

VIETNAM

TAN SON NHUT AIR BASE

French Cemetery May 6, 1968 Photos 377th Security Police Squadron

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NKP, 634th SPS; TSN, 377th SPS.
377th SPS, Delta Sector, October 1968 - May 1970

Telling it like it was!

Photos are from DB6, of the French Cemetery out in front. I have more photos of the sector particularly from Tango 21 and the area around DB9. DB9 was one of the NEW bunkers built in response to the threats realized during TET 1968. I have a set of photos I took after taking over DB9 as my assigned post including how to fight a .50 Cal and the defensive features of the new bunker along with terrain and local threats. Chuck Templeton



1. This is the French cemetery located outside the south perimeter and Plantation Road. This was the cemetery that the enemy came through on May 6, 1968 (Mini-TET). Photo by Charles Templeton. 1968.

At 0726 hours, Delta Bunker 6 reported it had made heavy contact with approximately 40 Viet Cong in the French Cemetery adjacent his post. At this point a tank accompanied by a platoon of ground troops from the 33rd VNAF Wing, Defense Group arrived at the French Cemetery and engaged the enemy.



2. The barbed wire fencing you see is the perimeter's mine field. You can see a portion of the French Cemetery in the rear of the photograph. Photo by Charles Templeton. 1968.

377th Security Police Squadron, Sept. 1967 - Sept. 1968: Lived in the old French Officers Bilets, until completion of 1300 area. Foxtrot Sector (Charlie Flight) throughout the "TET Offensive," I was hospitalized at Cam Ranh Bay, until March 1968. I returned to Tân Sơn Nhứt and Foxtrot Sector, found out it had become Delta Sector. I was in the French Cemetery during the Spring Offensive, May 6 1968. I was the one who shot the roof top spotter for the ARVN/VC (whatever the unit was), it was a mortar position, dropping mortars on us while we had the VC trapped in the French Cemetery!

Names that I remember: SSgt Henderson, TSgt McNitt, Davis, Korpics (sp?), Halcolm, Dink, SSgt Tommy "TV" Vaughter, Wood, Woody, Poge (sp?), Cathy. I hung around with Ralph Simon of ECHO 1 fame, (did he ever even get a pat on the back for that?) - they used to call us "Simon & Garfunkle," I lived in bldg. 1316, 2nd level, "can of beer and tuna sandwich for a buck" cafe until asked to cease operations by the base medics - in a combat zone ... go figure! Interested in getting in touch with any and all security policemen, also interested in reunions and any other related information. Great website -- where have I been?

Thanks, Renato DellaPorta [VSPA member]

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