

January 17, 1997

Dear Mr. Pope,

I understand that you chair the association for Co E, 20th Inf. I and Mike Malone were the charter members of the company when it was activated in September 1967 in Vietnam. Mike passed away a little more than a year ago. He was a great friend and a super commander.

I was one of about a dozen officers from the 101st that Mike interviewed for the job of operations officer. At the time of my selection I was Asst Ops Officer of the 101st's Support Bn. Prior to that I had been with the 5th Special Forces from July 66-July 67 as XO of the Mike Force, Ranger Advisor with Project Delta and XO on several A Teams. I returned twice more after my tour with Co E. Commanded a rifle company in 9th Div in 1969 and served as advisor to ARVN Rangers in 71-72.

The first XO, Cpt Tucker, was KIA as he and I recruited the initial cadre from the 101st in September '67. After he was killed I continued visiting every rifle company in the brigade (1/101) until I was able to recruit about nearly 80 paratroopers.

If you are interested in any information that I might provide you--write me. I'm interested in contacting members of the initial company cadre. Haven't spoken or written to any of them since 1968--29 years.

Sincerely,


Mike Perkins