



## Detachment of Texas

### Commander's Travel Notes

July 4, 2023

What a special Independence Day weekend celebration. It was a highly charged atmosphere like no other. Future Detachment Commanders shouldn't miss this one. On July 3rd, the Department Commander, Department President, and I all addressed The American Legion Post 37 and subsequently installed all the new officers. We shared old stories and had a great evening of fun. Shout out to those that left all the goodies for me when I arrived at the hotel. It was so much I had to use a luggage cart to get it to my room. The front hotel clerk, Kimberly, wanted to know who I was.

I flew to McAllen and snagged an Uber driven by Juan to the hotel. Once I entered the vehicle, he told me about McAllen, Tx. I would say Juan is a proud citizen.

Now it's the morning of the 4th. Early start, 8 am, to the festivities. The entire city is up and ready to go. The surroundings near the hotel look like a springtime state fair. We all brought greetings to the citizens in attendance for this well-organized and executed event. Like I told McAllen, you do not have to take a backseat to anyone.

Parade time. We were ushered to our rides. Thanks, Craig Gillard, for making sure I had a driver for the parade, to and from the Post and to the Airport. He took me to go and see the magnificent War museum and park—a must-see for all Americans.

I went back to Post 37 to rejoin friends that I met the evening before. Dennis Terry and his mom are wonderful people. Dennis is one of those people you can't help but befriend as soon as you meet him. Also, there was

Jungle Jim, who I run into at all the Austin Conventions. Also, the group of extraordinary ladies, Dora. Linda. Cindy and Cindy, the mom of the Bands lead singer. These ladies sang every song that the band played—it turned out to be a great afternoon of fun and laughter. They even tried to get me to stay an extra day.

Thank you, McAllen and Post 37, for keeping an entrenching smile on my face. I will return if an invitation is extended.

Constantly trying to make us better,

Clifton Guillory

Commander, Detachment of Texas