

Lt Col Grove C. Johnson, Commander
377th Security Police Squadron
August 1966 – August 1967 Memorabilia

March 6, 2009, I received a package in the U. S. Mail from Fred Johnson, son of Col Johnson.

The package contained films, photographs and documents from the time frame that Col Johnson was assigned to Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Vietnam.

The contents of the package do not belong to me. It belongs to all of us and eventually it will be donated to the Security Forces Museum, Lackland AFB, TX. It will be donated in Col Johnson's name.

I will turn the films into a DVD, then I will scan the photographs and documents and put them on a CD.

That way, all of our histories will continue to survive.

I am documenting the items below.

FILMS:

Metal film canister, 9" reel, 5/8" film, USAF Film, "SEA" (Excerpts from Air Force News Review # 130)

Metal film canister, 7" reel, 5/8" film, USAF Film, film number 600/6123 "Security Guard at TSN, 6 April 1966. Film is heat damaged.

Metal film canister, 7" reel, 5/8" film, USAF Films, film number SEA-30 "Security Guard TSN" duplicate print.

Metal film canister, 7" reel, 5/8" film, container says, "CBS News," containing three smaller reels. Two of the reels are 5/8" with no markings. The third reel is an audio tape with very little tape on it.

Plastic container, 5" reel, film is smaller than the 5/8" film, no other markings.

Plastic container, 5" reel, film is smaller than the 5/8" film, no other markings. A piece of paper inside reads, "Vietnam 1966-1967. Presentation of medals by General Momyer 1966, Quarters and Office of Security Police, Hawaii and R&R with 'M' 1967"

Photographs:

Blue folder, containing document protectors with ten 8" X 10 1/2" black and white photographs, of the 377th Security Police personnel who were wounded during the Attack On Tan Son Nhut, Dec 4-5, 1966. They are receiving their Purple Hearts from Col Grover K. Coe, Base Commander, while in the 3rd Field Hospital, Saigon, Vietnam

A2C Arrant, Wilbert B., Jr., AF14888866, WIA 4 December 1966

SSgt Habecker, Barry L.,	AF13546189, WIA 4 December 1966
A2C Davis, Lyle K.,	AF14867982, WIA 4 December 1966
A2C Davis, Lyle K.,	AF14867982, WIA 4 December 1966 (2 nd Photograph in the folder)
A2C Simmons, Russell	AF19824064, WIA 4 December 1966
A2C Simmons, Russell	AF19824064, WIA 4 December 1966 (2 nd Photograph in the folder)
A1C Shahan, Tommy N.,	AF14545835, WIA 4 December 1966
A2C Throneburg, Robert A.	AF14840178, WIA 4 December 1966
A2C Poole, Tommy C.,	AF14814035, WIA 4 December 1966
A2C Janiak, Thaddeus M.,	AF16792041, WIA 4 December 1966

Photographs Large:

18 Individual 8" X 10" photographs

A2C Throneburg, Robert A., and NEMO
 A2C Throneburg, Robert A., and NEMO
 NEMO with a patch over his right eye
 Night time guardmount
 Night time guardmount
 Medal presentation, night time, Col Grover K. Coe, Col Williams, Lt Col Johnson and unknown Capt.
 Col Grove Johnson, on a SAT Team delivering food to a bunker. Ceramic plate, metal fork, steak and a paper cup drink
 "A Flight" security, Christmas Party 1966, On front left SMSgt Mitolbo (spelling), Lt Col Johnson and Msgt Robertson
 Night time guardmount and medal presentation, sentry dog in the background
 Night time guardmount and medal presentation, sentry dog in the background
 Inside the 377th Security Police Squadron dayroom medal presentations both American and Vietnamese
 Outside the 377th Security Police Squadron dayroom, Christmas party 1966, 36 hour party, Lt Col Johnson, Col Williams and Col Grover K. Coe
 A2C Gary, receives a Purple Heart from Lt Col Johnson in his office
 A2C Gary, receives a Purple Heart from Lt Col Johnson in his office
 Inside the 377th Security Police Squadron dayroom
 Map of Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Dec 4, 1966. Shows all the important security police posts
 30 thumbnail size photographs on one sheet

Photographs Small:

67 Individual photographs various sizes

3779-67-600PS-UNCL	Field where a hidden tunnel was found
3780-67-600PS-UNCL	Field where a tunnel was found
3781-67-600PS-UNCL	Lt Col Grove Johnson and UNK Officer, (Vansaun) hidden tunnel
3782-67-600PS-UNCL	O-51 Bunker
3783-67-600PS-UNCL	Flat bed truck with portable generator and adjustable light system
3786-67-600PS-UNCL	Portable lighting system, mine field, defensive bunker
3787-67-600PS-UNCL	Vietnamese repair crew on the road adjacent to the mine field
3788-67-600PS-UNCL	Perimeter road, perimeter lighting system being installed
3790-67-600PS-UNCL	Lt Col Grove Johnson and his official vehicle, north side of Tan Son Nhut

3791-67-600PS-UNCL Perimeter road near antennae farm
3792-67-600PS-UNCL Lt Col Grove Johnson, adjacent U.S. Army mounted search light
3793-67-600PS-UNCL Lt Col Grove Johnson, adjacent to the hidden tunnel entrance
3796-67-600PS-UNCL UNK building under construction (Perhaps 7th AF HQ)
3797-67-600PS-UNCL Looking into the hidden tunnel

Lt Col Grove Johnson receives his Bronze Star for his actions on Dec 4-5, 1966
Lt Col Grove Johnson standing in front of 377th Security Police Squadron Orderly room bldg 123
Lt Col Grove Johnson standing in front of 377th Security Police Squadron Orderly room bldg 123
Col Grover K. Coe, A1C Olden, NEMO A534 and Lt Col Grove Johnson ribbon cutting ceremony at the kennels
A1C Olden, NEMO A534, Col Grover K. Coe and Lt Col Grove Johnson ribbon cutting ceremony at the kennels
Sentry Dog Kennels exterior integrity shot
Sentry Dog Kennels exterior integrity shot, some K-9 shown looking at the camera man
Col Grover K. Coe, Base Commander inside the kennels
Lt Col Grove Johnson, Col Grover K. Coe and Col Williams inside the kennels
Col Doe in fatigues and Col Williams
Sentry Dog inside the kennels
Sentry Dog inside the kennels
Sentry Dog inside the kennels

39848-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, at 3rd Field Hospital, Saigon, Vietnam
39849-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, at 3rd Field Hospital, Saigon, Vietnam
39855-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, at 3rd Field Hospital
39856-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, unk handler at 3rd Field Hospital
39857-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, unk handler at 3rd Field Hospital
39858-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, unk handler at 3rd Field Hospital
39865-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, unk handler at 3rd Field Hospital
39866-66-600PS-UNCL A2C Throneburg, NEMO A534, at 3rd Field Hospital

Pass in review on the flight line
Pass in Review on the flight line, on rear of photo Capt Dougher 4884
Msgt Olbert H. Hiatt, TDY from 483rd SPS, Nha Trang to Tan Son Nhut, was there on Dec 4, 1966
Photo of a map showing all the K-9 posts
Security Police outside the 377th SPS Orderly Room "Charlie Flight"
Lt Col Grove Johnson and Col Grover K. Coe, Base Commander at the 377th SPS Patio
Col Grover K. Coe, Base Commander with the men of the 377th SPS on the Patio
Col Grover K. Coe, Base Commander with the men of the 377th SPS on the Patio
Col Grover K. Coe, Base Commander with the men of the 377th SPS on the Patio

K-9 NEMO A534 at the 377th SPS Patio, in front of the wooden Security Police Badge (17 copies)
K-9 REX at the 377th SPS Patio, in front of the wooden Security Police Badge (13 copies)
Envelope with a negative inside of Lt Grove Johnson

Paper type documents:

Vietnam Conflict Map
Vietnamese invitations to Lt Col Grove Johnson (5 different ones)

Korean invitation to Lt Col Grove Johnson
From Lt Col Grove Johnson to his officer's an invitation

Newspapers:

7th Air Force News newspaper, dated Friday, Dec 9, 1966, 16 pages
7th Air Force News newspaper, dated Jul 5, 1967, 16 pages
7th Air Force News newspaper, newspaper article, 377th Outstanding Unit Award
Pacific Stars and Stripes newspaper, dated Dec 8, 1966, page 5, 6, 19 and 20 only
Hometown news article, Men in Service, Lt Col Grove Johnson receives Bronze Star
Hometown news article, Men in Service, Omaha Colonel Gets Bronze Star
Hometown news article, In Vietnam, Johnson Wins High Honors

US Air Force Documentation:

1966:

1966 Sep unk date Unk writer describes the VNAF crash on Tan Son Nhut and Dec 4, 1966 Attack
1966 Oct 1 Vietnamese translation, aircraft accident
1966 unk date Marvin A. Helderman, letter describing the first hours of Dec 4, 1966

Letters Grouped together:

1966 Dec 00864 Joint Messageform, DD 173, LTG Momyer, Congratulatory Message
1966 Dec 05 LTG Momyer, Commander, Letter of Appreciation

Letters Grouped together:

1966 Dec 08 CINCPACAF Msg, Sentry Dogs
1966 Dec 16 Sentry Dogs action on Dec 4, 1966
REBEL 519X, Handler A2C Leroy E. Marsh, AF12681006
CUBBY 612E, Handler A2C Larry G. Laudner, AF17677090
TOBY 206F, Handler A1C Dale E. Sidwell, AF18601157

1966 Dec 06 377th SPS, information given to CINCPAC AF
1966 Dec 07 Initial Results of VC Prisoner Interrogation, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Dec 4-5, 1966
Attack On Tan Son Nhut.
1966 Dec 08 377th SPS, Combat After Action Report, 26 pages
1966 Dec 09 Viet Cong Attack on Tan Son Nhut, Dec 4-5, 1966. OSI Report, 4 pages.
1966 Dec 09 Col Billy A. McLeod, Chief, Military Training Division to Col Albert Feldman about
sentry dogs during the Dec 4-5, 1966 Attack on Tan Son Nhut.
1966 Dec 12 7th Air Force replys by letter to RUEDHQA/CSAF.
1966 Dec 12 7th Air Force replys by letter to RUEDHQA/CSAF. They want alot more information
1966 Dec 13 7th Air Force follow-up to RUEDHQA/CSAF about the Dec 4-5, 1966 Attack On TSN.
1966 Dec 13 7th Air Force additional follow up to RUEDHQA/CSAF on the Dec 4-5, 1966 Attack.
1966 Dec 16 Col James D. Otis, letter about Air Police action on Tan Son Nhut, during the Dec 4-5,
1066 Attack on Tan Son Nhut.

Letters Grouped together:

1966 Dec 17 Col Albert Feldman, Chief, Security Division, Directorate of Security and Law
Enforcement Ltr of Appreciation to the men of the 377th SPS

1966 Dec 21 Col Jack H. McCreery, Deputy Inspector General, Ltr of Appreciation to the men of the 377th SPS

1966 Dec 23 Order to Col Otis and Col Feldman to report in detail the attacks on their respective base

1966 Dec 25 The 377th Air Police Christmas Message, by Luke The Spook

1966 Dec 27 Chief of Staff, USAF, Letter of Appreciation

1967:

1967 Jan 03 Col Grover K. Coe, Base Commander, Ltr of Appreciation

1967 Jan 05 Col Grove Johnson's Award recommendations to LT Col Myers

1967 Jan 05 Col Grove Johnson recommendation for a Bronze Star (see Jun 15, 2001 entry, wanting to upgrade it to a Silver Star.)

1967 Jan 09 Lt Col Francis E. Wilkie letter to Col James D. Otis, personal in nature.

1967 Jan 25 Lt Col Wilkin, Director of Security Police about the Defense of Tan Son Nhut – Progress Report.

1967 Feb 18 Vegetation Control Ltr

1967 Mar 01 Capt F. B. Anderson, Chief Quality Control Cat “A” Favorable Communication

1967 May 17 Ltr from Lt Col Grove Johnson to Col Robert J. Loughry, accolades to NEMO A534

Letters Grouped together:

1967 May 16 Lt Col Ployer P. Hill, Commander Tenant Organization, Letter of Appreciation

1967 May 19 General Franklin A. Nicholas, Chief of Staff

1967 June 16 Captain F. B. Anderson, Chief Quality Control , Cat “B” Favorable Communication

1967 Jun 27 Special Order G-46, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Lt Col Grove Johnson

1998:

Vietnam Security Police Association Lineage and Honors History 377th Security Police Squadron

2001:

2001 Jun 15, 2001 Lt Col Grove Johnson's recommendation that Olbert Hiatt be awarded the Silver star for his actions on the night of Dec 4, 1966.

Unknown date:

Olbert Hiatt, wrote 11 pages documentation for his actions on Dec 4, 1966

Charles Penley's map showing the sentry dog post on Feb 1, 1968

Photographic Caption Sheet pertaining to the Dec 4-5, 1966 Attack On Tan Son Nhut

List of airmen who were KIA or WIA during the Attack On Tan Son Nhut, Dec 4-5, 1966

Lt Col James D. Otis, Director of Security Police, small Combat Operations After Actions Report, Tan

Son Nhut, Dec 4-5, 1966, Attack On Tan Son Nhut.

Charles Penley's redaction of all the "Attacks On Tan Son Nhut Air Base."

Paul Harvey's Radio Show about NEMO A534.

10-Series Radio Call Signs, "TET 1968/"

NEMO web page story from <http://members.tripos.com/~Chiri/nemo.html> 3 pages.