



2nd Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association

271 Shady Oak Drive
New Market, AL 35761

<<http://www.2-71adataiwan.com>>



Volume 5

Newsletter 1

January 2001

April 2001 Trip to Taiwan

We have 24 people going on the trip to Taiwan, 22-28 April 2001. This includes 11 troops from 2/71 Artillery and 178 Ord Det (**Dan Funamura, Al Havard, Bob Mackintosh, Casimiro Morin, Jim Nelson, Harry Phillips, John Pohlman, Jim Telford, Herb Terbill, Charlie Trost, Wes Wilson**), one ROC Liaison Officer (Lee Jen-Chieh), and 12 family members.

We will be touring Taipei, and surrounding areas, for two days. Then we will tour our old battery sites as guests of the ROC Department of Veterans Affairs for one day; hopefully, meeting that evening with members of the ROC 1st Missile Bn, whom we trained. On the fourth day, most of us will visit the Toroko Gorge National Park. On the fifth day we will split up, with some heading back home, some going to Singapore, some to Bangkok, and still others to Japan or Korea.

Its not too late to add your name if you move quickly and let **Bob Mackintosh** know (Tel: 256-379-3496; e-mail: <bmack@hiwaay.net>. (Also fill out the form at the back of the newsletter.) If your wife does not want to go, she very likely won't want you to miss out on a once in a lifetime trip. **Call or e-mail ASAP!!**



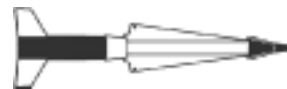
Status of Meritorious Unit Citation

Unfortunately, we have no information to report regarding the award of the Meritorious Unit Citation to the 2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery, and support units, for their service in Taiwan from September 1958 to August 1959. The recommendation prepared last year by John Spegele, D Btry, and submitted to the Department of Army through his Virginia Congressman is still under review at DA.



2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association Web Site

I hope all of you with access to the World Wide Web (WWW) have seen the great job that **Dave O'Connell** has done with our Association Web Site. He has made it even easier for you to access the site with a new Web address. Check it out at <<http://www.2-71adataiwan.com>>



Photos from the 2000 Reunion

Here are some photos from our second reunion held in St. Charles, Missouri, 12-15 October 2000. If there are any errors in identification of people in the photos, please notify the Association at the address in the heading above.



More Happy Faces from the 2000 Reunion
L to R: **Joe Dougherty, Frank Rivers, Frank Serpico, Ken Johnson**





D Battery Troops - Reunion 2000
Dave Kent, Jimmie Rogers, John Spegele



A Battery Troops - Reunion 2000
Dan Kukowski, Larry Trielaff, Don Sneckenberger



C Battery Troops
Willard Ottman, Nick Hodges, Merle Weller



More D Battery Troops
Mike Conniff, S. B. Davis



More C Battery Reps
Fa. Bill O'Brien, James Pannell



A Battery Troops
Ray Gradick, Dan Funamura



Still More D Battery Troops
Ray Corbin, Walt Lapsley, Vern Trupp, Dave O'Connell, Jimmie Rogers

Membership Renewal

The following troops have recently renewed their membership for 2001:

John Astin, Pompano Beach, FL (C Btry Signal)
Milt Breeder, Quincy, IL (B Btry)
Robert A. Douglas, Arlington, TX (B Btry)
Warren Esperson, Zion, IL (Signal Augmentation)
Sam Grant, Darlington, SC (Hqs & Hqs Btry)
Ron LaRoche, Summerland Key, FL (178 Ord)
Bob Mackintosh, New Market, AL (B & C Btry)
Dwight Rose, Mount Olive, NC (B Btry)
Leo St. Amour, Havre de Grace, MD (C Btry)
Lloyd Saylor, El Paso, TX (554th Ord Co.)
Mel Schuchardt, Waterloo, IL (B Btry)
Herb Terbille, Durham, SC (B Btry)

New Members

The following troops have joined our Association for the first time:

Gus McKeown, Wilmington, DE (C Btry)
Wesley Wilson, El Paso, TX (B Btry)
Jim Wrench, Fort Walton Beach, FL (A Btry)

Found Troops

Richard L. Gamble, Lafayette, CO (found by **Richard Croft**)
Gilberto Garcia, APO 09131 (A Btry) (found us through BOHAUSA)

Membership Lapse

We have a good number of troops who have let their memberships lapse. We have simplified the process, so that all memberships go from 1 November to 31 October. We will take your membership dues (\$15) any time, but would appreciate it if all renewals would come in before 31 December. That is mostly to assist with our budget and bookkeeping.

Those whose memberships have expired, and the expiration date are as follows:

Howard Brelje 10/31/2000
Jerry Chapman 7/30/2000
Frederick Clarke 10/31/2000
John Clowe, Jr. 9/30/1999
Raymond Corbin 10/31/2000
Jerome Decker 10/31/2000
David Diedrich 10/31/2000
Terry DuToi 10/31/2000
F. Lee Early 10/31/2000
Donald Einkauf 7/30/2000
Victor Evans 10/31/2000

William Filer 10/30/1999
C. Garcia 10/31/2000
Greg Hamrick 9/30/1999
Willie Harriford, Jr. 10/30/1999
Derald Hatesohl 10/31/2000
Joseph Hungate 7/30/2000
Donald Jackson 10/31/2000
Richard Jeske 10/30/1999
Neil Keegan 10/31/2000
Joseph Landoni 10/31/2000
Donald Lane 9/30/1999
Leo Lefrancois 10/31/2000
Nathaniel Lewis 10/31/2000
Donald Leyder, Sr. 10/31/2000
Telford Lienhardt 10/31/2000
Albert Lisiewski 10/31/2000
Filimon Martinez 10/31/2000
Henry Mason 4/30/2000
Franklin May 8/31/2000
John Mayer 1/31/2000
Earnest Meadows 9/30/1999
Donald Melvin 10/31/2000
Ronald Morgan 9/30/2000
Johnnie Nale 10/31/2000
James Nelson 10/31/2000
Francis Nezelek 3/30/2000
James Norby 10/31/2000
Fidel Olivares Jr. 10/31/2000
Robert Pack 10/31/2000
Carl Paparazo 10/31/2000
Donald Petrick 10/30/1999
Donald Redman 10/31/2000
Franklin Rivers 10/31/2000
John Spegele 10/31/2000
Wayne Sterk 10/31/2000
Thomas Stinnett 9/30/2000
Fred Thurmond 10/30/1999
Aubrey Toney 8/31/2000
Gilbert Vela 10/31/2000
James Vuncannon 9/30/2000
Robert Wade 9/30/2000
Lawrence Williams 10/31/2000

It would greatly assist the Association if you would send in your renewal dues of \$15.

Please look at your renewal date on the address label to see if your membership has expired. Also, please inform us if there are errors in the list.



Correction to Photos

We had a few errors in the names that went with photos in the last Newsletter. Corrections are as follows:

Hqs & Hqs Battery Photo — **Harry Habenicht** was mis-identified as **Dave Diedrich**.

C Battery Photo — **Nick Hodge** was listed as **Nick Norris**.

D Battery Photo — **Jim Kjersgaard**'s name was misspelled, as was **S.B. Davis**'s.



Presidential Memorial Certificates

“A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current president, to honor the memory of honorably discharged, deceased veterans.” If you know anyone whose family may be interested in a Presidential Memorial Certificate for one of our deceased troops, please visit the Internet Site <<http://www.cem.va.gov/pmc.htm>> to find out how to obtain the Certificate.



Notes from the troops

From **Jim Wrench** (A Btry)
12 Nov 2000

Bob, Did I tell you I called **Jim Bannon** (Hq Btry) and checked on him?? He still lives at the Westwood Retirement Center. A few days ago he called and asked me for a ride to the bank to do some banking...I drove him there and back. Jim doesn't look, or feel, too hot these days. He has gained a lot of weight, he has a fairly serious case of diabetes, and he can barely see in just his one good eye....he needs a cane to hobble along....but he is still a fellow with a lot of pride and doesn't want a lot of help. We stopped for coffee and swapped a few war stories and he told me one that topped all the rest I've heard since I got out of the 2nd Missile Bn. [The editor has deleted the rest of Jim's story as it concerns **Col. Greenberg**'s last night in the Bn. and may not be appropriate for this newsletter. It is of interest to all of us, but we have other readers to consider. So see Jim at the Nashville Reunion in 2002.] **Jim (Wrench)**”

Monday 13 Nov 2000

I think he would like to shoot the bull with some old buddies. His phone number is 850/864-1928.

Jim (Wrench)”

10/21/00

From **Ray Corbin** (B Btry)

“Congratulations to you, Lois and to the Board and all others who helped on yet another well designed, organized and run reunion. No wonder our Taiwan mission went so well 42 years ago. I believe that we had just the right amount of touring to interaction and if we were tired we could always skip a portion as Mimi and I did. If the hotel had come through with the larger hospitality room as requested we would have had the room to gather as you had designed.

“Overall the reunion was great and I look forward to Nashville and Las Vegas. Of course a few of the group wanted Las Vegas next but I'm certain that it will work out fine as set up. I wonder why the turn out was down so much from El Paso, especially since St. Charles was selected for it's central location? Perhaps Nashville will be better?

“Good luck to all who are going on the Taiwan trip. We found that they went from farms and bicycles to industry and cars when we went back in 1982. I wish we could join you but my work commitments won't allow it this time.

“Thanks again for all your efforts on behalf of the group.

“Regards, **Mimi and Ray Corbin**”

11/15/00

From **Ron LaRoche** (178th Ord Det):

“Just got Nov. Newsletter. Glad to read everybody had a good time @ reunion.

“Sorry, won't be able to make Taiwan trip, but hope to see y'all in Nashville.”

11/24/00

From **Leo St Amour** (C Btry)

“Sorry we couldn't make the reunion. Sounds like it was fun. Maybe Nashville...

Leo St. Amour”

From: “**Richard Croft**” <rcroft@etahoe.com> (A Btry)

To: “**Bob McIntosh**” <bmack@HiWaay.net>

“Hi Bob - Yesterday I found **Richard L. Gamble** (A Btry), who is living in Colorado. His address is: 3888 Viewpoint Way, Lafayette, CO 80026. His wife has an email address of: JoGamble@aol.com. He said he knows of a couple other guys too. Thanks, Rich”

12/1/00

From **Robert E. Johnson**, CSM-Ret (Hq Btry)

“ Thank you for sending booklet and badge.

“I am doing O.K. after spending 16 1/2 years on Dialysis, due to high blood pressure. I am not diabetic, just the “Filter” system went out. I retired from Ft. Carson, Colo. - 4/1/1975 - We are Grand parents of 4 and have 3 Great Grand kids. We are so pleased of your effort in getting the Bn. located.

We hope you have Happy Holidays.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Johnson
Jeraldine R. Johnson

12/7/00

From **Merle Weller** (C Btry)

“Just a note of thanks for another wonderful reunion. We are looking forward to our third reunion in Nashville. Thanks again. **Merle and Darline**”

12/8/00

From **Mel Schuchardt** (B Btry)

“I would like to know if the men of B Battery, remember when the nose cone of the missile was taken from A Launching Section? I was on guard in C Launching Section with the late shift. Sort of scary, since they were probably watching C Section also.

After that the guard was tripled and all the guards were mad from all the guard duty. Then the fence was built around the launching area and things got back to normal.

Leroy Schuchardt”

12/9/00

From **Norris (Nick) Hodge** (C Btry)

“NOTICE: THIS IS CONCERNING OUR BUDDY,
VIC EVANS (C Btry)

“Sent you an email this morning but maybe it didn’t go thru. You know how these computers are at times.

They did the cath yesterday morning. One of his bypasses was plugged 100% and he only has 2. His heart was so damaged when he had the heart attack in 82 that they could only put in 2. The Dr. told us he would have to perform a very dangerous procedure. Put him in very strong blood thinners and flushed the blockage out. He said it would be like squeezing toothpaste out of a tube. At anytime a clot could break loose and that would be it but thank God, everything went O.K. They took him in to surgery last nite - stented the bypass and put in a temp pacemaker, which they took out today.

He is doing very well and should come home on Sun or Mon.

If you ever have any heart problems we know this really great cardiologist.

Etta (Evans)”

12/10/00

From **Merle Weller** (C Btry)

“We sure enjoyed our reunion in Missouri. Looking forward to our next one in Nashville.”

12/15/00

From **Al Havard** (A Btry)

“We had a great time in Missouri and looking forward to April (Taiwan) and Tennessee in 2002.”

12/15/00

From **Dan Kukowski** (Hq Btry)

“Thanks again for the good time at St. Louis. Will see you at the next reunion.”

1/8/01

From **Gilbert Garcia** (A Btry), to Lloyd Evans (BOHAUSA)

“I was part of the Nike Hercules Msl Bn. sent to Taiwan in 1958 (date estimated) we traveled on the USS Breckenridge a troop cargo Ship. Our mission was to train the Chinese troops on how to use the missiles, then hand the Bn over to the Chinese. As it turned out we had to build the msl sites too. Our battery was located up in the mountains far from Taipei. I was a msl crewman, my Platoon Sgt was SSgt Wolf (an American Indian). The crew were:Sp5 Man(n), Pfc Ditrich (Dietrich), Cohin, others I forgot, but I remember the day First Sgt Lions (Lyons) burned his hind end when he set on the firecracker he had in his back pockets down town Taipei!

I was **Sp3 Garcia.**”

1/12/01

From **Gilberto Garcia** (A Btry) to Dave O’Connell (D Btry)

“I am **Gilberto Garcia** RA18504947, US Army retired, served from April 1956 to Jan 1980.

“I don’t remember much from my service in Taiwan except for what I told Lloyd (Evans). I remember the Breckenridge ride, 14 days, and the scare when we were told “You are entering a hostile area that is at war” (or words to that effect) and were issued brand new M1 rifles still in cosmoline wrappers. Oh, and when one day at sea we were met, or, we woke up in the middle of a convoy.

“The first weeks we spent on a camp just out side Taipei, on that dirt road. One of our guys, to avoid two racing cabs, jumped into a honey pod one night; he stunk and was afraid of the dark but we stayed away due to the stink. And up on the mountain while on perimeter guard, we one night killed a water buffalo that was stuck in a hole and made noises that sounded like people running in the mud.

“Oh, the mud, who could forget the mud.”

“I am located in Germany at this time. Being a civilian now treated like s___ by the Bosses who never served or just don’t like Military Retirees.

“My address: Hq. Eucom.6th ASG
Unit 30401,Box 2515
APO AE 09131

“Its nice to hear from the 71 Arty. Do you know of **Sgt Wolfe**, or our wrecker operator **Sp2 Mann** , or **Pfc Ditrish (Robert Dietrich)** from Sacramento Calif.(?), or Gung Ho **Lt Goldstein**, we had fun pulling pranks on him, or **First Sgt Lyons** (the first First Sgt I was ever proud of)”



Modern Linkou

(B and C Batteries were on top of the mountain about a mile South of the Tri-service security listening post at Linkou Air Station.)

Larry Byler, was a Navy troop stationed at Linkou. He and Roger Cannon recently corresponded by e-mail about a return visit Larry made to Linkou and Taipei. The message went out to the e-mail list of the 823 BOHAUSA (Badge of Honor Assn. USA). Larry has given us his permission to print his e-mail account in our newsletter.

“ Hi Larry,

“Was on Taiwan from ’57-’59. At Shu Lin Kou air station, in the 176th Army

Security Agency. Remember the old Club 63 (or was it ’53?) and Sin Alley. At LinKou the Last Resort Club was frequented by the Air Force and others. Also spent some great time down south at Tainan. Was a Radio Direction Finder all that time. Would like to know about your recent trip to Taipei and all that’s changed with LinKou and Taipei.

Thanks, Larry.

Roger Cannon, BOH ’00.”

“Roger,

I was with the Naval Security Group at Lin Kou. We didn’t have any unit numbers or anything like the Army or Air Force. We were a small unit assigned to Lin Kou, which was a joint command when I was there. Being such a small unit, they treated us really good. I was then stationed at the airport for a year with the Provost Marshal’s Office Customs/Border Clearance.

Have a great holidays!

Larry”

“Subject: Taiwan-’58

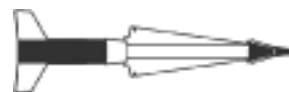
“Lin Kou is pretty much trashed. Don’t know if the white 3 story barracks were there when you were there, but they have been trashed. The Chinese took over the base after the U.S. left. They took two man rooms and put bunks in them to make them 8-10 man rooms. They trashed the lockers and everything when they gave it up. The old work spaces has the fences torn down and the insides have been trashed. No light fixtures, walls torn down, etc., etc. The mess hall and

other buildings are laying in rubble. Don’t know why they knocked everything down and then didn’t haul it all away, but the buildings lay in piles. The old Admin. building, the first building inside the gate, used to have the American and Chinese flags flying from posts. Only one flag pole has a flag now and the Chinese military has turned the building into their headquarters. They have what appears to be a Chinese boot camp just behind the Admin. building. Lots of men out there doing PT and old wooden barracks that weren’t there when I was there in 1967. The old front gate guardhouse is still there. You wouldn’t believe the area outside the gate. Its all high rise apartments now. Remember that just across the street from the gate house cabs used to wait for trips downtown? Not anymore. Those fields have all been built up into a city.

“Little Lin Kou Village is now a thriving city. The area is dotted with golf courses and is visited pretty extensively by people from Japan. Its kind of a golf resort area now. Instead of taking the twisty road to Taipei there is now a freeway, with on and off ramps for Shu Lin Kou. No more rides down the mountain hoping the bus brakes would hold. In the opposite direction from Taipei (I never knew east from west while there) is the new Chang Kai Shek International Airport. Just a few miles from Lin Kou. Believe I told you that the Lin Kou Club downtown is gone, as is the Navy Club. The old 63 Club is still there. Its now the American Club. They remodeled the insides but its still the same from the outside. The old PX and HSA are gone. In fact the old PX/Movie area is laying vacant, with the buildings torn down, but nothing rebuilt. The HSA compound is now business offices. The old Officers Club is still there. Of course all the bars are gone. As you go from the area of HSA/PX etc. towards the old 63 Club you run into a major freeway interchange, just before the turn to the right to go to the 63 Club. Several ramps to different freeways. I went up to the Grand Hotel and looked out at that old American area. You wouldn’t recognize it. Guess all this is a sign of getting older. Things have to change. It was nice to see that some of the old is still there and I could walk around in the areas where I spent time as a very young man. What a time! Had a great time. I was 18 when I got there. Don’t have a scanner so can’t send any photos that way, but could Xerox a few that I took in 1997 and send them to you if you are interested. Do you have any photos of the old Lin Kou or the area downtown? I ’d be very interested in them if you do.

C U later.

Larry Byler, USNSA.”



Returned e-mail

We have had e-mail returned from the following members:

Ljdesign@cyberzone.net (Leo Lefrancois)

<astin@attglobal.net> (John Astin) (reason: not our customer)

Please let us know what your new e-mail address is. Also, if you are not on our e-mail list, send your e-mail address to

Bob Mackintosh at <bmack@hiwaay.net>.



Excerpt from the Memory Book

Many of you have not purchased a copy of the Memory Book that pulls together troop stories, newspaper clippings, and Letters of Appreciation/Citations from our tour in Taiwan, 1958-1959. The following is one of the stories from the Memory Book written by **Walt (Chuck) Lapsley**.

Taiwan: The Adventure Begins

By: **Walter Lapsley**

Date: May 23, 1998

I had just recently graduated from a year and a half of Guided Missile Electronic Fire Control School for the Nike Hercules Missile. I was one of the lucky graduates that were assigned to an active missile battalion. The majority of my training class was assigned to non missile related assignments, as the missile sites in the United States had been turned over to the National Guard at the end of our training. Instead of being promoted to Warrant Officer as was our understanding a year and a half earlier, we were now under a different set of rules, we were now Specialists 4, (E4) which was the same rating as a Corporal without the military authority. Several of my classmates were assigned to the MP's, bakery or other such activities. In order to work in the missile MOS that we were trained in, you had to ship out to sites in Greenland.

For some reason I lucked out and was selected to be a member of a select group of troopers assigned to a STRAC missile battalion which would be used in times of crises.

In the Month of September 1958 our Missile Battery was in training in the desert North of Fort Bliss Texas. We were living in the desert on maneuvers waiting for mock attacks on our missile sites by aggressor forces. We had rigged our shelter halves (one half of a pup tent) as sun tents that would sleep five of us. The tents were made by buttoning the shelter halves together to form one large tent that was raised above the ground on the edges about a foot. We didn't have enough tent poles so we used lengths of yucca plants that had nice long stiff stalks. The breeze would blow and keep us cool. The idea was good as long as there was no rain or

heavy winds. This was sort of a do it yourself desert training school.

One memorable evening before going to sleep we had searched the tent for rattle snakes, scorpions and tarantula spiders that were indigenous to the area. Everything was fine, the area was clear. There was an occasional rumble in the far distance, but we had been assured that it didn't rain on the desert in September.

We all laid back for a nice nights sleep. I was on my back with my hands behind my head when I felt a stick against my finger. I just pushed the stick away and continued my efforts to get to sleep when the stick was back bumping my finger. As this was not an action that was expected by a stick, I nervously asked if anyone had a flashlight handy. I turned on the light and saw a half dozen, six inch long "sticks" with large eyes reared back in attack position. We had been invaded and were being attacked by stick mantises! We chased them out but they kept coming back.

The thunder was becoming louder and the wind was beginning to pick up so we checked our tent pegs and dropped the tent flaps around the perimeter of the shelter to keep out blowing dust and rain. We realized that the impending rain was probably why we had the invasion of Mantises. We had located our tent shelter on the slope of a hummock and we felt that we were out of danger from run-off water if it rained.

The storm hit. Thunder, lightning and heavy rain lasted for over an hour. We didn't realize that the yucca stalks were porous like cattail stalks and slowly lost strength as they absorbed water. We had used the longer stalks for the center of the tent to give us more height. As these stalks lost strength, sections of the tent began to sag as water collected on the tent instead of running off. The inevitable happened and the water laden tent collapsed on five very frustrated soldiers.

The next day was to be the last day of the desert adventure. We assisted in packing up the equipment for return to Fort Bliss. Our group was being mobilized immediately to take part in a major yet to be disclosed military operation! Following the mobilization we were given a two week leave before meeting at Fort Lawton in Seattle Washington to embark on a troopship for somewhere in the world. There was a lot of speculation as to where we might be sent and Taiwan was a possibility.

We loaded equipment and material into large military Connex containers that would later be loaded aboard a troop ship. After we finished our preparations we were informed that we would ultimately be issued new M-1 Rifles and full battle packs when we reached the ship in Seattle. This was a very ominous beginning!

I had to sell my 1951 Nash Rambler convertible to a Warrant Officer that had offered me a lowball price because he new that I had to sell my car fast. I had visited a friend in El Paso

and was returning to the airport when the front end of my car collapsed to the pavement in front of the El Paso police department. The tires had splayed out on either side of the car like a ballet dancer doing the splits. A very large policeman walked up to my window and told me that I couldn't leave the car in the street! I called the buyer and told him that I had car trouble. He said that I should have the car towed to the airport and he would pick it up later. When the tow truck lifted the car up, the wheels lowered back into place. When we arrived at the airport, the tow truck operator lowered the car into a parking stall where it sat awaiting the new owner.

After my brief stay at home, I took a bus to Seattle and then Fort Lawton where I met with other members of our troop. We were issued battle gear including rifles, steel helmets, bayonets, and other related battle gear.

Two days before we were scheduled to leave, I called the aunt and uncle of my old girl friend who had got married while I was in Missile School. They had always liked me and invited me over for a day. They asked me to stay overnight and would return me to the ship the next morning. I took a bus over to the Alki area and was reunited with the Lindgren family. I took my old girlfriend's younger sister and her young cousin to a picnic and, after dinner, went with the family to final movie before leaving for foreign lands.

After breakfast, the family took me back to the fort where I rejoined my fellow troopers.

The next morning we went to breakfast for the last breakfast that we would have in the United States for over a year. I remember the breakfast very well, pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage and toast. We were very well fed.

We next gathered our gear and were driven to the ship. The ship was a three stack troop ship named the General JC Breckenridge with a hull designation of T-AP 176.

The two stack ship was 622 feet long over all (more than two football fields). She had a beam width of 76 feet and drew over 25 feet of water with a displacement of over 11,800 Tons. The ship, converted to a troop ship in 1950 would carry over 5,200 troops including 320 officers and 4900 troops. The ship complement included 43 officers and 433 crew members. The twin screw ship was powered by De Laval geared turbines which developed 17,000 shp. The ship had 4 Foster-Wheeler 465 psi boilers. The maximum speed of the ship was 26 knots.

Our battalion lived three decks down in the stern and mid ship of the ship for almost three weeks. The bunks were hammocks stacked three high and our gear was arranged at the head of each bunk.

Once we stowed our gear, everyone went topside to watch as the ship left port. We still didn't know where we were going. The forward section of mid ship and the bow area held Marines schedule for Okinawa. The upper part of the ship's superstructure held dependents, crew and officers.

As the ship left port everyone was lined up at the rail to watch. This was to be a common practice for the entire voyage. We were to be on deck during the day, and could not sit on the hatches. As the ship moved out to sea the wind started making heavy seas, and the land based troops began to look a little upset. The troops on the bow began to get sick, releasing their large breakfast over the side. When a large ship is moving it creates a pressure ridge much like wind giving lift over the wing of an airplane. The sickness spread as the slightly used breakfast rose to decorate successive troopers, creating a colorful cascade along the length of the 600 foot long ship. I was fortunate, as I had found a comfortable place to sit near the central hatches. So much for many of these troopers first experiences at sea!

The toilet facilities were crude but functional. There were long urinal troughs with constantly running water that sloshed back and forth as the ship rolled.

Similar troughs with slat seats over the troughs were used for bowel movements. One smart aleck built a paper boat and filled it with smaller bits of paper, which he lit while the seats were occupied by several troopers. The burning paper boat made quite an impression on the bottoms of several young men.

The trip across the Pacific was steady and generally uneventful except for the typhoon! The routine consisted of getting up and then cleaning up around the bunk area. Showers were no-existent. We were then herded in shifts up to breakfast. We then had a short period back at our bunks where we could use the facilities. Everyone was then herded up on deck. A clean-up crew was assigned to clean the latrines, and sweep and mop the steel decks of our living area.

Sitting or laying on hatch covers was frowned on, so you sat on steel decks during the daylight hours. The troops were moved from one side of the ship to the other as the command for a clean sweep down fore and aft was given. Troops with large push brooms would sweep the decks clear of dirt and paper two or three times a day. I guess that the officers thought that this would keep us in fighting trim during the voyage. We then went to lunch which was followed by more shifting, sitting and card games.

After dinner, movies were held above deck on the hatch covers. After the movies you could stay on deck, write, sit on your bunks and read until lights out.

At night the ocean was spectacular. The stars were brilliant and the phosphorescent ocean was bright with sea life. When we reached the part of the ocean where flying fish flew, they looked like small meteors as they leapt from the top of waves. This was very reminiscent of my adventures on a three month long arctic sea voyage a few years earlier.

When we passed the International Dateline we were awarded a certificate commemorating the event and also told that our destination was Taiwan. We were given small brochures that

explained the culture of the country and outlined do's and don't for young frisky soldiers.

Somewhere off Okinawa we encountered the edge of a typhoon that almost made me seasick. Several troopers got violently ill in their bunks, which made the living area unbearable and I slept on deck. Over 200 Marines boarded the ship at Okinawa. They went to Taiwan with us and then went on to Guam.

The weather was becoming very warm and humid as we got nearer to the Tropic of Cancer.

We stopped at Okinawa to unload Marines that were headed for Guam.

All too soon we were at the port of Keelung on the Northern tip of Taiwan.

In the month of October 1958, about 800 young American GI's landed on the island of Taiwan off the coast of China. We were part of the China Expeditionary Forces that were sent to prevent the "Red Chinese" from invading the last Nationalist Chinese stronghold. Our group was the 2nd Missile Battalion of the 71st Artillery, which was a Nike Hercules Missile Battalion from Fort Bliss Texas. Our purpose for being on Taiwan was to provide opposition to the bombardment of two small Nationalist Chinese islands named Quemoy and Matsu, off the coast of Taiwan.

We left the ship in full battle dress and loaded into school buses and trucks for the trip to our respective missile sites on the Western side of the island.

Upon arrival at our respective missile sites we disembarked to begin our individual adventure.



From the Editor

Listen up!! Two things.

First. Please send in stories of your experiences in Taiwan for the newsletter. Send them to Bob Mackintosh, Newsletter Editor, at the address on the newsletter header, or e-mail them to <bmack@hiwaay.net.>.

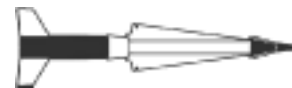
Second. This edition of the newsletter is again being printed in both color and back and white. The color edition will go to those who are current, paid up, members of the 2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association. Black and white edition will go to those who are not current members. We will also continue to send the newsletter to those who have never joined the Association, as long as we can afford to do so. We are sending a survey to those who are not current members. Please fill out the survey and return it so

we can understand what we need to do to gain your membership.



2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association Officers:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| President/Treasurer | Bob Mackintosh |
| Vice President | John Spegele |
| Secretary | Dave O'Connell |
| Asst. Secretary | Charlie Trost |
| Board Member | Walt Lapsley |
| Board Member | Frank Serpico |
| Board Member | Sam Grant |



2/71 Assn. Country Store

I would like to order:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Taiwan Medal (823 Campaign Badge of Honor) exact replica* | \$20 ea. ____ |
| Taiwan Medal Lapel Pin* | \$10 ea. ____ |
| * We will order these for you | |
| Memory Book | \$15 ea. ____ |
| After Action Report | \$20 ea. ____ |
| 2/71 Taiwan Keychain | \$4 ea. ____ |
| ADA Magazine w/2/71 article | \$1 ea. ____ |
| VFW Mag. Cold War article | \$1 ea. ____ |

I would like to join the 2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association

Enclosed is \$15 for annual dues. _____
 Total enclosed (Dues and stuff above) : _____

Name: _____
 Address (If changed recently): _____
 E-mail address : _____
 Telephone Number: _____

2nd Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association

TAIWAN TRAVEL RESERVATION REQUEST

Date:

Name of member (as on passport)

Provide copy of first page of passport, if available.

Number of travelers:

Names of travelers accompanying member (as on passport),
.....

Telephone Number

Mail Address

E-mail address

Your local departure airport, if flying to Los Angeles

Number interested in taking the Taroko Gorge excursion from Taipei

I plan on taking the following extension to the basic Taiwan trip, 22-28 April 2000

(check one) None:, Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong,

Other

Names of ROC military who you would like to have invited to the ROC sponsored Social on 26 April 2001.

Amount of deposit: (**\$250.00 per person**)

Add membership dues of \$15.00, if not a current member of the Association.

Total amount submitted:

Checks should be made out to: **2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn,**
and sent to: **271 Shady Oak Drive, New Market, AL 35761.**

PLEASE SUBMIT DEPOSIT ASAP

Send any questions to:

Bob Mackintosh, at the address above,
or telephone **256-379-3496**, e-mail <**bmack@hiwaay.net**>

Survey for Non-members

Please complete this survey if you are not presently a paid-up member of the 2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association. We need updated information for those who may be trying to locate you. Also complete the applicable parts if you are a family member of an addressee who is not a member..

Name:

Battery, or Detachment, you served with in Taiwan:

Mail Address:

Telephone Number:

E-mail address, if applicable:

Do you read the newsletter?

Would you like to be kept on the mailing list?

Is there anything that the Association could do that would be of interest to you?
.....

Would you check the reasons that you are not currently a member of the 2/71 Assn?

.....Not interested,Mean to, but put if off,\$15 annual dues is too much

.....Addressee is too ill or incapacitated to be concerned with membership

.....Addressee is no longer with us; passed away on(date)

Any other reason?

Thank you for completing the survey.

Please send to : 2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn.

271 Shady Oak Drive

New Market, AL 35761

2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn.
271 Shady Oak Drive
New Market, AL 35761

To: