



Death in the A Shau Valley: L Company LRRPs in Vietnam, 1969-1970

By Larry Chambers

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"The enemy had a single purpose: kill me and my teammates."

Larry Chambers was still new to Vietnam in early 1969 when the LRRPs of the 101st Airborne Division became L Company, 75th (Rangers). But his unit's mission stayed the same: act as the eyes and ears of the 101st deep in the dreaded A Shau Valley--where the NVA ruled.

Relentless thick fog frequently made fighter bombers useless in the A Shau, and the enemy had furnished the nearby mountaintops with anti-aircraft machine guns to protect the massive trail network that snaked through it. So, outgunned, outmanned, and unsupported, the teams of L Company executed hundreds of courageous missions. Now, in this powerful personal record, Larry Chambers recaptures the experience of the war's most brutal on-the-job training, where the slightest noise or smallest error could bring sudden--and certain--death. . . .

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About the Author

Larry Chambers spent fifteen months in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne as a LRP/Ranger. Among other awards and decorations, Chambers earned two Bronze Stars for valor, a Purple Heart, two Air Medals for valor, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry. He was with L Co., 75th Infantry (Ranger), and F Co., 58th (LRP), in Vietnam.

After returning home he earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from the University of Utah and graduated as a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society. Chambers lives in Ojai, California. He is also the author of *Recondo: LRRPs in the 101st Airborne*.

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