



Highway Patrol Communiqué - 29 September 2006

Greetings Highway Patrol Friends & Colleagues,

There are hundreds of additional pictures that are now associated with our website, <http://www.62hp.org/>, and now available for viewing. You'll have to read further to see what I mean by "associated with" and find out how you can access and view them at any time.

The photos, sorted into various albums, cover the entire period of our unit's history. From the early days of 1948 and the formation of the EUCOM (European Command) Highway Patrol and its provisional detachments with patrolmen drawn from the various MP Companies and Battalions from throughout the then European Area of Command, they trace a history of Service, Prevention, and Enforcement that continued for a decade. As Association members, I am sure that you all know that on September 20, 1951 the 62nd Military Police Company was reorganized, redesignated as the 62nd Military Police HIGHWAY PATROL Company, and allotted to the regular army. That special mission continued until the unit was deactivated on 20 September 1958. The photos depict individuals, groups, vehicles, events and activities in our unit's history as well as reunion photos.

Some of the pictures are old time favorites, some depict the various duties related to this particular and unique assignment - one of the best in the Army! All bring back memories. Many of these photos and items are *treasured keepsakes* and were submitted by various members of the Highway Patrol and/or their surviving family members. Hundreds of various photos have been sorted into albums and while a number of these are still undergoing some revision and upgrading they will be coming online as time permits. See the [photo](http://www.62hp.org/photo) page on our web site <http://freepages.military.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~highwaypatrol/pictures.htm>, for the details on viewing these various albums and how you can help us to identify many of the unknown individuals, places, and events.

Our historian, Edward "*Smitty*" Smith retains possession of these original photos and items and over the years he has been sharing these with us in the various issues of *The White Mice*, or as we know it, *Die Weisse Maus*, our official newsletter. Rising postal costs and the decrease in the amount of material and stories that you, the members, have submitted to be included in

the pages of those issues have led to fewer issues being printed and mailed each year. Those of you that attend our reunions spend considerable time viewing the volumes of photo books full of pictures that "Smitty" faithfully carries to those events.

The few photos that I had first obtained were all included when I originally established our original HP web page. Over the ensuing years I have obtained additional photos. After loading three cd's, dvd's and several floppy disks plus a few individual pictures that some of you have kindly sent directly to me, it unfortunately turned out that there were many (very many) duplicate copies of the very same photos on almost every one of the various discs (and floppies). While not obtaining quite as many new photos as I had originally hoped for, this new additional group has increased our existing on-line collection substantially.

As our ranks keep getting thinner every year, I have long felt that it became that much more important to show and tell the story of our unit's piece of history for all to see at any time. To do that, I hope to eventually have all of our photos on-line where they can be shared by all that served, and by our surviving families as well as those that may be interested in our story. What is presently being displayed on this site may in reality be only a very small portion of the pictures that are in our archives and in the personal files of some of our surviving members. I truly hope that you will enjoy what have been gathered and displayed and that they will bring back some fond memories.

I have spent considerable time viewing, sorting, trying to identify them, and finally assembling them into a few categories, collections, or albums. Far too many individuals in the photos are still unidentified. I have the unfortunate distinction of being the last member assigned to duty with the Highway Patrol, and as such there are so many of our members that I never got to meet or know. I have just once again completed reading through every page of each edition of all of the back copies of *Die Weisse Maus* looking for additional captions or information. I have received much useful information from "Smitty" (as usual), and I am now requesting and pleading that if any of you can identify any of the unnamed individuals in any of the photos, -or- if you can add any information surrounding the event or activity, -or- if you can provide a date, time-line, or place (or anything else) please contact me so that I may update the information and captions for all others to see, know, and share. In addition, if you should have any pertinent photos, items, or clippings that would be suitable for publishing on this website please contact me. I will always share everything sent to me with the historian. Let's show interested parties who we were and what we once did. Please contact me at: webmaster@62HP.org or LLinville@cox.net.

One individual has advised me that their computer had taken an inordinate amount of time to load the original set of pictures on our web page. As I have presently added almost twenty-fold of that original amount of pictures, and as I am somewhat hopefully optimistic that there will be a new and continuing supply of additional items to be uploaded, I consulted several knowledgeable colleagues about the best or alternative ways to make the photos available to all of our group, yet still be able to add later information as necessary, all the while keeping in mind that our host site has certain space limitations. I found that numerous organizations including military, service, historical, veterans, and other groups such as ours had often utilized various outside sources such as flickr® to be the medium for handling their group photos.

I investigated that resource and numerous others, testing by trial and error, uploading the photos, testing the limits, especially the capacity limits available for free usage. I also experimented by using the various (and often quite different) tools and resources that were associated with each of the programs. Ideally, we would have the pictures hosted in the same place as the rest of our major web site, however, this just did not work out as we overwhelmed the free space that was available to us. Unfortunately, the same thing happened after I had loaded, sorted, and captioned the first 100 photos on flickr®. I wasted a great deal of precious time experimenting by trial and error with just about every resource that was suggested or investigated.

During this interim, even more of our members have passed on without having had the opportunity to share the pictures or to share any of their knowledge or information about the pictures. Thus, we lose important information that needs to be in public archives. The primary factor has been to have a resource where all members could easily view the pictures with the least amount of effort while trying to do it for free or at least at a minimum cost.

I now have the first several large albums loaded on yet another website. The first albums now contain hundreds of photos. I have already made a number of adjustments and corrections in these first albums. They have been tested as thoroughly as I can at this point, using several faux or dummy accounts, as well as other sites available to me. I have experienced only a few minor difficulties so far; however, over the many years that I have been teaching on-line I have found with my many on-line students, that we can never replicate their problems as they are always using too many different types of computers, software programs, servers, and internet access providers (always a major problem), and these often cause certain problems that the professor, webmaster, or IT technicians cannot replicate, find or fix. It may well be that sometimes it is the individual's own computing techniques, skills (or lack

thereof) that cause the problem. I personally feel that there may truly be cyber gremlins lurking in cyber space just waiting to pounce as well. I will keep my fingers crossed that all of you will have no problems viewing the photos. There are many more photos in several other albums already loaded on my main frame that I am actively sorting and putting in order. These I will upload to the new albums just as soon as I possibly can.

You may Click on an album to open it. You can view the page as thumbnails, or larger individual photos. You may change thumbnail size by clicking the slider bar in the upper right hand side of the page. Clicking on the photo will open it in a larger image for easier viewing. You can also use the forward or back button (top of photo) to view the photos when they are open in the larger size. There is a slideshow button on the left hand top side for auto viewing. I have numbered every photo in each album so when you send me any information or a correction, please give me the number as well as the album name; i.e. HP 2: Unknown - Individuals, Partners, and Small Groups - Unidentified, photo # u 5a.

I truly need for you to *PLEASE* let me know your feelings and/or experiences with the photo website or if you have problems in getting these pictures to load. I tried many different things and programs before I settled on Google®. I will continue to add to these albums as time permits, and with your assistance I hope to eventually have the majority of all of the photos properly identified and captioned. I have already explained what I am looking for and why I need your help. I am sure that some of you will immediately be able to identify some of the unknown or unidentified photos and will be able to make corrections as well as to add more details and identify other photos. A few of the unknowns do have some captions that I was unable to make out or decipher. Even if you can only identify one (or more) individuals in a group photo, please let me know what you know. Please feel free to correct anything that you find wrong. I would like to have the information as accurate as possible for posterity.

I have tried to eliminate as many duplicate photos as possible. A few dupes have been used in different albums ~if~ for example, they might be of an individual ~and~ then also be used to show a different type of vehicle used by the Highway Patrol. Please let me know of other duplicates that you find as well as errors, or other corrections that need to be made. Thank you. Larry Linville webmaster@62HP.org

Be forewarned that I have established some albums (such as the various reunion albums - but I have not yet loaded any pictures other than one or two

into that album yet. I am working as fast as I can but I am also teaching year round.

Please be patient with me folks. This photo project is truly a priority for me and I really am working on it as fast as I possibly can but there have been many setbacks and my free time is somewhat limited. Even after recently retiring from full-time teaching (my second retirement as I had earlier retired from an active law enforcement and bomb squad career) I felt it necessary to begin part-time teaching and consulting. This has fast developed into a situation that is taking up far more of my time than I had anticipated. As soon as I can fully adjust to the economic disaster of retirement living and aging, perhaps I will learn how to better manage time and activities more efficiently. I eagerly await your information, corrections, and any input for pending captions.

Thank you.

Larry



Webmaster - 62HP.org

Should you no longer wish to receive these Communiqués, please advise the webmaster – [DROP ME](#).