

1 Jan 70 - 30 Apr 70

The beginning of the year finds the 174th still providing support in the form of airlift of personnel, materials, and supplies along with suppressive fire power to expedite combat counter-insurgency operations in the Republic of Vietnam in support of units of the Americal Division. The 174th daily provides aircraft to the 11th Light Infantry Brigade and the 4th ARVN Regiment to serve on command and control, logistical support and close air support missions. The 174th also operates aircraft in support of MACV, Division Artillery and other division units.

On 13 Mar 70, the 174th airlifted the 3/1 Infantry Battalion and assisted the 4/3 in establishing FSB Les. These operations proved to be very successful and the 174th was very instrumental in the success of these operations.

On 14 Mar 70, the 174th was involved in another operation which required that they conduct a combat assault into the same area that they were in the day before. The combat assault was in support of the 4th ARVN Regiment and required that a total of 900 troops would be airlifted into the area. The 174th, through proper coordination and planning, was able to accomplish this mission in an outstanding manner which insured the success of the operation.

During the period of 1-3 Apr 70, the gunships of the 174th, more commonly known as the Sharks, were flying in support of Regional and Popular Forces in the vicinity of Quang Ngai City, RVN. These forces have been in continual contact with the enemy and with the support of the Sharks these forces were able to overcome the threat posed by the enemy. The Sharks were credited with 80 enemy KIA in support of these forces.

The support provided by the 174th during this period resulted in their flying 5,913 hours, 28,257 sorties, carrying 40,674 troops and 1,070 tons of cargo and medevacing 69 personnel. They were also credited with 81 enemy KIA and the destruction of 323 sampans and 61 structures.

Along with fulfilling all of their mission requirements in the field, the personnel of the 174th were also able to make a number of improvements at the base camp. The personnel were able to complete construction on a new EM Club, a new barber shop, and a new dayroom. The completion of these facilities has greatly contributed in maintaining a high degree of morale in the unit. Also the mess hall was completely remodeled to make it a more enjoyable and comfortable in which to eat.

1 May 70 - 31 July 70

The 174th is continuing to provide support for the 11th Light Infantry Bde and the 4th ARVN Regiment. And also providing support to other units within the Americal Division. The majority of the support being provided to the 11th Light Infantry Brigade and the 4th ARVN Regiment who are still involved in Operation Iron Mountain.

On 12 Jul 70, the 174th participated with the 16th Combat Aviation Group in Operation Elk Canyon. And on 18 Jul 70, the 174th received a letter of commendation because of the magnificent success of the assault phase of Operation Elk Canyon. The 174th and several other companies moved more than 2,000 troops, numerous artillery pieces, and tons of supplies over 80 kilometers and inserted them under hostile fire in less than 60 hours. Without question, the 174th has demonstrated the superb ability of Army Aviation to place soldiers on the ground when and where they are needed. The 174th's devotion to duty and outstanding sense of mission accomplishment was responsible for their great success.



The 174th was also involved in two other large operations that proved to be highly successful. The first operation involved conducting a combat assault to insert the 4/4th ARVN Battalion into the area of BS589660 to engage the 21st NVA Regiment which were known to be operating in this area. Although there was extreme amounts of enemy fire, the 174th completed its mission in the minimum amount of time. The Sharks were credited with 38 enemy KIAs during this operation.

The other operation, involved conducting a combat assault for the 3/4th ARVN Battalion into the area of BS2862 where an enemy force had been operating. The ARVN troops had little enemy resistance but were able to capture several large caches of weapons.

During this period, the Sharks were credited with 148 confirmed kills, the destruction of three 51 caliber positions and two 30 caliber positions. And they also destroyed 334 structures. The flight platoons were credited with flying 7,417 hours, 34,138 sorties, carrying 38,507 troops and 795 tons of cargo and medevacing 4 personnel.

1 Aug 70 - 31 Oct 70

Again we find the 174th providing support for the 11th Light Infantry Bde and the 4th ARVN Regiment to serve on command and control, logistical support, and close air support missions. The 174th also operated aircraft in support of MACV, Division Artillery and other division units. The 174th worked very close in planning combat assaults in coordination with AMC and the 11th Bde aviation section which proved to be very beneficial and productive.

In providing this support, the 174th accumulated 9,171 flying hours, 39,036 sorties, carried 49,867 troops and 1308 tons of cargo and medevacing 3 personnel. The 174th also was credited with 128 enemy KIA and the destruction of 17 sampans and 114 structures.

1 Nov 70 - 31 Dec 70

During this period, the 174th was still providing support for the 11th Light Infantry Brigade and the 4th ARVN Regiment and other units in the Americal Division. The majority of the support being provided to the 11th Light Infantry Brigade which was involved in Operation Finney Hill. This operation resulted in the 11th Bde being credited with 453 enemy killed, 240 weapons captured and 33 crew-served weapons captured. And the 174th was very instrumental in the successful completion of this operation.

While providing this support for Operation Finney Hill, the 174th accumulating 4,556 flying hours, completing 22, 278 sorties, carrying 36, 197 troops and 742 tons of cargo. This gave the 174th a record breaking total for a two month period.

The Thanksgiving holiday again finds the 174th hard at work providing every individual that is in the field with a hot turkey meal. The same as previous years the helicopters of the 174th worked until just before dark to accomplish the mission and not a complaint came from any of the men. They accomplished their mission in an outstanding manner then returned to base camp for their own Thanksgiving meal.

The Christmas holiday finds the 174th called on again to supply every man in the field with a hot meal and again the men of the 174th rise to the occasion and accomplish the mission in an outstanding manner. While the aviators were accomplishing their mission, the ground personnel were conducting a party for the orphans from the surrounding villages. The party consisted of a hot meal and the passing out of presents that were donated by the personnel in the company. It was a real rewarding day for all personnel in the 174th.

The 174th Aviation Co has once again accomplished its mission in an outstanding manner and lived up to its motto of

"NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE"