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www.fac-assoc.org

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Dennis Crouch

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dennis Crouch FAC Association Pres.
NAIL 23 NKP 70-71 & 504 TASG 71

Warm greetings to our FAC family. We have a lot to be thankful for, but sometimes, with the help of the media, we dwell on the negative. Many good things are happening, but unfortunately they don't make the newscasts. Our military men and women are doing a tremendous job, nowhere more evident than in

Iraq and Afghanistan. They cannot get enough credit. I know every one of us supports their efforts. They, like us and those before us, protect America's greatest ideals. They are indeed our heroes.

In that regard, all of us FACs and FAC support personnel are getting up there in age, and will one day pass from this earth. We want to ensure that as many of our brothers as possible are recognized at the time of their passing. We have been doing that when able, but we lack an organized approach. So that no brother goes unrecognized, your board has developed a standard process that will require YOUR HELP to meet that goal. Without YOUR HELP we will be unable to recognize all of our departed brothers. Here's what we need to do:

> We all need to keep our eyes and ears open for the loss of a brother and communicate that fact through the FACNET. If you are not on the FACNET then you need to let the FAC Association Points of Contact (POCs) know by phone or e-mail. Quick action is critical, as often there is little notice.

- **Points of Contact:** Primary: **Bob Green (C3B)**
540-775-2830 e-mail numba1cc@crosslink.net
- Secondary: **Fred Pumroy**
937-878-7257 e-mail flmapumroy@aol.com

> Using the membership listing by state they will find the most available member to attend the funeral. This by no means would preclude you or any member from attending the service of a friend. Please notify the POC if you will attend. An e-mail will be sent to the FAC representative attending, with pertinent information and suggestions for appropriate remarks, the "nickel on the grass" tradition, and presentation of Dale Hill's FAC Tribute, with his permission. The presenter should consider wearing his miniature medals.

> The FAC Association president will send a letter to the family on behalf of the Association. Members knowing the departed brother should provide personal information to the POC for inclusion. Time permitting, the letter will be transmitted to the representative attending, for presentation to the family. Also, the newsletter will continue to publish the names of departed brothers and include addresses so any of you who desire can send a letter or card to the family.

> Importantly, we will make any widow an Associate Member if she desires, with no dues, and continue to provide her with the Association newsletter.

- > **Please help to honor our comrades in this Association effort.**

NOTES OF INTEREST

Dayton Reunion Memorabilia: For those who attended, thanks for hanging in there. You should received have your DVD, FACeros CD, and the reunion coin. If not, contact **Zot** at 937-429-2110 or zot250@ameritech.net.

Presidents corner cont.

Lots of things are happening amongst us, as noted in more detail elsewhere in this issue. Mark your calendars and make your plans for :

FACtoberfest, 26 and 27 Oct 2007 at Meacham Field, Fort Worth, TX, home of the FAC Museum and OV-10 Bronco Association. Great group of past and present warbirds.

Australian FAC Reunion 2008, 23 to 28 April 2008 in Canberra. Several Americans plan to make the trip—join them! Planning is continuing and registration forms should be available this October. Note on page 6 the tour forming for this great trip.

FAC Association Reunion 2008, October, 2008 in the Colorado Springs area. Plan to make this one. Brig. Gen. (ret) Joe Potter is the chairman, and you can expect much more information in the future. The AF Academy just may figure in this one, including the AF-Navy football game!

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and please don't hesitate to let us know of anything we can do to improve it. I want to thank Tim Eby, our intrepid newsletter editor, for his invaluable services. (*Aw shucks*) Let Tim or me know if you have suggestions. You can reach Tim at teby540@embarqmail.com or (254) 796-4850 or me at deniscrouch@earthlink.net or (937) 426-6246.

Let us continue to keep our military men and women, and their families, in our thoughts and prayers. Given the political division we see, I can only express my profound gratitude for their service and selfless on-going efforts. God Bless them all!

My regards,
Denny Crouch



Editor's note: As you will see below and on the right side of this page, Bob Gorman is putting in long hours as your new treasurer, trying to streamline the Association's financial processes and reduce our overhead. Besides being a computer whiz and a great help to me, a devout non-whiz, he's a good guy with a sense of humor, rugged good looks, and almost no criminal convictions.

Thanks, Bob, for all you do for our Association.

A Word of Caution from the Treasurer

Until I am able to verify with the IRS that the Association does in fact enjoy the tax benefits of a "Non Profit Organization" I would caution you to use care when filling out your personal tax returns. We should have a clear reading from the IRS in time for the 2007 tax year.



TREASURER'S REPORT

FAC Association Treasurer
Bob Gorman



1 July, 2007

The transition from our past financial management team to the current team is still in progress.

The vast majority of our financial assets have been transferred from the original Florida bank account to the "FIRST BANK" here in Southern California. I was able to setup a "no fee" business account that provides the Association with the capability to do "on line" banking via the internet. Using this capability I am able to have a direct link between the bank and the accounting software on my computer here at home. This link makes it possible for me to provide you with current financial status on call. Speaking of financial status, here's a rundown of how your money is being handled. With the approval of our BOD I've established four \$15000 interest bearing CDs, one \$31,000 Money market account, and a small checking account that I use to funnel your dues into the money market account.

Today's bottom lineThe Association is comfortably solvent, and other than our twice a year Newsletter bill, we don't have any outstanding bills.

Since early November I've been deeply involved in a project that has as its goal**Expense Reduction**.....I've processed over 1000 emails trying to "validate" the email addresses of our life members and those who's dues are fully paid . This validation process means that we have a good email address and the recipient has the capability to receive and download the FAC Newsletter. So far there are over 300 of you who will be reading this Treasurer's Report on line....Congratulations!!

Your Membership Dues..... A bit of Humor

During January and February of this year I processed more than 300 of your checks and data sheets.

Some of you were so trusting that you made the checks out to me personally and some of you didn't even fill out the payee line. But the bank took them anyway and your money is now safely in the bank!

One guy who was described as *03 Paid* sent in a \$20 check.....wonder what he thought that was going to get him? (*Ken knows, I don't, I just put the money in the bank!*)

During the email validation exercise one guy said "I think I'm paid up thru September."He must think he's paying his dues as if they were a magazine subscription.....

Well here's the bottom line.....I'm managing your financial resources on an accounting year that starts on 1 January and ends on 31 December. So please readjust your dues payment schedule accordingly.

Bob Gorman,
Jake 44, 20th TASS, Quang Nagi, 66-67



IN MEMORIAM

“To fly west, my friend, is a flight we all must take for a final check.” — *Author unknown*

John T. Williams	23Nov06
James F. Ochsenhirt	Unk
Kenneth R. Milam	04Jan07
Dave “Dutch” Helms	01Nov06
Arn Meyer	15Feb07
Philip Tague	22Feb07
Burton T. Miller, Jr	05Mar07
Bill Sleigh	05Apr07

AH, #639 IS ALIVE and POTENTIALLY WELL!

From the FACNET by **Ken Simmler**

Greetings to the team. On 21May, thanks to Graham Neal, Pete Condon and I visited the friendly establishment where all sorts of gear is restored and stored for display in the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The beloved airframe 639 is comfortable in the two containers, and I saw for myself that it is possible for an OV-10 wing to fit into a 40' container! We met the gent who did the recovery from the Philippines, and he sure did a good job. Yes, 639 is just a hunk of metal and other stuff, but is living history and evidence of the fun and games we shared; i.e. US, 'OZ', and Kiwi. It was a remarkable feeling to see the aeroplane after 37 years; not long! The AWM team is keen, and we sure will have something to view at next year's reunion in 'OZ'. Great stuff! So fellas, crank stuff into gear and get your 639 flight records in to Darrel Whitcomb quick smart. Can hardly believe 639 has arrived in Australia. You little ripper! And now for a glass or three of Barossa red.

Ken, Issue 28, Rash 38

Australian FAC Reunion 2008

American & New Zealand FACs are invited to join us in Canberra for the 2008 Australian FAC reunion, 23 to 28 April. Canberra is a 3 1/2 hr drive or an hour flight southwest of Sydney. Highlights follow:

Wednesday, 23 Apr: Arrival, registration, reception @ Rydges Lakeside Hotel. Accommodation website up soon.

Thursday, 24 Apr: Guided tours of AWM and its Treloar Conservation Centre, visit OV-10 #639, Canberra's shopping district, then Ken Simmler's famous St Jakobi wine tasting.

Friday, 25 Apr: Anzac Day dawn service (start @ 0415—no problem, you'll be up anyway with your jetlag!) and a prominent position in the Anzac Day march. (sport coat & tie), BBQ luncheon, play with kangaroos, evening free.

Saturday, 26 Apr: Bus tour to Temora Aviation Museum, including a 3-hour flying display of FAC airplanes, A-37 and other warbirds. Long day; you get to see the countryside!

Sunday, 27 Apr: Free day, activities at your discretion. Semi-formal dinner with guest speaker in evening at Rydges Lakeside.

Monday, 28 Apr: Concluding event at AWM is dedication of the Commemorative Plaque @ 1000, including a flypast by 0-1 and 0-2. Followed by morning tea and tours of AWM galleries. Departure at your discretion. Visit the rest of Australia, or continue enjoying Canberra. MAC the FAC Cottrell via Peter Condon

Hey, you aren't going to live forever—you'd better do this trip while you still can. Good stuff, you little ripper! Goodonya. Ed.

The Tiger Tague approach to Bien Hoa

Photo by Charlie Morrison



639 in 1969

L- Ron Slater
R- Peter Condon

Photo courtesy Peter Condon

Call for data on OV-10 67-14639

Posted by Nail 25@aol.com

Folks, I got a request for information on this OV-10 from the Senior Curator, Military Heraldry and Technology, Australian War Memorial. They have taken possession of this aircraft and are preparing it for display in their War Memorial. They need help in capturing its history. Quote: *To understand and commemorate the wider US context of the use of the Bronco, we will need information on...the experiences of US aircrew who also flew 639 on operations...639 was a US aircraft for the period that it was flown by Australians...any help with relevant unit records and info on operations would be appreciated.*

We have done this now for the aircraft at Hurlburt and Dayton, and I ask you to once again send me what you have on this aircraft. Specifically, **date and duration of flight, narrative notes, rank and unit, unit supported, callsign, pictures.** Let's try to bring this aircraft alive through its history. Please send to nail25@aol.com



639's cockpit

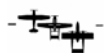
Still in shipping container after arrival in Australia. Cockpit is remarkably complete.

Photo by Peter Condon

LITERARY CORNER

A listing of books by and about FACs, and related topics. It is our best effort at a complete list, but others may exist that we could not find.

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN
The Rescue of Streetcar 304	Kenny Fields	978-1-59114-272-0
Hit My Smoke	Jan Churchill	0-89745-216-X
Classified Secret	Jan Churchill	0-89745-241-0
7th AF TAC AIR Operations	Sandholm/Matheson	7thAFP 55-1
A Certain Brotherhood	Jimmie H. Butler	1-58881-005-4
A Lonely Kind of War	Marshall Harrison	0-89141-352-9
A Mark Too High	Gene McCutchan	Private Printing
A Time of War	Michael Peterson	1-58881-011-9
Air Facilities Data: Laos	CIA, Project 404	CIA
Baggy 04	Rocky Rabb	1-4116-6438-8
Call Sign Rustic	Richard Wood	1-58834-049-X
Cleared Hot	Bob Stoffy	0-312-06929-4
Close Air Support	Peter C. Smith	0-517-56907-8
FAC Fire Support Team Manual	USA/Matheson	TRADOC 7-23
Laotian Fragments	John C. Pratt	0-380-69841-2
Low Level Hell	Hugh L. Mills, Jr.	0-89141-433-9
Mike 58	Rocky Rabb	1-4303-0062-5
Mission on the Ho Chi Minh Trail	Richard Stevens	0-8061-2768-6
Mosquitos to Wolves	Gary Robert Lester	AU 97-18377
My Secret War	Richard S. Drury	0-8168-68417
Naked In Danang	Mike Jackson	0-7603-2076-4
Night FAC Handbook	Walter Want/Nail 21	NKP 1968
Palace Gate	Richard L. Brown	0-88740-745-4
Point of the Spear: Covey FACs	Covey FAC Assn	1-4120-0052-1
Sock It To 'Em Baby	Garry Cooper	1-74114-849-9
The Military Half	Jonathan Schell	68-24317
Vietnam Above the Treetops	John F. Flanagan	Praegar 1992
Viper -7	Charles Pocock	0-9703068-0-6
What It's All About, Alfie	Art Elser	1-4010-8403-6
Ravens	Christopher Robbins	0-671-67316-5
Rescue of Bat 21	Darrel Whitcomb	1-55750-946-8
Interdiction in Southern Laos 1960-68	Jacob Van Staaveren	92-28507
SOG	John L. Plaster	0-684-81105-7
SOG: Photo History...	John L. Plaster	1-58160-058-5
Secret Commandos: Behind Enemy Lines	John L. Plaster	0-684-84673-5
Aardvarks and Rangers	Jim Roper	1-4137-0679-7
Quoth The Raven	Jim Roper	1-59286-216-0
Flying Black Ponies	Kit Lavell	1-55750-521-7
Misty	Don Shepperd	0-7596-5256-2
Iskra Incident	Jimmie H. Butler	0-525-24898-6
The Rustics: A Top Secret Air War In Cambodia	Rustic FAC Assn	



Looking for FACs on Scotch 03 SAR Can anybody help?

Jim Loomis has requested of Darrel Whitcomb any info on this SAR, in particular, eyewitnesses, especially Covey 112 on July 2, 1968. If you have info, contact Darrel at nail25@aol.com, or Jim Loomis directly at JETFINDERS@aol.com.

A Plea from Vice President Crew Chief Bob

After we're gone, gents, unless we do something now, the info on aircraft 639 and 675 will be lost forever—HEY, THAT'S OUR LEGACY! I urge you to support Darrel's request for 639, and I'm begging you to come up with some info on 675.

All I have gotten so far is a picture of 675 in flight and a picture of 675 with troops around her in II Corps—no flight records info.

We are looking, to date, at only six aircraft that have been or will be on display or in museums.: OBA (2), Wright-Pat, Hurlburt, Aussieland, and Hill AFB. There is only one flying OV in civilian hands—Cactus Air Force in Carson City, NV Please take a moment or two to look at what you have and help Darrel and Moi flesh out 639 and 675.
Thanks.

OV-10 675 Hill AFB Museum Report



675 before (2006)...

The restoration of 675 continues with the hope of being completed sometime in

the early fall. We have two completely rebuilt engines donated by Honeywell in Phoenix, and are currently looking for a 230 gal center-line tank, main gear doors and other misc. items. As anyone else who has done restoration work will tell you, it has to be a labor of love as it takes 5 times as long and 3 times the expense as initially thought. We are blessed with two retired E-7 C/C types that are wizards at fabrication and work arounds. Needless to say this has been a real "eye opener" for moi, the stick shaker. We are finishing up the weapons control panels and overhead camera (?) smoke generator panel. Sure seems like a long time ago that we were familiar with all the stuff in that cockpit, and, compared to follow on aircraft, how simple an aircraft it was!!! We are close enough to completion for me to ask your patience for the next pictures.....Thanks for all your moral support and standby for the final hoorah. Randy Roberts/Nail 38



675 now (June 2007)

Can't wait for the After!

Featuring super crew chief MSgt Don Pince

Photo by Randy Roberts

We all owe these tireless devotees a great debt of gratitude for working so hard to preserve our heritage, whether Hill, FACM, or Aussies. Let's do our part to flesh out the histories. Ed.

FACTOBERFEST COMING!

Courtesy of OBA/FACM, October 25—28

Registration is on www.facmuseum.org or www.ov-10bronco.net
These guys know how to throw a party! Phantom Society reunion is also involved, including the Luftwaffe in America. You F-4 guys can get double the pleasure. The growing FAC Museum display includes not only OV-10s, O-2s, “Scooby” (QF-4), “Christine” (historic F-14), a movie star F-5 (Top Gun), but four new surprises arriving before FACtoberfest. Pssst...rumor is that a TF-102, TA-4, A-7B, and an F-105 could be involved! Come see ‘em.



*Christine arrives
(Somebody's got pull!)*

Christine was the longest-serving F-14, and flew the last F-14 mission (inside a C-5 flown by a USAF crew). She also served right here at Fort Worth at “Old Carswell”

Photo courtesy FACM

FACToberfest Agenda

Thursday, Oct. 25: Early registration, museum and OBA Ready Room open

Friday, Oct 26: Registration, 1000 to 1600, military aircraft arrive (LOTS of them!). 1200 to 1500, Lockheed tour. 1800 to 2200, **Octoberfest celebration.** Hootch bar open between events and after 2200.

Saturday, Oct. 27: 0900 to 1600, fly-in and static display, presentations in the Ready Room. 1800 to 2200 FAC buffet dinner at Radisson.

Sunday, Oct 28: Depart at your leisure.

OVERALL NOTES FOR WEEKEND

-Phantom Society reunion registration: www.f4phantom.com. (Oct 23-25)

-Cost for FACtoberfest events and transportation: \$110

-Transportation from DFW airport to the Radisson is on your own (we will have a Super Shuttle discount code soon)

-Transportation from the Radisson to all events is provided

-Meals for the weekend on your own, except for Friday and Saturday nights

FRIDAY - OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION

-Flight suit/Party suit/FAC casual

-Biers & Brats with an Oompah band

-All military aircrews will attend with all reunion attendees

SATURDAY - FAC BUFFET

-Casual dress

-Buffet dinner at the Radisson Hotel

-Make your own reservations with the Radisson (psssst—do it early)

The Radisson's contact information is:

Radisson Hotel, Fort Worth North-Fossil Creek

2540 Meacham Blvd

Fort Worth, TX 76106

Central Reservations: (888) 201-1718

Direct to Hotel: (817) 625-9911

Ask for the Bronco Association rate - \$99/single or \$109/double per night

Any questions, contact Terry Tabor, at nail83@sbcglobal.net, or call Home 817-428-2228 or Cell 817-637-5918. Always leave message.

675's REVERED NEIGHBORS



Photo from www.avweb.com

TWO COVEYS AND A NAIL



Photo by Woody Woodside

The OBA/FACM enjoyed a visit by former Nail, General Bruce Carlson, March 10, 2007. Shown here with Coveys Tim Eby and Woody Woodside.

BLAST FROM THE PAST



Photo source unremembered

Binh Thuy 1969

Known names: BR Don Kansfield, Huck Ennis, Bart Hogan, and...???



21 DAY NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA TOUR
 PLANNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH APRIL 23-28, 2008 AUSSIE
 FAC REUNION. **Claude Newland**, Rustic 19, is working with Globus
 Tours to have them schedule one of their pre-planned 21 day New Zea-
 land and Australia “Down Under Discovery” tours so the tour will fit
 snugly up against (and just prior to) the dates for the Aussie FAC reu-
 nion, 23-28 April 2008. The ‘Down Under Discovery’ tour would be
 approx. 2 - 23 April, the reunion is 23-28 April, and return air on 28
 April. Final tour dates and prices will be announced in July or Aug 2008
 by Globus.

Itinerary: The tour starts in New Zealand and then goes to Australia.
 Highlights include: Auckland, Rotorua, Queenstown, Mount Cook, and
 Christchurch in New Zealand, and Melbourne, Alice Springs, Ayers
 Rock, Cairns (Great Barrier Reef), and Sydney in Australia. From Syd-
 ney, we will travel to Canberra for the FAC reunion. To view a detailed
 itinerary, go to: www.globusjourneys.com and select “Australia” and
 “Down Under Discovery” tour.

Approx. Cost: The 2007 “Down Under Discovery” tour cost was
 \$4904.00 per person/double occupancy which included air fare from Los
 Angeles and return. (The cost of the FAC reunion portion of the trip is
 extra, but you can each make your own arrangements for this using reu-
 nion info provided by the Aussies.) Return airfare included.

Who Can Go? The tour is open to all FAC Association members and
 their guests on a first-come-first serve basis. A minimum of 30 people is
 needed to make this work. At this time, 7 Rustics and wives have com-
 mitted to making the trip. Any group travel discounts will be equally
 applied to reduce each person’s tour cost.

What’s needed: Passport, visa, and a down payment once the tour has
 been formally announced in July or Aug.

What to do? Contact **Claude Newland** at rustic19@cox.net or call 850-
 654-2955 if you’d like to learn more about this trip or would like to sign
 up. **Donna Rehyer**, Davis Travel, is assisting us and can help with your
 domestic air travel requirements.

Travel Deviations: If you’d like to join the trip in New Zealand (i.e.
 won’t be flying from or to Los Angeles, Globus Travel should be able to
 accommodate you.

*This will be a once in a lifetime trip to see ‘Down Under,’ plus waltz
 with Matilda and hoist a few brews with our Aussie brethren! What are
 you waiting for? Come on mates, join us! If you don’t go, you’ll never
 know.*

State Department OV-10D Crashes.

“Igor”, Keeper of the OV-10 Bronco Records, reported on the OV-10
 Net that State Department OV-10D SLEP, #155410, PNC 3041,
 crashed during a maintenance test flight on the 28th of April, at San
 Jose del Guaviare, Colombia. The pilot ejected safely and sustained
 some minor injuries associated with the ejection, but nothing more.

Medical Update. **Claude Newland** had laparoscopic robotic pros-
 tate surgery on Wed, 2 May in Atlanta. The surgery seemed to go well.
 If any of you have had prostate cancer and served “boot on the
 ground” in Vietnam, contact Claude at rustic19@cox.net or call 850-
 654-2955. **He has some important information about VA services
 and benefits if you have had prostate cancer.**

PHOENIX AREA FACs PAY TRIBUTE TO NAIL 44

By Robert B. Green and “Blaster” Bill Shelton

Many generations of American citizens have been called to bear arms in the
 defense of the freedoms we cherish so dearly. All who are privileged to serve
 soon come to a revelation: They discover that they were fighting more for the
 welfare of their comrades than for the extension of our foreign policy. Therein
 forms a bond like no other.

Many years can pass without a word, but I boldly submit that it is impossible to
 forget them. The bonds formed during those harsh periods set the foundation
 for veterans’ reunions. A very special such occasion took place February 16,
 2007 in Phoenix, AZ. Special because in addition to the FACs, support person-
 nel, and associates, we were privileged to have the son and family members of
 Captain William S. Sanders, **Nail 44** (KIA June 30, 1970) as invited guests.
 We can thank “Blaster”, Bill Shelton for bringing this about. The following is a
 brief summary of **Nail 44**’s last mission as written by Bill Shelton:

*On June 30, 1970, CPT William Stephan Sanders (NAIL 44) and
 SFC Al Mosiello (FATCAPPER 7), FAC GIB from HEAVY HOOK, were
 flying a recon to locate helo insert points for an upcoming SOG mission.
 They were in a location south and west of the DMZ. As they were about to
 complete the mission, they ascended to 1500 AGL. A 37mm AAA fired on
 them striking the OV 10 in the left side of the canopy. According to Mosiello,
 the blast most likely killed Captain Sanders instantly. The OV 10 went into a
 steep dive, Mosiello grabbed the stick and pulled back hard. The plane only
 continued to dive, the stick was not responsive. Mosiello ejected and spent
 about 4 seconds under canopy, and was taking small arms fire while under
 canopy. An H53 was sent to pick Mosiello up, but was also shot down with a
 rocket propelled grenade, and crashed in a huge fireball. There were NO
 beepers from any of the downed crewmen. I flew electronic and visual search
 the next morning, with CPT Fred Parrott..... No luck. It was a great joy to
 meet William S. Sanders, Jr., and part of his family. I hope that they will
 continue staying in touch with me and the FAC Association.*

We all experienced some emotional moments during the onset of our
 reunion. But as the evening progressed and the comfort level increased Blaster
 was able to answer many questions for Bill Sanders, Jr. I suppose that we all
 assume that the military provides the facts and details of such tragic events, but
 no doubt many questions remain unanswered. Bill, Jr. was amazed to find out
 about the FAC mission and his father’s service, especially that it involved
 small, unarmed aircraft. Fortunately, our FAC Association willingly accepts
 the duty of providing support and comfort to the families in these circum-
 stances. I hope the mission was accomplished during this reunion.

Bill Shelton, on behalf of the FAC Association, presented the son of Nail
 44, William S. Sanders JR. a framed copy of Colonel Dale Hill’s FAC Tribute.
 A small token no doubt, but hopefully he will cherish this memento and know
 we will never forget his father’s service to our great country.



L-R, Nail 44’s
 grandson, Bill
 III, granddaugh-
 ter, Lauren,
 Blaster, Bill
 Sanders, Jr.,
 with wife,
 Christina

Inset—Blaster
 and Bill Sand-
 ers, Jr.

*Well done, PHX FACs, and especially Bill Shelton. You do our Association
 proud. Hand salute!*

A Little Mosquito History

Submitted by request by Bradley Gaylord

How did I get to be a Mosquito? Same way as most of us, do something bad. In my case, report the theft of Government owned oil by a close associate of a powerful Senator, to the IG. IG told me to keep my mouth shut or I would end up dead at the bottom of a lead mine. I said "I'm a good shot, try it".

Two weeks later, it was Christmas, and I was at K47. About 40 years later, at a Reunion, the CO told me that actually they wanted "Black Sheep", as we had to exercise a lot of initiative!

What was it like? COLD! T-6 heater worked same as VW bug's. Layers upon layers of stuff, overpants, fur jacket, overboots; the crew chief would hoist us into the cockpit like a knight in armor. Three hours per mission, including about 45 minutes transit from base to target and back.

Due to the fuel limits of early jets, they would check in with us from a high altitude, and we would mark the selected target. In my sector, I Corps, we used artillery more than our 2.9" WP rockets, as it was not too mountainous, and the Chinks couldn't duplicate colored smoke as they did WP. The dive bombers would then be directed onto the target, and each plane directed in relation to the previous bomb burst.

Threats; Quad 50s were the worst, we could easily defeat the radar controlled 37mm. They would track 4 seconds and fire. When we were cautious, we would change course or altitude in less than that, and they would not fire. Feeling lucky, every 4 1/2 seconds, they would fire and miss.

The tour; 20 missions as above, then 2 1/2 months TACP. I was mainly with 11th ROK Regiment. Party was FAC, Radio Operator, Radio Mechanic. As I was there when it had become like a WWI heavy emplaced situation, we mainly worked strikes from very fortified Artillery OPs. One time, the Chinks triangulated my location, waited 20 minutes for me to go back down to the Jeep, and threw a mess of 83 & 120mm mortars. Luckily, we had just gotten a bunker for the jeep to park in. They got three direct hits, but they were fused super quick, so no damage; 1/10 delay would have gotten me.

After TACP, complete the 100 missions. In my case, war ended when I had 70.

The comic strip "Terry and the Pirates" 'visited' K47, and I was nicknamed "Lucy Bonecrusher" after the hapless screwup in the strip; that is a separate story, but I had to play along with it, or get teased to death.



Top right: "Lucy"
Top left: Brit Peter Fanshaw, often my observer. Aussie is probably Keith Hatfield. Korean unknown. American with back to camera may be Tircuit, KIA an hour before the ceasefire.



COVEYS IN IRAQ Report from Chub

Covey's,>> Couple months down and we're already thinking about coming home.> Translant should happen in Sep but the planning has already begun.>> The war is going fine. We're generally pissed at the ROE and higher> headquarters, which is standard. FAC's on the deck love having us overhead. We've been involved in a couple of really good strikes and helo raids. The young guys have really stepped up and aren't so young any more. >>

Our squadron is holding our annual Marine Corps Ball either the 3rd or 10th of Nov to celebrate the USMC birthday. It'll happen at the Holiday Inn in downtown San Diego.>> We're officially inviting as many of you to attend as can make it.>> Please use me as your POC for RSVP's. Probably need to have the numbers by mid Oct. There is no official time limit attached however - you could show up day of and we'd make room. >> Attached is a pic of our aircraft 01 over the Euphrates. It's got the 2nd MarDiv insignia on the side - little shout out to our grunt bros.>> Cheers, Chub.>> LtCol John Pasant> Executive Officer> VMFA(AW)-121> DSN 318 3412 554>



Let's see—O-1? No, O-2? No, OV-10? Hmmm. Coulda sworn he said Covey

Modern-Day Coveys in Iraq



Chub,,
Blinky

Eva
Fitty

Please mail in your dues to Treasurer Bob Gorman today. Use the form on page 8 of this issue of the FAC Newsletter.

FAC Association
19985 Thunder Road East
Colorado Springs, CO 80908-1137

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE FAC ASSOCIATION

If you're interested in the mission and history of Forward Air Controllers, then we invite you to join. The requirements are simple; you have to volunteer to join and pay dues.

Annual dues are \$20
Life membership dues depend on your age
 55yrs and under—\$225
 56 to 60 yrs — \$200
 61 to 65 yrs —\$175
 66yrs + —\$150

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