

**AFVN**

**Detachment 1**

**Qui Nhon**  
**September 1966**

Alton "Al" Merwitz  
MSgt, USAF  
Engineering, Saigon, Qui Nhon

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #1 of 22

## Westmoreland Inaugurates 1st TV Station In Vietnam

QUI NHON, Sept. 25 (UPI) — Gen William C. Westmoreland, commander of U.S. Force in Vietnam, used a Japanese Samurai sword today to cut a piece of video tape and officially inaugurate the first ground television station in Vietnam.

The station, first of seven semi-mobile stations planned for U.S. Forces in the country, stands atop a 1,560-foot mountain above the gleaming blue waters of Qui Nhon Bay. It will beam entertainment and information to between 5,000 and 10,000 troops.

It is a compact, 5,000-watt station in a military van. The van consists of a complete studio and transmitting facilities, including two film projectors, a slide projector and multiplexer and a full audio and video console.

The one-man studio has two television cameras, one of them portable. Two live five-minute news programs will be broadcast from it.

The other programming, a total of about three hours a day now and expansion to 50 hours a week, will be film or kinescope recordings of popular American television shows, including the Danny Kaye and

Batman. There will be one feature-length film a week.

Commanders could also use it to reach larger numbers of troops in a hurry.

The station will be operated by a 12-man staff, including one officer, from the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service, Capt. Willis J. Haas Jr., of Allentown, Pa., is in charge.

In his remark inaugurating the station, Westmoreland said the station — and the entire network when it is completed sometime next year — will be of great value to the military assistance command, Vietnam, in getting the word to the troops in the field and in providing entertainment.

Stars & Strips  
artical

*Mainichi, Tokyo  
26 Sep 66*

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #2 of 22



Incoming Chopper  
Qui Nhon Vietnam

The "smoke" is actually dust from  
the helicopter.

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #3 of 22



Gen. Westmoreland Dedicating 1st  
Mobile TV station in Combat Zone  
Qui Nhon Vietnam

GEN Westmoreland at the dedication of  
the first Mobile TV Station in a Combat Zone,  
Qui Nhon, South Vietnam.

# Allton "Al" Merwitz Photos

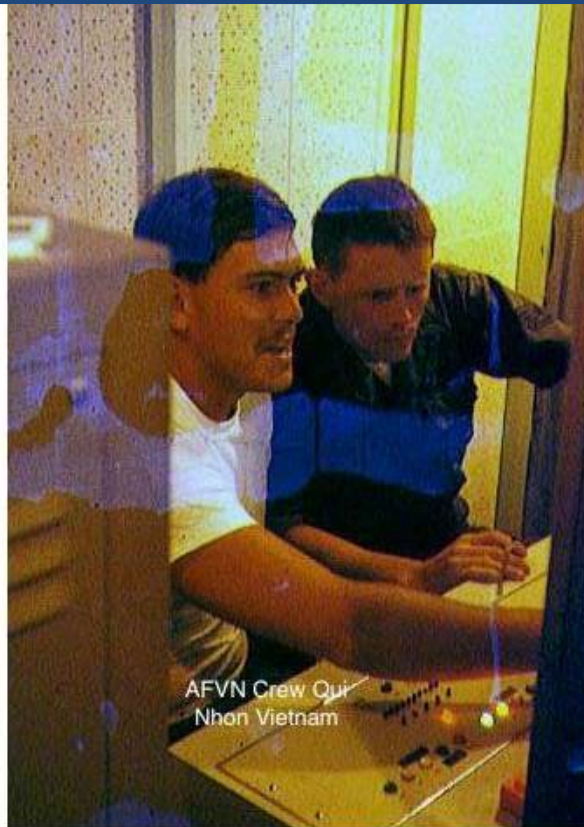
Photo #4 of 22



GEN Westmoreland shaking hand with  
some of the AFVN Qui Nhon TV Crew

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

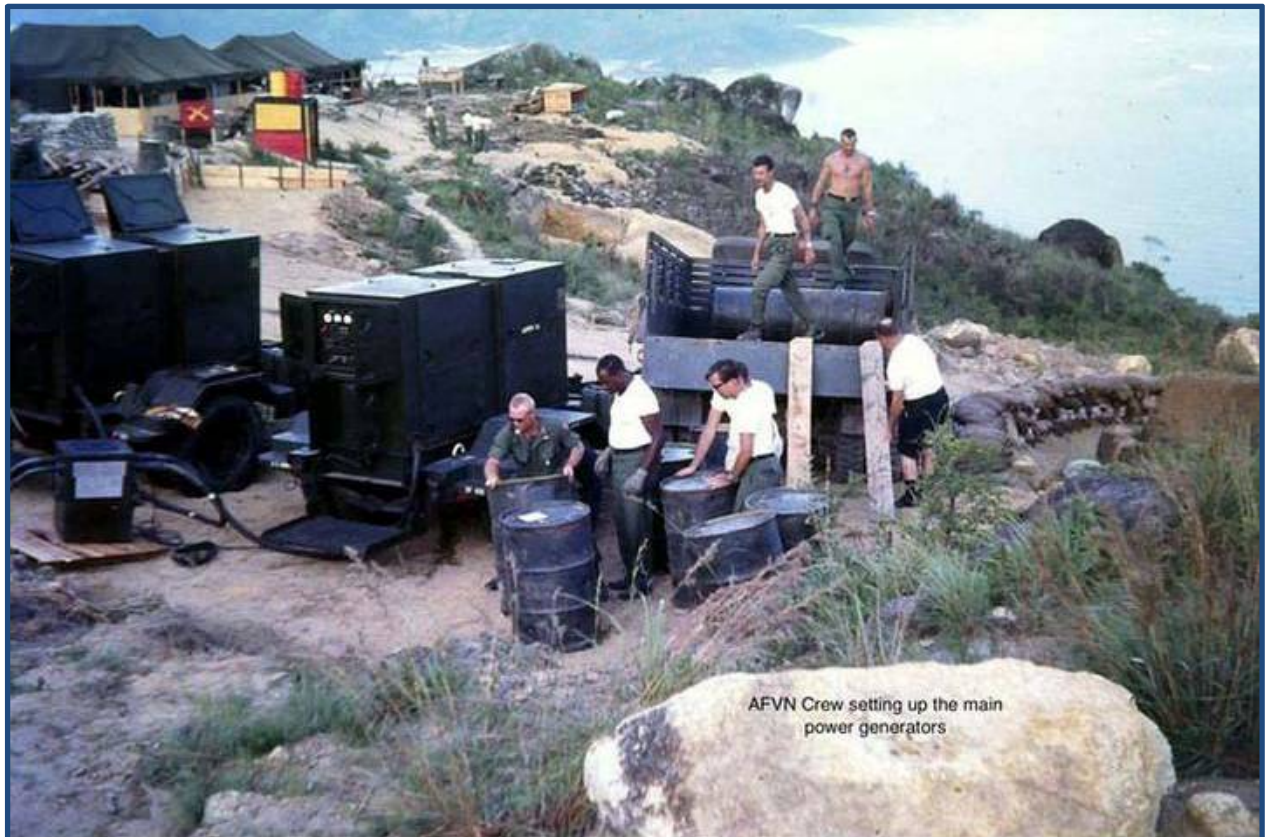
Photo #5 of 22



AFVN Crew  
Qui Nhon, South Vietnam  
Evidently taken through a window.

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #6 of 22



AFVN Crew setting up the main  
power generators

AFVN Crew setting up the  
main power generators.

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #7 of 22



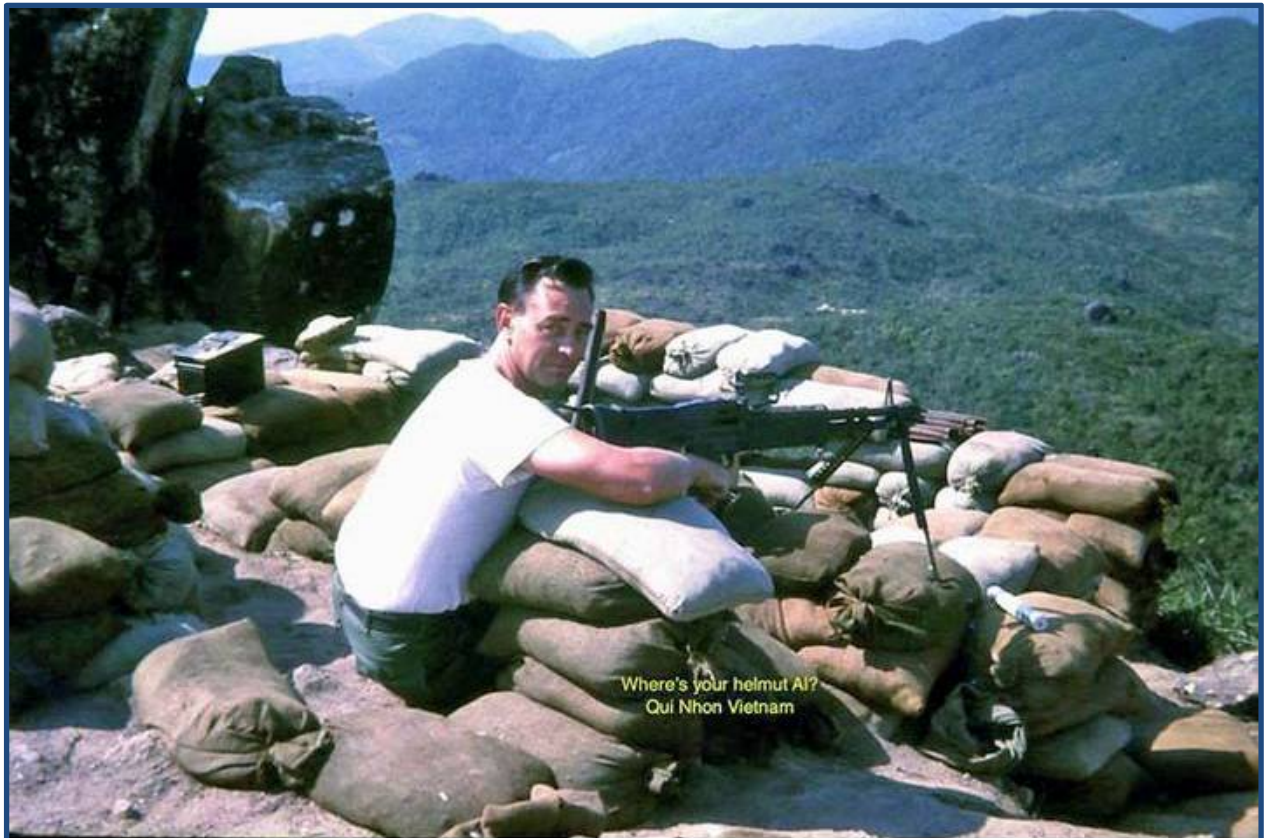
AFVN TV crew taking it  
easy Qui Nohn Vietnam

AFVN TV Crew taking it  
easy, Qui Nhon, South Vietnam



# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

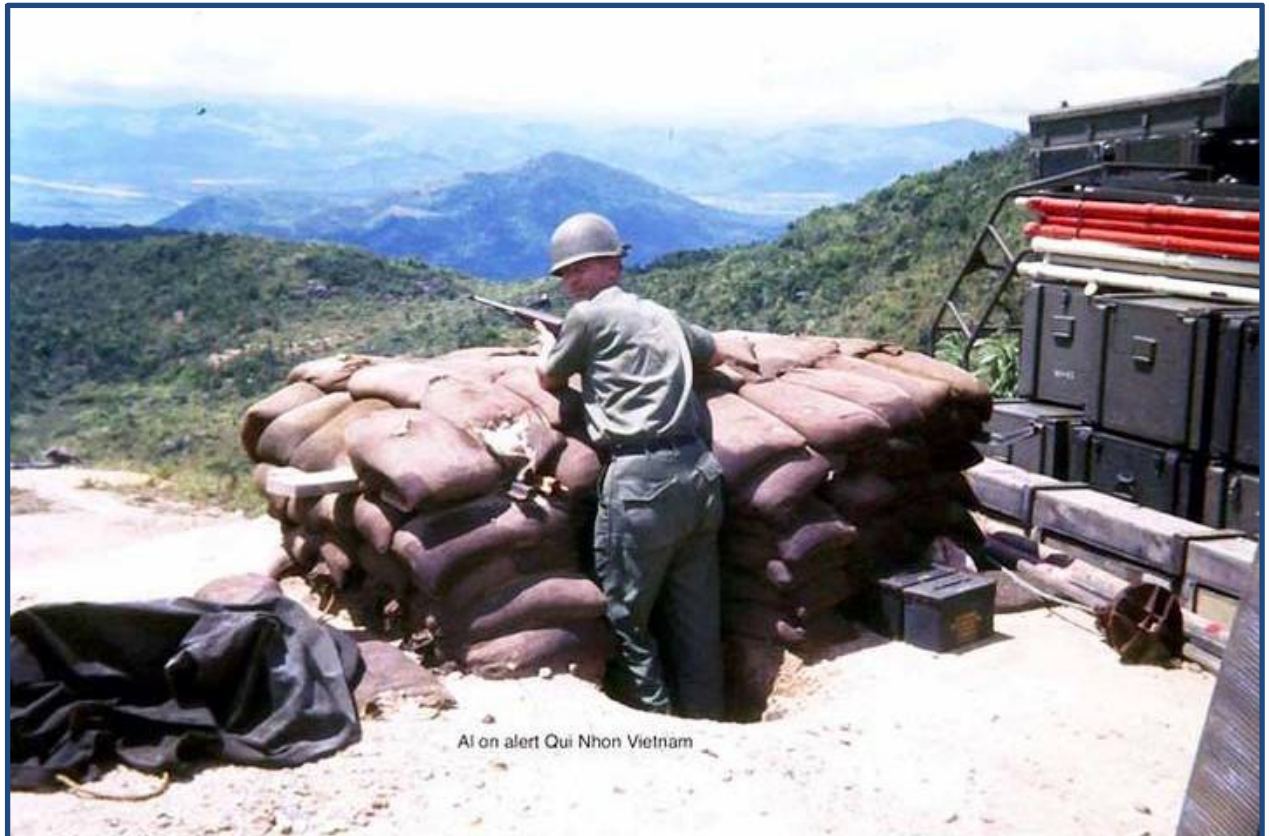
Photo #8 of 22



Where is your helmet, AI?  
Qui Nhon, South Vietnam

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #9 of 22

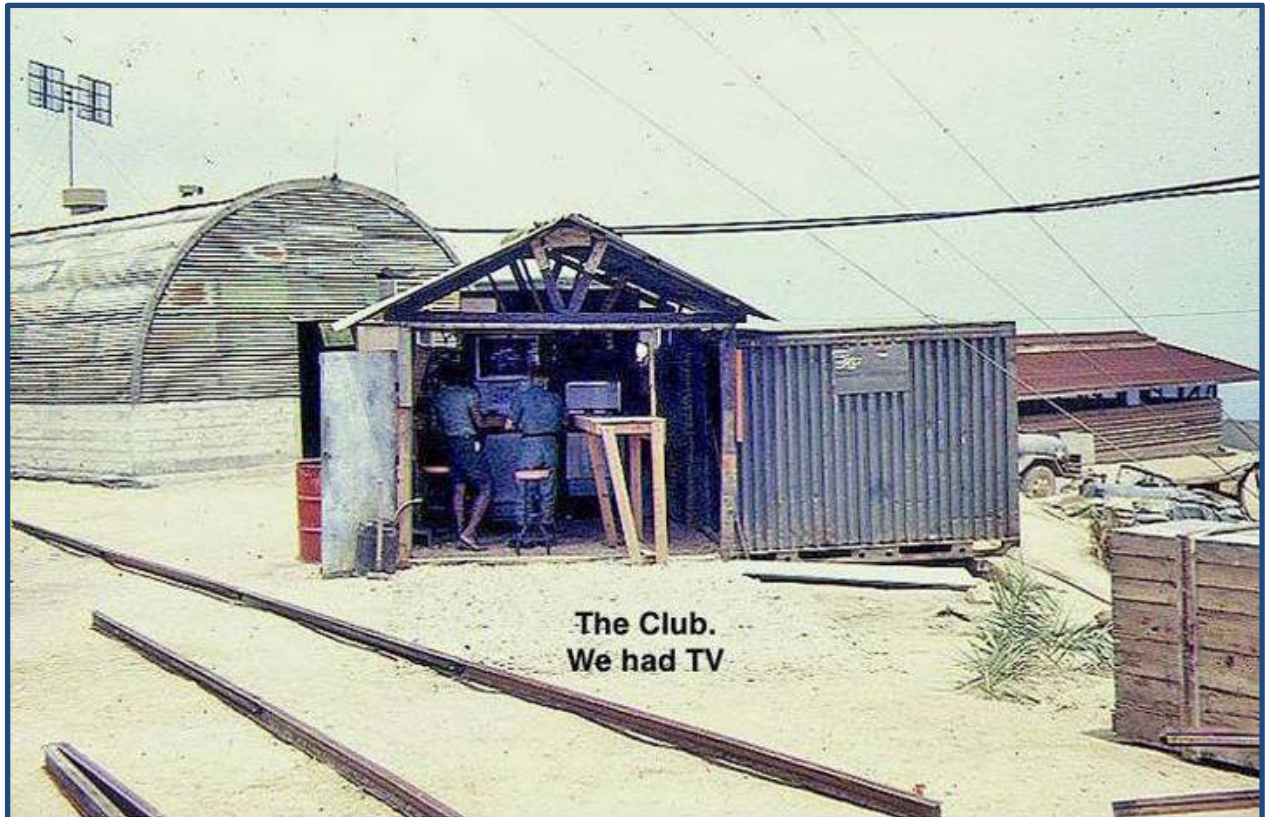


AI on alert Qui Nhon Vietnam

AI (with his helmet) on alert  
at Qui Nhon, South Vietnam

# Allton "Al" Merwitz Photos

Photo #10 of 22



The Club, complete with TV and customers.

# Allton "Al" Merwitz Photos

Photo #11 of 22



Al waiting for a hop to Saigon.  
He looks happy about it also.

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #12 of 22



Bath Time.  
The water was red from the  
ground clay, so we all looked  
like we had sun burns.  
Qui Nhon Vietnam

Bath time.  
The water was red from the ground clay, so we all  
looked like we had sun burns.

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #13 of 22



Local Car wash in Qui Nhon

Local Car Wash

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #14 of 22



Qui Nhon Traveler's Liaison Office

# Allton "Al" Merwitz Photos

Photo #15 of 22

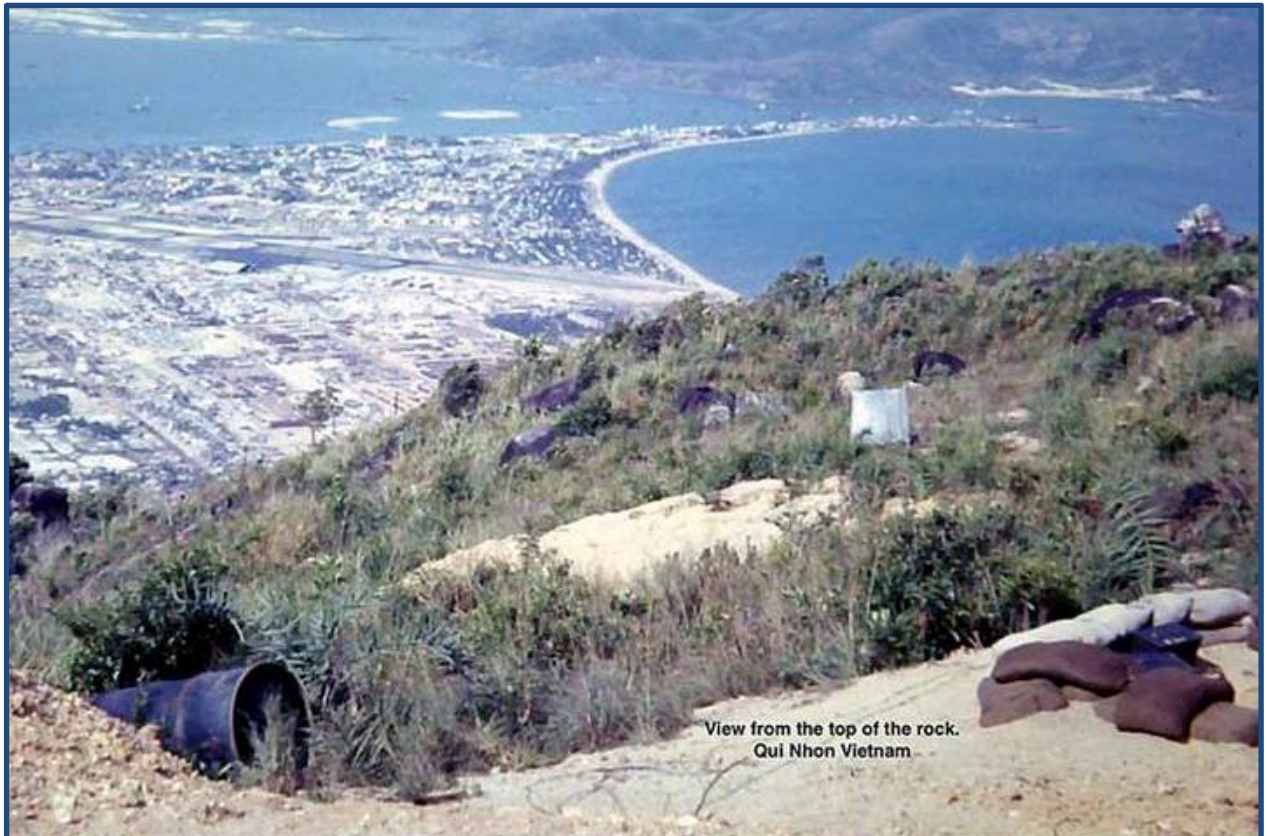


I think that the AFVN TV Site was partway or perhaps at the top of this mountain.



# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #16 of 22

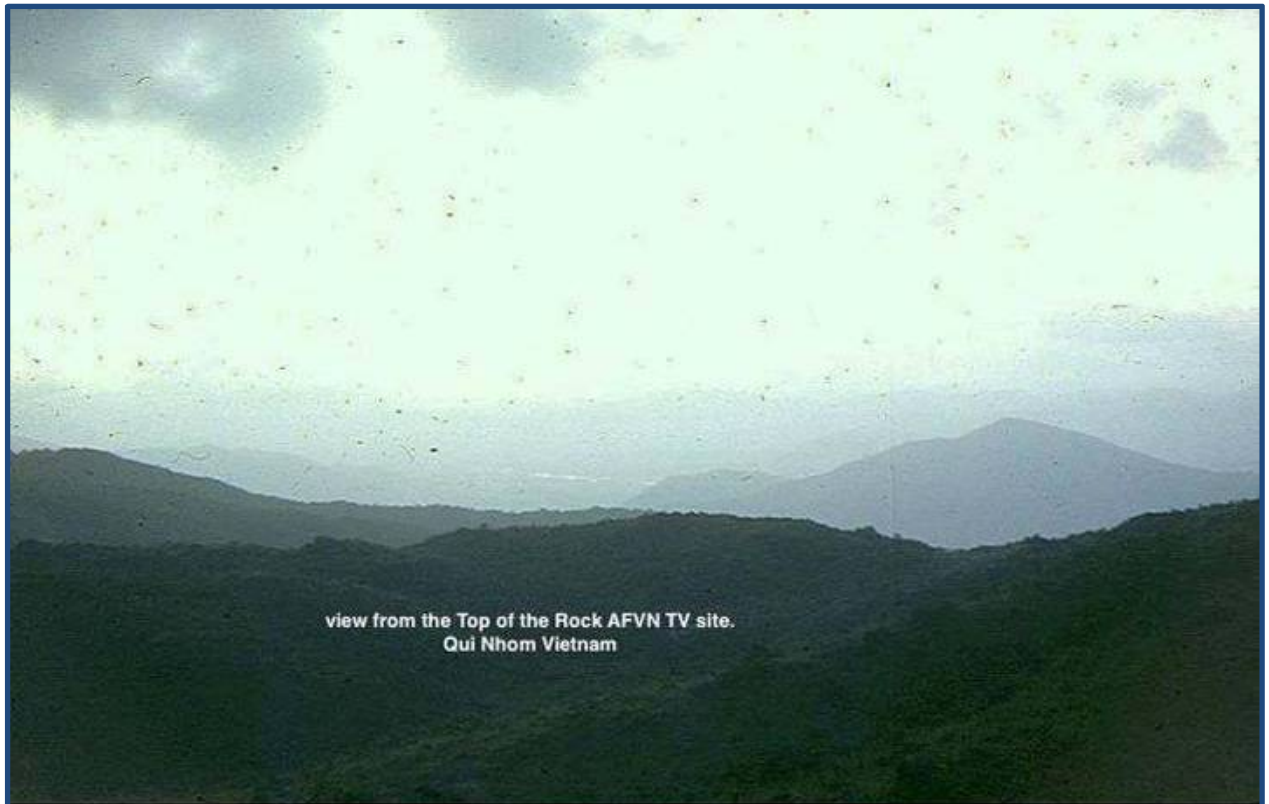


View from the top of the rock.  
Qui Nhon Vietnam.

Qui Nhon and the view from  
the top of the rock (the TV Station?)

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

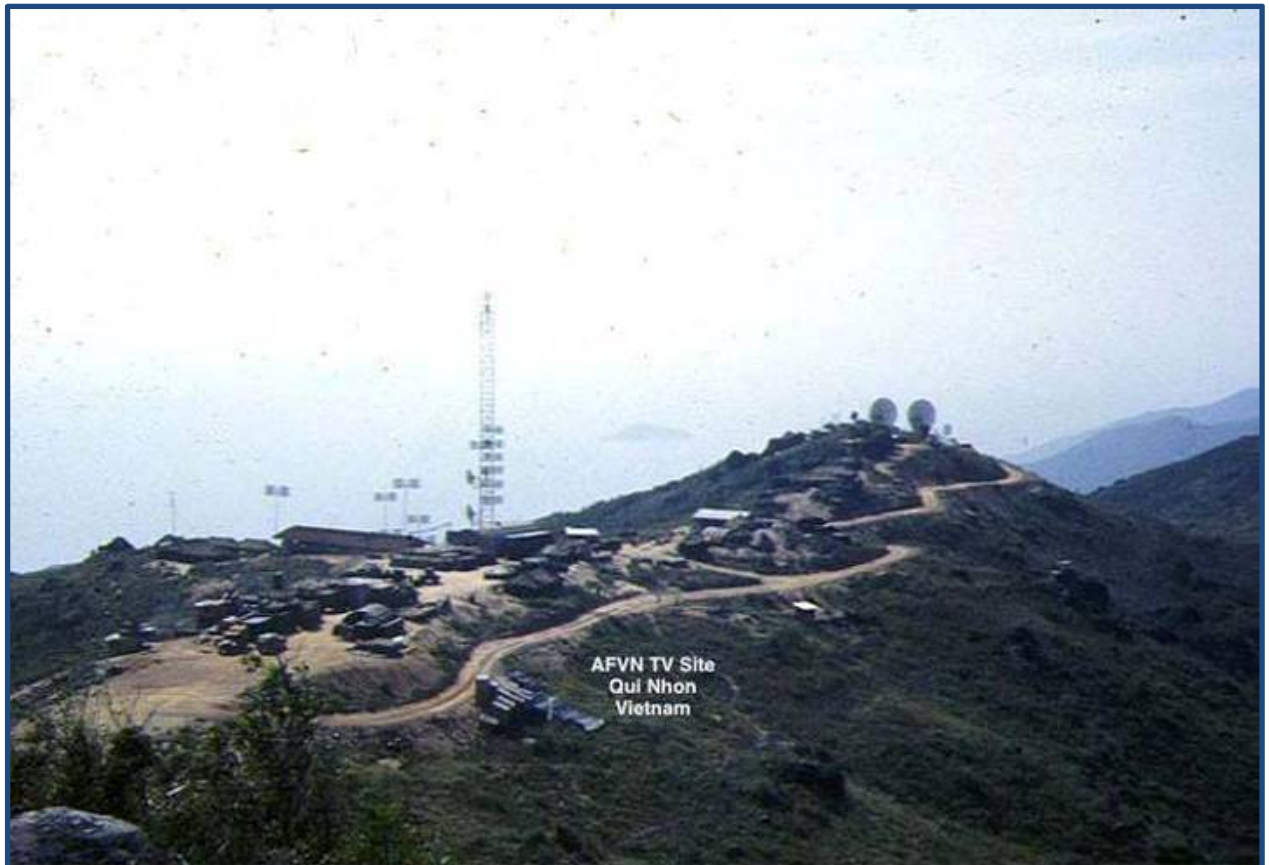
Photo #17 of 22



View from the Top of the Rock AFVN TV Site  
(Looking inland?)

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #18 of 22

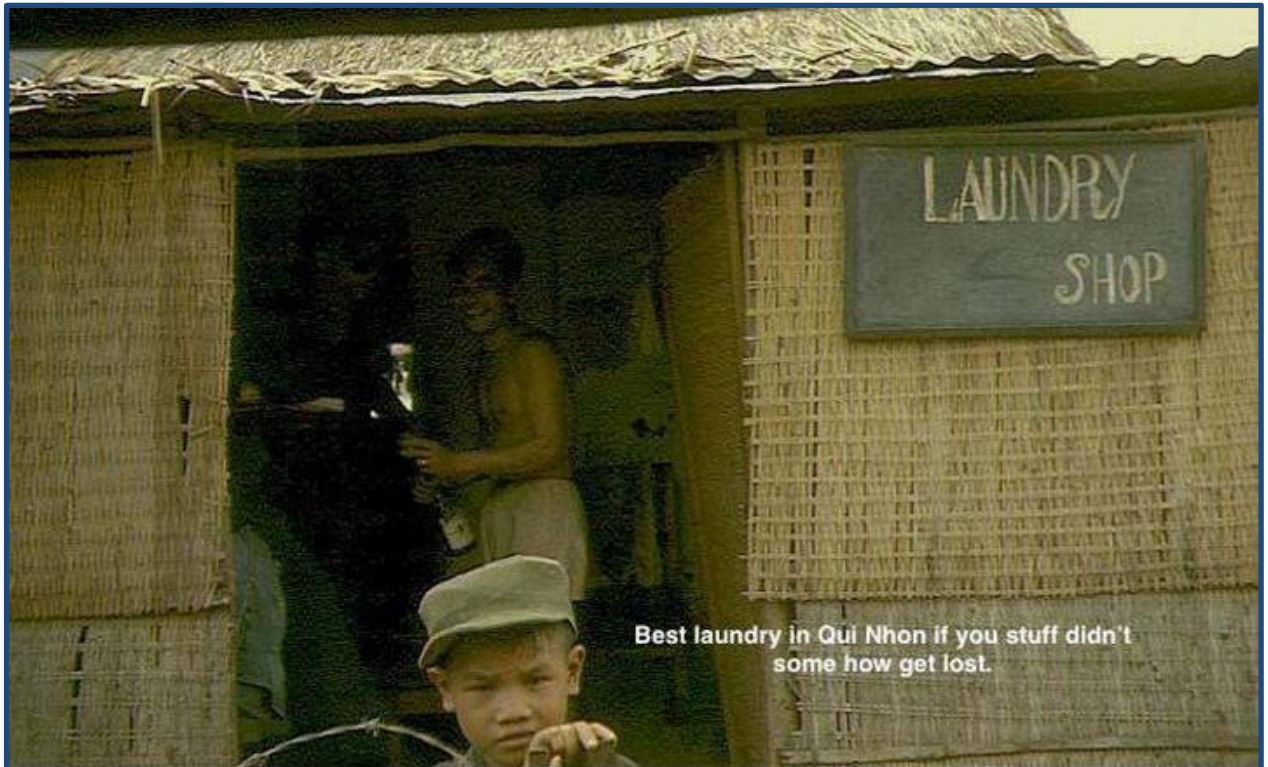


AFVN TV Site  
Qui Nhon  
Vietnam

An overview of the AFVN TV Site  
Qui Nhon, South Vietnam

# Allton "Al" Merwitz Photos

Photo #19 of 22



Best laundry in Qui Nhon if you stuff didn't  
some how get lost.

The best laundry in Qui Nhon if your stuff  
didn't somehow get lost.  
(True most anywhere in Vietnam?)

# Allton "Al" Merwitz Photos

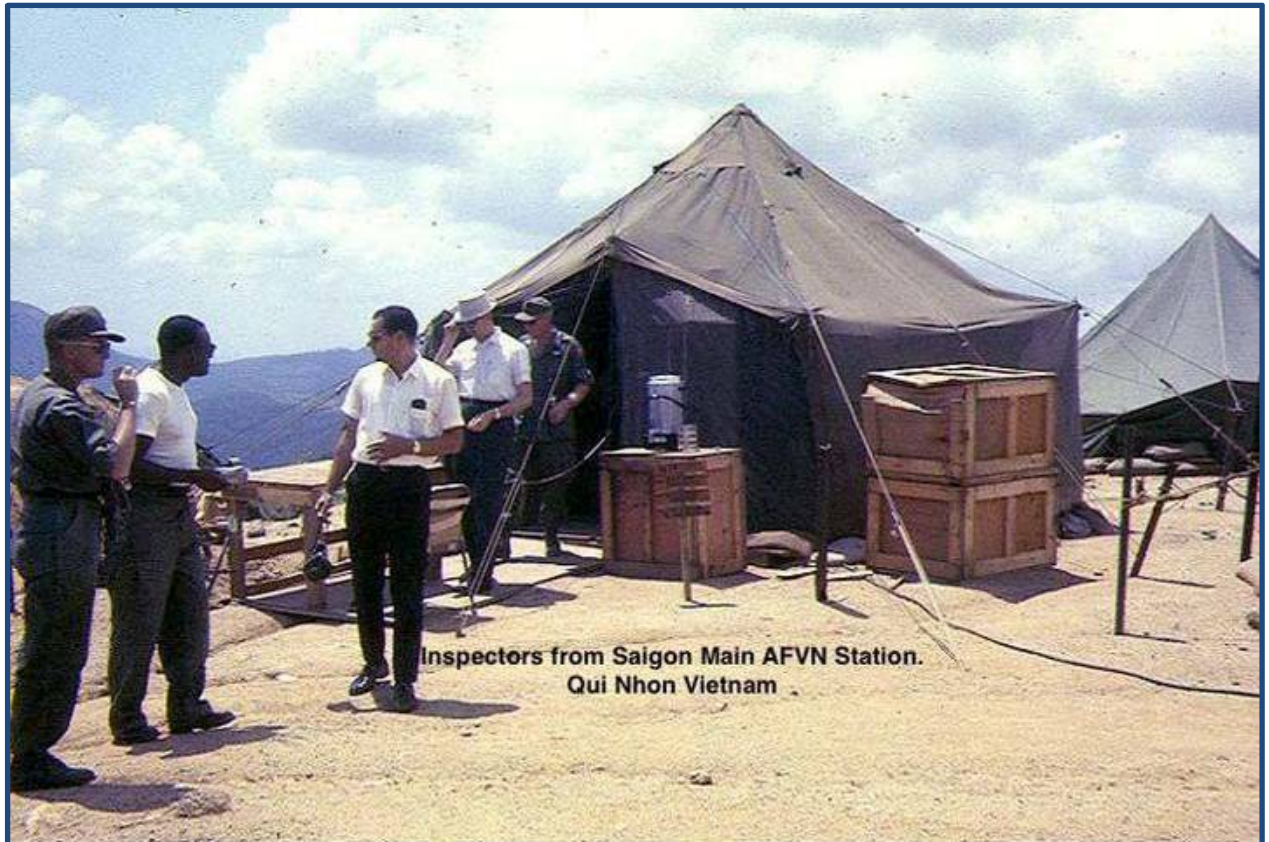
Photo #20 of 22



A flight on a C-130 and then on on to the US  
was everone's dream.

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

Photo #21 of 22



Inspectors from Saigon Main AFVN Station.  
Qui Nhon Vietnam

An Inspection Team from the Saigon Main AFVN  
Station visiting Qui Nhon.

# Allton "Al" Merwitz Photos

Photo #22 of 22



Tom Stienbeck, son of the author, John Steinbeck, helping to construct a Quonset Hut.

# Allton "AI" Merwitz Photos

End

*The End*