

Write Your Memories and History of the Det Below:



I have transferred what you wrote on this page to the main blog <http://det4.blogspot.com/>. If you want to edit something you already wrote copy it out of the blog, paste it in here and make your corrections. I will repost it to the blog.

Some DET 4 History Lynn Wardlow

After coming off 4 years of active duty I went back to school, got my mathematics degree, and started teaching in MN. I joined an MTU and later was encouraged by OIC Col Burke to apply for SMCR duty with Det 4 in Chicago as they were seeking 0800 officers. I did and Col Weinliedner (sp?), the OIC then, called me and we set up an interview. What is amusing is I had just had a vasectomy on Friday but though still quite sore I agreed to meet the Col in Tomah, WI, on Saturday. He was shocked and a little embarrassed when he asked me why I was walking so timidly and I told him about the vasectomy. For me to drive 4 hours or so for this interview while in pain must have impressed him. I was hired and began drilling the next month. This was in the fall of 1982 or 1983, not exactly sure of the time frame.

Colonel Waters was our next OIC and then things got serious. We learned this new war game called Steelthrust and the training of Reserve Battalion command staffs began. Soon whenever a Battalion was slated for a CAX they would invite Det 4 to come do an exercise for them. I think we usually

had 28 controllers surrounding a large map board, we gave them an order and the fun began. As far as the Bn staff new it could have been a real exercise in the field because all of the com lines were active and radio traffic came across just as it does in actual combat.

I remember Col Waters had one of our drills in Washington D.C. where we were informing the Marines about Steelthrust and how it could be an aid to Bn staffs. My memory is foggy here but we may have been advertising our expertise at MCCRES as well at that same meeting as we had moved into that arenal.

Speaking of MCCRES, we did one for a bn at Camp Ripley, MN. There was a restaurant/bar just outside the base where we ate (and had a few beers). There was an Army officer and an Army medic there having a beer at the bar. We got along well with the officer but the medic, a Vietnam vet starting bad mouthing Marines and relating how he had seen some of them die in a very derisive manner. Col Waters was sitting there and took offense to that and this idiot said, "you are a Col? You look more like a Gunny to me." I was right next to the Col and was already upset with his comments but calling our Col a gunny was the last straw. I stood up and was ready to punch him but the Army officer stepped in and escorted the drunk medic out. This guy had pissed all of us off and we decided if we saw him again we would do something. I believe we brought a rope along the next night (MCCRES hadn't started yet) and were prepared to tie him up and just let him sit there. When he came in we gathered around him with the rope but he got scared and ran out. If anyone remembers this episode please correct me as my memory may not be accurate. Maybe we did not have a rope and just talked about it, but I do remember we chased him out of the bar.

I have several more stories but my memory is waning although I fondly remember the "Town Cars in attack". We worked hard in the field but often came back for some "comfort time" in nice motels.

I was with the Det 13 years, longer than I was supposed to but I enjoyed it immensely. The Det even gave me a rocking chair when I retired. The friendships formed will last for ever.

Lynn Wardlow

Det-4 History / Your Story / A Loved One's Story



Now would be a good time to write the history of Det-4 and put it on the blog. We know what we did while I was in the Det but most of us have little idea about what happened before and after our tours.

I have no idea when the Det started and ended. I know what they did in 85-87 for the two years I was in and I am familiar with the amazing Davis / Wozniak / Hill boondoggles to Hawaii, Thailand and Korea, but don't know much about the rest of the time. So if you want to start sending some emails with stories about the Det, both historical and humorous, send away.

Also, some of you other guys are not getting any younger. Now would be a good time to write your personal history. I will post them to <https://det4.blogspot.com/> and on <https://www.militarystories.us/> Military Stories We are collecting stories by and about military personnel. The stories will be posted on: www.militarystories.us

John Wilkes wrote a fascinating story and it is on the blog <https://det4.blogspot.com/> and on www.militarystories.us

If you would like to have your story published email your story to Craig Hullinger craighullinger@gmail.com

Your story can be long or short. The story can cover an interesting event or your entire life. You can write about yourself or a friend or relative that you would like to honor.

Pictures are worth a thousand words. You can write the story for a relative, friend, or ancestor. You can add to your story. We look forward to publishing your story on the blog.

We can also post videos to our blog. If you want to make a video do so and email it to me and I will post it on the blog.

Take a look at the stories to see what people have already written.
www.militarystories.us

Reply to all so everyone gets to see what you wrote. Or send it to
det-4@googlegroups.com

Semper Fi

Craig H