

Vietnam Security Police Association Guardmount

Memorial Day and the 4th of July are fast approaching, a holiday, a day for family and friends, Bar-B-Q's and cookouts. A day to celebrate our freedom. Please take a moment and remember all of our brothers. You will find a schedule of the Moving Wall on page 8. Check it out for the dates it will be in your area.

On page 7 you will find a **New Guardmount Logo** submitted by Life Member #35, Mike Kennedy. It really appears to be a labor of love with a lot of effort to do something really nice. If no one objects I will continue to use this logo in future editions. Also I'm trying a new format. The outside of Guardmount is blue while the inside is white. The white makes it easier to use graphics and makes it easier to read articles (Us older guys will appreciate the easier to read part).

A special thank you to Erylce Pekas and Tom Ames. Erylce and Tom came onboard to help edit and put articles together. This frees up my time to work on style and layout. It is always a race from the first of the month to have Guardmount to the printer by the middle of the month. Also, there is a second group of members who help prepare Guardmount for mailing. Joan and Frank Pilson have been a mainstay in this area during the past year.

Last year I asked the membership for **articles** to post in Guardmount. And you responded with some of the best stories I've ever seen. In fact, you responded so well that I had enough material to last a year. Thank you.

But now my well is running dry and I'm asking for your help again. I'm always on the look out for items of interest. There are many stories yet to be told. I now have Erylce and Tom to help edit those stories and they are standing by ready to help put your story together. So type your story, E-mail your story, write them in long hand, but get your story to me.

Denis Cook
1632 Manor Blvd.
Lancaster, PA 17603
vspa_tres@netzero.com

Life Memberships are available as follows:

Age 41 to 50, \$180.00
Age 51 to 60, \$160.00
Age 61 to 70, \$130.00
Age 71 to 80, \$ 90.00
Age 80 + \$ 55.00

If you paid your 2005 dues or paid dues in advance, they will be applied to your life membership. We are now close to 200 Life Members. Please mail your payments to me.

We received the following from Angie Gittle.s. Regrettably, **Vincent Gittles** went to Post Everlasting on 12/19/04.

This will be the last issue of Guardmount you will receive if you did not pay your dues for 2005. Please pay your \$15.00 now.

The Biggest *SNAFU SECRET*

The Biggest *SNAFU SECRET*:
Aliases used to protect the guilty

*The Biggest *SNAFU Secret I Knew**
in the Vietnam War:

SHOTGUN!

by: John Fox

31st Security Police Squadron

Tuy Hoa Air Base

1969-70

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At Tuy Hoa AB, Security Police walked the flight line and carried shotguns for five hours at a stretch. A hundred degrees--*they still walked*. Monsoon storm--*they still walked*. The shotguns were supposed to be loaded with 12 gauge .00 rounds (4/1), with a load of 12 more rounds in a pouch. Sometimes we found that someone had replaced the rounds with birdshot--and that really pissed us off! Sometimes someone inserted a sixth *unauthorized round* in the weapon.

One night, after walking five hours, and carrying that damn shotgun, one of the security policemen, *Airman Smith*, headed out to the edge of the flight line to relieve the bunker guard, *Airman Brown*. [Editor: I have the feeling Airmen Smith and Brown will be blamed for a lot in these *SNAFU Stories*.] Smith had to spend the next three hours in the flight line bunker, with an M-16, while Airman Brown (relieved) turned in the shotgun and went back to the SP hooch.

While these two sky cops were waiting for the Relief Jeep to pick up relieved Airman Brown, Airman Smith decided to *clear the shotgun* before he gave it up. After ejecting all five rounds and placing them on top of the bunker, he began watching a C-130 that had just landed and was taxiing back up the runway. He said (as he aimed his shotgun towards the runway), "*Sometimes I'd just like to be able to shoot this thing at a real target!*" and then he squeezed the trigger on the EMPTY shotgun--*BOOOOOM!*

The startled Airman Smith saw sparks fly from the tail of the C-130! Unfortunately, Airman Brown *also saw* what happened. Smith quickly rechecked the five rounds on top of the bunker and then re-jacked the charging rod back--an empty casing flew out of the chamber and landed on the ground! Ohhh @!%\$#@! Airman Smith rechecked the rounds on the bunker again, and all the rounds in his pouch, and they were all there.

Airman Brown picked up the expended round and put it in his pocket. They looked at the far end of the flight line and saw the relief jeep coming, but still about two posts down. Airman Brown said, "Quick, give me the shotgun. I'll go down to the next post and wait there." So, Airman Smith waited for the jeep to arrive, just a few minutes later.

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The Biggest *SNAFU SECRET* - Continued

They asked where Airman Brown was and were told that he was down at the next post. He forgot to mention any unusual events, and *not a word was said about anything else*. The jeep took off. The rest of the shift Airman Smith *sweated blood . . .* and it wasn't from the heat. When he turned his M-16 and ammo in, in the morning, nothing was said about anything unusual.

Airman Smith went back to his hooch and tried to sleep--but a drink sounded better. When Smith woke up, he and Airman Brown discussed the issue. They determined that an *extra sixth round* had probably been stuck in the magazine and not removed, and just decided that it was a good time to come out. And yes, he had failed to look in the weapon properly. They determined that the noisy four engines of the C-130 must have drowned out the shotgun blast, so there was not too much to worry about--*RIGHT? after all:*

- 1) aircraft landed with small arms battle-damage fairly often, *and*
- 2) if certain Airmen kept their mouths such, *and*
- 3) *as long as* some confused crew chief didn't get *too* curious . . . and, most importantly,
- 4) . . . *Who Would Notice?*

Only a few people know the full extent of this story (such as the names of *Airmen Smith and Brown--* and that's just how *it will have to be*.

And that's the biggest *SNAFU SECRET* I ever knew--*and kept--in* the Vietnam War. So, don't tell anyone.

Blown Up...In Pleiku – Forrest “Sonny” Ashcraft

F. "Sonny" Ashcraft served as a USAF Security Police sentry dog (K-9) handler. His overseas duty included tours in both the Philippines and Vietnam. Between 1966-'68, "Sonny" served twenty months patrolling the fence lines and perimeters of the air bases during the hours of darkness with his K-9 partner. It was often lonely, dangerous duty but at times the boredom was shattered by the intensity of a K-9 alert on an often unseen enemy probing defensive positions, a stand off artillery attack or a ground attack. K-9 patrols were often the first to "detect and defend." Combat is a deadly, serious matter with an intensity that defies words. After thirty five years, Sonny has a way of defining his experience with some degree of levity. (Editor Tom Ames)

It happened shortly before Easter, 1968. On this particular night, my K-9, "Inca" and I were assigned to patrol the area of the POL storage facilities at Plicku air base, RVN. I was assigned to the 633rd SPS, K-9 Section and we had been on duty for several hours. The volatile POL tanks were within sight, slightly uphill, and to the left of my position. To the right, I could not see the distant runway of Plicku Air Base.

The night was quiet and I was getting bored and lonely. It was about 1:00 AM, as I recall, and I walked uphill toward a small dugout, sandbagged bunker position manned by another Security Policeman

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Blown Up..In Pleiku — Forrest "Sonny" Ashcraft -continued

who was my assigned backup. We shared a C-Ration and a smoke while we talked a bit, realizing that we had both come from the same base prior to our tour at Pleiku. Although we had never really met, we'd probably crossed paths while enjoying some relaxation and nightspots at our former duty station.

Suddenly our conversation was broken by the sound, *THWUMP- THWUMP-THWUMP*, the explosions of incoming mortars and rockets. Immediately, the sound of gunfire could be heard while flares and tracers lit the night sky. I said, "Shit, here we go again," and hot-footed it down the hill to my post on the fence line in an attempt to interdict any breach of the perimeter. Approaching the fence line, a huge explosion occurred; mortar, satchel charge or grenade? I'm still not sure, but the force and concussion of the explosion left a gaping hole in the wire and blew both Inca and me into the air.

I came down hard on my left side, really whacked my head and left knee on the ground and I figured I was dead (never having been dead before). I laid there for a few seconds then reached around for my dog, Inca. I put my arm around her and drew her close to me, she was not hurt but she was shaking like a leaf in a hurricane. The troop in the bunker was shooting full-auto toward the area I'd just come from. We figured "Charlie" blew a hole in the wire and the enemy must be charging toward the opening. I got up and ran for the bunker with Inca. Dropping into the bunker, both the SP troop and I kept up an intense fire directed toward the breach in the fence line.

In time, a ceasefire was sounded and every bunker, tower and K-9 patrol reported in a sit-rep; that's when I noticed the trooper in the bunker with me had a two to four inch shrapnel-type wound to his right cheek and cheek bone. We looked at each other and he said, "Man, I thought you were dead. You got blown way up in the air." I started feeling around and my left knee was bleeding and the material of the pant leg was all shredded, but basically we--and Inca, had come through unscathed.

The SP troop was picked up and taken to an aid station while I went back down on the fence line to continue my patrolling with one of those combat dressings wrapped around my knee.

When the K-9 patrols were relieved of duty at daybreak, I returned to the kennels. Only after Inca was taken care of did I go somewhere to have my knee cleaned and disinfected. They removed the dirt and small bits of BB-like shrapnel pieces that were not embedded too deeply. With a dose of military aspirin (*APCs or all-purpose-capsules, remember them?-Ed.*) Supposedly, enough was written in my medical records that I was to be awarded a Purple Heart, but I never did receive it. As so many others were wounded much worse than my little scrape, I never pursued it.

It was reported later, after a sweep of the area and a repair of the fence line, that they had found a blood trail and part of a Ho Chi Min sandal with part of a foot still in it. I don't know that for sure, it was just what I was told.

The bunker we had fought out of that night while defending the POL dump had to be rebuilt because of the explosion and shrapnel damage.

I never saw that SP troop again. I never knew his name nor he, mine. But I have spent thirty-five-plus years wishing I could find him and talk to him about that night when we fought together and lived through another night in Vietnam. Sure would like to find this fellow before we all get any older.

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Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

Interesting facts about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Sentinels of the Third United States Infantry Regiment "Old Guard".

The guard at the Tomb takes 21 steps, which alludes to the twenty-one gun salute, the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary. He also hesitates 21 seconds after his 90 degree turn to begin his return walk for the same reason. His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on his rifle. He does not always carry his rifle on the same shoulder; he carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb, and after his march across the path, he executes another 90 degree turn and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder. This signifies that the sentinel stands between the Tomb and any threat.

From 1926 through 1937, the Tomb was guarded only during daylight hours. Ever since 1937, however, the Tomb has been continuously guarded 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Between 8am and 7pm during the period from early Spring to early Autumn, the guards at the tomb are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year. At all other times, the guard is changed every 2 hours. For a person to apply for guard duty at the Tomb, he or she must be between 5'10" and 6'4" tall and his or her waist size cannot exceed 30 inches. The applicant must also be in superb physical condition and possess an unblemished military record.

Other requirements of the Guard: The average tour of duty for a sentinel is one year and the guard cannot disgrace the uniform or the Tomb in any way. The Tomb guards may live either on-base at nearby Ft. Meyers, or at off-base housing of their choosing. Once the sentinel has completed his or her training, he or she is examined formally for proficiency in performing the duties and in their knowledge of Arlington National Cemetery. Upon successful completion, the soldier is awarded a temporary Tomb Guard's badge at a ceremony presided over by the company commander. There are presently a little over 525 recipients. The Badge is worn on the pocket of their military uniform. The Tomb Guard Identification Badge is one of the least awarded badges in the Army, second only to the Astronaut Badge. Since the sentinels are held to such a high standard, if they ever do anything that is deemed behavior unbecoming a Tomb Guard or brings dishonor upon the Tomb, their badges may be revoked, even after the sentinels have left active duty military service. The shoes they wear are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt. There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror. Guards may do as they wish on off-duty hours, but since any soldier wishing to become a sentinel must undergo rigorous training, including several hours a day of marching, rifle drill and uniform preparations, and every tomb sentinel is expected to be completely versed in the history of both the Tomb and of Arlington National Cemetery (including knowing how to find the graves of all the notable persons buried there) they don't have a lot of free time to devote to recreational activities. Among the notables are President Taft, President John F. Kennedy, Joe Louis (the boxer), and Medal of Honor winner Audie Murphy, the most decorated soldier of WWII.

The Sentinels Creed:

"My dedication to this sacred duty is total and wholehearted. In the responsibility bestowed on me never will I falter. And with dignity and perseverance my standard will remain perfection. Through the years of diligence and praise and the discomfort of the elements, I will walk my tour in humble reverence to the best of my ability. It is he who commands the respect I protect. His bravery that made us so proud. Surrounded by well meaning crowds by day, alone in the thoughtful peace of night, this soldier will in honored glory rest under my eternal vigilance".

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Tomb of the Unknown Soldier - continued

The marble for the Tomb of the Unknowns was furnished by the Vermont Marble Company of Danby, VT. The marble is the finest and whitest of American marble, quarried from the Yule Marble Quarry located near Marble, Colorado and is called Yule Marble. The marble for the Lincoln Memorial and other famous buildings was also quarried there.

The tomb consists of seven pieces of rectangular marble:

Carved on the East side (the front of the tomb, which faces Washington, D.C.) is a composite of three figures, commemorative of the spirit of the Allies of World War I. In the center of the panel stands Victory (female). On the right side, a male figure symbolizes Valor. On the left side stands Peace, with her Palm Branch to reward the devotion and sacrifice that went with courage to make the cause of righteousness triumphant. The north and south sides are divided into three panels by Doric pilasters. In each panel is an inverted wreath. On the west, or rear, panel (facing the Amphitheater) is inscribed: "Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known But to God".

The first Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was a sub base or plinth. It was slightly smaller than the present base. This was torn away when the present Tomb was started August 27, 1931. The Tomb was completed and the area opened to the public 9:15am April 9, 1932, without any ceremony. Cost of the Tomb: \$48,000.00. The sculptor was Thomas Hudson Jones and the Architect was Lorimer Rich.

Some people think that when the Cemetery is closed to the public in the evening that this "show" stops. First, to the men who are dedicated to this work, it is no show. It is a "charge of honor". The formality and precision continues uninterrupted all night. During the nighttime, the drill of relief and the measured step of the on-duty sentry remain unchanged from the daylight hours. To these men, these special men, the continuity of this post is the key to the honor and respect shown to these honored dead, symbolic of all unaccounted for American combat dead. The steady rhythmic step in rain, sleet, snow, hail, heat and cold must be uninterrupted, as the uninterrupted condition is part of the honor shown. Recently, while you were sleeping, the teeth of Hurricane Isabel came through this area and tore the hell out of everything. Thousands of trees were down; there were power outages, traffic signals out, roads filled with downed limbs and debris. We had flooding and the place looked like it had been the impact area of an offshore bombardment. The Regimental Commander of the U.S. Third Infantry sent word to the nighttime sentry detail to secure the post and seek shelter from the high winds to insure their personal safety. They disobeyed the order. Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment; it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person. The Tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1937.

The Vigil

In measured steps he makes in rounds,
 The click of heels the only sounds.
 He stands erect so strait and tall,
 With pride and dedication responds to the call.
 With deep affection his vigil keeps,
 Over those who forever sleep.
 He responds not to the visitors stare,
 Maintaining his vigil as if in silent prayer.
 In the mornings twilight hours,
 His watch becomes like cathedral towers.
 Reaching from earth to heaven above,
 A lasting tribute to one mans love.
 As time and seasons come and go,
 His vigil remains for all to know.
 That beneath the sacred Arlington sod,
 Lies three buddies KNOWN BUT TO GOD.



GUARDMOUNT

VIETNAM SECURITY POLICE ASSOCIATION

"We Take Care of Our Own"



Vietnam C-Ration Cookbook - Part III

DOC PARDUE'S RICE PADDY STEW

*C-RATION MENUS
FOX HOLE DINNER FOR TWO
(Turkey & Chicken Poulette)*

- 1 can chicken and noodles
- 1 can turkey loaf, cut up into pieces
- 1 can cheese spread
- 12 spoons milk
- Crackers from one C-Ration can, crumbled
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 2 spoons butter or oil or fat
- 2 spoons flour
- 3 dashes **TABASCO**[®]

Melt butter oil or fat, add flour and stir until smooth. Add milk and continue to cook until cheese melts and sauce is even. Empty cans of turkey loaf and chicken noodles into cheese sauce. Season with **TABASCO**[®], salt & pepper to taste and continue cooking. Cover poulette with crumbled crackers and serve piping hot.

PECAN CAKE ROLL WITH PEANUT BUTTER SAUCE

- 1 can pecan cake roll
- 4 spoons butter, oil, or fat
- 1 can peanut butter
- 2 spoons of butter, oil, or fat

Slice cake roll, fry slices in the four spoons of butter, oil, or fat and when crisp, put to one side. Cover each slice with the following sauce:

Melt two spoons butter, oil, or fat, and peanut butter and melt until smooth and thick, immediately pour over the pecan roll slices and serve with hot coffee.

If you have a favorite C-Ration recipe from your tour, send it to me and we'll print it in the next issue

The Moving Wall™ 2005

Display Dates as of 31-Mar-2005

Schedule "A" 2005

- 03/22 - 03/28 Tulsa, OK
- 04/01 - 04/07 Lubbock, TX
- 04/11 - 04/17 Douglas, AZ
- 04/22 - 04/27 Ceres, CA
- 04/30 - 05/06 Santa Barbara, CA
- 05/10 - 05/16 Fresno, CA
- 05/20 - 05/25 Hawthorne, NV
- 05/28 - 06/02 Yuba City, CA
- 06/07 - 06/13 Richland, WA
- 06/19 - 06/25 Rifle, CO
- 06/30 - 07/06 Gregory, SD
- 07/11 - 07/17 Sault Ste Marie, MI
- 07/21 - 07/27 Gahanna, OH
- 08/01 - 08/07 Alpharetta, GA
- 08/11 - 08/17 Country Club Hills, IL
- 08/20 - 08/26 Michigan City, IN
- 08/30 - 09/06 Somerset, KY
- 09/09 - 09/15 Murray, KY
- 09/22 - 09/28 Hope Mills, NC
- 10/03 - 10/09 West Plains, MO
- 10/12 - 10/18 Independence, KS
- 10/29 - 11/04 Azusa, CA
- 11/10 - 11/16 Mesa, AZ
- 11/22 - 11/28 Jefferson City, MO

Schedule "C" 2005

- 04/05 - 04/10 Selma, AL
- 04/13 - 04/19 Dahlonega, GA
- 04/23 - 04/30 Oxford, MS
- 05/04 - 05/08 Conyers, GA
- 05/13 - 05/18 Falfurrias, TX
- 05/21 - 05/22 Selfridge ANGB, MI
- 05/27 - 06/02 Woodstock, IL
- 06/14 - 06/19 Tupper Lake, NY
- 06/22 - 06/28 North Attleboro, MA
- 07/01 - 07/07 Everett, MA
- 07/10 - 07/16 Goffstown, NH
- 07/19 - 07/25 Amesbury, MA
- 07/26 - 07/31 Bennington, VT
- 08/02 - 08/08 Wilton, ME
- 08/11 - 08/16 Waltham, MA
- 08/19 - 08/24 Meredith, NH
- 09/10 - 09/16 Racine, WI
- 09/20 - 09/26 Knoxville, Iowa
- 09/30 - 10/06 Erie, IL
- 10/12 - 10/18 Jackson, TN
- 10/22 - 10/25 Lehigh Acres, FL
- 10/29 - 11/04 Tavares, FL
- 11/09 - 11/14 Centerville, OH
-

VSPA Scholarship Fund - Jim (Buda) Lebowitz

At the VSPA Annual Business Meeting the scholarship fund was discussed. We have \$500.00 that can be awarded to members, spouses of members, children and grandchildren of members. All it takes is a 3.0 GPA and complete the appropriate paperwork. The scholarship award can be used for post secondary education, i.e., trade school or college.

I can send you the necessary paperwork via e-mail or snail mail. You can contact me as follows:

E-mail (work) James.Lebowitz@med.va.gov

E-mail (home) jelcatfish@aol.com

Home Phone 732-254-7912

Work Phone 908-647-0180, ext. 4354. You can contact me between 0700 and 1500 (that is 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM civilian time)

FAX 908-604-5343

Reunions

377 SPS Reunion Feb. 2-5, 2006 -- Jim Stewart,

The second 377 Security Police Sqdn. Reunion will be held February 2-5, 2006 in San Antonio. To be put on the contact database or for information contact Jim Stewart, OD, PO Box 67, Montrose, MI 48457-0067, Ph: 810-639-5755, Email; jstewart@centurytel.net

Wurtsmith AFB Reunion -- Jim Stewart,

If any of you were stationed at Wurtsmith AFB, Oscoda, MI, I just found out that they are having the 1st Reunion of people who were stationed there over the years. Go to <http://wafb.net/> On the left side of the web page click on WAFB Reunion for contact information. The reunion will be September 9 & 10, 2005 at the Yankee Air Force Museum on the base. I was stationed there after TSN in K9 10/68-12/69.

REMEMBER THE DATES FOR OUR REUNIONS:

October 6 - 9, 2005 for the VSPA Reunion in VALDOSTA, GEORGIA (Moody AFB).

October 2006 Las Vegas, Nevada

November 2007 Washington D.C. Anniversary of The Wall - We will march as a unit in the parade!

Please send any information you have about reunions to Guardmount

Email vspa_tres@netzero.com

Denis Cook

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Lancaster, PA 17603

How Things Have Changed –Peter Villarreal

The 822nd Safeside unit returned from 'Nam in April of 1969. TSgt Lionel Pickens and I had been assigned to the 7th SPS at Carswell AFB prior to Safeside. Upon our return, Lionel and I out-processed for Seymour-Johnson AFB, NC, where the 822nd was bedded down.

Lionel and I left Carswell sometime in May of 1969 for Seymour-Johnson, in Lionel's station wagon. We planned on spending the night in Alabama with his aunt, and then continue on to North Carolina the next day.

The trip was uneventful; we had a wonderful time in Alabama with his extended family and that's where I learned to appreciate grits. The trip took a turn for the worst, however, when we crossed into the North Carolina state line.

There it was....the largest billboard that I have ever seen in my life.... a hooded person on a white horse, and large red letters: WELCOME TO KLU KLUX KLAN COUNTRY.

Needless to say, both Lionel and I were petrified, thinking that someone would be waiting for us behind the bushes ready to pounce on us. We felt helpless, no M-16s, no fellow brothers to come to our aid if needed. We stopped to get gas later on, but we didn't stop until we entered the gate at Seymour-Johnson, where we both felt safe.

Lionel and I took time to reflect on the KKK. We both could not fathom how anyone could have so much hate in their souls. We could not figure out how we could fight a war thousands of miles removed, only to return to a state where one's lives were in jeopardy.

While in North Carolina my wife and I shopped quite a bit off-base, and we found that the majority of the folks there were not prejudiced; most of them were hard working and very religious. In 1970 the 822nd phased out, and I returned to Carswell; Lionel went on to Florida and I lost touch with him. To this day I know that he knew that although I was not black, I was his brother and would stand next to him no matter what.

I have not returned to North Carolina since then, but I hear things have changed since then for the better.

As a Life Member of the Vietnam Security Police Association, I freely pledge:

For the rest of my life, I pledge loyalty and support to my fellow Air Police and Security Police warriors. To the best of my abilities, I will preserve the memory of those who fought and died, and fought and lived, in Vietnam and Thailand during the Vietnam War, I will share their stories, and support my brothers who carry the torch still, so that what we did together in combat will be forever remembered

About Roswell

More About Roswell... -- Larry Breazeale, Msgt. (ret.) USAFR, Guys,

Before I went to Nam', I was stationed up at Fallon Naval Air Base, 60 miles east of Reno, Nevada, 1966-68. I was assigned to the 858th Radar Squadron, attached to Air Defense Command (NORAD). While there, our radar specialists (aka: "scope dopes") told me if they get any "UFO"s on their screens, they would call me. One night, working 'mids', I got a call in the gate-shack, from A2C Pete Kulas. He said, "hey Larry, we got a good one for you on the screen buddy"! Having a 'secret clearance', I could go anywhere on the facility, except the Kripto room. We had one 35 tower, and two height finder towers. Just before the phone rang, in the gate-shack, from Pete, the two height finder towers both swerved around in the same direction south, and went rocking back and forth like crazy! I knew something was up. I went inside the radar site facility, into a much darkened room, all except the light from all the radar scopes. I sat down next to Pete and got to see all the action. Pete could tell me the speed, height (off the ground) and direction of the UFO. There was definitely something there and it wasn't anything "we got", I'm sure! Interceptor jets scrambled after it but, it booked up and disappeared off the screen by the time the Delta Dart 106's? got there on scene. We had a lot of sightings reported around our area. Many local ranchers and other citizens would call our facility because, we were the closet "AIR FORCE" facility around. I never saw a UFO in the open, in the sky but, on screen yes. I read a very interesting book on UFO's awhile back. It is called "DAY AFTER ROSWELL", by Corso, Lt.Col. (ret.) USA. I would strongly recommend it to anybody. There is another book out there that a former USAF Security Policeman wrote, about his experience with UFO's on and around an airbase in England. I think it was called "The West Gate" sighting or, something like that. I think the base was Bentwaters, or Greenan-Common or something, not sure. Cheers!-Larry Breazeale, Msgt. (ret.) USAFR

In reply to: More About Roswell Newell M. Swartz

The USAF had a formal information gathering system back in the 60s for anyone who reported seeing a UFO. APs were told not to question the reportee but to notify the Desk Sgt who notified OSI (?). Anyway some of the questions asked was how big did it appear in the sky, the size of a dime, nickel etc. Never heard anything that came out of it. Pilots, both civilian and military, have occasionally reported objects flying faster than they thought machines could go. Here in Phoenix, at about dawn sometimes you can see some really spectacular con trails from missiles that have been fired from New Mexico (White Sands). Several of the documentaries that I have seen basically exposed hoaxes of photos people took of spaceships and the man who confessed to making the crop rings in the fields in England. While in the Highway Patrol I was stationed in the Four Corners area (NM, AZ, UT, CO) and the stories up there are about Ghost Walkers or Skin Walkers and people living in another dimension in that area. The nearest backup for a patrolman up there is about 80 miles away if the guy is home. Sure glad I left there before I read Louis La'Mour's book "The Haunted Mesa". Might be something to the 2nd dimension stuff because sometimes when I am walking around my 1-1/2 acres looking at stuff in the trees I get tripped and fall. The fact that I was holding a can of beer and there were branches on the ground had nothing to do with the fall. Take care guys and remember if it can hurt you, you can hurt it.
Newell

This will be the last issue of Guardmount you will receive if you did not pay your dues for 2005. Please pay your \$15.00 now.

Veteran Contact Numbers – by Don Graham

For info on home loans, disability, medical care and burial –

1-800-827-1000

Life Insurance – 1-800-669-8477

Education (G.I. Bill) – 1-888-442-4551

Health Care Benefits – 1-877-222-8387

Agent Orange – 1-800-749-8387

Headstones & Markers – 1-800-697-6947

web address www.va.gov

Need help with the VA? Bill Wagonlander, VSPA member, has a web site that will help.

[Http://12.239.11.79/vetsvacorner/](http://12.239.11.79/vetsvacorner/)

Offices that can assist in searches for supporting documentation.

To obtain copies of your records go to –
www.archives.gov/research_room/vetrecs/index.html

National Records & Administration Center

Attn: NCP-MA

9700 Page Blvd

St. Louis, MO 63132-5200

Washington National Records Center

8601 Adelphi Road

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Washington, D.C. 20408

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Attn: DPPP

550 C Street West Suite 12

Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

Unit Histories, Lineage and Honors

Air Force History Support Officer – 202 404-2264

Dept. of the Air Force

HQ/AFHRA

600 Chennault Circle

Maxwell AFB, AL. 36112-6424

Correction of Military Records

Air Force Review Board

Office SAF/MIBR

550 C Street W. Suite 40

VSPA Flag – Don Graham

I hope everyone has survived the Winter. Just a few things to bring us up to date. The flag design is coming along great and we have it down to two candidates. Waiting to hear back from Van Digby concerning the sizes that are available for the VSPA back patch. I'm hoping to get a large enough size to apply to the flag. This would save us a lot of work.

While checking out eBay I came across an item I thought would make a great addition to our archives. This was a "Welcome To Tan Son Nhut AB" brochure. However there was already a bid and the eBay login looked familiar. I contacted the person and it was none other than Charles Penley.

After contacting Charles he agreed to make a copy of the brochure so we could add it to our Tan Son Nhut binder. Although I was not stationed at Tan Son Nhut, reading it did bring back a lot of memories.

Another addition to our archives was made by Bill Cummings. Bill was stationed at U-Tapao with the 635th SPS K9. During Bill's tour there was a Sapper Attack that took place on 10 JAN 1972. Bill was able to get a copy of the after action report. He transcribed the report into a format that could be saved on a floppy disc and this is now in the U-Tapao binder. We do not have much on the Thailand bases so this is a welcome addition.

I would like to encourage anyone that has any documentation from their respective bases to get copies sent to me for our History Archives. Everything is welcome and your name will be added to the item.

Have a great Spring.

Don Graham

VSPA Historian

This will be the last issue of Guardmount you will receive if you did not pay your dues for 2005. Please pay your \$15.00 now.

New Members in order of enlistment.**Jan-05**

Thomas Sieftring Jr.	Binh Thuy 2/69-70	Killington, Vermont
Sam Lewis	Phan Rang 3/67-68	Dublin, VA
Thomas Steed	Danang 8/69-70 Phu Cat	Kissimmee, FL
Thomas Winn	Danang 11/64-65	North Hampton, NH
Dennis Overly	Danang 10/66-67 Dong Ha	Ruffsdale, PA
Charles Mayes	Udorn 5/69-70	Mexico, MO
Bob Wilburn	Phu Cat 3/71-72 Cam Ranh Bay	Baton Rouge, LA
	Phu Cat, Tuy Hoa, Pleiku, Phan Rang, Bien Hoa	
Arnold Houchin	Phan Rang 11/66-67 K9	Sugar Land, TX
Eddie Stott	Bien Hoa 11/65-66 Tan Son Nhut 8/67-68	Mt. Juliet, TN
Philip Block	Binh Thuy 7/66-67 LM 182	Islip, NY
Ken Lazzarini	Ubon 2/67-68	Sacramento, CA
Edward Garland	Bien Hoa 5/70-71	Warwick, RI
Durbin Keeney	Bien Hoa 11/66-67	Duluth, MN
Allen "Joe" Collins	Tan Son Nhut 11/65-66	Sand Springs, OK
Carl McNabb	Tuy Hoa 9/67-69 Danang	Newport News, VA
Jeffrey Kametz	Phu Cat 1/69-70	Bethlehem, PA
Robert Perro	Cam Ranh Bay 3/69-70	San Jose, CA
John D. Langley	Phan Rang 4/69-70	Lee Center, NY
Michael Diaz	Bien Hoa 68-69 Phan Rang	Upland, CA
Alan Moore	Tuy Hoa 12/66-67	Eureka, CA
Michael Szody		Shingletown, CA

Feb-05

David Hart	Nha Trang 10/65-66 Nakon Phanom 8/72-73	Idaho Falls, ID
Stanley Morris	Tan Son Nhut 12/67-68	Las Vegas, NV
John Thompsen	Ubon 3/74-75	Princess Anne, MD
Harold Turnbloom	U-Tapao 9/69-72	Bellbrook, OH
Roger Lovell	Cam Ranh Bay 8/67-68	Pearland, TX
Thomas Penley	Cam Ranh Bay 4/67-68	Swannanoa, NC
Paul Talbott	Tan Son Nhut 12/67-68	Davidsonville, MD
Larry Radcliff	Bien Hoa 64	Falling Waters, WV
James Sly	Phan Rang 68 Bien Hoa Binh Thuy	Surf City, NC
Robert De Cesare	Tan Son Nhut 4/65-66 Dong Ha	Austin, TX
Dennis Allyn	U-Tapao 5/69-70 Don Muang	Winchester, CA
Larry Dunbar	Bien Hoa 1/69-70	Telford, TN
Stephen Savage	Phan Rang 4/67-68	Plaistow, NH

Mar-05

David Hechler	Bien Hoa 11/69-70 Cam Ranh Bay 4/71-72	Peoria, AZ
Donald Hamilton	Tuy Hoa 12/69-70	Phoenix, AZ
Richard Adams	Phan Rang 69 Pleiku Phan Rang 70 Tuy Hoa	Cincinnati, OH
Christopher Boley	Cam Ranh Bay 1/71-72 Phan Rang	Waukee, IA
David Summerfield	Tan Son Nhut 9/67-68 Vung Tau Binh Thuy	Rawlings, MD
Richard Hill	Cam Ranh Bay 4/67-68 Tan Son Nhut 12/68-69	Virginia Beach, VA
Dennis Deatherage	Cam Ranh Bay 4/69-70	Klamath Falls, OR

Apr. 05

Donald Innerebner	Korat 8/69-70	Conyers, GA
James Stastny	Korat 5/70-71	Nightingale, MD
William Paddock	Nakon Phanom 1/68-69	Irmo, SC
Ronald Ricchetti	Phu Cat 1/70-71	Philadelphia, PA
William Bibby	Danang 4/69-70	Franklinton, NC

Agent Orange – edited by Erylce Pekas – source unknown

I heard of an article in "Guardmount" regarding the subject of Agent Orange. I did not get a chance to read the article, but here are my family's experiences with it.

While in Vietnam, I guarded Agent Orange containers. I also guarded the extreme perimeter of the US Air Force bomb dump, which had been stripped of all vegetation by Agent Orange. My feet and other parts of my body developed irritation and sores. I was assured that Agent Orange was not harmful. We were told if we came into contact with it, all we had to do was to wash with soap and water.

In 1984, my wife Jeannie and I planned for a child. However, there were complications from the very beginning. Eventually, Jeannie could not hold down any food or water, and this condition lasted for 5-1/2 months. I kept taking her to her doctor and he kept sending her home saying, "It is nothing but morning sickness". How could he say this when she had lost 50 pounds? Eventually she was unable to walk, yet he did not hospitalize her. On a particular Friday, Jeannie was taken to her doctor and he released her. That Sunday night, Jeannie became as white as a sheet and we decided to take her to the emergency room in Tifton, GA. While we were waiting for her doctor, our fears mounted. The doctor finally arrived and the family and I insisted that Jeannie be hospitalized immediately. He relented and she was hospitalized. We went back the next morning to see this particular doctor, and he sat behind his desk and stated very coldly, "Your baby is dead". I went over to the hospital to see Jeannie and I cried at her bedside. I knew that our baby would never see God's sunshine; it was a terrible experience. Then her blood platelet count started to drop drastically and water started to build up in her cranial area and her eyes crossed as a result.

Jeannie was transferred to Emory University Hospital in Atlanta with severe neurological problems. Jeannie could not sit up, and if she was assisted, she would simply slump back down again. She could not move her arms or legs. After Jeannie's immediate life threatening situation had passed, she was moved to Emory Rehab where she spent many weeks getting some use back into her legs and arms. She worked very hard and it was an extremely painful period in Jeannie's life.

She was diagnosed as permanently disabled. Agent Orange has a debilitating effect on the central nervous system and causes miscarriages and severe damage to those children who do live. I have been in contact with several people who served with me at Bien Hoa and their children were born with birth defects. The ordeal is not over at our house; my wife continues to have physical seizures.

We must ask ourselves what is the origin of Agent Orange? Most of us know about the term dioxin and the company, Dow Chemicals. But there is a story behind Agent Orange, and it goes like this.

There was a large chemical company in Germany called I.G. Farben. They were extremely active during World War II, so much so that three of their top executives were executed by the Allied Powers after the war. Later, the West German government ordered it (the chemical, "Zyclon B") out of their country. Zyclon B was a product of I.G. Farben. This chemical made its way into the hands of Dow Chemicals, and this agent was later sprayed as a defoliant during the Vietnam War. What does this have to do with Veterans dying, children being born disabled, the crippling of pregnant women, and the deaths of Vietnam Veteran's children?

Simple. Zyclon B was used in Nazi Germany to gas 6 million Jews and others in the infamous death camps. If it was illegal for Adolf Hitler to use Zyclon B in the 1940's, why is it not still illegal and punishable by death?

The blood and pain of the victims of Zyclon B/Agent Orange cry out, "Never Again". Holocaust II must now be called to the bar of justice just like the Nazi leaders at Nuremberg.

This might be offensive to some, but they need only to walk through Auschwitz, through Treblinka, or to my son's grave in Salem Cemetery outside Fitzgerald, Georgia to understand.

Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments

The following exchange about Hot Sauce in C-Rations took place on the VSPA Bullitin Board

Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments -- Bill Weber LM-146

Hey, Guys!

I remember the first time I opened up a box of C-rations, and found a little bottle of Louisiana hot sauce inside the condiment package. Up until then, this ol' upstate New York boy never tasted hot sauce, and I can tell you, after the first taste, I didn't ever use it again!

Just what is it about hot sauce that made Uncle Sam want to put it in every box of C-rations ever made? That has always remained a mystery to me, 'til this very day, I still don't know?

Is it a mandatory staple of anyone ever born in the South, or was it a underhanded plan to destroy the taste buds of every GI so that they wouldn't know just how really bad C-Rations and chow hall food were?

Also, those cigarette four packs - I never smoked, so never tried them, but I think I know enough about cigarettes to know that they go stale after a while, and some of those packages were quite a few years old! They had to gag the users - yes?

In reply to: "Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments" Bob Mitchell

Just a guess Bill but some politician or friend of a politician probably sold hot sauce to the government and was awarded a huge contract.

In reply to: Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Glenn Wilson, CRB 68-69 LM#117

I know that you are kidding about the Hot Sauce, Bill. But what an idea! Any kind of ingredient that was in a C-ration box was always some kind of dried substance in a foil packet like the chicken soup that was so salty (Instant Coffee, excepted) it would kill the sandbag cockroaches. I say Hot Sauce would have been a great addition because the Kim Chee that we traded the C-rats for was never hot enough for me. The Kim Chee and those tiny fishes in a can were held in high esteem by the Koreans. Hot enough? Heck no! Were you ever in the "latrine" over there when the hired help pulled the "honey pot" out from under you? A big whoosh of cold air suddenly cooled your bottom sides and you wondered if finally one of those Black Cobra snakes got to you. Made you forget about everything else. Flash lights during hours of darkness were mandatory to inspect for snakes before sitting down. Don't lie now. I know you hated to go take a BM after dark because of that very reason!

But there was no other smell that has even come close then or since, like the odor of burning "Honey Pots" wafting across your nose while you were consuming wonderful C-rations in your home away from home. Ah.....makes you homesick for the "good ole days." Or.....maybe just SICK!

In reply to: Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments Ron 822nd Safeside

Glenn, Momma Sans always burned the pots in our base camp area at Phan Rang just as everyone was getting ready to eat breakfast, if they dared...That was the worst smell on Gods little green earth. And then to face, powdered eggs, powdered milk, powdered orange juice (if we were lucky), canned C-Rat type ham or bacon..Dehydrated hash browns....Sure made I-HOP and Dennys sound mighty good back then. Never saw a

Continued page 16

Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? *Continued*

bottle to Tabasco sauce in any C-Rats boxes...But then can't stand the strong vinegar taste anyway...Ah the Good Ole Days...LOL

In reply to: Re: Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments Newell Swartz

Okay guys, who is the Bin Laden terrorist masquerading as a VSPA member. This has to be a terrorist propaganda plot to do away with America's #1 condiment. No self righteous American fighting man would go to war without his Tabasco or Louisiana Hot Sauce. It is the spice of life. I can't believe you guys went to Vietnam and never passed thru TX, NM, AZ, NV or CA, to say nothing of Louisiana. Now, some of the peppers grown around the world would knock a buzzard off a chuck wagon, but Tabasco and Louisiana Hot Sauce just season food. Glenn, the canned kimchee disappointed the ROKs, the real kimchee had a layer of pink pepper paste, a layer of cabbage, layer of paste, etc to the top of the crock pot they let it ferment in. When they ate it, the Koreans washed off the pink paste because it was too hot. How old were you guys when you quit eating pablum (baby cereal) to those under 50. Take care, Newell

In reply to: Re: Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments Jim (Buda) Lebowitz

I don't remember hot sauce with C-Rations (I carried my own), but a mini bottle of Tobasco Sauce is included in the MREs.

In reply to: Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments Bill Weber, LM 146

"Buda" - your memory about finding "Tabasco" sauce in MRE's has sparked my memory about C-rats. It wasn't "Louisiana" hot sauce, it was "Tabasco" sauce that was in the C-rats that I got. Still mucho, mucho H-O-T! Cute little bottles of liquid stomach dissolver! I'll bet that the "Tabasco" sauce that you found in your MRE's was probably left over from some 1960's C-rat contract.

Wouldn't surprise me if, 1000 years from now, when the archaeologists are digging in Viet Nam, and they turn up many tiny little full, and empty, bottles of hot sauce, the contents will be in pristine condition and just as edible - or not, being as they were, upon manufacture, unfit for human consumption, as when the grunts who ate the C-rats threw them away! They will probably remark to each other as to how primitive our race must have been to eat such poison.

Oh well - that's my take on hot sauce! Bill

In reply to: Hot Sauce in C-Rations????? Other Condiments Bill Wilburn

Sometime between the time you guys were there and when I got there they got rid of the Tabasco. That stinks! I would have loved to have something to give those CRats some flavor.

Of course, they did replace the Tabasco with that coffee packet that produced a nasty see-through yankee brew. What a cruel joke!

Bob (in Baton Rouge)

Editors note, Chopped up Jalapeno peppers worked well with most of the canned meats. I considered it Novocain for the pallet. Comments to this discussion are always welcome.

Denis Cook

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Lancaster, PA 17603

Vspa_tres@netzero.com

This will be the last issue of Guardmount you will receive if you did not pay your dues for 2005. Please pay your \$15.00 now.

Jane Fonda Admits "Mistake"

By: Steve Ray as reported by CBS 60 Minutes

(CBS) Jane Fonda has no regrets about her trip to North Vietnam in 1972 - with one big exception: her visit to a North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun site used to shoot down U.S. pilots.

She says her appearance there, which earned her the epithet "Hanoi Jane," was a "betrayal" of the U.S. military, its soldiers and "the country that gave me privilege."

She regards the event as one of the biggest mistakes of her life. Fonda speaks to Lesley Stahl in her first interview about her upcoming autobiography, "Jane Fonda: My Life So Far," for a *60 Minutes* report to be broadcast Sunday, April 3, at 7 p.m. ET/PT.

"The image of Jane Fonda, Barbarella, Henry Fonda's daughter...sitting on an enemy aircraft gun was a betrayal...the largest lapse of judgment that I can even imagine," says Fonda.

She does not regret, however, visiting the enemy capital, Hanoi, or being photographed with American prisoners of war there, despite the propaganda value it afforded the enemy.

"There are hundreds of American delegations that had met with the POWs," says Fonda. "Both sides were using the POWs for propaganda....It's not something that I will apologize for."

Nor is she sorry for the broadcasts she made on Radio Hanoi, something she asked the North Vietnamese to do.

"Our government was lying to us and men were dying because of it, and I felt I had to do anything that I could to expose the lies and help end the war," she tells Stahl.

She went on Radio Hanoi at least 10 times, speaking directly to American pilots and criticizing their bombing of North Vietnam. Fonda insists she did not ask the pilots to disobey orders.

"I'm asking them to consider [not bombing North Vietnam]," says Fonda.

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2XL - \$13.00, 3XL - \$14.00, 4XL - \$16.00	
5XL - \$18.00, \$6XL - \$19.00	
<u>Fallen Brothers with Names - (Grey)</u>	
Small - 3XL -	\$12.00

Sweatshirts:

Black with VSPA Logo on Left Chest	
Small - XL _____	\$35.00
2XL - \$38.00, 3XL - \$39.00,	
4XL - \$40.00, 5XL - \$41.00	

Golf Shirt:

<u>VSPA or QC Logo on Left Chest (Black)</u>	
Small - XL _____	\$25.00
2XL - \$28.00, 3XL - \$30.00	

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<u>Fleece Jacket, Full Zipper, (Black) VSPA Logo,</u> Base, Year, First Name, No Back Logo	
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2XL - \$53.00, 3XL - \$55.00, 4XL - \$58.00	
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Unheralded Hero — Dan Kelly, Reading Eagle, Reading, PA

Editors note: Chief Etchberger did not have Air/Security Police classification, however, only one Air Force enlisted man received The Medal of Honor as a flight crew. If Etchberger does receive the award then it is for the bravery and sacrifice we all faced and shared during our tour of duty defending our installations. Den

Richard L. Etchberger excelled at everything he did. The handsome young man started on the basketball team and was elected senior class president at Hamburg High School in 1951.

He rocketed through Air Force electronics training and became a radar expert at a time when President Johnson's North Vietnam bombing campaign largely was missing its targets. Etchberger had been elevated to Chief Master Sergeant, the highest rank a noncommissioned officer can achieve, and was in charge of a radar station on an island off the coast of North Vietnam when he was approached to join a special top-secret unit. Bombing missions over North Vietnam at night and during the monsoon season were notoriously inaccurate. Their mission, called "Project Heavy Green," temporarily turned the tide of the war. The CIA and Strategic Air Command used giant helicopters to plunk a portable radar station atop Phou Pha Thi, a 4,500-foot mountain in northeast Laos. Since Laos was neutral, the Geneva Conventions of 1962 prohibited U.S. forces from entering Vietnam's western neighbor. Members of the team had to resign from the Air Force with the condition they would be re-enlisted and given credit for their time in Laos.

They were stripped of their dog tags and other evidence of their affiliation with the military and were given papers and identification cards showing they were Lockheed Aviation Corp. employees.

Lockheed was frequently used as a cover for CIA operations including Air America, an airline that flew Etchberger's unit up the mountain and regularly delivered supplies there. The radar station on Phou Pha Thi was only 140 miles west of Hanoi and could guide bombers at night and in bad weather with devastating accuracy.

Etchberger and the 18 other members of the unit were good. Some say too good. For four months beginning in October 1967 Etchberger, a radar crew chief, guided bombing raids on Hanoi with pinpoint accuracy.

The unit thought their location was unknown until the only reported North Vietnamese air attack on U.S. troops during the Vietnam War occurred Jan. 12, 1968.

Using four Soviet biplanes, Vietnamese soldiers dropped mortars by hand trying to knock out the radar station. Two of the slow biplanes were shot down by a CIA agent firing an M-16 from an Air America helicopter.

Four natives living on the mountainside were killed, but no damage was done to the station and there were no casualties among crew members.

But the jig was up. Unable to knock out the station by air, North Vietnamese guerrillas began infiltrating Laos. They overpowered a small force of natives the CIA trained to guard the base of the mountain and attacked the radar station at 4 a.m., March 10, 1968. Etchberger and three team members were trapped on the mountainside. The Vietnamese wounded the three others leaving Etchberger to fend off the guerrillas for several hours until Air America helicopters arrived. One by one Etchberger loaded his three comrades into a hoist and they were pulled to safety. Finally, with the Vietnamese overrunning his position, Etchberger climbed into the hoist but was fatally wounded as he was being pulled to safety.

He bled to death before reaching a hospital in South Vietnam. The three men he rescued survived winning belated recognition

A Hamburg-born key figure in the Vietnam War is starting to earn recognition 27 years after his death

Continued page 20

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Unheralded Hero — Dan Kelly, Reading Eagle continued

He was recommended for the Medal of Honor but officials say President Johnson feared giving Etchberger that honor would have forced the president to admit he had violated international law by putting U.S. troops in neutral Laos.

Instead the Air Force Cross was posthumously conferred on him during a secret Pentagon ceremony. Now, however, there's a move afoot to give **more high-profile** recognition.

Now that the details of his heroism have been declassified, Etchberger is being accorded the honors due him. A wax likeness of him stands at attention in an Air Force Museum in Alabama. And plaques on air bases around the country bear his name.

"He may not be well known in his hometown, but he is well known," said Lt. Col. Clifton Douglas, deputy commander of the 737th Training Group at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. This year a dormitory at Lackland will be dedicated in Etchberger's honor.

Douglas, who reverently refers to him as "Chief Etchberger," said Air Force officials are planning a big turnout for the Hamburg hero.

"We'll have the entire general staff here, probably more than 500 people," Douglas said. "They will gather on the parade ground with all the airmen in formation. It will be something to see." And, in the halls of Congress there's another effort to award him the Medal of Honor.

Contact reporter Dan Kelly at 610-371-5040 or dkelly@readingeagle.com