



## Phan Rang AB

Phan Rang and Đà Lạt Convoys, 1966

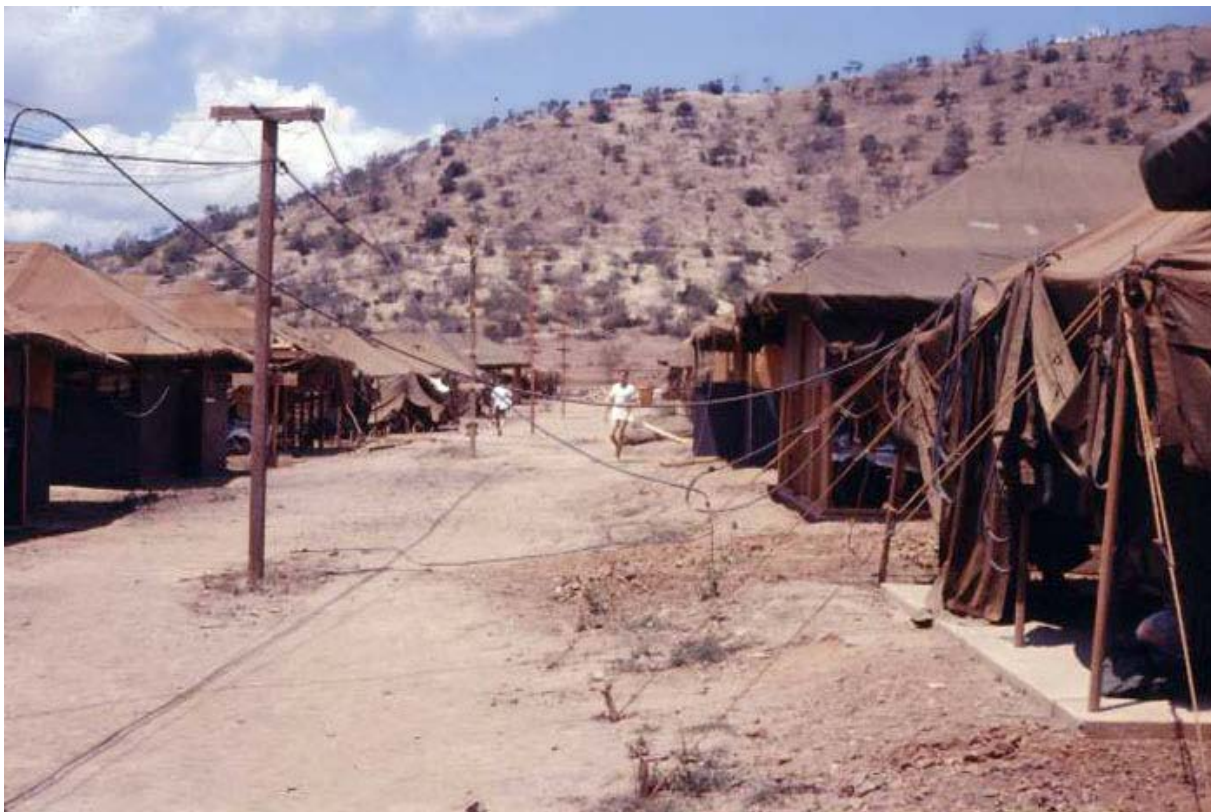
Photos by

[Newell Swartz](#)

PR, 35th SPS; PC, 37th APS/SPS, 1966-1967,  
VSPA Life Member 262

### My Phù Cát AB Photos

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pr-swartz-03-grey-eagle-camp-1966.jpg

Photo of the 35th Air Police area. Check out the overhead wiring with wires crossing and coming down to the ground. Also tent ropes cause painful injuries for new troops and drunks. This was called a *Grey Eagle Camp*.



pr-swartz-04-sgt-corn-tent-bunker-1966.jpg

**Photo of bunkers outside tents. SSgt Leon Corn, Panther Flight and Convoy duty on bunker.**



pr-swartz-05-airborne-aderholt-1966.jpg

**SSgt Newell Swartz, USAF and Spec Grover Aderholt, 101st Airborne, both halfway around the world and grew up across the street from each other in Brandywine, Md. Who would have thunk it?**



hw-pr-swartz-06-convoy-jeep-m60-1966.jpg

SSgt Newell Swartz waiting outside Cam Rahn Bay for convoy to form up to return to Phan Rang.



hw-pr-swartz-08b-dlt-convoy-19.jpg

**Photo of lead gun jeep, Phan Rang-Đà Lạt. SSgt Swartz is M60 gunner and Lt Thompson is Convoy Commander. I must have had delusions of immortality. How would anyone possibly survive an ambush on the road we were traveling?**



pr-swartz-08-dlt-convoy-1966.jpg  
**Gun jeep having to force traffic to very edge of drop off on mountain road. Edge is soft from rain.**



pr-swartz-09-convoy-jeep-1966.jpg  
**Ambush Heaven, potholes for mines, thick foliage for claymores and machine guns. Three weeks after our convoy, another convoy carrying the equipment we transported from Cam Ly and Ling Cong Airports to Đà Lạt was devastated in an ambush on a mountain highway like this.**



pr-swartz-10-bus-1966.jpg

**Top heavy over loaded Vietnamese bus on very edge of drop-off. Everybody held their breath.**



pr-swartz-11-convoy-1966.jpg

**Convoy from Phan Rang to Đà Lạt in the mountains of the Central Highlands. "S-curves have a new meaning especially for the 40' low boy tractor-trailer in the convoy.**



pr-swartz-12-elephant-1966.jpg  
**Photo of a Vietnamese four legged tow truck.**



pr-swartz-13-bull-1966.jpg  
**Photo of SSgt Swartz who stepped off the jeep onto the back of the bull who appeared gentle.**



pr-swartz-14-bull-1966.jpg

Photo of “Cowboy Swartz out of Phoenix, AZ aboard Uncle Ho” who is now upset and took off down the road with Swartz for the 8 second ride.



es-es-pr-swartz-15-welcome-sign-1966.jpg



pr-swartz-16a-dlt-welcome-55gal-drums-ao-1966.jpg

**Phan Rang Convoy photo of the check-in point at Đà Lạt. A “real info processor.”**  
*Note: Agent Orange barrels (behind post) were everywhere and often used as trashcans.*

**NUI DAT HILL**



hw-pr-swartz-17-op-nui-dat-1966.jpg

**Photo of the three man outpost south of Nui Dat Hill outpost manned from sundown to sunup only. Scorpions in the rocks and one morning we killed a nine foot long rock cobra. No soft spots at this outpost which made for a long night. Foxhole *blastable*, not *digable*.**



hw-pr-swartz-18-nui-dat-op-1966.jpg

**Phan Rang 1966 N. Swartz 030.jpg is a photo of the foxhole on Nui Dat Hill, a lap of luxury compared to the other outpost. Three man post. One sleep, two awake (oops). Primary purpose was observation to locate mortars which VC could lob over Nui Dat Hill into Grey Eagle Camp and 101st Airborne Base Camp. PRC 25 radio to be used to direct artillery from 101st onto VC mortars which would be located by mortar sheets in the valley below Nui Dat Hill. Second purpose was obviously defensive, but K-9 posts were located between us and base camp.**





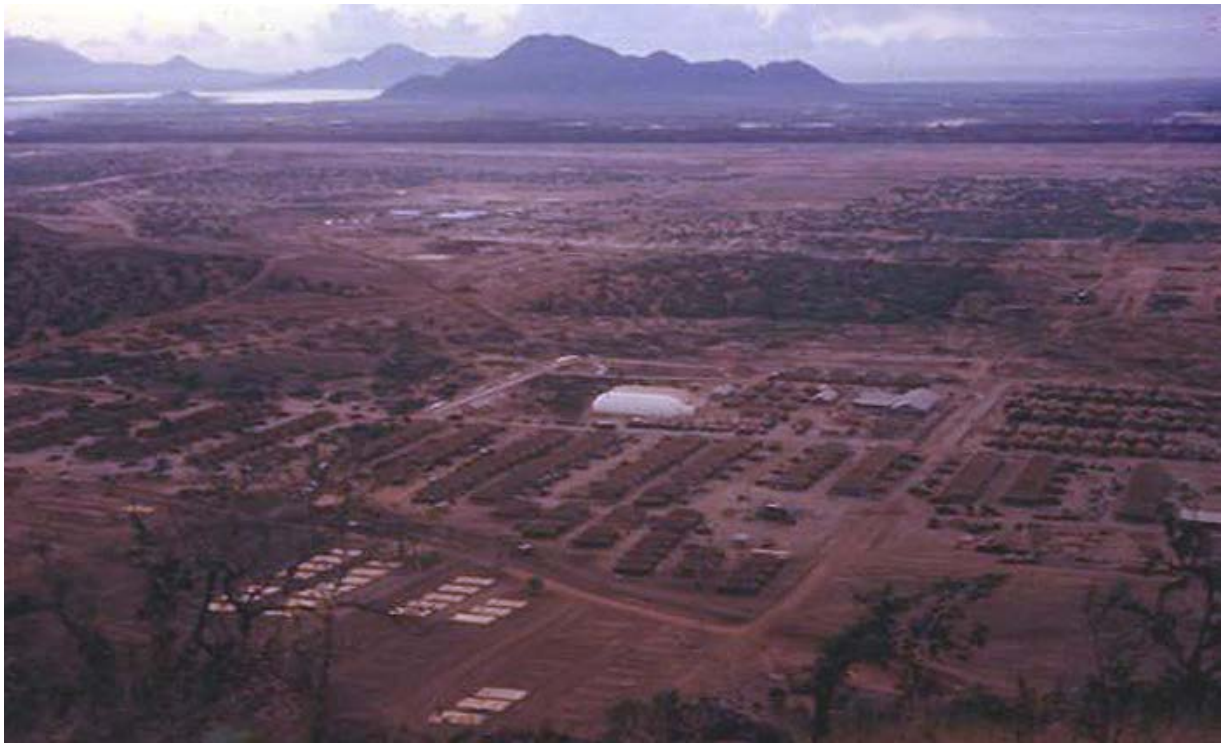
vspa-tl-pr-swartz-op-patrol-1966.jpg

**Photo of SSgt Swartz (camo) and another AP walking to an outpost about one mile southwest of the base and South of the Nui Dat Hill outpost which is located on the west perimeter of the base. Equipment is usually M60 w/2cans of ammo and swivel mount for M60, each man M/16 w/120 rounds of ammo, hand flares, grenades, PRC 25 radio for 101st Airborne to call in artillery, c-rations, canteens, ponchos, (could have used a Panama pack horse).**



pr-swartz-20-perimeter-op-1966.jpg

**Photo from atop Nui Dat Hill which is located on the west perimeter of the base. Three man outpost from sundown to sunup with M60 with swivel mount, 2 cans of M60 Ammo, Each man with M16 w/120 rounds, hand flares, PRC 25 radio, canteens of water, c-rations, grenades, ponchos and whatever else you wanted to carry for yourself, flashlights, knives etc.**



pr-swartz-21-atop-nui-dat-1966.jpg

**Photo from atop Nui Dat Hill facing East over the 101st (right side), and Grey Eagle Camp (left). South China Sea in background. One night, a 101st soldier killed a fully grown tiger which was walking thru the tanglefoot which separated their camp from ours, by using a grenade while he was on guard duty. They brought the tiger in the bed of a weapons carrier (like a one ton truck with stake bed) over to our camp the next day probably because they thought we wouldn't believe them otherwise. The tiger's head was against the cab of the truck and the hindquarters was slumped up on the tailgate. You had to just stop and think what you would do in a similar situation. Shoot and just wound him and you have problems, throw a grenade and spook him and he can cover a lot of ground before the grenade goes off. If he is that close -- *he's not afraid of men.***

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