



## TACAMO's Next Aircraft C-130J-30 Super Hercules

### SEAPOW

The Official Publication of the Navy League of the United States

#### Strategic Command Admiral Praises Navy's Choice of C-130J for TACAMO Mission

by Richard R. Burgess, Senior Editor "Reprinted with permission from Seapower, the official publication of the Navy League of the United States." "Editor's Note: This story is a direct quote. Some inaccuracies are noted but NOT edited"

A Lockheed EC-130Q Hercules, which previously handled the Navy's TACAMO work. The Navy has now decided to acquire the C-130J-30 Super Hercules as its platform for communicating with deployed ballistic-missile submarines. Wikipedia / Alain Rioux

ARLINGTON, Va. — The admiral in charge of the nation's strategic nuclear deterrent forces has praised the Navy's decision to acquire the C-130J-30 Super Hercules aircraft as a platform for communicating with its deployed ballistic-missile submarine force. Four decades ago, the Navy was using earlier C-130 versions — built by Lockheed — for the same mission.

"The Navy is fully capable of supporting my mission requirements to ensure survivable communications to the

*Continued on Page 2*



**Continued from Page 1****Strategic Command Admiral Praises Navy's Choice of C-130J for TACAMO Mission by Richard R. Burgess, Senior Editor**

ballistic-missile submarines and I think they're making a great decision to go to the C-130," said Adm. Charles Richard, commander, U.S. Strategic Command, speaking in a Jan. 5 webinar to the Defense Writers Group, in response to a reporter's question.

The communications role is called TACAMO by the Navy — a term meaning "Take Charge and Move Out" — has been performed for three decades by the service's Boeing E-6 Mercury aircraft, a variant of the Boeing 707 airliner. After the Cold War, the Airborne National Command Post role previously performed by Air Force EC-135 "Looking Glass" aircraft was incorporated into the E-6 with the installation of the Airborne Launch Control System (ALCS), combining the TACAMO and ALCS in one platform.

The Navy has performed the TACAMO mission since 1963, beginning with four C-130G (later EC-130G) Hercules aircraft, later augmented by eight newer EC-130Q Hercules. The E-6 replaced the EC-130s, giving the two TACAMO squadrons, VQ-3 and VQ-4, a faster, quieter, more comfortable platform for the long missions.

The TACAMO aircraft are equipped with a long trailing wire antenna used to relay very-low-frequency radio messages to submerged ballistic-missile submarines. The airframes go through considerable stress as they maintain high angle of bank for long periods to maintain tight orbits to wind the trailing-wire antenna into a vertical position, needed for the radio waves to penetrate the water most effectively.

The Request for Information issued on Dec. 18 by the Naval Air Systems Command's TACAMO Program Office (PMA-271) announced that the Navy "intends to negotiate and award sole-source contracts to Lockheed

Martin Corporation, Marietta, [Georgia], for the efforts associated with the procurement of up to three C-130J-30 "Stretch" green airframes in [fiscal 2022/2023] for testing and analysis.

The C-130J is the current, much more modern version of the C-130 and is flown by the Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, as well as many foreign air forces. The C-130J-30 is similar but has a 15-foot-longer fuselage. The rugged C-130J is able to operate from many more airfields than the current E-6B Mercury.

"Lockheed Martin Corporation is the sole designer, developer, and manufacturer of the C-130J-30 and is the only source capable of producing the C-130J and derivative aircraft and providing support equipment, logistics support, defensive systems services, and engineering services," the Navy's announcement said. "The Analysis of Alternatives results indicated that the four-engine, militarized C-130J-30 is optimally configured aircraft for performing the TACAMO mission. The characteristics of this airframe also maximize the operational deployability of the assets to austere environments. The C-130 is currently extensively fielded within the Department of Defense, and deployed at various bases that create operation, training and logistics support synergies for TACAMO execution. Lockheed Martin already has an established domestic production line that has the ability to produce test units for PMA271 that will enable acceleration of the risk reduction and subsequent engineering and manufacturing development test program."

**[LINK TO FULL ARTICLE](#)**



A Lockheed EC-130Q Hercules, which previously handled the Navy's TACAMO work. The Navy has now decided to acquire the C-130J-30 Super Hercules as its platform for communicating with deployed ballistic-missile submarines.



# 2022 TACAMO Reunion

**Commissioning of the  
TACAMO Gallery**



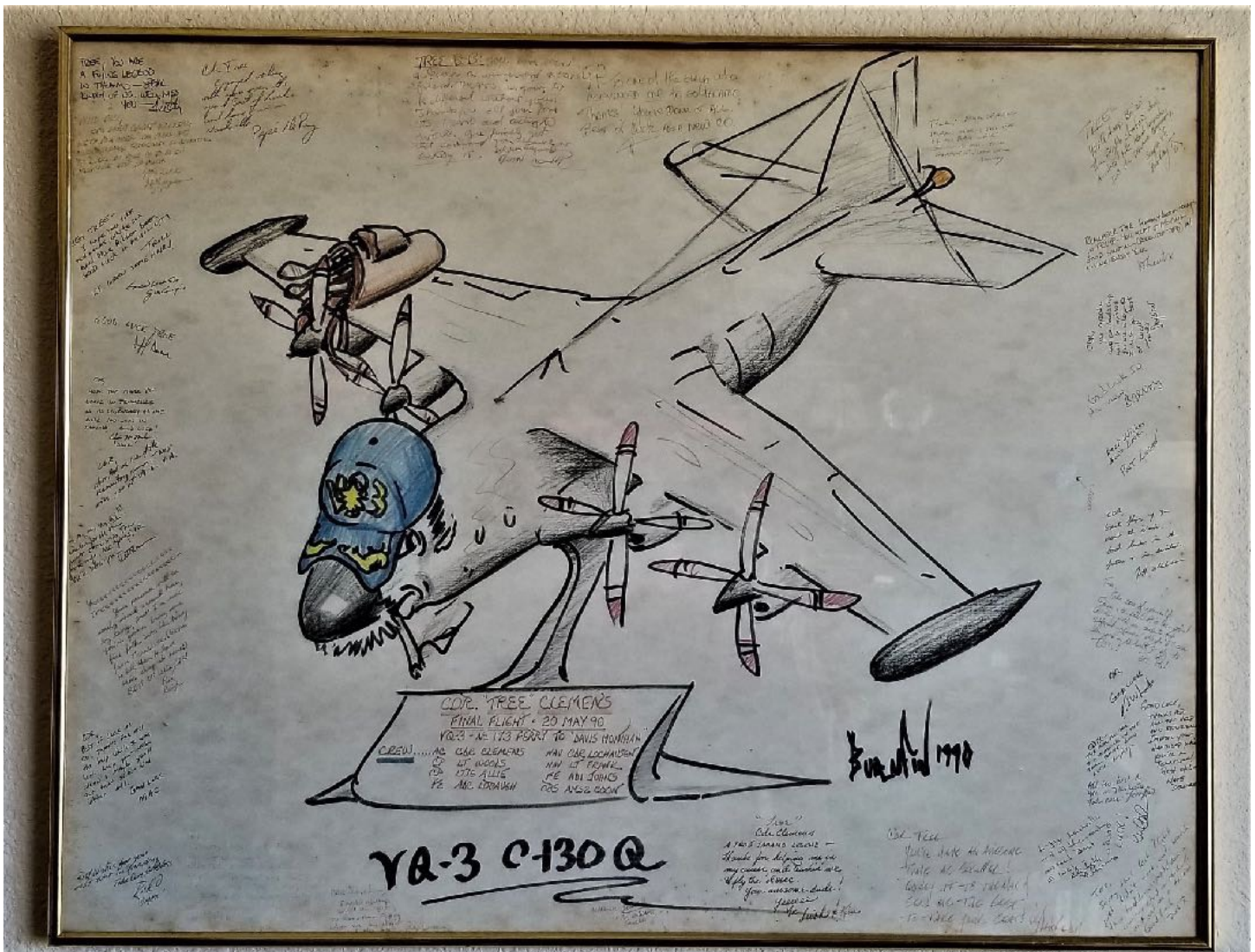
**2022 Reunion Click Here**

**Hotel Reservation Coming in May 2021**

**2022 “May 27 to June 1” 2022**

Location	Date	Tentative Schedule
<b>DC - Fairfield, VA Area</b>	<b>Tuesday 5/24</b>	Early bird check-in & touring on your own & Happy Hour in hotel in Nova Bar 5:00–7:00 pm
	<b>Wednesday 5/25</b>	Early bird check-in & touring on your own. A non-sponsored Happy Hour in hotel in Nova Bar 5:00–7:00 pm
	<b>Thursday 5/26</b>	Check-in at Grand Hyatt in Fairfax VA. (Touring will be on your own) <i>If 2022 has tour buses available, TCVA will organize a group tour.</i> Pre-reunion Evening gathering in outdoor venue of the Grand Hyatt from 5:00–7:00 pm. Looking for Sponsor
	<b>Friday 5/27</b>	Pentagon & Arlington Tour followed by evening gathering in outdoor venue of the Grand Hyatt from 5:00–7:00 pm. Looking for Sponsor
	<b>Saturday 5/28</b>	Depart to Pax - TCVA has a negotiated price at the Fairfield Inn
<b>PAX River</b>	<b>Saturday 5/28</b>	Evening Meet-up at the Tiki Bar, 4 to 7pm
	<b>Sunday 5/29</b>	TACAMO Room Commissioning & Presentation of 2019, 2020 & 2021 TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductees Times to be announced
	<b>Monday 5/30</b>	TACAMO Hall of Fame Picnic & Tentative: If Navy will support, E-6 & VQ-4 DET Facility tour.
	<b>Tuesday 5/31</b>	Departures or hang in Pax with friends

# TACAMO Donations



Details from Vern Lochausen:

"My Flying Partner and best Navy bud since 1974, Mike "Tree" Clemens. He and Mike Neri put together the Merc initial training tracks for all aircrew and maintainers, VQ3 and VQ-4, from a little office in the VQ3 hangar. He loved to golf and take great photos. "Tree" never took a ride in a Merc but had many, many hours to mention in a Herc. This Wardroom gift was presented to "Tree" when he went to CO Recruiting Command Area and then XO NAS Millington, TN. Lives in a airport community near Dallas, flying his Mooney nearly every day."

## TCVA ARTIFACTS WANTED

Don't throw them away, throw them our way. If you have TACAMO Artifacts, Please consider donating them to TCVA. [Click Here to donate TACAMO Memorabilia](#)



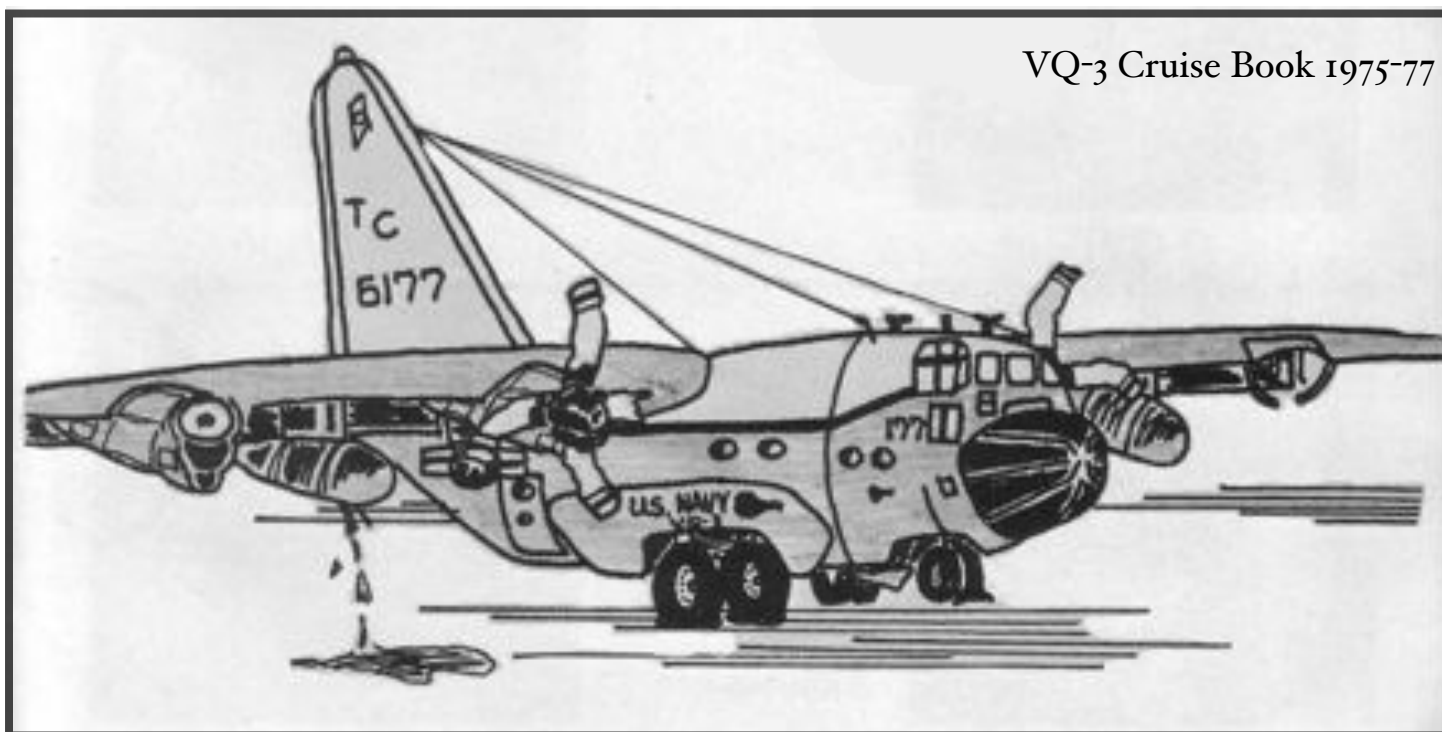
# TACAMO Room UPDATE



## Pax River Museum - TACAMO Room

A Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) Exhibits Phase II grant project will enable TCVA to properly complete the TACAMO room museum gallery renovations. These renovations include installing the following items: new overhead LED exhibit lighting; new electrical systems including new breaker panels, wiring, and receptacles; new wall finishes where required; multiple new battery-powered emergency lights; making the doorway openings ADA compliant; patching the walls where needed and painting; and installing a new epoxy floor surface in all the rooms. Three contractors have been selected, one for the electrical work/lighting installation, one for the construction work, and one for the flooring preparation and installation.

**EC-130Q Bulb Holders NEEDED** - TACAMO Veteran & Volunteer, **Ron Bremer is repairing and rehabilitating an EC-130Q Generator Panel** for the TACAMO display. **Ron is looking for some of the black-painted screw in bulb holders that hold the #327 or #328 light bulbs.** These were used in almost all older instrument panels to give the red glow in the panel. If anyone can find about ten of these, you would make Ron very happy.



VQ-3 Cruise Book 1975-77

# Right Person....Right Time....

## Right Challenge....SUCCESS

*Written by Vern Lochausen, TCVA Historian & President*

“To each there comes in their lifetime a special moment when they are figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique to them and fitted to their talents. When he seizes it, it will fulfill his mission — a mission for which he is uniquely qualified. In that moment, he finds greatness. It is his finest hour.” Sir Winston Churchill.

TACAMO's history is full of folks who came along at just that right moment to help the community move ahead toward success. The list is long but just a few examples can be found among our Hall of Famers, Walt Reese, Ron Carlson, Ed Preston, Barry Coyle, Andy Riddile, John Kilroy, Bulldog Filz, Billy Depasquale, Jim Meppelink, Deb Martin, Phil Miller, Mickey DiPasquo, and Roger Kilgore. In these and other cases the situation required unique talent and experience and somehow that person was there to make that significant contribution at the very moment it was needed. But it's not always just fate or a happy accident. Sometimes the person just listened to the hints coming from somewhere and made up their minds to “Just Do It!”

Skippers change out about every year or so as do Command Master Chiefs, but NAVAIR Program Managers for TACAMO, the organization known as PMA-271, is about a 3-year commitment and has not millions but billions of dollars associated with the execution of programs designed to underwrite the success of operations. Two gents assigned duty as PMA-271 carefully planned and executed their careers to ensure they were positioned and qualified to make a difference for TACAMO. With their permission, here's Part One of the story of how they came with the RIGHT STUFF at the right time.

When TACAMO was still in ‘elementary’ school in the early 70s, there was a need for someone who knew electronics and aerodynamics to help pioneer two trailing wire antenna maneuvers. Three VQ-4 Skippers each had an assignment for then LT Ed Hampshire that would build up his expertise AND the community body of knowledge (GOUGE). Skipper "Chick" Wilson sent Ed to work on the TAC IVB development flights which continued later under Skipper Don Kellermam. Later still, Ed led the Verdin development flights that successfully integrated Verdin into the TAC IVB suite under Skipper Bruce Cloud. In Ed's words: “My undergraduate degree was in Electronic Engineering and they thought it might help with the

mountain of difficulties the squadron was having with the new TACAMO III birds. When it became time to start test flying the new TACAMO IVB prototype aircraft, I was assigned to do the flying/testing out of the Addison, TX airport. It was during this time that I thought I had made the biggest contribution to our TACAMO mission. I helped develop the “two-wire” orbit and worked hand-in-hand with John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab to set the orbit criteria for the new .160" wire. The fact that I could “talk engineering” stuff with the Collins Radio engineers doing the integration and if needed with Lockheed engineers was absolutely invaluable during this flight test development phase of the TACAMO IVB.” (Author's note- IVB was the designation for the Collins proposed design bid for the two wire VLF program. Westinghouse's design bid was IVA.)

Understanding the two-wire orbit and the period of the possible YoYo was essential to making Verdin work dependably. For distant customers, a signal low at the wrong time could make a Verdin signal disappear and nobody would know it. Finally, Skipper Bill Coyne, extended Ed in VQ-4 because he had the most experience with the TACAMO IV aircraft/systems as well as the possible problems that might be encountered with TACAMO IV. Both VQ-4 and VQ-3 crews were trained by Ed and his crew, flying out of Bermuda in the transition to TACAMO IV. As Ed tells it: “I got to train all of our pilot instructors and flew all of the annual check rides. This was



*Ed Hampshire*

truly a dream job for a pilot. I was also put in charge of the squadron's transition training of flight crews from TAC III to TAC IVB and I was again extended in the squadron by Skipper Bill Coyne.” Truly these Skippers had found the right guy.

Ed tells what happened next. “When it came time to rotate  
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**Continued from Page 6 - Right Person.....Right Time.....Right Challenge....SUCCESS**

out of VQ-4, I thought about what I had experienced and witnessed about the way we developed and installed our new TACAMO modifications into our EC-130s. I knew that there had to be a better way and I was trying to figure it out but I knew that operational experienced people were necessary in the procurement and testing. At that time, the good people were bailing out of the Navy or cross decking to a warfare specialty since it appeared the temporary TACAMO was going the way of the dinosaurs. Having my feet planted firmly in the operational world of TACAMO as well as some TACAMO R&D projects I was involved in, I thought TACAMO was here to stay for the foreseeable future. I decided to take my chances with the TACAMO community and I thought about PG School as a way to help TACAMO of the future. I decided to ask for the Communications Engineering curriculum at Monterey to round out my background in engineering to be able to help TACAMO in the future if I had a chance. Communication Engineering was just an extension of my background in Electrical/Electronics Engineering with a lot of communications theory and technology emphasis. I went to Monterey."



Later NAVAIR needed someone to come to the PMA and hammer out what the replacement for the Hercs needed to have and again the VQ-4 Skipper, Frank Hilton, found the right guy and convinced his Maintenance Officer (Ed) to take the next EC platform, then called ECX, Class Desk job. That's essentially the lead engineer who had to ride herd on and defend

requirements to the Pentagon. He shepherded the requirements all the way up to the final critical design review before being transferred back to VQ-4 again. That third VQ-4 tour for Ed was his CO tour. And once again Ed was "the right guy" as he was finishing his own tour commanding VQ-4. NAVAIR needed an experienced TACAMO leader to lead the ECX to E-6A Mercury program. Ed was experiencing considerable pressure from flag officers he had served under in the carrier Navy. He was a shoo-in in for a carrier navigator and likely deep draft command and he knew it. Ed decided for TACAMO. Instead the deep draft to flag route, Ed led the TACAMO PMA in resolving development, testing, and fielding of the Merc. In his own words, TACAMO Hall of Fame plankowner Ed Hampshire: "During my last few months as CO, I was trying to figure out what I wanted to do next in the NAVY. It was either go back to the carriers as the ship's Navigator or transition into the then brand new Material Professional path of procurement. I absolutely hated the thought of going back into the Washington bureaucracy that I learned to hate as the Class Desk. I then revised my thinking and thought that I might get a chance

to again serve my TACAMO shipmates. Maybe I would get a chance to help improve their squadron operational lives if I took the procurement path which is what I (and Sherry) chose. After that, I soon found out that I had been "selected" to be the new PMA-271 by NAVAIR himself. I was beginning to wonder if I had a Guarding Angel looking out for me (maybe named VADM Booth). It looked as though my plan for my future service in the Navy that I had envisioned back in the early 70s in VQ-4 was coming to fruition. I spent years trying to groom myself as "the best qualified" person to serve as the TACAMO PMA should the opportunity arise and here it was. I chose the word "serve" on purpose because I felt like I was actually serving our community and its personnel, not just doing a job for NAVAIR."

The Merc was built and has served well for the past 30-plus years. After Ed retired, he was followed by a succession P-3 community stars and three other TACAMO officers whose experiences and qualifications allowed them to improve the Merc. Dave Nordean was after Ed and immediately faced the challenge of crossdecking EC-135

gear and crews to create the E-6B ABNCP. T h e n T A C A M O veteran John Ryan, not a skipper but an acquisition pro like Dave, kept the program office alive and

built a future roadmap for the E-6B and the Block 1 improvements. Then Bill Okoniewski came from command of VQ-3 where he led the E-6A to E-6B ABNCP transition. Bill faced production and funding problems with both the Block 1 and glass cockpit mods as well as creating a mission systems lab at Pax. And right behind Bill came another TACAMO star, Jay Gallamore from command of VQ-3. Jay faced taking jets out of service for heavy depot and a new contractor providing logistics parts. In 2008, after 3 TACAMO community-grown PMAs, there

**Sherry & Ed Hampshire****Continued on Page 11**

# Challenge Coin Design Contest

The TACAMO Community Veterans Association needs your help! Next year, 2022, marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Association. As we kick off the celebration, the first event will be a Challenge Coin design contest. Everyone will have a chance to design both sides of the coin. The winning design will not only have bragging rights, but will receive public recognition during the TCVA ceremony at the Pax River Museum in May, 2022.

## Design Requirements:

- Drogue
- 25th Anniversary
- TACAMO Community Veterans Association
- Requirements
- Size: 1.75" or less.
- Small details may be lost due to the nature of coin making, so **don't** make super detailed designs.
- Colors on one or both sides. If your design requires fancy stuff like epoxy and special finishes then we can talk about that, but keep in mind that all of the extra features increase cost significantly.
- Solid colors only
- Nothing inappropriate in the design.
- We don't want to restrict anyone's creativity too much. It should be obviously apparent what community the challenge coin is representing.
- Clean and sharp hand-drawn designs are probably workable, but something done with a graphics program will be ideal. Require 300dpi graphics
- Submit as many designs as you like.
- If you aren't artistic, feel free to submit ideas and maybe someone else will draw it up.
- Due to the large setup costs for coins, only one design will be selected and produced
- Winner will have their design produced and win a polo shirt w/squadron logo (Example VQ-3) or letters and a ball cap with Squadron letters (Example VQ-3)
- All rights for the design will be handed over to TCVA. TCVA will produce a limited number of coins with winning design
- All entries submitted to [tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com)
- Deadline August 1, 2021



**TACAMO**  
Community Veterans Association  
**Celebrating Our 25th Anniversary**

## Other Coins Made by TCVA







# TACAMO ACTIVE DUTY

**TACAMO  
HQ  
GOT A  
FACELIFT!**

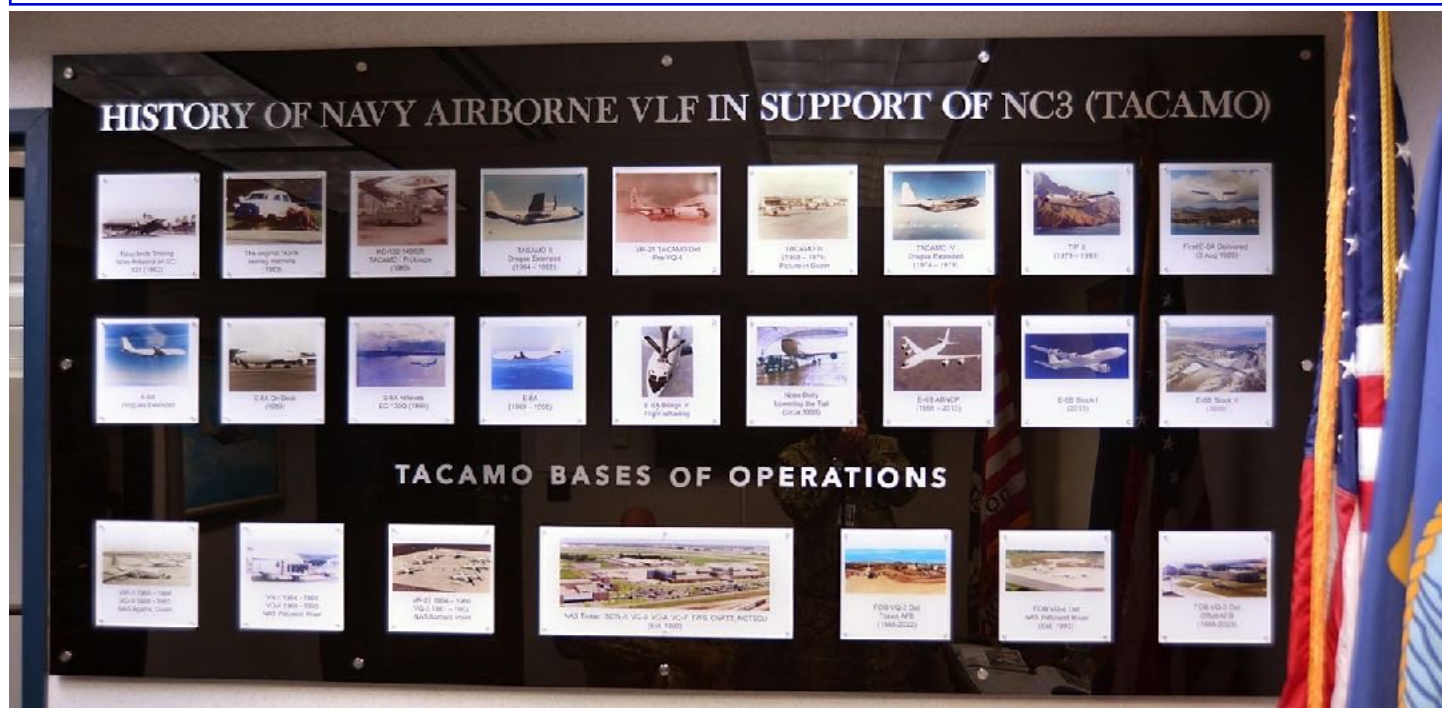


On February 26, 2021 Captain CJ Jessup relieved Captain Tony Barnes as Commodore, Strategic Communications Wing One and Commander, TG 114.2. Captain Bob Majoris assumes duties as Deputy Commander.



WING VQ-3 VQ-4 VQ-7 WTU FIT TACAMO WEAPONS SCHOOL TACAMO

# TACAMO ACTIVE DUTY



## Strategic Communications Wing One - LABOR OF LOVE

The TACAMO history wall has been unveiled and is on display outside our Executive offices. Mark Herkert and Jeff Delano were the driving forces behind this project.



Zach Smith & Miranda Carroll - This new dude couldn't pass a Fire Bill to save his life. Hope everyone is enjoying 2021 so far!



**Congratulations to Skipper Brown and his family on completing his final flight as Commanding Officer of the World Famous Shadows!**





**Continued from Page 7 - Right Person.....Right Time.....Right Challenge....SUCCESS**

were four P-3/S-3 community-sourced gents that led the PMA as the jets aged, the mods and maintenance impacting the flight line, and then COVID arrived. They kept things going, partnered with industry and the Wing, and ensured the Fleet had the jets to cover the mission.



*Adam &  
Charlotte  
Scott*

And just as it came time for Captain Adam Scott to come in as the new PMA, the decision was made to recapitalize the aircraft and mission.

Adam Scott, TACAMO DH, TACAMO test pilot and TACAMO test program coordinator, and now TACAMO

PMA is the first TACAMO-grown PMA since Jay Gallamore left in 2008 and has immediately dug in to meet

the challenges of rapid growth and planning for a new platform. It seems that at just the RIGHT times, two TACAMO super stars came along with those unique qualifications Churchill spoke of AND the WILL to fulfill that mission. Ed Hampshire brought on the Merc and Adam Scott will bring on the Super Hercs. Like Ed Hampshire, Adam Scott has punched all the right 'tickets' and excelled in a succession of roles that provide just that RIGHT STUFF to move TACAMO ahead into a new era. He knows the mission, the community, the jet, and NAVAIR. His story and his own words will be featured in the NEXT TCVA *Trailing Wire Newsletter*.

TCVA welcomes CAPT Scott to this new leadership role and wishes him every success in the challenges ahead as he forms up and fields a team that will keep the Mercs going while the new Super Hercs stand up. TACAMO... heading for our 6<sup>th</sup> decade and guided by experienced leaders in the PMA and Wing...we're looking good!



## Volunteers Positions

- Southwest Employees Volunteers
- Assistant to Event Planner
- Reunion Volunteers
- Trivia Correspondents

## Positions Filled

- TCVA Cookbook - John Burgoon
- TIME in TACAMO Database Builder - Mike & Cathy Neri
- Paraloft Manager - John Alger
- Reunion Volunteer - Joan Alger
- TCVA Det OKC by Adam Hancock

[Click Here to view](#)

[Volunteer Positions details](#)

## NEW Membership List

Anyone need to know when their membership is due? A new webpage gives you access to see when you will pay again and Life Members\*.

**NEW** [Memberships & Due Dates](#)

Dues are \$25 per year

<https://www.tacamo.org/membership>

\*Life Membership is not available for purchase

Photo from Ronald N Umai Fox VQ-3 Ironman - December 23, 1969 (51 years ago), VQ-3 flight from Guam, RON to Naha, Okinawa



# TACAMO Flight Jackets



Bill Lewis front.jpg



Bill Lewis back.jpg



Brian Jeffrey Robinson.jpg



Dean Chandler .jpg



Mike Wagoner.jpg



Dean Chandler .jpg



Dave Smith.jpg



Dave Smith front.jpg



Michael Clardy.jpg



Sean Patrick Powell back.jpg

How many different  
kinds of TACAMO flight  
jackets?  
[tacamo.org/jackets](http://tacamo.org/jackets)



Lyn Zepik front.jpg



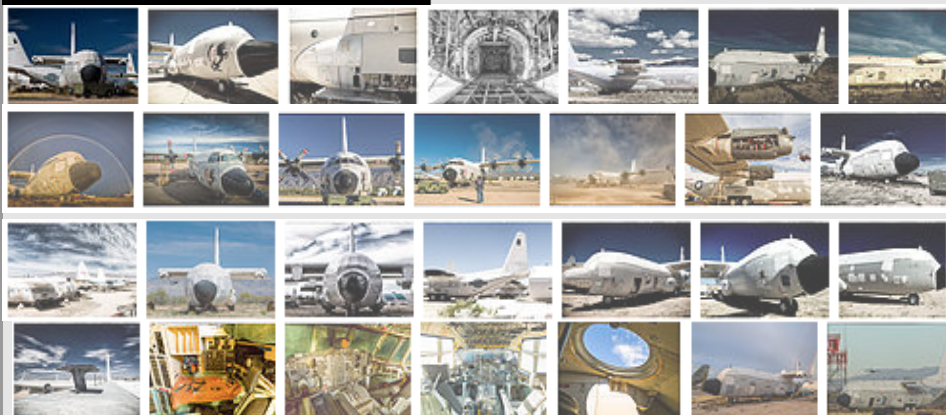
Lyn Zepik back jacket.jpg



Sean Patrick Powell front.jpg



## C-130 Stickers and Other Gear



Ramon Purcell, Honorary TACAMO Sailor & Video Producer for VQ-3 TACAMOPAC Crew 4 Memorial Video has introduced a C-130 Boneyard Safari sticker for \$4. Go to [SHOP](#) to purchase your's today. There are also photos of TACAMO's C-130s for sale on the website. Click on Link: [Purchase Photos](#). Boneyard Safari tours of TACAMO C-130s can be arranged by contacting Ramon @ [Boneyard Safari Tour](#)









## Paraloft - Print on-Demand Items

These items you order and they are delivered to you!

- Ball Caps
- Short & Long Sleeve Tee
- Polos
- Coffee Mugs
- Masks
- Bucket Hats
- Beanies
- Stickers
- Laptop Covers
- Draw String Bags



**\$8 patch**



## Paraloft Specials

This webpage is for items purchased by TCVA and can be purchased while supplies last.

Webpage: <https://www.tacamo.org/paraloft-specials>



**Limited Edition \$20**





Back by Popular Demand!!

# MODELS



Click on Link to place your order Custom model with Island Enterprises  
 Webpage: <https://www.tacamo.org/paraloft-specials>

## EC-130Q

- TAC II (1 Drogue/NO Wingtip pods)
- TAC III (1 Drogue/NO Wingtip pods)
- TAC IV (2 Drogues/NO Wingtip pods)
- TAC IV/TIP 1 (2 Drogues/NO Wingtip pods)
- TIP II (2 Drogues/Wingtip pods)

**EC-130Q Form**

## E6

- E-6A
- E-6B

**E6 Form**

# Veteran Suicide Prevention

Elijah Stiner article of TACAMO Shipmates

"Hi there. I served as an AT IFT in VQ4 2005-2007. Since that time 6 guys I knew took their own life. Most recently Will Caskey.

If anyone served with Will Caskey, they remember it. He left a lasting mark on everyone. He was a very generous guy. He always had someone living with him or crashing on his couch. He was a very bright tech. I remember he just seemed to have a great aptitude for avionics. He was a great golfer and we played so many rounds there on Tinker. I know so many people had great memories with him. We had fallen out of touch over the last few years but it was such a shock to hear he took his life. This makes 3 sailors I served with in the last 12 months who took their life. The night I heard about Will I was very moved and sat down to write this song. Michael Huffman and I served with Will in the same shop and Mike is a great musician. We sat down and spent a few hours working on this song in the studio and Will's song is the result. Such a tough thing to write about but I wanted to share it. I hope this helps someone out there."

**Click here to listen to Will's Song**

ELIJAH  
STINER  
WILL'S SONG

If you're a Veteran in a mental health crisis and you're thinking about hurting yourself—or you know a Veteran who's considering this—get help right away. You're not alone. Get ongoing support

[VA Mental Health/ Suicide Prevention Link](#)

Picture of Tail of 173 - In loving memory of AMS2 Eric Baluk who painted this tail on 173 in VQ-3 when I was CO. Worst day for a Skipper is to lose a Sailor. Taken from AMS2 Baluk's Eulogy: Petty Officer Baluk, just hours before he had his last conscious thought, he was happy enough with life to paint a beautiful mural on the tail of aircraft 156173. The mural depicted as surfer and shown as a man at peace with himself and enjoying life. In some way, he may have been trying to communicate to us the happy side of his life or to leave a lasting display of what he wanted from life. Whatever his motive, the aircraft now sits in the Boneyard Safari. A place where old and tired airplanes go to die.

ERIC BALUK AMS2





# Letter from Executive Director

## Mission Statement

**The purpose of the Association is to provide fraternal, social and recreational activities for the members and guests and encourage and support the preservation of the history of TACAMO.**

Contact Info:

[tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com)

## Mailing Address:

TACAMO  
PO Box 6126  
Ocean View, HI 96737

**Vern Lochausen** President/  
Historian/Life Member &  
TACAMO Hall of Fame  
Inductee:

[vernlochausen.tacamo@gmail.com](mailto:vernlochausen.tacamo@gmail.com)

**Mike Vos** Executive Director  
Webmaster

[mvovhi@gmail.com](mailto:mvovhi@gmail.com)

**Dennis "Coach" Warren** Vice-  
President/Director of Historic  
Preservation

[coachwarren.tacamo@gmail.com](mailto:coachwarren.tacamo@gmail.com)

**Joe Caruso** Treasurer

[jrcaruso@msn.com](mailto:jrcaruso@msn.com)

**Cheryl Vos** Reunion/Event  
Planner, Executive Secretary &  
All Media Communications

[tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com)

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Aloha TACAMO Shipmates,

As this newsletter shows, TCVA is making some changes and moving forward with some old and new endeavors. First, the old. The Paraloft, "Ship's Store", is about to re-launch. We have partnered with several vendors that can make semi-custom "swag", on the fly. This enables us to provide many more product options without carrying a lot, or any inventory. This simplifies things dramatically and prevents a lot of waste of time and money.

The new ... Adam Hancock (former VQ-3 Skipper) has joined our team as our "Man in OKC". He will be our direct contact with the active duty contingent of our membership. We're glad to have Adam on board and know he will help communications with the (relatively) young people we need to carry on the work of the Association.

Mike and Cathy Neri have also offered their spreadsheet skills to develop a more exhaustive membership database that will help us know our membership better. (Your information will remain internal to TCVA and won't be released to anybody).

John and Joan Alger are volunteering their time to help manage the new Paraloft and John Burgoon is ready to release the "TACAMO Heritage Cookbook & TACAMO Reel Chow", very soon.

If you are interested in joining our volunteer team, take a look at TCVA's Volunteers Needed page. Click on the job to read the job description, qualifications and the time needed for job. If you have another talent that you would like to share, feel free to email us at [tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com) with your skills and desires

On a sad and personal note, for Cheryl and I, TCVA Founders and many others in our community. We recently lost a founding brother and terrific shipmate, Lyn Zepik. Lyn was a founding member of this Association and an enthusiastic supporter. Lyn was not unique in his enthusiasm. Like many of us, he just wanted to give back to the community that gave him so much. He loved TACAMO and the strategic communication mission and carried his skill set to "Silk Purse" to bring Navy professionalism to the Air Force. We all know a guy like Lyn. Maybe you are that guy, like Lyn? A shipmate that puts duty ahead of self. A friend that would put up your bail money, first ... then ask why you were there ... That was my friend, Lyn. Fair winds and following seas, shipmate ... love ya, man.

Stay safe and healthy and see y'all in May 2022 for our next reunion in DC/Pax.

Stay Safe and Healthy,  
Mike Vos



Mike Vos

**TACAMO**  
Community Veterans Association

## REQUEST TO JOIN

Due to the overwhelming hacks of FB pages being stolen, to join the TCVA FB page or group, TCVA has set up a few questions to ID who you are from TACAMO. The questions **must** be

answered at the time of your request to join. If the questions are not answered, no access will be given. TCVA has received may friend requests and sends FB messages to individuals. Once the information is obtained, the request will be approved. Thanks for understanding.

TCVA Facebook  
Page  
TCVA Facebook  
Group

# Veterans Benefits

Someone has gone to a lot of trouble. If this helps one person, then it was worthwhile. Below are websites that provide information on Veterans benefits and how to file/ask for them. Nearly 100% of this information is free and available for all veterans.

Appeals [http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21\\_1/mr/part1/ch05.doc](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch05.doc)

Board of Veteran's Appeals <http://www.va.gov/vhs/bva/>

CARES Commission <http://www.va.gov/vhs/bva/>

CARES Draft National Plan <http://www1.va.gov/cares/page.cfm?pg=105>

Center for Minority Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/>

Center for Veterans Enterprise <http://www.vetbiz.gov/default2.htm>

Center for Women Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/>

Clarification on the changes in VA healthcare for Gulf War Veterans <http://www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum1/HTML/000016.html>

Classified Records - American Gulf War Veterans Assoc <http://www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum18/HTML/000011.html>

Compensation for Disabilities Associated with the Gulf War Service [http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21\\_1/part6%20ch07.doc](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/part6%20ch07.doc)

Compensation Rate Tables, 12-1-03 <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Rates/comp01.htm>

Department of Veterans Affairs Home Page <http://www.va.gov/>

Directory of Veterans Service Organizations <http://www1.va.gov/vso/index.cfm?template=view>

Disability Examination Worksheets Index, Comp <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Benefits/exams/index.htm>

Due Process [http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21\\_1/mr/part1/ch02.doc](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch02.doc)

Duty to Assist [http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21\\_1/mr/part1/ch01.doc](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch01.doc)

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr/>

Emergency, Non-emergency, and Fee Basis Care <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf>

Environmental Agents <http://www1.va.gov/environagents/>

Environmental Agents M10 [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1002](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1002)

Establishing Combat Veteran Eligibility [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=315](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=315)

EVALUATION PROTOCOL FOR GULF WAR AND IRAQI FREEDOM VETERANS WITH POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO DEPLETED URANIUM (DU) <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DUHandbook1303122304.DOC> and [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1158](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1158)

See also, Depleted Uranium Fact Sheet <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DepletedUraniumFAOSheet.doc>

EVALUATION PROTOCOL FOR NON-GULF WAR VETERANS WITH POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO DEPLETED URANIUM (DU) <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DUHANDBOOKNONGW130340304.DOC>

Fee Basis, PRIORITY FOR OUTPATIENT MEDICAL SERVICES AND INPATIENT HOSPITAL CARE [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=206](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=206) Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents 2005 <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf> OR, [http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current\\_benefits.htm](http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.htm)

Forms and Records Request <http://www1.va.gov/vaforms/>

General Compensation Provisions [http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii\\_chapter11\\_subchaptervi.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter11_subchaptervi.html)

Geriatrics and Extended Care <http://www1.va.gov/geriatricsshg/>

Guideline for Chronic Pain and Fatigue MUS-CPG [http://www.oqp.med.va.gov/cpg/cpgn/mus/mus\\_base.htm](http://www.oqp.med.va.gov/cpg/cpgn/mus/mus_base.htm)

Guide to Gulf War Veteran's Health <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/VH1gulfwar.pdf>

Gulf War Subject Index <http://www1.va.gov/GulfWar/page.cfm?pg=7&template=main&letter=A>

Gulf War Veteran's Illnesses Q&A <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/GWIllnessesQandA1B1041.pdf>

Hearings

[http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21\\_1/mr/part1/ch04.doc](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch04.doc)

Homeless Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/homeless/>

HSR&D Home <http://www.hsr.d.research.va.gov/>

Index to Disability Examination Worksheets C&P exams <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/benefits/exams/index.htm>

Ionizing Radiation <http://www1.va.gov/irad/>

Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom Veterans VBA <http://www.vba.va.gov/EFIE/>

M 10 for spouses and children < [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1007](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1007)

M10 Part III Change 1 [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1008](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1008)

M21-1 Table of Contents [http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/M21\\_1.html](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/M21_1.html)

Mental Disorders, Schedule of Ratings [http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/regs/38CFR/BOOKC/PART4/S4\\_130.DOC](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/regs/38CFR/BOOKC/PART4/S4_130.DOC)

Mental Health Program Guidelines [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1094](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1094)

Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers <http://www.mirecc.med.va.gov/>

MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Centers of Excellence <http://www.va.gov/ms/about.asp>

My Health e Vet <http://www.myhealth.va.gov/>

NASDVA.COM <http://nasdva.com/>

National Association of State Directors <http://www.nasdva.com/>

National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention <http://www.nchdpd.med.va.gov/postdeploymentlinks.asp>

Neurological Conditions and Convulsive Disorders, Schedule of Ratings <http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/regs/38cfr/bookc/part4/s4%5F124a.doc>

OMI (Office of Medical Inspector) <http://www.omi.cio.med.va.gov/>

Online VA Form 10-10EZ <https://www1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>

Parkinson's Disease and Related Neurodegenerative Disorders <http://www1.va.gov/resdev/funding/solicitations/docs/parkinsons.pdf>

and, <http://www1.va.gov/padrecc/>

Peacetime Disability Compensation [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse\\_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1131](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1131)

Pension for Non-Service-Connected Disability or Death [http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii\\_chapter15\\_subchapteri.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter15_subchapteri.html)

& [http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii\\_chapter15\\_subchapterii.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter15_subchapterii.html)

& [http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii\\_chapter15\\_subchapteriii.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter15_subchapteriii.html)

Persian Gulf Registry [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1003](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1003)

This program is now referred to as Gulf War Registry Program (to include Operation Iraqi Freedom) as of March 7, 2005: [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1232](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1232)

Persian Gulf Registry Referral Centers [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1006](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1006)

Persian Gulf Veterans' Illnesses Research 1999, Annual Report To Congress [http://www1.va.gov/resdev/1999\\_Gulf\\_War\\_Veterans'\\_Illnesses\\_Appendices.doc](http://www1.va.gov/resdev/1999_Gulf_War_Veterans'_Illnesses_Appendices.doc)

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## Continued from page 18

Persian Gulf Veterans' Illnesses Research 2002, Annual Report To Congress [http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/gulf\\_war\\_2002/GulfWarRpt02.pdf](http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/gulf_war_2002/GulfWarRpt02.pdf)

Phase I PGR [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1004](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1004)

Phase II PGR [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1005](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1005)

Policy Manual Index <http://www.va.gov/publ/direc/eds/edsmps.htm>

Power of Attorney [http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21\\_1/mr/part1/ch03.doc](http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch03.doc) Project 112 (Including Project SHAD) <http://www1.va.gov/shad/>

Prosthetics Eligibility [http://www1.vagov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=337](http://www1.vagov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=337)

Public Health and Environmental Hazards Home Page <http://www.vethealth.cio.med.va.gov/>

Public Health/SARS <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/SARS/>

Publications Manuals <http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/publications.cfm?Pub=4>

Publications and Reports [http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/pubs\\_individual.cfm?webpage=gulf\\_war.htm](http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/pubs_individual.cfm?webpage=gulf_war.htm)

Records Center and Vault Homepage <http://www.aac.va.gov/vault/default.html>

Records Center and Vault Site Map <http://www.aac.va.gov/vault/sitemap.html>

REQUEST FOR AND CONSENT TO RELEASE OF INFORMATION FROM CLAIMANT'S RECORDS <http://www.forms.va.gov/va/Internet/VARF/getformharness.asp?formName=3288-form.xft>

Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses April 11, 2002 [http://www1.va.gov/rac-gwvi/docs/Minutes\\_April112002.doc](http://www1.va.gov/rac-gwvi/docs/Minutes_April112002.doc)

Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses [http://www1.va.gov/rac-gwvi/docs/ReportandRecommendations\\_2004.pdf](http://www1.va.gov/rac-gwvi/docs/ReportandRecommendations_2004.pdf)

Research and Development [http://www.wappc1.va.gov/resdev/programs/all\\_programs.cfm](http://www.wappc1.va.gov/resdev/programs/all_programs.cfm)

Survivor's and Dependents' Educational Assistance [http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partiii\\_chapter35\\_.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partiii_chapter35_.html)

Title 38 Index Parts 0-17 [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfrv1\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfrv1_02.tpl)

Part 18 [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfrv2\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfrv2_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl)

Title 38 § 4.16 Total disability ratings for compensation based on unemployability of the individual. PART 4 SCHEDULE FOR RATING

DISABILITIES Subpart General Policy in Rating <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&rgn=div8&view=ext&node=38:1.0.1.1.5.1.96.11&idno=38>

U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims <http://www.vetapp.gov/>

VA Best Practice Manual for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) <http://www.avapl.org/pub/PTSD%20Manual%20final%206.pdf>

VA Fact Sheet <http://www1.va.gov/opa/fact/gwfs.html>

VA Health Care Eligibility <http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/home/hecmmain.asp>

VA INSTITUTING GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF FUNCTION (GAF) <http://www.avapl.org/gaf/gaf.html>

VA Life Insurance Handbook Chapter 3 <http://www.insurance.va.gov/inForceGliSite/GLIHandbook/glibooklatch3.htm#310>

VA Loan Lending Limits and Jumbo Loans [http://valoans.com/va\\_facts\\_limits.cfm](http://valoans.com/va_facts_limits.cfm)

VA MS Research <http://www.va.gov/ms/about.asp>

VA National Hepatitis C Program <http://www.hepatitis.va.gov/>

VA Office of Research and Development <http://www1.va.gov/resdev/>

VA Trainee Pocket Card on Gulf War <http://www.va.gov/OAA/pocketcard/gulfwar.asp>

VA WMD EMSHG <http://www1.va.gov/emshg/>

VA WRIISC-DC <http://www.va.gov/WRIISC-DC/>

VAOIG Hotline Telephone Number and Address <http://www.va.gov/oig/hotline/hotline3.htm>

Vet Center Eligibility - Readjustment Counseling Service <http://www.va.gov/rcs/Eligibility.htm>

Veterans Benefits Administration Main Web Page <http://www.vba.va.gov/>

Veterans Legal and Benefits Information <http://valaw.org/>

VHA Forms, Publications, Manuals <http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/>

VHA Programs - Clinical Programs & Initiatives [http://www1.va.gov/health\\_benefits/page.cfm?pg=13](http://www1.va.gov/health_benefits/page.cfm?pg=13) <http://webmaila.juno.com/webmail/new/UrlBlockedError.aspx>

VHA Public Health Strategic Health Care Group Home Page <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/>

VHI Guide to Gulf War Veterans Health [http://www1.va.gov/yhi\\_ind\\_study/gulfwar/istudy/index.asp](http://www1.va.gov/yhi_ind_study/gulfwar/istudy/index.asp)

Vocational Rehabilitation <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/>

Vocational Rehabilitation Subsistence <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/InterSubsistencefy04.doc>

VONAPP online <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

WARMS - 38 CFR Book C <http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/bookc.html>

War-time Disability Compensation [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse\\_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1110](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1110)

War-Related Illness and Injury Study Center - New Jersey <http://www.wri.med.va.gov/>

Welcome to the GI Bill Web Site <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>

What VA Social Workers Do <http://www1.va.gov/socialwork/page.cfm?pg=3>

WRIISC Patient Eligibility <http://www.illegion.org/va1.html>

**Print this and save it in your VA files. There may be a need for its use in the future.**

## ***Fallen Shipmates***

*Passings received after last Newsletter*

### **I FLEW**

by *Brad Baker*

When the last checklist's run and the bag drag is done,  
I'll reminisce on the days I once knew,  
I won't remember the oh-three-hundred alerts,  
But only that I flew!

I will not remember the crew rest in tents,  
Nor recall how cold Arctic winds blew,  
And I'll try not to remember the times I got sick,  
But only that I flew!

I will never forget when nature became angry,  
To challenge my intrepid crew,  
I'll always remember the fear I felt,  
And the pride in knowing I flew.

I'll remember the sights my mortal eyes saw,  
All colored in multiple hues,  
Those beautiful lights on cold winter lights,  
Seen only by those who flew.



God was extremely good to me,  
He let me touch his face,  
He saw my crew through war and peace,  
And blessed us with His grace.

So when I stand at St. Peter's Gate,  
And tell him that I'm new,  
I know he'll smile and welcome me,  
Because he knows  
I FLEW!

### **FALLEN LINK**

## ***Fallen TACAMO Shipmates***

*Presented in no particular order.*

**TACAMO**  
Community Veterans Association

TACAMO Community Veterans Association

PO Box 6126

Ocean View, HI 96736

## **TACAMO**

Active Duty, Veterans,  
Government civilians, Families,  
and Industry Partners