

**OLD Reunion Hall Table for:
LORSTA Saipan**

On 11/07/07 Dave Lorange said:

1977 - 1979 two tours, I see so many names form then below Zalawa , Remeber the jeeps we rented? now your a phyic dam we should have had more talks on that island son. Tim Darden, Everett Nisbet, Larry, Nate Walker, Waldren and Rose dam I bet she's still hot, Don Jones,Ltjg Tim Sullivan now admerial, Burt Carr, Tom my biker Cronin still talking with him, Metcalf. Last time in Saipan was 2000 to show them where I meet their Mom remeber Siony still with her after 27 years. would be Great to hear from you. Hang in there shipamtes it's all good.

On 10/27/07 Steven W. Dessin said:

Dam CG saipan, was there in early 60 cant remember but the CO had his wife with him. Transferred to Cocos then home. Went into the Marines, did loran C watches What a beautifull Island we lived on and when we had a movie on the mess deck and all the natives came around. Also had my appendix burst on the Island.

On 09/15/07 Trevor Peterson BM2 said:

Trying to make contact with anyone station at Saipan LorSta 67-68.

On 07/13/07 Bill Albright said:

Bill Albright (ETCM- Ret). I got to Saipan just after 4 July 1952. We were living in Quonset Huts and building the concrete buildings to move all the UE1's and TDP's into, I was an ET3 at the time (made ET2 as I was on my way to Miho, Japan in Dec '52) The Chief ET was Charlie J. Kelly (who was a year younger than me) Some of the others were ET3 Dave Johnson, ET3 Roger Locke, CS2 Merle Schow, Rm2 Alfie Tuthill the CO was a reserve LT named White who brought his wife and kids with him. I was an avid skin diver from my days on Lorsta Ike Shima and Saipan was the best I ever sayw for several years until I went to Yap in Jan '64 for a year and half. I got back to see Saipan in summer of '64 while on TDY Guam waiting for the tower to fall down on Yap. Did a lot skin diving in a lot of places including the Great Barrier Reef when I was on leave from Bangkok in '71. Also did a bit of diving while I was a roving Site relief manager in Saudi Arabia in '89 to '92. Working for retired CWO-4 Bo Branch again as he was the COCO for the chain. For those who remember Charlie Kelly - he went to OCS and was Asst. Electronics Office inCCGD7 when I came in in '59. He went on up the line and was Electronics Repair Officer of CG Yard as LT when I went there to doa Fram job on the Androscoggin. My relief was on board so I went back to CCGD7 Office and shortly thereafter volenteered for the Southwind. Was on the Southwind from Sept '67 to Dec. '69. Then left for Bangkok at the request of Bo Branch who I still talk to about once a month.

On 10/18/06 Mike Zalewa said:

Was on Saipan from 78-79. was my 'introduction' to the CG. Went on to aviation and workd on Falcons out of MIami for 15 years. Retired as a substance abuse counselor working as a liason for the Navy (not fun!) Finished graduate school and have been in private practice as a psychotherapist since. I remember Tom Mackey, Dave Lorange, Larry Decker, Rick Branish, Wally Guiboa and all the others I can't recall their names due to the lack of brain cells lost at the Grotto and or/beach. That was the most fun I've ever had and got paid for it! Love to hear from anyone who remembers their time on the island

On 01/22/06 Ron Wilson said:

1969-70 on Saipan. Love to hear from old shipmates..Ron Wilson

On 11/22/05 Donald K. Jones said:

11-22-05,Correcting my e-mail address Hello Tim Darden,Tom(boats),Curt Diego and Tom. I' sorry to here that the Loran Station Saipan is no longer there. I recall upon departing,we were given a book 'a pictoral of Saipan'. We would have folks to sign it ect. I made many friends there from Dec. 1977 to Jan 1979. The fun & events during this time is etched in my mind eternaly. Much to my chargin,I did have to depart. I have profound memories of Garapan,San Antonio,Bonzai Cliff,ect. I have a ribbon that I received,don't recall if it was for playing in a basketball tournament or coaching a young boys team summer of 1978.. As soon as I am able to expurgate some paperwork issues. I will start planning a trip there for my daughters graduation from Dallas Baptist University,of course to properly expedite this I must come along with her. 'Saipan Sam over and out' dkj

On 11/21/05 Doanld K Jones said:

11-21-05 D.K.Jones,my time on Saipan was late Dec. 1977 to Jan 1979 The Co at this time Was Lt. Tim Sullivan.

On 11/21/05 D. K. Jones said:

11-21-05 My name is Doanld K Jones. I was station on Saipan from late Dec. 1978 to Jan 1979. You may remember me as ET3 Jones. Everett Nisbett(PM),I recall that FA Larry Decker let me borrow a strap for my camera on my departure. I don't have the strap,but I will buy him another. Would like to here from an old audiophile friend Gary King from Florida. Hey, we all had mega audio systems.

On 05/16/05 Genevieve S. Cabrera said:

Gentlemen: Warm greetings from sunny Saipan. I came across your web page while pursuing research on the old Coast Guard digs in San Antonio and I am delighted to see that collectively fond memories accompany your recounting of respective station tours. This is especially pleasing from the native perspective. I was but a young tyke during the station's heyday (60s through 70s), but remember wondering what went on in this part of San Antonio Village with its neatly laid-out conglomeration of concrete buildings and paved curbs and roadway. I work for the CNMI Division of Historic Preservation now as its staff historian and would welcome any additional information that any of you would wish to share regarding your experiences during your tour of duty here on Saipan. Additionally, sharing photographic material is tantamount to 'putting a face with the name' so to speak, but again, only should you feel inclined to do so. The Loran Station has its niche in Saipan's history and deserves mention. For those of you that would wish to forward a note, please do so through the indicated e-mail address. Sincerely, Genevieve S. Cabrera

On 09/25/04 Loren Rice (Barny Loran) said:

Yea, been there, done that, you read it in the paper. Twice. The Lorsta is now Pacific Islands Club Saipan. In fitting tribute, a land-locked pirate ship now sits approximately where the Mess deck used to be. Got pictures and someday I'll dig 'em out and find some place to post them. Good hearing from Bill Mennel, you did a heck of a job out there, Bill. Those Xmitters ran great and made my job easy . Kudos. I was there twice and have more stories to tell than this venue could allow. Ran into Jesus Cruz one night up in Garapan and he was going to retire soon and move to the Philippines. There is a second grotto about a hundred yards north of the one most people know of. it's entrance is at ninety feet and it's BIG. I went into it about a hundred and fifty foot and up to about 40 foot depth, I hit a thermocline of very cold water that distorted my image. Shining my Ikelite Lantern around, I could not see any walls, only the narrow slit of a horizional entrance. The floor of it was an expanse of sand with tracks of some very good-sized lobsters. Had to leave then due to bottom-time restrictions. hey Frank remember; we used to have to desend the grotto walls hanging on to roots of the trees. They had steps when I got out there in 1976. Lost a little charm, you know. Ben Conception used to say it was 111 steps down and 150 steps back up. I personnally never counted them. Hey Bill,(Talbert) what became of Phil Van Werkhoven?

On 08/10/03 Bill Mennel said:

Stationed on Saipan LORSTA from Aug 75 to Aug 76. Very lovely place. Always things to do. Remember the Tappa Bar, Royal Tagga, Continental Hotel, etc. Remember swimming in the Grotto (the one with a 100+ steps), bird Island, Suicide Cliff, Marpi, the caves, Managaha, Mt Tappacha, etc. Really a great place. I married a local called Bobbie Babauta and she has been back on numerous occasions and I have been back in 1989 and 1994. Plan on a return here soon.

On 05/21/03 Paul Magdarz said:

hey any one remember boonie stomping, after work, or the pig that was pushed off the back of the dump and the sharks got it? Paul Magdarz

On 11/03/02 CWO4 R.Watson said:

Station EO {alone} 66-67-Art Mergner,CO--Family housing just being occupied.Turned it down!!Still have great shell collection-Still remember the swill called 'tuba'..

On 02/02/02 Bill Talbert said:

Email address update

On 12/03/01 Frank Reynolds said:

Was on Lorsta Saipan from about July 68 to Oct 69. I remember Black Label beer, tyoons, our dog named 'Bladder', trips to the dump. We had great times at the Royal Toga Hotel? and the Saipan Inn (off limits). Some of the names I can remember: Lt. Sellars, CWO Robertson, ET1 P.J. Wright, FM Ron Wilson, SN Dick Emerick?, ET2 Dennis from CA., cook McCloud, Chief Shearer. I was nicknamed 'Ralph' because I got so sick after my first liberty night. Rotated to Santa Rosa Life Boat Station in Gulf Breeze, FL and made BM3.

On 08/09/01 Pete Mundy said:

I was stationed at the Loran Station on Saipan from March 1948 to Feb 25th 1949. We had just installed UE-1 timers. It was a great place to swim but not much else was happening. There was a Navy golf course that we could visit from time to time and we played some baseball (we had to get players from all the other service stations because we only had eleven guys on the station) against the Navy and Marines and AirForce teams there but the only team we couldn't beat, that was the local constabulary. I left there as an ET2/C Z. It was quite a place to be after a year as a deck sailor on the Cutter R.B.Taney

On 05/05/01 Bill Talbert said:

Email address update

On 01/01/01 JON von KESSEL CWO4 said:

Made quite a few trips to Saipan over the years while assigned to D14 (eee) 1972 was first trip and then again 1979-1984 when again on D14 (eee) staff. Responsible for the closure of the station when confirmed that Guam could be used to sucessfully monitor the NWPAC Loran-C chain. Built the Guam Monitor site in 1982 and Saipan was closed.

On 11/02/00 Tom Cronin said:

I was on Saipan from 78 - 79 and is one on my most lasting memories of my youth. I had some GREAT friends while on the island. I named my dog after a great station dog named 'Roach' and my boats name is Saipan Sam. Remember the Stardust and the 'Buy me drinky girls' Anyone out there that was on the island during my time let me know.

On 09/09/00 M. said:

Guess I will be the earliest guy stationed here thats posted. I was there in 1959-60 and visited again in 69-70 as far east

office assistance. When I was there I spent a lot of time with the search for Amelia Airhart, bringing up plane parts for ID and going to hidden graves. Guess it wasn't her and Nolan but there surely was a American type couple that was there. The whole story still hasn't been told and probably never will be. NTTU had a lot of the island restricted and someone told old wartime locals to be quiet. Shakey ETCM Ret

On 08/26/00 John Leahy said:

I was on saipan in 53. we still had Q-huts in those days ,blind mans bar in the local village was the nearest bud watering hole spent 13 months loved every minute.

On 08/24/00 Bill Barton said:

Stationed on Guam in 67-68---- hung around Saipan on weekends --knew a guy at the station called AJ last name started with a K.----- Anyone stationed there the first part of 68 please write. THANKS, Bill Barton

On 08/11/00 Tom Sweet said:

made Bm3 on Saipan Loran 1972, remember one typhoon,diving for lobster at night and the sharks comeing in. the power station blowing up cause some locals drying lumber on the generator . The whole station getting sick along with most of the island. Lots of good times on siapan ,Boonystomping and the beach. Time flys Hi to guys that were there drop me a line

On 04/02/00 RON WILSON said:

NEW ADDRESS IS: RONW7049@CS.COM. SERVED ON SAIPAN 1969 & 70 BOOT CAMP ALPHA 68

On 03/05/00 Everett Nisbett said:

I was station in Saipan from 1978-1979, that was my first station after boot camp. I had some good times on the island. I married a local girl, so been back there many times. The station is all gone now, it's a big hotel. My last trip back there was summer of 1998. I am looking for my friend FA Larry Decker. He was station there with me, haven't seeing him since. Anyone know the where about or know him drop me a e-mail. Wasssup Nate Walker.

On 02/29/00 ex; Tom Ludwig said:

I was on The CGC Mallow as A DC2 in 67 & part of 68 (if my recall is still any good)We supported the loran stations on various islands among them being sipan,tinian & others. Also remember spending some time at the big hotel that had just been built at that time on sipan. Lookin back it was one great time, Hope to hear from some old shipmates

On 02/28/00 Melvin Sellers said:

Was CO from July 1967 to July 1969. A great station and a great crew.

On 10/17/99 Bill Talbert said:

I was stioned there from 76 - 77. I seemto recall having a pretty darn good time. I even remember someof the guys who were there with me: Phil Van Werkhoven, Rick AppleBrian Savaria, Glen Skogen, Pat Quinn, Bob (can't recall). Drop mea line, be great to hear from you.

On 09/26/99 Dave Minor said:

I was on Saipan in 65-66. Got there as ET2 and made first. When I left the M&R crew from Guam just got there to build the family housing.

On 12/14/98 Mike Peal said:

Petri...I recall your name. You left before I did. Stumphy and Flanagan both were there When I was.

On 02/12/98 RON WILSON said:

I WAS AT LORSTA SAIPAN 69-70. MY NAME IS RON WILSON. ALPHA 68

On 11/04/97 Armand Petri said:

I was at LORSTA Saipan from 8/56 to 7/57 as an ET1. Ltjg Flanagan was Skipper, and BMC Gene Stumphy was XO. At that time the station was rebuilt with permanent cinder block living quarters, and reinforced concrete signal building. We had a really nice beach and the reef was about 200 yards out and the sea life was fantastic. It was really great skin diving off the reef and inside the reef. During that time about two thirds of the island was off-limits as the Naval Technical Training Unit (CIA) was using it to train Chinese from Taiwan in infiltration techniques. It was all supposed to be secret, but there was no hiding the CAT aircraft that carried the Chinese trainees to and from the island. Next to the Loran Station there was a village (mostly quonsets) called San Antonio. There were a couple of beer joints there and the only thing for sale was Budwieser, they had a lock on the place. I often wondered how much the US Trust Territory honcho got paid for that concession. Anyway it was a very interesting tour of duty, plenty of caves and old gun emplacements to poke around in, and a lot of unexploded ammo laying around. In fact on the beach adjacent to the station we found the remains of what we assumed to be a Japanese, some of what little clothing was left indicated it wasn't US made and the mess kit was definitely Japanese. After reading and hearing about the battle that went on there I don't doubt that there are a lot of unclaimed remains still on the island. One of the crew was married to a local girl, he had been there over two years when I arrived. He is EN1 Jim Arl and his wife's name was Anna and I think they had a little boy. I have quite a few color slides of the place.

On 09/14/97 Steve Wagner said:

I was an ET3 at Saipan Sam from 1979 until we closed it :-(in 1981. Would like to hear from anyone at wag@tomah.com or ICQ 1351708

On 07/25/97 Nathan Walker said:

Hello fellow Saipan Sams. I was stationed at LORSTA Saipan in 1979.

On 06/29/97 James Chandler said:

I was stationed in Saipan 77-78. I married in 77 to a local Chamorro. I got out and spent a year on the Island working for the cable TV outfit. I then went back to the States and re-enlisted. I never regret getting out for a year to do this. I got to meet some wonderful people. The locals have changed, not toward me but toward everyone in general. I equate it to crowding a bunch of people on an elevator and suddenly everyone stops talking. I have been back to Saipan every 4-5 years. I will be going to Saipan the first through third week of July 97. The station disappeared years ago. In its place is a huge Hotel. I will visit my favorite places. Namely; The top of Mt. Tapacha, the Groto (great place to swim), I even plan on taking a boat back out to Managaha. On the way I will scuba dive to the submarine near the channel boey entrance. I will also take a scuba trip out to Goat Island. And if you did not know it there is a second Groto just north of the one with the 132 steps. This one is still a closed cave as far as I know. If I can find some other cave divers I will see about checking it out. I will update this once I am on the Island. The Internet does open up many doors. Plan on having a lot of fun. The e-mail address I have listed is the one I will use while on the Island.

On 05/26/97 Curt Crumpley said:

Is the old station still there, thought it was a Japanese Hotel by now? 71-73

On 03/09/97 Skip Tyler said:

looking for anyone stationed on saipan. i was there in 1965 to 1966. skip tyler (tiny) EN3. like to here from somebody.

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