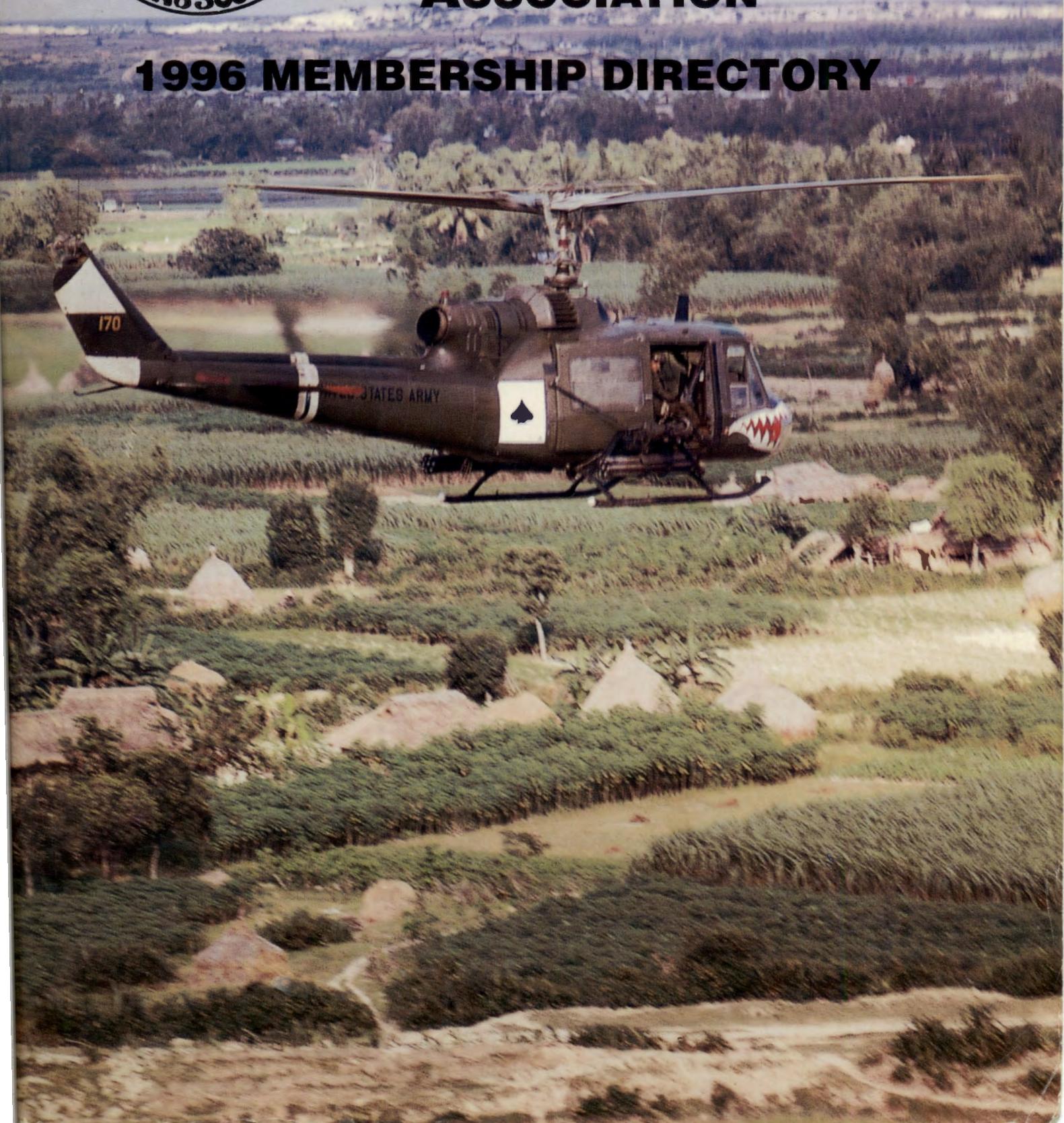




VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 13
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1996 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY





VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION

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THE VHPA DIRECTORY

The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (VHPA) Directory is distributed to members of the VHPA. The VHPA Directory is published annually by the VHPA and mailed in October to the members that are dues current as of September. Fourth-class postage paid at Sacramento, CA.

VHPA membership is open to all helicopter pilots who flew in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam Era (1976-1975). Annual Memberships are \$30.00 or Life Membership for \$450.00. A Life Membership can be purchased on an installment plan; contact the VHPA for details.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Dear VHPA Member:

We sincerely hope you enjoy the 1996 Directory - the 13th edition produced by the VHPA. With the six Newsletter issues and our major Reunion in July, this Directory completes the line-up of "products" you receive for your VHPA dues.

As is our tradition, the theme of the front and rear cover photos "dedicates" this Directory to those who flew helicopters in Southern I Corps.

In much the same way that each Reunion has its own social and financial style, so each Directory is beautiful in its own way. Starting with the 1990 edition, the Directory Committee was able to add new features and chapters each year and still stay within the budget. As the VHPA became more successful in terms of the material contributed by its members and its Committees, the Directory grew accordingly. The 1994 edition was clearly our "high water mark" in terms of content and features. The membership loved it! However, it certainly exceeded the traditional Directory budget. The 1995 edition was more traditional in terms of content and features; it was also exactly on the budget. Due to printer cost constraints and budget realities, the Directory needs to stay in the mid-300 page range. The realities are that each year the Directory needs to accommodate roughly 1,000 more helicopter pilots. Sadly, the "go-go days" are past and we need to be more pragmatic with each page. In this respect, the VHPA is a "victim of its own success." The 1996 Directory does not include chapters and material that we would really like to present - including rosters from our History Committee and songs from our old friends.

It is important for the membership to know that the various VHPA committees who have the stewardship for collecting data and historical records are ALIVE AND WELL. The Database Committee is still collecting Flight Class Rosters, information about the "hat color", number of students, plus starting and graduating dates. The Historical Committee is still collecting historic documents. The VHPA Pocket Patch Project can still use a color copy machine copy of your patches.

In closing, please remember that the VHPA is only as good as we make it!! We need your comments, suggestions, additions, corrections, address changes, information on other Vietnam Era pilots (living or dead), unit histories, copies of Vietnam Era orders, flight class rosters, color copies of pocket patches, articles for the Newsletter, and photos for the VHPA Calendar. Your input is needed and welcome.

Invite your buddies to our 14th Reunion in Orlando in July!

Do you have your copy of the 1997 VHPA Calendar? It is impressive!!

Your Executive Council

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officers and Committee Chairmen	This Page
Photos and Graphics Credits	1
I - Members and Potential Members	2
II - Honorary Members	143
Significant Contributors	143
III - Helicopter Pilot KIAs	145
KIA and Deceased Update Form	186
IV - Helicopter Crewmember KIAs by Date	187
Statistics for the Vietnam War Period	219
V - Deceased Helicopter Pilots	220
VI - Inventory of Flight Class Information	230
VII - Inventory of Unit Patches	239
VIII - History of Southern I Corps	245
Index - Army Flight Class	258
Index - Geographical Membership	286
Index - Combat Units	310
Index - Branch of Service	341
VHPA Information Return Sheet	344
Membership Statistics by State	Inside