



REVETMENTS

The Official Journal of The Tan Son Nhut Association

A Memorial to the American Experience in Vietnam

JULY 2012



Chaplain's Corner



For July it is easy to write a very brief "Chaplain's Corner"!

This is a month of Thanksgiving for nation. Please, during all the festivities, stop, pause and offer up a prayer for our country for now and for its future. Let God know we are thankful for what He has given us!

End of sermon.

Chaplain Bob



A Tale from the Dark Side

By: Donald Reiter
Jun 66—Jun 67
Air Force Finance

One of the NCO's in finance, who I will call Sgt. Bob, was getting ready to go home and I was invited to his going away party. The event was at an upscale night club in Saigon. About fifteen airmen attended. We all sat at a long table with one end butting up against a stage, where Vietnamese girls mouthed the words to popular American songs. We had steak and shrimp cocktail for dinner. In front of each of us was one of those huge drinking glasses that were so common in Saigon restaurants. A waiter would constantly keep them filled with bourbon and coke. Not a drinker, I must confess I had too much that night. I owe it to a friend, who's name I cannot remember, for getting me back to base before curfew.

Sgt. Bob, who was well known to frequent that same night club, arranged and paid for the entire party. It had to have been extremely expensive. How could an E5 afford something like that? But then, I had been asking the same question about a lot of people. There were E3's and E4's spending money like water. How could they afford to buy expensive souvenirs, watches, jewelry and clothing? How could they do the bars and massage parlors and take Hong Cong R&R's?

Late one afternoon it all hit the fan. Airmen were being called from the finance office one by one. It was the Army criminal investigation boys. They were searching lockers for US currency. MACV regulations forbade the possession of US currency in country. The reason for this was the black market in American money. These guys were all cashiers who had access to US green, as we called it. They could take \$100 in green from their cash boxes and replace it with \$100 in MPC. The box balanced. They could take the green to town and sell it for double its value in MPC. The black market existed because American money would spend anywhere. The NVA and the VC could use it to buy weapons.

Needless to say, a few of the guys were not seen around anymore. Others were suddenly slick sleeved and spent a lot more time on base. Air Force Finance, naturally, tightened up on its procedures. Now, every currency exchange transaction had to be recorded and signed for. Each kind of currency had to be balanced separately at the end of each day. They should have been doing that from the beginning.

So, what happened to Sgt. Bob? I strongly suspect he was up to his ears

in this. In fact, he might have gotten a lot of the younger guys started. He left the country without getting caught. Was he caught up with later? I could only guess.

A NOTE ON THE MEMORIAL AND REUNION

..... The words cut in the marble of the Tan son Nhut Association Memorial Bench are very beautiful and very powerful and each Vietnam Veteran needs to see them and they will feel them. All the Brothers & Sisters who served in Vietnam must understand that they have all paid this price as well as their loved ones.

Everyone—everyone—must gather in Dayton, Ohio in October, 2012, if possible, to accept the recognition and Honor that this Memorial Bench will pay them. All Brothers & Sisters should be there and bring a loved one to stand witness and give their honor and recognition as well as the TSNA and any other Brother & Sister who are there.

There are Brothers & Sisters who can only attend in spirit. We owe it to them and to one another to say, "Welcome Home, Thank You and You Did Good."

This is a "once in a lifetime" opportunity" with the Memorial Bench and the Moving Wall and if you are able, be there! If you are not able, you will be missed and we love you! May the Father bless all of you and keep you safe. Y'all have earned and deserve this 2012 TSNA family reunion.

Love y'all

Janice Jones
TSNA Kid Sister.

THOUGHTS ON THE MEMORIAL

By: Harold Boone

Below are two poems published years ago in "Revetments" and they speak so eloquently those words that tell of loss, of hurt, of memories, and of why memorials are so needed. Read the poems slowly and put yourself into the voice of the poet and recall your duty at Tan Son Nhut. The poems will be more alive and full of meaning. Following the two poems are some personal reflections on what the Tan Son Nhut Memorial means to various members of TSNA.

"I now know why men who have been to war yearn to 'reunite'.
Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep.
Comrades gather because they long to be with the men who once acted at their best;
men who suffered and sacrificed, who were stripped of their humanity.
I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate and the military. But I know them in a way I know no other men.
I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than life.
They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me.

It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to die for one another. As long as I have memory, I will think of them all, every day. I am sure that when I leave this world, my last thought will be of my FAMILY and my
COMRADES ... such good men,"

Author and Title Unknown
(submitted by Charles Penley)

Republished from the February/March 2007 Edition of Revetments



From an article by Ira Cooperman first published in the May 2005 Revetments:

Writing of a much earlier Twentieth Century conflict, Archibald MacLeish, in his poem The Young Dead Soldiers, speaks for the vanquished of every war:

The young dead soldiers do not speak.
Nevertheless,
they are heard in the still houses:
who has not heard them?
They have a silence that speaks for them
at night and when the clock counts.
They say:
We were young. We have died. Remember
us.
They say:
We have done what we could but until it is
finished it is not done.
They say:
We have given our lives but until it is finished
no one can know what our lives gave.
They say:
Our deaths are not ours:
they are yours; they will mean what you
make of them.
They say:
Whether our lives and our deaths
were for peace and a new hope
or for nothing we cannot say;
it is you who must say this.
They say:
We leave you our deaths.
Give them their meaning.
We were young, they say.
We have died. Remember us.

WHAT THE MEMORIAL BENCH MEANS TO ME

The Tan Son Nhut Memorial speaks of persons and events long erased from my memory by the march of time. The privilege of working on this Memorial Project has given me cause to look back in time to a place long ago and far away and recall just how much was given by those who served at Tan Son Nhut Air Base. This memorial will speak silently the names and recall the events being honored by our association.

Harold Boone
460th Recon Wing
1967-1968

In some ways, the TSN Memorial is the "period" at the end of the "sentence" when I think of my time at TSN. In it, I see my memories, both good and bad, in a much more personal way than I can with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The Wall is, to me, about the totality of the war. The TSN Memorial is about a certain place, about certain people, about certain events, and about an unforgettable year of my life.

Carol Bessette
1968-1969

The memorial brings back memories of the ones that we served with. Although the names or faces may have faded in the years, the memories of those men and women have not. In my case it brings back memories of four individuals that have meant a world to me. One of these has made his final rotation and now lives in my memories. The others I stay in touch with and still have the highest admiration and the honor to call them friend, and brother.

It also brings back memories of those that gave all. The 58,168 that did not come home, if it wasn't for them we may have been in that number.

It reminds me of the friends that I have met and made at the TSN reunions, that some of our paths had to cross in that far away land. We may have spoken or nodded in passing, or our jobs may have made us actually work with each other for a period of time. It brings back the good and the bad memories that we all have.

Kerry Nivens
Co-Director of Membership
Tan Son Nhut Associations
kernnive@knology.net

What the Memorial means to me. It means that there is and will "forever" be a "living" reminder to all who see it of the once largest (busiest) airport in the world, AND of all those who worked, fought and possibly died there.

Larry Fry
1961-62

Love, honor, respect, pride, kinship, recognition, friendship and remembrance of the Fallen and the POW-MIAs and surviving warriors of Tan Son Nhut. This Memorial is, at last, validation for every Vietnam Veteran! Our Memorial will be on consecrated ground because of the blood, sweat, tears and sacrifices of her Vietnam Veterans.

Love,
Janice Jones

Actions speaks very loud. when the concept of the Tan Son Nhut Association Memorial Bench first came to light, I was immediately in favor of it.

The bench represents all of the men and women who were assigned to, or came through, Tan Son Nhut.

Some of our TSNA Members, were not in Vietnam but be-

cause of family or friends stationed there, wanted to become members.

This memorial bench will be at the USAF Museum, in Dayton, Ohio, long after we have all passed on to the next life.

It is just one part, of my legacy.

Charles Penley
Director of Communications

Those of us who were stationed at, and passed through, Tan Son Nhut Air Base answered our nation's call and performed our duties in support of the mission we were sent to accomplish. Many of us saw combat and others never heard a shot fired in anger. Regardless, we all did our duty and returned to a nation that often didn't care or condemned us for doing our duty. All that is now history and, thankfully, today's servicemen and women are treated with more respect upon their return from war zones.

We now dedicate this memorial to both those who gave their lives in service to their country and those who returned with wounds, seen and unseen. This memorial will remind all those who see it about those who served in a place we will never forget and those we served with.

May God watch over us all.

Bill Coup

The Memorial Bench and the two Plaques are the Tan Son Nhut Association's way of saying THANKS to all our Brothers and Sisters who touched TSN in some way. I am so proud to have worked on the committee as I see it as MY WAY to honor and say thanks to all those who worked beside me and protected me during my time at TSN and it helps me to remember all those who came before and after me. It also honors a large group of Vets who have suffered and are still suffering today from the "Silent Wounds" they experienced

while at TSN. They are in my prayers!

Johnnie

What the memorial means to me:

It verifies that my time at Tan Son Nhut was real and brings back memories of the thousands of GI's that passed through the air base by way of the Mortuary, because "they gave all".

Gary Redlinski

Simon & Schuster printed under their Free Press logo in 2011 a history written by Drury and Clavin entitled "Last Men Out".

The theme of the book is about the men on those days in Saigon before and after April 29, 1975. The theme is about the US Marine Det at the US Embassy in Saigon (and other "Dets") but not really: the story is about those days dealing with a suburb of Saigon called Tan Son Nhut, an airport, a RVAF Base, a USAF Base with the history Revetments, an American HQ called the "D.A.O." and a whole bunch of days that we people remember and might want to forget and unfortunately our country all too often desires to wipe from our history.

Drury and Clavin are not political judges but rather historic journalists. (Very competent ones) They tell the story of the emotions of the "Last Men Out" but also the pain of duty in Vietnam and they also (more than hint) speak of the US State Dept, CIA, and DOD efforts to close out the 13 year conflict called the "Vietnam Events".

A few times "Baby Lift" and the "Embassy Tree" are briefly discussed but more the hours, the people, and the agony of those final hours of the American involvement in Vietnam from 1961 to April 1975. These are so well visualized in this book.

It just so happens that in October 2012 the TSNA will dedicate a memorial to those who served on TSN Air Base and more so the many who passed through and felt the mission of those acres of military presence in Vietnam. The listing of military units that served on Tan Son Nhut is very

lengthy and includes branches of all US services and allies.

All these speak out in the history of T.S.N.AB, maybe it should be called TSN American Military Support Base!

Back to the October Memorial:

Few know or realize that the last two combat troops who died in Vietnam were killed on TSN during those last days.

After all these years, finally we who were and are part of the TSN family can have a chance to say how we feel and how proud we are to have served and wear the TSNA service emblem!

Chaplain Bob Chaffee

On Saturday October 13

TSNA Member Tom Tessier will give a slide presentation on his experiences in the TSN rocket spotting towers. It will begin at 10 AM.

EDITORS NOTE: Below is information I have edited from recent emails from Tom.

I served one full year tour followed consecutively by four six month tours on TSN from 10/67 to 8/70.

I served almost all of my three years on Charlie flight (nights) in the rocket spotting towers Tango 10 in Alpha Sector, Tango 1- the large red/white checkered water tower in the Vietnamese Ranger compound and Tango Alpha - the water tower near CSC. I served on Tango 1 from December of 69 to August 70 when I was discharged.

My 3 year diary recorded that I experienced about 80 rocket and mortar attacks starting with the big one early on 2/18/ 68 during the continuing TET offensive.

My job for almost three long years was spotting and plotting enemy mortar and rocket launch positions trian-

gulating compass readings with the other rocket towers and making the calls to Security Control with the decision as to whether the base sirens should sound the warning.

So we rocket tower Security Police must have had a huge impact on everyone on TSN, but we rarely witnessed what must have been mad scrambles below when the sirens went off.

My 377th SPS tower orders for Tango 10 read in part, "your tower is the single most important security post on this installation...."

We had a very important, stressful, interesting, thrilling and rewarding base security assignment. And I am certain you are aware of the role Steve Rivers and his Tango 1 crew played the night of January 31, 1968. Dave Tolley was my trainer and served with me in Tango 10 for about 8 months. We became an independent security sector called Tango Sector in late 1969.

SSgt Jim Harbert was the first NCOIC followed by me when I was promoted to Staff in Dec 69.

Dr Jim Stewart was a dog handler who served under Tango 10 and was probably sprayed with yellow rain from above by the two of us.

I am an early Life Member of TSNA.

I am copying many of my 377th SPS contacts who may not be aware of the memorial dedication in Dayton or the existence of the wonderful TSN Association and website.



**The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose,
But mosquitoes come close.**

PX/BX CHANGES

As we come closer to the Reunion in October, we have a few changes in the BX to announce.

First, Ms. Angela Pan has donated a framed copy of a very nice photograph of The Wall (as noted in the May issue of Revetments). It will be the door prize at the banquet and you must be present to win. In addition to the donated photograph, we have been working with her and we now have all-purpose cards with that photo. These cards are folded 4 inches by 5 1/2 inches, blank inside, and come with an envelope. This high quality set of 5 cards with envelopes will cost \$22. (includes postage). These cards can be used for a variety of occasions but will be a very special card if received by a Vietnam Vet. (More info below)

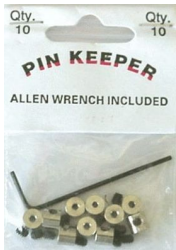


Next, we were running low on TSNA coins, and it was time to order. The BOD decided at the Charlotte Reunion to go with the new logo that Craig Campen's son created from the old logo (oriental style lettering) at no cost to the Association.

This logo was currently on all items except the coin. In addition, the dragon on the new coin is now in color. The new one is 1/4" smaller and is shown on the left in the picture, and the old one is on the right. It will still fit in the velvet box. There is no change in cost for the new coin.

There are several items in our inventory that haven't moved. Therefore we are removing them from the web site.

These items are #T3 Velvet Box (you can still get it by ordering #T2, Coin in the Box); #T5 and #T6 Key Fobs; #T22 POW-MIA Tail Light Decal; and #T27 Vietnam Ribbon Key Fob.



T43 \$6.00

Now that we have room on the order form, we will be adding some new items. First off, have you ever lost one of your prized hat pins because the back came off? Well, here is the solution to that. We have #T43 Pin Keepers for \$6. for a set of ten. These pin keepers are fasteners that have a set screw that you tighten with an included hex key wrench. Hint: If you have pins that have more than one fastener, you only have to replace one with the pin keeper to prevent losing it.

CHECK OUT THE NEW ORDER FORM ON PAGE 6 OF THIS ISSUE!

In addition, the following new items are also available:



T44 POW*MIA Patch \$4.50



T26 In Memory of Patch \$4.50 (Now back in Stock)



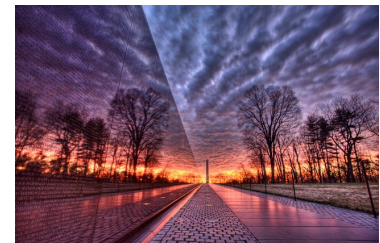
T46 All Gave Some Patch \$4.50



T47 Vietnam Vet American Flag Patch \$4.50



T48 PTSD Patch \$4.50



T49 Angela Pan Card Set \$22.00

TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION PX/BX MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM



Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ E-Mail: _____
 City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____ Member? Yes No

Item #	Product Description	Type or Size	Price	Qty Order	Total
T1	TSNA Challenge Coin	3-D 1 5/8"	\$11.50		
T2	TSNA Challenge Coin in Velvet Box		\$14.50		
T4	TSNA Lapel Pin	1"	\$ 8.00		
T7	TSNA Ball Cap	Black	\$16.00		
T8	TSNA License Plate Frame		\$12.50		
T9	TSNA Pictorial Project CD	1 CD	\$15.00		
T10	TSNA 2006 Pictorial CD	1 CD	\$20.00		
T11	TSNA 2006 Revetments Archive CD	1 CD	\$20.00		
T12	TSNA 2006 Pictorial & Revetments Combo CD	2 CD set	\$35.00		
T13	TSNA 2008 Pictorial CD	1 CD	\$16.00		
T14	TSNA Patch	3"	\$ 6.00		
T15		4"	\$ 6.00		
T16		8"	\$20.00		
T17	"The Victors" CD	1 CD	\$10.00		
T18	"Victors II/TET-68" CD Set	2 CD set	\$10.00		
T19	Round TSNA Logo Magnets	5 3/4"	\$4 each		
T20			\$7 for 2		
T21			\$10 for 3		
T23	Ball Cap Doober		\$ 4.50		
T24	"Vietnam Ribbon" Patch.	1 1/2" by 4 1/2"	\$ 4.50		
T25	Vietnam Veteran w/ Ribbon Patch	3" by 6"	\$6.00		
T26	In Memory Of Patch	3" by 4"	\$4.50		
T28	USA / Vietnam Crossed Flag Lapel Pin		\$ 4.50		
T29	Vietnam Veteran 1959-1975 Lapel Pin		\$ 4.50		
T30	Vietnam Veteran w/ Ribbon License Plate		\$9.00		
T31	Vietnam Veteran Lanyard	22" long	\$ 4.50		
T32	Vietnam Veteran Oval Auto Magnet		\$ 4.50		
T33	POW * MIA Auto Magnet	5"	\$ 4.50		
T34	TSNA 2010 Pictorial CD with free gift	1 CD plus gift	\$17.00		
T35	TSNA Laser-cut 3-D Logo Circle	12"	\$50.00		
T36	TSNA Laser-cut Picture Frame (Black or Brown)	10" by 12"	\$40.00		
T37	Vietnam Ribbon Dog Tag Decal		\$ 4.50		
T38	Warrior Bracelet	8"	\$20.00		
T39	Vietnam Boot	L or R	\$17.50 for 1		
T40		L or R	\$30.00 for 2		
T41	TSNA Box		\$25.00		
T42	TSNA Tote Bag		\$10.00		
T43	Pin Keepers (New)	Set of 10	\$6.00		
T44	POW*MIA Patch(New)	2 1/2" by 3 1/4"	\$4.50		
T46	All Gave Some Patch(New)	2" by 4"	\$4.50		
T47	Vietnam Vet American Flag(New)	2 1/2" by 3 1/2"	\$4.50		
T48	P.T.S.D. Patch(New)	1 1/4" by 4"	\$4.50		
T49	Angela Pan's card set(New)	Set of 5	\$22.00		

Note: All prices include shipping and handling. Total Purchases \$

If you wish you can make a tax deductible donation to one of the following funds.

Memorial/Endowment Fund: Used to perpetuate the history of Tan Son Nhut Air Base, in particular, the Tan Son Nhut Association Memorial to be dedicated at the National Museum of the Air Force in Oct. 2012

General Fund: Used to augment routine TSNA operating funds

TSNA is a 501(c)(19) tax exempt organization incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Donations to TSNA are deductible to the extent allowed by law. Total Donation \$

Make Check/Money Order to: Tan Son Nhut Association and mail with a completed order form to:

Johnnie Jernigan (TSNA)
 956 Donham Drive
 Beavercreek, OH 45434

Note: Order form can be included with your membership application/renewal.

Tan Son Nhut Association 2012 Reunion Registration

OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY AND LEGACY OF TAN SON NHUT AND THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

NAME _____ BRANCH OF SERVICE _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

NAME OF YOUR GUEST(S): _____

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY: _____



REGISTRATION FEES

NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING _____ X \$125. = _____

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (NO EXTRA COST)

- Access to the TSNA Hospitality suite in the Challenger Discovery Room, (drinks, snacks, and war stories!) - \$20. daily if purchased separately.
- Leased bus round-trip to the NMUSAF for the TSNA Memorial Bench Dedication and Banquet.
- Leased bus round-trip to the Americans Veterans Traveling Tribute.
- TSNA Friday Banquet buffet dinner. \$65. if purchased separately.
- FREE breakfast every morning.
- Please circle which activities that you are paying for separately.

Your room rate has been group-discounted to \$110.00 per night. Those without Internet access can call the Holiday Inn, Fairborn (1-937-426-7800). Hotel reservations must be made no later than **September 20, 2012 to receive this special rate.**

PAYMENT MUST BE MAILED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 2012.

PLEASE MAKE PAYMENTS PAYABLE TO THE "TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION" AND MAIL PAYMENTS TO:

TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION C/O GEORGE PLUNKETT, 587 WILLIAMS CIRCLE, WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29172



On Friday evening, October 12, our banquet speaker will be Colonel Chuck DeBellevue.

Chuck DeBellevue was the first U.S. Air Force weapons systems officer to become an ace during the Vietnam War in 1972. DeBellevue became America's top "MiG Killer" when he and his pilot, Capt. John Madden, downed two MiGs, giving him six in total, the most earned during the Vietnam War.

During his combat tour, DeBellevue logged 550 combat hours while flying 220 combat missions. His skill as a WSO was recognized when he and the other two U.S. Air Force aces, Capt. Steve Ritchie and Capt. Jeff Feinstein, received the 1972 Mackay Trophy, the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Armed Forces Award and the Eugene M. Zuckert Achievement Award.

He retired with numerous awards, including the Air Force Cross, the Silver Star with two oak leaf clusters, the Legion of Merit and the Distinguished Flying Cross with five oak leaf clusters, among others.

2012 TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION REUNION SCHEDULE

Thursday	9 AM	Registration Desk and Hospitality Suite Opens
Thursday	Evening	Music by the WPAFB Band of Flight in the Hospitality Suite
Thursday	?????	Hospitality Suite Closes
Friday	10 AM (Buses leave the hotel at 9:40 AM, return at 12:15 PM) (A SEPARATE SCHEDULE FOR THIS EVENT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DEDICATION)	TSNA Memorial Bench Dedication
Friday	12:30 PM—4:30 PM	Hospitality Suite Open
Friday	2 PM (Buses leave the hotel at 1:40 PM, return at 4:15 PM)	NMUSAF Self Guided Tour
Friday	5 PM (Buses leave the hotel at 5 PM)	NMUSAF Museum Shop opens exclusively for us
Friday	5:45 PM	Panoramic picture of everyone taken at NMUSAF
Friday	6 PM	Cash Bar Opens in Banquet Area/ Aircraft Viewing (The C-123, RF-101, and F-4 will have special access just for us)
Friday	7 PM (Buses leave the hotel at 6:30 PM, return after the Banquet)	Banquet Seating
	Introduction of Guests	President George Plunkett
	Presentation of Colors	WPAFB Color Guard
	National Anthem	WPAFB Band of Flight Soloist
	Welcome	President George Plunkett
	Missing Man Table Ceremony	
	Invocation	
	Necrology	
	Dinner	
	Musical Presentation	WPAFB Band of Flight
	Introduction of Guest Speaker	President George Plunkett
	Guest Speaker	Colonel Chuck DeBellevue
	Awards/Coin Presentation	President George Plunkett
	Retirement of Colors	WPAFB Color Guard
Friday	10 PM—?????	Hospitality Suite is Open
Saturday	9 AM—?????	Hospitality Suite is Open
Saturday	10 AM	Presentation by TSNA Member Tom Tessier
Saturday	2 PM (Buses leave at 1:30 PM, return at 3 PM)	The American Veterans Traveling Tribute
Sunday	8—10 AM	Farewell Breakfast

2A JULY 2012

THE WOMEN ON THE WALL

The following is the list of the eight female names listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, as well as the cause of death, and the location of their names. Note that only one (Lt. Sharon Lane) died as a direct result of enemy action. All but one (an Air Force flight nurse) were Army officers.

2Lt. Carol Ann Elisabeth Drazba, age 22, Dunmore, PA. Assigned to 3rd Field Hospital in Saigon. Died February 18, 1966 in a helicopter crash near Saigon. US Army. Line 5E46.

2Lt. Elizabeth Ann Jones, age 22, Allendale, SC. Assigned to 3rd Field Hospital in Saigon. Died February 18, 1966 in the same helicopter crash as Lt. Drazba. US Army. Line 5E47.

Captain Eleanor Grace Alexander, age 27, Westwood, NJ. Assigned to 85th Evacuation Hospital at Qhi Nhon. Died November 30, 1967 in a aircraft crash while returning from special duty in Pleiku. US Army. Line 31E8.

1Lt. Hedwig Diane Orlowski, age 23, Detroit, MI. Assigned to 67th Evacuation Hospital at Qhi Nhon. Died November 30, 1967 in same plane crash as Captain Alexander (along with two male nurses). US Army. Line 31E15.

2Lt. Pamela Dorothy Donovan, age 26, Allston, MA. Assigned to 85th Evacuation Hospital in Qhi Nhon. Died July 8, 1968 of illness. US Army. Line 53W43.

1Lt Sharon Ann Lane, age 25. Canton, OH. Assigned 312 Evacuation Hospital at Chu Lai. Died June 8, 1969 of shrapnel wounds when the hospital at Chu Lai was hit by rocket fire. The recovery room at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver, where she had been assigned prior to Vietnam, has been dedicated to her memory, and there is a statue to her at Aultman Hospital in Canton, OH. A medical center in Vietnam has also been dedicated to her memory. US Army. Line 23W112.

(Note: It is Lt. Lane's photograph that you occasionally see at The Women's Memorial or along The Wall. If you see a photograph of a young nurse with dark hair and a white nurse's cap, most likely it will be Lt. Lane.)

Lt. Colonel Annie Ruth Graham, age 52, Efland, NC. Assigned to 91st Evacuation Hospital at Tuy Hoa. Died in August 1968 from a stroke. She was a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War. US Army. Line 48W12.

Captain Mary Therese Klinker, age 27, Lafayette, IN. Assigned to Clark Air Base in the Philippines. Died April 4, 1975. Captain Klinker was a flight nurse killed on the C-5A Galaxy which crashed near Saigon while evacuating Vietnamese orphans (Operation Babylift). US Air Force. Line 1W122.

In addition to these military names, I have found information on almost two dozen civilian American women (mostly government employees, but some missionaries and journalists) who died from a variety of causes (ranging from car bombs to heart attacks) in Vietnam or Laos. There were also 38 civilian women who died in the Babylift aircraft crash in April 1975; most were civilian employees of the US government. (Five of them were employees of the Defense Intelligence Agency.) These women may not have worn a uniform, but they are deserving of our remembrance and respect.

Lt. Donovan and Lt. Lane have the easiest names to locate. Lt. Donovan's name is the second row from the bottom of Panel 53W, at the start of the row. Lt. Lane's name is nine lines from the bottom of Panel 23W, at the start of the row.

So, if you see a name on the Wall that is a "Beverly," a "Leslie," or a similarly male/female name, don't assume that "this is a woman's name, and must be one of the eight women." In these cases, these "confusing names" refer to a man. All the women on The Wall have names that are clearly "feminine" names.

Carol Bessette



Tan Son Nhut Association
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Revetments is an official publication of the Tan Son Nhut Association, Inc.
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The Association is a 501(c)(19) tax exempt veterans' Organization incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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Treasurer: Carol Bessette
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Director of Public Relations: Richard Carvell
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**A Memorial to the
American Experience
In Vietnam**



**"All included,
none excluded"**

TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION
www.tsna.org

The Tan Son Nhut Association --- has been established to respect all of those service personnel from the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard, as well as the many civilians who served at any time during the Vietnam conflict at the great airdrome at Tan Son Nhut, Air Base, Saigon, Republic of Vietnam.

We especially honor and revere those brave and heroic individuals who were wounded or "gave their last full measure of devotion" at and around this air base.

The Association is an open forum where we can all continue to exchange the memories and pride that we had as we upheld our sacred vow of "**Duty, Honor, Country,**" at the now historic and once mightiest air field in the world.



From The President

Fellow Members: As of today, we have 62 folks signed up for the reunion and 101 days to go. This reunion promises to be one of the most significant and poignant in the history of our association. Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity - sign up to attend now.

Thanks,

George



Mr. Donald R. Kricho MI don.kricho@krihos.com Joined in honor of brother Joe. USN&USAF 53-58.
Mr. Thomas J. Niland NE nilandtj@yahoo.com Jun 65 - Jun 66 1st Mob/1876 Communications Sq. 7th AF Comm. Ctr.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. James P. Gallagher OH Jan 68 - Jan 69 460th TRW AEMS Camera Shop

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