





MARK HOUGH





16 AVN. GROUP

101 ASS. HELICO. BN
CO. "B"









MAJOR U.S. COMBAT UNIT CASUALTIES IN VIETNAM

The units listed below account for 98% of the Americans killed by hostile action in Vietnam. Wounded in action include both hospitalized and non-hospitalized.



1st Marine Division



1st Marine Air Wing



3rd Marine Division



1st Infantry Division



9th Infantry Division



4th Infantry Division



Vietnam River Patrol Force

| Unit | Killed in Action | Wounded in Action |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| III Marine Amphibious Force | 13,082 | 88,633 |
| 1st Marine Division | | |
| 1st Marine Aircraft Wing | | |
| 3rd Marine Division | | |
| 7th Fleet Amphibious Force | | |
| 1st Cavalry Division | 5,444 | 26,592 |
| 25th Infantry Division | 4,547 | 31,161 |
| 101st Airborne Division | 4,011 | 18,259 |
| 1st Infantry Division | 3,146 | 18,019 |
| 9th Infantry Division | 2,624 | 18,831 |
| 4th Infantry Division | 2,531 | 15,229 |
| 173rd Airborne Brigade | 1,748 | 8,747 |
| 7th Air Force/SAC (Guam) | 1,739 | 3,457 |
| 1st Aviation Brigade | 1,701 | 5,163 |
| 7th Fleet/Naval Forces (Vietnam) | 1,626 | 10,406 |
| 196th Light Infantry Brigade | 1,004 | 5,591 |
| Americal (23rd) Division | 808 | 8,237 |
| 11th Light Infantry Brigade | | |
| 198th Light Infantry Brigade | | |
| 199th Light Infantry Brigade | 754 | 4,679 |
| 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment | 728 | 5,761 |
| 5th Special Forces Group | 546 | 2,704 |
| 5th Mechanized Infantry Division | 403 | 3,648 |
| 1st Brigade | | |
| 82nd Airborne Division | 184 | 1,009 |
| 3rd Brigade | | |
| Coast Guard Squadrons 1 and 3 | 5 | 59 |



1st Cavalry Division



25th Infantry Division



101st Airborne Division



7th Air Force



11th Armored Cavalry Regiment



23rd Infantry Division (Americal)



1st Aviation Brigade



196th Infantry Brigade (Light)



173rd Airborne Brigade



1st Special Forces



199th Infantry Brigade (Light)



82nd Airborne Division



5th Infantry Division



A U.S. Army UH-1D drops in a hot LZ to take aboard a casualty sustained during the 1971 invasion of Laos. U.S. Army photo

1972

- Jan 7 In a mortar attack on Fire Base Fiddler's Green, 18 Americans are WIA in the heaviest shelling of U.S. forces in 6 months.
- Feb 17 Three U.S. planes are shot down by surface-to-air missiles during the 29-hour "limited duration" bombing of North Vietnam.
- Feb 25 A five-hour action — the biggest single U.S. engagement with guerrilla forces in nearly a year — leaves 21 GIs WIA and 1 KIA.
- Mar 7 U.S. jets battle 5 MiGs and shoot down 1 north of the DMZ in the biggest air battle in Indochina in 3 years.
- Mar 30 **Easter or Spring Offensive.** NVA crash across the DMZ.
- Apr 1 Navy's last in-country combat unit — Light Attack Squadron 4 — withdraws from Vietnam.
- Apr 6 **Operation Linebacker.** U.S. planes flying 225 missions by April 9 hit NVA troops and missile emplacements above and below the DMZ. Two U.S. planes are downed by SAM-2 missiles.
- Apr 8 The first attacks of the NVA offensive against U.S. installations leave 3 U.S. KIA and 15 WIA at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base; 2 U.S. KIA and 4 WIA at Nui Baden Mountain radio relay station.
- Apr 8 - Jun 25 **Siege of An Loc.** Several U.S. helicopters and crews are lost in a 2-week period supporting ARVN. On July 9, a U.S. general and 3 other GIs are KIA by an enemy shell.
- Apr 19 In the heaviest sea action of the war off Vietnam, the destroyer *Higbee* is badly damaged; 7th Fleet ships engage MiGs for the first time; and the U.S. missile frigate *Sterett* downs 1 MiG.
- Apr 20 Seven GIs are KIA near the DMZ in rescuing two others.
- May 8 U.S. Navy mines North Vietnamese ports.

South China Sea, as did USAF units based in Thailand, assisted in *Operation Frequent Wind*. Of the 60 CH-53 helicopters used in the evacuation, two crashed at sea killing two Marine pilots.

Also killed in the final hours were Cpl. Charles McMahon, Jr., and Lance Cpl. Darwin Judge, the last Americans to die in action in Vietnam. Part of the security guard detachment at the U.S. Embassy, they were struck by shrapnel during an NVA rocket attack on Tan Son Nhut airport.

President Gerald Ford later designated May 7, 1975, as the end of the Vietnam era.

Battling the Khmer Rouge

As the final act in the Indochina tragedy, U.S. Marines were called upon to rescue 39 hostages taken aboard the cargo ship *Mayaguez*. On May 15, 1975, 225 men of the 2nd Bn., 9th Marines, assaulted Koh Tang Island, off Cambodia. As it turned out, however, the ship had been moved.

The eight U.S. Air Force helicopters of the 3rd Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Group and 21st Special Operations Squadron

- May 10 **Operation Linebacker I.** At least 3 U.S. planes are lost as 150-175 aircraft hit targets over Hanoi and Haiphong. Ends Oct.
- May 15 The *USS Ticonderoga* — the seventh aircraft carrier to be stationed off Vietnam — and six other warships, are sent to Vietnam. Navy downs 16 MiGs during May.
- Aug 11 The 3rd Bn., 21st Inf., *Task Force Gimlet* — the last U.S. ground combat unit in Vietnam — is deactivated, along with G Battery, 29th F.A. Delta Co. completes the last patrol on Aug. 5, ending the U.S. infantry war. It departs Aug. 23. The 1st Bn., 7th Cavalry, 1st Cav. Div. leaves the day before.
- Sep 2 In air battles during the Spring Offensive, 47 MiGs vs. 18 U.S. planes are shot down.
- Nov 1 22 Americans are killed in a helicopter crash near My Tho in the Mekong Delta.
- Nov 11 U.S. Army turns over its Long Binh HQ base to South Vietnam, symbolizing the end of direct U.S. Army participation in the war. 29,000 GIs, mainly advisors and helicopter crewmen, remain.
- Dec 18 - 29 **Operation Linebacker II** ("Christmas Bombing"). In the most concentrated air offensive of the war, U.S. aircraft drop 40,000 tons of bombs over Hanoi and Haiphong. 15 B-52s and 12 other U.S. aircraft are lost, along with 43 fliers KIA and 41 taken POW.

1973

- Jan 27 **Paris Peace Accords.** At the time of the armistice, Saigon controls about 75% of South Vietnam's territory and 85% of its population. ARVN is well-equipped and S.V.'s air force is the world's fourth largest. 1.1 million men are under arms.
- Jan 27 The last U.S. serviceman — Lt. Col. William B. Nolde — to die in actual combat is killed by an artillery shell at An Loc 11 hours before the truce. 4 Americans are KIA in the war's last week.
- Feb 12-27 **Operation Homecoming.** First 142 of 587 U.S. POWs are returned. The last known 67 POWs are released March 29.
- Feb 23 Last U.S. air cavalry (helicopter) units depart.
- Mar 28 U.S. First Aviation Brigade departs. Cut-off date for the Vietnam Service Medal.
- Mar 29 MACV closes down and the last U.S. troops leave South Vietnam. Navy operations end. Only a Defense Attache Office and a few Marine guards, as well as 8,500 U.S. civilians, remain. U.S. military contingent is limited to 50.

Total U.S. casualties:

58,183 dead — 47,356 due to hostile action and 10,795 non-combat, plus others later added to the Wall. Wounded in Action — 153,362 (hospitalized only).

carrying the Marines came under intense fire by the Communist Khmer Rouge. One CH-53 was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade and burst into flames, killing 13 aboard instantly. Sixteen of the total 18 U.S. killed on the island were associated with the crash. Two were airmen. One Marine had been killed in an ambush. Wounded totaled 49.

Meanwhile, the *Mayaguez* was seized near Poulo Wai Island by the destroyer escort *Holt*. Co. D, 1st Bn., 4th Marines, boarded and took back the vacant ship.

At the same time, the carrier *Coral Sea* launched air strikes against the airport at Ream, railroad marshaling yards and an oil refinery at Sihanoukville. The guided missile destroyer *Wilson* provided cover.

Amidst these actions, the hostages had been released. Tragically, 23 U.S. airmen (five crew members and 18 security policemen) to take part in the operation died in a helicopter crash in Thailand, bringing total American deaths to more than 50.

But the Khmer Rouge paid a price for their piracy — 47 were killed and 55 wounded in the fighting on Koh Tang Island.



**269th Aviation Battalion
(Combat)**

Arrived Vietnam: 28 January 1967
 Departed Vietnam: 15 April 1971
 Previous Station: Fort Bragg
 Authorized Strength: HHD - 109 (1968)

The 269th Aviation Battalion ("The Black Barons") was part of the 12th Aviation Group during its service in Vietnam and was located at Cu Chi. It reinforced the aviation assets of 25th Infantry Division and other units in western III CTZ.

| Company | Type | Battalion Service/Remarks |
|--------------|---------|---|
| 21st Avn Co | Surv | July 67 - Jan. 68/ Transferred to 212th Avn Bn |
| 116th Avn Co | AML/AHC | March 67 - April 71/ Transferred to 14th Avn Bn |
| 187th Avn Co | AML/AHC | March 67 - April 71/ Transferred to 11th Avn Bn |
| 188th Avn Co | AML | May 67 - April 68/ Transferred to 308th Avn Bn |
| 242d Avn Co | MH | Aug. 67 - April 71/ Transferred to 145th Avn Bn |
| 361st Avn Co | Escort | March 68 - June 68/ Transferred to 52d Avn Bn |









DEAR DICK

WAS GREAT HEARING FROM YOU.
ENCLOSED FIND COPIES OF
THE 12TH CAG EMBLEM.
THE COPIES WAS MADE FROM A
ROUND METAL DISK, WHICH
YOU COULD PIN ON YOUR SHIRT.

Best Regards

Bob Williams



Bob Williams

Tacoma, WA











CAMP EAGLE





U.S.
MADE
ONE





79th Artillery
1 March 1929



82d Artillery
5 July 1927



83d Artillery
9 January 1924



84th Artillery
2 March 1937



92d Artillery
13 March 1959



94th Artillery
20 June 1956



138th Artillery
14 August 1969



197th Artillery
11 October 1927



319th Artillery
17 October 1925



320th Artillery
30 April 1926



321st Artillery
9 July 1927



377th Artillery
3 December 1954



1st Aviation Brigade
2 August 1966 (A)



11th Aviation Group
20 Oct 1967 (A)



12th Aviation Group
10 July 1967 (A)



16th Aviation Group
28 June 1968 (A)



17th Aviation Group
31 December 1968 (A)



101st Aviation Group
22 October 1969 (A)



164th Aviation Group
22 June 1969 (A)



165th Aviation Group
23 June 1969 (A)



1st Aviation Battalion
29 October 1964



4th Aviation Battalion
18 March 1964



9th Aviation Battalion
6 September 1967



10th Aviation Battalion
19 May 1967



11th Aviation Battalion
3 August 1967 (A)



1st Aviation Brigade
2 August 1966 (A)



12th Aviation Group
10 July 1967 (A)









OPERA
NON VERBA











