

ANIMAL DEN OCCASIONAL BULLETIN #10, 21 DECEMBER 2012
HAPPY END OF WORLD (if you're a Mayan)

From: Hitemor@aol.com

To: Hitemor@aol.com, Jrush4211@aol.com, tonycard123@gmail.com, rmoyle@nc.rr.com, rnenow@gmail.com, rodo48@adelphia.net, g_pagaminglasvegas@cox.net, richardmrph44@gmail.com, amurph54@hotmail.com, numbersch13@comcast.net, frogswitch@hotmail.com

Sent: 12/21/2012 4:46:30 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: End of World

To all:

I just wanted to send everybody a Happy and Joyous End of the World, in case it happens today, or maybe it happened at midnight last night -- I'm not sure, but if that is the case, I'm still here. I'm too busy with Bacchanal or Saturnalia -- never can remember which comes on the Winter Solstice -- to keep up with Aztec holidays. OK, Saturnalia runs from 17 to 25 December; the Bacchanalia came to be celebrated five times a month after a stint as a spring festival, so Bacchanalia occur most of the time, which is good because it gives everybody occasion to celebrate all the time. My kind of festival.

I hope you all understand when I'm being facetious and don't mean to be taken seriously. My real wishes are for a MERRY CHRISTMAS for all of you.

Lately I've been blindly forwarding messages from Ric and Phil, who were usually forwarding from other people, but in the interest of not flooding everybody's in-box, I've ceased and desisted. All who want to continue to receive those witticisms and political propaganda articles, along with items of serious interest, from them, let each know so they can add you to their e-mail lists. Not everybody is on their lists, which is why I forwarded everything for a while, so nobody would feel deprived, but some of you were getting everything twice and I think it was more overwhelming than entertaining. Anyway, I stopped forwarding, so let them know to add you to their lists.

Anybody remember the [1968] Christmas tree in the hut day room? I think it was silver, one of those tinfoil jobs. One of you, or some of you, got it at the BX and set it up. Anybody remember who? We had a green fake tree in the Orderly Room. Murph and I did a very decent job of putting things on it and then MSgt Stewart came in with a box of stuff from 7th AF or somebody like that and insisted that all of it go up, so we had to add Santa Clauses and all sorts of other stuff to the theme. What started out in good form got turned into the usual Christmas ticky-tacky, which left Murph and me somewhat disgusted.

Anybody remember those painted silk Christmas cards with Vietnamese and English messages on them? I still have two of the three scenes that I got at the BX.

Anybody remember what was done in the dining halls for Christmas?

Ric, feel free to jump in from Phu Cat, since you weren't at Bien Hoa at Christmas. We enjoy hearing Christmas stories from foreign lands, like Phu Cat was to Bien Hoa.

Looks like the hyperlinks evidently aren't working below, so you'll have to copy and paste.

Jrush4211@aol.com Jim "Whip" Rush
tonycard123@gmail.com Tony Cardullo
rmoyle@nc.rr.com Rich Moyle
rnenow@gmail.com Ray Nenow
rodo48@adelphia.net Ron Mahar
g_pagaminglasvegas@cox.net Ric Vetter
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amurph54@hotmail.com Murph Murphy
numbersch13@comcast.net Rick Leigh
frogswitch@hotmail.com Phil Duty
Hitemor@aol.com Joe Moore

Well, back to my preparations for Saturnalia, if Bacchanal doesn't sidetrack me.

Joe

From: Jrush4211@aol.com
To: Hitemor@aol.com, tonycard123@gmail.com, frogswitch@hotmail.com, rmoyle@nc.rr.com, richardmrph@gmail.com, rnenow@live.com
Sent: 12/21/2012 5:17:54 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: End of World

keep me on the list joe. for all you have done getting us all back together how could i say no. as for christmas, my memories are still pretty fresh as my first day in country was dec. 24. the first few weeks were spent in the hut next to the flight line and terminal. this where i met leigh, slick, payne, tiny, goodie, thurman, ben, and tom. christmas music from a tape recorder was playing and we had christmas lights around the hut. someone was cooking chicken in the tiny day room. it smelled so good. guys were drinking and i remember it was pretty festive. i went out the back and sat on the sand bags. not sure if it was slick but someone came out to check on me. i could see tracers going off in the distance. i remember being told that so many rounds went off between the tracers. i probably said WOW!! the next day payne and tiny gave me a tour of the side of the base we were on. we walked past fort lox as tiny called it. liquid oxygen i think was the name. tiny said a rocker nearly hit it direct but hit the bunkers around it instead. it still seems like it was yesterday. merry christmas joe and the rest of the bien hoa crew. past and present. whip

From: rodo48@adelphia.net
To: Hitemor@aol.com, Jrush4211@aol.com, tonycard123@gmail.com, rmoyle@nc.rr.com, rnenow@gmail.com, g_pagaminglasvegas@cox.net, richardmrph44@gmail.com, amurph54@hotmail.com, numbersch13@comcast.net, frogswitch@hotmail.com
Sent: 12/21/2012 9:22:36 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Re: End of World

Evening guys, Ok Joe now you're starting to scare me, first you are up early at 2 in the afternoon, now you out with Merry Christmas. You're not off the wagon again are you? It's hard to believe these emails started over a year ago. Joe you can keep all the emails coming, after all what's a day or night without an incoming? I don't remember having a tree in the hut [1967] but there is a YouTube video (Bien Hoa AB 64-68) starring yours truly in the chow hall right next to a tinfoil tree. [Military History Videos, Bien Hoa AB, 1964-1968; Ron is shown in Dining Hall #1 while having lunch.] I don't remember the Christmas cards either but I have a black velvet (Elvis) type thing I had sent to my grandmother, with a pic of a GI on it. Since I had come and gone prior to most of you fellows arriving I hope you won't mind if I send a special Christmas wish to Joe, Rich and Phil. Oh and Phil I know I still owe you an email response. I am not much of a church going guy but I have to believe there is a God for so many things in my life so I hope you will all accept a sincere Merry Christmas and God bless. Hondo out

From: richardmrph44@gmail.com
To: Hitemor@aol.com
Sent: 12/21/2012 5:03:51 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: End of World

I think Cardullo was in Phu Cat. I was in DaNang and Pleiku after Bien Hoa. I even went TDY to Phu Bai. I don't remember a [1969] tree, but, hell, I don't remember what or if I had dinner last night! Ha ha.

Sent from my iPhone
Dick Murphy

From: rnenow@gmail.com
To: Hitemor@aol.com, Jrush4211@aol.com, tonycard123@gmail.com, rmoyle@nc.rr.com, rnenow@gmail.com, rodo48@adelphia.net, g_pagaminglasvegas@cox.net, richardmrph44@gmail.com, amurph54@hotmail.com, numbersch13@comcast.net, frogswitch@hotmail.com
Sent: 12/22/2012 12:57:30 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Staying in Touch

I don't celebrate Christmas for many of the reasons Joe mention concerning the pagan roots of this season. But that is what I have come to believe and I don't want that to keep me from communicating with everyone at this time. So please Joe keep the e-mails coming. Viet Nam was a crazy time in my life. Many times many of you all were there to keep me from doing even more stupid things then I did. So I am grateful to have known all of you. I don't remember if Murphy was the one that busted me for flying to Vung Tau without a pass. Well I dont hold that against him if it was. Love to know where Mr Cochran is if he is still alive. Thanks always to Whip and John Munger for finding me. And I also cannot believe to this day how I let Ric Vetter talk me into volunteering to go to Viet Nam. You all enjoy your families this time of year and always. Again I am very thankful to be in touch with all of you.

From: Jrush4211@aol.com
To: tonycard123@gmail.com, frogswitch@hotmail.com, hitemor@aol.com, rmoyle@nc.rr.com, richardmrph@gmail.com
Sent: 12/24/2012 9:58:18 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: hello

merry christmas boys. today is my anniversary. 44 years ago today, was my first day at bien hoa. its almost 9pm here in boston and right about now i was sitting on the sandbags and watching tracers go off over the perimeter on the other side of the terminal. these memories are still so fresh and i hope never fade. slick or one of the boys was cooking chicken in the skillett out in the day room. christmas music playing and christmas lights in the day room.

merry christmas boys and thanks for letting me share this christmas memory. friends forever. whip!!!!

From: richardmrph44@gmail.com
To: Hitemor@aol.com, Jrush4211@aol.com, tonycard123@gmail.com, g_pagaminglasvegas@cox.net, rodo48@adelphia.net
Sent: 12/25/2012 3:44:57 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: hello

Thanks for sharing them. I just remember working in the mess hall on Christmas Day.

Sent from my iPhone
Dick Murphy

From: rodo48@adelphia.net
To: Hitemor@aol.com
Sent: 12/31/2012 2:06:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Re: Happy New Year

Hey Joe, I was driving down the road the other day and the car in front of me had a bumper sticker that said "got mojoe"? I thought, I have to have one of those babies. I have been in contact with a fellow who was at Bien Hoa 67-68 in the motor pool and has been trying to reach out to buddies without success. Is there any way we can add him to our distribution list ?

Hey did you guys ever go cricket hunting around the hut, between the hut and sand bags?

[If they did, they didn't 'fess up.]

Evening again, this is the BienHoanian I was mentioning. Thanks for including another brother in the group.

From: papqcrh@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2012 11:16 AM
To: rodo48@adelphia.net
Subject: Re: thinking

Hi Ron, thanks for thinking of me. I had alot of friends with the 105th jet mechanics; sometimes we would trade parts. I was in the 3rd Tran Sq.motor pool.

I haven't heard from anyone yet except U and it would be nice to hear other GI's who shared the TET days.

Thanks

Merry Christmas to U and Donna

Pete & Sue
