

Caribou Courier

483rd TROOP CARRIER WING
APO S.F. 96326



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PHU CAT CARIBOUS PLAY DISC JOCKEY

"Welcome to Ellisville, RVN, home of the Caribou!" We don't have much at Phu Cat, but what we have has normally arrived/re-sulted by some form of outstanding effort displayed by our personnel. TSgt Darrell H. Dake and MSgt Lynn Jowers are two such personnel.

They didn't really do much; they just built a radio station.

Phu Cat is so located that we are unable to receive Qui Nhon or An Khe radio stations. Using a surplus transmitter, borrowed tapes and a Special Services tape recorder, the station went on the air 1 May 67. This entertainment media was needed at Phu Cat and we extend our sincere appreciation to Sergeants Dake and Jowers for their outstanding contribution.

The Caribou station is operated on 500 watts with assigned frequency of 1330 KC. Music is furnished daily during normal duty hours. A variety of music from country and western to classical is furnished for daily listening pleasure.

They may not be masterpieces which are introduced but it helps to build the morale of the troops.

We invite those in the Phu Cat area to tune in your radio to 1330 on your dail and listen to the smooth and relaxing music as played by Sgt Dake, 459TCS and A2C Kirke, 37th Trans Sqdn.

459TH TCS INFO PROGRAM PRAISED

The Editors of the Caribou Courier send their congratulations to the information officer and NCO of the 459TCS.

Capt Joseph R. Brand and SSgt Luther R. Johnson are doing an excellent job of furnishing us with the kind of stories we want to bring to the attention of our readers.

They have an all around information program that features stories on outstanding crew efforts and interesting articles on squadron sports activities.

Additionally they cite individuals who contribute their time and effort to make their organization a better outfit by their having been there.

Remember this, if your efforts and activities are not reported in your paper it's because we haven't received your copy.

BOU DROPS CARGO 2 MILES FROM DMZ

Con Thien Special Forces Camp is located only two miles from the DMZ. If you happen to land there you can expect small arms and automatic weapons fire on any approach. After landing you can expect a few rounds of 81mm mortar or a couple of 105mm howitzer rounds - anyway its somewhat "hot".

On 2 May 1967, Major Clarence Beardsley, 1st Lt Raymond Valentine and SSgt Lewis Shedd, 459TCS, departed DaNang AB loaded with ammo for Con Thien. They were to air drop the load. They arrived at Con Thien and established drop configuration and altitude. Now flying a drop pattern at 500 feet sometimes invites problems. It did. On the first pass two .50 calibre rounds with explosive heads hit the rear section of the aircraft - one round tearing a hole approximately eight inches wide on top of the fuselage. The other round creased the exterior skin of the tail section. Sgt Shedd said, "I moved closer to the front of the aircraft". In addition, the load hung up so another pass was required.

On pass two, "Charlie" improved. One round came in behind the cockpit, one round blasted another hole on top of the fuselage cutting both mixture cables and missing the control cables by inches.

The drop was successful and the crew turned their ventilated "Bou" toward home. Because of required maintenance, Bou was returned to Phu Cat. The crew jumped out, looked casually at an occasional hole here and there, pre-flighted another aircraft and departed for DaNang. "Another day, another 118 piasters" called one of the crew.

PHU CAT BOUS MOVE TO NEW RUNWAY

"Well its almost moving time." This is the word that will be heard quite loud and often in the near future. The Caribous with its personnel will be going to the new runway at Phu Cat.

This will be quite a job in itself. All the equipment will have to be moved and still continue our operations. However, for personnel of the 537th and 459th it will be no great problem, having previously made moves from An Khe and Qui Nhon to Phu Cat.

This will be quite new for most of us having known nothing but a dirt strip and tents as operation quarters since we have been in Vietnam.

I CORPS INFANTRY PRAISES 459TH TCS

The 459TCS provided the I Corps Advisory Group and U.S. and Vietnamese Forces within in I Corps (Vietnam) Tactical Zone with direct support from 1 Jan 67 to 30 Apr 67. The manner in which your personnel accomplished their mission was outstanding.

Entire organization desires to express sincere appreciation for your untiring efforts and request your continued cooperation in aiding us in the performance of our mission. The harmonious working relationship maintained by the 459th Squadron Operation Center has been instrumental in reducing coordination and scheduling problems to near zero. The positive "can do" attitude of the flight crews has insured missions were completed.

The completion of these missions during periods of adverse weather conditions while frequently encountering hostile ground fire is demonstrative of the dedication, professional attitude and high state of flying proficiency attained by your unit.

A. L. HAMBLEN, JR
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

My sincere congratulation to the 459TCS for their continued outstanding support within their immediate area of responsibility. Your excellent record has assisted immeasurably in allowing the 483TCW to significantly increase overall results with the Caribou aircraft.

PAUL J. MASCOT, Colonel, USAF
Commander

GLO COORDINATES AIR-GROUND POWER

A small Army organization located at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base is the MACV Ground Liaison Team. The team consists of Major Clyde H. Orr, Captain Charles W. Hendrickson, and four radio telephone operators. Major Orr works primarily with the 12TFW and Captain Hendrickson with the 483TCW. The radio operators maintain a 24 hour radio net with GLO stations located at all major Air Force Bases in Vietnam.

The primary duty of a GLO is to provide the commander and his staff with information and advice pertaining to Army operations and activities. The commander is briefed daily on current ground operations and a series of operational maps and briefing notes are posted at numerous locations in each wing for the use of the staff and crew members. The GLO's work closely with the wing intelligence sections by providing them with up to date ground operation information which is used during daily crew mission briefings. Ground forces in the immediate area are visited on a regular basis to obtain information on enemy activity and future plans of the ground forces.

Another important duty of the team is to

Commanders Column

When the books were closed out on May's operations the 483rd Troop Carrier Wing again showed a profit for the fifth consecutive month. Since all of us are equal stock holders in this corporation the profits are shared equally.

Unlike a business venture such as Braniff or United Air Lines our profits aren't redistributed as tangible assets - rather our profits come to us in the intangibles of pride in our efforts, and pleasure in the knowledge that we are doing the job better. The payoff in our business is of course the satisfied customer. Like any airline operation we have to please people. In this case our majority customer is the U.S. Army. All of us can take pride in the fact that we have satisfied customers who like what we are doing.

As in the past, each one of you men of the 483rd Troop Carrier Wing can take pride in the way you have done your job. You mechanics, clerks, supervisors, painters, fabric workers, and aircrabs, each of you have carried your share of the load. My congratulations to each one of you for an outstanding effort, you are proving every day that you are truly professionals.

PAUL J. MASCOT, Colonel, USAF, Commander

537TH CLAIMS FIRSTS

We of the 537TCS claim these firsts:

1. The only med-evac airplane in support of a combat unit in the field.
2. The 1st movement control team in the field in support of C-7A aircraft.
3. The 1st camouflaged Caribou.
4. The 1st radio relay equipped Caribou.
5. The first to have furnished refueling at a forward strip.

If any Caribou outfit thinks they can beat these firsts, we, the first team 537th TCS, would like to hear from you.

CALL OF THE CARIBOU

The award of the Barracks Bag Cluster to the Good Conduct Ribbon is hereby awarded to the crew of Mission 427 who flew on the 23rd of May in support of the 4th Corp. To the best of our knowledge they are the first crew to complete 100% of the required radio calls to ALCC during a mission. Congratulations to Capt Edward (Beads) Suranyi, Aircraft Commander; Maj Robert A. Mellerski, (The Polish Aviator) Pilot; and John Lewis, Flight Mechanic.

arrange for visits at Army Headquarters and camps for Air Force personnel. Major Orr has arranged for 12TFW pilots to visit special forces camps that the wing is designated to defend. These visits have given the pilots first hand knowledge of the camps defenses, friendly locations, terrain obstacles and the people who defend the camps. Capt Hendrickson arranged visits to all major Army headquarters for the 483rd TCW Commander prior to the wing assuming control

Cont page 3

CARIBOU SPORTS

HEAT AND OLD AGE PLAGUE WING WEINIES

After an early season rush the Wing Weinies slowed down when old age and soaring temperatures started to take their toll. As coach Strovas remarked after a 5-4 loss to the Army Hawks, "I knew we'd be in trouble in the hot weather with a bald 115 lb pitcher. We'll be in good shape once it starts snowing".

Snow hasn't arrived but Big Stan Nichols took over mound duties to lead the team to a 18-2 victory over the 391st TFS, as the left hander showed good speed and a sharp breaking curve. He lost his shutout only after a balding 115 lb catcher threw the ball over the centerfield fence attempting to throw a runner out at second base. Highlight of the 18 run attack was Tony Strovas' wallop over the left centerfield fence. Defensively Teddy Wolanin pulled off the gem of the year with a twisting half gainer catch on a sinking line drive. Ed Lev, Bruce Bellg and Denny Novak came up with sterling glove work and accurate throwing to put the victory on ice.

GLO (CONT)

of the Caribous. These visits helped to create a better understanding between the Army and the Air Force and they were instrumental in the smooth transfer of the Caribou from the Army to the Air Force.

Both officers take part in regular mission flights in the backseat of an F4C during in country strike missions. Capt Hendrickson accompanies the C-7A crews on cargo missions to the isolated small strips that the wing services. These flights enable the Army officers to become aware of the problems the crews encounter during their missions. This first hand knowledge enables the GLO's to offer advice for the improvement of joint Army-Air Force operations.

PHU CAT BALL CLUB HAVING SLOW SEASON

The 537th-459th softball team has been idle for most of this month, having played three games winning two and losing one.

The team has had two games cancelled and will be made up at a later date. The league will be starting its third round the first of the month and out of all the rounds the four best teams with the best won-lost records will play for the league championship, so good luck team.

GET WELL QUICK HARRY. Major Harry Coulter has his beer hoisting arm in a sling after straining it in a tough tennis game with Major Cliff Kiah. COULD IT BE OLD AGE?

WING BOXER TELLS OF 6 YEARS IN RING

The 483rd Troop Carrier Wing has a boxer assigned by the name of A1C John W. Stevens. His career, though unknown to the majority of the wing, makes interesting reading. We have asked him to tell the story of his boxing career in his own words.

"I come from a family of boxers but would not try my own hand at it until I entered basic training, May 1961. I only had one fight in basic training. They thought that I had good potential so I was asked to fight the Lackland middleweight champ. I beat him on a split decision, thus starting my boxing career."

"When I left Lackland AFB, Texas, August 1961, I was assigned to a Radar Site at Chandler AFS, Minnesota. Since there wasn't much to do after duty hours, I worked out at the gym every evening. I checked out a boxing book from the library and started teaching myself the fundamentals of boxing. Boxing came easy to me because I had a lot of natural ability."

"After working out by myself, I heard of a small town approximately 20 miles away who had a boxing team and was fighting other regions. I joined the team, had 4 fights, won all and earned a spot to fight in the regional championships. That year, 1961, I won the regional championship held in Minneapolis, Minn. I had 10 fights my first year of boxing and lost 1."

"In 1962, I won the South Dakota AAU State Championship. In 1963 I went TDY to Germany and fought on the USAFE boxing team and won the USAFE Middleweight Boxing Championship for that command."

"In 1964 I fought with the ADC Boxing Team and won the light-middleweight World-Wide Championship for the Air Force. After that I decided to hang up the gloves (because I got married and the boss asked me to hang them up). That ended my three year boxing career with a record of 51 wins and 6 defeats."

"Upon arrival at Cam Ranh Bay, November 1966, I thought this was the ideal place for any young man to get in good physical condition so I started roadwork every day. Some of the fellers wanted a boxing team here at Cam Ranh so I started helping coach the boys. In March of this year I was asked to represent Vietnam in the 1966 PACAF Boxing Championships being held in Japan. The winners would receive a chance to go to the United States and fight in the World-Wide Championships. Of course I jumped at the opportunity. I lost out in the semi-finals to a fellow who went on to win the Middleweight PACAF Championship."

"We now have a boxing team here at Cam Ranh Bay and you probably have seen some of the boys in action in the Boxing Smoker on 30 May 1967 at the base theater."

536TCS WIN STREAK EXTENDED TO 17-0

The incredible Cobras of the 536TCS have extended their softball win streak to 17-0.

On May 26 the team breezed past the Navy IUWG-1 team 12-2 behind the 5 hit pitching of Roy Blue. Blue making his first start for the Cobras turned in an incredible pitching performance, striking out 13 batters while walking but 3. The Cobra defense tightened up on this game and provided him with errorless support. The offense sparked throughout the contest. Pete Delk broke the ice in the first inning with a three run homer which put the Cobras in front to stay.

Other standouts were Rich Gerlach with a triple, a double and two walks, and Ray Metzgar, who went 3 for 3 with a double and two singles.

Team captain Frank Micheels expressed satisfaction with the team's performance and noted that the errorless performance was a much desired improvement over the six-error catastrophe against the Army two weeks ago. The Cobras barely escaped with their skins in that game, notching a shakey 7-6 win. The Cobras feel to a man that they have far and away the best ball club in the wing and consequently challenge any and all teams, anytime, any place. How about it Wing Wienies and Phu Cat'ers? Feel Lucky?

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

The challenge issued by the Wing Wienies to the Phu Cat Caribous has been accepted and the game will be played at Phu Cat Air Base on 11 June.

No matter which team wins, it promises to be an interesting day. The amount of hot dogs and liquid refreshments to be consumed should get some kind of record. So look out Phu Cat, the Wing Wienies are on their way.

CAMS END ROUND I WITH 8-3 RECORD

The 483CAM Sq softball team finished up the 1st round of intramural play with a respected 8-3 record. The losses suffered were to the 457TCS, 12 C&E and the 14th Aerial Port Sqdn. Even though the team was outplayed they never lost aggressiveness and always displayed true sportsmanship.

The team wishes to extend their appreciation to members of the squadron who support the team, not only during actual play but also to include consideration given for availability of players for practice and league competition.

The second round of league play commences approximately 15 June and it is the general feeling of the entire team that when the tournament is played the CAM Sq will be one of the participants.

834TH AD PRAISES 483D PERFORMANCE

I'm sure each of us has known a little guy who, perhaps because of his size or lack of it, was just a little more competitive and determined than most other people. Perhaps those of you who are operating our Caribou birds are reacting a little like that. There's no doubt about your competitive spirit and your determination.

Based on the relative capability of the Caribou, there's no doubt that you've been doing more than your share of the tactical airlift mission here in Vietnam. The charts we see each day at the 834th staff meetings show that the C-7As have exceeded the goals we have established for such areas as tonnage, tons per sortie and tons per flying hour.

These are important ways of measuring performance but there's one performance factor that is not too easy to measure, yet it is the most important of all in the kind of airlift business we're in. That factor is responsiveness.

As you know, our customers really need airframes, some of the places they need them to go to leave a lot to be desired, not much of it to the imagination. In many instances, what they need just couldn't get there when it's needed by any way other than by Caribou. So let's keep those performance figures in mind. But let's also keep them in the proper perspective.

Never lose sight of the key fact that our primary objective is to deliver to our customers what they need when they need it. You've been doing just that and I know you will continue to do so.

HUGH E. WILD, Colonel, USAF
Vice Commander, 834th Air Division

457TH TCS HUSTLERS RECAP LAST 4 GAMES

The 457th Hustlers had experienced some rough sledding during the last four games with one win, two losses, and a tie. The 12th Combat Support Group upset the Hustlers in a five to six win (18 May). The CSG team scored three runs on a surprise home run in the bottom of the sixth inning, and the Hustlers were unable to recover. The 12th Transportation Squadron and the Hustlers battled to a six to six tie on 26 May. This game is scheduled to be replayed on 11 June, 1730 hours. The Hustlers scored 15 runs against the 458TCS team (1 June). The 458th team tried hard but were able to score only one run. The Hustlers were defeated on errors by the 12CES team (3 June) with a final score five to six. The CES team scored two runs on errors in the bottom of the sixth inning establishing a one run lead. The Hustlers failed to recover in the top of the seventh and the game was over.