

From: Harris,Roswell A.
To: Norm Hahn
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020, 01:36:51 PM CST
Subject: RE: A special email about the 2020 reunion

Norm,

Perseverance pays off! I found the original hard copy photograph of the Hill 55 group. And as an added bonus, names are listed on the back. I have no recollection of writing this information down, but it is my handwriting. I'm guessing this is a pretty good accounting of those men, but perhaps someone at the reunion can verify. I will see if I can get the original photo blown up and maintain the clarity. I'm not sure what size that will be. Also, it appears that Sam Bass and John Tye are correctly identified in my last email.

I'll be in touch with an update on the photo.

Take Care,

AI

From: Harris,Roswell A.
To: Norm Hahn
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020, 12:37:24 PM CST

Hello Norm!

Thank you for your letter of 16 January. You have been busy, and I very much appreciate what you do on behalf of the NMCB 62 Alumni Group.

My wife and I don't travel very far any more so unfortunately we will not be able to make the Gulfport reunion. However, I have gone back through some old boxes and come up with a few things that might be of interest.

1. A listing of all the incidents and casualties along LTL-4 while we were there. I got the list from Paul Wollenhaupt, who kept a journal during the deployment. On a side note, I lost contact with Paul a couple of years ago. I've emailed and called him with no response. I've also spoken to Ron Barker, who visited Paul and few years ago, but has also lost contact. Perhaps you could put out an inquiry to see

if anyone knows anything about his condition. I know he was having some health issues the last time I had contact with him.

2. The most current roster of the Hill 55 group available. It was compiled by EOMC Wood, and supersedes the one on the 62 web page.
3. Two letters from MC Wood transmitting his efforts in keeping the Hill 55 roster current. I included these just to have a record of MC Wood's efforts.
4. The Hill 55 Group photo with the only names I can remember. I'm not sure about Sam Bass and John Tye. I am sure about me and Ron Roth though. I have not been able to locate the original photo, but am still looking. I have a clean digital copy if you need it.
5. You have a copy of the September 1970 Seabeacon on the 62 web page. There's a write-up on the LTL-4 detail on pages 8 and 9. Also there's a photo of a 14th century watch tower on the last page. This same structure withstood a nearby blast from the line charges used to detonate mines. It's shown during and after the blast on pictures 94,95, and 96 of the batch I sent you a while back.
6. The November 1970 Seabeacon has a nice piece written by LCDR Gerdel where he mentions the Hill 55 project. Page 7 of that publication has a picture of me operating a TD-20 dozer on LTL-4.
7. Although not related to Hill 55, I've attached a photo of the Operations group. I don't remember whether it was taken at Camp Haskins or Red Beach (it had to be either the beginning or the end of the deployment), but do remember a lot of the names (I wrote them down many years ago). The names are included with the photo. I thought this would add to the documentation of the 1970 deployment even if it's not tied directly to Hill 55.

I will continue to look for anything relevant in my stuff, and let you know if I find anything that might be of interest. Thanks Norm!

AI

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. Edmund Burke

From: Norm Hahn

Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 4:22 PM

To: Dick 62 F. Holmes ; Harris,Roswell A. ; AI 62 Harris

Hi Dick and AI,

I wanted to email you specifically because at this reunion, at our Sunday morning NMCB 62 meeting, we are going to talk about Dets Buford and Barracuda and a few more lesser known Dets. Why? Because we don't have enough written about them (that is on our website) by the guys who were actually there.

And, Al, you have a photo that we need to get the names of the guys identified and recorded. Again why? Because we have had lots of guys pass away last year and their stories are lost forever. Have a few copies of the photo made and even blown up to larger size if you can.

If you both can come to the reunion, good. But if you can't then it's time to sit down at your computer and tell your story about Buford & Barracuda (and any other Det or event) from your personal perspective. A no BS story told by you. Al, if you can't make it, send me copies of the photo and I'll try to get the guys IDed.

Here is some more info I've been forwarding to some of you on early deployments.

Different subject: if you are not on our "official" facebook page, go to NMCB 62 and ask to join. I'll approve you.

Please attend this reunion. We aren't getting any younger.

----- end of Norm's email -----

U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 62

FLEET POST OFFICE

NEW YORK 09501

29Apr 70	0800	Water Buffalo	40lb box mine	E03 Scott	No Pers Injury
29Apr 70	1100	MRS Scraper	40lb box mine	E03 Patteson	Medevac CONUS
3May 70	0845	MRS Scraper	40lb box mine	E02 Andis	E02 Longley Medevac
3May 70	1040	MRS Scraper	40lb box mine	EOCN Pike	No Pers Injury
7May 70	0935	Sweep Team	25lb land mine	No Pers Injury	
17May 70	1655	TD20 Dozer	40lb box mine	E03 Kuenstler	No Pers Injury
20May 70	1040	TS24 Scraper	60lb rock mine	E03 Scott	To Base
21May 70	1830	5 Ton Dump	20lb AP mine	E03 Woolum	Medevac
14Jun 70	0945	5 Ton LowBoy	60lb rock mine	E02Morisoli	E03 Kuenstler Medevac
23Jun 70	1520	TD20 Dozer	60lb box mine	EOCN Brown	Medevac
3Jul70	1740	11/2Ton Weps	40lb box mine	15 USMC Types	Medevac 3 KIA
3Jul70	1930	5Ton Water T	40lb rock mine	E02 Gullion	E03 Parr Medevac
3Jul 70	1950	3/4Ton Jeep	40lb box mine	BU2 Hyler	2 USMC Types KIA
6Jul 70	1130	MRS T10Scraper	USMC Type	crushed by tire of scraper	KIA on Medevac
11Jul 70	1515	TD20 Dozer	40lb box mine	E02 Swank	No Pers Injury
12Jul 70	1745	Front End Loader	Crushed Vietnamese boy	at dump	KIA
14Jul 70	1010	MRS Scraper	40lb rock mine	EOCN Young	Medevac
15Jul 70	1015	MRS Water T	40lb rock mine	E03 Gunther	Medevac
15Jul 70	1610	TD20 Dozer	40lb box mine	EOCN Dee'se	Medevac
17Jul 70	1130	TS24 Scraper	40lb box mine	E02 Andis	To Base CONUS Medevac
27Jul 70	0830	MRS Scraper	40lb box mine	EOCN Hayes	To Base
29Jul 70	1140	D8 Dozer	60lb rock mine	E03 Powell	Medevac CONUS
29Jul 70	1500	Motor Scooter	3 ARVN Soldiers	Detonated 40lb rock mine	KIA
8Aug 70	1900	Non Job Site	Associated injury	BUCN Mazza	Medevac
11Aug 70	1615	40lb box mine	EOCN Pike	TS24 Scraper	No Pers Injury
12Aug 70	1120	Booby-trap AP	USMC Type	Medevac CONUS	
12Aug 70	1300	Booby-trap AP	D8 Dozer	No Pers Injury	
16Aug 70	1410	TD20 Dozer	20lb rock mine	E03 Kuenstler	No Pers Injury
28Aug 70	1125	Motor Grader	40lb tank mine	E02 Strickland	Medevac
5Sep 70	1130	TD20 Dozer	40lb Tank mine	E02 Bartels	Medevac
5Sep 70	1600	Rice Cart	40lb land mine	3 Vietnamese Civilians	KIA
10Sep 70	1515	Autocar	E03 Waite	E03 Haught	to base
14Sep 70	1325	Romper Stomper	40lb land mine	EOCN Hardten	Medevac CONUS
17Sep 70	1135	Booby-trap frags	3 ROK Marines	Medevac 2 KIA	
21Sep 70	1330	Booby-trap frags	2 Vietnamese Nationals	Medevac	
28Sep 70	1500	Motor Grader	E03 Kuenstler	AP mines	No Pers Injury
28Sep 70	1000	Hough Loader	Satchel Charge	EOCN Pike	To Base
29Sep 70	0935	Autocar	60lb tank mine	E03 Waite	No Pers Injury
29Sep 70	1000	Autocar	120lb anti-tank mine	E03 Koberlein	Medevac KIA
29Sep 70	1010	HM3 Cunningham	Wounded while	Medevac E03 Koberlein	Medevac USS Sanctuary
		44 Medevacs			
		31 Separate mining incidents			
		21 Purple Hearts			
		12 KIA			

Only GOD Knows if it was worth it all

3243 MacGregor Drive
Palm Harbor, FL 34684-2347
March 09, 2001


Dear Hill 55 Shipmates,

I am so very pleased to inform you that another Hill 55 Shipmate has been located, EO-3 William L. (Bill) Powell, now residing in Olathe, KS.

I'm sure you all remember Bill as one of our very versatile equipment operators in Det. Buford. On July 29, 1970 while operating a Cat D-8 dozer, Bill had the misfortune of detonating a land mine while working on highway LTL-4 just south of Hill 55. HM-3 (Doc) Cunningham and I determined that Bill had very possibly suffered a concussion, some burns, and possibly a broken leg from the explosion. He was medivaced by helicopter just 25 minutes later to a military medical facility at Danang for treatment. He was later medivaced to the Naval Hospital, Great Lakes, IL. for further treatment and rehabilitation. After 4 months in the Naval Hospital, he was separated and sent home. Petty Officer Powell was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for the injuries he sustained in this incident.

I am providing each of you an updated Det. Buford roster. I encourage each of you to establish some type of communications with our shipmates to renew our friendships and esprit de corps. We were a tight group on Hill 55 and I'd like to see that attitude continued now some 30 years later. I consider it a real privilege to have known each of you, and I appreciate all your hard work and dedication while you were under my leadership in Det. Buford. I also encourage each of you to continue your efforts of searching for Hill 55 Shipmates that we do not now have addresses.

I remain, very sincerely,


Jarvis O. Wood

Enclosure:
Det Buford Roster of 03/09/2001

3243 MacGregor Drive
Palm Harbor, FL 34684-2347
January 21, 2002

Dear Hill 55 Shipmates,

I hope each of you had a very memorable and happy Christmas and New Years Holiday. I'm sure that the special event of SEPTEMBER 11 2001 still leaves shadows in the lives of some of us, but we must look forward to 2002 and the future for better things.

I am again very pleased to provide you with an updated Roster that includes new address data for three members of the "Hill 55 Gang". EO3 Denison, and EO3 Rickey made contact with me by E-mail and later provided me their address data. Bob Rickey was also able to provide me the mailing address for EO3 Steve Fowler. I want to thank them for providing us their mailing address data for the DET BUFORD ROSTER..

I hope each of you will continue to search for other members that we do not have addresses for. I also hope you will take advantage of the address data and make some contacts to reestablish communications with a Shipmate from the past.

I remain, Very, sincerely,



Jarvis O. Wood

Enclosure:
Det Buford Roster of 01/21/2002

HILL 55 BOYS
NMCB 62 DET BUFORD
Quang Nam Province, South Viet Nam

01/21/2002

LT Kenneth W. Meeks, CEC, USN

EOCS Jarvis O. Wood / Joyce EOCS
3243 MacGregor Dr.
Palm Harbor, FL 34684-2347

727-784-1305 H
Topseabee5@aol.com

EOC James M. Jacobs (Jake) EOC

EOC Dwight Swofford EOC

Andis, Sherman L. EO2
Barrett, John A. EO3

Bartels, Raymond W. EO2
Gulfport, MS

Bass, Hubert D. (Sam) EO1
Brainard, Jeffrey F. EO3
Brown, Marshall J. EO3
Butler, Joby B. EO3
Campbell, Eugene J. EO3
Campbell, EOCN
Crank, Richard L. EOCN
Cunningham, Thomas(DOC) R. HM3

Curry, James (Jim)L.& Dorothy CM1
800 Washington St
Forest City NC 28043-9453

828-248-2651
jameschiefcurry@aol.com

Dalton, Patrick N. EO2
Deese, William C. EOCN

Denison, Raymond H. EO3
PO Box 942
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Rmcswrd@msn.com
206-275-0909 H

Dille, John H. EO2
Duckworth, Larry M. EOCA

Farrimond, Daniel M. CM3
?????, Indiana

dmfarrimond@lnc.com

Fedor, Louis J.	EO3	
Fowler, Charles S.(Steve) 117 West Little River Ct. Eatonton, GA 31024-7245	EO3	478-968-0685 H
Fry, David M.	EOCN	
Giles, Robert S.	EOCN	
Grasman, David A.	EO3	
Gullion, P.D.	EO2	
Gunther, Ronald L.	EO3	
Hardten, Lloyd M.	EOCN	
Harris, Roswell A. PO Box 130 Fisherville, KY 40023	EA3	502-267-9748 H 502-852-4566 W al.harris@louisville.edu
Haught, Glenn L. 6959 Maplehill St SW Navarre, OH 44662	EO3	330-484-3541
Hayes, D.D.	EOCN	
Hollingsworth, Louis D.	EO2	
Holmes, Richard F. Wholesale Account Manager Carolina Power & Light Co. PO Box 1551, CPB 10A Raleigh, NC 27602	EA3	W-919-546-22428 H-919-844-9208 richard.holmes@pgnmail.com
Hylar, Nelson M.	BU2 *KIA 07/03/70*	
Koberlein, Charles E.	EO2 *KIA 10/09/70*	
Kuenstler, John A.	EO3	
Longley, Arnold D.	EO2	
Lukus, Alfred	CM3	
Mansfield, Tony E.	EOCN	
McLane,		
Miller, Gary R.	EOCN	
Mills, Joseph T.	EO3	
Morsoli, Michael E.	EO3	
Murray, David S.	EO3	
Parr, A.B.	EO3	
Patterson, Jimmy B.	EO3	

Pierce, Darrell D.	EO3	
Pike, Billy C.	EOCN	
Powell, William L. (Bill)	EO3	913-764-8308
609 Brier Drive		Bpow22549@worldnet.att.net
Olathe, KS 66061		
Richardson, Buford B.	EOCN	
Rickey, Robert (Bob)C. Jr/Linda	EO3	hill55@bellsouth.net
221 Allendale Rd.		404-256-3061 W
Canton, GA 30115		770-887-6660 O
Roth, Ronald(Stew) J.	CS3	
Scott, George P.	EO3	
Sharp, Richard W.	CM3	
Sherrod, Harvey L.	EOCN	
Smith, David W.	EO3	
Strickland, James K.	EO2	
Sugg, Edgar H.	EA3	301-
12424 Melling LN		
Bowie, MD 20715-2957		
Swank, Samuel J.	EO2	
Tanis, Kenneth J.	CN	
Tharnish, Lawrence W.	EO3	
Trieble, Robert D.	EO3	
Tye, John F.	EO1	
Waite, Kenneth W.	EO3	
Watson,		
Weeks, Dennis O.	EOCN	
Williams, Rodney D.	EO3	
Wollenhaupt, Paul(Wally) E.& Mary	EA2	508-224-9392
5 Center Hill Rd		Mwollen@capecod.net
Plymouth MA 02360		
Woolum, Charles T.& Deanna	EO3	540-861-2182
Rt 2 Box 400		Deawoolum111@hotmail.com
Ewing, VA 2428-9548		
Young, Terry F.	EOCN	

Total 72



Al Harriss

Sam Bass

Ron Roth

John Tye

CASSELBURY
ME
TANIS
ABACHELI
SMART
CHAMBERLAIN
RANDELL
JOHNSON
YOUNG
MANSFIELD
TILLISON
HAUGHT
DUCKWORTH
FEDOR
HAYES
MILLS
FERNANDEZ

BASS
BOTH
RICEY
PIKE
BARTELS
BENARD
SUGG
PIERCE
KEUNSTLER
CRANK
MORDOLI
DENNISON
CURRY

TYE
GRASSMAN
THARNISH
TREIBLE
WHITELY
WEEKS
STRICKLAND
SMITH
CAMPBELL
MARQUEA
LUKUS
DALTON
DILLE



First row, kneeling, left to right

Marcel Charpentier ?; Richard Holmes ?; Frank Cataldo; Frank Gutierrez; ?;
Larry Lauther; LTJG George Koob

Second row, left to right

Frank McCoy; Chuck Hilbert; Casey Purvis; ?; ?; LTJG John Rectenwald

Third row, left to right

?; Jack Ulmer; ?; Tom Vanzwol; Daniel Witmer; Jim Vest; David Evans; John
Collum; Al Harris

Fourth row, left to right

EAC Ed Juchartz; Benito Bernal ?; Paul Wollenhaupt; behind Paul is Joseph
Leeds