

# THE KNIFE-13 MEMORIAL MONUMENTS

PREPARED BY THE VIETNAM SECURITY POLICE ASSOCIATION, INC. (VSPA)

- **OCTOBER 7, 2022:** VSPA proposed raising funds, designing, and delivering long-overdue memorials honoring heroes lost in Knife-13 USAF helicopter crash, 13 May 1975.
  - Mayaguez Rescue and Recovery Mission, last Battle of the Vietnam War.
  - Eighteen Security Policemen and five aircrew members perished en route to staging area--largest single loss of Security Policemen in USAF history. All assigned to 56th Special Operations Wing, Nakhon Phanom, Thailand.
  - President Gerald Ford ordered Bronze Star Medals (M) awarded to those killed in Line of Duty aboard Knife-13's crash.
  - Memorial monuments to be located on Luke AFB AZ (current home of 56th Fighter Wing and 56th Security Forces Squadron) and USAF Security Forces Museum on Joint Base San Antonio Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.
  
- **OCTOBER 10, 2024:** first memorial dedicated at the USAF Security Forces Museum, Lackland Joint AFB, San Antonio, Texas.
  - 12,000-pound photo-etched, engraved formally approved black granite monument was unanimously applauded by all at the unveiling.
  - Ceremony attended by 300 veterans, including several general officers, VSPA members and several family members of those who perished (see photos).
  
- **VSPA is a 501(c)(19) tax exempt organization of military war veterans** who served as United States Air Force Air Policemen, Security Policemen, and Augmentees in Vietnam and Thailand. All donations made to the Knife-13 Memorials are tax deductible.
  
- **VSPA seeks support from corporate America and other patriotic organizations.** Fund-raising continues using VSPA's extensive network of retired and active-duty Security Forces Defenders, including K-9 and others, plus the Special Operations community.
  
- **FEBRUARY 2025:** VSPA continues to coordinate with officials to construct, transport, deliver and install the second memorial on Luke AFB AZ for an Oct 10, 2025 unveiling and dedication ceremony.
  - **Granite for this identical monument has already been ordered.**
  - VSPA needs \$50,000 to complete the memorial by the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of Knife-13's tragic loss. Help us prove we meant it when we said, "You Are Not Forgotten."
  - **Donation QR Codes** located on each memorial photo.
  - **Donation links** appear on VSPA's award-winning website via VSPA.com.
  - **Cash, checks, and gifts** of appreciated stock are welcome.



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