

PHAN RANG FARE

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INSPECTOR-GENERAL TEAM RATES PHAN RANG TOP BASE

"We consider it the best base we have been to in Vietnam," said Major Cyril G. Cook, an official of the 7th Air Force Inspection team which recently spent nine days evaluating Air Force units at Phan Rang Air Base; "In our opinion," he continued, "this base is indicative of what we know bases in Vietnam can be."

The major's comments were made at a meeting in which he summed up in detail the findings of a team of over 40 inspectors. At the meeting were approximately 150 officers and enlisted men in key positions of the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing and the 315th Air Commando Wing.

"Military standards were among the highest observed in the Command," Major Cook stated. "Morale of most units was outstanding."

Colonel James A. Wilson, 48, from Glendale, Calif., commander of the 35th TFW, which is the host wing at Phan Rang, stepped up to the microphone after Major Cook had completed his summary and said "I want to thank everyone of you for your efforts, your tremendous achievements and your magnificent attitudes....I want to congratulate each and everyone of you for an outstanding job."

Colonel Wilson also commented on the thoroughness of the inspection, and then, looking to the future, he said "We have a real difficult task ahead of us, both in the operations picture and base development."

In spelling out the details of the findings of the inspectors, Major Cook said that Phan Rang's consolidated base personnel office was the finest facility of its kind among Air Force installations in Vietnam.

Singled out for high praise were this office's administrative section, personal affairs section, and the handling of duty-assignment forms and personnel actions.

Outstanding ratings also went to the professional services and dental services of (Continued on page six)

BOY SCOUT FLAG CARRIED ON TWO COMBAT MISSIONS

A council flag representing 8,000 Boy Scouts of the Pike's Peak Council in Colorado Springs, Colorado was recently carried over North and South Vietnam.

Major James R. Frise, from Greely, Colorado, a member of the 13th Tactical Bombardment Squadron, carried the flag in the cockpit of his B-57 jet bomber on a night strike in North Vietnam.

Lieutenant Col. Julian D. Sawyer from Aurora, Colorado took the flag in his F-100 Super Sabre jet fighter on a combat mission in South Vietnam. He is the commander of the 615th Tactical Fighter Squadron, known as the 'Black Panthers'.

The patriotic project was engineered by a third native son of Colorado, Senior Master Sergeant Noel A. Talcott from Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"I hope to emphasize what we are doing in Vietnam," said the Phan Rang based airman, who is finishing his one year tour of duty in South Vietnam, and will take the flag back to Colorado Springs with him.

Once home he will present the flag to the Pikes Peak Council at an annual Scout Recognition Dinner in February which is expected to draw a crowd of 1,700 persons. * * *

F-100 PILOT FILLS 350TH MISSION

Champagne ceremonies on the flightline Sunday afternoon, marked the return of Captain Loren D. Eastburn, 29, of Chamute, Kans., from his record-shattering 350th combat mission.

The 614th Tactical Fighter Squadron pilot found approximately 25 officers and enlisted men, including the top officials of the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing, waiting to toast him as he climbed out of the aircraft.

Lt. Colonel Kenneth P. Miles, 614th Squadron commander, said the captain has flown more combat missions in Vietnam in a one-year tour than any other F-100 pilot since the conflict began.

"I didn't expect anything like this!" he commented, as fellow pilots of the squadron came forward to offer their hand in congratulations.

Colonel James A. Wilson, commander of the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing, offered his congratulations and poured champagne for the surprised flier.

"It's a real honor," the combat veteran stated. "It's been a great year over here. The flying has been probably (cont on pg two)

- 350TH MISSION -

the greatest you'll ever find anywhere - right here in Vietnam, flying the F-100.

A number of maintenance personnel were in the crowd of well wishers. Captain Eastburn noted that not a single one of his missions ever had to be scrapped for maintenance failure.

Holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with nine Oak Leaf Clusters the captain said that his 350 mission in Vietnam began with a bomb raid on an enemy base camp in the mountains west of Tuy Hoa. The mission concluded with a strafing attack on an enemy supply area.

The captain's pace-setting mission was his last in Vietnam. He is scheduled to leave Thursday for Nellis AFB, Nevada, his new assignment.

Looking back on his many combat missions, the captain singled out two as the most memorable. Both were flown to assist an Army Special Forces camp which was being overrun in the III Corps area of South Vietnam.

"We've been very fortunate to help them (Army units) out," the F-100 flier stated.

As a member of the famed 'Lucky Devils', Captain Eastburn has been hit only once in his many missions, and that resulted in only minor damage to the aircraft skin.

**EX-FIRST SHIRT
AOM MANAGER**

"By trade, I'm a first sergeant," said Master Sergeant Joseph Tatusko, who is rounding out his first month as manager of the Airman's Open Mess.

The 36-year-old native of Endwell, N.Y., has been in service for 17 years, and has over four years of club management under his belt. He also served as NCIOC of radar network operations at sites in Alaska and Newfoundland.

When he was asked about the proper way to pronounce his name, the new manager replied, "Everybody calls me Smith, because they can't remember my last name."

**F-100 PILOT NETS
TWO EXPLOSIONS**

A gigantic secondary explosion was reported by a forward air controller recently during an assault by two F-100 Supersabres of the 615th Tactical Fighter Squadron on a suspected Viet Cong command post.

The target lay in a clump of trees along the side of a mountain, seven miles northwest of An Khe, according to one of the pilots, Captain John F. Miko, 27, of West Mifflin, Pa.

The Phan Rang based flyer quoted the forward air controller as saying debris came hurtling out of the trees when the explosion occurred.

Captain Miko said the target was roughly the size of a football field, and located between the coast of South Vietnam and Pleiku.

The forward air controller marked the target with smoke just before the two F-100 pilots began their bombing assault, and afterward credited them with two secondary explosions.

**AIRMEN MEET
ONCE AGAIN**

The fates seem to have decreed togetherness for two members of the ground equipment section of the 35th Field Maintenance Squadron.

Airman Second Class Clifford E. Martin of the periodic inspection branch and Airman Second Class Alexander Strong of the maintenance and repair branch were both born on March 7, 1947, but it was not until both joined the Air Force that their paths crossed.

Airman Martin, born in Longview, Tex, first met Airman Strong, from Philadelphia when the two were attending tech school at Chanute AFB. Later, when Airman Martin was assigned to Luke AFB, Ariz., he found Airman Alexander already there.

Same thing happened when the Texan arrived over here.

**INTERESTING PHASE
OF CAREER
CHAPLAIN NEARS
END OF TOUR**

Visiting Montagnard tribesmen, counseling airmen on the flightline, and hosting All-American basketball players are among the highlights of the combat tour which is being wrapped up now by Chaplain (Captain) Franklin D. Hartsell 32, of Seneca, S.C.

"I think that it has been the most rewarding experience of my young ministry," said the Protestant chaplain, who has been in the Air Force for four years. He readily agreed that his tour at Phan Rang has gone far beyond conducting Sunday services.

"I spend most of my time down on the flight line," he stated, explaining that he has attempted to counsel Protestant airmen at the places where they work.

"I thoroughly enjoy talking with the pilots," he continued. The chaplain converses with F-100 and B-57 pilots before combat missions and finds time to seek them out to congratulate them once they have returned and the mission is completed.

In reviewing the off-base program of the chaplains, he expressed pride in the fact that the Protestant Men of the Chapel donated almost \$7,000 over and 11-month period for construction of a tribal mission center in the village of Phuoc Duc for the training of Montagnard missionaries.

This effort, he pointed out, is meant "to show the Vietnamese that we, as Americans, are very much concerned with them personally."

Several months ago, two Montagnard missionaries, Sau and his brother Kar, were guests of honor and featured speakers at a gathering which drew 150 people inside the walls of the tiny old base chapel. (this chapel has since been replaced by a new large structure.)

The two missionaries were the heroes of a book called "The Bamboo Cross", describing their struggle to lead
(con't on pg six)

AS VIEWED FROM MY WINDOW...

As Wing Commander it has been my privilege and honor to present many awards and decorations to the officers and men of the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing, and to be present at ceremonies when decorations were presented by some of our distinguished visitors. I never fail to feel a sense of pride when these awards are presented.

In the past weeks I have read several articles belittling these decorations and awards. Printed statements have been made that many of these awards are made for little or no effort on the part of the recipients. Undoubtedly there have been some awards made, that on the surface, may not seem to have been justified; however, all awards that are made have been recommended by someone in a position to evaluate the merits of the recipient. There are also, I am sure, cases of deserving personnel who should have been recommended for awards, but were simply overlooked in our everyday concern with the successful completion of our mission in Vietnam.

I disagree most emphatically with those who would belittle the awards and decorations that are presented to the men serving their country in Vietnam. Medals are presented by our nation to honor the individuals who daily risk their lives in the performance of their duties; they are also presented for outstanding accomplishments and devotion to duty in the support fields. We know that in doing whatever job we have been trained for and assigned, we are helping to bring peace and liberty to Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

When our country expresses its gratitude for these services in the form of decorations and medals, we should wear them with pride.

Col. James A. Wilson, commander,
35th Tactical Fighter Wing

COMMENDMENTS OF FRIENDSHIP

by Chaplain Russell D. Williams

1. We are not self made men. Rather, we are part and parcel of all we have met. Our relationship with others demands their friendship to know life's fulfillment.
 2. The motivation of true friendship should be for the enjoyment and inspiration of daily living. Friendship should never be pretentious or superficial.
 3. Be careful with whom you desire friendship. Associate with men of good quality and reputation, rather than bad company.
 4. Choose your friends not by occupation, wealth or social position, but rather look at a man's heart for his true value of personal relationship.
 5. Honest advice and helpful criticism are occasionally desirable and apt, however, there is a great difference in being brutally frank and frankly brutal. Tact and diplomacy should proceed any comment.
 6. While being friendly towards others, one should not allow himself to be deviated from his proper view of conduct by those who have lower standards.
 7. Do not permit first impressions to destroy what your friendship may cultivate in the seemingly dull and colorless life of another. Friendships are never begun if we permit our relations to become snobbish or selfish.
 8. Do not choose friends according to race, nationality or ancestry. It is a person's ideas and ideals that reflect
- (continued on page six)

615th TFS TOTALS
15,000th COMBAT HR.
Captain Donald L. Gish, 28,
from Manhattan, Kansas recently flew the 15,000th combat hour for the F-100 Super Sabres of the 615th Tactical Fighter Squadron, known as the 'Black Panthers'.

Commanded by Lt. Col. Julian D. Sawyer of Aurora, Colorado, the squadron deployed to Vietnam from the United States during the summer of 1966.

Captain Gish, who arrived in Vietnam five months ago has flown 130 combat missions and about 200 of the squadron's 15,000 combat hours.

The Captain said "the Black Panthers support ground forces by flushing out the enemy and attacking supply routes and base camps."

Evaluating his role in Vietnam as an F-100 Super Sabre pilot, the captain said "I definitely feel that this is a culmination of my training and my years of practice... I am definitely happy to be here."

? TV ?

Hopefully Phan Rang based personnel will be able to watch Television within the next 60 days or possibly sooner.

The translator station which is needed to pick up the T.V. signal (both audio & video), has been shipped from the states and should arrive at Phan Rang shortly.

The sending station which serves this part of Vietnam is located on Hon Tree Island near Da Nang and the signal is beamed to this area from that point. All that is needed to equip Phan Rang for local viewing is the translator station, which can be installed in one week after it arrives at Phan Rang.

Phan Fare will keep you posted on what progress is being made in regard to this subject.

The Editor

TEAMWORK AND PLANNING

KEYS TO SUCCESS OF B-57 MISSION

Your name is Pete Konneker. Your home is in Carlinville, Ill., your age is 35, and you are a major in the 13th Tactical Bombardment Squadron.

You fly B-57 jet bomber missions. So far, you've flown 125 of them in North and South Vietnam.

Today it's time to fly another mission. Your target is Viet Cong territory in the Delta, 120 miles southwest of Saigon. You've been told that the area must be softened up to prepare the way for assault landings by friendly forces later in the day.

It's 5:15 a.m. when you sit down at a small table in the squadron operations building to be briefed by your flight commander, Major James R. Frise. Also at the table is Major Frise's navigator, Captain Gerald E. Dorwalt.

You listen carefully as the tiniest details of the mission are spelled out. First there's a weather briefing, then there's an intelligence briefing, and then Major Frise takes over. He carefully outlines pre-flight, take-off, and in-route procedures. Then he reviews fuel requirements and recovery and emergency procedures.

The minute hand of the clock moves toward 6 a.m. as you walk downstairs to the life support section to pick up your 70 pounds of survival gear. Waiting for you is Airman First Class Charles B. Stone. He hands you your helmet, oxygen mask, parachute, 'Mae West' jacket, .38 caliber pistol, and countless other survival items neatly inserted in the many compartments of a vest you zip on over your flight suit.

If you have to bail out, you know that the radio, flares, compass, and flash-unit in that vest will give you an excellent chance for rescue.

A truck is waiting outside the building. It whisks you off to your aircraft on the night-shrouded flightline. A glance at your watch tells you it is now close to 6:30 a.m. Your crewchief, Airman First Class Larry Flannery, greets you at the aircraft, but there's little time for small talk. Armed with screwdriver, you walk around the aircraft and clamber atop the broad wings of the B-57 to make a personal check of such things as armament connections and fuel tank caps.

It's your neck, should the equipment malfunction, and it's up to you to make sure that everything is in A-1 shape.

Now it's 6:45 a.m. You start your engines. You taxi out on the flightline, stopping to allow armaments experts to arm the bombs just before take-off.

Minutes before the clock shows 7 a.m., you and your flight leader are in the air. It will take a few minutes to get to the target. You look down and see shadowy mountains below, and when you're out over the South China Sea.

Soon the forward air controller informs you that there are several flights ahead of you over the target. You'll just have to wait your turn. You're directly over the target now, and you can see smoke billowing alongside a snaking canal, as a pair of F-4C's ahead of you drop their bombs.

Fifty-five minutes pass. You've heard the forward air controller give the Phantoms their bomb damage assessment....two military structures destroyed, and numerous foxholes and bunkers ripped up. He told the Phantoms they could expect 30 caliber weapons fire, and the thought of enemy ground fire flashes through your mind as you and your flight leader descend to hit the target.

There are structures on both sides of the canal. You take one side, and your flight leader takes the other. G-forces mash on your body. It feels like your head is being pushed into your shoes, but you concentrate on making your bomb passes.

Fuel is running low. It's time to head for home. The forward air controller tells you that the B-57's have been credited with destroying 13 enemy military structures and damaging six others.

As you climb back up into the sky, on upward till you're over 10,000 feet, and pass over Saigon and Tan Son Nhut Air Base on your way to Phan Rang, a warm glow comes over you. The bomb damage assessment is the best you've gotten in the delta area in six months.

The long wait over the target was well worth your time. In a short time you'll be back on the ground.

You think for a moment about the Army units that will be landing in the area you have just hit, Any Viet Cong who might have been there to kill them are now licking their own wounds and perhaps fleeing in confusion.

Your name is Pete Konneker. You're a B-57 pilot in the United States Air Force, and your proud of it.

COMMANDMENTS OF FRIENDSHIP: CONTINUED

his moral foundation and human dignity.

9. While we never use friends for personal gain, we should always use friendships to thwart temptation. The knowledge of what others expect of us enables us to maintain high standards of morality.

10. The greatest satisfaction in any friendship comes from joining another in a common desire to be of service to others. While we do not set out to win friends, our personality will deem us either worthy or unworthy of man's greatest need and satisfaction, friendship.

CHRISTMAS MAILING

FROM ↓	TO →	CONUS		
		AIRMAIL	SAM	SUR
Australia	1-13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	1 - 20 Nov	
Indonesia	1 - 11 Dec	22 Nov to 4 Dec	15 - 30 Oct	
Japan	1 - 13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	1 - 15 Nov	
Johnston Is.	1 - 13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	1 - 20 Nov	
Korea	1 - 13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	1 - 15 Nov	
Philippines	1 - 13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	15 Oct to 10 Nov	
Formosa (Repl. China)	1 - 13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	15 Oct to 5 Nov	
Thailand	1 - 13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	15 Oct to 1 Nov	
South Vietnam	1 - 13 Dec	15 Nov to 4 Dec	1 Oct to 1 Nov	
Okinawa	1 - 13 Dec	22 Nov to 6 Dec	15 Oct to 5 Nov	

I. G. TEAM RESULTS - CONT -

the 35th Tactical Dispensary.

The Chaplains' section also received a rating of 'outstanding', and the chapel center was labeled as the best religious facility in 7th Air Force.

The housing of the 435th Munitions Maintenance Squadron, 35th Supply Sqdn. and the 35th Civil Engineering Sqdn. won ratings of 'outstanding'.

Colonel Wilson's closing remarks were as follows:

"We rate the Seventh Air Force Team outstanding."

Not long ago, Phan Rang won a golden trophy honoring the base for providing the best mission support among all 7th A.F. bases.

* * * * *

- TOUR ENDS -

their people's escape from Viet Cong oppression. "I have been up to Kar's village on the other side of Dalat," he revealed.

Chaplain Hartsell said that each one of the 1,500 Montagnard tribesmen of the village attend services two times each Sunday.

The chaplain has fond memories of the visit paid to Phan Rang by the Venture for Victory basketball team, featuring top-rated American ballplayers sponsored by the American Overseas Crusade. The visit occurred during a six-week goodwill tour of the Far East.

The athletes, many of them cited for All-American honors were led on a tour of the base by the base chaplains before the game began against an impromptu team of Phan Rang players.

"It's a tremendous thrill for me as a minister to be a part of the Air Force team at Phan Rang," he concluded, "I think that the job we are doing cannot be equalled in our passed history.... I think we're helping a young and deserving nation to struggle to its feet and that some day we'll have a democracy here that we can be proud to say we helped foster."

CHAPEL

CATHOLIC

MASS Sunday 8:30AM 12:00 6:30PM

Daily 11:45 AM

(Confession 30 min prior to Mass)

PROTESTANT

Sunday 10:30 AM 7:30 PM

Wed. Nite P.M.O.C. 7:30 PM

Fri. Nite Choir 7:30 PM

DENOMINATIONAL

Sunday: Lutheran 9:30 AM

Church Of Christ 2:30 PM

Latter-Day-Saints 3:30 PM

JEWISH

Fri. Eve: 7:30



SCHEDULE