

Revetments

The Official Journal of The Tan Son Nhut Association



"All Included - Non Excluded"

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The Tan Son Nhut Association, Washington, D.C.

October, 1998

Tan Son Nhut - It Began There And It Ended There

by

General John Shaud

Editor's Note: General John Shaud, a West Point graduate, presently the Executive Director of the Air Force Association, was a major at Tan Son Nhut, arriving in the middle of the Tet Offensive 1968. He was an RF-4 combat pilot and an air operations officer. He is a member of the program developing and building the Air Force Memorial. *Revetments* is pleased to publish this article from an interview with General Shaud containing his candid appreciation of Tan Son Nhut.

* * *

I think the emphasis on Tan Son Nhut is kind of interesting in several ways. One, being there in Saigon. You could say that our involvement in Vietnam started there and ended there. It was, of course, the headquarters of Seventh Air Force and MACV.

There's really three things we in the Tan Son Nhut Association have going for us. One is the people. We have sustained an interest in Vietnam in a coherent way with regard to Tan Son Nhut. I think one of the great strengths of Tan Son Nhut was the variety of Air Force folks ranging from enlisted and flight crews to the flag officers, who were really the leadership in Vietnam.

The entire array of people who were at Tan Son Nhut fully participated in the war. So it's the

people first and that's how the Tan Son Nhut Association is sustaining itself. That's all important. I could name some organizations in Vietnam that, for whatever reason, no one bothered, or they just weren't inclined to sustain the memory of the group.

The second thing that you can make a great case for, is that Tan Son Nhut clearly was the center of air operations. It was in fact the headquarters, Seventh Air Force, that was in the middle of everything going on in the air over Vietnam -- North and South.

The third point is that we were combatants. We weren't just a headquarters somewhere. We had operational units. We were taking incoming from an enemy and so we were credible. We were in fact in combat. You weren't just hanging out in headquarters when fundamentally there were a lot of people "out there" engaged with the enemy. That wasn't true at Tan Son Nhut. We were engaged, and I think some of us would argue, were more engaged than a lot of places.

So I think that for those three reasons, our Association makes sense: One, patriotic people have sustained their memories of Vietnam; two, it was the center of our involvement in Vietnam; and three, we're credible, we were in theater, in combat, and performed honorably and well.

Of course, I'm biased and I'll admit it right up front. The Army looks at MACV. Of course that was their headquarters. But where the Army was engaged was not there, they were out in Parrot's Beak, up at



General John Shaud

Hue and in a lot of places. Same with the Marines and the Navy.

For the Air Force, Tan Son Nhut's where our flag was and we were busy operating out of there. You could say that Vietnam was a joint operation, which is absolutely true. But I think it's the right place to proudly fly and underscore the Air Force flag. Tan Son Nhut is, I think very representative of our total effort.

So there is a great case for saying the Tan Son Nhut Association should carry the banner of heroic United States Air Force involvement in Vietnam.

* * *

Revetments Begins!

This is your first issue of *Revetments* and we are planning on your receiving it on a monthly basis.

More about future Association changes and in plans inside.

National Board Studies Goal Forum

Washington - The National Board of the Tan Son Nhut Association has announced that a study is in progress on the feasibility of convening an open forum to assist the Association in establishing productive purposes and goals.

The Board is hoping to set a three day session of the forum sometime in the near future. No location has been selected yet, but several centralized locales are being considered so that as many national members as possible can attend conveniently.

The Board hopes that the Association can be moved into a more aggressive and productive posture by establishing realistic, attainable broad scope programs for both membership and general public consumption.

Humanitarian

Suggestions already being looked at include the establishment of group investment and insurance programs that would eventually be able to provide some supplemental assistance to senior or disabled Association members and their families.

This is considered important at this time in view of the steadily reduced services available to seniors, disabled and their families by the Veterans Administration and the Armed Services retirement programs.

Long term planning could result in the establishment of Association retirement villages, senior care service centers and medical centers in a number of locations across the country.

Educational

Other areas under consideration include educational programs for both association members, their families and the general public.

Initial planning calls for the establishment of a country-wide Vietnam Speakers Bureau, making knowledgeable and experienced

speakers available for schools, at all level, government and civil groups and organizations.

Also being considered, long range, would be the establishment of Vietnam Era libraries containing not only official documentation and histories, but works of fiction, poetry, art, and non-fiction by Vietnam veterans.

An adjunct to this program would be the consideration of museum facilities.

There have also been recommendations that the Association establish a scholarship fund to be awarded to children of Association members on a merit basis through

competition.

Other Ideas

Among other suggestions has been the support of memorial programs, including establishing liaison with the government of Vietnam and city of Saigon, in support of establishment of an appropriate memorial at Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

Readers are encouraged to comment on these recommendations and to forward additional suggestions.

Address all correspondence to the Tan Son Nhut Association, Public Affairs Office, Suite 709, 330 West Brambleton Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia 23510.

Reunion News

The 1997 Tan Son Nhut Association Reunion was held in Hampton, Virginia near Langley Air Force Base.

It was a great success and attended by well over a hundred individuals and their families from all over the country.

John Peele, Vice President and Program Director of the Association has announced that planning is under way for another reunion to be scheduled during the summer of 1999.

Tentatively, the site being studied is San Antonio, Texas, seat of that delightful spa we all enjoyed years ago called Lackland Air Force Base.

Reunions need committees, and committees need people. Members are urged to contact Peele for volunteer support activities. As he says, "It takes a hell of a lot of work setting up" Interested individuals can call Peele at (301) 277-8774, of fax him at (301) 277-7474.

The last reunion was great, but in 1999 we want a new and increased membership to get together at "the mother of all reunions!"

Revetments is Your Publication!

* * *

A first issue
of any publication
is usually a
feeble affair,
but a least it
got to you.

And,
now that you've
got it ...
USE IT!

Send us letters, stories,
pictures, and any thing you
think might interest the
readers. Sorry cannot return
material without postage.

Fine Tan Son Nhut Pages on Web

If you don't own a computer, buy one fast, or get some friends who do. You could soon be meeting a lot of old buddies.

Many very fine internet web pages are appearing and are highly recommended to the relatives and friends of members of the Tan Son Nhut Association.

The web sites are filled with fascinating photos and information about Tan Son Nhut and the Vietnam war.

Besides excellent photographs, there are personal stories that are both poignant and moving, and those with a high sense of humor.

All of the sites are asking for public input of any material relevant to the time and places.

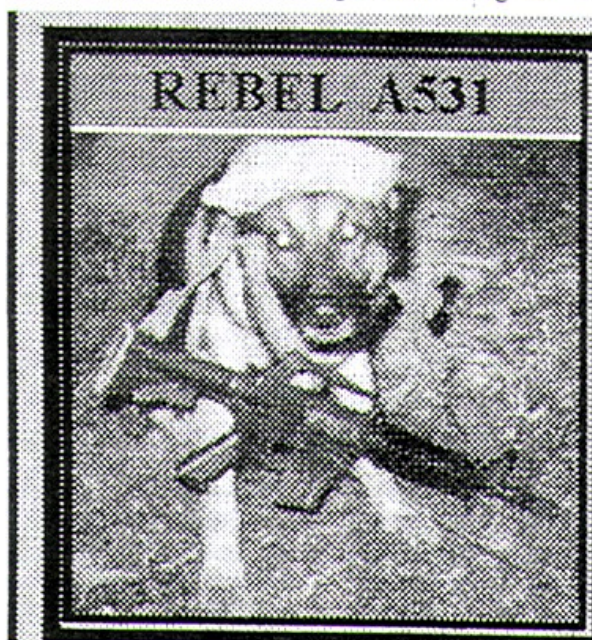
The Tan Son Nhut Association has a simple site at present and will be considerably developing it in the near future. At present it only contains a home page, a membership application page, and incomplete memorial pages for those who fell at Tan Son Nhut.

The address is: <http://home.att.net/~hercules29/>

We can't run a full list of the sites at this time, but we do look forward to that as a future feature. But here are several of the extremely fine ones we've found.

The Charles Penley Page

Penley was in the 377th Security Police Squadron and was out on the line as a dog handler during Tet. His



Extract from Penley's Website

page, entitled *377th SPS*, is a large site and growing every day. He has collections of great TSN photography and some very moving prose. There is no need to give anymore background because he's got it all there. Go to: <http://users.intermedia.net/cepenley/index/html>

The Denis Cook Page

Cook, like Penley, was also in the Security Police and has an equally impressive website, which like Penley's richly deserves to be on your "favorites" list. His site is also a treasure chest of photos and comments. Go to: <http://host.fptoday.com/COOK/index.htm>



Tango 4 or 5

Extract from Cook website

The James C. Wheeler Page

Wheeler, a retired USAF Master Sergeant, has also commemorated the memory of Tan Son Nhut with a fine, very interesting page, which includes a vast array of linkage to other people's sites. It also has excellent photography and narrative. Well worth ear-marking for frequent visits.

Go to: <http://www.river-valley.net/>

* * *

In closing, we'd appreciate being notified of any and all other sites coming into or already in being on the net. We would like to establish a permanent directory available to the membership at all times.

Further, we apologize for our ability to reproduce properly the photographs shown on this page. You'll see when you visit the sites that the photography is excellent. We just wanted to furnish readers with an idea of some of the material they would find at these and similar sites.

Start crawling the web, there's a lot of us out there!



"All Included - Non Excluded"

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Editorial

* * *

Is There Really A Need For A Tan Son Nhut Assc.?

by

Robert Need, Editor

If you read the *Air Force Times*, or the VVA's *Veteran*, or any other veteran or service-related periodical you will find literally hundreds of organizations advertising for membership and setting up reunions, tours, seminars, and so forth.

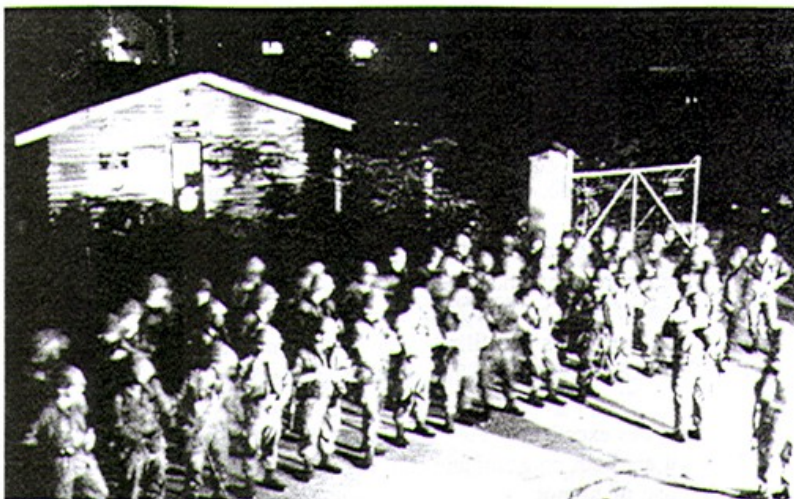
So what makes the TSN Assc. so special? Is it bigger and better than the rest? What does it offer that the others don't?

First of all, no, it is not bigger and it certainly will never be better ... they're all the best in our estimation. We'll be content with just being as good.

And let's look at this being "so special" and the "what it offers" business.

In this issue we report that the Board of Directors wants us all to take a look at some good, hard, definitive goals for the Association.

The proposed Constitution opens



"Prepare to post B Flight to the perimeter!"

membership universally. Anybody with a sincere desire to participate in accordance with the Constitution can join. We want to open up regions and local chapters. We could even end up with a chapter of Vietnamese in Saigon who might welcome a joint memorial at our great old airdrome.

Glance up there at the masthead and you'll see our motto for many years now.

If we mean what we're saying, we can look at things a lot differently than other more restricted organizations. We can involve the community and open an understanding of the Vietnam Era that still needs considerable nurturing.

And, as we are establishing sound goals will be building something proud and permanent for our posterity.

The Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), Spanish America War Veterans, they're all gone and a lot of great history and experience passed with them.

The Tan Son Nhut Association, as it grows and expands beyond the men and women who actually fought there, their ideals, accomplishments and sacrifices will be preserved and perpetuated by their sons and

Tan Son Nhut, December 1967

daughters, and by theirs.

Tan Son Nhut Air Base was the proud and brave center of Air Force operations, as General Shaud points out on the front page. But it was even more it was the gateway in and the gateway out, and the workplace and operational locale for literally hundreds of thousands of others like the Navy, the Marine, Army, civilian contractors, and even the Coast Guard.

It is our point of view that Tan Son Nhut is not a symbol of a bloody and troubling war, but a proud memorial to all the men and women who bravely, and proudly, fought the war.

That's what we have to "offer."

* * *

Proposed Constitution Aired

The next three pages contain the text of the proposed Constitution and By-Laws of the Tan Son Nhut Association.

Please read them carefully eyeing those items that you approve of, and those you feel might be better stated, changed, deleted or extended.

A convention will eventually be held to ratify the Constitution with your votes. Please let us know as soon as you can about how you feel about this.



The Constitution and By - Laws of The Tan Son Nhut Association

Page 5

ARTICLE I

Name & Purpose

Section 1. Name.

The name of the organization so established under the auspices of this Constitution shall be "The Tan Son Nhut Association." The name will be prominently displayed in all documentation, literature, public relations materials and other properties of the organization. The use of the term "organization" within this Constitution shall denote at all times reference to the full title, The Tan Son Nhut Association.

Section 2. Purpose.

The purpose of this organization, in perpetuity, is to establish a fraternal forum for any and all individuals who served at, are related to, or are descended from assignees at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, The Republic of Viet Nam. The organization shall endeavor to establish benevolent, cultural and educational programs of benefit to both the membership and the public at large. These programs shall be designed to perpetuate the history, honor and valor of all those who served at this air base and its environs. The official motto of the Tan Son Nhut Association shall be: "All Included - Non Excluded."

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1. Active Members

Membership in the organization, including the right to vote and hold office, shall be open by application to all those individuals, military or civilian, who had direct assignment, association or other official relationship with units and activities at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, The Republic of Viet Nam, during the period from 1959 through 1975. The spouses and progeny of these individuals shall also be eligible for active membership under the provisions of this Section of this Article. Particular membership requirements, duration of membership periods, and appropriate dues and fees shall be as established in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

Section 2. Associate Members

Associate Membership in the organization, including the right of attendance at all functions and meetings is extended to all individuals expressing an interest in the history and activities of Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, The Republic of Viet Nam. Particular membership requirements, eligibility, duration periods, dues and fees, shall be as prescribed within the By-Laws of this Constitution.

ARTICLE III

Organization & Officers

Section 1. Organization.

The Tan Son Nhut Association shall be organized as a non-profit corporation, registered and recognized in accordance with the laws, statutes and regulation of the various federal, state and municipal jurisdictions.

Section 2. Officers.

Section 2a. The Board of Directors.

The responsibilities for the governance, fiscal programs, and general activities and operation of The Tan Son Nhut Association shall be administered by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will include, but are not limited to:

The President of The Tan Son Nhut Association
Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer
Director of Membership Affairs
Director of Public Relations
Director of Regional Operations
Director of Special Programs
Director of Educational Programs
Director of Government Relations
The Chaplain(s) of The Association

The election, terms of office, duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors shall be as prescribed within the By-Laws of this Constitution.

Section 2b. The Honorary Board of Trustees

At the pleasure of the membership and the Board of Directors, noteworthy and prominent members of the military and civilian communities, who have been related to activities at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Viet Nam, may be elected as lifetime honorary officers of The Honorary Board of Trustees of the Tan Son Nhut Association. The establishment of The Honorary Board of Trustees will be as prescribed in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings & Assemblies

Section 1. Annual Meeting.

The Tan Son Nhut Association shall be required to hold a general annual meeting of the membership once each calendar year, at the location, dates and times as prescribed by The Board of Directors. The specific agenda, attendance quorums and voting procedures will be as prescribed in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

Section 2. Meetings of The Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors of the Tan Son Nhut Association shall be convened not less than twice each calendar year at the place, dates and times prescribed by the President. Specific agendas, quorums and voting procedures will be as prescribed in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

Section 3. Assemblies.

General assemblies of the membership for social, special program meetings, committee meetings can and shall be held at any time as prescribed by the Board of Directors, or as established in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

ARTICLE V

The Establishment of Chapters & Regions

This Article provides enabling authority to the Board of Directors of the Tan Son Nhut Association to establish at their pleasure official chapters and geographical regions of the Association. The organization and operation of chapters and regions will be as prescribed in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VI

Ratification, Amendment & By-Laws

Section 1. Ratification of this Constitution.

A copy of this Constitution must be submitted to all members of record at the time of promulgation. Accompanying this copy will be a ballot designed by the Board of Directors Pro Tem. Within thirty days, the membership shall signify their acceptance or rejection of this Constitution in writing. Upon achievement of a two-thirds favorable vote of the membership, this Constitution shall be established as active and in force.

Section 2. Amendment.

Petitions for amendment of this Constitution shall be recognized by the Board of Directors when submitted by any active member in good standing. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to all members of the organization for consideration and vote. Upon achieving a two-thirds vote of the active membership, the amendment shall be considered active and in force. Amendments may be proposed for the adoption of new provisions, the alteration and change of existing provisions, or the repeal of current provisions.

Section 3. By-Laws.

By-Laws, prescribing the conduct of activities, responsibilities of officers and the membership, and all other subjects pertaining the governance of the organization may and shall be established under the provisions of this Section, this Article of the Constitution. Proposals and petitions for establishment, change or repeal of by-laws may emanate from any member or officer of the organization. The Board of Directors will review, approve or disapprove such proposals and petitions. If approved by the Board, a copy will be sent to the general membership for acceptance or rejection. If approved by a two-thirds vote of the general membership, the by-law shall be considered active and in force.

The
By-Laws to The Constitution
of
The Tan Son Nhut Association
BY-LAW ONE
Provisions of Membership

Section 1. Authority.

The authority for the establishment of this By-Law is as prescribed within Article II, the Constitution of The Tan Son Nhut Association, and as approved by a two-thirds vote of the general membership of the organization.

Section 2. Membership in Good Standing.

Members shall be considered in good standing who observe the provisions of this Constitution and who support the purposes and goals established by the general will of the membership. A member will be declared by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, as not in good standing, when an individual defames, commits criminal or civil acts against separate members or the organization, or a commits an illegal act against the best interests of the organization. The membership of a member declared as not in good standing will be abrogated and all rights and privileges withdrawn. Such a member will have the right of appeal to a special appeals committee impartially selected by the Board of Directors from among the general membership. The decision of the committee of appeal will be reviewed by the general membership for a vote of acceptance or rejection.

Section 3. Active Membership.

In accordance with Section 1, Article II, this Constitution, membership is open to all those individuals, military or civilian who had direct assignment, association or other official relationships with unit and activities at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Viet Nam, during the period 1959 through 1975. The spouses and progeny of these individuals are also eligible for active membership.

Section 3a. Rights & Privileges of Active Members.

All active members in good standing shall enjoy all rights and privileges established under this Constitution and within programs and activities established by the Board of Directors. All active members shall have one vote in elections, general membership business meetings, and any other activities as prescribed by the Board of Directors. A member may issue an appropriate proxy vote in writing that may and shall be cast by another active member. All members shall have the right of petition for establishment, alteration or change, and repeal of provisions of this Constitution and these By-Laws. All members shall be eligible for offices established by this Constitution, and shall have the right of nomination of any active member, including themselves, for such offices during proper election periods.

Section 3b. Terms of Membership and Dues.

Annual Membership: Annual renewable membership shall be for one calendar year, with dues of twenty U.S. dollars (\$20.00).

Five-Year Membership: Five calendar year renewable membership shall be available with dues of eighty U.S. dollars (\$80.00)

Life Membership: Life Membership shall be available for a one-time dues payment of three hundred and fifty U.S. dollars (\$350.00)

Section 4. Associate Membership.

In accordance with Section 2, Article II, this Constitution, Associate Membership in the organization is extended to all individuals expressing an interest in the history and activities of Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, The Republic of Viet Nam.

Section 4a. Rights & Privileges of Associate Members.

All associate members shall enjoy the unrestricted right of attendance at any and all meetings, assemblies and programs of the organization. Associate members may not vote, but at appropriate meetings may be recognized by the chair to present opinions and recommendations on the subjects under consideration. Associate members may be appointed and serve on boards, committees and as special representatives or participants of the organization in various

organizational programs.

Section 4b. Terms of Associate Membership & Dues.

Annual Associate Membership: Annual renewable associate membership shall be for one calendar year, with dues of fifteen U.S. dollars (\$15.00)

Five Year Membership: Five calendar year renewable associate membership shall be available with dues of sixty U.S. dollars (\$60.00)

Life Membership: Associate Life Membership shall be available for a one-time dues of three hundred U.S. dollars (\$350.00)

BY-LAW TWO**Officers****Section 1. Authority.**

The authority for the establishment of this By-Law is as prescribed within Article III, the Constitution of The Tan Son Nhut Association, and as approved by a two-thirds vote of the general membership of the organization.

Section 2. The Board of Directors.

Section 2a. Elections and Terms of Office. All officers of the Tan Son Nhut Association shall be elected to a three year term of office by a plurality vote of the general membership at every third calendar year Annual Meeting of the Association. Subsequent to the establishment of chapters and regions, this By-Law will allow the chapters and regions to select electors for attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Association to present the majority consensus of their membership.

Section 2b. The Offices of The Tan Son Nhut Association:

The Executive Office: The President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors of the organization, unless unavailable or incapacitated, wherein the Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer will preside. The Executive Office will oversee the activities of the other operating departments of the organization. The President will assist and present the Annual Operating Budget at the Annual Meeting of the membership. The President will act as the official representative of the organization in liaison with other public, commercial and governmental organizations and at appropriate ceremonial affairs.

The Secretariat: The Vice President.

Secretary/Treasurer. The Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for the conduct of administrative and fiscal operations of the organization. The Vice President will be responsible for all fiscal accounting, banking and receipt and disbursement of funds of the organization. This office will provide for proper accounting procedures, and the conduct of business in accordance with the provisions of the Annual Budget. This office shall also be responsible for the conduct of all legal affairs, including contractual agreements, of the organization.

The Department of Membership Affairs. The Director of Membership Affairs. The Director will be responsible for designing and implementing membership recruitment programs. This office will maintain all membership records and is responsible for renewal administration. The Director will also be responsible for the membership voting procedures with the preparation of ballots and related materials.

The Department of Public Relations. The Director of Public Relations. The Director will be responsible for the establishment of an aggressive public relations program designed to present the goals and purposes of the organization as widely as possible in the public sector. The Director will design and implement special programs utilizing the wide range of media presentation. The Director will initiate, edit, and circulate publications and literature informing the public and the membership of on-going projects and programs of the organization. The Director will provide frequent information letters and periodicals to the membership. The Director will establish a speakers' bureau that can provide informational presentations by selected officers and members to the general public.

Regional Operations Department. The

Director of Regional Operations. The Director will be responsible for assisting members in establishing local chapters of the organization. Approved by the Board of Directors, the Director will issue the official charters to the chapters being formed. The Director will organize chapters into geographic regions and appoint regional directors to assist in administration and promotion of the regional chapters programs.

Special Programs Department. The Director of Special Programs. The Director will be responsible for planning, designing and implementation of special organizational programs. In this area would be the Annual Meeting, reunions, special program-related events such as memorial tributes, veterans holiday ceremonies, etc. The Director would also be responsible for designing special benevolent programs such as scholarships, endowment or establishment of medical centers, senior citizen communities, and other support programs for veterans and their families.

Department of Educational Programs. The Director of Educational Programs. The Director would be responsible for establishing liaison with educational institutions at all levels, military and civilian, to provide for the presentation of informational material regarding Tan Son Nhut and the Viet Nam War. The Director would assist in the establishment of a library of both literary and reference materials appropriate to the Viet Nam conflict, for both membership and public access. The Director would utilize the Speakers Bureau for presentation at educational institutions.

Department of Government Relations. The Director of Government Relations. The Director would be responsible for providing liaison between the organization and various governmental jurisdiction offices to provide for oversight on pending veteran legislation and programs. The Director would express the will of the membership on such issues, and also inform the membership of new pending programs.

The Chaplain(s) of The Association. The Chaplain(s) will be responsible for providing appropriate establishment and support of member assistance and counseling programs, as approved by the Board of Directors. Chaplain(s) will be available for organization convocations, and other memorial ceremonies.

Section 3. The Honorary Board of Trustees

At the pleasure of the Board of Directors, noteworthy and prominent members of the military or civilian communities may be elected as Honorary Trustees. This appointment would usually be for life. Individuals selected should have had some significant relationship with Tan Son Nhut and its activities. The titles of such selectees would be: Honorary President, The Tan Son Nhut Association; Honorary Vice President(s), The Tan Son Nhut Association. Those Honorary officers elected would enjoy all rights and privileges of the Association and would be welcome to attend and participate in all membership meetings. An appropriate function of this board would be to allow them to create and designate awards and tributes to individual members for meritorious contributions and achievements.

BY-LAW THREE Meetings

Section 1. Authority.

The authority for the establishment of this By-Law is as prescribed within Article IV, the Constitution of The Tan Son Nhut Association, and as approved by a two-thirds vote of the general membership of the organization.

Section 2. The Annual Meeting.

An Annual Meeting of the membership will be held each calendar year at the location, date and time prescribed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will present written notification of the Annual Meeting to the membership not later than two calendar months prior to the meeting. The session will be presided over by the President of the Association, and *Robert's Rules of Order* will prevail.

The Agenda. The agenda may include any and all matters the Board of Directors cares to present. Mandatory agenda

items will be the Election of Officers (every third year), and the presentation of the Annual Budget which will be deliberated and approved. The Annual Budget must be approved prior to adjournment of the Annual Meeting.

Quorum. A two-thirds body of the membership must be present or represented in written proxy to constitute the quorum necessary for the convening of the Annual Meeting. Official electors from regional chapters shall be recognized as representing the full attendance of the membership of those separate chapters.

Voting. All active members are allowed to vote in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. If members attend from chapters and regions, an elected Chief Delegate will present the majority votes of the separate chapters and regions, and are not required to present individual proxies.

Section 3. Meetings of The Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall convene not less than twice each calendar year in general session. The President or Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer will preside, and *Robert's Rules of Order* will prevail. Agendas will be established as necessary for the conduct of organizational business. A simple quorum of four officers is sufficient to allow for processing agenda items that have been reviewed by the entire Board and there are proxies on the table to support absent officer's votes. A major quorum of six officers is sufficient to process all agenda items without recourse to proxies from absent members. The President is authorized to call for Board of Director meetings at any time appropriate to the business at hand.

Section 4. Assemblies.

The membership can be called and invited to attendance at any and all special assemblies of the organization such as reunions, memorial tributes, parades, and other social occasions. Appropriate leadership, planning and conduct of activities will be developed and implemented by the Director of Special Programs.

BY-LAW FOUR

The Establishment of Chapters & Regions

Section 1. Authority.

The authority for the establishment of this By-Law is as prescribed within Article V, the Constitution of The Tan Son Nhut Association, and as approved by a two-thirds vote of the general membership.

Section 2. Establishment Of A Chapter, Tan Son Nhut Association.

Active members throughout the nation, and overseas, have the full authority of the Constitution, and are encouraged to establish Chapters of the Association. Active membership shall be as defined by this Constitution. To establish a Chapter, the following will apply:

Membership: A minimum of ten new or current members in good standing may petition the Board of Directors for a Chapter Charter.

Officers & Conduct of Business: When approved, the Chapter may elect a slate of operating officers, including President, Vice Presidents and other officers to serve appropriate functions. A Chapter shall then conduct business as required, developing programs and activities commensurate to local conditions. Chapters will be called upon to aggressively support and publicize national organizational programs, and to participate in national planning and development. Chapters will be entitled to display all national organizational emblems and logos in and on their materials. Chapters may also design and issue additional insignia, logos, and emblems that denote the local character of those chapters.

Section 3. The Establishment of Tan Son Nhut Association Regions.

Concurrent with the growth of local TSN Chapters, it would assist efficient organization and operations to establish state or regional offices that would coordinate national and local affairs. The state or regional office would be administrative and would consist of a state or regional director and appropriate staff. Regional directors would be expected to assist in developing new chapters throughout the region and provide regional liaison to military organizations and the public sector regarding Association programs.

The Communications Center

We're not going to call it "Letters to the Editor" in this day in age, rather The Communications Center. With E-Mail, Fax and everything else just get your messages to us. Since this is our first issue, we are using some messages we've already received.

* * *

I would like more info on your reunion and organization. Live aboard Tan Son Nhut 1972-1975, son of a South Vietnamese Pilot. U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

Quang X Pham
Mission Viejo, California

Thanks for the Web Page. I served at Tan Son Nhut with the 13th Recon Squadron, Nov. '66-'67. I would like to apply for membership.

J. Wilcoxon, MSGT., Ret.
Falls Church, Virginia

I was a radio operator ('70-'71) with the 6994th Sgt. Sqn. (USAFSS), which manned the Eec-47s of the 360 TEWS. Interested in contacting others associated with the "Electric Goon." Is this the place to do it?

Joe Martin

Stationed at Tan Son Nhut, Nov. '68-'69 with the 1876 Comm. Sq., part of 1964 Comm. Gp. Unit was located between Vietnamese Radio Site and the Security Police barracks. It was also directly in the landing path of the H3 heliport. Helicopters used the red blinking lights of the communications towers for guidance to their landing pad at night.

Gary J. Parson
Aiea, Hawaii

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Postage