

DAYS OF OUR LIVES #266

## MAIL-call - PRESERVING FORGOTTEN MEMORIES

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Elder RC Green

Your memoirs are most welcome to the ASA Turkey DAYS OF OUR LIVES and is an effort on my part to preserve the stories and memories of Army Security Agency veterans who served in Turkey during the cold war.

I try my best to think out every word in crafting the monthly DOOL's. It's a tough job and is very time consuming and with that said – I'd appreciate your feedback. But I can, with certainty state that most will read the DOOL – and say that was okay and walk away with information that would have added to any particular entry. Your comments are always most welcome.

Received the below photo from Bob Stewart (Det 4-4) who received it from Steve Jellison as follows: Subject: Sinop From: Stephen Jellison <[fug1@icloud.com](mailto:fug1@icloud.com)> Date: Tue, 25 Nov 2014 10:56:22 -0600 To: "[gogators738@windstream.net](mailto:gogators738@windstream.net)"

Good morning. A Sinop buddy just sent this to me. Thought you might want to put it in DOOL.

Top left: Ken Turner Top Middle: John Grech Top Right: a Norm Kopp Bottom Left: ..... Crawford Bottom Right: Jack Cochran, Circa 1962



I sent email to Steve Jellison at [fug1@icloud.com](mailto:fug1@icloud.com) regarding this photo, but got no answer. Does anyone know the ADR & email for the above 5 Det 4 veterans, If so, send an email to: [asagreenhornet@comcast.net](mailto:asagreenhornet@comcast.net)

Even though no one in the above photo were contacted – I was able to contact a Grant Crawford and a short BIO on him is included in the Mail Call section of this DOOL.

### 2016 REUNION REPORT

No decision has been made as to where the 2016 ASA Turkey reunion will be held. Luther and Edna Jones attended a 4 day planner meeting in Charleston, SC and are now waiting for the hotels and CVB to get back to them with their proposals.

## REMEMBERING **KBOB** AT DET 4

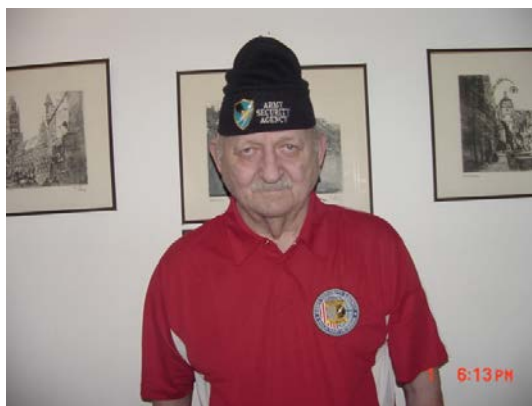
Steve Stubbs has been working on the History of the two Radio Stations – KYSO and KBOK AT Det 4 in Sinop, Turkey. Below in the MAIL section of this DOOL under STUBBS, Steve you will find some history of the two radio stations that were well known by those who served at Det 4, Det 66-1 or at Det 169.

SO – If you served at Sinop and have knowledge of either KYSO or KBOK

### HOW ABOUT THESE AS CHRISTMAS GIFT'S



Max Putter, 059, Det 27, 60-62



Elder RC Green, 98C, Det 27, 120, 4-4

Above is Max Putter wearing the wind-breaker type jacket and the gH wearing a ski type cap with the ASA patch embroidered thereon and the words ARMY SECURITY AGENCY stitched thereon. The Golf shirt is 100% polyester and the patch reads "ARMY SECURITY AGENCY" on the top and "COLD WAR VETERAN" on the bottom and the VIGILANT ALWAYS pin in the middle. If interested call Max for the prices at 609-823-2545 or send email to [nashswim@aol.com](mailto:nashswim@aol.com). The hat matches the jacket which has a detachable hood. These 4 ASA items will make a good Christmas gift – so think it over and then contact Max for the prices, sizes, colors, etc. Also he can stitch your NAME and DETACHMENT on the jacket and shirt.



The Editors: GREEN, Elder RC (gH & AI) and Patty Green, YOB: 1936 and 1939, RA13513638, E7, 982/98C, Det 27, 1-15MY61, Det 120, MY-JL65, Det 27, JN66-OC67 & Det 4-4, OC67-NO68, 3094 Warren Rd., Indiana, PA 15701, 724-471-4899, [asagreenhornet@comcast.net](mailto:asagreenhornet@comcast.net)

## TAPS

ABRIALS, Beverly, YOB: 1936 DOD: 19OC2014, wife of Thomas E. Abrials, Cook/Supply, E1-E4, Det 4, OC57-OC58, 6573 Wiltshire Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23188, 757-565-2189, [teabrials@cox.net](mailto:teabrials@cox.net)



Beverly Jane Abrials, known affectionately as Bev, departed this world after 78 years, on 19 October 2014, at Riverside Doctors' Hospital; where she was cared for by a devoted team of doctors and nurses, and surrounded by her loving family, to include her husband and partner in life, Thomas, her three grown children, Tara, Tom and Mark, and one of her six grandchildren, Christopher, before finding everlasting peace with the Lord. Beverly was born in 1936 in Chillicothe, Missouri, just 15 months after her sister Barbara Ann, to Floyd and Mary Riddle. She attended William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, and majored in English. And over the course of her life/career, she was an English teacher at a mission for Native Americans, a stay-at-home mother, lover of history, reader of books, member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and for a while, even an editor in China Branch at the CIA. Though modest in all things, the story of how Beverly met her husband is the stuff of Hollywood movies, despite being a guarded family secret. In late 1961, Beverly was connected with a soldier who wanted a pen pal as a sort of literary escape from his post in Berlin as a member of the Army Security Agency. (The wall was going up.) Soon, letters began to crisscross the Atlantic. A romance blossomed. Small black & white photos were exchanged. And within a short period of time, Thomas proposed engagement to Beverly in one of the letters. A ring with a diamond set in a white gold was sent by mail from Germany (for which Beverly had to pay \$30 in customs tax before she could accept it). In 1963, a short ceremony with two witnesses followed-just the day after they first met in person. Now, fifty-one years later, Beverly was blessed to have lived a life filled with such love of family, tenderness, strength of character, commitment, trust and quiet faith. She was a devoted friend, sister, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. For those who knew her, especially her kindness and smile, she will be forever missed. A service will be held for Beverly in the chapel at Arlington National Cemetery, pending final interment in the Columbarium. In lieu of flowers, her family suggests donations in her name be sent to the Hospice House & Support Care of Williamsburg ([www.williamsburghospice.org](http://www.williamsburghospice.org))-a non-profit organization that Beverly would have embraced.

111 - ABRIALS, Thomas E., E1-E4, Supply, Det 4 & 4-1, OC57-OC58, 1901 Somersby Ln., VA Beach, VA 23456 757-427-3016, [tabrials@cox.net](mailto:tabrials@cox.net) Ops! Seems a revision is in line! Sinope-57-58 and then on to

Ankara (Det 4-1) for several months. Basically, I was a duty guy or supply type that did most of the buying of supplies for the site in Sinope and later on in Ankara. Had the honor of being the first jerk to drive an Air Force (loaned) tractor trailer rig over the mountains-by passing Samsun and going directly to the site. Myself and another guy hauled in huge amounts of frozen food stuff and even fuel for the site. Left Sinope and went to the PI (8609) and ended up going to Electronic Warfare School at Ft. Monmouth. At Ft. Devens, got my Warrant Officer appointment and spent several tours in great places like Viet Nam, Korea and Germany. Retired from the Army in 1976 as a CW3. Tom 'Muzzle Loading' Abrials.

113 - Ernie Carrick who worked in Personnel at Det 4, NO57-OC58 remembers Tom Abrials who was a cook at Fort Devens in 1956-57 and was a driver at Det 4, 57-58. I still have the Det 4 Thanksgiving menu that has Pvt Thomas E. Abrials name on it. Another was Jack Dunlap who turned into a spy for the Soviet Union. Once he was caught - I and any others who knew him - were interrogated in an attempt to discover more info about that traitor.

PROBERT, Harold, DOB: 4AU1937 at Oakland, CA, DOD: 11OC2914, 77y at Fallon, NV., US/ER/RA28764558, E3-E1-E3, 059, Det 27, 60-62, (Judy), 660 S. Bailey St., Fallon, NV 89406, 775-423-4906 or cell 775-426-0941



Harold Probert

Harold Probert died on 11 October 2014 in a Reno, Nevada hospital after a long illness. He was born 4 August 1937 in Oakland, CA. His family moved back to Fallon one year later. Harold attended Churchill County Schools and was an Army veteran having served in the Army Security Agency at Det 27, Manzarali Station, Turkey and Germany. He was a member of the Teamsters and Operating Engineers and a 44 year member of the Fallon Golf course. Harold was preceded in death by his parents James and Erika Probert, brothers James of Alexandria, VA; and Robert of Wells, NV. He is survived by his wife Judy of Fallon, daughter Carol (Kevin) Johnson and grandchildren Bailey and Ethan Johnson all of Nampa, Idaho. No services are scheduled. The family suggests donation be made in his memory to the Churchill County High School Varsity Football Program. Arrangements are under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Home and Crematory-Fallon.



L-R – Judy Probert, Harold Probert & Milt Hathaway



**Vic & Pat Pryor**

#### BIG SURPRISE FOR HAROLD PROBERT

By Vic Pryor

On September 28, 2006 five veteran friends of the legendary Harold Probert met at the Reno, Nevada airport to give him a surprise that we hope he won't forget. The reunion was planned by Mitch Armstrong who was a close friend of Harold Probert at Det 27. Because of health problems Harold could not travel far from Nevada. Nelson Murray and wife Sandy, Chuck Teschker and wife Penny, Mitch Armstrong (Ataturk) and wife Dorothy, Milt Hathaway, and Vic Pryor and wife Pat were all on hand for the surprise.

The one close friend that had to stay home under Doctors order was Charlie Kindermann and his wife Sue.



2LT Freddy Frye

Most everyone who served at Det 27 during the period 1960-62 should remember 2Lt Freddy Frye who was one of the four Watch Officer's assigned to opns. Harold Probert was known to frequent the NCO Club during breaks. During one of those breaks Harold got word that Frye had planned for the trick to attend training classes the next day. This did not please Harold and the more booze he drank – the madder he got and needless to say his so-called drinking friends kept reminding him and he was soon on his way for the BOQ. Freddie Frye wasn't there – but a Captain was and soon the Captain was KO'd by Probert or so the rumor was. The name of the captain is not known but he was AKA the bus driver as he always wore his hat on the back of his head. Freddie Frye has not been found.

Ataturk Armstrong had been working on this surprise for a year. We all checked in at the Atlantis to set his plan in motion.

The next day we all got an early start and rode with Mitch out to Fallon, NV. in a van. The plan was to get to Harold before he left to go golfing and as he was NOT informed that we were coming - timing was critical.

Love it when a plan comes together - Harold was completely surprised. After the initial shock we all went in and met his wife Judy, then went to a local restaurant for breakfast. After the morning BS session Harold and Judy went to pack and to

meet us back in Reno and we all left for the Atlantis.

The remainder of the day was spent at the one armed bandits and the hotel's concierge tower talking about the 'good old times at Manzarali, Turkey'. Saturday found us again in the van but this time with Harold as the tour guide.

We went to Lake Tahoe and up through Donner Pass, and back to the concierge tower for the necessary refreshments. It was then off to a show downtown before the end of the night.

Sunday found us headed to the airport and Harold and Judy headed back to Fallon. I know he was surprised and to be able to pull it off again would be almost impossible.

HAROLD, from your friends that came to SURPRISE you and from Charlie and Sue Kinderman that weren't able to make it this time, we all say "THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE MEMORIES AND THE FRIENDSHIP. IT REALLY WAS A TERRIFIC TIME AND WE CAN REMEMBER MOST OF IT 45 YEARS LATER"



L-R: Dot Armstrong, Ataturk Armstrong, Sandy Murray, Vic Pryor, Harold Probert, Penny Teschker, Chuck Teschker and Milt Hathaway. Missing : Judy Probert, Pat Pryor & Nelson Murray

## MAIL call

BENTLEY, Bob, RA13758025, 059, Det 27, MR63-OC64, Cypress, TX  
CRAWFORD, Grant, 059, Det 4, 62-63, Los Lunas, NM  
DELEO, Steve, 982, Det 27, JA64-AU65, Castle Rock, CO  
JONES, Luther Mac, 058, Det 27, 62-63, Sunset Beach, NC  
SCHNAGL, Gene, 98J, Det 4, 63-64, Franklin, WI  
STUBBS, Steve, 286, Det 4, OC63-OC64, Lowell, NC

## MAIL call in alphabetical order

BENTLEY, Bob, RA13758025, 059, E3-E4, Det 27, MR63-OC64, (Evelyn), 19507 Dunlap Springs Dr., Cypress, TX 77422, 609-276-2610, [rkbentley1@verizon.net](mailto:rkbentley1@verizon.net)

Elder: Sorry that Evelyn & I could not make the 2014 ASA meeting. We both would like to put in our vote for the 2015 meeting. (Today is voting day, after all.) We both could make the Charleston, SC, ASA get-together. Any other spot would more than likely be problematic for us. Thanks for all of the hard work that you put into doing this. Bob (Det. 27) & Evelyn Bentley, Cypress TX

CRAWFORD, Granville B., "Grant", YOB: 1944 RA18661804 E3-E4, 059, Det 4, 62-63, (Dorothy), 1197 Sichler Dr, Los Lunas, NM 87031, 505-865-4190, cell 505-379-4565, [gbcrawford1@gmail.com](mailto:gbcrawford1@gmail.com)



Photo courtesy of Steve Stubbs

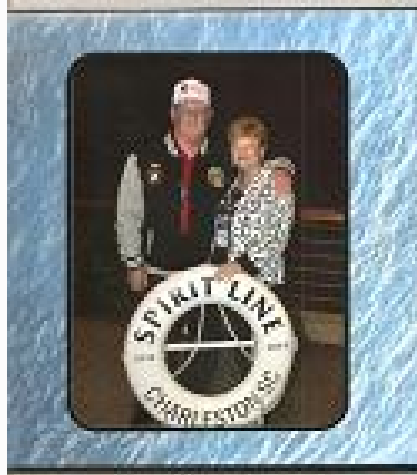
It was because of the photo sent by Steve Jellison that I was able to locate Grant Crawford. I called and had a lengthy chat with Grant. The details along with his BIO will be included in a future DOOL. Oh, by the way Steve Stubbs and Frank Fitzhenry have been friends since 1962. Both Grant and Peaches are qualified balloonists.

DELEO, Steve J., YOB: 1945, SP4,982, Det 27, JA64-AU65, (Agnes), 203 Cheney Pl., Castle Rock, CO 80104, 303-688-1520, COL, USAR(Ret)

Sorry, I missed the last few reunions, still working during the 2014 working in China, during the 2013 working in Azerbaijan and the 2012 working in Turkey.....hope to make the 2015.....Steve De Leo.....982 Det 27 64-65.....



JONES, Luther Mac, E3-E4, 058, Tk#1, Det 27, 62-63, (Edna), 307 Magnolia Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 28468, 910-228-3995, edmac@atmc.net



Luther Mac and Edna Jones before going on sunset dinner cruise around Charleston, SC,

Note that Luther is wearing the Max Putter windbreaker and hat

Edna and I had a great meeting with 22 exhibitors in Charleston SC and have asked for PROPOSALS from 2 hotels in Charleston and also from one in the Manasas, VA area and Columbus, GA. Those are the three that was on our list who had reps there. I also ask a few for info on 2016. This looks like a good prospect money wise and Ed McCants wants to help and another guy who lives close by whose name I can't remember is willing also according to Ed McCants.

SCHNAGL, Gene, E2-E5, 98J, Det 4, 63-64, (Kathy), 3821 Glenwood Dr., Franklin, WI 53132, 414-856-2910, [eschnadl@wi.rr.com](mailto:eschnadl@wi.rr.com)

[EDITED] Elder, - Kathy and I recently returned from almost three weeks in England, Scotland and Ireland. Kathy and I have discussed this and feel there is obvious hesitation about coming to Milwaukee although we are not sure why. It was just an offer on our part to provide a new location. Having said that we feel that you will understand that we would like to decline our offer to host the event here in Milwaukee in the best interests of the organization and its members. We would not like people to be uncomfortable and would want them to have an enjoyable time where ever you decide to go. By withdrawing our offer it will allow you to choose the location you feel most comfortable with. I have contacted the people I have spoken to here and thanked them for any considerations extended and advised them we would not be needing their services at this time.

I just want you to know that there are no hard feelings whatsoever on my part. You have been very successful in your Reunion efforts over the years and I can't tell you how much myself and many others appreciate all your hard work and dedication. I can only

hope that I haven't caused you any unnecessary concerns. I just feel that for the Organization it is best to leave Milwaukee out of the picture now and just move on for another wonderful reunion where ever you may choose. Again, I'm sorry for any difficulty I have caused you and the other members. Take care and best of luck going forward, Gene

STUBBS, Steve YOB: 1943, RA16750027, E3-E5, 286, Det 4, OC63-OC64,  
(Penny),808 N. Main St., Lowell, NC 28098, 704-824-5446, [sas943@gmail.com](mailto:sas943@gmail.com)



Steve & Penny Stubbs at the 2007 reunion at N. Myrtle Beach, SC

## Remembering Det. 4's "KBOK"...

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In 2008 Elder was kind enough to put the following note in a mid-summer issue of the DOOL:

*I am interested in compiling a history of Det. 4's "radio" station, KBOK, which at various times was on-air, landline and also referred to as KYSO. Its history should parallel that of the site, from the late 50s until becoming part of Armed Forces Radio (early 70s).*

*If anyone has memories of KBOK, anecdotes, etc., that they'd like to share, I will be glad to collect and edit these into a form that would be suitable for inclusion into a future edition of DOOL. Especially like to hear from those who may have participated in the operation of the station in their "spare time" while assigned to The Hill. Please include the dates of your tour as this will help develop the operational timeline.*

Well, we weren't overwhelmed with responses but did hear from several which are included herein

## Charles Bierbauer

A precursor to Bierbauer's professional career lay in the creation of KBOK Radio in Sinop, Turkey while assigned there with TUSLOG Det 4 in 1962-1963 with the Army Security Agency.

**Charles Bierbauer** (born 22 July 1942 in Allentown, PA) is the Dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, at the University of South Carolina.

He was for many years CNN's senior Washington correspondent and a veteran reporter covering national and international affairs.

As a CNN correspondent, Bierbauer reported on five presidential campaigns and served as CNN's senior White House correspondent for almost a decade during the Reagan and Bush Administrations. He has traveled with American presidents to all 50 states and more than 30 nations.

Bierbauer is a graduate of Emmaus High School in Emmaus, Pennsylvania and Penn State, where he earned three degrees: a Bachelor's degree in Russian, a Bachelor's degree in journalism, and a Master's degree in journalism. Penn State has named him a distinguished alumnus and alumni fellow.

A precursor to Bierbauer's professional career lay in the creation of KBOK Radio in Sinop, Turkey while assigned there with TUSLOG Det 4 in 1962-1963 with the Army Security Agency. At Sinop, a cadre of young soldiers worked wiring the remote base for radio. Bierbauer reported news, did play-by-play base sports with Joe Tate and hosted a jazz show. He started his commercial broadcast career as a radio reporter for WKAP radio in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1963. He also worked in print journalism, writing for *The Morning Call* in Allentown. He was a reporter with the Associated Press in Pittsburgh, PA, from 67-68, and a *Chicago Daily News* correspondent in Bonn, Germany.

He joined Westinghouse Radio (Group W) in 1969 as its Eastern European correspondent based in Vienna, Austria, and transferred to Bonn, Germany, in 1970, continuing to cover Germany and Eastern Europe. In 1974, he became Group W's foreign editor based in London. In 1976, Group W assigned Bierbauer as a television reporter for its Philadelphia station, KYW, where he remained through 1977.

Bierbauer was an overseas correspondent for ABC News (1977–81), first as Moscow bureau chief and later as the Bonn bureau chief. Prior to that, he worked in Philadelphia, PA, London, Bonn and Vienna as a correspondent for Westinghouse Broadcasting.

Bierbauer joined CNN in 1981 and remained for more than 20 years, leaving the network in 2001. He was CNN's Pentagon correspondent from 81-84, its Senior White House Correspondent from 84-93, and Senior Washington Correspondent from 93-2001. From 97-2001, he covered the U.S. Supreme Court and legal affairs.

In 2001 he was reporter and producer for a Discovery Channel documentary on the September 11, 2001 attacks.

He served as a member of the National Council for Media & Public Affairs at George Washington University and is on the advisory board for the Washington Center for Politics and Journalism.

In 1997, he won an Emmy Award for anchoring CNN coverage of the 1996 Olympic Park bombing in Atlanta, Georgia. He also is a recipient of the ACE Award from the Association for Cable Excellence and the Overseas Press Club Award for Group W's reporting of the Yom Kippur War.

Bierbauer became the first dean of the newly merged College of Mass Communications and Information Studies at the University of South Carolina in July 2002 and continues to serve in that position. While in Washington, he was a lecturer for the Penn State program in Washington and a member of the College of Communications Board of Visitors, as well as a member of the alumni association's Communications Advisory Board.

Bierbauer is married to Susanne Schafer, an Associate Press reporter and formerly the Pentagon correspondent for the AP. He has four children and eight grandchildren.

Another distinguished KBOK alumnus is Joe Tait



Joseph (Joe) Tait

**Joseph "Joe" Tait** (born May 15, 1937) is an American sports broadcaster, who called the radio play by play for the Cleveland Cavaliers of the NBA and both TV and radio for the Cleveland Indians of Major League Baseball. With the exception of two seasons in the early 1980s and illness in 2010-11, he was the Cavaliers' radio announcer from the team's inception in 1970 through the 2010-11 season. He won the Basketball Hall of Fame 2010 Curt Gowdy Media Award.

## Early life and education

Tait was born in Evanston, Illinois. He attended in Monmouth College in western Illinois, where he began his radio career. He did various jobs, including play-by-play on a local radio station in Monmouth (WRAM), sports reports, and operations manager.<sup>[2]</sup> He graduated in 1959. After college, Tait spent three years in the United States Army Security Agency.

After the Army, Tait bounced around, spending time in Decatur, Illinois. He taught sportscasting at Ohio University from 1966 to 1968, served as the network voice of Indiana University football, and was the pre-game host for the Indiana Pacers in 1969.

## Career

In 1970, Tait began his longtime association with the Cleveland Cavaliers, who were in their first year of existence. The games were broadcast on WERE for the first two years. After then-owner Nick Mileti, who also owned the Cleveland Indians, bought radio station WWWE in 1972, the radio broadcasts for both teams were moved from WERE to WWWE. Tait was the radio announcer for the Indians from 1973 through 1979 along with Herb Score, and their TV announcer with a variety of partners from 1980 through 1987.

However, prior to the 1980-1981 season, new controversial Cavs' team owner Ted Stepien had a disagreement with WWWE. Consequently, the station gave the broadcasting rights back to Stepien. Yet, many Cleveland fans mistakenly believe that Tait was fired by Stepien. In the interim, Tait was the radio announcer for the New Jersey Nets for the 1980-1981 season. The following year he switched to television, calling play-by-play Chicago Bulls games on SportsVision, the team's cable-TV station. He also broadcast the CBS Radio College Game-of-the-Week. When new owners Gordon and George Gund III bought the team, Tait returned to the Cavaliers for the 1982-1983 season, and remained until his retirement in 2011. In 1987, he was named vice president of broadcast services, a job that he continues today.

For fifteen seasons (during the basketball off-season), Tait was also a play by play voice for the [Cleveland Indians](#) (on the radio from 1973–1979, then switching to television from 1980–1987).<sup>[3]</sup> In 1992, he was inducted into the Radio/Television Broadcasters Hall of Fame of Ohio.<sup>[6]</sup>

From 1997 to 2003, Tait also served as the radio play-by-play voice of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) Cleveland Rockers. In 2004, Tait was selected as a founding member of the Indiana Broadcasters Hall of Fame.<sup>[7]</sup>

Beginning in 2008, Tait has done play by play for the Mount Union College Purple Raiders, a Division III college football team, on regional cable-TV sports network SportsTime Ohio. He is on the school's board of trustees.<sup>[9]</sup> He also calls high school basketball games for WEOL-AM 930.

On March 26, 2008, Tait announced his 3000th game for the Cavaliers, against the New Orleans Hornets, where he sat at half court. The radio broadcast location at The Q, at section C126, has been forever renamed *The Joe Tait Perch* in honor of this achievement. In November 2008, Tait

signed a two-year contract extension, ensuring that he would be the team's radio voice until at least the 2010-11 season. However, he has a lifetime agreement with the team to serve in some capacity.

In May 2010, the Basketball Hall of Fame announced that Tait would receive the 2010 Curt Gowdy Media Award, which was presented on August 12–13, 2010. On May 17, 2010, WTAM announced that he would retire from broadcasting at the end of the 2011 season. During the 2010 preseason, Tait was hospitalized with pneumonia, and further testing showed he needed heart surgery. This would cause Tait to miss the most of the 2010-2011 season. Mike Snyder and Jim Chones were announced as the interim radio team during Tait's recovery. On March 25, 2011 it was announced that Tait would return to call the remaining home games of the season.

On April 8, 2011 in a game against the Chicago Bulls, the Cavaliers honored Tait by having Joe Tait Appreciation Night and by raising a "commemorative banner" with Tait's name, his years as a Cavaliers broadcaster and a microphone next to the other Cavalier retired numbers. The Cavaliers lost 93-82. Tait's final game was the April 13, 2011 contest between the Cavaliers and Washington Wizards. The Cavaliers sent Tait out as a winner, defeating Washington 100-93. As the final minute played out, Frank Sinatra's "My Way" played throughout the arena as cameras focused on his last call as a Cavalier broadcaster.

In 2011 Tait co-authored his memoir, *Joe Tait: It's Been a Real Ball* with sports writer Terry Pluto. The book covers his early years in broadcasting, his time with covering the Cleveland Indians and his career with the Cleveland Cavaliers.

## Personal life

Tait married his first wife in 1963. They were married 18 years and had three children, Christina, Karen and Joe. In 1983, he married his current wife, Jean. He and Jean reside in Lafayette Township, Medina County, Ohio.

## Awards

- Eight-time NSSA Ohio Sportscaster of the Year (1974, 1976, 1978, 1991, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2003)<sup>[14]</sup>
- Cleveland Association of Broadcaster Hall of Fame Inductee (class of 1997)
- Ohio Broadcasters Hall of Fame Inductee (class of 1992)
- Indiana Broadcasters Hall of Fame Inductee (class of 2004)
- 2010 Basketball Hall of Fame Curt Gowdy Media Award
- 2012 OAC Bill Nichols Media Award
- Cleveland Press Club Journalism Hall of Fame Inductee (class of 2003)
- Greater Cleveland Sports Hall of Fame Inductee (class of 2005)
- "Voice of the Cavaliers" banner honoring his Cavs career included with the Cavaliers' retired numbers at Quicken Loans Arena

Charles Bierbauer was the featured speaker at the 2007 ASA Turkey reunion held at Myrtle Beach, SC. I (Steve Stubbs) spoke with him not long after the Myrtle Beach meeting. He recalled that he'd been told the on-air version had been shutdown around 1960 when the American music being played became "too popular," at least in the mind of local authorities, with Turkish youth who apparently could readily receive the low-power signal! It was then dormant for a period before returning via "landline," when Mr's. Bierbauer and Tait were announcers during parts of 61-62. By the way, there is a "real" KBOK station (1310 AM) in Malvern, Arkansas. Sorry guys, it's too late to sue us!

Gregg Layne of N. Augusta, NC, was in Sinop during parts of 66-67 and said that he was told the station transmitter was only 10 watts during the initial on-air period.

Gil Bouffard (now deceased) emailed: I served twice at Sinop 66-67 managed KBOK with that nasty window that people could peek in to see us at work! That wasn't my MOS...I was a 98J. Worked at Bankhead III and Hippodrome.

Allow me to insert myself (Steve Stubbs/sas943@gmail.com) into the timeline beginning in the Spring of 1964. A buddy of mine, PAUL REID, mentioned that he'd been walking around one of the uninhabited, older buildings (tile roof, framed walls, probably one of the earliest constructions at the site) down below the mess hall and looked through a window and saw a large, professional-type record turntable and other equipment basically in a pile of junk. As 286-types we were, of course, curious about what might be locked inside and made some inquiries. One of the officers at HQ knew a little about KBOK history and thought the equipment inside the building was probably a remnant. He offered us the keys to find out. Sure enough, there was "the board" for a radio station along with turntables, tape recorders and asundry bits. HQ said we were welcome to attempt a KBOK resurrection. PAUL REID was one of those kinds of guys who didn't say much but could do more work in a short amount of time than imaginable.

The building had some basic habitability issues plus we were able to get materials to partition-off a nice studio from a general area where drunks from the club could come in and make rude gestures through a double-glazed window to the "on-air talent." It didn't take too long to have the

board set-up and working in the studio but we found out that reconnecting virtually all of the buildings on the site into what was essentially a large PA system, was a daunting task. We were highly motivated to have Ops and most of the barracks “wired” in time for AFN broadcast of the “Indy 500” on Memorial Day 1964. We were able to get “between” the jamming provided by our Soviet friends and patch out the lap-by-lap feed “live.” Incremental improvements were continuing when I rotated back to the land of round doorknobs, approx. 01 Oct 1964.

Don DeBOEF (dondeboef@hotmail.com) emailed: Steve, I saw your note on DOOL. I was stationed at Sinop in TUSLOG Det 169 (fmr Det 66-1, Signal Corps) and worked in Tech Control, by the gym, from about September 1969 through August 1970 and was announcer, engineer and manager of KBOK in my off duty time. I saw it later was under AFRTS so it lost its independent sound. One of my announcers was PAUL REID, he said it was his second tour of Sinop and he is probably the one you mentioned. We had the station located in the building with the library, book store and pool room which was located near the EM Club and “Alice’s Restaurant.” I can remember more of the station since I spent so much time there. I took over management and engineering at KBOK from LEE SPENCER. When he was there the station was wired as a public address system. We had eight (8) 100 watt amplifiers at the station and another at the post chapel. Our production board, a Gates Radio Studioette and old Gates turntables, was the former on-air board that is pictured at the Bill Simon site. We put in a new Collins 212V-1 dual mono board and a couple of new Gates turntables along with a new microphone. The on-air studio had “air conditioning,” thanks to a used refrigeration unit outside the building. We had a couple of Ampex AN/TNH-9 (Ampex 300) reel-to-reel stereo recorders for production and on-air se. The base was wired with old military spiral-4 wire to the roofs of the buildings and then drops to each room with WD4 field telephone wire to a speaker with a 70.7 volt transformer. When we were “off air” locally, because of no announcer availability or overnight, we carried AFRTS from Incirlik. We also carried a lot of sports. Somewhere I have slides of the station in 1969 and 1970 and will try to find them. I remember some of the staff names but not everyone. Some I remember by their “on air names,” not their real names.

MIKE GILLESPIE (theriverwriter@aol.com) wrote: Steve, just read your posting in the DOOL. You asked for any recollections of our closed-circuit radio station, KBOK. I was a 98J assigned to Project Morehead at Det. 4



from August 69 to August 70. Of course, KBOK, with its network tie to AFRTS, was our link to the outside world. During much of the day KBOK broadcast a feed from the Air Force base at Adana. At various times, mostly in the evening, some of our own people worked as DJs and did live programs from the small studio next to the library and PX. At one point, I was asked if I would host an early morning country & western show. Word had gotten around that I was a C&W fan and I had quite a few country albums in my possession. I was told that a lot of the older guys...mostly E-6 and above—wanted to hear more country songs on KBOK. I really wanted to do it—I had held an amateur radio license since I was 15 and used to hang around a small commercial radio station at home. The fellows in charge wanted to broadcast the country music from 0500 to 0700, because they figured that NCOs who liked country would be listening in during that time slot. But I was working a 12 hour shift at Morehead and my work hours were 1900 to 0700 and I couldn't get off to do it. The younger guys didn't like the idea of country music on KBOK. They wanted rock. That was the reason behind the early morning country time slot. Someone figured that the only ones listening at that early hour were dyed in the wool country fans...the senior NCOs. I recall that there was some television broadcast equipment tucked away in one of the KBOK rooms. We didn't have TV but we thought that maybe someday. It never happened during my tour. My favorite broadcast on KBOK was Superbowl IV between the Vikings and Chiefs. My hometown was Independence, MO...right next door to Kansas City. My buddy who had come to Sinop with me was from Minneapolis. We had a \$5 bet on the game...big time money for me. We both stayed up that night to hear the game broadcast over the Armed Forces Network. It started around 0100 Sinop time. I sat through the whole broadcast and collected my \$5 around 0400. It was nearly two weeks before I received a newspaper from home with all the game coverage. If it hadn't been for KBOK's game night coverage, I would have been one unhappy sports fan.

During my tour, each barracks room had a KBOK speaker installed near the window. Each speaker was attached via a wire that ran outside the windows, room-to-room. The speaker box was about a foot-square and had an on/off/volume switch. My last day in Sinop was in early August and there were some heavy thunderstorms drifting through. I had been up the night before and I was taking a midday nap in my bunk. Occasionally, a clap of thunder would wake me up, but one lightning bolt hit the barracks and the crash of the thunder was immediate and deafening. I was awake instantly and as I opened my eyes, I saw the strangest thing. A ball of

**pinkish-red fire came out of the KBOK speaker box. It was about the size of a basketball and sizzled like bacon in a frying pan. The fireball drifted slowly across my room and hit the interior wall where it exploded with a loud bang. I jumped up and opened the door to the hallway, thinking it might have somehow penetrated the wall, but there was no sign of it. All that was left was a puff of smoke and strong odor of ozone in my room. Apparently the lightning bolt had struck the speaker wires that ran outside our windows. What that was was a phenomena known as ball lightning. Needless to say, the KBOK speaker was burnt out. And since I left for home the next day, I don't know how it took to replace it.**

**Sincere thanks to everyone who sent in their recollections of KBOK On The Hill. We really could use some commentary from the "real pioneers" who were there from the earliest days up through the early 60s. Of particular interest is the on-air period with a truly broadcast signal. Please email Steve Stubbs at [sas943@gmail.com](mailto:sas943@gmail.com) with a C/C to [asahreenhornet@comcast.net](mailto:asahreenhornet@comcast.net).**