

# **VIETNAM**

## **Phan Rang AB**

### **Heavy Weapons, p-6**

6258th CSG/AP, c.1965; 366th SPS, 8 Feb 1966-10 Oct 1966; 35th APS, 10 Oct 1966-31 Jul 1971; 821st CSPS, Apr-Aug, 1968; 822nd SPS, Aug 1968-Mar 1969; 823d CSPS, Mar 1969- Aug, 1969; 821st CSPS, Aug 1969-Feb 1971; 315th SPS, 1971-1972  
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**821st CSP A and B Flight Heavy Weapons, May 1968**

**1. Phan Rang AB: 821st CSPS, A and B Flights, Heavy Weapons, May of 1968.**  
**Photo by William Welter, LM 362, PR, 35th SPS; BH, 3rd SPS; TSN 377th SPS, 1968.**



**2. Phan Rang AB: 35th SPS, .50 Cal range. SAP-QRT Jeep, May of 1968.**  
Photo by William Welter, LM 362, PR, 35th SPS; BH, 3rd SPS; TSN 377th SPS, 1968.



At Saigon field U.S. Air Force police guard jet awaiting soldiers headed for return home.  
**3. Phan Rang AB: QRT Jeep, M60, Heavy Weapons. flight line and Freedom Bird. 1970.**  
Photo by William Price, LM 30, TSN, 6250th APS, 377th APS. 1965-1966.



**4. Phan Rang AB: Night-Eyes, flight line, M16. 1966-1967.**  
Photo by Robert W. Claud, PR, 35th SPS. 1966-1967.



**5. Phan Rang AB, A1C Schofield, Safeside, Heavy Weapons.**  
Photo by Bruce Pritchett, PR, 35th SPS; PC, 37th APS. 1966-1967.



In the lush Hawaiian countryside, air policemen practice combat tactics. Crew fires a .50 caliber machine gun at a simulated enemy target.  
The Airman



Finally through their training, these air policemen are ready for combat. Unit uses M-16 and heavier weapons.

6. Phan Rang AB: Article, The Airman: *In the lush Hawaiian countryside, Air Policemen practice combat tactics. Crew fires a .50 caliber machine gun at a simulated enemy target.*

7. Phan Rang AB: Article, The Airman: *Finally through their training, these Air Policemen are ready for combat. Unit uses M16 and heavier weapons.*

# AF Team Alert To Any Threat



SSgt Charles E. Athey checks out perimeter at Phan Rang AB.

**PHAN RANG (USAF)** - Nights can be pretty long for members of this Air Force base's security alert teams (SATs) who are ready to react to any threats against the base perimeter.

But, they manage to stay busy throughout their vigil.

The teams can respond to a threat any time of the day or night, according to Technical Sergeant Milford I. Kirtley of Morrilton, Ark., NCOIC of the base's heavy weapons section. But their primary missions are at night.

"There are," he explained, "two elements to the teams. One personnel carrier crew and the other is the mortar crew."

Each of these elements stays ready to respond to a call for help from the base perimeter alert posts or from sentry dog teams.

Once a call is sounded, the mortar crew can put up illumination rounds while the APC heads toward the site at speeds up to 30 miles per hour. "And terrain doesn't slow them up very much," Kirtley pointed

out. "Even to go through water all they have to do is turn on their pumps."

"The APC," according to Sergeant Robert E. Cox of Lufkin Texas, who is primarily responsible for upkeep on one of the vehicles, "usually responds to two or three incidents a night."

"Even without an attack the APC crews stay busy," Cox said. "The crew has to check each alert tower in its area every night."

Each man in the APC crew is trained in all weapons.

Even though the APC crew faces enemy fire on its perimeter duties, the armored vehicle training, each man on the crew has to learn compass and map reading," Kirtley said. It takes about a month of training in the section before a man is qualified for a SAT team.

The mortar team doesn't move around as much, but they stay just as busy.

Each crew has to open ammunition, practice plotting, and get their mortar tubes set up each night.

**STORY By: Capt. Robert L. Hiatt USAF  
PHOTOS By: Sgt Robert W. Inianni USAF**



8. USAF Stars and Stripes, Spring 1970. submitted by Joe Taragowski, PR, 35th SPS, 1970.



9. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.



10. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS, Tiger Mortar Pit. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.



11. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS, Tiger Mortar Pit, 81mm Mortar. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.



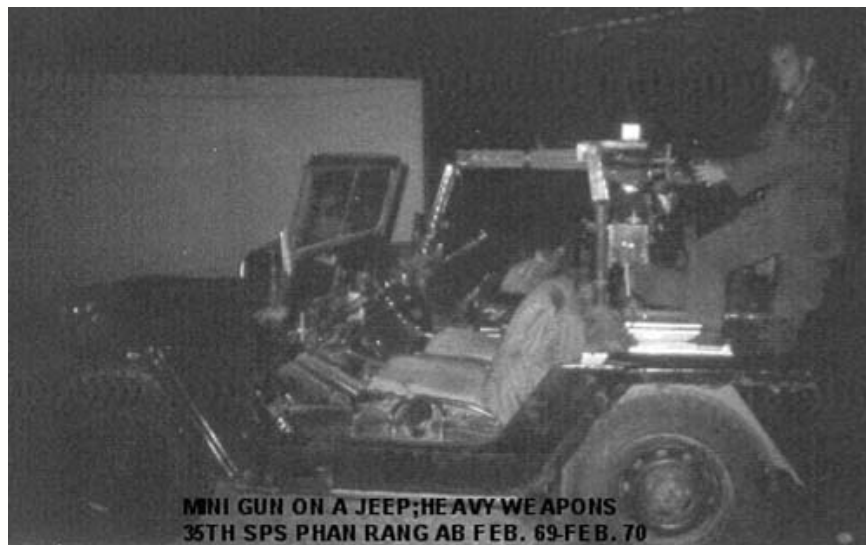
12. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS, Tiger Mortar Pit, The Meat: 81mm Mortar. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.



13. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS, Digging for IEDs. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.



14. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS, V100. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.



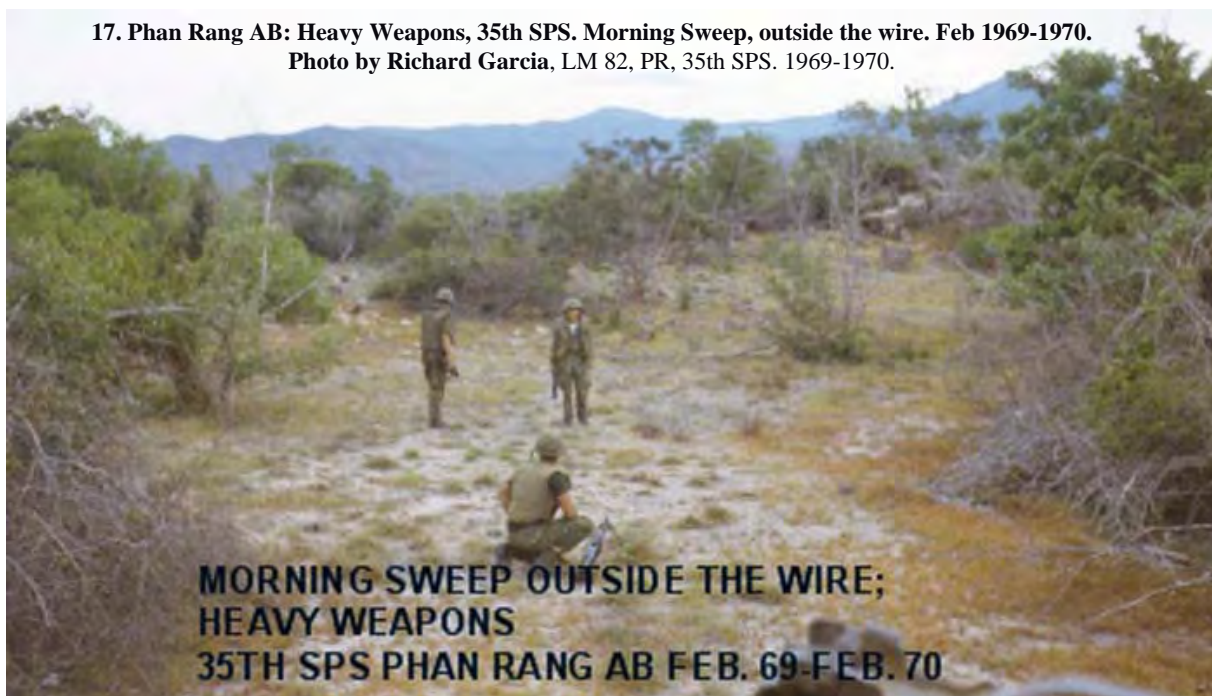
**MINI GUN ON A JEEP; HEAVY WEAPONS  
35TH SPS PHAN RANG AB FEB. 69-FEB. 70**

**15. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS, QRT Jeep with Minigun. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.**



**NEW TRACK APC; HEAVY WEAPONS  
35TH SPS PHAN RANG AB FEB. 69-FEB. 70**

**16. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS, M113, .50 cal. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.**



**17. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS. Morning Sweep, outside the wire. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.**

**MORNING SWEEP OUTSIDE THE WIRE;  
HEAVY WEAPONS  
35TH SPS PHAN RANG AB FEB. 69-FEB. 70**



**SAND BAGGING TO REBUILD MY MORTAR  
PIT AFTER THE MONSOON SWEEP IT  
AWAY: HEAVY WEAPONS  
35TH SPS PHAN RANG AB FEB. 69-FEB. 70**

18. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, 35th SPS. Sand Bagging. Feb 1969-1970.  
Photo by Richard Garcia, LM 82, PR, 35th SPS. 1969-1970.