



GEOFFREY L. HANDEL

GREENVILLE, SC

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4/22/96

Dick

Looking back at your correspondence on the red Huey paper (where did you get that?) you talked about LZ Buit. I remember it well. They got us up at Oh dark thirty to help out. That was the night I learned how much like basket balls, soccer balls being shot in your direction look like. That was also the night that Capt Dot shot an approach to a stroke light, only to find out it was an enemy position. ^{Not a stroke.} Funny, its almost strange saying enemy. Maybe, I'll just say bad guy.

Oh, another name for Daer Thien was "Motorville". In Feb '68 or maybe it was March, we got motored about 65 times. In fact one day they got us during preflight. Peppened ~~to~~ my aircraft. Another day everybody got off early ^(launched early) to avoid them ^(motors) except me. I had avionic trouble. I was at maint - that was the ~~the~~ town end of the run way we used (the airplane used the other one) & I was pointing toward the tower (a pencil Building @ the intersection) Suddenly the motor came. They started

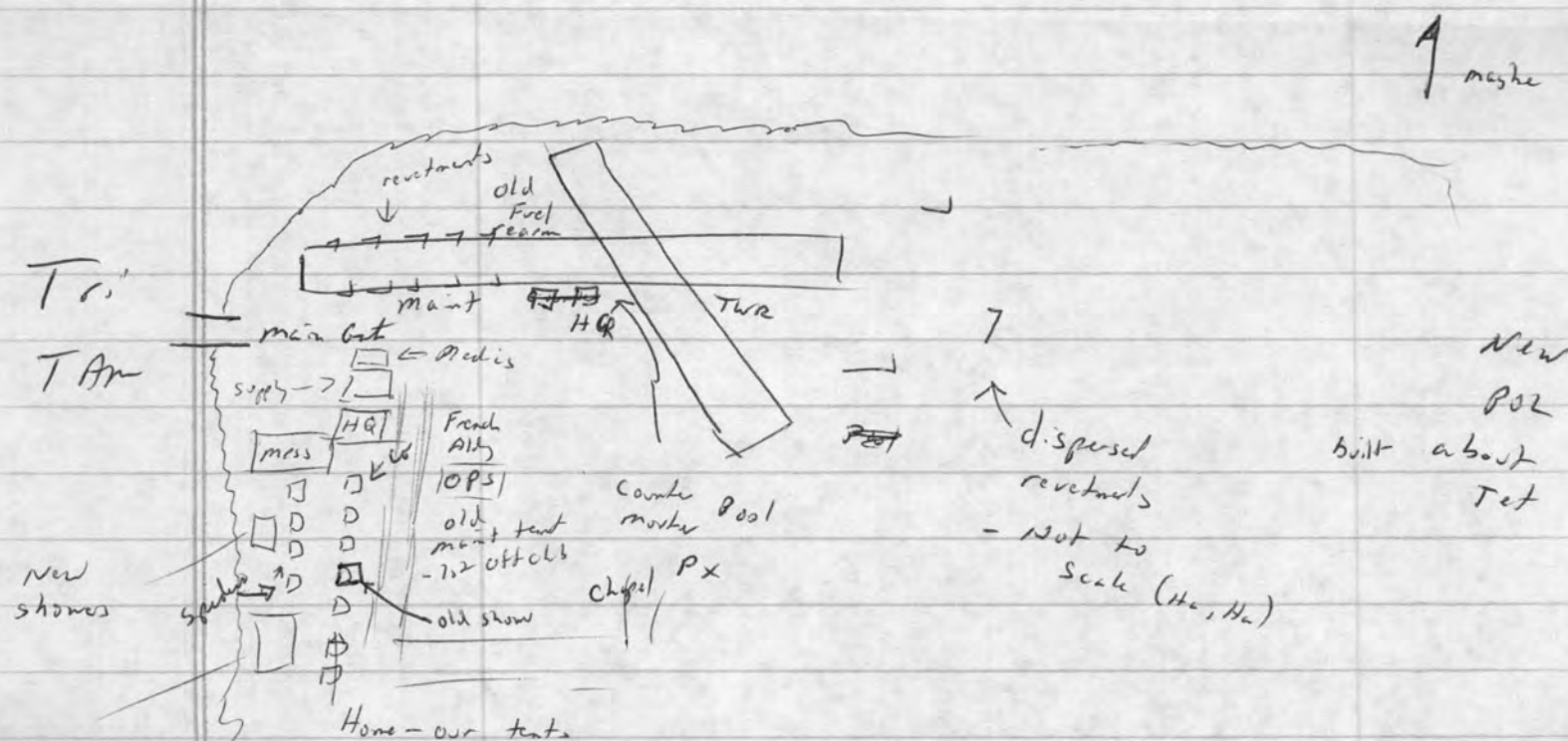
at about its intersection and about every 6 seconds or so one would hit near its middle of the run way, but closer, then closer & closer still until it was out of there. I rolled on throttles as I pulled pitch and the avionics guy in back was screaming - he didn't want to "go to war", as was usually the case, once we got airborne, the motors stopped.

Back to LZ Bunt. You know we supposedly all got put in for an Air Medal with "V" device. - Never saw it. How about you?

Dick, aren't you the fellow that used to part your hair down the middle?

Do you remember the XM-21 (minigun) ship - 089? I believe it was 15089. I flew it for several years ~~there~~ here in the SC Guard before we got Apaches. After 30 years I'm going to hang it up. It's been very good to me. By the way there was also a slick 089. - It was 66-16089. - 1st Olt I believe. I think Dan Gervin was the AC during our term - he works for Mobile, I think.

you asked about the layout of the post. I don't remember much. If the runway we used was East West as I believe we would have been on the western perimeter - something like this



This is generally as I remember Dan Trieng. -

Rich most of my pictures were destroyed, but I have some Super 8 - I need to review it at some point. The wife can't understand why I keep that "old", "junky", "stuff". She never will!

my Best

Geoff