



Volume 6, Number 3

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

Fall 2004

TAC MISSILEERS

NEWSLETTER

Visit Us On Line At <http://tacmissileers.homestead.com/MISSILEER.html>

SURPRISED TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER?

This edition of the Newsletter is being mailed out to our nearly 300 members in good standing and for this one time only to the approximately 400 more who have let your membership with the Tac Missileers lapse. With only 8 months until the kickoff of our biennial event, to be held in Nashville, we want to give everyone the opportunity to join us. Regardless of your membership status you are welcome and we encourage you plan to attend the reunion. Set aside the dates of

Wednesday, June 1 through Friday, June 3 2005

to attend your Tac Missileers reunion. You may reserve up to an additional 4 days at the reunion rate of \$89.00 per day.

(Continued on page 2)

CALL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SUITE!

Embassy Suites Nashville Hotel Nashville Airport

10 Century Blvd

Nashville, TN 37214

Tel: 615 871 0033

Tell The Reservations Clerk You Are With The Tac Missileers Reunion

Some Nashville Fun Facts

Did you know...that the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum is an architectural wonder in itself. One side of the building is a RKO-style radio tower while the main building, with windows resembling a piano keyboard, ends in a Cadillac tailfin-style flourish.

Did you know...the President Theodore Roosevelt coined the phrase "good to the last drop," words that became a national slogan, after sipping coffee at Maxwell House Hotel. The coffee was a local product of the Cheek family. Their family home is now Cheekwood Botanical Garden & Museum of Art.

Did you know...Nashville's Athena Parthenos is the tallest indoor sculpture in the Western world. She stands an impressive 42 feet high in the temple of the Parthenon.

Did you know...Belle Meade Plantation was famous for breeding thoroughbred horses. Iroquois, bred at the Belle Meade Farm, was the first American horse to win the English Derby. In addition to Iroquois, though, there were two other famous horses that can trace their lineage back to Belle Meade: Seabiscuit and War Admiral, both made popular again by the 2001 best-selling novel. Four generations removed, the 1930s horses were descendants of the sires of Bonnie Scotland, Belle Meade's prize horse, making the family rivalry at the Plantation run deep.

Did you know...In 1941, Nashville was granted the first FM license in the United States. Music City then became the first to enjoy static-free radio.

Did you know...The First Center for the Visual Arts is located in what was formerly Nashville's main post office, a city landmark placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. The Center went to great lengths to preserve the historical integrity of the building, as the building itself is a work of art.

Did you know...African-American artist and native Nashvillian Will Edmonson was the first black to be honored with a one-man exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Edmonson, the son of former slaves, created primitive limestone carvings of animals, angels, Biblical characters and even celebrities. A photo spread of his work in Harper's Bazaar led to the historic 1937 exhibit in New York City. Today, his works are on display at Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art.

Did you know...Elvis recorded more than 200 of his songs at RCA's Historic Studio B on Music Row. The red, blue and green lights found in the studio are a remnant from one of Elvis's Christmas albums. Unable to get in the holiday spirit while recording in July, he was having trouble finishing the album. The crew solved the problem by installing holiday-colored lights, putting up an artificial Christmas tree in the corner and cranking the air conditioner up as high as it would go to create the festive atmosphere.

Did you know...Nashville was founded on Christmas Eve 1779 along the banks of the Cumberland River. Two teams of pioneers set forth from the Carolinas to found the new city. Upon arrival, they immediately began building Fort Nashborough. Among the pioneers was Rachel Donelson, daughter of Captain John Donelson, who would later become the wife of President Andrew Jackson.

Did you know...The Hermitage: Home of Andrew Jackson, the 7th President of the United States, boasts a driveway in the shape of a guitar. Legend says that the driveway was so shaped to please his daughter-in-law Emily. Nashvillians like to think it was a good sign of things to come.

Did you know...Standard Candy Company, founded in 1901, created the GooGoo, a true Nashville delight marrying peanuts, caramel, marshmallow and milk chocolate together for a tasty cluster of candy. Today Standard Candy Company uses more than 3 million pounds of chocolate a year. Legend has it that GOO stands for Grand Ole Opry.

NOW you know...there are these and a lot more interesting things to see, (besides your old buds), and do in Nashville when you attend the 2005 TAC MISSILEERS REUNION. See CEO Joe's Corner on next page and Max's Input on page 7 for more REUNION information.

MAKE YOUR REUNION RESERVATION NOW

**Our 2005 Tac Missileers Reunion Officially Runs from
Wednesday June 1st Through Friday June 3rd 2005**

At The

Embassy Suites Nashville Hotel Nashville Airport

10 Century Blvd - Nashville, TN 37214

Tel: **615 871 0033**

The Embassy Suites Hotel Nashville - Airport has 296 luxurious and Spacious Two-Room Suites. Hotels don't come much more dramatic than this. Each of the suites in the Embassy Suites Hotel Nashville Airport opens into the lush, tropical atrium. All the suites contain a private bedroom and a separate living room. Guests at the Embassy Suites Hotel Nashville - Airport are offered a Complimentary Cooked-to-Order full breakfast every morning, (*remember how good the breakfast was in Denver*), and a **Manager's Reception featuring your favorite beverages every evening**. Services and facilities at the hotel include an indoor pool and ample meetings rooms. Complimentary parking is a plus. Embassy Suites Hotel Nashville Airport: hotel's rating is - **AAA 3 Diamonds** and **Mobil 3 Stars**. Embassy Suites Hotels has been awarded "Highest in Guest Satisfaction Among Upscale Hotel Chains" by J D Power and Associates

The Hotel Is Located just five miles from all the sights, sounds and attractions of the Opryland complex, the center of Music City, is just minutes from Grand Ole Opry, General Jackson Showboat, and Nashville Shores Water Park. The nearby Opry Mills shopping complex offers the Bass Pro Shops and themed restaurants, and Downtown is filled with fine dining as well as fun eateries like Planet Hollywood. Embassy Suites Hotel Nashville - offers a complimentary shuttle to and from the terminals and within 2.5 miles of the hotel.

Accommodations All the suites contain a private bedroom with one king-size or two double beds, and a separate living room with a sofa bed and a well-lit dining / work table, wet bar and refrigerator. Two telephones...Modem / data port connection / Voicemail Safe-deposit box Free weekday newspaper Mini bar Cable TV with on-command movies Room Service Laundry and valet. Air conditioning alarm clock radio Coffee and tea maker Electronic door locks Hairdryer Iron and ironing board Microwave Refrigerator and

CEO Joe's Corner

As we get closer to the reunion time, things are starting to come together . The official date of the reunion is 1st 2nd 3rd of June 2005. Though we have arranged for you to be able to stay a total of 7 days 2 before and 2 after the official reunion dates all at the same \$89.00 rate. We have committed the group to our traditional formal dinner on the 3rd (Friday). We also plan to have our business meeting on Friday, time of meeting will be determined at a latter date. The Embassy Suites formal dinner will be around \$24.00 that is the contract minimum price. We will try and keep it as close as possible to that price and still have a great meal. I have not discussed with the chef yet what our menu options will be but, will do that later on. I am waiting on response from our members (number) to the General Jackson cruise / dinner theater (Thursday) and Grand Ole Opra (Saturday, stay over day) so I can talk to the Gaylord people on price as a group. By the next news letter we should have a good count on the number of people. At this time, Oct 1st we have already booked 46 for the suites out of the 100 reserved for our event, so they are filling up at a good rate with about 8 months left. See some of the other Nashville sights are listed on page 2,so

Retrospective 2000

Allied Museum Berlin, Germany New Acquisition

It finally happened on June 26th, 2000: The impressive American Air Force C-5 airplane landed at Tegel Airport in Berlin. On board was the American Matador TM-61C ground launched missile. Behind the letter number combination lurks a tactical all-weather weapon for surface targets. The missile is 12 meters long and 8.5 meters wide, and was first tested in January 1949 at the American Air Force Base in Holloman, New Mexico. In May 1954, the first Matador was stationed at Bitburg, and later on in Sembach and Hahn (Rhineland-Palatinate). In 1959, the missile gave way to the more developed Martin Mace Missile. The last Matador left Europe in 1962. The Allied Museum in Berlin acquired the missile as part of a trade with the US Air Force Museum in Wright-Patterson, Ohio. Before the new collection item becomes an exhibition item, though, quite a bit of restoration work needs to take place. In the meantime, the C-5 has returned to the States carrying two pieces of the wall from the Potsdamer Platz painted by the well known wall artist Thierry Noir.



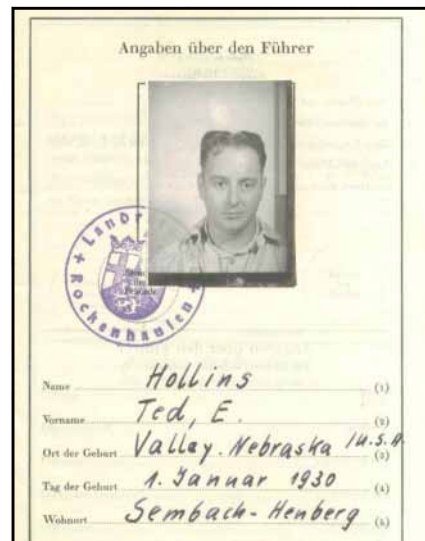
As published by the Allied Museum Berlin, Germany

While on a visit to Berlin this March, I checked with the Allied Museum and the Matador was still not on display.

Reunion Activities Details

The General Jackson Showboat was named after the first steamboat to operate on the Cumberland river in 1817 which was named after General Andrew Jackson. It was launched in 1985 to carry 1,200 passengers, manned by a crew of 157. The ship is 274 feet long at the water line and is 300 feet overall. Sporting a beam of 63 feet 6 inches and is 77 feet to the top of the folding stacks. Not a true steamship, she is powered by twin CAT diesel electric units which produce a total of 1760 Kw powering two 600 h.p. GE motors turning the 36 ton paddlewheel.

The **Grand Ole Opry**: It is Saturday and no trip to Nashville would be complete without experiencing the phenomenon of the world-famous 4,400 seat grand Ole Opry. Stay an extra night after the reunion and get set for an unforgettable evening of non-



Ted Hollins sent me a bunch of photos to share with the membership from his days in Mace missile maintenance at Sembach and Grünstadt. Above, proud Ted in his blue MG at the front gate of the 822nd, Combat Site III, later the 887th. To the right is his proof that he was a legal driver of that beautiful machine. See some of Ted's other pictures on next pages. **Thanks Ted and you receive a years free membership to the organization for your input.**

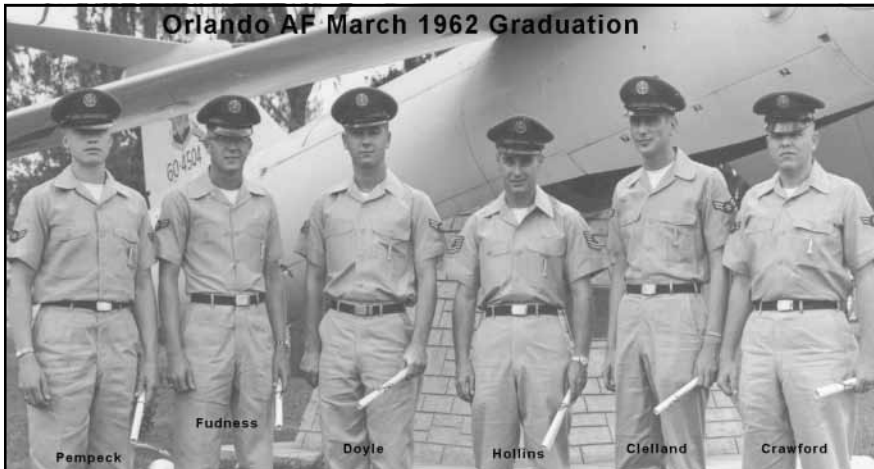
Joe Perkins received the following email:

Hallo, My Name is Winfried Berg, and I come from Hecken, Hunsrück, Germany, little Village 10 Kilometres from Hahn Air Base. I look for any Information's about the Matador Missile Station which was in the Forrest in Hecken. It was buildet from the American Air force in the Jeers 1957 to 1967 and they had the Missiles Matador and Mac stationed there. I don't have any Informa-tion's about the second Station nearer to Hecken, where they tested the Engines from The Missiles. If you can help me to get the Information's I will be glad, we try to make an History about our Village. Sorry about my bad English, I hope you could read it.

Mfg Winfried Berg
 Hecken, Germany
 www.hecken-hunsrueck.de

In response to the above email message **Charles K. Herring** entered the following response into our Tac Missileers web site Guest Book:

In Regards to the message left by Herr Winfried Berg... As I live here in Germany, I called Herr Berg and we discussed what he is looking for. He lives in Hecken, a very small German town located near the old Site V, 405th TMS. He wants information on an "Open House" at Site V which took place in January 1961, for the people of Hecken. Any photos or articles available? Also, he recalls an engine run-up site located somewhere near Site V. I was on a launch crew at Site V from Aug 61 to Aug 62 and do not recall an engine run-up site nearby. Maybe that was before my time there.



Hollins, Tachiuchi and Metzger at Metzger's German civil wedding ceremony.



Ted and other members of the 1962 Sembach Rod & Gun skeet team



Ted's German Fishing License

Tac Missileers Corporation is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under section 501 (c) 19 of the IRS code. The **Tac Missileer Newsletter** is published 4 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.

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TAPS FOR MISSILEERS

Eugene C. Becker Died August 2, 2004. He was a Crew Chief in the 71st. TMS at Bitburg AB.

William T Songer Served at Bitburg and Sembach 1960-1963

Russ Reimer of Woodland, CA passed away on Monday, July 12, 2004. He served at Hahn AB - Site 4 in maintenance 1959 - 1962. Russ later worked in launch. Re-

From Mr. President Julian "Zito" Esposito

In eight months we'll all be together again in Nashville. Joe Perkins and his crack team have begun making plans and it looks like it's developing into another great reunion.

Let's all **start working on convincing our good buddies** who still haven't decided to attend the 2005 Reunion to sign up.



Missileers, the new "missile badge" was unveiled at Peterson AFB CO on October 7, 2004. The new badge replaces the current space and missile functional badge worn by space and missile operations professionals, said General Lance W. Lord, AFSPC commander. It is part of AFSPC's senior leaders' continuing vision to unite the command's missions and specialties.

It also replaces the missile occupational badge, more commonality known as "the pocket rocket," currently worn by those in the missile operations career fields.

"Just as pilots wear the same badge whether they fly fighters, bombers, tankers or transports, all very distinct and different missions, our space professionals should wear the same badge to reflect the



Ted Hollins collection

Max's Input

REUNION Hope everyone is staying well so you all can attend the 2005 reunion, next June. We the staff have been endeavoring to get the itinerary in order, and would like some input from you the members. We have been getting some requests for 2 meals like we did in Denver. At first we had thought about just 1, but have decided to have 2. While on our trip to Nashville Joe and I took a 3 hour cruise on the General Jackson Showboat up the Cumberland river and back into Nashville to evaluate the boat itself, as well as the dinner and floor show that was provided. Without question, it was well worth the time and cost. The meal was very good, and the entertainment was top notch. The music from the band that was on the upper deck made you want to get up and "cut a rug". Of course, at our age, some of us just want to lay down on the rug, especially if it starts to get dark outside. The show band in the Grand Ballroom where the buffet dinner was served, kept you clapping and tapping your toe's, as well as laughing so hard at times, you almost cried. Needless to say, this will be part of the reunion activities available. So we have decided that one of our meals will most likely be on the General Jackson Dinner and showboat. The boat is a 3 deck very large paddlewheeler, that cruises the Cumberland river out of Nashville. The cruise will be for 3 hours. The dinner consists of an excellent buffet style meal served in the grand ballroom of the General Jackson. The upper deck has an excellent band as well as a bar. The show band plays in the grand ballroom. At this time the formal banquet will most likely be on Friday night at the Embassy Suites. Meal selection will be forthcoming after the first of the year. There has been a lot of interest from members asking about staying over on Saturday night so they can attend the Grand Ol Opry show at the Ryman Auditorium. For those that are planning on attending the show, I would like to hear from you so that we can get an idea as to how many will be attending. After the first of the year we will need to get an exact count in order to reserve tickets. Nashville of course has a lot of points of interest, see the opposite page, many great tours, such as the country stars homes and more. We will expand our information in forth coming issues after the first of the year. The Ryman Auditorium is in the middle of a huge shopping complex. The complex used to be what was called Opryland theme park. The complex is only about a 15 minute drive from our hotel. Also the Embassy Suites is about a 20 minute drive from the airport. In fact, you can watch the planes take off and land from the upper stories of the hotel. June should be a great time of the year for the reunion in Nashville. It shouldn't be too hot or too cool. Just plan on attending and having a great time. Please remember that if you would like to arrive a day or 2 early or stay a day or 2 longer, it will be at the same rate as our reunion rate. See y'all in Nashville.

DUES... Regarding membership due's, remember due's are payable the 1st of Jan. for 2005. Right after you all read this, go to your calendar and make a notation the last week of Dec.2004, to send your due's in the first week of Jan. 2005. Of course, I'm only suggesting that you do this. If you are like me, I write myself notes frequently. A few weeks ago, I e-mailed the entire Tac Missileer Membership roster, regarding due's. A substantial number of e-mails didn't go thru, I suppose because of changed addresses I wasn't aware of. If you have changed your e-mail address recently, let me know. To date, 274 members have paid their 2004 due's, as well as some 2005 due's. If you think you are not current with your 2004 due's., let me know and I will check for you. I might add that quite a few members have been paying a year or 2 ahead, but this is up to the individual member. I will record whatever you request. On this subject also, there is an interest in lifetime membership. This will be discussed at the reunion in the business meeting.

UNIT PATCHES... Anyone wanting an old unit patch, I have them in stock now. Currently, I have the 586th TMG, 38th TMW, 587th TMS, 701st TMS, 498th TMS, 17th TMS, 69th TMS. Will have patches made for the 310th

MAX

TAC MISSILEERS CORP
3133 RAVINES RD

Mace Missile Gets A Face-lift

I-75 landmark to be cleaned, repainted

WARNER ROBINS - A few airmen from Robins Air Force Base spent most of Thursday, August 27, 2004 washing a missile on the side of Interstate 75. The retired CGM-13B "Mace" tactical nuclear missile has been on display near I-75 exit 146 since at least the early 1970s and was badly in need of a face-lift, said Dennis Oliver, chief of restoration at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins. So, the Cold War-era missile is getting a new look. "It'll make a lot of people happy," Oliver said. "A lot of people use it for a landmark." The missile is located immediately east of I-75 and south of exit 146, the Ga. 247-Connector exit and primary entrance to Warner Robins. Oliver said the volunteer crew from the 116th Maintenance Squadron at Robins would spend a day or two pressure washing the missile to remove dirt and chipped paint. Next week, he said, they would spend two days repainting the missile and another day doing detail work. Master Sgt. James Brewer said the crew from the 116th must use regular house paint to cover the missile because longer-lasting aircraft paint is too hazardous to be used in the wooded environment where the missile is perched. The maintenance squadron normally handles aircraft structural maintenance, Brewer said, but has assisted the museum with aircraft restoration. Oliver said the missile on I-75 was once a fully operational missile most likely armed with a nuclear payload meant to deter the former Soviet Union. He believed it had been stationed in or near Korea. Each CGM-13B could be launched from a platform or mobile trailer and was guided by a "jam-proof inertial guidance system," according to the U.S. Air Force Museum's Web site. The earlier CGM-13A had a different guidance system and half the range of the 13B. The missile has already been repainted twice and may be retired for good in the coming years. It has been shot several times at close range by vandals and is beginning to wear. City officials hope to secure a F-15 fighter to display at the new Russell Parkway exit on I-75 that's scheduled to open later this year. Once that fighter is on display, Oliver said it may be time to take down the missile. "I don't know how many more bullet holes it can take," he said.

By Charlie Lanter Macon Telegraph Staff Writer

[Can you find the faux pas in the article about the Mace? Let me know and we will print your discovery. **Editor**]