

PHAN RANG

PHAN RANG AIR BASE, VIETNAM

VOLUME II, ISSUE 26

THE HAPPY VALLEY WEEKLY

DECEMBER 12, 1968

Idea Earns Big Bonus

A good idea earned \$300 for Sgt. Robert Cruz, a rescue specialist assigned to the 35th CES.

His idea, submitted through the Military Suggestion Program, was to adapt a trailer kit to carry six 55-gallon drums of fire-fighting foam and a portable foam pump. This unit could then be towed behind any military vehicle and be used to assist water tankers in reserVICING crash vehicles at the scene of a fire.

Although assigned to civil engineering, Sergeant Cruz is attached to Det. 1, 38th ARRS for duty as a rescue specialist.

He was presented the suggestion award by Col. Stanley J. Obarski, commander, Phan Rang AB.

FIRE CHIEFS MEET HERE

Fire chiefs and representatives from 10 major Seventh Air Force bases throughout Vietnam met recently at Phan Rang Air Base for a two-day discussion of mutual problems, programs and goals.

The conference opened with Col J.A. Bowers, deputy chief of staff, civil engineering, Seventh Air Force, presenting the "Most Improved Fire Department in Seventh Air Force" plaque to SMSgt. Donald R. Mullis, Phan Rang fire chief and conference host.

The award was for the July - September 1968 period.

In summing up the meeting, Sergeant Mullis said, "It gave us the opportunity to
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PILOT BAILOUT, RESCUE GOES QUICKLY, SMOOTHLY

Recently, two F-100 Supersabres of the 352nd TFS (Yellow Jackets) scrambled off the alert pad at Phan Rang AB, had a routine, uneventful mission and headed back home.

There the routine stopped. As he prepared to go into his final descent to Phan Rang, 1st Lt. Wendell L. Cook noticed that something was wrong with his bird.

Recounting the event, Lieutenant Cook said, "I moved the throttle up so I could close in a little on my lead pilot (Capt. Sloan L.B. Brooks) and got no response from my control whatsoever."

The pilot immediately went to his emergency procedures, trying his emergency fuel supply, but nothing happened.

He was now 25 miles from Phan Rang, over mountainous territory, and he knew he could not make it home.

"My engine started 'unwinding'," he continued, "and I knew I had a flameout. I couldn't get an 'airstart', and just then all the warning lights in the cockpit lit up like a pinball machine. I knew I was going to have to leave the aircraft."

With his lead pilot screaming at him to get out, Lieutenant Cook checked all his survival gear and ejected. The downed pilot called his lead and told him to radio for a rescue chopper. While waiting for the rescue chopper other planes had arrived and were circling the area. Captain Brooks buzzed up the valley at a low altitude to show the other pilots Cook's position on the ground.

Maj. John C. Acton Jr., commander, Det. #1, 38th ARRS "Pedro," at Phan Rang, was in
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JEANE KILLS 'PG' RUMOR

For the past several weeks an ominous rumor has swept Phan Rang Air Base. Mrs. Jeane Dixon, famed predictor of things to come, had said a military disaster would hit a base in Vietnam with a name beginning with a "P" and ending in "G" on Friday, the 13th (tomorrow possibly?).

Rather than merely worry about such a dire prediction, one PRABite sought confirmation--or denial--from the story's supposed source.

Thus, A1C Hunter Stone, 120th TFS, wrote to Maj. John B. Hull, a family friend stationed in Washington, D.C., asking him to check out the story with Mrs. Dixon.

A few days ago, Airman Stone received the following letter:

Dear Airman Stone,

Thank you for your letter. I'm grateful for your interest and understand your anxiety. However, I made no prediction one way or the other about the "sinking" of your ship. What you hear was pure rumor--just a fabrication!

Indeed, rather than predict disaster for our valiant men in the Armed Forces, I pray for them daily and for their safe return home!

Hope this letter has reassured you and your companions about the rumor you have
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Lt. Col. Eugene Tiddy

KNOW THE COMMAND

Lt. Col. Eugene Tiddy, new commander of the 8th Tactical Bombardment Sq., is a native of Shelby, N.C. He was commissioned and received his pilot's wings through the aviation cadet program. Stationed

in the European Theater of Operations during World War II, he flew 62 combat missions in the P-47 for a total of 148 combat hours.

Since World War II, the majority of Colonel Tiddy's career has been served in an unusual variety of staff weather officer positions.

He has had several assignments as weather detachment commander including one as commander of Det. 1, 55th Weather Reconnaissance Sq. In addition, Colonel Tiddy has served in the Special Analysis Branch, DCS/O, Hq USAF, and in the Weather Research Division, Bureau of Research and Development, Federal Aviation Agency.

In 1965, he was assigned as military advisor to the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services, Department of Commerce. From 1966 to June of 1968, he served as executive officer to the Special Assistant for Weather, DCS/Programs and Resources.

In addition to Europe, other overseas posts for Colonel Tiddy include Japan and Alaska. He has a degree in Military Science from the University of Maryland and has attended the Arctic Meteorological Course at Standstead College, Canada.

Since arriving in Vietnam, Colonel Tiddy has flown 87 combat missions and has nearly 400 combat hours in the B-57.

He is married to the former Hazel F. Allen, also of Shelby. They have three sons, Gary E, Gerald M. and James A.

AN ANT CAN LIFT 5 TIMES HIS OWN WEIGHT; Learn other useful facts at the 35 TFW Intelligence Briefing every Monday night at 2000 hours, at Batson Hall.

Twins Serving In Dual Roles

The men of 435th Munitions Maintenance Squadron often think they are seeing double when Technical Sergeants John V. Sayago, and Joseph A. Sayago, come on duty.

The men are both weapons supervisors and are identical twins.

"This close resemblance," commented John, "can be either beneficial or to a disadvantage, according to the occasion. For example, when shots come up, one of us may have to take a second one -- or one of our names appears continuously on the detail roster, while the other never gets picked!!"

Buy bonds

'Flying Doc' Treats Viets

Ma Trai, Karom, Suoi Vang, and Suoi Gieng are all Montagnard refugee villages in the Central Highlands of Vietnam; they all are near the coast of the South China Sea; and they all have one more thing in common--every Tuesday, they are visited by a man they call "the Flying Doc".

That man is Capt. (Doctor) Donald J. Murdoch, who goes on his weekly trips to these villages, and many others, as part of the Air Forces Medical Civic Actions Program (MEDCAP).

Dr. Murdoch flies to the villages via Army helicopter gunships of the 192nd ATTC, headquartered at Phan Thiet. He says the most common diseases he finds are "malaria, dysentery, skin infections, TB, leprosy, pneumonia, anemia, and malnutrition."

According to studies made by Dr. Murdoch, more than 80 per cent of the people he has

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GO TO CHURCH SUNDAY

SCHEDULE OF CHAPEL ACTIVITIES

PROTESTANT

- Sunday: 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Protestant Services
9:15 a.m. Family Life Series
- Monday: 10 a.m. 7:30 p.m. Think and Talk Series
- Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. Meditation and Prayer
(2nd Wed - 6:15 p.m. - FMOC Cookout and Program)
- Thursday: 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. New Testament Series
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Morning)
- Friday: 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Evening)

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Episcopal Service: | Church of Christ: |
| Sunday: 9:30 a.m. | Sunday: 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Worship Service |
| | Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. Worship Service |

- Latter Day Saints:**
Sunday: 3:30-5:30 Worship Service

CATHOLIC

- Sunday: Mass 8:30 a.m. noon 6:30 p.m.
- Mon Sat: Mass noon
- Tuesday: 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Catholic Instruction Classes
8 p.m. Marriage Enrichment Classes
- First Friday: Mass noon and 6:30 p.m. followed by Steak Cookout
- Sunday: Choir Practice 5:30 p.m.
- Confessions: One half hour before all Sunday Masses
15 minutes before weekday Mass

FLICKS & OPINIONS

BY MONK

"Some of the best entertainment we've ever seen," says the Andrews (Tex.) County News about this week's film fare. With such rave reviews (from a city that has no movie theaters) we must expect some excellent (would you believe mediocre?) entertainment.

THURSDAY: "NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY"

This is definitely mature entertainment, so I guess that lets me out. The reviews: "A fun picture"--the Herkimer (N.Y.) Telegram. "A sophisticated horse opera indeed"--the Sundance (Wyo.) Times.

FRIDAY: "GUNFIGHT IN ABILENE"

Don't be misled by the title. I happened to be in Abilene when it happened, two small boys got hold of some water guns and filled them with ink. A pretty messy fight!

SATURDAY: "ENEMY COUNTRY"

This stars George Montgomery and a host of has-been actors. Set in the Philippines in the closing days of WW II, Montgomery plays an Army Colonel who gets a bang out of killing Japanese.

Things are going okay when an author hits the scene and is immediately disillusioned by the Colonel's antics. Believe it or not, from that point it gets worse. This movie has little plot, an overused moral, but a lot of blood and guts.

SUNDAY: "THE LIQUIDATORS"

stars Jill St. John. It is another James Bond type of movie, but lacks as much action as its predecessors. The only bright spot, Miss St. John, makes the mistake of staying clothed throughout the whole flick.

ONE WORD REVIEW: "Blahhhhh"

TV SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE
- 6:35 NEWS BRIEFS
- 6:40 OPERATION
- 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, DECEMBER 13

- 1:30 SHIFTWORKERS MATINEE
- 6:35 NEWS BRIEFS
- 6:40 PRIORITY
- 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, DECEMBER 14

- 1:05 LAWRENCE WELK
- 1:55 MELODY
- 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, DECEMBER 15

- 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 BCNANZA
- 9:45 LATE SHOW
- 11:00 LATE NEWS

MCNDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 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, DECEMBER 17

- 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, DECEMBER 18

- 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

RED CROSS CENTER

THURSDAY-

PEANUT BUTTER BINGO

FRIDAY-

GUESS THE SPOT NIGHT

SATURDAY-

COME HELP DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY-

ALL COMPETITION NIGHT

MONDAY-

ART NIGHT (We'll be making Christmas Cards)

TUESDAY- December Birthday PARTY!!!



ONLY 13 DAYS UNTIL--
"MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!"

Colonel Larson Takes 310th SOS Command

Col. Bruno M. Larson, a veteran of more than 26 years of military experience, has assumed the position of vice commander, 315th Special Operations Wing.

A native of Oslo, Norway, and a 1965 graduate of George Washington University, Washington D.C., Colonel Larson entered the aviation cadets in 1942 and received his wings and commission in 1944 at Turner Field, Ga.

During the remainder of World War II, he flew as a bomber pilot in the B-24 and B-29. Entering the inactive reserves, Colonel Larson joined Northrop Corp. where he flew as a test pilot until 1951 and recall to active duty.

The list of military and civilian aircraft that Larson has flown reads like a roster from Janes Air Almanac. While flying 49 different models which include the C-130, C-135, C-141, F-86, F-100 and T-39, he has logged more than 12,600 military and civilian flying hours.

The new vice commander served in England (1951-56) with the 47th Bombardment

Wing and then in Germany the following year where he was an operations staff and standardization/evaluation officer.

After a tour in SAC and on the Pentagon air staff, Colonel Larson became a military staff assistant (1963), Office of the Director of Organization and Manpower Planning, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington. He completed the National War College in May 1966.

Moving to McGuire AFB, N.J., in 1967, he served as deputy commander for operations, 438th Military Airlift Wing.

Prior to his assignment to Vietnam, Colonel Larson commanded the 65th Military Airlift Group, Yokota AB, Japan.

A man of many talents and unique hobbies, Colonel Larson has more than a casual interest in electronics and high fidelity sound.

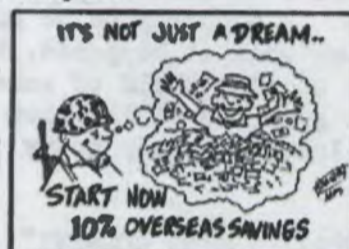
120th PILOTS IN GOOD STRIKE

Recently, two pilots from the 120th TFS had a good mission near Bien Hoa in South Vietnam.

The pilots were Captains Dudley, L. Bailey, and Elbert W. Gardner.

Commenting on the mission, Captain Gardner stated, "We were diverted to this area because the forward air controller (FAC) had spotted some Viet Cong in this area. When we got there the enemy troops were no where to be found, but we did find a large bunker complex. On one of my passes, my bomb went in and a large fire went up. Later, I hit another."

The final bomb damage assessment (BDA) for the mission was two secondary fires, two large bunkers destroyed, four bunkers uncovered, and 20 meters of trench line destroyed.



CHAPEL PLANS KIDDIE YULE

Plans have been announced by Chaplain Lt. Col. Willie L. Walker for Phan Rang Air Base's Protestant Men Of the Chapel to host a Christmas Party for 75 students from Phan Rang City's Protestant School.

The party is slated for Dec. 18 at the base chapel and will consist of a steak and ice cream supper, presentation of gifts, pencil sets for the older children, 707 jet models for the younger boys and dolls for the younger girls. A pageant, the story of the first Christmas, then the singing of Christmas Carols, will conclude the celebration.

Go Career

'Spooky' Guardian Angel For Phan Ri Bay Hamlets

Republic of Vietnam soldiers and their U.S. advisors in the Phan Ri area have become very much acquainted in the past few days with "Spooky" crews from Det. 1, 3rd SOS here.

The area is a group of hamlets located about 40 miles southwest of Phan Rang along the coast in the Bay of Phan Ri.

For three successive nights, Spooky crews flying the AC-47 Gunships, served as guardian angels -- with a vengeance -- to soldiers under attack there.

On Nov. 26, Spooky 61 was scrambled to the area to support ground troops and medical evacuation helicopters removing soldiers wounded in a mortar attack.

The following night, Spooky 62 made two trips to the area

on the first flight, Spook, under the direction of ground controllers, fired into Viet Cong positions on three sides of a hamlet.

After expending its load of ammunition and flares, Spooky returned to Phan Rang where the maintenance crews quickly inspected, refueled and rearmed the gunship and sent her back into action.

Spooky then stayed on target, providing harrassing fire and illumination until sun-up when a sweep of the Viet Cong positions was made.

Again on Nov. 28, Spooky
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

NEW BOOKS AT LIBRARY

New publication in the Library collection are: F Davies, Twilight Journey. Griffin, Occupying Power. Hawley, Hurricane Years. Kent, To glory we steer. Llevellyn, End of the Rug. Vian Smith, Wind Blows Free. Myrer, Once an Eagle. Westheimer, Song of the Young Sentry. Wolpert, Expedition. M McBain, Fuzz. SF Delany, Nova. 309.173 Gardner, No Easy Victories. Gavin, Crisis now. 353.6 McNamara, Essence of security 629.22 Angelo, World Car Catalogue 1968. 629.454 Lewis, Appointment on the Moon. 799.3 Weston, Handbook of Handgunning. 914.6 Michener, Iberia. 915.93 Davies, Rice Bowl of Asia. 916.7 Hemingway, Imminent Rains. 917.3 Krythe, What do Proudly We Hall. 920.02 Saturday Review, What I Have Learned. 940.449 Grinnell-Milne, Wind in the Wires. Books may be reserved by telephone 3439. Hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

CAP Sets New 'Mercy' Year

(AFMS) -- Civil Air Patrol, auxiliary of the Air Force, nears a record year of humanitarian and mercy service to the Nation as it begins its 28th year, Dec. 1.

Emergency services have almost been doubled this year for this all-volunteer organization which flies search and rescue missions and conducts aerospace education training for American youth.

Maj. Gen Walter B. Putnam, CAP national commander, said members of more than 2,300 units throughout the United States and in Puerto Rico can be proud of the great public service record CAP airmen have achieved this year.

Pilots completed 363 missions through mid-November compared to 273 for the same period last year.

FMS Tire Shop Plays Role In Keeping Aircraft Flying

There are at least two items without which an aircraft of the 35th TFW can't fly. The first, of course, is an engine. The second vital part is tires.

Keeping these tires rolling, filling the tremendous demands for safe tires, are the men of the 35th FMS Tire Shop.

Under the leadership of SSgt. Kenneth M. Turner, these men turn out up to 60 tires per day.

"In most cases, the normal requirement doesn't jump over 20 tires per day, but in crosswind season when the tires tend to rub sideways, up to 60 or more tires have to be finished in one day. That's when it gets busy around here!" he said.

In addition to their regular work, the men have taken time to add various innovations such as tire ramps or racks which speed considerably the mounting of tires and special steel boxes to provide added safety in the inflation of tires.

Other men in this section include Sgt. Paul N. Newbanks, Sgt. George H. McCayley, Airmen First Class Thomas F. Lill, Stephen A. Maurer, David F. Kelly, Wayne A. Porvig, Ronald L. Wilson, and Juan R. Dean.

Coloradoan Go 'Over The Hump'

Phan Rang's 364 former Colorado Air Guardsmen celebrated with an "Over The Hump" party at White Rock Park Dec. 1, marking the end of their seventh month in Vietnam.

The Coloradoans began arriving here on April 29 of this year. Of their number, 128 remained with the 120th TFS and the others were reassigned to various units throughout the base.

It is now down hill to the magic DEROS when the former Guardsmen will return to Ski Country, USA--"Colorful Colorado."

TWO 615th PILOTS COMPLETE TOURS

Recently, two 615th TFS F-100 pilots flew their final combat sorties on Vietnam. Maj. Howard A. Eckersley flew a total of 283 combat missions, and 1st Lt. Richard W. Buickerood compiled 212 missions.

Major Eckersley served the 615th as "B" Flight commander, an instructor pilot, fight lead, and functional check pilot. His previous experience as an F-100 Instructor at Luke AFB, Ariz was invaluable in the training of newly assigned UPT graduates. He has been reassigned to his former unit at Luke as an F-100 Instructor.

Lieutenant Buickerood was an element lead for the 615th and assisted the squadron with additional duties as area fire marshal, junior officer council member, and squadron building custodian. His new assignment is T-38 Instructor Pilot in Air Training Command at Randolph AFB, Tex. His responsibility will be to train USAF student pilots.

FATHER DELIVERS DAUGHTER'S GIFT

Nearly 150 pounds of clothing, collected by his 14-year-old daughter, Helen, were delivered to area Montagnard refugees recently by Lt. Col. Boyd D. Williamson, an AC-47 gunship pilot with Det. 1, 3rd SOS.

His daughter had collected the clothing throughout her Sacramento neighborhood in her personal civic action project for Vietnam.

Williamson delivered the clothes to the Montagnard hamlets of Ma Trai and Karon with an Air Force medical team.

PILOT BAILOUT...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

the air on a routine training and orientation mission at the time of the ejection. After analyzing the situation, his position, amount of fuel, and what he had on board the aircraft, he headed for the downed pilot's position to attempt a pick-up.

Major Acton called the tower at Phan Rang and alerted the Pedro standby crew, which was airborne in less than ten minutes, on their way to help if help was needed.

Major Acton arrived at the scene and described what happened like this, "Proceeding around the mountain, I spotted the Lieutenant's chute, resting on a very steep incline. As soon as he saw us, Cook set off a smoke bomb and I spotted him, sitting on about the only level place sticking out of the side of the mountain."

The major maneuvered his HH-43 over the downed pilot, his rotors clearing the mountain's side by a scant few feet. The rescue penetrator was lowered, the downed P-100 pilot climbed on and in a few seconds was aboard the chopper, safe and happy.

The chopper had left Phan Rang at 10:25 am; by 10:43 Cook was aboard headed for Phan Rang, by 11:05 they arrived at the base, "everyone feeling fine and happy to see Lieutenant Cook back in good shape," said Major Acton.

"That's one of the great rewards of the business," added the whirlybird pilot, "when you can return a downed man in good shape, laughing as Lieutenant Cook was."

"I'll tell you one thing," added the rescued Supersabre jockey, "that chopper is one of the most beautiful things I've ever seen, anywhere."

Spooky...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

61 was sent to Phan Ri where the VC had entered a hamlet. This night, a U.S. Army forward air controller (Seahorse 25) was in the area helping direct the AC-47's fire. Possibly because of the two previous nights' work, the VC were quickly stopped.

Flying ...

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examined (about 150 each trip) have some sort of parasitical disease. One of the most common of these is Filariasis, a blood disease.

"One of the hardest things," said Dr. Murdoch, "in treating these people is overcoming the old superstitions they have about disease. They still believe in evil spirits and still use old methods like blood-letting. Once we get a patient though, and prove that our cures work, the rest of the people usually come for aid."

"They are still coming," every Tuesday, rain or shine, for the visit from the "Flying Doc".

Jeane ...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

heard. Bless you for writing!
Faithfully
Jeane Dixon
So you see gentlemen, no military disaster tomorrow.

FIRE...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

meet our counterparts throughout the country. We all have similar problems in training, maintenance, fire prevention-problems unique to our situation here.

"Usually we find that someone has a logical solution to a situation that may be stumping the rest of us. It also enables us to have a more coordinated program Seventh Air Force-wide," he said.

Bases represented at the conference were Bien Hoa, Binh Tuy, Cam Rang Bay, Da Nang, Nha Trang, Phu Cat, Pleiku and Tan Son Nhut.

New Comdr In

Lt. Col. Frank F. Cannon is the new commander of the 310th SOSQ, replacing Lt. Col. Jack L. Goodman who has rotated to the states.

Colonel Cannon has been in the service 26 years and has been flying since 1944 when he entered flight training as an aviation cadet at Carlstrom Field, Fla.

He flew B-24s in Europe during WW II and remained in bombers until checking out in jet fighters in 1952.

He now has more than 300 flying hours in the C-123



I THINK ITS A TRICK!