STATE OF COLORADO COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE

NOW COMES BEFORE ME, a Notary Public, John Dennis Gibson, a person of the age of majority who is known to me or who has provided sufficient identification, who after being duly sworn, does depose and say:

I served with the Navy Seabee's in Vietnam from the Fall of 1968 to the Fall of 1969. I was a Petty Officer with the rank of Builder 3 (E-4). The Seabees are the Naval Construction Force.

I was assigned to Area Work Center 7, which was located about 12 miles south of Da Nang. In that location, we acted as a maintenance facility for a concentration of Army and Marine bases in the area.

Area Work Center 7 had approximately 24 naval personnel and many local civilian laborers. I was in charge of a crew of 20 or 30 civilian workers on a daily basis.

My duties included fixing perimeter fences, cleaning out drainage ditches and repairing buildings. All these items were being constantly damaged by motor and rocket fire from enemy forces.

I recall that Da Nang was located in Area Work Center 1, and was the largest and main Seabee facility for the region.

After the explosion of the Da Nang ammo dump on April 27, 1969, my job was to repair the perimeter road around the air field, repair damaged buildings, and open the ditches on each side of the runway that were damaged during those explosions. The drainage ditch needed to be cleaned out and cleared from the tarmac to the perimeter road and down to the highway.

The drainage ditch was about 5 feet across and 2 to 4 feet deep. It ran through some very swampy area off the north end of the runway which precluded the use of heavy equipment and was therefore cleared by hand by the civilian crew.

The drainage ditch was in place to capture any run-off water from the tarmac and to carry it away from the area. It went directly down to the water's edge in Da Nang Harbor. However, my responsibility for clearing the ditch extended only as far as the perimeter road and the small section between there and the highway.

However, I personally walked the entire length of the ditch from the airbase tarmac to the edge of the harbor several times during the time I was on that job.

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I am including a map of the area which identifies the area from the air base tarmac to the edge of Da Nang Harbor. I have marked on that map the location of the drainage ditch as it was in 1969 to the best of my recollection.

Affiant further sayeth naught. John Dennis Gibson

SUBSCRIBED TO AND SWORN BEFORE ME, Notary Public, this <u>A</u> day of Dramider. 2013.

Carolu S. Hoyland. Notary Public

CAROLEE S. HOYLAND NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF COLORADO NOTARY ID 19914015750

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES FEB. 14, 2016

My Commission expires: <u>211412016</u>.



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