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75th Infantry Regiment (Ranger) metallic badge.

In Vietnam, new technologies also played a role. The use of night vision provided a significant advantage when locating targets in the dark.

The biggest change came on February 1, 1969, when the Department of the Army reassigned companies and detachments, such as the LRP companies of the 75th Regiment Infantry (Ranger). Since then, these troops were known as Rangers.

The distinctive insignia of the 75th Infantry Regiment (Ranger) was approved on March 18, 1969.



Detail of the transmitter placement on a STABO harness. Olive Green tape was use to reinforce the transmitter's position on the harness.



The signaling panel was placed in an easily accessible area, in case it was needed in an emergency.



The backpack made by CISO lacked a metal frame; its design conformed well to the back.

Smith & Wesson MK22 Mod. 0

During the Vietnam War, the Navy wanted to equip the Navy SEALs with a silenced pistol for use against sentry dogs. The Smith & Wesson MK22 Mod C was based on the Smith & Wesson Model 39, which was already in use by the US Navy. It was nicknamed Hush-Puppy. It had a safety that blocked the slide, which made it possible to keep the mechanism closed and silent while firing. A silencer was provided as part of the Marine kit (MK26 Mod O); in addition to the silencer (MK3 Mod O), it also included 24 subsonic 9mm Parabellum cartridges with green tips (MK144 Mod O). The silencer weighed 10.2 grams and had an initial velocity of 274 meters per second. If the ammunition used was standard, the silencer quickly degraded and had to be changed every six shots, but with subsonic ammunition, one could fire up to 30 shots before replacing it.



Original box with subsonic ammunition and silencer.

Technical Data	
Cartridge	9x19 mm. (9 Parabellum)
Total Length	7.55 in (192 mm)
Barrel length	4 in (102 mm)
Weight empty	1.71 lbs. (780 gr)
Magazine capacity	8-round

Colt M16 A1

In the 1950s, Eugene Stoner created the first M16 design; in 1966, it became the ordinance rifle of the American infantry in Vietnam. From the beginning, it was very controversial for its problems but it would become one of the most manufactured and internationally disseminated combat weapons.

Many of its parts were metal alloy, while the finger guard, the cylinder head, and the handle were made of plastic; it weighed only 2.5 kg. It was an automatic assault rifle that used chargers containing 20 or 30 bullets, with an adjustable rise between 100 and 500 yards inserted in the carrying handle. Its rate of fire was 800 rounds per minute, with the option for semi-automatic fire.



Detail of the lever to feed the M16 and the push button that allows its closure due to an unforeseen problem.



Left side where you see the fire selector.

Technical Data	
Cartridge	.223 Remington
Total Length	39.5 in (1,000 mm)
Barrel length	20 in (508 mm)
Weight empty	7.18 lb (3.26 kg)
Weight fully loaded	8.79 lb (4.0 kg)
Magazine capacity	20 or 30 rounds
Muzzle velocity	3,110 ft/s (948 m/s)
Cyclic rate	700–950 rounds/min
Maximum effective range	500 yd (600-800 m)

First Lieutenant Gray, Cyril M. Jr. (5th Special Forces Group)



Gray served in Vietnam with the MACV-SOG, Forward Operational Base 41, and was assigned to Spike Team Michigan. In 1969, Gray returned for a second tour with the 5th Special Forces Group (ABN), assigned to IV Corp MIKE Force.



Tricolor handkerchief, 6 x 40 inches, with the name of its owner, "Gray," in a corner.



Detail of veteran's name (Gray) written on the scarf.



The survival knife was supplied to pilots of the Navy and Air Force, and to Army helicopter crews. Members of the Special Forces also used it, although to some of them the blade seemed very short for close combat. Most were provided by Camillus Cutlery; the early models were manufactured by Milpar and the models used at the end of the war were manufactured by Ontario Cutlery.



This Knife is marked on the knob with the date, "1-1969," and the manufacturer's mark, "Ontario."



A few copies were painted at the top of the knob, but the reason is unknown.



Holes in the guard had multiple uses, such as passing a rope through the hole to attach the knife to other equipment.



The rear part of the blade was serrated.

Captain Gray, Paul N. (Commander River Patrol Force 1967)



Captain Gray of the US Navy was appointed commander of Task Force 1169, River Patrol Force on March 31, 1967. He had under his operational control a force that included 200 River Patrol Boats (PBR), Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron Three, four Landing Ship Tanks (LST) reformed with helipads, twenty minesweeping boats, and SEAL Team units. The headquarters of the River Patrol Force was situated in the heart of the Mekong Delta and the IV Corps Tactical Zone in Binh Thuy, in the Bassac River.





A US Navy Dress Blue uniform to Captain Paul Gray. Is Hong Kong tailor made, with Gray's name embroidered on the inside. Complete with his circa 1950's Navy pilot wings a a full ribbon array, including ribbons for the Navy Distinguished Service Medal and Silver Star. The uniform is made of raw black silk, and is complete with matching pants. Above photo, Gray wearing this uniform.



Set of ribbons and decorations awarded to Gray with his Navy pilot wings.