



Presentation of H-13 Helicopter

and

***2003 DUSTOFF Hall of Fame
Induction Ceremony
and Memorial Dedication***

U. S. Army Medical Department Museum

February 22, 2003

H-13 Sioux: "Angel of Mercy" in Korea

Say "M.A.S.H." to most people and they will conjure an image of a flimsy helicopter flying patients into a tent hospital in the opening sequence from the television series of the same name. The Bell 47, dubbed the H-13 Sioux by the Army, with its distinctive "goldfish bowl" cockpit cover was responsible for between 18,000 and 20,000 evacuations during the Korean War (1951-53). This accomplishment is remarkable, given the limitations of the aircraft. The "D" series used for MedEvac service was underpowered, highly vulnerable to ground fire and required up to eight hours of maintenance and pre flight checks for each hour of flight. It had to have a level landing area and could only fly at treetop level at best when loaded with wounded. In spite of its limitations, the H-13 was largely responsible for the reduction in battlefield mortality to 2.5 per 100 wounded in Korea, down from 4.5 in World War II. It is this achievement that makes the H-13D a seminal aircraft in the history of the Army Medical Department.

Between 1947 and 1973 over 6,200 versions of the Bell 47 (H-13) were built. Thousands are still in service. Besides civilian uses like crop dusting and traffic observation, more than 40 armies of various nations have used the Bell 47.

The AMEDD Museum is pleased to announce the acquisition of the H-13D. It has been restored at Fort Sam Houston in its medical configuration. The H-13 is placed next to the UH-1 "Huey" for side-by-side comparison in the museum outdoor exhibit pergola. Both aircraft have been acquired with the support of the AMEDD Museum Foundation, Inc.

Sequence of Events

Welcome

Brigadier General Richard Ursone
Assistant Surgeon General/Deputy Chief of Staff
for Sustainment
U.S. Army Medical Command

Presentation of H-13

Brigadier General Charles V.L. Elia
U.S. Army Retired
AMEDD Museum Foundation

Introduction of 2003 DUSTOFF Hall of Fame Inductees

Colonel Dan Gower
U.S. Army Retired
Chairman, DUSTOFF Hall of Fame

Remarks by Inductees

Unveiling of Hall of Fame Wall

Dedication of DUSTOFF Memorial Pavers
Chaplain Conrad Walker
U.S. Army Retired

Salute and Taps

Army Song

Reception



The DUSTOFF Association sponsored Hall of Fame honors those persons who have made an outstanding contribution to DUSTOFF Aviation over an extended period, a doctrinal or technical contribution, an innovation with an identifiable impact on DUSTOFF Aviation, and efforts that were an inspiration to others.

2003 Hall of Fame Inductees



BG Jerry Foust



COL Ernest J. Sylvester



LTC Paul Bloomquist