



RIPCORD REPORT



For Friends and Survivors of the battle of Fire Support Base Ripcord
Republic of Vietnam 12 March - 23 July, 1970

Number 90

Summer 2012

Distinguished Service Cross for Fred Spaulding

On May 6, 2012, at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, before his family, friends and fellow veterans, retired Lt. Col. Fredrick Spaulding received the DSC (Distinguished Service Cross) for gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty during the evacuation of FSB Ripcord and the adjacent jungle. He had previously received the Silver Medal but after thorough investigations, he was found to be deserving of an upgrade to the second highest award available to a military man.

During the battle for Ripcord, Captain Fred Spaulding served as S-3 Air providing coordination and oversight of the air sorties, artillery firing and helicopter traffic in and around the Ripcord area of operations. In his position over the battle area he had a good idea of what was happening at all times. During the evacuation of Ripcord and the area on 23 July 1970 he stayed on the air as he did his best to keep the helicopters arriving and the air strikes and artillery hitting NVA locations through out the day. Time after time he had his pilot fly low so he could get a better fix on enemy and friendly locations. He personally threw grenades to mark targets or damage the enemy. The low flying resulted in one helicopter

after another taking rounds and becoming inoperable. Limping back to Camp Evans he found a new pilot and an additional chopper so he could continue his



work. This continued through out the day until finally in his fourth helicopter, he was able to see the evacuation of Alpha and Delta Companies as they left the jungle. Time and again he exposed himself to enemy fire by flying just above the tree tops and hovering while he pinpointed the enemy positions in order to distract them from the evacuation of the two line companies and bring air support upon them.

For these reasons the medal was presented. Over 80 people attended the ceremony where LTC Spaulding was welcomed by CSM Jim Brown (a Ripcord veteran), received accolades from retired Brigadier General Stewart Goodwin who listed Spaulding accomplishment, retired Major General Martin Umbarger of the Indiana National Guard who made the actual presentation, and Congressman Dan Burton of Indiana who thanked Fred for his valiant service.

LTC Spaulding was given a standing ovation for the medal and later received all well wishers in a side room with refreshment provided by the Congressman.



FROM THE EDITOR

There is a lot going on right now with near completion of The Temple University Ripcord Documentary and a new upcoming movie about The Battle of Ripcord. Remember, there is still no definite script or storyline.



It is still be worked out. The producer is still going to talk to a lot of the Ripcord vets. Not everyone's story can be told in a 2 hour movie, but this will open the doors for you to get in touch with your local media and tell them your story about Ripcord. If enough attention can be drawn to Ripcord, maybe we can get a 12 part series on a network to tell everyone's story and it can cover the entire battle.

Go to our website and update your membership to change your e-mail, postal address, etc. so that we can continue to update you.

E-mail address

I need your e-mail address. If you are not receiving updates and information about the Ripcord Association via e-mail, you may be missing out on a lot of news. Please go to our website and update your information.

Contact me at mail@ripcordassociation.com or at my address below.

Biographies on our website.

I would like to put a biography of all Ripcord Veterans on our website. Please send me your biography for our website. Let me know about your Ripcord experience, and you can also tell us about your family and life after Ripcord. Send them to: biographies@ripcordassociation.com or at my address below.

ARTICLES

Deadline for the Fall issue will be **August 1st 2012**

Please send all articles, photos, incoming mail to:

Frank Marshall

5 Taconia Ct

Mt Laurel, NJ 08054

or e-mail to: mail@ripcordassociation.com

2012 Ripcord Reunion
Indianapolis Marriott East
Indianapolis, IN
October 3 - 6, 2012

Donations, the life blood of our Association

The following have given donations to the Ripcord Association since the last newsletter. These donations help keep the website and newsletters published to keep all our Ripcord members up to date.

Bill Williams
Dave Corradetti
Wilburn Wall
James Mccoy
Dave Fishlock
Ben Harrison
John Palm
Joe DeMarco

Checks payable to "Ripcord Association".

Mail to:

Lee Widjeskog,
493 Stillman Ave.
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Opinions expressed in submitted material are not necessarily those of the editorial staff. We reserve the right to reject any material deemed to be inappropriate. We also reserve the right to edit all submissions, but we will make every effort to maintain the writer's concept and meaning. Please be brief and concise.

RIPCORD REPORT

Ripcord Report is a publication of the **Ripcord Association**, and is the authoritative voice of history for the Battle of Fire Support Base Ripcord.

Ripcord Report

5 Taconia Court, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

www.ripcordassociation.com

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JERSEY RAMBLING

by Lee Widjeskog

A/2-506



As you have noted by the front page of our newsletter, we are proud to announce the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Fred Spaulding for his deeds during the siege and evacuation of Fire Support Base Ripcord in July 1970! The medal is well deserved and long over due!

For many of us, going to Vietnam was not about winning medals but was all about returning home safely while doing our jobs as well as we could. Unless you were planning on a career in the military, it was one more thing to get out of the way before you would be allowed to move on with your life of work and/or raising a family. For the majority that was what happened!

Along the way while completing our military obligation to our nation, things occurred which we did not like and it affected us physically and mentally. The Army generally tried to help you along and recognized your hard work, sacrifices and military accomplishments with awards and medals of a wide variety. They gave out a certificate if you completed a course. There were recognition for marksmanship, jump wings, air medals, ranger tabs, the infantry blue shoulder sash, a CIB (Combat Infantryman Badge), good conduct award, the commendation award, the bronze star and the bronze star with a "V" device for valor in combat, the purple heart and if you were really in the thick of it and were really good or lucky or any combination, you got a silver star, distinguished service cross or even the medal of honor.

To most 19 to 21 year old soldiers, the awards were taken with a grain of salt. All they wanted was to get home alive. As a result the heavy action and the many medals being awarded, many guys received the orders for their medal but never actually got the medals awarded. At the time it was a minor detail that could be remedied later. But as later came about we did not think of medals. We did our tour, got home, and tried to leave thoughts of the war behind us except in our dreams and whenever we had a free moment in the day. Very few of the people back home asked us about the war and unless they knew us well, it did not occur to them that we had been in a war and received medals for doing a good job.

Now as we approach the final portion of our lives we think back about our buddies, squad members and those whom we lived and died with in 1970 or since. With a change in public opinion, people now want to know if you were in Vietnam. The public once more honors veterans. Our kids and family are now interested in your year away and the medals you won. Regretfully, you may not have them to show. However, you can still get them from the government at no cost. It is simple to do. Send a letter to:

National Personnel Records Center

9700 Page Ave.

St. Lewis, MO 63138-5100

Attach a copy of Standard Form 180, which you can pick up at any Veterans Administration office, fill it out and mail it off. Sometime in the future your medals will arrive. Another way is to contact your local US Congressman office and ask them to help you. The response is usually very good.

**2012
Ripcord Reunion
Indianapolis Marriott East
Indianapolis, IN
October 3 - 6, 2012**

**Make your
Hotel reservations
NOW!**

317-352-1231

**Reservation forms
are in this issue
and on our website**

Ripcord is Finally coming to The Big Screen

The Battle of Ripcord

The true story of the men of Ripcord

Directed by

Shannon C. Lanier

Executive Producer

Shannon C. Lanier

Written by

Shannon C. Lanier

Starring

Joseph D'Onofrio

Michael Alban

Christian Keiber

Jack Marshall

Tyler Hollinger

www.battleofripcordmovie.com

www.darkroninfilms.com

FILM SYNOPSIS

DARK RONIN Films is honored to bring this gripping true story to the big screen. Follow the men who fought the last major battle of the Vietnam War. Nearly forgot back home and left to defend their brothers, family and nation against impossible odds. The heroes of Ripcord withstood the advancement of more than 30,000 enemy troops. The Siege at Ripcord cost hundreds of American soldier's lives and thousands those on the opposite side. The Battle of Ripcord tells the true story of the days leading up to the final battle. The film takes a glimpse into the lives, minds and innocence of the boys that were made soldiers and they're sacrifices to protect the mission. The film provides a raw prospective from eyes of the men fighting on the front lines in the jungles of the A-Shau Valley; those manning the guns of Ripcord, the command that lead the extract mission; the commander of the enemy forces and Nixon's blind eye to the carnage that was Ripcord.

This is the real story as told by the men who fought, bleed and grieved over their fallen brothers in arms. This is the real story of heroism, brotherhood and sacrifice. This is the true story of the men of Ripcord.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I could not be more honored to be asked to bring this story to life. With the assistance of many veterans and heroes of Ripcord, we hope to bring the much deserved attention to this untold story. Principal photography is tentatively slated for Spring 2013 to take place in parts of West Virginia, Washington, DC, Virginia and Lousianna. This is an amazing undertaking for an independent film project, but will stand as another testament of filmmaker outside of Hollywood and the big studio budget. With the dedication of many decorated actors, crew and producers, The Battle of Ripcord will bring an amazing story to movie goers everywhere.

Ripcord Movie Press Party Everyone is Invited

On Sat June 30th, there is going to be a Press conference at Prospector's Steakhouse and Saloon 3050 Route 38 Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

Phone: (856) 235-1121

<http://www.prospectorsrestaurant.com/>

Complete with special guest, media coverage from 92.5 XTU Philly, local news, special celebrity guests in both film and music and many others to kick-off pre-production for both films that will begin in early 2013. We will be premiering a teaser trailer and other information about both films at the press conference. Looking forward to seeing some of you in late June and also posting casting call details.

There is still no definite script or storyline. It is still be worked out. The producer is still going to talk to a lot of the Ripcord vets. He has read Keith Nolan's book and Ben Harrison's book.

More information and updates will be on our Ripcord website:
www.ripcordassociation.com



Visit the Ripcord Association website
at:

www.ripcordassociation.com

The website includes:
History of the Ripcord Association
History of FSB Ripcord
Biographies of Ripcord veterans
Member Roster
Newsletter Archives
and
much, much more.

To read more letters and comments written to the editor, go to our website and click member comments. www.ripcordassociation.com

RIPCORD DOCUMENTARY TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

The Ghosts of Ripcord Update!

Everything regarding the documentary about the battle of Firebase Ripcord is going very well. We are currently in the thick of editing right now and anticipate having the film completed by the end of the summer. On June 9th a trailer will be released online on the Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/firebasefilm>

During the fall we will be pursuing major distribution for the film. Our incredible team of photographers, sound experts, color-correctionists, editors, and producers are working really hard to complete the film. More updates will be coming throughout the summer!

I'm also making plans to move to Los Angeles in July to pursue a career in the film industry. We will have the editing completed by that time and will finish the color-correction during August (which I do not need to be present for). I will be back throughout the fall though as we find distribution. Thanks a lot!

Sincerely,
John Daily
johnrdaily1@gmail.com

Ripcord 2012 Reunion

signed up

Anthony & Dennise Critchlow HHC 2/506
Raynard & Debbie Sellers A 2/327
Ben & Carolyn Harrison HHC 3 Bde
Murphy & Phyllis Majoria guest
Polly Atkins Guest
Bruce & Ramona Nelson 2/319 FA
Lee & Kathy Widjeskog A 2/506
Bob & Red Judd B 2/506
Jim & Michelle McCoy D 1/506
Ben & Lillian Peters B 2/506
Bruce Brady & Karolyn Kruger A 2/506
Dave & Lisa Snyder A 2/11 FA
Paul & Laura Hansmann B 2/506

INCOMING MAIL

I was the Company Commander of C Company 3rd Bn, 187 Infantry till early June 1970. Our Rifle Company was never actually on FSB Ripcord, but were operating in the mountains around Ripcord, under the operational control of 2 Bn 506th, for the last few weeks that I was the Company Commander. We had a few contacts, but the NVA seemed to be avoiding contact, since they were moving with a mission in mind... which must have been attacking FSB Ripcord. I spent my first tour in Viet Nam (Dec 1967 to Dec 1968) with the 2nd Bn 506th Inf, serving in Tiger Bravo as a Rifle Platoon Leader, in Echo Company as the Recon Platoon Leader and finally in King Alpha as a Rifle Platoon Leader. And the first six months of my second tour (June 1969 to June 1970) I was assigned to 2nd Bn, 506th Inf - as the Delta Company Commander. Stayed in the Army and retired in 1995. Our son has just completed 20 years of Military Service, and is a UH-60 Helo Pilot.

James Stevens Roach
C Company 3 Bn 187 Inf
ranger_roach@gmail.com

I was the 2/506 communications officer from after the death of 1LT John Darling until my DROS in early August, 1970. I did not spend all my time on Ripcord, since I had to attend to matters at Camp Evans from time to time, but I made frequent trips to the base and spent many days there, including the last several days of occupation. I oversaw the day-to-day communications operations, as well as those preceding and during the evacuation, and worked closely with the infantry, artillery, engineer, aviation, and medical personnel on the firebase. I am proud to have shared experiences with the very brave men I came to know through my service.

I attended the 2000 reunion in Shreveport. It was an important event in my life. I don't know why I haven't taken the formal step of submitting a membership application until now, but I ask that it be accepted. I think of my Ripcord experiences frequently. They are an indelible aspect of my psyche and always inform how I deal with other people (privately AND publicly—I'm the host of news and music programs

on the New Orleans NPR affiliate) and how I confront adversity.

I look forward to coming to another reunion. I was married only a couple of years ago, and I think my wife would come to know me even better by attending.

Many thanks!

Jack Hopke
HHC, 2/506
jackhopke@yahoo.com

As a sister, my brother William Zeh served proudly 1970-1971 in Vietnam; and died at age 50 from service connected complications. Since his death in 2000, it has always been in my heart that I give back and support Vietnam veterans in any way I could. Meeting Frank Marshall of the Ripcord Association evoked an even stronger reason to be part of this association in my brother's memory. You all served our country and sacrificed for my freedom. It is my honor to be shoulder to shoulder with all veterans of this association, and to be a supportive associate member. Thank you for your service and "Welcome Home"; something you all never heard.... "Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"

I look forward to many years ahead together. Marilyn Griffiths, Blue Star Mother (daughter served U.S. Army 2008-2012) Deployed 2010... I pray for all veterans and active military...

Marilyn Zeh Griffiths
Associate Member

I would like to hear what some of my friends are doing now. some names I can remember are David Bratcher, David Weir, Willie Mize, Eddie Fox.etc.

Todd M. Gulick
B 2/319 arty
par4mer50@AOL.com

Thank you all for giving yourself to protect us ... us as a country and us as a person ...

Amora Scott
Associate Member

INCOMING MAIL

Hi Frank

Not only I'm a member of Ripcord Asso, I'm also a member of the 82nd ABN Asso. When I open my Paraglide mag this 1/4, I was surprised & very pleased to see our Col. Fred Spaulding as the new President of the 82nd ABN Asso. I went on to read his bio and was amazed by his past service to our country & fellow Veterans.

I also read that he will be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, & has been recommended for the Ranger Hall of Fame. I am very proud (as all of us) to be a combat brother and regard him as a mentor. His service started back in 1958 and is still on going. I feel we very lucky to have him! I would like to salute him and wish him the best in his administration.

John Marlowe
B-2/501 1970-71

I have been working years to reconstruct the last dieing hours of FB Maureen. Opearation Texas Star is incomplete. Though my tour was short lived (WIA), the color picture on your website is a vivid picture of my very first week inbound, we were assigned to escort a bulldozer and supplies and I remember that focal point vividly and the horrid three days of an attempted overrun of the FB while we were waiting to get off that hill on patrol. I don't remember exactly unit I was in with the 101st, as it was not really pertinent to me at the moment of my research as I could contact Clarkville, TN when it would be necessary. Thank You for filling in a very big hole on my map and troop movements. GS

Glenn Scott South
C CO. 2/506th (?)
glenn.south@skynet.be

Served with A Brty 2/11 FA I was not at Ripcord. I got to the Brty about Oct..1970 thur July 1971. I served with some great men who was At Ripcord.

Billy Montgomery
A/2-11 Arty
b.montgomery@bresnan.net

Crazy place to fly in and out of. Special battle that needs to be remembered. Thanks.

Edward "Eddie" C. Hester
Co. B, 158th Avn Bn, 101st

I think, what you all are doing here is a Great thing. I would like to take this time to "Thank all my Brothers for their Service" !!! And to say "Welcome Home"

Terry J. Troxclair
B/2-506
sniper101airborn@gmail.com

I served on & around Ripcord that spring & summer (1970), then as a member of D.Co. 2/501st landed & made our way up to & held Hill 805 in support of FSB Ripcord.

JAMES M. BROWN
D/2-501
james.brown26@us.army.mil
CSM, INARNG
State Command Sergeant Major

I would like to contact other persons that were at Ripcord to get information that will help me deal with the Veterans Administration, you know what I mean there. Thanks and may you have a restful sleep.

Larry Dean Hildebrand
A/2-501
larryhildebrand986@sbcglobal.net

There were many heroes at Ripcord. I was nearby at FB Barnette. We should never forget what happened at Ripcord. I salute all who were there.

Gary Bruce Roberts
1st ARVN Inf. Div. (FB Barnette)
gbroberts5542@yahoo.com

INCOMING MAIL

Hi Frank

Just wanted to update my email address and ask if it is possible to get the email address of some of the other associate members? I've been trying to locate anyone who might have photos to submit to the VVMF for their National Call for Photos. It looks like some of the associate members are relatives of those killed with Mark Draper.

As an example, of the 13 listed below that died with Mark Draper, only Olson, Draper, Brown and Journell have had photos submitted.

Thanks

Dave Hine

MRDAVIDLHINE@ATT.NET

Hi Everyone.

Tomorrow we leave for home. We depart Tuy Hoa at 4 PM and then depart Saigon at 11:50 PM, fly to Tokyo, then Washington DC, then on to Harrisburg, PA. Right now we are sitting in the hotel restaurant on the 17th floor. It is called the Sky Lounge and it has a 360 degree view. Tuy Hoa is on the coast. I look out one side of the restaurant and see the South China Sea. Turning 90 degrees to the left and I see radar mountain and further around to the left there it is all mountain range. It reminds me of Rocket Ridge...without the red and green tracers.

So our trip is winding down and we have made good progress on two of our three objectives. One, a good foundation for future teaching and has been laid at the school where I taught and they will be delighted to welcome my friends who want to teach. Two, I am excited about the opportunities presented to me for assisting the church.

The third objective is a bit disappointing, but I am learning important stuff. I spent some time here in Tuy Hoa with a fellow Pennsylvanian who has been living here for 6 years. He is a brown water Navy vet and served in northern I Corps too. Its been good to talk with him. The disappointing thing is not being able to make it to the A Shau. I was advised to not go and then the advice was confirmed by a number of sources. The area is still sensitive. A couple Americans roaming around out there is especially sensitive. A Luoi is a

border town which might account for some of the sensitivity. I was told of one American who was visiting the area on his own and was arrested, deported and barred from entering VN in the future. However, there are tours that go there and if I hooked up with a tour it would be alright. In one of these registered tours you can even hike up Hamburger Hill...they say. There is a possibility I might come back here in November and if I do maybe I'll try to include it.

On the other hand...maybe some of you would want to join me on a trip to the A Shau!

See ya,

Bob Smoker

bobsmoker1@gmail.com

I need help locating someone. He was my crew chief that flew my front seat for a day in the Ripcord battle and I think he deserves a coin. His last name was Generazio. He was an E5 at that time. I can't recall his first name or where he was from. None of the other pilots can recall his first name either. He was probably one of the very few Cobra crew chiefs that ever flew on a combat mission; not the most politically correct thing to do, but the CO and I knew you guys needed us all. You may need to forward this to Gen. Harrison for more help.

David Grubb (Redskin 32)

grubb71@hotmail.com

This Association has given my husband a place to talk with people who went through the same experiences he did. He never talked about Vietnam before joining. Thanks for all you do.

Dennise Critchlow

dennise2cu@q.com

(wife of our facebook director Anthony Critchlow)

Visit the
Ripcord Association Facebook page at:

[http://www.facebook.com/groups/
ripcordassociation/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ripcordassociation/)

Bob Kalsu Character Award.

I am LTC (Ret.) Brian McConnell. I am a part of a group of University of Oklahoma Army ROTC alumni who are setting up an annual scholarship in Bob Kalsu's name at the university.

We are naming the scholarship the "Bob Kalsu Character Award." This scholarship will be given to one outstanding cadet each year. We believe the cadets considered for this award will first be nominated by their peers on the basis of high moral character, and then finalists will be interviewed by cadre with the PMS selecting the one recipient.

One former PMS, Kennan Horn, suggested I contact the Ripcord Association and see if there is any interest in supporting this effort. It is my distinct honor to make contact, although I am not sure who will receive this email.

Our effort is headed up by MG (Ret) Geoffrey Lambert, also an OU Army ROTC graduate from the 70's.

Of note, we have the express permission from Bob's wife, Jan, to move forward with this award.

If someone from the Ripcord Association would contact me, we can discuss the award and determine if the Association can support this effort.

Said support need not be money but any other form of support. Perhaps your distinguished members would like to help us out. If we can raise enough through the OU Foundation, we can make this an endowed scholarship which will be available to fine young men and women into the future and keep alive the name of Bob Kalsu and in turn, the events at Ripcord in 1970.

Ken Horn informed me that your Association was very generous in supporting the fine portrait of Bob now seen everyday in the OU Armory, right next to the football stadium. As a member of the OU Army ROTC Alumni Board, I thank you.

My contact information:

*Brian McConnell
5912 Grass Lake Terrace
Minneapolis, MN 55419
bmccconnell4@comcast.net*

Check out Temple's facebook page
about the Ripcord documentary
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/firebasefilm>

Anna Britt Nolan Trust Fund

by George and Mary Murphy



Ulla Nolan tells us the Trust Fund continues to grow slowly, but surely, thanks to the generosity of Ripcord members and other friends of the family.

She said she will probably not be able to attend this year's reunion due to other family commitments, but she will certainly have us all in her thoughts.

Now is a good time to plan on bringing items for the Trust Fund Raffle at this year's reunion in October. We all know the cost of education continues to climb and we sure would like to help Britt get through college.

Thanks to all of you who have made contributions to the Fund already this year.

Dear Members of the Ripcord Association

Thank you! Thank you for the generous gift to Britt's trust fund. We are so grateful.

Britt is a good student. Writing and math are her favorites and she is also very interested in Japanese (spelling and writing it well). Who knows where she will end up?!

She and her mother moved to Portland, Oregon last spring and they seem to be doing well. They came back for Thanksgiving and both looked well.

Thank you again!

Ulla

The address where donations may be sent
for the trust fund is:

**Anna Britt Nolan Trust
c/o First Bank
6211 Mid Rivers Mall Drive
Saint Charles, MO 63304-1102**

Firestore Ripcord Association October 3-6, 2012

**Hotel Reservation form for
INDIANAPOLIS MARRIOTT EAST**
7202 East 21st. Street
Indianapolis, IN 46219

317-352-1231 (Direct Hotel Reservation)
or at www.indianapolismarriotteast.com

Group code: **RIPCORDER**

Group Room Rate: \$85 per day +17% tax.
A deposit for the first night's room and tax or a Credit Card Number is required to guarantee this reservation.

Your Name: _____ Telephone # _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ No. of Rooms _____

Roommate Name(s): _____

Room needs: _____

THIS IS A NON-SMOKING HOTEL (SMOKERS SHOULD GET A GROUND FLOOR ROOM SO THEY CAN STEP OUTSIDE.)

- Although we cannot guarantee special requests, every effort will be made to meet your request.

Deposit Enclosed: _____ Credit Card Number: _____ Exp: _____

Cardholder Signature Authorizing Hotel's Use of Credit Card: _____

*PLEASE NOTE: Those guests sending a cash deposit should be aware that a credit card imprint and valid, state-issued ID will be necessary upon check in. Should you wish to pay for your stay with cash, a credit card imprint and valid ID will still be required upon arrival to secure your accommodations.
All cash payments are accepted upon departure.

Check-in time: 4:00 PM (1600 hrs)

Check-out Time: 12:00 PM (1200 hrs)

To confirm reservations, return form to the hotel or call by September 3, 2012.

We look forward to seeing you in October!

Ripcord on Facebook

by Anthony Chritchlow



What a great year for our facebook page! We are up to 257 members at this time and are growing at the rate of about two or three new ones per month. Put the word out to any Ripcord vet that you may know and ask them to join! Thanks to all!

There are two fantastic things that are happening.

1. The Temple University documentary is to be released this fall. The trailer will be online on June 9 as mentioned elsewhere. 2. A movie is to be produced about the battle of Firebase Ripcord by Dark Ronin Films. If all goes well filming will begin in 2013 and the release could be within a year of that. The film at this time is planned to cover the opening, occupation and extraction. The many battles around the base will be hit upon but not covered in depth. We hope that with these two items, it may stir more interest among large producers and perhaps an in-depth film can be produced to cover all aspects of the battle.

Guys, do not get upset if your part of the battle is not covered in these two films. Their production will stimulate others to help us get the recognition we all deserve.

There is a web page you can go to if you want to read about the new movie proposal. <http://battleofripcordmovie.com/home.html>

Ripcord Reunion Dates

**2012 Ripcord Reunion
Indianapolis Marriott East
Indianapolis, IN
October 3 - 6, 2012**

**2013 Ripcord Reunion
Sands Ocean Club Resort
Myrtle Beach, SC
Oct 9 - 12, 2013**

**2014 Ripcord Reunion
Sands Ocean Club Resort
Myrtle Beach, SC
Oct 8 - 11, 2014**

Ripcord Association Membership

We have:

- 767 members in our Ripcord Association.
- 576 are Ripcord Veterans
- 191 are Associate Members
- 250 receive newsletter via Postal Mail
- 517 receive the newsletter via e-mail
- 23 are new members
- 257 Facebook "Ripcord Association Group"

New Members

Brown	James	D/2-501
Carr	Robert	A/101 Avn
Clark	Heather	Associate Member
Counts	Robert	A/2-506
De La Torre	Joshua	Associate Member
DePasquale	Nino	Associate Member
Gullick	Todd	B/2-319 arty
Haltenhof	Gene	C/158 Avn
Hawley	James	Associate Member
Hester	Edward	B/158 Avn
Hildebrand	Larry	A/2-501
Hopke, Jr	John	HHC 2/506
Howe	Bob	C/158 Avn Bn
McConnell	Brian	Associate member
Miller	Erick	Associate Member
Montgomery	Billy	A/2-11
Persson	Scott	B/326th EngBn
Roach	James	C/3-187
Savage	Ira	D/2-501
Scott	Amora	Associate Member
Dobrosky	Phil	C/101 Avn
South	Glenn	C C0. 2/506th (?)
Roberts	Gary	1st ARVN Inf



When was the last time you updated your Membership If you have moved, changed your e-mail address, etc

Please go to our website Membership Page and fill out the membership Form

RIPCORD REUNION 2012
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

[] Yes, I'll be there!

[] I have not attended a Reunion since 1997 and have not received a Ripcord Coin.

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ UNIT IN 'NAM _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Will a family member(s) be attending? How many including you? []. If yes what are their names? (For name tag purposes only).

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

NO COMPLEMENTARY TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT AVAILABLE.

Registration fee of \$ _____ is enclosed for # _____ Adults and # _____ children under 18.
\$35 for children under 18. For adults see discounts below !

DISCOUNTS FOR EARLY REGISTRATION:

Before June 30, 2011, \$75 per adult

July 1 through 31, 2011 \$80 per adult,

August 1 through September 1, 2011 \$85 per adult.

After September 1, 2011 \$90 per adult.

Your registration fee covers the cost of the hospitality room, snacks and beverages, and dinner on Saturday.

Registration fee due no later than September 28, 2012.

Make your check payable to "RIPCORD ASSOCIATION"

Mail your check with this form to:

Lee Widjeskog, 493 Stillman Ave., Bridgeton, NJ 08302.

If you have questions call Lee at 856-451-1108 before 30 September 2012

After call 609-774-6951

AGENDA

Wednesday, October 3: Hospitality suite opens at 1200 hours. (Self guided tours and shopping)

Thursday, October 4: Hospitality suite opens at 1200 hours. (Golf in the AM) (Self guided tours)

Friday, October 5: Hospitality 1200 Hours. Ladies raffle 1900 hours (7PM)

Saturday, October 6: Business meeting for association business in Hospitality room.

Dinner with cash bar starting at 1730 hours done by 2200 hours.

Sunday, October 7: Homeward bound

Thursday golf outing (not included in the registration fee). Check here if you will play [].

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE SEPERATELY AND
BY September 3, 2012**

CALL 317-352-1231 or E-mail at www.indianapolismarriotteast.com

**ASK FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS AND REFER TO THE GROUP
CODE: RIPCORD**