



# **DASPO REUNION**

Bethesda, MD

October 16-20, 2002

**DASPO**  
**Reunion List 2002**  
**Bethesda MD**

1. **\*Chuck and Dot Abbott**
2. **\*Ted and Cindy Acheson**
3. **\*Claude Bache and Francine Modderno**
4. **\*Stewart and Melinda Barbee**
5. **\*Harry Breedlove**
6. **\*Carl and Lois Conn**
7. **\*Clyde and Nancy Delk**
8. **\*Jim Dung & Toni Tsusaki**
9. **\*John and Donna Gilroy**
10. **\*John and Jeri Glunt**
11. **\*Brian Grigsby and Susan Vandogen**
12. **Carl Hansen & Ginger Gier**
13. **\*George and Marilyn Jolliff**
14. **\*Logan McMinn**
15. **\*Ed and Isobel McQuistion**
16. **\*Paul Moulton**
17. **Bob and Terri Smith**
18. **\*Lee and Ann Swain**
19. **\*Peter "Rupy" Ruplenas**
20. **\*Don Jellema**
21. **\*Ron Frankum TTU Vietnam Project**
22. **Duane Austin (DINFOS & 55<sup>th</sup> Sig. Co.)**
23. **BG Robert E. Gaylord (Will drop by)**
24. **Richard Welsh (Dandy Cruise)**
25. **Robert Lafoon (Dandy Cruise)**

**\* Reunion attendees staying at the Holiday Inn, Bethesda, MD**

# DASPO Memorial

1. Kermit Yoho	KIA	Pacific 10 February 1966
2. Charles (Rick) Rein	KIA	Pacific 21 November 1968
3. Ray E. Allan		Pentagon, Pacific and Panama
4. Herbert H. Ballinger		Pentagon, Pacific and Panama
5. Richard Baun		Pacific
6. John C. Brown		Pacific
7. Harold A. (Hal) Bryan		Pentagon and Pacific
8. Warren Colville		Pentagon
9. Donzelle Davis		Pentagon
10. J.D. Devan		Panama
11. Bill Donahoe		CONUS
12. Tom Hanson		Pacific
13. Tomas (Tom) Larsen		Pacific
14. Jim Lucas		Pacific
15. Leroy Massie		Pentagon and Pacific
16. Timothy W. (Tim) Mowrey		Pacific
17. Robert J. Payne		CONUS
18. Pleas (Skip) Penny		Pacific
19. Wynn G. (Dick) Richards		Pacific
20. Martin (Marty) Steinbis		Pacific, Panama and CONUS
21. Kazuo (Charlie) Uchima		Pacific
22. Thomas O. (Tom) Wade		Pacific
23. Jack H. Yamaguchi		CONUS and Pacific



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SPECIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICE  
REUNION GROUP

Dear Mrs. Yamaguchi

We are saddened and grieve whenever a member of DASPO leaves us. Jack is remembered at a prayer service as all of the deceased members are at each of our reunions. As our group ages more of our members pass on. We want to be sure that a legacy be left for men like Jack.

The DASPO reunion group has formed an affiliation with Texas Tech University. This relationship does several things for DASPO members and there families.

1. Texas Tech has agreed to archive both our personal and the material we recorded as DASPO members. The material will be archived for posterity in a climate-controlled library. This material will be able to be viewed in a large viewing room for generations to come. It will also be put on a web site with a link to Texas Tech that will be very user friendly. Each member will have his own link so that you can view his contribution.
2. We have also established a scholarship fund in the name of Rick Rein and Kermit Yoho who were killed in Vietnam while working for DASPO. This scholarship fund will be used for students to find our DASPO material and digitize it. As you know DASPO shot millions of feet of film and hundreds of thousands of still images.

Texas Tech is looking for us to provide any material that we may have, scrapbooks, photos, uniforms, ribbons etc. All DASPO members are proud of what we accomplished while serving our country and especially what DASPO did from a historical standpoint. Jack was a part of it. We want to make sure his contribution is recognized so please send his material to the DASPO site at Texas Tech University, Special Collections, Room 108, Lubbock, TX 79409-1045 Attention Ron Frankum. Make sure you clearly mark DASPO and your spouses name.

If you have any questions please call me at

Again we are sorry of your loss and we share in your grief.

Sincerely yours,

Stewart Barbee  
DASPO President



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SPECIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICE

June 23, 2002

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Many people in America watched the nightly news in the Vietnam era relying on the sights and sounds they received to help them better understand the war. Unheralded combat cameramen captured many of these sights and sounds. I was with such a group of men called DASPO short for Department of the Army Special Photographic Office. Our group was in direct command of the U.S. Army/Joint Chief of Staff-Pentagon.

Two of our men started their career by covering WWII. One man filmed the D-Day landings at Normandy and he later became a Colonel who commanded our unit. The other started his career filming the landings on Iwo-Jima.

We have formed a reunion group, which has been active over the past eight years. A scholarship fund was established in the name of two of our cameramen who were killed in Vietnam. This scholarship fund will be used by Texas Tech University, who has the largest Vietnam archive in the world. Our wish is to fund graduate students who would locate and digitize the material we shot and the footage the North Vietnamese did as well. In the in the 13 years of DASPO's existence we shot hundreds of thousands of still images and millions of feet of film. The North Vietnamese also shot a lot of film and their film is in worse shape than ours. The 35mm and 16mm film is potentially deteriorating. If this footage is not found soon and restored we will loose a great deal of history.

Our group is raising funds from the suppliers whose equipment we used while in the military. We would like you to be one of the Honorary Co-Chairs of our event. The event will be held in the Los Angeles area the summer of 2004. We would like to have your name on the letterhead of the correspondence we will be sending to possible contributors. If possible we would also like you to use your influence in promoting this event and scholarship. Our goal is to raise a million dollars.

I am enclosing a VHS that was produced in 1969 on Combat Cameramen basically on our unit and a PowerPoint presentation explaining what DASPO is. Please consider our offer.

Sincerely yours.

Ted Acheson  
DASPO Event Chairman



Ni..Pi - Sorted by: Last

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Nieland, Richard  
Sp5 69-73  
Rt 2 Box 53

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[REDACTED]  
Carol Ann  
Daspo Panama

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Nohr, Hans P.  
Sp5 64-67

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[REDACTED]  
84C  
Daspo Panama

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O'Connor, John H.  
MAJ 69-70. Pacific Cmdr

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[REDACTED]  
Daspo Pac

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Osicka, Richard  
Sp5? 68-69 Lab Tech  
Cleveland OH ?  
Daspo Pac

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Owens, Robert  
Sp-5 ??-?? Broadcast Specialist  
Florida?  
Daspo Pac

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Steve  
Pacatte, Stephen V.  
Sp5 67-?  
Colorado?  
Daspo Pac

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Parker, Leroy  
Sp5 72-74?  
Daspo Pac

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Paulin, Gerard E.  
Sp5 72-?  
??  
CONUS

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Pawley, Leasel S.  
SP-5  
Daspo Panama

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Payne, Robert J.  
SFC 71-72, FSGT CONUS  
Deceased  
Deceased  
CONUS

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Harry  
Peacock, Harold  
Sp5 70-73?  
Boston?  
Daspo Pac

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Skip  
Penny, Pleas  
CPT 66-68  
Deceased???  
Deceased???  
Daspo Pac

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Perales, Catarino  
Sp-5 71-?  
Daspo Panama

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Perez, Richard  
LT ??-73?

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[REDACTED]  
CONUS

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Burt  
Peterson, Burton W.  
Sp5 67-69

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[REDACTED]  
Daspo Pac

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Phinney, David G.  
CPT 72-73?  
Los Angeles CA  
Christine?  
Daspo Pac

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Pierson, Milo G.  
SFC 71-72  
CONUS


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Po..Ru - Sorted by: Last

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Poirier III, Louis F.  
CPT 71-73, 73-74, Last Pac Cmdr

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Allison  
Daspo Pac  
CONUS

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Powell, James R.  
SSG ??-??  
CONUS

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Ken  
Powell, Kenneth L.  
Sp/5 67-69

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Kim  
Daspo Pac

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Primo, Sgt ??-??  
Daspo Pac

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Puhr, Frank  
SFC 69-72

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Daspo Pac

---

Purdy, William  
Burbank CA 91523

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Gene  
Randon, Eugene M.  
Sp6 70-72  
Daspo Pac  
CONUS

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Rick  
Rein, Charles F.  
SGT 67-68  
KIA - 21 November 1968  
Middle name, Fredrick  
Downed chopper  
84C KIA  
Daspo Pac

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Dick  
Richards, Wynn G.  
CPT 68-70  
Deceased - 2001  
CA

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Deceased  
H:310 545-800531  
Nancy  
Daspo Pac

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Rivera, José C.  
Sp5 62-64 1st team member  
California?  
Daspo Pac

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Robertin, Hector  
SSG 67-69

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Thida  
Daspo Pac Daspo Panama

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Rodriguez, Virgil  
SSG 65-68  
Panama?  
Daspo Pac Daspo Panama

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Rogers III, Thomas  
1Lt 71-74 Last Panama Cmd.  
Daspo Panama  
CONUS

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Jerry  
Ruckert, Gerhard G.  
SSG 72-74?  
Daspo Pac

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Ruff, Herbert L.  
SSG 62-64 1st team member

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Daspo Pac

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# Reunion Schedule

## Wednesday, October 16, 2002

We will travel from all over the globe to meet and greet at the Holiday Inn in Bethesda, MD. Reunion attendees will be responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from the reunion.

★ Dinner is on your own.

## Thursday, October 17, 2002

### Morning:

Breakfast provided.

8:00am bus departure from the hotel.

Tour of United States Defense Information School, Ft. George Meade, MD.

Lunch provided.

### Afternoon:

Tour of 55th Signal Company Combat Camera, Ft. Meade, MD.

DASPO eventually became 55th Combat Camera after a few name changes along the way.

★ Dinner is on your own.

## Friday, October 18, 2002

### Morning:

Breakfast provided.

8:00am bus departure from the hotel

Tour the Army Visual Information Center (AVIC) the Pentagon.

Lunch provided.

(continued on next page)



Afternoon

Bus to Arlington National Cemetery, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial and the Washington mall area.

★ Dinner is on your own.

**Saturday, October 19, 2002**

Morning:

Breakfast provided.

7:00am bus departure from the hotel to Gettysburg, PA, We will pick up a tour guide at the park and tour the museum and the battleground using our bus for park transportation.

Box lunch provided. (Jungle Lunch)

★ Evening: (*Attention Gentlemen: Coat and Tie Required*)

5:30pm bus departure from the hotel to the cruise ship, "Dandy".

Once aboard, we will have our DASPO Banquet while cruising on the Potomac River.

**Sunday, October 20, 2002**

Travel day.

Reunion attendees will be responsible for their own travel arrangements.

**Thanks for coming!**

# DASPO

## Department of the Army Special Photographic Office 1962 – 1974

THE DASPO REUNION GROUP WAS FORMED  
~~This organization is founded~~ to promote the historical, photographic and sound images captured by its members. Our charter will cover one era, the Vietnam War. The Department of the Army Special Photographic Office (DASPO) was established to provide non-biased information to the Department of the Army and the United States Congress.

The Vietnam War and its surroundings made it the most documented war in our country's history. DASPO's creative teams were a part of this and wish to share its experiences with today's groups of military newsgathering organizations. DASPO members who served during these years share their knowledge with each other and other interested parties. We continue to promote and teach the documentary style that we established. The continued DASPO meetings are intended to promote this documentary past, which its members recorded.

This organization has established the DASPO Archive at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas. We will establish a scholarship fund at Texas Tech University, funding preservation of images and sound recordings in the name of Kermit H. Yoho and Charles F. (Rick) Rein, who were killed in action in Vietnam.

ERA OF  
FILM THE VIETNAM



## Notes

1. FIND A NAME
2. WRITE LETTERS ON  
PROPER STATIONARY
3. FOLLOW UP

# **DASPO Business Meeting**

## **Bethesda, MD October 2002**

- (1) Call to order. (Ask someone to take notes)
- (2) Treasurers report. (John Gilroy)
- (3) Minutes of last meeting. (Provided in packet, can vote to accept as written)
- (4) Charter (update)
- (5) Old Business

- A. Status of Yoho / Rein Scholarship. Funding preservation (wet gate) of images
- B. Status of DASPO Archive. (TTU Vietnam Project)
- C. DASPO Web Page. ([www.daspo.com](http://www.daspo.com))
- D. Collection of artifacts & Photography
- E. Letter to widows
- F. Letter to Lucas

### **(6) New Business**

- A. Goals
- B. Super Trip
- C. Other

- (7) Election of officers. President, Vice President, and Treasurer.  
Ask for nominations from the floor. Vote one office at a time.  
Ted Acheson named Event Chairman.

### **(8) Adjournment**



# Notes

(1) Call to order (Ask someone to take notes)

(2) Presentation (John Gatto)

(3) Minutes of last meeting (provided in packet, can vote to accept as

(4) Chapter (update)

(5) Old Business

A 2 year or 3 year term scholarship funding presentation with

photo of images

to status of D/2/0 Archive (TU Vietnam history)

(6) DASPO Website (www.daspo.org)

(7) Collection of minutes & photography

(8) Letter to widows

(9) Letter to Lucas

(10) New Business

(11) A. Goals

(12) B. Super Trip

(13) C. Other

(14) Election of officers (President, Vice President, and Treasurer)

(15) Ask for nominations from the floor (Vote one office at a time)

(16) Motion passed (John Gatto)

(17) Adjournment