

MAY 2013 KAS 60-61

6933rd RGM NEWSLETTER

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Well we made it through the winter months. I never thought it would stop snowing up here in New England. Last year, nothing... This year there's still snow on the ground as of April 1st. Don't they know spring has arrived ??

It's time to start thinking about reunion #14. I'll be filling you in with what information I have so far and in this newsletter I'll try to update you with all the latest happenings in the KAS group, So let's get started.

DUES: Everyone should have received their membership dues notice and their membership card for 2013 from Pete. Hopefully you've send in your dues to Mark Grandsen. Remember if you have previously paid ahead and you don't owe you will see that your letter indicates that your dues is current.

But if you owe for 2013 and you forgot to send your check in, please hurry and get your \$10.00 to Mark Grandsen, 209 Jamestown Blvd. Hammonton, NJ 08037. We want to keep you on the Non-Electronic mailing list so you'll continue receiving the newsletter.

Please note if your name and address on this newsletter envelope is under lined in RED it means our records show your dues for this year 2013 has not been paid. We do make mistakes, so if you think we made a mistake, give me a call and I'll correct it. 978 809 1212

Thanks Rudy

NEW FINDS

Laurence (Larry) E. Selts

Larry arrived at Karamursel Air Station in January 1961 and extended his tour by 1 1/2 years. He departed Karamursel in November 1963

Larry was a 20351, Russian voice intercept processing specialist.

Larry resides at 1107 East Ruth Street. Benton Il 62812.

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We also located Willard N Kessecker

**1418 Nipetown Rd./ Martinburg, WV
25403 Phone number 304-274-1652.**

**Willard worked out at operations as an
equipment repair type person.**

**He appeared interested in the group.
He's familiar with Myrtle Beach and
stated that he has a little dog and will
look for a hotel/motel near the Beach
Cove that accommodates animals so
he and his wife could attend our
reunion.**

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LOSSES

**Received a call from the wife of
Gaylord M Weston from Michigan.
Unfortunately Gaylord passed away in
2004. His wife said he always talked
about his time in the AF and about
being in Turkey. I informed his wife
that we would add his name to our
Memorial list.**

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**We were also saddened to learn of the
passing of member Merlin G "Mike"
Everson. Mike hailed from Sitka
Alaska and was part Eskimo.**

**After the Air Force Mike worked as a
journalist and later as a commercial
fisherman.**

Mike was a big fan of KTUS

**His name will also be added to our
Memorial list.**

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**Mark Grandsen received a call from
the daughter of member Gordon Jones
informing us that Gordon passed away.**

**Mark relayed our condolences and
informed her that Gordon's name will
be added to the group's Memorial list.**

**Gordon was with the Air Police while
stationed at Karamursel.**

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**Eileen Dumas the wife of member Bob
Dumas informed us that he passed
away.**

**Bob was with the US Navy Det 28
while serving at KAS. He was there
from 57-59.**

**From messages Bob posted on our
website it appeared he always tuned in
to and enjoyed Larry Webb's KTUS
website.**

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**More sad news I have to report is the
loss of three of our member's spouses:**

**Ron Scott informed us that his wife
Bessie passed away peacefully in her**

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sleep. She had been very ill with interstitial lung disease for ten years.

Ron met her in DC in February of 1960 while working at NSA. They were married in Beltsville MD. and KAS members Prentis Evans and Rich Drnec attended their wedding.

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Also Dave Bergstrom reported to us that his wife Judy passed away on March 16th 2013 after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Dave and Judy lived in Rome NY and attended many of our reunion during the early stages of our group.

Judy was employed over 20 years as a merchandiser for American Greetings.

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Finally I'm sad to report that Margie Free wife of member Dickie Free from Corpus Christie TX. passed away on March 20th 2013.

Dickie was with the Air Police Squadron while at Karamursel.

Like the others she also was ill for a long period of time.

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SOME GOOD NEWS

I'm happy to report that Richard and Colleen Lucas recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Ret CMSgt Lucas and is wife Colleen live in Stephenville Tx. Sgt Lucas spent most of his 30 years in the Air Force Security Service as a Traffic Analyst. Those who remember him from KAS remember him as Dog Flights 202 supervisor.

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YALOVA

Correct pronunciation confirmed by Larry Webb.

Quote: "At our last reunion, Ed "Sixty" Watts pointed out to me that the correct pronunciation for Yalova is yah-lo-wah". In other words, the "V" is pronounced like a "W". This was confirmed to Larry recently at his local bank by the assistant manager, Ayset Ipek. Aysel was born in Yalova and is now a U.S. citizen. Her husband is also from Turkey, He grew up in Ankara.

"My thanks to Ed and Aysel for correcting those of us who have been mispronouncing Yalova for more the 50 years."

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USS PUEBLO BEING **MOVED**

The USS Pueblo will be moved to North Korea's huge museum in Pyongyang that is dedicated to the Korean War.

The famous spy ship, which was seized by the North Koreans in January 1968, had been tied to a dock on the Taejong River in Pyongyang until recently.

According to the Business insider website, North Korea will put the small ship in its cavernous Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, which has been described by U.S. visitors as a massive building dedicated to the Korean War. The Navy ship, which was named for Pueblo in 1967, will underline the museum's role as a "base for anti-U.S. education," according to the North Korean news service.

Among the artifacts in the museum are stacks of captured U.S. weapons and military gear. Congress and the Colorado General Assembly have repeatedly passed resolutions over the years demanding the return of the ship. The Pueblo is still a commissioned

Navy warship but it was on a National Security Agency mission in January 1968 when it was cruising alone off the coast of North Korea to electronically eavesdrop on that country.

It was attacked and seized on Jan. 23 by North Korean gunboats. One of its 83-member crew was killed in the attack while the others were held captive, and often tortured, until Dec. 23 of that year.

The surviving crew members of "the Pueblo incident" were very popular with the American public because of the defiance they showed in captivity, but Navy officials reprimanded the ship's skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd "Pete" Bucher, for allowing the largely unarmed ship to be captured. The ship's crew, however, strongly supported Bucher's decision to let the ship be boarded that day rather than to continue to be shelled.

The surviving crew members have held several reunions in Pueblo and plan to return here in 2014.

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Pueblo crew being released

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETARY



You may be interested to know that those wreaths - some 5000 are

donated each year at Christmas time by the Worchester Wreath Co. of Harrington, Maine. The owner, Merrill Worchester, not only provides the wreaths, but covers the trucking expenses as well. He's done this since 1992. A wonderful guy, also, most years, groups of Maine school kids combine an educational trip to DC with this event to help out. Making this even more remarkable is the fact that Harrington is in one of the poorest parts of the state of Maine.

KTUS

This month KTUS observes its 55th anniversary.

Built from the ground up by an all volunteer staff, KTUS was the original "Radio Voice of Mainsite" and became the first Armed Forces Radio Outlet In Turkey.

The station is still being heard today on the Internet and Wi-Fi Internet.

KTUS programs hit music from the 50's - 60's forward virtually around-the-clock.

KTUS TIMELINE:

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1957 Call letters K-T-U-S selected
("Keeping in Touch with the United States")

1957 Test broadcasts begin at
Mainsite

1958 Opening ceremonies as KTUS
goes on the air (March 31st)

2002 KTUS website debuts on the
Internet (www.k...@cox.net)

2003 Audio is added to the KTUS
website

2003 KTUS returns to the air at KAS
60-61 Reunion (Gatlinburg)

2011 KTUS begins broadcasting on the
Internet

2013 KTUS begins broadcasting on Wi-
Fi Internet Radio

Larry Webb ++++++

the signal would "bleed" as far as Knoxville because it seems that at one time he got into trouble with the Canada authorities by broadcasting outside his limited range (similar to KTUS broadcasting past Mudsite??)...He told me he cranked up the power on his little community station that he ran 24/7/365, "Goosville", and was broadcasting all the way to Toronto and people started calling the Canadian authorities wondering what that great radio station was..He sent me a few CDs of his programs which I have almost worn out when traveling in my car!..I will lift a salute to KTUS on its 55 anniversary in remembrance of the touch of home that it gave to many of us, especially those of us who were at Mudsite before it really became Mainsite!...

An interesting response from Ed Watts:

Larry, there are a few of us still around that were there and remember the "official" start of KTUS on March 31 and even remember some of the early test broadcasts also....I also remember in early 2003 when Don Brown called me asking about the lay out of Gatlinburg...The first words he said to me was, "this is top secret and I want you to promise that you will not breath a word of this to anyone";..Then he proceeds to tell me of his idea to re-create KTUS at the Gatlinburg reunion,..He was really worried that

The Nazi prisoners bugged by Germans

By Mario Cacciottolo BBC News

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A secret listener at Trent Park, one of a team of about 100 German men

Thousands of German POWs held captive in England during World War II were bugged by "secret listeners" who were themselves German refugees, working for the British. Historian Helen Fry and one of the last surviving listeners explain how the prisoners were lulled into divulging secrets of the Nazi war machine.

One group of German generals captured during World War II thought they had hit the jackpot.

Held in a stately home, they were allowed to keep personal servants, drink wine and eat good food.

As a result they boasted of how stupid the British were, and one even wrote to his family to wish that they could join him at his prison, as he rated it so highly.

But what the prisoners did not know was that British intelligence had bugged every part of their

accommodation, from lampshades and plant pots right down to the billiards table around which they relaxed on lazy days.

They were gleaning information about the psyche of the Nazi military from the idle gossip flowing between the prisoners.



Fritz Lustig spent many hours secretly listening to Germans POWs

Carefully listening in on their conversations were fellow Germans of Jewish origin who had fled from the Nazis.

The bugged prisoners were kept in three locations - Latimer House near Amersham, Wilton Park near Beaconsfield, both in Buckinghamshire, and Trent Park near Cockfosters in north London. The first two held captured U-Boat submarine crews and Luftwaffe pilots, who were bugged for a week or two before being moved on to conventional captivity.

The generals, whose numbers eventually reached a peak of 59 as the

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war progressed, resided in Trent Park until the war ended.

Hidden nearby in each of the three stately-homes-turned-prisons were the pro-British Germans, listening in a place known as the "M room" - the "m" stood for micro phoned - where "secret listeners" were glued to the bugging devices.

Historian Helen Fry, who has written a book called **The M Room: Secret Listeners who bugged the Nazis.**, says the information gleaned by the eavesdropping of the German generals was vitally important to the war effort - so much so that it was given an unlimited budget by the government.



Trent Park was home to 59 German generals during World War II

She believes what was learned by the M room operations was as significant as the code-breaking work being done at Bletchley Park.

"British intelligence got the most amazing stuff in bugging the conversations. Churchill said of Trent Park that it afforded a unique insight

into the psyche of the enemy. It enabled us to understand the mind-set of the enemy as well as learn military secrets.

"If it wasn't for this bugging operation, we may well have not won the war."

Mrs Fry said the conversation transcripts, which numbered more than 100,000, provided the British with "most of what we knew" about Germany's military capability, its weaponry and its new development of technology during the war.

Through intelligence pieced together from prisoner conversations, the British were able to identify and heavily bomb a V2 rocket site in May 1943 at Peenemunde on the northern coast of Germany, which was preparing to launch deadly rockets at Britain.



Some of the captured German generals are seen here at Trent Park

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There are thought to be only two "secret listeners" left alive from an original group of about 100. One of them is Fritz Lustig, 93, who lives in Muswell Hill, north London.

Although born in Berlin and baptised a Protestant, his family had Jewish members and so in the eyes of the Nazis he was "not Aryan enough" and left for England in April 1939.

Eager to help fight the Nazis, he eventually joined the British army's Royal Pioneer Corps and, as he was able to speak English, was transferred to the intelligence corps to become a secret listener.

Mr Lustig and other secret listeners were told on their first day by Col Kendrick that "what you will be doing here is more important than firing a gun in action".

"Morale was high among us," Mr Lustig says, "particularly if we had been able to gather something important. Emotionally, we were completely detached from the people we listened to."

He says he can no longer recall prisoner conversations, but does remember marking a transcript with "atrocities" in a red pen at one point.

"We listeners didn't feel that the prisoners were our fellow countrymen any more. We knew of all the horrible things that were happening in eastern Europe, with the killing of Jews, and

we knew that would have happened to us if we had stayed in Germany.

"We felt no guilt - on the contrary, we felt proud to be able to contribute to the British war effort. I'm proud of what we did."



Almost all the men in this image, of Latimer House's staff, were secret listeners

1961 CHICKSANDS ENGLAND'S BASEBALL TEAM



Recognize the guy in the back row, second from our left with the

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jacket on ??? That's Lou "Len" lorio. Lou also played softball for the 1959 Karamursel Base team that went to Germany and came home with the championship trophy.

I've reported stories before about Country Music Star Johnny Cash, but this is different. We need him in our reunion hospitality room, where stories are told.

Johnny Cash: Radio Intercept Operator

Did you know that the late country music star Johnny Cash was a spy? He was.

Cash enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1950 and was assigned as a morse intercept operator with the 6910th Security Group at Landsberg, West Germany where he intercepted Russian military radio transmissions. He reached the rank of sergeant before leaving the service. Over the next three years,

between shift work Cash developed his singing skills, and following his departure from the service, went on to become one of this nation's most popular country music stars. The Air Force gave Cash his first steady paycheck, \$85 a month, which he used to buy his first guitar. He was honorably discharged from the military in July 1954.

Here is an excerpt from his memoirs about his time as a signals intelligence (SIGINT) intercept operator "The Air Force taught me the things every military service imparts to its enlisted men ... plus one skill that's pretty unusual: if you ever need to know what one Russian is signaling to another in Morse code, I'm your man. I had such a talent for that particular line of work and such a good left ear, that in Landsberg, where the United States Air Force Security Service ran radio intercept operations worldwide, I was the ace. I was who they called when the hardest jobs came up. I copied the first news of Stalin's death. I located the

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signal when the first Soviet jet bomber made its first flight from Moscow to Smolensk; we all knew what to listen for, but I was the one who heard it. I couldn't believe that Russian operator. He was sending at thirty-five words a minute by hand, a rate so fast I thought it was a machine transmitting until I heard him screw up. He was truly exceptional, but most of his comrades were fast enough to make the best Americans sound like amateurs, sloppy and slow. It didn't matter, though. Our equipment was so good that they couldn't make a noise anywhere in the world without us hearing it. Our receiver worked pretty well bringing in WSM, too. Some Sunday mornings I could sit there in Germany and listen to Saturday night at the Grand Ole Opry live from Nashville, Tennessee, just like at home. I heard the enemy every day in the Air Force, but I never saw combat or even came close to it. I enlisted a week before the Korean War broke out, so I was already in the system, and once they'd

discovered my aptitude, trained me, and assigned me to the Security Service, Korea wasn't an option. My only choice was between Germany and Adak Island, the Aleutian archipelago off Alaska. that wasn't hard: frozen everything or food and Frauleins? I chose Landsberg."

U-2 SPY PLANE PILOTS GET KEY LME PIE, HASH BROWNS AND MORE

Nearly 60 years after first taking to the skies, the U-2 spy plane continues to roam the edge of space while conducting important reconnaissance - and its pilots can now eat like gourmets thanks to a new five-star in-flight menu.

For these elite U.S. Air Force and NASA pilots, an entire meal, from bacon and hash browns to beef stroganoff and Key lime pie, is contained in something that looks like a toothpaste tube.

Also known as the "Dragon Lady," the U-2 flies at 70,000 feet gathering surveillance data anywhere in the world with more flexibility than satellites. Built by the illustrious Lockheed Martin Skunk Works group and entering service in the late 1950s,

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the U-2 has been a national treasure for more than 50 years.

Today's model is 33 percent larger and carries four times the intelligence collection payload than the originals, with a wide variety of sensors. U-2s provide many key capabilities, from aerial eavesdropping to surveying dirt patterns in Iraq and Afghanistan to flag signs of hidden IEDs.

NASA also uses the U-2 as a high-tech, high-altitude platform for research, including physics experiments.

When pilots fly at these extreme high altitude conditions, they need to wear a pressurized suit and helmet. Pilots are fitted into the four-layer suits by two technicians and then shoehorned into the cockpit.

Once suited, under pressure and connected to oxygen, there's no movement inside the cockpit; even something as simple as swallowing is not the same as it is on the ground and needs to be a conscious deliberate act. The U-2 is capable of very long flights so pilots can find themselves in a very small cockpit in these restrictive suits for twelve hours at a time.

And when you're flying at the edge of space, it is not exactly the time or place to get out the knife and fork and tuck into a steak.

To sustain the pilots and maintain concentration, tube food was designed

to let pilots eat in these special suits without taking off the helmet. The silver meal tubes are attached to feeding probes and inserted through ports in the helmets – and the cockpit is even equipped with meal heaters.

The scientists behind the menus For five decades, the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center's Department of Defense **Combat Feeding Directorate** has been creating tube food for these pilots.

Three years ago, the Air Force asked CFD to modernize the menu of 15 meal options, which are encapsulated in toothpaste-like tubes and range from entrees and desserts to soups and meats.

Just about any food is fair game for tubing. The team has made a range of popular options, including chocolate pudding, chunky apple pie and more.

In advance of their missions, pilots get to choose their selections and order their tubes.

Pilots were given the opportunity to identify four new products they'd like to eat and then the Air Force asked Natick to make the winners.

Breakfast bacon with hash browns, beef stroganoff, Key lime pie and peach melba have now all been added; the 15 existing options on the menu also underwent a makeover.

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Accomplishing a series of “Top Chef”-worthy tasks, Natick introduced a new approach to tube food by building layers of flavors, and worked hard to ensure texture rather than making it all baby food puree.

They hope to introduce other modern meals -- even chicken tortilla soup.

Portion size does vary by tube, but each meal is about 5 ounces, between 130 and 300 calories per tube, and designed to give pilots the sustenance they require.

So how do they make it?

To convert a desired meal into a tube meal option, Natick’s scientist-chefs (on the “Food Processing, Engineering and Technology Team”) break it down into elements and create a flavor profile.

Starting with the actual meal -- bacon and hash browns, for example -- they taste it and write down all the flavors, spices and textures. Next they blend the meal into liquid, tasting it again to compare the difference between the liquid and solid versions.

In the final stage, they put the liquefied meal through a “thermal preserving process” and taste it again.

The team then adapts the recipe so that it can be put in the tube and taste like the original. Similar to canning, the tube food is kept fresh from spoiling by using heat to preserve it, rather than preservatives. These tubes

can then last about three years at 80 degrees.

Natick supplies a whopping 28,000 tubes annually of the food to support about 100 pilots.

ONE MAN'S VIEW OF USAFSS

No doubt many of us will see ourselves somewhere in this commentary. I do not know Don Lehmann, nor have I ever heard of him.

This is just a small note of thanks to those who made the United States Air Force Security Service what it was during the Cold War years. If you know anyone who served as an Intercept Operator, Voice Specialist or Traffic Analyst, please let them know their efforts were truly appreciated.

Time has a way of getting by and it is hard to believe that a quarter of a century has passed since my Security Service days between 1955 and 1975. Nostalgia-fueled net-search met with some success but I couldn’t get “the feel” for USAFSS, as I knew it, in the 50’s, 60’s and early 70’s. In particular, any report of contributions and accomplishments by first- and second-termers in the communications intelligence field seemed remarkably absent while generals and colonels, if one were to go by honors bestowed by some organizations, would appear to

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have carried the day for Security Service. The roles of these airmen were not only significant but, indeed, were the critical element of our successful intelligence operation.

First, and foremost, Security Service was an enlisted man's organization until at least the early 70's. By this I mean that all activities, from the commanding general's on down, were in direct support of the collection, processing, analysis and reporting of communications intelligence. All of these activities, plus most ancillary missions, were conducted by the 201 (Cryptanalyst), 202 (Radio Traffic Analyst), 203 (Language Specialist) and 29X (Morse Intercept and Printer Ops) who were, to a man, enlisted personnel. Conversely, an officer's organization would be one that all activities are in direct support of a mission that is carried out by officers. A fighter unit would be a good example where the mission would be to put the pilot and plane on target. In Security Service, the 20X's and 29X's were the "pilots" who delivered the "goods." (As an aside—and I won't mention this again—when a pilot downs five enemy planes he becomes an ace. His commander and those above him in the chain-of-command do not become aces by proxy.)

Secondly, the Security Service that I remember was Air Force but very few mistook us for the military. Many military traditions tended to be at odds with mission efficiency and some personnel who transferred into

Security Service had a difficult time dealing with the free spirits and the flexible, get-the-job-done atmosphere. For example, in Misawa, Japan, circa 1963, a captain submitted his request for a transfer back to his old command because, as he stated, he had never seen such a group of unmilitary-like enlisted people in his life. Who could forget, in 1957 at Zweibrucken, Germany, the 1stSgt announcing to the assembled troops that he was going to, "make everyone soldier, by God!" The laughter he received in response pretty well summed it up. The idea was so incongruous with reality it was, well, just funny. Near Taipei, Taiwan, in 1962, an E-4 who had crossed-trained from another career field took affront when he learned that he would be trained by a lower ranking E-3, the person he was replacing. (Training/orientation by the person being replaced was the customary practice in Security Service at the time.) The cross-trainee was offered an apology for being put into such a demeaning position and was told that the next day he should report for duty less the number of stripes on his sleeve it would take for him to be comfortable with the situation. Even though it was non-military, Security Service was definitely an elite organization—without the individual elitists. The intelligence specialists came from all walks-of-life, representing all ethnic groups and every socio-economic strata of our Country. They were in the top ten percent of all enlistees in the Air Force. They were involved,

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intelligence-wise, in every international situation that was a threat, or had a potential threat, to our Nation. When their shift came up they performed like the true professionals they were.

Sputnik was launched in 1957 and our space program didn't get up full steam until shortly thereafter. In the 50's we didn't have the cyberspace technology now available and, consequently, if there was a pretty-good-sized remote hill in the proximity of a target nation's communications we likely put an intercept site there. The hill (Hill # 170) Osan, Korea, was rather typical of some of our smaller sites.

Throughout Europe and Asia and from the Mediterranean to the Pacific and in Alaska and down the Aleutian Chain these collection sites were manned by—you guessed it—enlistees, mostly first- and second-termers. These land-based intercepts were supplemented by our Airborne Communications Reconnaissance Platform RB-50s (and later the RC-130s and even later the RC-135s) with rear-end crews of ten or so 203's and a lonely 292. These enlistees chased those dits and dahs all over the ether and they intercepted and transcribed voice intercepts of many tongues. They mastered Russian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, German, Spanish, Eastern-European Slavic, Arabic and other languages. This massive amount of data was screened for perishable intelligence by the analysts and reported to the appropriate national-level consumer. The technical

knowledge and communications intelligence expertise this required fell strictly in the enlisted man's domain.

As anyone who manned the intercept sites during the tense Cold War period knows, a sense of well-being for the Country could only come with the knowledge that there was always a damn-good intercept operator or voice specialist sitting in front of that console. Our operations were directed by NSA (The National Security Agency). NSA, of course, had the horses and did the heavy lifting when it came to cryptanalysis, long-term and in-depth analysis. We had our Command Headquarters at Kelly but to the troops in the field it was almost a non-entity though they occasionally made their presence known. For instance in the mid-1960s, Headquarters announced that Security Service would have its very own BEAVER Program. 'Most everyone was delighted when they heard this, especially those stationed at the more remote sites, only to learn to their chagrin that the term was an acronym (Be Ever Alert Vigilant Error Removal) for a Department of Defense mandated "Zero-Defects" program. I'm sure Command played an important role in planning, budgeting, logistical and other support activities to implement NSA directives but, to the field locations, their light was well hidden under the proverbial bushel as we dealt primarily with NSA and other operational units.

Throughout the years, after I turned

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“lifer,” the first-termers continued to provide the bulk of personnel for manning our positions and they always performed admirably. They came in hurt and sick (but mostly hung-over) when necessary and did the job at hand—they were the best of the best. I know they went on to successful careers in civilian life after their stint in Security Service and it was my privilege to have known and worked with them and, speaking I’m sure for all of us lifers, I thank them. So when you see the lists honoring the colonels and generals give them the due they deserve, but remember—always remember—that it was the young (at the time) airmen who produced the intelligence in Security Service and it was the young (at the time) airmen who stood watch over the Nation. Then, as you view the list, pencil in hundreds of names of young (at the time) airmen and you will have re-created a pretty good image of what Security Service was like in the 50’s, 60’s and early 70’s.

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A LITTLE HISTORY

THE HAGIA SOPHIA MOSQUE



Built as a Roman public building (also known as a ‘basilica’) this huge Cathedral situated in Istanbul, Turkey, now stands as a museum after having also been a mosque during its rich history.

The reason the Hagia Sophia was chosen as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world was because of its quintessential Byzantine architectural style.

Hagia Sophia was built in Constantinople, in Europe, and is believed to have been built on the site of an ancient pagan temple.

For a long time Hagia Sophia in Constantinople was the largest church in the world.

When the Turks conquered Constantinople in 1453, the Church was converted into a mosque. Following Kemal Ataturk’s orders, Hagia Sophia was finally converted into a museum in 1935

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2013 REUNION

It's that time again and plans are in the works. I'll fill you in with what I know.

Date: Sept 14th - 17th

As usual, the reunion will begin with a reception in the late afternoon of 14 September and will close with a departure breakfast on 17 September.

Where: Beach Cove Resort, 4800 South Ocean Boulevard, North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

Cost: not finalized yet.

You can call now to reserve your room.

Be sure and tell them you're with the KAS 60-61 military reunion so you will receive the discount price.

Call 1-800-331-6533

The reunion costs and program is being worked on and I'll update you as soon as I learn more. Basically it will be like most other reunions, a reception, a cookout, business meeting, banquet, golf tournaments,

break away breakfast and our usual hospitality room will be available throughout the 4 days of the reunion. This is where you meet both old and new friends and enjoy great reminiscences of "the good old days" and where we solve many of today's problems.

You can order your reunion T's and Sweat shirts now.

REUNION T-SHIRT AND SWEAT SHIRTS

Logo on front of shirts



That's Maxey Watson in case you didn't recognize him

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Logo on back of shirt

This year's design is from Pete Johnson & I think everyone will love it.

The shirts are as follows:

Grey heather T-shirts \$13.50

Grey heather pocket T-shirt \$14.50

Long sleeve t-shirt \$15.50

Sweatshirt(color to be determined) \$19.50

These prices are for sm, med, lg, xl shirts.

For xxl add \$2.00. Any x after that add \$1.00 (ex: xxl T-shirt \$15.50, xxxl = \$16.50, etc.)

The shirts will be given out at the reunion. If you need your order shipped to you add \$5.00 to your order (ex: 1 t + 1 pkt t = \$28 + shipping \$5 = \$33.)

When you send the check with your order please put REUNION SHIRT in the subject line, and mail to

Richard Casseri

1767 Eden Evans Ctr. Rd.

Angola, N.Y. 14006

YOUR CHECK MUST BE MADE OUT TO Richard Casseri (not kas60-61)

When you order your shirt Dick needs **TYPE OF SHIRT & SIZE**, if being mailed the mailing address (plus zip)

Orders will be considered complete **WHEN** they are paid for.

Every year people are sorry they did not get a shirt, please don't wait & think there will be some available at the reunion.

This often does not work out.

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JUSTIN SCOTT REECE

The **DEADLINE IS 6/15/13** that is the middle of June.

The printer should have them ready by the middle of August. Then the ones to mailed out will be sent.

Thank you,
Dick Casseri

If you're not on line you will have to call Dick Casseri to place your order. 718-549-4975 (NY)

Those on line can order your shirts by e-mailing Dick at casserirp@aol.com

JACKETS

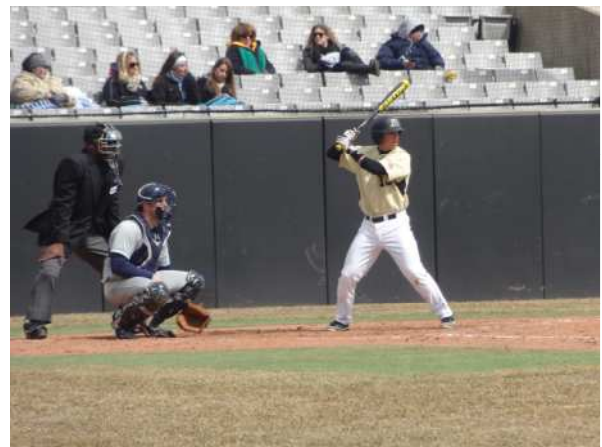
Pete has received and sent out all the jackets from the second set that were ordered. If you missed out on the first two orders, let's hope there's a third set in the making real soon. You'll have to bug Pete about that.

Those of you who received a copy of the 13th Annual KAS 60-61 Reunion Handout Booklet will remember the stories and pictures about Fran and Jake Reece's grandson Justin.

As you know Justin was accepted to West Points Class of 2016, and at the time of our last reunion he had graduated from basic training and had started his schooling.

I recently heard from Jake and here's a follow up on Justin's progress:

Justin made the dean's list in his first semester. He loves West Point and all the military stuff that goes with it.



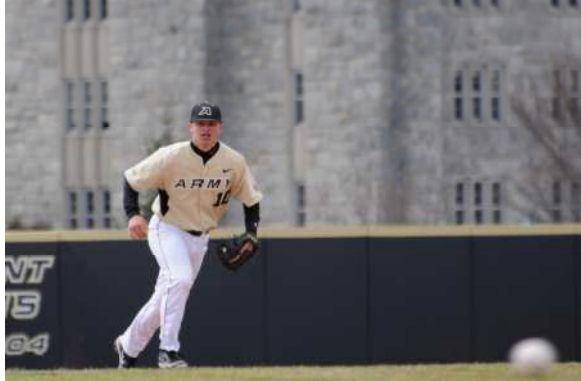
Justin at bat against the NY Yankees

As was mentioned in the handout, Justin will be playing baseball at West Point. Presently Justin is on the team and recently West Point played a

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scrimmage game against the New York Yankees.



Justin at his infield position going after a ground ball



Justin rounding second heading for third. That's Yankee Kevin Youkilis waiting for the throw.



Justin chatting with a Yankee player at second base



Lot of talking going on

He did well, got a single and scored a run, also had two putouts and two assists. Like Jake say's "Not too bad for a freshman". The Yankee's did win the game 10 to 5 but the cadets enjoyed them self's. Yankees players interacted with Army players throughout the game.

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Yankee Pitcher Andy Pettitte having lunch with some cadets.

Turkey doing what we always do; you can fill in the blanks.

We have a new/yeni walker, Ron Scott. As you all know, Ron has been unable to do many things but is joining us for this trip. Ed has already talked him into buying the first round of Efes. That will be quite a baptism.

Barb and I arrive the Bul a few hours ahead of the troops so I told them that we would go to our favorite Efes house and warn the owner. "Dick Drnec"

+++++



Yankee pitcher Mariano Rivera shaking hands with one of the Army players.

A LITTLE HUMOR



+++++

BREAKING NEWS

The Bul Walkers are in the final stages of planning for the next ODYSSEY. We have plans to leave our homes on the 21st of May and spend two weeks in

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There was a man who worked for the Post Office whose job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses.

One day, a letter came addressed in a shaky handwriting to God with no actual address.

He thought he should open it to see what it was about.

The letter read:

Dear God,

I am an 83 year old widow, living on a very small pension.

Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had \$100 in it, which was all the money I had until my next pension payment.

Next Sunday is Christmas, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner.

Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with, have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope...

Can you please help me?

Sincerely, Edna

The postal worker was touched.

He showed the letter to all the other workers. Each one dug into his or her wallet and came up with a few dollars.

By the time he made the rounds, he had collected \$96, which they put into an envelope and sent to the woman.

The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of Edna and the dinner she would be able to share with her friends.

Christmas came and went.

A few days later, another letter came from the same old lady to God.

All the workers gathered around while the letter was opened.

It read:

Dear God,

How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me?

Because of your gift of love, I was able to fix a glorious dinner for my friends.

We had a very nice day and I told my friends of your wonderful gift.

By the way, there was \$4 missing.

I think it might have been those bastards at the post office.

Sincerely, Edna



Four old men went into the pro shop after playing 18 holes of golf.

The pro asked, "Did you guys have a good game today?"

The first old guy said, "Yes, I had three riders today."

The second old guy said, "I had the most riders ever. I had five."

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The third old guy said, "I had 7 riders, the same as last time."

The last old man said, "I beat my old record. I had 12 riders today."

After they went into the locker room, another golfer who had heard the old guys talking about their game went to the pro and said, "I've been playing golf for a long time and thought I knew all the terminology of the game, but what's a rider?"

The pro said, "A rider is when you hit the ball far enough to actually get in the golf cart and ride to it."

Ladies, if a man says he will fix it, he will. There is no need to remind him every 6 months about it.

NASA's robot Curiosity landed on Mars. Early pictures show no signs of ESPN, beer, or porn. This makes it very clear that men are not from Mars.

I'm writing a book about reverse psychology... Please don't buy it.

It is funny when my girlfriend gives me the "silent treatment." She thinks it is a punishment.

On a bitterly cold winter's morning a husband and wife in Chicago were listening to the radio during breakfast.

They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so snowplows can get through conveniently."

So the good wife went out and moved her car as instructed.

A week later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park

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your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snowplows can get through."

The good wife went out and moved her car again.

The next week they are again having breakfast when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park ..."

Then the power went off.

The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, "I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on this week so the snowplows can get through?"

Then, with all the love and understanding in his voice that all men who are married always exhibit, the husband replied, "Why don't you just leave the car in the garage this time?"
+++++

I'M GOING TO END THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER WITH A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT THE WEBSITE

"AMERICAN MILITARY IN TURKEY"

First I want to mention this website's address (www.merhabaturkey.com) and I'm sure many in the group have explored this website numerous times. For those of you not on line you should go to your local library or contact a family member or a friendly neighbor and use their computer to

check out the website. I'm sure you'll enjoy it. Lots of good pictures and stories about all the military bases in Turkey, including Karamursel.

HISTORY OF AMERICAN MILITARY IN TURKEY



American Military in Turkey began with an idea by Chuck Maki, who, in 1957 was a young man in the Air Force. Like most of us stationed in Turkey, his original assignment came as a surprise! Fresh out of military schooling, Chuck found himself headed to Karamürsel.

Our Founder, Chuck Maki

Several decades after Chuck completed his Air Force enlistment, the World Wide Web had come about

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and he wanted to be there to see if it could help revive relationships with his former friends he had known who were also stationed in Turkey years before. And it worked!

Beginning in about 1994, Chuck contacted many people, inviting them to send in their stories for this new website, created for those who served in Turkey during the Cold War era. After a vast amount of programming and organizational work, the website "American Military in Turkey" (AMIT) was born. For several years, the website thrived and new and interesting features were being added, and the site became a mainstay for former Turkey-ites of all the U.S. military services. In telling their stories of daily life, they created a website of interest to other military people and their friends. Soon the Turkish population began finding the site, appealing to those who lived in Turkey as well as those Turks who had migrated to other countries including the U.S.

Around 2002, Chuck found it difficult to maintain consistency in the site due to the unreliability of the web providers who hosted it, and, in frustration, he dropped the site from the Web.



Jan These Days...

Jan Claire
1959

The disappearance of the website didn't go unnoticed by those who had come to rely on it for renewing old acquaintances. One of those people who missed it was Jan Claire, a Navy guy stationed in Karamürsel, Turkey from 1959 through 1961. Jan had worked at both WUSN and KTUS radio at "Mainsite" and knew many people - some of whom he's been in touch with ever since. Several hundred of the people stationed at Karamürsel are still in touch, including the *Karamürsel Air Station 1960-1961* crowd who today have **annual (and massively fun) reunions.** "That's us"

Jan has been a member of our group (KAS60-61) almost from the beginning. Jan, having been stationed in Turkey in his younger years, has since carried with him an extra dimension for having gotten to know that wonderful country and its curious, upbeat, remarkable people. Following his four years in the Navy, he continued the radio career he had started at Karamursel.

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So Jan asked if Chuck would consider transferring the website to him, as Jan had been exposed to the Internet since the very beginnings of the World Wide Web and had, in fact, created the first commercial website (for Costco stores in the early 1990s). Chuck agreed, and even spent many sleepless nights bringing the website up to date, adding submissions, and completing partial articles that had gone on in the interim down-time, and transferring large - no, huge - numbers of web files over to Jan's new "MerhabaTurkey.com" servers.

When the job was transferred, and MerhabaTurkey.com was safely in its new web home, a process which took perhaps 30 days;

It is intended that MerhabaTurkey.com will live on into eternity as the decision has been made that he will turn the website over to the Library of Congress and Smithsonian Institution at such time as Jan can no longer keep it going. One constant has run through American Military in Turkey since Chuck Maki first wrote the initial code for the pages: it is truly the website of the American Military's time in Turkey and the individuals who served in one of the most deeply fascinating countries on earth. Where else, in one country, can you study civilization from 6,000 years ago and at the same time visit the most modern shopping, transportation, and governmental facilities anywhere? Turkey gets it. Those wonderful Turks are committed caretakers of their historical relics, and at the same time are always pushing further and further into high-level scientific and personal achievements. We applaud them for having continued the great friendship with the USA, and thank them for the warmth and good times we spent on U.S. bases in their stunning country.

"In Jan's words"

"It is our contributors' stories, observations, photographs and reflections on the time they spent serving your country in what initially was a "strange land" which then quickly morphed into "an incredible land." For many of us, what we learned in Turkey still inhabits our daily lives."

"This website belongs to those who have contributed to its archive. We are a museum of comments, tales, documentation and photographs that will live on. We hope, if you were stationed in the U.S. military in Turkey, that you will contribute **your story of life in Turkey!**"

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Hopefully you enjoyed this issue of the newsletter. Hope to see you at the next reunion.

Rudy