



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION WARFIGHTING CENTER AND FORT RUCKER
FORT RUCKER ALABAMA 36362-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ATZQ-MH (History Office)

11 December 2007

LTC (ret) George S. Crawford
[Redacted]

Dear Lieutenant Colonel Crawford:

On behalf of the Commanding General for the US Army Aviation Warfighting Center and Fort Rucker, I have been asked to reply to your letter of 30 October 2007 requesting that Fort Rucker rename the West Beach of Lake Tholocco to "Bikini Beach." After some consideration by the leadership here, it has been decided that we can not honor your request. It is almost impossible to represent every individual aviation unit that served in Vietnam, even one with such honors as the 170th. The 170th does however have some presence in one of the museum exhibits from the Vietnam era here at the US Army Aviation Museum.

I realize that this is not the response you were hoping for, and this denial is in no way meant as an affront to such a highly decorated unit; however please understand that we just cannot honor every request for recognition from every individual aviation unit that served in SEA. I want you to know that the leadership here appreciates your past service to the US Army Aviation community and to our Nation as a whole. The Aviation Museum attempts to tell the Army Aviation story to its visitors, and you should be proud that the 170th has been included in its displays.

With best wishes for the upcoming holiday season,

Sincerely,

John R. Dabrowski
John R. Dabrowski, Ph.D.
(COL, USAR, Ret.)