

“Happy Valley” Phan Rang AB, RVN

The History of Phan Rang AB and the stories of those who served there.

Phan Rang AB News No. 185 “...keeping the memories alive”

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Reunion Photo Collage



A Phan Rang AB veteran who goes by the moniker of “PRAB Vet” has an uncanny ability to locate current photos from the local Phan Rang area and also the base and compares those photos with photos from when the base was an operational U.S. Air Force base.

I say uncanny because I find it amazing that someone would have the patients and ability to troll the Internet to find these images considering there is a language barrier. He has become so adept at listening to Vietnamese language videos and scrolling through hundreds of Vietnamese language web pages to glean bits and pieces of information that often leads him to a current image of the base. After obtaining this image he then has to scroll through thousands of old base photos to find the exact picture that he would be looking for that would hopefully be taken at the same area with both photographers standing in approximately the same position. He also has become very knowledgeable about the physical locations of buildings and activities and the general layout of the base.

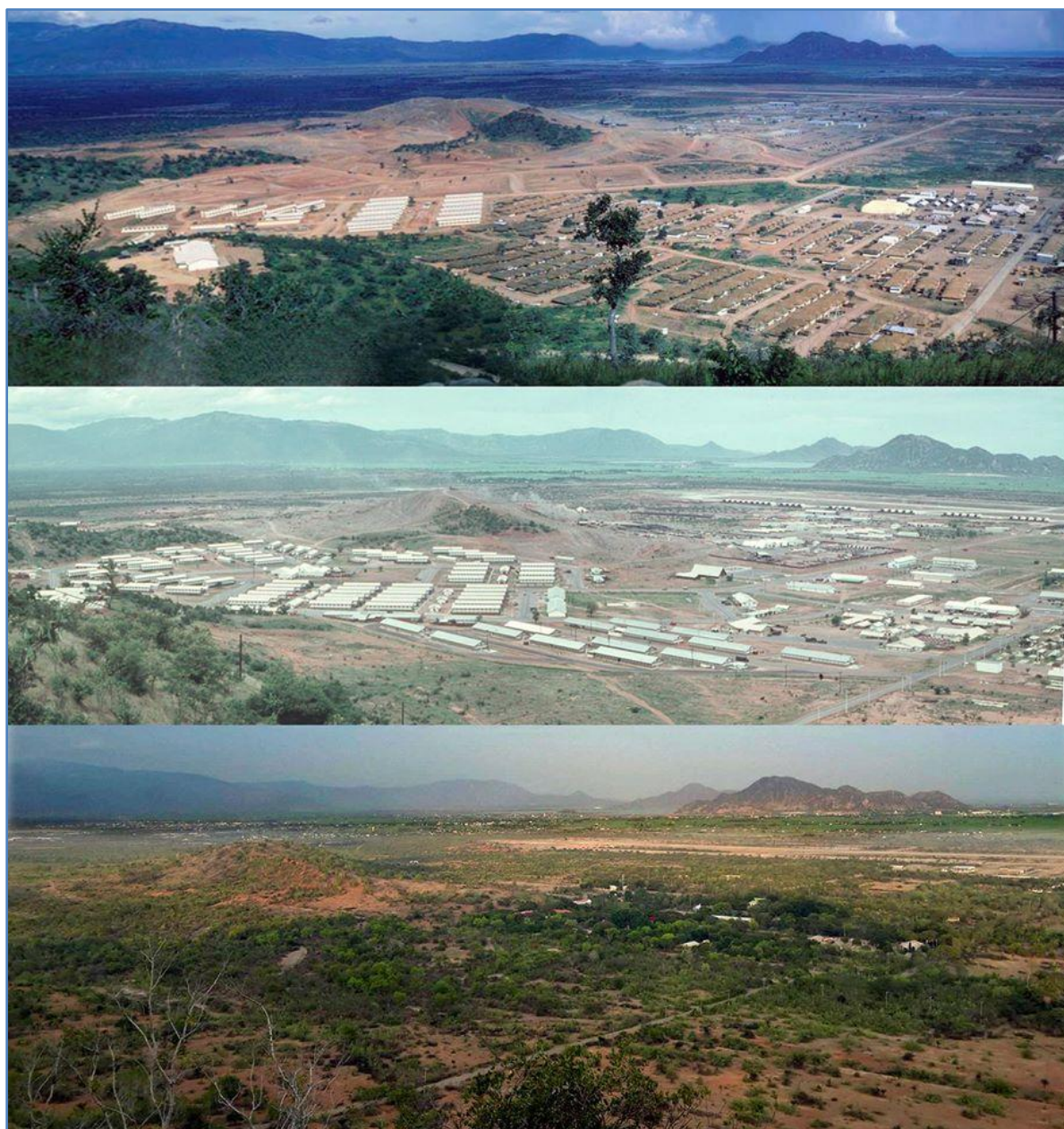
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Through the years he has built up a huge reference library for his sources and also his ‘Then and Now’ comparison photographs. He frequently posts his comparison photos and sometimes videos on the Phan Rang AB Facebook page.

The following is just an example of his amazing work.



The top is of the early buildup days. The middle is the look prior to hand over. The bottom

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view is from a couple of years ago.

The next comparison shows a view from the NCO Club parking lot from our time and one from this past June, 2018. All that remains is the parking lot and road and plant life is starting to take over where the club building was located.



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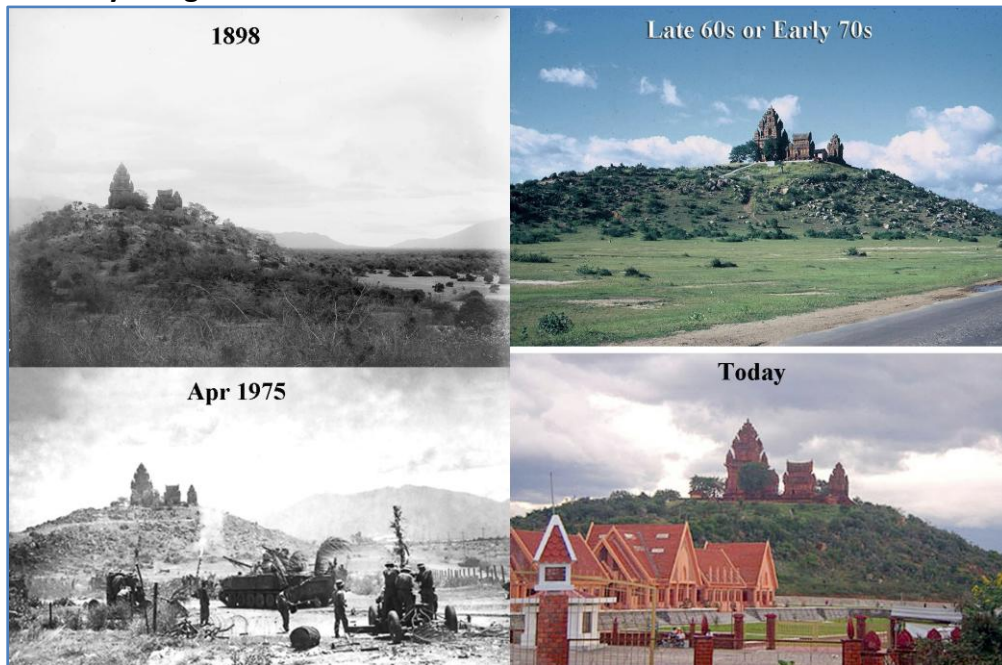
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These two images dramatically show the differences in the land from then and now. Vegetation has taken over where a city once stood.

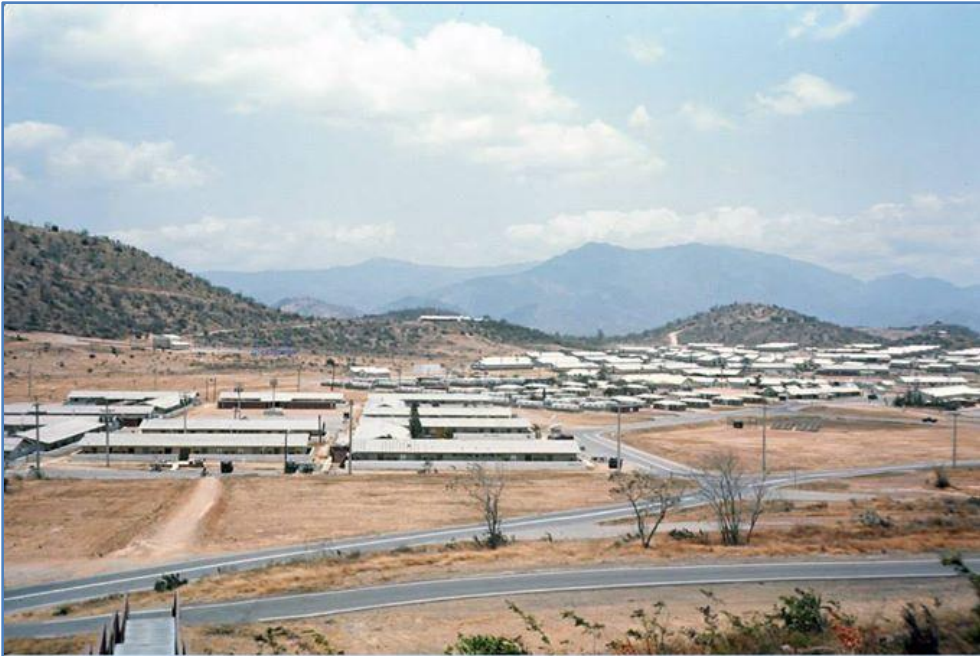
The Cham Temple from the past to the present. The April 1995 image is the North Vietnamese Army firing over the tower toward the base.



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This is a comparison view from the officer's club. Not much to see, but the mountains line up exactly. So the view is the same direction. You can still see some floor tiles on the concrete slab if you look close at the concrete slab in the bottom image.

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Top photos are a ‘then-now’ view from the control tower. Notice the increase in trees and other types of vegetation, plus the revetments have been all removed.

Left photo is a comparison of aircraft parked in the covered revetments. The top photo is an F-100 Supersabre from the war era and the bottom is a Vietnamese Air Force SU-22.

PRAB Vet has so many pictures that I know you would be interested in seeing them so I will include more of them in future issues of the Phan Rang Newsletter. Click [Here](#) to see the base as we knew it, morph into what it is today. It’s amazing; you’ll want to watch it over and over again!

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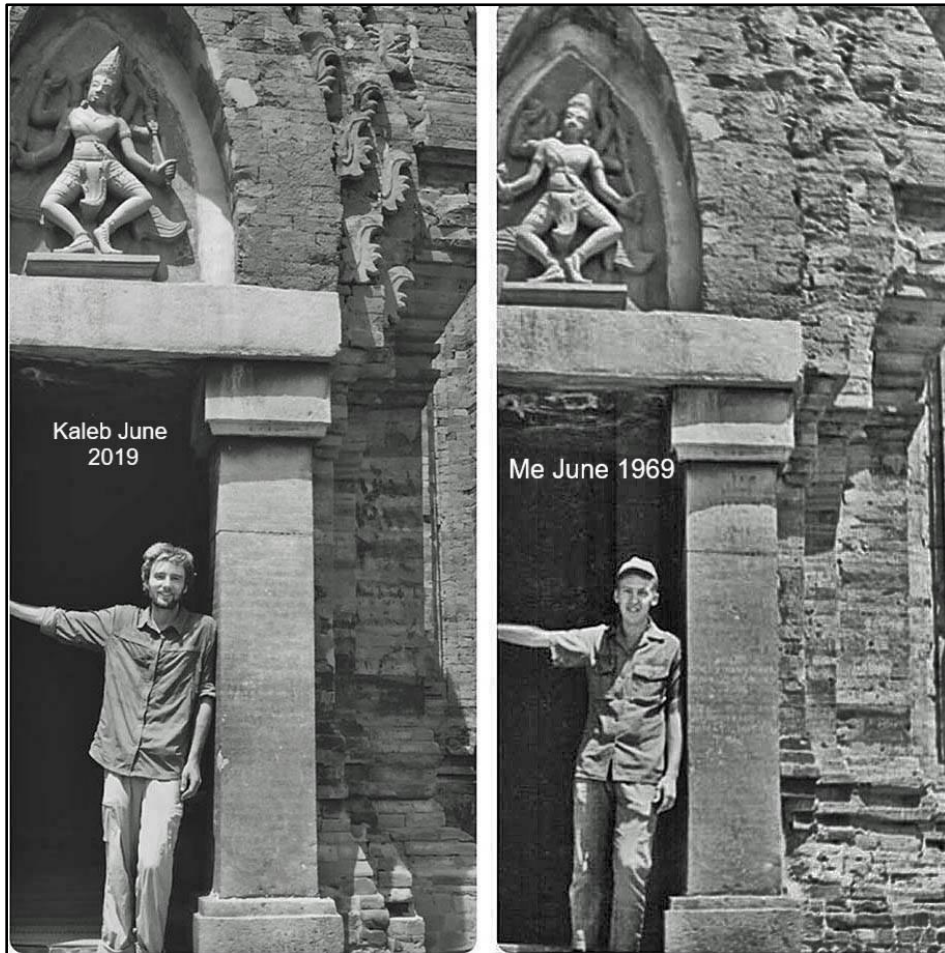
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There is a short video clip sent out with this newsletter that will show the base morph from the way it looked in 1970 and the way it looks today.



Then and Now Continues

The following photo was submitted by Rick Learst, 35th FMS, Egress Shop for the F100s and B57s who took this photo of him standing in the doorway of the Cham Temple during June of his tour of duty from April 1969 through April 1970. His grandson, Kaleb, who traveled to Vietnam in June took a now photo standing in the same doorway 50 years apart.



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REVIEW PRESS-REPORTER

63rd YEAR SERVING THIS COMMUNITY

BRONXVILLE, TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, N.Y., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1965

PRICE TEN CENTS

Chaplain In Viet Nam Urges Cease Fire On Home Front Denounces Anti-War Demonstrations

Feelings about United States involvement in Vietnam have recently run high, erupting in demonstrations and counterdemonstrations by "doves" and "hawks," extremist groups that have grown increasingly strident as moderates on both sides tend to dwindle into an articulate minority.

An Army Chaplain in Vietnam has urged a cease-fire on the home front, issuing an appeal to dissident groups to help "boost the morale of our soldiers."

Elwin C. Vanderland, a Presbyterian Chaplain serving with the U.S. Army's 62nd Engineering Battalion in Phan Rang since last August, has worded this appeal in letters and tapes sent to his mother, Mrs. Emery S. Vanderland of Oriskany, N.Y. and his wife, Diane Kingsley Vanderland who, with her three small children, is riding out her husband's hardship duty at her parent's home at 119 Cassilis Ave., Bronxville.

Diane Vanderland, an attractive young woman who is herself something of a trooper, disclosed excerpts from her husband's letters and tapes he recorded from a jeep plowing through the blazing sand dunes and muddy rice paddies of this jungle country. The Chaplain's commentaries paint in stark colors a personal testimony to the horrors of what has come to be known as "the dirty little war."

In addition to the ever-present fear of ambush and attack, intensified reports of Viet Cong atrocities, the G.I.'s must contend with the day-to-day adversaries of torrential monsoons followed by seasons of scorching dryness, insects, impenetrable jungles, and the abject poverty and primitive living conditions of a war-weary nation.

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Mrs. Diane Kingsley Vanderland and her three children, from the left, William Sidney, five; Marian Alice, one; and Sandra Louise, two, look with pride at a recent photograph of the children's father. Chaplain Elwin C. Vanderland, who will be spending Christmas this year in Vietnam.

The family has been staying with Mrs. Vanderland's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey F. Kingsley, at their home in Bronxville.

In Phan Rang, a fine, adhesive dust permeates the atmosphere, settling upon everything in sight. The dust, combined with the tropical humidity, makes personal cleanliness an essential but difficult task in a village where hot water is non-existent and unpolluted water a rarity, where the Vietnamese women wash their clothes in brackish, contaminated streams and rinse their hair over the community drinking wells.

“Dear John” letters from wives and sweethearts tired of waiting and the malevolent gossip of trouble-makers are among the mail from home which Chaplain Vanderland says, “I would like to burn.”

Such demoralizing messages aggravate the guilt, fear and doubt rankling young men in a strange nation, across which the shadow of despair has been cast by anti-war demonstrations in the States.

“How,” asks Chaplain Vanderland, “can I instill within my men a williness to suffer with, and serve with, these Vietnamese people, if all they hear from back home is how useless the thing is?”

The bitter humor of the G.I.'s predicament is captured in a cartoon which, the Chaplain reports,

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is a favorite among the troops. Two soldiers stand back-to-back, their rifles poised for action; the caption reads, “You take care of the V.C.; I’ll take care of the home front!”

Chaplain Vanderland has appealed for “good, happy encouraging letters,” and, along with reading and writing materials, he stresses a need for local newspapers, Bibles and paperbacks. He also suggests the Americans correspond with the families of the soldiers and send addresses of people who would be interested in writing a G.I.

He urges church groups to send religious material, and businesses to forward promotional items. The main thing, he emphasizes, is to “let the troops know that they are being remembered.”

A squalid picture of the primitive living conditions of the South Vietnamese emerges from the Chaplain’s letters and tapes. Children, stunted and deformed from malnutrition and inadequate medical care, and bearing the psychological scars of war, prowl the village in search of food and cigarettes. Clothed at best in rags, some children are unable to venture from their homes because they have nothing to wear. During the rainy season, chronic colds and respiratory ailments are prevalent, partially due to insufficient clothing. Women still bearing children are prematurely wizened and toothless, “a red slime coming out of their mouths.”

A reddish substance compounded of rice, straw, mud and clay baked in ovens in the manner of 25,000 years ago is used for the construction of buildings. Village schools are barricaded by barbed wire fences at which the military stand guard.

The war’s victims — and, according to recent statistics, one out of every six Vietnamese is maimed as a direct consequence of the war—include an appalling number of women, old men and children. Snapshots of Vietnamese orphans taken by Chaplain Vanderland portray children with distended abdomens and rickety limbs, their frightened eyes reflecting the daily horrors of a world they never made.

Toys, candy, clothing and gifts are requests for these Vietnamese children. Chaplain Vanderland writes, “The Vietnamese have fortified their villages . . . they are willing to suffer even death for their land. How can we in our self-righteousness say, ‘Pull out, this war is none of our business?’ ”

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He relates an incident which illustrates the remarkable capacity for personal sacrifice and courage that characterizes these people. Returning from a food-distributing mission to the Montagnard villages, Chaplain Vanderland and his men stumbled upon a United States helicopter that had made a forced landing due to motor failure. In the torrential downpour, the Montagnard villagers, armed with the weapons they possessed, formed a ring around the helicopter and the three American soldiers, protecting them with their own bodies from any Viet Cong who might be lying in ambush, ready to take advantage of the American's vulnerable position.

The Chaplain goes on to say, “We need to help the Vietnamese do more than defeat communism ; we need to help them to learn to live.”

Perhaps if we Christians had more concern 20 years ago, we wouldn't be here today. Churches are crying about the terrible suffering this war is causing. Yet for years the churches had the opportunity to work with these people and help them.”

Editorials and news releases in the Utica “Observer-Dispatch” elicited an overwhelming response throughout western New York State from religious and civic groups, colleges, schools, businesses and individuals. Mrs. Chauncey Kingsley, the Chaplain's mother-in-law has initiated fund-raising campaign, to purchase milk for Vietnamese children, at Greenwich Academy in Connecticut where she is a member of the faculty.

Mrs. Diane Vanderland, like other servicemen's wives, is concerned about her husband's safety, “yet I have faith that he will return safely to us when his period of service is over— without this hope for the future, it would be very difficult to carry on.

“Van and I carry on a daily correspondence which means a great deal to both of us. I feel confident that in retrospect his present experiences will be looked upon as an enriching and worthwhile phase of his life.”

With the shrill, contentious cries of both hawks and doves clouding the issues on the home front, and the nightmare of the “dirty little war” raging on in Vietnam, the appeal of an obscure, idealistic young Army Chaplain is a sane and charitable reminder of man's humanity to man — a particularly appropriate message at this Christmas time of “Peace on earth, good will to men.”

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Never tell a veteran that they don't know the cost of war.

Finance Unit Wins Award

(Pacific Stars and Stripes, Tokyo, Japan, November 17, 1971)

PHAN RANG AB, Vietnam (Special) — The accounting and finance office here was recently honored as the "most improved" accounting and finance facility in its category within Pacific Air Forces in fiscal year 1971.

The men of the base facility were presented the "most improved" plaque by Col. Kenneth T. Blood, 315th Tactical Airlift Wing commander, and Col. Donald E. Libby, former 315th Combat Support Group commander.

The award was earned by decreasing the error factor on submissions to the Air Force Accounting and Finance Center from 5.19 to 3.90 per cent. The base improvement was credited to increased interest and support of the Pacific Air Forces Quality Assurance and Evaluation Program.

The program provides quarterly and annual recognition for the most improved' performance.

Here's a Lucky GI-For Most The 3d Strike Means 'Out'

(Pacific Stars and Stripes, Tokyo, Japan, January 29, 1966)

PHAN RANG, Vietnam (10)—The crack of rifle fire was heard, and a large tree branch overhead snapped in two. The bullet that clipped the tree deflected down and smashed against the chest of PFC Andrew Wright IV, a 21-year old paratrooper from Rochester, N.Y. serving with the Army's 101st Airborne Div. in Vietnam.

The spent bullet bruised his chest but did not penetrate. Wright reached down, nonchalantly picked up the slug that had struck him, and remarked, "Well, that's two out of three."

He was referring to the supposed three strikes allotted to each line trooper in this life. Wright had just used up his second.

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His first strike was almost his last. . .A few months earlier, he had parachuted with B Co., 502d Inf. (Airborne) of the Army's 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Div., onto the machine gun range of a Viet Cong battalion training camp, and fought the enemy at close quarters for most of the day.

In the course of the battle, a VC grenade landed in a ditch that Wright was in. The grenade went off, but, mud absorbed most of the shrapnel; the explosion, however, blew him out of the ditch, through the air and slammed him to the earth giving him a concussion and superficial flesh wounds.

Laughing about his most recent bout with fate, he kidded his fellow troopers about getting "zapped" as he called it. One buddy of his was wearing an expensive watch and in jest Wright chided, "Max, if you get zapped, I'll have that watch off your arm before you hit ground."

It was Wright, not Max, who would be hitting the ground before the night was out, torn by rifle fire and grenade fragments.

Wright was on an outpost guarding the perimeter. A vicious fire fight broke out filling the night with bright orange tracers, brilliant illumination flares and shattering explosions. When the firing stopped, Wright was carried to the rear and airlifted out by a med-evac helicopter.

Max watched silently as the stretcher passed by bearing his wounded friend.

"Max," Andrew said with difficulty, "looks like you keep the watch. . .it's three out'a three Now."

The copter lifted and disappeared over the treeline. Wright did not die. But, for him the war was over.

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Grenades Hurlled at Viet MPs Party

Press Telegram, Long Beach, California, June 24, 1971)

SAIGON (AP) — Unknown persons presumed to be American airmen threw three grenades into a barbecue dinner for MPs Wednesday, wounding 15 American airmen.

Three of the wounded were in serious condition. Air Force officials, said. Two M26 fragmentation grenades and a smoke grenade exploded during the party at the Phan Rang Air-Base's air police club, on the coast 160 miles northeast of Saigon. Most of those in the club were believed to be air policemen.

INFORMANTS at Phan Rang said four persons were seen running from the scene after the explosions. The informants said there was no indication that the attack was racially motivated.

It was the second serious "fragging" at a U.S. air base this year.

Twenty-nine soldier were injured in a similar grenade attack Jan. 9 at Tuy Hoa, 100 miles north of Phan Rang.

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Fragging gets its name from fragmentation grenades. Soldiers throw them at their superiors against whom they bear a grudge.

(Note: This story was previously covered extensively in Phan Rang Newsletter 120 with these two articles **15 MPs Wounded By Grenades at Party** and **15 Airmen Injured By Grenade** as well as a Facebook conversation of the ‘Fragging’ event that was captured in its entirety.)

Aerospace medicine group taps Versailles Couple’s son

(Jefferson City Daily Capital News, Jefferson City, Missouri, July 31, 1976)



The son of a Versailles couple, Col. Royce Moser Jr., an Air Force doctor, has been elected a Fellow in the Aerospace Medical Association.

Col. Moser, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Royce Moser Sr., Versailles, was elected at the association's annual meeting held recently in Miami.

Each year the association selects one-half of one per cent of its membership for the honor, in recognition of their contributions to their field.

Col. Royce Moser Jr. Dr. Moser is chief of the aerospace medicine branch at the U. S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB, Tex.

The Versailles native received a B.A. degree in 1957 and his M D. degree in 1961 from Harvard University. He served his internship at Boston’s New England Center Hospital before entering Air Force active duty the following year.

He later completed his residency in aerospace medicine and as part of the residency program was awarded a master of public health degree from Harvard in 1965.

Dr. Moser has served as chief of aerospace medicine at the Silling AFB, Kan., hospital and at Aerospace Defence Command Headquarters in Colorado Springs. He also served as director of medical services at Phan Rang AB, Vietnam. Currently, he is in charge of physician education

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programs, including the USAF residency, in aerospace medicine.

He is certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine and was designated a senior consultant in aerospace medicine by the Surgeon General in 1974. He has authored numerous scientific publications and made presentations at national and international scientific meetings In addition to the Aerospace Medical Association. Dr. Moser is a member of the American Medical Association, Society of USAF Flight Surgeons, American; College of Preventive medicine, American Academy of Family Physicians, and the Bexas County (Texas) Medical Society.

A senior flight surgeon, his decorations include the Bronze Star and three awards of the Air Medal.

He is married to the former Lois Anne Hunter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Hunter of 87 Roslyn Ave., Cranston, R. I. The Mosers have a daughter, Beth, 13. and a son. Donald, 11.

All-Sports Festival Fosters Friendship

(Pacific Stars and Stripes, Wednesday, December 8, 1971)

PHAN RANG AB, Vietnam (Special)—Athletic competition has always fostered camaraderie among the participants.

The men of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed here and Vietnamese military men and civilian youths from the surrounding province of Ninh Thuan continued the friendly tradition when they met for the first time recently in an All-Sports Day festival in Phan Rang City.

More than 100 Vietnamese and Americans participated in the two-day series, competing in soccer, basketball, tennis, volleyball and table tennis.

The Vietnamese teams garnered the tennis, volleyball and table tennis crowns while the U.S. team from Phan Rang AB captured the basketball title. The competitors played to a tie in soccer.

The planning and coordination for the unique, two-day event were handled by Capt. Robert P. Carlberg, special services officer for the 315th Tactical Airlift Wing, Army Capt. John A. Wallace

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from U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) Advisory Team 45, and Hoang Due Chinh from the local province.

Carlberg, explaining the competition, said, "The purpose of the All-Sports Day was to bring American and Vietnamese together in friendly competition and give us a chance to get better acquainted. From all the smiling faces, I know we were successful.

With the success of the first All-Sports Day, plans are already under way to stage a similar event. "We plan to continue this affair on a monthly basis and hope in the near future we will be on a first-name basis with our new Vietnamese friends," Carlberg added.

Reunion in Vietnam

(Bristol Phoenix, Bristol, Rhode Island, May 16, 1969)

It took five months, but they finally made it!

SP/4 **Michael Marshall** son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Marshall of 9 Third St. has been serving with the 54th Signal Corps at Nha Trang, Vietnam, since June 1.

SP4 **Gerald Biancuzzo**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Julio Biancuzzo of Elmwood Drive, has been a member of the MACV Advisory Team 45 at Phan Rang Army Base in Vietnam since November.

Both Mike and Gerry were drafted into the Armed Forces at different times and did not see each other again since they trained at different camps in the South.

When Gerry left for Vietnam in November, he did not know where he himself would be based, but took Mike's address along anyway. After getting settled on Phan Rang and learning that Nha Trang wasn't far away, he wrote Mike and they started planning for a reunion.

Five months later, on April 25, Gerry flew to Mike's base, and they spent a weekend together reminiscing about Bristol and their school days. Mike returns home on June 11.

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New Air Liaison Officer Named

(Colorado Springs Gazette, Colorado Springs, Colorado, November 8, 1968)

Capt. **Jack Doughty**, new air liaison officer for 3d Brigade at Ft. Carson feels that Army-Air Force cooperation has proved its tactical value and is important insurance for the future.



Capt. Jack Doughty

"I can't imagine any future war in which the Army won't need tactical air support." said this veteran of 250 combat strike missions "We brought our F-100s in so close, in Vietnam, that no other form of fire power would have been safe, but we could pinpoint the targets and relieve pressure on our ground forces."

Doughty has been at Ft. Carson since early October. Before that, he was with the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing at Phan Rang AB, Vietnam, flying F-100s during his second tour in Southeast Asia.

His job as air liaison officer is to explain to the Army the use of tactical air power in conjunction with Army operations.

In garrison, he gives the soldiers instruction on what Air Force can do for them. In the field, he acts as forward air controller, calling in appropriate air power to help maneuvering Army units overcome the "enemy." A native of Clearwater, Fla., the captain has a BA degree political science from the University of Nebraska and a master's in public administration from the University of Hawaii.

He joined the Air Force as an enlisted man in 1954. While stationed at Lowry Field, Denver, he met and married Sondra Shahan from Bird City, Kan. They have a nine-year-old son, Jason.

Commissioned through officer candidate school in 1960, Doughty took pilot training and is a senior pilot. Overseas tours have been in Turkey, Italy, Germany, Japan, Philippines and Southeast Asia tours were three or four-month Tactical Air Command rotations with the exception of the latest Vietnam tour, which was for a year.

He has 2,000 hours' jet fighter time, and has been awarded, during his Southeast Asia tours,

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the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal and Air Medal with 8 Oak Leaf Clusters.



Lt. Col. **William F. Bryant Jr.**, U.S. Air Force retired, age 62, died peacefully at his home in Niceville on Dec. 8th, 2003, after a short illness. Bill was born in Galveston, TX in 1941. After graduating from Texas City High School in 1959 he entered the United States Air Force Academy where he subsequently received his Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1963. Bill earned his pilot's wings at Vance AFB, OK and was assigned to Luke AFB, AZ for combat crew training in the F-100. From 1965 through 1967, Bill was an operational fighter pilot with the 494th Tactical Fighter Squadron, 48th Tactical Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, England. In 1968, Bill served in Southeast Asia as a forward air controller flying the O-2A in support of the U.S. 1st Air Cavalry Division. He participated in extensive combat operations during the 1968 Tet Offensive, including the Battle for Hue, the Siege of Khe Sanh, and the A Shau Valley Offensive. In 1968, Bill was the first forward air controller to receive an in-country checkout in the OV-10 Bronco, and he completed his combat tour as an OV-10 instructor pilot with the 504th Tactical Air Support Group at Phan Rang AB, Republic of South Vietnam.

From 1969 to 1971 Bill flew the AT-33 and F-100 while assigned to the 27th Tactical Fighter Wing, Cannon AFB, NM. In 1971, Bill attended the Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH where he earned a Master of Science Degree in aeronautical and air weapons design engineering. Following graduation in 1973, Bill was assigned to the Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards AFB, CA, serving as a flight test engineer on the YF-16 Lightweight Fighter Program and F-16 full scale development program. During his period he was also an academic instructor at the USAF Test Pilot School.

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Returning to primary flying duty in 1977, Bill was a flight commander and operations officer in the 425th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, Williams AFB, AZ, flying as an F-5 instructor pilot. In 1979-1980, Bill was Commander, USAF Detachment, U.S. Military Training Mission, Taif, Saudi Arabia, where he was the chief advisor and F-5 instructor pilot to the Royal Saudi Air Force. In 1980, Bill attended the Defense Language Institute, Monterey, CA, earning a Master's degree equivalent in Indonesian language and cultural studies. He then served as Chief, Air Force Division, U.S. Defense Liaison Group, U.S. Embassy, Jakarta, Indonesia, and was also the U.S. Deputy Air Attache. During this tour of duty Bill piloted the embassy C-12 aircraft and flew the F-5 with the Indonesian Air Force. Following this assignment Bill reported to USAFTAWC in September 1983.

Bill was a command pilot who has flown the F-100, A37, O-2, OV-10, AT-33, L-20, C-12, and F-5. He has over 2,800 hours flying time, including 280 combat missions and 600 hours combat time. His decorations include Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, and numerous expeditionary unit/service awards. His service and skills as a pilot earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross. In 1993 Bill earned a Masters Degree in Psychology. Bill loved fishing, boating, writing, reading and spending time with his family and his beloved African Grey, Bobby. Bill was very patriotic and encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote. After Bill retired from the Air Force, the job he loved most was with his last employer, ATAC. He enjoyed being back working with the fighter planes he loved so much and he could once again smell the jet fuel. Bill had a team of eighteen engineers working under him and he enjoyed working with each of them. He was loved by many and will be missed very much by his family and many friends. *(Texas City Sun, Texas City, Texas, December 17, 2003)*



Airman Second Class **James H. Kucipeck**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kucipeck of 70 Demars Blvd., Tupper Lake, N. Y., is on duty at Phan Rang Air Base, Vietnam. Airman Kucipeck, a munitions specialist, is a member of the Pacific Air Forces which provides air power to maintain the U. S. defense posture in the Pacific and conducts air operations in Southeast Asia. Before

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his arrival in Southeast Asia, he was assigned to the 6314th Munitions Maintenance Squadron at Kunsan, Korea. He is a graduate of Tupper Lake High School. (*Saranac Lake Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Saranac Lake, New York, July 13, 1967*)

Tucsonian recently presented the Air Force Commendation Medal M.Sgt. **RICHARD D. DeLESDERNIER**. DeLesdernier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pierpont DeLesdernier, 8622 E. Rosewood Ave., received his award at Phan Rang AB, Vietnam where he is now stationed — for distinguished service with the 4453rd Combat Crew Training Wing at Davis-Monthan AFB last year. (*Tucson Daily Citizen, Tucson, Arizona, June 10, 1970*)

Airman Third Class **Larry D. Houlund**, son of Mrs. Gladys C. Houland of 7925 E. Moreland, is on duty at Phan Rang AB, in South Vietnam as a member of the Pacific Air Forces. (*Scottsdale Progress, Scottsdale, Arizona, September 6, 1967*)

Maj. **Richard L. Stoner**, a graduate of the Air Force Institute of Technology, has been assigned as a navigator at Phan Rang AFB, Vietnam. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell M. Stoner of 118 Broadway; his wife, Linda, is the daughter of Mrs. Edgar Zepp of 606 Oak Hill Ave. (*Morning Herald, Hagerstown, Maryland, July 17, 1969*)

Sgt. **William L. Cover**, an automotive repairman, has been assigned to Phan Rang AFB, Vietnam. His wife, Sharon, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Gilbert of Greencastle, Pa. (*Morning Herald, Hagerstown, Maryland, July 17, 1969*)

A1C **David M. Higgins**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Higgins Sr. of Williamsport, has been assigned as a supply inventory specialist at Phan Rang AFB, Vietnam. (*Morning Herald, Hagerstown, Maryland, July 17, 1969*)

IN PHAN RANG - Army Pvt. **Freddie L. Center**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Center of 35 Fairfax Street. San Rafael, has arrived in Phan Rang. Vietnam with the 21st Supply and Service Company. (*San Rafael Daily Independent Journal, San Rafael, California, January 12, 1967*)

PHAN RANG. Vietnam - Army First Lieutenant **Terry L. Beck**, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Eckhoff, Mason Road, Berlin Heights, recently received the Bronze Star Medal near Phan Rang, Vietnam. He was presented the Bronze Star Medal for distinguishing himself through

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meritorious service in connection with military operations against hostile forces in Vietnam. The medal, adopted in 1944, recognizes outstanding achievement. Lt. Beck received the award while assigned as adjutant of the 6th Battalion, 32nd Artillery near Phan Rang. The lieutenant entered the army in March 1969 and was stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., before arriving overseas. He also holds the Army Commendation Medal. The lieutenant is a 1964 graduate of Berlin High School. He received his B S. degree in 1968 from Ohio State University. His wife, Sarah, lives on Berlin Road in Huron. (Norwalk Reflector, Norwalk, Ohio, March 15, 1971)

Sgt. Enriquez On Duty At Phan Rang AB. With U. S. Combat AIR FORCES, Vietnam - Staff Sergeant **Adolph Enriquez Jr.**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Enriquez Sr. of Rt. 1, Comfort, Tex., is on duty at Phan Rang AB, Vietnam. Sergeant Enriquez, a packaging technician, is a member the Pacific Air Forces. Before his arrival in Southeast Asia, he was assigned to the 3415th Maintenance and Supply Group, Lowry AFB, Colo. The sergeant is a graduate of Comfort High School. His wife, Janiece, is the daughter of Mrs. Nathalie Archer Brewer, Maine. Mrs. Enriquez' father, Ora Richardson, resides at 243 15th St., Bangor, Maine. (Kerrville Daily Times, Kerrville, Texas, September 5, 1967)

Maj. **Richard L. Stoner**, a graduate of the Air Force Institute of Technology, has been assigned as a navigator at Phan Rang AFB, Vietnam. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell M. Stoner of 118 Broadway; his wife, Linda, is the daughter of Mrs. Edgar Zepp of 606 Oak Hill Ave. (Hagerstown Daily Mail, Hagerstown, Maryland, July 23, 1969)

Sgt. **William L. Cover**, an automotive repairman, has been assigned to Phan Rang AFB, Vietnam. His wife, Sharon, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Gilbert of Greencastle, Pa. (Hagerstown Daily Mail, Hagerstown, Maryland, July 23, 1969)

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COMMENDATION MEDAL - Major **Neilson S. Wickliffe**, received the Air Force commendation medal at Phan Rang AB, Vietnam, from Col. Robert G. Goold , 35th combat support group commander. Wickliffe, now base operations officer at Phan Rang, was decorated for meritorious service as chief of the tactical air control center of the 601st tactical control wing,

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Sembach AB, Germany. He was cited for his outstanding professional skill, leadership and devotion to duty. Wickliffe’s wife, Genevieve, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Patrick, 226 Funderburg rd. (Fairborn Daily Herald, Fairborn, Ohio, November 13, 1969)

Capt. McGovern Awarded Air Medal at Phan Rang Air Base, Vietnam. WITH U. S. COMBAT AIR FORCES, Vietnam — U. S. Air Force Capt. **Michael D. McGovern** , whose wife, Ann, is the daughter of Mrs. Anna Hessian, 27 Broadway, has received the Air Medal at Phan Rang AB, Vietnam. Capt. McGovern, an F-100 Super Sabre fighter bomber pilot at Phan Rang, was decorated for his outstanding airmanship and courage on important and successful missions completed under hazardous conditions. He is assigned to a unit of the Pacific Air forces. Captain McGovern, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin McGovern of Stony Point, is a 1959 graduate of Haverstraw High School. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Manhattan College, Riverdale, N.Y. where he was commissioned through the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps. program. (Haverstraw Rockland County Times, Haverstraw, New York, January 21, 1971.)

Holt Promoted To Sgt. In Vietnam. MAYNARD - **John M. Holt** son of Mr. and Mrs. U. Matthew Holt, has been promoted to Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force. Sgt. Holt a now serving with the security police in Phan Rang, Vietnam. John has received his new orders and will report to Hanscom Field, Bedford In January. After a year of duty in Vietnam, John expects to be home for the holidays around December 15. (Action Assabet Valley Beacon, Acton, Massachusetts, November 16, 1967)

Doug’s Comments: I hope that you enjoyed this newsletter and if you have any comments or would like to submit a story, just send it to me. This newsletter was composed and all graphics by **Douglas Severt**. To see a list of all previous newsletters click [here](#). To unsubscribe to Phan Rang News, reply to mailto:dougsevert@cox.net and put ‘**unsubscribe**’ in subject line.

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