



# Vietnam

## 3rd Air Police Squadron Bien Hoa Air Base

© 1998 by G. Ernest Govea

1. Photo: G. Ernest Govea.

**Guardmount: Post the Troops - 1969**

2. 3rd Security Police watching as newly arrived troops who have just deplanned. Scratching his head in wonder at the shiny new equipment they carry.



3. Daily events, as 3rd Security Police gathering early for Guardmount.





4. Glen Davis from West Virginia examines his captured AK-47



5. My good buddy  
Glen Davis, from West  
Virginia with his captured  
AK-47.

*"Ain't it purtty!"*

**6.** The sign to the right of door reads: 3rd Security Police Motor Pool & Dispatch Office.



**6** A Security Police truck transports Security Policemen to be posted in Bravo or Abel areas.



**8.** *Watch the potholes, Sarge!*



**9.** SAT Team leaves to patrol its assigned area. Note the Vietnamese Q.C. riding shotgun.





**10.** Heavy (literally) weapons rest on foul-weather gear bags.



**11.** *Hey! Stars and Stripes* says there's light at the end of the tunnel.



**12.** Now listen guys ... this is *no BS and God's truth* . . . Uncle Ho's gonna fly in and surrender'in to me at 2200 hours tonight ... only ... don't tell no body you heard it from me!



**13.** Security Police SAT teams prepare for deployment.



**14. Photo above** - The three APCs on the right were among the elements of the 11th Armored Cav brought in to support the 3rd SPS in preparation for the Tet Offensive of 1969. There was also at least one tank, not shown here. During the lengthy rocket attack of the night of February 23rd, the tank crew members disobeyed orders from Lt. Col. Fowle, our squadron commander, and fired their big gun into the town of Bien Hoa.

**15. Photo right** - Lt Col. Fowle ordered our LE troops to "beat senseless" any troops apprehended from the 11th Armored Cav. Here, US Army and SPs (in camouflage) mingle with 11th Armored Cav troops. So far as I know, that order was never carried out.

**16. - Later, Lt Col. Fowle** ordered our LE troops to "beat senseless" any troops apprehended from the 11th Armored Cav.



Gelderman, from Pensylvania, mans the .50 cal,



**17. & 18. – US Army firepower** from these Vulcans was awesome. Here, US Army and SPs (in camouflage) mingle with 11th Armored Cav troops. So far as I know, that order was never carried out.





**19.** A1C Gelderman from Pennsylvania mans the .50 cal. 3rd SPS



**20. & 21.**  
**3rd ACAV of the 3rd SPS**



22. - Not a great shot, but close examination shows these SPs preparing a minigun for night duty. Woe to Charley if he encounters this team tonight.



23. Our miniguns were *slowed down* to fire 3,200 full metal jacket rounds per minute.

24. - I took this from the driver's seat of "Fluffy" our beloved Armored Personnel Carrier, M113. This is the North West perimeter area.







25. – Inside a “commando car.” Note the knobs and ports through which SPs could fire their M16s. Anyone remember this man’s name?



26 & 27. – G. Ernest Govea, behind an M60 machine gun on a commando car of the 3rd ACAV of the 3rd SPS.



28. 3rd ACAV of the 3rd SPS



29.– “Fluffy,” fully armed, and my fellow crew members. I took the picture and was the driver. L-R: A buck sergeant whose name I no longer recall, A1C Ustonovich, Sgt. Dicks our track commander, and A1C Gelderman from Pennsylvania.



**30. SAT pickup truck on standby.**



**31. Water Tower** visible from most of Bien Hoa AB, and prominent from the SPS Compound.