

Attack On Tan Son Nhut Air Base
Saigon, Vietnam
December 4-5, 1966
Deployment, Main Line Of Resistance

June 21, 1967 The 377th Air Police Squadron, had 785 personnel

<u>Medal Recommendations</u>	<u>Number</u>
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Silver Star Medal	06
Bronze Star Medal (Valor)	45
Bronze Star Medal (Achievement)	<u>06</u>
	57
Purple Heart	16

Adams,	SSgt, Base Police
Adriane, Fred	Delta Sector, Delta-2
Arrant, Wilbert B., Jr.	Arrant was WIA, Base Police, Purple Heart

Babicky, Frank J.	MSgt, Security Operations
Bailey, Melvin	A1C, B Flight Security
Barnhart, Keith J.	A2C, A Flight Security, Purple Heart
Batten, Frank	Bravo Sector
Battoe, Edward	MSgt, C Flight Security
Bennett, Donald E.	Nung Guards,
Bernava, Richard L.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler
Bevich, George K. Jr.	A2C, Bevich, was KIA and the first to notify Central Security Control, that enemy was on his post. Silver Star and Purple Heart, Bevich was the first USAF Sentry Dog Handler, to be KIA in Vietnam, handled REX 674F who was WIA

Blair, Carl G.	A3C, C Flight Security
Brand, Robert L.	A2C, C Flight Security, Commendation Medal
Brewington,	Sgt, Base Police
Brooks, Roy D., Jr.	TSgt, C Flight Security
Burr, Jerry	Charlie Sector
Burrows, Sam	

Cantrell, John	Alpha Sector, Charlie Flight
Carper, Donald Roy	Base Police, Charlie Flight
Carson, Ron H.	Base Police, Bravo Flight
Casey, Patrick J.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler, REBEL 519X

Cavanaugh, Eugene J.	SSgt, B Flight Security, Alpha Sector, SAT Team, Commendation Medal, with Segar and SSgt Kennedy
Cole, John D.	A2C, Cole was KIA, Charlie Flight Security, Silver Star and Purple Heart
Collins, Theodore R., Jr.	A2C, C Flight Security
Copeland, Charlie SSgt,	C Flight Security, Purple Heart
Coxon, Pete	Charlie Sector, SAT-2
Curie, Alvin W.	Delta Sector, C Flight Security, Delta-11, machine gun bunker with Valentine and Walker, Silver Star
Davis, Lyle K.	A2C, C Flight Security, was WIA, Purple Heart
Dougherty, Henry J., Jr.	A2C, B Flight Security
Dowdell, Sanford	A3C, A Flight Security, Commendation Medal
Eastridge, Allen	(Cole's Friend)
Estep, Beverly A.	A2C, A Flight Security, Commendation Medal
Federson, Roger A.	A1C, B Flight Security
Ford, Marcus H. Jr.	MSgt Security Operations, Commendation Medal
Fox, Roger P.	Major, Executive Officer, Silver Star
Franklin, John R.	Sgt, Base Police
Galat, Terry	Sgt, Base Police Bravo Sector, machine gun bunker by the runway
Gary, Richard E.	A2C, Gary was WIA, Sentry Dog Handler, Purple Heart, RANGER 679E
Gottlieb, Milton H.	Bravo Sector, responded to the Armory
Gregory,	TSgt, Base Police
Guerra, Jose G.	A2C, C Flight Security
Habecker, Barry L.	SSgt, C Flight Security, WIA, Purple Heart
Handler, Thomas R.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler
Hardway, Jacky R.	A2C, A Flight Security, Commendation Medal
Hargis, Walter M.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler, Purple Heart
Harrison, Issac	Base Police, M-60 Gunner
Harvey, Tom	Base of the installation Control Tower
Hegele, Robert H.	Charlie Sector, "C" Flight Security, Flight line bunker duty
Helderman, Marvin A.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler, unknown K-9, Commendation Medal
Henry, Charles W.	Capt, Operations Officer, Bronze Star with Valor
Henson, Thomas N.	TSgt, C Flight Security

Hiett, Olbert H.	TSgt, Training Section, Bronze Star (Valor)
Hollenbeck, Ronald G.	MSgt, B Flight Security
Hover, Fred W.	Capt, Duty Officer CSC, Bronze Star
Howe, Jack S.	1LT, Duty Officer, Central Security Control, Bronze Star with Valor
Hudson, Matthew	Capt, Law Enforcement Operations
Huggins, George W.	A2C, C Flight Security, Purple Heart
Janiak, Thaddeus M.	A2C, Janiak was WIA, B Flight Law Enforcement, Commendation Medal and Purple Heart
Jenkins, James L.	SSgt, A Flight Security, Commendation Medal
Jerome, James	Base Police, QRT Team, Contonement and Rebel Row
Johnson, Grove C.	Lt Col, Commander, 377 th Air Police Squadron, Bronze Star
Jones, Robert	Base Police
Justice, John	A1C, B Flight, Base Police
Kane, Robert B.	A2C, Delta Sector with shotgun
Kennedy,	SSgt, B Flight Security, Alpha Sector, SAT Team, with SSgt Cavanaugh and A1C Segars
Kessler, Neil	Bravo Sector
Lamie, James E.	A2C, B Flight Law Enforcement, Purple Heart
Laudner, Larry G.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler, CUBBY 612E was KIA
Lemley, Mike	Alpha Sector Quick Reaction Team, West Perimeter Road
Mahugh, Robert E.	A2C, A Flight Security, Commendation Medal
Marsh, Leroy R.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler, REBEL 519X was KIA
Mason, Sherman	Bravo Flight, Base Police
Mayhugh, Robert E.	A2C, A Flight Security, Commendation Medal
McClennon,	Echo Sector, 2nd from last revetment
McNeil, Joseph	Base Police
Midtbo,	SMSgt, 1st Sergeant
Miller, James "Skip"	Alpha Sector, Alpha-15, which is a tower
Myers, Gail K.	Delta Sector
Morris, Doyle "Moe"	Delta Machine Gun Bunker, next to the flight line
Norman, James A.	A2C, Delta Sector
Olden, David E.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler

Orr, Alfred J.	A2C, Sentry Dog Handler
Ottensman, Richard E.	Echo Sector, Echo #2 SAT Team with SSgt Copeland, Purple Heart
Paez, Fernando "Fred"	Delta Sector, C-47 and EC's parking apron
Poole, Tommy C.	A2C, Poole was WIA, Sentry Dog Handler, Silver Star and Purple Heart
Potter, Joe	12th Air Commando Bunker and Charlie-26
Quinn, Jim	3rd Field Hospital as a patient
Ramirez, Frank	A2C, C Flight Security
Rankhorn, Roger	Blocking Force to Perimeter Road.
Reed, Monty G.	A2C, C Flight Security
Riddle, Oliver J.	A2C, Riddle was KIA, B Flight Security, Bronze Star with Valor and Purple Heart
Robertson, Arving E. Jr.	MSgt, A Flight Security
Santaw, David	Central Security Control
Scott, John	Capt, Flight Duty Officer
Seals, Timothy A.	A3C, C Flight Security
Segars, Thomas K.	A1C, B Flight Security, Alpha Sector, SAT Team, with SSgt Kennedy and SSgt Cavanaugh
Shahan, Tommy N.	A1C, Shahan was WIA, Sentry Dog Handler, Purple Heart, handled PRINCE
Sherry,	Delta Sector NCOIC
Sidwell, Dale E.	A1C, Sentry Dog Handler, TOBY 206F was KIA
Simmons, Russell	A2C, Simmons was WIA, C Flight Security, Commendation Medal and Purple Heart
Spainhour, Robert T.	B Flight, Base Police
Starr, Charles R.	A1C, C Flight security
Summerhayes, Gerald R.	SSgt, Sentry Dog Handler
Thompson, Rick K.	Echo Sector, Last Revetment, west end of the runway
Throneburg, Robert A.	A2C, Throneburg was WIA, Sentry Dog Handler, NEMO A534 was WIA, Purple Heart
Tomkins, Rodney G.	SSgt, C Flight Security
Valentine, Robert W. Jr.	A2C, Delta Sector, Delta Bunker-11 with Curie and Walker, C Flight Security
Vymazal, Edward "Tony"	Sentry Dog Handler

Walker, John P.	A3C, Delta Sector, Delta Bunker-11 with Curie and Valentine
Walters, Robert P.	SSgt, B Flight Security
Williams, Joseph F.	TSgt, C Flight Security
Woodcock, Steve	Delta Sector, responded to the MLR
Wong, Kailey	Nung Guards, NCOIC
Yonki, Joseph R.	A1C, Training Section, Commendation Medal and Purple Heart

Batton, Frank H., Memory of Dec 4-5, 1966

“Sweep of the area around the runway.

Burrows, Sam, Memory of Dec 4-5, 1966

Charles...I was asleep when attack broke out. Rushed to armory for weapons, loaded into back of open-body truck, delivered to flight line. Took part in sweep next day.

Carson, Ron (aka: RcElk), Memory of Dec 4-5, 1966

A1C Ron Carson, B Flight LE. Off duty asleep. We were housed in the barracks directly beside the Orderly Room. Across the street from the armory. Heard the mortar rounds coming in. Myself, Robert Spainhour and John Justice shared the same cubicle. Janice was just a couple cubicles down from us. We responded to the armory. Drew weapons and ammo. I exited the armory and boarded a bus filling up with off duty Security Troops. I don't know if my cubicle mates got on the bus or responded to the Law Enforcement building. We rode the bus down to Central Security Control and deployed flat on the ground until the mortar barrage lifted. Then moved up to reinforce the MLR. Sporadic gunfire continuing and I think a few more mortars. Later I was deployed with two other A2Cs to the south east perimeter to secure that area and be a blocking force also if needed. Stayed on duty until sunrise then back to the armory to report for dayshift duty. That following evening, Spain hour, Justice and I were sitting in our cubicle talking about the initial attack when suddenly we heard M16 firing. Quickly dressing we responded to the armory. And that is the last thing I remember that night. I have no idea Of anything that happened once I got to the armory. I have

ask Spainhour if he recalled where I was deployed that night. Unfortunately he doesn't recall. We later learned that the M16 we heard firing, was Sentry Dog Handler, Robert A. Throneburg, and his K-9, NEMO A534, engaging the enemy who were trying to get off the base.

Coxon, Pete, Memory of 4-5 Dec, 1966

“Sgt Pete Coxon, 377th Air Police Squadron, on the eve of the attack, I was assigned to Charlie-2 Security Alert Team (SAT).” When guard mount was done, a couple of guys who were off that night came up to me and asked what the intelligence report was that night. I told them the same old thing we were going to be hit by some elite VC Battalion. Upon inquiring why they asked, I was told that they had just came back from down town and the bar girls were telling folks that if you are from Tan Son Nhut, the VC are going to attack tonight. I took this serious and went into my barracks, to get my US Army flack vest, that I had scrounged a few months earlier. While in Charlies Sector and going from post to post giving coffee and conversing with troops on post. They all seemed to be amused at my story of the bar girls downtown saying we were going to be attacked that night. They also kidded me on wearing my flack vest. Around midnight, I conceded to their amusement and took off the vest and placed it on the hood of jeep. Around 0110 hours, I heard on the security police radio, a K9 post call in and informed Central Security Control (CSC), that there was a large group of people crossing the active runway, blocking runway lights at times. Then another K9 post called in and said they are all around me. At this time I remember mortar rounds started coming in. I grabbed my flack vest from the vehicle hood and put it on, and thought to myself, my initial hunch about the bar girls, was correct.

Rankhorn, Roger Memory of 4-5 Dec, 1966

“Blocking force to the perimeter road. RPG hit to my truck as I dismounted. Took part in 3 Search and Destroy Sweeps, one KIA in Utah Ditch.