

# “Tet-a-Tet: A Forty-Year Journey”

By Ted Engelmann  
6<sup>th</sup> Triennial Viet Nam Symposium  
Texas Tech University  
15 March 2008

## USAF (1966-1969)

- March 1968, Bien Hoa Air Base, assigned to Forward Air Control Team (FAC)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Lai Khe
- Advisory Team #55, Rach Gia
- 1<sup>st</sup> Aussie Task Force, Vung Tau and Nui Dat

# Teacher/Educator: Full-time, Substitute, Guest Lecturer

- **US:** BVSD, Semester At Sea Interport Lecturer, NCSS, 2008 OAH Distinguished Lecturer
- **Viet Nam:** Institute of Int'l. Relations, UNIS-Ha Noi
- **ROK:** Sookmyung Women's Uni., Han Nam Uni.
- **Australia:** Australian Defence Force Academy
- **Canada:** Malaspina Uni.

# Veteran Advocate...

- Vietnam Veteran Outreach Program (DAV)
- Transition Assistance Program (TAP),  
Colorado Facilitator
- National Veterans Training Institute (NVTI)
- Assist veterans and families with  
resources for VA claims, etc.

# Current presentations...

- **“A Soldier’s Heart: From Viet Nam to Iraq”**  
(Slide presentation and discussion)
- **“Wounds that Bind: Four Countries after the American War in Viet Nam”** (Photographic exhibit and discussion)











THANK YOU VETS



A photograph of a person from behind, wearing a white jacket with red accents on the collar and sleeves. The person is standing in a crowd of other people, some of whom are also wearing similar jackets. The background is slightly blurred, showing more people and some greenery. The text on the back of the jacket is centered and reads:

A touch of home  
in a combat zone  
A smiling face  
at a bleak firebase  
The illusion of calm  
in VIETNAM

SPICE - MARGARET S. FIDELL  
EGG - JOHN W LUTTRELL  
JOSE LUIS SANTOS-LOPEZ  
N - LARRY G WILLIAMSON  
- CHARLES H CUMMINGS  
MIS - RICHARD H DURANT  
- APTON - DANIEL N HEATER  
CARUSO - OLIN J LEONARD  
JRMICK - GARY D McNICOL  
NOR - RONNY D SHATTUCK  
FELCH - DANNY RAY BISHOP  
PPEL - FLOYD B LOCKHART Jr  
REVOST - DOUGLAS R ROEST  
NER - CHARLES K TRUESDALE  
BANKS - GLENN R BREV  
A.A DILLEY - CECIL L DO  
USWIRTH - LANE W WIS  
JACKY Jr - JIMMY D ROIN  
BREGERT - TIMOTHY Z BO  
WY D COOPER - ISIDRO CAS  
ER.A MATSON - PAUL R MO

- M  
- JOHN A AVERA - O  
- JAMES J PASTORE Jr -  
- DONALD C TANNENBAL  
- MICHAEL  
- PHILLIP M LONG  
- FRANCIS J O'REILLY - DO  
- FRANK D RYA  
- ROY WALKER  
- WAYNE A BLOMSTROM  
- CRAIG N BARRY - ALONZO  
- RICHARD L HIGGINBOTHAM  
- LEO McFACHERN - PATR  
- CLIFFORD L TAR  
- JAMES M MATCHISON - TIM  
- THOMAS J PRICE  
- RAFAEL SALAS SANTOS - J  
- WILLIAM M CALDWELL - T  
- RALPH C EMBREY  
- RICHARD F HEATH







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국립사범대학교  
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의학

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의학

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WELCOME TO  
DENVER

TEO!!!



# Along the way I've learned...

- 1. The Gulf of Tonkin Incident never happened. Johnson created a war based on a lie. Now Iraq.
- 2. Viet Nam has always been spelled as two words. Philip Jones Griffiths explained to me the NY Times started condensing the words because reporters were charged by the word when filing reports by cable.
- 3. Republic of Korea (ROK) planned to become an Asian Tiger by selling their troops and services to the US.
- 4. If Americans created one My Lai, ROKs created several.

- 5. National psyche of America suffered a form of Post Traumatic Stress Denial from the 11 year war in Viet Nam. Spelling Viet Nam would be helpful as a healing technique. Viet Nam is a country, not a war.
- 6. American vets are mainly the only ones suffering guilt about the war in Viet Nam. Vietnamese hold US leaders responsible, not the soldiers. As an American war veteran, I've been treated better in Viet Nam than by my own people.
- 7. People who seek heroes need an emotional crutch. I'll wager, ask any soldier, and s/he don't see themselves as a hero. Those who died are the heroes.

- 8. A good soldier makes a lousy civilian.
- 9. Eisenhower's 1961 farewell warning has come true, and worse. Our culture is infiltrated by the Military-Industrial-Political Complex. Supported by intolerant religious groups, the democratic experiment in America is being sorely tested.
- 10. Veterans and soldiers are some of the best human beings. Just like the rest of the world, some will lie, cheat, and steal...and worse.
- 11. Although the US has a high standard of living, it seems Americans are relatively the most arrogant and ignorant people in the world.
- 12. The longer time passes, a schism grows wider between many Vietnamese in America and the Vietnamese government.

- 13. Corporate media manipulates as fits their agenda.
- 14. It appears similar to the false flag Gulf of Tonkin Incident, “many flags,” and a war never to be won, we again have a false flag war...WMD, “coalition of the willing,” and now the occupation of Iraq.
- 15. The Constitution of the US is in trouble.

# Five Major Issues facing US Troops Today

- **Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)**
- **PTSD** vs. Chapter 5-13 (Personality Disorders) of 22,500 soldiers (since 2001) after tour of duty
- **Suicide** rate higher than Viet Nam vets
- **Reintegration** and support
- **Military Sexual Trauma (MST)** reported by 20% of women and 1% of men seeking VA assistance

Thank You for Being Here