



Volume 11, Number 4

TAC MISSILEERS

NEWSLETTER

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



December 2009

Be sure to visit our new and improved web site <http://www.tacmissileers.org/>

Merry Christmas and A Happy, Healthy 2010 to All Missileers From Joe, Sarah and All The TAC Missileers Board Members

Our long time Newsletter Editor is burned out and is seeking some relief. After eight years as a behind the scenes Board Member, Bob Bolton has decided to give up the Newsletter Editor job and again devote some of his time to teaching computer applications to Seniors in his area. Bob will stay onboard until a replacement is found. Because of Bob's decision the TAC Missileers Org. is now seeking a motivated missileer to join our volunteer leadership team in the position of Newsletter Editor. If you are passionate about our history and our biennial reunions and interested in project management, editing and working in a multi-technical online environment, this could be the experience you were always waiting for!

As Newsletter Editor you will be responsible for issuing an electronic and hardcopy newsletter reaching hundreds of your fellow missileers around the States. Your tasks would include:

- Researching, compiling, editing and proof-reading information for the newsletter
- Working with the Organization's Secretary and Membership Director to coordinate the newsletter's on-line and hardcopy
- Preparing and distributing the newsletter through online newsletter software and through our designated printing service

We are looking for a Missileer with a genuine passion and interest in our Organization, who is willing to commit approximately 30 to 45 hours per quarter year to the Organization for a prolonged period of time, 2 years or longer.

Proficiency in Microsoft Office or OpenOffice and familiarity with online technologies and basic HTML (email, e-groups, wikipedia, blogs, Google, etc) with the ability to work collaboratively, in the clouds or on-line and most importantly...**possess a strong curiosity for and knowledge of our Matador and Mace history.**

Get hold of Joe Perkins if you are interested in taking over this position:

perkster@fcol.com

FROM MR. PRESIDENT WILLIAM SIMPSON

I want to take this opportunity to wish all our TAC Missileer families a wonderful Christmas and super New Year. This time of the year sure brings back those German Christmas Market memories. During the holidays please take a moment to pray for all our troops in harms way who won't be as lucky as us this year. I also want to thank Russ for all the work he is doing to get our membership information organized. Great job.

Financial Report (TacMissileer Corp.)

7/7/09-12/7/09

EXPENSES-----	REUNION BANQUET-----	\$7,755.00
	REUNION HAPPY HR.-----	\$1,695.00
	REUNION BREAKFAST-----	\$1,617.70
	BANNER (Joe Perkins)-----	\$100.00
	NAME TAGS (Reunion)-----	\$47.95
	MEMBERSHIP CARDS(R.Bolton)-----	\$6.92
	POSTMASTER (Stamps)-----	\$176.00
	UPS (Shipping)-----	\$30.17
	S.W. GRAPHICS----(Missileer Jackets)-----	\$179.28
	PRINCRAFTERS (Newsletters)-----	\$450.68
	AAFM (Cloth Missile Badges)-----	\$150.00
	AAFM (Patches)-----	\$45.00
EXPENSE TOTAL-----		\$12,253.70
BALANCE -----	(7/7/09)-----	\$34,191.14
DUES TAKEN IN TO DATE-----		\$1,310.00
SALES OF MEMORABILIA-----		\$251.00
TOTAL-----		\$35,752.14
MINUS EXPENSES-----		\$12,253.70
BALANCE-----	(12/7/09)-----	\$23,498.44

Andrew Hernandez submitted the follow information on the latest ways to make a tour of the cape:

There are two ways to get out to the Cape:

One is through the Kennedy Space Center Visitors Center. Entree into the Center is \$38 for adults, \$28 for those ages 3 to 11. To get out to the Cape, you have to go on the "Then and Now Tour", which \$21 for adults and \$15 for those 3 to 11. There are two trips per day 11:40 and 12:50. Tour lasts about 2.5 hours. Stops include The Museum for about 20 minutes, Lighthouse which is the nearest stop to Complex 21/22 Mace hard site, Complex 14 Atlas-Gemini, Complex 34 & 37 Apollo and Saturn 1. and Hangar R, indoor exhibit of some birds that had been at the museum.

Contact & Info 321-2121, 449-4332, 454-4198 and Kennedyspacecenter.com The other tour is thru Patrick AFB Public Affairs Office (PAO). They have one free tour on the second Wednesday of the month. No tours are conducted from 3 days before to 7 days after a launch. I think the Kennedy Space Center web site has a schedule of launches. The tours last for 3 hours and depart from the South gate of Cape at 09:00 and last till 12:00. You must contact PAO, Heather at 321-494-5945 within a month of the Wednesday you want to tour and provide her with information for a background check on each person, that includes everyone regardless of status. No foreign nationals or children under 12. You have to be at the gate NLT 0845. You can Google for Cape Canaveral Air Station and get some good info.

COLD WAR VICTORY MEDAL ON HOLD

"Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates [recently] announced a temporary increase in the size of the Army of up to 22,000 troops to meet what he called the 'persistent pace' of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. He said he would absorb the costs in 2009 and 2010 into the existing Penta-

gon budget. 'We will take that money from some place that we think isn't as high a priority as more soldiers, and taking some additional steps to relieve stress in the force,' Mr. Gates said...

So what dos this mean for Cold War Veterans? With **appropriated funds** for our existing wars being diverted for a troop buildup, there is little to no chance of securing an appropriation for a discretionary Cold War Medal for a past conflict (until such time as there is a reduction of demand for finite Defense Department dollars). Given that DoD's budget objectives are driven by fighting concurrent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan (as well as sustaining America's defense footprint globally), there is no impetus to drive DoD to divert its budgetary resources to finance a medal for past-serving veterans.

Harry Miller and his wife **Carol** were indeed with us at the Dayton reunion. We are sorry that somehow their names were inadvertently left off of the reunion attendees list.

We misspelled **George Denko's** name in the last edition

John Mitchell passed away in August

Missileer Wayne Wendel has missile pins for sale:



Contact Wayne at 1729 French Village Drive Houston, TX 77055

713 935 0205

Email waynewendel@yahoo.com. The pins are all very fine detail and he offers a 50% discount to TAC Missileers members.

Joe Perkins said that he is already working the 2011 reunion and expects to see a big turnout from the West coast men who have been pushing for a reunion out there.

Keep Grünstadt LO **Dick Johnson** in your prayers as he undergoes chemo treatment at this time.

Answers to the Infrequent Missile Daze Memory Check Questions Found in Last Issue

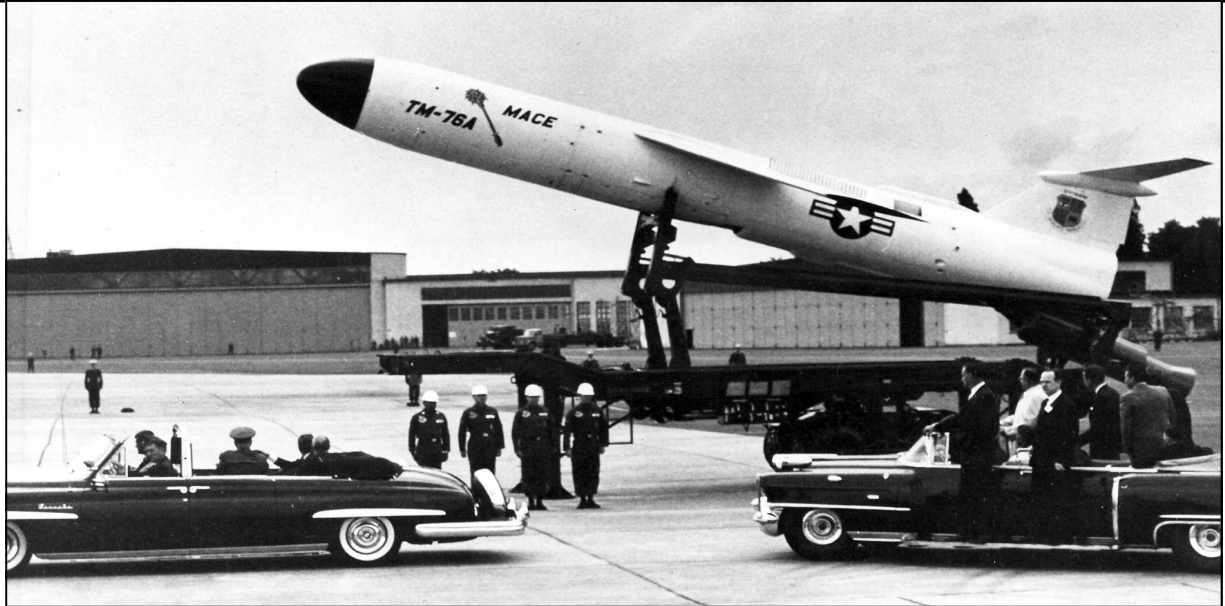
- ◇ What colors were the bands on the four safety plugs that were assigned to the four birds in an RFML flight? Which bird - which color?
A. Bird #1 Green, Bird #2 Blue, Bird #3 Red, Bird #4 Yellow
- ◇ Where were the safety plugs inserted during launch pad maintenance?
A. Umbilical Box Safety Jack
- ◇ Where were the safety plugs held during normal Victor Alert ?
A. Launch NCOIC Carried them on person.
- ◇ What was an L/O chair race? What was the Possum Fargo Report?
A. Swivel Desk Chair elimination race held between on duty LOs. Fictitious prank report request pulled on new crew pulling their first alert duty.
- ◇ At what launch site was the garrison cap an authorized part of the fatigue uniform?
A. The Jewel In The Crown
- ◇ What were the voltages and cycles (hertz) of the three electrical systems incorporated into the MPPP?
A. 28VDC, 120/208V 60 HZ and 115V 400HZ
- ◇ What was the color of you bippy?
A. Mine was blue, what was yours?
- ◇ At what % RPM did the Over Speed Light illuminate?
A. 105%
- ◇ At what temperature did the Hot Start Light illuminate?
A. 899 Degrees F.
- ◇ How much did the Rapid Fire Tester weigh?
A. 82 pounds with lid attached.
- ◇ Where were the AFTO Forms 207 and 209 maintained? Was a LCC a Manpower Reporting Center?
A. AFTO Forms 207 and 209 were kept with the equipment. The LCC was not a Manpower Reporting Center



Yes, that is a US Navy FWD Teracruz in the picture.

It appears that the Navy employed several Teracruzers as prime movers at a Naval Station in the Antarctic during the 1960s. Other than finding the photos on line, no other information could be located on their use down South by the swab-bies.

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Jim Plowden sent in this photo from President Kennedy's visit to Hahn AB in 1963. The official caption from the original picture stated that Kennedy was reviewing a MGM-13B and crew from the 405th TMS. At that time in history the Mace A was indeed called the MGM-13B. After some confusion in the DoD and Congress the A bird was later renumbered MGM-13A and the B bird became the CGM-13B.