

MEMORIES
From John Fort

After seeing the posting in the guest book that we are all getting CRS, I started thinking of what I can remember.

At Ben Hoa "volunteering" for Ranger training

Arriving at Phuoc Vinh

Training, P.T., classes, most of the 5 mile run

An intense pride when I could wear the Black Beret

**Seeing spots of light on my first mission and waking the TL
and having him tell me, after what I thought was forever, "fire flies"**

**Another mission late at night on my watch, and again waking the TL to the sound of movement in the jungle.
His response again after what seemed forever "monkeys"**

The FU lizard, scorpions, bugs

**Laying on the ground near May 1 1970 on the Cambodian border and feeling the ground vibrate from bombing
runs**

The Loach ride back from Tay Ninh to Phuoc Vinh

Jumping out of helicopter at our second L.Z. and them being picked up again because of bad communications

**Having the first sergeant send me to the aid station
to have a look at my "sprained Ankle" which was determined to be broken**

**Immediate flight to Saigon Hospital, short stay then to Japan, short stay
then to Fort Riley, Kansas**

Qualifying for the CIB badge

**My feeling of disappointment, nearing desertion,
for being sent stateside for a silly broken ankle**

**Blocking all this out for nearly 30 years
until I got a call asking if I had been a Ranger**

Thanks for the memories

John Fort