

**THE "WHO ARE THESE GUYS"  
PICTURE IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER PROMPTED THE FOLLOWING STORIES.  
FROM Bob Good, 1/9 pilot**

Good to hear from our LRRP/Rangers. I don't remember George **Richardson**, but I probably inserted/extracted him and his team mates on more than one occasion.

Other C Troop Lift pilots who would also have probably hauled him in and out were: Rob Zastrow, John Gretzinger, Phil Grandy, Jim Pressman, Mark Boisseau, John Atkins, Steve "Spiffy" Karas, and, of course, we were always covered by the dauntless pilots and gunners of the Red and White platoons

The only individuals from H Company that I remember now are the company commander, Captain **Pacerelli**, the first sergeant, Jerry **Price**, Platoon Sergeant **Wallace**, Lt. **Rice**. Several other guys' faces are still back there, but I've lost their names in the mists.

They were all a great bunch of guys and we in Charlie Troop had some of our most memorable days and nights in action with the boys from H Company. The night Major Felton was killed, we were inserting Blues to reinforce a LRRP team. Then, after we recovered the Blues and LRRPs, John Gretzinger inserted CPT **Pacerelli** and one of his teams onto Felton's crash site to check for survivors and get a body count. As I remember, they had to be rappelled onto the crash.

There was no nearby clearing for either insertion or extraction, so they had to move about five hundred meters through thick trees and brush to a clearing where they could be flown back to homeplate. I wonder if **Richardson** was in that team, ii July 1969.

**ANOTHER STORY:  
UNWANTED ASSISTANCE  
FROM COMMAND**

At least in the 1/9 Cav, 1st Cav Div, we jumped through all kinds of loops getting out to reinforce LRRPs or pull them out, as the situation required. It also seems like we had to pull a fair amount of those extractions at night, also.

One good story about night extractions I remember was at Phuoc Vinh in AO Chief, the area around the base camp which was under the command of the DIVARTY commander. I think it happened either in Dec '69 or Jan. '70.

A LRRP team was in contact and we responded with a Huey for the team and a Pink Team (LOH and Cobra) to cover. When our guys got there, they found the division commander, assistant division commander and the DIVARTY commander, all in different helicopters, all on the LRRP frequency telling the guys what to do!!!

John Atkins was flying the Huey, and when he could get a word in edgewise he keyed the mike and said (something to the effect) "If everyone who is a spectator will just get off the air and let those of us who are trying to do the job talk, we'll get this thing over with."

He said there was absolute silence on the air, so he continued, "Thank you, Talon this is Cavalier --, please flash your strobe every few seconds so i can get you located, then keep it up to guide me in." The team flashed their strobe light as he asked, he flew straight into their position and picked them up, without further incident.

Of course, the Cobra and LOH were firing and giving them all cover. When he got back to our operations shack he told me what happened (I was flight ops officer) and we'd probably get some flak for what he said to the senior officers.

I remember thinking it funny and told him not to worry about it, after what he said they were probably embarrassed that they were interfering with the mission. Anyway, the team was safely extracted and no one got into hot water from division.

Thanks for all you guys in the LRRPs did.

**Bob Good**