

**BUMED Oral History Project  
LCDR Steven Shadley, MSC, USN  
BUMED Headquarters Administrator**

*Date and Location of Interview:* July 9, and 14, 2013, October 10, 2013, BUMED Detachment, Falls Church, VA.

*Interviewer:* André Sobocinski, Medical Historian, BUMED

Lieutenant Commander Shadley graduated from Holland Patent Central High School in Holland Patent, New York. In 1983, while in college at Utica College of Syracuse University, he enlisted in the Air Force Reserve as a medical technician. He graduated from college with a bachelor's degree in history. When the U.S. responded to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, he was called up as a Reservist to backfill the Air Force Hospital ER at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina as active duty members of the Fourth Fighter Group deployed to Saudi Arabia. He was later assigned as the night shift supervisor for a 150-bed Aeromedical Staging Facility in King Fahd International Airport, Saudi Arabia.

Commander Shadley completed his master's degree in 1991 before becoming a Medical Service Corps officer in the Air Force Reserve. He did an internship at the G.V. Sonny Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi before transferring to active duty as a Navy Medical Service Corps where his first duty station was at the Naval Hospital in Beaufort, South Carolina. He was also the administrative officer of the branch clinic at Parris Island and served aboard the USS *Kitty Hawk*.

From July 2006 to July 2007, Commander Shadley served as Medical Planner & Deputy Surgeon, Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA). In 2009, Commander Shadley was deployed to Afghanistan as Medical Mentor, Afghanistan National Police, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan (CSTC-A). Upon returning in July 2010, Commander Shadley was assigned to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery where he helped oversee the historic headquarters relocation from Washington, DC to Falls Church, VA. Commander Shadley would later serve as medical administrator for BUMED detachments in Bethesda, MD and Falls Church, VA.

**KEY WORDS**

23<sup>rd</sup> Aeromedical Patient Staging Squadron, Griffiss AFB, NY  
ANP-Afghan National Police  
Camp Mike Spann  
Camp Shaheen

CLS-Combat Lifesaver Course  
CSTCA-Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan  
Flying Tigers  
Herat, Afghanistan  
King Fahd International Airport, Saudi Arabia  
MEDEVAC  
MEPS  
Operation Desert Storm  
SCUD missiles  
TACON-Tactical Control  
ARSIC-Afghan Regional Security Integration Command  
Taliban  
Tenth Mountain Division, US Army  
IA-Individual Augmentee

### **GLOSSARY**

354<sup>th</sup> Medical Group, Eielson Air Force Base, AK.  
Air Force Reserve (AFRES): Established as a separate command in August 1968. AFRES units are held to the same standards and inspections as regular Air Force units.  
Andujar, Joaquin, Major League Baseball pitcher 1976-1988; St Louis Cardinals 1981-5, including 1982 World Series Champions, four time National League All Star.  
AVG: 1<sup>st</sup> American Volunteer Group, the Flying Tigers of the Nationalist Chinese Air Force, composed of volunteer aviators from the U.S. Army Air Forces, Navy, and Marine Corps, from 1941-2 under the command of Colonel Claire Lee Chenault. When the AVG disbanded on 4 July 1942, a small cadre from the AVG formed the 23d Fighter Group as a component of the Chinese Air Force. The 23d Fighter Group retained the Flying Tiger name.  
"Baa Baa Black Sheep": Title of an NBC television series from 1976-1978 based on the WWII experience of VMF-214, a Marine Corps Fighter Squadron (F4U Corsair) based in the Solomon Islands, that was credited with 203 destroyed or damaged enemy aircraft, including 97 confirmed air-to-air kills, plus destroying several troop transports and supply ship and many installations. The unit lost 23 pilots killed or missing in action. Its commander, MAJ Gregory B. "Pappy" Boyington, who was credited with 26 enemy planes shot down, was himself shot down, captured by a Japanese submarine, and held as a POW. On 4 October 1945 he was awarded the Navy Cross, and the following day was presented the Medal of Honor by President Truman.  
Chenault, Claire Lee, 1893-1958, LTG, USAF: Chenault was a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1917 to 1927, when he retired as a captain. He volunteered to serve as an

advisor to Chiang Kai-shek to organize an air force for the Nationalist Chinese who were fighting the Japanese invaders, and was given the rank of colonel. In 1941, President Roosevelt the recruitment of U.S, military personnel for the First American Volunteer Group, with Chenault as its commander. These U.S. Army, Navy, and Marine volunteers called themselves the Flying Tigers and they performed spectacularly. Chenault was recalled to active duty on 15 April 1942. He was promoted to brigadier general a week later, and promoted to major general in March 1943. He retired in 31 October 1945, and from 1946-1950 was the president of the China Airport Transportation Company. He was given an honorary promotion to lieutenant general a week before his death from lung cancer on 27 July 1958.

Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility (CASF); Air Force temporary staging facility for ill or injured service members returning to the U.S. from overseas.

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base: located within the city limits of Tucson, Arizona; is home of the 355<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing.

GI Bill: The Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944 (the GI Bill), provided benefits for service members after WWII. Rep. G.V. Sonny Montgomery led the effort that revamped the act in 1984, and from 1984 - 2008 it was known as the Montgomery GI Bill.

Gramm-Rudman: Gramm, Rudman, Hollings Balanced Budget Act of 1985, also called the Deficit Reduction Act: a joint resolution of Congress to cut the Federal deficit that split the reductions with one-half defense spending and one-half domestic spending.

Griffiss Air Force Base: Located in Rome, NY, was closed in 1995; is now Griffiss International Airport.

G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center: located in Jackson Mississippi, is named for Gillespie V. Montgomery, 1920-2006, MG, USARNG, Ret.; Army infantry officer in WWII and Korea; member, U.S, House of Representatives, 1967-1997, and Chairman, House Veterans Affairs Committee, 1981-1995; a strong support of veterans benefits and national defense issues.

Luke Air Force Base: located near Glendale, Arizona; is home of the Air Education and Training Command, including the 56<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing.

MacGyver: An adventure TV series from 1985-1992 starring Richard Dean Anderson as secret agent Angus MacGyver who would solve complex problems with every day materials and his ever-present duct tape and Swiss Army knife.

Offut Air Force Base: located near Omaha, Nebraska; is home of

the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing and the Headquarters, U.S. Strategic Command.

Rhein-Main Air Base: located in the south side of the Frankfurt, Germany airport; closed 10 October 2005 as part of the reduction of U.S. forces in Europe.

Seymour Johnson: Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina  
Strike Eagle, F15: All weather fighter built by McDonnell Douglas; current F15E model is built by Boeing.

TEMPER: Tent, Expandable Modular Personnel; modular, soft-walled, aluminum frame-supported tent.

Tornado, GR4: German, Italian and British all-weather fighter manufactured by the PANAIA consortium in Munich, Germany.

Tri-wall: shipping containers made from triple layers of corrugated fiber.

UTA: Unit Training Assembly: unit training normally conducted the first weekend of each month; compare to Army Reserves weekend drill.

Westover Air Reserve Base: located in Chicopee, Massachusetts; is the largest U.S. Air Force Reserve Base.

R. Ginn 4/15/14