



Depot Fallout



AFTAC Alumni Association West Coast Chapter
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LOOK US UP AT:
www.AFTACWest.org

SPRING FLING 2006 – PICNIC IN THE PARK

by Charlie Penn & Butch Kemna

The warm weather is almost here so it is time to pollute the air with some good old charcoal smoke and start burning. Last May we had a highly successful picnic and we are going to do it again. The WCC will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks, condiments and qualified chefs to burn your meat. We will have a limited supply of veggie burgers and tofu hot dogs. All we need from you is a side dish, salad or dessert to share with others. If soft drinks are not your beverage of choice bring your own; there will be plenty of available ice chests. We have reserved a covered pavilion which has plenty of shade and picnic tables. If cement seats are not to your liking bring some lawn chairs. So what are the vitals on this gala event?

When: May 20, 2006
Where: Same place as last year, Foothills Community Park
Address: 5510 Diablo Way
Hours: 1100 Hrs -1900 Hrs (11:00am – 5:00pm)
Cost: Nada
Directions: From I-80 take exit #98 (Elkhorn Blvd) west. Turn right on Diablo

which is within one block of I-80. There are 2 entrances to the park on the right side of Diablo. Take the second entrance into the large parking lot. We are set up under the large round covered area at the left rear of the parking area.

So, you ask, how do I make sure that there will be room for me? Well, not a problem!

- (1) Count how many people will be attending in your party,
- (2) Fill out the form making sure you enter the number of attendees and mail it or go to our website and fill out the picnic form and e-mail it.
- (3) Bring a hearty appetite and collection of war stories. We will see you there!!!

Ed. Note: Look for the Picnic Sign-up Form in this issue.

WAY BACK WHEN

by Richard E Burry

A word from long ago. In checking the alumni list I find only two who were at McClellan, 1952 – 1955. They are Laughlin and Ripley. The Supply group was at Camp Kohler in the old gym. The Supply team also lived at Camp Kohler and went back and forth to McClellan for meals. The 1009th headquarters was on McClellan in buildings S-34 & S-39. Col Reed was the commander. At Kohler were LtCol Little and Capt Ireland with Smallwood, Sweaney, Yantz and myself in the office. Georgia Magness (at that time Wiggins) was the secretary. In the warehouse was Clippinger, Gelmet, Bell, Refermat, Arvell (died 12/98), Grogsklags (died 11/00) Jim Smith, Middleton and Shaffer. Later Capt Godwin & Maj Stotz came to Supply. Col Reed was at S-39 and later went to DC. We had great times and the softball & bowling teams were #1. Also there was great trout fishing and deer hunting in the mountains. I was just wondering if there are any others left. Richard E Burry, 305 SE Corder, Lee's Summit MO 64063. **Ed. Note: Thanks Richard, you've quite a story there. How about it you guys? Any alumni out there who were here during the same period as Richard? Let's hear from you!**

We've started a series of articles called "WAY BACK WHEN". This will be patterned after the Florida Chapter's series in the Post Monitor called "B.S. (Barely Substantiated) TALES". We're inviting everyone to submit articles with stories from days-gone-by at Detachments, OLs, Depot, Squadrons, Headquarters or TDYs. **Crank up your "WAYBACK machines" and send us an article.** Remember to keep all the inputs unclassified. E-mail all proposed articles to me at: FalloutEditor@AFTACwest.org or snail-mail at above address.

DETACHMENT 448, CHUCHON KOREA SEPTEMBER 1967–SEPTEMBER 1968

by Wayne Reese

Recent news items noted about Chunchon Korea and Camp Page, APO 96208 being closed and functions transferred to Camp Eagle, Wonju, Korea have stirred up memories of Det 448 and its successor, Det 452.

In the mid sixties, world events required expanded world wide seismic operational sites. Two of the new operating locations would be located in one country and the third in South Korea.

I was alerted for change of assignment from 1155 TOS to Det 448, Chunchon Korea as Chief Operator and proceeded to the detachment, arriving on 1 September 1967 at Kimpo Air Base. Det 448 was located 11 miles northeast of Chunchon. Camp Page was located within the city area. The Det was co-located with C Battery, 5th US Artillery, on a terraced hill and was known to be Bunker Hill. The main compound was located half way up the mountain. It provided space for the Army battery personnel and equipment as well as space for the Det equipment vans, sheltered pads for the instrument array, and billeting and mess facilities for the detachment staff: 1 officer, O-3; 1 E-6, 3- E-5's, and 4 E-4's. It was fortunate that Det 448 people met me, as I probably would not have found the unit in the year I was in country. Jerry, the E-6 I replaced departed Korea as I arrived. The supply clerk had already left and was temporarily replaced by Terry Scheffler. In 30 days all the original staff was gone and all new people were on site. Captain Joe Augustini arrived in October to assume command. In November SSgt Darrell Hoffstetter arrived to relieve Terry, who returned to 1156 TOS, Hawaii.

I was advised that a survey crew led by Joe Johnson was working in the Wonju area looking for places to establish a permanent seismic array. I went to Wonju to provide assistance to Joe and his crew. A week later, I was replaced by the Captain, as I was developing a medical problem that required a 5 day stay in the Army Dispensary at Camp Page with an allergic reaction to penicillin.

During the fall of 1967 and spring of 1968 I reviewed intelligence reports and after-action reports. Hostile actions by the North Koreans intensified in the DMZ and South Korean and US soldiers were killed or wounded in the actions. In January 1968 the Pueblo was intercepted in international waters, the crew and ship was captured; the crew interred a year before being released. The ship was not returned. The result was a rapid build up of US personnel in South Korea. Our main support base was Osan, 50 miles south of Seoul. What was once a quiet support air base, overnight became a crowded tent city.

In March, I was TDY for a week visit Dave Broman, at one of the other sites, and on the return trip Dave would visit Det 448, as mutual assistance. When I left Korea, the Captain gave me some money to purchase the biggest motorcycle possible, and the remaining money would buy a new lens for his Nikon camera. On arrival at Tachikawa Air Base, I walked off base found a near by Cycle Shop, informed the owner of my needs, and I purchased a Kawasaki 125 cc motorcycle. He said he would have it ready to ship when I returned in 5 days. I was at that site for 4 days, and then Dave and I returned to Tachikawa. We went to the shop and it was full of blue packages all over the shop. The smiling owner started loading the blue packages into a three-wheel pickup. When loaded, the three of us drove to the base post office and mailed the motorcycle to the captain at APO 96208 (Camp Page). Dave and I then went to the BX and I purchased a nice telephoto lens for the Nikon. We caught the Korea aircraft for the trip back. When we arrived at Det 448, the motorcycle was already there. Since I had seen the cycle in one piece, I had the responsibility to reassemble the bike, and then had to make the first ride to prove it was safe to operate. The Captain rode it all over Korea. He sold it to a Korean major when he left Korea.

In the summer of 1968, the decision was made to relocate Det 448 to Wonju, Camp Long (KMAG DET L) determined to be a safer location for personnel and equipment. When I arrived, the Detachment had eight S&W .38 cal revolvers for security and classified materials transmission. Upon the increase of hostile actions by the North Koreans, I requested ten M-1 Carbines for detachment security.

When the moving day came, the detachment was augmented by a team from Hawaii, led by Joe Johnson. The Army's C Battery, 5th US Artillery, whose support of the Detachment had always been excellent, provided people and equipment, prime movers and encouragement. Even now, 37 years later, I wonder if I thanked them enough.

Wonju was approximately 50 miles east of Seoul, with a mountain range in between. In 1968, the closest access road was a 15 MPH unpaved mountain road. The other option was north to Chunchon then south-west to Seoul.

The newly established Detachment 452 (Formerly Det 448) vans were located on a weapon storage compound adjacent to Camp Long. The equipment set-up was in progress when September arrived, and I was reassigned to the 1155 TOS where I remained as a Quality Control Inspector until retirement in November 1973. **Ed. Note: Thanks Wayne, super story & pictures! How about it guys & gals? Please send us a story or two.**

E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES NEEDED

by Dale Klug, Editor

Right after mailing out the January newsletter we had occasion to get an important time-sensitive announcement to as many alumni as possible, so we sent an e-mail message to all 119 members who provided us with an address. We got back 41 of those messages as "UNDELIVERABLE". When you get this newsletter, **everyone**, please send your current e-mail address to d1price@pacbell.com, ga9jo8ro7ca@hotmail.com and dcdzrize@pacbell.net we will acknowledge your message and ensure our roster is corrected. Thank You Very Much!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL PERIOD CHANGED

by Joe Johnson, President

The association was formed in April some years ago and membership dues have been due in the middle of a calendar year. This led to confusion as to when dues were payable, that is, someone paying dues in April 2006 would get a membership expiration date of 2006, yet the membership would extend into 2007. Therefore, dues paying members, not LIFE members, were converted to a calendar year basis starting Jan 2006. Everyone with a membership expiration date of 2005 owes dues for calendar 2006 in Jan 2006. If anyone feels they are being treated unfairly, that is, they are not going to receive four newsletters for dues already paid, notify us and you will get four newsletters. However, ongoing membership will go to a calendar year basis on your next membership renewal.

WORDS FROM THE PREZ

by Joe Johnson, President

I and the other newly elected officers of your association will try to make our 2-year term memorable for all association members. A summer picnic is already planned. See elsewhere in this newsletter. We almost certainly will continue to organize dining-out affairs. We are also looking at the possibility of a Sacramento River cruise and meal; also, sightseeing on one of the local trains. We are open to suggestions for other social events for our members. There are many reasons some activities can't be organized, but any suggestion will be examined in detail, and hopefully, implemented.

One problem with organizing an event is the long lead-time needed to notify the membership. The only sure and cost effective means of contacting the membership is via our quarterly newsletter. You could help us partially alleviate this problem if you would keep us advised of your current email address. We have email addresses for three fourths of the membership. But, no matter our efforts to keep current, at any one time over a third of the addresses are invalid.

If we had accurate email addresses, we could cut the cost of a special mail notification to a minimum. Then, in those instances when some special event emerged, we would email most of the membership and snail mail the rest.

Many of the Florida chapter members receive their newsletter (PO MO) via email. This saves a ton of money for them. We will offer the same service if you opt-in to receive your newsletter in that manner. Note that you will receive it days before a printout can be reproduced and mailed to you. Also, any colored material in the letter would appear in color. Pictures taken at our various activities really are improved.

Please, when you receive this notification, immediately send us an email with the email address you would prefer we use for WCC notifications. Also indicate if you want your newsletter via email.

Address your e-mail to: d1price@pacbell.com With cc to: ga9jo8ro7ca@hotmail.com & dcdzrize@pacbell.net

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Dave Price, Membership Chairman

As of 18 August 2005: Active Members = 157 Life Members = 114

Todd Martin, James Phelps, Bette Henner & John Nastal changed to Life Members. Art Lebermann, Pat Genzler, Paul Sears & Joe Amerena renewed their memberships.

Annual membership fee of \$5.⁰⁰ is due by 01 Jan each year. **Check your mailing label for an expiration date.** *Your last newsletter will be the one following your expiration date.* Life memberships are available for \$50.⁰⁰ and include a laminated membership card. You can use the Membership application/roster update on the last page of this newsletter or the one on our web site to send with your dues. Don't let your membership lapse. **Several alumni who have not yet paid their 2006 membership dues will soon be dropped from the "active" roster.**

EVENTS CALENDAR

- Business/Member meetings are 1st Tuesdays quarterly at the Lions Gate restaurant at McClellan Park:
6 Jun 2006 - 5 Sep 2006 - 5 Dec 2006
(Call ahead to our President, to confirm time & place. Or check our 'Events' page at <www.AFTACwest.org>.)

MAIL CALL

Don't forget our E-mail address: TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com

Larry Myers Email: 8 Mar 2006. I'm retiring this year and am trying to line up support from my installations to fly my retirement flag. I was stationed at TOD from Feb 86 - Feb 92 as Sgt Myers. I worked in Supply with my final 1.5 years as the Hydroacoustic Item Manager in Bldg 1080. I don't know if anyone is still using that facility. Is it possible to have my retirement flag flown at that facility? Thanks for your support. Major Larry Myers, Chief, ICBM Sustainment. HAF / A4MW DSN 225-0877 (703) 695-0877 **Ed. Note: Offered to fly the flag for Larry & sent him a membership application.**

Wayne Reese Letter: 18 Jan 2006. I set up a scrap book with some info on Dets 448/452 at the Reunion, but few people saw it. Use what you want. If you can scan the photos & return them I would appreciate it but the world as we know it will not end if you don't. Take Care. **Ed. Note: Thanx, Wayne. Used Wayne's input for a full two-page article in this issue.**

Ben Lazare Email: 15 Mar 2006. Hi, I am Bernard Lazare (Ben). I would like to contact Raoul Gonzales, could you send him my email address? I would appreciate it. Ben Lazare, 702-413-1202, <trini-con@cox.net> **Ed. Note: Sent Ben the email address for Raoul & a membership application.**

Tony Rubertino Email: 21 Feb 2006. Sorry Dale, I almost forgot about sending you my info. The best way to get me is usually by phone-- even if I'm never home. Ph 332-4200. Hope things are going well for you. trube@cw.com **Ed. Note: Sent Tony a picnic invitation. When he shows up we'll see that he gets a membership application.**

OBITUARY

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Mr. Common Sense. Mr. Sense had been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such value lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair. Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not kids, are in charge).

His health began to rapidly deteriorate when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Mr. Sense declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student; but, could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense finally gave up the ghost after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, she spilled a bit in her lap, and was awarded a huge financial settlement.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

SPRING FLING MAY 20TH PICNIC SIGN-UP FORM

We need a head count by 12 May, so if you plan to attend please fill out this form* and mail right away it to: AFTAC Alumni Assoc., West Coast Chapter, P.O. Box 3974, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974. (*Note: If you have access to the internet, instead of mailing this form you can email this info to us by going to our web site, www.AFTACwest.org, and to our "Forms" page and click on the "2006 Spring Picnic" link to create an email note that you can send to us.)

(Please print)

WCC MEMBER NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

Non-member(s)/guest(s): _____

I/We will bring for the potluck a (circle one): Salad Side-Dish Dessert Other _____

Phone: (____) ____-____ Email Addr: _____



AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEST COAST CHAPTER

P.O. Box 3974, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974
Email: TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / ROSTER UPDATE

Annual membership fee of \$5.⁰⁰ is due by 01 January each year. Check your mailing label for expiration date. Your last newsletter will be the one following your expiration date. Life memberships are available for \$50.⁰⁰ and include a laminated membership card.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____
Last, First MI Last Rank Held Nickname Name of Spouse

Addr: _____
Street, Apt #, etc. City State Zip Code

() - _____
Home Phone Work Phone Email Addr

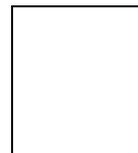
Active Duty: _____
Branch of Service From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy Branch of Service From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy

AFTAC Dates: _____
From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy

Support Your West Coast Chapter: Please pass a copy of this form to your AFTAC Alumni friends. *[From the Depot Fallout]*

CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT www.AFTACwest.org FOR THE LATEST WCC NEWS & PHOTOS

RETURN ADDRESS:
AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
WEST COAST CHAPTER
P.O. Box 3974
Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974



= FIRST CLASS MAIL =

Your membership expiration date is printed in the lower left hand corner of this mailing label. Those with a 2005 date owe 2006 dues. Please renew now.

