

Day 28 (Friday 10/17/08) At Sea

We got underway last evening on our way to the port of Laem Chabang in Thailand. Our route takes us south around the southern coast of Vietnam and then north past Cambodia and finally we arrive in Thailand. The seas were calm and weather warm. During the night many lights from fishing boats lined the horizon from time to time.

At noon today Captain van Zaane gave his navigation update and said we were less than 60 miles from the coast of Vietnam and Cambodia. He said that some passengers were uneasy about the situation in Bangkok as reported in the news the last few days. He reassured us that we would be going to Thailand as planned and avoiding any problem areas.

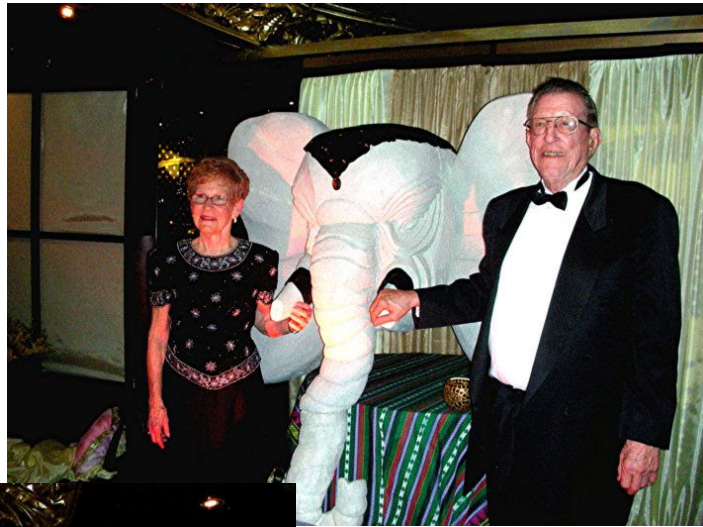
It rained a little during the morning and we spent some time compiling the blog entry for yesterday covering the visit to the Cu Chi Tunnels in Vietnam. Part of the time it was enjoyable to just lie out on the veranda without anything to do. We also went to a lecture by Dr. Wolff in the afternoon. Dr. Wolff's lecture was about the infamous North Vietnamese Hanoi Hilton prison for American military officers during the Vietnam War. He recounted the terrible torture that they inflicted on prisoners in an attempt to extract propaganda confessions and other statements favorable to the North Vietnamese cause.

The dress for dinner tonight was formal and the theme was Thailand. The dining room was decorated with images reminiscent of Thailand. This goddess on the right welcomed us to the lower dining room along with the head waiters.



Our waiters were dressed in black and red silk cloaks. Here Dibya does his amazing strongman job of bringing the main course of meals up from the kitchen.

After dinner we stopped by the Thai Elephant that had been guarding the entrance to the upper dining room. We got photos of Bob and Esther as well as us.



This will be a short blog entry today as we gear up for a big day tomorrow in Laem Chabang which is the port city for Bangkok. We will be taking a tour called "The Best of Bangkok".