



Maj. Gen. Lloyd B. Ramsey, U.S.A. Ret.

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22 May 2008

To the Members of Delta Company:

It is an honor and privilege for me to send you greetings and best wishes on the occasion of your 2008 Reunion.

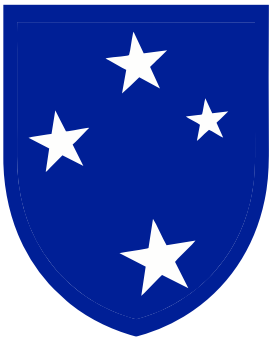
I commanded the Americal Division from 1 June 1969 until 17 March 1970 when my helicopter crashed in the jungle due to both a radar and a pilot error. We were missing in action for 18 hours. When we were found and taken to the hospital I had five crushed vertebra in my back and my left arm was so badly injured they wanted to amputate. They did not amputate due to the back injury but I am having to use a walker to get around. I am not complaining just lucky to be here, thanks to you and many soldiers like you that fought so bravely for your comrades and your country.

At 90 years of age my memory is fading but as I recall you were in the Duc Pho area. The Americal Division had some of the toughest fighting in Vietnam and we had the reputation of being among the best, which means that you were one of the best. I thank you for your outstanding service to the Americal Division and to your country.

For those of you that have not seen combat, I pray that you will never have to go through such an ordeal, but I thank you for your service to your country so that you and your unit is always ready.

My warm regards to all of you,

Lloyd B. Ramsey



DELTA COMPANY, FIRST OF THE TWENTIETH
ELEVENTH LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE
JUNE, 2008
REUNION NEWSLETTER

Men of Delta:

All of us who attended our 2008 Reunion send you our warmest greetings from Bowling Green. We had a great time at the Reunion and wanted to get a newsletter out to you, and certainly to those who could not attend this years Reunion. Some of us began arriving on Wednesday, with many more on Thursday, some on Friday and even a few on Saturday. All of our activities and get-togethers were held at the Holiday Inn in Bowling Green, where we had a large conference room to gather and reminisce, trade stories and lies, look at pictures, and get re-acquainted. For many of us it is by now a family affair, as wives and kids have by now developed their own friendships and interests.

We had a dinner Thursday night in the conference room with introductions all around. All of our 17 new attending men got a round of applause for their attendance. Friday morning we reconvened and welcomed some more folks arriving. Also on Friday morning, the Bangers, Dave & Rosemarie Wright and Ricardo Palomares drove to Murray, Kentucky to the gravesite of Billie Wayne Reed, who we lost on June 3, 1969. They met Billie's brother Michael and his wife and another family friend at the gravesite. Sherry had made a Delta Company wreath and all of them placed it on Billie's grave. It was a touching moment for the Reeds and our Delta family. We will post pictures from the ceremony on Billie's Memorial Page on the Delta website shortly (deltacompany.org). Also Friday morning, John Rosebrook and Alan and Leslie Conger drove to Jack and Pat Haydens to visit them, as Jack was unable to travel to Bowling Green.

Friday night we had dinner again at the conference room. Our guest speaker was Wilmer Cooksey, former General Manager of the Corvette plant in Bowling Green and a Vietnam Forward Observer veteran. Wil spoke to the friendships and bonds formed in the wartime environment.

Saturday, after lunch, we began our business meeting, as we have done in past reunions. We had a number of items on the agenda. We decided to hold the next Reunion again in two years, 2010. We discussed where to hold the next reunion and after much discussion, we would like to meet in Washington, DC, but we will need to research the specific hotel, costs, transportation and other logistics before confirming the Washington location. St. Louis will be our alternative, but based on the results of our Washington research. Richard Culver has offered to assist Wendell in the research, as Richard has made a number of trips to Washington.

For our committee officers, we re-elected the same slate of officers as before, with Wendell Strode as President, Dwight Sommar as Vice President, Mac McLellan as Treasurer and Sherry Barger as Secretary. Wendell also appointed Alan Conger as Newsletter Editor and web man.

Wendell also asked Bobby Renew (Rabbi to most of us) to serve as our Delta Chaplain, and asked Bobby to provide counseling services to our men, should they be interested. Bobby has been a Pastor practically since his return from Vietnam, and has devoted much of his time to counseling folks over those years, and is well-suited to help our men. Bobby has willingly accepted this position, and we encourage those of you who feel the need, to contact Bobby. He can be reached at 706-556-3720 and his e-mail address is renew.bobby@gmail.com.

We then got on with the fun of the meeting, our auction. We had many gifts, some donated by local business folks, most donated by our Delta men and women, many hand-made items and embroideries, and all special and unique. Our own John Ewing, a professional auctioneer, presides over the occasion, and he is a wonder to behold. Our conclusion to the auction is

to present the Delta Company "Flag Memorial" as an auction item. You may recall that the "Flag Memorial" holds the flag that was flown over the Capital Building and was presented to Delta by Bonnie Walsh Ward, in gratitude of Delta's help to Alpha Company on June 10, 1969. Jason Wright had the Flag and a listing of all our lost men assembled in a display case. The "Flag Memorial" honors all of Delta's lost men. This year the Second Platoon "purchased" the Memorial in honor of all the men that made the ultimate sacrifice for Delta. Following the Second Platoon's "purchase", other men also "purchased" the Memorial, in honor of Sergeant Major Erskine Wade, who was with Delta from August, 1969 to August, 1970.

After the auction, Bobby Renew and Cliff Tholen presented their version of the Twelve Days of Christmas and a Christmas Carol, that they had written while together in Vietnam at Christmas, 1968. They had us in howls and as soon as they send in the lyrics, we will post them on the website.

Saturday night we had a formal dinner in the conference room, presided over with a prayer by Bobby. Following dinner, we held our Memorial Service for Delta's lost men. Our former Captain, Chuck Maxson had some opening comments and then each mans name was read aloud. Captain Maxson then gave those attending an opportunity to share a word or memory they had of that departed brother. It was difficult, but also a time to share humor and fond memories of our lost men. We concluded with a moment of silence for all those who were lost.

Sunday morning we all gathered for a buffet breakfast and some great last moments together.

A few other items: Capt. Chuck Seketa planned to attend the reunion, but at the last minute his doctors scheduled him for surgery and he was not able to attend. He is now recovering from surgery, doing well, and sends his warmest greetings to all of Delta and his sincere regrets that he could not attend. He looks forward to seeing all of his Delta friends soon.

Some of the men asked that we begin writing down our memories of actions or events in 'Nam, to compile stories of our company. If you have an event you'd like to record, please write it down in electronic form and e-mail it to the Delta website and we will post them on the site.

And lastly, all of us at the 2008 Reunion send you our very warmest greetings and hopes for a wonderful turnout at our 2010 Reunion.

Reunion Attendees (* designates new attendee)

* Bob Aquero	J.D. Kilzer
John Arias	* Chuck LaFlamme
Jack Armey	Ken & Connie Leslie
*Jim & Diane Avedisian	Jesse & Darlene Lewis
* David Baker	Joe Lupo
Cliff & Sherry Barger	Chuck & Aryds Maxson
Fred & Ruth Battle	* Bob Maxwell
Jesse & Charlotte Bickers	* Carl Mulhauser
Billy & * Stoney (brother) Burruss	* Bob Patton
Alan & Leslie Conger	Ricardo Palomares
* Chris & Nancy Cook	* Kenneth Quale
* Ronnie Cowles	Bobby Renew
Richard & Becky Culver	Billy & Dana Rose
Duke Davis	John & Jan Rosebrook
* Ron "Doc" & Janis Davis	Steve & Rebecca Russell
Jim Drieth	* Vernon "Stash" Sandlin
*Lynn & Kaye Duke.	Daryl & Nancy Seegert
Tom Ebert	John Simpson
Randy & Charlene Evans	Dwight & Penny Sommar
John Ewing	Wendell & Jan Strobe
*Robert Frye & Nellie Jean & granddaughter	Cliff & Mary Jo Tholen
* William "Doc" Garipey	Erskine & Georgia Wade
Bill & Kiva Gratzner	Michael Wade
Elmer Hall & Sandy Carson	Herb & Sharon Wielenberg
Robert, Sheila & Ryan Hatten	Jan & Evy Winters
* Tom Hill	Dave & RoseMarie Wright
Bill & Linda Howard	Jason & Jane Wright, Mindy, Lauren, Jayden
* Carmine & Sandra Iosue	



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April 2006

To the Members of Delta Company:

It is an honor for me to send greetings and best wishes on the occasion of your 2006 Reunion.

Having been assigned to Duc Pho at the beginning of my second tour, I am very familiar with where you all fought and know that it was some of the cruelest fighting of the Vietnam War. You fought admirable and as members of Delta Company, you experienced the atrocities of war in a way that very few Americans have or could understand.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your service to our Nation. Your family and all Americans are proud of you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,