

# Helicopter 66-00710

Information on U.S. Army helicopter UH-1 tail number 66-00710

Date: 670731

Incident number: 670731011ACD Accident case number: 670731011 Total loss or fatality Accident  
South Vietnam

Number killed in accident: 4 Injured: 0 Passengers: 0  
costing 789679

Loss to Inventory

## Crew Members:

AC W2 CAUTHEN HENRY CLAY SR KIA

P W1 DAVIE RODNEY OWEN KIA

CE E5 ALLWOOD JOSEPH WAYNE BRYA KIA

G E4 WILLIAMS PAUL EDWARD KIA

## Accident Summary:

□ The subject helicopters were gun ships on a night reconnaissance mission in an area south and west of Phu Hiep AAF, RVN. At a point 2.1 miles southwest of the Phu Hiep complex, the two helicopters lost contact with each other, resulting in a mid-air collision at approximately 2345 hours. Both aircraft were totally destroyed in the resultant crash and fire. There were no survivors. The two gun ships became separated while approaching the RVN compound, one half mile northwest of the crash site. Helicopter 66-707 circled to the left. This fact is borne right from the statement of one witness, that the aircraft he was trying to follow appeared to be further away, as the sound moved west and south. Also the radio transmission between the two aircraft indicated that 66-707 was in a left turn. After the first pass over the area, helicopter 66-710 circled left toward the bridge and then turned back right over the bridge and to the southeast. At the time the two helicopters collided in the air, 66-710 was on a heading somewhere between 140 degrees and 180 degrees. Helicopter 66-707 was at a heading somewhere between 320 degrees and 360 degrees. At the point of contact, it is assumed that 66-710 was turning away from 66-707 or 66-707 was turning away from 66-710. This fact is evidenced by the rotor blade marks on the left door of 66-710. It was a glancing blow with the under side of the rotor blade marking the door. The force of 66-707 striking 66-710 and the resultant vibration caused the transmission and rotor head to become separated. The transmission fell straight down, or nearly straight down. The rotor blade and head, having some aerodynamic characteristic, fell south of the point of mid-air collision. Helicopter 66-707 became a flaming ball falling to the southeast. Witnesses stated they saw the burning wreckage falling to their left, which some believed to be to the north. Helicopter 66-710 did not burn until after ground impact. Parts of 66-710 fell in the general direction of south, with the main wreckage making contact with the ground at a heading 160 degrees. The helicopter struck a rice paddy dike, flipped around, causing the engine to tear loose, and continue another 25 feet. The helicopter burst into flames at, or shortly after, ground contact. The pilot in the left seat of 66-710 was thrown clear along with the pilot's seat shortly after the mid-air collision. He became separated from the seat prior to ground contact.

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The following is crew member information for this incident:

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Name: SP5 Joseph Wayne Brya Allwood  
Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 07/31/67 while performing the duty of Crew Chief.  
Age at death: 22.3  
Date of Birth: 04/23/45  
Home City: Williston, FL  
Service: regular component of the U.S. Army.  
Unit: 188 AHC  
Major organization: other  
Service: U.S. Army.  
The Wall location: 24E-053  
Aircraft: UH-1C tail number 66-00710  
Service number: 14925034  
Country: South Vietnam  
MOS: 67N2F  
Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea  
Compliment cause: weapons  
Vehicle involved: helicopter  
Position in vehicle: crew chief  
Started Tour: 04/30/67  
"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew  
Current status: non-hostile dead - died out-right  
Length of service: 01  
Location: Unknown Province  
Reason: aircraft lost or crashed  
Casualty type: Non-hostile - died while missing  
single male U.S. citizen  
Race: Caucasian  
Religion: Baptist - other groups  
The following information secondary, but may help in explaining this incident.  
Category of casualty as defined by the Army: non-battle dead Category of personnel: active duty Army  
Military class: enlisted personnel  
This record was last updated on 07/30/95

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Name: CW2 Henry Clay Cauthen, Sr.  
Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 07/31/67 while performing the duty of Aircraft Commander.  
Age at death: 36.1  
Date of Birth: 06/22/31  
Home City: Clarksdale, MS  
Service: AV branch of the reserve component of the U.S. Army.  
Unit: 188 AHC  
Major organization: 1st Aviation Brigade  
Flight class: 63-7W  
Service: AV branch of the U.S. Army.  
The Wall location: 24E-54  
Short Summary: Gunship mid-air w/Rodney O. Davie. In other ship was Robert Wallace and James

Poggemeyer near Tuy Hoa/Phu Hiep.  
Aircraft: UH-1C tail number 66-00710  
Call sign: Black Widow  
Service number: W2215523  
Country: South Vietnam  
MOS: 062B = Army rotary wing aviator, warrant officer  
Primary cause: Mid-Air  
Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea  
Compliment cause: weapons  
Vehicle involved: helicopter  
Position in vehicle: co-pilot  
Started Tour: 04/27/67  
"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew  
Current status: non-hostile dead - died while missing  
Length of service: 18  
Location: Unknown Province  
Reason: aircraft lost or crashed  
Casualty type: Non-hostile - died while missing  
married male U.S. citizen  
Race: Caucasian  
Religion: Baptist - other groups  
The following information secondary, but may help in explaining this incident.  
Category of casualty as defined by the Army: non-battle dead Category of personnel: active duty Army  
Military class: warrant officer  
This record was last updated on 07/28/94

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Name: WO1 Rodney Owen Davie  
Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 07/31/67 while performing the duty of Aircraft Commander.  
Age at death: 22.8  
Date of Birth: 10/26/44  
Home City: Park Forest, IL  
Service: AV branch of the reserve component of the U.S. Army.  
Unit: 188 AHC  
Major organization: other  
Flight class: 66-15R/66-13  
Service: AV branch of the U.S. Army.  
The Wall location: 24E-54  
Short Summary: Mid-air at Tuy Hoa/Phu Hiep W/AC W2 CAUTHEN, CE E5 ALLWOOD, G E4 WILLIAMS killed. In other gunship was Poggemeyer & Wallace.  
Aircraft: UH-1C tail number 66-00710  
Call sign: Black Widow/Spider  
Service number: W3154297  
Country: South Vietnam  
MOS: 062B = Army rotary wing aviator, warrant officer  
Primary cause: Mid-air

Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea  
Compliment cause: weapons  
Vehicle involved: helicopter  
Position in vehicle: co-pilot  
Started Tour: 11/13/66  
"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew  
Current status: non-hostile dead - died of wounds/injury  
Length of service: 01  
Location: Unknown Province  
Reason: aircraft lost or crashed  
Casualty type: Non-hostile - died while missing  
single male U.S. citizen  
Race: Caucasian  
Religion: Protestant - no denominational preference  
The following information secondary, but may help in explaining this incident.  
Category of casualty as defined by the Army: non-battle dead Category of personnel: active duty Army  
Military class: warrant officer  
This record was last updated on 08/20/95

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Name: SP4 Paul Edward Williams  
Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 07/31/67 while performing the duty of Gunner.  
Age at death: 19.9  
Date of Birth: 09/20/47  
Home City: Chicago, IL  
Service: regular component of the U.S. Army.  
Unit: 188 AHC  
Major organization: other  
Service: U.S. Army.  
The Wall location: 24E-058  
Aircraft: UH-1C tail number 66-00710  
Service number: 16896260  
Country: South Vietnam  
MOS: 11B20  
Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea  
Compliment cause: weapons  
Vehicle involved: helicopter  
Position in vehicle: door gunner  
Started Tour: 04/01/67  
"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew  
Current status: non-hostile dead - died out-right  
Length of service: 00  
Location: Unknown Province  
Reason: aircraft lost or crashed  
Casualty type: Non-hostile - died while missing  
single male U.S. citizen  
Race: Negro

Religion: Baptist - other groups

The following information secondary, but may help in explaining this incident.

Category of casualty as defined by the Army: non-battle dead Category of personnel: active duty Army

Military class: enlisted personnel

This record was last updated on 09/07/96

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Please send additions or corrections to:

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