



Volume 9, Number 3

# ***TAC MISSILEERS***

## **NEWSLETTER**



Winter 2007

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

### **Max reports on the 2009 Reunion planning.**

I sent a letter to Wright Patterson letting them know we wanted to have our Friday night banquet in a hanger at the museum. This is called "Under the Wings". You probably know of this option for military groups. Also have requested that an Honor Guard, as well as an Air Force band, be part of the banquet. This is another option and there is no cost. After the first of the year I will be contacting a vendor to provide the meal etc. We have two to pick from, per Wright Patterson info.

Also have been in contact with a lady regarding the Air Show Chalet option. Will also be back in contact with her after the first of the year to finalize reservations, etc. Will need to contact a vendor in the area to provide food and beverages for our group in the Chalet.

As we all know, we aren't getting any younger and there will come a time when our reunions will be a thing of the past. Therefore, I feel we need to strive to make this reunion a very special event. The location is going to be

one special part of this and the fact of the Matador and the Mace being on site only adds to this, although would have been nice for them to have been mounted on their launchers. Oh well, the fact that they are even at the museum should mean something.

We have had the honor of recently visiting a couple of our Tac Missileers members. This past October we spent a couple of evenings with Marty and Linda Martin at their beautiful home just outside the big city of Odenville, Al. Very pleasant visit. Food was great.

A couple of weeks ago on our trip to Fl. we stopped in Montgomery, Al. and had a meal with Fred and Giesala Paine. Fred never changes. Still has a full head of hair. Makes me jealous. Really enjoyed our visit with them also, especially since Fred had to come and find us, after we sort of got lost trying to find their home. Thanks Fred

Anyway fellow members, I'm getting more and more excited about the 2009 reunion, as if you couldn't tell.

Take care.

Max Butler

**Joe Perkins' Reunion 2009 Update**

As you can see by Max's report on the front page we are already working hard on the reunion events, we have selected a hotel, Holiday Inn, quite close to both airport and the air museum, but we can not make any reservations until May 2008 because we are not sure on the air show dates this far in advance. We are shooting for 3rd week in July, 2009. That is the normal time for the air show except in very unusual circumstances. We are waiting for the date announcement later next year and we then have the option of changing dates to insure we are there during the air show. We already have the air museum booked for that date, a Friday, for a "dinning in" program if we so desire, more on part of the reunion later on also. **Joe**



Of over a thousand prisoners he was one of only 140 some that survived. He suffered four bayonet wounds and still carries some shrapnel. I spoke with him at length and the stories he told of his treatment as a POW are gruesome. My motive for this email is to have his name added to the list of those who served in the Missile unit.

I am at present trying to get the local paper do and article on him and his exploits. He has an original flag of his Flying Tigers unit. His name is **Donald Ray Watts** and he retired as a MSgt in 1964.

**Phillip Thomas**  
Medic C Flight — Grünstadt 1962-1964

**Donald Ray Watts A Missileer**

I am a friend of an 85 year old fellow that I just found out was a Missileer at Patrick AFB with the 6555th Aerospace Test Wing serving as Flight Chief, Missile Maintenance Technician and Guided Missile Inspector. He retired in 1964 and he was not aware of our Web site or group. His eyesight is so bad he cannot see the computer images when I brought it up on line. The reason for this message is to inform our group of his record.

I am sending a picture of him at his retirement and he has the missileer badge on his uniform.

He was with Chennault's Flying Tigers in China, was captured when that unit fell to the Japanese. He was in a ship convoy that was transporting the prisoners to Manchuria to serve as slave laborers when the convoy was attacked by U.S. planes. He survived and as a prisoner witnessed the mushroom clouds of both atomic bombs.

**TAPS**

**JOHN GALLAGHER**

It is with a sad heart that I have to announce that our dear friend John Gallagher has passed away. He died suddenly, most likely of heart failure, on Tuesday, Dec 4th and was cremated on Wednesday.

John was a member of the 69th from July 1954 through August 1957.

He is survived by his wife Shirley, a daughter and 2 sons.

If you wish to extend your sympathies:

Mrs Shirley Gallagher  
330 East Neck Rd  
Nobelboro, ME 04555

John was Catholic if you are considering a Mass card.

Sincerely, Joe Traina

**This little story is straight from the horses mouth, Lance Moorman strikes again. He should write a book.**

I am not sure if I want to tell about me and the stone quarry. You may have a much better story about SAM Moore falling into the "Hell Hole" behind the dinning hall. I had to be told what happen to me because I was in no shape to remember.

It was my last night in Germany. Murray, our orderly room clerk, who was rotating back to states with me, suggested we were not going to be able to get a good German beer for some time to come. We should go, he said, and have one last beer, just one.

With maturity comes wisdom, we now know you have to drink two beers, the first and the last. And the last is generally the one for the ditch. This night was no different. I remember ordering the third bottle of cognac. My next recollection is waking in the barracks, fully clothed, dirty as hell, one shoe missing and dead broke. I searched the barracks trying to find out what had happen and, more important, where the hell was my shoe.

Seems everyone, including Murray, the instigator, had left before I had. The one beer had turned into a party, which I had evidently paid for.

Eventually I found the First Shirt, who's name I cannot remember. The night before he had taken me

under his wing. I do not know who was safer with who since he was probably in about the same shape as I was. Back out to look for my shoe when half way through the quarry, I became sick and demanded to be let out of the car. Having no better sense than I had, he did.

Instead of doing my thing right by the car, I walked over to the edge of the quarry and then right on over. This scared the First Shirt, figuring I was dead and he was going to have to write a letter to my wife, whom he knew already did not like him.

When he finally found me, I was sitting on the ground laughing my head off.

He thought if my shoe was anywhere, it would still be in the stone quarry. Sure enough it was.

But that is when I became scared, I had fallen about 15 feet onto a stone floor and did not have a scratch on me. There was somebody besides the First Shirt watching out for me.

Lance said he did make his DEROS flight, and later:

During my leave, my wife and I went to Cleveland for Murray's wedding. That's when I found out he had lied to me, there was more good German beer at the reception than I had seen in 2 years in Germany.

#### **Another Auxiliary Guard Duty Story.**

Lance Moorman's tale in the last edition about pulling guard duty as an auxiliary SP sparked a memory about a similar thing that happened to our intrepid Ollie. Ollie related his story to me many years ago and it went something like this.

Once, during a full blown exercise, maybe it was the same one Lance Moorman was involved with, Ollie was guarding the dinning hall/BX/barber-shop/movie building, as if the Russians had had plans to invaded that place. Anyway, it was during noon-meal time and Ollie was playing his part and checking the IDs and recognizing everyone coming to the building for their meal, no problem, until suddenly, a stranger in civilian cloths approached and like Lance, Ollie had been briefed to blow his whistle if he needed Security Police help with anything. Well, Ollie quickly had the protesting guy spread-eagled against the side of the dinning hall with his empty carbine, Caliber .30, M1, gas operated...made by Rock-Ola, yes, the jukebox company, pointing into his captive's back and he was blowing into the whistle like a madman. It was making a shrill little sound, that carried maybe 5 feet, it wasn't working as advertised, because the little bouncy ball had somehow become lodged in the airway. Ollie was embarrassed, feeling like a fairy with that silly, pipsy sounding whistle and an empty gun and he was getting rightly pissed, might have been a good thing he didn't have any ammo at that moment for the stranger was really becoming a pain and not playing by the rules, complaining and

trying to pull rank, Ollie later learned his captive was an Air Force Master Sgt. and Ollie was just a lowly E-3. The intruder was strongly insisting that Ollie let him go otherwise there would be hell to pay. During all of this; while trying to blow the whistle and control the irate visitor several of Ollie's missilemen "friends" walked by after their meal, they got into the act and began to give him a real good razzing about his silly whistle and the pissed, struggling captive, until finally Ollie convinced one of them that he was serious about the situation and to go alert the SPs in their Command Center at the main gate to send him some assistance with his intruder, who by the way was getting still madder by the second. Finally the AF blue, pick-em-up, full of combat equipped SPs responded to our hero's need; Ollie suddenly had a vision of the Keystone Cops, as the truck tipped and lurched under the load of SPs as it roared down the curving dinning hall access road toward him. The SPs quickly relieved our Ollie of the guy he had captured. It turns out that the captive was just a poor schmuck who was on leave from somewhere in Germany and had heard about our great dinning hall food on the Grünstadt launch site and had stopped by to eat. Nice welcome! He was as pissed as Ollie was. Ollie said he felt like a fool and he made sure that the cops give him a real manly whistle that worked before they left.

The following 15 questions come from the 70 question end of Block V final test. Block V was on the Missile Nose and Booster Pack and was part of the Tactical Crew training course given in Orlando AFB, FL. How many of these questions can you answer without looking up the key elsewhere in this issue.

TEST QUESTIONS FOR NOSE MISSILE REPLACEMENT CREW

1. T.O. 36Y41-2-51 covers operation of the Nose and Booster Pack?  
A. True B. False
2. The stabilizing jacks on the Nose and Booster pack are operated by hydraulics and manual controls?  
A. True B. False
3. A list of pack aux. Equipment, Located in the right hand tool box can be found in T.O.36Y41-2-51?  
A. True B. False
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the nomenclature number for the propellant used in the Mace rato booster bottle?  
A. T-35 B. T-16 C. T-21 D. T-91
5. What explosive does the M76 Mod-1 detonators contain?  
A. PD/RDX B. PTNC. Mercury Fulminate D. TNT
6. The position of the missile when loading the booster bottle is \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. 1½ degrees nose down B. Level C. 3 degrees nose up D. 1½ degrees nose down
7. How is the propellant placed into the booster bottle?  
A. Tamped B. Poured C. Pumped D. Sifted
8. The igniter is installed in the booster bottle through the \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. Nozzle end B. Forward end C. Side door D. Access door
9. The weight of the booster rocket with the igniter installed is \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
A. 2960 B. 3000 C. 2240 D. 1775
10. Temperature does effect the performance of the booster bottle?  
A. True B. False
11. All pack equipment, in the Nose and Booster pack is operated Manually through a system of ?  
A. Chain drives, sprockets, gears, clutches B. Chain drives, hydraulics, gears  
C. Hydraulics, Sprockets, Clutches D. Gears, Chains, Pneumatics
12. The M16 Mod 3 rato bottle has a normal diameter of \_\_\_\_\_ diameter.  
A. 24 inches B. 26 inches C. 28 inches D. 30 inches
13. The 10 point star configuration, of the propellant, in the booster bottle is to \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. Allow faster burning B. Allow even burning  
C. To help hold propellant in place D. To allow quick installation of igniter
14. The major ingredient in the propellant in booster bottle is \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
A. Thiehol polymer B. Ammonium perchlorate C. Magnesium oxide D. T/P 90B
15. The propellant in the igniter is \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
A. Pyrogen B. Black Power C. T-35 D. None of the above

There are 55 more questions on the test, so bone up, you never know when the test fairy will strike again.

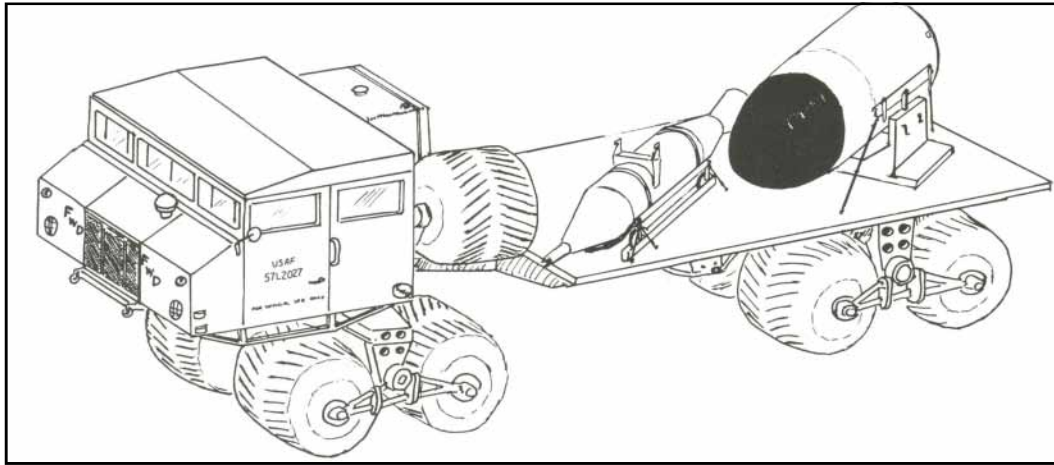
MEMBERSHIPS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Get 3 YEARS FOR THE PRICE OF 2

A three year membership is \$30.00, What A Deal! We still offer the one year \$15.00 annual membership option as well. It is always membership drive time. If you haven't sent in your membership dues for 2007 yet, please choose between either of the two options, make your check out to Tac Missileers Corp., and send

your membership request to:

Membership Director / Treasurer Max Butler  
3270 Bufkin Springfield Road,  
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620



LO Fred Horky's drawing of a Nose and Booster Pack mounted on an MM-1 prime mover.

- Nose & Booster Pack Test Key
- 1. A., 2. B., 3. A., 4. A., 5. B.,
  - 6. D., 7. C., 8. B., 9. A., 10. A.,
  - 11. A., 12. B., 13. Both A. & B.,
  - 14. B., 15. A.

The real thing, Launch Officer Fred Horky's picture of a Nose and Booster Pack being positioned by his Mace launch crew members... in the process of initiating the mounting a booster. Picture taken during the Mace A dispersal launch concept just prior to RFML implementation. Notice the typical German summer weather attire worn by the spotter.



The nose and Booster pack once positioned close to the Missile could be raise or lowered, tilted and turned within a certain number of degrees of freedom to allow accurate mounting of the Nose and Booster onto the missile.

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.

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

**President:** Julian Esposito, zito55@aol.com  
 130 Balsam Lane, Levittown, NY 11756

**Secretary:** Larry Emerson, lemerson@swbell.net  
 114 Sunflower Dr. Wichita, KS 67217 (316) 524-7803

**Membership Dir/Treasurer:** Max Butler thebutler@live.com  
 3270 Bufkin Springfield Rd, Mt. Vernon, IN 47620 (812) 307-0187

**Publisher:** Curtis McKee, topmckee@juno.com  
 3702 Big Dalton Ave, Baldwin Park, CA 91706

**Editor:** Bob Bolton, rbolton@charter.net  
 2140 Sandown Court, Lawrenceville, GA 30043 (770) 339-6836

**Historian:** Art Gust, abgust@tyler.net or abgir37@yahoo.com  
 RR3 Box 400, Jacksonville, TX 75766 (903) 589-9701



The earlier Matador missile required a much larger supporting cast of trucks and cranes than did the Mace. Pictured here is one of the more elaborate rocket motor mounting devices used at one time. Later the standard truck mounted crane was used to hoist and maneuver the rocket bottle into position. Doing away with this special AGE device.



Anyone remember **Kayo [Red] Adams** from Steinborne, Germany? He was there from 1956 through 1958, SSgt Mess Hall NCOIC. He would like to hear from anyone who may remember him. His contact information:

Mr. Kayo [Red] Adams, 207 Ponkapoag Way, Indian Harbor Beach, Fl. 32937-4118, phone# 321 773 1327

You might get this Late, but We Wish  
A Merry Christmas and A Happy,  
Healthy New Year to all Tac Missileers

The following story is reprinted with the kind permission of the SimMissile Mavericks from their 2002 Reunion Story Booklet

MAVERICKS

Hahn/Sembach Germany • 1956 -1961

**The Lost Missile**

From **Ollie Maier** (not our regular contributor Ollie)

In the BOO, the 1/Lt across the hall from me was the wing supply officer. Really a great guy... and very conscientious. As was normal, after three years in the theater, it was time for him to rotate back to the states in about February. He received his new assignment and was ready to go. But first, as would be expected for a supply officer, there had to be an inventory of items before he left.. so he could explain any shortages.

Now the rest of this story is just what I remember from talking to him and later, second-hand from others.., so if anyone has better details, I'd appreciate it if they would clue me in.

Anyway the inventory was going great and he was starting to pack some things to leave. Family back in the states was anxious to see him again. But wait... the count of Mace missiles and translaunchers doesn't add up. Must to something wrong with the count. Add them up again.., one still missing. And again.., still missing. Rotation date coming up, got to clear this up. Still couldn't find missing missile.

Emergency TDY orders cut for him sending him to every missile site (and there was a number of them) in the length of Germany to count missiles. Still short. Now getting very serious. Had enemy somehow gotten one of our nuke missiles? Office of Special Investigation (OSI) called in to investigate. Supply officer's rotation date cancelled until this got cleared up. Was he involved in something he shouldn't have been?

Days passed... then weeks.., already over a month.., still no missing missile found. Spring is now here. Supply officer facing more questioning. Wing putting more pressure on everyone to find the missile or what happened to it... this could be an international incident!

It now being spring, the planting season is here. Farmers go to there fields to plant their crops. One farmer comes to the base with a question, "When are they going to get that missile and translauncher out of his field so he can plow it and plant his crop?"

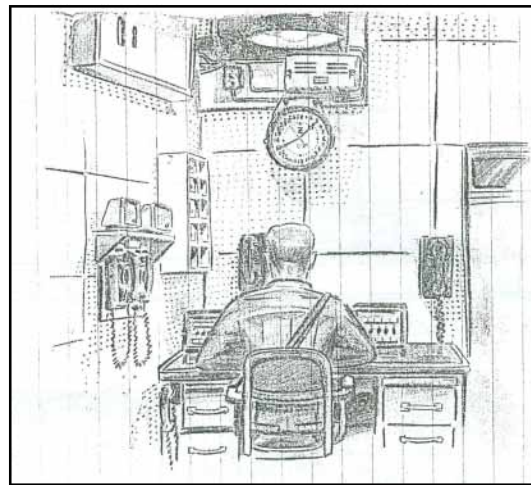
Then someone remembered. The previous fall there had been an exercise during which the missiles were transported to remote locations on their translaunchers so not to make an easy target for the enemy. It had been a rainy fall, the ground was wet, and one of the translaunchers got stuck in the mud in a farmers field. It being an exercise, no time to pull it out but just leave it and continue with the exercise... pulling the crew out and putting them on a reserve missile. This is what you would do in time of war. Then get the stuck missile out when time permitted... but not

then.

Case cleared up, missile and translauncher removed from farmer's field, supply officer got new orders, repacked everything and was off. Hope his new assignment didn't hold the stresses of his last one.

Added note: The translauncher getting stuck in the mud surprised me as they had very wide low-pressure tires that could roll over almost anything. And I mean anything. In fact, while walking outside to the snack bar on the flight line, I heard glass breaking and looked over to see one backing over a Volkswagen bug. (After that I understand they always required someone to stand near the back end to insure nothing was in the way when backing up.)

On Alert 0240Z



Original drawing by R. Gaddberry circa 1965 via Col. George Kennedy

**Welcome New Members**

**Len Calkins**

**James Garner**

### Two more CALL Signs Remembered

Missileers **Standford C. Pisle** and **Roderick Hinek** have added two more bits of history to our quest of logging all of the Matador and Mace launch site call signs. **Standford** pulled 3 years of launch duty at the 71st TMS as a Mace B launch crew member, Mechanic 5, Nuclear Weapons Technician, mostly at Rittersdorf, and he recalls "Revenge 1 & 2" as their call sign. **Roderick** was also at Site VII in Rittersdorf in 66-68 and he confirms Stanford's telling us that **Revenge** was Rittersdorf call sign. Plus, he said that Idenheim had **Bolivia** as their call sign.

17th AF - *Cap Gun*  
 38th TMW Command Post - *Yellow Tail*  
 Sembach AB  
 Site I 822nd Mehlingen - *Char Girl*  
 Site II 823rd Enkenbach - *Invent*  
 Site III 887th Grünstadt - *Hacksaw*  
 Hahn AB  
 Site IV 89th Wüschheim - *Veronica*  
 Site V 405th Kirchburg - *Pot Fuse*  
 Site VI 405th Hundheim - *Heroin*  
 Bitburg AB  
 Matador A Pad Steinborn ???  
 Site VII 71st Rittersdorf - **Revenge**  
 Site VIII 71st Idenheim - **Bolivia**

Mace and Matador missileers in the Pacific region. Is the following list accurate? If not please send your editor the information to correct any errors and fill in missing names and call signs. You did have Call Signs didn't you?

Korea TM-61C 314th Air Division,  
 Osan AB 58th TMG (588TMG until 1958)  
 Osan AB - Flight 1 (20 missiles)  
 Kimpo AB - Flight 2 (20 missiles)  
 Chichon Ni - Flight 3 (20 missiles)

Taiwan TM-61A 17th TMS ???

Okinawa Kadena AB  
 498th TMG  
 873rd TMS,  
 Site 1 Bolo Point 1 flight (8 missiles)  
 Site 2 White Beach 1 flight (8 missiles)  
 874th TMS,  
 Site 3 Camp Hansen 1 flight (8 missiles)  
 Site 4 ?? 1 flight (8 missiles)

**Ed Weyn** called me a while back to say that he didn't remember the call sign of the 17th TMS on Taiwan, but he does remember the alert roundup announcement on AFRT radio as being "**The Pepper Is Hot**". Ed was on Taiwan from 1958 to 1960. He went directly to Taiwan from Orlando with the squadron's mass movement. Ed was stationed mostly on Makung Island, with the Matador Guidance and Control group there. Ed worked with the AGE and General Purpose cranes and other motor pool equipment.

I'm not giving up...I'm still calling on all missileers to help fill in the remaining gaps. As you can see the list is finally complete for the RFML 'A' Bird sites at Sembach and Hahn and the Hardened 'B' Bird sites at Bitburg call signs in Germany. It only took us 5 years to put those to bed.

We would really appreciate input from our earlier pioneering Matador and Mace missileers on the call signs used during the communication checks with Wing or Group HQ or Command Centers.

Did the Mace sites in Okinawa have call signs? Same goes for the Korean Matador sites, did you have call signs or something equivelent. We'd love to hear from you men on how your launch sites were IDed for command and control purposes.

Bob

TAC MISSILEERS CORP  
MAX BUTLER  
3270 BUFKIN SPRINGFIELD RD.  
MT. VERNON, IN 47620

Does the name **Bulava** mean anything to you? As Juliet said to Romeo in Act II, Scene 2, "O, be some other name! What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

OK, OK, Just hang on and keep reading, ole Bob has not gone off the deep end here:

The **Bulava** (SS-NX-30) is the submarine-launched version of Russia's most advanced missile, the [Topol-M \(SS-27\)](#) solid fuel ICBM. The SS-NX-30 is a derivative of the SS-27, except for a slight decrease in range due to conversion of the design for submarine launch.

And you say so what!! Well, **Bulava**, that other name that (smells) sounds as sweet translates to **Mace**, that's all.



Who can identify the important piece of missile equipment or assembly pictured above. The first correct answerer get his name in the next newsletter as winner of the prestigious Editors Award for remembering those little things that might mean a lot to some Missileer somewhere.