



TAC MISSILEERS

NEW SLETTER

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Please Sent Your 2005 Membership Dues To Max Butler

2005 Tac Missileers Reunion AKA “The Joe Perkins Group From Florida” Hummm!! Was that a tour group or some TAC Missile Boys?

The final count is in, we occupied 143 suites manned by 304 members and wives at our Nashville get-together. A very good showing for **any** military reunion! A handful of the attendees made it a full week in Nashville, most were there for the June 1st, 2nd and 3rd official days, and several came for only one day. No matter the time spent with the group all seemed to enjoyed our happening. A big thumbs-up to everyone who made the effort to join us in Nashville. We had representatives from every region of the country, New England, the far west, north and south and one devoted Missileer came all the way from the Philippines. At registration each member was presented with a welcoming packet containing among o ther items an e legant personalized name tag, commemorative d igital clock and a p in-on replica o f our Tac Missileers badge with blinking red LED nose cone. We saw them blinking all over Nashville.

As always I hung out with the usual suspects from Grünstadt but took the time to chat with other folks at the hotel at the odd moment here and there. The mood was much less frenetic than we had experienced at our earlier reunions. Everyone seemed a good deal more at ease and relaxed around each other. More like a family reunion this time. A lot of the Members did their our own interesting things beyond the reunion venue. Some went golfing as the weather permitted, others hunted antiques and many others explored the Nashville and local area highlights and high life on their on or by taking the old stand-by Gray Line Tours. Although not country music related the Frist Center Of The Visual Arts in the beautifully restored historic post office building was an artistic and interesting stop for a few. The Ryman Auditorium, location of the original Grand Ole Opry radio show, also known as the Mother Church of Country Music was another must see stop attracting many of us. It was there in its heyday that you would have seen the stars and listened to their country music as they wowed the crowds and radio audience from that historic stage. Also high on the list of things done during the week was a visit to the Country Music Hall Of Fame, an audiovisual rush of the pure glitz that is country music. It features the stars and their careers, lifestyles, and the evolution of the music that is country, from its earliest home spun string bands to the current Nashville Sound. Nowhere else can you find such a collection of Country Music Memorabilia. We saw that Webb Pierce was quite the flamboyant one with h is guitar shaped pool and that silver dollar studded Cadillac. Elvis' Cadillac and piano were there also. Many Missileers did the “Honky Tonkin” thing at the Wild Horse Saloon, Tootsies Orchid Lounge, Woody's, The Stage and Rippy's all located downtown on Broadway Street.

During Thursday's business meeting the e xisting Board o f Directors was re-elected by unanimous approval and the membership also voted to hold our next reunion in Tucson, AZ. Messers Baldner and DeVoy will do the initial venue reconnaissance in Tucson for our 2007 meeting. We'll keep you updated as they report back to the BOD.

Our planned events work out well, the river dinner cruise on the General Jackson was well worth the trip, not only did we enjoy a great meal with first-rate service, we were also entertained by the outstanding Peking Acrobats. A group of tumbling, jumping, and climbing Chinese acrobats that did many gravity defying acts for us. From 16 performers on one bike to a “stood up straight” girl balancing 30 glasses at one time. One artist performed a han d stand atop a tower of chairs that reaching high into the rafters of the hall, or should I say reached high into the overhead since we were on a riverboat. No matter what you call it, he was high and the stunt was awesome. Our “formal” evening on Friday was first-rate with most enjoying the banquet, companionship, formal moments, presentations and door prize drawings.

Those Missileers s taying the b onus day, found Saturday's planned a ctivity a big h it, more than o ne hundred o f us attended the early evening Grand Ole Opry show. The warm up performer, a Minnie Pearl impressionist, pointed out several of the larger groups in the audience. One group announced was the “Joe Perkins group from Florida”. That must have been us because we all applauded and cheered when she acknowledged our presents with that slightly misleading moniker. During the evenings performance we saw old country stars, some very old stars, some new and in between stars. The music ranged from country classics to very progressive young bands that hardly sounded like the country

music we expected to experience. Being members of the studio audience in the live WSM Grand Ole Opry radio show we were encouraged to vocally participated in one commercial for a southern candy treat called Goo Goo Clusters. I wonder if we'll ever see any royalty checks for that "performance"?

Each morning the Missileers assembled in the hotel's dining area and atrium to enjoy a most excellent, complimentary, cooked to order breakfast. Many lingered at their tables and chatted with other Missileers well into the midmorning hours before setting off on individual or group sightseeing missions. Late afternoons found the us gathering again to enjoy the complementary happy 2 hours after the day's outing.

Sunday right after breakfast many members starting to head out to their homes around the country. Parting hugs and handshakes were breaking out spontaneously all around the hotel as each person or couple departed. Most everyone was already thinking about the next Tac Missileers Reunion in Tucson, 2007. All-in-all our Nashville 2005 Reunion was a most exceptional experience.

Editor

Missileer Recognition Awards



Several days following the reunion Our Executive Director Joe Perkins visited with **Ken and Arlene Alward** at their home to present them with the Tac Missileers recognition for their long and dedicated support of and service to the organization. The presentation was in the form of a framed commemorative message with the following text.

"PRESENTED TO KEN & ARLENE ALWARD "Our Own PHOTO-BUGS" IN APPRECIATION FOR BOTH OF YOU IN YOUR TIRELESS EFFORTS. KEN, FOR YOUR VALUABLE ASSISTANCE IN REUNION PREPARATION. ARLENE, FOR ALL THE TIME AND MONEY YOU SPENT MAKING SURE WE HAD A PHOTO RECORD OF ALL OUR REUNIONS. YOUR HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO RENEW OLD FRIENDSHIPS, MAKE NEW

FRIENDS AND RELIVE THE PAST. YOU HAVE HELPED REKINDLE PRIDE IN OUR AIR FORCE SERVICE AND LOVE OF COUNTRY. FOR ALL OF THIS WE ARE EVER GRATEFUL WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE YOUR MISSILEER FAMILY"

Following Friday's banquet meal **Bill Simpson** a Tac Missileers patron and faithful attendee all the way from the Philippines was presented an award of recognition for his financial and other background support of our organization.

"JUNE 1st, 2005 UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TAC MISSILEERS PRESENTED TO BILL SIMPSON "THE BAGUIO KID" IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR TIRELESS EFFORT IN SUPPORTING OUR REUNION EFFORTS WITH DONATIONS OF MONEY AND SPECIAL ITEMS USED IN AUCTIONS TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE NEWSLETTERS AND THE WEB SITE, SO THAT WE CAN KEEP OUR MISSILEER FAMILY INFORMED. YOUR DETERMINATION AND HARD WORK HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO RENEW OLD FRIENDSHIPS, MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND RELIVE THE PAST. YOU HAVE HELPED REKINDLE PRIDE IN OUR AIR FORCE SERVICE AND LOVE OF COUNTRY. FOR ALL OF THIS WE ARE EVER GRATEFUL WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE YOUR MISSILEER FAMILY JUNE 1st 2005"

Minutes Of the 2005 Tac Missileers Reunion

Meeting opened by President, **Julian Esposito** at 1:03pm. "Everybody is having a good time." The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Julian after which there was a moment of silence. Julian introduced the officers; **Joe Perkins**, Executive Director; **Max Butler**, Membership Director/Treasurer; **Curtis McKee**, Newsletter Publisher; **Bob Bolton**, Newsletter Editor; **Larry Emerson**, Secretary. Executive Director Perkins stated that we like the Embassy Suites for our reunions. He also stated that the current slate of officers were willing to run for re-election and asked for nominations from the floor. There were none and a motion to keep the current slate of officers was made and seconded. The vote was unanimous. Next order of business was to select a site for the next reunion. Mr. **DeVoy** asked to speak about the virtues of Tucson, Arizona. Someone from the audience asked that St. Louis be considered. Joe Perkins stated that our organization had lots of members from California and it should be considered, as we had not been that far west in the past. Mr. **Lischka** asked to speak to the virtues of San Diego. It was decided to put Tucson and San Diego up for the vote. There were 53 votes cast for San Diego and quite a few more cast for Tucson. Tucson was declared the site for our next reunion, however June was ruled out due to the heat index during that time of year. March 2007 was chosen. See you in Tucson! Question from the floor as to possibility of having a life membership fee established. It was decided that the Board of Directors will make that decision based on annual dues of \$15.00 and possibly a five for four rate. Joe announced that we had bypassed reading the minutes and Secretary Emerson would

read them at this time. It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 2003 meeting be accepted as read. Vote was unanimous. Joe Perkins asked the membership to please keep Max Butler informed as to address changes, both email and postal addresses. Every mailing using the postal system gets newsletters returned and postage is \$0.37 each newsletter. Joe Perkins stated that he had made a mistake in thinking more people had driven to Nashville. His idea was to have anyone with a car to drive to the General Jackson and take two or three extra people with them. Instead most everyone showed up for the bus ride to the supper. He had to schedule an extra bus at the last minute and both buses made two trips to get everyone to the boat. The organization will pay for the buses but if anyone would like to contribute toward the cost of the buses it would be accepted. At this time Joe stated there would be a \$10.00 per person charge for the bus ride to the Grand Ole Opry on Saturday night. It's not mandatory to ride the bus but if you do the fee is required. Car pool to the Opry if you like. There was a question from the floor as to the \$8,000.00 in the treasury and why it couldn't be used to pay for the busses. Joe stated that money in the treasury was to pay the ongoing bill for the Missileer Website and postage for newsletters neither of which is free. There was a question from the floor on how dues are being paid. Max Butler stated that the dues are not being received from all members. Newsletters will not be sent to those who have not paid dues. Dues are due January 1st of every year and from now on the members dues expiration will be included on the mailing label of newsletter as a reminder. There was a motion from the floor to "do away with the formal banquet." It was determined that the person still wanted to have a banquet he just wanted the word "formal" taken out so there wouldn't be any misunderstanding as to attire required for the banquet (some folks didn't want to wear a suit). It was determined that in the future it would be referred to as the "Official Banquet" and attire was up to the individual. Motion died for lack of a second. A question from the floor pertaining to why he couldn't see all of the website information on his webtv internet site. Webtv is not something that we have any control over. It is a problem with webtv. **Art Gust**, Missileer Historian, requested time to speak to the audience in regards to items he has in his possession and what should be done with them. It is Art's feeling that these things should be donated to some kind of museum and possibly donate some money for the care of these items once donated. There was a motion and second to donate items per Art Gust's recommendation. Discussion from the floor about Warner-Robbins AFB Museum, Wright-Patterson AFB, Lowery AFB, PIMA Air Museum. The motion was amended to have a committee of volunteers look into donating and make a decision at the next reunion. **Terry Akre** and "**Lash**" **Larue** expressed they would volunteer and would get with Art to make a recommendation to the general membership at the next reunion. Motion passed. Joe Perkins stated there would be no raffle at the dinner tonight. Each attendee would receive a ticket for a drawing to be held after dinner for door prizes. Various items have been donated by the organization to be used as door prizes. Joe Perkins asked that if a group of attendees wanted to sit together at the Grand Ole Opry that they have a representative pick up tickets from him for their group. Ben Singleton asked that the registration forms have a place to put what bases a person was assigned to and that name tags at the next reunion display that information. Possibly be color-coded with a different color for each base. Joe also mentioned that we need spouse's names for the roster. The Arkansas Room has memorabilia on display that needs to be identified or picked up before Sunday. Art Gust will take home whatever is left to be added to the items he has. The meal tonight is at 7:00pm in this meeting room. The meeting closed at 1:57pm. Respectfully submitted, signed

Larry Emerson Secretary



2005 - 2007 TAC MISSILEERS OFFICERS

Larry Emerson Secretary. **Bob Bolton** Newsletter Editor, **Art Gust** Historian, **Max Butler** Treasurer/Membership Director, **Curtis McKee** Newsletter Publisher. Seated L to R, **Julian Esposito** President and **Joe Perkins** Executive Director

The Electronic Tac Missileers Corp. Newsletter In Our Future

If all goes as envisioned there will be an Electronic newsletter in our future. The E-Tac Missileers Newsletter is an idea I have had for some time, but till now I never followed up on it, inertia I suppose. While driving back to Atlanta after the reunion I was thinking about a comment made from the floor at our business meeting regarding the money in our treasury and what it could or should be used for. By emailing those members that want to receive the E-newsletter in digital format we can significantly reduce our organization's expenditures for publishing and mailing the quarterly hardcopy newsletter and still reach the active

members and maybe more individuals by emailing the quarterly E-newsletter. Before you flood Joe or Max or me with calls and emails about this leap into the digital age please read on and get the overview on how this can work for us. You will continue to receive your hard copy for a while yet. Our E-Newsletter is in the kick a tire, light a fire stage, I'm just formulating the plan and starting to work out some of the technical details and experimenting with some software and other internet related matters before we officially launch the project. We'll start slowly and begin sending the E-newsletter to selected individuals during a trial phase. Everyone will continue to receive the hard copy newsletter through the USPS until we feel secure in getting the E-newsletter out successfully to everyone who wants it in the digital format. I'll work on the project and as I told the other officers, I'm committing myself and setting a one year deadline to have the E-newsletter up and running for those of you who want it. The whole idea may crash and burn but we want to give it a try.

Some Technical Details: Each quarter, or sooner, those of you with a computer and an active and current email address will receive a simple email from me with a (.PDF) file attached. Clicking on the icon in the attachment line of the email will open that attachment up into an easy to read issue of the newsletter. This E-newsletter will look like a printed sheet on your screen and if you want a hard copy you can easily print out the whole issue or just one page or part of page. More on the details later. Many organizations have started to reach their membership base through the digital medium of emails with attached PDF. Portable Document Format is a way to transport documents like our newsletter for on-screen reading of printed documents. The newsletter can also contain active links, like to our web site, or to other interesting and related military sites or home pages, when you click on the link the site will open in a separate browser window. The newsletter can have color pictures, color graphics and many other features including sound. But, that is in the future when I get further into the process. Other advantages in using PDF is that we will be able to send out a brief newsletter at a moments notice if we need to get in touch with everyone in a hurry or I can send the full blown newsletter as often as we need to, more often even than the quarter year standard, all keep the you the membership informed on issues or events of importance. More later.

Editor

In the photo on the left, below, A1C Waggle operates the Rapid Fire Tester for Bird number 1 while MSgt Molinaro is ready to transfer control of a Mace A to Captain Blackburn in a 1963, 882nd TMS blockhouse photo. **Together again**, 42 years later in the right hand photo Bill Waggle and Joe Molinaro share a table with Frank Tobin, middle, at our 2005 Nashville reunion.

Reunion Photo courtesy of Leonard Romanczuk

Blockhouse photo from the Tac Missileer Web Site



Sixteen Years With The Matador and Mace by Trevis Moss MSgt USAF (Ret)

Trevis Moss' two cents worth...from a retired 79 year old Missileer. Sixteen years with the Matador, Mace A & B. The following may be a bit out of sequence but it is the thought that counts. In February, 1955 along with several others I was transferred from the Lowry gun laying school where I was an instructor to the dormant Guided Missile school (The missile Department at Lowry had turned out the cadre for Holliman and Patrick the 1st and 69th before going into standby status for a while. Perhaps some of you old timers can fill us in on that) was headed by a Major Pojlauski and staffed with a MSgt, TSgt Stevenson and several civilians. We were taught one phase by the civilians and were soon teaching that phase and learning a nother. Others I remember were TSgt Bernie Belt, A2c Yoder, A1Cs King, Carl Crenshaw, Dos Miller, Keith McConnell, Ashley, and Chester Downing. Most were content to teach one phase. I made it a point to go through with my first classes through all phases. At that time the TM61C Matador was the bird replacing an earlier TM61A (Mid wing bird that required sliding an assembled wing thru the fuselage at the pad. There was to be a TM61B which turned out to be the TM 76A & B. A few students were sent to the 1st and 69th or to the 6555th at Patrick and a few including A2C John Richardson one of my students, later a coworker with me in Ballistic Missile Reentry vehicle research and 1 Sgt. retired and became supervisor of the Recovery and Reclamation Operations for USBIIIJTC at the Cape on the Space Shuttle Solid Rocket Boosters. Were assigned to drones at Matagorda, Island. TX. Most went to the forming 11th at Orlando. I followed and was assigned to the 17TMS where we had to wait for the 11th to deploy for a chance to get our hands on. King was sent to OCS as a reward for forgetting about the AFA Cadet that broke the window of his new Olds to push it out of the way for a cadet formation to pass. Crenshaw did quite well with the Shanicle system which few understood and became one of the first AF CMSgt. Do any of you remember the tingle from adjusting that 300 V DC powering the reflex Klystron?

I had the privilege to become the Launch team A electronics crew chief and we launched the first missile from the Cape without a hold. LC DeOrsey our Squadron 17 TMS CO one day/Group CO the second and 4504hh1 TMS and Tac Missile School / Wing Commander the third day was overjoyed, but soon replaced with a full Colonel. Shortly after that my launch team chief, MSgt Jake Kinsfather was singled out to go to Washington to receive the 1 awarded pocket rocket. I got mine on the same orders; on the second paragraph got my senior star and the third paragraph my master's wreath. Right after that a small group was selected to start centralized missile maintenance, most of which consisted of the Calibration shop of which I was the daddy. I set up the Bear, (named after Major Paul (Bear) Ireland) a bird that the 11th had dropped and no one wanted to fly for a long time and we used it as a test bench and required that all "black boxes" that the launch and assembly teams had red Xed be installed in the Bear and duplicate the alleged malfunction or be re-green tagged and returned to service. Perhaps some of you 76A birders remember the specialist dispatch teams we sent out after your first black box on the pads. Martin and their contracted daily C 46 flight from Orlando to Baltimore lost big on that since after a year the flight was cancelled and Martin no longer got the 20% of the new cost to recycle the units.

I was sent to the Martin facility for the display and (ha! verification) of the proposed TM76A system. At that meeting I started talking to Major Lynch, 9AF about my cal shop experiment and the next thing I knew there was a TAC BG, a Martin VP, their chief of quality and about a half dozen WRAIvIA and AFLC, Wright Pat civilians in attendance. The Proposed Cal van at that time was tape on the hanger floor. The almost immediate outcome of that discussion was a 61C flight controls test bench simulator. Went to Contract Martin, Bendex, and Goodyear TM76A Factory school at Lowry in 57-58 with about 55 others to set up the Orlando Facility. Later it was the GEMS and Flt Controls Simulator my babies born out of inertia. And a new Butler building which I shared with the Nuke guys. Our cal van was set up out side the south side of the Butler building and a fter one guy (to be unna med) burnt up an MM1 engine which was powering the operation, because he failed to check the oil soon enough, I set up a 400 cycle alternator powered by a B-2 rectifier and a tap to the 3 phase building power. Boy did I get squawks from Goodyear reps about crest factor and other bull. Set up a 6 channel recorder on my commercial power set up and another on the Goodyear setup and ran 24 h rs. Met with Major Roberts, 4504 DM and Col Slayden, 4504 Commander, the next day and rolled the tapes out. End of squawks. WRAMA came down and he and I designed the first commercial power equipment for Orlando using surplus equipment and wrote the TOs for same.

We then proceeded to design the stuff you remember from Germany. Results were canceling about a few million dollars of procurement of MM1s and Power Packs. That is why some of you may remember packing the TOs in a few MM1s and sending them from Germany to the Navy in Antarctica and Army in Vietnam for other uses.

Along came the TM76B and I worked with Reynolds, Smith and Hill, Architects and the Corps of Engineers designing the B Bird complex at the Cape and at Orlando. Did any ever wonder why the Orlando engine run building faced south? It wasn't so you 43/54xxers could enjoy the sunshine on a cool morning. I planned the possibility of a live launch to Cuba. The building was expendable, which is why the later errant drone over flight was such a big deal in '66. The bad guys had received the message.

I had earlier suggested to Maj. J. Burns, Ops officer for Taiwan that a simulated (TM76 short Wings and Nose) TM 76 with its extended range over the TM61C be positioned in observable place on Taiwan might be interesting. Some of you took part in that. Red China moved five air fields back about 500 extra miles.

A letter from Harry Champy, Jr, Comm. Guy...also a Missileer.

Harry mentioned in an attached note that if anyone desired a copy of one of the Missileer magazines he has to please contact him.

April 14, 2005 SUBJECT; 701st / 38th Tactical Missile Wing Magazine (Germany)

Dear Sir:

I served as an A2C Radio Relay Repairman in the 585 C&G Sq. from March 1957 to March 1960. During that time I was at Bitburg AB and later at couple Radio Relay Operating Locations. While there I collected Missileer Magazines (when I could get a copy). I have a copy of the following:

February 1958 (Vol. 1, No.1) thru December 1958 (Vol. 1, No.11) January 1959 (Vol. 1, No.12) thru December 1959 (Vol. 2, No.11)

January 1960 (Vol. 2, No.12, and March 1960 (Vol. 3, No 1) Note am missing February 1960 and would like very much to locate a copy.

I also have a cigarette lighter with logo and other memorabilia from that era including one of the first available missile badges, which we at first thought we would be allowed to wear. My tour with the 585 C&G was not rewarding, promotion wise (36 months T.I.G. as A2C when I got discharged in March 1960), but rewarding in experiences. After a break in service, I re-entered the Air Force and later retired after 26 years. Oddly, I (as MSGT) went TDY to Bitburg AB (while stationed at Ramstein AB) in 1970 for training, which was in the same building that I worked in in 1957 as A2C (585 C&G Sq). I am disabled, therefore unable to attend the TAC Missileer Reunions. No, the full ammo box that fell on me while providing missile warhead escort duty at Bitburg in 1957 isn't the reason for the disability, but I remember the pain it caused.

Why did Communications guys provide missile warhead escort duty ???

Wishing all members well,

Harry D. Champy, Jr., CMSgt, Ret 585 C&G A2C 1957- 1960

4320 Brabham Dr.

Dalzell SC 29040-9245



The proof is in the picture, one of several recently found on a Luftwaffe unit historical web site. A TM-61C Matador with the Mattese cross adorning its side. Tac Missileer George Mindling is working this informative find. Known so far, before getting their Pershing Is the Germans actually fielded up to 9 Matadors in the early 60s, those being assigned to their 1st missile group. George promised to keep us informed of new findings.



A Unique Reunion Moment

Ed Johnson, Mike Brashear and Steve 'SAM' Moore prep a powered paraglider for the Biennial Albert Griese memorial flight. These model airplane flights are conducted by SAM at our reunions in memory of departed Tac Missileer Al Griese, an avid modeler during our missile days.

Photo by R. Wiatrowski

From Mr. President Julia Esposito

As some of you may know, I work for Lockheed Martin. In a recent company newsletter, there was an article called "All in Good Time." The article states that the company is attempting to locate and review historical documents, records, hardware, etc. related to the company with a goal being that "Locations will be identified for the possibility of setting up facilities, museums or educational centers that showcase the material." Also mentioned is that "the members of the memorabilia project will study existing collections, and then make determinations of the best ways to exhibit new materials." As Art Gust mentioned in Nashville, it's time for the Tac Missileers to locate and identify our historical items and possibly designate a location to showcase and hold this material.

Perhaps we can elicit aid (and funding!!) from Lockheed Martin to help and support our organization in this project. I e-mailed the Lockheed Martin contact for this project, Fred Henney, and explained our situation. I have also enclosed that e-mail and Fred's response (below!). We probably should be gearing up with our plans, especially if Lockheed Martin comes back in a few weeks asking for our projections, ideas and inventories (actual & possible). Obviously, we aren't making any commitments or agreements but I think it should be interesting to see how this develops. Hopefully there will be benefits in this for our organization.

Julian

"Fred, I work at Lockheed Martin-MS2, Mitchel Field, New York. I'm contacting you in reference to the article; "All In Good Time"- "Corporation seeking historical and memorabilia items", printed in the Lockheed Martin TODAY, May 2005 issue. I am also currently President of the TAC MISSILEERS, an organization of retired US Air Force members and associates who worked on or were associated with the USAF MATADOR or MACE missiles. Our web site is: www.tacmissileers.homestead.com/MISSILEER.html

The MATADOR and then the MACE were deployed in Germany and Okinawa from the early 1950's until the late 1960's as a cold war deterrent. Both missiles were manufactured by Martin Aircraft, which became Martin Marietta in 1961. As you know, Lockheed and Martin Marietta merged in 1995 to form Lockheed Martin. We do have a few members of our organization who were at one time employed by Martin Marietta. At our recent June reunion in Nashville, our organization historian, initiated discussions on the possibility of combining, identifying and possibly donating the various historical Mace and Matador memorabilia, currently held by the organization or our members to an Air museum or college. The goal of this project would be to have this material preserved and held on display for posterity.

With Lockheed Martin professing an expanded interest in preserving and sharing its rich history including the possibility of setting up facilities, museums or educational centers, hopefully the Tac Missileers organization with its Martin Marietta Mace and Matador history can work with Lockheed Martin in achieving our joint goals.

Please feel free to contact me. I have attached some brief Matador and Mace information items. Regards, Julian"

Julian,

Appreciate the info and I will definitely keep you in the loop as things develop on this project.

Thanks,

Fred

FROM MR. PRESIDENT -- Julian (Zito) Esposito

It looks like everyone had a wonderful time at our Nashville Reunion. The side trips were great fun and getting together again with our Air Force buddies was a real kick! Thanks to Joe and Max for putting the program together and a special thanks to everyone who worked hard and contributed to this great union.

I'm looking forward to our next reunion, and hope that those of you who did not make Nashville will join us in 2007.

From Mr. Historian -- Art Gust.

Art has already sent letters to the curators at the Robins AF Museum and the National Museum of the Air Force at Wright Patterson AFB. Art feels that along with his activity and the work that Julian has carry out, see above, with Lockheed Martin we are going in the right direction to insure that the part we played in the cold war and our chapter in military history will be preserved at a fitting location. Art reminds us to seriously consider donating those personal photos, military orders, unit histories, technical orders, rosters, publications and any other Matador or Mace memorabilia that you may have to the Tac Missileers Organization to be compile and archive. We have to face the inevitable, that we are all getting older, and unfortunately when we take that final flight our family may not realize the importance to future generations of the old papers and pictures that we hold. Many of the items could easily end up in the dust bin. If you would like to donate your holding please contact Art, his contact information is in the officers information box on page.

A page dedicate to all the B-Bird Missileer Boys of Okinawa



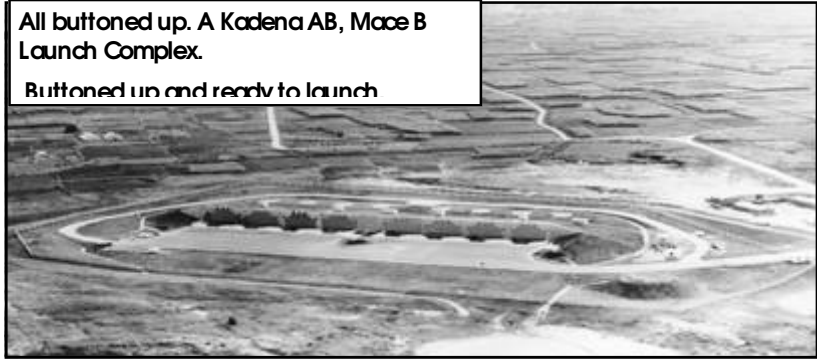
LO Clements	CC Patrick
M1 Thurm	M2 Maslo
M3 Grim	M5



498TMG Missileers



All buttoned up. A Kadena AB, Mace B Launch Complex.
Buttoned up and ready to launch



All photos this page are courtesy of Tac Missileer Laurence 'Pat' Patrick.

CALLING ALL MISSILEERS...Pictures are great but, please share your remembrances of how it all went down. Send in your antidotes, stories or reports from your glory days with the Mace and Matador missiles we all so proudly served or crewed on. Be it the ZI, Asia or Europe, I know that life was not without those daily happening that will tickle our collective funny bones now. Our work was serious but it was not without those embarrassing, funny or sad moments where you worked, lived and played. So come on, out with it. If you'd be embarrassed to have your name associated with that outrageous tale then we'll protect your reputation by publishing your contribution un-credited.