

*Welcome to Seattle and the
220th Aviation Company
-Reconnaissance Airplane-
“Catkillers”
Reunion*

July 11-14, 2012



Welcome from the Reunion Committee

A sincere and hearty welcome to all Catkillers, friends and families to the 2012 Reunion of our 220th Aviation Company in Seattle and the Great Northwest.

This time of the year marks the 47th anniversary of the activation and departure of the 220th from Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base and its arrival and assignment to I Corps in Vietnam with the III Marine Amphibious Force. We especially welcome the Marine, Navy and Army AOs who are among us this year. Their presence certainly played a great part in our history of service together and our story would not be complete without them.

Since the turn of the century, while there have been many small group get-togethers known to have happened over the years, this is our fourth reunion starting in Las Vegas, Nevada to Houston, Texas to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and now to Seattle, Washington.

Since the 220th was inactivated in Da Nang in December 1971, not one of us has gotten any younger. It is only fitting that our particular unit has been able to participate in such memorable occasions as this one.

This reunion promises to be another super event celebrating our comradeship. For a very special Army aviation company with a unique mission in time of war there are strong ties indeed that were created, maintained and still hold fast today in our cares for one another.

Enjoy your stay in the Seattle area – cherish the fellowship of once more being together with old and newly made friends – and may we carry the tradition of reunions as far into the future as possible.

May it be all that you expected it to be and more!

Your 2012 Reunion Committee

*Norm MacPhee - Coordinator
Al Paulsen
Gene Wilson
Charlie Welsh
Darl McAllister*

*Lloyd Oake
Dick Tobiason
Don Ricks
Paul Garin
Jack Bentley*

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 753-6780 • TTY/TDD (360) 753-6466

Greetings from the Governor

July 11 – 14, 2012

I am pleased to extend warm greetings to all of those attending the 2012 “Catkillers” Reunion. For those of you visiting us, it is a great privilege to welcome you to the beautiful Evergreen State.

I deeply appreciate the bravery and sacrifice of our veterans, and I commend each of you for your noble character and courageous spirit. No one performs a higher or more important public service than those who pay the costly price of our freedom. Guardians of democracy, our veterans have risked their lives to protect those ideals that define us as Americans, and their sacrifice should never be far from our thoughts and prayers.

It is fitting that your 2012 reunion is being held in Washington State, home to Fort Lewis—now Joint Base Lewis-McChord, where the Army’s 220th Aviation Company was organized in 1965. My husband, Mike, who is also a Vietnam veteran, and I are delighted that you are gathered here, and we hope your schedules will permit you to explore some of the exciting sights and traditions that make Seattle and the surrounding Puget Sound region a destination to remember.

Thank you for coming, and please accept my best wishes for a memorable time of fellowship.

Sincerely,



Christine O. Gregoire
Governor

Governor Gregoire's welcome Letter



Seattle Mayor McGinn's welcome Letter



Reunion Agenda and Schedule of Events and Activities

*Our schedule has been designed to enable attendees to have some free time to renew friendships and explore the local attractions this area offers individually, or as groups.
Your welcome bag contains a booklet featuring special offers in the Seattle Area.*

Registration Room Schedule---Room 1201---2nd Floor

- Wednesday, July 11, 2012 Open 3-5 p.m.
- Thursday, July 12, 2012 Open 9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.
- Friday, July 13, 2012 Open 7-8 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.
- Saturday, July 14, 2012 Open 9-11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m.

Hospitality Room Schedule---Rainier Room---1st Floor

- Wednesday, July 11, 2012 Open 3-11 p.m.
- Thursday, July 12, 2012 Open 9-11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. and 9-11 p.m.
- Friday, July 13, 2012 Open 3-11 p.m.
- Saturday, July 14, 2012 Open 3-5 p.m.

Scheduled Events and activities

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

- Early Arrivals Registration and Hospitality Room gathering 3:00 - 11 p.m.

Thursday, July 12, 2012

- 8:45 a.m. - Assemble for bus - 9 a.m. Departure - Visit to Ft. Lewis-
Returning Not Later Than 3:45 p.m.
- 5-9 p.m. - Welcome Event Pizza and Beer (no host)
in the Atrium/Hospitality Room.

Friday, July 13, 2012

- 9 a.m.-12 p.m. - Crew Brunch at Boeing Museum of Flight-Presentation
regarding Dong Ha and tour museum.
- Evening - "Sub-reunion" get-togethers by "era" or "location."

Saturday, July 14, 2012

- 4 p.m. - Next Reunion Committee Meeting-Hospitality Room
- 5-6:30 p.m. - Happy Hour-Banquet Room Area
- 6:30 p. m. - Invocation
- 6:40 p.m. - Memorial, Toasts
- 7:10 p.m. - Meal, followed by speaker, reunion closing

*In addition to the scheduled events,
while you are here you might want to consider enjoying
some of these outstanding local attractions*

Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour



Facility is home to the 747, 757, 777, and 787
39 miles north of hotel, in Mukilteo
Tours 7 days a week, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
90 minute tours
Call 1-800-464-1476 for reservations
Adult reserved tickets \$18 each

Pike Place Market



Pike Street and 1st Avenue, Seattle
Open M-Sat 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Nine acres of food and merchants
14 mile drive from hotel
4 blocks west of light rail stop
at Westlake Center

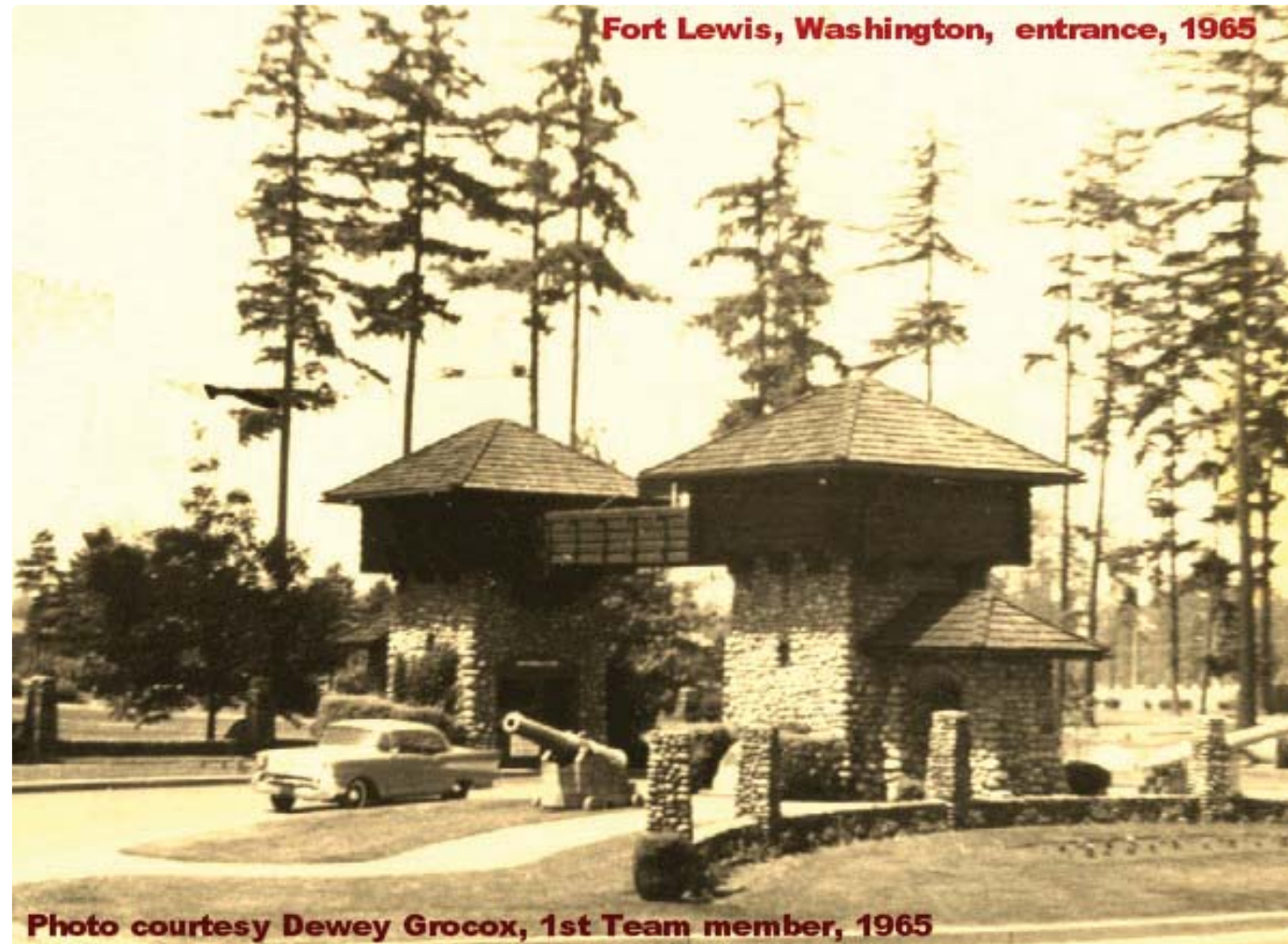
LeMAY- America's Car Museum



Opened 12 June 2012
165,000 sq-ft museum
Space for 350 cars, trucks and motorcycles
Open 7 days a week, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Adult Entrance Fee \$14, Seniors (65+) \$12
22 Miles south of hotel at Tacoma Dome exit

A more comprehensive list of attractions is posted at the Hospitality Room.

Our History Began Here



The first 4 months

The 220TH Aviation Company (Surveillance Airplane Light) was organized at Fort Lewis, Washington, on April 15, 1965, in accordance with the authority contained in DA Message 707331 dated March 16, 1965, and Sixth US Army General Order 28, dated March 29, 1965.

Organization and equipping the company was accomplished under the able leadership of Major Jerry R. Curry, Infantry. Equipment, less aircraft, was drawn, packed and delivered to the dock in Tacoma, Washington on 10 June 1965. Concurrent with equipping, personnel were undergoing a vigorous POR qualification program including rigorous physical training.

At the same time, in an adjoining area at Fort Lewis, the 231st Signal Detachment (Avionics Repair) was organized and prepared for shipment with the 220th. The detachment was attached to the 220th for avionics and repair support. It was commanded by Second Lieutenant Robert P. Covino, Signal Corps.

The 220th — Off to War



Major Curry remembered what happened to the poorly equipped “Task Force Smith” at the beginning of the Korean War. Even though he had instructions from U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, to deploy without weapons and ammunition he took a lesson from history and ordered that his men deploy with weapons and ammunition.

On June 17, 1965, Major Curry led the advance party of seven officers and nine enlisted men to Vietnam. Upon arrival they found that their original base station had been changed from a relatively safe location in the south to the northern, most contested, area of the country to support the 3rd U.S. Marine Division.

The main body, led by the executive officer, Captain William O. Schmale, Artillery, closed out at Fort Lewis and departed McChord AFB, Washington, on July 1, 1965. The company was transported in three C-130 transports bound for Da Nang, RVN. The first aircraft landed at Da Nang on July 4, 1965; the last landed on 6 July 1965.

The company was at 82% authorized enlisted personnel strength and 100% officer strength upon arrival in RVN.

Check The Catkiller web site at <http://www.catkillers.org/rac-history.html>

for more historical information

Guardian of the DMZ — Eyes of I Corps

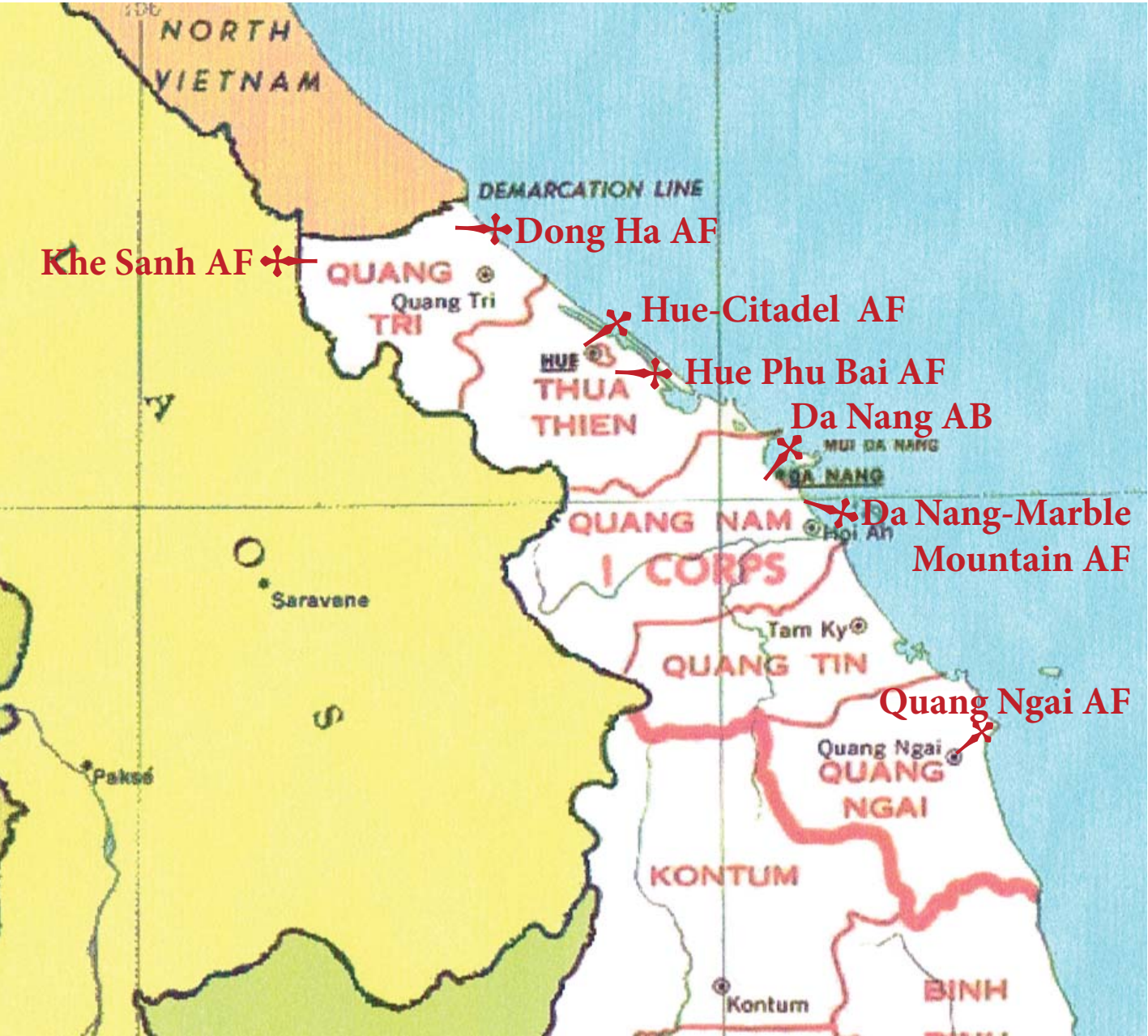
Our Mission

The 220th was assigned to support I Corps Headquarters, the USMC units operating in the Da Nang area and northern I Corps, Special Forces units, and ARVN Divisions in the area.

Their area of operations encompassed the northern most five RVN provinces of Quang Ngai, Quang Tin, Quang Nam, Thua Thien and Quang Tri.

Additionally, from July 1965 until March 1967, 4th platoon was detached and attached to augment the 219th Aviation Company, “Headhunters” at Holloway Airfield, Pleiku, in II Corps.

Bases of Operation Included



Support Provided Included

Capabilities

- Visual Reconnaissance
- Target Acquisition
- Forward Air Control
- Close Air Support
- Aerial Photography
- Convoy Escort
- Artillery and Naval Gunfire Adjustment
- Radio Relay
- Leaflet Drops
- Limited Medical Evacuation
- Bomb Damage Assessment

Units Supported 1965 — 1971



ARVN 1st Infantry Division
(Primarily Hue area and North of Da Nang)



ARVN 2nd Infantry Division
(Primarily Quang Ngai area and South of Da Nang)



ARVN I Corps Headquarters (Da Nang)



1st Marine Division (South of Da Nang—Quang Ngai, Quang Tin and Quang Nam Provinces). Arrived in Chu Lai in August 1965



1st Marine Aircraft Wing (Based at Chu Lai)



3rd Marine Division (North of Da Nang—Thua Thien and Quang Tri Provinces)



Initially deployed as the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade in 1965—reorganized as the III Marine Amphibious Force in 1966 with 1st Marine Aircraft Wing at Chu Lai, 1st Marine Division at Chu Lai and 3rd Marine Division at Da Nang with a HQ Division (Fwd) at Phu Bai



Naval Task Force Clearwater
Consisting of Dong Ha River Security Group and Hue River Security Group . TF Clearwater was a riverine force; it was gradually wound down as ground security in the area improved.



Naval Task Force 116

Provided by Gene Wilson



ARVN 7th Vietnamese Airborne Regiment (part of a Task Force after Tet '68 with the 1st ARVN Infantry Division in the restoration of Hue City)



101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) [US]



173rd Airborne Brigade (US) [with XXIV Corps]



5th Special Forces Group (US) [Throughout I Corps]



1st Cavalry Division (US) [TET Offensive 1968—Hue, Quang Tri, Khe Sanh and A Shau until May, possibly June]



1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division (US)



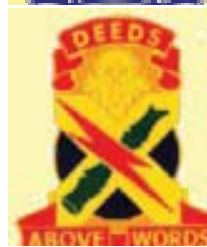
Americal Division (originally Task Force OREGON)—based at Chu Lai



3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division (US)



196th Light Infantry Brigade (US) [with the Americal Division, XXIV Corps]. 196th Light Infantry Brigade belonged to the Americal Division, also known as 23rd Infantry Division. All three light brigades had been activated as independent units for service in Vietnam, then consolidated under the reactivated Americal.



108th Field Artillery Group (US)



XXIV Corps (HQ in Phu Bai – later in Da Nang) [Also seen as 24th Corps]



US Army MACV Advisers (Throughout I Corps)

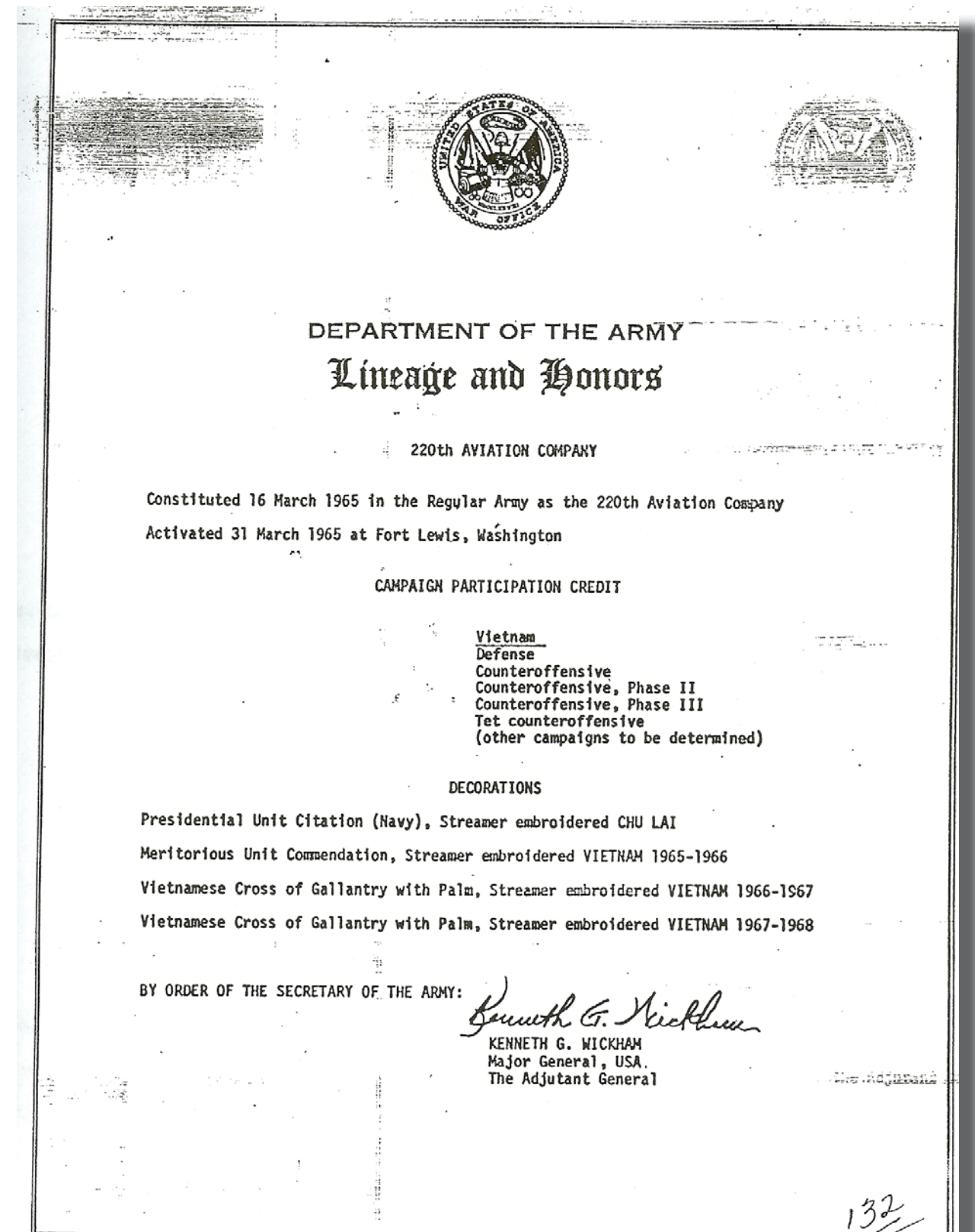


1st Brigade (Separate), 101st Airborne Division (US)



Seabees (US) [Throughout I Corps]

220th Aviation Company Lineage and Honors



Provided by Gene Wilson

Provided by Dewey Grocox

Our Keynote Speaker

Jerry Curry

Major General, U.S. Army - Retired



A decorated combat veteran, Army Aviator, Paratrooper and Ranger, Jerry entered the U.S. Army as a private during the Korean War and worked his way up to Major General before retiring. Most of his time was spent in troop assignments in the United States, Germany and Korea. He also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense in the Carter Administration, as Press Secretary to the Secretary of Defense in the Reagan Administration, and worked in international relations, public affairs, management, aviation, and research and development. Along the way, he earned a bachelors degree from the University of Nebraska/Omaha, a M.A. in International Relations from Boston University, and a doctorate from Luther Rice Seminary.

During the Viet Nam War, in July 1965, Jerry was selected to activate, command and make combat ready the new 220th Aviation Company and lead its deployment to I Corps in the northern most area of the Republic of Vietnam. He also served as a U.S. Advisor to a South Vietnamese infantry regiment and flew helicopters and reconnaissance planes. In the military he was known for his forceful leadership skills and his demonstrated ability to perform multiple tasks concurrently well, particularly under crisis conditions.

General Curry commanded the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (TECOM) headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. TECOM was responsible for performing Engineering Development Testing to determine whether all Army equipment including jeeps, trucks of all types, self propelled artillery, tanks, electronics, airplanes, helicopters and missiles is safe to operate, free from defects and is in compliance with all of the Army's technical specifications.

TECOM's subordinate commands include the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, Dugway Proving Ground, Edgewood Arsenal, Jefferson Proving Ground, Yuma Proving Ground, the Electronics Proving Ground, Army Aviation Test Center at Fort Rucker, Cold Region Test Center in Alaska, and the Tropic Test Center in Panama.

At the time of his retirement Jerry was Deputy V Corps Commander in Frankfurt, Germany. He then worked in the private sector and spent three years as Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in the Bush Administration. He is currently an opera singer and business consultant.

Our Master of Ceremonies

James M. Morris

Brigadier General, U.S. Army - Retired



General Morris began his career with BA Degree from St. Bonaventure University and a commission as a Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Reserve on 3 June 1962. He has served in a number of command and staff assignments to include Unit Commander with E Battalion, 36th Artillery; 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery; as a Captain in 1965, he served as Section Leader and Fixed Wing Aviator with the 220th Aviation Company stationed in the Republic of Vietnam; Plans and Training Officer, Headquarters and Service Company, United States Army Aviation Center Regiment; Helicopter Pilot, 42d Infantry Division Artillery; Platoon Commander, Company B, 42nd Aviation Battalion; On 22 June 1971 he was assigned as S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 42nd Aviation Battalion; Assistant Division Aviation Officer, Battalion S-3 and subsequently Battalion Commander, 42nd Aviation Battalion; Brigade Commander, 2d Brigade, 42d Infantry Division; and Assistant Division Commander. On 13 December 1988, he was promoted to the grade of Brigadier General.

General Morris' awards and decorations include: Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (17 OLC), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (40LC), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (10LC), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Navy Unit Commendation Medal, Master Army Aviator Badge, New York State Military Commendation Medal, New York State Long and Faithful Service Medal (20LC), New York State Aid to Civil Authorities, and the New York State Humane Service Medal

WE HONOR THE BRAVE MEN THAT FLEW WITH US AS AERIAL OBSERVERS

The hundreds of eagle eyed back seat men from the Marine Corps, Navy, Army and ARVN took on all the same risks as the pilots and trusted them to bring them back safely. Their courage, skill and teamwork was critical to the success of our missions.

Here are just a few of them.



Rick Azotea - 101st AO



Albert Slater USMC AO



**Joe "Beans" Brett AO
Sundowner Yankee**



**J. D. Richards
USMC AO**



**Herb DeGroot
USMC AO 66-67**



**Carl Collins
USMC AO 66-67**



• **Tom Spruck 108th Arty**



**Jesse Mulkey
USMC AO 67**



**Mike LaFromboise
USMC AO**



SSG Roger Putnam



**Bob Ziomeck AO
Sundowner Kilo**



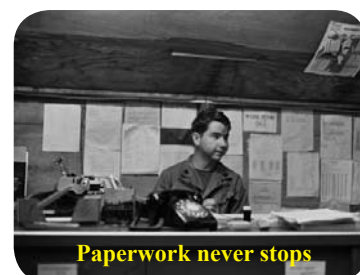
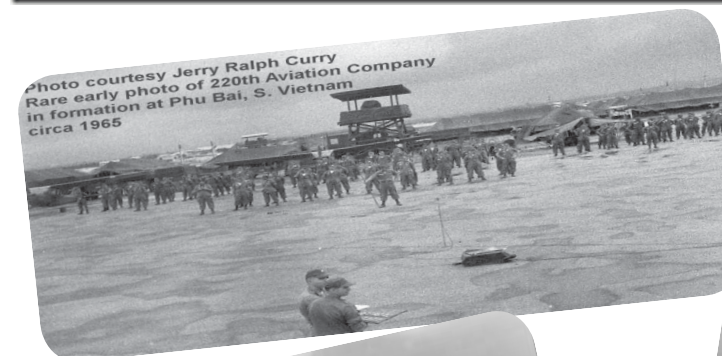
**Clyde Trathowen
USMC AO 68-69**

WERE IT NOT FOR THE DEDICATION OF ALL THE GOOD MEN WE NEVER WOULD HAVE GOTTEN IN THE AIR

All of the enlisted soldiers, from PFC to the First Sergeant, were essential to safety and success of the missions flown by pilots and aerial observers! Their devotion to duty and skill in performing their work, often in difficult circumstances, played a huge role in our success and sterling reputation with the combat units we supported.

We Honor all of them and thank them for their service.

Here are just a representative few of these great men.



OUR PILOTS DELIVERED!

We observed, we answered the panicked calls and engaged the enemy with everything available to destroy the threat. We worked hard and played hard.

We developed strong bonds with our band of brothers.

And we made life-long friendships.

**2003 Reunion
Las Vegas, NV**



**2006 Reunion
League City, TX,**



**2010 Reunion
Philadelphia, PA**



Our reunion is held in honor of our brothers in arms and in memory of our fallen Catkillers.

KILLED IN ACTION:

Ronald Miller Fero	WO	December 20,1965	Quang Ngai Prov.
Marvin Leroy Shipman	PFC	December 20,1965	Quang Ngai Prov.
Robert Wilton Garth, Jr.	CPT	September 23, 1966	Near Mo Duc
Lloyd Taylor Rugge	1LT	January 26, 1967	Near Duc Pho
William Anthony Berry	1stLt	March 5, 1967	Quang Ngai, USMC AO
Bobby Ray Jermyn	CPT	May 23, 1967	Near Con Thien
Louis Ferdinand Keeven	CW2	December 4, 1967	Quang Tri Prov.
William Arthur Kimsey	WO1	January 21, 1968	Within DMZ
Charles James Ramsay	Capt	January 21, 1968	Within DMZ, USMC
Terance M. Bozarth	1LT	February 22, 1968	Near Hue
James Houston Roulett	SP5	June 27, 1968	Da Nang
William Otto Schmale	MAJ	August 23, 1968	Near Tay Ninh
Benjamin C. Hartman	CPT (P)	September 19 1968	Darloc Prov
Michael S. LaFromboise	1stLt	June 6, 1969	Quang Tri Prov., USMC
Larrie John Landersheim	WO	May 23, 1970	Quang Tri Prov.
Lee Raymond Peters	WO	July 30, 1970	Dong Ha
Forrest Hughy Hollifield	1LT	July 30, 1970	Dong Ha (108 th Arty)
James Hall Spann	CPT	November 26, 1971	Phu Bai

STILL MISSING IN ACTION:

Donald Lee Harrison	1LT	October 29, 1968	North of DMZ
Steven Neil Bezold	1LT	October 29, 1968	North of DMZ, (108 th)
Hugh McNeil Byrd Jr.	CPT	January 9, 1968	Quang Tri Prov.
Kevin O'Brien	1LT	January 9, 1969	Quang Tri Prov, (108 th)
Paul Jennings Bates Jr.	Capt	August 10, 1969	Quang Tri Prov.
Albert Dolan	SP5	August 10, 1971	Quang Tri Prov.
Floyd Dean Caldwell	SSG	December 14, 1971	South China Sea

See the actual rubbings from the wall in the newly created framed memorial tribute to our fallen.

Recently Learned About or Deceased After Returning Home:

Those in red with * are announced as having died after return from Vietnam and came to our attention since the last reunion:

- Richard F. Corcoran, CAPT, USMC, June 7, 1968, Quang Tri*
- Jim Baranowski, 1972
- Daryl Spann, 1970s*
- Russ Blanchard, 1980
- Scott Randall Burke, 1986*
- Donald J. Johnson, 1987
- Troy Duplesis, Nov. 1990*
- Arne Roebuck, 1990
- Raymond Gene Gebhardt, 1993
- Ron Grooms, 1994
- William W. "Bill" Norton, Dec. 1994*
- John "Rik" Billings, 1995
- Lonnie Joseph Odom, 1997
- Jay Fenwick, 2002
- Alan O'Hollaren, 2003
- Charles L. "Woody" Woodhurst, 2003
- Bobby Goodspeed, 2003
- Sammy Cooper, 2003
- Floyd Castren, 2004
- Palmer Swift Haines, 2004
- Johnny Clay Moore, April 2004
- John T. Mulvany, 2004
- Terry Scruggs, 2004
- Robert "Lucy" Lucianno, 2005*
- Joseph N. Robinson, 2006
- Joe Hodges, December 2009
- Wayne Kenneth Woytowich, June 2009
- Tony Keltner, August 2009
- Gene K. Hayes, March 2010
- Gustof Otto Fajerson, November 5, 2010*
- Charles M. Kieffer, January 9, 2011*
- Jesse Glenn Mulkey, Col, USMC, Retired, April 12, 2011*
- Robert "Wayne" Parker, MSGT Ret., May 18, 2012*
- Larry Huston, June 29, 2012
- Bill Amberger, unknown
- Robert Henry Teer, unknown
- William D. "Bill" Welch, unknown
- Richard Terwelp, unknown
- Thomas F. O'Toole, 1stLt, USMC, date of death unknown*

The YO-3A "Quiet Star" Section

In the later part of June 1970, a section of three YO-3A Aircraft and crews was attached to the 220th at Phu Bai. These low altitude “Silent Stealth” night reconnaissance aircraft worked in the DMZ for the next six months into January 1971.

Their missions were normally flown at an optimum altitude of about 800´MSL. Although these aircraft were never actually intended to be military aircraft, the primary mission of the YO-3A by the Army was to see what they could do to interrupt and ultimately destroy enemy night operations.

Another group of YO-3As worked in southern Vietnam out of Long Thanh North. These aircraft were not armed with weapons and their only protection was their silent operation. However, the YO-3A was “armed” with a Night Vision Aerial Periscope, an Infrared Illuminator and a Laser Target Designator in its “arsenal” of mission equipment. There is much more information about the YO-3A Unit in the link on www.catkiller.org.



NOTE: *Kurt Ohney, who was a 220th Crew Chief with the YO-3A section is here at our reunion..*

He is the web master for the YO-3A site and should be able to answer questions relating to the YO-3A and its working relationship with the 220th in its mission in the I Corps area.

Special Thanks To...

The 2012 Catkiller reunion committee recognizes the tremendous work done by the leaders of the 2006 and 2010 reunion committees and greatly appreciates the knowledge transfer they provided as we began preparations for this year’s reunion. Thank you for your generous support Sandy and Carl Drechsel, Bud Bruton, and Charles Finch.

For this 2012 Reunion - Special thanks to:

Jerry Curry

Jim Morris

NanSea Welsh

Sharon Paulsen

Floy Ann McPhee

Don Ricks

Eric Tobiason

Eric Long

Bill Everett

Stuart Miller

Chico Fernandez

Invisible Creature, Inc.

Don Clark

The Frame Makers Co.

Anna Johnson

Rami Alhakeem

Kim Wiser

Staff of the DoubleTree Suites

-SouthCenter

Diane Witt

Diana Waddell

The Museum of Flight Staff

Meagan McGuire

McCormick & Schmick’s Catering Staff

Jannette Mawhirter

Heritage Flight Museum

Bill Anders

Greg Anders

Fort Lewis Tour

Matt Hinkle

Doug Saunders

Myles Grant

Major Phil Mazingo

We also thank all of the people who have shared stories and photos for the Catkiller Web Site.

Your 2012 Reunion Committee

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Gene Wilson

Charlie Welsh

Darl McAllister

Lloyd Oake

Dick Tobiason

Don Ricks

Paul Garin

Jack Bentley

The old gate at Fort Lewis is now closed.



Our Bird Dogs have been replaced by UAV's.



All the aircraft we flew are now museum attractions.

Let's get together again soon!