

**“Happy Valley” Phan Rang AB, Vietnam
...keeping the memories alive**

Phan Rang AB News No. 75

“Stories worth telling”

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The Last Days of Phan Rang AB *(by Gary Gilchrist)*

It was March 29, 1972 and the last U. S. military were leaving Phan Rang AB, RVN in the hands of the VNAF.

“The process had begun months before ...with a myriad of miscellaneous chores that nobody wanted to accomplish.”

I was one of sixty USAF members about to attend the ceremony that relinquished the base to the Vietnamese government. The process had begun months before with aircraft relocation,

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pickling of some buildings, record retrieval and a myriad of miscellaneous chores that nobody wanted to accomplish except for the sixty various personnel with sundry AFSC's that volunteered to see the final moments.

“The exodus during the last few months was massive with personnel hitch hiking on trucks and airplanes to Cam Ranh AB and Tan Son Nhut AB.”

The exodus during the last few months was massive with personnel hitch hiking on trucks and airplanes to Cam Ranh AB and Tan Son Nhut AB. Security forces were also drawing down, so I spent a few sleepless nights in March hoping that I would see the final day - March 29th.

The base was too solemn, clubs were closed, memorabilia was left for those soon to occupy the base, alcohol was nowhere to be found, telephones were gone, and the Viet Cong were already trudging south from the northern border of South Vietnam. It was a sorrowful but also a joyous time as Phan Rang was about to commence a new era with only the dust blowing in many areas of the base.

“and another chapter was written on the history of Phan Rang AB.”

Yet March 29th came with a blazing Vietnam sunrise as we all remember. The base turnover ceremony was short with promises of victory to the small contingent of Americans and a few VNAF personnel. Lt Gen Minh, Chief of Staff, VNAF, accepted the base on behalf of his government and the U. S. base commander wished everyone well. He concluded his remarks, "I want all U. S. personnel off this base by sundown today.".and another chapter was written on the history of Phan Rang AB. My boss turned to me and said, "The civilian education officer is driving his personal car to Cam Ranh Bay this afternoon and if I were you I'd be in that car."

With that as my only option available for my exit I jumped in his car not considering any hazards and rode off approximately 60 miles to Cam Ranh. As we banged around inside his car traveling on Le Duan highway I realized then that maybe the excitement of traveling this method might not have been a smart idea. The natives along the road didn't look overly friendly nor were the water buffalos. I think we needed a potty break enroute but after seeing the road environment we decided against it. Fortunately we arrived safely at Cam Ranh only to be told at the gate that we must have lost our mind to travel that road from Phan Rang.

"... and that's the rest of the story."

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I look back today and recall many examples of foolish ignorant decisions I've made over my lifetime and I think that trip was one of them. Yes, March 29, 1972 - the last day the U. S. military forces "officially" occupied Phan Rang AB, RVN. ... and as Paul Harvey would say, "... and that's the rest of the story."

Army Returns Helmet To Phan Rang Pilot (*Seventh Air Force News, February 12, 1969*)

PRAN RANG - After the Air Force fighter-bombers and Army helicopter gunships raked Viet Cong mountain hide-out one of the helicopter pilots spotted an interesting object on the ground.

Capt. Seymour Margolis, of Newport News, Va., was flying as forward air controller as an O-1 Birddog observation plane directing the attack.

The interesting object was yellow and white," Captain Margolis recalled back at his quarters at Phan Rang AB. "It turned out to be a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot's helmet.

"As I circled the area, I radioed the Army troops who had moved into the area and asked them if there was any name on it.

"As I waited for a reply, I thought back a month when I saw one of our fighter pilots punch out just three miles west of where they found the helmet. We recovered the pilot that day but not all of his gear."



Now He's Got Two

Capt. Seymour Margolis (left), Newport News, Va., holds a U.S. Air Force pilot's helmet he found in a Viet Cong mountain hideout while directing an air strike in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. First Lt. Wendell L. Cook (right), Holtville, Calif., abandoned it after he bailed out of his crippled F-100 fighter plane a month prior to Captain Margolis finding it. Lieutenant Cook holds his new helmet. (Photo by TSgt. John B. Mahony)

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The pilot, 1st Lt. Wendell L. Cook, of Holtville, Calif., recalled the November day he had to bail out of his F-100 Supersabre. The 352nd Tactical Fighter Squadron pilot landed on a 45-degree slope of a mountain 25 miles south of his air base at Phan Rang.

"I landed and became entangled in a large bush on the edge of a steep cliff," Lieutenant Cook said. "The helmet I was wearing made me a bright, beautiful target, but more important, with it on, I couldn't hear if Charlie was coming.

"I slipped out of the parachute harness, dropping my chute, mask and helmet in order to quickly retreat if necessary," he said.

"I was minus the gear as I moved to the only suitable pickup point available. The slope was too treacherous for me to go back for the helmet," he explained.

Later, the yellow and white "Yellow Jacket" helmet turned into a war souvenir for a Viet Cong soldier.

"Lieutenant Cook's name was still on it when the skytroopers found it at the VC base camp," Margolis said. "All that was left of the helmet was the shell. Charlie had stripped it of the head phones and mike. We made a souvenir out of it by having the finders autograph it for the pilot.

Holding the helmet, Lieutenant Cook smiled and said, "I think it's great that the Army troops got it back for me."

35TFW To Seek Maintenance Award (*Seventh Air Force News, February 12, 1969*)

PHAN RANG-The 35th Tactical Fighter Wing. Phan Rang AB, current holder of the Daedalian Trophy, has again been selected to represent Seventh Air Force in the Air Force world-wide maintenance contest.

The 35th. commanded by Col. Frank L. Gailer Jr., Arlington, Va., won the large silver cup in the 1967 Daedalian competition. The honor was particularly unique in that this tactical fighter base was then less than two years old.

Col. John R. Diepenbrock, Fernley, Nev., 35th TFW deputy commander for materiel, explained that the contest is held to promote maintenance effectiveness and efficiency. "Each year," he said, "the Air Force selects the organization having the best maintenance record for the preceding year to receive the Daedalian Maintenance trophy.

"That we have been selected to represent Seventh Air Force for the second consecutive year," he continued, "is a tremendous compliment to the dedicated hard work and professionalism of our maintenance people.

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"No one man stands alone," Colonel Diepenbrock added, as he expressed the belief that close teamwork among load crews, crew chiefs, weapons specialists and the wide variety of technicians in the maintenance shops lay behind the success of the wing's aircraft maintenance record.

"To be complimented as well," he concluded, "are the men who provide the support functions.

It's teamwork that makes the difference-team work extending from the pilot through the cook, security guard and administrative clerk. We have it."

Vietnamese Train in C-123's (*Air Force Times, January 27, 1971*)

PHAN BANG AB, Vietnam In-country training of Vietnam Air Force (VNAF) aircrew members in USAF combat aircraft began here recently.

VNAF aircrew members will train in the C-123 transport, which is scheduled to enter the VNAF inventory this year.

The 315th Tactical Airlift Wg. based here, is conducting the tactical flight training for the C-123 pilots. navigators. flight mechanics and loadmasters. This phase concentrates on techniques used during shortfield operations and in making parachute delivery of troops and equipment.

Initial combat crew training for C-123 pilots began in October at Lockbourne AFB. Ohio. where training concentrated on takeoffs and landings plus instrument flying and emergency procedures.

The C-123 is a tactical airlift aircraft capable of operating from more than 100 remote airstrips in Vietnam.

It is also used to paradrop Vietnam Army paratroop assault forces, and perform pinpoint low-altitude airdrops of supplies to isolated outposts.

The C-123s used in Vietnam are a modified version of the Fairchild-Hiller basic C-123. Major change is the addition of two jet engines adjacent to the regular reciprocating engines to increase takeoff and load carrying capabilities.

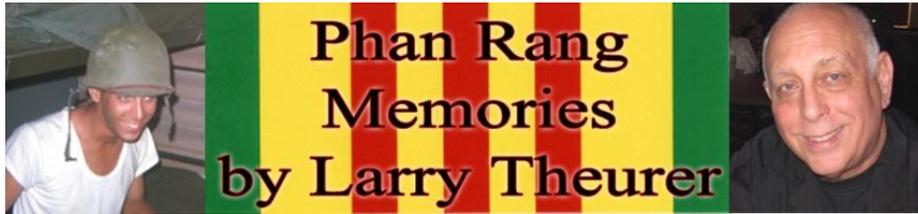
The VNAF currently use the C-47 Gooney Bird and C-119 for tactical airlift missions.

Training for the C-123 aircrews is a part of the VNAF improvement and modernization program.

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NEVER ENDING CARD GAME

The barracks was lined down the middle with fluorescent light fixtures, each having two bulbs which must have been cheap because they did not last long. We began having a shortage of replacement bulbs. Slowly the bulbs died until one night there was only one bulb alive in one fixture on the lower floor of the barracks and only one in a fixture on the top floor. I thought I was fortunate because the one on the top floor happened to be by my bed. But it became a big problem.

“...they set up their card table in the aisle by the foot of my bed so they could see.”

We worked three rotating 10 hour shifts, day, evening and late night. I was on day shift. About 8 PM some of the guys came over and said they would like to play cards, but had no light, would we mind it they set up their card table in the aisle by the foot of my bed so they could see.

We said “sure, no problem”. They set up the table and played and talked. I went to bed and tried to sleep but could not due to the jabber of a typical card game, but figured it’s OK; they’ll go to bed soon.

Well they did. But before they quit, the second shift guys arrived, see what’s going on and say “Hey, a card game, can we play?, The day shift guys said “sure, we were just leaving to go to bed, sit down here, take our places and continue”. So they did.

“Yeah fun for you, I’m dying”.

I’m lying there and next thing its morning, I have to go to work and I had zero sleep. As I get up, the late night guys show up after their shift and, same deal, they take over the game while second shift goes to bed and play all day. On the flight line people are talking about the never ending card game in progress and how much fun it is. I thought “Yeah fun for you, I’m dying”. I get done my shift, eat supper, return to the barracks and am shocked to see the game still going on. The day shift guys arrive and take over for third shift and I’m groaning. Same deal, they play, second shift takes over, and its morning and I’m in really bad shape. No sleep for two days. I was very physically sick. I thought I was going to pass out on the flight line. I don’t know

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why I didn't have enough brains to simply say to them "here, take the light bulb". I guess I was just too tired.

To my horror, I overhear guys on the flight line talking about the card game and wondering if they can set a record for how many days they can keep it going. So at the end of my shift, the bus takes us all to the chow hall. Everybody went inside except me.

“... (?) took the bulb out of the light and ran to another barracks trash can and tossed it in.”

I ran like hell up the hill. When I got to my barracks it was in the middle of the shift change, no one around. I grabbed the cards and card table and ran up the hill and put them in another barracks. I ran back, climbed up and took the bulb out of the light and ran to another barracks trash can and tossed it in. I didn't get supper that night and the top floor now had no lights at all, but I had a real good sleep.

‘Dragon’ Men Aid Troopers *(Seventh Air Force News, November 27, 1968)*

PLEIKU—An AC-47 Dragonship crew assigned to the 4th Special Operations Squadron, here, supported an Allied Forces unit in contact with the enemy soldiers four miles northwest of Pleiku, recently.

The Dragonship, commanded by 1st Lt. Foster E. Dudgeon, Tahoka, Tex., was directed by an Army ground controller to fire around a large draw and ravine south of his position.

The aircraft commander rolled the Dragonship in and covered the area with its 7.62 mm miniguns, and returned to Pleiku AB to re-arm. Within a short period of time, the Dragonship and crew returned to the target and unleashed the miniguns again, breaking the attack.

SP Armory Vital Link To Defense *(Seventh Air Force News, November 27, 1968)*

PHAN RANG —"When you're standing on the perimeter and you think trouble is coming, you love your M-16 as your wife!" is the way one security policeman in the 35th Security Police Squadron here stated his dependence on a good weapon.

The job of keeping these weapons in top condition for the squadron is the job of the SPS armory. Eight members comprise this small but vital section. Operating in one of the newest and best equipped armories in Vietnam, these men have the job of repair, cleaning and preventive maintenance on the over 1,000 weapons in the squadron's inventory.

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Patrick Nugent Receives the Distinguished Flying Cross



Related article: **“Pat
Nugent Training” Phan
Rang Newsletter 14.**



U.S.A.F. Photo by Christopher Boles

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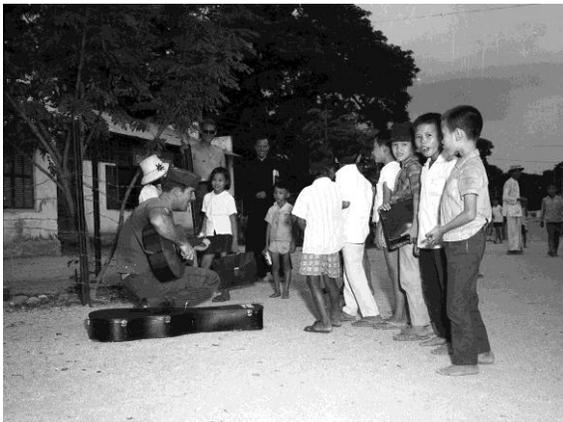
“Stories worth telling”

Bombing Pause Stirs New Civic Action Activity



FOLK SONG CONCERT

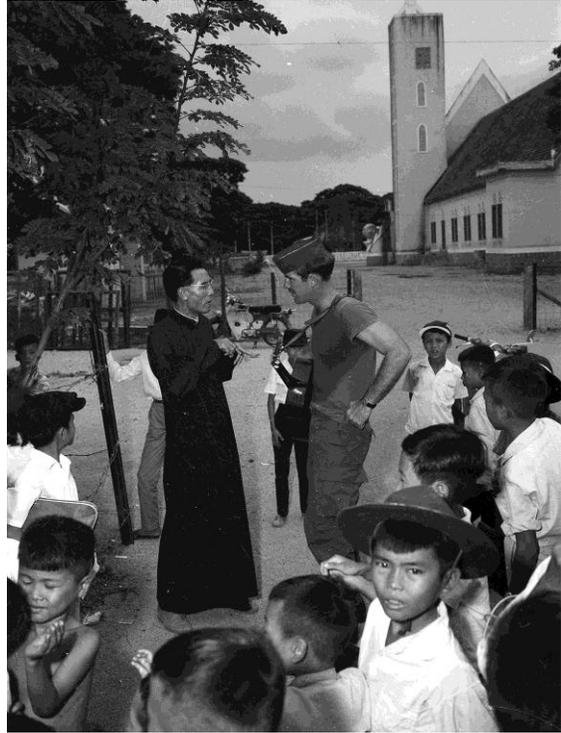
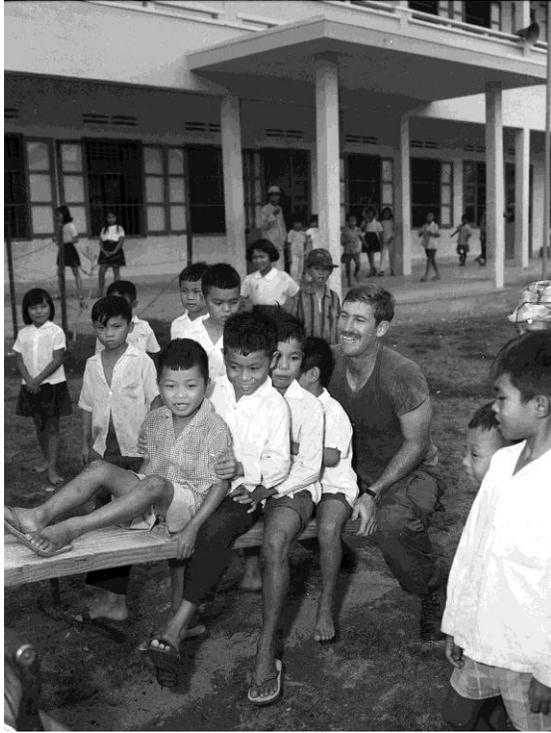
Captain Roland D. Stanley of Lam Mesa, California, entertains Vietnamese children with American folk songs. He and other members of the 352nd Tactical Fighter Squadron assisted the Truong Vinh Ky High School in nearby Phan Rang City with several civic action projects. (All Photos by A1C Christopher P. Boles)



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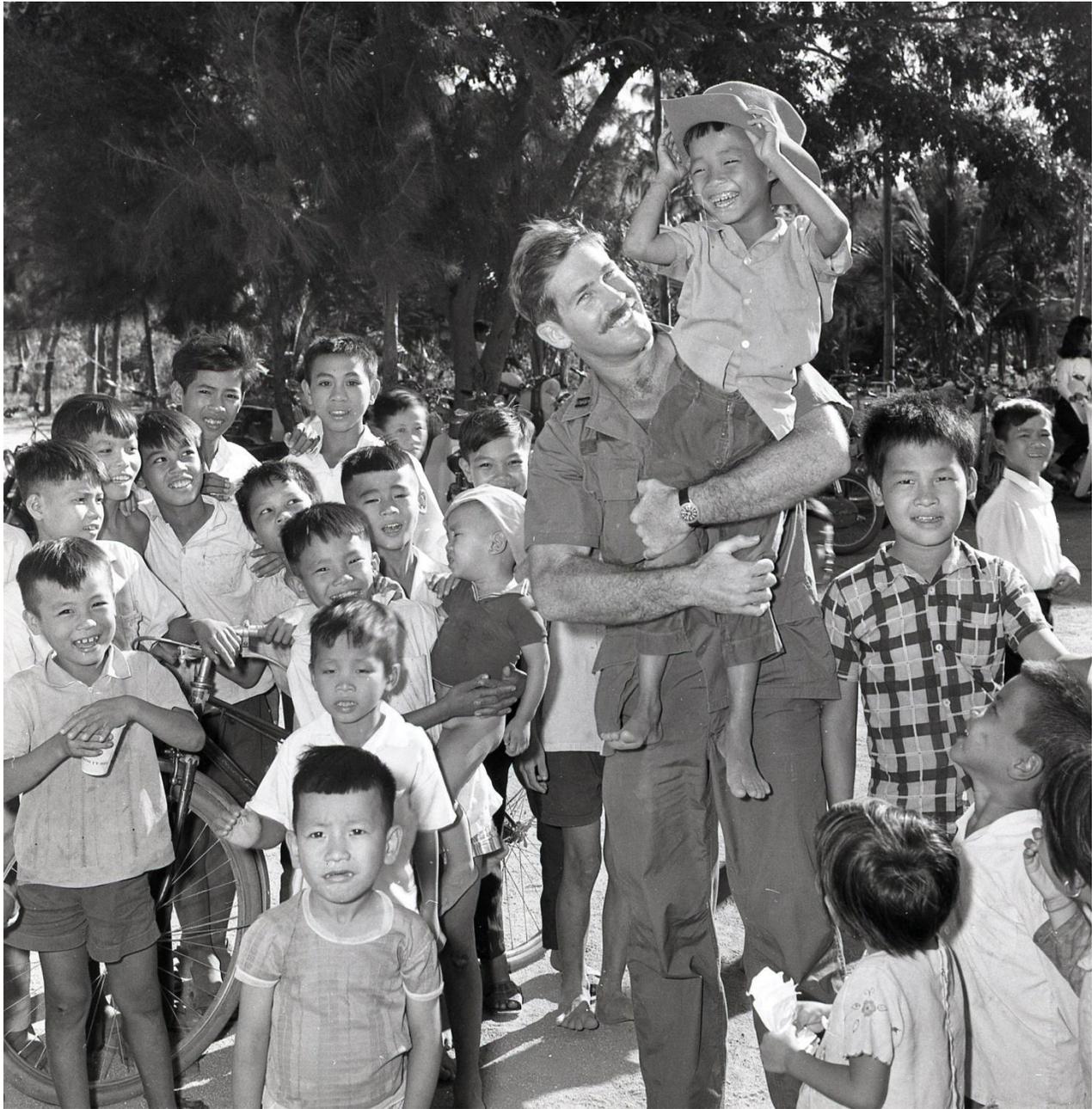
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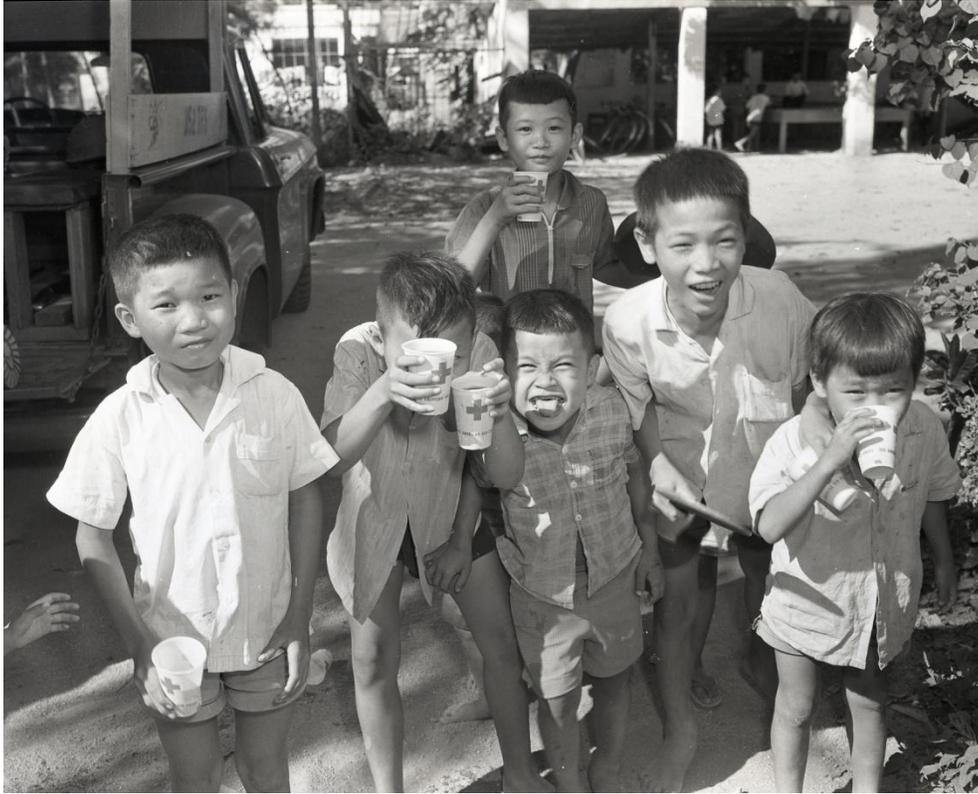


These kids are beautiful and I love the way that Captain Stanley interacts with them.

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Hanson, Holmes and Goodman Reunion



Jack Hanson, Sr., Ken Holmes and Steve Goodman meet at Wenatchee, Washington, May 2015. Ken and Jack were roommates at Lakenheath in 65-68 and Steve and Jack were roommates at Phan Rang 70-71. Steve worked at the Korean Command Post and Jack worked at ICC Command post.

War Zone Reports

3rd TFW Jets Hit Enemy Stronghold - A37s, Supersabres Team Up

(Seventh Air Force News, November 27, 1968)

BIEN HOA — A-37 and F-100 Supersabre pilots from the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, here recently teamed up to kill 19 enemy soldiers near Tay Ninh City.

Captains Thomas F. McGuire, York, Mo., and Edward V. Murphy, Melverne, N.Y., piloted the Supersabres while Capt. Henry M. Rogge, Brenham, Tex., and 1st Lt. Charles M. Carter, Luling, Tex., were at the A-37 controls.

The target was described by the forward air controller directing the air strikes as an enemy rest area.

Using 750-pound bombs, the Sabremen clobbered the enemy camp killing 13 enemy, and destroying six bunkers and a fighting position.

"After we arrived over the target the FAC mentioned he had seen quite a bit of activity in the camp," said Lieutenant Carter. "He suspected it to be an overnight camp. We came right in after the F-100s left the area and placed our 500-pound bombs between the craters they left."

As the pilots angled in for their attack the FAC directed them to hit a "patch of green" on the ground that was made up a fortification and large command bunker.

"When we finished, there was nothing left of the area," said the lieutenant. "In fact, we got six enemy soldiers in the command bunker."

In addition to crediting the pilots with killing 19 enemy soldiers, Army helicopters surveying the site after the strike reported the A-37 pilots had destroyed the bunker and fortification plus numerous mortar rounds.

Crew Chief - Always at Fringe Of Spotlight (*Air Force Times, January 27, 1971*)

TUY HOA—There are many Air Force men serving Southeast Asia who quietly, competently pursue their assigned duties. Unlike others with exotic jobs, these men-behind-the-scenes rarely garner any headlines. But they're as much a part of the Air Force story as anyone—without them there would be no Air Force story.

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Among these men is SSgt. Bruce L. Anderson, Cedar Crest, N.M. He is an F-100 Supersabre crewchief with the 188th Tactical Fighter Squadron, here.

Sergeant Anderson can be described as a typical USAF crewchief. He and others like him are the men who keep the airplanes flying.

TENDER LOVING CARE

Through a system of preflight and postflight inspections utilizing elbow grease and plain, old "tender lovin' care," he keeps his bird in excellent mechanical condition. And in a combat situation that's a tough thing to do, for his aircraft really chalks up a lot of flight hours.

According to Sergeant Anderson, the aircraft is his total responsibility while it's on the ground. He must insure that it's constantly in commission and ready to go at all times. Among other things, he must keep records so that it can be scheduled for various inspections.

The crewchief's days are long, hot and dreary, but he never complains. He is cognizant of the importance of his job.

TYPICAL DAY

A typical day starts with a preflight inspection—a general overall thorough maintenance check to make sure his F-100 is ready to fly.

Upon return of the F-100, Sergeant Anderson and his team of two other airmen meet the Supersabre at the fuel pits. There they refuel the aircraft. Then they tow it to its assigned parking space.

An immediate postflight inspection is then made. This consists of checking the aircraft for battle damage and looking for any other maintenance items that must be performed.

Oxygen systems are checked, a drag chute is installed, windshields are cleaned, and the cockpit is checked. In general, almost every system of the F-100 is scrutinized by Sergeant Anderson.

FIXES PLANE

If something is wrong with the aircraft he fixes it himself, or sees that it is fixed. He quite often needs help and Air Force maintenance specialists such as electricians, hydraulic technicians, etc. are always standing by to lend a hand.

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Sergeant Anderson is a typical crewchief. He knows he's a professional who gets the job done. And that's what counts.

(This tribute applies to crewchiefs' everywhere.)

In Vietnam/In America

In Vietnam...

Some fought the jungle...

Others fought the rain...

*Clerks fought the paperwork...
and wounded fought their pain.*

In Vietnam...

Some fought to save lives...

Others fought to kill...

*All fought the body bags...
and the empty graves to fill.*

In Vietnam...

Some fought in ocean 's storm...

Others fought by air...

*Children fought the napalm...
and no one seemed to care.*

In America...

Some fight the bottle...

Others fight their dreams...

*Some fill the empty graves...
and so ends war it seems...*

In America...

Only... in America

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AAFMPs-PAC Theater Schedule 4-10 October 1970 (Posted on Facebook by Gilbert Felix)

THEATERS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY				
	4 Oct 70	5 Oct 70	6 Oct 70	7 Oct 70	8 Oct 70	9 Oct 70	10 Oct 70				
TAN SON NHUT AB THEATER 1 924 - 4871	Admission Rates: Adults 75c, Child 25c KELLY'S HEROES (CS)(GP) Clint Eastwood Donald Sutherland - Telly Savalas		159 min	ONCE YOU KISS A STRANGER (GP) Paul Burke Carol Lynley	112 min	IN SEARCH OF GREGORY (GP) Julie Christie Michael Sarrazin Cartoon	108 min	THE GAMES (G)(CS) Ryan O'Neal Charles Amour Jeremy Kemp Cartoon	110 min		
MACV ANNEX 923 - 3617	* NORWOOD (G) Glen Campbell Kim Darby - Joe Namath	107 min	V.D. KING OF THE GRIZZLIES (G) John Yesso Chris Wigins Special	105 min	Admission Rates: Adults 75c, Child 25c KELLY'S HEROES (CS)(GP) Clint Eastwood Donald Sutherland - Telly Savalas	159 min	ONCE YOU KISS A STRANGER (GP) Paul Burke Carol Lynley	112 min	IN SEARCH OF GREGORY (GP) Julie Christie Michael Sarrazin Cartoon	108 min	
MACV COMPOUND 923 - 2028	THE MAD WOMAN OF CHAILLOT (G) Katharine Hepburn Danny Kaye	138 min	FOR LOVE OF IVY (GP)(REV) Sidney Poitier Abbey Lincoln	110 min	* NORWOOD (G) Glen Campbell Kim Darby - Joe Namath	107 min	V.D. KING OF THE GRIZZLIES (G) John Yesso Chris Wigins Special	105 min	Admission Rates: Adults 75c, Child 25c KELLY'S HEROES (CS)(GP) Clint Eastwood Donald Sutherland - Telly Savalas	159 min	
TAN SON NHUT AB THEATER 2 924 - 2158	* TWO MILES FOR SISTER SARA (CS)(GP) Clint Eastwood Shirley MacLaine		137 min	THE MAD WOMAN OF CHAILLOT (G) Katharine Hepburn Danny Kaye	138 min	FOR LOVE OF IVY (GP)(REV) Clint Eastwood Sidney Poitier Abbey Lincoln	110 min	* NORWOOD (G) Glen Campbell Kim Darby - Joe Namath	107 min	V.D. KING OF THE GRIZZLIES (G) John Yesso Chris Wigins Special	105 min
BIEN HOA AB 921 - 3550	* V.D. IN SEARCH OF THE CASTAWAYS (REI)(G) Maurice Chevalier - Hayley Mills George Sanders	114 min	NOT ROD ACTION (G) Documentary on Race Car Driving Cartoon Special	96 min	* TWO MILES FOR SISTER SARA (CS)(GP) Clint Eastwood Shirley MacLaine	137 min	THE MAD WOMAN OF CHAILLOT (G) Katharine Hepburn Danny Kaye	138 min	FOR LOVE OF IVY (GP)(REV) Clint Eastwood Sidney Poitier Abbey Lincoln	110 min	
DA NANG AB 1 957 - 4435	* V.D. THE COMPUTER MORE TENNIS SHOES (G) Kurt Russell Cesar Romero - Joe Flynn	102 min	THE SAVAGE WILD (CS)(G) Documentary	112 min	* SUPPOSE THEY GAVE A WAR AND NOBODY CAME (GP) Tony Curtis - Ernest Borgnine Susanne Fleshette - Brian Keith	120 min	SPIRITS OF THE DEAD (R) Jane Fonda Peter Fonda Brighton "Bud" Dot	119 min	HANDLERS (CS)(GP)(REV) James Stewart Dean Martin Raguel Welch	116 min	
DA NANG AB 2 957 - 3042	I LOVE YOU ALICE B. TOKLAS (R)(REV) Peter Sellers Jo Van Fleet Cartoon	105 min	THE FOREIGN PROJECT (CS)(GP) Eric Braeden Alex Rodine Susan Clark	106 min	* V.D. THE COMPUTER MORE TENNIS SHOES (G) Kurt Russell Cesar Romero - Joe Flynn	102 min	THE SAVAGE WILD (CS)(G) Documentary	112 min	* SUPPOSE THEY GAVE A WAR AND NOBODY CAME (GP) Tony Curtis - Ernest Borgnine Susanne Fleshette - Brian Keith	120 min	
FREEDOM HILL DA NANG 951 - 4800	Admission Rates: Adults 75c, Child 25c ANNE OF THE THOUSAND DAYS (CS)(GP) Richard Burton Genevieve Bujoild	154 min	I LOVE YOU ALICE B. TOKLAS (R)(REV) Peter Sellers Jo Van Fleet Cartoon	105 min	THE FOREIGN PROJECT (CS)(GP) Eric Braeden Alex Rodine Susan Clark	106 min	* V.D. THE COMPUTER MORE TENNIS SHOES (G) Kurt Russell Cesar Romero - Joe Flynn	102 min	THE SAVAGE WILD (CS)(G) Documentary	112 min	
PHU CAT 944 - 2313	Admission Rates: Adults 75c, Child 25c PAINT YOUR WAGON (CS)(GP) Lee Marvin - Clint Eastwood Joan Seberg - Harvey Pressnell	145 min	TO SIR, WITH LOVE (GP)(REV) Sidney Poitier Suzy Kendall	109 min	HELL BOATS (GP) James Franciscus Elizabeth Shepherd Cartoon	111 min	* ZIG ZAG (CS)(GP) George Kennedy Fili Sallouch - Anne Jackson	110 min	80 EFFS TO INKAR (G) Uma Thurman Jo Van Fleet Keenan Wynn	110 min	
TUY HOA AB 946 - 3544	* BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES (CS)(GP) Charlton Heston - James Franciscus Maurice Evans - Kim Hunter Special	97 min	STORY OF A WOMAN (R) Robert Stack Bibi Andersson James Farentino Screen News	102 min	SALT AND PEPPER (GP) Sally Jessy Raphael Peter Lawford	107 min	* THE ARRANGEMENT (CS)(R) Faye Dunaway - Richard Harris Deborah Kerr - Home Town	141 min	THE FANTASTIC PLASTIC MACHINE (CS)(G) Nat Young Rob McElwain Cartoon	100 min	
CAM RANH BAY 961 - 4540	* THE CHEYENNE SOCIAL CLUB (CS)(GP) James Stewart - Beverly Sills Shirley Jones	112 min	IN COLD BLOOD (R&M)(CS)(GP) (REV) John Forsythe Robert Blake	137 min	A LOVELY WAY TO DIE (CS)(GP) (REV) Kirk Douglas Sylvia Koscina	110 min	* THE NOLLY MACHINES (CS)(GP) Sam Cosentino - Richard Harris Samantha Eggar - Frank Finlay	129 min	INVASION OF THE ASTROIDS (G) Wick Aarons plus Japanese cast Screen News	106 min	
PHAN RANG 966 - 2841	* A MAN CALLED HORSE (CS)(GP) Richard Harris - Corinna Troupé Dame Judith Anderson	123 min	BEFORE WINTER COMES (GP) David Niven Tepoll	108 min	PARK OF THE SUN (CS)(GP) (REV) Rod Taylor Yvette Mimieux	107 min	THE THOMAS CROWN AFFAIR (GP)(REV) Steve McQueen Faye Dunaway	111 min	WAR OF THE GARGANTHAS (CS) (G) Russ Tamblyn Kipp Hamilton Cartoon	103 min	
CAN THO 928 - 4879	100 RIFLES (R)(REV) Jim Brown - Samuel Welch Burt Reynolds Special	140 min	THE RAIN PEOPLE (R) Shirley Knight James Cagney Robert Duvall	108 min	THE HEI-NEITH HEROES (CS) (REV)(GP) Rod Taylor Claudine Cardinale	111 min	* HOW THE WEST WAS WON (CS)(GP)(REV) John Wayne - Anthony Quinn Gregory Peck - Carroll Baker Screen News	169 min	THE LAST FROG (G) Stuart Whitman Margit Sand John Mills Screen News	103 min	
VUNG TAU 928 - 4879	Admission Rates: Adults 75c, Child 25c NORWOOD (G) Glen Campbell Kim Darby - Joe Namath	107 min	A DREAM OF PINOS (R) Anthony Quinn Irene Pankas Inez Stevens	125 min	THE LEAPING TURTLE (CS)(GP) Kyle Johnson Patelle Evans Alexander Clark	110 min	THE BOSTON STRANGLER (CS)(R)(REV) Tony Curtis - Beverly Sills George Kennedy	125 min	V.D. SMITH FAMILY ROBINSON (CS)(G)(REV) John Mills Barbara McGuire	129 min	

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Tales of Phan Rang

Series: Tales of Viet Nam, Book 1

By Robert Chappelle

An account of the author's one year tour of duty flying C-123 cargo aircraft in Viet Nam.

Provides descriptions of life in country and the missions that were flown. Presented not as a political view but rather simply as an account of that year and what it was like to be there.

“Happy Valley” Phan Rang AB, Vietnam
...keeping the memories alive

Phan Rang AB News No. 75

“Stories worth telling”

The author was assigned to Viet Nam on 4 October 1968 as a C-123 co-pilot. He was a 24 year old 2nd Lieutenant recent graduate of USAF pilot training and on his first duty assignment. While there he participated in passenger flights, cargo delivery missions, air drops, and emergency resupply missions. He upgraded to aircraft commander and experienced many unique adventures in special forces camps, Philippine Islands, and Australia.

This book is a description of that year providing an insight into what it was like to live and fly in that conflict and during that time of the war.

Tales of Bien Hoa

Series: Tales of Viet Nam, Book 2

By Robert Chappellear

Always wanting to be a fighter pilot, Bob Chappellear volunteered for a second tour of duty in Viet Nam. This is the story of that second tour. It is a telling of what it was like to fly the A-37 Close Air Support Fighter. This airplane was "the worlds smallest fighter, the fastest gun!" The airplane only weighted roughly 6000 pounds but the gun shot 6000 rounds a minute.

Always wanting to be a fighter pilot, Bob Chappellear volunteered for a second tour of duty in Viet Nam. This is the story of that second tour. It is a telling of what it was like to fly the A-37 Close Air Support Fighter. This airplane was "the worlds smallest fighter, the fastest gun!" The airplane only weighted roughly 6000 pounds but the gun shot 6000 rounds a minute. The airplane quickly gained a reputation for superior accuracy and so it quickly became a favorite of both the Forward Air Controllers and the ground troops that it supported. This story of that year flying the airplane out of Bien Hoa Air Base Republic of Viet Nam relates what it was like to fly these missions. It describes in detail, daytime/night "fragged" missions, "Sky Spots", daytime/night time "scrambles". The book includes descriptions of transitioning from flying cargo airplanes to flying this air to ground fighter. There are mission descriptions of missions flown in close support of friendly troops, missions flown in mountains, and exciting missions like what it is like to hit a tree with the airplane going about 300 MPH.

These books can be downloaded for reading on your Kindle, Ipad, tablet or computer. I previously just downloaded and read Tales of Phan Rang but then when I was talking to a friend the other day he told me that he was reading Tales of Bien Hoa and it is just as exciting and written with as much detail to make you think you are there as Tales of Phan Rang. I've downloaded it for my Ipad and will be reading it during my upcoming vacation. To buy either [Tales of Phan Rang](#) or [Tales of Bien Hoa](#), just click on the link and it will take you directly to the Smashwords site.

PHAN RANG AB LIBRARY
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(The Phan Rang AB News is a newsletter compiled from various sources by Douglas Severt to

“Happy Valley” Phan Rang AB, Vietnam
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“Stories worth telling”

heighten the awareness of Phan Rang AB and to keep interested personnel informed about the annual Happy Valley, Phan Rang AB reunion...‘keeping the memories alive’)

To download any of the previous issues of the Phan Rang AB News, just click the hyperlink of the desired issue. I’ve redone all the links and now anyone can access them. These documents are viewable on your Kindle, Ipad in IBooks or on your tablet. Download them and read them at your leisure on your mobile device.

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Click on the logo to make your hotel reservations.

Note: I’ve created a reunion slideshow from pictures from all of the previous reunions. The show will be shown in Charleston and will also be available on DVD. It’s really a trip down memory lane!

This 4th Annual Reunion is shaping up to be the best ever and one of the largest. I have to add a caveat because nothing can beat the very first reunion when many of us met for the very first time and some had not seen each other since leaving Vietnam. We are also going to have some very interesting speakers. You will not be disappointed...make your reservations now!

Our brother Dave Runnells asked me to let the guys know about this U.S. Air Force Vietnam Veterans ring. He said his only interest is to let the guys know that it’s available and he has purchased one himself and said it’s very nice.

**U.S. AIR FORCE
VIETNAM VETERANS**



Note: The wording around the stone - **Vietnam Veteran**

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Ask for the “Air Force Vietnam Veteran Ring”
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This newsletter was compiled by Douglas Severt. This is a milestone of sorts for me as I never thought that I would have been able to find enough information for so many newsletters.

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Thanks to Kirk Minert, Christopher Boles, authors that have allowed me to use their stories and the members of the ‘Happy Valley’ Facebook Group it seems I will have information to last to perpetuity. I feel privileged to have handled those old copies of the Seventh Air Force News, Stars and Stripes and the Phan Rang Phan Fare. Since they are too fragile to be shared with everyone else, is the main reason that I want to share the stories that are in them with you. When I get copies of these old papers, photos, slides and negatives from you guys, I feel like an excited kid that just discovered a hidden treasure. From all the feedback, I suspect that you guys enjoy the newsletter as much as I enjoy putting it together.