

# PHAN RANG FAIRE

PHAN RANG AIR BASE, VIETNAM

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THE HAPPY VALLEY WEEKLY

JULY 10, 1969

This unofficial bulletin is published by the Information Division, 35th TFW and is designed to keep Phan Rang Air Base personnel informed on current local events.

## WATER: WHERE IT COMES FROM, HOW IT GETS HERE

The small, heavily-fortified compound overlooking the Kinh Dinh River is known, simply, as "the wells."

One thousand gallons of water are pumped from the river each minute for the needs of Phan Rang Air Base, a mile to the north.

The wells are the primary source of water to the base, supplying a precious commodity so necessary in this semi-arid region of Vietnam.

Within the compound's chain-link and barbed wire perimeter fence are three structures; two steel and reinforced-concrete guard posts and one sand-filled steel construction building housing three generators.

TSgt. Earl H. Blake, and SSGt. Jack W. Craft of the 35th Civil Engineering Squadron are responsible for the operation of the wells and the water treatment and storage facilities on base.

"There are four well pumps encased in wood and steel cribs submerged in the river," Sgt. Blake said, "which are filled with gravel to filter out most of the debris. We operate two pumps at a time, each with a 500-gallon-per-minute capacity. The water is transferred through pipes to the base."

One of the three men who work shifts to keep the compound's generators operating is AIC Donald L. Edwards, electrical power production specialist.

"One of the generators is operated full time to supply power for the water pumps," Airman Edwards explained, "and at night a second one is used for the lights that flood the perimeter in artificial daylight."

"Each generator provides 150 kilowatts-per-hour at between 208-240 volts," he said.

Heavily-armed guards from the 35th Security Police Squadron man the two guard bunkers, one of which resembles the German fortress of "Tobruk" movie fame, except, of course, that it is much smaller.

"During the day we watch the children playing in the shallow river while the adults do their chores," explained Sgt. Erwin A. Kamrath, security policeman. "At night it's a different story. We keep a constant vigil, watching for any signs of enemy activity amongst the houses or trees beyond range of our powerful floodlights. That mile to base sometimes seems a long way."

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**Mini-editorial:** Supplying base water, the above story points out, does not come easy. Conserving it, however, is easy. Your help is needed.

### BEN HET, A BEEHIVE

## F-100s Assist Special Forces Camp

"Of the more than 140 F-100 missions I have flown, this one provided the busiest beehive I have ever seen. A conservative estimate of at least 50 aircraft were in the area along with artillery fire," stated Major James F. McCarthy, 35th TFW executive officer. He was speaking about his latest mission flown in support of the Ben Het special forces camp. Flying alongside of Major McCarthy in a two-seater F-100 were Second Lieutenant Eldred J. Rosenthal and Maj. Kenneth W. Murray, Lt. Rosenthal, a member of the Missouri Air National Guard assigned to temporary duty here, and Maj. Murray are members of the 615th Tactical Fighter Squadron "Bobcats". This was Lt. Rosenthal's first mission since arriving here. Major Murray flew in the backseat of

the F-100 as his instructor pilot.

"When I pulled up from my first pass," Major McCarthy said, "I was amazed to find five different aircraft in my sights. I had to roll my aircraft to the left to avoid them and then quickly reverse back again to miss a known artillery strike going on straight ahead of us. All in all, it was a rather scary mission."

After we pulled up from our last bomb pass, the FAC credited us with six bunkers destroyed and two sustained fires. He stated there was probably much more damage but because of the intensity of the ground and air battles going on at that time, he could not be certain."

Another piping hot mission flown by Phan Rang's Supersabres.

**AT NCO CLUB****Vandals Cause \$1,030 Damage**

One of the most scenic night views of Happy Valley can be seen from the top of the hill where the NCO Club is situated. At the beginning of the year and the last part of 1968 there were several accidents involving vehicles and pedestrians. Also many NCOs complained to the 35 TFW Safety Office that walking down that hill at night was dangerous. There was a steep, dirt path covered with rocks making it slippery. Worst of all, it was without lights.

Then, through the efforts of concerned people in Wing and Combat Support Group, Phan Rang AB became a little better place to live. The PHAN FARE had a question and answer session with TSgt. Charles E. Vargo, NCOIC, 35TFW Safety Office about that effort and some unfortunate vandalism that followed:

**HOW DID THIS PATH ON THE HILL GET STARTED? WHOSE BACKING DID YOU HAVE?**

"The Safety Office brought the problem to Col. Gailer, 35TFW commander and explained that a safer means was required for pedestrians to depart the Club, other than Texas Street due to the traffic and several past accidents. With his backing, Lt. Col. Reeves, chief, security police, and myself early this year looked over the side of the hill, surveyed the area and picked the two best locations for a path, the number of lights that would be needed and where they should be located. We submitted a work order to 35 Civil Engineers Squadron. By April, the sidewalk was constructed and the lights erected."

**WHAT DID THIS PROJECT COST?**

"I don't have any exact figures, but I understand the lamps alone cost about \$206 each. There were eight lamps erected and now there are three left."

**WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER FIVE?**

"About two weeks ago vandals tore two of the lamps down. Then last night

(July 2), three more were knocked over."

**COULDN'T A PERSON ACCIDENTALLY HAVE KNOCKED THEM OVER?**

"Hardly," chuckled Sgt. Vargo. "Those lamps were hanging from three inch pipe cemented in the ground. One person couldn't tear them down; it would take a few. My personal opinion is, it's plain willful destruction of Government property, I also don't buy the old excuse of, 'I was drunk and didn't know what I was doing.' When you get that drunk you don't break off three-inch pipes."

**WAS THIS THE FIRST ACTS OF VANDALISM WITH THE LIGHTS?**

"No, at first the vandals broke the lamps by tossing rocks at them and breaking the bulbs. This didn't amuse them enough so they had to tear the lamps out of the ground. At one time this was a very nice convenience for our troops leaving the Club, it's not now."

**SHOULD THE NCO CLUB BE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGE?**

"I'll leave that up to the base commander to decide."

**PRANKSTERS GET WARNING FROM BC**

In a letter to unit commanders and NCOs on base, Colonel Robert G. Gould, base commander, commented on the damage to the NCO Club walkway lights.

In part, the letter read, "Willful destruction of government property constitutes a violation of Article 108 of the UCMJ and is always a serious offense. When this offense includes deliberate destruction of facilities designed to provide convenience and safety to our people, it becomes particularly malicious.

I would like all commanders to emphasize to their men that these incidents far exceed the borders of a fun-loving prank. Anyone witnessing such an incident should obtain the name and unit of the person or persons and report the information to the Security Police.

I want it made perfectly clear that anyone apprehended for deliberately damaging these lights will be charged with a violation of Article 108 of the UCMJ."

According to the letter, the vandalism took place between 2130 and 2330 hours, 1 July.

**Phan Rang No.1****Aircraft Barrier Men Meet**

The first quarterly meeting of area barrier maintenance technicians was held here recently.

The technicians, representing U.S. Air Force bases in three geographical areas in Vietnam, met to discuss and evaluate base barrier programs.

A barrier consists of a metal cable attached to an absorber unit and strung across a runway near the end. It is designed to stop an aircraft in an emergency situation and is similar to the arresting apparatus on aircraft carriers.

The technicians also discussed supply, training, communications and technical problems with Mr. Ray G. Hodge of Headquarters Seventh Air Force, supervisor of the program in Vietnam.

The best base program in each area was selected to receive a quarterly plaque. In Area One, Bien Hoa took the honors over Tan Son Nhut and Binh Thuy; Phu Cat was chosen best in Area Two against Da Nang and Pleiku; and Phan Rang won over Cam Ranh Bay and Tuy Hoa in Area Three.

The plaques will be presented to respective unit commanders at a later date.

Each quarter the bases will be reevaluated and the traveling plaques presented for top programs.

## From K-9s to Shadow

**THAI SP'S WATCH BASE DEFENSES IN ACTION**

Six Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) security officers visited Phan Rang Air Base, Vietnam, recently as part of a tour to study U.S. Air Force base defense postures in the Republic of Vietnam.

Colonel Sunkpichai Kritaya, chief of staff for Security, RTAF, and the five security officers were briefed on all phases of base security, including participation of Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and Republic of Korea Army (ROKA) units on base.

They toured the 821st Combat Security Police Squadron (CSPS) "Safe Side" compound and watched a simulated assault by the squadron's Quick Reaction Team against an enemy weapon's position.

The 821st CSPS is a combat-trained unit with elements at various U.S. Air Force bases, where they help provide base defense capability.

Maj. Maynard F. Allington, operations officer of the 821st, explained, "We demonstrated how we employ our light and heavy weapons in an infantry-type assault against an enemy target. Colonel Kritaya said he was quite impressed with the exercise and the use of the armored personnel carriers," he continued.

"They also fired several of our weapons, which they said they found easy to use and effective," Allington said.

The group later visited the 35th Security Police Squadron, accompanied by its commander, Lt. Col. Donald E. Reeves. They toured Central Security Control, which coordinates the base defense, and then went to the perimeter to study the methods used to identify and repel invaders.

The tour also included a visit to the K-9 kennels with a demonstration of

sentry dog handling and training.

The three-country defense organization on Phan Rang Air Base was explained during briefings of the mission and tactics of the RAAF Airfield Defense Guards and a 105mm howitzer fire demonstration by Captain Ko, Buk Song, commander of Battery A, 52nd Artillery Battalion, White Horse Ninth ROK Division.

At "B" Flight, 17th Special Operations Squadron "Shadow," they toured an AC-119G gunship with its four miniguns, flare launcher and spotlight, and were briefed on the significant role the aircraft plays in the defense of Phan Rang AB and other allied installations in the Republic.

Later, a night time attack exercise demonstrated how all base defensive units are deployed to repel a ground attack on the perimeter.

**Charlie, Look Out!****JELL-O, YO-YO'S HAVE HOT STRIKE AT DU DROP**

Well, we did it - really we did! We had a Carnival on the 5th of July. I betcha ya missed it! Just as the poster said, we had cake and prizes, games plus Carter kisses. (men's exactly).

Ray LaRose once again retained his title as Jell-o eating champ by downing nine Red Cross cups of lime jello. The last cup went down in less than 5 seconds.

In other events, Carter operated the fish pond giving out useful gifts, while Diane distributed scrumptious cake to all whose weight our "dietary par excellence" could not guess.

We even had a yo-yo contest which ended in a draw between Sgt. Ken Stacey and Sgt. Jerry Jones. As an extra added attraction, Sgt. Rood, one time Duncan yo-yo expert, displayed his natural talent with the spinning wheel. All in all, it was a lot fun. Sorry, if you

couldn't make it, but be sure to come next time.

Also, don't miss coming by to say "hello" especially to new comer Carol Hoier. The Youngstown, Ohio, native was graduated June 1 from Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio with a degree in physical education and health.

Dolly has left for Plaikou to serve her second lap of her Vietnam tour.

Thursday, July 10, we are having the second round of the month-long Chess Tourney. If you missed the first night, come anyway.

Friday, July 11, the Coffee House gets another try, and Saturday.

July 12 is the scheduled monthly Birthday Party. Come and have some fun.

Sunday, July 13 is Monopoly Night.


Monday, July 14, otherwise known as Bastille Day, we will celebrate with an old French Parlor game known

as Bridge. (Ahem!)

Guess what! The next Pool Tourney is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16. We may even have one of our tables covered by that time. Keep your fingers crossed.

Keep smiling and cum see us!

FROM  
"NGUYEN"  
With LOVE



Dear Nguyen,

What's the story on the "Dishonor Roll" posted at the NCO Club? Isn't it bad enough to be barred from the place without being subject to public ridicule?

Concerned

Dear Concerned,

The authorities agree with you. The sign has been removed.

Nguyen

# CHAPEL SCHEDULE

## SCHEDULE OF CHAPEL ACTIVITIES

### PROTESTANT

Sunday: 9:30, 10:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m. Worship Services  
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class  
Monday: 7:30 p.m. Think and Talk Series  
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. Mid-Week Worship Service  
Second Wednesday of month - 6:15 p.m. PMOC  
Cookout and Program  
Thursday: 7:30 p.m. New Testament Class  
Friday: 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Morning Service)  
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Evening Service)  
Saturday: 6:30 p.m. Informal Bible Study

### DENOMINATIONAL SERVICES

Episcopal Service: Sunday: 8:30 a.m.  
Church of Christ: Sunday: 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. Worship  
Latter-day Saints: Sunday: Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.  
Priesthood: 3:30 p.m.  
Sacrament: 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday: Home Evening: 7:30 p.m.

### CATHOLIC

Sunday: Mass 8:30 a.m., Noon, 6:30 p.m.  
Monday-Saturday: Mass at Noon  
Tuesday: Catholic Religious Education: 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday: Marriage Preparation, Enrichment 7:30 p.m.  
First Friday: Mass at Noon, 6:30 p.m. (steak cookout  
follows 6:30 Mass)  
Benediction: Bible Vigil Thursday before first Friday  
Friday at 7 p.m.  
Confessions: One half hour before all Masses; anytime  
upon request.

### JEWISH

Friday: 7:30 p.m. Jewish Service  
Wednesday: 3 p.m. Jewish Instruction

### Shorthand Graduates

## PLEASE TAKE A LETTER, MISS DAU

Three Vietnamese girls employed on base recently completed a 6-month, 1-hour-a-day course in basic Gregg shorthand. Lt. Col. Joseph W. Stasiak, base comptroller, gave completion certificates to

to Dinh Thi Kim Dau, education center; Truong Kim Linh, 14th Aerial Port; and Tran Thi Ngoc Diep, transportation office.

Colonel Stasiak, who learned shorthand back in his high school days in Pittsburgh, volunteered to teach the course when he heard of the need for an instructor.



## NEW BOOKS AT LIBRARY

FICTION: Amis, I want it now; Braddon, When the enemy is tired; Hunter, Spies, Inc; Iessup, Sailor; O'Connor, A set of variations; Queen, Cop out; West, Except for me and thee; Wetzel, The lost skiff; Kirk, The man on the Raffles verandah; Crowley, Contract surgeon; Webb, Love Roger; White, Beatrice, Falling; Wilk, A dirty mind never sleeps; Wolode, What I'm going to do, I think; Smith, The Lord Mayor's show.

NON-FICTION: Bach, Nothing by chance; Bell, The long war; Devillers, End of a war; Schwartz, Prague's 200 days; Thomas, The Battle of the Java Sea; Thomas, The day the world ended; Cohen, Mysterious places.

MYS: Merin, Rise with wind; Symons, The man who dreams came true; Cousin, Where did the girl go.

SCI. FIC: Leumer, Relief: Ambassador to space Dick, Ubik.



## Deputy Chief Chaplain Visits

Chaplain (Col.) Roy W. Terry, newly appointed Deputy Chief of Air Force Chaplains, visited Phan Rang recently while on a tour of U.S. Air Force bases in the Republic of Vietnam.

Chaplain Terry wanted to familiarize himself with the field operations of chaplains in the Republic of Vietnam before taking his new position in Washington, D.C.

"I'm making this tour for three basic reasons," the 53-year-old chaplain said. "I wanted to meet the people in the field, discuss their problems and situations with

them and give them some encouragement."

After landing at Phan Rang, Chaplain Terry was taken on a tour of the base. He then met with the base chaplains and chaplain services personnel and was given a briefing and shown through the chapel facilities.

Following a conference with the base and deputy base commanders, the chaplain was escorted to the officers' open mess for dinner. Immediately afterwards, Chaplain Terry departed Phan Rang and returned to Tan Son Nhut AB, bringing his Republic of Vietnam tour to an end.