

Interview with Elvis Ellis Sac and Fox Nation Veteran

In honor of our Sac and Fox Veterans, Commander Norwood Masquat has been featuring different ones throughout the past few months. Elvis Ellis recently visited the Sac and Fox News and set down and shared some of his experiences while serving this great country.

"I joined the army to get money to buy school clothes," Elvis Ellis said in a recent interview. "All I wanted was some money to buy some school clothes, so I enlisted. Shortly thereafter, Truman mobilized the 40th and 45th divisions to go to Korea.

"I was off to Fort Polk, Louisiana for training and then to Hokkaido, Japan for AOJ training. After spending four years in Japan, my tour of duty was over and I was sent home with the men coming back from Korea, to get our discharges at Fort Sill.

"With work being scarce back in the states, I re-enlisted and ended up at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma, as an assistant Crew Chief on the T-6's. During my time as an Airman at Vance, I trained for twelve weeks at Cheyenne, Wyoming for NCO Supply School Special Projects. I also attended Fuel Accounting School at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania for three months.

"After training in Fuel Accounting, I was sent to San Pablo, Spain for three years and three months. After Spain, I volunteered for Laughlin Air Base in Del Rio, Texas to work with the U2's.

"Other places that I was sent were Australia, Fiji, Hawaii, Alaska, Panama Canal and the Philippines. During this time I was the NCIC boss on spy planes. A lot of the supplies I dealt with were guarded as top secrets and we had to take an oath not to talk about it to anyone.

"After finishing up in the Philippines, I went back to Del Rio, Texas and from there to Tucson, Arizona at David Mountain to work with the Titan missiles. Before volunteering to go to Viet Nam, I went to Vandenberg to fire the first Titan missile.

"While at Korat Air Base in Thailand, I worked in supply with the aircraft 'Thunderchiefs' for one year.

"I finished up my enlisted time at Altus Air Force Base with the 4th MOB (a communication group). While there we trained in escape and evasion for two weeks in the Wichita Mountains. The training took place at a location dubbed as Parachute City, which was very cold in the winter."

Elvis shared some memorable experiences that he had during his time in the service. He said some of the scariest times were on three occasions which they lost engines on planes.

Once they lost an engine in flight and had to land on Johnson Island. The island was so small that the landing strip went from water to water and once they touched down, the remaining engine had to be reversed so they wouldn't end up in the ocean.

On another occasion while landing in Australia the engine blew up on the runway.

"We saw so many awesome places it's hard to name them all. Once while on R & R at Bangkok, we went up the river and saw Tower Dawn and the floating markets. The Thai shows at night, with their sword fights and dancing were really interesting.

"I enjoyed the shows in Timland also. Timland was kind of like a zoo; all the houses were built above the water, with crocodiles and king cobras in 15 foot pits.

"Fiji was a beautiful places; tropical, with all kinds of fruit everywhere. Fiji was a stopping point on the way to New Zealand. The thing that impressed me was how friendly the people were.

"I recall when in Tansierra, Spain, we had our own taxi for two days for only eight dollars and one of the fanciest hotels in the country for twelve dollars a night!

"From seeing bear, moose and the North Lights in Alaska, to North Tangera



Landing in North Island Hokkaido, Japan 1951 (Photos provided by Elvis Ellis)

Africa, all across Australia to the bull fights in Spain, it was an amazing journey.

one of life's greatest adventures, across many seas to stop foot on some of the most interesting and awesome places on earth!"

"Little did I know that a quest to get some school clothes would send me on



November 2013 Wordsearch

Pakameha (Striking Moon) Use all of the words in November 2013 Word List

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