

Binh Thuy AB

by **Duke Windsor, Sgt**

632nd Security Police Squadron, 8 July 1966

As a brief history during the time I was at Binh Thuy, we were entertained by Charlie and his 75mm recoilless rifles on 8 July 66 at 0013 hours with 75-80 rounds. Then again on 24 December 66 at 0126 hours with 45-50 rounds. On 12 January 67 at 0146 hours with another 65-70 rounds. The next month, 12 February 67 at 0241 hours with 35-40 rounds. Then one month before I left, 27 March 67 at 0004 hours we received another 35-40 rounds. *(Photo right is of the entry point where Sgt Lehman was killed. The picture is of Duke Windsore standing guard in the gate shack and was taken prior to A1C Lehman being KIA.)*

A1C Millard Lehman was the armory technician for Binh Thuy AB. My first contact with him was when I arrived on base and reported to the armory to check out weapons and ammo. Since Binh Thuy was still a new Air Base most of the weapons were new and still sealed in the factory package, complete with cosmoline coating. When Lehman slid the Smith and Wesson Combat Masterpiece across the counter to me I promptly returned it to him and announced that I wanted a "real" side arm. I had carried a Colt 45 semi state side at Randolph AFB in law enforcement. After he calmly explained to me that I wasn't in Randolph AFB and that was all I was going to get, I accepted.

I then reported to the *Devil Flight* barracks and discovered the lower bunk that was open happened to be right below A1C Lehman's. That worked out fine, he worked days, I work nights as did all of Devil Flight.

Airman Lehman would come out at night, around mid-night, and help with chow relief for those who wanted to eat at the chow hall. Most of us preferred C-rations. Anyway, on 8 July 1966 he was doing just that, helping with relief (on his own time). He was relieving A1C **John Sharp** in the entry control point on the South East corner of the compound, the gate closest to the AP barracks. Also the guard shack with the batteries for the siren in it. That day was one of the few times I actually went to the chow hall.

A group of us had just left the mess building when the first round came over us. The siren started to scream, then just quit. A1C Lehman had taken a direct hit from a 75 mm recoilless rifle. The final count of incoming that night was between 75 and 80 rounds.

We built a memorial for Airman Lehman by the Chapel/Theater.



The Memorial photo was taken on the East side of the Base Chapel/Theater, which has a nice color photo in Binh Thuy's Photos at [Binh Thuy Photos, 1969-70](#), by Wayne D. Dezarn. It is nice to see that his memorial was carried on and shared with other brother AP's.

At the theatre building, we watched our two favorite cartoons, Road Runner and *Combat!*, starring Vic Morrow. At the time of his death, Lehman had a small daughter. He was one of the quieter of the bunch of us and kept pretty much to himself. His death brought a real sense of what we had been trained for. Also we all grew up a lot that night and the respect for life became a reality.

Years later, I found A1C Millard Lehman's name on one of **The Moving Walls**. Although it was almost 100 degrees, it might as well have been raining, as the eyes did not focus too well.

Duke Windsor, Sgt
632nd APS, Devil Flight
Binh Thuy AFB, Vietnam.

Official Information

A1C Millard Wesley Lehman
Combat Awards: **Purple Heart**
Killed In Action, 632 APS
Air Force - Regular
23 year old Single, Caucasian, Male
Born on 05/14/43
From NACO, ARIZONA
Length of service 4 years.
Casualty was on 07/08/66
in PHONG DINH, SOUTH VIETNAM
HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY
ARTILLERY, ROCKET, or MORTAR
Body was recovered
Panel 09E - - Line 7

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