

VIETNAM
Phan Rang ab
Heavy Weapons, Page-2-6

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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ALL PHOTOS THIS PAGE by Joe Taragowski, PR, 35th SPS, 1970.



1. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons. 1970.



2. Phan Rang AB: HW, preparing rounds. 1970. *



3. Phan Rang AB, Frank Kowalski (left) and Rich Palmer (right) pack mortars. 1970.



4. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons, letting the base Chaplins fire the .50cal. 1970. *'Repent, Commies!'*



5. Phan Rang AB: Heavy Weapons barracks. 1970.



6. Phan Rang AB: V100, Phil Sperflage (standing), and Steve Cole. 1970.



7. Phan Rang AB: V100, Joe Taragowski with auto grenade launcher. 1970.



8. Phan Rang AB: Joe Taragowski, V100 HW, ready for the night with .50cal. 1970.



9. Phan Rang AB: V100, Steve Cole with .50cal. 1970.
Heavy Weapons' have the Biggest Guns.



10. Phan Rang AB: V100.
 Joe Taragowski with new guy. 1970.



11. and 12. Phan Rang AB, Steve Cole pretending to be fighting with a Boa we killed one night.
 Steve Cole skinned and clean it, but they wouldn't let me bring it home.

* Picture #2 above: The ammo is for the M-67, 90mm recoilless rifle. The round with the nose spike is a M-371-A1 90mm HEAT (High Explosive-Antitank) round and the flat nosed one is a M590 Antipersonnel (beehive) round. The Bazooka (generic term) was the M-1, M-9 and M-20 shoulder mounted rocket launcher. Their ammo closely resembled a mortar shell or the shell from a Viet Cong RPG-4/7. It was not encased in a brass canister, like that of the M-67 recoilless rifle. The Bazooka was an individual weapon and the recoilless rifle was a crew-serviced weapon, with a 3-person crew (Gunner, Assistant Gunner and Ammo Bearer). How do I know this? I taught M-67 Recoilless Rifle and M-66 Light Antitank Weapon (LAW).

Gary Jones , LM-363, VSPA Web Site Flight Leader

We Take Care of Our Own

PHAN RANG AB

35th Security Police Squadron

Heavy Weapons

[Joseph Taragowski](#)

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I am attaching a group photo of men from heavy weapons - Phan Rang Air Base. The year is 1970 (I am not sure of month).

The picture takes quite a while to load and is quite big... but it is very clear. Click on it to see a larger image, and use both the horizontal and vertical scroll bars to view the entire photo... you can also zoom in.

We've gone to great lengths to program this photo in hopes that other people can view it. It's been over 32 years and unfortunately I've forgotten the names. (My father died two days after Christmas 1970, and I was shipped home... and never returned to say goodbye to anyone). I hope this brings back memories to some of the other guys.

Thanks

Joe Taragowski



[Click on Photo for large image](#)

PHOTO: The second row from the bottom up... starting on the left... seventh man over... I think his name might have been Mack... he was from New Jersey. The eight man next to Mack... (starting from left)... I think his name is Stephen Cole... from Oregon or Washington state. I would hesitate to post these names with the faces because I truly am not 100% sure ... I'm just telling you what I think their names are but I'm really not sure. I am the young kid... top row... all the way to the left... sitting next to the 50 caliber machine gun.

If you recognize anyone, please let me know so the name(s) can be added!

P.S.: I guess the camera man forgot to tell us to "smile"... because we certainly don't look like a happy group of guys !! Of course the picture was taken when we got off duty early A.M. and truthfully, I didn't want to get into the picture because I was so tired but our duty sargeant made me get in it. I'm glad I did.

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