

From: joe c perkins <jcperkster007@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2015 10:12 AM
To: russ
Subject: Fwd: Stars and Stripes: Okinawa near nuclear launch

Russ could you put this on the site for Travis i would appreciate it. joe

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Tritten, Travis" <tritten.travis@stripes.com>
Subject: RE: Stars and Stripes: Okinawa near nuclear launch
Date: December 8, 2015 at 3:36:04 PM EST
To: joe c perkins <jcperkster007@comcast.net>
Cc: David DeRain <k8esq@sbcglobal.net>

Joe,

Great to speak with you today. I was thinking more about it and I'm wondering if you might send my contact info out to TAC Missileers members. I'd love to hear what they make of this alleged near nuclear launch on Okinawa in 1962. I've already heard from six or so who think the story is false. Here is the link about it:

<http://thebulletin.org/okinawa-missiles-october8826>

Group members could email or contact me with comments if they want. It'd be a big help for my story. Please let me know. Thanks again for your help!

-Travis

Travis J. Tritten
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From: joe c perkins <jcperkster007@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2015 9:31 PM
To: Tritten, Travis <tritten.travis@stripes.com>
Subject: Re: Stars and Stripes: Okinawa near nuclear launch

Travis, I have no knowledge of this incident and i find that if this happened and i have not heard anything even rumors or scuttlebutt. After this email surfaced I have Talked to our members that would have had some knowledge of this and no one believes this happened. I am not trained on this type system for i was in the mobile system and later in the pad launch system and we were in a small launch blockhouse. We had 2 pouches and 2 launch keys, the launch officer had a set and the crew chief had a set it took both to launch with the launch message in the pouches agreeing with command to launch. I have trouble with this article i do not understand the reason to write something like this

because it does harm to our fellow airmen that paid a high price for our freedom. I would gladly talk with you. joe perkins exe.dir Tac Missileers 904-282-9064

On Dec 7, 2015, at 4:54 PM, Tritten, Travis <tritten.travis@stripes.com> wrote:

Joe and David,

Hi, I'm a Washington, D.C.-based reporter with Stars and Stripes newspaper (www.stripes.com). I'm reaching out to you as executive director and president of the TAC Missileers group. Hoping you might be able to help with an investigative story I'm working on.

I've been contacted by a group of Air Force vets who served with the 873rd Tactical Missile Squadron on Okinawa in 1962. They tell me some claims about a near nuclear missile launch made by another vet who served on Okinawa, John Bordne, are false. Here's a story on Bordne's claims:

<http://thebulletin.org/okinawa-missiles-october8826>

Bordne recently told a United Nations panel that he sent the article to your group and that you may have passed it out to members during a Florida reunion in October. I'm very interested to hear how you and members feel about Bordne's claims. Are you hearing doubts or do other members generally back his story as plausible? I've talked with four missileers so far who say it could not have happened. Can I give you a call to discuss it?

Let me know.

Thanks,

-Travis

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