

HISTORY

OF

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 269TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION

1 JULY 1966 - 24 MARCH 1968

PREPARED BY

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CPT ARTY
COMMANDING

CU CHI, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM APO 96353

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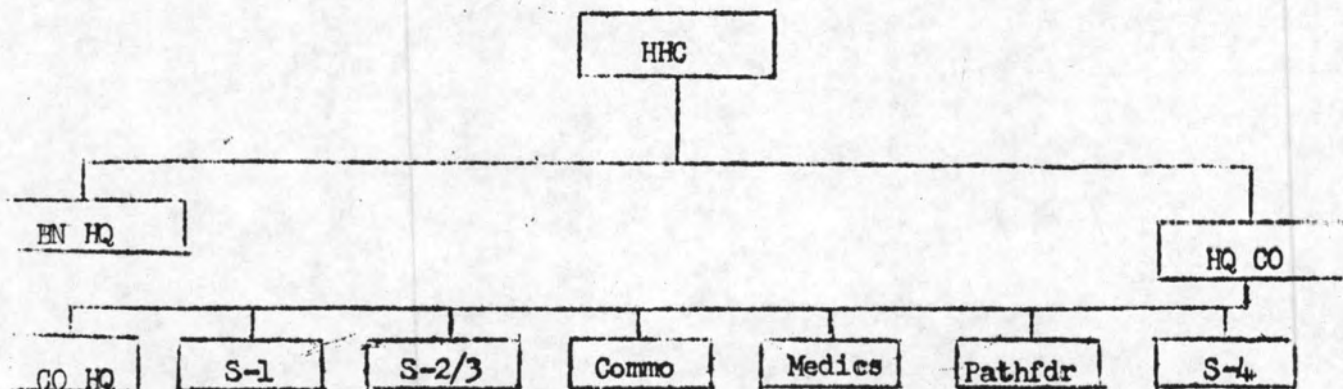
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CHAPTER I

A. ORGANIZATION

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 269TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION



B. UNIT CREST



SYMBOLISM

The golden colored triangle represents a three runway complex on an airfield. The quarrel is symbolic of aircraft using these runways, while the two electrical flashes allude to an aviation battalion's capability to provide a ground control approach and aircraft communications facility. The blue represents the sky. Blue and golden yellow are colors of an aviation battalion.

C. LINEAGE AND HONORS

The unit has no prior history and has not been awarded any honors to date.

D. MISSION

To provide command, control, and administrative supervision for officer and enlisted personnel assigned to Headquarters Company.

CHAPTER II

A. UNIT BACKGROUND

Headquarters and Headquarters Company was first placed on the rolls of the Army on 7 April 1966. On 1 July 1966, the unit was activated at Fort Bragg, North Carolina under General Order Number 20, Headquarters, TUSA. The unit was organized under TO&E 1-76E and authorized 21 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 86 enlisted men. The unit was first attached to the XVIII Airborne Corps and further attached to the 82d Airborne Division for training with the 82d Aviation Battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. On 15 December 1966, the unit was reorganized under TO&E 1-256-F pursuant to General Order Number 503, Headquarters, TUSA, with no change in authorized strength. On 24 through 26 October 1966, the unit conducted its first Field Training Exercise to determine whether or not it could operate under field conditions with organic personnel and equipment. The inspection conducted by a Third Army Inspection Team for unit readiness on 26 October 1966 produced a "Combat Ready" rating. The unit began preparations for overseas deployment in late October 1966.

B. OVERSEAS MOVEMENT

On 6 January 1967, the unit departed Pope Air Force Base, Fort Bragg, North Carolina for San Diego port of embarkation. It embarked on the USNS General Nelson M. Walker which sailed on 7 January 1967. On 28 January 1967, the unit debarked at Vung Tau, Republic of Vietnam. The unit was then assigned to the 12th Combat Aviation Group, 1st Aviation Brigade on 29 January 1967.

C. IN-COUNTRY BUILDING PROGRAM

Upon arrival at Cu Chi on 29 January 1967, the unit found itself with two standing tents and a large dusty piece of ground as its new home. Soon after arrival, through the efforts of all officer and enlisted personnel of Headquarters Company, a new company area began to take shape. Today, the unit area continues to improve with the addition of many permanent buildings. (See Appendix 1)

CHAPTER III

A. COMMAND AND CONTROL

The following personnel have commanded Headquarters Company since its organization:

9 January 1967 - 20 June 1967

DARIUS D. GROGG
CPT, CmlC
05306938

21 June 1967 - 4 August 1967

WILLIAM E. ROACH
MAJ, ARTY
0996308

5 August 1967 - 3 January 1968

ERNEST D. SPRINKEL
CPT, ARM
04031071

4 January 1968 - 17 May 1968

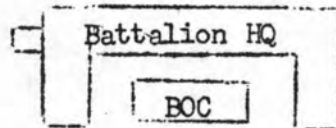
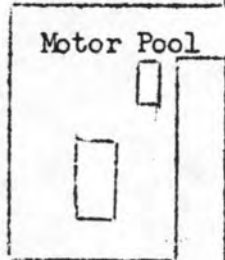
FRANK T. PETERLIN
CPT, ARTY
05207355

B. PATHFINDER DETACHMENT:

The Detachment was formed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, with LT Thomas Hacher as its first commander and arrived in Vietnam with Headquarters & Headquarters Company on 28 January 1968. Its first field operation was made in March 1967 in support of Operation Junction City. Since its arrival in country, the Detachment has participated in Operations Barking Sands, Diamond Head, Kolekole, Atlanta, and Yellowstone. On Operation Yellowstone, the 1st Aviation Brigade Commander praised the Detachment highly when he stated "that this operation could not have succeeded so well without the outstanding Pathfinder support provided". During Operation Yellowstone, 32 Pathfinders had been OPCON to the Detachment. During the months of February and March 1968, the Pathfinders have demonstrated outstanding performance of duty while engaging in a series of night operations in the III and IV Corps areas.

APPENDIX I

HAWAII ROAD

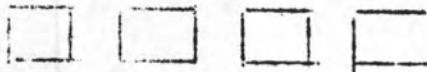


OFF CLB

Personnel

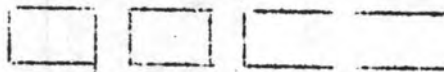


OFFICERS AREA



MESS HALL

ENLISTED MEN'S AREA



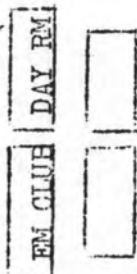
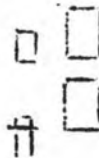
SUPPLY



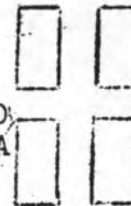
ORDY RM

CP Bkr

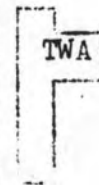
SGM



NCO AREA



NCO Club

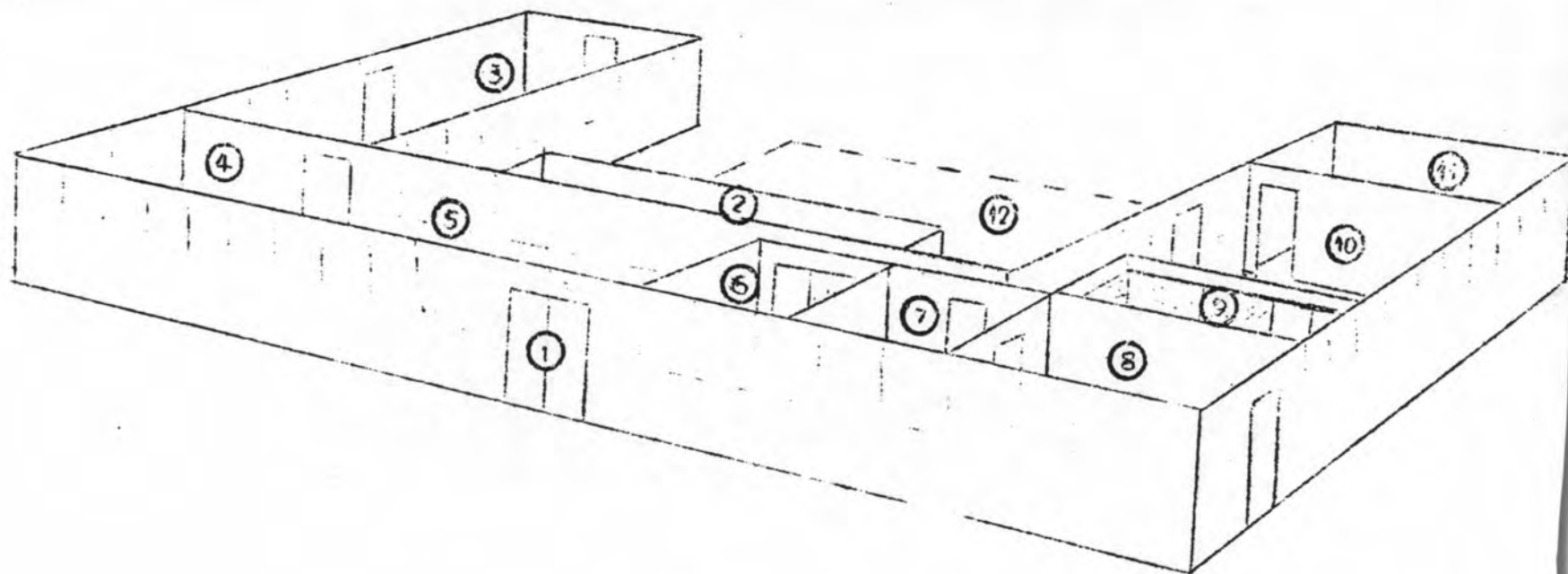


SERVICE ROAD

By JB/mg NARA, Date 9/92

HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

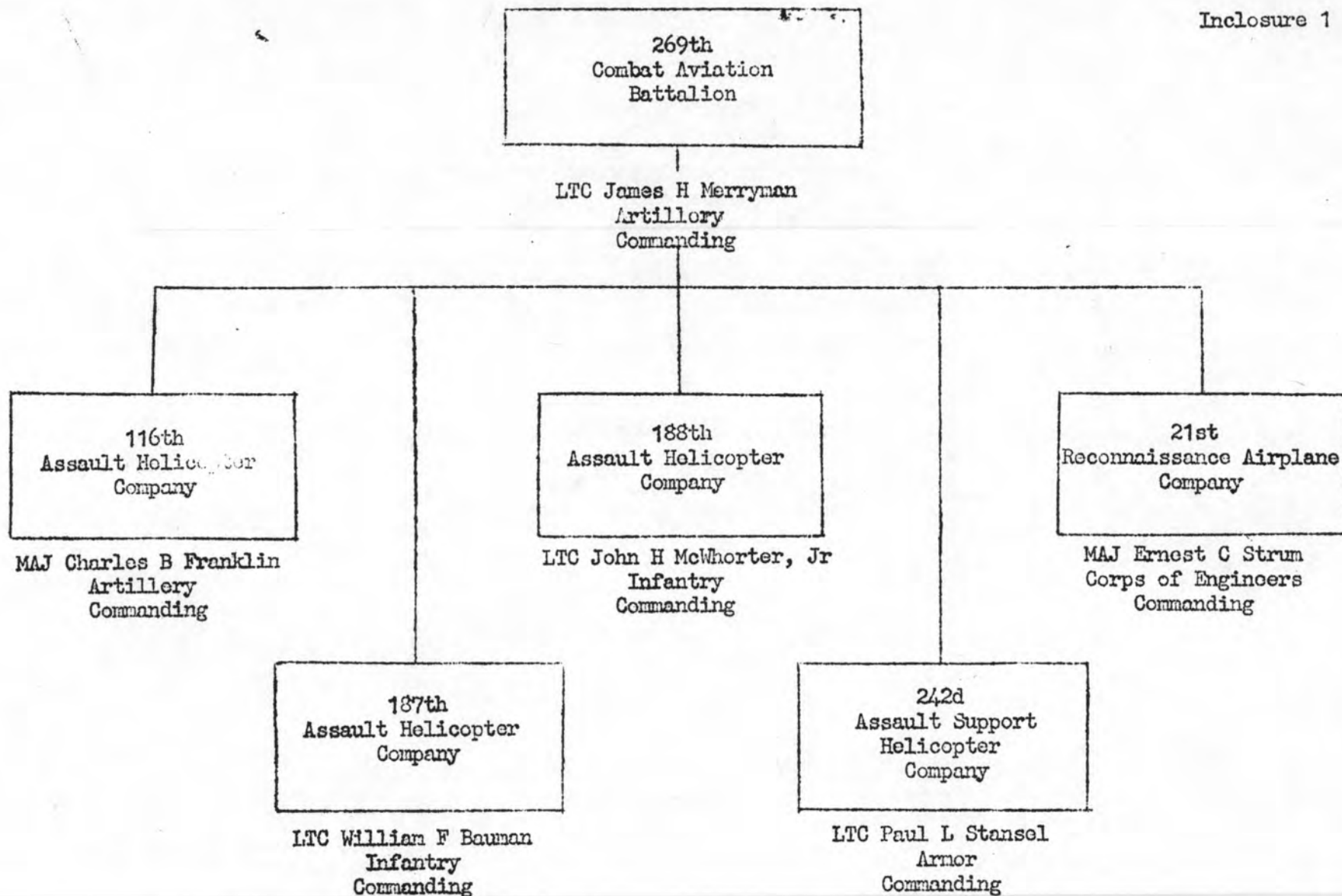
- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 Main Entrance | 5 Aviation Safety Officer | 9 S2 Security Area |
| 2 Message Center | 6 S1 Administrative Section | 10 S3 Section |
| 3 Personnel Section | 7 S1 and Executive Officer | 11 Briefing Room |
| 4 S4 and Maintenance Sections | 8 Commanding Officer | 12 Space occupied by Battalion Operations Center (timber-and-sandbag bunker) |



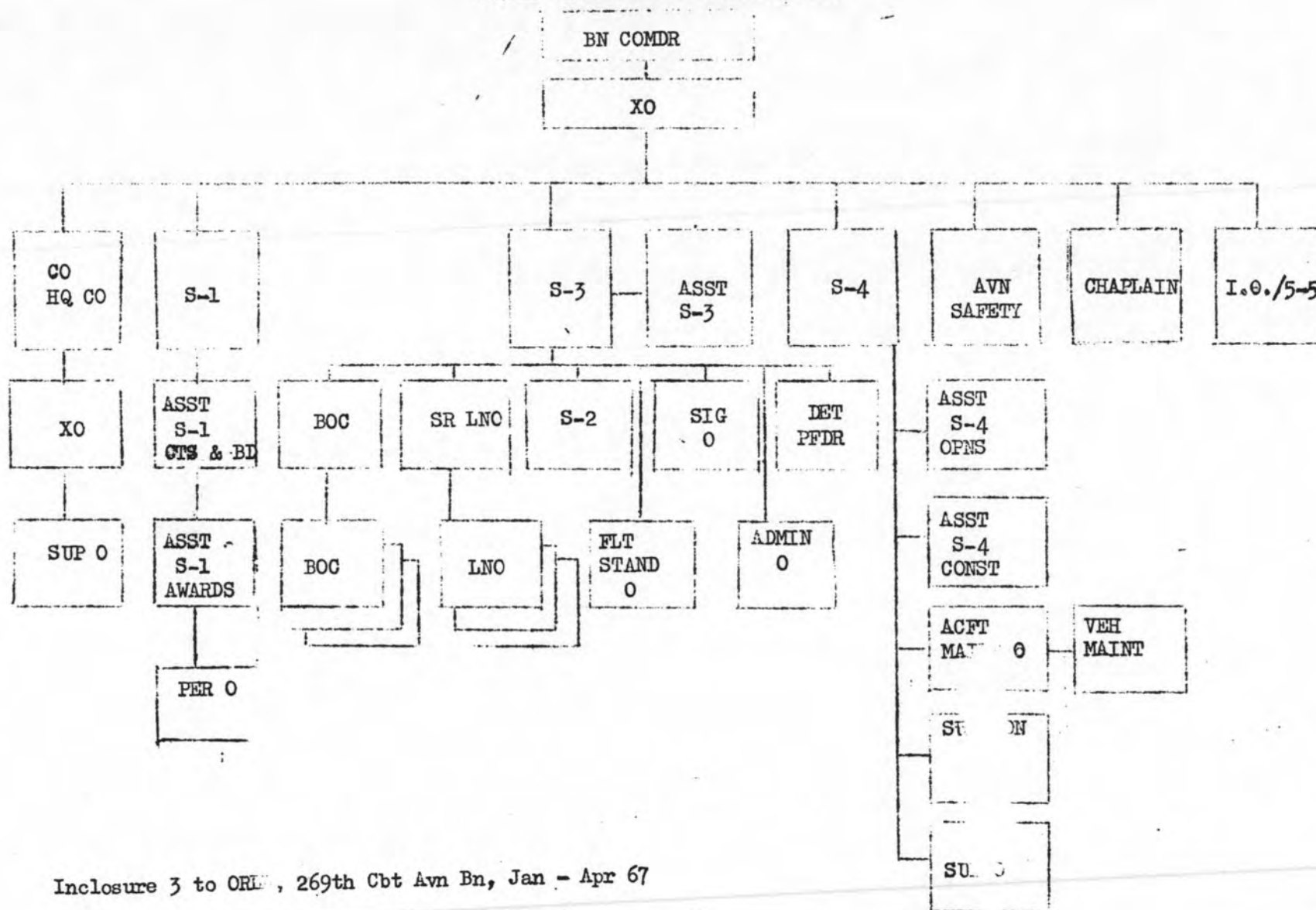
Inclosure 4 to ORLL, 269th Cbt Avn Bn, Jan-Apr 67

By JB/mg NARA, Date 9/92

Inclosure 1



HEADQUARTERS
269th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION



UNCLASSIFIED

Inclosure 3 to ORL, 269th Cbt Avn Bn, Jan - Apr 67

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 269TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION
APO San Francisco 96266
"DISCIPLINED PROFESSIONALS"

AVBACA-F-SA

19 February 1971

SUBJECT: Unit History Annual Supplement

THRU: ~~Commanding Officer~~
~~12th Combat Aviation Group~~
APO 96266

KSK

TO: 8th Military History Detachment
HQ, 1st Aviation Brigade
APO 96386

1. Forwarded for your files.

2. Inclosed are three (3) copies each of the supplements for the 25th Corps Aviation Company, the 213th Assault Support Helicopter Company and the 242d Assault Support Helicopter Company; all subordinate units of the 269th Combat Aviation Battalion.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

3 Incl
as

COPY
from
NATIONAL ARCHIVES
Group No.

Robert M. McGatt
ROBERT M. MCGATT
CPT, CE
Asst Adj

By JB/mg NARA, Date 9/92

UNCLASSIFIED

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS(v)

- 7 April 66 Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 269th Aviation Battalion first constituted (Letter, OCMH DA, Subj: History of 269th Aviation Battalion, 26 Jul 66).
- 1 Jul 66 269th Aviation Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment activated and attached to Fort Bragg, NC (GO 220, Third US Army, 2 Jul 66, as amended by GO 279, Third US Army, 14 Jul 66 and GO 460, Third US Army 16 Nov 66). Further attached to 82d Airborne Division (GO 94, Hq XVIII Abn Corps/Ft Bragg, 1 Jul 66).
- 12 Sep 66 Overseas movement order received (less port date) (Hq XVIII Abn Corps/Ft Bragg, LO 1965, Subj: MOVEMENT-PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION OF ORGANIZATION/UNIT, 12 Sep 66).
- 1, 2 Nov 66 Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment completed operational readiness test.
- 16 Nov 66 Received final movement directive (Msg, Third US Army, Subj: Final Movement Order, 241937Z Oct 66).
- 23 Nov 66 Received port call for unit equipment.
- 5 & 6 Dec 66 Unit equipment ("Z" shipment) shipped from Fort Bragg.
- 16 Dec 66 Received port call for personnel and red circle TAT (Msg, Comdr WAMTMS, Oakland, Calif, Subj: Personnel Port Call Unit & TAT Equipt, 161930Z Dec 66).
- 29 Dec 66 Received order reorganizing unit under MTOE 1-256F (GO 503, Third US Army, 15 Dec 66).
- 6 Jan 67 Main body departed Fort Bragg by chartered aircraft for San Diego.
- 7 Jan 67 Main body departed CONUS aboard USNS General Nelson M Walker.
- 16 Jan 67 Advance party departed Fort Bragg by commercial air for Travis AFB.
- 17 Jan 67 Advance party departed CONUS aboard chartered aircraft; arrived Bien Hoa, RVN, same date.
- 28 Jan 67 Main body arrived Vung Tau, RVN; moved immediately by air to Cu Chi. Assigned to 1st Avn Bde (GO 491, USARV, 1 Feb 67).
- 29 Jan 67 Further assigned to 12th Cbt Avn Gp (GO 459, 1st Avn Bde, 6 Feb 67).

Inclosure 1 to ORLL, 269th Cbt Avn Bn, Jan-Apr 67.

UNCLASSIFIED

By JB/mg NARA, Date 9/92

- 10 Mar 67 187th Assault Helicopter Company arrived, moved to Tay Ninh.
- 19 Mar 67 Headquarters 269th Combat Aviation Battalion becomes operational with assignment of 116th Assault Helicopter Company (GO 7, 12th Cbt Avn Gp, 15 Mar 67).
- 11 Apr 67 187th Assault Helicopter Company operational.