

# LRRP's Give "Charlie" The Silent Treatment

*The American Traveler*  
1st Infantry Division - Vietnam  
Photos by Sp4 George Pawlaczyk

I have been wanting to post this on our web site for quit awhile, but good intentions are often overlooked. Anyway here is my feeble attempt at restoring this article and after thinking about it I contacted Eric Gillespie, Director, Colonel Robert R. McCormick Research Center, First Division Museum at Catigny, Wheaton, IL and he sent us a jpeg file of this same article. The photos are much clearer after I cut and pasted them Thanks to Dave Hill for this article. This article is very old, but not as old as some of us. Also the pictures are not very good, but it will help you paint the picture. It first appeared on March 22, 1968 in the above mentioned publication.

These members of the Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) would rather not be seen nor heard as they carry out their relentless search for the Viet Cong. Being as quiet as possible when in the field is one of the hallmarks of a "Lurp". Skill and cool-headedness are also important qualities, characteristics of these specially-trained Big Red One soldiers.



**FIRST A CONFERENCE --- THEN A DECISION.** *First Lieutenant Paul Mattox, Martinsville, V.A., checks a map with fellow LRRP members to determine where a river may be crossed. Mattox then indicates to SSG Jack Liesure a safe crossing. Later, the patrol set up their ambush site next to a frequently used enemy trail.*



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**READY TO MOVE OUT.** Lt Mattox radios that his patrol from the 1st Infantry Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Detachment is ready and moving out. He set up his ambush near a heavily-used trail less than two miles away.

**KEEPING HIS POWDER DRY.** A recon man from the Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Detachment searches for a safe river crossing enroute to the patrol's ambush site. The LRRP members set up their ambush near a heavily-used trail, about 40 miles north of Saigon.



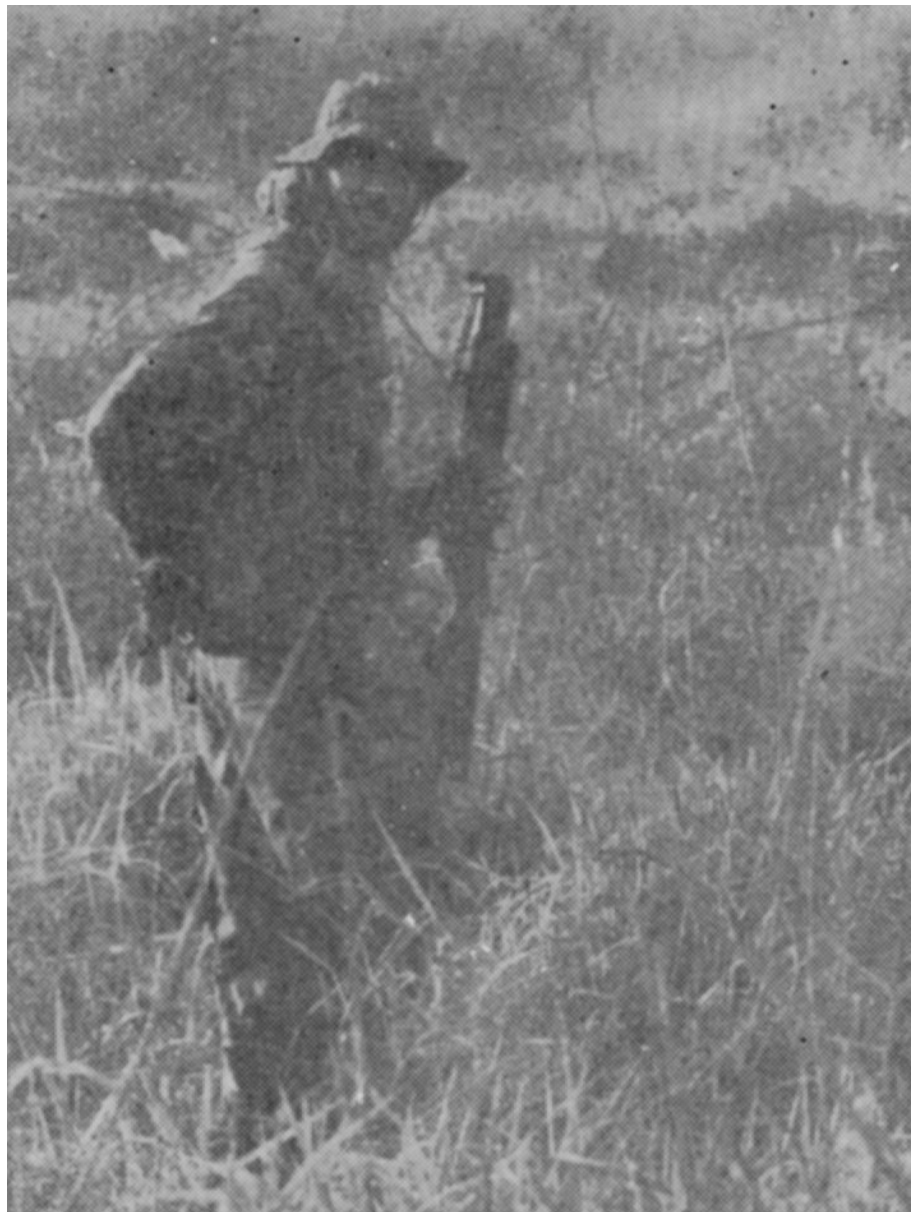
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**BACK TO THE PERIMETER.** A member of the patrol walks toward the perimeter as SSG Liesure scans the rear area for enemy movement. The LRRP's set up an overnight ambush about one-and-a-half miles from their perimeter and near a frequently-used enemy trail.

**LOOKS GOOD.** Specialist Four Denis Harihan, Seaford, N.Y., a member of the Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Detachment, smiles as he signals to the remainder of the patrol that the perimeter is in site.



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**CAMOUFLAGE.** With Tiger fatigues and crayoned face, Staff Sergeant Jack Liesure holds down rear security position as his ambush patrol returns to the perimeter in the morning. Liesure, of Jal, N.M., and other LRRP members of the Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Detachment, had set up an ambush.