



VQ NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2015

The Prez Sez

VQ Association Family,

Change is the watchword for our community



I recently attended the Maritime Patrol Symposium where the theme was “Eyes and Ears of the Fleet. 60 Years of Air Recon.” The work, dedication and sacrifice of the VQ community was the focus of this event. The venerable Don East delivered a marvelous talk to a packed house at the VQ Heritage Presentations and our own Adm Jack Scorby was the keynote speaker at the Heritage Dinner. Both got rave reviews. Both of their speeches can be found on our social media sites and the VQ website (www.vqassociation.org). Read Don’s speech to the end so you don’t miss the sea story. We also had an inductee to the Hall of Heroes, CAPT Vince Anania. Read his amazing story on page 10 of the welcome publication for the symposium - http://www.maritimepatrolassociation.org/symposium/docs/2015_MPA_Sym_Welcome.pdf.

Linda Landrum and Jan Meyer, who are both surviving spouses of VQ members, brought an idea to the Board of Directors recently which we wholeheartedly embraced. Linda and Jan wanted to make sure that surviving spouses of VQ members were welcomed and recognized by our Association. Linda and Jan began brainstorming about ways to honor them. They have worked with this year’s reunion coordinator, Putt Prevetie, to schedule several special events for our surviving spouses. Stand by for more info at the upcoming reunion. And in case you weren’t aware surviving spouses have free lifetime membership in the VQ Association.



Don East and Keith May at the 2015 MPA Symposium with Adm Jack Scorby and Greg Crewse in the background

Now a little about our community’s future. I’ve spent some time with our Active Duty forces recently and I want to tell you we have some dedicated folks working to make sure our Nation has the capability we need to find our enemies and report on their activities. I cannot share the details but let me just say that the current EP-3E capabilities are eye-watering. Yet, our birds are getting old. We have an amazing group of professionals maintaining these aircraft, but at some point they have to be replaced. I’m happy to report that the Navy has a plan. When I was at the MPA Symposium I got to step aboard a new P-8 and what a treat that was... new plane smell. The plan is that all the capability on the

EP-3E will be transferred to the P-8 Poseidon and to the community’s new large UAV, the MQ-4C Triton. I can report that I have seen the details and I am very optimistic about our future. In the meantime, our crews will keep flying until sundown of the last two squadrons which are scheduled for 2019 (VPU-2) and 2020 (VQ-1). The mission that our VQ crews do today will live on, just not in its current form. I hope you take

the time to read Adm Scorby's remarks. He talks about our people, the passion they have, their patriotism and their future in serving our country. I couldn't agree more.

I hope to see you at the 2015 VQ Association Reunion in Long Beach, CA!

Respectfully,
Keith May
VQ Association President

FISHER HOUSE NEWS

Keith May presented a check to Brian Gawne of the Fisher House from the VQ Association. The Fisher House maintains houses near VA and military hospitals for the families of hospitalized military members who are in the hospital for a long duration. The group was very appreciative of your contribution. For your information, Brian also mentioned that Fisher House can and does use the frequent flier miles to bring families to the area of the hospital.



From the V.P.

Several things!! First of all to the many of you that attended the Wilmington, NC Reunion, you sure swelled my and Sandy's hearts seeing the great time all had. Sandy and I have hosted 5 reunions over time now and time for a rest we think. We still think an East Coast reunion at Key west, FL would be doable. Air travel easy to Key West.

Next I want to thank Linda Landrum, surviving spouse of Ray Landrum and Jan Meyer, surviving spouse of J.D. Meyer, for stepping up to the plate and forming a mini detachment within our association. They intend to encourage surviving spouses (mostly female) to retain active membership, stay active and attend reunions with the rest of us. I personally believe it's our obligation to do so out of respect for our deceased shipmates. The wives certainly sacrificed a lot, if not more, on our VQ tours of duty. Let's continually encourage them to remain part of us. Linda and Jan will actively do so. They have several ideas to be successful in their new mission. If you know of a forgotten widow please contact one of them so we can bring her back into the fold.

Next subject: I ask each one of you to find your 2014 roster book of association membership and check your info. If corrections are necessary please contact/send such to our association secretary Mike Chicvara, who's phone and e-mail are in the roster. I would also ask you to continue looking through 2014 book (a bit at a time) and look for other errors of other shipmates, contact them and/or submit any new info on them. A new roster book will be published 2016.

Last subject: membership dues are our only means of supporting association expenses, newsletter, roster, postage, donations, some (minor) reunion expenses. \$20.00 year/\$30.00 2 years will keep you abreast of all association endeavors and are normally due each October or earlier on reunion sign-up sheets. We do not send just billing nor look way back if you're in arrears. Just send/pay currently and you're good to go!! For folks that pay regularly, you will find a year on your newsletter address indicating a year your dues are due.

I thank you for allowing me to be your V.P./XO. (as a tired old enlistment man and SCPO, I like the X.O. title better) Looks like 2016 reunion will be Dallas/Fort Worth area with Larry and Patty Brosh hosting.

Every Sailor knows the Law of Probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

From the Secretary

1. The reunion is fast approaching. Be sure to send your sign up and check to me at:

Mike Chicvara 17615 N 131st Drive
Sun City West, AZ 85375
Make checks payable to the VQ Association

2. It is very important that you keep me informed of any changes to your status. Address, phone number and most important, e mail.

Thanks for your service!
Chic

The Genesis of Training the Japanese Self Defense Forces in Signal Collection and Analysis

By Rick Heckler

Part 1: The Dilemma



In the summer of 1964 Cdr. Albert T. Holt assigned me to his flight Crew and the position Operations Chief. In addition to the responsibility for the 200+enlisted crewmembers' training and qualifications; an additional daily duty was to review all incoming classified traffic received by the squadron, and compile a "read" list of information pertinent to the various Department Head's activities. Communiques were both directive, for squadron tasking, informational for Elint subjects affecting the area. After a couple of months of screening incoming traffic, I came across a message involving DOD, DOS, JCS and other alphabet organizations, discussing the dilemma of a non-authorized commitment to the Japanese by a DOS person, to train them in Elint collection and analysis. The problem arose in 1959, and the discussions amongst the recipients ranged from how to get out of the commitment diplomatically, or to provide some low-level of training, while not sharing our database of signal analysis. After five years of haggling, the pressure to implement some form action had risen to "critical".

I thought through the issue and discussed with Cdr. Holt an approach that would gather spare or obsolete equipment from all services, in order to establish a single ground collection station site; train JSDF personnel and then leave it to the Japanese to construct additional stations in order to triangulate signal sources. Cdr. Holt had me draft a formal plan, which he submitted up the chain-of-command. The plan was approved to be conducted under the aegis of the JCS; would be logistically supported by MAAG Japan to warehouse the incoming equipment, and provide classroom space; and the team would be led by a Commissioned Officer and instructors would be comprised from AFSS, ASA and VQ-1. As the originator of the action plan, I along with Larry Brosh, represented the two navy personnel.

Anecdote #1 The Air Force contingent; Capt. Robert Fisher & TSsgt. Fred Bishop; were from AFSS Training Command and were assigned to bring their lesson plans and some of the equipment for the installation site. Their shipment of materials became lost in transit, which gave me the opportunity to define the content of the training program. Because my belief was that operators and analysts would be more skillful if they had a fundamental knowledge of the theories of transceivers, antennas and waveform propagation; I combined our squadron's operator syllabus with my B School notes to create daily lesson plans each night, for the next day's classes. After this applications; success with the JSDF class; demonstrated by their quality of performance at their site; we updated our course at VQ-1, which was then shared with VQ-2.

"part 2" next issue

VQ ASSOCIATION DUES AND REUNION SIGN-UP

Members send dues payment (\$20/yr., \$30 for two years) to Association Secretary at address below or include it with your reunion sign up. **New members please provide the following: Name (first, MI, last and nickname/handle) Rank/Rate (optional), Spouse's name, Phone No., Email address, Mailing address, VQ/NSG Units, Dates served, a Brief description of duties.** Dues are due October of each year. We do not ask for past dues!! See vqassociation.org for a complete membership application.

Queen Mary Long Beach, CA Reunion, September 17-20, 2015

Name: _____

Spouse/Significant Other/Guest: _____

Total Attendees: _____

Reunion Set Up: No. of attendees X \$10 Total Set up \$: _____

Ronald Reagan Library Tour, Simi Valley, Friday, September 18th. \$35 per person. Transport only. Total Number _____ Total \$: _____

Golf Tournament, September 19th. Name/s: _____

Hdcp/s (if known) _____ Total Golfer X \$32 : _____

Dinner on the Queen, September 19th

Number of Dinners X \$45. Dinner choice: Beef _____ Chicken _____ Vegetarian _____ Total \$: _____

BBQ on the Fantail, September 20th. Number of BBQ X \$30 Total \$: _____

Permanent Name Tag with Lanyard. Five dollars each. Most do name, unit, specialty (EC-121 FE, EA-3B Nav), and years. Total name X \$5 Total Name Tag \$: _____

Name _____ Unit _____ Years _____

Name _____ Unit _____ Years _____

Total Reunion \$ _____

Dues payment (\$20/year or \$30 for two years) Total Dues \$: _____

* Queen Mary reservations: 877-342-0742. Be sure and ask for the VQ Association rate. Rooms start at \$99/night and there is also a 15% tax. They will honor three days before and after the reunion (17-20). Room cutoff is 17 August. (see article next page) After that you are on your own and I guarantee hotel rooms close to the Queen are expensive!!!

* Transportation from the airport can be arranged through SuperShuttle at:

* <http://www.supershuttle.com/default.aspx?GC=GUVZ3> Rate is \$17 from LAX and \$37 from John Wayne (SNA). There is a two dollar discount for Queen guest's which brings it down to \$15 and \$35 respectively.

* Parking at the Queen is six bucks a day (normally \$17) Bring parking ticket when you check in and then your room key lets you in and out.

* If you want to take advantage of the giant breakfast buffet in the Promenade Cafe, just tell them you are with the VQ Association to receive the \$15 rate per person.

* There is free bus service to Long Beach attractions and restaurants/tourist spots that runs on a 20 minute schedule. The stop is very close to the Queen.

• There is a charge for Internet but it also includes some long distance phone considerations. Make this choice when you check in.

* Weather in Long Beach is usually mild (70s) and cooler nights. We always get questions on dress so, for the Saturday dinner, we ask that men wear at least long pants with a collared shirt. Please, no flip flops, T shirts or shorts!

* To reiterate: Rate for room cutoff is 17 August! Call 877-342-0742 to make reservations.

* We have to have meal numbers five days in advance. What I am implying, don't wait until the last minute!! We don't want your Queen experience to be one of frustration!

Send your sign up sheet with check made out to the VQ Association :

Secretary Mike Chicvara

Phone: 480-313-4661

17615 N. 131st Drive.

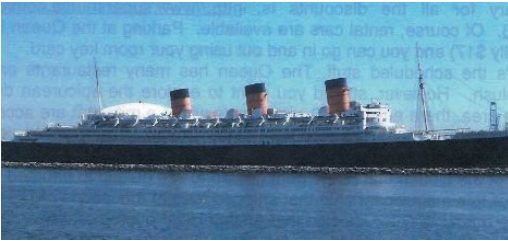
email: amcsret@cox.net

Sun City West, AZ 85375

Your hosts for this event will be Allan "Putt" and Katy Prevette. If you want additional info check the VQ

Association website: vqassociation.org or call: 805-482-1204, email allanprevette@gmail.com, snail mail 3232

Village 3, Camarillo, CA 93012 . See you there!!!!



The ship's horn is sounding, "All aboard!" Rooms are going quick! In fact, Thursday rooms are sold out. In view of that, an arrangement was made with the Long Beach Hilton for \$149 for Thursday. Call the Hilton Long Beach at: 1- 562-983-3400. The address is: 701 West Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90831. **If you make a reservation at the Hilton be sure to ask for the VQ Association Thursday Overflow rate.** This hotel is close to the Queen Mary and the free Long Beach

shuttle comes to both locations on a frequent schedule.

The events scheduled for the reunion include: On Friday, a trip to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley (\$35/per person transportation), a golf tournament on Saturday morning (\$32/golfer), Saturday night we will dine in a grand salon on the Queen (\$45/person) and Sunday there will be a lunch on the fantail (\$30/person) with a superb view of Long Beach Harbor. In between these events, there is much to see and do on the Queen Mary and in the surrounding area. There are numerous tours on the ship. To mention a couple, there is a Grand Tea which really resonates with the ladies, plus a haunted tour that is quite popular. All the tours are discounted for hotel guests. If you like, you can do a self guided tour.

There are numerous restaurants on board from plain fare to gourmet. There is a very nice lounge very close to our ready room. They serve all kinds of libations and I'm told they often have live music on the weekend.

There are a ton of restaurants within a few minutes of the Queen Mary. A free shuttle runs every twenty minutes. The bride and I tried the shuttle and we got out right in front of the Aquarium of the Pacific. Within view was an Outback Steak House, an Applebee's, a Bubba Gump Shrimp House plus others that have escaped my aging memory! There will be information provided on the Long Beach attractions at the reunion.

You can also see information on the website at: vqassociation.org plus you can see the sign up sheet.

The most important thing, the rooms are going fast! Don't procrastinate! We want to see you on the Queen!

Putt and Katy

WONDERS NEVER CEASE

Today, I traveled to a Japanese market in Gardena, CA. My normal routine upon entering the market is to go straight away to the beer locker. It was there that I noticed some large bottles of Taiwanese beer! Digging deep into the foggy recesses of my rather mature brain, I recalled drinking some swill in Taiwan they called beer which rated right on par with Bier 33, served in the establishments in DaNang.

Egads! I thought, "why would a sovereign, proud nation, mindful of their image on the world stage, export something as disgusting as the beer I remember?" Succumbing to the longings of a more senior person to experience those things that happened long ago, I purchased two big bottles, just to see if they were as bad as I remember.

Arriving at my domicile in Leisure Village, AKA Geritol Lane, Menopause Manors, Cardiac Corners, my first task was to cool the beer properly and then complete the tasks dictated by my bride of nearly 50 years.

Finally released, I settled back in my easy chair (read second bed) with one of the aforementioned brews. Taking the first swig, my initial thought was I made a mistake and picked the wrong bottle. But, when I looked at it, sure enough it was from Taiwan! The bouquet of the beer reminded me of the outstanding beer we used to get in Okinawa called Orion. By the time I finished, I thought, "Wow, what a difference a day (half a century) can make.

So to conclude what has gotten to be a pretty bad case of bloviating, it would appear, at least in the case of Taiwanese beer, things do improve over time. Too bad my wife won't buy into that.

Ta. Putt

SMALL STORES



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

City/State/ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Item	Qty	Description	Price	Total

TOTAL _____

All prices include Shipping
Make check/M.O. to: VQ Association
Mail to: Dick McClellan
773 Woodcock Rd., Henrico, NC 27842
252-537-0954



Item	Description	Price
101	EA3B Hat (no eggs)	\$19.00
102	EA3B Hat (eggs)	\$20.00
103	EC121 Hat (no eggs)	\$19.00
104	EC121 Hat (eggs)	\$20.00
105	EP3E Hat (no eggs)	\$19.00
106	EP3E Hat (eggs)	\$20.00
107	P4M-1Q Hat (no eggs)	\$19.00
108	P4M-1Q Hat (eggs)	\$20.00
109	VQ Ground Pounder Hat (Bat)	\$16.00
110	VQ Ground Pounder Hat (Sandeman)	\$16.00
111	VQ Assoc. Logo Hat (White/Soft/Golf)	\$19.00
112	Olive Drab Patrol Cap w/ "Navy" Front	\$19.00
113	VQ-1 Bat Patch	\$6.00
114	VQ-2 Bat Patch	\$6.00
115	VQ-2 Sandeman Patch	\$6.00
116	A-3 Patch	\$6.00
117	EC-121 Patch	\$6.00
118	EP-3E Patch	\$6.00
119	Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club Patch	\$6.00
120	VQ Assoc. Logo Coffee Mug	\$12.00
121	VQ Assoc. Logo 4" Decal	\$3.00
122	VQ-2 P-3 aircraft Call me for info	7 available
123	Diecast T-34 Acft. Call me for info	4 available

Every sailor knows the law of gravity: Any tool, nut, bolt, screw. when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.

Reflections on the Cuban Missile Crisis & VQ-2

by Jack Kenton

Chapter 1

A bit of history - Cuba under Castro had changed from a country freed of a Batista dictatorship to a Communist Castro dictatorship. In the early years of the regime, in the Eisenhower years, dissident Cubans that had fled the country got together with our CIA to plan an invasion of Cuba that would free it from Castro.

JFK came into office as plans were readied for the invasion. Caught off guard, he allowed the invasion to go ahead only if he could keep the U.S. involvement at arm's length. In 1961, when the invasion of the Bay of Pigs took place, the U.S. had, just over the horizon, a naval force that included a carrier. The invasion failed as the carrier's "ready aircraft" were not allowed to assist the invading Cuban exiles and Castro's air and ground forces had total freedom to counter-attack and defeat the invaders.

The USSR's Khrushchev and Cuba's Castro were concerned about the failed invasion and the possibility that it might happen again. At the same time, Khrushchev believed that President Kennedy was a weak president and that this was a time when the USSR could take advantage of the U.S. The Soviets proceeded to reinforce Castro with weaponry and military advisors. This is where plans to place intermediate ballistic missiles began. By the summer of 1962, installations were being built and Hyushin light bombers (1950's era Beagles) were being shipped in. Most of this was settled and the U.S. "quarantine" of Cuba was ended by 20 Nov. 1962.

In Dec. however, VQ-2 sent assets to NAS Key West to collect further intelligence. Our EA3B front end was already there when around 10 Dec. we took off in Willie Victor 131391 to augment the effort. Our front end was Lcdr Bob Warner, Lt

Jack Kenton and Lt(jg) Peter Head. Our route of flight would start at just 6000' and we would fly across Portugal direct to Argentina, Newfoundland. As usual, the plane was heavy and the spare parts that we carried brought us up to our max allowed empty weight of the plane. The field at NS Argentina was the operating base for the WV2's of the Navy's Atlantic Early Warning Barrier (VW-11,13 & 15 rotated through from Pax River) and we could count on maintenance support if needed. It was a 10 hr. flight.

After an overnight, we were scheduled to continue to Key West with a stop in Pax River. Kenton and Head did the flight plan and had it filed.



Out at our plane, no one could find Lcdr Warner. Having no luck on the phone, our evaluator got wheels to the BOQ to check on Bob. It turned out that he had contacted some of his old Willie Victor buddies and they had overdone their reunion at the Officer's Club. Our evaluator got him to the plane and we tied him down in one of the bunks. Kenton and

Head flew the plane out of Argentina. By the time we got to Pax River (8 hrs.), Bob was his old self and took the plane in. It was another RON with assured maintenance support.

Our third day had us off to NAS Jacksonville (4 hrs). During our RON, one of our crew contacted an old buddy at the JAX rework facility and had asked him for an unofficial opinion of the many antennas that protruded from our plan. Supposedly, the response was to the effect of "Don't ask for an official opinion, or the plane won't fly again." And so the staging continued as one more short flight put us on the ground at Boca Chica (NAS Key West).



Japanese Gardens
Ft. Worth

Larry and Patti Brosh are hosting the 2016 reunion in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. There are plenty of things to do and see in the area, more than one can visit in a week. Many different museums, including a Ripley and a free Amon Carter museum that houses many Russell /& Remingtons. The world famous state fair will be opened and if enough interest is shown, a tour can be arranged. There are wineries, micro brewers, the JFK and Perot museum in Dallas and a herd of longhorns run through Ft. Worth every afternoon.

Newletter Editor

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2221 Cottonwood Ct.

Patti Brosh

