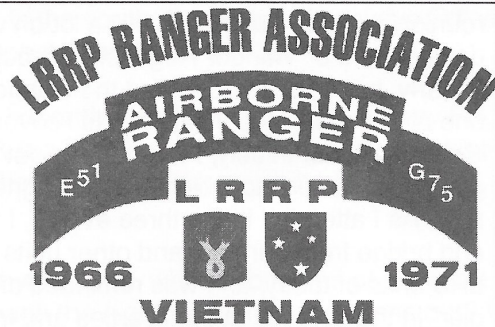


" of their own accord"

Sua Sponte



Midwest
2003
TBA

Midwest
2003
TBA

2002 Summer Issue of the 196th LRRPs, E-51st LRPS, and G-75th Rangers

Sua Sponte Lineup

Feature ...

San Diego Reunion was a success with a *finale* at Ft. Rosecrans ...pages 3&4

President's Message... An update and reflection of our Association... pages 2&6

Commo Check... Read to find out what communication device has a longer range than a PRC-25 ...page 7

Company News ... Several of our Brothers have passed on...page 8

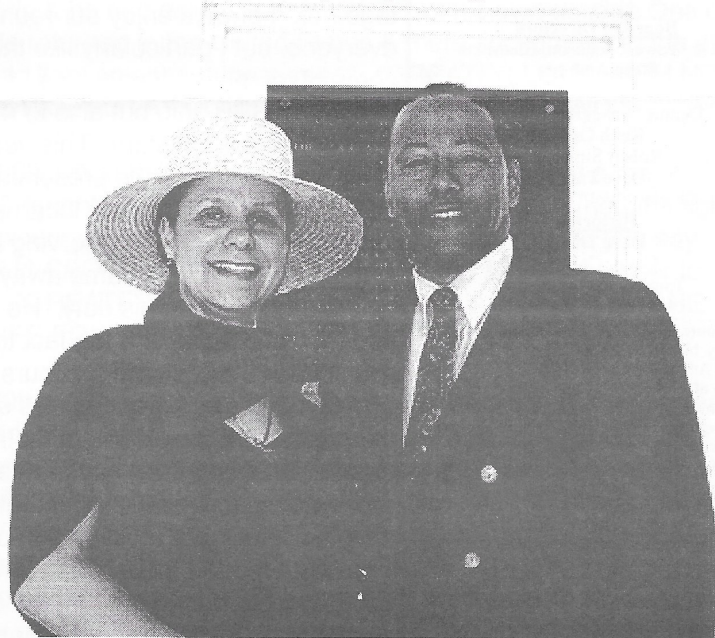
Unit Citations....page 9 ; you can read to find out about our units' awards

Next Issue... Vic Valeriano is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame

www.lrrpranger.org... Come and check out our website

San Diego...Successes

by Sua Sponte Staff



Colonel Ralph B. Tildon (ret), former XO of G company Ranger, 75th Infantry and his beautiful wife Florita.

check our website: www.lrrpranger.org

Our reunion this year was a huge success because of the high turnout of association members; reunion planning by the Crabtrees; and high-quality speakers with Colonel Tildon and Major Scott Nelson.

196th LIB Long Range Recon Det(Prov)*Co E 51st Inf(LRP)*Co G(Ranger)75th Inf*Co 2, Co G, 75th Inf(Prov)*Ranger Platoon,196th LIB

by Tom Nash

Sua Sponte

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Sua Sponte is the official newsletter published quarterly by the Company G (RANGER) 75th Infantry Association.

Change of Address: Sua Sponte does not maintain the mailing list. Any address changes should be forwarded to Stephen "Crabs" Crabtree; ranger@cablez.com or 2255 N Azurite St, Mesa, AZ 85207.

Membership Information: All former members of the 196th LRRPs, E/51st LRP, and G/75th Rangers are eligible to receive Sua Sponte. Membership applications can be obtained by contacting the Association at any of the addresses or phone numbers listed above.

Newsletter Submittals: Article, photos, announcements, etc. are always welcomed. Sua Sponte reserves the right to accept and edit all materials as necessary. All submitted photos will be returned if requested. Authorship and photo credits will be provided. Submittal of written articles may be hand written, typed or on computer disk. We can translate most files. Macintosh is preferred.

Deadlines: Sua Sponte is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Absolute deadlines for submitting material for the newsletter is the first of each month identified above. Time sensitive material will take precedence. Send material to the Sua Sponte address in Bemidji, Mn.

The periods following the occasions of our reunions have for me usually been a time for reflection before gearing up for whatever happens to be on the Association's agenda for the following year. However, this year was a little different, in that following our Association's reunion in San Diego in June, I soon attended two more reunion events. But there's still a lot on which to reflect. I spent a few days at the 75th Ranger Regiment Association reunion at Fort Benning in early July, in order to attend the Ranger Hall of Fame induction of one of our own – Vic Valeriano (full coverage in the next issue of **Sua Sponte**). Later in July, I was able to get together with some of the guys from the unit to which I was assigned prior to joining the LRRP unit. As I attended these three events, I was struck by the continuity and bridge from our unit, and other units like ours, to the Ranger and LRS units of today, and was reminded of the role of the "citizen soldier" in the defense of our liberties and freedoms. After attending these three reunions, I became more aware of the passage of time since Vietnam, but also, the old adage "the more things change, the more they stay the same" comes to mind.

Our Association's reunion in San Diego was a wonderful event. There was not a false note. Steve Crabtree did a great job pulling it all together. I always enjoy our reunions, for a variety of reasons, like everyone, but I particularly like the fact that I get, not only to renew some of the oldest friendships I have – my former teammates from the 196th LRRP unit, but also to meet warriors from the E51 and G75 eras of our unit's history. This year, in particular, I think the attendees were well served by the presence of Major Scott Nelson, the former commander of the current incarnation of E Co. (Long Range Surveillance), 51st Infantry, now serving in Darmstadt, Germany. No one who spoke with Scott came away unimpressed with his professionalism and devotion to his duty. He was able to give us some insight into E51's mission, and the fact that the similarities between their missions in the Balkans and ours in Vietnam are striking. Here it is – 30-35 years later - and they are still using patrolling tactics and techniques that we developed in Vietnam. I was also struck by the fact that Scott clearly sees that the connection between our units is much more than just symbolic, and that their mission is, in many ways, not a new mission, but a continuation of ours.

The Hall of Fame Induction ceremony at Benning was memorable, but it was but one event that took place during what was also the week of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion. While I was unable to stay for the entire week, I did have the opportunity to meet some LRRPs and Rangers from other units; to visit the Ranger Memorial; and to witness the induction ceremony. There's something to be said for getting together with veterans of other units that did what we did and compare notes. I regret that I did not have more time to do so.

Continued on Page 6

Feature Address

We Remember, We Keep the Faith

by Ralph Tildon

Golf Company Ranger Association held it's 13 annual reunion in San Diego over June 13 - 16. The reunion concluded Sunday Morning with a Memorial Service to honor the 33 men from our unit who gave their lives in the line of duty. The Service took place at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery overlooking the Pacific Ocean to the west, San Diego Bay to the east and Mexico to the south. Our former Executive Officer, Colonel Ralph B. Tildon (ret), was the main speaker and said the following:

As we stand here to honor the LRP's of the 196th Infantry Brigade, the LRRP's of E Company, 51st Infantry, & the Rangers of G Company, 75th Infantry, what do we remember about our fallen brothers-those young men who lived with us, soldiered with us, and died an early death?

We remember March 4th, 1968, when two teams of LRRP's-12 brave, young men-fought an enemy battalion through the night. Why had they gone out? What had been their mission? To liberate South Vietnamese & US soldiers from a prisoner of war compound in Quang Nam province. When the fighting stopped, six of our brothers lay dead, six lay wounded. One of the dead on that battlefield had been a sole-surviving son & therefore was not supposed to be exposed to grave danger. Besides, he was due to return soon to the World. But our brother had conned someone into letting him go on that mission. He had wanted to help free the POW's & he had gone, *SUA SPONTE*, of his own accord. One of our wounded from that battle returned to the United States & there succumbed to the effects of his wounds. What do they say about these men? "GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS; THAT HE WOULD LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIEND."

We remember May 12th, 1969, when three Ranger teams faced the brunt of a major sapper attack on LZ Baldy & fought through the night & into the morning. When the fighting stopped, among the many wounded, our brother-age 20--lay dead. What do you say about a young man who, *SUA SPONTE*, came of his own accord & fought shoulder to shoulder with his brothers? "GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS; THAT HE WOULD LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIEND.'

We remember November 20th, 1969, when a Ranger team leader--realizing that his team could be destroyed--charged into the face of death, & saved his men before he fell mortally wounded. What do you say about a 20-year-old soldier like that? "GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS; THAT HE WOULD LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS."
What do we remember? We remember April 23rd 1970 & October 13th, 1970, when two of our brothers, who were married, went on mission & did not return alive. One of them had just returned to Chu Lai from extension leave in Pennsylvania, where he had played for 30 precious days with his baby daughter. He had assured his wife that they would be a real family when he returned in six months to the World. But for now, he had said, he had to go back to 'Nam-he wanted to go back-to do his duty, to soldier alongside "the men with the painted faces." He was 21. His daughter today probably is in her early 30s, perhaps with a family of her own. Most likely, she was too young to remember her Dad. But we do.

We remember how he would grin when he showed us her baby pictures.

Continued on the next page, please

Feature Article cont'd

by Ralph Tildon

We remember his absolute joy in being part of-what he called-"an outfit of professionals-the best." What do we remember?

We remember January 10th, 1971 when a helicopter crash in Quang Ngai snuffed the lives of two of our brothers.

We remember our brother the point man, who eluded death in the mountains of Quang Nam but did not survive the unforgiving undertow of the South China Sea. In the rear, he was quiet, almost shy, with kind eyes. In the bush, he was like a cobra. In the bush, we were glad he was on our side. In the bush, the lives of his teammates depended on him, & he never let them down.

His family back in the mid-west may never have learned that about him. But we-his other family--did, & we remember. Let there be no mistake: These men-our fallen brothers-were not a glum lot.

They were funny, fun to be with, & bold. How bold? A LRP recalled recently how our outfit got started in 1966. Imagine a bleacher-full of volunteers sitting in the sun listening to a captain. Says the captain: "you are all volunteers because no one wants to do this job. ([Mumbling in the bleachers]-OK, OK)."

Says the captain: "when you go out, you must have your own weapon or borrow one or take one from the enemy. When you go out, we will write you off. If you make it back, we will be ahead & we will send you out again.

Now, before I go any farther, if there is anyone who wants to leave, please do so (no one moved.)"

The captain: "If there is anyone who wants to volunteer, raise your hand'. ([Every hand shot up]" As the LRP recalled, "The captain just stood there for a very silent moment & looked at us with his mouth open."

The captain: "did everyone bring a weapon?' (All hands shot up with some form of fire-power in it.) [The captain] told us to go with [the sergeant] & he would take our names." The LRP further recalled, "As I climbed down the bleachers...I heard [the captain] say to one of the NCOs, 'what are we going to do with them all?"

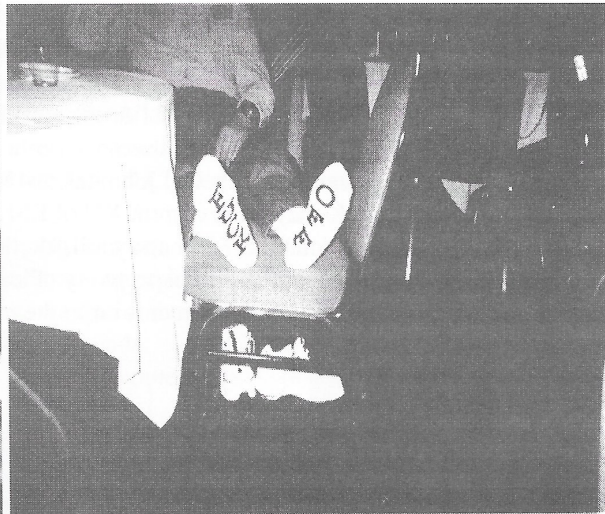
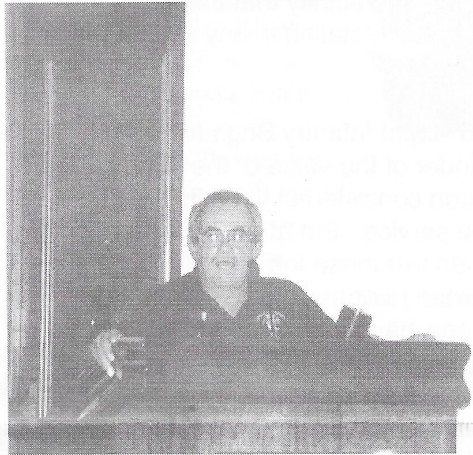
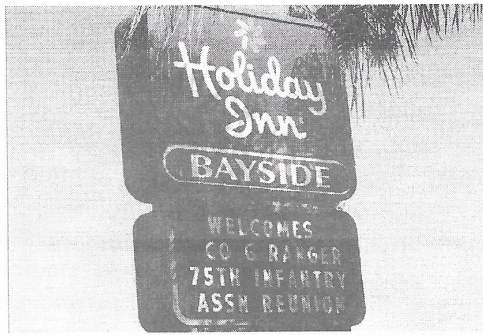
The Commanding] General said I could get a couple of volunteers from each company. We have [more than] 20 people here. I thought my speech would scare most of them off."

Clearly, that captain was not familiar with men who lived the spirit of *SUA SPONTE*---men who were funny, & daring, & bold.

So, brothers, as we remember these men, let their deaths remind us that some things ARE worth fighting for--& even dying for. To honor our fallen brothers, let us use the time we have remaining for good, for service to others, as they served so well.

San Diego Reunion

by Sua Sponte Staff



Upper left: Bayside Reunion in San Diego
Upper Right: (L-R) Jim Casey, George Shook, John Haines
Middle left: "Corky" auctioning at our fund raiser
Lower left: Monday morning service
Lower right: Way to sock-it-to them," Top"
Photo Credits: Top Williams and Rody Lindhe

President's Report

Continued from Page 2

by Tom Nash

The Ranger Memorial is a magnificent yet somber reminder of the price the Nation pays in defending our liberties. It provides a focus on LRRPs and Rangers of all generations, and honors those from LRRP and Ranger units who have lost their lives, or who have been recognized as exceptional in executing their duties. It is a reflective and peaceful place, and I recommend that anyone who has the opportunity to do so, visit the site. Few things could top the traditions embodied in the induction ceremony. From the entrance to Marshall Auditorium of Rangers and LRRPs from all eras (ranging from Merrill's Marauders through the LRRP and Ranger units of the Vietnam era and ending with the young Rangers of today) to the humble and thankful acknowledgments and expressions of each of the inductees, it was a stirring tribute, not only to the inductees, but to all those who served in LRRP and Ranger units. I took special note of the affection and affinity that the young Rangers of today have for the older veterans. This is not an affectation in any way; it is sincere and genuine.

The reunion with the men of the Rifle Platoon, HHC, 196th Light Infantry Brigade was a counterpoint to the earlier reunions in a way, and a reminder of the value of the "citizen soldier" to our freedoms and democracy. The Rifle Platoon consisted of virtually all draftees, who, at the conclusion of their enlistment, all left the service. But at the time of our service, and in most of our Nation's wars before then, men like these formed the backbone of our armies. Most of the men of the Rifle Platoon returned to normal civilian lives after Vietnam, and remain proud of their service. And few, if any, have any complaints. I will always be grateful to the men of the Rifle Platoon for the experiences harvested from them.

After 9/11, a new patriotic fervor overtook the country, and American flags were seen everywhere. Nonetheless, this fervor belied that fact that people became fearful, and to some degree, they still are. One antidote, it seems to me, is to have a conversation with someone like Scott Nelson, or to listen to the latest crop of Rangers recite the Ranger Creed. Having had the opportunity to do so, like I did at these events, one cannot help but conclude that the Country is indeed in good hands, and that it always has been.

(Note: Scott Nelson can be reached at john.nelson4@us.army.mil; and Brett Funck – the current CO of E51, Kevin Kelley – the current XO of E51, and Billy Ledbetter – the current 1SGT of E51 can be reached at brett.funck@165mi.army.mil, kkelley51@hotmail.com and ledbetterw@165mi.darmstadt.army.mil, respectively. Please drop them a note of encouragement, or of thanks. Or ask them to pass your sentiments on to the men of E51st) .



Tom Robison and Major Scott Nelson



Rody Lindhe took lots of pictures for us!

Note In A Bottle

by Josephine Sommer; Oregon Correspondent

Note Put In Bottle Brings Vietnam Correspondence

LEBANON- Doug Knight, 13-year-old Lebanon Junior High School student, is ready to "tell the world" that beach-combing can result in both interesting finds and exciting events.

In January, the Allen Knight family, 183 Berry St., went to the coast. Doug found a bottle containing the note:

"August 1, 1966- To whom it may concern. Please notify the following persons upon discovery of this document. There will be a small reward offered to the person willing to cooperate. Please state location, time, date, finder's name and address."

Signed by Soldiers

The note was signed by Mark W. Brennan, Buttitt's Landing, Westport, Conn., USA, and Robert N. Clarke Jr., 204 N. Poplar St., Massapequa, Long Island, N.Y., USA.

On the reverse side of the note, a map was used to designate the location of the two servicemen when they dropped the bottled note overboard while bound for Vietnam last August. Information typed on the map said the distance from Long Beach, Calif., was 1,938 miles and the distance from Vietnam 5,178 miles.

Doug obeyed the instructions and has received an answer to his letter along with some Vietnamese money.



Surprised at Letter

"Dear Doug. I certainly was surprised to hear from you," wrote SP4 Robert N. Clarke Jr. RA 1275384, "F" Troop 17th CAV (LRRP), 196 Light Brigade, APO 962226 S.F.

"The bottle you found was tossed over the side of the ship we were on heading for Vietnam. We had already passed the International Date Line," Clark wrote.

"It was a long trip and my buddy and I had nothing to do one evening so we decided to drop a bottle over the side, never thinking anyone would find it."

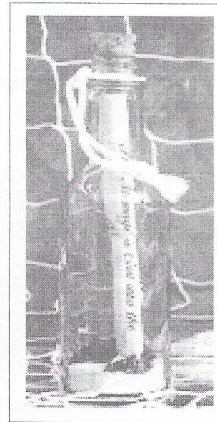
"Your letter was forwarded to me by my parents back home. Right now, Mark Brennan and myself are serving in Tay Ninh (Vietnam)."

"We have been here for seven months and are supposed to come home in July."

"I know in my bottle, the message said there would be a reward. This presents a problem. Here in Vietnam there is no American money or at least there isn't supposed to be. We are paid in Army Payment Certificates and they are only good at Army posts here in this country."

"Thank you for taking the time to answer our little note."

Doug intends to answer Clarke's letter and continue the correspondence.



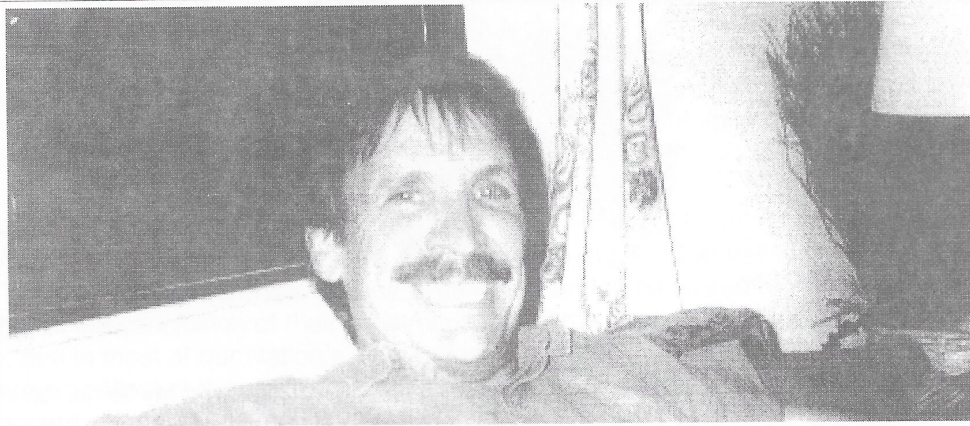
Company News

by Association Members

www.lrrpranger.org



Home | Other Links | Feature Article | Unit Lineage
Our Wall | LRRP Gear | Health Issues | Historical Photos
News Update | Guest Book | Messages | Officers



Don Schellinger Photo submitted by Ms. Villareal; Micco, Florida

Obituary Notice: Donald "Voodoo" Schellinger

Donald Ellsworth Schellinger Jr., 50, of Micco, died May 13, 2000 in Silver Springs after a prolonged illness. Mr Schellinger was born August 8, 1949 in Largo and moved to Micco several years ago from Silver Springs.

Mr. Schellinger was a retired U.S. Army Ranger, having served in the U.S. Army Airborne LRRPs. He was a member of the Rangers' Association; Disabled American Veterans, and the Purple Heart Association of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He was a Baptist.

Surviving are his daughter, Angela Schellinger, of DeLand; a son, Donald D. Schellinger, of Vero Beach; his mother, Willie Mae Schellinger, of Silver Springs; two sisters, Sandra Walbolt, of Silver Springs, and Lindie Byers, of Memphis, Tenn.; two brothers, John Schellinger, of Sebastian, and Michael Schellinger, of Winter Beach; and two grandsons.

Don was buried at the Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell.

Memorial contributions may be made to a Veterans of Foreign Wars post of your choice in Mr. Schellinger's memory.

Obituary Notice: Robert Simpson

Another star will be added to the heavens tonight. After a hard fought battle with cancer, Bob Simpson passed away 06.08.02 at 1345 hours PST. At the end of mourning, there will still be sadness, but it will be a wistful sadness that will be tempered by the happy memories of Bob that we will forever possess. The family requests that remembrances be made to the following:

American Cancer Society
Colonel Patrick S. Madigan, M.D. Foundation
PO Box 97215
Lakewood, WA 98497

RLTW

Obituary Notice: Jim Gromacki

My Salute to Jim Gromacki . A Co-Worker. Jim was on Team Oregon. Jim left us on 4-6-02. You will be missed my friend. Rangers Lead The Way(Sent by Steve Kersten; stevecpl@yao.com).

UNIT CITATIONS

196th Light Infantry Brigade

Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (Provisional)

PUC 25 Aug 66 – 4 Apr 67 DAGO 2, 73

Co E, 51ST Infantry (LRP)

MUC 18 Jun 68 – 30 Jan 69 (Amended) DAGO 53, 1970; DAGO 2, 1971

Co. G, 75th Infantry (Ranger)

MUC 1 Feb – 31 Aug 69 DAGO 53, 1970

RVNGC 24 Aug 69 – 31 Dec 69 DAGO 42, 1972

RVNGC 31 Mar 70 – 30 Jun 70 DAGO 42, 1972

RVNGC 1 Apr 71 – 30 Jun 71 DAGO 6, 1974

Key:

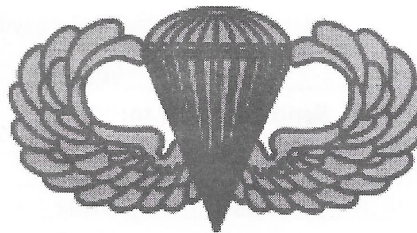
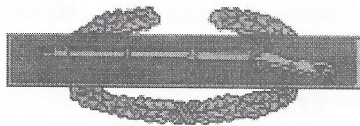
PUC = Presidential Unit Citation

MUC = Meritorious Unit Citation

RVNGCwP = Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

DAGO = Department of the Army General Orders

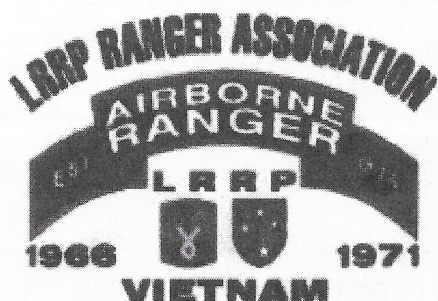
Information taken from Department of Army Pamphlet 672 Series – Decoration, Awards and Honors, Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register, US Army Publishing Agency



LRRP Stuff for Sale

Next year's reunion is to be held in the Midwest; stay tuned!

LRRP - RANGER GEAR ORDER FORM



Name: _____ Member: Yes No

Members please provide the following information:

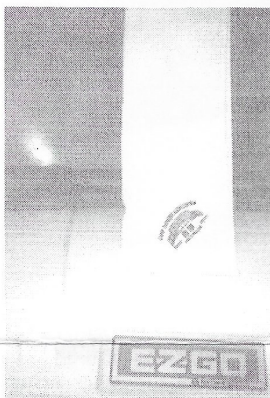
Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Email Address: _____

Were you a LRRP or RANGER with our unit in Vietnam?

16"X24" golf towel with eyelet and clip; Check with Frank for price.



Ship to: _____

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT EACH	QTY	TOTAL
Total			Cost	

Make check or money order payable to: **Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association**

Send payment to:

**Frank Svensson
 6964 Berkshire Avenue
 Alta Loma, CA 91701**

CONCESSIONS

LRRP RANGER GEAR

Item # PO1



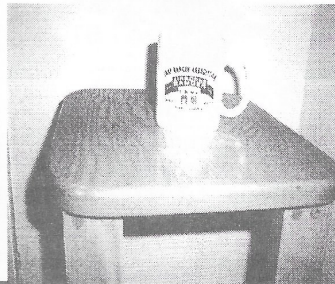
\$25 for this quality polo shirt; 100% cotton with logo of "the eyes and ears of the Americal". S&H included!

New Hat is black featuring our Association Logo with dates (66-71); One size fits all. Besides the official logo, this hat has the 196th and the Americal Patch under the Ranger LRRP scroll.

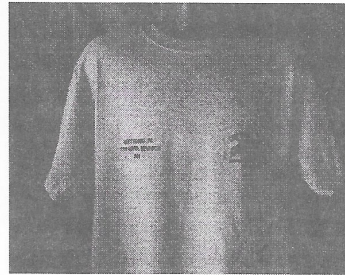
Item# HO1 is \$15 which includes shipping and handling; This will be a real popular item; limited stocks so hurry for this one.

Item # HO1

Item # MO7



MO7 Company Coffee Mug to get your day started. Official logo; only \$7 includes; S&H



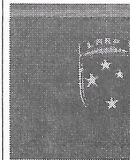
2001 Tee Shirts Item # TO1 for your collection of reunion shirts. Logo on front with large POW statement on the back! \$15 includes s&h

Item # TO1

Item # MO3 MO2



Breast (MO3) or breastless (MO2) coozie; neoprene with official logo. \$7



Item # MO6 left



Item # MO5 right

***Nonmembers please allow 3 weeks for shipping. Members, allow 10 days and a wakeup!**

Item #MO1	Unit Video	\$20.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #PO1	Golf Shirts	\$25.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #2	Denim Shirt	\$35.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #HO1	Baseball Hat	\$15.00 X amount ordered = _____ One size fits all	Cost _____
Item #MO2	Coozies	\$ 7.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #MO3	Coozies	\$ 7.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #MO4	Bumper Sticker	\$ 3.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #MO5	MACV Pin	\$ 5.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #MO6	LRP Pin	\$ 5.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #MO7	Coffee Cup	\$ 9.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #MO8	E/51 Buckle	\$15.00 X amount ordered = _____	Cost _____
Item #SO1	Sweat Shirt	\$30.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #T50	Unit t-shirt	\$20.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #T97	1997 t-shirt	\$12.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #T98	1998 t-shirt	\$12.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #T99	1999 t-shirt	\$12.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #T00	2000 t-shirt	\$12.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #T01	2001 t-shirt	\$12.00 X amount ordered = _____ Size(s) _____	Cost _____

Send Check and order form to Frank Svensson; address is on page 10.

Total Cost _____



2002 San Diego Reunion; Still can't read a map at Hardy's; waiting for a marking round

Sua Sponte

Sua Sponte

10433 Juneberry Rd NW
Bemidji, Mn
56601

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
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