



A younger and dumber me....!

Our Reunion Hotel is just about full, so call NOW if you're trying to join us at the Reunion. If they fill up, we have a close-by overflow hotel. Call the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites at 1-800-569-8008 and ask for "**in house reservations**". Be sure to mention you are attending the AC-119 Gunship Association Reunion to receive the group rate. I recently spoke with Col Tom Teal, our guest speaker, about his keen memories of commanding both Shadows and Stingers. He is quite a man and I welcome him as our Banquet keynote speaker!

You all should know by now, but, the HISTORY BOOK IS BEING PRINTED!! It is a fantastic compilation of our Shadow and

Stinger heritage, with Squadron chronologies, aircraft info, OVER 240 individual biographical sketches with stories and photographs, unique mission stories, a special section on our honored members Killed in Action, and lots of great aircraft and other photos!! PLUS, you can buy it in two versions – hard or soft cover, with the same content in pages in each. Get your order in since these will go fast.

Next, plenty of you have heard there might be a real AC-119 in existence.

There is.

We will tell you all we can at the Reunion and in the next Newsletter.

FOR NOW, THIS IS NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION!

I had the great opportunity to attend the 18th FLTS Change of Command Ceremony on 12 June 2009. The outgoing Commander Lt Col Donald Peck III, made extraordinary progress in integrating the history of the 18th SOS with the 18th FLTS. His efforts provided an excellent information link with the current force, and strengthened our efforts and motivation to reach new heights with the AC-119 Gunship Association. We will miss him, and always be thankful for his outstanding support and interest in our heritage. We are very lucky with the selection of Lt Col Kent Landreth, who pledged continual progress of our commitment to the preservation of the history of the 18th SOS.

Do you want another Shadow or Stinger Lithograph, or one of our other Reunion T-Shirts? We will discount them at this Reunion: you will be able to buy any 3 prior reunion T-shirts for \$10; buy either litho for \$25 or both for \$40 (and no, this doesn't apply to website sales since shipping would eat our britches – this is just a good deal for Reunion attendees).

If you want to become the proud owner of the one-of-a-kind Commemorative Rifle and Pistol set built by Stinger Ron Soderquist, get your raffle tickets ordered if you're not going to be at the Reunion – one raffle ticket for \$10 donation, 6 tickets for \$50, or 13 tickets for \$100. ONE person will take home both of these beautifully done commemorative pieces.

Do you have a raffle item to bring to the Reunion? Please let me or Wayne Laessig know at stinger7172@cox.net or gadvocate@sbcglobal.net

Finally, I look forward to seeing you all in St. Augustine on September 24, 2009. Take care all, and see you soon.

Gus Sininger, President
AC-119 Gunship Association