Dà Nàng Air Base USAF Security Police 81mm Mortar Team

1968-1969 © **1998 by Russell L. Harrell** PR, 821st CSPS; DN, 366th SPS (RIP LM-111, July 1, 2001)





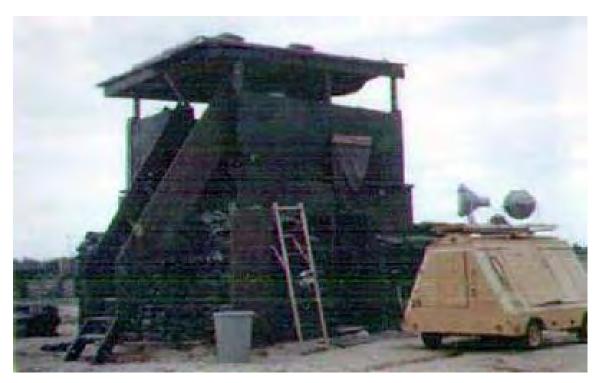
2. Looking toward the flight line and toward Red Beach beyond those moutains in the background. The truck is transporting enemy POWs to the POW camp at the base of Hill 327. The POWs have green colored sandbags over their heads so that they can't observe things they shouldn't see. *(Like their puptents are in the Bomb Dump area... just kidding)*



3. Russ Harrell at the 81mm Mortar Pit at the South end Đà Nàng AB, RVN, 1969.



4. USAF 81mm Mortar Team at Đà Nàng AB, RVN.



5. Bunker and tower at the mortar site, south end of Đà Nàng AB, RVN 1969. Bunker and Tower were used for living quarters for the Mortar Crew, when not on alert or on a fire mission. Was also used as a Fire Direction Control when on a fire mission.

6. 81mm Mortar Fire Mission! Ooch! Either take the picture or plug my ears!



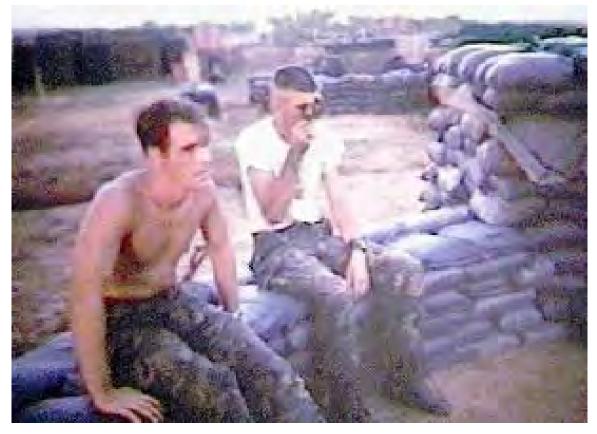


7. Mortar Team looking closely at the captured 60mm mortar.

8. *Right.* Mortar Team with the 81mm tube and a captured 60mm mortar, courtesy of the 1st MP BAT, 1st USMC Div, Đà Nàng.

9. *Below.* Sgt Doug Lilly and Russ Harrell laying in the baseplate and the aiming-stakes at the 81mm Mortar Pit Đà Nàng AB, RVN 1969.





10. 11. 12. & 13. Dà Nàng Bomb Dump explosion, April or May 1969. Bomb Dump was at the base of Freedom Hill 327. Keep in mind the mushroom clouds are four-five <u>miles</u> away!





14. (Photo by Curtis) Explosion attributed to a grass fire that got out of hand.



15. (Photo by Curtis) Bomb explosions rocked the valley for some time.



 (Photo by Curtis) Towering mushroom cloud draws visual comparison to Hiroshima's WWII atomic bomb.



17. Red Horse cattle wagon on the perimeter road, south end of Đà Nàng B,RVN in 1969. This vehicle transported personnel to and from work.



- 18. Chinook inbound to Đà Nàng AB, RVN, 1969.
- 19. Below-left. Spookie inbound to Đà Nàng AB, RVN. Happy Valley in the background. 1969.



20. Above-right. Chinook begins climb out. Looking toward Freedom Hill 327.



21. USAF Security Police APC on the south perimeter road, adjacent to the 81mm Mortar Pit, looking toward Gunfighter Village, Đà Nàng AB, RVN, 1969.



22. Looking toward Happy Valley and Hill 327, from the Mortar Pit Đà Nàng AB, RVN, 1969.

23. (*Row-1, Left*). **24.** (*Row-1 Right*). & **25.** (Row-2). Spookie hosing down, dropping flares, and lighting up the skys in *Happy Valley* to the south of Đà Nàng AB, RVN 1969.



26. Spookie sitting in protective parapit, Đà Nàng AB, RVN 1969.



27. F-102 area on the South End of Đà Nàng AB, RVN, 1969

28. *Below.* **F4 Phantom primed and ready** for mission, sitting in cement and steel revetment, Đà Nàng, AB, RVN, 1969.



29. F4 Phantom returning from mission, Đà Nàng AB,RVN, 1969.



30. A1E Sandy being readied for Air Rescue and Recovery Mission, Đà Nàng AB, RVN, 1969.



31. A1E Sandy, ready and waiting for Air Re and Recovery Mission, Đà Nàng AB, RVN, 1969.



32. The *Silk Factory* that was at the South end of the runway outside the perimeter. Charlie took it in Tet 1969, set up a .51 cal machinegun and raised hell until the Marines *repoed* it.



33. Looking toward *Gunfighter Village*, from the Mortar Site. The center building took a 122 Rocket just prior to this pic being taken.



34. Looking South from the Mortar Pit. I use to watch B-52 Bombers' strikes walk along the mountain in the central background.