



GUARDMOUNT

Volume 8, Issue 2

October, 2002



IN-COUNTRY TRAINING

In-country training, what can be said about it? After an RVN bound SP had attended the AZR "Combat Preparedness" course at Lackland (others had it Hamilton AFB), he knew just enough to be dangerous to himself and those around him. How much motivation and knowledge can be crammed into 3 days? While the mission of the Security Police Squadrons was basically the same, the methods and materials were different for each base, as well as the topography. I cannot speak for other squadrons training sections, only the 12th/483rd, which was my assignment. A typical training session was five days in length and always began on Monday. If a "newbie" arrived at midweek, he was assigned to start training the following Monday. All new trainees would report to the Squadron Orderly room on Monday morning where they would be picked up and transported to the training facility. The following schedule was typical of a training session:

DAY ONE:

ORIENTATION: Usually, an briefing of the base amenities, and squadron facilities, the mission and assets. Also, a briefing on potential and real local threats and the reaction expected of them. All trainees were assigned to the Training Section QRT in the event of an attack.

INTELLIGENCE: Every session began with any intelligence that had been received.

BOOBY TRAPS: A briefing on the possibility of encountering an enemy booby trap and a static display of some actual and locally manufactured booby traps.

ENEMY WEAPONS: A briefing on the various types of weapons used by the VC/NVA.

ENEMY TACTICS: A briefing on the tactics of the VC/NVA used in the local area and throughout the country.

DAY TWO

WEAPONS FAMILIARIZATION: The trainees would be picked up at the orderly room where they would check out their assigned weapons (M-16), the training section would check out the number of M-60 machine guns, M-79 grenade launchers so each trainee would be able to handle the weapon. They would then be transported to the training section where they would field strip their weapon and "become familiar" with it. Some of the M-16s had XM-148 grenade launchers attached and the trainees who had those weapons were given training of them. Then they would break into "crew serve" teams and strip the M-60s and become familiar with them. After lunch, the trainees would be given

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VSPA POINTS OF CONTACT

President: Kevin Fitzgerald
1219 2nd Ave. S
Nashville, TN 37210
(615) 835-0004
kevinfitzgerald@hilton.com

Vice Pres: Steve Gattis
616 W. Medallion Ct.
Ontario, CA 91762
gattis@gte.net

Treasurer: Denis Cook
12427 Heatherton Court #244
San Diego, CA 92128
denis@ixpres.com

Membership: Terry Morris
W5148 E. Bush
Pardeeville, WI 53954
(608) 429-9090
incoming@jvl.net.com

Chaplain: Steve Janke
739 Hill Street
Carlstadt, NJ 07072
jank953208@aol.com

Guardmount: Dave Dobson
5315 Bevens Avenue
Spring Hill, FL 34608
(352) 683-2767
camranh@tampabay.rr.com

Notice

If you are planning any VSPA activities in your area and would like them to be mentioned in *Guardmount* please send me the information with enough lead time to print it in an issue that will come out before the event.

I am still looking for material for coming issues of the *Guardmount*, if you have an event that you have not shared with the rest of your buddies put on paper and send it to us. Keep your publication about you. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Editor



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



It's almost time for the reunion and I wanted to take this space to thank, especially Steve Gattis for all of his hard work for this reunion, as well as the other dedicated officers of this Great Association.

I was at a marked disadvantage by not being "On Line" till just recently and the organization went on, and as I said above the dedication I have seen is remarkable.

We will have our business meeting, elections and I hope a generally great time. I needed to tell you all in this *Guardmount*, that the Highest Honor in my life was being called the President of this Association. I hope to stay an active member, and be around for a long time, God willing.

I really look forward to seeing everyone who will attend, and if you have never been to a reunion yet, make plans to join us soon at the next one. All the reunions I have attended have given me a renewed spirit, love for our Association and a chance to make new friends and renew old friendships. I am very glad I got to see Ted, Jose and several others before their "Dismount."

God Bless each of you, and I look forward to seeing many in Dayton, and even more next year.

Should you ever need to come to Nashville give me a CALL. !!!!

Till next time.....

Kevin J. Fitzgerald, President
377TH SPS
TAN SON NUHT, RVN "66-67"

SP STOP SAPPERS

It was just after 9 pm on May 23 and Airmen 1st Class Eugene Blaskowski, Stephen A. Janke and George A. Reavis and their sentry dogs had just assumed their positions near the base POL storage area.

Almost immediately, Blaskowski's dog "King" alerted. The airman yelled to the other two men to determine if the alert was due to their movement, the frequent boars in the area or something else.

It was something else for Janke's dog, another "King" and Reavis' dog "Rebel" also alerted.

The next moment, a bare chested man, half crouching and with the perimeter lighting in his eyes approached Airman Blaskowski's post, Kilo 4.

At almost the same moment a small group of men approached the POL area through Kilo 6 area where they encountered Airman Janke.

There was no need to challenge the intruders, as the three Security Policemen were now being fired on by small arms - probably pistols.

As the three returned the fire, and broke into the sudden radio traffic reporting the firing, they were also retreating to make way for the responding Kilo reserve units and a Security Alert Team. The penetrators meanwhile threw satchel charges, one which slightly wounded Blaskowski and deafened his dog.

Amidst the uproar of incoming and outgoing fire, the crackle of terse radio transmissions and the noise of the dogs, especially the injured "King" - the sky to the south was suddenly lighted by exploding POL stores in the Army Support Command area.

The explosives were probably set by this or a similar enemy sapper team.

As quickly as it began, it was all over. Airmen Janke and Reavis swept the POL area to uncover any planted explosives, with negative results.

Janke's feeling that his fire had been effective was confirmed by blood trails discovered later and the seriousness of the assault was attested to by an uncovered campsite still containing grenades and plastic explosive charges.

Meanwhile, Airman Blaskowski was taken to the 483rd USAF Hospital for treatment.

The security men had met the enemy almost eyeball to eyeball ("he couldn't have been more than 20 feet away," said Blaskowski), and for the third time this year a force of trained enemy sappers, possibly as many as 15 of them, had failed to breach the perimeter defenses of the air base here.

"The handlers and their dogs undoubtedly caused the enemy to make a premature commitment," said Lt. Col. Walter R. Meade, 483rd Security Police Squadron, "and I'm damn proud of them."

So is everyone else at Cam Ranh Bay AB.

*Taken from the Caribou Clarion
Vol. I No. 34 Jun 11, 1971
Cam Ranh Bay AB, RVN*

**REMINDER!
DUES
DUE
JANUARY 1, 2003
DON'T FORGET IT!**

OF YOUNG MEN AND THE VIETNAM WAR

Of Young Men and the Vietnam War

Young men sent to a far away shore

It was called a mere conflict instead of a war

But the young men knew its real name was war

And they marched off to fulfill a patriot's chore

The innocence of all was stripped quickly away

They lived on life's edge day after day

Unwanted by those whose lives they would save

Unloved by their countrymen and not the latest rave

Their bonds were made strong by a similar plight

They vowed their devotion and to make a good fight

The hot sun beat down like a fire from hell

There was not much rest and never enough mail

Twilight brought them no rest not respite

For Charlie lurked hidden in the dark shadows of
night

With a satchel charge and an AK clutched in his
hand

He brought much death and destruction into the land

And the death angel would stand silently just out of
sight

While young men were sleeping quietly who did not
know their coming plight

When rockets would slam into the soft sandy
ground

If your name was written on it you never heard that
round

Some were unlucky and some weren't prepared

And every young man was equally scared

Their voices would quiver as they tried to make jest

While 122's were falling launched from a far away
crest

The night sky was lit up a bright cherry red

Young men were heard to scream from a hospital
bed

Yesterday they had spoken of leaving that place

But before the dawn broke they met God face to
face

At dawn all could look and could clearly see

The results of the battle which had been a melee

Holes blasted in parts of a winding road

Buildings peppered by the impact of the rockets
spent load

The places men slept were ripped and torn

The bloodstains cried out: FROM THESE NO
CHILD SHALL BE BORN

The grim reapers thirst only partially slaked

While young men sat and waited for the next he
would take The wait was short as a sniper's bullet

found it's mark

An Air Force sentry lay wounded and alone just
before dark

I'm sure folks at home never heard of these as-
saults

Probably too busy with a job or maybe their
thoughts

Oh, if these things could only be hyperbole

Wish it were so for many would still have their
sanity

Alas, it is true, all that I've wrote and now young
men must forbear

With those that forgot them and never did care

Now Hail the heroes of World War II, Korea, and
the Persian Gulf campaign

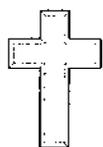
While young men - now old - sit thinking again

Will we be remembered as time passes by?

No, indeed, except by those who served beside us
and by Almighty God way up in the sky

Steve Ray

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CHAPLAIN 'S CORNER



(Continued from page 1)

training on the M-72 LAAW, the claymore mine, and "slap flares" (using empty or inert training devices).

DAY THREE

WEAPONS FIRING: As on the previous day, trainees were picked up at the orderly room, transported to the armory where they checked out their weapons, M-60s and M-79s. Then they went to the training facility where they picked up a C-ration meal box and were transported to the firing range. There they "zeroed" their respective M-16s and conducted familiarization fire. The all had an opportunity to fire an M-60 and an M-79. Those with the XM-148 fired the launcher of their weapon. An M-72 LAAW and Claymore mine was fired by the training instructor as a demonstration. All trainees "launched" at least one slap flare.

DAY FOUR:

SMALL UNIT TACTICS: Security Alert Teams (SAT) and Quick Reaction Teams (QRT) were the mobile tactical units of the squadron, augmenting the permanent manned defensive positions and observation posts (OP). The trainees were picked up at the orderly room with either an M-113 track or M-706 APC (commonly called a pig), and transported to the armory where they again picked up their weapons and then to the training facility. There they were given a "tour" of the vehicle and were briefed on deployment patterns from either vehicle. After lunch the trainees were transported to a "typical" area they might be called upon to deploy and practiced the maneuvers.

DAY FIVE

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS Usually the students were picked up and transported to the training section where they were "introduced" to the M-151 Jeep. Each trainee took his turn maneuvering through the sand and jungle (the training section was situated off a small patch of jungle) and Cam Ranh Bay was ALL sand!. In the afternoon, the trainees were loaded onto an M-113 track and were taken on a tour of the perimeter of the base, stopping at each defensive or observation post and the "particulars" of each discussed. Then the trainees were released to report to their respective flight assignments.

INSEPARABLE THINGS

"What ...God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matt. 19:6 God has united truth and love, privilege and responsibility, belief and conduct, submission and freedom, sin and punishment, faithfulness and reward, and character and destiny.

MEMORY OF MASTER SERGEANT OLBERT HIETT

U.S. Air Force M.P., A.P., S.P. and US Marshal
World War II, Korea and Vietnam

Sergeant Hiett dutifully served his country for almost fifty years, in the United States Air Force and as a United States Marshal. He demonstrated his courage and leadership on numerous occasions as a combat soldier, (three tours in Vietnam) as well as a United States Marshal. He earned every accolade bestowed him, including two Bronze Stars.

It was my pleasure and privilege to have served with Sergeant Hiett from 1960 through 1964. It is my honor to say, Sergeant Olbert Heitt was my Comrade in Arms, as well as a true friend. He was a credit to his country, profession and himself.

Sergeant Olbert Heitt was the epitome of the meaning: "Country, Duty and Honor."

Sergeant Hiett will be missed and long remembered by all who knew him. I salute him for a lifetime of devotion to his principles and his country.

*Jackie R. Kays
S.Sgt. USAF
1950 to 1966*

*Clifford Wilson, TSgt (Ret)
12th/483rd SPS
Cam Ranh Bay AB, RVN 70-71*

AP/SP AFSC LIST FOR VIETNAM WAR

From the early 70's, until the Security Police was renamed "Security Force", there were two Air Force Specialties Code (AFSC) for Security Police, 811X0 (Security Specialist) and 812X0 (Law Enforcement Specialist). The 4th number in the AFSC was for the skill level (3 - graduated tech school, 5-fully qualified, 7-supervisory level). If the letter A was on the end of the AFSC the person was a dog handler. The letter T in front of the AFSC was for instructor qualified.

In the early days (after the AFSC split into two specialties), all dog handlers were security specialist. As patrol dogs started being used for law enforcement purposes, law enforcement specialist (812X0) started completing the dog school. This made it possible to have Security Specialist dog handlers (guarding priority A resources) and law enforcement specialist dog handlers patrolling the base.

As patrol dog utilization increased on bases, that did not have Priority A resources (Nukes), the majority of handlers were law enforcement specialist. Interesting enough all the dog school instructors were security specialist. This meant that the majority of experience in the dog program, was in the specialty that used the least amount of dogs (Security). Eventually, all dog handlers were assigned in the law enforcement specialist. In the late 70's, a shortened course was taught at the Lackland Dog School to change instructors from the 811 (security specialist) to 812 (law enforcement specialist).

In the early days, after the AFSC split, the Air Force would let a person bounce between career fields. All you needed to get a secondary AFSC was to show that you had worked in the field. For example, an APR showing that you had worked law enforcement would get you a law enforcement specialist AFSC as your secondary AFSC. An unknown number of dog handlers were trapped in the wrong career field.

The following are USAF AFSC for Air/Security Police during the Vietnam War. It is not complete and may contain errors. There may be others, and probably are. I find it interesting, and thought you might to. If you note errors, or know of additional AFSC to list, please let me know.

77010 * Air Police Helper
8121 * Air Police Officer
8124 * Air Police Officer
77190 * Air Police Superintendent
77170 * Air Police Supervisor
77170A * Air Police Supervisor (K-9)
77150 * Air Policeman
77150A * Air Policeman (K-9)
77130 * Apprentice Air Policeman
77130A * Apprentice Air Policeman (K-9)
81130 * Apprentice Security Policeman
81130A * Apprentice Security Policeman (K-9)
99135 * Combat Security Policeman
8111 * Provost Marshall
8116 * Provost Marshall
8111 * Security and L. E. Staff Officer
8116 * Security and L. E. Staff Officer
8121 * Security Police Officer
8124 * Security Police Officer
8111 * Security Police Staff Officer
8116 * Security Police Staff Officer
81210 * Security Police Helper (LE)
81230 * Security Police Specialis (LE)
81190 * Security Police Superintendent
81191 * Security Police Superintendent
81290 * Security Police Superintendent (LE)
81291 * Security Police Superintendent (LE)
81270 * Security Police Supervisor (LE)
81170 * Security Police Supervisor
81170A * Security Police Supervisor (K-9)
81250 * Security Police Technician (LE)
81150 * Security Policeman
81150A * Security Policeman (K-9)

Don Poss

*Danang Air Base, RVN, 1965-66, USAF
366th Air Police Squadron/K-9: Blackie, x129;
6252d APS; 35th APS; and 28th ABG/AP*

SOMEONE IN NEED OF HELP

I have been personally contacted by the pilot of an F-4 that blew up on the runway at Ubon AB, Thailand at 0220 hours on April 28, 1967. He and his GIB jumped to the runway from the aircraft that was already on fire with hung ordnance (six 750's, four AIM Sparrow missiles, and two canisters of CBU's). They tried to run from the aircraft but had great difficulty due to mud in the areas adjacent to the runway. They were picked up by an Air Police SAT Team just as CBU's started to explode. The SAT got them out of the area with the pilot in the bed of the truck and the GIB in the backseat of the International. The pilot had the driver call CSC to alert the fire fighters and other Air Police to get out of the area before the aircraft blew up. The resulting explosion left a crater in the runway and broke windows across the base and in town. Several lives were saved because the SAT picked them up and made the radio call.

The pilot, who is a retired Colonel, served at Ubon and later at Cam Ranh Bay. He is a good man who really understands what we did in the war.

The pilot submitted paperwork back in Thailand to award the Airman's Medal to the members of the SAT Team. He is certain that the paperwork did not go through and that these men were never recognized. He has talked with then 8th TFW Commander, Retired General Robin Olds. The pilot will submit the paperwork and Gen Olds will push it through the Secretary of the Air Force if we can ID the men. I have located two of our members who were there at the time(Ray Rash and Pete Coxon). They remember the incident, the actual explosions, the crater in the runway and the frantic calls over the radio, including the order to find the pilots, but they can't remember who was on the SAT.

This incident was published previously in the AF-SPA Magazine, Tiger Flight, but no information has come in from them. The information I got from RASH and Coxon is the best information so far.

Steve Gattis

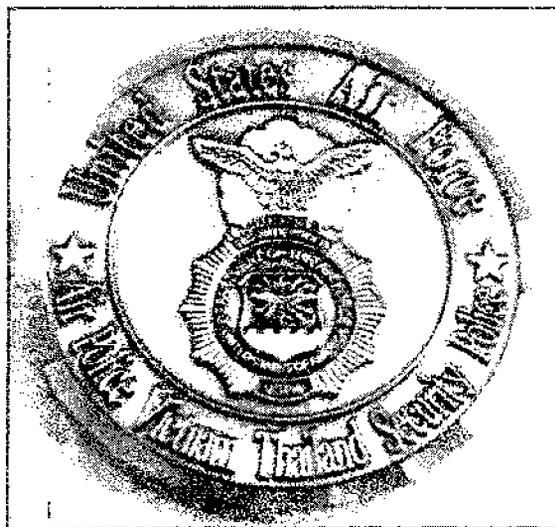
DISMOUNT

Once again we have lost another brother, Donald Worthington, TSgt (Ret) fell in the final Guardmount in the sky on March 21, 2002.

Richard C. Berghorn joined his K9 partner and fell in for his final Guardmount on August 26, 2002

Larry Sutherland is now attending that great Guardmount in the heavens and drawing cartoons for them. He joined them on September 29, 02.

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WHY IS OUR FLAG FOLDED LIKE THAT?

Have you ever noticed on TV or at military funerals that the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times?

I've known how the 21-gun salute was determined (adding the digits of 1776), but only recently learned why the flag was folded 13 times when it is lowered or when it is folded and handed to the widow at the burial of a veteran. Here it is:

- a. The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.
- b. The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.
- c. The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.
- d. The fourth fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for his divine guidance.
- e. The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."
- f. The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.
- g. The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that

we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

h. The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

i. The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty, and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

j. The tenth fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

k. The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

l. The twelfth fold, in the eyes of Christian citizens, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

m. When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our nation's motto, "In God We Trust."

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things which have a deep meaning.



VSPA BX PRODUCT SALES



Patches:

- a. VSPA Patches _____ \$ 5.00
- b. QC Patches _____ \$ 5.00
- c. SP Badge Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- d. Air Force Vietnam Vet Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- e. Tet 68 Survivor Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- f. 7th Air Force Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- g. POW/MIA Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- h. I've Been There Vietnam Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- i. Brothers Forever Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- j. In Memory Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- k. Vietnam Service Ribbon Patch _____ \$ 4.00
- l. QC Back Patch (9") _____ \$15.00
- m. U.S. Air Force Back Patch (10") _____ \$15.00

Pins:

- a. QC Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- b. 7th Air Force Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- c. Air Force Vietnam Vet Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- d. Tet 68 Survivor Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- e. POW/MIA Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- f. POW/MIA Pin w/Eagle _____ \$ 4.00
- g. POW/MIA Cross w/Black Ribbon Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- h. In Memory Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- i. Vietnam Tab Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- j. Vietnam Base Pins (Bien Hoa, Binh Thuy, Cam Ranh Bay, Da Nang, Nha Trang, Phan Rang, Pleiku, Phu Cat, Ton Son Nhut) _____ \$ 4.00
- k. U.S. Air Force (Geretic) _____ \$ 4.00
- i. Vietnam Service Ribbon Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- m. Vietnam Veteran With Ribbon Bar Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- n. New Air Force Security Forces Pin _____ \$ 4.00
- o. Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) Pin _____ \$ 4.00

Stickers:

- a. VSPA Bumper Sticker _____ \$ 1.00
- b. 7th Air Force _____ \$ 3.00
- c. Vietnam Service Ribbon _____ \$ 3.00
- d. U.S. Air Force _____ \$ 3.00
- e. POW/MIA (Inside or Outside) _____ \$ 1.00

Hats: (Baseball Style Black) \$12.00

- a. VSPA Association
- b. QC Plain
- c. QC w/Flight Tab above QC (Ranger, Tiger, Phantom, Cobra)
- d. Security Police Shield
- e. U.S. Air Force Vietnam Veteran With Ribbon Bar
- f. QC w/K-9 Tab above QC and Dog Embroidered on side of the hat \$14.00

Miscellaneous:

- a. Security Police Mini Shields (Numbered) _ \$10.00
- b. Security Police Qualification Badges _____
(Lg \$4.00 - Sm \$2.00)
- c. 7th Air Force Coin _____ \$12.00
- d. Paper Weights Marble w/QC SP Shield or VSPA _____ \$15.00
- e. VSPA Stoneware Coffee Mugs Coblt Blue W/Logos _____ \$12.00
- f. VSPA 1 3/4 oz. Shot Glass w/Logos \$ 6.00
- g. Stainless Steel USAF Travel Coffee Mug _ \$10.00
(U. S. Air Force Available Only)
- h. U.S. Air Force Magnate (Size Approx. 3") - \$ 3.00
- i. Belt Buckels (Vietnam Veteran w/Ribbons)
(U.S. Air Force Generic) _____ \$12.00
- j. Black Laminated Wood Clocks (U.S.A.F. or Vietnam Memorial) _____ \$45.00
- k. Full Size Vietnam Service Medal w/Ribbon Set _____ \$12.00
- l. 3x5 Flags (U.S.A.F. or POW/MIA) _____ \$12.00

Shirts:

- a. Deluxe Polo Style Shirt w/QC Emblem on the Front
(Size S, M, L, XL - \$25.00 XXL - \$28.00)
- b. Cadet Sweatshirts w/QC Emblem on the Front
(Size S, M, L, XL - \$35.00 XXL - \$38.00)

Coming Soon A New Style Jacket and T-shirt

Please Add \$3.00 For Shipping and Handling for All Orders Under \$50.00 - Orders Over \$50.00 Please Add \$4.50 For Shipping and Handling.

Please Make Checks or Money Orders Payable to Vietnam Security Police Association (VSPA)

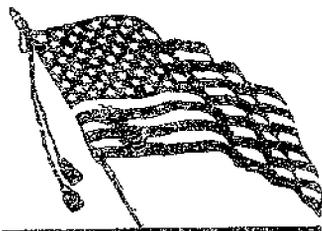
Sorry No Credit Card Orders Yet.

Send to Mike Daoust 401 N. Kiesel St. Bay City, MI 48706

GUARDMOUNT
DAVID DOBSON
5315 BEVENS AVE.
SPRING HILL, FL 34608

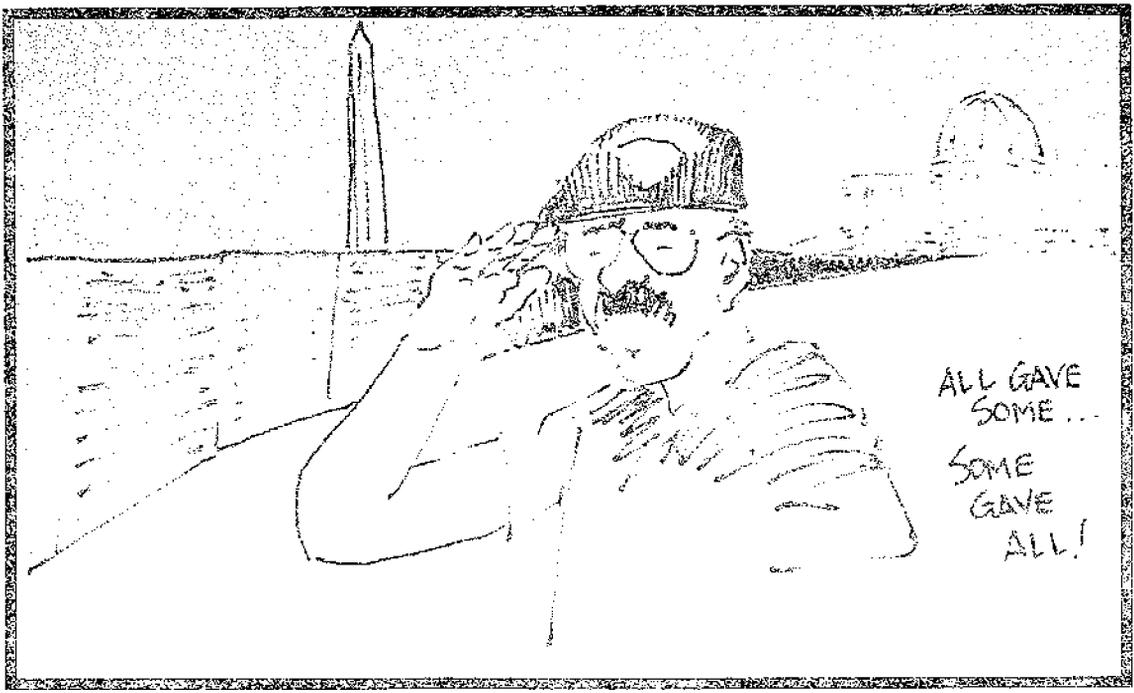
GUARDMOUNT

First Class



AMERICA IS #1
Thanks to our
Veterans

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The last drawing from Larry. He will be missed.