

COR Pete Freas

SEAWOLF QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1 What dates were you in Vietnam? From 6/69 to 6/70
- 2 What Dets were you in? 5 dates 6/69 - 6/70
Where was the Det located then? Chau Doc
Were you at the main base? passed thru
- 3 Principal job, work, rating? OPS (Det), ADINC
- 4 Who was the Det OSC? Ernie Yeager; Bob Strange, Tom Starbuck
- 5 Squadron CO & XO? CO Beckwith, Twite BO Whitmore
- 6 What medals and awards did you earn while in Vietnam?
3 DFC, 31 SIFAM, 3 AM, 2 NCM, 2 VN Cross, CAR, 2 MNC, NAC,
VN CIVIC ACTION, VN MNC, VN CAMPAIGN, VN Service
- 7 Name, rank and serial number, location, date and circumstances and other pertinent information concerning any deaths or injuries of HAL-3 personnel? Dave Nekomito severe leg injury; Jack Mulcahy killed; George Blackwell microscopically wounded
Cambodia incursion
- 8 Special or unusual Ops that you were involved in while in Vietnam
Cambodia incursion
- 9 With what units other than HAL-3 did you work? Val 4, Riverine forces (don't recall numbers), VN units, Army
- 10 What did you think of the ARVN's? some very good, some not so sure
- 11 What did you feel about the war when you returned home? cautious
- 12 What did you feel about the war in 1975 when Saigon fell? pissed off
- 13 What do you feel about the war today? proud, sad
- 14 Describe any close calls? Easter 70; routine heavy take-off almost crashed; one of the DFC's
- 15 Describe your fondest memories in Vietnam? FLYIN' & FIGHTIN'
- 16 What is your birthdate? Social security NO?
Former enlisted or officer number? 695031
- 17 Did you stay in the Navy after your tour in Vietnam? yes
For how many years? (still in) (18 yrs)
If you stayed in, did your HAL-3 experience help you or hurt you, why?
Helped - gave me combat experience, credibility, maturity, flying experience,
& sea stories
Hurt -
- 18 How do you feel about HAL-3? Wouldn't have traded it for the world - I'd do it all over again today I want to write the story in fiction form; but I haven't given it a high enough priority (vs family, job, school, etc)
- 19 Who were the most unforgettable characters in Nam, why?
all of 'em - each was a classic in his own way. "Pink Champagne" a nurse in the CB compound; a former Cleveland Brown (don't recall his name) on the boats
- 20 Describe any physical and mental troubles you have had since Vietnam that could be related to your duty there. None other than I never got to fly as much or as intensely again.

- 21 What did you enjoy the most about Vietnam? flyin' in fightin', shipmates & camaraderie
- 22 What was the most unpleasant aspect about Vietnam? Washington DC
- 24 What units impressed you in Vietnam? HAL-3, Boat units, NVA
- 25 Do you have any records, photos, maps, mementos, forms, ect of Hal-3 that you would be willing to donate? Copy? YES Or allow us to copy? Describe them I'll send what I can dig out after my impending move
- 26 The most secret item to which you were privy? They're coming over the wall tonight (& there will be fire here)
- 27 Have you been to the Vietnam Veterans Wall? YES If so, what were your impressions? I felt close to it; guilty I couldn't recall any names of fallen warriors
- 28 Did you see any atrocities during your tour? NO
- 29 Would you be interested in visiting Vietnam as a tourist with other Hal-3 vets? Yes X NO X
- 30 How long were you in Hal-3? 12 mos, The Navy? 23 yrs, Total military service? 26 yrs.
- 31 The most unforgettable memory? HAL-3
- 32 What were the best and the worst things ever to happen to HAL-3?
 • Flying restrictions increasingly imposed throughout 69-70 - WORST
 • FLYING & FIGHTING - BEST
- 34 List the songs you remember from Vietnam? Homeward Bound, Leavin' on a Jet Plane, Polero
- 35 List the books you remember from Vietnam? Painted Bird
- 36 List the movies you remember from Vietnam? (while you were there) saw many, recall none
- 37 What would you want remembered about Vietnam and HAL-3 and/or your service there? People, flyin' in fightin'
- 38 What did you lack the most while in Vietnam? decent beer
- 39 What did you have to much of while in Vietnam? salt pills
- 40 What civic or charitable organizations were you involved in? then - none now - Toastmasters, Church
- 41 The food was? OK
- 42 Who were your best friends while in HAL-3? Do you know where they are now? If not, would you like to know? Jim McCallan, Earle Yeager, ... most of the det guys & those I went thru pre-VN training with, Chaplain Les Westling
- YES -
- 43 Funniest event while in HAL-3? our off-duty crews flew for Det 8 (so they could party) & we shot up their A/C
- 44 With all of today's knowledge, would you do it again? Yes X No
in a heart beat!