

Phan Rang Air Base

NUI DAT Hill, 1968

(c) 2014, by Anthony Rodriguez

- 35th Security Police Squadron, Panther Flight



Phan Rang Air Base: Panorama composite photos, viewed from Nui Dat Hill, 1968.
Composite (c) 2014 by Don Poss

1. Phan Rang AB: Early hootchs, 1966.



2. Phan Rang AB: Firing Range, 1968.



3. Phan Rang AB: Firing Range, 1968.



4. (left) Phan Rang AB: Loading Truck to the Firing Range, 1968.



5. Phan Rang AB: Hilltop, Pink Eye Communications, with 200K Candlepower Spotlight, 1968.



6. Phan Rang AB: Nui Dat Hill, 1968.



7. Phan Rang AB: Nui Dat hilltop tower, 1968.



8. Phan Rang AB: MSgt Mauren at Pee Tube, 1968.

9. Phan Rang AB: Nui Dat Hill, Air Base view (composite photos), 1968.



10. The Phan Rang Weekly, 24 April 1968: Operation Safeside Begins at Phan Rang Air Base.

PHAN  **PARADE**

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 49 THE PHAN RANG WEEKLY APRIL 24, 1968

Operation 'SAFE Side' Begins At Phan Rang Air Base

Operation 'Safeside' was launched at Phan Rang AB recently with the arrival of the new 821st Combat Security Police Squadron, a unique unit trained as a quick-reaction force to aid bases in Vietnam in repelling enemy attacks.

The men arrived by the hundreds in six C-141 Starliner flights from Hickam AFB, Hawaii. They are fresh from Army Ranger training at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. This training, including squad tactics, mountain-climbing, terrain crossing, water survival and a 30-mile hike, is unique for any Air Force personnel serving in Vietnam.

Wgt. Clarence E. Harris, the unit's first sergeant, said, "You can compare us to an Army line battalion."

His men learned infantry tactics from Air Force instructors who are taught by Army sergeants. Their training included extensive marching and double-timing, and daily push-ups and chin-ups.

"Quite a few of us are Vietnam veterans," Harris explained, "and we are the men in the unit."

The new Phan Rang unit's first sergeant is the 821st Combat Security Police Sq., at Schofield Barracks. The concept under which the squadron was sent to Phan Rang was tested at Phu Cat Air Base during the winter of 1966-67 by the 1041st Security Police Sq., which is now part of this wing.

The 821st COPS is the first unit of the wing to be sent to Vietnam since the experimental operation at Phu Cat proved successful. The Squadron Commander, Lt. Col. G.B. Steffy, is based at Tan Son

West AB, and will use "hot lines" to keep in constant telephone touch with his men in Vietnam.

The Phan Rang sector commander of the squadron, Maj. Louis S. Baker, said he and his men will carry out their duties under the operational control of the 7th Air Force chief of security and law enforcement. These duties consist of working directly with local base security police squadrons, and manning outposts and taking over perimeter sectors if necessary during enemy attacks.

The first flight of the new arrivals was greeted on the flightline by officials of the 5th Security Police Sq. The arrivals were camouflaged fatigues and other combat gear.

"We are going to keep training over here," Baker commented. His unit is housed in the area of Army's 107th Airborne Division barracks.

"It is evident to me that the people have really done a fantastic job of setting up this base," he noted.

When asked what he thought about Phan Rang, Major Baker also said, "When I arrived and looked around, the general over all picture of Phan Rang was much better than I expected to be. It is plain to see that the fellows here have done one big job in building one of the finest bases in Vietnam."

11. and 12. Phan Rang AB: 35th SPS Duty Roster, 23 September 1966

REPLY TO
ATTN OP: MSgt Koenig/Panther Flight Commander

23 September 1966

SUBJECT: Duty Roster

TO: All Panther Flight Personnel

Listed below is the duty roster for Panther Flight. Roll call will be held at 2015 hrs, 23 Sep 66 in front of the AF Armory. Guardmount will be held upon arrival at CSC. Personnel will fall in with required.

Flight Commander (I-4-S).....MSgt Koenig
Asst Flight Commander (I-5-S).....TSgt Lichtenberger
Flight Line Area Supervisor (I-4-S).....TSgt Saxon
Comm/Plotter.....SSgt McLean

<u>C-82 Panther 6</u>	<u>C-83 Panther 4</u>	<u>C-84 Panther 7</u>	<u>C-86 Panther 5</u>
SSgt Hulvey	SSgt Cleveland	SSgt Gutierrez	SSgt Huff
A1C Wicklund (MG)	A1C Van Buren (MG)	A1C Tipton (VG)	A1C Sellars (MG)
A1C Wolf	A2C Atwood	A2C Burke	A2C Butler

<u>C-76</u>	<u>C-77</u>
AB Adams	A2C Pettitt

BOMB DUMP GUARDS

B-3 A2C Claud
B-5 A2C Cooper
B-7 A2C Ellis
B-9 A2C Garrison
B-11 A2C Magan
B-13 A2C Nelson, R
B-15 A2C Nishi
B-17 A2C Norejko
B-19 A2C Pierce
B-21 A2C Rankley
B-23 A2C Ramirez
B-25 A2C Sleszkowski

AIRCRAFT BOUNDARY GUARDS

C-4 A2C Cannata
C-6 A2C Conrad
C-8 A2C Kinzer
C-10 A2C Madden
C-12 A2C Nelson, W
C-15 A2C Smith
C-17 A2C Shaffer
C-19 A2C Trujillo
C-25 A2C Tucker
C-27 A2C Urban

<u>OP #1</u>	<u>OP #2</u>	<u>OP #3</u>	<u>OP #6</u>
SSgt Elliott	A1C Ayers	SSgt Mendoza	A1C St. Clair
A1C Masback	A1C Morris	A1C Rinney	A1C Moreland
A1C Myrick	A1C Schroeder	A1C Barnes	

<u>OP #7</u>	<u>OP #8</u>	<u>OP #9</u>	<u>OP #10</u>
A1C Mucie	SSgt Slayton	SSgt Townsend	SSgt Wallesch
A1C Henry	A1C Walker	A1C Schwanter	A1C Jarroll

<u>OP #11</u>	<u>OP #12</u>	<u>OP #13</u>	<u>OP #2 (0600-1800 24 Sep 66)</u>
SSgt Eubanks	A1C Allen, J	SSgt Thompson	A1C Kelly
A1C Garsa	A1C Fujtak	A1C Billings	A1C Allen, IS
			A1C Fisher

SSgt Mendoza will hold guardmount for #s 1, 2 & 3 at 1730 hrs, 23 Sep 66 in front of the AF Armory. SSgt Mendoza will call the CSC Plotter prior to guardmount to obtain any information which needs to be passed on to the early O's. Personnel will report not later than 1715 hrs to have equipment checked out prior to 1730 hrs. A1C Fujtak will post OP #3.

<u>OFF</u>	<u>MSAT</u>	<u>BEACH GUARDS</u>	
SSgt Gordon	A1C Wicklund	A1C Knox	0600 hrs, 23 Sep 66
SSgt Godwin	A1C Wolf	A1C Barker	0600 hrs, 23 Sep 66
A2C Marks	A2C Trujillo	A1C Kraus	0600 hrs, 24 Sep 66
A2C Goforth	A2C Nelson, R	A2C Bandura	0600 hrs, 24 Sep 66
A2C Griffin	A2C Garrison		
A2C Johnson	A2C Pierce	<u>R&R</u>	<u>NO SIGNAL</u>
A2C Engelson		A2C Sanchez	A2C Briggs

<u>DETAIL</u>	<u>TDY</u>	<u>ARMORY</u>	<u>MESS CHECK</u>
TGt Hunt	TSgt Russell	A1C King	A2C Durbin
A2C Mirabito, D	SSgt Bailey		
A2C Mirabito, V	A1C Trumbull		
A2C Peoples	A2C Lightle		
A2C Burgess	A2C Hresko		
A2C Anderson			

<u>NO EXCUSE</u>
A1C Morrison
A1C Pyyles
A2C Espinosa
A2C Hennessey
<u>LEAVE</u>
SSgt Robinson

SSgt Townsend will post the beach guards and pick up OP #3 at 0600 hrs, 24 Sep 66. TSgt Saxon & TSgt Lichtenberger will check weapons at the clearing barrel. Hut # 1711 & 1712 will police up on 23 Sep 66. Hut # 1713 & 1714 will police up on 24 Sep 66.

Paul J. Koenig
PAUL J. KOENIG, MSgt, USAF
Panther Flight Commander

13. Phan Rang AB: 35th SPS Post Map, 1970.



