Ranger Knowledge

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Africa Lost

Ranger Knowledge: The All Inclusive Study Guide for Rangers

Erik Larsen, Jack Murphy, and SOFREP

St. Martin's Press (MAC LOGO) New York

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data (TK)

ISBN 978-1-4668-4119-2 (ebook)

First Edition: June 2013

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

[This page is for new or additional material that was not transmitted with manuscript or book, such as sales quotes, a new author bio, etc.]

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# **FORWARD**

The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment is a peculiar animal. Its culture is far different from a conventional Army infantry unit, but it is also much different than other special operations units. There are extremely high standards that must be met, whether you are a brand new Ranger or a seasoned First Sergeant with thirteen deployments under your belt. The environment is stressful in and of itself, and for a new guy, especially so. Just because you graduate RASP or Ranger School does not mean anything. You must prove yourself, day in and day out – physically, mentally, and emotionally as well as in all technical aspects of the job. This study manual is meant to help the aspiring Ranger prepare for the rigors ahead, the newly scrolled Ranger become technically proficient, and the seasoned Ranger to maintain his proficiency. It should be noted that this manual is not meant to prepare you for the Army's premier leadership course – Ranger School, but for the nation's premier special operations direct action raid force – the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. There is some material that is applicable in both places, but those getting ready for Ranger School would be best served by sticking to the Ranger Handbook.

So there I was, a brand new Ranger in processing on my first day at 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. I had spent the majority of the day performing various feats of physical training while being shuffled around with paperwork in hand. It was late afternoon and I finally found out what company I would be assigned to. We were then taken to the company and met the First Sergeant as well as all the Platoon Sergeants. It was like a draft, us new guys lined up against a wall, being hammered with questions about our background, our military performance thus far, PT scores, GT scores, etc. After I was selected for a platoon, I was taken down to meet my new squad. Everyone was just getting off work, and having everyone around as I walked in was nerve wracking to say the least. I was surrounded by combat hardened Ranger veterans who looked at me like they wanted nothing more than to rip my head from my shoulders for even breathing the same air as them.

I was brought into what would be my new room, and my new team leader gave me my "initial counseling". My Team leader was a tall but muscular 6'4", shaved head, and sporting sleeve tattoos. To say he was an intimidating guy would have been a serious understatement. Our conversation went like this:

- TL: "So do you even know what Rangers do?"
- Me: "Roger, Sergeant"
- TL: "No you fucking don't. If you lie to me one more time I'm going to RFS (Released For Standards) you so fast you won't even have a chance to unpack your toothbrush"Me: "Roger, Sergeant"
- TL: "We kill bad guys. That's all you need to know, since I'm going to RFS you anyway. I'm going home. It's Friday. If you do anything stupid over the weekend, don't bother coming to work on Monday morning. If you make it through the weekend, and you do

show up to work Monday morning, then you better be prepared for a quiz. If you don't pass the quiz, I'm going to kill you. Does it look like I'm joking?"

Me: "Negative, Sergeant"

- TL: "Specialist Smith will be by to give you your study material. Go stare at the wall until he comes in"
- Me: "Roger, Sergeant"

So, my team leader left and Spc. Smith came in with a green notebook that was filled with handwritten notes. He didn't say much other than "I hope for your sake you know everything in here by Monday". It was a daunting task. I had just a little over two days to memorize a books worth of hand-written, smudged information. I was determined though. In between driving the senior private's downtown, getting lost in Savannah in the middle of the night and trying to get my stuff squared away for my first week of training, I studied like my life depended on it. Monday morning when I woke up, I was nervous to the point of panic. As my squad started to roll in, all I received was stares. Finally, my team leader walked in, looked straight at me, and said, "What the fuck are you doing here?" Not really knowing what to say, I told him that I was told to be here at 0550 in PT uniform. Then the barrage of questions started. It was like a blur, but I think he hammered me with about twenty questions in a row. He never said I was right or wrong, but just replied with a new question after I answered the last. Finally, he stopped and looked at me square in the eye "What the fuck is wrong with you, are you some kind of fucking nerd?" I took that to mean that I had answered the questions correctly and replied "Negative, Sergeant". Somehow, some way, I managed to escape certain death via "physical correction" that morning – or at least temporarily anyway. I didn't know everything in that book yet, but I was lucky enough to receive questions on the stuff that I had memorized. I wouldn't be so lucky in the future, but such is life for a new guy in one of the Ranger Battalions.

Throughout my almost five years in the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment, I saw many different variations of "Ranger Knowledge". It seemed everyone had a different weight for the M-4, and every squad had different things they deemed important to know. For an organization that prides itself on attention to detail, this was always surprising to me. So this manual is an attempt to solidify the "Ranger Knowledge" packet by compiling pages and pages of notes and fact checking them against various different sources. This work has been edited so as to not compromise any information that is not meant for public viewing, so there will still be a learning curve even for the guy who memorizes this whole book. I can promise you one thing though, if you do memorize this whole manual, you will be very far ahead of the curve, and envied by Rangers past because of your advantage going into the fray of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment.

-Erik Larsen

C co 1/75

**Blackside Concepts** 

# Introduction: The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment

<u>Ranger Mission</u>: The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment's mission is to plan and conduct special missions in support of U.S. policy and objectives.

The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment is a direct-action special operations raid force that conducts forcible entry operations and special operations raids across the entire spectrum of combat. The Regiment is capable of planning and executing complex worldwide operations in high-risk, uncertain, and politically sensitive areas. It is constantly transforming to meet future operational requirements without sacrificing mission success.

The Regiment's four battalions geographically located throughout the U.S., can deploy anywhere in the world for no-notice missions. Their capabilities include direct action raids in limited visibility, adverse weather, varied terrain and complex operating environments to capture or kill designated targets and/or seize terrain and strategic installations. Capable of infiltrating by land, sea or air, the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment is trained on a wide variety of mobility platforms and operates fully integrated with supporting agencies and other Special Operations Forces as required.

The unit has an intensive Regimental assessment and selection process where only the most exceptional officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers are selected to serve. From the arduous training to the continuous and demanding worldwide deployments, the Rangers of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment continue to demonstrate their motto, "Rangers Lead the Way."

#### • Primary tasks:

- Direct Action
- o Raids
- Special Reconnaissance
- Counter Terrorism
- o Airborne, Air Assault, and Waterborne Operations
- Airfield Seizure

#### • Other Roles:

- Counter Drug Operations
- Foreign Internal Defense
- Unconventional Warfare
- Hostage Rescue
- Personnel/Sensitive Equipment Recovery
- Clandestine Insertion
- Sensitive Site Exploitation

- **Organization-** There are four geographically dispersed battalions, each composed of four rifle companies, a support company, and a headquarters company.
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion Hunter Army Airfield, GA
  - $\circ$  2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Battalion Ft. Lewis, WA
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Battalion Ft. Benning, GA
  - Regimental Special Troops Battalion Ft. Benning, GA
  - 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment Headquarters Ft. Benning, GA
  - Less than 3,500 Rangers on active duty, to include support personnel

# MOS's in the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment-

00Z- COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR 44C- ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST **45B- SMALL ARMS/ARTILLERY 11B-INFANTRYMAN 11C- INDIRECT FIRE INFANTRYMAN** REPAIRER **11Z-INFANTRY SENIOR SERGEANT 45K-ARMAMENT REPAIRER 13F- FIRE SUPPORT SPECIALIST 52C- UTILTIES EQUIPMENT REPAIRER 52D-POWER-GENERATION 12B-COMBAT ENGINEER 12H- CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING** EQUIPMENT 56M- CHAPLAIN ASSISTANT **SUPERVISOR** 12U-TOPOGRAPHIC ANALYST 91B-LIGHT-WHEEL VEHICLE **12R- INTERIOR ELECTRICIAN MECHANIC** 12W- CARPENTRY AND MASONRY 68J- MEDICAL LOGISTICS SPECIALIST **68S- PREVENTIVE MEDICINE** SPECIALIST 25B- INFO SYS OPR-ANALYST SPECIALIST **25C-TELECOMMUNICATIONS** 68W- HEALTH CARE SPECIALIST 25P- MICROWAVE SYSTEMS OPERATOR-74D- CHEMICAL OPERATIONS SPECIALIST MAINTAINER **25S- SATELLITE COMMUNICATION** 79S- CAREER COUNSELOR 88M- MOTOR TRANSPORT OPERATOR **SYSTEMS 25U- SIGNAL SUPPORTS SYSTEMS 89B-AMMUNTION SPECIALIST SPECIALIST** 92A- AUTOMATED LOGISTICAL **25W-TELECOMMUNICATIONS** SPECIALIST 92F-PETROLEUM SUPPLY **OPERATIONS CHIEF 27D- PARALEGAL SPECIALIST SPECIALIST** 35E- RADIO AND COMMUNICATIONS 92G- FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS SECURITY 92L-PETROLEUMLABORATORY 35F- INTEL ANALYST SPECIALIST **35G-IMAGERY ANALYST** 92R-PARACHUTE RIGGER 92W- WATER TREATMENT **35L- COUNTER INTEL AGENT 35M- HUMAN INTEL COLLECTOR** SPECIALIST 35P- CRYPTOLOGIC COMMUNICATIONS 92Y- UNIT SUPPLY SPECIALIST 42A- HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST 94E- RADIO AND COMMUNICATION **42L- ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST** SECURITY 44B- METAL WORKER 94F- SPECIAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

# 94W- ELECTRONIC MAINTENANCE CHIEF

Today, Rangers from all four of its current Battalions continue to lead the way in the Global War on Terrorism. The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment is conducting sustained combat operations in multiple countries deploying from multiple locations in the United States, a task that is unprecedented for the Regiment. Rangers continue to conduct combat operations with almost every deployed special operation, conventional and coalition force in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Ranger Regiment is executing a wide range of diverse operations that include airborne and air assaults in Afghanistan, mounted infiltrations behind enemy lines, complex urban raids and rescue operations. In addition to conducting missions in support of the Global War on Terrorism, the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment continues to train in the United States and overseas to prepare for future no-notice worldwide combat deployments. The Regiment also continues to recruit, assess and train the next generation of Rangers and Ranger leadership.

#### **Ranger Assessment and Selection Program Overview**

I was doing well; just went through BCT, AIT and Airborne with flying colors and had my momentum going for me pretty well. While in RASP hold at Airborne School, we had no idea when the RASP cadre were going to come and pick us up and all we could think of were the horrible stories we had heard from the World Wide students that failed RASP. The morning came and our cadre arrived to pick us up. We were yelled at, smoked up and smoked up some more. We finally got onto the bus, drenched in sweat, thanking God that I had made it onto the bus. As soon as we showed up all that the next few hours consisted of was getting smoked up, yelled at, and placing and removing our personal bags and gear from the third floor to the rocks over and over again. Welcome to Pre-RASP 1 they said....

I made it through Pre-RASP and had been rounded up for the next RASP 1 class. It was our first morning of RASP1 and we were over in the field getting some good PT in until one of the cadre told us to all get down, start knocking them out. I just so happened to be the lucky one standing right in front of him, with his thick Brooklyn accent, all I could hear was, "Do pushups men, it will make you stronger." All of which I will never forget, especially since the fire in my arms was coming a lot faster than usual. I looked down to my forearms to see a thousand different fire ants biting my arms and making their way up. Just my luck, doing pushups in a fire ant hill; So I did what would make sense and tried to reposition when I was harshly denied that with a "What the fuck are you doing!? It will make you stronger! Get back to the same spot!" I learned quickly that once you were told to do something, you do it and you do it "quicklier"! After PT was finished we sprinted back to the barracks to get smoked up that much more. After what seemed like weeks of endless days, Cole Range finally arrived. It was a week of no sleep, not a whole lot of food and muscle failure all day long. The combination of high stress, physical and mental exhaustion and the high expectations of the cadre were crushing in every way possible and yet the guys to my left and right kept going and the ones that couldn't take it anymore dropped out. One of the funniest experiences was just seeing people in extreme exhaustion, hallucinating at random and trying to stay on course for the instructions briefed.

Finally the day came, we were rehearsing graduation and our tan berets were formed to perfection. I knew my family was on their way to watch and my nerves were very high. Right before graduation time came, we were introduced to an NCO that had been in the streets of Somalia, fighting alongside his brothers through one of the toughest fire fights in American military history. He talked to us about how RASP was the easy part and now the hard part was about to come; that we were going to enter into our battalions, to our respective companies as one of the "new guys." He told us that we were going to be proving ourselves in everything we do, big or small and we'd be getting judged all day to see if we would be what the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment really wanted. We then loaded up the bus and were driven to our graduation where we donned our tan berets, to be officially recognized as a fighting member of 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. I will never forget that day for the rest of my life and I will forever cherish it.

-Joakim Ludwig

C co 3/75

The unit has an intensive regimental assessment and selection process where only the most exceptional officers, non-commissioned officers, and Soldiers are selected to serve. In January 2010, RASP replaced the old RIP (Ranger Indoctrination Program). This selection process is necessary for all soldiers who wish to serve in a Ranger battalion. Where RIP was four weeks, RASP is now eight weeks long. Lower enlisted soldiers will attend RASP 1 whereas higher enlisted and officers will attend RASP 2. The training is just as difficult and has been extended so instructors have more evaluation time for soldiers wishing to become Army Rangers. The graduation rate for the course remains low at 10-30% of the initial volunteers.

As with RIP, graduates of RASP will be awarded the Ranger scroll (black and red) along with the Khaki (Tan) Beret.

The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment seeks highly motivated, physically fit and intelligent Soldiers to serve within its ranks. Successful Ranger candidates are self-starters who possess the dedication to be a member of the nation's premiere special operations raid force.

After completion of Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training, new recruits will move on to three weeks of Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga, learning how to safely conduct Static Line Airborne Operations. Immediately following Airborne School volunteers will move to the Ranger Assessment and Selection facility, where they will be in Pre-RASP until starting RASP.

RASP is broken down into two levels of training: RASP 1 for Junior Non-Commissioned Officers and Enlisted Soldiers (pay grades E-1 through E-5) and RASP 2 for Senior Non-Commissioned Officers, Officers and Warrant Officers. Candidates will train on physical fitness, marksmanship, small unit tactics, medical proficiency and mobility. Training is fast-paced and intense, ensuring Ranger candidates are prepared to employ their skills in both continued training and worldwide operations upon reaching their assigned Ranger unit. Throughout the course all candidates will be screened to ensure that only the best Soldiers are chosen for service in the Ranger Regiment.

RASP 1 is an 8 week selection course that is broken down into Phase 1, which is three weeks long; and Phase 2, which is five weeks long. Ranger candidates will learn the basics of what it takes to become a member of an elite fighting force. Candidates are tested on their mental and physical capabilities, while learning the advanced skills all Rangers are required to know to start their career with the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment.

RASP 2 is a 21-day selection course for Senior Non-Commissioned Officers in the rank of Staff-Sergeant and above, all Officers and Warrant Officers. Candidates are tested on their physical and mental capabilities while learning the special tactics, techniques and procedures that set the Regiment apart, and learning the expectations of leading and developing young Rangers to be the Regimental leadership of tomorrow. Upon successful completion of RASP, candidates will don the khaki (Tan) beret and 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment Scroll, knowing that they are a U.S. Army Ranger, and a member of one of the finest and most distinguished Army units in the world.

#### RASP 1 Phase 1: Weeks 1-3 Graded Events

Army Physical Fitness Test:

• To begin RASP 1, Phase I a **minimum** score of 60% in your age group

• To continue on to RASP 1, Phase II, a **minimum** score of 70% in your age group

- 12 mile forced march in 3hrs with a 45 lb rucksack
- 5 mile run in 40 minutes or less

Attain 80% on the following tests:

- Ranger First Responder Test & Trauma Lanes
- Ranger Standards Test
- Ranger History Test

• Combat Navigation (Day & Night)

Pass the following:

- Peer Evaluations/RASP Selection Board
- Psychological Screening

RASP 1 Phase 2: Weeks 4-8 Advanced Ranger Skills Training

Army Physical Fitness Test:

- To pass RASP 1, Phase 2 a **minimum** score of 80% of your age group
- Combat Driver's Course
- Hand-to-hand Fighting & Combatives Certification
- Ranger Advanced Tactical Marksmanship Training
- Combat Explosives and Breaching Course
- FRIES Training Fast Roping & Combat Extraction

#### **RASP 2 MAJOR EVENTS**

Week 1

- APFT, a minimum score of 80% in your age group required to continue
- 5-mile run, a time of 40 minutes or less is required to continue
- 12 mile ruck march, within 3 hours
- History and Standards Written tests, must score 80% or more

Week 2

- M9 Qualification
- CQM Tables
- Airborne Operation
- FTX, 24-36 hours

Week 3

- Psychological Assessment
- RASP Board

# The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment is NOT the same as Ranger School!

-The 75th Ranger Regiment is a Special Operations unit with the mission to plan and conduct joint special military operations in support of U.S. policies and objectives. The Regiment is the largest Special Operations direct action force.

-Ranger School is the Army's premier leadership school and falls under the Ranger Training Brigade (RTB) at Fort Benning and the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE).

-The 75th Ranger Regiment does require that its leaders attend the U.S. Army Ranger School;

however, it is not a pre-requisite to join the Ranger Regiment in all instances. All Infantry and Artillery Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) must complete the course before they assume a leadership role in the Regiment. The remainder of the MOS's in the Regiment send their leaders when they are ready.

Got that? The Ranger Regiment is a Special Operations strike force, Ranger School is a training course that teaches tactics and infantry leadership skills. Don't screw this up!

Let me also add a few notes of clarification:

When NCO's in the 75th Ranger Regiment have to do their instructor time, some of them end up becoming instructors at Ranger School so there is some cross-over from the 75th to RTB. In regards to the Best Ranger competition that is held annually, anyone who has graduated from Ranger School is free to compete, not just members of the 75th.

-Jack Murphy A co & HHC 3/75 SOFREP

## I. WEAPONS

# *The men of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment are gun-fighters. As such, you are expected to know everything about the tools of your trade.*

#### M-4A1

Is a lightweight, gas operated, air cooled, magazine fed, shoulder fired 5.56 mm weapon fired from the closed bolt position in either automatic or semi automatic shots.

Length: 29.75" - 33", with four positions: closed,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , and open. Weight:

- Unloaded- 6.36 lbs
- Loaded- 7.5 lbs

Max Range: 3600 m Max Effective Range:

- Point- 500 m
- Area- 600 m

Rates of Fire:

- Sustained 12-15 rpm
- Rapid 45 rpm

• Cyclic – 700-900 rpm Muzzle Velocity: 2,970 fps Chamber Pressure: 52,000 psi



Rifling: 1:7" (one right hand twist every seven inches) Common Rounds: Ball, Dummy, Blank, Tracer, Combat Load: 7 magazines/ 210 rounds

#### **M-203**

Pump action, breach loaded, single shot, light weight, 40 mm shoulder fired weapon, attached to the M-4.

Tube Length: Standard- 12", Short- 9.3"

Rifling: 1:10" (one right hand twist every ten inches)

Weight of Tube: 3.1 lbs

Weight of Round: .5 lbs

Weight Loaded: 11.11 lbs (including loaded M-4)

Minimum Safe Distance & Effective Ranges:

- Combat 31 m
- Training- 165 m
- Point Target 150 m
- Area Target 350 m
- Max Range 400 m

Minimum Arming Distance: 14-38 m Muzzle Velocity: 250 fps Rate of Fire: 5-7 rpm Rounds: Star, Star Cluster, Parachute, HE, HEDP, TP, Ground Marker, Buckshot, C.S. Combat Load: 36 HE Rounds

#### M-320 Grenade Launcher Module

Single shot 40mm grenade launcher Weight- 3.3 lbs Length- 13.7 in Barrel Length- 11 in Action- single shot, double action Rate of Fire- 5-7 rpm Effective Range- 150m Maximum Range- 400m

#### Mk 46

Tracer Burnout: 900m

Gas operated, air cooled, belt fed, fully automatic 5.56 mm weapon fired from the open bolt position. Length of Barrel: 16.3" Weight of Barrel: 2.32 lbs Weight: 15.28 lbs Weight of Rounds: 100 Rounds - 3.1 lbs 200 Rounds - 6.92 lbs Rounds: Ball, Tracer, Armor Piercing, Blank, Dummy



Range:

- Max- 3600 m
- Area- 600 m
- Point- 500 m

Rate of Fire:

- Sustained 85 rpm (3-5 round burst every 4-5 seconds)
- Rapid 100 rpm (8-10 round burst every 2-3 seconds)
- Cyclic 750 rpm

Rifling: 1:7" (one right hand twist every seven inches)

# M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW)

The M249 AR is a gas-operated, air-cooled, belt-and magazine-fed, automatic weapon that fires from the open-bolt position

Caliber- 5.56 Length- 40.87 inches Weight-

- With modification: 16.41 lbs
- With out modification: 15.30 lbs

Max Range – 3600 meters

- Point Target: 600m
- Area Target: 800m
- Suppression: 1000m

Rates of Fire

- Sustained: 85 rpm
- Rapid: 200 rpm
- Cyclic: 850 rpm

# Mk 48

The 7.62mm, light weight machine gun, MK 48 MOD 0 is belt fed, gas operated, air cooled, and fires from the open bolt position.

Length: 39.75"

Length of Barrel: 19.75" Weight Empty: 18.26 lbs Range:

- Max 3600 m
- Area 800 m
- Point 600 m

Muzzle Velocity: 2800 fps Rate of Fire:





- Sustained 85 rpm (3-5 rd burst, 4-5 second interval)
- Rapid 100 rpm (8-10 rd burst, 2-3 second interval) Note: Barrel change every 200 rounds
- Cyclic 730 rpm

Rifling: 1:12" (one right hand twist every twelve inches) Ammunition: Ball, Armor Piercing, Tracer, Dummy, Improved Blank, IR Tracer

# M240L Machine Gun

Caliber- 7.62 x 51mm NATO Action- Gas operated, automatic fire Weight- 22.3 lbs Length-

• Short barrel: 44.5 inches

• Long barrel: 48.5 inches

Maximum Effective Range- 1800 meters Maximum Range- 3725 meters Muzzle Velocity- 2800 fps Tracer Burnout- 900m Cyclic Rate of Fire- 550-650 rpm



## M-240 B

The M240B is a belt fed, air-cooled, gas operated, fully automatic machine gun that fires from the open bolt position. Length: 49.7"

Length of Barrel: 24.8" Weight: 27.6 lbs Weight of Barrel: 6.6 lbs Range:

- Area:
  - $\circ$  Tripod-1100m
  - o Bipod- 800m
- Point:
  - o Tripod- 800m
  - o Bipod- 600m

Grazing Fire: 1meter off ground for 600m, max grazing is 900m

Types of Fire: to gun-fixed, traverse, search, traverse and search, free gun to target-frontal, flanking, oblique, plunging, enfilade

Muzzle Velocity: 2800 fps

Rates of Fire:

- Sustained 6-9 round burst, every 4-5 seconds, 100 rpm, barrel change every ten minutes
- Rapid 10-13 rd burst, every 2-3 seconds, 200 rpm, barrel change every two minutes
- Cyclic 650-950 rpm, barrel change every 1 minute



Gas Regulator Settings:

- 1-650
- 2-750
- 3 950

Note: New regulators are on a fixed setting of 2 Combat Load: 900-1200 rds Rounds: Ball, Tracer, Armor Piercing, Blank, Dummy Tracer Burnout: 900 m M-122A1 Tripod Weight: 20 lbs. Mk 125 Tripod Weight: 18 lbs.

#### M-9 Beretta

The M9 Pistol is a semi automatic, magazine fed, recoil operated, double action pistol, chambered for the 9mm cartridge. Length: 8.54" Length of Barrel: 4.92" Width: 1.5" Height: 5.51" Weight Emptly: 33.86 oz Weight Loaded: 40.89 oz Range: • Max - 1800 m

• Point - 50 m

Muzzle Velocity: 1,230 fps

Rifling: 1:10 Right hand twist

Major Components- Slide and Barrel Assembly, Recoil and Recoil Spring Guide, Barrel and Locking Block Assembly, Receiver, Magazine

#### M-2.50 Caliber HBMG

The Browning machine gun .50 HB, M2 is a belt fed, recoil operated, air cooled, crew served machine gun. The gun is capable of single shot, as well as automatic fire, and operates on the short recoil principle. It can be fed from either the left or right hand side. Length: 65.13" Length of Barrel: 45" Weight: 84 lbs Weight of Barrel: 26 lbs Rifling: 1:15 Right Hand Twist Muzzle Velocity: 3050 fps Rate of Fire:

- Sustained- 40 rpm, 6-9 rd burst, 10-15 second interval
- Rapid- 40 rpm, 6-9 rd burst, 5-10 second interval
- Cyclic- 450 550 rpm

#### Range:

- Max Effective 6767 m
- Max Area 1830 m
- Max Point 1500 m on single shot
- Max Grazing Fire 600m

#### Components:

- 1. Barrel Group
- 2. Carrier Assembly
- 3. Back Plate Group
- 4. Receiver Group
- 5. Bolt Stud
- 6. Cover Group
- 7. Barrel Buffer Body
- 8. Barrel Extension Group

9. Bolt Group

10. Drive Spring Rod Assembly

aroup Assembly

Ammunition: Ball, Tracer, Armor Piercing, Incendiary, Armor Piercing Incendiary, Armor Piercing Incendiary Tracer, Dummy, Blank

# M-3 Carl Gustav

Right shoulder, laterally percussion fired, breach loaded, crew served weapon, which is capable of firing several different anti-tank and anti-personnel rounds.

Caliber: 84mm Weight: 19 lbs Weight with Bipod and Telescopic Sight: 22 lbs Length: 41.93" Rounds: HE, HEDP, ADM, Heat, Sub Cal, TP, TPT, Smoke, Illumination Muzzle Velocity: 750-840 FPS

# Mk-19 Automatic Grenade Launcher

The Mk-19 MOD 3 is an air-cooled, belt fed, blowback operated, fully automatic weapon. Weight- 77.6 lbs Length- 43.1 in Width- 14 in Barrel length- 16.25 in Rifling- 1:48 Right Hand Muzzle velocity: 798 fps Max Effective Range-



- Point- 1500m
- Area- 2212m
- Max- 2212m

## Rate of Fire-

- Sustained- 40 rpm
- Rapid- 60 rpm
- Cyclic- 325-375 rpm

Ammunition- HE, Training Practice, Target Practice, HEDP, Dummy

# Mk-47 Automatic Grenade Launcher

The MK 47 MOD 0 ALGL System is a lightweight, air cooled, recoil operated, fully automatic 40mm Grenade Launcher. Weight- 39 lbs, entire system is 89 lbs Length- 36.22 in Width- 10.63 in Height- 8.1 in Charging Force- 55lbs per stroke Rate of Fire- 275 rpm Effective Range-• Point- 1500m

Area- 2000m

Ammunition- Dummy, TP, HE, HEDP

# 60mm Mortar

Weight

- Complete Mortar-
  - Conventional Mode -46.5 lbs
  - Handheld Mode- 18 lbs
- Cannon- 14.4 lbs
- Bipod Assembly (M170)- 15.2 lbs
- Sight Unit (M67)- 2.9 lbs
- Base Plate (M7)- 14.4 lbs
- Base Plate (M8)- 3.6 lbs

#### Range

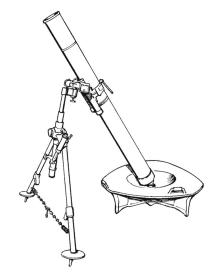
- Cannon, M225
  - Minimum: Handheld- 75m, Conventional- 70m
  - o Maximum: Handheld- 1340m, Conventional- 3490m

# Rate of Fire

- Maximum
  - M720/M888- 30 rds for first 4 mins
  - M49A4- 30 rds for 1 min, 18 rds for next 4 mins
- Sustained
  - o M720/M888- 20 rpm indefinitely

M49A4- 8 rpm indefinitely Type of Fire- Drop fire, Trigger fire (not above charge 1) Rounds-

• HE- M720, M888, M49A4



- White Phosphorous (WP)- M302A1, M302A2
- Illumination- M83A3, M721
- Training Practice (TP)- M69TP, M50A3, M766(SRTR)

#### 81mm Mortar

Weights-

- System (w/ BII)- 121 lbs
- Barrel- 35 lbs
- M177 Mount- 27 lbs
- M3A1 Base plate- 29 lbs
- M64A1 Sight unit- 2.5 lbs

#### Ammunition-

- HE- M821, M889
- Smoke- M619
- Illumination- M853A1
- Training Purpose (TP)- M880

Elevation- 800 to 1515 mils For each turn of elevation- 10 mils Traverse- Right or Left from center (100 mils= 10 turns) Range- 83 to 5608 meters Rate of Fire-

- Sustained- 15 rpm indefinitely
- Maximum- 30 rpm for 2 minutes

#### 120mm Mortar

Weights-

- M298 Cannon- 110 lbs
- Bipod-
  - M190 ground mounted- 70 lbs
  - M191 carrier mounted- 78 lbs
- M9 Base Plate- 136 lbs
- M67 sight unit- 2.5 lbs
- M1100 Trailer- 399 lbs

Elevation- 0710 to 1510mils (5 mils for each turn)

Traverse- 136 mils right or left from center using traversing wheel (one turn is 5 mils)

• With extension- 316 mils

Range-

- Maximum- 7200m
- Minimum- 200m

Rate of Fire-

- Maximum- 16 (1<sup>st</sup> minute)
- Sustained- 4 (indefinitely)

Bursting Radius- 75m Rounds-

- M57 HE
- M68 Smoke
- M91 Illumination
- M933 HE
- M934 HE
- M929 Smoke

#### Fuses

- M776 MTSQ
- M935 PD
- M734 Multi-option
- M745 PD

#### **Remington 870 Shotgun**

Remington 870 "Breaching Weapon" is a manually operated, pump action shotgun Weight- 6.2 lbs unloaded, 6.5 lbs loaded Length- 20.25in Barrel Length- 10in Effective Range- 40m Caliber- 12 ga. Ammunition- most common is #00 Buckshot

and Hatton/Frangible round

#### M67 Fragmentation Grenade

The M67 hand grenade is a 2.5in diameter steel sphere composed of composition B explosive, designed to burst into numerous fragments when detonated. It can be thrown about 40m.

Time fuse- 3-5 seconds Casualty Radius- 15 meters Kill Radius- 5 meters Fragmentation Radius- 230 meters



#### **The Ranger Standard**

It wasn't until I left the Ranger Regiment to attend Special Forces training that I began to realize how highly respected the Regiment is, not just in the Special Operations community, but throughout the entire Army. I spent some time thinking about why Rangers are held in such high esteem by their fellow soldiers.

The Ranger Regiment never had a very good Public Relations machine in my opinion. Everyone knows about Navy SEALs. They make movies, TV shows, and video games about them. Mention the name SEAL to a civilian and they will tell you unequivocally that SEALs are the best there is. Mention Rangers and they will respond, "What, you mean like forest rangers?" Folks don't just fail to understand what Rangers do in combat, but they also have no idea that the Ranger Regiment even exists. Hell, a new non-fiction book comes out about SEALs every month or two. I don't think a single non-fiction book has been written about Rangers fighting the War on Terror. Since 9/11, we've even seen books about Delta Force and SEAL Team Six, but nothing about Rangers!

To some extent we are a victim of our own creation. The Ranger Regiment is a small community and it is also a closed community. The 3rd Ranger Battalion and 75th Ranger Regiment compound is surrounded by a brown fence that you can't see through. The culture of the Regiment is that you simply don't speak about the job outside of the brown fence. You certainly don't speak about the job to someone who doesn't work behind the fence. Young Rangers who violate this code are often kicked out of the unit for violating OPSEC and sent to Korea or 82nd Airborne.

This brings me back to what makes the Ranger Regiment unique amongst other Army, and even SOF units to a large extent. The difference is the Ranger Standard.

Every unit claims to have standards. There are PT standards, uniform standards, and most importantly, performance standards that apply in both training and combat. The Ranger Creed itself lays out the law; When in doubt just consult the Ranger Creed as a preacher would consult the Bible. What further separates the Regiment from other units is not just the Ranger Creed, but more importantly it is this: Our standards are enforced.

If you fail to meet the Ranger Standard, you will be RFS'ed, or Released For Standards. Like the Private that runs around bragging about some mission he was on, Rangers who fail to perform will soon be kicked out and sent to another unit. This ensures the high morale and combat readiness of the unit. Non-performers and screw ups are sent packing.

For those looking to join the Regiment, be prepared to live up to the Ranger Standard every day. When I was in 3rd Ranger Battalion, we always had a handful of Privates in my Company doing clean up details while they waited for their RFS paperwork to be processed. Don't be that guy!

> -Jack Murphy Aco & HHC 3/75 SOFREP

#### **II. EQUIPMENT**

Gallantly will I show the world that I am a specially selected and well trained soldier. My courtesy to superior officers, neatness of dress, and care of equipment shall set the example for others to follow.

#### AN/PVS-14

The PVS-14 is a lightweight, multi-purpose, night vision monocular. Magnification: 1x Weight: 13.5oz (with batteries) Field of View: 40 degrees Focus Range: 25cm to infinity Batteries: 2x AA's Hours of Operation: 50 hours at room temperature Operating Conditions: 60 - 120 degrees

#### AN/PVS-15

The PVS-15 is a lightweight, multi-purpose, night vision binocular. Magnification: 1x Field of View: 40 degrees Batteries: 1 AA Battery Life: 16 hours at room temperature Weight: 1.6 lbs with battery Water Resistance: Submersible to 20m





#### AVS-6

The AVS-6 is primarily an aviation night vision binocular, but is used by SOF forces as well. It is not as rugged as the PVS-14 or PVS-15, but is lighter and balanced when mounted. Field of View: 40 degrees Focus Range: 41cm to infinity Battery: 2x AA (battery pack holds 4) Battery Life: 30 hours under normal conditions Weight: binocular only is 525 grams Operating Temperature: -40 degrees Celsius to +52 degrees Celsius



#### AN/PSQ-20 Enhanced Night Vision Goggle

Weight- 2 lbs (.91 kg) Continuous Operation – 7.5 hours Mode of Operation – Passive Field of Vision –

- IR 28 degrees
- II 38 degrees

Zoom - 1x

#### **PEQ-2 Infrared Laser**

Viewing Range: Illumination at 600 m, 1 km on low, 5 km on high Batteries: 2x AA's Hours of Operation: 100 hours Operating Conditions: unlimited Weight: .5 lbs Functions: Laser Pointer and Target Illumination -Eye safe on low power Settings: Off Aim Lo Dual Lo Aim Hi Dual Lo-Hi Dual Lo-Hi

#### LA-5/PEQ ATPIAL

High power advanced target pointer illuminator aiming laser (ATPIAL) is a small, lightweight, easy to use aiming system with integrated infrared and visible aim lasers as well infrared illuminator. Weight: 7.75 oz Battery: 1x 3 volt lithium Battery life: 3 hours in Dual High mode IR Aim Laser Range: 600m (low), 2000m (high) IR Illuminator Range: 2000m

Visible Aim Laser Range: 64 lp/mm (min)

#### SU-231 EOTech

Holographic reflex sight Weight: 12.3oz Magnification: 1x Eye Relief: unlimited Operating Temperature: -40 degrees Fahrenheit to 150 degrees Fahrenheit Water Submersible to 66 feet Adjustment: .5 MOA per click (1/2" @ 100 yards)









Adjustment Range: +/- 40 MOA travel Field of View at 100 yards: 30 yards with 4" eye relief Batteries: 2x 123 lithium batteries Battery Life: 1100 hours at nominal setting 12 Brightness Settings: 30 settings, 10 are for Night Vision Auto shutdown at 8 hours

# ACOG

The 4x power day optic sight is designed to provide enhanced target identification and hit probability for the M4A1 Carbine out to 600m. The center of the sight's cross hair pattern is illuminated for low light conditions and is compatible with night vision.

Weight: 9.9oz Length: 5.8in Waterproof to 66ft for 8 hours Magnification: 4x power Eye Relief: 1.5in Field of View: 7 degrees (35.7 meters @100 meters)

# **ELCAN Specter DR**

Dual Role Optical Site Magnification: 1.5x / 6x Weight: 705 grams Aiming dot: 1.5 MOA @ 6x, 6 MOA @ 1.5x Field of View:

- 6x- 7m @ 100m
- 1.5x-28.7m @ 100m Eye Relief: 70mm

Nominal Focus:

- 1.5x-105m
- 6x- 300m

Battery: 3v Lithium Battery life: 600 hrs minimum, 3000 hrs average Adjustment Range: 120 MOA Waterproof: 66 ft for 2 hours



# AN/PRC 148 MBITR

Multi Band Inter/Intra Team Radio Frequency Range: 30 - 512 MHZ Channels: 100 memory pre-set Length: 8.44" Width: 2.63" Volume: 33.74 cubic inches Weight: 30.6 oz Battery: Rechargeable Lithium-Ion 4800 MAH 7-10 hours of life at 5 watts



#### AN/PRC-117F

The AN/PRC-117F radio is a man-portable radio capable of transmitting and receiving in the 30MHz to 512MHz frequency range. This means that the radio can be used for FM, AM, and SATCOM communications.

Weight-

- 15.9 lbs w/ 2 BA-5590 batteries and case
- 9.8 lbs w/o battery and case

#### Frequency Range-

- VHF Low: 30.000–89.999 MHz
- VHF High: 90.000–224.999 MHz
- UHF: 225.000–512.000 MHz
- UHF SATCOM: 243.000–270.000 and 292.000–318.000 MHz

#### Preset Channels-

- 100 LOS/Hopping presets/ SATCOM
- 10 DAMA presets
- 10 IW presets

Water- 1meter of immersion Operating Temperature- -40 degrees to +70 degrees Celsius Altitude- Operate up to 15,000 feet



#### AN/PRC-117G

Frequency Range

- 30 MHz-2 GHz
- Narrowband:
  - VHF Low: 30-90 MHz
  - VHF High: 90-225 MHz
  - UHF Low: 225-512 MHz
- SATCOM
  - $\circ~$  UHF Low: 243-270 MHz and 292-318 MHz
- Wideband:
  - o UHF/L-Band: 225 MHz-2 GHz

Net Presets: 100

Frequency Tuning

- 10 Hz from 30 MHz 512 MHz
- 100 Hz from 513 MHz-2 GHz

Dimension

- 7.4 W x 3.7 H x 8.8 D in. (w/o battery)
- 7.4 W x 3.7 H x 13.5 D in. (w/ battery)

Weight

- 8.2 lbs w/o battery
- 12 lbs w/ battery

Power Input – 19-34 VDC Power Consumption- 55W max

Battery Types

- BA-5590/U
- BA-5390/U
- BB-390/U
- BB-2590/U

Immersion - 1 meter

# AN/PRC-152A

Frequency Range

- Narrowband: 30-512 MHz
- Extended Narrowband: 512-520 MHz , 762-870 MHz
- Wideband: 225-450 MHz

**Channel Spacing** 

- Narrowband: 12.5 kHz, 25 kHz
- Wideband: 1.2 MHz

Tuning Resolution- 10Hz





Presets- 99 (standard); Unlimited with multiple mission plan files Dimensions

• 2.9 W x 9.6 H x 1.9 D in. (w/ battery) Weight- 2.5 lbs w/ battery Temperature- -30C to +60C Immersion- 2 meters Battery-

- Rechargeable Lithium Ion Battery
- Field Replaceable Hold-Up Battery (HUB)

# III. General Knowledge

I will always keep myself mentally alert...

#### 8 Principles of CQB

- Speed\*
- Surprise\*
- Violence of Action\*
- Dominate the Room
- Eliminate the Threat
- Control the Situation
- Check Red/Dead
- Evacuate Key Personnel and Equipment

# 3 Types of MOUT

- High Intensity
- Precision
- Surgical

#### 8 Troop Leading Procedures

- Receive the Mission
- Issue a Warning Order
- Make a Tentative Plan
- Initiate Movement
- Conduct Recon
- Complete the Plan
- Issue an Operations Order
- Supervise

#### Five Point Contingency Plan (GOTWA)

- Going where
- Others who are going
- Time you are leaving and returning
- What to do if you are not back on time
- Actions to take if you/me take contact

#### METT-TC

- Mission
- Enemy
- Time
- Terrain
- Troops
- Civilians on Battlefield

#### **Operations Order**

- Situation
- Mission
- Execution
- Sustainment
- Command and Control

#### Warning Order

- Situation
- Mission
- General Instruction
- Special Instructions

# OCOKA - For gun placement

- Observations and Fields of Fire
- Cover and Concealment
- Obstacles
- Key Terrain Features
- Avenues of Approach

# Five Characteristics of Fire

- Trajectory: This is the path of a bullet during flight
- Maximum Ordnance: Highest point of trajectory for round
- Cone of Fire: When several rounds fired in a burst form different trajectories
- Beaten Zone: Pattern formed by the rounds within the cone of fire striking the ground or target
- Danger Space: Space between gun and target where the trajectory of the round does not rise above 1.8m

Classes of Fire in Respect to Ground

- Grazing Fire: Center of cone of fire does not rise above 1m off ground
- Plunging Fire: Danger space is confined to the beaten zone

# Classes of Fire in Respect to Target

- Frontal Fire: When the long axis of the beaten zone is at the right angle to the front of the target
- Flanking Fire: When delivered directly against the flank of the target
- Oblique Fire: When the long axis of the beaten zone is at an angle other than 90 degrees to the front of the target
- Enfilade: When the long axis of the beaten zone coincides or nearly coincides with the long axis of the target
- Defilade: When crew and weapon are behind terrain that masks it from the enemy and the fire from the defilade position has to be controlled by an observer.

# Classes of Fire in Respect to the Gun

- Fixed
- Traverse
- Search
- Traverse and Search
- Swing Traverse
- Free Gun

# Cycles of Functioning

- Feeding
- Chambering
- Locking
- Firing
- Unlocking
- Extraction
- Ejection
- Re-Cocking

# Five Principles of Patrolling

- Planning
- Recon
- Security
- Control
- Common Sense most important

# SOSR - Battle drill 8

- Suppress
- Obscure
- Secure
- Reduce

# 5 S's for POW's

- Search
- Silence
- Segregate
- Safeguard
- Speed to the Rear

#### <u>4 D's</u>

- Direction
- Distance
- Description
- Decision

<u>Battle Drill</u>: A collective action, rapidly executed, without applying a deliberate decision making process

1/1A. Platoon/Squad Attack

- 2. React to Contact
- Option 1: Left Flank
- Option 2: Right Flank
- Option 3: Break Contact
- 3. Break Contact
- 4. React to an Ambush
- 5. Knock out Enemy Bunker
- 6. Enter and Clear a Room
- 7. Enter and Clear a Trench
- 8. Conduct Initial Breach of a Mined Wire Obstacle

#### SALUTE

- Size
- Activity
- Location
- Unit
- Time
- Equipment

#### Priorities of Work

- Security
- Weapons Maintenance
- Personal Hygiene
- Chow
- Sleep

#### 3 Elements Common to All Patrols

- Assault
- Security
- Support

#### Movement Techniques

1. Traveling - enemy contact not likely - 10 meters between individuals, 20 meters between squads

2. Traveling Over watch - contact is likely - 20 meters between individuals, 50 meters between teams

3. Bounding Over watch - contact is imminent - 20 meters between men

#### **Movement Formations**

- File
- Line
- Vee
- Wedge
- Modified Wedge
- Echelon

Raid: A combat operation to attack a position or installation followed by a planned withdrawal.

Ambush: A surprise attack from a concealed position on a moving or temporarily halted target.

- Point one ambush with a single kill zone
- Area two or more ambushes in a certain area

Ambush Formations: L - shaped and Linear

# Rally Points

- ORP Objective Rally Point
- IRP Initial Rally Point
- ERP En route Rally Point Considerations for Rally Points:
- Easy to find
- Cover and Concealment
- Away from Natural Lines of Drift
- Defendable for a Short Period of Time

# SLLS

- Stop
- Look
- Listen
- Smell

# Land Navigation

Three Norths: Grid, True, and Magnetic

Five Major Terrain Features:

- Hill
- Valley
- Ridge
- Saddle
- Depression

#### Three Minor Terrain Features

- Cliff
- Draw
- Spur

#### Supplementary Terrain Features

- Cut
- Fill

#### Contour Lines

- Intermediate
- Supplementary
- Index

#### Map Colors

- Red Man Made
- Blue Water
- Brown Contour Lines/Man Made
- Green Vegetation

#### Language

- Pashto
  - $\circ$  Stop Wadarega
  - Hands up iaasuna-porta-kra
  - Shut up Chup-shah
  - Sit down Kee-nah
  - Stand up Jik-shah
  - Come here Rah-zah, Rah-zah
  - What is your name? Sta pora num tsashay dey? or Nom-ji-chesh-di?
  - Do you have weapons? To wasla larey?
  - What is your fathers name? Estad plar-nom-chesh-di?
  - Where is your father? Estad plar cheer-te-deh?
  - Yes Wuh
  - No Iyah (sounds like yeah)
- Arabic
  - Stop Aw-gaf
  - Be Quiet In-skoot
  - $\circ$  Do not move Le tet-harak
  - Come here Ta-aal hena
  - Turn around In-dar
  - Lie on your stomach In-bat-ah
  - Hands up Ir-faa-Ei-day-k
  - Stay where you are Ib-qa-maka-nak
  - No talking La-the-chi
  - Calm down Ala-kayfek ih-da

### **Demolitions**

Explosive Effects: Munroe- Cutting Blast- Pushing/Shattering Shockwave/Mach Stem - Shattering, Pushing, Pulling apart

Explosive Effects: Fragmentation - can fly at 2700 fps Thermal Chemical Poisoning – Asphyxiation

Blast Pressure: Negative and Positive

<u>4 Types of Blast Wave:</u> Dynamic Incident Complex Residual

Explosive Hazards: Overpressure Fragmentation Impact Deceleration Injuries

<u>Blast Injury Mechanisms</u>: Primary Secondary Tertiary Thermal Crush

Breaching: Internal and External

### 4 Types of Breaches:

- Explosive Explosive charge (lock buster, flex linear, etc.)
- Mechanical Hoolee, Sledge, Donker, Rabbit
- Ballistic Shotgun
- Thermal- Torch

Charge Attachment Methods:

Adhesive - hydrogel, carpet tape, breachers tape Counter Force - rigid propped up against charge Magnetism - rare earth magnets

#### **Battalion Big Five**

- 1. Marksmanship
- 2. Physical Training
- 3. Medical Training
- 4. Small Unit Tactics
- 5. Mobility

### Acronyms

TST - Time Sensitive Target TOT - Time on Target RFR - Ranger First Responder **CCP** - Casualty Collection Point **BP** - Blocking Position **QRF** - Quick Reaction Force SSE - Sight Sensitive Exploitation RTB - Return to Base CSAR - Combat Search and Rescue FARP - Forward Aerial Refuel Point LP/OP - Listening point/ Observation Point CQB/CQC - Close Quarters Battle/ Close Quarters Combat GAF- Ground Assault Force HAF - Helo Assault Force **BAF-** Boat Assault Force DOD - Dept. of Defense FOB - Forward Operating Base SOP - Standard Operating Procedure SOSOP - Special Operations Standard Operating Procedure APC - Armored Personnel Carrier FO - Forward Observer FIST - Fire Support Team FSO - Fire Support Officer JSOC - Joint Special Operations Command SOCOM - Special Operations Command MOUT - Military Operations in Urban Terrain LOA - Limit of Advance **RFM** - Release for Medical **RFS** - Release for Standards LACE - Liquid, Ammo, Casualties, Equipment POC-Point of Contact LDA - Linear Danger Area PMCS - Preventative Maintenance Checks and Services HVT - High Value Target PUC - Person Under Control VDO - Vehicle Drop Off GWOT - Global War on Terrorism VRP - Vehicle Rally Point

LZ - Landing Zone DZ - Drop Zone HLZ - Helo Landing Zone NEW - Net Explosive Weight MSD - Minimum Safe Distance PSI - Pounds Per Square Inch FPS - Feet Per Second RPM - Rounds Per Minute ROD- Remain Over Day

# **IV. Fire Support**

# 3 Methods for Call for Fire

- Grid
- Polar
- Shift from a known point

# Six Elements of a Call for Fire

- -Identification
- -Warning Order
- -Target Location
- -Target Description
- -Method of Engagement
- -Method of Control

# 15 Subsequent Corrections

- Observer-target direction.
- Danger close.
- Trajectory.
- Method of fire.
- Distribution.
- Projectile.
- Fuse.
- Volume.
- Deviation correction.
- Range correction.
- Height-of-burst correction.
- Target description.
- Mission type and/or method of control.
- Splash.
- Repeat.

# Helicopter Landing Zone Call-Up:

- HLZ name (and grid if black)
- Direction of flight, door/ramp load
- Load out per aircraft
- Marking plan
- Hazards/ ground composition
- Amplifying guidance, timeline if not stated already,
- Landing instructions

# Example:

- HLZ Black: HT12345 67890
- Flight direction 030 degrees, right echelon
- Expected load: left door load guns tight to the NE
- 23 PAX, 1 K9
- Marked by strobe
- Soft ground, tall brush, be advised 3 burned out tanks located on north end of HLZ
- Stand by at 5mins out, expected call in time 1955. Exfil time 2200

# **5** line Rotary wing CAS

• You this is me, fire mission, over

-Wait for acknowledgement: "go ahead with fire mission over."

- My position: \_\_\_\_\_ Marked by: \_\_\_\_\_
- Enemy distance: <u>500m</u>
- Enemy direction: <u>170 degrees</u>
- Enemy description: <u>3 enemy PAX</u>
- Marked by: \_\_\_\_\_\_

-Wait for read back and make sure the pilot has the correct information

-As soon as the first bird comes in and hits target, if rounds are spot on, call up 2 on 1, 2 on 1

-If rounds are off, IMMEDIATELY call up your correction so the second bird knows

-You call up corrections as you would for artillery: i.e.) right FIVE-ZERO meters, as in right 50m.

-When calling corrections you have to pronounce all numbers as stated above.

After the pilot reads back correct info, you may call in more amplifying guidance

-The more amplifying guidance you give the pilot, the more confidence he/she will have in you. Describe in more detail the target you want them to see and destroy.

# Position call up for "my position"

-Location can be grid, planned HLZ's, etc. As long as what you call up, you know the pilot knows where and what the position is

"Marked by" explanation:

When you are marking your position: Daytime can be a VS 17 panel, smoke grenade, thermal discs, etc.

Nighttime marking is primarily IR strobes, can be thermal disks.

-You may call up how you are marking the enemies position how you choose.

1.) Biggest deciding factor is if its day or nighttime.

2.) If it is day time you can mark enemy position by pen flare, small arms fire,

-It is possible to pop smoke and describe distance and direction from the smoke if you are on the move. Avoid this if you do not have to do it.

Nighttime marking: Laser, Small arms tracer fire

#### V. Medical

### Behind the fence at the Special Operations Medical "School House"

"Men, the next six months will be like trying to drink from a fire hose "This is the opening line of the introduction to the Special Operations Combat Medical course (SOCOM). The stack of books handed out in the first day is over 3 1/2 feet tall and cover Anatomy, Physiology, Pathophysiology, Kinesiology, Pharmacology, and every other 'ology' that there is. Looking left and right this place appears to be the who's who of the 21st century warrior class. There are U.S. Navy Seals, Army Rangers, Green Berets, Marine Recon members and a few guys with uniforms that are unidentifiable. Despite the tremendous workload placed before them and the warning of a nearly 80% attrition rate, no one in the room appears concerned. Each of them has already been through the ringer in their units' selection process and remained one of the last men standing. This course would be different, however, there would be very little yelling, very little physical abuse or sleep deprivation; they would select their chosen few based on who could retain the copious amount of information given to them in a very short amount of time.

The first section of the course is known as "Medical Fundamentals" or "Med Funds" for short. It will cover basic Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology, Pathophysiology, Physical Exams, and Patient Assessment. This block totals 180 class room hours and is very heavy on didactics. It proves difficult for those class members that are unfamiliar with college level study habits and will claim 10-20% of the class. The majority of the time during Med Funds is spent taking notes from a lecturer giving a power point presentation, very similar to a regular college class. Following morning PT enough time is given to shower, change and eat breakfast in your dorm style barracks room. Most of the lower enlisted students share a room with one other guy. Class hours in Med Funds are long. Typically there are 2-4 lectures in the four-hour morning block and another 2-4 in the four hours after lunch. If you haven't already take college level Biology and Anatomy classes you will likely be spending an additional three to four hours studying after you get out of class at 5pm. One of the separating factors between the Special Operation schoolhouse and other undergraduate programs in the US is its extensive cadaver lab. Students have full access to multiple cadavers 24 hours a day and are tested on them as well as on paper, which provides for a more comprehensive learning experience. Those that pass the required tests in Medical Fundamentals will be permitted to advance to the second phase of training, those who do not are often provided the opportunity to restart depending on the reason for their non-advance.

The second section of training is known simply as "Trauma" it will claim the highest number of students throughout the course. The first part of Trauma consists of three written tests that are the most challenging of the course. Even after doing very well through Medical Fundamentals several of the students will find themselves on "academic probation" a kind of big boy detention that no one wants to be in. Passing the first part of Trauma brings on the first extensive hands on phase of SOCOM, Primary medical skills. This is essentially all of the skills that are required to pass the National Registry for Paramedic, including intubation, back boarding a patient, administering traction on a long bone, intravenous therapy, splinting, Intramuscular injections and other necessary skills. Additionally Special Operations medics are required to demonstrate proficiency at starting an IV in the dark and on them selves.

The next two phases of Trauma are truly what separates the Special Operations School

house from every other pre-hospital medical course in the world. The training in this phase consists of surgical skills and advanced tactical combat casualty care. This type of training has been seen as controversial due to the outrage by organizations like PETA. The ability to preform this skill alone has saved the lives of countless human beings, including enemy combatants. Directly following Surgical skills, class members conduct three weeks of TCCC or "Trauma Lanes" This phase of training will have students out in the field applying all of the skills that they have learned up to this point. The practical hands on nature and extensive repetition of this phase helps to produce the calmest, most well prepared combat medics in the world. Every possible scenario is gone over. It isn't uncommon to have to climb a tree and splint a bi-lateral femur fracture of a mock patient who found himself there after a failed parachute insertion.

The final exam for trauma lanes is a comprehensive 300-point hands on assessment that has a series of pit falls and time hacks. If you miss just one of the critical criteria you can expect a retest, fail the retest and you will be recycled. There is no sympathy for mistakes at this level. The instructors are all current or former Special Operation medics and know that if a sub par medic slips through the cracks he could be working on one of his good friends in a few months. For that reason the scenarios are real, the grading is real and the failure rate is very real! If you are one of the few to advance through the 243 hours of trauma the reward is 80 hours of Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) training where you learn about Electrocardiography (ECG) and how to detect heart dysrhythmias. Following ACLS the remaining students get the unique opportunity to travel to a select city and be a part of a real world trauma management team. 240 total hours are spent between working with paramedics on an ambulance and working in various departments in a hospital. It is not at all uncommon to scrub into and assist with a major trauma surgery or help deliver several babies during this rotation. Special operation medics are expected to be proficiency at suturing, placing foley catheters, central line fluid therapy tube thoracostomy and wound management by this point. They will be observed preforming these and other procedures on real patients during their month long *hospital/prehospital rotation.* 

Upon completion of clinical training Special Operations medics complete one final section consisting of Nuclear Biological Chemical (NBC) medicine, preventative medicine, and sick-call training totaling just less than 50 hours. For the Rangers, Seals, and Marine Recon corpsmen this will mark their graduation. For the handful of Special Forces candidates still left there will be 6 more months of training consisting of dentistry, veterinary, clinical lab work and other valuable long term care components.

\*\*SOCM has since been extended from six months to nine months for all Rangers attending

-Leo Jenkins

### С со 3/75

Crossfit Cuspis

# 8 Critical RFR Tasks

- Contain scene and assess casualties
  - Return fire and secure scene
  - Direct casualties to cover
  - Evaluate for life threatening injuries
  - Triage (Immediate, Delayed, Minimal, Expectant)
  - Call medical personnel for assistance as required
- Rapidly identify and control massive hemorrhage
  - Direct & Indirect pressure
  - Hemostatic dressing
  - Tourniquet
  - Emergency trauma dressing
- Inspect and ensure patient airway
  - Open and clear airway
  - Nasopharyngeal airway
- Treat life threatening torso injuries
  - Occlusive seal dressing
  - Needle decompression
  - Abdominal injuries
- Inspect for bleeding, gain IV access, Manage shock
  - Head to toe blood sweeps
  - 18ga saline lock
  - IV fluids when dictated by shock
  - Prevent hypothermia
- Control pain and prevent infection
  - Combat wound pill pack
- Aid and Litter Team
  - Package and prepare for transfer
  - SKEDCO, Raven, Manual carries
- Leader Coordinated Evacuation
  - Casualty Precedence (Urgent, Priority, Routine)
  - CASEVAC or MEDEVAC coordination

# Tactical Environment

- The part of the battlefield where people are actively trying to out maneuver each other in order to kill/capture /suppress the other people
- Nothing, nobody, and nowhere is truly secure or safe
- Weather and environment can make or break the day
- Limited to what can be carried by the warfighters on their back or in their fighting vehicles
- Combat ranges from a few hundred meters to face-to-face with the enemy
- Decisions and the cost of those decisions are measured in seconds
- Outcomes can be measured by success or disaster

Factors Influencing Battlefield Casualty Care

- Enemy fire
- Darkness
- Extreme Environments
  - Mountain
  - Desert
  - Medical Equipment Limitations
- Widely variable evacuation time and platforms
  - Ground Assets
  - Air Assets
  - Maritime Assets
- The need to consider the units mission and current tactical situation

# Care Under Fire Steps

- Return fire and take cover
- Direct or expect casualty to remain engaged if possible
- Direct casualty to move to cover and apply self aid if able
- If required, move casualty to a more covered position
- Try to keep the casualty (or others) from sustaining additional wounds
- Stop life threatening external bleeding with a tourniquet
  - Can be done at the point of injury or after casualty movement depending on the tactical situation
  - Do not stay in the field of fire to apply a tourniquet
  - Do not stop the momentum of the fight or you give the advantage to the enemy

# Before Approaching the Casualty or Moving the Casualty

- Remember: The place where the casualty was hit is already proven to be a bad place to be. We will refer to this place as the "X"
- Can the casualty be saved if retrieved?
- Plan an evacuation route prior to exposing yourself to hostile fire
- Determine best route of access to the casualty and the best route of evacuation
  - What is your last point of cover before moving to casualty?
  - What is your next point of cover after moving the casualty?
- How are you going to move the casualty? Drag? Assist? Buddy-carry? Equipment?
- Request covering fire and let people know what you are doing
- Anticipate how your actions will affect the enemies fire
- Anticipate the types of injuries the casualty may have received
- Move to the next point of cover
- Low profile for casualty and yourself
- May need to request assistance
- Protection and getting to cover outweighs risk of aggravating injuries

### Levels of Pre-Hospital Care

- Self aid / Buddy aid
- Ranger First Responder/CLS
- Squad EMT
- Medic
- Medical Officer
- Every individual must be able to:
  - React to being a casualty and/or taking casualties
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Assess and treat own wounds
  - Provide buddy aid if feasible
  - Continue the mission if able
  - Do not slow or stop the momentum of the mission because of casualties
- The three primary preventable causes of death from injury on the battlefield are:
  - Severe bleeding (apply a tourniquet or emergency trauma dressing)
  - Airway blockage (head tilt chin lift/jaw thrust, NPA, recovery position)
  - Collapsed lung (apply occlusive dressing, perform needle chest decompression)
- Circumstances in which you should not treat a casualty while you are under enemy fire:
  - Your own life is in imminent danger
  - Other soldiers in area require more urgent treatment
  - The casualty does not have vital (life) signs (breathing, pulse, exposed brain tissue)
  - The casualties injury is not survivable with out immediate evacuation to a medical treatment facility and such evacuation is not possible
  - Penetrating head trauma with brain tissue exposed
  - Severe burns covering a large part of the body
  - Mutilating blast injuries

Treat and Assess a Casualty (MARCH-E)

- Massive bleeding: Bright red blood, squirting blood, continuous flowing dark red blood (venous)
  - Direct and Indirect Pressure
  - Hemostatic dressing
  - Tourniquet
  - Emergency trauma dressing
- Airway
  - Inspect and ensure patient
  - Open and clear airway
  - Nasopharyngeal airway
- Respiratory
  - Treat life threatening torso injuries
  - Occlusive seal dressing
  - Needle decompression
  - Abdominal injuries
- Circulation
  - Inspect for bleeding
  - Head to toe blood sweeps
  - Control pain and prevent infection (CWPP)
- Head Trauma/Hypothermia
  - Prevent hypothermia
  - 18 gauge saline lock
  - IV fluids when dictated by shock
  - Treat for head trauma
- Evacuation
  - Aid and litter team
  - Package and prepare for transfer
  - SKEDCO, Raven, Manual carries
  - Fill out casualty card

9 Line MEDEVAC – Use lines 1-5 for pre-coordinated CASEVAC requests using JTF assets

- 1. Grid Location (8 digit or HLZ Name)
- 2. Radio Frequency and Call Sign
- 3. Number of patients by precedence
  - A- Urgent
  - B- Urgent- surgical
  - C- Priority
  - D- Routine
  - E- Convenience
- 4. Special equipment required
  - A-None
  - B- Hoist
  - C- Extraction Equipment
  - D- Ventilator
- 5. Number of patients by type
  - L- # of litter patients
  - A- # of ambulatory patients
- 6. Security of Pick Up site (wartime)
  - N- No enemy troops in area
  - P- Possible enemy troops in area (approach with caution)
  - E- Enemy troops in area (approach with caution)
  - X- Enemy troops in area (armed escort required)

\*\*6. Number and type of wounded, injured, illness (peacetime)

- Description of each
- 7. Method of marking Pick Up site
  - A- Panels
  - B- Pyrotechnics
  - C- Smoke
  - D- None
  - E- Other
- 8. Patient nationality and status
  - A- US Military
  - B- US Civilian
  - C- Non-U.S. Military
  - D- Non-U.S. Civilian
  - E- Enemy POW

# 9. CBRN-

- Wartime:
  - $\circ$  Chemical
  - $\circ$  Biological
  - $\circ$  Radiological
  - o Nuclear
- Peace time:

 $\circ$  Terrain description

Time of initial MEDEVAC Request: Time of MEDEVAC Launch: Time of MEDEVAC Complete:

#### *"MEDIC!!!!"*

I run about 80 meters into the woods to find my patient laying face up covered in fake blood. The trauma management sequence flows from my mouth like the pledge of allegiance did when I was in first grade. It was burned into my memory. My hands complete each movement as my mouth describes in detail what I am doing to my instructor who is standing over me with a clipboard.

"BSI, Scene is safe, I have one patient, Haji and I can handle..."
The instructor echoes back, "Scene is safe, you have one patient, no further assistance noted."
"Buddy buddy are you okay."
"Your patient responds with a moan and says it hurts."
"Where does it hurt?
"My chest."
"Do you know where you are?"
"Patient responds, I'm in the woods."
"Do you know your name and rank?"
"Patient responds, Sgt. Smith"
"Do you know how long you've been hurt?
"I've been here for less than ten minutes."

I check for any major life threats such as arterial bleeds, I have already ruled out airway obstructions as he has been communicating with me verbally. My rapid blood sweet reveals bright red blood squirting from the patients left inner thing. I pull the makeshift windlass tourniquet from my bag. Even though there was much more advanced versions of this device when I attended SOMC, we were required to make our own out of sticks and handkerchiefs called cravats. In fact, most of the items in our aid bags at the schoolhouse were hand made. It taught us resourcefulness. Plus if you could get hemorrhage control with one of those antiquated old napkins, achieving it with a fancy CAT2 or ratchet tourniquet would be a breeze! Tourniquet is in place I call out, "I have homeostasis!" My instructor pulls on the tourniquet to make sure that it is in place, "You have homeostasis."

There are critical criteria that must be met under specific time limits. I make the first time cut off for controlling major life threats and move on. The assessment continues with airway, breathing and circulation. My patient also has a tension pneumothorax, which means that his lung has popped and the air in his plural cavity is keeping it from expanding fully. The immediate treatment involves taking a McDonald's straw of a needle and placing it between the ribs to release the tension. After the primary assessment I will be required to package and transport the patient to our makeshift Combat Support Hospital or CSH (Pronounced "cash") The long-term treatment is to place a chest tube or Tube thoracostomy if you are trying to impress a girl at a bar by convincing her that you're a doctor. This requires that you place a tube the diameter of your thumb between the 5th and 6th rib directly under the armpit. Since no one I've ever met would ever volunteer for this procedure we were required to verbally walk the instructor through each point. Everyone that has made it to this point in the course was just required to preform this procedure during the live tissue labs for real so our proficiency had already been displayed. Placement of the foley catheter was another procedure that we got to talk through, thank God! Although we did have to start the procedure using our buddies actual penis, cleaning the site with iodine and preparing for the placement of that huge plastic tube.

Right before insertion, we were allowed to trade out for what we called "The Stunt Cock!" Most guys made there own out of a container that we would commonly use to place used needles in called a sharps shuttle. Nothing too fancy, just a container to put the foley tube in. One of the guys who was transferring from Ranger Battalion to Special Forces had put a significant amount of time in to his though. I mean this thing was massive! It was the size of a handle of Jameson at least, complete with huge nut sack. He even used IV tubing to make it appear veiney. It created levity that was very welcome in the middle of a stressful test.

One of the final procedures that we were required to preform was referred to as the D.R.E. or digital rectal exam. Yep, we had to put our finger into our buddies ass and check for bleeding. Like all of the other procedures that were being tested on this day we had preformed them in a non-testing environment. We were all aware that this was something that we were going to have to do from the first day and no one was looking forward to it, well maybe a couple of the Navy guys were. The first time was about a month before, I partnered with another Ranger named Jake because he was skinny and had little fingers. Half of the class stood in a row, shoulder to shoulder and was made to drop their BDU bottoms. The goal of the person preforming the procedure was to palpate, or feel, the prostate. Well let's just say that Jake sucks at finding prostates. His skinny little finger was in my ass for what felt like the first half of a Monday morning after a weekend bender. After I notice that everyone else is finished and he is still searching, I yell out, "Are you fucking kidding me right now?! Hurry the fuck up!!" Jake just laughed. I would get my revenge when it was time to place nasogastric tube but for right now I had to go curl up in the fetal position and cry.

It came time during our trauma lane assessment for me to check my buddy for intestinal bleeding. Remembering the psychological trauma that I sustained from Jake the finger twirler, I decided to fake it. We were told before hand that if anyone was caught faking this procedure they would have to demonstrate proficiency on themselves in front of the rest of the class, so I was taking a pretty big risk in not going three knuckles deep. Success. The instructor didn't notice. It was the last skill on my assessment. My instructor just shakes his head. My heart sinks into my stomach. What did I forget? He signals me over to meet him outside of the CSH. "So Ranger, what went wrong?" He asks. "Nothing Sergeant, I thought that I did everything that I was supposed to."

"Ohh so you think your shit was perfect huh?? 300 out of 300?? you are so fucking shit hot that you didn't miss one single thing? Is that what you think Ranger?!?"

Now not only did I fail the most important test of this course my teacher thinks that I am an arrogant prick." I take in a deep breath and brace for impact. "Well," he says, "You'd be right. A perfect 300"

Holy mother fucking shit!!! I almost don't believe him. This was the biggest gun they throw at you in this course and I just passed it! It was like a 2 ton stone was just lifted off of my shoulders. I grew six inches that day. We would still have to make it through a month long clinical rotation and a handful of other tests including the National Registry test for Paramedic but as far as I was concerned the I had just made it over the highest mountain in this course.

-Leo Jenkins C co 3/75 Crossfit Cuspis \*\* About a week after Jake accosted me during the D.R.E. we were being tested on nasogastric tube. An NG tube is a long, skinny tube that is inserted into the stomach via the nose. We were instructed not to consume any food prior to practicing this procedure because it is known to create a significant gag response. Knowing that Jake was once again going to be my partner I decided that it was time for reprisal. I ate a half a dozen scrambled eggs with salsa, a huge glass of milk and some yogurt right before we went. We were sitting up in a chair while our partners fed the three foot long tube down our noses as the gagging begins I become overjoyed. Jake got to wear the smell of my untimely snack for the rest of the morning.

# VI. History

### Abrams Charter

"The Ranger battalion is to be an elite, light, and most proficient infantry battalion in the world; A battalion that can do things with its hands and weapons better than anyone. The battalion will not contain any "Hoodlums" or "Brigands" and if the battalion is formed of such persons, it will be disbanded. Wherever the battalion goes, it will be apparent that it is the best."

# **Rogers Standing Orders**

- 1. All Rangers are to be subject to the rules and articles of war; to appear at roll-call every evening, on their own parade, equipped, each with a Firelock, sixty rounds of powder and ball, and a hatchet, at which time an officer from each company is to inspect the same, to see they are in order, so as to be ready on any emergency to march at a minute's warning; and before they are dismissed, the necessary guards are to be draughted, and scouts for the next day appointed.
- 2. Whenever you are ordered out to the enemies forts or frontiers for discoveries, if your number be small, march in a single file, keeping at such a distance from each other as to prevent one shot from killing two men, sending one man, or more, forward, and the like on each side, at the distance of twenty yards from the main body, if the ground you march over will admit of it, to give the signal to the officer of the approach of an enemy, and of their number, &c.
- 3. If you march over marshes or soft ground, change your position, and march abreast of each other to prevent the enemy from tracking you (as they would do if you marched in a single file) till you get over such ground, and then resume your former order, and march till it is quite dark before you encamp, which do, if possible, on a piece of ground which that may afford your sentries the advantage of seeing or hearing the enemy some considerable distance, keeping one half of your whole party awake alternately through the night.
- 4. Some time before you come to the place you would reconnoiter, make a stand, and send one or two men in whom you can confide, to look out the best ground for making your observations.
- 5. If you have the good fortune to take any prisoners, keep them separate, till they are examined, and in your return take a different route from that in which you went out, that you may the better discover any party in your rear, and have an opportunity, if their strength be superior to yours, to alter your course, or disperse, as circumstances may require.
- 6. If you march in a large body of three or four hundred, with a design to attack the enemy, divide your party into three columns, each headed by a proper officer, and let those columns march in single files, the columns to the right and left keeping at twenty yards distance or more from that of the center, if the ground will admit, and let proper guards be kept in the front and rear, and suitable flanking parties at a due distance as before directed, with orders to halt on all eminences, to take a view of the surrounding ground, to prevent your being ambuscaded, and to notify the approach or retreat of the enemy, that proper dispositions may be made for attacking, defending, &c. And if the enemy approach in your front on level ground, form a front of your three columns or main body with the advanced guard, keeping out your flanking parties, as if you were marching

under the command of trusty officers, to prevent the enemy from pressing hard on either of your wings, or surrounding you, which is the usual method of the savages, if their number will admit of it, and be careful likewise to support and strengthen your rearguard.

- 7. If you are obliged to receive the enemy's fire, fall, or squat down, till it is over; then rise and discharge at them. If their main body is equal to yours, extend yourselves occasionally; but if superior, be careful to support and strengthen your flanking parties, to make them equal to theirs, that if possible you may repulse them to their main body, in which case push upon them with the greatest resolution with equal force in each flank and in the center, observing to keep at a due distance from each other, and advance from tree to tree, with one half of the party before the other ten or twelve yards. If the enemy push upon you, let your front fire and fall down, and then let your rear advance thro' them and do the like, by which time those who before were in front will be ready to discharge again, and repeat the same alternately, as occasion shall require; by this means you will keep up such a constant fire, that the enemy will not be able easily to break your order, or gain your ground.
- 8. If you oblige the enemy to retreat, be careful, in your pursuit of them, to keep out your flanking parties, and prevent them from gaining eminences, or rising grounds, in which case they would perhaps be able to rally and repulse you in their turn.
- 9. If you are obliged to retreat, let the front of your whole party fire and fall back, till the rear hath done the same, making for the best ground you can; by this means you will oblige the enemy to pursue you, if they do it at all, in the face of a constant fire.
- 10. If the enemy is so superior that you are in danger of being surrounded by them, let the whole body disperse, and every one take a different road to the place of rendezvous appointed for that evening, which must every morning be altered and fixed for the evening ensuing, in order to bring the whole party, or as many of them as possible, together, after any separation that may happen in the day; but if you should happen to be actually surrounded, form yourselves into a square, or if in the woods, a circle is best, and, if possible, make a stand till the darkness of the night favours your escape.
- 11. If your rear is attacked, the main body and flankers must face about to the right or left, as occasion shall require, and form themselves to oppose the enemy, as before directed; and the same method must be observed, if attacked in either of your flanks, by which means you will always make a rear of one of your flank-guards.
- 12. If you determine to rally after a retreat, in order to make a fresh stand against the enemy, by all means endeavour to do it on the most rising ground you come at, which will give you greatly the advantage in point of situation, and enable you to repulse superior numbers.
- 13. In general, when pushed upon by the enemy, reserve your fire till they approach very near, which will then put them into the greatest surprise and consternation, and give you an opportunity of rushing upon them with your hatchets and cutlasses to the better advantage.
- 14. When you encamp at night, fix your sentries in such a manner as not to be relieved from the main body till morning, profound secrecy and silence being often of the last importance in these cases. Each sentry therefore should consist of six men, two of whom must be constantly alert, and when relieved by their fellows, it should be done without noise; and in case those on duty see or hear any thing, which alarms them, they are not to

speak, but one of them is silently to retreat, and acquaint the commanding officer thereof, that proper dispositions may be made; and all occasional sentries should be fixed in like manner.

- 15. At the first dawn of day, awake your whole detachment; that being the time when the savages choose to fall upon their enemies, you should by all means be in readiness to receive them.
- 16. If the enemy should be discovered by your detachments in the morning, and their numbers are superior to yours, and a victory doubtful, you should not attack them till the evening, as then they will not know your numbers, and if you are repulsed, your retreat will be favoured by the darkness of the night.
- 17. Before you leave your encampment, send out small parties to scout round it, to see if there be any appearance or track of an enemy that might have been near you during the night.
- 18. When you stop for refreshment, choose some spring or rivulet if you can, and dispose your party so as not to be surprised, posting proper guards and sentries at a due distance, and let a small party waylay the path you came in, lest the enemy should be pursuing.
- 19. If, in your return, you have to cross rivers, avoid the usual fords as much as possible, lest the enemy should have discovered, and be there expecting you.
- 20. If you have to pass by lakes, keep at some distance from the edge of the water, lest, in case of an ambuscade or an attack from the enemy, when in that situation, your retreat should be cut off.
- 21. If the enemy pursues your rear, take a circle till you come to your own tracks, and there form an ambush to receive them, and give them the first fire.
- 22. When you return from a scout, and come near our forts, avoid the usual roads, and avenues thereto, lest the enemy should have headed you, and lay in ambush to receive you, when almost exhausted with fatigues.
- 23. When you pursue any party that has been near our forts or encampments, follow not directly in their tracks, lest they should be discovered by their rear guards, who, at such a time, would be most alert; but endeavour, by a different route, to head and meet them in some narrow pass, or lay in ambush to receive them when and where they least expect it.
- 24. If you are to embark in canoes, battoes, or otherwise, by water, choose the evening for the time of your embarkation, as you will then have the whole night before you, to pass undiscovered by any parties of the enemy, on hills, or other places, which command a prospect of the lake or river you are upon.
- 25. In paddling or rowing, give orders that the boat or canoe next the sternmost, wait for her, and the third for the second, and the fourth for the third, and so on, to prevent separation, and that you may be ready to assist each other on any emergency.
- 26. Appoint one man in each boat to look out for fires, on the adjacent shores, from the numbers and size of which you may form some judgment of the number that kindled them, and whether you are able to attack them or not.
- 27. If you find the enemy encamped near the banks of a river or lake, which you imagine they will attempt to cross for their security upon being attacked, leave a detachment of your party on the opposite shore to receive them, while, with the remainder, you surprise them, having them between you and the lake or river.

28. If you cannot satisfy yourself as to the enemy's number and strength, from their fire, &c. conceal your boats at some distance, and ascertain their number by a reconnoitering party, when they embark, or march, in the morning, marking the course they steer, &c. when you may pursue, ambush, and attack them, or let them pass, as prudence shall direct you. In general, however, that you may not be discovered by the enemy upon the lakes and rivers at a great distance, it is safest to lay by, with your boats and party concealed all day, without noise or shew; and to pursue your intended route by night; and whether you go by land or water, give out parole and countersigns, in order to know one another in the dark, and likewise appoint a station every man to repair to, in case of any accident that may separate you.

The Rangers are one of the world's premier fighting forces that have lead the way in battle since before the formation of our country, to combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, with a colorful history of some of the most motivated soldiers of their generation whose skills in the art of fighting have never been surpassed.

### Early Rangers History/Pre-American Revolution

The use of the term 'Ranger' dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century in England, where Rangers protected the border of England from Scottish attack. They acted merely as scouts sent out to warn of coming attack.

The first Rangers in the "New World" arose during the on and off conflicts from 1675-1715 between the colonists and the natives. The first of these conflicts is referred to as King Phillip's War, which raged on in New England for several years. These Rangers were just colonists and frontiersmen that employed new small unit style tactics by gathering in small groups and patrolling the forests and mountains between settlements and forts. Captain Benjamin Church is considered by many to be the first true Ranger. He gathered a troop of men attracted to the danger and hardship, which also included friendly natives for tracking and scouting, bringing this conflict to a successful conclusion in 1657.

The Rangers' effectiveness in unorthodox combat leads the British to recruit these units during the French and Indian war, which lasted from 1755 to 1763. Their effectiveness in the beginning of the war leads to the formation of Robert Rogers' Rangers. A soldier from boy hood, Rogers had a magnetic personality, which consisted of being articulate and persuasive. He published a list of 28 common sense rules, and set 19 standing orders stressing operational readiness, security, and tactics. Formed as the Ranger Company of the Hampshire Provincial Regiment, it originally started out with about 50 men. Their reputation quickly grew and on September 14, 1757 Rogers "Ranger school" was officially opened and his students were all British cadet volunteers. Rogers organized nine companies of Rangers and was the first to capitalize on the ways of the frontiersmen before him.

#### Revolutionary War Rangers

With war on its way, ten companies of expert riflemen were formed immediately, six in Pennsylvania, two in Maryland, and two in Virginia, as ordered by the Continental Congress June 14<sup>th,</sup> 1775. These frontiersmen, some even Ranger veterans from the French and Indian War, formed "The Corps of Rangers" under Dan Morgan. British General John Burgoyne states that Morgan's men were "…the most famous Corps of the Continental Army, all of them crack shots".

In the late summer of 1776, a provisional three-company unit of volunteers from Massachusetts and Connecticut were formed into Knowlton's Rangers, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Knowlton. Knowlton's Rangers, a group of less than 150 handpicked men, were used primarily for reconnaissance, and also as a list infantry force. September 16, 1776, Lieutenant Colonel Knowlton and his Rangers performed excellent in the battle of Harlem Heights, but Knowlton suffered a mortal wound.

A small unit formed on the Lake Champlain front, known as Whitcomb's Rangers. October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1776, Whitcomb's Rangers gained permanent status as a two-company force. Until January 1<sup>st</sup> 1781 when the companies were disbanded in Coos, New Hampshire, Whitcomb's Rangers provided reconnaissance to the Northern Department.

The war was won in the South after crushing defeats of the regular forces consisting of the Patriots. What was left were the guerrillas. They were all conducting Ranger missions that decimated the British ranks, destroyed their supply lines and led to major tactical changes in how they fought the war. The most famous of these partisan guerrillas was Francis Marion, otherwise known as the "Swamp Fox". Though his units never had the name "Ranger" in them, they were using Ranger tactics and are included in Ranger lineage.

### *The War of 1812*

During the War of 1812, companies of United States Rangers were raised from among the frontier settlers as part of the regular army. Throughout the war, they patrolled the frontier from Ohio to Western III. on horseback and by boat. They participated in many skirmishes and battles with the British and their Indian allies. Many famous men belonged to Ranger units during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries to include Daniel Boone and Abraham Lincoln.

### Civil War

During the Civil War, officially and unofficially there were 428 units designated as Rangers. Besides a few exceptions, most of these units were Confederate. Mosby's Rangers, led by Confederate Colonel John Singleton Mosby, played a huge role in the fight for the south. Mosby believed that his Rangers could keep the enemy on guard while leaving their other resources vulnerable. During the twenty-eight month period from 1869 to 1865, Mosby's Rangers conducted missions mostly in Maryland and Virginia. His raids on Union camps and bases were so effective, part of North-Central Va. soon became known as Mosby's Confederacy. Six regiments, nine battalions, and a number of independent companies had been formed in eight states by September in 1862. The War Department in 1863, reluctantly ordered these partisan Ranger units to be combined into battalions or regiments, and had to operate within the same regulations that the other soldiers had to follow. February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864, the bill to reorganize the partisans was enacted to law, although giving an exception to the groups under the command of John McNeill and John Mosby.

Mosby never intended to organize as an independent partisan command, but under his command, Mosby's Rangers conducted raids, attacks, and ambushes for 28 months, behind Union lines. Mosby conducted his most audacious and notable raid, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1863 at Dover Mill, west of Adie in Loudoun County. His troops moved in to position in groups of two and three and were assembled by dusk. Not knowing that Mosby's objective was to perpetrate Union lines and capture Colonel Percy Wyndham, his men followed gallantly. The men performed excellently, capturing sentinels, securing horse stables and other buildings, along with cutting the telegraph wires quickly, but came to find the Colonel Wyndham had stayed in Washington, D.C that night instead of with his troops.

After interrogating some captured Union soldiers, he learned the locations of Union Brigadier General Edwin H. Stoughton, and he immediately took his troops to Stoughton with intent to capture. The general was rudely awakened by a group of strangers gathered around his bed. Confused and demanding to know who was present, the general was asked by the twentynine-year-old Confederate lieutenant... who was wearing a captain's uniform during this raid, "General, did you ever hear of Mosby?" "Yes, have you caught him?" queried the Union officer. "No but he has caught you," came the response. As Mosby and his Rangers were withdrawing from this raid, the success was clear. Mosby had netted a general, two captains, thirty enlisted men, fifty-eight horses, and not a shot was fired nor a man wounded. Mosby's Rangers were disbanded in April 21<sup>st</sup>, 1865.

Mean's Rangers, although not as well known as Mosby's Rangers, played an important part in the war for the Union. Lead by Samuel Mean, Mean's Rangers comprised a total force of 200 men. They defended territory along the Potomac, helping to smuggle in supplies to pro-Union groups, and defended the pro-Union residents of the area. Mean's Rangers also captured Confederate General Longstreet's ammunition train, and encountered Mosby's Rangers at some point and even captured part of Mosby's force.

Rangers under the command of Colonel Turner Ashby, known as the Ashby's Rangers, were an equally skilled group that didn't receive as much recognition. Fighting for the Confederates, Ashby's Rangers applied the first battery of horses artillery used in the war. In May 23, 1862 Ashby was promoted to Brigadier General. Later in a skirmish on Chestnut Ridge near Harrisburg Virginia, Ashby lead his men to fight and to buy time while General Richard Ewell set his defenses. Ashby's horse was shot out from under him, but he continued on, drawing his pistol and yelling, "Charge men. For God's sake, charge!" as he lead the cavalry

charge on foot. He soon after took a musket ball to the chest, killing him instantly on June  $6^{th}$ , 1862 at thirty-three years old.

#### WW II Ranger history

Six Ranger infantry battalions were activated for World War Two. Rangers were formed to spearhead the assault into World War II to ensure America's success in the war. On May 26<sup>th</sup>, 1942 the Army Liaison Major General Lucian K. Truscott and the British General Staff submitted proposals to General George Marshall along the lines of forming an American ground unit crafted after the British commandos. The War Department quickly contacted General Truscott and Major General Russell P. Hartley, commander of all Army forces in Northern Ireland whom directed the activation of the first U.S. Army Ranger Battalion. The name "Ranger" was used because the British had rights to "Commandos," so General Truscott used the Americanized version- Rangers. Rangers were also in complement to those in America's past that displayed the high standards of courage, initiative, determination, and obtained the tough fighting ability to achieve more.

General Hartley decided that his own aid-de- camp Captain William Orlando Darby, who was a West Point graduate and had received amphibious training, was the best choice for leading the Rangers. General Truscott agreed and said of Darby, "Outstanding in appearance, possessed of a most attractive personality....and filled with enthusiasm." With this decision, Darby was promoted to Major. He then quickly and effectively organized the unit within a few weeks after receiving these orders. Darby's handpicked officers interviewed many from the 1st Armored Division and the 34th Infantry Division as well as other units in Ireland. After an intensive assessment program at Carrickfergus, North Ireland the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion was activated on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1942.

The newly selected Rangers were then sent to more realistic battle oriented training at the famed Commando Training Center located at Achnacarry, Scotland. The training implemented live ammunition and one Ranger died in training, several were wounded in live fire. This style of training continues all the way through present day, where it is often said that the training is tougher both mentally and physically than deployments.

Meanwhile on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1942, 44 enlisted men and five officers took part in Operation Rutter (which was later renamed Operation Jubilee), and the raid on Dieppe. The Rangers under command of General Roberts, along with Canadian 2<sup>nd</sup> Division and British and British Commandos pulled off the mission to take down German artillery and capture the seaport there. They were the first American Ground Soldiers to engage the Germans in occupied Europe. Three Rangers were killed, several captured and all won the respect of the British Commandos. The mission was considered a failure, but provided valuable mission information that led to the invasion of Normandy being successful. Under the now promoted Lt. Col. Darby, 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion led the North African Invasion at the port of Arzeu in Algeria, involving a silent night landing, silencing two gun batteries, and clearing the path for the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion capture of Oran. The next accomplishment shortly followed in Tunisia, where 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger battalion performed their first behind enemy lines night raid in Sened. They killed a large number of defenders and took ten prisoners of war, only sustaining one Ranger death and ten wounded. March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1943 the Rangers led General Patton's drive to capture El Guettar, involving a 1-mile night march across mountainous terrain, displaying the Ranger trademark of surprising the enemy position from behind. By dawn the Rangers overcame the surprised Italian forces, clearing the El Guettar pass and capturing 200 prisoners. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion won the first Presidential Citation and LTC Darby won his first DSC.

With 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion's successful combat raids, they acted as cadre to train and activate 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalions; the training was directed toward readying for the invasion of Sicily at Nemours, Algeria. The leadership was set with Major Herman Dammer assuming command 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion and Major Roy Murray assuming command of 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion; Darby remained CO of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and was in command over all, which became known as the Darby Ranger Forces. Darby's Ranger Forces (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>) were the first to start the tradition of wearing a Ranger Scroll, which has been officially adapted by today's Ranger Battalions. The three Ranger units led attacks and opened up the landing for the 7<sup>th</sup> Army landing at Gela and Licata. Darby Ranger Forces were credited to having the key role in the Sicilian Campaign that resulted with the capture of Messina.

The three Battalions were the first 5<sup>th</sup> Army troops to land for the invasion near Salerno. They quickly captured the strategic heights on both sides of Chinuzi pass and defeated eight German Counter-attacks, receiving two Distinguished Unit Citations. Colonel Darby commanded a force of over 10,000 soldiers, elements of the 36<sup>th</sup> Division, several companies of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division and Artillery units, and it was here that the 5<sup>th</sup> Army advanced against Naples and launched with the British 10<sup>th</sup> Corps.

Later, all three Ranger Battalions fought in the fierce winter mountain battles near San Pietro, Venafro and Saccino. The Battalions took a recuperation period for reorganizing and recruiting volunteers. The three Battalions were reinforced with the 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Battalion, the 83<sup>rd</sup> Chemical Warfare, 42<sup>nd</sup> Mortar Battalion and the 35<sup>th</sup> Combat engineers, which were therefore designated the 6615 Ranger Force under the then promoted Colonel Darby. The 6615 Ranger Force led the surprise night landing at the Port of Anzio, capturing two gun batteries, seizing the city and struck out to enlarge the beachhead before dawn. The ideals of a classic Ranger Operation were used for this attack.

On the night of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1944, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Rangers Battalions infiltrated five miles behind German enemy lines while the 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion fought to capture the road to Cisterna, the key 5<sup>th</sup> Army objective. The night before, the Germans had prepared for a massive

counterattack and reinforced their lines. Due to this action, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> battalions were surrounded and greatly outnumbered. The overwhelmed Rangers fought bravely and honorably, causing the Germans great casualties but their ammunition and therefore, their time ran out. All across the beachhead, the supporting troops tried breaking through but failed due to the strength of the German's position. Among the KIA was 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion's CO; Major Alvah Miller, and 1<sup>st</sup> Battalions CO Major John Dobson was wounded. The heavy losses of 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalions along with 4<sup>th</sup> Battalions losses, combined for a seemingly pointless loss. Later intelligence showed that the attack had helped disrupt the German counter-attack, directly disrupting Hitler's order of, "Push the Allies into the sea."

Other Ranger units proudly carried on and further sharpened the Ranger standards and traditions in the European Theater of Operations. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalions participated in the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944 D-Day landings at Omaha Beach. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Battalion was trained by LTC. James Earl Rudder, activated April 1, 1943 at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, and carried out the most desperate and dangerous mission of the Omaha Beach Landings at Normandy. General Bradley spoke of Col. Rudder, "Never has any commander been given a more desperate mission." Three companies: D, E, and F assaulted the rough cliffs of Pointe Du Hoc under intense machine-gun, mortar and artillery fire and took out a large gun battery that was close to destroying the Allied fleets offshore. They fought for two days and nights without relief until 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion linked up with them. Later, with the combined forces, they played a key role in the attacks against the German positions around Brest in the La Coquet Peninsular. This same unit fought through the Central Europe campaign and won commendation for its action on Hill 400. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Battalion earned the Distinguished Unit Citation and the Croix de Guerre and was inactivated at Camp Patrick Henry on October 23, 1945.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion was activated September 1, 1943 at Camp Forrest under command of the former executive officer of 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion, Lt. Col. Max Schneider. 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion was part of a Ranger assault force under command of Col. Rudder. They landed on Omaha Beach with Companies A, B, and C, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, in order to aid elements of 116<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Div. who were pinned down under heavy crossfire and mortars from enemy lines. The situation was serious, making General Omar Bradley realistically consider redirecting reinforcements to other areas of the beachhead. It was here that General Norman D. Cota, assistant Division Commander of the 29<sup>th</sup> Div. gave the now famous order, later adopted by the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment, "Rangers, Lead the way!"

The 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion broke across the sea wall and barbed wire obstacles, and up the pillboxrimmed heights under heavy enemy machine-gun and mortar fire. The 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion Along with A and B companies of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Battalion and some elements of the 116<sup>th</sup> infantry Regiments, invaded 4 miles to the key town of Vierville, thus busting open the way for supporting troops to come through and expand the beach head. As this was happening, C Company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Battalion landed west of the Vierville draw and suffered 50% casualties during the landing, but still pushed on and scaled a 90ft. cliff using ropes and bayonets to take out an enemy position that was raking the beach with heavy machine-gun fire.  $5^{th}$ Battalion and elements of the 116<sup>th</sup> regiments finally met up with the heavily beleaguered 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion on D+3; though Lt. Charles Parker of A Company, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion had penetrated deep behind enemy lines on D-Day and reached them with 20 POW's captive. Later 5<sup>th</sup> battalion with 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion distinguished itself with the success of the Battle of Brest. With Lt. Col. Richard Sullivan in command of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion, they successfully took part in the Battle of the Bulge, Huertgen Forest and other tough battle throughout central Europe, winning two Distinguished Unit Citations and the French Croix de Guerre. They were deactivated October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1945 at Camp Miles in Standish, Massachusetts.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion command by Colonel Henry (Hank) Mucci was activated on September 1944 at Port Moresby, New Guinea. This was the first mission for them and the first American force to return to the Philippines with the mission of eliminating coastal defense guns and radio/radar stations on the islands of Dinegat and Suluan that were offshore of Leyte. They landed three days in advance of the main 6<sup>th</sup> Army invasion force on October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 1944. They effectively captured some of the Japanese defenders and eliminated all enemy communications. The 6<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion also took part in the US invasion landings in Luzon, and several behind enemy lines patrols. The penetration and small unit raids they performed got them ready for the greatest and most daring raid of American military history. January 30, 1944, C Company supported by a platoon from F Company and the Filipino Guerrillas, struck 30 miles behind enemy lines and rescued 500 injured and sickly POW's who were survivors of the Bataan Death March imprisoned at Cabanatuan. They carried many prisoners on their backs while also inflicting over 200 enemy kills and evading two Japanese regiments. They reached the safe American held ground the following day and found out intelligence had revealed the Japanese were planning on killing all the POW's while they withdrew from Manila. Excellent recon by the Alamo Scouts also aided to the success of the Cabanatuan Raid.

The unit later commanded by Col. Roger Garrett played a key role in the capture of Manila and Appari, and was readily preparing to spearhead the invasion of Japan when news flashed the war with that nation ended. They received the Presidential Unit Citation and the Philippine Presidential Citation and were inactivated on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 1945 in the Philippines.

### Merrill's Marauders

As a result of the Quebec conference of August 1943, Merrill's Marauders were formed on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1943, and was the first unit designated the 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. Due to the need of a Ranger style unit. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill of England and other Allied leaders developed the formation of an American Ground Assault Force (GAF) to lead a LRP mission behind enemy lines in Burma. The overall goals of the mission were to destroy Japanese enemy communication lines and supply lines along with performing small unit tactics against the enemy to reopen the Burma Road. A presidential request for volunteers was issued to man the ranks needed to pull off this highly strategic and dangerous mission. Approximately 2,900 volunteers stood up to answer the request and formed the 5307<sup>th</sup> Composite Provisional Unit, code named "Task Force GALAHAD." The historically recognized nickname of "Merrill's Marauders" stuck to the group in honor of their commanding officer Brigadier General Frank Merrill. Merrill's Marauders were organized into battalions with two combat teams per battalion. Galahad was modeled after Orde Wingate's Chindits LRP unit. Volunteers for the unit came from a wide variety of war theatres consisting of Panama and Trinidad, Guadalcanal, New Georgia and New Guinea. Also volunteers came from stateside cadre, Signal Corps and Air corps personnel, with troops and packhorses. Preliminary training was undertaken in secrecy in the jungles of India and ended with 600 men detached as a rear echelon headquarters remaining in India to undergo vital air-drop links for the Marauder Combat Teams consisting of 400 men each and the Air Transport command. The reaming 2400 volunteers were color-coded red, blue, green, orange, and khaki.

The 5307<sup>th</sup> Composite Provisional Unit was the first United States ground combat force to meet the enemy in the World War II in Asia. They took part in five major and thirty minor engagements in the Hukawng and Mogaung Valleys of North Burma accompanied by over 1,000 miles of marching. In March and April 1944, the unit was asked to spearhead a march over jungle trails through extremely mountainous terrain against stubborn resistance in an attack on Myitkyina. On May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1944 they took part in a mission to take down the Myitkyina Airfield in which today's Rangers roots of airfield seizures are found. The Japanese 18<sup>th</sup> Division vastly outnumbered Merrill's Marauders, and yet by always moving to the rear of the main Japanese forces they defeated them.

Galahad was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation in July 1944, which in November 1966 was re-designated as the Presidential Unit Citation, which is awarded by the sitting president in front of Congress. Merrill's Marauder was consolidated with the 475<sup>th</sup> Infantry on August 10, 1944. June 21, 1954 the 475<sup>th</sup> was designated as the 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment that today's 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment traces its lineage to.

#### The Ranger Companies of the Korean War

The outbreak of the hostilities in Korea in June of 1950 signaled the need for Rangers. Col. John Gibson Van Houten was selected by the Army Chief to Staff to head the Ranger training program at Fort Benning and on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1950 he reported to the Chief of Staff with orders that the training of a Ranger unit was to begin at Fort Benning on October 1, 1950. Fifteen Ranger companies were stood up for the Korean War. Requests went out for volunteers who were willing to accept "extremely hazardous" duty. The results of the call for volunteers estimated as high as 5,000 men, many of them former paratroopers. Selection of the men was by the officers who would command the companies, similar to when Robert Rogers was recruiting. Those selected shipped to Fort Benning and arrived on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1950. Training began on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> 1950 with three companies of airborne qualified personnel. On October 9, 1950 the 505<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division began training. Initially designated the 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Company, they became the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Infantry Company, the only all black Ranger unit in the history of the United States to be authorized by the Department of the Army. All the volunteers were professional soldiers with many skills, which they often taught each other. Some of the men had fought with the original Ranger Battalions, the First Special Service Force, or the Office of Strategic Services during World War II. Many of the instructors were drawn from this same group as these men were highly trained and had experience with Ranger Operations during World War II.

The training was extremely difficult consisting of amphibious and airborne operations, demolitions, sabotage, close combat, and the use of foreign maps. All American small arms, as well as those used by the enemy were mastered. Communications, as well as the control of artillery, naval, and aerial fire power, were stressed. Most of the training was performed as nighttime operation scenarios. The 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Infantry Company departed from Fort Benning on November 15, 1950, and arrived in Korea on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1950, where it was attached to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Companies, who arrived on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 1950, soon followed it. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Company was in charge of and ran Headquarters, 8<sup>th</sup> US Army, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. Throughout the winter of 1950 and the spring of 1951, the Rangers went into battle as nomadic warriors and they performed "out-front" work: scouting, patrolling, raids, ambushes, spearheading assaults, and as comparable to none other than the best ever seen in military history.

The Rangers went into battle by air, land and sea. The 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Infantry Company opened with an extraordinary example of land navigation, and then executed a daring night raid nine miles behind enemy lines destroying an enemy complex. A prisoner of the 12<sup>th</sup> North Korean Division later identified the enemy installation leading to catching the Koreans by surprise and being unaware of the size of the American force; the two North Korean Regiments withdrew from the area. The 1<sup>st</sup> Company was in the middle of the major battle of Chipyoung-Ni and the "May Massacre." The unit was awarded two Distinguished Unit Citations. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Companies made a combat jump at Munsan-Ni where Life Magazine reported patrols operating north of the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Company plugged a critical gap left by a retreating allied forces. The 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Company executed a daring over-water raid at the Hwachon Dam. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Company had the motto "Die Bastard, die!" to go along with their courage and will to never quit. The 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Company, fighting as an attachment to the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, performed brilliantly during the Chinese "5<sup>th</sup> phase Offense." The Ranger company commander held the line with Ranger sergeants commanding line infantry units. In the eastern sector. The Rangers were the first unit to cross the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel on the second drive north into enemy boundaries. The 8<sup>th</sup> Ranger Company was attached to the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and was and still is known as the "Devils". A 33-man platoon from the 8<sup>th</sup> Ranger Company fought a between-the-lines battle with two Chinese reconnaissance companies. Seventy Chinese enemies were killed and the Rangers suffered two dead and three wounded, they were all brought back to friendly lines. This attests to a section of the Ranger creed: "Energetically will I meet the

enemies of my country, I shall defeat them on the field of battle for I am better trained and will fight with all my might. Surrender is not a Ranger word. I will never leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy and under no circumstance will I ever embarrass my country."

### Vietnam Era Ranger History

Rangers were again called to serve their country during the Vietnam War. The 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry was reorganized once more on Jan. 1, 1969, as a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System. Fifteen separate Ranger companies were formed from this reorganization. Thirteen served proudly in Vietnam until inactivation on Aug. 15, 1972, which was the longest sustained Ranger Regiment in over 300 years:

- A (Alpha) co initially formed in Germany and attached to V Corps and VII Corps, later redeployed CONUS to act as a reserve should they be needed in Europe to fight Soviet aggression.
- B (Bravo) co initially formed in Germany and attached to V Corps and VII Corps, and later redeployed CONUS to act as a reserve should they be needed in Europe to fight Soviet aggression.
- C (Charlie) co 1<sup>st</sup> Field Forces Vietnam
- D (Delta) co attached to 3<sup>rd</sup> aero Squadron, 17<sup>th</sup> Cav. Formed of cadre from D co, 151<sup>st</sup> Infantry (a National Guard Unit)
- E (ECHO) co 9<sup>th</sup> I.D.
- F (Foxtrot) co- 25<sup>th</sup> I.D.
- G (Golf) co 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade
- H (Hotel) co 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, Airmobile
- I (India) co  $1^{st}$  I.D.
- K (Kilo) co 4<sup>th</sup> I.D.
- L (Lima) co 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division
- M (Mike) co 199<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade
- N (November) co 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade
- O (Oscar) co Arctic Ranger at Ft Richard Alaska 1970-1972 under Gen Holingsworth
- O (Oscar) co 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division
- P (Papa) co 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> I.D. (Mech)

The 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment was activated in Okinawa in 1954, related to its predecessors in the 475<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. They were rooted from the 5307<sup>th</sup> Composite Provisional Unit, known as Merrill's Marauders. Historically, Company I (Ranger) 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry, and Company G (Ranger) 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry produced the first two US Army Rangers actively serving in combat to receive the Medal of Honor. Texas native Specialist-four Robert D. Law was awarded the first Medal of Honor on a long-range patrol in Tinh Phoc Province, RVN serving with Company F, I/75<sup>th</sup>. Specialist Law, at the age of 24 died jumping on an enemy grenade, fully taking on the blast and saving his comrades. Minnesota native SSG Robert J. Pruden, at the age of 20 serving

with company G I/75<sup>th</sup> in Quang Ngai Province was posthumously awarded the second Medal of Honor for his heroic actions while on a reconnaissance mission that came under heavy enemy fire. In addition to Specialist Law and SSG Pruden, Pennsylvania native SSG Laszlo Rabel, at the age of 31, was on a LRP (long-range patrol) in the Binh Dinh Province, where he smothered an enemy grenade with his body to save the rest of his comrades in the 74<sup>th</sup> Infantry Detachment (LRP). The 74<sup>th</sup> LRP is a predecessor of Company N, (Ranger) 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade.

The change of the 20<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, 58<sup>th</sup>, 71<sup>st</sup>, 78<sup>th</sup> LRP Companies, the 79<sup>th</sup> Infantry Detachment and Company D of the 151<sup>st</sup> Infantry LPR Indiana National Guard to Ranger Companies of the 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry began on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1969. Companies C and P of the 75<sup>th</sup> conducted Ranger missions in Vietnam every day for three years and seven months, just like the unit of Merrill's Marauders where they came from. The 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers were made of Infantry, Artillery, Engineers, Signal, Medical, Military Police, Food Service, and Parachute riggers. They were joined by former enemies of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army, who defected to fight against their former units alongside the Rangers. This was unlike traditional Rangers who trained stateside independent of friendly ally nations. The Rangers of Vietnam were selected and trained during wartime, in country. The training of selected "volunteers" involved the hardest test of men: combat. After a series of combat patrols, they were either accepted or returned to their respective units. Acceptance was based off of their Ranger peers, and upon acceptance they were allowed to proudly wear the black beret on their head and the Ranger Scroll on their shoulder that also showed what company they were from. All of the LRP's and 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger companies were granted parachute pay for their active jump status. Modus Operandi for patrol insertion varied, but the helicopter was the main source of insertion and exfiltration from behind enemy lines. The other Modus Operandi was foot, wheeled, tracked vehicle, airboats, Navy Swift Boats and stay behind missions where the Rangers stayed behind as a large tactical unit and then withdrew from the area. False helicopter insertions were used to dissuade enemy trail watchers. The missions usually consisted of the location of enemy bases and lines of communication. Special missions were wiretap, prisoner snatch, Platoon and Company size Raid missions and Bomb Damage Assessments (BDA) after 52-Arc Light missions, which was the code name used for strategic B-52 bomber missions in South East Asia. It should be noted that the main mission of Vietnam Rangers was the Long Range Patrols.

Originally staffed by graduates of the US Army Ranger School and later, with the start of the war, with volunteers who consisted of Recondo School graduates, Line Company cadre, Paratroopers, and Special Forces Trained men. The main force was made up of men who had no chance to make it to the stateside US Army Ranger School.

The Rangers of Vietnam fought in some of the fiercest combat in Army History and frequently were up against enemy forces that greatly outweighed them after being compromised on missions, yet the Rangers overwhelmed the enemy time and time again. Army Chief of Staff Creighton Abrams, who followed the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger operations closely, chose the 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers as

his prime example for his training of the next generation of Rangers who were formed in peacetime. The prestige, honor, and high esprit de corps of the Rangers of Vietnam along with the previous Rangers before them gave Chief of Staff Abrams the perfect model to train the best fighting force known to the world, the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment.

#### Abram's Own

The Pentagon became concerned with the Us Army's ability to move well-trained infantry forces anywhere in the world quickly and strategically after the Arab-Israeli Yom Kippur War ended in 1973. The Chief of staff General Creighton Abrams issued a charter to create battalion sized Ranger units, which would be the first since WW II. The first would be 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion.

"Hoodlums or brigands" were not to be in General Abrams' battalion for it was to be the best, no matter where they went. General Abrams handpicked these men and selected their missions. He thought that having such elite soldiers who could "graduate" from Ranger units to Regular Army units would set the example for the other soldiers, eventually improving the entire Army. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Ranger) was activated on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 1974 with the effective date being January 31<sup>st</sup>, and they parachuted into Fort Stewart, Ga. on July 1, 1974. The original home of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was Fort Stewart, GA, but later moved to Hunter Army Airfield (HAAF) in Savannah, GA, between 1978 and 1979. The men from Company A, 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division were initially transferred to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, along with their equipment to man the battalion. On December 19<sup>th</sup>, 1974 Company A was inactivated, while the new battalion was assigned the heritage of the Vietnam era Ranger Company C.

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was activated on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1974 and stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington. The men of Company B, 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Mech) were moved to the new battalion, and inactivated as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1974. 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion was assigned the heritage of the Airmobile Ranger Company H, 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.

#### Desert One

A militant mob following Ayatollah Khomeini stormed the American Embassy in Tehran on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 1979. Col. Charlie A. Beckwith "Chagrin' Charlie", a hardened Ranger and Special Forces veteran of Korea and Vietnam, was put in charge of conducting an operation to rescue the remaining 53 captives.

President Carter authorized the rescue mission on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1980. A group made up of 130 men, consisting of 1<sup>st</sup> SFOD-D, Rangers, drivers and translators was to be inserted into the Iranian desert by a crew of 50 pilots and air crewmen. They were to reach "Desert One" in Iran, a secret landing strip 256 nautical miles from the hostages in Tehran, which was to be secured by the Rangers and used to refuel and meet up with 8 Sea Stallion RH-53 helicopters from the U.S.S. Nimitz, stationed in the Arabian Sea.

The helicopters were to depart prior to dawn, with the 120 man assault force and arrive at "Desert Two", a remote mountain hideaway, while the remaining Ranger security element and aircraft would sterilize and return. Later that evening, the assault force at Desert Two would depart in trucks and vans to storm the American Embassy compound in Tehran at about 2300. About forty minutes after the assault began, helicopters would arrive to take the freed hostages and the assault force from either the American Embassy compound or a nearby soccer stadium.

This is how the plan was supposed to work in theory. April 24<sup>th</sup>, a large portion of the GAF (ground assault force) departed to Mesirah Island, then to Desert One, and then boarded upon two C-141's. This GAF included a detail of Rangers from C Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. On the way from U.S.S Nimitz at 1930, maintenance problems caused one of the eight Sea Stallions to abandon and another to abort and return to the ship.

Rangers were deployed at Desert One to secure the roads around the site while support personnel were getting ready to receive the helicopters from the U.S.S Nimitz. The Rangers encountered multiple unknown vehicles including a bus, a fuel truck and a pickup truck, that were suspiciously moving towards the site. The bus was fired up and secured, while the fuel truck was set ablaze by a Ranger antitank rocker. The driver from the fuel truck escaped in the pickup through a hail of Ranger fire.

The helicopters arrived, being an hour and a half late and the last 2 aircraft suffering from crippling mechanical failure, the mission was aborted, and the new task was to close up Desert One and get everyone back to Egypt. At 0200, a helicopter pilot refueling his aircraft with a C-130 became disoriented and crashed into the refueling plane, creating a huge fireball in the night. Many men, risking their lives rushed into the burning C-130 to save any survivors. Five Air force crewmembers perished in the flames, along with three Marines.

The remaining helicopters were immediately abandoned leaving the entire assault force to load on to the two C-130's. Equipment was jettisoned to make room for the extra men, while leaving behind secret documents, weapons, communications equipment, and five serviceable helicopters along with the 53 hostages.

This hostage recovery attempt was one of the first assignments to Rangers and other Special Operations units and provided a guideline to developing the tactics, techniques and equipment used today since there was no prior doctrine existing anywhere in the world.

#### Grenada

General Abram's foresight combined with his decision and the Ranger Battalions extreme effectiveness in combat was displayed by their deployment to Grenada on October 25-27<sup>th</sup>, 1983. The mission of the Rangers was to keep American civilians safe and to retake the island to institute democracy on the island. There were no military maps to go off of, nor any tactical military intelligence to back up the mission planning. The planning was based off of an outdated British 1:50,000 square foot tourist map of the area. The mission's code name was "Urgent Fury," and involved 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions executing a 500 foot, low-level parachute assault and performing an air field seizure at Point Salinas; while also rescuing American civilians at the True Blue Medical Campus and performing air assault operations to eliminate all resistance by the enemy. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was assigned and executed the Point Salines Airfield and the rescuing and securing of hostages at True Blue, while 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion was assigned the taking of Pearls Airport and hunting down the enemy by air assault. Though the Rangers didn't know about the anti-aircraft or the heavy weapons the enemies possessed, they were able to perform successfully and take their objectives quickly and accurately. There were eight Rangers KIA, and almost 90 percent of the Rangers were wounded or injured in some way along with helicopters that took heavy enemy fire and had to crash land. Operation Urgent Fury was then, and still is, considered a well-executed and successful operation by the two Ranger Battalions.

Due to the successful mission in Grenada, the Department of Army expanded the Ranger force with another battalion and a Ranger Headquarters in 1984, the largest increase of Rangers in 40 years. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Battalion and the 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry (Ranger) Headquarters and Headquarter Company were the official add-ons to the existing fighting force and received their colors on October 3, 1984 at Fort Benning, GA. The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment was officially designated on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1986.

### Operation JUST CAUSE (Panama)

Operation JUST CAUSE, the code name for the United States invasion of Panama occurred on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1989 under President George H. W. Bush. The aim of the mission was to capture Panamanian dictator, General Manual Noriega and bring him to the US to face drug smuggling charges. Secondary, however, was the objective of setting up a democratic government. Due to the complex and sensitive nature of the mission, America applied overwhelming combat force. The US had long-standing relations with Panama and several bases located there so it was imperative that the task be completed quickly and effectively to rebuild friendly relations with the nation.

The Joint Special Operations Task Force (JSOTF) commanded by Major General Wayne A. Downing, was organized into smaller task forces: TF RED (Ranger Regiment), TF BLACK (Army Special Forces), TF WHITE (SEALs and Special Boat Units). TF RED was the largest component of the Joint Special Operations Task Force. It consisted mainly of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment, but was reinforced by contingents of the Air Force Special Tactics teams and Marine Corps/Naval Gunfire liaison troops. Close air support aircraft was also provided by AH-6 attack helicopters, AC-130H gunships, AH-64 Apaches and F-117A fighter-bombers, the task force was to perform two simultaneous airborne assaults at H-Hour (0100 on 20 December 1989). One contingent would parachute onto the Omar Torrijos International Airport complex, while another would drop onto Rio Hato airfield.

Omar Torrijos International Airport was the main international airport serving Panama, and the adjoining Tocumen military airfield was the home base of the Panamanian Air Force.

Capturing Torrijos/Tocumen was crucial to the JUST CAUSE campaign plan because it would enable the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division to come into the country, while preventing the Panamanian Defense operations. The Torrijos/tocumen complex formed a target area approximately six kilometers long and two kilometers wide.

The TF RED commander, Colonel William F. "Buck" Kernan, gave the mission of capturing Torrijos/Tocumen to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Regiment, commanded by LTC Robert W. Wagner. The Rangers had a tight schedule to seize this complex- about 45 minutes, as an airborne brigade was schedule to drop then.

LTC Wagner's plan called for the helicopters and AC-130H to attack the PDF positions at H-Hour, just prior to the Ranger parachute assault. After parachuting in, Company A would seize the Panamanian Air Force compound and destroy the aircraft, Company C, reinforce with a Platoon from Company B, would seize the 2<sup>nd</sup> PDF compound and destroy the PDF Company. The rest of Company B, reinforced with 12 gun jeeps and 10 motorcycles, would clear both runways and establish blocking positions to prevent other PDF forces from interfering with the battalion's operation. Finally, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion would clear the smaller building area near the Torrijos terminal, isolate the terminal building, then enter the terminal building and destroy PDF resistance there.

The attack commenced at 0100. Due to the other units having attacked 15 minutes early, however, PDF forces were aware of the Ranger airdrop before it began. Even so, at 0103, the first jumpers from Company A landed receiving only sporadic fire and secured all of their objectives within two hours after capturing virtually the entire Panamanian Air Force on the ground. The Company captured about 20 Panamanian Air Force personnel hiding in one of the hangars. Company B also landed on target and quickly secured its blocking positions. Company A received only sporadic enemy fire and took some prisoners. The biggest problem Company B had was with Panamanian vehicles ignoring its warning signs and barricades and trying to run its blocking positions. Generally these vehicles turned around and fled after the Rangers fired warning shots, but one vehicle had to be disabled by shooting out its tires, one of the vehicles that fled from warning shots contained Manuel Noriega who had been visiting the Cereme Military Recreation Center. Company C assaulted the barracks of the PDF's 2<sup>nd</sup> Company and received ineffective enemy fire; they quickly cleared the area killing one PDF soldier who had refused to surrender. Company C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment was to secure the international air terminal, and this proved to be the only portion of the assault on Torrijos/Tocumen that was significantly more difficult than expected. First one-fourth of the company landed in ten-foot tall cunna grass to the west of the runway and took two hours to join the main body; the depleted Company C had no trouble securing its objectives outside the terminal building, though. The 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon seized the fire station on the north side of the terminal and then received fire from the second floor of the terminal. In the end, the Rangers were successful in seizing Torrijos/Tucumen complex with minimal collateral damage and captured

1,014 Enemy Prisoners of War (EPW), and over 18,000 arms of various types. The Rangers sustained four KIA.

### Desert Storm

Elements from Company B and 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, Company A, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment deployed to Saudi Arabia from February 12, 1991 to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1991. The Rangers were used in a contingency role and conducted raids in support of the main forces to move to Kuwait.

Beginning in mid-February, still days away from the ground assault portion of Desert Storm, the Rangers found them selves supporting the hunt for Scud missiles, acting as a blocking force during the operations and providing quick reaction capabilities, as well as reconnaissance against Iraqi forces. A platoon-sized element supported by the 160th SOAR took part in a major helicopter assault against an Iraqi communications facility near the Jordanian border. The Rangers toppled a 350-foot microwave tower, destroyed the facility, and captured a number of prisoners.

#### Somalia

The Rangers' mission in Somalia beginning in early 1993 was to support the United Nations aid to the starving population and in the process, eliminate clan fighting between the chaotic factions. The focus of their attention was the city of Mogadishu, where the fighting was especially chaotic. The violence reached its pinnacle on October 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>. The Rangers were assigned the task of conducting a daylight raid in which they were to kill or capture several key clan leaders under Mohamed Farrah Aidid.

The mission commenced at approximately 1300, when due to intelligence provided by a Somali agent, it was discovered that a number of Aidid's lieutenants would be meeting that afternoon. The mark was a house with a flat roof along one of the only paved roads in the city. Just three blocks were of the house was the Bakara Market, the most heavily armed region of Mogadishu. This area was known by soldiers as "The Black Sea" and was referred to as real "Indian country". The assault force was formidable and consisted of seventy-five Rangers and forty SFOD-D soldiers onboard an air fleet of sixteen helicopters. The SFOD-D and Ranger assault force would be inserted by four MH-6 and six MH-60 Black Hawks with four AH-6 Little Birds providing close air support.

Being that the helicopters could not land, forty SFOD-D Soldiers would insert in front of the building and six Rangers in the rear to create a secure perimeter by fast rope. The significant amount of dust kicked up by the helicopters produced a huge visibility problem. The mission's precious cargo, twenty-four prisoners, including the two primary men they had sought, had been quickly captured and the Ranger twelve-vehicle ground convoy was called at the twenty-minute mark to make its way to their location from their hold position approximately 200 meters from the objective. As the ground convoy picked up the prisoners in front of the building, enemy fire

began to gain intensity. A convoy of three vehicles was dispatched with an injured Ranger to make its way back to the airfield.

The situation spiraled out of control when an RPG struck the tail of a Black Hawk, known as Super 61, hovering above causing it to crash, killing the pilot and leaving the five others inside injured. The task force quickly implemented three contingency plans: provide cover nearby CSAR Black Hawk, Super 68, deploy the main body of Task Force Ranger from the objective to the crash site, and alert the Quick Reaction Force from the 10<sup>th</sup> mountain Division to deploy from its location at the Somali National University to the Mogadishu Airport, from where it could launch to support CSAR missions.

Only eight minutes after the first helicopter was hit, as was a second carrying fifteen members of a CSAR unit fast-roping down to help. The wounded bird was fortunately able to make its way back to an airfield three miles away.

When the Rangers and SFOD-D soldiers were finally able to make their way to the crash site after a three block run through a hail of enemy fire, it was discovered that the remains of the pilot were trapped inside. Over head, Super 64 had been directed to take super 61's orbital spot over the target area when it, too, took and RPG round to the tail. Within minutes, the rotor failed and the aircraft plummeted to the ground 1500 meters from Super 61's location.

After several requests, it was finally approver that two NCO snipers, Master Sergeant Gary Gordon and Sergeant First Class Randy Shughart, could be inserted to try to alleviate the mounting situation. Everyone, including the two men, knew this was a mission they likely would not return from. Even so, Armed only with a sniper rifle and pistols, the two men went in to set up a defensive perimeter and secure the site until further help could arrive. Both men received Medals of Honor for their heroic efforts.

As casualties continued to mount, a major QRF of 425 men led by 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and augmented by Pakistani M-28 tanks and Malaysian Armored Personnel Carriers was finally able to deploy at 2324 after a number of unsuccessful attempts by smaller elements. Strung out in a convoy of seventy vehicles and hit within five minutes of its departure, the relief force slugged its way through any obstacles and enemy fire, inflicting and taking casualties along the way. The frequency and violence ambushes increased markedly as the two-mile long convoy neared the crash site.

At the release point, the convoy split into the two main 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain companies. A Company continued to move north to the super 61 crash site where they were finally able to establish link up with the embattled Rangers at 0155. C Company moved west to the Super 64 site where they made a sweep of the wreckage but found no survivors or bodies. It would be another four hours before the pilot's body in Super 61 could be extracted. Even then, the nightmare of the engagements was not over for many to remain demounted for lack of vehicle

space, once again braving intense enemy fire as they made their way back down the streets of Mogadishu.

The raid officially came to a close around 0700 on 4 October with the return of the final Task Force Ranger and Quick Reaction Force (QRF) elements. The battle is consider being the fiercest ground combat since the Vietnam War. At the end of it all, six Rangers died during the mission and the Somali death toll was never determined, but numbers range between 600 and 1,000.

# Present day and the Global War on Terror

The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment has been involved in every conflict in some degree or another in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With the battalions' flexibility, they are able to deploy for worldwide, no notice missions. On November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2000 the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment deployed a Ranger Command and Control element and Regimental Recon Detachment (RRD) team two in support of TF Falcon in Kosovo.

After the tragic terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment was called on to spearhead the way into the G.W.O.T. and the call was answered in full force. On the night of October 19, 2001 components of Companies A and C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Battalion, conducted a daring low level parachute assault onto Objective Rhino, a desert airfield in south western Afghanistan, in order to capture key logistical information. During follow on missions, Company B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion minus accomplished a successful night parachute assault into Bastogne DZ to secure a desert landing strip in support of a special operations raid.

In order to establish a Flight Landing Strip for follow on combat operations, Regimental Reconnaissance Detachment (RRD) Team 3 conducted a combat military free fall parachute drop onto Wrath Drop Zone in southeast Afghanistan on 10 November 2001.

RRD Team 3 conducted a combat static line parachute drop onto Shiloh Drop Zone in southeast Afghanistan on 21 November, 2001 to establish a flight Landing Strip for follow on combat operations.

In the early morning hours of March 4, 2002, on a mountaintop called Takur Ghar in southeastern Afghanistan, Al Qaeda soldiers fired on an MH-47E helicopter carrying a Special Operations Force (SOF) reconnaissance element. The damage on the helicopter resulted in a Navy SEAL, Neal Roberts, falling out of the helicopter and began a chain of events that lead to Rangers performing at their best. After a failed attempt by a group of Navy SEALs to rescue Roberts, the plan was devised to send two QRFs to engage the enemy and recover the SEAL. Without knowing about the Navy SEAL attempt failing due to an ambush, the QRF of Razor One landed in the same exact area. They befell the same ambush and quickly reacted to secure their position. While the battle raged Razor One was able to contact the incoming QRF of Razor Two, and in response landed further down the mountain and hiked up to join the battle. Razor 2 made quick time of the trek they had and joined the fight, reinforcing the pinned down QRF

Razor One. The battle of Takur Gahr ended with the death of all the Al Qaeda terrorists defending the mountaintop and resulting in the death of seven US servicemen. Rangers demonstrated the will to defeat the enemy and took control of the situation effectively and quickly in order to uphold "never shall I leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy".

On 28 March 2003, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Battalion was the first unit to airborne assault into Iraq to seize "Objective Serpent" in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. A few days later Company A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion and sections of HHC, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion carried out a successful parachute assault on H2 Airfield in Western Iraq. On the night of March 31, 2003, Company B 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion gained a foothold at the Haditha Dam complex and fought off elements from the Iraqi Republican Guard's Hammurabi Division over the course of the next week.

On April 1, 2003, US Marines staged a diversionary attack, besieging nearby Iraqi irregulars to draw them away from the Saddam Hospital in Nasiriyah. Meanwhile, an element from a Joint Special Operations Task Force consisting of Rangers from 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion launched a nighttime raid on the hospital and successfully retrieved Lynch and the bodies of eight other American soldiers.

RRD Team 3 conducted a combat military free fall parachute drop onto Tillman Drop Zone in southeast Afghanistan in July 2004 in order to emplace tactical equipment. The Regimental Reconnaissance Company Team 1 would again conduct a combat military free fall parachute drop with a tandem passenger into Afghanistan on 11 July 2009 in order to emplace tactical equipment.

The never-ending changes of warfare called for the need of an extremely flexible and sustainable Ranger Force. The Regiment Special Troops Battalion (RSTB) was activated July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in order to answer that call. The RSTB conducts sustainment, intelligence, recon, and maintenance missions which were previously accomplished by small detachments assigned to the Regimental headquarters and then attached within each of the three Ranger Battalions. The activation of RSTB signified the change of the Ranger force conducting short-term combat missions to continuous combat operations without the loss of effectiveness or flexibility.

Currently the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment, with all of its battalions, continues to spearhead operations in multiple foreign countries from many different locations; never before seen in military history. They continue to work with all branches of the military- special operations, conventional and coalition forces, conducting joint special operations across the full spectrum of combat.

The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment is the first unit in the military to be awarded the Global War on Terrorism, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom streamer.

While maintaining a constant deployment rotation, Rangers are always training in and out of combat to prepare for their short to no-notice would-wide combat deployments. The Rangers are the best at what they do and continue to maintain operational capability through recruiting more volunteers to train to carry on the Ranger lineage.

# 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment Insignia

# Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

- Description- A black cloth triparted arced scroll with narrow red fimbriations and a 1/8 inch (.32 cm) black border, 1 29/32 inches (4.84 cm) in height and 3 11/16 inches (9.37 cm) in width overall inscribed "75 RANGER RGT" in white letters.
- Background- The shoulder sleeve insignia was originally approved for the 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment on 26 July 1984. It was re-designated for the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment on 14 February 1986. The shoulder sleeve insignia for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d Ranger Battalions were approved on 26 July 1984. The shoulder sleeve insignia for the Special Troops Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment was approved on 7 April 2006.

# **Distinctive Unit Insignia**

- Description- A Gold color metal and enamel device 1 1/8 inches (2.86 cm) in height overall consisting of a shield blazoned as follows: Quarterly Azure (Blue) and Vert (Green), between in the first and fourth quarters a radiant sun of twelve points and a mullet Argent, a lightning flash couped bendsinisterwise Gules fimbriated Or.
- Symbolism- The colors blue, white, red and green represent four of the original six combat teams of the 5307<sup>th</sup> Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly referred to as Merrill's Marauders, which were identified by color. To avoid confusion, the other two colors, khaki and orange, were not represented in the design, however, khaki was represented by the color of the uniform worn by US forces in the China-Burma-India Theater during World War II. The unit's close cooperation with the Chinese forces in the China-Burma-India Theater is represented by the sun symbol from the Chinese flag. The white star represents the Star of Burma, the country in which the Marauders campaigned during World War II. The lightning bolt is symbolic of the strike characteristics of the Marauders' behind-the-line activities.
- Background- The distinctive unit insignia was originally approved for the 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment on 18 March 1969. It was re-designated for the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment on 3 February 1986

# **Coat of Arms**

- Blazon
  - Shield- Quarterly Azure and Vert, between in the first and fourth quarters a radiant sun of twelve points and a mullet Argent, a lightning flash couped bendsinisterwise Gules fimbriated Or.

- Crest- On a wreath of the colors Argent and Azure, issuing in back of an embattlement of a tower with six merlons Or a pedestal Gules supporting a chinthé affronté of the third in front of a torteau within an annulet of the second.
- Motto- SUA SPONTE (Of Their Own Accord).
- Symbolism
  - Shield- The colors blue, white, red and green represent four of the original six combat teams of the 5307<sup>th</sup> Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly referred to as Merrill's Marauders, which were identified by color. To avoid confusion, the other two colors, khaki and orange were not represented in the design; however, khaki was represented by the color of the uniform worn by US forces in the China-Burma-India Theater during World War II. The unit's close cooperation with the Chinese forces in the China-Burma-India Theater is represented by the sun symbol from the Chinese flag. The white star represents the Star of Burma, the country in which the Marauders campaigned during World War II. The lightning bolt is symbolic of the strike characteristics of the Marauders' behind-the-line activities.
  - Crest- The organization's service in the China-Burma-India Theater of World War II is represented by the chinthé (a gold Burmese lion). The blue annulet symbolizes the Presidential Unit Citation awarded for service at Myitkyina, Burma, the "gateway to China." The gold embattlement in base refers to the unit's combat service in Vietnam while the six merlons represent six Valorous Unit Awards; the two Meritorious Unit Commendations earned by elements of the Regiment are denoted by the scarlet disc at center.
- Background- The coat of arms was originally approved for the 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment on 27 July 1954. It was amended to add a crest on 23 May 1974. The insignia was re-designated for the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment effective 3 February 1986.

### Ranger Medal of Honor Recipients

#### Staff Sergeant Laszlo Rabel

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. S/Sgt. Rabel distinguished himself while serving as leader of Team Delta, 74<sup>th</sup> Infantry Detachment. At 1000 hours on this date, Team Delta was in a defensive perimeter conducting reconnaissance of enemy trail networks when a member of the team detected enemy movement to the front. As S/Sgt. Rabel and a comrade prepared to clear the area, he heard an incoming grenade as it landed in the midst of the team's perimeter. With complete disregard for his life, S/Sgt. Rabel threw himself on the grenade and, covering it with his body, received the complete impact of the immediate explosion. Through his indomitable courage, complete disregard for his safety and profound concern for his fellow soldiers, S/Sgt. Rabel averted the loss of life and injury to the other members of Team Delta. By his gallantry at the cost of his life in the highest traditions of the military service, S/Sgt. Rabel has reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

#### Specialist Robert D. Law

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sp4 Law distinguished himself while serving with Company I. While on a long-range reconnaissance patrol in Tinh Phuoc Thanh province, Sp4 Law and 5 comrades made contact with a small enemy patrol. As the opposing elements exchanged intense fire, he maneuvered to a perilously exposed position flanking his comrades and began placing suppressive fire on the hostile troops. Although his team was hindered by a low supply of ammunition and suffered from an unidentified irritating gas in the air, Sp4 Law's spirited defense and challenging counterassault rallied his fellow soldiers against the well-equipped hostile troops. When an enemy grenade landed in his team's position, Sp4 Law, instead of diving into the safety of a stream behind him, threw himself on the grenade to save the lives of his comrades. Sp4 Law's extraordinary courage and profound concern for his fellow soldiers were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

### Staff Sergeant Robert J. Pruden

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. S/Sgt. Pruden, Company G, distinguished himself while serving as a reconnaissance team leader during an ambush mission. The 6-man team was inserted by helicopter into enemy controlled territory to establish an ambush position and to obtain information concerning enemy movements. As the team moved into the preplanned area, S/Sgt. Pruden deployed his men into 2 groups on the opposite sides of a well-used trail. As the groups were establishing their defensive positions, 1 member of the team was trapped in the open by the heavy fire from an enemy squad. Realizing that the ambush position had been compromised, S/Sgt. Pruden directed his team to open fire on the enemy force. Immediately, the team came under heavy fire from a second enemy element. S/Sgt. Pruden, with full knowledge of the extreme danger involved, left his concealed position and, firing as he ran, advanced toward the enemy to draw the hostile fire. He was seriously wounded twice but continued his attack until he fell for a third time, in front of the enemy positions. S/Sgt. Pruden's actions resulted in several enemy casualties and withdrawal of the remaining enemy force. Although grievously wounded, he directed his men into defensive positions and called for evacuation helicopters, which safely withdrew the members of the team. S/Sgt. Pruden's outstanding courage, selfless concern for the welfare of his men, and intrepidity in action at the cost of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

### Sergeant First Class Leroy A. Petry

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty: Staff Sergeant Leroy A. Petry distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action with an armed enemy in the vicinity of Paktya Province, Afghanistan, on May 26, 2008. As a Weapons Squad Leader with D Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment, Staff Sergeant Petry moved to clear the courtyard of a house that potentially contained high-value combatants. While crossing the courtvard, Staff Sergeant Petry and another Ranger were engaged and wounded by automatic weapons fire from enemy fighters. Still under enemy fire, and wounded in both legs, Staff Sergeant Petry led the other Ranger to cover. He then reported the situation and engaged the enemy with a hand grenade, providing suppression as another Ranger moved to his position. The enemy quickly responded by maneuvering closer and throwing grenades. The first grenade explosion knocked his two fellow Rangers to the ground and wounded both with shrapnel. A second grenade then landed only a few feet away from them. Instantly realizing the danger, Staff Sergeant Petry, unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his safety, deliberately and selflessly moved forward, picked up the grenade, and in an effort to clear the immediate threat, threw the grenade away from his fellow Rangers. As he was releasing the grenade it detonated, amputating his right hand at the wrist and further injuring him with multiple shrapnel wounds. Although picking up and throwing the live grenade grievously wounded Staff Sergeant Petry, his gallant act undeniably saved his fellow Rangers from being severely wounded or killed. Despite the severity of his wounds, Staff Sergeant Petry continued to maintain the presence of mind to place a tourniquet on his right wrist before communicating the situation by radio in order to coordinate support for himself and his fellow wounded Rangers. Staff Sergeant Petry's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment, and the United States Army.

# Ranger Creed

# CSM Neal R. Gentry

**R**ecognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger, fully knowing the hazards of my chosen profession, I will always endeavor to uphold the prestige, honor, and high esprit de corps of my Ranger Regiment.

Acknowledging the fact that a Ranger is a more elite soldier, who arrives at the cutting edge of battle by land, sea, or air, I accept the fact that as a Ranger, my country expects me to move further, faster, and fight harder than any other soldier.

Never shall I fail my comrades. I will always keep myself mentally alert, physically strong, and morally straight, and I will shoulder more than my share of the task, whatever it may be, one hundred percent and then some.

Gallantly will I show the world that I am a specially selected and well trained soldier. My courtesy to superior officers, neatness of dress, and care of equipment shall set the example for others to follow.

Energetically will I meet the enemies of my country. I shall defeat them on the field of battle for I am better trained and will fight with all my might. Surrender is not a Ranger word. I will never leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy and under no circumstances will I ever embarrass my country.

**R**eadily will I display the intestinal fortitude required to fight on to the Ranger objective and complete the mission, though I be the lone survivor.

# **RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!**