

Phù Cát Air Base 37th Security Police Squadron

photos by Bruce Pritchett

Attached are some pictures of Phù Cát when we first arrived on or about August 1, 1966. I was at Phan Rang through July 1966, when we got orders to go to Phu Cat, via Qui Nhơn. I was one of the 53 Air Police that followed Captain Robert M. Sullivan to Phù Cát. These pictures include our first day



(setting up camp on a Buddhist cemetery), the first BOQ (small one-man tent for Capt. Sullivan). The first emblem we painted when we became the Kingsmen. It was nailed to our beer hooch. The first tent up was the one that cooled the beer. We put up the Arizona flag because it was the only one we had.

There weren't many people at Phù Cát when we got there. The 37th SPS, the 819th CES (who went without us), and RMK-BRJ. We were there when the 1041st CSPS (Safeside) arrived. Check out my WebSite, Firetree Lima Niner, I think you will enjoy it.



[1] Bruce Pritchett in the "Beer Tent", on the left side of the pic; Captain Sullivan is wearing a hat that he told Major Sloan at Phan Rang was going to be our official headgear, just to aggravate him (ha). (Well you didn't really think we were going to build the chapel first!)





[2 & 3] This temple is the first thing we saw when we drove in to Phù Cát Air Base to-be property. There were still monks in it when we arrived.





[4] We set up camp adjacent to the Temple and placed our M60's on the elevated graves to give elevated firing positions. Bunkers went up along with the tents in background.





[5] The first Phù Cát Air Base BOQ (small one-man tent for Capt. Sullivan)!



[7] Time out to pet a new mascot! Rabies, Sarge? No way!



[8] Phù Cát Supplies keep arriving at a steady pace!



[9] All right you men... Back to work!



[10] Cots? Who cares! Where's the beer!



[11] Equipment is trucked in continually.



[12] HEY! Where are the cots?



[13] Where the heck is that what'cha-ma-call-it? Capt. R.M. "Bob" Sullivan (Lt.Col. retired now) is looking into the back of a jeep-towed trailer.



[14] Tent City begins to rise.



[15] (above) Composite photo of ROK trenches. by Don Poss

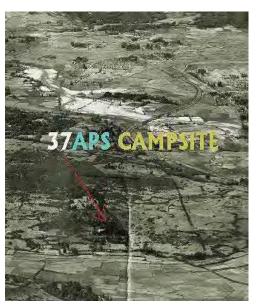


[16] Well... it was a nice ride while it lasted. Where's the BX, anyway?



[17] (right) Three VC POWs in custody.





[18] I acquired one of the original aerial recon photos of the proposed Phù Cát Air Base site, just before we left Phan Rang to go to Phù Cát. Note the outlined area as the proposed base site. The white spot is the Buddhist Temple we drove up to first day. (Click on Photo to see Large Photo without the Arrow)