

# PHAN RANG

VOLUME II, ISSUE 16

THE HAPPY VALLEY WEEKLY

SEPTEMBER 19, 1968

## Col. Williams To Spain Wing; Col. Gailer To Take Over

Col. Herndon F. Williams, commander, 35th TFW completed his tour of duty in Vietnam Monday.

He is credited with completing 200 combat missions in the F-100 Supersabre in support of Free World forces fighting here.

During his tenure as wing commander, Phan Rang has become the showplace of the Seventh Air Force bases. The 35th TFW has received awards that rank it as the best of the F-100 wings in Southeast Asia.

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award was presented to the 35th TFW during Colonel Williams' tenure as commander. The wing also won the Colombian Flying Safety Trophy for not having a single major aircraft accident during 1967.

The PACAF Maintenance Trophy, indicated the best main-  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Col. Frank L. Gailer will assume command of the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing on Monday, Sept. 23. He replaces Col. Herndon F. Williams who will take command of the 401st Tactical Fighter Wing, Torrejon Air Base, Spain, in October.

Colonel Gailer comes to Phan Rang from the National War College, where he was a member of the faculty.

During his military career Colonel Gailer has served as an Air Force Advisor, USAF



### COL. HERNDON F. WILLIAMS .... TO HEAD USAF UNIT

Mission to Uruguay, and as the Chief, Latin American Missions Branch, Headquarters, USAF.

His decorations include

the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with nine Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart and both Air Force and Army Commendation Medals.

# Col. Grossholtz Ends Tour At P.R.A.B.

Phan Rang's Santa Claus, alias Lt. Col. Theodore G. Grossholtz, base civil engineer, departed here last week for new duties at Minot AFB, N.D.

Many PRABites, especially security guards, remember the jolly, white-bearded gentleman who spread Yuletide joy to the lonely security checkpoints last Christmas eve. It was a role he had been playing annually for the past 30 years.

During his year here, he contributed immeasurably to the morale of the troops through construction of numerous projects including the base hobby shop, BX snack bar, base softball fields, unit day rooms and the Happy Valley Drive-In Theater.

His technical knowledge of water requirements resulted in having a water supply without need for rationing such as prevails at most other in-country bases.

Base officials have also praised Colonel Grossholtz's dedication to duty, initiative and unselfish efforts in making Phan Rang AB the "Best in Vietnam."

## Six 615th Pilots Decorated

Six men of the 615th TFS were decorated recently for their actions as pilots in the F-100 Supersabre. The 615th TFS commander presented the awards.

Lt. Col. Burton M. Field received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in action against the enemy and the Air Medal for outstanding achievement as an F-100 pilot in aerial combat against the enemy in Vietnam.

Also receiving the Air Medal for outstanding achievement as Supersabre pilots were Captains Joseph F. Cassidy, Eugene G. Hopp, William M. Lamar, Boris V. Namenuk and Clyde E. O'baker Jr.

**DIAL-A-PRAYER**  
**EXT. 114**

## V.R.B. Multiples To Change

Officials at Base Personnel Office have announced the following changes in the Variable Reenlistment Bonus. These changes are effective October and include the following career fields: 242XO changes from a present multiple of 2 to 3; 362X4, from 2 to 3; 435XO from 2 to 3; 536XO, from 3 to 4; 363XO from 3 to 2; 463XO, from 4 to 3.

Anyone having further questions on this or any other subject concerning reenlistment should contact SMSgt. Joel L. Pritchard at the Base Career Information and Counseling Office or phone 3563.

## MAJ. LEGRAND EARNS A.F.C.M.

Maj. Edwin C. Le Grand Jr. was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal in ceremonies at Phan Rang Air Base, Republic of Vietnam.

Major Le Grand won the award for his meritorious service as Operations Staff Officer, Nuclear Operations Division, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces. The citation indicated that his outstanding leadership, professional knowledge and ceaseless efforts resulted in a significant contribution to the national security of the United States.

He is presently an F-100 Supersabre pilot and a Flight Commander with the 615th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Phan Rang Air Base, Vietnam.

## DEPOSITS MADE EASIER (USSDP)

Officials at the Base Comptrollers Office recently announced that, for your convenience, deposits to the USSDP (10% plan) may now be made with the paying agents at paycall or at a special window at Base Finance Office. The deposit of over \$200 dollars in cash will still require a certificate from your squadron commander.

## 120TH PILOTS GET 18 K.B.A.

Two F-100 pilots from the 120th TFS were recently credited with killing 18 enemy soldiers and causing extensive damage to an enemy base camp nine miles north of Dau Tieng in Binh Duong Province.

Piloting the Supersabres were Majors Donald O. Neary and Jack E. Wilhite.

The pilots left Phan Rang on a pre-planned mission, but were diverted when an Army helicopter gunship working in the vicinity of Dau Tieng spotted enemy activity. The two Supersabres, with the help of a FAC, found the target and expended their 750-pound bombs and strafed with 20mm cannon.

"The FAC and the gunship were coordinating the VC ground movements," Neary said.

"Every once in a while the gunship would pick up a VC running through the trees and would immediately go in and try to get him. While we were working in the target area, the gunship would pick somebody else out."

After delivering their ordnance, Major Neary and Major Wilhite orbited the area awaiting further developments. "The FAC found that we had some KBA (killed by air), destroyed some bunkers and just about a little bit of everything," stated Neary.

"The helicopter just kept circling around the area that we had worked. Every once in a while he would say 'there's another KBA down there.' By the time we left the area they had given us eight KBA. When we got back to the base, we found that they had discovered ten more."

**82 SHOPPING DAYS TILL**

**CHRISTMAS**

## RED CROSS

## TV LOG



## ACTIVITIES

This week at the center there will be a tour to the Major Murray Sector up the road toward Cam Ranh Bay. Don't miss this one. You'll get the chance to see villages such as BaRau a primitive Montagnard settlement.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

BLOCKHEADS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

POOL TOURNEY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

MATCH GAMES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

TOUR DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

CLOSED

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

ART EXHIBITS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

FUN & GAMES

by MONK

## Flicks &amp; OPINION

This week's movies schedule reads similar to the Palace and Ritz back in Texas. Don't get excited though, those establishments happened to be cotton gins! Anyway, here they are.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

"DOCTOR GOLDFOOT AND THE GIRL BOMB" I don't believe it. I don't even want to believe it. I'll probably go see it, a lot of girls and stuff. at least there's the consolation that I won't be wasting money on it.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

"GRAND SLAM" stars Janet Leigh and Edward G. Robinson. It's the story of a jewel theft. My flick of the week \*\*\*\*\*.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

"HOSTILE GUNS" stars Montgomery Clift. It seems to me that all guns are hostile! As far as the movie goes, I haven't seen it and probably won't. Saturday is my bowling night!

MONK

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE  
6:35 NEWS BRIEFS  
6:40 OPERATION ENTERTAIN.  
7:30 NEWS  
8:00 PENTAGON FORUM  
8:30 DEAN MARTIN  
9:20 STAR TREK  
10:10 BIG VALLEY  
11:00 LATE NEWS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE  
6:35 NEWS BRIEFS  
6:40 PRIORITY SPECIAL  
7:05 BIG PICTURE  
7:30 EVENING NEWS  
8:00 ROWAN & MARTIN  
8:55 DRAGNET  
9:20 HOLLYWOOD PALACE  
10:10 GUNSMOKE  
11:00 LATE NEWS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

1:30 GREEN ACRES  
1:55 MELODY RANCH  
2:45 SPORTS  
5:05 AMERICAN SPORTSMAN  
6:50 AFNS SPOTLIGHT  
7:05 VIETNAM REPORT  
7:30 NEWS  
8:00 JONATHAN WINTERS  
8:55 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE  
9:45 MOV. : CAROUSEL  
11:53 LATE NEWS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

1:30 CHRISTOPHERS  
1:45 SACRED HEART  
2:00 THE ANSWER  
2:30 SPECIAL  
3:30 SPORTS  
5:25 PRO BOWLERS TOUR  
7:05 MY THREE SONS  
7:30 EVENING NEWS  
8:00 ED SULLIVAN  
8:55 BONANZA  
9:45 THE MAN WHO DIED TWICE  
11:00 LATE NEWS

## 'O. CLUB' FLICKS

Because of the limited space in PHAN FARE and also most of the movies in this column have already been shown once on Happy Valley, this column will use the STAR system of grading movies. Six stars will be top notch and one will mean lousy.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

THE LONGEST HUNDRED MILES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

A MATTER OF INNOCENCE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE  
6:35 NEWS BRIEFS  
6:40 BIOGRAPHY  
7:05 THE MONKEES  
7:30 EVENING NEWS  
8:00 ANDY WILLIAMS SHOW  
8:55 DANIEL BOONE  
9:45 BEWITCHED  
10:10 WILD WILD WEST  
11:00 LATE NEWS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE  
6:35 NEWS BRIEFS  
6:40 GE COLLEGE BOWL  
7:05 GET SMART  
7:30 EVENING NEWS  
8:00 RED SKELTON SHOW  
8:55 COMBAT  
9:45 CH. 11 THEATER  
11:10 LATE NEWS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE  
6:35 NEWS BRIEFS  
6:40 LUCY SHOW  
7:05 FELONY SQUAD  
7:30 EVENING NEWS  
8:00 BELL TELEPHONE HOUR  
8:55 DICK VAN DYKE  
9:45 PERRY MASON  
10:10 THE JOEY BISHOP SHOW  
11:50 LATE NEWS

## T.V. Program Notes

OPERATION ENTERTAINMENT FEATURES JACKIE WILSON, THE MILLS BROTHERS AND MISS LAINIE KAZAN...DEAN MARTIN WELCOMES DUKE ELLINGTON, THE ANDREWS SISTERS, FRANK GORSHIN, TIM CONWAY AND MISS LAINIE KAZAN AGAIN...ROBERT CULP APPEARS ON THE ROWAN & MARTIN LAUGH-IN...THE PREMIERE OF DRAGNET WITH JACK WEBB AND HARRY MORGAN STARR'S FRIDAY...BING CROSEY PLAYS HOST TO JIMMY DURANTE, PAUL ADAMS, TIM CONWAY AND SEN. EVERETT DIRKSEN ON HOLLYWOOD PALACE...STEVE LAWRENCE AND EDIE GORME APPEAR ON THE KRAFT MUSIC HALL...ART CARNEY CONNIE FRANCIS AND PETER, PAUL AND MARY VISIT JONATHAN WINTERS..."CAROUSEL" WITH GORDON MCRAE AND SHIRLEY JONES IS THE SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIE THIS WEEK...ED SULLIVAN WELCOMES TOM JONES, TOTIE FIELDS AND OTHERS...

## 315th S.O.Wg. Sets New Tonnage Record

C-123 Provider crews of the 315th SOWG recently established a new one-day airlift tonnage record for C-123 wings.

Flying 35 lines or missions in one day, the crews averaged 32.2 tons per line for a total of 1,129 tons hauled on a total of 328 sorties.

"A typical C-123 mission has from eight to ten sorties, as directed by the Airlift Control Center (ALCC) of 834th Air Division." According to Col. Arthur M. Jones, assistant Deputy Commander for Operations, 315SOWG. "It may start from Phan Rang with a load of ice and supplies for Bao Loc, pallets or ammunition from Bao Loc to Dalat, a load of vegetables into Cam Ranh Bay from Dalat followed by a load of U.S. troops to Nha Trang.

"You now require some fuel so that you can use your two J-85 jet engines to rush a load of ARVN troops to Ban Don and pick up some passengers to go back to Nha Trang. Arriving back at Nha Trang you find a load of rice waiting for you to take to Ban Me Thuot.

"Ban Me Thuot has some passengers and empty fuel bladders to go to Cam Ranh Bay. Before arriving at Cam Ranh Bay you check in by radio with the 834th ALCC at Tan Son Nhut and they advise you that a Combat Essential load of fuel is waiting for you at Cam Ranh Bay to be delivered to Gia Nghia."

"Again you need fuel in order to make this last effort. Arriving at Gia Nghia, which is often referred to as the aircraft carrier of Vietnam, you land, offload your fuel on the two thousand foot hilltop landing strip, taxi out and head for Phan Rang (Happy Valley) having flown ten sorties and over seven hours, you are using your jet engines again in order to get home before your 12-hour crew duty day is over."

The old tonnage record stood at 31.4 average tons per line for a total of 1,068 tons.

Col. John W. Pauly, commander, 315th SOWG stated that the

record was an outstanding achievement particularly since it was set while flying fewer hours.

"The full cooperation of the various aerial port personnel and the air crews was required to set this record. This exemplified the teamwork that has made the Vietnam airlift the most successful airlift ever achieved". Colonel Pauly added.

## Capt. Personius Wins A.F.C.M.

Capt. Glen M. Personius, 8th TBS, recently was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Captain Personius was cited for his meritorious service as an Aerospace Research Flight Test Engineer at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. The citation commended him for completing "... his assigned projects with outstanding results which will be of lasting value to the United States."

The award was presented by Col. Elbert M. Stringer the 8th Tactical Bombardment Squadron Commander.

## U.S. ARMY PRAISES 3rd 'SPOOKS'

AC-47 Spooky gunships assigned to the 3rd SOS's Flight B, came in for high praise recently from U.S. Army personnel stationed in the Phan Rang area.

Army 1st. Lt. Jeffery M. Milson, OIC Ninh Chu Beach facility near the air base, presented a plaque to Lt. Col. Donald W. Feuerstein, commander of the 3rd SOS, Nha Trang Air Base, in appreciation for all of the support given to the Army unit by the AC-47s.

"We came up with the idea," Lieutenant Milson said, "after the Spookys drove off attacking North Vietnamese troops on July 4th.

"Our port facility came under mortar and ground attack," he continued, "and Spooky was here in a matter of minutes to drive them off.

"The plaque is in appreciation for all the support we have received from the Spookys," he said, "not just for that one night. We really appreciate those flares and the fire support."

The AC-47s fly from Phan Rang on night alert patrols. They are able to cover any part of Ninh Thuan Province in a matter of minutes. They support Air Force, Army, Navy and Republic of Vietnam forces whenever the need arises.

## SGT. SAVES C-123 DURING ATTACK

"I guess you don't think of personal safety until it's all over."

Those were the words of TSgt. James W. Jeffress as he spoke of the recent mortar attack on Phan Rang where he was credited with saving a C-123 "Provider" aircraft.

The recent mortar attack on Phan Rang by a hostile force will be a night remembered by Sergeant Jeffress, a security police flight leader with the 35th SPS, for a long time.

Around midnight last night mortar rounds

hit the immediate area of Sergeant Jeffress and peppered a C-123 aircraft with approximately 2,000 small shrapnel holes.

"The only reason I headed for the aircraft was because I heard a man and thought someone might be injured inside." The morning Sergeant Jeffress heard was later found to be a severed hydraulic line.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

**NEAR SAIGON****F-100s Hurt Enemy**

F-100 Supersabre pilots assigned to the 35th TFW recently caused extensive damage in two strikes against an active enemy base camp 30 miles northwest of Saigon.

Three of the pilots flying the missions were Maj. William H. Davidson, Capt. Roger W. Carroll, both of the 615th TFS, and Capt. Sloan L.B. Brooks, 352nd TFS.

Commenting on the strike, Captain Carroll stated that "The target was an active base camp that had just been discovered. The enemy was moving around and it appeared as if it had just been built the day before. We came in and destroyed about 50 per cent of the target and the FAC called in another alert flight to take care of the rest of it. It was quite a large area."

The pilots were credited with destroying 15 bunkers, one fortification and one automatic weapons position, damaging two bunkers and causing one secondary explosion.

**615th MEMBERS AWARDED AIR MEDALS**

Three members of the 615th TFS were recently presented Air Medals for their outstanding achievement while participating in aerial flight.

Capt. William M. Lames received the Air Medal for the period from April 15, 1968, until May 4, 1968. Prior to his assignment in Vietnam, he served with the 429th TFS at Cannon AFB, N.M.

Capt. Clyde E. O'Baker Jr. was awarded the Air Medal for outstanding flights between May 2 and May 30, 1968.

The Air Medal was also presented to Capt. Eugene G. Hopp for the period from May 23, 1968 through June 15, 1968.

GREAT MINDS DISCUSS IDEAS

AVERAGE MINDS DISCUSS EVENTS

SMALL MINDS DISCUSS PEOPLE

Anon.

**MAJ. GREGORY FLIES LAST**

Maj. Gregory J. Butler recently completed his 113th and final combat mission in the F-100 Supersabre in Vietnam.

The fighter pilot, assigned to the 35th TFW as a Command Post controller, flew with the 615th TFS.

His most memorable mission was also his shortest. He had taken off from Phan Rang after being scrambled from the alert pad. Minutes after take-off his aircraft began to stream fuel.

Major Butler was forced to eject from the disabled Supersabre and was rescued by an HH-43 helicopter assigned to Det. 1, 38th ARRS.

**KHE SANH ACTIONS YIELD USMC A'VARDS FOR 315TH**

An estimated 400 aircrew members of the 315th SOWG here will be awarded the U.S. Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation according to Air Force Col. John W. Pauly 315th commander.

315th crews of the 309th, 310th and 311th Special Operations Squadrons and the 19th SOS, Tan Son Nhut AB, earned this distinguished decoration for their airlift support of the USMC 26th Regimental Landing Team during the 80-day communist siege of Khe Sanh last winter.

C-123 Providers of the 315th entered the conflict in the late afternoon of January 21. Khe Sanh was under heavy attack and the Marines were nearly out of ammunition.

Six Provider crews that had flown all day were immediately diverted to Khe Sanh. Some of the crews made five trips, carrying ammunition to the embattled Marines late into the night.

This support continued for

**615th Crew Chief Wins A.F. Cm.**

Sgt. Joseph G. Schutt, an F-100 Supersabre crew chief, WAS recently awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Assigned to the 615th TFS, Schutt was decorated for his meritorious service from July 1967 to May 1968. He served one normal tour of duty and then extended for a second tour.

The Commendation Medal was presented by Lt. Col. Craig C. McCall, 615th TFS commander.

**Capt. Staples****Pilot of the Month**

Captain Robert M. Staples has been named Pilot of the Month for the 352nd TFS for August.

The F-100 Supersabre pilot was selected on the basis of a point system which evaluated his effectiveness and accuracy as a fighter-bomber pilot. Points are given for the bomb damage and target coverage by target coverage by the FAC.

80 days--until enemy pressure broke under the constant aerial bombardment and ground forces moved in to lift the siege.

But the 315th had also taken its losses. Four C-123s were among the battle debris of Khe Sanh, including one lost with full crew as it was hit by enemy fire while attempting to land.

**Pilots Enter Regs.**

Captains Sloan L.B. Brooks and Henry J. Pirkkala, Jr., both pilots of with the 352nd TFS, recently were sworn into the regular Air Force by Lt. Col. Robert B. Hook, squadron operations officer.

Capt. Brooks came to PRAB in January and Capt. Pirkkala arrived in April.

# Col. Williams

## FROM PAGE ONE

tenance facility in PACAF, was won by the wing as a stepping stone to the Daedalian Trophy for Maintenance, indicating the best maintenance complex in the Air Force.

Phan Rang has been selected on numerous occasions as the Best Base in Seventh Air Force and has been commended for its recreational facilities.

The wing commander flew most of his combat missions with the 61st TFS, one of four Supersabre squadrons in the 35th TFW. He also flew a night road interdiction mission over the southern panhandle of North Vietnam.

This mission, flown with the 8th TBS B-57 Canberras, qualified him for the famous "Doom Pussy" patch. This is awarded only to those men who have flown night Canberra missions over North Vietnam.

Colonel Williams' next assignment will be as the wing commander of the 401st TFW (USAF), Torrejon AB, Spain.

## Sgt. Saves '123'

### FROM PAGE FOUR

Reaching the aircraft, Sergeant Jeffress entered and discovered smoldering wires and insulations. Disregarding his own safety, he tore out the smoldering items that were threatening to burst into flames. Sergeant Jeffress also discovered that the number one engine had sustained a fuel leak.

Officials at the Base Post Office have announced the following mailing periods.

#### FROM CONUS TO OVERSEAS:

Surface mail; 14 Oct. to Nov. 9

SAM; 21 Oct. to 23 Nov.

PAL; 28 Oct. to 30 Nov.

Airmail; 1 Dec to 11 Dec.

#### FROM PACOM AREA (Surface)

From Vietnam to CONUS, Hawaii  
1 Nov.

All mailing periods have been coordinated with CINCUSAR PAC(GPAG-AP). Mailing periods from the standpoint of Hawaii will be the same as those published in the Honolulu Post Office.

## LIBRARY

### REVIEW

The following is a list of 1968 publications newly received in the Library collection: 323.4 King (Martin Luther) Trumpet Of Conscience. 338.47 Simonson, History Of The American Aircraft Industry. 363.248 Orbaan, Dogs Against Crime. 621.02 Machinery's Handbook 1968. Marks, Life and Death Of The Fighting Bull. 796 Pepe, Winners Never Quit. 818.54 Crews, Patch Commission. 940.5421 Adleman, Rome Fell Today. 965.04 Bocca, Secret Army. BTCS Loch, A Fringe Of Blue. FIG Balchin, Kings Of Infinite Space. Crews, Gospel Singer. Hibbert, Queen's Confession. Malliol, Sense Of Dark. Payne, Golden Dyster. Sains, Gazapo. Zilinsky, Middle Ground.

## ORPHANS BENEFIT FROM 309th GIFT

The 240 children of China Beach Orphanage recently benefitted from a \$250 cash donation delivered by members of the 311th SOS.

The cash was part of a \$500 gift, Maj. Robert A. Carlone, 311th SOS Civic Actions Officer, solicited from a personal friend in New York City, as part of 311th's year-long aid to the non-denominational orphanage maintained by Christian missionaries.

Carlone said the remaining funds will be added to the unit's Civic Action fund for later procurement of needed supplies.

In reviewing orphanage support, Major Carlone was particularly proud of their contribution of 100 salvaged mattresses and 70 beds which enabled the missionaries to extend their care to many more children.

China Beach Orphanage is near Da Nang AB where the 311th maintains an operating location. (separate detachment)



I Think I Got A Lemon!!