



## **A/1C Johnny R Joyner 25<sup>th</sup> Combat Squadron Chambley Air Base France 1965 to 1966**

After looking at all military branches of the armed forces Johnny Joyner decided to join the United States Air Force in September of 1963. He was shipped to Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio, Texas for basic training.



After completing basic he was transferred to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas for Air Force Specialty Training in career field 54330 which is Electrical Power Production School which specialized in both mechanical and electrical aspects. After finishing the school Johnny's first duty assignment was a small radar site in Alabama. The 693rd Radar Squadron located on Dauphin Island Air Force Station, Alabama. This was an outstanding duty station according to Johnny with only about 100 men on a resort island on the coast below Mobile, Alabama. They had their own private rooms and rarely had inspections.

Johnny worked in the Power Plant and ran the emergency power generators during storms and power outage. This was one of Johnny's best Air Force assignments.

In 1965 Airman Joyner received orders to transferring him to Chambley Air Base France. After arriving at Chambley Johnny discovered that he was the only power man on the base and was responsible for about 120 generators. He was assigned to the 25<sup>th</sup> Combat Squadron which was changed to the 25<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron during his assignment. Because of his outstanding work ethic and skills he was promoted to Airman First Class in February 1966. He had a great boss and worked closely with this Non-Commissioned Officer. Near the end of his assignment the organization once again changed its name this time to the 7367th Combat Support Squadron.



While stationed at Chambley Joyner was fortunate enough to travel all over Europe enjoying the many diverse cultures and traditions. Johnny had a brother stationed in Germany so he made several train trips between France and Germany visiting his brother. During these trips he became acquainted and had many French friends. Just as Johnny's

French was improving France pulled out of NATO and Johnny had to stay at a hotel across the street from the train station in Metz, France for his last month there.



He had put in several requests for Vietnam but they were all denied and he was reassigned to Morón Air Base, Spain. Morón Air Base is located in southern Spain approximately 35 miles southeast of the city of Sevilla and 75 miles northeast of Rota Naval Station. Negotiations for

bases in Spain were conducted between June 1951 and September 1953 under the direction of a Joint United States Military Group, commanded by Major General A. W. Kissner. The negotiations were concluded with the establishment of the Spanish-American air bases, including Morón Air Base, via a 10 year agreement between the US and Spanish Governments. The negotiations were formalized with the signature of Ambassador Dunn of the United States on 26 September 1953.

In 1957 Sixteenth Air Force was realigned under the Strategic Air Command. Main operating bases in Spain were used for SAC B-47 rotational alert aircraft until April 1965. 16th AF also operated SAC bases in Morocco from 1958 through 1963. In 1966, a year after SAC withdrew its B-47 alert force from Spain, 16th AF was reassigned to US Air Forces in Europe.

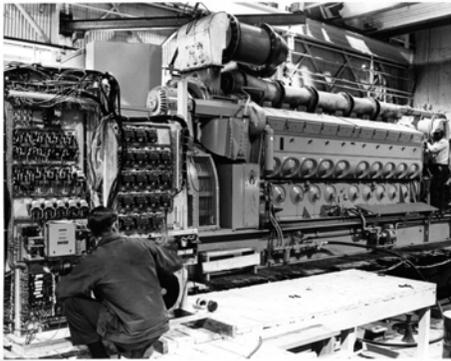
Johnny Joyner drove his Volkswagen bug from the top of France to the bottom of Spain and had the opportunity to see some wonderful countryside and meet super nice people on his way to Morón. The base power plant ran 24 hours a day. Spanish power was unstable at 50 Hz and Johnny's team used 60 Hz. The men worked 12 hour shifts 4 days with 3 days off. He loved the hours but the working conditions were difficult. The plant would get to 120 degrees at times with high a very high noise levels.

Several months Johnny's assignment to Morón Air Base, Spain his oldest brother was killed in a car accident. He was given a compassionate leave and caught a hop on an Air National Guard Aircraft to Norfolk, Virginia. With only a few months left of his duty he asked for a Permanent



Change of Station (PCS) to Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina to be close to his family. Airman Johnny Joyner received his discharge from the Air Force in 1967. To this day Johnny believes that the Air Force was the best years of his young life and will always have fond memories of that time in his life.

After getting out of the service he was able to capitalize on his Air Force training a got a job in company building diesel generators at locations all over the world. During this time met his soul mate Doris and married her in 1976.



He worked in the Power Systems Division for 14 years. About this time the large satellite systems became popular and he started his own company building and installing Satellite systems until 2006.

Johnny and his family now spend their time at the beach and enjoy life together.

If you would like to get in touch with Johnny Joyner his email address is [jjoyner10@suddenlink.net](mailto:jjoyner10@suddenlink.net).

