans’ service organizations.” When the vet challenged him on this claim, saying he did not have a perfect voting record with Disabled American Veterans or VFW, McCain responded:

“I’ve been endorsed in every election by all of the veterans’ organizations that do that. I’ve been supported by them and received the highest awards from all of those organizations, so I guess they don’t know something you know.”

So does McCain really have a “perfect voting record” with all the veterans’ service organizations, as he claims? Has he really received the highest marks possible? Not really, it turns out. True, VFW’s Political Action Committee did endorse McCain in 2004, but that doesn’t mean he has a perfect record with the group. McCain recently skipped the
vote on the 21st Century GI Bill, sponsored by Sen. James Webb (D-Va.), which ultimately passed the Senate by a margin of 75-22. The bill, which President George W. Bush signed into law last week, allows veterans who served after 2001 to attend four-year public universities in their home state, free of tuition. The bill was strongly supported by VFW and the American Legion.

Disabled American Veterans gave McCain a dismal 20 percent rating, out of a possible 100 percent, during the second session of the 109th Congress, which ended in January 2007 — their most recent rating. Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America gave McCain a grade of ‘D.’

Vietnam Veterans of America does not offer a rating or grade, but they do provide a chart that compares McCain’s vote to their preferred position. Since 2001, McCain voted with VVA nine times and against them 15 times. He also missed eight votes.

While McCain may enjoy broad support among many veterans of both parties, we have to give him an ‘F’ for truth-telling.

**From www.vawatchdog.org - 2008 Election:**

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>10/05/2005 Health Care for Veterans Amendment Y</td>
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John Sidney McCain
Current Office: U.S. Senate
Party: Republican
Status: Announced

Veterans Issues:
2006 Senator McCain supported the interests of the Disabled American Veterans 20 percent in 2006.
2006 In 2006 Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America gave Senator McCain a grade of D.
2006 Senator McCain sponsored or co-sponsored 18 percent of the legislation favored by the The Retired Enlisted Association in 2006.
2005 Senator McCain supported the interests of the Disabled American Veterans 25 percent in 2005.
2004 Senator McCain supported the interests of the Disabled American Veterans 50 percent in 2004.
2004 Senator McCain supported the interests of the Disabled American Veterans 50 percent in 2003.
1999 Senator McCain supported the interests of the Disabled American Veterans 66 percent in 1999.
1989-1990 On the votes that the Vietnam Veterans of America considered to be the most important in 1989-1990, Senator McCain voted their preferred position 50 percent of the time.

Now, about this time, I was questioning all that I knew to be true. A Veteran not supporting vets and a DEMOCRAT the better candidate? This wasn’t what Dad told me or what I had learned or supported as a soldier. This must have been isolated, right?

Not so much….

I have continued to stay informed about our elected officials, and here are the facts that helped me to cast my vote in the most recent (2010 midterm) election.

Iraq and Afghanistan Veteran’s of America (IAVA) has rated congress members on how well they support veterans. Democrats do better than Republicans. A lot better.
The IAVA Report Card (http://iavaaction.org/report-card) lets you find the rating of any House or Senate member. They have also compiled lists of the best and worst. Their methodology (http://iavaaction.org/report-card/methodology) is straightforward: They rate House members on how they voted on 18 bills, and Senators on 12 bills. People who did not serve a full term in congress get an INC. One point for each bill. Then they converted points into letter grades, from A+ to F.

**Best in the Senate:**
*(all of these people got A or A+)*

Mark Begich (D) AK  
Barbara Boxer (D) CA (reelected)  
Kirsten Gillibrand (D) NY (reelected)  
Tim Johnson (D) SD  
Frank Lautenberg (D) NJ  
Blanche Lincoln (D) AR (lost)  
Charles Schumer (D) NY (reelected)  
Debbie Stabenow (D) MI  
Ron Wyden (D) OR (reelected)  

Great for Vets! We reelected 4 or 5 key supporters! No Republicans in top 10?

**Worst in the Senate?**
*(all of these Senators got D or F)*

Lamar Alexander (R) TN  
John Barrasso (R) WY  
Robert Bennett (R) UT (reelected)  
Christopher Bond (R) MO (reelected)  
Sam Brownback (R) KS (reelected)  
Jim Bunning (R) KY (reelected)  
Saxby Chambliss (R) GA  
Tom Coburn (R) OK (reelected)  
Thad Cochran (R) MS  
John Cornyn (R) TX  
Jim DeMint (R) SC (reelected)  
John Ensign (R) NV  
Michael Enzi (R) WY  
Russ Feingold (D) WI (reelected)  
Lindsey Graham (R) SC  
Judd Gregg (R) NH (reelected)  
Orrin Hatch (R) UT  
Kay Hutchison (R) TX  
James Inhofe (R) OK  
Johnny Isakson (R) GA (reelected)  
Jon Kyl (R) AZ  
Richard Lugar (R) IN  

29 Republicans and 1 Democrat. In fact, that means MOST Senate Republicans got D or F.  
Bad for Vets! We reelected all 12 on this list of shame.  
*If there’s no result next to the candidate, it indicates there was no election for that seat or in a few cases retired the seat. They will run in 2012.

**House of Representatives “A” list top 20:**

Mike Arcuri (D) NY-24 (lost)  
Tim Bishop (D) NY-01  
John Boccieri (D) OH-16 (lost)  
Leonard Boswell (D) IA-03  
Rick Boucher (D) VA-09  
Chris Carney (D) PA-10 (lost)  
Ben Chandler (D) KY-06  
Joe Donnelly (D) IN-02  
Alan Grayson (D) FL-08 (lost)  
John Hall (D) NY-19 (lost)  
Phil Hare (D) IL-17 (lost)  
Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D) SD-AL  
Jim Himes (D) CT-04  
Paul Kanjorski (D) PA-11 (lost)  
Larry Kissell (D) NC-08  
Ron Klein (D) FL-22 (lost)  
Mike McIntyre (D) NC-07  
Jerry McNerney (D) CA-11  
Walt Minnick (D) ID-01  
Harry Mitchell (D) AZ-05 (lost)  
Bad for Vets! We lost 9 of our top 20 supporters in the House.

Many of the Senators and House Members above are up for reelection in 2012. Remember the names of who does and who doesn’t vote in our interests. I refuse to be “tricked” into voting for the wrong candidate by the current news culture, false information, my own preconceptions, or what my friends, family, or co-workers feed me as the “truth”. It’s my responsibility to know the facts. This serves to honor the privilege to vote and respect our hard fought democracy.
Time Flies
A year ago, I was preparing to head to Savannah for the 20 year reunion of Operation Just Cause. Time flies it seems. While I won’t be in Savannah this December there are some 1st BN. Brothers who have decided to make it an annual pilgrimage, contact me off line if any of you are interested in doing the same and I will provide you with their contact information. As an early Warning Order, we will be Rendezvousing again in 2014 for the 25th.

Speaking of Rendezvous, I would hope that most of you do realize that we are due to descend on Columbus once again this summer. This is of course exciting news and another example of how time flies. It’s hard to believe it’s been 2 years since the honor to serve in this organization was bestowed upon me. I’m honored to be around some of the people who came before me, who served with me and who are serving now. I have truly walked and continue to walk among Giants.

The Learning Process of what we do
My time here certainly has been a learning process of what we do, what hurdles we have and how we are going to achieve them. What I have found is this is a great organization that does many things for many Rangers and I would expect that we will continue to do so. I also believe that our potential to do even more for the 75th Ranger Regiment and their families is enormous. Sometimes I wonder, even though it is published online and in this magazine if folks realize what we are all about.

As one who took awhile to circle back to my roots, I believe that one of the most important things we do is sustaining platforms, fire for effect. My belief is that the only thing worse than not voting is NOT knowing what you are voting for. No Ranger would have attacked an objective without a recon, a plan, and knowledge of the objective. Attack voting in the same manner! Your vote means too much not to....

RLTW,
Jason Baker

Wesley Jurena

Voting is a privilege! It’s a privilege we, and many before us, have paid a dear price to maintain. Let’s cast those votes with full understanding, knowledge, and the pride of casting the right vote, whatever that may mean for each of us.

I recognized when writing this article that it would be polarizing. I am not trying to change anyone’s beliefs, but rather encouraging all of us to be educated on the candidates that win our votes. Then, if you agree with their platforms, fire for effect. My belief is that the only thing worse than not voting is NOT knowing what you are voting for. No Ranger would have attacked an objective without a recon, a plan, and knowledge of the objective. Attack voting in the same manner! Your vote means too much not to....
whenever possible, attend the funerals of any Ranger within that state as representation of the 75th RRA.

Sadly, one of our programs is becoming one that is needed more often than those listed above. Our Gold Star Response Team, led by Sandee Rouse is a very important part of our association and we are currently the only association to have this in place. She is there to reach out to the Gold Star Mothers and Wives in their time of need. To let them know that that will not be alone in their walk towards their new normal and that they will always continue to be a member of this Family. I’ve been working to help expand this program as it appears we will need representation near each Bn. And financial resources to support this, if anyone is interested in helping with this, please contact me off line.

I believe we have the potential to do more, I’m not sure what that definition is just yet, but I’m reaching out to the CSM’s of each Battalion to ask, “what can we do to help lighten the rucksacks?” None of this is possible without the volunteers that are the unit reps, state coordinators, Gold Star Response Team, the other officers and of course, those that continue to support the association each and every year financially. To all of you, Thank you.

Old Faces in High Places

While doing a demo of some of our products at SOFEX on Ft. Bragg, the other 1st Bn. Rangers I was with ran into an old Friend. Seems when I was swilling beer in the B-Co bar (the Hard Rock bar was nice but B.Co had great beer specials) I would always run into their company commander, Cpt. Kurt Fuller. Well, Captain Fuller is now BG Fuller. Other than a heavier collar he seemed the same, ordering some O-3 aide to get him a spit cup, sporting the old Scroll 2/75 patch and talking about hunting. Here is a picture of Robert Rummells, BG Fuller and Frank Gorski.

We also received an award for our booth as shown in the picture below. Actually, we called this the Politically Correct Everyone wins Award. Seems much like many of today’s activities for kids, all you had to do was show up and everyone was a winner!

Old but Timeless

I found this not too long ago and posted it on my Facebook page. It seems that quite a few Rangers had seen this somewhere in their travels as evidenced by the amount of comments I received. I think in a way you could change a few things here or there and it would reflect every generation.

Tribute to a Ranger

The average age of a Ranger is 19 years. A short haired, tightly muscled kid who, under normal circumstances is considered by society as half man, half boy. Not yet dry behind the ears, but old enough to die for his country. He never cared much for work and would rather wax his own car than wash his fathers, but he has never collected unemployment either.

He’s a recent high school graduate and was probably an average student, pursued some type of sports activities and probably drove a 10 year old second hand car. He probably had a steady girl friend who either broke up with him when he left or swears to be waiting for him when he returns from half a world away.

He listens to rock and roll music or punk rock or country and 7.62 machine guns and AC130 gunships. He is 10 to 15 pounds lighter than when he left home because he is working or fighting before dawn until well after dusk. He occasionally has trouble spelling thus letter writing can at
times be a pain for him, but he can field strip a rifle in 30 seconds and assemble it in less. He can recite to you the nomenclature of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either one if he must.

He can dig a foxhole or a latrine and can apply first aid like a professional. He can march until told to stop and stop until told to march. He obeys orders instantly and without hesitation but is not without spirit or individual dignity.

He is self sufficient. He typically has two pair of fatigues, he washes and dry cleans one pair and wears the other. He keeps his canteens full and his feet dry. He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth but never to clean his rifle. He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothing and fix his own hurts.

If you are thirsty he will share his water with you, if you’re hungry, his food. He will even share his ammunition with you in the midst of battle if you run low.

He has learned to use his hands as weapons and his weapons as if they were his hands. He can save your life or take it because that is his job. He will often do twice the work of big Army or a civilian, draw half the pay and still find ironic humor in it all.

He has seen more suffering and death the he should have in his short lifetime. He has stood atop mountains of dead bodies and helped create them. He has wept in private and in public for his Brothers who have fallen in combat and is unashamed. Just as did his father, grandfather and great grandfather, his is paying the price for our freedom. Beardless or not, he is no boy. He is the American Fighting Man who has kept this country free for 200 years. He asks for nothing in return but our support. Remember him, Always, for he and his Brothers have earned our respect and admiration with their blood. He is the Best, He is a Ranger.

Happy Holidays
I hope the holiday season is a great one for all. Please keep the men of the 75th in your prayers as they continue to deal death on our enemies. If there is anything I can do for anyone, please feel free to contact me.

Rangers Lead the Way!

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to each of you. Here is hoping this most special time of year finds you Blessed beyond words and that the New Year brings you all that you want for you and your family.

Unfortunately we have 2 more KIA both from 1/75.

SFC Lance Vogeler 1/75 was KIA 10-1-10. He leaves behind his wife Melissa, 2 children and 1 on the way along with his parents and a brother. Along with Sue Peney I had the honor of doing the Gold Star Pin presentation to his family.

SSG Kevin Pape 1/75 was KIA 11-15-10. He leaves behind his wife Amelia, his father Mark and a 3 year old Daughter. Sue Peney was traveling to Indiana to see family and did the Gold Star Presentation to the family.

Please continue to keep these families in your prayers.

As most of you know the past 2 years have been unbelievably hard on our Ranger families. For that and several other reasons I have asked the board to allow me to create a Gold Star Task Force consisting of 3 other mothers, Ruth Stonsifer, Jill Stephenson and Sue Peney. It will also have 2 wives Jackie Liavadaus and 1 other TBD. I have put together a plan to work with these wonderful women to better assist our families, our Rangers and the association. These women have already stepped up on several occasions to help me. We will also be a strong liaison between the association and the battalions as we work closely with them throughout the years. Another reason for this is because the question was posed to me by
both Emmette Hilibrandt and Dana McGrath “Have you secured the Gold Star Program to continue if something happens to you?” the answer was No!!! By these women willingly accepting my offer to become part of the response team that has been taken care. You may now rest assured that you can fire me or I can step down and this worthy program that is Unique to only the 75th RRA will continue.

Now for other News:
Thanks to Jill Stephenson for sharing the following with me.
Bill H.R. 3949 Called the Corey Shea Act

The legislation allows parents of deceased veterans the right to be buried with their children if the veteran has no living spouse or minor children. The legislation also stipulates that no veteran will be displaced. The bill covers veterans who died in preparation for and in battle, and it includes either biological or adoptive parents.

The Bill is expected to be signed by the President in the near future. For further information you can go to http://www.northwestmilitary.com/news/veterans/2010/11/northwest-military-ranger-ailifter-newspaper-JBLM-congress-approves-joint-burial-bill-corey-shea-ac/

Here also from Jill is a special event that she will be involved in: My brother, J.T. Burud and son, Ben Kopp will be honored on the Donate Life Rose Bowl Parade Float with floragraphs. My mother and I will travel to Pasadena in Mid December to make them. We (and my hf Pat) will return over New Years to participate as VIP’s in the parade events. I feel blessed again to be part of something so special given by Ben’s generous spirit. I feel doubly blessed that my mother will join me and be honored along with my brother 28 years after his death.

Here is a link to the page of floragraph honorees on the Donate Life Rose Bowl parade float. Honorees are listed alphabetically by last name. J.T. and Ben’s bio’s are here and now posted on the Donate Life web page for the parade. You are welcome to forward and share this message...

Gold Stars please mark you calendar for the week of July 25-30 2011. Come be a part of the Ranger Rendezvous and the 75th RRA Reunion at Ft Benning. There are events all week that you will want to see and be part of starting with the whole Ranger Regiment jumping in, the Ranger Hall of Fame Presentations, the Regimental Change of Command, and culminating with a wonderful Banquet and program at the Iron Works downtown Columbus. The Holiday INN in Columbus is offering special Gold Star Rates and I hope to have a List Of Gold Star activities planned and available by the March Patrolling Issue.

Again let me wish each of you the best New Year ever.

As always it is an Honor to serve this association as the Gold Star Family Advocate.
RLTW
Blessings
Sandee
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, John Chester, President

Veterans in Office Update 03
At the start of the 111th Congress of 2009-2010, only 25% of U.S. senators and 21.6% of U.S. representatives had served at least some period in military uniform (active duty, Guard, or Reserve). That percentage has been declining steadily since it peaked at 74% for the House (1969-70) and 78% for the Senate (1977-78).

The decline will continue when the newly minted 112th Congress takes office next year. In the new Senate, there will be 25 vets, including four military retirees - the same figures as the 111th Congress. Senators Mark Kirk (R-IL), Scott Brown (R-MA), and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) are currently serving National Guard or Reserve members. In the House, a whopping 98 seats turned over. Among incoming freshmen, 22 are veterans, including four military retirees. Rep Steve Stivers (R-OH) and Reps-elect Tim Griffin (R-AR), Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), Steven Palazzo (R-MS), and Joe Heck (R-NV) are currently serving in the National Guard or Reserve. The new House will have a total of 87 veterans (20% of voting members), including 10 military retirees — down from 94 vets at the start of the 111th Congress. [Source: MOAA Leg Up 24 Nov 2010 ++]

AO Cleanup Vietnam
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has told the Da Nang People’s Committee that it plans to spend US$34 million to rid the city’s airport of Agent Orange. The two-year project is intended to ensure that plants can again grow in contaminated earth. Former military airports in central Binh Dinh Province’s Phu Cat District and southern Dong Nai Province’s Bien Hoa District will be next on the list for detoxification, says USAID. During the past three years, with funding provided by various American non-governmental organizations, the agency has approved spending of US$21 million to deal with dioxin contamination in the country, according to Da Nang City’s Department of Foreign Affairs. The $21 million total includes $16 million to be spent on dioxin clean-up of the area and $2 million to be spent on assessing environmental impacts as well as exploring technical solutions to the problem. The remaining $3 million have been earmarked to help improve the lives of the city’s Agent Orange victims and disadvantaged people.

Dioxin-contaminated earth will be scooped up and burned in tubes at temperatures of more than 350 Celsius degrees, according to the agency. From 72 to 80 million litres or defoliants were sprayed over Vietnamese forests during the war, including the highly toxic Agent Orange, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Da Nang, Bien Hoa and Phu Cat airports are home to some of the highest dioxin concentrations in the contamination of the environment. Today, dioxin levels at the airport are up to 400 times higher than internationally accepted levels. The affected zone has been sealed off from the public. [Source: Vietnam Net Bridge http://english.vietnamnet.vn/en/society/1740/society-in-brief-19-11.html article 19 Nov 2010 ++]

VA Claims Processing Update 03
For veterans claiming they can’t prove a service connection for their disability because it resulted from a secret operation, the Veterans Affairs Department has assigned a liaison officer to the U.S. Special Operations Command with direct access to classified files. The little-known program has a VA employee work closely with the command historian at the command’s headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., to review files on classified missions for special operations units in all services. Befitting the nature of the missions involved, the program, quietly launched a year ago, has received scant attention. Joe Davis, spokesman for
Veterans of Foreign Wars, was unaware of the initiative. —But it does make perfect sense, given the clandestine nature of their business, he said. The liaison was established in DEC 09 under an agreement between the Pentagon and VA. The current VA liaison to the Special Operations Command is an Army veteran who was not part of a special operations unit but has the appropriate security clearances to review files, according to VA sources.

Lack of records access has been seen by many spec ops veterans as a roadblock to filing claims, especially for disabilities such as posttraumatic stress, for which there may be nothing in military health or personnel records to verify any treatment while the veteran was in uniform. If a veteran says his claim is based on involvement in a secret mission, VA claims examiners turn files over to the liaison, who can verify the veteran’s involvement, VA sources said. If more information is needed, the claims examiner requests that the liaison search for the information by requesting it from either U.S. Special Forces Command or one of its subordinate commands. The liaison officer then prepares sanitized information for use by the regional VA office handling the claim. Veterans have direct contact with the liaison only if more information is needed to track down records, VA sources said. Claims from veterans who say they took part in an intelligence operation run by the Defense Intelligence Agency, Central Intelligence Agency or other government organization also can be researched by the VA liaison officer if a classified mission is involved, VA sources said. The liaison officer is a full-time employee of the Veterans Benefits Administration and has access to records involving special operations units including Army Rangers, Army Special Forces, the Army’s 17 160th Aviation Regiment, Navy SEALs, Air Force Special Operations and Marine Corps Special Operations and Reconnaissance units. [Note: Military Times Copyrighted material - Not authorized for reproduction on any website or website accessed newsletter. However, it can be forwarded via email in personal communications.]

[Source: ArmyTimes Rick Maze article 22 Nov 2010 ++]

WARNING TO VETERANS
Forwarded by Kevin Secor, VSO Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

An organization called Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way.


VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our Legal Counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services.

In addition, the General Council requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate Chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any additional information to Mr. Daugherty at the address below.

Michael G. Daugherty
Staff Attorney
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of General Counsel (022G2

Ed. Note: Duke Dushane sent me this after finding it on the web. This is a pretty comprehensive list of web sites dealing with veteran related subjects. Considering all the other legislative and related issues covered in this issue, and the new presumptive illnesses linked to agent orange, and other herbicides, this is something you might want to tear out (or copy) and put with your DD-214 & other important papers.

J. Chester

Appeals
www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch05.doc

Board of Veteran’s Appeals www.va.gov/vbs/bva
CARES Commission www.va.gov/vbs/bva
CARES Draft National Plan www1.va.gov/cares/page.cfm?pg=105
Center for Minority Veterans www1.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans
Center for Veterans Enterprise www.vetbiz.gov/default2.htm
Center for Women Veterans www1.va.gov/womenvet
Legislative Update Message (Continued)

Classified Records - American Gulf War Veterans Association
www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum18/HTML/000011.html

Compensation for Disabilities Associated with the Gulf War Service
www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part6%20/ch07.doc

Compensation Rate Tables, 12-1-03
www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Rates/comp01.htm

Department of Veterans Affairs Home Page
www.va.gov

Directory of Veterans Service Organizations
www1.va.gov/vso/index.cfm?template=view

Disability Examination Worksheets Index, Comp
www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Benefits/exams/index.htm

Due Process
www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch02.doc

Duty to Assist
www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch01.doc

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations
www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr

Emergency, Non-emergency, and Fee Basis Care
www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf

Environmental Agents
www1.va.gov/environmentagents

Environmental Agents M10
www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1002

Establishing Combat Veteran Eligibility
www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=315

Evaluation Protocol for Gulf War and Iraqi Freedom Veterans with Potential Exposure to Depleted Uranium (DU)
www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DUHandbook1303122304.doc

Evaluation Protocol for Gulf War and Iraqi Freedom Veterans with Potential Exposure to Depleted Uranium (DU)
www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DUHANDBOOKNONGW130340304.doc

Fee Basis, Priority for Outpatient Medical Services and Inpatient Hospital Care
www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=206

Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents 2005
www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf OR,
www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.htm

Forms and Records Request
www.va.gov/vaforms

General Compensation Provisions
www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter11_subchaptervi_.html

Geriatrics and Extended Care
www1.va.gov/geriatricsshx

Guideline for Chronic Pain and Fatigue MUS-CPG
www.oqpp.med.va.gov/cpg/cpgn/mus/mus_base.htm

Guide to Gulf War Veteran’s Health
www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/VHIGulfWar.pdf

Gulf War Subject Index
www1.va.gov/GulfWar/page.cfm?pg=7&template=main&letter=A

Gulf War Veteran’s Illnesses Q&As
www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/GWIllnessesQandAsIB1041.pdf

Hearings
www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch04.doc

Homeless Veterans
www1.va.gov/homeless

HSR&D Home
www.hsrdrd.research.va.gov

Index to Disability Examination Worksheets C&P Exams
www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/benefits/exams/index.htm

Ionizing Radiation
www1.va.gov/irad

Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom Veterans VBA
www.va.gov/EFIF

M 10 for Spouses and Children
www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1007

M10 Part III Change 1
www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1008

M21-1 Table of Contents
www.warms.vba.va.gov/M21_1.html

Mental Disorders, Schedule of Ratings
www.warms.vba.va.gov/regs/38CFR/BOOKC/PART4/S4_130...DOC

Mental Health Program Guidelines
www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1094

Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers
www.mirecc.med.va.gov

MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Centers of Excellence
www.va.gov/ms/about.asp
Legislative UPDATE Message (con't in Ued)

My Health e Vet www.myhealth.va.gov
NASDVA.COM nasdva.com
National Association of State Directors www.nasdva.com
National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention www.nchpdp.med.va.gov/postdeploymentlinks.asp
Neurological Conditions and Convulsive Disorders, Schedule of Ratings www.warims.vba.va.gov/regs/38cfr/bookc/part4/s4%5F124a.doc

OMI (Office of Medical Inspector) www.omi.cio.med.va.gov
Online VA Form 10-10EZ www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez
Parkinson's Disease and Related Neurodegenerative Disorders www1.va.gov/resdev/funding/solicitations/docs/parkinsons.pdf and www1.va.gov/padrecc

Peacetime Disability Compensation frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1131


Persian Gulf Registry www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1003
This program is now referred to as Gulf War Registry Program (to include Operation Iraqi Freedom) as of March 7, 2005: www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1232

Persian Gulf Registry Referral Centers www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1006

Persian Gulf Veterans’ Illnesses Research 1999,
Annual Report To Congress www1.va.gov/resdev/1999_Gulf_War_Veterans’_Illnesses _Appendices.doc
Persian Gulf Veterans’ Illnesses Research 2002,
Phase I PGR www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1004
Phase II PGR www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1005

Policy Manual Index www.va.gov/publ/direc/eds/edsmps.htm

Power of Attorney www.warims.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch03.doc

Project 112 (Including Project SHAD) www1.va.gov/shad

Prosthetics Eligibility www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=337

Public Health and Environmental Hazards Home Page www.vethealth.cio.med.va.gov
Public Health/SARS www.publichealth.va.gov/SARS

Publications Manuals www1.va.gov/vhapublications/publications.cfm?Pub=4

Publications and Reports www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/pubs_individual.cfm?webpage=gulf_war.htm

Records Center and Vault Homepage www.aac.va.gov/vault/default.html
Records Center and Vault Site Map www.aac.va.gov/vault/sitemap.html

Request for and Consent to Release of Information from Claimant’s Records www.forms.va.gov/va/Internet/VARF/getformharness.asp?formName=3288-form.xft
Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses April 11, 2002 www1.va.gov/rgcvwi/docs/Minutes_April112002.doc

Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses www1.va.gov/rgcvwi/docs/ReportandRecommendations_2004.pdf
Research and Development www.appc1.va.gov/resdev/programs/all_programs.cfm
Survivor’s and Dependents’ Educational Assistance
www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partiii_chapter35_.html
Title 38 Parts 0-17
eecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fb8f8801be9b3dc&c=ecfr&tpl=/eecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfvr1_02.tpl
Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation
eecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fb8f8801be9b3dc&c=ecfr&tpl=/eecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfvr3_main_02.tpl
Title 38 § 4.16 Total disability ratings for compensation based on unemployability of the individual. PART 4 SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES Subpart General Policy in Rating http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?
c=ecfr&sid=ab7641af1d195c84a49a2067dbbcf95c0&rgn=div6&view=text&node=38:1.0.1.1.5.2&sidno=38
Title 38 § 4.16 Total disability ratings for compensation based on unemployability of the individual. PART 4 SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES Subpart General Policy in Rating http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?
c=ecfr&sid=ab7641af1d195c84a49a2067dbbcf95c0&rgn=div6&view=text&node=38:1.0.1.1.5.2&sidno=38
VA Loan Lending Limits and Jumbo Loans valoans.com/va_facts_limits.cfm
VA MS Research www.va.gov/ms/about.asp
VA National Hepatitis C Program www.hepatitis.va.gov
VA Office of Research and Development www1.va.gov/resdev
VA Trainee Pocket Card on Gulf War www.va.gov/OAA/pocketcard/gulfwar.asp
VA WMD EMSHG www1.va.gov/emshg
VA WRIISC-DC www.va.gov/WRIISC-DC
VAOIG Hotline Telephone Number and Address www.va.gov/oig/hotline/hotline3.htm
Vet Center Eligibility - Readjustment Counseling Service www.va.gov/vecs/Eligibility.htm
Veterans Benefits Administration Main Web Page www.vba.va.gov
Veterans Legal and Benefits Information valaw.org
VHA Forms, Publications, Manuals www1.va.gov/vhapublications
VHA Programs - Clinical Programs & Initiatives www1.va.gov/health_benefits/page.cfm?pg=13
Vocational Rehabilitation www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre
Vocational Rehabilitation Subsistence www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/InterSubsistencefy04.doc
VONAPP online vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp
WARMS - 38 CFR Book C www.warms.va.gov/bookc.html
Wartime Disability Compensation frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1110
War-Related Illness and Injury Study Center - New Jersey www.wri.med.va.gov
Welcome to the GI Bill Web Site www.gibill.va.gov
What VA Social Workers Do www1.va.gov/socialwork/page.cfm?pg=3
WRIISC Patient Eligibility www.illegion.org/va1.html
Blood Thinners Update 04

The Food and Drug Administration last month approved dabigatran (sold under the brand name Pradaxa) based on clinical trial data showing that it’s at least as effective as the old standby Warfarin. The new drug offers practical advantages for patients, namely avoiding the frequent blood tests and dose adjustments required with warfarin (also known by its brand name, Coumadin). For the estimated 2 million Americans with atrial fibrillation who take the blood thinner warfarin to reduce their risk of stroke, there’s a new drug on the shelf — the first in two decades. “It’s a potential game-changer,” says Dr. Mintu Turakhia, a cardiologist at the Palo Alto VA Hospital and Stanford University. The clinical trial was huge, comparing two doses of dabigatran with warfarin treatment in 18,113 patients across the globe and following them for two years. The rate of stroke was 34% lower in the high-dose group — 150 milligrams, which was the dose approved by the FDA — than in the warfarin group. Actual rates per year were 1.1% (11 in 1,000) for the group on 150 mg of dabigatran and 1.7% (17 in 1,000) for warfarin.

The study was published last year in the New England Journal of Medicine. “There’s a lot of excitement about this drug,” says Dr. Noel Boyle, a UCLA cardiologist. “It’s the long-awaited alternative to warfarin.” Uncertainties remain, however, as is always the case when a drug moves from clinical trials to wider distribution. 18

Stoke risks from blood clots include age, family history and personal history of stroke or heart attack. Of treatable risk factors, high blood pressure and atrial fibrillation rank as the big two. Others include heart failure and diabetes. Atrial fibrillation is an abnormal heart rhythm, specifically a too-fast beating of the smaller chambers of the heart called the atria. Also called A-fib, the condition increases a person’s stroke risk by a factor of five. The link between atrial fibrillation and stroke was established by the Framingham Heart Study about 30 years ago. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, several large clinical trials showed that the blood thinner warfarin - referred to by many patients as “rat poison” because it was first marketed as a pesticide - reduced the risk of stroke by about 66% compared with placebo in patients with A-fib.

Clotting factors in the blood depend on the presence of vitamin K. By blocking the site where vitamin K usually acts, warfarin inhibits clotting. However, patients taking warfarin must have their blood checked periodically because its effect on blood can be modified by foods and other drugs. For instance, when people eat foods rich in vitamin K - such as leafy greens, broccoli and Brussels sprouts - the extra vitamin K competes with warfarin and the blood’s clotting activity can increase to unhealthy levels. In addition, many other drugs - including aspirin, Cymbalta, Flomax, Lipitor and Plavix - interact with warfarin, changing its effectiveness. “Because of these interactions, the safest way to manage warfarin treatment is by monitoring blood,” Turakhia says. Monitoring can be as frequent as every other day or as infrequent as once a month. Often, blood testing shows that the warfarin dose must be adjusted. Too much inhibition of clotting could cause bleeding problems; not enough inhibition means less protection against stroke. Thinning of the blood increases the risk that bleeding will get out of control, and the most concerning side effect of warfarin is bleeding in the brain. The risk of intracranial bleeding is so low that it’s hard to measure, but when it happens, the result can be as devastating as a stroke. Some experts estimate that there are fewer than five events per year for every 1,000 patients on warfarin, but the risk may increase with age and in people at greater risk of suffering falls - and thus, blows to the head.

Dabigatran is a direct thrombin inhibitor and acts at a different step in the coagulation process. Normally, thrombin promotes clotting by making blood platelets clump and by prompting tiny fibers to grow and catch the sticky clumps. The dabigatran trial found rates of bleeding problems were similar for both the 150 mg dose of dabigatran and warfarin - about 3% per year. But the rates of brain hemorrhage were lower for those taking dabigatran. In a subgroup
of 3,623 patients who had a history of stroke, 30 people on warfarin had brain bleeding, compared with 13 in the dabigatran group. The medication is not sensitive to diet or drug interactions, so patients don’t need blood testing and can take the same dose every day. This practical benefit can be huge to patients, because it reduces the burden of getting blood tests and then waiting for a provider to call back with a dose adjustment. Dabigatran is not the only direct thrombin inhibitor to be tested for stroke prevention, but it’s the first to pass muster. The FDA did not approve an earlier candidate, ximelagatran, after liver damage was observed in 7% of patients taking it. Results from a new clinical trial, testing a drug called rivaroxaban, are to be presented this week at the American Heart Assn. conference in Chicago. [Source: Chicago Tribune article 15 Nov 2010 ++]

**Risking His Life**

*By Wayne Lund*

This young ranger knew he was risking his life by fighting in that war, To him it did not matter because he knew what they were fighting for.

Spending long hours out on the trails, staying awake through most of the night, He considered it time well spent, when their team spotted the enemy in the morning light.

With the ambush set, they waited for the enemy to move to open ground, The ambush was set in such a way, when we opened fire it was from all around.

The ensuing fight was soon over, The area looking like a torn up battlefield, The only sad deal about this whole ambush was one of our members was killed

Upon our return to our base camp, after debriefing, We all sat down to cry, Thinking of our good friend he was so good at his job, why did he have to die.

Thinking of my own family, it was now time to leave on my own freedom bird flight, Saying to myself, I’ll be so damn glad when I’m gone and Viet-Nam is no longer in sight.

wlundlrrp_ranger@hotmail.com
20 October 2010
EGLIN AFB & AGENT ORANGE
BY: Lou Kriger

Recently released information has revealed that personnel, who trained or were stationed at Eglin AFB from 1960 through 2000, could have been exposed to high concentrations of the herbicides known as agent’s orange, white or blue. Exposure could have been as a result of direct spraying, contact with vegetation sprayed with the herbicide, or ‘mist drift’ of up to 6 – 8 miles (or more), depending on atmospheric conditions, height of discharge and the speed of the aircraft. Department of Defense records indicate that aircraft test sprayed from as high as 2,000 feet at rates of more than 1,300 times stronger than what was ‘tactically’ sprayed in Vietnam.

The VA has been accepting and approving benefit claims relating to agent orange exposure for individuals who have never left the continental United States. They have been doing this without much publicity. I am a Vietnam veteran and an agent orange exposure advocate from Myrtle Beach, SC. We now have the support of Veteran’s Affairs Committee member, South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham, who has stated, “It’s time to open the books on agent orange and get the truth out.” In Maryland, Senators Mikulski and Cardin support the investigation into ground water contamination by dioxin from agents orange, white, blue and other defoliant mixtures at ‘area B’ and other locations at Ft. Detrick, MD. In fact, test area C-52-A at Eglin AFB is still fenced off & patrolled and restricted from entry almost 50 years after began there in 1961 and continued through 1970.

As I related to John Chester in a conversation after I contacted him and informed him of the contamination, many of your Rangers who went through training at Eglin AFB, could well have died from conditions caused by their exposure to these defoliants without any idea or even remotely thinking that their condition was caused by their training at Eglin AFB. They also died without compensation from the Government or death benefits for their families. Family benefits are also available for any veteran’s children that were affected by their father’s exposure to any dioxin based defoliant.

All members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., who were stationed or took training at Eglin AFB, should look at the list of current ‘presumptive’ diseases associated with exposure to these defoliants. (List at the end of this article.) Any surviving spouse is also eligible to file a claim for benefits if their husband’s death was caused by any of the ‘presumptive’ diseases.

To expedite the claim filing process, it is strongly suggested that you get the help of a service officer from one of the Veteran’s service organizations, (VFW, DAV, MOPH, AM VETS, etc.) Don’t be afraid to question the Service Officer. I found out the hard way, while in the process of attempting to get benefits for my best friend’s wife, that the level of expertise at the DAV, VFW & AL in Baltimore was NOT up to speed. Their information on agent orange exposure was limited at best, and not up to date. I would recommend that you contact the Vietnam Veterans of America for representation or contact the nearest VA facility to find the Veteran’s Affairs officer in your area that can help. If there are ANY questions you can e-mail me at louk1065@gmail.com or call me at 843-251-8004. I have tons of information on the testing at Eglin AFB that I will provide you for your claim. I am working with veteran’s who have been exposed at Ft. Gordon, GA and Ft. Detrick, MD. The local media at both of these sites has been investigating the situation and reporting on it, but the media surrounding Eglin AFB has refused to touch the story. In fact the head of the VA for claims in the Florida panhandle is ‘non-responsive’ on the issue of any claims filed for stateside exposure at Eglin AFB. I would like anyone who files a claim to contact me so that I can track how many claims are filed. Once the media gets involved, the civilian claims will also trickle in, adding to the pressure on Eglin AFB and the VA.

You should not delay in filing if you have one of the ‘presumptive’ conditions. We are dealing with a deadly, and more often than not a fatal Dixon. Vietnam Veterans, whose average age is just 59 are dying at a rate of over 300 per day and at an average age of just over 64 years of age. We are being robbed of our senior years and the retirement that we worked for and looked forward to.

My help and information is free for any veteran or their spouse. I am a totally disabled veteran with service connected chloracne that I contracted in country during my second tour. My goal is simple; help my fellow veterans and get the truth out to the American public. Time magazine named agent orange as one of the top five ‘worst discoveries’ of the 20th century, simply because it is a deadly and toxic killer.

ED Note: The impact of these revelations are literally staggering. Now it is apparent that it is not necessary to
have served in SE Asia in order have been exposed to the herbicide that has killed so many of our brothers. It should also be apparent that anyone who went through Ranger School at Eglin AFB from 1961 through 1970 has potential exposure. Take a good look at the conditions listed below. Some of those listed are new. If you or anyone you know has been stationed at Eglin, even if only for training, and exhibits any of these maladies, contact Lou or myself or the nearest VA.

John Chester

Veterans’ Diseases Associated with Agent Orange Exposure

Veterans may be eligible for disability compensation and health care benefits for diseases that VA has recognized as associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides.

Surviving spouses, children and dependent parents of Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange and died as the result of diseases associated with Agent Orange may be eligible for survivors' benefits.

Acute and Subacute Peripheral Neuropathy

A nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to herbicides and resolve within 2 years after the date it began.

AL Amyloidosis

A rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters tissues or organs.

Chloracne (or Similar Acneform Disease)

A skin condition that occurs soon after exposure to chemicals and looks like common forms of acne seen in teenagers. Under VA's rating regulations, chloracne (or other acneform disease similar to chloracne) must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to herbicides.

Chronic B-cell Leukemias

A type of cancer which affects white blood cells. VA's regulation recognizing all chronic B-cell leukemias as related to exposure to herbicides took effect on October 30, 2010.

Diabetes Mellitus (Type 2)

A disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body’s inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin.

Hodgkin's Disease

A malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen, and by progressive anemia.

Ischemic Heart Disease

A disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart, that leads to chest pain. VA's regulation recognizing ischemic heart disease as related to exposure to herbicides took effect on October 30, 2010.

Multiple Myeloma

A cancer of plasma cells, a type of white blood cell in bone marrow.

Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue.

Parkinson's Disease

A progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement. VA's regulation recognizing Parkinson's disease as related to exposure to herbicides took effect on October 30, 2010.

Porphyria Cutanea Tarda

A disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun-exposed areas. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to herbicides.

Prostate Cancer

Cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men.

Respiratory Cancers

Cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus.

Soft Tissue Sarcoma (other than Osteosarcoma, Chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or Mesothelioma)

A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues.

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is not associated with Agent Orange exposure. However, VA has recognized ALS diagnosed in Veterans with 90 days or more of continuously active service in the military was caused by their military service. Learn about benefits for ALS, including VA health care benefits and disability compensation and other non-health benefits.

Agent Orange: Birth Defects in Children of Women Vietnam Veterans

VA presumes that certain birth defects in biological children of women Vietnam Veterans were caused by military service when the birth mother served in Vietnam during the period beginning February 28, 1961 and ending on May 7, 1975.
Birth Defects Covered by VA
Birth defects are abnormalities present at birth that result in mental or physical disabilities.

VA recognizes a wide range of birth defects as associated with women Veterans’ service in Vietnam. These diseases are not tied to herbicides, including Agent Orange, or dioxin exposure, but rather to the birth mother’s service in Vietnam.

Covered birth defects include, but are not limited to, the following conditions:
- Achondroplasia
- Cleft lip and cleft palate
- Congenital heart disease
- Congenital talipes equinovarus (clubfoot)
- Esophageal and intestinal atresia
- Hallerman-Streiff syndrome
- Hip dysplasia
- Hirschprung’s disease (congenital megacolon)
- Hydrocephalus due to aqueductal stenosis
- Hypospadias
- Imperforate anus
- Neural tube defects
- Poland syndrome
- Pyloric stenosis
- Syndactyly (fused digits)
- Tracheoesophageal fistula
- Undescended testicle
- Williams syndrome

Conditions due to family disorders, birth-related injuries, or fetal or neonatal infirmities with well-established causes are not covered. If any of the birth defects listed above are determined to be a family disorder in a particular family, they are not covered birth defects.

BUGLERS NEEDED
Bugles across America (www.buglesacrossamerica.org) needs Rangers to play bugles at military funerals. This Organization, founded by Tom Day, has tasked itself with replacing the computerized music the military currently uses, with live buglers because every deceased veteran deserves a bugler and not a recording. Contact me, Steve Grzesik (I play at military funerals) at 727-692-0343 or call Tom Day at 708-484-9029. You will be sent a mouthpiece to practice on. In a couple of weeks or less, when you are ready, you will audition with Tom Day over the phone. Then you will be sent a regulation U.S. Cavalry style bugle. All that is required is some dedication and a decent set of teeth, because the bugle pressure is on them. If you get in with a National Cemetery and sign up for the National Guard Honor Guard, you will even get some money for expenses. Soon the word spreads and you’re playing everywhere, VFW, American Legion etc. You can do this. RLTW Steve Grzesik (for Tom Day)
75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.
2011 REUNION
25 – 30 JULY, 2011
REGISTRATION FORM

Yes, I will attend the reunion at Ft Benning, Ga, 25 – 30 July, 2011.

NAME ________________________________________________________ MEMBERSHIP #____________________

UNIT AFFILIATION________________________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________________________________

CITY________________________________________________ STATE_________ ZIP _________________________

PHONE____________________________________________ E-MAIL _______________________________________

I will be accompanied by _______________ guests;*

*(By registering your guests, you are helping to defray the overall cost of the reunion. The Beer Garden, transportation, speakers, munchies, hospitality rooms, & activities, are all expenses to the Association. We try to make the reunion break even, guest registration helps.)

NAMES:________________________________________________________________________________________

REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON @ $40.00 $___________________

BANQUET TICKETS #___________ @ $40.00 $___________________

TOTAL PAID………………………………….. $ __________________

Please make checks payable to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association (75thRRA).
Mail to: 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 577800
Modesto, CA 95357-7800

Make your reservations now. Call the Holiday Inn North, Columbus, GA. Local phone number for reservations is 706-324-0231. National Reservation number is 800-465-4329. Our banquet will be at the Iron Works. The Holiday Inn North, Columbus, GA offers complimentary shuttle service, lounge, restaurant, pool, free parking and other amenities.
RANGER RENDEZVOUS / REUNION 2011

JULY 25 – 30, 2011

FT. BENNING (COLUMBUS), GA

THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC., WILL HOLD ITS’ BI-ANNUAL REUNION AND BUSINESS MEETING ON THE ABOVE DATES.

OUR REUNION HEAD QUARTERS WILL BE THE AIRPORT HOLIDAY INN NORTH, ON MANCHESTER ROAD. WE HAVE A GUARANTEED RATE OF $79.00 PER NIGHT.

THIS REUNION WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT RENDEZVOUS AND CHANGE OF COMMAND. AT THIS TIME, WE DO NOT HAVE A SCHEDULE OF REGIMENTAL ACTIVITIES, OTHER THAN THAT THEY WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE ABOVE TIME FRAME.

THE DECEMBER, 2010 (WINTER), & MARCH 2011 (SPRING), ISSUE OF PATROLLING WILL CONTAIN SCHEDULES.

IT IS THE ASSOCIATION’S POSITION THAT LACK OF FUNDS BY A MEMBER IS NOT SUFFICIENT REASON TO MISS A REUNION. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS, CONTACT YOUR UNIT DIRECTOR. THERE ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE, ALONG WITH A LIMITED NUMBER OF ROOMS. ALL INQUIRIES WILL BE MOST CONFIDENTIAL. THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND THE UNIT DIRECTOR WILL MAKE ALL DECISIONS.

THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT, INC. BANQUET WILL BE HELD THE EVENING OF SATURDAY, 30 JULY 2011. WE WILL HAVE A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FOR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS, TO INCLUDE:

***BICYCLING ALONG THE RIVER WALK

***HORSEBACK RIDING

***INTRODUCTION TO YOGA AND STRESS REDUCTION FOR SPOUSES

***INTRODUCTION TO YOGA & STRESS REDUCTION FOR VETERANS

***SEMINARS ON VETERAN’S BENEFITS AND NAVIGATING THE VA.
November 10, 2010

Dear Friend and Ranger Supporter,

We hope this package finds you and your colleagues doing well, enjoying this fall and preparing for a fantastic holiday season. This past summer we welcomed a new Ranger Training Brigade Commander, Colonel John King. In addition, the passion and professionalism of an elite group of RANGER heroes was honored at our August Ranger Hall of Fame ceremony. Thanks to supporters like you, we are able to recognize these distinguished gentlemen in the spirit fit for our Ranger heroes.

The dates for the 28th annual Best Ranger Competition has been set for April 15-17, 2011 at Fort Benning, Georgia. The formal awards ceremony will be held Monday, April 18, 2011. Mark your calendar now and save the dates. We are already making all the plans to host you in the spring.

I continue to be honored and privileged to work within the Ranger community while helping to support your mission and interests as well. Each company and individual supporter of the Best Ranger Competition is truly a vital part of the unique brotherhood of United States Army RANGERS. The contributions, of dedicated RANGER supporters, continue to propel the improvement of the toughest and most physically demanding competition held in the world.

In this packet we have included a contribution form and information brochure for your review.

- 2011 marks the 28th Annual Best Ranger Competition
- The official web site for the Best Ranger Competition is: www.bestrangercompetition.com. You can download information at this site if it is more convenient for you.
- Product donations are needed by March 25, 2011, in order to guarantee inclusion in the competition and/or proper distribution to competitors.
- Follow our activity on the Best Ranger Competition FaceBook page
- Last year we held our first annual Supporter Challenge with great success. We will continue in this tradition. Details to follow at a later date.
- Specific competition details will be published in late January.
- 2010 BRC coverage has been delayed, but should be showcased on Military.com in the near future and then will be held at www.bestrangertv.com. We will continue to provide you updates as they become available.

Thank you in advance for your support. Have a great holiday season and please do not hesitate to give me a call (706-718-9520) or e-mail me (candyssbryant@aol.com) with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Very Respectfully,

Candyss Bryant
Best Ranger Competition
Gold Star License Plate Unveiled

INDIANAPOLIS - A new Indiana license plate commemorating Indiana’s fallen heroes was unveiled today by Andy Miller, Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The Gold Star license plate will be available to spouses, parents, siblings or children of anyone who died while serving on active duty in the military - active, Reserve or National Guard.

The public unveiling followed an announcement of the new plate by Governor Mitch Daniels at the official 500 Festival Memorial Service on Monument Circle attended by many of Indiana’s Gold Star families. Daniels previewed the plate for the families at a private reception earlier in the day.

Attending the State House ceremony were Gold Star family members. They were joined by State Representative Cleo Duncan and State Senators Ron Alting, and Jim Merritt.

“Words and actions cannot repay what our fallen soldiers have given us: freedom,” remarked Miller. “However, it is with our words and actions that we can honor those who have defended our freedom. The Gold Star license plate is just one way to preserve the memories and sacrifices of Indiana’s bravest citizens.

“I am proud to unveil this license plate for grateful Hoosiers as we enter Memorial Day weekend.”

The concept is built upon the Gold Star Mothers’ Coalition that dates back to World War I. The wearing of a Gold Star was initiated by Grace Darling Siebold after her son Lt. G. V. Siebold died in aerial combat while in the command of the British Royal Air Force. Her concept grew to become a national recognition of those, particularly mothers, grieving the loss of their sons and daughters.

The Gold Star is now offered on license plates around the country to the mothers of fallen soldiers. There are many other states that have embraced the concept.

Starting January 2010, family members can secure a Gold Star license plate. The plates carry no special or group fee; however, the standard plate fees and excise taxes will still be assessed. Families will be required to submit proof that they qualify.

ONLINE VIRUS AND MALWARE SCANNING:

By: Marc Thompson

This article is one of a continuing series of computer-related articles for those of us who may not have ready access to professional IT consultants, or to the ubiquitous “brother-in-law in the business”...

Have you ever wondered if the behavior you were observing on your computer was the result of a virus, Trojan, worm, or some form of malware, but didn’t know how to check it? …OR did not want to run your particular antivirus software as well as SPYBot or another program to catch malware?

Believe it or not, there is a FREE online resource that you can use to check it, quickly.

ESET has a free online scanner that not only will scan your computer for viruses, Trojans, worms and the like, but also check for malware, that nasty stuff that slides into your computer unnoticed and randomly pops up windows in Internet Explorer or other web browsers, or does other things behind the scenes that, if you were asked, you wouldn’t want to have happening.

How, you ask, do I get this free scanner, and how does it work? The instructions for accessing and using the scanner are found below. This scanner scans your computer’s memory and local hard drives for viruses, etc. and for potentially unwanted or unsafe applications, and at the end of the scan, it reports to you the number found, and that (if found), it has removed them, or, in the case of unwanted or unsafe applications, it asks you what action to take.

INSTRUCTIONS:

As long as your computer is working and capable of accessing the internet, go to: http://www.eset.com

Go to the bottom of the page, and click on the link that says: “ONLINE SCANNER” … it will take you to: http://www.eset.com/online-scanner

Once it takes you to the page that has the scanner on it, you will see a button that is labeled: ESET Online Scanner
There is a warning on this page that you must be logged onto your computer with Administrator privileges in order for this to work… this does NOT MEAN that you must be logged on as the user Administrator, simply that your user account must have the system privileges associated with the Administrator Group.

**WARNING:**

If you are currently using a different virus-scanning/detection program, you should disable it for the duration of this scan., otherwise the online scanner and your current program may “collide”, rendering the results unreliable.

After you click the labeled button, it will pop-up another, smaller window that will either ask you to allow a specific active-x component to be installed (if you are running Internet Explorer), or if you are using a different browser (Firefox, Opera, Chrome, etc.) it will ask you to “agree to the download of ESET Smart Installer - an application which installs and launches ESET Online Scanner in a separate window. At the end of the scan, there will be an option to uninstall ESET Online Scanner and all its components.”

Follow the instructions that are presented, and either the active-x component or the application will be installed, (accept the terms of use, if necessary) and you will be presented with another window which allows you to set the settings for the program.

These include:

**Computer Scan Settings (Step 1 of 4)**

- Remove Found Threats
- Scan Archives
- Advanced Settings
- Scan for potentially unwanted applications
- Scan for potentially unsafe applications
- Enable Anti-stealth technology
- Use Custom proxy settings

You can leave these settings at the defaults presented to you, modify them if you want, (unless you use a proxy and know how to invoke it, leave that section alone) and click the START button. Information buttons are included with all the options to guide you, if you want to change settings.

If you are using this online scanner for the first time, it will tell you that, and download the virus signature database. On a broadband connection (like a cable modem) this will take a minute or two (up to ten, for example), depending on the traffic level on your local cable loop.

Once it completes downloading the database, the scan will automatically begin. The elapsed time for this operation is dependent on the speed of your computer and the number and size of you hard drives attached to the system.

After the scan finishes, it will report the number and types of problems found, and ask you for guidance if there are potentially unwanted or unsafe applications (in other words, do you want the program to remove the application in question).

Good luck, and safe computing…

**NOTE:**

All trademarks cited herein are the property of their respective owners. No endorsement or infringement is specified or implied.

This is not an advertisement for ESET, and we are not recommending that you purchase their subscription paid antivirus software (which is sold separately from the free online scanner). We are not recommending any particular antivirus software manufacturer over another… this is simply an informative article for all of you who may want to satisfy your curiosity about the behavior of your computer with a free program should you find yourself in a situation where you may want or need to use it.

We DO recommend that all computer users maintain a CURRENT antivirus software program on their computer at all times.
RGRMEMO BOD.O.50

TO: Board Members
FROM: Joseph Leuer, Executive Secretary

1. Call to Order: The meeting of Board of Directors was called to order on November 15, 2010 and was planned to run through November 19, 2010.

2. E-mail invites to participate in the meeting were sent to:
   a. Chairman, Ranger Ken Leuer
   b. Secretary, Ranger Jerry Scott
   c. Treasurer, Ranger Don Bowman
   d. Executive Secretary, Mr. Joe Leuer
   e. Ranger Roger Brown, Board Member
   f. Ranger Ralph Puckett, Board Member
   g. Ranger Michael Kelso, Board Member
   h. Ranger Emory Mace, Board Member
   i. Public Affairs, Ms. Jonnie Clasen
   j. Counsel, Mr. Robert Poydasheff
   k. RBA-WWII, Ranger Frank South
   l. Merrill’s Marauders, Ranger Phil Piazza; Proud Decedents, Bob Manta
   m. RICA, Ranger Bob Safran
   n. USARA, Ranger Butch Nery
   o. 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., Ranger John Chester
   p. The Ranger Regiment Association (TRRA), Mr. Hetzel
   q. The National Ranger Association (RTB), Mr. Hanson
   r. Worldwide Army Rangers (WAR), Ranger Willie Snow

3. The meeting was convened when the Executive Secretary sent out the agenda, Secretaries Report, Scholarship and Friend of the Rangers Reports, and previous minutes.

4. The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed, read, and a motion was made to accept them as published. No negative comments so the minutes were accepted as published.

5. Administration:
   a. Treasurer's Report:
      (1) Ranger Bowman posted the Treasurer’s Report.
      (2) The NRMF has current assets of $781,601.00, fixed assets of $710,632.06 and all total $1,492,233.29.
   b. Secretary's Report:
      1. To date we have 67 stones to engrave for summer 2011
      2. CFC is reporting $67,286.06 in donations for 2009 campaign. 2010 CFC will start in 1 Sep 2010 and run through Jul/Aug 2011.
3. We have 22 non-FOR level donors giving about $1773.00.

4. Continued maintenance of the monument. Landscaper is now responsible for cleaning out clogs in the drainage ditch. Landscaper is going over and fixing sprinkler issues. All American Recycling donated the labor and material to replace 18 light bulbs. King painting will electro-statically repaint all the lights and hand rails. It has been 10 years since last painting.

6. Association and Organization Reports:
   a. RBA WWII – No Report Posted.
   b. Merrill’s Marauders – No Report Posted
   c. RICA – No Report Posted.
   d. USARA – No Report Posted.
   e. 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc – No Report Posted.
   f. The Ranger Regiment Association (75th) – No Report Posted
   g. The Ranger Association (TNRA-RTB) – No Report Posted.
   h. Worldwide Army Rangers (WAR) – No Report Posted.
   i. Friends of the Rangers – To date, there are 22 FOR Level donors giving over $184,000. Letter will be sent out to past FOR donors in November and an ANET will be produced soliciting donors.
   j. Scholarships – In 2010 we awarded 29 Scholarships. To date, we have 5 applications for the 2011 year. Following the new SOP, the cut-off will be 1 June, 2011. Please advertise to your members the availability of the scholarship. Application process is on-line at www.rangermemorial.org. Each applicant must have in their possession a transcript and two letters of recommendation to upload and attach to the on-line application Scholarship program was created in 2001. The first four years we awarded 68 $750 dollar scholarships. From 2005 to present we have awarded 166 $1000 scholarships. Total awarded is $217,000 dollars.
   a. Public Affairs – Ms. Clasen is working hard producing first class Anets keeping the entire Ranger Community informed. She has built relationships with the MCOE Bayonet, RTB, and 75th and battalion PR professionals in order to gather and disseminate ranger related news.

7. New Business: None

8. The next meeting will be on-line and be planned for February 2011.

9. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 24:00 hours, November 19, 2010.
The 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment would like to thank LRRP Ranger Association (196th LIB (LRRP), E-51st INF (LRP) G-75th INF (RGR), VIETNAME 1966-1972 for their generous donation of $1500.00. Stephen Crabtree presented a check to 1SG Shay Ledbetter and SSG Dustin Rademacher for the 1st Ranger Memorial Fund and The Annual Ranger Kid’s Christmas Party.

The 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment would like to thank Merrill’s Marauders for their generous $5,000.00 donation to the 1st Ranger Battalion Memorial Fund. The donation was announced by Robert E. Passanisi, Historian Merrill’s Marauders Association.

The 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment would like to thank Richard and Judy Eckburg for their generous donation of $5,000.00 to the 1st Ranger Battalion Memorial Fund. Honorary Ranger Dick Eckburg is Vice President of the 1st Ranger Battalion Memorial Board.

Please go to the website www.1stbn75thrgrregt memorial.com for information on the 1/75 Ranger Memorial. Memorial Stone Sales are ongoing and the application can be found at the subtitle “Stone Application”. We appreciate your support!

Information on a 1/75 Ranger Ball is still pending. Please know we will advise everyone as soon as any plans are confirmed. Rangers Lead the Way!

We ask that you keep our Rangers in your prayers always.

Sergeant Jonathan Peney
Company D, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment
Killed in action in Afghanistan: June 1, 2010

Specialist Joseph Whiting Dimock, II
Company E, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment
Killed in ammunition explosion in Afghanistan: July 10, 2010

Sergeant Justin Bradley Allen
Company D, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment
Killed in action in Afghanistan: July 18, 2010

Sergeant Martin Anthony Lugo
Company C, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment
Killed in action in Afghanistan: August 19, 2010

Specialist Christopher Shane Wright
Company C, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment
Killed in action in Afghanistan: August 19, 2010

Sergeant First Class Lance H. Vogeler
HHC, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment
Killed in action in Afghanistan: October 1, 2010

This Quarter in 2d Battalion History:

January 1, 1969. The 75th Infantry is activated as a parent unit under the Combat Arms Regimental System (CARS). All approved long range patrol units were to share ranger heritage and be redesignated as ‘Ranger’ under the CARS 75th Infantry.

February 1, 1969. Company H (Ranger) 75th Infantry activated at Phouc Vihn, Republic of Vietnam. Concurrently, E Company, 52d Infantry was deactivated. All
personnel and assets remained. In the mid-'80s, 2d Battalion was assigned the lineage and honors of H-75th.

February 2, 1967. 1st Cavalry Division LRRP component activated. Provisional detachments organized and attached to the division’s 1st and 2d Brigades.

February 2, 1986. 2d Bn (Ranger) 75th Infantry is redesignated 2d Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.


February – April 1944. D-Day mission rehearsals conducted on Isle of Wight by 2d and 5th Ranger Infantry battalions.


February – April 1944. D-Day mission rehearsals conducted on Isle of Wight by 2d and 5th Ranger Infantry battalions.

February 14- March 26, 1975. 2d Bn (Ranger) 75 Infantry conducts unit cadre training at Ft. Benning, GA. 2d Battalion conducts its first battalion sized mass tactical parachute drop when it redeployed to home station at Ft Lewis.


March – April 1944. D-Day mission rehearsals conducted on Isle of Wight. On April 27, 2d Battalion is moved to the invasion staging area in Dorset.

Never shall I fail my comrades.

Rangers,

Times are tough and even those of us who are doing O.K. might not be doing as well as we would like. This makes it all the more important that we try to look after our own. Besides the projects that are unit-driven, these two association projects are worth your consideration:

This first is a reprint from several years ago but it bears rerunning:

Member’s Fund
“The Member’s Fund is maintained for the benefit of the current members of the 75thRRA, Inc. It is funded by our member’s contributions, not by dues. It was intended to defray reunion costs for those members who have fallen on hard times or have suffered a catastrophic loss. It has been used in the past to give an outright grant to several members in this position, but its primary purpose is to aid those who cannot afford to attend our reunions.”

There is only one caveat; the request must come from the Unit Director, usually as a result of the member bringing it to the attention of the UD. If anyone is aware of an individual in this position, please bring it to the attention of your UD. It can then be brought to the attention of the elected officers and acted on.” (J. Chester, Patrolling. Summer 2007)

Your unit director can be reached through the link on the association website, my addresses and numbers are also in the U.D. list inside the front cover of this journal, at the end of this column and I can be found on www.armyranger.com as ‘K. Ingraham’.

Remember how it was for the families of the junior enlisted? I was a barracks rat. I thought the married guys had it easy, living off post and all. I had to grow up before I realized that there is nothing easy about supporting a family on E-1 through E-5 pay on the economy, having a wife who is also a long way from home but who lacks the support of a team or squad and who is left alone for long and frequently indeterminate periods. Both the ranger and the wife are probably away from home for the first time and still have some growing up to do to match the responsibilities they have undertaken if children have appeared.

To help take the weight off of the warrior’s mind, we run a family fund. Lifted from the website, here’s an appeal by our webmaster:

If you want immediate satisfaction, then open this link at your association’s website and donate through PayPal or your credit/debit card: www.75thrra.com/familyfund.html

See you all in July at the Ranger Rendezvous and Reunion!

Kevin Ingraham

RANGERS (past, present, future, and friends of) . . . WELCOME ALL!

While there are ample reasons for generosity throughout the year, the holiday season is now upon us. It is historically a time when we tend to think even more of the children.

Over the past five years the 75th Ranger Regiment Association has 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.

Surely this is a cause worthy of everyone’s support? If you are able to make a contribution to the FAMILY FUND this year, simply click on the “Donate” button below. We do understand that times are difficult, more so for some than others. There is no requirement that you participate and there is no minimum or “suggested” amount. You may pay with PayPal, credit/debit card, or send your check to the secretary.

We thank you in advance of your gift or having at least considered participating in this worthy program.

Rangers Lead the Way!
Dave Regenthal ’68-69
Webmaster
Family Fund by Mail:
Secretary, 75th RRA, Inc.
Mr. Tom Savie
PO Box 57700
Modesto, CA 95357-7800
RFI! A historical question:
That mess the US Army passes off as regimental lineages affects our heritage as well.

During the height of the Cold War during the 1950s, the army organised a number of separate infantry units to guard remote bases and outposts. The official lineage of the elite 75th Ranger Regiment includes two such units: The 2d Infantry Battalion and the 75th Infantry Regiment. The regiment was officially organised on Okinawa on November 20, 1954 and deactivated on Okinawa on March 21, 1956. The 2d Infantry Battalion was activated July 1st, 1955 in Iceland and deactivated on March 11, 1960 at Fort Hamilton, NY.

Can anyone provide any evidence that these units did, in actual fact, exist? Were soldiers actually assigned? I would appreciate any leads; copies of orders, photos, locations of installations and the insignias worn.

I am working on a major project and would like to solve some ambiguities of our history, your input on this and other matters is appreciated!

For those of you that don’t know me, my name is Scott Billingslea and I’ve been honored with the opportunity to serve the men of 3/75, past and present, as the Unit Director. I held this role a couple of years ago, but was located in Fort Worth at the time. In the last year I’ve moved to the Fort Benning area, and I’ve had the chance to reconnect with the men of 3/75. I can’t begin to tell you what an incredibly humbling experience that has been.

I think every Ranger is inclined to believe that their own generation was the best. Since being exposed to the men currently in 3rd Ranger Battalion, I am confident in saying that the men standing in the ranks today are without peer. This belief is validated by their incredible combat record.

When I was in, we had Platoon extev’s (external evaluation), squad eval’s, JRTC and other training events. These men are moving to the sound of the guns almost every night they are deployed. To say I hold these men in high regard would be an understatement. I found it pretty ironic recently, when I was visiting a PSG in Alpha Company, that he and his squad leaders indicated how envious they were of the various training deployments I went on. I had a rapt audience describing the Belgian Commando course and jumping into Korea. While those training events were memorable, I know we would have traded all of them in a heartbeat for a chance to take the fight to the enemy.

It’s difficult to put into words the level of proficiency these men have attained, not just in training, but in the most unforgiving of environments. If you haven’t had the chance to meet any of them, I strongly encourage you to make plans to attend the next Ranger Rendezvous in July 2011.

As a sobering testament to how engaged the Regiment is in this fight, 3/75 lost 8 men on the last deployment. You’ll find their pictures and info below. I had the opportunity to attend the memorial service in the Battalion AO. Each of the fallen Rangers had someone stand and talk about the one that was lost. Some of these memories were pretty humorous, some were serious….all were moving. Each Ranger had a wreath placed beside the Battalion Memorial, where their name is now etched. Even if you’ve seen these notices before, take a moment and read them again. They led the way.

3/75 Memorial Fund Drive
As another testimony to just how integral the Regiment is in this fight, the 3/75 Memorial is out of space…think about that for a moment. There are a number of initiatives under way to expand it. I want to take a moment and talk about these.

Memorial Paver: As a part of the new Battalion Memorial, you have the opportunity to buy a paver with your name...
on it. I’ve included an order form and a picture of the current Memorial, as well as a drawing of what the new one will look like. This is a chance to honor the Rangers that we’ve lost.

Mogadishu Mile 5K: The 17th annual 5K run was held on October 2nd, and had a record 472 runners for the inaugural run open to the public. Later that day, country music star Keni Thomas was on hand for a concert in Columbus, and the money raised was donated to the Memorial Fund. My family and I attended the concert and, as always, Keni put on a great show.

The S-5 store is now online!! Some of the money raised through the S-5 goes toward the new Memorial. I’ll continue to let you know about opportunities to support the new Memorial.

S-5 is now ONLINE!!
You read that correctly…the S-5 is now online! I know there has been a lot of interest in getting shirts, hats and other items from S-5, and now it’s pretty simple to do so. Thanks to CAPT Carducci for making this happen. Just go to http://www.375ranger.com.

In addition to shirts and hats, you can also get KIA bracelets custom made, as well as Benchmade knives at a significant discount. Last time I was in there they still had some engraved Colt 1911’s as well, although I’m not sure about issues with mailing them if you’re not local. Also on this site is the order form for the Memorial paver that I mentioned. This is a great opportunity to support Rangers and also get some cool shit.

Glory Boys
I’ve begun coordinating a linkup of former 1/A Rangers for mid-January. Tony Wisyanski and I started talking about this idea last summer, and this past January we had our first reunion of Glory Boys. We had about 10 at the first one, and expect about 25 for this one, so far. The date ranges that will be represented span from 1987 to the present. We are planning to play a softball game against the current 1/A crew and have a cookout afterward at Uchee Creek. If you’re interested in attending, shoot me an email at rangerinvictus@gmail.com. On a side note, there’s been some questions about where the name “Glory Boys” originated, and no one seems to know. If you can shed some light, please let me know.

New Alpha Company Bar
A/3/75 recently put to good use the carpentry skills of an RFS pac. He did damn fine work on the new company bar. I’m hoping to help break it in during the linkup mentioned above. There has been a request for items to hang on the walls, as it’s pretty bare right now. Please look around and see if you have anything you’d consider donating, including pictures, maps etc…I’ll find out who to send them to and include the POC info in the next issue. I’m going to donate my DZ map from the aborted invasion of Haiti. Thanks again Jimmy Carter.

A Ranger Family comes home
By Tracy A. Bailey
75th Ranger Regiment Public Affairs
FORT BENNING, Ga.
(USASOC News Service, Nov. 19, 2010)

Home. A simple word, but one filled with so much significance, especially for one Ranger Family. “Three and a half years ago, my man was taken away from me,” said RyAnne Noss. “February 17 was the day I almost lost Scot.”

Sgt. 1st Class Scot Noss, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, was on his eighth deployment during February 2007 in support of the war on terror when the MH-47E Chinook Helicopter he was riding in crashed during combat operations in southeastern Afghanistan. Noss suffered a massive head injury that left him minimally conscious and has required continued hospitalization as well as intensive physical and cognitive therapy, first at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md., and then at the James Haley Veterans Hospital, Tampa, Fla. RyAnne spent the next three years living at the Tampa Fisher House so she could be with Scot; in transition, without a permanent place to call their own.

Fisher House Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing Families of wounded warriors a place to live during hospital and rehabilitation stays. But the one thing RyAnne wanted for her husband was a permanent residence; a place where she and Scot can call home. “Three and a half years of being stubborn and determined and having a faith in a higher power, we made it home,” said RyAnne. “It means the world just to keep Scot safe and happy in this home environment. I always wanted to take him home.”
At a Veterans Day Ceremony, filled with tears and laughter, Scot and RyAnne received the keys to their brand new home in Trussville, Ala., courtesy of Home for Our Troops, a non-profit organization located in Taunton, Mass., which builds homes for wounded warriors at no cost to the warrior. “Sergeant First Class Noss answered the Nation’s call to duty in the summer of 1999 and committed to service in the 75th Ranger Regiment,” said Lt. Col. Jay Bartholomnees, regimental executive officer, 75th Ranger Regiment. “To live daily by our Creed and, understanding the risk and potential cost, volunteered to reenlist for continued service after 9/11.”

Since the day of his injury, Noss, a native of Lebanon, Ore., has been fighting to recover physically, while his wife RyAnne has fought to ensure he and other wounded veterans receive the care, financial assistance and progressive treatment they so rightly deserve. “RyAnne stood by his side—unwavering in her support and love for her husband, and being an advocate for other Soldiers requiring continuous care,” said Bartholomnees. “There is nothing that we can do to repay the sacrifice that Scot gave in his service, he is a young man of purpose, well aware of the high stakes of his chosen profession, and expects no accolades or public recognition for his heroic efforts.”

Building the Noss home was a community effort, supported by many vendors, sub-contractors and citizens of Trussville. “All the money, time and labor that you all poured into this beautiful home are a testament to your commitment to Scot and RyAnne and great thanks for their sacrifice to our Nation,” said Bartholomnees. “Thank you for rallying around Scot and RyAnne as they transition into their home, turning a chapter in their lives.”

“Homes for our Troops” is dedicated to building homes for wounded warriors and their families. Something Larry Gill, president of Homes For Our Troops, wishes he didn’t have to do. “Unfortunately, we have too many to build for. I wish we weren’t building any. It’s not just a home,” said Gill. “It gives them independence.” “It’s not a hospital,” RyAnne said. “It’s not a nursing home. It’s our home. We’re able to be a family.”

CAPT. KYLE AARON COMFORT
Killed in action on May 8, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom

Capt. Kyle Aaron Comfort, 27, was a Fire Support Officer assigned to Company D, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga.. He was born on Oct. 17, 1982 in Alabama. He was killed in action on May 8, 2010 during a combat operation in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

After graduating from Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Ala., in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, Comfort was commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer.

He initially served as a company Fire Support Officer and Platoon Leader with the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment and 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, both of the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky. He deployed to Iraq from October 2007 to November 2008 with the 101st.

He then completed assessment and selection for assignment into the 75th Ranger Regiment in February 2010 where he subsequently served as a Fire Support Officer for Company D, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. He was on his first deployment to Afghanistan.

Comfort’s military education includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Air Assault Course, Basic Airborne Course and the U.S. Army Ranger Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge and the Air Assault Badge. He has also been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with combat star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and Overseas Service Ribbon.

He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Combat Action Badge.

He is survived by his wife Katherine Brooke Comfort and their daughter Kinleigh Ann of Jacksonville, Ala., and his mother Ellen Comfort of Anniston, Ala.

As a Ranger, Comfort selflessly lived his life for others and distinguished himself as a member of the Army’s premier light-infantry unit, continuously deployed in support of the Global War on Terror, and fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.
CPL. MICHAEL D. JANKIEWICZ
Died on April 9, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom

Cpl. Michael D. Jankiewicz was a machine gun team leader assigned to Company A, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga. He was born on Jan. 23, 1987, in Ridgewood, N.J.

Jankiewicz was killed during a combat operation in Zabul Province, Afghanistan April 9, 2010, when the CV-22 Osprey aircraft in which he was riding crashed. He was rapidly pulled from the wreckage and treated by unit medical personnel, but succumbed quickly to the injuries he had sustained.

Jankiewicz was on his fourth deployment in support of the War on Terror with one previous deployment to Afghanistan and two to Iraq.

After graduating from Ramsey High School in Ramsey, N.J., Jankiewicz enlisted in the U.S. Army in July 2006 in Philadelphia. He completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Ga. as an Infantryman. Then after graduating from the Basic Airborne Course, he was assigned to the Ranger Indoctrination Program also at Fort Benning.

Following graduation from the Ranger Indoctrination Program, Jankiewicz was assigned to Company A, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in May 2007 where he served as a Grenadier, Machine Gunner, and Machine Gun Team Leader.

His military education includes the Basic Airborne Course, Ranger Indoctrination Program, and the U.S. Army Ranger Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman’s Badge and the Parachutist Badge. He has also been awarded the Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Meritorious Service Medal.

Jankiewicz was survived by his father Anthony Jankiewicz of Stroudsburg, Pa., and Serena Jankiewicz of Ramsey, N.J.

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SGT. RONALD ALAN KUBIK
Died on April 23, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom

Sgt. Ronald Alan Kubik, 21, was a rifle team leader assigned to Company D, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga.. He was born on June 22, 1988 in Point Pleasant, N.J.

Sgt. Kubik was seriously wounded in an engagement with an enemy force in Logar Province, Afghanistan. He later succumbed to his wounds.

He was on his third deployment in support of the War on Terror with one previous deployment to Iraq and one to Afghanistan.

After graduating from high school, Sgt. Kubik enlisted in the U.S. Army from his hometown of Manchester, N.J. in March 2007. He completed Infantry One Station Unit Training, the Basic Airborne Course and the Ranger Indoctrination Program at Fort Benning, Ga.

After graduating from the Ranger Indoctrination Program, he was then assigned to Company D, 3rd Battalion, and 75th Ranger Regiment in October 2007 where he served as an assistant machine gunner and a team leader.

His military education includes the Basic Airborne Course, Ranger Indoctrination Program and the U.S. Army Ranger Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Parachutist Badge. He has also been awarded the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with combat star, Iraq Campaign Medal with combat star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Army Service Ribbon.

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

He is survived by his father Ronald A. Kubik of Hazlet, N.J., his mother Eileen M. Kubik of Point Pleasant, N.J., and his sisters Mary Mc Craw and Amy L. Kubik of Manchester, N.J.

As a Ranger, Sgt. Ronald Kubik selflessly lived his life for others and distinguished himself as a member of the Army’s premier light-infantry unit, continuously deployed in support of the Global War on Terror, and fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.
SGT. ANDREW COTE NICOL
Died August 8, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom

Sgt. Andrew Cote Nicol, 23, was a team leader assigned to Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga. He was born on Feb. 7, 1987 and was a native of Kensington, N.H.

Nicol was seriously wounded by an enemy improvised explosive device during a combat operation in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. He was treated immediately by unit medical personnel and quickly evacuated to the nearest treatment facility where he died of his wounds.

He was on his fifth combat deployment. Nicol had previously deployed twice to Afghanistan and twice to Iraq.

After graduating from Exeter High School, Nicol enlisted in the U.S. Army in July 2006. He completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning as an infantryman. After graduating from the Basic Airborne Course, he was assigned to the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program also at Fort Benning.

Following graduation from the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program in March 2007, Nicol was assigned to Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, where he served as a rifleman and a team leader.

His military education includes the Basic Airborne Course, the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program, the U.S. Army Ranger Course and the Warrior Leader Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Expert Infantryman Badge, and the Parachutist Badge. Nicol was also awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Combat Star, Iraq Campaign Medal with Combat Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon and Overseas Service Ribbon.

He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Purple Heart. Nicol is survived by his parents Roland and Patricia Nicol of Kensington, N.H.

As a Ranger, Nicol selflessly lived his life for others while he distinguished himself as a member of the Army’s premier light-infantry unit, which remains continuously deployed in support of the War on Terrorism. In every instance he fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.

STAFF SGT. JAMES R. PATTON
Killed in action on April 18, 2010
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Staff Sgt. James R. Patton, 23, was a squad leader assigned to Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga. He was born on April 23, 1986 in Fort Bragg, N.C.

Patton died April 18, 2010 while conducting a combat operation in northern Iraq when the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in which he was riding crashed.

He was on his seventh deployment in support of the War on Terror. He had previously deployed twice to Iraq and four times to Afghanistan.

After graduation from Spencer High School in Columbus, Ga., Staff Sgt. Patton enlisted in the U.S. Army in July 2004. He completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Ga. as an Infantryman. Then after graduating from the Basic Airborne Course, he was assigned to the Ranger Indoctrination Program also at Fort Benning.

Following graduation from the Ranger Indoctrination Program Patton was assigned to Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in February 2005 where he served as a Grenadier, Fire Team Leader, Team Leader and Squad Leader.

His military education includes the Airborne Course, the Ranger Indoctrination Program, the U.S. Army Ranger Course, the Jumpmaster Course, the Master Breacher Course, the Mountain Warfare Course, the Warrior Leaders Course, and the Advanced Leaders Course.

His awards and decorations include the Airborne Course, the Ranger Indoctrination Program, the U.S. Army Ranger Course, the Jumpmaster Course, the Master Breacher Course, the Mountain Warfare Course, the Warrior Leaders Course, and the Advanced Leaders Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman’s Badge, Expert Infantryman’s Badge and the Senior Parachutist Badge. He has also been awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Meritorious Service Medal.

Patton is survived by his wife Beatriz and their daughter Cecilia of Columbus, Ga., and his parents Command

As a Ranger, Patton selflessly lived his life for others while he distinguished himself as a member of the Army’s premier light-infantry unit, which remains continuously deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism. In every instance he fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.

SPC. BRADLEY DAVID RAPPUHN
Died August 8, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom

Spc. Bradley David Rappuhn was an anti-armor specialist assigned to Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga. He was born on April 24, 1986, in Lansing, Mich.

He was seriously wounded by an enemy improvised explosive device during a combat operation in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. Rappuhn was treated immediately by unit medical personnel and quickly evacuated to the nearest treatment facility where he died of his wounds.

Rappuhn was on his first deployment in support of the Global War on Terror.

After graduating from Grand Ledge High School in Grand Ledge, Mich., Rappuhn enlisted in the U.S. Army in January 2009. He completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning as an infantryman. After graduating from the Basic Airborne Course, he was assigned to the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program also at Fort Benning.

Following graduation from the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program in August 2009, Rappuhn was assigned to Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, where he served as an anti-armor specialist.

His military education includes the Basic Airborne Course and the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program.

Rappuhn's awards and decorations include the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Parachutist Badge. He was also awarded the Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Combat Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Army Service Ribbon.

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

Rappuhn is survived by his father, Cary Rappuhn, of Potterville, Mich., and his mother, Roxanne Rappuhn and his brother, Brent Rappuhn, both of Grand Ledge.

As a Ranger, Rappuhn selflessly lived his life for others while he distinguished himself as a member of the Army’s premier light-infantry unit, which remains continuously deployed in support of the War on Terrorism. In every instance he fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.

SGT. ANIBAL SANTIAGO
Died on July 18, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom

Sgt. Anibal Santiago was born August 26th, 1972 in Puerto Rico.

Santiago entered the U. S. Navy in 1991 and served until 1995. Following his Naval service, he served as a policeman in Rockford, Ill., from 1999 to 2005 and also graduated from Elgin Community College with a Liberal Arts degree.

Following his service in the Navy, Santiago entered the U. S. Army on Oct. 1, 2007 and after completion of the One Station Unit Training and the Ranger Indoctrination Program, he was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment on Sept. 30, 2008. He served as a sniper and as a sniper team leader.

Santiago died from injuries sustained as a result of a high-altitude fall while conducting combat operations over mountainous terrain in Khowst Province, Afghanistan. Treated immediately by unit medical personnel, he was quickly evacuated to the nearest medical treatment facility where he died July 18.

Santiago completed numerous military courses while serving in the Army, including the Combat Life Savers Course, Combatives Level One, the Sniper Course, the Airborne Course, the Ranger Indoctrination Program, and the U.S. Army Ranger Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Parachutist Badge. He has also been awarded the Navy Unit Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Navy Good Conduct Medal, The Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, The South West Asia Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, the Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, and the Army Service Ribbon.
Santiago was serving his third deployment having previously deployed once to Afghanistan and once to Iraq. He was posthumously recommended for the Bronze Star Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Santiago is survived by his wife, Mandy Santiago of Fort Benning, Ga., son Hannibal of Belvidere, Ill., stepsons Desmond and Darian, from Fort Benning, and his parents Anibal and Maria Santiago of Belvidere, Ill.

As a Ranger, Santiago selflessly lived his life for others while he distinguished himself as a member of the Army’s premier light-infantry unit, which remains continuously deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism. In every instance he fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.

SGT. JASON ANTHONY SANTORA
Died on April 23, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom

Sergeant Jason Anthony Santora, 25, was a team leader assigned to 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga. He was born on March 11, 1985 in Bethpage, N.Y.

Sgt. Santora was seriously wounded in an engagement with an enemy force in Logar Province, Afghanistan. He later succumbed to his wounds.

He was on his fourth deployment in support of the War on Terror with one previous deployment to Afghanistan and two deployments to Iraq.

After graduating from high school, Sgt. Santora enlisted in the U.S. Army from his hometown of Massapequa Park, N.Y. in March 2006. He completed Infantry One Station Unit Training, the Basic Airborne Course and the Ranger Indoctrination Program at Fort Benning, Ga.

After graduating from the Ranger Indoctrination Program he was then assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in September 2006 where he served as a mortarmen. In June 2008 he was assigned to Company D as a rifle team leader.

His military education includes the Basic Airborne Course, Ranger Indoctrination Program, and the U.S. Army Ranger Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman’s Badge, and Parachutist Badge. He has also been awarded the Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with combat star, Iraq Campaign Medal with two combat stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the Army Service Ribbon.

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

He is survived by his father Gary Santora of Medford, N.Y., his mother Theresa Santora of Massapequa, N.Y., his sister, Gina Santora of Medford, N.Y., and his uncle Ralph Fico, of Massapequa Park, N.Y.

As a Ranger, Sgt. Jason Santora selflessly lived his life for others and distinguished himself as a member of the Army’s premier light-infantry unit, continuously deployed in support of the Global War on Terror, and fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.

Richard A “SGM Red” Herman

Richard Allen Herman “SGM Red” died at home on September 25 after a long battle with cancer. He was 57.

Red’s military career spanned more than 30 years starting in A/75 Rangers at Fort Hood and ending with an Afghanistan combat tour with his beloved Rakkasans as a SGM.

Rick, Mark Ross and Stan Jones graduated from Broad Ripple HS in Indy in May 1972 and joined the Army together on 10 SEP 72 progressing through training until they were assigned to A/75.
The three went their separate ways as the Company wound down and got out after their initial hitch.

Rick rejoined in January 1977 and was on his last duty tour at Fort Campbell when the 9/11 Jihadi attack on the World Trade Center officially opened the War on Terrorism. He subsequently served a tour in Afghanistan before retirement.

Rick made many A Company get togethers at Carlisle's place in Tennessee over the last six or so years, catching up with his old Ranger buds.

Rick’s long time friend 1st Sergeant Dan Ross handled many of the final arrangements. Mike Cantrell, Stan Jones and Tom and Donna Brizendine attended the services and there was a floral arrangement from the Company.

“After a long and tearful service, the last dance was performed by 1st Sgt Ross and Theresa Herman as a send off for Red as an offering for the many joyous times they had danced in their lives together.

“Red had a three gun salute, Patriot Guard Escort... and an active Army detail handled the flag ceremony, they were excellent, I told them they looked fine and I was proud of them.”

Rick is survived by his wife, Theresa Lee Viers Herman, three children, Kenny, Roger and Chris Risen, seven grandchildren and five sisters.

I was asked to ride with the Iron Horse Marines (an all marine motorcycle club) out to March Air Force base to welcome home a unit of combat engineers out of 29 Palms Marine Base just returning from Afghanistan the other day. Un fortunately as we met to start the ride we recieved word from Pendleton that they had just left Afghanistan 2 hours earlier and would not be in until tomorrow Late. When the unit left they escorted 29 marines, 28 came home. They braved fire fights, violent IED explosions, and ambushes to return home - losing one of their own in the process.

Mini Reunions
Some of the guys from the A Co. 75th met in Tennessee the week of Nov. 7th for their bi-annual hilltop reunion. As usual there is a large consumption of food and beer coupled with the expenditure of many bullets. There is little information that comes out of this event but I did hear from a couple of attendees.

Mike Cantrell
I only spent the weekend with the boys at the hilltop. I took the ten year old twin grandsons. Fisher, Carlisle, his son in law Joe and grandson Reilly were there. Stan Jones and his son Kyle with Stan’s grandsons Austan and Brandon, Kenny (Red's Son), and Mike Theisen. Fish did beef stew on Friday night, we started the brisket that night and we had it the next night Fish did breakfast fajitas one morning and Kenny did toast and sausage gravy the next. The food was good, the company excellent and I have blisters on my hands from loading magazines for all those grand kids. I also lost what little hair I had left making them keep the muzzles up and down range. I believe we only had seven dogs on this trip. I will add another on the next. Kenny also brought the best eggs in town from his laying hens. Maybe I can get my daughter to let the boys play hooky from school a few days for the spring trip. Kyle brought a small trail bike and go cart with seat belts and rollover cage. I had to drag the boy’s home. Great trip.

Stan Jones
My grandkids had a great time, they had to be drug kicking and screaming off the hill top. Hope they can come back.

Cantrell did a great job as Range Officer....but it was a struggle for us all to keep barrels down range. I will say it...
sure was QUIET after Cantrell, Kyle and all the kids left. Great time Great food great shooting...I had to show Fisher how to shoot his AR10......438 yds to the gong...I got 1st strike and the beer stayed cold, down to 24 on Sunday morning.

There is another mini planned for the V Corp LRRPs in Pigeon Forge at the RiverStone Resort & Spa a houpploy establishment also in Tennessee. This will be the SOS mini where Ron Dahle will make his SOS breakfast. This is scheduled for next week so no scuttlebutty yet. I am pretty sure there will not be any ammo expended.

1962 8th Inf Div Military Free Fall School, Wiesbaden, West Germany. About half V Corps and half VII Corps LRRPs.

V Corps LRRP Company (Abn) 3779 -
The Early Days
Robert T Murphy

V Corps LRRP Company beginnings in Fulda and Wildflecken were colorful, to put it politely.

In a flabby peacetime Army, soldiers with a warrior mentality were few and far between and the company was a magnet in its own right and, often, as a stepping stone to Special Forces.

The two new LRRP Companies formed in Germany in 1961 attracted talented, unorthodox people from all over the Army.

Many of the early members of the company had prior LRRP experience going back as far as 1956 in the 11th Airborne Division when it was based in Augsburg, Bavaria. Many were also WWII and Korean War veterans.

From all reports early LRRP Detachments were made up of people that were almost normal. How and why so many colourful characters gravitated to the company is a story in itself.

Brigands? Many were, including some of the officers and 1st Sergeants. Good in the field? They ran rings around other, conventional units to the point of embarrassment and sometimes outrage on the part of the legs.

The always impressive “Field Marshal” MSG Cleve Kendall recalls that when he got there in September of 1962, the Company was “totally out of control” though actual operations were fairly smooth. For some people there was no discipline and the company was factionalized to a degree, black-white, north-south and south-Left Coast. James Meredith was trying to get into the University of Mississippi and that triggered a lot of stuff in the company. As Commo Plt Sgt, Kendall started pulling inspections and doing PT and things started settling down, then became acting 1st Sgt and applied the same formula. Killers didn’t resist the changes, he said.

RHOF member Mike Martin (CSM Ret) was already Ranger qualified and serving in the 82nd Airborne when they actively called for volunteers for a LRRP Company being formed in Europe. “They selected 13 of us to go to Wildflecken,” Mike recalls. “The Company was too much. In my first formation, they were wearing .44 magnums and German and Belgian camouflage uniforms. At 1500 hours 1st Sgt Gilberto Martinez held a formation and then we went up to The Monastery to drink and fight. Major Porter was a pilot and flew us for jumping. One day shortly after I got there the Duty Officer caught (Mad Dog) Shriver and others in white sheets (standard “Mahagonite” uniform) drinking beer in barracks. The deal from the DO was, “If you don’t say I saw you I won’t say anything.” “They were a wild bunch, Gary Crossman, Sgt Vance, some good officers and outstanding COs, most had served in Korea and WWII.” 2nd Lt Murphy had a keen sense of the unconventional even as a 2nd Lt.”

Rank wasn’t much protection in the company, Everett Grady (CSM Ret) got there on a Friday, drew his gear, got Gary Crossman for PL, and stood inspection on Saturday. Lt Murphy asked Crossman, “When are you going to put some polish on those boots”? “When you patch the hole in your pants,” Crossman replied. Grady says, “Wildflecken was a good post for us. The Demo range was 10 minutes march and the shooting range, five. We could blow 40lb charges at the range without a clearance.”

Lt Murphy recalls that “The Company S-3 Jaramillo was a singularly competent NCO, an E-5 at the time, as smooth as you could get. We were doing a CPX and had to deploy and recover 20 teams. Jaramillo did everything.” Murphy asked him, “What do you want me to do, go sit in the corner and drink coffee”? “That would be good, sir,” Jaramillo replied.

Murphy was 1st Platoon Leader (later XO) and recalls
that he had six Platoon Sergeants in two years. “A new
guy with more time in grade would come in and bump the
previous one.”

One of the hardcore company characters was 1st Sgt
Gilberto Martinez, described by a multi-combat tour LRRP
who was no slouch himself as, “the scariest person in the
world”. Martinez loaned money to soldiers at desperado
rates and reportedly had no trouble getting his money back.
Several of the original guys say there were other hustles
going on the whole time he was in the company.

Gary Crossman recalls that he was in the 505th at Mainz in
Signal when “they came around looking for volunteers for
a new top secret unit that was going to spend a lot of time
in the field. They were recruiting for both LRRP
Companies (V and VII Corps) so we had a choice of
Wildflecken or Nelligen. You had to be airborne and they
preferred Ranger.

“I was an E-6 so became a Patrol Leader right away. They
were a real mishmash of guys. They had nothing. They
were even looking for rucksacks. We weren’t even sure of
who we were under. They were writing the script. It took
three or four months for the first pay jump which was an L-
20 with Porter “The Hawk” flying it. There was a lot of
schools available. I went to CW school at Lengries in 1962,
then Eiselkampfer School in April and May of 1963. I was
very impressed with that course, 90% of it was mountain
training near the Mad King’s (Ludwig of Bavaria) Castle.
The other guy from the company got sent home because he
went drinking into Austria and snotted a border guard."

Gary recalls that in one drunk formation, “(CO) Reece-
Jones remarked, ‘You know fellas, there is such a thing as
water’.”

Another CO suggested that they should fence off the LRRP
barracks like a zoo.

When John Simmons showed up wearing Corporal stripes,
after collecting “several Article 15s and a court martial”, the
CO looked at his 201 file and told him, “You should fit right
in”. Room Loud did and took Honor Graduate in Mainz
Jumpmaster School and was in the top ten at 7th Army NCO
Academy a bit later in the game. “I had never fit anywhere I
went but in the first week I became invisible. There were
other people putting me in the shade (for once).”

Bert Wiggins, V Corps LRRPs Commo God par excellence
and a veteran of prior LRRP detachments credits Base
Station Team Chiefs Ron Dahle, Paul Edwards and Paul
Tabolinsky as the key guys in developing commo in the
Company.

Dahle who retired as an SF CSM was undoubtedly brilliant
in the field and the Field Marshal says he was well worth
protecting in garrison.

One of Ron’s more spectacular but quite logical coups
came as a result of a running feud between him and
Commo Plt Leader McTiernan. Every time there was an
alert the Platoon Leader would give each Commo Base
Station Team an Alert Packet which contained locations,
SOI, call signs and frequencies. On one alert two teams got
their Packets and Ron was told to come back in 5 minutes.
That happened three times. Dahle got the SOI but no
don’t care if you set up in the middle of Stuttgart City
Park”. “Yes, Sir.” “He should have known better,” Dahle
said later. In a matter of hours Dahl’s base station had gone
tactical in the middle of the afore mentioned park with
generator trailers dug in, jerry cans dug in separately and
the team radioed in their “Initial Entry Report” with map
co-ordinates. The Opns Officer replied that Dahle perhaps
needed a remedial map reading course because those co-
ordinates were in the middle of the Stuttgart City Park.
Dahle’s reply, “Cancel remedial map course. I AM in the
middle of Stuttgart City Park. My last directions were, ‘I
don’t care if you set up...’” He was given an alternate
location to move to and, even with all the holes filled in,
operational damage estimate was $30-$40 thousand.

During those tumultuous early years, the Company
excelled in the field and LRRPs often also took honors at
courses ranging from Jump School and 7th Army NCO
Academy to Operations and Intelligence School and British
Commando School.

“Porter pulled things together” when he became CO after
Reece-Jones one very bright career man told this writer.
CSM (Ret) Everett Grady (another Eiselkampfer graduate)
and a man I have a lot of respect for says Major Guinn and Porter were great COs.

“I like the tanker jackets. My kind of unit, dress as you like or come as you are.”
Gary Crossman about the photo.

But another highly regarded career soldier reckons that none of the COs from Guinn onwards “had any feel for unconventional warfare”, Guinn bought a lot of SOP standards to the unit. “But you have to have that wildness and independence in unconventional units. If you tame that you affect their field skills. New Platoon Sergeants came in and few of them had a feel for LRRP Operations, even the simple notion that the troops should be able to speak European languages. If you’re going to be in a unit like LRRPs you have to know the culture in the places you operate. Those straight attitudes filtered down to the patrols.”

His attitude is one widely shared by the guys who were in the company from, say 1964-65 on.

The company’s hard edge was wearing off by the time the first LRRP TO&E came into effect in 1965. Fieldcraft and morale suffered as conventional Army CS stuff made inroads into the operating environment.

By 1966 Europe was becoming an Army backwater with all the action happening in Indochina and a few years later the company was redeployed to Fort Benning as part of a deal with the Soviets to draw down forces in Europe.

By then Vietnam veterans were starting to filter into both original LRRP Companies and they had been Rangered. When the Vietnam War was finished A/75 and B/75 were the only active duty Ranger Companies in the Army until the Ranger Batts were formed in 1974 around a nucleus of Company Rangers.

Einzelkampfer (German Ranger) school certificate awarded to Bob Clark 1963.

2011 RANGER RENDEZVOUS DATES ANNOUNCED
I received the following information via my new Facebook page (see more info below):

FORT BENNING, Ga.  
(USASOC News Service, Aug. 19, 2010)

The 75th Ranger Regiment has scheduled the 2011 Ranger Rendezvous for July 25-28, 2011, at Fort Benning. The updated Reunion information for the RRA was posted in the most recent copy of Patrolling, and I’m sure it will also be posted in this issue, and the forthcoming issues.
so I am doing my best to facilitate that where I can. If there is someone you want to contact and haven’t found them, let me know and I will do my best to try to track them down. Here is what I posted on Facebook for V-Day:

To all my veteran buddies that served our nation, Thank You!

I was honored to have been in your company, and am continually humbled that I had, and continue to have, the opportunity to call you my friends.

Our thanks also to those still serving, especially those downrange in the line of fire.

CONTACTS:

Don Bruce
I ran into Don also a few times on Facebook, he says he’s planning to come to the Reunion this next year. He currently lives in the Dominican Republic, and seems to be doing well. He’d like to hear from anyone he served with.

Lynn Thompson
I ran into Lynn Thompson’s profile on Facebook, and sent “Big T” a message. To my surprise, I had a message back in a few minutes, with his phone number.

Lynn recently retired from the Massachusetts State Police, and doesn’t keep in contact with too many people from his military days, but there were some other members of the company looking for him, so I put him in contact with Robert Lee Smith and Bob Woolstrum.

Lynn is still married to Rachel, and they had a son, Christopher, who passed away in the past few years. Christopher had an undiagnosed heart condition that did not appear until he was in his twenties or thirties, and eventually became untreatable. He moved home with Lynn and Rachel during the final period of his life, so at least they were able to have him there during his final months and prepare for the inevitable.

Our belated condolences to Lynn and Rachel. If anyone wants his contact info, hit him up on Facebook, or call or email me.

Don Purdy
Don was at the last reunion, and returned in September from a trip across the pond. He lives in Phenix City, Alabama, and is doing well. If anybody is looking to get in touch with him, he has a Facebook page, or you can contact me for further info.

Robert Lee Smith
In case you didn’t see it last issue…Ran into Robert on armyranger, socnet, and Facebook. He’s in great spirits and currently training for a possible redeployment back to the Sandbox as a contractor. He’d like to get in touch with anybody else from the days at Ft. Lewis. Send me an email for further contact info.

Cell: 706.464.7153
Email:
rls1866@gmail.com
rls1866@yahoo.com

Ricardo John Torres
Also ran into Ricardo on Facebook. Copied the message he sent me below. If you want to contact him and don’t have a Facebook page, let me know and I will facilitate it.

September 3 at 1:14am
I was in 1/1 when Joe Picanco and I graduated from Ranger School in 1973. We were assigned with B/75 at main post with the CAV and then on to North Fort.

Larry Coleman
If you’re not on Larry’s mailing list, shoot him an email. He sends out several a week, and some of them are quite informative (plus you get to see great pictures of the nasty snowstorms when they hit the West (he lives in Wyoming). His email address is:
lwcoleman@hotmail.com

HEARD FROM (ALPHABETICALLY):

Eldon Bargewell
Donald Bruce
Larry Coleman
Gary O’Neal
Don Purdy
Jeff Rice
Robert Lee Smith
Richard Stutsman
Lynn Thompson
Ricardo John Torres
John Henry Voyles
Dirty Eddie White
Bob Woolstrum

FLICKER PHOTOS
I started a webpage on Flickr (www.flickr.com) so I could post photos I took at the Reunions. Now, please bear in mind that I am not a professional photographer, don’t own a very fancy camera, and often take interior shots with no flash so that I don’t blind or disturb people, but what photos I have are posted there.
The address of the particular Flicker page you need to access to look at my sloppy, unprofessional photos is: http://www.flickr.com/photos/b75ranger/
I will try to continue posting all the photos I receive from all of you on that page. I also posted the contents of the CD that Todd Currie of the 1st Ranger Battalion had made for the reunion of the original members of the Battalion. All the photos are arranged in sets for ease of location.

FACEBOOK
Gary O’Neal, Steve Hawk (one of the guys in my squad in 1st Batt.), and some others kept mentioning Facebook to me as a way to keep in contact with other Rangers we had served with. I finally broke down and tried it out, so if you have a Facebook page, look me up (am listed under my same full name there) and add me as a friend, and anyone else in my “friends” list who you recognize from the old B75 days.

ARMYRANGER.COM
Again, if you haven’t had a chance to check out their website/forum yet, give it a look. A lot of people you may know are registered and post there, and it’s good to have a place we can all go to maintain our contact with other Rangers in a private forum. (www.armyranger.com).

SOCNET.COM
Socnet is another publically accessible forum with a lot of Rangers and SF folks on it. If you visit there, create a user name, post an introduction, and send me a private message so I can get you vetted onto the board. My username there is RangerTee (the same username as on armyranger (above).

PLEASE NOTE THE UNIT DIRECTOR’S NEW EMAIL ADDRESS, BELOW:
Some of the members of the unit should edit their address books to correct my email address. My old email address no longer works. So please check your email address books. I don’t want to miss anything coming in from all you guys.

Until next time:
High Speed, Low Drag, & Keep Your Head Down.
(especially all you guys still working in the Sandbox or the Rockpile).

Marc L. Thompson
Unit Director
Email: mthomp@ptd.net

PLEASE NOTE THE UNIT DIRECTOR’S NEW EMAIL ADDRESS, ABOVE:

BY: Dick Foster
I just received our Fall edition of Patrolling and noticed that my last submission was not included. John Chester thinks it might have been due to his computer breakdown, but there’s no telling why really; so I’ll try and merge the Fall and Winter submissions together without too much repetition. Please excuse any errors in merging the two.

As most of you are by now well aware, two of our friends and brothers have passed away: SGM Rowe (Gene) Attaway and John aka “Chubb” / “The Jew” Visel. Gene Attaway (VII Corps LRRP; C Co/75th Rangers, RVN) died in his sleep at a nursing facility in July, 2010 and “Chubb” passed away in August, 2010, following an accident at his home. Both left grieving families and friends.

Rowe Attaway had been hospitalized following a series of strokes that left him physically incapacitated and unable to care for himself. He fought the good fight, as he had all his life, to the end with his loving wife Barbara and her “adopted” family at his bedside continuously. His final days were a blessing as Barbara and her grand-daughter, Caitlin, frequented his bedside. Seventeen year-old Caitlin, especially, was a treasure as she serenaded him to sleep with her frequent guitar playing of his favorite songs. Barbara was at his bedside daily for months. Also brightening his days were visits from Kirk and Sally, Dick Roach and me. Barbara wanted all who called him and sent notes and cards to know that they meant more to him that they could possibly realize.

Those attending Rowe’s memorial service and subsequent graveside services were Gary Bauer, Greg Eaker, Dick Foster, Kirk Gibson, Dick Roach, and Sam Storey. First Sergeant Zeke Evaro, Col. Bingham, and Bill Hill, among others, could not attend, but did send beautiful and patriotic wreaths to commemorate his life. Along with us, Barbara and her extended family, and a military Honor Guard, Sergeant Major Rowe G. Attaway was given a final farewell befitting a lifelong career in the United States Army, including two tours “in country”. Rest in peace, Sergeant Major Rowe Attaway.

Another shocking and sad note was the sudden and unexpected death of John Visel in August. John had fallen down the steps at home in the early morning. Severe head trauma left John on life support. Cheryl and their family made the agonizing decision to end life support when all had been done that could be done to keep “Chubb” among our ranks.

The following is Joe Chetwynd’s report: “John Wayne “Chubb” Visel died in the early morning hours of August 7,
2010, following an accidental fall in his Munith, MN home. Funeral arrangements were delayed until the following Friday, the 13th, to accommodate the nearly 300 friends who came to pay their respects. One can easily imagine “Chubb” standing in that phantom C-130 smiling down at the irony of this very big deal.

John is survived by his wife of 35 years, Cheryl, and their five children Eric, Don, Bobbie Lynn, Nikki, and Teresa, John’s seven sisters and their 16 grand-children.

The memorial service and funeral was attended by John’s fraternal brothers of the VII Corps LRRPs, an Honor Guard from his American Legion Post, #29 (Jim Rowley, Dean Dumbaull, Floyd Carey, Dave Molton, Bob Thomas, Jim Kulas, Jim Fortner, and Russ Melville), and over 80 members of various motorcycle associations that comprised the Patriot Guard of Michigan, of which John was a member.

A contingent of LRRPs (Theo Knaak and Joe Chetwynd) and the Mid-Michigan All American chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division (Brian Murray, Wayne Lindow, Dick Ott, David Bronger, Dave Reed, and Bob Devinney) maintained a 24-hour vigil over John’s casket as he lay in state.

Tributes saluting John’s achievements and service to country and family were given by his wife Cheryl, LRRP Col. Bingham, and Dick Eckler, ex-rigger and host to the visiting LRRP contingent of Joe Touchon, Col. Bingham, “Fatback” Hathaway, Theo Knaak, John Fisher, Joe Chetwynd, Gary Cross, and John Decosta.”

Rest in peace Sergeant Major Rowe Attaway and John Visel. We’ll see you again, but not too soon (we hope).

All in all, it’s been a slow Summer/Autumn. E-mails continue to fly between our surly gang, but none of any LRRP/Ranger substance that’s worth reporting. If you guys don’t report in to me with news of or about others and our comings and goings, and stories, I’m forced to submit whatever I can dig up: and that ain’t much. So, send me your stories, lies, mini-reunions, anecdotes, etc. It’s all good when it comes through your Association magazine, Patrolling, via me. Then it sounds like reporting and not egoism or bragging.

Speaking of the Association, our own off-year reunion in Branson was a near total BUST! And that’s a shame. However, you all can atone for your egregious sin of omission (’cept Dave Clark, Tom Lake, and Harlos Kelley) by registering for and attending our 75th Ranger Association Redezvous/Reunion at Ft. Benning, July 25-30, 2011. Headquarters is the Holiday Inn North in Columbus (706-324-0231 or 800-465-4329). Double or triple up with others and its easily affordable, even to cheapskate Irishmen.

I look forward to seeing ALL of you and hearing your sorry-ass gripes, opinions, and suggestions.

Look out below,
Dick Foster
USA LRRP Co (Airborne), ’61-62
President

Del Ayers

The Beach Club patio was the center of activity. Overlooking the Colorado River and Avi’s private beach offered us a secluded venue to enjoy our memories with our brothers and to meet new friends.

An off year event meant no business meetings or structured activities were planned other than a group dinner Tuesday evening. Bob Stein brought an American Flag which flew over the White House to be given away as a door prize. The draw came down to the two Sgt Majors. In the end Tom Workman took home the flag as Ray Bohrer looked on.

The River Jet boat tour to London Bridge overbooked and had to be cancelled causing a major dilemma. Finally golfers went golfing, gamblers went gambling, shoppers went shopping and drinkers went to the Beach Club.

PATROLLING – WINTER 2010

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The River Jet boat tour to London Bridge overbooked and had to be cancelled causing a major dilemma. Finally golfers went golfing, gamblers went gambling, shoppers went shopping and drinkers went to the Beach Club.
Special thanks to Jim Worth who compiled an E-20 4th platoon CD including photos of his recent return to Vietnam.

As with every gathering the subject of medals not awarded for CIB’s, Purple Hearts, and Meritorious Service was the main topic of discussion. The outcome will be positive with follow-up by all those present. In fact Larry Clark announced he had not received a CIB. That he had awarded it to himself two years ago. Upon returning home Jim Worth pulled his CIB orders and Larry Clark’s name was on those orders so he can document his request for a corrected DD215. What a bonus to a Social gathering.

A group of us went on patrol to Oatman Arizona to enjoy a little Old West history and some cold “Barley Pops”. Arizona Rangers were a small elite group bringing Law and Order to a wild land. Thanks to Linda at the country store we have a group photo young Vietnam Rangers who are still riding to the defense of Mom, apple pie and the American way.

Thank you to the spouses, significant others, sons, daughters and family who supported your warrior on his journey to this reunion, we love you more than you know.

Next Reunion: Columbus Georgia, Last weekend in July, Details to follow

Prayers and cares to:
John Wisheart.
Recent heart issues needing stent replacements.
Randy Mills.
Throat Cancer surgery
Rocky Stone.
Stroke issues requiring hospital stays.

BOB

I had the unique opportunity with the Avi 10-10-10 reunion to have my family (2 sons, 1 daughter and 4 grandchildren) meet my Ranger family. My wife Cindy has been to every family and now my Ranger family reunions. This is the first Ranger family reunion my children were able to attend.

There is no greater window of understanding to our life experience for our children and grandchildren than to know the men we served within our youth. Hearing first hand stories of DARING-DO, moments of foolishness, sadness, joy, humility and honor.

Medals on the wall, pictures in a box in the closet and citations are not our heritage. We may briefly gloss over an event but we seldom go beyond the specific. The two days my children and grandchildren spent with my Ranger Family is one every warrior should encourage.

As I watched my Ranger Brothers talking with my family I was amazed at the attention and honor my youngsters paid to my brothers.

We were also fortunate to have Oscar Carroway’s Son Matt accompany him. I know Matt now has a greater understanding of Oscar’s life and his brave service with E-20.

I would never discourage, I would only encourage children, grandchildren, spouses and significant others to come to a reunion with you. Our son Travis loved hearing all the stories about his dad especially the ones the guys pulled him aside to hear so his dad wouldn’t know they were telling on him.

I was particularly amazed at our 16 year old granddaughter Cheyanne. Cheyanne spent a great deal of time at the Beach Club bussing tables, fetching beverages, listening to our stories, asking countless questions and interacting with everyone by choice when she could have been at the pool, movies, game room or texting. My son and daughter-in-law commented that it was better than any history book they could have given her. At some point she got the nickname “BOB” and like all good monikers it stuck. When I asked Cheyanne what she thought about the reunion the following paragraph was her response.

My Experience in Laughlin 10-10-10
By: Cheyanne Anaya

The experience I had in Laughlin with Vietnam War Vets was how they were treated and also how it actually happened. I learned that some of the people that were there didn’t see their friends till maybe 40 years after they first met, so they didn’t know what happened to them or if they lived. I’m also very thankful of the people who went off and helped make the country free. I mostly learned that even though I’m not blood related to any of the men that I met up there, that I can still call them my family. I’m really glad that I was able to go and meet all the people that were there. I feel that not a lot of people get the chance to meet people that have half the heart that all the men there have.
Hello Everyone

Hopefully this article will make it into the winter issue, I was in the process of moving and blanked out the fact that my deadline was the 15th of November and didn’t think about it until I received my copy of the fall issue. It is Thanksgiving weekend and I hope John will still add the article.

This will also be shorter than most of my articles as I haven’t been on the phone much during the moving process. I guess I should begin with Jim Owen’s status at the time of the writing of this article. Most of you who have e-mail addresses I have been trying to keep you updated. Jim had a heart attack and was admitted to a local hospital close to where he and his wife Donna lived. He was kept in a coma for a while since he didn’t have Oxygen flowing to his brain for a while and the doctors wanted to give his brain a period of quiet time to see if it could catch up. He was disoriented which was causing the brain a lot of turmoil. VA then decided that they would no longer pay the hospital bills after the first of November so Donna had to try and get him rated at 100%, when she was able to do that they transferred him to the VA hospital in Tampa FL. She was told that he was going to need a bypass surgery. The last time I talked with Donna’s Mother on the phone she told me that the VA was not willing to do the surgery because Jim’s heart was too weak (It is only operating at 30% of what it is supposed to). They are trying to place him in a nursing home close to their house. There is some brain damage to a point that he sometimes recognizes Donna when she comes in the room but sometimes he doesn’t. Hopefully his heart can get stronger like mine did and he will be able to improve, so please keep him and his family in your prayers.

The last time I talked with Carl Norris he was still improving from his chemo therapy treatments. He and Rosie were doing well and he is getting stronger all the time.

The last time I talked to Bill (Fitz) Fitzgerald, he and his wife Kathy were getting ready to go and see their Daughter that is arriving home from her tour in the Middle East. Her unit was due to arrive back here in the states on the 22nd of November. They were going to celebrate Thanksgiving with her before she had to report to her duty station. She was not going to be able to take a leave right away. She is the acting XO for her unit and everyone wants a leave so she will report to her duty station and take a leave latter. We are so grateful one of our family members has returned from the War Zone safely.

Ken Dern and I have been staying in touch almost every weekend since football season started since we both are Jacksonville Jaguars fans. He and Linda are doing well and staying busy with work.

Mike Warren and I talked earlier this week and he has turned 60 so he was able to go and get his retired ID card from the reserves. He can now also draw his Military
retirement pay now. He had to wait until he turned sixty even though he retired last February.

Moe and Cindy are staying busy up there in South Dakota and are now experiencing some of the winter weather that they are accustomed to even though they hadn’t gone sub-zero yet. Richard Badmilk is also starting to experience the cold weather up there and his new knee has been giving him some problems.

I talked to Gary Olson earlier this evening and he told me his son won his reelection as their county sheriff. I have talked with Billy Faulks since Jim has been in the hospital and he and some of his friends may come down to the Gulf Coast to do some deep sea fishing and visit Jim. He has been waiting to see how Jim progresses before planning that vacation.

Tom Delaney is enjoying his retirement even though he has been able to find enough stuff to keep him busy.

I haven’t talked much with anyone else except Bear on a couple of occasions since he became a grandfather. His Son Willie and his wife had their first child and the baby is healthy.

The photos I elected to submit for this article two are pictures of Jim Owen one with his wife Donna in it, these are for the people who haven’t seen him in quite a while or may not remember him. Another is of Psycho and his wife Julie in front of Mt Rushmore and the other is of Mike and Vicki Jausaud in front of Mt Rushmore at our last get-together in June of this year.

Since this is all the news I can forward at this time I’ll just close this article and send it out to John and hope he will forgive me for submitting it late.

RLTW

Richard “Herd” Nelson
Greetings!

Not much to pass along this time. Once again I’ll ask that you please send me things to include in this space. I have always invited anyone to submit stories from ‘Nam (other “F/75” related stories as well). I need to add one little thing about the stories I get from y’all. I always “proof read” the stories - I’d be doing you a disservice if I didn’t. I have always said I’d print anything as long as it isn’t pornographic, overtly political, critical of one of our guys or not verifiable. And I usually tidy up the stories for spelling, etc. without altering the content.

After several years of listening to Bill Mrkvicka and Dave Regenthal rave about the Veteran’s Day services at The Wall, my wife, Theresa & I decide to go this year. As it turned out, Bill & Dave weren’t able to make it, but we met Dennis Peterson and had a great time. If you haven’t been to the Veteran’s Day ceremony at The Wall, I would highly urge you to attend. The Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial Fund puts on a wonderful service. This year one of the speakers was Air Vice Marshall Kym Osley, Head of Australian Defense Staff at the Australian Embassy in Washington, DC. He opened his talk by asking the assembled masses if anyone had ever worked with the “Aussies” in ‘Nam. I was surprised by the show of hands in the audience. (It reminded me that I had been one of the team leaders who “volunteered” to take a couple of Aussies out on a mission.) Air Marshall Osley then asked us if we had ever drank with the Aussies. Again, a respectable show of hands from the audience, along with several knowing laughs. He then asked, “…and you survived?” Those Aussies could really put away the beer. He got serious and spoke about the Australian presence in ‘Nam with a slightly different focus. His point was that the war in Southeast Asia was a whole lot close to Australia than it was to the US and they really were fighting for their democracy and freedom. Kind of a different take - I certainly didn’t have that perspective when I was there. It was refreshing to hear his side of things.

I’d like to suggest an annual gathering of F/75 at The Wall for Veteran’s Day. Call it an annual reunion or whatever. If you haven’t been to The Wall you really ought to go. More on this idea later (we’ll talk about it in Columbus at the next 75th RRA reunion in July).

While we were in the DC area Theresa & I had dinner with Joe and Diana Cassilly at their home in Maryland. We had a wonderful time. Joe and Diana are great hosts (terrific lasagna!). We opened a bottle of 75th RRA wine that Joe had purchased at the last reunion in Columbus. It was actually pretty good. Joe and I thought that we would make pretty good spokespersons for the wine. The slogan might be, “It tastes great, but won’t grow hair”. Maybe they’ll offer us a promotional contract. Right. It was an hour and a half drive back to DC so we had to cut our visit short. Joe and Diana - thanks for a fantastic visit.

After Veteran’s Day at The Wall, Theresa & I met Marshall Huckaby and Ron Harrison and I visited with Bobby Ethridge in Georgia. Bobby, if you weren’t aware had a double lung transplant in early ’10 after being diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis in December ‘09. He seemed to be doing quite well for all he’s been through. He tires easily so we didn’t stay for too long. He showed us his home and yard. He even tried to get us to take him to the neighborhood bar for a beer & burger. We asked if that kind of stuff was on his diet. He said no, but he’d still like to go. We thought it was better if we didn’t go. Bobby still has his sense of humor. He still hopes to be at the reunion in July. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

Live long and prosper.

Tim.
ONE MORE BRICK
We, the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, started raising money to put a brick in at the new Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning for every LRP, LRRP and Ranger KIA in Vietnam back in the late 1990’s under the direction of then President, Rick Erlher. We started with a list of about 360 names. At first the money came in and we were able to purchase about half of the bricks needed. As the money started trickling in, the number of names increased. It was as if for every brick we bought, we found two new names. As the list of names grew, I thought of each man, the life he might have had, the family that was not to be or the family left behind. It left a sick feeling in my stomach. Finally the list stabilized at 417 names. The money was raised thanks to many friends and comrades, McDonnell Douglas and Miller Brewing Company, the bricks were engraved and on Memorial Day 1999 we held a Memorial Service for all our KIAs. Early in October, I received notification of 1st Ranger Battalion’s SFC Lance H. Vogeler’s death in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. I did not know Lance but felt the same sick feeling in my stomach that I had experienced back in the 90’s. Lance was a 9 year Army Veteran on his 12th combat deployment in support of the War on Terror. He left behind his wife, Melissa; two children, Madison and Kyle; his parents, Tim and Donna and his brother, Chris. I was privileged to attend the funeral. The street leading up to the church was lined with over 100 bikers, each standing at attention and holding an American Flag. The church was filled to capacity and folding chairs were used in the aisles. There were no protesters only Americans honoring an American Ranger who gave it all for his country. God speed, Ranger Vogeler.

‘TIS BETTER TO GIVE......................
Golf Company Ranger Association was formed in 1990 in Dave “Chief” Moncada’s backyard in Sacramento. 28 former LRRP’s, LRP’s and Rangers of the Americal Division gather together for the first time in 20 years and vowed to find the rest of the men who fought with us and meet at “The Wall” next year. During that year the Articles of 501 (c) Incorporation were drawn up by our corporate council, submitted to the IRS and accepted. Over the next 5-10 years we struggled for existence and nearly went bankrupt due to some errors in judgment by some of the officers of our organization. We appointed Frank “Penny Pincher” Svensson as treasurer and over the years our general fund has grown fat. Go back to the early 1990’s. Gary Linderer and I were talking about Ranger Organizations in general comparing problems and growing pains. I’ll never forget one statement he made to me, “Whenever an association’s bank account gets over $5,000, they should spend it on a party or give it away,” or words to that effect. This last summer our organization held it’s 21st reunion in Denver and I proposed we, like the 75RRA and the Merrill’s Marauders Association, give some of our money to help support the Ranger Communities. The proposal was formally submitted to the Board of Directors and approved. I’m really proud to say that Golf Company Ranger Association donated over $5,000 to the following: The Best Ranger Competition, The National Ranger Memorial Foundation, the 1st Battalion Ranger Memorial, the 3rd Battalion Ranger Memorial and Christmas parties for the children of the 1st and 3rd Ranger Battalions. My only regret is that I was unable to locate a liaison for the 2nd Ranger Battalion. I will make certain that they will be first on the list next year, provided that we are still in a position to contribute.

BOOK REVIEW - Wounded in Action

“When people speak of the casualties of war, they usually refer to those servicemen and servicewomen who died during the war. But in order to have a more complete picture of the devastation the war caused the military, the casualty figure should also include those who are wounded in action. Although they didn’t make the ultimate sacrifice and lost their lives, the severely wounded must, however, continue to sacrifice each and every day for the rest of their lives. While soldiers are trained on how to fight a war, they receive no training at all on how to survive the crippling effects—both mental and physical—caused by being
severely wounded. Each soldier must find his own way to survive, for if he doesn’t, he will perish as surely as if he’s killed on the battlefield.

That’s why the author puts his pen to paper to share this gripping story—his very own story—of survival in its most primitive form. Highly trained Army Ranger and leader of an elite long-range reconnaissance team, the author, Sergeant Thomas Robison, takes readers on a perilous journey from the enemy-infested jungles and rice paddies of South Vietnam to the sterile operating rooms of military and veterans’ hospitals. Struggling to survive while those around him succumb to their wounds, he is given less than twenty-four hours to live: his kidneys shut down from too many whole-blood transfusions; his heart ceases to beat due to the trauma of enduring more than a dozen operations; his body is plagued by raging infections and half of his body weight is lost; his one remaining leg is about to be amputated to save his life. How can and where will he find the strength to go on?

Wounded in Action is the author’s emotionally gripping story of survival and determination that could only be told by someone who had to live it day by day and minute by minute.”

W/75 - F/50 Lr P - 25t H div Lr r P (CONTINUED)

No Submission

I would like to thank Tom McMahon for the pictures used in this edition. I put out the call and Tom Responded. Tom added the comment of (The pic’s that I sent were when the unit was: LRRP and later, “F” Co 52nd Inf LRP, early 68, I came into the unit with Bill Cohn, Bivens, Chase, and Wilkinson, we were the first LRRPs to come into the unit with NO former combat experience, we were FNGs, the older guys wouldn’t talk to us. The first thing Elsner told me was, ‘to eat shit and die’, however we became very close and I carry a small container with his ashes in my van.)

It seems funny that the bad asses that we thought we were, could become so close in later years. Those that know me, I believe will agree that I do not go to extremes when it comes to voicing my opinion on matters. As of late there are two things that REALLY have started to bother me and I believe I am going to get up on that proverbial soap box and speak my piece.

Stolen Valor

The first is, Stolen Valor. I can not believe that some people suggest that you can lie about yourself and call it freedom of speech. The lies that are told to make you look better are JUST WRONG. I do not believe that the issue of a criminal act should even be considered. I guess that I come from the old school, lying is just WRONG. Lying about ones past and accomplishments for personal gain in whatever form is fraud plan and simple. I really have no use for someone that would say they are or did something that they did not.

It seems that the Courts have become involved, which is pure bull. I would guess that it would be too much to ask for the people that would impersonate a member of the service not to. This is as far as I’m concerned, an issue that should not even has to be brought up in the court system. The politicians are even getting into the act of half truths and all out lies. Stolen Valor is not about someone right to freedom of speech, it is about fraud and fraud is illegal plan and simple!

I know and served with a lot of guy’s that should have and for one reason or another did not receive the recognition
that they deserved. I do know for a fact that I was part of the problem when it came to the writing up of a medal. It was my belief then and to some what today that the job a soldier is sent out to do is his JOB, and a job is just that. A lot of people do not agree with me on that but, that is ok as long as they don’t wear a medal not earned. I guess I was naive as a 19 year old in a country, fighting a war that I really did not understand. I had been brought up in a family of 4 brothers and 4 sisters, and a belief that if you wanted something you went out and earned it and that was the end of that quest. A job well done was just that. Everyone involved knew it and just went on with the matters of the next day. Over the years I have come to realize that there is more to life than that. So, needless to say in Vietnam there were a lot of times that an act happened that should have but was not rewarded by me. At the time I believed that the jobs we were given were just that, a job.

Politicians are the ones that I really do not understand. Why they want to lie about their service is beyond me. Do they think that they will not be verified and called out on the claims that make them sound somehow better then they actually are? All in all the lies that are told to promote oneself in any manner can not be tolerated in any way.

Funeral Protests
One of the other things that really bothers me are these idiots that think funeral protests are also a right of freedom of speech. It is really sad that the government has to become involved in such a solemn event as a funeral. I understand that the state that I live in, Illinois has passed a law that forbids protests at any funeral “within 200 feet of any ingress and egress of a funeral site” the law also prohibits the display “of any visual images that convey fighting words or actual or veiled threats against any person.”

The real motive behind these protests as far as I am concerned is just pure and simple bull poop. I do not care what anyone’s beliefs concerning homosexuality. That, is as far as I am concerned is an issue in its self and should not be brought into the fact of a person or family having the respect to be buried in a solemn and peaceful means.

All I can say is that it is a sad state when you can not even lay a loved one to rest and have to put up with morons that what to protest.

Exit the soap box and back to an issue that is up and coming.

The reunion will be here before we know it, so get off your duffs and make your reservation. The reunion next year will be held from June 8 for (early arrivals) thru the 11th.
Greetings to all my Brothers,

Apparently not a lot has been going on since the last issue other than the usual ups and downs of life. Wonder what it would be like if it was all on a smooth plane? Some say it would be boring but I think I’d like to try it for a while to see if that’s true.

It’s a couple of days past Veterans Day as I write this and it has been a wonderful time this week because several of my Brothers traveled to Colorado to celebrate Veterans day together. It all began a year ago when I attended the service at the Western Colorado Vietnam War Memorial. I was not impressed with the keynote speaker so I volunteered to get a speaker for this year. I contacted former K-Co commander Reuben Siverling and asked if he would do the honors. He graciously accepted (he can’t pass up an opportunity to honor Veterans) and he did it very well as always.

Problem is though that Janice decided that we had to do the fixing up that she wanted in the house before we had guests. This included new tile in the bathroom, cabinets and tile in the laundry room, carpet and paint the master bedroom, new curtains, the list goes on. Actually it was all in the overall plan, we just moved it up. I have been hopping the last couple of months to get it all done. Of course you can’t do all this work without new furniture. It was a near thing as the last pieces were delivered the morning the first guests arrived. I have to admit Jan did a great job with the decorating and bringing it all together. Of course she always does a fist rate job with the cooking and meal planning.

My guests were Reuben & Bonita Siverling, Harry & Cindy Phair, Wayne & Fran Mitsch, David & Janet Bristol, Willie Williams, Tom Sove, Ken Nelson, and Ray Allen. Jan and I were honored to have all of you in our home.

The weather was not the greatest but no one seemed to mind, the service at the Vietnam Memorial was moving. Then we spent a lot of time just visiting and enjoying the fare from Jan’s kitchen.

Tom Sove served in the 3/12th Recon platoon before joining K-Co. His platoon sergeant (Butch Hardlicka) lives an hour South of me. Butch was able to join us for the day and he and Tom enjoyed their first visit in forty years.

Cass Sove was diagnosed in August with bone cancer so please keep her and Tom in your thoughts and prayers. She has received a couple of rounds of chemotherapy and at this writing she has received the good news that she is in remission. Another large dose of chemo is to come and stem cell therapy after that to round out her treatment so hopefully the worst will be over by the time you read this. Cass has a very positive attitude and that goes a long way toward recovery. She is a very strong lady and is to be admired for her great courage.

We have had a great year financially. Wayne reports that we received a large donation from one of our members who wishes to remain anonymous plus all the other generous donations throughout the year. As a result we were able to donate $2000.00 to the RRA Family fund, $750.00 to the Ranger Memorial Fund, plus the $500.00 we donated to the Wounded Warrior Foundation to honor Top Keller. That still leaves us with a balance of $2300.00. Wayne deserves a big thank you for taking care of our funds and a special thank you from me for all who have given so generously this past year. It speaks volumes about who K-Co was and still is. You took care of your Brothers way back when and you are still doing it. Sua Sponte!

It is with a sad heart that I report that one of our own (Raymond Barrio) has passed away. Ray died Nov. 24th after suffering a massive heart attack. I was disappointed that I was not able to get to his service but Steve Lockard was there to represent his Brothers. Thanks Steve for being there. Our condolences of course go to his wife, (Elaine) and the rest of his family. Ray was and will always be a true Brother and will be greatly missed especially by those of 2nd Bde. Lrprps who served with him.

K-Co has made a donation in his honor to the Disabled American Veterans.

Raymond A. Barrio, 62, of Jackson, died Wednesday, Nov.24, 2010. Born in Brooklyn, NY, Raymond served in
Vietnam as a LRRP (Ranger) in the 75th Regiment, 4th Infantry, 2nd Brigade. In 1986, he moved to Jackson with his wife and two children. There he worked for over 20 years as a systems engineer at Verizon in New Brunswick NJ. Raymond had a love for the New York Yankees, European soccer and refereeing basketball. He was an avid reader, a beach lover, a golf enthusiast and enjoyed walks with his wife and beautiful dog Savannah. He is preceded in death by parents, Ramon and Mary Barrio. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Elaine Barrio, his daughter Beth Barrio, his son and daughter in law, Michael and Jennifer Barrio and his sister Juanita Barrio.

Visiting will be from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, November 26, 2010 at M.J. Murphy Funeral Home, 616 Ridge Rd, at New Rd. Monmouth Junction. Services will be held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, November 27, 2010 at M.J. Murphy Funeral Home. The burial will follow at 11:30 a.m. at Ocean County Memorial Park, 1722 Silverton Rd., in Toms River, NJ. In lieu of flowers, donations in Raymond’s memory can be made to The National D-Day Memorial Foundation or The Disabled American Veterans Association.

I will end here and include a few pictures of our time together for Veterans Day.

Roger Crunk
Lrrp-Rangers Association 101st Airborne reunion was held in Branson, Missouri Sept 28 - Oct 3rd. 47 vets and a few wives attended. The Spinning Wheel Hotel was a great spot with horseshoe pits, a large picnic area and most importantly, a Chopper Landing Pad.

Kingsman “11” Gerry Morgan and Bobby Hawk flew from Argyle, Texas for the reunion in a Bell UH-1H Huey to the surprise and excitement of everyone. The Huey spent the whole reunion with us and was ready for takeoff at a moment’s notice in case a extraction was called in.

Members of Kingsman Helicopter crews that attended were Bill Meacham, John Wayne Ratliff, Gerald Morgan, Mike Grisey, Edward “Skip” Ragan. Kingsman 25 Bill Meacham was heard saying, “We made a commitment. They knew if I put them on the ground, I’d come back and get them. If something happened and I went down, they’d come back and get me. I know they would. It was fun…..I enjoyed the hell out of it.” The Lrrps and the Kingsman have a special bond “If you believe blood is thicker than water, you ought to see how brotherhood flows.” said Carl Ostrom, 101st Airborne Ranger. F 58th Vet Ernie Airington and his wife Wilma, Jerry Hoy 2/327 and Harvey Bieber, 1st Bde Lrrps were 1st timers.

Gary Linderer put on a big fish fry Thursday evening which was delicious. Good Southern’ Cookin’ and Southern Hospitality. He spent a lot of time on the lake catching those trout - and they were HUGE! Thank you Gary. Our Friday night banquet was held at Stonebridge Country Club. Kip Rolland was Master of Ceremonies. Darol Walker, 1st Sgt F Co 67-68 was the dinner speaker. Auctioneer Lurch Cornett did a great job. Thank you everyone for the auction items and donations. The traditional Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony was held and vets read the names of our KIA’s. The Missing Man Table was set for our MIA Ranger James A. Champion, Co. L, 75th Infantry.

Update on Randy White - he sounds good and says “he’s on the “road to recovery.” Riley Cox is also recovering and is doing well. Ron Rucker had a mishap on his motorcycle with a deer, and had a bad case of road rash….and Lafferty ate too many peanuts and ended up in the hospital for a brief time in Branson…..Smitty also ate some dirt on his motorcycle…Hey guys - keep your eyes peeled…..

Once Upon a Time or You Won’t Believe This *$&#! Stories:

Dave Weeks told of the dark night in the jungle when he awoke to a big hairy arm wrapped around his neck……a baboon. She was in love!!! He had to lay perfectly still for about 2 hours before she went away. Dave also had an encounter with a Cobra. Walking up to his hootch he saw what he thought was a walking stick poked into the ground next to the door — It was a big cobra and it reached out and bite him! Mike Fujinaga had the misfortune to be bitten not once but twice during his tour of Vietnam. He relayed the horror of being evacuated in a Huey with the snake, chopped to pieces, in a plastic bag on his chest. Needless to say, he still hates snakes. I heard there were 100 types of snakes in Vietnam- 99 were poisonous and the last one would crush you to death!

Gary Linderer talked about the Ngoui Rung - “The People of the Forest “ Big Foot. Read about it in Strange But True -Stories of the Vietnam War by Kregg P.J. Jorgenson. Or watch it on the SyFyChannel - Beast Legends “The Wild Man of Vietnam.” Last but not least, Jerry Gomes is bursting at the seams because his youngest daughter, Julia, graduated from Jump School in May and earned her Wings! She’s in ROTC going to school to be an Army Nurse.

Thanks again for the wonderful Reunion Gary & Barb. A relaxing - exciting time especially with the Huey Rides! Thanks Gerry Morgan and Bobby Hawk.

Keep in touch. I’m hoping to have the Roster updated and corrected this winter. Please write me at Jerry Gomes, PO Box 1570, Sandy, Oregon 97055 or e-mail at azores46@frontier.com with your updated contact information. 503-668-6127
Robt ‘twin’ Henriksen, Unit Director, cell (360) 393-7790, home (360) 778-1305

Charlie “Teach” Kankel died in the fall of 2010. He was a LRP/Ranger and served alongside me for about 8 months in 1968, he getting to the unit a few months after I did. Charlie and I both were from Minnesota. We never ran a single mission on the same team together but whenever we both were not in the field at the same time, we would converse about home. We lost touch after I left Nam on a stretcher up until the Kentucky reunion in ’89 where we reconnected. (He always reminded me that he was the one accompanying us on the chopper from B Med to the hospital at Qui Nhon, something I don’t recall but that many others do). After that, we often got together for coffee or breakfast whenever he would return to Minnesota to visit family, friends and/or his alma mater, the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks (for those of you who aren’t up on your geography, first find Canada and then go just a little bit south). Everything I’m about to write here Charlie would be OK with. I saw that he was in AA for much of his life and helped to change many, many lives for the better. Any story I tell here was already told by Charlie, I’m sure.

Charlie and
Reed Welke

Gary Linderer frying Trout.

L to R - Gunther Bengston & Rey Martinez


Group Picture of Kingsmen & Lrrps.

No Submission
From Reed Welke:

Charlie was called Teach because he was one of the very few guys in the unit, at that time, who had a college degree. When not on a mission, the guy looked like he was at Fort Bragg – his uniform was starched, his boots were shined, all insignia was properly installed and he carried himself with consummate professionalism. Only recently, did I learn that Charlie had been in OCS, for awhile at least, but was booted for some reason related to a bit too much partying. Apparently in OCS, a starched uniform is mandatory and whatever else Charlie learned, he damned sure learned that. If you look at the attached picture of Charlie and me, you can clearly see that he was a few notches above me, if not in rank, certainly in Army professionalism - he’s starched and tailored and I’m not. Teach could be a pro both in the field and in the rear. He was trusted in the bush and a great guy on the hill.

When not in the bush, we often would have to pull some sort of duty even if we had only two days between missions. The NCOs would be tasked with overseeing police call, shit burning, TOC NCO, scheduling radio watch, even KP for the E Troop mess hall on occasion. The enlisted guys would be on those details. Charlie’s college education put him several steps ahead of the rest of us. He was an E4 but somehow he got himself installed as the bartender in the “club” so early in his tenure, when not running missions he was not only close to the beer, he controlled it. For those of you earlier or later than ’68, the “club” was just an 18 by 36 tent with a few extra lights and a plywood bar at one end that protected a large cooler of beer and ice if either was available. I never once saw Charlie loaded but he did protect that beer. He did not burn shit nor did he pull KP or go on police call. Instead, he might have been downtown looking for that local ice that was always covered in sawdust or whatever else might be found in Bong Son.

On the other side of the coin, Charlie ran missions. This is his story. Not too long after he got to the unit, he was on a team with a mission into the An Lao valley. The team was compromised early. As I recall it (I was in the TOC for part of his mission), the weather was not real good and the team was compromised very early, soon after insertion. They were in and out of radio contact. The NVA were using tracking dogs. The team was on E&E but had to hunker down overnight in elephant grass. The NVA were very close. Teach had the M60 and was assigned to cover the back trail with it, separated some distance from the rest of the team. The NVA searched the elephant grass during the night and early on came extremely close to Charlie and the M60, actually walking between him and the rest of the team. Of course, firing would have given away his and the team’s position. Charlie told me that he just knew the NVA would soon find him so as they searched, he pulled the pin on a grenade. However, in his haste and fear, he let the pin drop – into the elephant grass in the middle of the night. He told me that it was perhaps the longest night of his life holding onto that grenade which he had to do until it was light enough to find the pin – which ultimately, he did. The NVA did not find the team that night and the team got pulled out while on the run the next morning. I remember Charlie recounting this adventure to me when the team returned to the hill and I think that it was the defining mission for him as a LRP as it is the story he recounted to me most often.

(Ed note: Am sure that Charlie felt that he had been using his grip exerciser all night) Most of us have a story that we can tell, one that would be the last thing we’d ever forget about being a LRP/Ranger even if we forgot everything else. This one is Charlie’s. It is told here because he can never tell it again, himself. RIP, Teach. Reed Welke

GENERAL ORDERS 2744 for Robinson

For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile enemy, specialist Robinson distinguished himself on 21 September 1968 in the Republic of Viet Nam while serving as an RTO on a long range patrol surveillance mission. On this day the team received a new mission. To set up an attack position for a possible prisoner of war snatch. At 1530 hours two enemy soldiers approached the patrol’s position. The TL initiated fire on the enemy, wounding one. Specialist Robinson immediately ran forward and grabbed the other enemy soldier and dragged him back to the Team’s location. He then called in to the radio control station and relayed the events. This accomplished, Specialist Robinson forward into the attack zone to retrieve on other wounded enemy. This done, he rallied The patrol team and assisted the TL in setting up
security, as the team’s position was severely compromised during the attack. Specialist Robinson’s devotion to duty and personal bravery were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit and the United States Army. Reed (the younger) Welke.

The following is also from Reed Welke on Rick Frame who died on September 1, 2010

For those of us who did not make the military our careers, our time in uniform was relatively short – most often 2 to 3 years, some longer and a few shorter if they got shot out of the saddle. Even with only a few years in uniform, however, many of us considered ourselves professional soldiers and I have to tell you about one for whom I have enormous admiration. I’m writing this now because Ranger Rick Frame, died on Wednesday, September 1, 2010, taken by complications resulting from soft tissue carcinoma in the form of mesothelioma, something that he battled like a Ranger would, right up to the end. Rick and I entered the service the same month, July, 1966 - Rick in California and I in Wisconsin. Rick went to basic and his first AIT, O5B, at Fort Ord, California. I went to basic at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and my first AIT, also O5B, at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Rick and I both were selected for an advanced communications AIT, O5C, and we ended up at Fort Gordon, South Carolina, on the same day. We both graduated our O5C course the same day and headed for jump school where we were assigned to the same training company. We stood in the same early morning company formations in the dark, in the cold, February rain. We shared the morning PT and runs, the 34 and 250 foot towers, the thousands of push-ups and deep knee bends and the exhilaration of those first 5 jumps into the drop zone in Alabama.

Upon jump school graduation, all but about 8 in our jump school company’s class received orders for Vietnam. The other 8, Rick and I included, received orders for the Special Forces, either in Panama or in Germany. Rick and I drew Germany, the 10th SFG. My plane departed Fort Dix, New Jersey, a day before Rick’s plane departed. After a Boeing 707 ride to Frankfurt and a train ride to Bad Tolz, we again met up at Flint Kaserne at the base of the Alps – the sort of place that is number one on almost every soldier’s dream sheet. Rick and I quickly became friends. During the decades after we left the Army, there were many things about Rick that I remembered from our time together in the service. The first is that, even though a draftee, Rick was a consumate soldier. Here are a few examples:

In Germany, as enlisted personnel, we periodically had to stand guard duty. In the 10th SFG, guard duty entailed, first, standing a tough and highly competitive inspection by the officer of the Day. We, our gear and our weapons had to be meticulous in every way. We had to have memorized all of our standing orders, special forces processes and procedures, the mechanics and specifications of our weapons (the M2 carbine, the M14 and, finally, the M16) and all of the other gear that was defensively or offensively oriented. Pretty common stuff for the military but in the 10th SFG, there always seemed to be an added expectation of excellence.

The guard mount was typically 6 soldiers as I recall. The Officer of the Day (the “OD”) was typically an SF Captain. The OD would often spend an entire hour inspecting the 6 soldiers on the guard mount. In the end, he would select one as “the man”. “The man” was the soldier who was better than the rest considering all aspects of the OD’s inspection – the one who was, overall, the most excellent. That person got to choose what he would guard, the airfield or the ammo dump (and one was definitely better than the other), got to choose which shift he’d take (the first was always best because you ended your obligation earlier and basically got the next day off) and would receive a 3-day pass. (Munich was a popular destination). Here’s where Rick comes in but it starts with me. When I stood guard mount, I almost invariably was “The Man” because I really prepared – except in one circumstance. That circumstance was when Rick was on the same guard mount. He beat me every time. The guy was a natural soldier. With less effort, he would look better and respond better to the inspections. He was the kind of friend who would present the sort of challenge that made me want to compete at a higher level. Having that in common made us great friends. We spent many a day together on pass in Munich and elsewhere in Bavaria. Rick and I were in Germany with the 10th SFG during the 1967, 6-day war in the Middle East. The 10th was on alert to jump in to the war zone but only a very select few were chosen to
spearhead the mission jump – the first guys in. Rick was one of them. He sat in a C130 on a runway in Munich for hours, geared up for a full-equipment, night jump. In the end, the mission was called off. But he was one of the select few. He was that good. He also was under orders to never speak of the preparation or where he’d gone (to Munich to load up on the C-130). He never said a word to me until I visited him in June, 2010.

I requested a transfer from the 10th to Vietnam in November, 1967, still having half my time left in the Army. My request was immediately granted. When I got to Vietnam, I was assigned to the 74th LRP’s. I wrote to Rick who was still in Germany and described the LRP’s to him. From the time he got my first letter, he tried weekly to get a 1049 approved to be reassigned and join the 74th. And, for many weeks, his 1049 requests were denied. The 10th wanted to keep him. However, he found a way. He bribed a clerk somewhere in the system with $50 and the next thing I knew, Rick was in the 173rd jungle school with orders for the LRP’s. When I became a team leader, Rick was on my team for awhile. He was very bright, highly motivated and extremely dependable – still the consumate soldier. He was good enough to earn a slot at RECONDO school in December, 1968. During that time, only a select few got to go to RECONDO school because the unit was quickly growing to become a Ranger company and there just were not that many slots open for the 173rd in RECONDO school. Important, is that Rick was a draftee and he had to volunteer not only for the LRP’s but also had to extend his active duty time beyond his two year obligation in order to join the unit. He did so and ultimately became a team leader. He had the heart of a LRP even before he was drafted. Every LRP/Ranger reading this knows what I mean.

When I visited him in June, 2010, he told me that he attributed a lot of his post Army success to his Army and LRP experience. In his home office was a full wall mural of a picture taken of him at RECONDO school. However, it was so situated that no one would ever see it if Rick didn’t make a point of allowing someone into his home office and pointing it out. As he explained it, it was a very personal and daily reminder for him of the most important achievement in his life second only to his family. He seemed not feel the need to share that LRP experience to find value in it for himself. He probably did share his LRP experience selectively, but it was clear to me that his pride came from being a LRP, not talking about it. Later, Bro

Humor from N Ranger Days (beats blood and guts anyday)
A tale of engagement in Vietnam from Hubie Imhof. We all have memories of things that happened to us in Vietnam. Not all of them are about combat. This is one of those stories that I have told to friends who never experienced the jungle and its probably grown in scope (read: B.S.) over the years, but its still an amusing story. It was 1970 and I was still fairly new-in-country when one of the guys who had done some time in the jungle offered a bit of acquired wisdom. “You could be out here every day for ten years and on the last day you would still see a new kind of bug that you haven’t seen before.”

That same day our Airborne Ranger team was on a reconnaissance mission in the mountains of central Vietnam. It was monsoon season and the weather was terrible. The fog in the mountains can be quite dense, making the possibility of helicopter landings, and subsequent extraction, uncertain at best. Generally we stayed off of established trails or roads in order to avoid booby traps or unwanted contact with the enemy. But even though we were being effectively stealthy, it soon became apparent that we had stumbled into a North Vietnamese Army regimental base camp. It was time to sneak back out. After climbing straight up a mountainside that seemed to go on forever, we looked for a place to get out of the weather and take a break. Somebody spotted an opening in the rocks. Inside was a small cave. The opening was just large enough for one man at a time to pass through. We all inside we started to cook lunch by lighting some small chunks of C4 explosive. The white clay-like material could be burned safely since it needs a concussion from something like a blasting cap to explode.

As the food was heating up I looked around the cave by the light of the burning C4 and a small flashlight. My gaze eventually went to the ceiling which was only inches above
from home and the "Cherry" gets caught. As well as I
"Cherry" stole Turner's stereo from his car. 7000 miles
you live.... when was this and so forth. Well turns out the
quizing the "Cherry".... what kinda car was it....where do
car while he was on leave. Turner is listening and starts
this "Cherry" starts telling about stealing this stereo from a
We were all outside at the picknick table drinking beer and
was gone we got a couple of "Cherries" in the company.
Turner came back to the L.Z. after his leave and while he
someone stole his stereo from his car, I think a Camero?
link. In June, during a mission to a place called Ranger's BB.
 admitted to telling his story just as
he started I finished it for him. Her eyes got very big and
said “it is true”, he has told that story for years and I never
believed it.” REED, THE ONLY THING I CAN ADD,
THE CAR WAS A 68 GTO AND IT WAS A CASSETTE
PLAYER. OTHER THAN THAT TRUE STORY.

SSG GERALD A TURNER (NASTY NAT)
74th LRRP 69
N/CO/RANGERS DELTA TEAM 69-70
75th RANGER REGIMENT ASSOC LIFE MEMBER
We got a new 1st Sergeant, just in from the U.S. who was
rumored to never have left the U.S. in his 19 year career
before being sent to Vietnam. He was considered the
ultimate REMF and attempted to run the unit in that
manner, holding formations in the early morning for teams
just in from the field, holding formations at other times
during the day to check for shined boots and pressed
fatigues and many of the other activities that you would
expect of a Fort Bragg first shirt. At some point, the team
leaders had had enough and a meeting was called in the
CO’s tent to basically call him out about his REMF
mentality. One of the team leaders sitting at the meeting
was listening to the new first shirt explain the “reasons” for
his actions apparently had heard enough. This team leader
reached up and grabbed a box of chocolate flavored doggie
biscuits that the CO kept for his canine mascot (not Tango).
This team leader proceeded to grab one of the biscuits and
started passing the box around. As I can recall almost every
team leader grabbed a biscuit and started chewing on them.
When the box got to the CO, the CO grabbed a biscuit and
started chewing on it and passed the box to the new REMF
first sergeant. At that point the 1st sergeant lost it and
walked out of the meeting. True story and great scene for a
movie. Another story about this first sergeant is that he
tended to spend a good deal of time wearing a steel pot and
a flak jacket on the hill which always set him apart from the
other Ranger NCOs of the time. After he was hit by a bullet
that passed right through the side of his steel pot, he
insisted on continuing to wear it whenever he was on the
hill. The reason for this was that he felt it was a symbol of
his service and dedication to the Ranger Regiment.

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tended to spend a good deal of time wearing a steel pot and
a flak jacket on the hill which always set him apart from the
laid back behaviors of everyone else, most of whom had no
need for such superfluous equipment. On July 4th of that
year, the Commanding General of the 173rd announced
that there would be no celebration – no mad minute after
dark, no shenanigans or noise-making, fireworks events.
Of course, those of us on the hill that day took that as a

Our crouched heads. Suddenly I found myself eyeball to
eyeball with the biggest spider-like creature I have ever
seen. Its legs had to be 12 to 14 inches long and its head the
size of a baseball. Before I could scream like a little girl,
the other big brave rangers also looked up and we all saw
that the entire ceiling of the cave was covered with the
beasts. I don’t know how six guys could move so fast. All
of us tried to squeeze through the cave door at once. We
quickly sorted out the strongest and weakest among us
while bodies were shoved and pushed out of the way. It was
every man for himself. Nobody cared how many NVA
troops might be waiting outside; it was just get the hell out
of there no matter what.

Fortunately we were far enough away from the base camp
that the NVA didn’t detect us. Our uphill hike continued
until we were able to find an LZ and the clouds parted long
enough for us all to get out safely. The adage about finding
new bugs in the jungle certainly proved to be true, but I had
no idea they could also be so amazingly bizarre. And I
learned that even though we were all well equipped to fight
the human enemy, it made little difference when it came to
overcoming the primal fears that lie within us. Hubie Imhof
Another bug story. On a mission northwest of LZ English,
we were sitting on the side of a hill watching a valley. I
heard a loud but somewhat distant ‘buzzing’ sound
obviously coming in our direction. I was sitting next to Joe
Simons. As the noise approached, we both looked in the
direction from which it was coming. Soon, this huge
“beetle” with wings came into view, the relatively small
wings going a million miles an hour and making a hell of
a racket, but the body of this huge flying bug moving in
relative slow motion. We both watched it pass and then
eventually it disappeared, still on its plodding journey. I
leaned over and whispered in Joe’s ear, “did you see that?
– the f***** had door gunners”. It is the only time I
remember two guys laughing out loud on a mission. Some
of those bugs were beyond description. Reed Welke

Thought this might be worth telling, Turner make sure I get
it right... Turner (Gerald “Nate” Turner ‘69 - ’70) extended
and went home for his 30 day leave. While he was home
someone stole his stereo from his car, I think a Camero?
Turner came back to the L.Z. after his leave and while he
was gone we got a couple of “Cherries” in the company.
We were all outside at the picknick table drinking beer and
this “Cherry” starts telling about stealing this stereo from a
car while he was on leave. Turner is listening and starts
quizing the “Cherry”.... what kinda car was it....where do
you live.... when was this and so forth. Well turns out the
“Cherry” stole Turner’s stereo from his car. 7000 miles
from home and the “Cherry” gets caught. As well as I
remember Turner gave him something to remember. The
“Cherry” didn’t stay in the company long....

“Have a good day”
Terry (Huffstickler)
“RLTW”

Reed, It is definitely true. Last year at the Rendezvous
myself, Nate’s wife and Pete Ludlow were talking at
Ranger Brown’s BBQ. Nate started to tell his story just as
he started I finished it for him. Her eyes got very big and
said “it is true”, he has told that story for years and I never
believed it.” REED, THE ONLY THING I CAN ADD,
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year, the Commanding General of the 173rd announced
that there would be no celebration – no mad minute after
dark, no shenanigans or noise-making, fireworks events.
Of course, those of us on the hill that day took that as a
challenge. After dark, several of us got hold of a few star clusters and decided to fire them off all at the same time, aiming them west out beyond the wire. Unintentionally, we congregated perhaps 15 meters from this first sergeant’s tent. We popped off the star clusters with their accompanying noise and within seconds we heard some scrambling around in the first sergeant’s tent. Moments later, he emerged, helmet on, struggling to get into his flak jacket and toting his M16, heading towards the either the slit trench or the old, French-built concrete bunker. It was difficult to tell because we scattered, knowing that if we were identified, an Article 15 would the the next entry on our official military record. However, the laughing and snickering went on long after the event.

This REMF first sergeant ultimately completed his tour and was replaced by yet another new top sergeant. I recall the new first sergeant walking through the tents and being introduced to the men. When he got to one of the guys, he looked up on the wall above the guy’s bunk and asked if that was an SKS hanging there. The Ranger responded that it was. After a long pause the new first sergeant said, “We used them as firewood in Korea”. You could have heard the Ranger’s jaw hit the floor. In terms of the quality of first sergeants, the pendulum had swung back into positive territory. Paul Beckwith LRRP, LRP, Ranger – ’67 to ’69

From tome Roubideaux who is working on books for 173rd LRP (very early days), 173rd LRRP, 74th LRP and N Rangers. This is good! This email exchange has got me rummaging through my research files and notes to the dismay of my wife as we are still unpacking, refurbishing, and in the early stages of forest mitigation of our property here on our Mountain.

These two missions have always stuck in my memory all through the years. They will be one of several high lighted missions in Book two; 74th LRP Inf. Det.: From Tuy Hoa to Bong Son, (December 1967 to Jan 1969)

Book four will cover the 74th LRSD/LRSU Inf Det. 173rd Abn, but that won’t be done for a few more years.

I am preparing for a trip to Vietnam to research and interview PAVN ( NVA/VC ) veterans that ran combat operations against the 173rd LRRP, 74th LRP and N co 75th RGR. I will be assisted by the Vietnamese government to locate and authenticate these veterans.

I am getting more hassle from our State Department then from The Vietnamese government. It’s amazing that our dead can still speak over the years in the most amazing ways...after all this is their story too! They are forever young and very much alive in our memories. I do not want them forgotten after we die, or our story to fade from history like the 9th Roman Legion in the Britain campaign of Roman Expansion.

Always, Tome

Elaine and I visited with Nancy and Tome Roubideaux on 14 November. The have a great place at 9100’ in the mountains SW of Denver. They have a herd of about eight deer that hang out in the woods at their place.

TOME AND NANCY ROUBIDEAUX (and hanger-on)

Managed to visit with Don and Virgie Bizadi while we were at Canyon de Chelly. Spent parts of four days with them along with their son Donovan and their grand-daughter Felicia.

THE BIZADIS
Greetings from Alaska
to all my fellow Co. O (Arctic Rangers), Co. O (Vietnam) Rangers, and F Co., (LRP) 51st Infantry members. I hope your holiday season was a most wonderful one and I wish you all a most wonderful and safe 2011.

I had hoped to have more about our Arctic Ranger reunion to post here in this issue, but I seemed to have gotten a little, or should say a lot, behind on some things and will have to delay that part 2 till the next issue.

So I wish to devote this issue to our fellow F Co., (LRP) 51st Inf. Members, as they are planning a reunion in Sept 2011. It is very important the word gets out to one and all who would be interested in attending this wonderful event. So I hope Bailey Stauffer and John Chi don’t mind me paraphrasing some of what Bailey has sent me before the holidays, in some emails and I’ll recap them here for you all, along with contact info.

As I stated, Bailey sent me an email back in the fall of 2010, introducing himself to me, as a previous Unit Director for our units with the 75th RRA, and I would like to thank him here for that service and his continued support for the 75th RRA and our units as a whole. We are all linked in one form or another and the most common, that being Veterans. Thank-you sir, and I hope my contributions and oversight here meets with your approval and that of all members with our units represented here. Your continued support and suggestions and such by all are always welcome, as they help me do this mission as unit director best I can.

As we all know, but for those who don’t, F Co., 51st Infantry (LRP) was the parent to Co. O (Ranger) 75th Infantry formed in Vietnam. And as my Co. O (Arctic Ranger) 75th Infantry was a reactivation of Co. O, but in the Alaskan Command, we have our roots with them as well, and share the heritage of our earlier Ranger units as history shows.

As I have said, Bailey sent me this information, which John Chi had passed onto him, regarding their unit reunion planned for September 2011 in New York. He wished to invite All O Co. Rangers to their reunion, and I promised to pass this onto all concerned and who might have an interest in attending this great reunion. You can check out their website for more information at: www.elitebastards.org

Here is the last email message from John Chi that Bailey passed onto me. I think it greatly explains most details and along with their website, and contact info, you can get the latest to make your plans.

Quote: To my fellow LRP brothers and all involved sisters, I have attached a document that reflects the activities for the Sept 2011 reunion. Some changes/ modifications have been made. The location and the time frame remains the same. I had two suggestions from members to begin our activities on Mon 9/12/11 which would have meant that everyone would have had to arrive on Sat or Sunday. After thinking about the suggestion I decided against it simply because that Sunday would be 9/11/11, the 9/11 Memorial will open that day and I was not quite sure how easy and/or difficult would be. I’m sure airport security will be at its peak, especially in NY. It was for this reason I decided to begin our activities on Tuesday and take them through Friday. I thought Saturday would be a good chill out day (Company business, shopping, gambling, touring the local area, etc.)

There are some blanks remaining on the itinerary that will be filled in as the information becomes available. Some of these places think I’m crazy when I ask about something that is a year away. If the itinerary has to be modified and or adjusted I will do so as needed.

Everyone needs to start thinking about whether or not they might be interested in seeing a Broadway show on Wednesday afternoon. It is the only day in which there are afternoon performances. If when you decide I would be more than happy to search out the best, most popular and the shows that have available seats.

There may also be a need to purchase some of the tickets a week or two before so I might be calling upon everyone to send a check to cover these costs. I have sent an email to the superintendent of West Point requesting either he (a
The Papa Company Rangers received quite a blow in early August when we got news of the loss of LCPL Kevin Cornelius, son of Jerry Cornelius. Jerry received the news on his birthday and after having spoken to Kevin earlier that day from where he was deployed. He was buried a week later and several of our Rangers attended and some from other units. I wasn’t there but I was told the Marine Corps handled the services in the most honorable way and Kevin was buried with full military honors. Shortly after that, we got news that Bill Davis had died in. We had just buried his Father in March of this year and losing Bill was quite a blow to the family. As far as we can tell, Bill died of natural causes, but I knew he had several health issues going on. He just didn’t complain very much and he kept the seriousness of it to himself pretty much. I never saw it coming, but that’s how it goes when you stay around as long as some of us have.

I’d like to put a personal “Thank You” out to Marshall Larsen, of E/50th LRP, who I
introduced to Bill years ago at a reunion when I learned they lived near each other in the area. has been a close and reliable friend to Bill for several years now and he kept Bill’s best interests at heart while their friendship grew. There were many times when was the only one around that Bill could talk to and had told me of his feelings towards and the support has provided him over the years. Bill served as the Papa Company Unit Director for several years between 2002 and 2007 and did much to promote the company within the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn. He always had a friendly word to anyone who approached him and he will be sorely missed. Bill was also Special Forces qualified and arrived in the company in December 1969, along with Troll Lloyd and Jerry Cornelius if my memory serves me correctly. Bill spent several months in the field and was involved in some pretty serious contacts while with us. I look at the list he kept of his missions and it brings back some memories for me on the dates he has listed. We plan to hold a small memorial service for him this coming Summer during the Ranger Rendezvous and will announce plans closer to the event. Rest In Peace, Bill!!

In October, Ted Tilson and I attended the RBA of WWII Reunion in. There were about 25-30 of the WWII Rangers there and they are still a lively and fun group to be with. We were guests of sorts of Mrs. Lynn Towne, who is a daughter of a WWII Darby Ranger. They have banquets nearly every night and they seem to stay close to the hotel so that was a nice touch. For the Friday night banquet, and I were graciously allowed to escort Mrs. Elizabeth Merritt and Mrs. Katie Messerschmitt to the evening festivities and they were the “Belles of the Ball.” Both of their husbands were deployed and expected home for Christmas this year for a change. Katie’s husband, Major Mark, is a regular competitor in the Best Ranger competition, and has won it in the past. He works at Regiment with’s husband, Rick, the Regimental Command Sergeant Major. We were honored to be seen with these beautiful, young girls!!

In November, I got a note and a call from Gary Hall, who was our Company Commander for much of 1969. He called to tell me that he and his family were coming over from to run in the Space Coast Marathon and on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. I can’t even drive 26 miles without a pit stop anymore, so the idea of running it seems ridiculous to me now. Well, ran it with his daughter and her husband, and the other daughter ran the ½. He finished and I couldn’t be prouder of him. Gary and Patsy and I had gotten together for a nice breakfast prior to the event and we had a real good visit. I live right on the course so I got to see come by that morning as he had to go up and then back by my house. He had his Papa Company Ranger shirt on and wore it proudly. I felt good seeing it go by and I’m told he will be running the next year......... if you know what I mean!!

In December, I received an invitation from James DeSalvo, to attend the services for Ranger David Dolby at. David “Mad Dog” Dolby received the Medal of Honor in 1967 while serving with the 1st Cav. He served in both C/75th and N/75th also. He served 5 tours in with different units and was well known within our Association. He had passed away in August 6, at, where he had been visiting friends. His services were scheduled for Monday, December 13th. I got in touch with Ted Tilson again and we decided to make a road trip and go to I was a bit scared at first because I don’t usually leave the warm confines of after about September 15th or so, when the ice roads begin to form north of . I drove up, and spent the night with and his lovely family, and Friday, we headed to. We got into town about 6:00 P.M. and thankfully we were going in and not out of town. On a Friday afternoon we passed a traffic jam coming south on 1-95 that had to go on for 50 miles or so. We got to the hotel and there were many people in the lobby and wondered if they were all there for the Dolby services? After asking a couple of people, I learned that they were from all over the country and they were in town for the “wreath laying at” the next day and that they come every year. I knew about the truckloads of wreaths that they lay each year, but didn’t think I’d be there for it or ever see it up close and personal. and I decided to spend the next day, Saturday, at and to make sure got one on his grave site. By the time we got there the next morning, someone had already put a wreath on ’s grave so we were able to relax and take in the activity and the masses of people who come out to do this honorable gesture for our fallen soldiers. The entire Iraq/Afghanistan section got covered. was told that there are over 300,000 gravesites there and they just don’t have enough wreaths to cover them all, so they pick certain sections to concentrate on each year. From what and I could tell, if you got in line, you could get a wreath and take it anywhere in the cemetery and place it if you wanted. and I were standing near ’s gravesite when we noticed a lady and her man friend standing at ’s gravesite and touching his gravestone. We walked up and ask if they had known ? The girl replied she did not, but had been asked by her ex-husband to stop by and pay respects for him. Her ex was the first medic on site when was shot and right there with him and the other casualty they had that day. We spent the rest of the day “humping” the grounds and seeing all the different things there are to see there. We finished up a long day with a taxi ride to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial and the others in the area. Then back
to the hotel. It rained Sunday and Monday morning it was cool. Actually in the 20’s with 20 mph winds. Joyce Boatman and her daughter, Carol Jimenez, were there in attendance also, and that was a treat as we got to spend some time with them and Col. John Lawton, of N/75th. There were several Rangers and LRP’s from N/75th and C/75th and some others I’ve never met before. Jim DeSalvo should be given a big attaboy for the way he put the services together for Dave and the organizing and planning he put in. The military people who assisted were great too. Jim has been a steadfast friend to Dave for many years and if you know Dave, you know that like the rest of us, he could be a handful at times!! Ha! Ha! It was a cold, windy day when Dave was put to rest. There was a real nice service in the Chapel where John Lawton provided the eulogy and then the vehicle processional to the gravesite, led by the caisson with the flag draped casket and team of horses. It was a full military honors service as you would expect for a Medal of Honor recipient. It was well done and the day seemed appropriate as it was gray, cold, and windy.

Grace Mayer and I both communicated with a new Ranger Buddy we have. His name is James “Ike” Eikner and he lives in Texas. He had his 97th birthday in December of this year and is still living and loving life. He’s a WWII Ranger and we’re just getting to know him. We’re looking forward to spending some time getting to know him better. Thanks to Lynn Towne who tells me about these wonderful Rangers who enjoy a kind word or gesture when you can do it for them. They are a classy bunch of men for sure.

July will be here before you know it, so begin to think about coming to Columbus this Summer and enjoy the brotherhood and friendships we have developed. Don’t forget Nashville in 2012 and Bobby Hampton assures me he is working on putting on the best reunion we’ve ever had there. I hope you all made it through the holiday season safely and that you had a nice time. I had forgotten how much fun a nearly 2 year old could be.

Be sure and check with your VA provider if you feel you fall under the Agent Orange related illnesses recently added to the list by the VA. Ischemic heart disease, both forms of Leukemia, and Parkinson’s disease are part of the Court Decision, Nehmer vs the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs. There is some serious retroactive funding there and this is separate from a regular claim as many were denied claims for heart disease in the past and they have changed their stance on that now and are awarding retroactive benefits. It’s something worth investigating if you fall into this group that is affected. I’ll be glad to share what I know if you want to contact me. That last issue of Patrolling had an article on it on page 13-14. John Chester told me the 75th RR Assn. plans to expound on this issue in the next few issues of Patrolling as it is a very important decision. BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL FOR A GREAT 2011!!
Honoring Your Service in Vietnam
It was a war that left our nation divided for years
But some things can’t be doubted.
It took courage to be there.
The sacrifices were real.
And everyone who went deserves respect and honor now.
Today we honor you.

A very special friend and brother sent this to me on Veterans Day, and I wanted to share it with you because it pertains to all of you who served. It’s friends like these that help me to be humbled and honored, to have them in my life. They also help in keeping me from going to the dark side.

Veterans Day 2010
We had a great turn out. Some 20 plus Brothers and Sisters joined us in the Parade. We had a Vietnam area jeep from Gary (Como: Can you hear me now) Bussell and Steve (Where are we) Justus rode with Gary because he was whining about his leg hurting. A golf cart designed to replicate a camouflaged jeep by Terry (got your dancing shoes on) MacDonald, and 3 motor cycles ridden by Chuck (No paycheck) Wallace, Bob (Unit President) McIntire, and Mike (Crown & Coke) Reisman. The rest of us had the honor of walking. I of course had the honor of carrying the Unit Chevron in front of the unit, thanks to Ted Dunn who talked me into it. On Ted’s behalf, he has carried it for years. The biggest problem with carrying the Unit Chevron is you’re in front of everyone, and don’t get to talk. You know me; I seldom talk that much anyway, so that was fine. The biggest problem was every body was yelling at me to speed up or slow down. Then at the end of the parade, it was pure chaos with one yelling turn off here and another yelling keep going. It went on back and forth for at least another block. One time, I turned around and some were turning off and some were yelling, “No keep going”. We finally turned off and headed to the Elbow Room for food and shooting the S—t. By the time I got there, my daughter and her friend from work was waiting for me, and some of the Bros. got to her first. She first ran into Mr. Slabaugh, she saw our unit patch on him and told him she was my daughter and wanted to know where we were meeting. Well Mr. Slabaugh told her right here. Then he proceeded to tell her that he and I went to Recondo School in Vietnam and that he passed and I did not “Ha Ha real funny”. Then Stacy ran into Gary Angrick, who ask if she was looking for Leon Moore and she said “Yes I am”. Then Gary said, “I’m Leon Moore”. Stacy was a little confused. When I showed up, Stacy said one of the guys said he was Leon. So I told her that Gary had stolen my nametag at the reunion and was going around saying he was Leon because he wanted to be President.

After that we all ate and enjoyed each other’s company, except Chuck and Linda Eads had to eat quickly so they could go to a grandson’s school for a Veterans Day ceremony. Chuck and Linda had already been to two other grandchildren’s ceremonies that morning. That’s what you get for spitting them out like rabbits. But in Chuck’s defense, he felt he had to make up for lost time spent in Vietnam (At A Boy Chuck).

Roll call
Our Father the Commander of all has called two more of our Brothers to be in the advance party to prepare and set up base camp for our arrival.

Sgt.Bob Ramey was called back to duty on October 17th in the year of our Lord 2010.

Mr. Chuck Eickelberry was called back into service on November 18th in the year of our Lord 2010.

He also called another sister to help in the preparation. Mrs. Karen Ann Slabaugh, the wife and love, of Michael Slabaugh. She fought the fight as hard as the best of the best of Rangers. She is a great lady and a saint. Remember she took care of Mike all these years, and is still his better half.

We will always keep them in a special place in our hearts.

Here are a few old sayings that I try to live by, and some of them are my own.

This is my special wish for you this coming year.

Live each day as if it is your last day on earth,
“This can be done through love and understanding”
I was newly arrived in Vietnam. I volunteered to be a Long Range Patrol (LRP) upon arrival to Nam. After some orientation & training at Bein Hoa I was sent to Cu Chi where the company was operating out of. SSG. Jones gave me an accurate picture of the missions we went on and said always be alert.

The first mission went uneventful, but the second one I would remember. One of the team had passed me a watch for to stand guard for one hour & pass it on. The area was sparsely covered by any trees and brush. Near the end of the hour I felt something crawling up my leg, my pants had become unbloused and a small snake was crawling up my leg. I couldn’t reach anyone and whispered to someone to help me, no answer. I was perfectly still and finally the snake crawled away after 15 minutes. My time had passed over the hour as handed the watch over to the next LRP on guard. He looked at the watch & woke the team leader up for a few moments. The rest of the patrol was uneventful.

Upon returning to base we started cleaning our equipment. The TL and the M60 gunner whom I had woke up (a huge soldier from Philadelphia) led me to the edge of the berm. They both had their shirts off & explained to me the importance of staying awake/alert on guard duty. They were fixing to heat me up so I could remember. I had just turned 18 years old and weighed 168 pounds, but I knew I was no match for these two seasoned Airborne soldiers. I hurriedly told them about the snake and they looked at me & the SGT. Said he believed me because no FNG could think up a story like that. The M60 gunner hit me in the arm (got a bruise) and we went back to getting ready for the next mission with me feeling thankful for the snake encounter.
Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

On Veteran’s Day November 11, 2010 BDQ Jim Waters and a group of eight Vietnamese Rangers from the Washington, DC area placed a wreath at our memorial in Arlington National Cemetery to honor our fallen comrades. Jim asks all of us to say a prayer for each and every one of our men who went in harms way. Biet Dong Quan Sat!

SIT REP:

Fellow Rangers it is again time to step up to the plate and send me your stories and photos so I can publish them in patrolling. I can’t do it alone. And it is not about me but about all of you. Please send me something. It doesn’t have to be a book.

Sad News

Ranger Staff Sergeant David “Mad Dog” Dolby passed away August 10, 2010. Dave received the Medal of Honor for his actions of taking charge of and saving his platoon during and enemy attack near An Khe in May 1966 while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division. Dave served five tours in Vietnam and said “If I am going to be in the Army, I’d rather be in Vietnam where the action is.” In 1969-70 Dave was an advisor to the 44th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion “Biet Dong Quan. Dave also received the Silver Star, Three Bronze Star medals and the Purple Heart’. A resident of Royerstown, PA., he worked recently to bring attention to the neglected Medal of Honor Grove in Valley Forge, PA. Dave was buried November 16th, 2010 in Arlington National Cemetery.

(Some information was taken from the Dec 2010 issue of Vietnam Magazine)

Feature:

Silver Star awarded to Sergeant Harold George Bennett (Posthumously)

Fort Roots, Arkansas- U. S. Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.) today 9/28/10 made a special posthumous Silver Star presentation to the family of Sergeant Harold G. Bennett, a Vietnam veteran and native of Perryville. Sgt. Bennett was the first prisoner of war (POW) executed in the Vietnam War, and his remains were never recovered. The Silver Star is the third-highest military decoration that can be given to any member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces.

The Silver Star ceremony was part of the annual event honoring former POW’s, and those service members still missing in action.

Senator Lincoln has been working with the Army since 2005 to ensure that Sgt. Bennett’s heroic service would be recognized with awards of valor. In April 2006, Senator Lincoln helped present several military service and honor medals to Sgt. Bennett’s brother and sisters. The posthumous awards included the Combat Infantryman’s Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Prisoner of War Medal, U.S. Army Good Conduct Medal and the Purple Heart, medals that should have been presented to Sgt. Bennett’s mother, Pauline Bennett, upon his death in 1965.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the death of Army Staff Sgt. Harold George Bennett, who was born on October 16, 1940, in Perryville. His father, Gordon, was a veteran of World War I, and his four sons would follow his footsteps into the U.S. Army. Sgt. Bennett was trained in the Army as an airborne infantryman and served with the famed 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, made up of some of the finest soldiers in the world. He earned his Master Parachute Wings and Expert Infantry Badge before volunteering in 1964 for service in what was a relatively unknown area of Southeast Asia called Vietnam.

While deployed, Sgt. Bennett served as an infantry advisor to the 33rd Ranger Battalion, one of South Vietnam’s best trained and toughest units. On December 29, 1964, they were
 airlifted to the village of Binh Gia after it had been overrun by a division of Viet Cong. Immediately upon landing, Sgt. Bennett’s unit was confronted by a well dug-in regiment of enemy forces and despite fighting furiously and courageously throughout the afternoon; their unit was decimated and overrun. Sgt. Bennett and his radio operator, Private First Class Charles Crafts, fell into the hands of the Viet Cong.

Sgt. Bennett twice called off American helicopter pilots who were attempting to rescue him, because he wanted to save them from being shot down.

“Amazingly, one of the last men to speak with Sergeant Bennett was Colonel Doug Moore, a fellow Arkansan who was monitoring Sergeant Bennett’s radio transmissions when he was captured,” Lincoln said. “Although they did not know each other, these two sons of Arkansas were brought together in the midst of a conflict worlds away.”

At the ceremony, Senator Lincoln read excerpts of a letter Colonel Moore had written to be shared with the family of Sgt. Bennett:

“It has been nearly 46 years since I heard Sergeant Bennett’s last radio call telling us his position had been overrun and that the remaining handful of Vietnamese Rangers he was advising had laid down their weapons and were surrendering,” Colonel Moore wrote. “At the time, I was no more than three to four miles out and was descending in my helicopter to pick him up.

“I thought about him many times across the years and in 1999 wrote an article for Army magazine that outlined what little I knew about what happened on that fateful day of December 29, 1964. Shortly after its publication, I heard from Duane Frederic who was researching the treatment of American POWs held in the jungles of South Vietnam. Duane and I spent nearly 10 years contacting nearly every government agency we know in order to collect information on SSG Bennett and to write his story.

“What developed from our efforts was an unbelievable account of heroism on the battlefield and as a POW. The Silver Star is the Nation’s third highest award for heroism and we hope it will help his family understand what a magnificent patriot he was.”

Ranger Marching Song (Vietnamese)

We! The Rangers are welding the spirit of men, Audaciously decimate the enemy to build the future. For the people, we raise our flag, Rangers! The nation is longing for. We! The rangers spread out into the four directions, Give our bones and fleshes for the country. We accept to die instead of giving up, For the more beautiful future days. Rangers! Kill! Rangers! Kill! Determining to defend the goodness of the Republic of Vietnam. Rangers! Kill! Rangers! Kill! We are the witnesses for the future generation. Rangers! Kill! Rangers! Kill! We are the men who write the audacious, heroic song.

Written by Thu-Ho
Translated by Ranger Hieu D. Vu, 95th Battalion

Quote:

“From time to time, the tree of liberty must be watered with the blood of tyrants and patriots”

Thomas Jefferson

Mu Nau
Bill Miller, Unit Director
His dreams were of his combat tour, you could tell from his medals that he had been very bold.
The severity of his injuries were such, the doctor’s felt that until he recovered he should not be told.

Remembering back, his thoughts of the day they were ordered out on patrol, he was wondering why
This type of combat mission was considered dangerous from the start but the team wanted to try.

Hitting the patrol area, we were ambushed right from the start. taking heavy casualties in the fight,
The team leader was hit the worse, and the members worried as he left on a medi-vac flight.

After many months and several surgeries, he recovered enough to be able to walk using a cane,
He was very lucky, but because of the severity of his wounds, he would always feel some pain.

When he was released from the hospital, his family was waiting, they were so full of pride,
With a family so supportive, he knows that he would be fine with his lovely wife by his side.

wlundlrrp_ranger@hotmail.com
9 September 2010
Our first loss during this period on 18 August was SOC Colin T. Thomas from Naval Special Warfare Group 1.

On 19 August we lost Ranger Sergeant Martin C. Lugo and Ranger Private First Class Christopher S. Wright, both from the 1st Ranger Battalion.

Senior Airmen Daniel R. Sanchez and Mark A. Forester were lost respectively on 16 September from the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron and on 29 September from the 21st Special Tactics Squadron.

Sergeant First Class Ronald A. Grider was lost on 19 September from the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

SEAL Team 4 lost four special operators on 21 September, Lieutenant Brendan J. Looney, CTRSC David B. McLendon, SO3 Denis C. Miranda, and SO2 Adam O. Smith.

Sergeant First Class Calvin B. Harrison of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) was lost on 28 September.

Sergeant First Class Ronald A. Grider was lost on 19 September from the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

Sergeant First Class Lance H. Vogeler with the 1st Ranger Battalion was lost on 1 October.

During this period Staff Sergeant Robert J. Miller was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on 6 October for his gallantry in action with the 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) on 25 January 2008. His name was added to the Medal of Honor Section of the Memorial.

The annual Veterans Day Ceremony was held on 10 November at the Memorial site. Brigadier General Mark Clark, USMC, J-3, USSOCOM was the guest speaker, he also ran in with the last relay with the Operation One Voice Marathon Relay Team who run from Georgia to the Special Operations Memorial each year. Ranger Chaplain (Colonel) Thomas Solhjen participated in the ceremony and provided solace to the parents of Ranger Corporal Beau MacVane, former 2nd Ranger Battalion, who succumbed to Lou Gehrig’s Disease, and whose name was unveiled during the ceremony.

Engravings were also unveiled by Mr. Bill Miller in memory of Captain Gary L. Gerrard, former commander of ODA-214, 2nd Battalion, 12th Special Forces Group (Airborne), and for Major George Petrie who participated in the Son Tay Raid in North Vietnam forty years ago this month.

Mrs. Michelle Landry unveiled an engraving for her husband, retired Lieutenant Colonel Paul Landry who served with U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam and Europe, and who will be retiring as a civilian from USSOCOM in December.

Geoff Barker
President
Special Operations Memorial Foundation, Inc.
The walls flanking the central generic SOF warrior will hold individual engravings in addition to special operations organizational histories. Engravings may be purchased, and designed to reflect either the buyer’s name and/or organization, or may memorialize another (past or present) special operator. To maximize the available space, the same individual will not be memorialized more than once. The memorial is located adjacent to the entrance to the US Special Operations Command Headquarters complex, MacDill AFB. Engravings are limited to eighteen (18) letters per line (including spaces); the number of lines may be purchased as follows:

- 2 lines (4” x 12”) - $100.00;
- 3 lines (8” x 12”) - $250.00;
- 4 lines (12” x 12”) - $500.00

The Foundation will center the verbiage, and reserves the right to modify engravings to retain uniformity.

Special Operations Memorial Foundation, PO Box 6696, MacDill AFB, Florida 33608-0696

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We can now accept VISA or MASTER CARD and Pay Pal.

There were potential issues concerning the ownership and copy right of the figure on the reverse of the coin, the figure that we referred to as “Ruck Man”. The new layout will allow much more space for engraving. The other side of the coin will remain the same, (see below).

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THE ARMY RANGERS’ GUIDE TO LEADING YOUR ORGANIZATION THROUGH CHAOS

DEAN HOHL & MARYANN KARINCH
www.rltw.net
It was early in the morning when the President hung the medal on his chest, Praising his courage, saying this Medal of Honor shows that your one of the best

People were standing in line to shake his hand, he stood there looking so proud, As he was standing there he seemed to be attracting a very enthusiastic crowd.

He was talking with well wishers and denying his heroics as they shook his hand, Telling everyone that he was through fighting, he thought they would understand.

This young soldier was stating a fact, He believes in God and country and doing what’s right, When facing the enemy, it was his courage that allowed him to put up one hell of a fight.

Everyone knows that the Army Rangers are a special breed, they’ll fight no matter the cost, Thank the Lord for patriotic fighters like this man, without his courage we could have lost.
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Invoices for dues will be late this year. To prevent any lapses in your membership, you can mail your dues to the following address:

75th RRA  
PO BOX 577800  
Modesto, CA 95357-7800

This Christmas season we have made donations to each of the three Ranger Battalions and to the Special Troops Battalion for the benefit of the young Rangers and their families. If you wish to contribute to the Family Fund, it is not too late. Please mail your contribution to the address above. If you send one check for a contribution and your dues, please specify how much goes to each. Thank you.

75th Ranger Regiment Association. Inc  
P.O. Box 577800  
Modesto, CA 95357-7800

PERSONAL INFORMATION

LAST NAME  FIRST NAME  MI  DATE
STREET ADDRESS  CITY  STATE  ZIP PLUS
AREA CODE/HOME PHONE  AREA CODE/WORK PHONE  OCCUPATION

UNITS  SIGNATURE  DATE
FROM (DATE)  TO (DATE)  UNIT (Company or Battalion)  NAMES OR ORDERS
FROM (DATE)  TO (DATE)  UNIT (Company or Battalion)  NAMES OR ORDERS
FROM (DATE)  TO (DATE)  UNIT (Company or Battalion)  NAMES OR ORDERS

REMARKS: ________________________________
VISA or MASTERCARD # ________________________________  EXP DATE: __________
CHECK ONE:  NEW APPLICATION __  RENEWAL __  SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER __
MEMBERSHIP CONTINGENT UPON PROOF OF SERVICE: ORDERS OR NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS YOU SERVED WITH IN THE UNITS LISTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. UNITS MUST CARRY THE LINEAGE OR BE IN THE HISTORY. WE ARE NOT JUST A VIETNAM ERA ASSOCIATION. ALL UNITS OF THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP.
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 Best Dong Quan, members of LRSU units that trace their lineage to Brigade or larger units during the Vietnam War and the 75th Ranger Regiment.
2. To maintain the Association. Unlike the WWII Battalion 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.
3. To assist, when possible, active unit members and former members who bear the colors and lineage of the 330th Composite Provisional Unit (CPU), 47th Infantry Regiment, 75th Infantry (Ranger) Companies (Merrill’s Marauders), 1st and 2nd Battalions (Ranger) 75th Infantry, consisting of Regimental Headquarters 1st, and 2nd Battalions, successor units, or additions to the Regiment.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE:**

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

### SECTION 3: Long Range Surveillance:

A. 75th Ranger Regiment
B. 2nd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Infantry, activated in 1974
C. 3rd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Infantry, activated in 1984
D. 75th Ranger Regiment HQ’s Company, activated in 1984

### SECTION 5: Vietnamese Ranger Advisors

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 J (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 Q (RANGER) 75th Inf.

### SECTION 7: Long Range Reconnaissance

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

The Association Eagle is now available for backs of jackets. Call Airborne Supply for Jacket, Shirts, and Hat information.  Every item is decorated by me for you!

**THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION EAGLE Designed by: Duke Dushane**

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**75th Ranger Regiment Association**

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- Colors: Black, Grey, Tan, Maroon, Green, White

**Pouch Jacket**

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- Colors: Tan, Black, Navy, Royal, Yellow, Red

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- 10 oz %100 cotton

**WINTER 2010**

- I have some new and fun items for you guys,
- I am so delighted to say I will be at this year’s reunion;
- I will have some new and fun items for you guys,
- I made this one as exciting and grand as you expect it to be.
- If you need any special orders before the Reunion and want to get a head start, call me and I can provide you with your reunion needs.

**Call Airborne Supply for Jacket information**

- Cheryl Visel 917-857-1441

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