

14th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION

UNIT HISTORY

The 14th Aviation Battalion (Combat), only a little over five years old, has a short but diverse history, having served all but two months of its existence in Vietnam.

The unit was constituted 2 September 1964 and activated the following day at Fort Benning, Georgia for ultimate assignment to Vietnam in October.

Upon arrival in Vietnam the battalion set up headquarters in Nha Trang and was completely operational by 1 November as a fixed wing unit.

Torrential rains hit Vietnam soon thereafter causing one of the worst floods in Vietnamese history. 5000 Vietnamese perished in the floods and hundreds of thousands were left homeless and stranded. The 14th's 18th and 92d Aviation Companies (Fixed Wing), just getting their feet wet in Vietnam, spent the first two weeks of November 1964 flying evacuation and food and medical relief supply missions for the displaced and homeless in I and II Corps.

As a fixed wing unit, with nine companies dispersed throughout Vietnam, from Hue in northern I Corps to Can Tho in the Mekong Delta, the 14th's missions consisted of general aviation support to U.S. and ARVN forces. This support was provided in the form of reconnaissance, airborne communications, aerial surveillance and the airlift of personnel, material and supplies.

Throughout 1965 and into early 1966 the 14th Battalion continued its responsibility of long distance cargo hauling, regular VIP and passenger flights and increased reconnaissance and resupply for the many Special Forces camps throughout I and II Corps.

In April 1966 the 14th entered a transition period exchanging its fixed wing companies for assault helicopter companies and being redesignated a combat aviation battalion.

The 14th left Nha Trang shortly thereafter for new headquarters at Lane Army Heliport west of Qui Nhon with three new assault helicopter companies: The 161st, 174th and 282d. In September 1966 the remaining fixed wing companies were detached.

The 14th's obligation were dispersed from Phan Thiet to the DMZ and from the Cambodia/Laos border to the coast in support of Korean, MACV and various U.S. Army Units.

Both the 161st and the 174th supported Special Forces projects on numerous occasions from June 1966 to late fall of the same year.

In the spring of 1967 the 176th Assault Helicopter Company and the 196th Assault Support Helicopter Company joined the Battalion. The 196th afforded the 14th its first organic CH-47 Chinooks.

The 14th moved to its present location in Chu Lai in mid April 1967 to support Task Force Oregon. At the time the 282d and the 196th Aviation Companies were replaced by the 71st AHC and the 178th ASHC aviation companies respectively.

The year found the 14th supporting operations for armies of three nations. The U.S. forces included separate brigades of the 101st Airborne, 1st Air Cav, 25th Tropical Lightning Division, the 4th Division and the separate brigades composing the newly formed Americal Division. The 14th also supported many operations for the Korean 9th ROK (White Horse) Division, and the 22d ARVN Division. With the addition of the distinction of being the largest aviation battalion operating in Vietnam with close to 1600 personnel and 129 aircraft assigned.

Operations during 1969 and up to the present have centered around the support of the Americal's 196th, 198th and 11th Infantry Brigades and the 2d ARVN Division with the main obligations being; resupply, combat assaults and gunship support.



LTC DEAN G. BOYLE - Battalion Commander





MAJ TIMOTHY SCOBIE * Executive Officer



MSG CARLOS YOUNG - Bn CSM





1LT OSCAR PATTERSON III - Adjutant



1LT JOHN P. COTTON - Asst. Adjutant



SFC JESSE WILLIS - PSNCO



SP5 RICHARD BURKETT
Morning Report Clerk



SP5 PAUL FREDENBURG
Awards & Decorations Clerk



SP5 TERRY GILLESPIE - Promotion Clerk



SP5 DAN BROWN - PIO Clerk



SP4 JOHN SHERLOCK - PIR Clerk



SP4 RON KIMBELL - Bn OER Clerk



SP4 MICHAEL GRAY - Bn Mail Clerk



SP4 RICHARD D. FOLEY - Distribution Clerk



SP4 ERNEST PEREIRA - S-2 Clerk



SP4 NORMAN FOWLER - Colonel's Driver



SP4 RON KIMBELL
Assistant Colonel Driver



Major TRASK - S-3 Officer



Mr. GRIBBON - Operation Officer



Captain CHICK - Operation Officer



Captain SILVA - Safety Officer



SGT DOLLOFF - S-2



Cpt. JERRY LANE - S-4





CW2 JAMES F. SPENCER - PBO



SP4 TOMMY MINTZ & SGT JOHN MINTON



Chaplain BERRY - 14th CAB Chaplain



MAJ. RAY FINEYON
Aviation Maintenance Officer



CW2 RICHARD STEVENS - Motor Officer



SFC HARRISON ROBINSON - Bn. Maint. NCOIC



JOHN DONAVAN - Lycoming Tech Rep



SP4 ROBERT HERNANDEZ - Bn Maint.



ALET DURAN - Bell Tech Rep



CPT JOSEPH ERNEST - Signal Officer



SGT WILLIAM CAHILL - S-3 Operations



SP4 Kemp. SP4 Troutman, SP4 McKay



SP4 Fraizer, SP4 Blevins, SP4 Terry
Commo



SP4 ENGLERT - Safety Clerk



SGT JOHN FRIE - Commo



1LT ALAN C. DELL'ARIO - Exchange Off.



COL SILVER opening PX.



SSG ALVIN A. EMANUEL - Exchange NCO



SP4 McCUTCHEON - Accounting Clerk



Shoppers at the PX



choppers at the PX



Shoppers at the PX



Medica



SP5 ROBERT REED - Medics



SP4 CARL GREER - Medics



CPT LOUIS BLUMEGARTER - Medical Admin. Off.
and PHAM THI TAM



SP5 Rice & SP4 Laningham
Medics



SP4 Henning & SP4 McCracken
Medics



CPT JAMES W. McELROY - Commanding



1LT GREGORY E. CLARK - XO
Pathfinder Detachment Commander



SFC HENRY HOWARD - 1SG HHC



SP5 STEVE PARKMAN - Co Clerk



PFC JOHN ROGERS - Clerk Typist



SGT CALVIN UYESONO - Asst. Supply Sgt



SGT CLIFTON MARKS - Supply Sgt.



SSG EDWARD MORING - Motor Sgt.



SP5 DARRELL GILL - P11 Clerk
makes last minute adjustment on water
truck.



SP4 LARRY BRUNNER
Dispatcher
earning his keep in
the Motor Pool.



SP4 LENIAL WHITE - Mechanic
SGT THOMAS SOUTHER - XO Driver



SP4 Richard Cavanaugh - Driver
SP4 Stephen Hartman - mechanic
makes last minute check on
Security Platoon's vehicle.



SFC DONALD BROWN
Battalion Food Service Advisor



SSG LAIRD RYBARICK - Mess Steward



SSG Keller - Pathfinder NCOIC
SGT Jenkins - Pathfinder
SP4 Brunner - Motor Pool
SP4 Robinson - S-1 Admin.
SP4 Venegas - Colonel's gunner



SP5 Brown & SP4 Leslie
Cook



SP5 Garza - Colonel's Crew Chief
SP4 Fowler - Colonel's Driver
SP4 Brunner - Dispatcher
SP4 Chapman - Mechanic



SP5 Dale Brown & SP4 Harris
Cook



1LT CLARK - CO
SSG KELLER











LTC Dean Boyle CO. 14th CAB & MAJ Scoobie XO 14th CAB