

BOB CHRISTIANSEN

USCGC POINT GLOVER (WPB-82307) – Nov67 to Nov68

Navy Unit Commendation – 1 Jun 68 to 31 Dec 68

Navy Unit Commendation – 1 Jul 68 to 30 Jun 69

January/February 2018 - Alumni Bulletin – Bob posted the question to the class, “Where were you 50 years ago on December 1st.” His answer to his question was, “I was CO of the POINT GLOVER and underway in the South China Sea on Market Time patrol in Area 2'E' on v/c/s for random cover of the Area.

December 1, 2017 – Bob Christiansen E-mail

Where were you 50 years ago on December 1st?

I was CO of the CGC Point Glover (WPB-82307):

“Underway in the South China Sea on Market Time patrol in Area 2E, maneuvering on v/c/s for random cover of the area.”

January/February 2017 - Alumni Bulletin - On November 2, 1967, following SERE training in San Diego, a serene group of Coasties (and other troops) departed from Travis AFB, Sacramento, CA enroute Saigon, RVN. After a short stop at Misawa AB in Japan for refueling and some other off/ on loading, we arrived early at Tan Son Nhut AB on November 3rd.

A US military utility truck on loaded a group of us (can't remember if just all Coasties or others included) and transported us to a military occupied hotel in downtown Saigon. Our stay, supposedly, would be only for a night before being transported to Da Nang. That first night was full of activity involving artillery fire and night illumination around the outskirts of the city. The occasional rumble of tanks and trucks also interrupted the night, all night.

The next morning, with sleepy eyes, we were escorted by military guides (or guards as you may) to military trucks and returned to Tan Son Nhut AB for an Air America DC-3 flight to Da Nang. Upon arrival, Coast Guard support personnel met us on the tarmac for transportation to the Naval Base which housed RONONE, Division 12 Headquarters and our 82-footers.

On the way from the airport to the Naval Base through Da Nang, we observed the streets lined with dead NVA troops killed during one wave of their Tet Offensive. They did not win that battle. However gruesome, it was an instant reminder of what war was and what we were in for. November 5th and 6th were days on board the Point Glover for the relief protocol involving both administrative tasks and emergency drills. On the 6th, I relieved LTIG T. V. Johnson of command. On the 7th, I was underway as the Commanding Officer on my first combat patrol in I Corps Area 2E.

December 23, 2016 Bob Christiansen E-mail to Bill Carr

I received a nice reply from the National Archives. They sent me the log book pages for my first 10 days in Viet Nam. Cool! They will send me all the remaining pages for a copying cost; no sweat! As soon as I get the remaining logs, I will glean out the 'good' info with regard to high points during that year on board the Point Glover.

Golden Journeys – 2015

Fall 1967, off to RONONE training and the infamous "Downwinds" O'Club on Base Coronado; mastered 81mm mortar and .50 cal. machine gunning, Vietnamese language and survival with the SEALs at SERE. → Arrived in Da Nang; relieved as CO of USCGC POINT GLOVER (WPB-82307) and commenced 11 months of 75% underway time mastering survival in monsoons, H&I fire missions in support of our ground forces, and boarding junks. → Enjoyed Bob Hope Show on Monkey Mountain at Christmas time. → Also, excelled in civic leader duties (helped to demolish and reconstruct the RVN river outhouse in Cat Lo).

Gift of Leadership V 2 – 2015

pp. 330 & 331... To start with, and a very important point to keep in mind, is that I won my war and I'm proud of it! I can't tell you how many people I've said that to over the years whenever asked about what I thought of the Vietnam War. We, the Squadron One Coast Guard 82' patrol boat commanders, were "leaders." In so many ways, we set an example to our combined fighting forces over the entire engagement, by showing enthusiasm, skill and courage in the execution of our responsibilities. From boarding and searching every kind of craft known to mankind, providing fire support to our forces ashore, attacking infiltrators from the North and conducting our signature SAR capabilities were all a part of the game. To command the crew to execute these difficult tasks with great success took every bit of what we had learned so far in our fledgling careers.

p. 334... (one incident) was refloating off enemy controlled beaches, one at a time, two grounded Navy Swift boats while at darkened ship at night and passing them safely off to a Navy surface combatant...

Coast Guard Awards and Medals Board – List of CG Units Coming Under Hostile Fire

August 30, 2004

Encl. (16) to COMDTINST 650.25b MEDALS AND AWARDS MANUAL

POINT GLOVER – 12 Aug 68 and 3 Sep 68

March 10, 1968

PT GLOVER attempted to enter Cua Viet inlet to assist PT ARDEN in the ammunition dump fire but damaged one shaft and had to return to Da Nang for repairs.

2012

class of '65

**COMMANDER
UNITED STATES NAVAL FORCES
VIETNAM**

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Bronze Star Medal to

**ROBERT WALTER CHRISTIANSEN
LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

For the service as set forth in the following:

CITATION

“For meritorious service while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in armed conflict against North Vietnamese and Viet Cong communist aggressors in the Republic of Vietnam from 6 November 1967 to 19 October 1968. As Commanding Officer of the United States Coast Guard Cutter POINT GLOVER (WPB 82307) conducting anti-infiltration patrols in the South China Sea, Lieutenant (junior grade) CHRISTIANSEN made the POINT GLOVER an extremely effective fighting unit. The POINT GLOVER was underway over seventy-three percent of the time, enforcing curfew periods and restricted zones, providing naval gunfire support, and aggressively engaging the enemy. In addition, her crewmembers boarded and searched hundreds of junks and sampans in an effort to interdict enemy infiltration of men and material into the Republic of Vietnam. A total of seventy naval gunfire support missions were conducted during the forty-six combat patrols which POINT GLOVER made under Lieutenant (junior grade) CHRISTIANSEN’s command, and numerous enemy watercraft, weapons, structures, and combat essential supplies were destroyed. The POINT GLOVER came under direct enemy fire on several occasions, and Lieutenant (junior grade) CHRISTIANSEN directed return fire which suppressed the hostile fire without casualties to his crew. His devotion to duty, courage under fire, and outstanding professionalism significantly contributed to the effectiveness of United States Navy and Coast Guard coastal surveillance operations in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant (junior grade) CHRISTIANSEN’s actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United Naval Service.”

Lieutenant (junior grade) CHRISTIANSEN is authorized to wear the Combat “V”.

For the President

E. R. Zumwalt, Jr.
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy
Commander, U. S. Forces, Vietnam

Fwd: Experiences In Vietnam - Class of 1965

1 message

Bill Carr <bill@getrain.com>
To: Robert Christiansen <robertchristiansen41@gmail.com>

Fri, Aug 20, 2021 at 3:47 PM

Bob - Here is what I sent you a week or so ago.

Hope this puts some energy in your typing fingers.... 😊 Please do check out in your logs those two dates at the bottom of the second page....

Thanks.....Bill

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bill Carr** <bill@getrain.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 3:32 PM
Subject: Experiences In Vietnam - Class of 1965
To: Robert Christiansen <robertchristiansen41@gmail.com>

Handwritten notes:
Z
↓
8/27

Bob - I am coming down the home stretch of putting this scrapbook together. I'm not sure whether to push you for the writing you told me you were going to do - several times. I understand you played some golf with Tom Livingston in NC - I had hoped that might trigger you to get going.

So...I don't know what to do next.

Attached is what I've got for you so far. Do you want to run with just this and forget about anything else?


I hope not. You've got a lot of stories to tell that should be in the Scrapbook.

The second attachment is a write-up on this whole Scrapbook project.

Tell me if you want me to keep pushing or just lay off....thanks....Bill

2 attachments

 **OVERVIEW - Bob Christiansen.docx**
17K

 **August-September 2021 Alumni Bulletin Piece.docx**
17K

Handwritten notes:
1/15/24 - Talked w/ Bob & suggested he send all his Vietnam photos to me, I go through them, decide what to use, get his approval and then send the rest back to him. He said he would call me after he digs it all out of his closet and then send them but don't expect he will get back to me in the next week or two.
He is delivering the plaque to Gledis, Jeff's second wife in Fort Charlotte next week. wcc

Fwd: Getting Together

1 message

Bill Carr <bill@getrain.com>

Fri, Jul 23, 2021 at 5:53 PM

To: Dave Livingston <dtlivingstoniii@aol.com>

Tom - Thanks for suggesting a word of encouragement for getting Bob to write up his notes for the Class Vietnam scrapbook. I have attached what I have been able to put together from materials I already have so far.

He and I have talked twice over the last several months and he says he has a lot of notes to put together. He has said both times he will get those notes to me after he finishes working on them.

Have fun together with your golfing...Bill

**OVERVIEW - Bob Christiansen.docx**

16K

GOL-331/Christiansen – Returning home from Vietnam marked an important step in our careers; we were in our fourth year of our post CGA requirement to the service. I was supposed to be the OinC of Viet Nam training at TRASUPCEN Alameda, an assignment to which I both aspired to and wanted. After reporting in for duty, the commanding officer advised me he had gotten the word Viet Nam training was on its way out because of our impending transition of Squadron One to the South Vietnamese forces. He thought and strongly suggested would be a good fit as the recruit training officer for our west coast boot camp. I would be the first Academy grad that ran the operation of a boot camp that anyone could remember.

GOL-334/Christiansen...refloating off enemy controlled beaches, one at a time, two grounded Navy Swift boats while at darkened ship at night and passing them safely off to darkened ship at night and passing them safely off to a Navy surface combatant.

Fwd: 1965 Class Vietnam Scrape Book Project.

1 message

Bill Carr <bill@getrain.com>

Sat, Mar 20, 2021 at 2:27 PM

To: Robert Christiansen <robertchristiansen41@hotmail.com>

Bcc: Bill Carr <bill@getrain.com>

Bob - Just touching base to follow up on our conversation of several weeks ago.

I'm getting some very nice write-ups from several of the guys who were and even those who weren't at the WPB CO Charleston reunion.

Of the 43 that were Vietnam Vets in one capacity or another (or widows), I've contacted all but 9 so far and have finished work from 14. Another 20 have said they will write something or will at least think about it and have asked me to get back with them later.

A couple examples:

1. Ron Fritz - Besides sending me a number of well captioned photographs, I have some good quotes from a book he recommended about the sinking of PCF-19 off the Cua Viet June 16 of 1968 by NVA helicopters. Tony Finizio was on board the Campbell along with Jim Townley '67 who were also involved. Quite the story.
2. Jim Morgan - Jim had several incidences with helicopters killing innocent fisherman and his reporting of same. I'm touching base with him again in mid April when he is free to spend some time putting these stories together..
3. Bob Storch sent me a Captain Crunch write-up from the story he told in Charleston.
4. Lloyd kept a diary and is putting something together besides the Andrascoggin and PT WELCOME/PT GRAY trawler story.
5. Dick Chapman has sent me three interesting write-ups to include.

Just thought I'd give you a head's up on how the project is shapping up. Would love to have your stories backing up your photographs on SMUGMUG.

Take care and stay well....Bill

P.S. I don't think I've ever shared with you the full story on that Cua Viet Ammo Dump incident so have attached my Debrief Report - thought you might find it interesting enough. Please excuse errors or omissions due to aging memory...

**CUA VIET INCIDENT DEBRIEF - AFTER ACTION REPORT.docx**

57K

Bill Carr

From: Bill Carr [bill@getrain.com]
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2016 1:07 PM
To: 'Robert Christiansen'
Subject: Vietnam Project

Chris – Thanks for letting me know. I'm looking forward to getting this from you....Bill

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I received a nice reply from the National Archives. They sent me the log book pages for my first 10 days in Viet Nam. Cool! They will send me all the remaining pages for a copying cost; no sweat! As soon as I get the remaining logs, I will glean out the 'good' info with regard to high points during that year on board the Pt. Glover.

Dear Captain and Mrs. High,

After a long tour of duty in Vietnam, I am finally settled down to my duties at TRASUPCEN Alameda. My present position is Recruit Training Officer. It is quite an interesting and challenging billet.

I have been in close contact with my classmates in the S.F. area, and plan to see them socially after the New Year. At least Steve Cox is still single, so I can depend on some bachelor backing.

I hope that these holidays bring you happiness and lasting memories.

Yours truly,
St. Bob Christianson

Capt. & Mrs. High & Family

May your Christmas be bright with the beautiful light
That shines in joy and laughter

And may happiness, continue to bless
Each day that follows after!

St. Christianson '65

Christianson '68

Christmas 67

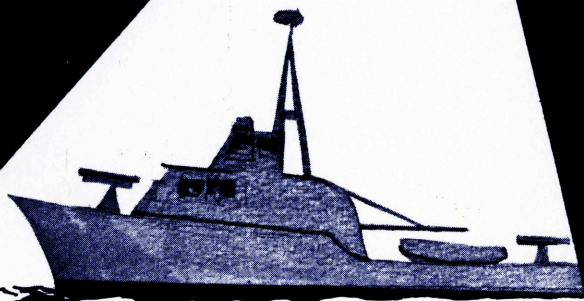
25 December 1967

Captain High & Family,

I extend my best wishes from the Pt. Glover and CG DIV 12, SPOKONONE, for a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Also, congratulations on making the captains' list. It's always good to see senior officers go further up - it opens up more spots for us below! Thank you for your card and resumé of the class' whereabouts. We sure have scattered around. It's good to see the class doing so well. I know, we're all trying our best over here. It's a very worthwhile cause and the Coast Guard is truly "that hard nucleus about which the Navy forms in time of war." Every day, I'm learning how great our service really is. I'm proud to be a part of it.

I want to wish you continued success in your career and hope that your family sustains continued health and progress. Thank you for your encouragement and "number one" esprit de class '65 through all these years. I hope that the coming holidays will be both enjoyable and memorable for you and your family.

Yours truly,
Bob Christiansen



on earth....

peace to men

of goodwill

Cdr. High & Family

Wishing You
A Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year



St (jg) Bob Christensen
(over)

Dear Cdr. & Mrs. High,

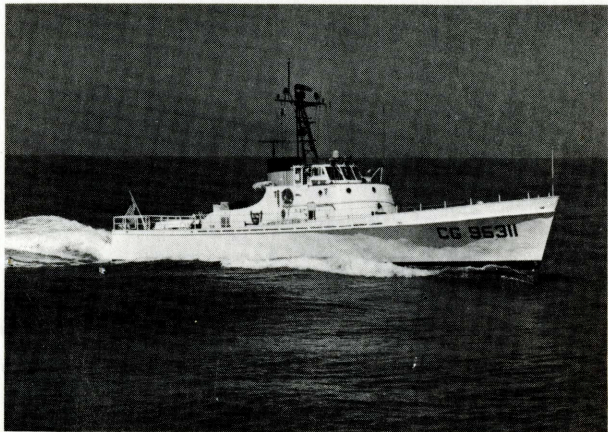
Christiansen 66

Thank you very much for your card and letter - it was good to hear from you again. It looks like your experiences with the new air station have been exciting and rewarding. Much the same, my experiences have been the same. I can honestly say, that all the efforts and training I've had, both at the academy and in the field, have been well worth the reward of being a Commanding Officer.

I look forward with anticipation to my second command next year in Viet Nam. The experience gained from that, along with the peacetime mission, will round me out as a Coast Guard officer.

I send my best wishes to you all and hope for a reunion someday in the near future -
Yours truly,
1st Lt (SG) Christiansen

Christmas
Greetings



N Z P O
USCGC CAPE HEDGE (WPB-95311)

LT. JG R. W. CHRISTIANSEN
Commanding Officer

D. E. TURNER, QMC
Executive Officer

E. A. GARDNER, ENCP
Engineering Officer

C R E W

MURRAY, P. J., BM1DG
VAN PATTEN, E. J., CS1
HOPSON, S. C., EM3
STEEVES, A. L., EN3
PARKE, G. R., FNEN
BERTRAND, G. H., SNGM

LEWIS, A. A., JR., SN
NEWBY, D. L., FA
STANFORD, L. D., SA
MAXWELL, L. J., SA
FIELD, R. N., SA