



DRAGONFLIGHT

A NEWS LETTER FOR THE 52D CAB AND ALL WHO SERVED ON THAT MUDDY RED PATCH OF GROUND CALLED CAMP HOLLOWAY

25 NOV 99

It has been a while since I worked on a news letter. I apologize and am now playing catch-up. There is a lot of organization news and I am placing it first. The most important item is the location and time of "REUNION 2000."

REUNION 2000 has been changed to the Henry VIII Hotel and Conference Center, St. Louis, MO. The dates are 5 to 8 October 2000, for reservations call [redacted] or [redacted] make sure to mention the 52D CAB Reunion, to receive our rates. Ask for rooms around indoor pool courtyard. Those who call early can ask for freeroom upgrades. This is a full blown affair, 24hr hospitality suite, individual unit reunions, band for two nights, tours, gambling trips, informal dinner and lots of talk. So start planning and saving now. We want all of you folks to show and have a wonderful time.

The Fishing Trip/ Non-Reunion



Now for a report on the gathering at the Lake of the Ozarks last September. The gathering was a little small, 8 of us showed up. but it was a lot of fun. First the winners, largest fish caught, Vern, a 18 inch bass,

Larry Fuhr let it go as he was measuring it. Most fish caught a tie between Dorothy G. and Larry. Most members present 189th. Traveled farthest to get there Joe Arrison. Some of the other notable events. We sunk a hot tub and visited the infamous "party cove" at Lake of the Ozarks. There also were a couple of great cookouts, some really fine talking and peaceful relaxing fishing. For all of you who opted not to

come, you missed a really great time.

THANK YOU GERRY

I want to use this space to express my gratitude to Gerry Sandlin. He is the 189th co-ordinator. He works very hard to keep the 189th folks informed on what is going on. He also spends a lot of time trying to find former members of the 189th we have not yet reached and lists them in the Manifest.

Gerry established the Battalion Web site with its links to all of the units within the Battalion who have their own WEB page. This is a great WEB site and if you have not visited, it you should. Look up "geocities.com/pentagon/quarters/8294/" or just search for 52D Combat Aviation Battalion. We all owe Gerry a great big round of applause. Please tell him personally at the next reunion.

Hatpins & T-shirts

Well it seems that we are not going to purchase unit hatpins. With the exception of the 170th, there was not enough interest shown by the membership to even attempt to purchase them. I've talked with George Crawford and think we will have them for the 170th early next year.

As for the t-shirts we have orders for 30 of them. As soon as we reach the magic number of 60 we will place the order, with a few extra for late comers. Hopefully there will be enough left over for the reunion also. These are great full color shirts with the Battalion Dragon on the front and the Battalion call signs and some well remembered locations listed on the back. These are like the reunion t-shirts of old but without the reunion dates. Let me know if you want to order one or even a dozen.

Several months ago I received a letter from The Army Aviation Association. They wanted to know if the Battalion was interested in establishing a Scholarship fund, in the Battalions name. The AAAA Scholarship foundation would manage the fund in our name and match the money we would have to donate dollar for dollar. The cost to us would be \$10,000.00 per scholarship. If I had the money I would donate it myself. What a great way to insure that all we accomplished, all the suffering and dying, memorialized forever. My hope is that several of you volunteer to take up this task, so that by the business meeting of the next reunion we have a group ready to set up and conduct a campaign to to fund the scholarships not only for the battalion but for each of the Aviation companies too. The rest is up to you, but what a great way to honor the accomplishments of the Flying Dragons

LETTERS

Dear Friends

I have not heard from to many people. Everyone is probably getting ready for fall and winter Holidays.

I hope the fishing trip or what ever you want to call it went ok. I wish I could have been there but work seems to have something to say about that.

I am ready to go net year. Hoping to have a good visit and see old and new faces that will be there. hope to see you and Dorothy there. Everything is fine here and work is going well.

When I receive the newsletter and find out about the reunion, I'll start making plans. See everybody at the Reunion

Bill Trimble

We are looking forward to seeing you too Bill
DRAGON 11

Hello Sgt. Gano

My name is Cecil crews, I served under you in late 1968. I was there with Duncan, Steven's Hillard and Vasques. At first just cutting rounds then as a gunner under your replacement Sgt Woods. have you heard from any of these guys or even pineapple, he came over for a second tour

Cecil,

I've located True Duncan but none of the others you

mentioned. I knew Willie Kahana had gone back but have not located him yet. I have the addresses of about 20 Security Det. members DRAGON 11

Vern

I'm being told that wreckage of H-model 68-15262 (3-24-70) has been excavated and seven (7) probable remains were recovered, and sent to Hawaii, for identification. The aircrafts parts are at Rucker. This should include SP4 Berman Gano, I thought you might like to know, if you did not already.

Paul Wilson

Thanks for the information Paul. Berman was from Florida and with that last name is from some part of my extended family, several of my Uncles have a e on the end of the name. He was in the Security Platoon flying as a door gunner that day so i've heard. I hope soe one can fill me in on the rest of the story some day
Dragon 11

REUNION

I have my reservation, I will be in room 3148 with my lovely wife.

Larry

For the 6th time the Pathfinders lead the way, congradulations. Are you folks going to have the largest attendance also. Dragon 11

117th & 14th CHFM

Vern

I enjoyed the newsletter and wish more folks from Quinon, who were with the 117th and 14th CHFM in the early days would respond. I have some history from the 117 from the time period when I was with 140th CHFM, "63-64". I am also sending a copy of the orders for the "Search & Rescue" unit we formed in Sept 63. Looking at them reminded me of the loss of MAJ Allred and our two company fire men, PFC Esenault and PFC Lovenguth. They went down in the water in DEC 1963. It was sad the next day when we recovered their bodies, finding just the co-pilot alive. I still remember Esnault and his leather wrist bands lifting his homemade weights of pipe and concrete. They were good people and I miss them. When I flew as a doorgunner, I took pictures. I will send along, including one of the CH-21's leaving lane field for the last time. Take care.

Dave Holden

Thank you very much, we need a lot of help from the early days.
Dragon 11
