



REVETMENTS

The Official Journal of The Tan Son Nhut Association

A Memorial to the American Experience in Vietnam



SEPTEMBER 2017

NOTATIONS FROM APPLICATIONS

Charge of 3 to 5 airmen located in Bldg. 491 near flight-line in support of 834 AD C-130's/C-7's, supply interface support to maintenance.

Deployed one time to Don Muang, Thailand in support of Commando Image/Black Leopard Ops.

TDY one time to Cam Rahn.

Lived in BOQ Barracks (#?) and off-base.

Extended 6 months (volunteer) due to draw-down.

Was there during Easter Offensive of '72 and Ammo Dump explosion 9/71.

Enjoyed Roy Acuff/USO Show.

Have a few pictures and scrapbook.

Charles M. Crumpton
Nov 70 - Jun 72
377 CAMSquadron/Det.1 834 Air Division
Major, USAF (Ret.)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Major Crumpton just joined TSNA and will be at the Reunion in Colorado Springs.

And below, Michael Cain just renewed his membership to Life Member, and he and his wife will be at the Reunion—not the first one they have been to.

Looking forward to seeing them very soon.

We have right around 100 people attending the reunion from 30 different states.

We have 6 coming to the reunion that have joined TSNA in the past year or so, and two others who are coming but are not yet members.

During Tet I was in a bunker with two others. Between us and the F-105 revetments was a taxiway. Shortly before we were hit, General Westmoreland's Lear Jet came down the taxiway and paused.

A few minutes later Westmoreland's jeep pulled up. The General and three or four others jumped out of the jeep and ran onto the plane.

As the jet took off I thought, "Ohhh, we are going to get hit hard."

Michael E. Cain
Nov 67 - Nov 68
377th Security Police Squadron

Lived on MACV Compound. Unit was on the TSN perimeter away from everything. Had our own helipad.

Edward J. O'Sullivan
U. S. Army Mortuary, TSN
Apr 69 - Oct 70

I was Permanent Party with Det. 1, 834th Air Division on Tan Son Nhut.

I then went TDY to the U. S. Army, assigned as the USAF Liaison to the Joint Central Graves Registration Office, as an Admin. Specialist at the U. S. Army Mortuary. The office was tasked with the creation of a file facility focused on the Killed in Action-Body Not Recovered, MIA's, POW's, and AWOL's.

These records were to be used to locate and recover these individuals whenever possible. We had at our disposal funds to pay for information or for the repatriation of the living individual or their remains. These records were then transferred out of country at the end of the war to Clark AFB, PI, and then finally to the ID LAB at Hickam in Hawaii.

I was on TSN from April 1971 - to January 1972.

Chris F. Veblen
Steelton, WA

EDITOR'S NOTE: Chris is also a brand new member of TSNA, and he and his wife Victoria will be at the reunion in Colorado Springs in a little over two weeks.

Chris is also now a Life Member of TSNA!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As the month of August starts its movements to September the author of the "Corner" finds a book full of quotes leading up to dates like Thanksgiving: here are some words of wisdom from a "Farmers Monthly", this quote "write it on your heart that every day is the best day of the year". A slight change of words in the Proverbs: "I can do all things through my faith which strengthens me"!

Air Force General Kwist is quoted in the current Air Force, July edition these words "Even the most brilliant people can fail if they are not given the resources to do everything they should be doing".

General Kwist is the President of the Air University. He also says "We are really sitting on a powerful moment in time".

For us it is a time of memory for the past and a time of fellowship with those we have come to know through our TSN "family".

End of Sermon

Chaplain Bob Chaffee

Republic of Vietnam's NBS Chief and me.

When I attended Precision Measuring Equipment (PMEL) school, our class had four Vietnamese Airmen in the class. Their leader was M/Sgt BA, with three airmen whose names I don't remember now. After graduation I returned to Minot AFB ND, and the Vietnamese returned to their country.

I was not back at Minot long until I got orders for Vietnam to be stationed at Tan Son Nhut AB. Things were going along quietly there until about the mid year, when Bien Hoa AB was attacked with rockets, one striking their PMEL building. They lost a lot of equipment and of course the building. Their lab chief was M/Sgt BA, and he was also the head of the Vietnamese National Bureau of Standards which maintains the Nations standards. One day shortly after their attack M/Sgt Ba brought some of his airmen who lived in the Saigon area down to our lab and made an agreement for them to work on their equipment, in our lab using our standards. It was interesting to again meet M/Sgt Ba, and relive a few good times from school. He then returned to Bien Hoa to get his lab back in operation with the airmen stationed there and who lived in that area.

It was nice to be able to be friends with someone in that high a level in their government. I have wondered many times about whether or not he survived the overthrow of the South Vietnamese Government, and if he was able to get out of the country.

Ok sorry it isn't a war story but I think it is interesting or at least to me.

Harlan N. Hatfield 460th AEMS PMEL class of 1967.



"We all flew up to Cam Ranh Bay to Help clean up after the Zappers blew Up the ammo dump, Aug 25, 1971"

These two items courtesy of Fred Benda, 823rd & 544th Red Horse Combat Engineers, Sep 70 - Sep 71. Fred was a good friend of the late one and only Benny Goodman.



Directions to the hotel:
Marriott Colorado Springs
5580 Tech Center Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
(719) 260-1800

South from Denver:
Take I-25 South.

(CAUTION! In the Denver area, DO NOT get on E470. This is a Pay-In-Advance tollway and there are no toll booths. Persons driving on this highway without a prepaid valid permit are subject to fines up to \$450.00!)

Continue on I-25 South to exit 148. After exiting, continue South on the access road until you reach S. Rockrimmon Blvd. Turn right (West) at Rockrimmon. Proceed to Tech Center Dr. which will be on your left just past the Shell Service Station. Turn left on Tech Center Dr. and the entrance to the hotel will be immediately to your right. **(BLUE LINE)**

North from Pueblo:
Take I-25 North to Exit 148. Proceed to stoplight and turn left under the highway. Follow S. Rockrimmon Blvd. West to Tech Center Dr. on your left just past the Shell Service Station. Turn left on Tech Center Dr. and the entrance to the hotel will be immediately to your right. **(GREEN LINE)**



More Notations from Applications

Originally assigned to George AFB, Victorville, CA, 831st Supply Sq. 1965 went on Mobility to DaNang Air Base for F-104 Deployment 3 months. Returned to George, they wanted people to cross-train in Air Freight. Sent to Shepard AFB, Texas. Then off to Tan Son Nhut Sep 66, on Mobility Phan Thiet. In on "Operation Junction City" Bien Hoa AB. Was at TSN 12/04/66 attack #11. Thanks to brave men of 377th SPS.

Couple of AO related cancers, other than that still kicking.

Lester L. Hanlon, Jr.
8th Aerial Port Squadron
Sep 66 - May 67



Looking Back at the Year 1965

The Vietnam War troop buildup has started in earnest and would grow rapidly for several more years. At the end of 1965 there were 184,300 troops in country. As expected, casualties rose to 1,980 killed in 1965. It would be seven long, painful years before this number is again this low.

The Selective Service drafted 230,991 men in 1965 as the Vietnam buildup began. This more than doubled from 1964. General William Westmoreland was named as Time Magazine's Man of the Year.

Over 22,000 U. S. troops were dispatched to the Dominican Republic during their civil war.

The health insurance program for the elderly known as "Medicare" was signed into law by President Johnson. Former President Harry Truman was issued the first Medicare Card.

For the young at heart, skateboards become popular as well as the mini-skirt. The Houston Astrodome opened as the largest air-conditioned indoor arena.

Nutra-Sweet is introduced. Compact disk invented, made popular many years later. Soft contact lens invented. Sir Winston Churchill dies at age 90.

In economic news, the government began the process of removing almost all silver from coins. You could buy a stamp for a nickel, a gallon of gasoline for about 31 cents, gallon of milk for about 95 cents, and a dozen eggs for about 53 cents. The minimum wage in 1965 was \$1.25 per hour.

Some of the more memorable movies from 1965 include *The Sound of Music*, *Doctor Zhivago*, *A Thousand Clowns*, *Ship of Fools*, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*.

The daytime TV drama "Days of Our Lives" premiered in 1965 and is still being aired 50 plus years later. Some TV shows to remember from 1965 are Bonanza, Gomer Pyle, The Lucy Show, The Red Skelton Hour, Batman, and Hogan's Heroes.

In the world of music, the rock group "Grateful Dead" was founded. Are there any "Dead Heads" in the association?

From Billboard, the top songs from 1965 are listed below.

Wooly Bully by Sam the Sham and the Pharaohs

I Can't Help Myself by the Four Tops

(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction by the Rolling Stones

You Were On My Mind by the We Five

You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin' by the Righteous Brothers

Downtown by Petula Clark

Help! By the Beatles

Can't Hear My Heartbeat by Herman's Hermits

Crying in the Chapel by Elvis Presley

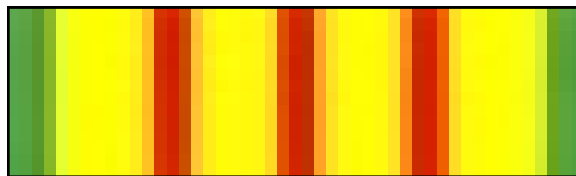
My Girl by the Temptations

For the sports fans, the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Minnesota Twins in the World Series. In college football Alabama and Michigan State were named National Champions. UCLA won the NCAA basketball championship. The Green Bay Packers defeated the Cleveland Browns for the NFL Championship.

Harold Boone

Sep 67 - Aug 68

460th TRW HQ Section





2017 Reunion

Marriott, Colorado Springs, CO

Thursday – September 14, 2017

0630- 0900 Breakfast in hotel restaurant
0900 Hospitality Suite opens for official reunion registration
0830-1100 Plaque Dedication at 460th Space Wing, Buckley AFB, CO (*Limited to 12 people*)
1200-1300 **Optional:** Light lunch at **Lowry Beer Garden** Denver, CO: site of former Lowry AFB
1300-1400 Return to COS
2200? Hospitality Suite closes

Friday – September 15, 2017

0630-0900 Breakfast in hotel restaurant
0900 Hospitality Suite opens
0845 Buses depart hotel for USAF Academy tour & lunch (Host: Russ Jansky)
1400 Buses return to hotel
1700-1800 Cash bar cocktail reception (Separate schedule of banquet events will be provided)
1800-2200 Banquet
2300? Hospitality Suite closes

Saturday – September 16, 2017

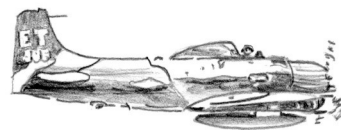
0630-0900 Breakfast in hotel restaurant
0900 Hospitality Suite opens
0900 Buses depart for Peterson AFB tour & lunch
1300 Buses return to hotel
1300-1400 Presentation: ***“A Return To The End”*** by: Pat Clark, Producer
1400-1500 Kathy Manos Penn – Renowned Author
1600-1730 Board of Directors meeting
1900-1930 Raffle & door prize drawing (Hospitality Suite)
1930-2100 Silent auction (Hospitality Suite)
2300? Hospitality Suite closes

Sunday – September 17, 2017

0630-0900 Farewell breakfast in banquet room
1000 Hospitality Suite closes

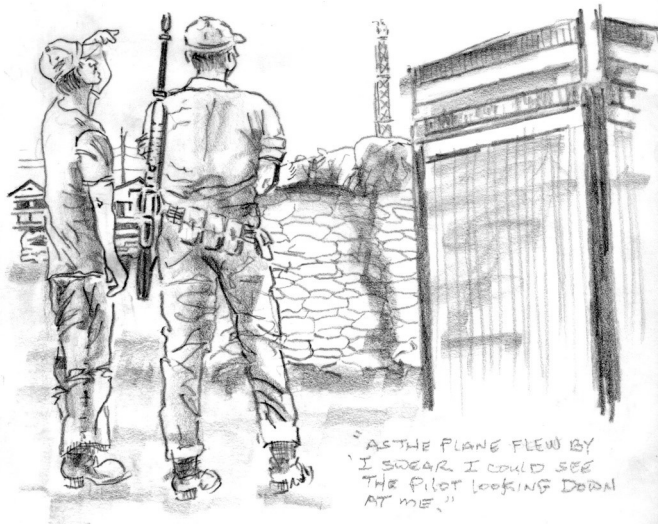
REUNION OFFICIALLY ENDS!

SEE YOU IN FAIRBORN/DAYTON OHIO IN 2018!



Revetments is an official publication of the Tan Son Nhut Association, Inc. P.O. Box 236, Penryn, PA 17564-0236. The Association is a 501(c)(19) tax exempt Veterans' Organization incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

President: Randall W. Brown
 Vice President and Director of Public Relations: Richard Carvell
 Secretary: Dale Bryan
 Treasurer: Carol Bessette
 Director of Communications: Gary Fields
 Director of Marketing: Johnnie Jernigan
 Director of Reunion Planning: Joe Kricho
 Director of Membership and Revetments Editor: Larry E. Fry
 Director at Large: Jim Faulkner
 Co-Director of Membership Development: Andy Csordas
 Co-Director of Membership Development: Kerry Nivens
 Chaplains: Rev. Dr. James M. Warrington, Rev. Dr. Billy T. Lowe; and Rev. Bob A. Chaffee
 Associate Chaplain: Andy Csordas
 Presidents Emeriti:
 Don Parker, (1947-2014), Co-Founder and President 1996-2002
 John Peele, Co-Founder and President 2002-2004
 Wayne Salisbury, (1940-2014), President 2004-2007
 Robert Robinson Gales, President 2007-2011
 George Plunkett, President 2011-2015
 Web Master: Charles E. Penley
Web Site: www.tsna.org
 Annual Membership: \$20.00
 Five Year Membership: \$80.00
 Life Membership: \$180.00



“As the plane flew by I swear I could see the pilot looking down at me.”
 And our thanks again to John Bowen, TSNA Member, for another great illustration.

NEW MEMBERS 

Charles M. Crumpton	Minden LA	charles.crumpton@yahoo.com	Nov 70 - Jun 72	377 CAMS/Det. 1, 834 Air Division
Chris F. Veblen	Shelton WA	veblencf@hcc.net	Mar 71 - Jan 72	834th Air Division, Det. 1
Edward J. O'Sullivan	Tucson AZ	eosullivan40@hotmail.com	Apr 69 - Oct 70	U. S. Army Mortuary TSN

TSNA and its officers, directors, employees and agents do not make any guarantees of any kind about the content, accuracy, or timeliness of information in the TSNA newsletter, *Revetments*. The use of information from this newsletter is strictly voluntary and at the user's sole risk. TSNA shall not be liable for any damages of any kind related to the information in this newsletter. The opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and do not constitute the opinion or policy of TSNA.