



*A Memorial Service,
Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand*

In Memoriam of:
A1C James E. Francis, 388th Security Police Squadron,
A1C James W. Reese, 388th Munitions Maintenance Squadron, and
A1C Frank A. Uhlic, Jr., 388th Munitions Maintenance Squadron

by **Frank Paul**
Korat Royal Thia Air Base - March 11, 1968

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 30, 1968

Dear Mrs. Francis:

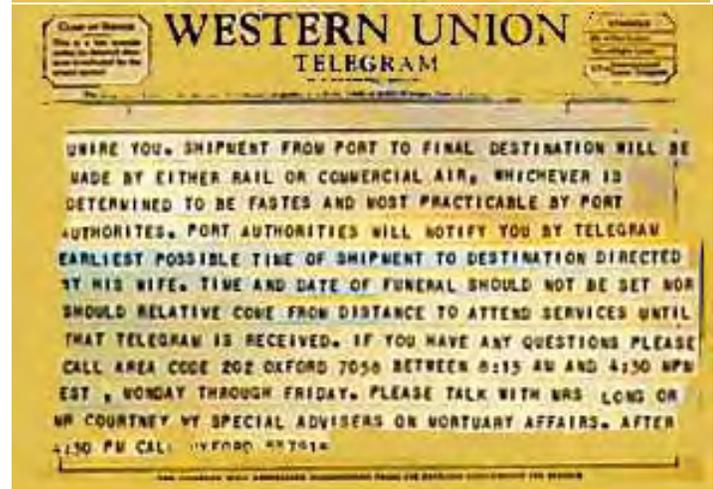
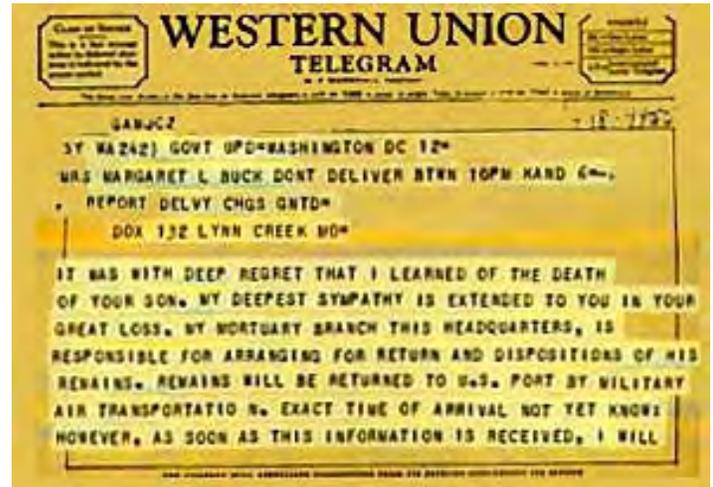
It was with deep regret that I learned of the death of your husband, Airman First Class James E. Francis, in Thailand.

Your husband's loss will be deeply felt by his countrymen as well as his loved ones. The Nation is grateful for the sacrifices that are being made by brave Americans like your husband in Vietnam and other troubled areas around the world so that freedom for all peace-loving people may be won and preserved.

Mrs. Johnson and I join in expressing our heartfelt sympathy to you and the other members of the family. You will be remembered in our prayers.

Sincerely,

Mrs. James E. Francis
1953 North Payne
Wichita, Kansas



(above)
President's Letter



My name is Frank Paul, I was at Korat Air Base, Thailand, in March of 1968, and I was on duty at the time A1C James E. Francis was killed. I still have a copy of the Memorial Service Pamphlet that was held for him at the base chapel, on 16 March 1968 (below photos).

James E. Francis was killed along with James W. Reese of the 388th Maint. Munitions Squadron. A1C James Francis died in a very heroic way I thought, as he was on duty at the Munitions Bomb Dump which was approximately 3-4 miles off the installation. Francis was on two men Response Team patrolling the area with another SP, Sgt Miglarese, of Pennsylvania. While on patrol they were called to a certain bomb dump bunker, because the bombs had started fragmenting, and told to help the MMS troops out of the bunker. Sgt Miglarese got one man out and Airman Francis went in to rescue A1C Reese, but at that moment both Airmen were killed when the whole bunker went up.

I also noticed that his name was not on the VSPA Medals roll of honor, I remember an assembly we had later and we were told Francis would be awarded the Airman's Medal. We thought he should be awarded something more but they told us this was the highest award he could receive, because he was not in a combat zone.

Thanks for listening to what I had to say about this, I helped pack his footlocker to send home, and I just have not forgot the tragedy his family must of felt at the time.

Thanks again,
Frank Paul

A1C James E Francis (Korat Royal Thai Air Base March 1968) was an SP (81150), E3 (A1C) and assigned to the 388th SPS at Korat RTFB, Thailand at the time of his death. He was in service less than 2 1/2 years when killed. He was married but no children were listed.

SPECIAL ORDER G-143, Hq PACAF, APO San Francisco 96353, 25 Jun 68

4. By direction of the President, A1C JAMES E FRANCIS, AF17728134, is awarded the Airman's Medal, posthumously, for heroism involving risk of life on 11 March 1968.

5. By direction of the President, each of the following is awarded the Airman's Medal for heroism involving risk of life on the dates indicated.

**SGT WILLIAM H FAIRCLOTH, AF14877871
12 August 1967**

**A1C JAMES E MORDECAI, AF24947001
2 March 1968**

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF



**JOHN D. MACKLIN, JR., Colonel, USAF
Director of Administration**

**DISTRIBUTION
B**

FRANK L. PAUL
4375 DAUGHERTY RD.
SALEM VA. 24153 PHONE 540-380-2718

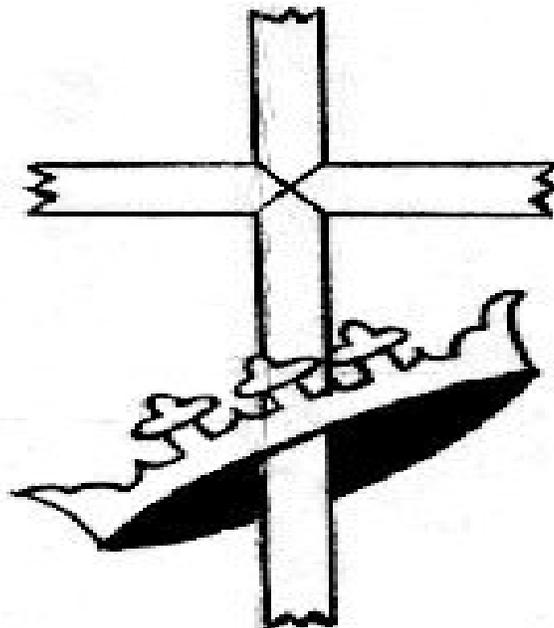
Don:

Enclosed is the copy of the memorial service on
AIC James E. Francis. Hope this will help with the
information you may need. Thanks again Don you
guys have done a fantastic job. If I can be of
any assistance in helping our organization (USPA)
please feel free to contact me anytime.

Thank you
Frank Paul

16 March 1968

A Memorial Service



For

**AIC James E. Francis
AIC James W. Reese
AIC Frank A. Uhlic, Jr.**

MEMORIAL SERVICE
KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, THAILAND
WING COMMANDER: COLONEL PAUL P. DOUGLAS, JR.
BASE COMMANDER: COLONEL WALTER HOERLER
16 March 1968

ORGAN PRELUDE	Mrs. Ruth Hardy
INVOCATION	Chaplain Whitt
OBITUARY	Chaplain Whitt
HYMN	Organist
SCRIPTURE READING	Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1 Ch. Quates 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
SOLO	Specialist Kenneth Martin
SCRIPTURE EXPOUNDED	Chaplain Quates
BENEDICTION	Chaplain Quates

I N M E M O R I A M

ALC James E. Francis, 388th Security Police Squadron, Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, was born on 16 June 1946 at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He entered the Air Force on 22 November 1965, and died at Korat RTAFB, Thailand, on Monday, 11 March 1968. He was married on 9 April 1966. He leaves to mourn, his wife, Mrs. Carolyn S. Francis, 1528 West 18th Street, Wichita, Kansas 67203, two brothers, two half brothers, and one half sister. He was affiliated and active in the Baptist Church.

* * * * *

ALC James W. Reese, 388th Munitions Maintenance Squadron, Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, was born on 13 February 1948, at Carrollton, Georgia. He entered the Air Force on 2 February 1967, and died at Korat RTAFB, Thailand, on Monday 11 March 1968. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Reese, Whitesburg, Georgia, three brothers and one sister. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

* * * * *

PACAF-KRTAFB, THAILAND

I N M E M O R I A M

ALC Frank A. Uhlic, Jr. 388th Munitions Maintenance Squadron, Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand was born 25 September 1948 at Monroe, Michigan. He entered the Air Force on 17 October 1966 and died 15 March 1968 at Clark Air Force Base, Philippine Islands. He is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Uhlic, Sr. of Maybee, Michigan and two brothers. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

* * * * *

Ushers:

ALC Steve W. Boswell, 388th Security Police Squadron
 ALC Richard L. Gatrell, 388th Munitions Maintenance Squadron

Funeral at McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita, Kansas

MILITARY GRAVESIDE SERVICES
BY
McConnell Air Force Base
Personnel

INTERMENT
Old Mission Cemetery

Services Arranged By
Quiring Funeral Home



The Twenty-Third Psalm
*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me: thy rod and
thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil:
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

IN MEMORY OF

A/1 JAMES EDWARD FRANCIS

June 16, 1946
March 11, 1968

SERVICES

McConnell Air Force Base Chapel
Friday, March 22, 1968
Three O'Clock

OFFICIATING

Chap. Henry A. Nordstrand
McConnell A. F. Base

MUSIC

Mrs. Lucy LeValley

Special Organ Selections

Commander's Bomb Dump Incident Summary, May 1968, by Col. Hansen

From: Bob Francis

Subject: James Edward Francis Web Page

Don,

I need your help. I am the brother of (then) A1C James Edward Francis, a security policeman who last served with the 388th Security Police Squadron, Korat AFB, Thailand in March 1968. Jim is featured on your web page: [A Memorial Service](#).

Don, I would really like to contact Frank Paul, the fellow who told the story of my brother's death. I was literally stunned and overjoyed to know that someone who actually served with my brother can be contacted. Can you help me in this?

Secondly, I'd like to link one of my web pages dedicated to the life of my brother Jim to your web page--maybe just below the story by Frank Paul? The web page can be found at: In Memorium to James Edward Francis, June 16, 1946 - March 11, 1968), by Robert E. Francis.

Thirdly, is it possible for me to receive the graphics from the web page about Jim? For some reason, I can't access them. Could you send them as an attachment to me?

I know this is asking a lot of you; however, I cannot help but to try to connect up with someone who knew Jim. Evidently, the event of Jim's death so deeply impacted Frank's life that, even after over thirty years, he feels the need to tell the story. I am so grateful that he remembers my brother and I want to tell him so.

Thanks for your time and dedication to those who served their country.

Bob Francis,
1920A Butner St., Ft. Eustis, VA 23604
Shawhan Genealogy

Bob:

Contacting [Frank Paul](#), author of the page relating the heroic efforts of your brother, is as simple as clicking on his name. I know he will be happy to read about James' life, and also the family funeral for him. Frank did not have a photo of James, and I am sure Frank will appreciate your page that has photos of James.

111 Air/Security Police and Security Forces airmen and officers have been killed in action or line of duty. We will not forget them at VSPA, and it is our intent to tell the story to the fullest regarding every one of them. That much we must do for ourselves, and that much we want to do for those who loved them as family.

Attached are the photos you requested. I have added your email to Frank Paul's story of your brother. It is very rewarding to us all to know that you will be able to speak with him about James. I caution you that when this happens, be prepared for a release of emotion at both ends of the phone. For every other contact that I have known about, that has been the moment when a veteran really and truly feels... welcomed home. And for the family... joy their loved one was amongst friends and brothers bonded forever by that place called Vietnam.

We cannot forget. And while we live, their names will not fade away.

Don Poss



Don:

I would like to thank you for forwarding the info about James Francis brother, I met with him on Sat afternoon of this week, what a coming home experience this was, I have wanted to find someone close to him for thirty years and thanks to you and our organization it happened, I can't begin to explain the emotions and the self fulfilling experience it was, so Don, thank you, brother. Frank Paul

Don:

My brother Jim received an Airman's Medal for his heroic effort in attempting to save an airman's life in the bomb dump explosion at Korat Air Force Base, Thailand, March 11, 1968. I have placed a graphic of the official orders on my web site.

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FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF



**JOHN D. MACCLIN, JR., Colonel, USAF
Director of Administration**

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Please let me know what else you need to include Jim's name on your Airman's Medal Honor roll.

Thanks,
Bob

P.S.--I have contacted Frank Paul and actually visited with him this weekend. Great guy! and -- yes-- it was pretty emotional. Don, this would not have been possible had it not been for VSPA's web site. Thanks again and may God continue to bless your efforts.

Bob Francis

From: [Bandy John](#) GS-07 37TRW/MU
[Air Force Security Police Museum](#)
Subject: A1C James E. Francis

Steve Ray: Just wanted to let you know I've been in touch with Bob Francis, brother of A1C James E. Francis, who was killed in the line of duty and received the Airman's Medal (posthumously) for his heroism. I've added his name to the scrolls, and will place his picture in the Hall of Honor. Thanks for bringing him to my attention, and you can pass the word on to Don Poss.

Thanks again,

John,
Lackland AFB

[Air Force Security Police Museum](#)

We Take Care of Our Own