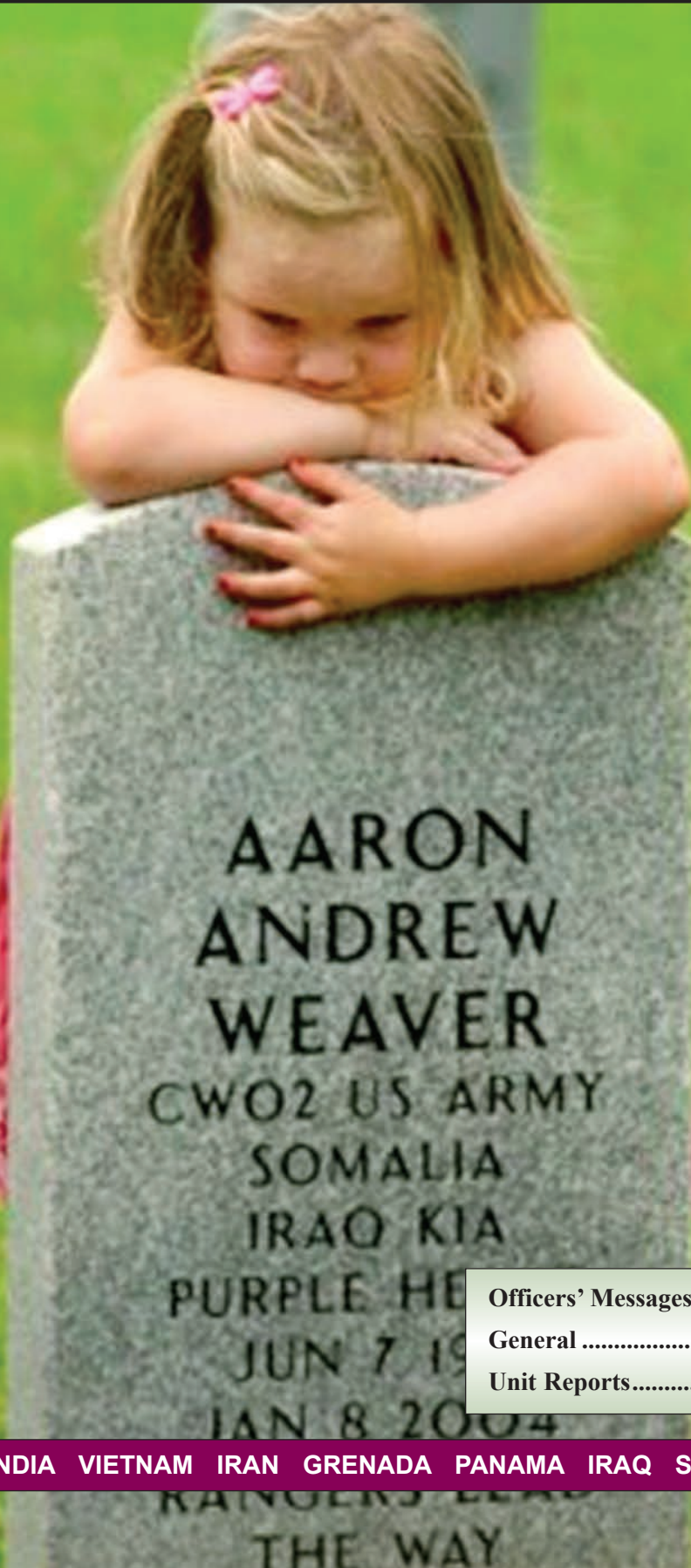


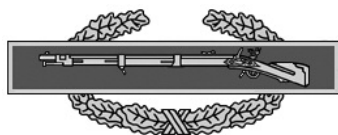
PATROLLING

SPRING 2011 75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. VOLUME 25 ISSUE IV



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



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

OUR MISSION:

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

WHAT WE DO:

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

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

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

PRESIDENTS:

1986-1988	Bob Gilbert
1988-1990	Billy Nix
1990-1992	Bob Gilbert
1992-1994	Roy Nelson (resigned) Milton Lockett (resigned) Duke Dushane (appointed by Directors)
1994-1996	Roy Barley
1996-1998	Rick Erlher
1998-2000	Terry Roderick
2000-2002	Emmett Hiltibrand
2002-2004	Dana McGrath
2004-2005	Emmett Hiltibrand
2005-2007	Stephen Crabtree
2007-2009	William Bullen
2009-2011	John Chester



WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

SECTION 2: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol

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

SECTION 3: Long Range Patrol

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

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

SECTION 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

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

- M. Co N (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- N. Co O (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- O. Co P (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- P. Co D (RANGER) 151st Inf.

SECTION 5: Vietnamese Ranger Advisors
BDQ
All units of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ).

SECTION 6: 75th Ranger Regiment
A. 1st Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974.
B. 2nd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974.
C. 3rd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1984.
D. 75th Ranger Regiment HQ's Company, activated in 1984.

SECTION 7: Long Range Surveillance:
Any Long Range Surveillance Company or Detachment that can trace its' lineage to, or is currently assigned to a Brigade or larger element that was deployed to Vietnam as listed in section 2, 3 or 4 above.



PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

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

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

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

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

POSTMASTER

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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

COVER Photo

I anticipate that the cover photo of this issue will generate some controversy, so I am including some of the reasoning behind it. I want to thank Marc Thompson for taking point on this issue, most of what follows are exchanges between him and CWO Weaver's family.

From Marc Thompson:

I am trying to contact Nancy Weaver, the widow of CWO Aaron Weaver. I believe that may be you, since Raleigh Cash (fellow Ranger) is a mutual FB friend. If I am mistaken, please forgive the intrusion. I had sent a message to Regina Weaver (having been told that she was related to Aaron and had taken the photo in question), but she directed me to you.

From Nancy Weaver:

Hello Marc!

Yes, you have the correct Nancy Weaver. Aaron and I were married when he was killed in Iraq in 2004. Regina is Aaron's sister.

The picture you are referring to is of our daughter Savannah "giving Daddy a hug" at his gravesite in the Florida National Cemetery in Florida, Sumter County. The picture was taken by a photographer from the St. Petersburg Times, a popular newspaper in St. Pete, FL. I will locate his name for you. I assume you would need his permission to use the photo? I'm not completely sure on that though.

You and the Ranger Association have my full permission to use the photo in any way you so desire, if you even need my permission. Aaron LOVED being a Ranger and was very, very proud of the time he served as one. He (and I) loved the Army. Despite the loss of his life, I would go back and do it all over again and then some. The military was so, so good to our family during and after his death, without the support of the military today I would be busting butt working three jobs just to support my children. Thankfully, with retirement and the death benefit I have finished school, work part time and am able to be home for the kids when they aren't in school.

Anyway, I have rambled enough. I will locate the name of the reporter who ran the story as well as the photographer who took the picture and get back to you asap.

Thank you for your desire to run the photo. Aaron would be thrilled. He loved attention, haha. And it makes me feel good knowing he hasn't been forgotten.

Best Regards,
Nancy Weaver

President's Message

By John Chester

The big news at this time is that we are feverishly getting ready for the 2011 Reunion/ Rendezvous in Columbus/ Ft.



Benning from July 25 through July 30, 2011. Mary Anne & I and Joe Little, 1st VP, are going down to Columbus for the Best Ranger Competition, and while there, we will fine-tune some of the preparations. Some of the attractions are as follows:

John Chester A full day at Callaway Gardens for spouses/Significant others. This includes a bus to the attraction, guides and lunch, all on the Association.

A BBQ at the Host Hotel, (Holiday Inn), again part of the registration package.

A Spouse/Significant Other luncheon and raffle at the Holiday Inn during the General Membership and Business Meeting and election of officers.

You will notice that we are heavy on Spousal activities this year. Our hope is that we will entice more couples, and that the ladies will not be bored out of their minds. They always seem to have a good time when they get together, so we will give them the opportunity. I have observed in a fairly long and eventful life, that if my wife is happy, I am happy.

The above are by no means all of the planned activities at the reunion. We have published a full schedule (as full as it can be at this time), with the Reunion information and sign-up elsewhere in this issue.

Slate of Officers

We have finally assembled a slate of officers for the 2011-2013 period. They are as follows:

PresidentJoe Little (Currently 1st VP)
1ST VP.....Jason Baker (Currently 2nd VP)
2nd VPWes Jurena (Currently Treasurer)
SecretaryTom Sove (Currently in that position)
Treasurer.....Scott Billingsly (Currently 3/75 UD)

Joe and Tom have experience at the positions (Joe has attended Best Ranger with me for the last 2 years, [at our own expense]), so that he can meet people, learn the ropes, and remember where the bodies are buried. Tom took me off an enormous hook when the previous Secretary had unexpected job pressures, and he was Secretary back in the 1990's as well. Both of them are Vietnam Rangers, and Jason, Wes and Scott are Batt Boys, (as we old guys call the modern era Rangers), so the hand off to the next generation is proceeding apace.

There is of course a part of our by-laws that allow for other that the above folk to declare themselves a candidate for any/all of the above offices. If there is anyone who would like to do that, please notify me as soon as possible. There have been some comments that we should mail out ballots six months prior to the elections, or mail them with a copy of the magazine, etc., etc. As a former Secretary I can tell you that this would be an administrative nightmare and it would be impossible to determine, at the time of the election, who was eligible to vote in the election. For example; if ballots were mailed in December, and an individual's membership expired at the end of June of the next year, (which all annual memberships do) and the individual voting did not renew, he would not be eligible to vote. The Secretary would need to make that determination after the voting ballots were returned and prior to the membership meeting. With all the other stuff the Secretary is doing just prior to the reunion, that is a hell of a burden to place on him.

I do think that we should discuss this idea at the General Membership meeting and see if we can come up with a plan. Perhaps we should appoint a panel to investigate & see what we come up with, there has to be a better way. More importantly, we need to reach a consensus that everyone can live with.

Next Issue

The June issue will be the last one prior to the Reunion/ Rendezvous. It will contain information about the Best Ranger competition, 2011, as well as the Airborne Man of the Year Awards in Atlanta in April, 2011. If you are a Unit Director, and in the off chance that you read this, please get your material to me prior to 15, May, 2011. Thanks.

1st vice President's Message

By Joe Little



Joe Little

Greetings,

I know most everyone has mentioned that there is a Ranger Rendezvous this year; well July 25-30th. A lot of fan fair and planning has taken place. I for one like the subtle surprises when someone shows up for the first time, and seeing the 40 plus years melt away as if time never influenced that special bond of

brotherhood. Therefore; I found it difficult to miss one just in case. I also enjoy seeing it happen to others as it acts a constant reminder of why we come.

This year at the "Best Ranger" many of us were entertained by Ranger Terry Roderick and his anti Viagra release; don't ask, he will have to inform you himself of his plight. I must say pretty amazing. However; we had some interesting discussions about various topics and one of those was concerning VA Benefits, compensation, survivor benefits, presenting for PTSD and Agent Orange claims relative to heart conditions. Now this covers a multitude of stuff and is mostly covered in the CFR 38 and that my friends, is the VERY big BOOK or guide for the raters that supposedly read prior to accepting or denying your claim. Now many of you know I work under the Department of Veterans Affairs and not for the Veterans Health Administration. I work for the , Readjustment Counseling Services. I am not an expert regarding benefits; however, enough experience in my 25+ years as a counselor to witness what works and does not in regards to claims and what is important to many Veterans I see in conjunction with mental health. Many are just applying or find they still have issues regarding PTSD symptoms after the claims process is completed (imagine that, I guess money does not solve everything). Well it is now a health issue/problem Agent Orange and heart conditions and believe it or not heart problems relative to trauma (PTSD).

There is a concern as was expressed regarding survivor benefits. It is difficult to cover all the ramifications in one article. First thing to cover is if you are 100% permanent & total for 10 years and married for at least one year there should be no problems. You noticed the word should, I figured you would. Well we deal with some that might be incapable of using one side or the other of their brain; therefore, the word should. So we pull out the CFR 38 and tell them what the rules are. Now I am not going to quote the book, but it is online to read. Now there is a major point I want to make to your survivors or you might want to pass

this on. There is a thing called a death certificate and it has on it cause of death, but many are not aware there is an area with some lines off to one side or other for listing contributing causes. So if one of us were to die for something not service connected or the paperwork is still in process this area is to be remembered as getting the signing doctor to enter something that is service connected. Example: My client Mr. X had a heart transplant, and died a few months after the heart transplant; primary was transplant drug rejection kidney failure. He was not service connected for heart; however was for diabetes. Therefore contributing cause was kidney failure due to diabetes which can weaken the kidneys. It was listed as a secondary cause and his wife was granted survivor benefits after a two months.

Now I want your feedback regarding some of these topics as we are taking suggestions for future research so we are not lead astray by the many experts that seem to cause much hardship. John and I called it the jail house attorney syndrome many experts with good heart and good intentions; however, still no experience. Like I mentioned I am not an expert and do not believe one exists, some come close, but they will tell you they are still learning.

I am attaching a check off list for a C&P exam for PTSD that has worked for many of my clients. It is a tickler and one using this should write their answers prior to the exam. Some of these apply and some do not. Just be yourself and do not try and think we must play a game to get what is deserved. Another thought is you have the right for re-evaluation or reconsideration of case presented. Now those two words are not the popular one that is overused. These are to get the rater to turn and read the next page or consider evidence presented and length of time is in range of 6-12 months and sometimes less. The other is appeal and it takes over a year or more like 2-3 years for a decision. I am in process of arranging for a mobile to be at our host hotel for our Rendezvous this year.

Now what is a ? They have a unique role they play for the readjustment that combat Veterans face after returning from overseas. Vet Centers may have lower visibility than regional offices and medical centers, but the services they provide are just as important. They were created in 1979 after it was determined that Vietnam Veterans had sustained readjustment difficulties after coming home from war. Since the first Vet Centers started up around the country, they have been offering mental health-centric services like individual, group and family therapy, military sexual trauma (MST), employment assessment, drug and alcohol

1st vice President's Message (cOnt in Ued)

treatment and more. Eligibility for Vet Centers can be determined easily: if you or a family member were deployed to a combat zone, you qualify for services. The centers are all around the country, augmented by 50 Mobile Vet Centers reaching rural areas. By the end of 2011, 300 Vet Centers will be open in the and surrounding territories. In response to the growing number of combat Veterans from and, 91 Vet Centers have opened since 2007.

What makes Vet Centers unique to, say, a community based clinic or a VA medical center? The difference is in both the approach to Veterans and services provided. Vet Centers are staffed by mental health and family professionals like psychologists and social workers who have specialized training to deal with the unique challenges associated with combat Veterans, like post traumatic stress disorder. They also offer services for families of war Vets. All this is done in an environment that is as welcoming and non-clinical as possible. Some Vet Centers are in small offices and buildings, a far cry from the sprawling campus of hospitals and clinics. Artwork and photographs from Veterans may adorn the walls to give the space a more informal and welcoming feeling.

Vet Centers are also strongly encouraged to hire combat Veterans to staff the offices. War Vets are given hiring preference when applying, and it would be difficult to think of a component of VA that would benefit more from hiring Veterans who have previously deployed. Unfortunately, some Vet Centers are staffed more than others; Congressional mandates allow for the most in demand parts of the country to fill first, with other areas following. Soon, all Vet Centers across the country will resemble one another in terms of available services and employees, ready to help combat Veterans manage the lifelong challenges of coming home after war.

www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=KKog7p5131E

PLEASE WRITE ME IF THERE IS SOMETHING OF INTEREST FOR NEXT QUARTER AND THE MOST REQUESTED WILL BE RESEARCHED AND INCLUDED IN PATROLLING.

PTSD Indicators

- Thoughts of a friend killed in Combat
- War related thoughts of Combat Theater
- Getting rid of unpleasant thoughts of Country were you fought when they come into his/her head
- Using alcohol to deal with Combat experiences

- Using drugs to deal with ugly side of Combat.
- Excessive driving speed & avoidance of object/trash on road ways
- An inability to talk about the war
- Not able to get close to family or friends
- Not able to express feelings or emotions or emotionally detached
- Feeling bad about hurting women and children in Combat Theater.
- Getting nervous around other people who are not Combat veterans
- Feeling self conscious as a war veteran
- Wife/husband and family complaining the war has interfered with their relationships
- Worrying that war is affecting the way he relates to his children
- Feeling that War/Combat dehumanized him/herself
- Feeling like a failure since leaving military service
- Feeling tense when he/she sees people from the country where combat took place.
- Feeling jumpy or jittery when sudden noises occur
- Feeling nervous when he/she hears a helicopter or military aircraft
- Finding him/herself searching for ambush/IED spots while driving down the highway
- Not wanting to go out in public without a weapon
- Angry about hearing from his child about classmates from the combat theater at school
- Loss of religious feelings
- No respect for authority and rebelling against others
- Little trust in anyone
- Little faith in anything
- Being fearful/anxious in public and being excessively concerned about people walking behind him/her
- Excessive hyper vigilance in strained settings
- Fearful of sleeping due to nightmares or waking up violently and striking loved ones
- Avoidance; do not want to talk about it or no one understands me



t r e s U r e r ' s M e s s a g e

By Wesley Jurena

Another quarter has flown by and we are rapidly approaching Ranger Rendezvous. It is hard to believe that is has been two years already since the last “gathering” and since I was honored to be chosen as an officer in this organization. Time flies when you are having fun!



Link Ups and a Day of Emotion

Wesley Jurena Recently, I was able to conduct link up with a dear friend. Many of you have heard me tell stories and I know many of you served with or under John Malloy. Well, the stories of his demise have been greatly exaggerated, he is alive and well! John and I went to RIP together and were together in 2 Charlie during my time there. John ended up doing several tours with the SEALs as a Ranger, it's a crazy story but one that if you know John, won't have a problem believing. He retired a few years back after a great Ranger career.

We met at , on our way to for the Memorial and Awards ceremony and had a great time with another friend of ours and 2 Charlie alumni, CSM Eddie Noland. As I reported here a few issues ago and as most of you know, Eddie is now the CSM of 3/75. Eddie was kitting up for parts unknown but was able to spend some time with us and gracious enough to



Me, CSM Noland, Malloy

allow John and I to RON at his house. Eddie and the men of 3/75 continue to re-write the history books as they take the fight to the bad guys. It was great for all of us to have a cold beer and talk about our younger years.

John and I would continue onto for what would be an amazing experience that would prove to be emotionally draining. We were blessed to be able to connect with, over dinner, Sandee Rousee and Jill Stephenson, two of our amazing Gold Star Mothers who work tirelessly to ensure that all of our Gold Star Families are taken care of. It was a true blessing to be able to spend that time at dinner with them, especially at Kevin Barry's where the upstairs has become a shrine to many Special Operators.

The next day would be an emotionally draining day as we were able to attend the Memorial service and awards ceremony for the men of 1/75. It was a rough deployment for them. Upon arrival, the pictures of those who did not return from that deployment were displayed in front of the 1/75 memorial.



While we were able to run into many Rangers we served with from 1/75, the mood was somber as the families were seated, the Rangers were in formation and the ceremony began. I will say it was a humbling experience to hear the tales of the brave Rangers who gave the ultimate sacrifice on this deployment. The Bn. Commander spoke, his voice cracking with emotion as did the Regimental Commander. Prior to the names of the recently deceased Rangers being presented on the Memorial the bag pipes played and at that point, I was sure, there was not a dry eye in the Bn. Area.



Col. Foster and Bag Pipe Player

I had assumed that the awards ceremony would bring some uplift but many of the awards were presented to the families of the deceased Rangers and to hear the citations only made me realize more that these were great Rangers, great Americans who were truly leading the way.

t r esUr er 's Message (cOnt in Ued)

One of many events that stood out during the awards ceremony was the Rangers of 1st Ranger Battalion made SSG. Brian Mast an honorary member of the Battalion. SSG. Mast was an EOD technician from the 3rd ID attached to 1/75 who lost portions of both legs during this same rotation. I tried, through the PAO, to get additional information about the mission but was informed it was classified. What I was able to find out through some other Rangers was that SSG. Mast was a stud who had accompanied 1/75 on multiple missions and deserved to be an honorary Ranger. I was very impressed to witness this.



SSG Mast



Ranger Remsberg

stand from his wheel chair and salute the Bn. Commander.

During the ceremony Ranger Cory Remsberg was awarded his award for a previous deployment. Ranger Remsberg received a serious head wound and has been in serious rehab since that time and was finally able to make it back. It was truly an inspiring site to see him

When the ceremony was over I was spent there were so many emotions that I went through that day I don't think I can express them all from sadness and despair to pride and joy. This was day of both celebration and reflection. Celebration of not only achievements but lives lived to the fullest, men who traveled the road less traveled, men of the Ranger Creed.

Sergeant Jonathan K. Peney

Specialist Joseph W. Dimock II

Sergeant Justin B. Allen

Sergeant Martin A Lugo

Specialist Christopher S. Wright

Sergeant First Class Lance H. Vogeler

Staff Sergeant Kevin M. Pape

As mentioned previously, we were able to link up with quite a few Rangers from our era, some still serving, some retired, some like myself who ETS'ed years ago. It was quite a crew. In the picture below from left to right. Frank Gorski, John Malloy, Doc Donovan, SGM Duke Durkan, CSM Nick Beilich, Me, Unidentified Ranger, SGM (r) Ken Turner.



group shot

The Future is Bright

In January, I had the honor to be the keynote speaker at the RASP I graduation. Where 63 started, there were 17 graduates standing tall. It was an awesome experience to talk to the cadre and the graduates alike. I'm confident that the ROC is turning out quality Rangers who are ready to meet the challenges of the modern day Regiment.

I don't know if I connected with them in my words as the both the Regiment and the Rangers of today are so different than when I served. I believe they are 's greatest fighting force, the tip of the spear and I'm convinced they mover further, faster and fight harder than I ever dreamed of. I was humbled to be around them and their cadre.

Keep the men of the 75th in your thoughts and prayers, they have been in contact with the enemy since October of 2001, rapidly approaching 10 straight years.

If there is anything I can do to help any Ranger out there, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Rangers Lead the Way!

Wes

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

gOLd star



Sandee Rouse

Hello All:

It is time to start planning to attend the 75th Ranger Regiment Reunion and Ranger Rendezvous.



return to Ruth by June 1 will be a part of the quilt this year.

Please go to www.75thrra.com and get registered. The headquarter Hotel is the Holiday Inn on Manchester. There is a special Ranger Rate so be sure and let them know when you make your reservation that you are with the 75th RRA group. Please also RSVP to me by responding to this email so we will know if we are going to have to find a second hotel for the overflow.

Where: Ft. Benning and Columbus Georgia

Date: July 24 thru July 30, 2011

Tentative: Schedule of Events

Monday: 75th Ranger Regiment will Jump into Lawson Field to kick off a great week of events

Other events of the week will be:

The state of the Regiment address

The unveiling of the Regimental Photo wall of Fallen Rangers

The Ranger Hall of Fame Ceremony

The Ranger Barb B Q

The Change of Command (The field the where this ceremony is has soil from every country the United States Military has ever fought on)

A tour of the New US Army Military Museum (this is worth the trip alone)

The opportunity to do a tandem or free fall jump at an airport in Alabama

The association Banquet with guest speakers at the Iron Works down town Columbus on Saturday Night 7/30

This year we will have some Gold Star specific events. We will have A Caring and Sharing meeting so please bring pictures and mementos to share. We will gather for breakfast and have a no host dinner one evening.

We are also starting a Quilt that will be presented to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. If you would like your Ranger memorialized on this quilt please contact Ruth Stonesifer at rstone17@gmail.com. She will tell you how to go about getting a square that you can personalize about your Ranger. We are accepting donations to help fund the 75th RRA Gold Star program. Please make Checks payable to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and mark Gold Stars in the memo section. Any squares you

You can come for all or some of the week but be assured you will have a wonderful time and meet Rangers from all eras. You will come away from this event knowing that you have been among Americas best of the best.

Columbus has an airport or you can fly into Atlanta rent a car and drive the hour to Columbus.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Be Blessed

RLTW

Sandee

Gold Star Fund Raising Project

This quilt is to honor all Rangers lost while on active duty no matter what era. Please join us in honoring these brave Rangers.

We are starting a Quilt that will be presented to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. If you would like your Ranger or Ranger buddy memorialized on this quilt please contact Ruth Stonesifer at rstone17@gmail.com. She will tell you how to go about getting a square that you can personalize about your Ranger there is no charge for the squares but we are accepting donations to help fund the 75th RRA Gold Star program. Please make Checks payable to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and mark Gold Stars in the memo section. You can send the check with your square to Ruth. Any squares you return to Ruth by June 1 will be a part of the quilt this year.

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

gOLd star Message (cOnt in Ued)



Wes Jurena Jill Stephenson Sandee presenting to Linda Dennis mother of KIA Ranger Wright.



Wes, Jill, Linda Dennis, Sandee, Mr & Mrs Dimmock and Frank Gorski at 75th RRA presentation.



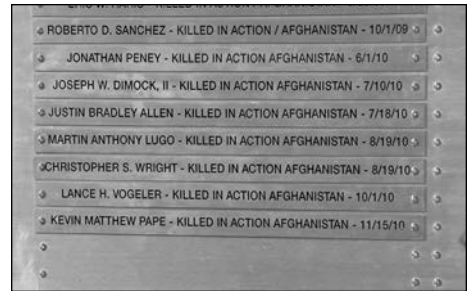
Gen Thomas presenting medal to Bonnie Allen mother of KIA Ranger Justin Allen.



Bag piper at 1/75 Memorial.



Jill Stephenson & Sgt Nix 1/75 Memorial.



7 New names added to 1/75 Memorial Wall.



Ruth Stonesifer in front of Kristofers uniform at The Infantry Museum.



Sandee & h all of Fame Ranger Doc Donovan.



Jill Stephenson with her son Ben Kopp.



Col Kurilla 1/75 Memorial.



Col Foster 1/75 Memorial.

LegisLat ive UPdat e

DISCLAIMER

DISCLAIMER: This series of articles entitled 'LEGISLATIVE HELP LINE' is meant to be an informative aid in assisting you in protecting your rights. It is also meant to keep you informed of the ever-changing legislative forum that may affect you. There is a caveat here. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association is not allowed to assist you in this effort. Our Constitution has a stipulation that forbids this. Article IV: Sec. 2. The Association shall not endorse any political candidate, platform or party. Sec. 3. Officers, Directors and Members shall not engage in any form of activity that implies or specifically relates the Association to any form of public activity without first obtaining approval from the Association. Therefore, no Officer, Unit Director, Advocate or Member may present himself as a representative speaking for or on the behalf of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Now, this does not prevent you from acting for yourself on your own behalf, I quote Article IV, Section 5: The foregoing does not restrict or prohibit members from engaging in activities which are the constitutional right of any citizen. As I said, this section is provided as a service to inform you. You must act on your own. Do not attempt to act on behalf of the Association. Thank you, John Chester, President

U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERAN'S CLAIMS Ch ANDLER VS. Sh INSEKI, AUGUST 12, 2010, No.08-0932

(submitted by Dan Nate, advocate, 75th RRA)

This case is new law for VA pension recipients. Veterans who have wartime service can qualify for consideration for a VA NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED pension. If they are under the age of 65, they must be able to prove that they are permanently and totally (P&T) disabled. At age 65 or older, the VA considers a veteran to be totally disabled.

The above case involved a veteran who qualified for a pension at age 57. When he turned 65, he filed for "HOUSEBOUND STATUS," claiming that he was P&T with additional disabilities rated as 60% or more, disabling. VA denied the claim and he APPEALED.

The court observed that VA already determined the veteran has a pension because his disabilities prevented him from maintaining employment, has a disability rated 60%, and is over the age of 65. Thus, he is entitled to SMP (SPECIAL MONTHLY PENSION) under SECTION 1521(e) USC, pursuant to the interpretation of SECTION 1531(A) in HARTNESS VS. NICHOLSON.

This morning at 10:11, I received a phone call from the staff at the Dept. of NJ's VFW. Bernard McElwee the State Service Officer responsible for passing-out this bulletin, verified the above and his staff person was told to pass on the fact that we should begin utilizing this benefit, as the Bill was passed, and has now become law.

NEARLY 1 IN 4 FAIL MILITARY EXAM

(submitted by Dan Nate, advocate, 75th RRA)

Nearly one-fourth of the students that try to join the U.S. Army fail it's entrance exam, painting a grim picture of an education system that produces graduates that can't answer basic math, science, and reading questions, according to a new study released Tuesday. The report by The Education Trust bolsters a growing worry among military and education leaders that the pool of young people qualified for military service will grow too small. The effect of the low eligibility rate might not be noticeable now-the Dept. of Defense says it is meeting it's recruitment goals-but that could change as the economy improves, said Retired Navy Rear Admiral Jamie Barnett.

The report of The Education Trust found that 23 percent of recent high-school graduates don't get the minimum score needed on the enlistment test to join any branch of the military. Questions are often basic, such as: "If 2 plus x equals 4, what is the value of x?"

CONGRESS PROVIDES VA With AUTHORITY TO PAY FOR EMERGENCY CARE IN NON-VA FACILITIES

(submitted by Dan Nate, advocate, 75th RRA)

I wrote this so far back that many have forgotten to use it, refer to it, or that it exists. Now, just of late, 2 of my friends have had difficulties getting the best medical treatment for their emergency needs, so I am re-writing it. If it seems old,

LegisLat ive UPdat e Message (cOnt in Ued)

you've read it, but make a copy for your wife to have in case she needs it for you, or for herself. This refers to an article I submitted originally back in the Fall issue of Patrolling, 2001. The new ruling was written on July 25th, 2001, at 1:03 P.M., under the above title. I would suggest that we each carry a folded enveloped copy of this in each vehicle's glove compartment for a "just-in-case" while traveling, or if you are in the south, which seems to have their VA facilities too far "spread-out" for convenient visitations, let alone emergencies. The last friend I helped with this was in severe congestive heart failure, lives in Southport region of N.C. and was instructed, in his condition? to travel to Fayetteville, for VA evaluation. In heart failure, with 22 pounds of fluid around his heart, just get in your car and travel 3 1/2 hours to Fayetteville and we'll take a look. RIGHT. He could hardly move, let alone drive 3 1/2 hours in his condition. Needless to say I told him to go to the nearest hospital emergency room that has a heart-treatment unit, which he did, and then we started the dealing with the VA hospital. Fred and I won. Using these simple rules, so will you, IF you remember to look in your glove compartment and hand them a COPY of this communication. Any problems, sue the hell out-of-them.

"Congress recently provided the VA with new authority to PAY for emergency care in non-VA facilities for veterans enrolled in the VA health care system. The new benefit will pay for emergency care rendered for non-service-connected conditions for enrolled veterans who have no other source of payment for the care. It also allows said veteran to save his/her life first by going to the nearest facility ASAP, and worry about costs (which are covered) later.

Although the new authority was made effective May 29th, 2000, VA could not process and pay the claims until regulations were implemented.

This benefit is a safety net for enrolled veterans who have no other means of paying a private facility emergency bill, or who cannot afford the time or the pain to get to the nearest VA facility, but are in dire straits, health/life-wise. To qualify you must meet all of the following criteria:

- you were provided care in a hospital emergency department or similar facility providing emergency care.
- you are enrolled in the VA health care system.
- you have been provided care by a VA health care provider within the last 24 months.

- you are financially liable to the provider of the emergency treatment, FOR that treatment.
- you have no other form of health care insurance.
- you do not have coverage under Medicare, Medicaid, or a state program.
- you have no other contractual or legal recourse against a third party that will pay all or part of the bill.
- DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OR OTHER FEDERAL FACILITIES WERE NOT FEASIBLY AVAILABLE AT TIME OF THE EMERGENCY!!!!!!!!!!!!

VA will reimburse health care providers for ALL MEDICAL SERVICES necessary to stabilize your condition up to the point where you can be transferred to an approved VA health care facility. VA will pay up to 70% of the applicable Medicare rate and the VA payment will be considered and accepted as payment in full. If you are an eligible veteran, a VA facility is NOT feasibly available, and you believe your health or life is in immediate danger, report directly to the closest emergency room. YOU DO NOT NEED PRIOR APPROVAL! You, your representative, or the treating facility should then contact the nearest VA as soon as possible (within 24 hours) to arrange a transfer to VA care, if hospitalization is required. If you are hospitalized at a private facility, VA will be in regular contact with your private physician(s) at the private facility. As soon as your CODITION IS STABILIZED, VA will arrange to transport you to a VA, or VA-designated facility. VA will pay for your for your emergency care services only until your condition is stabilized. If you stay beyond that point, you will assume responsibility for the payment of costs associated with the treatment. VA will assist with transportation arrangements and may be able to pay for such expenses. You should contact your local facility for current guidelines.

If you are billed for emergency care services, contact your local VA health care facility and a representative will assist you in resolving the issue. To resolve claim issues, VA has established official appeals processes to make sure your case is thoroughly reviewed.

For more information contact the nearest VA health care facility or call (1-877-222-8387) or the number(s) given you by your local VA facility.

[Source: e-Nuclear Veterans News Vol. 01, Issue 05, 18 June, 2001.]

h E A L T h

DISCLAIMER

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

VA RELEASES h EART PATIENT STUDY

Submitted by VA Advocate, Dan Nate, F co.

Patients taking WARFARIN, a widely used blood-thinning pill that requires careful monitoring, have similar outcomes whether they come to a clinic or use a self-testing device at home, according to a recent Department of Veteran Affairs study published in the Oct. 21 issue of The New England Journal of Medicine. This is good news for heart patients who

live far from clinics or are HOMEBOUND. The authors of the VA study expected home-monitoring to work better than clinical monitoring, partly because self-testing can be done at home more frequently, enabling patient readings to be adjusted more regularly and more quickly. An abstract of the study is available on the New England Journal of Medicine website.

For more on Veteran health benefits, visit the Military.com Benefits channel.

N
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SERVING MY COUNTRY

By Wayne Lund

I am an Army Ranger, I'm always ready to answer my nation's call,
My mission in life is serving my country and prepared to give my all.

I'm just one of the guardian's of freedom, ready to defend her without delay,
Forever faithful and so proud of our heritage, willing to protect her in every way.

The Army Rangers have a tradition for showing honor for their acts of valor,
These hard core Rangers will face down any enemy showing their awesome power.

As a Ranger I am prepared to go and do battle if that's what must be done,
If I must fight to protect her, then I'll continue to battle on until I have won.

wlundlrrp_ranger@hotmail.com 24 August 2010

Heart Issues (continued)

VIETNAM VETERANS EXPOSED TO HERBICIDES DO NOT HAVE TO PROVE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THEIR ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE AND MILITARY SERVICE TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE VA BENEFITS.

WHAT IS ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE?



Ischemic heart disease involves a reduction of blood flow and oxygen to the heart; this results in the heart muscle not getting enough blood and oxygen. Usually there is a buildup of cholesterol and other substances, called plaque, in the arteries that bring oxygenated blood to the heart muscle. Over time ischemic heart disease damages and weakens the heart muscle, making it difficult for the heart to fill and pump blood to the rest of the body.

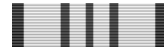
Ischemic heart disease is a common cause of congestive heart failure. People with this condition may, at one time, have had a heart attack, angina (chest pain), or unstable angina (sudden and increasingly worsening chest pain). Some people may not have noticed any previous symptoms.

FEBRUARY 2011

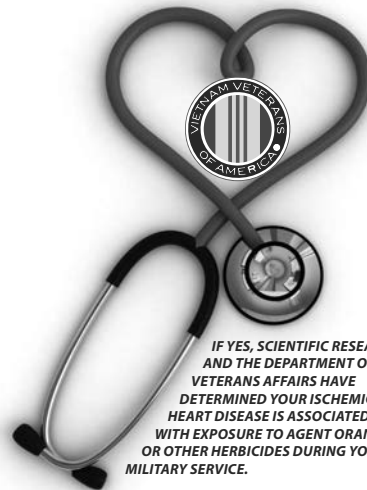


Vietnam Veterans of America
8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
301-585-4000
vva.org

**DID YOU EARN THIS
BY SERVING IN THE
REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM?**



**Have You Been
Diagnosed With
Ischemic Heart
Disease?**



**IF YES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS HAVE
DETERMINED YOUR ISCHEMIC
HEART DISEASE IS ASSOCIATED
WITH EXPOSURE TO AGENT ORANGE
OR OTHER HERBICIDES DURING YOUR
MILITARY SERVICE.**

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- ✓ Chest pain behind the breastbone or slightly to the left of it. It may feel like heavy pressure, squeezing, or crushing pain. The pain may spread to the neck, jaw, back, shoulder, or arm
- ✓ Dizziness or light headedness
- ✓ Feeling of indigestion or heartburn
- ✓ Nausea, vomiting, and cold sweats
- ✓ Sensation of feeling the heart beat
- ✓ Shortness of breath
- ✓ Unexplained tiredness after activity (more common in women)
- ✓ Coughing that results in severe chest pain

DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

- ✓ Physical exam
- ✓ Blood chemistry panel
- ✓ CBC, sedimentation rate
- ✓ VDRL test
- ✓ Chest x-ray
- ✓ EKG
- ✓ Creatine kinase
- ✓ Cardiac catheterization
- ✓ MRA

TREATMENT

MEDICATIONS

- ♥ **ACE inhibitors:** a group of drugs that are used primarily to treat high blood pressure and congestive heart failure
- ♥ **Angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs):** a group of drugs used to control high blood pressure, treat heart failure, and prevent kidney failure
- ♥ **Diuretics:** any drug that increases/elevates the rate of urination
- ♥ **Digitalis glycosides:** a heart stimulant used to treat congestive heart failure that cannot be controlled by other medications
- ♥ **Beta-blockers:** a class of drugs used for various heart conditions, including protection after a heart attack by reducing the effects of adrenaline and other stress hormones
- ♥ **Vasodilators:** medications that open (dilate) blood vessels
- ♥ **Anticoagulants:** drugs that help prevent the clotting (coagulation) of blood; these drugs tend to prevent new clots from forming or an existing clot from enlarging, but they don't dissolve a blood clot.

LIFE-STYLE CHANGES

- ♥ **Quit smoking**
- ♥ **Eat healthy** (low fat, salt-free foods; and reduce alcohol intake)
- ♥ **Begin exercise** (when stable) to improve blood flow

OTHER OPTIONS

- ♥ **Angioplasty:** a medical procedure used to open blocked or narrowed coronary (heart) arteries
- ♥ **Stent:** a wire metal mesh tube used to prop open an artery during angioplasty. When the balloon is inflated, the stent expands, locks in place and forms a scaffold. This holds the artery open. The stent stays in the artery permanently, holds it open, improves blood flow to the heart muscle and relieves symptoms (usually chest pain).
- ♥ **By-pass Surgery**

HELP FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The VA is responsible for providing health care for this service-connected disease. Should you choose to receive your health care elsewhere, VA will provide your medications, but the prescription will be re-written by a VA health-care provider. If your non-VA health provider completes the appropriate VA forms, you are not required to have a VA compensation examination.

Contact your Veterans Service Officer to file a claim for service connection or use the Agent Orange Fast Track Processing System at <https://www.fasttrack.va.gov/AOFasttrack/home.do> For more information, call the Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-877-222-8387.

Monthly compensation will be provided to you, once the VA has rated your disability.

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

Feat U r e a r t i c l e s

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.

Feat Ur e ar t ic Les (c Ont in Ued)

RANGER RENDEZVOUS / REUNION 2011

JULY 25 – 30, 2011

FT. BENNING (COLUMBUS), GA

**Th E 75Th RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.,
WILL h OLD ITS' BI-ANNUAL REUNION
AND BUSINESS MEETING ON Th E ABOVE DATES.**

**OUR REUNION h EAD QUARTERS WILL BE
Th E AIRPORT h OLIDAY INN NORTH , ON MANCh ESTER ROAD.
WE h AVE A GUARANTEED RATE OF \$79.00 PER NIGH T.**

**Th IS REUNION WILL BE h ELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH
Th E 75Th RANGER REGIMENT RENDEZVOUS AND
Ch ANGE OF COMMAND. AT Th IS TIME,
WE DO NOT h AVE A Sch EDULE OF REGIMENTAL ACTIVITIES, OTh ER Th AN
Th AT Th EY WILL TAKE PLACE WITH IN Th E ABOVE TIME FRAME.
Th E DECEMBER, 2010 (WINTER), & MARCh 2011 (SPRING),
ISSUE OF *PATROLLING* WILL CONTAIN Sch EDULES.**

***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.***

**Th E 75Th RANGER REGIMENT, INC. BANQUET
WILL BE h ELD Th E EVENING OF SATURDAY, 30 JULY 2011.
WE WILL h AVE A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES FOR OUR
MEMBERS AND FOR Th EIR FAMILY MEMBERS, TO INCLUDE:**

*****BICYCLING ALONG Th E RIVER WALK**

*****INTRODUCTION TO YOGA AND STRESS REDUCTION FOR SPOUSES**

*****INTRODUCTION TO YOGA & STRESS REDUCTION FOR VETERANS**

*****SEMINARS ON VETERAN'S BENEFITS AND NAVIGATING Th E VA.**

Feat U r e a r t i c l e s (c O n t i n U e d)

75Th RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. REUNION / RENDEZVOUS 2011 Sch EDULE OF EVENTS

Note: Regimental events, meetings, etc., are *Italicized*.

Note: This is tentative as of 4/10/2011.

MONDAY July 25, 2011:

0900 – 1500 Reunion registration. Main lobby, (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 2100 Hospitality room open. (Holiday Inn)
1200 – 1315 Yoga for Veterans & Spouses for stress reduction & PTSD. Mary Anne Colledge. (Holiday Inn)
1500 – Finish *Regimental Mass Tactical Jump & Ranger Capabilities Demonstration, UTC (Friar DZ).*

TUESDAY July 26, 2011:

0630 – TBA *Regimental PT (Stewart Watson)*
0900 – 1500 Reunion registration. Main lobby, (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 2100 Hospitality room open. (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 1015 Yoga for Veterans & Spouses for stress reduction & PTSD. Mary Anne Colledge. (Holiday Inn)

WEDNESDAY July 27, 2011:

0430 – Finish *Endurathon – 2 man Ranger teams compete in a number of events, including a road march, bicycling, swimming & running. Competitors must stay within arms reach of each other. (Peden Field [start & end]).*
0800 – Finish *Ranger stress shoot competition, (Farnsworth Range).*
0800 – Finish *Ranger sporting events, (Stewart Watson Field, Engineer Field, Smith Gym).*
0900 – 1500 Reunion registration. Main lobby, (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 2100 Hospitality room open. (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 1015 Yoga for Veterans & Spouses for stress reduction & PTSD. Mary Anne Colledge. (Holiday Inn)
1330 – Finish *Ranger Hall of Fame Induction, (River Center, Bill Heard Theatre).*
1700 – Finish *No host Regimental BBQ, (Freedom Center, Lawson AAF)*

Th URSDAY July 28, 2011:

0830 – 1700 Spouses tour of Callaway Gardens and lunch. Buses depart from Holiday Inn, Manchester Rd. at 0830. Lunch, tour & busses included.
0900 – 1000 *Regimental Change of Command, (Infantry Museum, Soldiers Field).*
0900 – 1500 Reunion registration. Main lobby, (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 2100 Hospitality room open. (Holiday Inn)
0630 – Finish 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. BBQ, included in registration package. (Holiday Inn).

FRIDAY July 29, 2011:

0900 – 1500 Reunion registration. Main lobby, (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 1030 Navigating the VA, (Holiday Inn) Bill Anton & Joe Little
0900 – 2100 Hospitality room open. (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 1015 Yoga for Veterans & Spouses for stress reduction & PTSD. Mary Anne Colledge. (Holiday Inn)
0900 – Finish Parachute jump for the old guys. Opelika, Alabama.
1200 – TBA Guided tour of the new National Infantry Museum, (Museum)
1700 – Finish Unit dinners, meetings, etc.

SATURDAY July 30, 2011:

0900 – 1000 Unit Director's meeting, (Holiday Inn)
0900 – 1015 Yoga for Veterans & Spouses for stress reduction & PTSD. Mary Anne Colledge. (Holiday Inn)
1030 – Finish 75th Ranger Regiment Business Meeting & Election of Officers
1100 – Finish Spouses Luncheon and Raffle, (Restaurant, Holiday Inn).
TBA – 2100 Hospitality room open. (Holiday Inn)
1400 – 1530 Navigating the VA, (Holiday Inn) Bill Anton & Joe Little
1700 – 1800 Reunion Banquet, Cocktails
1800 – Finish Reunion Banquet, Speakers

Featured Articles (Continued)

STEVE HATHAWAY

Being in the 2nd Bde. LRRPs 4th Infantry Division in 1969 was one of the most exciting, dangerous and fulfilling parts of my life. It was great being associated with some of the bravest and best; I don't know about other LRRP or Ranger units, but while I served in the 2nd Bde LRRPs we were winning and making Charlie's Life hell on Earth. I don't listen to any of this bullshit about us losing or giving anything but our very best effort! And by the way, let me make one thing perfectly clear, when I left South Vietnam we were winning! I knew one of the best, his name was Sergeant Steve Hathaway. Steve was KIA in June of 1969, and as best I remember all of guys in his team were wounded.



**Jim Testerman-
In LRRP Bunker
Bar on LZ Mary
Lou at Kontum
June 1969.**

At our A.O. near Highlander Height's on LZ Mary Lou near Kontum everyone was by the radio ready to go help if needed. Steve Hathaway was killed soon after his boots hit the ground. The feeling among the 2nd Bde LRRP's was the mission had been compromised from the start! It was just after the insertion ship started to pull away that the team was hit by small arms fire and RPG's. Steve and I were both Florida boys, he from Maitland, Florida and I lived 50 miles away in Eau Gallie, Florida. I look up to Steve, he was older than me, and was always looking out for me. He had attended NCO School at Fort Benning and was a great soldier and a fine Ranger. I promised myself I would go back and speak to his family when and if I made it home! He always talked about his family and especially how he and his dad were going to start a frog farming business when he got back home to Maitland, Florida. We're going to start a frog farm he would say to me with a smile on his face. Then he would explain some of the details to me and to who ever would listen.. I remember the guys laughing, thinking it was some kind of joke or gag,"A Frog Farm" ha ha. But nothing could have been further from the truth, that was Steve's dream! And just look around today, you'll find lots of frog farms producing frog legs for sale to restaurants all over the world.. I have been to Steve's home many times visiting his mom, Mrs. Ruth Hathaway and Steve's older brother Bert Hathaway. I think Steve's father died hurting so much for his fallen son, at least that was the feeling I always got when talking to Steve's mom and brother Bert.



**Jim Testerman-
LRRP 1969 Bong
Son on LZ English
Chopper Pad.
Cobras taking
off to clean up
remnants of V.C.
after they lobbed
a couple rocket
on chopper pad!**

The Hathaway family are one of the kindest & warmest families you could ever meet. That's just the way Steve was toward me.. Mrs. Hathaway treats me just like I am her son, and Steve's brother, Bert, is the same as a brother to me. I went there to be a part of presenting Mrs Ruth Hathaway long overdue Gold Star Award. I travel there with two former Presidents of the 75th Ranger Associations and both are two of my cherish and closest friends. K. Company's then President Dana McGrath and former past president from Papa Company Terry "Rock" Roderick. We took the family out for lunch and had such a fine family type gathering. I always tell Mrs. Hathaway all the positive things about Steve I can, and of course nothing to upset her. I'm sure Dana or Terry will tell you what a wonderful family the Hathaway's are and we stay in touch to this day. We all went and visited Steve's grave site in the Lakeland Cemetery. Then after the small ceremony and prayer we placed a wreath in Steve's honor by his grave. We all embraced and said our goodbye's, their wasn't a dry eye among us. I was happy to show our love and respect for Steve and his family. To this day I visit them at every opportunity, I always cherish the time I spent with the Hathaway family. As for the rest of us in 2nd Bde. LRRPS 4th Inf. Div. we always gave our best. Like the motto states "All Gave Some. Some Gave All". I write this to preserve the Memory of one of our many fallen brothers. With all respect for Sergeant Steve Hathaway and his family who made the Supreme Sacrifice!



**That's Steve pictured in
the middle of the team
out in the bush.**

Now a days I spend my life doing other things Steve and I laughed and talked about. One of these things is what I enjoy most, building & resorting antique Cars & Motorcycles. Here are a few pictures of my latest creation a rare 1952 Henry J. Kaiser. This is five years work you are looking at, I wish Steve was here to enjoy it with me today.

Rangers Lead The Way-Always
Jim Testerman aka J.T. Hogg
2nd Bde LRRPS K Company 75th Ranger Regiment



This is a 52 Henry J Kaiser that I restored, very rare car.

Featured Articles (Continued)

Service with the 41st VIET NAM Ranger BN, July - Dec, 1969

For me, there were no great battles, nor any distinctive medals; just a soldier's story in short, isolated memories.



Author, 2009.

Rather than take the route of exhausting one event, I have tried to relate incidents which may be unusual to most veterans of the Viet Nam conflict.

My expectation was to be a platoon leader with the 1st Division. Shortly after arrival at a reception center four other lieutenants and I were waiting for our assignments. Without ceremony an E-4 walked into the room. Utilizing modern, scientific personnel management methods he counted, pointed, and announced (to our surprise) 'MAC-V' - Military Advisory Command - Viet Nam.

Village Life

My assignment was as a team leader for a Military Advisory Team (MAT-19) in Travinh Province, 4th Corps. MAT teams were three to five US soldiers providing advisory services to provincial militia forces. My first assignment was with a *Nhia Phum Quan* or village defense force. The population, from which the militiamen were drawn, was all ethnic Cambodians. Saigon residents would laugh at my Cambodian tainted Vietnamese, saying *Cambode! Cambode!*

Though I did not go entirely native, living in the village environment became very comfortable. The experience was so much different than the average US soldier who had very tentative contact with the Vietnamese. The village militia was composed of farmers turned into oriental 'minutemen.' The biggest struggle was against boredom and complacency. This struggle was interrupted randomly with the abject terror and enormity of conflict

In the first days, my new friends and I went to a three-sided thatched restaurant and ordered *hu tieu* soup (pork and noodles in a clear broth). We chose chopsticks from a can in the center of the table. After eating, everyone licked the sticks clean, and returned them to the communal can. From then on, I carried my own chop sticks.

While visiting a nearby village I was walking down the main street as part of our convoy. A water buffalo began walking toward me staring balefully. It lurched into a trot. I began to move. It went into a run. Now at full sprint and

shucking gear I dived into the multi-angled and unforgiving back 'seat' of the nearest jeep. Peering tentatively over the spare tire, the buffalo went past led by a chattering boy leading it by a nose ring while whacking it with a switch. Such experiences had an anthropological quality to them, but for a young ranger infantry lieutenant, the experiences were not what I had expected.

Nhia Phum Quan

It was endless blocking positions and walks in the sun. During one seemingly interminable walk, I heard some popping sounds. Walking out of the tree line with my RTO I turned to take the phone when my eyes clouded. I wiped the gore from them and could see the wound in his head. He fell like a tree. That was my first combat moment. His wife was waiting at the village gate.

One afternoon, a village elder and I walked to the farthest point of village control. Without warning, there was the clatter of automatic rifle fire and then searing pain from my neck. I grasped my neck; with eyes closed I saw gushing, clotting blood. Weak from shock, my knees began to fold; then, I reached into my collar and pulled a white-hot shell casing. My companion, in an excess of enthusiasm, fired off a magazine of M16 ammunition into the nearby, unoffending tree line right next to me. To those of you with a Purple Heart, I was there for a minute.

During another operation we captured two VC, both of whom were quivering like leaves in a breeze. In these village conflicts, everyone knew who-shot- who. Grudges were long nursed. A soldier was ranting at one of the prisoners when he grabbed his rifle, charged the handle and pointed it at the prisoner. Quickly, I leaped in front of the prisoner and shouted *Khom!* – no! Staring at the barrel, it looked like the maw of a 155 howitzer. His fellows restrained him - much to the relief of the prisoner and me.

The militia men were issued a basic weapon capacity. They had M16's and radios and not much more. With a few of the soldiers we drove into Can Tho and began a scrounging mission. We were rebuffed by several supply rooms but finally, a supply sergeant was too nice to send us away empty handed and so he gave us some smoke grenades and flares. There are reasons I have done well as a stockbroker for the last 35 years and calling upon my nascent skills, instinctively, I saw an opportunity and to use an industry phrase, decided to ask for the order. I reached into my pocket and proffered my hand to the sergeant and said, "Sarge, here is a VC flag." He caught his breath and his face paled as he

Featured Articles (Continued)

felt the rough cloth and looked at the weather faded colors. I knew that he was seeing this as validation of his career in combat service support. He looked at me and said he could give me some more. We got crates of ammunition; fragmentation and smoke grenades; more flares and a 30 caliber machine gun with a tripod and lots of antique ammunition. The jeep groaned with the weight and the militiamen gaped agog at the cornucopia of supplies. During the battle to be described, I listened to the baritone staccato of the machine gun until ominously it went quiet. My fears were that the gunners had come to harm but a cartridge ruptured in the breech and had to be surgically removed during the fight. As I now write these words, it occurs to me that it was probably this ordinance that staved off being overrun until the *dues ex machina* of our rescue.

We were expanding government influence and we were building a triangular fort. During the period, Armed Forces Radio was conducting a survey of the top ten favorites of the military in Viet Nam. The big night came. I got comfortable to listen to the selections. The third song was One (Is The Loneliest Number) by Three Dog Night.

Crump! Crump! Crump! For the remainder of the night we fought. We could hear them coming into our position. One attacker tussled with a defender. Finding himself in possession of an M79 grenade launcher, he decided 'good enough,' and left the fight. The losing soldier pursued the VC and retrieved the weapon. I have come closer to dying, but that was the only time when I felt a sense of certainty. Suddenly, the radio spoke, 'This is Black Pony, what is happening?'

The pilot of Black Pony, a fixed wing aircraft overhead offered to help. I responded, 'What do you have?' The reply, 'Three 3.2 inch Willy Pete rockets.' My heart sank. According to the Geneva Conventions we could not use white phosphorous against personnel. So I said, 'Shoot it! Shoot it! Shoot it!' - lit my distress light; gave an azimuth and asked for the rockets 50 to 75 meters out. The plane exploded into a huge ball of sparks. I shouted, 'he's hit.' A sergeant next to me said, 'no, he's shooting at us.' We were looking at the rocket exhaust. The rockets bracketed us perfectly. The explosions caused the VC to lose heart and break off the engagement. We had one *chung oui*, an officer trainee, wounded. The carnage of the battle was appalling. There were no bodies; just body parts, among them a complete brain, both lobes, lying on the grass.

The very first mortar round killed the village chief. (It was

conjectured that rather than a random mortar, it was a tossed grenade.) He was an excellent man; very handsome, fit and was variously respected, feared, and admired by the villagers. The new village chief escorted me to the showing of the body. We walked hand-in-hand, actually, with pinky fingers entwined. The body reclined in a bamboo frame off the ground, with a thatched cover. While I stood stoically watching blood from the body drip into a battered aluminum bowl to my astonishment, a dreadful keening sound erupted next to me. The successor to the village chief, while wailing, had torn his shirt and was groveling on the ground with his finger nails embedded in his cheeks, presumably, wracked with grief but probably, electioneering with his new constituents. Shortly, he composed himself. We held hands and walked away.

Dia Phum Quan

A few months into my tour of duty, I was assigned to a company sized provincial unit called *Dhia Phum Quan*. During an operation, we assaulted a defended area. In perfect formation, with a hail of supporting small arms fire, we swarmed into the defensive works. I dropped into a trench, looked to my left and there was a VC, glowering intrepidly. We were insane. The adrenaline washed away any mercy or empathy. Two shots and the war and violence ended for him. I turned to my right, and a VC was attempting to flee the conflict with his back against a gravel slope, his elbows and heels pushing him up. A soldier ran to him and impaled him with a bayonet. The thrust was blunted by bone. Again, he slammed the knife into the man's chest, and again he failed to push through the chest bones. The soldier stepped back, put the stock of his rifle into his midriff; rose on his tip toes and let his weight push the gun and bayonet down into the defender's heart. Blood shot three feet; two feet; one foot and then gurgled down the flat of his chest. Slowly, he slumped against the gravel surface. As Homer would say, 'the darkness covered his eyes.' The screams still ring in my mind.

A soldier was slammed backward, in the middle of a shootout, flailing on the ground. I rushed to give him first aid when his friends brushed me aside. Two held his arms and one forced a bamboo stem between his teeth. Rather than the force of an ordinance impact, the man was gripped by a seizure which must have occurred relatively frequently.

Some can: some can't and I can learn languages. (I have been functional in Viet Nameese, Arabic and Spanish. One only needs to know about 300 nouns and modifiers, about 10 verbs; get the vocal rhythm and one is linguistically

Feat U r e a r t i c l e s (c O n t i n U e d)

functional in the language. The trick is to want to do so.) During an early summer rain, some soldiers were explaining the rain cycles necessary for rice agronomy. (That sounded better than the discussion that took place.) I looked at them and said,

Ca mua

Ca lua

You have rain

You have rice (plants)

That may have lacked the syntax complexity of William Shakespeare but it was my effort at poetry. The soldiers stared and then exclaimed, “*Dout lum!*” - Very good!

During an engagement, I was moving forward to get on the firing line when the soldiers upfront began running in full flight toward the rear. As I loped forward, the first wave of stinging wasps hit me and like the fleeing soldiers, I was in full flight. I could see soldiers dropping into a stream and I followed suit.

I was separated from my group. There, in front of me was a VC! *Choi oiy* – Yipes! Each of us realized that if one of us moved, someone was going to get hurt. Frozen, we looked at each other standing stock still for two hours – or maybe it was 5 seconds. He stepped back; I stepped back - and then we ran. I visualize him today sitting in a three-sided thatched restaurant, with a bowl of *hu tieu*; a sun wizened face and wispy beard saying to his friends: ‘*Toi di lui; anh di lui* - I stepped back; he stepped back...’

During a fire fight, a burst from an automatic rifle walked inches from me, going forward. I lay there wondering if a ‘turn-coat’ in the ranks was trying to score extra points. There and then, I made an existential decision, literally and philosophically, to believe it was an errant burst from an over excited soldier. Had I done otherwise, I would have become unhinged with paranoia.

An Interlude

For a couple of weeks I was an aide for John Paul Vann ([A Bright and Shining Lie](#) by Neil Sheehan, was written about him.) He piloted his own helicopter and I remember the time he flew us through an artillery barrage. It was like a cluster of passing freight trains. We brought a Viet Nam bomb disposal expert to a village. We were standing, staring at a 155 round squatting on the ground. The VC launched it but it failed to fire the second time as well. The expert looked at the shell, took out a hammer and began

banging on the tip of the round. Vann and I crawled over a dirt wall in equal panic. At some anonymous HQS, an officer took Vann aside and mumbled something about an atrocity. (I heard no details.) Vann growled, ‘The only atrocity in Viet Nam, is to the American taxpayer.’

Biet Dong Quan

Six months in-country, I was in Can Tho. I walked into a personnel office where sat an effeminate adjutant general corps, major. I asked if there was any possibility of being assigned to a Vietnamese Ranger Battalion – *Biet Dong Quan* (BDQ). He said yes, and pointed to a manning chart with a big KIA on it but that I had to leave right then. I had my helmet, side arm and a claymore bag filled with newly purchased cans of Beanie Weenies. I went to the air shed where a major was harassing the sergeant booking flights. The major demanded that he be sent that day to Rach Gia as, he made clear to all of us listening, he was very important. The sergeant was earnest but said there was no place for him to sit. Fuming and abusing the sergeant, the major stormed out of the shed. I went to the sergeant and said I too needed to go to Rach Gia and explaining my situation asked if I could loiter underneath a tree until a seat became available. The sergeant said, ‘No problem; get on the chopper,’ which was waiting with the engine running.

Col. Donald P. Metcalf, a WWII and Korea War Ranger veteran was the senior 4th Ranger Group advisor. As a young officer I was awed just being in his presence. I spent a few days in his tent waiting to join the 41st Ranger Battalion (though my orders say the 42nd). An officious major just out of the Pentagon arrived. He insisted on an operation with one of the battalions the day of his arrival. He had to be extracted by helicopter, exhausted. Amused by the spectacle, I made a demeaning pun of the extracted major’s name. The comment earned me a deserved verbal thrashing from Col. Metcalf.

Cpt. Frank Guilliart was the battalion senior advisor and an excellent soldier. He went to OCS at the oldest age possible, 32, so he was not a youth. This is more interesting in that I went to OCS at the youngest age possible, 19.

We were in an intense firefight. I crawled to Cpt. Guilliart and said something was wrong. A pilot on the radio barked to cease firing, ‘I’m talking to both of you.’ We suffered two wounded and one dead ranger from the friendly fire fight. What cued me to the problem were the uniform tat-tat-tat of M16’s and the absence of the klackity-klac of AK 47s.

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Field cuisine was different for us. With the militia units, we would eat in villages and rarely had the need to eat on the move. (At one village meal while on an operation, my village chief instructed me not to eat anything served, as it was probably poisoned.) Initially, Captain Guiliart and I received the same rations as the rangers; however, the *covans* – American advisors, were easily 30 to 40 pounds heavier and so got an extra ration of protein. We were issued a daily ration of a pound of instant rice, two cans of ham-water-added and a can of apricots for every three days. The last were heavy so I consumed those early in an operation. (Apricots, which symbolize a new beginning, had a special meaning to the Viet Nameese, as an example, officer rank was denoted by apricot flowers.) I would put the rice in a plastic bag; tie it to another sock and wrapped the whole around my waist. By noon, the meal was ready and was excellent.

We were riding APCs just cruising down the highway when we received fire from a tree line. The APCs got on line and drove through a paddy. I recall looking at farmers working in the fields who barely acknowledged us. As I hunched behind a 50 caliber shield I realized I had no communications. Summoning all my courage, I leaped off the APC and began moving toward the command APC. A wave of heat washed over me. Behind me the APC was a ball of flame.

The Command Group had gotten in front of the firing line. We began moving back from the exposed position while harried by rifle fire. Suddenly, Major Quinn, the BN commander, collapsed beside me. Of course, I bent down, hauled him to my shoulders and carried him up the hill. He was not shot, but had fainted, probably some medical malady. (Major Quinn was a very brave man.) He revived to everyone's concern and curiosity. About a month later, he came toward me grinning, striding over a log bridge, his hands above his head for balance and exclaimed, 'Truong Qui -1st Lt., I have a 'med-dale' for you!' I then forgot about it. A year later, while at the University of Florida, I received a DoD envelope, with no letter nor explanation. Inside was a colorful citation in Vietnamese, for a Cross of Gallantry with Gold Palm Leaf.

The battalion participated in a water-borne assault. There were three LSTs in which we motored up the Mekong, got into line and roared for the river bank. This was an extraordinary experience for us. There was the roar of the engines, the wallowing of the boat; waves breaking on the bow and the enclosing gray walls. I could see the eyes of the rangers wrapped around their gun barrels looking at the ramp. Impacting rounds sounded like hammers banging

metal. The LST hit the bank with the bow dipping; the screw rose into the air roaring, and the LST slipped from the bank. The chains began rattling and the ramp fell forward. Right out of the Infantry School manual, I stood stolidly and called 'Biet Dong Quan, mau di!' - Rangers, go quickly!' I strode off the ramp; dropped like a stone with my rucksack rolling over my head; my lungs filled and I could see bubbles rising between my boots into the bright water's surface. 'The darkness covered my eyes.' I revived, belching water, while watching the rangers clear the tree line. Rangers who had bunny hopped from the ramp pulled me out of the water.

Two entertaining things happened during this operation. We were walking through a village when an old woman began calling out 'pha'p, pha'p' - French, French, pointing at me. In another incident we were in a major shoot out and short of M60 ammunition. I was speaking with a pilot and asked for some ammunition. He said no. I begged. The answer was no. I said I would give him a VC flag for two boxes. The helicopter fell out of the sky. The door gunner gave me the boxes and I gave him a smile and a thank you.

Personal Awareness

Few things in this world are as beautiful as a Viet Nam maiden in an *ao die*? I remember small pert features; dark almond eyes; tawny skin; slim limbs and black-as-night hair falling to the trim waistlines. The *ao die* is the national dress for women. The ensemble, almost always white or very pale pastel shades, is a blouse with long sleeves and a skirt that falls to the ankles. The skirt has a slit up to the waist allowing the lengths of cloth to move with motion. Long, loose pants are worn under the skirt. One tedious day, leaning against a vehicle I saw two *co dep* – pretty young women, walking on the road. They glided past me and turned into a corner; each was twirling a parasol and was hatless. The farther *co dep* turned at the waist, bent her head and looked toward me. I sincerely doubt that she even saw me, but no matter, my fevered mind filled all the social blanks. I was young, brave and ambitious; she was young, nubile and beautiful. Time stands still with that memory and we, the two of us, are forever young. The experience was perfect, because the memory, unsullied by passing years and the struggles of life, is perfect.

Patriotism and duty were less a factor in my service than adventure. (I gave up a full scholarship to go on active duty from the Reserve.) After one engagement, I went back to a fallen VC whom, just let it be said, I saw fall. My self-deception was a search for intelligence – the truth, upon

Featured Articles (Continued)

soulful introspection had more to do with a souvenir. His wallet, wrapped in plastic, contained a photo of him, his wife and three small children. He may have been a patriot or a miserable conscript like so many in our army, but he was no adventurer. The image of the photo in my mind haunts me.

A sergeant was assigned to the Ranger Group. An earlier tour had been with the 173rd. The first hostile action, he stepped off the helicopter, looked around and got back on the helicopter. We never saw him again.

Wars are often referred to in the abstract. On the ground nothing is abstract – its real people, likely defending a principle, and it often, and by design, ends badly for someone and to some extent, for everyone. People often ask me why I went, and I reply, “I remember that it was very important, but I can’t remember why it was important.”

I extended for an additional six months. During my last operation, we were going toward extraction when the three rangers in front of me took the entire Claymore explosion. It was awful. Later that day I was walking across the compound and an E-4 came up to me and said he had done the paperwork for the extension improperly and we needed to do it again. I looked at him and said, ‘You had your chance.’

Separating at some big center, I signed whatever forms were required and began to shuffle down a hallway when the clerk ran to me and said, ‘Lieutenant, you have been awarded a Bronze Star.’ I stared as he handed me the clam shell box. Embarrassed, he asked if I wanted a ceremony. I looked at him and said quietly, ‘No. No ceremony.’

Louis O. (Lon) Constantini retired from the Reserves with 21 years service. He is a Senior Vice President, financial advisor, with a major national brokerage firm in Las Cruces, NM.



**1LT
Constantini,
fall 1969.**



2LT Constantini, center, spring 1969.

The Creed

By COL (R) Keith Nightingale

The site is one of the least hospitable places in Afghanistan, which is saying a great deal. Unlike most bases in Afghanistan, it is devoid of local Afghans not part of the assembled force, intentionally so. The reason is quickly apparent when the occupants are seen.

Some of the population is walking across the small open area near a vehicle park. They are uniformly dressed in light grey/green skin tight long sleeved polyester shirts and wrap around sunglasses. Protection against the cold of the altitude combined with the excessively bright sunlight associated with the altitude and lack of cloud cover. This is similar to Camp 1 of Everest but with significantly more personal firepower and purpose.

Under the sleeves, the large tightly confined biceps are easily seen. The pants are a desert digital camouflage pattern finished off with scuff brown desert boots raising small dust clouds as they press on the decomposed granite and gravel that passes for dirt at this altitude and place. Their lips are cracked with numerous bleeding sites despite the heavy application of lip balm hanging in chunks around

the splits. The edges of the sunglasses hide the deep fissures of the crows feet, filled with the fine dust endemic to the area that finds a home in every body crevice. Hair curls out beneath a patrol cap on one and a wool watch cap on the other. The sweat and grease on the exposed hair glistens at the edges and catches the dust in a fine brown dew that collects on the tips. These are Rangers and they are serious people supporting a serious business.

To their left, under an open carport structure, are several other men. They are dramatically different. They have long beards and flowing hair and wear traditional local garb. But a closer look shows a significant difference between them and the native population. There is a group similarity to their obvious upper body strength, relatively unlined faces and near-perfect teeth. No sign of the gross dental rot that afflicts virtually all the Afghan males-the result of a lifetime of drinking super sweet chai tea and the absence of any preventive dentistry. These are what the Department of Defense calls Tier One forces. They are very serious people doing very serious things. Both elements are here to mutually conduct the most difficult and dangerous tasks that can be assigned-hunting armed humans with multi-generational experience in the game.

Feat U r e a r t i c l e s (c O n t i n U e d)

The hunted and hunters frequently exchange roles depending on circumstances. For hundreds of years, the quarry has practiced its craft, adhered to Darwin's thesis and emerged as victors over the most sophisticated and technically armed societies. The latest Nation State to appear has directed the Tiered elements to join in the human version of the Boone and Crockett Club with the trophy game fully armed. In fact, their ability to create local leadership vacuums is crucial to the larger Allied strategy. If they are not successful on a repetitive small scale, the larger engaged elements become irrelevant. Together, they and the Rangers are planning and rehearsing tonight's hunt. It's never easy. Most of the target rich environment is surrounded by naked terrain or extremely rugged access. Getting there is not half the fun.

The Rangers slowly coalesce into an informal formation; some with weapons and some without. They gather fairly tightly together with an assortment of watch caps, patrol caps and warm huggy covers bobbing as they converse. Spit cups are an almost universal accompaniment. Cargo pockets bulge with items essential for maintaining a personal civilization. At a distance, it's easier to see the rise and fall of the white foam cup than the body of the holders. An individual appears out of the closest door and the heads rise. As if on a signal, the Rangers move into a formation and without an order assume disciplined parade ground spacing and look attentively to the leader.

With a firm but modulated voice, the leader speaks; "Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger....." When he completes his sentence, the unit, in a single voice, not loud but with firm enunciation and conviction repeats his sentence. At the final word of the first stanza, the leader looks at the center of the group and says with the same clear voice "Acknowledging that as a Ranger....." Again, the group repeats the phrase with strong clear conviction. In this dust-driven, enervating and ambiguous environment, these soldiers have found a lodestone to guide them and a moral compass to comfort them in the engagement ahead. The last words of the Ranger Creed softly roll across the courtyard-"....though I be the lone survivor." Almost immediately, the entire group exudes a chorus- Rangers Lead The Way! Hoowah. With the Hoowah on a waning declination, the group breaks up and the individuals go about their last minute preparation for the coming night's events. Approximately eight hours later, the same group exits from the various vehicles that have just rolled into the compound trailing a cloud of dust as they deposit their loads.

Several small helicopters deposit their passengers amongst the dirt and flotsam sucked up from the compound yard. It is still dark enough to see the grey-green glow as the

particles strike the tips of the rotating blades. Some, Rangers, move purposely toward the hootch they assembled at the previous dusk. Others, in almost native dress, many with thick beards, ambled toward their portion of the compound.

The Rangers, some quicker than others, gather in an informal assembly. Some move slowly, more shambling than erect, bent over with either gear or exhaustion or both. They are now fully equipped with all the killing tools of their combat equipment, night vision devices, commo gear with embracing wires and antennas, Kevlar protection and with some butt packs now loosely closed absent their original contents. Their load bearing straps are arrayed with a variety of ammo pouches, lights, grenades and the miscellaneous comfort items soldiers develop. Their heads, now sweat and dust streaked, are either in Kevlar or watch caps and the movements display the exhaustion of the night's activities. Rivulets of grimy water course down exposed necks making small streams of exposed flesh. Several Rangers have bandages on arms, legs or necks. It's been a long night. Weapons muzzles are coated with a light cast of dust, the twilight still too dark to render meaningful color. An occasional passing light beam activates the Glint tape of a Ranger for a moment before it passes.

As if by osmosis, the group coalesces dissolving into a reasonable facsimile of a formation. The leader stands in front and begins what has become a daily ritual of recovery from the evening's program....."Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger....." On the initial words, the group automatically assumes a tighter formation, straightens up their heads and alignment and repeats the stanza...."Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger....." The voices are somewhat more muted than earlier but occasionally a Ranger will become particularly loud or concise in repeating a specific set of words as if they were cathartic and an antidote to what he had just experienced.

Finally, the last stanza of the Creed is spoken "..... tho I be the lone survivor!"

The group raises its voice several degrees, spits the words out with a single breath and without orders, breaks away to their various home stations for cleanup, recovery and rest. The Rangers are home for another twelve hours. The sounds of the Creed dissipate in the cold, dry wind but are not lost to either those that spoke them or to those that faced the full measure of their meaning. The Ranger Creed is more than words, they are a life. And they materially assist those charged with taking it from others.

Featured Articles (Continued)

Lakeport VFW chief quits after war record questioned

By GLEND A ANDERSON

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

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The commander of the Lakeport Veterans of Foreign Wars post has resigned under a cloud of suspicion that he is not the war hero he claims to be. Robert L. Deppe, 57, also was arrested earlier this month on suspicion of stealing money from a family member and replacing the \$100 bills he took with phony money, according to the Lake County Sheriff's Office. Deppe resigned this month two days after the VFW post asked him to authorize it to request his military records, said Kirk Macdonald, adjutant of VFW Post 215. He'd been the commander three years. Deppe could not be reached for comment. His letter of resignation stated only that he was quitting for personal reasons, Macdonald said.

Page said he began looking into Deppe's background in 2005 after he recognized his own story in Deppe's autobiographical account of his year in Vietnam and how he earned his medals.

"I saw this story and I said, dang, this guy is talking just like me," said Page, who has a combat infantryman's badge and a Bronze Star, among other "little doodads." Page also found excerpts from the story of a man who saved his life in Vietnam and that of a man from his platoon who died. "He's just full of baloney," he said. Page said it's all too common for people to make false claims of valor.

He noted that Connecticut Sen. Richard Blumenthal said he served in Vietnam when he was running for the Senate last year. In fact, Blumenthal received five military deferments before enlisting in the Marine Reserve, which enabled him to avoid overseas combat. Blumenthal apologized and called the claim "a few misplaced words."

In Phoenix last year, a former chaplain was indicted for making false claims and sentenced to 60 months of probation and ordered to pay about \$28,000. He was charged with making false claims about being decorated, which helped him become an officer in the Arizona National Guard and to enter the Chaplain Corps. Both increased his military salary and benefits. Such claims are all too common, Page said. "In the census 10 years ago, over 11 million men claimed to be (Vietnam) veterans when only 3 million served. It's rampant," he said.

THE LIFE THEY CHOSE

By Wayne Lund

Through out their lives our young Army Rangers are putting their lives on the line,
At times such as those, their lives would be forfeit if not for training so fine.

For the young Airborne Rangers in today's Army this is the life they chose,
They know that in wars lives will be lost, but isn't that the way war goes?

America's elite Airborne Rangers have fought in far off foreign places,
Having traveled the world to serve and have seen many different faces.

No matter where any combat situation may take them from day to day,
To survive those troubled times our Rangers will always find the way.

Knowing that their lives are always at risk, they will take the time to kneel and pray,
When the fighting is finally over our rangers can relax and enjoy a peaceful day.

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11 February 2011

Unit r ePOrts



1st bn, 75th Ranger regt

Unit Director - Todd M. Currie

Fallen Rangers honored at Memorial Ceremony

Sharita Wilkinson
Hunter Public Affairs Intern

The Rangers of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, friends and Family Members gathered at the Ranger Memorial on Hunter Army Airfield Jan. 21 to pay their respects and remember the lives of the seven Rangers who died in combat in during the battalion's recently-completed rotation.

The sky began to fill with dark, gray clouds as Chap. (Capt.) Brian Koyn, battalion chaplain, 1st Bn., 75th Rangers, spoke of the fallen Soldiers' devotion to this country. "We stand to remember these seven brave Rangers... who gave the last full measure of devotion for their nation and ultimately for their brothers in arms who are assembled here today," he said.

Colonel Michael Foster, commander, 1st Bn., 75th Rangers, choked back tears as he described the heaven in which he envisioned the fallen Rangers. "I believe there is a great hall where warriors congregate," he said. I also like to believe that they are currently the center of attention and heroes in whom their predecessors are rightfully proud."

Tears began to flow from those watching as Col. Foster and Command Sgt. Maj. Nick Bielich, command sergeant major, 1st Bn., 75th Rangers, unveiled the granite that bared the inscribed names of the fallen Soldiers. One of those names is that of Sgt. Jonathan Kellylee Peney, 22, who was killed by enemy fire on Jun. 1, 2010, and is survived by his wife Kristin Peney. His platoon leader, Capt. Jim Marione, said that Sgt. Peney always wore a unique smile and kept his mood positive— whatever the situation. "I could count on him to bring everyone else up," he said. "He was the beacon of positivity for the second platoon."



The other six Rangers killed in combat were:

Specialist Joseph Whiting Dimock II, 21, was killed by an explosion in an ammunition holding facility in, July 10.

On his fourth deployment, Sgt. Justin Bradley Allen, 23, died while leading an assault on an enemy position in July 18, 2010.

Staff Sgt. Kevin Matthew Pape, 30, is survived by his wife Amelia Rose Pape and his daughter Anneka Sue. He was killed during a firefight Nov. 16, 2010.

"He was an outstanding father, husband and Ranger," said Staff Sgt. John Viridier, Company C. "You can't replace him; you can't replace any of these guys."

Sergeant Martin Anthony Lugo, 24, died of his wounds sustained in a firefight, Aug. 19, 2010.

Specialist Christopher Shane Wright, 23, died of wounds sustained in a firefight with the enemy during combat operations in, Aug. 19, 2010.

Sergeant Vogeler was killed by enemy indirect fire while conducting combat operations in, Oct. 1. He left behind his wife Melissa Lee Vogeler, his sons, Colin and Kyle, and his daughter, Madison Eyler.

Colonel Foster described Sgt. 1st Class Lance Herman Vogeler, 29, as a "man of many talents," including his ability to drive a golf ball 400 yards.

The gray, dreary skies matched the overwhelming grief and sadness that hung over the memorial ceremony throughout its entirety. Before ending, Col. Foster comforted the teary faces among the crowd with words of affirmation and praise for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. "These Soldiers were courageous, selfless, talented and loved," said Col. Foster. "They each possessed a special fortitude that said, 'give me a challenge and I will overcome.' They wished to serve their nation.....and they did."

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

1st bn, 75th Ranger regt (CONTINUED)

Col. Michael Foster, commander 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, and Command Sergeant Major Nicholas Bielich, command sergeant major, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, salute after laying a wreath in front of the for seven fallen Soldiers, Jan. 21, at a ceremony at Hunter Army Airfield.

Rangers receive awards for recent deployments

Story and photos by
Nancy Gould, Hunter Public Affairs

About 80 Rangers from the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment stood quietly in formation in the Memorial Courtyard at Hunter Army Airfield at an afternoon ceremony Jan. 21 and received medals for their combat actions in . The awards were given for their service from May 16 to Dec. 17, 2010, when they conducted over 550 classified operations, killing hundreds and capturing over 1400 enemy personnel with 229 in that group considered “high value” individuals by the command. Also during that period, the battalion sustained 42 casualties, including seven Rangers, who were killed in action.

The seven fallen compatriots were honored earlier Friday morning at a separate ceremony at the same site. Col. Michael Foster, the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment commander, addressed those who grieved. “These Rangers we honor today impressed us, they inspired us and they continue to inspire us today.” Maj. Jason Davis, the battalion personnel officer and award ceremony narrator praised the warriors on his commander’s behalf. “They loaded up and moved out into the night without fear, or hope of recognition to do their job.”

Leaders at the award ceremony were eager to give Rangers the recognition they deserved. The command group presenting the awards included Brig. Gen. Raymond,

“Tony” Thomas, deputy commanding general, Joint Special Operations Command; Col. Michael Kurilla, commander, 75th Ranger Regiment; Col. Michael Foster, commander, 1st Bn., 75th Rangers; and Command Sgt. Maj. Nicholas Bielich, Command Sergeant Major, 1st Bn., 75th Rangers. The awards included Bronze Star Medals, Army Commendation Medals with Valor, Purple Hearts and a Silver Star awarded posthumously.

The first individual to receive recognition was Staff Sgt. Corey Remsburg, who was gravely injured Oct. 1, 2009 in the Zharay District of but was unable to participate in the last ceremony due to the extent of his injuries. “From that day, he has fought to recover,” said Maj. Davis. “He stands with fellow Rangers today to receive the Purple Heart for wounds incurred in combat and the Bronze Start Medal for meritorious service. “ The second individual recognized in the Ranger formation was Staff Sgt. Brian Mast, a Fort Stewart Explosive Ordinance disposal technician who was part of the battalion during its most recent rotation. Staff Sgt. Mast was seriously injured as he cleared a lane for Rangers during an attack in the Arghandab District of Kandahar. He stood from his wheelchair as he accepted the award from Col. Foster as an honorary member of the battalion. “There are times in combat when others walk in front of us and assume even greater danger and risks on our behalf, said Maj. Davis. “After saving numerous Rangers from injury or worse, Sgt. Davis was seriously wounded while performing his duties, clearing a lane for Rangers. He has our undying gratitude and respect for his courage and selfless service. ”

One Purple Heart recipient in the battalion, Capt. Andrew Fisher, a senior physician assistant, was struck by enemy fire as he climbed a roof to attend to two wounded Rangers. Fisher helped the other Rangers before he took care of getting his own wound examined, although he experienced immediate pain. “I was hit from behind but ignored it, he said. “I was still able to function so I knew that my wound wasn’t critical and it could wait until another medic could treat me.” Capt. Fisher was also awarded the Bronze Star with Valor during the Friday afternoon ceremony.

The ceremony closed by honoring the Ranger wives and with Rangers reciting the Ranger Creed. During their final words, the retired Rangers who stood among the crowd, joined the chant in a single loud voice that echoed throughout the memorial site, “Rangers Lead The Way.”

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

1st bn, 75th Ranger Regiment (CONTINUED)

During the ceremony, Col. Michael Kurilla, commander, 75th Ranger Regiment, speaks words of appreciate and comfort to the mother of fallen Ranger, Sgt. Jonathan Peney, a Ranger platoon medic for a Joint Task Force in support of Operation Enduring Freedom who lost his life in June 2010.



Col. Michael Foster, commander, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, gives Staff Sgt. Brian Mast, a Fort Stewart Explosive Ordnance disposal technician who was part of the battalion during its most recent rotation, an award as an honorary member of the battalion. Staff Sgt. Mast was seriously injured as he cleared a lane for Rangers during an attack in the Arghandab District of Kandahar.

On April 19, 2011, John Knight and Mike Veazey hand delivered 100 boxes of goodies for Rangers of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Hunter Army Airfield. Mr. Knight and Veazey are members of the Dunwoody Baptist Church and have been sending boxes to troops since 2009. We thank them for their patriotic service and those of their membership! If you want to become involved in this great cause, please call Mr. Knight at 404 643 0570 for more information!

Shelia Dudley



1/75 Ranger Ball: Attention all current and former 1/75 Rangers and their significant others: the 2011 Ranger Ball will be held on 3 December 2011 at the Savannah Int'l Trade and Convention Center. The POC for this event is Shelia Dudley. Sheila can be contacted via e-mail at dudleys@soc.mil or telephonically at (912) 414 4061.

1/75 Ranger Memorial Stones are available for installation in November 2011. If you are interested in purchasing one, please go to the website listed below for Stone Application: www.1stbn75thrrregtmemorial.com

Attention 1/75 Rangers: The 1/75 Battalion is keenly interested in contacting family members of some of our lost heroes. If you know the whereabouts of NOK or have photos for the following Rangers, please contact Shelia Dudley, 1/75 POC at: dudleys@soc.mil, or telephonically at (912) 414 4061. This is an important initiative that should be supported to the best of our abilities.

Specialist Four James E. Quick
Company B, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Parachute Accident: November 6, 1976

Major James E. Bryan
HHC, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Aircraft Crash: September 6, 1977

Specialist Four William A. McTigue
Company C, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Live-Fire Exercise Accident: January 19, 1978

Private Michael J. Sanders
Company A, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Parachute Accident: January 25, 1980

Private Gilbert Alaniz, Jr.
Company A, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Parachute Accident: January 25, 1980

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1st bn, 75th H r anger r egt (CONTINUED)

Specialist Four Vincent S. Barclay
Company A, 1st Battalion (Ranger) 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Parachute Accident: February 2, 1982

Sergeant Johnny W. Danford
Company A, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Parachute Accident: February 2, 1982

Specialist Four Robert A. Fortucci
Company B, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Drowning Accident: April 14, 1982

Specialist Four William C. Hayes
Company C, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Drowning Accident: April 12, 1983

Private First Class Shawn L. Lau
Company C, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75 Infantry
Killed in Training, Live-Fire Accident: June 8, 1983

Sergeant Randy E. Cline
Company A, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Action in Grenada: October 25, 1983

Private First Class Russell L. Robinson
Company A, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Action in Grenada: October 25, 1983

Specialist Four Mark O. Yamane
Company A, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Action in Grenada: October 25, 1983

Specialist Four Francis John Elder
Company C, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry
Killed in Training, Drowning Accident: September 12, 1985

Private Greg M. Belletti
Company A, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment
Killed in Training, Drowning Accident: October 30, 1995



2nd bn, 75th H r anger r egt

Unit Director - Kevin Ingraham



**Kevin
Ingraham**

Life is good here Rangers, hope yours is going just as well. If you haven't yet made your reservations for the association reunion/Ranger Rendezvous this last week of July,

you are behind the curve! Welcome home!! to the serving 2d Batt, who recently returned from a 'highly successful' trip to the sandboxes. Our battalion suffered some WIA this tour but the Rangers saw to it that the savages downrange paid heavily.

Included in this issue is a history of the infamous 1989 Ashe Street BBQ and "neighbourhood party", courtesy of the Tacoma News Tribune who did the 20-year anniversary reprise of the shootout and its aftermath. Feedback on this story, especially from those who were there, will be appreciated.

I have been including the Vietnam War's H-75th Rangers in my 2d Battalion history notes. The reason is simple: in the Army's nonsensical approach to maintaining what should be proud regimental lineages, ranger history & traditions



originally skipped the lettered LRP/Ranger companies of and the first decade of the modern battalions. Special Forces, rightful heirs to the traditions and honors of the Operational Groups of the WW2 OSS and Korean War special projects, was assigned ranger lineage and wore ranger unit awards. Meanwhile, under the abominable "Combat Arms Regimental System", post-1968 ranger units held only the heritage of

the 5307th Composite Group. In 1984, when ranger lineage was transferred to the newly formed 75th Ranger Regiment, 2d Bn inherited the history and honors of Hotel-75th and Echo-52nd Lurps.

The inclusion of H-75/E-52 to our page is appropriate because this storied company is not only our official predecessor, but also to honor the era Rangers who set the standards for the 1974 battalions. They wrote in their sweat and blood the tactics, techniques and procedures taught in to my generation of 'old scroll' rangers. It seemed that almost every lecture and demonstration in my 1976 ranger class began with some variation of "At 'Bihn Thir', on July 20, 196x, a ranger patrol was ambushed by...this patrol was able to ... continue their mission because they had been employing 'this tactic'. This class will teach you how to use

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

2nd bn, 75th Ranger Regt (CONTINUED)

‘this tactic’ in your patrolling mission.” Most of the NCOs who set the professional standards of the new battalions were veterans and many of those had learned their trade in the LRP/Ranger Companies. Succeeding generations owe them for refining our trade the hard way and for passing it down. The example they set inspires rangers to the present. In the forums at armyranger.com and elsewhere, modern rangers frequently credit those memoirs for why they wanted to become Rangers themselves.

RFI: If any of you revisited on the 20th anniversary tour that some association members organised for late 2009, how about some notes or an article on your impressions and reactions? Your opinions, feedback, war or training stories or anything relevant to 2d Battalion for inclusion in this column is greatly appreciated. Don’t worry about style or grammar; I’ll try to make you look good.

Rangers Lead the Way.

This Quarter in 2d Battalion History:

April 1, 1943. The 2d Ranger Battalion is stood up. The first battalion formation is held at

April 1967. 1st Cavalry Div LRRP components consolidated at division G-2 and redesignated 1st Cavalry Division LRP Detachment.

April 2002. B Company, 2d Bn, deploys to Operation Enduring Freedom, followed shortly by the remainder of the battalion. This was 2d’s first publically known deployment in the Global War on Terror. 2d Battalion was the first to deploy as a full battalion.

April 22, 2004. CPL Patrick Tillman is killed in action near Spermah, in eastern.

April 27, 1944. Final ranger D-Day mission rehearsal, Operation Fabius I, conducted on the. Afterward, 2d Battalion is moved to the invasion staging area in.

May 1, 1970. Teams from H-75th led the way for the 1st Cavalry Div. and the Vietnamese airborne in the invasion of. Hotel Ranger teams ran over fifty patrols into by the end of June, 1970.

May 9, 1944. Provisional Ranger Group HQ is activated to provided command and control of the 2d and 5th Ranger Battalions in Operation Overlord, the invasion. LTC James E. Rudder, C.O. 2d Bn, commanding.

June 6, 1944. Operation Overlord, the liberation of northwest begins. A, B and C Companies land with the 116th Infantry on Omaha Dog White beach, in a devastating action made famous in the opening sequence of “Saving Private Ryan”. Dog and Fox Companies scale the heights of Pointe Du Hoc in an attempt to neutralize German gun batteries, thought by pre-invasion intelligence to threaten both American landing beaches.

The guns had been moved and were out of action, which didn’t prevent the German defenders from conducting a robust defense. Casualties are heavy.

June 29, 1944. The first ever battalion awards ceremony is held. Eight Distinguished Service Crosses and fourteen Silver Star medals are awarded for D-Day battles.

June 30, 1943. Maj. James Earl Rudder assumes command of 2d Ranger Bn. at.

“Late June”, 1944. The “Sunoco” patch is ditched in favor of the now traditional ranger scroll.

Ash Street shootout: The night that changed Tacoma’s hilltop

20 years ago, a tense Hilltop neighborhood erupted in hundreds of gunshots as gangsters fought Army Rangers for control. The shootout gained national attention and brought changes to the neighborhood and the city.

SEAN ROBINSON; THE NEWS TRIBUNE

Last updated: September 28th, 2009 08:47 AM (PDT)

Nobody died in the shootout. That was the miracle. Ten minutes, 300 shots. Army Rangers versus gangsters. Bullet holes and broken windows. The night of Sept. 23, 1989 turned the Tacoma Hilltop into a national bulls-eye, an emblem of unrest. Bill Foulk, the retired Ranger who led a group of Army buddies in a defensive stand against the gangsters, still lives in the same house: . He wouldn’t leave then, though even his commanders urged him to do so. He isn’t leaving now. At 52, it amuses him to think he’s turned into the old guy on the block.

A few years back, a police officer said something to him about the shootout. “He said it was the single most important incident in that caused a change in police policies and practices,” Foulk said. “I guess I’m still surprised that people are still interested in that story,” Foulk added – which is part jive, because he knows it’s a good story.

BLATANT DRUG DEALING

could In 1989, was an open-air drug market. There were several hot spots, but the epicenter was a little house numbered 2328, where Renae Harttlet, 18, lived with her boyfriend, Mark “Marco” Simmons – the main dog on the street, according to neighbors who remember. The drug traffic had always been around, but by the summer 1989, it had grown blatant, fueled by an influx of gang members moving in from and other areas. “We had this open drug-gang phenomenon that was occurring in that we had never experienced before,” said Bob Sheehan, now an assistant police chief, then a sergeant who worked the Hilltop area.

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2nd bn, 75th Ranger Regt (CONTINUED)

“We didn’t know how to respond to it. We were doing our best but we were struggling with it.” Ash Street neighbors groused to police, called 911 repeatedly, and got nowhere. One of them was Shirley Luckett, then 33 and a young mother. She lived at 2360. Luckett was a busybody and a spitfire – the type who took down license plates, took no guff and called police on a regular basis. “I’m always looking at my surroundings – I like to feel safe,” she said. “My son, he couldn’t ride his bike to the store and wear his red shirt without them gangsters chasing him home. You have a right to live anywhere, peacefully, without that junk and trash spilling over on you.” The typical response from police was tepid, neighbors felt. Community-oriented policing – getting out of the car, getting to know neighbors – was a coming trend, still viewed with suspicion by veteran cops who typically came up in the ’60s and preferred the old ways.

Police Chief Ray Fjetland pushed the new programs, but old habits were hard to break. “They used to call it ‘over the hood or over the radio,’ ” said Bob David, 52, a retired police officer, and one of the first responders to the shootout. “That’s the way a patrolman handled his day. If it didn’t come over the hood – if the fight didn’t come over the hood of the police car – you drive away and let it resolve itself. Because that way there’s less violence, less stress, and that’s the way things were done.”

POWERLESS

Rena Harttlet, now 38, doesn’t like to think of those days. She was 18 then, already a mother – wild, young and nave, she said, but never a crack addict, she insists. She rented the house at 2328 – but she had no power over the wave of dealing on the street, the friends of Marco Simmons who came and went. Sometimes she fought with him about it. Nothing changed. Simmons, reportedly still in the area, could not be reached by The News Tribune to provide his recollections. Harttlet said many of the hangers-on around the house were there with his permission. “I don’t want to act like I’m innocent, ’cause I’m not,” Harttlet said. “I’m aware of things that took place, but sometimes it wasn’t to my liking. I didn’t agree to it. I don’t want to blame and act like I was totally innocent of the situation. Did I approve of it? No. Could I control it? No.”

PRELUDE

The run-up to the shooting began with a series of public missteps that made the result seem inevitable. In summer 1989, Foulk returned from a December deployment in to find the neighborhood worse than when he left. Along with Luckett and other neighbors, he formed a neighborhood group that pressed police, demanding action. The neighbors

started making signs, protesting, taking pictures of the dealers. Even as the tension on rose, Chief Fjetland made a decision he would later regret. Hamstrung by budget constraints and desperately short on the patrol side, he shifted four of six officers away the Hilltop crime management team – a community policing pilot project that now looked unaffordable. Neighbors reacted with dismay. Fjetland, under fire from citizens and the City Council, agreed to reconsider. The News Tribune covered the controversy, noting efforts by neighbors to monitor the drug activity. *“A group of a dozen neighbors who live in the area of South 23rd and Ash streets said they are on the verge of vigilante action because police have failed to curtail drug dealing around their homes.” – The News Tribune, Sept. 21, 1989*

The publicity had a side effect. Drug traffic on slowed to a trickle. Foulk was used to seeing more than 100 cars pass through the block on a given day. After the story appeared, it was down to 20. “That really pissed them off,” Foulk said, recalling the reaction from gangsters. Foulk installed a video camera in his upstairs window to record the traffic. He organized a neighborhood barbecue as a show of public unity, set for 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23. He invited neighbors and friends, including Ranger buddies. Coming armed might not be a bad idea, Foulk suggested.

THE GUN FINGER

The day of the barbecue, Foulk and the neighbors got the gun finger. It came from bystanders across the street, from cars driving by: the index finger pointed, thumb up, a little flip of the hand, mouthed words: boom, boom. The gangsters saw the video camera in Foulk’s house. They threw stones and rotten pears at it – one of the scruffy trees on the block was laden with September fruit. Someone else took shots at the house with a BB gun. Foulk and a few Ranger friends walked across the street to confront the harassers. It was a short talk, marked by a difference of opinion. Foulk asked for Marco Simmons. The gangsters scoffed. Foulk told them to stop throwing things at his home and the neighbors, to stop shooting BBs, to knock it off. The gangsters told him to take the camera out of the window. “Stop doing wrong,” Foulk replied. Foulk was 32, already a combat veteran, married, a homeowner. The people facing him were children, barely out of their teens – Simmons was 20. The gangsters suggested Foulk didn’t know who he was dealing with. Foulk suggested the gangsters didn’t know who they were dealing with. The gangsters weren’t impressed. “You’re history, bitch,” Foulk remembers one of them saying. They would burn his house down and light him up – after dark, they said. Foulk walked away, cheap chatter trailing in his wake. “I’m gonna shoot

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2nd bn, 75th Ranger Regt (CONTINUED)

that Army SOB,” he heard someone say. Things started moving fast. Harttlet remembers Simmons telling her to take the children out of the house, to go down the block to her mother’s. “It was out of control,” Harttlet said. “It wasn’t right, you know. But at the time, whether you’re right or wrong – people at that time probably didn’t look at it that way.”

DEFENSE

A few Ranger friends were already at the barbecue. Foulk called a few more. The total grew to 15. He told them to bring personal weapons, whatever they had. He called The News Tribune. A reporter, Dan Voelpel, and a photographer, Russ Carmack, soon arrived. The plan was defensive, he and his buddies agreed. Stake out locations and wait. No first moves. If police come, disarm immediately. Maybe nothing happens. But if it does, keep the gangsters off. No more. “Our intent was to not allow them to advance on us,” Foulk said. Foulk ordered the women into the house. Shirley Luckett, who had a gun, was mildly annoyed. She had sent her children to stay with a relative. However the thing went down, she was in. “I had a nine (a 9-millimeter pistol) in my hand – yes I did, somebody gave me a nine,” she said. “I was gonna fight for my life.” A car drove by. Someone in it fired a shot into the air. After sunset, Foulk turned out the lights in the house and the yard. The neighbors waited.

The Shootout

The first shots at Foulk’s house came at 9:20 p.m., according to statements from several witnesses. Then things got crazy. “Shots were heard and seen coming from the west side of the house. Small-caliber automatic gunfire was also heard.” – Tacoma police report.

“All of a sudden I hear a bang from across the street, then it’s boom boom boom,” said Carmack, the TNT photographer. “I’m hunkered down by this piece of wood, among these cars. The bullets were whizzing past, over my head. I’ve never been on the receiving end of the sound before, the zinging.” William Edwards, one of the Rangers, was posted on the front porch. When the shooting started, he hit the ground. A bullet slammed into the wall beside him. He and other Rangers returned fire, seeing figures running among parked cars on the other side of the street. A new fusillade of shots came from the opposite side of the house. Ranger Russell Nolte, posted in the backyard, crawled forward – a shot hit the front of the house, three feet over his head. Ranger Burr Settles was upstairs by the hated video camera. A shot came through the window, and a shower of shattered glass grazed his head. “Numerous muzzle flashes/shots began coming in from the east. There

were at least three different shooters.” – Tacoma police report

The Rangers again returned fire. Outside, the assailants flitted among the parked cars, shooting over their shoulders and ducking down. Luckett flattened herself on the floor of Foulk’s house. Bullets slammed into the walls. “It’s something I would never want to be in again – ’cause it was frightening,” she said. Harttlet, down the street in her mother’s house, was in the same position. “I’m petrified of guns to this day,” she said. Inside Foulk’s house, Luckett dialed 911. “They’re shooting!” she shouted at the receiver. A few Rangers overheard and put down their weapons, sending Luckett into a conniption. “You cannot do that!” The first police car came down the middle of the street, emergency lights on, sirens blaring. Carmack watched. “All of a sudden another round goes off,” he said. “I have never seen smoke come out of a rear set of tires ... this patrol car backed out, just squealing.” Officers in the car reported hearing 50 to 60 shots in less than a minute. For 20 years, the official version of the shootout held that no one was hurt in the gunfire. Not true, according to Foulk. During the firefight, one gangster rushed toward Foulk’s house. “I guess he thought he was gonna John Wayne it,” Foulk remembered. One of the Rangers took aim and winged the gangster in the shoulder. The attacker staggered back and ran away. The moment goes unmentioned in police reports and witness accounts of the time. Unverified gossip holds that the wounded man was treated at a Seattle-area hospital. More cops poured into the block. The gangsters ran. “*As other police units arrived in the area, subjects were seen fleeing. Those subjects were pursued, and some caught and detained.*” – Tacoma police report

COPS TAKE CONTROL

The gunfire dwindled. Foulk listened and ran the options. Cops coming, guaranteed. Show yourself. Do not get shot. He was carrying two pistols: A Browning 9-millimeter, and a Colt .357. Foulk put them in the laundry basket in the laundry room. He walked out the back door, to his driveway and the alley behind his house. He felt someone behind and didn’t fight. A hand shoved his head down, a voice ordered him to the ground, a knee plowed him into a spread-eagle. “Who’s in charge around here?” the cop said. “I guess I am.” “What the (expletive) is going on?” Foulk cannot remember the officer’s name. It could have been Bob David, the officer who wrote the primary report of the incident. It could have been Jim Pincham, another officer who was among the first to respond to the scene. It could have been any of at least a dozen cops who swarmed into Ash Street that night.

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2nd bn, 75th Ranger Regiment (CONTINUED)**TAKING THE GUNS**

David remembers the scene. He was in charge of handling the Rangers. Over the radio, a commander he won't name told him to seize all their guns as evidence. The Rangers weren't happy. David offered a compromise. They were Rangers – they had lots of guns, right? Give up the lousy ones – keep the high-end stuff. Nowhere close to protocol. David knew it. Part of him didn't care. "I wasn't gonna be the arm to hurt somebody that I knew was innocent, fighting someone that I knew was guilty," he said. Sgt. Mike Miller, one of the mid-level commanders running the crime scene, wasn't happy, either. Arriving at Foulk's home, taking control, he gave the Rangers a tongue-lashing. *"R/SGT (Responding sergeant) lectured Foulk and his companions for not calling for police assistance until shots were fired. ... R/SGT feels that this situation may have been avoided by calling 911 prior to the shooting getting started. R/SGT also expressed the above thoughts to the military commanders of Foulk and his friends..."* – Excerpt from Miller's police report

Carmack, the photographer, heard a police commander lecturing the Rangers. He doesn't know who it was, but he knows what he heard. "The commander, he was really pissed off at the soldiers," Carmack recalled. "He said, 'I don't see one (expletive) body over there.' I may be ad-libbing, but he was upset that they missed."

THE CHASE

Rena Harttlet walked outside from her mother's house. "I just know I came out and everyone scattered," she said. "The street was smoky as heck – everyone came out and everybody was like gone." Police were taking witness statements and fanning out across the Hilltop, searching for the assailants. The Rangers gave sketchy descriptions. They described one particular shooter – a big, beefy kid in a red, white and blue jacket. Two blocks from the scene, a police dog cornered a group of young men. One suspect was carrying 16 bullets, .38 caliber. He said he was holding them for a friend, but couldn't remember the friend's name. Same went for the pistol he was carrying. Another suspect was carrying copper-headed rounds for a gas gun – big, beefy kid in a red, white and blue jacket. His name was Frankie Lee Stricklen. He was 20, already familiar to police from previous contacts on the Hilltop. A 1987 incident led to a second-degree burglary conviction. State community corrections officers had little hope for him. *"Stricklen lacks basic skills presently and will continue to experience problems securing employment. His learning disability is severe and I do not project he will be making significant progress in near future."* – Department of Corrections report, July 27, 1989. Police brought several Rangers to the

area where Stricklen was held. All of them identified him as one of the shooters. He would be the only man charged in the incident.

THE AFTERSHOCKS

The neighbors stayed at Foulk's house all night. "Nobody wanted to go home," Foulk said. "They're like, hey, you guys got all the guns." At 7 a.m. the phones started ringing. Media. Along with the other neighbors, Luckett spent the night at Foulk's house. She woke up seething. Across the street at 2319, Harttlet was no happier. She woke to reporters knocking at the door, TV cameras in the street and a milling crowd of neighbors. Luckett was one of them. Harttlet fixed on her, walking across the street, screaming and pointing. The moment survives on 20-year-old video. Luckett stands on a slope, screaming back at Harttlet, rapid-fire. "What kind of a mother are you?" Luckett says. "What kind of a mother are you?" In the video, Harttlet lunges forward, pulls Luckett down, and the two women roll into Ash Street, clawing and kicking. Marco Simmons, Harttlet's boyfriend, rushes in, kicking at Luckett. A neighbor rushes from behind and kicks at Simmons, and the fight spreads, spilling down the street, going on and on. Someone off-camera says, "Where's the damned police?" The police had been called. They arrived 27 minutes later. Records showed they were handling other calls: a burglary in progress, two stolen-car reports, an escaped mental patient and a domestic dispute in the city's North End. Whatever the reasons, less than 12 hours after a neighborhood shootout that made national headlines, the timing was lousy. Foulk spent the next three weeks sleeping upstairs, fully dressed, with a gun at his side. He remembers a visit from Army commanders, one of whom he won't name. "I cannot order you to leave your home. But I suggest you do," the commander said. "If I leave they will burn this house to the ground," Foulk replied. "Well, you've got fire insurance, don't you?"

LANDLORD GETS INVOLVED

Tom Cosey, then 61, had owned the house at 2328 South Ash since 1965. An old soldier, he had always fixed things himself, handled problems himself. In his day, neighbors would kick unruly youths in the butt. None of that gangster crap. He wasn't the sort of landlord to throw people out on a whim. The Hilltop was far from rich. People struggled. He tried to go easy when he could – but the shootout and complaints from neighbors were too much. He had thought about evicting Harttlet before, but always hesitated. He knew her mother, who lived down the street. Cosey talked to Foulk and other neighbors, who voted 11-1 for eviction. "I was for the Rangers, for what they did, you damn betcha – old soldiers," says Cosey. "I probably would have done

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the same thing.” He told police what he was planning. They told him to wait a little. He waited two days and knocked on Harttlet’s door. “I said, OK, back up and out,” he remembered. “They knew that I had had it.” There was more to it. Cosey knew the city had a crime abatement program. Enough police complaints, and they could take his house. “I understood,” Harttlet said. “He told me that he didn’t want me to have to move, but they were having meetings and all that stuff and there was nothing he could do about it.”

CITY REACTION

Tacoma’s leaders had a public relations uproar on their hands. Mayor Doug Sutherland suggested limiting civil rights in certain areas of the city. His would-be successors, mayoral candidates Karen Vialle and Tim Stregge, jostled over who could be tougher on crime. Police demanded more bodies – 100 additional officers, right away, a budget-buster. Gov. Booth Gardner said he wasn’t ready to call the National Guard, but he would certainly consider it if police were overwhelmed. Chief Fjetland took the local heat. At a hastily arranged public meeting, neighbors ripped him for transferring officers out of the Hilltop. Media pundits chewed on the shootout. TV reporters turned Ash Street into a stock backdrop. Newspapers fretted. Tacoma, always Seattle’s scruffy sibling, had a new bruise. *“The shootout ... was on the fringe of anarchy. And it represents just the beginning of what will happen in Tacoma and other communities if police don’t get substantially better at dealing with drug dealers. ... These are sorry and frightening times when citizens feel they have to do law enforcement’s job because they no longer trust the police to do it.”* – *The (Spokane) Spokesman-Review*, Sept. 25, 1989 (editorial)

Community groups and the Safe Streets organization met with neighbors and batted opinions back and forth. Luckett went to those meetings and felt growing anger as the discussion shifted to a race debate. “They tried to make it a black-white thing – it was never that – it was always residents against alleged drug dealers,” she remembered. “You cannot make that shootout on Ash Street a racist thing because it was not a racist thing. I don’t care. If you want to fight alongside to clean up this place, you’re my brother.” Police pulled overtime shifts, keeping constant vigil on Ash Street, walking up and down the block, talking to combatants from both sides. At one point, police brokered a truce between the two sides – an agreement that seemed to wink at drug-dealing, as long as there was no violence. Luckett wanted no part of it. “Why were we gonna sit down and negotiate with some dope-dealin’, gun-slissing, drug-using fools?” she said. “That didn’t make no

sense to me. They didn’t have no right to be doing what they were doing up there.”

THE ARMY REACTION

Bill Foulk had a new problem. His commanding officers didn’t like the publicity surrounding their sergeant. His home on Ash Street was declared off-limits to other Rangers. There was talk of transferring him to another base. “I was an embarrassment to the Army, because I did what I thought was right,” he remembered. A meeting at the Fort Lewis public affairs office shortly after the shooting underscored the situation. Foulk remembers a tough colonel going straight at him. “Sergeant Foulk, I want you to know you can forget about being promoted,” the colonel said. “Why is that, sir?” “Because you’ve become too well-known for the wrong reasons.” After weeks of nonstop tension, Foulk had to get away from the house, just to feel normal for a while. He picked a barbecue joint on Mildred Street. Not so far from Ash, but it felt like another country. He sat down and ordered a beer. He heard someone at another table hailing the bartender. “Say, this guy’s money’s no good here,” the voice said. Foulk turned and saw a table full of off-duty cops: Tacoma police officers and Pierce County sheriff’s deputies – about a dozen of them. For the rest of the night, beer was free.

ONE CONVICTION

Frankie Stricklen, the only man charged in connection with the shootout, was convicted of second-degree assault. He was later sentenced to 22 months in prison. The years that followed led to more convictions for drug-related offenses. Stricklen is currently in the Pierce County Jail, awaiting trial on a drug possession charge. He declined requests for an interview. The only record of his views comes from a 1990 broadcast of “48 Hours” on CBS. A reporter interviewed Stricklen in the jail. He denied involvement in the shootout.

Did you start the shooting?

No. I didn’t.

So let me make sure I understand this, Frankie. You and your friends are hanging around, minding your own business, not doing anything illegal at all...

Mm-hm.

... not selling any drugs, not buying any drugs, not using any drugs, not shooting anybody...

Nope.

. ...or at anybody. And these guys come along, these Army Rangers, and shoot up the neighborhood.

Yeah.

Forgive me. It just doesn’t sound like it makes any sense.

That’s it.

– Excerpt from “48 Hours” broadcast, Feb. 22, 1990.

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2nd bn, 75th Ranger Regiment (CONTINUED)**CHANGES**

Bob David retired from the police department in 1997; a decade of chasing bad guys wore him down, and the death of a colleague soured him on police work. The shootout was bad, an embarrassment for the department, but it was good, too. Old habits began to die. “With (Foulk) doing what he did, bringing all this up to make it a huge political football, that’s when things started to change,” he said. Fjetland’s plans for community-oriented policing took hold, jump-started by the controversy. By degrees, the Hilltop crime management team was reassembled. The department assigned community liaison officers to specific areas, breaking the city into sectors, and refining data-gathering.

“I look at the Ash Street shooting as kind of the pinnacle of all that stuff, because it became national and it really got our attention. It was huge, it was a big deal,” said Sheehan, the veteran assistant chief. “(Fjetland) started training the department and making the necessary changes to get a better handle on what was going on.” Shirley Luckett moved out of Ash Street years back. After the shootout, she learned that people in her own household had been buying drugs from the dealers on the block. It was a disappointment. She lives near Foss High School now. She still watches the street, and calls police sometimes to warn them about suspicious activity – not as much as the old days. Ash Street is a better place now, more peaceful. Whatever people thought about the shootout, something good came from it. “A lot of people misunderstood what it was really about,” she said. “If neighbors get together instead of peeking out from behind their blinds, you can make a difference. You can really make a difference.” Renae Harttlet is a single mother with seven children. One is a miracle – born premature, given no chance to survive, in surgery before he weighed a pound. “I’m just

blessed,” she said. “I never thought I was blessed before. I’ve been through so much in my life, and I never thought any good things would happen for me, but they have.” She doesn’t claim innocence. She hates to relive the shootout, or think about it. It was crazy, a mess. She doesn’t fault the Rangers. Upstanding citizens, she says. Good people, though she didn’t understand it then. Her older children know the shooting as a story their mother doesn’t like to tell. They ask her questions sometimes, and she sums it up short. “I’ve been in trouble even after that happened. But I also changed up,” she said. “I have these kids that look at me. If my kids get taken or I get in trouble, who’s gonna take care of them? These kids are my life. I have to do right. I would never allow that to ever happen again. I’d never live like that.”

ROOTS RUN DEEP

Bill Foulk could have moved. He never did. As the tough colonel predicted, he was never promoted. He left the Army in 1993. His house at 2319 South Ash is bigger than it was, after 20 years of puttering. He repaired the bullet holes long ago. Twice the square footage now, he guesses: add-ons in back, covered porch in front, new picket fence. On the side, a deck and small swimming pool, and green grass, and flowers and tomatoes. “I like it here,” he says. “I like this neighborhood.” He’s had the front windows redone. About halfway up the front siding, between the window and the wall, a pockmark lingers – the last bullet hole. It’s a ladder job. He means to patch it, but he keeps forgetting. Staff writer Brian Everstine contributed to this report.

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Read more: www.thenewstribune.com/2009/09/27/v-printerfriendly/895048/ash-street-shootout-the-night.html#ixzz15wXgywtr

**3rd bn, 75th Ranger Regiment**

Unit Director - Scott Billingslea

Since the last issue, we had an outstanding linkup here at Fort Benning, GA. There were about 20-25 Rangers in attendance throughout the weekend. We started off the weekend at the new A Co Bar on Friday night, then adjourned to Uchee Creek campground where we had a couple of large cabins. For those of you that haven’t had the opportunity to reconnect with some of your Ranger buddies, I strongly encourage to consider attending the



Ranger Rendezvous this summer. It always amazes how you can see someone again for the first time in years (15 in this case) and it seems like no time has passed.

We had a softball game planned with some of the Rangers currently in A Co. Unfortunately

that didn’t really pan out as the Battalion was on short final to deploy. In addition to the company bar, we also checked out the new Infantry Museum and the Battalion S-5.

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We'll definitely plan on this being an annual event, although we're probably going to make it coincide with the Best Ranger Competition going forward. Weather knocked about 5 people out of attending at the last minute, so moving it to later in the year should help.



A Co Bar



The cabin



Fireside



Standing L-R:
Dean h ohl, Jerry
Abeln, Ryan Booser,
Tracy Jenkins, Tony
Wisianski, Scott
Billingslea, Corey Gotlz.
Kneeling: Jay Ashbaugh,
Mike Smith

1SG Bobby Lane **and the bag of crap.**

One of the funniest stories that was told revolved around a piece of feces that (then) 1SG Bobby Lane found in the toilet in his bathroom. After he captured the offending turd in plastic baggie (I'm pretty sure the CQ runner had the honor of doing that), he held a company formation to see if anyone could positively identify the shitbag (couldn't resist). When no one came forward to reclaim their prize, 1SG Lane decided to add this as an accountable item at the CQ desk. Every day for over a week, this was logged into

the 1594, CQ Log. Each incoming CQ had to sign for it and take possession in the morning. Traffic by that CQ desk got very light, and typically the runner was the only one who could be found near the desk. After about a week, the bag was stolen, never to be seen from again....but it's still talked about to this day.

Thanks CSM Lane!

New 3/75 Memorial

Just an update on the current fund drive. We still need about \$15,000 to have the entire cost of the new Memorial covered. We are hoping to have the Memorial started (if not finished) by the beginning of May. If you haven't already done so, give some thought to purchasing a paver to support this effort. The order form can be found on the S-5 website listed below.

Regiment wins the MCoE pistol competition

The Ranger Regiment recently won the Maneuver Center of Excellence (also known as Fort Benning) pistol competition. 1st place went to SFC Nelson Ashbrook and 2nd went to SFC Jeramy Smith, both of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

Hosted by the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, more than 60 Soldiers and Cadets squared off in three individual matches and two team matches to determine the top pistol shooters on post. Fort Benning is the only Army installation to host its own marksmanship competition. Rangers, once again, led the way.

Glory Boys

In the last issue I raised the question about the origin of this name. For those that may not know, Glory Boys was the name of the 1st Platoon, A Company. I've had several of the Rangers currently in A Co ask if I knew where this name came from. Since I had no idea, I've been trying to figure it out. As luck would have it, one of the guys that attended the linkup in January remembered. CSM (ret.) Jerry McClain coined the name when he was the PSG for 1st Platoon in 1990, prior to taking over as 1SG. He started referring to 1st Platoon as "the Glory Boys" and the name stuck. Thanks to Ryan Booser for that bit of Ranger history.

S-5 is ONLINE

Just go to 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.

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3rd bn, 75th Ranger Regiment (CONTINUED)
TSAF Interview

I recently had the opportunity to interview one of the founders of a local Ranger owned company. He is currently serving as a Team Leader in B/3/75, as are a number of others involved with the company. TSAF is actively involved in raising funds for the new Memorial. As the Regiment continues to take the fight to the enemy and remains at the tip of the spear, organizations like this one resonate with many here in the community and anyone directly affected by the GWOT.

1). What does TSAF stand for?

TSAF means “This Shit Ain’t Free” unless you’re at a Middle School football game or church or something.... then it means “This Stuff Aint Free”.

2). Where did the idea to start TSAF come from?

Haha, It’s actually kind of a funny story, but I’m a horrible story teller. I will try my best though. So no shit there we were... in Smith Gym at Fort Benning and there was this massive steroidal Mike Tyson look-alike and sound-a-like. Working out with his iPod in and benching 445 like the weights just killed his mother. He would pound a couple reps and then jump up and say with a high pitch voice, “This shit ain’t free! You gotta want it!” When he looked at us.... we thought he was talking to us. But he would make eye contact with you for about 1 and a half seconds and then move to the mirror where he would repeatedly say to himself, “You gotta want this shit! This shit ain’t free!”

After watching this go on and finishing our workout... he would continuously go about his “self-motivation”. We, being who we are.... made this the platoon joke. We would explain nicely to the Privates... that shit.... well.... it’s just not free. We would go around the AO and yell, “THIS SHIT AINT FREE!” and “WANTIN IT!” and so forth. That was just the beginning!

The next deployment we went on was to Baghdad, Iraq. And business was slow. With all the spare time we had, I and Mike Smith (Smitty, who is Co-Founder) decided we wanted to make beer koozies with “TSAF” on them. We wanted something that said “Made by TSAF” or something like that. Of course, that didn’t sound very legit.... so we added Industries to the end. And so therefore TSAF Industries was born! We made our koozies that had an American flag on it and said on the back, “Made by TSAF Industries”. I put the pre-order form up in the barracks we slept in overseas and they sold like hot cakes!! Everyone wanted one. I then told everyone, that

you can’t just have one bad ass koozie.... you will lose it! And so people bought 5 and 6 of them at \$5.00 a piece. In less than one week, we made almost a thousand dollars by just selling koozies.

By the time I got home, I decided that I wanted to make a web site. The web site was mostly just for fun, at the time. We had lost 2 great Rangers that deployment and I wanted to put their names on the web site. CPL Ryan C. McGhee used to be in Bravo Company 3/75 so his death took a huge toll on us. Later that month, Sherrie McGhee has e-mailed us and told us how much she loved the web site and appreciated every one of us. I had called her on the phone to let her know how much we are thinking about her and we spoke for hours. At that time, I knew that there was a different direction for TSAF Industries. We will not only be about making each other laugh, but about honoring the brothers that we have lost. The men who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our very freedom and the men that drive us to carry on to the Ranger objective.

3). I see you’ve gotten a pretty impressive response on Facebook, can you tell us a little about that?

Facebook is the online businesses dream! It is a way to connect to people from all over the country. And one thing that Ranger loves is reconnecting with our brothers that we fought alongside and share war stories with each other! We have almost 4,000 fans on Facebook and it’s mostly because word of mouth. Since TSAF Ind. has been stood up (almost 2 years now) we have now gone regimental! We honor ALL of our brothers we have lost no matter what battalion. I have spoken with Gold Star families from every battalion and every one of them deserves the same respect and honor as the next.

4). You seem to have generated a lot of support locally, do you get much feedback from people on it outside the Battalion AO?

Yes! It is amazing of how much attention we have gotten without even advertising (Thank you facebook). You can actually get TSAF discounts at some local businesses around the Columbus, GA area. Gene Lively and Stacy Day from Jay Auto Mall have been huge supporters and have helped raised quite a bit of money. They are both General managers and you can get TSAF Ind. rates from Mazda, GMC and the Buick car dealerships (www.jaymazda.com). Also, Keith Hammond, owner/broker of Re/Max Prime Realty (www.remax-prime-columbus-georgia.com), gives HUGE TSAF discounts on buying a house or simply using his Agency to manage your property if you plan on moving.

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3rd bn, 75th Ranger Regt (CONTINUED)

This is just a couple of local businesses that have shown their support and we couldn't be more thankful!

5). TSAF has been pretty heavily involved in the Battalion Memorial fund drive, how successful has that effort been so far?

I personally have 10 friends listed on our memorial and when I look at the memorial we have now, honoring our brothers....gets me choked up. Our brothers deserve better and I know we can make that happen. While I was deployed in 2010 we were able to raise \$6,000 in one month. We have promised to give them \$10,000, but we still have a ways to go.

6). I believe one of the Brothers we lost on the last deployment has TSAF on their headstone. Can you tell us a little about how that happened?

Yes, unfortunately Bravo Company 3/75 had a rough deployment. We lost SSG Patton April 18, 2010, SGT Santiago July 18, 2010, and SGT Nicol and SPC Rappuhn August 8, 2010. SGT Andrew Cote Nicol was one of our own who helped mold TSAF Ind. into what it is today. Not a day goes by that I don't remember that night...one of the hardest nights in my 5 year Army career. His family decided to get "TSAF" on his headstone. When I found this out, I was still overseas and I couldn't believe his family wanted to honor him that way. It touched us all and made me feel completely humbled. In August of 2008, I never thought selling Koozies would turn out to what TSAF Industries is today.

7). Who writes the "Most Wantin' it" section? My favorite one has to be 1SG Bobby Sipps. That was greatness!

Hahaha, actually, I do! Sometimes I think people are just going to read it and think, "whoever wrote this is f**&^ng crazy!" I am not sure if people are going to laugh or not, but so far we have gotten a pretty good response. I have pretty bad A.D.D (shhhhh the Army doesn't know) and my mind wanders so much. These biographical stories are clear evidence of that!

8). Do you have any long term plans for TSAF?

I would love for TSAF to be around for a long time, of course! It is amazing the amount of people that I have met because of it. Many Gold Star families, old school Rangers, Vietnam Veterans and business owners from all over. Simply because I am still active duty and a Fire Team Leader in Bravo Company 3/75, my family and my job is my priority. I love doing TSAF work and it has become a passion of

mine, but right now we are just focusing on raising money for our Battalions new memorial. Later down the road I would like to become 501 (c) 3 qualified so we can offer major companies a Tax write off. I believe we would be able to raise a lot more money if this were possible.

9). What's the best way for people to help that want to support what you're doing?

The best way really is to go to our website, www.TSAFindustries.com and check us out. You can also purchase stuff there where most of our profit goes to supporting "Homes for our Troops", "Special Operations Warrior Foundation", "Ranger Memorial Fund", and "Ranger Assistance Foundation". You can also send donations to:

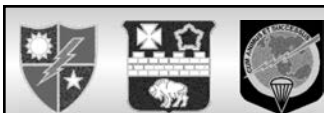
TSAF Industries
PO Box 8074
Columbus, GA 31908

Checks only please!

10). Does the Battalion S-5 sell TSAF swag?

Unfortunately they don't right now, but they are supporters. You can check out their website at www.375ranger.com





a/75 - d/17 Lr P - v cOr Ps Lr r P

Unit Director - Bill Bohte

On Mini's

From time to time in these articles in this magazine, I have described various mini reunions. This July will have the 75th Ranger Regimental Assoc. 2011 Reunion at Ft. Benning Georgia. This is always a great event bringing together Rangers and LRRPs from all over the country. This is a bi-annual gathering of eagles. Get your reservations started now. You V Corp LRRPs should start reserving rooms at the Howard Johnsons and the Holiday Inn will fill up fast. More frequently though, there are smaller get togethers that we refer to as mini reunions. These gatherings can be several guys or as few as two and we have seen all kinds. For the older V Corp LRRPs it is most frequently an SOS breakfast, typically at Ron Dales place or a plush Resort hosted by John Simmons. These are termed SOS because Ron throws together an SOS breakfast that participants tend to rave about. I have seen Ron's recipe and his breakfasts are not for the faint of heart. Some time the mini can be two old LRRP's that pass in the night.

There is a different kind of mini that is held by a group of A Company rangers. This started out with some of these young Rangers meeting at a cabin in the hills of Tennessee owned by one of their own named Mark Carlisle. It started almost 10 years ago that I know of and is held twice a year. In the early day it was called the cabin trip and attendees stayed in the cabin and brought steaks and guns. Primarily steaks were BBQ'd and a major volume of adult beverage was imbibed. Since the cabin had an open hillside there was plenty of room to set out targets and expend various ammunitions. A couple of years of this and the neighbors down the road started to complain about the noise. I guess they thought it sounded like a war zone. A change of location was in order and the event was moved to more property of Carlisle's that they called the meadow. The meadow trip was still out in the hills in some flat little valley and a little more primitive than the cabin in that there was no shelter. This required more equipment like camping gear, wood for fires and stoves to cook their food. Fortunately this was not a problem for Rangers who were trained extensively in the fine art of camping out.



Because of the extra gear needed the mode of transportation had to be larger and be able to handle inclement weather. I think the meadow trip only lasted a couple years and due to some shift in easement had to be moved again. This time the area up on one of the hills was selected and the trip became the hilltop trip. There is not much news that comes out of these trips except for a few blurbs on the server and few pictures. The November 2009 hilltop was the first time that a lot of pictures were taken and that was due primarily to Ranger Peter Parkers attendance. Peter is well known in the association for his photos.



From L-R : Thomas Kampas, Mike Theisen, Stan Jones, Mike Fisher, Mark Carlisle, Eddie Alexander, Jim Savel (One of my personal heroes) says MR. Cantrell and Mike Cantrell. ALL outstanding in the field
Picture taken by Peter Parker who is apparently standing down range from the looks of those guns.

On this occasion there where Mike Theisen who is now retired from the post office, Stan Jones still works for the post office, Mike Fisher is a successful Dentist, Mike Cantrell is a retired grandpa, Thomas Kampas is working in California, Mark Carlisle Runs a Wood Business and makes pallets in Tennessee, Eddie Alexander runs his own business, Jim Savel who is retired and of course Peter Parker.

By now the trip has evolved into a culinary challenge where smokers are set up to smoke great hunks of meat and things like brisket, chicken, ribs are cooked and specialty dished like kimshi are consumed. There is still the beer and other booze drunk in quantity and plenty of ammo sent down range and dogs are always present or at least that was the trend until recently. The hilltop trip, as all things change with time, has changed some. This last trip in April 2010, as I covered in the last issue has taken on some new faces.

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a/75 - d/17 Lr P - v cOr Ps Lr r P (CONTINUED)

For a time there were grown sons that were taken on the trip but now as these Rangers have become Grandpa's they are bringing their grandson's. This expands the concept in to a new dimension that Ranger training did not teach. Taking children camping and educating them in the use of firearms can present a whole new range of challenges. I am certain that these kids have had prior experience with guns but the hilltop is a new environment.



Kenneth Risen, Mike Cantrell Front Austan Jones, (Stan's Grandson) Jonathan Roberts (Cantrell's Grandson), Mike Roberts (Cantrell's Grandson), Brandon Jones (Stan's Grandson)

Of course for kids this has to be a fantastic experience. Camping out in the open air, camp fires, food, guns, dogs and grandpa. Maybe there will be some future Rangers coming out of these trips. I imagine this adds a new dimension to the trip for grandpa as well since instead of the relaxation of sitting back, drinking, shooting and telling lies; there are safety issues that need to be taught and monitored. Then of course for grandpa to set a good example there probably has to be some modification of alcohol consumption. Still everyone has a good time.

Stan Jones, Mike Cantrell, Kenneth Risen, Mike Theisen, Mike Fisher, Kyle Jones (Stan Jones's son.)



Mike Cantrell says those kid can really shoot well. Maybe there will be some good hunters groomed out of these adventures in the hilltop. Children should be taught gun safety at an early age and develop respect for the weapon and its handling.



On the firing line... LOOK OUT MIKE!!! get behind the line. Fisher and a couple of the boys shooting.

These trips to the wood of Tennessee will continue to be an enjoyable gathering for these rangers and the tradition may be handed down for some time. Red Herman's son Kenneth Risen is a carpenter, dog breeder, cat breeder, and a chicken farmer (That boy can do anything.) who continues to come to the hilltop after his dads passing.

L to R Mike Theisen, Stan Jones, Mike Fisher, Mike Cantrell, Kenneth Risen (SGM Red h erman's Son) Dogs in the pictures: Sadie (SGM Red's Dog), Maggie (Mike Roberts), Chia (Mike Fisher)



Of course this is contingent on the location. Mark Carlisle got out around 1976 or so and extended an invitation to use the cabin then. In the 90s the guys started to take advantage of the offer to re-establish their old camaraderie. Hats off to Mark Carlisle for giving them a place to get together all these years and hopefully he will be able to provide a place for some time. Hats off also to Mike Fisher for being the trip logistician and camp host. Mike brings a car load of supplies and performs much of the cooking. Many of the A Company Rangers have made this trip at one time or another. Maybe in the next few years they can get a bunch of them together and talk their old CO Doug Nolan into coming to see how well they have maintained their skills. Finally In the word of one of the regulars: SGM Red is still with us in our hearts and minds, we miss him.



I will continue to submit stories or remembrances from those among us who take the time to put them in writing and get them to me. The following is from John Simmons who has from time to time done just that.

XVIII Airborne Corps goes to sea.

It was October 1962 just another fall not much different than any other of the 19 John had already lived. But of course there were things to worry about. How do you stretch the \$78.00 base salary plus the \$55.00 that you got from jump pay for good the important things in life? The Price of the hideaway motel was \$8.50 a night. Then there was the price of a meal another \$8.00. The other assurance that you needed was the sure thing. The worst thing that a young paratrooper can hear is please just hold me. Hold me my ass I just spent 25% of my disposal income. After some

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begging and cajoling and good sales pitch the young Paratrooper could win the day. Gasoline was not a problem. There was always cheap gas to be had. Most of the gasoline burned in 62 at Fort Bragg came from the storage tanks at Simmons Army Airfield. My 51 Chevy bell air 2 door coup could burn aviation fuel as good as the \$.35 cent a gallon civilian gas.

It was the evening of the 10/22/62 there was something in the air. The constant landing of C-119 C-123 C-124 and an occasional C130 would give anyone notice that the Strike command was about to go somewhere. There had been rumors of an alert because of the Cuban Problem. There were reports of Mig-15 and Mig-17 being unloaded at Cuban docks. Things at Headquarters Company of XVIII Airborne Corps were quiet till 1800 Hours. Our barracks were the old WW-2 open bay barracks that slept 30 men to the floor. I saw the first sergeant come in and headed for my bunk. He said Simmons, get Reynolds and report to Corps Headquarters. Draw your weapons from the Armory, 5 grenades and 500 rounds of ammunition. Take your ruck and 3 changes of clothing. Go the motor pool and draw your Jeep and take it to corps. Make sure the radio is in good working order.

We had done this before except the drawing of ammunition and grenades. There was something different for sure. On arrival at Corps headquarters we were met by a young Captain. He asked if we had been briefed. We told him that we knew nothing. He informed us that we had been selected because we could operate at the speeds of the navy radio networks. We would soon learn that we were going to Moorehead North Carolina to meet with the 10th Marine regiment. We were to load onto an LST the Talbot County to prepare for war. Reynolds was a native of Las Vegas and had spent his whole life on the strip. He looked at me and asked what did he say? The young Captain looked at him and asked did he need an interpreter. Reynolds told him no. He just wanted a second opinion. Reynolds was not exactly a volunteer. He was not drafted either let's say he was coheres. A Judge had given him the choice of jail or the military.

The captain was met by two MP'S and a colonel. The colonel told us that we were in possession of the war plans of XVIII Abn corps. He told us that under no circumstances would we allow ourselves to be stopped. We would have an escort of State Troopers. But we were responsible for these documents. These were the drop Zones and landing Zones of the 82ND Airborne division the 101 first Airborne Divisions, plus it would show what airstrips that would be seized by other unnamed units. The Marines would have to know the location of the XVIII Airborne Corps. The

captain asked if we were locked and loaded we were not but took care of that in short order. The Captain had only a side arm, Reynolds and I each had an M-3 grease gun. As we loaded the clips from our ruck sacks the night was taking on an all new tone. The ride to Morehead City was quiet the Jeep would only travel 50 Miles per hour. But there was something else that started to worry this little group. Every red light and intersection from Fayetteville to Moorhead city had a state trooper or City police or a sheriff's deputy blocking the intersecting routs. As we passed these men in their Police uniforms we could pick out the ex-military. They were sober looking and with their shot guns at port arms you knew that there would be no one stopping our convoy.

Morehead City was a military Depot not unlike the Docks of England. At first glance it would look like chaos to the untrained eye. But as one studied the traffic patterns there was origination to the madness. As we pulled onto the docks there were several MPs checking vehicles. As soon as we were spotted we were hustled to a loading dock and told to remove all personal belongings. As our Jeep was loaded onto the LST we learned we were holding up loading of the ship. As our Jeep passed from View it was quickly followed by 2- 8" self-propelled howitzers. A marine first sergeant looking the part of all the recruiting posters I had ever seen explained that the howitzers would not be needed till the invasion was well inland. The marines would not need their Guns for the first 18 miles. They would depend on Navel guns for the initial invasion. The next would be the 2.5 ton trucks and the $\frac{3}{4}$ tons then followed by a few Jeeps.

We were hustled to a loading ramp that led to the ship's deck where we were stopped by the officer of the deck. He called two MPs both of the Marines looked worried when they saw the Clips in the M-3 grease guns. They said follow us to the Armory. We were met by an old master sergeant probably 35 or more. He looked at My M-3 as though he had Sophia Loran lying naked on his work table. My M-3 was in mint condition and he could not take his eyes off of it. When I realized he was interested I asked if he would trade the M-3 for something better. He pulled down an equally pristine M-14 and asked how I would feel about this one. We traded on the spot. I signed in the M-14 wrote down the serial number and signed my name to it. The thought of driving across a beach with 10,000 Russians and another 200,000 Cubans with an M-3 Grease gun Just did not seem like a good idea. That done we were shown our quarters. I think that the Marines were not taking this operation as seriously as we were. There were just enough men on board to drive the trucks and the Gun crews for the

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8 inch howitzers. The real ground forces would be on the LSD landing ship docks and the LPH helicopter carriers. The Marines and their Ch-53 sea Kings painted an intimidating picture as they flew onto the ships.

At dawn the next morning we were at Sea. The ships Captain, a Major would explain that Life aboard ship was going to be chaotic. We had close to 50 men on board with sleeping quarters for 40. Reynolds and I slept in the tank for the first week. We did not see our officer any more for 58 days. We learned that we were part of a 25 ship task force. The old carriers Lexington and Boxer were attack carriers. Both were old carrier's veterans of WWII and Korea. Then there were the Oriskany and the Okinawa both LPHs these were the first of the helicopter carriers. Then there were the LST-1153 Talbert County our ship and the LST-1157 Suffolk County both were older ships relics of Korea. Then there were LSDs and frigates and a destroyer or two and submarines.

We were called top side as soon as the ship reached international waters. The captain said that we were part on an invasion force that, along with units of the Army and Air Force would take the island of Cuba and remove the missiles from the island. He told us that there were dangers. There were at least 2 nuclear submarines and an unknown number of diesel electric boats. But he told us not to worry we were less of a target than about anything in the fleet. He also told us that our greatest danger was to be too close to the attack carriers should they be attacked. After his little briefing the communication officer asked Reynolds and I to follow him to the radio room. We were to send and receive dummy messages to and from navy and marine units. They were not impressed with most army units and their Commo speeds. Both Reynolds and I were very proficient. Reynolds could send and receive 20 words a minute with ease as well as myself. We were a product of the Special Forces Training Center at Ft. Bragg. We were to be the liaison between the Navy, Marines and the XVIII Abn Corps.

We sailed south for 4 days at the blinding speed of 8 knots. The rest of the convoy sailed circles around us. At daylight on the fifth day we reached our departure point there we would orbit in a large circle till the word was given to go to war. Reynolds and I talked about the irony of two paratroopers being left out of the largest airborne assault since WW-2. We both carried infantry as our primary MOS. There would be no combat stars in our jump wings. There would be no Combat Infantry Badges for us. We would land on a beach with the trucks and howitzers and our only hope was that the press would not be there to log out the last vehicle out of the USS Talbot County. What we did not

know was the complete failure of the intelligence agencies. There were not 10,000 Russians but 90,000 at least 4 Divisions plus 200,000 Cubans. There were also the Battlefield Nukes that no one knew about. I knew that if one Russian fired a nuke at anything the war would be a very short one. But we were ignorant in so many ways, we had no protection from a nuclear attack. The best thing about this war was that the winds would blow the fallout out to sea away from the United States.

Life at sea was miserable. For the first week I stayed sea sick. Reynolds did not seem to be bothered. He would eat the fattest food and talk about how great the salt air smelled. After the first week life was bearable. There were times of excitement though. I awoke one morning to a constant droning and went top side to see what was going on. There were several P-3 Orion's flying crisscross patterns about a 500 ft above the water. On one pass one of the planes launched several sonobuoys. The Navy said that this was one of our subs that was being tracked. They were just honing their skills. Later that day the sub surfaced next to a tender and took on fuel and supplies. Then there were the occasional flyby of Aircraft. There were a group of F-86's problem Air national guard flying behind an KC-97 refuelling at around 5000' feet. We felt safe but that may have been due to over confidence more than anything else. General Le May was publicly asking for permission to go all out nuclear. His assumption that the Russians only had 300 nukes to our 900 seemed to him to be insurmountable odds in our favor. Thank God cooler heads prevailed.

Khrushchev or Kennedy punked out, we will never know. Had they not done so I may not be writing this today? We had sailed for 58 days. We would be home for Christmas. At dawn on the 58th the word came down that we would participate in a landing at Onslow Beach at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. At dawn we watched as the Marines went over the side then there was our captain waving Reynolds and I toward the edge of the ship saying lets go. I slung my M-14 over my back and mounted the net to climb to the waiting landing craft 24 feet below. I moved with great haste to get off the net and almost killed a marine because the net turned sideways when I dismounted. There was another quick thinking marine that climbed onto the net to stable it out. I was asked where I had learned that trick, didn't I know how to dismount a net. I explained that every thing that I knew was learned out the ass end of a C-123.

We were taken back to Bragg in a sedan. The Jeep would be recovered later. I don't think that it ever made it. As we cleared into the company Reynolds turned in his M-3. I turned in my Pristine m-14. Most of our m-14's were hand

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me downs. The arms sergeant looked at the sign out log and asked where my weapon was. I said that I had traded it for the M-14. He stood silent for a moment probably thinking what charges he could file against me. When you are an E-2 over two years of service there is not much that can be done to you. He simply said you little son of a bitch you hit a home run did he want any more. That was the last I heard of the changing of the weapons. My grandson asked me did



I go to war like Uncle Alan. I simple told him the truth that some weapons are too terrible to use. And that is my story about how the XVIII airborne corps went to sea.

Early LRRP Operations in West Germany

Bob T Murphy

murphy@gcom.net.au

The earliest LRRP documentation I can find is a Certificate dated 8 JUN 57 from the Long Range Patrol Course run by the 11th Airborne Division in Augsburg, Germany.

The training covered many of the same subjects taught in the DA authorized V and VII Corps LRRP companies in the 1960s.

Lee Farley recalls, "In 1956 or 57 someone in the 11th Airborne came up with Long Range Patrol, came up with a little school where you had to pass a swimming test, map reading, Escape and Evasion, resistance to interrogation, observation skills. I was in the 511th at the time had an EIB so knew most of the stuff already. LRP was kicks. We went out further than normal patrols, used L-20s, Otters, H-34s. Lots of jumps. I was still assigned to a normal platoon. LRP was on-call; with patrol members assigned to different Companies."

There were provisional LRRP units in many divisions and both Corps in Germany by the late 1950s. Lee Farley had rotated back to the US and was discharged. After 30 days as a misfit civilian he re-enlisted and was assigned to the 504th Airborne Battle Group, at Fort Bragg. "They saw on my record that I had LRRP experience and that was that." They formed two 6 man LRRP teams in 504 and two in 505. The new teams were permanently together in each battle group, but did not operate with the other battle group's teams.

"We gyroed to Mainz Germany as part of the advance party. We then went immediately to Bad Tolz for 3 weeks of intensive training and indoctrination run by 10th SF. I

thought that training was "top-notch." They looked for people with decent IQs and good commo skills right from the start for LRRPs, even in the 11th Airborne.

"We got regular training courses that included the USAF Escape and Evasion course at Kaiserslautern and classroom type courses like the intelligence school at Oberammergau (where most students were senior G-2 or S-2 sergeants, not LRRPs) and another course about predicting radioactive fallout. Our entire patrols learned CW at Bad Kreuznach, Germany. The plan was that we would be "cross trained" so that each patrol member could perform any task required.

"504 was a good unit and I had a fantastic Patrol Leader named Grover Gray. John T Horne was the other patrol leader. I was in the 504 LRRPs for 2½ years from winter of 58 to July 1961. I was Cpl or Sgt during that time.

"Once a year they put all the LRRP teams together for a 30 day FTX up to the border (these were the two Winter Shield FTXs). There were LRRPs from 3rd Infantry and 3rd Armored Divisions, and patrols from other battle groups of the 8th Infantry Division.

"Bert Wiggins recalls that the 504 and 505 LRRPs were directly under their respective Commanding Officers. The ranking PL was an E-7. The LRRP detachments weren't part of the TO&E.

Richard Cole's LRRP detachment was from the 36th Infantry in Kirch-Goens, Combat Command A. In 1959 he was asked to volunteer to become a member of a LRRP detachment. "We had two four man patrols and reported to S2 Combat command A. So we had no platoon or platoon leader. If the balloon went up we were to wait at the air strip for 7th army choppers to take us as close to the lines as possible where we would stay behind to perform our reconnaissance mission.(As you know Russia and her forces would have pushed our forces back considerably before the Army could get the reinforcements they needed.) "Our training after Winter Shield I from FEB-APR 1960 was around Kirch-Goens and then back to Grafenwoehr for more CW school. We went to LRRP school in May and then in late summer to Bad Tolz where the 10th SF were stationed. We were given insight into their mission and given an RS6 radio to use and see how it would perform our our type of mission.

When we left Bad Tolz and returned to Kirch-Goens, S2 gave us administrative leave to get us out of the area as we were not very popular because we had no Guard duty, KP or any duty rosters with the 36th.

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We set up the V Corps Provisional LRRP Co. in Oct 60 at Wildflecken to prepare for Winter Shield II. Our two patrols from 36th Inf had been together since the previous December.

“There were 30 men at the company formed in Wildflecken including EMs and Noncoms. I do not remember where they all came from. Not all had been with a patrol before or had been to LRRP school. (I get the impression here and from the fact that platoon leader John Pipia did not have any airborne guys under him and had nothing to do with any airborne LRRPs during the FTX that they didn’t train together.).

The final big test for LRRPs was the Winter Shield II FTX in February 1961 which involved 60,000 American, German and French troops manoeuvring from Baumholder to Garmisch.



504th LRRPs Bert Wiggins and PSG John Thorne (KIA in ‘Nam) getting commendations from Col Frank after an FTX

Two (I only have details of the V Corps Provisional LRRPs but am told there were two 80 man Provisional Corps LRRP Companies) were organized for the maneuver with almost all personnel coming from existing LRRP detachments in Corps units.

The Commanding Officer of the V Corps LRRP Company was Major George R Jost. Platoon Leaders were John Pipia from 3rd Inf Div at Schweinfurt and Pressley was from 3rd Armored Div. Bob C. Murphy served as Liaison Officer between the Company and V Corps.

There seems to have been little contact in the company between the leg LRRP detachments and the four LRRP patrols from 504th and 505th Airborne Infantry Battle Groups of the 8th Infantry Division.

The Company trained at Wildflecken and Bert Wiggins from 504th LRRPs recalls that it was based at Fleigerhorst Kaserne in Hanau. The Company trained for a month before the FTX. Stay-behind was the favored method of insertion.

The four-man patrols used AN GRC 9s and RS-1s radios, the latter which could be plugged into kamerade’s wall socket.

Don Marah from 505th recalls a pre-maneuver barracks meeting in Mannheim where 15 teams were assembled for the first time and all had identical equipment.

During Winter Shield II Lee Farley spent 6 days in a tower counting vehicles on a road. “Perfect for commo from the tower. We sent message after message but had no direct contact with the other side.”

Long distance CW commo once again proved to be a problem on Winter Shield as it was in every other Europe based LRRP unit, pre and post Winter Shield. Commo was apparently even more problematic for the leg patrols which lacked the CW experience of the 504 and 505 LRRPs.

The FTX ran ten days, maybe two weeks with an administrative break, Bert Wiggins remembers. Two of the provisional LRRPs relate the same story and I would sure like to hear from the patrol members that actually pulled off this stunt. “During the admin break in the middle of the FTX a LRRP patrol took their armbands off, stopped a jeep driver and asked him where the opposing side (VII Corps HQ) was and showed him a map and the guy said, “It’s there” and pointed at the map. Will they be there in a couple of days? “No, they’re moving to here,” he said and pointed again to the map. The patrol called in the co-ordinates when the FTX resumed without ever seeing the site and the second set of co-ordinates a few days later.”

At the end of the FTX they debriefed the troops and sent them home. “The Company did really well and we got three day passes and I got a “Certificate of Achievement,” Bob C. Murphy remembers. “Winter Shield was a great exercise.” Things moved fast for Long Range Patrols after their successful operations on that major exercise.

“V Corps G-2 Col Bill Welch was the critical guy pushing LRRP after Winter Shield and it was also supported by V Corps Commander General Brown,” Murphy remembers. The maneuver was in February and the DA authorized LRRP Companies were activated in V and VII Corps by July 15. Recruiters scoured 504 and 505 for recruits for the new units, preferably people with commo skills and Ranger qualifications.

Farley remembers: “In July, Ray Cardinal and I borrowed a driver and a ¾ ton and went to Wildflecken, some guys went to Nellingen and others to Special Forces.

“If you already were in a LRRP unit they just sent you. No volunteering. My orders were the first thing I knew about the company in Wildflecken.” SP/4 Rodney Goehler went to Nellingen from 504th.

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The 505 LRRPs didn't fare as well on transport. Andy Markivich, Leyland Harris, Stanley Harris, Don Marah, JC Cozart went to V Corps. "They picked us up in Mainz," Gary Crossman remembers, "and drove us all the way to Wildflecken in a deuce and a half. Not very prestigious for an E-5." Murphy had taken over the recon platoon at 36th Infantry after Winter Shield but transferred to V Corps LRRPs soon after, possibly the first officer assigned.

Meanwhile Lee Farley had gone and rescued ex-504 LRRP Bert Wiggins from the 5th Howitzer Battalion (Abn) of the 81st Artillery where he had got shanghaied after re-enlisting. Just as well, because he played a key role in developing workable long range commo in the company.

DA was hot about the LRRP concept and was scouring the stateside Airborne Divisions for troops to man the new units. The emphasis was on airborne and preferably Ranger qualified people with commo skills and a high IQ. At one stage minimum acceptable GT score was 116, the idea being that higher intelligence meant less training time to qualify new LRRPs.

Everett Grady was in the 82nd when he was put on orders to the USA LRRP Co. "They didn't tell me what it was, Long Ranger Rifle and Pistol? Sniper outfit? Mike Martin, John Flynn, Pop Day, Rablowski, Smitty Musselwhite, me, all E-5s drawing pro pay, all with high IQ s. Mike Martin

was a Ranger qualified E-5 and actually volunteered. "They selected 13 of us out of the 82nd to go to Wildflecken.

Other ex-V Corps Provisional LRRPs went to 3rd ID LRRP Detachment which started up on 20 NOV 61 under CO Ed "War Daddy" Jentz.

What about the VII Corps Provisional LRRP Company formed for Winter Shield? There is little information on record about them but VII Corps LRRP historian Sam Rodriguez reports that it existed in 1959-60, commanded by Captain Philip D Grimm. It was based at Ford Barracks in Ulm and personnel were drawn from A Co. 2nd Armored Rifle BN-51st INF 4th Armored Division.

The next big step for LRRP operations would happen five years later half way around the world in the jungles of Vietnam.



**504th LRRPs
Bert Wiggins and
Lee Farley at
French Jump School
at Pau.**



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Unit Director - Mark L. Thompson

RANGER RENDEZVOUS

The dates for the RR are posted (July 25-30, inclusive). Make your room reservations at the Holiday Inn as soon as possible, because they go fast (...hope there are some left by the time this is published). If the Holiday Inn rooms are all booked, there are several other hotels very close to it (such as the Doubletree), and you should be able to book a room somewhere. Check the RRA website for info, schedules, etc. as things are updated (www.75thrra.com).

PATROLLING INFO

VII Corps LRRP info will be included in this issue of Patrolling. John Chester had a hardware problem just prior to the publication of one of the last



issues, and some things were missing, including the article that Dick Foster had submitted for the VII Corps LRRP's. Dick revised, updated and re-submitted the info, so now we should be good.

FACEBOOK

Not only are there a lot of Rangers from all eras on Facebook now, there is a "closed" Ranger group with over 400 Rangers and family members in the group. There must be over a hundred posts each and every day in that group, covering every topic you can imagine, from photos to health alerts and anything else you can think of. If you want to

reconnect with other Rangers from a variety of eras, I can't recommend this group enough. If you don't have a

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Facebook page, go there, create one, search for my ID (it's my name) send me a friend request, and I'll invite you to the group.

Tom Harris (yes, one of our old Company Commanders) joined since the last issue of Patrolling, and posted a lot of B75 photos on his page (his ID is Thomas Harris). See: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100001830056611

He currently lives in Alaska after retiring from the Army. I am going to include some of the photos in this article.

h EARD FROM

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NEWS

MIKE MOSER says:

...Hi Marc. I am making reservations for the rendezvous and wanted to know if our unit reserves a certain block of rooms at the Holiday Inn. Also do you have Don Purdy's

email, I would like to drop him a line. I will be at the reunion if I have to low crawl all the way. Ranger Moser.

STEVE AND KAREN MURPHY:

...retired from their jobs in the great Frozen North and have been traveling around in sunnier and warmer climes in their Fifth Wheel. They apparently have a bid in on a house in the Savannah area, and will be moving in once the sale completes and all the paperwork gets straightened out.

DON PURDY:

... still doesn't know yet if he will make the RR, or if he will be across the water in the sandbox or Rockpile. Once he knows for sure, will post it in the next issue and on Facebook.

BOB WOOLSTRUM:

...says he won't make the RR since he will probably be working his usual EOD circuit.

LYNN THOMPSON AND HIS WIFE RACHEL:

... won't make it to the RR either. Now that they are retired and trying to sell the house in Massachusetts, he goes to the events that he can, with the Special Operations Association being on top of the list. I think he isn't too crazy about visiting Georgia in the summer, preferring to be up in Maine with his RV, where he goes every summer.

GREG PHILLIPS:

...Greg has done well since his Rangering days... Lynn Thompson had talked with him after reconnecting on Facebook, and then Greg got in touch with me. He currently lives in Seoul, Korea, and is an Executive Vice President at Renault Samsung Motors, Co. there.

JAMES PARKER:

... of the 2nd Platoon is retired from the Army and lives in Arkansas with his wife, so he's not walking lanes as a Ranger Instructor anymore. We had a long phone conversation, discussing our various parachuting-induced ailments. If you want to get in touch with him, his email address is listed above.

TIM LEADBEATER sent this email:

...I just received the Winter 2010 issue of Patrolling and thought I'd give you an update. I met you at the reunion in 2004 in the Tacoma area. FYI, I was in the same 6 man patrol with Joe Picanco. Dale Stannard was our patrol leader. I retired as an LTC in the USAR in 2003 and have been a gray area retiree since then. In April I turn 60 and start drawing military retired pay and enroll in TRICARE. Could make me feel old except my wife keeps me young as do my

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motorcycles (I have six now). My wife and I have been doing some interesting motorcycle rides out west including a 3000 mile ride through the US and Canadian rockies last June (I attached a picture). I had planned to retire from the private practice of law last Fall but an opportunity opened up that looked challenging so I'm now working as the General Counsel for the Florida Senate Budget Office.

I remember Eldon Bargewell as a 2LT platoon leader wearing an SF combat patch and having two DSCs from Vietnam. My platoon leader was Geoffrey Lambert. I think both Lambert and Bargewell retired from active duty as MGs.

I've also attached a picture of me in my B/75 uniform in the summer of 1974 sitting on a bench with my sister.

Take care and hope to see you at a reunion before too long.
Tim Leadbeater



**Tim Leadbetter
and Sister, 1974.**



**Tim Leadbeater,
Harley, and Honey
in the Rockies, 2010.**

Th OMAS h ARRIS:

...posted a whole bunch of B/75 photos on Facebook. He has more to scan in, assemble, and post, so keep an eye out for more. We included a few here.



**B Company
pocket patch.**



**Company formation –
Ft. Carson 1973.**



B75 at Fort Lewis in khakis.



**Is it Jack Schmidt or Sam
Snyder on the wall?**



PLEASE NOTE Th E 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 Th E UNIT DIRECTOR'S NEW EMAIL ADDRESS, ABOVE:

Patrolling Spring 2011 Submission VII Corps LRRP (Airborne)

Ya know, "back in the day", when most of us were young and full of piss and vinegar, military service was not really a choice; volunteer now or wait and get drafted. In my particular case, I was given three choices and got my third one — Infantry and airborne.

What was not to love about rifles and hand grenades and jumping out of airplanes? Add to that the \$78 dollars every month and the chance to nearly double that with jump pay made this a no brainer! I was hooked and like most of you learned the rest of the story the hard way.

After jump school and Recondo School with the 101st Airborne Division in 1960, life was good. Then I got orders for the 504th ABG attached to the damn 8th Infantry Leg Division. No one in that Division gave a shit about the '04 and '05 Airborne Battle Groups, and we were treated like it. When the opportunity came to get out of Kasavubu's line Company by volunteering for a new concept called the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Company at Corps level, we smart ones jumped at the chance. That was the best jump of our military lives.

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Learning to send and receive Code, which I thought was a figment of the old Wild West movies, was a boring pain in the ass, but a necessity if you didn't want to be kicked out. Of course, being out on patrol 2-3 weeks out of every month did not seem to require much code, while cranking out power from an Angry 9 generator did require something else, especially if you were a Private. Nikolai Gjini, a refugee from Communist Albania and I were the Privates. SFC Eggleston, a veteran of two combat jumps with the 82nd in WW-II, did some of the signal searching, but figured out early that Spec 4 Zeke Evaro was the man to train for this brainiac job. Little did he know that this soon to be Special Forces lifer spent days searching for the dits and dahs in Spanish, while we stupid-ass young Gringos cranked on and on and on....

The familiar commands of "Crank faster; I'm losing the signal" were constant. Our shoulders were becoming inoperative and that damn little wooden benches were becoming an unlubricated corn cob up our young asses. But crank we did, corn cob or not, cause if we didn't pick up the coordinate signals from those lazy-ass commo guys sittin' around in their base station vans drinking hot coffee and eating hot meals, you didn't get the coordinates to know where the pick-up point for your C-rations delivered some 20-30 klicks away were.

One mistake and Komrad would pick up the case we couldn't find. I don't know if it was poor azimuth following or numerical code mistakes sent, but I swear we could here those commo guys laughing miles away.

Sometimes we lucked out. Losing the rations was bad news, but finding a nearby village with a Gasthaus was a God-send. In one such case, we came upon part of an A-Team from the 10th SF in Bad Tolz parked at a table with their radio plugged in to the nearest outlet sending and receiving strong signals. They were no damn fools and considered it part of their mission "to organize the local resistance". You don't have to guess: We piggy-backed off their expertise and contacted the country club set at base and found out exactly where we were supposed to be. And no, we did not divulge our top secret whereabouts or how we were able to come through so strong and clear.

But still, it was one of the experiences that we've all had (except Commo Boys) that have brought us together these past 50 years. I now count Zeke as one of my best friends; Sgt Eggleston has passed away and Gjini is still among the not-to-be-found. I've gained immeasurability from guys I never got to know in Company, including the Commo misfits. None of the latter would have been possible without our gatherings at Reunions.

I really don't want to bore you guys that can read, but in the absence of your real and fantasized war stories, I have to hope this will stir your dormant memories and make you want to share them at our upcoming 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc Reunion at Ft Benning this July. Make your reservations now! If you have trouble affording a room, Gene Kauffman has generously offered to use his FEMA points to secure a free room. Every room can hold 2-3 people. If you want to come, we'll find a way to put you up. I still have to touch base with Gene through this e-mail to reaffirm his offer, but let us know ASAP. Don't be proud; we've seen you shitting out in the woods in cat holes with nothing but leaves with which to wipe your sorry asses (except Commo, they had scented Charmin). We have to look out for each other now more than ever!

And looking out for each other leads to the most depressing part of these mailouts: Sick Call.

I haven't heard from Jim Joiner lately, because I've been an asshole about following up with Jim. I hope you've not followed my lead and stayed in touch. By his own admission his battle with Pancreatic Carcinoma is flat out kicking his ass. Many have taken strength from Jim's life-long commitments to the Warrior ethos within our ranks, and I'm sure that with our support and encouragement, he'll fight to be among the last standing. He can be contacted at junglejim327@juno.com. Wire me for his address if desired.

You all know, by now, that Rick Maloof passed away peacefully in his sleep on December 27, 2010. He was diagnosed with renal cell carcinoma. A well known photographer, Rick leaves behind his loving wife Joan and children Natalie, Richard, Tracie, David, and Alyssa. Rick served with us in VII Corps LRRPs and the next twenty or so years with Special Forces, some in-country. Rising to Captain, Rick was a pacifist at heart and did what he could to promote non-violence later in life. If you'd like to help commemorate Rick's life through the publication of his works benefiting the Old Growth Forest Network, you can send your donations to Rick Maloof Photography, 4701 Whitehaven Road, Quantico, MD 21856. Your donations will be used to print his book.

John Repecko, aka Igor, is, we hope and pray, still recovering from his cancer treatments and broken hip fall. I've not heard from Cheri or Theo re any updates. Cheri is struggling to hang in there with Igor. You can reach them with prayers and words of encouragement at RevIngdoor@aol.com. Phone and address are available if you desire.

Theo passed on that Bob Bannon was diagnosed with Stage 3 tonsiler carcinoma, but so far, has beaten it with

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chemo treatments. His latest biopsy has given him a clean bill of health. Bob served with C-78 LRP at Fts Riley and Carson after the Company left Germany. Contact him at 206-935-0748.

Jim Jackson is starting the long and slow recovery from a stroke. His doctors advised him that if one was to have a stroke, his was the best kind to have. With the help of his wife Jinny and his children, he is fighting it like the warrior he is. He's working to provide a device to help other stroke victims with fine motor coordination problems to rehabilitate. It's a new mission he's taken on, so if this free gizmo might help you or a loved one, contact Jim at jacksonj101@gmail.com. His phone and address is available if desired. Keep up the fight, Jim!

Re Theo Knaak: No one would have ever thunk it, knowing our own Sgt Shultz in the very beginning of the VII Corps LRRPs, but we're fortunate he survived the Cold War. He's become a real connecting lifeline to so many of our guys that got lost in transition or apathy. Everyone seems to know who lrp7corps@aol.com is and mail him frequently. All this from the guy who claims the only reason that he and El Capitan Moncayo are Sgt Shultz (Hogans Heroes) wannabees is because they were never caught having unprotected sex with a German Circus Monkey while on patrol; although some of you guys have been known to patronize the aforementioned simian at the Haus of Drei colors. However, the only lie there is "while on patrol". Theo was the Major's major do-boy and Moncayo was his driver. I know fat guys gotta stick together, but if they'd been on patrol they would have walked it off and had Slim Disease like those of us who admired Komrad's sheep while out in the field. I want you two to get down to your fighting weights!

Contacts: Out of nowhere, I received an e-mail through Handlin or somebody, from Terence Pratt. He's alive and well living amongst the Sierra snows and coyotes above Modesto, CA. Heart surgery and spine-supported rebar allows him to still work managing a Meat Goat Ranch in Couterville, CA. Sgt Searcy sure trained 'em well, didn't he? Maybe that's

why the Western tribe, except for Bill Hill, never comes East to our reunions. I think they're just cheap shits.

Bob Vanasse sent through Rich Garcia some e-mail pics of Charles Vaughn's near disastrous jump. As I understand it, his main didn't open because he never hooked up. Fortunately, his reserve did real close to mother earth. It seems that the jumpmaster got his ass reamed out, but if I remember correctly, it's the jumper's job to hook up and the guy behind him's job to do an equipment check.

The jumpmaster's job in plane is to kick our asses out the door, if necessary. At any rate, he made it out alive only to move to Georgia. Where in Georgia, we don't know. If you do, pass it on to me. See the pics at Garcia's site garciamachine@comcast.net.

Gary Baura made contact, but was incredibly short on info Gary retired from Sneaky Pete's teams, but did leave his number: 321-917-7646.

In closing, I just returned from Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah and the 1st Ranger Battalion's Memorial Ceremony. Those KIA Rangers memorialized were Sgt Jonathan Peney, Spec Joseph Dimock II, Sgt Justin Allen, Sgt Martin Lugo, Spec Christopher Wright, SFC Lance Vogeler, and SSgt Kevin Pape. A fitting and otherwise solemn occasion was the awarding of medals of valor and purple Hearts to some 60-70 Rangers in the 1st. I can only hope that I represented our unit as well as they represented us on the field of battle.

"Greater love hath no man than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13.

See ya at the Reunion July 29. Watch out for yourself and each other and keep the faith!

Dick Foster, Pvt E-10
VII Corps LRRP (Airborne) Assoc President
352-281-0983
bossfoster@yahoo.com



c/75 - e/20 Lr P **Unit Director - Del Ayers**



Del Ayers

Mark Miller

Congratulations to Mark Miller who received the Order of St. Maurice from the National Infantry Association at the Chapter 78 Special Forces Association meeting on February 12, 2011.

Mark joined the United States Army in June of 1966 as Airborne Infantry unassigned and was

sent to Fort Bliss Texas for basic training. He was headed for Fort Ord California but due to an outbreak of Spinal Meningitis the infantry bound people were bussed to Fort Gordon Georgia for Advanced Infantry training. He was then assigned to E Company 3rd training Brigade. They were posted to an area know as Camp Crockett which was also an airborne oriented advanced training

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coarse. Mark's barracks had an airplane fusel lodge in the rear where they could practice door exits and parachute landings. At the end of their training they took an Airborne Physical Combat Proficiency test and those who failed were sent to Vietnam as replacements for line leg infantry units. Mark and the other students who passed were bussed to Fort Benning Georgia for parachute jump school. Mark graduated with five jumps from a C-119 (Flying Boxcar) as they were called, had no zero week just ground, tower and jump week. Mark thought after jump school he would be headed for the war in Vietnam but was assigned to Fort Bragg in North Carolina with the 82nd Airborne Division. He ended up with Co C 2nd/325th Inf Airborne. "Lets Go" was their slogan. Mark's MOS was 11B2P Inf light weapons parachute or better known as a 11B-Bullet stopper. Mark's name finally came up and after a 30 day leave he left for Vietnam in August of 1967.

He landed in Cam Ranh Bay with the 22nd replacement battalion. Mark's name was called for the 101st and he was then flown to PhanRang for in country "P" training. He was headed to Chu Lia to join a line Infantry Company when for some reason they were called back to base camp. Word was spreading that their were two new Airborne Long Range Patrol Companies being formed in country where you would continue to draw \$55.00 monthly jump pay. These were the first two authorized Airborne Long Range Patrol Companies to be formed and trained in country. 1st and II Field Force Vietnam were ordered to be operational as soon as possible by General William Westmoreland. Mark attended orientation for one of the new recon companies being formed while in Pan Rang and volunteered for E Company 20th Inf Airborne Long Range Patrols 1st Field Force Vietnam. The Company was later designated C Company 75th Inf Airborne Ranger. Mark was trained in country and attended Special Forces run Mac-V Recondo School in Nha Trang. After Recondo School they continued training and trained with their separate teams when not on Combat missions. They were in the field two days before TET Offensive watching the build up of North Vietnamese Army Troops. Mark was promoted to a hard E-5 buck Sergeant and awarded the MOS of 11 F 4P- Infantry Intelligence. He ran between 50 and 55 Long Range combat patrols. Mark ran with the 1st platoon-team 1-1 Satan's Playboys.

From Vietnam Mark derossed back into the world and was sent to Fort Bragg and from there back to the 82nd Airborne Division-HHQ company 2/508th. Fury From the Sky. Mark



finished up active duty and was honorably discharged. Mark then joined Company C 3 Battalion, 12th Special Forces Airborne Reserve-1st Special Forces in 1972. While there he was awarded "S" Suffix and Full Flash Beret. After being promoted he then traveled to Panama where he attended Jungle Expert School in August of 1973. He then participated in the Exercise Oasis Caper at Fort Irwin California in Oct of 1973 with the Canadian Airborne and was awarded honorary Canadian Jump Wings. Mark served until 1979.

After coming home to California Mark worked for the City of Long Beach as a fire fighter and building inspector. He married and has three grown boys and one grandchild. Mark is the Vice President of E 20 Association and the Coordinator of Special Events for the Special Forces Association. His tireless efforts to assist fellow Vietnam Vets with claims and VA issues are why we of E 20 have such a proud heritage.

Awards and Schools:

- Bronze Star with V for Valor
- Purple Heart
- Air Medal
- Good Conduct Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal with 4 Service Bronze Stars
- Vietnamese Campaign Medal
- Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with Palm
- Vietnamese Civil Action Medal-1st Class
- Combat Infantry Badge
- US Parachute Badge
- Canadian Parachute Wings
- Mac V Recondo School Vietnam
- Jungle Expert School Panama
- Special Forces Tab (retro active)
- Combat LRP/Ranger schrolls (Unauthorized)

Association and Reunion News

Congratulations to Gary Dolan on his nomination to the Ranger Hall of Fame.

E-20/C75 2011 reunion dates are July 28th, 29th and 30th in Columbus Georgia. We will be staying at the Wingate Inn. Room rate is \$80.00 per night. Phone number for reservations is 706-225-1000. Ask for E-20/C75 group rate. We will have our dinner Friday the 29th. Our Association business meeting will be Saturday at the Wingate business center at 3 P.M.

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Mark Miller Tui h oa Jan 68



**Mark Miller Chapter
78 Special Forces
Association 2010**



**L-R John Maldonado, Billy Green,
Mark Miller, Brian Yost
1st Platoon Comrads Spring 68**



d/75

Unit Director - Richard “herd” Nelson

Hello everyone its Valentine’s Day weekend and time to submit my next article for Patrolling. This is something I enjoy doing though. I usually call several people and add updates for the ones I am able to make connect with. This article can be completely positive this time as I have only heard good things about the members that we served with and someone has had contact with.

As you may remember from my last article that Jim Owen was in the Tampa Fl. VA Hospital and that they were looking for a nursing home near his and Donnas’ home. Well they were able to place him and the last time I talked with Donna, she said he was doing better and would be coming home soon. When I talked with Billy Faulk last week he told me he had talked with Jim and that he sounded like he was doing real well. He also told me he was coming down this weekend to visit him. Then when I called him back on Saturday he had already visited with Jim and he told me that he was doing very well at home.

When I talked with Carl (Warlord 1-6) Norris he told me his Oncologist had told him at his last visit that the cancer was in remission. He also said that he has gained 30 of the 35 lbs that he had lost while going through Chemo Therapy. He and Rosie are looking forward to coming to the reunion at and their son who is a retired Green Beret and his wife also plan to attend so they can see some of his friends who were Rangers.



As I wrote In the last patrolling article that Bill and Kathleen’s daughter was due back from The middle east but she would not get a leave right away, and that they were going down to where she coming in to have Thanksgiving Dinner with her. The Last time I talked with Fitz she had finally gotten her leave and she was home with them.

I talked with Frank Park yesterday and he had just gotten back from an 82nd Airborne Association meeting. He told me that they still had about 10 inches of

Ice on the ground from that last blizzard. He also told me that Frank Jr. was due home from , where he is serving with the 10th Mountain Division, about mid March. At that time he will only have about 16 months left before he can retire, so this should be his last tour in the . He has had three deployments so far. He should be home by the time we all receive this issue of Patrolling Magazine.

Don ‘Vic’ Viccaro and his wife are doing well in upstate . He told me that they didn’t get much snow from the blizzard, but all of the areas around them got hammered. He and his wife are planning a trip for this spring which will be a big loop around the country including and and I can’t remember where else he said. He also told me that David Capic is now out of the Hospital and living with his brother. He said that when he tried to call David his brother was concerned that David might get too excited and didn’t let Vic talk to him.

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I talked with Moe Lamphere a couple of weeks ago and he said that he and were doing fine. They didn't get much snow when the big blizzard came through the country, but it was 13 below zero at that time. On another note I called Richard Badmilk today who also lives in and he told me that they were having a heat wave today, as it was 59 degrees and everyone was out wearing shorts and t-shirts. He and his family are doing well. When I asked him if he was considering retiring, he said that that would be nice but that he is now considering building a new home on some property he owns up there so he will probably continue working for a while yet.

Mike and Vicki Jaussaud are doing well and are planning to come down to Tampa Florida for a cruise, and they also plan on coming over to Orlando for a couple of days during that period. We plan to get together then. They also are looking forward to attending the Association reunion at this July. Tom Delaney and Janice are doing well. Tom told me that twice this winter they have had snow storms of 7 inches there at . He is still enjoying his retirement, and waiting for the weather to warm up so he can get out and do some fishing. He and Jan are also planning to attend the reunion at Ft Benning this summer.

I last talked with Ken Dern on Super Bowl Sunday and he and Linda are doing well. They have also been having an unusually cold winter. I also talked with Maddog Krause on Super Bowl Sunday and he is currently going through the appeals process for service connected disability. He says it does look good this time because every doctor and counselor he has had says he cannot work anymore. All of the C&P examiners have also recommended 100% so far, and he only has one more to see. He is hoping to have his decision before the July reunion so he can attend. He also told me that he had talked with Leo Supernaut who also hopes to attend this year.

I tried to call George 'Psycho' Christianson today but they were on a windy, icy road and he was driving. I talked with his wife Julie for a little while. They had sent me a couple of pictures of one of their homes after the blizzard and you could not see out of the windows for all of the snow and he said they couldn't open the front door. I wasn't sure which house it was so I asked her and she said it was the one they have in upstate N.Y. A Couple of the other people I talked with that didn't have anything to report for this article except to say "tell everyone that they were doing well" were Bear Papp, Ed Mercer, and Wally Hawkins.

I am also doing well down here in Central Fl. We did have an extremely cold December, the coldest in recorded history, but January wasn't bad and so far in February it has been great. Since the move in November I have been able to keep myself busy with projects around the house. I am looking forward to spending some time with Mike and Vicki when they come down here to , and as always I am looking forward to the July reunion again. I do have the normal health issues I have been dealing with for the last six years, none of which is getting any worse at this time. As a matter of fact I lost 75 lbs through the year of 2010. Well from what I'm hearing from everyone most of us are experiencing a much colder winter than we are used to. Also as I remember many of us experienced a record breaking hot summer this past year. Really been some crazy weather for the last couple of years.

The Photos I have decided to submit for this article are all in-country pictures. One of me and Fitz in the bush, one of Ken Dern and Johnny White in the Hooch, One of Bill Fitzgerald in his Hooch, and one of me and Mike Warren in the Hooch. Well it is now time to close this article up and tell everyone that I hope we all can get together in July at Ft Benning.

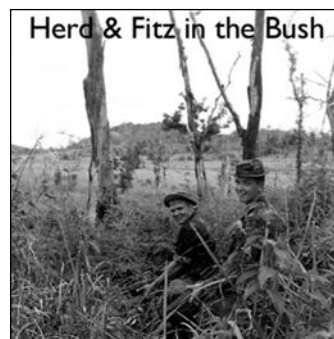
RLTW
Herd



Dern & Johnny White



Fitz



Herd & Fitz in the Bush



Mike & Herd

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**e/75 - e/50 Lr P - 9th H div Lr r P**

Unit Director - Rick Stetson

Two Warriors Return to Vietnam

By Duane "Poncho" Alire

Prelude: My arrival at the airport was tempered by the dull routine, the constant "whop whop" of Huey helicopters and the monotonous drab colors. I was tired. The lines were long. But I was excited and happy to finally be at the airport. As the line move forward, I was stopped and told that the flight was overbooked. I would board tomorrow at 0800 hrs. The airport was Bien Hoa and it was 1969. I had finished my tour of duty with E/50 LRP - 9th Division and was going home. A week earlier 1st Lt. Prescott Smith had repeated a similar journey from Dong Tam to Bien Hoa and then on to the United States. We left Vietnam in January 1969 and returned in April 2010. This is our story.

Lt. Smith is also known by his *nom de guerre* "Smitty". We served together in E/50 LRP at Bear Cat and Dong Tam in 1968. A life long friend, Smitty, is also known as "Puck" by his close friends and business associates. He is the author of a memoir titled "Last Light With The Boys". His book is an excellent recollection of his military experiences. In the photograph Smitty is far right with the author, third from right, at Fire Support Base David.

Introduction: Over the last forty years we talked of returning to Vietnam. After my retirement in 2002 from the National Park Service and his in 2009 from Chico State University in Chico, California, our conversations changed from "It would be nice to go back to Vietnam" to "When are we going back?" We decided during our "old warriors" trip to Washington, D. C. in November, 2009 and committed to our plans when we purchased our airline tickets in January. We would travel from San Francisco to Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh Airport on April 1, 2010. We would be in Vietnam for 3 weeks.

We returned to Vietnam to see, smell, taste, hear, touch and experience as much of the country, its culture and its people as possible in three weeks. Interestingly, we were so immersed in the Vietnamese culture that we rarely saw other Caucasians during of our travels. Smitty was our designated photographer. I kept a journal. We agreed to set aside our preconceptions, prejudices and biases and to take in as much of the country as we could.



We were fortunate to have established contact with Mr. Pham Van Nhan, a former PRU/LRP/Ranger. After more than 40 years, Nhan and I had reacquainted ourselves at E/50's reunion in Colorado Springs, Colorado in 2008. Upon meeting we instantly remembered each other saying, "I remember you!" and "I remember you too!" Fortunately, I had two excellent photographs of him in my photo albums. The photograph was taken in December, 1968 in our TOC at Dong Tam and shows Nhan and LRP Fred Wheeler (deceased).

When Nhan learned Smitty and I were returning to his country, he quickly offered to host us. After input from us, he suggested a rather ambitious itinerary. The itinerary included invitations to a "welcoming party" at his restaurant in Ba Ria with former PRU/LRP/Rangers, a birthday party for the wife of one of the former PRU/LRP/Rangers, Easter Mass at a Catholic church in Ba Ria and a "good bye party" in Saigon. He also agreed to take us wherever we wanted to go so "we would be safe".

We asked Nhan to help us revisit Bear Cat, the Michelin Rubber Plantation, Bien Hoa, Long Binh, Vung Tau, Nha Be, Can Tho, My Tho and Tan An. We knew most of the former U.S. installations no longer existed or were currently within restricted military areas but we wanted to try anyway. A surprise was an impromptu "LRP Mission" to find the location of the former Fire Support Base Moore. After driving on several narrow, one lane roads and a couple of false leads, and with the help of one of Nhan's business friends, we found its location. The location was confirmed by an elderly man who said he remembered his parents talking about the "big guns" and showed us where the base had been located.

Our interests did not include any former battlefields as our LRP missions were scattered all over the 9th Division's AO around Bear Cat and in the Mekong Delta. The names of the base camps, fire support bases and nearby villages were the locations that we remembered. During our tours of duty in 1968, we saw very little of the cities, villages or countryside. Our daily lives could be summed up as - base camps & fire support bases, LRP missions in the bush and then back to the base camps. Most of what we saw of the country and its people was from helicopters or boats or while out in the bush.

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Nhan also accommodated our requests to take a boat (sampan) ride on the canals and rivers in our former AO in the Plain of Reeds and to walk again in the triple canopy jungle northeast of Saigon. There is nothing like the feel of nipa palm brushing against your face at last light or the feel and smell of Mekong Delta mud squishing between your toes to make an old soldier feel at home!

Our trip was primarily just two old warriors going back to a place where as young men, we were tested. Vietnam was an adventure in 1968; it would be an adventure in 2010, too!

Travel Log: We arrived at Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh Airport on Friday, April 2nd. At the airport we were met by Nhan, Nguyen Huu Bao and his wife, Nghia, and four other former PRU/LRP/ Rangers. Nhan, Bao and Nghia were our guides and hosts throughout our trip.

After our welcoming lunch in Saigon, we traveled to Ba Ria and were treated to three very busy days of activities. We attended a birthday party, celebrated Easter Sunday by attending Mass at the Cathedral in Ba Ria, ate lunch in Vung Tau, swam in the South China Sea and ate supper at a "jungle restaurant".

Insomuch as Vietnam is an economically poor country, Smitty and I agreed to split 50/50 the expenses of our hosts when they traveled with us. Most of the time, we were accompanied by Nhan, Bao, Nghia or Heiu. Mr. Heiu is one of Nhan's Boy Scouts. Nhan is a much published author of scouting books and has a great following of current and former scouts. In the photograph (l - r) are Smitty, Nhan, the author and Heiu.

They arranged our transportation and lodging and ordered our food. They hosted us in their homes. They arranged for us to meet former PRU/LRP/Rangers who served with E/50 -E/75 Rangers. The PRU/LRP/Rangers shared with us their photographs and stories and many "1 - 2 - 3 Ho!" toasts with beer, rice wine or whiskey! They treated us like heroes and, through broken English and much translation, shared their war stories with us. And they arranged for us to see all of the places we asked about.

Bear Cat, Long Binh and Bien Hoa are no more. After the war the Vietnamese took everything including the concrete foundations. Parts of the former U. S. installations at Dong Tam and Nha Be remain and are used by the Vietnamese military. The Bo Bo Canal is still there but the Plain of Reeds is gone. Well "gone" is not the right word. Many of the canals and their tributaries have been channelized with low dikes to make large rice farming areas. No more

mosquitoes or mud or nipa palm. Today, the area is bisected by power lines and roads.

Tan An, My Tho, Can Tho, Saigon, Vung Tau and the other towns and cites we knew in 1968 are still there but they have grown tremendously. Evidence of infrastructural and economic growth is everywhere.

After accomplishing our "mission" of visiting the 1968 era military installations, we took a week of vacation. Since Bao and Nghia could not honeymoon in Dalat in 1969, we decided to chaperone them on one. We flew by Boeing 757 jet from Saigon to Dalat and had a delightful week of markets, food, museums, palaces, gardens and temples. One of the many highlights was Bao taking the stage at a karaoke bar and singing a love song to his wife on their "honeymoon". The photograph to the left shows them outside the Summer Palace.

Our trip ended on April 21st. When we arrived in Vietnam we were met at the airport in Saigon by five Vietnamese (former PRU/LRP/Rangers, a wife and a step daughter). At our departure on April 21st we were bid farewell by fifteen folks. We shared many hugs. Emotions ran high. We were truly honored by the former PRU/LRP/Rangers, their families and friends and, of course, Nhan's Scouts.

Postscript Notes:

Note No. 1. From 1966 until 1975, Nhan served with the following units: Province Reconnaissance Unit (PRU in Phuoc Tuy Province), E/50 LRP (Bear Cat), E/75 Rangers (Dong Tam), L/75 Rangers (Phu Bai - Hue) and the ARVN Rangers.

He served his country until he was wounded in action near Phu Bai in 1975. He lost part of his right arm and right leg and suffered a severe wound to his left hand. 18 hours after being wounded, he reached a hospital only to be asked by a North Vietnamese Army Officer if he "still wanted to fight along side the Americans?" He responded, "Why not?" and was promptly kicked out of the hospital. His wife's family took him in and nursed him back to health. He is now a prominent - no, he is a legend - in Vietnam's Boy Scouts Organization.

Bao has a similar military service record and was wounded on April 15, 1975.

Nhan and Bao were trained by the U.S. Special Forces in counter intelligence skills. They ran missions with us out of Bear Cat and in our operational area in the Mekong Delta. They were young and were soldiers, too.

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Note No. 2: At her birthday party on April 3rd, we learned Nghia was a PRU/LRP/Ranger too. She was the only female to serve along side E/50 – E/75 Rangers. We were shown “before and after” pictures.

The “before” pictures depict a beautiful, slender woman with long black hair who is dressed in a long flowing ao dai. The “after” pictures depict a person with short hair and a boyish face with dark, burning eyes. Nghia cut her hair and dressed

down to do what she wanted to do – become a LRP/Ranger. She appears serious and as tough as any of us. We were told she ran missions out of Dong Tam and Tan An.

She married Bao in 1969 in Ba Ria and dreamed of a honeymoon to Dalat. The wedding was attended by E/75 Rangers. Today she and Bao have grown children and a story of post-war survival that is still untold.

This is our story and we are sticking to it.

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Unit Director - Tim Walsh

**Tim Walsh**

Greetings from snowy Michigan.

Some sad news about several of our brothers. We have recently lost three men from the F/75 family (Al Janiszewski, Demos Johnson and Jim Arp),

and I found out that we also lost Jim Kivipeltol in 2007. I have added a couple of comments about Jim Arp and Al Janiszewski taken from various Facebook accounts and emails. Later on in this newsletter, I'll include a list of our comrades who have passed since 2004 supplied by Bill Mrkvicka. I'll start with a thought or two about Jim Kivipeltol.

Jim Kivipeltol and I were in country together in 1970. He was the ATL on Gene Lintner's team when I was a member. I'll always remember the time Jim (“Kip”) and I hitched a ride on a Huey up to Nui Ba Din during a stand-down. We both knew the radio guys up there and hadn't seen them in quite a while, and we just HAD to get a picture standing next to the world-famous “Uncle Ho's Memorial Shithouse“. That picture, along with the picture of Lintner's team still hangs on my wall. Being the respectful LRRPs that all of us were, we okayed it with our Platoon Sgt. (Colin Hall) before we left. At least I remember okaying it in advance. SFC Hall has argued that we didn't - and he had more stripes than me & Kip combined. Anyway, I seem to vaguely remember that he said it would be okay as long as we went up and back on the same day. What could possibly go wrong? It comes as no surprise to anyone who ever laid eyes on the “Black Virgin” that very often she didn't cooperate. Well, the weather changed that



afternoon and we were fogged in for about a week. No choppers on or off the mountain. Kip & I only had the set of fatigues we wore on the flight up there, so by the 5th or 6th day we were pretty ripe. We pulled a little guard duty but really didn't have much else to do. Well, that is if you don't include the fun Kip had tossing “Willie Pete” grenades off the mountain at night, just to see if we could get a good picture. Needless to say SFC Hall was not pleased at our absence. I won't tell you exactly what he said to us, but suffice it to say our immediate futures were in serious jeopardy. Kip will be missed by all who knew him.

Jim Arp - from Mark Ponzillo Jim was the first NCO to walk into the “D” Troop area and ask for a job. He was Ranger qualified and getting ready to rotate back to the states. He became my/our “Dog-Robber”. He was good at it and helped the LRRPs get a lot of stuff that was really needed but not in the supply chain. He was one of the many silent contributors to the program who never got proper credit for his efforts. Hell, if anyone knew what he was doing he would have gone to jail. He will always be a part of the original unit. God Bless Him.

Mark

Al Janiszewski - From Dave Riddell. You're right, Dan. Al does deserve recognition and respect from all of us, especially me! Al and I were hootch mates at Cu Chi for nine months; but before that we shared a lot of training history: Leadership Training Course and AIT at Fort McClelland; NCOC and Jump School at Fort Benning where my wife and I met Jeannie, Al's beloved wife; New acting Sgts with an AIT class at Fort Polk; Recondo School

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at Nha Trang; and of course, many missions together in Vietnam. You can't spend that much time with a man and not remember, right Dan? Why, the last thing I did before leaving the Ranger company at Cu Chi for the last time was to give Al my spit shined para boots he always admired, leaving them beneath his bunk because he was in the field. If I had Tammie's e-mail address I would send her some photos I have of her dad and perhaps share a few more memories of our old and valued colleague, Al Janiszewski. Dave Riddell

Al Janiszewski from Dennis Petersen (aka Dennis Gordon). Very sorry to hear this. I actually remember very little about my time in Viet Nam, but I certainly remember Ski. He was my team leader on my first mission. You are all correct he was a great friend. When I was going to go on R&R he had just returned from Bangkok and just about insisted I go there as well. He had stayed at a hotel that wasn't on the approved list (doesn't sound like him at all, does it?) and had things all arranged for me when I arrived. He told me to ignore the list of approved hotels and find a certain cabbie, whose name I think was Charlie, then give him my name and have him take me to the Diamond Hotel. Ski must have really impressed them because when I arrived at the hotel, checked in and started to unpack in my room, the manager showed up and moved me to a suite. They also took me to dinner at a nice restaurant on an island somewhere on a lake and also gave me a silk shirt as a lovely parting gift.

I have looked for him now and then over the years but never found contact information. This year I saw that he had an email address on the roster but the message I sent was rejected.

Fallen Comrades

Here is a list of comrades who have passed away since 2004:

Franklin Robbins	Deceased 12 20 2004
Dennie Callahan	Deceased 06 12 2005
Warren Nycum	Deceased 07 17 2005
William Round	Deceased 18 01 2006
Hugh Howerton	Deceased 06 16 2007
Larry K. Higgins	Deceased 09 08 2007
Jim Kivipeltol	Deceased 06 05 2007
Gary L. Lemonds	Deceased 01 08 2009
Cleveland Egelston	Deceased 04 10 2009
Hugh E. Anderson	Deceased 05 24 2009
Al Janiszewski	Deceased 09 11 2009
Demos Johnson	Deceased 11 07 2009
Jim Arp	Deceased 12 01 2010

I have always encouraged you to send me stuff to put in the newsletter. I'll again ask if you want to say a few words

about any of these fallen heroes, please send it to me. I will put your thoughts in the next newsletter.

Looking for Information

In October of last year I got a phone call from the son of one of our fallen comrades asking for any information about his father. The call was from Nick Starling asking about his father, Bob Vadnais, who passed away in March of 1983. Nick never knew his father. Nick was in the Army and had earned his Ranger tab, serving with the 2nd Battalion. Bob was the Co. F XO for a while in 1970. I'm sorry to say that I don't remember much about Bob. Does anyone have any other info about Bob Vadnais?

I also got an email from Pat Serna looking for information on a couple of the guys he served with. He'd like info on James E. Outlaw and David J. Zonfrilli. Anybody have any info on these guys? Please email me at twalshx2@comcast.net or call 313-590-6673 if you can provide any other details.

Thank you.

Reunions

The next 75th Ranger Regiment Association (75th RRA) reunion has been set for 25-30 July, 2011 in Columbus, GA. Same hotel (and same rate) as the last reunion. More info and the registration form appears below. I would highly recommend that you make your hotel reservations ASAP since it fills up mighty fast. As I said before, I included the remembrances of our fallen comrades to both let you all know that they have passed and to (perhaps not too subtly) to encourage those of you who are reluctant to attend a reunion to do so. We ain't getting any younger, and we've lost at least 13 of our brothers since 2004. I don't intend to sound morbid, but now's the time to see your friends before it's too late.

To get all the info on the next 75th RRA reunion you must be a 75th RRA member. Annual dues are \$30.00, Life Membership is \$300.00. I highly encourage you to become a 75th RRA member. Since I started attending 75th RRA reunions back in the 1980's I have renewed friendships with many of the guys I served with in 'Nam. Those friendships are something that only we share, and it's only us who can appreciate them. But the real pleasure for me was getting to know all the other men who have served in the family of "Co. F" units. The 75th RRA reunions are always held in conjunction with the Ranger Hall of Fame inductions (two Co.F guys are in the Hall) and the Regimental Change of Command Ceremony. Both are not to be missed. I'd also like to say that about half of the guys who attend reunions bring their wives and/or families. The

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hotel has a pool and exercise room. And the 75th RRA always lines up something for the women to do if they don't want to hear us talk about 'Nam. Hope to see all of you there.

To join the 75th Ranger Regiment Association fill out the application form on the 75th RRA website - www.75thrra.com.

Speaking of reunions, we always talk about "off-year" reunions when we have our Co. F business meeting at the Columbus (75th RRA) reunions. 75th RRA reunions are always held on "odd" years (2011, 2013, 2015, etc.). Last year several of us went to Hawaii and had a blast. I realize that a trip to Hawaii is probably out of the question for the majority, so we'll concentrate on having off-year reunions that will be more affordable. To that end, I'd like to suggest that we have our next off-year reunion in conjunction with the ¾ Cav reunion in Nashville in 2012. The Cav guys have been really pushing for the "LRRP" guys to join them at their reunions. Marshall Huckaby has attended several of the Cav reunions and always has a good time. The benefit of joining the ¾ Cav reunion is that they do all the ground work, we can just show up and enjoy. Their reunion will be held at the Millennium Maxwell House hotel in Nashville, May 16-20, 2012. Rooms are \$80.00 (online at www.maxwellhousehotel.com use the code 1206SQUADR). That rate is good 3 day before and 3 days after the reunion - so come early or stay late. If you register by phone, 615-259-4343 tell them you're with the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry reunion.

I've been in contact with Dale "Dinky" Dow who was in ¾ Cav in 1968 (call sign "Centaur 35"). He's the Unofficial Unit Historian for the Cav. He'd like us to send him war stories, humorous events, etc. from the men of the LRRP detachment in an effort to put together a book covering the years March 1967 through March 1968. They have already published a book about the Cav's first year in 'Nam (March 1966-March 1967). Marshall Huckaby, Mark Ponzillo and Gene Tucker all had their stories, and some pictures published in that first book. Now, I know you guys are pretty shy (about as shy as a jackhammer), but I'm sure there are stories out there that would be worthy. Please consider submitting stories for inclusion in the next ¾ Cav book. Send them to me, I'll get them to Dale. Thanks

More reunion stuff - My wife & I attended Veteran's Day in Washington DC last year. I'd like to suggest that we that we consider getting together every year for Veteran's Day in DC. The ceremony at The Wall on Nov. 11 was very memorable - extremely well done. This year Veteran's Day is on 11/11/11. Several of our Co. F guys have been getting together at The Wall on Veteran's Day for a few years.

Let's talk about it at the Columbus reunion.

I have always encouraged submittals from anyone who would like to see their story in the magazine. Here's a story from Steve Grezik.

Safety Margin

The gray gloom of the jungle lightened a bit. Soon, spangles of light illuminated us and our surroundings enough for caution to set in. Our pace slowed. Through the thinning trees, we could see the clearing that was our extraction zone. Emmett Hiltibrand, our team leader, got on the radio as we stopped to scour the LZ and the wood-line beyond it for signs of anything out of the ordinary. Emmett was brand new in-country. He was a fresh faced E-6 out of NCO school. He was Ranger tabbed and as amiable a team leader as you could ask for.

We'd been the jungle for five days. The mission had been uneventful and a helicopter was on its way to pick us up. Our job, at this point, was to secure the LZ so the bird could safely pick us up. All too often the enemy waited in ambush at these LZ's during insertions or extractions. Sometimes they planted booby traps. On Emmett's command, we walked out into the center of the LZ. We strode briskly but quietly with weapons at the ready for his order to fire. Preparing, or 'prepping' the LZ involved laying down a barrage of fire in all directions to minimize the possibility of attack during the helicopters descent. Emmett approached me.

"The bird's coming in from there." He said, pointing.

"Don't fire past that area." He pointed further to the right.

"Got it." I said.

I'd been carrying an M79 grenade launcher for the last five or six missions and I'd gotten pretty good with it. The M79 fired a metal jacketed chunk of TNT, the size of an egg, hundreds of yards. It did so fairly accurately, depending on the user. I had a little trick that impressed the guys. I could fire two separate rounds, yet angle them to detonate simultaneously. BOOM BOOM! The sound was impressive and unexpected to anyone on the receiving end.

I looked where our new team leader, Emmett, had pointed and added a twenty degree safety margin that put me 30 yards from the spot he'd pointed to. In my line of sight stood a solitary, giant tree. I scanned the top of the huge, 100 foot, triple canopy tree. A flowering spread of green branches sat on the top of its massive trunk. I fantasized that a lone sniper with an AK-47 could be sitting in those branches, waiting to shoot down my helicopter. I aimed at the center of the top of

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the tree. As the helicopter came in the team leader gave the order to fire. I squeezed the trigger of my M79.

The deadly projectile streaked out of my weapon and exploded in the top center of the tree. At the same time our helicopter appeared from behind that tree. If I'd missed several feet to the left, I would have shot down my own helicopter in a flash of explosive followed by a ball of aviation fuel flames. In a best case scenario, the round might have gone in one door and out the other missing the bird entirely.

Emmett and I argue about it to this day. He likes to say, "If you'd of shot down my extraction bird, I'd of kicked your butt and made you walk back to Cu Chi."

That's all for now. Hope to see all of you at the next 75th RRA reunion in Columbus. Thanks for your support.

Tim Walsh
twalshx2@comcast.net
 313-590-6673

**2011 G75/E51 REUNION**

Our Unit's 22nd annual reunion will be held at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and hosted by Tom (2005 RHOF) and Sharon Robison. The dates have been set for June 3-5 and a block of rooms have been reserved at Ocean Reef Resort, 7100 North Ocean Blvd., Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572.

Room Rates: All rooms in our block are \$96.00 per night including tax and resort fees. **ALL ROOMS ARE OCEAN FRONT.**
Reservations: Members can make their own reservations by phone or mail and sending one night's advance deposit. Contact the resort by calling (1-800-542-0048) and request to book a room under the **Co. G 75th Rangers Infantry Association.** A \$100.00 security deposit is required at check in for all cash payments by authorization of a major credit card or cash for individuals who are paying for their own accommodations.

NOTE: DO NOT RESERVE ROOM ANY OTHER WAY BECAUSE THE DISCOUNTED RATE IS BASED ON A GUARANTEED NUMBER OF ROOMS BOOKED BY OUR MEMBERS THROUGH THE RESORT. IF THAT NUMBER IS NOT MET, THE ASSOCIATION IS LIABLE FOR THE DIFFERENCE.
Reservation deadline: Rooms will be held until April 18, 2011 unless reserved earlier. Group rates cannot be guaranteed after that date. You may extend your stay at the discounted rate for up to 2 days prior to arrival date of June 3rd and 2 days after departure date of June 6th.

Check-In Time is 3:00 pm. Check-out time is 11:00 am.

NOTE: If reservations are cancelled 14 days or more before the date of arrival, the resort will refund 90% of one



night's deposit. If cancelled less than 14 days from date of arrival you forfeit the one night's deposit.

Events:**Friday June 3rd.**

Reception 6pm to 8pm. In hospitality room hosted by Tom and Sharon Robison welcoming everyone to their home in Myrtle Beach.

Saturday June 4th

Board of Directors meeting followed by full membership meeting.

Scheduled activities for spouses and other guests.

Association banquet 6pm to 8pm with auction to follow.

Sunday June 5th.

Free time to enjoy the beach or schedule your own activities.

If you haven't attended a reunion for some time or if you have never attended a

reunion don't miss our 2011 reunion at Myrtle Beach South Carolina. Warm weather, beautiful beaches inviting surf and fun activities galore. Don't miss it.

G 75th President's Report

By: Steve "Tower" Johnson

When I was fishing this last summer, I realized that, just like the song from the Stones, *you just can't get what you al-ways want*. Judging from the fish that I caught that were smaller than my bait, the adage keeps on knockknock-knockknocking on my door.

We have something very special for us waiting at our next reunion hosted by the Robisons in Myrtle Beach, SC. There is an itinerary and other information for you to use and

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please do not miss the cut off date for the special rate: April 18th. Tom Robison's new book, *W.I.A, Wounded in Action*, is a must read! Every time I read books or about events relating to Vietnam, I find it quite difficult. But once I started to read Tom's story, I couldn't put it down and if it was difficult for me to read, I just can't imagine the courage it took for Tom to write his story. I encourage you to get a copy; there is information about his book, *W.I.A.* inside this issue.

Crab's, Stephen Crabtree, has submitted an article about our donations toward the active Ranger community. We have distributed \$6,000 this year.

Just like last night's state of the union, we would like to win the future, but have to take stock of our monies, too. Frank has given us some numbers for our treasure's report so the board can make some decisions about distributions for 2011 donations. The picture of the child talking with Santa in this issue, really found a soft spot in my heart; especially with the unit logo on the kid's hat!

One cost saving item that we are trying this quarter is to print *Sua Sponte* in black and white at a savings of over 50%, mailing from Bemidji with Ed Carey at the editor's helm in Colorado. We still post a full-colored version within our website!

Condolences to Joe Meinike who lost his mom this year; George Beach who lost his brother; and Danny Jacks who lost his dad. Anyone out there who has lost a loved one or close friend, on behalf of the Association our thoughts and prayers are with you!

Stephen Chaney (K.I.A.) and Chuck Williams are two of the three 75th Ranger Regiment Association's nominees for the Ranger Hall of Fame. We will have to wait to get word from the RHOF Executive Board, some-time in March or April, if they are inducted into the RHOF. We have some members whose packets to the RHOF will be resubmitted this next year. Please let and officer or board member know of another of our members that you think deserving of nomination.

We would like to thank those of you who choose to support the Association by keeping your membership current. Also for those who actively participate in the auction which is a major fund raiser for the Association. New at our reunion this year is a raffle for one special army embroidered leather jacket! Raffle tickets will be sold for \$5 each in Myrtle Beach. The jacket was donated by Dave Hack, President of USA Wings. It is an extra-large and lists for \$400 so having a chance at a \$5 raffle ticket gives everyone a chance to win at an affordable price. Bye, Steve.

SEVEN MORE BRICKS

On January 21st, 2011 the 1st Ranger Battalion again paid their respects to their fallen warriors. Seven new names were added to their "Wall of Heroes" bringing the total number to forty men who have given it all for their Country, their families and their comrades. Yes, there were tears, but as the ceremony went on the atmosphere changed from sadness into a celebration of life. Added to the 1st Battalion Wall were:

SGT Jonathan Kellylee Peney,
KIA 1 Jun 2010, Operation Enduring Freedom
SP Joseph Whiting Dimock II,
KIA 10 Jul 2010, Operation Enduring Freedom
SGT Justin Bradley Allen,
KIA 18 Jul 2010, Operation Enduring Freedom
SGT Martin Anthony Lugo,
KIA 19 Aug 2011, Operation Enduring Freedom
SP Christopher Shane Wright,
KIA 19 Aug 2011, Operation Enduring Freedom
SFC Lance Herman Vogler,
KIA 1 Oct 2010, Operation Enduring Freedom
SSG Kevin Matthew Pape,
KIA 16 Nov 2010, Operation Enduring Freedom

Our condolences go out to the parents, wives and children of these brave men as we remember John 15:13, "Greater love has no man than this: That one lay down his life for his friends.



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Unit Director - William T. Anton

The 'Good War' and the 'Bad War'— Says Who, Exactly?

By Robert C. Ankony

Conventional wisdom in has long held that the Vietnam War was a "bad war," unlike the "good" Second World War. But an argument can be made that the Vietnam War not only was a good war but was more vital to 's interests than

World War II. To pursue this argument, consider several factors: 's stance at the beginning of World War II, the Cold War and the Communist threat, and the foundation on which the "bad war" myth rests.

Because of the clear dangers that the totalitarian ideologies and expansionist policies of and posed in the 1930s, World War II is commonly referred to in the as a "good war." But what did the do in March 1939, when invaded the

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democratic nation of ? It did nothing. What did this country do at the beginning of the war, in September 1939, when stood alone against the Germans because of their invasion of democratic? We issued a proclamation of neutrality. What did we do in the spring of 1940, when conquered the largely democratic countries of , , the , , and began bombing? We transferred surplus war materiel to.

And what did we do in the spring and summer of 1941, when conquered and , invaded the Soviet Union and , and began bombing –and when 's mass wave of atrocities in had become known worldwide? We maintained our neutral status, referred to and as “aggressor nations,” instituted a trade and oil embargo against, and passed Lend-Lease legislation to aid and the.

In fact, it took a direct act of war against us at Pearl Harbor, in December 1941, to get the involved in World War II. Even then, we declared war only against . Our war with came about because Hitler declared war against *us*. Remember, too, that our entry into that war came after millions of Chinese, Poles, Russians, and others had died at the hands of their captors, and after millions more had been made slaves. The point being, if World War II was such a compelling fight against tyranny, why didn't we get into it a lot sooner?

The Vietnam War, far from being an irrelevant or isolated conflict, was meaningful to the because of its greater connection to the Cold War. Our fight in was part of the ' battle against Communism. Had it not been for the existence and ideology of the Soviet Union, a Communist Vietnam would have been of less concern to the than Communist Cuba is today. But the 's policy of global Communism, combined with its massive nuclear arsenal and conventional forces, limited our options against the Soviets during the Cold War to the following: a head-to-head war of mutually assured destruction, a concession to Communism's expansion, or a demonstration of our resolve by fighting Communist surrogates, conventionally or covertly. In short, the Cold War could be won or lost only on the periphery—for example, in or .

Why was the threat of Soviet Communism worse to interests than that posed by our Axis enemies in World War II? Specifically, Soviet ideology was dedicated to the destruction of our economic structure and the individual freedoms inherent in that structure. Further, because Communist ideology was based on the broad philosophy of economic egalitarianism rather than on the narrow nationalistic and ethnocentric philosophies of our World War II enemies, its appeal was exportable.



Other philosophical and religious differences also played a part. But there was a drastic difference between our World War II enemies' and our Cold War adversaries' ability to inflict mortal harm on the . The Soviets had nuclear intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) that could reach our central cities within thirty-five minutes, and within ten minutes if they were launched from submarines off our coasts. Our Cold War rival also had formidable conventional forces, augmented by those of its Communist allies (especially , , and).

By contrast, the Germans in 1940 could not even cross the 22-mile-wide Strait of Dover when at the peak of its power and when its enemy, , stood alone. The Japanese, although they had a powerful navy that included many aircraft carriers, lacked mechanized ground forces and (like) strategic air power.

To understand why our fight against Communism during the Vietnam War has been portrayed for more than three decades as wrongheaded and immoral, we need to understand the counterculture of the 1960s. That movement, with its antiwar, antiauthority, antiestablishment views, was spawned by the unrelenting conflicts of the 20th century and by the development of technology capable of inflicting human destruction on an ever-increasing scale.

Consider, for example, World War I, the “War to End All Wars,” 1914–18; World War II, the “great war for democracy,” 1939–45; the first atomic bomb explosion, 1945; the Berlin blockade, 1948; the first hydrogen bomb explosion, 1949; the Korean War, 1950–53; and the launch of Sputnik, 1957, which seemingly demonstrated Soviet ability to deliver ICBMs worldwide against undefended populations. Add to these the Berlin Wall Crisis, 1961; the Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962; the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, 1963; the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, 1964, which brought America directly into the Vietnam War; the widespread race riots of 1967; the Tet Offensive, 1968; and the assassinations of Dr. Martin Luther King and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, 1968.

At worst, some of these events threatened all humankind; at best, they led idealistic young Americans to lose faith in their parents, their government, their society, and the institutions of science and commerce. Frustrated and discouraged with everything, many of them viewed the demand placed on their generation to wage war in distant as evidence of society's progressing madness.

As these individuals became increasingly alienated, contemptuous, hostile, and paranoid regarding American

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social structures, they withdrew from society to form a counterculture, in which they rejected traditional values such as respect for marriage, their elders, authority and rule of law, and capitalism; the work ethic; delayed gratification; patriotism; and conventional Western religions. Adherents of the counterculture expressed their contempt for, or at least disinterest in, these values and institutions by embracing values, dress, music, and moral codes that defied and mocked traditional society. By the time of the music festival in August 1969, the counterculture's character and spirit had reached full maturity.

Many members of the counterculture professed to oppose the war on moral grounds. Many also saw themselves as having a higher level of consciousness and humanity than those who served. As antagonists against traditional American values, they embraced our enemy's argument that we were the "imperialists," whereas the VC and NVA were the "liberators." A loathing of our military was thus a logical extension of easy rationalizations.

Politically, the counterculture embraced the left. Of particular relevance is the counterculture's subsequent ascendancy in certain occupations, for example, in film, music, academia, and journalism. These enormously powerful and influential social institutions have an ongoing bias of portraying protesters (themselves) as motivated purely by moral and ethical considerations. They assert that their actions took courage and that they shortened the war and saved American and Asian lives.

Counterculture voices grow shrill when citing the massacre of hundreds of Vietnamese villagers by troops at in 1968. Yet their silence is deafening in response to the murder of millions of Vietnamese and Cambodians by their own Communist countrymen, or the ill treatment of prisoners of war, or the Communist massacre at Hue.

Worse, many of these voices have revised history with their pronouncements that our military in Vietnam did nothing

noble or decent but was dedicated only to depravity and insanity. Witness such films as *Coming Home*, *The Deer Hunter*, *Apocalypse Now*, and *Platoon*.

At this late date, we Vietnam vets don't need sympathy, a parade, or another monument. What we could use, though, is a bit more of the truth. And fortunately, it is within our power to accomplish that much.

First, we must have faith in our own Vietnam experience, during which we witnessed many decent men bravely and honorably performing their duty. Second, we must be proud of our fight against the tyranny of Communism. Third, we must recognize that when the war is viewed inaccurately, all our battles in Vietnam are trivialized. Fourth, we must be aware of how the Vietnam "bad war" myth came into existence, and why former members of the counterculture have a vested interest in keeping that fiction alive. Last, we must challenge this myth wherever the opportunity presents itself.

None of these tasks should prove too difficult to accomplish, for we who served in the Vietnam War are privy to the truth. The vast majority of those who are distorting the facts and revising the history of the Vietnam War weren't even there. George Orwell wrote, "*He who controls the past controls the future. He who controls the present controls the past.*" Have not our past, and the meaning of the deaths of fifty-eight thousand of our comrades, been controlled by others long enough?

Robert C. Ankony, PhD, is a sociologist who writes criminological, firearms, and military articles for scientific and professional journals and special-interest magazines. He served as an Army Ranger in Vietnam and is the author of *Lurps: A Ranger's Diary of Tet, Khe Sanh, A Shau, and Quang Tri*, revised ed. (Landham, MD: Hamilton Books, 2009); Nominated for the Army Historical Foundation's 2006 and 2009 Distinguished Writing Award.



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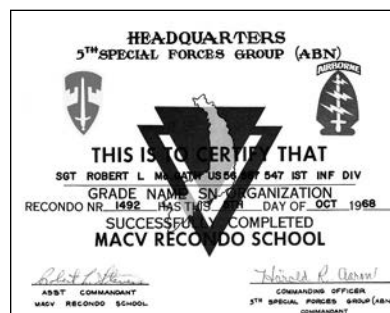
Unit Director - Bob McGath



Bob McGath

One of the most memorable experiences that I had in my tour 365 of Vietnam was the 5th Special Forces Recondo School.

Dave Flores was kind enough to tell his story of what it was like for him.



**Bob McGath's
Diploma**

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EXPERIENCE**

My recondo school tour was most likely the same as everyone else who was given the chance to attend. Three weeks of some very intense training that was like no other training we had received. No other school was like Recondo School. The only school in the world where the final phase was for REAL! No blank rounds, no phony enemy soldiers, all real. In our company, you did not ask to go; you were told that you had been picked to go. So in the latter part of October 1968, five of us headed for Nha Trang. Anthony Washington, Dave Flores, Reynaldo Arenas, Anthony Markevitch and Ray Cervantes are the five. Of course being "LURPS", you don't report in until till the very last moment. That allowed us to spend the night in the town of Nha Trang, being that we had never been there before. We had to check the place out, see what there was to see. The rest is, well you know, no need to spell it out. Moving on, it's morning now, so we report in, maybe get yelled at some, then we get assigned to a hooch.

Orientation was given with what was expected of us and what it would take to graduate. Then a physical assessment was done and after that, some equipment and tiger fatigues were issued. That's when we all had to fill our very own 30 lb. sack of sand, to carry in our rucksack. This was checked many times throughout our training to make sure you did not lighten the load. Part of the physical requirement was a 7 mile run, with your canteens of water, ammo magazines and your rucksack. I forget what the time frame was to pass. The day would start with PT, a run with your gear and weapon, then, 10 pull-ups before you could enter the chow hall. I remember chow being pretty good. After that, class room stuff and the afternoon was for the hands on stuff.

One day in the classroom, they had these bottles hanging from poles with tubing coming from the neck of the bottle. At the end of the tubing, this really BIG looking needle! Well, guess what boys, we get to stick each other; you hope your buddy hits the vein the first time. My buddy Arenas was not lucky with me, ouch! At some point during the training, we went out to an island to use some of the things we had been taught. We also had demolition class on the island. Almost all of the training we did was with all our gear on. Repelling from the tower, the rope ladder climb; always on the run, to name a few. The outcome of this was a wear spot in the center of your back, much like a scar. It's like your Recondo badge that no one sees.



After the days training was done, there was a place where everyone could go and sit around, drink soda, have snacks, and just relax. Well this is where my buddy Arenas just happened to stick his cigarette up my nose! He just wanted to see how close he could get before I flinched and was not about to flinch. So up my nose it went. Something I could have done without.

The final training phase was an actual mission, in the mountains around Nha Trang. All of our training would now be put to use. First off though, Arenas would get to practice his first aid on me. The afternoon before the mission, Reynaldo and I were sharpening our knives, so of course there was the fake knife fight. He damn near cut my thumb off!! Well the real medic fixed me up so I could go on the mission and the instructors never knew a thing. They did ask about the OD tape all over my thumb. We did our mission prep, just as we had been taught. Check radio freq., check equipment, maps, LZ, travel route, etc. During the mission, we would have an instructor with us, watching us, grading us. We would all have our shot at the team leader position, so the instructor could see us work. Once all the teams were back from the field and debriefing done, it was time for graduation. After the ceremony, a nice Bar-B-Q was held with all the instructors. Someone had a big ass snake as pet, and it was there too!

All of this training was done by the 5th Special Forces Group/MACV.

Almost all the divisions in country had sent personnel to the school. We had Air Force Para-rescue, Koreans, Marines, even a couple of Seals. So we return to our company and go back to doing our job. My experience at Recondo School, lets see; one lit cigarette up my nose and nearly getting my thumb cut off, not too bad.

As for us five, 16 Nov. 1968 we graduated. How did it end;

Anthony Washington...KIA
Reynaldo Arenas...KIA
Anthony Markevitch...KIA
Raymond Cervantes...Deceased

David Flores... I miss my brothers!

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

i/75 - F/52 Lr P - 1st div Lr r P (CONTINUED)



**Chopper
Repelling**



Demolition Class



Mcguire Rig



Washington & Markevitch



**Recondo Group: #1 Ray Cervantes, #2 Dave Flores,
#3 Anthony Markevitch, #4 Raynoldo Arenas,
#5 Anthony Washington**

I did not realize it (or over the years I have forgotten) that in reading Dave's Story that Anthony Washington was KIA just 5 Days after Graduating from Recondo School. That is a day that I will remember as long as I live Nov 21 1968.

Bob McGath
Unit Director



K/75 - e/58 Lr P - 4th H div Lr r P

Unit Director - Rodger T. Crunk

Greetings to my Brothers,

I have to admit that my memory is somewhere south of the equator; some days maybe even the South Pole. Once again I am up against the deadline to get this written. Even though I put things aside to include in the article and remind myself at several junctures along the way that this needs to get done, it still gets lost somewhere in the nether regions of my mind. Then some spark from deep within sets off a bomb in the frontal lobe of my brain and I find myself in the same place every three months. It must be some rare bacteria that I picked up in Vietnam and is now raising its ugly head. I should conduct a survey to determine if this is widespread among the rest of you guys. We could get the VA to do a study and see if it is confined to 4th ID LRRPs/Rangers of the Central Highlands. I bet it was in the water!! I can see dollar signs! Huh? John says it's just that bomb going off behind my eyes, or his foot in my (behind).

Okay, so much for excuses and my lame attempt at humor. On to the news.



I recently received the following e-mail
Date: Thu, 30 Dec 2010 11:17:09 -0500

Mr Crunk.

My name is Bret Moldenhauer. I served in the 4th ID LRSD 104 MI (ABN) from 91-'94. We just had our first LRSD reunion this past November at the Bear Trap Ranch in Colorado Springs. It is the first reunion for the past 15 years. It is a shame that I did not connect this assoc. with us and that you as our predecessor and unit leader and out of Colorado was not made aware of our reunion. We have voted on having our reunion every two

years from this point for now. Too many of us are still operational and can't make plans so quickly.

Based on membership requirements you have a whole slew of brothers who qualify and more importantly are under your banner. About 15 years ago we had some studs from K co Rangers having a reunion of their own and we gave a demo for them at Ft. Carson. Maybe you were one of them.

I would like to send you a picture of our logo that I designed for our reunion and possibly how we can make a

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

K/75 - e/58 Lr P - 4t H div Lr r P (CONTINUED)

more comprehensive one to cover all the lineage. If you have a face book account please go to 4th ID LRSD page and ask to be a member. I will alert our Amin. of your coming. If Facebook is not your thing let me know and we will make other arrangements to plug you in.

With the wonder of Facebook you can quickly verify who can be a member of the Assoc. or not.

We have hundreds of pictures and a news paper article of the reunion plus “back in the day” pictures all day long. We had t-shirts and stickers made as well. Maybe I can send some.

I hope you are doing well and want to do my part for the Assoc. That is why I am contacting you. I have done much research getting ready for our reunion and would like to pass on the work to you.

Sincerely brothers from different times,
Bret Moldenhauer
Detachment Historian
4th ID D Co 104 Mi LRSD (ABN)

I have been in touch with Brett and hopefully we can coordinate our reunions and get these guys involved in the Assoc. as part of the ongoing effort to bring the younger generations into the brotherhood.

The 1st Brigade LRRPs are hosting a reunion in Detroit Aug. 9-14. There has been some confusion on this because of the way I had it on the website. This is being held after the regular Assoc. reunion, July 25-30. Also not to be confused with our off-year reunion, which will be 2012 in Maryland.

2011 REUNION IN EXCITING DETROIT, MI AREA
August 9-14

This is being hosted by 1st Bde. LRRPs but all 4th Div. LRRP,LRP, and Rangers are welcome

Itinerary

August 9 – Tuesday

Arrival, Registration and Relaxation!

August 10 – Wednesday, 1:00-3:00

Diamond Jack's River Tour. www.diamondjack.com

Greektown Casino

August 11 – Thursday

Ford Rouge Factory Walking Tour

<http://www.thehenryford.org/rouge>

August 12 – Friday, 10:00-5:00 Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum thehenryford.org

August 13 – Saturday, 9:00 - ?

Hog Roast in the Country with the Simpsons

August 14 – Sunday

Checkout and Departure

Hotel Information

HYATT REGENCY,

600 Town Center Dr.

Dearborn, MI 48126

Tx: 313.593.1234 (Toll Free: 888.421.1442 registration)

Website: resweb.passkey.com/go/1stbrigade
(online registration)

A block of 20 rooms for “1st Brigade LRRPs/K Co 75th Rangers” has been set aside at \$99.00 per night plus 14% tax. More rooms can be booked at that rate, if available (busiest time of year), so we cannot stress enough, the sooner your reservations are made, the better. The Reunion rate is good only until July 9, 2011. It is also good for three (3) days before and after the Reunion dates, again, based on availability. Hotel cancellation policy is 24-hours in advance of scheduled check-in. Check-in is 3:00 p.m. and check-out is 12:00 p.m.

A hospitality room, “The Bugatti Suite”, on the second floor, has been set aside for our use from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Liquid refreshments must be purchased at the Hotel bar. Other Hotel amenities are a full restaurant, Starbucks Coffee Café, bar, indoor swimming pool, sauna, fitness center and Jacuzzi.

Flight/Vehicle Rental Information

Detroit Metropolitan Airport, airport code **DTW**, is 15-20 minutes from the Hyatt Regency Dearborn.

Detroit Metropolitan Airport vehicle rental agencies, include, but are not limited to:

Hertz (734.941.4747) Avis (734.942.3450)

Trifty (866.526.9588)

Event/Tour Prices

-Diamond Jack's River Tour ticket price is \$13.00. (To be paid at tour.)

-Ford Rouge Factory Walking Tour ticket prices are \$12.50 for seniors (age 62+); \$13.50 for non-seniors.

Note: Reservations must be made one (1) month in advance and payment must be received 2-weeks in advance for those going on the Ford Rouge Tour. With reservation made, the cost will be covered until the tour event.

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011**K/75 - e/58 Lr P - 4t H div Lr r P (CONTINUED)**

-Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum combo ticket prices are \$27.00. These events are next to each other making touring a breeze. There are also several eateries to choose from on-site.

-Hog Roast in the Country: Free. Vans will be available to transport everyone together for this event.

Additional Information

Due to the lateness of this reunion notice, for which we apologize, it would be most helpful to have a tentative head count in order to complete scheduling and arrangements. This can be done by contacting either of the following with your count or by returning your registration form by March 1, 2011:

Gary Shellenbarger
Address: 33815 Hathaway

Livonia, MI 48160
Home: 1.734.422.4506
Cell: 1.734.765.0599
Email: gshellen@sbcglobal.net
Al Kidd
Address: 24827 Grand Traverse Ave.
Brownstown, MI 48134
Home: 1.734.789.8312
Cell: 1.248.318.1710
Email: adkidd@sbcglobal.net

A simple crossing of the street will get you to the Fairlane Town Center Mall...over 160 stores and restaurants.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OUR
BROTHERS AND GUESTS IN AUGUST**

PLEASE RETURN BY MARCH 1, 2011

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ CELL: _____

E-MAIL: _____

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____ ATTENDING SPOUSE/GUEST NAME: _____

SORRY, UNABLE TO ATTEND: _____ (Please return even if unable to attend)

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Date: _____ Incoming Airline: _____ Flt. No: _____ Arrival time: _____

Date: _____ Outgoing Airline: _____ Flt. No: _____ Departure Time: _____

EVENTS

- Diamond Jack's River Tour:	YES:	NO:	How Many:	(Pay at Tour)
- Casino:	YES:	NO:	How Many:	
- Ford Rouge Factory Walking Tour:	YES:	NO:	How Many:	(Pay at Reunion)
- Greenfield Village/Henry Ford Museum:	YES:	NO:	How Many:	Remitted: \$
- HOG Roast in the Country:	YES:	NO:	How Many:	NO FEE

REMINDER

Please make sure to notify Gary and/or Al of your head count as soon as possible, either verbally, or by mailing your registration form before March 1, 2011. Remember to complete your reservations at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn as soon as you can to ensure room availability, or prior to July 9, 2011.

REMITTANCES

Please return this completed registration form by snail mail. Also, please include the needed advanced payment, payable to Gary Shellenbarger, to the addresses listed on the itinerary, so to arrive by March 1, 2011. Thanks for your input and will see you on the 9th!!!

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K/75 - e/58 Lr P - 4t H div Lr r P (CONTINUED)

In Memory of Sergeant Steve Hathaway

Being in the 2nd Bde. LRRPs 4th Infantry Division in 1969 was one of the most exciting, dangerous and fulfilling parts of my life. It was great being associated with some of the bravest and best; I don't know about other LRRP or Ranger units, but while I served in the 2nd Bde LRRPs we were winning and making Charlie's Life hell on Earth. I don't listen to any of this bullshit about us losing or giving anything but our very best effort! And by the way, let me make one thing perfectly clear, when I left South Vietnam we were winning! I knew one of the best, his name was Sergeant Steve Hathaway. Steve was KIA in June of 1969, and as best I remember all of guys in his team were wounded. At our A.O. near Highlander Height's on LZ Mary Lou near Kontum everyone was by the radio ready to go help if needed. Steve Hathaway was killed soon after his boots hit the ground. The feeling among the 2nd Bde LRRP's was the mission had been compromised from the start! It was just after the insertion ship started to pull away that the team was hit by small arms fire and RPG's. Steve and I were both Florida boys, he from Maitland, Florida and I lived 50 miles away in Eau Gallie, Florida. I look up to Steve, he was older than me, and was always looking out for me. He had attended NCO School at Fort Benning and was a great soldier and a fine ranger. I promised myself I would go back and speak to his family when and if I made it home! He always talked about his family and especially how he and his dad were going to start a frog farming business when he got back home to Maitland, Florida. We're going to start a frog farm he would say to me with a smile on his face. Then he would explain some of the details to me and to who ever would listen.. I remember the guys laughing, thinking it was some kind of joke or gag,"A Frog Farm" ha ha. But nothing could have been further from the truth, that was Steve's dream! And just look around today, you'll find lots of frog farms producing frog legs for sale to restaurants all over the world.. I have been to Steve's home many times visiting his mom, Mrs. Ruth Hathaway and Steve's older brother Bert Hathaway.. I think Steve's father die hurting so much for his fallen son, at least that was the feeling I always got when talking to Steve's mom and brother Bert. The Hathaway family are one of the

kindest & warmest families you could ever meet. That's just the way Steve was toward me.. Mrs. Hathaway treats me just like I am her son, and Steve's brother, Bert, is the same as a brother to me. I went there to be a part of presenting Mrs Ruth Hathaway long over due Gold Star Award. I travel there with two former Presidents of the 75th Ranger Associations and both are two of my cherish and closest friends. K. Company's then President Dana McGrath and former past president from Papa. Company Terry" Rock" Roderick. We took the family out for lunch and had such a fine family type gathering. I always tell Mrs. Hathaway all the positive things about Steve I can, and of course nothing to upset her. I'm sure Dana or Terry will tell you what a wonderful family the Hathaway's are and we stay in touch to this day. We all went and visited Steve's grave site in the Lakeland Cemetery. Then after the small ceremony and prayer we placed a wreath in Steve's honor by his grave. We all embraced and said our goodbye's, their wasn't a dry eye among us. I was happy to show our love and respect for Steve and his family. To this day I visit them at every opportunity, I always cherish the time I spent with the Hathaway family. As for the rest of us in 2nd Bde. LRRPS 4th Inf. Div. we always gave our best. Like the motto states "All Gave Some. Some Gave All". I write this to preserve the Memory of one of our many fallen brothers. With all respect for Sergeant Steve Hathaway and his family who made the Supreme Sacrifice!

Rangers Lead the Way-Always

Jim Testerman aka J.T. Hogg

2nd Bde LRRPS K Company 75th Ranger Regiment

Thanks Jim for this remembrance and being there for his family

Keep Tom and Cass Sove in your thoughts and prayers. Cass is making great progress in her cancer treatment but it is a long and arduous process

Remember to register for the reunion, make your hotel reservations and book those flights early. See you in July. Roger



L/75 - F/58 Lr P - 1/101st Lr r P

Unit Director - Jerry Gomes



No Submission



M/75 - 71st Lr P - 199t H Lr r P

Unit Director - Don Tillisch

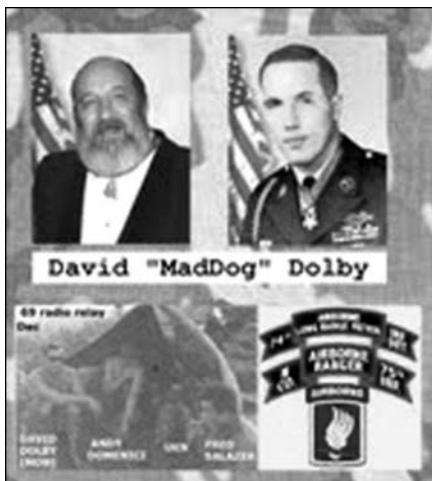
No Submission

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n/75 - 74th H Lr P - 173rd Lr P

Unit Director - Robert Henriksen



**PhOTO TRIBUTE TO
DAVID DOLBY.**



- Joyce Boatman (Roy's widow who is loved and admired by us all),
- A good representation of various motorcycle clubs Dave rode with in various Veterans and Memorial Day ceremonies, etc.

A great time was had by all; all had a wonderful time. Afterwards, several of us went to dinner next door.

A cousin of Dave's attended the funeral, representing the family, his surviving brother was sick and his mother, who resides in a full care facility in Pennsylvania. Jim DeSalvo who took care of Dave received the flag that draped his coffin and accepted the words of the Arlington Lady, representing the Chief of Staff of the Army.



DOLBY SERVICES

Services started with a funeral Mass at the Fort Myer Chapel, in which the Medal of Honor Society was represented by two Medal of Honor recipients, Walter Joe Marm and Brian Thacker, both of whom served in the 1st Cav, where Dave was when he received the Medal. They participated in the Mass by reading various portions of scripture. John Lawton gave the eulogy. Dave was then escorted to an Arlington gravesite in a full honors, military cortège on a horse drawn caisson, a riderless horse with reversed boot, a platoon of soldiers and the Army Band, to rest next to his wife and father, a WW II pilot in the Army Air Force. Two Chaplains read the grave side service and a firing squad from the Old Guard rendered the final honors.

The hotel and bar next door proved to be a great meeting place for a mini-reunion of sorts and the various groups that served with Dave:

- Personnel from both C and N Company Rangers;
- Vets from both the 173rd (Separate) Airborne Bde and the 101st
- U.S. advisory personnel from the Vietnamese Ranger unit Dave served with,
- Special Forces vets,

Following the graveside service we met at a local Vietnamese restaurant, had lunch and then several personnel reminisced about their times with Dave. In closing, I might point out the weather was extremely cold and windy – the Rangers withstood it well; I hesitate to point out, maybe fortified (a little) by the anti-freeze we imbibed the night before

N Ranger attendees included: COL John Lawton, Dave Gowen, Rudy Teodosio, John Wilkofsky, Henry Stiegler, Terry Huffstickler, Joe Marquez and Robert Henriksen. Dave Gowen, Rudy Teodosio, Joe Marquez, Fletcher Ruckman, John



**RUBBER BOAT MISSION
(Beckwith and Parkes).**



**RUBBER BOAT
MISSION (Beckwith,
Schoonie and Parkes).**

From Jim Parkes

The photos were taken at Tuy Hoa in late October 1967. I have no idea who took them but I would certainly love to have quality copies of both and any others that the photographer may have taken around the time these were taken.

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

n/75 - 74th LRP - 173rd LRP (CONTINUED)

Here is what I can tell you about these pictures: they were taken during a “walk through” I conducted at our base in Tuy Hoa in preparation for an ambush mission I led that night. There were twelve men on the mission and we used the two rubber boats shown to make a night river crossing to reach our selected ambush site without alerting anyone that we had entered the area. We swam the boats across the river on a moonless night. There were six men to each boat with one RTO in each boat and five team members holding on as we swam the boats across the river. I was with the first boat and Paul Beckwith who was my RTO on the mission was in the boat with his radio, our weapons and gear.

Tony Schoonover who was my ATL was in charge of the second boat which held Carazo (I don't have his first name) his RTO along with their weapons and gear. Steve Spradlin and Joe Kilner were likely on the left side and I believe Rick Brooks and (?) Peterson were on the right side. I believe Joe Simons, Bob Panairo, Roger Baumgartner and (?) Prokowski were on the sides of the second boat with Schoonie hanging to the rear of his boat. The boats were about 10 meters apart and connected by a rope so we didn't get separated. I have confirmation on the participation of Schoonie, Carazo, Beckwith, Spradlin, Simons and Kilner. I am pretty sure about Brooks and Peterson and from what I have been told Prokowski, Panairo and Baumgartner were on the mission.

The LRRP standing in the boat holding a weapon is Paul Beckwith and the LRRP at the rear of the boat is probably me but I'm not sure. The next photo shows the boats one behind the other with gear and weapons on board and the team gathered around. I think that's me standing directly behind the second boat and I think that's Beckwith on my right and Schoonie on my left but I cannot say for sure.

As some of you know thoughts about this mission have haunted me and others for a long time. I don't want to get into that now but I will say that I would really like to hear from anyone who remembers specifics from that time long ago. Please take a look at the attachments and pass your recollections, pictures (hopefully) and comments along I would love to hear from anyone who cares to contact me. Please feel free to forward this to anyone you think should have it.

Jim Parkes

173rd LRRP October/November 1967

This is from the 173rd Brigade Newspaper, written in the normal detective novel mode that the Brigade paper writers seemed to prefer.

Pilot Braves Typhoon To Save LRRP Team

By Sp4 Adrian Acevedo

BONG SON- A Helicopter Pilot from the 61st Assault Helicopter Company recently braved typhoon winds and rain to make a dramatic rescue of a 173d Airborne Brigade Long Range Patrol which was being tracked with dogs by a North Vietnamese Platoon. Team F of the 74th Infantry Detachment (LRP) had been, searching for three reported NVA base camps in the northern An Lo Valley, an enemy stronghold 20 miles north of Bong Son when they detected enemy movement to their rear. “We set up in a hasty ambush,” said Sergeant Peter G. Mossman of Stamford Conn. “My rear security man Specialist 4 Chase Riley of Wayne NJ, killed their point man and two others fled. We searched the body, captured a Chinese bolt-action rifle and moved out about 150 meters.” “We stopped and again and heard movement behind us, talking, and dogs barking,” continued Mossman. “They must have been trying to track us with dogs and we couldn't get anyone on the radio, so we tried to break contact by moving as fast as possible.”

During the next three hours, the NVA force kept closing with the team. The Paratroopers however finally made radio contact with elements of the Americal Division and told them their situation. The Americal passed the word on to the 173d. But, the team was told, that no helicopters could fly in the typhoon which had been building up for a week, and to continue on their escape and evasion course. Meanwhile, the decision was made to send four helicopters anyway in case the weather let up. A team ship piloted by Warrant Officer Sam M. Kyle of Castalion Springs Then a command and control ship piloted by Warrant Officer Dany Pennington of Crossett Ark and two gunships were sent to the rescue. The LPR's were notified and headed for the closest suitable pick up zone about 500 meters away while the weather and visibility got progressively worse.” “When we got to the pick-up zone, the NVA were practically breathing down our necks,” said Mossman. “They couldn't see us though because the visibility was down to about 25 meters. We couldn't see the choppers either, but we could hear them, so we just kept signaling with a strobe light and just hoped.”

Pennington reconned the area but couldn't locate the team, so he moved out to make room for Kyle. By this time, the team had made contact with the choppers, and were told that the gunships were leaving because the ceiling was so low they couldn't bring suppressive ground fire.” “I made the decision to stay and try to get them out,” said Kyle, “because I'd sure hate to be in their position and have the choppers leave me. I figured this was their only chance

PATROLLING – SPRING 2011

n/75 - 74t H Lr P - 173r d Lr r P (CONTINUED)

because the weather probably wouldn't clear up for a couple of days, so I just kept circling lower and lower until I finally spotted their light."

"I thought all the choppers had left," recalled Mossman, "so I was really shocked when I saw that beautiful ship loom up suddenly out of the rain. It took about two seconds for us to pile onto the helicopter in spite the trees, clumps of bushes, eight-foot elephant grass and the bouncing of the ship as it tried to keep steady in the storm "They sure looked happy when they got on," remembered Kyle. "Afterwards, one of the Vietnamese who couldn't speak too much English, came up to me with a big smile on his face and motioned for me to come and have a beer with him. That sort of made it all worthwhile."

Robert: I was there from April '70 to April '71. Went home on emergency leave in August '70 and tried for a hardship discharge at Ft. Cambell. Sent back Oct. '70. That is when I was with Foxtrot team with Baker, Bizadi, Udo Taring (we always called him RT.), Thornberg etc. Rey (spelling not sure) was an ARAB and not just a nickname. He had grown up in Peru as a kid and family migrated to U.S. Seems he hit a punji stake after I DEROSed and was shipped out. Being the caring, loving people we were, we always said he was an Arabian- Peruvian, lama-humping, camel jockie. He liked to walk point.

Don't know Ski's 1st name and the correct spelling of last for sure, all I know was he was from New Orleans, La and had seen the House of the Rising Sun (from the song of the same name by Johnny Rivers) when he was a kid. He was a E6 that had taken over as TL of Delta in May or June from Andy Domenici. (Do you have Andro's contact info as I would like to see if he is for sure the Delta team leader I had?) Ski came down with a bad case of malaria after Delta walked into an ambush and we got shot up pretty bad. Dat was hit and I bandaged him up. Les Flegal (not sure of spelling) was hit real bad then and had to be shipped out of the company (AK round took out the nerve and main blood vein in his left arm and last the Dr. told him was he may never get full use of it again) Like to know what became of him also. He had just got off extension leave less than a month before. That Black had been with Delta and was shipped home and rumored to be going to West Point. Left the CO in May or June of '70. Have no idea of the 1st name. That is the same Duval as was on Delta when I first ran the field.

Udo Taring was RT and that is what we called him all the time. Baker and I talked about him at the last reunion and no one knew what happened to him, just kind of dropped off the map after Panama. Done more typing than I like to

do. Let you go for now. **CASPAR Platoon is trying to put together a book**, Dale Robt. I along with Cpt Stan Striecher and Col/ Phd Chuck Merckel are trying to piece together enough information to write a crononogical story about the Casper Platoon from 1965 to 1972.. If any Rangers would like to have a place or story in our book please pass this on to them. We don't care what kind of story, just stories of you guys experience with Casper. There must be some good stories from the Ranger/ LRRP perspective out there. I know that I've got a few from my end. Especially on extractions. Insertions were one thing but Extractions were usually another.

CWO2 Art McBride Casper921@bellsouth.net
From: **Donald Giannattasio** <rangerdon1@msn.com>
Director Message on Casper book in-process

In April of 68 I went on my 1st mission in the An Lao with Lazlo Rabel(CMOH) recipient as our team leader. We were extracted by Mcguire rig and flown under the chopper all the way to Bong Song. 8 Air Medals later and one year later after directing the vast majority of our missions, I talked our pilot into landing without gun ship help to pick up a couple of vc bicycles. With only 2 weeks left in country I knew better but Dick James our CO was on the ground and gave me the order. All hell broke Loose. We were sitting ducks. The kid sitting next to me had his finger shot off and Campbell RTO made a swan dive from 15 or more feet out of the chopper while the bullets pelted the chopper. I still vividly remember Tango had jumped up on the pilots lap as we finally gathered our speed and we never got the bikes. In between, Mr Kyle from Casper did some really heroic stuff like picking up one of our shot guys (Macallisters team) while under fire without gunship support. Also, I was on board the C&C when we went in to pick up Rock Tremblay's team. Once again, we had no support. Rock stepped on a bouncing betty while we were a few yards out on final and instead of picking up the crew, we sadly picked up his body and the rest of the team after being blown around from the explosion. On a mission in the Tiger mountains to rescue some American prisoners, Tad, myself and one of our teams lowered ourselves onto a Navy swiftboat by ladder in the South China Sea for a clandestine 0300 insertion. Every time we prepared for insertion, Tango(dog) would sense that we were going on a chopper ride and he would lead the way to the choppers. One time, we landed about 30 k's away at a SF camp south of Bong Song. Tango got off the chopper and we were radioed that a team was in trouble. In our hurry. We left Tango. He wasn't seen for a couple of weeks when he came running home with some soldier calling him a different name. Tango had hitch hiked home. Thank God for the brave guys at Casper. Don G(1st Lt, lrp/Rgr)

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**JAY h AYES
GRADUATION Ph OTO.**



**JAKE DYMOND AND
JAY h AYES.**



JAY h AYES.



JAY h AYES ON WALL.

JOSEPh D. h AYES KIA 6-13-71

Company N Ranger had experienced a number of KIA team members during my tour. Sergeant George Morgan had of course died in a tragic grenade accident. Staff sergeant Juan Borja and SP4 Larry Peel lost their lives fighting the enemy on 04-28-'71, along with a new member who died accidentally from a friendly booby-trap. Specialist 4 Joe Sweeney was KIA on 05-29-'71, and Team Hotel lost Joseph D. "Jay" Hayes on 06-13-'71 to close range enemy fire while we awaited extraction on a hilltop in the Nui Mieu. Hayes was relatively new to the team, having volunteered for LRP duty from the safety and security of a clerk assignment at Cha Rang Valley.

The 7 day duration mission had produced no enemy contacts but numerous signs of their presence. Fresh sandal tracks, recently used campsites, and far distant light weapons fire which we were told involved a line unit in contact. Call it gut instinct, sixth sense, premonition, or whatever...we just all had the unshakeable feeling that we were being watched.

Our problems had actually begun the night before our schedule extraction when we'd detected a column of NVA moving N. in a valley from the N. base of our NDP terrain feature...probably headed for Phu My, a known NVA assembly and supply area. We'd counted 325 well armed troops prior to total darkness, and the individual supervising the TOC hadn't believed us). To make matters worse, he initiated artillery fire on the coordinates we'd given for the sighting. Along with the acting TL, Stephen Joley, Team Hotel had been deathly against this due to the

high probability of the gooks putting two and two together: "Gee, dear leader, that's a numba wun hilltop there, and a LRP team is probably spotting the artillery on us!"

The next morning, in what turned out to be yet another bad move, Jack was extracted individually for business back at English. Ginere's logic was that the NVA would believe we'd all been pulled. Yeah, right! They were probably looking down our throats through binoculars as we spoke!

Hayes soon after advised that he was going to OP/LP on a trail extending from our NDP across a saddle to an adjacent hilltop. Considering the previous night's activities and a strong likelihood that the NVA had left a stay behind force to at minimum monitor us, I instructed him not to exceed 25 meters distance from the team.

The whole world went to hell in a hand basket about 10 min. following Hayes's departure on OP. First a short burst of AK-47 on the adjoining hilltop at an unidentified target, then the NVA started dumping on us. I yelled down the trail for Hayes and received no response. Chuck and I reached simultaneous conclusions that Hayes, sometimes too curious an individual, had performed his own recon to the other hilltop and discovered NVA assembling to take us on. In response, Joley headed down the trail in search of Hayes while we provided covering fire and called in the contact/emergency extraction report.

Joley failed to reappear within a reasonable amount of time, and Lyons dashed off searching for Joley and Hayes. I broke out my M-79 in hopes of keeping the NVA heads down while Dymond meanwhile pumped out additional supporting HE from his M-203. Just maybe we could provide our missing teammates a brief escape window. Now it was just Dymond and I on the NDP, and when Lyons failed to show back up I figured all three of them had bought it. Considering the large number of enemy we'd observed the evening prior, I feared an encircling maneuver with an eventual uphill sweep. There'd be absolutely nowhere to run...just a replay of "Custer's Last Stand." Trying to conceal my near panic, I instructed Jake to secure the trail from which we'd entered the NDP the day prior, further stating that were he to be the only one remaining, he was to destroy the SOI and KAC wheel then run like hell for a decent hiding place until an emergency extraction reached him.

As though he'd been resurrected from the grave, I heard Chuck loudly whispering from about 50 meters down the trail that he'd been hit in the knee and couldn't make it up the hill, and that Joley and Hayes were KIA. Leaving Dymond with the radio, I literally slid down the hill to

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Chuck with the gooks now seemingly attracted to my open target. With sporadic rounds impacting around us, I snatched Chuck's arm and we made it back up to the NDP in an adrenaline boost.

When Chuck had caught his breath, he stated having spotted Hayes on the opposite hilltop lying on his back, obviously dead. Just about then, the gooks had opened up on him and tagged him in the knee. He hadn't seen or heard Joley, and the only logical conclusion was that he too was KIA. We were advised that one of our sergeants was inbound in an Air Force 0-1 "Bird Dog" FAC aircraft and that a reaction platoon from Uplift was also on the way. Furthermore, MAJ Shippey was en-route to pull Chuck for the 65th Evac. Hosp. in Qui Nhon.

The birds from the LZ Uplift 2nd 503rd Inf. reaction platoon were now fast approaching, and out of the clear blue came Joley running into the NDP. He'd been pinned down by the same troops who'd wounded Chuck and probably killed Hayes, and had observed Chuck struggling by him during his return to the NDP. Joley had been pinned down early in the contact, and thus hadn't made it to Hayes's body.

With Chuck on the way to the hospital in MAJ Shippey's chopper and the reaction force linked up with us, I assumed point with Joley and Dymond trailing for the trip across the saddle to secure Jay's body. The NVA had apparently beat feet into a large draw with all of the air activity and we made it across with only occasional harassing fire. Having reached the military crest of the opposite terrain feature, I informed the 2LT reaction platoon leader of my intent to conduct a solo probe ahead of the column. My motives were to first of all flush out any remaining enemy and determine the location of Hayes's body. Doing so alone was based on sound tactical logic, as the last thing I'd need was a herd of elephants following me with their unavoidable noise discipline violations. That, and if I actually ran into something demanding a hasty retreat, a blocked trail with the resulting domino effect wouldn't be beneficial to anybody. Departing the main body, I advised the platoon leader that I'd be tossing frags as bait, and requested that his folks not overreact and fire me up. If the coast was clear I'd fire two rounds in rapid succession signaling a linkup. If not, I'd scream like hell for help.

With my pucker factor at max setting I proceeded up the trail, noting not only Jay's fresh boot prints but recent enemy sandal tracks as well. I reached the conclusion that the NVA had very possibly started for our position during the prior evening and had been scared off by the sudden friendly artillery mission in the nearby adjacent valley.

Having received no response from my probing with the frags, I found Jay approximately 75 meters from our main body lying on his back as Chuck had described; his feet pointing down the trail in our direction. What I believe happened is that he discovered the ambush, albeit too late, and had attempted to escape the kill zone. Jay's body had been on the trail for the better portion of an hour, and I feared that he might be booby-trapped. This was reinforced by the fact that although the NVA had taken Jay's weapon, they hadn't removed his web gear and attached grenades from his person. As long as I live, I'll never forget the startled look in his eyes when I inspected his body for enemy tampering. He had to have known his number was up. Still wary over the possibility of Jay's being booby-trapped, we secured a sling rope to his ankles and dragged his body for approximately 5 meters. Gently wrapping Jay's lifeless form in a poncho, Team Hotel's role as a LRP team reverted to that of pallbearers as we carried him back to the NDP for our extraction. The reaction force along with a full company inbound from English meanwhile would remain in the area hunting for our attackers.

The flight to LZ English was surrealistic with the flight crew respectfully avoiding eye contact with not only Jay's body, but us as well. Rather than proceeding directly to the crap table, the crew thoughtfully dropped us and our lifeless teammate at Grave's Registration. Sergeant Taring in the meantime had personally driven down our company $\frac{3}{4}$ truck for a lift back to the hill, and we said our final goodbyes to Jay. When I'd had time to really give it some thought, the realization that Jay's fatal walk had very likely saved our lives struck like a thunderbolt. If he hadn't been killed, we'd have had no early warning, and taking us out would have been like shooting ducks in a pond. During our DEROS leaves from N/75 Ranger, Rudy Teodosio and myself had the opportunities to establish contact with Jay's Sister Helen Blevins in Weed, CA. We have maintained close contact with her to this day.

Dave "Varmint" Walker, Team Hotel

From Mike Flynn, an original LRRP'er

Yesterday, while probing around on the internet, I found your note of Sunday March 28, 2004 and also photo from 1967 that I was in with you.

What created this opportunity to re-establish contact with you is this: My two adult sons, Mike Junior and John are traveling to Washington D.C. this coming week, and I have asked them to go to the Vietnam War Memorial to honor and pray for some of our fallen comrades, especially Bill Collins, who was killed on January 23, 1967 in the Iron Triangle. So I got on line and started to do so research, to

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build a list of names for them and probing around, I found your note. I am sending you a quick note this afternoon to say hi and check in. I will send you a longer email at a later date. It is hard to believe that so much time has passed, but I look forward to hearing about you and your life, and also to learn if you have been able to establish contact with any of our other fellow LRRPS. A flood of names and faces come at me: Country Davis, Dale Taylor, Bill Ricca, Ralph Raperto, Kevin Leahy, Alan Ward, Chris Chistenson, Reed Cundiff, Ben Moye, Bull Bolen, Gary "Wolf" Lotze, Dave Leibersbach and others. More later, but briefly, I am married to my wonderful wife Pam, with six children ranging from 15 to 33, with six grandchildren and a seventh on the way. We live in Santa Cruz County in California. I rejoined the Army after college, was commissioned infantry, and later retired as major from the reserves. I began a business in 1988, which continues to grow, and my two adult sons have joined me as partners.

While I am completely at peace with our experiences in Vietnam, I do not forget those we lost there, those moments of violence and combat remain clear in my mind. As I grow older, these memories become sharper, with emotion, yes, but not with heaviness, memories that should be preserved

and not forgotten. And I pray for the souls of our brother soldiers who died - I think often of Bill Collins, but others as well and in a praying for them by name, I experience solidarity with them. In this sense, for me, the long range patrol continues. I look forward to hearing back from you, especially our fellow LRRPs. When I was at the infantry school in the winter of 1980, I ran into Roger Brown, and visited with him briefly in the hall. He was a Captain on the staff at the Ranger School at Fort Benning. I hope all is well with you. I am grateful for your posting, reaching out, and I look forward to hearing back from you.

In Solidarity,
Mike Flynn

We're camped on the beach about 80 miles south of Cancun. Water is warm and turquoise-blue; alas, go-mail connectivity on Telcel Ancha Blanca goes from 0.2 Kb/s to 10 Kb/s so getting this out takes a while, and the mangoes could be just a little bit sweeter.

Life is so hard – Reed Cundiff
reed.cundiff@gmail.com



O/75 - 78t H Lr P
Unit Director - Michael Dolsen

No Submission



P/75 - 79t H Lr P
Unit Director - Terry B. Roderick



Papa Company

Patrolling Spring 2011

Just got home from the 2011 Best Ranger Competition April 15-17. It's amazing what these active duty Rangers can do in 60 hours. RSM Rick Merritt hosted Ted Tilson, Dan Miller, and myself over the weekend. Dan Miller is a long time friend of mine who recently retired from the Space Program at Kennedy Space Center, Florida. He accompanied me to our 1996 75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion in Tacoma, Washington 15 years ago and plans to join us again in Columbus in July of 2011. I might add that the RSM's wife, Elizabeth did all the heavy lifting and she was assisted by his daughter, Bonnie, and



son, Lindsay, who turned 8 years old on April 19th. Dan also broke out an old "tiger stripe camo" shirt I had from our days in Quang Tri in 1970 while we were up at Best Ranger. I gave it to him in 1971 after I returned home and he has kept it all these years. Surprisingly enough, it still fit me and I wore it the last day of the BRC and definitely got some comments from the Vietnam veterans in attendance. Still had the original scroll we wore in 1969-70. Got to visit with General Greb, aka MSG

Gilbert Berg (ret.), while there, and also met Miss Kathy Brown, formerly the Secretary at the RTB, and my friend from the WWII Rangers, Lynn Towne.

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Got this note from Ed Perkowski's (2nd Batt Boy)... wife, Dee. We adopted Ed and Dee and their family in 2007 at the Ranger Rendezvous. We needed some new blood and they're good folks, like us!! They had a friend in the Best Ranger Competition.....Ed's assistant gunner is competing **SGM Walter Zajkowski**, "Ziggy", Team #8...Ed was "Piggy" in the service and they called themselves "The Polish Ski Team"...Walt won this in 2007, the year Ed & I headed down to Fort Benning to try & see Ziggy at the Ranger Rendezvous..unfortunately, he was deployed at the time..but we made some other great connections (a.k.a Terry "Rock" Roderick) and Col. James Stamper gave us his tickets for the Ranger Hall of Fame induction dinner. It was an awesome experience...wish we were there now...woulda been great, the kids are on spring break too...anyway, check it out, neat stuff! The Sgt. Major won again this year for the record!! Congratulations!!

Next up is the annual Critter Cookout and Open House at the Mountain Ranger Camp on the weekend of May 7th. I plan to attend along with Jay Lutz possibly and will meet Ted Tilson, Roger Honeyager, and Don "Johnny Quest" Hughes, and maybe Tom Perry up there this year. Feel free to join us. The hotel up there is FREE. Bring your own sleeping bag though!! I had a great time last year and am looking forward to doing it again this year and for years to come.

On a more serious note, I recently got a decision and some retroactive pay from the VA for my ischemic heart disease (narrowing of the arteries) due to possible Agent Orange exposure per the recent Nehmer vs the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in October 2010. It took almost 3 months from the day of my C&P Exam in early January 2011 until I received their decision. My file was sent to Seattle, Washington, way out from my home Regional Office in St. Petersburg, Florida. I urge you all to take a look at this and make decisions accordingly. As you all know, I am available to assist anyone who needs the help. Also, John Chester, Ted Tilson, Joe Little, and myself sat down at Ranger Joe's in Columbus this weekend and discussed "survivor's benefits" for our families if we leave before they do. In many cases, the information being bandied about is hearsay and we feel a need to get something out in the next few issues of Patrolling that address these subjects and get our members more informed on issues that affect them directly and financially. We are beginning to lose members faster than we like and many are unprepared and it hurts their families unintentionally. We'd like to give you all the tools and information we can to assist you. Keep your eyes out for that as there is some important stuff coming down the pike. It's very important that you take advantage of all the benefits and programs available to you in my opinion. You've earned them.

For those wondering about all the missing words from my last article.... John will run it again next issue to give the Davis family something as a keepsake without all the errors in the article. A gracious gesture indeed. Thank You John. In closing, I hope you all will make an effort to come to Columbus in July. There are BIG DOINGS going on at Fort Benning and construction of all kinds in all areas of the post, as they marry Infantry and Armor at the new Maneuver Center of Excellence, formerly known as Building #4 or The Infantry Center. RSM Merritt told me they plan a new show for the spectators at Fryar Field for the Mass Drop on Monday, July 25th, as the Regiment that is available comes together for their Regimental Change of Command as Col. Michael Kurilla leaves after two years. There will be a mock Afghan village that the Rangers will take down for the spectators and I'm sure it will be a memorable show for all who attend. It's an Early Bird Special this year. There will be an "All Hands Meeting" at the Utchee Creek Campground afterwards as a social event and a great opportunity to meet these young Rangers who are serving our country as we did years ago. They appreciate our support and love it when we are in their midst. Keep that in mind when you visit and take the opportunities to get to know them. I can tell you from experience, you will be glad you did. They are outstanding Americans and motivated warriors.RSM Merritt assures me that our Rangers are winning the war over there and their spirits are high. Most of the active duty Regimental activities are over earlier in the week and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association stuff really begins about Wednesday/Thursday. I enjoy it all and try to get up there early, like Larry Smith does. Hope to see you all there. Stay safe and healthy!! Blue skies and fair winds to you all!!! RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!



**SGM Walter Zajkowski,
Best Ranger 2007 & 2011.**



**Original c. 1970 Papa
Company scroll.**

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1970 Tiger Stripe camos.



**Dan Miller, Regimental
CSM Rick Merritt & Terry
Roderick, BRC 2011.**



**Gen Greb, (aka Gil Berg)
BRC, 2011.**



**Lynne Towne & Kathy
Brown at Victory Pond,
BRC, 2011.**



d/151 Lr P/r anger Unit Director - Leon Moore

What h ave You Done Lately

This is the spring issue of 2011, and it seems to be coming faster each and every year for this old soldier.

Unit Offices for 2011-2012:

President:

Leon L Moore
Fountain City, IN 765-730-9140

Vice President:

Stephen D Justus
Indianapolis, IN 317-545-1096

Treasurer:

Gary L Bussell (Connie)
Muncie, IN 765-288-3541

Secretary:

James D Hagan Anderson, IN 765-643-2174

Chaplain:

James E Johnson Indianapolis, IN 317-823-8371

Board Members:

Robert D McIntire	Martinsville, IN	765-349-2960
Gary L Angrick	New Ross, IN	765-676-9872
Thomas R Blandford	Carmel, IN	317-846-6374
Loren T Dixon	Evansville, IN	812-867-6536
Theodore F Dunn	Middletown, IN	765-354-4058
Terry F MacDonald	Fountaintown, IN	317-835-7625
Gary G Williams	Evansville, IN	812-4710003

Quartermaster:

Albert L Pauley (Larry) Anderson, IN 765-778-4321

Sargent Of Arms:

Jon Ellis Anderson, IN 765-622-1926



ROLL CALL

Sgt. Max Anderson

Max was given his orders on December 15, 2010 to report to the Advance Guard Detail.

He has been assigned to secure a base camp in preparation of our unit's final assignment. If I know Max, he will be standing at the guard gate with the biggest smile he can produce with open arms. Max like all of us had major problems in dealing with civilian life, but Max was able to let go of a lot of it before he was called back to duty. We all loved it when he started to come out of his shell. For we new

what the real Max was really like. Max brought out the best in us when we were in his presents. We love you and will miss you dearly.



Muncie -Max Edward Anderson, 64, of Muncie, passed away on Wednesday, December 15th, 2010, at Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center, Indianapolis after experiencing complications following heart surgery. He was born 1946 in Muncie, Indiana, to Dale and Ann

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(Miller) Anderson and graduated from DeSoto High School in 1965. He was preceded in death by his parents. Max was employed by Riggins Dairy, Indiana National Guard, Ontario Corporation, and Evans Construction. In 1994 he founded his own trucking company, M.X. Express. Max served his country as a member of Co. D. 151 Airborne RANGER Inf. and was a combat veteran of the Vietnam conflict. He was awarded several medals, among them a Bronze Star with Valor. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Brenda (Stone) Anderson; sons Edgar Cross (wife Astrid), Cairo, Egypt; and Brian Anderson (wife Tommie), McKinney, TX; daughters Ferreh (Anderson) Hiatt (husband Mark), Daleville, IN; Miah Anderson, Marion, IN; six grandchildren who he loved dearly, Katie Sherwood, Alexandra Cross, Emmy Hiatt, Sloan Anderson, Julius Cross, and Wade Hiatt; sisters Brenda (Anderson) Thompson (husband Lee), Port Austin, MI; Carol Anderson, Muncie, IN; niece Kambi (Shores) Dulworth, her husband, Tom, and their children, Bryce, Ashton, and Mitchell. He is survived by his remaining Co. D brothers. Max will also be greatly missed by canine companions, Charlie and Jessi, as well as his grand-dog, Betsy. Funeral services will be held 3:00 p.m. Monday, December 20th, 2010, at Elm Ridge Funeral Home with Pastor James Becker officiating. Burial will follow in Elm Ridge Memorial Park. Calling will begin at 2:00 p.m. Monday. Memorials may be sent to: D 151 Family Assistance Fund (mail to Tom Blandford, 5882 Hollow Oak Trail, Carmel, IN 46033) or to GiveAn Hour.org. Military Rites will be conducted by the Veterans of Delaware County Honor Guard.

Leave online condolence/view memorial video at www.elmridgefuneralhome.com.

This issue is a wake up call to People:

I am not trying to make any political statements only trying to make you aware of dynamics that our current soldiers are facing upon returning home. The sad part is, it's all too familiar for the Old Guards. We as a nation have stood by and allowed our government to desecrate our soldiers whom have given so much and received so little.

So before I get any older Glynn Barber Jr. and myself (who is the son of the late Glynn Barber Sr. who I had the pleasure of being in the guards with and in Viet Nam, but most of all we were friends (if memory serves me correctly I think we had at least one beer together) have started a program to give back to our veterans who are coming home now.

We will be paying it forward for the gift of Freedom given to us by the men and woman who are serving, have served in the current war zones, and those soldiers who supported

them on the battlefields. We are working with the Wounded Warriors and Homeless Veterans groups. We will soon be supporting and providing work, shelter, and hopefully a 4 year bachelor's degree in aquaponics and greenhouses. This system is totally green for veterans to get back on their feet, back into main stream society, and return to a normal life (well as normal as any combat veteran can be).

As of last report our brave young hero's are becoming homeless on an average of 8 to 9 months upon returning home. Whereas, the Viet Nam soldiers upon coming home became homeless were 7 to 9 years.

Here are some of the reasons for the drastic increase of today's Veterans becoming homeless in such a short amount of time.

Jobs:

Unavailable do to current economics. After returning home to find their old job has already been sent overseas. Banks foreclosing on their homes and cars. Unable to get back into the work routine. Problems with co-workers and supervisors due to PTSD.

PTSD

Well that speaks for itself.

Divorce:

Due to economics, stress on the wives being unable to carry the load alone. Number of deployments.

Thank God for the men and woman of the old guard (Korea and Viet Nam) for if it were not for them, our soldiers today would be receiving the same desecrating and hatred treatment as we did when we came home. We send them off to war with payers and pride in what they are about to do. We send cards and gifts from home, while they are fighting the war on terrorists.

Then we welcome them home with love and honor for a job well done. After that we go on about our way. Some do not stop there they continue to stay involved in the support of our brave men and women in different ways. So in most cases it's hard for those people whom have not been in or been apart of the military to know the sacrifices that are made on their behalf. They don't like war to begin with, mostly because they don't want to be the ones who may have to serve or see their children serve. They just want to reap to benefits without the sacrifice. Well its time to stand up become a **provider** instead of a **receiver** of our freedom. A lot of the OLD GUARD stays active in some sort of way.

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The average person doesn't care one way or another about our involvement in the Middle East, because it doesn't have a personal effect on them. They are too busy trying to keep their heads above water with this economy the way it is.

The rest of this article has to do with how our government is currently ruining our soldiers and civilians way of life. We have good and bad politicians. The problem is there are way to many bad and not enough good ones, thanks to some of our government officials in Washington DC who seem to be trying to start the Second Coming of the Third Right. They have been called (Ass Holes – Thieves – High Paid Crooks – Murders – Liars – Acts of desecrating our Constitution. While in the mean time, the Lobbyists are filling their pockets. They continue to keep striping away at the Education Budget to keep the people ignorant. They have put a freeze on social security payments; they froze Veterans disability benefits, and are trying to pass a Bill to reduce our current benefits. Federal Employees were forced to take a 10% cut in pay while at the same time giving themselves a **pay raise!!!!!!!!** They have robbed us of our heritage to be a free nation by imposing a form of tyranny and dictatorship by both parties. This has been going on far to long. We need to stop them from **striping away** our rights, our choices, and our jobs. Even as I write this article, our government is giving tax breaks to U S

Companies to have products made abroad while eliminating jobs here. Now that's what I call looking out for our best interest by our wonderful government. They put themselves far far far far far above the people as they make laws to benefit themselves, such as better insurance, better retirement plus receiving higher paying jobs from the lobbyist upon stepping down. Privileges for the people are being taken away year after year. All the while they live above and out side the laws they impose upon the people. They act like they should be treated as **KINGS, LORDS, and NOBLEMEN** while stealing us blind. This reminds me of another time in our history when we the people were treated in a similar manner. We took a stand then and changed the dynamics and became one of the greatest nations of all time. Now over time our lawmakers have successfully reversed our standard of living to almost a third world economy.

I hope this starts you thinking and becoming more involved so that we can once again become the great nation that we fought for, to preserve what our Forefathers put in place. As I said before please take this for what it's worth. It's not a political stand, but a tool to provide our veterans in receiving what is due. **If we don't who will?**

Signing off: Sgt. Leon Moore

**F/51 Lr P**

Unit Director - Russell Dillon

The following articles cover the year 1951. The memos and security estimates on what was happening in Southeast Asia. These articles come from the book entitled "Estimative Products on Vietnam 1948- 1975".

Memo Subject: Possibility of early Major Viet Minh Attack in Indochina

From the National Estimates Board on 14 March 1951.

Reports have been coming in that the Viet Minh are expected to start an offensive in the Tonkin area between the 15 and the 20 March. The reason for this thinking was reports of Viet Minh troop movements. Other untested sources say that an offensive is coming soon.

Logic says that these reports could be true. The reason is that the attack on the Tonkin area would be before the



monsoon season starts, in May, and before French reinforcements and US equipment can be in place. It is thought that there are approximate increase of 20,000 Viet Minh troops in the area. The timing of an attack by the Viet Minh is if the Chinese have been able to supply the Viet Minh with the needed equipment and artillery. It is felt by intelligence is that an attack could not happen before 25 March.

For over a year the CIA had been receiving reports from the field that Chinese Communist troops are about

to be used in conjunction with Viet Minh troops. Reports say there were 30,00 Chinese Troops in the Tonkin area. The CIA had also received untested reports of a Viet Minh attack with support of 20,000 Chinese troops along with Naval and air support out of Hainan. Other reports do not mention the use of Chinese troops but report that China is

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looking to arm a number of volunteer army regiments place near the Indochina boarder.

CIA reports also claimed that China will not send troops into the Tonkin area as long as the US does not intervene between the French and the Viet Minh. The French feel that they could weaken the Viet Minh enough to make a attack on the Tonkin area unfeasible without the use of Chinese troops.

Intelligence Estimate: Resistance of Thailand, Burma, and Malaya to Communist Pressure in the Event of a Communist Victory in Indochina in 1951

Estimate information was agreed by all intelligence departments involved with the report which was made available on 15 March 1951.

The problem is how well can Thailand,Burma,and Malaya resist Communist military and political pressures if the Communist achieve a victory in Indochina. The belief of the intelligence community are as follows.

A near term victory by the Viet Minh in Indochina without the use of Chinese troops would not lead to any Communist type government. It would increase subversive activity along with intimidation of the populace.

A Viet Minh victory with the use of Chinese troops would increase Communist pressure against Thailand and Burma. The two countries would seek relations with the Communist.

If the Communist win Indochina then Thailand and Burma it would put increase pressure on the British in Malaya. It was believed that the Brithish would not be able to remain in control of Malaya without a high increase of military and economic aide.

Without Chinese help it was believed that the Viet Minh would not be able to attack Thailand and Burma in 1951.

With Chinese Communist control Vietnam then the fall of Thailand and Burma would come quickly unless the UN or Western powers were to intervene. The same could also happen to Malaya, although harder, if Malaya were not heavily reinforced.

Forming a containment force against the Chinese Communist, if they were to invade other countries, to protect other countries in the area would not be possible.

Should the Viet Minh conquer Indochina without large Chinese troop support in 1951 it was thought that should this happen that Ho Chi Minh's standing would be greatly enhanced in the eyes of Southeast Asia. Should a defeat in Indochina with US support happen, this would cause

Communism to spread quickly through the neighboring countries. At the time of this report the Viet Minh, with or without Chinese help, do not seem to be looking to take over Burma or Thailand. The Viet Minh conquest of Indochina could cause the Burma and Thailand governments to acknowledge the Viet Minh government. The Burma government could possibly seek friendly relations with the the Viet Minh government while the Thailand government would work on increasing their defense against Communism. With Indochina under Communist control it was thought that the Communist would also increase their subversion efforts in the Burma and Thailand region. IF this region were to be overthrown also tit would cause problems for the British in Malaya.

A Viet Minh victory in Indochina with the aid of a large Chinese force would increase fears of neighboring countries that they to may also be taken over by the Chinese. Thailand would see the loss as a failure of the French with US supported aid as being unable to stop the spread of Communism and seek a friendly compromise. If Thailand were to fall under Communist control the boarder area between Burma and Thailand would give the Communist easy access to rebel forces in Burma, that are unhappy with the current government,that were looking for a Communist government.

The British in Malaya have their hands full trying to contain about 5,000 Malayan rebels. The fall of Indochina, Thailand and Burma would open up a passageway for Communist support and supplies for the rebels. If this were to happen the British would need a substantial increase in military aid with a doubtful outcome.

It is believed that the Viet Minh will not invade Burma or Thailand in 1951, however it is possible that the Viet Minh would still run some operations into Northeastern Thailand.

Memo Subject:

French Problems in Indochina

From the Chief of Estimates Staff on 4 September 1951. This memo covers 5 trouble points that are of concern for French success.

The French were looking for greater US support in an effort to turn around economic and military problems in Indochina.

The French feel that greater US support will strengthen the Tonkin area and will help offset Chinese Communist build up. The French also feel that they can not support full support of Indochina and their commitment to the defense of Europe without greater US support in Indochina.

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F/51 Lr P (CONTINUED)

Military and civilian expenses will cost the French \$900 million dollars. The cost are from equipping and expanding the Vietnamese army and the increased military operations to combat a better equipped and trained Viet Minh troops. The civilian economy is in a shambles and ids costing the French more than was expected.

Since early 1951 the French have been holding their own against the Viet Minh. The concern of the French is if

China should decide to enter the conflict. If this were to happen, the French were wanting assurance from the US that ground , air , and navel support would be available to the French.

It has been rumored that if the French do not get the needed support that is needed then the French would try to reach a settlement with the Viet Minh.. The French have denied such rumors and it is felt that any such settlement is unlikely.



Lr r P det acHment-3r d id

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

No Submission



ar vn ranger adv, (bdQ)

Unit Director - Bill Miller



Bill Miller

**Fellow Rangers and
Co Vans:**

SIT REP: A Locator Request

Col. Nguyen Van Dai, a former RVN Ranger (BDQ), is trying to find the 3rd Field Hospital surgeon who saved Col. Dai's son's life through heart surgery in 1972. He doesn't recall the surgeon's name, but would like to thank him again and let him know that the infant patient grew up to be a healthy man and is doing well. Col. Dai was the Commander of the Duc My Ranger Training Center from 1973 to 1975.

If anyone can help please contact Col. Dai at (503) 645-1417.

Sad News

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of CSM (Ret) James H. (Snake) Collier at his home in Goodlickville, TN on January 19, 2011. Services were held January 22, 2011 at the Phillips-Robinson Chapel. Internment was January 25, 2011 at the Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery.

CSM Collier's career spanned twenty eight years with two tours of duty in the Republic of Vietnam. He was the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the 81st ARVN Airborne Ranger



Group. CSM Collier was also selected as the CSM and Chief Instructor of the Ranger Department. After his retirement he worked for the State of Tennessee, helping other veterans find employment. He was a member of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and was inducted into the U. S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame in 2002.

I speak for all of us in saying CSM James (Snake) Collier will be missed.



Feature:

My days as a Biet Dong Quan were exciting, challenging and rewarding. I don't think that I will ever forget that year of my life. I arrived in Saigon on August 4, 1962 and was assigned as the Ranger Advisor III Corps. At that time there was no IV Corps, so III Corps covered all of what later became known as III and IV Corps. There were three Divisions in the III Corps area during 1962-63. They were the 5th, 7th and 9th. Each Division had a Ranger Advisor and there were no advisors below Division until Phuoc Binh Thanh Special Zone was established in November 1962. Dick Jones was Ranger Advisor to the 9th Division, Torrence, who was killed on a later tour, was with the 7th Division and John Hayes was the Ranger Advisor to the 5th Division, whose commander at that time was Colonel (later President) Thieu. All ranger units were organized into

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ar vn ranger adv, (bdQ) (CONTINUED)

companies at that time, with the exception of three experimental numbered the 10th, 20th and the 30th. The first Ranger Battalions were formed and trained at Trung Lap just before I left Vietnam in August 1963.

Gary Colonna was a Ranger Company Advisor for the Capital Military District in Saigon during 1963. Andre Lucas arrived in country about a month before I left in 1963. He took one of the first Ranger Battalions through Trung Lap training. Willie Ewalt was my boss as a Special Forces instructor at Fort Bragg, NC in 1960-61. He left Fort Bragg in 1960 and went to Vietnam with a special training team and set up the first Vietnamese training camp for Rangers. Lew Millet helped Ewalt with the training camp. "Coal Bin Willie" Wilson was successively II Corps and III Corps Senior Advisor in 1962-64. He was my boss, but not a Ranger Advisor. Chikalla was the Ranger Advisor to the Ranger Command in Saigon while I was there. He may have moved to the field after I left.

As I stated before I left the III Corp Ranger Advisor post in November 1962 and became Senior Advisor to the Vietnamese Commander of Phuoc Binh Thanh Special Zone. I am enclosing two papers which I wrote concerning the Ranger operations I accompanied into War Zone D from Nov 62 to July 63. One paper was an after action report summarizing all of the operations and was written before I left Vietnam. The other paper was written while a student at the Army War College, but was based on some of my specific experiences while advising the Rangers on operations in War Zone D. In addition to these papers I have copies of all my after action reports and numerous other memorabilia of those operations.

I retired from the U. S. Army in 1975 and worked for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission helping them plan security for protection of nuclear plants against terrorist attacks.

Colonel (Ret) Charles K. Nulsen Jr.
February 24, 1977

VIETNAMESE RANGER OPERATIONS WAR ZONE D, 1962-1963

Ph OUC-BINH -Th ANh SPECIAL ZONE

The longest and most successful penetration of War Zone D by the PBTSZ rangers was conducted between February 2 and 16, 1963. The operation was planned around intelligence collected from another VC defector, who claimed he knew the location of War Zone D headquarters. This time Colonel Dien sent his deputy as commander of the ranger column. (Colonel Dien had been under strong

pressure from President Diem not to expose himself so much during these operations.) The first attempt to get by the security forces and into the inner fortress ended in a disaster. Colonel Dien's deputy halted his ranger force at approximately 1530 to allow the soldiers time to cook their daily hot meal of rice. Out of laziness or sheer stupidity, the deputy chose to spend the night in the same location, and to compound the error in judgment, the column did not move out until 0800 the next morning. The rangers had moved only 500 meters from their camp site when the inevitable happened—the lead platoon was hit by a well-planned VC ambush. The result was nine rangers killed and five wounded, with no known VC casualties. This tragic incident reinforced what we already knew—to prevent ambushes in the jungle, it is necessary to move on after supper and keep moving for a half hour after before stopping for the night. Darkness in the jungle will protect any force. Moving the next morning before first light is also an essential element of avoiding ambush.

Colonel Dien took immediate action by relieving his deputy and taking personal command on the ground. He started the column marching the next day from a point five kilometers away. By taking this new route, the ranger force had to negotiate far denser jungle and more rugged terrain than if the original plan had been followed. Even by using elephant paths through the thickest portion of the jungle, it took the column four days to travel the same distance it would have taken only a day and a half by following the route planned by Colonel Dien's deputy.

Our first encounter with the VC, and the first major decision that had to be made, came at the end of the fourth day's march. About 1730 the lead element of the column ran into a small VC way station that looked like it might accommodate a squad. Colonel Dien halted the column and drew everyone back, but left a few rangers to keep constant surveillance over the enemy camp. Luckily the VC had not been alerted to our presence. The alternatives with which we were faced were to attack the way station with almost certain success, or, to continue with our original mission and bypass it in order not to alert Zone D headquarters. To complicate the decision, we were not certain of our exact location, nor, and more importantly, of our position in relation to the objective. We had a feeling we were close, but we had no idea how close. As in almost every tough decision, Colonel Dien was not reluctant to ask my advice. (In the uncomplicated, clear-cut actions he always told me what he was going to do, giving me no time for recommendations). This was one time when I think he would have done better not to listened to me. After consulting with my deputy, one of the other two US

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ar vn r anger adv, (bdQ) (CONTINUED)

advisors on the operation, I recommended that we attack the way station just before dawn the next morning. My rationale was simple, “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.” If we could not find Zone D headquarters, we at least could claim a minor victory.

The rangers started to get into an attack position around 0400. This was a difficult maneuver to control in the jungle at night but Colonel Dien and his ranger company commanders did a magnificent job of getting all the units in position before daylight. At 0600 the attack began, and by 0615 it was over. The way station was completely overrun and the net gain was the dubious distinction of watching a young VC nurse die of AR 15 bullet wounds. The other members of the small unit had fled. To prevent the escaped VC from having too much of a lead time to warn Zone D headquarters, the column was hastily reconstituted and ordered underway in the direction of the primary objective.

About 1000, after traveling three to four kilometers, the lead rangers began receiving fire. This set the rest of the column in action. All of the rangers immediately began double-timing toward the front of the column in support of the lead elements. During the confusion of the next 30 to 45 minutes it was difficult to piece together exactly what was happening. During the action, firing was constant and heavy. It was not clear who was doing the most firing. However, it was obvious by the cracking in the surrounding trees that plenty of lead was incoming. After the momentum of the ranger attack carried us through a large base area complex, it was evident that we had hit something big. The rangers picked up one wounded VC and brought in another who had voluntarily surrendered.

Through interrogation of these two prisoners, we discovered that we had found Zone D headquarters and that the VC, who had escaped earlier that morning, had in fact alerted the headquarters several hours before the attack. The two hour lead time had been sufficient for them to evacuate most of the important documents and all of their weapons. The fighting had been done by a security platoon whose mission was to fight a delaying action. The wounded VC who had been a sergeant in the security platoon, died several hours later. The VC who had surrendered was, as luck would have it, the political officer of Zone D headquarters. He indicated that for some time he had been looking for an excuse to give himself up. This particular defector was to stay with Colonel Dien for many months and provided the best intelligence we have received to date of VC operations in Zone D. After a thorough search of the camp, many documents were uncovered, one of which was a complete roster and all VC unit designations in War Zone D.

The ex-political officer indicated that he knew the location of other installations. At about 1400 we set out to find these camps. An hour later we entered an area that was honeycombed with bunkers and cleared fire lanes. They were the most elaborate defensive positions that I had seen in the jungle, but they were not occupied. Apparently the VC had decided not to stand and defend but to move out and try to catch us off guard. We found several small camps and many bunkers, but these had been more thoroughly evacuated than the headquarters camp. Nothing was left. By this time darkness was closing in fast. A decision was made to leave the area rather than stay and defend against an almost certain return of the VC. We had no air or artillery support and our communications with base camp had been lost. We moved that night, with Colonel Dien and myself acting as compass and pointman, until an hour after dark to be certain that we would shake any VC that might be following us. At 2100 we simply halted, sank to the ground, and went to sleep after establishing a 50 percent alert.

We arose before dawn the next morning and continued the march. By 1000 we had reached the MaDa River and a familiar crossing site. We took our bearing on the same road running through Zone D that we had followed during our operations against D-15. At 1500 that afternoon we reached the road, radioed back to base camp, and had helicopters fly us out additional supplies. Once the helicopters arrived, we established a perimeter defense and decided to rest in the area for two days before continuing operations. We had occupied Zone D headquarters on February 8 and this was the 9th of February. The operation lasted until the 16th of February. Subsequent VC base camps that were discovered included a 200-man hospital, a basic training center, an ordnance depot, and a battalion base camp. All installations were destroyed with no ranger casualties. The VC had evidently decided not to stand and fight, but “to fade away to fight another day.” By the 15th of February all of the rangers were fairly well exhausted and we walked out of Zone D to Dong Xai without incident. We happened to walk into Dong Xai at 0200 the morning of February 16. Colonel Dien woke the local cafe owner and we sat down to a marvelous meal of Chinese soup and Vietnamese chicken. That dinner, consumed with a couple of cold beers, was one of my most satisfying and unforgettable meals I had experienced during my two tours in Vietnam.

That operation, the longest sustained operation in War Zone D ever conducted by the Vietnamese, was a great psychological victory for the rangers. They had gone into the heart of War Zone D, fought their way into VC headquarters and remained long enough to destroy several key VC installations. The operation clearly demonstrated

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ar vn r a n g e r a d v, (b d Q) (CONTINUED)

how small units of rangers could move through the jungle, find base camps, destroy them, and keep moving without being defeated by the enemy in his own backyard. Continuing to move after dark and moving out at first light was the rule learned at tragic expense. Additionally, we discovered during this operation, as well as preceding operations, that control in the jungle is more important than seeking an advantage from complicated enveloping maneuvers. Although maximum effort was spent to gain surprise, it eluded us every time. We found that we could operate from five to six days without resupply and do it effectively. At the same time, if we had had continuous artillery, air and helicopter support, the operations could have been more successful. Finding the VC installations was due, in large measure, to the intelligence given by the defected political officer and that it was used immediately by Colonel Dien, who kept his plans as flexible as the situation, was another mark of his outstanding leadership. Exploiting opportunities, rather than sticking to a predetermined plan, stands out as one of the key lessons learned in this operation.

The operations continued through July of 1963 following similar patterns. The individual ranger companies assigned to Phuoc Binh Thanh Special Zone were later used to form ranger battalions and retrained at the ranger training center at Trung Lap. The aggregate experience of the operations confirmed by belief that initiative; willingness to keep flexible enough to follow through on reliable intelligence; respect for, but not fear of the VC; good security, maintained through constant movement; and faith in the individual soldier can be a winning combination in the jungle.

The operations also confirmed the superb fighting qualities of the Vietnamese ranger units, particularly when inspired by outstanding leadership of their senior officer. These were the lessons upon which I based my tactical judgments when I returned to Vietnam in August 1966 as a battalion commander in Tay Ninh Province, the center of War Zone C.

This photo is of Major Nulsen, Senior Advisor to the Commander, PBTSZ, and LTC Do Van Diem, Vietnamese Commander of PBTSZ in 1963.



Sick Call:

Ranger Earl Singletary is home recovering from heart surgery and I am sure he would like to hear from you. Earl we wish you a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you at the critter cookout.

Quote:

“Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it; no constitution, no law, no court can even do much to help it.”
- James Madison

Mu Nau

Bill Miller
Unit Director



Merrill's Marauders

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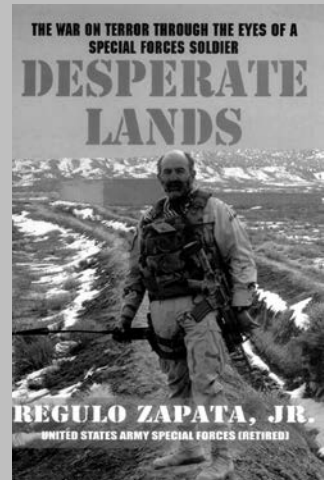
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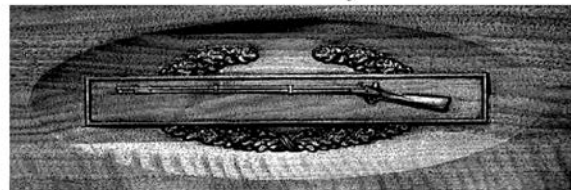
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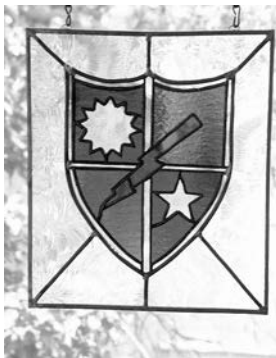
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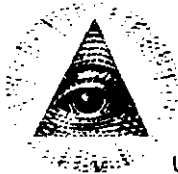
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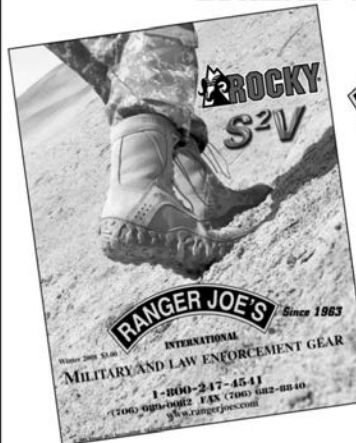
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RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

THE ARMY RANGERS' GUIDE TO LEADING
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TO MOVE SLOWLY AND SILENTLY

By Wayne Lund

On the day I enlisted in the Army I knew that I wanted to serve with the best,
During my training by studying and working hard I was able to pass every test.

After completing my basic and advanced training I was selected as a Recon Scout,
Training to become a Recon scout I learned some skills that left me with no doubt.

As a Recon scout I knew that I had to be extra observant whenever out on a patrol.
Leading our team I was careful to move slowly and silently, insuring total control.

We know that with every mission we go on that we will be facing eminent dangers,
That's what we've trained for, we're fully prepared because we are Airborne rangers.

wlundlrrp_ranger@hotmail.com

25 January 2011

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.



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

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Membership Application Form

Annual dues: \$30.00

Life membership: \$300.00

Subscription Only: \$30.00

Checks Payable to:

75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.

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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

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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



75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 577800
MODESTO, CA 95357-7800

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Airborne Man of the Year Awards; L to R, Mary Anne Colledge, 75th Ranger Regiment CSM Rick Merritt and wife Elizabeth, (Rick presented the Award to the overall Airborne Man of the Year), Guest of Keni & Keni Thomas, recipient of the overall Airborne Man of the Year award, and our 2nd VP Jason Baker and his wife Trisch.
