REVETMENTS

The Official Journal of the Tan Son Nhut Association

A Memorial to the American Experience in Vietnam

Fall, November/December 2026

Just a reminder

Revetments, our newsletter, will now be published every three months. Please feel free to contribute, including stories, pictures or information for future publications

Our mailing address is:

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This issue, for November and December addresses things that that occur during those months each year.

One is Veterans Day, November 11th. The second is Thanksgiving and then of course Christmas.

I want to honor ALL veterans this month from the Revolutionary War to the present Iran war going on right now. In addition, I want to be sure to honor those who served in peace time as well. They, along with us, raised their right hand and declared an oath to the United States to uphold the constitution and provide the protection needed to for our country. Some of us got into much more serious circumstances than others, but all served, not just the ones involved in actual firefights, etc.

Personally, I have delt with survivors' guilt when I think of friends and family members who were wounded or did not make it home. It is not as bad as it has been, but it still comes back periodically. But we all had jobs and roles to contribute to the end result whether we were processing photos, driving supplies, or in my case repairing encryption equipment to, as they say, "keeping the shooters talking". So be proud of your service and have a greet Veterans Day.

Andy Csordas, US Army Spec 5, 31S30

Other articles this month will talk about Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Thanksgiving is an American Holiday, we need to really think about how much we are, or should be, thankful for. Take a few minutes and stop and think about all of the blessings in your life.

Of course, Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, it is celebrated by Christians around the world in more cultures and languages than you can count.

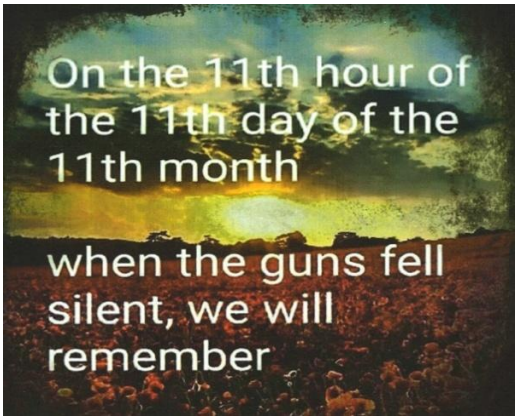
The History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as "The Great War" – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

Veterans Day is distinct from Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May: Veterans Day commemorates the service of all U.S. veterans, while the older Memorial Day, which grew out of Civil War commemorations, specifically honors those who have died while in military service. Another military holiday that also occurs in May, Armed Forces Day, honors those currently serving in the U.S. military. Additionally, Women Veterans Day is recognized by a growing number of U.S. states that specifically honor women who have served in the U.S. military.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans' Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.







Red Poppies on Veterans Day symbolize remembrance of fallen service members, inspired by the World War I poem "***In Flanders Fields***" by Canadian physician Lt. Col. John McCrae.

Chaplain's Corner-End of Year Holidays

This fall as we approach the holidays with all of the activities, family, perhaps some travel, etc., we sometime don't think about what the holidays mean. November brings us to Thanksgiving. I know all of us are thankful for a myriad of things, but have you ever sat down and just listed what you are thankful for each day, not just at this holiday.



If you do that you typically list the big things in your life, family, friends, resources, etc. Do you include things like getting out of a warm bed in the morning to a warm house? Certainly, many in Ukraine would love to be able to do that each morning this winter. How about having the choice of where you will go out and eat, we have so many choices for us here in America. So, the point is that the list can be almost endless if we really think about it.



Abraham Lincoln announced the Thanksgiving Proclamation on October 3, 1863 at the urging of Sarah Joseph Hale, who is considered the mother of Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving had been regionally celebrated before that but Lincoln made it official. Congress did not make it national holiday until later after the Civil War. We are thankful we still have a nation after that war.

Another holiday we celebrate in the later part of the year is Christmas. Christmas is celebrated around the world, and it is an especially important time for Christians around the world. It can be a really crazy time for us in America as we travel to see extended families, try to make it really special for the little ones, coordinate with friends' activities, include church activities and celebrations into our schedule and still maintain our sanity in the process.

Christians celebrate Christmas because it marks the birth of Jesus. Why is that significant?



Scripture tells us Christ died for our sins. We rarely think about sin in our lives, but we all do it. ***Romans 3:23*** tells us ***"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"***. ***Galatians 2:16*** says ***"So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law"***. In short, we cannot do it ourselves, we have to trust Jesus. We all need to think about that as we all get older.

Our founding fathers relied on scripture and prayers to God as they struggled to form our country. A movie about that time is **The Great Awaking**, it really puts a historical context into what was happening at that time in our fledgling country. Wall Builders, https://wallbuilders.com/, is a great resource for research about our nation's founding. One of our first school text books early in our nation's history was the Bible. It is still the ultimate resource for us today.



Our founding fathers established a nation that has endured for 250 years and has saved much of the world from despots and tyranny more than once. That includes a number of countries that do not seem to think too highly of the USA today.

We should add the Founding Fathers and God to our thankful list as well.

* Opinions expressed are those of the author, not necessarily those of the Tan Son Nhut Association

New Member

We recently received a Membership Application from Michael Emery, he and his wife Bonnie live in Bristol, CT. He performed various duties at Tan Son Nhut while serving in the 377th Security Police; including patrolling the flight line, tower duty and foot patrols in other areas, Michael found the Tan Son Nhut Association on the internet.

Welcome Micheal!

Members who have passed

We received this note about Richard Fulton, he was a Tan Son Nhut Veteran, Journalist and historical contributor to a number of Veteran Organizations.

> Dear Tan Son Nhut Association,
>
> I am writing to let you know that my father, Richard Paul "Rick" Fulton, died on September 20, 2026.
>
> Dad served in Vietnam with Seventh Air Force as an information specialist and journalist and spent much of his tour in the Tan Son Nhut environment. His work included reporting and photography for military publications, including Seventh Air Force News and Pacific Stars and Stripes.
>
> He later contributed photographs, documents, recollections, and historical information to veteran's groups preserving the history of Tan Son Nhut.
>
> A short publication record:
> • "Combat Photogs Taste Ground War," Seventh Air Force News, 1968
> • "A Friendly Face in the Night," Pacific Stars and Stripes, October 5, 1969
> • Later historical contributions to Tan Son Nhut and Security Police veteran's organizations
>
> Dad spent much of his life making sure events and people were not simply lost with the passage of time. I wanted the Association to know that he has passed.
>
> Respectfully,
> Shawn Spickert-Fulton

Thank you, Rick, rest in peace.

We have recently become aware of other members who have passed. Some of these I (Andy) may have neglected to post, some we just find out later after the fact, so if you know anyone who has passed, please let us know.

Send to: acsordasvvet@gmail.com

- John Lampe, from Cahokia. Il, he served in the 377th while at Tan Son Nhut
- Lt Robert J Clark, 12th RITS

In addition to the above members who have passed, we were saddened to hear of the passing of our past **President**, **Richard Cooley**.



That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

1 Timothy 4:10 NTV

IN MEMORY OF

Richard A. Cooley

DATE OF BIRTH
May 26, 1947

ENTERED INTO REST
October 24, 2026

FUNERAL SERVICES

11:00 AM, Thursday, October 29, 2026
Smiths Station Baptist Church
Smiths Station, Alabama

OFFICIATING

Dr. David Kees

INTERMENT

Ft. Mitchell National Cemetery
Phenix City, Alabama

SERVICES IN CARE OF

VANCE BROOKS Funeral Home





Andy was privileged to represent the TSNA at the services. Richard's wife Brenda said Richard really enjoyed being part of our organization. Richard and Brenda have been married over 57 years. He was buried at Fort Mitchell National Cemetery. We appreciate Richard stepping up to become President when we needed him. Richard did that in his community as well. He was an educator for 40 years, including positions up to the Superintendent of Schools. He was the Mayor of Smiths Station, Alabama. He was also one of the leaders in Smiths Station's incorporation efforts.

Richard served in the **460th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing** as a ground crew member on the **RB-57E**, the ***Patricia Lynn***. The ***Patricia Lynn*** was part of **Operation Steel Tiger** over the DMZ and panhandle of Vietnam locating enemy forces and material being moved south at night. Richard is in the top picture; a full plane is in bottom picture. After a bombing run, they would come back and do a bomb damage reconnaissance assessment run to determine the effectiveness of that strike.

We will miss Richard and we thank him and Brenda for their service to the Tan Son Nhut Association, to our country and their community.

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We received a very nice **Thank You** from **Samantha Haywood**

Smantha is a senior at Harding University and received one of our 2023 Tan Son Nhut Association Scholarships

Serving Through the Miss Arkansas Organization

Through the Miss Arkansas Pageant Organization, I have had the opportunity to advocate for food insecurity in Arkansas and serve many Arkansans, including fellow college students who are experiencing food insecurity.

Serving on the Board of The Table

I serve as a board member for The Table, a local food resource center. Through this role, I help support the organization's mission of connecting individuals and families with food and other resources they need.

Advocating on My College Campus

I also advocate for students on my college campus who may be struggling with food insecurity. I work to connect students with available resources and help ensure they know they are not alone.

Why This Matters to Me

I am passionate about raising awareness and providing support to individuals and families facing food insecurity. These experiences have allowed me to use my voice to serve others and make a difference in my community.

Because of the opportunities I have been given, I have been able to turn my passion for helping others into meaningful service throughout Arkansas.



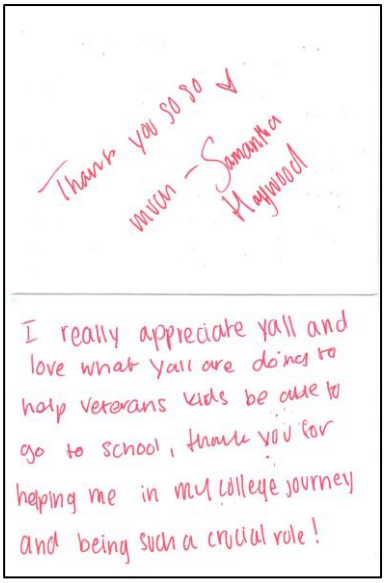


Thank You

THIS IS WHAT I WAS ABLE TO DO AND ACCOMPLISH FROM YOUR GENEROUS DONATION



More information from Samantha below



Thank You

Thank you so much for helping make it possible for me to attend my amazing school, Harding University. Without your generosity and support, I would not be where I am today or the person I have become.

Because of your support, I have been given so much more than an education. I have built lifelong friendships, met people who I know will be part of my life for years to come, and even made friends I can imagine standing beside me on my wedding day. I have gained rewarding knowledge, learned from amazing professors and mentors, and experienced opportunities that have shaped who I am and who I hope to become. My four years at Harding have given me memories, friendships, lessons, and experiences that I will carry with me long after graduation.

I will always be grateful that you chose to invest in my education and my future. Your generosity has made an incredible difference in my life, and I hope to one day give others the same opportunities that you have given me.

Thank You for Investing in My Future -
SAMANTHA HAYWOOD





Because of You, I Found My Passion

Because of your generosity, I was given the opportunity to participate in a mission trip to Honduras. During this experience, I discovered my passion for dentistry and decided to pursue it by applying to dental school.

While in Honduras, I saw firsthand the needs of underserved communities and experienced how meaningful it is to be part of something greater than myself. This experience strengthened my love for serving others and helped me realize that I can use my future career in dentistry to make a difference in people's lives.

Because of this opportunity, I now hope to continue participating in mission work throughout my future and use my skills and career to serve others both locally and around the world.

Scholarships

A little reminder about the Tan Son Nhut Scholarships. We are no longer issuing new scholarships but we have the funding needed to finish funding the rest of the existing scholarships through school year 2028-2029. We have funded Scholarships for 42 Students at a cost of over $300,000 at the 36 institutions listed below.

Arkansas State, Arkansas Tech, Auburn University, Bellermine University, Black River Tech, BYU, Cal Poly, Case Western Reserve, Central Arkansas University, Cincinnati State Tech, Claflin University, Clemson University, Eastern Kentucky University, Florida Southern University, Georgetown University, Grand Canyon University, Hanove College, Harding University, Henderson State, Hillsdale University, Indiana University (PA), Lyon College, Mississippi State University, Missouri Science and Technology, Morehead State University, Ohio State University, Ouachita Baptist University, Penn State University, University of Arkansas, University of Arkansas Monticello, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of South Carolina, University of Kentucky, Virginia Tech University and Xavier University.

Many thanks to all of our donors!!!!

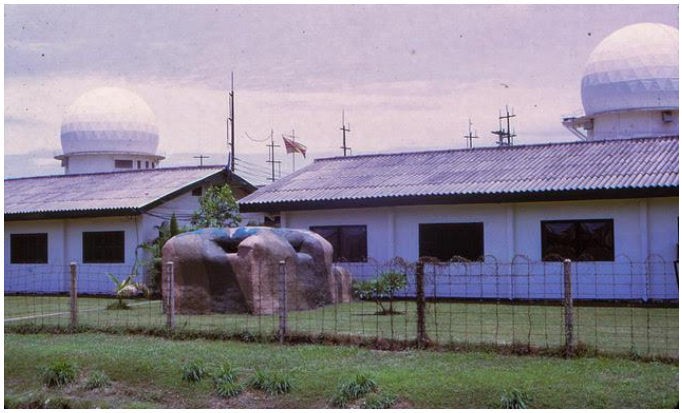
Terrie Thompson sent some pictures of #1012 and #1016 on Tan Son Nhut. We all remember those "golf balls" on base.

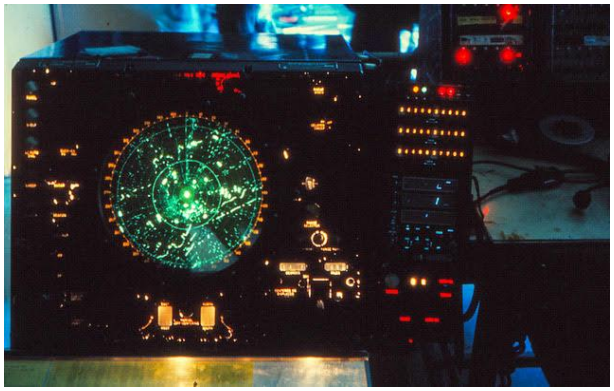
Terrie was a 2nd and 1st Lt while in Vietnam from August 1969 to August 1970. He was a Weapons Controller at the 619th Tactical Control Squadron where the "golf balls were located.

The last picture is Terrie enroute to Xuan Loc about 30 miles southeast of Tan Son Nhut.











Thank you, Terrie!

A Note from our President



The Officers and Board of Directors of the Tan Son Nhut Association would like to wish you a great Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support and partnership throughout the year. We appreciate you and look forward to working together in the coming year. Warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season!"

For many of us, our Christmas dinner at Tan Son Nhut consisted of; Shrimp Cocktail, Crackers, Roast Turkey with Cranberry sauce, Giblet Gravy, Glazed Sweet Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes, Buttered Mixed Vegetables, Assorted Relish Tray, Butter Flake Rolls, Butter, Fruit Cake, Mincemeat Pie and/or Pumpkin Pie with Whipped Cream, Assorted Nuts, Assorted Candy, Assorted Fresh Fruit, Tea, Coffee, or Milk.

May this Holiday season be filled with wonderful memories of our Brothers and Sisters from Tan Son Nhut AB.

Paul Mortensen

They make a little more today!

Public Law 89-501 — **Monthly Basic Pay and Allowances** — **Effective: 1 July 1966**

Cumulative Years of Service 1/

Rank	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 26	Personal Money Allowance	Basic Allowance for Subsistence	Basic Allowance for Quarters: With Dependent	Basic Allowance for Quarters: Without Dependent
CNO 2/	2,807.10														333.33	47.88	201.00	160.20
O-10	1,424.10	1,474.50				1,530.60		1,648.20		1,766.10		1,883.70		2,001.60	183.33	47.88	201.00	160.20
O-9	1,262.10	1,295.10	1,323.30			1,356.60		1,412.70		1,530.60		1,648.20		1,766.10	41.67 3/	47.88	201.00	160.20
O-8	1,143.30	1,177.50	1,205.40			1,295.10		1,356.60		1,412.70	1,474.50	1,530.60	1,592.40			47.88	201.00	160.20
O-7	949.80	1,014.90			1,059.90		1,121.40		1,177.50	1,295.10	1,384.80					47.88	201.00	160.20
O-6	703.80	773.70	824.10						852.30	986.70	1,037.10	1,059.90	1,121.40	1,216.50		47.88	170.10	140.10
O-5	562.80	661.50	706.50				728.70	767.70	818.70	880.20	930.60	958.50	992.40			47.88	157.50	130.20
O-4	474.90	577.80	616.80		627.90	656.10	700.50	739.80	773.70	807.30	829.80					47.88	145.05	120.00
O-3	441.60	493.20	526.80	583.20	611.10	633.30	667.20	700.50	717.60							47.88	130.05	105.00
O-2	353.70	420.30	504.60	521.40	532.50											47.88	120.00	95.10
O-1	303.90	336.30	420.30													47.88	110.10	85.20
O-3E 4/				533.10	558.60	579.00	609.90	640.50	666.30							47.88	130.05	105.00
O-2E 4/				521.40	532.50	549.30	577.80	600.00	616.80							47.88	120.00	95.10
O-1E 4/				420.30	448.50	465.30	482.10	498.90	521.40							47.88	110.10	85.20
W-4	449.40	482.10		493.20	515.70	538.20	560.40	600.00	627.90	650.40	667.20	689.40	712.20	767.60		47.88	145.05	120.00
W-3	408.60	443.10		448.50	454.20	487.50	515.70	532.50	549.30	565.80	583.20	605.70	627.90	650.40		47.88	130.05	105.00
W-2	377.70	408.60		420.30	443.70	468.00	485.70	503.10	520.80	538.80	556.20	573.90	597.60			47.88	120.00	95.10
W-1	298.20	342.00		370.20	387.00	403.80	420.30	437.40	454.20	471.00	487.50	504.60				47.88	110.10	85.20

Cumulative Years of Service 1/

Rank	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 26	Without Dependent	One Dependent	Two Dependent	Over 2 Dependents
															Basic Allowance for Quarters			
E-9							510.60	522.30	534.30	546.00	558.00	569.40	599.10	657.30	85.20	120.00	120.00	120.00
E-8						428.40	440.40	452.10	463.80	475.50	487.20	499.20	528.60	587.10	85.20	120.00	120.00	120.00
E-7	269.40	322.80	334.80	346.50	358.20	369.60	381.30	393.60	411.00	422.70	434.40	440.40	469.80	528.60	75.00	114.90	114.90	114.90
E-6	232.20	281.70	293.40	305.40	317.40	328.80	340.50	358.20	369.60	381.30	387.60				70.20	110.10	110.10	110.10
E-5	200.40	246.90	258.60	270.00	287.70	299.40	311.10	322.80	328.80						70.20	105.00	105.00	105.00
E-4 5/	168.60	211.50	222.90	240.60	252.60										70.20	105.00	105.00	105.00
E-3	121.80	170.10	182.10	193.80											55.20	83.10	83.10	105.00
E-2	100.00	141.00													55.20	55.20	83.10	105.00
E-1	96.90	129.00													55.20	55.20	83.10	105.00
E-1 -4mos	87.90														55.20	55.20	83.10	105.00

Notes:

1. If no amount is shown for a pay grade under cumulative years of service, the amount immediately to the left applies.
2. Basic pay is $2,807.10 regardless of cumulative years of service.
3. While serving as U.N. member $225.00.
4. Applies to officers with more than 4 years active duty as an enlisted member.
5. BAQ amounts applies to E-4 with over 4 years of service. E-4 with less than 4 years of service BAQ is without dependent $55.20, with 1 or 2 dependent(s) $83.10, Over 2 Dependents $105.00



There is no longer a Vietnam Vet at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the remains were identified.

Members who have passed.

If you know someone who has passed away, please let us know. You can send information to Andy Csordas

acsordasvvet@gmail.com

Or mail to:

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WELCOME HOME BROTHERS



Revetments is an official publication of the

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C/O Andy Csordas

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The Association is a 501(c)(19) tax exempt Veterans' organization

The organization is incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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Vice President: Bruce Wimmer
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Director of Membership and Revetments Editor: Andy Csordas
Director at Large: Rick Cooley
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Rev. Dr. James M. Warrington (1926 - 2022), Chaplain: 1997-2018
Rev. Jimmy Smith (1945-2025), Chaplain: 2028-2025
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Richard Cooley, President, 2023-2025

Web Site: www.tsna.org



Tan Son Nhut, Paris Control, is shown in 2020

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Photo Courtesy of Charles Penley