

12/7/99

Dear Vets

The members of the 188th AHC and C Co, 101st Aviation continue to develop our units history of our times at LZ Sally. We hope to have the history of the 188th completed before the VNPA reunion to be held in Washington DC over the 4th of July 2000. When the 188th was deactivated on 1 July 68 and became C & D Companies, 101st Aviation we lost some of the continuity of our unit history. All of the C Company guys need to pull together now to follow the 188th history with the continuing history of the actions in I Corps.

There is a story of our arrival at LZ Sally and our greeting by the Brigade Commander, 2nd Bde, Col Cushman.

We were ordered to move the 188th AHC Black Widows/Spiders (gunships) from Dan Trieng, III Corps area to LZ Sally in March 68. We closed down operations with the 25th Div after fighting Tet 68 for a month and started our move with in 3 days. We jacked out and after 63 C-130 sorties and an overland convey to ship our maintenance vans north we arrived at LZ Sally.

Offered in with the main body of the company and met our advanced party, 3 air crops, and my operations officer at LZ Sally. Col Cushman came down a road and met us in the middle

of a nice pretty and told us "this is your area. -
get crackin' I need your aircraft". The area would
have held an infantry company but a Non Divisional
Aviation Company was as big or bigger than a battalion.
We painted this out and he gave us permission to
push the perimeter out by about 1/3 so we could
get all of our stuff in place. It took us some 35
GP Medium tents to house us plus our 13 Maintenance
wans took up half of the area beside the runway
at Selly. Col Cushman would just shake his
head when he saw us all in place after the move
was completed. He was sure right about one thing
he did need our aircraft and together the 188th and
the 2nd Brigade went to war - and won in
April, May, June 68.

Here is another bit of information you might not
know about. UH-1H # 16779 which was flown by
C/101 is still flyable and is on display at The
Pacific Coast Air Museum at Santa Rosa California.
we have provided the curator information on the
campaigns and operations this aircraft flew in support
of the 188th. We also provided unit markings / patches
etc so they can repaint it and have it in full
C/101 colour in the future. We hope to get it to
one of the VHPA or 101st reunions in the future.
They are very happy that we have the historical data to
support them in marking the aircraft correctly.

Take Care,

Jack O. Johnson