UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
*“Above All” — In Memory of*   
EIGHTEEN 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON KILLED IN LINE OF DUTY

IN THE SS MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT, RESCUE OPERATION

Thailand To Cambodia

Photo & Composite © 2020, Don Poss



Photo & Composite © 2020, Don Poss

# A-Z, LOD (CH-53 Crash)

# UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

**BLACK, JIMMY P.
SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.
Age 20, Male.
Born 24 AUG 1954, from DAPHNE, AL. 
Tour of Duty began at,
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,
56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON.
Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975.
Non-Hostile [LOD]: Thailand.
Helicopter Crash from NKP (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Cambodia—the last battle of the Vietnam War.
Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 124s

Description: On the night of 31 January 1968, Sgt. Cyr was one of five men who manned the O-51 Bunker at Tan Son Nhut AB during the attack by NVA forces. They were directly attacked by Bangalore type charges and 
RPG rockets. The bunker was ultimately overwhelmed by enemy forces.

Casualties and Losses during the Attack on TSN Air Base:  
KIA:    22 US;  29 RVN;   669 NVA/Viet Cong;.
POW:   0 US;    0 RVN;     26 NVA/Viet Cong.****BLACK, JIMMY P.**

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 20, Male.

Born 24 AUG 1954, from DAPHNE, AL.   
**Tour of Duty** began at,  
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,  
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Thailand.  
Helicopter Crash from NKP (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.   
Panel 01W – Line 124

\*

# COLLUMS, BOBBY GLEN SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 22, Male Born 24 SEP 1952, from HELENA, MT. Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. Non-Hostile [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Cambodia—the last battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W - Line 125 *COLLUMS, BOBBY GLEN

SGT (E4) – Air Force - Regular. Age 22, Male Caucasian.

Born 24 SEP 1952, from HELENA, AR.

**Tour of Duty** began at,   
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,

56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.   
Panel 01W – Line 125

**\***

# COYLE, GERALD A. SSGT (E5) – Air Force Regular. Age 31, Male Born 14 MAY 1943, from BENTLEYVILLE, PA. Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 125COYLE, GERALD A.

SSGT (E5) – Air Force Regular.   
Age 31, Male

Born 14 MAY 1943, from BENTLEYVILLE, PA.

**Tour of Duty** beganat,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,

56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 125

\*

# DWYER, THOMAS D. SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 21, Male Born JUN 17, 1953, from MIDDLEBURY, CT. Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 125DWYER, THOMAS D.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 21, Male

Born JUN 17, 1953, from MIDDLEBURY, CT.

**Tour of Duty** began at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 125  
 **\***

# FORD, BOB WAYNE SGT - Air Force 21 years old Male Born on 19 FEB 1954 From SEMINOLE, TEXAS NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975 Non-Hostile, Helicopter Crash (18 56th SPS were Killed) (Mayaguez Rescue Operation, Cambodia, 12-15 MAY 1975) Body was recovered Panel 01W - Line 126. FORD, BOB WAYNE

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 21, Male

Born 19 FEB 1954, from SEMINOLE, TX.

**Tour of Duty** was at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,  
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 125  
  
**Steve Davidson - Comment:** I have a better understanding of how things are now, but I don't agree with the "Washington D.C. bean counters" [not issuing Purple Hearts to Mayaguez SPs], but that's not unusual. Sgt Bob Wayne Ford was a good friend of mine. We were stationed together at Kingslely Field, OR, from 72-75. He left for Thailand in early 1975 and I was attending Camp Bullis en route to Korea when we first learned of his (and the others who were killed) death in the helicopter crash. You have a great web site and I'm glad to see that all Security Police who served in Vietnam are honored and remembered with integrity.

**\***

**FRITZ, GERALD W**.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 21, Male

Born MAY 6, 1954, from JUNCTION, TX.

**Tour of Duty** was at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 125

**\***

GLENN, JACKIE D.
TSGT (E6) – Air Force Regular.
Age 36, Male
Born 10 MAY 1939, from SEYMOUR, MO.
Tour of Duty began at, 
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 
56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON.
Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975.
NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.
Body was Recovered.
Panel 01W -  Line 126**GLENN, JACKIE D.**

TSGT (E6) – Air Force Regular.  
Age 36, Male

Born 10 MAY 1939, from SEYMOUR, MO.

**Tour of Duty** began at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.

Panel 01W - Line 126

**\***

# HAMLIN, DARRELL L. SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 19, Male Born 20 OCT 1955, from IOWA CITY, IA. Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 126HAMLIN, DARRELL L.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 19, Male

Born 20 OCT 1955, from IOWA CITY, IA.

**Tour of Duty** began at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,

56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 126

\*

# HANKAMER, GREGORY L. SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 21, Caucasian Male Born 15 SEP 1953, from SAN PEDRO, CA Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 126HANKAMER, GREGORY L.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 21, Caucasian Male

Born 15 SEP 1953, from SAN PEDRO, CA

**Tour of Duty** beganat,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 126

**\***

# HIGGS, DAVID ALAN SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 20, Male Born 05 MAY 1955, from SPOKANE, WA. Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Thailand. Helicopter Crash from NKP (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 126HIGGS, DAVID ALAN

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 20, Male

Born 05 MAY 1955, from SPOKANE, WA.

**Tour of Duty** beganat,   
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,  
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Thailand.  
Helicopter Crash from NKP (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 126

**Description: ‘**CH-53 KNIFE 13, Serial Number 68-10933, 21st SOS, with 4 Air Crew, a 56th Security Ops., and 18 56th SPS Airmen onboard, airlifted from NKP enroute to U-Tapao RTAFB. As one of three 3 CH-53s carrying 75 SPs, as requested by 7th Air Force, to join the assembling force for the SS Mayaguez Incident rescue operation.

At 2130 local, and about 37 miles west of NKP RTAFB, bound for U-Tapao, KNIFE 13 fell out of formation and crashed and exploded on impact. All 23 aboard were killed. Other CH-53s landed nearby, but exploding ammunition and burning fuel hindered all rescue attempts. The marines CH-53s continued on flight to Cambodia and on 15 May 1975, after an ongoing vicious battle, control of the SS Mayaguez returned to the United States.

**\***

# ILAOA, FALEAGAFULU SSGT - Air Force 27 years old Male Born 06 APR 1948 From SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975 Non-Hostile, Helicopter Crash (18 56th SPS were Killed) (Mayaguez Rescue Operation, Cambodia, 12-15 MAY 1975). Body was recovered Panel 01W -Line127. ILAOA, FALEAGAFULA SSGT (E5) – Air Force Regular. Age 27, Male

Born 06 APR 1948, from SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

Tour of Duty began at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,

56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 127

\*

**LANE, MICHAEL DAVID
SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. 
Age 25, Male Born 04 JAN 1950.
From JACKSONVILLE, FL.
Tour of Duty began at, 
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 
56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON.
Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975.
Non-Hostile [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Cambodia—the last battle of the Vietnam War.
Body was Recovered.
Panel 01W – Lane 127LANE, MICHAEL DAVID**

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 25, Male Caucasian  
Born 04 JAN 1950.

From JACKSONVILLE, FL.  
**Tour of Duty** began at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,

56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Lane 127

\*

# LONDON, DENNIS W. SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 25, Male, Caucasian Born 21 AUG 1949, from SPARKS, NC Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 127LONDON, DENNIS W.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.

Age 25, Male, Caucasian

Born 21 AUG 1949, from SPARKS, NC

**Tour of Duty** beganat,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.   
Panel 01W – Line 127

\*

# MATHIAS, ROBERT P. SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 21, Male Born 13 OCT 1953. from GRANADA HILLS, CA Tour of Duty began at NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 127MATHIAS, ROBERT P.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 21, Male

Born 13 OCT 1953. from GRANADA HILLS, CA  
**Tour of Duty** began at

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,

56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 127  
  
\*

# MC KELVEY, WILLIAM R. SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular - Age 23, Male Born 30 JAN 1952, from PHILADELPHIA, PA Tour of Duty began, at NAKHON PHANO RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. Non-Hostile [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Cambodia—the last battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 128MC KELVEY, WILLIAM R.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular - Age 23, Male

Born 30 JAN 1952, from PHILADELPHIA, PA  
**Tour of Duty** began, at

NAKHON PHANO RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,

56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**Non-Hostile** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Cambodia—the last battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.

Panel 01W – Line 128

**Description: McKelvey** was the last of the 630 servicemen from Philadelphia to die in the Vietnam Theater of Operations during the Vietnam Era, which the Department of Defense defines as the period from August 1964 through May 1975. The 23-year-old – Air Force Regular. sergeant was killed when the from CH-53 helicopter in which he was riding crashed 35 miles southwest of Nakhon Phanom, ROYAL THAILAND, on May 13, 1975. McKelvey had left Roxborough High School in 1969 at the age of 17 to enlist. He was assigned to the 56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF. in Vietnam. McKelvey had married a Thai woman and planned to adopt her daughter. In addition to his wife, he was survived by his parents and a sister. William lived on DuPont Street, in Roxborough, (PA. Source: Philadelphia Daily News 10/26/1987, Saturday, December 20, 2003). Don Graham.

\*

# MORAN, EDGAR CRAIG, II AIRMAN (E2) – Air Force Regular. Age 19, Male| Born 16 FEB 1956, from PITTSBURG, PA Tour of Duty began at NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. Non-Hostile [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Cambodia—the last battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 02W – Line 128 MORAN, EDGAR CRAIG, II

AIRMAN (E2) – Air Force Regular.   
Age 19, Male|

Born 16 FEB 1956, from PITTSBURG, PA  
**Tour of Duty** began at

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**Non-Hostile** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Cambodia—the last battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.   
Panel 02W – Line 128

\*

NEALIS, TOMMY R.
SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. 
Age 22, Male 
Born 23 APR 1953, from MT STERLING, CT.
Tour of Duty began at, 
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 
56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON.
Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975.
NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.
Body was Recovered. 
Panel 01W – Line 128  **NEALIS, TOMMY R.**

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.   
Age 22, Male   
Born 23 APR 1953, from MT STERLING, CT.  
**Tour of Duty** began at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.   
Panel 01W – Line 128

**\***

# ROSS, ROBERT W. SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular. Age 19, Male Born 09 JUL 1954, from CYPRESS, CA Tour of Duty began at, NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND, 56th SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON. Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975. NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the SS Mayaguez Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War. Body was Recovered. Panel 01 – Line 129ROSS, ROBERT W.

SGT (E4) – Air Force Regular.  
Age 19, Male

Born 09 JUL 1954, from CYPRESS, CA  
**Tour of Duty** began at,

NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, ROYAL THAILAND,   
56TH SEC POLICE SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975.

**NON-HOSTILE** [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 129

\*

**USAF C-53 AIR CREW**21ST SPECIAL OPS SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**KAYS, JAMES G**

Air Force – CAPT 03 - PILOT  
Age 25, Male  
Born 4 OCT 1949, from ATLANTA, GA  
**Tour of Duty** began on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND,  
21ST SPECIAL OPS SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.  
Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND  
NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01 – Line 127

\*

**FROEHLICH, LAURENCE E.**  
Air Force — 1LT 02 – CO-PILOT  
Age 25, Male Caucasian  
**Born 26 DEC 1949**, from SODUS, MI  
**Tour of Duty** began on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND,  
21ST SPECIAL OPS SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.  
Casualty was on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND  
NON-HOSTILE [LOD]: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01 – Line 126

\*

**MC MULLEN, GEORGE E. III**  
Air Force Regular. TSGT – 06 . FLIGHT MECHANIC

Age 31, Male

Born 7 SEP 1943, from OXFORD, CA  
**Tour of Duty** began on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND,  
21ST SPECIAL OPS SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND  
**NON-HOSTILE [LOD]**: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01 – Line 128

\*

**RABER, PAUL J.**  
Air Force Regular. SGT, SECURITY SPECIALISTAge 21, Male Caucasian  
Born 21 APR 1954, from PORT ANGELES, WA

**Tour of Duty** began on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND,  
21ST SPECIAL OPS SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND  
**NON-HOSTILE [LOD]**: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01 – Line 128

\*

**WELDON, ROBERT P.**Air Force Regular - SGT - E4

Age 19, Male.  
Born 10 OCT 1955, from KANSAS CITY, KS  
**Tour of Duty** began on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND,  
21ST SPECIAL OPS SQDN, 56TH SPECIAL OPS WING, 7TH AF.

**Casualty** was on 13 MAY 1975, in THAILAND  
**NON-HOSTILE [LOD]**: Helicopter Crash (Eighteen 56th SPS and 5 Aircrew were Killed enroute to the *SS Mayaguez* Incident and Operation Rescue, Thailand—the Last Battle of the Vietnam War.

Body was Recovered.  
Panel 01 – Line 129

\*

**MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT: Operation Rescue, Thailand—The Last Battle of the Vietnam War**

**15 May 1975: Crew boarding SS Mayaguez off Cambodia.**

**Photo (15 May1975):
U.S. freighter SS Mayaguez, boarded by U.S. crew from the USS Harold E. Holt, 15 May 1975. 
**

**Photo: 15 May1975): U.S. freighter SS Mayaguez,** boarded by U.S. crew from   
the *USS Harold E. Holt*.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
***“Semper Fidelis” (“Always Faithful”)*** *— In Memory of*  
FOURTEEN KILLED IN LINE OF DUTY

IN THE SS MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT, RESCUE OPERATION

Thailand To Cambodia

# UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

# BENEDETT, DANIEL ANDREW Marine Corps – PFC – E2 - Regular Age 19, Male Caucasian, Single Born 30 OCT 1955, from AUBURN, WA Tour of Duty began on 15 May 1975 Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: ROMAN CATHOLIC Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 129

# \*

# BLESSING, LYNN Marine Corps – PFC – E2 - Regular Age 18, Male Caucasian, Married Born 16 JAN 1957, from LANCASTER, PA Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 129

# \*

# BOYD, WALTER Marine Corps – PFC – E2 - Regular Age 18, Male Negro, Single Born 17 APR 1956, from NORFOLK, VA Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: PROTESTANT Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 132

# \*

# COPENHAVER, GREGORY SCOTT Marine Corps – LCPL – E3 - Regular Age 19, Male Caucasian, Single Born 21 JUL 1955 from PORT DEPOSIT, MD Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: PROTESTANT Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 132COPENHAVER, GREGORY SCOTT Marine Corps – LCPL – E3 - Regular Age 19, Male Caucasian, Single Born 21 JUL 1955 from PORT DEPOSIT, MD Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: PROTESTANT Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 132

# \*

# GARCIA, ANDRES Marine Corps – LCPL – E3 - Regular Age 20, Male Caucasian Born 27 OCT 1954, from CARLSBAD, NM Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: ROMAN CATHOLIC Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 132GARCIA, ANDRES Marine Corps – LCPL – E3 - Regular Age 20, Male Caucasian Born 27 OCT 1954, from CARLSBAD, NM Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: ROMAN CATHOLIC Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 132

# \*

# JACQUES, JAMES JOSEPH Marine Corps – PFC – E2 - Regular Age 18, Male Caucasian, Single Born 18 JUN 1954, from ALBANY, NY Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY, MULTIPLE FRAGMENTATION WOUNDS Religion: ROMAN CATHOLIC Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 131JACQUES, JAMES JOSEPH Marine Corps – PFC – E2 - Regular Age 18, Male Caucasian, Single Born 18 JUN 1954, from ALBANY, NY Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY, MULTIPLE FRAGMENTATION WOUNDS Religion: ROMAN CATHOLIC Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 131

# \*

# ASHTON, NATHANIEL LONEY Marine Corps – LCPL – E3 Age 20, Male Negro, Single Born 18 JUN 1954, from ALBANY, NY Religion: Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY, MULTIPLE FRAGMENTATION WOUNDS. Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 131LONEY, NATHANIEL ASHTON Marine Corps – LCPL – E3 Age 20, Male Negro, Single Born 18 JUN 1954, from ALBANY, NY Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY, MULTIPLE FRAGMENTATION WOUNDS Religion: Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 131 \*

# MAXWELL, JAMES RICKEY Marine Corps – PFC – E2 Age 18, Male Caucasian, Single Born on 20 FEB 1957, from CENTER RIDGE, AR Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: PROTESTANT Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 131MAXWELL, JAMES RICKEY Marine Corps – PFC – E2 Age 18, Male Caucasian, Single Born 20 FEB 1957, from CENTER RIDGE, AR Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975, Casualty was on 15 MAY 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: PROTESTANT Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 131

# \*

# RIVENBURGH, RICHARD WILLIAM Marine Corps – PFC – E2 Age 21, Male Caucasian, Single Born 14 JUL 1953, from San Diego, CA Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 May 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 132RIVENBURGH, RICHARD WILLIAM Marine Corps – PFC – E2 Age 21, Male Caucasian, Single Born 14 JUL 1953, from San Diego, CA Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 May 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 132

# \*

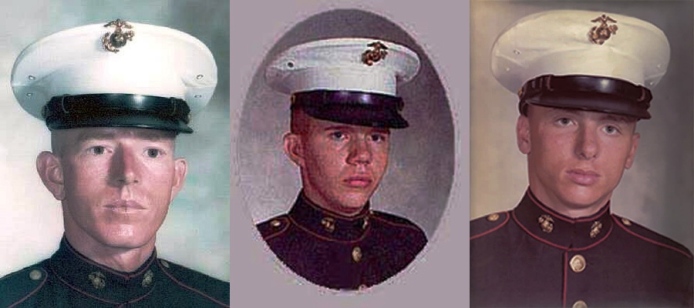
# SANDOVALL, ANTONIO RAMOS Marine Corps – PFC – E2 Age 19, Male, Caucasian, Single Born 4 MAR 1956, from SAN ANTONI, TX Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 May 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA Religion: Body was Not Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 129

# \*

# TURNER, KELTON RENA Marine Corps – PFC – E2 - Regular Age 18, Male, Negro, Single Born 15 JUL 1956, from Los Angeles, CA Religion: PROTESTANT Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 May 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA. Religion: PROTESTANT Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 130

# \*

**MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT – CAPTURED, TORCHERED EXECUTED**

**BY KHMER ROUGE, CAMBODIA. DIED WHILE MISSING. BNR.**

Lance Cpl. Joseph Hargrove Pfc. Gary Hall Pvt. Danny Marshall   
H/T Stars and Stripes, for this image

**HARGROVE, JOSEPH NELSON**  
Marine Corps – LCPL – E3 - Regular  
Age 25, Male Caucasian, Married  
Born 15 May 1951, MT OLIVE, NC  
**Tour of Duty began** on 15 MAY 1975  
Casualty was on 21 JUL 1976, in Cambodia (MIA)  
**HOSTILE,** died while missing, GROUND CASUALTY AIR LOSS, CRASH ON LAND  
Religion: PRESBYTERIAN

Body Not Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 130

**\***

**A person wearing a military uniform

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceHALL, GARY LEE**

Marine Corps – PFC – E3 – Regular  
E CO, 2ND BN, 9TH MARINES, 3RD MARDIV, III MAF

Age 19, Male Caucasian, Single  
Born 26 JUL 1956, from COVINGTON, KY

**Tour of Duty began** on 15 MAY 1975  
Casualty was on 21 JUL 1976, in Cambodia (MIA)  
**HOSTILE,** died while missing, GROUND CASUALTY AIR LOSS, CRASH ON LAND  
Religion: SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTIONBody Not Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 130  
  
  
**\***

**A person wearing a military uniform

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceMARSHALL, DANNY GLEN**

Marine Corps – PVT – E1 – Regular  
Age 19, Male Caucasian, Single  
Born 9 MAR 1957, from WAVERLY, WV

**Tour of Duty began** on 15 MAY 1975  
Casualty was on 21 JUL 1976, in Cambodia (MIA)  
**HOSTILE,** died while missing, GROUND CASUALTY AIR LOSS, CRASH ON LAND  
Religion:Body Not Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 131

**\***

UNITED STATES NAVY   
***“Semper Fortis,” “ Ever Strong”*** *— In Memory of*  
TWO NAVY CORPSMAN KILLED IN LINE OF DUTY

IN THE SS MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT, RESCUE OPERATION

Thailand To Cambodia

# 

# UNITED STATES NAVY

# A person wearing glasses Description automatically generated with medium confidenceGAUSE, BERNARD (NAVY CORPSMAN) Navy – HM1 – E6 Age 34, Male, Caucasian, Married Born 11 NOV 1940, from BIRMINGHAM, AL Religion: PROTESTANT Tour of Duty began on 15 MAY 1975 Casualty was on 15 May 1975, in Cambodia. HOSTILE, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA. Religion: PROTESTANT Body was Recovered. Panel 01W – Line 130

# \*

**A person wearing a uniform

Description automatically generated with low confidenceMANNING, RONALD JAMESMES**(NAVY CORPSMAN)Navy — HN – E3 – Navy - Regular  
Age 21, Male Caucasian, Single  
Born 9 MAY 1954, from TORONTO, OH  
**Tour of Duty began on** 15 MAY 1975  
**Casualty was on 15 May 1975**, in Cambodia.  
**HOSTILE**, HELICOPTER – NONCREW, AIR LOSS, CRASH AT SEA.  
Religion: PROTESTANT  
Body was Not Recovered.  
Panel 01W – Line 131

# \*