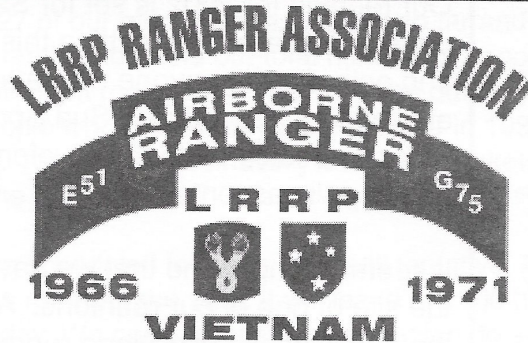


" of their own accord"

Sua Sponte



San Diego
2002
June 13-16

2002

San Diego
2002
June 13-16

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

Sua Sponte Lineup

Headliner ...

This could be the largest reunion yet! Please read the majority of this issue on San Diego ...starting on page 1

President's Challenge... San Diego seems to be on everyone's mind... page 2

Obituary Notice... Gerry O'Dell passes away. Nice email found on ...page 8

General Notice ... Hard to imagine that one of our LRRP has made the grade of general ...page 9

Denim Shirt ... New concession item is selling at a fast pace! ...page 10

Next Issue... San Diego will continue to be, perhaps, the largest reunion to date! Read to see who will be there in the next issue...

San Diego Reunion

by Stephen Crabtree



Aerial view of the Holiday Inn of San Diego. Certainly a place to be for our next reunion which should have near record attendance. Article on page 3.

Sua Sponte

 COMPANY G (RANGER)
 75th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION
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 ALTA LOMA CA. 91701
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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@cableaz.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.

REUNION 2002 – SAN DIEGO

Our reunion for 2002 is set for San Diego. Steve Crabtree has done an excellent job setting this up, with a full plate of events and activities for anyone who attends. (For those of you who are reading about this in Sua Sponte, check out the part of the web site dedicated to the reunion at <http://www.lrrpranger.org/sandiego/suasponete.htm>.)

It seems fitting to me that we have finally chosen San Diego for the site of one of our reunions. After all, for many members of the Association, San Diego represented their last view and taste of the U.S. when the 196th Light Infantry Brigade was deployed to Vietnam. The USS Patch and USS Darby, on which the original members of the Brigade traveled to Vietnam, will have docked in San Diego almost 37 years ago to the day the Association gathers for its reunion in San Diego. 37 years!!! And, while I can't help but wonder where the time has gone since that last one-day pass in San Diego as I sit and write this call to gather in San Diego next year, I'm listening to the first reports of contemporary Rangers in action in Afghanistan. So much has changed, particularly in the past month and a half, but some things remain the same – Americans going off to fight a war in some armpit of the world.

It occurs to me, that now, more than ever, our reunions take on a deeper meaning. It's become almost a duty for American citizens to patriotically show the flag in recent days, as the Nation faces up to one of the biggest challenges it has ever faced. And in this regard, the rest of the Nation is catching up to what its veterans always knew. And that's that Freedom and Democracy come at a price. What better time then than at this critical moment in our Nation's history, and what better expression of patriotism, of service, and Love of Country, than a reunion of LRRPs and Rangers, can there be. So, I'm calling you to San Diego. Come gather and renew old acquaintances; come and celebrate old bonds and make new ones; come to remember those that are gone; and especially, come and celebrate our country. I hope to see many of you there.

Best Regards, Tom Nash

San Diego Here We Come!

Here it is, October 1st. 27 of our men have responded so far and plan to attend this year's reunion. Along with the family members our total number of people who will be attending is 51 and the reunion is still eight months off. This could be our largest yet! Although it will be hard to beat the 120 people who attended Washington DC in 1991, we can do it. Call your friends. Make the plans. The airlines are having fare wars. Tickets will never be cheaper. Remember how good the first one was? This will be better!

The deep sea fishing trip scheduled for June 12 is still tentative. Remember, the boat has bunks so don't reserve a room for the 12th. It will leave at 2300 hours and return about 1500 hours on Wednesday. We need at least twenty anglers to secure the boat. Any deposits received will be fully refunded if the trip is canceled.

Reunion 2002 will be held June 13-16 at the Holiday Inn San Diego Bayside, 4875 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, California 92106. You may view the hotel at: <http://www.holinnbayside.com/>. Rooms cost \$109.00 plus 10.5% tax unless you stay Sunday night, which will lower the cost to \$105.00. They will honor these prices three days before and three days after our dates and for extended stays on a space available basis. They have waived the \$3.35 per night Energy Surcharge for our group. Lori and I believe this hotel provides the best location, quality and all the amenities for a reasonable price. Reservations for our block of forty rooms will be held on an individual basis until 13 May 2002. After that date you may still reserve a room if space is available but at the prevailing room rate (approximately \$129 per night).

The hotel will host a "Welcome Reception" on Thursday at 1700 hours with a light buffet and open bar. They provide transportation to and from the airport (you won't need to rent a car because the Old Town Trolley stops at the front door). Unlike the other hotels we queried, the Holiday Inn is not charging us \$150 a night for the use of the Harbor View Hospitality Room.

An advance deposit or credit card guarantee for the first night's room & tax is due before 13 May 2002. Please note that it is imperative that attendees identify themselves as part of Co. G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association at the time you make your reservations in order to be eligible for the special group rate. The toll free number is (800) 662-8899.

San Diego is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Look at the attraction pages for just some of the things we can do. Why not stay a couple of days longer and make this your vacation for the year? Lori and I are looking forward to seeing all of you again this June. See you then.

Stephen Crabtree

Please continue feature article information for our 2002 Reunion on the following pages!

San Diego Features

Information provided by Stephen Crabtree

BALBOA PARK & SAN DIEGO ZOO Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Proceed on Harbor Drive approximately 4 miles to Laurel Street. Make a left on Laurel and go up the hill to the main entrance to Balboa Park. After entering the park, make a right onto President's Way. Make a left when you come to Park Boulevard and follow the signs to the Zoo on your left.

SEA WORLD Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Make a left turn on Nimitz Boulevard. Go about 5 minutes down Nimitz and it will run into Sea World Drive. After crossing the San Diego River channel bridge, you will see Sea World on the left. Follow the signs to the entrance.

OLD TOWN Turn right out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Go up 2 lights to Rosecrans Street and then make a right. Continue down Rosecrans Street to Taylor. Taylor Street veers to the right just before you get to the light for Sports Arena Boulevard. Stay on Taylor. Old Town is up about a mile straight ahead just past the overpass.

BEACHES Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Make a left turn on Nimitz Boulevard. Stay on Nimitz until you see West Point Loma Boulevard. Turn left to Ocean Beach. For other beaches, consult the front desk or Steve or Lori Crabtree.

HARBOR CRUISE AND SEAPORT VILLAGE Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Approximately 2 miles past the airport, you will see the Harbor Cruise area on your right. Continue on Harbor Drive and make a right onto Pacific Coast Highway and you will be at the entrance to Seaport Village.

HORTON PLAZA Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. At about 5 miles, make a left onto Broadway. Horton Plaza will be on your right and you will see Planet Hollywood. To park, turn right on 4th Avenue. You will see signs for the parking ramp on your right.

TIJUANA Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Go approximately 5 miles to Grape Street. Make a left onto Grape and go to Interstate 5 South, which will be on your right side. Take 5 South all the way to Tijuana. You can park on the US side or drive on into Tijuana. If you drive into Mexico, purchase Mexican Auto Insurance. Most US insurance companies will not extend their coverage in Mexico.

SAN DIEGO TROLLEY Walk out front door of the Holiday Inn. Get in trolley. Enjoy.

AMTRAK & TIJUANA TROLLEY Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Go approximately 5 miles to Ash Street. Make a left onto Ash and then turn right when you arrive at Kettner Boulevard. The trolley station will be on your left and Amtrak on your right.

FORT ROSECRANS & CABRILLO NATIONAL MONUMENT Turn right out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Go up 2 lights to Rosecrans Street and make a left. Go about a half mile to Canyon Street and make a right. Follow the road to Catalina Boulevard and make a left. Fort Rosecrans is about two miles up the road. Cabrillo National Monument is at the end of Point Loma.

San Diego Hot Spots

LA JOLLA Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Make a left turn on Nimitz Boulevard. Go about 5 minutes down Nimitz and it will run into Sea World Drive. Continue on Sea World Drive to Interstate 5 North. Turn left of 5 North and go approximately 5 miles to Ardath Road. Take Ardath over the hill and down into La Jolla. Ardath turns into Torrey Pines Road. Prospect Street (main drag) is on the right..

SPORT FISHING Walk right out of the Holiday Inn to Scott Street (first light). Walk left across Harbor Drive and one half block down Scott. Turn left and do not walk more than 50 feet unless you want to get wet!

CORONADO ISLAND Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Go approximately 5 miles to Grape Street. Make a left onto Grape and go to Interstate 5 South, which will be on your right side. Take 5 South all the way to the Coronado Bridge (Highway 75 west). You are on a one way street, follow it until you hit Orange street. Turn left on Orange and you are in the heart of Coronado.

GASLAMP DISTRICT Turn left out of the Holiday Inn onto Harbor drive. Approximately 2 miles past the airport, you will see Broadway. Turn left on Broadway, right on 4th Avenue. The district is on 4th, 5th & 6th Avenues between Broadway and K Street.



June 12 is the adventure day for all who want to go fishing and catch fish on an overnight trip to the Coronado Islands. The Cost will be somewhere between \$60 - \$100 a head. Everything depends upon how many want to go. The boat costs \$1600 and tackle rental \$15. If 20 people go it would be \$95 per head including rod rental. If 30 people go, it will cost \$69. So far, the following people have indicated they will go fishing: Steve and Lori Crrabtree, Gerado Leyton, Dan and Annie Linehan, Keith and LaNelle Oney, Tom and Sharon Robison, Justin and Maureen Stay, and Steve and Pam Johnson. Should you want in on this, contact Crabs or our webmaster, Justin Stay. Don't miss the boat!

Hotel Reservations

by Sua Sponte staff

JUNE 13 – 16, 2002

HOLIDAY INN BAYSIDE
4875 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92106

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: (____) _____

ACCOMMODATIONS:

SMOKING: _____ NON-SMOKING: _____ NUMBER OF PERSONS: _____

SINGLE (KING SIZE BED): _____ DOUBLE: (TWO QUEEN SIZE BEDS): _____

CHECK IN DATE: _____ AFTER 1600 HOURS

CHECK OUT DATE: _____ BEFORE 1200 HOURS

PLEASE CIRCLE THE DAYS YOU WILL BE STAYING BELOW:

DAY SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED

DATE 6/08 6/09 6/10 6/11 6/12 6/13 6/14 6/15 6/16 6/17 6/18 6/19

ROOM RATES: ALL ROOM TYPES: \$109.00 UNLESS SUNDAY JUNE 16TH IS INCLUDED THEN THE RATE IS \$105.00 + 10.5 TAX. RATES WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THREE DAYS BEFORE AND AFTER THE SCHEDULED REUNION, LONGER BASED ON AVAILABILITY.

INDIVIDUALS MUST MAIL A CHECK OR PROVIDE YOUR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION BELOW FOR ONE NIGHT'S DEPOSIT ALONG WITH THIS FORM (OR BY PHONE) OR RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE MADE.

CREDIT CARD NAME AND NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: MONTH: _____ YEAR: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

PLEASE PRINT, COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:

HOLIDAY INN SAN DIEGO BAYSIDE
4875 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92106

ATTN: RESERVATIONS

PHONE (610) 224-3621 (800) 662-8899

DEADLINE FOR GROUP ROOM RATES RESERVATIONS IS 13 MAY 2002

San Diego 2002

by Stephen Crabtree

PROPOSED ITINERARY

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12TH, 2002

2300 Deep sea fishing on the New Lo-Ann
(Provided we have 20 or more anglers)

THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH, 2002

1200 – 1800 Reunion Registration, Harbor View Hospitality Room
1400 – 1700 Harbor View Hospitality Room, Concessions
1500 New Lo-Ann returns from deep sea fishing at the Coronado Islands
1700 – 1800 “Welcome Reception” at Poolside Hosted by Holiday Inn with Light
Buffet & Open Bar
1800 – 2200 Harbor View Hospitality Room, Concessions & Open Bar

FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH, 2002

0800 – 1000 Harbor View Hospitality Room, Concessions
0800 – 1000 Reunion Registration, Harbor View Hospitality Room
0800 – 1900 Free Time (Zoo, Sea World, etc.)
0930 – 1500 Bus Leaves for VIEJAS Casino and Shopping Mall
(Provided we have 35 movers & shakers)
1600 – 2000 Reunion Registration, Harbor View Hospitality Room
1900 – 2400 Finger Food, Concessions, Auction & Open Bar in Harbor View
Hospitality Room

SATURDAY, JUNE 15TH, 2002

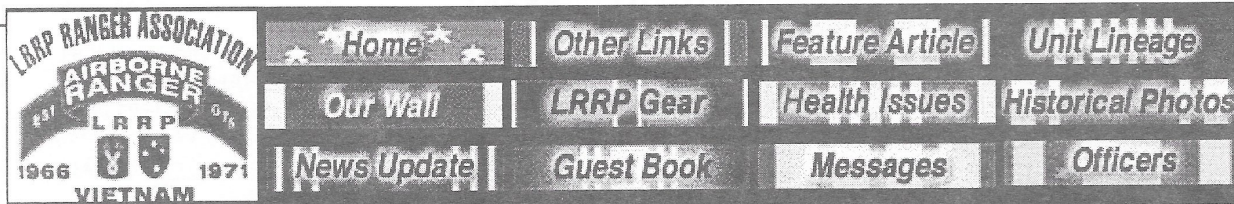
0800 – 1000 Harbor View Hospitality Room/Concessions
0800 – 0900 Officers and Board of Directors Meeting
0900 – 1000 General Business Meeting
1000 – 1800 Free Time (Zoo, Sea World, etc.)
1600 – 1800 Harbor View Hospitality Room, Concessions, Open Bar
1800 – 1900 Cocktails by the Pool (Cash Bar)
1900 – 2100 Awards, Raffle and Hawaiian Luau by the Pool (Cash Bar)
2100 – 2400 Open Bar in Harbor View Hospitality Room

SUNDAY, JUNE 16TH, 2002

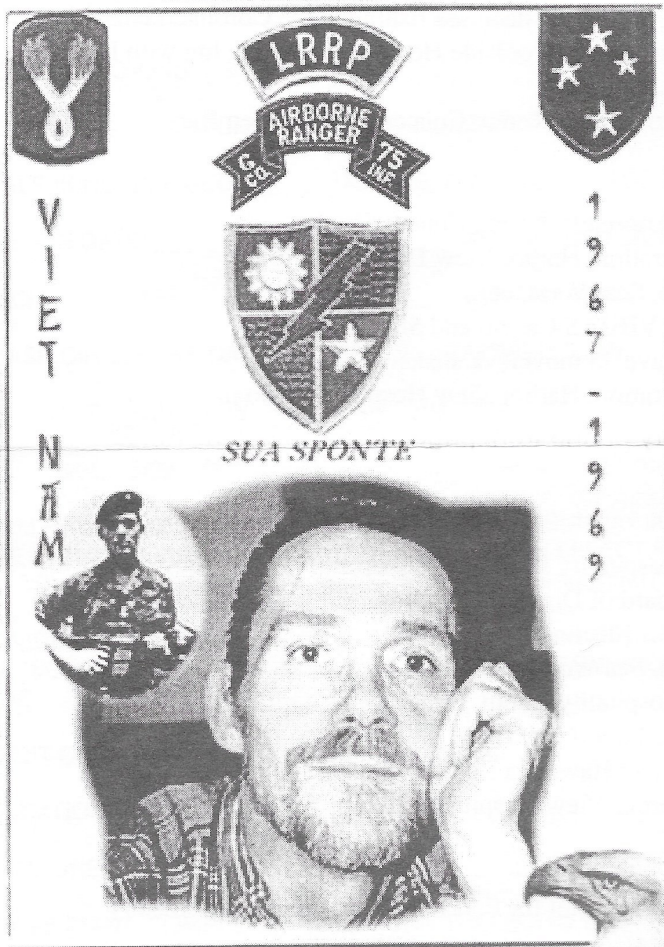
0830 Busses depart from Hotel for Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery
0900 – 0930 Memorial Service
0930 – 1100 Cabrillo National Monument, Visitor’s Center, Pictures (this has one of
the most beautiful views anywhere!)
1100 Busses depart from Fort Rosecrans for Hotel
1130 – 1800 Free Time (Zoo, Sea World, etc.)
1600 – 1800 Hospitality Room Open
1800 – 2000 Good Bye Dinner (Pay your own way, Local Resturant)
2000 – 2200 Hospitality Room and Open Bar

HOSPITALITY ROOM HOURS MAY VARY FROM DAY TO DAY AS NEEDED

NOTE: Parking is available for Motor Homes at the Holiday Inn Bayside, but no hookups.



IN LOVING MEMORY



GERALD RAY O'DELL
10-23-42 02-24-01

Email Message Board

Name: Nancy Brossart
Date: 10-29-01
Site Found By: Friend, Liz O'Dell
Message:

Thank you for placing the tribute to Sgt. Gerald R. O'Dell on your opening page (Web Site). Gerry was a warrior, a hero, and a proud Ranger. I am proud to be a friend to his family (his wife Liz is my dearest friend). His funeral at Arlington National Cemetery is a memory I will take with me throughout the rest of my life. Although his name is not on a memorial wall, it is forever etched on the hearts of those who knew and loved him. I know that when he reached Heaven's gates, God moved him to the front lines because there, as here, Rangers lead the way!

Like so many of our brothers who served in Vietnam, Gerry O'Dell will be missed. For those of you that have access to our website and its message board, you are all too familiar with newscasts including the passing away of our members and their loved ones too. *Sua Sponte* would like to thank Tom Nash and Vic Valariano and others who may have attended Gerry's funeral.

MARK W. BRENNAN

When I volunteered to join the new LRRP unit of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade in December 1966, the unit, which was not yet operational, consisted of only 6 people. One of these was PFC Mark W. Brennan. I was one of about 10 new people joining the original 6. At some reunions I've attended, I've heard myself referred to by some of those who joined the unit in mid-1967 as one of the "old guys" due to my seniority with the unit. Well to me, Mark was one of the "original guys."

I remember being a little intimidated by the original members of the unit. After all, they had already been through Recondo School, and they all seemed confident and professional. Over the next several months, although we didn't have enough men to form permanent teams, I pulled a number of missions with Mark and got to know him fairly well, or as well as guys let others come to know them. Working with Mark engendered trust and confidence. He was a good teammate and friend.

Mark was instrumental in helping the unit get off the ground. He and Vic Valeriano teamed up on a legendary scrounging mission to Saigon, where, literally, they used taxicabs to spirit away all their acquisitions. Without the much-needed gear they managed to divert to our unit, it could not have become operational as quickly as it did. Mark recorded the unit's first "kill", and he participated in the unit's earliest foray into Cambodia, a mission that ended up being the focus of a story on the front page of the *New York Times*.

After being a stalwart on those early LRRP teams, Mark returned home at the conclusion of his tour, and reentered civilian life. But about a year later, he was approached by Nick Rowe and Ben Aiken, who offered Mark a challenge that he couldn't resist – reenlist, go to Special Forces School, and receive a commission. Mark graduated and quickly returned to Southeast Asia, where he was commissioned a 1LT, and where he remained for several years, active in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand. Upon his return to the US, Mark became involved with the SERE program. Mark left active duty in 1974, but remained active in the reserves first as a battalion commander and later brigade commander of the 11th Special Forces Group (Reserve). During his active career from 1965 to 1974, Mark received, among other awards, the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars w/V Device, the Army Commendation Medal w/V Device, three Purple Hearts, eight Air Medals and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Palms.

I'm now proud to report that Mark W. Brennan - one of my teammates and friends from those early LRRP days – one of our own - was promoted, on July 12, 2001, to Brigadier General. Other officers that commanded LRRP or Ranger units in Vietnam may have achieved general officer level, but I'm fairly confident when I say that Mark is no doubt the first actual member of a LRRP team to do so. He is certainly the only one of us to do so. And so, on behalf of the members of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade LRRP Detachment with whom he served, and the members of this Association, I would like to offer our collective congratulations to Brigadier General Mark W. Brennan. Congratulations Mark! Well done!

See photo of General Brennan on the next page

Membership Information

Annual Membership Dues Renewal

Name _____ Phone # _____

(optional)

Street Address _____ City _____

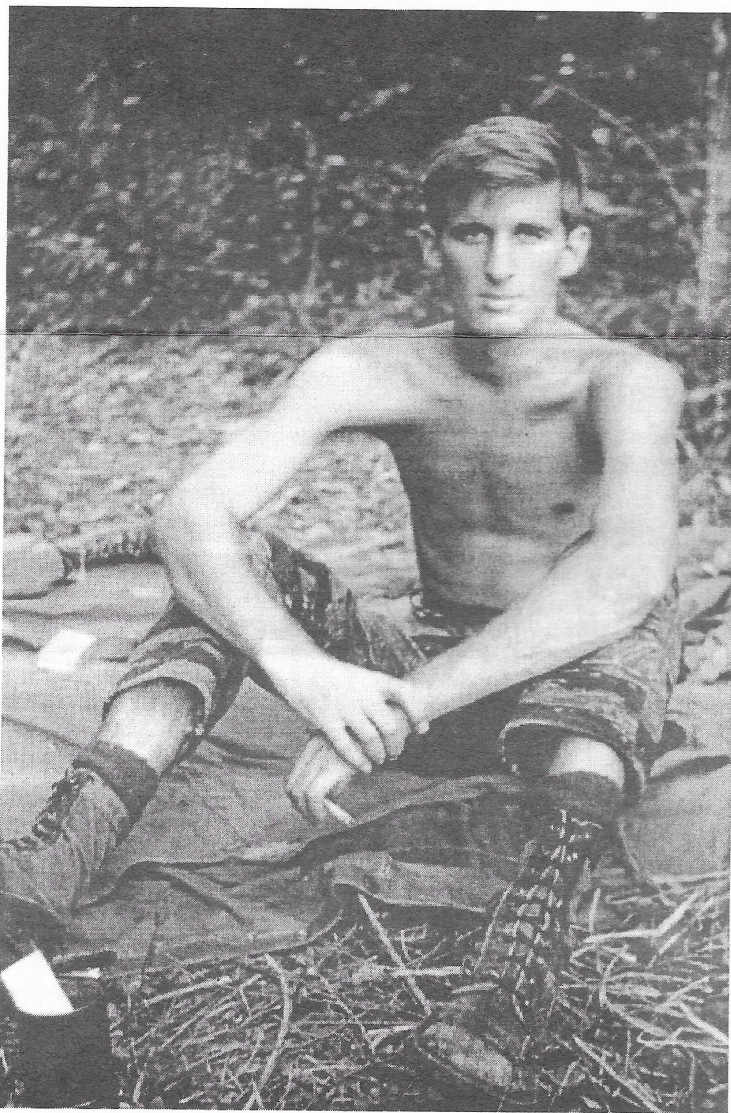
State _____ Zip _____ email address _____

(optional)

Make check payable to: Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association

Remit \$20 Check or Money Order to:

Frank Svensson
6964 Berkshire Avenue
Alta Loma, CA
91701



Above Shirt

This fine quality shirt shown above is our hottest item. Cost which includes shipping and handling is \$35. Be sure to give the size(s) and the quantity for these one-of-a-kind denim shirts sporting the Association Logo

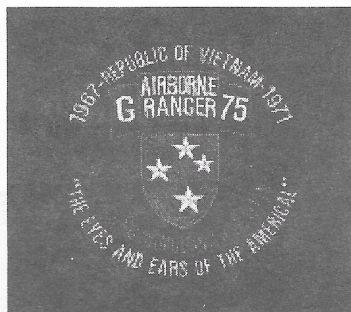
Left Photo

General Brennan (to the left) while in Vietnam. Our Association certainly is proud of the fact that one of its LRRPs made the mark, Mark! We are proud of you!

CONCESSIONS

LRRP RANGER GEAR

Item # 1



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

New Hats!

Baseball hats with the official logo on the front; including the Americal patch on one side of the hat and the "Burning Ropes", the 196th patch, on the other side.

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

Item # 2

Item # 3



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



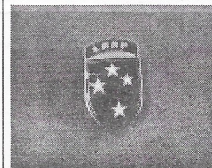
Gettysburg Tee Shirts for your collection of reunion shirts. Logo on front with large POW statement on the back! \$15 includes s&h

Item # 4

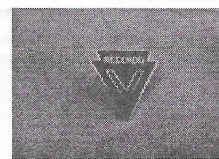
Item # 5



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



Item # 6 left



Item # 7 right

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

Item #1 \$25.00 X amount ordered = _____	Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #2 \$15.00 X amount ordered = _____	One size fits all	Cost _____
Item #3 \$ 7.00 X amount ordered = _____		Cost _____
Item #4 \$15.00 X amount orderd Tee-Shirts= _____	Size(s) _____	Cost _____
Item #5 \$ 7.00 X amount ordered = _____	breasted _____ breastless _____	Cost _____
Item #6 \$ 5.00 X amount ordered = _____		Cost _____
Item #7 \$ 5.00 X amount ordered = _____		Cost _____

Total Cost _____

Make check or money order payable to: Company G (Ranger) 75th Inf. Assoc.

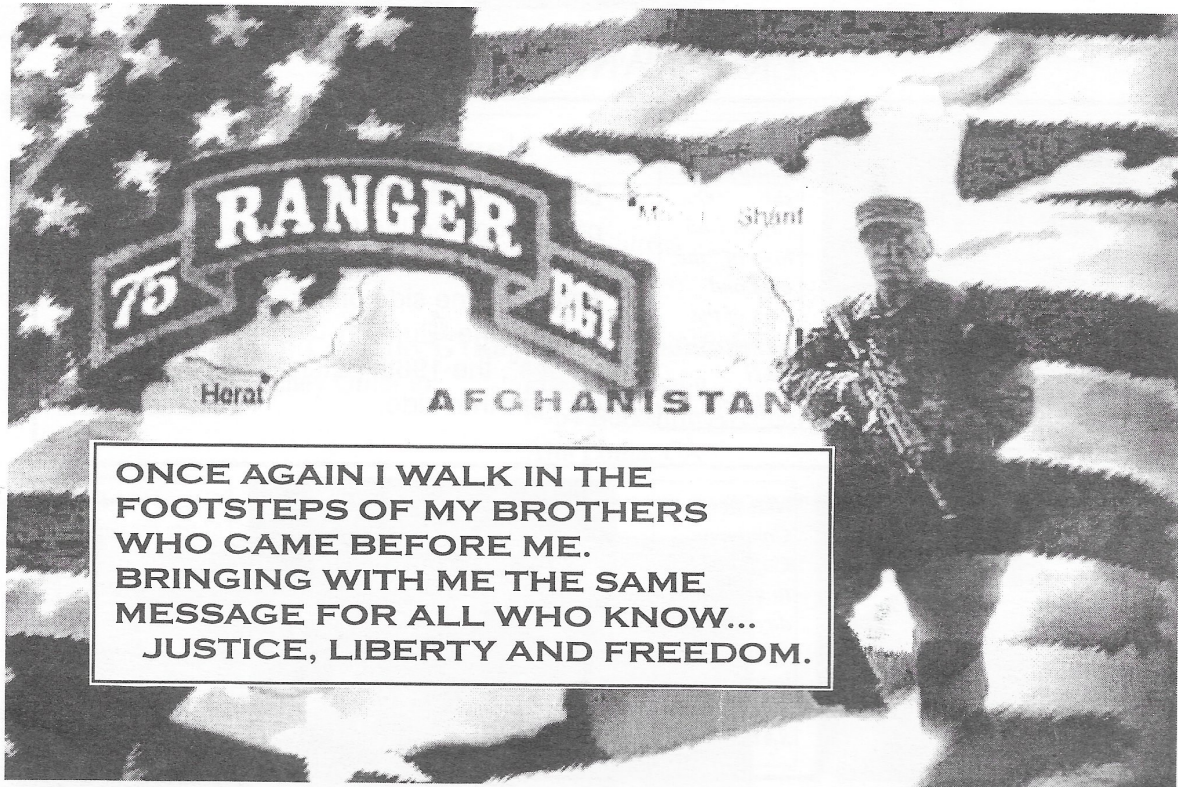
Name _____ Payment: check _____ money order _____

Street address: _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Country _____ Zip _____

Send check to: Frank Svensson/Treasurer
6964 Berkshire Avenue
Alta Loma, CA 91701



ONCE AGAIN I WALK IN THE
FOOTSTEPS OF MY BROTHERS
WHO CAME BEFORE ME.
BRINGING WITH ME THE SAME
MESSAGE FOR ALL WHO KNOW...
JUSTICE, LIBERTY AND FREEDOM.

Sua Sponte

Sua Sponte

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