



~~Rear Security~~

25th Div LRRP - Co F, 50th Inf (LRP) - Co F, 75th Inf Ranger

LRRP
LRP
Ranger

GREETINGS

Rather than do one of my usual Christmas cards this year, I had two thoughts. The first was to get a window sticker made for the 25th Div LRRP / Co F. The second thought was that since the Pointman is on R&R temporarily, we needed to get some news out. I started playing with both ideas and

Enclosed is a static cling window sticker. It is designed to cling to the inside of your car window, etc. Press it on and it should stick to the window. A couple of years later, you should be able to carefully lift the edges and remove it and put it on your new car.

As for the newsletter, we realize this isn't as classy as the Pointman. I don't have the skills and equipment to make it that way. But, it has the same mission, a way to stay in contact with you. I hope you enjoy the publication and hope this helps you stay in touch with old team mates and friends you made across the pond.

At present, there are no plans for a routine schedule of publication, but that may occur depending on circumstances.

Most importantly, here's wishing you a

Happy Holiday Season.

Bill Mrkvicka

Our Roster

Currently we have a roster that has about 720 names on it. We have found (have what we believe to be good addresses) on 368 guys. Another 38 are listed as KIA and 17 have died since returning from RVN. That leaves almost 300 that we have not yet found. Among those we don't have addresses on are 100+ last names - we don't even know their first names. We know these people were in the Company because we found things like "SP4 Brooks" on copies of after action reports and we didn't have a "Brooks" on the roster for that time period. Others come from photos where we can read the guy's nametag, and someone remembers good old "Smitty".

With the help of Rick Ellison, Dutch Lane, Marshall Huckaby, Charlie Rose and others, we are finally beginning to get some

information on the guys who started the 25th Div LRRP.

Ceremony for SFC Alvin Floyd

On 2 October, 1970, teams 3-8 and 3-9 pulled a mission in the Renegade woods. The heavy team consisted of Lt Norton, SFC Floyd, Colin Hall, Fred Stuckey, Michael Thomas, Samuel Seay, Charles Avery, Donald Tinney, Donald Purdy, Richard Guth, Ray Allmon, Steven Perez, and Ken Langland. The mission resulted in a four day action against two NVA battalions that eventually included the entire 2nd Battalion of the WolfHounds, air support from Centaur and six other helicopter units, the Air Force and numerous artillery units. In the action SFC Floyd and Sgt Thomas were killed.



As a result of the mission, the members of the Ranger teams were awarded six Bronze Stars, six Silver Stars and one Distinguished Service Cross.

SFC Floyd was recently honored by the placement of a bronze plaque at Heroes Overlook in Augusta Ga. Inside is an account from Marshal Huckaby who attended the ceremony.

If you would like more information on the mission, the after action report is available on the 75th Ranger Regiment Association's web site. Likewise, an account of the ceremony is posted on the site. The address is "www.57thangers.org/hq/hq4.htm".

Records from 1966 are scarce, but these guys are starting to find people.

The roster changes almost daily. People move we find new guys, some suddenly disappear. If you are on-line, email me (LRRP6@ix.netcom.com) and I will send you a text copy via email. However, if you want a printed copy just send me a self addressed, stamped (2 stamps) return envelope and one will get mailed out within a week. The address is:

Bill Mrkvicka
26 Pinewood Knoll
Rochester, NY 14624

If you move, please let me (or Tom Cahill know your new address and/or phone number. That's the only way we can stay in touch.

message from Ron Harrison

To All 25th Inf Div LRRPs, F/50 LRP's and F/75 Rangers:

With great regret and after much consideration, I am forced to resign effective 11/14/99 as unit representative for our association, 25th ID LRRP; Company F, 50th LRP; and Company F, 75th Infantry (Ranger).



Unfortunately the responsibilities and requirements of my job are demanding more and more of my time; and everyone has only 168 hours a week - no more - to work, eat, sleep, and perhaps have a little family time. I find myself working late at night, weekends, and holidays to assist the owner expand and relocate his businesses, all while we continue with current operations and bid on three new government contracts - hopefully all at a profit! (Time wasted on eating and sleeping was first to be cut back.) So to avoid shortchanging any of you, I have been reluctantly forced to make this decision.

After working weekends for the last month, and Veterans Day, Saturday, and today just to keep my nostrils above water work-wise; I discussed the situation with our other elected officials, Tom Cahill, our Secretary/Treasurer, and Bill Mrkvicka, Chairman of our Hall of Fame/Awards Committee.

Tom has agreed to take over as Unit Director until the attending membership can elect a new unit director at the 2000 reunion in Savannah, GA. Bill will take responsibility for periodically publishing a newsletter, which will be entitled "Rear Security."

I know many of you must apply for summer 2000 leave and vacation time at least six months out, so I owe you an answer on our plans for a Hawaii reunion. The concept is not dead, but at the bottom line, our Hawaii reunion will have to be postponed until perhaps next year. Despite our best efforts, we were completely unable to locate anyone (1) who was interested in assisting us and (2) who will still be in a position to do so next year when we would arrive. (3) Also, cost of living while in Hawaii is still a major concern, and despite several ideas, not yet solved. Tom's plan is to coordinate with the 25th ID Association, use their expertise in these matters, and perhaps satellite off their next big reunion in the summer of 2001. I take all responsibility for not being able to make the Hawaii reunion happen for you in the year 2000. The good news is that the concept is not dead. Meanwhile I ask all of you to throw your full support behind Tom and Bill and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and participate to the maximum in the Savannah reunion as you have for the last few reunions at Tacoma and Columbus.

The past three years plus as your unit director have been great ones for me personally. It was a great honor for me to be involved in the effort to memorialize each of our war dead with an engraved brick installed in the Ranger Memorial walkway at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, GA. I consider myself to have been doubly honored and extremely fortunate to have served you as your unit director, however briefly. Thank all of you for the opportunity and the marvelous experience.

Your new unit director's address is:

CPT Tom Cahill, 2105 Diana Loop
Harker Heights, TX 76548

Tom's phone number is: 254-698-8686

Tom's e-mail address is: <<tcahill@earthlink.net>>

Again my thanks to Tom & Bill, and to each of you. I wish you every success, and, as always, if I can ever assist, fire a flare.

I'll see you on the objective. RLTW!

Ron Harrison, former Unit Director, 25th ID LRRPs, Company F, 50th LRP's; and Company F, 75th Infantry (Ranger)

Ron Harrison

Reunion 2000

It is time to start planning for next year's reunion. The National reunion is currently planned for Savannah, GA. The dates are July 5 to July 9, 2000.

In order to attend this reunion, you must be a member of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. To qualify for this Association, you must have been in the 25th Div LRRP's, Co F, 50th LRP or in Co F, 75th Inf Ranger. All of you receiving this newsletter are qualified.

The Association fees are \$20 per year. They provide a quarterly newsletter (more like a magazine) and they plan and coordinate these reunions. If you wish to join, an application form is included with this newsletter.

* The Primary hotel and HQs for the reunion is:
Holiday Inn Midtown - Savannah; 7100 Abercorn St.,
Savannah, GA 31406
(912) 352-7100 - FAX: (912) 355-6408
Group Name: 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc., Inc.
Group code: RRA - Group rate \$78.00 + 12% tax

* First Overflow Hotel:
Best Western - Savannah

As soon as you are a member of the Association, you can make your reservations. Rooms are limited.

If you want another perspective on reunions, read Dutch Lane's thoughts elsewhere in this issue.

Ceremony for SFC Alvin Floyd

A Hero Remembered

On Veterans Day I had the opportunity to attend a ceremony in Augusta Georgia to honor one of our own. SFC ALVIN W. FLOYD, DSC.

SFC Floyd's story can be read on the 75th Ranger Association Homepage.

The city of Augusta has established a Heroes' Overlook to honor those area veterans who have won the DSC or higher. The location overlooks a very scenic area of the Savannah River.

In attendance was other past honorees, members of the Tuskegee Airmen, veterans of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. It was both an honor and humbling to be in the company of such men.

A very well organized and moving tribute was paid to SFC Floyd and a bronze plaque denoting his heroism was unveiled. As the US Army Signal Corps band played the song of each service, we were asked to stand.

SGM(RET) Hussey paid tribute to SFC Floyd in the stead of Sen Charlie Norwood (173 rd ABN, Viet Nam) who had to remain in Washington working on Veteran related bills to our benefit. SGM Hussey did a most noble job of conveying the deeds of SFC Floyd.

I was especially pleased to be joined by fellow 25th ID LRRP Rick Ellison of SC whom I had not seen since Jan 67. Also in attendance was another 25th ID LRRP / F Co, 75th Ranger Mel Linville. We were asked to stand, and to receive a heartfelt applause from such a noble assembly was an honor to us all.

The daughter of SFC Floyd, her family, SFC Floyd's sister, and an aunt were in attendance. We were asked the question we all fear, "Did you know my dad"? Rick explained that we had left the unit prior to his arrival, but knew of his exploits and service to his country. I explained that we might not have known him physically but we all have a bond that ties us all together. We told her of the Ranger Memorial in Ft. Benning and the understanding and appreciation for her loss. She and her family were surprised to hear of the memorial and will visit it now.

Ms Floyd expressed a desire to attend the reunion in Savannah to hopefully meet men who did know her father. I carefully explained that while there maybe such men in attendance, not to be upset if they can't talk about it. We were all kids thrust into a man's world. She said that she understood and that she felt something toward us. I told her that I felt that she would be welcomed and the family of SFC Floyd was now our family. Her husband later thanked us for talking to his wife and said that he could tell that it was a comfort to her and that

she appreciated the expression of sympathy and friendship from the 75th Rangers.

Marshall Huckaby, 25th ID LRRPS / F Company 75th Rangers.

Marshall Huckaby

Newsletter need

There are more than a few of you that have offered to help fund a newsletter. Most of you like to see one of these things come in the mail. We do need help.

While it is important, we can always seem to find the money. The most difficult part of doing a newsletter is writing the material that goes in it. Therefore, what we need help in most is the words that go into a newsletter. Many times, the Pointman was delayed by over two months because we didn't have enough material (articles, pieces of information) to fill it. It's kind of stupid to send out a newsletter with half the pages blank!

I guess I am challenging all of you to help write these things. Put together a half a page and mail it to Tom or me. If you absolutely can't write something, drop us a note with two or three things that you would like to see in a newsletter. If we have enough material to fill another one of these, we will publish again before the July reunion.

Tough job LRRPs and Rangers. Are you up to it? *(Boy, am I going to take gas for this!)*

Greg Hamlett

It is with great sadness that I must report that Greg Hamlett died on January 3, 1999. Many of you may remember Greg. He was in Co F from May, 1969 to May 1970. Greg served in the orderly room and frequently delivered the mail to us.

Most of us remember how Greg was always one of the first to go out on a reactionary force and take Top's heat for going



when he got back. When teams needed manpower, he always tried to "fill-in"; he tried to help.

Greg had intended on attending the 1998 reunion, but his illness prevented it. As George Flannery said, "Greg was one of the most helpful, easy going Rangers I met during my tour. His contributions to company morale were manifold. We all benefited from serving with him."

Rest in Peace Greg.

Notes From Dutch

This past weekend (Nov. 23rd) the South Carolina Vet Reunion was held at Fort Jackson. It was the first time that I have attended any thing like this. For all these years I have stayed away from these events, just didn't want to deal with it. For me it was a lot of hype all for nothing. At least that's what I thought.

A lot of changes occurred in my life over the past several weeks. My first computer, that opened new doors for me. I was able to locate old friends from my LRRP days back in 66-67. One of those old friends, Rick Ellison E-mailed me of the reunion. Another old friend, Ronald Dunn and I decided this would be a great place for the three of us to meet. We were all former members of the same LRRP team and hadn't seen one another in 32 years. The stage was set.

The trip for me would be the longest, both Dunn and Ellison lived within two hours of Fort Jackson. my driving time was about 6 hours, 323 miles. Packing up my 33ft motor home, leaving St. Augustine around 10am. I arrived at Weston Lake recreational area at 3pm. Dunn was to meet me there, this was on Friday the 22nd. The reunion was to be held on Saturday the 23rd.

Ronald Dunn and I were the best of friends, dating back to Alaska and long before we even heard of Vietnam. After getting the motor home set up for the two day stay I awaited the arrival of Dunn. The plan was for him to meet me at the office between 4 and 5pm. He was a no show but did arrive at 9pm, having his own business there were last minute problems to deal with. After 32 years what's a few more hours. We spent the evening talking, as old friends would. Catching up on one another's life, family and past events in general.

On Saturday around 10am, we (Ron and I) walked the short distance from the motor home to the Reunion site. The event was held at Weston Lake, part of the Fort Jackson Reservation. We were to meet Rick Ellison there, not knowing what Rick looked like. All we had for a description was, he would be wearing a tighter stripe boony hat. Want to take a guess how many of those hats were present? Wrong, there was only one tiger stripe and Rick's head was under it. I can tell you that after 32 years we all three knew one another at first glance.

SURE WE DID! We have all grown up and matured over the years. We spent the day talking of things long ago, the beer was cold the burgers and dogs were tasty the weather pleasant.

It was a great time. One I will remember, a pleasant memory and experience that was shared among friends.

Rick's wife Georgia was present with him. A very delightful lady, who has both feet planted firmly on the ground. Talking with her was a pleasure. She supports Rick and attends these events with him. Thanks Georgia, it was a pleasure.

The day was filled with plenty of scheduled events, lots of information was given out. No one was pressured into attending any event they didn't want to. The surroundings were friendly, no drunken brawls. A great place to take the family. For me it wasn't only a time for old friends, it was a time to make new ones as well.

For those of you who attend such events, this may be boring, all I can tell you is that from my new perspective it's a worth while, and much needed time in the life of lots of Vets. This was my first, it won't be my last. I may show up in your home state next, send me some information on your local Vet Reunion.

Best wishes to all of you,

Dutch Lane

Editors note: Dutch was a member of the original 25th Div LRRP's in 1966. He was in the first Recondo class with Marshall Huckaby, David Stanfield, Rick Ellison, Clint Lounsbury, Robert Webster, and others.

Around the corner I have a friend, In this great city that
has no end,
Yet the days go by and weeks rush on, And before I
know it, a year is gone.
And I never see my old friend's face,
For life is a swift and terrible race,
He knows I like him just as well
As in the days when I rang his bell, And he rang mine.
We were younger then, And now we are busy, tired men.
Tired of playing a foolish game, Tired of trying to make
a name.
"Tomorrow" I say "I will call on Jim"
"Just to show that I'm thinking of him."
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,
And distance between us grows and grows.
Around the corner!- yet miles away,
"Here's a telegram sir-" "Jim died today."
So remember...If you love someone, tell them.
Remember always to say what you mean.
Never be afraid to express yourself.
Take this opportunity to tell someone what they mean to
you.
Seize the day and have no regrets.

Most importantly, stay close to your friends and family,
for they have helped make you the person that you are
today and are what it's all about anyway.

Mess Hall Message (do you remember it?)

You've never lived until you've almost died.
For those who have had to fight for it,
Life has truly a flavor the protected SHALL NEVER
KNOW

(Thanks to Dick Ewald for remembering)

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.