

ANIMAL DEN OCCASIONAL BULLETIN #13, 1 APRIL 2013

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, papqcrh@verizon.net, hinton1000@aol.com

Sent: 4/1/2013 12:35:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: HAPPY EASTER & BEWARE OF APRIL FOOLS

TO ALL: JUST TO SAY HAPPY EASTER AND WATCH OUT FOR APRIL FOOLS!

Looking into my reverse-view crystal ball, I can offer no comments on Easter Sunday 1968 at the Animal Den [I was at Sheppard AFB, Tex.], but down in the A-37 Compound, near the East Side flight line, in one of those fancy new two-story barracks designed to catch all the rockets so they wouldn't hit other more important targets, Fred Long was writing home about his next duty assignment at Mather AFB, California; and had just got back from a jaunt to Penang (his R & R). Easter that year was on 14 April 1968 and Bloody Tet was winding down, but the spring offensive lay just ahead. Fred made no mention of the Easter Bunny, so guess he didn't get a basket, but maybe the EB held off because Fred had written home that the ants and various other bugs ate up whatever food he tried to keep in the barracks.

Easter the following year fell on 6 April 1969 and I can offer some personal observations on that. We Animals had a hut party the night of the 4th; Ron Slaughter barbecued chicken on the outside grill. Maybe that passed for our Easter celebration. The night of Easter itself. 6 April, Ron and I went to the Base Theater and saw "The Swimmer," Burt Lancaster. Rich Moyle was in Honolulu on R & R. As with most holidays, religious or not, Easter in Nam didn't seem to make much of a dent. No Easter baskets. No sign of the EB, unless maybe he appeared to some of us in visions as we stumbled home from the clubs.

But I have to confess that I'm in no position to comment on religious holidays in Nam because my shadow never once crossed the portal of a base chapel.

Good to report, however, that in 1968 and 1969, there were no attacks on Bien Hoa either on Easter or on April Fools Day. Thanks be for any such favors.

Joe

From: Jrush4211@aol.com

To: Hitemor@aol.com

Sent: 4/1/2013 6:07:56 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: Re: HAPPY EASTER & BEWARD OF APRIL FOOLS

good report joe. i was still stateside and didn't get to bien hoa till dec. 24. take care joe. whip!!

In a message dated 4/1/2013 11:41:44 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, Hitemor@aol.com writes:

Yes, but you were there for Easter 1969 and the hut party two days before. Had a big crowd at the hut, lots of chicken and lots of booze.

From: Jrush4211@aol.com

To: Hitemor@aol.com

Sent: 4/1/2013 3:11:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: Re: HAPPY EASTER & BEWARD OF APRIL FOOLS

joe we partied every day and any holiday. maybe some of my pictures were that of easter or the 4th of july. whip there

was always lots of food and booze. plenty of steaks.

From: tonycard123@gmail.com
To: Hitemor@aol.com
Sent: 4/1/2013 12:50:07 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: HAPPY EASTER & BEWARD OF APRIL FOOLS

You're right again, Joe!! I know I have NO MEMORY of any Holidays in Nam except for the Great Partying we did for Christmas and New Year's eve!!! All other days were just regular days that I went to work in the mess hall, and went back to the hut to refresh and relax (which usually led to falling asleep). But your memories are much more than I think mine ever were, Joe
I hope this message will get sent because I have trouble with my computer right now!

later,
TONY
