



Volume 12, Number 1

TAC MISSILEERS

NEWSLETTER

“Serving the mace and matador missile crews and all support personnel who fought and won the cold war”



March 2010

Keep in touch with the Organization and stay on top of the latest goings-on by visiting our web site often at www.TacMissileers.org.

Project Move The Wildwood Mace

We are helping preserve USAF Tactical Missile Heritage

The TAC Missileers have seized a great opportunity to help preserve USAF Tactical Missile Heritage!

Recently, we learned that a CGM-13B Mace, currently displayed on the grounds of American Legion Post 18 in Wildwood, Florida is “looking for a new home.” Knowing that the Indiana Military Museum in Vincennes, IN is interested in acquiring military items for display, **Max Butler** contacted TAC Missileers member **Frank Roales**, a very active volunteer there, and he confirmed that, “yes they would be very interested” in adding the Wildwood Mace to their collection.

The Mace still belongs to the USAF, so the Mayor of Vincennes submitted an official request to the Museum of the USAF in Dayton, seeking approval for movement of the missile from Wildwood, Florida to Vincennes, Indiana and the approval has been granted for its relocation. The TAC Missileers officers are currently planning the move and providing assistance to the Indiana Military Museum, with the acquisition of the Mace. The museum is dedicated to fostering the memory, understanding, and appreciation of U.S. military history. It is in the process of funding / building a new expansion and can provide an excellent opportunity to display the Mace and associated USAF Tactical Missile heritage.

We will assist the Indiana Military Museum by coordinating and funding the missile relocation to Vin-

cennes. Total expense will be approximately \$2,500 (\$1,850 for trucking / \$750 for crane rental / insurance, etc.). (TAC Missileers has sufficient funds on hand to adequately cover this expense, without causing any financial concerns.) A recent email to the membership explaining our possible future involvement in the move and preservation of the Mace resulted in an overwhelming positive response. As we go to press the Indiana Air National Guard will make the actual transport of the missile for us, thus greatly reducing our costs. Several members and Officers met on March 15th in Wildwood, FL to take measurements and make plans for the actual move which will occur on the 14th of April. We will keep you informed as the project progresses. **MAX**



Max Butler on a recent visit to the Wildwood Mace



Max Butler and Roger St. Germain displayed their master carpentry skills in turning out the cradles for transporting the Wildwood Mace to Indiana. Looks like the boys were plumb tuckered out after a day of measuring twice and cutting once.



TAC Missileers Ten Years and Counting

It is amazing to realize that the TAC Missileers Organization is entering into its second decade of existence.

Started under the name of the 38th TMG Missileers Reunion, we held our first one in **Las Vegas** in summer 1999 where 51 members and 32 guests attended. Since then we have grown, stabilized and continue to be an active viable organization. **Joe Perkins** and **Andy Andrews** organized that first reunion, supported by a professional reunion team. **Joe Perkins, Max Butler** and the rest of the Officers have managed the show, organizing and producing all of our subsequent reunions.

A year after the 1999 Las Vegas, Nevada event enthusiasm was running high and we held a small quick turn around reunion the next year, near **Dallas**, Texas.

In 2000, we witnessed the official reorganization of the 38th TMG Missileers into the TAC Missileers Corporation, being registered in Florida as a tax-exempt, non-profit under IRS section 501c19.

Then, in October, 2001 we got back on our every two year schedule when the reunion was held in **Orlando**, Florida. Despite the gloomy hangover caused by the then recent 9-11 attack clouding our gathering, we had a very good showing from our membership and also received a Letter of Appreciation from the Governor of Florida for going on with our plans..

Next, 2003 had us meeting in **Englewood** just south of

Denver, Colorado. Even though Lowry AFB no longer existed, just being back in the high country refreshed the memory of the many, reminding us of our Technical School days there.

In 2005 we went country and had a good time in **Nashville**, Tennessee on the river dinner cruise and in attending the Grand Ole Opry together.

On to 2007 and **Tucson**, Arizona in the spring, it was a very nice event with the desert in bloom as a beautiful backdrop to our meeting and activities.

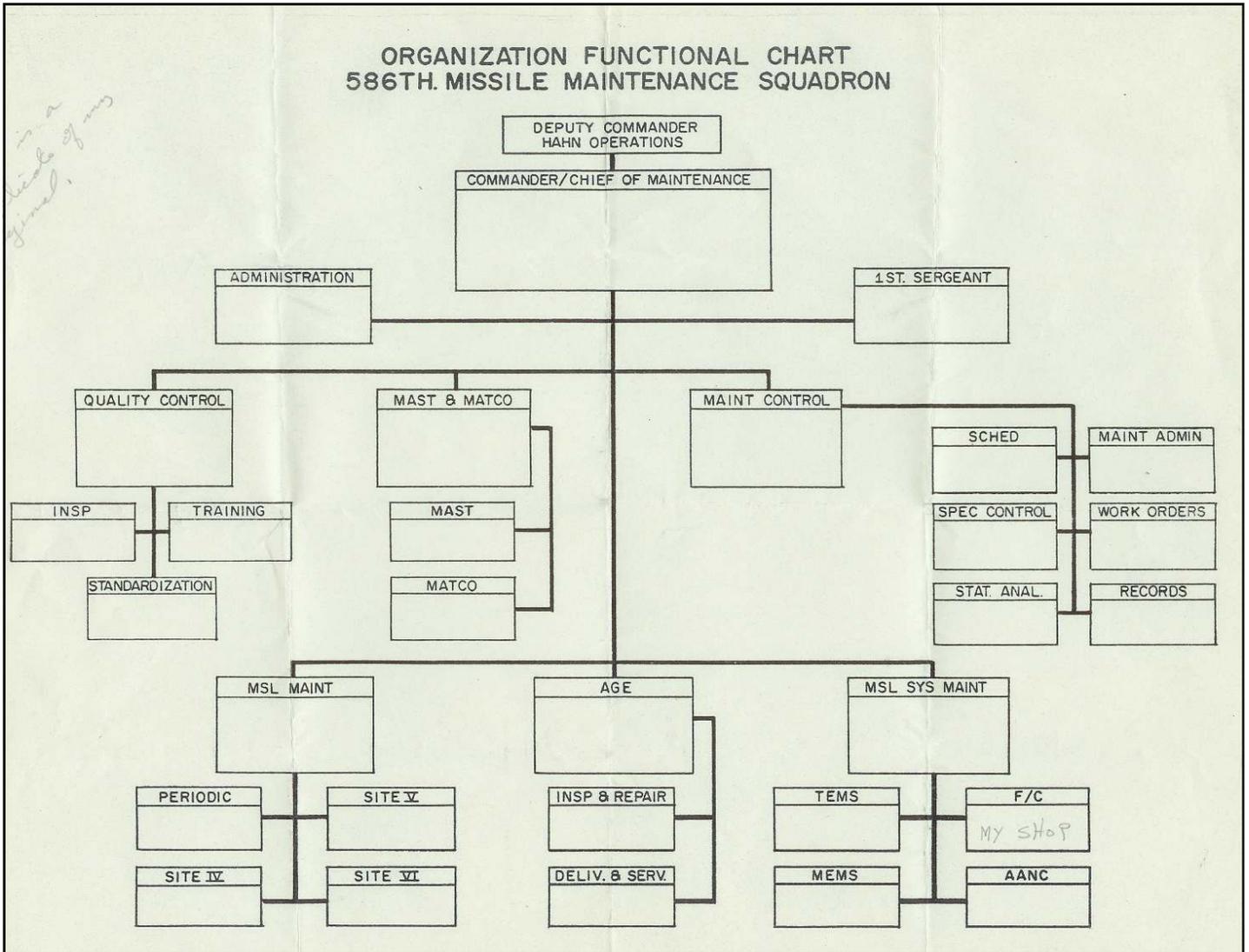
Last year, 2009, we experienced the National Museum of the Air Force visit and air show in **Dayton**, Ohio. Our most recent and probably busiest scheduled event to date was a first-class reunion capped off with the TAC Missileers plaque dedication to all TAC Missileers. Our Plaque is on permanent display on Wall #2-061 in the Museum's Memorial Park.

A good number of our members have faithfully attended every get-together we have sponsored, while others have made it to the ones nearer their homes. A core of regulars are always faithful and counted on to attend each gathering. It doesn't matter though, if you have only attended one or have made it to all, as long as you stay an active member, we appreciate everyone's efforts in attending when you can, where you can, and in your continuing support and participation in "Your Organization." We are looking forward to next year, 2011, when the reunion will be held somewhere in the San Diego area of California. Joe is already working that affair right now and will soon have some provisional information on it.

Bob Bolton & Joe Perkins

Missileer **David Maas** sent in the following:
 When I was first assigned to the 586th MMS at Hahn in June 1964, they were going through a reorganization and asked for someone to draft a large Organizational Chart. Prior to joining the Air Force, I had been studying to become an engineer and had school-

ing in the skills of drafting so I volunteered to develop the organizational chart. I have just come across a copy of that chart that I drafted and would like to submit it to the next issue of the TAC Missileer.



Dave Maas also decoded the mysterious acronyms for those of us not in maintenance, of the various work units shown on his Org chart.

MATCO was the Material Control (Missile Maintenance Supply function). This organization scheme was also the basic structure used in all the ICBM and GLCM systems in which I served in over the next 25 years.

TEMS which was the Test Equipment Maintenance folks;
MEMS I believe was the Mechanical Maintenance folks who worked on the missile airframe and engines.

AANC was the section that performed maintenance and unit testing on the Guidance system. (ATRAN)

F/C section in which **David** worked was responsible to run integrated preflight tests on assembled "noses" which were electrically connected to simulators that provided missile power AC/DC, warhead simulation, spoilers/ tail stabilizer (movement and feedback signals).

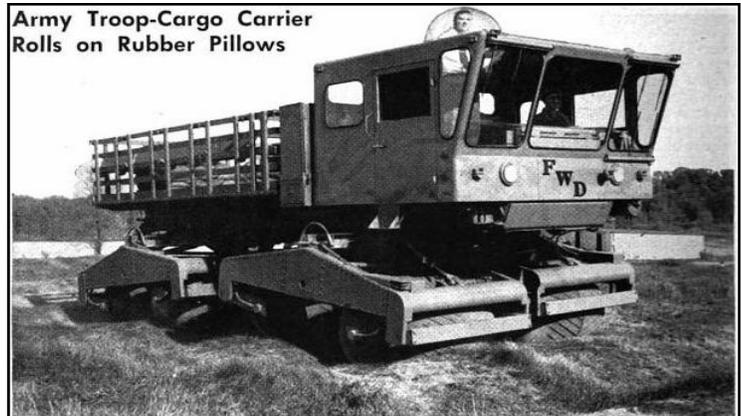
David said, "I would like to see some input from the MAST/MATCO folks as well as others on how all these functions operated at Hahn." We like feed back, what do you remember about your job in maintenance? Tell us, we are interested. Send it to **Bob Bolton** your Newsletter Editor.



The ugly machine to the **right** is yet another Army effort to utilize the FWD Teracruzer as a prime mover, notice the stake body, bumpers bars and bubble dome that an observer can occupy.

Following the Navy's actual operational use of the FDW Teracruzer as shown in our last edition here are more variations on the FWD Teracruzer concept, the Army's way.

Pictured at **left** is the use Army officials pursued to move fuel in mass quantities to the front. Each Teracruzer tire could be filled with 500 gallons of fuel and towed where needed. No words if the concept ever got past this trial stage.



Unauthorized Equipment or Procedures

Fess up! Did you carry or use any unauthorized equipment while working on either the Matador or Mace? What about a procedure or method slightly different from the prescribed way?

Recently this question popped into my mind during a discussion with an Airman who was around our missiles but did not work directly on them or the AGE. His question caused me to remember several things that the maintenance men used while working on the Victor Alert birds. I recall that some of the maintenance men carried an unused camera flash bulb on a chain around their neck. According to them, the bulb would fire and flash if hit by the RF energy being emitted by the ATRAN radar set. And, Curtis McKee reminded me of another bulb that was carried by him and others. The little NE-51 neon bulb. This bulb would glow in the presence of the RF energy also. I used that bulb, myself, later in the radar field to detect the presences of a leaky wave guide joint.

Tell **Bob Bolton** or **Russ Reston** about your use of unauthorized equipment or procedures. We'll publish them no questions asked!

Guesstimation During an ORI

My launch crew was selected to undergo the Standardization Board test and launch tests at the training complex near site I, Sembach AB during an ORI. We were by that time old pros having been around for several years. Knew the emergency procedures by heart, passed all of the written tests and were passed on to the simulated launches. It was SOP for Mech 1 to record the time of alert notification on some form. It was the Launch Officer's task to pass this information on me, the Mech 1, and I'd record the time for some later use. Well, after returning to the block house after starting the African Queen, I assumed my post and grabbed the form waiting for my LO to give me the time hack. It never happened and I could not get his attention without alerting the ORI Testers. We proceeded, RFT tests, run ups and simulated malfunctions, simulated launches, we aced it all! Then, OH DAMN! I remembered we had a write-up pending with that form being incomplete. I did some quick mental calculations, counting backwards on each of the many linear procedural steps we took from the last launch back to time of notification until I came to a time I felt was the actual time of receiving the alert. I entered that time and nailed it. However, the Stand-Board guy was on to me, he made a comment, saying even though I had guesstimated the correct time, they had to make a non-derogatory comment about our lack of following proper procedures. I got a wink and nod from the Stand Board leader and later a well-done slap on the back from my LO Captain Ashbrook.

Ollie

We are looking for information about Bobby F. Shamburger. Can you help?

He was stationed at Orlando AFB from 1956 to 1958, and was likely a member of the 17th TMS.

On 4 March 2010, Russ Reston our TAC Missileers Secretary received the following query from his daughter, Rebecca Stevens:

“Looking for my Dad’s service records!

My dad was a tactical guidance tech on the Martin Matador from 1956-1958 at Orlando AFB. I am trying to locate his unit number and squadron so that I can help him apply for his VA benefits. The Dept. of national records says that all his records were destroyed in a fire in 1973 and they need this information to be able to rebuild his records. Can you help me? His name is Bobby F. Shamburger.

My dad went to school at Lowry AFB beginning in Jan. 1955. He was then sent to Orlando AFB and was a Guidance Tech on the Martin Matador. He spent a lot of time TDY to a missile site which was in a little town between New Smyrna Beach and Titusville. He used a grid system to track the Matador. Dad’s unit was deployed to Taiwan. He stayed behind (he was too short and not reenlisting). He was honorably discharged in August of 1958.

On your web site in **Dennis Hornberger’s** Memories I found a picture that I believe has my dad in it (man in the back row far right). I am almost certain that this is my dad. Thanks for your help!!!

Rebecca Stevens”

If you have any copies of Special Orders from Orlando AFB, circa 1956 to 1958, would you see if they contain Bobby Shamburger’s name? If you knew Bobby or can provide ANY information that can confirm his assignment at Orlando AFB, **please send Russ Reston our Secretary an email**, so that he can pass the information along to Bobby Shamburger’s family.



Tac Missileers Corporation is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under section 501 (c) 19 of the IRS code. The Tac Missileer Newsletter is published several times a year, special editions as necessary. Membership dues are \$15 per year to run from January through December. Notifications relating to dues will not be mailed to individual members. Announcements in the Tac Missileer Newsletter will be the only notice given.

Executive Director: **Joe Perkins**, perkster@fcol.com
3133 Ravines Rd, Middleburg, FL 32068 904 282-9064

President: **William Simpson**, scrooge1940@yahoo.com
702-372-2525

Secretary: **Russ Reston**, russ@tacmissileers.org,
10940 Cokesbury Lane Raleigh, NC 27614 919-827-1915

Membership Dir/Treasurer: **Max Butler** thebutler@live.com
5625 Pearl Dr. Suite "F" Box 120
Evansville, IN 47712 812 307-0187

Publisher: **Curtis McKee**, topmckee@juno.com
1155 Mikus Rd. Weatherford, TX 76087

Editor: **Bob Bolton**, olliesnapper@gmail.com
2140 Sandown Court, Lawrenceville, GA 30043 770 339-6836

Historian: **Art Gust**, abgust@ckswireless.com
RR3 Box 400, Jacksonville, TX 75766 903 589-9701

Enhanced TAC Missileers Membership Card Being Issued

At the suggestion of Hank Barlow our membership cards are now enhanced to indicate that we are an Air Force Veterans Organization.

The statement: **U.S. AIR FORCE VETERAN**

Has been added to the card. With this additional phrase we hope that it will enable those members who are not retired military or carrying some other proof of their military service can receive veteran discounts offered by local merchants or stores. We understand that most Lowes and The Home Depot honor military service with shoppers discounts. However, regional stores operate differently so check with the stores management if you are denied a veterans discount at check out.

Indiana Military Museum

<http://www.indianamilitarymuseum.org>

Will be Receiving The CGM-13B Mace We are Moving From Wildwood, Florida

The Indiana Military Museum is located in historic Vincennes, Indiana. The museum is located in close proximity to Vincennes University and major national landmarks, including the George Rogers Clark National Park and Grouseland Mansion. The museum contains one of the best overall collections of military memorabilia in both the Midwest and the United States and has a vast array of unique artifacts, including military vehicles, artillery, weaponry, uniforms, insignia, artwork, textual resources, music, equipment and other related artifacts from the Revolutionary War to the present day.

The Indiana Military Museum serves thousands of patrons and groups each year, including Veteran's organizations and military unit reunion groups. Postsecondary institutions from throughout the region are also regular patrons as colleges and universities find rare and invaluable opportunities to enhance their curricula through immersion in the museum's resources. Individuals, faculty, and student researchers are also welcome to conduct independent research for scholarly projects and publications.

Museum Expansion The Indiana Military Museum has been in existence for over 25 years. The collection of artifacts and exhibits has been under way for longer than that. The time has come to expand the physical facilities again for the fourth time so that more of the collection can be displayed for the benefit and education of the the public. The museum is 100% volunteer operated with support from beneficent donors. The Indiana Military Museum is proud to announce the acquisition of a new 11 acre site for the museum expansion project! It is located on the northwest side of Vincennes at the old Blackford Glass factory site at the junction of Willow Street and South 6th Street Road. It is conveniently located near the George Rogers Clark National Park and adjacent to The French Commons which is the site for the annual Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous.

EXHIBITS & COLLECTIONS

- Revolutionary War - The War of 1812
- Civil War - Spanish American War
- World War I - World War II
- Korean War - Vietnam
- Desert Storm
- Current Engagements

Weaponry/Artillery:

- Bavarian 15 cm Heavy Field Howitzer Model 1893 WW I
- British Newton Mortar WW I
- British 5 inch Mk I "60 pounder" from WW I
- Very Rare Model 1906 4.7" US field gun
- Sperry WW II anti-aircraft search light
- 37 mm anti tank gun WW II
- 40 mm anti aircraft gun WW II
- M-1 57 mm anti tank gun WW II
- Towed 3 inch US Army field gun M-5 WW II
- 8 inch army field gun
- M1A1 90 mm anti aircraft gun WW II
- M-2 105 mm howitzer WW II
- M-1 155mm howitzer
- 16 inch battle ship artillery shells

Aircraft: This section is the most recent addition to the museum and includes:

- Beech C-45
- HU 1B
- C-47 cockpit and nose section
- T-33

Vehicles:

- 1945 Ford Jeep
- Two Greyhound Armored Cars
- M4A1 E8 Sherman Medium Tank
- Two WW II Stewart Light Tanks
- Two WW II White Motor Co. 1/2 Tracks
- WC-51 WW II 3/4 ton Dodge Weapons Carrier
- LVT-2 (Landing Vehicle Tracked) from WW II
- WW II Japanese Type 95 Light Tank
- Korean War M-47 Patton Medium Tank
- M114 Command and Reconnaissance Carrier
- WW I Ambulance - WW II Ambulance
- WW II DUKW amphibious truck
- Texts and Manuals: Available for research by members upon request.
- Uniform / Clothing: The General Officer's collection is one of the best outside of West Point. It contains letters, documents, flags, insignia and uniforms from U.S. WW II Generals and Admirals as well as the Korean War, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf. Among those exhibited are Generals Dwight D. Eisenhower, George S. Patton, jr., William C. Westmoreland, Omar N. Bradley, Mark Clark, Maxwell Taylor, James Gavin, Bruce Clarke, Ira C. Eaker, Robert Grow, James A. Van Fleet, Henry Saylor, Bruce K. Holloway, William Yarborough, Robert L. Scott, Robert Leich, Colin Powell and Tommy Franks. Admirals William F. Halsey, Eugene Flucky and Robert B. Caney are also on exhibit.

Active Volunteers

TAC Missileer **Frank Roales** and many others

Phillip Thomas 887th TMS Medic Shares this Story of Working For One Day In The Grünstadt AAFES Depot

Now for a little story of my adventure at that facility. It was back in 1962 that I thought I would make a little extra money and went there for a job. I worked three days on and three off with the military so I gave it a shot. They had a huge laundry operation as well as an ice cream making plant as well as the bakery. Well, I was to start in the ice cream plant. My first and only day was a hoot. I arrived a bit late and went into the dressing/break room where we were supposed to put on a water proof apron and a pair of boots as the place always had water on the floor. Well, the only apron was way too big as were the boots. I had to put the boots on the opposite feet or they would not stay on. Well, as I walked onto the work room floor all hell broke loose. Most workers were female and were working at a large very long machine that was putting the finished ice cream into small boxes. I must have been a funny looking sight as the first gal that looked my way started laughing, soon the whole crew was just about crying with laughter. Hell, it was so funny that I started laughing myself when I looked down at those big boots pointing in the wrong direction. Anyway the machine was neglected and production came to a halt with ice cream squirting onto the floor and empty or partially filled boxes all askew. It was a while before order and production was restored.

Then it got worse. The manager entered the scene and told me that he did not think I would work out in that department but he had another area he could use me. We then went to the mixing room. There was a huge vat and hundreds of large bags of ingredients. It was hot and was manned by a very large and muscular German. My job was to go over to the 80lb bags and heave one as directed onto my shoulder carry them a short distance then walk up several steps and reach up with one hand, in which I had a hook knife, slice the bag open and dump the contents into the vat all in one fluid motion. Ole Hugo showed me how to do it and he had a great routine. Now here is where I got into trouble. Remember I only weighed about 132 pounds at the time. Well, I got over to the bags all right and had a hell of a time getting that thing onto

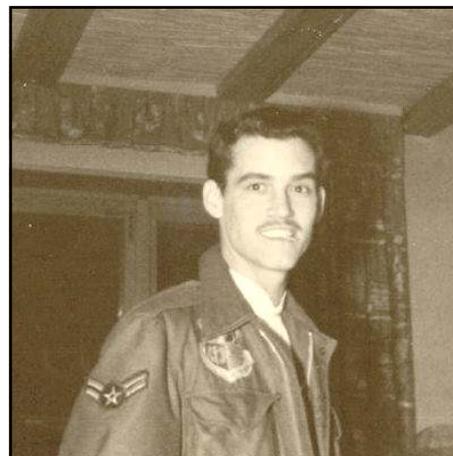
my shoulder. I even made it back to the steps I have to admit not exactly in a straight line. After several attempts I mounted the platform and reached for my hook knife. At that point my point of gravity shifted and I damn near fell into the vat. In went my hook knife and the unopened bag. It made quite a splash and a mess. Ole Hugo had a great laugh and shut the vat off and reached in with one hand retrieving the bag and my knife. He was only wearing a T shirt and when he came up with my knife he had ice cream in his arm pit. That was the end of that job and I had not even finished my first day.

They must have really needed help because they did not show me the door. Nope, I then went over to the laundry. Now that is some operation. Dirty fatigues and bed linens in huge piles. I was assigned to the press room. It must have been 100 degrees or better. I was shown how to use a steam press and was directed to a pile of damp fatigues right out of the dryer. More heat. Well, it seemed that with my glasses fogging up I had a hard time getting the seams straight. It turns out that if it is not done right the first time that the seam is hard to steam again to correct the first one. Well, you get the picture. I finished the day somewhat exhausted and with a lot more insight as to how the Grünstadt operation worked. I did not go back, just figured that I was not cut out for that kind of work. I still think that if my apron and boots had fit at first I would have made it.

Now you know about my Grünstadt Depot experience. I haven't shared this with anyone outside the family. It was just too goofy.

Your Ex Medic

Phillip Thomas



**TAC MISSILEERS CORP
MAX BUTLER
5625 Pearl Dr.
Suite "F" Box 120
Evansville, IN 47712**

MACE SCOPE-OUT DAY WILDWOOD, FL
Max Butler, Joe Perkins, George Mindling, Roger St. Germain, Jack Davis, John Gibbs and Bob Bolton met at the Wildwood, Florida American Legion on Monday, March 15th to inspect, measure, plan and coordinate for the upcoming move of the CGM-13B Mace that has been standing guard on the Legion property for many years. The Mace was found to be in rather good condition considering that it has been exposed to the elements, unsheltered the entire time of its duty at Wildwood. We opened as many access panels as possible and gained access to the interior of the nose, guidance and warhead sections. Surprisingly, very little corrosion was noted inside these forward sections. The center section and aft sections were sealed and we could not see inside those segments. In the past, someone had crudely closed off the plenum intake with sheet metal and rivets. Quite a few screws, fasteners and other fittings are missing or loose and had been replaced by non-standard fasteners. Fueling caps were missing in several locations. The starboard wing was found to have sustained some minor damage to the leading edge and tip areas.

George Mindling noticed that the aft trailing edge, port wing tip was damaged in a way that reminded him of an incident he witnessed during training in Orlando, during which someone ran into the same



area of the same wing on the Mace B training bird with a forklift. We suspect that this bird was from Orlando and if

so this is possibly the same bird that George witnessed getting dinged those many years ago. Pictured is the inside the warhead section showing the Mark 28 mounting brackets still in place and the surprising near pristine condition of the structure in that area.

Ollie