

PHANFARE

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THE PHAN RANG WEEKLY

JULY 12, 1967

USO SHOW TOMORROW

Franz Jackson and the original Jazz All Stars will entertain at the base theater tomorrow night at eight.

Performing in this USO show will be four men and a female. Come early and get a good seat.

PIZZA, ENTERTAINMENT TO MARK GRAND OPENING

The long awaited opening of the new Red Cross Recreation center is scheduled for 2:00PM Sunday July 16.

Pizza, that often thought of Italian-American favorite will be served as refreshment, plus musical intertainment.

Sue Behrens, assistant director for Red Cross services, will be here from Saigon for the opening.

Those who helped move the center and the Tape Center were

Capt. Duane Sand, MSgt. Robert Birchfield, MSgt. W.H. Cover, A1C John Mitchell, A1C Laszlo Agoston, A1C John Agnew, A2C William Jones, A2C Edward Thompson, A2C Thomas Canzano, A3C Ronald Johnson.

A cordial invitation to all is extended to come and see this beautiful new addition to the facilities at Phan Rang.

There is a large game room in the west end of the center. A long hall with a full kitchen off to one side connects all other rooms together.

F-100 PILOT SURVIVES 45-MINUTE NIGHTMARE

Perhaps only an Edgar Allen Poe could portray the horror which confronted an F-100 Super Sabre pilot of the 615th TFS recently when his aircraft plunged upside down into a drainage ditch at Bien Hoa AB.

For 45 minutes, Capt. Thomas R. Olsen, 33, from Houston, Tex., formerly assigned to Phan Rang's 'Black Panther' Squadron, was trapped in the inky blackness of "five or six feet" of muddy water, with only a leaking oxygen mask between him and death.

The icy-nerved flier had only "three to five minutes" of oxygen left when the aircraft was finally dragged to shallower water, enabling him to float out of the cockpit to safety.

The aircraft was on fire for 15 minutes, and the captain later agreed that the ditch water saved him from the flames.

(Continued next week)

GENERALS CITE WING FOR AID TO 8th TFS

A pair of three-star generals and the first man to break the sound barrier have joined in the congratulations extended to the 35th TFW for its "outstanding assistance" to the 8th Tactical Bombardment Squadron.

When Lt. Col. Nathaniel A. Gallagher, former commander of the 'Liberty Squadron', sent a warm letter of appreciation to the commander of the wing citing the wing's top-notch support during a two-month tour of the squadron at Phan Rang AB earlier this year, it started a chain reaction of endorsements.

"Include my appreciation and gratitude," wrote Lt. Gen. William W. Momyer, commander of 7th AF in Vietnam. "Acknowledgement of outstanding services performed is always gratifying to receive...."

(Continued next week)

RED HORSE BUILDERS WIN 'APPRECIATION DAY'

In case you didn't know it, Saturday was "Red Horse Appreciation Day" on base.

Col. James Dusenberry, scheduled to become the new 7th AF Engineer, toured the base and was taken to project after

project initiated and completed by personnel of the

SEND FOR GRASS

Tired of dust and barren land? Write home to your folks, wife, or sweetheart and ask them to send you one pound of Bermuda grass seed. This is a base-wide appeal designed to beautify Phan Rang. Let's all pitch in and make Phan Rang green.

554th (Red Horse) Civil Engineering Squadron within the last "nine to 12 months", according to the squadron project officer for the appreciation day, Maj. Dee Werrall.

(Special signs were erected. (Cont. next week)

CLASSIFIED!

Because of popular demand, PHANFARE will begin running classified ads next week. Submit items (of not more than 25 words) by noon Saturday to the wing information office at the new wing headquarters building. Call 188 for further details.

They said we were authorized
Transportation... Bot really!



SWAMP-CAT ROARS AT SNAKE HUNTERS

The roar of a "swamp cat" interrupted a night hunt for a king cobra last week on Nui Dat Mountain.

Armed with flashlights, snake-hook sticks, and a noose, Phan Rang's three-man team of serpent catchers had been in brush terrain for about 30 minutes when all of a sudden "a real throaty roar" erupted from a dense growth about 40 feet in front of the hunters.

Somewhat startled were 1st Lt. Jack Wittman (base fuel systems officer); A1C Bill Gaither (1882nd Comm. Sq.); and A2C 'Egg' Eggleston of the 35th SPS.

The lieutenant said the swamp-cat, sometimes mistaken for a panther, seemed to be telling the hunters they could proceed only over his (the cat's) dead body.

The hunters promptly moved elsewhere, but Airman Gaither is out to get 'kittie'.

CIVIC ACTION...

Members of Headquarters Squadron, 35th Combat Support Group, recently contributed 14,370 piasters toward a scholarship fund for high school students in the towns of Phan Rang and Thap Cham.

Approximately 10 enlisted men of the 614th TFS spent about 90 hours delivering lumber and roofing materials and providing other assistance to the An Phuoc School for Cham students near Thap Cham.

On Sunday, Dr. (Capt) William Palma along with three other officers of the 35th Tac. Disp. and the base Civic Action officer, 1st Lt. Arthur Queride, joined in a tour of Revolutionary Development Team construction projects in this locale.

SOCCER?

Efforts are being made to start a base soccer team. Call Capt. Mills at 240 or A1C Kyle at 124 if you would like to be on this team. They want your name and squadron.

V.C. VOLLEYBALL BOUNCES BACK

Oh well, that's the way the way the ball bounces.

TSgt. Frank Davis, personnel services man out at the beach, claims a volleyball which was missing from the beach supply office recently made a trip to a nearby Viet Cong base camp! The well-traveled ball was found by the U.S. Navy after captured Viet Cong led them to the base camp.

Now the ball is back at the beach, showing no evidence of ill treatment by its playful abductors.

SCHOOL TRUE BLUE

With paint supplied by the 35th CES and 35th Supply Squadron, students of the Nguyen Cong Tru School in the town of Phan Rang have been busy painting the building blue and yellow.

The bright blue, according to Phan Rang Civic Action assistant A1C David Kinney, symbolizes Air Force aid for the project. "When you're coming down the street you can't miss it," he noted.

Members of the 8th Tactical Bombardment Squadron are helping the students to build desks.

In the meantime, 25,000 piasters are to be presented to the An Phuoc School by the 614th TFS (after an initial gift of 50,000 P) to build two classrooms, according to Capt. Ralph L. Brown.

Refresher Course

An English review course will begin next Tuesday, and continue through September 7.

The course is designed as a refresher or remedial course for students who need a good review of their English studies.

The instructor will be 1st Lt. Richard P. E. Chiles of the 35th Combat Support Group, and the class will be in session Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 till 9.

To enroll, call the education office at 143 Ring 2. The course will be particularly useful for individuals planning to take the high school General Educational Development test.

GREETINGS to Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Theodore Kleinhans, 43, from South Bend, Ind. A Lutheran, he will be the new base chaplain. He arrived last week from Keesler AFB, Miss.

SOFTBALL TEAM SPLITS WITH PLEIKU

Bouncing back from the shock of a no-hitter, the new base softball team salvaged the second half of a double-header with Pleiku on Sunday by the score of 2-1.

After Pleiku won the opener 5-0, the Phan Rang'ers put together back-to-back singles and a long fly for two runs in the second game, and that was all that pitcher SSgt. Jerry Gramke of the 1882nd Comm. Sq. needed to win the game as he held the opposition to six hits.

A triple by SSgt. 'Slugger' Gillock of the 35th SPS in the sixth inning of the game was wasted, because he was left stranded.

The greatest defensive play by Phan Rang occurred when A2C Don Eschen of Headquarters Sq. snared a ball which had bounced off the third baseman and pegged it to first to throw out the runner.

Eschen played short-stop.

"Defensively, we're probably stronger than any other team (in 7th AF)," commented SSgt. Robert J. Locher, the team's coach.

"We've got the youngest ball club in 7th AF...playing on nothing but desire," the coach added.

He noted that the losing pitcher in the second game, Sergeant 'Doc' Richardson, won "All Air Force" selection in his softball career.

Sergeant Locher quoted 'Doc' as saying: "You've got an awful hard team to beat."

Sunday's double-header took place at Diamond One, and the Phan Rang'ers were respendent in their new two-tone uniforms. The team's record is now two wins and four losses. Everyone's support is needed!

MACHINE ROOM EXTENSION - HAPPY

"A 50 per cent extension rate," commented SSgt. Robert J. Locher, an official of the machine accounting section of the office of the base director of personnel.... "That's pretty good!"

Five of the ten men assigned to the section, known simply as the machine room, have extended their tours in Vietnam.

Two of these men, A3C William Westerberg and A1C Vincent Moreszes, have added a full year to their tours, and the other three airmen have added six months.

"You've got to help the Vietnamese at a time when they need it," said Airman Moreszes when asked why he extended.

He came to Vietnam in September, 1965. This is his third extension. He is 23, and is from Los Angeles, Calif.

Airman Westerberg, 23, from Glenolden, Pa., came to Phan Rang in February, 1966 and thanks to his latest extension will remain until August, 1968.

"I like it here," he commented.

"We're all needed."

Also extending were: A1C Gillman Bouley, 20, from Fort Kent, Maine; A1C Ralph Jacob, 21, from Sunnyvale, Calif.; and A1C Joe Wallace, 27, from North Little Rock, Ark.

Under the direction of their NCOIC, MSgt. Raymond A. Bell, the men of the machine room "submit all data on enlisted men and officers on punch-cards to Pacific Air Force Headquarters to be recorded on historical documents."

Cranking out some 7,000 punch-cards per week, the section makes use of five units of IBM equipment to store up data vital to personnel.

FIVE PILOTS IN 615th HIT THE '300' MARK

Five pilots from the 615th TFS have completed a grand total of over 1,500 combat missions in F-100 Super Sabre jet fighters.

Since their arrival at Phan Rang in July, 1966, the following five officers have notched a total of 1,577 missions:

Capt. John D. Eckhart, 31, from Carlisle, Ohio; Capt. Thomas R. Olsen, 33, from Houston, Tex.; Capt. Richard A. Mason, 32, from Titusville, Fla.; Capt. Roger E. Wichman, 30, from Pender, Neb.; and Capt. Ronald R. Zodin, 25, from Fort Worth, Tex.

The quintet of combat fliers have dropped a whopping three million pounds of ordnance in the course of these missions.

All five officers are in the process of returning to the U.S. for new assignments. Captains Wichman and Zodin are headed for Cannon AFB, N.M., Captain Eckhart to Dover AFB, & Captain Mason to Fort Bragg.

TESTING IS BOOMING

A total of 186 men, including 83 from the 35th Security Police Co., were tested last week for five and seven-levels, according to TSgt. Frank Stone, NCOIC of Classification and Testing at C. C.

"This is terrific," he said, noting that it was the busiest week of testing "since we started testing at this base." He hailed squadron CPT emphasis.

A NEW FACE IN RECREATION

Major 'Scoop' Jenner from Urbana, Ill. has taken over as base personnel services officer.

"There's a lot of work to be done, and a lot we can do for the troops," said the new arrival, who has been in the Air Force for 16 years. His last AF role was that of ROTC ass't. professor at the University of Illinois.



CLUB NEWS

WED: NCO CLUB

Ned Kelly and his lovely assistant Summana, His is billed as a sharp-shooter. 8:00-9:00 PM

THURS: Airman's Club

Ned Kelly and Summana 7:30-8:30 PM

FRI: Airman's Club

Hank Wells and his Rhythmaroos
6:00-10:00 PM

SAT: NCO Club

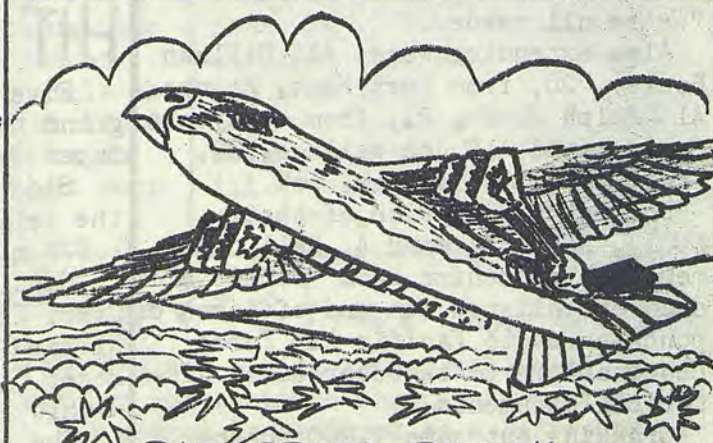
Hank Wells and his Rhythmaroos
7:00-11:00 PM

SUN: NCO Club

Hank Wells and his Rhythmaroos
2:00-4:00 PM

BITS AND PIECES

The base golf team finished fifth in a field of eight at the recent tourney at Tan Son Nhut AB....Tan Son Nhut won, with Bien Hoa second....SMSgt. Ernie Seto of the 1882nd Comm. Sq. came within two strokes of winning the senior individual tourney...He finished second...His best round was 79... Four singing groups and a guitarist will entertain at the Red Cross Center opening on Sunday at 2 p.m....Highest temperature last week: 102. The lowest: 76...Rain: .18 inches



PHILIPPINE PINCH
(TACTILUS DROPPA BOMBUS)

The Philippine Phinch is not a true native of Southeast Asia. Flying in flocks of twenty or so, they frequently migrate to and from Vietnam from their home in the Philippines. While a quite docile bird in their homeland, the Phinches become true terror in Vietnam, killing hordes of the forest creatures known as Congus. A near relative, who also migrate to Vietnam is the Walloping Wallaby (Canberrus Downundera) of Australia. The Downundera will be discussed fully at a later date.

SPORTS SHORTS

After splitting the double header with Pleiku: Lost 5-1, Won 2-1; arrangements are being made to get Cam Ranh Bay to come down for the coming weekend. Watch for posters telling later details.

Speaking of Pleiku, they've challenged us to a tourney in any of the following minor personal sports: Hand Ball, Squash, Tennis and Badminton. Anyone who would like to play in such a tourney contact MSgt. Cover at Special Services Ext.

Interest in the base Tennis Tournament is picking up with many names in the pot. However, they need more people in the novice and over 40 groups.

The new weight lifting equipment is getting a very good use. It is really a good way to build up some biceps and tighten up sagging muscles. Also, a very fine way to pass the time away. Late Development: The game with CRB is on for 1:00 PM Sunday.

MOVIE PREVIEWS

WED: 'After the Fox' An hilarious romp with Peter Sellers and Crew. This is one not to miss.

THURS: 'Satan Bug' Horror Movie, something about a germ that destroys half the world before the 'brave scientist' conquers it.

FRI: 'The Fortune Cookie', slashing comedy with Jack Lemmon, Walter Mathau

SAT: 'Arrividerchi Baby'...Wild and woolly... Tony Curtis

NO SAFE IS SAFE WHEN HE'S AROUND

In his four months at Phan Rang Air Base, TSgt. Ben Marshall of the Accounting and Finance Office has saved the Air Force approximately \$6,000 by repairing inoperative safes.

Bonded, certified, licensed, and registered as a locksmith, the nimble-fingered NCO is a graduate of the Locksmithing Institute in Little Falls, N.J.

Gaining an education in the art of locksmithing in his off-duty time, the versatile sergeant has managed to become a member of the Associated Locksmiths of America, and the Pixie Locksmithing Association.

Recent honors came to Sergeant Marshall in the form of membership in the Locksmiths' Honor Society for the years of '66, '67, and '68.

Such membership is bestowed on locksmith experts who contribute to the advancement of the craft by inventing tools that will do the job better or faster, and coming up with ideas for improving the profession.

Sergeant Marshall owns a locksmithing business in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., and plans to operate it full-time upon his retirement in 1969.

He once made a special trip to the military site at Da Lat to open and repair a locked-out safe.

The safe-minded sergeant suggests that Air Force personnel approaching retirement look into the locksmithing profession..

"It is an honorable profession, and the services are badly needed in most communities in the United States," he noted.

BONUS BONANZA

The airman in charge of separations and enlistments, A2C Joe Luccino, reports that 28 men re-enlisted at Phan Rang in June.

"We are now having retention interviews, at CBFO, for all first-termers," he revealed.

Among the variable-bonus winners in June were:

A1C Milton E. Shinn, who collected \$1,560.30 and will get an additional \$668.70 each year for the next three years
A1C Charles B. Teague Jr., whose bonuses were identical to Airman Shinn's.

SSgt. Donald R. Montoya, who collected \$1,810 and will get an additional bonus of \$775.80 each year for the next three years
More names in the bonus derby:

A1C Roy E. Brandt collected \$891.60.
SSgt. Michael A. Carnvale got \$767.20.
SSgt. Richard M. Nutton got \$659.60.
SSgt. Albert L. Evans got \$438.40.
A1C Robert M. Kesterke got \$1,560 plus an additional bonus of \$668.70 once a year for the next three years.

Read next week's PHANRANG for more facts on people in the re-enlistment spotlight.

MODERNIZATION GOES TO THE DOGS

The widespread improvements of Phan Rang facilities haven't been confined to humans alone.

A vital part of American fighting forces, the sentry dog section of the 35th Security Police Squadron, have moved from primitive lodgings into modern quarters.

Using the self-help approach, security policemen of the section have built two new spacious kennels, a new training area, and a veterinarian's center.

Advised by supervisors of the 35th Civil Engineering Sq., and 554th (Red Horse) CFS, the men have spent several months building and improving the area for our "Eyes and Ears in the Night."

On his own initiative, A1C George W. Fitts learned welding so he could weld steel fences and build steel cages. (Cont. next week)

INSIDE POOP ON R+R

(Editor's note: Because of the great interest in the Rest & Relaxation program, A1C David L. Johnson, the base R&R co-ordinator, offers the following information:)

Many people apparently don't understand how the R&R program works, or how R&R applications are processed.

First, a word on cut-off dates. These dates establish a time limit on the acceptance of R&R applications.

The cut-off dates for R&R trips to Hawaii are the fifth day of the month preceding the desired month of travel.

For all other R&R sites, including Vung Tau, the in-country R&R site, the cut-off date is the 15th day of the month preceding the desired month of travel.

As for Hawaii R&R's, it is now possible for the wife of a serviceman stationed in Vietnam to buy a round-trip ticket from the West Coast to Hawaii for \$165.

She must be furnished with at least two copies of her husband's orders, which will have a Certification of Eligibility for Reduced Fare printed on the back. (Continued next week)

DOG SHOW TODAY

With the aid of their handlers, the highly-trained canines of the 35th Security Police Squadron will put on a show tonight at 6 at the kennels. The public's invited.

AUSSIE BOMBERS AID GROUND OPERATIONS

Wing Commander Rolf Aronsen's No. 2 Squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force has been credited with supporting many of the Allies' major ground operations in Vietnam.

The Phan Rang - based squadron of twin-jet Canberra bombers dropped nearly 1,200 tons of bombs on more than 900 targets in Vietnam during its first ten weeks of combat operations.

The Canberras have pounded enemy concentrations in such operations as Junction City, Pershing, Francis Marion, Diamond Head, and Malheur.

The Aussies have struck in the Mekong Delta (IV Corps) and supported Task Force Oregon in I Corps.

Missions have also been flown in the Phuoc Tuy Province of III Corps in support of the First Australian Task Force and the Second and Seventh Battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment.

Most of the strikes have been at night under radar direction. The air crews fly about 45 hours per month, with sorties lasting up to three hours.

Occasionally there are daytime strikes. In a recent two-aircraft attack on a Viet Cong concentration, the Canberras were directed by Wing Commander Tony Powell, from Melbourne.

He is an RAAF forward air controller who flies a Cessna 'Bird Dog', on exchange duty with the U.S. Air Force at Nha Trang.

The strike was led by Wing Commander Vin Hill, from Brisbane, who won the Distinguished Flying Cross in Korea.

Intelligence officers of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division are reported pleased by the support of the Aussie fliers.

PHAN RANG MARKS FISCAL NEW YEAR

The night of June 30, Fiscal New Year's Eve, marked the climax of a six-week 'wring-out' campaign during which the office of the base comptroller succeeded in validating Phan Rang's financial obligations for Fiscal Year '67.

According to Maj. Charles D. Block, base comptroller, and his right-hand man, 1st Lt. Harold A. Ransford, additional funds of \$1.7 million were obtained from 7th AF last month because of the success of the campaign.

Major Block noted that "supply accounts were aligned in priority order", thanks to the close cooperation of Phan Rang supply, equipment, and procurement officials.

SMSgt. George L. Christensen, budget NCOIC, became "our man at Cam Ranh Bay" during the wring-out period. It was his mission to "zero" the base account at CRB, accounting headquarters for Phan Rang, in conjunction with the passing of Fiscal Year '67.

His success was mirrored in a telephone call from CRB to 7th AF Headquarters just before midnight on June 30. That call confirmed the zeroing of the base account.

The operations and maintenance funds required to keep this base going in Fiscal Year '67 (exclusive of military pay, fuel, and munitions) came to \$11,682,900.

Of that amount, \$8,500,000 were expended for supplies alone.

A BIT OF TENNIS

Flight Lieutenant Rex Bean of No. 2 Squadron, RAAF, recently confronted Maj. Ernest Schultz of the 8th Tactical Bombardment Sq. on a Phan Rang tennis court....and lost the set 6-1. Lieutenant Bean is the local Aussie tennis champ. Major Schultz is the unofficial champ of Clark AB, R.P.

SECURITY POLICE HOST ORPHANS

Turn-about is fair play.

When TSgt. Robert V. Tomaselli of the 35th Security Police Squadron greeted 19 youngsters of the Orphanage at Tan Tai from Phan Rang recently, they promptly presented him with a handsome gold watch as a going-away present.

The orphans, aged 3 through 14, were touring the base under the auspices of the squadron, which sponsored the orphanage some 18 months ago and has built a nursery, reservoir, dining room, and woodshed for it.

Sergeant Tomaselli spearheaded this Civic Action project for eight months before his departure for the ZI last week.

"I felt very undeserving," said the sergeant about the gift. "It's too much....I never expected anything like it." As he left for Bolling AFB, Wash. he said, "I've already got plans on a couple of things they need that I want to send them."

Accompanied by Sisters Emmanuel and Aimee, the orphans were escorted by the sergeant, Capt. Jaime Prieto, and Dr. (Capt.) William Palma on their afternoon tour.

"IT WILL MAKE THEM HAPPIER"

A thousand pounds of clothing, part of a shipment of 6,000 pounds of clothing sent to the 352nd TFS from Myrtle Beach AFB, S.C., was recently delivered to the children of soldiers of the Vietnamese 44th Infantry Regiment. The commander, Capt. Nguyen Van Soc, said:

"Thank you for the clothing for the enlisted men's children....We will tell the men in the field of this gift..It will make them much happier."