

DAYS OF OUR LIVES #197



Sunset on the Black Sea in 1966 at Sinop by Mark Hamilton

ASA Turkey MAIL-call - PRESERVING FORGOTTEN MEMORIES

Let me begin by expressing my views on the 2009 reunion. After a stellar 2008 reunion at Norfolk, VA we are anticipating an equally stellar 2009 reunion at Gaithersburg, Md. I've tried to keep a lid on costs and know full well how costly attending the reunions from afar can be – and understand that we all have financial constraints to consider. We spent four days visiting the Eisenhower Hotel in Gettysburg and three hotels in Hagerstown - but could not reach an agreement with them. Our next stop was at the Holiday Inn at Gaithersburg where we negotiated a fair contract that includes a room rate of \$89 a day and that includes all taxes and the two buffets at the hotel will cost a total of \$25 per person per meal. The room rate also includes a hot buffet style breakfast at the Village Park Café for those attending the reunion. This is a \$10. benny.

While at this time I am not able to confirm the tour agenda's as I'm still juggling the dates and times for the visit to Fort McHenry, the Baltimore waterfront, the NSA Cryptologic Museum and a possible bus or MetroRail tour of the DC memorials. I'm still

working on lining up entertainment for the main banquet and any feedback on this and the tours will be appreciated.

I encourage all ASA Turkey vet's to avail yourselves to reach out to your old Turkey veteran's to meet at Gaithersburg and reminiscence about those days in Turkey. This reunion will give attendee's the opportunity to attend the ASA picnic at Fort Meade on 1 August and also a visit to the NSA Cryptologic Museum. Together we can make the 2009 reunion equal or better than previous reunions. You don't have to be a part of every reunion, but please don't fall into a habit of perpetual absentism, either. I am looking for volunteers to take charge of the hospitality room and organize and initiate worthwhile activities and I'd like a volunteer to emcee the BBQ and Main Banquet. Do not be timid – step up and volunteer. Jane Comroe, Ralph and Carol Greene, Norman Mau, Larry Foster, Gil Kelbaugh, Luther Mack and Edna Jones and Ernie Carrick have already volunteered. Anyone have a COSTCO card?

When you send an email to me - PLEASE include the word ASA in the subject line to insure that I open it and not mistake it for SPAM.

The editor: GREEN, Elder RC (aka AI & Green Hornet, gH), YOB: 1936, RA13513538, E7, Det 27, 1-15MY61, Det 120, MY-AU65, Det 27, JN66-OC67 & 4-4, NO67-NO68, (Patty), 3094 Warren Road., Indiana, PA 15701, 724-349-7395, asagreenhornet@yahoo.com E8 Ret

THE 2009

ASA TURKEY

**REUNION WILL BE AT GAITHERSBURG, MD
at the Holiday Inn
Exit 11 off I-270 East or West**

2 – 5 August 2009



The all inclusive \$89 rate is valid 3 days before and 3 days after reunion
In the interim google Holiday Inn Gaithersburg for a look see.

YOUR COMMENTS ARE MOST WELCOME

PETS ARE ALLOWED
THE ATTIRE WILL BE CASUAL

Please note that the annual ASA picnic is on 1 August at Fort Meade

Please select your room type and indicate your arrival and departure dates..

To make your HOLIDAY INN reservation call 1-301-948-8900 or 1-800-HOLIDAY and state that you will be attending the ASA Turkey reunion and that you want a room with a standard king bed or a standard double bed. The rate for either room is \$89 and that includes the taxes. It also includes a hot buffet style breakfast at the hotel's Village Park Cafe. You will receive breakfast coupons upon check-in for the duration of your stay at the Holiday Inn.

The agenda's for the reunion is under review and might be as follows and will appreciate your comments/changes/additions, etc

THE HOSPITALITY ROOM WILL BE OPEN 0700-2300 AND WELL STOCKED 2-5 August.

1). Sun, 2 August – 3 pm - Registration in the Washingtonian Hospitality room

2). Mon, 3 August

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit Fort McHenry and the NSA Cryptologic museum.

Outdoor BBQ at the Pool Terrace in the hotel to include Salad, Corn on the Cob, Ribs, Chicken or a BBQ'd steak. Cost: \$25. pp

3). Tue, 4 August

Breakfast at the hotel.

Possible Bus tour of historical DC sights.

4). Wed, 5 August

Breakfast at the hotel

Dinner buffet banquet. Cost \$25. in the Walker/Whetstone ballroom that will include:

Tossed salad with two Dressings

Rolls & Butter

One Starch (Roasted Potato, Rice Pilaf, Mashed potato CHOOSE ONE)

One Vegetable (Vegetable Medley, Honeyed Carrots, Green Beans Almondene CHOOSE ONE)

Chefs Choice of a Dessert.

Coffee, Decaf Coffee, Ice Tea and Ice Water

ENTREES

Chicken Marsala

Chicken Champagne

Fried Chicken

Chicken Parmesan

Honey Mustard Chicken

London Broil

Cod with Cream Sauce

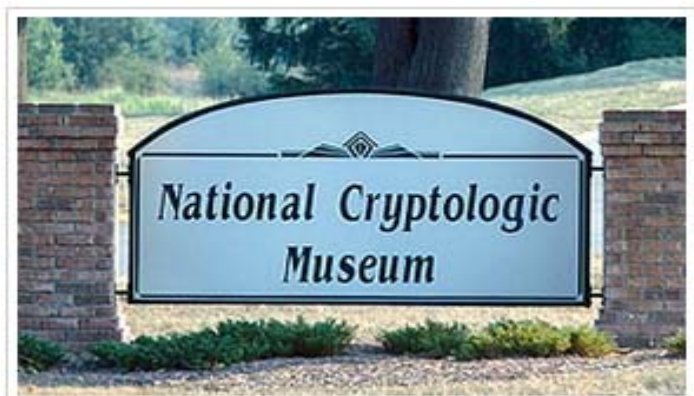
PLEASE NOTE THAT INFO WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE TO VISIT THE HISTORIC SIGHTS IN DC VIA THE METRORAIL SUBWAY SYSTEM AT A COST OF ABOUT \$3 DOLLARS PER PERSON TO/FROM THE HOTEL. THIS IS THE CHEAPEST AND BEST WAY TO TRAVEL TO DC FROM THE HOTEL AS THE TRAFFIC IS TERRIBLE AND FINDING A PARKING SPACE IS LIKE FINDING A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK. The hotel's shuttle is a 9 passenger van, thus we will need a sign-up, by date roster to insure a orderly use of this shuttle to the MetroRail station. The hotel informs that the best time to use the MetroRail is after 9 am. More details will be forthcoming.

FORT McHENRY



Patty and I visited Fort McHenry in 2008 and thoroughly enjoyed what this National Park has to offer. As most recall – Fort McHenry is about how the British stormed through DC, burnt the White House, and then had their butts kicked in the Baltimore harbor in 1814 - during the War of 1812. It was the sea battle here that inspired Francis Scott Key to write what is now the National Anthem, The Star Spangled Banner. We leisurely toured the fort and then walked down to the waterfront and sat on one of the many benches by the water. While there we marveled at the view and enjoyed watching the squirrels, the quacking of ducks and other waterfowl, the chirping of seagulls, the honks of tugboats as they passed, and the marine industrial nature of it all. It's simply a perfect place to just relax. The distance is about 1 hour via carpooling. It's a great place to be by the water, without the distraction of mediocre chain restaurants and tourist shops, and expensive waterfront condos. It's generally quiet, besides the quacking of ducks and other waterfowl, the chirping of seagulls, and the honks of tugboats and you can marvel at the views, the boats, and the marine industrial nature of it all. It's a perfect place to walk and just relax.

The National Cryptologic Museum is what I consider part of the ASA legacy. It is located about 1 hour from the hotel and is adjacent to NSA at Fort Meade. Therein is a collection of 1000's of artifacts that collectively serve to sustain the history of the cryptologic profession and will be able to catch a glimpse of some of the most dramatic moments



in the history of ASA and NSA: the people who devoted their lives to cryptology and national defense, the machines and devices they developed, the techniques they used, and the places where they worked.

For the wives it will give them a better understanding of the role that we ASA Turkey vet's played in the overall mission of the ASA and NSA. The Museum opened to the public in December 1993 and the Museum hosts approximately 50,000 visitors annually from all over the country and all over the world, allowing them a peek into the secret world of codemaking and codebreaking.

Adjacent to the Museum, is the Naional Vigilance Park. The park showcases two reconnaissance aircraft used for secret missions. The RU-8D serves to represent the Army Airborne Signal Intelligence contribution in Vietnam and the C-130 memorializes an Air Force aircraft that was shot down over Soviet Armenia during the Cold War.

THE DC SIGHTS VIA THE METRORAIL SYSTEM

The Washington Monument. Standing at the base of the Washington Monument, you will be able see some of the most famous and familiar sights in the world such as the Vietnam Memorial. To the east is the National Mall and the Capitol. To the north sits the White House. To the west are the Lincoln Memorial and the reflecting pool. Looking south, is the Jefferson Memorial and the cherry tree-lined Tidal Basin.

One of the nicest things is that it will cost about \$3 per person for a round-trip from the hotel to DC is how much it will cost to see the above mentioned DC sights as they are free. All the major tourist attractions like the Mall museums and memorials, White House and Capitol Building are a short walk from MetroRail stations. The national monuments, as well as many of the museums and parks, are free, as are many of the festivals and concerts that take place throughout the year. And, thanks to the small scale of the city nothing is really too far away from anything else. Your feet will get you around most areas just fine. The Metro, which opened in 1976, is clean and safe.



The above and below photo's are of those we negotiated with at the Holiday Inn
Note that JR Greene is wearing the Max Putter polo shirt for the Norfolk reunion.



TAPS

HAUGEN, OBERT ODVAR (Obie), W2135523, CW4, Supply, Det 4, AU60-AU61, 1200 Orr St., College Station, TX 77840, 979-693-1064, DOB: 21 Jan 1920 in North Dakota, DOD: 1 Nov 2008 at College Station, TX Col Don Aines informed me that Obie Haugen had passed away in November 2008 and that his wife Elizabeth Pace (Betty) Haugen had died 14 July 2007 and was born 24 Jun 1924. Per Aines – Obie Haugen refused to fly the Beaver or Otter flights over the 3 rugged mountain ranges to Sinop through out his year on the HILL. Det 4 was Obie Haugen's only ASA assignment. Retired as a CW4 with 23 years qctive duty.

ASA DRAFTEES

The January 2009 issue of the VFW devoted several pages regarding the Invaluable Contributions that Draftees did to the Nation's Defense and caused me to do some research about the draft and then to identify those who were drafted, trained at Fort Devens and ended up in the ASA.

Keep in mind that the draft ended in June 1973

Below is the names of the draftees who served with the ASA in Turkey per my Master Roster entries. It is far from being complete, but is a start and I will appreciate those who were drafted to send me your name and details as listed below and I will update the list in a future DOOL

.
ANDRONACO, Mike, YOB 1943 US51539799, E2-E5, 71B20 Spec Svcs, Det 27, 10AU65-JA67, 1185 Shelburn Rd., Burlington, VT 05403, 802-316-9896, no email
AIELLO, Armand A., US51466534, E4-E4 051, Det 4, SE61-SE62
BOWER, Gerald R., US52379037, 282.10 Det 4, Samsun, SE55-SE56, Warsaw, OH
CARNAZOLA, Ronald R US56349926 E3 Det 27, MR64-?,
CASH, H Wayne YOB 1940 US52579828 E3-E4 MP Det 27, JL64-OC65, (Mabel), 41 Goose Meadow Ct., Fishersville, VA 22939, 540-886-0961, cash13@cfw.com
COPSEY, Frederick H (Fred) US55676546 E3-E4 Hq Co Det 27, 62-63, 302 Saint Route 60 Green, New London, OH 44851, 419-929-8290 per SO#46 dtd 26MR62
DAVIS, Allen L US52607267 E4 Co A, Det 27 (Mail clerk)
DAVIS, Russel W. (Ruby) US55603374 E4 058 Det 27, AP61-MR62, 1609 E 25th St., Baltimore, MD 21213, 410-732-7895 Depn 2 BPED 11JA60 per Det 27, SO#126 dtd 14SE61
DEJNO, Everest L US55616735 E3-E4, 058, Opns Co Det 27, 61-MR62, (never married), 43 Burk Dr., Silver Bay, MN 55614, 218-226-3225 per Det 27 SO#126 dtd 14SE61
EBY, Tom E4 YOB US55689466 E3-E4 058 BPED 7JA60 ETS 6AP62 DEROS

16MR62 Det 27, OC60-MR62, White Lake, MI 248-887-6063, thomaseby07@comcast.net per Det 27 SO#126 dtd 14SE61
FAIN, Roger W US54229003 E5 Hq Co Det 27, 60-62 BPED 8JN60 ETS 7JN62 per SO#46 dtd 26MR62
HAGELSTROM, Norman W US55616070 E2-E4 Det 27 NO60-61, Battle Lake, MN 56515, 218-864-0500
KUPP, Lawrence A US56411899 E3-E4 Hq Co Det 27, 66-67
LAGORE, Delton W US55740627 E3 U-8D acft Det 4, 65 per SO#21 dtd 4FE65
OGDEN, Dennis L. US56701054 E3-E5 71H Det 4, 68-69, 293 Schlitz
Fayetteville, OH 45118, 513-875-2478 Prom to E5 14AU68 per SO#141 dtd 20AU68
PHILBRICK, Arlington B US51344774 E3-E4 Det 27, 60-13NO61, Oakland, ME 04963, 207-465-2515, per Det 27 SO#14 dtd 26JA61
RIVERA, Wilberto US51458901 Det 27, 60-62 reduced fm E3 to E2 for misconduct by CPT Sprehe
VAN BROCKLIN, Jim, YOB: 1929, US51337026, 282.10 E3-Promoted SP3 (E4) on 25AP56, Det 4, Samsun, FE56-SE56, Ft Dix SO #30 dtd 1FE56 asgnd to Det 7223 DU APO 206-A NY NY Ankara, Turkey(Marcia), 39 Therin Dr., Hamburg, NY 14705, 716-649-9232, jandmvanb@comcast.net

The first peacetime draft was signed into law by FDR on 16 September 1940. Later legislation amended the act to require all men from 18 to 65 to register with those aged 18 to 45 being immediately liable for induction.

The WWII draft operated from 1940 until 1947 when its legislative authorization expired without further extension by Congress. During this time, more than 10 million men had been inducted into military service. With the expiration, no inductions occurred in 1947. The second peacetime draft began in 1948. The new law required all men, ages 18 to 26, to register. For every man drafted, three or four more were scared into volunteering. That meant that over 11 million men volunteered for service because of the draft between January 1954 and April 1975.

Many who served in Turkey were on the verge of being drafted and crossed over and enlisted in the ASA to avoid combat duty in Vietnam. This draft-induced volunteerism caused the Army to meet its quotas. A large percentage of these volunteers already had degrees and insured that they filled much needed jobs thru out the world.

As U.S. troop strength in Vietnam increased, more young men were drafted for service there, and many of those still at home sought means of avoiding the draft. For those seeking a relatively safe alternative, service in the ASA was an option provided one could meet the more stringent enlistment standards.

According to the Veteran's Administration, 9.2 million men served in the military between 1964 and 1975. Nearly 3.5 million men served in the Vietnam theater of operations. From a pool of approximately 27 million, the draft raised 2,215,000 men for military service during the Vietnam era. It has also been credited with "encouraging" many of the 8.7 million "volunteers" to join rather than risk being drafted.

Meanwhile, military pay was increased as an incentive to attract volunteers, and television advertising for the U.S. Army began. With the end of active U.S. ground participation in Vietnam, December 1972 saw the last men conscripted, who reported for duty in June 1973.

WHY NOT HAVE A ASA TURKEY REUNION ON THE WEST COAST

That question was asked of me by Ron Sowinski who lives in the state of Washington. I told him that I've wanted to hold one out west, but other than Bob Sack of Walla Walla, Washington would host it. Therefore, I informed Ron Sowinski to do some legwork and contact hotels in the west with the details to include room rates, etc and get back to me with that info and we'd consider having a reunion out west. Better yet, you western living vet's should give Ron a call at 360-253-2383 or email him at rothvet@hotmail.com.

WHERE IS SFC LEONARD K. DISNEY

I received an email from a Richard B. Gilbert who remembers Sergeant Disney while stationed at Homestead, Florida ca. 1966. "The memory of Sgt. Disney that will stay with me forever is the occasion when we had to go to Camp Blanding for Annual Qualification with arms. We peons had to go by chartered bus but Sgt. Disney drove his own car. He managed to pick up a girl somewhere and brought her to the Enlisted Club on post. When he left with her, he called out "Good night fellows.". Somebody shouted "Good Night Sgt. Disney" which was instantly followed by the most evil laughter you could hope to hear! ;-)

MAIL call

AINES, Don, Det 4, AU60-AU61, Waynesboro, PA
ANDERSON, Jerry, Det 27, JL56-JN58, Racine, WI
BARNDT, Ernie, Det 4, MR56-MY57 & Det 27, MR59-JL61, Eagle River, AK
BOUFFARD, Gil Det 4, 66-67 & 71-72, Manteca, CA
BROOKS, Fred, Det 4, MR66-MR67, Annandale, VA
DILL, Jerry, Det 4, 58-59 & 63-64, Colorado Springs, CO
DYER, Wayne, Det 4, NO68-DE69, Groton, VT
ERICKSON, Ron, Det 27, MY61-DE62, Independence, MO
FEICK, Phil, Det 27, NO64-MY67, Eighty Four, PA
FOSTER, Larry, Det 4, 64-65, Hanover, MD
JONES, Ed, Det 27, OC62-MR65, Vancouver, WA
JONES, Luther Mack, Det 27, MR63-AU64, Sunset Beach, NC
KELBAUGH, Gil, Det 4, 62, Frederick, MD
LAZZARA, Tom, Det 27, JN63-FE66, Leominster MA
MADISON, Spanky, Det 4-4, 68-69, Clarksville, MD
MAU, Norman R, Det 27, JA65-JN66, Potomac, MD
NELSON, Robert F Det 4, 67, Burlington NJ
ORR, Bill, Det 4, DE81-SE82, Fayetteville, NC
PITTS, Jim, Det 27 58-60, Hildebran, NC
WINKLER, Winky, Det 4, MY60-MY61, Cincinnati, OH

MAIL-call in alphabetical order

AINES, Donald S YOB 1926 CPT AGC XO & Adj, Det 4, AU60-AU61, (Marjorie), 11772 Woodlea Dr, Waynesboro, PA 17268, 717-762-2619, no email, Ret COL



Above is our good friend Colonel Donald S. Aines who might be the guest speaker at the 2009 reunion. I called on 28 February 2009 and gave him the dates for the ASA Turkey reunion and he politely informed me that his wife Marge has dementia and requires full time care and that it might cause him not to be able to attend the reunion even though it would be the hi-lite of his old age - 83.

For those not knowing – Col Aines is one of the few who served in every enlisted rank, every Warrant rank and retired as a Colonel. The plaque on the wall shows his rank advancements that he is most proud of. His time at Det 4 he well remembers and considers Lt Col John P. Cox, Col (then Captain) Gerard Dirkx, CW4 Obie Haugen and First Sergeant Crawford Boyd as equal to any other men that he served with.

ANDERSON, Jerry YOB 1935 E3-E4 341.10-Teletype repair, Det 27, JL56-JN58, (Sally), 5209, Lindermann Ave., Racine, WI 53406, 262-634-8509, janderson246@wi.rr.com

Thanks for the phone call, I had forgot to send you my new address which is as follows: jaderson246@wi.rr.com. Look forward to hearing from you. Jerry Anderson Det 27 Jul56 to Jun58

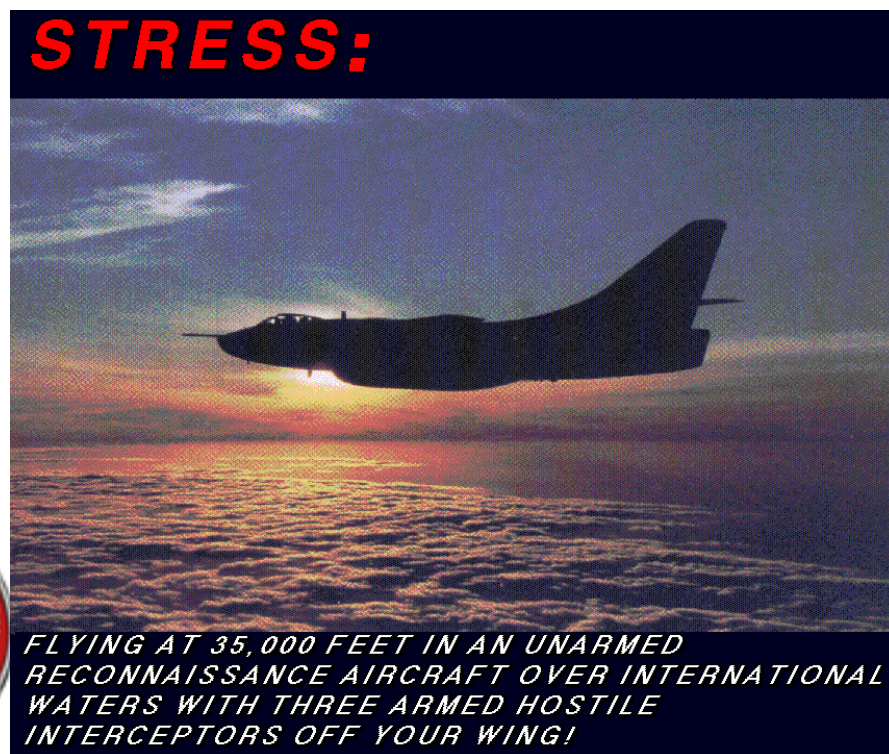
BARNDT, Ernest E. YOB: 1935 RA13474888 631 Motor Pool E3-E4 Det 4, MR56-MY57 & E4-E5, WO1 Det 27, MR59-JL61, (Fran), 18107 Meadow Creek Drive, Eagle River, Alaska 99577, 907-694-3645, barndt@alaska.net CW4 (Ret)

Hi Al, Nice to hear from you again, but a little disappointed in the time for the reunion. August timeframe is what Alaska is all about for us. It's peak halibut and Salmon fishing time and tourist time for us as we are expecting visitors the last week in July. We

always enjoyed end of Sept and Oct timeframe as it was a nice break after the busy and enjoyable fishing summer we always have and we can take extra time to enjoy the reunion area. Then we schedule an extra week or two to spend in PA to visit with our family. Tickets from Alaska are too expensive to travel for a couple days. Therefore, we regret that we will not be attending the reunion this year, but will look forward to next years. Sounds like fun anyway. Fran & Ernie

BOUFFARD, Gil, Det 4 & 4-2, 66-67 & 71-72, gbouffard@jps.net E7 Ret
I recently created an alumni group at [linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)
(http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=1801405&trk=anet_ug_hm) titled
Special Activities Detachments 1 and 2. It is designed to bring all of us
together on a discussion platform. I am using the emblem I designed that
shows the origination date and decommissioning date (1958-1974).

The attachments are some of the things I have done over the years .



BROOKS, Fred W., YOB: 1925, Maj-LTC, XO & CDR Det 4, MR66-MR67, (Virginia),
4907 Althea Dr., Annandale, VA 22003 703-978-6027, fbrooks1@cox.net Ret Lt Col
SEE DOOL #196 FOR FURTHER INFO ON Lt Col Brooks



Above is Lt Col Fred Brooks official Army photo

In response to your request for a BIO I submit the following short summary of assignments.

I was a student at Castle Heights Military Academy in Lebanon, Tennessee, and I came home to Dayton, Ohio for Summer vacation. WWII was in full swing. My Mother was a civilian driver for the US Army Air Corps at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio. (Patterson Field was a smaller air strip across the highway. Now they're Wright-Patterson Air Force Base). My Dad was superintendant of the mechanical departments of the local newspaper, the Dayton Daily News. The mechanical departments consisted of the Composing Room, the Stereotype Room and the Press Room.

I got a job as a messenger at Wright Field for the Summer, and Mother was the driver for our car pool. I met the love of my life Ginny in the summer of 1942. She joined the car pool after coming to Dayton from her home town of Murphysboro, Illinois, to do her part in the "War Effort". We did that in those days: Wherever we lived, we moved to wherever we had to in order to participate in the war effort. I remember that people actually donated their iron fences in front of their houses to the war effort. It really was an all-out effort, and we've never been so united as a people as we were then. Ginny eventually finished high school in Dayton at night, and went on to get a B.A. degree in Sociology, and then did graduate work at the University of Chicago in Social Service Administration. She would have gotten her Masters, but WWII interfered, as it did with my pursuit of medicine as a career.

For me, it was love at first sight. For Ginny, it took about a month for her to realize that I existed. We began dating, and I used all of my talents to woo her. She didn't agree to marry me for three more years. It was then that my life truly changed for the better.

The following is a list of assignments for Fred W. Brooks, LTC (Ret)

29 May 1944 - Enlisted (Nashville, TN - 4th Army Area. RA14154767

Aug 1944 - March 1945 - Army Specialized Training Program, Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Ind.

May-July 1945 - Infantry Basic Training, Camp Fannin, TX

Sep-Nov 1945 - The Infantry School, Fort Benning, GA (Class 505) Commissioned the day after my 19th birthday.

2 December 1945 - Married Virginia Lee "Ginny" Powell, in Murphysboro, IL

Dec 1945 - Mar 1946 - Army of Occupation, Germany. Attended with Ginny the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials at the Palace of Justice in Nuremberg. There were 21 of the most important captured leaders of Nazi Germany. Asgmts: Asst Adjutant, 28th Cav Recon Sqn, Ebermannstadt; Adjutant, 55th Med Bn, Bamberg; CO, Med Collecting Co, (40 ambulances!) Bamberg; CO, Dental Prosthetics Det, Bamberg; Class Six Supply Officer, 1st QM Co., 1st Inf Div, Regensburg.

April 1946: Transferred to Army Reserve Forces.

June 1946 - Aug 1949 - Attended Univ. of Cincinnati, OH, received BS degree in Chemistry and Zoology. I was going to be a doctor, but I ran out of time!

Sep 1949 - Sep 1951 - Postgraduate studies, Southern Illinois Univ., Carbondale, IL.
Sep 1951 - Involuntarily recalled to active duty.
Sep 1951 - May 1952 - Instructor, Infantry Replacement Training Center, 10th Inf Div., Fort Riley, Kansas. (My entire Division was deployed to Korea, but I received orders back to Germany. I don't know why. I thought it might be because I had learned to speak German, but...)



Above is a young Fred Brooks and his attractive wife Ginny in Augsburg, Germany

June 1952 - Dec 1952 - Club Officer, Augsburg Sheridan Kaserne (So THIS is what kept me out of Korea!);



Adjutant, 113th Labor Supervision Center in Esslingen, 1954 (These Centers were set up after WWII to supervise the covert reestablishment of the old German Wehrmacht, while the Soviets were setting up their Volkspolizei in East Germany). In 1954 I was detailed to the USAREUR Intelligence and Military Police School, Oberammergau, for a six-month "immersion" course in the Russian language. Our vocabulary was stated to be equal to that of a Russian high school graduate. I was class Valedictorian. I returned to the 113th and interrogated many Russian applicants for the new army, then was assigned to ASA.

July 1955 - Assigned to Arlington Hall Station, Arlington, VA (ASA Hq) AS THE DARNED CLUB OFFICER! When my clearance came through I went to Fort Devens, Massachusetts and attended the ASA Company Officer Course (Class OB 19). I was promoted to Captain while in that course. I finished #2 in that class. From there I was assigned to NSA in the Russian section. I thought I had finally arrived where I belonged. In those days, Russian personal telegrams were sent as handwritten notes by facsimile. I was given a desk full of them and told to "develop an Order of Battle (OB)". That was my favorite assignment, and I learned a lot!

I was at NSA when it moved from Arlington to Fort Meade. I remember that one of the members of the engineering crew said that the new building had the longest straight hallway in the world - the longest hallway, of course, is in the Pentagon, because it's endless. After the move to Fort Meade I worked with some of the product from the tunnel that was dug under East Berlin. There's an exhibit on the tunnel in the International Spy Museum, Washington, DC, so I'm not telling any secrets. The tunnel was begun in August 1954 and completed in February 1955. It was 1,476 feet in length; 3,100 tons of soil were removed; 125 tons of steel liner plate and 1,000 cubic yards of grout were consumed. This was not a small operation!

January 1958 - August 1960 - ASA Europe. At first I was Asst Div Chief of the Russian Voice Section, without a lot to do. In the Spring of 1958 Ginny and I attended a cocktail party given by the 507th USASA Group, and she overheard someone talking about an "Automatic Data Processing Course" being offered at Fort Monmouth, NJ. I was bored, so I applied. The course lasted only 2 months, and I returned to the 507th to find myself in charge of the "Special Projects Branch", whose mission was to perform a detailed ADP System Analysis of all Group operations, including the three battalions (318th in Herzogenaurach, 319th in Rothwesten and 320th in Bad Aibling). That study lasted until August of 1960.

Believe it or not, Ginny and I went to another cocktail party, and she overheard something about a "Graduate Civil Schools Program". Of course I applied and was detailed to that program at The American University, Washington, DC. I attended AU from September 1960 until June 1962, and was awarded a Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA) and was promoted to Major. Talk about "gaming the system"! I was then assigned to the DIRNSA Research and Development Staff at Fort Meade. My job was to be an R&D liaison officer between ASA and NSA, and I did that for about a year (and got a "four prefix" on my MOS to indicate an R&D specialty, so my MOS was then 49640). My supervisor at NSA got a request from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for R&D for someone to represent NSA on a committee he was forming to study the use of computers in DOD R&D. Before I could say "Jack Robinson" I was designated to develop a computer system to capture information about DOD's R&D activities. So I did, and it was applied to all DOD (Army, Navy, Air Force, etc.) Research and Development documents.

The system is still being operated by the Defense Documentation Center, and contains the details of every R&D project in DOD.



I received the Joint Service Commendation Medal for that tour, which ended in 1966.

During that tour, I was walking through the Concourse at the Pentagon and noticed a large group of people huddled around a TV set. I asked someone in the crowd what was so interesting, and he replied, "The President has been shot!" That was November 1963.

March 1966 - February 1967 - Sinop. Turkey. I was assigned as Executive Officer, and assumed command of Det 4 in December when the CO, LTC Julian Wells, left for home. In late October I took a leave of absence and traveled with a friend to Istanbul,

Athens, Beirut and Ankara. That was a most enjoyable trip. We were in Memphis, Egypt, on my 40th birthday, and it turns out that I was born in Memphis, Tennessee, on that day (5 November) in 1926!



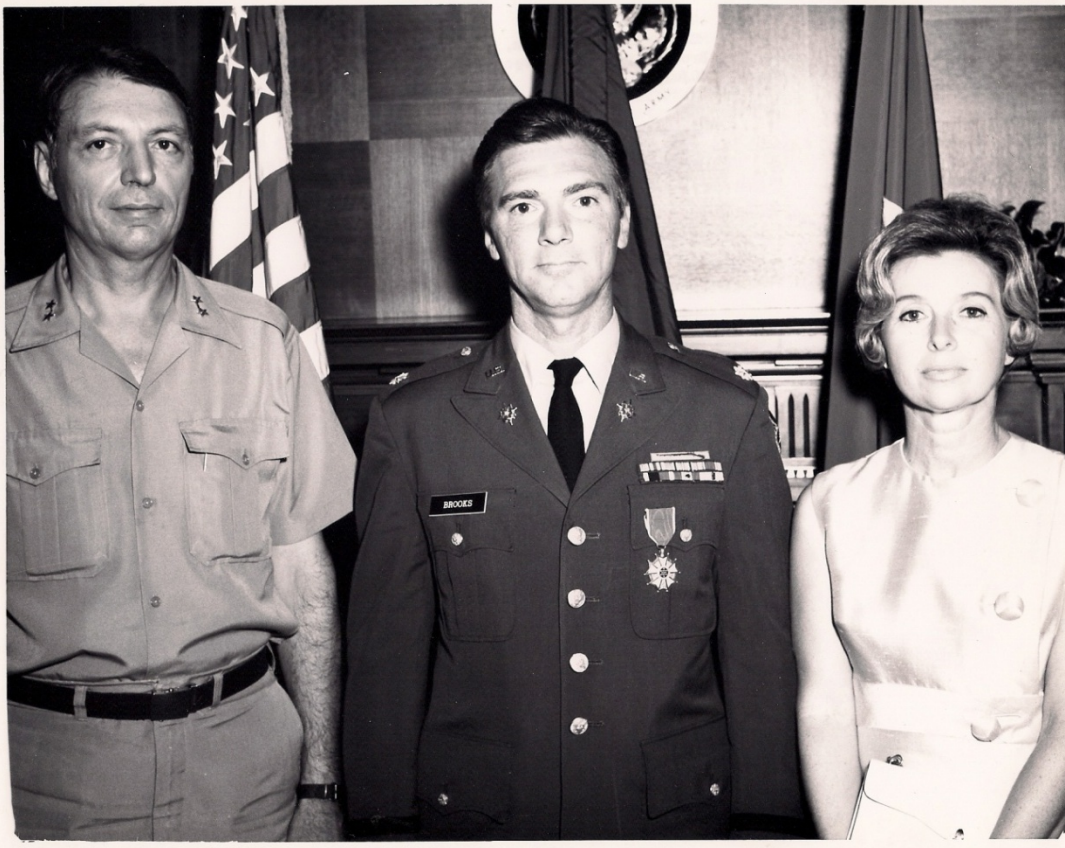
The above two photo's are images from the launching ceremony of my "new" sailboat, the "Baba" – 1966 at Sinop. Note all the sailors. We had all branches represented at Sinop, as well as Turks. 1,200 altogether.

Sinop was a fascinating assignment from an operational standpoint - especially after the Bankhead facility was added - but I have to admit that I have never been lonelier in my life. I have the greatest empathy for all the guys who worked tricks, ate and slept, and not much else, for a year. I hope every one of them appreciates the value of the work he did in those lonely assignments. From a strategic intelligence standpoint, their work

was essential, and went a long way toward the eventual dissolution of the Soviet Union. Those accomplishments will be felt by generations to come.

March 1967 - July 1969 - Combat Developments Activity, Arlington Hall Station, Arlington, VA. Our mission was to develop doctrine for the army of the future. While I was there CDA was working on projects for the year 1975. When I retired from ASA, I worked for Sylvania Electronics Corporation for 3 years on an ASA contract titled, "EW-75". I retired in July of 1969, and was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Below is the photo of Lt Col Fred Brooks receiving the Legion of Merit in July 1969 from Maj Gen Charles J. Denholm, whose official funeral we attended on 10 February 2009 at Arlington Cemetery. That's my Ginny on the right.



I then took a job at the Department of Commerce, and my first task was to develop an R&D information tracking program like the one I set up for DOD. When that was completed after about a year, I became a Division Chief, GS-14. I did a lot of writing and futures research planning, and wrote several treatises on the management of our marine fisheries resources. In 1976, the Fishery Conservation and Management Act was passed by Congress, and Federal jurisdiction of our fisheries was extended out to 200 miles from our coastline, from the previous 12 miles. I led a task force that produced an operations manual that detailed how to implement the new law. I also helped them to introduce computer technology to their operations and budget.

In 1985 I finally ran out of steam. Both children were out on their own (daughter

teaching school and son practicing radiology), so I hung it up and am enjoying life.

DILL, Jerry L Det 4, 58-59 & 63-64, (Betty), 205 Chamberlin Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80906, 719-576-6243, jdill10385@comcast.net CW3 Ret

Hi to all: Effective immediately I will no longer be at this email address. I am changing internet providers so my new address is jdill10385@comcast.net . My grandson works for comcast and they have a real good tv/phone/internet package. Can't resist.

DYER, Wayne YOB: 1949 RA11915551 E3-E5 05H, Det 4, NO68-DE69, (Toni), 14 Mountain View Drive Groton, VT 05046 802-584-3730, diatribe@charter.net



The above photo was submitted by Wayne Dyer. It was taken in the summer of 1969 when Det 4 experienced a water shortage and the barracks latrines were off-limits and locked and the above facilities were erected and used for 13 days. These outhouses were situated next to Hq & Hq Company.

ERICKSON, Ron YOB 1940, E4 059 Det 27, MY61-DE62, (Kathy), 17204 E 37th Terrace, Independence, MO 64055, 816-373-3349, mkerickson7139@att.net

Hi Elder. just heard from Gordon Davidge about Wash DC reunion. Sounds great. Will be a good excuse for a lot of us to visit the capital. Thanks for your work. Please note our e-address is now mkerickson7139@att.net Ron E

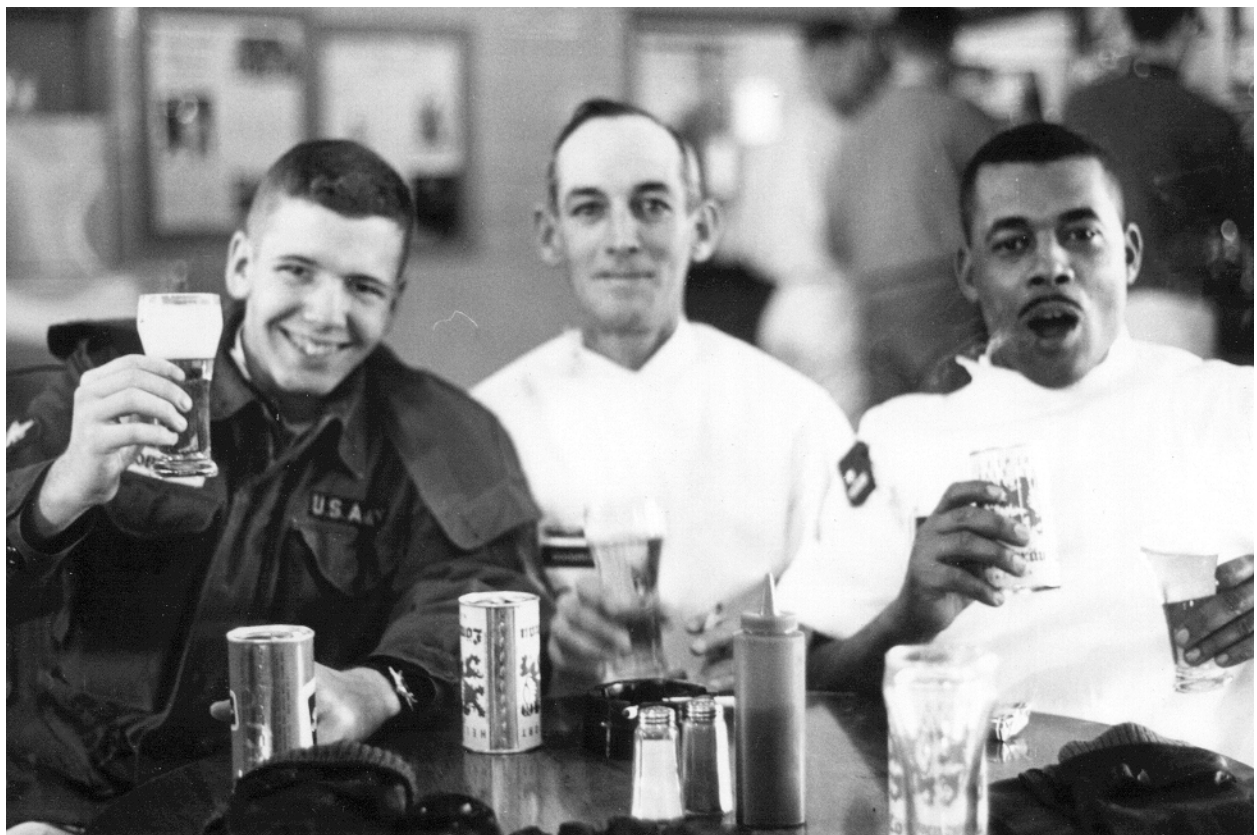
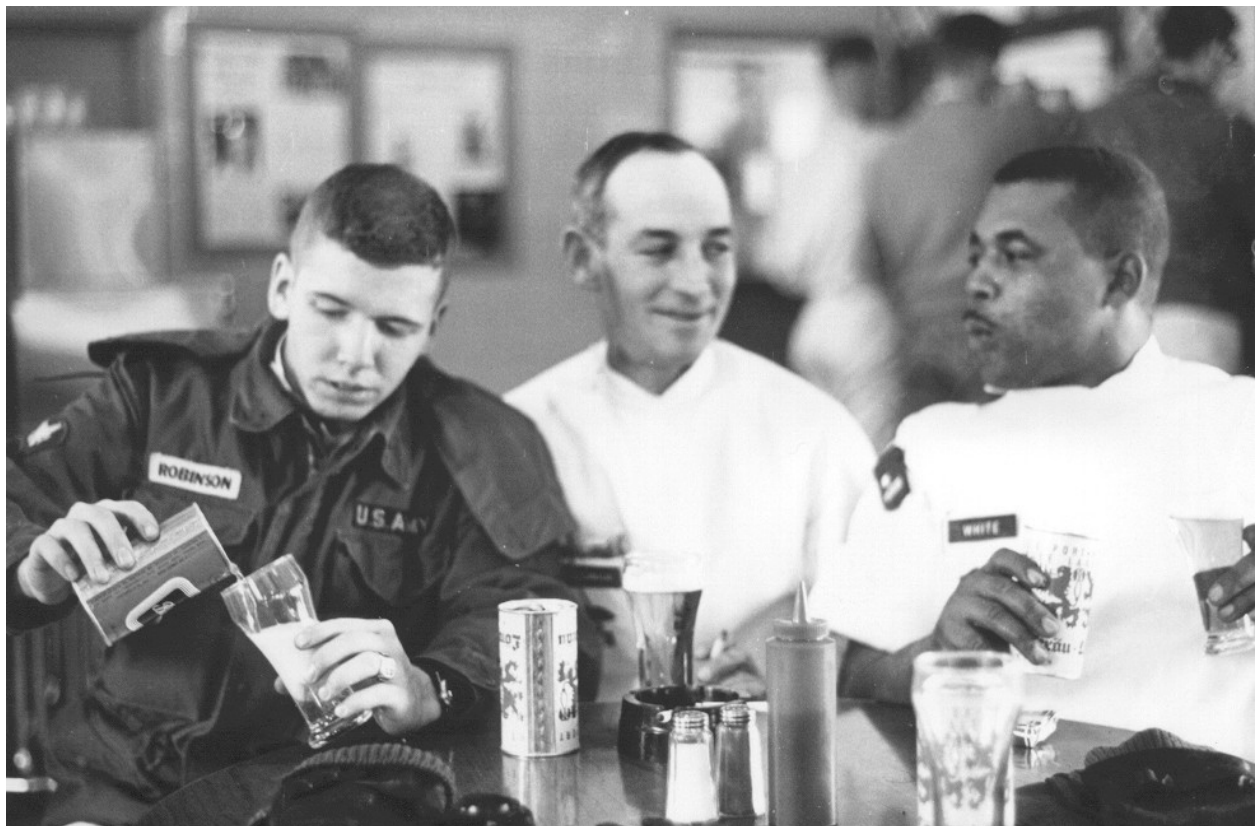
FEICK, Phil YOB 1943 RA E2-E5 71L Mgr 'O' Club HQ Co Det 27, NO64-MY67, (Jean), G346 Munntown Rd, Eighty Four, PA 15330, 724-941-0105, pga_feick@verizon.net



Phil and Jean Feick at the 2006 ASA Picnic at Blob's Park neat Fort Meade

Back in '66, I went out for the Hq Co Manzarali Mauler Flag Football Team. After a few or maybe even the first practice (I was a lineman) I had my little finger on my left hand broken in three places and repositioned at a 90° angle to the hand. You see an opposing player with shoulders as big as most guys thighs put his shoulder between my little finger and hand and.....

Well I was in luck. Willie White, a medic, walked me to the other end of the field and someone got a 5 gallon bucket of ice water from the mess hall.



L-R: Drew Robinson, Goody Goodrich and Willie White, all medics at Det 27

Keep your hand in the ice, Willie said. An hour later my hand was totally numb from the cold.



L-R: Goody Goodrich & Drew Robinsom

Then they told me, "We got to get Goody" ! OK, where's Goody? Goody is at the NCO Club where he always is. Goody was a certified alcoholic. But I trusted my teammates. Well Goody set my finger, no MD involved, and it works perfectly to this day. In spite of osteoarthritis in other joints, my little finger never hurts and is perfectly straight. Maybe I should have broken my neck! Goody was a real talent!

But, who broke my finger? My old buddy, Bob Davis (HQ Co). Bob and I first played football together in Junior High at Carroll Twp, south of Pittsburgh, PA. We then graduated in the same Monongahela HS 1961 class. I hadn't seen Bob since graduation and then, in the 2nd floor HQ Co barracks walks a guy, duffel bag over that big shoulder, and I instinctively yelled out "Booger", Booger Davis! And his reply, "Come halfway across the world to be greeted by a nickname you hated. I kid Bob to this day that he was getting even with me by breaking my body. Within a few months I hired Bob as bookkeeper for the Officer's Club I managed. Bob was great and put out financials that would have satisfied any Fortune 500 company.

Since I couldn't play flag football, I decided to film the team practice and bought an 8mm Honeywell camera. Last year I had the film converted to a DVD. I can still identify most of the players whose names appear in reference to Mnazarali sports.

gH, I will try to send you some remembrances of my 2 1/2 years at Manzarali from time to time and especially when prompted by a story in one of our DOOLs. I may also furnish you with a little known fact once in a while.

Phil's Fact: 1SG Simpson, preferred 7-UP mixed with his scotch!

ps: For a short time I was asked to resurrect the "Rod & Gun Club". Anybody with orders to 'Nam placed an order for a Colt Python .357 mag. Colt just couldn't fill the orders due to the demand. I had ordered a Ruger Super Blackhawk .44 mag. so that I could hunt Turkish boar. Someone from Operations received orders to 'Nam and was really desperate to get a handgun to take with him. I decided I could get my Ruger later, so I sold it to him. I often wonder if that Ruger may have saved his life in Viet Nam. Are you out there?

FOSTER, Larry J., YOB 1946 E3-E4 059 Det 4, 64-65, (Julie), 7711 Tobruk Ct., Hanover, MD 21076, 410-551-8314, ljfwolf@hotmail.com Ret CW2



Larry Foster has volunteered to guide the reunion group thru the NSA Cryptologic Museum. Larry is a GS-15 working at NSA.

JONES, Herbert E (Ed) YOB 1944 E5 059 Det 27, OC62-MR65, (Florence), 5209 NE 34th St., Apt B5, Vancouver, WA 98661, 503-805-2180, elspec1@live.com



Ed and Florence Jones at the 2007 ASA Turkey reunion

Hey Top, above is our new address and email since we just moved to Washington State. Got here Christmas Day. HERE IS OUR XMAS AND NEW YEAR LETTER WE NEVER SENT OUT. ED JONES

THE YEAR OF THE JONES 2008

Well another year has past for Florence and I. It has been an exciting December 2008 as we closed on our house in Bismarck, Illinois and are in process of moving all our stuff (we have a slightly different term) to Vancouver, Washington.

We decided to rent for about 6 months to watch the housing market, see what it does before plunging back into debt on a house. We will see what we will see.

We rented a storage area (for our stuff), a 12 X 25X20 ft high (it is huge) which we hope our stuff will all fit into. To quote Richard Pryor "Honey I'm home, I found our stuff and I brought our stuff home ."

I must agree with Jack Ricord in that most the stuff we are storing should have been done away with years ago. (11,700 lbs?) Or in some cases maybe confiscated - - ugh.

We did rent a nice apartment with 2BR, 2Bath, Kitchen, Dining, Living and laundry. So there is some room for company.

Christmas was amazing after our road trip out to the Pacific Northwest. We left on 21 December 2008 and drove to the Oklahoma Family, dropped off a boat, motor and trailer. Thus, we are already spreading our "stuff" around.

Then on to Albuquerque, New Mexico (I was born there but can't seem to spell it right). Tuesday found us through Arizona to Bakersfield, California. Wednesday we drove over the pass on the Oregon border to Roseburg, Oregon. Christmas day we arrived at Mark and Tawnya's house for a wonderful sausage and egg breakfast -- I ATE IT ALL!!!

Since I have a bum knee, putting tire cables on in snow storms just isn't my cup of tea. When we reached the Oregon border, chains were required. Ed parked between two truckers putting on their chains. Our cables were on in less than 5 minutes and the Trucker who put them on would not accept any gratuity and by the way he could not speak English. We were thankful and felt very fortunate to have met him.

Fact is we have been very fortunate and God has taken good care of our family for the past 42 years and we are very thankful to be here in Washington with our entire family of kids and our six grand children, all within 2 miles of one another. It just occurred to us: This could turn into a real brew ha ha or a real whoop-de-do.

Florence says after we get moved into the Apartment, she wants to sleep for about a week. The truck with our "stuff" is expected to arrive and unload on New Year's Eve at the storage site and then the apartment. About 30% of our "stuff" will fit into the apartment. Some of the rest will be spread around (come and get some "Jones Stuff". If the apartment is ready that is, they were still looking for the new carpet to arrive yesterday which it did.

We will miss our friends in Danville, Illinois but will try our best to keep in contact with them.

With this letter, we send our warmest greetings, salutations for our friends and our family to have good health, happiness and prosperity this next year and into the future.

Herbert E. (Ed) Jones
elspec1@live.com
503 805 2180

Florence L. Jones
503 928 1824

JONES, Luther Mack YOB 1945 RA14792879 E5 058 TK#1 Det 27, MR63-AU64,
(Edna), 307 Magnolia Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 28468, 910 575 4562, cell 910-612-5303,
edmac@atmc.net

As I was standing in line at the post office this morning talking to my neighbor he informed me he had just returned from Virginia Beach. I mentioned to him we had our military unit reunion there this past fall. He of course thought it was Navy, I informed him it was Army Security Agency veterans. The guy in line behind us says you mean ASA I told he that was correct. He tells me he was agency and had went to Devens and then Monterey. I ask him what language he says Russian. I knew before he told me he was Sinop or Det 27. He was in Sinop in 1959-60 didn't know Det 27 existed. I have emailed him last months dool and game him your email address he seemed interested and we will be getting together for coffee soon. His name is F.C."Chappy" Jones and he retired here from Pittsburg. Hope things are going well for everyone. Edna and I just returned from Las Vegas where we were schooled the finer points of Texas Hold-um. Great game we spent most of our gaming time at the table.

Later
Luther Mac

KELBAUGH, Gilbert, YOB: 1942, RA13710045, E5, 059, Det 4, 62 (LaRue)
7402 Sunday's Lane, RFD 3, Frederick, MD 21702, 301-898-9038, kelbaugh1@outdrs.net



The above is Gil Kelbaugh at the 2002 reunion at Hershey, PA

I am pleased to learn the 2009 ASA [Turkey] Reunion will be held in Gaithersburg, Maryland. My wife and I are native Western Marylanders. I commuted to Washington, D.C. for decades until I retired. We know Washington and its environs well. The Hospitality Room is an excellent idea, essential really, for a "group" thing to remain cohesive. But to the point.

The City of Washington is the center of political power in the Western world. It's not immense geographically, but it is in every other respect. You can get lost there, among the Federal buildings, at monuments in a city that's filled with them, in museums, or in traffic, or on streets that don't run parallel excepting The Mall (any other streets off the Mall that may run parallel, believe me, you don't want to be on).

It's NOT a "short walk" from ANY of the Metro stops to places one might want to see. There aren't easy places to eat or even go to the bathroom. August is the height of the tourist season, and that greatly complicates anything you want to do there. You can see famous sites from the base of the Washington Monument, but you have to walk to get to them.

Fort Meade isn't someplace I'd enjoy driving to from Gaithersburg, or from anyplace else for that matter, but I hope ASA veterans make the pilgrimage. Seasoned travellers won't mind. Fort McHenry is in Baltimore Harbor. A big stone star with its Rodman guns (put there in the 1880s), it stirs the soul. There is so much to see here.

What to wear? Washington in summer is the most miserable place on earth. It was built on a swamp. The heat is murder, the humidity suffocating, the air is soaked with stagnant human funk and choking exhaust. DON'T wear sandals, slippers, tender little sneakers. DO wear loose-fitting clothing, wide-brimmed hats, and sturdy shoes. For all of it, Washington, the core of it, is beautiful. It's raw, it's majesty. It's us. It's what we are. It's ours.

CPT MI
II Field Force Vietnam
MACV Advisory Teams 50 and 84, 1967, 1968
SP5 059
Trick Chief, Trick 4
Radio Teletype Intercept Operator
Det.4, 1962; TRRS 1963
MAAG Instructor, Ankara, 1963

xxxxxxx2/22/09

Mike,

What a nice thing to say, a genuine compliment. Thank you. As it happens, I did write for a living. I'm glad you weren't put off by the patently negative tone of much of what I said. Route 270, for example, is the "most hated" highway

in the region, deservedly so. Traffic generally is horrific. Additionally, I have a bad association with that particular Holiday Inn, many years ago, nothing to do with the hotel itself.

As for getting lost, one literally can get "lost" in the Smithsonian. My older brother once was so mesmerized by the Museum of American History he unintentionally stayed long past hours, back in time, in oblivion, finally ushered out by a guard who discovered him long after dusk. Of course there is the Air and Space Museum. The Wall, the most visited monument in Washington, and too many other places to mention.

The NRA Museum? I don't remember where it is --- northern Virginia, but I don't know exactly where. Rough guess, 45 minutes or so. Don't even think about it at rush hour or lunchtime. There are hundreds, thousands maybe, first-class restaurants in northern Virginia, and office workers in uncountable numbers clog the highways to get to them. That's a little homework on the Internet.

Planning to go (the Reunion), but not to stay. M1-A later. Gotta run.

Gil

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

From: Mike Comroe, pennstateblue@verizon.net

To: kelbaugh1@outdrs.net

Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2009 10:16 AM

Subject: Re: ASA Reunion Comments

Gil:

Thank you for your overall synopsis of our nation's capitol. As I had said in previous emails, you missed your calling as a professional writer. I have been to Washington several times with the Boy Scouts and do agree with everything you have said. I've also been to Fort McHenry and would enjoy visiting there again. The NSA Museum does hold interest for me along with the Smithsonian(sp?) Institute. How far away is the NRA Museum from our location in Maryland? The big question is...Are you going? Hopefully the answer is yes, even if it's for one evening. Tell me about your M1A.

Mike

2/23/09 Al,

Well, I'll admit to being taken aback. I'm flattered. I don't know whether I deserve an appointment as a bus tour tour guide, but I accept. We can work the details in subsequent correspondence. First things I will need to know are the itinerary and schedule.

You mentioned Gettysburg and Antietam as possible destinations. They are roughly equidistant from Washington, 85 miles. My wife and I have life-long intimate knowledge of both, as both our families have been here in Western Maryland (and Baltimore) since the first white settlers. My great-grandfather fought at Gettysburg. My wife taught history for 31 years.

A closer alternative on near Frederick, is the Monocacy Battlefield, where in 1864 on farm fields near a railroad junction occurred the third and last invasion of the North; possibly the most important and least understood battle in modern history. Any of the ASA group who might want to learn more about the Northern Battlefields or plan to see them should be provided details. Like where to eat.

I'm sending a copy of this to Mike Comroe. Also, I will send you a copy of my recent correspondence to him.

VR, Gil Kelbaugh

LAZZARA, Tom, YOB: 1942 RA14801553, E3-E5, 058, Det 27, JN63-FE66, 556 Central St., Lot 76, Leominster MA 01453, 978-534-7051, tommylazzara@msn.com.
MSG E8 Ret

Looks like u picked a great location for the 2009 reunion....Seems to be more then 'nuff attractions to occupy our minds.....noticed Annapolis Naval Academy is in the area. Also plan on attending the ASA picnic on 1 August at Fort Meade and according to map quest the hotel is only 30 minutes away. This way it saves the problem of moving and finding suitable lodging. C u in a few months.....Tom.

MADISON, Danny R (Spanky) YOB 1948 98C E4 Det 4-4, 68-69, (Marilyn), 5501 Harris Farm Ln., Clarksville, MD 410-531-3251, dmmadison@msn.com
Greetings to all...wish I could make the 2009 reunion...I live in Maryland very near Gaithersburg and was a Det 4-4 assignee in 1968...then pfc and sp4 Dan Madison. I am here in Ankara still working, go figure....and enjoying life in Turkey. My best to all who may recall a really wet behind the ears 98C from those days. Regards and hope this finds all well...Dan Madison

MAU, Norman R, Finance, E2-E4, Det 27, JA65-JN66, (Theresa), 11225 Broad Green Dr., Potomac, MD 20854, 301-983-8469, maun@yahoo.com

[edited] Thanks for the 2009 reunion info. I am available to help you with the reunion as I live near by the Holiday Inn, Gaithersburg. For your info Costco is almost next door to the Holiday Inn. For people interested in tools, Harbor Freight is nearby and NAPA is almost on the backside of Holiday Inn. American Automobile Association is about one exit North of Gaithersburg. Norman Mau

NELSON, Robert F Det 4, 67, 34D, AHS, 65Homestead Fla, 66, 112 Sunset Rd.,
Burlington NJ 08016 609-386-9619 k2qpn@arrl.net

I just discovered your newsletter. Keep up the good work...brings back memories. Put me on your email list - maybe I can make a reunion someday.

I was in the ASA from '63 to '67.

'63 Ft. Dix

'64 Ft. Devens

Ft. Monmouth - MOS 93G - Microbarograph specialist

'65 Arlington Hall Station - G4 Large Systems Procurement

TDY Santa Monica, Ca - Computer School

'66 Homestead AFB - 6th USASA Field Station

MOS 34D - ADPS Repairman - AKA Computer Geek (still am a geek)

'67 TUSlog Det 4 - Sinop - MOS 34D - Bankhead II

73 (Best Regards),

ORR, William H., (Bill), YOB 1942 RA12645904 E6 71L Det 4, DE81-SE82, (Carol),
4509 Mobius Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28312, 910-678-9960, worr2@nc.rr.com

Hello, My name is William H Orr and I would like to be a part of your mailings and would also like to know when is the next scheduled get together for ASAers in this area. I am currently residing in Fayetteville, NC and I have retired twice. My home phone number is 910-678-9960. I retired 26 years ago as the NCOIC, XVIII Abn Corps SSO. My first contact with ASA was back in Aug 65 when I was assigned to HHC, USASA Training Regiment until I received my Clnc. I was a 71L assigned to ASA because I had a security clearance prior to entering the service when I worked for RCA Missile Surface Screen Radar Division in Moorestown, NJ. I spent 16 wonderful years with ASA and I would gladly do it all over again. There are no better people to work with. I have made many friends from Devens, to Ft Huachuca at the EW School, to Udorn, Thailand to ASAPAC Heleman, HI, to Saigon and Phu Bai. Then back to Vint Hill, to Germany at 307th ASABn (CEWI) Ludwigsburg to Ft Bragg with GIPD, ITAC, INSCOM. From there to Sinop--Dec 81 to Sep 82 and then to the SSO at Ft Bragg and retired in Dec 83.

As I said I have a lot of fond memories and would like to meet some of the folks again.

Bill

PITTS, Jim, DET 27 1958-1960, E4, 722, YOB: 1938, BOX 555, Hildebran, NC 28637,
828-397-3473, (Emogene) jimpitts28637@yahoo.com

Please note the email change.

STEPHENS, Howard C (Steve), E2-E4, 711, Det 27, DE60-SE62, (Judy), 3149
Tamarron Dr., Rochester Hills, MI 48309, 248-375-0081 howardcstephens@att.net

Hi Elder, Sorry it's been a while since I last wrote. I am semi-retired now, but still working 3 days a week in IT and having fun with my 8 beautiful grand kids. Seems like I am always busy, but never too busy to enjoy the monthly DOOL's. Thanks to all for the continuing memories.

I thought you might like to read the article below. Pretty interesting facts. Of course, the elite liberal media always get it wrong - and continue to do so in "reporting" the current military conflicts around the globe. Some things never change. Hope all goes well with you and yours.

Have a great weekend old soldier.

Howard "Steve" Stephens
Det 27 HQ 12/60 - 09/62

Subject: Viet Nam - facts & figures...

We do not live in Viet Nam , Viet Nam lives in us.

This will take your mind off of the little skirmish in Iraq for a little while anyway.

Written by a real Vietnam veteran:

I found this article very interesting. The most notable fact is that 2.7 million Americans actually served in the Vietnam Theater of war.

In the last census nearly 14 million Americans claimed they served in Vietnam . Four out of five are lying. I wonder why.

For over 30 years many Vietnam veterans....seldom spoke of Vietnam , except with other veterans, when training soldiers, and in public speeches. These past five years I have joined the hundreds of thousands who believe it is high time the truth be told about the Vietnam War and the people who served there. It's time the American people learn that the United States military did not lose the War, and that a surprisingly high number of people who claim to have served there, in fact, DID NOT.

As Americans, support the men and women involved in the War on Terrorism, the mainstream media are once again working tirelessly to undermine their efforts and force a psychological loss or stalemate for the United States . We cannot stand by and let the media do to today's warriors what they did to us 35 years ago.

Below are some assembled facts most readers will find interesting. It isn't a long read, but it will....I guarantee....teach you some things you did >not know about the Vietnam

War and those who served, fought, or died there. Please share it with those with whom you communicate.

Capt. Marshal Hanson, U.S.N.R (Ret.)

Capt. Scott Beaton, Statistical Source

Vietnam War Facts: Facts, Statistics, Fake Warrior Numbers, and Myths Dispelled

9,087,000 (Million) military personnel served on active duty during the official Vietnam era from August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975.

2,709,918 Americans served in uniform in Vietnam

Veterans represented 9.7% of their generation.

240 men were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War

1. The first man to die in Vietnam was James Davis, in 1958. He was with the 509th Radio Research Station. Davis Station in Saigon was named for him.
2. 58,148 were killed in Vietnam
3. 75,000 were severely disabled .
4. 23,214 were 100% disabled .
5. 5,283 lost limbs.
6. 1,081 sustained multiple amputations.
7. Of those killed, 61% were younger than 21.
8. 11,465 of those killed were younger than 20 years old.
9. Of those killed, 17,539 were married .
10. Average age of men killed: 23.1 years .
11. Five men killed in Vietnam were only 16 years old.
12. The oldest man killed was 62 years old.
13. As of January 15, 2004, there are 1,875 Americans still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War .
14. 97% of Vietnam Veterans were honorably discharged .
15. 91% of Vietnam Veterans say they are glad they served.
16. 74% say they would serve again, even knowing the outcome.
17. Vietnam veterans have a lower unemployment rate than the same non-vet age groups.
18. Vietnam veterans' personal income exceeds that of our non-veteran age group by more than 18 percent.
19. 87% of Americans hold Vietnam Veterans in high esteem.
20. There is no difference in drug usage between Vietnam Veterans and non-Vietnam Veterans of the same age group (Source: Veterans Administration Study)
21. Vietnam Veterans are less likely to be in prison - only one-half of one percent of Vietnam Veterans have been jailed for crimes.
22. 85% of Vietnam Veterans made successful transitions to civilian life.
23. Interesting Census Stats and "Been There" Wanabees:
 - a. 1,713,823 of those who served in Vietnam were still alive as of August, 1995

(census figures).

b. During that same Census count, the number of Americans falsely claiming to have served in-country was 92,958.

24. As of the current Census taken during August, 2000, the surviving U.S. Vietnam Veteran population estimate is: 1,002,511. This is hard to believe, losing nearly 711,000 between '95 and '00. That's 390 per day.

24. During this Census count, the number of Americans falsely claiming to have served in-country is: 13,853,027. By this census, FOUR OUT OF FIVE WHO CLAIM TO BE Vietnam vets are not.

25. The Department of Defense Vietnam War Service Index officially provided by The War Library originally reported with errors that 2,709,918 U.S.military personnel as having served in-country. Corrections and confirmations to this errored index resulted in the addition of 358 U.S. military personnel confirmed to have served in Vietnam but not originally listed by the Department of Defense. (All names are currently on file and accessible 24/7/365).

Common Myths Dispelled:

#1. Myth: Common Belief is that most Vietnam veterans were drafted.

Fact: 2/3 of the men who served in Vietnam were volunteers. 2/3 of the men who served in World War II were drafted. Approximately 70% of those killed in Vietnam were volunteers.

#2. Myth: The media have reported that suicides among Vietnam veterans range from 50,000 to 100,000 - 6 to 11 times the non-Vietnam veteran population.

Fact: Mortality studies show that 9,000 is a better estimate. "The CDC Vietnam Experience Study Mortality Assessment showed that during the first 5 years after discharge, deaths from suicide were 1.7 times more likely among Vietnam veterans than non-Vietnam veterans. After that initial post-service period, Vietnam veterans were no more likely to die from suicide than non-Vietnam veterans. In fact, after the 5-year post-service period, the rate of suicides is less in the Vietnam veterans' group.

#3.Myth: Common belief is that a disproportionate number of blacks were killed in the Vietnam War.

Fact: 86% of the men who died in Vietnam were Caucasians, 12.5% were black, 1.2% was other races. Sociologists Charles C. Moskos and John Sibley Butler, in their recently published book "All That We Can Be," said they analyzed the claim that blacks were used like cannon fodder during Vietnam "and can report definitely that this charge is untrue. Black fatalities amounted to 12 percent of all Americans killed in Southeast Asia, a figure proportional to the number of blacks in the U.S. population at the time and slightly lower than the proportion of blacks in the Army at the close of the war."

#4 Myth: Common belief is that the war was fought largely by the poor and uneducated.

Fact: Servicemen who went to Vietnam from well-to-do areas had a slightly elevated risk of dying because they were more likely to be pilots or infantry officers. Vietnam Veterans were the best educated forces our nation had ever sent into combat. 79% had a high school education or better. Here are statistics from the Combat Area Casualty File (CACF) as of November 1993. The CACF is the basis for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall): Average age of 58,148 killed in Vietnam was 23.11 years. (Although 58,169 names are in the Nov. 93 database, only 58,148 have both event date and birth date. Event date is used instead of declared dead date for some of those who were listed as missing in action) Deaths Average Age Total: 58,148, 23.11 years Enlisted: 50,274, 22.37 years Officers: 6,598, 28.43 years Warrants: 1,276, 24.73 years E1 525, 20.34 years 11B MOS: 18,465, 22.55 years

#5 Myth: The common belief is the average age of an infantryman fighting in Vietnam was 19.

Fact: Assuming KIAs accurately represented age groups serving in Vietnam, the average age of an infantryman (MOS 11B) serving in Vietnam to be 19 years old is a myth, it is actually 22. None of the enlisted grades have an average age of less than 20. The average man who fought in World War II was 26 years of age.

#6 Myth: The Common belief is that the domino theory was proved false.

Fact: The domino theory was accurate. The ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries, Philippines , Indonesia , Malaysia , Singapore , and Thailand stayed free of Communism because of the U.S. commitment to Vietnam. The Indonesians threw the Soviets out in 1966 because of America 's commitment in Vietnam . Without that commitment, Communism would have swept all the way to the Malacca Straits that is south of Singapore and of great strategic importance to the free world. If you ask people who live in these countries that won the war in Vietnam, they have a different opinion from the American news media. The Vietnam War was the turning point for Communism.

#7 Myth: The common belief is that the fighting in Vietnam was not as intense as in World War II.

Fact: The average infantryman in the South Pacific during World War II saw about 40 days of combat in four years. The average infantryman in Vietnam saw about 240 days of combat in one year thanks to the mobility of the helicopter. One out of every 10 Americans who served in Vietnam was a casualty.. 58,148 were killed and 304,000 wounded out of 2.7 million who served. Although the percent that died is similar to other wars, amputations or crippling wounds were 300 percent higher than in World War II75,000 Vietnam veterans are severely disabled. MEDEVAC helicopters flew nearly 500,000 missions. Over 900,000 patients were airlifted (nearly half were American). The average time lapse between wounding to hospitalization was less than one hour. As a result, less than one percent of all Americans wounded, who survived the first 24 hours,

died. The helicopter provided unprecedented mobility. Without the helicopter it would have taken three times as many troops to secure the 800 mile border with Cambodia and Laos (the politicians thought the Geneva Conventions of 1954 and the Geneva Accords or 1962 would secure the border).

#8 Myth: Kim Phuc, the little nine year old Vietnamese girl running naked from the napalm strike near Trang Bang on 8 June 1972.....shown a million times on American television....was burned by Americans bombing Trang Bang.

Fact: No American had involvement in this incident near Trang Bang that burned Phan Thi Kim Phuc. The planes doing the bombing near the village were VNAF (Vietnam Air Force) and were being flown by Vietnamese pilots in support of South Vietnamese troops on the ground. The Vietnamese pilot who dropped the napalm in error is currently living in the United States . Even the AP photographer, Nick Ut, who took the picture, was Vietnamese. The incident in the photo took place on the second day of a three day battle between the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) who occupied the village of Trang Bang and the ARVN (Army of the Republic of Vietnam) who were trying to force the NVA out of the village. Recent reports in the news media that an American commander ordered the air strike that burned Kim Phuc are incorrect.. There were no Americans involved in any capacity. "We (Americans) had nothing to do with controlling VNAF," according to >Lieutenant General (Ret) James F. Hollingsworth, the Commanding General of TRAC at that time. Also, it has been incorrectly reported that two of Kim Phuc's brothers were killed in this incident. They were Kim's cousins not her brothers.

#9 Myth: The United States lost the war in Vietnam .

Fact: The American military was not defeated in Vietnam . The American military did not lose a battle of any consequence. From a military standpoint, it was almost an unprecedented performance. General Westmoreland quoting Douglas Pike, a professor at the University of California , Berkley a major military defeat for the VC and NVA.

FACT: THE UNITED STATES DID NOT LOSE THE WAR IN VIETNAM , THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE DID. Read on.....

The fall of Saigon happened 30 April 1975, two years AFTER the American military left Vietnam. The last American troops departed in their entirety 29 March 1973.

FACT: How could we lose a war we had already stopped fighting? We fought to an agreed stalemate. The peace settlement was signed in Paris on 27 January 1973.

* It called for release of all U.S. prisoners, withdrawal of U.S. forces, limitation of both sides' forces inside South Vietnam and a commitment to peaceful reunification.

*The 140,000 evacuees in April 1975 during the fall of Saigon consisted almost entirely of civilians and Vietnamese military, NOT American military running for their lives.

*There were almost twice as many casualties in Southeast Asia (primarily Cambodia) the first two years after the fall of Saigon in 1975 then there were during the ten years the U.S. was involved in Vietnam .

*Thanks for the perceived loss and the countless assassinations and torture visited upon Vietnamese, Laotians, and Cambodians goes mainly to the American media and their undying support-by-misrepresentation of the anti-War movement in the United States .

*As with much of the Vietnam War, the news media misreported and misinterpreted the 1968 Tet Offensive. It was reported as an overwhelming success for the Communist forces and a decided defeat for the U.S. forces. Nothing could be further from the truth. Despite initial victories by the Communists forces, the Tet Offensive resulted in a major defeat of those forces. General Vo Nguyen Giap, the designer of the Tet Offensive, is considered by some as ranking with Wellington , Grant, Lee and MacArthur as a great commander. Still, militarily, the Tet Offensive was a total defeat of the Communist forces on all fronts. It resulted in the death of some 45,000 NVA troops and the complete, if not total destruction of the Viet Cong elements in South Vietnam . The Organization of the Viet Cong Units in the South never recovered. The Tet Offensive succeeded on only one front and that was the News front and the political arena. This was another example in the Vietnam War of an inaccuracy becoming the perceived truth. However, inaccurately reported, the News Media made the Tet Offensive famous.

Please give all credit and research to: Capt. Marshal Hanson, U.S.N..R (Ret.) & Capt. Scott Beaton, Statistical Source

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