

Summer
1992



Sua Sponte



The Quarterly Newsletter of The Company G(RANGER) 75th Infantry Association

STILL TIME LEFT TO REGISTER (INFO PAGE 2)

Memorial Day is time to honor our brothers

Newsletter Staff

Those who served in war time know the significance of Memorial Day and we who have lost our brothers in battle are able to understand, in a personal way, it's true meaning.

When the highways, campgrounds, and amusement parks fill up with people enjoying a long weekend, Veterans are thinking about more than just how to spend an extra day off. Invariably, memories of lost brothers are foremost in the minds of these men.

The Americal Division Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol lost twenty nine men killed while assigned to the unit during operations from 1968 to 1972. Most if not all LRRP veterans have lost at least one close friend to combat and some have lost many. Our lives are forever affected by the loss.

Join with The Company G(RANGER) 75th Infantry Association in honoring our fallen brothers during Memorial Days to come and at the ceremony to be held during each annual reunion.

In Memoriam

1968

ALEX J HERNANDEZ JIM D MARTINEZ

DANIEL P McLAUGHLIN Jr SOLOMON KALUA Jr

JOSE E TORRES EDWARD M LENTZ JAMES R DAVIDSON

RONALD B JONSSON TERRY E ALLEN

RAMON SANCHEZ HERNANDEZ JAMES E KESSELHON

RAYMOND C GARCIA ALAN F ANGELL DAVID J OHM

BRADLEY K WATTS JOSEPH J GAVIA ARTHUR E SCOTT

JOEL W FORRESTER LARRY JOE WHITE

JOHN W BENNETT ROBERT J PRUDEN GEORGE T OLSEN

HAROLD E BASEHORE Jr EDWARD G MATHERN

LARRY A MACKKEY BARRY H BERGER DAVID L MEYER

THOMAS E SNOWDEN DANNY G STUDDARD

1971

*Take what they have left and what they taught you with
their dying and keep it with your own. And in that time
when men feel safe to call the war insane, take one
moment to embrace those gentle heros you left behind.*

Maj Michael O'Donnell

Fritzingler to complete documentary

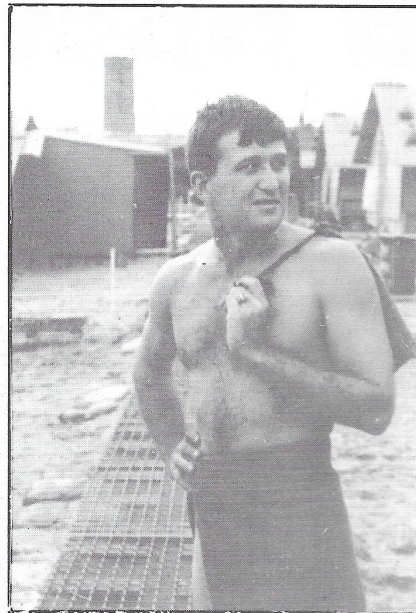
Newsletter Staff

John Fritzingler will be taping the activities at Reunion '92 for inclusion in his forthcoming documentary on the history of the Americal LRRPs.

The project, which began at last year's Reunion in Washington D.C., will document the history of Companies E/51 and G/75 through interviews, scrapbook photos and film footage taken of Company events and personnel in Chu Lai and other locations during the war.

A number of entertainment and news industry professionals have volunteered their talents to help Fritz produce this documentary but the success of the project will ultimately rest on the information that you can contribute.

Bring your scrapbooks and stories and if you are familiar with any of the significant events in the history of the company, be sure to step forward and let Fritz know so you can contribute an interview to the documentary.



CRABTREE

Producer and Reunion '92 pointman John "Kraut" Fritzingler, shown here in this 1969 photo, will have his cameras rolling again during Reunion '92.

After final editing, the documentary will be made available on VHS tape. Details of how to get your copy will be forthcoming in the autumn issue of the newsletter.

It's not too late . . yet

Call Iris now for hotel and travel reservations

Newsletter Staff

With only a few days left before Reunion '92 begins in New Orleans, you should already have made your travel and hotel reservations, but for those of you who like to put things off until the very last minute, Iris Fogarty is awaiting your call.

Iris, who secured our hotel rooms for the unbelievably low rate of \$59.00 per night, is President of the Travel Agency of New Orleans. The agency is handling all travel and hotel reservations for Reunion '92.

Even at this late date, Iris and her staff will be able to provide you with hassle free bookings from airfares to lodging.

In order to get the special low rate, you must book your room through Iris. So, don't wait any longer. Call 1-800-462-2980 and reserve a bunk and get discounted airfares for your journey to Reunion '92. Call Now!

Reunion '92: Schedule of Events

Thursday July 2nd

2:00 PM

Hospitality Suite opens in the Emerald Ballroom for early arrivals and registration. The Emerald Ballroom will remain open on a 24 hr basis.

7:00 PM

Reception and Overflight Party begins in the Emerald Ballroom.

Friday July 3rd

8:30 - 11:00 AM

Board of Directors Meeting in the Emerald Ballroom.

11:00AM - 1:30 PM

Luncheon aboard River Boat Natchez

7:00 PM - ?

Business Meeting, Auction and Party in The Explorers Room

Saturday July 4th

12:00 Noon (Tentative)

Memorial Service at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the Superdome.

6:30 - 7:30 PM

Cocktails in the Imperial Ballroom

7:30 - 9:00 PM

Banquet Dinner in the Imperial Ballroom followed by Dancing until the wee hours.

Sunday July 5th

10:00 AM

Jazz Brunch in the Blue Room (optional but highly recommended)

1:00 PM

Checkout and Farewells

(Note: Final Schedule of Events will be available in the hospitality suite)

Still time left for late registrations

Newsletter Staff

June 20th is the deadline for Registrations for Reunion '92. After that date, reservations for many of the functions cannot be guaranteed. So, hurry up. Don't let the time slip away. Register NOW!

As in the last issue, this issue of Sua Sponte contains a combination Registration Form and T-Shirt order blank for your convenience. And for those of you who still haven't gotten around to paying your dues, there is a membership form on the back of the Registration Form.

Register before June 20th and you will be guaranteed space at all of the functions that are planned for Reunion '92. Better yet, do it now so you won't have to rush at the last minute. You know you're going. Just do it!

Uniform is casual for all occasions

Newsletter Staff

Leave your dress blues at home. The uniform of the Company G(RANGER) 75th Infantry Association's Reunion '92 is casual. Reunion dress code requires nothing more formal than T-Shirts and blue jeans at all functions. That's right, no tails, no tux, nothing fancy.

Berets, bush hats, tigers and cammies will again be the fashions of the week as LRRPs gather in New Orleans for our annual bash. Mandatory at all functions will be the awesome LRRP Gear fashions offered by the Association for this special occasion. So stock up. Wearing LRRP Gear is the best way to link up with your buddies and you'll run into them everywhere. In the airport, restaurants, elevators, everywhere you go you're likely to run into another RANGER.

You'll definately need another clean T-Shirt for the Banquet Dinner so buy some for the whole family and borrow a couple from the kids.

Remember casual is the word for all Reunion '92 activities, so pack light and leave those suits and fancy duds at home.

Bring Souvenirs for Ranger Auction

Newsletter Staff

Again this year, we are planning to have an auction at the Reunion in order to raise money for the Association.

The Auction will be held on Friday night following the Business Meeting in the Explorers Room at the Fairmont Hotel.

Look through your old foot lockers and duffel bags and dig out some treasures that you can donate for a good cause.

Bring anything that might be of interest to your fellow Ranger brothers. Bring maps, and other mission paraphernalia, compromising pictures of your buddies, trophies and souvenirs of your tour in RVN.

Claymores are always big sellers along with Willie Peter Grenades and if anyone has a spare LAW . . . well, you get the picture.

The Association

Ballots for first annual election mailed June 2nd

Newsletter Staff

The ballots for the first annual Association elections have been mailed to members who were members in good standing as of May 30, 1992.

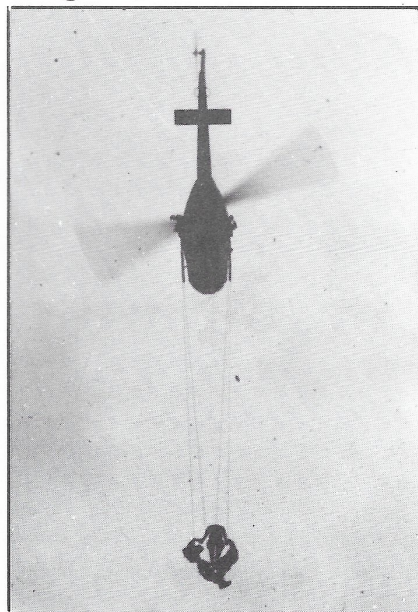
Nominations closed on May 23 for candidates for each of the four directorships up for election in this year's balloting and members have until June 27, 1992 to return their ballots.

Each year, approximately half of the seven directorships are up for election to two year terms thus ensuring continuity while maintaining a source of fresh ideas.

Members are encouraged to exercise their voting privileges and to take the time to complete and mail the ballot.

This is your chance to have a voice in the future of the Association so don't put it off. When you receive your ballot, fill it out and return it ASAP.

Hang Four?



Rangers hangin' around Chu Lai 1969

Tax exempt status nears for Association

Newsletter Staff

After many months and piles of paperwork, the application for tax exempt status for the Association has been reviewed by the IRS. The process of acquiring tax exemption is in the final stages at this time and we hope to be able to report successful completion in time for the New Orleans bash in July.

Tax exemption is a benefit to the Association in many ways. It makes us eligible for reduced postage rates, eliminates the burden of filing an annual tax return, and makes the Association eligible to receive grants from other tax exempt organizations.

Because the Association Membership includes only combat veterans, all donations to the association will be fully tax deductible.

When granted, the exemption will be retroactive to the date of incorporation of the Association.

Many thanks to Tom Robison for his efforts in this application process and also for his efforts, assistance and guidance in forming the Company G(RANGER) 75th Infantry Association.

COMPANY G (RANGER) 75TH INFANTRY ASSN.
46766 SPINNINGWHEEL DRIVE
CANTON, MICHIGAN 48187

President

DAVID "CHIEF" MONCADA

Vice President

STEPHEN "TOWER" JOHNSON

Secretary

MICHAEL "HO" CHU

Treasurer

ROBERT "BALLERINA" PARKER

Directors

J.R. "ARIES" McCULLOCH - CHAIRMAN

RICHARD "BOOT" CORKAN

STEVEN "CRABS" CRABTREE

JOHN "KRAUT" FRITZINGER

GARY "BUFFALO" GENTRY

TOM "ROCK" HARDY

DAVID "LIMP" PURSER

FOR INFORMATION CALL:
(313) 463-4155

The Long and Short of it . . .



Shown in this March 1969 photo taken in the Company area in Chu Lai are George Beach and Gary Gentry (Seated) backed up by Kenneth Caswell, Jose Velasquez and Shotgun Sam Day.

Heavies . . . Double your Pleasure, Double your Fun



Shown here after a heavy team walkoff from Fat City are: (Standing left to right) Tim Shur, Ralph Stevenson, ????, Gerald Ciccanti, Dennis Nye, ????. (Kneeling from left) Ed Nipper, Roy Brown, Juan Gomez, G.W. Johnson. The pith helmets were "souvenired" by the original owners as a gesture of that legendary NVA good-will.

It's History

Ballerina

Rangers begin and end with 196th LIB

On 8 July 1966 COMUSMACV (Westmoreland) directed that a comprehensive MACV Long Range Patrol program be developed in SVN and that until sufficient TOE units were available, provisional organizations would be formed from assets available in country.

Pursuant to 196th LIB General Orders no. 2, the 196th Lt. Inf Bde Long Range Reconnaissance Detachment (Prov) was activated effective 2 January 1967. Under the command of 1LT Frank G. Pratt Jr. and with an authorized strength of 2 officers and 44 enlisted men, the unit was attached to Trp F, 17th Cav., 196th LIB.

In April of 1967, the 196th moved from Tay Ninh to Chu Lai as part of Task Force Oregon and although history is a bit sketchy in this time frame, it appears the LRRP Detachment was eventually absorbed by HHC Americal and by Dec 20 1967 it would become the nucleus of Co. E 51st Inf (LRP).

Although many questions remain regarding the period just prior to the formation of Company E, the rest of the Ranger history is less confusing. Co. E 51st Inf (LRP) was officially in operation from 20 December 1967 until 1 Feb 1969 when it would be re-designated Company G(RANGER) 75th Infantry.

By 1 May 1971, the 196th LIB again had a provisional LRRP detachment. Company 2, Company G, 75th Infantry (Provisional) was formed at Chu Lai and attached to the 196th at Da Nang. Only in business for 3 months, Company 2, Company G was inactivated on 7 August 1971 and absorbed into Company G and the remaining six patrol teams were attached to HHC, 196th LIB.

Finally, By September 1971, the remaining Rangers formed the Ranger platoon, 196th LIB. Although officially assigned to various line regiments within the 196th, the former company G Rangers conducted operations around Da Nang until Team Frankfort, the last official Ranger Team of Co. G/75 was reassigned in early 1972.

The Early Days

Jerry Schuster

Remember the Tracker Dog Platoon that had a hooch on the South side of the LRRP Company area? Shortly after they moved in, a work request was submitted for a kennel to house their Labradors.

Well Sir, the Jarheads got the contract. They showed up with a full crew to erect this fine edifice, including a Gunny Sergeant to boss things.

We dropped by the project a few days later to watch the Marines drive nails. The Gunny turned out to be a grouchy old fart that had no use for army troops, much less LRRPs. He accused us of stealing several bundles of lumber and said we were nothing but a rag tag bunch of thieves. Further, he didn't need no audience, and he ran us off with his trusty claw hammer. Mistake, Right? Right.

No one could possibly forget the infamous Franklin T. Williams. He had been wounded in action and was on the mend at the time. We called him "Crazy Willie", on account of he was just plain bonkers. He was a 24 carat nut, and liked to wash down dried squid with O.B. and Crown Beer. He also howled at the moon occasionally, but was otherwise normal.

Now, Willie's wound was still hurting so, in addition to being crazy, he wasn't in a very good humor when the Gunny ran us off.

We had this sling shot, you understand.

Willie and I had made it from a very heavy tree fork. Albumen tubes provided the power and a chunk of boot tongue formed the pouch. It had a very long draw and a range of about two hundred fifty meters, with a single 00 buckshot.

Crazy Willie allows as how he wants to utilize this jewel. . . that is, after we talked him into putting away the M79, and he spent the next few minutes ranging, figuring fields of fire, and observing Carpenter movements.

At last, the hero Gunny, who was standing on the roof of the kennel, bent over to drive a nail. Willie held his left arm stiff, stretched the tubing as far as it would go with his right, steadied his aim and let her fly.

The ambush was a success. The Gunny screamed like a woman, grabbed his butt with both hands, and jumped straight up in the air. He missed the roof on the way down, and fell about eight feet to the ground. He then wallowed around for a while, blubbering that a sniper had got him.

After a few moments of this activity, which kept us all well amused, he got up enough nerve to drop his trousers so his troops could have a look-see. Once they got him to stand still, all they found was an enormous whelp.

By this time, word had gotten around the LRRP company area about the incident. The tough Gunny was shown to our Medic, Doc Wingert, who, while keeping a straight face, diagnosed a bee sting and the Jarhead believed it.

By the way, we used the lumber to erect hooches in the old AMTRAC shed.

Ballerina

I'm Short . . .

Well here we are again. Two Digit Midgets. About 30 days from now, I'll be on the freedom bird to New Orleans, filled with excitement and impatient to be on the ground.

I can remember a time like that in August of 1969. Bruce Davey and I had been at Cam Ranh only hours when a voice came over the bull horns telling us there was room on the plane and we were all going home that night.

I had been late coming off of my last mission and when I got in, top Manning shoved my orders in my hand and told me to hustle up or I'd miss the plane. I dumped my gear in the orderly room and headed to out-process.

With all of the rushing to process out of Division, I didn't have time for proper good-byes and although I was excited about going back to the World, leaving the company area was a surprisingly saddening experience. It was the first emotion I had allowed myself in nearly a year and it was all wrong. I was supposed to be happy and I wasn't. Even as the plane lifted off from Cam Ranh, I didn't feel the joy I had imagined I'd feel. I never felt right about it. I never felt like it was finished.

First stop, Yakota air base and then on to Fort Louis. Twelve hours of flying and then we were there having a steak dinner and the KP's were asking what it would be like for them. Little more than 48 hours after my last extraction, I was a civilian.

In the years since, I've often thought of those last hours in the Nam and the let down I felt upon leaving. I had been thinking like a "Normal" person, assuming that I was supposed to feel elated to get out. After all isn't that how "Normal" people would feel?

Every day I live and work with "normal" people who believe that anyone who would be saddened by leaving a war zone is nothing less than a psychopath and that's why our Reunions are so important to me. Once a year I get to be with the only people who really understand Brotherhood and understand what I felt when I left Chu Lai. Each Reunion helps me to put things into perspective, find answers I couldn't find on my own and close the books on unsettled business. I'm short again, but now I don't have to say any good-byes. See you next year is so much better. I'm Short! See you in New Orleans.



Rangers enjoy a floor show in the club at Chu Lai. Cpt Dinoto (center) looks a bit wet.

The Mailbag

LRRPs, RANGERS share pride in unit

Fellow Rangers,

Thank you for keeping me abreast of all your activities. I've never felt prouder than when I received your first Newsletter. I've always been proud of our organization, but have spoken very little of it the last 23 years. Who can you tell? They couldn't understand anyway. So, I've looked forward to each newsletter, reliving those days long ago, when pride meant something and being a Ranger was the proudest I had ever been. Thank you for bringing my pride back.

I thought some of your readers might want to know that George Beach called me back in November 1991. He was in Escondido, California, 15 miles from my home. He called and we met for a beer and talked about the past and what he's been up to lately. He's been working in Burma, that's about all I will say, but those of you who knew George probably will get my drift. He looked pretty good, better than I thought he would.

I took George home for dinner and my wife, Gail, and my boys talked, but after George left, my wife said he was strange and distant. I told my wife George was a soldier, a Ranger, and had never really stopped fighting all these years. It was good to see George. He left about midnight and drove off into the darkness. I sat on my porch till about 3 AM just thinking, remembering those proud days many years ago.

Well, I've never been much of a letter writer, but I felt I ought to drop you a line. I noticed that you have Ken Miller's address but no number. One day I would like to thank him for not allowing me to demonstrate rappelling after my fall the first time. He will remember that day. I sure haven't forgotten it. My back's never been the same.

So Long Rangers,
Leonard Jasmer
PO Box 2470
Carlsbad, CA 92018-2470

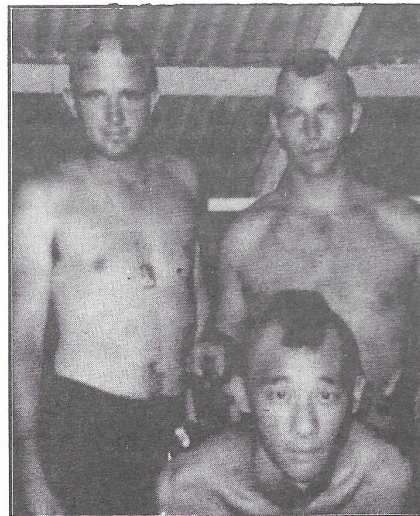
Dear LRRPs,

Over the past 22 years since I left Vietnam I've often thought about our unit and the pride we all share in it. While reminiscing I also thought how great it would be for each of us to always be able to display our brotherhood and membership in this unique organization. We've all seen finger rings that different organizations have designed which identify them as members of a specific organization. I'd like to propose that we design a ring for our unit's members thereby visibly displaying our pride. Suggest we submit through the newsletter for opinions and if accepted we can submit design ideas in the same manner. Please let me know what you think.

Sincerely,
Dale McClarigan
203 Antietam Ct
Hampton, VA 23669

(What do y'all think of Dale's idea?)

Sense of Humor . . . For Sure



Danny Jacks (top left) and Mike Chu (lower right) display fresh haircuts along with Steve Castile in Chu Lai hootch.

It was a real thrill reading the last Newsletter (Spring Issue). I was particularly taken with the "War Story" about Danny Jacks and Steve Castile. Danny Jacks and I entered the company through the same Recondo Class. I never saw much of him after graduation as I stayed in Chu Lai and he went to Duc Pho. I do, however, remember Danny Jacks as be-

ing one hell of a long distance runner, often leading the pack on those early morning jaunts down the beach. The most memorable characteristic about Danny Jacks, however, was his incredible sense of humor that would surface at the most unexpected moments. While reading the "War Story" I couldn't help but wonder what his remarks would sound like had I heard this story from him while sipping a cold beer at the Reunion. Fortunately Danny Jacks and I were able to attend the Reunion last year and we had the opportunity to get re-acquainted. I am happy to report that he is well and still has not lost any of his humor. I look forward to seeing him again in New Orleans.

I was also happy to see guys like Bob Wells and John Haines last year in Washington. These were the guys who gutted it out through Recondo School with me. I also saw Babysan, David Swires and Fritzinger who pushed us as Recondo TACs, and the Oriental contingent of guys like Tim Shur and George Fong, and the guys I pulled missions with like Dave Moncada and Kuykendall and Motlow. I would Really like to run into guys like Ramon Santamaria and Perry Hughes at New Orleans. I'm sending my money and reservations tomorrow and I hope all you guys are able to find your way to New Orleans this summer.

I was also impressed (actually my wife was impressed) with the recent Sua Sponte advertisement for LRRP Gear where a photo and captions were used, centered around Babysan's lack of official Reunion equipment. "Tacky" and "Bad Scene" were used to describe the situation. However, because I was there I can testify to the fact that Ben Dunham (a.k.a. Babysan) did in fact purchase a complete set of LRRP gear but was persuaded to forgo the uniform of the day by a group of young women who had him convinced that it was Halloween instead of July 4th, thus the dark glasses and moustache. However, let us not hold his lack of decorum against Babysan but instead, learn from this misunderstanding and be ever on the alert and insist on procuring official LRRP Gear from Mesa, Arizona, Now! Wear it on the Plane, wear it entering the Hotel, wear it to all formal events. Aloha,
Michael S. Chu

LRRP Gear for Reunion '92

Strac Reunion Fashions for the Discriminating RANGER Veteran

**G/75
Ranger
Scroll**



**Choice of Color or
Subdued \$3.00**



All New for '92
T-Shirt

**Distinctive Design
Hanes Beefy-T
Pre-Shrunk
100% Cotton
Made in U.S.A.
\$15.00**



Black Cap

**Includes color scroll
\$10.00**

Updates

New or Updated Addresses and Telephone Numbers

Brown, Thomas C	228 Burnside Ave #1, East Hartford CT 06074 ()- -
Bush, Bernie L	26 Bassett Cir, Palestine TX 75801 ()- -
Cannon, Conall G	Black Hollow Rd, RR 1 Box 106, Remsen NY 13438 (315)-831-2384
Eastman, Fredrick R "Dufus"	2494 Westgate Dr, Commerce TX 75428 (903)-886-4596
Fandt, Phillip A	1661 Ridgecrest Rd, Rochester MI 48306 ()- -
Graves, Steven C	PO Box 909, Glendale OR 97442 (503)-832-2675
Guajardo, Frederick P	3140 Sanchez, San Bernardino CA 92404 ()- -
Guntrum, John T	19271 Fairhaven Ext, Santa Ana CA 92705 ()- -
Inman, Michael T #12,	1805 Village Green Dr SE, Mill Creek WA 98102 (206)-337-7136
Jasmer, Leonard J "Mr. Combat"	PO Box 2470, Carlsbad CA 92018 (619)-729-4337
Jones, Jimmy	Rt 1 Box 337-1, Muldrow OK 74948 (918)-427-6965
Laurendine, Patrick D	314 Cadillac Dr, St Charles MO 63301 ()- -
Lotzgesell, James D "Lollipop"	2517 S Cherry, Port Angeles WA 98362 (206)-457-8318
Macon, Rodney T	1624 Dickens Rd, Lake Wales FL 33853 ()- -
Moncada, David "Chief"	6415 Rampart Dr, Charmichael CA 95608 (916)-966-5032
Pierce, John A	25529 SE Tiger Mtn Rd #3, Issaquah WA 98027 ()- -
Simpkins, Richard E "Ranger Daddy"	Po Box 216, Pocatello ID 83204 (208)-233-2242
Toomey, Earl L	HQ USEUCOM NCO Club, Apo AE 09131
Wagner, Rainer	402B Davao Cir, Ft Devens MA 01433 (609)- -
Walters, Donald C	47583 School St, Oakridge OR 97463 ()- -
Warren, Dwight	3580 Winniford, Eureka MO 63025 (314)-938-4770
Wheeler, Robert J	54 Jack London Sq, Oakland CA 94607 ()- -
Williams, Franklin T "Crazy Willie"	4026 Kenesaw Ct, Columbus GA 31907 (404)-568-0881

Order LRRP Gear before June 20th

Newsletter Staff

Orders for LRRP Gear must be received in Mesa Arizona by June 20th in order to ensure shipment in time for Reunion '92.

The Association can not afford to overstock any items so don't count on being able to purchase these items at the Reunion.

Last year these concessions accounted for a major portion of the Association budget and allowed us to continue an aggressive program to locate all of our brothers. With the money brought in from T-Shirts etc, we were able to expand our search capabilities and locate over 100 of our brothers that we were previously unable to find.

When you buy LRRP Gear you not only receive distinctive reunion wear, you also help to continue the Association's efforts to locate your brothers and bring them home.

Order early and your LRRP Gear will be on it's way in time for Reunion '92 and you'll be helping the Association to find a brother.

Reunion '92 Travel Guide

Reunion '92 - July 2nd thru 5th - Fairmont Hotel - New Orleans

For Hotel and Flight Reservations Call Now:

1-800-462-2980

The Travel Agency of New Orleans

155 University Place
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
(504) 524-8141
Fax: (504) 525-0203

The Fairmont Hotel - New Orleans

123 Baronne Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70140
(800) 527-4727
Fax: (504) 522-2303

Make Your Reservations NOW!!!

AMERICAL LRRP

Company G(RANGER) 75th Infantry Association
46765 Spinningwheel Drive
Canton, MI 48187-1422

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