



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

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New Market, AL 35761  
<<http://www.2-71adataiwan.com>>



Volume 7

Newsletter 3

October 2003

## 2004 Reunion

The next reunion will be upon us sooner than we think. It is time to make plans and commit to those dates, so there won't be a conflict with some other plans you may have on the horizon. In this newsletter we will ask you to plan on attending the reunion and to help out in other ways, whether you can attend the reunion or not.

The reunion will be in San Antonio, TX, from 7-10 October 2004. It will follow a similar format to the previous reunions, in that it will commence on a Thursday (7 October) and end on 10 October (Sunday).

Thursday (7 October)

The Board of Directors will meet in the morning. Registration will begin at noon. That evening the hotel will provide a complimentary Fiesta reception. There will be an evening buffet. No formal activity is currently planned after the buffet, but see what we are working on, later in the newsletter. We will have a very large hospitality room for registration, visiting, display of photos, memorabilia, etc.

Friday (8 October)

The General Membership meeting will be held in the hotel Friday morning. The afternoon will be open for seeing the sights of San Antonio and the Riverwalk.

Friday night, those who are interested, will go to a Texas barbeque on a working cattle ranch just west of San Antonio. Entertainment will be provided and you will have a chance to try your luck with Texas line dancing.

Saturday (9 October)

Visiting and sightseeing (not organized) is planned during the day.

That evening, a social hour will precede our Reunion Banquet in the hotel.

Sunday (10 October)

A Memorial Breakfast in the hotel will conclude the reunion.

That time of year should be exceptional in San Antonio. We have a very nice Hotel, the Four Points Sheraton, with a very reasonable room rate (\$80.00/night) for downtown San Antonio. The hotel is located on Riverwalk North. It is about a ten minute, scenic walk along the San Antonio River to the heart of the Riverwalk, where most of the restaurants, shops, etc. are located. The Alamo is two or three blocks East of the Riverwalk.

The hotel will be ideal for visiting and hosting our scheduled functions. Balconies looking over the San Antonio River are perfectly situated for small groups to relax and visit.

## Reunion Attendance

We have 65 rooms booked at the Four Points Sheraton, so we need all hands to attend this reunion if at all possible. That is a few more than we had at the Nashville reunion.

To get maximum attendance **we need your help**. There are two ways to do this. One is to personally contact those whose addresses we know; and second, to find troops who have not yet been located. If you can help, fill out one of the forms on the back page and let us know how you would like to participate.

## Can't Attend Reunion Because of Financial Difficulty?

A few of our members would really like to attend the reunion, but find it financially impossible. We had three men who attended the 2002 reunion in Nashville with a little help from the association. Some members who paid for the reunion were not able to attend and donated their tickets to others who needed help. The association was able to help another member, and some members made donations at the reunion to help an attendee with his hotel room and gas to get home.

If you would like assistance to attend the San Antonio reunion, let us know. (The address is at the top of the newsletter.) During the past year we have had donations from members to use as needed. We cannot promise assistance, but the Board of Directors will review any requests for assistance and let you know what they can do. Help probably would not include transportation to San Antonio, but it could possibly help with the hotel room and cost of special functions (buffet, banquet, barbeque) at the reunion.

Let us hear from you by March 2004, so that we can review the requests and give you a reply in June. Also, let us know if you would be willing to share a room. Your request for assistance will be kept private.

## Reunion Plans to be Developed

Most of you have received the newsletter for several years and are familiar with the 823 Campaign Badge of Honor that was presented by the ROC government to our members at the El Paso Reunion in 1998. If you are on the e-mail list of the 823 Badge of Honor Association USA (BOHAUSA), you know that they have made arrangements

for the regional Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices (TECO) to present certificates to each individual who received the 823 Badge of Honor. The BOHAUSA do not have the resources to correspond with any eligible individual, except by e-mail. They have also been instrumental in having the ROC government present the US-ROC Mutual Defense Commemorative Badge to US servicemen who have served in the defense of Taiwan. Some of our members have already received the US-ROC Mutual Defense Commemorative Badge, the accompanying certificate and the 823 Badge of Honor Certificate. This has pretty much depended on whether or not they were on the 823 Badge of Honor Association USA e-mail list, and the responsiveness of the regional TECO.

We will attempt to have the Dallas TECO present the ROC Mutual Defense Commemorative Badge, and Certificates for that badge and the 823 Badge of Honor at our San Antonio reunion. Nothing has been initiated on this yet, but we will get on it. The larger the group, the more likely we are to have them come to San Antonio.



Copy of Certificate

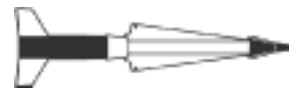


## Renewed Memberships

Ambler, Tom; Middletown, PA (D Btry)  
 Baker, Billy, McKenzie, TN (C Btry)  
 Brelje, Howard; Glencoe, MN (D Btry)  
 Corbin, Ray; Littleton, CO (D & B Btrys)  
 Dougherty, Joe; Louisville, KY (Hq & C Btrys)  
 Douglas, Robert A., Jr., Arlington, TX (B Btry)  
 Haase, Jerry; Chicago, IL (D Btry)  
 Jackson, Don; El Paso, TX (554<sup>th</sup> Ord Co)  
 Johnson, Mrs. Robert; McComb, MS (Hq Btry)  
 Kent, David; Mt. Prospect, IL (D Btry)  
 Morgan, Ron; Sandpoint, ID (C Btry)  
 Nale, Johnnie; McAlester, OK (B Btry)  
 Nelson, Jim; Troy, MI (A Btry)  
 O'Neill, Ronald, Port Jefferson Station, NY (D Btry)  
 Olivares, Fidel; Arlington, TX (Hq Btry)  
 Pannell, James; Sylva, NC (C Btry)  
 Phillips, Harry, Kirkland, WA (D Btry)  
 Pierzinski, Ed; Richmond Hill, GA (D Btry)  
 Privott, Henry; Virginia Beach, VA (D Btry)  
 Rivers, Frank; Sunset, SC (A & C Btrys)  
 Salzmann, Jim; San Francisco, CA (D Btry)  
 Spegele, John; Roanoke, VA (D Btry)  
 Vuncannon, Jim; Salinas, CA (Hq Btry)  
 Whitson, Earl; Pampa, TX (D Btry)

## Association Membership

The \$15 membership dues are for one year from 1 November to 31 October. The dues are used primarily for publishing the newsletter, postage, and incidental expenses for running the association. Many of you forget to pay, others pay more than once during the year, while some have no intention of becoming members. We have been fortunate that your dues cover newsletter mailings to the latter group also. It is time now to pay dues for the 2003-2004 membership year. The expiration date of your membership, if you have ever paid dues, is shown on the mailing label of the newsletter.



## Notes from the Troops

8/2/03

From: **Ray Corbin**

Dear Bob and Lois,

Thanks for the great news letter as always. Mimi and I, like the many others, always look forward to it. I enjoyed your brief glimpse of history again.

Glad that the plans for San Antonio are shaping up. Of course it is you follow-up that keeps it going. Hope that your summer is going well. I plan to send in my dues for the year 11-1-03 to 10-31-04.

Mimi and Ray

7/31/03

From: **Dave Kent** (D Btry)

Dear Bob & Lois,

I just received the newsletter Volume 7 and really appreciate the information contained in it about "why we went to Taiwan". My three children, David (42), Natalie (40), and Kathryn (38), will really enjoy reading the "What did Daddy do during the Cold War." Also, later my 6+ grandchildren may enjoy reading it when they grow up. They always ask "Grandpa! Show me where you were shot when you were in the Army."

I have enclosed a check for \$40.00 to cover the next two years dues and \$10.00 extra to help with some of your other expenses.

Hope this letter finds you both in the best of health.

With my best regards,

Sincerely,

David W. Kent

7/31/03

From: **Fidel Olivares** (Hq Btry)

Dear Bob & Lois,

Sorry I missed the last reunion at Nashville. I hope I can make the next one at San Antonio so that I can see my old buddy **Doc McGranahan** with whom I worked while in Taipei. I was the dispensary clerk that handled all the records for the battalion at the dispensary.

Keep up the good work with the newsletter.

I forgot when my dues were due, but here is some extra for the stamps.

Sincerely,

Fidel Olivares

7/31/03

From: **Jim Nelson** (A Btry)

Dear Bob,

Thank you for the work you do for us. Like others who have written, the newsletter holds us together. This new one has given me much more information about why we were there. With what the armed services are going through around the world, I need to speak up in pride and support for the job they do every day.

Carole, in spite of her back, looks forward to San Antonio 04.

We keep going to Hong Kong, and were there at the outbreak of SARS in Feb 03. This morning with another bombing in SE Asia, we woke up with a jolt as we have made plans to be in Bali Oct 03. The on to Kimberly's in Hong Kong. After arriving in Singapore on 9/11 we wonder what's wrong with us.

May you and Lois continue to have good health and your family around you.

Carole and Jim Nelson

8/1/03

From: **Earl (and Betty) Whitson** (D Btry)

Dear Bob and Lois,

Hello from Texas. We are so looking forward to the reunion in San Antonio.

We hope all is well with you and your family.

Earl is now in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year of retirement and enjoying it more and more. Keeping up with the kids and grandkids keeps us busy.

Keep well,

Earl and Betty

8/1/03

From: **Telford Leinhardt**

Enclosed is a check for back dues of which I did not realize that I was that far behind.

Again, we may not be able to make the upcoming reunion nor do I believe that we will be able to attend any of the future reunions.

This has not been a good year so far in some respects. In mid-February, the oncologist found a tumor on my wife's (Elizabeth's) spine. They radiated the area assuming that took care of the tumor; but about two weeks later they found that the radiation not only did not do anything to the tumor, but that the tumor had grown. They operated on her and took out all the tumor they could. There was, or still is, a tumor in the bone. She has not been able to walk since February and has been confined to a wheel chair and still is today. That makes it impossible for us to go anywhere as of today. She gets a little therapy at home three times a week. It would be nice if the therapy would be enough to get her to at least walk with a walker, or maybe that is asking too much.

Outside of 12 days, she has been in hospitals from February 22 to July 9, and so far she has been home since July 9.

Anyway, I want to wish the best to all of you, and sincerely wish for a great reunion for all of you in 2004.

Telford Lienhardt

B Btry Clerk (last 6 mo.)

8/3/03

From: **Ray Corbin** (D & B Btrys)

Bob, Hope all is going well. Mimi and I are looking forward to San Antonio.

Ray Corbin

8/6/03

From: **Jerry Haase** (D Btry)

Dear Bob,

Just received your newsletter and noticed the reminder that my dues are to be paid. I have enclosed a check with a little extra to cover miscellaneous expenses.

As usual, enjoyed reading the newsletter, your doing a great job. Hope to see you in San Antonio.

Jerry Haase

(D Btry)

9/9/03

From: **Henry Pruitt** (D Btry)

Bob,

Hi, here are my dues.

Hope everyone is doing fine. Hope to make next reunion in 2004.

If you are e-mailing, please add me to list.....

Thanks,

Henry

9/9/03

From: **Tom Ambler** (D Btry)

Dear Bob & Lois,

A note to say hello and thanks for all you do keeping our gang together; I also enclose a story about Taiwan in case you didn't see it.

Note my new address....

Now that I'm officially retired I'm moving there to help her (sister) with three little boys.

Julie and I are looking forward to the reunion in Texas.

Enclosed are my dues and tell **Mrs. Davis** to keep it in the key of "C" so I can play my harmonica another time at the reunion.

Tom Ambler

D Battery

P.S. I still write to Major Shau Suan Fia in Taiwan.

9/11/03

From: Mrs. **Robert E. Johnson** (A Btry)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed check is for dues and "Expense Fund". Thank you for sending the newspaper to me.

The write up on "Facts Concerning the Deployment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missile Battalion" was a good reminder of 1958 events. I have the article placed in Bob's picture album of 1958-59. My sons can read it and understand more. I had bought them one of your film packages last year.

I am still O.K.. Trying to decide to move to Arab, AL, south of Huntsville, or not. I have my older son living there. With getting older now, and alone, one has to plan ahead. I did have a complete knee replacement, July 17<sup>th</sup>, and have done well. I've had two months physical rehabilitation, able to drive, etc., and have been pleased with all that was involved.

I hope the association continues to do well.

My love to all!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Robert E. Johnson

9/23/03

From: **Frank Rivers** (A & C Btrys)

Bob,

Looks as if it is about time to renew my membership.

Hope all is well with you and Lois.

How about sending me a copy of the mailing roster.

Hope we are able to make it to San Antonio next year.

Keep up the good work. We enjoy the newsletter and hearing from the missilemen of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missile Bn, 71<sup>st</sup> Arty Assn.

Sincerely,

Frank

9/23/03

From: **Joe Dougherty** (Hq & C Btrys)

Dear Members of 2<sup>nd</sup> Missile Bn.,

Attached is \$20 for membership and expenses. I need to rejoin my group as I was in the hospital for better part of year 2002 & 2003, also nursing homes. I had left and right hip replacement. Left hip got infected with MRSA (hospital staph) and this kept the doctors delaying the replacement hip. Right hip first. As was Bob Stohlman, I was wheel chair bound all that time. Presently trying to walk again without a walker. Progress is slow. So of course missed last reunion in Nashville. I would love to have been there, plus somewhat close to home in Louisville, KY.

Presently, my Internet connection was cancelled as computer is so old its just not worth it until I can get a new one.

I look forward to the newsletters and reunions and hope to see all of the members next time if able to walk unassisted again.

Joe R. Dougherty

9/25/03

From: **James & Doris Pannell** (C Btry)

Dear Bob and Lois,

Just a note to say Hi. Sure hope you both are well.

We sure are looking forward to our next reunion.

Here's my dues and a little extra, just use it for other expenses.

Take care, and may God bless and keep you both safe until we meet again.

Thanks for all that you both do.

James & Doris Pannell

9/29/03

From: **Bob Douglas** (B Btry)

Dear Bob & Lois,

Hope all is well with you two.

First, here are my dues and a few dollars to help any way you need it.

Kay and I are in El Paso at the Ft. Bliss RV Park and will be until about Jan 2004 when we hope to go to San Antonio for a few months. Of course we plan to be back in San Antonio in October for the reunion.

We have several doctors appointments here in the next few months. Nothing serious just "old age".

Better close for now. While we are in San Antonio if you need us to check on anything for you please let us know.

Best Wishes,

Bob Douglas

10/6/03

From: **Billy Baker** (C Btry)

Dear Sir:

Here is my dues for another year, and a little bit to help on stamps and whatever.

I enjoy reading the bulletin; sorry I can't make the reunion.

Yours truly,  
Billy Baker  
C-Btry

10/20/03

From **Bill Thomson** (B Btry)

Dear Bob,

I was a member of Bravo Company of the 2nd Missile Battalion and was delighted to find this web site.

I was wondering how you got the rosters and why I was not included.

I was assigned to the Battalion when it was formed at Fort Bliss from the 168th AAA Battalion in 1958.

I shipped out with the unit from Lewiston, Washington but when the unit was sent back in August of 1959 I was re-assigned to a MAAG group to work with the Chinese army personnel until the individuals from their unit returned from Fort Bliss where they were being trained.

I returned in November of 1959 and got an early discharge.

Also **Robert P. Kirk** stayed behind. **Robert McQueeny** transferred to Headquarters Company about half way through our deployment.

Are you planning another reunion?

I would be glad to send you more information and photo's I have if you would be interested in them.

Regards,  
William K. Thomson

10/22/03

From: **Neal Boothe** (C Btry)

Hi Bob & Lois,

I was invited to the 92nd National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) close by here (Chesterfield, Mo.). Nancy & I enjoyed the event. There was good Chinese food and it was free for both of us up to \$20. We spent extra money on other items.

There was one other veteran there, beside me (a marine) named Vernon McClain. Nancy took a picture of us. We were both were pleased that we got to meet.

We were asked to stand for our introduction. The Taiwan people are very kind people.

There were flags setting of each table. I asked for one and it was given to me.

Any one that gets the opportunity to go will enjoy it.

God bless,  
Your friend,  
Neal Boothe

Neal's Invitation:

August 27, 2002

Mr. **Neal A. Boothe**

Veteran .....

Dear Mr. Boothe,

In celebration of the 92nd National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan), I would like to invite you and your family to a fair on Saturday, October 11, 2003 at Parkway Central Middle School. There will be delicious food, arts and crafts, games, and many other activities. Festivities begin at 11 :00 a.m. and will last all day. As a VIP, you are also invited to attend the opening ceremony, which will be held at 11:30 a.m. Join the local community and me in celebrating this important day.

Please RSVP to Dr. Chin-Iing Tai by phone at .....

I look forward to seeing you at the event.

Sincerely yours

Jo-chin Wang

10/20/03

From: **Ronald O'Neill** (D Btry)

Hi All:

We just want to get our dues for 2003-2005 off to you.

We are looking forward to San Antonio.

Nancy and Ronald O'Neill

10/21/03

From: **Harry Phillips** (D Btry)

Dear Bob,

Just a quick note to accompany my dues renewal check.

Please use the extra \$ either for extending my membership period or for association needs as you deem appropriate.

Looking forward to the next reunion.

Harry

10/23/03

From: **Jim Salzmann** (D Btry)

Dear Rob,

Hope this gets to you before my time runs out. Please accept the five extra dollars for postage.

I hope all from 2nd Msl. Bn. enjoy a happy holiday season, especially Battery D.

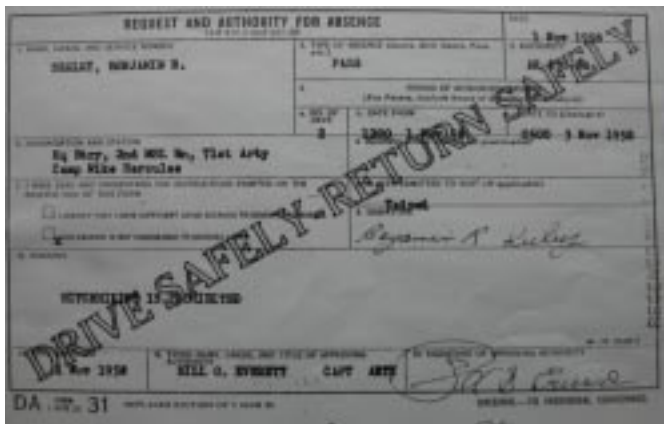
Best always,

Jim Salzmann



## Old Pass

Last year, Ben Seeley sent in an old two-day pass from Taiwan. Here is a copy for your memory bank.



Ben Seeley's Pass



## Country Store

We have several new troops on the mailing list who are not familiar with the items in the Country Store (see back page).

The **Taiwan Medal** is an exact replica of the 823 Badge of Honor that was awarded to our troops in 1998. We procure the badges from the Badge of Honor Association USA. You can do this yourself if you like. We forward the money to BOHAUSA and they mail the badge directly to you.

The **Taiwan Medal** lapel pin is a miniature replica of the 823 Badge of Honor, but is gold colored to make a more attractive lapel pin. We also obtain these for you from BOHAUSA.

The **Memory Book** is a compilation of troop stories, news clippings, Letters of Appreciation, personal photos, and history of 2/71's deployment to Taiwan. It has 130 pages of good stuff that you might want to have as a keepsake for your family. It has a plastic binder and protective cover. The association has placed a copy in the Air Defense Artillery Historical Library at Fort Bliss, Texas.

The After Action Report is a copy of the official After Action Report prepared in September 1959 by some members of 2/71, and support units, who stayed on with the MAAG. It was obtained through the Freedom of Information Act a few years ago. The document consists of 233 pages.

The **Taiwan Tour VCR tape** is a compilation of several movie clips from the National Archives that were about 2/71 Artillery and the 178<sup>th</sup> Ordnance Detachment on Taiwan. It

also includes some shots of the Chinese operating the Nike Hercules system after we departed. Several of the MAAG advisors are included in the film.

The 2/71 key chain has an enamel on brass logo for 2/71, Taiwan, 1958-1959. The chain can be removed so that women may wear the device on a neck chain or charm bracelet.

As we get closer to the reunion we will reintroduce items that we have had in the past such as a baseball cap, and golf shirt.



## A Sample from Memory Book

Taiwan: Life Begins on the Island

By: Walter Lapsley

Date: May 23, 1998

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 sent to help 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 tide of the island.

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

The missile site was located in a tea patch in the middle of a Nationalist Chinese Army Division near the village of Linkou. There was also a small US Air Force intelligence gathering station nearby that we were allowed to visit with a pass. The station had a PX, an NCO Club an Officers Club, barber shop and accommodations for the Air Force troops.

The Battalion Commander, one Colonel Greenberg, made an effort to keep the troops in the battalion confined to the Missile Battery areas with the exception of trips to the air station. We were then allowed to go to Taipei on pass with strict curfew to be back at the sites at night.

The first few months were quite traumatic due to the restrictions, and many young and older troops strayed into the village and often got involved with the ladies of pleasure that were around to provide services to the Chinese troops. These activities often resulted in the need to cure venereal infections on a regular basis and often led to punishment for AWOL situations.

We were all housed in tent-covered, wood-framed structures called squad tents. My squad consisted of 8 to 10 specialists and one sergeant. The squad tent had a wood floor which had to be kept clean by sweeping and mopping. We were allowed to hire local people to take care of this necessity as well as dusting the tent daily, polishing our boots and shoes and arranging for our laundry and ironing. The cost for these services was literally pennies per day. We were warned not to pay more as there was concern that we would radically upset the economy of the area. The garbage and left over food from the mess tent was taken as payment for the labor necessary to keep the mess hall clean and provide KP services. A careful watch was made to insure that the dishes, pots and pans and silverware were accounted for.

The Fire Control Center was within easy walking distance from the barracks, mess hall and center of the Battery activities. The Missile Firing area was over a mile away from the Fire Control Center, and troops had to be trucked across a valley to the missiles.

The missiles were mounted on semi-portable frames that were exposed to the elements. When the system was at an alert status other than White, the missiles were automatically raised into the firing position.

The Fire Control Center consisted of five major components including an Acquisition Radar (LOPAR) which was about twenty feet long and enclosed in a covering shell. The radar array was mounted on top of 10 or 12 foot high circular column of equipment about the diameter of 55-gallon gasoline drum.

There were two ten-foot diameter golf ball shaped dome covered radar. One radar was a target tracking radar or TTR. The other radar was a missile tracking radar called a MTR. The fourth component of the system was the Fire Control Van which held the MTR, TTR and Acquisition Radar consoles. This van was full of vacuum tubes, scopes and the computer which was developed to compute the ever changing intersection of two equations provided by the radar ranging information and analog positions of the two tracking antennas. Any change in the direction of the target would result in a signal to the missile to change course to make sure that the built-in equation for an intersection of the two equations was met. When the intersection of the two equations was met the missile would explode destroying the target aircraft. Fortunately we didn't have to fire a missile.

The Battery Command Van or BC housed the tracking plotter the PPI scope and the Officer on duty. It also contained the alert status lights. This van was electrically linked to the Fire Control Van. The decision to fire or not to fire was made from this van.

We stood eight hour shifts very similar to Navy watches. The status of a shift was either White, which meant standby or three hour alert, no action imminent, Blue, Green, which indicated something was going on that meant we needed to do a system check. A status Blue meant that there was an action going on and that we had to be ready for action within thirty minutes. Blue alert also meant that maintenance staff and other members not on direct duty had to set up and man

50-caliber machine guns mounted in sandbagged revetments in preparation for imminent protection against low flying aircraft. Red alert was attack imminent with possible action within five minutes. During our year long stay, we never had to go beyond a Blue alert, but the threat was always present. A few rockets into any one of our radar or the Fire Control Van would probably have put us out of action.

During the duty hours we had regular maintenance and equipment adjustment intervals, based on the activity status which we were working under. The adjustments included tweaking and testing of electronic components and careful leveling of the antennas. We also had a 50 foot high radar test mast to simulate missile and target signals to the respective TTR and MTR radar's.

We began training of our Chinese counterparts once the system was fully operational. Many interesting things happened during the training sessions. One event that stuck in my mind was our first attempt to train our future replacements to level the antennas. The antennas were equipped with a "Bulls Eye" level mounted on each of the three antenna legs. The level was a 1 1/2 inch diameter glass-faced, liquid-filled device with a 3/8 inch diameter circle etched into the center of the glass face. The glass face was slightly convex leaving a 1/8 inch diameter bubble in the middle of the etched circle if the antenna was leveled. Each leg of the antenna had an adjusting crank handle near the level so that you could adjust the height of the leg to center the bubble in the circle. During the adjustment you had to adjust each of the three legs until all bubbles were in the center of the three levels.

Training sessions often included a curious guard, who would follow us around. During this initial session I had four trainees make the adjustments one leg at a time. We adjusted the first leg and then moved on to the second leg that was out of level, which surprised me. We then leveled the leg and noticed the bubble slowly move out of adjustment. Either the antenna was sinking or something was drastically wrong with the equipment. I walked around to the third leg and noticed that the adjustment handle was out of its normal position and the bubble was out of level. I then walked around the antenna in time to see the guard working the adjustment handle, copying our procedure. The mystery was solved, but I had to speak up very quickly to the interpreter in order to prevent the guard from being packed off to jail. On subsequent sessions we no longer had a guard in close attendance.

Until we learned a little Chinese and our counterparts learned some English all of our training had to be done through interpreters who were not technically trained. A few of the Chinese troops had been partially trained at Fort Bliss. Chinese maintenance people were being trained in the US during this period.

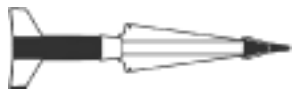
For the first two months we didn't have to pull guard duty, as the Nationalist Chinese troops pulled continuous guard duty. This changed after one of the villagers went over the fence at the missile firing area and stole a missile nose cone and got away with it. Everyone below Spec 5 drew

shifts of guard duty.

During one stint at guard duty the Chinese guard decided to show the American guard how good a shot he was by shooting through a chain link fence at a stray dog. Lead went everywhere! Fortunately the dog escaped to be meal at a later date. This lead to further problems with guards as the US officers didn't want the Chinese guards. A higher quality of Chinese guard was assigned for duty to satisfy the US officers.

One of the interpreters was a Taiwanese Major who was very well versed in English. He was very friendly and informative. We became good friends and discussed our respective cultures. He said that the highest rank that a Taiwanese could reach in the military was a Major. The Chinese military didn't trust Taiwanese. He suggested that I read a book titled "A Pail of Oysters" by Richard Armour to get a flavor of the feelings between the Nationalist Chinese and the Taiwanese.

In November I was invited to a Mongolian Barbecue for Thanksgiving in Taipei. I wrote about this episode as a separate chapter.



## A Sample from the After Action Report

### ANNEX G: Motors

#### MOTORS

##### 1. GENERAL: (U)

a. Upon the arrival of the 2d Missile Battalion on Taiwan, some of the automotive equipment had been unloaded from the ships and driven to the battalion staging area by a GRC transportation company. The second day, the batteries were permitted to start picking up their equipment and did so before any processing could be accomplished on the automotive equipment by the Battalion Maintenance Section.

b. Since the vehicles had been processed in the United States, no one was familiar with the equipment or knew the exact mechanical condition. As a result, vehicles were operated with loose fan belts, loose battery cables, improperly adjusted brakes, etc., causing premature failure. There was no time in most cases allotted for preventive maintenance. This time was utilized for the driver's other duty assignments. The situation was not relieved until early January, when much greater command emphasis was placed on maintenance and, since many of the tactical problems had been solved, more time was available.

##### 2. DISCUSSION: (U)

a. The battalion had no Ordnance support for automo-

tive equipment until about two (2) months after the arrival of the battalion. Until that time the Battalion Maintenance Section performed third echelon maintenance such as engine and transmission replacements. The personnel assigned were qualified but the tool sets were not adequate to perform this echelon of repairs. Ordnance supply support was adequate for the first two (2) months, with minor exceptions. However, the inadequate supplies on the island were soon diminished, creating a supply problem. This situation was not relieved until about 15 February when the 554th Ordnance Company became operational and off-island requisitions were submitted.

b. The inadequacy of spare parts for the 45KW four-hundred (400) cycle generators has created a problem throughout the entire operation; however, the skill and training of the personnel of the 31st Engineer Detachment relieved this situation immeasurably. If it had not been for the tool and testing equipment and the skill of the personnel of this detachment, the generator sets would have created a much greater problem, and in many cases may have caused greater out-of-action time than was experienced.

c. Due to the distance between some batteries and battalion headquarters, it is believed that a reorganization of the automotive maintenance sections in the battalion would be advisable. Since the Battalion Maintenance Section does not have the capabilities to perform third echelon maintenance in static positions, it would make a more satisfactory situation to eliminate the Battalion Maintenance Section with the exception of the motor officer, motor sergeant, and one (1) clerk MOS 773.10. The maintenance personnel presently assigned to the Battalion Maintenance Section would be added to each battery's TO&E to absorb the additional work load when units are deployed in a similar situation.

e. Approximately twelve (12) trucks, cargo, five (5) ton, 6X6 M54's, were excess to battery requirements due to the fixed status of the battalion.

##### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS: (U)

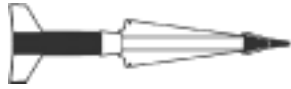
a. Third echelon automotive support should be available from the beginning of an operation of this type.

b. Automotive and generator parts supply is vital and should be programmed along with other requirements.

c. Although generator operator capabilities are a matter of concern to training authorities, it is mentioned here to point out a weakness that prevailed, initially in this organization.

d. Wide dispersment of missile batteries demands a decentralization of motor maintenance facilities. It is recommended that the battalion element of the maintenance section be reduced to a motor officer, motor sergeant, and a clerk, and the remainder of the section be distributed among the batteries. This is not a recommended change to TO&E 44-535T for a semi-mobile unit but applies only to a unit in a static position such as this.

e. That quantities and type of vehicles shipped be correlated with mission requirements to avoid excessive quantities of vehicles on hand with attendant burdensome



**Some old Taiwan Photos**



**A Battery -  
Telford, Austin, Toro, Minery on the Breckenridge**



**B Battery  
Pete Hagar and Neil Murphey (both deceased)**



**C Battery  
Houseboy at Guard Gate**



**D Battery  
Kjersgaard at Camp Wolverine Sign**



**2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan)**

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**Plan on attending the next reunion in  
 San Antonio, TX, 7-10 October 2004**

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Taiwan Medal (823 Campaign Badge of Honor)  
 exact replica\* \$20 ea. \_\_\_\_  
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 \* *We will order these for you*  
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 After Action Report \$20 ea. \_\_\_\_  
 Taiwan Tour VCR Tape \$10 ea. \_\_\_\_  
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Total enclosed : \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_  
 Address (If changed recently): \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail address : \_\_\_\_\_  
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**2004 Reunion Help**

I would like to help with the next reunion. Please send me the necessary personal information to contact our membership. I would like to contact:

number \_\_\_\_  
 from \_\_\_\_ (unit)  
 by e-mail \_\_\_\_, letter \_\_\_\_, telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_  
 Address (If changed recently): \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Membership Help**

I would like to help find some our missing troops. (This is best done by those who have computers and Internet access for locating addresses and telephone numbers on line.)

Please send me some names of missing troops. I would like to search for:  
 number \_\_\_\_  
 from \_\_\_\_ (unit)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_  
 Address (If changed recently): \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail address : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Association Membership Application**

To:  
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**271 Shady Oak Drive**  
**New Market. AL 35761**

**Inclosed is my check for membership in the Association in the amount of**  
**\$15 for 1 year (1 Nov 2003-31 Oct 2004) \_\_\_\_\_**  
**\$30 for 2 years ((1 Nov 2003-31 Oct 2005) \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Other \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Taiwan Unit \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Address: \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_**