



# Binh Thuy Airbase, RVN



Over its lifetime, two Security Police units were assigned to Binh Thuy. Usually when these changes occurred, all personnel remained, just the unit name (or number) was changed. It's a military thing! Binh Thuy was the home of the 632nd and 633rd



Photos Above: The Kennels, Circa 1968-1969  
Photos Courtesy of JD Hays

Binh Thuy Air Base: Below From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

USAF use during the Vietnam War: United States Air Force units began using Binh Thuy as a Forward Air Control (FAC) base simultaneously with the VNAF in September 1965. Seventh Air Force activated the **632d Combat Support Group** (632d CSG) which performed the non-operational base hosting mission. The 632d

CSG supported transient Air Force gunships, transport aircraft, and other close air support aircraft, while the United States Navy operated a Naval Support Activity and a Naval Air base with a combat helicopter squadron HA(L)-3 a few miles south of the base. VAL-4 a US Navy light attack squadron operating OV-10s operated from Binh Thuy from March 1969 to April 1972.<sup>[1]</sup> Detachment 10 of the 38th Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Squadron, US Air Force, operated two HH-43 helicopters at Binh Thuy from 15 September 1965 to 20 December 1969. One or two Y0-3As operated by the 220th Surveillance Aircraft Company, 16th Aviation Group, U.S. Army. Also some YOV-10D Broncos (2 EA) were operated from the base by the U.S. Marines 1st MAW detachment.

The 22d Tactical Air Support Squadron (Light) (22d TASS) was the major USAF operational unit at Binh Thuy. The squadron was activated on 8 May 1965 and assigned to the new base in September. Organizationally, the 22d TASS was assigned to the **505th Tactical Control Group**, then on 8 December 1966 to the **504th Tactical Air Support Group**. These came under the command of the **22d Air Division** headquartered at Tan Son Nhut Air Base. The squadron operated the Cessna 0-1 Birdog aircraft, 1965-1971 and the Cessna O-2A and Bs Super Skymasters aircraft, 1967-1971.

The squadron provided air crews in Vietnam to direct air strikes for tactical aircraft operating within the Tactical Air Control System (TACS). It also performed visual reconnaissance, convoy escort, and other missions as directed by the Tactical Air Commander. Aircraft and maintenance were provided in support of these operations within IV Corps, Republic of Vietnam, as directed by Seventh Air Force. The squadron provided aircraft and personnel in support of the Theater Indoctrination School, and field and transient maintenance support of USAF aircraft at Binh Thuy.

In 1969, the 22d TASS began closing down operations at the base as part of the general US withdrawal from South Vietnam. The squadron was moved to Bien Hoa Air Base in January 1970, with the last assigned USAF personnel leaving by the end of the month. At Bien Hoa, the assets of the 22d TASS were absorbed by the 9th Tactical Air Support Squadron and the unit was reduced to a paper organization. It was transferred without personnel or equipment to Wheeler Air Force Base, Hawaii on 15 May 1971.



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