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RE: Sworn Statement concerning snakes and urinals at Phu Mu

February 25, 2012

I, the undersigned, Donald L. Harmon, do hereby make oath and do solemnly swear and attest that the following is a true and accurate statement and that it is given freely and without duress or ulterior motivation under penalty of law.

I was a Specialist E-5, service number RA 56597536 and was a member of the US Army 29th Signal Group in Thailand from Dec. 1969 to Oct. 1971. My job specialty was 26L20 Microwave Radio Relay Repairman and was stationed at Phu Mu, Thailand. Phu Mu was an Army signal site that was about 2 or 3 acres in size, on both the upper work site & the lower site where we were garrisoned.

One word about snakes to help describe why they would have sprayed around the hooch's in an attempt to help control the snake problem. When you coupled your experiences with the experiences of the other GI's, you soon knew that Phu Mu had a snake problem. I have had more than one GI, while I was stationed at Phu Mu, report seeing a Cobra on site. I have personally witnessed snakes twice on the lower living site and they both could have been lethal. Once was when I almost picked up a large Green Chinese Pit Viper, under a plant, beside the pool while I was policing up the area. It was a cool morning and thus it did not strike. Another time was when I saw a 5 foot brown Krait crawl into the club as a GI in front of me opened the door and entered. We had more casualties from snakebite than we did from the Pathetic Lao or Communist Insurgents. We had to always watch where we went and were glad when the 3 or 4 Phu Mu dogs would be with us to scare away any snakes.

Lower Phu Mu had a "open air" urinal next to the perimeter that was closest to the chopper pad. The urinal had a tube that ran out the bottom, thru the perimeter fence and then dumped over the edge of the mountain. It was just a few feet from the perimeter. So if you worked in the TRC-90 vans when they were on the lower site you would have been standing next to the fence anytime you had to urinate, And if you lived in the hooch next to the upper gate of the lower site, as I did, you would also be using this portable urinal. There were no bathroom facilities for the TRC-90 signalmen when the vans were moved to the upper site. When I worked the TRC-90's, you thus had to walk out back of the vans and relieve yourself. You had to go out back (instead of in front) because we had 2 Thai girls that worked the switchboard inside. So GI's working the TRC-90's would be standing numerous times each day next to the perimeter (within less than 5 feet) to urinate because of not having any facilities.

I swear and attest that the above statement is true and accurate.

Signed Respectfully I



Donald Harmon

date ^^^"/A

NOTERY

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Boone County

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