Vietnam Security Police Assn. 150 Aurora Rd Venice, FL 34293-2601 813-497-0493



Guardmount

A Publication for all Vietnam Security Policemen

Oct, Nov, Dec 1995

Reunion 95

Well reunion time is over for 1995. We all had a great time as expected. The festivities started Friday afternoon with some of us enjoying some good conversation in our hospitality room. The room filled up as our members and their guests arrived. Dick Brown gets the early bird award as he was apparently first to arrive. Wes Smale and Terry Morris will have to share the long distance award as both came from Wisconsin. The better late than never award was shared by several as dinner was served. By the way, if you said you were coming and didn't show up, we still had to pay for those dinners! Saturday started off well as we had lunch and then went off as a group shopping in Atlanta. One of our stops was a shopping area known as "Vietnam Town". Many of us were afraid we would be recognized, but we all made it out alive. Saturday evening we had our dinner and we recognized Steve Ray and Terry Morris for outstanding service to our group. After dilmer we retired back to our hospitality room and shared some more good conversation. Steve Ray shared a video tape he made out of pictures sent in and also 8mm tape that was taken In Nam. If you would like a copy please send Steve 15.00 plus 2.00 S&H per tape (Steve Ray 1300 Shadow Ridge Dr. Huntsville, AL 35803. In between shopping and dinner we had our business meeting which will be covered shortly. Sunday morning found many checking out and returning home but a few of us stayed and partied on. On Monday we faced reality and headed back home.

Business Meeting

We started our business meeting at 4pm on Saturday. The following were elected to office.

John Langley- President Mike Daoust - Vice President Secretary Treasurer - Steve Ray We voted to have our 1996 reunion in San Antonio on Veterans Day. The 97 reunion will be in Pensacola, Florida with member Mickey Reade coordinating. In 98 we will go to Washington DC for our reunion.

Dues will remain at \$10.00 and will be due on January 1 of each year. New members paying in November or December will be credited for the next year.

Newsletters will be sent out on a quarterly basis.

Complete set of the minutes of the meeting may be obtained by writing Steve Ray

Those attending the meeting:

Robert Anisko	Denis Cook Mickey	Mike Daoust
Dick Brown	Reade John	Ted Janiak Terry
Jack King Terry	Langley Patrick	Lunsford Steve
Manis Jerry	McKinney Tom	Ray
Stevens	Payne	Wes Smale

Please send your membership application to Terry Manis W5148 E. Bush Rd. Pardeeville, WI 53954.

Membership	Application (Send	Copy of DD 214 and \$10.	fee)
Name			
Address			
State	Zip	Phone	
Unit in S.E. Asia			
Dates of S.E Asia	Duty		
Description of Du	ıty		
Looking For?			

Membership in the Vietnam Security Police Association is restricted to those with service in Southeast Asia during the years 1959-1975.

Association Merchandise for Sale

- 1. Association Patch- made around a QC design. \$5.00 ea.
- 2. Air Force Combat Veteran Patch. \$4.00 ea.
- 3. Security Police Badge Patch. \$4.00 ea.
- 4. QC lapel pin. Just arrived. \$3.50 ea.
- 5. QC patch. Actual size. Quality Reproduction. American Made. \$5.00 ea.
- 6. Air Force Security Police Lapel Pin. Official Dress. Pewter. \$6.00 ea.
- 7. Black Baseball Style Cap with any of the above Patches on it \$10.00 ea.
- 8. Air Force Flag 3' x 5'. Nylon. \$10.00
- 9. Banes Beefy T- Shirt with QC patch silkscreened on it. \$12.00 ea. M, L, XI, XXL
- 10. Association Bumper Sticker. \$1.00
- 11.7th Air Force Patch \$ 4.00 Pin \$3.00
- 12. Mini-Security Police Badge. 1 3/4" high. Official issue. \$10.00 ea.

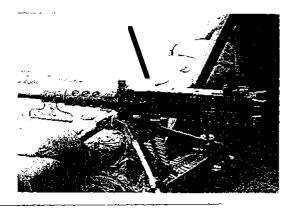
Please add \$1.00 per item for shipping up to a maximum of \$3.00. Please make checks for merchandise out to Steve Ray. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Send checks to 1300 Shadow Ridge Dr. Huntsville, AL. 35803

Wayne E. **SMALE** TSGT USAF Retired 12th SPS, Cam Ranh Bay, RVN 3-67 to 3-68 TDY Bien Tuy AB, RVN -- TET Offensive 1968

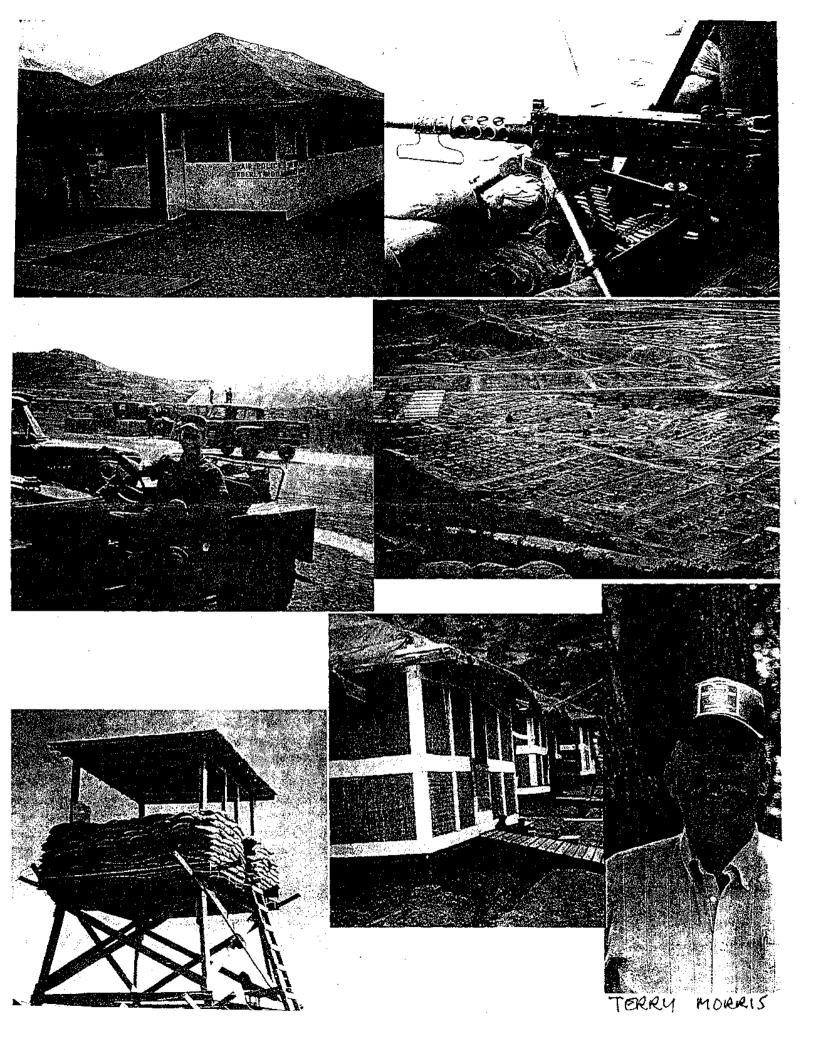
Wes Smale, a native of Elkhorn WI, enlisted in November of 1965. After basic training was assigned to the 4510th Air Police Sqdn., Luke AFB AZ. In March of 1967 he was transferred to Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. He spent most of tour assigned to the Myca Checkpoint, pertom1ing Security and Law Enforcement Duties. When Ben Tuy AB was being overrun by VC during February of 1968, he along with 25 other Security Police from Cam Ranh Bay and 25 others from Fang Rang, went TDY to stop the TET Offense on that base.

After Vietnam, Wes was assigned to 40th CSS (SP) Aviano AFB Italy. Upon returning State side (in April of 1970) he cross-trained thereby ending h.is Security Police career with the Air Force.

During the remainder of his Air Force career was voluntarily in two Aerial Photography Career Fields (One tour as Master Instructor at Lowry AFB CO), a Basic Military Training Instructor at Lackland AFB TX, and was forced cross-trained into the Munitions Career Field. During which time, he saw tours of duty at Tan Son Nhut AFB RVN, Udorn and Ubon RTAFBs Thailand, and Germany. He received an Honorable Service-Connected Disability Retirement in August of 1982.







While stationed at DA Nang AB, RVN early 1968 (the TET offensive had just kicked off that day) I was on the roving Security Alert Team (SAT) responding to every incident that took place on the flightline and the old and new bomb dumps plus the Security Police armory. We had to stop by the hospital to get my knee patched up from where I had injured it early that morning diving on rocks to get out of the way of sniper fire (6 or 7 of us, on the blocking force team, hit the perimeter and bunched up together and needed to spread out and our timing wasn't very good but Charlie's was, only his aim was bad). I had just busted it open thus all the treatment I received was to have it cleaned out and wrapped up. This did not stop us from climbing hills at the bomb dump or running along the perimeter jumping into slit trenches. Every one of you get the picture but what is about to come is funny, but typical considering all the confusion. One of my buddies kept calling into Defense Control (CSC) with the following: "Bravo nine to defense control, be advised I'm receiving incoming small arms fire." This transmission was sent several times before defense control answered but when they did (it was not humorous at the time) they answered, "Be advised it is friendly fire." We were on our way to bravo nine and Jim's transmission was garbled thus we did not hear the whole text, but once we arrived on the scene poor Jim was fit to be tied. I often tell this story for I enjoy reminiscing about the humorous times. We all have many stories but many should probably be shared only amongst ourselves because no one else would understand our sense of humor. As I look back on the first days of the 1968 TET Offensive I was not the only young SP confused. In fact I believe that we all were a little confused.

Never forget using my C-ration box to heat up the turkey loaf in the corner of the trench. I hope to read more stories from other VETS. Take care and God bless Y'all.

Danny B. WILLAMS

The enclosed photo was taken sometime in 1968 after an exercise with the U.S. Marines and *Charlie* in SP Hooch #3 at Da Nang.





A DIFFERENT MISSION

by: Steve Ray

Stepping outside the boundaries of Cam Ranh Bay Air Base Vietnam meant finding one's self in "Indian Country". Our daily Guardmount "Intel Reports" always confirmed this fact. Each day our Flight Chief would read the Intel Report describing the latest sightings of VC, how many were seen carrying what type weapons, moving in what direction, and how many clicks from the Air Base. Most of the time I listened with both eyes closed and one ear open (Ranger Flight, 483rd SPS held Guardmount at 0430 hours).

One day the base Chaplain, a Catholic Priest, stopped by my post. He inquired as to the possibility of some Security Policemen providing an armed escort for him to travel to an orphanage about 20 clicks north of the Air Base. The orphanage was being run by the Catholic church. The Chaplain explained that he wanted to collect used clothing and items from the GIs on base and donate them to the orphanage. He told me he was afraid of taking sniper fire if he went without an armed escort. Seems an incident had happened earlier.

How could I turn down a chance to help out some little kids, who at an early age, had already experienced too much of life's difficulties. A few days before this request I had witnessed wars brutality toward children when an old man brought a wounded 10 year old boy to my post. He had placed the boy in a wooden cart and brought him several miles to the base. The old man explained the boy had stepped on a land mine at an abandoned firebase. His left leg was crudely bandaged and I could see the leg was severely mangled. My request to have the boy treated at the base hospital was refused. It was gut wrenching for me to have to tell the old man that the hospital would not treat the boy. His eyes told me he did not understand why. I hope mine conveyed the same message.

I put the word out and it was easy to get volunteers to go on this mission. On the appointed afternoon the Chaplain showed up at the armory in his deuce and a half along with his aide, a Buck Sergeant, as his driver. The truck was loaded to the brim with used

furniture, clothing and other such items. The truck had a White Cross painted on each door panel. The "VC" wouldn't have any problem identifying who the truck belonged to. At 0430 hours that morning I had listened intently to the daily Intel report. Several groups

of VC had been reported along our travel route and near the area where the orphanage was located. This occurred in late April or early May during the NVA's Spring Offensive that had

started on March 30, 1972. By this time the NVA had opened up three fronts in the South and there had been a major buildup of enemy forces in our area. There had been several rocket and sapper attacks on and around Cam Ranh Bay Air Base. US and ARVN forces at Cam Ranh had suffered 10 KIA and 25 WIA in these attacks. We weren't getting very much sleep. Tensions were running high.

Seven SPs climbed in the back of the truck and barely had room to stand due to the donated goods. We put one man standing behind the truck cab. He placed his M-60 machine gun on the canvas top pointed in the direction of travel. The other six of us lined the wooden sideboards, three on each side, pointing outward. Each of us carried an M-16 rifle. On my web gear I carried a USAF survival knife, all I could carry .223 ammo and a .38 cal. revolver. No one accounted for ammo, you could have all you wanted and I always

kept lots of extra rounds. I also wore my flak vest and steel pot (with a first aid compress bandage I carried in the outer band). The Chaplain and his driver felt secure and were much relieved.

We proceeded out the Main Gate, drove across the bay bridge and passed through the last friendly lines, the Allied Checkpoint. The driver did not allow much time for sightseeing as we sped north. After 20 or so minutes we arrived at the gate of the orphanage. We drove through the gate and parked. The mountains to the north were now very close. A body of water was to the northeast and it came right up to the main building. I was told the body of

water was heavily mined. We were greeted by the Nuns who invited us in and offered each of us a Vietnamese beer and some food.