



The cover presents a three-image painting which hangs in the lobby of the 635th Combat Support Group headquarters building. The first image depicts a bomber flying a night mission, its fuselage outlined against a moonless sky. The Thai dancer, costumed in classic attire, is performing a good luck dance. She is illustrated against a backdrop of sunlit colors and a blazing white sun. The Buddhist temple image represents Thailand. The original painting by Sgt. James D. Raymond, who was assigned to U-Tapao in 1968, symbolizes the USAF mission accomplished with our Thai Allies.

U-Tapao Airfield

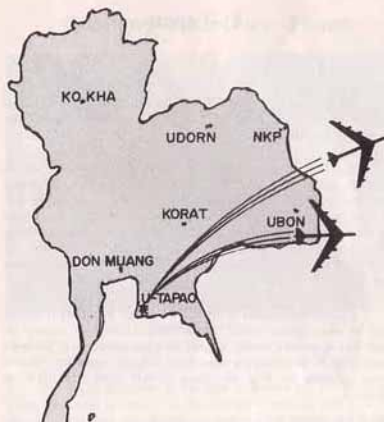
Thailand

United States Air Force

Royal Thai Navy



Thai Spirit House and KC-135



Welcome

On behalf of the United States Air Force and our host, the Royal Thai Navy, welcome to U-Tapao Royal Thai Navy Airfield. The missions of the various American organizations here are many, but they all contribute to the primary United States objective in Southeast Asia. We are proud of our role in this quest for national independence.

You will enjoy your assignment here in Thailand. It is a beautiful and interesting land with a proud history of freedom. The Thai people are friendly hosts and share our desire for peace and freedom for all peoples.

Again, welcome and "sawaddee."

Commander
635th Combat Support Group

U-Tapao

U-Tapao Airfield, located on the Gulf of Thailand about 120 miles south of Bangkok, represents a strategic link in the defense of Southeast Asia.

The host American unit is the Pacific Air Forces' 635th Combat Support Group. The group is responsible for providing administrative and logistical support to combat units at U-Tapao as well as normal housekeeping support for the more than 7,000 military personnel stationed here. It also supports U.S. Air Force operations at Don Muang Airport, near Bangkok; Ko Kha Air Station in northern Thailand; and the U.S. Navy operation on Diego Garcia Atoll in the Indian Ocean.

B-52 Stratofortresses of the 307th Strategic Wing (SAC) regularly can be seen rolling down the airfield's 11,500-foot runway on their way to provide combat support for allied operations in Southeast Asia. KC-135 Stratotankers stage from U-Tapao, providing essential aerial refueling to U.S. Air Force aircraft from other bases in Thailand.

Although the history of U-Tapao dates back to October 1960, when the Thai Navy began operations here, the major American buildup did not begin until mid-1965 with construction of the runway and other essential facilities. The 4258th Strategic Wing, now the 307th, was activated in June 1966 under the direction of the 3rd Air Division, now 8th Air Force, at Andersen AFB, Guam. The first aircraft, KC-135s, began operations in August 1966. They were followed in April 1967 by the arrival of B-52s.

U-Tapao Airfield is situated approximately 10 miles east of the seaside community of Sattahip. Like many in Thailand, it is a market place for food products from the surrounding area. Very little industry exists in Sattahip, and aside from farming, fishing is the primary occupation. Sattahip does have many shops which offer carved wood, jewelry, bronzeware, and clothing of interest to the Western shopper.

Thailand: Your New Home



Bangkok Temple

The Royal Kingdom of Thailand is located on the Southeast Asian Peninsula, bordered on the east by Cambodia and Laos, on the north by Laos and Burma, on the west by Burma, and on the south by Malaysia and the Gulf of Thailand. The country is about the size of Texas, with a population of approximately 32 million. The capital is scenic Bangkok, about 120 miles northwest of U-Tapao Airfield.

The greatest charm of Thailand (formerly Siam) lies in the characteristics of her people. The Thai are gentle, peace-loving, jovial and proud. They consider it a virtue not to offend or embarrass people. "Face" means personal integrity which one should not lose or cause others to lose. This trait is often mistaken for a weakness or submissiveness; that is an error.

The Thai believe in the "live and let live" philosophy. Buddha taught tolerance and open-mindedness. Therefore, they welcome people, religions and cultures different from their own. They love to study, select and adapt certain aspects from other societies. Thai culture continues to emerge from fragments of others, including Western, seasoned and spiced to the Thai taste.

Living has always been easy in Thailand. "In water there are fish, in the paddy there are rice. All are happy." This is on the stone inscription of a 13th century Thai king. Residing in tropical climate, the Thai need only few clothes and simple shelter to protect them from the rain and sun. Free from worry about tomorrow or a long, cold winter, they learn to enjoy life and love having fun.

Having fought for freedom for centuries, the Thai, like Americans, take pride in their nationality and independence. They believe that a man is not a man unless he is free. The word "Thai" originally meant human. Since in their mind the loss of a man's freedom is also the loss of his Thai-human-identity, the word Thai has become synonymous with "freedom". Thus, Thai means free people and Thailand the land of the free.

Pride in nationality includes Thai pride in their ancient culture, customs and traditions. Because the Thai can appreciate other people's culture, they expect others to appreciate theirs. They extend the warmest hospitality and affection toward persons who respect their King, objects of Buddhist significance, and Thai national dignity. They become disappointed, sometimes bitter, toward "farang" (foreigners) who don't.

Two military handbooks, "Thai Customs and Courtesies" (published by 13th Air Force) and "A Pocket Guide to Thailand", AFP 190-4-7, are a good place to get a head start on your development of an invaluable relationship with the Thai people. This friendship will prove to be your best souvenir of Thailand.

Your base and community libraries should have many books on Thailand; ask the librarian to suggest several for you and your family to read. In addition, the March 1971 issue of the National Geographic magazine has an outstanding section on "The Lands and Peoples of Southeast Asia."

History

The Thai had already established their nation and had formed their kingdom in what is now Southern China by the time Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt. Even then the militant Chinese leaders found it more convenient to conquer the Thai than try to solve their food and population problems any other way. Twice the Thai lost the battle.

Rather than remain under foreign control, the Thai migrated southward. On their last trek, they went into India, Burma, Laos, North Vietnam, and to Hainan Island. The majority settled in the

Indo-China Peninsula which then was the home of the Khmers, Mons and Lavas. In 1238 two Thai chieftains liberated their people from Khmer rule and made Sukhothai (south of Chiangmai) the heart of the nation. Soon, King Ramkumhaeng (1275-1317) expanded the kingdom to its present territory and planted the roots of the Thai nation.

In 1350 King U'Tong of the Central Thai branch founded another capital, Ayudhdhaya (45 miles north of Bangkok). Authority and cultural seats shifted there from Sukhothai. For 410 years Ayudhdhaya bloomed and ranked among the most flourished cities in Asia. During this period Thai culture, government, literature, sculpture, painting, and architecture matured.

In the mid-16th century, Ayudhdhaya and Burma engaged in a series of wars. Both kingdoms were devastated, but Ayudhdhaya suffered more. In 1760 the Burmese set Ayudhdhaya a fire and the capital was robbed of its riches and population. It's skelton remains today as a major remnant of the past.



Klong Life

Praya Taksin, a capable provincial general-governor reunited the kingdom. Thonburi (across the Chao Phaya River from Bangkok) was his capital. Unfortunately incessant warfare with Burma and Cambodia marked his reign.

In 1780 Praya Chakri, King Taksin's right-hand man, ascended the throne. With the capital in Bangkok, he re-established unification and civilization in Thailand. Diplomatic and commercial relations resumed with both Eastern and Western powers. The Chakri Dynasty established in 1780 continues today under Rama IX, His Majesty

Bhumiphol Adulyadej (pronounced Poom-me-pon Adun-ya-det). He was born in Cambridge, Mass., on Dec 5, 1927, while his father was a medical student at Harvard University.

Government

Until 1932 the king alone ruled Thailand. He was the warrior-protector in time of crisis, leader-father in time of peace. Under the constitutional monarchy, the king now is the patron of all religions and the nominal head of state and chief of the armed forces. His body and likeness are sacred and inviolable!

The council of ministers headed by the prime minister forms the highly centralized government. These ministers bestow local administrative power to the 71 provincial governors under whose supervision work other civil servants appointed by various ministries to serve in the districts, communes and villages. (U-Tapao Airfield is located in Cholburi and Rayong Provinces. The river between the NCO Open Mess and new base theater is the boundary.)

In addition, provincial authorities, municipalities, sanitary districts, and commune authorities administer local self-governments.

Thai-US Relations

American missionaries arrived in Thailand early in the 19th century. Although the two countries concluded a "Treaty of Amity and Commerce" in 1833, the first American treaty with an Asian nation, America's interest in Thailand remained predominantly religious. In 1856 the United States established permanent diplomatic relations with Thailand.

Even then the two countries seemed to share the love for freedom. King Mongkut offered a herd of elephants to the president for use in the Civil War. Like President Lincoln, King Chulalongkorn abolished slavery (in 1905).

In 1917 Thailand joined the Allies in World War I and became the only charter member of the League of Nations from Southeast Asia. As a result the United States surrendered all rights of extraterritoriality in Thailand and lifted fiscal restrictions. Other European nations followed the U.S. example in five years.

In 1941 Japanese troops landed on Thailand's southern coast, forcing Thailand to enter World War II on the Axis side. Nevertheless, "Free Thai" agents, with headquarters in the United States, continued their own fight against the Japanese. They supported the Allies with effective underground work throughout Thailand.

As members of the United Nations and SEATO, Thailand and the U.S. have joined forces in the battle to stop Communist aggression and to maintain freedom of the world. Thailand permits American armed forces to use Thai bases and American personnel help to train their Thai counterparts.

Places of Interest

Wats (Buddhist temples) with their colorful golden spires, beautiful mural paintings, and Buddhist images rank first on the list of aesthetic tours. The USO at U-Tapao and Bangkok arrange tours, as do Bangkok hotels and tour agencies. Never accept a private tour from a "student" who wants to practice his English. For additional tour information (or help on any subject) while in Bangkok, Dial "13" on the commercial telephone.

Chiangmai, Sukhothai, Lopburi, Nakorn Pathom, Ayudhaya, Pimai near Korat, and stone sanctuaries in the northeast are rich in historical and cultural treasures. In addition to Chiangmai, ideal vacation areas are located on the coast of the peninsula and on the east coast. Pattaya and Bang San beaches are easily accessible from U-Tapao. Song Khla and Hua Hin are the main attractions on the peninsula.

Thailand is also a paradise for shoppers. Thai jewelry, silk, celadon pottery, silver, bronzeware, and lacquer and wooden handicrafts seem to fill visitors shopping lists.

For recreation, national sports such as "kick boxing", sword fighting, takraw, fish and cock fighting, and kite contests are uniquely exciting. Thai classical and local dances are renowned for their gracefulness and beautiful costumes. A camera and a good supply of film are musts for your tour in Thailand.





Temple Ruins

Thai Customs & Traditions

Thailand, as a Buddhist nation, is dedicated to moderation, gentleness, and the attainment of enlightenment through doing right, thinking right, and speaking right. The Thai is not easily agitated over real or imaginary threats to his freedom. (But once sufficiently agitated, the Thai male or female can be decisive.)

It may be because he has a kindly environment, a friendly climate, enough to eat, land for everyone who wants to work it, and little interference by others in his simple, casual way of life. The "mai pen rai" or "never mind" philosophy of the Thai people is probably one of the secrets of their good nature.

The Thai have a traditional gesture of greeting called the "wai" which holds the same traditional significance as the American handshake, but also signifies respect, thanks, or apology. A person "wais" by placing his hands together in a prayerful manner and lifting them to his face, with the thumbs below the chin and the index finger on a level with the forehead, and the head slightly bowed.

If a Thai "wais" to you and the courtesy is not returned, it has the same effect as if you had offered your hand to someone and it had been refused. The degree of bowing the head in the "wai" is a delicate matter. Before a foreigner attempts to "wai" to a Thai it is best that a friend be consulted. The handshake is becoming accepted among Thai who have occasion to be with foreigners.

The Thai people are eager to please, but they do not accomplish

a task with the speed to which Westerners are accustomed. Any show of displeasure with their easy-going attitude will not succeed in hurrying them.

Social position is very important and tradition requires that respect be shown to those who are older and more prominent socially or professionally. A simple approach to this situation is a slight bow of the head upon greeting a superior and a show of deference to one of higher position or rank. Juniors do not stand while talking to a senior who is seated.

The most honored and respected person in Thailand is His Majesty the King. He is the spiritual leader of the people, defender of the faith, and the symbol of Thailand's culture, and the temporal head of the country. His picture and that of the royal family is displayed in shops, homes and offices. At the end of large gatherings, movies, plays, or receptions, the King's Anthem is played and everyone stands at attention.

The Thai have a reputation for great modesty, but their form of it is based more upon a pattern of taboos concerning body exposure or physical contact between two individuals rather than of any feeling of shame concerning sex. For an adult or older child to remove all garments when bathing (public or private) generally is considered shameful. They have a matter-of-fact attitude toward the biological functions of the body.

It is considered socially improper for men and women to touch each other in public. It is socially proper, however, for two men (or two women) to hold hands in public. They are friends—nothing more!

Thai are taught to consider certain parts of the body more sacred (not touchable) than others. The head is the most important, since it is the dwelling place of the "khwan" or soul. It is important that you do not touch the head or the shoulders of a Thai. He may even think it rude if you place your arm over the back of a chair in which he is sitting, particularly if this is done in public. The feet are the least sacred and it is not courteous to sprawl or sit with the legs elevated and pointed at a Thai. It is discourteous to point or shake the finger at a Thai.

Shoes are always removed before entering a temple or any other place where Thai remove their shoes. Many Thai will tell you "mai pen rai" but they will appreciate it if you do it anyway.

If there is a question in your mind about any of the Thai customs or traditions, ask for advice. The Thai are anxious to be helpful and to have you understand their culture.



Shopping Area

Bargaining

Bargaining is a way of life in Thailand. The following comments will make your shopping easier and less expensive.

The visitor to Thailand will soon discover that he must bargain for nearly everything. Some things not bargained for are tickets for any form of entertainment, bus fares, meals, drinks, or items in the big department stores in Bangkok.

Have a sense of humor. A witty disposition, sense of humor and a smile are highly prized by the Thai. Strike up a conversation about them and yourself; they are interested in foreigners. Never lose your temper; it will gain you nothing.

If you know the going rate of the item you are bargaining for, start as far below that price as the merchant starts over and try to work to a medium. Do not try to reach the final price for an expensive item the first time. If time permits come back again a couple of days later and resume bargaining. If the price doesn't reach what you want to pay at this time, it probably never will. Either buy it at the seller's price or quit.

Bargain in baht or dollars and always pay in baht. One baht equals about one nickel; 20 baht equal about one dollar.

If you intend to buy several items, do not reveal your goal. Pick out one item and bargain a little. Then appear to lose interest and go on to the next item, and so on. Go back to the original item and try to do better. Repeat the process on each item on which you think you can do better. When you think you have done some good bargaining, pause for a moment and do some quick calculating in your head. Then offer a package deal at a slightly lower price, being careful to leave out the items that are poor bargains. You can often get a better bargain in a package deal than if you had bargained for and bought each item separately.

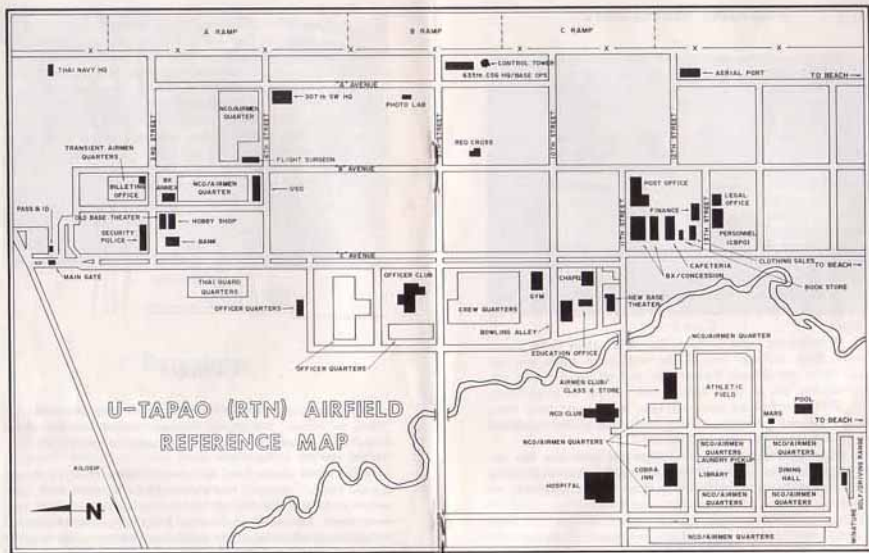


Climate

The best description of the climate at U-Tapao Airfield is "warm and humid," year round. Minimum temperatures during the winter months average in the low 70s and maximum readings throughout the year are in the upper 80s.

The winter season, from November through February, is mostly dry and sunny. April and May are usually the hottest months. The rainy season, from May through October, has more cloudy days than sunny ones. Due to its position on Thailand's southern coastline, U-Tapao is spared some of the heavier rainfalls that occur in other parts of Southeast Asia, and on most days a gentle land or sea breeze makes the tropical air relatively comfortable. Heaviest rains occur in late April and May and again in late September and all of October. Rainfall rates of one to two inches per hour are not uncommon during these periods.

Tropical storms or typhoons seldom occur in the Gulf of Thailand and even less frequently reach this area with winds of tropical storm intensity (35 knots or higher).



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Before You Leave

This is a remote assignment, your dependents cannot accompany you; so do the next best thing. Make sure they are provided for in every possible way prior to your departure. Sufficiently before leaving make necessary allotments and other financial arrangements to insure their financial security.

You must bring with you supporting documents such as termination of government quarters, VRB payment documents and other such papers. Although a passport is not required for your assignment to Thailand, you will need a valid tourist passport for leave via commercial aircraft. You can either secure a passport prior to your departure or obtain one at U-Tapao. If you obtain one here you will need to bring your birth certificate.

You should determine if you need a will or a power of attorney before departing your current base. The CBPO personal affairs section will assist you in making this decision. The office of the Staff Judge Advocate will prepare these documents if required. They should be prepared and executed prior to your departure for U-Tapao.

Do not bring heavy clothing. They will mildew in the humid climate. Bring sufficient sets of the uniform in which you will work, 1505s and fatigues. Persons who perform duties outside will be issued two sets of jungle fatigues and one pair of jungle boots.

Civilian clothes are worn off base. You should bring items that are washable, preferably cotton. Nylon and similar fabrics are not recommended for use in Thailand.

Be sure to keep an accurate itinerary of your trip. This can speed the processing of your travel and per diem vouchers. Privately owned firearms or ammunition will not be carried into Thailand.



Facilities & Services



Base Chapel

Banking & Finance

The military finance facility, operated by the Chase Manhattan Bank, offers U.S. dollar non-charge checking accounts which earn five per cent per annum on balances which do not fall below \$100. The facility cashes U.S. Treasury checks, U.S. Series E Savings Bonds, postal and personal money orders, cashier's checks, bank drafts and other similar unqualified financial paper. Personal checks drawn on banks in the United States will be cashed for amounts up to \$100. The facility sells Series E Bonds, personal money orders, traveler's checks, bank drafts and Thailand currency.

Military personnel are paid by the last day of each month via checks, which are placed in personal boxes at the Postal Service Center (formerly the Consolidated Mail Room) To avoid standing in long lines to cash your check, you may prefer to have your pay sent directly to your checking account. Within a week after

your arrival at U-Tapao, you will be paid any back pay and travel pay due. You may want to bring about \$50 to tide you over.

The Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program is available at U-Tapao. A depositor can earn 10 per cent interest on deposits which can be arranged through the Accounting and Finance Office.

Base Exchange

The Base Exchange complex is located near the center of the base. The main exchange store is well stocked with merchandise. Items not normally stocked can be special ordered through the customer service counter.

Located in buildings near the main store are the base cafeteria and BX concession arcade. The concession facility provides the following: barber shop, shoe repair, souvenir shop, watch repair, photo studio, appliance repair, stationery shop, tailor, packaging and wrapping service, and new car sales.

An exchange annex and cafeteria are also located in the hootch area.

Clothing Outlets

The clothing sales store, located in the BX area, stocks all items of military clothing necessary for duty in Southeast Asia.

The Base Exchange also stocks a limited amount of military clothing items as well as civilian clothes. Tailor shops are located on and off base where individuals can have clothes custom made at reasonable prices.

Dining

Two dining halls are in operation at U-Tapao. One is located in the enlisted dormitory area and is open 24 hours a day. The other is located on a small hill east of the flight line. Food is also served at the officers, NCO and airmen's open messes, BX cafeteria, USO, and at several Thai restaurants on the base.



NCO Club

Education Services

A wide variety of programs are offered through the Base Education Office, located near the distinctive Chapel. Included are University of Maryland, spoken and written Thai language, and technical and vocational classes. The office also provides USAFI correspondence enrollment and USAFI high school and college level group study.

The Education Center provides a six-day-a-week testing service and regularly scheduled college entrance testing sessions and graduate record examinations.

The office is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you are unable to come during these hours, special counseling sessions can be arranged.

Laundry

A base-operated laundry provides three-day service. Charges are made by the bundle or individual items. Laundry pick-up points are located in the quarters areas. Do-it-yourself laundry equipment is not available. However, you can negotiate with housegirls to wash and iron your laundry for approximately \$5 a month.

Legal Services

The Staff Judge Advocate Office provides virtually all legal services available at any base in the States. Counseling is provided on such matters as immigration, naturalization, taxation, wills and powers of attorney. The Base Claims Office is located within the Staff Judge Advocate Office.

While serving in Thailand you are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice and the laws of the Kingdom of Thailand. In regard to Thai Law, your status is the same as any resident of Thailand and you may be subject to arrest, confinement and trial in the Thai courts for violating the laws of Thailand. All accidents or incidents involving U.S. personnel which occur either on or off base and with which the Thai authorities are concerned or may become concerned should be reported to the nearest office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

MARS

A Military Affiliate Radio Station (MARS) is available in the enlisted housing area for all military personnel. Stateside telephone patches can be placed from 6:30 to 10 a.m. and from 8:30 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Medical Services

The 11th USAF Hospital at U-Tapao is a 80-bed, air conditioned, modular-type facility located just north of the enlisted dormitory area. The base dental clinic is housed in the same building. An appointment system is used for treatment or consultation during normal duty hours. Emergency service is provided around the clock. The hospital general practice clinic is augmented by several specialty clinics including internal medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, orthopedics, aerospace medicine, and ear, nose and throat. Aeromedical services are housed in a separate facility near the USO building and flight line.

Post Office

During your tour one of the most important facilities will be the Post Office and Postal Service Center. The Post Office provides the same services as those in the States.

Air mail letters take from four to six days to reach their destination in the States. Your U-Tapao address will be:

RANK, NAME, SSAN
UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT
PSC Box (Number)
APO San Francisco 96330

The Postal Service Center provides 24-hour accessibility to individual mail boxes.

Radio and Television

The American Forces Radio and Television station at U-Tapao operates as part of the American Forces Thailand Network. The radio station is on the air 24 hours a day at 1220 kilocycles. The television station is on the air from noon to midnight Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to midnight on Saturday and Sunday. Radios and television sets may be purchased at the Base Exchange.

Red Cross

The Red Cross is the only officially recognized non-government agency for notification of emergency situations. Advise your family to contact the local Red Cross when an emergency in the family occurs which would require your presence at home.

The Red Cross also transmits reports on births, and other morale and welfare matters. Financial assistance is provided to the serviceman by the Red Cross to assist him in travel on emergency leave or for other emergency needs.

Remember, in most instances, the Red Cross must verify an emergency before a commander can grant emergency leave. Save precious time and have your relatives contact their Red Cross chapter first.

Religious Services

A varied and active religious program is offered personnel at U-Tapao, including Roman Catholic, Jewish, general Protestant and other denominational services. Along with regular religious services, many groups meet at the base chapel to enjoy fellowship and the opportunity to work together. Religious retreats are periodically held in Bangkok and Chiangmai. A chaplain is always available to help with any personal problem.

Living Quarters



NCO/Airman Hootch



NCO/Airman Dormitory



Officer Quarters



Modular Dormitory

Transportation

There are several means of transportation on base. Two shuttle bus systems operate: one is free (busses are painted orange) and the other (green busses) is commercially operated and charges one baht (five cents). In addition, the Base Exchange has a taxi service concession. These taxis can be hired for use on or off base.

When traveling off base, the preferred method is by large commercial bus. The second choice should be commercial taxi. The Thai driver is an artist at his work and commonly measures clearances in millimeters; so keep yourself completely inside the vehicle. Small covered pickup trucks called "baht busses" are also available off-base. Never ride a baht bus alone at night!

If you must drive a private vehicle off base, be certain to obtain a Thai driver's license, Thai plates and Thai Navy registration. Contact your Safety Office for a briefing prior to venturing out on your own in the left-hand traffic. You are not authorized to ship your automobile to Thailand; however, some people have purchased cars locally. Persons stationed at U-Tapao are not permitted to operate motorcycles.

Recreational Facilities

U-Tapao Airfield offers more in the way of off-duty activities than many Stateside bases. A varied recreation program provides many well-equipped facilities to the hobbyist and the sports enthusiast.

Beach Activities

The beach area is open daily. Activities available include sail boating, water skiing, deep sea fishing, party house and patio, snack bar, archery range, horseshoe pits and a basketball court. Lifeguards normally are not on duty at off-base beaches and swimming pools.

Diving Club

If you're interested in snorkeling and scuba diving, the Gulf of Siam Divers Club offers equipment, air and instruction at nominal cost. This private fund organization at U-Tapao does not limit its dives to local waters. The use of civilian rental equipment is discouraged.



Beach Scene

Golf

Duffers have a driving range, miniature golf course and access to a nine-hole golf course. The driving range and miniature golf course are lighted for night action and are run from a well-stocked pro shop. A bus leaves the gym four times a day for the nine-hole Thai Navy Golf Course near the base.

Gymnasium

The base gym is a well-equipped, modern facility featuring a basketball court, weight-lifting room, steam room with massage, badminton, and judo and karate classes.

Hobby Shops

Hobby shops on this base are consolidated in one facility. This hobby center includes a resale store, slot car track, leathercraft shop, lapidary shop and tape center. The resale store has lapidary supplies, model kits, slot cars and equipment, leather kits and tape recording equipment for sale. The store also offers some photo accessories.

Library

The base library, open seven days a week, is located in the center of the airmen's dormitory area. It has a collection of more

than 10,000 books, receives nearly 100 different magazines, and has current issues of newspapers from major cities in the United States.

Open Messes

There are three open messes at U-Tapao. The officers' and NCO open messes are open 24 hours a day. The airmen's open mess is open from 8 a.m. to midnight.

Skeet Club

The Cobra Flats Skeet Club is located at the south end of the base on the Gulf of Thailand, east of the beach. Busses leave the gymnasium every Saturday and Sunday at 12:30, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. Club membership is not required to use the range.

Swimming Pool

An olympic size swimming pool is scheduled to be open in 1972. The facility will include a bath house. Tentative operating hours are 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Theaters

Two theaters are available at U-Tapao. The present base theater, indoors and air conditioned, has a seating capacity of 170 and offers an afternoon and two evening shows. By early 1972 this theater will be replaced by a larger, more modern facility which will seat about 450 patrons. The new theater will be air conditioned and have a snack bar.

There is also a beach theater, outdoors and breeze conditioned. It seats 1,100 and has two shows each evening. It is scheduled to remain in service as long as there is a need.

USO Club

One of the most popular recreation facilities at U-Tapao Airfield is the USO Club which is open 24 hours daily, except Mondays when it closes from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. For entertainment there is a TV room, pool tables, ping pong tables, a comfortable lounge, cards and games of all types, musical instruments, free stationery, and lots of hot free coffee. There is a snack bar with a varied menu and a pizza bar. The USO sales office offers a variety of tours throughout Thailand, and other helpful information can be obtained from the USO reception Desk.

THAI LANGUAGE GUIDE

Many Americans learn to speak Thai. You can enroll in formal courses at U-Tapao or teach yourself from inexpensive handbooks (with some help from a Thai friend). Regardless of the method, you'll make more friends and enjoy your tour more if you do learn at least a few basic words.

This guide will help serve that purpose. The Thai language is tonal and we have indicated below what tone to use: (h) for high tone, (l) for low tone, (f) for falling tone, and (r) for rising tone. No prefix indicates a middle or normal tone. The word "ma" is a polite expression used by men at the end of a sentence, at the start of a conversation. Women use "kha".

Good morning	
Good afternoon	Sa-wa-dee (h) krup
Good evening	
Good night	Ra-tree-sa-wat
Good bye	La (l) gawn
Thank you	(l) khob khun
Don't mention it; you are welcome	(f) mai pen rai
Excuse me	(r) Khaw (f) toht
I beg your pardon	(r) Khaw apai
I or me	(r) Poin, or (r) chahn
We	Rao (rhymes with "row")
You	Khun, or (f) tahn
He, she or they	(r) Khao
It	Mun
My or mine	(r) Kawng (r) pom
Your	(r) Kawng khun
No	(f) Mai
Yes	(f) Chai
Do you know?	Khun (h) roo (h) mai? or Khun (f) sah (h) mai?
I don't know	(f) Mai (h) roo or Mai (f) sah
Understand	(f) Khao jai
Be careful	Rawng
Go slow	Pai cha (f) cha
House or home	(f) bahn
How much (price)	Rahkhah (f) tao (l) rai
How are you?	Khun mahai dee (r) rue

NUMBERS

Zero	(r) Soon	Eight	(l) Hat
One	(l) Neung	Nine	(f) Gow
Two	(r) Song	Ten	(l) Sip
Three	(r) Sahn	Eleven	(l) Sip (l) ed
Four	(l) See	Twelve	(l) Sip (r) song
Five	(f) Hah	Thirteen	(l) Sip (r) sahn
Six	(l) Hok	Twenty	(f) Yee (l) sip
Seven	(l) Jet	Thirty	(r) Sahn (l) sip



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

PRIDE IN THE PAST - FAITH IN THE FUTURE

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