

The 145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association is a fraternal Veterans organization filed under IRS Code section 501(c)19. We are established for the purpose of holding reunions, writing unit and battalion history, and to re-establish the comradery of the Battalion, units and Detachments associated with the 145th CAB, (45th Trans BN in the early days). We are trying to locate everyone who served with the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion and 45th Trans Bn. in Vietnam, the units of HHC, 8th, 33rd, 57th, 81st, 93rd, 339th Trans CO's, the UTT, 18th, 25th, 68th, 71st, 74th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 135th, 147th, 184th, 190th, 197th, 213th, 242nd, 334th, 335th AVN Companies, CO A-82nd AVN BN, CO A-501st AVN BN, 57th MED, and all Detachments. Many of these units served with the 145th Battalion for just a short time in Vietnam. To truly re-establish the comradery of the units we welcome everyone assigned to these units to join in with us. To us a unit is a unit no matter what other battalions it may have been assigned to.



**145TH COMBAT
AVIATION BATTALION
(Vietnam)
ASSOCIATION**

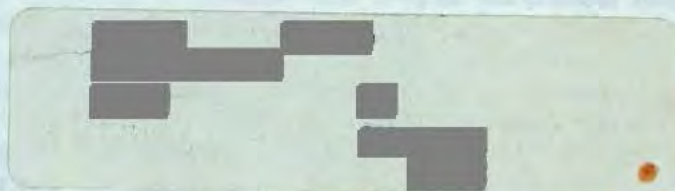
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N L 10

145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association
"OLD WARRIORS"
Newsletter

MAY 1989, VOL. 10

3719 FOREST HILL AVE, FORT WAYNE, IN 46805
1-219-483-5149

Our Association is still doing very well, still locating new people and having membership dues coming in. As you will see in the Financial Report we are still keeping our head above the red ink, thanks to you people.

The most important event coming up is our 1989 "145th Battalion Reunion", from what I have heard from the members I have talked with, this reunion should really be big. The last I talked with Larry Lombard he said he hadn't received many of the reunion forms, I urge you to let Larry know one way or the other if you will or will not be attending the reunion, please. Larry needs to know this information. Larry and the Reunion Committee also need the REUNION FEE money to organize the events at the reunion and the money for the meals you order, so please send it to Larry. Time is running out, the reunion dates will be here quicker than we think, please take care of this today. See page 11 for all the details.

If you check the mailing label of this newsletter, you will see your membership status. The mailing label will say Member, or Please renew, or Please join. If it says Please renew or Please join then please send in your \$10 membership dues so we can keep locating new people.

You will notice that 4 pages of this newsletter, starting on page 2, is a section called Readers Response, I look forward to receiving your response from this newsletter and hope to find many more of the details of our history in your responses. So send in whatever info you can and of course we are always interest in any remarks you may have. The Readers Response section of the newsletter is your section, written by you, I will put everything you send in, unless I feel that you didn't want it put in, if you mark it for the R R section or not for the R R section it will help. Let me know if you think there is to many Editorial Notes, most are to explain why I do things certain ways or give credit where credit is due.

I have gotten many positive comments about the articles called "Battalion History, The Early Days", "Battalion History, The Early Days (Continued)", "Battalion History, The Build-up Years", "Battalion History, (December 1967)" and "Battle of Bien Hoa - TET Offensive 1968 in the last newsletter, so the article is continues on page 6 of this newsletter. The article starts with the 1st of May 1968. If you would like to see more details on your time with the 145th please send in any information you can. Remember I was there in 69-70 and that's the only time period that I can remember, so please put in as many details as possible. And for those of you who served with a unit before or after it was assigned to the 145th please send me info on your unit so I can cover them after the Battalion History is completed. My historical information file is very thin after Tet of 1968, so please send me any information you can, try to put as close a historical date on it as you can.

If any of you have any sets of orders that has any information about anyone who served with the units listed on the cover of the newsletter please send me a copy, if you haven't done so already. The information may help locate them. If you have any old address please send them. I need all the information you can send. If you have any current address or can get any current address, I will put them on the newsletter mailing list. I would appreciate it if you could copy the top of the cover page and post it anywhere some of our former members may be, VFWs, Am. Leg., Military Post, Guard Units, etc., etc.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, I tried to put in many interesting articles. Please let me know what you think, positive or negative. If you have anything you think would be of interest please send it in, I would appreciate it.

If this newsletter seems a little late your right. I will try to have the next newsletter out on time. And for all of you who have joined the 1989 Membership Directory (or I should say People Located directory) will be in the mail soon. If there is room in this newsletter I will outline a few of my activities that got me behind.

Everyone we have an address for have been sent a reunion information packet and know about the reunion. This reunion should really be big, please try to attend. The next reunion wouldn't be for a few years after this one.

READERS RESPONSE

Dear Mr Bookin, Thank you for the newsletter and membership Directory of the 145th Avn Bn. I was the operations Sgt S-3 for the 45th Trans & 145th Avn Bn From Jan-Dec 1963. My BN CO's were Ltc Hoffman and Ltc Mertel - my S-3 was Maj Bowling.

I am enclosing a lot of pictures from my file. Enclosed are pictures of the off-loading of the H-21 & H-13 on their arrival in RVN. Some have the official notes on the reverse, others do not. I have included, I think, the ceremony changing the 45th Trans to the 145th Avn Bn. Also some pictures where we briefed the USAPAC - I.D. White, I think, on load configurations for the UH-1. On a humorous note are pictures of the Tiger mascot for the 93rd Trans in Soc Trang. He was given to the unit by B.G. Stilwell, Support Group Cdr. He got so large he was given to the Toledo, Ohio zoo. I am also sending a picture of 45th Trans Bn staff. I have identified the ones I can remember but after 25 years the mind isn't what it used to be. Also there are some pictures of ships shot down on the Tan Hiep operation. I think we lost 13 on that operation.

Before I went to RVN in 1963 I was the operations Sgt for Sherman Army Airfield in Ft. Leavenworth, KS. I had the pleasure of meeting and serving with some of the fine officers who attended the C&GSC and later were the leaders and backbone of Army Aviation.

I retired in 1971 as the 3rd Army Aviation SGM and now reside in Conyer, GA, 20 miles east of Atlanta on I-20 East. My wife and I own a seafood restaurant and lounge and would like to invite any of the old timers who remember me to stop by and have dinner on us. Crab N' Claw Restaurant, Exit 43, I-20 East, Conyer, Ga.

I am enclosing a check for membership and hope to attend the convention in August.

Sincerely, George Warren

(Editorial Note) Thank you George for pictures. I am putting them in albums to be seen at our reunion. The battalion archives are building up nicely.

Dear Jim, Enclosed, my dues for the current year plus thru July 90. I enjoy the newsletter and deeply appreciate all the work you and your wife have done to organize the 145th Combat Avn. Bn. Assoc. I've forwarded a membership application to LTC (Ret) Earl McConaha; add: [redacted] Looking forward to the reunion in August! Our home is in the mountains (8,500 Ft/Alt), 100 miles from Denver, in the Roosevelt Natl Forest. See ya in August.

Best regards, John C Hughes, Corn-Cobb-six

(Editorial Note) Thank you Col. Hughes for your support, and LTC Earl McConaha sent in his membership application. Read on.

Dear Jim, Thanks for the phone call and the packet of information. I am enclosing \$20.00 for dues and to help with the expenses. It was interesting to read the lists in the membership directory. I saw quite a few names there that I recognized. It was also interesting to read Chuck Holbrook's letter about ferrying the last CH-21 to Vung Tau. I remember Chuck and the incident well. I took command of the 120th around the last of April or the first of May 1964, at which time the unit was still equipped with that bird. We made the transition to the Hueys in late May, I believe. I remember the hanger queen that sat on our ramp for lack of parts. We finally got it flying and Chuck ferried it out. I would like to say hello to all the men I had the pleasure of serving with and I hope to see as many of you as possible at the reunion.

I have passed the information about the association and the reunion on to a couple of friends in my local area who were associated with the 145th and have urged them to join and to attend the reunion. I am definitely planning to attend myself.

Sincerely, Earl O McConaha, "Sloe Gin 6"

P.S. I am currently living at 413 Jocko Rd, Arlee, MT. 59821 Phone (406)-726-3141. I would welcome any letters, phone calls, or visits from any of my old comrades in arms.

(Editorial Note) Thank you for your support, your letter pretty well sums up what our association is all about.

Dear Jim: In response to your veiled solicitation for year books in the January Newsletter I am sending under separate cover, my copy of the pictorial history of the 145 Combat Aviation Battalion "First In Vietnam". There is no usual printing date from the Tokyo printer, but the Vintage is 1965-67. (Note, post mark US Custom August 24, 1967). Aside from a few trips down memory lane, I think the Association could benefit more than attic storage. The book contains the early history of the Top Tigers, Thunderbirds, Cowboys, Sabers (UTT) etal. Enclosed is a check for a pair of Golden Hawks. I only have one left from RVN.

Yours truly, D.E. Van Pietersom

(Editorial Note) Thank you Col. Van Pietersom for your copy of the year book, it arrived safe and sound. I will type in all the historical information into the over all historical report on the battalion, then place it in our battalion archives to be displayed at the reunion. Thank you

Dear Jim, Thank you for your response to my letter. I too do not want to loose contact with you and the association. My mailing address is fine the way you have it, either St.Louis or Affton will be fine. Jim I have a question to ask. I'm not really clear about the golden hawk pin. How did it come about? Who is meant to wear it? Maybe some others are unclear of it too. Please explain and it could help with sales.

P.S. Hate too be a pest but its been 20 years. You are doing a great job. Sorry if I was impatience. Thanks again, Len Nowicki

(Editorial Note) First let me explain about the Golden Hawk pins. The Golden Hawk pin is the insignia of the 1st Aviation Brigade, born in Vietnam on 1 March 1966 and was made up of just about all the Army Aviation units in Vietnam. The 145th Combat Aviation Battalion was part of the 12th Aviation Group under the 1st Aviation Brigade. Its the same golden hawk that's on the 1st Aviation Brigade shoulder patch. Everyone who was assigned to an aviation unit under the 1st Avn. Brigade was authorized to wear it. Many people who left Vietnam before 1 March 1966 wear the pins anyway as a statement that they served proudly in an Army aviation unit in Vietnam.

I also want to apologize for my slow response to many of the letters I receive. I usually do real good on sending out pre-printed information and information that I can push a few buttons on the computer and it does the work. But when it comes to writing a letter I'm really slow. On a good day I can use two fingers on the computer. I've tried regular typing but the keyboard seems to disappear under my hands. My spelling is atrocious which means using a dictionary just about every sentence. Sometimes the computer can't even figure it out. That's the biggest reason I get so far behind, but I'm working on it and getting better. Maybe someday soon they will come up with an affordable attachment so I can talk to the computer and let it do the typing and spelling. Thank you for your patience.

Dear Jim: Enclosed find our check for \$10.00 for dues for the 89/90 membership year. Also, you may want to update your computer file with the following information: Page 3 of the People Located File dated 1/12/89, Thomas C Thomas was a 1st LT with a DEROS summer of 66 (see attached orders from Rucker) Page 6 Pat Gwainney was a CW2. KIA Update Page two, Both Cpt Frizzell and Lancaster were members of A/501st when they were killed in the crash that Sunday afternoon.

The 501st Rattler had the 151st Transportation Detachment attached to us for third echelon maintenance of the choppers. We also furnished quarters and food for a CW4 Costello and his CW2 XO. Both were in charge of the HMMK missile facilities at Bien Hoa and Saigon.

The Albert Smith named on the Ft. Rucker orders is the same Albert Smith shown as KIA on Feb 18, 1966. The Honour Smith Compound at Bien Hoa was named after these two honorable married men who drove their Huey into a high tension tower between Saigon and Bien Hoa. There were also four nurses on board with the flight plan filed to terminate in Dalat. High paid nice guy pilots.

I would like a copy of the previous "History of the Battalion". Best of luck on you job, I know it must take a heck of a lot of time. Just the orderly filing of orders must be quite a project. I have also enclosed a re-typed copy of commendations from Military Aircraft Command. Each pilot and crewchief involved in any pick up of a downed Air Force pilot probably got one of these letters. Sometimes something like this means more than a medal.

Sincerely, John Mateyka
(Editorial Note) Thank you John for your dues and the additional information. Many people have related accounts of LTC Honour's death and I feel for the family and friends of each person on board the aircraft.

I am sending to you what I have on the Battalion History up till the end of TET 1968. I have been compiling the Battalion History reports from each newsletter, and adding in the information sent in, into a complete Battalion History report. When completed this report might be sold to former members of the battalion to help fund the publishing of a book on the complete history of the Battalion and each Unit. Hopefully I will have more to report on the efforts to compile the information for the book at the 89 Reunion. Right now we need all the information we can get about everything the Units were involved in with at least approximate dates. So much of the info sent in I can't find the right place for it because it isn't dated. The Battalion History is very vague after TET 1968, I need information.

The Commendation Letter from Military Aircraft Command, will be included in the complete history report as an example of the letter given to those involved in the pick up of downed AF pilots. I would have liked to print the Letters here in the Readers Response section but this Readers Response issue will be to long for the newsletter.

Dear Jim: Enclosed is a couple order forms & a check for 89-90 dues - \$30 and a \$10 donation to the general fund or whatever. I really enjoy the newsletter! It's the only one that keeps me aware of the year I spent with the 45th/145th. My tour started with the 57th Trans Co., later 120th AHC, Oct 1962 to Oct 1963 as a CW0 Aviator. I know that was before your tour but every once in awhile there's a bit of "Old" news or a name and it brings back a memory. It's tax time so I've got to get into the attic tomorrow for some papers- I'm going to look around for all my old papers etc - I'll send you copies of old orders etc. I seem to remember doing the same thing a couple years ago & mailed them off to a fellow on the east coast who was compiling papers, etc, for the 57th/120th. Never heard a word from him. So I'll try to find it all again & send it to you. I'm also going to order a T-Shirt from Jim Maxwell & try to find a unit patch of 57th/120th in my "junk" box if I have one. I don't know. If I can find a patch I'll send it off to him to see if he can make some T-shirts. Keep up the excellent good work. I know it must be awfully demanding on your "spare" time. Actually its probably a full time job for you and Deb. As an old born and raised Hoosier (Winamac, Ind.) I can, and sure do, appreciate all of your hard work. Both of you

Sincerely, Richard Rex
(Editorial Note) I received some orders and copies of some pictures from Richard a short time later. Thank you Richard. I hope to keep the newsletter just as interesting to you from now on. The Readers Response section of the newsletter really helps, because its written by people from all the units and years.

Dear Mr Bodkin: Enclosed is twenty (20) dollars for my dues 88 & 89. I was the assistant S-4 sergeant for the 45th from January to April of 1963, and S-4 sergeant from April until re-organization in September. I continued as S-4 sergeant until leaving the country in December. During my tour Ltc Mertel was the CO. A Major Francis Lopes was XO. In the S-4 Maj Louis Reed was S-4, CW0 Gordon Sharp supply technician, Cpt "Smokey" Streever maintenance officer, technical inspectors were SP6 Preston Rogers and SP6 Funkhouser.

Also, I believe the 114th Aviation Company was assigned to the Battalion for a few months in the spring of 63, before the activation of the Delta Aviation Battalion. And if I find anything referring to my service in the Battalion I will send it along. - Stephen P Williams, [REDACTED]

(Editorial Note) Thank you Stephen for the information, and if anyone has any more info on the 114th being assigned to the battalion please let me know. I want the Battalion History to be correct and to include them into our association if they were assigned to our Battalion.

Dear Jim, Thank you for the package. Brought back many memories. As I said before, I was with the 81st but it was for 90 days T.D.Y. They were short handed when they got to R.V.N. There were 4 pilots and 2 crewchiefs from the 13th Trans in Korea and the same from the 6th Trans. I could have sent you a lot of names but while I was in Florida for Xmas and New Years in 1986 my place here in OK. was robbed and burned. Lost everything except the few things we had with us. All my pictures, records, etc. I have wrote St. Louis for copies but it will be a while. Anyway I still remember a few names. 3 of the Pilots from the 13th were CW0 Billy Holt, CW0 Frand Combs, Tom (Preacher) White, don't remember 4th one. The crew chiefs were myself and Sp5 Mervyn Thompson, last known in Nashville Tenn. Run into quite a few of the WOs at the WO convention at Rucker in 1984. I remember CW0 Ivey and CW0 Baustmonte from the 6th Trans. Also Sp5 Flaggpole Lewis and Doucette. As Col Aldridge stated in his letter, I was on the CA when Mr Holloway was killed. Might ought to mention Danny Ferone Sp6. Mr Tregasgis was at Pleiku when that one went down. He had mentioned Danny in his book, Guadalcanal Diary. Danny was wounded there with the Marines Corps. He also got a crease on the neck the day Holloway was killed. You might like to know that Danny was killed at Ft Benning early 65 I think when his car fell on him. Col Aldridge didn't mention the CA we went on in support of the 8th just south of Qui Nhon and got our tails shot off. Also the Ple Marjong CA. Sorry to hear about Pappy Ecker. Him and I have hoisted a few. Run into him my first day of R&R from B Co, 228th ASGB, 1st Air Cav. in Taipei. Needless to say my next 6 days were for sure R&R or 1&1.

Just thought of a couple more KIAs, Lane and Guthrie were killed around middle of 62. The WO pilot was

also KIA. The post at Qui Nhon was named after him and the two hangers were named after Lane & Guthrie. Those hangers were still there in 74 when I came through there. As soon as I get my records from St Louis I will make up another list for you. Hello to everyone from the old H-21's. Pretty tough old bird.

Very Truly Yours, Virgil J Burns, [REDACTED]
(Editorial Note) I have added Guthrie, Harold Lee, Sp5, 3 Apr 1929 - 15 July 1962, Burlington, NC., 1E 011, 81st Trans Co., and Lane, James Everett, Sp5, 6 Feb 1933 - 15 July 1962, [REDACTED], 81st Trans Co., to our Memorial List, and when I get the WO pilots name it will be added to the first of the list. I'm also add Danny Ferone, Sp6, 81st Trans, 1962, deceased 1965 to the died after leaving list. Thank you V J Burns the all the info, the info will be added to the historical and Help Find files.

Dear Mr Bodkin: I am a little ashamed of myself. I have not kept up my "dues". I am enclosing my dues for 88-90. and if I owe anything else let me know. I realize I am only an associate member, but if it weren't for people like you we would be forgotten. I don't make much money (on a regular basis), but you can have what I have. I am sending a check for my dues and the audio and Video cassettes, and if you can send along my regards to the guys, good. Just don't let us be forgotten. John Soares (old man) SFC (Ret 83)

P.S. I know there is extra. Take Deb out to do something she wants to do (not watch Rambo).
P.P.S. There is an address change. I hope you don't have one soon. So many of us are root-less, (not to be confused with ruthless).

P.P.P.S. I now have a Korean girlfriend, she does not understand. She never knew an American before she met me (I know what you are thinking but its true). She keeps telling me "you dummy".

(Editorial Note) Along with the letter was a \$100 check. And to clarify about membership, regular membership is open to anyone who served in Vietnam with any of the units we have listed associated with the 45th/145th, associate membership is for family members of the regular members, and Honorary membership is for the family members of a deceased person eligible for regular member. So John Soares is a regular member. We have a few wives that are associate members and we have a few Honorary members. There are no dues for Honorary members. All memberships have the same vote. We only have different types of membership for IRS reasons.

I want to thank John for his excellent support, there was about \$30 extra, and Deb hasn't told me what she wants to do with it. I get the feeling it will go into the association account, maybe to buy something to make her job easier as our secretary/treasurer. John's new address is listed in the new people located list in this newsletter. And I have no plans to move for a long time, someone has to stay put to have a home base for the association. Only about 5% of the people we have located move each year and most of them are on active duty. It's understandable that a lot of the ladies don't understand why us that served together over there chose to associate together after all these years, a lot of us who were there don't understand either. Most of us feel closer to each other then we do to our brothers and sisters, we shared the most intense time of our lives. I want to give the ladies credit, most of them understand more we know, and the more we share our experiences with them the more they understand. Thank you John.

Dear Mr Bodkin: Received the January issue of the association newsletter and enjoyed reading it. In the issue you had an article concerning Captain Rubin and his "Firefly" team during the Tet Offensive of 1968. I was a member of that "Firefly" team and have enclosed two articles that might be of interest to you. I also have a book on the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion for the time period I served in Vietnam (1967 - 1968). I plan on attending the reunion in Denver and will bring the book. If you would like to see it before then I am sure we could make arrangements. Also enclosed with the articles are my dues and order form for the Golden Hawk pins. - Don Schweitzer

(Editorial Note) Thank you Don, I have added the articles into the battalion history report, they were very interesting.

Dear Mr Bodkin: This is to thank you for the information you sent concerning the upcoming reunion of the 145th C.A.B.V.A. and also for the membership directory. Enclosed you will find my membership fee and completed form. Also I am sending you a picture of the original logo of the UTT HELICOPTER COMPANY. I am hoping it could be used for T-shirts, patches or just published to bring back old memories. I doubt that another is available. Hope you can use it. A lot of interesting information on the UTT can be found in Richard Tregaskis "VIETNAM DIARY". Several pieces have been written about Col. Ivan Slavich, our C.O. One by David Halberstam, "The Bravest Man I Know", written June, 1984. I wrote to Larry Lombard sometime ago but have not heard from him yet. Perhaps he is busy getting things set up. My wife and I would like to attend but don't know for sure yet. Thanks again for the information. Yours truly, Al Compton.

(Editorial Note) Thank you Al, I will see if I can get the books sometime soon. I'll talk to Jim Maxwell about getting UTT T-shirts made up, if he knew he could sell at least a dozen right away I'm sure he would have the screen made up. I tried to copy the pictures on the copy machine for the newsletter but with the color contrast they didn't come out. To have the patch made up at a reasonable price we would need to order at least 200, if we can sell that many I'd like to have them made.

Dear James (Jim?): After receiving your information on the "players" in the great Vietnam conflict (145th and support units), I was amazed that so few names were present for the Saigon, Bien Hoa, and Long Bin groups of the '62/63, 63/64, 64/65 eras. I don't recall many names of other groups - as a matter of fact, I can no longer tell you the first names of the group that I served with, but I have a list of last names of the officers and warrant officers of the 118th. As a matter of fact, within two months of our arrival, and while we were still using the H-21's, we had five H-21's shot up so bad that they never flew again, one of which crashed and tumbled, killing the pilot, co-pilot, and crewchief. I can no longer remember their names, nor can I find them listed in the New York Times for the July-August-September period of 1963.

I retired in 1966, and only seen one officer since then, a Lt Col (Lt when I knew him) Chadwick Payne. He was the C.O. of an Alaskan Aviation Battalion in the '70's.

I was a part of the 33rd Trans Co for approximately 2 1/2 months, until the 33rd was redesignated the 118th. I was a part of the replacement bunch who relieved the original group that had been shipped to Bien Hoa from Fort Ord, CA. I believe one of the original W/Os lives in Olympia, WA area. I will try to get a hold of him. His name is John Ness, who I considered an outstanding CWO-3 in Operations.

I hope that my information has helped - I could tell more tales of happenings, but will save that for later. For now, I will put a first name with as many as I can to the list for efficiency rating - on a second
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page. Hope I have helped. George P Brummitt, 1344 N. Juniper, Tacoma, WA. 98406
(Editorial Note) Thank you George for the info, I'll get it in the Help Find file. If anyone has the names of the crew that was KIA in mid 1963 please send them in so I can add them to the Memorial List.

145th Combat Battalion and all units. Dear Jim, Here is some stamps and (10) ten dollars just to help keep going. I hope you can help me find my lost Air Medals to put with the rest of the collection. Maybe Capt. Fraker or CW0 La Mont (not located yet) can help shed some light on things, also see if anyone who gets the Newsletter can remember a Maj Jug Haid or better yet may have a copy of the song about him which was made in Vietnam back in 1965 or 1966, or anyone who can remember the unit trying to mount a 20mm cannon on a UH-1. I can barely remember it anyway, some of the younger kids might remember and come forward, and tell everyone about the way it really happened. Billy J Smith, formerly of the 197th in 1965-66
(Editorial Note) Bill also sent a copy of his DD214 and the Aircraft Crewman Badge was awarded to him, but the Air Medal was not listed. I believe they were always awarded together. If anyone can help shed some light on this please let me know, if anyone knows how to go about getting the Air Medal awarded please let me know.

Hi Jim; I thought I'd send you some information concerning my unit. It seem that no one, so far, has been able to set the record straight as we were concerned. I've extracted several pages out of a manuscript I've been working on about my tour in Nam. I've only used the part that relates to the 145th CAB, which for me lasted from 1 January 1968 until about the middle of February 1968 so it is fairly short. The name "Duke" is a nick-name I used to use then and as you can see I was writing in the third person, don't ask me why, I'm not really sure I know. The main point is that you now have MY version of what went on there, and it might help the Historian a little in his, or her, work. Feel free to use it or pass it on to the right people. I'm also sending a photo of our unit patch, which differs a bit from the one now being used to make Tee-Shirts. I think it is important to realize that the 117th was not always "The WarLords", and that there are some of us who would feel insulted to be considered as such. I'm not saying that the Beach Bums were any better then the WarLords, just that we were a different bunch of guys that don't want to be forgotten or over-looked when the roll is called. I'm sure you understand what I mean.

I'm also sending you a copy of the itinerary for Rolling Thunder II coming in May, in case you haven't heard about it yet. You can bet your Butt that I plan to be with them when they leave my area, and I hope I last to see the Wall on Memorial Day. Feel free to pass on the info to anyone that may be interested, and join us if you can. If the good Lord is willing and Mr. Honda doesn't let me down, I plan to make it all the way this time. I'm also considering making the 145th CAB Reunion this year, that's if my Bike doesn't die on the trip in May. Well, I'd better end this now, the dinner table is looking mighty friendly right now. Keep up the good work Brother.

Sincerely, Walt Allegar
(Editorial Note) Thank you for your story of your time with the 145th. I will include it in the Battalion History as a personal account of the 117th (Beach Bums) 1 January 68 to mid February 68. And anyone wanting info on Rolling Thunder II which is a Ride for Freedom for America's POW/MIAs, please contact me. Rolling Thunder II will be leaving Portland, OR and San Diego, CA on May 19 and join together at Salt Lake City, UT on May 20, on to Denver, CO, Topeka, KS, Lexington, KY, Lexington, VA. on May 25, arriving at Washington, DC on Friday May 26, 1989.

Hi Jim, Just got the latest 145th CAB newsletter, which gets better and better. Was especially pleased because I noticed Bryce Whitson's address. Bryce & I spent 3 years together in 3 different assignments- TC Branch school at Ft Eustis, same class in flight school, and in the 21st AVN CO at Rucker. Here is a new address & name for you: - Best regards, Bill McGee

(Editorial Note) I want to thank Bill for the note and all the people he has located for us. Every few months I get a short note from Bill and a few new address. Right off hand I couldn't tell you how many people Bill has located for us, its quite a few. Thank you Bill for you help.

Dear Jim, I know that you are trying to put together a history of the 145th Bn and I thought you might be interested in information concerning the 166th Trans Detachment. They supported A Company of the 82nd Airborne and 335th Aviation. I'm enclosing copies of the unit patch, and copies of a few pictures in case they might help you fill in a few blank spots; or locate a few new people. Also enclosed are my dues and a small donation to help keep the organization going. Yours, Lowell Klinefelter

(Editorial Note) Thank you Lowell, the 166th Trans Detachment history will be printed in this newsletter, maybe some other will send in the history for the other units and detachments. Thank you.

Dear Jim: Enclosed please find a copy of the Commander's Notes of the 145th Combat Aviation Bn, for the period it was in my command. You will note that the numbering is not consecutive since I have removed administrative and enemy intelligence issue which do not contribute to the historical performance of the unit.

The purpose of these notes was to keep members of the units informed of their previous weeks accomplishments, urgent administrative and enemy intelligence information. Wide distribution was made to all members as resources permitted. They frequently acted as substitutes for letters home by members. Please feel free to use these notes as you need to contribute to the overall history of the battalion.

Sincerely, Horst K Joost

(Editorial Note) Enclosed was copies the "Commander's Notes" starting with the 21st of February 1966 going thru the 6th of June 1966 when Battalion Commander LTC Horst K Joost, summarized the accomplishments of the 145th under his command. These "Commander's Notes" cover almost all combat operations, all aspects and conditions of life in our battalion, and all the civic actions undertaken during his command. I will be entering all these reports into the battalion history report. Thank you very much COL Joost, thanks to your "Commanders Notes" we will have a very complete and accurate historical report from the time period you were our Battalion Commander.

On another note NBC's "Unsolved Mysteries" television show wants to find Vietnam veterans looking for nurses who helped them. Can they reunite you? Call Janet at 1-800-421-4519

BATTALION HISTORY POST-TET 1968

By the 1st of May 1968 things had just about gotten back to normal in Vietnam. The 145th C.A.B. had the units of HHC, 68th, 118th, 135th, 190th, and the 334th assigned to it at the time.

On 1 July 1968 LTC Robert M. Deets turned over command of the 145th CAB to LTC Gerald L. Waldron. Under LTC Waldron's command the Meritorious Unit Commendation was awarded to the 190th AHC for the period 9 August 1967 to 27 July 1968.

On the 24th of December 1968, LTC Carl H. McNair, Jr assumed command of the 145th CAB, taking over for LTC Gerald L. Waldron.

This is from the first edition of the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion Monthly News (dated 10 February 1969). The purpose of the "News" is to establish a battalion informed on "What's Happening" at the local level.

FROM THE TIGER'S DEN

The 68th "Top Tigers" recently initiated a new program within their company. The program is designed to honor members of the unit who perform their normal duties in an outstanding manner. The program will consist of having a Crewchief, Gunner, Mechanic, Driver and Soldier of the Month. Individuals in the grade of E5 and below will be selected from each duty section. The platoon leaders and platoon sergeants will determine those individuals who performed their duties in an outstanding manner and who displayed outstanding military appearance and bearing during the month. The individuals who are selected will receive three days off from their duties and will be presented a plaque with their name and award engraved on it. Also the names of the individuals will be placed on the new "Top Tiger of the Month" sign that has recently been constructed in front of the company orderly room.

The "Top Tigers of the Month" for this month have already been selected and they are: Soldier- Sp4 Oliver W. Watson, Crewchief- Sp4 John E. Green, Gunner- Sp4 Patrick H. Corder, Mechanic- Sp4 Robert D. Marrs, Driver- Sp4 Merle A. Larson.

FROM THE EAGLE'S NEST

The "Thunderbirds" of the 118th would like to take this opportunity to introduce Major John A. Britton, the new Thunderbird 6. Major Britton completed his civilian education at Iowa State University in 1956 with a B.S. in Industrial Administration, but his schooling did not stop there. Since then he has been to a dozen Army schools and training programs, the most unusual being the Deep Sea Survival School. It was at this school that he was required to spend hours in a one man life raft, and was thrown out and dragged by parachute harness from a speed boat. When Major Britton was asked about the training, he said, "There was no final exam and everyone was continually tested for a week - if you didn't drown you passed the course".

Another interesting assignment Major Britton had was with the Army International Olympic Rifle Team. In 1959, while participating with the team, he won the National Championship in the International Smallbore Free Rifle Shooting match at Camp Perry, Ohio.

Major Britton served one previous tour in RVN between 29 June 1963 and 29 April 1964. Upon his return from RVN, he held the positions of Battalion Executive Officer for the 53rd Aviation Battalion and Company Commander of the 1st Aviation Company. Thunderbird "6" then attended a Counterinsurgency course for a year before his return to RVN, and he worked as Assistant G-1 at the 1st Aviation Brigade prior to arriving at the 118th.

The new Company Commander has many ratings and awards to his credit. They include Ranger, Parachutist, and Army Aviator badges, plus two Army Commendation Medals, a Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm. Thunderbird "6" is also qualified in seven types of aircraft, is both Fixed and Rotor Wing rated, and has a standard Instrument ticket.

All the officers and men of the Thunderbirds welcome our new "6" and hope his tour with us will be as successful as his past assignments.

FROM THE COLISEUM

The Gladiators of the 190th Assault Helicopter Company, 145th Combat Aviation Battalion, have been selected to train two highly skilled Vietnamese Aviators in the employment of the

armed helicopter. The Gladiators will be the first unit in Vietnam to introduce the Vietnamese Air Force to the UH-1C gunship. This Gun Platoon has garnered an unrivaled record of safety and achievement during their tactical assault operations. The Gladiators appreciate this opportunity to forward their gunnery techniques.

The two history making Vietnamese Air Force Aviators are CPT Buu Ngo of the 217th Squadron, and 1LT Vo Van Minh of the 211th Squadron, both from the 74th Wing at Can Tho Air Base. Cpt Ngo has flown the UH-1A, B, D, H, and a majority in the CH-34 for a collective total of 2000 hours. 1LT Minh has flown the UH-1D and H models for 100 hours while collecting an amazing 2450 hours in a CH-34. A very adept, aviator with 2550 total flying hours, he is also an Instructor Pilot in the CH-34. Their training was initiated on 14 January and will continue for 30 days through 13 February 1969.

The Skipper of the Gladiators, 1LT Robert Goivannoni, reported that his Aircraft Commanders will qualify both pilots in M-3, the M-5, and the M-21 gunnery systems. Upon completion of their tour with the Gladiators, they will return to their units to possess others with the invaluable instruction.

FROM THE SNAKE PIT:

Charlie Cong is suffering from Excedrin Headache No. 334. In the last ten days the Communists have lost over 94 men and 66 sampans to the blazing guns of the Saber Company Cobras.

Eighteen miles southwest of Saigon and barely two miles from the vital Ben Luc bridge, the Raider Platoon made heavy contact with a VC force in a staging area. When the smoke cleared, the VC had withdrawn leaving 41 of their comrades behind.

A similar action took place Friday night just six miles northwest of Bien Hoa on the Dong Nai River. Sixty communists were caught in the Firefly spotlight and brought under intense fire. The enemy attempted to rally and return the gunship fire, but lost 21 killed in the effort.

These incidents have seriously hampered the Communists attempt mass men and material for assaults on key villages in their attempt to cut the link between the capital and the rice-rich Mekong Delta.

WELL DONE

1LT Bryant, Johnny L., 334th Aerial Wpns Co- While flying over as enemy position, 1LT Bryant's aircraft recieved ground fire with the hydraulic and electrical systems being shot out. 1LT Bryant successfully landed the aircraft with no further damage.

1LT FRIGA, George W., 118th Aslt Hel Co- While picking up to hover, the 90 degree drive shaft to the tail rotor gear box failed. 1LT Friga executed emergency procedures, landing the aircraft with light damage to the skids.

SALUTE:

A well deserved salute is extended to the following individuals with-in the Battalion who were decorated during the month of January for their valorous actions and meritorious service.

BURNS, David A.-WO1-190TH-DFC, WEBSTER, Geoffrey-CPT-68TH-DFC, DAVIDTER, John A.-SP4-68TH-DFC, WALKER, Wayne T.-WO1-118TH-BS, DAY, James A.-SP4-190TH-AM "V", BROWN, Frank E.-SP4-190TH-AM "V", DENT, Rudolf L.-SP4-190TH-AM "V", HALL, Charles E.-SP4-68TH-AM "V", MURPHY, Micheal T.-WO1-68TH-AM "V", DAWKINS, Glenn R.-SP4-68TH-AM "V", PRESTON, Thurman R.-SP4-68TH-AM "V" OLC, WIESCHOWSKI, Ronald L.-SP4-190TH-AM "V", AIGLER, Kenneth T. Jr.-SP4-190TH-AM "V", CALIENDO, Stephen N.-SP4-190TH-AM "V", CHRISTY, Larry D.-SP5-190TH-AM "V", KENNEDY, Terry B.-PFC-68TH-AM "V", YOUSEY, James L.-SP4-68TH-AM "V", DUNN, James D.-SP4-68TH-AM "V", NEGLIA, Salvatore C.-1LT-190TH-AM "V", SMITH, Andrew H.-SP4-68TH-AM "V", BIRELY, Richard E.-CW2-118TH-AM "V", ALEXANDER, Nicholas B.-WO1-118TH-AM "V", ALLEN, Ronald T.-WO1-190TH-AM "V", FAIRFIELD, Kenneth R.-SP4-118TH-AM "V", STICKLEY, Dennis W.-WO1-68TH-AM "V", JAMES, John W.-SP5-118TH-ACM "V", KARVONEN, Robert E.-SSG-118TH-ACM "V", MYERS, David O.-SP4-68TH-ACM "V", TAYLOR, Gerald E.-SP4-68TH-ACM "V", GURNSEY, Earl F.-SP4-118TH-ACM "V", CUNNINGHAM, Robert J.-WO1-68TH-ACM, ZAIGER, Russell W.-SP4-190TH-ACM, WILLOUGHBY, Raymond-SP5-190TH-ACM, WILMS Robert H. Jr.-CW2-68TH-ACM

LTC John J Top assumed command of the 145th CAB on the 31st of May 1969, continuing the traditions passed on to him by LTC Carl H McNair and all the other former Commanders of the 145th CAB.

NOTIFICATION

145th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION ASSOCIATION

1989-1990

August 11-13, 1989

Denver, Colorado

NOTIFICATION

When: 1900 11 August to 1200 13 August 1989

Where: The Scanticon Conference Center/Resort Hotel: 2800 12th/21st

Denver, Colorado

Everything we need for our reunion. It is a beautiful, beautiful setting

overlooking the championship 18-hole Inverness Golf Course, with 302

deluxe guest rooms and suites, lounge, bar and four restaurants. Also,

has the finest recreational facilities around - indoor and outdoor pools

and whirlpools, tennis courts, and a fully equipped exercise room.

Looking nearby, and of course, golf on the renowned Inverness Course.

HOTEL COSTS/RESERVATIONS

1-800-346-4891, using a credit card number to hold your room. Or, you

can mail in reservations to the address below with a check for the first

night's lodging. When you make your reservations be sure to indicate that

you are with the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion Association. That way you

will be assured of these substantially reduced rates.

There is a limited number of rooms being held at these rates and

Scanticon will only hold rooms for us until 11 July 1989. After this

date rooms will be extended on a space available basis only, so make your

reservations now!

Reservations now!

Reservations now!

Reservations now!

Reservations now!

Reservations now!

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145th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION ASSOCIATION

1989 REUNION

August 11-13, 1989

Denver, Colorado

WHEN: 1500 11 August to 1200 13 August 1989

WHERE: The Scanticon Conference Center/Resort Hotel
Denver, Colorado

The Scanticon-Denver Conference Center Hotel and Resort will have everything we need for our reunion. It is a tranquil, beautiful setting overlooking the championship 18-hole Inverness Golf Course, with 302 deluxe guest rooms and suites, lounges, pubs and four restaurants. Also, has the finest recreational facilities around - indoor and outdoor pools and whirlpools, tennis courts, saunas and a fully equipped exercise room, jogging nearby, and of course, golf on the renowned Inverness Course.

HOTEL COSTS/RESERVATIONS

\$49 Single

\$59 Double (children under 12 years-old free)

Please make your reservations directly with the Hotel by calling 1-800-346-4891, using a credit card number to hold your room. Or, you can mail in reservations to the address below with a check for the first nights lodging. When you make your reservations be sure to indicate that you are with the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion Association. That way you will be assured of these substantially reduced rates.

There is a limited number of rooms being held at these rates and Scanticon will only hold rooms for us until 11 July 1989. After this date rooms will be extended on a space available basis only, so make your reservations now!

REUNION COSTS/REGISTRATION

\$20 per person or

\$25 per family

Plus the cost for the Saturday Night Banquet

Please complete and return the attached registration form.



Scanticon
D E N V E R

Conference Center • Hotel • Resort
Inverness Business Park
200 Inverness Drive West
Englewood, Colorado 80112
(303) 740-8300 or 800-346-4891

145th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION ASSOCIATION

1989 REUNION

August 11-13, 1989

Denver, Colorado

REUNION REGISTRATION

NAME: _____

WIFE/GUEST NAME: _____

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: _____ AGES: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

REGISTRATION FEES

\$20 Single or \$25 Family

BANQUET ENTREES:	Chicken and Wild Rice	\$22.00 each
	Rocky Mountain Rainbow Trout	\$24.00 each
	Prime Rib	\$28.00 each

Registration Fee (\$20 or \$25) = \$ _____

Chicken _____ x \$22.00 = _____

Trout _____ x \$24.00 = _____

Prime Rib _____ x \$28.00 = _____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Make checks payable to 145th Combat Aviation Battalion Association.

NAME TAG INFORMATION

Name You Desire on Name Tag

Unit Served and Year

145th Rank

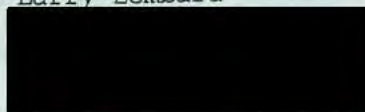
RECREATION: Scanticon Conference Center/Resort Hotel is a full resort with all the recreational facilities at our disposal. However, we do need to reserve a block of start times for the golf course. If you wish to play golf on Saturday afternoon, please indicate the number of golfers in the space below. (Green Fees and Carts are NOT included in room price. Hotel guests ONLY will be allowed to golf.)

[] Yes, I would like to play golf.

[] Number of golfers.

Mail check along with this registration form to:

Larry Lombard



UNIT HISTORY
166th
Transportation Corp
Detachment
VIETNAM ERA

by Lowell H. Klinefelter

The 166th TC Detachment was activated at Ft. Benning, Georgia by General Order 44, Third US Army effective 19 March 1965. It was designated as "Cargo Helicopter Field Maintenance" with an authorized strength of 1 officer, 1 warrant officer and 70 enlisted men.

They departed Ft. Benning on 10 April 1965, traveled by ship, and arrived in Vietnam 1 May 1965. They were assigned to the 1st Log Command and stationed at Vung Tau.

The 166th had the distinction of bringing the first UH-1D model helicopters "slicks" to the Republic. An "in Country" pocket patch was designed, tho not well executed, denoting this. The patch said: 166th Transportation Detachment Aircraft Maintenance, LPH-2, USS Iwo Jima, D. The local artisans could not make a Huey, and spelling was not their strong suit either, but the members wore the patch with pride.

As they were stationed at Vung Tau, enjoyment of the ocean at unit parties was almost a requirement; all new members were thrown into the surf to show that they now belonged. Even after moving new members would still be dunked into a trailer filled with water - usually after the ice had melted!

The unit next moved to Bien Hoa to support "A" Company of the 82nd Airborne Division and the 173rd Airborne Brigade Separate. "D" Company Maintenance supplied some personnel to the unit, also. The commander of the 166th at this time was Captain Delmer McConnell, an activated USAR officer. The Captain was very well liked by his men as he saw that they received the best that was available at the time.

During the summer of 1966 the US Army started the "Zero Defects" program and the 166th did their share, even when they were working day and night to support the actions taking place. The ships were brought in after the combat assaults, repaired overnight, and were flying by six o'clock in the morning. Status reports were delivered to the 145th HQ in downtown Bien Hoa by 0530 hours showing available aircraft for that days missions.

The 166th was also noted for being built in the middle of a Vietnamese cemetery, having their "Playboy Club" photographed for "Playboy Magazine", painting the first US Army camouflage Hueys, and for having the oldest, continuous duty B model in Vietnam, 21901, known as Horsethief. Horsethief appeared in "Modern Military Aircraft HUEY" by Lou Drendel for its unique camouflage.

In November 1965 Second Lieutenant John Price of Company "B", 2nd Bn, 503rd Infantry made arrangements for a unit "lifetime" subscription to "Playboy Magazine"; the Playmate of the year came to visit in January 1966 using one of "A" Companies "slicks" that the 166th had named the Playboy Special. Check out the May 1966 issue of "Playboy" for details.

Captain McConnell rotated home in early 1966, and was replaced by Captain Paul Lovgren, Major Donald Pritchard and Major Robert Lawson before the unit moved to Dak To in February 1966.

The unit left its concrete pads, wooden "hooches" and their access to Bien Hoa Airbase with some trepidation, flying into Camp Holloway in Plekiu; and freezing the first night at 70 degrees; then convoying to Dak To, Dragon Mountain, 4th Division area. On arrival tents were set up for living and work areas, and people had to get used to working out of shop trailers and conex containers, and in mud.

The move also increased distances that the men had to travel for the basics; the mess hall was about two miles away and the closest shower point about a mile, and the PX facilities were small. Gone was the comfort of Bien Hoa, Long Binh and Cholon. Local rain suits and ponchos also became the uniform of the day.

This is as far as I can go as I left the unit in July 1967, by returning to Bien Hoa and the 335th area. There was a small group left behind to watch over the buildings and to send new people up north and us old timers home.

UNIT T-SHIRTS

Our Unit T-shirts sell for \$10 each plus \$1 postage, that's \$11 each. I beleive that these T-shirts are something that none of us would want to be without. Many of us don't wear T-shirts everyday but when you do, please wear one of ours. Our unit T-shirts make a statement, they state that you take pride in your unit and your Vietnam service. Let people know you answered your country's call to service, you served proudly, and with the best.

Soon we will have unit T-shirts for all the units associated with the 145th C.A.B., but for now I would like to show you what we have available right now. Let me start with the front of the shirt, on the right upper chest we have the official Battalion crest, on the left upper chest we have a set of Wings and a choice of a H-model, C-model, or on the 334th T-shirt a Cobra Gunship. See samples below, these are about one half the real size.



BATTALION CREST



WINGS / H-MODEL



C-MODEL



COBRA GUNSHIP

On the back of the T-shirt we have unit insignia for the 68th, 117th, 118th, 190th(not shown), 334th, 335th, and a 145th C.A.B.V.A. association T-shirt design. We also offer a T-shirt design for CHARLIE-MODEL GUNSHIP PEOPLE. These designs are about 10 inches tall.



ASSOCIATION DESIGN



HELICOPTER CO

68th



117th



HELICOPTER CO.

118th



334th



335th



CHARLIE MODEL GUNS

On the Charlie model guns T-shirt state your unit so your unit numbers can be ironed on where the Battalion Crest is located on the other T-shirts.

Please order your T-shirts today. With this fund raiser \$1.50 from each T-shirt goes to our association. See order form on back of newsletter. Send order to Jim Maxwell, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report covers 1 January 1989 to 31 March 1989. This report is intended to give you an over all look at what your dues and donation money is used for. If you have any questions or suggestions please let me know. I want you to know that your money is being used for the intended purpose.

Balance 1 January 89.....\$067.77
 Total deposits 01/01/89 to 03/31/89(Dues, Donations, Fund Raisers)...\$836.00

Total.....\$903.77

Expenditures

Postage.....\$310.84
 Long Distance Phone.....78.02
 Miscellaneous (see note).....\$134.61
 Bank Fees.....\$14.35

Total expenditures.....\$537.82-\$537.82

Balance 31 March 89.....\$365.95

Miscellaneous includes computer supplies (paper, mailing labels, printer ribbons, etc.), newsletter supplies (paper, staples, etc.), envelopes, notes books, ink pens, Fund raiser supplies, etc.

As you can see from the financial report we brought in \$298.18 more than we spent this last quarter. We finally got the balance going in the right direction. You will notice that there is no service contract charges for the copy machine, we are now running it without the service contract. Like I said before we either need to increase the income or cut expenses, we cut expenses, lets hope the machine doesn't break. WHAT WE REALLY NEED IS FOR EVERYONE WE HAVE LOCATED WHO HAVE NOT JOINED THE ASSOCIATION TO JOIN. WE NEED THE MONEY TO KEEP GROWING. So please check your membership card, if the card is expired or if you don't have one please join our association, we need your support.

We have cut our expenences down by only sending newsletters to those who have joined the association or just been located. NOTICE if you have not joined please do so, if not you probably will not recieve any more newsletters. When I receive membership dues I code the indivisials file with the membership year/s they joined, example 88-89, 89-90, 90-91, if the code is not on your file the printer will not print a mailing lable for you. Membership years are from 1 July to 30 June, now is the time to join or renew your membership. Our Association will continue for all those who join. Check the mailing lable on this newsletter for your membership status.

PLEASE JOIN TODAY, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

.....CUT.HERE.....

145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association Membership Form

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ check one EM _____ WO _____ OF _____

I served with the 145th CAB with (Unit) _____ from (Date) _____ to _____

I have enclosed \$10 for each membership year. Total _____ for 1 July 19__ to 30 June 19__

(Family)
 Regular _____ Associate _____ Renewal _____

"REUNION 89" UPDATE

Our 145th C.A.B.V.A. "Reunion 89" will be held on August 11, 12, and 13th, 1989 in the Denver, CO. area. The location for the reunion is the Scanticon Conference Center/Hotel Resort, 200 Inverness Drive West, Englewood, CO 80112 1-800-346-4891. The room cost is \$49 a night for a single room or \$59 a night for a double room, children 12 and under are free. Make your room reservations directly with the hotel, be sure to indicate that you are with the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion Association.

The reunion will officially begin at 12 noon on Friday the 11th of August 1989 and will end at 12 noon on Sunday the 13th of August 1989. Larry Lombard who was a pilot with the 118th Aslt Hel Co in 1965 and 66 is the Reunion Committee Chairman. We would like to encourage all the wives or significant others, and family members to attend the reunion. For those who will be flying private planes to the reunion, Centennial Airport is just minutes away from the hotel.

The "89" Reunion should really be great and attendance should be up because of the large number of people we have located, over 1250, and the easy flight connections into Denver's Stapleton International Airport. There will be a reunion fee to cover the cost putting on the reunion, the fee is \$20 single or \$25 a family. Larry and the committee will need to know how many children, and their ages, will be attending the reunion so they can plan some activities for their enjoyment.

A few of the things we might be doing at the reunion are showing in-country slides and movies, displaying photo albums, golf, business meeting, and a memorial service. There will be a patio reception with cash bar starting at 4PM on Friday Aug 11 to welcome everyone to the reunion. There should be Colorado National Guard Helicopters on static display in the hotel parking lot. We will be holding nominations and elections for the Association offices, voting on amendments to our By-laws, and picking the date, place and reunion chairperson for our next reunion.

For the most current information on the reunion or to offer activities suggestions or help contact Larry at:

Larry Lombard, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Start making your plans now to attend the 89 Reunion, and let Larry know so he can plan on the number attending. It could be as long as five years before the next reunion after this one, so make a special effort to attend this reunion. If you have any ideas about when and where to hold the next reunion please bring that information with you to the "89" Reunion.

If you need assistance or can offer assistance in attending the reunion please let Larry know so he can match up the requests and offers.

I will be sending some forms to you about the "89" Reunion. One is about making hotel reservations and reservations should be sent or called to the hotel for the special reunion rates, be sure to indicate for 145th Combat Aviation Battalion Association reunion. The other is for information that Larry needs to plan the reunion, it should be filled out and send to Larry, even if you can't attend the reunion. The most important thing to know when planning a reunion like this is how many people will be attending and how many hotel rooms should be reserved, so please let Larry know your plans. Using the form provided helps because all the forms are the same size and the information is located in the same spot on every form, if need be copy the blank form. So please be kind, courteous, and helpful, fill out and return the form to Larry as soon as possible. If possible, please inclose the reunion fee and cost of the meals at the catered dinner with the form. Make checks payable to 145th CABVA, Reunion. Don't wait, write to Larry today!

Encase any of you are wondering what my travel plans are for the reunion, Me, my wife and 4 of our children will be leaving Ft. Wayne, IN. on Monday morning August 6th. We plan to arrive in the Denver area Tuesday evening. To cut the cost of our vacation we will be traveling in our van and pulling a fold down camper. We plan to stay in the Denver area a few days after the reunion. If any of you would like to meet us along the way and form a caravan call me for trip schedule, we will most likely go through St Louis.

My children have many things planned to do in the Denver area, panning for gold, horse back riding, visiting western ghost towns, etc, etc.

You might want to consider combining your family vacation with this reunion.

1 JUNE 1989

NEW PEOPLE LOCATED LIST

The list is arranged chronologically by unit. I arranged the list as accurately as possible with the information I have, some people I only have the year they entered Vietnam, others I have the complete date. I would like to have at least the month and year in and out of the unit, if possible. I tried to list people's rank in one of three categories, OF=Officer, WO=Warrant Officer, or EM=Enlisted Men. Please check the list for accuracy, please notify me of any mistakes or blank spaces. The * beside the rank denotes those who have sent in their annual dues already. Note the date on the top of the page. Thank You

UNIT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET	CITY	STA ZIP	PHONE	DATE	DATE	RANK
HMC	KNIGHT	BENJAMIN D		AUSTIN	TX. 78758		1963	1964	SGM
HMC	HUGHES	COL JOHN C		RED FEATHER LAKE	CO. 80545		1964	1964	LTC*
HMC	BOBB	GILLMAN E		TOLEDO	OH. 43609		1966	1966	EM
HMC	HAUFF	DARVIN D		HUNTER	ND. 58048		1968	1969	EM
HMC	MOSELY	WILLIE GLENN		ROANOKE RAPIDS	NC. 27870		1969	1970	EM*
18 AVN	BAKER	GEORGE T		RIVERDALE	GA. 30296		1962	1963	OF
18 AVN	SEELY	MICHAEL J		KILBURN	GA. 30247		1962	1963	
18 AVN	HERBOLD	BOB		APO NY	09063		1962	1963	OF*
25 AVN	SOARES	JOHN J		SAN LEANDRO	CA. 94577		1968	1968	EM*
25 AVN	RIENZI	LUTIG		TRENTON	NJ. 08629		1969	1970	EM
25 AVN	GUERRA	LEON (GROUCHO)		WOONSOCKET	RI. 02895		1970	1971	EM
25 AVN	BURKETT	ROBERT L		FAYETTEVILLE	NC. 28314		1970	1972	EM*
57 MED	THOMAS	THOMAS C		EDGEWATER	NJ. 07020		1965	1966	OF*
68 AHC	HUFFORD	LTC KENT V		MONTGOMERY	AL. 36117		1967	1968	WO*
68 AHC	KUBORCHIK	TIM		COLUMBIA STATION	OH. 44028		1967	1968	EM
68 AHC	SMITH	ANDREW H		DOVER	TN. 37058		1967	1969	EM
68 AHC	BURKETT	ROBERT L		FAYETTEVILLE	NC. 28314		1967	1970	EM*
68 AHC	BERGANDI	CHARLES A		BENLD	IL. 62009		1968	1969	EM*
68 AHC	BUCKLEW	PAUL		OLD BRIDGE	NJ. 08857		1968	1969	
68 AHC	HINTON	RICHARD		COSTA MESA	CA. 92627		1968	1969	EM
A/501	MATEYKO	JOHN		CINCINNATI	OH. 45224		1962	1964	OF*
A/501	BIRNBACH	RICHARD A		SILVER SPRINGS	MO. 20910		1963	1964	
A/501	CASSELD	CHUCK		WEST PALM BEACH	FL. 33414		1965	1966	EM
71 AVN	PRATT	THOMAS V (TOM)		UPLAND	CA. 91786		1969	1970	WO*
74 AVN	CLEMELL	BOB		LITSON	OH. 44432		1967	1968	OF
74 AVN	COLWELL	RICHARD F		WESTLAND	MI. 48185		1968	1968	
8 TRANS	WATTS	ROBERT C		NEWTON FALLS	OH. 44444		1963	1963	EM*
117AHC	VAZQUEY	NESTOR L		COYEE	PR. 00633		1968	1968	WO
117AHC	SKYER	MICHAEL L		ALBUQUERQUE	NM. 87111		1969	1969	EM
117AHC	MORALES	DENNIS E		SAN CLEMENTE	CA. 92672		1970	1970	EM
33 TRAN	BRUMMITT	GEORGE P		TACOMA	WA. 98406		1963	1964	WO
118AHC	EDGERTON	J. S.		RED SPRINGS	NC. 28377		1963	1964	EM
118AHC	GUDERMUTH	CLYDE S		FT SMITH	AR. 72903		1965	1966	OF
118AHC	BERGANDI	CHARLES A		BENLD	IL. 62009		1967	1969	EM*
118AHC	COSTANZO	ARTHUR		NORTH RIDGEVILLE	OH. 44039		1968	1969	EM
118AHC	HUMBERT	HERMAN H		IMPERIAL	MO. 63052		1970	1971	
118AHC	MC GEEHAN	JIM		BEAVER	PA. 15009		1970	1971	
118AHC	WILSON	STEVE		RADCLIFF	KY. 40160		1970	1970	EM*
81 TRAN	THOMPSON	MERVYN C		HENDERSONVILLE	TN. 37075		1962	1963	EM
81 TRAN	FOWLER	JEWETT "CHIP"		MOUNTAIN VIEW	CA. 94040		1963	1964	OF*
119AHC	CAYWOOD	C W		MINOCQUA	WI. 54548		1967	1968	EM
119AHC	CECE	MICHAEL R		ARLINGTON	IL. 60005		1967	1968	EM
119AHC	KELLY	PATRICK		MT CLEMENS	MI. 48045		1967	1968	EM
119AHC	CAREY	RICHARD		HICKSVILLE	NY. 11801		1968	1969	EM
119AHC	CHANCELLOR	JIM		GRIFFITH	IN. 46349		1969	1970	EM
57 TRAN	EVENHUS	PALMER		LACEY	WA. 98503		1961	1962	EM
57 TRAN	CAYWOOD	C W		MINOCQUA	WI. 54548		1963	1964	EM
120AVN	METCALF	ROBERT		PUTSDAM	NY. 13676		1963	1964	
120AVN	EDSON	CHARLES		FELDA	FL. 33930		1964	1965	
120AVN	NELSON	WILSON L		PELICAN RAPIDS	MIN. 56572		1964	1965	EM
120AVN	THOMPSON	JOHN		POLOVER	WI. 54467		1965	1966	EM
120AVN	VAZQUEY	NESTOR L		COYEE	PR. 00633		1968	1969	WO
120AVN	THOMPSON	JIMMY GRADY		APO NY	09146		1970	1970	WO*
93 TRAN	O'NEILL	JOSEPH J		NEWTOWN	PA. 18940		1962	1963	WO
93 TRAN	RUF	WILLIAM L		ENTERPRIZE	AL. 36330		1962	1963	WO
121AHC	KARRISAN	MARCELLUS		APO SF	96504		1963	19	
121AHC	GALANTE	GEORGE		PORT ORANGE	FL. 32019		1965	1966	EM
121AHC	HEMCIN	JAMES J		STREAMWOOD	IL. 60107		1969	1969	EM
135AHC	ARTIST	ED		WEST HILL	CA. 91307		1967	1972	EM
135AHC	HAZAROFF	THEODORE		SAN ANTONIO	TX. 78210		1967	1968	
135AHC	AGREN	DONALD R		RICHMOND	VA. 23234		1970	1971	
135AHC	ROGERS	ROBERT G		CANOGA PARK	CA. 91306		1970	1972	EM

UNIT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET	CITY	STA ZIP	PHONE	DATE DATE	RANK
147AWN	ENGELKING	STEVE		SEYMOUR	IN. 47274		1971 1972	
190AHC	BURGER	RUSSELL		SPRING CITY	TN. 37381		1967 1968	EM
190AHC	DEJAY	PETER		BAY PINE	FL. 33504		1968 1969	EM
190AHC	ROBERTS	DELBERT (BUZ)		GROVE	OK. 74344		1968 1969	EM*
190AHC	SHERMAN	THOMAS		NIAGRA FALLS	NY. 14304		1968 1969	EM
190AHC	BROWN	RAY		MASILLA	AK. 99687		1969 1970	EM
190AHC	SILK	JOHN		SARASOTA	FL. 33581		1969 1970	EM
UTT	JACKSON	SFC WILLIAM L		SUNNYVALE	CA. 94087		1962 1963	EM*
UTT	Mc MILLAN	JAMES E		BELOIT	WI. 53511		1964 1965	EM
UTT-197	MURPHY	DONALD J		FLORISSANT	MO. 63033		1965 1966	
UTT-197	NORTHEDGE (RET)	LTC HENRY		BEDFORD	NH. 03103		1965 1966	OF
UTT-197	SCOTT	CDR DAVIS I		NEW ORLEANS	LA. 70131		1965 1966	OF
UTT-197	WHITNER	JOHN		OTZARK	AL. 36360		1965 1966	
UTT-197	VAN VLECK (RET)	LTC JAMES L		TACOMA	WA. 98498		1965 1966	OF
197AHC	GRIEL	GEORGE M		LAKE ZURICH	IL. 60047		1965 1966	EM*
334AHC	HEATH	ROBERT		WILLIAMS	AZ. 85046		1967 1969	EM
334AHC	MACEDS	JOHN		NEW BEDFORD	MA. 02740		1967 1968	EM
334AHC	Mc CURRY	RICK		ALBUQUERQUE	NM. 87109		1967 1968	EM
334AHC	SCHNEITZER	DONALD		WAPAKONETA	OH. 45895		1967 1968	EM*
334AHC	COFFIELD	THOMAS F		BIRMINGHAM	AL. 35242		1967 1968	EM
334AHC	VAN VLECK (RET)	LTC JAMES L		TACOMA	WA. 98498		1968 1969	OF
213AHC	DOCHSTADER	DAN		COLD. SPRINGS	CO. 80916		1967 1968	
242ASHC	THEOBALD	DAVID A		NEWPORT NEWS	VA. 23606			WO
242ASHC	FLEURY	PETER A		PLACENTIA	CA. 92670		1968 1969	OF*
335AHC	OFFRINGA	GREGORY A		SHARON	MA. 02067		1969 1969	EM
335AHC	JENNERS	JOSEPH		LIVERPOOL	NY. 13090		1970 1971	OF
335AHC	MORRISSEY	JOHN E		MANTLIUS	NY. 13104		1970 1971	OF
335AHC	SPANIEL	JAMES J		LINCOLN	NE. 68521		1971 1971	EM
339TRAN	FOSTER	KERRY		ROCHESTER	NI. 03867		1963 1964	OF
339TRAN	FIGOFF	MICHAEL H		GRAND HILLS	CA. 91344		1965 1966	EM
339TRAN	SMALL	LEONARD E		BOISE	ID. 83706		1965 1966	WO
339TRAN	WEST	VAUGHN R		NORFOLK	VA. 23518		1965 1966	WO

ATTENTION TO ORDERS

The President of the United States of America has awarded the PURPLE HEART to Chief Warrant Officer Two (then Warrant Officer One) James Maxwell, for Wounds Received in Action, Republic of Vietnam, 2 October 1970, awarded this 7th day of April, 1989.

The real story here is the reason why Jim Maxwell pursued receiving the PURPLE HEART. Jim was the only survivor of the crash on 2 October 1970, he is rated 260% disabled by VA from his wounds. Jim worked at getting the PURPLE HEART so that the family of his Crew Chief and his Doorgunner, Karl William Titus and Michael Gene Warnick, could receive their son's PURPLE HEART.

It was a few years after the crash before Jim could tell what really happened, that his aircraft was shot down and didn't just crash. By the time he could talk it seemed no one cared what really happened or they didn't believe him. It took 18 and 1/2 years to finally clear up the facts. For all those years Jim felt the guilt that maybe he was responsible for the death of his crew chief and doorgunner. Now that they reinvestigated the facts and awarded the Purple Heart, Jim's conscience can rest easier.

I have talked with the family of Karl Titus and Michael Warnick and sent this information to them. Both families were pleased to hear this information and hopefully before long they will be given the Purple Hearts in memory of their sons.

Those of us who served in the 68th Aslt. Hel. Company in October of 1970 will always remember Karl Titus, Michael Warnick and others we lost during that time.

FUND RAISERS

We have a few on going fund raisers, the purpose of these is to raise operating funds for the association and to provide you with items you might like. We need the money and hate to beg for it. Membership forms for those who need to join or renew their membership is on the top of the back page. Please help us grow.

GOLDEN HAWK PINS

Frank Dancsecs, Regional Director/Coordinator for the state of Florida has donated Golden Hawk pins to sale for the Association. The cost of the pins are \$3 each or 2 for \$5 or 3 for \$7. The pin come facing left or right, if ordering one please indicate left or right, if ordering 2 for \$5 they come as a set. When ordering 3, one for the hat and two for the jacket, they come 2 lefts and one right to a card. To order write to: 145th C.A.B.V.A., 3719 Forest Hill Ave., Fort Wayne, IN. 46805 1-219-483-5149. Inclose the proper amount of money for the pins, or call for special price. You can make checks payable to 145th C.A.B.V.A.. I would like to report back to Frank that we have sold all the pins, so please order today. The pins are really great, gold plated and made in USA. Order form on back page.



RIGHT

LEFT

UNIT T-SHIRTS

The next fund raiser project is the T-shirts. The shirts sale for \$10 plus \$1 postage, all together \$11 each, \$1.50 goes to the association for each shirt sold. See page 9 for information.

TOP TIGER PATCHES

Gary Allison had 200 Top Tiger patches made up, they sell for \$4 each. Everything over the cost and mailing goes to the association. He funded this project with his own money. After this project is completed we hope to be able to have patches made for the other units. Hopefully the association will be able to fund these projects, the demand and the availability of a patch will determine which patch we have done next. Contact Gary Allison, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. See order form in back of newsletter.

CASSETTE TAPE

The tapes "Bien Hoa Attack, Tet Jan. 31, 1968" and "Combat Assault 190th Avn. Co. (Gunship)" I put on one tape. Bien Hoa Attack on one side and 190th Gunships on the other, and calling it "Battle of Bien Hoa and Gunship Action". At the reunion we were selling these for \$10 each, they have been put on one tape that we are selling for \$15 as a fund raiser. This combined tape has been very popular with all who have heard it and I recommend it to everyone who served at Bien Hoa or anyone who served with a helicopter unit. Order one, I think you will like it.

REUNION VCR TAPES

We have VCR tapes from the 1987 Reunion and they are ready to reproduce. I edited the tapes down to 4 hours, that is 2 (2 hour) tapes. The cost is \$35 for both. The tapes include the 35mm slide show, 8mm movie show, business meeting, our entertainment, some of the childrens activities, general reunion shots, and part of the memorial service. These are not professionally produced tapes, but if you were there I'm sure you will want a copy. If you couldn't make the last reunion, this is the next best thing to being there. Attend the reunion on tape, watch and listen to the slide and movie show, watch for the people you served with, see how the business meeting went, and enjoy the entertainment. I have seen a few other VCR tape about helicopters in Vietnam and the 8mm movie show and the 35mm slide show on this tape tell our story much better.

We are accepting orders, all orders must be prepaid, please state either VHS or Beta. Order form on back page. After our "89 Reunion" I will try to put together a tape of just the 35mm slide show and 8mm movie show from the "87" and "89" reunions.

145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association Membership Form

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ check one EM _____ MO _____ OF _____

served with the 145th CAB with (UNIT) _____ from (DATE) _____ to _____

I have enclosed \$10 for each membership year. Total _____ for 1 July 19____ to 30 June 19____
Send to: 145th C.A.B.V.A., 3719 Forest Hill Ave, Ft. Wayne, IN. 46805

CASSETTE TAPE or REUNION VCR TAPE
Send me the indicated tape/s. By ordering these tapes I agree not to copy them and to protect the copyrights for further distribution. Signature required on bottom of form.

_____"Battle of Bien Hoa and Gunship Action" Audio Cassette @ \$15 each.

_____"Reunion 87" VCR Tape @ \$35.00 per set. _____ VHS _____ BETA

ty, State, Zip _____

Signature _____

Complete amount inclosed \$ _____ Send order to: 145th CABVA, 3719 FOREST HILL AVE, FT WAYNE, IN 46805

GOLDEN HAWK PINS

Send me _____ Golden Hawk Pins, I am enclosing \$ _____

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send order to: 145th C.A.B.V.A., 3719 Forest Hill Ave, Ft Wayne, IN 46805

TOP TIGER PATCHES

Send me _____ Top Tiger patches at \$4 each

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send order to: Gary Allison, 1295 Harvard, Berkley, MI. 48072 1-313-545-1032

UNIT T-SHIRTS

Send me _____ Unit T-Shirts at \$11 each including postage. (Mark Unit, Size, and Color)

____ 68th AHC	____ 190th AHC	____ Large
____ 117th AHC	____ 334th AHC	____ Ex-large
____ 118th AHC	____ 145th BN (FIRST IN VIETNAM) Asso.	____ other size _____
____ 335th AHC (Cowboys)	____ C-Model Gunship	

____ Blue (standard) _____ White both with black ink

Send order to: Jim Maxwell, _____
Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery. See page 9 for T-shirt description.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____