

# **ALL Combat Talon & 7 SOS Reunion**

**17-20 May 2012**

## **Quality Inn Bayside Hotel**

**322 Miracle Strip Pkwy  
Ft Walton Beach FL 32548**



## **Hot Wash and Lessons Learned Report**

**9 June 2012**

**2:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

**Richard "Dick" & Pam Guessford's  
711 Swan Lane, Destin, FL**

## **Executive Summary**

By: Max Friedauer ([maxfriedau@me.com](mailto:maxfriedau@me.com))

Hot Wash attendees were:

Dick & Pam Guessford (Hosts); Max Friedauer; Al Goldsborough; Buff Underwood; Tom Bradley; Barry "B-rat" & Wally Ratcliffe; and Dick Brauer

### **We agreed to the following reunion schedule for the next 5 years:**

5-7 Oct 2012 SGI Reunion

11-13 Oct 2013 Combat Talon Reunion in conjunction with ACA, hosted by SGI

15-18 May 2014 Combat Talon Reunion, hosted by 7 ACS, RAMADA Beach Resort

10-12 Oct 2014 SGI Reunion

9-11 Oct 2015 Combat Talon Reunion in conjunction with ACA, hosted by SGI

19-22 May 2016 Combat Talon Reunion, hosted by 7 ACS, RAMADA Beach Resort

7-9 Oct 2016 SGI Reunion

6-14 July 2017 7 SOS Reunion at RAF Mildenhall, UK

Once again, the 7th came together for the finest Reunion yet. Thursday night brought approximately 100 CT warriors together for some final set-up and hospitality, Friday morning 21 played Golf at the FWB City Course and 189 joined us for a Bratwurst and Knockwurst dinner on Friday night, and Saturday approximately 80 came together for a Symposium at the 15 SOS and a static display of a Combat Talon I and a Combat Talon II. The group returned to the hotel for a BBQ where 191 joined us. The last 4 standing on Friday night emptied the keg at 3:30 AM. On Sunday we had approximately 100 CT Air Commandos attend the Memorial Service at the Quality Inn Bayside under the big tent. Col (Ret) Steve Connelly, previous 39 SOG Commander and AFSOC/DO, provided the invocation. The Emerald Coast Drums and Bugle led by 7th ACS member Les Matheson played prior to the ceremony and finished with Amazing Grace. During the weekend numerous past and present Combat Talon squadron commanders were also present. The 1 SOS commanders were TJ Doherty, Col Joe Hastings, Lee Hess, and Col Tony Bauernfein; 7 SOS commanders present were Tom "Omar" Bradley, George Ferkes, Walter "Walt" Schmidt, Mark "Mo" Alsid; 8 SOS commanders were Lloyd Moon and Jerry Thigpen; 15 SOS commanders were Evans Glausier, William "Boomer" Saier, and Lt Col Pat Wolf; 711 SOS commander present was Lt Col Tony Lawrence and current commander Lt Col Terry Panos.

Again as in the past, we had no arrests, no injuries, or brawls but a lot of war stories were told. We did manage to drink 10 kegs of beer, eat lots of bratwurst and knockwurst cooked by our 7th's own Slim Connors and Evans Glausier on Friday night. On Saturday, Ned Calvert Productions arranged for two buses for about 80 commandos to attend the symposium he arranged at the 15 SOS. The AFSOC's mission overview was presented by Col Joe Hastings, AFSOC/A5R; followed by Col Tony Bauernfeind, 1 SOG Commander, who briefed 1 SOG activities; and finishing up was Lt Col Patrick Wolfe, 15 SOS Commander, who provided a good overview of squadron activities. Saturday evening we feasted on delicious BBQ delivered by Sonny's BBQ and served by members of the 7th ACS. All the leftovers (and there was plenty of

that) were delivered by Eileen Underwood who took it to the FWB Waterfront Mission. The Mission was extremely appreciative.

Overall, the Team concept and the attitude of the 7 ACS members with their motto of “Adapt or Perish” made this reunion again a huge success. We were again very fortunate to have had Ed Gamble’s stepson, John Graczyk, owner of “Tents of Northwest Florida” provide us with a big discount for all the tents, tables, and chairs. Additionally, we again saved a lot of money with the Wurst Burn by doing all our own cooking and purchasing. Sonny’s BBQ was great and a great value. Thanks to “Neo” Calvert and Capt Scheffe for the support to coordinate base transportation from the Hotel to the 15 SOS, and the Static Display of both a Talon I and Talon II. Thanks to Max Friedauer and Buff Underwood who organized the memorial service which was dignified, honorable, emotional, and very memorable. The large tent with the backdrop of “Send Me” and “The Rock,” including the Operational Story Board panels provided by the 711 SOS made it a perfect setting for the memorial service. Additionally, we raised almost \$2,000 for the Memorial Foundation bringing our current balance to \$29,324.02. We will continue to raise funds to reach approx \$39,000 to complete the memorial by 2013. A special thanks to all those who made a donation and those who committed to an annual recurring gift.

See you at the next 2014 ALL Combat Talon & 7 SOS Reunion, 15-18 May, at the RAMADA Beach Resort on Okaloosa Island. You all might remember we had our 2000 and 2002 reunions there!