



# 352 PILOTS HAVE beautiful mission.

"The Forward Air Controller (FAC) was ecstatic down there." were the words of 1st Lt. David T. Wolcott as he described a mission he and Lt. Col. Robert D. Hook, both of the 352nd TFS, flew recently,

## HOCKING RECEIVES CIVILIAN AWARD.

Mr. Edward J. Hocking, was the recipient of the Medal for Civilian Service in Vietnam in recent ceremonies here.

The medal, presented by Col. Frank L. Gailer Jr., commander, 35th TFW, was awarded for Hocking's contributions as weapon system support Logistic Officer for the wing.

Colonel John R. Diepenbrock, 46, Fernley, Nev., wing deputy commander for material, said, "Mr. Hocking has been a main factor for the constantly high in-commission rate for the F-100 Supersabre."

Hocking, returns to Sacramento in December after an 18 month tour in Vietnam.

## YELLOW JACKETS Clear zone

Recently two F-100 Supersabre pilots from the 352nd Tactical Fighter Squadron "Yellow Jackets" helped clear a landing zone for the army on the edge of IV Corps.

The pilots, Captain Douglas I. Cook, and Sloan L. B. Brooks, hit an area about five miles northeast of My Tho, on the edge of IV Corps.

"All the runs were real good," said Captain Cook,

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Colonel Hook went in and made his first pass, getting a large secondary explosion with a two hundred foot fireball. "I had to make a dry pass," continued Lieutenant Wolcott, "because of the debris caused by Hook's first bomb. He told me not go in, as I might run into some of the debris."

"I wanted to see the structure I was after," commented Colonel Hook, "and the FAC said in order to see it I would have to get right over the top of it--forget it there went the roof, 300 feet straight up! I've never seen so much debris from a secondary as I saw that day."

Colonel Hook then made his second pass and got another secondary and Lieutenant Wolcott made a pass right behind him and also got a secondary. "The debris from my secondary was still falling as I came around for my next run," continued Lieutenant Wolcott, "which is a pretty long time for it to stay in the air. It was falling as far away from the actual impact point of the bomb."

Ground fire in the area was heavy, but neither aircraft was hit. "I looked back on my last run to see if my bomb had gone where I wanted it to," said the Colonel, "and I saw quite a bit of ground fire coming at me. Fortunately it was about 100

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## 35 TFW Pilots get ARMY thanks

Three 35th Tactical Fighter Wing F-100 Supersabre pilots were commended recently by U.S. Army Col. Frederick C. Krause, commanding officer, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

The "thanks" was for "the superb air support received by one of my battalions during the battle of Loc Ninh, 24, August 1968." Colonel Krause said in a letter of commendation.

"On that date," the letter continued, "elements of the Division became heavily engaged with a battalion-size NVA unit. Despite the extreme close contact, the ground commander requested immediate employment of tactical air.

"This strike resulted in significant losses of enemy personnel and equipment and unquestionably assisted ground elements in gaining an upper hand on the battlefield."

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware, commanding officer, 1st Infantry Division, endorsed the letter of commendation with "Your professionalism while supporting the Big Red One was a significant factor in the successful operation during the battle of Loc Ninh..."

The three pilots are Capt. Robert C. Konopka and 1st Lt. Richard W. Buickerood, both of the 615th TFS and Capt. Charles A. Shaheen Jr., then assigned to the 614th TFS but recently returned to the U.S. and release from active duty.

## Col. Creech KNOW YOUR COMMANDER

Col. William T. Creech, commander, 352nd TFS, is a veteran of more than 25 years military service and has served as the "Yellow Jacket" commander since April of this year.

### 352 PILOTS Clear Zone

Two F-100 Supersabre pilots from the 352nd TFS recently destroyed or damaged 15 fortifications and killed ten enemy soldiers while ground amphibious forces waited in a nearby Delta river, ready to make a sweep of the area.

The landing zone preparation mission was flown by Lt. Col. Robert D. Hook and 1st Lt. Claude J. Saylor both of the 352nd TFS.

"The forward air controller (FAC) briefed us while we were on our way to the target," Colonel Hook said. "He told us that a few minutes after he got there, he saw numerous enemy soldiers running into the fortifications, probably in anticipation of our air strike.

"Through the FAC's clear concise direction, we knew exactly where he wanted our bombs. On our first pass Saylor and I picked out two separate fortifications that the enemy were in. We put our bombs right inside them and completely wiped them out. By the time we pulled out of our pass, there was nothing left."



"HURRY UP MAC, NEW COMMANDER,  
INSPECTION IN 5-MIN."

A native of Benson, N.C., and a graduate of North Carolina State, he completed pilot training and received his wings and commission in October 1943.

Flying fighters in the China-Burma-India theater during World War II, he was credited with 60 missions in the P-51.

The list of aircraft flown by Colonel Creech reads like a roster of the Air Force's major fighter planes during the last two and one-half decades. They include the P-29, P-40, P-47, P-51, P-61, F-80, F-86 (D, E, F, and L models) F-100, F-101B, F-102, F-104, F-106 and F-4.

The Yellow Jacket commander served in Japan from 1952 to 1954 and again in Alaska with the Alaskan Air Command (1960-1963) where he was Chief of the Jet Branch, Director of Air Defense, Deputy Chief of Staff/Operations.

Between his Alaskan and Vietnam assignments, Colonel Creech was stationed at Hamilton AFB, Calif., where he served as operations staff officer, Headquarters, Fourth Air Force, Western NORAD Region.

When first assigned to Phan Rang, the colonel was chief, operations and training division, Directorate of Operations, 35th TFW.

His awards and decorations include the Joint Services Commendation Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.

#### TAE KWON DO

An exhibition of the Korean Art of Tae Kwon Do will be presented at the Happy Valley Drive-In at 3 p.m. on November 15. The exhibition is being presented by Phan Rang and Nha Trang White Horse Division (ROK) personnel so don't miss it.

## TRY OTHER Means first

"I'm gonna write my congressman" is a phrase commonly heard in barracks, mess hall, club and shop on military installations. Unfortunately, all too many men do write their congressmen, resulting in an expensive and time-consuming procedure with the writer receiving the same answer available from on-base sources.

True, the privilege of writing his congressman is extended to each serviceman but base authorities ask that local resources be checked first before presenting the problem or question to the congressman. In most cases you will get the best answer much quicker.

The best method, is first discuss it with the section supervisor or NCOIC. Should the problem be one that cannot be resolved at that level, the unit first sergeant or commander can be consulted.

Next the individual can see the "Air Inspector," a position held at Phan Rang by Lt. Col. Richard J. McGee chief of administration, in base headquarters.

In addition, a variety of specialists are available to assist. These include the legal office, the chaplain, the chiefs of personnel and finance, a medical staff, etc., -- highly qualified technicians who can advise and guide the individual in various areas.

Before penning that letter, let us try to help you first.



"SHORT!"

# RED CROSS HAPPENINGS

# T V LOG

### THURSDAY

A HAPPENING

### FRIDAY

HI-BI

### SATURDAY

PING PONG TOURNEY

### SUNDAY

IT'S A POW WOW

### MONDAY

HUM A FEW BARS

### TUESDAY

VOLLEYBALL

### WEDNESDAY

FUN & GAMES

## Du Drops

The Du Drop In has had a busy week! A mock election was held to see how PRABites would compare with the national results. In the straw vote, George Wallace was favored with 93, closely followed by Richard Nixon with 86 votes. Hubert Humphrey was on the bottom with 32.

The results were announced Tuesday night, Nov. 5. While the ballots were being counted, the Phantastic Phan Rang "ILLUSIONS" entertained with a wide variety of songs from soul to folk to blues to moody. Their performance was well accepted, as indicated by the audience response.

The big event at the center this month is the World of Fashion show to be held Nov. 22. The Red Cross girls and the nurses will be the models. It promises to be an exciting evening so circle that date on you calendar.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

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

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

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

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 1:05 LAWRENCE WELK
- 1:55 MELODY RANCH
- 2:45 SPORTS
- 5:05 AMERICAN SPORTSMAN
- 5:55 KRAFT MUSIC HALL
- 6:50 ARMED FORCES NEWS SPOTLIGHT
- 7:05 VIETNAM REPORT
- 7:30 EVENING NEWS
- 8:00 JONATHAN WINTERS
- 8:55 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE
- 9:45 SPECIAL
- 11:00 LATE NEWS

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 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 TASTE BUCHER
- 11:00 LATE NEWS

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

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

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE
- 6:35 NEWS BRIEFS
- 6:40 LUCY SHOW
- 7:05 FELONY SQUAD
- 7:30 EVENING REPORT
- 8:00 SPECIAL
- 8:55 DICK VAN DYKE SHOW
- 9:45 IRONSIDE
- 10:10 JOEY BISHOP
- 11:00 LATE NEWS

## FILM

## FARE

The movies this week are masterpieces of the cinematic art. Why, all four got rave reviews in the Abernathy (Texas) Weekly Review!! Here they are !!!!

### THURSDAY

"TORN CURTAIN" stars Paul Newman and Julie Andrews in one of Alfred Hitchcock's finest suspense thrillers.

(If you've never seen her "Mary Poppins" image of Julie Andrews, this movie should blow that to bits!)

### FRIDAY

"HOW TO SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE (AND RUIN YOU LIFE)" promises to be the comedy smash of the year.

### SATURDAY "DANGER ROUTE"

### SUNDAY

"IN COLD BLOOD"



# AGE OLD METHOD STILL PRODUCES SALT

Through the ages, salt has been among the most precious of commodities. It has been a royal monopoly used to sustain the wealth of emperors, a primary form of barter, used for centuries as a food preservative, an ingredient essential to the health of man.

At a small village near Phan Rang Air Base, salt is still produced as it was centuries before the birth of Christ--by the evaporation of sea water. How long this village has been following the profitable salt trade is lost in the shadow of Vietnamese history.

More than 10 acres of flat land, hardly above high tide off a tiny inlet, is divided into square dirt-banked flat-bottomed ponds. At one time, bucket wheels dipped salty water from the South China Sea into channels flowing into the evaporation ponds.

Western civilization has introduced power pumps to take some labor out of the salt-making trade--but much of the work remains. Once the sun has drawn off the water, layer of coarse crystals coat the pond. These, still wet, are scraped together with a wide, wooden squeegee-like tool.

The wet salt is then shoveled into six-foot-high mounds to dry--and covered with rice straw to prevent possible storms from returning the salt from whence it came.

The salt is later bagged and taken to market--the end product in an industry older than written history.

# 352nd Sweeps Wing Awards

Members of the 352nd TFS were selected recently for honors in three different 35th TFW maintenance areas.

Airman First Class Harry L. South, was named Aircraft Mechanic of the Month; and Sgt. Michael H. Belcher, was selected as 35th TFW Crew Chief of the Month.

Four airmen won Wing honors by being selected as the top lead crew for the month. They were Sgt. Bobby Carswell, ALC Steven R. Silvers, ALC Benny G. Kincer, and ALC Dennis J. Brown.

In addition, the 352nd TFS cited ALC Phillip M. Holt, for his aircraft which logged the most flying hours in the squadron during September; and Sgt. Jerry C. McDaniel who had the cleanest aircraft throughout the month.

# FRIENDS meet after 27 YEARS

A casual question at the luncheon table renewed a 27-year-old acquaintanceship here recently.

Lt. Col. William B. Skinner, commander, 20th SOSq, Nha Trang AB, was at Phan Rang finalizing preparations for a proposed visit by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell. Flying the "HUEY," the 20th SOSq is the only helicopter counter-insurgency unit in the Air Force.

Colonel Skinner met with Col. Frank L. Gailer Jr., commander, 35th TFW, during lunch at the Officers' Open Mess. Colonel Gailer, who now flies the F-100 but is a qualified chopper pilot, had much to talk over with his guest.

Mutual friends were discussed and then Colonel Gailer asked Skinner where he had gone to school.

"Staunton Military Academy," answered Colonel Skinner.

"I went there too," said Colonel Gailer, "in 1941."

"That was my year as well," said Colonel Skinner. "I thought you looked familiar!"

Although both officers have been on active duty since 1944, their paths had not crossed nor had they met since their school days at Staunton.

It took the Air Force Chief of Staff to bring them together.

# Two Pilots end tours

Two F-100 fighter pilots have wrapped up their tours at Phan Rang and are rotating. They are Capt. Joseph F. Cassidy, 615th TFS, and Capt. Alexander (Sandy) Stymiest, officer controller to the 35th TFW Chief, Operations/Plans Division but attached to the 615th for flying.

Captain Cassidy flew 301 combat missions, the majority in support of ARVN-US ground forces in South Vietnam. He also served the 615th as instructor, flight lead and functional check pilot. For his outstanding performance of duty on combat missions during his tour as Captain

Cassidy has been awarded the Ait Medal with 17 Oak Leaf Clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Two of the clusters and the DFC were earned during the 1968 Tet Offensive, the largest offensive waged by the enemy in Vietnam. He will voluntarily separate from Air Force active duty on return

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HELP YOUR COUNTRY

AS YOU HELP YOURSELF

BUY SAVINGS BONDS

# ARMY LAUDS WING SUPPORT

U.S. Army aviators of the 183rd Reconnaissance Airplane Company recently recognized the assistance of the 35th TFW members by presenting them with a plaque commemorating the 1,000th hour and 500th mission flown by Air Force men as observers in the Army's O-1 "Bird Dog."

S. Army Capt. F. Lloyd White Jr., presented the plaque "in recognition of the lengthy cooperation between the two branches of the U.S. Armed Services."

The three 183rd pilots at Phan Rang are charged with the responsibility of maintaining a visual reconnaissance program for Ninh Thuan Province.

"Since last October," Captain White said, "the observers from the intelligence division have helped to make the visual reconnaissance program in this area one of the most outstanding in the country."

Intelligence division personnel serving as observers on the Army flights are: Maj. William L. Tyler, Maj. Bobby J. McDonald, Capt. Thomas M. Malone, Capt. Barrie A. Gillis, 2nd Lt. John R. Grierson, and TSgt. Thomas E. Williams.

Captain White also claimed that the Phan Rang section of the 183rd has a higher average combat flight time for one tour in Vietnam than any other Army or Air Force Bird Dog section in-country.

Captain White has amassed more than 1,200 hours and 650 combat missions. 1st Lt. Steven K. Smith has over 1,100 hours and 600 missions and 1st Lt. Robert L. Seymour now has more than 900 hours and 550 missions.

Among the three, they have more than 33 months in country which makes them probably the most experienced trio in the Republic of Vietnam.

## 42,000 Techs. To Fed. Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Civil Service Commission is working with the Department of Defense on plans for the transition of approximately 42,000 National Guard technicians into the Federal civil service Jan. 1.

Persons affected are state employees who normally work with Guard units in civilian support roles but who, with some exceptions, go on active military duty when their units are activated. They will become employees of the Departments of the Army and the Air Force Jan. 1.

All the positions that require membership in the Guard as of Dec. 31 -- about 95 per cent of the total -- will be placed in excepted service, that is, excepted from the competitive civil service rules. The remainder, principally female employees, clerks, typists, and security guards, will be placed in competitive service.

Technicians must elect whether to come under the civil service retirement system or to remain under a state retirement plan, beginning Jan. 1.

Those serving on and after Jan. 1 will be eligible for group-term life insurance coverage under the rules applying to Federal employees generally. However, those who do not elect to come under the civil service retirement system will not be eligible to continue their life and health benefits coverage after retirement.

State adjutants general will appoint and administer the employment of National Guard technicians.

## 310th HELPS REFUGEES

When a group of Montagnards moved from their mountain homes to the hamlet of Hoai Trung last year, the exchanged the only way of life known to them for safety from Viet Cong terrorists.

Located in a relatively secure region of Ninh Thuan Province, Hoai Trung is an agricultural community. Here the Montagnards were free from the torture and death they had previously faced, but encountered a new problem -- that of earning a living.

The Montagnards are not farmers but at Hoai Trung farming was the only livelihood available. And farming was not an immediate solution to their problem. Months would pass before the first crop became ready for harvest and many more months would go by before the Montagnards became accustomed to their new environment.

Relief came through the U.S. Air Force Civic Action Program. Working with the Phan Rang Air Base civic action officer, the 310th SOSq began a civic action program at Hoai Trung designed to help the Montagnards establish themselves in a new way of life.

Members of the C-123 unit have made approximately three trips a month to the hamlet since the program began. Using money donated by members of the squadron and by interested groups in the States, they have provided food, clothing and school supplies for the Montagnards who have settled in Hoai Trung.

Over a year has passed since the Hoai Trung civic action program began and the Montagnards are on their way to becoming firmly established in their new surroundings. This is mostly due to their determination and hard work, and partly because of some C-123 Provider crew members who had a desire to help someone help themselves.

MAIL EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS!



## TWO PILOTS...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

to the U.S. and plans to continue his flying career with the Massachusetts Air National Guard.

Captain Stymiest flew 206 combat missions during his tour here and was first attached to the 352nd TFS for flying.

He is being reassigned to fly the F-106 with the Air Defense Command.

After completing the F-102 indoctrination program at Perrin AFB, Texas, and the F-106 transition phase at Tyndall AFB, Fla., he will report for duty at Loring AFB, Limestone, Maine.

## 352nd PILOTS...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

meters behind my aircraft, but it kind of 'clanks our up' a bit anyway."

The final Bomb Damage Assessment given by the FAC was four structures destroyed, 400 square meters of encampment destroyed, and the three large secondary explosions with the 200-foot fire balls.

## YELLOW...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

"and the Forward Air Controller (FAC) dropped his smoke right on target and our bombs hit right on his smoke. We got some real fine Boms Damage Assesment, (BDA) including seven enemy structures destroyed and eight damaged; five bunkers destroyed and two damaged, and a large secondary fire we couldn't quite figure out what was burning, but we think some of the structures going up in smoke."

### G.G. SHOTS

Have you gotten you gamma globulin and influenza shots yet? If you haven't, just report to the immunization clinic and see ole Dan.

Don't let the bug bite you!!

## AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE *leads*

### OTS Quota REQUIREMENTS

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Aircraft maintenance leads a list of 13 Air Force nonrated career fields assigned quotas in an increase of 700 spaces for Officers Training School in fiscal year 1969.

The increase, announced last month, boosts programmed graduates from 3,728 to 4,428 by the end of June. In addition to 330 nonrated spaces the increased quota includes 183 pilot and 183 navigator candidates and four from the Airman Education and Commissioning Program (AECF).

Previously, the FY 1969 nonrated entries were limited to applicants with certain engineering skills, meteorologists, geodesists, Women in the Air Force, and Bootstrap Commissioning Program candidates.

The additional 330 spaces removes the restriction on academic disciplines and all eligible college graduates can compete. Local Personnel offices have complete application information.

## Star lifter

### FLIES WHALE

MCCHORD AFB, Wash. (AFNS)-- "It was a whale of a flight," reported C-141 loadmaster MSgt. Henry Alexander with as straight a face as one could muster after an Air Force airlift of two killer whales for the Navy.

Sergeant Alexander, assigned to the 8th Military Airlift Squadron, has encountered many forms and sizes of cargo in his job. But he'll be telling the fish story involving the 3,800-pound and 5,500-pound mammals for many years.

The whales were purchased by the Navy for use in underwater research.

## sorry 'bout that...

