



Volume 7, Number 1

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

Spring 2005

TAC MISSILEERS

NEWSLETTER

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

Please Sent Your 2005 Membership Dues To Max Butler

Dead Line Extension

ONE LAST CHANCE TO JOIN IN ON THE FUN

Haven't Done So Already? Then Fill Out The Sign Up Form On Page 3 And Mail It To Max Butler. Max Must Have Your Form By May 1, In Order To Get Your Reservations Booked On The General Jackson Dinner Cruise And The Saturday Grand Ole Opry

The time, the date, and the activities have all been set for our 2005 reunion in Nashville, Tennessee. June 1 2 3 (4) 2005. We have rooms being held at the **Airport Embassy Suites Hotel 1-615-871-0033**. When calling state you are a member of the **TAC Missileers Group**. Our price is \$89.00 per room (up to 4 people per room). We get the great service of full **Breakfast and a 2 hour cocktail happy hour** in the evenings included. They are taking our reservations now. You can book an additional 2 days before and 2 days after for the same price. If you have any problems call Joe Perkins at 904-282-9064. So reserve now to ensure that you get that room, as you may remember, we ran out of rooms in Denver in 2003. Our deadline to book will be around the 1st of May 2005, after that time you may not be able to reserve a room at the special pricing.

OUR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

June 1st - Will primarily be registration day all Day and getting settled in, meeting friends and joining the happy hour from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

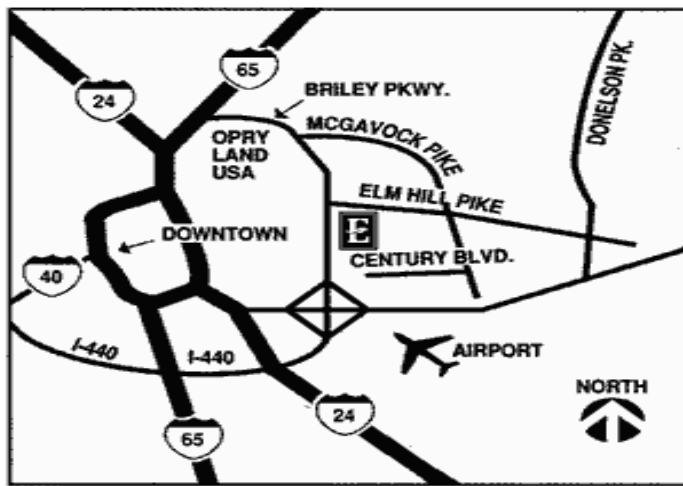
June 2nd - Is open until the evening around 7:00pm General Jackson cruise and dinner - Dress is comfort.

June 3rd - The morning is open. A 1:00pm business meeting for all Missileers, evening around 8pm our Dinner at hotel.

June 4th - For those deciding to stay this extra day the morning and afternoon are free to explore Nashville or the country side until around 5:00pm when we load up and go to the Grand ole Opry for a performance and then return to hotel

Nashville Embassy Suites Airport Hotel

166 Missileers and nearly as many wives and others are reserved at the hotel for the 2005 reunion. The hotel is located in Century City, one of Tennessee's most beautiful corporate communities. We're just minutes from the airport, downtown, Music Row, Opry Mills, the Grand Ole Opry, Vanderbilt, and other Nashville locations. Complimentary transportation to and from Nashville International Airport is provided by the hotel.



Embassy Suites Hotel Nashville 10 Century Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37214
615.871.0033
FAX 615.883.9987

Einbahnstraße

General Jackson

June 2

Our big, group night out. Spend the exciting evening with the Tac Missileers. Dining and entertainment on the big river boat. 230 folks are already seated and ready to enjoy the evening show featuring The Peking Acrobats! *Summer Evening Dinner Cruises.*

The General Jackson presents the Peking Acrobats! A new show featuring amazing balancing feats! You won't believe what they can do! The grace and the precision of the acrobats showcase their athleticism and flexibility resulting from years of dedicated training and discipline. A great show for audiences of all ages

Einbahnstraße

Grand Ole Opry

June 4

We have 189 Missileers ready to Hee Haw the evening away. No trip to Nashville old be complete without experiencing the phenomenon of the world-famous 4,400-seat Grand ole Opry, adjacent to the Gaylord Opryland. Get set for an unforgettable evening of non-stop entertainment as the world's longest running radio show, the Opry showcases the best in country, bluegrass and more.

←

TAPS FOR MISSILEERS

SSgt Martin Lange, Bitburg Air Base, 71st TMS, Mech 5,
1962-1965

Late breaking News from Wright Patterson AFB

The new National Museum of the United States Air Force cold war building just received the completely refurbished Mace. I had several opportunities, but too late in the process, to give the refurbishment staff some limited input on the Mace and trans-launcher color schemes. I intend to give a full report in the next issue on the Mace and Matador as they are being preserved for future generations to study. Museum volunteer Ron Thurlow and I have worked to assist in getting the Mace and trans-launcher-right but, unfortunately, the museum staff had their own ideas of how they wanted things to be. More on that later. Bob Bolton

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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TAC MISSILEER NASHVILLE REUNION- JUNE 1, 2, 3, 2005
EMBASSY SUITES –NASHVILLE AIRPORT – 10
CENTURY BLVD, NASHVILLE TENN. 37214
COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE TO AND FROM AIR-
PORT

FREE COOKED BREAKFAST & FREE 2 HOUR EVE-
NING (5:30-7:30) HORS D'OEUVRES AND BEVER-
AGE/COCKTAILS –FREE PARKING

Reservations: Call 1-615-871-0033 and state you are a member of the **TAC Missileers Group.**

Price is \$89.00 per room (up to 4 people per room) 2 days before and 2 days after same discount price

RESPONSE:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ Zip _____

Email address: _____@_____

I **AM** attending the Reunion with _____

I have already made reservations at the Embassy Suites () yes () no
I intend to reside elsewhere () yes () no

ACTIVITY SELECTION:

Don't Delay Send Max The form Today

Tac Missileers, here is your last chance to sign up and join us at the Nashville 2005 reunion. If you are on the fence about it, come down on the side of joining us in June but, please, please don't delay. Max Butler must have your completed form and your check in his hand no later than May 1, 2005. Gentlemen, May 1st is just around the corner. any forms received after that date unfortunately will be too late. If you have not attended one of our great reunions you have missed some truly good, interesting times, places and people. So, don't hesitate, just do it. If you are unsure about it because you were not a big wheel back then, don't worry about it. In fact, most of us were not big wheels back then. We meet for the fun and not to compete and compare. It doesn't matter what your job was while you were working around the old Martin birds. AB to Full Bird Col. It doesn't matter what your rank was. We are all equal now and are at these reunions for the camaraderie and good times. Don't worry, be happy. Please join us in Nashville. We truly hope to see you there.

887th Missile Boys Toys 40 Years Ago



Steve 'SAM' Moore and Bob Bolton readying a much abused free flight model for another crash test.

Long before the days of integrated PDA, digital camera cell phone, tablet PC, GPS units, i-pods, x-boxes or game boys we knew how to have fun. The model building and flying bug hit Grünstadt big for a while. Steve SAM Moore, Al Greise, Mike Brashear and Bob Bolton were the core of the model nuts on site at that time. Most of their models were stick and paper scale and built stock from the box, flown via U-control line, **round and round she goes**. We flew several, ready to go, out of the box, plastic ones to, but they were no fun, they didn't destroy themselves into hundreds of pieces when hitting the ground at high speed and unusual attitudes.

The model being started by SAM and Bob was designed for unexciting rubber band powered free flight. We converted it from the get-go to fuel powered flight by mounting one of SAM's spare Cox .049 engine. The light, little craft as first flown was unstable, way too much torque and prop wash from the engine. Many launches were followed immediately by the plane doing something like a Dutch roll and then a hard snap roll right, going inverted and heading for earth. Oh well, it was back to the site carpenter shop with the pieces for more repairs.

I went out alone to the Grünstadt aerodrome one cool, dreary, day. Don't remember if SAM had given up on the project or was working. Anyway, I launched the plane, with no real confidence that the results would be any different than the many times before. However, this time the little craft flew! The day had arrived when all of the tabs, tweaks and fixes were just right. Taking the classic left turn corkscrewing flight upward, it continued to climb, engine running full blast. As it rapidly got smaller against the gray clouds I remember thinking to myself, **"too much fuel load, too much fuel load!"** It continued the spiraling climb until it suddenly disappeared into the base of the scudding overcast. Alternately walking and running, I followed the diminishing sound of the engine for several more minutes as it drifted away to the south within the clouds. I was nearing the drop off at that end of the hill top when the engine stopped and so did I. Standing there I scanned the clouds for many long minutes in anticipation of the little flyer reappearing out over the deep valley behind the site. But it was not to be...I never did see the little plane again. I searched several time after that, wandering over the farmers fields and vineyards below the site hoping that I'd stumble across the remains somewhere. Later, the day of the flight, when I told the SAM and Al and the others of the lost plane I'm not sure that they really

The summer, 2004 issue of this Newsletter featured two articles about the run-away Mace launched in January, 1967 from Eglin AFB. Apparently the Mace got its wandering genes from the Matador because according to a small article recently found in the Junior Scholastic Magazine of March 8, 1957. Flying off on their own seemed to run in the Martin family.

"Rocket Away". - - And Away It Goes! Where? Nobody Knows!

"Rocket away!" With a mighty blast of flame, a 40-foot-long Matador guided missile rose from its movable launcher in southern New Mexico on February 21. An Air Force ground crew stood by, operating electric controls to guide the Matador. The crew planned to bring down the \$100,000 missile 100 miles away in the desert.

But something went wrong. Eight minutes after the launching, the rocket escaped from its controls. It sped northward at more than 600 miles per hour. A camera plane gave chase. So did a jet fighter plane. But they could not keep up with the run away missile.

About 700 miles away, in Salt Lake City, Utah, word came: "A Matador missile is headed your way." The Air Force sent up fighter planes to try to shoot it down. Civil Defense posts were alerted.

But the Matador had vanished. It had fuel for about 90 minutes' flight and probably crashed in the Rocky Mountains, the Air Force said.

The Matador is really a small plane without a pilot. It can carry an atomic bomb in the nose, but the test missile did not do so.

Can any of our members shed some light on the run away Matador? Please contact the editor or one of the Board members if you recall this story or if your were one of the Air Force Ground crew that lost this missile. We'd like your point of view on the event



There is still a small window of opportunity to enlist and join the following Missileers and spouses at our 2005 reunion in Nashville, Tennessee. As of April 1st, and this is no Fools Day joke, 166 Missileers have signed up for hotel rooms. The vast majority are being accompanied by their wives or a significant other. 230 folks have signed up for Thursday's General Jackson dinner cruise and 292 will join us for the Friday Semi-formal evening at the hotel. And 189 are staying an extra day to attend Saturday's Grand Ole Opry

Akre, Terry & Darline
 Armbruster, Robert & Claire
 Armstrong, Bruce & Magda
 Baertsch, Ron & Deanna
 Bailey, Robert.A & Chris
 Baird, Ron & Kathy
 Baker, Tom & Mary
 Baldner, Roger
 Baldwin, Gerald & Anna
 Barlow, Hank & Donna
 Bayliss, Warren & wife
 Beeding, Noah & Diane
 Bennett, Ewing
 Bertatelle, Tony & Lois
 Black, Charles L & Mary
 Blair, Charles & Mary
 Blann, Robert & Sarah
 Bledsoe, Russell & Lois
 Bolton, Robert & Ingrid
 Brashear, Michael & Bette
 Brewster, Robert & Diane
 Bryan, James & Frances
 Butler, Max
 Cagle, James & Susan
 Campbell, Thomas & Christa
 Carpenter, Bill & Gaynelle
 Clark, Don & Nancy
 Collingwood, Ken & Lois
 Cook, Lowell & wife
 Corbin, Carl & Francis
 Crytzer, Fred & Jane
 Cupp, Leo & Debbie
 Dahl, Pete & Sheila
 Daniel, Carrol
 Daniels, Ron & wife
 Davenport, Clarence & Ruth
 Davis, Paul & wife

Derain, Dave & Claudia
 Doi, Randy & Mary Gen
 Doyle, Richard & Hilde
 Dulaney, John & wife
 Edwards, Garld & Janice
 Emerson, Larry & Jan
 Esposito, Julian & Genevieve
 Evans, Dave
 Freshour, Charles & Anne
 Gardner, Harry & Mic
 Gay, Dick & Lynn
 Gent, Dennis & Juda Stritgel
 Glaush, George & Carol
 Goodson, Johnny & Rosemarie
 Goshay, Paul & Diane
 Goudeau, Jimmie & Janice
 Gulledge, Cary
 Gust, Art & Barbara
 Haines, Steve & Elizebeth
 Hall, William & Pat
 Harrison, James & Marjorie
 Haveman, Larry & Virginia
 Hedberg, Ernie & Marge
 Henderson, Gene & Merle
 Holliday, Bill & Crystal
 Hollins, Ted
 Hosiner, Robert & wife
 Idleman, Larry & Edith
 Isaacs, Ray & Trudi
 Jamiolkowski, Joe & Diane
 Jessup, Dave & Donna
 Jett, Lanny & wife
 Johnson, Bruce
 Johnson, Dick & CJ
 Johnson, Ed & Rita
 Johnson, Gerald
 Jones, Doug & Carolyn

Kammerman, Dennis & Barb
 Kizer, Don
 Knebel, William P & wife
 Knowlton, Virginia
 Koenig, Norbert & Brunhilde
 Kutulis, Robert & Carol
 Kyser, Lee
 Lacey, John & Karla
 Lance, Lyman
 Larue, Gerald & Mary
 Lileck, Peter
 Lindblom, Allan & wife
 Lischka, Ray & Caroline
 Loe, Harold & Rose
 Lomax, Gilbert & Estela
 Lombard, Jack
 Lucas, John & Marion
 Maher, Frank & Joanne
 Margeson, Hector & Janet
 Marney, Johnny & Mary
 Martin, Charles & Linda
 McDonald, Bill & Nancy
 McKee, Curtis & Sandy
 Medley, Billy
 Metzker, Darrel & wife
 Miller, Herb & Eleanor
 Moffett, Richard & Ruth Ann
 Molinaro, Joseph & Johanna
 Moore, Steve & wife
 Moorehouse, David & wife
 Moss, Travis & wife
 Oliver, Jack
 Orput, Carl & Frankie
 Padgett, Richard & Nita
 Paine, Fred & Geisela
 Parkhurst, Wayne
 Pederson, John & Father-John

Brand new Tac Missileers member **Bud Fellers** submitted the photo and article of the Sembach AB shear bolt accident (via Jim Main). The shear bolt article appeared in the October 1962 Missileer Magazine. Bud got reconnected with the Tac Missileers Organization by happenstance when he noticed your editors eBay screen name and sent an email asking if I worked on the Mace in the '60s. Bud was in the Air Force 1961-64, attached to the 587th Missile Maintenance Squadron of the 38th Tactical Missile Wing. Bud's job was weapons maintenance on our Martin TM-76A Mace Missile. Bud lives in Greer, SC.

J. MAIN

SHEAR BOLTS WILL



MISSILE fell when shear bolt broke during lowering operation.

OCTOBER 1962

During lowering of a TM-76A missile from launch attitude to the checkout position, the shear bolt that secures the missile to the translauncher broke, allowing the missile to move forward. The forward movement caused the RATO bottle to drop onto the translauncher and then to the ground. The missile moved forward and down until the center section became wedged between the translauncher walking beams. The forward portion of the missile remained supported by the unlatched "H" frame, while the vertical stabilizer rested against the shear bolt bracket. Damage to the missile consisted of slight scratches to the center section of the airframe and damaged electrical and hydraulic connections. Damage to the translauncher consisted of dented rear cross member.

Action was taken to replace all shear bolts with new bolts. Recommendation was made to establish time change criteria on shear and holdback bolts. ♦

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From Mr. President Julian Esposito

"The past two years flew by and it's reunion time again. It looks like we're going to have a fun time in Nashville, so if anyone is still undecided, please join us. If you have a computer, try checking into the TAC Missileers web site for up dates on the reunion and a listing of everyone attending. Looking forward to seeing everyone again in June."

A Call For All Missileers To Share Historic Missile Memorabilia

Calling all Missileers! Share your memories with your fellow reunion attendees at the 2005 Nashville reunion. We will have a media and meeting room available so please remember to bring your personal or official Air Force Missileer and Missile pictures and snap shots. Especially needed are those secret photos of the long ago declassified area you took covert snap shots of. Dig out those old magazine articles, newspaper clippings, Tech Orders and missile models for display in the media room. These items are of great interest to all attendees and they certainly help to start conversations and keep them going. The displays are good to jog those long unused memory cells. We have found at the past reunions that hotel staff and other hotel guests are really interested in the historic information on display. Many ordinary hotel guest not connected with the reunion like to stop by and talk to the Missileers about their experiences during the winning of the Cold War.

It Is Time To Pay You 2005 Dues

Max Butler our membership director has requested that we put a **big notice in this newsletter** that many members have fallen behind on sending in their annual 2005 dues. We understand that the membership to our organization is probably small beans when compared to the rest of your life and something like sending in a small contribution is easy to forget.

Last year, after several notifications to the entire original big list of Missileers, we were unfortunately forced to purge that mailing list of long time delinquent members. We cut nearly 400 at that time.

Again, this year many active members have failed to send in a contribution and we are looking at another financial predicament. Only 105 of us on our new slimmed down list of 326 have sent in the \$15.00 dues.

If we are to continue sending out the quarterly newsletter to the Missileers on the even smaller list we need to collect the dues from all on our membership base. So fellows, make Max smile by flooding him with those put off or forgotten dues. Please make out that small \$15.00 check today and send it to Max Butler at his new address:

TAC Missileers Corp.
3270 Bufkin Springfield Road
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620

If you would like to talk to Max about the your dues or are having difficulties paying right now, you may call him at (812) 307-0187 to discuss other options.

Can It Get Any Crazier

In the last issue, my final contribution to the Faux Pas' and the I-75 Mace B, I finished with the following paragraph! "Now for my input, the article also mentioned the earlier CGM-13A. Now, if I'm not mistaken, the Mace A was first designated the TM-76A and late in its service life was assigned the designator **MGM-13A**. or **[Mobile Guided Missile]13A** where as the Mace B was the TM-76B and during the designator changes for Air Force and Army missiles it became the **CGM-13B** or **[Coffin/Container Guided Missile]13B.**" All in hopes of stirring things up and generating some heat and spirited input from the membership but, not one of you took the bait.

To add even more confusion to the numbering system I have since last issue located another, unauthenticated, source that lists the MGM and CGM designators for the Martin Mace and Matador Missiles as follows.

MGM-13	Mace	(B-61B, B-76)
MGM-13A	Mace	(TM-61B, TM-76)
MGM-13B	Mace	(TM-76A), W28 warhead
CGM-13B	Mace	(TM-76A), W28 warhead
MGM-13C	Mace	(TM-76B)
CGM-13C	Mace	(TM-76B)

So let's see, under the then new designation, the A was a B, the B was an A and the C was a B. That still don't sound right to me.

The Matadors are a whole story themselves. They didn't seem to fare very well either in the illogical renumbering scheme, see the following list from the same source as above.

MGM-1	Matador	(B-61A, TM-61A),
MGM-1A	Matador	W5 warhead,
MGM-1B	Matador	W5 warhead,
MGM-1C	Matador	(TM-61B), W5 warhead

So following that system, the MGM-1C was the TM-61B which was a Matador that became the Mace, or, it was an MGM-13A which was the Mace TM-76 and that's not even bearing in mind if the B-61B was really the MGM-13 or if the MGM-1C with the W5 warhead was the MGM-13A.

If you get confused reading this you should try writing it. Of course men, this was all in fun but, that's how these old birds are listed in many publications and on many web sites. If there is a knowledgeable Missileer who can give us the straight skinny on the designators and numbering system for the Mace and Matador weapon systems please drop me a line and I'll put it the newsletter.

One additional point to think about, in their later life, many of the Matadors and the Maces were flown to their fiery deaths as very excellent live fire target drones. The Martin drones carried the designator MQM and that as you could say, is a whole other story, and I'm not going there.

Ollie

TAC MISSILEERS CORP
3133 RAVINES RD
MIDDLEBURG, FL 32088-5759



John Downs on the left and **Harold Williams** on the right are shown receiving a sports trophy and individual awards from Col. Harry Sands, 38th Wing Commander, and Col Art Frontczak, Deputy Commander, in a 1961 sports award ceremony. John Downs worked in the 38th TMW HQ and was very active in sports scene at Hahn AB and later at Sembach AB after the 38th moved there. Col. Sands was commander of the 38th TMS until June 1961 at which time Col. Frontczak assumed command. Thanks to John for sending us a full copy of the June 1961 Missileer.