



Mekong Express Mail

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THE THAILAND LAOS CAMBODIA BROTHERHOOD, INC.

www.TLC-Brotherhood.org

Monument / Libraries project wraps up

by Gerry Frazier

About ten years ago, someone suggested that the TLC Brotherhood build a monument to the American engagement with Vietnam. We liked and adopted the idea and attempted to do just that, but over a span of years, we realized that the project could not go forward because of the evolution of attitudes in Northeast Thailand concerning a war that ended 35 years ago. The younger generations of people living in Northeast Thailand now live with their Lao and Vietnamese neighbors in a much less hostile, more interdependent world – one the sacrifices of their parents, and our lost brothers, helped secure. Nevertheless, the people made it clear that they do not want a visible symbol of that war. In keeping with our desire to memorialize those mutual sacrifices, we discussed other ways to do so. This article is about what we did instead. Regardless of the form our donations took, each

Thai children often read to each other in English, which is a required subject in their schools. All books provided by TLCB bear a label explaining our gift.

individual gave in memory of our comrades – both American and Thai. We hope to make that point with the revised memorial.

The monument project gradually evolved into the library project. Over the past three years or so, through the good offices of TLCB member and Nakhon Phanom (NKP) Province resident, John Middlewood, we have provided new Thai and English language books and equipment to the libraries in 32 schools in NKP Province. Most recipients are elementary schools, but there are a few with upper grades, whose deficiencies were

different from the village elementary schools. We met those needs, within budget, and accomplished more than we originally anticipated. To carry the memorial forward, we placed a label in every book and hung a sign in every library we assisted.

There has often been discussion about the similarity between the monument/library project and the Assistance Fund. It is true; the projects are similar and both are charitable by their nature. John Middlewood is instrumental in distributing the resources from both projects, and we owe him a “hats off,” especially since he also has a “day job.” There were a few significant reasons, however, to keep the projects separate:

First, most of the money raised for the monument/

See Monument, continued on page 2.



Heinie Aderholt

Legendary commander of USAF Air Commandos, and founder of Air Commando Association, dies at 90

Brigadier General (Ret.) Harry C. "Heinie" Aderholt

Military: General Aderholt was born in Birmingham, AL in 1920. He entered active military duty through the aviation cadet program in April 1942 and graduated from pilot training with a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps in May 1943. During World War II, from October 1943 to August 1945, General Aderholt served in North Africa and Italy as a B-17 and C-47 pilot.

In September 1945, General Aderholt went to Maxwell Air Force Base, AL, assigned as a staff pilot with the Army Air



Former TLCB secretary Ed Miller provided this photo of Gen Aderholt at the most recent ACA reunion at Fort Walton Beach, FL.

Forces Eastern Flying Training Command. After completion of Air Tactical School at Tyndall Air Force Base, FL in December 1948, General Aderholt returned to Maxwell and served as a flight instructor and flying safety officer with the 3800th Air Base Wing.

During the Korean War, from July 1950 to September 1951, General Aderholt commanded a Special Air Warfare

Detachment of the 21st Troop Carrier Squadron. His next assignment was as an operations staff officer with the 1007th Air Intelligence Service Group in Washington, D.C. In June 1953 he was transferred to Donaldson Air Force Base, S.C., where he served with Headquarters Eighteenth Air Force as tactical and operations staff officer in the Directorate of Operations and Training.

In October 1954, General Aderholt's assignment was to Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Wiesbaden Air Base, Germany, and served in the Directorate of Plans as an unconventional warfare planning staff officer. In September 1957, General Aderholt returned to Washington, D.C., assigned to the 1007th Air Intelligence Service Group as a special warfare staff officer, and in September 1959 joined the 1040th U.S. Air Force Field Activity Squadron in the same capacity.

See Gen Aderholt, next page.

Our Friend Heinie Aderholt

By John Sweet

Life changed when the phone rang and a voice asked, "Is this John Sweet?" I replied, "Yes. Who's this?" and was told, "This is Heinie Aderholt with the Air Commando Association. I understand you are accomplishing humanitarian aid around Nakhon Phanom and Laos. I like what you're doing and want to be part of it."

Of course, my answer was "Yes Sir! Delighted to have you working with us." From that day on, Heinie always did everything in his power to carry out the mission and enhance our capabilities. Anyone who knows Heinie understands; that means it gets done. Yet, at the same time, we sure had a lot of fun even when the chips were down and times were tough, because that is the kind of guy Heinie was.

You never knew for sure what was coming next. I am sure most of you know the infamous head through the wall story and no doubt the story of the crapper for the flight line, but here are some you probably don't know.

When the 2002 American Friends Reunion was held at NKP,



John and Nancy Sweet with Heinie Aderholt at the most recent Air Commando Association reunion. Photos furnished by the author.

the night of our welcoming ceremony was at a Pu-Thai traditional ceremony which included a great many beautiful former Miss Pu-Thai ladies in stunning dress. They also insisted on dancing with all of us and Heinie was moving and shaking with the best of them, including drinking a bit of Lao-Lao with each girl. Our obvious leader of the pack neglected none. Heinie was always respectful, but I sure think he was enamored by several near the end of the party. Maybe you had to be there,

See Heinie, on page 5.

General Aderholt, continued from page 3.

General Aderholt left for Okinawa in January 1960 where he became commander of the 1095th Operational Evaluation Training Group. During this assignment, he contributed to the pioneering of special air warfare techniques. At CIA facilities on Takhli RTAFB he ran covert C-46 operations supporting General Vang Pao against the Pathet Lao. He was instrumental in developing the Laos airfield complex known as Lima sites. These fields were used throughout Southeast Asia as support sites for special warfare operations and as "Jolly Green" helicopter forward staging bases for rescue and recovery operations in Laos and North Vietnam.

From August 1962 to February 1964, General Aderholt served as special advisor to the commander of the U.S. Air Force Special Air Warfare Center at Eglin Air Force Base, FL. During this period, he contributed to and participated in RAND Corp. studies, which resulted in the publication of the Single Integrated Attack Team Study. He then was transferred to Hurlburt Field, FL where he served as vice commander and commander of the famed 1st Air Commando Wing.

General Aderholt left for the Republic of the Philippines in August 1965 where he was assigned as deputy commander for plans and operations with the 6200th Materiel Wing at Clark Air Base. While in this assignment, he joined the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, where he conceived and activated the Joint Personnel Recovery Center in Saigon and served as chief from July to December 1966. Headquarters Pacific Air Forces selected him to activate the 56th Air Commando Wing at Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand. This wing, which he organized and commanded from December 1966 to December 1967, conducted low-level night interdiction missions over the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos and North Vietnam, using prop-driven aircraft. The efforts of this wing were so successful in slowing infiltration that the enemy reacted by greatly increasing anti-aircraft defenses and committing a large amount of total assets to keep the trail open.

In January 1968, General Aderholt received reassignment to the U.S. Air Force Special Air Warfare Center, later re-designated U.S. Air Force Special Operations Force, at Eglin Air Force Base, FL, to serve as deputy chief of staff for operations. General Aderholt returned to Thailand in June 1970 for a two-year tour of duty as chief of the Air Force Advisory Group, Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group, in Bangkok. He retired from active military duty in December 1972 at Eglin Air Force Base, FL. He was recalled to active duty in October 1973 and received assignment as deputy commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Thailand (USMACTHAI), and deputy chief, Joint United States Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG), Thailand, with headquarters at Bangkok. His promotion to the grade of

brigadier general became effective May 31, 1974, with date of rank May 25, 1974. General Aderholt became commander, USMACTHAI, and chief, JUSMAG, Thailand, in May 1975.

His military decorations and awards are numerous and include: The Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with eight oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Citation Emblem, and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon with oak leaf cluster. He was a command pilot and wore the Parachutist Badge. Brigadier General Aderholt retired from USAF on August 1, 1976.

Heinie founded the Air Commando Association (ACA) in 1967. He also founded the McCoskrie Threshold Foundation (MTF), so-named in 1987, the charitable arm of the ACA. In recent years, the MTF has placed numerous grants for charitable projects in Thailand through the TLC Brotherhood Assistance Program. Aderholt expressed his confidence that TLCB would direct the charitable funds to worthy projects and would see to it that no funds were misused.

Personal: Heinie was one of seven children raised by his widowed mother; his father had died in an accident when Heinie was nine. Heinie learned many lessons very early in life that would shape his future, and undoubtedly, his mother's influence from her strength, courage, love, and strict discipline provided him with the solid foundation that helped him grow and develop into a remarkable man.



Aderholt in SEA. Official photo from his autobiography.

Heinie's love of people was obvious and his sincerity and straightforward, up-front approach encouraged the development of many life-long friendships. Until his final days, he remained close to his brothers and sister and their families. General Aderholt's 30-plus year military career is legendary. His status as a leader, his many accomplishments, and awards and citations are recorded in the annals of military history. His innumerable friends will remember him as a fun-loving man of integrity with a loving heart who inspired and touched many lives.

Harry C. "Heinie" Aderholt passed away May 20, 2010, at his home surrounded by family, loyal friends, and his devoted caregiver, Jamie Newman.

His survivors include his wife, Anne, a daughter, a sister, two brothers, several grandchildren, and a great grandchild.

There will be a memorial service on 2 July 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the Hurlburt Air Park. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you make donations in memory of General Aderholt to support projects in Thailand and Laos:

The McCoskrie Threshold Foundation,
P.O. Box 67
Mary Esther, FL 32569



Heinie, continued from page 3.

but you missed a real special time to enjoy Heinie's personality Ask Hap Lutz if you don't believe me!

One time we were headed for a ceremony at NKP and I was sitting in the back seat with Hap Lutz. Just as we pulled up, Heinie said to me "Where's my speech?" as he stepped out of the car. I was stunned.

Me? Write speeches for General Aderholt? It was tough enough trying not to say, "Yes Sir," all the time, but getting a hard look for not writing a speech was a tough nut to crack! (Yes Sir and No Sir seemed best when I sometimes didn't have a direct answer.)

With Heinie spearheading the drive to gain support of the Air Commando Association for working with the TLC Brotherhood, it didn't take long before a lot of additional aid commenced and continues to flow from the heartfelt generosity of the Air Commando membership. Lots of children received



John and Heinie reminiscing in Florida.

aid in Laos and around Nakhon Phanom in no small part due to the direct hands-on leadership Heinie always carried out so well with aid of his dear departed Secretary Rose. No one got to see Heinie except through Rose and Heinie held a special place for her in his heart, not quite at the level of his departed wife nor of his devoted wife, Anne, who has taken such loving care of Heinie since their marriage a few years ago.

Nancy and I fondly remember events at our table at the Bangkok All SEA 2006 Reunion. Heinie came into the ballroom with his wife Anne and Hap Lutz, looked around, then sent a message over to the table asking to clear out three seats so he could sit with us. No sweat, everyone loved Heinie, so, swiftly, there were three seats. When seated, Heinie told us his doctors had said that he was in no condition for a trip to Asia and could not go. He told them: "Like Hell I'm not!"

Lots of people remember meeting Heinie for the first time, but the one person I always think of, who will not forget his first meeting, is Nick Ascott. Nick knew Heinie by reputation, of course, but did not have much time when Heinie was in Bangkok, so he asked me to take him to Heinie's room. When we got there, Heinie answered the door in his boxer shorts, looked at me, then Nick, and said to Nick, "Who the hell are you and what the hell do you want?" But no matter what he said, we all knew Heinie had a heart made of gold and all his troops loved him and respected him. There are many people with stories about Heinie. These were only a few, but everyone who knew him well has his own fond memories of a great man we will never forget, who never forgot us. Rest in peace Old Friend, we will all be together again some day on the other side of The Wall.



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Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen (2009-2010)

- President: John Loftus
- Vice President: John Sweet (Reunion Committee)
- Secretary: Dave MacDonald
- Treasurer: Bill Tilton
- Chaplain: Rev Debora Stein (Memorial Committee)
- Board members-at-large (showing term-ends year)
 - Bob Santo (2010)
 - Bob Wheatley (2010)
 - Lcs Thompson (2011)
 - Gary Beatty (2011)
- Non-board committee chairmen
 - Assistance Committee: John Schillo
 - BX Shopkeeper: Bob Pruiksmas
 - Communications Committee: Frank Marsh
 - History Committee: John Binford
 - Membership Committee: Mike Vale
 - Monument Committee: Gerry Frazier
 - Public Relations Committee: Floyd McGurk

TLCB Official addresses and payments to TLCB

Make all payments of *any kind*, as listed below, payable to **The TLC Brotherhood, Inc.** Mail them to the treasurer, at:

TLC Brotherhood
P.O. Box 343
Locust Grove, GA 30248

Always write payment purpose on memo line.

- Dues (\$25 per year) Student Assistance Fund
- Assistance donation BX purchase
- Monument donation Medical Fund.....etc.

Reunion 2010: Atlanta, Georgia

TLCB tax return and board minutes: On web site, in *members only* section. Password (7/1/10): Dominique

Elections and TLCB logo change

The TLC Brotherhood board of directors has announced the following slate of candidates for election to the board at the annual meeting on September 25th at 0900 hours.

For president: Frank Marsh

For treasurer: Bill Tilton (incumbent)

For board member at large (two openings)

Robert Wheatley (incumbent)

John Binfield

Charles Wilcox

For members who will not be attending the meeting, there is an absentee ballot/proxy form enclosed with this issue of Mekong Express Mail. Voting instructions are included on this form.

The board of directors has also resolved to change the official TLCB logo. Henceforth the logo will not bear the three service ribbons, but members who wish to wear or display them on the logo will be permitted to do so.

Brig Gen Harry C "Heinie" Aderholt Memorial Project

By now we have all heard the sad news that B/G Aderholt has passed away. Some knew him as a friend and mentor, others knew him as a former commander, and some only knew him by reputation. He surely will be missed.

He was a driving force behind our Assistance Program and also the Air Commando's McCoskrie Threshold Foundation. Heinie was not just a commander, a fighter pilot and Commando, he was a humanitarian.

For that reason, the Assistance Committee has voted to establish a memorial project in Thailand. We budgeted \$1500 and have given John Middlewood the task of selecting an appropriate project. We asked ourselves, what would Heinie want? A statue of himself or a plaque honoring his memory? Or would he prefer a new dining facility, a new bathroom, or a water purification system for the kids? We all know the answer.

If you would like to help, you can send a check to the **TLCB Aderholt Memorial**, PO Box 343, Locust Grove GA 30248. Donations will be 100% charitable and will be used 100% for the memorial project. All Assistance administrative costs are borne from members' dues.

John Schillo, Assistance Chairman

Please Let Us Know

If you change address or email address we need to know about it. Please send an email to Membership chairman Mike Vale, at Mevale762@gmail.com, or a card or letter to TLCB, PO Box 343, Locust Grove GA 343 and tell us so we can update your records.

Long Tieng, LS-20a, photos—continued

In the December, 2008 issue of MEM, we displayed selected photos of LS-20A, the fabled and once top secret CIA military headquarters in Laos during the "Secret War." Photos from the 1960s were contributed by Phil French, and Bill Tilton took the counterpart photos in the Spring of 2008 on a trip with John and Nancy Sweet and led by Mac and Sunee Thompson. MEM is pleased to publish another pair of these fascinating photos.

1960s

On steep approach from the South—the only way in. The karst at the end of the runway ensures that nobody over-runs. Photo from Phil French.



2008



At the center of the Long Tieng runway, looking South from the North end. This was taken from in front of the "vertical runway barrier," an outcropping of karst just off the North end of the runway.

Rosie's Quilt—raising *thousands* for Assistance

by Bob Wheatley

A walk down memory lane: Ten years ago, the Thailand, Laos, Cambodia Brotherhood embarked upon the Millennium as a newly incorporated public charity, and was seeking ways to grow our young but already successful Assistance Program. Quilting enthusiast, Rosie Wheatley of the TLC Sisterhood, suggested a quilt raffle as one new way to raise funds for the program. It was an idea that took root and grew into a large, highly anticipated feature of subsequent reunions. Each year, everyone hopes to win Rosie's beautiful, meaningful quilt. The Sisterhood, like the TLC Brotherhood, is composed of members scattered about the world. Rosie was responsible for the creation of the quilt, while other "sisters" enthusiastically coordinated ideas and donations for materials purchases.

That first raffle quilt was a "memory quilt." In addition to selling raffle tickets, we sold space on the quilt for signatures, unit patches, and remembrances of persons, places, and things that held special significance to our members. We raffled the quilt at the 2000 Reunion banquet in Colorado Springs, where Air Force General Robin Olds was the keynote speaker. Prior to



General Robin Olds chats with the late Donna Bartholomew at CO Springs reunion.

the drawing, General Olds bought space on the quilt to sign his name, generously paying \$10 – twice the asking price. Always looking for ways to make even more money for the kids, then Chairman of the Assistance Program, John Sweet, suggested we get the General's signature on the bill and auction the bill itself! Bearing the signature of the legendary Ace, Robin Olds, that little ten dollar bill brought fifty dollars at auction! The first TLCS raffle quilt project brought in well over \$1300 for the kids – a significant boost in growing our Assistance Program.

James "Mike" Ghames was the winner that night, but he was unable to attend the reunion. After receiving his quilt, Mike sent the following email to the TLCB servers:

I received "The Quilt," 7-21-00. I did send Bob and Rosie a snail mail. I have needed some time to get my thoughts together. For those of you that were at the reunion, you are aware of the beauty and significance of this memorial. To those of you, as myself, that were unable to attend, I am blessed to be able to see it. The scans that I saw of "It" from the reunion do not even come close to doing justice to the love and care that were put into "Its" creation. I am quite overwhelmed with the spiritual strength that

this gathering of many pieces of cloth and ink and thread are able to exude. Whenever I am in "Its" presence, I feel a bond with the past that I have not really felt in 20 years. To all interested personnel of VO-67, your representative in Whitefish, Mt., Alex Alexander, called me two days before I received "The Quilt" and made me promise to let him take it to the reunion in Reno in March of 01. So be it. To all of my Brothers and Sisters:

I am extremely humbled to have been selected to be the custodian of this unique item of memorabilia of our Brotherhood. I am the custodian, but it is a part and belongs to all of us.

To the creators and supporters of this project: We are a gathering of sentimentalists for our fallen comrades, and pushovers for unfortunate and orphaned children. I am extremely proud to be one of you.

James M. (Mike) Ghames



Left to right, Jimmie Butler, Rosie Wheatley, the 2000 quilt, Secretary Lee Hotujec (AirAmBrat) and author Jim Roper at Colorado Springs reunion.

Mike's eloquent words captured the spirit of that first quilt and the raffle that raised so much to aid the children of Southeast Asia in honor of our fallen brothers who did not return with us. The raffle continues to be a perennial hit, and the drawing of the winning ticket an anticipated highlight of every reunion.

Please see **Quilt**, continued on page 11

The 1948-1960 Malayan Emergency

A war by any other name

by Dave MacDonald

Mekong Express Mail editor, Dave MacDonald, was asked to share his own experiences in Southeast Asia with the membership. In reading this account, we can easily see the connections and similarities with the conflict most members were engaged in, called the Vietnam War, and its counterpart with no name, known now as the Secret War in Laos.

After army basic training in late 1957, then further training, I was posted to Malaya in early 1958, where one of Britain's long counter-insurgency campaigns was under way. At that time, one of my school friends was in the RAF, serving during the Cyprus Emergency, a violent campaign by some Greek Cypriots for union with Greece. Another school friend was in the army in Kenya as part of the Kenya Emergency counter-insurgency campaign against the violent Mau Mau movement.

We made the voyage to the Far East in an elderly troopship. It sailed through the Bay of Biscay, past Gibraltar, into the Mediterranean and past Algeria, where the French army was engaged in a counter-insurgency campaign. The ship went through the Suez Canal at low speed to avoid washing out the canal banks.

Once in the Red Sea, I had the bright idea of ditching my uniform shirt and going to sleep on the deck to get a tan. I woke up with a lobster-red tan that got me to sickbay, a lesson about the sun that I never forgot.

We stopped for a few hours in the desolate British colony of Aden, celebrated by a well-named pipe band tune called "The Barren Rocks of Aden." The contrast with Ceylon, often compared to the Garden of Eden for its lush greenery and flowers, was striking. After transiting the Indian Ocean and the Strait of Malacca between Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula, we arrived at Singapore. Its elegant colonial architecture of 1958 is almost all long gone, but was surely a sight to see then. So was the intense activity on the waterfront. We disembarked, climbed into trucks, and were on our way to take part in the Malayan Emergency.

The Emergency began with a bang in the early morning of June 16, 1948. Chinese communists in the Sungei Siput area, north of Ipoh in northern Malaya, shot dead three British rubber plantation officials. The assassins arrived on bicycles, killed, then left on bicycles, as terrified clerks watched in silence. Thus began a 12-year war for control of Malaya by a Chinese communist movement that claimed to represent the Islamic Malays, Indian Hindus, Indian Tamils, and a large Chinese population. Malays formed the majority of the population in Malaya. Chinese formed the majority in Singapore. Despite its inclusive name, the Malayan National Liberation Army (MNLA), sometimes calling itself the Malayan Races Liberation Army, was almost exclusively Chinese.

The start of the communist campaign had been preceded in 1947 by more than 300 communist-fomented strikes in the rubber plantations and tin mines that were the backbone of the Malayan economy. Similar communist disruption was occurring in Burma and Indonesia. The leader of the MNLA was Chin Peng, who had spent WW II in the Malayan jungle, as leader of the Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army, with fellow communists and a small number of British officers. One

was Col. Spencer Chapman, author of "The Jungle is Neutral," who went to the jungle, as part of Force 136, after the fall of Singapore to conduct harassing operations against the Japanese occupiers. Before Singapore fell, British officers in Singapore had trained Chin Peng and his followers in irregular warfare methods. The Chinese communists were highly motivated to resist the Japanese because of such Japanese atrocities in China as the Rape of Nanking.

When WW II ended, Chin Peng and his followers buried some British-supplied weapons in secret jungle locations. When Chin Peng launched his campaign in 1948 to make Malaya communist, they dug up the weapons for a new use.

British influence in Malaya began in the late 18th century with a trading post on Penang Island, continued with the later acquisition of Singapore, and eventually spread to all of Malaya. Late in WW II, the Colonial Office in London prepared a draft proposal for Malaya to become independent after the war; however, the Sultans of the nine Malay states, each of which had a British adviser, did not support the proposal. This was preferable to most Malays, who held their sultans in high regard; however, the failed proposal did reveal that Britain was open to independence for Malaya.

The June 16 deadly attacks were directed at two key sectors of Malaya's economy, rubber plantations and tin mines. In 1947, communist agitators had given a preview of trouble to come when they organized strikes in the mines and plantations. The British High Commissioner in Malaya at the time, Sir Edward Gent, who was the head of the Federal Government, based in Kuala Lumpur, took a relaxed attitude towards the disturbances, enraging the planters, who wanted weapons and protection. They gave him such a hard time at a meeting in Kuala Lumpur that he declared a state of emergency in the Sungei Siput and Ipoh areas and in part of Johore state. He refused their demand to declare a national state of emergency.

When he picked up his "Straits Times," the most influential newspaper in Malaya, on June 17, he read a blistering editorial headlined "Govern or Get Out." On July 18, Gent extended his emergency declaration to cover the entire country, canceled police leave, recalled police from leave in Britain, and asked the army to aid the civil power, which they did by issuing Sten guns to planters and tin miners. Draconian powers of

Continued next page.

search, detention, and curfew were implemented and he ordered creation of a new, armed special constabulary to guard remote tin mines and rubber plantations. The British government, in several of its counter-insurgency campaigns, used the term "Emergency" because use of the term "war" would have made it impossible for Lloyds of London insurers to cover losses.

British Commonwealth countries that made up the anti-communist forces included Australia, which sent air, naval, and ground forces, New Zealand, Fiji, Southern Rhodesia, Gurkhas from Nepal, the Federation of Malaya, and Britain. British battalions went to Malaya for a three-year tour. In the early days, large-scale infantry sweeps were popular but went out of fashion because of poor results. A new emphasis on improving intelligence, plus the increased efforts of Special Branch to break up communist cells outside the jungle and tempt jungle-weary communists to surrender, began to gain results.

General Harold Briggs, director of army operations in Malaya, introduced a plan to compel the relocation of more than half a million rural Malaysians, including 400,000 Chinese squatters on the jungle edge, to what they called New Villages. These featured high, double barbed-wire fences, later replaced with chain link fences, floodlights, armed police in each village, strict gate security, and the availability of immediate action army teams close by.

More important to the landless was the fact that the land, on which the British were building houses for them, was being given to them on a long lease for a small rent. Each family received a government subsidy until harvest. Soldiers were building a school for their children who had never been to school. Doctors were giving first-ever examinations to every person in the new village. The goal was to cut off the access of the jungle communists to sympathetic suppliers of food and antibiotics among the population of landless and vote-less squatters. This intervention greatly complicated the feeding and medical problems of Chin Peng's movement.

A major figure in the concept of gaining the hearts and minds of the Malayan population was Robert Thompson, an RAF pilot before WW II who served with Orde Wingate's Chindits in Burma, where he learned about jungle warfare behind Japanese lines. He was a Chinese Affairs Officer who rose to become Malaya's Secretary of Defense. President Richard Nixon later asked him to go to Vietnam to give the president an assessment of the situation in Vietnam. Briggs and Thompson agreed that the civil government and police of Malaya should



Left, 1949 map of Malaya, showing Thailand, Indonesia (Sumatra), and Singapore.

be responsible for running the war, with the military supporting the civil power.

An unexpected event stunned everyone in Malaya on October 7, 1951. The High Commissioner, Henry Gurney, died in an ambush on a road leading to the resort called Fraser's Hill. A communist ambush, set up to attack an expected military convoy that did not arrive, fired on Gurney's Rolls-Royce as it came round a bend. The tires were hit, as was the driver, and the car stopped. Gurney opened his door, stepped out and walked straight across towards the ambush location, and was killed by multiple bullets. The communists had no idea

who they had just killed. They withdrew. Gurney's wife and Gurney's secretary lay on the floor of the car and lived. Gurney had apparently given his life to save his wife.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill reacted by appointing Lt-Gen Gerald Templer to govern Malaya with both civil and military authority. The forceful general shared Thompson's commitment to winning hearts and minds, to an army role of support of the civil power, to providing new armored vehicles, automatic weapons, and shotguns to the police. Templer created a way for frightened citizens to provide information on terrorists. It would be seen only by Templer and then destroyed. He offered large sums of money leading to the capture of a terrorist. For Chin Peng, 250,000 Malayan dollars if captured alive, half that if brought in dead. A Politburo member was worth \$200,000 alive, half that if dead. Amounts went down for lesser CTs. The results were surrenders and new information from informers.

When the size of the amounts was questioned, Templer pointed to the fact that there was a rubber boom because of the need for tires for the Korean War. As a former director of intelligence for the British army, Templer firmly believed that an intelligence war must be fought in Malaya. He had another trump card, given to him by Churchill, in the form of an order that "The policy of the British government is that Malaya should in due course become a self-governing nation." After two years in his post, Templer left Malaya. Malaya became independent in 1957. The Emergency ended in 1960.

Chin Peng restarted the struggle in 1967 and kept it going until 1989. His movement was never able to gain serious traction because Malaya was independent, had built a strong army and air force, and popular support for an endless war was not available.



REGISTER NOW! "BROTHERS ON MY MIND" IN ATLANTA

There is almost too much to tell about this year's annual meeting and reunion. In keeping with our goal of low cost, we have managed to get full breakfasts included with amazingly low hotel room costs, no hotel parking fees, and all rooms are equipped with refrigerators and microwaves! And on Friday, Chick-fil-A will provide noon meals for the Lockheed and Chick-fil-A tours.

Program

Thursday, Sep 23rd

Noon: Registration in the Nipa Hut

Dinner: Sandwiches and chips in the Nipa Hut with speaker Roger Graham, author of "Nimrods"

Friday, Sep 24th

Morning: Optional tours to Lockheed (on request), Chick-fil-A HQ, and downtown Atlanta

Late afternoon: Mac Thompson on his years in Thailand and Laos

Dinner: Hilton Signature Buffet

After dinner: The famous TLCB Auction!

Saturday, Sep 25th

Morning: TLCB, Inc. annual meeting

Lunch: Special World War II guest panel, with Hilton sandwiches and accompaniments

Evening: TLCB Banquet with guest speaker Jack Shaw.

Banquet dress: "Business casual" preferred.

Sunday, Sep 26th

0900: Full memorial service led by TLCB Chaplain Deborah Stein and BGen/Chaplain Douglas Lee, US Army. Service will include color guard, music, readings of names and personal remembrance opportunities.

Tours:

We plan on three tour options on Friday morning, all returning by mid-afternoon.

Tour L (tentative) is to the Lockheed Martin aircraft factory at Dobbins AFB in Marietta. This plant is home to the C-130J Super Hercules transport and the F-22 Raptor air dominance fighter. The Marietta site is also responsible for the avionics and engine modernization programs for the C-5 Galaxy strategic transport, as well as P-3 Orion program operations, including the new wing production line. The tour itself is about 1½ hours and lunch will be box lunches provided by Chick-fil-A.

Tour C is to the impressively modern and efficient headquarters of Chick-fil-A. It will be a delight for both men and women. The founder of Chick-fil-A, Truett Cathy, is an unusual, philanthropic man who came home from the Army and started his first restaurant in 1946, founded Chick-fil-A, Inc. in the 1960s, and with God's help, he and his sons have grown his business into one of our country's largest fast-food chains. First you will visit the ex-



tensive antique and classic car collection, his and those on loan, in his storage barn. Then you will go to the beautiful, woodsy headquarters campus, where there are many delights to see, taste, and experience. You will enjoy a wonderful lunch buffet (not regular Chick-fil-A fare), complete with fruit, salad, entrées of the day, and dessert choices, provided by Chick-fil-A at no charge in their spacious guest cafeteria. You'll see even more cars, including the Batmobile and some motorcycles! Enjoy the nostalgia of a walk through Truett's original Atlanta restaurant setting with its memorabilia. Throughout, there are wonderful paintings, 250 beautiful Remington bronze statues and even some exquisitely carved ivory.

Tour A (tentative) will be an escorted, pay-as-you-go tour to attractions in downtown Atlanta, including options such as the famous Georgia Aquarium, which has the largest single tank in the world, Coca Cola's fabulous "World of Coke" display, CNN studios, Centennial Park Olympics site, Underground Atlanta, and other options.

The tours to Lockheed and Chick-fil-A will cost a nominal bus fee (max of \$15 each) and the downtown tour will be by public transit (MARTA). There may be discounts on admission to the World of Coke and Georgia Aquarium.

Speakers

Our World War II Panel will be comprised of Val Archer who was a Tuskegee Airman, Dutch Van Kirk who was the navigator of Enola Gay when it bombed Hiroshima, and Helen Denton who was Gen Eisenhower's clerk and who typed the general orders for the invasion at Normandy. All are known to be excellent speakers. The panel will be moderated by our own professor Jim Closs. *Be thinking about questions for the panel.* Let's make sure this worthy group enjoys a good turnout!

The banquet speaker is Jack Shaw, aka "Raven 42," who is mentioned frequently in the Christopher Robbins book, "The Ravens," about FACs in Laos. Shaw also flew the F-117 Stealth fighter long before its existence was public knowledge.

Roger Graham was an A-26 Nimrod navigator and wrote the fascinating book, "Nimrods." He has loads of stories to tell.

Our own Mac Thompson is coming all the way from Bangkok to tell about Laos during the Secret War, helping Lao refugees after the war, and going back to Laos on behalf of TLCB Assistance.

What is the Nipa Hut?

At every reunion we have a space where brothers and sisters can meet casually, look at auction goods and BX merchandise, chat, snack and drink, and just hang out. In our DC reunions this was always called the Nipa Hut, named for the little grass houses of the Philippines and a famous hotel at Pattaya Beach in Thailand. This year the Nipa Hut will feature the usual open bar (pay once at registration) and especially good snacks. We think you will find it warm and charming.

We look forward to hosting you in Atlanta!

The Atlanta Reunion Committee

2 Tickets to anywhere!

Thanks to our shopkeeper, Bob Pruiksma, his employer, AirTran, has donated a "good for a year" pair of round-trip tickets to anywhere in their domestic system. AirTran did this to help TLCB raise funds for Assistance. As with the Sisterhood Quilt Raffle, tickets are \$2 or ten for \$20. What a deal! Make as many copies of the enclosed sheet of tickets as you need. Or fill in one and we'll complete as many as you pay for!



BX Announces Reunion Shirt



Brothers on My Mind. 2010 Reunion logo will appear on the back of the reunion pocketed t-shirts in dazzling color. See the *TLCB website* for a full-color view, as well as planned menus and other reunion details.

Reunion Hotel Information

Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta Airport/Millennium Center
2301 Sullivan Road, College Park, GA 30337

Reservations: Ask for *TLC Brotherhood rate*.

Phone: 1 (877) 782-9444

Rates: Standard king or queen \$72.00 plus tax (13%)
King junior suite \$92 plus tax
More than 2 guests, \$10 each per night

Price includes full, hot breakfast buffet

Microwave and refrigerator in each room

Room block availability guaranteed until 9/02/10

To get TLCB rate on "shoulder dates," you must call Wendy Smallwood at (404) 766-0303.

Transportation: Free airport shuttle every 30 minutes, 22 hours per day.

Quilt, continued from page 7

Ten years later: The city of venue for the 2010 TLCB reunion, Atlanta, Georgia, is a city steeped in Civil War history. With that in mind, this year's raffle quilt will replicate the "log cabin" pattern of Civil War vintage, and Rosie will construct it from authentic reproduction fabrics of that era. Finished dimensions will be approximately 60" x 80" – large enough to cover a standard or queen size bed. In keeping with the reunion theme, "Brothers on My Mind," it will be a memory quilt. The preserved memories will solely honor our brothers in arms. As always, this will be a one-of-a-kind work, skillfully fashioned with tender, loving care – a treasure you would proudly display in your home.

Remembrances: The quilt label on the back will bear a list of the names of our TLCB brothers who have passed away since the TLCB first came together. We will reserve the remaining space on the back of the quilt for remembrances of brothers who our members specifically wish to honor. Brothers so honored may be veterans of our war, including members of Air America. He or she may be a veteran of any war – anyone who is part of the brotherhood of veterans, past or present, living or deceased - your old hooch mate, a special C.O., your best drinking buddy, or someone you may not have known at all, but someone whose service you wish to honor. This "brother" might be your father, mother, an uncle, aunt, or a cousin.

Each remembrance we include on the quilt is \$5. Each is inscribed by hand on the quilt backing. Buy as many remembrances as you like. Rosie suggests no more than 40 characters per line, up to five lines per remembrance. You may purchase six to ten lines for an additional \$5. (Up to five lines is \$5; six to ten lines is \$10.) As an example remembrance:

In Loving Memory Of
Kenton "Phil" Wheatley
Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps
753rd Bomb Squadron, 8th Air Force
World War II

Yours need not follow above specific format, but limit each line to 40 or fewer characters.

Raffle Ticket Information: Buy hundreds if you like! Only one ticket will win, but the more you buy, the greater your chances of winning, and the kids will enjoy a greater benefit. Your sheet of 10 raffle tickets is in this issue of the MEM. Tickets are \$2 each, \$20 per sheet. Fill in the requested information or use address labels. *Want lots of tickets the easy way?*

- Provide the requested information once on the sheet.
- Indicate how many tickets you want.
- We will enter and print the information for you, saving you time and writer's cramp.

Quilt Raffle and Remembrance Payment

- Make your check payable to The TLC Brotherhood, Inc, in the amount to cover raffle tickets and remembrances.
- PRINT "Raffle Quilt" in the MEMO line of your check and indicate how many tickets you wish to buy.
- On an index card or separate sheet of paper, legibly PRINT or type the desired wording for your remembrances.
- Mail your check, your remembrances, and raffle ticket sheet(s) to: **TLCB, P.O. Box 343, Locust Grove, GA 30248**

Every dollar we raise by this project goes to the TLCB Assistance Fund, in the name of our brothers, to aid the needy children of the land we came to love so long ago.



2009 Donors to TLC Brotherhood Assistance, Student Assistance and Medical Assistance

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