

*Remain  
In  
Touch*



**FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE  
ASSOCIATION**

*Dan D'Apolito 4 June 1931 – 25 March 2011 - RIP*

# ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

## Executive Board

Lee Anthony .....President  
Ron Haygood.....Vice President  
Bob Cope.....Treasurer  
Loran (Phred) Sevening.....Secretary  
Chris Cook.....Immediate Past president

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Bob Baert.....Membership Chairman/Web Support  
Dennis "Rass" Rasmussen.....Newsletter Editor  
Wayne Tallant.....Associate Newsletter Editor  
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Ken Williams & Barnie Gavin.....Social Chairmen  
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J.J. Graham..... President, Heritage Chapter  
John Toillion..... President, Aloha Chapter  
Richard Sacchetti.....President, Gold Country Chapter  
Jim Kaus.....Acting President, Sunshine FL Chapter

## Directors Emeritus

Bill Ballard .....Hall of Honor  
Grover McMakin.....Social Chairman  
Dan D'Apollito - passed away Mar 25th. This issue is dedicated to his memory.

## Standing Committee Chairpersons

Bob Sherwood (Chairman).....Hall of Honor  
Douglas Holden..... Special Activities

## AF ISR Agency Advisory Members

Col Michael Shields..... Senior Liaison Officer  
Maj Erik Russell ... Reunion Coordinator  
Wayne Amann..... AFISR Agency/PA

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## The President's Corner



Dear Members,

This edition of “Remain In Touch” opens on a sad note, as the FTVA mourns the passing of Lt Gen Richard “Dick” Klocko. In addition to his tenure as the USAF Security Service Commander, General Klocko experienced a sensational career spanning one of the most difficult periods of US history. He is remembered by family, friends, and fellow veterans as an incredibly ethical man and an exemplary role model, epitomizing today’s mantra of “Service Before Self”. Lt General Klocko will be missed by all in the FTVA family.

On a much brighter note, our membership is doing great things! In the past two months, Jim Kaus (of USAFSS Roll Call fame) has established yet another FTVA chapter in the state of Florida. I can’t say enough about what Jim and the Roll Call have contributed to the FTVA, but I can assure all that the “Sunshine Chapter” will be a vibrant part of the organization. The chapter has already generated extensive interest, and I encourage our Florida residents to contact Jim ([jim@floridajim.com](mailto:jim@floridajim.com)) and actively support his efforts.

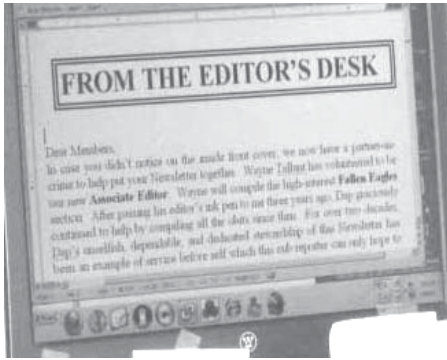
The FTVA was again a primary sponsor for the annual AF ISR Agency Awards Banquet. We were honored to be recognized during the banquet, and greatly enjoyed the opportunity to meet, greet, and dine with the award recipients. The nominees’ enthusiasm for their jobs and difficult missions was evident at this event, and I walked away simply amazed at their many accomplishments.

For the second consecutive year, our Spring Social set an attendance record! Over 80 people gathered at the Gateway Club on Lackland to meet recently-returned AFISRA deployed personnel. Their stories and accounts are incredible, and their sense of volunteerism is inspiring. We enjoyed a great recap of our current force and field activities from Command Chief Master Sergeant Ricker, who can certainly speak from experience with his multiple deployments to Bagram AB, Afghanistan and Al Dafra AB, United Arab Emirates. Chief Ricker repeatedly referred to the lineage between this current generation of warriors and past generations, and Maj Gen Heithold paid high homage to the legacy established by the FTVA membership, citing several personal examples of that legacy from the audience. Once again, Ken Williams did an outstanding job of coordinating the event.

Time for your commitment to attend this year’s reunion in San Antonio, 22 – 24 September. Further information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks, and you’re welcome to contact me or any FTVA board member for specific details and assistance. Check both the website (<http://www.ftva.org>) and our FaceBook page. Thanks for your continued support – you each make a huge difference!

Remain In Touch,

*Lee Anthony*



Dear Members,  
We lost a good friend and mentor this past March with the passing of Dan D'Apollito, our FTVA Newsletter Editor Emeritus. Some of the tributes you posted on-line appear in our Fallen Eagles section. We have dedicated this issue of RIT to 'Dap' (see cover). I especially hope you enjoy the Member Spotlight, Chapter Reports (new Sunshine Chapter), and the History & Memories sections.

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.*

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**FTVA NEWSLETTER**

Your *Remain in Touch* newsletter is available in softcopy.pdf format. Bob Baert, Membership Chairman/Webmaster, made this option available worldwide. If you're interested in receiving the softcopy, please let Bob know via e-mail at [web@ftva.org](mailto:web@ftva.org). When a newsletter is published Bob will put it in a protected directory on the website. An e-mail will then be sent to those who want the softcopy so you know it is available. A new password will be provided quarterly. (Note: you can still go back to receiving the hard copy booklet via regular mail later on). **E-mail Bob Baert: [membersupport@ftva.org](mailto:membersupport@ftva.org)**

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**Annual FTVA Officer Elections**

No other nominees being submitted, and with the unanimous concurrence of the FTVA BOD, Lee Anthony and Ron Haygood have been nominated to serve as your FTVA President and Vice President respectively for an additional 2-year term (2011-2013).

*Dennis Rassmussen*, Chairman  
FTVA BOD Nominating Committee



## WHAT IS THE FTVA?

### WHY WAS IT STARTED?

### WHAT DO WE DO?

The Freedom Through Vigilance Association (FTVA) is a private, non-profit corporation established in 1981 and is dedicated to the support and perpetuation of the objectives of the USAF and USAF Security Service and its successor Commands/Agencies. We currently provide support to social, educational and humanitarian services of USAF in general and the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency and its subordinate organizations in particular. Principally located in San Antonio, TX, we have FTVA Chapters in Washington, DC (Capital Chapter) Honolulu, HI (Aloha Chapter); San Angelo, TX (Heritage Chapter); and Yuba City, CA (Gold Coast Chapter), and the new Sunshine Chapter in Florida. All former and current military/civilian members of USAFSS/AFISR Agency and its successor Commands/Agencies are eligible for membership. Surviving spouses of deceased personnel are eligible for associate member status.

### FTVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At 1330 on the third Friday of each month, our Board of Directors meets in the Security Service Federal Credit Union (SSFCU) conference room. Any active member may attend. Please contact Lee, Ron, Phred or Bob beforehand to make arrangements for access to the SSFCU Office Building on La Cantera Parkway.



Above (L-R): Doug Holden, Barnie Gavin, Joe Hurst, Ron Haygood, Lee Anthony, Chris Cook, Jim McClendon and Bob Cope (back to camera) at the February BOD meeting in the SSFCU conference room.

# Annual Spring Social

The annual FTVA Spring Social was held in San Antonio at the Lackland Gateway Club again this year. Over 80 members and their guests enjoyed our annual get together. CMSgt Frederick Ricker, AFISRA Command Chief, was our guest speaker for the evening. Maj Gen Bradley Heithold commended his AFISR Agency silent warriors as we recognized ten of the Agency's recent returnees from Afghanistan, Iraq and the AOR.



Above: (L – R) Mr Chip Von Heiland, Capt Mat McCormick, Capt Kelly Truax, Capt Summer Nolan, 1Lt Dawn Higginbotham, SMSgt Dodie Barhorst, TSgt Matt Hensley, Lt Col Mike Heuer, Col Eric Pierce, TSgt Erick Reynolds

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## SPRING SOCIAL OUT-TAKES



Sign-In Please! Bernie and Judy Gavin with Ken Williams welcome Derek Huber.



Terry Rizzo enjoys a story from his good friend Wayne Amman.



We found Donna Crabtree, Shiela Williams, and Kathy Cook busily comparing notes.



Bill and Pearl Nye came to San Antonio from Las Vegas, NV just to visit us!



AFISRA Command CMSgt Frederick Ricker gave us a verbal portrait of today's Airman.



Mr & Mrs Doug Holden led the way through a variety of tasty puu-puu's.



Rick and Debbie Wadle helped make the conversation interesting at their table.



FTVA Vice President Ron Haygood visits with AFISR's Maj Gen Bradley Heithold.

**FTVA CAPS**



**We Now Have Caps Again!**



We have two styles of caps available. One has the stiff front the other has the soft front. Both hats are khaki color and have all

five of the shields used by the various commands/services/agencies which were first known as USAFSS and the bill has the American Flag along the front edge. A donation of \$20 is requested for each (includes S & H). Send requests for caps to:

Douglas Holden  
9227 Fallworth St.  
San Antonio TX 78254

(Donation may be made by check or Money Order/Cashier's Check made out to Freedom Through Vigilance Association.)

*Doug Holden*

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**FTVA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



**From Saigon to Baghdad**

Interview - by Michael J. Totten (Redacted)

(March 4, 2011) Rick Francona's bio makes me feel like I've hardly left my home office. He served as a lieutenant colonel in the US Air



Force as an intelligence officer, and he worked with the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, and the Central Intelligence Agency in the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and the Balkans. He flew aerial reconnaissance missions over Laos and Vietnam, worked as a liaison officer to the Iraqi armed forces directorate of military intelligence during the Iran-Iraq War, flew sorties with the Iraqi air force, tried to foment a revolution and a military coup against the government of Saddam Hussein, and led a special operations team on a manhunt against Serbian war criminals in the Balkans. He is fluent in Arabic and Vietnamese and was inducted into the Defense Language Institute Hall of Fame in 2006.

Most US military sources I've spoken to are familiar with Iraq and the Persian



*Rick Francona at home*

Gulf but know relatively little about the Levant (the Eastern Mediterranean) and even less about distant North Africa. Francona knows Iraq and the Gulf, and the Levant and the crucial parts of North Africa. I spent several days with him in Israel during Operation Cast Lead in Gaza, and recently met up with him again at his home in Oregon (photo right) where we discussed the wave of revolutions sweeping the Middle East.

MJT: I am amazed at what's happening in Libya.

Francona: I must admit that I am also surprised. I thought Qaddafi had tighter security controls in place to prevent this kind of uprising, yet it appears he is being boxed into a small area around Tripoli. With the Tobruk and Benghazi areas out of his control, I wonder if he will be able to retain his position.

He doesn't appear to be reticent about the use of force against his own citizens. If the media reports are true, that Libyan military and security forces are using helicopters, fighter aircraft, armored vehicles and snipers against the civilian population, the regime will have achieved a new low in its already abysmal human rights record. And Libya is a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council.



*Qaddafi poster, Tripoli*

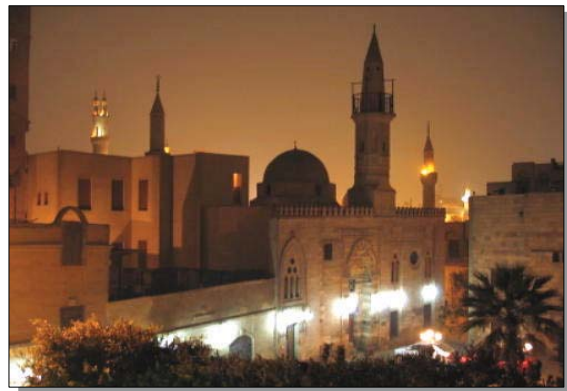
I listened to both Qaddafi's and his son Saif al-Islam's speeches in Arabic. The son's tone was defiant, but it was at least coherent. The father's nonsensical ramblings showed a mix of a warped sense of history and what I would call narcissism. I am not a psychologist, but it seemed to me that Qaddafi was truly shaken by the thought that he is not thought of as the "hero of the Libyan revolution," as he sees himself. If he really believes what he said in his speech, he's in denial. The only thing that might keep him in power is his willingness to slaughter people.

At some point, the world must react. I was shocked to hear a State Department statement that the Obama administration was looking at the text of Saif al-Islam's speech for "indications of commitment to meaningful reforms." I hope someone at Foggy Bottom loses their job over the thought that we can deal with

the likes of Saif al-Islam Qaddafi. There needs to be a change of government in Libya, and we should be assisting however we can. When this is all resolved and there is a new government in Tripoli, the Libyan people hopefully won't accuse the United States of supporting yet another autocracy in the Middle East. Looking beyond the savagery that is taking place inside Libya, this uprising has had a more immediate impact in the West than the uprisings in Tunisia and Egypt, and the demonstrations in Bahrain, Jordan and Yemen. In the long run, though, the changes in Egypt will likely have the greatest effect on the region. Egypt is the cultural center of the Arab world. It sets the tone for much of the political thought in the Middle East. Libya's impact was much more immediate and reverberated not only politically, but economically as well. The possibility of interrupted oil flows from Libya has a much more profound impact on the price of crude than the perceived potential shut down of the Suez Canal. I think US oil futures are trading over \$100 a barrel; European futures are well above that. As you know, the price of oil affects the prices of almost everything.

As for the claims by a defecting official that Qaddafi personally ordered the attack on Pan Am 103, I don't buy it for a minute. I have always thought it was an Iranian-sponsored, PFLP-GC -executed operation; the two Libyans were co-opted by Ahmad Jibril's people and were not operating with Qaddafi's sanction. If they had been authorized by Qaddafi, there is no chance that they would have been given up for trial. Countries do not offer up their intelligence officers for carrying out orders. If so, no officer would ever undertake these missions again.

As I learned in the intelligence business years ago, defectors often tell you what they think you want to hear in hopes of getting favorable consideration. Qaddafi is guilty of a lot of things, but I doubt the Lockerbie bombing is among them.



*Cairo, Egypt, 2005*

Francona: Egypt is extremely important not only to us but to the whole area. If there is a major shift in Egypt's government structure, it could collapse the peace process as we know it. If the Israelis can't count on a stable southwestern border, they will truly feel surrounded. They've got Lebanon to the north which is now basically run by Hezbollah. They've got the continuing problem with Syria to the northeast. They look across to Jordan which has a weak government where the Hashemites survive through compromise. And without the Egyptians providing some stability in the region, this could get ugly. And we get tied up with what the Israelis are doing whether we like it or not.

I'm a little concerned with what I see as the American willingness to allow the Muslim Brotherhood to play a greater role in Egypt than maybe they should.

They're going to be involved. There's no escaping that—it's just reality—but legitimizing them by saying we want the "non-secular" players in the equation isn't helping.

MJT: [Laughs.] Sure, but we're talking about the Middle East here. Not everyone in that part of the world is in their right mind.

Francona: I think the Muslim Brotherhood is somewhat pragmatic. I mean, they know what they want, but they also know they can't do just anything to get it. They have to be smart. Starting off small might be the first step. They'll agree to be part of the parliament and probably win 25-30 percent of the seats if there's a free and fair election. Thirty percent isn't bad. It's a good start. Look how far Hezbollah gets in Lebanon with 30 percent. Hezbollah and its allies had 11 seats out of 30 in the cabinet and were able to collapse the government.

MJT: Hezbollah also has guns, though. The Muslim Brotherhood doesn't, at least not at the moment.

Francona: There were clashes in the streets of Cairo, but with rocks not guns.



*Shibam Wadi Hadhramaut, Yemen*

Just wait until this spreads to Yemen.

MJT: There are more guns than people in Yemen. There are more guns than people in Lebanon, too. I'm amazed the guns don't come out more often in Lebanon than they do.

Francona: The Lebanese are traumatized by civil war. They don't want to go there.

MJT: But every family is armed and can bust out the guns whenever they want.

Francona: Of course, it was the same in Iraq. Everyone could have an AK-47 for personal protection. And look at what happened. The army and Marines did a magnificent job in Iraq. The run to Baghdad was classic. That will be studied for years. The logistics were terrific. What the army did out there in the desert was fabulous. But after Jerry Bremer became the viceroy of Iraq and turned our military into an occupation army—something we hadn't planned or staffed for—everything fell apart. And I think we've been so traumatized by what happened during the next five years that there is almost no chance we're going to impose a regime-change in Iran. The Iranians, I think, are stuck with this regime.

MJT: Do you think they'll get nuclear weapons?

Francona: Absolutely. The only country that ever seriously embarked on a nuclear weapons program and failed to develop a bomb is Iraq, and that's only because the Israelis stopped it. Every other country that had the will and the material support has succeeded. No one has ever been stopped by technology. Everyone has been able to acquire the fissile material by hook or by crook. It's no longer magic. It just isn't.

Non-lethal methods are always better than blowing things up, but I don't think anything will stop the Iranians short of war. You and I were at the same briefing about this in Israel. The Israelis think Iran can't be deterred, and I think they're right. So we have to do one of two things. We either tell the Iranians that we won't allow them to develop nuclear weapons, and that we're prepared to physically stop them, or we start planning for the day when Iran has the bomb.

Note: This interview reflects Mr. Francona's opinions and not those of FTVA. Rick is the author of *Ally to Adversary: An Eyewitness Account of Iraq's Fall from Grace* and is currently at work on his second book, a first-person narrative account of his manhunt for Serbian war criminals in the Balkans. He also has a blog called Middle East Perspectives.

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**USAF ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE WASHINGTON, DC**

May 2, 2011

**STATEMENT FROM DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
JAMES R. CLAPPER ON THE DEATH OF OSAMA BIN LADEN**



In my nearly 50 years in intelligence, never have I seen a more remarkable example of focused integration, seamless collaboration, and sheer professional magnificence as was demonstrated by the Intelligence Community in the ultimate demise of Osama bin Laden. The careful, diligent work of CIA, NGA, and NSA was simply incredible. It is with great pride and admiration that I offer thanks to all of the dedicated men and women of our community who worked so tirelessly in this achievement. I want to thank the President for his cool, decisive leadership. The Intelligence Community will never waver in our continued commitment to protect our citizens, our friends, and our allies. God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.



## AFISR AGENCY NEWS

### AFISR Agency Outstanding Airmen of the Year

by Wayne Amann, AF ISR Agency Public Affairs



(USAF photo by William Belcher)

2010 annual award nominees are given a red carpet, cheering welcome to the annual awards banquet March 3<sup>rd</sup> by members of the Air Force ISR Agency. The FTVA donated \$5,500 in support of the command recognition program this year.

LACKLAND AFB, TX -- The Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency honored the top 15 of its best personnel March 3 during the 2010 Annual Awards Ceremony at the Lackland Gateway Club here. The annual event capped a fast-paced two days during which the 58 annual award nominees, most assigned outside of San Antonio, received VIP treatment from AFISRA headquarters organizers.

The group was welcomed March 1 by Maj. Gen. Bradley Heithold, AFISRA commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Frederick Ricker, Agency Command Chief. "You're all winners in my book," General Heithold said. "Each of you brings strength to the enterprise and to the fight." Afterwards, the group was treated to a uniquely San Antonio tour, beginning at the Alamo, where they attended 175th Anniversary of Texas Independence Day Ceremony events presented by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, followed by other local historical tours.

The second day began with a visit with Lt. Gen. Larry James, newly assigned Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Headquarters Air Force. The annual award banquet capped their visit that evening. "Events like this ceremony are very important," General Heithold said.

## **GAFB 316<sup>th</sup> Training Squadron Honored**

By Kathryn Gustafson Air Force Culture, Region and Language Foreign Program Office

WASHINGTON —Officials recently announced the 316th Training Squadron at Goodfellow Air Force Base earned the Command Language Program of the Year award for the second consecutive year. The squadron will go on to represent the Air Force at the Department of Defense level. The 316th Training Squadron is responsible for monitoring and training more than 2,000 cryptologic language specialists annually in a joint service environment, officials said.

With approximately 140 on-site instructors, an abundance of training and deployment resources, language opportunities and incentives, the squadron has established a well-managed institution with the capability to produce language-proficient airmen ready to achieve mission success, said Lt. Col. Erick Lawson, the 316th Training Squadron commander.

In 2010 the 316th Training Squadron received approval for a language training detachment staffed by instructors from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. The language training detachment allows language professionals the opportunity to undergo language training in Korean, Chinese, Arabic and the Iraqi dialect.

"We fully realize that today, perhaps more than ever before, highly proficient cryptologic language analysts are a critical factor in attaining information superiority," Lawson said. "The rapidly changing world situation, including overseas contingency operations, makes it imperative that our language specialists be ready to serve anywhere, anytime and in whatever capacity needed." Lawson added that the 316th Training Squadron is dedicated to providing the training to produce analysts able to meet operational demands around the globe.

"It is essential we continue to hone our language skills in order to meet the challenges and demands of our decision makers to maintain dominance in the ever-changing info-sphere in which we operate," Lawson said. The 316th Training Squadron is committed to its mission to produce the best trained cryptologic intelligence and electronic maintenance specialists in the Department of Defense, he said. "This squadron's noteworthy language program accomplishments over the past year have garnered the distinction as the best of the best and are an example for other squadrons to benchmark," said Barbara Barger, Air Force senior language authority.

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**“A boiled egg is hard to beat.”**

## **First RC-12X SIGINT Spy Planes Making Their Way Downrange**

(Downloaded from: <http://defensetech.org/2011/02/08/first-rc-12x-sigint-spy-planes-making-their-way-downrange/#ixzz1JQyLrc17> Defense.org )

While there's been renewed interest in focusing the U.S. military on countering high-end 21st Century threats such as the advanced area denial weapons being developed by China, don't expect all of the relatively low-tech yet incredibly useful weapons of the last few wars to go away as soon as fighting dies down in Afghanistan.

Northrop Grumman just last month delivered first of the newest batch of what's



proven to be a very useful yet low-key weapon system over the last 20 years or so; the Army's prop-driven RC-12 Guardrail signals intelligence planes.

The RC-12 and its MC-12 Liberty brethren flown by the Air Force (which focus more in imagery intelligence) have proven invaluable in doing everything from

helping find drug lords in Latin America or insurgents in the Middle East to catching terrorists in the U.S.

The first two RC-12Xs left a Northrop facility in Sacramento, Calif., on Jan. 8 to deploy to the Middle East and another two planes will deploy in the coming month, according to the defense giant. Ten more RC-12Xs will be delivered between 2011 and 2012 and are set to stay in service through 2025.

Apparently, the first four planes will be tested and fully outfitted in theater, a move that could reflect the urgency that military officials associate with getting these prop-driven airplanes into combat. Many have described the Air Force MC-12s as invaluable; a sort of manned UAV that can fly above a patrol, warning the troops, some of whom they've built a rapport with at their bases, in real time of approaching threats. The MC-12s Liberties were famously pushed into combat with incredible speed compared to most modern weapons programs. These Army planes are used to sniff out and triangulate enemy communications and the like.

The RC-12X Guardrail Modernization program extends the life of the aircraft through 2025 and introduces new payloads to the system with enhanced capabilities to sense and exploit emerging and rapidly evolving irregular and conventional warfare threats. The program also enhances the sustainability of the RC-12X through commonality, a new glass cockpit, structural upgrades, and significant hardware and software improvements.

“The RC-12X will bring unprecedented SIGINT capability to the warfighter,” said Trip Carter, director for Northrop Grumman’s Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (AISR) initiatives. “We are excited with this latest step toward making this a reality for their missions and are eager to continue to work with the Army to make the system operational as soon as possible.”

Read more: <http://defensetech.org/2011/02/08/first-rc-12x-sigint-spy-planes-making-their-way-downrange/#ixzz1JQyLrcl7> Defense.org

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## **Angelo State Center Welcomes Top Air Force Analysts**

By Tom Nurre Jr.

SAN ANGELO, Texas — A group of the Air Force's top uniformed and civilian intelligence analysts recently gathered at Angelo State University for the two-week Air Force Advanced Analyst Course (AAC) hosted by the ASU Center for Security Studies (CSS).

First implemented in February 2010, the AAC is the flagship intelligence analyst course for the Air Force's best and brightest. "This program teaches analysts how to think about very broad and complex problems in what we call a nonlinear world," said Dr. Robert Ehlers, CSS director. "In other words, how to think in a world where there are always human actors opposed to you, and those human actors may think or act very differently than you would expect them to, particularly if you become a captive of your own cultural background. The idea is to give these individuals some very detailed educational insights on all aspects of intelligence." Participants received daily classroom instruction based on intensive reading assignments, and then engaged in complex intelligence analysis practice scenarios. The 23 class members came to ASU from bases throughout the world after being nominated by their respective intelligence directors and ultimately hand-picked by the deputy chief of staff for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance at Headquarters Air Force.

"We had analysts in this class from around the world, including some who recently returned from operational tours overseas," Ehlers said. "We also had folks from all over the United States, from coast to coast and from Air Force bases and organizations located in numerous states." ASU is the first civilian institution to host the AAC, and the ASU class also was the first to include civilian analysts. "There are national agencies," said CSS deputy director Susan Williams, "and other entities out there that have civilians who work in analyst positions. Probably the one the general public understands the best is the National Security Agency, or NSA, which has a lot of analysts who work on issues around the world. We had six of these civilian analysts in this class."

"They are Department of the Air Force employees," Ehlers added. "But, several of them work very closely with the NSA and other national-level intelligence agencies. They are, to some extent, 'on loan' to these agencies. The presence of

civilian analysts is a huge thing, in part because they are the ones who tend to perform analysis more deeply than just about anyone else in the Air Force." Of the nine course instructors, all are retired senior Air Force or Army officers, including an Army general who spent more than 30 years in military intelligence. The lone exception is the active-duty deputy commander of the Air Force Intelligence Agency at the Pentagon. Ehlers worked with Headquarters Air Force to bring the course to ASU, paving the way for civilian institutions to become regular hosts for the sessions, which are conducted several times a year.

The CSS will host another session of the course this summer. The effort to bring the Advanced Analyst Course here," Ehlers said, "was part of the larger CSS mission to do everything we can to help Americans who are military, Civil Service or law enforcement, or want to get into those career fields, to get better at their jobs by learning how to grapple with our complex global environment. So, it was just a natural fit for both us and the Air Force."

*//Tom Nurre Jr. is a news and information specialist in the ASU Office of Communications and Marketing.//Ed//*

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### **AF to Pay for Airman's Move to New Home**

By Michelle Tan - Staff writer

Posted : Apr 23, 2011

When Senior Airman Colton Read and his wife, Jessica, get the keys to their dream home, the Air Force will pick up the tab for the movers. Exactly who would pay to pack up the couple's belongings from Fort Sam Houston, in San Antonio, had been up in the air since early April. The Reads learned of the Air Force's decision April 19. The Reads have been living at Fort Sam Houston while Colton Read waits to go before a medical evaluation board. The 22-year-old airman lost his legs because of a mistake made during routine gallbladder surgery at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Then, the Air Force announced it had approved local orders to move the Reads at government expense. An Air Force spokesman at the Pentagon credited the recovery care coordinators and Colton Read's chain of command for the orders. "Given the chance to provide higher-level guidance on an issue that is outside the normal parameters, approval was granted and orders were initiated..." the spokesman, Todd Spitler, wrote. The couple broke ground Dec. 17 on a custom-built, 2,974-square-foot home donated by Operation Finally Home, a nonprofit that builds houses for wounded and disabled troops, veterans and families of fallen service members. The move-in date is May 9. The Air Force is committed to taking care of the Read family, Spitler said. "He continues to be an active-duty airman, and everyone involved, throughout all levels of leadership, are working to ensure his success."

<b>BEDSIDE MATTERS</b>
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**Richard “Rick” Nelson Lung Transplant Update**

(Rick was diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis in March 2010. He received a lung transplant on Feb 4' 2011. On Fri, Feb 18, Richard Nelson <ricknelson@cox.net> wrote: I was released from INOVA Fairfax Hospital 6PM last night, just two hours shy of spending 2 full weeks in the hospital. We were the first two lung transplants for 2011 at FAIRFAX. I got the right lung, another gentleman received the left (righty and lefty). I came home with a huge box of medicine instructions, and an ostomy bag.

Three visits to the clinic and rehab per week for the next month. The entire staff at Fairfax Hospital was simply amazing, worked like a well-oiled machine. I am truly blessed to have had a staff like that and the support and prayers from all our friends and family. Thank all of you.

Rick

(Received Feb 25<sup>th</sup>) Hi Rass, Thanks for being there. I believe that the power of prayer, family and friends are the things that have really brought me through this in good shape. This has been a miracle for me. The ability to breathe again is really indescribable. There are still some bumps in the road that have to be fixed, kidney stone has to be removed and heart rate has to be regulated but it does not seem to be anything major. So far, no signs of rejection and I have been able to tolerate the meds. At rehab yesterday, I was able to walk about a third of a mile in 8 minutes. It will be more and more at each session. I appreciate your thoughts and prayers. I will keep you posted.

Rick

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From: Kelly McMakin <kmcmakin@att.net>

Subject: Col Grover McMakin

To all: We have Dad to a facility that has a memory care unit. This will be the third move in 3 years, so I'm sure it's wearing him down. This facility can manage all types of needs and this should be his final move.

His new address is: Emeritus at Oakwell Farms  
3360 Oakwell Court  
San Antonio, TX 78218

I will still be getting all of his mail: c/o Kelly McMakin  
138 Lorenz

San Antonio TX 78209

Please keep us in your prayers

In God we trust, Kelly

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From: "Bob Cotti" <rfc2k@sbcglobal.net>  
Feb 21, 2011

Re: Bruce and Laura Strotman....Good news! Just got off the phone with Bruce. Both he and Laura are doing well. Laura is now in remission (prayers answered) and Bruce has just finished his radiation therapy and is doing well (more prayers answered). He says he experiences some dizziness from time to time but otherwise feels well. He and I are getting together for coffee Thursday afternoon.  
Bob

From: John House  
Apr 24, 2011

Everyone, Here is an email I got from Ed O'neill today concerning Ray Tudino. John, Here's a message I got from Shelley about Ray; Ray is in critical but stable condition. We are waiting for him to be strong enough to have another valve replacement in his heart. He is an amazing man and I know he can beat this.  
Ed O'Neill

From: "Facebook" <notification+zrdohr611=rf@facebookmail.com>  
Date: Apr 27, 2011 11:03 AM  
To: "Bob Baert" <xsabob2@gmail.com>

Mitchell Lynch posted on Freedom Through Vigilance Association's Wall.

Mitchell wrote: "My name is Mitchell Lynch, I am the son of John P. Lynch. My dad is not doing well. Agent Orange. There are people in Security Service that he cared deeply about. I am going to make a Face Book account for my father. Whether he recognizes what is seen or read is not as important as knowing he may still have friends that care." //Go to John Lynch's Facebook page to comment on this post.//

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<b>FTVA CHAPTER NEWS</b>
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### Heritage Chapter Spring Social

On March 3rd, the Heritage Chapter held its quarterly social at Lin Lin's Grand (Chinese) Buffet in San Angelo. It was great to see both familiar and new faces.



As it is our custom, our special guests were the students of the International Officers Course from Goodfellow along with their instructor and course manager Terry Giroux. This month we hosted officers from Japan, Lithuania, and Egypt. Terry works closely with us and keeps involved in our activities. We sincerely appreciate his getting the classes involved too and look forward to many more dinners with the students.

President Graham, on behalf of the Heritage Chapter, presented an EC-47 memorial coin to Terry Giroux. (Photo Above Left)



Seated in front L-R: Celeste Allen, Alice Ballinger, Kathie Bendinelli  
 Seated in back L-R: Addy Shore, John Shore, George Ballinger, Al Wankowski  
 Standing L-R: Bill Allen, Ron Graham, Larry Miller, Pat Miller, Ed Bendinelli  
 (Not pictured: Larry Ross, photographer)

### Family visit to Sebers Hall



On 7 February, 2011, Chris Olson, niece of TSgt Fred Sebers, an intelligence analyst who died in 1967 as a result of wounds received in Vietnam while serving with Detachment 1, 6994th Security Squadron (USAFSS) and for whom Fred Sebers Hall (Building 519) is named, visited Goodfellow AFB. Heritage Chapter President Ronald Graham greeted Chris and husband, John, escorting them to Sebers Hall to visit the inside memorial display. He gave them a brief explanation of Sebers' duties and responsibilities as an intelligence analyst with the EC-47 program.

The couple also visited the EC-47 aircraft memorial located in front of the wing headquarters building.

TSgt Sebers' brother, daughter, niece and grand-daughter had visited Goodfellow last year.



### Chapter Donates History Trilogy to GAFB Library

On March 14 the Heritage Chapter of the FTVA presented a three-volume set of books detailing the history of Air Force intelligence to the Goodfellow Air Force Base Library. Since 1958, Goodfellow AFB has played a key role in training intelligence professionals.



The Heritage Chapter invites today's young intelligence students to read these books and learn about the proud history and legacy of the men and women of USAFSS, in whose footprints they now walk.

Above (L-R) are Larry Ross (Secretary), Ronald Graham (President), Cindy Tews (Goodfellow AFB Library Director), and Ed Bendinelli (Vice-President).

### GAFB Training Building Dedicated to 1st Lt. Schulte

Goodfellow, TX — On Apr 29, 2011, Building 525 was dedicated to 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Roslyn Schulte, who was killed by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan on May 20, 2009. She had been through intelligence training school at Goodfellow and was the first female U.S. Air Force Academy graduate to be killed in action. An impressive number of retired, civilian and active duty members of the 17th Training Wing gathered outside building 525 on a blustery Friday morning for the event.

After a local military ensemble



sang the national anthem and a fly-over by four USAF trainer aircraft, the AF chaplain delivered a moving invocation. He closed by saying, "Roz packed much into her 25 years. And yes, she was even an unstoppable force," he said. "This is the name that 'Roz' Schulte has established. This is her legacy." Col. David A. Rearick and Lt. Gen. Larry D. James also offered their perspectives on the dedication of the building to Schulte. Schulte's brother and father, Robert and Todd along with her mother, Susie said they were "very honored and very appreciative. First and foremost, very proud."



(Left) These six stalwart members of FTVA were among those who attended the dedication of Schulte Hall ceremony at GAFB.

(L –R) Back Row: Larry Ross, Wayne Bascom Jr., Pete Seigel, and Larry Miller.

(Seated) Skip DeRousse and Bob Cope.

**New FTVA Chapter in Florida is Approved**



Dear Friends

Fri, April 15, 2011

This is the email I have been anxious to send. I received word today that FTVA in San Antonio, at their regular Board Meeting, has given the go-ahead of our plan to establish a Chapter in Florida. There are many things that must now be worked out, but at least we have initial approval. I have asked Ric Smith, of Jacksonville (soon to be of Silver Springs) to hold the position of Secretary/Treasurer, until a Chapter can be formed, and a official slate of officer filled.

I hope to hold a meeting soon. We will hold it at a Central Florida location, to minimize travel for our wide spread group. I hope you want to attend and help launch this endeavor.

Jim Kaus, Acting President, New FTVA Chapter in Florida

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Rass,

April 20, 2011

I thought you might like an update of what's happening with the **Sunshine Chapter of FTVA**. I think we will use that name (Sunshine Chapter of FTVA) until we can get together and either adopt it or select something different. We now have fifty (50) members son-board to join the Sunshine Chapter. Twenty-two (22) are already FTVA members, twenty eight new recruits.

I am in communications with Colonel Kruse, Commander of the 361st ISR Group, Hurlburt Field, Florida. We plan on a face to face meeting at Hurlburt the first week of May. He sounds very supportive. If it turns out that we are going to tie with the 361st ISR Group, I can produce a draft Chapter Constitution and By-laws, for your approval and the adoption by the Chapter. We have two residents of Ocala Florida, selecting a place to hold our first meeting, sometime in mid-May.

Jim Kaus, Acting President, **Sunshine Chapter, FTVA**

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Rass,

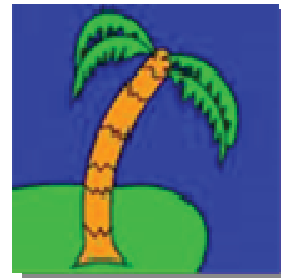
May 4, 2011

Things are moving in Florida. I'm having lunch on Monday with Colonel Kruse, Commander 361st ISR Group. I will ask for sponsorship. We have sent membership applications to all who asked to join that are not FTVA members. Your membership guy should receive at least some soon. We asked that all membership money go to San Antonio. We also added the application pdf on our **Sunshine Chapter** web site. [www.floridajim.com/Sunshine.htm](http://www.floridajim.com/Sunshine.htm)

Stay tuned. Jim

**Aloha Chapter, Honolulu, HI**

by John Toillion, President



Aloha All,

Well, not much in the way of news here on the home front, but at least three of us (Steve, Me & Wife Diana)



showed up for our last outing on February 24th. The attached photo I've labeled "The 3 Amigos" enjoyed a good time and talked about all those other Aloha Chapter-FTVA'ers who didn't make it. Boy, their ears must have been burning!

Steve just shared this week that Dickie Hites is to be in town in early July so we're going to try and get the local crew together to talk about even OLDER times with Dickie.

That be it from sunny (albeit thunderstormin' alley) Hawaii.



Decided to attach a photo of two water spouts (right) that were just off Ala Moana Beach Park on the afternoon of May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Cheers Brah!

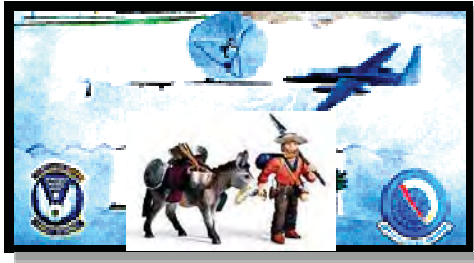
Tilly



**National Capital Chapter, Washington D.C.**

Jan Leach, Secretary

The National Capital Chapter will hold an election of executive officers in conjunction with its upcoming meeting. The chapter has nominated Maj Gen (Ret) John Casciano as president.



**Gold Country Chapter, Yuba City, CA**

by Richard J. Sacchetti, President

Rass, That's great stuff about Florida. Another new chapter! I sent the Florida Chapter President some pointers on how best to start up. I hope some of my ideas

were helpful to him. Wow, 50 members - great start. Not too much new out our way this quarter. Air Show at Beale AFB the last weekend of April. Russ Clark (GCC Treasurer) will be there with bells on to assist as an "Area Sponsor For Kids". I am in hopes of setting up a booth to offer some of my FTVA T-shirts and some Patriotic Teddy Bears with proceeds going to "Operation Warm Heart" to assist Beale AFB families with whatever needs they might have. Of course, if I can get a booth, I will have FTVA and VFW membership applications available for those who might be interested. That's about it for now. Take care and stay safe.

Rich "SAC" Sacchetti

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**AF ISR Agency History Office Seeking 1948-55 Photos**

Please put this request from the History Office in the FTVA Newsletter to see if we can get pictures for SMSgt Jones, please. *Barnie Gavin*

The AF ISR Agency History Office is seeking USAFSS and USAFSS unit photos from the 1948-1955 timeframe. Additionally, they are searching for photos of the HQ USAFSS Bldg at Brooks, AFB, TX (Apr 1949-Aug 1953). Please contact SMSgt Jones: e-mail: [benjamin.jones@lackland.af.mil](mailto:benjamin.jones@lackland.af.mil) Ph. (210) 977-2303

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**REUNION INFORMATION**

**June 16-19, 2011**

**6911th ESS Metro Tango, Hahn AB**

Location: Colorado Springs, CO

POC: Cherish (Calland) Shinnars ph (828) 256-6008

Comment: Respond to Email - [mtreunion@hotmail.com](mailto:mtreunion@hotmail.com)

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**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](mailto: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: [gammy1240@yahoo.com](mailto:gammy1240@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>

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**August 4-7, 2011**

**6994th Security Squadron**

Location: Colorado Springs, CO

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

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**Aug 18 – 21, 2011**

**USAFSS Roll Call Reunion** go to: <http://www.usafssrollcall.org/Laurel.htm>

Location: Quality Inn, Laurel, MD (Near BWI Airport)

POC: Jim Kaus/Bob Askew- For All USAFSS or successor organization alumni.

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.

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**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](mailto:rdhentz@gmail.com)

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**Sept 8-12, 2011**

**6911th RGM (Darmstadt, Germany)**

Location: Myrtle Beach, S.C. Landmark Resort

POC: Pat Merrill E-Mail: [Rich1Pat2@aol.com](mailto:Rich1Pat2@aol.com) Ph: 303-985-3575

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**Sep 22 – 24, 2011**

**ANNUAL FTVA Reunion in San Antonio, TX**

POC: [president@ftva.org](mailto: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. Lt Gen Larry James, AF/A2, will be the guest speaker at our banquet on Saturday, 24 Sep.

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**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.

POC: Johnnie Estes e-mail [jte1@amtassociation.org](mailto:jte1@amtassociation.org)

Comment: Thanks to Mike McLaughlin, Bob White and Dan Sloan the 2011 Reunion has taken shape. They have a contract with The Airport Hilton in San Antonio. You can call today to make your reservation and you want to do that to avoid the rush:

<http://www.amtassociation.org/PrintableWebpageInfo.pdf>

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### **Sep 22 – 25, 2011**

#### **6918<sup>th</sup> Scty Gp Hakata, Japan**

Location: San Antonio, Texas Lodging: Holiday Inn Riverwalk

Comments: You may begin making your own reservations NOW using the above information. The room rate is \$99.00 plus 16.75% tax to equal \$115.58 per day, payable to Holiday Inn Riverwalk. Group rates are available three days before and after the arrival/departure dates shown above, based on availability. We also will have a \$100.00 per person, one time "registration fee" payable to "6918 Dawg Flt. Reunion" to cover hospitality room rental, banquet room rental, audio and visual equipment rental, banquet meal, open bar expense, reunion expense such as mailings, name tags and so on. The larger our attendance is, the larger this fund is. Make Registration fee check payable to:

6918 DAWG FLT. REUNION

Mail to: POC: Bill Mink (Dawg Flt 1965 to 1967)

10 Cross Trees Rd. Brick, NJ 08723 E-mail: [will.mink@gmail.com](mailto:will.mink@gmail.com)

Ph. (732) 477-3761 (732) 477-3761 or (201) 838-0881 (201) 838-0881

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### **Oct 7-10, 2011**

#### **Peshawar Air Station**

Location: Gaithersburg, Maryland. Further info to to: [www.6937th.org](http://www.6937th.org)

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

Comments - Holiday Inn at 2 Montgomery Village Avenue

Call 301-948-8900 for room reservations. Identify with "Peshawar Air Station".

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=180476341986583>

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### **Oct 12 – 16, 2011**

#### **6927<sup>th</sup> RSM Onna Point, Okinawa**

Location: Branson, MO

POC: Jerry Stein ([fljerry@bellsouth.net](mailto:fljerry@bellsouth.net))

or Steve Feit ([tr414cc@verizon.net](mailto:tr414cc@verizon.net))

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

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### **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](mailto:Rennick@carolina.rr.com)

# REUNION REPORTS



## RollCall/Military Vets Lounge Reunion

Biloxi, MS Submitted by Ben Whitten



On March 8, 2011 several members of the Military Vet's Lounge in Biloxi gathered for a mini reunion hosted by Jim and Wanda Alverson.



Here we are after our windshield tour of Keesler where we recognized very little except the railroad tracks, Triangle Area, the flight line, and what Eck and I think was the back gate now called Gate 7.

L to R: Jim Alverson, Jim Kaus, Mike McBride, Bob Martin, Bill Chapman, Michael Eck, and George Welch.

In the afternoon we went to the Alverson's home for a cookout. We were hoping the weather would hold for us. It did. For a while.



(Right) 'Mr Creative', Waco Wetterman, presents Bill Chapman (Head Man of the Military Vet's Lounge) a special award for his efforts in creating and maintaining the MVL. (At Jim & Wanda Alverson's Home)



(Left) Wanda and Jim were "marvelously lovely" hostess and host for this bunch of yahoos. We destroyed their house and backyard.

You should have seen and had a chance to partake of the spread they prepared: ribs, pulled pork, sausages, potato salad, beans, and all the trimmings. This is to say nothing about the bar which included Kirin and Maker's Mark. They're lucky any of us ever left. <g>



L to R: George "Granny" Welch, Michael "Glow Sticks" Eck, Jim "Name Tag and Goodies" Kaus, Waco "Mr Creative" Wetterman, Jim "Corvette Cooker" Alverson, Mike "Phillipine Mac" McBride, Ben "Mr Makers" Whitten, Bob "Pawpaw" Martin, and Bill "The Bartender" Chapman.

(This photo was taken in Jim and Wanda's living room after the weather finally chased us inside, but it held off quite a while for us.)

**2RSM Mini Reunion 2/21/11**



A few ol' friends who were with the 2<sup>nd</sup> RSM in Germany during the 50's had a get together at the Cracker Barrell restaurant in Lady Lake FL on Feb 21<sup>st</sup>.

(L-R) Tom & Caryl Hunter, Edith & Charles Willett, and Carroll Sickles

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**“If you get too big for your britches,  
you will be exposed in the end.”**

<b>HISTORY &amp; MEMORIES</b>
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The following were redacted from correspondence received in response to the article by Don Lehman on USAFSS posted in the March issue of RIT//Ed//

*From: Paul Brady to Newsletter*

*Dennis, I nearly fell off my chair reading the short story by Don Lehmann. I am guilty of being one of those unmilitary type people he wrote about.*

*Do you have his email? I must thank that man for such accuracy.*

*Thanks Paul Brady, Houston, TX*

*(Karamursel 67-68; Lin Kou 68-69; 6994th Phu Cat, NKP, and DaNang.70-71)*

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*From: CMSgt (Ret) Richard L. Lucas*

*Stephenville, TX 76401*

*Rass,*

*I believe that the item " USAFSS and The Young Airman" by Don Lehmann told how we operated in the 50's, 60's and 70's. Thanks, Don. The big guy in the 'Fish Bowl' was the Surveillance & Warning Supervisor. In fact, in all of my assignments, the only person that ever got fired was the S&W. I had the honor of being a Flight Commander as well as an S&W at several ground sites (5) during my career. Thanks to all the young men who worked on those flights. 'Luke'*

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*From: SSgt Gordon F. Wicklund*

*Marinette, WI 54143*

*Dear Friends and Association Members,*

*I enjoyed the article by Don Lehmann in the March issue of Remain In Touch. Lots of truth there! I was one of the "first termers", but not out in the detachments, Sites and RSMs where the ground work was performed. Left "The Hill" overlooking Kelly Field in 1953 where pre-Russian was taught. Arrived in Landsberg, one of a few enlisted in the 6910<sup>th</sup> gP setting up the soon to be 6900<sup>th</sup> Scty Wg. The then Lt Col Noel O.E. Lathan, Director of Plans and Review (who passé on not too long ago) was one of my bosses. Capt Raymond Pahutka with 14 other offices and 27 of us enlisted made up the initial 6900<sup>th</sup> on orders dtd 2 Oct 1953. General HH Bassett was USAFSS Commander and Col FB O'Donnell was his Chief of Staff. During 1954-55 we took several "Site Survey" trips to Spain, Italy, Libya, Egypt, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Greece & Crete. The OIC of our survey team was Col Evans, a brilliant office who was authorized to "hire guides, taxis, mules, etc. as required in the accomplishment of the mission". Ol' C-47 "six-niner-niner-six" took us everywhere piloted by Maj Loren Stoddard and Capt Allen Davis. CMSgt John Hensley was crew chief and SSgt Bobby Johnson the radio operator who also performed the freq hearability intercepts at the sites. I took the site overhead pictures from the co-pilot's seat as Maj Stoddard dipped the old "gooney bird" down close-in. My job was to compile the survey reports,*

*write the trip report, and consolidate recommendations for HQ and NSA. I remember our recommendation for Pakistan was Peshawar, Quetta, Rawalpindi and Lahore in that order. While on that trip, we visited sites in Turkey on the Black Sea, as well as Diyarbakir. Don Lehmann was so correct...USAFSS was different – we were FAMILY. My address is in the membership book and referenced above. Gordon Wicklund*

*P.S. The beer stein pictured in the March issue is identical to the one I was given by my USAFSS friends when I left Frankfurt in 1955.*

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**Ladylove Crew June 1982**

Posted By: Joe Roginski (Feb 21, 2011)



Description: Initial crew of Misawa 6920<sup>th</sup> ESG Ladylove project in June of 1982, just before going operational. The three persons in the very front middle, I am the middle one, next to the guy with the mustache. If you recognize yourself, speak up. I remember all the faces but I cannot remember hardly any names. This photo was in really bad shape having been properly stored in a pile of files. In the restoration I did my best to get the faces back to best quality

Joe Roginski - Feb 22, 2011 Ladylove was our commsat mission. The photo was taken in front of the largest radome. The first 'golf balls' were put up in late '82 and the three large ones that had automated antennae inside and the one small one with a manual antenna, all in a line behind the orderly room.

Col Juan Lopez personally picked the original crew for the mission and they were all NCOs, E5 to E7s. I think he started picking them before he PCS'd and even after he PCS'd to HQ. I don't know how much background I can give but it was the same mission we all had, just higher altitude and higher frequencies.

We were housed in a prehab unit that was attached to the southeast corner of bldg 1500 (to the left if you were facing the entrance after going through the gate shack). The Ladylove dayshop was that corner of the building to the left of the main entrance that used to house NSGA, Tech Library and DOMX (might not be that relevant as they were always moving offices around). We had lots of 'high-tech' comms gear that required cooling even in the winter so you would see guys getting off a mid in August wearing their parkas and their glasses all fogged up.

After I retired in '85, they dug up most of the parking lot in front and to the northeast of the gate shack and built a permanent building which at the last time I visited housed the Heritage Hall display, the Ladylove facility and shops and a bunch of other offices they wouldn't talk too much about. It was striking that there are far fewer people on the flights and in the day shop than when I/we worked there. Practically everything is automated now. Thanks to Dan Herrin who pointed out that the radomes were put in in '82. The photo was taken just as the antennae were finished, equipment installed and crew selected. We did not go fully operational until 1983. Thanks everybody, for the input.

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### **VHF MILITARY AIRCRAFT RADIO**

*Dennis,*

*I know this information probably needs to be edited, but could this be placed in the FTVA newsletter? We are starting a campaign to locate one of these radios. In response to the request for material for the AF museum: I wondered if it would be possible to buy a Russian communications radio that was once in a MIG15? To me that would be an interesting artifact ?? Here is a good article on the subject - <http://www.qsl.net/vk2dym/radio/russiana.htm>*

*Note: some of you may (or may not) be interested in this article about these radios used in the Russian aircraft that we listened to, so am submitting it FYI.*

*Thanks*

*Charlie Church*

*FTVA Life Member*

### **RUSSIAN TYPE P-800 VHF MILITARY AIRCRAFT RADIO**

Older ex-service radiomen and collectors of military radio equipment will know of the English TR-1143 VHF aircraft transceiver, which was adapted by the US military as the SCR-522 and then became the TR-5043, used extensively by the allies in the latter stages of WWII and up to the 1950's, in Spitfires, Mustangs and other aircraft of that vintage. After the war many amateurs modified the sets for 2 meters and it provided a cheap entry to that amateur radio band.

The TR-5043/SCR-522 was a 4 channel crystal controlled, amplitude modulated transmitter and receiver, covering the 100-156 Mhz range and operated remotely via a 4 button switch (BC-602). The power output was less than 10 watts (from 320 watts input!). The transmitter (BC-624) and receiver (BC-625) were separate units which fitted side-by-side into a metal case (CS-80), whilst the channel change and tuning actuator mechanism was in the form of a small rack mount (FT-144) and fitted into the case on top of the two units. The channel change mechanism was electromechanical with a uni-selector relay that selected the required crystals and moved four pre-set metal slides to retune the receiver input and transmitter output circuits. The transmitter has four tuned circuits whilst the receiver has two. Before each mission the correct crystals were fitted and the set was pre-tuned for each channel. The separate power supply (PE-94A) was a very heavy (19 Kg) genemotor in a metal case with filters etc. Most sets had a 28 volt input, although 14 volt versions were made. The photo below shows the top view of a SCR-522 with the lid removed.



The Russian radio consists of three separate boxes, a transmitter unit "A" and a receiver unit "B" as shown above, plus a power control unit "C". Power for the set comes from the main Power Unit for the aircraft. Whereas the SCR-522 only required two major connecting cables, plus co-ax antenna socket, the Russian set requires a number of interconnecting cables. The electrical connectors on the units are different to the US type and all nameplates are in Polish. The rubber shock mounts of the Russian set are not to US or British dimensions. The construction is quite good, but the cases are of lighter aluminum construction than the SCR-522 and exhibit a few dents from mishandling. The

channel control box is fitted on the upper left side of the cockpit and is a 4 button unit very similar to the SCR-522 control box but with larger buttons.

This photo shows the Transmitter with the front cover removed so that the channel change and tuning mechanism can be compared with the SCR-522. Notice how it has the same uni-selector on the top left which operates metal levers to rotate the tuning capacitors. The levers are preset via the knurled knobs shown at top center. This transmitter only has three tuning adjustments whereas the SCR-522 transmitter



has four. Just below the three tuning dials you can see the four cylindrical crystals, channel A84, A361, etc. Notice too the co-ax sockets on the right side. Tx/Rx switchover and Antenna switching was done by a remote relay.

The MiG-15 and it's bigger, faster successor, the MiG-17, as well as other Soviet aircraft of the era, all carried this model VHF radio as well as a low frequency Direction Finding radio which is based on the Bendix MN-26 radio made in the US commencing in the late 1930's and running well into the 40's. There are a few differences in construction technique and the Polish wording indicates it's origin but it is otherwise almost an exact copy of the MN-26. The frequency control box, which is very like the Bendix MN-28 controller, is located on the upper right sidewall of the cockpit. Whereas the VHF radio does not comply with current Australian air communications standards and has been replaced by a transistorised transceiver, the MN-26 type radio performs better than modern solid state models so has been retained in aircraft 607. In Australia several Polish Iskra two seat trainers and a MiG-21 all had the Type 300 VHF set and the MN-26 copy.

The MiG-15 first flew in 1947 and several thousand were made in various variants with many still in service. The Polish made aircraft were mostly 2 seat trainer MiG-15UTI models, called the LIM-3 in Poland. (No. 607 is a LIM-3) It has a wing span and length of 10 meters, and a top speed of 1000 Km/hr, with armament of a single 23 mm cannon. The MiG-15 gave the United Nations forces in Korea a rude shock as it was superior in many ways to the allied aircraft including the F-86 Sabre jet, but fortunately the Chinese pilots were not as well trained and inexperienced.

Postscript. A number of MiG15's and MiG17's were imported and sold in Australia and several were restored to flying status. Now it appears that the Polish airworthiness documentation was forged and they are well past their use by date. Civil and criminal actions are pending. // ***Please note, this article is copyrighted.***//

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Hakata AB, Japan 1966 – ALL SMILES



TSgt Frederick W. Barnes, NCOIC of the weather section at the 6918<sup>th</sup> Scty Sq displays his emotion after being presented the “outstanding section award” by Maj Harry J. Booth, 6918<sup>th</sup> commander. The 10 NCOs and Airmen assigned to his section produced over 60,000 error-free technical reports to earn the Squadron honor. (Official USAF Photo)

**Certificate for Serving in the 6912th Scty Sq, Berlin**

Posted Apr 9, 2011 by Frank O. Long on website



**From: Jim McDaniel** - Apr 9, 2011 Frank: I have one of those hanging in my den. I was in Berlin from 71-74 on Charlie Flight. I spent most of my time working in "The Pit" at Tempelhof. Colonel Webb was a great guy, sure looked after all of the troops of the 6912th. Somehow Col Haverson signed my copy and not Webb.

**From: Frank O Long 57-77** - Apr 10, 2011 Jim, Were you working the day we had a problem during key change on the voice equipment with Marienfelde? I was NCOIC Crypto Maintenance at Marienfelde after Ron Kirchgasser rotated. I sent off a hot message to Kelly and they turned it around and tasked me to do the troubleshooting and analysis of the equipment problem. I had to fabricate a test setup using two signal generators and a relay to pulse a tone so I could

identify my test signal and make DB measurements of compromising plain text (clear speech) signals. I agree that Col Webb was a top notch commander. I think he had about the same opinion of the Base CO that I did. Was in Webb's office once when he walked in and looked at a document on his desk and commented....."not another damn love letter from the base CO." He was always getting them concerning the 6912th troops waiting for the bus for the trip to Marienfelde (caps, hands in pockets, etc.).

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**ELK Memories by Charlie Church**



Date Posted: Feb 25, 2011

Description: I found this photo of the Ernst Ludwig Kaserne sign on an Army site, I guess there is more to ELK than I thought.

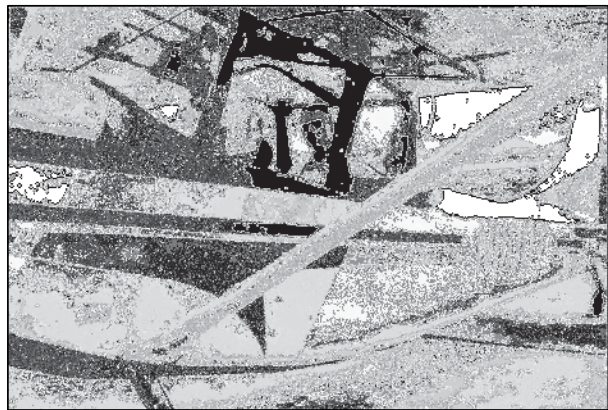
This is the link to it. [WWW.ARMYPKASERNE.COM](http://WWW.ARMYPKASERNE.COM)

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**Misawa Aeroclub in 1967**

Posted By: Joe Davis (65-68)  
Date Posted: Feb 19, 2011

Description: One of the planes we had in the. The backseater is flight instructor Roy Bishop. Roy was a 291 in the 6989th, and I worked with him in the Comm Center. He taught me to fly, from my introductory "This is an airplane," through my soloing around Misawa. I don't remember the front-seater's name or where he worked.



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**DID YOU EVER NOTICE?**

**Blow in a dog's face and it goes mad.**

**Yet, take him on a car ride, and he sticks his head straight out the WINDOW.**



**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
- CMSgt (Ret) Daniel Dapolito by:**  
Bob Cope  
Dennis Rassmussen
- TSgt Fred Sebers by:**  
Dick & Pat Cheney

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.

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**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*

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- Arnold, Clarence G., MSgt USAF-Ret.
- Bachman, Royal Victor, SMSgt USAF-Ret.
- Badgett, Harold “Harry” Walter, A1C USAFSS-Vet.
- Bell, Ronald C., Maj USAF-Ret.
- Benner, John, USAFSS-Vet.
- Boyd, Donald R., CMSgt USAF-Ret.
- Boyer, Roy Lynn “Denny”, USAFSS-Vet.
- Briscoe, Neil Allen, Jr., GS-14, USAFSS-Ret.
- Brosset, Marvin L., SMSgt USAF-Ret.
- Burhans, Laverta, Spouse of William “Bill” Burhans Life Mbr.
- Calloway, Billie J., SMSgt USAF-Ret.

D'Apolito, Daniel "Dap" N. CMSgt USAF-Ret Life Mbr. FTVA Director  
 Emeritus Newsletter Editor  
 Englebrecht, John, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Gardner, Thomas A., MSgt USAF-Ret.  
 Grant, Betty J., Spouse of Billy M. "Mudcat" Grant USAFSS-Vet. (Dec)  
 Holtzer, Peggy, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Hunt, Dave, CMSgt USAF-Ret.  
 Hurlock, Jr., George E., Maj USAF-Ret. Life Mbr.  
 Ide, Walter J., USAFSS-Vet.  
 Keaton, Audrey F., Spouse of Jerry S. Keaton, CMSgt USAF-Ret. (Dec) Mbr.  
 Klocko, Richard Phillip, Lt Gen USAF-Ret Life Mbr. Former USAFSS Cmdr  
 Loftin, Ronald "Ron" Morgan, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Lyon, Mary E., Spouse of Eugene Lyon, CMSgt USAF-Ret. (Dec) Mbr.  
 Mason, Willard "Will" L., Capt USAF-Ret.  
 MacDonald, Bryce W. "Mac", USAFSS-Vet.  
 McPhail, Raymond E., Maj USAF-Ret. Mbr.  
 Metts, Earl Allen, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Paschall, Charles "Ernie" Frederick, MSgt USAF-Ret.  
 Ragsdale, Francis "Frank" C. USAFSS-Vet  
 Ransom, Lavene Glen, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Raybon, Paul "Mac", USAFSS-Vet.  
 Spears, Murl "Bob" Leroy, SMSgt USAF-Ret.  
 Stevenson, Benjamin K., USAFSS-Vet.  
 Stewart, Howard "Ted" E., SMSgt USAF-Ret.  
 Sublett, Earl G., USAFSS-Vet.  
 Teal, Early B., MSgt USAF-Ret.  
 Thompson, Al, CMSgt USAF-Ret.  
 Vandever, Jr., John "Jack" Joseph, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Varhall, Gregory, Lt Col USAF-Ret.  
 Weatherford, Donna Kay, Spouse of Les Weatherford, USAFSS-Ret.  
 Witter, Ronald G. USAFSS-Vet.  
 Wuwert, "Vinnie Vu" Vince A., Sgt, USAFSS-Vet.

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**MSgt Clarence G. Arnold** passed away on Oct 18, 2010. Clarence was a 292x1 stationed at the 6920<sup>th</sup> Scty Wg in Misawa, Japn from 1968-71  
 DOB: 1930 in NY (d) San Antonio, Bexar Co. TX. //Per SSN by Helen Henderson//

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**A1C Harold "Harry" Walter Badgett** passed away in Houston, TX on Aug 5, 2010. Harry was a 29251 stationed at the 6910<sup>th</sup> in Darmstadt, Germany from 1960-1963. I couldn't ask for a better roommate. Rest in peace buddy. //E-mail – John Glusnick//



**SMSgt Royal Victor Backman** died at the age of 89 in Shreveport, LA on Jan 19, 2011. His wife, Marilyn Ann died six years earlier , also in Schreveport. They had three children. Royal was drafted in Aug of 1942 serving in the South Pacific during WWII. After a one year break in service, he reenlisted in the USAF and retired as a SMSgt in 1971. While stationed at the 6913<sup>th</sup> RSM in Bremerhaven from 1956-59, he served as NCOIC for Non-Morse Intercept, then Easy Flight Operations NCOIC and finally “D” Flight Mission Supervisor.//E-Mail – Arlen Trapp//

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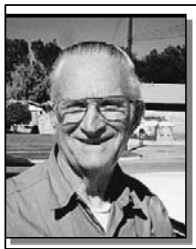
**John Benner**, another former Arab linguist, lost his bout with Pancreatic Cancer on February 14th. Please keep his wife and kids in your prayers.

//E-mail – Bob Cope//

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**CMSgt. Donald R. Boyd** died on Monday February 21, 2011 in Hampton, Virginia after a long battle with cancer. He was born in Yancey, Kentucky in 1938. He is survived by his wife, Toki and other relatives and friends. He was a 203 prior to cross training over to the analytic career field and had assignments within USAFSS at least at Misawa and Peshawar. He retired from The Pentagon after 31 years in the Air Force. He served his country throughout the world, in Southeast Asia, Japan, Europe, and the U.S.A. His favorite assignments were in Japan (59-63 and 63-65), Montana, and Germany. //Washington Post-Helen Henderson - Misawa Web Site//

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**Neil Allen Briscow, Jr.** 75, died on April 4, 2006 after a brief battle with cancer. He worked in data automation at HQ USAFSS/ESC throughout his entire civil service career. He retired in 1984.//Ralph Gerhardt//

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**SMSgt. Marvin L. Brossett**, 57, died Feb 14, 2011 after a nine month battle with lung cancer. He was a resident of Harold, FL. He grew up in Pineville, LA and joined the USAF in 1974. His distinguished 20-year military career took him to bases in Crete, England, Nebraska, Okinawa, South Korea, Texas, Alaska, and Maryland, until his retirement 1995. As a Department of the Air Force civilian, he worked as a Program Manager at Fort Meade, MD and Technical Advisor at Hurlburt Field, FL. Marvin is survived by his wife Rita and many other family members. //Karl Hammerle – Roll Call Web Site//



**Maj. Ronald C. Bell** died Jan 22, 2011. The following e-mail was received from his son. "I am not a USAFSS alumnus but my father was. He was in from the very beginning, served in Japan and Korea in the Korean War era, in Germany in the late 50's/early 60's and then finally in San Antonio until his retirement in '65. He then went on to NSA for another 10+ years. He passed away on January 22nd of this year and I am looking for a way to get the word to old friends who may still be out there. I'm not sure if any of the web forums you mentioned in your post here are appropriate for that purpose but thought I would ask." //Robert Bell-Roll Call Web Site/Jim Kaus//

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**Roy Lynn "Denny" Boyer**, 78, of Chester, VA passed away on March 10, 2011, after a long battle with bladder cancer. He was born in Dickerson Ron, Pennsylvania. He was a graduate of West Virginia University with a degree in Forestry. Denny joined the Air Force during the Korean War, and also served at Bremerhaven, Germany in 1955-56 and was on the 1955-56 Baker Trick softball team. He was the owner of AB Appraisals Inc. and was a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge #1472. He enjoyed golf and was a member of the Colonial Heights Senior Golfing Association. Roy was a devoted husband, father and grandfather who had many friends. He is survived by his wife of over 52 years, Alice Boyer and his children and many friends. //6913<sup>th</sup> Web Site//

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**SMSgt. Billie J. Calloway**, age 81, passed away February 16, 2011. He was born Mar 7 1929 in Raton, NM. He is survived by his wife, Dominga Calloway. He was at Chicksands from 1951-1954. From there I believe he went to Zweibucken to set up the 6901st Scty Gp. Next time I ran into him was in the 70s where he worked in the HQ building. Billy was the first crypto analyst in USAFSS. He attended a Naval Security School back in early 1949. There were seven in his class, and he was the only one that made USAFSS his career. After we graduated from our school we started operations in Brooks Field in early March 49. When we started ops there was no security and we had to have one stand guard at the barracks while the others worked the traffic. Then after a couple of weeks they finally build a fence around our ops area, but even then it was a couple more weeks before we had a guard at the entrance gate. We did not have badges at first and the guard just checked off our names as we entered. Then we got badges that were without our picture just our names, and then finally we got new badges with our photo. Billy was a close friend, and I shall always remember him. He should be on the honor role. bless... Holly. //Obit and comments from Dap D'Apolito and Don Hollifield//

With great sadness I have to tell you of the passing of **LaVerta Burhans** the wife of a USAFSS Pioneer. I received the following from Bill Bertrams just a short time ago. // **E-Mail from Chuck and Connie Miller**// "Chuck: **LaVerta** had a massive heart attack early Saturday morning and died at 7:25 that evening. It was apparently immediate death so I am very sure she did not suffer at all." //**E-mail from Bill Burhans to Chuck Miller**// Bill and I were in the same Intermediate Russian Program at Skytop in 1961-62. Bill was a long time linguist and besides his USAFSS assignments, he was an interpreter on the Hotline and also in our Military Liaison Mission program in East Germany. Bill is a long time supporter of FTVA, and a friend. //**Chuck Miller**//

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**CMSgt Daniel N. "Dap" D'Apolito, 79** passed away Mar 25, 2011. Dap was a 30-year USAFSS Veteran. He was born June 4, 1931 in Hoboken, NJ and is survived by his wife of 58 years Kathleen Mary D'Apolito. A lifetime member of FTVA and Hall of Honor member, Dap was associated with editing the FTVA Newsletter for over 25 years. Internment was at Fort San Houston National Cemetery with full military honors.

So sorry to learn of Dap's passing. He was a great help to me in my work with USAFSS veterans. He was "the contact" for so many members of FTVA. He helped many folks in many ways. We tend to get the notion that such helpful people will always around to help us. He will be missed. Please let us know about arrangements. //**Milton Fulghm – Pres., Peshawar AS Alumni Ass'n**//

Our prayers go out to the family! We have a Fallen Hero to add to the FTVA news. I will send the information to Rass as soon as we hear from Sandy. Larry Childs, 6911th also passed away today after suffering several years with cancer. Take care & God Bless //**Richard Merrill**//

God bless him, Dan - - - and you & Yours. You are one of my 'heroes' in USAFSS and I'm absolutely certain you were 'raised by and come from "good stock." LG and I send our condolences - - - but more importantly our felicitations that Dan is in a better place. //**Pete & Linda Gayle Chamlee**//

We're sorry to hear of his passing. I served with Dap at Ramasun Station, Thailand. Our condolences to his family. //**Bill & Wan Murray**//  
whiskeybravo@yahoo.com

RIP Dan. He's a great man of which his entire coreer was in the USAFSS. God bless you Dan... Holly //**Don Hollifield**//

Very sad. We never met face to face but we had some wonderful telephone and Email conversations. We never served together but both served with others we knew. So sorry for your and the FTVA's loss. // **Bob Rennick, 29th RSM 1952**//

I'll miss my Ole Friend and please accept my deepest condolences and to Mz D... I regret that I cannot make the Services. // **BJ Cook**//

Sorry to hear of your great loss, I'm sure he will be missed by family and friends. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. May your Dad rest peacefully. // **Don Newburn Family**//

So very sorry to have learned of your Dad's passing; he was a great man and a mentor for many. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this very sad moment in your lives. God Bless! // **Don and Nancy Burns**//

Very sad news. Please pass my condolences to the family and let them know they are in my prayers. // **Jerry Briones via Facebook**//

Dap was a true gentleman. He will be missed. RIP old friend. // **Joe Bissett via Facebook**//



**John Engelbrecht**, 77, of New Haven, Missouri passed away on Feb 7, 2011. Mr. Engelbrecht was born in Stony Hill, Missouri on October 12, 1933. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Sandra and many others. John proudly served in the USAF from 1953 to 1957, and was stationed in Bremerhaven, Germany from 1954 to 1957, after attending language school for German and Russian. He was a member of the New Haven American Legion. // **Obit**//

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**MSgt. Thomas A. Gardner, Jr.** passed away on Feb 16, 2011, at his home in Columbia, SC. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Doris Bauer Gardner. Tom served in the communications field with the Air Force for 21 years. Tom and I were the best of friends while at Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne from 1954-56, and we worked together at Rhein-Main AFB after we were transferred from there from Cambrai in 1956. We both returned to the States for discharge in Jan 1957. Tom reenlisted in the Air Force a couple of months after that. We both married German gals and have stayed in contact ever since. // **Edited E-mail from F. Allen Distler**//



**Betty J. Grant**, age 84, died in Bellevue Nebraska on March 8, 2011. She was the widow of Billy M. “Mudcat” Grant. Billy was a Combat Apple Airborne Mission Supervisor. He passed 21 years ago. Betty was a member of the 6990th Merry Widows at Kadena, and hosted many parties put on by “Mudcat” while at Kadena. She was very delightful person. Her son, Paul survives her. //E-Mail – **Pete Ogaard**// What a was a classy lady she was. I remember her almost as well as “Mudcat.” She was so pleasant and was such a help to my then new wife, Nila, when we got married. Bellevue has lost one of its’ finest. //Pat Connors//

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**TSgt Peggy Holtzer**, 59, died Feb 22, 2011 after a long courageous battle with cancer. The beloved wife of Daniel Holtzer, Peggy was born Nov 30, 1951 in Chattanooga, TN. She served in ESC from 1975 – 86 as a Radio Communications Analyst. She recently earned the 35-year Federal Service Pin. //Obit//

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**CMSgt Dave Hunt** passed away 23 Sept 2010. Dave was the 6912 ESG Templehof Operations (DOC) Superintendent in the mid 80’s (1983-1987). He personified the title “Chief” in every way. It was a pleasure to serve with him. I was one fortunate Operations Officer to have a Chief like Dave watching our flock and covering my six. //E-Mail – **Rob Crick**//

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**Maj George E. Hurlock, Jr.**, died on February 9, 2011 at the age of 90. He was born on February 9, 1921 in Indiantown, VA. He is survived by his beloved wife of 69 wonderful years, Mary Lou; and many other relatives and friends. A veteran of World War II and the Korean War, he served in the North East Command, China-Burma-India Theater of Operations, and with the USAFSS in Turkey. After completing 26 years of military service he retired from the Air Force in 1965 having served in the Air Training Command, North East Command, and USAFSS. George received the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal and WWII Victory Medal as well as the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. Following retirement he returned to USAFSS as a civil servant retiring in 1983 after completing 20 years of Federal Civil Service. His entire career was in Military Personnel. //Obit//

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**Walter J. Ide**, age 67, died of a heart attack in Plattsmouth, NE. He was a USAFSS airborne 328xx (maintenance). He served at Ramstein and Kadena. He and wife Lea were very active with the Bellevue VFW Post 2280 Honor Guard and, it seems to me, was Post Commander for a year or two. He was a great guy, always positive and easy to get along with. He will be missed by many. //E-mail – Pete Ogaard//

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**Audrey F. Keaton**, age 69, passed away on Thursday, February 24, 2011 in San Antonio, Texas. Audrey was born in England on July 6, 1941. She met the love of her life, Jerry, while he was stationed at RAF Chicksands, England and they enjoyed a beautiful 31 years together. They moved to San Antonio, Texas in 1980 where they raised their son, Jeremy. Audrey was an Assistant Vice President for Security Service Federal Credit Union. She always had a smile and never complained even at the height of her illness. Her husband, CMSgt Jerry S. Keaton, USAF (Ret.) preceded her in death in 2009. Audrey is survived by son, Jeremy. //Obit//

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**Lt General Richard Phillip Klocko, USAF (ret)**  
Richard "Dick" Klocko, a 32-year resident of Hilton Head Island, passed away at the home of his daughter on April 19, 2011 with members of his family at his side. Born in Dunkirk, N.Y., in 1915; graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1937 and completed primary and advanced flying training in Oct 1938. After his formal education was complete, he married his college sweetheart, Madelyn Ahern and they were married for forty-one years. After moving to Hilton Head in 1979 as an eligible bachelor, he met and married the second love of his life, Jane Grey. The general's first assignment in the Army Air Corps was with the 36th Pursuit Squadron; next, he was reassigned to England where he served in the Headquarters European Theater of Operations until October 1942. At that time, he was assigned to command the 350th Fighter Group being formed in England; then the group flew to North Africa to support the invasion. In February 1943, while on a special mission over enemy lines, dropping messages to isolated units, he was shot down and taken prisoner. He remained a POW in Germany until April 1945. Following WWII, he was assignment as commander of the 6900th Security Wing, Germany, he was promoted to brigadier general. When assigned to command USAFSS, he was promoted to major general. General Klocko's last assignment was as Director Defense Communications Agency when he attained the rank of lieutenant general. He retired from the Air Force in 1971. Dear ol' Gramps was a "port in the storm" for his family and friends, as well as a strong supporter of his children and grandchildren. General Klocko was be buried at West Point Military Academy with full military honors on May 2.



**Ronald “Ron” Morgan Loftin**, age 68, passed away on Feb 9, 2011 at home in Cnroe, TX after a year-long battle with brain cancer. He was born Dec 18, 1942 in Shepherd, TX. Ronnie, to his friends, graduated from Livingston HS in 1961. He joined the USAF and served a tour in Vietnam as a member of the 6987<sup>th</sup> SG. He later graduated from Sam Houston State University with a degree in Criminal Justice and spent his entire civilian career as a special agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms/U.S. Customs. **//Gary Knighton - Roll Call//**

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**Mary E. Lyon** beloved wife, mother and grandmother went to be with the Lord on February 22, 2011. She was born July 10, 1931. She is preceded in death by her husband, Eugene Lyon, CMSgt, USAF-Ret and son, Mark Lyon. She is survived by her children, Jeanna Bading, Mike Lyon and Allen Lyon. **//Dap//**

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**MASON, Willard 'Will' L.**, 70, of West Barstable, MA, died of complications due to cancer on Sunday December 5, 2010, at home. He is survived by his wife of 48 years Margrit Maria Luise (Rinke) Mason and two sons. Will was born and raised in Patchogue, Long Island, New York. Will served in the U.S. Air Force from 1958-1979, attending Syracuse University, NY where he studied Russian, and was later stationed at Bremerhaven, Germany from 1959-1963. After completing his Air Force career, reaching the rank of Captain, he resided in Chelmsford, MA. He was a professor at Lesley College and Boston University and was a management consultant until moving to Cape Cod in 2000. Will was an accomplished distance runner in New England.

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**Bryce W. “Mac” MacDonald**, 76, of Pawleys Island, South Carolina, passed away on March 14, 2011 four days before his 77th birthday. Mr. MacDonald was born March 18, 1934, in Lincoln, New Hampshire. He graduated from Franklin High School and then enlisted in the Air Force until his retirement in 1973. He served in the Air Force Security Service and spent most of his 20 years outside of the United States. In 1970, his plane was shot down in Vietnam and Mac was the sole survivor of his crew of five. Burial will be held at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia where Mac will join his buddies who gave their lives for our country. Mac is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Ann, and children. **//6913<sup>th</sup> Web Site//**



**Earl Allen Metts**, 70, passed away on February 28, 2011 in San Antonio, TX. Born in Charleston, South Carolina, Earl is survived by his wife Frances Boyle Metts. Earl spent 21 years active duty in the United States Air Force. He did his tours through Vietnam during that war, and had many other overseas tours served in the Air Force, including the 6913th RSM at Bremerhaven, Germany from 1960-62 on Able Flight. His next career began at Brooks Air Force Base working on the Air Force Health Study project, Ranch Hand II, and served in this capacity as a Civil servant. He completed that study, by serving another 23 years in government service. Earl completed his career by becoming a government contractor working on the Air Force Mortality registry for another 5 years at the now Brooks City-Base, when he was medically retired after working a combined 49 years. **//6913<sup>th</sup> Web Site//**

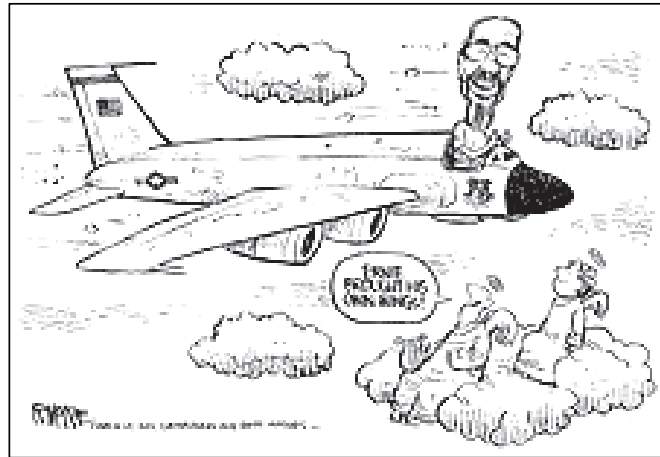
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**Maj Raymond E. McPhail**, 75, died on March 3, 2011, at his home in Hillsboro, IL. He enlisted in the Air Force during 1954 and spent his earlier Air Force career at Albuquerque, NM. He completed language school at Syracuse University. His initial USAFSS assignment, as a Russian Linguist, was to Karamursel, Turkey (1958-61) with a follow on assignment to SPECCOM (P4) on Security Hill, in San Antonio. In 1962, he was selected for the Air Force Officers Training Program and later received his undergraduate degree in International Relations at San Francisco State University. Nov 1963, he was commissioned a 2nd Lt., and sent to the USAFSS Communications Intelligence School at Goodfellow, AFB, San Angelo, TX. Subsequent USAFSS Officer assignments included the 6901st SCG, in Zweibrucken, Germany (1964-67) and HQ USAFSS, in San Antonio (1968-69). In 1969, Maj McPhail left USAFSS and went back to school for his Masters at Ohio State University. He served tours with HQS MACV in Vietnam, DIA, and in Air Force ROTC, as Commandant of Cadets and associate Professor at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Maj McPhail retired from the Air Force during 1977. His wife of 57 years, Mary Susanne (Susie) Towell McPhail survives in Hillsboro. **//Obit//** Comment: I was stationed with Ray at Karamursel, Turkey, Zweibrucken, Germany, and at Kelly in San Antonio. While stationed at Zweibrucken, Germany the Commander of Allied Forces Europe (HQS in Paris) requested a briefing (Classified) about a project we were involved in at the 6901st Security Group. Maj McPhail (Capt at the time) was selected to go. Even though there were quite a few high ranking military and civilian personnel in attendance, Capt McPhail was very calm and excelled in presenting the information the CINC had requested. I mention this story since I believe it illustrated his ability to remain calm and thoughtful even though he did not know what type of follow on questions were going to come from those in attendance. **//Don Ritter, USAFSS/ESC – Ret//**

**MSgt Charles Frederick "Ernie" Paschall**, of Inverness, FL, passed away on Mar 5 2011. Ernie was born in Austin, TX, on October 4, 1961. He graduated from West Windsor-Plainsboro High School in Princeton Junction, NJ. He is survived by his wife Susan E. Paschall. His memory will also be cherished by extended family members and countless friends and brothers in arms. He was proud to have served his country for over 23 years during a distinguished career in the United States Air Force. Master Sgt. Paschall will be interred with full military honors in the Florida National Cemetery located in Bushnell, Florida. Published in Citrus County Chronicle from March 8 to March 13, 2011 //Kim Hagen//

**Tribute to Ernie Paschall**

*Today, at Ernie's Memorial Service at Augusta, Ernie's Mother was presented this art work that was produced by the Augusta Chronicle's Editorial Cartoonist Rick McKee. Roger Whidden, a member of the Prop Wash Gang who corresponded frequently with Ernie, knew of Ernie's appreciation for Rick's talent and asked Rick to create a personal tribute to Ernie. Those at the Memorial felt it meant the world to all of Ernie's family and friends. Roger thought it should be shared with all of us who knew and treasured Ernie Paschall.*



*Remain In Touch! - Col Bob*

**“Ernie Brought His Own Wings”**

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**Lavene Glen Ransom** died in Plano, Texas at the age of 81 on 10 February 2011. He grew up in Denmark, Arkansas. His wife, Eduth Mae (nee Clark) continues to live in Plano. Lavene joined the Air Force probably in June 1952 and completed technical school at Keesler AFB, Mississippi on 25 March 1953. He began his first overseas tour of duty at Bremerhaven as in May 1953. He was assigned to Dog Trick of the 41<sup>st</sup>

RSM, working as a Morse intercept operator. He completed the 18-month tour (married, unaccompanied) in November 1954. After his return to CONUS, he was assigned to March AFB, California, where he completed another 18-month tour in mid 1956 and separated from the Air Force. When I found and spoke with Lavene about ten years ago, he remembered several of the friends he made during his tour in Bremerhaven, including Bill Curry, Charles Reser and Don Scheidler. Also, Gerald Shields has mentioned that he remembers Lavene very well. //E-Mail – Arlen Trapp//



**Francis “Frank” C. Ragsdale**, 80, passed away on Jan 6, 2011. He was stationed at the 6913th RSM Bremerhaven, Germany Frank is survived by his wife of 61 years ; his daughter, Kerry; son-in-law, Steve; grandson, Jordon. Frank courageously handled his lung cancer and died peacefully in his home state of Oregon.

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All, This is another one that really hurts – big, unexpected loss to our community. **Paul “Mac” Raybon** was a great guy who worked with many of us at Offut in the last ‘80s/early ‘90s. He has been at Greenville since retiring out of Hurlburt a few years ago. I always considered him one of the most stellar performers ever – did a ton on things right without much fanfare or publicity. He was a good crewmember, r teammate, and friend. Please pray for Janet and the rest of the family. //E-Mail – Lee Anthony//

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**SMSgt Murl Leroy (Bob) Spears**, age 75, passed away peacefully on March 3, 2011 with his wife, eldest son, and youngest daughter by his side. He was born on April 6, 1935 in Muskogee, Oklahoma, to the late Benson Macy Spears and the late Elsie Mae (Ferrell) Merrow. After graduating from Central High School in Muskogee, he joined the USAF. While stationed at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas, he married

Mary Emma Fernandez. He honorably served for 23 years in the USAF and completed several tours of duty including Japan, Turkey, and Thailand. Afterwards, he worked 13 years as a civil servant for the U.S. Department of Defense at the National Security Agency at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. In 1991, he retired with his wife in San Antonio, Texas //Obit//

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**Benjamin K. Stevenson**, age 92, passed away Oct 3, 2010. Benjamin was born in New Castle, PA, on 28 May 1918. In 1939, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps. While stationed at McDill Air Force Base in 1942, he married Ethel Glover just before Ben was called to England where he served as navigator/communications officer on B-17 bombers. He returned home to work 3 years for Penn Power, then re-enlisted in the Air Force in 1949. Ben entered the US Air Force Security Service in 1952 and served with the 6913<sup>th</sup> RSM, in Bremerhaven, GE, from 1953 to 1956; McDill AFB, FL, from 1956 to 1958; Trabzon, TK, from 1958 to 1959; Goodfellow AFB, TX, from 1959 to 1960; the 6981<sup>st</sup> RSM, at Elmendorf AFB, AK, from 1960 to 1964; and at Key West, FL, from 1964 until 1965 when he retired to Floral City, FL. He is survived by Ethel, his wife of 68 years. //Obit//

**MSgt Earley B. Teal**, age 73, passed away February 19, 2011, at home with his wife, Marlene, by his side. Earley B. was a native of Dallas, Texas. He was born on December 24, 1937, to the late Leonard and Seretha Teal. Earley served honorably in the U.S. Air Force for just over 22 years. Over the course of his life, the theme of activities and community service initiatives that Earley B. participated in involved threads of activism, advocacy, and leadership development, all of which fit during his active leadership involvement with the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers Association In San Antonio. **//Obit//** Earley B. and I served together twice, He was a good man. I and many others will miss him. RIP old friend. **//Joe Hornsby//** Just a few months ago, at a Mini in Corpus Christi, Early B and I spent fifteen minutes trying to find out where our paths crossed in our Security Service careers - because we both just knew we knew each other --- turns out -- we didn't. So we were left with oft felt spirit of brotherhood that the Command inspired. Rest In Peace, Brother. **//Bill Chapman//** Extremely sorry to hear this. Although I was not (to my knowledge - I've forgotten so much) stationed with Earley, I did have the pleasure of getting together with him at two minis in 2009 - Randolph in May of that year and Corpus Christi in the fall. What a great guy. At that Corpus Christi Reunion, a fishing trip to Bob Hall Pier had been planned but (due to a light mist) some of our stalwart troops didn't want to go fishing. So, Earley, bless his heart, wound up fishing alone out at the pier. We all did manage to get together the following day for lunch at the Water Street Oyster Bar. Since I was the host of the Reunion, I felt bad about Earley fishing by himself and we discussed future opportunities to fish together whenever he was down in South Texas. Unfortunately, we never had that chance. R.I.P. Earley. Our prayers are with your family. You're missed already. **//George Welch//** I knew and served with Earley at RAF Chicksands during the period 1966-1970. He was the coolest guy on our flight. I'm sure of that. We had just reacquainted ourselves in the last year with Earley and his wife, Marlene through the magic of email, and with contacts made through this website...had learned at our micro-mini reunion in Rhode Island, through Waco Wetterman, that Earley wasn't doing well...very saddened to hear of. **//Bob Baker//** I am greatly saddened to hear of Early B.'s passing. We were stationed together in San Vito and we enjoyed his company. My condolences to Marlene and his family. Rest in peace my friend. **//James "Andy" Anderson//**

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**SMSgt Howard E. "Ted" Stewart**, 81, of Viera, Florida, passed away on July 19, 2010. He was born June 11, 1929 to Howard and Helen (Stover) Stewart, in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Ted served 28 years as a Russian Linguist which mainly included tours overseas with the USAFSS. He is survived by his devoted wife, Stefanie. **//Obit//** Howie Stewart was the construction manager when the 6912th built the new operations site at Marienfelde. I understand that he was also there when Hof closed.

**//Tom Shaw//**

**Earl Sublett** passed away 10 Mar, 2011. Earl was a great man. He had a way with people, keeping the atmosphere light even during times of tension. A consummate professional, yet he kept it light and would joke with you. I think he got the most out of his people and I think they looked forward to being around Earl - I know I did. I think he was S & W on another flight and we may have stayed over a few times after shift change during periods of heavy activity and Sub was there to help and thank you for helping. After a few beers there are stories of the glass eye coming out and I think I saw him polish it a few times. Earl was one of the few guys that wore the uniform I think it was called gabardines. It was a light tan blouse like the blues, and I had never seen it before or since. Maybe he made it up, but he looked sharp. There are people you remember and when you do a smile comes to your face. Earl was one of those, Rest in Peace old warrior, you will long be remembered.  
**//Roll Call Website – Joe Koester//**

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**CMSgt Al Thompson** passed away 05 July, 2010. During the holidays, I received a Christmas card from Eileen Thompson including a note that her husband, Al Thompson had passed away. Al was stationed in Crete with me in 1976 and took over as NCOIC of Exploitation when I had my heart attack, he was also in Zweibrucken in mid sixties. After Retirement, Al became a GS-Civ. in the EW area in Bldg 2000 from where he retired again. Al was a great and generous individual and was very helpful to me during my medical problems in Crete. **//E-Mail – Dan “Dap” Dapolito//**

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**John Joseph ‘Jack’ Vandever Jr.**, 70, a resident of Pasadena, MD, died on February 7 after a six year battle with esophageal cancer. He was born on August 20, 1940, to Helen and John Vandever of Haddon Heights, NJ. Jack graduated from Haddon Heights High School in 1958 and Gettysburg College, PA, 1962. He met his wife, Judith there; they married after graduation in 1962. In 1979, he received his Master of Arts Central Michigan University. After receiving his US Army commission in the fall of 1962, he remained on active duty for 20 years. He had various assignments during those years - some of the more memorable are an assignment to Arlington Hall Station, VA, in 1962-63, a 3 year stint in Fairbanks, Alaska, a tour in the Republic of Viet Nam where Jack served as a senior intelligence advisor; three years at Fort Knox, KY, an unaccompanied year in Sinop, Turkey; another three years with the family in Stuttgart, Germany; and finally to Fort Meade, MD where he retired in 1982 from the US Army Intelligence and Security Command. Jack then went back to work for the USAF and spent another 13 years there as a civilian employee before retiring again. Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Judy. **//Obit// //E-mail-Mike Schmansky//**

**Lt Col Gregory Varhall** passed away in April 2011. Just had a phone call from BGen Linda Urritia-Varhall concerning the passing of her husband **Gregory Varhall**. He was my Flight Commander at Chicksands in the late 60's and went on to other intelligence activities. He was an Air Force Academy graduate and later attained a PHD in Soviet Studies at Notre Dame University. No particulars are available on funeral arrangements but will probably be at AFA National Cemetery around May 10<sup>th</sup>. //Roll Call Site – Dave Shepard// I did not know Greg personally, but most certainly knew of his outstanding reputation as a man of integrity and a man of the troops. God's speed Greg. //Ed Marek// Lt Varhall was my Flight Commander at RAF Chicksands back in 1967-68 time frame. Rest in Peace. //Jim Woodard//

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My wife, **Donna Kay Weatherford**, died this morning, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at age 57 of multiple myeloma. She grew up near the Monsanto Chemical Co. plant in Sauget, Ill., that made Agent Orange. //E-mail – Les Weatherford – NPK '75 6908 Security Squadron - USAFSS//

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**Ronald G. Witter**, 69, of State College, PA., born April 8, 1941 in Hebron, NE., died from injuries sustained in a car accident on Mar 20, 2011. Ron served honorably for 23 years in the USAF as a signals analyst in the Security Service and as an Intelligence Officer in the Strategic Air Command. Ron is survived by his wife of fifty years, Elaine Witter. Ron leaves a legacy of love to all who have known him. //E-mail – Dave Bristol//

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**Sgt. Vince A. Wuwert** passed away Feb 10, 2011. I regret to inform the membership of FVTA that one of your fellow comrades in arms, **Sgt. Vince Wuwert**, has passed away he was buried Feb. 15, 2011 in Toledo, Ohio. Vince was a "ditty bopper" having served at RAF Chicksands, England and Ramasun Station, Thailand (1965-1968) as a Morse Code Operator of the finest kind. I am grieving for Vince, a warm, sweet, gentle, caring man who I knew for 10 years. I am proud of his service during the cold war, and all of you who served during the cold war. Mr //E-Mail – Trish Schiesser// Vince "Vinnie Wu" was a special person. I served with Vince in Thailand during 1968-69. While in Thailand Vince would learn all he could about the local area and then do what he could to help those less fortunate. I remember he would spend free time helping out at one of the local orphanages. Vince loved his country and was a dedicated Airman. Vince was responsible for starting up an Annual Reunion of fellow Airmen that served together in Thailand. He also took the initiative to obtain an American Flag that was flown over the U.S. Capital for our Det. 4 Unit. This flag is flown at each of our annual reunions. We will always remember Vince for the many good things he has done. I'll miss you Vince. Sawadee, Krup. **Jim Scoggins (Orlando, FL)**.

//Ed Note – Corrections/Addendums for March RIT Fallen Eagles Notices:  
Lt Gen Walter Galligan’s rank as USAFSS Commander should read Maj Gen  
vice Brig Gen. Lt Col Harvey Piper served as Director of Accounting and  
Finance at HQ USAFSS from 1967-71. //(Submitted by Jim Youngson)//

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**BITS & BYTES**

**From: C.Q." Dudkiewicz Pampanga, Philippines Posted: Feb 6, 2011**



Description: Me and Sam Challis came upon a morning roll call at the local cop shop and one of them was nice enough to pose for a photo with me. They looked really nice in their pressed uniforms. There was only one female cop there at the time.

What others had to say:

Jay or "J.J." Johnson (T4/DF 67-70) - Wow, times sure have changed over there.

Waco Wetterman (59-60 T-2) - Do they still carry those short billy club type sticks?? (They really hurt.) ww

Dave Gillis (70-74) - I can personally vouch for that fact, Waco. They also have larger clubs that hurt more. The less said about that, the better.

Stephen M. Espinueva (69-71) - OK CQ Who Bribed Who here???

"C.Q." Dudkiewicz - Espi; I went there yesterday and gave him the picture. He was at work in civilian clothes. Haolies don't bribe people.

Bill "Spanky" Parker 65-67/72-75 - Wacko asks about nightsticks, but no mention of the lady cop??? You slipping, son!!

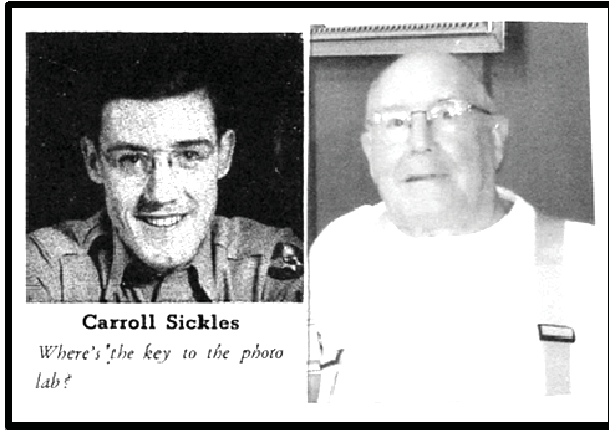
Bill Peterson (71-74) (76-84) - C.Q.--Notice your hands are behind your back, in cuffs again? LOL.

"C.Q." Dudkiewicz They are in back becoz I have no gut to hide.

**THEN & NOW**

**CARROLL G. SICKLES**

USAFSS (Darmstadt 6910th: 1949-1952)



**Carroll Sickles**  
*Where's the key to the photo lab?*

I couldn't find a better current picture of myself, where I didn't look like a 1,000 year old man. I haven't aged as well as some of the other guys. :-)

**THEN - In 1949      NOW - In 2011**

**Aubrey Keeter** (48-50 & 58-61) - Feb 23, 2011    Carroll, I like these two pictures, primarily because I knew you as a young man at Darmstadt and have gotten reacquainted in recent years via reunions. You have changed in looks during those many years but your good character and high degree of integrity hasn't changed.

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**OLY HARRISON**

(Baker Flight 6918<sup>TH</sup> SG Hakata, Japan 1970)



**THEN**

Oly and his "child bride" Noriko.  
**1970** at Gannosu, Japan



**NOW**

Aug 9, **2009** Tacoma, WA  
A good day to ride my bike.

From: Ray M Thompson - February 14, 2011 8:23 AM  
6910<sup>th</sup> 50's Group "Freedom Thru Vigilance"

On Feb 13, 2011, at 7:25 AM, Jim Duffy wrote:

It's with immense pride to report my grandson, 1/Lt. David A. Kawasaki of the North Dakota National Guard, will receive the Bronze Star for meritorious service in Afghanistan during a ceremony today. David's family and friends join the nation to thank all of the men and women serving here and abroad to preserve our freedom.

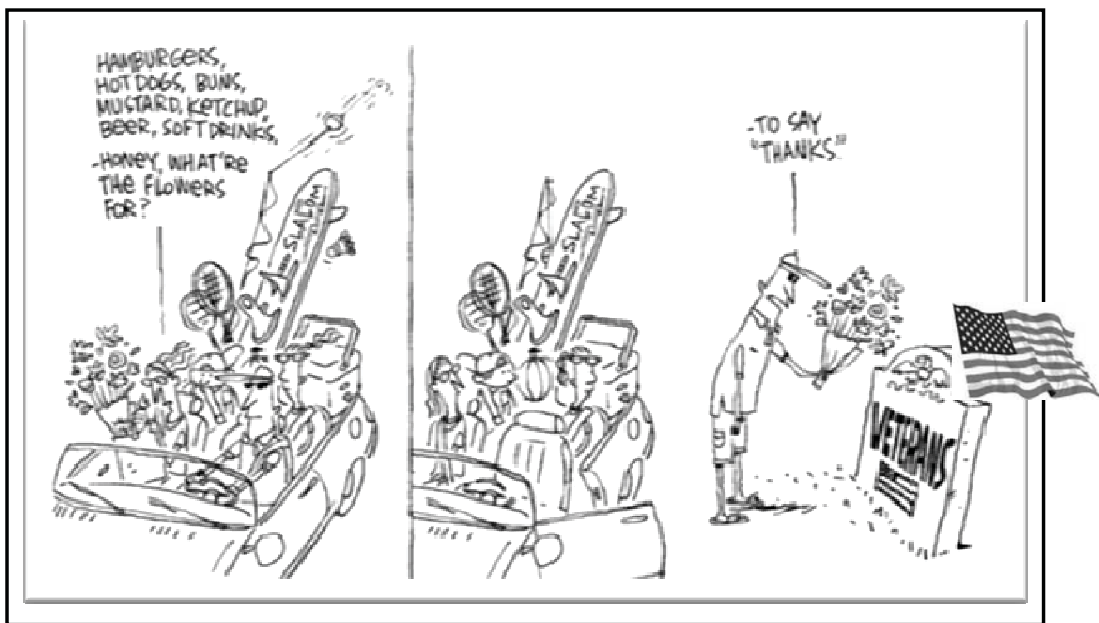
To: Jim Duffy; USAFSS List **Subject: Re: Bronze Star**

Jim, wonderful report! I know you have prayed for his safety in battle; I pray that he will finish his tour and return to your family!

Bye, Ray

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