

Torii Typhoon

Volume 6 Issue 1

November 2006

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ASA OKINAWA



Special Points of Interest

- *A report on the 2006 reunion is our cover story. See what went on and join us next year in the fun.*
- *A message from President Jim Norrbom & ML&RS President Larry Eckard are on page three.*
- *In Mail Call on page five, Robert Lewis remembers the CIC Club, Sam Rich speculates on what our government knew about Korea before the war started and David Homsher tells a story about a "grease gun."*
- *Take time to complete the Tucson survey on page 8.*

GREAT REUNION IN HARRISBURG

The annual ASA OKINAWA reunion was held September 28-01 Oct 2006 at the Radisson Penn-Harris, Harrisburg, PA. A total of 76 members and 62 spouses or other guests attended the reunion. Although the reunion did not officially begin until Thursday the 28th, 78 members and guests arrived a day early to participate in the Hershey/Harrisburg Civil War Museum tour.

Early-bird registration began Wednesday. Jim and Sharon Norrbom were the first to register. By special arrangement with the Radisson Penn-Harris, the hospitality room was available for Wednesday afternoon and evening. The only official function on Wednesday was the Executive Board meeting. This meeting was for the sole purpose of reviewing the past year's activities, making recommendations for improvements, and preparing the business agenda for the general membership

meeting. Everything discussed at this meeting was disclosed and discussed in the general membership meeting.

Our old buddy Bob Bross obtained/purchased goodie bags and a 16 pound tin of Hershey sweets for the taking. The goodie bags and a tub of candy were at the registration table and lo and behold, before the reunion was over, the candy was all gone. Also, Bob obtained enough Lebanon bologna and other meat product gift packs to feed a small army. Many of us took home packets of this delicious meat and enjoyed it. Thanks Bob!!

A larger than expected crowd opted to make the trip to Hershey and the visit to the Harrisburg Civil War Museum. Seventy-eight members and guests boarded the two motor coaches for the trip. About a ton of candy and other sweets were purchased by the group – insuring that the candy factory will remain in business for the

foreseeable future. And now, just a word about the Civil War Museum, which claims to be like Fox News, "Fair and Balanced." You've got to wonder just how "fair and balanced" a Yankee Museum can be.

Meanwhile back at the hotel, more arrivals were on hand to greet the tourists as they returned from Hershey and the museum. For a while the lobby was filled with happy greetings and comments like, "It's so good to see you;" "It's been 40 years;" "What happened to your hair?"

The traditional welcome reception was held Thursday evening. Association President Jim Norrbom welcomed everyone and briefly previewed the activities for the coming days. Following his remarks the cash bar opened and hors d'oeuvres were served. The remainder of the evening was spent getting reacquainted with old friends and making new ones.

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Friday began with a breakfast buffet – and a good one it was, although there was a least one messy person – possibly in need of etiquette training! Then at 9:00 AM two bus loads of members and guests (100 people in all) were off the Lancaster County and the Amish farmlands. This was a truly interesting and informative day. The guide was a fount of knowledge about the Amish history, customs, and traditions – and she relayed much of this information to the group. First stop was at the recreation of an Amish farm house. It had once been a real farm until commercialism caught up with it. Situated on what once had been “east of Lancaster,” Target, and several other commercial enterprises bought property adjacent to the farm and basically surrounded it with stores, etc. While it is no longer a working farm, it does retain the authenticity of a traditional Amish farm. The group was able to see how an Amish Sunday church service is conducted, hear some of their hymns (in German) and tour the house which has been authentically preserved. Other stops provided more insight into the lifestyle of the “plain people.” The highlight of the day was a home cooked lunch in a real Amish home. Talk about good food, we had it. Four sisters provided entertainment with their singing. We would love to show you a picture of the girls, but everyone was specifically asked not to take pictures. Everyone complied. The ride back to Harrisburg was relatively quiet as the full stomachs and warm comfortable ride took its toll.

Meanwhile, back at the hotel, still more people had checked in and were anxiously waiting to see who got off the bus. Once again the lobby became the focal point of meeting and greeting. That is until someone discovered the hospitality room had hot coffee and cold drinks.

After a short break for naps and tooth brushing, the social hour began at 6:00 PM followed by a deli-style sandwich buffet. This was also the night of the raffle. Most of the attendees brought a gift from their hometown or home state to be raffled off. Raffle tickets were sold throughout the reunion for tonight’s drawing. It was a good evening. It would have been better if everyone who brought a gift had gone home with one, but it didn’t work that way.

Breakfast was once again a private buffet, and wouldn’t you know it another messy person – or was it the same person as yesterday. The annual business

meeting was held following breakfast. Since this was not an election year, no new officers were elected; however, Ross Lee was nominated to be Association Chaplain and member of the executive board. His nomination was unanimously accepted by the membership. Ross has been acting as volunteer Chaplain for the past couple of years. His election just made it official.

Tucson, AZ was reaffirmed as the 2007 reunion location. It was recommended that contact be established with ASA AZ and invite their members of participate in the ASA Okinawa reunion. The reunion manager was tasked with making this happen. Charleston, SC was selected as the 2008 reunion location.

At 1100 AM two bus loads of members and guests went to Gettysburg National Battlefield for a narrated tour of this famous United States landmark. Upon returning, everyone agreed that this is a place that every American should visit.

The short time between returning from Gettysburg and the social hour, everyone made a remarkable transformation. The thought of attending a banquet seemed to bring out the best in everyone. It was hard to say who was the best dressed, but everyone looked good – much younger than the 50 or so everyone claims to be.

VP and President Elect Lonnie Frampton obtained a guest speaker from the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks. LTC Jeffrey Tipton, an Artillery Officer by trade, shared his views on the current state of the Army and gave us his impressions of the Army in Iraq. LTC Tipton recently returned from a tour of duty there. His remarks were well received and he stayed for a long time answering individual questions and socializing. There was a DJ who played music for listening and dancing after the formalities of the evening ended.

Along with Sunday morning came the realization that the reunion was over; it was time to go home. After a private breakfast buffet, newly appointed Chaplain Ross Lee, assisted by Jim Norrbom, Billy “Tex” Davenport, Gary Duenow, and Bill Overholt conducted the memorial service. This moving service paid tribute to all deceased ASA Okinawa members, but emphasized those who died since the last reunion.

At the conclusion of the memorial service, it was time to go. As usual, no one wanted to be the first to leave, but

just as inevitable as the sunrise, one by one the room emptied – but not before the final hugs was exchanged. Then the room was empty.

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Ross Lee, Chaplain
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501-778-3345

2006 REUNION ATTENDEES

- | | |
|---|--|
| Robert & Marilyn Alles | Richard & Wanda Krantz |
| Donald, Nobuko, Harold & Nancy Anderson | Ross & Sue Lee |
| Jerry & Rita Beingesser | Mark & Jane L'Hommedieu |
| David & Diane Bergman | Edwin & Mary Anne Luff |
| Robert Bross | Martin & Kathleen Lydon |
| Earl & Martha Butler | Robert & Veronica Lyon |
| Ronald & Ferol Candage | Jim & Judith Mans |
| Daniel & Peggy Carr | Dallas & Linda May |
| Jim & Gwen Coatney | David Merritt |
| John & Norma Cook | Morton & Ilene Miller |
| Albert Cooper | William & Linda Miller |
| Thomas & Tonia Cooper | Theodore Mish & Rea Murray |
| Hobart & Mildred Crawford | George Musick |
| Billy Davenport | Ivan & Doris Nall |
| Ralph & Joan Derr | James & Sharon Norrbom |
| Edward Domanski | Mike Nuin |
| Gary Duenow | William, Elaine, Christopher & Kimberly Overholt |
| Larry & Brenda Eckard | William & Patricia Phillips |
| Robert & Ruth Eckhardt | Louis & Lovagahn Quigley |
| James & Lucy Elder | William & JoAnn Roscher |
| Harold & Ruth Ellis | William & Christine Rutecky |
| Stephen & Joyce Fitzgerald | John (Jack) & Diane Sanborn |
| Lonnie & Faye Frampton | Duane Sands |
| Douglas & Nan Franks | Tom & Judy Sevits |
| Jerry & Wilma Gabbert | David Smith |
| James & Mona Haid | Thomas & Marian Sturgeon |
| James & Alice Hart | William & Diane Sullivan |
| Richard & Sue Harvey | Joseph & Pamela Tarleton |
| Charles & Dolores Hoover | Michael & Robin Tranchina |
| John & Bernadette Horengic | Robert & Marie Trexler |
| Lawrence Huber | Dean & Marlene Tweet |
| Marvin & Edna Huff | Bill Vernau |
| Leonard & Mary Hunter | John & Sheila Weir |
| Jay & June Ibach | Jay & Nancy Wenger |
| Arthur Jordan | Nicolas & Loraine Williams |
| James & Elinor Judson | George (Bill) & Shirley Williamson |
| Charles & Jane Kendzierski | Riley & Laura Wright |
| Charles Kennedy & Fran Fitz-Kennedy | |
| Eugene Knutzen | |

Total Members: 76
Guests: 62

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Norrbom

Well, the Reunion at Harrisburg, PA is over, but not forgotten. We had a great time there. We were kept busy throughout our time together. Sometimes it seemed to be a bit too busy, but with all that people wanted to see and do, it was necessary. Thank you all for coming and for making it a success. Don't forget to fill out your questionnaires that were given to you about the reunion there and get them back to ML&RS's group. We will be in Tucson, AZ next year, and we voted on Charleston, SC for the year 2008. Thanks again for making Harrisburg a success and we hope to see as many as possible in Tucson next year.

OUR VIEW

Larry Eckard, ML&RS, Inc

A copy of this newsletter is being sent to every person on the mailing list. If you haven't joined the association yet, we cordially invite you to use the enclosed membership application and become a member in good standing. Anyone who served in the Army Security Agency, its predecessors or successors from 1945 through the station closing in 1985 is eligible for membership Dues are only \$10.00 a year. What do you get by joining?? You'll get all of the newsletters which is the official voice of the ASA Okinawa Association. You'll get information about the forthcoming reunions and you will be eligible to attend the annual business meetings and vote on the issue brought before the assembly. Association members— Check your mailing label for your membership expiration date, you may need to re-new your membership. If you do, don't hesitate get your renewal in the mail today. Now, that is the membership pitch.

The question came up at (actually after) the last business meeting, just what are we doing with the dues and the income from the raffles? As you can see from the Treasurer's Report, we have a substantial amount of money in the treasury, so that is cer-

(Continued on page 4)

TREASURER'S REPORT ASA OKINAWA Oct. 6, 2006

Beginning Balance as of Sept 30, 2006.....	\$7882.34
Dues Received	\$ 600.00
Raffle Sales.....	\$ 550.00
Memorial Fund.....	\$ 310.00
Pin Sales.....	\$ 22.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS.....	\$1482.00
Disbursements	
Six Dinners For Honor Guards & Speaker.....	-\$270.00
Sub Total.....	\$9094.34

Respectfully Submitted.....Thomas A Sturgeon, Treasurer

(Continued from page 3)

tainly an appropriate question. What are we doing with it? First off, it pays for the newsletter. Right now, nothing else. It is simply in the treasury. Perhaps we should be using some of it, giving the members something for their dedication and support.

At the last business meeting we did decide to establish a "flower fund" to purchase flowers or make a donation to the favorite charity of a member who died. That is a great idea, one that one day all of us will take advantage of. But in hind sight, did we need to establish a separate account and solicit donations expressly for this fund. We did leave ourselves some leeway by saying we're revisit the question after the first year. Let's all give some consideration to whether we want to have a separate "flower fund" account or use the money already in the general treasury. Next, should we save the money we have now for a rainy day, or should we give something back to the membership and trust that our funding will continue? For example, we could pay for the welcome reception, or the entertainment, or some other activity and while not directly giving a tangible item, it would reduce the cost of their reunion by the cost of the activity. Think about it and let's discuss it at the next meeting.

Growth is the lifeblood of any organization. We need to grow and we need to attract younger members, those from the years after ASA died and became part of Military Intelligence. Let's make an effort to recruit them into our association—as well having those on the mailing list who are not members of the association. Growth will insure the continued existence of the association.

Remember, next year in Tucson is election time. At that time President-Elect Lonnie Frampton will assume the duties of President of the Association. We will need to elect a new VP/President Elect. If you are interested submit your name to the current President, Jim Norrbom.

Larry Eckard, ML&RS, Inc.



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.

Milton Sanders

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Neal Johnson (1968-70)

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



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.

Albert Beaudin

Died November 15, 2005

Martin Serum (1953-55) & (1959-63)

E3—E6 Opns

Died March 24, 2006

Lloyd Blomeley (1954-74)

CWO/DAC 51st USASA SOC Hdqts

Died June 27, 2006

Joseph Moxley

March 10, 2006

Samuel Griffenberg, Jr.

Died August 2, 2005

George Keener

Died December 15, 2004

Wayne Stram

Died April 2, 2006

Qwen Astle

Died July 9, 2005

Dorval Karlen (1953-54) CPL

Died October 5, 2006

Julius Cox

Died August 8, 1989

2007 ASA OKINAWA REUNION

SEPTEMBER 12-16

TUCSON, AZ



MAIL CALL

Tom,

Here is a small anecdote about 8603 DU's EM Club.

The C.I.C. sent someone to the club one morning to observe where all the whiskey was going, as we were consuming more than anyone else on the island. I think they suspected we were playing the black market. Anyway, after observing about four hours, he got up shaking his head and replied, "Hell, they aren't carrying the stuff out. They are consuming it."

So if I have sent \$10.00 too much for dues, take it and have yourself a big stiff shot of bourbon on me in memory of the EM Club.

I also understand why so much spirits were consumed. All that shift changes in operations no one could ever get any decent sleep.

Respectfully yours,
Robert Lewis

Dear Tom,

I just received the bulletin and enjoyed every word. The write up on Hank Jarvey was of interest to me. Hank was in the ASA for many years.

I am sending part of an article that I wrote for the ASAPAC HQ's History Book.

Feel free to use it in the newsletter or any way you chose.

Best wishes for the reunion.

Sam Rich

Here is Mr. Rich's article:

I was a Radio Traffic Analyst (MOS 0709). We were trying to reconstruct Russian and Chinese radio nets. Our interest was in the 'chatter' (information the operators sent between the messages). We wanted to use this info to find the location of their units. Most radio operators were known to each other and the monitors by the sound and feel of their hand on the sending key.

I left Oji in late April 1950 so I was not there when the attack on Korea came.

In early January 1950, J. D. Harrison, SFC and I were sent on TDY to the 111th SSC in Okinawa. To this day I do not

know why we were sent. I still have a copy of our orders. It states only "For an indefinite period in connection with ASA activities." I do know that we had complete run of the operations, radio stations and message center. As far as I knew, we took no orders from anyone at the 111th SSC. All my findings I reported to Sgt. Harrison and he made a report to Oji.

In regard to what the US Government knew about Korea before the war started, I do know that we were copying both Russian and Chinese radio traffic from Okinawa. There was much movement of Chinese Army units north of the Korean border.

Our monitors (radio operators) would tell me that he had heard this operator or that operator at a different place a week or so ago. This happened time after time and went into my report. I am sure that this information was in the 111th SSC reports. This was the first time I had worked this closely with the radio operators (I did not even know that we had a monitoring station in Oji). I did not know how the Russian and Chinese stayed in radio contact, but I knew that they did.

I know that we could ask for a radio 'fix' on a Chinese or Russian operator. Then another when we thought he had moved. Most Chinese operators had been trained by the American Army (some were female). So I must assume at this time (early 1950) the Russians were training radio operators.

This info leads me to believe that the US must have had info that the Chinese and Russian Army units were on the move. This may fit in some way with other info you already have.

Sam Rich

Dear Paul Watson,

It was interesting to read in the DAV Magazine that you are working on a reunion of Okinawa Signal Service personnel.

Thank you for taking on this project. I am 89 years old and in poor health, so I cannot attend the event.

You may be very familiar with our company's Okinawa activities there during the campaign.

My memory is not very good concerning the exact dates that I served there as a Morse Code operator in the 316st Signal Service Company in the Island Command Station during May 1945 to January 1946. We communi-

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cated mainly with Honolulu and Manila, and received the first unconditional surrender message from Japan.

We had air raids nearly every night between the time the island was secured and the day the atom bomb was dropped on Japan. After the surrender we were relieved of our duties and waited for ships to take us home. The typhoon in October was very severe. We had no communication or supplies from the outside world for three days.

Years later, a moving company lost all of my pictures and other records from that period of time, including the radio teletype surrender message from Japan.

I have been trying to locate a fellow soldier from that experience. His name is Paul Kolb, and he was from Louisiana or Mississippi.

Very truly yours,
Gordon E Bowman
729 Horsepound Rd
Carmel, NY 10512

Torri Typhoon,

I was just wondering if any of you remember a David Homsher from your time in Okinawa. I have a picture of him from the boat trip that I took over to Ie Shima, so he was there in that '52-'54 time period. I had talked to him on the phone a few years back and knew that he was spending a lot of time in Europe doing research. He is now a well-known author on World War I battlefields. A "blurb" in the newsletter might be appropriate. If interested, see the web site below:

<http://www.battlegroundpro.com/dhauth.or.htm>

Charlie Hoover

Editor's Note: ML&RS, Inc just happened to get the following letter from David Homsher dated before Charlie Hoover's letter above:

Hello Dina,

In reading *Torri Typhoon*, Volume 5, Issue no. 4, July 2006, I particularly enjoyed Dale Beasley's article entitled, "I've Never Handled a .45," as run under the masthead of "Anecdotes About Okinawa." Here is a similar experience of mine which you could run in a future issue and under the same headline:

"I've Never Handled a "Grease Gun"

By David Homsher

In 1953 or 1954, while stationed at Torri Station, 8603rd AAU, Sobe, Okinawa, I was assigned guard duty at the operations site. Upon reporting for duty, I was handed a .45 caliber automatic sub-machine gun—the one popularly known as a "Grease gun," because of its uncanny resemblance to an automotive grease gun. I had never before seen or handled one of these weapons, but I accepted it anyway. We were always taught to "clear" a weapon when going on guard duty. When I was alone I decided to perform the "cleaning" operation, thus insuring that a cartridge was not in the chamber of the weapon. Holding the weapon in front of the entrance door at an upwards angle, I pulled the bolt of the weapon back to check that the chamber was clear, my hand slipped off of the bolt handle. The bolt shot forward, and with a loud report the weapon discharged! There I stood, staring at a nice round hole in the beautiful Philippine mahogany door into the "Ops" building. The .45 caliber hole went upwards at an angle and obviously had exited in the roof of the building. How was I to know that the firing pin on this little gun was fixed and that when my hand slipped off of the bolt handle the bolt shot forward, carrying a cartridge into the chamber and discharging it. Oh, Gawd, what do I do now?

With great trepidation and fear, I called up the Charge of Quarters (CQ) NCO in the orderly room and told him what had just happened. He replied, "You WHAT?" I repeated the story. A short while later an officer came down to the "Ops" building and examined the scene of my erstwhile crime. He asked me if I had ever had any training on the weapon that I was handed. My reply was, "No." He had a slight smile on his face as he walked away. I never heard anything more about this incident, except for the kidding remarks I endured from my fellow soldiers, "Hey, Dave, I heard you were doing some target practice in the Ops Building," and so forth. No one was hurt, no one was injured, and the neat round hole in the wooden door was later neatly patched. I often wonder what my fate would have been had I replied, "Yes, I have had training on this weapon."

Best regards,

Dave Homsher, author of *American Battlefields of World War I: Chateau Thierry—Then and Now.*

ISBN:97809702444307 \$39.95

Orders taken now at

www.battlegroundpro.com

Battleground Productions, PO Box 624,
San Mateo, CA 94401

ASSOCIATION OFFERS HATS



One of our members who just happens to live in Tucson found some excellent hats at a really good price at one of the local Tucson shops. He brought several of them to the Harrisburg reunion and was quickly relieved of them (people bought them). So many other people wanted one that Hobie Crawford volunteered to have more caps made. Mind you, he isn't buying them, just ordering them for the association. You've got to buy your own!

The bottom line is the Association will accept orders for hats and they will be waiting on you at the next reunion in Tucson.

Here is the deal. Hats are \$12.00 and will look like the one pictured above. There will be a place on the reunion registration form (which you will receive about four months before the reunion) for you to order a hat. Please do not attempt to order a hat until you receive the reunion registration packet. When you place your order, your hat will be waiting for you at the reunion. If you cannot attend the reunion, you can still order a hat which will be mailed to you after the reunion; however, there will be an additional \$5.00 charge for postage and handling. May we suggest you keep a copy of this newsletter to remind you of how good the hat will look perched on your head.

LOOK TO TUCSON IN 2007

ABOUT THE CITY OF TUCSON

Originally an Indian village, Tucson is one of the oldest towns in the United States. In 1775, Hugo O'Connor established the Tucson Presidio and Spanish settlers arrived in the area in 1776. Tucson officially became part of the United States with the Gadsden Purchase of 1854. Tucson served as the capital of the Arizona Territory from 1867 to 1877.

Tucson boasts the best of both worlds... the progress and innovation of a metropolitan community and the friendly, caring atmosphere of a small town. Tucson's rich cultural heritage centers around a unique blend of Native American, Spanish, Mexican and Anglo-American influences. Blessed with the natural beauty of the Sonoran Desert and an unsurpassed climate of 360 sunny days a year, Tucsonans embrace a rare lifestyle and are committed to preserving that quality of life.

Tucson's climate varies from the 2400 foot desert basin to the 9100 foot forests of the Santa Catalina Mountains. The city's dry desert air and winter sunshine make it a popular health and winter resort.

The Tucson metropolitan area supports over 750,000 residents and continues to grow by nearly 2,000 new residents each month.

ATTRACTIONS IN THE AREA

PIMA AIR & SPACE MUSEUM:

Explore aviation history at the Pima Air & Space Museum. It is home to the largest privately owned collection of historical aircraft in the country. See everything from a full-scale model of the Wright Brothers' 1903 Wright Flyer, to a mock-up of the world's fastest aircraft, the X-15. More than 130 military and civilian aircraft are here on display, along with engines, flight simulators, uniforms and other aviation memorabilia. You can step right into Douglas DC-6 used by both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson during their terms of office. Some of the aircraft at the Pima Air & Space Museum are on loan from the Smithsonian, the Navy and Air Force Museum, all of them significant from both engineering and historical perspectives. This museum is sure to interest everyone.

Titan Missile Museum:

In May 1986 the Pima Air Museum opened the Titan Missile Museum, located in Green Valley, AZ. It consists of a former Titan II Missile in its underground silo. Guided tours through the complex make it possible for the public to view it exactly as it looked when it was being operated by the Air Force 390th Strategic Missile Wing. All fifty-four Titan Missile sites have been destroyed except for this site, which has been preserved as a museum. It stands today, as it stood on alert for 19 years, accurate in every detail except for the empty booster and re-entry vehicle in the silo.

Saguaro National Park:

This unique desert is home to the most recognizable cactus in the world, the majestic saguaro. Visitors of all ages are fascinated and enchanted by these desert giants, especially their many interesting and complex interrelationships with other desert life. Saguaro cacti provide their sweet fruits to hungry desert animals. They also provide homes to a variety of birds, such as the Harris' hawk, Gila woodpecker and the tiny elf owl. Yet, the saguaro requires other desert plants for its very survival. During the first few years of a very long life, a young saguaro need the shade and protection of a nurse plant such as the palo verde tree. With an average life span of 150 years, a mature saguaro may grow to a height of 50 feet and weigh over 10 tons. You may choose either a leisurely drive on one of the scenic loops, or explore the park on one of the many walking trails.

Tombstone, Arizona:

While visiting Tombstone, tourists will find themselves stepping back into the past as they witness re-enactments at the O.K. Corral or take a stroll along the boardwalks on Allen Street where they might want to unwind and relax in the Bird Cage Theater, Big Nose Kate's or The Crystal Palace, some of Tombstone's best known tourist attractions and saloons. More of Tombstone's western heritage can be appreciated in its historic buildings, such as the Tombstone Courthouse, built in 1882, which is now a state park. Visit the Rose Tree Inn, where the world's largest rose tree lives or Boot Hill Graveyard where you can read some very interesting epitaphs.

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base:

Aerospace Maintenance & Regeneration Center, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base supports customer's storage, regeneration, reclamation and disposal

needs in war and peace. Today AMARC is where the U.S. Air Force mothballs planes until they either need them again or it's time to salvage them for parts. Whenever the U. S. sells surplus planes to foreign governments part of the sales pitch is that there will always be a ready supply of spare parts. Some are turned into pilotless drones and used for missile target practice. You can think of it as a huge warehouse for all types of spare parts which saves taxpayers millions of dollars every year. There are over 4,500 planes in storage, most now from the Vietnam era. Almost 70 different types of aircraft are currently stored at AMARC, ranging from U. S. Army and Navy helicopters to the Air Force's Vietnam War era F-4s.

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum:

Opened in 1952, the museum consists of six areas representing the Sonora's different climate zones. The interpretive displays are alive and the animals live in their natural desert setting. There are almost 2 miles of trails in 21 acres of exquisite Sonoran Desert. Along the way, there are docents to answer your many questions about the museum itself and the wildlife that abounds in this part of the Southwest. The museum is divided into sections, so you can easily head for your favorite animals or plants.

Some of the divisions include the Cactus Garden, the Hummingbird Aviary, the Cat Canyon, the Bighorn Sheep, a Walk-in Aviary, Reptiles and Invertebrates, Life Underground, Caves and Minerals, Riparian Corridor, Desert Garden, Desert Grassland, Arizona Upland, Mountain Woodland, and the Overlook with a breath-taking view of the Sonora Desert. There's something that everyone will enjoy.

Please fill out the survey on the next page.

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION REMINDER

Please check the membership expiration date on the outside of this newsletter envelope. If the date is 12/31/06, you will need to send in your membership dues of \$10.00 to continue receiving The Torri Typhoon beyond that date. Dues are to be sent to Treasurer Tom Sturgeon, 12 Cherry Lane, Olmstead TWP, OH 44138-2916.

**NEWSLETTER EXPENDITURES FOR
NOVEMBER 2006 \$1406.21**

2007 ASA OKINAWA SURVEY

In order to provide the kind of reunion you want, not what we "think" you'd like, please take a few minutes to look over, complete and return this survey to ML&RS, Inc. right away. The reunion agenda will be created from the responses and the Chairman's input.

Reunion format:

Do you want a welcome reception the first evening? ____yes ____no

Do you prefer breakfast all three mornings? ____
or just on Sunday? ____

Do you want entertainment after the banquet? ____yes ____no

Please indicate your choice of activities by checking the attractions you would like to visit:

Pima Air & Space Museum ____

Titan Missile Museum ____

Saguaro National Park ____

Tombstone, AZ ____

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

Mail or fax survey by
January 8, 2007 to:

Military Locator & Reunion Service,
Inc
P O Box 11399
Hickory, NC 28603-6402

OR FAX:
828-256-6559

Or you may do the survey on the
Website at:
www.mlrsinc.com/asaokinawa

Those not attending the reunion
may print an order form for the 2006
Memory Book from the website.

ASA Okinawa Association Membership Application

I wish to become a member of the ASA Okinawa Association. The following personal information is provided with the understanding that it will not be disseminated outside the association without my written permission. Dues are \$10.00 annually. Dues are due on or before January 1 each year regardless of when you join the association. You will not receive a "dues notice" but your membership expiration date will be shown on the address label of your newsletter.

L Name: _____ F Name: _____ MI: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Which unit did you serve in? 126th Sig Svc Co ____; 125th Sig Svc Co ____;

111th Sig Svc Co ____; 327th Comm Recon Co; ____; 8603rd AAU ____;

3rd ASA FS ____; 51st USASA SOC ____; ASA Field Station Sobe; US Army
Field Station Okinawa ____

Years Served in unit. Fm: _____ To: _____

Highest Rank: _____

Duty Section: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Make your check or money order payable to:

ASA Okinawa Association

Send this completed form and your dues payment to:

Tom Sturgeon, Association Treasurer

12 Cherry Lane

Olmsted Twp, OH 44138-2916