



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA)

September 2015

“Shell and Flame”



Issue Number: XXXVII

8 Sep 2015

We are the Ammo Chiefs Association, a not-for-profit; fraternal Association dedicated to the promotion of camaraderie among active duty and retired **USAF AMMO Chiefs**. Our members work throughout the year to raise funds for worthwhile charitable causes such as the Richard Gauvin Memorial Fund, the Enlisted Widows Foundation, and to respond to members of the Ammo community in time of distress. The ACA contributes to the morale of active duty AMMO troops at the Chapter level through recognition and sports programs. The ACA sponsors awards programs for the AMMO School House Outstanding Performer, and AFCOMAC Outstanding Performer. ACA has contributed to cultural enterprises such as the RAF Welford AMMO Museum. ***We are AMMO, and proud of it!*** Please visit the AMMO Chiefs web page for more information at <http://ammochiefs.com>.

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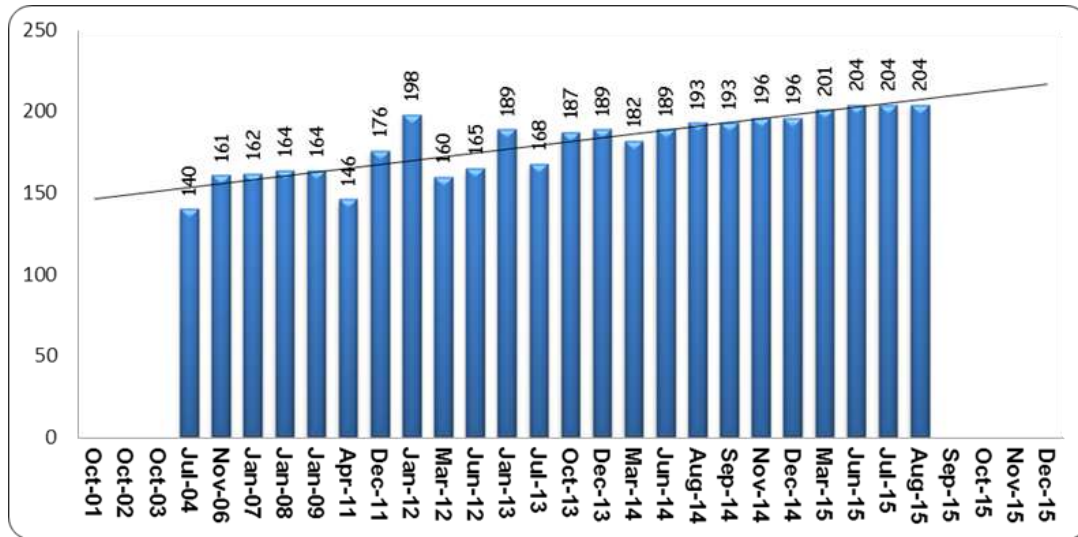
Please keep your address and contact details current, a quick e:mail will suffice to me at Ammo.Chiefs.Association@gmail.com

You can reach ACA Officers by email at the addresses above if you would like their snail mail addresses contact the Secretary. Please contact any of the members of the ACA Board of Directors if you have any items of interest or information you feel would be of benefit to the organization.

Membership Application can be found on our website, if you know of anyone that would like to renew membership or join please pass on the application.

If you have something you would like to have posted on the www.ammochiefs.com website send to one of the ACA BOD members for approval! A special thanks to Rick Follett our Web-Site Manager.

From Your President



Here is an interesting membership chart Mike Roylance created and continues to track. I doubt we will see much growth till the next Chiefs list comes out.

Our organization is still in good health and looking forward to the new ACA BOD taking over in January 2016. The election process will start 1 October 2015. Based on initial nominations we will have candidates for all of the positions; however, there's a few more days in which you can volunteer or nominate someone for a position.

As many of you watch the daily news, they highlight the last of the surviving WWII veterans and are still working to get those that are able to travel to see the WWII memorial built in their honor in Washington DC. Many of our parents and grandparents took part in this campaign in one way or another to free the world again when they were called to duty 75 years ago. If you happen to cross paths with a WWII veteran, please let them know we still truly appreciate their sacrifice for our nation and the freedoms we enjoy.

I also send my thanks to the Vietnam veterans as well; we have many of our older membership that took a direct part in this effort. Coming from a small town in Tennessee, I recall the daily reports of those killed in action or wounded. For those that got drafted into the Army or Marines, the casualty rate was much higher than those serving in the Air Force; however, it didn't mean they weren't in harm's way.

Today we still have Ammo troops serving our country in foreign lands, many of which have deployed several times in support of campaigns that started in August of 1990. There appears to not be a defining end to any of the ongoing campaigns.

In this newsletter I hope you will enjoy some highlights of several reunions that have taken place and several great Ammo articles in the news for those that don't have access to the Air Force Daily Reports.

We also lost a few fellow Ammo troops and one of our Honorary members; more in the last section of the newsletter for Last Ammo Call.

Richard Pennington
ACA President



From your Treasurer

As many of you know we are a Veterans Organization and as such are a 501c19 tax exempt entity. This allows us to operate without paying taxes on our operation. This exemption was based on the fact that 75 percent of our members or more are past or presently members of the Armed Forces of the U.S.



We are also now classified as a War Veterans Organization and fall under section IRC 170c(3) per IRS guidance. This also makes us a Contribution Exempt entity. This means that when an organization or individual makes a donation to the Ammo Chiefs Association they can deduct that donation from their taxes. This is a higher bar to achieve and it is based on the fact that 90 percent of our members or more are WAR Veterans. Hopefully having this ability will allow us to raise even more funds to support the Ammo Community.

This is primarily why we have asked for your date of enlistment and date of retirement when you apply to become a member. I use these dates to match against the periods of war recognized by the U.S. thereby ensuring we maintain the requirements.

In the past year we have had 4 contributions where the donors could claim a tax deduction. I'll mention them because we want to acknowledge their generosity.

The first was from Dave Bressler and his AMMO DOG small business. Dave's a retired Ammo SMSgt and associate lifetime member of the ACA. You can check out his business at www.ammo-dog.com.

The second was from Rick Follett a retired Ammo CMSgt and lifetime member of the ACA. He also just happens to be our Web Site Administrator.

The third was from an individual who wishes to remain anonymous. It is important to mention this because this individual works for a company that does a company match for donations. In this case the individual donated an amount from his paycheck and his company matched that donation.

Finally the fourth was from Wes White who donated a special Ammo Putter to be raffled off at the ACA ECC Chapter Golf Tournament. The value on the putter was approximately \$200 and the proceeds from the raffle will be \$310. Thanks Wes and ECC.

These donations gave the ACA a total of \$1,163 to help support our organization and in turn benefit the Ammo Community.

If you are considering making a property donation please contact me in advance. This type of donation is more complex and requires more documentation and the ACA's willingness to accept the burden that may be required.



If you are considering starting a chapter or are an existing chapter and wish to obtain one or both of these types of exemptions I highly recommend you obtain the TAX Guide for Veterans' Organizations available on line from the IRS.

Should you or your company have a desire to make a donation but have questions please feel free to contact me.

Mike Roylance
ACA Treasurer

AMMO Supply

The Ammo Chiefs Association now has an on-line store, we call it Ammo Supply. You can check it out here: <http://ammochiefs.qbstores.com>. Queensboro will handle all the details and all we have to do is advertise within our group. They handle all the orders, inventory, shipping, returns, etc, everything. You can read more about them here: <http://www.queensboro.com/welcome-queensboro-shirt-company.html>.

Your support for this store helps us support the ACA and our causes. Five percent of all orders come back to the ACA, that's about \$1.00 for every \$20 spent. Also if there is something you would like added or a particular line you prefer, let me know and I'll see if they carry it.

So support the ACA with an order today and show off our association. Again, the monies we collect go toward our causes. You can see it and order here: <http://ammochiefs.qbstores.com>.

Mike Roylance
ACA Treasurer

Jacob and Patrick With New Van

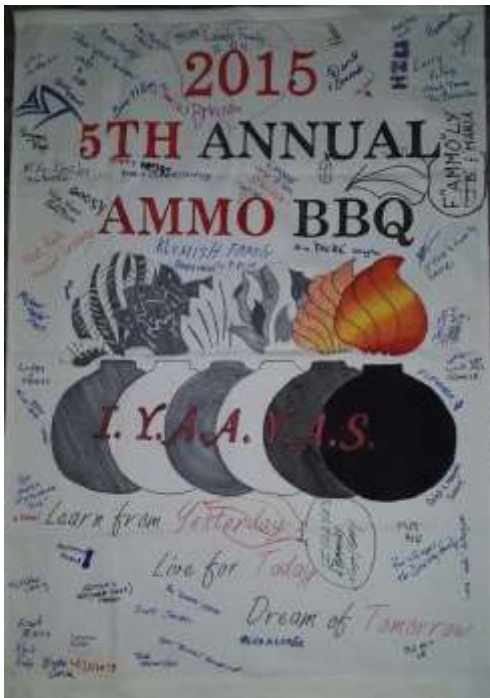


As a result of your generosity and that of the other 400+ contributors, my grandson Jacob has obtained a suitably modified van. Although the van is used, it is a Chrysler Town and Country modified by Braunability, and is like new as it had only been driven 7,000 miles. The funds raised made a significant dent in the purchase and enabled Jacob/Patrick to obtain an affordable financing package.

The van is already making a difference to Patrick and Jacob's quality of life; Patrick no longer has to lift Jacob (170 lbs) in and out of a vehicle each time they want to go out, this has limited Jacob's social contacts and impacted his ability to continue his education or obtain employment. Now friends and other family members can share the transportation burden. Jacob is pursuing a degree in computer science and is working with Easter Seals to obtain employment. Further, it gives Patrick an opportunity to have a holiday/break from his role as a full time care giver.

A great big thank you for your generosity: Patrick, Jacob, Jay, Marion, and Fred O'Hern

Chapter News



Hill AFB Annual Ammo BBQ

The Hill AFB Annual Ammo BBQ is open to all Ammo Troops and their immediate family members. This year's 5th annual Ammo BBQ extravaganza was held on Hill AFB in Centennial Park and about 150 people attended. Each person/family is asked to bring a covered dish to share, along with provided hot dogs, burgers, chicken, soda and water. Family fun activities included: Horseshoes, Volleyball, Ladder ball, Bean Bag Toss, Frisbee golf, water games, adult relay games, arts & crafts for kids and music. Retired Ammo Troops Rich Leseberg and Tim Matuszak hosted this year's annual event and each year Rich's daughter "Amber" graciously makes a new Ammo banner to commemorate these wonderful occasions. The ACA proudly salutes Rich and Tim for keeping the Ammo flame burning and bringing all past and present Ammo troops together to celebrate our Ammo heritage from the Wasatch front."



The latest pictures from our 5th Annual AMMO BBQ and a short narrative for your next publication. Also, our ACA Wasatch Chapter donated \$200 towards making the event a success.

Mike Eisenberg

Secretary, ACA Wasatch Chapter
Hill AFB, Utah

Munitions Systems Specialists Arm the 'Ultimate Battle Plane'

By Senior Airman Jeff Parkinson, 1st Special Operations Wing Public Affairs / Published July 16, 2015

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. (AFNS) -- Without the munitions systems specialists of the 1st Special Operations Equipment Maintenance Squadron, the AC-130U Spooky would have difficulty completing its close air support mission, to include supporting troops in contact, convoy escort and single point air defense.

Airmen of the 1st SOEMS munitions flight are responsible for every step in between shipping and receiving, to testing and assembling guided and unguided non-nuclear munitions for the Spooky payload. They are also responsible for issue and delivery, storing, maintaining, and reconditioning these munitions to support the 1st Special Operations Wing, Air Force Special Operations Command and Air Force mission.

“I’d say we process an average of 30,000 rounds per week,” said Senior Airman Alexander Bien, a 1st SOEMS conventional maintenance crew chief. “Every 25mm load is a thousand pounds, and that’s not accounting for the 40mm or the 105mm.”

It all starts with the 1st SOEMS munitions controllers, the liaisons between the organizations requesting the ammo and the Airmen within the munitions storage areas that maintain it.

Munitions controllers work with about 100 people daily, generating all munitions requests on base.

“As a munitions controller, we coordinate, direct and control all munitions activities to and from the flightline, within the MSA and anywhere on base,” said Staff Sgt. Landon Mace, a 1st SOEMS munitions controller. “We have a handful of organizations that we deal with on a daily basis, and we coordinate anything with munitions through the control office.”

After receiving the requests, the munitions controllers will forward them to a conventional maintenance dispatcher. When Senior Airman Micheal Mehren, a 1st SOEMS dispatcher, receives requests, he schedules work orders and determines the manning and equipment needed to complete the mission.

“Daily, I schedule all the work for the following week to support the flying schedule,” Mehren said. “I set up jobs for crew chiefs to complete and make sure the tools they need are in usable condition.”

Once the schedule is made, the conventional maintenance crew chiefs get to work by inspecting the rounds and preparing them for transport. Senior Airman Alexander Bien, a conventional maintenance crew chief, loads thousands of 105mm, 40mm and 25mm rounds by hand.



The 25mm is the largest of the three. Each container can hold more than 1,000 rounds weighing a pound each, and the team can load up to five containers per day. More than 70 Airmen assigned to the munitions flight work around the clock to ensure the Spooky’s continued success and distinguished combat history.

“When something real-world happens these Airmen are reactive,” said Master Sgt. David Veliquette, the 1st SOEMS conventional maintenance element chief. “They’re ready at all times to help provide combat-ready forces.”

Senior Airman Alexander Bien, a 1st Special Operations Equipment Maintenance Squadron conventional maintenance crew chief, loads the 25mm processor at Hurlburt Field, Fla., June 23, 2015. The 25mm processor loads the ammunition into linked tube carriers for transport to the flightline. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jeff Parkinson)

John McCain @SenJohnMcCain · 20h

Great visit w/ the Ammo airmen of #Bagram Airfield - the troops "behind the boom!" Thank you for your service!



Keeping the Ammo Flame Burning

Morbach Ammo Reunion was held in Sutton Bay MI; they are looking forward to next year



Denver 2nd Reunion Ammo Call



Player	Pos	AB	R	H	RBI
Phillips	2B	279			
Votto	1B	302			
Frazier	3B	279			
Bruce	RF	254			
Pena	C	276			
Byrd	LF	250			
Suarez	SS	309			
Cueto	P	.167			
Hamilton	CF	.228			

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Ammo Call at Sturgis South Dakota bike week Aug 4 2015

Maintenance, munitions Airmen blow doors off Red Flag-Alaska

By Airman 1st Class Kyle Johnson, 354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs / Published August 18, 2015

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska (AFNS) -- One unique aspect of Eielson Air Force Base is its seasons; it only really has two seasons: Red Flag-Alaska season, and RF-A preparation season.

The Airmen at the 354th Maintenance Squadron's munitions flight know this very well.

"We support the 18th Aggressor Squadron with countermeasures and training missiles," said Master Sgt. Rick Hedrick, the 354th MXS munitions flight materiel superintendent. "We ensure the (pilots) are good to go for their training combat hours and maintain their qualifications so when Red Flag season comes around, they're ready to rock and roll."

To that end, the munitions flight has five operating locations where its Airmen actively build and inspect munitions and then store them in earth-covered igloos.

"In general, we assemble chaff and flare, stuff it in modules, deliver it to the 18th (AS) and process their expenditures (when they get back)," said Staff Sgt. Eleanor Coan, a 354th MXS munitions systems crew chief currently assigned to the chaff and flare operating location.

Every explosive munition that Airmen work with is dangerous and must be handled with proper care.

"Flare is probably the most dangerous thing(s) we have, it's electrically initiated, so static electricity could set it off," Coan said. "Once a little electricity hits the primer on it, it fires off a spark on the inside which pushes the flare and everything out with enough force to launch it out of the aircraft and into the airstream."

According to Coan, safety is the No. 1 priority and to prevent static discharge, Airmen working on the flares must wear wristbands that ground them to some form of metal while they work; they also cannot wear any cotton clothes such as the "waffle-top" undershirt as it generates more static electricity.

Risks like this become all the more prevalent when RF-A starts and new units begin to use the operating locations with the 354th MXS munitions flight.

That risk is compounded by foreign military partners that use different names for the same equipment and the ever-present language barrier, Coan said.

When RF-A kicks off, more than 1,000 extra personnel arrive with their own munitions and aircraft.

"We're responsible for the support and beddown of all the (TDY) units that come in, so basically we absorb them into our unit," Hedrick said. "Right now, we have five units we are working with. We bring them in and integrate them into our operations. They work as a team together to build each other's munitions and we provide the oversight, support and equipment."

During this time, the extra units all share the munitions flight facilities for their own munitions operations.

"We basically help them take custody of their assets and process each time they fire something off," Coan said.

During RF-A season, munitions Airmen join many other units and burn the midnight oil at Eielson AFB, working 24-hour operations in a three-shift system.

The other units on TDY at Eielson AFB also need to pull such shifts in order to keep up with their own munitions demands, and it is the job of the munitions control facility to determine who is going where to build what, Hedrick said.

"The melding together of all personnel is on us," Hedrick said. "Depending on what they are requesting to drop munitions wise, each unit is responsible for bringing their supporting personnel according to their allocation. The more they want to drop, the more personnel they are required to bring to support their mission operations."

Depending on which operation facility munitions Airmen may be assigned, they could have little or extensive interaction with the visiting units.

"The (South Korean air force) airmen were here last week building GBU-10s and we walked them through the whole process," said Senior Airman Justin Ponder, a 354th MXS munitions flight munitions systems journeyman.

Coan added that "if multiple units, including foreign units, are flying the same type of chaff or flare as us, we'll just take a couple of people from each unit and do a massive build. This is what they all pull from. They each have their own expenditure limits and allocations, so we don't give them more than each unit (are) allotted."

One of the objectives of RF-A is to increase interoperability between allied forces to create a stronger, more unified force. That mission reaches beyond the skies and is evident in ground-level missions like this one.

"We've got five units that all want to do different things at the same spot, so having to (organize) that, and overcome those language barriers with the foreign units can be challenging," Hedrick said. "We are always able to (accomplish) the mission and get it done."

2015 1st Northeast Ammo Reunion



Hi Rich!

I attached some pictures from NKP, Thailand. The unit was the 456 MMS and the pictures have the years in the picture's name.

Thanks!

Ray Wilson CMSgt (ret)
IYAAYAS!



Hickam – 1966



Thailand - 1967



Thailand -1969



Thailand - 1969

Seymour Johnson beat Moody to win Southeast Ammo Bowl



Iceman Knocks Out Bombs With MUNS Airmen



Chuck “The Iceman” Liddell, retired American mixed martial artist, and family visited with Ammo at Osan AB, South Korea, Aug. 5, 2015. Some of the highlights of their visit are; SSgt Short, 51st Munitions Squadron flightline maintenance munitions inspector, helps Heidi Liddell, spouse of retired American mixed martial art champion Chuck “The Iceman” Liddell, put a fuze into a GBU-31. Capt Cooper, SSgt Short, and the “The Iceman” assembled a GBU-31. Heidi Liddell also assisted in the assembly of the GBU-31, by installing the fuze. “The Iceman” talks with SSgt Rodriguez inspections crew chief. Tech. Sgt. Eric Ybarra, 51st Munitions Squadron flightline maintenance section chief, briefs the Liddell family about various munitions built on Osan Air Base.

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kristin High



LAST AMMO CALL



STEPHEN PENHALL

Penhall May 8, 1974 - Aug. 16, 2015 **OKLAHOMA CITY** Stephen Patrick Penhall born May 8th, 1974 left us to play on his next great stage on August 6th, 2015. He was a consummate musician, son, friend, uncle, employee, brother, but brighter than all, just a good man. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force He is sadly survived by his mother Susan and husband Jim Gard, his father Joe Penhall Sr. and wife Bea, sister Shannon and husband Brent Rooney, sister Kim Casteel, niece Kaelyn Casteel, and brother Joe Penhall Jr. and wife Christy and their sons Foster and Kalex. There were many more that Steve positively impacted, and their love can be felt by us all. His absence will be felt for the rest of time. We Love you Steve! Memorial Services were held Friday, August 14th, in Oklahoma City, OK.

He was a troop of mine back at Nellis from 98-99. Tall, skinny kid but was always someone you could count on. He was AMMO from about 95-99 or so. First base was Osan, then Mountain Home, then back to Osan, then Nellis where he separated after his first enlistment. I lost touch with him after about 2006 when he moved from Vegas back to OKC.

Rich – I was thinking maybe you could add his name to your ACA newsletter next time you do a last AMMO Call list.

Thanks

G

v/r

Gared M. Ewen SMSgt (ret)

Deputy Program Manager

Lexes Associates Inc.

ROBERT BORBELY



A collision involving his motorcycle and a car at a Spearfish area intersection killed Robert and injured Kimberly

Kimberly was flown to a Rapid City hospital with serious injuries.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kimberly, and their children Michael, Cheyanne and Mason.

Services for Robert were held 24 July in Sturgis SD



Squadron Leader Edward H. “Ted” Costick Royal Air Force (ret’d)

The Ammo Chiefs Association formally bestowed the “Order of the Shell and Flame” on Squadron Leader Edward H. “Ted” Costick on the 22nd of August 2015. Citing that during his tenure as the RAF/Armament Liaison Officer to Hqs Third Air Force, USAF, his efforts exemplified the highest level of support and dedication to the United States Air Force’s Ammo Community. His life time achievements and contributions to the Air Force AMMO family set the example of unselfish dedication and self-devotion. His unending diligence was a key force behind all AMMO operations within United Kingdom ensuring full compliance with the Queen’s Regulations. The welfare of the Ammo community was always high on Sqn Ldr Costick’s list and that we are forever thankful.

Squadron Leader Costick was inducted into the Royal Air Force in the closing days of World War Two. He was trained as an Armourer Apprentice at RAF Halton. For 38 years he served Queen and Country as an Armourer, rising thru the ranks from Aircraftsman to Squadron Leader. His diverse assignments included Iraq (when the RAF was fighting an insurgency in the 50s); the far east, and Cyprus during the conflicts in the 70s. He was awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal for actions during the Cyprus Campaign.

In the mid-1970s the Squadron Leader was assigned the Hqs Third Air Force as the RAF/Armament Liaison Officer (RAFLO/Arm) with the responsibility to assure Ammunition/Explosive Operations of the USAF and US Army in the UK complied with the Queen's Regulations and UK Statues. He took up the post at a time when USAF operations in Europe were ramping up. Increasing munitions stockpiles, readiness and survivability became a paramount priority. During his 8 year tenure he personally had to sign off on every license, waiver, and construction project on USAF and US Army installations and Co-located Operating Bases. During his tenure this involved more than 1500 storage structures and 250 hardened aircraft shelters as well as a host of maintenance facilities. In addition he managed the Authorized Explosive Representative program for munitions transport. His approach was pragmatic and always helpful, never pedantic, in an effort to assist rather than hinder. While sometimes the unit managers, USAFE LGW/SE Staff, Norton, and/or the DDESB didn't always agree with his final decisions, he made every effort to work the problem and arrive at a solution that was cost and mission effective. It was thru this level of pragmatism and cooperativeness that munitions storage in existing facilities was more than doubled thru innovative storage techniques and licensing decisions which he personally shepherded thru the approval process with the Ministry of Defense. His professional advice and assistance was vital to the bed-down of GLCM operations in the UK. During the Falklands Conflict in 1982 he served as the primary liaison between the RAF and the USAF for providing munitions logistics and technical assistance, e.g. mating AGM-45s to RAF Vulcan bombers.

Sadly the Squadron Leader passed away on August 16th 2015. His widow Moira has been inducted into the Ammo Chiefs Association as an Honorary Member.



From Fred O’Hern: In 1978 I was loaned to Hqs Third Air Force (from the 48th TFW) to work in the tiny Munitions Staff Office (i.e. 3AF/LGW). For the next 3 and ½ years I had a grand title as Deputy Director. However, what this mostly entailed was being partnered with Sqn Ldr Costick. He was my friend, travel companion, and mentor during those years. We shared many pints in the Smokehouse Inn and our adventures and some would say mis-adventures could be the stuff of “Ammo” lore. Ted prided himself on being a “Hairy Chested” Armourer. He was always disappointed when we travelled to RAF bases and he couldn’t join me in the Sergeant’s Mess. He

was welcomed at Ammo social functions as one of us and always had a “piss pot”! He would have been a great Ammo Chief!



In deference to Squadron Leader Ted Costick: **IYA Arm YAS**