PATROLLING

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. **WINTER 2016/2017**

VOLUME 28 ISSUE IIII



LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE ASSOCIATION Officers' Messages.....1-6 General7-15, 44-48

Unit Reports......16-43

Photo credit: Steven Van Esch

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

RANGER

SOCIATION













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.
- 3. 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.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

SECTION 2: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Co C (LRP) 58th Inf. V Corp (LRRP) VII Corp (LRRP) 9th Inf. Div. (LRRP) 25th Inf. Div. (LRRP) 196th Inf. Bde. (LRRP) 1st Cav. Div. (LRRP) 1st Inf. Div. (LRRP) 4th Inf. Div. (LRRP) 101st Abn. Div., 1st Bde. (LRRP) 199th Inf. Bde. (LRRP)

SECTION 3: Long Range Patrol

Co D (LRP) 17th Inf. Co E (LRP) 20th Inf. Co E (LRP) 30th Inf. Co E (LRP) 50th Inf. Co F (LRP) 50th Inf. Co E (LRP) 51st Inf. Co F (LRP) 51st Inf. Co E (LRP) 52nd Inf.

173rd Abn. Bde. (LRRP)

3rd Inf. Div. (LRRP)

ICo F (LRP) 52nd Inf. Co E (LRP) 58th Inf. Co F (LRP) 58th Inf. 70th Inf. DET (LRP) 71st Inf. DET (LRP) 74th Inf. DET (LRP) 78th Inf. DET (LRP) 79th Inf. DET (LRP) Co D (LRP) 151st Inf.

SECTION 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

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

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
2011-2013	Joe Little
2013-2015	Bill Anton
2015-	Richard Barela

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

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

SECTION 6: 75th Ranger Regiment 1st Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974. 2nd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974. 3rd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1984. 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007. 75th Ranger Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984.

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















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Patrolling is published quarterly by the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., and is mailed third class postage, under postal permit #12, Indiana, PA.

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

Advertisements for products or services do not constitute an endorsement by the Association. Manuscripts, photographs and drawings are submitted at the risk of the individual submitting the material. Captions must be submitted with any photographs or graphics.

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

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

POSTMASTER

Send address corrections to: Patrolling PO Box 348360 Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Richard S. Barela

Happy New Year's Rangers; I hope that 2016 was a good year, but now it is over and we rang in a new year and looking forward to a great year in 2017. The summer will soon be upon us and the ranger rendezvous will be here and we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the ranger battalions.

75th Anniversary Ranger Rendezvous:

Ranger Rendezvous will soon be upon us. Here are the dates for the event this year; 26 Jun-30 Jun 2017. As of 27 Dec 2016, we had approx. 15 rooms at the primary hotel and all rooms at the alternate are still available. See the information below on the hotel accommodations or go to the web site and get the information and get your rooms.

As we will celebrate the 75 years of Rangers beginning with the establishment of 1st Ranger Battalion on 19 June 1942 during WWII. There will some big events to celebrate this major in history.

Booking Link:

http://www.75thrra.com/news/rendezvous2017.html

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Columbus

Tel: 1-800-222-8733

Group Name: Ranger Rendezvous 2017

Arrival Date: 26-Jun-2017 Departure Date: 01-Jul-2017

Please note, the entire URL must be copied and pasted for it to work

properly for the DoubleTree.

Hotel: Fairfield Inn and Suites Columbus Tel: 1-706-317-3600 (Veronica Williams) Group Name: Ranger Rendezvous 2017

Arrival Date: 26-Jun-2017 Departure Date: 01-Jul-2017

However, there is lots to do and many things happening prior to this

great event which I hope you are all attending.

As you may already know or heard of through the grapevine, we did something this past October and held the first ever mid-term officers meeting and went over quite of lot of information and did a complete scrub of the by-laws. We are sending out a warning order of those changes in this issue and a complete list of all the changes that we recommended. Now the hard part there will be a ballot with the changes and a block for approval or disapproval. This is your chance to vote. We will also set up an on-line voting by going to our web site and voting that way. Please note only one ballot per member. If you voted on line and mailed one in the first ballot will count and the other will be rejected.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

The main area we discussed is getting the magazine on track. We sat and developed a plan and worked with the association editor, the association officers and editor to get copies out and mailed to all the members in a timely manner. One area that was discussed was overseas mail. This isn't as easy as many think. Unless you have an APO or FPO we can't send it overseas to a residential address unless you are willing to pay extra for this.

One of the other major items was establishing a budget that makes the association viable. We sat there and went over each credit and debit and came up with a budget that keeps the association viable and puts us in the black, if there are no major outlays during the next two years. We made it so that the officers need to do this each year and keep an accurate record so we do not have to fight getting audits done in a timely manner.

On that note I want to thank all the officers for attending and making this a great success. A special thanks to John Chester and Mary Anne for hosting. The rooms were good and the food was excellent. Lastly the drinks at the end made us relax after all the work was completed.

Ranger Hall of Fame Nominations:

Nomination for the Ranger Hall of Fame for this coming year. We have three packets we are submitting. I will not give the names up just yet but that should come out in the upcoming issue. One of the key requirements that packets must show besides his military record and decorations which count, but what has this candidate done to promote the ranger ethos and how has he helped the ranger community in the life after the military. This is a big item under what they are looking at. Last year we had one packet submitted and this year, I am very happy to report that we will have three packets submitted and that is our quota from the association to the RHOF committee. I will be present for the voting on the 3rd of May at the 75th Ranger Regiment HQs and I feel very strongly that our packets will be selected for induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

New Officer Nominations:

We need rangers to step and take an office in the association. If interested send a small article to patrolling@75thrra.com and let us know what office you are running for. I took the office as president and granted there are learning curves but I think I have learned a lot and been active in the association. There are five officer positions, President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Secretary, and Treasurer; three of the positions are term limited; President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President. However, there is a by-law proposal to have the positions run for office for a 2nd term. The idea of making this work is to get involved and help move the association move forward. We need ideas and new blood. I have been out of the military for over 20 years now and our Viet Nam brothers much longer than that. Let's get our brethren from the Regiment involved and pass the torch. I was led to believe I was the first from the original ranger battalions (1st Bn in 1974) and from the regiment to take the president's position. Remember "Rangers Lead the Way" and we need to keep this up look at who can best support the association and get them set up for running for the upcoming term. Get with the current officer you are interested and find out what the job entails.

Again, to all Thank you all for your service during and after the military. The work we do to promote the association is in your hands and does bring the ranger family together. Make the association grow, find new members and bring back those who have left. We need to get our brothers from the regiment involved. This will be their association when we have gone to meet the Big Ranger in the Sky. They will be carrying the ranger tradition forward and taking it to the enemies of our country.

Rangers Lead the Way - All the Way!!!

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Chester



John Chester

Book Review

For those of you that need a reason to get mad, (Vietnam guys especially), there is a book that was published last year, that should do the trick. *McNamara's Folly,* by Hamilton Gregory is an exploration of the use of low IQ troops during the Vietnam conflict. Sometimes referred to as McNamara's 100,000.

these were troops that would have otherwise have been ineligible for the draft. Starting around 1965, the standards were lowered to encompass an additional 100,000 troops for the next four years.

As you get into the text, there are a number of examples of individuals who should never have been in the service for any reason, individuals who didn't know their left boot from their right, did not comprehend the basics of hygene, (showering, etc.), had no concept of how to use a weapon safely, (indeed if at all), and otherwise were totally lacking in the realm of common knowledge necessary to be a working member of a military unit. Despite the obvious limitations these men brought to the battlefield, a disproportionate number of them ended up in the infantry.

When I arrived in country in 1967, I was given a Blue Team, (air rifle platoon attached to the 1/10 Cav). I had two individuals in the unit who were among "McNamara's 100,000". They were identifiable by their serial numbers, all of them began with US 67 000 000, so it was apparent to anyone with access to the personnel files who was who. One of these guys was one of the best soldiers I ever knew, the other was a disaster.

As you might imagine, the casualty rate among these troops was considerably higher than for their standard performing contemporaries. Despite the statistics maintained for these men, the one question that cannot be answered is how many deaths of regular troops were these individuals responsible for? We'll never know, but it must have been considerable.

Reunion 2017

We are quickly approaching our reunion in June, and we would like to solicit some input from our members relative to the activities for attendees, in particular, activities for spouses, significant others, etc. By all means question your spouse, significant other, boss, whatever, as to activities that they would like to see, and let us know. E-mail to elected@75thrra.org or call me with any suggestions. Rick has asked me to take point on this issue, so if you guys could get me some input on this issue ASAP, I would greatly appreciate it. We are about six months out from the reunion, but that is not a significant amount of time when planning something of this complexity.

By-Laws Changes

The next issue will contain proposed by laws changes that will be voted on at the bi-annual meeting at the Rendezvous this summer. Members will also be able to vote by using the outer cover of the issue. For a preliminary synopsis of the changes, see the first article in the *feature articles* section. I will close with a brief reminder to all of us combat veterans who may (or may not) be acquainted with PTSD.

So live your life that the fear of death can never enter your heart. Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view, and demand that they respect yours. Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life. Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people. Prepare a noble death song for the day when you go over the great divide.

Always give a word or a sign of salute when meeting or passing a friend, even a stranger, when in a lonely place. Show respect to all people and grovel to none.

When you arise in the morning give thanks for the food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies only in yourself. Abuse no one and no thing, for abuse turns the wise ones to fools and robs the spirit of its vision.

When it comes your time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way.

Sing your death song and die like a hero going home.

Chief Tecumseh (Poem from Act of Valor)

2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By David Regenthal



David Regenthal

Rangers! You have, or will, read elsewhere in this issue of Patrolling about some substantive changes having been made (or proposed in the case of By-Laws changes). The main thrust of my notes here is to kinda bat cleanup or emphasize some necessary process.

I will say this again for the Membership Committee and most important functionary, our Secretary: All NEW APPLICATIONS for membership MUST be accompanied by supporting documentation of your service within the regiment or eligible unit (see current By-Laws, Article V, Article VII Section 5, and Article VIII. Failing the ability to produce required documentation the alternative is verification of your service by two currently active members. A complete set of By-Laws are available on the website.

Many of you are aware that we began using CONSTANT CONTACT (a popular group e-mail service) to keep you informed of news & events between printed issues of our Patrolling magazine. It's working great for those Rangers who have kept the Secretary up to date with changes to their e-mail and contact information. Every member has the option to be added to the list, or to unsubscribe if for some reason they don't wish to be kept informed via this process. The only real weakness to the process is that there are a fair number of you that we don't have current (or any) e-mail address for you. That's understandable as some of you have been members since before e-mail existed or have changed e-mail providers since you joined. I would encourage all members to verify that we have your correct/current information. If you are getting the magazine, then we have your correct mailing address. If you've not received a couple of Constant Contact e-mails since last Fall, then you either need to notify the secretary or keep a closer eye on your spam folder. There is a change of address form at the lower left of the main page, here: www.75thrra.com

Speaking of Patrolling...I can tell you now, following many promises (and an equal number of disappointments), that we have finally figured it out. While funding magazines for 1400 life members (most of whom have not had to pay dues or financially support the magazine in years) is still an issue, we have none the less figured out how to publish the magazine four times a year on a consistent basis. I am going to propose that life members, excepting those who have just recently paid for life membership, join me in a special \$20 annual subscription option through the guartermaster page on the website. When you see, this option become available you can know that I am the first (life member) subscriber to pay. It's an option, not a requirement—we will NOT be publishing a list of who is "in" and who is not, so that no one need worry about being embarrassed. What's important is knowing that their funds will go directly to, and only, for support in delivering Patrolling. Another way to support Patrolling is to advertise—the rate card is in this magazine and online.

Feature articles and unit pages: You'll notice in this issue of Patrolling that a few of the articles have been truncated and continued to our website. This is necessary in order to meet our target of 48 pages plus cover (total of 52) for each issue. This accomplishes multiple purposes: Printing what we feel we can pay for based upon our current agreement with the printer while allowing for longer articles and multiple photos without breaking the bank. We need flexibility from you in how we handle this. A worthwhile "rule of thumb" for unit submissions is to put your most important information (like unit reunions, hot news, TAPS, etc. at the front pages of what you submit), which will guarantee the most necessary information will be printed. So, while on average a unit might expect to have two pages, another benefit is that there will be no overall limit as to how much can be submitted (and you won't have to "word count" your submissions). This has been a bottle-neck, a backbreaking exercise for the editor and staff in the past but I'm comfortable that, with your cooperation this is going to work out rather well.

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Roger Crunk



Roger Crunk

75th Ranger Regiment Association Statement of Financial Position as of November 28, 2016

ASSETS	<u>Total</u>	LIABILITIES AND EQU	IITY <u>Total</u>
Current Assets		Liabilities	
Bank Accounts		Total Liabilities	
1000 Affinity/Operations	16,959.05	Equity	
1002 Affinity/Family fund	21,373.57	3000 Net Assets - Unrestricted	
1030 Affinity/Savings	17,731.32	119,923.45	
1040 Benevolent funds MM	1 17,587.82	Net Revenue	-7,904.59
1042 Life funds MM	36,329.33	Total Equity	<u>\$112,018.86</u>
1050 Paypal funds	2,237.77	TOTAL LIABILITIES	
Total Bank Accounts	\$112,218.86	AND EQUITY	\$112,018.86
Accounts Receivable			
1100 Accounts receivable	0.00		
Quartermastes Sales	-200.00		
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ -200.00		
Total Current Assets	<u>\$112,018.86</u>		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$112,018.86		

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By Tom Sove



Tom Sove

We are still receiving new members at a steady pace. Not rampant, but steady. Most are Batt Boys, but a few still from the Vietnam era. Same problem: all get an application in and most make dues payment, but many still omit proof of service. It's a little frustrating on this end. If you are recruiting any

of your Ranger buds, please emphasized the need to validate service. Many thanks to you Unit Directors who have facilitated validating new members.

We have had a protocol regarding providing tax deduction letters to those of you who make donations. Up to now we have been providing these letters to any and all donors, regardless of amount of donation. The law says we only need to provide these letter to donation of \$250 or more. In order to save a little overhead on the cost of sending these letters, we now will change our protocol to do exactly as the

law requires: Tax deduction letters will now only go to donors of \$250 or more. If your donation is less than this and you still would prefer a letter, please be assured I will send you one at your request.

The last item I have to discuss is the numbering system for membership numbers. Because of the data base used in the past, some classes of members were given different series, such as 3000 or 4000. This was to help differentiate the classes. Now the new data base has that class distinction readily readable, so the different numbering is no longer needed, and in fact is a bit confusing. Because there are not a large number of these deviant numbers, we will renumber them consecutively with the rest of the data base, including providing new membership cards. This chore will take place over the next few months. So if you receive a new card and number you will know why.

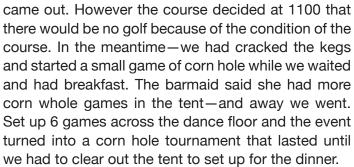
RLTW, Tom Sove, Secretary

GOLD STAR

By Dianne Hammond

The 5th Annual Golf Outing Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice was held on 06May2016 at the Pitman Golf Course in Pitman, New Jersey 08071. Sgt. Alessandro L. Plutino aka Sandrino to his friends and family was killed on 08Aug2011 in Afghanistan.

The event was completely sold out with 244 golfers and two tee times one at 0800 and the other at 1330, however Mother Nature had her own ideas. The rain started about 0130 however it changed to a drizzle about 0600 and the golfers



What great group of supporters!!! Rangers from the 1st and 2nd battalions were in attendance, as well Colleen and Everett, the wife and son of SSgt. Jeremy Katzenberger, who was killed 14Jun2011 in Afghanistan. Also in attendance was SFC Cory Remsburg (RET) with his dad Craig. The event raised 48k which was all donated to various organizations and a scholarship to Sandrino's Alma Mater, Pitman HS.

Our event next year will be held on 12May2017, for more information our website is honoringsandrinos sacrificefund.com. I am attaching some of the photos from the event.

On a sadder note 1/75 lost SSgt. Avonye (John) Chisolm who died 25Aug2016 after being injured during a training jump on 24Aug2016. A Memorial Ceremony will honor his memory on 01Dec2016 at the 1/75 Memorial at HAAF, Savannah, GA.











HEALTH

Reliving Agent Orange New Study Could Pressure VA to Expand Agent Orange Benefits

More than four decades after the end of the Vietnam War, research is still showing the effects of the herbicide Agent Orange. The latest findings: An association between exposure and high blood pressure.

By: Charles Ornstein, ProPublica, and Mike Hixenbaugh, The Virginian-Pilot Nov. 15, 2016.

A new study has found a close relationship between Agent Orange exposure during the Vietnam War and high blood pressure, a conclusion that could lead the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to dramatically expand the number of veterans eligible for compensation.

The study, published last week by VA researchers in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, found a higher rate of hypertension among members of the Army Chemical Corps who handled Agent Orange during the war compared to those who didn't. Corps members who served in Vietnam but did not spray the chemicals also had a higher rate of hypertension than their peers who served outside Vietnam.

Both results were statistically significant and add to a body of evidence linking Agent Orange exposure and hypertension. The findings come 41 years after the close of the Vietnam War and decades since the last supplies of Agent Orange were incinerated. Since then, veterans have become increasingly distrustful of the VA. They maintain that their exposure to Agent Orange, which contained the toxic chemical dioxin, has harmed their own health and has been passed on to their children.

A VA working group has been studying the latest scientific literature since March to determine if any illnesses should be added to the agency's list of diseases for which vets are automatically entitled to compensation if they served in Vietnam. Specifically, the group has been looking at new evidence linking bladder cancer, under-active thyroid, Parkinson's-like symptoms and hypertension to Agent Orange exposure.

The VA had been expected to announce its decision this year, but officials now say that will be left to the administration of President-elect Donald Trump. "For this administration, the deadline for proposing new rules for potential new presumptions [of service connection to herbicide] has passed, and this will become work for the new administration to take to completion," VA officials said in a written statement first reported last week in the newspaper *Stars and Stripes*.

Hypertension is the most common ailment among veterans seeking health care at the VA-indeed it is one of the most common ailments among older adults generally. The study released last week found the prevalence of hypertension among members of the Army Chemical Corps to be higher than among other aging veterans. Although most of the Agent Orange used in Vietnam was sprayed from Air Force planes, the Army Chemical Corps also sprayed the herbicide from hand sprayers and helicopters. Researchers analyzed responses from about 3,000 members of the Army Chemical Corps who participated in a 2013 survey. The research team then verified their self-reported exposure to Agent Orange by using dioxin levels in their blood and checked their selfreported blood pressure against medical records and in-home testing. Among Chemical Corps members who sprayed herbicides in Vietnam, 81.6 percent said they had high blood pressure. That compares to 64.6 percent among Corps members who did not serve in Vietnam and did not spray herbicides. Researchers said that difference could not be explained away by other characteristics they analyzed, including age, race, weight, alcohol use and tobacco use. It's unclear if the results from the Army Chemical Corps apply to other Vietnam veterans, the researchers said.

HEALTH (Continued)

For years, the VA has been weighing whether to provide Agent Orange benefits to vets with high blood pressure, which could potentially cost billions of dollars. In 2009, a federal advisory panel said there was evidence suggesting a connection between Agent Orange exposure and several conditions, including Parkinson's disease, ischemic heart disease and hypertension.

A VA internal working group of scientific experts wanted to recommend the department grant benefits to veterans with all of those conditions, according to Dr. Victoria Cassano, a member of the group who at the time was acting chief consultant for the VA's Environmental Health Strategic Healthcare Group. But the group's superiors at the VA told the panel to change its position and instead recommend against providing benefits for heart disease and hypertension, Cassano said. It recommended in favor of Parkinson's disease.

In late 2009, then-VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said he would add ischemic heart disease and Parkinson's disease to the VA's list, but not hypertension. According to Shinseki's testimony to Congress in 2010, "the evidence regarding hypertension was less compelling" than for the other conditions. Instead, Shinseki called for the VA study completed last week. "I wasn't really surprised by these findings," said Yasmin S. Cypel, the study's principal investigator and a health science specialist at VA. "I just felt that based upon the research that there was evidence to indicate that there might be an association."

Rick Weidman, legislative director of Vietnam Veterans of America, said the new report should add pressure to the VA to compensate vets for hypertension. His group has been pressing the VA to add the condition to its list of Agent Orange-connected diseases ever since the advisory panel first noted evidence of a link. He can think of only one reason to explain the agency's reluctance: "Money." "Simple as that," said Weidman, himself a Vietnam vet. "There are so many people who utilize the VA who have hypertension, they know it's going to cost." An estimate of the cost of offering compensation for Vietnam vets with hypertension was not available.

Cassano, the former VA official who thought VA should have agreed to provide hypertension benefits in 2009, said the new research by Cypel and colleagues was "really well designed." "It's a very definitive study," Cassano said. "It's showing that just being in Vietnam gives you a higher relative risk of developing hypertension." While hypertension affects many veterans, it is not as debilitating as other conditions and generally can be treated inexpensively with medications. Therefore, she said, the costs may not be as high as some have predicted. Waiting for vets to develop ischemic heart disease or suffer a stroke is "a pennywise pound foolish decision."

Since last year, ProPublica and The Virginian-Pilot have compiled more than 6,000 stories from veterans and their families about how Agent Orange has affected them. We also have reported how the military and VA have turned to an herbicide expert who defends Agent Orange for guidance on handling vets' claims. Several veterans said that if the VA begins offering Agent Orange benefits for high blood pressure, they would apply for them. "It has never been anything I considered," said Ron Bass, 67, who served as an Air Force crew chief in Vietnam from 1969 to 1971 and takes medication for his condition. "I would definitely file a claim for it," said Ron Zatawski, 66, who served in the Army in Vietnam from 1970 to 1971. "We went through areas that they had sprayed Agent Orange. ... We didn't know how toxic this stuff was."

Victoria Davey, another researcher on the hypertension study, said there's still much to learn about the effects of Agent Orange on vets. She is leading a new study comparing the health of Vietnam vets with similarly aged U.S. residents who never served in the military. "This doesn't close the book on long-term health consequences of service in Vietnam," Davey said of the hypertension study.

FEATURE ARTICLES

By-Laws Changes – 2017

By: John Chester, 1VP

A meeting of the five elected officers of your Association, along with the current *Patrolling* editor, (face to face), was held in early October, 2016. Among the many things under consideration were changes to the Association By-Laws, in order to modernize and streamline the Association and its elective process. Another item under consideration was the magazine, particularly, its timely publication.

This is in the nature of a warning order, to familiarize the membership with the proposed changes to the By-Laws. You will be asked, in the next issue, which will be mailed by the end of March, 2017, on these changes. Currently, per the By-Laws, the only two methods of voting that are acceptable are, in person at the biannual business meeting, and by ballot mailed to the Association's PO Box. The March issue will have two covers, one outside and one inside. The outside cover will have, on the back page, your name, address and member number. This is the actual ballot. The voting process will be as follows: remove the outside cover of the magazine, separate the front & back, discarding the front; on the inside of the back cover, mark your ballot, the three alternatives are, yes, no or abstain; fold the cover, with your name and member number, place in the envelope that will be provided in the magazine, affix a stamp and mail. (The March issue will repeat these directions in greater detail.)

Below are the proposed By-Law changes as prepared by our Secretary, Tom Sove.

Summary of proposed By-law changes – October, 2016

The first by-law change concerns Article XVII, Section 2, treatment of funds derived from life membership dues. Insofar as we will do away with life memberships and amortize the life membership fund over ten years starting 7-1-2017, this article/section is to be deleted in its entirety, and subsequent sections are to be renumbered accordingly. Since life membership is not listed in our by-laws as a class of membership, no further changes to the by-laws in this regard are warranted. This proposal was accepted by consensus.

1. Article XVII, Section 2 is deleted in its entirety.

Second, since secretaries of the association no longer reuse membership numbers as members leave the association, Article VII, Section 2, D is obsolete and should be removed as a matter of housekeeping. This was approved by consensus.

1. Article VII, Section 2, D is deleted in its entirety

Third, electronic email has become a wide spread accepted form of formal and official communication greatly augmenting the US Postal Service. In order to remain current with modern technology our bylaws should be updated appropriately to allow this application specifically, and is not intended to include other electronic forms such as Facebook or Twitter. The secretary will be directed to accept email votes from the day the by-law change is approved. This change was accepted by consensus.

1. Article X, Section 1,B is reworded as follows: "b. One vote by mail-in or electronic email ballot."

Fourth, discussion regarding the validity of having a Subscription Member class ensued. It was suggested to remove "Subscription Membership" wording and change to read "Magazine Subscribers". Subscribers are not a class of membership but a person or company that only wants to have subscription to the magazine. This change was accepted by consensus.

 Article VIII, Section 7 is deleted in it's entirely. Add to Article VIII, Section 10, Magazine Subscribers Subscription to Patrolling will be allowed, however, Magazine Subscribers are not a class of membership and therefore no rights or privileges shall be afforded them. The Association Secretary shall be the approving authority on Magazine Subscribers applications. Applications for Magazine Subscribers shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

Fifth, it needs to be made clear that to become a member an applicant must provide a completed application and make payment of at least one year's dues. This change was accepted by consensus.

- 1. Article VIII, Section 1, the following sentence shall be added as sentence number 2:
 - "All memberships require a completed application, payment of at least one year's annual dues, and proof of service."

The sixth change regards term limits for officers. The discussion centered on the lack of candidates for president and the desirability to keep good presidents past the two year term limit. All agreed a term limit should be imposed, but it should be for two terms rather than one. Also, the existing terms for the 1st and 2nd VP shall stay unchanged at one term for the specific VP position they hold, but it should be clear they may run for the other VP position. The Secretary and Treasurer positions are to remain unchanged. This change was agreed upon by consensus.

1. Article XI, Section 6, A, amend the wording of sentence three:

"The president may succeed himself as president, but only for one **successive additional** term." Article XI, Section 6, A, amend the wording of sentence four:

"Either Vice-President may be elected as **the** President **but may not** succeed himself as the incumbent 1st or 2nd Vice-President; **however**, **either may run for the other Vice-President position**, **but only once.**"

The seventh change regards assigning responsibility for Patrolling magazine. Since the magazine has not been getting issued in accordance with acceptable time frames and is a major point of complaint among the membership, it was decided to clarify the president's duty to assign responsibility for magazine oversight, especially in meeting deadlines. It was determine the best way for the president to do so is by having him assign the responsibility to a Vice President. This change was accepted by consensus.

- 1. Article XII, Section 1, add letter f:
 - f. The president shall appoint staff responsibility for the magazine to the one of the Vice Presidents as oversight.

The eighth change is adding an additional responsibility of recruitment of new member to one of the VPs. It was decided the 2nd VP needs additional duties, so that position was selected. The change was agreed to by consensus.

- 8. To Article XII, Section 3, add new d, and change existing d to f.
 - "d. Advise the president on matters of recruitment of new members."

The ninth and last by-law change is to make a new class of member, making it easier for active duty Rangers to become members.

9. Article VII, reestablish Section 7, making it "Active Duty Membership".

"All personnel of the 75th Ranger Regiment are eligible for membership to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association at no cost while maintaining service in the regiment. Upon leaving the regiment, they are may apply for full regular membership with application and payment of dues."

FEATURE ARTICLES

LRRP Memorial Bench Placed at Ranger Memorial

On September, 10th 2016, The LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE ASSOCIATION (LRRA) dedicated two benches at Ft. Benning to honor and memorialize the LRRPs, LRPs, and LRS who have served our Nation.

One bench was placed at the National Ranger Memorial and a second bench was placed at the National Infantry Museum. The benches were purchased by the members of the LRRA.



Ranger Memorial Bench



NIM Memorial Bench

The LRRA also purchased a paver to be placed at the Army Museum being constructed at Ft. Belvoir, VA, to remember the service of LRRPs, LRPs, and LRS.

On September 26, 2016, the LRRA presented a Certificate of Merit and Engraved Plaque to the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin in recognition of their support of the Nation's Combat Wounded and Veterans. Present for the presentation were the Mayor, City Council, American Legion National Executive Members, Executives of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

LRRA President Scott Rathjens and LRRA Secretary/ Treasurer Marshall Huckaby also presented a Certificate of Merit to local Business Man, Peter Walsh in recognition of his substantial funding and placement of Combat Wounded Parking in the City.



Richland Center Presentation

The LONG RANGE RECONAISSANCE ASSOCIATION has a goal of recording and preserving the legacy of LRRPs, LRPs, and LRS. The LRRA is in the process of compiling the names of LRRP, LRP and LRS KIAs and MIAs for a future memorial project.

By Marshall Huckaby 25th ID LRRP 1966-1967, Life Member, 75th RRA

The Story of 6 June 1970

compiled and edited by Dr. John E. Thiel



Introduction

The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between North Vietnam and South Vietnam was established by the Geneva Accords which were finalized on 21 July 1954. That agreement reflected the military results of the French Indochina War fought from 1946 to 1954 between France and the French-controlled State of Vietnam and the Communist-dominated independence movement, the Viet Minh. The Viet Minh won the war, and France gave up its control of Vietnam. Northern Vietnam which was almost entirely controlled by the Viet Minh became the Democratic Republic of Vietnam under Communist leader Ho Chi Minh. The southern part of Vietnam where the Viet Minh controlled relatively small and remote areas became the independent State of Vietnam under Bảo Đại, the last scion of the old Vietnamese imperial house. The State of Vietnam later became the Republic of Vietnam. The boundary between the two zones was established at the Ben Hai River. It followed the Ben Hai to its headwaters about 55 kilometers (34 miles) WSW from its mouth at the South China Sea, and thence to the Laotian border. The area within 5 kilometers (3 miles) on each side of the boundary was declared a demilitarized zone. Troops of both governments were barred from that area.

In actuality, the Demilitarized Zone was anything but demilitarized. The North Vietnamese routinely moved troops and materiel through the DMZ to support their operations in the South. The North Vietnamese Army (NVA) openly occupied the northern half of the DMZ. They established artillery positions to support operations south of the DMZ and operated a system of bunkers and cadre at way stations in the southern half to support NVA infiltrators. The size of infiltrating groups ranged from 5 to 500, but usually numbered 40-50 organized into a platoon or company.





The United States spent billions of dollars to impede the NVA's movement through the DMZ by bombing suspected infiltrators and their supply routes and bases. Part of the interdiction program was a sophisticated listening system. During the course of the war, some 20,000 seismic and acoustic devices were dropped into place by aircraft. They could detect vehicles at a range of 1,000 yards and personnel at a range of 400 yards. The sensors transmitted data by radio signal to a 200,000 square foot U.S. Air Force facility in Nakhon Phanom, Thailand. Analysts there directed air strikes against suspected enemy positions (the Demilitarized Zone was a free fire zone clearances were not needed in advance to bombard anything). A lessor known part of the program was the follow-up after bombing to assess the damage inflicted. That mission was carried out by Long Range

Reconnaissance Patrols—small, heavily armed long-range reconnaissance teams that patrolled deep in enemy-held territory. Early in the war, they were referred to by their acronym LRRP (pronounced "lurp"), but after February 1969, all US Army LRRP units were folded into the newly formed 75th Infantry Regiment (Ranger). Rangers were a volunteer group of elite soldiers of many military occupational specialties who operated covertly to gather intelligence of enemy activity. One such unit was Company P, "Papa Company", 75th Infantry Regiment (Ranger), which was attached to 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Infantry Division. Papa Company's operating area was northern Quang Tri Province in I Corps, South Vietnam, including the Demilitarized Zone.

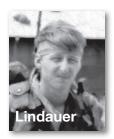
The Mission - Morning

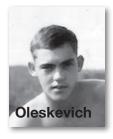
It was early on a Saturday morning, 6 June 1970. A Ranger team from Papa Company set out from Red Devil Base Camp at Quang Tri for a Bomb Damage Assessment (BDA) mission in the DMZ. They went out as a "heavy" team because of the high volume of enemy activity inferred from listening sensors. A heavy team usually combined two standard teams of six men each and often included an M-60 machine gun. This insertion team was led by SSG George "Dave" Gates (leader of the team designated Killer 1-2). His team included Paul "Froggy" Brown, Jose Dominguez, Steve Lindauer (RTO), Bill Oleskevich, and Jerry Cornelius. They were accompanied by Lawrence Anthony and his scout dog, Puddles a.k.a. Pud, from the 43rd Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog).











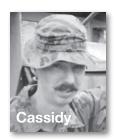


The other team was Killer 1-3 led by SGT David "Mac" McNulty with Bill Davis (Assistant Team Leader),

Roger Cassidy, Jay Lutz (RTO), Robert Stokes, and Bud Wease. This heavy team involved more Rangers than anyone in Papa Company had seen on a mission, but no machine gun (although Lutz had a LAW, but that is another story).

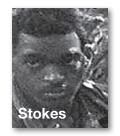












There was still a low fog over the helipad when the team went out shortly after sunrise with three helicopters. Killer 1-2 and the scout dog and handler were on one of the helicopters. Killer 1-3 was on another. The third helicopter acted as a decoy during the insertion. The helicopters flew north toward Con Thien as a diversion and then turned west over unfamiliar terrain for the team. Papa Company had been in the DMZ many times before on BDA missions, but never that far west. The 5th Infantry's Tactical Area Of Responsibility was the eastern third of Quang Tri Province. The terrain in the DMZ above there was flatter, and the elevation was much closer to sea level. The terrain they were flying over now was several hundred meters higher with ridge after ridge covered with double canopy upland forest. This territory was quite different from that with which they were accustomed, land which was heavily cratered from bombing with large areas defoliated with Agent Orange.





After a flight of about forty-five minutes, the team was inserted. immediately Thev took cover for about fifteen minutes determine they had been observed. The Rangers then moved out in direction. westerly Killer 1-2 was first as they moved through dense brush single

file making their own trail. There were a lot of fresh tracks in the area, but no enemy in sight. As the grade steadily rose, the brush gave way to upland forest.

The Rangers were not on the ground very long, perhaps an hour, when they turned south and crossed a meadow. They were skirting the brush on the west edge for cover when a major discovery was made. McNulty remembered: "We had stopped for a break and George [SSG Gates] asked me [Team K 1-3] to take point until next break. Jay [Lutz] began pestering me to walk point until I relented and gave him the OK with me walking slack. We were in a small glade where we took our break after crossing a fairly narrow marsh (about 30 meters). I indicated to Jay to go into the brush to our right, and Jay promptly did so... for one or two steps, and then he turned to me and said, with eyes as big as pie plates, 'Mac, bunkers!' At this point, we cleared the immediate area and consolidated our position before reconning to see how extensive it was." The brush Lutz went into was actually a ravine created by the runoff from the hill to the south. Lutz went down into it, and it got to about eight feet in depth when it opened up. The bunkers were on a level lower than the meadow the Rangers had just crossed. The Rangers went down the ravine

Bunker Area

W E Terrain

S Permets

Ranger Team
Approach

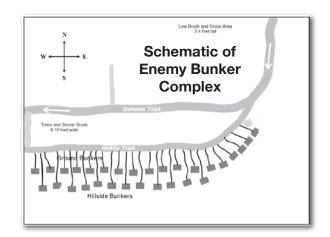
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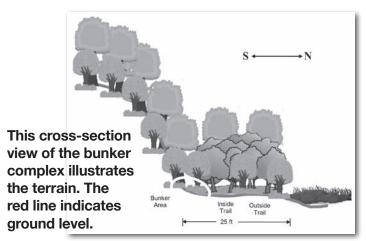
and established a defensive perimeter just to the right (north) of the mouth of the ravine. The first bunker was just outside their perimeter to the Rangers' left.

The dominant feature to their front was two abandoned rice paddies with a washed-out dyke between them.

They were covered with low brush and elephant grass. The ground the Rangers were on was a relatively flat area (depicted in gray in the schematic above). It wrapped around three sides of the rice paddies and

flowed on to the south. To the Rangers right (north-northeast), the area was a grassy meadow. To the Ranger's left (west-southwest), the area was forested. Importantly, there was a high speed trail from the north that turned west and split into two trails for about 100 yards before again becoming one trail that continued west another 50 yards and joined another trail from the north to go south through a saddle between two hills. The bunkers were located along the narrower side trail. The main trail sloped up slightly from east to west while the side trail sloped up at about 30 degrees. The outside trail peaked at about the end of the bunkers before sloping down to meet the trail on the west side. Finally, to their left front was a bomb crater that reached to the edge of the trail in front of them.





UNIT REPORTS





1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Steve Cochran

While on a cruise with the 7th Army NCO Academy; (the Bad Toelz years); and in St Thomas VI – (10November 15) saw Ron Thomas, member of 75th Ranger Regiment and Long Range Patrol 173rd. Guess we recognized each other as we both had on a cap with RANGER written across it.



Many pictures were sent by COL Montano. One section is Fort Stewart; One section is Hunter Army Airfield.

Attended B & C Company 1SG

Change of Responsibility on 17

December 2015 - Congrats to the

new 1SGs (Charlie Company 1SG Paguette from 1SG Buonopane)

Attended the CSM Gallagher Building dedication 16 November

15. COL McKnight; General Rainey both spoke about CSM Gallagher and how his dedication and professionalism will live on for many years.

Went to Fort Bragg, NC in early December 15; Shelia received her well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award (Charles E. Pimble Lifetime Award). In the crowd was Marianne Kernan; Suzanne Clark; Ricky Potts; Bob Deale; Bobby Maner; Bobby's

brother and his wife. Ronald Wood got SOCOM GS-07-10 Employee of the year. Picture of Shelia and Bob Deale attached.

CSM Jan Schalavin – BN CSM June 79 to March 82 - The wake for CSM(R) Jan Schalavin was Saturday; 20 February 2016. (Alaska) MANY Rangers in attendance.

Sunday Night Football; former 1st BN LT Villanueva mentioned several times by sportscaster Chris Collingsworth. Collingsworth talked about his exploits "as an Army Ranger" in Afghanistan!

Fort Stewart Museum has designated area for Ranger artifacts -- 1st Ranger BN - 1974; History of Fort Stewart. Herbie Baugh has sent numerous piece of equipment to be included in the Museum.

Attended BN CSM Change of Reponsibility on 18 December -- CSM Bishop off to Regiment

CSM Bishop assumed responsibility of the 75th Ranger Regiment on 6 January 2016 from CSM Albertson – CSM Albertson off to 10th Mountain Division.

Attended Memorial Service; 8 January 2016; for Corporal Andrew A. Aimesbury; died in training; 9 December 2015.



Tony Barella; original 74 Ranger; passed away February 4, 2016. He was buried on 02/18 and many Rangers were in attendance (per Richard Negrete).

Change of Responsibility ceremony on 11 March 2016 – between CSM

Donaldson (outgoing) and CSM Michael Albaugh, Incoming

Attended Valorous Awards Ceremony held on 16 March 2016. 2 Bronze SM w V/Device; 2 Joint Service Commendation Medal with V Device; three purple hearts; 8 bronze star for service medals; 92 Joint service commendation medals; 85 Joint service achievement medals.

Attended Annual Dahlke Challenge; 4 June 2016; held at Lotts Island - Lots of team participants this year – This challenge is held the first Saturday after Memorial Day – There is a face book page for Challenge (SSG Jason Dahlke Adventure Race). SSG Dahlke was killed in action; 29 August 2009. This challenge supports the Sua Sponte Foundation.

Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice Fund Golf Outing – to be held 2nd Friday of May next year (12 May 2017). SGT Alessandro Plutino was killed in action; 8 August 2011. This fund supports multiple organizations. Battalion Change of Command and Shelia's retirement on 27 June 2016-- Forsyth Park. Outgoing commander COL Tegtmeier; Incoming commander LTC Todd Brown.

23 August 2016 - Sua Sponte Foundation pack boxes for our deployed Rangers.

Cecil Sager continuing to improve out in Oregon -

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



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Scott Billingslea

Rangers,

Greetings from rainy Smiths Station, AL. As I write this, while most of us are preparing to celebrate the Christmas holiday, let us all remember those that are currently, or preparing to go,

in harm's way. As this Association works diligently to get this publication back on track, I ask not only for your continued patience, but also for your feedback. If you have suggestions, or perhaps a story you'd like to share, please forward it to me at scott.billingslea@gmail.com

I have a few items to update you with today, but the most important thing that any of us may read in this issue, is the story I was graciously allowed to share from "The Havok Journal". It is by Ranger Brandon Young, and is entitled "A Message From Your Rip Instructor". I strongly encourage you to check it out if you haven't done so.

The next Black & Tan linkup is coming up soon. If you aren't familiar with it, check out Chris Hutchinson's post in his column. It's a great event.

One of the things I'm looking to do from here on out is get an interview with Rangers from different era's. If you have one you'd like to recommend, please send it my way.

By the next issue I am hoping to have met with the Battalion S-5 as well as have some pictures from the Change of Responsibility. RLTW!

Change of Responsibility

3/75 will soon have a new Senior Enlisted Advisor, as CSM William Pouliot hands off responsibility to CSM Ray Barrett. The Change of Responsibility is expected to take place in January 2017.

Army Best Medic Competition

Army medics from across the Army recently competed in a grueling 72-hour competition at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Camp Bullis, Texas to be the Army's best medic team.

The Army's Best Medic Competition was hosted by Army Medical Command and conducted by the Army Medical Department Center and School. The competition focuses on physically and intellectually challenging two-soldier teams of Army medics in a simulated operational environment.

Rangers once again led the way, this time at the Army Best Medic Competition. The Regiment has a well-deserved reputation for outstanding Doc's. That reputation has been evolving for decades, but 16 years of hard earned experience have proven them to be best in class. Congratulations to 3/75 Rangers SSG Mitchell and Sgt. Bosley!



MG Brian Lein, Commanding General U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, with ABMC first place winners SSG Noah Mitchell and Sgt. Derick Bosley, 3/75 Ranger Regiment representing USASOC along with CSM Ecker, Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army Medical Command

During my relatively short tenure in the 75th Ranger Regiment (91'-95'), I had the incredible opportunity to learn from, and observe, some of the finest leaders that the United States ever produced. Maybe this seems like a ridiculous statement to some, but for those of us that were there we know this to be a simple statement of fact.

One of those men was CSM (RET) Ray Devens. When I first met him, he was a SSG (P) assigned as a Weapons Squad Leader to 2A in 3rd Ranger Battalion. He would very shortly move over to become my Platoon Sgt in 1st Platoon (Glory Boys). In the years between then and now, I've encountered more people than I can count who worked with and for CSM Devens. As we talked about when we served with him and the crazy stories that inevitably followed, there was always a common theme that would emerge. For those that know him, he is the epitome of an Airborne Ranger. His positive impact spanned over three decades. And he was once the Primary Jumpmaster on what is *probably* the only known completely nude jump in the history of the Ranger Regiment.

I recently had the opportunity to ask him a few questions. (Translation: I bugged the shit out of him until he said yes) I also got feedback from a few others on questions they would like to ask him. Their questions are noted by the name in parenthesis.

Patrolling: In order to give everyone a better understanding of the scope of your military career, can you share what was the very first, and very last, duty positions you held in the Army, as well as the units you held them in?

RD: First, I want to thank you and Patrolling for having such a great interest in collecting and valuing so many respected and amazing members of our Nations Warrior class. Men that I have respected, honored, and followed throughout my career hoping to be half the man they are so America and the world can a better place. It is wonderful to read how much they have done for our nation but more importantly for their comrades to their left and right...Hooah!

I signed up for the Army from Cape Coral, Florida on 15 June 1982 with a delayed entry date to start Basic on 01 October due to TRADOC wanted to build a basic training 75th Ranger Cohort-Platoon that would go thru Basic, AIT, Airborne, and 1st Ranger Battalion, Ranger Indoctrination Program (RIP) together (at Fort Lewis for 2/75 recruits and Hunter Army Airfield (HAAF) at 1/75(no 3/75 back then)). There were 47 of us in that Platoon and I was going to 1/75 with 21 other Ranger buddies while the rest were going to 2/75. The key reason I address this is to show how this was the beginning of me learning how strong the Ranger brotherhood was. As new trainees we were very fortunate to have a now legendary Ranger, SFC Steven Corey as our Basic and AIT Drill SGT. I say fortunate because SFC Corey was a N Co./75th Ranger in Vietnam in 1970 and he displayed and demanded the very best from us all, to be absolutely dedicated and loyal to those in the Platoon and live each day by the Ranger Creed from day one basic training. Of 'course we outperformed the other Platoons in every PT event, inspection, drill, or test during Basic and AIT and continued our individual and team focus thru Airborne school and RIP so I was very fortunate to be part of this Cohort. The drive and intestinal fortitude drilled into each of us during those Ranger Cohort days continued into my first assignment with "Hard Rock Charlie" Company 1/75th Ranger Battalion. I arrived to Hard Rock in Mid-February 1983 with only three of us from the original 22.

Patrolling: What do you think of retired life?

RD: It doesn't seem too different from active duty life. As each day has been a blessing for me to serve our nation, especially in times of war, I will be able to continue this focus once I depart active service as a government or civilian employee. As I finish out my final days of Terminal-Leave and retire on 01 July 2017 I do recognize how fortunate I am to be part of the new "Soldier For Life" program that challenges our departing Army service members to take future civilian opportunities that will allow them to maintain their strong character, servant leadership, and selfless service for the good of the nation. This will be my drive as I seek civilian employment wherever my wife Karen and I end up after 01 July... all is good.

Patrolling: In a career spanning 35 years, you must have seen a lot of change in the Army. Have the soldiers changed in that time frame too? If so, how?

RD: I have absolutely seen amazing changes and great progression within our Army and the Soldiers that serve in it. There are thousands of tactical applications, operational requirements, and strategic functions that have evolved so I will simply use each decade with an example of what some of those transformations were. In the 1980s I was in the Rangers and the fortunate focus for all in 1st Ranger Battalions was mastery of dis-mounted patrolling tactics with jungle warfare fighting that was driven from the Battalion CSM, every Company 1SG, each PSG, and many of the SQD LDRs who were Vietnam veterans with numerous tours of duty in combat units. Our platoon focus was to build and maintain lethal squads with the hunter mindset even as a 90mm recoilless rifle gun team member. We were coached and trained every week on small unit tactics and to this day I am very thankful for those priceless days that were a key part of my tactical development as an individual Ranger and lethal team member. I now recognize the importance of how our Ranger NCOs would add stressed induced leadership during those training days. Two key words the Ranger NCOs would always address were "Privation" and "Suffrage", we young Rangers can't live the Ranger creed without privation and suffrage. This was done by the senior NCOs and Co Commander engaging chaos a little bit at a time in training to test our will, adaptiveness,

and allow us to achieve the Ranger standard. Today I recognize those tactics in all I do and now address it as the mastery of operational art in developing critical thinking and hunter mindset to not only be reflexive in actions thru repetitive training but more importantly be reflective in figuring out solutions when adding chaos. That hunter mindset development I used back in those days is exactly what my Commanders and I focused on and directed in unit training from the 1980s to 2016.

The key change I recognized in the 1990s was the focus on material solutions for individual Soldier systems in our Army so we could be more lethal and effective Warriors and Squads. This material solution focus transitioned from the original Army Operating Concept (AOC) in the 1970s that had a focus on protecting our nation and national interest against any state nation on the globe (like Soviet Union or Iran) that had a massive ground warfare capability so with the AOC the Army Material Command placed a large percent of the Army funding efforts on the "Big- 5" which was the development of the M1 Tank, M2 Bradley, AH-64 Apache Helicopter, UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter, and M-270 MLRS systems. This Big-5 allowed our military to be better prepared for the Deep-Fight before we engaged an enemy force in ground warfare on open or closed terrain. This capability did allow us to win the Cold-war and in 2001 when we were attacked by terrorist and US forces deployed into war our senior Army leaders maintained the Big-5 capability which totally dominated the fight in Iraq and Afghanistan. As we now know the enemy adapted and changed to unconventional warfare using terrorist tactics against the vulnerable points in our systems and after many Soldiers lost their lives the Army recognized the need to bring back the hunter mindset to training once again for successful dis-mounted patrols on the ground. In the Rangers we always maintained this mind-set in training so from the first deployment to Afghanistan they applied this tactical focus with great success. For me, it was in 2003 to 2005 when I was so blessed to be the 1/75 Bn OPS SGM and CSM that I recognized the Battalion training focus remained on the Big-4 and we were still very successful in employing lethal Squads throughout each region. Today the Ranger are in full effect against any enemy threat they face allowing a Ranger Squad leader to have the same

combat supporting systems (CAS, JSTARs, UAV, CSAR,...etc;) available to a Brigade Commander. I do remember in 2003 how the Rangers became so legendary when we caught enemy commo traffic stating "avoid the porcupine trucks". This was due to Rangers traveling in unarmored (skeleton) HMMWVs that looked like a porcupine because there were so many rifle barrels sticking out in all directions from each vehicle during our ground insertion convoys.

Patrolling: You held leaderships positions at every level from a Fire Team to an Army Corps. Did you have a favorite job? Not necessarily the unit, but the position.

RD: Each unit I was fortunate to be a part of had amazing memories of people, places, and comradery only known by those that serve in our nation's warrior class. I missed every position I held as I PCSed recognizing my obligation to Abrams Charter. It was in 1/75 that I was able to be tested in the field and in combat in 1983 with our deployment to Grenada and the tactical training and development embedded in me from those days allowed me to focus on the four key competences that is still recognized in the 75th Ranger Regiment today. These competences focused on Ranger Athlete Warrior (RAW) Fitness. Precision Marksmanship, Self and Buddy Trauma-Care, and Tactical Communications as a dis-mounted team and today I am successful because I have lived by this Ranger "Big-4" focus since the day they were implanted in me in the 1980s.

As a middle-level NCO I was very fortunate to be in some very awesome positions as a Ranger tactics instructor for 25th Infantry Division Soldiers at the East Range complex in the jungles of Hawaii which allowed me to hone my small unit dis-mounted tactical skills even more as I prepared thousands of Division Soldiers for Ranger School and warfare throughout the pacific region if needed. I then went back to the Ranger Regiment from Hawaii as a SQD LDR and PSG in 3/75 and as you know (Ranger Billingslea) this was such an amazing time for all of us as we trained hard. played hard and were tested in combat in Somalia. We lived and breathed the Ranger creed everyday as we traveled the world always focused on the application of lethal force at Squad level refining our Big 4 skills. These were truly amazing times.

My Senior NCO days with 75th RRD, E Co. 51st LRRC/ ABN(V Corps), 1/96th Advisory Group (Alaska), 1/75th Rangers, the Asymmetric Warfare Group(AWG), I Corps Operations, 25th Infantry Division, 8th Field Army(Korea), and the Office of Security Cooperation-Iraq (Baghdad) all allowed me to take my experience and Ranger values and apply that same Big-4 concept into each units training and readiness program always with the Ranger creed in mind. I was also always devoted to following Abrams Charter no matter where I was assigned (even in the Rangers) which was the reason I was able to compel other leaders to see the importance in applying the Big-4 mindset. My success was because of the amazing Commanders and Officers I was so fortunate to have been partnered with in each of my units as they allowed me to live the Ranger standard within myself. Great men like CPT Mick Haydak in RRD, CPT Bryan Coppersmith CPT Eric Layne, and CPT Scott Nelson in Eco.51st, CPT Hunt in Alaska, LTC Mike Kershaw, MAJ Chris Vanek, CPT Kurt Smith and many other amazing officers in 1/75, COL Bob Shaw and COL Jim Mis of AWG, COL James Danna of I Corps, MG Bernard Champoux and MG Kurt Fuller of 25th ID. LTG JD Johnson and LTG Bernard Champoux in 8th Army, LTG Mick Bednarek, MG Paul LaCamera and MG Scott McKean with OSC-I. Each of them allowed me to apply a tactical focus that would challenge every commissioned and non-commissioned officer in the unit, so I was privileged to never have had a bad position or job because of these great leaders and men.

Patrolling: You spent a lot of your career in the 75th Ranger Regiment. I'm sure there are many great memories, but if you had to nail it down to one, what is your fondest memory of the time you spent there?

RD: REALLY!...one fondest memory?...there are 1000s of great days (and nights) but if I have to pick "ONE" great memory I would say the memory of the camaraderie I had in each Battalion and Regiment. A brotherhood that I still have with so many awesome Ranger Buddies all over this crazy world that understand and live the Ranger creed like me and understand why we are the way we are.

My coolest Ranger memories at each Battalion would be;
• 1982-1988 1/75: River Street Pub runs, especially at
"Kevin Berrys", always a Rangers Home away from
Home.

- 1992-1995 3/75: The legendary Platoon, or maybe Company...okay, Battalion keg(s) party at my House that had Faith Hill show up with 1LT Kirby but immediately depart after Bubba Moore jumped on their Jeep (Covered in Mud) and screamed "FAITH HILL!!!!" I'm not going into why Bubba was covered in Mud...Shhhhh, that party is still a secret from my wife.
- 1995-1996 75th RIP: The Holdover (RIP) platoon PT sessions (with 120 Holdover Rangers) that I made them run 20 x Cardiac hills or out to Fryer DZ in my preparation for CAG selection. Most made it and moved on to a Battalion but many did not.
- 1996-1999 75th RRD: The numerous MMF, SCUBA, mountaineering, maritime ops, swamp patrolling, Cambrian patrol adventures and many other remarkable training sessions with the very best from within the Ranger Regiment had all together in this small unit. Very amazing men and even more awesome days back then. I really miss those RRD days.

Patrolling: Favorite training deployment?

RD: Another crazy question!...each location and training mission had such a great focus and team effort that is still humbling to me to have been part of such a great journey with the very best of our nations Warrior class. Training operations in amazing pleases like Germany, England, Panama, Wales, Honduras, Alaska, Malaysia, Canada, Albania, Brunei, Korea, Guam, Thailand, Italy, France, Belgium, Mexico, Columbia, and all over the United States that had us all working hard to be better than the previous day with even playing hard a few times.

Patrolling: (Corey Collins) If there was one thing he could change for the Betterment of the entire Army what would that be?

RD: I have three areas I would change Army wide today if I were King.

First, I would require every Army base to fund and support the Garrison Range Support (not Control) department with a plan to maintain and support a 20 x lane, 200m, day and night small arms range for Squad/Section level leaders with their Soldiers open from 0500 to 1900hrs each duty day on a first-comefirst-serve bases. The Range Support department

would provide the Medical support, Range Operations team and trainers to assist each Sqd/Sec leader as needed. The range would have a Mobile-ASP in close proximity able to secure up to 50,000 x 5.56mm Ball rounds and 20,000 x 9mm Ball rounds that would be drawn and turned-in by Range Support to/from the main ASP each Quarter. (I tried this at some of my units and it worked for a little while until people outside the unit stopped supporting it so it fell off after I departed the unit.)

Second, I would stop the termination of Use-or-Lose Leave days to top at 60 days. The leave days for each Soldier would never stop growing if Leave was not taken and allow Soldiers to take collected days to be used by comrades in need, especially those in a family crisis that goes beyond authorized emergency leave days like a death in the family or medical situation that requires longer Leave time.

Third, I would BAN the reflective PT belt. Leaders that see the "Mass" wear of this item no matter if it is day or night, are untraining our Soldiers and young NCOs. Young NCO leaders must be responsible for developing a daily risk-assessment plan before each PT session and identify in the PT plan when and where the "Front" and "Rear" Road-Guard(s) will be required to wear the Safety belt when foot and vehicle traffic are on the same road system. The Reflective PT Belt is a great training tool when used properly and having everyone wear this belt is comfortable leadership and leadership is never supposed to be comfortable.

Patrolling: (Larry Moores) How did you adapt to change over three decades in the Army, from new units, quality of troops, and changing missions?

RD: As I stated above I have been very fortunate to have Commanding officers that saw the good in allowing me always focus on four key competencies for unit readiness like I was able to do in the Rangers such as Athlete Warrior Fitness, Precision Marksmanship, Self and Buddy Trauma-Care, and Tactical Communications as a dis-mounted team member no matter what unit or MOS. I feel every Soldier in our Army should be given the opportunity to build confidence and be better prepared for their mission tasks and the enemy force they may face no matter if it's the Russian Horde, Iranian Forces, the

Sandinista Army, Iraqi Army, Al-Qaeda, or the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant. In my eyes that combat readiness can come by way of the "Big-4" in training and readiness focus.

Patrolling: (Greg Craddock) How do you maintain your phenomenal conditioning?

RD: I was fortunate to be trained in the RAW fitness program that is much more focused on full body development then the Army master fitness program. The functional fitness focus changed me as a Soldier and person and I use it every day. Here is a Slide presentation that explains RAW...www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6crXhryjoE This is a video of how we do the RAW assessment in 75th Ranger Regiment... www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6crXhryjoE

Patrolling: (Loren Rachford) What do you think about the deactivation of current LRS units? I believe you were the 1SG of one in Germany.

RD: Yes, I was the Eco 51st LRSC with V Corps in Germany supporting Operations in Bosnia, Albania, Macedonia, and Kosovo. As for the deactivation of LRS units, this is not a very sensible move for our Army especially today as the new Army Operational Concept tells commanders to "Win in a Complex World" which is primarily achieved thru critical thinking. Critical thinking is a huge part of surveillance and reconnaissance as each Recce member must be able to improvise, adapt and overcome demanding odds with meticulous accountability in their collection efforts to assist commanders in preparing for any complex combat situation. I also know this LRS deactivation is a "Man vs. Machine" thing and many of our risk adverse leaders feel there is no need to jeopardize LRS Warriors lives in collecting on enemy threats. These types of leaders do not fully understand the effect of losing this tactical capability and how it can assist in all 8 of the war fighting functions. There will always be a need for human eyes on a target who can operate in any climate or on any terrain, a skill no technology has EVER been able to do in the history of warfare.

Patrolling: (Mike Kurth) What has kept you motivated throughout all the years to continue to perform at such a high level & how were you able to adapt from

old school Army thinking all the way to today's Hitech Army?

RD: My motivation throughout my career has been waking up daily knowing I had an opportunity to selflessly serve for the good of someone else so they can be a better person in the military or in life. I know it sounds corny but this has always been a key part of my character that I inherited from my father who was also a retired Infantry SGM with 28 years of service and he was the same way. There has never been a really bad day for me in the last 35 years and I know I'm lucky to be able to say that.

Patrolling: (Kent Morrison) I'd be interested to hear how his experience in Bn as a young troop affected his service in other units and his career.

RD: As you can see with all the above answers I was very fortunate to have been assigned to 1/75 to live and breathe the Ranger creed and understand the importance of a commitment to those on my left and right on and off duty before thinking of myself and I've lived these ethos for the past 35 years. I was also able to master the four key Ranger competences for combat readiness in PT, Marksmanship, Trauma-Care, Dis-mounted team operations we now know as call the Big-4 and I used this training methodology within each of my unit no matter what position I was in. I felt it was always my duty to serve others with the Abrams Charter in mind and fell I've done so.

Patrolling: (Ryan Booser) When's the next Platoon Party?

RD: This weekend!!!





HQS 75TH RANGER REGIMENT AND SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION (STB)

Unit Director - Chris Hutchinson

I took over as RHQ & STB Unit Director in 2016 so Mr. Barela could focus on his duties as association president. I will be working to have more updates on individual members from RHQ & STB as I get in contact more with them. I also intend to stay more on top



of, and update on, what the active duty guys are doing.



Black & Tan organizer, Candyss Bryant, surrounded by original 1/75 Rangers. From left, 1SG (Ret.) Nels Nelson, CSM (Ret.) Joel (Doc) Komorosky, SFC (Ret.) Rosenstein, CSM (Ret.) George Conrad, SGM (Ret.) Donald Bruce, SFC (Ret.) Steve Williams

The big Ranger news for me to report on is about the upcoming Black & Tan Linkup in Las Vegas during SHOT Show. It will be the third one during SHOT Show. The Black & Tan event was the brainchild of Gene Fletcher and Scott Billingslea to bring the Ranger community together during a time many were already going to be in one place. You should try to attend if at all possible. I personally have only been making a real conscious effort to stay in touch with fellow Rangers the past few years. These type of events really make me wonder why I waited so long. What an absolutely wonderful time at the last one!

It was an opportunity to reconnect with Rangers I served with in the nineties. I had the great pleasure to meet many young Rangers who have shouldered so much of our country's fighting the past 14-15 years. We owe them and their families more than I can express for their sacrifice. I also had the privilege to meet some of the men who laid the foundation for the modern Ranger Regiment, original 1/75 Rangers like: 1SG (Ret.) Nels Nelson, CSM (Ret.) Joel (Doc)

Komorosky, SFC (Ret.) Rosenstein, CSM (Ret.) George Conrad, SGM (Ret.) Donald Bruce and SFC (Ret.) Steve Williams. It is hard to be surrounded by men like these, and just not be incredibly humbled and incredibly honored to be part of it all.

I highly recommend attending any of the Ranger linkups possible, whether it's Ranger Rendezvous, one of the larger organized events or just local Ranger gatherings. I have always had a great time talking with guys from different generations and the connections have definitely come in handy at times.

So, my course of action over the next couple of months will be to try to get in direct contact with each individual member from RHQ & STB. Please do feel free to get in touch with me if you are from RHQ or STB. My goal is to have regular contact with you. I also plan to get to know the 75th Ranger Regiment Public Affairs Officer better and maintain regular contact with him in order to have a better idea of the direction the Ranger Regiment is going and to know what's going on with the active duty guys. Plus, it is probably not a bad idea to find ways for the active duty guys to know more about the association. I know I may not have waited so long to reconnect with Ranger Brothers if I had known more about the association when I left active duty.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve the Ranger community.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!

Black & Tan Linkup: Building Business through Brotherhood

By: Scott Billingslea

The annual Black & Tan event first started in January 2015 as an effort to bring together Rangers that attend the SHOT Show every year in Las Vegas, NV. SHOT Show is not only the largest trade show in Las Vegas, but it is the Mecca for all things gun related. The Ranger Regiment Association was a very gracious sponsor once again this year, and I wanted to share a little bit about how it began two years ago for those

HQS 75TH RANGER REGIMENT AND SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION (STB) (Continued)

that might be curious. The intent of the Black & Tan is for Rangers in the industry to network and fellowship.



The idea for the first Black & Tan in 2015 was a result of a conversation between two Ranger Buddies. Like most great Ranger conversations, there was beer involved. I'm pretty sure someone even said "I've got a great idea!" The two Rangers in question were Gene Fletcher and I, and we were attending the International Breachers Symposium in Southaven, MS in early November 2014. We came to the conclusion that there were always so many Rangers at SHOT Show, they should have their own industry event.

Once we dreamed up the genius idea of throwing a Ranger specific party in Vegas, we assessed our various plans to make it happen and quickly realized we were going to need some help. So we called in the big guns, the one person who we knew could help us make it a reality in the very short (two months) amount of time we had. Candyss Bryant is a HUGE supporter of the Ranger community and her company (Candyss and Associates) has been the event coordinator for many events, not the least of which is The Best Ranger Competition. So Candyss worked her magic; She found us sponsors, a 3,000 sqft suite at the Palms Casino, a Gold Star mom with a restaurant on the Las Vegas Strip and we were off and running. Another Ranger Buddy, MSG Will Hutson, provided the perfect name for the event. One that encompasses the old generation and the new. Gene and I worked to get the word out and help with finding sponsors. It was definitely a team effort!

We were hoping for 40-50 to show up and we far exceeded those expectations. It has become an incredible event that spans many generations of Rangering, with great networking and fellowship. The second year (Jan 2016) showed an increase in attendance, included Medal of Honor recipients and some pretty amazing giveaways from our sponsors. Also at the last event were five originals members of 1/75. One of these Rangers stopped Candyss specifically to tell her how much he appreciated the event and that "it made his heart happy." That's the kind of feedback that makes all the effort worthwhile.

With the continued support of individual Rangers and Ranger Associations, I can only imagine what this might grow into. Thanks to all who have supported us. RLTW!







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

Unit Director - Stan Jones

It is with great sadness I must pass along the passing of John Simmons, our former Unit Director and member of D/17. John passed away Jan 4th 2016. I met John at the 2009 Reunion. John did a lot for the Association over the years, locating lost souls and helping them reconnect.

Last time I introduced myself as the new Unit Director, and then left for Tennessee for our fall trip to Ranger Carlisle's.



The week at Carlisle's was Nov 6-13, including Veteran's Day. We probably had the biggest crowd that I have seen on Saturday night. Although not all were from A Co, there was myself, Mike Fisher, Bill Bowman, Mike Cantrell and Mark Carlisle all from A Co. I had two of my grandsons, Bryce and Austan, Fisher's brother-in-law Steve and his son McClain, Bowman's sons, Joe and Josh, and friends of theirs JD and Josh. Carlisle's grandson Riley and Fisher's fishing dentist buddy, Ken

A75 (Continued)

Zlotkowski and another dentist Mike Bobrow and his son Jake. Fisher told me that Bobrow and his son had never fired a gun before. After a couple of days on the hilltop, they are bitten by the bug and Ken has purchased handguns and gone to an indoor range for shooting practice. Unfortunately they live in the great state of Illinois and can't carry.

Fisher bar-b-qued about 50#s of ribs Saturday night and Cantrell smoked a turkey Sunday. Breakfast on Sunday morning took about 6 dozen eggs, 5 #s of bacon and 3 packs of English muffins. We really missed Charcoal Boy AKA Mike Theisen; we all shared getting charcoal ready and KP.

My grandson's left Sunday morning; Bryce had to be back for school Monday. Steve and McClain left Sunday afternoon. The dentists left on Monday. Bowman made another great escape and managed to hang on to the shooting trophy for yet another year. He kept practicing every day and then come Tuesday everyone is ready for the shoot off and he says work called and he has to leave. Carlisle comes and goes as work allows. He is still running the saw mill. His son in law, Joe, which had been working with him, took a job in Missouri so Mark is working more for now.

By Tuesday afternoon, it was fairly quiet with just me, Fisher and Cantrell. Then Cantrell up and leaves on Wednesday. He swore he was there for the week, but was sure that Auto Zone would not survive if he did not get back. So now it's just me and Fisher to tear down the big kitchen tent and do police call for the hill top and bring in all the targets. But we got er done and slipped out on Friday morning.

We had another trip this fall, October 28-November 4th 2016. It was attended by myself, Fisher, Cantrell, Bowman, DJ and EJ, Ken Zlotkowski, Bowman's sons and a couple of friends and of course our host Mark Carlisle. Long hot week on the hilltop as Tennessee hit record highs 3 days that week of 80+, a couple days hitting 85. We were all set for the Bowman pistol shoot off but again he pulled camp and headed back to Indiana, but left the trophies. It was with great restraint that we did not put them on the firing line and shoot them to pieces and send him the video, but we didn't, so maybe next trip. EJ went bow hunting a few

times and didn't see anything. Friday we are packing up and we look down range and a buck is sitting on the range. Big story this trip was over by the cabin, Mark has had a meteor hit. He found and verified by a geologist at University of Tennessee that a meteor approximately 2-3 tons in weight hit at approximately 17,000mph. It was heard by the closest house over a mile away. He has started digging and was 45 feet down when we left. Have not heard if he located it yet. More on that next issue.

This story is from Mike Theisen.

I was talking to Stan Jones today and he mentioned the magazine and wanted an article that wasn't too full of bullshit and I said I could talk about how when I first came to A Co.

I graduated class 8 of 73 with a lot of the guys we all know and got to the company about ten at night and walked by a jeep with some guy sitting there and whoever was on CQ duty (maybe Dicky Welch or that other tall guy that was always gone recruiting and when he was back at the company he was always hounding everyone to reenlist {I believe it was Herbie Owens}) told me to get out to the jeep and my father was dying so I left right then and after the funeral and leave I came back to the company.

I was put in Duke Snyder's platoon and Bayless was my team leader. We all know Clyde and he took me under his wing and told me to do everything and he would keep an eye on me. Said I'd have to learn sooner or later what it took to be a team leader. All I know is he and Welch could stay up all night entertaining female company and still go all day.

Within a couple weeks of meeting Clyde he told me to get the team and we were going rappelling so we took our ropes and threw them in the back of his little white Toyota truck with the topper and the mags and headed out.

We're going through Killeen and he pulls into a dirt parking lot with a little flat roofed building. It was cinder block and had the little windows at the top like a basement. I looked at him and he said let's get some lunch at nine in the morning. I had a gut feeling that it

A75 (Continued)

wasn't lunch time and we shouldn't be there but he was our team leader and we stick together no matter what.

So we go in and it's a bar and we're drinking beer in the daytime and I don't see any food and I'm getting buzzed up playing pool with some cowboy and I hear Bayless talking to some guy at the bar and he says I'm going to reach down your throat and grab you by the asshole and pull you inside out and there's not a goddamned thing you can do about it. For a second I hoped it was a joke but my gut was telling me he wasn't kidding and all hell broke loose. I think Cantrell and Lopez were there but I'm not sure. I know it wasn't just Clyde and me.

As I turned towards Clyde the guy I was playing pool with tried to choke me with his pool cue. He must have been a friend of the guy at the bar. All I know is I saw a pool cue come down in front of my face and the guy jerks it back but pulls it right into my open mouth and snaps off two of my teeth . I remember the pain and realizing this was very bad and we're supposed to be rappelling and we got a mess and I'm going to throw this piece of shit out the window. So I turned around and started punching this guy and I'm a hundred and sixty pounds so I popped his head off the wall so I could pick him up and throw him through the window but it was too high so I kept just throwing him against the wall I was so pissed.

All I know is Bayless stopped me and said we have to get out of here right now. So we made up a story about rappelling and I hit my mouth because I still had to go to the hospital.

Capt. Nolen was waiting for us with First Sergeant Romo and we told our story and didn't waiver. Me and Clyde stood side by side and said how he rappelled down and got me after I hit my face against the rocks. They dismissed us and we got to the orderly room door and Capt. Nolen says behind us "sergeants your terrible liars". That was the beginning of my friendship with Clyde. We were thick as thieves until he broke his neck in that jump and I took over the team. He taught me a lot and I owe him for a big part of who I am today.

The picture of Theisen, Lopez, Bayless and Sundquist was taken in Germany during Reforger 1973. "Mike Theisen"

My grandson, Austan, took the plunge and enlisted for three years in the Army. He said he tested three points to low to get an enlistment contract for Ranger school. Not sure but he did mention his recruiter said he would not lie to him. Supposedly once he gets "somewhere", he can retest. We all know how that works out. So anyway his contract is for 3 years with no guarantees. I tried to talk to him and explain how hard it would be to even get to jump school without a guarantee to an airborne unit, but he had made up his mind and was OK with the no guarantee. I wish him well. His 1st week of Basic in Ft. Bening started January 25th. We are thinking about going to his graduation, but was hoping he would get jump school. I think I would be able to pin his wings on. Update on Austan, we went to Ft Benning and watched Austan graduate Basic and AIT. The Army has really changed, but it is still the same at the same time. Austan is now in Germany serving with the 2nd ACR in Vilseck, just a short drive from an old camping spot of mine in Grafenwohr.

Tom Brizendine recently had surgery to remove part of a lung. He will be starting radiation and chemo shortly. Give him a shout if you have a minute Home Ph# 918-484-5192 Cell 918-990-0805 Rt. 2 Box 8000 Porum, OK 74455

That's it for this month. Need you guys to jump in and tell some stories. I hear all kinds of lies and stretched truths sitting around the campfire on the hill top, but would like to hear it in your own words here.



LRRP Team: Theisen, Lopez, Bayless, Sundquist, Cantrell taking picture. Photo from Mike Cantrell's collection







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

Unit Director - Marc L. Thompson

I'll keep this short because the Association will be editing all the submissions down to fit a specific number of pages.

Had commo from some MIA's: Dirty Eddie White, Bruno Urbaniak, and Mike Herrin.

The Dirt is still living in the Colorado Springs area (as Mike is now, also) and teaching pottery making to veterans with PTSD as part of their rehab. Mike is retired and living in the Springs area to be near his children and grandchildren.

He talked to Daddy Haugh who is still in CO, although he is now minus one leg, but hanging in there.

Bruno recently came in from the cold and is joining the RRA.

If you want to contact any of them please call or email me and I will be happy to pass that info along.

Marc L. Thompson, U.D. B/75

2016 VII Corps LRRP Assoc Reunion

Ft Bragg / Fayetteville, NC • AAR November 28, 2016

Mustered LRRP Paratroopers:

David Clark Cincinnati cop Joe Chetwynd Tom Forde Joe "Broken Hippie" Toby Ivey and SF friend Touchon George Sperry Nazario Aviles Rick "Fatback" Hathaway Stephen "Dog Jaw" and wife Straley Kirk Gibson Fred "Killer" Kennedy Bob Vanasse and wife Bill and Donna Mathiak Bob "Shakey" Allen Harlos and Peg Kelley Steve Lengel Stuart "Work Horse" Lane John Fisher Sam "Free Fall" Storey Greg Eacker

Greetings, Brother LRRPs.

and Driver friend Bill, the

Our 2016 reunion muster is history. We had a good time touching base with each other with continually embellished lies and lives of yesteryear. It was a

Richard Foster



subdued affair compared to past gettogethers due to a number of factors, but due primarily to the after effects of Hurricane Mathew. We were not directly affected since it had already passed through the area, but it did leave a lot of detours and crowded and poorly hosted hotels.

After a day of just settling in, we had a good time meeting up with each other again, mostly over food and the usual day room drinking and reliving of events back in the day. Who knew that Dave Clark had to threaten Fatback with an

"ass whuppin" if he didn't stop fighting and jumping out of windows; or that Fred Kennedy was loan sharking and shaking down the troops (shades of Hillary) every payday? It took Greg Eacker remembering the time that Kennedy made a bet that he could piss over a deuce-and-a-half; according to Eacker and Kennedy, he won the bet! These days, he's lucky if he can piss on the ground without splashing his shiny Corcorans.



I'm not certain why the reunion was not up to our past standards. There were probably several; poor organization for which I will accept some blame, flooding, base closures, etc. But we gathered to honor Joe Chetwynd for his initiative and contribution to the formation of our JayHawk Association many years and reunions ago, as well as our connection to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. We also wanted to honor and pay tribute to CSM David Clark, Distinguished Member of the First Special Forces Regiment, for his direction and inspiration to us as our LRRP First Sergeant. He commands as much or more respect from us now for the example he set 50 years ago and continues today well into his 80s. Thank you both again. You have a special place in our hearts.

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

Our field activities were limited by previous weather factors, but we did get time to round up the cats and get over to the Airborne and Special Operations Museum, where LRRPs have a special place Dave sponsored the group for an interactive combat situation that was really impressive in its operation. On top of that, we were presented a tribute pin recognizing the contributions of all Vietnam War and Vietnam Era veterans. The rest of our time there was touring the museum's historic and animated re-enactments of the airborne and Spec Ops storied contributions to our beloved the United States Army and our country.



VII Corps LRRPs at ASOM ceremony recognizing and honoring Vietnam War And ERA veterans. (Foster)



LRRP presentation at Airborne and Special Ops museum. VII Corps LRRP submission



Missing Man tribute at VII Corps LRRP 2016 reunion at Ft Bragg (submitted by Foster)

While the visit was memorable, the highlight of our days had to be an invitation to the Special Forces Chapter I-XVII of the Special Forces Association October Fest on the HQ's grounds. Even though the hurricane flooding decimated the buildings and their contents, we still managed to have a really good time of unlimited beer and a wienerschnitzel dinner worthy of Deutschland's best efforts! The Oktoberfest

celebration was divine intervention at the behest of SF Chaplain, CSM Clark (ret), since VII Corps never left Germany until Reforger in the 70's.



2016 VII LRRP reunion. (L-R) Fisher, Touchon, Kennedy, Kelley, Forde, Chetwynd, Allen, Storey, Straley, Vanasse, Aviles. AWOL LRRPs not pictured. (Foster)

In short, we have had better reunions, but never a bad one. When, as Brothers of a Common Bond, we come together, we manage to make each coming together a good affair. The one thing this less than stellar reunion pointed out to me was the need for an active, on the ground, point man. I would, therefore, strongly suggest that any future reunions take place only where we can have someone in place to trip the wire or draw the fire. With that thought in mind, we have two places to consider in 2018 and out: San Antonio, TX and Las Vegas, NV. I'm inclined to vote TX, simply because San Antonio is supposed to be a nice place to visit and we owe the South West guys who make long treks to GA (Touchon, Aviles , Morales, and others who give so much to us (Rodriguez and the CA posse)). On the other hand, Kennedy makes a strong argument for Las Vegas as a welcoming and fun place to visit and spend your pay day allowance, at a very reasonable cost, incl air fare. Either place would suit me, but before we make any decision, we NEED you to give me your input regarding your "druthers". You don't need to tell why: just vote for one or the other or either. Comments are welcome, but not necessary. If you don't think you'll be able to attend, don't vote; otherwise, all have a voice.

While we're on the subject of voices, January is the month for paying your dues of \$25 annually, unless you're a Life Member (if you're not sure, email me and I'll let you know according to our records). Too few people are taking the responsibility to pay in a timely fashion, if at all. Some have asked for reminders (Mr.

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

Storey). Since we're all getting a little older (hopefully) and a tad more forgetful, we will send out emails and USPS reminder letters. All checks are to be sent to:

Tom Forde 80 Carolina Dr., New City, NY 10956

Moving on, our 2017 75th Ranger Rendezvous, celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the modern day Rangers corps, has now been scheduled for June 26-30 at Columbus, GA (Ft Benning). There's a \$40 Association registration fee (beer and freebies). HQ is Hilton DoubleTree, \$109+tax @ (706-327-6868); overflow hotel is Fairfield Inn, \$90+tax @ (706-317-3600). HQ hotel is half way booked already, so make your reservations ASAP. Cancel anytime within 24 hours at no charge. If you want more info, go to: 75thrra.org. I have not checked out the different amenities of the two or the proximity to each other. When I do, I'll make a suggestion. If anyone of you know about either of the two, let me know and I'll pass it on. Both places are a departure from past Holiday Inn HQ. We hope to see you there. The Ranger Reunion is usually an outstanding affair because of the planning, activities, and larger gathering of old like-minded warrior soldiers.

Health alerts:

There are probably many; some avoidable, some not. Sam Storey had a heart attack and was rushed to the medic tent, where he had some stents put in to relieve blocked arteries (told 'em not to be eatin' those hogs he raises!). Ed Morales is out of the hospital from

spinal surgery. I haven't heard anything yet, but will pass on any info I get.

Sam Rodriguez is scheduled for more jaw surgery. He's got a lot on his plate what with archiving our LRRP CDs and caring for a centurion father. Zeke Evaro is having heart and shoulder problems, so Jane won't let the old SM stray too far from quarters. Hell, give 'em all a shelter half and tell 'em to work it out. Of course, don't forget Jim Jackson still trying to recover from his stroke. Send these Brothers a note of encouragement coupled with prayers for a successful recovery.

Well, my Brothers, that's about it. As usual, I've probably forgotten something or someone. Cut me some slack and I'll bring the leftover booze to Columbus (instead of drinking it), along with Jim's CDs and Sam's archival CDs that were not picked up at our last venture.

Looking forward to a brighter tomorrow and USA future, if promises are kept, I remain your loyal top dog, El Guapo!

Dick Foster, President, VII Corps LRRP Assoc

PS: I won a really nice 22 cal rifle at Special Forces Assoc Chapter I-XVIII Oktoberfest. Because of the hurricane flooding, much of their Association grounds were ruined, I donated it back to them in our name for their generous hospitality. I'm sure they would appreciate any \$ help you could provide. (Ronnie McCan @910-797-4261).





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

Unit Director - John McGee

As the new unit director of Company F (LRRPS/ 50th INF. LRPS/75th INF Rangers) I would like to take this time to thank Tim Walsh for the outstanding job he did as the prior unit director. Tim excelled as unit director and it will be a difficult job in trying to fill his shoes. I promise that I will try and continue to maintain the high standards that all our previous unit directors have established. For those of rangers of the Company F family that were unable to attend the 50th anniversary reunion



in Savannah this year let me tell you how I became unit director. My wife and I had just checked into our room in time to realize that the unit meeting was starting, so we threw our stuff in the room and headed down to the meeting. Well we happened to be about 10 minutes late and we were the last people through the door. The next thing I know Tim Walsh said that they were discussing who should be the next unit director and apparently, there had been no volunteers for the job. Tim hits me

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

with "Hey John what about you?". Well my answer was something like 'Sure I guess", next thing you know I get nominated, voted in and in less time than it took to walk from our room I am the new unit director.

Since I have taken over the job I have had time to reflect what it means to me to be a part this organization. I did not spend an entire tour in Vietnam. My father had died and I was brought home early, compassionately reassigned and never returned to F Co. 50th Inf. (LRP). I felt that I had let the unit down by not returning to Vietnam. The professionalism, courage and dedication to completing the mission demonstrated by the soldiers in our unit left a lasting impression on me. I was fortunate after Vietnam to get my degree, go back in the Army, get commissioned, graduate flight school and retire after 20 plus years. I can honestly tell you that throughout my career the standard that I held myself and my soldiers too was the standard set by the men of F Company (LRRP/ LRP/Rangers). I stated at the reunion banquet that I know the guys in our unit all new they were good soldiers. They were guys just doing their job trying to get the mission done and keep their team members and themselves safe and alive. You were and are more than that, you volunteered to do a job others thought you were crazy to do. The gallantry and courage displayed members of this unit throughout the entire time it was in Vietnam is unsurpassed and on par with some of the great units in military history. Everyone in our unit can look back at their time in country and realize that they served in a company of heroes.

This past June we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of Company F 25th ID LRRPS in Savannah, Georgia. We must have had at least 50 members of our unit with their wives and families in attendance. A great time was had by all and I would be remiss if I did not give a great big Thank You to Rick Ellison and Georgia Springs for organizing the event. I would also like to thank the ladies of our unit like Mona Gurrobat (Mona from Kona), Lynne Eberhart, Theresa Byrd, Nancy Miller, Theresa Walsh and Jo Ponzillo and all the rest of the wives for helping to organize the transportation to our excursions in Savannah. Especially the very, very strange Night Time Ghost Tour of Old Haunted Savannah.

During the reunion, Mona from Kona began telling me the story of what the Taro Leaf meant to the Hawaiian culture and how it plays a role in the shoulder patch of the 25^{th.} Infantry Division.

The 24th Infantry Division and its sister unit the 25th Infantry Division were formed in 1941 from the Army's Hawaiian Division rounded out with units from Hawaii and Washington State National Guard.

The Hawaiian division's insignia featured the Taro leaf (a native plant to Hawaii) and very much a meaningful symbol of Hawaii and the Hawaiian culture. The 24th Division adopted this insignia with a few modifications, but the 25th was not given an insignia of its own.

On Guadalcanal, the headquarters of the 25th adopted the call sign lightning for operational security since the Japanese had trouble pronouncing the letter 'L". the division quickly became known as the "Lightning Division" for the aggressive way it conducted operations and the rapid conclusion of its mission. Later, the division became known as the 'Tropic Lightning" and this became its nickname.

On June 7,1944 the Tropic Lightning received its own distinctive insignia. A Taro leaf to indicate its ties to the old Hawaiian Division, in the colors of the Hawaiian monarchy, Red and Gold, with a lightning bolt super imposed over the Leaf. During Vietnam, the division had two nicknames. The first of these was the 'Cu Chi National Guard "which referred to the divisions base camp and the fact that unlike other divisions it did not rotate for the duration of the war.

Of course, the most famous nickname for the division for those of us who served during Vietnam was the 'Electric Strawberry" In fact this nickname was actually used as an unsanctioned call sign at times. The officially recognized nickname is the 25th Infantry 'Tropic Lightning" Division.

The question remains why the Taro Leaf? Per tradition the Hawaiian Islands and its people were born of the spirit world. The honored genealogies of the Hawaiians do not stem from Adam and Eve but from Papa and Wakea. Wakea was the first man and ancestor of the Polynesians. Ha-Loa, son of Wakea was born in a shapeless mass buried besides Wakea's house. A Taro plant grew in this spot the ancients believed that the progenitors of the Hawaiians came from this mystic man called Ha-loa.

The Taro plant links the Hawaiians to the origin of the people. The word "Ohana" (Family) comes from the 'Oha' or the corm (vegetable root) of the Taro plant. It is no wonder that the Taro was and is the staff of life for the Hawaiian people. The Ohana is more than

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

just family it is sense of mutual respect, responsibility, shared involvement and protection and comfort to its members. Members of the Ohana knew that life was interconnected. The ohana who farmed was dependent on the Ohana who was a warrior. Each depended upon the other for survival.

It is fitting that the Taro Leaf is incorporated in two of the Army's Infantry Division that have the origins in Hawaii. The soldiers who served in these divisions became members of the greater Ohana. Soldiers more than

most understand the need for the ideals associated with the Ohana. Mutual respect, responsibility and shared involvement are part of the fabric of our military. The Taro Leaf represents Hawaii protecting its soldiers and its soldiers that have protected Hawaii.

Looking forward to seeing as many members of our unit at the Ranger Rendezvous this coming June. Being that this is the 75th Anniversary of the founding of Darby's rangers, I am sure it will be a great event Hope to see you there.









Unit Director - James P. Regan

Have you ever heard about it? Have you ever seen it? Do you know that it exists? If the answer to any of these questions is "No" then we got to do better, getting the "word" out.

Got a call the other night. "Jim, the "Moving Wall" will be in London, KY and we want to "Lay A Wreath!". "Okey Dokey", says I.... who, what, when, where, how? The answers were there, and I moved on getting the wreath, planning my trip, making contact with the folks at London. The local florist did a great job (was able to fit the wreath into the passenger compartment of my pick'um truck!). I could just see that whipping out of my truck bed as I kept up with the "Big Boys" at 80 mph on I-75S!!

Got to London, KY, a small but busy 'burg! As I followed my Mapquest instructions, I immediately "saw" where I was going. There must have been fifty American flags outside the fence from the high school!!! Turned in and was greeted warmly by all that I saw. There was a "Tent" where the "Table for the Missing Veterans" would be set up. I moved our wreath in, and just kinda moved around and "scoped out" the area. Was not too long, and the guys linked up with me. We discussed what would happen with the "presentation/placing of the wreaths". I felt very comfortable, but did not let my quard down. "Mister Murphy" lurks in the background!

Time for the ceremony, all things not really solid in my mind. "Stay cool Jim, go with the flow!". The formation: about a platoon-sized group of Vietnam Vets, the spectators, wives, kids, and grand kids, Color Guard,



and we folks with the wreaths, managed to get where we were supposed to be. All the commands were not what I was used to hearing, or shouting, on the parade fields, but they got us to do what we were there for!!!! To pay tribute and honor to our "Fallen Comrades"!

The ceremony goes on, and the guy introduces the units that are going to "place" the wreaths. He tells the history of the outfits! First, the JROTC from South Laurel High School, then the guys, the LRRPS/Rangers from the 75th Ranger Regiment, then the representatives of the 229th Aviation Battalion, 1st Cav. The fellow from the

JROTC goes forward and places his wreath, about six feet from the middle of the wall. Next is me, and I say a silent prayer "Dear God, don't let me stumble or falter!" I place the wreath. Don't know where it came from, but I stepped back, and straightened a ribbon. Then I saluted, moved a half step to the right, and approached the "Wall". I placed my right hand on top of the Wall. Why in the world did I do that!!!??? Slowly, about face, moving slowly and surely, I resumed my position to the left of the Color Guard. "Taps" was played, and I managed to "get through it"!

I truly believe SOMEONE, perhaps the guys (41 of our Comrades) prompted me to say a "Final Farewell!!" Forty-one years later!! I believe that I have finally found "CLOSURE" with Vietnam!

Jim Regan, Unit Director RLTW (Rangers Lead The Way)



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

Unit Director - Michel J. Sharp

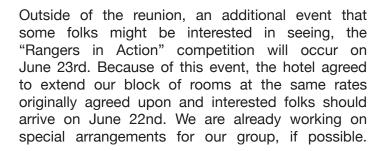




2017 F 52nd/I 75th Reunion Ft. Benning, GA

Our unit hosts for 2017 reunion ~ John and Debby Douglas as well as Judi and Bob McGath have arranged for a block of rooms to be available from June 22- July 1, 2017. This is longer than normal due to the fact that our reunion will be in conjunction with the "Ranger Rendezvous" (as requested) which will occur June 26-30. For folks only wanting to attend during the actual reunion dates,

please plan on arriving June 25 and departing on July 1.



To reserve a room under our group block, you can either call the front desk at 706-660-5550 or book online at http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/.../hamptoninn.../index.html and type in the group code FCO under the "Add special rate codes" link. Please keep in mind that the cutoff date for booking rooms will be 6/5/17.

Here is hotel info:

Hampton Inn Columbus/South-Fort Benning 2870 South Lumpkin Road Columbus, GA 31903

Double Rooms: \$99.00 plus taxes. (30 blocked for now) King Suites: \$109.00 plus taxes. (5 blocked but they can add more depending upon availability) All bookings will include a complimentary hot, full breakfast, Internet and parking. We will have also a complimentary hospitality suite

at our disposal.

A note from Dave Flores:

I would like share a few thoughts about our reunions. I have attended all but one of our reunions since 1993. I attended Ranger Rendezvous prior to our own reunions starting up.



Contact by phone is OK, but nothing like a hand shake, a hug and looking into the guys eyes. Thinking back about what you shared back in the day. To really see them again, spend time just hanging out and talking. Over the years I have seen our contact list grow, our web site come to be, (Mike Wise) contact with other guys grow along with participation in reunions grow.

For me, meeting up with the guys I went to the field with, priceless! Renewing those friendships, great! The long lost guys we always wondered about, Jim Morton, Steve

Mattoon, Michel Sharp, John Tapia, these guys helped build the company, trained us young guys. Yes, knowing they made it home safe, great. Seeing them, even better!

It's always great when a surprise happens too, like getting an email from one of our guy's wife asking if this was the company her husband served with. I was the unit director at the time and boy was this a surprise. Debbie Douglas, wife to John Douglas, told the story of when her husband was wounded, 31 Dec. 68. That date is forever in my head, the day Ronnie Arenas was KIA. We had three wounded, John was one of them. He was a new guy, first time in the field as far as I knew. I did not know his name or anything about him. Now I am patching up his wound and calling for a Medivac. I always remembered him, just never knew who he was. Just a simple email and the mystery was cleared up! John and Debbie are steady reunion comers and I am so glad I got the chance to meet John again.

So, because of members working hard in the beginning, making a contact list, (Ronnie Imel) the website, and those that volunteer to host reunions, we have been able to spend time in leisure with those we spent time with in war. That my friend's is a very, very small window into my head about our reunions. I will see you all there.

Phu Loi Mission, 8-12 May, 1968

Written by Dave Hill, Roger Anderson and Robert "Paul" Elsner

This mission took place during the "middle era" of our unit, when it was Co.F/52nd Infantry (LRP).

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

The 12-months period following the 1968 Tet Offensive has been characterized as "the bloodiest year of the war". Our teams and those of the other Vietnam LRP and Ranger units saw much combat during this period. Tough losses were taken; hard lessons were learned. Most of our 1st Division LRP missions had by then moved away from reconnaissance. We were now focused primarily on initiating contact whenever and wherever we felt we could prevail. Our stealth allowed us to make many such contacts even within relatively close proximity of major US or ARVN bases--areas frequently swept by line infantry units, but with them having made little or no enemy contact. The firepower we could bring to bear - particularly that of artillery and air support—could make our teams "force multipliers" of the highest order when surprise was achieved.

On the fifth day of May 1968, Viet Cong and NVA forces attacked Saigon and 118 other South Vietnamese district and provincial capitals, major cities, and US and ARVN military installations. This marked a sharp resurgence in Communist efforts to carry the war from the borders into the South Vietnamese interior. At least eight NVA regiments along with numerous battalionsize units were operating in or moving toward areas just to the north, northeast, and west of Saigon. The Lurps of Company F, 52nd Infantry (LRP), were tasked with screening major bases in the 1st Infantry Division's tactical area of operations (TAOR). On May 7, teams Wildcat 1 and 2 received warning orders for missions to conduct reconnaissance and to pull ambush patrols outside of Phu Loi, the Big Red One base. Phu Loi lay along Highway 13, about thirty kilometers northwest of Saigon. It was home base to the division's artillery and armored and air cavalry, along with other units. It was a major complex with great strategic importance.

Wildcat 1 was a four-man team, comprised of: SSgt. Jackie Leisure, Team Leader (TL); Roger Anderson, Assistant Team Leader (ATL); Charlie Hartsoe and Chris Ferris. Wildcat 2 was a full six-man team comprised of: Sgt. Ronnie Luse, TL; Robert "Paul" Elsner, ATL; Bill Cohn, Al Coleman, Dave Hill and John Mills. The two teams were to be "OPCON" (under the command) of 1st Division Artillery headquarters for the duration of their missions around Phu Loi.

Surrounded by villages, vast rice paddies, and rubber plantations, Phu Loi had been the scene of fierce combats during the 1968 Tet Offensive just a few months prior. NVA and VC used the area around Phu Loi as a staging area, a gathering point to strike Saigon and other key targets. On January 31, 1968, Team

Wildcat 2, led by Sergeant Luse, exposed an estimate full regiment of NVA and VC attempting a night crossing north of Phu Loi from Dog Leg Village to An My. The Lurp team directed an artillery attack on the huge unit, which prematurely began the Tet Offensive against Phu Loi base camp. After being badly mauled by the artillery directed by the long-range patrollers, the VC and NVA survivors escaped into nearby An My village, where a vicious battle ensued. Elements of the Big Red One's 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, and the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, engaged the hostile force for a few days, finally dislodging it from the village.

The Lurps' early warning and the subsequent defeat of the enemy was a major blow to the North Vietnamese's plans for the region. Ironically, the Wildcat 2 LRRPs received credit only for discovering the Communist force. The official after action report entirely omitted the fact that the LRRPs had actually stayed in position, spotting and adjusting artillery and aerial fire on the enemy throughout the night of January 31, 1968. So, 1st Infantry Division G-2 (Intelligence) believed that, because of the renewed attacks and continued pitched battles in and around the capital city of Saigon, the Phu Loi area would again be a transit route for major enemy forces. The Tet Offensive had almost eliminated all Main Force Viet Cong units in the area, so the local "part-time" Viet Cong forces had begun escorting the North Vietnamese Army soldiers through villages and rest areas as they moved toward Saigon. Thus, Wildcat 1 and 2 were deployed to find and foil the infiltrators' plans once again.

The teams of Co.F/52nd Inf. (LRP) were by now being used more often to ambush instead of "sneaking and peaking". They had become the night stalkers. They were not to take suicidal risks, but opportunities to hit the enemy had become more important than recon patrolling. Because there was so much aggressive Communist infiltration close to major allied bases, many of the Lurp missions became short-range patrols.

Wildcat 1 and 2 began the new short-range ambush patrols from Phu Loi, moving out two to five klicks (kilometers) from the base bunker lines and alternating exit points, direction of movement and ambush sites. One patrol started with a daylight truck ride to Army of Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) based camp about five klicks from Phu Loi, after which the teams patrolled back to Phu Loi at night. Even moving through the rice paddies, with their starlight scopes, it was still risky business. Not much of significance happened on the first few patrols.

Continued at: www.75thrra.com/patrolling







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

Unit Director - Roger T. Crunk

Greetings My Brothers,

I hope all received the last issue although it was several months' late, thus old news. The executive board met at John Chester's house in October to address several items with Patrolling at the top of the list. I'm sure the President will discuss our meeting in more detail so I won't go in to those issues here. The highlight being that I believe we have taken steps to get it back on track.



Herb Riechel donated \$175.00 from the Blue Bucket Chapel.Merle Freed donated unit patches and we received \$138.00 from those Also ink pens from Merle and Ken Nelson. You might be interested to know we also received an anonymous donation of \$5,000.00. We just say thank you enough to those who give of their time and funds to support their Brothers. That gives us a total of \$6,853.00 in our checking account.

I want to say a big thank you to Ed Mateer and his wife Kathy for the wonderful reunion they hosted in San Diego at the Catamaran Resort. It was a wonderful venue and San Diego is a great city. With the help of Ed and Kathy's friends and neighbors they put on a great time for everyone. I know they did it out of love but it's still a lot of work and headaches so let them know they are appreciated. As always it was great seeing old friends and some who made it for the first time.

I also need to thank John Serrano for the unit logo and Vietnam veteran stickers that he provided with \$72.00 raised from those. I have extras so if you would like some let me know and I will mail them too you at \$6.00 each.





Janice and I have both been under the weather for most of the year and on the road too much. Too many trips to the Denver VA Hospital for me and University Hospital for Janice but I think there is light at the end of the tunnel. Right now I'm recovering from hernia surgery so this article is going to be shot. Can't sit at the computer very long...ouch! We did manage to get away from it all last May for a relaxing trip to the Northwest. On the way home we stopped in to see Rick & Carrol Noble and Tom &Cass Sove. Thanks guys for being such wonderful friends. After the reunion it was back to the grind but slow and easy is the word.

The 2017 Ranger reunion is scheduled June 26-30. All the details should be elsewhere in this issue or on the 75thrra website and the K-75 website. This will be the 75th anniversary of the Rangers. Lots of people in town for this celebration so I would suggest making your arrangements early to ensure you get a room.

Sadly we have lost several Brothers this past year. Below is the list. There may be others that I don't know about and for that I apologize.

Clifford Norris
Jack Hall
Jim Roberts
George (Jake) Rakauskas
Jerry Mele

Terry Massey Bob Hullinger Daniel Madden Bob Madej

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

I was able to make the funeral for Jerry Mele in Phoenix along with several others. I flew to Pittsburgh and met Jim Joyce. We drove down to D.C. for Jake Rakauskas's service at Arlington National Cemetery. Thanks Jim for going with me and your hospitality. Kevin O'Brian was also able to make the trip from New York. There were several other former Rangers from the D.C. area who attended. I want to especially thank Jim Waters for making the arrangements. Rest in Peace Brothers.

Please reach out to any of your Brothers who may be suffering medical issues or even if they're not. None of us are long in this world so take the time to reach out.

If at all possible please make the effort to attend the upcoming reunion in June. See the details elsewhere in this issue. I would suggest making your arrangements early as rooms are going fast. This will be the 75th anniversary of the Rangers so there will be lots of people in town for the celebration.

I also want to mention that the 1st Brigade LRRPS are also hosting a reunion Sept. 21-26 at Ft. Benning. The hotel will be the Hampton Inn.

Calvin Gotts is hosting. I'm sure he probably has updated details so you can contact him at 231-357-7070 or cgotts@aol.co if you think you might like to attend. It's of course open to all 4^{th} Div. LRRPs and Rangers.

Hope to see all in June.

Time for a little good news email for a change. I just had an inquiry to our www.k75ranger.com website that needs sharing. A fellow contacted us wanting to return a Zippo lighter to its owner.

"Around 1970 he bought a corvette in Chicago and about a year later sold it. While cleaning it out, he found a Zippo lighter which has what he refers to as the diamond logo (4th Division Patch?) on one side and engraved Mar 68 – Mar 69, 2nd BDE L.R.P.S on the other side."

He would like to return the lighter and states "it sure would be a great Xmas gift from one vet to another. No charge!" If it was yours or if you know who might be the owner, please contact me, Wayne Mitsch, wmkma@comcast.net.





N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Unit Director - Robert "Twin" Henriksen



In September, our company members and family members, gathered together with chopper members to have a reunion at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas. This event occurs every other year and each time gets better. This time we called the event "Remembering The Fathers" as we had one sister, two sons and one daughter of KIA and deceased members. The following attended the reunion: Roberto Patino Jr. son of Roberto Patino KIA 10/22/70, Cathy Saint John and Rachel Blake sister and daughter of John Blake 70-71 (deceased), Micheal Ormiston son of John "Limey" Ormiston 70-71 deceased and Donny Kidd Jr. son of Casper pilot Donny Kidd KIA 68. A



total of 86 attended the reunion, not all are in the group photo as some had to leave early and photo was taken after some had left the banquet room.

"Remembering The Fathers"



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



Vegas Reunion Attendance

Jerry Linsner 65-66, Mark Carter 65-66, Pat Tadina 66-70, Robert Clark 66-68, Freddie Williams 66-67, Ray Hill 66-67, Larry Cole 66-67, Jim Parkes 67, Allen Phillips 67, John Jersey 67-68, David Carmon 67-68, Bill Jang 67-68, Jim McSorley 68, Don Giannattasio 68-69, Dick James 68-69, Shane O'Neal 68-69, Richard Dudley 68-69, Frank Bonvillain 69-70, Mike Swisley 69-70, John Howard 69-70, Robert Foti 69-70, Richard Baker 69-70, Tony Novello 70, Joe Marguez 70, Gordon Baker 70-71, Hubie Imhoff 70-71, Brian Danker 70-71, John Bryant 70-71, Robert Henriksen 70-71, Ed Zezlina 71, Steve Joley 70-71, Dylan Cronin 3rd Bat. 75th 01-02, Ken Gaudet 173rd Abn. 1/503 70, Cathy Saint John (John Blake sister 70-71), Rachel Blake (daughter of John Blake 70-71), Catherine Poesch (Tadina 66-70 - daughter), Kaitlynne Smith (Tadina 66-70 grand-daughter), Jay Borman (Lrrp book author), Gary Borman (Jay's father), Roberto Patino Jr. (son Roberto Patino KIA 70), Michael Ormiston (son of John Ormiston 70-71), Mike Justin (friend of Ormiston 70-71, Donald McKeough - Casper pilot 68-69, Cliff White - Casper / Lucky Star pilot 68, Ed Liptrap - Casper crew chief / door gunner70, Ned Costa -Casper crew chief 68-69, Don Snyder - Cowboys crew chief / door gunner 66-67, Fred Moorhouse - Casper / Cowboy 66-67, John Wilkofsky - Casper door gunner

69-70, Ed Luck - Lucky Star pilot 69, Gordon Wax - Lucky Star / Starblazers 68-70, Terry Bunker - 101st ABN Ghost Rider pilot 70-71, Donny Kidd Jr. (son of Donny Kidd Casper pilot KIA 68), Ronnie Imel - India Co. Ranger, 1st Div. 69-70, John Juarez - India Co. Ranger, 1st Div. 66-67, also 3 from Echo Co. Ranger, 9th Inf. Div. spent a day with us.



Reunion Logo

Robert, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding work you've done for the unit over the past view years, especially this year, at our biannual meet-up at the Golden Nugget. Sharing our reminisces with chopper pilots and crews makes the meeting an even more special, because of the intimate relationship we shared with them in Vietnam. Plots and their crews and the LRRPs on the ground have a special bond. The odd fact of our relationship is that, when we were in Vietnam, most LRRPs couldn't identify any given pilot or gunner, and they probably couldn't have picked us out of a crowd unless we were rigged up and ready to insert. We were a bunch of anonymous lumps in cammies, precious cargo, that they risked everything to extract from whatever mess we'd gotten ourselves into. I can't imagine a LRRP who wouldn't give highest praise to those guys.

by Mark Carter - Lrrp Team 3 65-66

Thanks for all the hard work you put into this event. I personally believe your efforts produced an outstanding event for everyone. The family member participation for those who are no longer with us was absolutely OUTSTANDING! Also, the inclusion of the aviators (Casper, Cowboys and Lucky Star) made this event even better and was long overdue. Great discussions were the norm throughout the reunion. You have set a high standard of success with this event.

by Gordon Baker - Teams Foxtrot/Echo 70-71

A very well organized and very fine reunion. Saw some old Rangers again and met some new ones. Barb/I had a great time. The N75'ers , Caspars and Lucky Stars = A damn fine crew. Great idea reference the 2 x India Co Rgrs. Real good guys. TY for all your efforts. We will again attend another and may be able to do Benning '17. by Robert Foti 69-70

Thank you for all of your hard work in organizing and orchestrating the reunion. It was the perfect kick-off for you to pick up Joanne and I at the airport. It was a tense two days for both of us. I never talk about my experiences as a LRRP, and Joanne had no idea what it was all about, so her jaw was open during most of the presentations. I will say that the experience shook the tree: things that I had neatly packed away are suddenly in the air again, but the result will be more growth as they get re-sorted. It was extremely meaningful to just sit in the hospitality room and chat with the other guys, and, of course, I am glad that Mark and I reconnected.

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

Joanne really enjoyed meeting the wives – a very special group themselves. I regretted having to miss the group photo and rush off to the airport after the banquet. Mark and I are going to try to put together a narrative with photos about that first LRRP year in the 173rd. I will send it to you when we have it completed. Thank you again.

by Jerry Linsner - 173rd Abn. Lrrp 65-66

Freddie and I had a great time at the reunion. It was wonderful to see some that he had not seen since Vietnam. The smaller group made visiting easier. We felt like the agenda was just right, which allowed time for networking, playing in the casino, or just relaxing. You did a great job and I realize those are small words for what you do. However, we do thank you.

by Karen - Freddie Williams - 173rd Lrrp 66-67

First, I'd like to thank Robert "Twin" Henriksen and Frank Bonvillain for organizing the 173rd LRRP/Ranger Reunion in Las Vegas. Extra thanks to "Twin" for taking the **MANY** extra steps to help with the other needs of the Lrrp/Rangers and Chopper members. Hope, my wife and I were glad to be able to help with this reunion. I finally met with Roberto Patino Jr., son of my Team Leader and friend, Roberto Patino. Robert was killed in action in 1970, the same day I was wounded. I also met Ed Liptrap, one of the helicopter pilots, that extracted us both the day we got hit. So happy to see Magdalena, Roberto Jr.'s wife, accompany her husband on the long journey to the reunion.

A great reunion! We met up with old friends and made new friends. Our thanks to Joe and Ramona Marquez, Bill and Easter Jang for the hospitality room eats and treats. A thank you to all the Rangers who brought their personal photo albums to share with us. Hope sends a special thank you to Jeanette Swisley for the gift. My thanks to Robert Jr. for picking up the lunch tab for our table. My wife found the Liberace Museum Tour interesting and the lunch at Toby Keith's Restaurant delicious. At the banquet Hope admired the way Colonel Allen Phillips spoke. He expressed exactly the feelings most of us felt when our loved ones were gone to the war.

Finally, I really like the shirts "Twin" designed for the reunion and the cups. We all had a wonderful time in Las Vegas. Until our next Ranger Rendezvous in Columbus, GA in June. Take good care. Airborne all the way!!!

by Tony Novella - Team Echo 70

The 2016 Vegas 75th Ranger Reunion brotherhood was abundantly evident and enhanced by the special guests and many speakers. It was a splendid and well organized event. Meeting the sons and daughter who attended the event for the first time and seeing past friends was heartwarming. It was equally humbling to have been the presenter in honoring the sons and daughters' deceased fathers, which undoubtedly set a precedent for future Ranger reunions. The Ranger family has grown larger with the attendance and inclusion of the next generation. Thank you to the coordinators for another great reunion.

by Cathy Saint John (Ranger sister of John Blake 70-71 Deceased)

Twin, thanks for heading up the Vegas Reunion. We really enjoyed it. I want to thank you for picking up where Roy Boatman left off. Your leadership in pulling us LRRP/Rangers together is really appreciated even though it can be a thankless job. I really liked how the kids and family members of the fallen Rangers were welcomed into the Ranger family. It makes me proud to be associated with this organization. I think the family members being included in the picture after the banquet was great. Again, thanks for making me feel proud of being a part of the Ranger family.

by Bill Jang 67-68

My hat goes off to the unit director who put the event on - what an outstanding job. I loved the whole event especially how everyone treated Jay as if he was just one of the original LRRPs and the respect for all the time he spent on his book. You guys made all his work possible with out you guys there would be no book. Special thanks to you Twin you set the stage for success. I sureb hope I am invited back for the next reunion.

by Gary Borman (Jay's father)

Thank you all for a very great reunion, Robert was a great host and was just the best at helping both myself and John Juarez 66-67 feel like you cared that we were there and wanting us to attend. Every single one of you were great to be with and around. We have been to many of these and yours has been the best yet, even maybe better than our own. Hate to say that but what a great bunch of Brothers and Sisters you all are. We had a great time, Thank you all. Sincerely appreciate your welcome and loving feelings.

by Ronnie N Imel – India Co. Ranger, 1st. Inf. Div. 69-70

Continued at: www.75thrra.com/patrolling



P/75 - 79TH LRP

Unit Director - Terry B. Roderick

The big news for the Papa Company Rangers is our upcoming Reunion in Cherokee, NC...again. Dates are June 22-26, 2016 and we'll be staying at the Drama Inn again. Everyone really liked this place and it's in the middle of town on a stream that we used to float inner tubes down one day and some fished off the porches. The weather is usually beautiful and not too hot this time



of the year. The phone number for the Drama Inn is: 828-497-3271.. 462 Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, NC 28719 and let them know you are with the Papa Company Ranger group. If you're in the area, please feel free to stop by and join us. We'll be rafting one day probably and there is a casino for those who like to leave their hard earned money behind. There is a plethora of things to do and some great exploring and sightseeing to be done in the mountains there.

Ted Tilson and I recently attended a Special Operations Wounded Warrior event in Conway, SC for our first time. It's an event that is not publicized very much in the Ranger Community and is actually a fairly new opportunity to give back to our wounded warriors in the Special Ops community. You can imagine our surprise when we ran into Eddie Olgesby, and his son, and next door neighbor. They were there to volunteer their dogs and time to take these wounded warriors hog hunting. There were 8 hunters and they were selected ahead of time to fill the available slots. Each was assigned a guide and dog handlers and they went out for morning, afternoon, and night hunts. I forget the total count but it was over 20 hogs they took that weekend. To think that Eddie Olgesby can get out there, run his dogs, and continue to breathe I found astounding. I asked him how he does it since he was wounded in his legs and feet in Vietnam and he told me it was good genes he guessed. It's good to see him healthy and contributing to this worthy event. We had not seen him since our last Cherokee Reunion and this was his third year doing this I think he told me. He plans to attend the Cherokee Reunion this summer. Eddie lives in western SC and made the trip

over to the east side, near Myrtle Beach, to support this worthy cause. It's a heavily Special Forces attended event right now due to the close proximity to Fort Bragg. As you might expect, many of these guys came from the 75th Ranger Regiment prior to serving with SF and it was a mini-reunion for many attendees. We were treated just like everyone else and Ted and I and just a handful of

others were the Vietnam era vets there. There were also quite a few volunteers who kept everyone fed all day and night and sponsors who contributed funds, merchandise, beverages, etc. to make the weekend complete. I felt like the WWII Rangers probably did when we first started showing back up in the early 1990's. Even if selected to hunt, I could not physically do it anymore, but the camaraderie and brotherhood we experienced was excellent and we'll be going back. Not much going on in February usually and









P/75 - 79TH LRP (Continued)





this is a good place to just come and visit and enjoy. I was told about it by John Burns, a former B/3/75th Ranger who served in Somalia and was one of the selected hunters last year. He had such a great time he encouraged me to come and see what it was all about. One of his brothers from B/3/75 named Dave Floyd, is one of the organizers/sponsors and owns The Gun Store in Conway, SC. It's a full service gun store and also has an indoor shooting range. I usually don't come north of Daytona Beach after September 25th or so because of the ice roads, low temperatures, arctic weather, etc., but we got lucky this year. The temperatures had gone up quickly after another cold front with precipitation had recently gone through and the weekend ended up being very tolerable for a Ranger from Paradise. Saturday and Sunday had temperatures in the high 60's and after the past couple of years with 30-40 degree days with rain, it was a welcome respite for the attendees. Ted and I had rooms at a hotel provided on Myrtle Beach at a reduced rate for attendees and we/I chose not to sleep in a tent during our stay. I'm glad our past experience trumped our macho demeanor...at least mine anyway. Teddy Bear is always ready to endure and conquer the elements. I'm not!! I've gotten soft living in Paradise over the years. We ran into some of the younger Rangers we've met over the years and it was just a great weekend to be honest. I hope more of you might try and attend in the future and support this outstanding organization. They also sponsor wounded warriors for black bear hunts in Maine, bill fishing in Hawaii, and I think maybe elk hunting in Montana or something like that. They have a website, www. SOWW.com, that you can visit for more information.

Another great surprise for me was running into Ranger Bryan Schrader. Bryan was selected to hunt last year and enjoyed the event so much that he returned from Texas to enjoy the weekend of brotherhood. You just can't find this sort of environment anywhere else I've learned. I met Bryan years ago when he served in the 1st Ranger Bn. and shared a home with our esteemed 8th Army Senior Enlisted CSM Rick Merritt. We used to have some great times at Kevin Barry's in Savannah and later in Columbus when Bryan transferred to the Regiment at Fort Benning to continue his service in the Regiment. He was one of the original participants in the GWOT after the Sept 11th attack. He later was assigned to the Military Free Fall course in Yuma, AZ., where he retired from the Army. An outstanding Ranger and friend that I had lost commo with and I'm glad to say we're linked back up. He lives in Texas now with his wife and daughter. I've been very fortunate on who I tied my horse to over the years with these younger guys to be honest. They have all performed in an above average manner during their careers and I'm proud that they somehow consider us their mentors of a sort. So many of them I know have gone on to become GREAT leaders and performers throughout the Army. These guys are amazing in so many ways. We should all be proud to be able to walk with them. We are always treated so well by these younger Rangers and it's not something we get to experience normally. At least I don't. Those of you who have not attended a Ranger Rendezvous or any other event at the location of any of the elements of the 75th Ranger Regiment have truly missed a great opportunity to be thanked for your service by soldiers that cherish and honor your service in Vietnam. It's an honor for me to support them and to have made so many long lasting friendships over the years. Not with just the soldiers, but the civilians associated with them every day. Talking about Linda Davis, Sheila Dudley, and the other folks who support these Rangers every day. I've had many opportunities to work with Sheila and Linda over the years and they truly love their Rangers. I don't mean to dismiss the other gals but just not as familiar with them. It's just great to be part of such a wonderful community!

Dave Floyd, and three other B/3/75th Rangers took my oldest daughter out on the town in Columbus in 1998 when I was elected as President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and as I was closing the hospitality room about 0530 one morning they all came dragging into the hotel in Columbus through a

P/75 - 79TH LRP (Continued)

side door...drunk...after a night/morning out drinking mostly tequila. Cindy cannot stand the sight, smell, or idea of tequila since that day. She ended up sleeping with a plastic trashcan beside her bed as she hung off the side and those guys ended up all over my room fast asleep when I got up there later. As you can tell I raised my daughter well and I can pick who she can go out with even better. For the record, I think each one of the 4 went into Law Enforcement after leaving the military. I had not seen Dave since a Ranger Rendezvous after he got out and it has been quite a few years. In truth, it seemed just like yesterday when I saw him again. John and Bryan too. I'm truly blessed to have this younger generation of Rangers in my life and it's easy to be around them.

Some upcoming events you may want to consider attending are the Best Ranger Competition 2016 at Fort Benning/Columbus, Ga. Dates are April 15-17. You'll see some real tough Rangers in this competition that runs pretty much non-stop over a 3 day period. Many of the events you can get to and observe and the crowds seem to grow each year. The competition is open to any Ranger School graduates and they compete in two man teams. Teams are eliminated during the entire competition for failing to meet times, scores, or standards and you get the cream of the crop by the last day when most events are set up for viewing. It's a great time to meet and rekindle friendships with Rangers from all walks of life and active duty Rangers too.

The following weekend is the annual Critter Cookout and Open House at the Mountain Ranger Camp in Dahlonega, Ga. The address is 1 Camp Merrill Road, Dahlonega, GA and the dates are April 22-23, a Friday and Saturday. Ted Tilson and myself and some others will be there earlier in the week to help prepare for the weekend events hosted by the U.S. Mountain Ranger Association. Another beautiful area with mountains and the Appalachian Trail running nearby and they usually have pretty good weather. There's been many new changes to the camp and some upgrades and long needed improvements that darn near make it unrecognizable in ways. We've been averaging 4-6 P/75th Rangers attending this one for a few years now. It's possibly my favorite Ranger event. Laid back enjoying good company in a lovely

place. Don "Johnny Quest" Hughes, Pat Stegall, Roger Honeyager, Dave Gates, Tom Perry, Jay Lutz, Duke DuShane, and I can all vouch for this event. If you ain't doing anything, come and enjoy one of these while you can. You'll probably be back if you do.

That's about it for now. We want to send a shout out to Jay and Marcia and let them know we love them and have them in our hearts and prayers. A recent adoptee of the P/75th Rangers, Ranger Joe Rippetoe, and his family, have made the ultimate sacrifice a family can make and we're so proud and honored to have them in the fold now. At our reunion in Colorado Springs in 2014, Joe told us he was doing some other real important stuff during the war and never really got to serve in a designated Ranger unit per se and he didn't really have a Ranger unit for reunions and such and we took total advantage of Rita and Joe right then. Until they run us off, they're in the family now and we're thankful to have two such wonderful folks with us. I'm sure their son, Ranger Russell Rippetoe, would approve. I'd love to have some good dirt for you all but no one is supplying anything right now. Must be the slow season due to the cold weather and bad roads. I can't tell on myself. Rick Chitwood won't necessarily like this, but he supplied us some neat license plates with two designs and is

providing our reunion t-shirts again this year. If you get a chance, be sure to thank him for his interest in what we're doing and contributions to our group. Hope to see you in Columbus, Dahlonega, or Cherokee this year. RLTW!! Rock







LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

By the time you read this, the 2016 holiday season will have passed and we will have a new U.S. President. This takes me back some 55 years to January 1961 when I quit high school to join the U.S. Army. Because I was only 17 years old, my mother had to sign my enlistment papers (which she seemed



if this was a Soviet inspired attack or a prelude to a Russian invasion. It took a while for things to calm down but there was still a lot of international tensions when I rotated home in January 1964.

all too happy to do). Like virtually all teenagers, I thought I knew everything and because JFK had been elected President, I knew we were headed into a war. So, I joined up to get a head start on my military career.

As it turned out I was mostly right, but for the wrong reasons. The 1960's were a turning point in U.S. history with the failure of the Bay of Pigs, and the gathering momentum of the Civil Rights Movement to start with. After basic training and AIT, and within two months of being posted to the 3rd Infantry Divisions 38th Infantry Regiment in Schweinfurt, W. Germany, the Berlin Wall went up in August 1961. The Cold War suddenly got hot! I did not realize it at the time, but I and my fellow infantrymen were players in a historical drama.

This drama continued throughout my time in Germany, and included the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962 and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963. I had joined the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment in March 1962 and all of these events had a direct bearing on our training as it was clear that we were likely headed to war. Fortunately, that never happened, but in retrospect those were still perilous times.

Today, as I type this, I cannot help but thinking back to that November day in 1963 when, in the midst of a unit beer bust in a local Bad Kissingen Gasthaus the world suddenly became a darker and more dangerous place. A call came in to the Gasthaus from our CQ that Armed Forces Network radio had announced that President Kennedy had been involved in an automobile accident in Dallas. We partied on until

the artillery units, and we were right on their tails to our staging areas. No one knew

the next call came in saying

that he had been shot. After

that it was all pandemonium

as we raced back to our unit

at Daley Barracks. The 14th

Armored Cav was moving

out to its alert stations on the

East German border, as were

By August 1964 the Vietnam War was escalating and many of my LRRP buddies went on to serve there with distinction including Ed Jentz, John Peyton, John A. Walden, Wilbur G. Bowersox, Gerald M. "Mike" Tardiff, Robert "Red Dog" Schroeder, Don Rampanelli, Ken Bowyer, Jack Gamey, Ed Shulda, Sam Jones, Jim Roach, Bill Kampe, and Clifford Mize, among others. SSG Mize was killed in action while serving with the 4th ID near Pleiku in June 1967.

As I said, this was a historical time in our country's history, and I am glad to have been able to be a part of it with the men of the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment. We were, and are proud of our unit. This pride is reflected in the detachment's motto:

May the fires of Hell forever crackle and smell with the meat and the bones of a thing called a man who says, "I can't!"

McGeek sends



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Bill Miller



Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

It appears that the Patrolling Magazine is back on track and I hope you all enjoyed the latest issue.

I still need your articles and photos. If you don't respond I will not have much to send in for publication. I know that many of you like and wait for the Patrolling magazine to arrive, and there have been problems, but I believe that it is a great magazine and we need to continue this publication.



If you are an annual member please send your dues to the following address.

75th RRA' PO Box 348360 Sacramento, CA. 95834-8360

A Poem

Ranger School Graduation, Ft. Benning, Georgia At last, and suddenly released,
This camouflaged stampede
Surrounded in thunder and shouts,
Flowed across the rise and fall
Of the close-cropped Camp Lawn.
Free,free, and ready to be alone at last
With the understanding of what they'd done
And maybe equally important, what they hadn't.

So, I pinned on our son's tab twenty years From the time that I got mine in 1960. I hope to be there sometime soon To do the same for our first grandson. For

There are those who have heard of the way, Those that think they know the way And those who lead the way.

M.J. McNamara Col. In (Ret) Senior Advisor, 32nd ARVN Rangers (BDQ) 1965-66

Another "Small World" StoryBy Steve Leighton

You may recall my story of going back to VN in 2007 looking for my former VN Ranger Counterpart... only to find him living right here in my home town. During my reunion time with former LTC Long, he me a picture of himself with former VN Rangers and some American Advisor. He had used this picture (that he kept from the communists) as proof of his service to help immigrate into the USA. It was a picture of my Counterpart, LTC

Long from 1968. Long was in the center of the picture with many of his Ranger Officers and three American Advisors. I had been circulating this picture for years looking for anyone that might recognize and identify any of the American Advisors in this picture. No one had a recollection of who these guys were. Meanwhile, my good hunting budy from North Dakota was reading an article in the Bismark, ND Tribune about a former Army Sergeant that was an advisor to the VN Rangers. He thought it would be of interest me to see the article, so he sent it to me while we were at the Counterparts Reunion this past April in San Diego. When I got home from the reunion, I was going through my mail and found the letter with the story in it. I immediately starded reading the letter about Army SFC Sid McMahen from Williston, ND. As I was reading the article, I came acress the picture of SFC McMahen with his counterparts. I could not believe what I was seeing. It was the exact same picture I have and was circulating at the reunion. Once again, out of nowhere, I found an answer to my question about who was in this picture. The reporter that did the story contacted SFC McMahen and wh with his permission, provided me with his contact information. On Saturday, May 7, 2016, I called SFC McMahen and had a long discussion with him. It turned out the re replaced my replacements a few months after I departed Viet Nam. My replacements were severely wounded in an operation the killed my former BN commander, Major Kiet, in late 1967. In January 1968, SFC McMahen was the replacement for the guys that had replaced me. He served with LTC Long at the 42nd Rangers and then also served with the 31st Ranger

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)

BN. He was very surprised to her that LTC Long was alive and living in the Minneapolis, MN area. I later set up a phone call with Long, the reporter, McMahen and myself for another Great reunion story. The Bismark Tribune ran the second story on Memorial Day of this year (2016). As usual the world turns out to be a very small place once again!

Rouges Gallery



Captain Al Danner, Advisor to the 31st and 35th ARVN Ranger Bn's 1965

L. Captain Howard White ASA 2nd Grout, R. Sergeant Bill Miller, 23rd BN Outside Dalat, 1968





L to R Lt. Bird Arty FO, Major Paul Sinkler SA, 2nd Gp, Captain Hugh Daly, SA 11th Bn, Major David Hester, SA 22 Bn, Dalat, August 1968

Lost Souls

If anyone knows the whereabouts of the following Rangers please let me know.

Roy "Buck" Allen Robert Gill

George Chigi George Horvath III

Joseph Connolly II Gary Littrell
David Cuellar Calvin Morse
Dan Donohue Phillip Vargas

Courtney Frobius

Sit Rep

By now you should have received your invitations to our Reunion to be held in Las Vegas, NV. On February 20 thru 23, 2017. You must make your own reservation with the following contact information.

The California Hotel 12 E. Ogden, Ave Las Vegas, NV

Toll Free 1 800 634-6255 Group Code: A7CUSAR

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Quote

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Cicero

Mu Nau

Bill Miller, Unit Director

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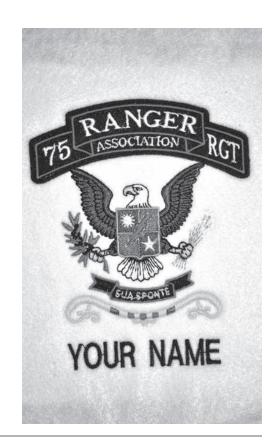
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Copyright 2016. Limited edition series of 1,000 prints depicting a UH-1 Huey making a ladder extraction of a Special Forces team "over the fence" during the Vietnam War. Available in the standard version, as shown, or the customized version with hand-painted aircraft markings of your choice. A Ranger tab, SOG patch, etc. of your choice can also be painted in the lower left corner. Print size is 20" X 28." Satisfaction Guaranteed.

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As members, we should make an effort to patronize our advertisers. Most of us would prefer to deal with one of our own given the opportunity. Give it a chance, it helps the Association bring you a quality product at a reasonable price. Thanks to everyone that has signed up.

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NEW ANTIQUE CHALLENGE COIN

We have added bumper stickers, some beautiful new challenge coins, and an association patch to the quartermaster page of our website. And, as always, you can renew your dues there if you are an annual payer or wish to make a contribution to the family fund. We'll try to add a direct pay button in an upcoming constant contact message. Thanks for your attention.

This is the approved coin for the 75th anniversary of the ranger activation (1942-2017). The coins are to be made available sometime prior to the rendezvous. The cost will be about \$10.00 per coin. The coin is a simple design which brings forward the true meaning of the Ranger from past to present.

More information to come as it made available to me. I will get this out to you. Rick





RECONDO SCHOOL COIN

\$25 Includes mailing.

Marshall Huckaby 158 Fairway Oaks Drive Perry, GA 31069 rvnlrrp@aol.com





VIETNAM LRRP CHALLENGE COIN

Bronze in Lucite case: \$20 Contact: rvnlrrp@aol.com

Vietnam LRRP Coin in Bronze.

Send \$20 (includes shipping) Cash/Check to: Marshall Huckaby 158 Fairway Oaks Drive Perry, GA 31069





MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

To prevent lapses in your memberships please send dues and any ADDRESS CHANGES to:

75th RRA PO Box 348360 Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

The Association makes donations to each of the four Ranger battalions for the benefit of the young rangers and their families. We have also established a Gold Star fund to support our Gold Star families program. If you wish to help out, anytime is the right time—especially right now. If you wish to pay with one check for any combination of dues and funds, please specify how much is to go to each. Thank you!



75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.	LIFE MEMBERSHIP
PO Box 348360	Up to 39-\$510.00
Sacramento, CA 95834-8360	40-44\$470.00
	45-49\$440.00
	50-54\$410.00
Membership Application Form	55-59\$370.00
Annual dues: \$30.00 Annual subscription: \$30.00	60-64\$330.00
Checks Payable to:	65-69\$290.00
75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.	70&up\$260.00

75th Nanger Negiment A550C.			70&up\$260.00		
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STREET ADDRESS (CITY	STATE	ZIP PLUS	
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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

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



Special Operations
Memorial Foundation

Dysfunctional Veteran Challenge Coin

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IF YOU OR YOUR FIRM OFFERS GOODS OR SERVICES THAT WOULD APPEAL TO MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY COMMUNITY AND/OR RANGERS, LRP'S OR LRRP'S IN PARTICULAR, OR KNOW SOMEONE THAT DOES, YOU HAVE A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE THAT READS PATROLLING MAGAZINE. CONSIDER PLACING AN AD IN OUR MAGAZINE, PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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Full Page	\$500.00
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