

THE NEWSLETTER FOR  
THE LRRP/RANGERS OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CAVALRY DIVISION  
DURING THE VIETNAM WAR



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THIS NEWSLETTER IS DISTRIBUTED IN JANUARY AND SEPTEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR. IT IS FOR THE MEN WHO SERVED IN THE LONG RANGE PATROL UNITS OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CAVALRY DIVISION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. THESE UNITS ARE: LRRP DET., 191<sup>ST</sup> MI; HHC (G-2) LRRP; CO. E (LRP), 52<sup>ND</sup> INF.; CO. H, (RANGER) 75<sup>TH</sup> INF.; AND DET. 10, (RANGER) HHC, 3<sup>RD</sup> BGE.

THE NEWSLETTER IS MAILED TO ALL OF THESE MEN FOR WHICH AN ADDRESS IS AVAILABLE. FUNDING FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS BY THE LRRP/RANGER ASSOCIATION OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CAVALRY DIVISION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

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**You can generate \$2.00 for  
the LRRP/Rangers  
association**

The 75<sup>th</sup> RRA will reimburse  
us for each 1<sup>st</sup> Cav  
LRRP/Ranger who joins the  
75<sup>th</sup> RRA

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## VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT

from John LeBrun

Greetings and salutations from the metropolis of Blaine, WA; the gateway to America. Once again a great reunion in Killeen with 29 members attending and two of those being first timers. Was great to see everyone once again but for me was super to see Bill **Abbott**. It's been a few years since we walked the woods together. It was great to see you again Bill and look forward to seeing you in Chicago.

Once again we hosted our raffle after the luncheon. Members continue to bring excellent prizes that are available to be won and this year was no exception. I personally want to thank all those that made, bought and brought items for the raffle and the many members that purchased tickets for the raffle. The prizes seem to get better each year. Once again thanks to all that participated to make this event so successful.

Had an association member mail me Ron **Christopher's** book "Above All Else". A bold statement came with the book, so I gave it a read. What a ride/read. If anyone would like me to mail them the book send me your email address and I will mail it to you for free.

Chicago is election time for the following two years. To hold one of the positions requires relative little time. The membership needs members to fill those positions to keep the organization going. It does not require you to attend every reunion but it is helpful. As a non profit organization we need to have a full and active executive board. Think about it and make a commitment to fill one of the positions, if not in this cycle, then in one over the next few years. We all need to participate to make the organization work.

Hope to see you all in Chicago this July. Until then take care and safe travels where ever you go.

**John LeBrun**

## **2013 REUNION ATTENDEES**

Bill Abbott**	Bill Anton	Tom Campbell
Bill Carpenter	Bob Carr	Larry Curtis
Sam Dixon	Jim Faulkner	John Floyd**
Stan Freeborn	Ken Gallagher	Bennie Gentry
Doc Gilchrest	Bill Hand	John Hutter
John LeBrun	Pat Lyons	Bernard Nallis**
Robert Oakes	Wayne Okken	Doug Matze
Keith Phillips	Jim Regan	Dan Roberts
David Russell	Howard Shute	John Trumbull
Charles Windham	Ken White	

\*\*first time attendees

almost everyone had spouses, family members or significant other with them.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

From Bob Carr

Start balance	1/1/13	. \$8869.46
INCOME:		
Dues Merch & Donations		\$5,684.35
Refund Shilo room		\$335.61
EXPENSES		
newsletter		(\$759.29)
refund watch		(\$30.00)
cash for reunion	NOT USED	(\$1000.00)
cav scholarship fund		(\$500.00)
merch bracelets		(\$75.00)
hosp room	REFUNED	(\$335.61)
merchandise, "coolies"		(\$371.53)
beer & wine	REUNION	(\$130.95)
snacks & soda	REUNION	(\$165.26)
ice		(\$20.35)
reunion breakfast tip		(\$50.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES		(\$3,437.38)

## **LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

George Paccarelli, William Abbatt, Wayne Okken

Closing balance	7/24/13	\$11452.04
Brick Fund balance	\$1,194.00	in same acct

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT 2013 REUNION

From John LeBrun

Well another reunion over and done. We had two first timers that attended this year with a total of 29 members signing in and staying for a day or two. I have included the draft minutes in this newsletter so please forward corrections to me so I can get it straight for Chicago. Speaking of Chicago the reunion dates are from 9-13 July 2014 so make your reservations now they can always be cancelled. The number is 630-850-5555 it's the Chicago Marriott and tell them you're with the Cav; rate is \$99.00 a night. Our hospitality suite will be in this hotel. This should be a well attended reunion as we have a lot of members within one day drive.

A couple of things came up at the AGM that need a little more explanation then the minutes contain. First Bill **Anton** made a motion to give \$5,000.00 to the Ranger Memorial that is being planned for Fort Lewis. Bill explained that our colors are there and they carry our heritage and legacy. He also said that they have not started the memorial as of yet and do not have the required funds to complete the memorial. A number of members expressed concern about the amount of money being requested; that there was no start date for the project; that they do not have all the funding and lastly that if we give to this project what about other projects that come along. Although the motion was defeated it was expressed that if members wanted to donate to the project they could **provide money in their name or as a donation from our organization**. Bill Carpenter indicated that he would put something in the newsletter on how to do this. The second item that needs a little discussion was a request for funds to publish a book from one of our members. He has the book completed but does not have the funds to publish the book. Again members had a lot of questions; do we do this for all members; how much do we give and who monitors it; etc. In the end the membership thought it best not to get in the book publishing business but left it up to any member that would **like to help him out for a**

**share, as a gift, or whatever they certainly could.** If any one is interested send an email or call and I will give you the details. I do not know how much money or time it takes to get a book published. Other than these two items the AGM was business as usual.

Also the next AGM is our election year for the executive for the next two years (2014-2016). As of this date I have the following members who are seeking/running for office;

President: John **LeBrun**  
Vice- President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Charlie **Burckhardt**  
Secretary: Vacant  
Sergeant at Arm: Doc **Gilchrest**

The organization needs members to step up and assume one of these positions. The positions do not require much of a persons time. It requires some one to fill the position and fill out a report every once and awhile. Attendance at the reunions helps but is not mandatory.

Well that's it for now. Think about attending the reunion and make that reservation. You won't know how great it is to attend until you do.

Respectfully submitted: John **LeBrun**

## FOUND RANGERS

Raymond Strezewski  
1307 E. Wakeman Ave.  
Wheaton, IL 60187-3731  
phone: 630-690-1016  
email: [rstrezewski@yahoo.com](mailto:rstrezewski@yahoo.com)

Does anyone remember **Rudy Amaya**, '68 time period? He contacted our webmaster and said he was on missions out of LZ Betty. He is not on our roster. If someone can vouch for him, we will welcome home another brother

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**LRRP RANGER REUNION  
MEETING MINUTES  
KILLEEN TEXAS  
05-09 JUNE 2013**

The executive meeting was held 07 June 2013 at 1600 hours, an agenda developed, and the meeting adjourned at 1635 hours. John LeBrun, Bennie Gentry, Bob Carr, and Keith Phillips, attended.

The AGM was called to order at 1500, 08 June 2013. All members in attendance were verified as having current dues paid (26).

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. The previous minutes (2012) were presented, motioned and seconded with unanimous approval. A few typos' were reported and will be corrected.
2. No additional items were added to the agenda.
3. The web site is up and running. If you have a problem or need assistance contact the web master. His email is on the web site.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2013 REUNION ATTENDEES ARE: Attached with the newsletter.**

1. The 2014 reunion will be 9-13 July 2014 in Chicago. For reservations call and mention you are with the Fist Cav Reunion to get the unit rate; \$99.00. The hospitality suite will be in the hotel. Phone number is 630-850-5555.
2. Elections are next year and we need members to step up and fill positions. The organization only functions if we have members that will step up and assume some of the tasks that need to be done.
3. Bill Anton gave a brief talk about the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment change of command and encouraged members to attend the get together every year at Columbus, Georgia/Fort Benning. He will put some thing in the next newsletter about the upcoming dates.
4. Bill also made a motion and it was seconded to donate \$5,000.00 to the memorial that is being built at Fort Lewis.

After a lengthy discussion the motion was defeated.

5. A member made a request/ suggestion about a member that has a book written but does not have the funds to get it printed and wanted out support to get it published in exchange for a share of the profits. It was discussed and then decided that the organization should not get in the book publishing business.
6. **The secretary's report was that a new one is needed. Some one needs to step up and take the position.** Not really that much work. Also Sam we will get life membership cards printed for those that have become life members. With a little luck they should be ready for the next reunion.
7. The Treasurers' report was presented by Bob Carr. A copy of the report is contained in the newsletter. We are in good shape with about \$8,000.00 in the bank. **Bob is looking for a replacement as well so someone needs to fill this critical position.**
8. Bennie indicated that the merchandise is still selling well.
9. Doug Parkinson passed on his regrets but was unable to attend. He will be at the Chicago reunion and hopes to see a lot of first timers their.
10. Meeting was adjourned at 1105 hours

Any additions, deletions and/or comments forward them to me or bring them up at the next AGM.

Respectively submitted

John LeBrun

Recorder

EDITORIAL: FROM THESE OFFICERS  
REPORTS, IT SEEMS LIKE JOHN LEBRUN IS  
CARRYING MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF THE  
LOAD. HOW ABOUT A LITTLE HELP HERE  
FOLKS.

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## 75<sup>TH</sup> RRA OFFICERS



The 75th Ranger Regiment Association met in conjunction with the Ranger Rendezvous at Columbus/Fort Benning Georgia, and elected their Officers for 2013-2015 on 27 July. Bill Anton was unanimously elected President.

Bill is in the middle.

**THE 2<sup>ND</sup> RANGER BATTALION NOW CARRY OUR COLORS. THEY ARE ERECTING A MEMORIAL TO ALL 2<sup>ND</sup> BN KIAs, INCLUDING OUR LOSSES IN VIETNAM.**

**DONATIONS TO THIS ENDEAVOR ARE GRACIOUSLY APPRECIATED. CONTACT BILL ANTON TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS MEMORIAL. HIS CONTACT INFO IS ON PAGE 2.**

## Violence Against Veterans Action

Everything that ages gains value. This applies also to pre-owned military items, which is why too many aging veterans are being assaulted and burglarized by criminals who steal military medals, equipment and documents for sale to pawn shops, collectors and museums that are increasingly seeking these items that gain in value each year as they age and become more rare. Due to increasing theft of military items, and physical harm being inflicted on vets who try to defend themselves and their property, new legislation and education is needed to discourage these crimes.

## WILBUR WESSELIUS VISITS DONNY MILLER'S GRAVE



To those who knew Donny: this is just to let you know that I visited his grave site in Totowa NJ.

I cleaned up the grave marker, posted the flag for Memorial Day and saluted him.

It's still hard to do this, but I do this to honor his memory and service and to let him know he'll never be forgotten!

Donny and I went thru Basic training together at Fort Dix, NJ, then on to Fort Jackson, SC. Jan 1968 we left from California to Vietnam.

We were assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav where we both signed up for the LRRPs. We did a very short stint at a line company until our orders came through. Back to An Khe for LRRP training and then up north to Camp Evans.

Shortly there after we got separated, Donny went on to LZ Betty at Quan Tri.

I stayed at Camp Evans, so I was not there when Elias and Donny were killed. Wilbur.

## ROGERS STANDING ORDERS

12. No matter whether we travel in big parties or little ones, each party has to keep a scout 20 yards ahead, 20 yards on each flank and 20 yards in the rear, so the main body can't be surprised and wiped out.

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## OBITUARIES

### JIM BURTON

SFC Jim **Burton**, Phenix City, AL died from a heart attack on Feb. 17, 2013. He is burried at Park Hill Cemetery. He was one of "The Original LRRPs", recruited in January 1967 by Capt. Jim **James** to be the Team Leader of Team Two of the LRRP Detachment.. While Team Two was being put together, Jim went on a mission with Team One as an observer. The bamboo at the insertion site was taller than it appeared from the air and SFC. Burton broke his leg in the insertion. He did finish that tour with the LRRPs. SFC Burton was a Training Instructor in Ranger School before going to Viet Nam.

### JOE HAGERTY

Beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother passed away peacefully Wednesday August 7, 2013 at his home. Age 67 years. The son of the late Howard and Dorothy Hagerty. Joe was born February 5, 1946 in Saginaw, Michigan. Joe (Doc) was a combat medic and a veteran of the Vietnam War. He served in the LRRP/Rangers of the 1st Calvary. Joe received the Good Conduct Medal, Bronze Star, Vietnamese Unit Citation, the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with a Silver Star and two Bronze Stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea), the Army Commendation Medal, and the Purple Heart.

He was a past member of St. Matthew Catholic Church and was a lifetime member of the D.A.V. He married Patricia Premo on January 21, 1967. She survives him. Joe was employed at General Motors for 30 years until his retirement. In his retirement, he enjoyed fishing, boating, spending time with his family, renovating houses and he liked to putter around in his garage.

Surviving besides his wife, Patricia are three sons and their spouses, Anthony (Lisa), Jason (Dama), and Ryan (Monica); he also leaves behind four grandchildren, Grace, Madison, Morgan, and Iris; three sisters, two brothers and their spouses;

Jacqueline and Ronald Pung, Maureen and Todd Banning, John J. Hagerty, Timothy and Betty Hagerty and Anne and Lynn Oberg; also surviving are many nieces and nephews. Joe was preceded in death by a sister, Patricia Kersten.

Funeral Liturgy took place 11:00 a.m. Monday, August 12, 2013 at St. Matthew Catholic Church. Rev. Fr. William R. Taylor officiated. Military Honors followed, presented by V.F.W. Post #1859. Friends may call at The Snow Funeral Home, 3775 North Center Rd, (between Shattuck and McCarty), where the family was present on Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and at St. Matthew Catholic Church on Monday from 10:00 a.m. until time of Mass. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider donations to the American Legion Post in Baldwin, Michigan.

### FROM JOE'S SON

Just wanted to drop you a line and thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers you sent. I believe my dad received a proper sendoff. I trust that God is giving him the best homecoming imaginable.  
Thanks again, Ryan Hagerty

### RON CHRISTOPHER'S SON

from **Ronald Christopher** on July 17, 2013

I had a few bad weeks. My youngest son (Bruce) died last night at 8:30.

They had removed his stomach (dead) and most of his small intestines (also dead). He was going to lose his kidney (the one that was a transplant).

They took the breathing tube out and Bruce could not breath on his own.

I had asked him previously if he had had enough and he shook his head yes. I know that he knew he was not coming out of this one. I do not wish to experience any more of those days. Bruce and I were real buddies, not only golf but bass fishing as well.

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## FIRST COMMAND PACKAGE BRIGADE

The following email is from Bruce Cain  
On 3-27-13

*I belong to a Harley club that wants to send care packages to Rangers in combat areas, any suggestions on how we can adopt some Rangers... Don't want to send donations to a "pass them out group" want to reach the real grunt...*

The email went out by bulk email to you, and there was this reply from Dennis Johnson

*My wife's brother (USAF retired) and his wife started what is called the "Package Brigade" where they work*

***[www.firstcommand.com/package-brigade.htm](http://www.firstcommand.com/package-brigade.htm)** which does exactly what you want to do. Here is the information on what my sister-in-law (Vicky Rollins) developed and named the "Package Brigade" back in 2003 which sounds like what Bruce Cain and his Harley Club would like to do now.*

*Thanks, Dennis*

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### FIRST COMMAND PACKAGE BRIGADE

For many U.S. troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, it's the everyday things they miss the most. The smell of burgers on the grill. The sound of children's voices throughout a house. Watching a championship game with friends.

Though she couldn't send hamburgers or championships, First Command employee Vicky Rollins wanted to send some comforts of home to her brother, Lt. Col. Bill Greer, US Army Ranger, who was in Iraq near the start of the war.

Rollins, who works at First Command's corporate office in Fort Worth, Texas, told a few coworkers about her plan. Soon the Package Brigade was born. From its humble beginnings in 2003—six packages were mailed for the first shipment—the Package Brigade has truly become a movement.

"As time has progressed, several of our Financial Advisors have been reactivated and deployed, so they were added to our list, as were

friends and family of First Command employees," Rollins says. "We consider it a great honor and privilege to be able to do this small thing to thank these soldiers."

In the first half of 2008 alone, more than 500 packages were sent to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, filled with snacks, candy, toys, puzzles, games and practical items like hand sanitizer and baby wipes. During the summer, the Package Brigade stuffed, sewed and sent more than 500 "cool ties"—fabric tubes filled with cooling polymers—to help troops keep cool in triple-digit heat.

Organized and led by Rollins, more than 60 volunteers—most of them First Command employees—shop, sort, pack and ship care packages seven times per year, usually around holidays.

"The process of assembling and sending the packages to our troops is not hard, but it can be very time-consuming," Rollins says. "But these men and women face life and death situations every day while we go about our daily routine. We want them to know that what they're doing is appreciated and that they are not forgotten."

The Package Brigade gathers names and addresses of troops through its volunteers and other First Command employees. Because of the company's long-standing history of serving military men and women, the list of names is always changing.

The Package Brigade aims to overload soldiers on the mailing list, often sending them more than six or eight packages each to encourage sharing with other members of their units, who may not receive mail often.

Rollins continuously receives notes and letters from grateful soldiers touched by her generosity, most of whom she's never met.

"We received a picture from a very young soldier—the son of a First Command employee," she recalls. "It was a photo of his entire unit, and each of them had signed it. It was wonderful to see the faces of these young soldiers—to know that they were the ones sharing the packages we sent."

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## Veterans Evaluation Services Co

From Bruce Cain

Vicky Rollins, her husband Tom and First Command were honored earlier this year with the Patriotic Employer award, given to companies and individuals who support employee participation in the National Guard and Reserve. Little was responsible for their nomination.

"I wanted to ensure those involved were publicly recognized," Little says. "We ran combat missions daily and didn't lose any soldiers, and I attribute much of our success to their contributions."

As the Package Brigade has grown, so have its contributors. Several schools near First Command's corporate office in Fort Worth have donated items and letters for troops. Students from the Laredo, Texas, school district have contributed to the effort, providing truckloads of goodies and dozens of heartfelt notes.

"It is important to me for our children to grow up appreciating the wonderful freedom we enjoy," Rollins says. "Many packages have contained notes and drawings from school children. With little handprints, paintings, banners and notes of encouragement to our soldiers, children are making a difference."

After receiving requests from soldiers for items to give to children in Iraq, the Package Brigade now sends school supplies and children's toys in many shipments. Little says these gifts helped develop relationships with Iraqis.

"These are children who live in a war zone," he says. "I was able to give them a small toy and see their faces light up and smile. And more than a few times, we were able to gather valuable, life-saving intelligence because we had developed a rapport with the community through the packages."

Since the Package Brigade sent its first shipment, Rollins says she has prayed for its success and for guidance on its future.

"We would love it if there were no need to send packages," she says. "But as long as there is, we will do our best to reach as many soldiers as possible."

On December 28, 2012, Veterans Evaluation Services was awarded contract number VA798-13-D-0002 by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The five-year contract is funded under Public Law 108-183. VES will provide Medical Disability Examinations for the following Veterans Benefit Administration Regional Offices: Columbus, Ohio; Waco, Texas; St. Louis, Missouri; Lincoln, Nebraska; Des Moines, Iowa; Honolulu, Hawaii; Denver, Colorado; and Indianapolis, Indiana.

VES previously served the same Regional Offices for four-years with great success. The new contract will commence on January 1st, 2013. "We are honored that the VA has chosen our company to continue servicing the Veteran community," says VES President, Travis Fitzpatrick. "We take great pride in our role in the Medical Disability process and expediting the claims of our nation's heroes who have given so much for our country."

VES is a privately owned company based in Houston, TX. We have been in business for over 30 years with offices nationwide. We conduct Compensation & Pension exams to help determine whether a Veteran's condition is service related (so necessary treatment will be covered by the VA) or whether a service-related condition has worsened.

Our doctors conduct the examinations, and we send Veterans to a hospital or clinic in their area to attend diagnostic testing to support their claims. These are basic diagnostic tests and there is no treatment involved. We have a physician that orders the tests and we fax the order to the facility and call to make appointments when necessary. Your facility would deal directly and only with us.

As the VA prohibits Veterans from being billed for services in relation to these exams, we work closely with your billing team right up front to ensure VES is the sole payee for all services we request, and only the tests we ask for are performed. We do not wait for the VA to reimburse us—we pay you first and seek VA reimbursement separately.

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## HISTORICAL OCCURRENCES

This story was sent by Mike Brennan to John Lebrun for his "Legacy" project. John is compiling a list of all officers and senior NCOs who served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav LRRP/Rangers in Viet Nam.

### A RANGER OFFICER'S JOB

From **Mike Brennan**

I came to H Company as a new and inexperienced platoon leader on 8/15/69. Although when I came into country the week previously I had been on orders for the 7th Cav, the previous H Co. platoon leader, whose name was LT **Bell**, had been killed in action shortly before my arrival in country. Since H Co. had a priority on Airborne/Ranger-qualified officer replacements, and since I was the first Airborne/Ranger-qualified LT that was not a pathfinder to show up at division HQ after LT Bell's death, I was sent to H. Co. against my will.

Of course, it turned out to be a wonderful assignment with absolutely superb young American soldiers. As I write this I'm looking at a big plastic Cav patch insignia, atop which is a big Co H, 75th Inf scroll that a friend in N company had made for me. These insignia are attached to the filing cabinet to the right of my computer screen. Hardly a day goes by that I do not see that insignia and think of those days and of those very brave young LRRP-Rangers, that we served with.

George **Paccerelli** was the CO. when I arrived. Clark **Surber** was the XO, and Bob "Mac" **McKenzie** was the other platoon leader. When George interviewed me and discovered that I was a West Pointer, he accused me of infiltrating the company so that West Pointers could take it over, implying that the regular Army officers who had previously scorned the company were now wanting to take it over after he had built it up into a great unit. As a proud and somewhat testy young 1LT, I stood up, picked up my 201 file, saluted, and said that since the captain obviously did not want me in his unit, I would gladly go back to division HQ and go onto the assignment in the 7th Cav that I'd been given originally. As I turned to leave, George told

me, "Lieutenant, halt and sit back down. I'm going to tell you about this company, the finest unit and the bravest soldiers in the United States Army." For about the next hour he spoke passionately and very comprehensively about the unit, about its young, brave soldiers, about their hazardous missions, and about the fact that these dedicated young, brave, and smart soldiers needed and deserved to have equally young, smart, brave and dedicated young officers to lead them and take care of them.

He then took me on a tour of the TOC and of the company area. Of course, I was blown away. I agreed to stay, with the proviso that since I would be promoted to captain in 10 months, I would spend 5 months serving loyally and faithfully with the company, but then in January of 1970 I could transfer to the 7th Cav for 5 months as a grunt platoon leader if I still desired to do so. George agreed. From my point of view at the time, I had won the right to serve as a line platoon leader, if not now then later. From George's point of view, he would DEROS long before January so it would not be his headache and after 5 months with the company I might decide to spend my entire tour of duty with the unit. Or, I might get myself killed between then and January. Who knew?

When George DEROSed, Clark **Surber** took command of the company for a brief period of time, until he was replaced by Dick **Griffiths**. When Mac **McKenzie** DEROSed, Al **Rice** came in to replace him as a platoon leader. When Mac left I assumed the duties of XO, but still continued to perform the duties of platoon leader until Jim **Hinz** joined the company and took my platoon leader duties.

I was acting as both the XO and as a platoon leader through most if not all of November. In early November Dick **Griffiths** took R&R in Hawaii with his wife, so I was also acting CO. I have the picture of an award ceremony on November 3rd when I hosted the division CG, **MG Elvy B. Roberts** as he pinned on decorations for

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SGT **Milford**, Harvey's team, David **Torres**, Julius **Zaporozec**, and others. On November 10th I was the sixth man on a team led by SGT Richard **Saylor**. We were inserted in the afternoon, were probably spotted by the NVA and followed through the night, got into a firefight later on the 11th, and were hauled out by McGuire rigs. At that height above the ground, Viet Nam looked beautiful.

At about that time the Division had received intel that the NVA planned to hit one of the brigade firebases that were protecting the local provincial capitals. I had put Stan **Edwards** team into position near Song Be within a few days of that time and was in our TOC a day or two later, when an NVA regiment with more than 800 men moved past Stan **Edward's** team on their way to Song Be. As the center of the NVA regiment passed Stan's team's position, the NVA halted for lunch on the opposite side of the trail. They used Stan's team side of the road as their latrine. Fortunately, the NVA did not discover the team's presence. Unfortunately, several of the LRRPs were peed upon by the NVA.

When the NVA finally passed Stan's position, the team radioed in their sitrep and we were all astounded. I hopped in our jeep and took that information up to the division HQ and briefed the G2. The G2 immediately brought me into a meeting that the CG was having with his brigade commanders in the division TOC. I gave the CG my report of Stan's intel in front of the brigade commanders. When Colonel **Edward C. "Shy" Meyer**, the new 2nd Brigade CO at Song Be, who had had some bad experiences with Cav LRRPs in a prior tour, pointedly asked the CG if he trusted the LRRPs' information, General **Roberts** told COL **Meyer** in no uncertain terms that, "I would trust the information from the LRRPs with my life. You, colonel, should do the same." General **Roberts** sent the brigade commanders back to their respective firebases to be prepared for the NVA assaults.

That night the NVA hit Song Be hard, but Song Be was ready. Every artillery tube, Puff the Magic Dragon, Blue MAX, every other cobra gunship in the area, and Air Force aircraft were all ready to go

when the NVA launched their assault on Song Be. The next morning our soldiers at Song Be counted 237 NVA left in and around the wire, an astounding number of casualties since the NA were always so careful to remove their casualties from the battlefield. U.S. casualties were light. I don't think there were any U.S. KIAs. Stan **Edwards'** team had saved Song Be. **Shy Meyer** became a believer and great fan of the LRRPs that night, although I would not learn that until 21 years later. That's another story.

About 2 weeks later, one of our teams led by Jim **McIntyre** was not so lucky. Again another large force of NVA was moving down a trail that our team was monitoring. And again the NVA column stopped across the trail from our team for a break. When one of the NVA soldiers came across the trail to pee, however, he spotted our team and gave the alert. A firefight ensued. **David Torres** and **Julius Zaporozec** were badly wounded. Jim, **Kregg Jorgensen**, and, I believe, **Richard Cramer** fought off the NVA and escaped and evaded with their two wounded comrades.

I was in our TOC, bounced two Hueys and a pink team from Cavalier Troop, 1st/9th and went out to pick up the team. Although my memory may be faulty, I was in the first Huey which picked up **David Torres** and **Julius Zaporozec**. As we lifted off enroute to the nearest evac hospital, I checked each man out. **David Torres** had no heart beat and was not breathing. It was clear to me that he was already dead. **Julius Zaporozec** was badly shot up, but was still breathing and still had a heart beat. Not being able to do anything else, I held him in my arms and prayed that he would be alive when we reached the hospital. During the next several minutes, however, Julius's pulse rate and breathing slowly diminished and then stopped. He died in my arms. When we landed at the landing pad at the hospital, the medics and nurses rushed Julius into what was functionally an ER, but it was too late. They could not resuscitate him. He was gone.

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The next day back at the company I was very depressed. This was the first time I had seen combat death up close and personal and it was two of the men in my own platoon that I knew and cared about. CPT Griffiths understood what I was going through and told me to go to Cav Rear at Bien Hoa and pick up the end of the month payroll for the company. When I asked him what I was supposed to do for the next three days until the end of the month, he told me to get roaring, stinking drunk, get it out of my system, pick up the payroll, and get back to the company and into the war.

Being the good lieutenant that I was, I followed the CO's orders to the letter. I caught a lift bird back to Bien Hoa with the 1st/9th, bunked with our liaison NCOs at Bien Hoa, who had been told that I needed a few days of drunken abandon, spent several days with them, and got roaring, stinking drunk.

On payday at the end of the month I sobered up, put on a clean uniform, adjusted my black Ranger beret, and with a raging headache, severe nausea, and a feeling of severe bodily distress, went over to the Division Finance Office to pick up our payroll. After waiting for about two hours, the finance officer, a captain, sent word out to me to that they would not have the payroll ready until after lunch, so I might as well go to the Officers Mess and have lunch. I did, but almost everything I saw and smelled caused me to retch and feel even more rotten. So when I went back to the Finance Office at 1:00 PM, I was not feeling especially physically or emotionally well.

As the time approached 3:00 PM I had still not been paid. It was a Friday, which meant little to me, but obviously meant more to the REMFs in Bien Hoa. About 10 minutes before 3:00 PM the finance officer stood up and announced that he was off for the weekend. When he began to walk by me, I stood up blocking his path and asked him where he was going. He told me that it was the weekend and he was going to play volleyball with some nurses. I could come back for the payroll on Monday. The incongruity between what I had experienced just three days before of war and death and the moral disregard for the needs of soldiers by

the personnel in the rear area suddenly hit me hard. I snapped.

I grabbed the captain by the collar, pulled out my Colt 1917 New Service 45 caliber revolver, put the revolver to his head, and dragged him back to his desk. I instructed his sergeant to prepare the payroll for me. The sergeant willingly complied. None of the enlisted men seemed upset that I had a gun to the head of their boss, so I guess that they felt the same way about him that I did. When the sergeant finished with the payroll, he and the captain counted out all the bills together. The captain visibly sweating a lot more than the sergeant was. When the captain signed his name on the line, certifying that the dollar count was correct, I signed for the payroll with one hand, while I held the revolver to the captain's head with the other hand. As I left the office I took him to the door with me and said quietly to him, "If I ever hear of you or of what happened today again, I'll come back and finish the job." I returned to the company, paid the troops, and never heard from the finance corps captain again.

Mike

**OK PEOPLE, I AM OUT OF  
STORIES. I CAN ONLY PRINT  
WHAT YOU SEND ME  
ANY FUTURE "HISTORICAL  
OCCURRENCES" WILL HAVE TO  
COME FROM YOU**

**HOW ABOUT SOME MORE  
OFFICER STUFF**

**SO SIT DOWN AND PUT YOUR  
STORY ON PAPER  
THEN SEND IT TO ME.  
IF YOU CAN READ THIS,  
THEN YOU CAN WRITE A STORY**

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## **WATER IS GOOD FOR YOU**

Forwarded by Randy Kimes

How many folks do you know who say they don't want to drink anything before going to bed because they'll have to get up during the night!!

Heart Attack and Water - I never knew all of this! Interesting.....

Something else I didn't know ... I asked my Doctor why people need to urinate so much at night time. Answer from my Cardiac Doctor - Gravity holds water in the lower part of your body when you are upright (legs swell). When you lie down and the lower body (legs and etc) seeks level with the kidneys, it is then that the kidneys remove the water because it is easier. This then ties in with the last statement!

I knew you need your minimum water to help flush the toxins out of your body, but this was news to me. Correct time to drink water... Very Important. From A Cardiac Specialist! Drinking water at a certain time maximizes its effectiveness on the body: 2 glasses of water after waking up - helps activate internal organs

1 glass of water 30 minutes before a meal - helps digestion

1 glass of water before taking a bath - helps lower blood pressure

1 glass of water before going to bed - avoids stroke or heart attack

I can also add to this... My Physician told me that water at bed time will also help prevent night time leg cramps. Your leg muscles are seeking hydration when they cramp and wake you up with a Charlie Horse.

### **Mayo Clinic on Aspirin**

Most heart attacks occur in the day, generally between 6 A.M. and noon. Having one during the night, when the heart should be most at rest, means that something unusual happened. Doctors at the Mayo Clinic have been working for a decade to show that sleep apnea is to blame.

1. If you take an aspirin or a baby aspirin once a day, take it at night. The reason: Aspirin has a 24-hour "half-life"; therefore, if most heart attacks happen in the wee hours of the morning, the Aspirin would be strongest in your system.

2. FYI, Aspirin lasts a really long time in your medicine chest for years, (when it gets old, it smells like vinegar).

Please read on. Something that we can do to help ourselves - nice to know. Bayer is making crystal aspirin to dissolve instantly on the tongue. They work much faster than the tablets.

### **Why keep Aspirin by your bedside?**

#### **It's about Heart Attacks -**

There are other symptoms of a heart attack, besides the pain on the left arm. One must also be aware of an intense pain on the chin, as well as nausea and lots of sweating; however, these symptoms may also occur less frequently.

Note: There may be NO pain in the chest during a heart attack.

The majority of people (about 60%) who had a heart attack during their sleep did not wake up. However, if it occurs, the chest pain may wake you up from your deep sleep.

If that happens, immediately dissolve two aspirins in your mouth and swallow them with a bit of water. Afterwards: - Call 911. - Phone a neighbor or a family member who lives very close by. Say "heart attack!" - Say that you have taken 2 Aspirins. - Take a seat on a chair or sofa near the front door, and wait for their arrival and ...DO NOT LIE DOWN!

### **ROGERS RULES OF RANGERING**

23. When you pursue any party follow not directly in their tracks, lest you should be discovered by their rear guards, who, at such a time, would be most alert; but endeavor, by a different route, to head and meet them in some narrow pass, or lay in ambush to receive them when and where they least expect it.

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## Villain to Hero and PTSD

From Ron Christopher

It started on page 6 in the last newsletter and ended on page 7. It was a lengthy article about Powerful Solution for Vets with PTSD Issues. It covered things like: Who can benefit from TRE to Support for our Soldiers Returning from War. Article 1 was about Biology of Trauma with 2 covering Neurology of Trauma and 3 covering Anatomy of Trauma. They then provide; A real solution as the ending. I read this article a number of times and during the last reading I found my conclusion the same as the first conclusion. PTSD simply does not exist. I completed a year's research on the subject and wrote a book about it. You can find that book on Amazon or any other book store. It was published by Xlibris. If you think you have something that medically and scientifically does not exist then you should read this book.

You see, if you do not dream then you are dead because the brain never sleeps therefore you must dream. Some you remember and most you don't remember. You can even change a dream if you desire, not all of them but some of them. Dreaming is the first necessity to PTSD. Then comes the nightmares. We all have those also. They are part of going to sleep and they depend on what you ate or what you did prior to going to sleep. You have to have the nightmares to convince a psychologist that you have PTSD even though nobody can define PTSD. And then the game acting begins. You see, it all started this way.

In 1980 Doctor Robert Jay Lifton, an anti-war psychiatrist, found a way to make a large pocket full of money. So he put together a small group, a few veterans and a few non-veterans. It was all a very cruel hoax. From there Lifton developed a program called PTSD all because the members of that group had dreams. Veterans of Vietnam began as Villains. In steps Lifton and the veterans became victim heroes. A couple years later when Rambo hit the movies, the Vietnam veterans became heroes. All is forgiven except one thing. A lot of veterans were telling everybody where they could go leap, so Lifton submitted his plan to the Federal Government for X number of dollars and out of

guilt the federal government ordered the VA to implant the program and award veterans, those who sought out compensation, money as a pacifier knowing all the while that there is no such thing as PTSD. Nobody can define it. Nobody can tell anybody what it is. The psychiatric association and the VA want to change the name from PTSD to something else. They just have not decided on what yet. Some claim they have flashbacks but those so called flashbacks are nothing but memories that have, under certain times and circumstances, decided to come to the forefront of the brain and play a game called, havoc. My book defines what causes it.

To get the full story and really understand this villain to hero PTSD scenario of Vietnam, you really should get: A Question Unanswered PTSD. From the end of the war, 1973 until 1980 nobody had PTSD. Why not? Or, I left Nam in 67 so why didn't anybody have PTSD from 67 to 80? Well, it didn't exist.

Ronald Christopher

The opinions expressed in this article are the author's, and do not represent the LRRP/Ranger association. Association members are encouraged to submit articles and rebuttals for the newsletter. We will not print anything which is demeaning or derogatory about a LRRP/Ranger, nor will we print anything that you would not want your granddaughter to read.

*Editor's note: terms such as "combat fatigue" and "battle fatigue" have been around since groups of humans started fighting each other. Then when humans created things that went "boom", the term "shell shocked" came along. General Patton and others may deny the existence of the problem, but it is real to many of us.*

*As Chris writes, the anti-military people developed the term PTSD. The result was that the disorder was expanded from just the military and was applied to all society. After all, if Aunt Martha*

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*can be mentally disabled from the trauma of a horrible car accident, then the wife's nephew with three Purple Hearts can be mentally disabled from the trauma of two tours in Viet Nam in an infantry unit.*

*Individuals may decide if the mental condition existed long before 1980, but with a different name. Not everyone sees data in the same way. Interestingly, another term has tagged along with PTSD. It is PTSM, post traumatic stress memories. A few years ago, Jim **Regan** had an interesting article in the newsletter about PTSM.*

## **NO BRAG, JUST FACTS CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS FOR OUR FALLEN BROTHERS**

From Bill Carpenter

"The Vietnam Wall" webpage is the primary source for "cause of death".

The LRRP/Rangers roster has over 1,000 names of men who served in our unit. There are very few, if any, of us who did not have direct contact with the enemy sometime in our tour. Not everyone was on a team, but almost everyone in the HQ component did participate at times in getting the teams in, and out.

We were the longest serving LRRP/Ranger unit in the Viet Nam War. Tradition is that we are also the most decorated company in the history of the U.S. Rangers, and also perhaps the entire U. S. Army. On 9 June 72, Elvis Osborne and Jeffrey Maurer became the last two infantrymen to die in the Vietnam War.

Some officers did not award many medals; they considered a five, or six, man team taking on a platoon or company of the enemy as "Just part of your job." But to counterbalance that I quote my CO Jim **James** who said in his audio on our webpage, "*Each and every soldier that went on a mission, did more than many individual soldiers in conventional units who were awarded the Silver Star*".

Another statement by Col. **James** that I often quote is, "*You can't judge a soldier by the medals he wears, you judge him by, what did he do.*"

So, with that rather long intro, here are some data for our unit.

Died in Viet Nam	45
Died while serving in other unit	7
Died in non-hostile chopper crash	4
Died from enemy "other explosive device"	5
Died in "ground contact, hostile fire"	23
Died from other causes	6

From July 1969 through June 1972, the last three years of the war, only eight of us died due to "ground contact, hostile fire".

Our unit was at full strength by June '67 and came home In June '72, that is five years, 260 weeks. I have no source for this, but assume that the entire unit averaged 8-10 missions a week. That is 2,000 to 2,500 missions for the war.

Kregg Jorgenson has written that about 60% of us earned Purple Hearts. The general consensus is that about one half of all missions ended with a "hot extraction". Some of us were never assigned to a team, but there are very, very few of us, if any, who were never "'in contact" with the enemy.

So to be conservative, and using the lower number, this means that at least 500 of us were wounded in 1,000 enemy contacts.

Granted, any death is one too many, but having only 23 KIA in 1,000 fire fights is an amazing number.

We must have been doing something right.

*Addendum just received from Patrick **Tully** William Francis (died 3/9/70) fell from a Jungle penetrator when the Team Leader climbed off before it was pulled into the aircraft. The JP tilted and Bill had his pack on and slid off (he was RTO and had the radio in his pack). It was dusk and the aircraft was low on fuel so had to leave the scene. The blues were inserted the next morning and recovered Bill's body.*

Untill that time we didn't tie ourselves on to the JP and kept our packs on.

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## BOOKS

by and about LRRP/Rangers

**The Ghosts of the Highlands** by Gregg P.J. Jorgenson, Ivy Books. This is about the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav LRRP/Rangers, 1966-67

**LRRP Company Command** by Gregg P. J. Jorgenson, Ballantine Books.  
The 1<sup>st</sup> Cav LRRP/Rangers, 1968-69

**Acceptable Loss** by Gregg P. J. Jorgenson, Ivy Books. Gregg's autobiography, 1969-70.

**MIA RESCUE LRRPs in Cambodia** by Gregg P.J. Jorgenson, Ivy Books. One mission gone bad during the Cambodian Invasion.

**Above All Else** by Ron Christopher, PublishAmerica. Ron's autobiography about being the TL of the first team to pull a mission as the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav's LRRP/Rangers.

**One-Zulu** by Curtis "Randy" Kimes, published by author. About one mission, May 7-9, 1968.

**Lurps: A Ranger's Diary of Tet, Khe Sanh, A Chau, and Quang Tri** by Bob Ankony  
University Press of America, of Rowman and Littlefield Publishing group, 1967-68

## OTHER BOOKS

**For What It's Worth** by David Klimek, published by author. Dave's experiences during the Cambodian Invasion before he joined H-75<sup>th</sup>.

**A Troop, 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry** by Ron Christopher. PublishAmerica. Ron's experiences with the "Blues" A-1-9 before he joined LRRP.

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## KILROY WAS HERE!

From Harry Elston

In 1946 the American Transit Association, through its radio program, "Speak to America," sponsored a nationwide contest to find the REAL Kilroy, offering a prize of a real trolley car to the person who could prove himself to be the genuine article.

Almost 40 men stepped forward to make that claim, but only James Kilroy from Halifax, Massachusetts had evidence of his identity. Kilroy was a 46-year old shipyard worker during the war. He worked as a checker at the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy.

His job was to go around and check on the number of rivets completed. Riveters were on piecework and got paid by the rivet. Kilroy would count a block of rivets and put a check mark in semi-waxed lumber chalk, so the rivets wouldn't be counted twice.

When Kilroy went off duty, the riveters would erase the mark. Later on, an off-shift inspector would come through and count the rivets a second time, resulting in double pay for the riveters.

One day Kilroy's boss called him into his office. The foreman was upset about all the wages being paid to riveters, and asked him to investigate. It was then that he realized what had been going on.

The tight spaces he had to crawl in to check the rivets didn't lend themselves to lugging around a paint can and brush, so Kilroy decided to stick with the waxy chalk. He continued to put his checkmark on each job he inspected, but added KILROY WAS HERE in king-sized letters next to the check, and eventually added the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence and that became part of the Kilroy message. Once he did that, the riveters stopped trying to wipe away his marks.

Ordinarily the rivets and chalk marks would have been covered up with paint. With war on, however, ships were leaving the Quincy Yard so fast that there wasn't time to paint them.

As a result, Kilroy's inspection "trademark" was seen by thousands of servicemen who boarded the troopships the yard produced.

His message apparently rang a bell with the servicemen, because they picked it up and spread it all over Europe and the South Pacific. Before the war's end, "Kilroy" had been here, there, and everywhere on the long haul to Berlin and Tokyo.

To the unfortunate troops outbound in those ships, however, he was a complete mystery; all they knew for sure was that some jerk named Kilroy had "been there first." As a joke, U.S. servicemen began placing the graffiti wherever they landed, claiming it was already there when they arrived.

Kilroy became the U.S. super-GI who had always "already been" wherever GIs went. It became a challenge to place the logo in the most unlikely places imaginable (it is said to be atop Mt. Everest, the Statue of Liberty, the underside of the Arch De Triumphe, and even scrawled in the dust on the moon.)

And as the war went on, the legend grew. Underwater demolition teams routinely sneaked ashore on Japanese-held islands in the Pacific to map the terrain for the coming invasions by U.S. troops (and thus, presumably, were the first GI's there). On one occasion, however, they reported seeing enemy troops painting over the Kilroy logo!

In 1945, an outhouse was built for the exclusive use of Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill at the Potsdam conference. The first person inside was Stalin, who emerged and asked his aide (in Russian), "Who is Kilroy?" ...

To help prove his authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy brought along officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters. He won the trolley car, which he gave to his nine children as a Christmas gift and set it up as a playhouse in the Kilroy front yard in Halifax, Massachusetts.

So now You Know!

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## PULLING SLACK

From Bill Carpenter

### COMMO FROM OUR PRESIDENT DOUG PARKINSON

New, or replacement, membership cards are available only through the LRRP/Ranger Association president. Contact information is posted on page two of this newsletter.

I was talking with **Paul O'Brien** (Calif OB). The Ranger Training Officer O'Brien is Paul's nephew.

**Doug**

### Another LRRP book IN THE JUNGLE, CAMPING WITH THE ENEMY

by Walter "Spanky" Seymour

The book will be available sometime this fall on Amazon.com. It will be printed by "e-print" which cuts printing cost dramatically.

This is Spanky's autobiography of his extended tour, and over 50 missions with the 1st Cav LRRP/Rangers.

-----  
Ron **Christophers** five books may be purchased on Amazon.com. His latest is Black Robes.

### REUNION TIDBITS

From Bill Carpenter

Doing battle with the VA has replaced war stories as the primary conversation. The consensus was that the DAV does the best job on processing claims. There were also a lot of stories about those of us who have "passed on". Does this mean we are getting older?

Good to see the first timers there. Ya all come back now, ya hear. Like I said after my first reunion in 2002, it feels like you are coming home.

Howard **Shute** came in on Thursday afternoon, and it was immediate "Comedy Central". Howard

could do a one hour comedy routine on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalms.

It was nice to see that mature, attractive college professor back and having her cigar with the guys after dinner. Oh, and Keith, welcome back, too. I don't remember ever seeing you with hair **on** your head before this reunion.

Our room reservations were screwed up --- again --- this seems to be the norm for the Shilo. Is there no communication between the reservation clerk and the front desk?

The restaurant at the Shilo is still very underused. Benny **Gentry**, Lucky **Wells** and I were having lunch in there one day. We were the only ones in the restaurant. Lucky pulled a long hair out of is sandwich. He got another sandwich, but still had to pay for it.

One morning I had breakfast with an IRS agent and a retired building contractor, both VN vets. How polite the contractor was to the IRS was admirable. I did not comment about any of my experiences with the IRS.

Bill **Hand**, and his "main squeeze" Holly, gave me an oral Readers Digest version of his handbook on how to hook up with women. They almost talked me into going back to church. "Nice place to meet mature single women".

I had an interesting conversation with Bob **Carr**. Both of us are over half deaf, and the reception room was very noisy. Each heard about half of what the other said, and probably misunderstood the other half. I hope the conversation wasn't important.

Benny **Gentry** and Ken **White** talked about being on a lot of missions together, and having a lot of contacts. When will one of you write up some of those missions for "Historical Occurrences"?

STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER

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## CHAPLAIN'S BOX

From Jim Regan

Well, lots has happened since the last Chaplain's Box. Christmas Holidays and other Holidays have passed. The years fly by as we get a little more "mature!" It was heartening to see all the "shiny" faces at our Reunion at Killeen. Had a wonderful Association meeting, and lots was discussed/settled. As usual, I pitched for folks to stay in touch w/ each other. Reckon that's pretty much what I want to reaffirm here. Have had the opportunity to; talk with, send cards, and e-mails, to a lot of our Comrades. So, here's another prompt. Stay in touch w/ each other. Let me know if I can drop a note of cheer or make a phone call to our fellows, or indeed, their families! "Mend fences" if you have to! I know that I have some work to do in that area. (Confession?) Take care, stay cool, and make the best of the weather conditions. Stay professional, keep chargin' hard, and have some FUN while you're at it!

Jim RLTW/L&P (Rangers Lead the Way/Love & Prayers!)

## US ARMY ORIGIN OF LRRPs

from Bob Ankony

The US Army Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol concept was created in 1956 by the 11th Airborne Division in Augsburg, Germany. They patrolled near the Czechoslovakian and East German borders, then members of the Communist Warsaw Pact states, and in event of war in Europe would be inserted behind enemy lines to provide surveillance and to select targets of opportunity. The Lurp concept was well known throughout the Army though concentrated in 7th Army in Germany.

After the 11th Airborne Division returned to the US, the Department of the Army authorized two Airborne Lurp companies in 1961, Company D and C in the Wildflecken and Nelligen Barracks (near Stuttgart), and were respectively assigned to V Corps and VII Corps. In 1963 V Corps Lurps (Company D) transferred to the Gibbs Kaserne in Frankfurt near Corps HQ. (reference: [http://www.75thrra.com/history/a75\\_hx.html](http://www.75thrra.com/history/a75_hx.html) V Corps Lurps, West Germany).

In 1965 these companies developed the first *LRRP Table of Organization and Equipment* and in doing so increased their strength to 208 men, team size from 4 to 5 men, as well as adding an organic transport component. All Lurps from team leader and above were to be Ranger qualified. The experiences of these two companies formed the basis of the first US Army LRRP manual. Both companies used carrier wave (Morse Code) radios including the AN/TRC-77 (the forerunner to the AN/PRC-77) for long-range communications to their respective Corps G2 (Intelligence) center.

In 1968 both companies were transferred to the United States but neither were sent to Vietnam because they retained their status as Lurp units for V and VII Corps in the event of war in Europe.

All Lurps were Rangered on February 1, 1969, and these two units respectively became Bravo and Alpha Company, 75th Infantry (Ranger). They were the only Ranger units to remain on active duty at the end of the Vietnam War and they continued in service until November 1974 when they were disbanded with most of their personnel forming the core of the new 1st and 2nd Ranger Battalions (reference: [www.robertankony.com](http://www.robertankony.com)).

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# THE LRRP/RANGERS OF THE FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR



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