

# PHANFARE

VOLUME I, ISSUE 15

THE PHAN RANG WEEKLY

AUGUST 30, 1967

## NEW LAPIDARY SHOP TO OPEN SOON

According to present plans, a lapidary shop will be opened on base by September 10. The new personnel services facility will be stocked with \$2,500 worth of lapidary materials, including 70 different kinds of gemstones.

It will be located in Bldg. 509 (the old drivers' school) near the base theater, and will be air-conditioned.

A qualified instructor will be on hand to show fledgling craftsmen how to make beautiful tie-bars, tie-tacks, pendants, bracelets, rings, and cuff-links out of the gemstones which will be sold at the shop.

## COLLEGE CLASSES SET; NOW IS TIME TO REGISTER

According to the base education NCOIC, SSgt. Bill Gill, three new University of Maryland courses will begin during the week of September 11.

A course in business enterprise will be taught by Lt. Col. Melvin Thompson of 35th Hq. Sq. Teaching elementary analysis (integrated algebra and trigonometry) will be 1st Lt. Reed Griffin of the weather station.

Accounting will be taught by Major Wingentzahn of 35th Hq. Sq. All the courses are worth three credits and will be taught two nights a week for eight weeks.

Registration is now on, and will continue through Sept. 6. Call Sergeant Gill at 2260 or visit the base education office alongside CBPO.

Cost of each course is \$12. There is room for 25 students in each course. These courses will be taught in air-conditioned classrooms from 7 till 10 p.m.... Mondays and Wednesdays for the business course, Tuesdays and Fridays for accounting, and Tuesdays and Thursdays for elementary analysis. First come first served.

## SECURITY POLICE OUT FRONT

The 35th Security Police Squadron, picked as the outstanding squadron in the 35th TFW during June and July, has its sights set on a three-month sweep

SMSgt. Thomas E. Charette, 37, from Knob Noster, Mo., NCOIC of Chief of Security Police, said, "We are looking forward to winning it this month." The winner gets \$50, and a squadron which wins the honor three months in a row is entitled to a trophy.

The sergeant said the award is based on such things as: area inspections; personnel appearance; alert exercises; personnel behavior; on-the-job training; and performance reports.

He said the security police triumph represented "a concentrated effort by everybody."

## MEDICAL 'TREAT'

The patients and staff of the base hospital received a treat Saturday afternoon as showman Oliver Pacini & the Kim Lee Sisters entertained for 30 minutes.

A native of Los Angeles, Calif., Mr. Pacini has been in South Vietnam for the past ten months. With the Kim Lee Sisters, from Seoul Korea, he has performed at every base and outpost in the country.

(Continued on Page 6)

INSIDE PHANFARE you will find stories on: the man who wouldn't give up...and the Army's 'aircraft carrier'

## BASE RE-UP RATE TRIPLES!

The Phan Rang re-enlistment rate for first-term airmen has tripled during the last two months and may now be the highest among all Air Force bases in South Vietnam, according to MSgt. Jimmy D. Hall, Career Motivation NCO.

Since the new career motivation office opened on July 15, he pointed out, 17 first-termers have re-enlisted...and six more are to be sworn in as their quota is received from PACAF.

Sergeant Hall, who will be promoted to the rank of senior master sergeant on Friday, feels that "more and more airmen are taking advantage of the tax break on their bonus. (Such bonuses are tax-free in Vietnam).

Thirteen out of the 23 re-enlistees won "variable bonuses", ranging from \$1,783 up to \$4,458.

A new plate-glass window has been installed behind the desk of Sergeant Hall's assistant, A2C Joe Muccino. The reason, he quipped, is so that potential re-enlistees will "see the light". (Cont. on Page 6)

## BEES INVADE AIR PLANE

A swarm of non-political bees temporarily halted operations in two units here recently.

Men of the 352nd Tactical Fighter Sq., known as the 'Yellow Jackets', were working near an F-100 on 'alert' status when they noticed a few bees flying around the open canopy of the aircraft.

They soon found that hundreds of the little creatures had swarmed inside the cockpit and were covering the oxygen mask there.

Were the bees too much for the Yellow Jackets? Turn to Page Six and find out.

## THIRTEEN VIETNAMESE GRADUATE HERE

Thirteen Vietnamese workers graduated last week from a newly-instituted base course in basic English, clerical procedures, and typing, according to Mr. Jack Baxter, head of the civilian personnel office.

Phan Rang is the first 7th AF base outside of Saigon to offer this course, Mr. Baxter noted, and plans are under way for an intermediate and advanced course in the same subject to be offered here in the future. In the past, Vietnamese workers at Phan Rang had to go all the way to Tan Son Nhut to take the basic course.

Mr. Baxter said the new program not only saves the Air Force money by eliminating travel funds but also provides the workers with special incentive for doing well in the basic course in order to win slots in the intermediate and advanced courses.

In the line-up of graduates were key-punch operators, clerk-typists, secretaries, and stock-control clerks. The instructor was Mr. Dinh from Tan Son Nhut, and he trained Miss Quyen of 35th Supply Sq. to become the new instructor.

The one-month course was taught three hours a day, six days a week, and Mr. Baxter sat in on two classes. He was impressed by the "strict attention" the students paid to their instructor.

Noting that over 1,600 Vietnamese workers are employed on base through the auspices of the civilian personnel office, the 42-year-old native of Junction City, La. said that 100 more workers will be going through the new course on base within the next six months.

He pointed out that the 435th Munitions Maintenance Sq., 35th Supply Sq., and 554th 'Red Horse' Civil Engineering Sq. have been particularly successful in developing leadership qualities among their Vietnamese employees.

Paying tribute to the many Vietnamese workers employed at Phan Rang, he said, "Properly supervised, they've done an excellent job for us."

The class was held in the 35th Services Sq. training room. One young lady in the class boosted her typing speed up to more than 30 words per minute, Mr. Baxter said, adding that this was quite an accomplishment considering that English is a new and difficult language for the Vietnamese.

## SNAKE-HOUSE DRAWS CROWD

The opening of the new base snake-house on Sunday drew a crowd of some 250 goggle-eyed visitors, according to proprietor ALC Bill Gaither of the 1882nd Comm. Sq.

Located about 100 yards up the hill from the MARS station, the serpentarium was the scene of exclamations and much photo-taking as the visitors came face to face with pythons, cobras, lizards, and pit-vipers.

The spitting cobra, according to Airman Gaither, was in such good form that the inside side of his display window became completely covered with the lethal spit and had to be cleaned off several times.

## THREE 'LUCKY DEVILS'

On Saturday, the last three remaining pilots among those who deployed with the 614th 'Lucky Devils' TFS from England AFB, La. to Phan Rang last September flew their final scheduled missions here.

Set to go Stateside are: Maj. James L. Fulk Jr., 33, from Everett, Wash.; Capt. Ralph L. Brown, 34, from Jackson, Miss.; and Capt. Robert M. Brown, 33, from Washington D.C.

The Saturday combat missions were the 280th for the major and the 290th for the two Captain Browns.

Lt. Col. Kenneth Miles, 'Lucky Devil' commander, presented Major Fulk with the news that he had just won an oak leaf cluster for his Distinguished Flying Cross and had been accepted into the Regular Air Force just before the major left for his last scheduled mission.

"When we arrived," said Capt. Robert Brown, "it was a bare base facility, and at this time it looks like a Stateside organization."

"I certainly feel like we've accomplished quite a bit over here," said the F-100 Super Sabre pilot.

Major Fulk said, "It's been a very rewarding tour....I think we've established a reputation as one of the most accurate squadrons over here for ordnance delivery."

Capt. Ralph Brown was Civic Action project officer of the 'Lucky Devils' for the past nine months. He spearheaded the unit's all-out aid program for the An Phuoc school near Thap Cham, and feels that this work was just as important as his combat missions.

"This is a funny war," said the officer. "The only way you're going to win it is by winning the hearts of the people."

## 'DAVIS CUP' MATCH DUE

On Sept. 13 a 'Davis Cup' tennis match will take place between the 13th TBS and the Aussies of the No. 2 Sq. (RAAF). Winner gets a G.I. coffee cup, courtesy of Lt. Col. 'Duke' Davis, ops officer of the 13th TBS.

On Aug. 24, Chaplain (Capt.) Hartsell produced a team of 'Davis Cup' challengers, but the 13th TBS swatted them down, four matches to one. (Say, that 'Davis Cup' is inscribed.)

Now that Davis Cup challenge matches have been started, anyone who can round up five or six players and wants to take a whack at the 13th TBS team for the honor of playing the Aussies in September is invited to call Major Klesert at 'Flightline 391'. Callers should leave their own phone numbers.



GEE SIR, I DUNNO, ALL I TOLD THEM WAS THAT THE 16 IS COMING TWO WEEKS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

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PHANFARE

AUGUST 30, 1967

## WHAT'S ON AT THE MOVIES?

TONITE: 'Made in Paris!'...Ann Margaret in a wacky comedy about an American fashion designer on the loose in Paris in the midst of a crowd of boy-friends.

THURSDAY: 'Monkeys Go Home!'...A highly-recommended Walt Disney comedy...Not based on the life of Lieutenant Tom out at the fire station.

SATURDAY: 'Minnesota Clay!'...Believed to be a good Western. This week movies were shown on Monday and Tuesday. Next week this schedule will probably continue.

## ONCE AROUND THE CLUBS

A variety show called the Rivieras will come to the NCO Open Mess at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, following Happy Hour from 6 to 7 p.m. The Rhythmaires will entertain at the NCO Open Mess from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday.

Meanwhile, over at the Airmen's Open Mess, there will be a western band on Friday night and the Rivieras will offer their variety show there on Saturday nite.

## FUN AHEAD AT RED CROSS CENTER

TONITE: Help with the decorations for Aussie Nite, which will be held THURSDAY night (tentative), featuring films, refreshments, and talks on the attractions of Australia. Also on THURSDAY night ALC Eli Wilner will address the Book Club. On FRIDAY night there'll be a pinochle tourney and model plane exhibit, and folksong club meeting. Surprise V.I.P. program on SAT, Sneak Preview Show SUN., & Bridge & Junk Nite TUESDAY.

**DOWN TO THE WIRE** Only four teams left in the softball tourney, ...1882nd, Medics, Services, & undefeated 'Red Horse! The engineers will square off against one of the first three teams above tonight. If Red Horse loses, another game will be played Thursday evening. Gramke of 1882 no-hit Hq. Sq. 2-0, ...one walk.



## ASK -AUNT PHANNY

(Editor's note: Aunt Phanny isn't really interested in your gripes. She has plenty of her own. However, if your letter is funny enough, the old gal just might print it.

Any relationship to this column and actual facts is purely coincidental.

This column is dedicated to the troubled, the lonely, and the mildly insane.)

Dear Aunt Phanny,

Every time I see my first sergeant, he growls at me and bares his teeth. What should I do to gain his confidence and friendship?

--A4C Clyde Zetz

Dear Airman Zetz,

Buy him a dog license, put a collar around his neck, and have him properly vaccinated.

Dear Aunt Phanny,

My bunk-mate snores his head off. When I ask him to stop, he throws boots and shoes at me and says nasty things. What should I do?

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Dear Airman Kinback,

Leave him alone and try long cigarettes. If you don't smoke, move to the nearest bunker. If all else fails, go to town with him and they can carry you both back.

## FOUND ←

A watch, a raincoat, (with cap-cover), and a key have been found at the base theater.

They may be claimed at the soft-drink stand by the owners.

## SERGEANT UP FOR 2<sup>nd</sup> DFC

SSgt. George H. Anderson, 34, from Ridley Park, Pa., a veteran of 18 years' Air Force service, is up for his second Distinguished Flying Cross.

A member of the 310th Air Commando Sq., he finds it difficult to remember all the missions he has flown since coming to Vietnam, but he can recall two of them with amazing clarity.

Recently the squadron was called upon to make a re-supply flight with 12,000 pounds of ammo to a U.S. Army unit which was fighting near Pleiku. The unarmed C-123 was immediately engulfed in a hail of small arms fire.

The ammo was dropped right on target, and a serious reversal in the Pleiku area was averted and turned into a victory.

The sergeant's newest DFC mission occurred in the Delta. An Army Special Forces Camp under attack by a Viet Cong regiment was down to 30 rounds of ammo per man, and time was running out.

After the first drop, "the sky looked like the Fourth of July," according to Sergeant Anderson, a loadmaster, "but we did not have time to get scared as we were positioning the second half of the ammunition for the next drop.

The camp was saved, despite a V.C. attempt to set

up a dummy drop zone in an attempt to grab the ammo themselves, and "we got the hell out of the area.

## HOW TO GET 10%

The following item comes from the base finance office:

Everyone knows what a good deal the Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program is, with its 10 per cent return on deposits.

Not everyone, however, is familiar with deposit procedures. Here's how to make deposits:

1. Decide how much you want to deposit. A good time for decision is when the copy of your payroll is posted in your organization on about the 28th of the month. At that point you know how much money you'll draw on Pay Day.
2. Have your administrative section type up the special DD Form 1131 for these deposits, and hand-carry it along with your deposit to the base finance office.
3. On Pay Day, a one-stop window is open for processing your deposits. On other days, present your completed Form 1131 to the Military Pay Service Counter at Base Finance for a voucher number, and make your deposit at the cashier's window.

When you deposit money before the tenth day of the month, it earns interest as of the first day of that month.

## 'YELLOW JACKET' TRAINEE CITED

Maj. William G. Hartling, operations officer of the 352nd TFS (the 'Yellow Jackets'), has praised weapons mechanic SSgt. Clair T. Scott for "phenomenal progress" in cross-training from the fire department.

The sergeant went to school and won his three-level in the weapons field back in January.

## OOPS, WRONG NUMBER

Last week's PHANFARE wrongly credited the 35th CES with building the new liquid oxygen plant.

According to 1st Lt. Gary L. Bruehler, 554th CES project engineer for the LOX plant, the 554th 'Red Horse' men built the concrete foundation & the parking area, and did all the earth work and plumbing for the new plant.

Electric hook-ups were handled by both the 35th and 554th CES. Lieutenant Bruehler noted that the 554th is building a pre-fabricated steel structure to house plant equipment.

In April he was awarded the special level, and on June 12 Sergeant Scott won technician rating after passing the 7-level test.

"This is exceptionally fast progression into the highly technical field of munitions," Major Hartling pointed out.

Sergeant Scott came to the 352nd TFS recently from Beale AFB, Calif. He was officially awarded the 7-level at Phan Rang.

# THERE IS NOBODY LIKE AN AIRMAN

(Editor's note: An airman in CBPO received the following clipping from a Stateside paper. The author is unknown, but he is obviously no stranger to airmen)

During the mysterious time somewhere between arrival and departure from this planet, one is sure to come in contact with a bunch of blue-clad fellows called "Airmen."

They come in large, medium and small sizes. Always out of cash, they hardly ever sleep, and are outrageously overworked.

An airman can be found in many places: in Europe; in the Orient; in Jersey City; in clubs; in high society or in a ten cent carnival; in debt, and always always, in love.

No one has been able to duplicate the almost unbelievable cramming act that takes place in his pocket. One can find a can opener; tobacco products; a lighter that is out of fluid; two old theatre ticket stubs; 10 keys on a ring (he only uses one); a bent dog tag; a picture of Brigitte Bardot; the main stem from his watch; a letter from home; a picture of the girl, and enough money from yesterday's pay for one more cup of coffee.

He can say, "I love you," in 12 different languages and 33 basic dialects. His biggest problem in life is having the United States Air Force support him in a "manner to which he is accustomed."

When asked to pull that extra duty, he acts with the swiftness of a turtle and the cunning of a fox. Basically, airmen like: money; cash; moolah; skins; rocks; bills; greenbacks; coins and also girls; women; females; chicks; dolls; babes; and the opposite sex, in addition to a brand new Ooh La La, tiger skin interior, four on the floor, convertible type, tiger-pawed horseless carriage.

Their basic dislikes are: bills; inspections; their name on the duty roster; chow; and GI parties.

But after all, he is the greatest "chips are down fighter of them all." No enemy can hold a candle to his fierce, unswerving tenacity in battle. No enemy mind can act with the catlike swiftness of these guys, who always seem to land on their feet, no matter what the challenge, what the odds.

On the ground, he is a "damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead" heroic, spitting, cutting, yelling warrior that the enemy flees from in stark terror. In the air, he is a "damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead" heroic, spitting, cussing, yelling warrior that promises annihilation to any enemy foolish enough to come "ditty boppin" within range of his blazing boldness.

If you razz him about that one ribbon, he would just as soon drop you in a vat of jello and watch you quiver to death.

Once a person has met an Airman there are some things that are impossible. It is impossible to force the innocence of his youth out of your mind and heart; impossible to forget that youthful walk with that prideful snap to it; and impossible to get back any money you have loaned him.

Alas, there is none yet born that can match his air of nonchalance upon returning from the home base, or from battle; and no power on earth can match the emotion created when he gets off that plane and says simply, "Hi Mom, Hi Dad, Hello Honey."

Who could ask for any greater privilege -- than being an Airman.

## DID YOU KNOW?

There are 140,000 inhabitants in the local province of Ninh Thuan, including 16,000 Chams and 12,000 Montagnards, but there is only one doctor per 45,000 inhabitants! Did you know that Chams sacrifice a buffalo when a person is ill. Only when a man is near death, is he taken to a hospital. Did you know that when a Montagnard tribesman dies, a feast is held in honor of the dead man? A year ago, a man who had the plague died, and everyone who came to the feast promptly was infected with plague. Did you know that local babies have big bellies because of a lack of protein and vitamins in their food? These facts were offered at a local medical briefing by a Vietnamese doctor named Trinh.

## C-123 LANDS ON ARMY 'AIRCRAFT CARRIER'

Last Wednesday, on his 1,000th combat sortie in Vietnam, air commando pilot Major Richard W. Mead eased his C-123 Provider transport atop Gia Nghia, "the Army's only aircraft carrier", and delivered about five tons of vital aircraft parts and fuel to the Special Forces camp there.

A member of the 309th Air Commando Sq., the 39-year-old native of Lisbon, North Dakota said the camp is located "right in the middle of a mountain, 85 miles northeast of Saigon.

There is good reason for calling it an aircraft carrier. Two thousand feet long and just 88 feet wide, the Gia Nghia landing strip has sheer drops of 200 to 300 feet along every inch of its small perimeter.

The major, who is the 309th ACS chief of standardization, said the strip was created by "chopping off the top of a mountain". He landed the Provider 300 feet past the start of the strip and taxied to a halt just 500 feet from the knife-edge of the far end of the strip.

A veteran of 20 years of military service, including two as an enlisted man in the Navy during World War II, the officer said air commando transports can complete a landing in 1,000 feet.

Gia Nghia landings aren't any great problem, he noted, except when it's raining. In this case it was, but the C-123 made a smooth landing on the wet strip.

Since he came to Vietnam last December, Major Mead has landed at 66 different places to deliver food and vital supplies to Army Special Forces camps and carry out other airlift missions.

His crew on the 1,000th combat sortie included: Lt. Col. Eugene W. Geniesse, copilot; SSgt. James H. Kimsey flight engineer (who also flew his 1,000th combat sortie last Wednesday); and ALC Roger E. Paradis, loadmaster.

## HE DIDN'T GIVE UP!

Back in 1961, ALC Eugene E. Khyle, 35, of the 35th Services Squadron, took the General Educational Development high school test.

He passed four phases of the test, which offers the equivalent of a high school diploma, but failed the fifth phase, on the subject of English.

Recently, on his fourth try over the past six years, the airman finally passed the English test, and 1st Lt. Richard Chiles of CBFO rates an 'assist'.

Airman Khyle, who was born in Newburgh, N.Y. but attended public school in Ireland for six years, enrolled in the lieutenant's high school group study course in English before taking the test for the fourth time.

"This guy worked long and hard," said SSgt. Bill Gill, base education NCOIC. "He was really bound and determined to get it!"

## RE-UP RATE SOARS

The 23 re-enlistees are: ALC Phillip M. King, Aerospace Ground Equipment repairman in the 35th FMS, from Painesville, Ohio; ALC Wilburn T. Reese, jet engine mechanic, 35th FMS, from Chicago, Ill.; ALC Shirley F. Brown Jr., pavement maint. specialist, 554th CES, from Cabarrus, N.C.; ALC Joseph F. Tassinari Jr., aircraft fuel systems specialist, 35th FMS, from Miami, Fla.; and ALC Juan J. Garcia, weapons mechanic, 435th MMS, from Casa Grande, Ariz.

Also, ALC Robert N. Fiegel Jr., instrument repairman, 35th AEMS, from New Orleans, La.; ALC Roger D. Cater, AGE repairman, 35th FMS, from Anderson, S.C.; ALC John A. Fitch, fuel specialist, 35th Supply Sq., from Newark, N.J.; ALC James E. Hresko, security policeman, 35th SPS, from Rochester, N.Y. and ALC James E. McCowan, auto flight control systems specialist, 35th AEMS, from Marshall, Tex.

Also, ALC Harry A. Ptak, Hq., 35 CSGp, from Detroit, Mich.; ALC James R. Fletcher, 35th FMS, from Cobb, Ky.; ALC Richard E. Thomas, 352nd TFS, from Rochester, N.H.; ALC Horace R. Daniel, 554th CES, from Social Circle, Ga.; ALC Juan E. Magness, 352 TFS, from Robertstown, Ga., and ALC Sam Mills, 35th CES, from Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Also, ALC Philip J. Wallace, 315 CAM Sq.; ALC Ellis H. Zellars, 35th FMS; ALC James O. Felts, 35th FMS; ALC Stafford M. Lombard, 614th TFS; ALC Larry K. Rankin, 310t, ACS; ALC Joseph E. Hummel,

## THE BIRD AND THE BEES

(Continued from Page One)

A brave airman (unidentified) calmly took a knife and cut the oxygen hose below the mask. Then he slowly removed the buzzing bundle from the cockpit, bees, mask, and all.

Several days later, personnel of the base finance office noticed bees zooming in and out of the small hooch next to the office. Inside this hooch is a safe which holds all money for the base.

It turned out that the little stingers had established a new home on a board two feet away from the door of the safe. Exterminators were called in, and soon they were able to remove the menace.

After that things went back to normal, and it is hoped that the bees went back to their flowers.

## MEDICAL TREAT OFFERED

(Cont. from Page One) At Phan Rang for the 5th time, the show also was seen at the NCO and Airmen's Open Messes, and drew a crowd of about 100 at the beach-house on Sunday.

35th AEMS; and ALC John E. Hunt, 35 Hq.