

*Remain  
In  
Touch*



***FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE  
ASSOCIATION***

***NEWSLETTER***

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***FTVA ANNUAL REUNION  
COMING SOON***

**Picnic Pavilion Back in 2011**



***MARK YOUR CALENDAR***

**SEP 25 -27, 2014**

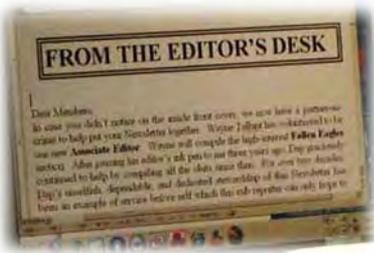
**Golf Outing in 2012**



**Remembrance Ceremony in 2013**



Hi Everyone,



It seems like, in almost every issue, we mention that this is your newsletter and we depend on your feedback as well as access to open unit website exchanges. As you read through this issue, you'll find that aspect of the magazine continues this time around, with many of you having personally contributed to September's

RIT. We do our best to "answer your mail", but sometimes the clock beats me to the punch. Thanks to you for your participation in this publication. Hope you enjoy the read. See ya at the annual reunion!

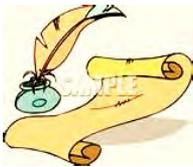
Sincerely,



**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.*

*Letters to the Editor*



*On Wed, May 14, 2014 Pete Siegel wrote:*

Chief Rass, Note the on-line softcopy of June RIT that you started with a BIG error in the Pledge of Allegiance. It is "one nation under God," not "one nation, under God." There is no comma, no pause, no nothing. I am slowly but surely instructing people how to properly say the Pledge of Allegiance. It is a personal crusade. One of these days I will make the Spring Social. For the past couple of years, there's always been a conflict. We were on our way to Florida to visit the kids this year.

Pete

*On Thur, May 15, 2014 newsletter editor replied:*

Pete, Understand your concern... I copied and pasted the Pledge of Allegiance statement without noticing the comma placement. We missed it in our QC. It's worthwhile to educate anyone who has not been properly instructed (like me) in the proper way to say and write the Pledge of Allegiance. We corrected the error and will post your Letter to the Editor in our next issue of RIT in support of your crusade to help dissuade others from making the same mistake. Thanks, Rass

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*From: lkathrunLarson - Jun 3, 2014*

*To: Newsletter*

Dennis, I always enjoy the FTVA Newsletter and thought it was just about time that I told you so! Thank you for all the effort you put forth to produce this magazine.

Sincerely, Lois J. Larson

*From: Newsletter*

*To: lkathrunLarson - Jun 4 2014*

Dear Mrs. Larson, It was so very thoughtful of you to take time to recognize our efforts in compiling the FTVA Remain In Touch. As you know, it's a team effort. Your considerate gesture made our day.... our week.... our YEAR.

v/r Dennis "Rass" Rassmussen, Editor

Wayne Tallant, Associate Editor

Ken Maynard, Auxiliary Staff

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**Annual FTVA Officer Elections**

This year, the nominating committee accepted submissions for the offices of Secretary and Treasurer. With the unanimous concurrence of the FTVA BOD, Messrs.' Loran 'Phred' Sevensing and Robert 'Bob' Cope have accepted nomination to continue serving as your Secretary and Treasurer respectively for the upcoming 2-year term.

<b>The Membership Corner</b>
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**Credit Cards:** I get a few e-mails/letters every year asking if we take credit cards. Unfortunately we do not. With credit cards the fewer transactions you do the more you pay. We have looked at several agencies that would process any credit card transactions and most of them have monthly fees and take a percentage per charge. The fees range greatly but still are all cost prohibitive due to the estimated number of transactions per month. The best alternative is to use your financial institution's bill payer.

**Bill Payer:** We receive a lot of member's payments directly from their financial institution. You don't need an account number to have your financial institution send us a check, just our address. When they send us a check it has your name and the address you have on file with them printed on the check. We sometimes receive envelopes that have checks for several members. Sending your payment via your financial institutions bill payer saves you the postage. By the timing of some of the checks (same week, every year) it looks like a lot of the financial institutions will let you set up a yearly schedule or reminder.

**Annual Dues:** Member dues run from January to December. Your annual payments are due by January. Unfortunately, if you have not paid your dues by the end of March we must remove you from our mailing lists.

**Annual Membership Cards:** We normally bulk mail member's annual membership cards out in late February.

If you have any questions, please either use the form on the web site (<http://www.ftva.us/newForms/webinfo.cfm>) or send us a letter.

**Fallen Eagles List:** The web master does not maintain the Fallen Eagles list. All the web master does is post it to the site when received. Questions on missing names should be addressed to the [FallenEagles@ftva.org](mailto:FallenEagles@ftva.org).

*Bob Baert*

Membership Chair and Webmaster  
([webadm@ftva.org](mailto:webadm@ftva.org))



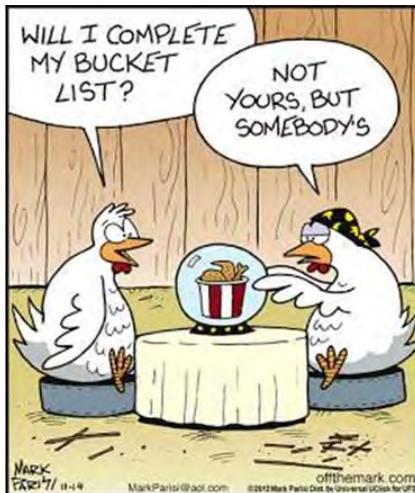
**FTVA Hall of Honor Selections**



The Hall of Honor selection committee takes great pleasure in announcing this year's selections for induction into the Hall of Honor at the 27 Sep 2013 induction ceremony. The following Hall of Honor members comprised this year's selection committee: *Brig Gen Grover Jackson –USAF Ret; Col Bob Cope – USAF Ret; Cmd CMSgt Okey Warden – USAF Ret; CMSgt Bob Crabtree – USAF Ret; CMSgt Ed Jolly – USAF Ret; CMSgt Edward Barnes - USAF Ret; and SMSgt Lee Anthony – USAF Ret.* On behalf of the Committee, I am pleased to announce the following individuals have been selected for induction into the FTVA Hall of Honor:

- Chief Master Sergeant "Combat" Ronald W. Davey, USAF (Ret/Deceased)
- Chief Master Sergeant Michael Meermans, USAF (Ret)
- MSgt Navid "G" Garshasb, USAF (Ret/Deceased)
- MSgt William M. "Skeeter" Dickerson, USAF (Ret)

Thank you and Remain in Touch.  
*A.J. Harrison*, Hall of Honor Program Chair





Compiled by Ken Maynard, Auxiliary Staff

**SHANAGRAM #19: AF ISR Agency Reorganization –  
Shaping the Future, Honoring our Legacy**  
(Redacted/Edited for space)



This is a historic moment for the AF ISR Agency. As significant and far-reaching, in fact, as any moment within the last 25 years. On 14 July 2014, the Secretary of the Air Force and CSAF announced that AFISRA will transform from its current status as a Field Operating Agency under the Air Staff Deputy Chief of Staff for ISR (HAF/A2), into a Numbered Air Force (NAF) under Headquarters Air Combat Command. By

October of this year, AFISRA will become 25th Air Force under ACC – “joining 1 AF, 9 AF, AFCENT, 10 AF, 12 AF, and the U.S. Air Force Warfare Center. While I cannot address every single question in one Shanagram, I wanted to highlight a few items that seem to be on everyone’s minds.

The biggest change of course will be the transformation of the AF ISR Agency HQ into a NAF headquarters. Next, two flying wings currently under 12 AF will transfer to 25 AF. The 9 RW at Beale and 55 WG at Offutt, two wings with incredibly rich ISR legacies, will become part of 25 AF. And the Air Force Targeting Center, with its headquarters at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, will transfer from HQ ACC to 25 AF. As part of the reorganization, the Targeting Center will become a Targeting Group and will fold into a new ISR Wing focused on targeting and analysis. We are still working through the details of the other half of this wing – the Analysis Group, which will be based out of Nellis AFB, Nevada.

For now, NASIC will remain under the HAF/A2 (i.e., it will not become part of 25 AF). NASIC's assessments of foreign aerospace forces and weapons systems are critical in shaping national security and defense policies, in order to minimize disturbance to that mission, it is best right now that NASIC remains under Headquarters Air Force oversight. While integration across the ISR enterprise would be enhanced if NASIC was part of 25 AF, our focus will shift to ensuring the most effective integration possible no matter how we are organized.

Most of the functions we are performing today that fall under the category of Organize, Train and Equip (OT&E) will move off of the NAF HQ staff and become part of HQ ACC. OT&E is a MAJCOM function. Think of it this way: if it relates to Air Force blue OT&E, the billet and function transfer to HQ ACC. If it relates to National Intelligence Program (to include many aspects of NIP OT&E), for now it will stay on the NAF HQ staff. The headquarters staff will be organized to look like a NAF staff.

One of the primary objectives of the reorganization is to make 25 AF look as much as possible like every other NAF – understanding that there will be some specific differences related directly to our IC/CSA missions. We are working through the specific details of how roles, responsibilities and functions will transfer from HQ AFISRA to HQ ACC.

When we stand up 25 AF there will be portion of the HQ staff that will be above the line (ATL), and a portion below the line (BTL). For the most part the ATL staff will look like any other NAF HQ staff – it will consist of those elements you need to run any headquarters. The BTL part will be focused more on daily operations, and will comprise two squadrons and an Operations Center. The squadrons will be largely focused on those elements of maintenance, logistics readiness, civil engineering, special contracting, and communications that are linked directly to our IC/CSA missions.

The 25 AF Operations Center (OC) will be a 24/7 operation significantly enhancing our mission and will provide multi-domain ISR in support of combatant command, air component, and IC/CSA operations. It will be the nerve center of 25 AF – the hub of our universe for integrating global ISR operations. The OC will work hand-in-glove with HQ ACC Ops

Center and, through HQ ACC, with all other AF and joint operations centers.

The reorganization is already well underway. The objective is to standup 25 AF not later than Oct. 1, 2014, with initial operational capability by March 2015. There is a lot of hard work involved in figuring out exactly what functions will transfer from HQ AFISRA to HQ ACC. With our new focus on ISR operations, we have the opportunity for more improvements to global integrated ISR than at any time in history. 25th Air Force: Shaping the future, honoring our legacy. Thanks for all you do.

John N.T. Shanahan, Maj Gen, USAF  
Commander

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## Intelligence Unit at Misawa AB Inactivated

By Airman 1st Class Patrick S. Ciccarone  
35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



U.S. Air Force Airmen of the 301st Intelligence Squadron stand in formation while a slide plays historic photos during an inactivation ceremony at Misawa Air Base, Japan, June 30, 2014. The 301st was originally activated as the 138th

Signal Radio Intelligence Company under the Department of the Army at Fort George Wright, Wash., Feb. 7, 1942. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Staff Sgt. Tong Duong)

7/1/2014 - **MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan** -- The 301st Intelligence Squadron is leaving the Misawa Security Operations Center now that its inactivation ceremony is complete as of 30 June. With a storied history spanning six decades of service and seven countries, the 301 IS originally was founded as a U.S. Army unit, the 138th Signal Radio Intelligence Company, on Feb. 7, 1942.

After being transferred to the U.S. Air Force in 1949, the unit went through a few more transformations, where they were designated as the 6920th Electronic Security Group on Aug. 1, 1979. At the time, their unit was the largest on Misawa Air Base.

Finally, on Oct. 1, 1993, the unit settled on their current designation - the 301 IS. Throughout their activation time, the 301 IS and its predecessor units has served as an integral part of the MSOC mission and provided support by contributing valuable intelligence to the U.S. and its allied forces during wartime operations and other international crises. Some of the decorations awarded to the unit have been the Air Force Outstanding Unit award, from the following years: Nov 1950 - Jul 1951; Jul 1982 - Jun 1984; Jul 1986 - Jun 1988; Jul 1991 - Jun 1993; Oct 1993 - Sep 1994; Oct 1994 - Sep 1995; Oct 1997 - Sep 1998; Oct 1999 - Sep 2000; Jun 2004 - May 2005; Jun 2008 - Jun 2009, and 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012.

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device from Jun 2001 - May 2003 and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation decoration awarded during World War II.

In addition to the support they offered Misawa AB, the 301 IS has also provided a positive impact on the surrounding community. After the massive tsunami and devastating 9.0 earthquake struck the coast of Japan in 2011, Airmen of the 301 IS devoted countless hours alongside other Americans and Japanese during Operation Tomodachi by assisting with clean-up and restoration efforts throughout Japan.

"I hope at our next location, Airmen are able to support the community as we have been able to, here in Misawa. Our interactions with the Japanese people have been some of the most rewarding aspects of the units' presence here," said Lt. Col. Eric Monico, 301st IS commander. The 301 IS played a significant role in programs such as Operation Eyesight, a 50 year tradition of supporting the children of the Hachinohe School for the Deaf and Blind.

Although the 301 IS will be saying "sayonara" to Misawa, the unit will relocate to Alaska, where it will continue its mission of providing intelligence in support of the defense of the United States and its allies.

"I hope the squadron, in its new location, with new Airmen and a new mission, will continue to serve honorably and complete its mission with distinction, as the Airmen have done here on Misawa for over 60 years," Monico said.

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## VINDICATION COMES TO SCIENTIST 60 YEARS LATER

Adapted from an article by Susan A. Romano  
AFTAC Public Affairs

5/2/2014 - **PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, FL** -- Although not that long ago, it's without global positioning systems, Google Earth or the internet.

It's harder still to visualize a 21st century scientific research laboratory without super computers, high definition microscopes or fully-digitized equipment. And yet, without all those significant technological advances and capabilities at his fingertips, in 1953 one scientist was able to accurately pinpoint the location of a secretly detonated thermonuclear weapon by the Soviets within 10 kilometers.

Enter Dr. Carl Romney, a geophysicist whose professional career was dedicated to the field of seismic detection of nuclear explosions. Romney was the assistant technical director of geophysics at the then highly-classified Air Force Office of Atomic Energy-One or AFOAT-1. Their mission was to detect any foreign nuclear weapons tests and, to the best of their ability, determine the characteristics of the weapon.



Left: Dr. Carl Romney (Far right) AFTAC assistant technical director is shown with fellow AFTAC personnel. Dr. Romney was inducted into the FTVA Hall of Honor in 1996.

In 1959, the Air Force deactivated AFOAT-1, and Romney went on to serve as the assistant technical director of the Air Force Technical Applications Center, which was created the same year to operate the Atomic Energy Detection System.

To accomplish that mission, Romney and his co-workers used data from the AEDS - a network of sensors deployed to friendly countries around the world that could sense underground or underwater disturbances.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Romney was investigating the possibility of using seismic and infrasound equipment to more accurately pinpoint and identify the locations of foreign nuclear tests and determine their respective magnitudes and characteristics.

Much of his work was shrouded in secrecy, as was most of the early years of the atomic age. So on Aug. 12, 1953, when the Soviets tested their first thermonuclear weapon - which became known as 'Joe-4' - Romney and his fellow scientists from AFOAT-1 mathematically calculated the location of the explosion. He firmly believed the timing and the waveform data he collected were particularly precise, and based on that collected data, he was confident he pinpointed the geographic area of detonation within 10 kilometers.

Despite his confidence, skill and demonstrated expertise, many in the scientific community doubted his conclusion and couldn't stand behind him and his prediction.

However, the U.S. government - all the way up to the White House - was very concerned about the Soviets' actions, and the president authorized an over flight of the highly secretive U-2 to conduct aerial photography of the suspected detonation area. The flight was successful, but because of the classified nature of the U-2 and its capabilities at the time, Romney wasn't told if his coordinates coincided with what the U-2 had collected. The only 'revealing' information the pilot gave Romney was a single, cryptic sentence: "The test was exactly where he expected it to be."

For decades, the inability to know for sure if his conclusion was correct nagged at the geophysicist, mostly because he felt in his heart of hearts that his techniques, seismic data and infrasound signals should have yielded a location within 10 kilometers of its detonation.

Nevertheless, Romney went on to forge an extremely successful career, becoming a key contributor to the 1958 Geneva Conventions, being appointed deputy director for the Department of Defense's Advanced Research Projects Agency, and later serving as the director of the Center for Seismic Studies.

It wasn't until 2012 when Romney was contacted by AFTAC to discuss his role in developing many of the provisions of current nuclear testing treaties due to their historical significance that he finally found what he was looking for. Romney graciously provided AFTAC with a plethora of information and filled in many gaps that existed in AFTAC's oral and written history.

Upon the conclusion of his interview, Romney was asked if there was anything AFTAC could do to repay his courtesy. Without missing a beat, the scientist quickly asked, "Can you tell me if my calculation of the Soviet Joe-4 test location was within 10 km of ground zero?"

Because of Romney's tremendous and significant contributions to his nation and the atomic age, AFTAC management took his request and made it a priority to get him an answer. David Merker, director of the U.S. National Data Center, put his analysts to work to gather as much information as they could, declassify it if necessary, and provide Romney an answer to a question that had occupied his mind for nearly six decades.

When Merker's analysts finished collecting the data from the 1953 event, they were amazed to see that Romney's calculations were remarkably spot-on - his geographic conclusion was exactly 10.34 kilometers from ground zero!

"It is never too late to recognize a true American patriot and innovator," said Merker. "It is especially rewarding when we can solve a problem that Dr. Romney has been carrying on his shoulders for the past 60 years. It is an incredible testament to his scientific knowledge and skills."

There is a post script to this story. Dr. Romney, who will be 90 years old in June, still has a burning interest in the world of seismology and nuclear treaty monitoring, and routinely keeps in touch with members of AFTAC.

Recently, when Malaysian Air Flight M370 disappeared on March 8, 2014, many experts thought the flight might have crashed somewhere in the Indian Ocean. Some renowned seismologists - Romney included - immediately thought that hydro-acoustic equipment positioned in the

geographic area might have been able to detect a sudden wave of activity had the airliner impacted the ocean at a high velocity.

Although crises such as the missing airliner do not fall under AFTAC's specific mission taskings and assigned responsibilities, the international community reached out to the center because of its unparalleled skill and expertise in the field of seismic and hydro-acoustic data analysis.

Romney offered his insight to Merker's seismic experts from the USNDC, who had already analyzed data from the region in an effort to assist Malaysia and the other nations that were participating in the search and recovery of the missing passenger jet.

"Carl is such an extraordinary scientist and patriot, and despite what the calendar might say his age is, he is still constantly at work - thinking ... analyzing ... evaluating," said Merker. "Because of his continued curiosity, he prompted me to ask my staff to see if there was any activity that showed signs or potential for being related to the Malaysian Air disappearance. It remains a mystery to us, and to the world."

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<b>BEDSIDE MATTERS</b>
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**Maj (Ret) Ned Gates//July 30 – follow-up;** (Hospitalized in late April for complications encountered from Lymphoma) Swelling in Ned's spleen has noticeably decreased. He has found a medicinal "soup" he can tolerate and is awaiting further evaluation of his lymphoma. //Bob Cope//



**Bill Allen//Jul 28** is in San Angelo Community Hospital as a result of an apparent stroke. At last report he is in ICU and his condition is improving. Please keep Bill and Celeste in your thoughts and prayers. //Larry Ross// **Bill** was moved from ICU to a rehab facility in San Angelo o/a Aug 4. //**Bill Allen** suffered another stroke last night and is now being transferred to Shannon Hospital. No additional information is available at this time.//Aug 8//Larry Ross//

**CMSgt (Ret) Bill Strickland//Austin, TX//June20 – follow-up:**

Hi Friends: I'm the last mortal on earth to be happy but I feel I need to share my latest medical fall with you. As some of you know, I returned from Warm Springs specialty hospital on May 31<sup>st</sup> but the home stay was short-lived. On the third day home, the pain in my abdomen got so bad, my better half called EMS who determined I needed to be in the emergency room so off we went. Doctors determined I had a severe blockage so a gastroenterologist put a stent in. While putting the stent in, a tumor was discovered and found cancer cells in my pancreas. Have a port in my shoulder and will begin chemo and radiation. If the oncologist are able to shrink that beast enough, will then have surgery so the coming months will be stressful. Haven't told my European pals yet and I have known some of them over 50 years. Take care and wish me the best, I'm in the care of a higher power now and can only pray all will be well soon.

**Strickland** follow-up//July 6//Saw the foot doctor today and he thinks we can remove the hard cast in the next two weeks and then start physical therapy to walk normally again. Pancreatic cancer is a tough one and few survive but I gotta believe we can beat this monster. Hope ya'll are well and happy, Please don't forget me and Send a jingle now and then. God be with you.

'Uncle' Bill

**(Bedside Matters Cont'd)**

//On Skivvy Nine Website//July 21, 2014//**SMSgt (Ret) 'Andy' (Robert) Anderson.** After days of searching, Dennis Buxton called me with the sad news that Andy was diagnosed with cancer. Dennis sent the following email to share: "I just got back with visiting Andy at the hospice. First, it was a great hour spent (they kicked me out because it was bath time) and we had a good chat and a few laughs. Even though the cancer has spread to his larynx he can still speak in a low, hoarse whisper. His brain and awareness are still fine as is his memory. He told me he decided not to bother with any chemo or radiation because "I smoked more than 2 packs a day for over 50 years". So, he is fully cognizant and aware of life's end but he cannot walk nor do a lot of the things to care for himself. Very realistic. He looks a tad older naturally and has lost a lot of weight, but his grip is strong and he appears to be in good spirits. He has been there about six weeks; about two months after the doctor did the diagnosis and told him he has less than three months left. He is in Hospice care at a private residence and provides a 'homey' environment. It's called "Ann's Place, A Private Care Home". The address is 1718 Alice Hill, San Antonio, TX 78232 with a phone number of 210-999-5464. You can send any letters, card, etc. there. If you're not family, they prefer visitors in the afternoons and evenings after Andy's personal care tasks have been taken care of. The family member serving as the central POC is Vikki Cunningham, his niece. Her email address is trainthebrain@yahoo.com and her cell phone number is 210-913-1156. She said to feel free to call or email and she would relay it all to Andy if unable to visit. Please get the word out as you see fit to the Skivvy Nine community and his old friends scattered far and wide. I'll be visiting him again and will keep you posted. // Dennis (dennis.buxton@me.com, 210-627-7586)//

With tears in my eyes, I would ask all friends of Andy, to please take a few moments out of your busy lives to send a card, an email, and a prayer (or all) to Andy. He is a fantastic man (was like a father to myself and Kaus) and a really remarkable Skivvy Niner who touched many of our lives.// Thank you all for your time and allowing me to post this. //Randy Rockey//

Ed Note: Andy passed away on July 27, 2014 – See: Fallen Eagles.//

**George Williams//July27, 2014//**Well, there is no easy way to state this - so I'll just be my usual blunt self. Last Wednesday I was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. I was referred to Colorado University Hospital in Denver by my gastroenterologist after my last endoscopy by him because he found things he could not handle. I am scheduled for another round of appointments at CU Hospital this coming Wednesday and Thursday. Wednesday I am scheduled for a pet-scan and blood work. The following Thursday morning I am scheduled to meet with doctors, surgeons, case workers, and probably psychiatrists. The pet-scan is to determine if the growth in my esophagus is still just localized or not. Right now the growth covers about 3/4 of my throat. One thing all our parents taught us is: You have to be tough to grow old. Call me or e-mail if you might have any questions or concerns.  
George (aka "Sir George of Driftwood")

Aug 1, 2014//Last Wednesday, I had blood work done and had a PET scan. The good news is that the mass is localized and not quite as big as first thought. It appears to be limited to just the first three linings of the esophagus wall. No lymph nodes or other body areas are involved at this time. The surgeons feel that the mass can be taken out by doing an "inside removal" from the lining of the esophagus to clean it all out.

They are scheduling more tests this coming week, a stress-echo test and pulmonary tests. This is just in case if they find out during the "inside removal" procedure that more intensive surgery is required, That my heart and lungs are strong enough to handle the more Intensive surgery. Chemo-therapy MAY also be an option, depending on how things go. One thing for sure, I will have to undergo esophageal "stretching" procedures like one of my Uncles had to undergo, because after this procedure the esophagus tends to shrink. (Joe, Carol, and Susan M.) You know who I am talking about.

And FINALLY - I will be having my ESOPHOGEAL GASTRO DUODENOSCOPY on September 2nd with an overnight stay at the hospital for observation. That's the latest news I have for you right now. Thanks to ALL of you for your thoughts and prayers (especially the prayers). KEEP PRAYING!

I'm not out of the woods yet, but I can see the edge of the forest.

**FTVA CHAPTER NEWS**

As stated on the inside front page of this RIT newsletter, the Freedom Though Vigilance Association currently has five active Chapters. Each Chapter president has membership on our Board of Directors. For information on an individual chapter, a link is available on our FTVA website.

Go to <http://www.ftva.org> under paragraph two “What is the FTVA?”

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**Heritage Chapter**

Submitted by Ronald 'JJ' Graham, President  
and Larry Ross, Secretary/Treasurer



**GAFB Unveils ARDF History Exhibit**

A standing-room-only crowd of more than 50 interested observers witnessed the official unveiling of the new ARDF History Exhibit during a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony on July 25 in the foyer of the Norma Brown Headquarters Building at Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo, Texas.



The 20-foot-long history exhibit is the brain-child of CMSgt (Ret) Tom Nurre (left) and includes artifacts, period uniforms, scale models, photos and multi-media presentations that trace the history of the 6994<sup>th</sup> Security Squadron’s Airborne Radio Direction Finding (ARDF)

mission during the Vietnam War. It is constructed in the shape of a fuselage of the EC-47 “Goony Bird” aircraft utilized for the ARDF missions and acts as an extension of the EC-47 on static display outside the main entrance to the headquarters building (below).



Marking the culmination of more than a year's efforts by Chief Nurre, a former ARDF operator and exhibit coordinator, along with a cadre of dedicated volunteers, the ribbon cutting ceremony was coordinated by the local Heritage Chapter of the Freedom Through Vigilance Association – and emceed by retired Chief Master Sgt. J.J. Graham, chapter president (below right).



(Left) Col. Kimberlee Joos, 17<sup>th</sup> Training Wing commander, officially accepted the exhibit on behalf of all the personnel at Goodfellow Air Force Base. It was particularly fitting for Col. Joos to be the accepting officer as she recently arrived at Goodfellow from a

tour as commander of the largest AFISRA unit at Misawa Air Base in Japan, where many of the fallen ARDF operators are honored with building and street names.

(Right) Tom Nurre used giant shears to cut the ceremonial ribbon



Many of the people involved in bringing the exhibit from concept to completion were also present at the ceremony, including Dr. John V. “Doc” Garrett, 17<sup>th</sup> Training Wing historian; Joe Martin, ARDF operator and coordinator of research and graphics; and several Angelo State University staff members who contributed photography, graphic design and text editing for the exhibit design. Four sons of former EC-47 ARDF crew members – Robert Bohnsack, Paul Clever, Ray Leftwitch, Jr. and Tom Nurre, Jr. – were also in attendance.

(L-R) The project team members included Doc Garrett, Goodfellow’s Wing Historian; Tom Nurre, the mastermind behind this project; Joe Martin, exhibit research and graphics coordinator; and Andy Davenport, exhibit contractor.



The Heritage Chapter also hosted a post-ceremony reception at the Goodfellow Event Center. It was highlighted by Paul Clever, son of downed ARDF operator Louis Clever, and his wife, Nita, relating their story of locating the CAP-72 crash site in Laos and returning with artifacts that are now displayed in the ARDF History Exhibit. Gabe Marshall, representing the AFISRA History Office, also gave a short presentation, and J.C. Wheeler, former EC-47 flight engineer, recounted his adventures on the ferry flight of an EC-47 from New Hampshire to Saigon.



(Right) Tom Nurre presents an EC-47 model to Joe Martin at the reception.

Each of the presenters was given an official ARDF History Exhibit challenge coin.

To commemorate the completion and opening of the EC-47 ARDF History Exhibit on Goodfellow AFB, Texas, the Heritage Chapter is offering specially designed challenge coins. Coins are available for a minimum donation of \$10.



Each coin comes in an individual plastic pouch with colorful information card. Coin diameter is 1.75 inches.

Note: Coins will be mailed First Class in bubble envelopes, maximum 5 coins per envelope. Request you include the following with your donation:

1 Coin - \$2.32 \* 2 Coins - \$2.66 \* 3 Coins - \$2.86 \* 4 Coins - \$3.04  
5 Coins - \$3.40 (i.e. 1 coin: \$10 + \$2.32 = \$12.32 donation.  
5 coins: \$50 + \$3.40 = \$53.40 donation.)

Postal insurance up to \$50 is available for an additional \$2.10 (the same for all packages (1-5 coins). Include with your donation and request the insurance be added. Send your donation (check or money order) made out to FTVA-Heritage Chapter along with your complete return mailing address to:

FTVA – Heritage Chapter  
EC-47 ARDF History Exhibit Coins  
P. O. Box 2469 San Angelo, TX 76902

Your order will be filled promptly. For further information please contact Larry Ross, the Heritage Chapter Secretary, via email: LRC@VERIZON.NET



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**Aloha Chapter, Honolulu, HI**

by John Toillion, President

Attached is Aloha Chapter's RIT input for September along with a picture (below).

On Thursday, June 5, the Aloha Chapter's "Gang of Five" plus two lovely wives enjoyed an evening out at our favorite eatery and, to borrow a worn out cowboy term, "watering hole." Of course the location was the Hickam O'club for some good ole Mongolian BBQ and to talk story as it had a while since we had enjoyed each other's company.

Topics of the evening included everyone's latest activities - golf (of course Hopi & Ken), health updates (of course - all of us!), grandkids (Diana's and Marivic's favorite subject), and Steve Crain's sharing about a book he recently read by Dave Ramsey titled "*The Total Money Makeover*" which addresses basic fundamentals of money management with emphasis on 80% behavior and 20% head knowledge.

Steve swears by it and yours truly is about a third of the way through it and becoming a believer as well.



6/22/2014 7:10:07 PM

**Back L-R: Ken Eeen, Ken Hopkins, John Toillion, Al Teel**  
**Front L-R: Steve Crain, Marivic Crane, Diana Toillion**

Just a friendly reminder that when your travels bring you to the islands, be sure and contact one of us as we're (well most of us are) pretty flexible for getting together for lunch or BBQ. Until next time...

A-loooooo-ha!

\*\*\*\*\*

### Pun for the Day



A farmer brought his daughter a little pot-belly pet pig. She called it "Stinky" when she played with it out in the yard, but she called it "Ballpoint" when it was in the sty.

"Tell me," asked her father, "Why do you have two names for your pig?"

"That's easy," she replied.

"Ballpoint is just his 'pen' name."





## 2014 REUNION ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Notifications of Upcoming Reunions for 2014

#### Sep 04, 2014 - 08, 2014

##### **6911th RGM**

Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Comments: 6911th RGM Annual Reunion will be held at the Regency Hyatt Downtown Milwaukee @ \$109.00 per night, Free hot breakfast included in fee. Tours pending. Mail-outs to follow within 30 days.

POC: Pat & Rich Merrill ph 303-985-3575 email: [rich1pat2@aol.com](mailto:rich1pat2@aol.com)

#### Sep 24 – 28, 2014

##### **USAFSS ROLLCALL Worldwide Reunion**

Location: San Antonio, TX (in conjunction with FTVA Reunion)

Sleep Inn & Suites, 143 Richland Hills Dr in S. Antonio 78245

Comments: ph. 210-670-2500 for reservations

#### Sep 25, 2014

##### **SKIVVY-NINE & MIMI (Osan Korea)**

Location: Rudy's BBQ on Hwy 151 in San Antonio  
(10623 Westover Hills)

Comments: Open to all alums, friends, and families. No host. Just show up. Same day as FTVA Reunion Golf Tournament.

#### Sep 25 – 27, 2014

##### **ANNUAL FTVA REUNION in San Antonio, TX**

POC: Ron Haygood, [president@ftva.org](mailto:president@ftva.org)

Information available on-line at FTVA website: <http://www.ftva.org>

Comment: Reunion packets are mailed to the membership along with the annual *Member Directory* in June.

#### September or October, 2014

##### **6913<sup>th</sup> RSM (Reactivated) Bremerhaven, Germany (1951 – 1968)**

Note: We're planning our next Reunion for September or October, **2014**.

Our 'Unofficial Reunion Committee': Previous Chairpersons: Zane Maddox, Arnie Olson, Huk Tracy; Webmaster, Ron Fandrick; Squadron Coordinator, Arlen Trapp; and anyone else interested in helping.

**Sep 26, 2014 - 27, 2014**

**Third Man (Transec/Comsec) Association**

Comments: The Third Man Association will host their 2014 reunion in San Antonio, Texas on 26 and 27 September, in conjunction with the annual FTVA reunion. This reunion is for USAF TRANSEC/COMSEC personnel, prior to the IN0 conversion, including operations, maintenance, support/admin, and associated officer personnel. Please join our "Third Man Association" Facebook group for reunion details, and PASS THE WORD!

POC: Bill Bujchsbaum ph 210-481-6543 email: [BillBSATX@email.com](mailto:BillBSATX@email.com)

**Sep 28 – Mar 1, 2014**

**1<sup>st</sup> RSM / USAFSS MISAWA**

Location: Albuquerque,, NM

Comments: MGM ELEGANTE Hotel reservations by Sep 5.

POC: Helen Henderson <http://www.usafssmisawa.com>

**March 2015**

**2<sup>nd</sup> RSM (Darmstadt, Germany) 8<sup>th</sup> Biannual Reunion**

Location: Houston, TX

Comments: This will be a Cruise Ship reunion aboard Princess Lines to the western Caribbean. A ground tour is scheduled prior to sailing.

POC: Richard Campbell 281-245-4927 e-mail: [rpc12333@gmail.com](mailto:rpc12333@gmail.com)

Louise Campbell 281-703-8372 e-mail: [lcg410@msn.com](mailto:lcg410@msn.com)

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**Ice Breaker for USAFSS Misawa Alumni - Wed Sep 24th**

Submitted by Walt Ritter

USAFSS Misawa Annual Alumni Social: Make plans to attend the 17<sup>th</sup> annual alumni gathering to be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at 6 PM at Lily's Kings Lounge, 111 Whitewood, San Antonio, Texas. Group pictures taken at 8 PM. Reservations not required. All USAFSS veterans old and new are encouraged to stop by or phone 210-260-3062.

\*\*\*

**King's Lounge Annual Golf Tournament**

(In memory of Lucius "Pappy" Ruff)

Alsatian Golf Course in Castroville on Wed Sep 24<sup>th</sup> @ 9 AM

Shotgun Start

4-person Florida Scramble (own or assigned)

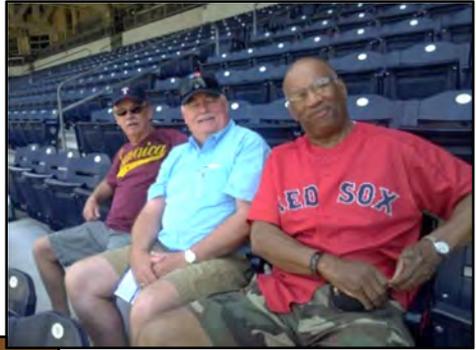
POC Zep Zepeda 210-673-3725 or Walt Ritter

## Misawa Project 2014 Reunion



Over 126 USAFSS, ASA & NSG vets who served at Misawa, Japan between 1949 through 1979 gathered in San Diego, CA for the Misawa Project's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion June 6-8. Following photos of the event were posted by Terry Cullivan and Waco Wetterman.

(Right) Wayne Wheeler, me (Terry Cullivan) and Oly at the Padres game vs. the Nationals. Really had a great time. No dog in the fight but the Padres lost 6 to 0 and had only 2 hits.



(Left) One corner of the Raffle Table.



There were 126 of us at the banquet.

# FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

June 2014



## PLATINUM PARTNERS



Prop Wash Gang  
 Booz Allen Hamilton  
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 Western Nevada IMO Maj Gen (Ret) Paul Martin



## GOLD PARTNERS



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 USAFSS Roll Call  
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 William F. (Bill) Sheck  
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 William (Bill) F. McCarthy  
 Col (Ret) Usto Schultz  
 Hank Whitney  
 Association of Spanish Flyers (In Memory of Col Bruce Strotman)  
 Steve Mobry (IMO Dave Eddy)  
 Robert Pfister (IMO Marvin Brossett)

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Francis R. (Frank) Sabourin  
 John H. (Jack) Riedel  
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 Richard P. Cheney (IMO Fred Sebers)  
 Dennis Thomson  
 Ron Hentz (IMO Col Grover McMakin)  
 Bob Smith  
 Joe Hurst  
 Richard Sacchetti  
 Charles Bishop (IMO Howard Bunton)  
 Bob Quinn (IMO Howard Bunton & Bernie O'Reilly)  
 Marc and Rachel Aldaz  
 Michael Wright  
 Vernon Humbert  
 Yiming Tung  
 George and Mary Williams  
 CMSgt (Ret) Rich and Janet Harrold  
 Jeff Tschida  
 Bob Finch (IMO Bill Nye)  
 John Carlson (IMO Raymond McPhail)  
 George and Diane Honsaker  
 Bob and Debbie Cope (IMO Bruce Strotman)  
 Ronald and Sharon Price (IMO Bruce Strotman)



*Misawa Project 2014 Reunion Out-Takes (cont'd)*



Carson Schnell was our Banquet Speaker this year.



Raffle Kings were Tom Smith (L) and Syd Scales (at podium with Mickey)



Lydia Crooks, Helen Henderson and Jane Doolittle.



Flag Folding Ceremony with Gary Dunham, Jay Emmer and Jane Doolittle



Chuck Marshall, Waco, T. Cuillivan



Dutch Weist (L) with BJ Cook (R) and his Appreciation Award

*Misawa Project 2014 Reunion Group Photo)*



*Misawa Project 2014 Reunion Out-Takes (cont'd)*



Syd Scales and Steamboat Mickey      Hughley, Skosh Wynn & Lamonica

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**6918<sup>th</sup> Mini in Florida**

**Posted by Dave Bethard**



Bill and Nancy Mink came to Florida 5/19, stopping for a few hours at Port Canaveral, where they were met by Dave and Takeko Bethard. We did some sightseeing, some visiting, some babysitting, some laughing, some drinking, some eating, some storytelling, and some hugging. Yes, Stan--I hugged Nancy for you too! It

was the first (of hopefully many more) trips for them to visit our home. Takeko prepared a wonderful meal that included fried rice. All had a wonderful afternoon, but, come nightfall, we were forced to say Sayonara, and put our friends back on the Gem for the rest of their journey! Bill and I reviewed at length the content and progress for the public web site upgrade, which he was very pleased with. More coming soon on the NEW public web page.

## 2014 Metro Tango Reunion – Boston, MA

Submitted by Ken Maynard

About 30 people formerly assigned to Metro Tango gathered in Boston, MA, July 3-6, for the 2014 version of our annual reunion. The event was planned and hosted by Dave Davidson, Geoff Noel, and their families. Plans included the Boston Pops and fireworks on the 4th, a Red Sox game at Fenway Park, a stroll along the Freedom Trail and various other dining and touring events. Weather forecasts (a hurricane and strong cold front) caused one major change in the schedule—the concert and fireworks were moved to July 3rd but, though we did have a bit of rain on the 4th, things dried out in plenty of time for the night at Fenway! More details and pictures are available on the Metro Tango Facebook page. The 2015 Reunion will be in the Tampa area in Florida. Keep your eye on the FB page for announcements.



Metro Tango on the Freedom Trail



4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks on the 3<sup>rd</sup>



An evening at Fenway Park - - - The SOX lost!!

**HISTORY & MEMORIES**



6918<sup>th</sup> SG Hakata Operations  
Posted for Bill Guerard



This is a great picture of the operations building and antenna field at Hakata. Shows nice details. Ohhhhh, that bad boy on the left broke one of the cardinal rules of military life, "NEVER walk



with your hands in your pockets". I got called on that one a couple of times myself. More fond memories, thanks Bill and Kathy.//Chuck Miller//

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**Did You Know?**



The roar that we hear when we place a seashell next to our ear is not the ocean, but rather the sound of blood surging through the veins in the ear.

### Memories of Misawa

Posted by Walt Ritter on behalf of Randy D.

Somebody once said, "You can never go back." Here's the proof. If we went back to Misawa today, would we get lost? Or would we be sad that the images of Misawa we've had in our memory all these years no longer exist?



(Left) This is outside the base looking toward the Main Gate in the distance. AP Alley entrance was on the left, Honda shop was at the lamp post & small pine trees, Stateside Snack Bar

was on right, just to the right of that bigger pine tree --

The entrance to old AP Alley area looks like this now. Apartments on the right are probably for Japanese working on the base. I recall that in 1962, entry level MLCs earned 10,000 yen/month (\$28). It's now about 20 times that much –



(Left) This is another part of what used to be AP Alley

(Right) The stateside Snack Bar sat here until early 80's. At center is main intersection at Main St. Turn right here to head for Furumaki station, go straight (toward the right) to B Battery, make sharp right here (just beyond blue tent on left), then go past Misawa Police Station— Does this bring a tear to your eye?



I'll never forget the clueless naysayers of the early 1960s saying "If the base shuts down Misawa will become a ghost town." Well, there are no ghosts here, only a thriving affluent city. Maybe it's better if we just hang onto old memories – I don't even think about going back.  
 Regards, Rand D.

\*\*\*\*\*





## FALLEN EAGLES



We learned of the following losses from caring relatives, friends or obituaries, and 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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Anderson, “Andy” Robert, SMSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Barthel, George G., CMSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**  
 Bassett, Grayson T., SSgt-USAFSS-Vet.  
 Bolte, Peter “Pete” H., USAFSS-Vet.  
 Buinickas, “Al/Mr. B” Alexander M. CMSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**  
 Calley, Kenneth Dale, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Clements, Olivia M., Spouse of John H. Clements Jr.-USAFSS-Vet.  
 Corryn, John P., A1C-USAFSS-Vet. **Life Mbr.**  
 Croft, Mary Agnes, Spouse of William Croft, Lt Col-USAF-Ret.  
 Deere, Bruce Frederick, MSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Deere, Linda-Carole Clark, Spouse of Bruce Deere, MSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Dorris, Normal Michael, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Dunlap, Gary, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Fears, Bruce, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Fischer, “Jerry/Offsides” Jerome, MSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Gerhardt, Ralph D., USAFSS-Civ. **Mbr.**  
 Isaac, Walter Odell, USAFSS-Vet.  
 Johnson, Jerry M., Col-USAF-Ret.  
 Klingeman, Mary Jo, USAFSS-Civ-Vet.  
 Lucas, Colleen, Spouse of Richard Lucas-SMSgt-USAF-Ret. **Mbr.**  
 Merson, Francis “Frank” Edward, MSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Minchew Jr., Walter Joseph, CMSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Morton, Timothy Dwane, ESC-AIA Vet.  
 Neighbors, “Faye” Charlotte, Spouse of Larry Neighbors-USAFSS-Vet.  
 Pellittere, Frank V., USAFSS-Vet.

Popp, Eric M., USAFSS-Vet.  
 Shelton, Fred Franklin, MSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Stoner, Scot Allan, SrA-USAF-Vet.  
 Vernone, Anna Mae, Spouse of Merle J. Vernone, Col-USAF-Ret (dec).  
 Wade, Don B., CMSgt-USAF-Ret.  
 Watson Jr., Rupert Calvin, CMSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**  
 Weathers Jr., Curry "Pete" P., Capt-USAF-Ret. **Mbr.**  
 Wyatt Jr., "Larry" Lawrence, A. SMSgt-USAF-Ret.

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**SMSgt Robert E. "Andy" Anderson** passed away peacefully on 27 July 2014 at Ann's Place Hospice, San Antonio, TX. A Korean and Russian linguist, Andy was stationed at the 6903d Security Squadron ("Skivvy Nine") from 1960-62, 1968 (TDY for the Pueblo Incident), 1969-1970 and 1973-1979. Andy also served tours in the Philippines in the mid-60s and Berlin from 1970-1973. In 1979 Andy returned to Headquarters, Electronic Security Command (now AFISR) and retired in 1983. He then completed a second career with the U.S. Postal Service in San Antonio. A native of Peterboro, NY, Andy was preceded in death by his wife Pok Ye "Charlie" Anderson. He is survived by a sister and several nieces and nephews. Services with military honors were held at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery 01 August 2014. //Info - Dennis Buxton//(Ed Note: See **Bedside Matters report in this issue.**)

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**CMSgt George G. E. Barthel**, 86, of Minneapolis, MN, passed away peacefully at home on May 13, 2014. George is survived by loving wife, Leora. He leaves behind a legacy of family strengthened by his devotion. He had been in poor health for some time. He was a 202XX and served several tours in USAFSS, including England, Hawaii and the HQ. //Obit – Washburn-McReavy Funeral Home// //Notification and Input – Harold "Whitey" Carstensen//



We lost another Eagle. I just got notification from his wife, Mary, that **Greyson T. Bassett** passed from cancer on April 5th, 2012. On April 4th, 2011 He was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma with 6-12 months to live. He made it one year and a day. He was a SSgt Chinese linguist (RA 20351mb) and flew out of Kadena late 60's through early 70's. Greyson was a great guy and good friend. Please post in the next FTVA Remain in Touch and I will try to get his address to you so you may mail a copy to his wife. Thank you. //Robert G. Pleak//

Greyson and I co-captained the PHS tennis team in 1966. More than 20 years later we reconnected in Washington DC, when he was an Air Force officer serving on the staff of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Colin Powell. I think of that meeting often. He was a special guy, and I will miss him. //Gary Buff//

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**Peter H. "Pete" Bolte**, 66 died Sept 12, 2013 in Itasca, IL. Pete, a member of the 6918<sup>th</sup> RSM/SS, was a Communications Analyst (202) on Dawg Flight during 1969-1972. //No Obit// //Notified by Carol Farr – 6918<sup>th</sup>//

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**CMSgt Alexander "AL" or "Mr. B" Buinickas** as he was affectionately known died Jan 13, 2013, following an extended illness. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, the love of his life for 65 years, Jessica. Chief Buinickas was a life member of the FTVA. //Notified by – Dick Garrant//

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**Kenneth Dale Calley**, 69, died Mar 31, 2014 after losing his battle with lung cancer. Ken served in the U.S. Air Force, from which he was honorably discharged after 4 years of service. He was stationed at the 6918<sup>th</sup> from 1964-1965 as a 292XX. Ken is survived by his 2 sons, Patrick and Scott. //Obit – **Bakersfield Californian**// //Notified – **6918<sup>th</sup> RGM/RSM**//

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**Olivia M. Clements**, 64, died May 20 2014. Olivia was an Auxiliary Member of the VFW post 8800, Bulverde Area Republican Women and worked in the Mortgage industry for over 35 years. Olivia is survived and will be greatly missed by her loving husband of 45 years, John H. Clements Jr. //Obit – **Express News**// //Notified by **Ron Moyer**//

Saw in the paper today that John Clements' wife, Olivia passed away. John was a Comms type and we served together at Vito and then the Hqs, as both military and civilian. So sorry to hear about his loss. //Ron Moyer//

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**A2C John P. Corryn**, 82, died May 30, 2014, with his family by his side, at age 82. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Nella. John served his country in the U.S. Air Force for four years during the Korean Conflict. //Obit – **Rochester Democrat and Chronicle**//

With a heavy heart and extreme sadness, I am sharing with you an email from Stephen Corryn announcing the passing of his father, **John P Corryn** on 30 May (see Stephen's email below). While I did not know John during our Air Force careers, I have come to know him and love him like a brother from our annual reunion gatherings of flying comrades. John Corryn was indeed a pioneer in airborne reconnaissance, including at least a couple of highly secret nighttime photo recon missions aboard RB-45 aircraft over North Korea during the Korean War. He was also a charter member of the first aircrew to fly signals intelligence missions aboard the first airborne signals intelligence reconnaissance platform prototype (RB-29A 44-62290) in the early

1950's. John was highly regarded and admired by all of us airborne recon flyers that flew similar missions in later years. I last saw John at our PWG reunion in Syracuse, NY, last October -- RIP JOHN P. CORRYN, we miss you, Brother! //Larry Tart//

Dear Larry,

Wanted to let you know that my dad passed away Friday May 30th. He went in to the Dr. at the end of April, with what we thought was the flu. It turned out to be late stage lung cancer. It all happened very fast; he got great care and didn't suffer. He spoke about you often and always looked forward to seeing you. I'm at a loss for words at the moment, but I wanted to let you know and thank you for being his good friend. //Respectfully, Steve Corryn//

Quoting another USAFSS airborne recon pioneer, Richard (Perry) Hain, "John was the first 'airborne' radio technician in the Far East and maybe the first in either theater." After completing electronics and airborne radar repair courses and flight training at Keesler AFB, A2C John Corryn arrived in late 1952 in his first operational assignment -- Det 12, 1st RSM, Wakkanai, Japan. At Wakkanai, he was the lead operator-technician in the activation of USAFSS's first ELINT intercept facility in the Far East. Corryn's assignment in Det 12 was short-lived; after he trained other operators to assume the ELINT mission, the 6920th Security Group's C/E Officer, Maj. Leslie J. Bolstridge, handpicked Airman Corryn as the Group's enlisted member on a three-man site survey team. Using equipment cobbled together by Corryn -- a collapsible VHF antenna and jury-rigged receivers hauled around in a crude two-wheeled cart -- the team traipsed around Hokkaido in the spring of 1953 searching for a suitable location for Security Service's second VHF intercept site in northern Japan (Wakkanai was the first one). For the second site, the team evaluated and selected the tiny island of Okushiri Shima, which is located just off the southwestern tip of Hokkaido in the Sea of Japan, and the 1st RSM activated Det 3, 1st RSM on Okushiri Shima in late 1953.

Meanwhile, A1C John P. Corryn became a charter member of Security Service's first operational airborne communications intelligence reconnaissance unit that was created at Yokota Air Base, Japan, in early 1954. After USAFSS had field-tested its ACRP prototype RB-29A 44-62290 in the Far East and Europe in 1952-1953, the command redeployed the ACRP to Yokota Air Base, where it was reassigned to the

91st SRS. Corryn and a cadre of airborne voice intercept operators who had been flying missions on TDY at Johnson Air Base in 1953, relocated to Yokota where they were attached to the 91st SRS. In addition to recon missions aboard 62290, Corryn logged missions aboard RC-47's, RB-50's, and on two occasions, he served as the intercept operator aboard RB-45's during penetration flights over North Korea. Truly a pioneer who made significant contributions to the evolving USAFSS mission in the Far East in the early 1950's, John Corryn completed his enlistment with Det 1, 6924th RSM at Yokota in 1955. I'm honored to have known him -- RIP Brother! //Larry Tart//

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**Mary Agnes Croft**, 91, passed away on June 1, 2014 after a brief hospitalization. At the end of World War II, she married a returning pilot she had known since high school, William Croft. Together they travelled the world on Air Force assignments to California, Washington, Morocco, Germany and finally San Antonio in 1969.

//Obit – Express News// //Notified by – Jim Youngson//

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**MSgt Bruce Frederick Deere**, 75, died 9 June 2014. He graduated from Brownwood High School with the Class of 1957. Bruce enlisted in the USAF after graduating to fly fighter jets. Because of a burn spot in his right eye, due to looking through a hole in a cup at a sun eclipse during his earlier years at school, the Air Force would not let him fly their jets. Bruce became an expert in the Russian language and traveled all over the world with the Air Force listening to the Russians over radio waves and interpreting their actions to the U.S. Air Force. Bruce taught the Russian language at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo to new recruits until his retirement after 20 years of service 1978. Bruce married Linda-Carole Clark on Feb. 6, 1960. They were married for 54 years before his wife's death on March 24, 2014. They lived in San Antonio, Texas, where their first two kids were born; Biloxi, Mississippi; Hoff, Germany, where their last son was born; San Angelo, Texas; Misawa, Japan; and finally back to San Angelo. //Obit – GoSanAngelo//

Bruce became an expert in the Russian language and traveled all over the world with the Air Force listening to the Russians over radio waves and interpreting their actions to the U.S. Air Force. Bruce taught the Russian language at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo to new recruits until his retirement after 20 years of service 1978. Bruce married Linda-Carole Clark on Feb. 6, 1960. They were married for 54 years before his wife's death on March 24, 2014. They lived in San Antonio, Texas, where their first two kids were born; Biloxi, Mississippi; Hoff, Germany, where their last son was born; San Angelo, Texas; Misawa, Japan; and finally back to San Angelo. //Obit – GoSanAngelo//

I am so sorry to hear this. Bruce was a 203x on Trick 3 when I was there, one of the first “found” in the project. He passed away June 9, 2014, as our 12th reunion wrapped up. He will be added to our Fallen Eagles roster. //Helen Henderson – Misawa Web Site//

\*\*\*\*\*



**Linda-Carole Clark Deere**, 71, died Mar 24, 2014. In February of 1960, she married Bruce F. Deere of the United States Air Force. They spent 54 years, one month and 18 days together. They lived in San Antonio, Texas, Biloxi, Miss., Hoff, Germany, Misawa, Japan and finally making it back home to West Texas living in San Angelo, Eldorado and Robert Lee. //Obit – GoSanAngelo//

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**Norman Michael Dorris**, 77, died May 26, 2014. His wife Carol and high school sweetheart was by his side. In 1957 after he graduated from high school, he joined the Air Force. He was stationed at the 6918<sup>th</sup> RGM/SS from 1958-1959 working as a 292XX on baker Flight. He ended his military service in Sacramento, California in 1961. He is survived by his wife Carol. //Obit –

**Sacramento Bee// //Notified – 6918<sup>th</sup> RGM/SS//**

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It is with heavy heart that I write to tell you that a dear friend, **Gary Dunlap**, of Richardson Texas succumbed to cancer at 0039 hrs on May 27, 2014. Gary worked for me, as a young troop, in Germany at the 6901<sup>ST</sup> SG from 1961 to 1964. From Germany he went to Okinawa. //Notified by -MSgt Jim Williams, USAF

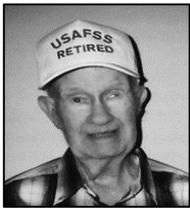
**Retired Life Member//**



**Bruce Fears, 68, died Oct 26, 2013** after a long, difficult and well fought battle with Alzheimer's. After graduating high school, Bruce enlisted in the Air Force in June of 1963. After basic training he went to tech school in Ft. Meade, MD and was trained in the security intelligence field, then to Texas and Mississippi for further training as a Non-Morse

Systems Operator. Bruce's first tour of duty was in Bremerhaven, Germany then to RAF Chicksands, England, Philippines, Altus, OK, Saudi Arabia, Ogden, UT, back to England, then his last tour was in Yakima, WA where he retired from the Air Force after 20 years of service. Bruce is survived by his wife, Phyllis. //Obit – Myers Mortuary// //Notified – Jim Klima – Roll Call//

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**MSgt Jerome A. "Jerry" Fischer, 80 died June 1, 2014.** Jerry spent over 26 years serving in the USAF, spending 17 years of his military career overseas. Jerry was an intelligence analyst. In 1985, Jerry married his sweetheart, Lee who survives. //Obit – Bandera Co. Courier// //Notified by Walt Ritter//

Jerry lived next door to me in Misawa Japan. I sure know a lot of war stories about his adventures. //Ron Marcoullier

Sad news, indeed. I have known Jerry since our early days in Misawa in the mid to late 1960s. Jerry was a good person and always had a good attitude. My condolences to Jerry's wife and family. May he rest in peace. //Ed Benningfield//

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**Ralph D. Gerhardt, 74, died May 26, 2014.** He is survived by his loving wife, Mary Ann Gerhardt. Ralph graduated from Brackenridge High School in 1958 and St. Mary's University in 1962 with a bachelor degree in both mathematics and physics. He started his career as programmer for the United States Air Force Security

Service where he worked for 31 years and attained the position of Director of Information Services. He served Wilson County in social and government activities. //Obit Express News//



**Walter Odell Isaac**, 81, of Valrico, FL. passed away Mar 26, 2014. A native of Bishopville, SC, he had resided here since 1992 coming from New York. He was retired from the US Air Force and a Viet Nam veteran. Walter was a 292X2 and served three tours in Misawa (64-67, 68-70, 72-74). He is survived by his

wife, Ursala. //Obit – Tampa Bay Times// //Info – Dave Bethard – Hakata Group//

May Ike rest in peace, always a gentleman and well respected by all. Was an X1 SIT Controller when I knew him. //Jim Woolbert//

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**Col. Jerry M. Johnson**, 83, passed away at the age of 83 on Saturday, July 26, 2014. He had a distinguished Air Force career for over 35 years. He served in Vietnam and was a veteran of 284 combat missions over Southeast Asia and a command pilot with more than 6,200 flying hours. Noteworthy awards include the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, 2 Meritorious Service Medals,

and 15 Air Medals. He retired as the Commander of Air Force Cryptologic Support Center, Kelly AFB in 1983. He is survived by his wife, Jan. His passion for flying and the love of his country was only surpassed by the love for his family. //Obit Express News// //Notified by Bob Cope//

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**Mary Jo Klingeman** died on May 28, 2014. By age 15, Mary Jo had entered the University of Texas where she studied economics. After college, Mary Jo spent three years in New York City, where she earned a Master's Degree in Economics from Columbia University and worked for a year as a research analyst for an investment banking firm. When Mary Jo

returned to Texas, she became a San Antonio German Club debutante and began doing cryptography work for the U.S. Air Force's Security Service. She is survived by her children Forrester, Banks and Joanne. //Obit – Express News//



**Colleen Lucas**, 85, teacher, loving wife and mother, passed away on June 4, 2014. She was a member of the First Christian Church of Stephenville, TX and Order of the Eastern Star, Brian, TX. "One of the best troopers to ever be a member of USAFSS. She never saw the inside of Operations, but she was still a 'spook'. She taught school in most of our duty assignments, including a 5-year stint in charge of Kiddie Kollege at Misawa AB for five years." //SMSgt (ret) **Richard Lucas**//

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**MSgt Francis Edward "Frank" Merson** died July 3, 2014 in San Angelo, TX. Retiring from the US Air Force after 20 years of service, he worked as a military contractor, then a handyman. He was his mother's caretaker and loved her very much. He is survived by his mother, Nola and wife Mary. //Obit -

**GoSanAngelo**//

Frank was a 202. I first met him in 1980 when I was assigned to the Mobile Ops Sq. at Det 4, 6911<sup>th</sup> ESS, (later rolled into the 6913<sup>th</sup>) Augsburg, GE. He and his family came to Augsburg from Goodfellow AFB where he was an instructor. Frank and family returned to the states in 1983 and was assigned again to instructor duty at Goodfellow. He retired there as MSgt around 1988. The only other assignment I recall him talking about was the 6917<sup>th</sup> at San Vito. There was no mention of his age in the obit, but I do recall him being the age of my older brother born in 1946 that would make him around 68. //Jim Riley//

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**CMSgt Walter Joseph Minchew Jr.** died June 26, 2014 in Lubbock, Texas. Walt was born October 1, 1944 in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. To follow his lifelong dream to travel the world, Walt joined the Air Force and spent 30 years serving his country. While stationed at Seymour Johnson AFB, Walt met and married Virginia French, the love of his life. His career would take them all over the world. Everyone who knew Walt remember his quick wit and personality. He is survived by his wife and best friend, Ginni. //Obit - **Express News**//

Lost a good friend. Sad to report that CMSgt (R) Walt "Junior" Minchew has passed away in Lubbock TX. Knew Walt for a long time. He was the X1 Liaison at the X1 school at Keesler circa 72. I replaced him in the Hqs in 78 and we handpicked him to help open the AF portion of Kunia in 81. Not sure of all his assignments, but he may have also been at Taiwan and Randolph. //Ron Moyer//

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**Timothy Dwane Morton**, 59 died passed May 28, 2014. He was born January 21, 1955 in Cambridge, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Carol. //Obit - **Baldwin Fairchild Funeral Home**// //Notified by **Jimmy Mayer**//

It is with great sadness that I have to report the loss of Tim Morton. I received this news late last night (28 May). Tim passed away of an apparent heart attack. Condolences to Carol and family. I do not have an address for Carol. Tim flew recon missions as a Russian linguist in the 1980's-1990's. Assignments included: DLI Basic Russian, Goodfellow 7/74-11/74, TUSLOG Det 94-1 Karamursel CDI Turkey 12/74-8/76, 6950th ESG, RAF Chicksands, UK, NSA A-2 Ft Meade, MD. Break in service 6/77-9/79. 6950th ESG, DOFA , DLI Intermediate Russian 9/82-10/83, Goodfellow , 6985th ESS, 6994th ESS 5/91-3/95, 25th IS 6/93-12/94 On semi-permanent TDY. RIP Tim. //Jimmy Mayer//

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**Charlotte "Faye" Neighbors** died May 9, 2014. A devoted and loving wife and mother, Faye is the treasured wife of Larry Neighbors. She loved being an Air Force wife and enjoyed traveling the world with her beloved husband and family, eventually moving back to LaGrange and then later in retirement, moving to Newnan, Georgia. Whether in Okinawa, Greece, San

Antonio, LaGrange, Taiwan, or Newnan, Georgia, Faye was always active in serving others and even in ill health, she ministered to others. She lived a life of integrity and service to others. She was the director of the Grass Mountain Teen Club in Taiwan, as well as the Director of Teen Challenge Taiwan. //Obit **LaGrange Daily News**// //Notified by **Bob Wynn - Misawa Web Site**//



**Frank V. Pellittere**, 68, died on Mar 18, 2014. Frank was a member of the 6918<sup>th</sup> RSM from 1964-1966 serving on C-Flight as a 292XX. He is survived by his wife, Jo-Ann. //Obit – The Star-Ledger// //Notified by the 6918<sup>th</sup>//

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**Eric M Popp**, 68, died February 4, 2014. He was a resident of Jasper, Indiana. Eric was a 292XX while assigned to the 6918RGM/SS in 1965. He was reassigned to Itazuke, Japan and served in Vietnam. He is survived by daughter Emi Donato. V.F.W. Pose #673 conducted military rites. //Obit – Dubois County Free

**Press// //Notification and Input – 6918<sup>th</sup> RGM/SS//**

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**MSgt Fred Franklin Shelton**, 81, went to be with his Lord on Wednesday, June 25, 2014. Fred retired after serving 21 years in the U.S. Air Force Security Service. He held memberships in Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph's Council #3287, the Democratic Club and the Berlin Dancing Bears while stationed in Germany. Not

enough space, nor time to list the endless ways in which he enhanced, enriched and blessed our lives and the lives of everyone he met. He was well loved and we are proud that we shared in his adventure. He is survived by his loving wife Barbara. //Obit – Express News//

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**Anna Mae Vernone**, 87, passed away July 23, 2014. She was a member of the St. Luke's Alter Society, Red Hats Society and to various Historical Societies. She was preceded in death by her husband Maj Merle J. Vernone (FTVA HOH member) and is survived by her children, Michael, Mark, Michelle, and Maryann. //Obit – Express

**News// Darrell McCurdy//**

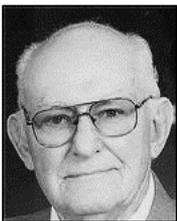


**CMSgt Don B. Wade.** Don passed away at his home in Wylie, TX on June 29, 2014. A Memorial Service was held in the Allen Funeral Home in Wylie on 3 July 2014. In addition to his wife of 15 years, Charlotte, other members of his family and friends attended. His children Patricia, Nancy, Kristin, Don, and Kelly; two step-children, Russell and Tonya; his brothers Joe and

Jerry; and grandchildren Alyssa, Samantha, and Victoria were all in attendance. Among his friends, co-workers, and military associates were: CMSgt, (Ret.) Rick Wadle and daughter, Ashley; Dave Mauk; George Qualls and wife and Bob Cotti. A USAF Honor Guard officiated at the Dallas/Fort Worth National Cemetery on July 3rd. **//Notified by Dave Mauk//**

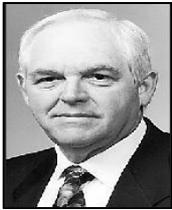
There was a very touching note included in the Memorial Bulletin from BG (Ret.) Thomas B. Wood. General Wood said, "I have known Don for over 40 years. Much of this time was spent in our Air Force. During this time we became very close friends. After we both retired we continued this relationship. Don's family and I served together in Iran in 1975 which strengthened our relationship even more. Over the years we have continued to keep in touch. I enjoyed his many emails on world affairs along with his analytical analysis. It has indeed been an honor and privilege to have known Don. He is a true "American Hero." I will truly miss him." **//Bob Cotti//**

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**CMSgt Rupert Calvin Watson Jr.,** 91, died Sunday, April 27, 2014 in Columbus MS. A very patriotic man, he was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, an Army Air Corp veteran of the Korean War, and a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, retiring in 1974 after nearly 31 years of service. He served as an alderman for the town of Hatley. Gaining joy from helping others, he

was a member of Meadowood Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon. He is survived by his son Tom. **//Obit – Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal. //Notified by James Alverson//**



**Curry P. "Pete" Weathers Jr.**, 71, passed away peacefully July 25, 2013 from complications of A.L.S. Pete served in the USAF for 25 years and enjoyed assignments in Germany, Japan, Korea, Maryland, and Texas. He retired from the Air Force in 1985 and began working at Magnavox in Fort Wayne. He retired from

Raytheon in 2010 after 25 years. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Suzan //Obit – Ft Wayne Newspapers// //Notified by wife – Suzan//

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**SMSgt Lawrence A. Wyatt Jr.**, 78, died June 3rd 2014 after a four year battle with cancer. He is preceded in death by his wife Jeanette and is survived by his daughter Jane. //Obit – Express News//We lost a USAFSS Roll Call Member yesterday 3 June, 2014. He was a good friend and neighbor. SMSgt(R) Larry

Wyatt. Larry was a Comms type and his last assignment was in the Hqs during the early 80's. Larry worked for a contractor for a period after he retired. He was also Past President of the Woodglen Homeowners Association. I salute an old friend. //Ron Moyer – Misawa Web Site//

Larry was a top notch tech controller in the comms area and a close friend. He was the guiding point in the development of the technical control installed at all our units. His strength of character was a main stay in his career. He will be missed by those of us that worked with him. Rest in peace. //Ron Weaver//

Ron, so sad to learn this news. Larry was one of the mainstays in working the communications circuit requirements for all the HFDF (FLR-9) sites. He was always on top of getting the circuits either rerouted or upgraded when we needed them the most. Larry was also a personal friend over the years...sadly we drifted apart as time passed. Rest in Peace, old friend. //Tom Nurre//



.....BITS::AND::BYTES:.....

## What's Been Happening?

Submitted by Dave Naab Aug 3, 2014

**U.S. official: Spy plane flew over Sweden to evade Russian military tracking//**From **Barbara Starr**, CNN Pentagon Correspondent updated 1:08 PM EDT, Sat August 2, 2014//

**File photo of a U.S. Air Force RC-135 Rivet Joint, the type of aircraft involved in the July 17 incident. STORY HIGHLIGHTS**

U.S. military official tells CNN the incident occurred on July 18 RC-135 Rivet Joint was on electronic eavesdropping mission in international airspace Russians began tracking with ground radar, and sent at least one fighter to intercept U.S. plane evaded encounter by flying into Swedish airspace without permission.



Washington (CNN) -- A U.S. Air Force spy plane evaded an encounter with the Russian military in recent days by flying into nearby Swedish airspace without that country's permission, a U.S. military official told CNN. The RC-135 Rivet Joint plane was flying in international airspace, conducting an electronic eavesdropping mission on the Russian military, when the Russians took the unusual action of beginning to track it with one of its land-based radar. The Russians then sent at least one fighter jet into the sky to intercept the American aircraft, the U.S. official said Saturday.

The July 18 incident was first reported by the Swedish media group DN.se. There was no immediate reaction on the encounter from Russian officials. The spy plane crew felt concerned enough about the radar tracking that they wanted to get out of the area as quickly as possible, the

official said. The quickest route away from the Russians took them into Swedish airspace. The U.S. official acknowledged that was done without Swedish military approval.

As a result of this incident, the United States is discussing the matter with Sweden and letting them know there may be further occurrences where American jets may have to divert so quickly they may not be able to wait for permission. Russian and U.S. aircraft often encounter each other, both in Northern Europe as well as the area between the Russian Far East and Alaska. But the official said the land radar activity by the Russians in this instance was unusual. The ongoing civil unrest in Ukraine and the downing of a Malaysian airliner over eastern Ukraine on July 17 have heightened tensions between Washington and Moscow. Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was brought down by a suspected surface-to-air missile, killing all 298 people aboard. Pro-Russia rebels have denied allegations from Ukraine and the West that they shot down the Malaysian Airliner.

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E-Mail address: [bobthebuilder1059@outlook.com](mailto:bobthebuilder1059@outlook.com)

Name: James Hawkins

Comment: My Uncle James Wallace Bullard (Jim or JW), served the USAFSS at NAK-NAK and other places, for several years, 52-56 I think it was, we often talk about work, as much about his work as he feels comfortable to share given the oath he took many years ago. My sincere thanks for all that this group has done, is doing and will do to provide security for this great Nation

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Name: Skip Clinton <[hmc486@gmail.com](mailto:hmc486@gmail.com)>

Found this quote in one of my WEB Griffin books. Thought you might be able to stick it in the RIT.

26 July 1777

“The necessity of procuring good intelligence is apparent and need not be further urged.” George Washington

General and Commander in Chief  
The Continental Army

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E-Mail address: [jameshood@mchsi.com](mailto:jameshood@mchsi.com)

Name: James Hood

Unit: HQ Air Intelligence Command

Comment: Recently made contact with a few USAFSS buddies from half a century ago. Would like to expand the list. In my early years (1958-68) I was usually known as "JB Hood." Thanx.

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E-Mail address: [jedh@jedh.com](mailto:jedh@jedh.com)

Name: Jared "Jed": Handpicker

Unit: 694th IG (Ft Meade)

Comment: Entered the service just after AFSS had changed to ESC. Assigned as either ditty-bop or instructor of one kind or another throughout my AF career. Postings included: 1980-83 Chicksands 1983-85 Kunia 1985-88 Goodfellow 1988-91 Chicksands 1991-94 Devens 1994-97 Meade 1997-98 Osan 1998-2000 Meade (retired)

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E-Mail address: [wsenecal@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wsenecal@nycap.rr.com)

Name: Wayne T Senecal

Unit: 6912th Sec. Sq., USAFSS

Comment: Recently became a member of FTVA, having previously been on the Berlin Island Association and 6912th page on MyFamily, which is now defunct. Would be interested if any other sites are out there. I was a Russian "KAN" op on Able Flight at Marienfelde and Templehof in West Berlin from 1967 to 1969.

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E-Mail address: [BARROW007X@AOL.COM](mailto:BARROW007X@AOL.COM) Jul 22

Name: Robert [Bobby] Barrow

Unit: DET 1, 6911th RGM

Comment: Wondering about the whereabouts of Capt Luther Tarbox, SSGT Bill Bain MSGT Nathan C. Britt.

From: Bob Cope

To: BARROW007X

Bobby-- Lou Tarbox passed away in 2009, Nate Britt in 2010, and Bill Bain in the 1980s..... FTVA maintains a Fallen Eagle data base here: <http://www.ftva.org/eagles/index.cfm>

Why don't you join us?

<http://www.ftva.org/membership/FTVAApplication.pdf>

The Prop Wash Gang has almost 2,000 old fliers..... <http://www.propwashgang.org/>

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# Membership Application

Last Name	First Name	MI
Home Phone	E-Mail Address (optional)	
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
<b>Inclusive Years of Service:</b> ____/____ to ____/____ (MM/YYYY)                      (MM/YYYY)	Make your check or money order payable to: <b>FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION</b> P.O. Box 691616 San Antonio, TX 78269-1616	
Yearly Memberships are \$20.00 Please check one: <input type="checkbox"/> New Regular Membership <input type="checkbox"/> New Associate Membership (**see below for description) <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change	<b>Age range for life membership rates:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 76 and over..... \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> 71-75 ..... \$95 <input type="checkbox"/> 66-70 ..... \$115 <input type="checkbox"/> 61-65 ..... \$160 <input type="checkbox"/> 56-60 ..... \$170 <input type="checkbox"/> 51-55 ..... \$185 <input type="checkbox"/> 46-50 ..... \$200 <input type="checkbox"/> 41-45 ..... \$220 <input type="checkbox"/> 36-40 ..... \$235 <input type="checkbox"/> 31-35 ..... \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 and under ..... \$265	
<b>Optional information we publish in the yearly membership directory:</b>  Rank/Grade: ____/____  Retired: Y / N  HAM Call Sign: _____  Cell Phone: _____	<b>Last Organization:</b> (USAFSS / ESC / AFIC / AIA / AFISR Agency)	
<b>PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:</b> The authority to request this information is contained in Public Law 86-36 and Executive Order 12036. The principle purpose of the information is to establish a mailing list for membership rosters containing the name, address and telephone number of all members of the association periodically. Furnishing the information is voluntary; failure to provide the requested information will result in your not being listed. Your signature below* indicates that you have read and understand the above.		
Signature _____		
<b>Regular Membership:</b> Former military and civilian personnel of the United States Air Force Security Service (USAFSS), Electronic Security Command (ESC) and Air Force Intelligence Command (AFIC), Air Intelligence Agency (AIA), and past or present military and civilian personnel of the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency (AF ISR Agency).		
<b>**Associate Membership applies to the following categories:</b> (1) Surviving spouse of deceased individual who would qualify as a regular member. (2) Vigilant Partner organizations that actively support AF ISR Agency recognition programs. (3) DOD personnel (as individually approved by the Board of Directors) who, because of their close association to USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA, or AF ISR Agency, perpetuate the objectives of the Association. (4) Air Force personnel, assigned to intelligence organizations which are not assigned or attached to the Air Force ISR Agency, who support and perpetuate the objectives of the Association. The Board of Directors may designate persons eligible for membership in this category as individuals, by Air Force specialty, or may designate organizations whose members are eligible as a group.		

# THE FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

[HTTP://WWW.FTVA.ORG](http://www.ftva.org)

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A PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT CORPORATION ESTABLISHED IN 1981. DEDICATED TO THE SUPPORT AND PERPETUATION OF SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND HUMANITARIAN SERVICES FOR USAF AND THE AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE AND RECONNAISSANCE AGENCY IN PARTICULAR.

ALL FORMER AND CURRENT MILITARY OR CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF AFISR AGENCY AND ITS PREDECESSOR COMMANDS OR AGENCIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP.

SURVIVING SPOUSES OF DECEASED PERSONNEL ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBER STATUS.