

BLACKWIDOW HISTORY

Charlie Company, 4th Battalion 101st Aviation Regiment was originally activated at Fort Campbell, KY as the 188th Aviation Company (Air Mobile Light) in November 1966, and trained with elements of the 101st Airborne Division until deployment to the Republic of South Vietnam.

On 2 May 1967, the 188th was redesignated the 188th Assault Helicopter Company "Blackwidows" and assigned to the 269th Combat Aviation Battalion, 12th Aviation Group in Long Binh. While serving in the Republic of South Vietnam, the "Blackwidows" performed with distinction and participated in numerous operations and were one of the only aviation companies to serve in all four Corps Areas of Operation.

On 1 July 1968, the 188th was reflagged as Charlie Company, 101st Aviation Battalion (Wings of the Eagle). In October 1981, Charlie Company, 101st Aviation Battalion (Blackwidows) was reflagged as Alpha Company, 158th Aviation Battalion.

On 1 November 1987, the 101st Aviation Battalion was redesignated as the 4th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment and on 16 October 1987, the 158th Aviation Battalion was redesignated as 5th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment.

On 21 July 1989, the 6th Battalion, 101st Aviation Battalion was formed utilizing one UH-60 Assault Helicopter Company from each of the 4th (C Co) and 5th (A Co, Blackwidows) Battalions, 101st Aviation Regiment. On 19 December 1989, under permanent orders 179-1, the 6th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment was redesignated as the 9th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment.

Upon inactivation of the 9th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment on 19 May 2004, the Blackwidows have returned to the "Wings of the Eagle" Battalion as Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment.

Through the years the Blackwidows have continued their outstanding service with dedicated support to operations including Snow Eagle '81 (Fort Drum, NY), Bright Star '83 (Egypt), JTF-B/TF Southern Eagle (Honduras), Solid Shield '89 (Camp Lejeune, NC), Desert Shield and Desert Storm (Saudi Arabia), Buccaneer 7 (Jamaica), Task Force Wildcat (Kentucky), Ocean Venture '92 (Puerto Rico), Operations Restore Hope and Uphold Democracy (Haiti) and numerous rotations to the Joint Readiness Training Center (Fort Chaffee, AR and Fort Polk, LA) and the National Training Center (Fort Irwin, CA), and most recently Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Through it all the Blackwidows have continued to uphold the highest standards of the United States Army. They continue to stand ready for their next "Rendezvous with Destiny."

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