

In Memory of
Jacob Chestnut...

**NCO, United States Air
Force; Vietnam Veteran; and
Capitol Police Officer**

**by John P. Manzi
(1998)**

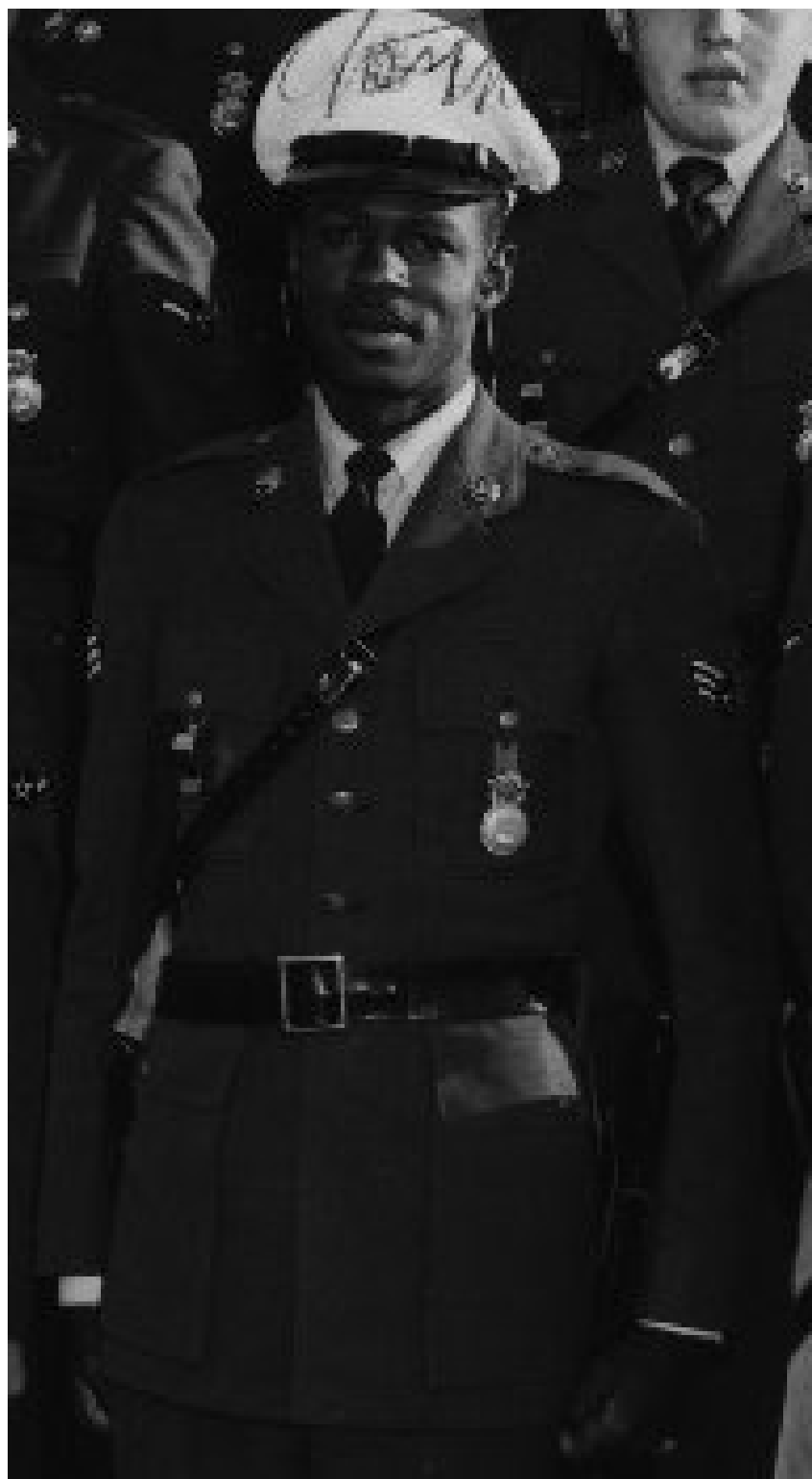


I was stationed with Jacob Chestnut in 1961-63 at Hanscom Field Mass., with the 3246th Air Base Group, Air Police Division. We patrolled together and were on the same Flight. I remember him as a quiet, friendly and dedicated man. I was saddened to hear of his loss. His dedication to his country should be an inspiration to all of us.

Below is a B/W *Flight photo*, taken at Hanscom Field Mass, November 1962, showing A1C Chestnut in the front row, third from left. I am in the front row on the far left (A1C John Manzi). Notice the Air Police badges, as they are the original with the blue enamel. (Close ups of of the photo are also shown)

Also including are Orders (1 Feb 61) when we were promoted: I was promoted to A1C and JJ Chestnut was promoted to A2C. *John Manzi*





HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON SECTION
3246TH AIR BASE GROUP (ARDC)
United States Air Force
Laurence G. Hanscom Field, Bedford, Massachusetts

SPECIAL ORDERS) NUMBER A-2) 1 February 1961

1. Under the provisions of AFR 39-29, as amended, each of the following named airmen, organization indicated, this station, PAFSC indicated, is promoted to the grade shown, with date of rank 1 February 1961. Authority: AFR 39-29, as amended, ARDC Supplement 1 to AFR 39-29 and Letter, Hq ARDC, RDPMA, 6 January 1961, Subj: 1 February 1961 Promotion Quotas.

Hq 3246TH AIR BASE GROUP

TO AIRMAN FIRST CLASS (PERMANENT)

A/2C VERNON L. CHASE	AF17449520	57150
A/2C JOHN F. CROZMAN	AF11249234	77150
A/2C REUBEN K. HOLDEMAN	AF17496589	30452
A/2C MARVIN E. KEEL	AF11301768	64650
A/2C JOHN P. MANZI, JR.	AF21641257	77150
A/2C ARTHUR C. MOORE	AF14618386	29150
A/2C CHARLES M. MURPHY	AF11346529	29251
A/2C PETER B. SADOVSKY	AF12506786	77150
A/2C EDWIN D. SICKMILLER	AF15576990	47152
A/2C ARTHUR W. TRUDEAU	AF11308759	42153

Hq 3246TH AIR BASE GROUP

TO AIRMAN SECOND CLASS (PERMANENT)

A/3C WILLIAM P. CASEY	AF11365668	77150
A/3C JACOB J. CHESTNUT	AF14723340	77130
A/3C KENNETH DAY	AF16611639	29150
A/3C PERRY DUNLAP	AF14692440	46231
A/3C DAVID R. ELLIOTT	AF11369659	77130
A/3C NELSON W. FOLAND	AF12597054	77010
A/3C EDWARD B. GOMEZ	AF18538406	77130
A/3C LEONARD G. GRANT	AF14697493	77010
A/3C THOMAS E. KING	AF21198649	77130
A/3C LEO P. LYDON, JR.	AF11326167	77150
A/3C REGINALD P. MERCHANT	AF11358716	60330
A/3C JOSEPH E. OLADOVICH	AF11361815	60330
A/3C BERNARD A. PACEWICZ	AF13646099	60330
A/3C PAUL V. PARKER	AF11358072	23230
A/3C MARRICE W. PARRISH	AF14682996	29151
A/3C GENE R. RICHARDSON	AF19620628	64230
A/3C CHARLES A. ROCK	AF11357599	57130
A/3C ROGER F. SELESKY	AF15609738	74010
A/3C ROBERT SILVIA	AF11356238	77150
A/3C ROBERT S. STAUFFER, JR.	AF13658786	57130

Capitol Police Officer Jacob Chestnut, 58, was a member of the [Vietnam Security Police Association, Inc. \(USAF\)](#). As a United States Air Force Veteran, "JJ" Chestnut retired with 20 years service as a non-commissioned officer. He also served two tours in the Republic of Vietnam. First with the 12th Combat Security Police (Jan-Dec. 1966), Phù Cát, and second with the 633d Combat Security Police (May 1968-May 1969), Pleiku.

Both Jacob Chestnut and fellow officer John Gibson were killed in the line of duty while defending the United States Capitol Building from an armed attack by a lone gunman. Officer John Gibson was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery after a 14 miles long funeral procession, on Thursday, July 30, 1998. Officer Jacob Chestnut was laid to rest at Arlington on Friday, July 31, 1998. The Army approved Capitol Police Officer Gibson's interment there, after it was requested by Gingrich and House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt.

A Vietnam Security Police Association, Inc. (USAF) *Tribute to Fallen Warriors* may be viewed at [Jacob Chestnut](#).

Outstanding media coverage and stories are courtesy of [NBC 4 LA CHANNEL 4 NEWS](#) Breaking story at MSNBC (The Associated Press and Reuters also contributed to this report).

Arrangements for flowers and contributions are in progress. Anyone wishing to contribute to the fund may do so by writing the below address. All funds --100%--raised will go directly to the families of Jacob Chestnut and fellow officer John Gibson. Single checks will be given to the families by the VSPA. Family wishes, when known, will be respected by the Association. The VSPA will post at this location the total funds raised and the distribution made.

Contributions may be addressed to:

Steve Ray,
VSPA Treasurer,
Vietnam Security Police Association
(VSPA Chestnut Gibson Fund)
1626 Chandler Road Huntsville, AL 35801

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