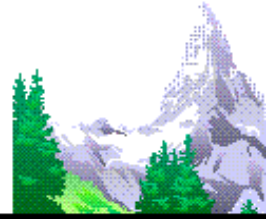




# The ASA Interceptor

Newsletter of the ASA Alpiners Reunion Group



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Alsfeld-Augsburg-Bad Aibling-Bad Tölz-Bahrdorf-Bamberg-Baumholder-Bebra-Berlin -Bremen-Bremerhaven-Coburg-Dahme-Frankfurt-Fulda-Gartow-Giebelstadt-Giessen-Göppingen-Hammelburg-Heidwinkel-Heilbronn-Herzogenaurach-Hof-Kassel-Königsutter-Linz-Luebeck-Mahring-Malmsheim-Mannheim-Memmingen-Munich-Mt. Eckstein-Mt. Meissner-Nottau -Nürnberg-Oberursel-Offenbach-Passau-Ramstein-Rothwesten-Salzburg-Scheyern -Schneeberg-Straubing-Sontra-Vienna-Wasserkuppe-Weiden-Wels

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The E-Mail Newsletter of the Army Security Agency Alpiners Reunion Group  
Serving veterans of the SIS, ASA and INSCOM who were stationed in Germany or Austria

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Volume 7 – Number 12

January 2, 2012

Ralph R, Thadeus, Editor  
(Scheyern 53-56)

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## ASMN

**LAS VEGAS REUNION PICTURES:** Larry Goodman (Herzo/Berlin 56-59) has posted the reunion pictures on his web site. You can see them at <http://web.me.com/larryjamrr1>. Then click on to the appropriate sections at the top of the page.

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**Falloff**, Book III of 'The ASA Trilogy' by **Supporting Member Robert Flanagan** (Rothwesten/Gartow/Bad Aibling 66-68), career ASA EM, NCO and Warrant Officer, is now in the market stream. Books I and II -Involuntary Tour and Dragon Bait, respectively-- are available along with the new volume at the author's website <http://www.connemarapress.org>. This work completes the trilogy of three linked and contiguous novels featuring soldiers of the Army Security Agency in the Cold War and, in the essential focus of the trilogy, the Viet Nam War. Continue the saga of Winter, Brenner, Magic Marvin, Ratty Mac, Crazy Bruce and the host of others we all knew in different guises in the zany, raucous, improbable and tragic circumstances in venues about the globe. Primarily across the length and breadth of Viet Nam; at three sites in Germany; in Italy, Korea, Bangkok, Hong Kong; in Asmara, Eritrea (Ethiopia); at sea in the Med, the Caribbean and Atlantic; and in CONUS. All books are available through your local book seller, through Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, and AuthorHouse.com. An e-book version is available at AuthorHouse.com. The best prices, including special pricing for all three volumes, and signed copies, are available at the author's website (above). Also available at the website is a downloadable (free) Glossary: GI slang, jargon, abbreviations and acronyms of soldier-speak, as well as "soldier translations" of some foreign language phrases found throughout the books. Order through the author's website, use PayPal, and the books are shipped the same or next day. Enjoy the reminiscences.

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**Supporting Member Ray Lash** (Scheyern 53-578) saw the following article in his latest VFW magazine and thought it was worth publishing as a reminder. Here is what Ray passed along to us:

**“50th Anniversary: First U.S. KIA in Vietnam.**

Fifty years ago this December, America sustained its first actual battlefield fatality - on the ground in open battle returning fire against the Viet Cong - in South Vietnam. The American in question hailed from the clandestine Army Security Agency (ASA) - its first contingent of personnel set up shop in Saigon on May 23, 1961, as the 400th USASA Operation Unit (Provisional).

Arriving in-country on a civilian passport in the summer of 1961, Spec. 4 James T. Davis, an ASA cryptologist, joined the secretive 3rd Radio Research Unit (later designated the 509th Radio Research Group). Based at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, the 3rd was actually a cover for ASA headquarters in Vietnam. ASA provided technical advice on locating enemy transmitters, among other functions.

On Dec. 22, 1961, Davis was leading a South Vietnamese radio-direction-finding mission 12 miles from Saigon, near the old French garrison at Cau Xang along highway 10 to Duc Hoa, when it was ambushed by 10 Viet Cong. His truck disabled by a land mine, Davis got off four or five rounds from his rifle before being hit in the head by a VC bullet. (Nine South Vietnamese also died in the attack.)

VFW James T. Davis Memorial Post 5062 in Livingston, TN, is named in his honor as is Post 1246 in North Brook, IL.

The Southeast Asia Army Security Agency Association (Old Spooks and Spies) each Memorial Day places a wreath at his grave site in Good Hope Cemetery in Livingston. The James T. Davis Memorial is located at the Overton County Courthouse.

The Roll of Honor at Ft. Devens, MA, lists the names of 34 ASA KIA in Vietnam. Also seven members died in a plane crash near Phu Bai on Oct. 8, 1967.”

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## **TAPS**

Edward H. Ioanes, POC for the 137<sup>th</sup> Signal Radio Intelligence Company (WW-II) passed away on Christmas Eve as reported by his wife Shirley. Ed was an Intercept Operator with the 137<sup>th</sup> and had written a two volume history of the unit. A summarization of the unit's travels in the European Theatre is on our web site under “Alpiners History References”.

Arrangements are being handled by the Waite Funeral Home in Medina, Ohio with visitation on January 4<sup>th</sup>. His burial will be at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery on January 5, 2012.