

Remain

In

Touch



**FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE
ASSOCIATION**

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The President's Corner



Dear Members,

We're entering a great time of year for the FTVA! The month of March again presents the opportunity to support one of our favorite events, as the AF ISR Agency will name its "Outstanding Airmen of the Year". Your collective memberships, donations and Vigilant Partner contributions enabled us to provide \$5,500 for this year's program (and a total of almost \$50,000 since 2000). We're pleased to once again assist the Agency in honoring these outstanding men and women who epitomize the "best of the best" our active duty forces have to offer, and look forward to participating in the festivities.

Our annual "Spring Social" date has been set for April 30, 2011. It will again be held at the Gateway Club on Lackland AFB, and details will be forthcoming on the website. Based on last year's record attendance, we've expanded the space for our 2011 celebration and look forward another record! The theme will recognize AF ISR Agency recently-deployed members, and you're missing an inspiring evening if you're not there to hear their experiences. As usual, we've arranged for an outstanding speaker – the AF ISR Agency Command Chief, CMSgt Frederick Ricker, a warrior who's "been there, done that".

I regret to inform that we're losing one of the FTVA's true stalwarts, Mr. Kirk Carpenter, who's stepping away due to work commitments (personally, I'll blame the IRS for Kirk's departure). Kirk has done an outstanding job maintaining our "Fallen Eagles" roster for over 8 years. He's always handled the job rapidly and respectfully, always placing the appropriate attention to detail. We'll miss Kirk, who deserves a lot of credit for ensuring our Fallen Eagles and their families receive the attention they so richly deserve. In his stead, we welcome a well-known personality as Kirk's replacement – CMSgt-Ret Ted Colquhoun, former AF ISR Agency Command Chief. It's always great to see young guys step up and assume significant roles with the Association (yes Ted, you're young, at least in this case). My thanks to Ted and others who volunteered to assume this important function.

SAVE THE DATE! Our annual reunion dates are set for 22 – 24 September 2011, and it's never too early to make your plans to attend. Further information will be provided in the next Newsletter, on the website, and Face Book. We again look forward to partnering with Maj Gen Heithold and the AF ISR Agency, and hope all of you make a special effort to attend the festivities. Please contact any FTVA Board Member for details and assistance.

I greatly enjoy reading all the correspondence that is received via the website, personal e-mails, and traditional means. While not all remarks are acknowledged, the Board of Directors and I try to immediately respond to those requiring action and hope you continue to keep us informed of your status and visits to the website. Feel free to let me know if you feel an issue wasn't given the appropriate attention. We enjoy fielding your remarks, information, and inquiries regardless of the communications method you use – and by all means, please continue to “Remain In Touch!”

Lee Anthony



Dear Members,

In our last issue, we announced the latest FTVA Member Support initiative which offers the *RIT* in softcopy format. As a result, several of you indicated this preference. In this issue, we explain how an e-mail will be sent providing the new password to those who prefer the softcopy version.

We encourage you to use the traditional blue centerfold Hall of Honor nomination form included herein. In our continuing effort to improve your newsletter, you'll find that Wayne Tallant has alphabetized our Fallen Eagles section. As always, we send our thanks to those members who have submitted articles and pictures for publication both directly and through their unit website postings. The one liners sprinkled throughout this issue were donated by Dennis Killian. Wishing y'all a Happy St Patrick's Day and an even Happier Easter!!

Sincerely, *Rass*

EDITOR'S DISCLAIMER

Information in the form of letters, notes, fax, e-mail, or by phone is accepted as true and factual. In order to include as much information as possible, some of it may be edited for brevity or may be delayed for later publication. Publishing of any article or notice in this Newsletter does not assure accuracy or endorsement by the Association or Agency.

**Ed Note: As you read this issue of RIT please remember:
My memory's not as sharp as it used to be.
Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.**

FTVA Newsletter

Hardcopy or Softcopy? In our December issue of *Remain in Touch*, we presented the option of providing your newsletter in softcopy pdf format to those members who prefer it. Bob Baert, our Membership Chairman and Webmaster, has made the adjustments associated with implementing this effort world-wide. If you are interested in receiving the softcopy, please let Bob know via e-mail at web@ftva.org. When a newsletter is published we will put it in a protected directory on the website. An e-mail will then be sent to those who want the softcopy letting you know it is available and providing the new password. (Note: you still have the option later on to go back to receiving the hard copy booklet via regular mail). **E-mail Bob Baert web@ftva.org**

FTVA Vigilant Partner Program

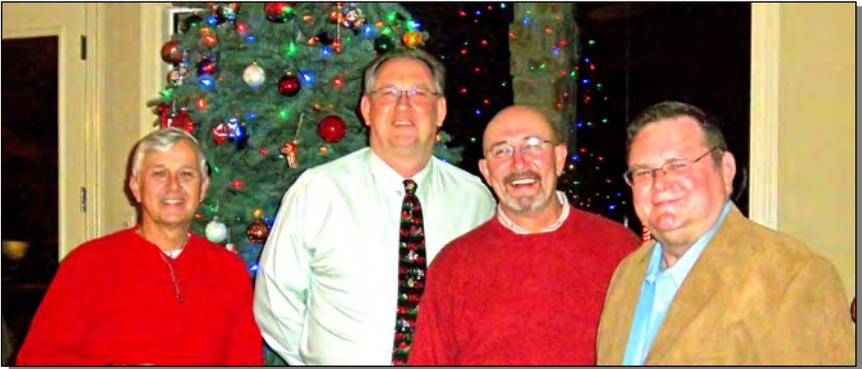
The Freedom Through Vigilance Association achieves its objectives, in part, by providing funds for programs that reward the hardworking, dedicated AF ISR Agency people who go “above and beyond” to accomplish the Agency’s mission. As you know, appropriated funds provide very little help in giving these outstanding performers tangible recognition. Since 1985, the Vigilant Partners’ Program has enabled the FTVA to provide an expanded base of support for this purpose. Modeled after the Industrial Associates of the Air Force Association, the program permits industry, corporations, businesses and even individuals interested in the Agency’s mission to join us in helping fund needed programs. Evidence of this can be found in numerous places at the Agency Headquarters. As an organization, we are proud to do this, and the Agency commander demonstrates his appreciation of this support regularly, and publicly. We invite anyone who might be interested in becoming a Vigilant Partner to contact Jim McLendon. He can be reached at jmclendon@sbcglobal.net or at 210-493-9898. He will be more than happy to assist you in becoming a “partner.” Take a look at the back of this newsletter to see the list of our current partners.

Jim McLendon
Official Activities Chairman

I enjoy sitting on the dock, fishing with my pier group

FTVA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

All four of our current FTVA executive officers were present for a photo opportunity as they enjoyed an informal gathering over the holidays.



(L-R) Vice President Ron Haygood, Secretary ‘Phred’ Sevening, President Lee Anthony, and Treasurer Bob Cope.

Annual FTVA Officer Elections

In accordance with Article VII of the FTVA By-Laws, the BOD has appointed the nominating committee for the annual officer elections to be held in September 2011. This year, the nominating committee is accepting submissions for the offices of Vice President and President. Dennis Rassmussen is heading a committee composed of Jim McLendon, Joe Hurst, Grover Jackson and Bob Sherwood. Any member in good standing may be submitted to the nominating committee; however, for obvious reasons, only those who can attend the monthly BOD meetings in San Antonio can be seriously considered. Please submit your nomination(s) prior to May 10, 2011. Those selected as nominees will then be published in the June issue of *Remain In Touch*. One submission per position at a time please. E-Mail to: Newsletter@ftva.org or use UPS address:

FTVA BOD Nominating Committee
ATTN: Dennis Rassmussen
PO Box 69616 San Antonio, TX 78269-1616

General Custer was the first man to wear an Arrow shirt.

The Membership Corner

It is membership renewal time again. Have you paid your 2011 dues? The easiest way to tell is to check the mailing label on the envelope this newsletter arrived in. If your name is followed by a "2010", you have not paid this year's dues. If your name is followed by a "2010" and you recently mailed your dues they probably crossed paths in the mail. It can take up to three weeks for mail to funnel down to me. **Unfortunately, if your 2011 dues are not paid by the end of May, this will be the last newsletter we can mail you.** If you owe 2011 dues, please mail your dues (\$20.00) to:

Freedom Through Vigilance Association
P.O. Box 691616
San Antonio, TX 78269-1616

Annual Directory: I will be putting together the annual directory beginning in May. Please make sure you have any updates to me by mid-May so they can be included.

Bob Baert, Membership Support
membersupport@ftva.org

FTVA Hall of Honor Nominations

The Hall of Honor Selection Committee is soliciting nominations of candidates for induction into the Freedom Through Vigilance Association's Hall of Honor. The induction ceremony is a major element of the association's reunion activities and is scheduled for Saturday morning, 24 September 2011, at Headquarters, Air Force ISR Agency.

Since the creation of USAFSS as a major air command in 1948, members of USAFSS/ESC/AFIC/AIA/AF ISR Agency, hereinafter referred to as the command, have been at war 24/7/365 as anonymous sentinels, engaged in combat with foreign enemies of the United States and its allies while conducting operations in the air as aircrew members, on the seas aboard U.S. naval ships, and on each of the major continental land masses as well as numerous islands around the world. In no small measure, their contributions toward the preservation of our freedoms, though largely unheralded, have been vital to the continuance of our national security and our way of life.

The command has been blessed with an abundance of talented members who possessed the skill sets and intellectual capacity, coupled with unselfish dedication and commitment, to conquer whatever challenges they encountered – often while confronting significant adversity and at great personal sacrifice. The Freedom Through Vigilance Association’s founders established the Hall of Honor in 1983 to honor those individuals who served the command with great distinction and contributed immeasurably to successful mission accomplishment. To date, 159 individuals have been inducted into the Hall of Honor. They include former officer, enlisted and civilian personnel whose contributions as technicians, supervisors, planners, managers and leaders extend from World War II through the ongoing conflicts. The Hall of Honor preserves the legacy of those who have gone before, highlights their deeds, and honors their contributions to the Nation.

We have all had the privilege of serving with individuals who are viable candidates for induction into the Hall of Honor. This is an opportunity to nominate deserving individuals in an attempt to ensure they receive the recognition and lasting tribute they have earned. The Selection Committee will review all eligible nominations and select individuals for induction into the Hall of Honor using eligibility criteria and procedures pursuant to the Hall of Honor Charter. A copy of the Charter is available in the newsletter and on the web page at <http://www/ftva.org>.

Nominations must be received not later than 6 June 2011 and may be submitted either by mail or email. Nominations submitted by mail should be addressed to FTVA, Attn: HOH Committee, P.O. Box 691616, San Antonio Tx 78269-1616. Email nominations should be addressed to myself at fly99rls@sbcglobal.net or to Bob Cope at rcope6@earthlink.net. When submitting your nomination, please limit it to one page, front and back, using the HOH Nomination Form available in the newsletter or on the website. Thank you and remain in touch.

Bob Sherwood, Chairman
Hall of Honor Program

Annual Spring Social

The annual FTVA Spring Social will be held at the Lackland Gateway Club again this year. FTVA civilians, retirees and active duty service men and women are all invited to enjoy this special evening. We will again recognize some of AFISR Agency’s recent returnees from Afghanistan, Iraq and AOR. The gathering will convene on April 30th at 1700. The cost remains at \$5.00 per person which includes heavy puu-puu’s along with a pay-as-you-go bar and the chance to re-connect with fellow members. CMSgt Frederick Ricker, AFISR Agency Command Chief will be our guest speaker for the evening. See You There!



FTVA Member SPOTLIGHT

San Antonio Chamber Honors

by Wayne Amann, AFISR Agency PA



LACKLAND AFB, Texas -- The Westside San Antonio Chamber of Commerce recently honored seven individuals who have excelled in both the military and civilian communities. Among them is Mr. Kenneth A. Williams, Jr., FTVA board member and prominent member of Air Force ISR Agency's leadership team.

Mr. Williams, a defense intelligence senior level executive and the agency's senior program and technical advisor, was recognized Nov. 3, along with six others, at the 9th annual Veterans In Business Awards luncheon at the Kelly Field Club on Port San Antonio. The unique event is the only one in the Alamo City which honors veterans who coupled a successful transition from the military, with aggressive leadership, into the business community.

"Wow, I was very pleasantly surprised and honored to receive this recognition from the Westside Chamber of Commerce," Mr. Williams said. "I thank them so very much." A retired Air Force colonel with 30 years of active-duty service primarily as an intelligence officer, Mr. Williams entered civil service in 2003 as chief, Force Development Division, in the agency's directorate of personnel. In 2006, the Fort Worth, Texas, native became the director of staff of the then Air Intelligence Agency, before its change to AFISRA in 2007. As the agency's director of staff, he advises the commander, vice-commander and executive director on a multitude of issues affecting the agency. Mr. Williams also coordinates the staff functions and activities of more than 500 military and civilian personnel, and directs the more than 60 people who provide executive services for the agency and support to four general officer- level positions.

"These honorees upheld key values while they transitioned from military to civilian life," said Bert Pickell, a retired chief master sergeant and Veterans in Business Committee leader, at the luncheon honoring the awardees. "I encourage businesses to hire military leaders for their integrity, leadership, teamwork, organizational skills and character, so we can continue to grow San Antonio's prosperous businesses and offer role models for our young." Mr. Williams' name will join his fellow award recipients on The West Chamber Wall of Honor bringing the total number of award recipients to 147.



Veteran Goes Barefoot In Snow To Commemorate 1776 March

Submitted by William Grayson (FTVA Life Member)

(Bowie MD, Dec 26, 2010). William Grayson, a USAF combat veteran of the Vietnam War, walked barefoot in new-fallen snow to commemorate the Christmas Day 1776 crossing



of the ice-clogged Delaware River and 12-mile march in a snowstorm to Trenton, NJ by American troops, most of whom were barefoot or wrapped in rags. Grayson explains that he was profoundly impressed by the commitment, sacrifice, and determined resilience of ill-clothed, malnourished, and poorly-equipped US soldiers after recently studying accounts of the early phases of the War for American Independence. He noted that the agreement to Washington's plea to reenlist by many of the troops, whose enlistments had expired, inspires awe at the courage of citizen-soldiers, whose support had

been sorely neglected by the Congress, to go again willingly in harm's way to fight for freedom, forgoing the chance to go safely home.

In the ensuing battle of Trenton on December 26th, American troops surprised and defeated mercenary Hessians, who were occupying the town, before retracing their march to the Delaware River crossing point and back into Pennsylvania. Some American regiments recorded having been guided on the march by the bloody footprints of the columns, which had gone before them. Until the victory at Trenton, the American Revolution tottered on collapse and many of Washington's most senior aides counseled strongly against the planned crossing. Many historians agree that the success at Trenton preserved the Revolution and helped to sway France to provide urgently-needed support for the war.

Grayson observes that the names of Washington and his senior officers present for the Crossing and the following battle at Trenton are well-known and oft-repeated in historical accounts but that the identities of the enlisted men are essentially unknown and unacknowledged except for the small handful, whose letters home have been preserved for the record.

According to Grayson, "The victory at Trenton may have been conceived by Washington and facilitated by Henry Knox, who got the small army and its canons over the Delaware River, but was won by the gallantry of starving, barefoot and rag-wrapped enlisted soldiers, obedient to orders they had sworn to follow. The independence of the United States and the freedoms cherished by

Americans are owed in large measure as an irredeemable debt to the troops, who marched on Trenton.” Grayson continues, “As I went barefoot in the snow - something I never did before - I carried a reproduction period musket and wore a tricorn hat as an expression of solidarity with those Americans of 1776. I also wore a National Defense Service Medal, awarded to me as a veteran of US military service. I am proud to have served as part of the long line of American veterans stretching back to colonial times and forward to those currently serving and sacrificing in Afghanistan, Iraq and other dangerous places on land, in the air and on and beneath the seas. I was also humbled to learn that I could not have walked 12 miles barefoot to battle and back. The troops of 1776 should be forever honored for so great an accomplishment.

In our current era of “All Volunteer” armed forces, unprecedented standard of living, and continuous, distracting entertainments, it has become all too easy for Americans to be complacent about the risks and sacrifices being undertaken daily on their behalf by our Armed Forces. Memorial Day and Veterans Day have become – for a great many – merely the start of a new beach season and a day of shopping the sales. American volunteers for military service swear an oath of obedience and never know when they will be placed in harm’s way. They deserve the unquestioned full support, respect, and gratitude of the Nation they are sworn to protect and deserve the unconditional consideration and protection.

HOH Member Edward Jolly is a “Pioneer In Blue”

Air Force ISR Agency Public Affairs



CMSgt (Ret) Edward Jolly is featured on the internet as one of the USAF “Pioneers in Blue”, a Pentagon project featuring 38 Air Force veterans who made significant contributions leading to the success of today's Air Force. (Photo by Williams Belcher)

Chief Jolly is a 30-year Air Force veteran who served as a cryptographic specialist during the Vietnam War. He is currently employed at the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency. "Pioneers in Blue," a series of photographic portraits on display in the Pentagon, highlights the service of veteran Airmen, Air Force heroes, pilots, prisoners of war, jet mechanics,



cryptologists, medical technicians and graphic artists who aided in making the Air Force what it is today. The display features Airmen such as Texas Congressman Sam Johnson, a seven-year prisoner of war who weathered the struggles of the Hanoi Hilton in Vietnam; Chuck Yeager, the first person to

exceed the sound barrier; and Dick Cole, one of the pilots who supported Jimmy Doolittle in a surprise attack on Japan.

Mr. Jolly was selected because of his significant work encoding messages using the encryption and decryption machine SIGABA, the cryptographic workhorse of the time. The SIGABA codes were never broken during their service lifetime and no machines were ever captured by the enemy. More information about Mr. Jolly and the other veterans honored by the display are on-line at:

<http://www.af.mil/specials/pioneers/index.html>



Gov Perry Names Buchholtz Chair of State Commission

Austin, TX Dec 22, 2010 – Gov. Rick Perry has named William “Bill” Buchholtz of San Antonio as chair of the Commission on State Emergency Communications. This commission helps cities, counties and emergency communication districts to implement and maintain enhanced 911 emergency communications and poison control center services throughout the state. Buchholtz is executive director of the Bexas Metro 911 Network District. He is past commander of the Air Force Intelligence Command’s European Electronic Security Division. His term of service is determined by the governor.

From English History in the 1500’s

A “Loaf of Bread” was divided according to status: Workers got the burnt or the bottom of the loaf; the family got the middle; and guests were given the top, or the “upper crust”.





Maj. Gen. Brad Heithold, commander, Air Force ISR Agency, left, prepares to "tack" on stripes for new Tech. Sgt. Curtis Hunter, with help from agency Command Chief Master Sgt. Frederick Ricker, right. General Heithold had just surprised Sergeant Hunter with a STEP promotion. Joining in the surprise were Sergeant Hunter's supervisors

and co-workers from the agency's A-1 personnel directorate. (AF ISR Agency/PA photo)

AF ISR Agency Honor Guard

Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency Honor Guard members, left to right, Senior Airman Anthony Garrow-Smith, Staff Sgt. Christopher Strunk, Senior Airman Nathan Neal and Senior Airman Justin Smith, present the Stars and Stripes during the National Anthem Nov. 26 at the AT&T Center in San Antonio prior to the National Basketball Association game between the Dallas Mavericks and San Antonio Spurs. The ceremonial AFISRA unit performs at professional football, baseball and basketball games throughout Texas. (Photo courtesy Charlie Cyr)



485TH Intelligence Squadron Garners Swindell Award

Lt. Col. Michael Charecky, 485th Intelligence Squadron commander, accepts the

Chief Master Sergeant James C. Swindell Award Nov. 2 from the Chief's wife, June Swindell, her son Clay and Maj. Gen. Bradley Heithold, AF ISR Agency commander. The unit award is given for outstanding communication and information operations systems support. The 485th IS is based at



Mainz-Kastel, Germany. The presentation highlighted day one of the Air Force ISR Agency's annual Commanders' Conference at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, known as Sensor Rally. (U.S. Air Force photo by William Belcher)

AFISR Agency Outstanding Airmen of the Year (AOY) Program

According to TSgt. Mark Richardson, AFISR AOY program manager, the Agency's annual awards presentation is scheduled for March 2-4, with the banquet on March 3rd. Since 1985, the FTVA has provided a total of nearly \$80,000 in support of the Agency's recognition programs.



(Above) Lee Anthony (L) and Ron Haygood (R) present a \$5,500 check from FTVA to Maj. Gen. Bradley Heithold in support of the Agency's awards program.

BEDSIDE MATTERS



Richard "Rick" Nelson Lung Transplant Update

(Rick was diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis in March 2010 and was placed into the lung transplant program in Sep.) 1/30/2011- Over five months and still counting. It's the end of January and the wait for the "call" continues. Everyone here has been sick to one degree or another but all getting over it now. This time of the year **certainly brings out the crud. Everything else continues** to progress, work and rehab as usual. Hope that all of you are well and stay that way. Thanks for all your thoughts

and prayers. I will continue to post. Rick

2/03/2011 – **GOT THE CALL! I AM ON THE WAY TO THE HOSPITAL.**

02/04/2011 – Hey Everyone, Great News!! Update on Rick's status. We arrived at Fairfax INOVA Hospital last night at 7:30 PM, as we received word a transplant had been found. Tests, harvesting, transporting still needed to be performed. Rick was brought down and prepped for surgery, and they began the operation at 6 AM, finished just before 9 AM, right under 3 hours. The Doctor's were extremely pleased with how everything went (a bypass machine was not needed, great news!), and said he had taken to the lung quickly. We got to see him around noon in the ICU, where he is breathing through full support of a ventilator (and probably will be doing so for the next 24 hours). The plan is to keep him sedated well into tomorrow morning, to ensure that all is functioning properly before assisted breathing is removed Mike (Rick's son)

It's the middle of Feb and things are progressing well for the most part. Appetite is going strong, drinking lots of fluids, and has begun the rehab process Has issues with left kidney, as a kidney stone has appeared. Dad is still in ICU (mainly due to the kidney issue), and will probably be there through the procedure on Monday. Thanks for all your thoughts and prayers!

Mike

From Dave Bethard (D Flt 67-71) Hakata/6918th input

Several of our friends are ill and suffering right now, and could use your prayers, phone calls and e-mails to cheer them.

James L. Howard is at home, but is suffering due to his long battle with cancer. Prayers are welcome--Jim can receive occasional calls, but isn't able to talk for long periods, all depending on how he is and whether or not he's awake. Marty will relay voice mail messages should you call and be unable to speak with him. Marty says that friends and family (in addition to Hospice) are constantly at his bedside and are providing assistance and comfort for them. (**Ed Note:** James Howard passed away on Jan 19th - please see Fallen Eagles section below.).

Bill Mink-- has a history of heart-related problems, and suffers from congestive heart failure, and recently went through a series of tests at a nearby hospital. It looks like prompt action saved him from something more urgent. He's feeling much stronger now than when he was in the hospital, and went home before the end of Jan. He appreciates your e-mails and calls to his mobile phone 201-838-0881 and is looking forward to the 6918th Hakata reunion in September.

Bill Guerard -- suffered a fall on some hidden ice at his home in early Jan, and suffered a concussion and brain bleed as a result. Like many of us, Bill is on blood thinning medicine, so in addition to the concussion symptoms, he was monitored for any more bleeding. After spending 2 days hospitalized, he's back home, and would appreciate hearing from friends, because he's bored out of his mind. He can no longer read for long periods of time and moving around too much can cause throbbing. A card or a phone call would cheer him up.

From: Luther Deese

Subject: **Taylor "Leaky" Fawcett**, MSgt-Ret, USAFSS, 203X1-2, Yale IFEL Class No. 01-59, is in distress -- keep him close to your hearts!

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011

This is Mary and you can probably tell I'm no friend of the computer. I don't know how to send this to the whole group. I'm asking for your thoughts and prayers for Leaky. He fell last Friday and fractured at least one rib, developed pneumonia, and is in Intensive Care on a ventilator at 50% oxygen. They are trying to wean him from it, but anxiety is complicating things. I'm sorry to be so late to get this message to you and to be so abrupt but I've been at his bedside almost 24/7. Please share this message with the group. I'll try to keep you updated. Grace and peace, Mary Fawcett

Daniel "Dap" Dapolito, our editor emeritus, has completed the second round of six treatments in his current chemotherapy series. Understandably, he has less energy than normal, but Dap says he's leveled off after losing about 40 lbs. He's on oxygen at night and intermittently during the day and he can still get out for limited travel when necessary. He's keeping one eye on our newsletter efforts and appreciates your thoughts and prayers during his lengthy recuperation.

You can e-mail Dap at:

dapodan@sbcglobal.net

1814 Rawhide
San Antonio, TX 78227



Doctor, my arm hurts!!

FTVA CHAPTER NEWS



Annual Christmas Social
Heritage Chapter, San Angelo, TX

by Larry Ross, Chapter Secretary

On Dec 9, 2010, 28 members and guests of the Heritage Chapter in San Angelo enjoyed their annual Christmas Dinner at Zentner's Daughter Steak House. Prior to dining, President JJ Graham (photo right) gave a presentation on the Chapter's accomplishments during 2010 and anticipated projects during 2011. The Chapter presented each member with a dog tag bearing the USAFSS shield. Accompanying each dog tag was a card designed and printed by Kathie Bendinelli; the card depicted the FTVA logo on one side and Bill Mahan's eloquent message honoring our heritage as silent warriors on the other. Tommy Smart entertained us singing his USAFSS version of "I've Been Everywhere, Man." Cindy Willey had a bag of her traditional gifts of handmade items. Unfortunately, due to the delayed birth of her grandson, she was unable to complete enough to give one to each family, so we distributed them via a series of door prize drawings.



Kneeling L-R - JJ Graham, Larry Ross, Ed Bendinelli; **Front Row L-R** - Stephanie Lord (student awaiting officer intell training), Jim Cox, Corky Bingham, Wayne Bascom, Tommy Smart, Cindy Willey, Russ Thoma
Back row L-R - Terry Giroux, Larry Miller, Steve Willey, Bill Allen, John Shore
 Not pictured – Bruce Foreman (Photographer)



L-R - Gayla Cox, Pat Miller, Mary O'brien, Chae Bascom, Addie Shore, Celeste Allen, Kay Smart, Karen Bingham, Jane Thoma, Kathie Bendinelli, Diane Ross
(Not pictured - Bradley Lord) Photo by Bruce Foreman

On January 11th, we were notified of the passing of Robert Sebers, 84-year old brother of TSgt Fred Sebers, an intelligence analyst killed in 1967 while serving with Det 1, 6994th Scty Sqdn, Nha Trang, RVN. In April 2010, the Heritage Chapter hosted a visit by Robert and other members of the Sebers family to Goodfellow. Robert was the impetus behind the family's visit; he wanted to visit the memorials to his brother in his life-time. It was a very emotional three days, not soon to be forgotten by those of us who knew within moments of meeting him that we had found a friend in Robert. He was a very warm, a very inspiring, a very special and gentle man. The Heritage chapter will miss him.

We are a group of rapidly aging and steadily disappearing veterans of a war that was fought with skills and talents not normally associated with the military, nor understood by the general public. Our pride is in accomplishments that are often secret, and memories are about things that happened, but will be officially denied. – Bill Mahan, 15 June 2008

National Capital Chapter, Washington D.C.

by Jan Leach, Secretary

The National Capital Chapter has nominated Maj Gen-Ret John Casciano as president and plans to have its election of executive officers in conjunction with its upcoming Spring meeting. Results will be announced in the June RIT.



Gold Country Chapter, Yuba City, CA

by Richard J. Sacchetti, President



We support the men and women at Beale, AFB home of the DGS-2, U-2 and Global Hawk. One of our own, Estes Bazor, local civilian Tech Rep, is about to leave on an extended deployment. We wish him God speed and a safe return.

January 30, 2011 was my effective start date with FEMA as an "on-call" Disaster Responder, going to presidentially-declared and natural disaster areas within the CONUS and all of its territories. That's in addition to volunteering with VFW and the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). In November of 2010 one of the BSA den mothers, with seven (7) children (ages: twins 1 ½ to a 19-yr-old) found herself in dire straits, financially. She was on the verge of being evicted from her rental home with water and electricity about to be turned off. Through no fault of her own (you see, her husband physically beat and abused her and the children), her husband went to prison. Although working, the loss of his income put her in financial straits. I helped raise \$1,000.00 from the VFW, \$900 from the American Legion and their members; and assisted in getting our local BSA to "Adopt" her family for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The BSA, in turn, donated enough Turkeys and fixings to feed her entire family on Thanksgiving; plus gifts and enough money for Christmas. Russ Clark, our FTVA GCC Treasurer and owner of 3-4 local Carl's Jr fast food Hamburger restaurants, also donated over \$100.00 in gift certificates for her and her children at Carl's Jr. Russ also donates hamburgers and all the fixings for the 548th Intel Groups "Family Picnic", which usually has 400 to 600 people in attendance.

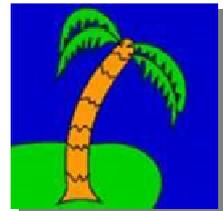
Again, we invite anyone interested in being part of our chapter to contact me at (530)713-3564. The GCC meets every other month on the second MONDAY at 1830, either at the Yuba Buffet in YC, Ca or at the "Taqueria Restaurant" on Hwy 65 in Wheatland, Ca, in the mall (behind the only Chevron station in town).

Stay safe, Remain in Touch, "Sac"

Aloha Chapter, Honolulu, HI

by John Toillion, President

The Aloha Chapter continues its get together once every two months at the Hickam O'Club. Even though we have a small cadre, Al Teel, Steve & Marivic Crain, Ken Hopkins and myself enjoy Mongolian BBQ dinners along with "talk story" time. We are readdressing the issue of support to our troops stationed at Kunia ("the tunnel").



REUNION INFORMATION

April 28 – May 1, 2011

The 36th Fall of Saigon Party/Vietnamese Linguists

Location: San Angelo, TX

POC's: Joe Turney (parrotjet@yahoo.com)

and Larry Miller (lpmiller668@yahoo.com)

Comments: Annual "Doggers" reunion for Air Force Vietnamese linguists includes Goodfellow AFB tours/briefings, golf outings, and a cookout at Lake Nasworthy. Reservations on a first-come, first-served basis at Fairfield Inn and Staybridge Suites. We are also posting the tentative agenda on both Facebook and Yahoo Groups (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/USAFDoggers> (under Files you will find a folder 2011 FOSP) will e-mail it to anyone who can't get to either of those sites. We need to have solid numbers in place by 28 March 2011.

June 2 – 4, 2011

Int'l Far East Language (IFEL) Annual Reunion

Location: Laurel, Maryland

POC: Luther Deese (DILUDE@aol.com)

Comments: Please check the date change below and mark your calendars accordingly. Spouses, significant others and widows of our brethren, who have passed on to that great monitoring facility in the sky, are not only welcome to attend but are strongly urged to do so. <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/ldeese/>

June 16-19, 2011

3rd Annual Metro Tango Alumni Reunion has been scheduled.

Location: Colorado Springs, CO

For more details, check out our website at <http://metrotango.org>

June 16 - 19, 2011

Det 2, 6910th Security Wing

Location: San Antonio, TX

POC: Steve Evans - Phone: 210-487-1970 - E-Mail: evanss1114@gmail.com

Comments: Bi-annual reunion of Det 2, 6910 SW Camp Pieri Germany and predecessor units will meet in San Antonio TX at the Drury Inn North.

July 07, 2011 - July 10, 2011

The Misawa Project National Reunion

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Atlanta, GA

POC: Joyce Godfrey - Phone: - E-Mail: gammymy1240@yahoo.com

Comments: USAFSS personnel who served in Misawa, Japan, from 1949 through 1979 will gather at the Hilton Garden Inn Downtown Atlanta for the Misawa Project 9th National Reunion.

Web Site: <http://usafssmisawa.com>

August 4-7, 2011

6994th Security Squadron

Location: Colorado Springs, CO

Information: www.6994th.com POC: Rich Krejsa (rkrejsa@bellsouth.net) or Rick Yeh (blk67cougar@comcast.net).

Aug 18 – 21, 2011

USAFSS Roll Call Reunion

Location: Laurel, MD (Near Baltimore-Washington International Airport)

POC: Jim Kaus (For further developments see My Family Roll Call Website)

Comments: We will have a program in the hospitality both nights. Friday night is fun stuff, and Saturday night has General Heithold scheduled as speaker.

August 18, 2011 - August 21, 2011

PWG - Prop Wash Gang

Location: Neenah, WI

Web Site: <http://www.propwashgang.org>

POC is: Ron Hentz - Phone: (920) 725-4334 - E-Mail: rdhentz@gmail.com

Sept 8-12, 2011

6911th RGM (Darmstadt, Germany)

Location: Myrtle Beach, S.C. Landmark Resort

POC: Pat Merrill E-Mail: Rich1Pat2@aol.com Ph: 303-985-3575

Sep 22 – 24, 2011

ANNUAL FTVA Reunion in San Antonio, TX

POC: president@ftva.org

Information: <http://www.ftva.org>

Comments: Reunion packets will be mailed to the membership along with the annual Member Directory in July.

Sep 22 – 24, 2011

Airborne Maintenance Technicians Ass'n (AMTA) Reunion

Location: San Antonio Airport Hilton to coincide with the 2011 FTVA annual reunion activities. See AMTA website for further information.

POC: Johnnie Estes e-mail jte1@amtassociation.org

Sep 22 – 25, 2011

6918th Scty Gp Hakata, Japan

Location: San Antonio, Texas Lodging: Holiday Inn Riverwalk

POC: Bill Mink (Dawg Flt 1965 to 1967) E-mail: will.mink@gmail.com)

10 Cross Trees Rd. Brick, NJ 08723 Ph. (732) 477-3761 or (201) 838-0881

For continuing updates on reunion agenda visit: www.6918thhakata.com.

Oct 7-10, 2011

Peshawar Air Station

Location: Gaithersburg, MD

POC - Charles Winter ph (570) 321-0151 Email - olmrwinter@aol.com

Comments - Holiday Inn at 2 Montgomery Village Avenue

Call 301-948-8900 for room reservations. Identify yourself with "Peshawar Air Station". <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=180476341986583>

Oct 12 – 16, 2011

6927th RSM Onna Point, Okinawa

Location: Branson, MO

POC: Jerry Stein (fljerry@bellsouth.net) Steve Feit (tr414cc@verizon.net)

Please visit <http://6927.53merc.com> for developing information.

Nov 13 – 15, 2011

29th Radio Squadron Mobile (Clark AB, PI)

Location: Quality Inn On The Beach, Biloxi, Mississippi.

POC: Bob Rennick ph - (704) 435-0555 Rennick@carolina.rr.com



REUNION REPORTS

2011 - Misawa Mini in Naperville, IL Jan 8, 2011

by Terry Cullivan (Dawg 72-73)



Front left, Bill Phillips, Chuck Schlau, Don LaChappelle, Mike Leslie, Mike Magiera, Danny Russell, Dave Minnery, Ken Wiklanski, Irv Scott, Fritz von Heimburg, Tom Korzeniewski, and Al Lorentzen (hands).



L to R Danny Russell, Dave Minnery, Ken Wiklanski, Irv Scott, Fritz von Heimburg, Tom Korzeniowski, Al Lorentzen, R-side back Bill Phillips, Chuck Schlau, Don LaChappelle, Mike Magiera, Bob Taylor.



Submitted by
Jane Doolittle (Wieden)

Our 2011 reunion planning committee, Team Southern Tomodachi, is busy at work, putting together an excellent Misawa Project national reunion for all to enjoy in July.

If you haven't done so already, please visit our Poll on site - "Atlanta 2011 Misawa Project National Reunion" and let us know if you plan on attending. This information is very helpful for our planning committee.

One of our committee goals is to have our 2011 Atlanta registration form and reunion event details ready and posted on the My Family site as soon as possible. The reunion planning committee will be working hard to make this happen. (Thank you all!) Our Misawa Project national reunions are a special time, for very special people; join us in July, you will be so happy you did !!

Before lubricating oil was invented, we were just squeaking by.

2011 Roll Call Reunion at St Augustine
28 - 29 January, 2011

Around 50 folks gathered in St Augustine, FL for the annual Roll Call Reunion this year.



This group of USA FSS Vets enjoyed a pleasant mixture of fair weather and great camaraderie.

After the presentations, the musicians of the St Augustine Mini entertained the appreciative gathering.



With a group this big, you just have to take more than one group picture.

The loud applause from those who were seated out in the bleacher seats signaled another great Roll Call Reunion. A good time was had by all.



“Christmas In Corpus “ USAFSS Mini

by George “Granny” Welch

We’ve moved our annual USAFSS mini-reunion in Corpus Christi from October to the second Saturday in December and renamed it the “Christmas in Corpus USAFSS Mini.” This allows it to fall about halfway between Thanksgiving and Christmas without being too close to either holiday. A few hearty souls took a break from Christmas shopping and got together in Corpus Christi for a great lunch at the Water St. Oyster Bar.



(L-R: Vila Welch, Dee Cromer, Larry Cromer, Jim Kaus, Waco Wetterman, Hilary Bailey, Michael "Buddy" Bailey)

An email went out this past Nov to a lot of USAFSS veterans within driving distance of Corpus Christi. Although everyone couldn’t make it this time, we enjoyed hearing from you and hope we’ll see you next year.

(L-R: Michael "Buddy" Bailey, Beverly Wetterman, Denny Arnold, Eric Hornsby, Vila Welch, Larry Cromer, Dee Cromer)



We’re trying to keep it as simple and enjoyable as possible for these annual mini-reunions in Corpus Christi, so not much detail in these emails. If you have any questions, please let me know.

George “Granny” Welch
welch.george@rocketmail.com

(L-R: Denny Arnold (back of head), Waco Wetterman, Eric Hornsby, Vila Welch, Dee Cromer, Larry Cromer, Jim Kaus, Hilary Bailey, Michael "Buddy" Bailey, Beverly Wetterman, Joe Hornsby)

HISTORY & MEMORIES

The following article was written in 2000. For the record, the writer completed six overseas tours in Germany, Japan, Taiwan and Korea during his lackluster career. He also completed stateside tours at the Air Force Special Communications Center (Remote Intercept Recovery at Kelly), Air Force Electronic Warfare Center and The National Security Agency. He trained and worked as a cryptanalyst and also served as a radio traffic analyst, flight analyst, flight reporter, flight commander and ground-support analytic role for an Airborne Communications Reconnaissance Platform unit. He also pulled a tour of duty as a watch NCO at an All-Sources-Indications-Center. (NOTE: He took his turn at burn detail and through good luck, by the grace of God, he received the Good Conduct Medal. He retired as a MSgt in 1975.



<http://mywebpages.comcast.net/>**Submitted by Luther Deese (Above)**

USAFSS AND THE YOUNG (at the time) AIRMEN

by Don Lehmann

This is just a small note of thanks to those who made the United States Air Force Security Service what it was during the Cold War years. If you know anyone who served as an Intercept Operator, Voice Specialist or Traffic Analyst, please let them know their efforts were truly appreciated. Time has a way of getting by and it is hard to believe that a quarter of a century has passed since my Security Service days between 1955 and 1975. Nostalgia-fueled net-search met with some success but I couldn't get "the feel" for USAFSS, as I knew it, in the 50's, 60's and early 70's. In particular, any report of contributions and accomplishments by first- and second-termers in the communications intelligence field seemed remarkably absent while generals and colonels, if one were to go by honors bestowed by some organizations, would appear to have carried the day for Security Service. The roles of these airmen were not only significant but, indeed, were the critical element of our successful intelligence operation.

First, and foremost, Security Service was an enlisted man's (and woman's) organization until at least the 70's. By this I mean that all activities, from the commanding general's on down, were in direct support of the collection, processing, analysis and reporting of communications intelligence. All of these activities, plus most ancillary missions, were primarily conducted by the 20XX AFSC's: 201 (Cryptanalyst), 202 (Radio Traffic Analyst), 203 (Language Specialist) and 29X (Morse Intercept and Printer Ops) who were, to a person, enlisted personnel. Conversely, an officer's organization would be one that all activities are in direct support of a mission that is carried out primarily by officers. A fighter unit would be a good example where the mission would be to put the pilot and plane on target. In Security Service of the 50's, 60's and 70's, the 20X's and 29X's were the "pilots" who delivered the "goods."

Secondly, the Security Service that I remember it, was Air Force ~ but very few mistook us for the military. Many military traditions tended to be at odds with mission efficiency and some personnel who transferred into Security Service had a difficult time dealing with the “free spirits” and the flexible, just get-the-job-done atmosphere. For example, in Misawa, Japan, circa 1963, a captain submitted his request for a transfer back to his old command because, as he stated, he had never seen such a group of unmilitary-like enlisted people in his life. Who could forget, in 1957 at Zweibrucken, Germany, the 1st Sgt announcing to the assembled troops that he was going to, “make everyone a soldier, by God!” The laughter he received in response pretty well summed it up. The idea was so incongruous with reality it was, well, just funny. Near Taipei, Taiwan, in 1962, an E-4 who had crossed-trained from another career field took affront when he learned that he would be trained by a lower ranking E-3, the person he was replacing. (Training/orientation by the person being replaced was the customary practice in Security Service at the time.) The cross-trainee was offered an apology for being put into such a demeaning position and was told that the next day he should report for duty less the number of stripes on his sleeve it would take for him to be comfortable with the situation. Even though it was a relaxed military, Security Service was definitely an elite organization—without the individual elitists. The intelligence specialists came from all walks-of-life, representing all ethnic groups and every socio-economic strata of our Country. They were in the top ten percent of all enlistees in the Air Force. They were involved, intelligence-wise, in every international situation that was a threat, or had a potential threat, to our Nation. When their shift came up they performed like the true professionals they were.

Sputnik was launched in 1957 and our space program didn't get up full steam until shortly thereafter. In the 50's we didn't have the cyberspace technology now available and, consequently, if there was a pretty-good-sized remote hill in the proximity of a target nation's communications we likely put an intercept site there. “The Hill” (hill 170 in the background in this Feb 1968 photo on the right) Osan, Korea, was rather typical of some of our smaller sites.



Throughout Europe, the Mideast, Asia and the far East, from the Mediterranean to the Pacific, and in Alaska and down the Aleutian Chain these collection sites were manned by—you guessed it—enlistees, mostly first- and second-termers., Land-based intercepts were supplemented by our Airborne Communications Reconnaissance Platform RB-50s (and later the RC-130s and after that the RC-135s) with rear-end crews of ten or so 203's, a lonely 292 and an occasional 202. These enlistees chased those dits and dahs all over the ether and they intercepted

and transcribed voice intercepts in many tongues. They mastered Russian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, German, Spanish, Eastern-European Slavic, Arabic and other languages. This massive amount of data was screened for perishable intelligence by the analysts and reported to the appropriate national-level consumer. The technical knowledge and communications intelligence expertise this required fell strictly in the enlisted man's domain.



As anyone who manned the intercept sites during the tense Cold War period knows, a sense of well-being for the Country could only come with the knowledge that there was always a damn-good intercept operator or voice specialist sitting in front of that console. Our operations were directed by NSA (National Security Agency). NSA, of course, had the horses and did the heavy lifting when it came to cryptanalysis, long-term and in-depth analysis. We had our Command Headquarters at Kelly but to the troops in the field it was almost a non-entity though they occasionally made their presence known. For instance in the mid-1960s, Headquarters announced that Security Service would have its very own "BEAVER" Program. Most, especially anyone stationed at the more remote sites, were deligher to learn to their chagrin that the term was an acronym (**Be Ever Alert Vigilant Error Removal**) for a Department of Defense mandated "Zero-Defects" program. I'm sure Command played an important role in planning, budgeting, logistical and other support activities to implement NSA directives but, to the field locations, their light was well hidden under the proverbial bushel as we dealt primarily with NSA and other operational units.

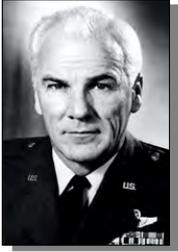
Throughout the years, after I turned "lifer," the first-termers continued to provide the bulk of personnel for manning our positions and they always performed admirably. They came in hurt and sick (but mostly hung-over) when necessary and did the job at hand—they were the best of the best. I know many went on to successful careers in civilian life after their stints in Security Service and it was my privilege to have known and worked with them and, speaking I'm sure for all of us lifers, I thank them. So, when you see the lists honoring the colonels and generals give them the due they deserve, but remember—always remember—that it was the young (at the time) airmen who produced the intelligence in Security Service and it was the young (at the time) airmen who stood watch over the Nation. Then, as you view the list, pencil in hundreds of names of young (at the time) airmen and you will have re-created a pretty good image of what Security Service was like in the 50's, 60's and early 70's.

//The foregoing opinions of the author should not be construed as any kind of official/unofficial history of Security Service. It's just Don's story and he's sticking to it. // Ed Note//

Is there anything Col. John C. Rees didn't do?

Rick Smith San Angelo Standard Times

SAN ANGELO, Texas — Is there anything Col. John C. Rees didn't do? Reading a short biography of his life is like reading a good adventure story. Here's the abbreviated version: He joined the Army Air Corps in 1943, served the military in 40 foreign countries and 14 U.S. states, and retired from the Air Force as Goodfellow's wing commander in 1973. But it's what happened in between that made him who he was.



His career spanned four wars, from World War II through the Cold War. A command pilot, he flew 51 combat missions in World War II alone, flying B-24s to heavily guarded targets

in Europe with the 450th Bomb Group. At 22 he received the Distinguished Flying Cross for returning his badly damaged aircraft to its home base. Later, back in the states, he became an instructor pilot, then served as an air traffic controller in Tokyo during the occupation.

He spent much of his career in the Strategic Air Command and was not allowed to talk about some of his missions until much later in life. For instance, during the Cold War, he took squadron to Greenland and flew photo reconnaissance missions over the former Soviet Union.

"I join in honoring the service and bravery you displayed while risking your lives in the earliest and most dangerous skies of the Cold War," Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld wrote in 2001, after the missions were declassified. There was always something new, including classes varying from Air War College and jet aircraft instruction to "swamp school." And there was always a new threat. In 1960, he was the commander of a B-52 squadron that was deployed to Puerto Rico with armed nuclear weapons during the Cuban Missile Crisis. As the airborne commander of a bomb wing in Southeast Asia, the colonel flew many bombing missions over Vietnam.

His last assignments were in USAFSS, in Japan, Southeast Asia, and in San Angelo, TX. He was assigned to Goodfellow in 1970 as the Commander of the 6940th Security Wing and retired in 1973. During the time he was there, he helped introduce the joint training center concept to the base. In his remarks to the House of Representatives earlier this year, U.S. Rep. Michael Conaway said the colonel's work at Goodfellow breathed "new life into its mission and (ensured) that the base would remain a strategic asset in the community for years to come." Conaway called Col. Rees "a visionary man and true American hero." The colonel, he said, "fought gallantly to protect the nation he loved. He was our commander, our friend, our mentor and our inspiration." Like so many veterans, he helped keep our country safe. He also helped Goodfellow grow and gain new significance. And what an adventure he lived. What a life. (*Col. Rees died on Oct. 12, 2009 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on April 9, 2010*)

Memories of Goodfellow AFB



Mike Baye: I found this picture when looking for some information on Skytop. I don't know who the person is, but he has a site about language school at Syracuse University and his career in the Air Force. This picture dates back to 1967, which is a few years after I was there, but it looks very much like when I was there from Sept. 64-July 65.

Red Barthel: When I enlarge the photo, I found the area the 6948th SS had. It is on this end of the flight-line. There are 4 small buildings with vehicles parked in front. I believe that was the 48th area. I don't recall the old wooden barracks being there in 70-71.

Mike Bay Red, I was there from Sept. 64-July 65 and the wooden barracks were all we had for students. I think that the four small building along the flight line in the lower left hand section of the picture was where I went to Transec 202 school. Many of the student barracks were on the right side of the highway near where the water tower is located. I was a CQ for the 6941st School Squadron and our office was across the street from where the water tower was located. This picture sure brings back some memories :)

Robert Pietruszka: Oh Yeah! Many memories stimulated by this photo. I was there in 64. Looking at the "air plane patch" brings back the memory of a C-130 landing at the base. I was near a vehicle with an aircraft radio in it and overheard conversation that 130 was requesting landing clearance. Seems they had encountered severe turbulence as they were passing overhead. The pilot reported hearing a loud noise from the tail section and decided to put it on the ground. The tower advised the pilot this airfield was closed. The pilot said, "This is a declared emergency, and I'm opening that airfield". Thankfully, he brought the aircraft in without any problems. Found out later on that they found a large crack in one of the main tail components. That evening, snow covered the base.

John X Neiser : I was permanent party at Goodfellow from 1965-67 and I found a few places in the photo that I remember. I lived in one of the brick barracks and I think the NCO club was right up the street close to or next to the base hospital. The place I worked was close to the top of the photo next to the flight line. I remember it being close to the base gym. There's a lot of other buildings there but I don't remember what was in them. The road coming up to the base from the right corner has to be the Bell street entrance with the housing area farther right.

Tommy Smart: Actually, John, that street was Ft McKavett Rd. Bell St ended at the Paint Rock Rd traffic light, and it became Ft McKavett. I wonder if this picture isn't from an earlier time than 1967. I seem to remember that there was another building across the street from those WWII barracks. I was there from July 1964 to June 1967 and stayed in one of those barracks until I got married.



Chet Gulczynski: I believe the main chow hall was the building circled in the middle of the attached piece of the photo. As I recall, I pulled KP there once, even though I usually ate in the chow hall circled in the upper left, which was in the 6944th Student Sq. area. These locations are subject to the best of my recollection, after 50 years and CRS!

Quidquid Latine dictum sit, altum viditur.

(“Anything in Latin sounds profound”).

//Rass, FYI: This might be interesting for the History Section. .Received from Don Ritter - Originator is Sam Pool fom Karamursel group. Dap//

----- Original Message -----

From: Sam Pool, Prescott, AZ

How it all began . . . Came across an interesting story from WW II. RAF Chicksands, near Bedford, was a major intercept site supplying raw traffic to the code-breakers at Bletchley. When the USAF Security Service took up tenure at Chicksands, they used many of the same receiving antennae, Quonset huts, and other facilities on the base. Newport Pagnell, Ms Ettridge's home, is also home to the Aston-Martin automobile factory.

HUT 6, Bletchley Park

by Joy Ettridge

In 1942 I went to work at Bletchley Park, - Bletchley Park, BP, Station X, Ultra, Enigma - they were names which meant nothing to the world at large then, or for thirty years to come. National security and the Official Secrets Act saw to that. In wartime no hint of what went on within the perimeter fence of Bletchley Park escaped to the world outside, and strict internal security meant there was virtually no contact between different 'sections', even between different rooms within a 'section', except at the highest level. That secrecy was maintained until the 1970s - and, indeed, some of my former colleagues still prefer to remain silent about the specific work which they once did, even amongst themselves.

It was in the 70s, however, that the rigid censorship began to be lifted, the Public Record Office moved to Kew, and more and more information began to be released. It wasn't until there had been radio programs and TV documentaries that public interest and popular imagination were aroused. Today, people seem to be knowledgeable about Enigma, even, sometimes, respectful that one was involved with it. They ask me technical questions about the breaking of codes, and I dredge in my memory for the techniques we used. They find it difficult to understand that the restrictions of the Official Secrets Act and years of self-imposed amnesia have made recollection difficult.

In fact, a formidable labor force was built up at Bletchley during the war. Of course there was the small, permanent staff of GCCS – the board at the entrance gate called BP the Government Code and Cipher School. (Post-war this department of the Foreign Office became GCHQ.) As war threatened this was augmented by cryptographers and intelligence experts who had served in WW1. At the same time likely people were recruited: mathematicians, language experts, etc. many by personal knowledge and contacts. People remembered old colleagues from school and university who might have the necessary expertise for the work at Bletchley; they in turn could recommend others. Eventually the personnel for Bletchley Park was assembled – by the end of the war it numbered

many thousands, There were men and women from all the fighting services, seconded to Bletchley because they had particular skills. Most of the men had already seen active service. They were greatly outnumbered by the civilians, who were mainly women. They came - service and civilian – from many walks of life. Authors – I remember Charles Morgan and Angus Wilson, diplomats, bankers, journalists, University professors, teachers. People have fascinating stories to tell of their recruitment and their subsequent first arrival at BP. My husband, Hugh, whom I first met at the Park, received, literally out of the blue, a letter telling him to go to Bletchley station and ring a certain number. A car was sent to fetch him for interview. He was an Oxford M.A., had lived and studied in Germany and was fluent in the language. He had also just obtained his yachtmaster's certificate and had hoped that these qualifications would fit him to take part in secret landings on the coast of occupied Europe. Someone must have thought of another use for those qualifications: he found himself in Naval intelligence at Bletchley Park. Recently I've learned from other people that they were recruited in the same cloak-and-dagger way, via the summons to Bletchley.

My own recruitment was much less dramatic. I grew up near Bletchley, in Newport Pagnell, where my father was headmaster of the Boys' school. In 1942 I was nearing the end of my three years as an undergraduate at Cambridge. I would be 21 in January 1942, and was due to register for National Service now that women were conscripted as well as men. I was happy about that. There had been many times during my student days when it had seemed unimportant and incongruous to be living in an ivory tower, immersed in old texts and linguistics (I was reading English language and literature!) whilst so many earth-shattering events were happening elsewhere. Many of us felt like that, and it took much persistence from the authorities to persuade us to finish our studies. I'd tried, all along, to do what I could as well as getting on with my studies. I'd started the war by helping with the 'evacuees', the poor, bewildered children transported en masse from London to the hoped-for safety of the countryside; I'd helped to man the Civil Defence centre in Newport Pagnell during vacations, and done my weekly stint cooking at a services canteen in Cambridge. Now, - thank goodness! – I was going to be more involved.

When I registered for National Service I was told that I could have six months to finish my course and get my degree. As soon as the exams were over I would be conscripted. Nice ladies in smart uniforms came from the women's services to talk to us and encourage us to join one or other. Another option was teaching, as so many male teachers had been called up, and women were desperately needed to replace them. But I had no desire to teach – growing up in a headmaster's house I had already seen more than enough of teachers and teaching. I was toying with the idea of joining the WAAF doing photographic interpretation (commission promised) –I rather fancied myself in that pale blue uniform – when the idea of Bletchley Park came up. A family friend had met a young man, a Cambridge graduate, working at Bletchley Park, some seven or eight miles away.

She understood it was something to do with the government. Maybe there could be a job for me there, once I was a graduate, too.

So I wrote to Bletchley Park, and was summoned for interview during the Easter vacation. I remembered the house from years before when old Lady Leon lived there. She was the widow of Sir Herbert, business man and Liberal MP, and after she died in 1937 the house and its contents had been sold. (I remember a spectacular auction sale, lasting many days, where my mother bought books and porcelain and glass, some of which I still use today.) We understood that The Park had been sold, but no-one seemed to know who had bought it.

Now The Park was surrounded by a high perimeter fence, with a military guard at the entrance gates. I was to report to a small hut outside these gates, and it was here that I was interviewed by Frank Birch (a 're-called' WW1 expert, and Don at King's, who at Christmas would appear as Widow Twankey in London pantomime) and Harold Fletcher, who had been a distinguished Cambridge mathematician. Unorthodox as ever, the former was wearing a pea-green shirt and a Breton beret. Mr. Fletcher sported an old Marlburian tie, which was more reassuring. They asked me a lot of seemingly irrelevant questions. I stumbled badly through an Italian unseen. They enquired whether I expected to get a First, and I crossed my fingers and said I hoped so. They said they couldn't tell me what the work involved because of its secret nature, but they thought I was a suitable candidate, and soon afterwards a letter arrived at home inviting me to work at Bletchley Park as a Technical Assistant, once I came down from Cambridge. And so, on the Monday after I finally left Cambridge, I presented myself again at BP –but this time I had authority to go through the gates and past the guard. I signed the Official Secrets Act, was issued with a pass, shown where the cafeteria was. I was told that my pay would be £3.15s. (£3.75) per week, plus a 'war bonus' of ten shillings (50p). I would be expected to work a 3-week shift system, one week 9am to 4pm., next week 4pm to midnight, finally midnight to 9am. Transport would be provided.

Nice ladies in the office told me that I could find a billet in the area, for which I would have to pay one guinea (£1.1s, in old money) per week, but, of course, I explained that I could live at home, and every week I religiously paid my mother the statutory one guinea for my board and lodging. Finally, I was pointed in the direction of Hut 6, one of many wooden huts in the surrounding parkland, where the charming Mr. Fletcher allocated me to Registration Room 2. The two Registration Rooms, 1 and 2, were the usual starting places for new recruits, most of whom, in July 1942, were newly qualified graduates, mainly from Oxbridge, though there were some from other universities in England and Scotland, notably, I remember, from Aberdeen. It was a good place to start as it began to give a general picture of what happened in Hut 6, and an overall idea of the work of Bletchley Park as a whole.

People did go to immense lengths to explain things to us, always within the strict bounds of security. The questions of my interview made sense now. Certainly they needed the trained minds and the discipline of the graduate; but they also needed an attention to detail, a sense of order – and much enthusiasm.

We learned that there were wireless stations around England and Scotland where the radio messages sent by the enemy Army and Air Force were intercepted, and that these messages were then sent on – initially by motor-bike courier, later by teleprinter – to Hut 6, where they would be sorted and meticulously listed in the Registration Rooms. Afterwards these messages would be passed on to another room, where, hopefully, they would be decoded. Then, when the contents had been turned from 5-letter enciphered groups into German, the text would be passed on to the Intelligence people in Hut 3 for them to work on. Some ciphers were, indeed, broken regularly. Meticulous research plus inspiration on the part of the ‘backroom boys’, the elite of Hut 6, had discovered sometimes repeat patterns, sometimes a particular idiosyncrasy which could provide a ‘crib’ for deciphering. This was the ideal. In theory, the messages sent by Enigma were unbreakable; it was the human element which was fallible, and successes came from that. But it meant weeks, even months of patient work to have any success in breaking further codes, and some, indeed, remained unbreakable.

Anyhow, we, the July 1942 intake, were started off in the Registration Rooms, and then, if and when anyone showed any particular aptitude, she was moved on. I went on to do de-coding, which we did on British ‘Typex’ machines, adapted to be like the German Enigma machines. Our findings were then sent to the Bombe hut, where massive machines (the Bombes – electronical machines, an early sort of computer) processed them. How we worked is described in detail in Gordon Welchman’s book ‘The Hut 6 Story’. It was a thrill when something I had worked on came out, and the cry went up: ‘..... is up!’, and all the messages of that day for that particular code could be deciphered. But, inevitably, there was a lot of frustration, too; days, often, with no breakthrough, and I did find it a great disadvantage, personally, that I knew no German. So I asked to be moved to the Control Room, and here I found my real niche, and I stayed there until I finally left BP. The Control Room was really the beginning of the work of Hut 6, for this was the room which directly controlled the interceptions at the various wireless stations. We told them how to set their radios, what frequencies to watch and when, to get advance information of the enemy’s plans. Our out-stations were our spies: someone called them ‘the spies of the airwaves.’

A few years after the war I went to live in Leicestershire, a mile or so from War Office ‘Y’ Group at Old Woodhouse, the army site mainly responsible for our Hut 6 interceptions, Sometimes at parties I would meet some of the high-ups, and would have loved to have told them that I had been on the other end of their direct line to the Control Room, and of my involvement there. But I was still bound by the Official Secrets Act, and couldn’t do so.

That was it. After 1945 we kept the secret of BP as we had done during the war. My husband, Hugh, had been in Naval intelligence, in Block A at BP, I had been in Hut 6 (which, in 1943 with Hut 3 was rehoused in newly built Block D) working on Army/Air Forces ciphers. Some people, without our common background at BP found it much more difficult to accept a partner's refusal to discuss the work there. It must have been hard for them. Sadly, Hugh died prematurely a decade before the first intimations of the work at Bletchley appeared, and so we never had a chance to talk freely about it together. But, from the documentaries and publications of the last few years, I have been able to put together a clearer picture of what he did, and the chance discovery three years ago of a scrap of a confidential letter of congratulation, hidden behind a drawer in his safe, indicated, though only in general terms, the scope and value of the work which he did to ensure the success of the landings of D Day.

We had both loved working at Bletchley Park. Nothing would ever compare with it. It had been a wonderful place to work: a classless society where brains, application and enthusiasm were the criteria. The ethos of Bletchley meant that women were treated as equals – years ahead of any 'politically-correct' dictates; that new schemes for tackling a job were never snubbed; it meant new ideas and not accepting old standards without question; it meant informality; it meant talking the same language with like-minded people, whether it was serious discussion or witty repartee.

Our post-war life was indeed comfortable, even privileged, but for years afterwards BP conditioned our lives. Hugh's pre-war contemporaries had returned, be-medalled from the services, had shed their uniforms but were still full of tales of derring-do. They hadn't much respect for civilians who had spent the war years as civil servants in the Foreign Office, not on active service. Things were not made easier by our reluctance to say anything at all. People were quick to label our evasions as rudeness, and I'm sure there were times when we were less than tolerant of questions asked and lost out sense of humor.

Hut 6, Bletchley Park seems a long time ago. I have forgotten so many technicalities, the details of deciphering and so on, but the camaraderie, the enthusiasm, the off-duty fun of dances and revues and concerts in the BP Hall; the snatched trips to London for shopping and theatre; the many parties, on shared rations and hoarded drinks – these are as clear as ever.

On a wall in my present house, between Juliet Pannett's portrait of Churchill and the painting of the Battle of Britain by my aviation-artist husband, hangs a simply framed piece of paper. It is the *Freedom of Bletchley Park*, dated June 2001, awarded, it says, in recognition of the work I did there during WWII.



Gary Humphrey : I found a couple of old photos taken at **DaNang in June, 1968**, when the 6990th crews were staging out of the 6924th Ops.

This shot shows 91528 landing.

MEMORIES OF GERMANY

Posted By: Perry Bullard

Description: Seems that there were a lot of sign posts in Germany like these. As seen from Bockenheim an der Weinstrasse.

Place Taken: Bockenheim Germany





We just decided to embrace it and changed the logo!

A Soldier Died Today

Author Unknown (Forwarded by Jack Allen)

He was getting old and paunchy And his hair was falling fast,
 And he sat around the Legion, Telling stories of the past.
 Of a war that he once fought in And the deeds that he had done,
 In his exploits with his buddies; They were heroes, every one.
 And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors His tales became a joke,
 All his buddies listened quietly For they knew whereof he spoke.
 But we'll hear his tales no longer, For old Bob has passed away,
 And the world's a little poorer For a Soldier died today.
 He won't be mourned by many, Just his children and his wife.
 For he lived an ordinary, Very quiet sort of life.
 He held a job and raised a family, Going quietly on his way;
 And the world won't note his passing, 'Tho a Soldier died today.
 When politicians leave this earth, Their bodies lie in state,
 While thousands note their passing, And proclaim that they were great.
 Papers tell of their life stories From the time that they were young
 But the passing of a Soldier goes unnoticed, and unsung.
 Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land,
 Someone who breaks his promise And cons his fellow man?
 Or the ordinary fellow Who in times of war and strife,
 Goes off to serve his country And offers up his life?
 The politician's stipend And the style in which he lives,
 Are often disproportionate, To the service that he gives.
 While the ordinary Soldier, Who offered up his all,
 Is paid off with a medal And perhaps a pension, small.
 It is not the politicians With their compromise and ploys,
 Who won for us the freedom That our country now enjoys.
 Should you find yourself in danger, With your enemies at hand,
 Would you really want some cop-out, With his ever waffling stand?
 Or would you want a Soldier- - His home, his country, his kin,
 Just a common Soldier, Who would fight until the end?
 He was just a common Soldier, And his ranks are growing thin,
 But his presence should remind us We may need his like again.
 For when countries are in conflict, We find the Soldier's part
 Is to clean up all the troubles That the politicians start.
 If we cannot do him honor While he's here to hear the praise,
 Then at least let's give him homage At the ending of his days.
 Perhaps just a simple headline In the paper that might say:
 "OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, A SOLDIER DIED TODAY."

(Most of us fail to remember it's politicians who declare War. Not the Military.)



MEMORIALS

The FTVA acknowledges the following bequests, generously donated to the FTVA in memory of:

Maj Gen (Ret) Doyle Larson by:
Mrs. Doyle Larson

Maj Gen (Ret) Paul Martin by:
The Sierra Nevada Corporation

Noriko Hain Wife of CMSgt (Ret) 'Perry'

Hain

Col (Ret) Bob Cope



All donations will be used in providing financial assistance directly to the people programs of the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency (AF ISRA) and its predecessor organizations.



FALLEN EAGLES



Having learned of the following losses from caring relatives, friends or obituaries, we offer prayers and sympathy to their loved ones. *“It is the soldier above all others who prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.”* ~ Douglas MacArthur.

Compiled by: Wayne Tallant, Associate Editor

- Battaglia Ronald O., SMSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Binder, Edwin M., Col., USAF-Ret.
- Bloomquist, David, USAFSS-Vet.
- Coakley, Richard Allen, USAFSS Vet.
- Cornell, Gordon “Gordie”, SMSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Corrigan, John F., USAFSS Vet.
- Davidson, Jr., John W., MSgt, USAF-Ret. FTVA Life Member
- Drake, “Marv” Marvin SMSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Duperault, David T., USAFSS Vet.
- Dupuy, John Preston, TSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Freeman, Jr., Howard “Bubba” E., SMSgt, USAF-Ret.

- Galligan, Walter T., Lt. Gen-Ret. Commander USAFSS 73-74, Life Member
- Goff, Thomas A., Lt. Col, USAF-Ret., FTVA Member
- Gredler, Joseph E., Sgt, USAFSS-Vet.
- Hain, Noriko, spouse of CMSgt, (Ret) Richard M. Hain, Life Member, HOH
- Harriger, Russell "Hop" E., Lt. Col., USAF-Ret. Life Member, HOH 2003
- Heard, J. Earl, USAFSS Vet.
- Hester, Henry "Hank" L., USAFSS-Vet.
- Howard, James Leonard, USAFSS-Vet.
- Ingram, Shirley Lee, CMSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Joyce, John Donald, USAFSS Vet.
- Kibler, William "Bill" L., TSgt, USAFSS-Vet.
- Mason, Willard "Will" L., USAFSS-Vet.
- McPhee, Richard S., Lt. Col., USAF-Ret.
- Miller, George W. III, MSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Mitchell, Merle Callaway, USAFSS, Civ. 1949-1958
- Moore, Alfred Thomas, MSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Morrison, Leonard Wade., Lt. Col, USAF-Ret. FTVA Life Member
- Mullican, Isabella "Bella" C., spouse of Joseph E. Mullican, Life Member
- Oberg, John J.W., Col., USAF-Ret.
- Pahutka, Raymond W., Lt. Col., USAF-Ret.
- Picha, Jack, USAFSS-Vet.
- Piper, Harvey Bamford, Lt. Col., USAF-Ret FTVA Life Member
- Polansky, Jerry R., CMSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Ragsdale, Francis "Frank" C. USAFSS-Vet.
- Santilli, Joe B., A/3C, USAFSS-Vet.
- Schunk, Carl "Bill" William, MSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Simmons, "Butch" Wayne, SMSgt, USAF-Ret
- Spears, Thorfin D. USAFSS-Vet.
- Stacewicz, Henry P., USAFSS-Vet., FTVA Member
- Tolbert, Nathaniel P. TSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Wood, Hayward "Jack" A., Sgt, USAFSS-Vet



SMSGt. Ronald O. Battaglia died 28 Dec., 2010 after a year and a half long battle of illnesses following a stroke. Ron was born on October 14, 1942 in Buffalo, NY. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1964, married his childhood sweetheart, Faith, in July 1965 and traveled the world for the next 23 years. His last assignment was at Lackland AFB and this is where the family decided to retire and make San Antonio home. After that he worked at the Defense Language Institute in various positions and retired as Chief of Resident Programs, Defense Language Institute, English Language Center, Lackland AFB. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Faith. //Obit//



Col. Edwin M. Binder died 7 Jan., 2011. Colonel Binder was born May 28, 1922 in Barnesboro, PA. He served as a B-24 Bomber crew member as a lieutenant in the Army Air Corp during World War II. At the end of WWII he married Alice Jean (G.G.) Hughes who preceded him in death. He was recalled to active duty to the US Air Force in 1951 to serve during the Korean War. He continued to serve after the war with a variety of stateside and overseas assignments, including commanding units in Germany, Shemya Alaska, Aviano Italy, and Iraklion Air Station, Crete. Colonel Binder retired in 1978 with over 30 years of dedicated service. During his career, Colonel Binder received numerous decorations, including the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star. Col. Binder is survived by his wife Gail. //Obit//

David Bloomquist died recently after a courageous battle with cancer. Dave was a well respected Chinese linguist stationed at the 6987th Scty Gp. Taiwan in the late 60's. RIP Dave, you will be missed. //E-Mail – Pete Chamlee//



Richard Allen Coakley died 7 Dec., 2010 after a lengthy battle with prostate cancer. Dick was a 1942 graduate of Fordson High School in Dearborn, Michigan. He retired from USAFSS after 35 years of dedicated service. He was a former member of Triune Masonic Lodge #15, SCCA, Gear Grinders, and honorary member of ACCA. He is survived by his wife of 60 years,

Harriet.//Obit// I knew Dick Coakley well. Dick was in charge of our print plant shop for several years. A very dedicated guy and could always give that extra "oomph" when stuff was urgently needed. And it was always spot on; a great supporter of USAFSS/ESC in a position of little notoriety. //Doug Holden//



SMSgt. Gordon "Gordie" Cornell I regret to tell you that Gordie passed away on May 27, 2009. For six years prior to his death, he suffered with Primary Frontal Lobe Dementia and Parkinson's Disease. //E-Mail from wife Fran// Gordie was a long-time briefer for USAFSS/ESC. He served on the staff at the NCO Leadership School at Goodfellow during the 80's and

retiring as the Director of Education there. He was the most easy-going and caring person I ever had the pleasure to know and work with. //Rass//



John F. Corrigan, Retired Beachwood, Ohio Police Lieutenant. John served in Darmstadt in 6910th, Charlie Flt. I will confirm dates and any other units. I believe he was a "one termer" serving 1967-71 with 1968-71 being in 6910th. Burial at Western Reserve National Cemetery.//E-Mail from Bob Troutman//

MSgt. John W. Davidson died 24 May, 2010. John was a 202 and spent his entire career in USAFSS. I was stationed with John at Hakata AFS in 1967. He was also in Korea and at Fort Meade. //E-mail from John Gluschick//

SMSgt. Marvin "Marv" Drake died recently. He was stationed in Saudi Arabia, Kirknewton, Thailand, Turkey, San Angelo, and HQ USAFSS. //E-mail - Voy J. Mitchell//



David T. Duperrault died 11 Nov., 2010. He lived in Helotes, Texas. David was a former 292/202. He served tours at Misawa, Chicksands, NSA, and HQ ESC. David is survived by wife Dori and other loving relatives and friends. There was no obit available. //Roll Call and Misawa Web sites//



TSgt. John Preston Dupuy, 81, died 18 Jan., 2011. He served in the U.S. Air Force Special (Security) Services for 22 years. Among the last places that he was stationed were Kirknewton AFB in Edinburg, Scotland (1962-1965), Iraklion AS, Crete (1965-1967). He retired, at Goodfellow AFB, San Angelo, TX (1967-1968). //E-Mail from Marlene Dupuy Meades//



SMSgt. Howard E. "Bubba" Freeman Jr., 67, died 22 Dec., 2010. He was born on February 27, 1943 in Wilmington, North Carolina. Howard served 28 years in the United States Air Force. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Harriette. Holt Freeman. //Obit// All, Bubba Freeman passed away today from lung cancer. A few of us from his old office did get a chance to visit with him briefly yesterday afternoon and shared a few words with him. Bubba was one of my dearest and best friends and I personally will miss him very much.//E-mail from Al Lane//



LT. General Walter T. Galligan, 85, died 22 Dec., 2010. He was a great patriot, proudly served his country for over 30 years. He was born March 14, 1925 in Bronx, New York. He attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point graduating in 1945. He was a member of the "greatest generation", and a consummate professional. As a retired man, Walter Galligan lived a life of service to his community. He remained active in an advisory capacity to the United States Air Force and supported his alma mater, West Point. Lt. Gen Galligan was preceded in death in 2005 by his wife of more than 50 years, Irene. //Obit// Brig Gen Galligan was assigned as U.S. Air

Force Security Service commander in February 1973. He served in that capacity until May 1974 when he assumed duties as commander of U.S. Forces, Japan, and Fifth Air Force. //Ed Note//



Lt. Col. Thomas A. Goff, 88, died 24 Jan., 2011. He was resident of Annapolis, Md. and previously of Glen Burnie, Md.. He was born Feb. 6, 1922, in Leitchfield, Ky., and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1942 to 1963 before retiring as Lt. Col. He was MSgt T/A man in the 2nd in 1949 and was recalled as a Major. He later returned as a Lt. Col. in 1959 assigned to the 6911th. He later worked as an Intelligence Officer for the NSA, retiring in 1974 with 31 years of service. During his military service, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross and eight Air Medals. May our old comrade rest in peace. //Paul Laffitte//



Sgt. Joseph E. Gredler, 69, died 24 Dec., 2010. He was a resident of Harborcreek Twp., Pa. He was born in Erie on April 7, 1942. Joe was a 1960 graduate of Cathedral Prep and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served in Peshawar, Pakistan on Charlie Flight in 1968. Following the service, Joe worked for the U.S. government in various embassies around the world until his retirement in 1995. Joe is survived by his wife, Jannette Gredler and many family and friends. //Obit-David Bolle//



Noriko Hain, 77, died 26 Jan., 2011. Noriko is survived by her husband of 45 years, CMSgt. (Ret) Richard M. "Perry" Hain and many loving family and friends in the U.S. and Japan. During her husband's military career and later in business, she was a solid support, both spiritually and socially to his success. She was a member of the Merry Widows of the 6990th Scty Sqdn and the Air Force Wives Club. //Obit//



Lt. Col. Russell E. "Hop" Harriger, 87, died 26 Oct., 2010 in Ramsaytown, Pa. He served in the 8th Air Force with the Army Air Corps during World War Two as a B-17 bomber pilot, where he completed 35 missions over Germany. He left the service after World War II, and was recalled for the Korean War where he worked for the Air Force Security Service as an intelligence officer. Awarded the Republic of Korea's highest medal given to non-Koreans for his work with the ROK military intelligence corps. In the 1950's, he earned the rank of Major and commanded an intelligence unit on the island of Shemya for nearly two years. He then spent four years in Oahu, Hawaii, before being assigned to Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. At the outbreak of the Cuban Missile Crisis in the early 1960s, he was reassigned to the Florida Keys as a Lt. Col until he retired from the Air Force in 1965. In September 2003, he was inducted into the FTVA "Hall of Honor" at Lackland AFB, TX, for his exemplary service in USAFSS. //Obit//Larry Tart //



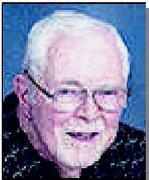
J. Earl Heard, 82, died 15 Dec., 2010. He was a resident of San Angelo, TX.. Earl was born on March 19, 1928, to Lawton and Eva (Castleberry) Heard in Cumming, Ga. He married Nancy Alexander on Dec. 14, 1953, in Oxford, England, and together shared 57 years of marriage. He is survived by his wife, Nancy and many other loving family and friends. //Obit//

Henry L. "Hank" Hester died 8 Jan., 2011 in Washington, D.C. Hank was a 292/202 with three tours at Misawa – 59-61, 62-64, 70-72. He also served at the 6924th. //Misawa Web Site - Smitty Smith//



James Leonard Howard died 19 Jan., 2011. James was born Nov 7, 1942, in Sturgis, KY and joined the U.S. Air Force in 1960. During his twenty years of service, assignments included security work in Germany, Japan, and northeast Thailand during the Vietnam Era./Obit//With a heavy heart, I'm forwarding the following notice about our dear friend, Jim

Howard, Dawg Flight, 6918th Hakata Japan - room controller in the mid-60's. Jim was a respected leader for us young Airmen, and because of the past reunions, he and Marty have become dear friends. There will be a hole in the crowd and our hearts in San Antonio this Sept. //Stan Freymuth//



CMSgt. S. "Shirley" Lee Ingram, 79, died 23 Jan., 2011. He was a gentle soul, beloved husband, father and "Bape". He retired from the U. S. Air Force in 1978 after 27 years of service. His military career included assignments in California, Illinois, San Antonio, Germany and Thailand. Lee was a personnel SSgt with the 6913th RSM, Bremerhaven, Germany from 1955-1958. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Kathryn "Kay" Ingram and many other loving family and friends. Interment was at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery with full military honors.//Obit//



John Donald Joyce, 80, died 9 Jan., 2011 after a courageous battle with coronary artery disease. John was a senior executive at the National Security Agency and retired in 1986 after 35 years of government and military service. During his career he served as Chief of Station at a major field site and chief of the Agency's largest geopolitical group. Born in Wilkinsburg,

Pennsylvania, on 19 October 1930, he enlisted in the army in 1951 and trained in Russian at the Defense Language School in Monterey, CA. He married Anne Marie Drish in May 1953 and began his career in Signals Intelligence. Discharged in 1954, he became a NSA civilian and the following year transferred to a new location. //E-mail from Jack Riedel//



TSgt. William L. "Bill" Kibler, 80, died 12 Oct.,2010. He was a resident of Marion, Illinois. Bill was born in Harrisburg, IL, on January 20, 1930. He attended SIUC before entering the United States Air Force where he was trained as a communication specialist. He spent three years in Germany intercepting Russian codes during the Korean War and attained the rank of Tech Sergeant. Survivors include his

wife; Jessie. //Obit//



Willard L. "Will" Mason, 70, died 5 December 2010 from complications of with cancer. He was a resident of West Barstable, MA, He is survived by his wife of 48 years Margritt Maria Luise (Rinke) Mason and many other loving family and friends. Will was born and raised in Patchogue, Long Island, New York. Will served in USAF from 1958-1979, attending

Syracuse University, NY. and was stationed at Bremerhaven, Germany from 1959-1963. Retiring as a Captain, he resided in Chelmsford, MA. //6913th

RSM Web Site//



Lt. Col. Richard S. McPhee, 81, died at his residence after a battle with prostate cancer. He was born in Binghamton, N.Y. He married Norma E. Howatt on Jan. 5, 1951, in Fredonia, N.Y. Dick was an ordained American Baptist minister and was the protestant chaplain at RAF Chicksands from 1969-1973. Hs is survived by his wife Norma. //Obit/E-Mail Tom Baker//



MSgt. George W. Miller III, died 8 Nov, 2010 from cancer in Columbus, Oh. He was born July 22, 1942, in Jacksonville, FL. He is survived by his wife of 46 years. He was particularly proud of his service with the HOPE Council in San Vito dei Normanni, Italy. He entered the USAF in 1960 as a non-Morse intercept operator. He met his sweetheart at a dance at Lockbourne AFB

OH in 1963 and subjected her to 13 moves that included 9 years in San Vito, Italy before retiring from Strategic Air Command as a Manpower Management Superintendent in 198. During his Air Force career, he received many decorations including the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his work as an intelligence collection manager with the NSA.//Obit//



Merle Callaway Mitchell, 79, died 23 Nov., 2010. She was born 27 February 1931 in San Antonio, Texas. She graduated from Brackenridge high school in 1949 and from Draughon's business college in 1950. She worked for the USAF Security Service from 1949 to 1958. She was married to John C. Mitchell on 3 Jan 1953 and they celebrated 57 years together.

She is survived by her husband, John. //Obit//



Mgt. Alfred T. "Tom" Moore Jr., 67, died 14 Nov., 2010 at Bethany House in Auburn, Alabama. Mr. Moore was born January 17, 1943 in Memphis, Tennessee. He was an amateur HAM Radio Operator for 34 years. Call sign WX4TM and became a silent key on Sunday. He was an EMA (Emergency Management Agency) RACES Volunteer for 14 years, and Volunteer of the Year in 2001. He is survived by his wife Mary and many other relatives and friends. //Obit// Tom was a 202, served in USAFSS and ESC for many years. He was at HQ ESC when he retired in 1984. He went on to work for Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids IA. //JD Delancy// JD - So sorry to hear about Tom. Met him many years ago in my 202 days. Condolences. //Rass//



Lt. Col. Leonard Wade Morrison, 88, died 8, Nov., 2010. He was a resident of Lawrenceville, GA.. He was born in Hodgenville, KY on February 8, 1922. He was a B-17 navigator in the US Army Air Forces during World War II, and flew 32 combat missions with the 8th Air Force in Europe. He later served as the accounting and finance officer at the 6917th RSM, Brindisi, Italy, 1960-1962. He was also the Director of Accounting and Finance at HQ USAFSS, 1962-1967. He retired from the USAF in 1967. His wife, Mary preceded him in death.//Obit- E-Mail from daughter Mary//



Isabella C. "Bella" Mullican died 14 Nov., 2010 in Gulfport, MS after battling an unknown ailment that caused paralysis of her entire body at the very end. She met Joe Mullican while he was serving in the USAF, stationed near Edinburgh and they were married on October 24, 1958 in Scotland. Bella had many interests in life: traveling, dancing, her family, and especially, pride in her home. She was a terrific homemaker and had an uncanny ability to take small things and make them into very decorative enhancements to her home. She is survived by her husband of 52 years. //Obit//



Col. John J.W. Oberg died 30 Dec., 2009, at his home in Gainesville, Fl. Drafted into the Army in June 1941, he was commissioned in the Army Air Corps. He flew C-47's with the 313th Air Transport Squadron in Europe including medevac flights during the D-Day invasion of Normandy. Moving into planning and intelligence roles, he commanded an AF Security Service station in Formosa in 1955-1956 and then moved to the Air Force Staff at the Pentagon. In 1960 he transferred to SAC serving at Offutt AFB and then CINPAC HQ, Camp Smith, Hawaii. In 1966 he returned to the Pentagon with the AF Staff and then DIA. In 1971, he was appointed Commandant of the Armed Forces Air Intelligence Training Center, Lowry AFB and retired from that position in 1974. His commendations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, and Air Medal. //Obit//



Lt. Col. Raymond W. Pahutka, 90 died 18 Dec., 2010 in Houston, TX. He was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy Pahutka. Raymond is survived by many loving family and friends. //Obit//



Jack Picha, 74, died 24 Dec., 2010. He is survived by his beloved wife of 51 years, Ingrid from Selb, Germany; and many loving family and friends. Jack was born Feb. 9 1936, in Silver Lake, Minn., and lived in Hampton since 1970. He served in the military during the Vietnam War. In 1984, Jack retired from the Air Force, after 27 years of active duty; and retired from Civil

Service on Jan. 31, 2010, after 24 years at the NN Shipyard. He received the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the AF Organizational Excellence Award Ribbon, and the AF Good Conduct Medal with six oak leaf clusters. Jack was with the 6912th Det 2 in 1956. //Obit//



Lt. Col. Harvey Bamford Piper, 97, died 15 Jan., 2011. A World War II Veteran, beloved husband, and father, grandfather and great grandfather. Harvey was born in Pittsfield, MA on May 29, 1913. On January 21, 1943 he married Nora Agnes Lenihan and began a 53-year love affair. He was an avid tennis player into his 80's, a winner of several

gold medals in the senior Olympics, a skilled golfer and card player and an accomplished carpenter. He was a resident of San Antonio and Helotes TX since 1967. He served in the USAF from 1942 until retirement at Kelly AFB in 1971. He was active in the Security Service Federal Credit Union as director and Treasurer from 1971-79. Preceded in death by his wife. //Obit//



CMSgt Jerry R. Polansky, died 22 Nov., 2010. Preceded in death by his wife Marilyn. //Obit// I worked under your dad while assigned to USAFSS Headquarters in the mid to late 60's. He was a good man to work for, always fair and fun to associate with. //Frank Baron // I had the honor of caring for his wife in her final years and got to know and admire Jerry for his devotion

to Marilyn. Even after she passed, he continued to visit his friends at the nursing home and always had a kind word and smile for all. //Shari Bridgeman// I had the honor and pleasure of working with Jerry at HQ USAF Security Service and at several overseas locations. The "Silver Fox" was a great guy. I'll miss you old buddy. //John Guntharp//I served with Jerry in the '70s and '80s at USAFSS/ESC HQ in San Antonio, as active duty and civilians. Good man that FTVAers also knew and worked with over the years. RIP, Jerry. //Greg Mahoney//

Francis "Frank" C. Ragsdale, 80, died 6 Jan., 2011. Frank is survived by his wife of 61 years and many other loving family and friends. Frank courageously handled his lung cancer and died peacefully in his home state of Oregon. **//6913th RSM Website//**



A/3C Joe B. Santilli, 78, died 26 Nov., 2010. Joe was born 3 Feb 1932 in Staten Island New York. Joe began his military service in the early 50's and arrived in Bremerhaven in early 1952, just a few months after the cadre of the 41st RSM had deployed from Brooks AFB, Texas to expand and begin operations there. He completed his assignment in late 1954, took his discharge and returned to his home town. Joe is survived by his wife Marie and other loving family and friends. **//E-Mail from Arlen Trapp//**

MSgt. Carl William "Bill" Schunk, 71, died 4 Dec., 2010 at McCullough Hyde Hospital in Oxford, Ohio, following a brief illness. He was a resident of Brownsville, In. **//Obit//**



SMSgt. Wayne "Butch" Simmons died 27 Dec., 2010 at his residence in Chicopee MA. "Butch" was dressed in his U.S. Air Force summer mess dress uniform displaying the medals that he had been awarded during his 28 years of duty – they included the Bronze Star, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Displayed on the casket was his Karamursel Air Station (KAS) – 6933rd RGM Karamursel Turkey morale cap with Det. 3 patch and affixed to his morale cap were his "Stable Able" pin, USAFSS pin, his KAS membership pin and a "Fighting Chix" RAF Chicksands pin. Five members of the American Legion post, that he was a member of, presented a memorial service during the wake and gave his wife Elaine a memorial citation. Butch will be remembered by personnel assigned to the 6933rd RGM Tuslog Det. 3 Karamursel Turkey and the 6950th RGM RAF Chicksands during the late 50's and early 60's. Butch was one of the "Best of the Best" Morse Intercept Operators and an outstanding member of the USAF. **//Roll Call site - David Bergstrom//**



Thorfin D. Spears died 28 Oct., 2010. "I am trying to locate any information you might have on the record/actions/medals or just anything about my father Thorfin D. Spears who was stationed in Turkey under the 6939th RSM. If so, I would greatly appreciate a response. His work was top secret so he couldn't tell us much but I am trying to piece together his earlier

life."//Son Joshua//Ed Note: Joshua's E-mail is j_spears21@hotmail.com.



Henry P. Stacewicz, 83, died 30 Nov., 2010 in Melbourne, Florida after suffering a massive stroke on 5 November. Stace, as he was called by his friends, completed Russian language school at the US Army Russian Liaison Agent and Interpreters School, Oberammergau, Germany, in 1951, and while assigned to the 2nd RSM at Darmstadt, flew recon missions aboard USAFSS RB-29A 44-62290 in the European Theater in 1953. He later served tours with USAFSS in Berlin, Iraklion, Crete, and AFSCC, San Antonio. I served with Stace in AFSCC in 1964-65, and along with other 6916th SS veterans from the late 1960's-early 1970's, recall Stace from Rhein-Main, Germany, where he served in a HUMINT unit. RIP Henry P. Stacewicz //Larry Tart//

TSgt Nathaniel P. Tolbert died 22 Aug., 2010 per his widow, Betty. No further information provided.//Misawa Web Site//



Sgt. Hayward A. "Jack" Wood. Jack died 8 Sept., 2008 in Wilmington, N. C. We went through basic, radio school, and follow-on schools together; went overseas to the 2nd RSM in January 1951, then on to 12th RSM in March. He stayed there until September 1952. Jack was a Morse operator on Able Trick. We traveled Europe together and were actually introduced

“by name” by Moscow Mollie when we got to Landsberg. After discharge, he went through Univ. NC, and became an aeronautical engineer. He worked at Wright Patterson AFB, doing stress tests on aircraft until his retirement. Jack is survived by his wife Jeanette. He was one of the good guys.” // **Bob Mehaffey**//

Notice: Teresa W. Lang died 10 Nov. 2010. Teresa was born Dec. 19, 1919 in Manchester, England, and immigrated to America. She married the late Lt. Col. Delmar C. Lang in 1941 and settled in Maryland in the 70's. She spent much of her time, energy, and love on social activities. Lt Col Lang was instrumental in establishing the USAF's Chinese language training program at Yale University's Institute of Far Eastern Languages.//**Luther Deese and Bob Askew**//

Thank You

After almost 10 years of continuous service to the FTVA, Kirk Carpenter is retiring as our “Keeper of the Fallen Eagles Database”. The task demands attention to detail, time, skill and dedication. Kirk embodies all of those, and more. He has done an incredible job of compiling and maintaining the FTVA Fallen Eagles database and we really appreciate all he has done for us over the years. Thank you so very much, amigo.

Bits & Bytes

Ernie Melin, Sr.

From: Howard Cross (Life Member) here in Maxton, NC.
[mailto:dunroman@roadrunner.com]

I have visited the Charleston, SC (specifically the U.S.S. Yorktown) twice now in the past two months. Also, I am sending this without the gentleman in the subject line being aware of it. One of the volunteers there is an Ernest Melin, Sr. I started to chat with him as he was pointed out as a WWII vet of B-17's and thought he would have some interesting tales to tell. Lo and behold, he did. After chatting a while on the first visit we got around to assignments and found out he was in USAFSS for a few years. I provided him with the info on the FTVA website, but he did not pursue it (at 89 years old, understandably). After the second visit (today) which I showed him some more info on the the website and he said he would get his son to assist him in getting on-line to the site. Just thought that if anyone out there was stationed with, or knew, this gentleman, they could possibly stop by to see him or contact him at the Yorktown at Patriot's Point in Charleston. I will definitely be going back to visit, as he only has the volunteering job to keep him busy. Any contact that he would receive, I'm sure he would appreciate it. Thank You, Howard Cross

Out of the Past

From: Vincent Miller vincejmiller@yahoo.com
Comment - Completed Morse Intercept Operator training at Keesler in 61 and Radio Fingerprinting at Goodfellow that same year before being assigned to the 6913th RSM as a 29231-1. Very close friend of the late CMSgt Norm Parnes. Norm was very proud of his affiliation with your Association.

Looking for William L. Bagby

From: Bethard <dbethard@cfl.rr.com>
Rass, Any idea where I can make contact with William L Bagby, the former Hakata 6918th Flight Commander, for Able flight, I think? I'm striking out...
Thanks! Db

Det 7, 6922nd

From : Bob Johnson mjebjbj@gmail.com
Unit: Det 7, 6922nd
Comment - I know locations on some Det 7, 6922 personnel, but would like to hear from more. Perhaps we can have a small group reunion when Det 2, 6910 has their reunion in June (San Antonio, Tx)

Christmas in the Sandbox

Each year, many of our more energetic alumni groups sponsor care-giving projects during the Christmas holidays for intel troops stationed around the world. The following exchange involving AMTA, PWG and Beaners is an example.

To: johnnie_9@estesj.com Dec 06, 2010

Just FYI, the PWG is at \$3,900 and the Beaners have said they'll kick in \$500 this year.....Pretty good, eh?.. We've sent \$200 to the SENIOR SCOUT folks, \$750 to the 25IS for the AFSOC-associated folks, and will send the remainder to the 97IS. .Not too shabby. Col Bob

From: johnnie_9@esgtesj.com 6 Dec 2010

You are right, Bob, that is not too bad. The AMTA presently have almost \$2000 collected and we have an anonymous donor that has said they will match whatever amount we collect dollar for dollar with that said I believe the AMTA will settle somewhere in the \$3500 to \$4000 range. We have given everyone until the 10th before we cut it off due to the late start. Thanks for helping us out with this Bob, and as soon as I get the go ahead they will tell you the exact amount. Johnnie (Too blessed to be stressed Johnnie from Pittsburg, TX)

From: Ron Hentz <rdhentz@gmail.com>

Subject: [PWG2] Christmas For The Troops - A Big Thank You

Gang - A big "Thank You!" to all for your efforts this year in support of the troops at Christmas. We raised \$4,050 this year and, with the \$500 check sent to us by the Beaners, were able to send \$4550 to three separate organizations in support of their deployed troops. This is the best year ever, and you did it during a down year for the economy. Congratulations!

The money was prorated to the 169th at Salt Lake City, the 25th at Hurlburt and the 97th at Offutt based on the numbers of troops that were deployed from their unit. You're still the greatest!

Ron H

Remember Me?

From: Robert (Bob) Walker - walkerbob@earthlink.net

Unit - 6927th USAFSS, Okinawa

Comment - I was an Air Force Captain assigned to the 6927th Security Squadron in Okinawa between September 1962 and February 1965. I would be very pleased to hear from any who served there during my tenure. Bob

New 6987th Web Site

From: Gary Knighton <yogi6987th@yahoo.com

To: Dan Dapolito,

I am a member of the USAFSS Roll Call site and have constructed (in process) a Web Site dedicated to the 6987th RSM/RGM at Shu Linkou Air Station in Taiwan. It will be (is) a simple site including a name roster, a roster of those we know that have passed on, a page to post Locator Inquiries for those searching for former buddies, and pages for photos and re-union info for not only the 6987th, but for other units as well should anyone desire to post the info. On December 6, I e-mailed Lee Anthony to see if it would be OK to go ahead and put up the link on my Home Page. I am not sure of protocol here, but I wouldn't want to do the link without permission. Since you are shown as a member of Roll Call and a Director Emeritus of FTVA, do you suppose you might intercede on my behalf. I am scheduling the upload to the Internet of my files by January 1. Thank you. If you have any questions, please let me know.

'Yogi' from Taiwan

From: Gary Knighton yogi6987th@yahoo.com

Unit - 6987th RGM, Taiwan

Comment - Just revisiting to check for friends that I have lost touch with over the past 5 decades. I was at Shu Lin Kou from February, 1961 to July, 1963, as a Ditty Bopper. I went by the nickname of Yogi in those days and still do in some circles. I have a new web site at <http://www.6987thalumniassociation.org> Hopefully this site can assist in locating buddies you served with and check for current reunion info and photos of former members of the 6987th.

1Lt Roslyn Schulte

From: Lee Anthony 01/27/11

I attended/participated in the AETC/AFA Symposium last week – the conference package included one of the CSAF “Portraits in Courage, Vol V”, which features narratives on 18 Airmen, selected as examples for bravery, heroism, and sacrifice. You may already be aware that 1Lt Roslyn Schulte was one of the 18 selected for this edition, but thought I'd pass it on, just in case. The link to the PA release can be found here, and the full edition is available from this article.

<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123234452>

Lima Site 85

From: Grover Jackson

I'm writing to you gents because what's left of my memory tells me you're the most likely ones of my colleagues who would know the facts on this question.

The December 2010 Remain in Touch contains an excellent item on CMS Dick Etchberger's performance in defending Lima Site 85, for which he was recently awarded the Medal of Honor.

If the reader didn't know anything to the contrary, the first and last sentences of the item can be read to imply that Lima Site 85 was a USAFSS operation. I don't think that was the case, but as I discover every day, there's a lot I don't know. I tried to check the Roll Call website item referenced in the article but discovered I'm not a registered Roll Call member, which I have taken action to remedy. Can you enlighten me? Best Regards, Grover

//Ed Note: After checking with the History Office we can conclude that you're right and still enlightened, Good Sir. Site 85 was not a USAFSS operation.//

WHO DOES THIS MUG BELONG TO?
(Ripped off ebay)



From: Doug Wickey Date Posted: Feb 7, 2011

Description: I saw this mug advertised recently on eBay but didn't bid. Anyone know whose **6910th RGM mug** this might be?

Charles Church: In reply to this item I was in D'stat at that time. But Johnny doesn't tell enough, I think mine has Able Aces on it and would have been the 6911th. I will try to find the post.

Remembering Nate Britt

From: Jerry Lavalley jplavalley@aol.com

Unit - 6985th Eielson AFB Fairbanks, AK

Comment - Sorry to hear that Nate Britt (my mentor) and Charlie Wilson have passed on. I will never forget Nate for bringing me into the Stan/Eval group.

(Cuisine Secrets)

Bakers trade bread recipes on a “knead-to-know” basis.

On-Line Member of the Quarter

AUBREY 'DUKE' KEETER



Notes: USAFSS Assignments: 2RSM, 12RSM, 34RSM, 8RSM, 136 SS, 6910RGM, 6940TTW, 6980RSM, 6970 Support Gp.



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