



NATIONAL DUSTERS, QUADS & SEARCHLIGHTS ASSOCIATION, Inc.

NEWSLETTER #3 – September 2024

President's Message –



Greetings everyone,

Our reunion is coming November 8-12th. Make your reservations ASAP. Joe and Bruce have worked hard getting everything ready for us which includes visiting the new Army Museum and the Vietnam Memorial. The newsletter will discuss both trips and I do not want to steal their thunder.

The memorial bricks have been laid and look fantastic. The delivery was missing one brick, and it has been ordered. The declaration of trust, for the perpetual care of the NDQSA Memorial, has been completed and Vince Tedesco will make a presentation at the reunion about how to donate. Our goal is to raise \$50,000.

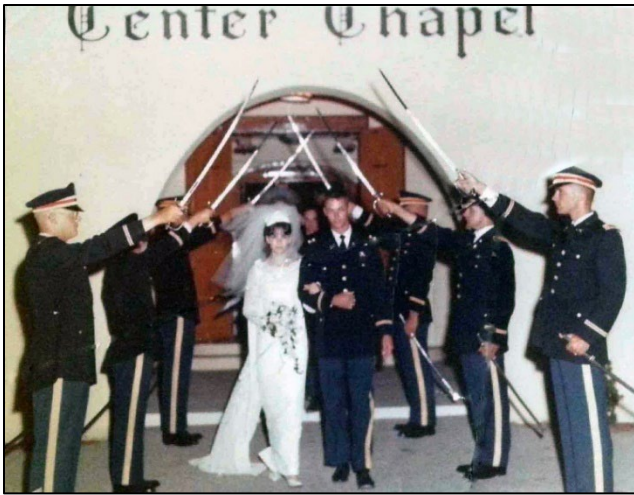
In addition, the Stout Bench has been installed outside the double doors into the Air Defense Artillery Training Support Facility. Martus Stone did a fantastic job on the bench.

This will be my last president's message for the newsletters. Our next president will be determined by your ballot count at the reunion. I want to thank the board of directors for all their support and work over the last two plus years. It has been an honor to serve as your president. It has been a lot of work, but very fulfilling. Love you all!

The Beginning of the Duster Story in Vietnam by Larry Lippincott

I joined the Army in April 1964 after trying college for a semester where the only thing I excelled at was cross country. I decided, with my father's apprehension of further investment, to join the Army for four years and then go back to college. I had no knowledge of Vietnam or even where it was. I was sent to Fort Polk, LA for basic training, etc., and then a year later a platoon sergeant convinced me to go to Officer Candidate School because if I got out it would look good on my record. In August 1965 I became a 2nd Lieutenant in the Artillery and was being to be sent to Fort Bliss, TX to activate a new artillery battalion in Oro Grande, NM that was going to Vietnam. I saw where Vietnam was located on the map and wondered why we were activating a new artillery battalion in the desert.

I soon learned that this was an Air Defense Artillery Battalion activating a unit of weapons that had previously been deactivated and were coming from a New Mexico National Guard unit. We did some initial training on the system at Fort Bliss, TX then our fire units were brought to Oro Grande Range Camp from across White Sands. There was one other very significant event that occurred during this time frame I need to mention. On weekends some of us would go into El Paso for various reasons and it was then that I met the woman I would spend the rest of my life with. We dated the whole time while we were training at Oro Grande, and she would bring mice to me to feed my boa constrictor I kept in my room. Why would you not want to marry a beautiful woman like that named Evelyn Smith. So, in July 1966 our Battalion Chaplain Wright married us in the Chapel at Fort Bliss. My Best Men were fellow officers from the 1st/44th.



After spending some time cleaning all the Cosmoline from the 40mm firing systems, barrels, breaches, firing blocks, etc. We began to “become one” with this magnificent machine. We spent days and nights driving around the desert, shooting at aerial targets, checking headspace and timing, cleaning the weapon, figuring out the commo, changing the gun tubes, and getting out of mud (we actually “sank” a Duster or two in the mud in the desert).

When we asked, “Where or what are we going to be doing,” we were told protecting an airfield, resupply points and other critical assets from fix wing or helicopter attack. No thought about being on a perimeter, running convoy support, defilading a track, building a bunker, participating in search and destroy operations and motorized patrols. We passed our Army Training Test, the 4th Army Command Maintenance Management Inspection and packed up our gear for overseas shipment. Before we left my CO sent me to the Air Force Base at Alamogordo, NM to sign for two each washing machines, dryers and refrigerators to ship to Vietnam. We were thinking we’d have all the comforts of home. We were now on our way to Vietnam with a Battery CO named “Captain Custer” and listening to the song “Please Mister Custer I Don’t Want to Go”.



Lt. Larry Lippincott waiting for 1/44th troops & Dusters to arrive at White Beach, Qui Nhon



Dusters lined up at Qui Nhon waiting to be loaded on LSU's headed to Dong Ha

I fortunately missed the boat shipment and flew in a C130 as part of the advance party to Vietnam where we set up a tent at a place called White Beach, Qui Nhon as we awaited our unit/equipment and to find out where we would be deployed to. Our basic equipment and men arrived, and we prepared for deployment. The only problem was the Army/Navy folks didn’t have any of our Duster ammo on our soldier’s transport ship to Vietnam for our trip north to a place called Dong Ha.

The battalion commander sent the S3, Captain Custer and me to the Naval Yard to see if we could get 40MM from the Navy. After telling us we were at the Navy and not the Army Supply Depot we explained to them that the Army didn't have any and we were headed north to support the 3rd Marine Division. They then managed to provide us with enough ammunition out of their training supply off three Navy Destroyers to travel north on Route 1 to Dong Ha, so off we went. 1st 44th finally arrived in Dong Ha December 13, 1966, after about 1 1/2 months of waiting for the troops, equipment and someone to decide where we should be deployed. Alpha and Bravo Battery ended up in Dong Ha, Charlie at JJ Carrol, and Delta in Phu Bai.



Dusters being loaded on LSU's at Qui Nhon



Helping build bunkers for the troops.



Lt. Lippincott and another Lt. with maps laying out Duster positions at Dong Ha, Gio Linh, Con Thien, Cam Lo, & Khe Sanh



Lt. Larry Lippincott and his NCOIC, SFC Kowalski start setting up new positions at Dong Ha.

Much to my and others surprise we were told to occupy a part of Dong Ha's perimeter of defense. I had Alpha Battery with Bravo Battery and an engineer unit on the right. Headquarters Battery were behind us. We began raising tents, filling sandbags, digging foxholes, running concertina wire, building a shower, receiving and servicing the Dusters and being deployed on the perimeter and given missions.



Searchlight & Dusters heading to their new home at Dong Ha



Lt Lippincott building a shower for his men

It was during this period we realized we were starting a new "OJT" program to transform from "shooting at aircraft" to "shooting at enemy ground targets and protecting Marines." It became official in the 3rd Marine Division LOI 1-67. At first the Marines wanted to use us as tanks but after explaining to them the Dusters capabilities we were used as an overwatch position. When protecting a firebase, we learned to engage at night using our azimuth and elevation, the M19 infrared periscope to fire harassment and interdiction and to preclude firing on our OPs, night ambush positions and other friendly locations.

One hundred percent OJT performed by the magnificent men on each Duster and Duster Section I had the pleasure to serve with. All this while being mortared, rocketed, sniped at, avoiding being overrun, performing guard duties, eating tons of "C" rations, and sometimes not having water except during monsoon season when it was either wet or really wet.



Dusters beina unloaded at Cua Viet

prohibited from answering letters sent back by the parents. It was the first time in my life that I remember crying, as I'm doing it now writing this story. We lost others and it never got easier.

I was Alpha Battery 2nd Plt leader, Lt. Sthienke was the assistant and SFC Kowolski our NCOIC unfortunately we hardly saw each other. The "A" & "B" Battery Duster sections were spread everywhere Dong Ha, Cam Lo, Gio Linh, Con Thien, and Khe Sanh. I even went with a Duster Section East down the CUA VIET River on a LSU to the coast on a search and destroy with the 9th Marine Regiment.

There were lots of scary times, uncomfortable times but one of the worst was Alpha's Battery's first KIA, Pfc Gary Fox. I had the very sad task of writing his parents a letter to notifying them of the death of their son. Even worse, because of policy, I was



"A" Battery Convoy hit by NVA



"A" Battery replacing blown track

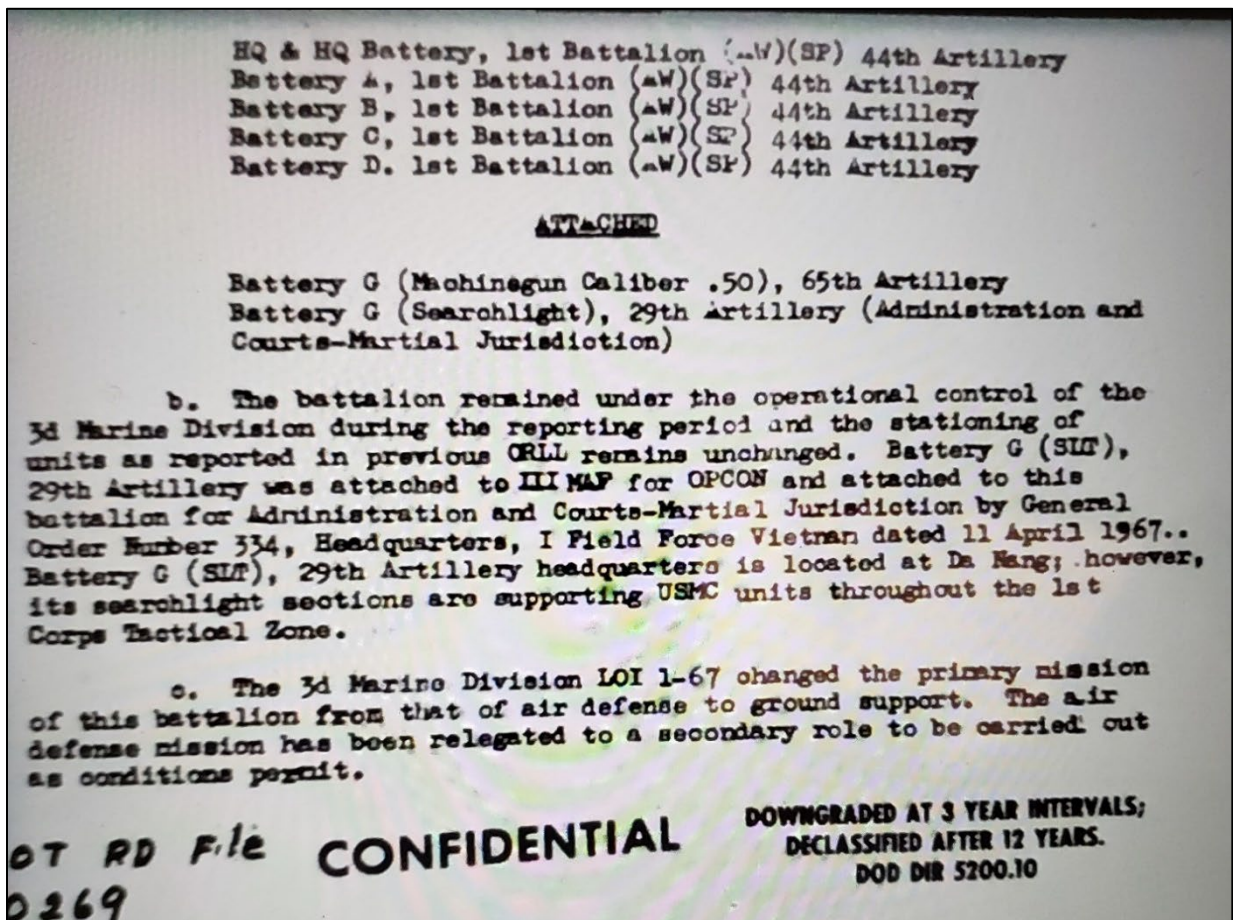


"A" Battery Duster saving Marines from their destroyed Amtrak

At some point around April 1967 we started transferring individuals out of the 1st/44th Battery's to other Duster units and organizations so there wouldn't be a massive exodus at the end of our tour. It was in late August 1967; I was transferred to D/4th/60th and became the XO with only three months left in country. I managed to help write their Battery SOP and with SP5 Battis helped our mess hall to win "Best Mess Hall in the Fourth Infantry Division" two months in a row. That ended my "Vietnam Tour".

A humorous side note: I received orders after returning to the USA to become a 105 Howitzer Battery Commander at Fort Rucker, AL to train pilots to adjust artillery fire. After being there about three months the 53rd Aviation Battalion Commander called me to his office to inform me I was being investigated by the Army IG for misappropriating military equipment from the Air Force. I mentioned earlier the two refrigerators, washers and dryers my CO had me obtain from the airbase in New Mexico that we took to NAM, the IG wanted to know who authorized it and where the equipment was currently. I wrote back to the IG describing how I was ordered by the CO to obtain these items, filled out a transfer request, signed it, returned it to my unit, and shipped them with our equipment to NAM. There we kept one washer and a dryer, and two refrigerators then traded the other washer and dryer to the Engineers for a 50KW generator and a concrete slab for the mess hall tent. I never heard back from the IG.

I spent 26 years in the Army both enlisted and as an officer, and my family and I have tons of memories, but my time with A/1/44 and D/4/60 will always have a special place in my heart and soul.



3rd Marine Division changes Dusters, Quads & Searchlights
Tactical Mission for Air Defense to Ground Support.

END

Members Report NDQSA Board of Directors Meeting April 15, 2024

A regular board of directors (BOD) meeting was held on April 15, 2024. Agenda items include an update on the status of the memorial bricks project, a report on the 2024 reunion in Washington DC, and the officer and committee reports. The bricks have been installed for spacing, but the yellow bricks failed their test to hold the paint in the laser cuts. Grey bricks will be ordered to replace them and installed when they arrive. The capstone dedication stone portion of this project is ready to proceed. The Mitchell Stout memorial bench has been laser cut and is ready for coloring. We can anticipate mid-May for its installation. Most arrangements for the 8-12 November reunion in Washington DC have now been made. These include the Hilton Arlington National Landing hotel, the Veterans Day Wreath Laying at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall), and The Army Museum. Clifford Heitz, D/5/2, 69-70 has joined the association. He found us through the website. MG Richard Harrison and MG Brian Gibson were designated as honorary members based on their distinguished service to the Army and to this association. The board has become aware that some spouses whose husbands have passed away want to stay involved with the friends they have made over the years and continue to get newsletters and attend the reunions. To ensure that this policy is successful, appropriate procedures will be developed that include the continued receipt of newsletters by surviving spouses who want them.

TAPS MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED

Name	Unit	Yrs	Date	Loc
Thomas Wright	Hq/1/44	67-68	9 Feb 2024	GA
Alvin Stevens	C/1/44	69-70	14 Jul 2023	NC
Joseph Kasper	Hq/4/60	68-69	7 Feb 2024	TX
James Gentry	D/4/60	69-70	11 Feb 2024	AZ
Michael Sirkis	Hq/1/44	1970	25 Nov 2021	VA
obituary> https://www.whitingsfuneralhome.com/obituary/Michael-Sirkis				
Floyd 'Red' Seratte	D/1/44	67-68	1 Oct 2022	OK
obituary> https://www.collinsvillefh.com/obituary/floyd-seratte				
Robert Bilderback	Hq/6/71Hawk	65-66	10 Mar 2023	IL
obituary> https://www.colwellmemorialhome.com/obituaries/drrobert-bilderback				
John Huelsenbeck	C/1/44	67-68	16-Apr-2024	IN
obituary> https://www.harperfuneralhomes.com/obituary/John-Huelsenbeck				
David Kincannon	C/1/44	70-71	2-Jun-2021	TX
Walter Sparrow	C/1/44	68-69	Mar 2024	DE
Timothy Tweedell	G-65 Quads	70-71	24-May-2024	WA
obituary> https://www.firlawfnfh.com/obituaries/Timothy-Tweedell				
Charles Lembke	B-29 SLT	65-67	29-Jan-2022	MN
Howard Sloan	A/1/44	66-67	5-Jul-2023	TX
Larry Shankle	G-29 SLT	67-68	2-Jan-2024	OK
Doug Mehle	C/1/44	69-70	29-Jul-2024	FL
obituary> https://www.pmgfuneralhome.com/obituaries/COL-F-Douglas-Mehle?obId=32542616				
Curtis Anderson	A/5/2	66-67	16-Aug-2024	MN
obituary> https://www.mankatomortuary.com/obituaries/curtis-curt-anderson				



They will be missed, and we give honor to their service and to their families.

On My Way to Vietnam 1966 by Gordon Gasser

While my time serving in Vietnam was at different times interrupted by a sudden incoming of mortars, rockets or small arms fire, many of my Army memories were the training, the experiences of being shipped out as a battalion and what our unit did at the different bases in Vietnam, especially at Dong Ha. So, I would like to talk about them. I was drafted in October 1965 and took my basic training at Fort Polk, Louisiana. After I finished basic, I was assigned to the 62nd Artillery Battalion at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas. Before going to my new base, I went home for Christmas leave. I arrived at Fort Bliss at the end of December 1965. I had no idea what kind of artillery unit it was until I got there. The 3rd/62nd trained at Biggs Airfield, an old Army airfield at Fort Bliss. After we finished our training at Fort Bliss, they moved us to a place called Mc Gregor Range. It was located in the New Mexico desert halfway between Fort Bliss and Oro Grande. The 1st/44th Artillery would later be billeted at the same base. After months of training, the 3rd/62nd moved back to Fort Bliss. In June of 1966, I was assigned temporary duty to the NCO Academy at Fort Hood, Texas and in September 1966, I was transferred to the A Battery, 1st/44th as a Spec. 4. So, I moved from Fort Bliss to further out in the desert at Oro Grande. I knew that the 44th had been trained and was scheduled to go to Vietnam. I came to the unit after it had been already trained and was assigned to a Duster squad as Squad Leader in the light of a shortage of qualified E5's. I had been acting Sergeant E5 in the 3rd/62nd. Shortly, we received our orders to go to Vietnam as a battalion. For me, how we went over as a battalion was a memorable experience. The shared experience of traveling as a battalion; the way we traveled on the troop ship, which I had never been in before; the planned traveling of it all, and the anticipation of not knowing our actual destination. So, in October 1966, the whole battalion packed up and left with everything except our Twin 40s. We had our duffel bags packed, our backpacks on and our rifles, which at that time were M14s. We were bussed to the airport at El Paso, where we got on commercial flights that had some civilians on the planes, but mainly there were GIs. Our duffel bags were in the cargo bin, but we were all sitting in our seats with our helmets, rifles and backpacks and flew to Los Angeles International Airport. At LA international, we got off the planes and marched through the airport for another commercial flight to Oakland, California. In Oakland, we boarded buses heading for the port of San Francisco, where we were greeted by the Red Cross who gave us hot coffee. We then marched onto the ship USS Gaffey. I remember that on board the ship, there were 3 or 4 other units beside the 44th battalion, among them a company of MPs.

We left San Francisco at midnight, and when the ship passed under the Golden Gate bridge, our chaplain led all of us standing on deck to sing a version of "I Left My Heart In San Francisco". We were on board the USS Gaffey from October 19 to November 6, 1966, when we got to Vietnam. There's not much to do on board ship. I was assigned a detail in charge of mopping and cleaning the area in front of the PX and the rec room. It was not much of a detail, but it was something we were assigned to do each day. With some others I knew in the 44th, we spent most of our time on top the ship outside, spending as little time inside as possible. The one thing I remember is the sound of the 3 bells that told everybody when it was chow time and the intercom would announce "dinner is now being served in the main dining salon", making it sound like we were on board a cruise ship but, basically, you got in line and you sat down at these long tables and ate your meals and left; and it was a long line. So, usually in line two of us would play a card game called Tonk, which you can play with three cards.



After a week of being on a ship, we made a one-night stop at Okinawa. When we got to Okinawa, everybody had to leave for the night. They bussed us into an EM Club where there was a show and you could have beer, but not too many. We had a good time.

Next, we got to Qui Nhon, Vietnam. At Qui Nhon, they took us off the ship by landing crafts that landed on the beach. We ran off the landing crafts through the water, formed in formation on the beach, then

marched off the beach to deuce-and-a-half trucks which took us into an airfield. We were told Qui Nhon was home to the 1st Cavalry, and we saw a lot of helicopters. Basically, we were living out of pup tents for a few days. Then we got big squad tents and set those up. Our Twin 40s had not arrived, so they had our squad do perimeter guard duty. After two weeks, we were told our Dusters had come in at Da Nang, which is about 170 miles north. So, after setting up our squad tents, we had to take them down, pack everything up and go back to the airfield. At the airfield, the battalion was lined up by battery. Each battery marched up to a C130 whose back ramp was down. We lined up and marched four abreast with everything we owned up the ramp onto the C130s. Once the plane was full, we were ordered to turn about face and sit down. The plane took off with all of us sitting on the floor and we flew to Da Nang.

At Da Nang, we were trucked to a big Sandy area that had squad tents already set up by the Marines. While there, we depended on the Marines for everything. We were there to meet up with our tracks. Shortly, we were trucked to a large, cemented area which had our twin 40s laid out in battery formation. Each track had the unit designation by section and squad. In front of each track, was a big crate that had the barrels, the firing pin, first aid kit, etc. which needed to be assembled on the track. Nothing was put together, but it the engines ran, and everything was brand new. We were assigned to put everything together and we were trucked back and forth during that time until the tracks were assembled and the ammunition loaded on. I remember having to sign for all the parts received.

Once all the tracks were assembled, the battalion was basically set. We were ordered to go to Dong Ha, which was much further north of Da Nang. Each track was put on what I think was an LCU carrier. We traveled up the coast, then to the mouth of the river on the way up to Dong Ha. But the mouth of the river was too rough, so the LCU turned back to Da Nang. We were almost at Da Nang when word came that the weather had cleared, so again we turned around and went back up to Dong Ha.

We went up the river to a spot by a bridge, which I later learned was Highway 1 by a base called Cua Viet. We drove off the LCU and traveled on Highway 1 to the Marine base at Dong Ha. To my knowledge, we were the first Army unit there. Part of our problem in Dong Ha, was when we got there, our supply line did not catch up with us. Jungle fatigues, jungle boots and M16s were not supplied to us for about three months after we had been in Vietnam. Even Class A chow was difficult to come by. We were living off B-rations for a while. Basically, we had the same uniforms, boots and everything we had been issued when we first entered basic training.

Dong Ha was one of the four combat bases that our squad ended up doing defense perimeter for. After we arrived at Dong Ha, we were assigned an area that did not have anything there and was not secured. There was no bunker, no position, no barbed wire set, nothing. It was just an open area at one end of the base. We were given squad tents to be put up. The first thing we did was to set up perimeter defenses, filled Sandbags, and staked out barbed wire around our perimeter. Then later, we continued to improve the battery area by building mess halls, putting in wooden floors, screens, roof and latrines, all the facilities to replace the squad tents. It took a long time before our CQ bunker finally was put underground, but we kept on Sandbagging and building things as we went along. Our section was responsible for setting up 3 positions around the Dong Ha base. A hole was dug to drive our tracks into to point out at perimeter. We then had to fill Sandbags and build bunkers in all those positions. From just a big piece of open land when we arrived, our unit built everything and the whole area was completely different when I left than when I got there.

About two to three weeks after we were there, the Marines were not clear on how to use us. They decided to send us on patrol, but instead of sending us out in our Twin 40s or Quad 50s, we went out as an infantry unit. No one was trained as infantry. So, they gave me a 30-caliber machine gun and told me I was on point, which made no sense at all. Afterward, they sent us out on patrols, but with tracks, to give backup to the Marines patrols who were out there.

Besides Dong Ha, we were also in other Combat Bases: Cam Lo, Gio Linh, Con Thien and Hue. Gio Linh was the position we kept going back to from Dong Ha, to do perimeter defense there. Gio Linh did not have our positions built, but we ended up moving alongside a couple of other bunkers and digging out an ammo bunker and setting ourselves up. Con Thien at the time was just being built, not secured, but we also went

there for perimeter defense. On one of the convoys to Con Thien, the other track in our section hit a mine. None of the crew got hurt, they all got out okay, but the ammo in the track blew up. Hue was a little different than any other base we were at, in that we could walk into town without a rifle or flak jacket. I finished my tour of duty and left Vietnam in September of 1967.



October 1966 – Waiting to ship Dusters to Vietnam



Gordon Gasser on the USS Gaffey



Pat Cullen took the picture. L-R: Gasser, Wilson, Doino (on top), Gargano, Nick Cappaso, & unk.



Soldiers from the 44th on the Gaffey Deck



Arriving at Qui Nhon Combat Base, home of the 1st Calvary



Gordon Gasser setting up camp at Qui Nhon



1st / 44th is welcomed to Dong Ha Combat Base



This was at our "A" Battery Compound. Gordon Gasser (L) & Pat Cullen (R)



Dong Ha: (l-R) Frank Galardo, Gordon Gasser, P. Cullen, Allan Boyce & James Babel.



Building Dong Ha Combat Base.



**“Sandbag by Sandbag”
Remember those days!**



Gordon Gasser “A” Battery new position at Dong Ha



They Build the 1st/44th Chapel at Dong Ha



**My Duster Crew: Max is sitting on Track (L-R)
Jefferson, P. Cullen, John Harrison & Gordon Gasser.**



Gio Linh Combat Base



**Gio Linh also known as Alpha 2.
The Marines called it “Camp Hill – The Alamo”**



On April 27, 1967 Gio Linh underwent the heaviest single NVA artillery attack of 1967, withstanding over 1,000 NVA incoming rounds



1st / 44th Truck completely destroyed.



Getting ready to leave for Con Thien



B52's Bombing the DMZ



The building of Con Thien Combat Base – It was also called the “Hill of Angels”





Gordon Gasser at Con Thien



1st/44th finish building Con Thien. The most northern combat base in Vietnam. The NVA constantly attacked the base by the ground and artillery



C130 drops mail & food to Con Thien



Gordon's Duster overlooking the DMZ



REUNION REMINDER - You don't want to miss this reunion!

*You will meet our Keynote Speaker, Historian and Military Interviewer, Zach Wood. Zach will be available to interview all our veterans for our history project. Your story will be used in our newsletters and stored in the Fort Sill ADA History Library.

* Bring your wife, significant other and family members, as we have no idea when we will have another DC Reunion. Besides brotherhood and sisterhood camaraderie, a Banquet, the President's Party, and Auction Night, we will have two wonderful day trips. Our first trip will be to the new Army Museum and our second trip will be to the Vietnam Memorial 'WALL' on Veterans Day. At the 'WALL' we will honor our 212 Brothers, who made the supreme sacrifice.

Get a name rubbing of the friends you lost. This could be your last time to say, "Welcome Home".

2024 NDQSA REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

41st Annual NDQSA Reunion, Washington DC Nov 8th– 12th, 2024 'Operation Welcome Home'

PLEASE READ EVERYTHING CAREFULLY AND MAIL THIS FORM TO THE TREASURER – SEE ADDRESS LABEL BELOW

Hilton Arlington National Landing Hotel
 2399 Richmond Highway
 Arlington, VA 22202
 1(703)418-6800
<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dca-nahf-hilton-arlington-national-landing/>

Book Your Reservations ASAP!

Room Rates: King Bed \$129+tax; 2 Double Beds \$129+tax

Rates Include: Discounted Self Parking \$15/Day

Reagan National Airport Free Shuttle to Hotel (571)380-6299

NDQSA Group Rate 2 days pre/post above dates (11/6/24–11/14/24)

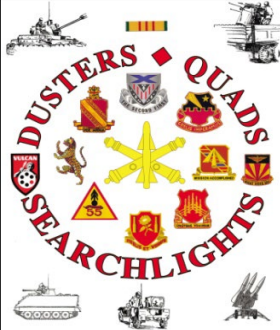
Based on room availability!!! Reservation Cutoff: October 25, 2024

Must Mention 'National Dusters, Quads Searchlights Assoc. Reunion'

Online NDQSA Reservation Link: <https://book.passkey.com/go/NDQSA2024>

Hilton Arlington National Landing Reservations: 1(800)445-8667 **Group Code: 904**

Problems (703)418-6800 Ask for Group Sales (Office hours: M-F 9am–5pm EST)



Name(print): _____

Spouse or Guests: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Which days are you planning to attend the reunion? (circle)

November 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

We Th **Fr** Sa Su Mo Tu We Th

Remember to make your hotel reservations ASAP to insure room availability.

If you have already made your reservations, check this box [].

If you are local or not staying at the reunion hotel, check this box [].



To help planning reunion activities including buses & meals, please pre-register now and send fees for the following activities.

As always, should unforeseen circumstances occur and you are unable to attend the reunion, you will receive a full refund.

Activity times are tentative and subject to change as plans are finalized.

ACTIVITIES

Friday Nov 8 th	Saturday Nov 9 th	Sunday Nov 10 th	Monday Nov 11 th	Tuesday Nov 12 th
Setup/Registration 10am-4pm Hospitality Room Afternoon Sightseeing On Your Own NDQSA Board Of Directors Mtg. 4pm-6pm Evening Activities Hospitality Room closes at ~12 midnight	9:30am-2:30pm Bus Trip to US Army National Museum (est 3 hrs) \$35 pp Lunch at Museum On Your Own 3pm board buses to Hilton Arlington Hotel Evening Activities Hospitality Room closes at ~12 midnight	9:00am to 11:00am Annual Membership Business Mtg. *Members required to attend 9:00am to 11:00am Ladies Continental Breakfast in Hospitality Room 4:30 PM NDQSA Memorial Hotel Ballroom 5:00 PM-10:30 PM NDQSA Dinner Banquet & President's Party Guest Speaker, Awards & Presentations Hub Caps Live Band Music/Dancing/ Cash Bar	10:00am-3:00pm Bus Trip to Veterans Day Ceremonies Vietnam Veterans Memorial \$35 pp 3:30pm board buses to Hilton Arlington Hotel 7pm Evening Activities, Auctions & Raffle Hospitality Room closes at ~11:00pm	9:00am Chaplain's Farewell Svc. Safe Travel Home Hope to See You Next Year at Our 42 nd Annual Reunion!

Select & Pay for Activities

	No. of Persons	Amount
Saturday, Nov 9 th 9:30am-2:30pm Bus Trip to US Army National Museum	(\$35) x <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	= \$ _____
Sunday, Nov 10 th 4:30pm-10:30pm NDQSA Dinner Banquet & President's Party DJ & Dancing	(\$65) x <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	= \$ _____
Monday, Nov 11 th 11:00am-3:00pm Bus Trip to Veterans Day Ceremonies at The Wall	(\$35) x <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	= \$ _____
Voluntary donation 2024 NDQSA Good Works Project: (any amount welcome)		\$ _____
Reunion Registration Fee: Make sure you add it into your total. (\$25 individual / \$30 per family)		\$ _____
Total >>>>>>		\$ _____

NDQSA, Allan Penwell
 PO Box 149
 Savoy, IL 61874

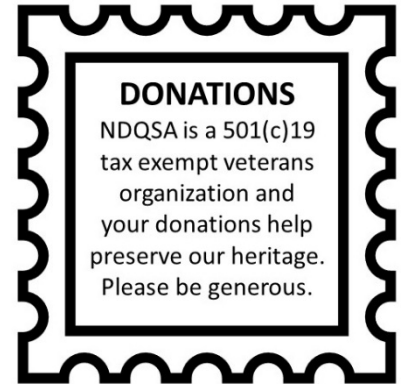
Make your pre-registration check payable to NDQSA and mail to NDQSA Treasurer:
 ← Cut out this address label and tape it to your envelope.

Tear off this page, fill it out and mail it in.

National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights

Dues and Roster Updates

First Name: _____
Middle Name: _____
Last Name: _____
Nickname: _____
Name of Spouse or Significant other: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip Code: _____ - _____
Email Address: _____
Home Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____
Vietnam Service Information:
Dates of 1st Tour: (m/yr.): _____ / _____ To _____ / _____
Dates of 2nd Tour: (m/yr.): _____ / _____ To _____ / _____
Dates of 3rd Tour: (m/yr.): _____ / _____ To _____ / _____
Primary MOS: _____
Primary Battery and Unit: _____
Attached to: _____
Additional Units if transferred or reassigned: _____
Names of Combat Bases or OP's: _____



Rank (highest grade while in Vietnam) - Officer: _____ NCO: _____ EM: _____

Valor Awards:
PH () DSC () SS () BS () BS/V () ACM/V () OTHER: _____

Dues \$25.00 per Year - Enclosed: 1 Year _____ 2 Years _____ 3 Years _____ 4 Years _____ 5 Years _____

Lifetime Membership Dues \$250.00 _____

Donation to NDQSA: _____

**** Total Enclosed: _____

****How would you like to receive your NDQSA Newsletter – Check One: Email _____ USPS _____

Mail Check to: **NDQSA**
 PO Box 149
 Savoy, IL 61874

NDQSA
 PO Box 149
 Savoy, IL 61874

Forward Service Requested



First to Fire...Last to Leave

September 2024 Newsletter

TAPS

Reunion Registration

The Beginning by Larry Lippincott

On My Way to Vietnam by Gordon Gasse

NDQSA Mission Statement

The National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights Association™ (NDQSA™) is the original, official representative, and holds the longest, continual and official annual reunion for ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam. NDQSA is the only organization of Vietnam ADA Veterans officially recognized by the Air Defense Artillery Association headquarters in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. As a tribute to the memory of over 220 ADA Warriors who lost their lives during the war in Vietnam, NDQSA members have funded, constructed and dedicated a magnificent monument in the Memorial Park at Ft. Sill. NDQSA was founded in 1981 by John Huesenbeck et al and has grown to about 600 active members with a directory of over 2200 ADA Vietnam Veterans and supporters.

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c)(19) non-profit veterans organization and is incorporated in the State of Indiana. We welcome and encourage all ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam to join NDQSA and to share the fellowship, mutual support, and continued service to our Nation on behalf of all military veterans and active duty personnel.

