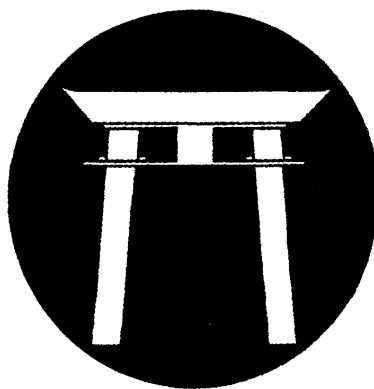


Torii Typhoon

Volume 4, Issue 3

March 2005

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ASA OKINAWA



Special Points of Interest

- *The 3rd ASA Field Station and its predecessors and successors will have their plaque presented to the National Cryptologic Foundation Museum in July. See all the details in the cover story.*
- *Twenty-three new names for the roster are found under Welcome Mat on pages three and four.*
- *Mail Call has letters with news about several of the ASA family. See pages five and six.*
- *A brief history of the Signal Intelligence on Okinawa is on page six.*

CRYPTO MUSEUM PLAQUE PRESENTATION SET

Good things DO come to those who wait. This is evidenced by the end result of Bill Overholt's efforts to have the 3rd ASA Field Station (including predecessors and successors) permanently remembered in the National Cryptologic Foundation Museum. The museum is located on Fort Meade, Maryland—home of the National Security Agency.

Several years ago Bill first presented the idea of placing a plaque in the museum and gained permission from the Association

to begin a fund raising campaign to secure the necessary funds. Like many new ideas, it took a while to catch on, but thanks to the membership's generosity, the goal was reached at the 2004 reunion in Colorado Springs.

But there was still one more road block. Some of the former ASA units that wanted to place a plaque in the museum had served in locations that were still classified, and NSA balked at having those units exposed in this manner. The

initial ruling was to remove all plaques that were already in place and not to allow any more placements. However, due mainly to the efforts of General Morrison, Director of the Foundation, a mutually agreeable solution was found and we were back in the plaque business.

After consulting with the Association Board of Directors and many other interested association members, it was decided to go ahead and schedule a presentation date, with

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enough lead time so individual members could plan to attend the ceremony without interfering with the annual reunion.

At 10:00 AM, Friday July 1, 2005 the ASA Okinawa Association will present our plaque (a replica of which can be found to the bottom right) to the National Cryptologic Foundation Museum. Because this was Bill Overholt's project, he will present the plaque and our check to General Morrison. The plaque will then be placed in the museum, acknowledging our contributions to maintaining the nation's security. Following the presentation, at approximately 10:30, we'll have our own docent for a guided and narrated tour of the museum beginning at approximately 10:30 AM. Then we'll have lunch in the SIGABA room at 11:30 AM. We must have firm counts for the meal before June 24th, so please make note of the request in the last paragraph of this column. Each soldier who served in any of the organizations that comprise "ASA Okinawa" or "Inscom" contributed to the station's successes and should be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Every member of the ASA Okinawa Association—or anyone who ever served in ASA (predecessors and successors) is cordially invited to attend the ceremony. We would especially like to have all former Commanding Officers attend and participate in the presentation. The museum is located on Maryland Route 32, just off the Baltimore-Washington Parkway at Colony Road. Please make every effort to attend this historic event. Let's make it the huge success that we all want it to be. This ceremony really is a significant event, so begin making your plans right now.

Since we have absolutely no idea how many people will attend the ceremony and require overnight accommodations, we're sort of going out on a limb by reserving rooms—but we have high hopes. So, 15 rooms for the nights of June 30th and July 1st have been re-

served at the Courtyard By Marriott which is just a short distance from the museum. The hotel is located at 2700 Hercules Rd near the National Business Park just off MD Hwy 32. You can get directions when you make your reservation. **To reserve your room, call the Courtyard By Marriott at 301-498-8400. Just mention you are part of the ASA Okinawa Group, use Group Code OKIM and you will receive a discounted rate of \$89.00 plus tax.** If you are able to attend the ceremony, please help us by staying at this hotel rather than getting your own place.

We'll have an informal get together on Thursday evening, either at the hotel or at a near-by restaurant and then Friday morning car pool over to the museum, spending the rest of the day having fun and a pay-as-you-go dinner somewhere. For any of you who live in the area and do not need overnight accommodations, come on by the hotel Thursday evening and get acquainted, or at least come by Friday morning so we can all go over to the presentation together and join us for dinner Friday night.

Finally, in order to have some idea of who is coming, when you make your hotel reservation, or if you live in the area and know you are coming, please let us know that you plan to attend; this is especially important for the luncheon count. Larry Eckard will be the point of contact. His e-mail is address is <larrymlrs@charterinternet.com> or call **828-256-6008**.

Hope to see many of you at the ceremony.

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"Our Reunion Work So You Don't Have To"

A WORD FROM THE PREZ

Well, here it is time to send out the Torii Station Newsletter again. Just think, in another 6 months we will be getting together in Branson. I know that we are going to have a great turn out for this one. It seems like the reunions are getting better each year. I know that Larry, Brenda and Staff have put a lot of work into these reunions. I would like to thank them for all the hard work. Just remember to mark your calendar for the 15-18 September 2005.

Tex

ASA OKINAWA ASSOCIATION PLAQUE



Presented to the National Cryptologic Museum Foundation for its role in preserving the United States Cryptologic history.

ASA Okinawa
1945-1976

Inscom
1976-1985

2005

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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WELCOME MAT

The following members have been located since the last newsletter. Welcome to the Association. We hope to see you at the next reunion and hear from you about your memories of your time spent in Okinawa.

George Krouse (1957-59)
 307 4th Ave
 Brooklyn Park, MD 21225
 410-355-0536

Kenneth Blanscet
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 270-821-7136

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 10880 210th Ave SE
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 320-664-4476

Col. Walter Cressler, Jr. (1984-85)
 126 Highland Cir
 Palmyra, PA 17078
 717-469-1008

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 703-941-1231

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TREASURER'S REPORT ASA OKINAWA FEB. 19, 2005

Beginning Balance as of Oct. 15, 2004.....	\$2121.50
Dues Received	\$4555.00
Disbursements	
Nov. 2, 2004 Newsletter.....	-\$919.41
Postage for general advisory letter Dec. 2004.....	-\$256.00
Purchase of rubber stamp for check endorsement..	-\$19.95
Correspondence postage.....	-\$7.40
Adjustment check to ASA Memorial Plaque Fund...	-\$205.00
Balance as of Feb. 19, 2005.....	\$5268.74

ASA OKINAWA MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

Balance as of Oct. 15, 2004.....	\$4577.00
Donations received.....	\$840.00
Balance as of Feb 19, 2005.....	\$5417.00

Balance is final as goal has been achieved.

Respectfully submitted,
 Thomas Sturgeon, Treasurer

(Continued from page 3)

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Edmund Lord
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875-856-5922
lorde@worldnet.att.net

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Deer Park, TX 77536
281-479-3028



TAPS

The Typhoon learned of the following deaths since the last newsletter was published. The deaths are not necessarily recent, but they were just learned of. The entire membership extends our deepest sympathy to the widows, families and friends of the deceased.

Arthur Trofe (1956-59)
Died November 7, 2004

William Bone
Died December 28, 2004
Pryce Shores
Died December 18, 2002

Robert Dearborff
Died September 1, 2004

William Kamps (1954-56)
Died May 10, 2004

Donald Mauvais SP3
Died February 14, 2000

Robert Covey
Died September 11, 2004

Clayton Mallaber
Died March 10, 2004

James McDonald (1955-57) SP4
Died June 2004

William Page III
Died June 2004

James Pratt
Died September 20, 2004

William Teasley
(1948-51) & (1954-57) M/Sgt. Hqs
Died October 23, 2004

Jon Swift (1957-59)
Died November 1, 1996

James Boaz
Died March 6, 2005

Eugene Milburn
Died April 24, 1965

Douglas Olson
Died October 21, 1986

Raymond Hoffman
Died August 14, 1996

John Lamkin
Died December 13, 1992

Richard Walby
Died July 20, 1969

Clyde Matson
Died May 13, 1982

Henry Woods
Died June 15, 1995

Donald Morrison
Died March 13, 1972

Robert Belmont
Died February 21, 2002

Harold Ferguson
Died December 1, 2004

Charles Gary
Died August 9, 1968

James Tousley
Died March 20, 1984

George Bryson
Died April 4, 1976

Everett Latimer
Died July 1972

Phillip Rulon, Jr. (1954-56)
Died December 4, 2004

Alfred Giroux
Died June 22, 1987

Joseph Lafreniere
Died November 13, 2004

Albert Bucknam
Died November 17, 2003

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(Continued from page 4)

Joseph Rowley
Died December 13, 1995

Richard Luckenbach
Died May 1987

Francis Morrow
Died August 5, 2002

Raymond Kruczek (1950-52)
Died February 1979

Lawrence Nagel (1950-52)
Died May 22, 1995

William Ottinger (1950-52)
Died March 21, 2004

Victor Shelley (1950-52)
Died March 20, 1982

Vernon Snyder (1950-52)
Died September 16, 2002

Paul Doster, Jr.
Died September 16, 2002

Lt. Herbert Morawe, Jr.
Died August 13, 2001

Jordan Sandler
Died August 19, 2004

Charley Collins (1950-52)
Died September 23, 1983

George Cowan (1950-52)
Died September 28, 1994

Francis Damon (1950-52)
Died January 13, 1999

Glenn Egbert
Died May 20, 1979

Leland Floyd (1950)
Died September 26, 1985

Andrew Ford (1950)
Died January 17, 1992

Harry Hatfield (1950)
Died September 29, 1992

Robert Haymes (1950)
Died December 6, 2004

Theodore Hickey (1950-52)
Died November 3, 2003

George Keener
Died December 15, 2004

Alvin Cramer
Died June 22, 1988

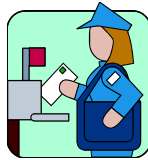
Seth Burkett
Died July 15 1998

Burton Olson
Died January 2, 1996

Robert Rasp
Died January 6, 2000

Col. Charles E. Schmidt
Died May 27, 1990

Anyone learning of the death of someone who served with ASA Okinawa, please advise the Typhoon so their passing can be acknowledged.



MAIL CALL

Dear Members of Torri Typhoon:

I've never read your letter before until this one. It always came to Jim. He read it and didn't talk about it much.

Jim hasn't been in good health the last few years. He retired in 1994 and I retired in 2002. We thought we would get to do a little traveling but, he was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis, then in Feb. 03, my sister was killed in a tragic accident with a snowmobile/plow in a bad snow storm.

In June 03, Jim was diagnosed with lung cancer. He started treatments in Aug 03—Sept 04. He died on Sept. 20th here at home. He'd only been on hospice 4 days, so they weren't even started yet.

He was a wonderful man. We spent 6/20/04, our 40th anniversary, at a church service. We have 2 children—Jeffrey and his wife Tammy, and their son Thomas, 8, and daughter Theresa, 4; and our daughter Janice and her husband Bill and three daughters Courtney,

8, Bridgette, 6, and Cassie, 4.

They all live close by, 10-15 minutes opposite sides of Adams.

Jim was 12 days shy of his 70th birthday. The pulmonary fibrosis seems to have run in his family—at least 3 of them have died of it.

Jim's oldest brother died 7 days before Jim. A good friend died 2 days after that.

The last 2 years have been hell. That's probably why Jim never mentioned the reunions.

I just thought I should let you know he had passed. I wish we could have come to one of the reunions. It sounded like it would have been nice.

Sincerely,
Maria Pratt & Family

The next two letters were written to Bill and Nancy Vernau and forwarded to ML&RS, Inc. for the newsletter.

Dear Bill and Nancy,

I saw in the Typhoon letter that you two visited the annual meeting in Colorado. My, Okinawa seems a long time ago—and it was. About 44 years!

My wife died in 2001 while we lived up in New Mexico. We buried her in our old home town of Crisco, Texas. I moved to a retirement home here to be near my daughter.

I can't remember much about Okinawa. I'm getting a bit senile.

Best regards,
Leo Hatten

Dear Folks,

Things have not changed much in my family. I still live in a retirement home. Daughter Patricia still teaches school here. Her son, Christopher, still lives in San Diego; her daughter, Nicole and husband Chris Peal, moved to Las Vegas, NV this year. Daughter Lynn and her family are about the same. Her

(Continued on page 6)

daughter, Lauren, enrolled in an x-ray technicians' school in Montgomery, AL this fall. It is a two-year course.

My health is fair. I hope I am about over the malady of having skin cancers cut off my scalp. I hope and pray the doctor got all the "roots" and they don't come back. This is a result of too much sun 60 or more years ago. We did not know the dangers of the sun then. I am paying for that now.

I am thinking of you. I wish you all the best—always!

Sincerely,
Leo Hatten

Now Hear This...Now Hear This

Anyone who served in the 111th must remember hearing the above blaring from the orderly room all hours of the day. I always seemed to be upwind, or maybe it was downwind, when the announcements were made and often only heard part of it. Particularly I'd hear "...easley, report to the orderly room." I'd hustle butt to the office and when I went in the Sgt or Officer who'd made the call would ask, "Who the hell are you? We called for Sgt Teasley." Some time later on I managed to get on the company commander's "doo-doo" list. When I would hear "...easley, report to the orderly room," I was sure they were calling Sgt. Teasley, not Cpl Beasley. I should have realized when it was followed by "ON THE DOUBLE!", they weren't looking for Sgt. Teasley.

Submitted by Dale Beasley

BRIEF HISTORY OF SIGNAL INTELLIGENCE ON OKINAWA

The following history is excerpted from official US Army historical records provided to the newsletter by Bill Thayer (1957-1960). Thanks Bill!!!!

The history of Signal Intelligence Operations on Okinawa begins on April 8, 1945 with the arrival of the first operating platoon, 126th Signal Service Company. The Okinawa invasion took place on April 1, 1945. Three months later the 126th was joined by the 125th Signal Service Company, which remained on Okinawa until the end of the war.

Following is an excerpt from the 125th's diary:

"On the 17th of July all the equipment had been unloaded from the ship (US Navy LS Jackpot) and moved to the new site on the north side of the Motobu Peninsula. Operations had already started on 6 July and continued through July and August while everyone pitched in to build what was probably the best company area we ever had overseas. Okinawa was found to be quite a scenic little place, but with wind, rain, mud, sun, and heat plentiful, and with nightly enemy air raid and a few ground alerts to occupy our minds, the "delight" of being on Okinawa soon wore off. After Japan's surrender, it really became a very quiet place."

From that moment in April 1945, U.S. Army cryptologic units maintained a continuous presence on the island. The 1st operating platoon of the 126th Signal Service Company remained at Shimabuku until July 1948 then the unit (less personnel and equipment) transferred to Kyoto, Japan. At that time the 111th Signal Service Company deployed from Seoul, Korea, to Okinawa and assumed the personnel and mission previously assigned to the 1st operating platoon of the

126th. The 111th Signal Service Company was redesignated the 327th Communication Reconnaissance Company on 25 October 1951 ultimately transferred (less personnel and equipment) to Fushimi, Japan on 1 September 1952.

On 1 April 1951, the Field Station 8603 Area Administrative Unit, assigned to the 111th Signal Service Company, was organized at Futenma, Okinawa. This unit initially existed only on paper with one officer and one enlisted man assigned. On 15 May 1952, a full contingent of personnel transferred to the 8603rd from an ASA unit located elsewhere on the island. On 3 August 1953, 8603rd personnel moved to new barracks at Sobe, but operations continued at Futenma. The soldiers commuted daily until operations were transferred to Sobe on 16 November 1953.

The 8603rd was redesignated 3rd US ASA Field Station on 1 January 1957. The installation at Sobe was named Torii Station on 20 November 1958. Later that year, the Field Station adopted its motto "Best In The Business" inspired by the many accolades the station was receiving at the time.

On 14 July 1961, the 51st Special Operations Command was organized at Torii Station and this designation replaced that of the Field Station. The 51st SOC underwent a series of restructuring through the years. On 15 December 1967 the 51st SOC was redesignated as USASA Field Station Sobe. On May 1, 1977, following the incorporation of the Army Security Agency into the newly formed Intelligence and Security command, USASA Field Station Sobe was once again redesignated one final time—this time to US Army Field Station Okinawa. This structure continued until operations ceased and the Field Station was discontinued in December 1985.

Newsletter Expenditures for
March 05
\$300.01

**2005 REUNION OF
ASA OKINAWA
SEPTEMBER 15-18
BRANSON, MO
RADISSON HOTEL**