

Welcome to NAKHON PHANOM

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FRANKLIN F WALKER
3000 WHEATLAND TER
FREEPORT IL 61032

WELCOME

On behalf of the U.S. servicemen of this installation and our host, the Royal Thai Air Force, welcome to Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, home of the 56th Air Commando Wing.

Thailand has a proud and exotic history and a very promising future. Your stay here should be a valuable experience because of the country's unique cultural heritage. Our relationship with the citizens of Nakhon Phanom has been friendly. Mutual cordiality and respect have been our "by-words." Please help us maintain and further improve this excellent example of international cooperation and friendship.

It is our hope that this brochure will provide you with information of value during your stay here. Our facilities and services are some of the best in Southeast Asia. They are being continually improved and expanded. We encourage you to use and enjoy them.

When you arrive here, many of the facilities shown or mentioned in this booklet will have moved to new and improved quarters, and many new facilities added.

Again, welcome to Thailand and NKP.

Photos by Det. 12,601st Photo Flight
Produced by 56th ACW (DXI)
Edited by Sgt. Walter D. Lewis
And AIC William G. Connelly



NAKHON PHANOM CITY (VIEWED FROM LEFT)

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MAP OF THAILAND

NORTH VIETNAM

BURMA

LAOS

GULF of TONKIN

CHIENG RAI

CHIENGMAI

PUA

UTTARADIT

NONGKHAI

NAKHON PHANOM

LOEI

UDORN

PHITSANULOKE

MUKDAHAN

KHON KAEN

NAKHON SAWAN

UBON

TAKHLI

KORAT

KOKETHIEM

SURIN

LOPBURI

PRACHINBURI

BANGKOK

CHACHOENG SAO

RATBURI

PATTAYA

SATTAHIP

CAMBODIA

ANDAMAN SEA

GULF of SIAM

SOUTH VIETNAM

PRANBURI

SOUTH CHINA SEA

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT

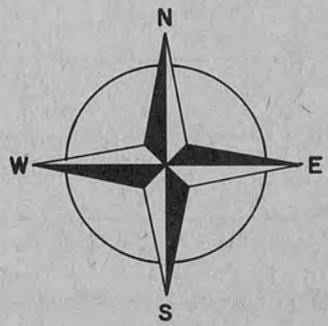
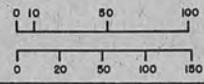
SONGKHLA

PATTANI

HAAD YAI

THAILAND

ENGLISH MILES
KILOMETERS



NKP RTAFB HISTORY



RED HORSE CONSTRUCTION

Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai AFB was built under the military assistance program in 1963 by Mobile Construction Battalion Three (SEABEES), U.S. Navy. Members of the 507th Tactical Control Squadron were the first U.S. Air Force personnel to arrive here in early 1964.

The base was under the control of the 5th Tactical Control Group until May 1965, when the 6235th Air Base Squadron was formed.

Overall control of the USAF units here were then turned over to the 35th Tactical Group (now the 631st Combat Support Group, PACAF) at Don Muang Royal Thai AFB, Bangkok, Thailand.

On April 8, 1966, the 634th Combat Support Group was activated and the 6235th Air Base Squadron deactivated. Shortly thereafter a major construction program began. The 634th assumed responsibility for all base support functions.

One year later, April 8, 1967, the 56th Air Commando Wing was activated and the 634th Combat Support Group was redesignated the 56th Combat Support Group.

Major expansion and construction programs are still being conducted at NKP. The base has more than doubled in size during the last two years.

* * *



AIRCREW QUARTERS

COMMANDO MISSION

The principle mission of the 56th Air Commando Wing is to assist in fulfilling USAF operational requirements in Southeast Asia.

In addition, the wing supports a number of tenant organizations, all having roles in USAF operations in Southeast Asia.

For one, Det 1, 40th Air Rescue and Recovery Squadron supports the program to rescue United States pilots downed in Vietnam. The unit, which flies the HH-3E "Jolly Green Giant" rescue helicopter, also makes medical-evacuation flights in Thailand.

Another tenant, Det 5, 621st Tactical Control Squadron, monitors aerial tanker refueling, tactical control of strike aircraft passing its area, departures and arrivals at Nakhon Phanom RTAFB. In addition, the unit provides communication in conjunction with helicopter rescue efforts.

The 56th Air Commando Wing has an assigned unit which is unique in the Air Force—the 606th Air Commando Squadron Civic Action Section. Its purpose is to provide medical and technical advice, and training to field workers in the Royal Thai Government's program to bring the health and sanitation standards of the Northeast up to modern standards.

Due to the variety of units and missions here at Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, your assignment will be interesting and educational. All units here are guests of the Royal Thai Government.



CONTROL TOWER

THAI CUSTOM

* The Thai greeting, called the "Wai" is done by putting the hands together in a praying position before your face and slightly nodding your head. Many Thais will "Wai" and in addition shake hands with you. It is always polite to "Wai" in return.

* Treat women with politeness and respect. Touching or showing fondness for Thai women in public is considered improper and offensive.

THAILAND



KING AND QUEEN OF THAILAND

Thailand is a country about the size of France and nearly as large as Texas, with a population of more than 30 million. The Royal Kingdom of Thailand is located on the Southeast Asian peninsula, bordered on the east by Cambodia and Laos, on the west by Burma, on the north by Burma and Laos, and on the south by Malaysia and the Gulf of Thailand.

Bangkok, the capital city, lies

at latitude 14 degrees north, near the 100th meridian approximately 900 miles north of Singapore.

The topography of the country varies from flat plains in central Thailand to rugged mountains and jungles in the north. Rice is the wealth of the country. **Other profitable exports** are corn, tapioca, kenaf, rubber, teak, tin, kapok, and lac.

About 80 per cent of the people

are of the Thai race, and may be categorized as Central Thai, Northeastern Thai, or **Northern Thai**. The minority groups in Thailand number approximately six million, with the Chinese representing about 50 per cent of this total.

Over half of the Chinese are from Suatow and are concentrated principally in the Bangkok area and at various locations in the southern peninsula, in most cases intermingled with Thai. Other important groups include almost 900,000 Malays, about 450,000-600,000 hill tribesmen in the north, 50,000 Vietnamese and about 200,000 other minorities.

Over 90 per cent of the population is Buddhist. Buddhism is the national religion and its influence on the government, economy and society is profound. This influence will be immediately noticeable to Thailand newcomers as they visit the various beautiful temples and monuments dedicated to religion, government and the Royal Family. Although Buddhism is the national religion, there has never been any restrictions upon religious freedom.

The most honored and respected person in Thailand is the King. He is the head of the state, the spiritual leader of the people, defender of the faith, and living symbol of the country's rich culture.

The present King, His Majesty Bhumiphol Adulyadej (pronounced Poom-me-pon Adun-ya-det, was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, December 5, 1927. He married Queen Sirikit in 1949. Their Majesties have four children, three daughters and a son, the Crown Prince, who was born July 28, 1952.

The King's Anthem is played at the end of large public gatherings, at plays, motion pictures, and other similar events. The en-



SUKO THAI RUINS

tire audience (including Americans) is expected to stand at attention.

The people of Thailand are friendly, hospitable and very much interested in the Western World. Many of the people speak English and this is for the most part the "foreign" language taught in public schools.

Western dress is worn by many people in the cities. The status of women in Thailand is unusually high for the Orient. The Thai have never had a caste system, their women have never been secluded, and increasing numbers are entering into business and the professions.

During your stay in Thailand, you are considered a guest of the nation. The Thai are our best friends in Southeast Asia. Match this friendship with your own, their gracious hospitality with honest appreciation, their pride in their country and their traditions with genuine interest.

THAI CUSTOM

* Standing over a seated Thai when talking to him may well cause him to take offense. Sit with him.

* Don't stomp your foot, point your finger or your toe at a Thai. This is considered very bad manners.

NKP AND NORTHEAST

Northeast Thailand is that portion of the country that juts out from the Central Plains into the space between Northern Laos and Cambodia. It accounts for one third of the land area of the country and contains a third of Thailand's population.

The people of the Northeast differ somewhat from the Thai in other parts of the country. The majority ethnic group in Nakhon Phanom and Northeast Thailand is the Thai-Lao. The Thai-Lao are closely related to the Laotians in Laos.

They are distinguished from the central Thai by their preference for glutinous rice, by certain differences in dialect, in the style of their Buddhist architecture and terminology, and by differences with respect to such cultural characteristics as music. Despite these differences, the Northeasterner considers himself Thai and holds the King and Buddhism in deep respect.

The traditional Thai-Lao area includes much of the Korat plateau region of northeastern Thailand as well as modern Laos. Interchange and migration of ethnic Thai-Lao back and forth across the Mekong River have been and continue to be frequent.

The province of Nakhon Phanom is on the eastern edge of the Northeast, or Issan as the Thai call it, along the Mekong river. It is the location of Phra That Phanom, one of the most famous and sacred Wats (Buddhist temples) in Thailand.

Legend has it that the chedhi (tall stucco tower) at the Wat is many hundreds of years old having been originally built by Laos and later added to by the Thai. It is one of Thailand's chief religious shrines. It is traditional for the



BUILDING SCHOOL

King to annually send robes to the Wat. Its abbot is revered throughout the Northeast as one of the region's holiest men.

The population of the province is over 500,000. Nakhon Phanom city, the provincial capital, has a population well in excess of 16,000. It is located on the Mekong River which forms the Thailand-Laos border at this point. Directly across the river from Nakhon Phanom is the Laotian city of Thakhek.

Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai AFB is approximately nine miles southwest of the city. Several smaller villages are located between the town and base. Numerous



SAHATSAKHON PROJECT

other hamlets are within five miles of the base.

As in most of Thailand, the main occupation of the people is agriculture. Rice is the major crop.

As is true of other large towns in the Northeast near the Mekong, Nakhon Phanom has a sizeable Vietnamese population, most of whom fled here during the French-Indo China War in the 1940s and 50s. A majority of the city's skilled craftsmen are drawn from the Vietnamese population.

The Thai domestic airline serves the city of Nakhon Phanom seven times weekly, but no train service is available. The roads leading to the city, both from Sakon Nakhon to the southwest and Ubon to the south are mostly unpaved. Poor road conditions during some parts of the year often limit automobile driving to the city itself.

Although Nakhon Phanom isn't one of Thailand's major cities, the interested observer will find it a satisfying miniature of the Thai nation and culture.

The Northeast is significant today because it is the chief location of communist activity directed against the Royal Thai Government. An estimated 1,000 to 1,500 organized, armed insurgents are located in the remote jun-

gle areas of several North-eastern provinces. The most critical sites of the activity are the areas of Nakhon Phanom, Sakon Nakhon, Ubon, and Nongkhai.

These insurgent bands, partially trained and supported from outside the country, attempt to feed on the poverty and remoteness of many villages. Their chief weapons have been armed propaganda meetings, assassinations of local officials, recruitment of "jungle soldiers" and the organization of village support cells.

Evidence to date indicates that they have not succeeded in building a viable political movement capable of sweeping the country. However, they do pose a certain security threat to the country, which the Thai government has countered with determination.

Through a concerted plan of military, police and civilian action, the government is providing rural security and meeting the economic and social needs of its North-eastern villagers. For example, a large dam and irrigation project and a model village are under way near Sahatsakhon.

The United States government through the Embassy, the Armed Forces, the Agency for International Development mission and the United States Information Service are supporting the Thai government in its counter-insurgency effort with materiel aid, training and technical assistance. However, most of the progress is being made by agencies of the Royal Thai government.

CLIMATE

The climate of Nakhon Phanom and Northeast Thailand is tropical with three distinct seasons: (1) the cold season, (2) the hot season and (3) the rainy season. These climatic seasons are based on two major wind systems, the northeast and southwest monsoons.

During the northeast monsoon, from November to mid-March, NKP and the surrounding area experience the cold season. It's characterized by fair to clear skies, practically no rain, cool temperatures and occasional cold surges from the north. The temperature drops into the 40s.

The transition from northeast to southwest monsoon is known as the spring intermonsoon. From late March to early May — NKP's hot season — the wind flow changes from a dry northeasterly flow to a moist flow from the southwest.

During this period, the Nakhon Phanom area gets increased rainfall in the form of heavy showers and thundershowers accompanied by temperatures ranging above 100 degrees.

Northeast Thailand comes under the full force of the moist southwesterly wind flow during the rainy season from late May to October. Cloudy skies, hot and humid air, heavy thunderstorms and light to calm winds prevail during this season.

Although Thailand has basically a tropical climate, you'll experience a wide range of weather conditions during your stay here. So bring your raincoat, flight or field jacket, an electric blanket, a sweater or two and above all a swimming suit. You'll 'weather' the fun if you do!

CLIMATOLOGICAL AVERAGES

Element	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Extreme Max Temp	97	98	103	106	102	97	96	95	96	97	95	96
Mean Max Temp	84	86	92	95	92	89	88	87	87	87	86	83
Av Temp	71	75	80	84	84	83	81	81	81	78	75	71
Mean Min Temp	58	63	69	74	75	76	75	77	74	69	64	58
Extreme Min Temp	35	48	50	62	69	71	69	70	65	57	43	42
Av Rainfall (in)	.2	.6	.9	3.1	8.5	15.1	18.7	21.0	14.1	2.5	.3	.1
No. Days W/Rain	1	1	2	4	10	14	16	17	12	4	1	1
Av Relative Hum %	73	72	67	67	79	83	85	86	85	76	72	71

ASSIGNMENT PREPARATION

Here are a few words about the handling of your personal affairs before leaving the U.S. for an assignment in Thailand. Be sure to make necessary allotments and other arrangements for your family's financial security BEFORE you leave the States.

Making an allotment to your wife before departing your stateside duty station can't be over emphasized. Don't wait until you get here. The time involved in processing an allotment here could cause your **family unnecessary anxiety.**

This is remote duty. If you're assigned to Nakhon Phanom, your dependents can't accompany you. So, do the next best thing. Make sure they are provided for in every possible way prior to leaving the U.S.

Again, make sure you take care of your personal affairs BEFORE you leave your stateside base for duty at Nakhon Phanom RTAFB.

CLOTHING

The following suggestions should help you decide what clothing and personal items to bring with you.

The utility fatigue uniform is authorized for year-around wear. Bring at least five sets. You should also include two pairs of combat boots, plenty of socks, one or two sets of 1505s and a rain coat.

Don't bring your dress blue uniform or other heavy clothing. They will mildew in the humid climate here.

Although the climate of the area is considered tropical, we do have a cold season. So be sure to bring your field jacket. The temperature occasionally drops into the lower 40s.

Upon your arrival here, you'll be issued four sets of tropical fatigues, one pair of tropical boots, a tropical hat and a poncho.

Civilian clothing is recommended for wear in the local town. You should bring items that are washable, preferably cottons. Nylon and similar fabrics aren't recommended. You can purchase tailor-made clothing here at reasonable rates. In many cases, you will pay less than the price of custom-made items in the states. You should bring a civilian jacket or heavy sweater for cool evenings.

The base clothing sales store is open daily and is located in building T-185. The store stocks all authorized items of military clothing and accessories except blues.

REPORTING

Now, you should be about ready to head for Southeast Asia and Nakhon Phanom RTAFB. After you've taken care of your personal affairs, immunizations, etc., you probably wonder what's in store for you upon your arrival in Thailand.

You'll arrive at NKP by military airlift, probably on a C-130 from Don Muang RTAFB, Bangkok, Thailand. However, before departing the port of entry, you may encounter a delay of from one to five days awaiting transportation.

In all cases, the delay involves additional expenses because you may have to use non-government quarters, and government meals may not be available. Although you will be reimbursed after arriving at NKP, you should bring enough funds to defray possible costs of food and lodging.

(Continued on Page 17)



BASE OPERATIONS



FLIGHT LINE CONSTRUCTION



AIRMEN HOUSING



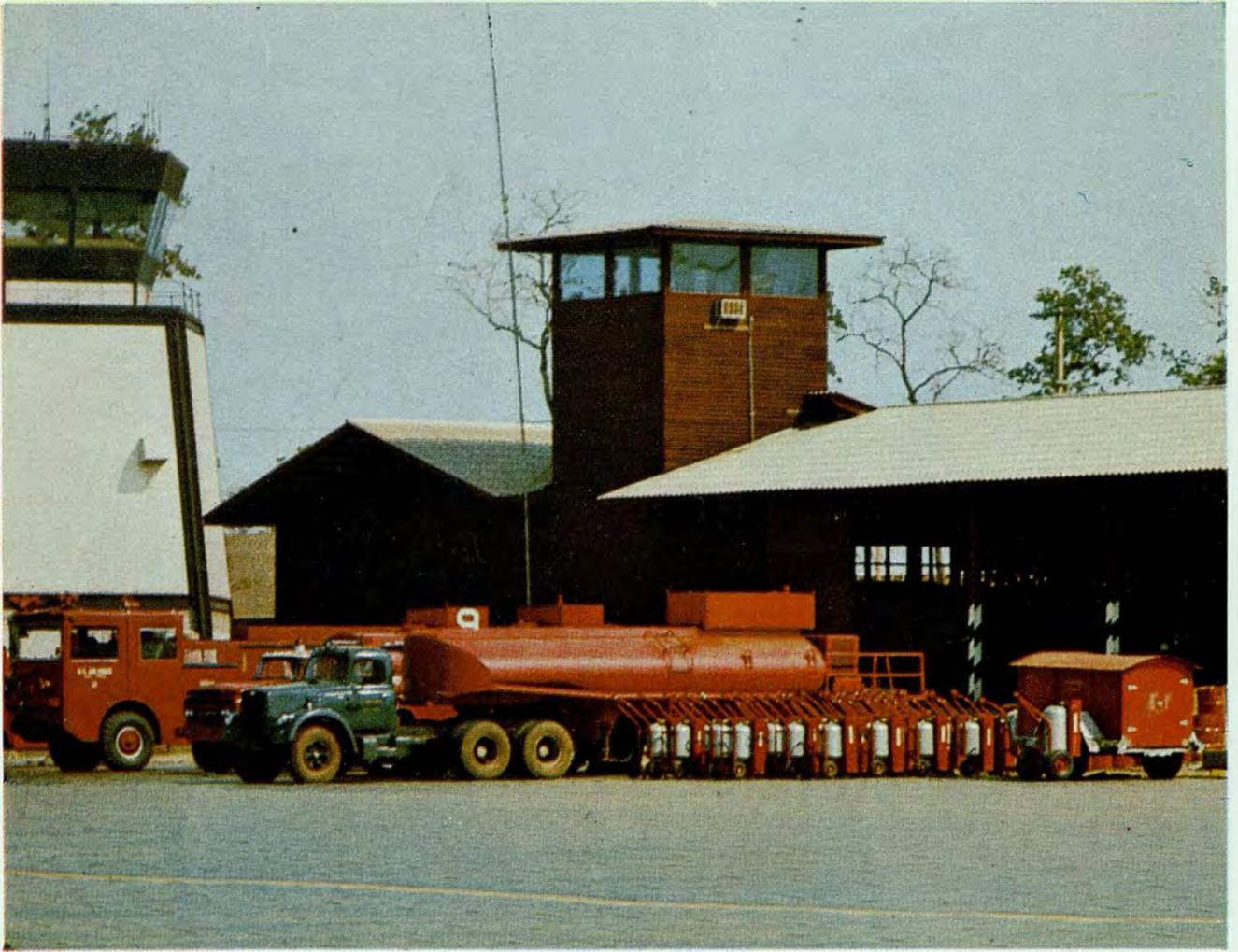
DINING HALL



BOWLING CENTER



OFFICER'S OPEN MESS



FIRE STATION



DISPENSARY

(Continued from Page 12)

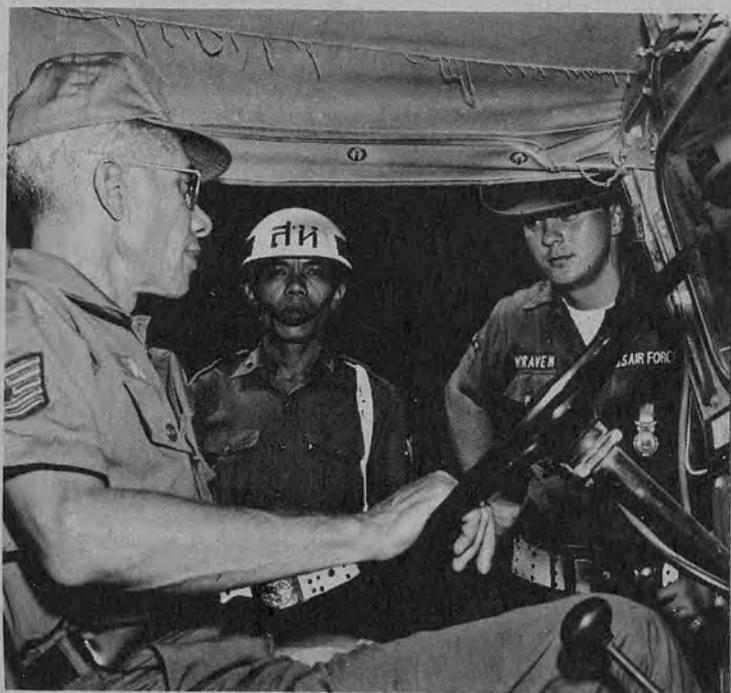
Upon your arrival at NKP, a member of CBPO will meet and brief you on processing procedures and where to report.

After your arrival, there'll be a newcomers briefing at the base theater. At this briefing, staff officers will give you detailed information about the surrounding area, the base and base regulations. All newcomers will remain on the base until they have received this briefing.

SECURITY POLICE

The primary mission of the 56th Security Police Squadron is to provide physical protection of U.S. personnel and resources assigned here. All actions concerning security should be directed to this squadron.

You should insure that your Armed Forces Identification Card, DD Form 2AF and Geneva Convention Card, DD Form 528, are in order before departing your present duty station.



VEHICLE CHECK



LIBRARY

Privately owned firearms will not be carried in Thailand. You're strongly advised not to attempt to bring personal weapons into this country. Should you acquire a firearm while in Thailand, it must be registered and stored with the security police within 24 hours of receipt.

Ammunition for privately owned firearms aren't authorized. It will be confiscated as contraband and destroyed.

For your convenience, a Security Police Town Patrol is on duty in the city of Nakhon Phanom from 1800-2400 daily. They can provide information concerning the customs of the town's people, entertainment establishments and the average prices of merchandise.

Security Police headquarters is located in building T-172.

AT YOUR SERVICE

MEDICAL FACILITY

NK Pites now enjoy the use of a modern, air conditioned 25-bed Modular Medical Facility capable of rendering all routine surgical, medical and dental services.

Specialty cases that cannot be cared for at the base facility are air evacuated to in or out of country hospitals having the required specialty service.

Flying personnel should insure that their physicals will not expire prior to completion of their tour here. Flight physicals may be waived for a period of not more than two years. If you've been granted a waiver that expires during your tour here, you should have it renewed.

Personnel requiring altitude chamber training should insure that their card will not expire during their tour here.

Also take positive action to insure Class I dental condition before departing your current duty station. Although Class II is acceptable for Southeast Asia assignments, con-



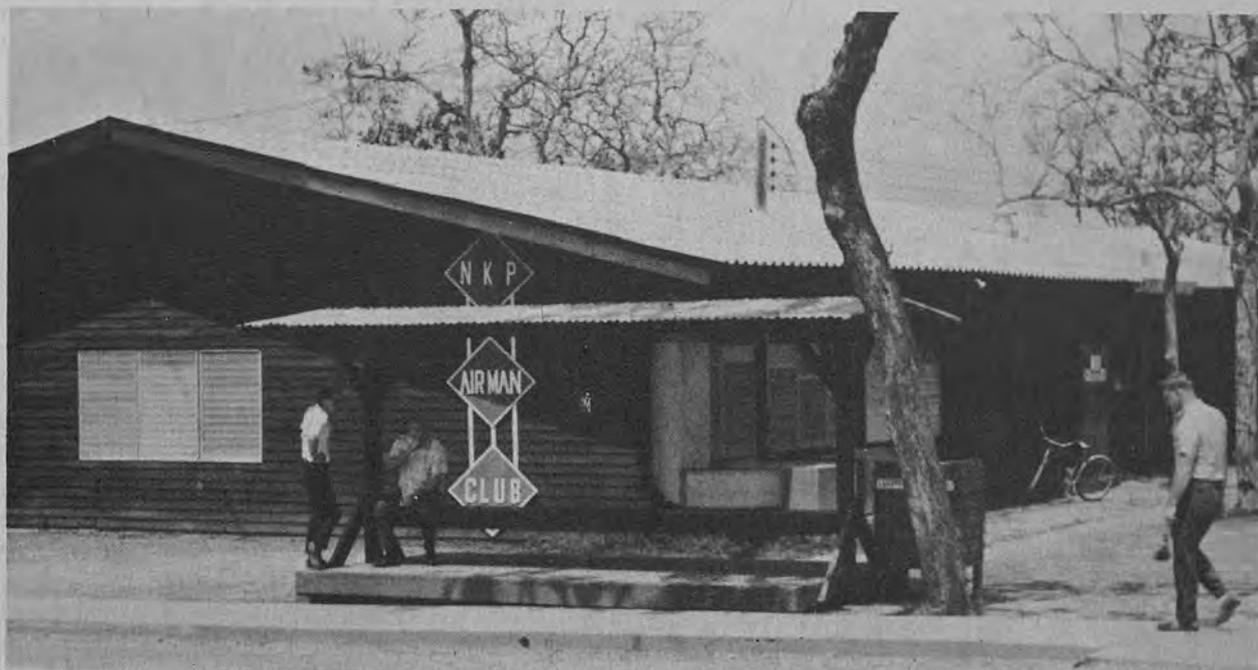
NEW MEDICAL FACILITY

ditions occasionally deteriorate one class within 60 days. Therefore, if you leave your home station in Class II and have a period of TDY and/or leave prior to departing the U.S., it's possible that your dental condition will be Class III by the time you arrive here.

Personnel requiring appliances and accessories such as hearing aid batteries, dental partials and glasses should insure that they have the required number of such items before departing the continental U.S. The time involved in getting the items in this remote area could cause you a loss in job proficiency and personal discomfort.



NCO DINING ROOM



AIRMEN'S OPEN MESS

PAY AND FINANCE

Complete military and travel pay services are provided by the base accounting and finance office, located in building T-186.

While in Thailand you will be paid once each month by U.S. Treasury Check. Make every effort to handcarry your military pay record and travel payment card. Failure to do so may delay receipt of authorized payments.

If you bring the required documents, your travel voucher will be paid within 48 hours after your arrival here. At this time, you will also receive any military pay due you.

In addition to the normal pay and allowances, personnel in paygrades E-5 and above will receive a cost of living allowance. Married personnel -- pay grade E-4 (with over four years of service) and over -- are entitled to a family separation allowance. All enlisted personnel will receive foreign service pay.

Subsistence for enlisted men in grades E-5 and above is \$2.57 a day. Overflights of Vietnam qualifies you for income tax exemption for the month of the flight.

The currency unit of Thailand is the baht, which is divided into one hundred satangs. An easy to remember U.S. dollar to baht exchange rate is: \$1-20 baht..

Baht may be purchased at the finance office, military finance facility (Bank of America) and any of the open messes. Baht is the only currency servicemen are permitted to use on the Thai economy.

The finance office is open from 0700 - 1700 daily.

PERSONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

Information and counseling on many matters which effect your personal welfare may be obtained at the Personal Affairs Office, building T-610. This includes answers to questions concerning government insurance, veteran benefits, absentee voting, passports and visas, and numerous related topics.

Members of the office's staff also provide counseling on casualty assistance to the next-of-kin of deceased personnel, retirement benefits, separation from the service and many other subjects of concern.



BANK COUNTER

BANKING

Normal stateside banking services are provided at NKP's military finance facility — Bank of America— located in building T-615. The bank will cash dollar checks, bank drafts, money orders, traveler's checks and U.S. Savings Bonds.

There is no service charge for maintaining checking accounts. The accounts accrue interest at the rate of five per cent annually. Interest is paid quarterly.

Qualified military personnel may secure loans from the bank. Interest on loans is computed on a discount basis at the rate of six per cent annually.

The bank also sells and purchases baht. Banking hours are:

1000-1500 Monday through Friday
 1000-1300 Saturday
 0730-1500 Paydays

Closed Sundays and holidays

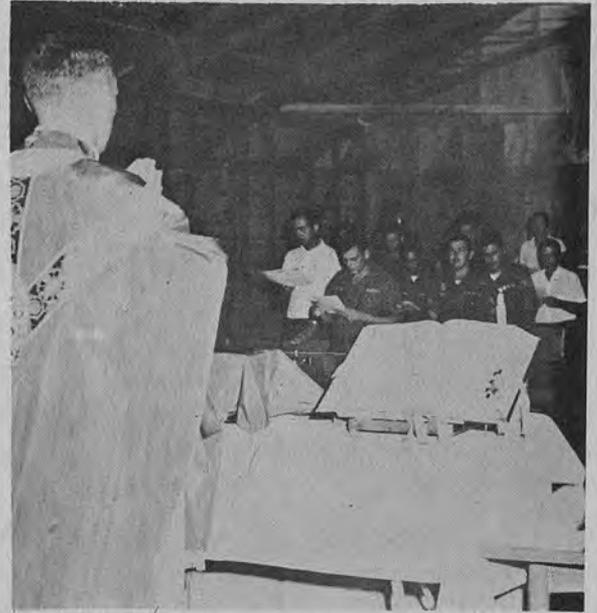
BASE CHAPEL

Protestant and Catholic Worship Services are provided on a regular basis. Jewish Services are conducted periodically by a visiting Rabbi. Several denominational services are conducted through certified lay leaders.

To aid in meeting the spiritual needs of a number of the men here, the staff of the base chapel recently initiated a mobile chapel service. This makes it convenient for the men working different shifts to receive spiritual assistance and counseling without leaving their work area.

In addition to these services, the Catholic Holy Name Society and Protestant Men of the Chapel have very active programs, especially in the area of community relations.

Two Protestant and one Catholic Chaplains are assigned here and are available at all hours for spiritual assistance and personal counseling.



CATHOLIC SERVICES

AFTN-770

"Serving you, as you serve in Southeast Asia, this is A-F-T-N — the Armed Forces Thailand Network," is a statement that you'll hear hundreds of times during your tour at Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai AFB.

With network headquarters at Korat Royal Thai AFB, the local station, AFTN-770, broadcasts 24 hours daily. Many of the shows are produced "live" by NKP's broadcasting and engineering personnel.

The station, which now boasts some of the finest professional equipment available, began as a "home made" facility in March, 1966. A tape recorder and turntable were the major items of equipment. Located at the main gate, it was manned by security policemen. In July, the equipment was moved to the communications center near the flight line and operated by the men of the 606th Air Commando Squadron.

Twenty — four-hour broadcasting by the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service personnel began Dec. 19, 1966. The present facility became operational April 30, 1967.

You'll learn early in your tour to set your radio dial for AFTN-770 — "The voice of information, education and entertainment" and "the station that's all heart."



AFTN-770 STUDIO

POST OFFICE

The Consolidated Mail Room is open 24 hours daily. The post office (APO San Francisco 96310) is also open daily to provide complete postal services, including money orders and parcel post handling.

Your address here will be:

A1C Jim Jones, AF-----
Organization
Box No.

APO San Francisco 96310

MARS STATION

Only official telephone calls will be made from Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai AFB. Personal calls may be made through the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) station, located in building 760. Commercial telephone service isn't available between NKP and the continental United States.

In cases of personal emergencies, individuals should contact the American Red Cross office for assistance. If the emergency warrants, the individual will be granted permission to use a base telephone to complete his call.

NKP's MARS station has two high frequency single side band radio circuits. Phone patch calls to the continental United States must be made in person. The station is open from 0730-1630 daily and any other time when contact can be made with a stateside MARS affiliate.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

The Staff Judge Advocate Office, located in building T-30, provides legal assistance for all military personnel, assigned or attached to base units here. All legal services listed in AFR 110-4 are available. Counseling is provided for such matters as immigration, naturalization, taxation, wills and powers of attorney.

You should insure that your legal affairs are in order prior to departing your present duty station for Southeast Asia. Wills, powers of attorney and other such documents should be obtained if required.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

The American Red Cross field director's office, located in building T-31, provides base personnel with emergency leave and communications assistance as well as financial assistance when a bona fide emergency exists.

The staff is available to counsel individuals on personal and family problems, humanitarian reassignments and many other subjects. Service is available 24 hours daily. Office hours are:

0730-1630 Monday through Friday
0730-1130 Saturday
Closed Sunday

However, in emergency cases, a member of the Red Cross staff

may be reached during non-office hours by contacting the staff duty officer, extension 2844.

NKP NEWS

The NKP News, the base newspapers, was judged the best class II newspaper published in the Pacific Air Force (PACAF) command for 1967. Its policy is to provide local coverage of current events and information not immediately available to base personnel from other sources.

The editor and information staff are located in building T-245.

The information office is the sole base agency for releasing information about activities and personnel assigned here. Releases, such as hometown news items about you, are handled by this office.

RECREATION SERVICES

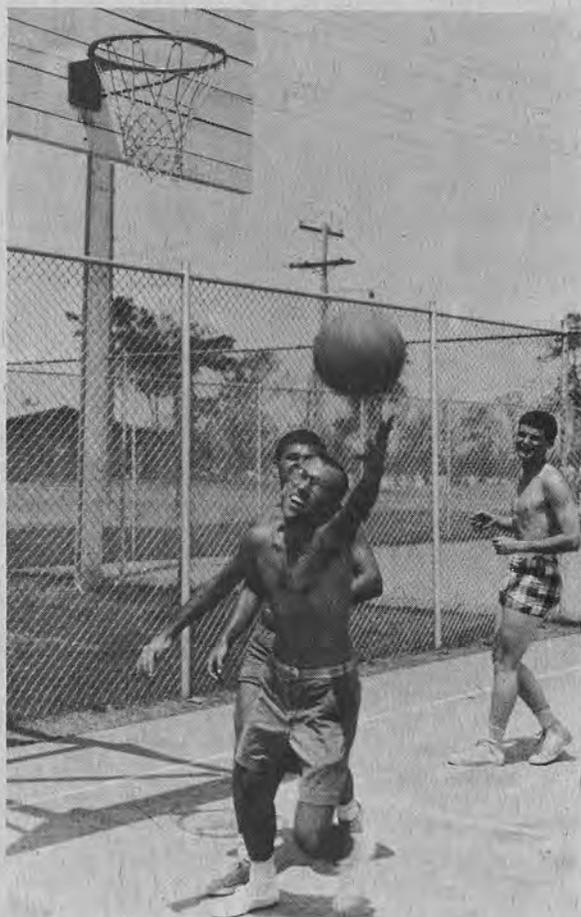
NKP has a variety of recreational activities and facilities available for the sports enthusiast. Besides the existing facilities, future plans call for a driving range a skeet range, two indoor handball courts, gymnasium, new theater and a lapidary hobby shop just to name a few.

SPORTS

Varsity sports in the Thailand Sports League program include basketball, volleyball, softball and touch football. Golf and other activities will be added to the schedule as soon as support facilities are available. All varsity competition is in-country, since personnel assigned to Thailand bases can't participate in out-of-country competition.

Nakhon Phanom placed second in the 1967-68 all Thailand Basketball Tournament and third in the volleyball competition.

Besides the varsity competition, there's a growing participation in



INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

intramural activities. These include softball, basketball, volleyball, bowling, water polo and other team sports.

SWIMMING POOL

There is a 50-meter swimming pool available for the enjoyment of all base personnel. It's open from 0900-2000. Several additional pools are being planned.

OUTDOOR COURTS

The tennis and basketball courts, located next to the swimming pool, are open 24 hours on a first-come first-served basis, except when an organized activity is scheduled.

BASE THEATER

Army-Air Force Motion Picture Service-Pacific provides the latest in movie entertainment. Performances start at 1300, 1630, 1830, 2030, and 2230 daily. A mid-night showing is also held for shift-workers beginning at 0030 Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. Admission is 35c except for special movies for which an increased admission of 50c is charged.

BASE LIBRARY

The base library is one of the best field libraries in Southeast Asia with more than 3,300 volumes including fiction, non-fiction, biographies and reference books. The library subscribes to the McNaughton Book Rental Plan through which it gets many of the best sellers at about the same time they are available in the states. The selections available to base personnel is further increased through an inter-library loan system.

RECREATION CENTER

The recreation center has a game room with pool tables, table



THAI BOXING - BASE AMPHITHEATER

tennis, shuffleboards and other activities. The center also houses the photo hobby shop and tape center. The photo hobby shop has five enlargers, print washer and dryer and other equipment.

The tape center has more than 25 tape recorders and a selection of 200-plus tapes and records for you listening and recording pleasure.

RECREATION WORKSHOP

The recreation workshop includes the wood hobby shop, the slot car track and the exercise room. The equipment of the wood hobby shop includes a wood lathe, jointer, sander, skill-saw, jig saw, drill press, two radial arm saws, bench grinder and hand tools. An assortment of wood and nails are on hand for free use by patrons.

BOWLING CENTER

NKP's six-lane bowling center is one of the most modernly equipped in Thailand. It's open 24 hours daily and includes a snack bar with beverages and sandwiches. Future plans call for its expansion to a 12-lane facility.

BASE EXCHANGE SERVICES



BEVERAGE GARDEN

NKP's base exchange carries a selection of goods including shaving supplies, toiletries, watches, clothing and snack foods. The electronics and camera sections, which carries a wide range of cameras, radios and stereo equipment (including tape recorders), are base favorites.

Items not normally stocked by the exchange can be "special ordered" through the customer service counter. Other services offered by the counter's staff include refunds and adjustments, Jakor Mail Order, Mail-A-Gift, Mail-A-Fur, flower mail service, lay-away and Montgomery Ward and Sears and Roebuck orders.

Future services planned for the exchange include watch, camera and general appliance repair, packing and crating, photoprocessing and shoe repair (including custom tailoring). The food selection will be expanded to include frozen meats, cheeses, etc.

The exchange is open from 1100 - 1900 daily.

Besides grill line items, the main base exchange cafeteria, open from 0600 - 2400 daily, has breakfast, lunch and dinner menus. Branch snack bars offer hotdogs, hamburgers, cold sandwiches, beverages and other prepared snack foods. These include concessions in the bowling center, the Civil Engineering area and at the swimming pool.

Three mobile snack trucks with soft drinks, coffee, donuts,

sandwiches and fruit, make scheduled stops at locations throughout the base.

The base barber shop, open from 0900 - 1900 daily, offers a complete list of barbering services including shaves, singes, shampoos, massages and manicures.

Laundry and dry cleaning services are available from 0700 - 1700 daily. A flat rate of \$4.50 per month is charged for laundry service. Dry cleaning is charged by the piece.

Royal Tailors provides top quality materials and services at reasonable prices. Its stock of materials range from wools, dacrons and mohair to brocades and silks.

Balco Diamonds specializes in diamonds, but also stocks pearls and other stones. It is backed by a certificate of warranty for quality and value and has a diamond trade-in policy.

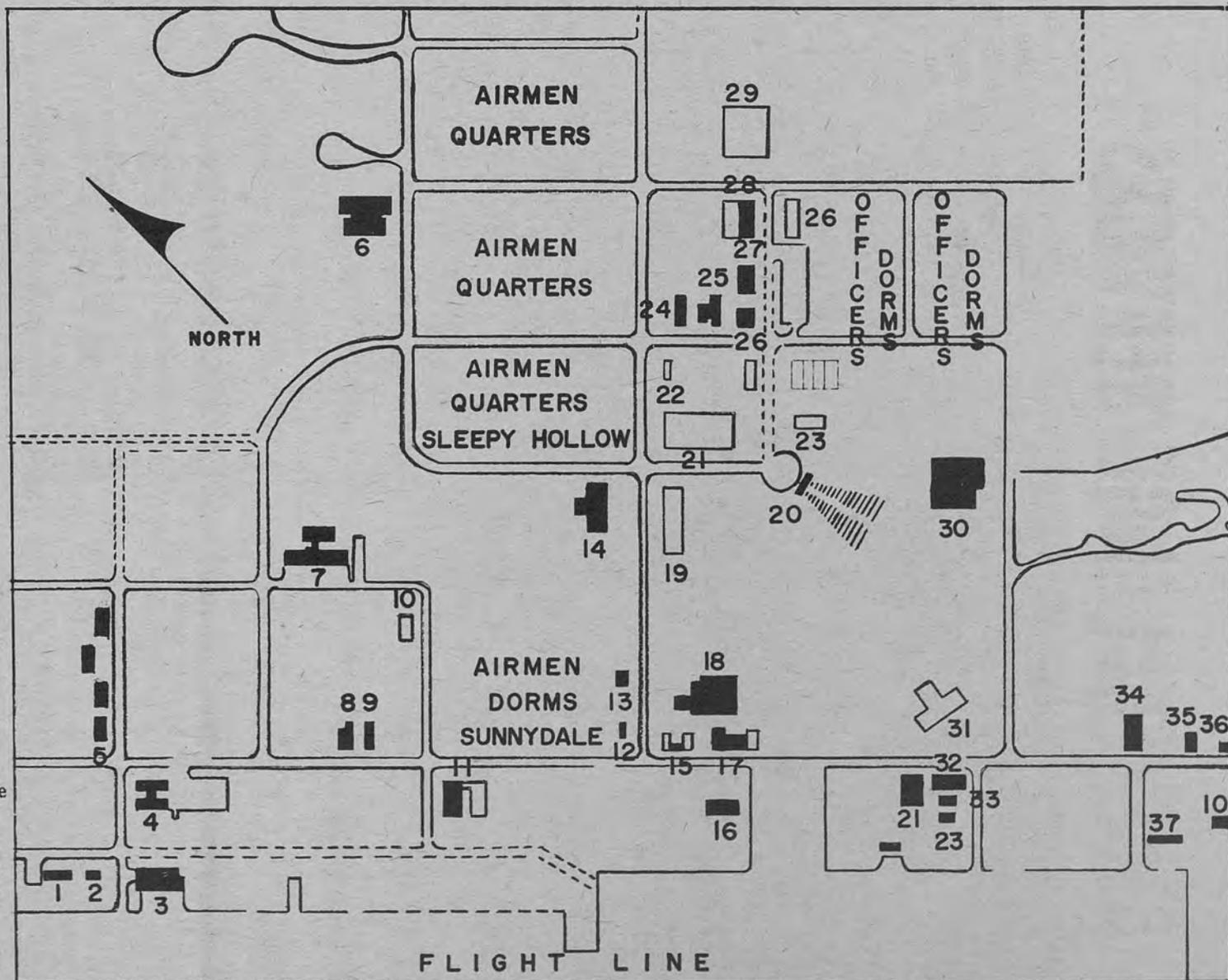
Johnny Gems has a large selection of precious stones, rings, wood carvings, bronze ware and Thai silk. It specializes in local handicraft items.

1. Base operations
2. Control tower
3. Fire station
4. Hq. 56th Air Commando Wing
5. Supply-BEMO complex
6. Library-Education services
7. Hospital
8. Photo lab
9. Telephone exchange
10. Laundry*
11. 56th Life support section
12. MARS station
13. AFTN-770 (radio station)
14. Commando Inn (dining hall)
15. Bank of America *+
16. Base finance*+
17. CBPO*
18. NCO's Open Mess
19. Outdoor sports facility *
20. Amphitheater
21. Outdoor sports facility *
22. Bank of America *+
23. Theater *
24. BX retail store ●
25. Airmen's Open Mess
26. Post office *
27. Recreation workshop
28. Bowling center *
29. Gym*
30. Officer's Open Mess
31. Hq. 56th Combat Support Gp. *
32. Swimming pool
33. Snack bar
34. Chapel
35. 606th Civic Action Center
36. Civilian personnel office
37. BX cafeteria

* Unshaded structures are scheduled for completion on or before December, 1968.

+ Base finance will move to existing Military Finance Facility (Bank of America) building after the bank is relocated.

● BX retail store will be located here from April, 1968 until new building is constructed.



NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, THAILAND

GENERAL INFORMATION

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB

DUTY HOURS: 0700-1700

GOVERNMENT QUARTERS:
Government quarters are available to all military personnel arriving at Nakhon Phanom RTAFB. The electric current on base is the standard 110 Volt 60 Cycles.

DISPENSARY: Sick Call
0730-0930
1300-1400 Monday through Saturday (Emergencies any time)

DENTAL CLINIC:
0730-1630 Monday through Friday
0730-1200 Saturday
Sick Call 0730-0830
Genuine emergencies any time

COMMANDO INN (dining hall)
E-4 & below:
0500-0730 Breakfast
1100-1300 Dinner
1530-1600 Early Supper
1700-1900 Supper
2300-0200 Midnight Meal
Snack bar remains open one hour after regular meal hours except for the midnight meal.

AIR POST OFFICE (APO 96310):
1000-1900 Monday through Saturday
Closed Sunday
Package pick-up and base locator:

0700-1700 daily
Consolidated mail room open 24 hours daily

CLOTHING SALES STORE:
0730-1630 Monday through Friday
0800-1630 Saturday, Sunday and holidays

AIR FORCE EXCHANGE FACILITIES:
Retail Store:
1100-1900 daily

Snack Bar:
0600-2400 daily
Beverage Garden:
0900-2300 daily
Barber Shop
0900-1900 daily

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES:

Catholic Schedule:
1100 Monday through Saturday-Mass
0900 Sunday-Mass
1900 Tuesday-Holy Name Society
Protestant Schedule:
1000 Sunday-Church Worship Service
1000 Sunday-Bible Study
1100 Sunday-Church Worship Service
1630 Sunday-Choir Rehearsal
1730 Sunday-Evening Worship Service
1900 Thursday-Choir Rehearsal
1900 Friday-Bible Study

OPEN MESSSES:

(All open messes are open 24 hours daily)

Officer's Open Mess:

Breakfast	2300-1100
Lunch	1100-1600
Dinner	1700-2200
Package Store	0700-2300

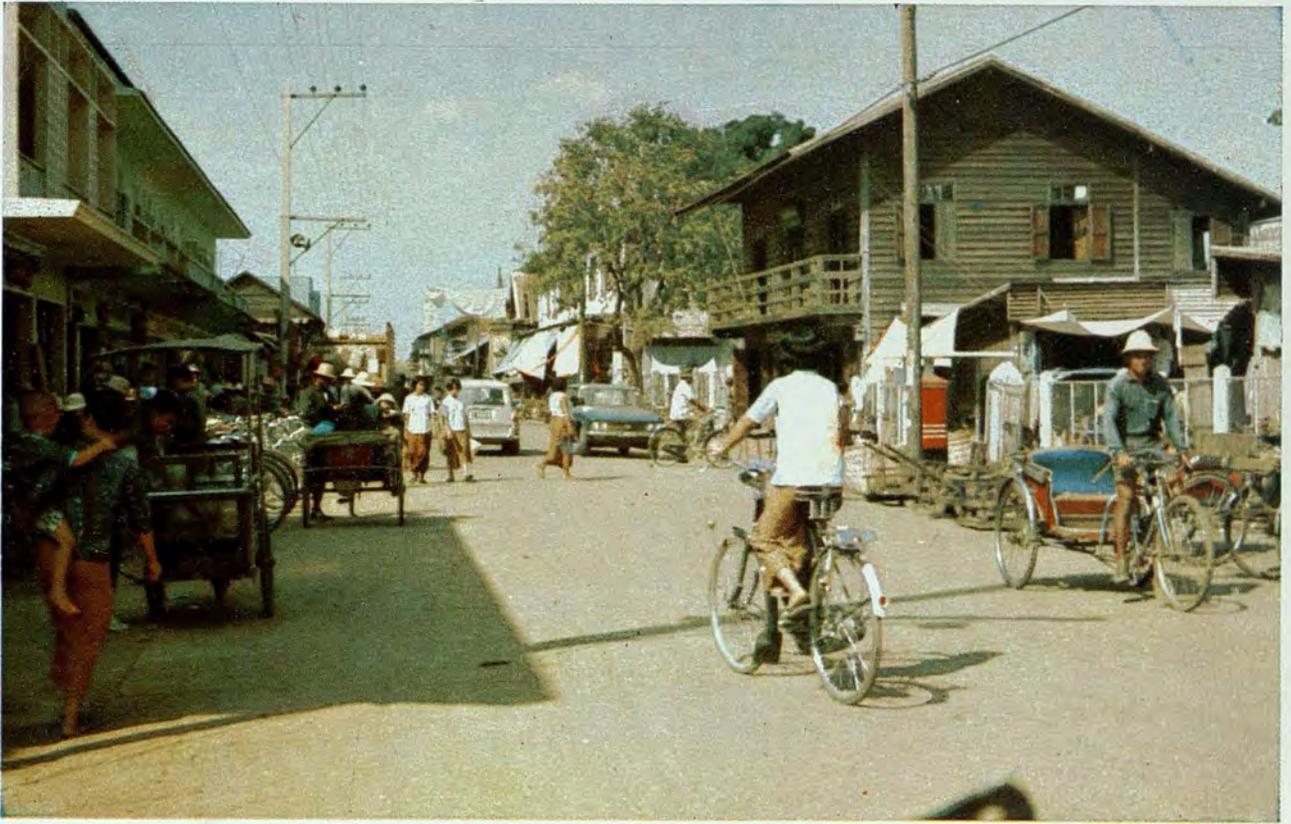
NCO's Open Mess (E-5 thru E-9)

Breakfast	0001-0930
Lunch	1100-1630
Dinner	1630-2400
Package Store	0800-2400

Airmen's Open Mess (E-1 thru E-4)

Snack Bar	2400-1400
	1500-2300
Package Store	2400-0730
	0800-1530
	1600-2330

AMBASSADOR YOU



NAKHON PHANOM STREET SCENE

Thailand has been an independent country for hundreds of years, far longer than the U.S. It hasn't been the colony of any country, developing its own culture and heritage. The Thai are justly proud of this freedom.

We are their guests and should conduct ourselves as such, honoring Thai customs and traditions. Here are a few simple rules a Thailand visitor should know in order to avoid offending the Thai unknowingly.

* Every American is an AMBASSADOR to the Thai he meets and should act accordingly.

* Remember we are guests here. We make no demands and seek no special treatment.

* Stand at attention when the King's anthem is played. The King and Queen are loved dearly by the Thai people.

* Be sure to remove your shoes when entering a temple or any other place where Thais remove their shoes. They may tell you "never mind", but they will appreciate it if you do it anyway.

* Speak in moderate tones. Loud tones are offensive to Thai.

* A Thai considers the top of his head the most sacred part of the body and the bottom of the foot the lowest. If you raise your foot to any level above his foot you will have indicated that your foot is better than another part of his body. Never touch a Thai on the head or shoulders.

* Ask for advice on habits and customs if you have a question. The Thais are anxious to be helpful and to have you understand their culture.

* Maintain a sense of humor, be pleasant, show courtesy and you will enjoy your stay in Thailand.



SWIMMING POOL