

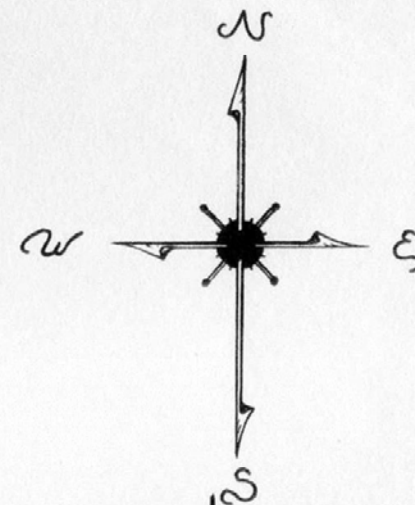
SILVER  
EAGLES

SAVONARA  
WEST PAC



WEST PAC 1976-1977

- MISAWA
- ATSUGI
- YOKOTA
- OSAN
- KUNSAN
- IWAKUNI
- KWANG JU
- KADENA
- TAIPEI
- TAINAN
- CLARK
- CUBI PT
- DARWIN
- RAAF AMBERLEY







# THE HISTORY OF THE SILVER EAGLES

VMF-115 was first organized on 1 July 1943 at Santa Barbara, California under the command of Major J. S. MacLaughton. He relinquished command sixteen days later to one of the Marine Corps' most famous Aces, Major Joseph Foss, holder of a World War II record of twenty six enemy aircraft shot down. In February 1944, the squadron deployed to join in support of the Pacific Campaign and a year later VMF-115 pilots sunk the first enemy submarine utilizing a skip bombing technique with 1000 pound bombs delivered from their F4U CORSAIRS.

After the war, the squadron was transferred to Peiping, China, where it maintained alert to protect United States' interests. From China the Unit was transferred to Hawaii then later to North Carolina where, in December, 1949, it became the first Marine Squadron to receive a complete complement of F9F PANTHER jet aircraft. October, 1950, found VMF-115 aboard the **U.S.S. ROOSEVELT**, where it became the first Marine PANTHER Squadron to qualify and serve aboard a Navy Carrier.

In 1951 the squadron was transferred to Pohang, Korea, where VMF-115 flew 9,250 combat sorties and 15,350 combat hours, most of them in marginal weather.

After Korea, the squadron was transferred to MCAS El Toro where it received the first F4D SKYRAY in the spring of 1957, and was redesignated VMF(AW)-115. February of 1958 found 115 at Atsugi, Japan. During September the squadron was redeployed to Pingtung (North), Taiwan. There they reinforced the island's air defenses during the Formosa Straights Crisis. After returning to Atsugi in March, 1959, VMF(AW)-115 executed series of reassignments between Japan and Cherry Point, North Carolina culminating in assignment to Marine Aircraft Group 24, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, in July 1961.

VMF(AW)-115 was redesignated VMFA-115 on 1 January and transitioned to the Mack II F4B PHANTOM II aircraft. With increased United States involvement in the Viet Nam conflict the "Silver Eagles" were again deployed to the Far East and arrived in Danang, RVN, in October 1965. The squadron remained in combat in southeast Asia for the majority of the times with several deployments to Iwakuni, Japan.

The "Silver Eagles" moved to their location at Iwakuni, Japan, in 1973. VMFA-115 has topped 35,000 combat sorties in the Viet Nam conflict, more than any other Marine F-4 squadron. The "Silver Eagles" recently received the Robert M. Hanson Award, proclaiming it the best Fighter Squadron in the Marine Corps for Fiscal Year 1972.

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 has received the following awards:

- Presidential Unit Citation with 2\*
- Navy Unit Citation with 4\*
- China Service Streamer
- Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Streamer
- World War II Victory Streamer
- Korean Service Streamer with 4\*
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer
- Vietnamese Service Streamer with 1 silver and 1 bronze\*
- Phillippine Presidential Unit Citation Streamer
- Korean Presidential Unit Citation Streamer
- RVN Civil Action Streamer with Palm
- RVN Gallantry Cross with Palm
- Philippine Liberation Streamer
- Vietnamese Campaign Streamer with Device
- National Defense Streamer with\*
- United Nations Service Streamer







# COMMANDING OFFICER



## LIEUTENANT COLONEL GLASS

Lieutenant Colonel Richard H. Glass enlisted in the Marine Corps in June 1955 at Santa Monica, California. After completing a tour with the 3rd Marine Division as an Artillery Scout Observer, he reported to NAVCAD training in 1957. He was designated a Naval Aviator in January 1959 at NAAS, Beeville, Texas and then reported to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and joined VMA-311. Since then, Lieutenant Colonel Glass has served with VMT-2 at El Toro; MCRD, San Diego; 1st Marine Brigade G-3 section; VMFA 212; VMFA-235 and as assistant S-3, MAG-24 at MCAS, Kaneohe, Hawaii. Upon his departure from Hawaii in 1971 Lieutenant Colonel Glass joined VMFA-232, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Iwakuni, Japan where he served primarily as the Operations Officer. Returning to the United States in 1972, he earned his bachelor's degree from San Diego State University. He then reported to Headquarters, Marine Corps where he served as the Aviation Plans Officer, Reserve Division after which he served with MAG-31 as the Commanding Officer H&MS-31. He assumed Command of VMFA-115 on 17 June 1976.

Lieutenant Colonel Glass has flown over 5000 flight hours, of which 4600 hours are in tactical jet aircraft and has 1000 hours in the F-4.

Lieutenant Colonel Glass has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal (18 awards), Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Navy Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Viet Nam Service Medal with two stars, Republic of Viet Nam Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the Republic of Viet Nam Campaign Medal.





Major Patrick J. Jones enlisted in the Marine Corps in August 1956 at Albany, New York. While serving with VMR-353 at MCAS, Opa Locka, Florida he was selected to attend the U.S. Naval Academy Prep School at Bainbridge, Maryland. He entered the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1958 and graduated with the class of 1962. After completion of the Basic School at Quantico, Virginia, Major Jones reported to NAS, Pensacola, Florida for flight training. He was designated a Naval Aviator at NAAS, Beeville, Texas in July 1964. Since then Major Jones has served with VMF (AW)-235 at MCAS, Beaufort, South Carolina and at MAG-11 DaNang, RVN; U.S. Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, California from 1967 to 1969 where he received an Aerospace Engineering Degree; U.S. Naval Academy Annapolis,

Maryland as an instructor from 1971 to 1974; Naval Missile Center Point Mugu, California from 1974 to 1976 where he served as Project Officer, Program Manager and Executive Officer of the MAD. Major Jones joined the "Silver Eagles" as Executive Officer in September 1976.

Major Jones has flown over 2800 flight hours in the F-8, F-4, OV-10, and O1-C aircraft.

Major Jones has been awarded the Bronze Star with Combat Distinguishing Device, Air Medal (51 awards), Navy commendation Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device, National Defense Service Medal, Viet Nam Service Medal with four stars, Republic of Viet Nam Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the Republic of Viet Nam Campaign Medal.

## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- Jul 1943 VMF-115 was organized at Santa Barbara, California
- 1951 Squadron Deployed to K-3 Pohang, Korea. At this time they were known as the "Able Eagles."
- Jan 1964 The "Silver Eagles" transitioned to the F4B Phantom II and received the designation VMFA 115.
- Oct 1964 The squadron deployed to DaNang, RVN and entered the Viet Nam conflict.
- Oct 1973 VMFA-115 awarded the Robert M. Hanson trophy as the finest fighter squadron in the Corps for 1973.
- Aug 1975 VMFA-115 accepted 14 F4J's.
- 1976-1977 Misawa, Japan Kwang-Ju, Korea  
Cubi Pt., P.I. Amberlay, Australia  
Kadena, Okinawa Clark AB, P.I.  
Iwakuni, Japan





Sergeant Major WILDER joined the Marine Corps in Feb. 1952 and upon completion of recruit training was assigned to the 1st Mar. Div. in Korea. After a TAD stop at Camp Lejeune, he was sent to Marine Barracks Portsmouth, N.H. After reenlisting in Feb. 1955 next stop was Clarksville, Tenn. In April of 1957 a transfer came again to Camp Lejeune, which included deployments to the Caribbean and Lebanon. July 1959 saw him on Okinawa until October 1960. From Camp Lejeune he was involved in a Med-Cruise and the Cuban missile crisis. From Mar. 1963 until

July 1965 he was ordered to New Hampshire again. The first of three Viet Nam tours began in 1968 and included the time period of the Tet Offensive of 1968. He stayed until the Marines left in June of 1971. Subsequent duty stations were Montgomery, Alabama for I and I and Nashville, Tennessee for I and I.

Sgt. Major WILDER joined VMFA-115 in July of 1976 and upon rotation in July 1977 will transfer to the Fleet Marine Corps 31 August 1977 after 26 years of service in the United States Marine Corps.



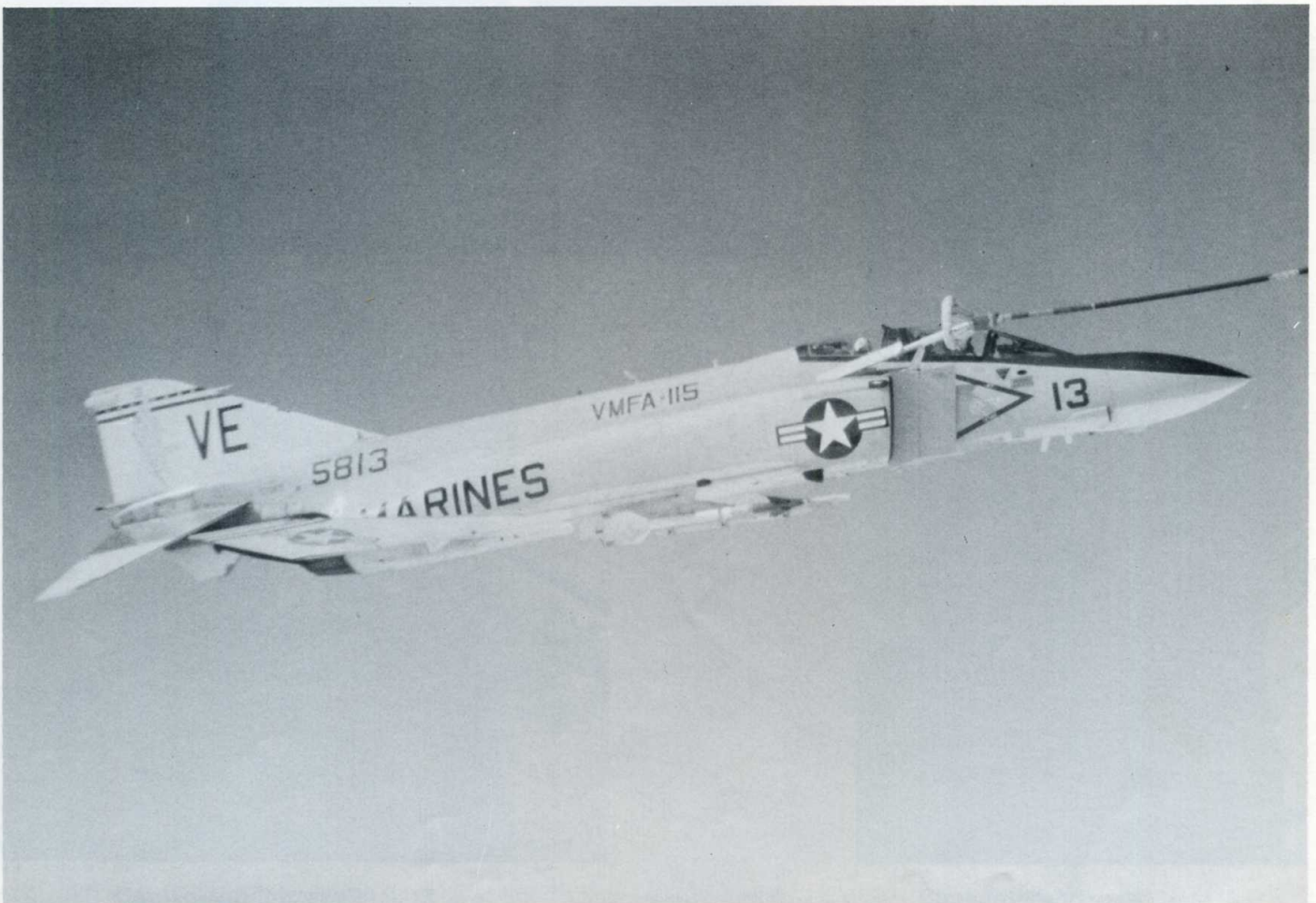
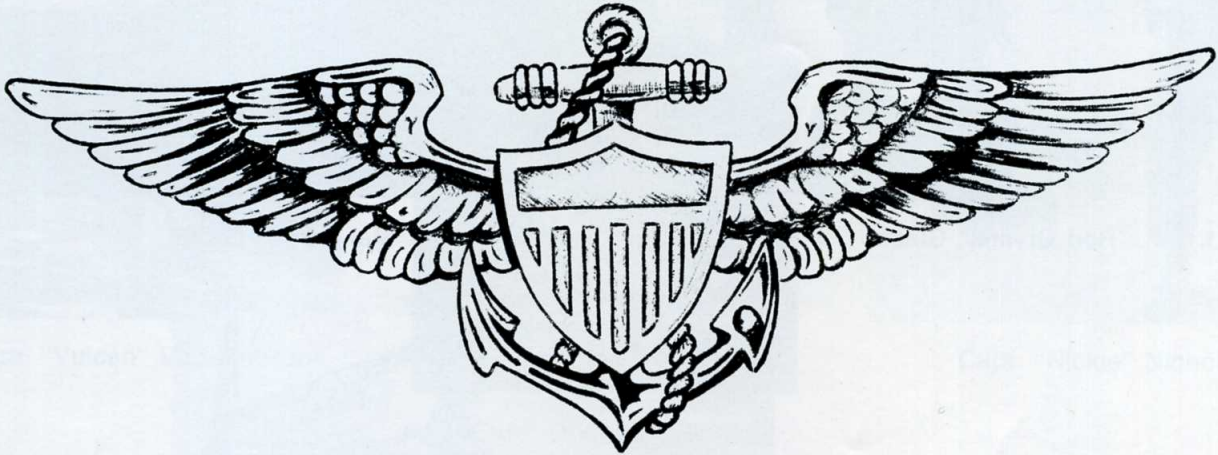






“FIGHTER PILOTS HAVE TO ROVE IN THE AREA ALLOTTED TO THEM IN ANY WAY THEY LIKE, AND WHEN THEY SPOT AN ENEMY THEY ATTACK AND SHOOT THEM DOWN—ANYTHING ELSE IS RUBBISH.”

RICHTHOFEN







Lt. Col. "Rod Crystal" Glass



Maj. "Griff" Griffin



Capt. "Husker" Zimmer



Maj. "Banshee" Jones



Maj. "Possum" Carroll





Capt. "Vulcan" Vandenbrook



Capt. "Plague" Steele



Capt. "Nickle" Nicholson



Capt. "Maddog" Mayne



Capt. "Slim" Travis





Capt. "Weasal" Cohen



1/Lt. "Mac" Norman



1/Lt. "Rookie" Palmer



1/Lt. "Dig'em" Dugan



1/Lt. "Silk" Wilkinson

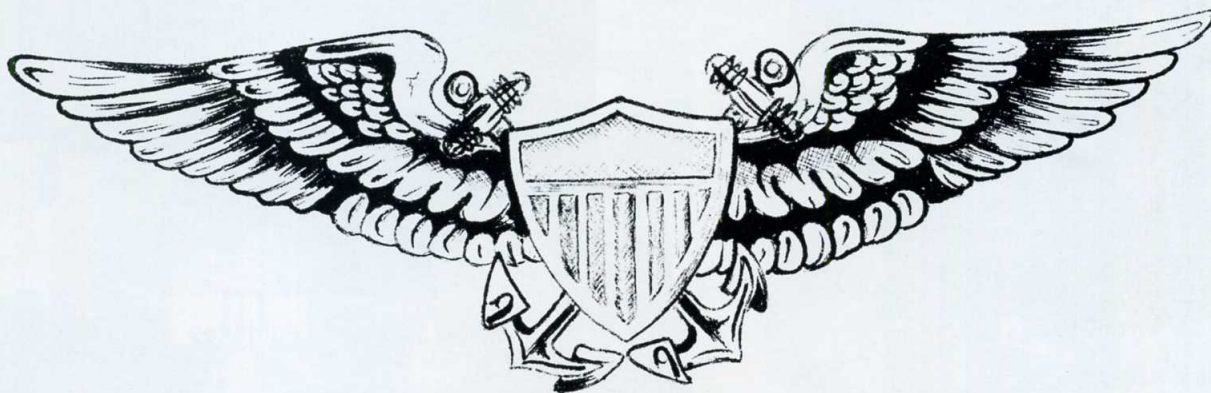


1/Lt. "Slick" Hedges



"TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE AIR-TO-AIR ARENA THE AIRCREW MUST HAVE, FIRST AND FOREMOST, A THOROUGH BACKGROUND IN TACTICS. THEY MUST ACQUIRE AN EXCELLENT KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR EQUIPMENT. THEN THEY MUST APPROACH THE PROBLEM WITH A SPIRIT OF AGGRESSION, AND WITH UTTER CONFIDENCE."

-Lt. R. S. LORD  
ROYAL NAVY







Capt. "Blue Max" Maxfield



Capt. "Bones" Legidakes



Capt. "Gator" Sams



Capt. "Dirtball" Graves



1/Lt. "Low Life" Moore





1/Lt. "Rice" Roney



1/Lt. "Swanee" Swanson



1/Lt. "Stanlee" Richardella



1/Lt. "Porno" Archbold







# GROUND EAGLES



W.O.1 N. Apel Avionics



W.O.1 V. Chute Ordnance



W.O.1 F. Scott Asst. A.M.O.



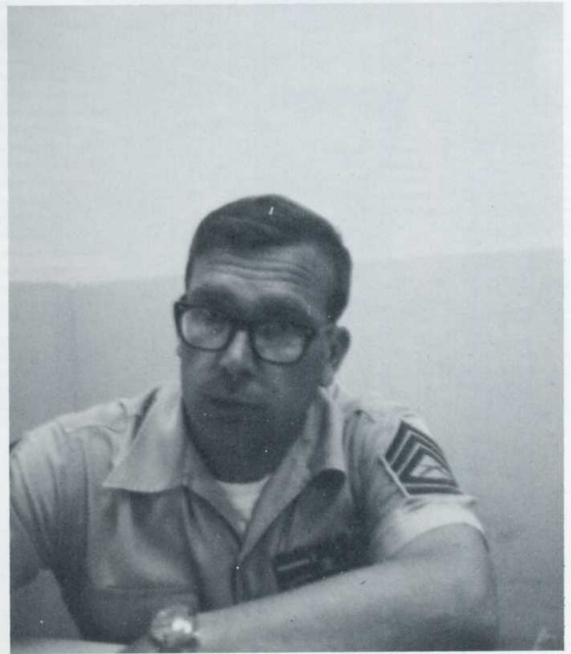
W.O.1 F. Gonzales Q.A.



## S SECTIONS



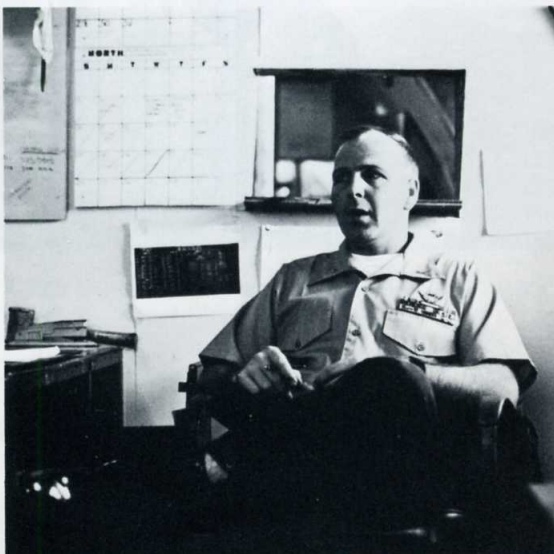
1/Lt Moore Admin.



Gysgt. Wells Admin. Chief



Sgt. Maj. Wilder

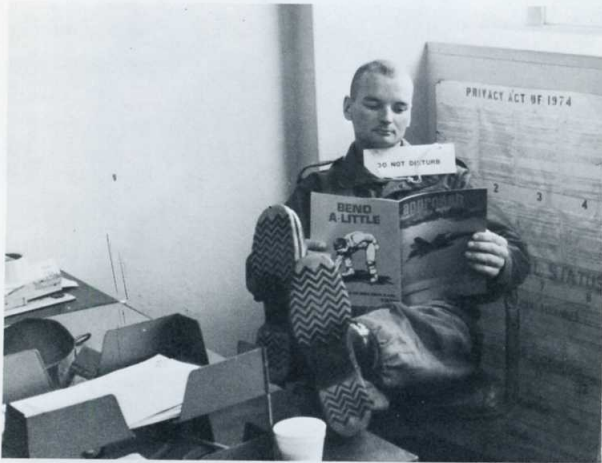


Sgt. Harris



Capt. J. Steele CMCC





Sgt. Lewis



Cpl. Martinez



1/Lt. Swanson Legal



L/Cpl Crawford



"Don't tell me, you must be the guy with the orders to El Toro that we lost."





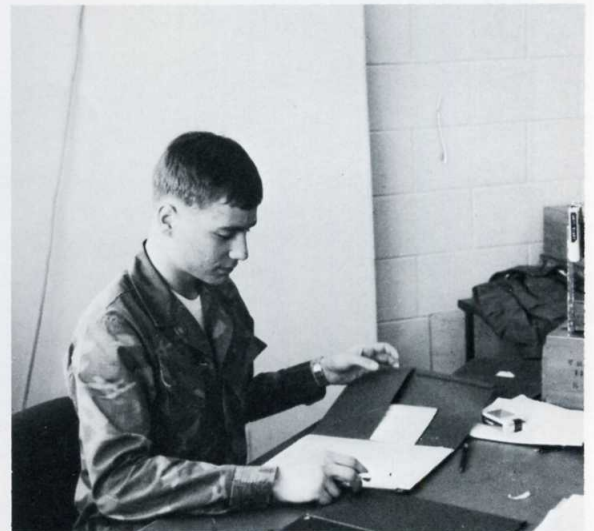
1/Lt. Wilkinson



PFC Rodriguez



PFC Johnson



PFC Tomasetti



L/Cpl Grasz



L/Cpl Vega





Cpl. Roberts

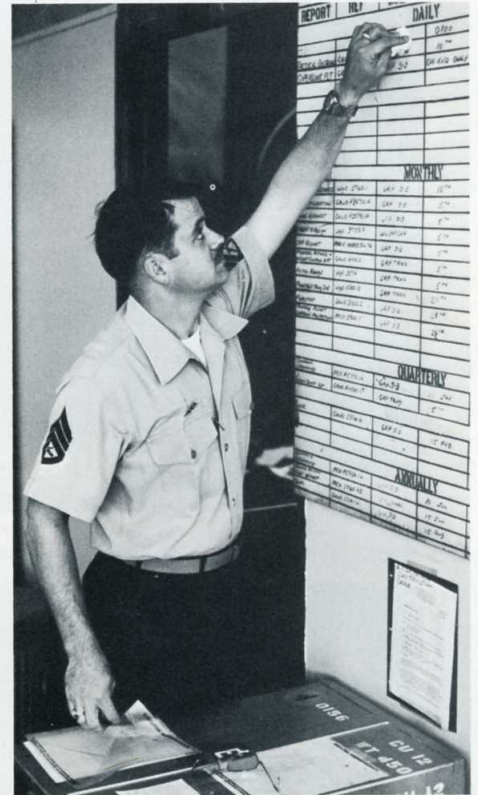


Capt. Zimmer

# OPERATIONS



Maj. W. Griffin



SSgt. E. Timmons





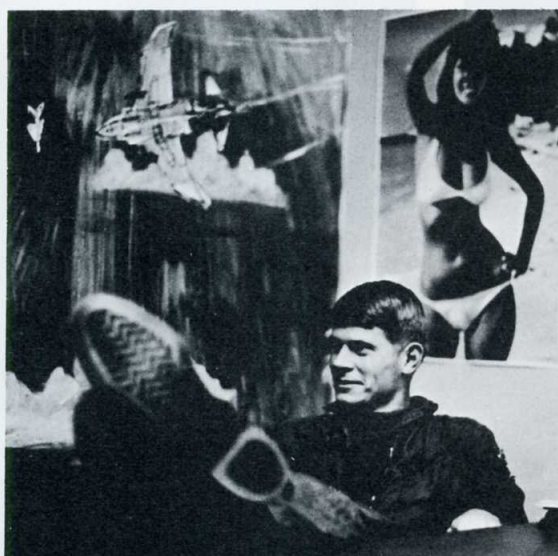
Capt. Vandebrook



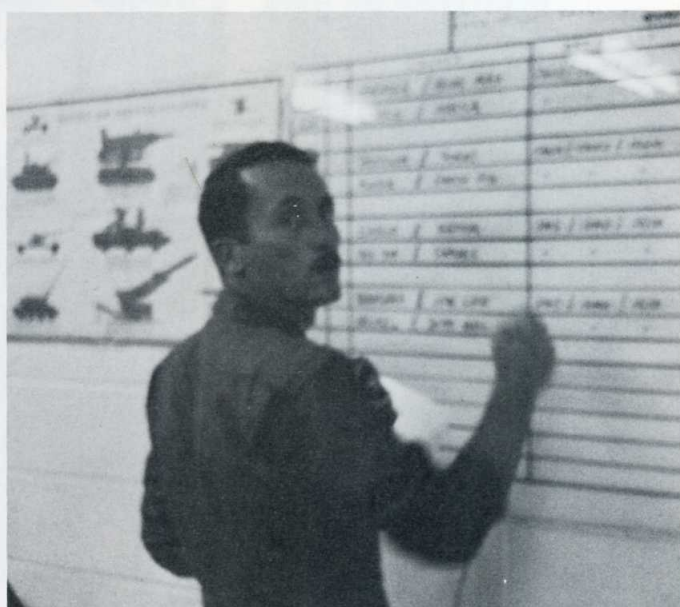
L/Cpl. Vaughn



L/Cpl. Lucas



Capt. Travis



Capt. Nicholson

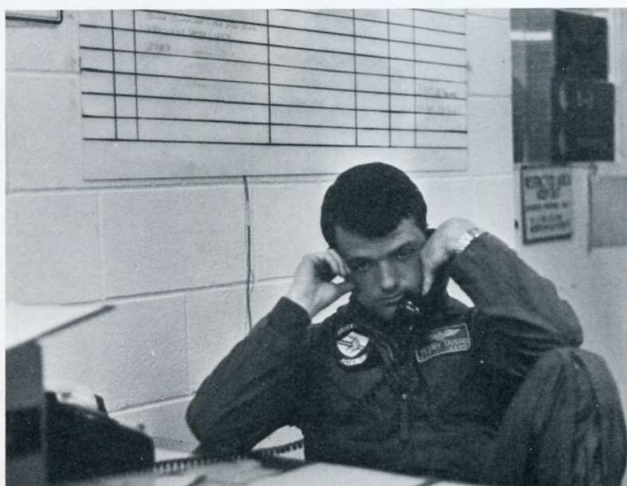




"No, Colonel McAdoo, we didn't schedule an airshow today, why?"



Capt. Sams



1/Lt. Dugan



1/Lt. Palmer



Sgt. Collins





SSgt. Howland



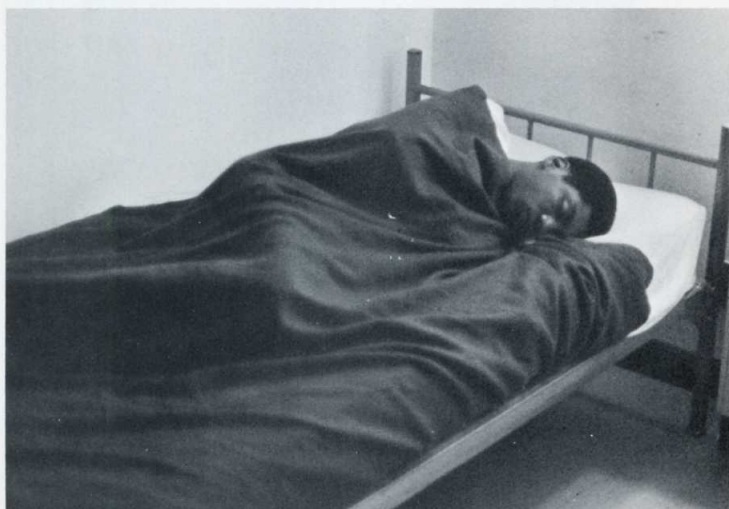
Cpl. Ratcliff



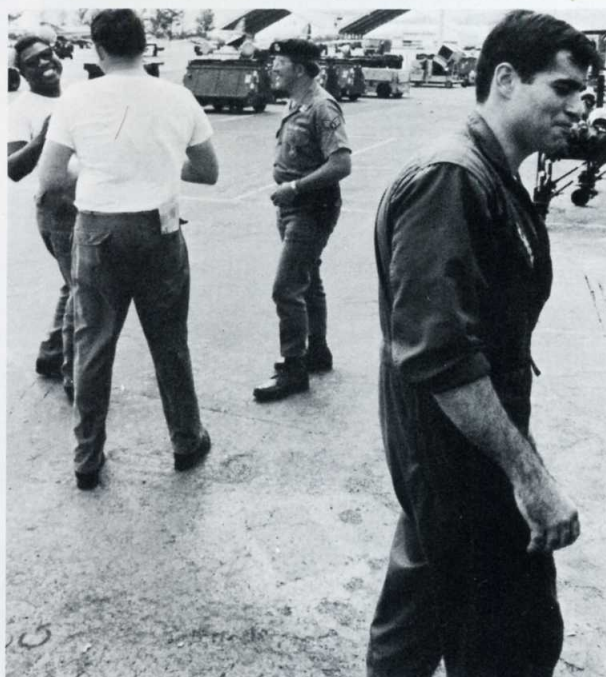
Capt. Graves



1/Lt. Hedges



Sgt. Cosper



1/Lt. Phaneuf





"Ever wonder what RIO's do back there?"

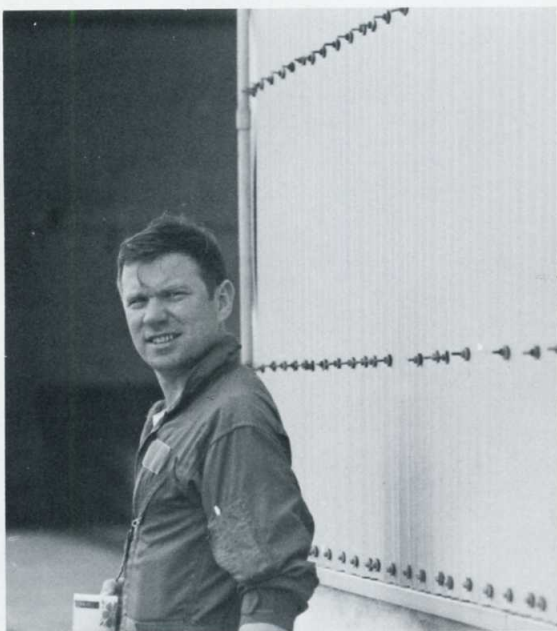


"Okay, Skipper, tell me again why 115 flew only 100 hours last month?"

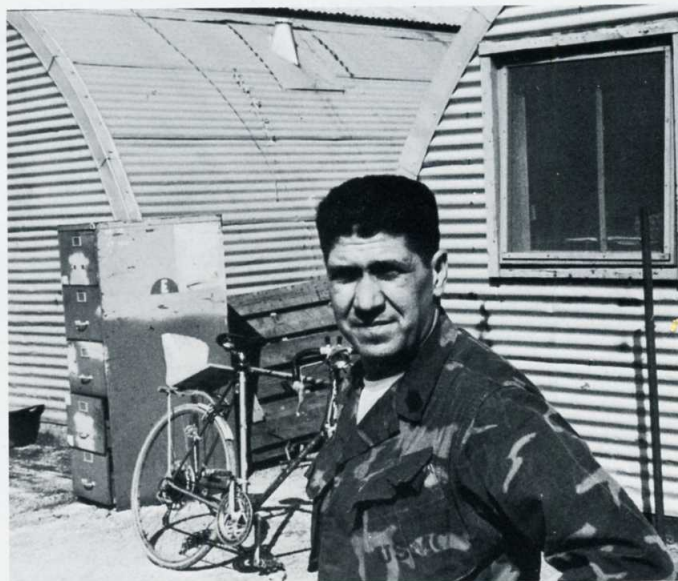








Maj. Carroll AMO



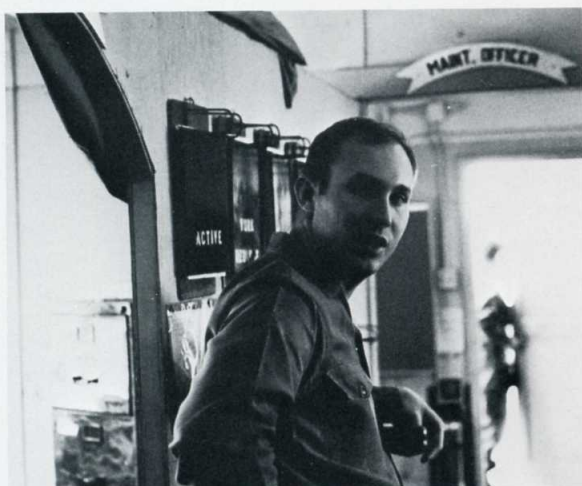
Msgt. Agrusa Maint. Chief



Sgt. Scheible & SSgt. Smith



SSgt. Goodwin



SSgt. Pongraz

## MAINTENANCE CONTROL





SSgts. Allen & Sheldon



MSgt. Clark



GySgt. Roddy



GySgt. Tomason

"Who's on #2 Where's the daily on 6? It's due to fly next week! Where's Com-Nav? Power plants did what to the Skipper's bird? What do you mean aircrews've walked?"



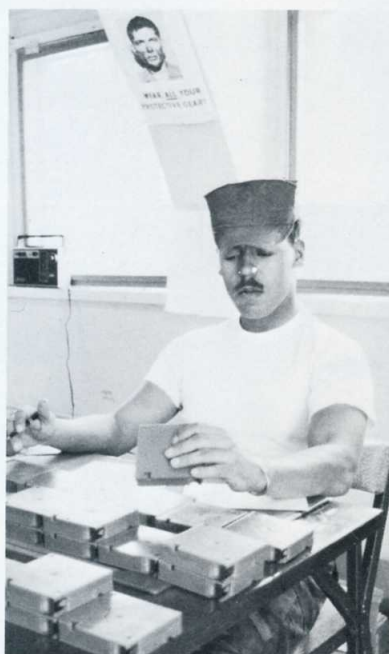
# MATERIAL



1/Lt. O'Leary MAG 15



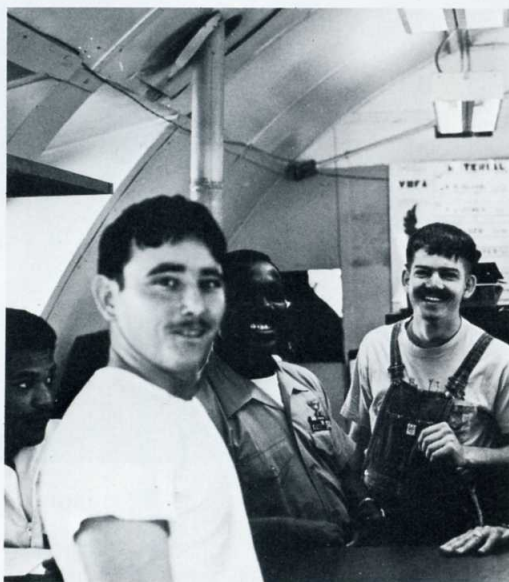
Cpl. Craig



L/Cpl. Aviles



Cpl. Stanbaugh



GySgt. Ham, L/Cpl. Henry,  
Cpl. Garcia-Cruz



Sgt. Massey





Capt. Legidakes



Sgt. Mealott



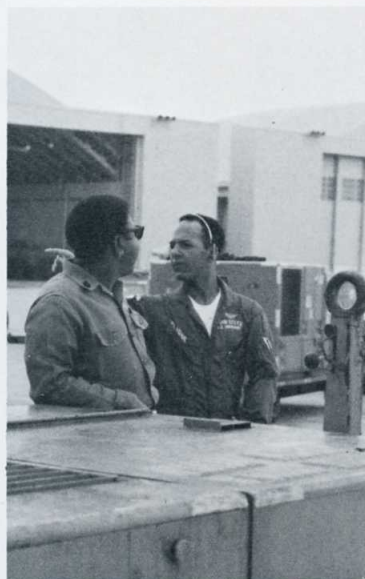
Sgt. Glombowski

Q.A.

## TOOL ROOM



L/Cpl. Andonna



GySgt. Hicks



Cpl. Beechem



Cpl. Wilson



# FLIGHT LINE



1/Lt. Richardella



SSgt. Spotts



Cpl. Delavan



SSgt. Rodriguez



GySgt. Williams

FLIGHT LINE





SSgt. Aho



Cpl. Cox



Cpl. Zimmerman



P.I.?



Sgt. Lawler and Cpl. Handy



"Hey, Sgt. Aho, are you sure this is part of the test for a bicycle license?"





Cpl. Ciuffo



PFC Ziemba



The Marx Brothers



Cpl. Kinzer







Cpl. Gates



L/Cpl. Cameron



L/Cpl. Bisson



L/Cpl. Davis





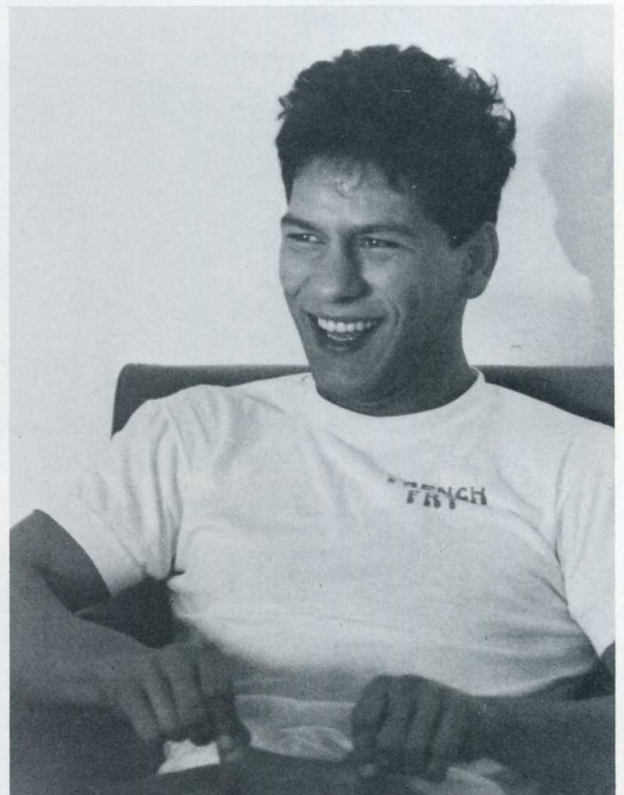
Sgt. Stark



What this place needs is some good adult leadership.



Cpl. Pilcher



Sgt. McNamee



Cpl. Castaneda

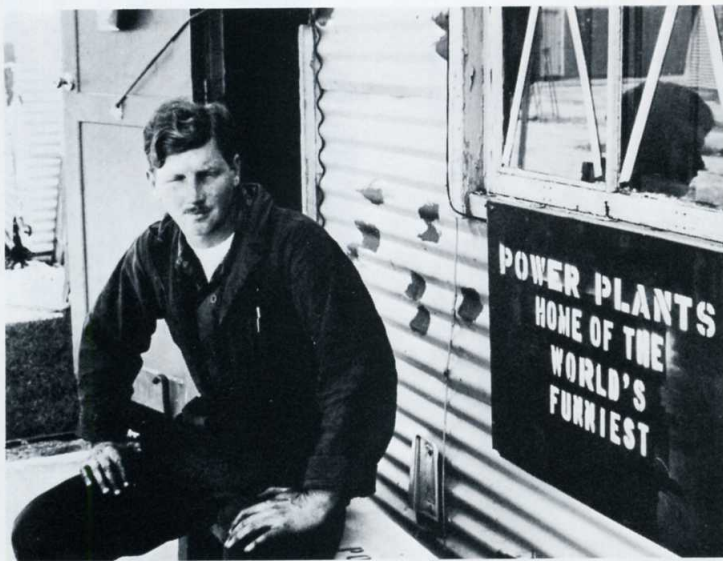




L/Cpl. Salter SSgt. Hahn L/Cpl. Coughlin



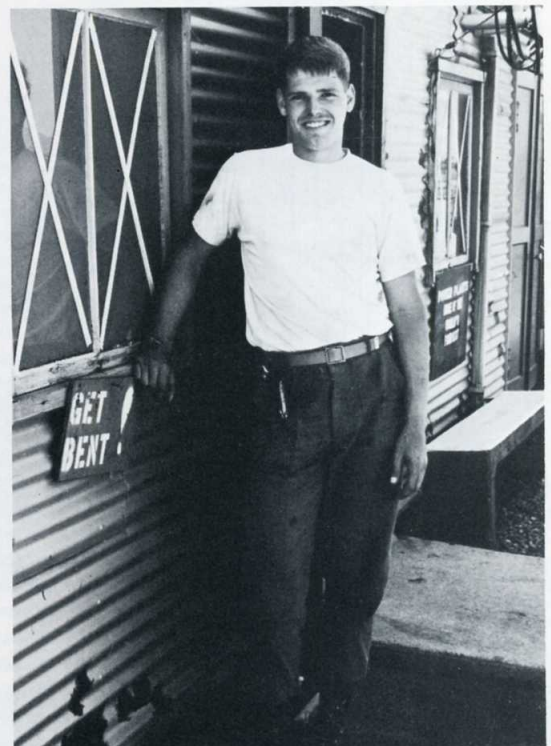
"No sweat, have that engine out in a second."



Cpl. Stevens



Cpl. Virling

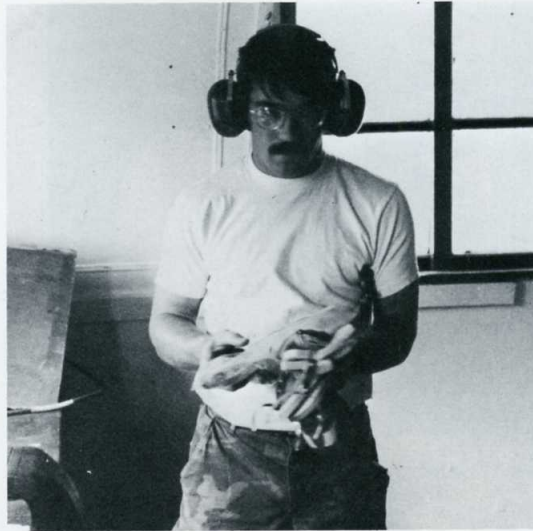


L/Cpl. Barland





"Yeah, I could've been a tweek  
if I wanted to."



Sgt. Garel



GySgt. Mackus



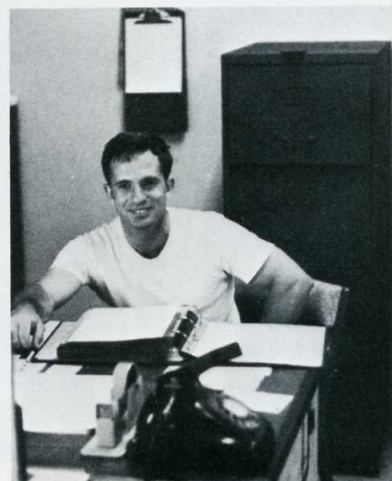
Cpl. Griffin



L/Cpl. Giaramita



SSgt. Nichols



SSgt. Tessier





L/Cpl. King



Cpl. Bieber



Cpl. Origer



Cpl. Sweeter



Sgt. McKercher



L/Cpl. Childress



Cpl. Hall



# HYDRAULICS



Capt Maxfield  
Airframes OIC



1st/Lt. Archbold Asst. OIC



Sgt. Hay



SSgt Carter



Sgt Huiter





Sgt. Romero



L/Cpl Dobransky

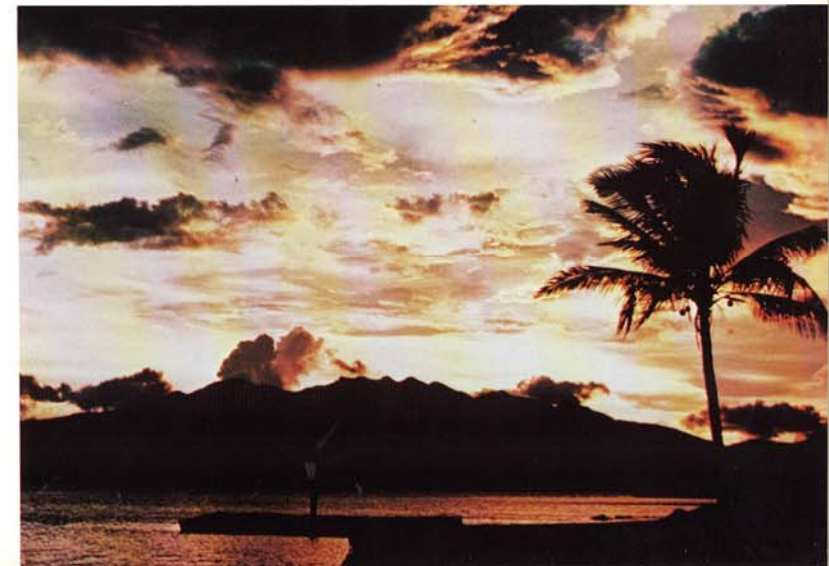


Cpl. Allen



Cpl. Davis







# SEAT SHOPPE



SSgt Thoreson



Sgt. Bergfeld & Sgt. Beasley



L/Cpl. Cunningham & L/Cpl. Welsh



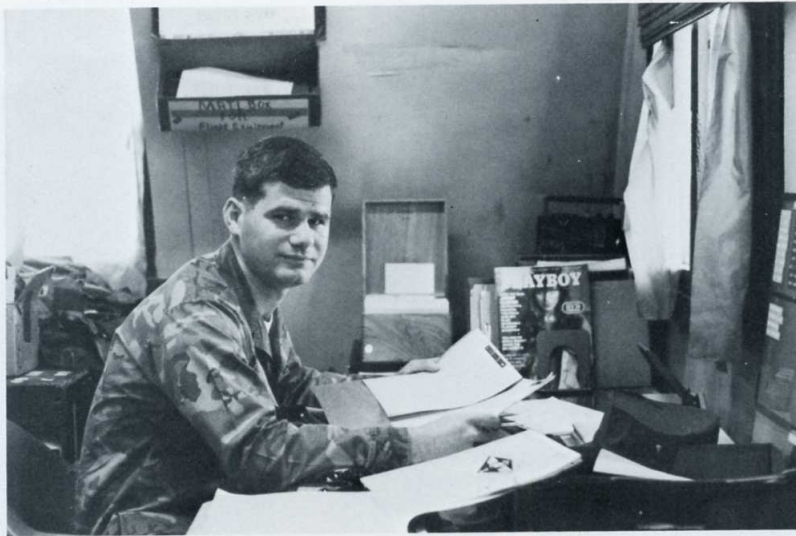
"Well, you said to get a new pan and bucket."



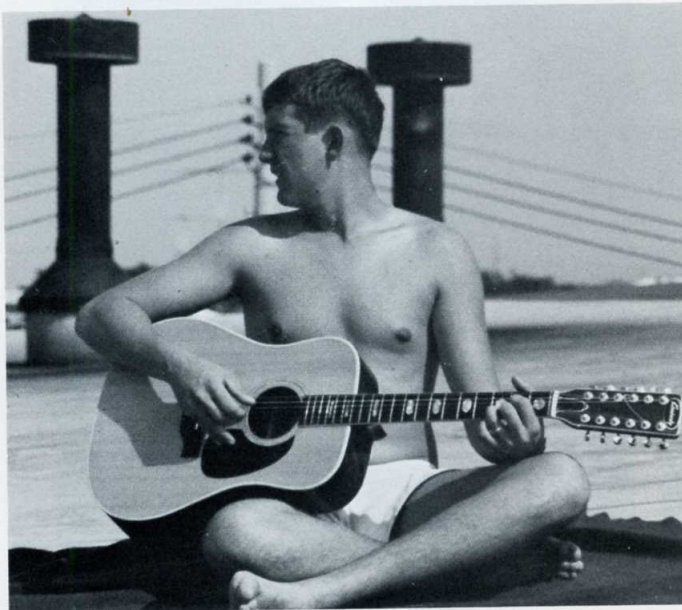
Cpl. Stansbury & L/Cpls. Gruber & Chase



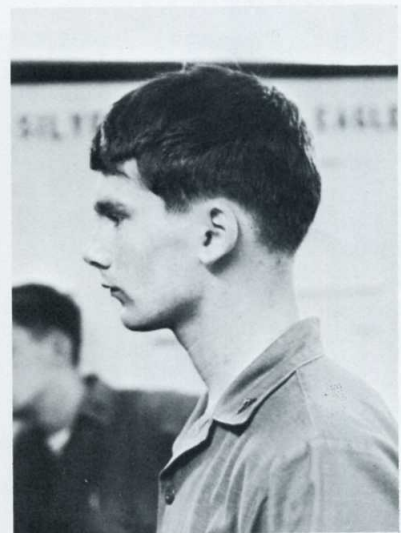
# FLIGHT EQUIPMENT



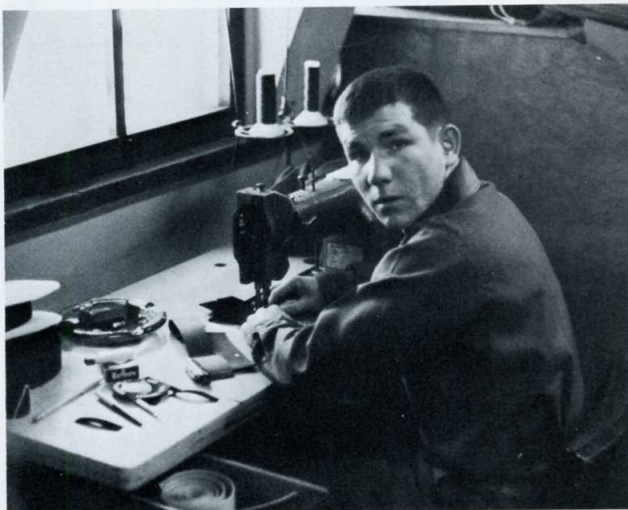
SSgt Morris



Cpl Morton



Cpl Hawes

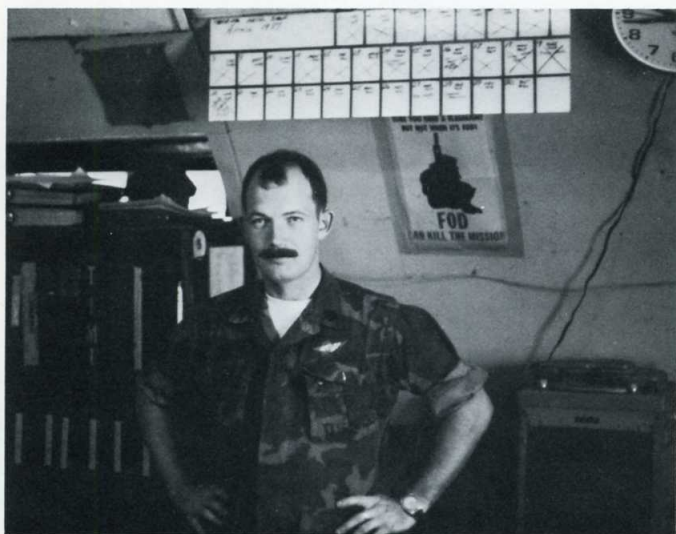


PFC Black



L/Cpl Darnell





SSgt Downard



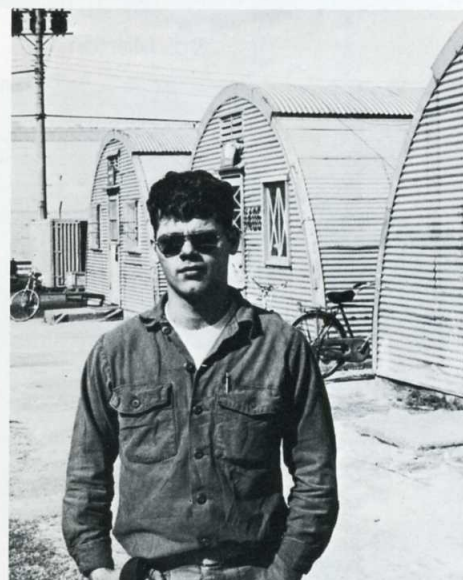
Cpl Bowen



Sgt Knuth

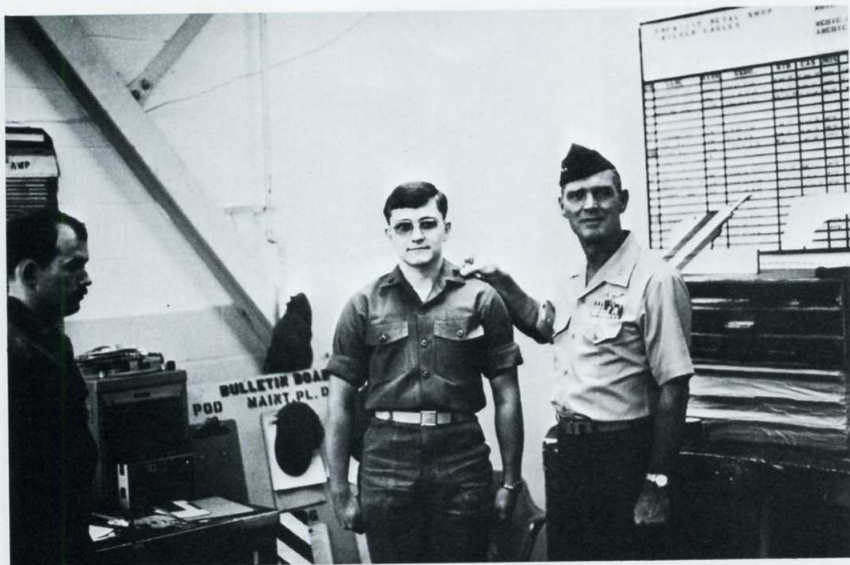


L/Cpl Cosgrove L/Cpl Stambaugh



Cpl Peterson

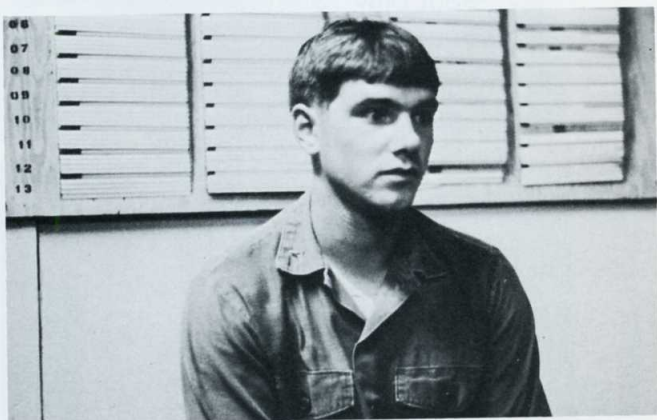




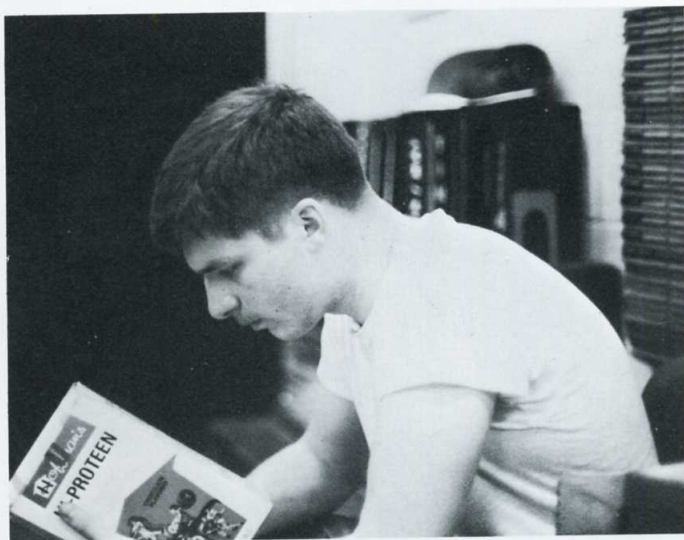
Cpl. Swartz and M/Gen New



L/Cpl Atson



L/Cpl Webster



L/Cpl Connor



Sgt Cox



Sgt Sturgis





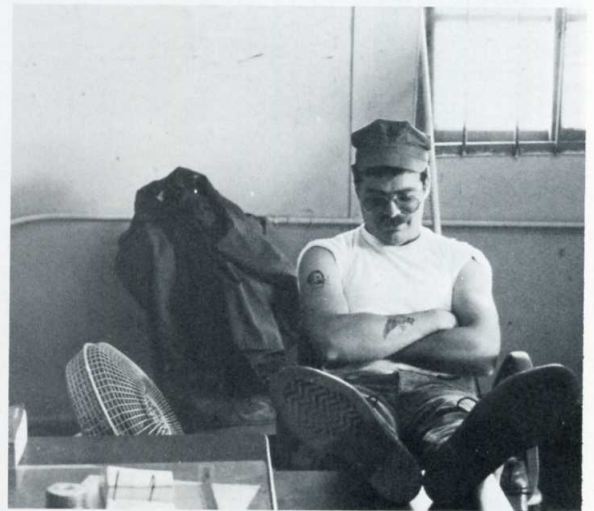
Capt Cohen



SSgt Ditty



SSgt Hughes



SSgt Stephens



Cpl. Clark & Sgt. Sandoe



HAWG-10





Sgt Robinson



L/Cpl Phelan



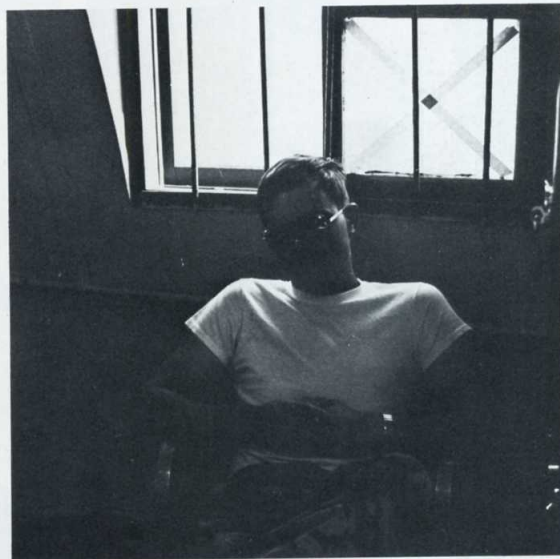
L/Cpl Ireland



Cpl Maroni



Sgt Chemsak





# ELECTRIC



GySgt Posner



GySgt Walden



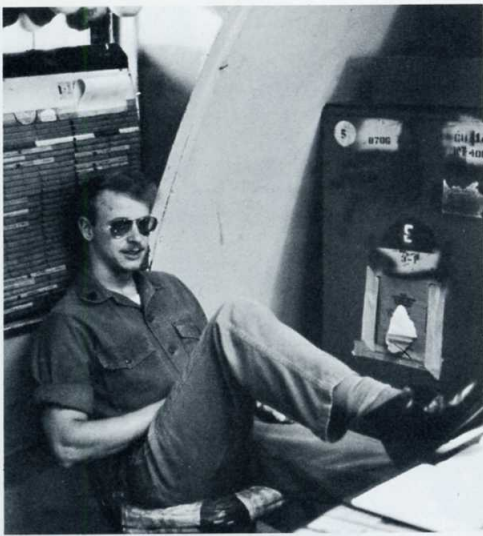
SSgt Allen



SSgt Sparks







Sgt Walters



COLORS



L/Cpl Diaz



Cpl Fennell



SSgt Robbins



Cpl Lake



Stop hogging the pillow sweetheart





GySgt Williams



SSgt Bean



SSgt Sexton/SSgt Kopica



Cpl Orosco



John Denver



Cpl McGovern





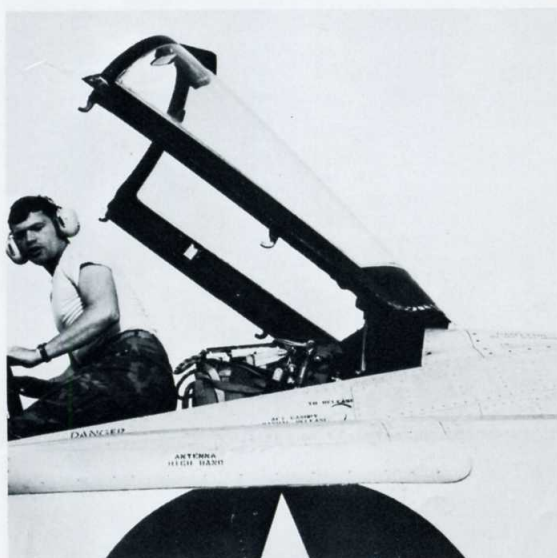
There, That should fix it



Sgt Nally



Cpl Peterson



Sgt Klitzka

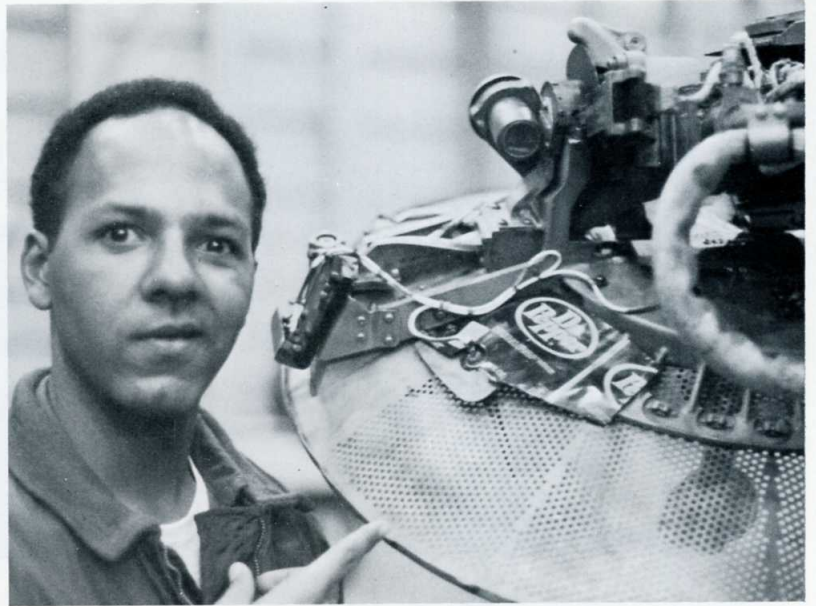


I just couldn't believe that peso trick





What do you mean no mail?



Next time put the tone in.





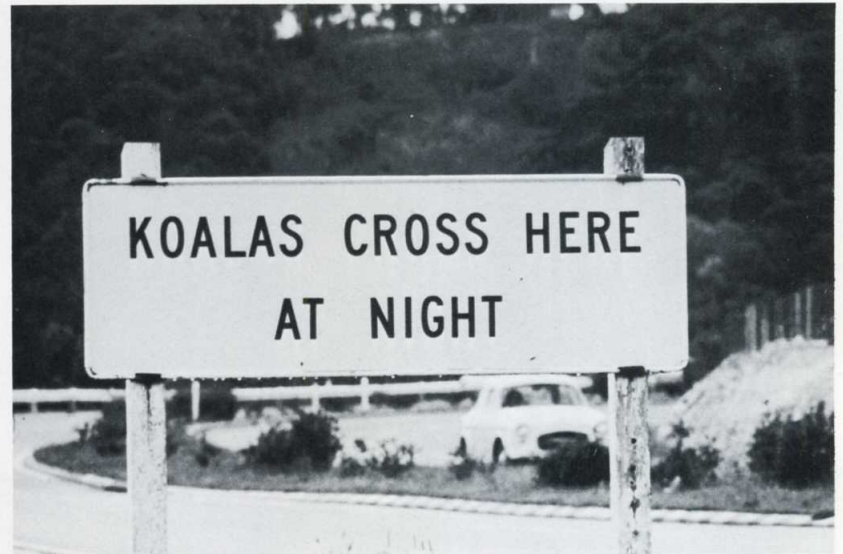
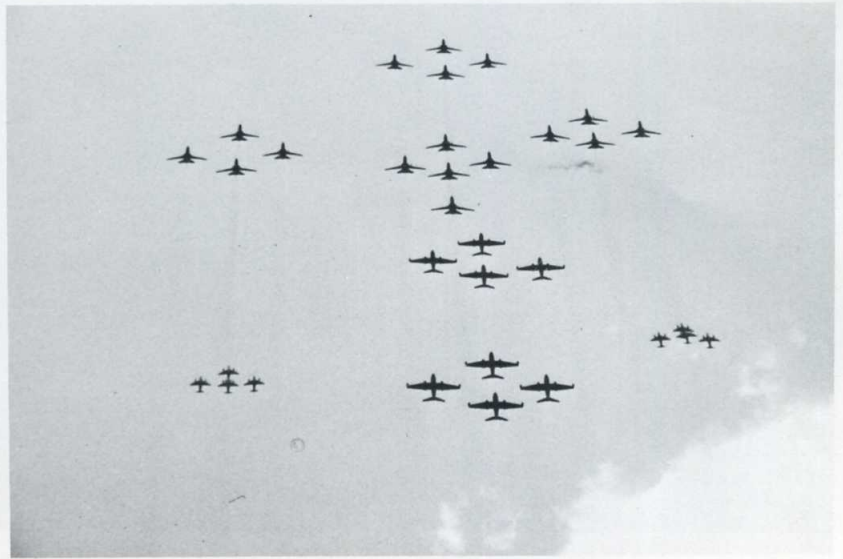
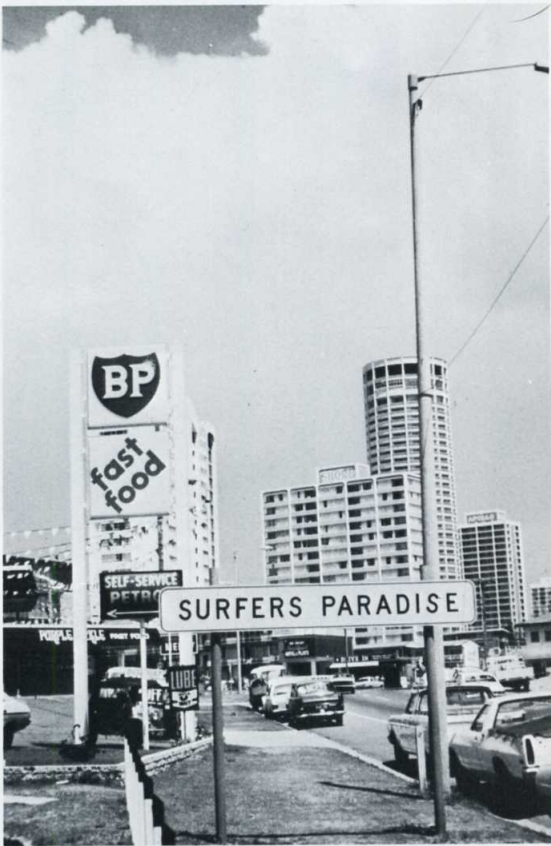
Reporting for mess duty, sir.

Tainan Air Facility.







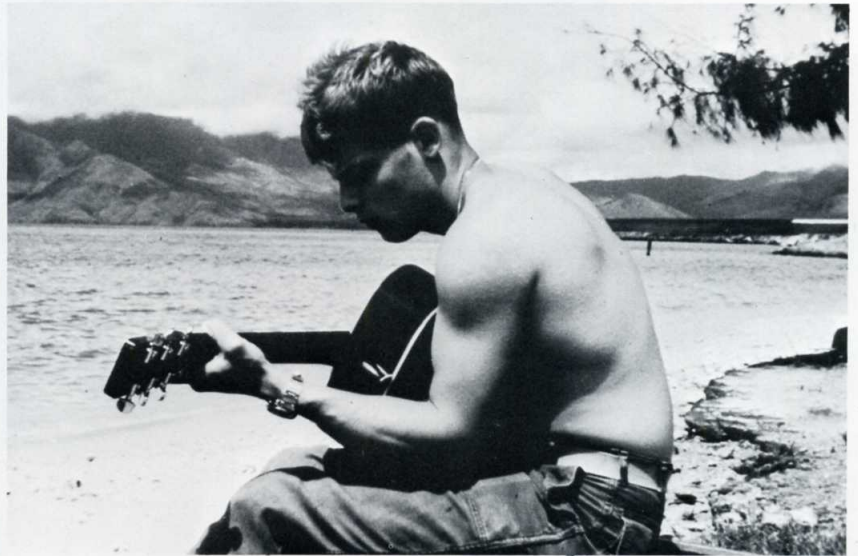
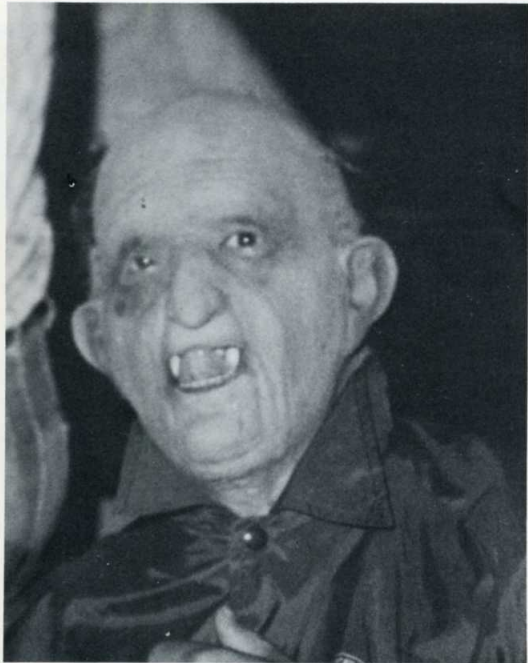








# REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES







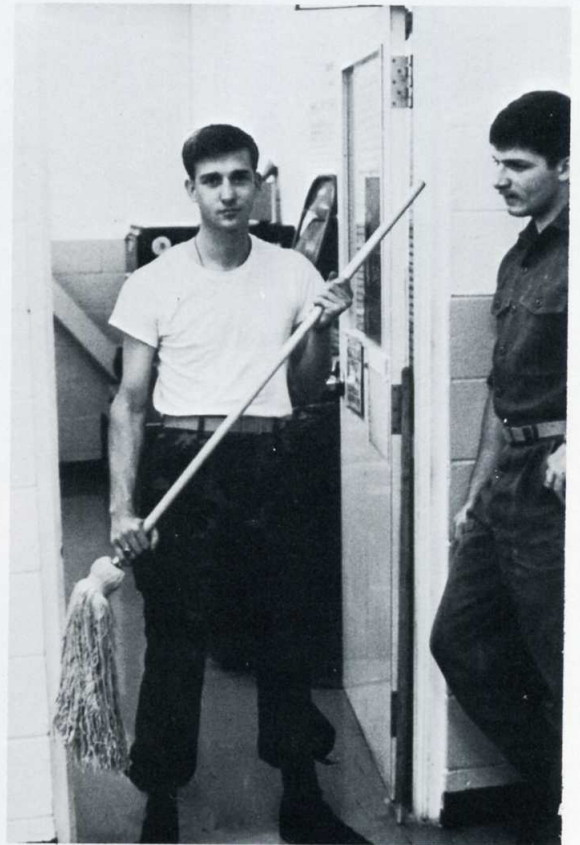




You on the end, Trim that moustache



# OKINAWA



Marine Corps minuteman



HABU





Do I have to wrestle the snake  
again tonight?





'NUFF SAID



[illegible]





FOX TWO







Kadena 1977  
Volleyball Champions



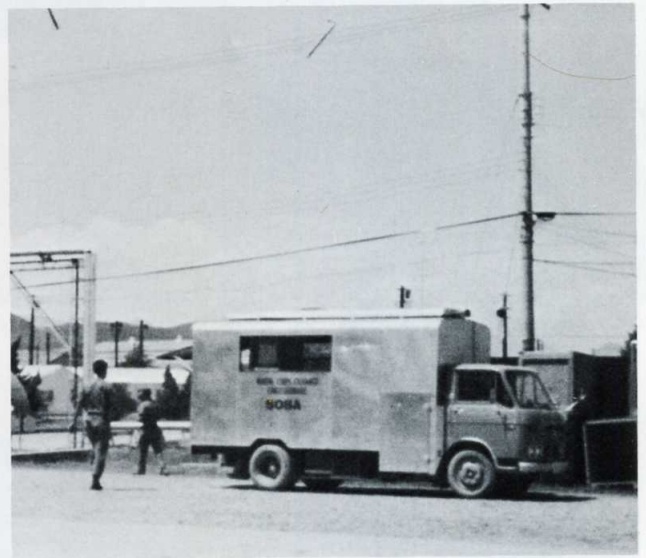








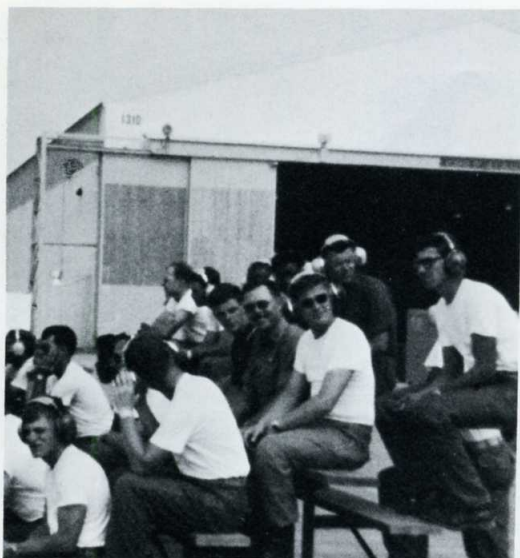
"Well, now that the war's over we don't drop real bombs."



Damn Suntory







Naw! Two dudes . . . Two dudes



Fragrant Iwakuni

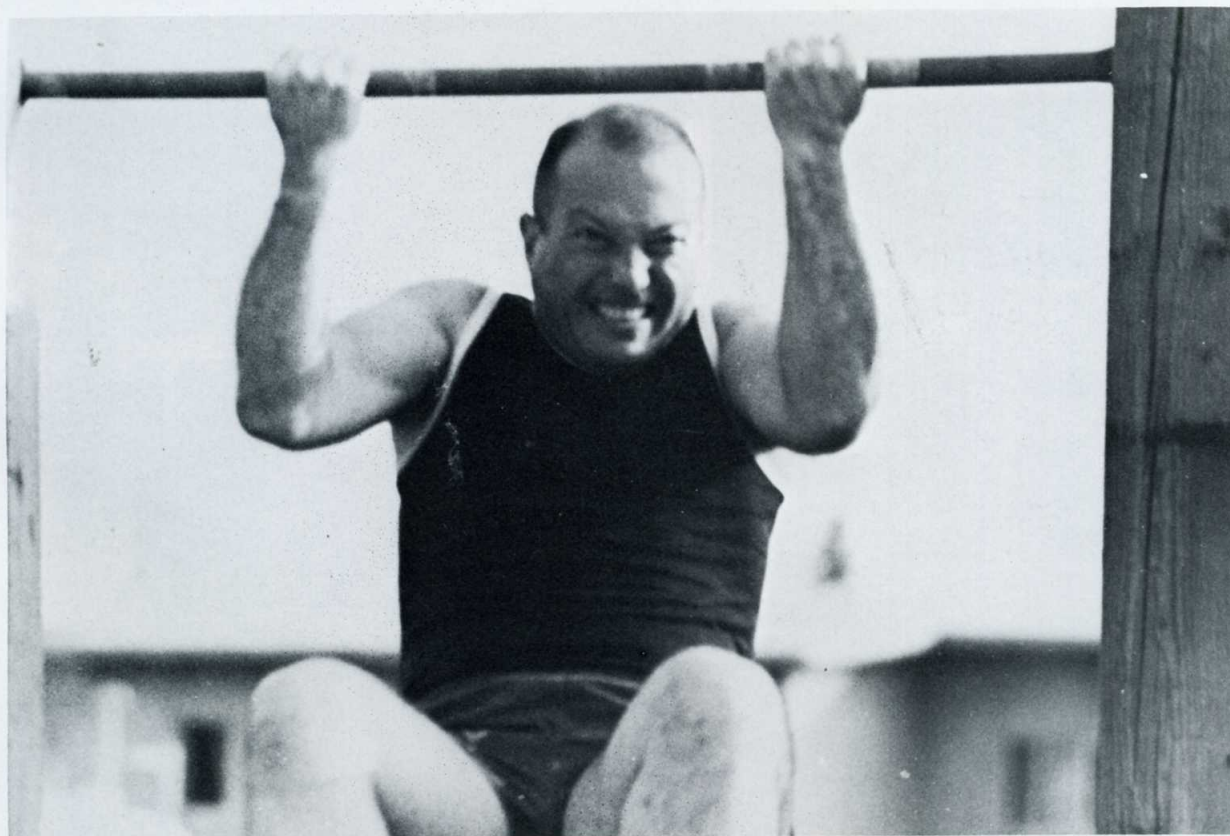


Freedom Bird





"Now when I become skipper . . .

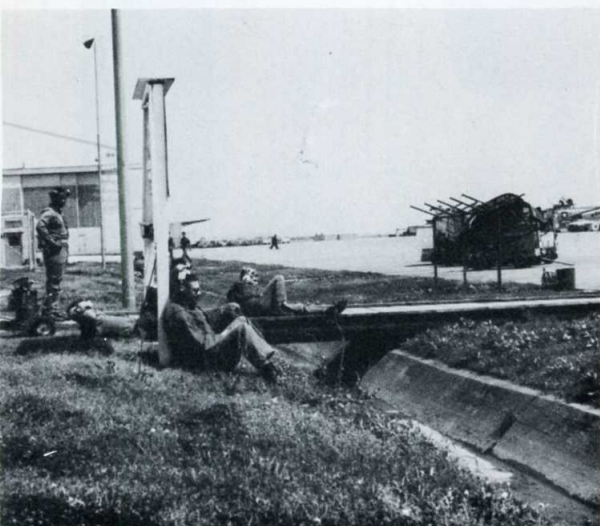


"Three"





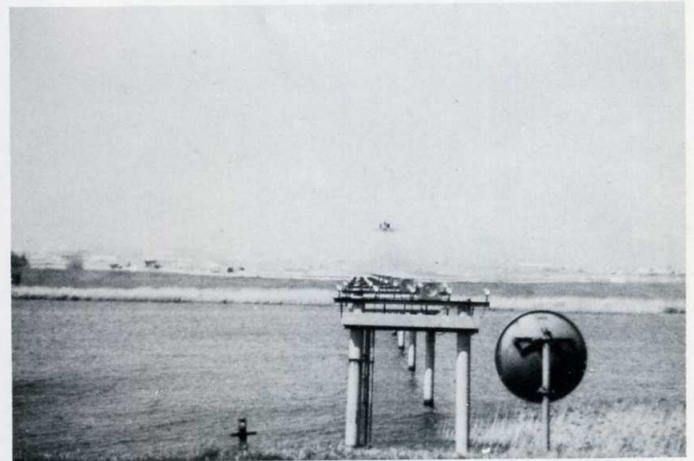
Boy, how do those plane captains crawl down these?







SN	BUND	TO	EXT	ED		
00	153828	003		1-78	SOL Rink	
01	155543	002	01	12-76		
02	155545	002		7-77		
03	155569	002			SDLM	
04	155731	003	01		SDLM	
05	155753				SDLM	
06	155765	003		8-77		
07	155792	003		02-80		
08	155787	002	02		SDLM	
09	155777	003		01-80		
10	155799	003		10-77		
11	155805	002		07-77		
12	155810	003		10-77		
13	155813	003	01	12-76		



Watch that short one over there









The picture above depicts our bicentennial aircraft approaching one of the many "happy landings" that filled the tour this cruise book represents. I would like to take this opportunity, however, to dedicate this book to all the next take-offs, and the many fine officers and men it has been my pleasure to associate with who keep Marine Aviation alive with their long productive working hours, strong hearts, and indefatigable spirits.

EAGLE LEAD



Cruise Book Officer 1/Lt. T. Roney

Many thanks-It couldn't have been done without . . . Sparks & McGovern, Lt. Archbold, Sgt. Odum, Cpl. Pilcher, Sgt. Bergfeld, Lt. Richardella, Cpl. Peterson, L/Cpl. Ireland, Cpl. Origer and Sgt. Cox,-photographers. Special thanks to the artists SSgt. Spotts and WO1 Gonzales.

SAYONARA WESTPAC.



