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SENTINEL

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THE LTC FRANK J. DALLAS CHAPTER

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FEBRUARY 2015











Presidents Page

MACV Recondo School

AN/GRC-109: The First True Special Forces Radio



SENTINEL



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Lonny Holmes Sentinel Editor

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Clint Eastwood does it again! AMERICAN SNIPER is a first class movie about an American serving his country in the time of war. Chris Kyle demonstrates the old fashioned American attitude — which may not be politically correct these days — by protecting members of our armed services at great risk to himself, both physically

and emotionally. Despite many "personality" and media negative comments about the film, Americans in large numbers have taken the time and effort to view the film which has garnered a revenue of \$169 million by the beginning of its second week of release. The viewers speak for the film.

In this edition of the SENTINEL we have two historical articles about the early days of Special Forces; the *MACV Recondo School* by **Kenn Miller** and the *AN/GRC 109 SF Radio* written by **Gene Williams** and edited by his twin brother, **Jack**.

Kenn Miller was an early graduate of "Recondo School" and has maintained contact with many of its graduates through the Ranger and LRP Associations. In his story we get a true perspective of the school, its SF Cadre and students.

Gene and Jack Williams, the sons of a Lt. Pathfinder of the 82nd Airborne Division who jumped into Normandy on D-Day and was KIA, provide us with the background and technical information of a radio that all first and second generation SF commo men are very familiar with. They both were 05B4S and served multiple SF tours in Vietnam. Gene continues to serve our country. ❖

Lonny Holmes Sentinel Editor

> "You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know."

> > ANONYMOUS, SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION MOTTO

IN THIS ISSUE:

Presidents Page	1
MACV Recondo School	2
AN/GRC-109	6
The First True Special Forces Radio	

COVER PHOTO: Gene and Jack Williams, Kontum, Vietnam, March 1968. Photo courtesy of Jack Williams

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SENTINEL



THE PRESIDENTS PAGE



Bruce Long President SFA 78

PRESIDENTS COLUMN FEBRUARY 2015

Our January 10th Chapter meeting was conducted at the American Legion Post 291 in the Fireside Room. We conducted a business meeting at 0830 hrs followed by our general meeting at 1000 hrs. Total attendance was 20 Chapter members.

We also welcomed **Dennis Derosa,** a new member to our Chapter. Dennis served with the

5th Special Forces in Vietnam from 1970 - 72 and with the 12 SF from 1973 -79 while attending school. Dennis obtained the rank of SFC E-7 with the MOS of 91B4S, now known as 18D Medic.

The parachute jump that A Company was hoping to execute at Camp Pendleton was cancelled due to weather.

A raffle along with the selling of Chapter T-Shirts was conducted, and overseen by **Mark Miller**.

Information was again provided on how to purchase the SFA Blazer, SFA Crest for the left side breast pocket, and the Regimental tie.

From The DROP Magazine, page 111:

The Regimental Tie can be purchased through Medals of America. www.medalsofamerica.com (800) 308 0849.

Dues - The grace period for 2015 dues ends 31 January. Anyone who has not paid will be taken off the mailing list for *The Drop*. I get calls every year from basically the same people complaining they did not receive their dues notice. We do not send out dues notices. When you received your annual card the pay dates are listed. That is your dues notice. Life members do not pay dues. *The Drop* costs are increasing and any donations from Life members to support the continued quality of *The Drop* would be appreciated.

UNCLASSIFIED INTEL

By Paul McLeary, January 22, 2015, DefenseNews.com http://www.defensenews.com/story/defense/land/ army/2015/01/21/ukraine-us-army-russia/22119315/

WASHINGTON — American soldiers will deploy to Ukraine this spring to begin training four companies of the Ukrainian National Guard, the head of US Army Europe Lt. Gen Ben Hodges said during his first visit to Kiev on Wednesday.

The number of troops heading to the Yavoriv Training Area near the city of L'viv — which is about 40 miles from the Polish border — is still being determined, however.

The American training effort comes as part of a US State Department initiative "to assist Ukraine in strengthening its law enforcement capabilities, conduct internal defense, and maintain rule of law" Pentagon spokeswoman Lt. Col. Vanessa Hillman told Defense News.

After meeting with commander of the Ukrainian Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Anatoliy Pushnyakov and acting commander of the National Guard Lt. Gen. Oleksandr Kryvyenko during his visit, Hodges said he was "impressed by the readiness of both military and civil leadership to change and reform."

The training was requested by the Ukrainian government "as they work to reform their police forces and establish their newly formed National Guard," Hillman added. Funding for the initiative is coming from the congressionally-authorized Global Security Contingency Fund (GSCF), which was requested by the Obama administration in the fiscal 2015 budget to help train and equip the armed forces of allies around the globe.

The training mission has been the subject of plenty of discussion among US policy makers for months, and the United States has already earmarked \$19 million to help build the Ukrainian National Guard.

"We're very open to the idea that this becomes a first step in further training for the Ukrainian military," Derek Chollet, former assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, told *Defense News* just before he left the Pentagon on Jan. 17.

He was quick to add that he doesn't anticipate that this training mission "will require significant US presence."

The mission comes at a time of increasing concern among Eastern European countries that Russian aggression in the region will increase, and as fighting around the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk between government forces and Russian-backed separatist rebels rages on.

Speaking at the Davos conference on Wednesday, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko accused Russia of sending 9,000

Continued on page 9

MACV RECONDO SCHOOL



By Kenn Miller, Recondo #1096

Concerned that his division's paratroopers needed more intensive training in raiding and reconnaissance patrolling, and aware that the US Army Ranger School was unable to provide training on the scale he envisioned to one division, in 1958, 101st Airborne Division commander, Major General William West-

moreland, gave Korean War Medal of Honor recipient Major Lewis Millet the task of establishing a condensed and intense patrolling and raiding school for the division. General Westmoreland chose the name "Recondo" for his school. The "Recon" half of the new word was clear enough, but there is still some lingering debate over the "do" part. Most soldiers younger than General Westmoreland assumed the name was a combination of recon and commando, but some sources say that General Westmoreland's original sense of things was that "do" came from the WW1 nickname for American soldiers, "Doughboy." To a generation accustomed to Pillsbury TV commercials featuring the fat and giggly "Pillsbury Dough Boy" that was absolutely unacceptable.

Whatever General Westmoreland originally intended, to everyone else "Recondo" has always stood for "reconnaissance commando." When he later became commandant of the US Military Academy, General Westmoreland also instituted a less intense program of Recondo training at West Point. And later, in Vietnam, General Westmoreland played a major part in establishing the most famous Recondo school of them all - MACV Recondo School.

When conventional US troop units began deploying to Republic of Vietnam, the men of Project Delta (B-52) and its predecessor, Project Leaping Lena, had already honed their skills and gained experience in conducting reconnaissance and other special operations in Vietnam — as well as in training indigenous troops in these arts. It soon became evident that the conventional units would need a reconnaissance capability beyond their organic cav troops and infantry battalion recon platoons. In September 1966, the 1st Brigade 101st Airborne Division sent ten paratroopers through Delta's training program, and soon other units were begging to send some of their soldiers through the course. By August 1966, things were getting out of hand. Delta's CO went to Colonel Kelly - who at this time was reorganizing and expanding 5th SF Group's intelligence operations, and in the process of organizing Project Omega (B-50) and Project Sigma (B-56) and a Group Recon School, and bringing them on line. In the midst of all this, Project Delta was also training LRRPs for the conventional units. Colonel Kelly went to General Westmoreland (by then MACV's commanding general), and on July 1st, 1966, Major A.J. Baker was given the job of forming and commanding the MACV Recondo School, based on Delta's recon experience and the 101st's Recondo School. From that beginning, the MACV Recondo School at Nha Trang was on its way.

But all that is history, and that history is well chronicled in Tom Halliwell's A History Of The MACV Recondo School — which are still available in PDF from www.specialforcesbooks.com. It is a wonderful work of history, full of information, photos, and detailed information about the training schedules, requirements, patrol procedures, historical facts, a list of Recondo Instructor/

> Advisers and cadre, and a similar list of Recondo graduates. Halliwell's history is a priceless source for anyone interested in American special operations history. Halliwell's history is a history, but this article is more of a grateful paean from an old Recondo School graduate.

Though it was based on Project Delta's training and experience and the 101st Airborne's Recondo School; and though it has heavily influenced many subsequent military training and selection and

assessment programs, 5th SF Group's three week, three phase MACV Recondo School at Nha Trang was like no other American military school. There almost cer-

MACV Recondo, Nha Trang 1969

tainly will never be another one like it. A man could get killed in Recondo School. And a man could find it necessary to kill another man - all as part of curriculum. That's a feature they don't have at Harvard, Yale, or Stanford.

> 2 Unofficial tabs from recon units in Vietnam and the Official Recondo School Tab.

To get into the school a soldier had to be a volunteer with a combat arms MOS. He had to be in excellent physical condition. He had to already have at least a month in country, with six months remaining after graduation. He had to have actual or anticipated assignment to a LRRP unit — though cav scouts, battalion recon soldiers, and certain others (such as the USAF PJ in my class) were often accepted into the course. A Recondo student had to be proficient in general military subjects. So said USARV regulation 350-2, and the majority did meet those criteria. One of the first lessons new Recondo Students learned was that SF set high standard, and duds and slackers and the unready were quickly eliminated from the course.

The first week consisted of demanding physical training, including the notorious rucksack runs (with a thirty pound sandbag, four canteens of water, load bearing equipment, weapons and ammunition), and long days of intense classroom and hands-on instruction in land navigation, patrol procedures, medical training, intelligence, communications, escape and evasion method, and other relevant subjects. One of the highlights of the first week was the "bear pit" — a sand-bag lined hole in the ground where students squared off for some hand-to-hand practice — the Korean students usually being warned not to use their taekwondo in the pit. The hours were long and fatiguing but falling asleep in the classroom could be cause for immediate dismissal from the course. Pop guizzes and examinations were frequent, and what free time the students had was best used in studying the handout sheets for the next examinations. All this was made pleasant by the excellent food in the Recondo School mess hall. SF personnel might have had complaints about the Special Forces Mess Association, but the students generally agreed it was the best military chow they'd ever had.

The PT and the studying continued in the second week, and there was also instruction and practice in rappelling from the tower and from helicopters, the use of McQuire rigs, and rope ladders for patrol insertion and extraction. And then students were taken off to either Duc My Ranger Camp or Hon Tre Island for a four day FTX that included immediate action drills, the use of supporting arms and close air support, and familiarization with allied and enemy small arms. The weapons training was great fun, but after loading just one magazine most students were grateful that the M3 grease gun was obsolete.

The third week is when things got serious, for the graduation exercise (called "You bet your life") was a real world long range reconnaissance mission, usually into the Dong Bo mountains, where there were plenty of enemy. These missions could be deadly. A few students and advisers were killed or wounded on these missions — as were a considerably higher number of enemy troops. No one in my class was killed, but I remember wondering with a few other students if a student killed on his graduation mission would be awarded a posthumous Recondo number and arrowhead patch.







- HU-1B mock-up for loading and exiting drills (Photo courtesy Larry Chambers)
- Rappeling of the 60 foot tower (Photo courtesy Larry Chambers)
- **1** The back of rappelling adorned with the Green Beret (Photo courtesy Kenn Miller)

The quality of instruction and leadership at MACV Recondo was of a level that very few of the students had ever experienced. Among the instructors/advisers were some of the best trained and most experienced reconnaissance men to ever run a long range patrol. SFA Chapter 78 member Brad Welker was a member of the Recondo School cadre, and he still speaks with awe of some the men he worked with. He remembers that the idea of sending a very experienced senior SF recon NCO on a five day mission with five men from different units and coming from different AOs, and who hardly knew each other was "controversial." It may have been controversial at SF, but among Recondo students there was no controversy. I know at least a couple hundred MACV Recondo graduates, and I have never heard anything but praise and gratitude for the school, and deep and abiding respect and admiration for the "advisers" who instructed us and lead us.

Even some of the instructor/advisers we most admired were visibly in awe of some of the old NCOs one might run into at the Recondo School. Just after graduation in May, 1968, a couple of fellow graduates and I - 19 and 20 year old spec four LRRPs from the 101st and 173rd - turned around the corner

of the classroom and almost collided with two much older SF NCOs, who turned and gave us a nod and then resumed their conversation. Feeling as though we had infringed on something far above our level, we backed away and were making a hasty retreat when we encountered one of the instructor/advisers we most admired, SSG Kenneth McMullen. SSG McMullen told us that the taller man was MSG Bill "Pappy" Craig, former team sergeant at Lang Vei and now with the Combat Orientation Course while recuperating from his wounds, and the shorter man — maybe even shorter than me - was MSG Paul "Small Man" Tracy, the Recondo School's NCOIC of instruction. We could see that SSG Mullen had the same sort of respect approaching awe for these two men that we had for him. Decades later, in a telephone interview, Paul Tracy reflected on his career and said that one of the things in which he took the most pride was his time as NCOIC of training at MACV Recondo.

Without the MACV Recondo School, most of the LRRP/Rangers of the Vietnam War would have been inadequately trained and equipped and would have been trying to perform long range reconnaissance patrols and other special operations on an ad hoc





- Class room studies, technical aspects of recon patrol begin here (Photo courtesy Larry Chambers)
- **5** Live fire training (Photo courtesy Kenn Miller)





- 6 Combat equipment-preparing for a tactical recon patrol (Photo) courtesy Kenn Miller)
- Kenn Miller with WWII M3A1 .45 cal sub-machine gun, which as called the "Grease Gun." (Photo courtesy Kenn Miller)

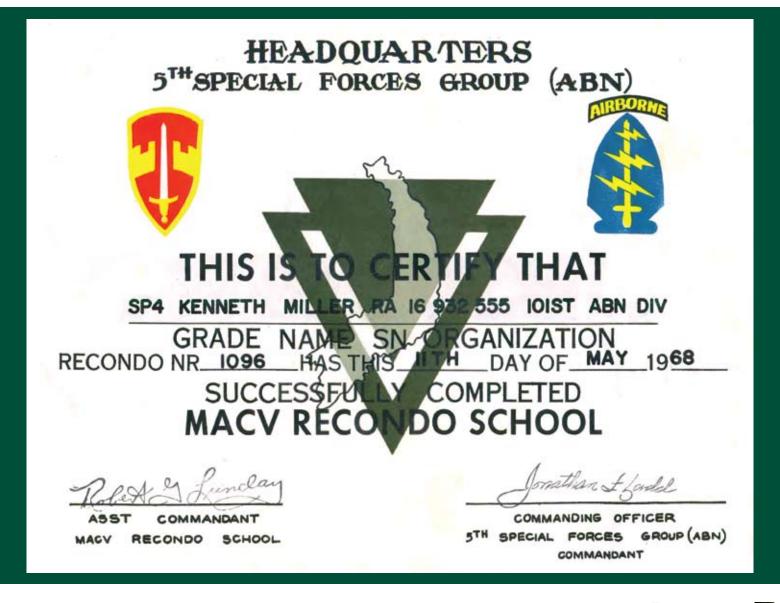
basis. During the existence of the MACV Recondo School, from 1966 to 1971, 5,395 men were admitted to the school, and 3,357 graduated as Recondos. Most of the students came from the US Army and the US Marine Corps, but 269 Korean, 193 Thai, 130 Vietnamese, 22 Filipino, and 18 Australian Recondos graduated from the course, and while it may be difficult to quantify such a thing, their influence on their own units and service branches must surely be enormous.

But surely the greatest influence of the MACV Recondo School was on the US Army. Recondo School was a great recruitment program for SF, with many Recondo graduates, including SFA Chapter 78's current president Bruce Long, and current sergeant-at-arms, Mark Miller, are among those inspired to join SF by their experience of MACV Recondo. Former Chapter 78 president Ramon Rodriquez began his SF career on the Recondo School cadre.

But MACV Recondo's greatest influence was on the Rangers. Like previous ranger units, from the mid-1600s to the Second World War, the LRRP (or LRP) units were raised in a theater of war and organized and trained in a theater of war. The success of the LRRP

units that were formed into the 75th Infantry Regiment (Ranger) in February, 1969, owed an enormous debt to SF and the MACV Recondo School. And though for some reason that puzzles and annoys many Vietnam veterans it is probably not politically correct to say so around Fort Benning these days, it is an historical fact that the 75th Infantry Regiment (Ranger) became today's 75th Ranger Regiment. During the Vietnam War the Ft. Benning Ranger School was heavily tasked with training infantry officers and unable to do much for the Rangers manning the recon teams in Vietnam. The Commando Depot in Scotland that had trained so many World War Two Rangers was long gone. But the LRRP/Rangers who served in Vietnam had the now legendary MACV Recondo School. Although their missions and cultures differ, the historical lineage of US Army Special Forces and US Army Rangers are very much entwined, and it is not too much of a stretch to say that without SF and the Recondo School, there very likely would be no 75th Ranger Regiment today.

A simple thanks just doesn't say enough. �



AN/GRC-109

The First True Special Forces Radio



By Gene Williams A-233 Ban Don '66-'67; MACV SOG FOB-2 '68

Browsing eBay I stumbled across this item: a genuine AN/GRC-109. Time flashed back to 1965 and I just had to acquire it:

Why? In July, 1965, the new Special Forces Training Group commo class on Smoke

Bomb Hill convened including myself and subsequent legends like Squirrel Sprouse and Snake Adams (both pictured below — author not pictured; note Snake's healthy attitude — he was SF already).

We all were introduced to the AN/GRC-109 the next month. Here was a true piece of Cold War fighting black iron ... sneaky, solid, menacing-looking ... and heavy as a cannon ball. We carried it and its hand-cranked generator the AN-58 into Piscah National Forest for the December, 1965, final exercise. Lonny Holmes can attest to the weight of that generator; he toted it in the snow and ice for two weeks.



AN/GRC-109 radio, complete with instruction booklets.



July, 1965, SFTG commo class, Smoke Bomb Hill, Ft. Bragg: Snake Adams and company



AN/GRC-109 radio with generator



Sgt Terry Dahling in the 10th SFG. Note: Dahling was my predecessor as 1-0 of RT Delaware, FOB-2, Spring, 1968



SSG Homer Rice, USSF, Ban Houie Sai, Laos, 1962 setting up the 109

They were built for the Army from 1960 to 1964 but were the standard SF A-team radios from 1960 to the mid 1970's. These radios were underpowered, required send/receive in Morse code, and were technologically behind the times by 1966, but utterly indestructible.

The radio originated with the SSTR-1 OSS unit radios in WWII. In 1948 the CIA upgraded the SSTR-1, adopting a radio made by Admiral Corporation for use by guerrilla fighters and agents worldwide. It was called the RS-1. The RS-1 was used everywhere — Albania, Cuba, SE Asia, Tibet, China, Iran, Eastern Europe, Russia. It was versatile, modular, could be hidden even underwater, buried in the ground, air-dropped and was unbreakable. It could be used with any input voltage and load just about any antenna. And it had a "burst transmission" capability limiting time on air and helping negate enemy RDF. It was the Jeep of the radio world.

As the conflict in SE Asia began to accelerate in Vietnam and in Laos in 1960-61, the 7th SFG's Operation White Star SF teams came under CIA opscom and used the RS-1. The Army soon realized it needed an equivalent radio and for once was struck with common sense — it simply adopted the CIA radio and re-labeled it the AN/GRC-109.

The radio consisted of three different units:

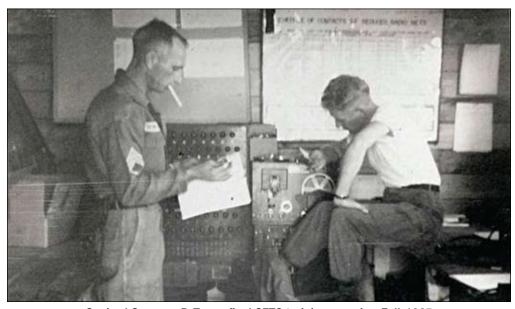
- (1) R-1004 receiver (CIA designation RR-2): For the tech minded it receives AM and CW. It is single conversion, superheterodyne receiver that could be controlled by a crystal 455 khz higher that the receive frequency. It has 6 valves RF pre-amplifier, local oscillator/mixer, 2xIF amplifiers, AF amplifier and a BFO. It has a manual RF gain and could be used with headphones or a speaker. It could receive AM/CW signals ranging from 3000 KHz to 24 Mhz over three bands 3-6 MHz; 6-12 Mhz and 12-14 Mhz.
- (2) T-784 transmitter (CIA designation RT-3): This is a crystal controlled CW only transmitter which could be used via the built-in key or an external key. It could broadcast on freqs from 3000 Khz to 22 MHz in four bands. I had two valves: one for the crystal oscillator and one for the RF amplifier. It's power output was 12-15 watts (3-14 MHZ) and 10-12W (15-22 MHz).
- (3) Power Supply: There were three alternatives (a) PP-2684 Power Supply (CIA designation RP-1): The power supply was robust and could be switched to operate on every AC voltage in the world. AC input could range from 75 to 269 volts at anything from 40 to 400 Hertz. The supply line cord had wall unit adapters. It provided 6 volts AC for the transmitter and 1.3 volts DC for the receiver. It also could charge the battery. It could be powered by a gasoline generator or from the infamous hand-crank generator. (b) PP-2685 Power Supply: There was a second smaller power supply the size of the transmitter/receiver packages that was less capable. (c) AN-58 hand crank generator (CIA designation SSP-11): There were two models AN-58 and the taller AN-43. No matter the model, you'd better put your most steroid-enhanced, anaerobic, muscle onto this.

Special Forces in Vietnam and Laos operated the AN/GR-109 mostly from handmade dipole antennas, or long wires cut to frequency and tossed up into trees, or coat hangers or barbed wire. And it would transmit around the world if you needed it to. Though there was a built in Morse code key on the set, few used it. Most of us scrounged, stole, bought a "leg key." The problem with operating in Piscah for that final exercise was the civilian ham radio operators. We were trying to communicate using 12 watts of power. The hams would hear the call sign, think it was some odd ham radio operator sending from the Solomon Islands or someplace and come bombing in on top of us with 10,000 watts of power. The "B-Team" often had to have three radio-men listen to the same transmission... then try to piece together the message. The B-team base camp for the Dec 1965 Piscah exercise is pictured to the bottom right; No AN/GRC/109's — which were in a separate tent; but there again is Squirrel Sprouse looking very 82nd Airborne:

In Vietnam at least by 1966 not a single A-Camp used the AN/GRC-109 for everyday transmissions. By that time SF had equipped its A-teams with civilian Ham Radio Single Sideband Collins KWM-2A transceivers and automatic keys (Bugs), great for bootlegging a Ham call sign, pretending to be "maritime mobile," and bombing back into the USA to have a Ham operator patch you into the phone system there. Also the A-team's CIDG companies were usually operating within 30 km of their base and could communicate via standard PRC-25's; MACVSOG teams by this time also used PRC-25's, relayed by commo sites in Laos or Cambodia (such as Leghorn) situated on vertiginous unassailable heights. Yet every A-camp still had the AN/ GRC-109 sitting in the commo bunker as a backup. Just looking at that black iron resting solidly on the desk was comforting. It wouldn't break. It could be used as bullet-proof armor in a pinch. And it had an aura of, dare I say, romance with a pedigree connecting Special Forces troopers in Vietnam with the WWII OSS led guerrillas in



MSG Richard E. Peghram, 1964, Plei Mrong



Squirrel Sprouse, B-Team, final SFTG training exercise, Fall-1965

France, Italy, the Philippines, Burma, Malaya and Vietnam itself.

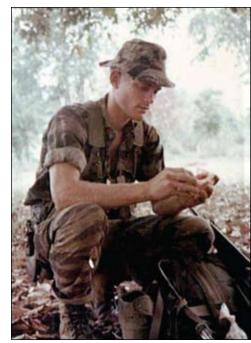
Notice I have mentioned communication by Morse code several times. Special Forces in Vietnam were perhaps the last large units in the world, certainly in the US Army, to use Morse code for team-to-team communications. SF employed something else that was unusual too. The use of code required encrypting the messages. For this purpose,

SF throughout the country employed "onetime" pads, probably the most extensive use of this unbreakable encryption ever.

The "one-time" pads were produced in duplicate copies. Two teams needing to communicate each had one of the pad copies. Each sheet on the pad contained lines of randomly generated letters in groups of five. To encrypt, you wrote your message above the groups of letters, and then converted to



Dak to commo bunker: Note the grenades to destroy equipment. Top right; a "leg" key for sending Morse code in the field. Bottom right; a "bug", semi automatic key for lighting fast Morse code.



Gene in the field in Vietnam in 1967, setting up radio for communication to A-Team base.



Typical "one-time" pad with encryption matrix barely visible, extreme left. From http://www.cryptomuseum.com/crypto/img/301277/005/full.jpg



Author, Gene Williams, Left - Herat, Afghanistan, 2006, Right - Ban Don, S. Vietnam, 1966

a code letter by combining the random pad letter and the message letter, using a matrix. The receiving team reversed the process, and then both teams destroyed the "one-time' sheet. Most 05B4S' (Special Forces Commo MOS) in S.E. Asia during the war could encrypt and decrypt on the fly ... they had memorized the conversion matrix.

What finally happened to the An/GRC-109? In a way the radio marked the end of an era. It was designed for WWII behindthe-lines conditions; for 1,000 mile cryptic communications from autonomous units operating on their own with minimal direction from the "center." That concept went away when you could call by voice to your commanders only 30 miles away. The need just disappeared, just as the authority for squad tactics controlled by a sergeant disappeared when a General could fly in and hover overhead in his helicopter. Still, the 109 was, and is, the acme of the genre.

Final word: I was posted to the Karachi Consulate in the mid-1970's. The Consulate had been built in 1952 and while helping clean out the attic which had stuff stored for 25 years, I discovered a pristine RS-1. It was fully operational with hand-crank generator and a complete set of crystals and no property records. I chucked it. Buying this set makes up for that stupidity. I may donate it to the Special Warfare Museum but only after I play with it for a while. ❖

PRESIDENTS PAGE CONTINUED

troops into the eastern part of his country to back the rebels, a contention that NATO officials have backed up, but without providing their own estimates for the number of Russian forces in country.

Chollet said Russian military incursions into the Crimea and eastern Ukraine have refocused American attention on the region after a decade of fighting two wars in the Middle East.

"A year ago we were worried about the future of the trans-Atlantic relationship, how would it be relevant to people," he said. "And of course, the events of the last year with Russia and Ukraine has focused people again on threats to European security and the unfinished business, really, still coming out of the end of the Cold War."

One of the biggest challenges for US policy makers is trying to discern "where could this lead and how does this make us think anew about European security issues and force posture issues or defense spending issues?" he added.

In addition to US trainers, Washington is beginning to provide heavier military equipment to the government in Kiev. On Monday, the United States delivered the first prototype of an armored "Kozak" vehicle for use with the Ukrainian border guard, according to the US Embassy there.

A posting on a US government contracting site put the cost of the vehicle at \$189,000.

The vehicle is built on a chassis manufactured by Italian company Iveco and features a V-shaped armored hull to help protect against mines and roadside bombs. The embassy said that to date, "the United States has delivered dozens of armored pickup trucks and vans to the Ukrainian Border Guard Service. The Kozak is larger and offers a higher level of protection." .

Bruce D Long President SGM, SF (Ret) SFA Chapter 78

NEXT CHAPTER 78 MEETING

February 14th, 2015 at the American Legion Post 291 in Newport Beach

Business meeting at 0830 hrs. General meeting at 1000 hrs