

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 the 45th Transportation Battalion in Vietnam, the units listed below:

Aviation Companies

HHC	147th
18th	184th
25th	190th
68th	UTT 68th
71st	197th
74th	334th
117th	213th
118th	242nd
119th	335th
120th	CO.A 82nd
121st	CO.A 501st
135th	57th MED DET

Transportation Companies

8th	81st
33rd	93rd
57th	339th

And all detachments
of these units

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, and hope for, 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 before or after serving with the 145th.



145TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION (Vietnam) ASSOCIATION



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NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Fort Wayne, IN
PERMIT NO. 1387

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

"OLD WARRIORS"
Newsletter

NOVEMBER, 1990, VOL. 15

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1-219-483-5149

We have had a very good response in renewing memberships and joining the Association. 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. Some people have asked for a reminder of when their dues are due and the individual mailing label is the easiest way. The 89-90 membership year expired on 1 July, so check your membership card and please renew if it expired in July 1990.

Its newsletter time again and (as usual) this is a little late, it should have been in the mail the first part of November. By now just about everyone should have the 1990-91 Directory of everyone we have located. Let me know if you should have gotten one and didn't. But please everyone make sure I have your current address and phone number. I'm still missing phone numbers for many of you.

The T-shirt sells have been going real well especially the Association design. Along with the Association, 68AHC, 135AHC, 190AHC, UTT, 197th, 120AHC, and 121AHC T-shirts we will also have a T-shirt for the 118th AHC and 334th AHC by the time you get this newsletter, but not pictured on page 19 and 20. For more details on the T-shirt designs see pages 19 and 20. And I'm working on more of the unit T-shirt designs, let me know which design you want me to work on next.

You will notice that 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 in almost everything you send in, unless I feel that you didn't want it put in, space permitting, 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. Writing the Readers Response section gives me a chance to catch up on the mail, if you have written in your letter and answer is probably in that section.

I have gotten many positive comments about the articles about the Battalion History, so the article continues in this newsletter on page 13, 14 & 15. The article deals with the time period 15-21 April 1966. 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 better. 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 will try to have the next newsletter in the mail before the end of January 1991. It will contain all the info about our 1991 Reunion, and will include forms for you to send in to the Reunion Committee. There will be information about the back-up hotels and campgrounds, the Holiday Inn is filling up fast. I talked with Gen Kenyon a few days ago and the Committee is really working to put together a fine Reunion for us.

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.

READERS RESPONSE

Here are some of the letters I have received since the last newsletter. I thank all who wrote in and I invite everyone to write in. I think this is the best part of the newsletter. Please read the letters, I think you will find them very interesting. And this is about the only way that I get caught up on answering most of the mail. So please read on for the answers to the letters.

Dear Jim, Just a note to thank you for the 1990-91 membership directory and the reminder. I have enclosed my dues and order for the tape. I have also enclosed a copy of the 334th patch and a copy of the Battalion Organization Day handout from Sept 1966. I hope they are of some use in compiling the 145th history. I also have some 8mm film footage of what we were doing, some action shots but mostly activities that were of interest to me. I didn't get much combat footage, as I was usually too busy and simply forgot to use the camera. If I find anything else you could use and I can part with, I'll send it on. Thanks again, Tom Mokrzycki

P.S. My period of service was from August 1966 - Aug 1967.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Tom for the membership dues and tape order. I couldn't hardly believe it when I opened the package and found the original 334th patch and 1966 Battalion Organization Day handout. Those items are very hard to get which makes them almost priceless and irreplaceable. I thank you very much and I know that all who will see them in our Battalion Archives display will also thank you. Until the display cases are built for the display I have put the 334th patch in a photo album with an original 1963 145th patch donated by George Young and the reproduction patches for the 68th and 118th AHC. Also in that same album is an original Dragon Platoon shirt pocket donated by Gene Bailey, a 190th bumper sticker patch and some original 145th CAB drink coaster from the club.

Dear Jim, have been a member for sometime and really appreciate what you have done. It takes someone special to do what you do. As a member of the original 93rd Trans. Co. I especially enjoyed the write up. Had forgotten some of the details. Listed below are some of the original members who I am still in contact. Do not know if they are members or not but please use as you see fit.

Clyde Emery, [REDACTED]

Frank Frost, [REDACTED]

Robert Graben, [REDACTED]

Hadley Kitteridge, [REDACTED]

Herman Lenhardt, [REDACTED]

Mike Rodriguez, [REDACTED]

John Walsh, Rt. [REDACTED]

Do you have copy of orders for the original 93rd? I notice James Gray is a member and he was the CO so I am sure he can provide a copy. If you can find a Robert Sheffler or Ken Eaton they can provide a wealth of information on the maintenance situation which is a story in its self. One other person that is a big source of information is Bob Meade, he is the one responsible for the W-4 party each year. His address is [REDACTED]. Keep up the good work and I will see you at Fort Rucker in 1991. Jim Thomas.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you for the names and information, I sent them a directory and a newsletter #14 and also a newsletter #13 with the article about the 93rd. So far I don't have a copy of orders for the original 93rd but hopefully James Gray or someone will send one in. I have a Ken Eaton listed that served with the 57th Med Det in 1964 but don't know if it was the same one that served with the 93rd. I'll write to Bob Meade and see if he can help us out. Thanks again Jim

(ANOTHER EDITORIAL NOTE) IF THE EDITORIAL NOTES ARE A LITTLE SHORT THIS TIME ITS BECAUSE MY RIGHT ARM IS IN A CAST FOR A FEW WEEKS TO CORRECT A ELBOW PROBLEM AND THE CAST GETS HEAVY, AND I CAN'T THINK TO GOOD WITH THE LEFT.

Dear Jim and Debbie, Enclosed are misc. orders I have from the period I served with the 118th (6-64 to 5-65). Perhaps the names will help identify some additions to the 145th CAB roster. I'm always touched when I read the newsletter as little pieces of our common background brush back the years and reveal moments all of us shared. I was proud to serve in our nations tradition of defending against armed aggression. I was proud to learn the skill needed to command aircraft in combat. I was proud to instruct other men who would follow the tradition and need the skill for combat. I am proud today of our shared heritage and the commitment and sacrifice we and our

fallen comrades made. I am proud to have served with Australians, Cambodians, South Koreans, Montagnards, Chinese, French, and the brave and courageous men, women, and children of Viet Nam. Pride is but one piece of the common background of the 145th CAB. It touches me. Deeply. Pat McLarney

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Pat, I'll get the orders put into the Help Find file, and just to let everyone know, all the sets of orders sent in are put into some large notebooks in page protectors, arranged by date. This is a great addition to the historical records, and makes it easier to look up info on friends you served with. Pat does a great job of summing up the way I felt about serving in Vietnam. Forgetting all the questions about whether the Vietnam War was right or wrong, I served my country, like generations before me, it wasn't easy, but I served, for that I am proud. I felt I served with the best people in Vietnam, now I know they were carrying on the tradition set by members of their unit who served before them. One thing Pat didn't state in his letter was the hundred dollar check he sent, \$10 dues, \$90 donation, thank you Pat it will go a long way toward locating more people who served with the units, and keeping our Association going and growing. I have added Robert C Patton, 118AHC, 1964-65 who died in Lubbock, TX while a test pilot with Bell Helicopter, to our Memorial List, and also Cpt Gary R. Riggins, 23 Nov 1933 thru 7 Oct 1964, from Yreka, CA, 118AHC 1E-66.

Dear Jim, Enclosed are my dues for two years and the fee for the audio cassette "Battle of Bien Hoa/Gunship action". I'm anxious to hear it since I was intimately involved with both. I was infused out of the 118th and into the 190th about two weeks before Tet of 1968. I flew guns with both and was on five minute standby for the III Corps the morning of Tet. Shortly after three in the morning Bien Hoa came under a rocket and mortar attack and at the first lull we ran to our ships and took off. Until after light all we did was shoot, land and rearm and do it all over again. We mainly expended into the eastern perimeter of Bien Hoa where the main ground thrust was with shooting on the northwestern perimeter of Long Bien and near the POW camp. We spent the rest of the morning at Tan Son Nhut, then up to Cu Chi and finally down at Hoc Mon (between Saigon and Cu Chi). Around noon while supporting some ARVN's our lead gun AC was shot in the leg and his door gunner through the lungs and killed. Unknown to the door gunner, his barracks had taken a 122mm rocket hit directly over his bed in the initial attack on Bien Hoa. So you see the tape will have special meaning for me as I listen to it. I have also enclosed a photo of the 190th AHC patch. Of the two that I have both are OD green and black. You'll notice that "GUNS" was embroidered in red for the Gladiators. It's been so long ago for me to remember if we had a non-subdued company patch. The guns also had their own patch (photo enclosed) that we wore on our scarfs and painted on the front doors of the gunship. The 118th company patch came in both subdued and non-subdued (photo enclosed). I hope this little bit of trivia will help whoever is designing tee-shirts. Keep up the good work with your newsletter. Sincerely, Bob Coveney, Gladiator 25.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, I hope you like the tape. The info I have is that the 190th crewmember you refer to is Sgt Aubrey Goff, Jr from Louisville, KY. So far the info on the 190th color patch that I have gotten is the background color is red, Spartan head black, yellow trim, 190 in red on Spartan head. The T-shirts for the 190th and 118th should be done soon. I do the T-shirts here in my garage, I try not to do much designing on the T-shirts, just enlarge the patch, separate the colors, and print the shirts, as close to original as possible.

Dear Jim, Your newsletter are getting better each time you put one together. Thanks for all your good efforts. Enclosed is my check for my 90-91 dues. I've placed a few announcements around in the post asking that Battalion member contact me but haven't enlisted any new members to our organization. If you have a list of names that may be in Arizona send me a copy and I'll scour every source here to see if I can contact them. Warm Regards, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, Duane, we need all the help in locating people we can get. I sent Duane a printout of the people we know were from Arizona and I also sent him a list of the people we have located in Arizona, we need phone numbers for some. Thank you and good hunting.

Dear Jim, Sorry for the delay in renewing membership. Check for dues and a little extra is enclosed. Enjoy reading the newsletter especially with the unit history! Best regards, Bill McGee
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill for renewing, the donation, and for the encouraging words. A lot of the unit history info is still needed for all the units and time periods. The last two unit

history reports were taken from papers given to the first replacements when they arrived. The best part is that those reports were written as the history was being made. When I arrived in Vietnam in 1969 there wasn't much time to think about the units history and from what I have heard very few of our people knew the history of their unit. We now have the time and everyone has something to add. Hopefully the guys who were there in the earlier day will send in info on their time for us guys that got there later. And hopefully the guys who arrived later will send in info so the earlier guys will know what happened to their unit after they left. Thank you Bill you have been a very strong supporter and your efforts are appreciated.

Attached are my dues for 3 years. You only have 70 rooms left since I booked one on Saturday. Thanks Cecil Vernon

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Cecil, and make that 69 and counting down. The rooms will be going fast, so the rest of you might want to make your reservations, while there is still rooms left.

Dear Jim, I received a copy of the 145th Battalion newsletter from a friend and was delighted to see the spirit and camaraderie of your units still exists. I was a gunner for the 187th AHC ("Blackhawks"), stationed in Tay Ninh, during the years 67-68. Our battalion was the 269th out of Cu Chi, the headquarters of the 25th Infantry Division. Our unit's AO was from the Parrot's Beak of Cambodia, to the Mekong River Delta. Although our unit was new in country (April 67), it didn't take a long time to get experienced. One particularly memorable LZ involved took place on August 7, 1967. Billed as a milk run, eight of our slicks and five from the newly arrived 188th AHC ("Blackwidows"), were assigned to insert a company of the 4/12th Battalion, 199th Infantry Brigade on a training mission, seven miles north of Bien Hoa (the only thing know to be shot in the area was craps!). The enemy was dug in and waiting for us, the ambush was sprung as the last slick touched down. Ten of the thirteen slicks were either shot up, or shot down. The Commanding General of the 199th, overhead in the C&C ship, authorized a rescue attempt of the downed flight crews, and was himself wounded (along with his aide), in the rescue attempt. With the surviving slicks involved in rescue, and the Grunts running low on ammunition and in need of medivac, a slick from the "Top Tigers" selflessly attempted to relieve the beleaguered company still pinned down in the LZ. The ship came under heavy fire and crashed with the loss of at least three of the four crewmembers. None of us involved that day will likely forget the sacrifice and heroism of all the combatants, especially the crew of the "Tigers". Bob Gibeault

PS. Enclosed is a check for \$10 in memory of the "Tiger" crew, (I would appreciate being informed if anyone in your organization knows the names of those killed that day). I am enclosing an additional \$10 with the hope of receiving your newsletter. I am also involved in researching the heavy fighting that took place along the stretch of Highway 1, between Hoc Mon and the 25th Inf. Div. base camp at Cu Chi during the first week of February 1968 (especially the Feb. 5th action involving a C&C infantry commander with the call sign of "Red Dog 6").

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I have placed Bob on our mailing list as an associate member. We only have a few associate members and don't normally accept associate members because we don't want to hurt membership in the Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Asso. or the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Asso. Bob's letter was so touching that I felt honored to send him one of our membership card. I want to thank Bob for remembering the Top Tiger crew, especially considering the hard day his unit was having. I was given the name of WO John P Marlow, Dec 26, 1946 - Aug 7, 1967, from Glencoe, OK. 24E-087 on the wall, by 1SG at the time W. J. Broome. So far I haven't gotten the names of the other crewmembers. Hopefully I will have the names of the other crewmembers soon. I do want to thank you for remembering the "Top Tiger" crew. If times and places were different it could have been any of us. We would all want to be remembered.

I received this note from Bob a few weeks after sending his card.

Jim, I feel honored to be made an associate member of your organization. Thanks. Please note address change from [REDACTED]

Dear Jim; Here is my dues check for next year. The newsletters came through regulary and I know the effort you and Debbie put into keeping it together- Thanks for your efforts in behave of all the Old Warriors. Sincerely, Carl H. McNair

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, Carl. Your help last year when asked is truely appreciated, and your encouragement is what keeps us going.

Jim: Enclosed is my dues for membership. I have received the sample newsletter and directory. There is lots of interesting reading there. Also names from the long distance past. Such as, Major George W. Aldrige the original c/o of the 81st H-21 Trans. Co. Also, WO Chip Fowler, Remember them both very well. As I mentioned, I was a part of the 5th and later redesign into the 24th Quartermaster Petroleum Bulk Storage and Issue Detach. (PBS and I) or as some call P.O.L. The PBS & I was the name at the time. We were the original unit to arrive, some up to the 81st at Pleiku, others off to the 8th and still others to the 93rd and other locations. The 81st of course becomes the 119th and the naming of old Pleiku air strip becomes Camp Holloway on July 4, 1963. I will try to locate other members for you in the future. Keep up the good work with the newsletter. A Vietnam Veteran of the original 45th. Bob Mis

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, If you happen to come across anything dealing with your unit's history or the history of the "P.O.L." units in Vietnam, please let me know. We couldn't have flown without you.

Dear James and Debby, All is well in the heartland of the south. Please find enclosed check. Use half for my dues & half for whatever fund needs, \$, or even for someone's dues this year that cannot afford it- Ken Rubin

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ken, it been a long time since the 87 Reunion, hope to see you at the 91 Reunion at Ft Rucker. Please read on for a few more letters from some people you will remember.

Dear Jim: Enclosed is my renewal fee for two years plus my order for the cassette tape. I remember that day well as I flew with LTC Bob Deets and if I remember right we logged 16 hours during the first 24 hours of TET. With each update issue I keep looking for names I remember from my tour with 334th. When I arrived in April 1967 Gordon Ferris was the CO followed by Dan Stefanowich, Dan Becker and Ek Sheddon. I relieved Al Butler as platoon commander of the Dragon Platoon. Some of the members I would like to see in the organization are Harry Gawkowski of the 68th now living in southern Florida, Bob Stack living in Colorado Springs, Terry Dorondo and Russ Parkins all of the 334th. After reading about the movie project "Door Gunner" it reminded me of the time I served as a technical advisor in making an Army Training film in 1966 titled "The Helicopter Door Gunner" The film can be purchased through commercial sources and might contain some historical help on the project. I have included an article for your use and an old pocket patch from the Dragon Platoon. I would like to see a T-shirt from the 334th become available prior to next years convention. See everyone at the 91 reunion. Gene Bailey Dragon 36

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Gene, the pocket patch from the Dragon Platoon has been added to our Battalion display and will mean so much to those who served with the Dragons. And yes the 334th T-shirts will be ready prior to the 91 Reunion, hopefully before this Christmas. I passed on the info on "The Helicopter Door Gunner" to T. D. Morin and he said he was going to order it, I would like to order it soon also. Here is some additional info on people you mentioned in your letter: Maj Don Becker from Beaver City, NE, Alman Butler, Terrance M Dorondo from Florida, Russell R Parkin. See you at the 91 Reunion. Please read on for a note from LTC Bob Deets.

Dear Jim, Hope the "T" shirt's are a success. I'm sure you will never be rewarded for all you do for association you founded for us. You do all the work and we get all the pleasure. Inclosed is \$13.00 (plus a little extra) for a "T" shirt. I will see you at Rucker in June and hope a lot of my troops will be there. Bob Deets

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, the pleasures all mine. The things I do for our Association brings me pleasure, knowing that what I am doing is worthwhile and actually means something to someone (to many people). I was talking to Bob Dawson not long ago and he ask how you were doing, I think he's going to try to be at the Reunion.

Dear Jim, I received your newsletter today, I know I have been slow about joining. I got a call the other day from John J. Soars who is a member, he bugged me about joining. We both went to Vietnam in May of 65. I stayed in Vietnam and ended up in the 118th AHC in Feb 67. He later came back into the 25 AVN. I started out with the 2nd PLT (choppers) in Apr I got to go to the third PLT (Bandits) with my friend Sp4 John Acosta (he died July 68) in Jan. 67 my ears got blown out and I ended up driving the 5000 gal water truck for Honour Smith compound. I was also motor sgt for the 118th, 68th, 190th, and mess truck driver for HHC. A lot of people will remember me as

the BN Civic Action NCOIC at Bien Hoa and at the Plantation and 120th at Long Binh, I stayed with the 120th until it was changed to the 95 CAC, I was the last motor Sgt at Saigon. If anyone writes to me, I will right back. Ray Richer

Here is my check for membership dues and the audio cassette of Bien Hoa, Gunship Action. Would you try to find out if anyone remembers a Sp/4 Rankin who was in the 68 AHC motor pool March 1968. He became motor Sgt after I left the 68th. Thank you. If you see LTC William J. Lumpkins at the next reunion tell him I still remember the sisters at Vin Long and Tu Duc just say the BN civic action NCOIC said hi. Raymond Richer

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ray, and I'd like to say thank you to John Soars for calling you and talking to you about joining, that's how we can pick up membership, from friends. I've heard about John Wayne Acosta from a few of our members. If anyone has anymore info on Sp4 Rankin please let me know. And LTC William J Lumpkins receives our newsletter so he'll be reading this.

A separate form for dues renewal might work better. Scanning through the insert you can easily miss the form. "God Bless" Gail O. Bowen

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and you got a good point, but Deb says she will kill me if I add another inserts. She hates putting the inserts in the newsletter after the newsletters together. How about if I try to highlight the membership form.

Dear Jim, Sorry for sending in my dues late. The green "HELP" sheet inside the last newsletter alerted me to check the address sticker. Sure enough mine said to renew. My dues check is enclosed. Jim, you were quite correct in acknowledging James Thorne for his work in locating former 118th people. He also played a major role in organizing the 118th Reunion held in September at Lake Lanier just north of Atlanta. Although I could not attend due to last minute work changes, I do appreciate all the work of those who took part in making it happen. Jim, I also have a very interesting good buddy and next door neighbor by the name of Eugene T (Terry) Maxwell. Terry flew bombing raids over Italy & North Africa and was part of the Berlin Airlift. R.I.F.ed from the Air Force in 1953. In 1954, he began his Army career as a Warrant Officer Candidate. In the late 50's he instructed in helicopters. Then in 1961, Terry was sent to Vietnam. He was based at Tan Son Nhut, Saigon and flew H-21. His unit was the 33rd Transportation Co. This time frame may pre-date the the 145th but I am not sure. If we have anyone out there who can verify Terry's eligibility or non-eligibility he would like to know. If he isn't eligible, I'd like him to be my guest at the "91 Rucker Reunion" if that is possible. Please let Bob Chenoweth know that I check my 1966-67 log book from Rucker but came up empty. "A" models 1691, 1697, 1698, 1699 were there but could not find 1695. I am interested in a 118th AHC with Bandit (yellow mask) insignia T-shirt. If anyone out there comes up with such an animal, I'll buy a few. I presently have the Blue 145th with 118th Thunderbird on the back. I enjoy the newsletter. Keep up the good work. Sincerely, Ralph Orlando, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 7

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thanks, Ralph, for renewing your membership and for locating Eugene T (Terry) Maxwell for us. The green HELP sheet has sure helped bring in the renewal dues and since every newsletter must be exactly alike for non-profit bulk mail, the mailing label is the only thing I can personalize. And I agree, we can't thank Jim Thorne enough for what he's doing for our Association and the 118th, he has given alot of his own time and money to put together the Reunion at Lake Lanier. He took on a hard job and followed through with it. I should be getting a report on the Reunion soon, hopefully for this newsletter. As for a little historical info I have on the 33rd Trans Co: The 33rd Trans Co arrived in Vietnam 17 September 1962 and was assigned to the 45th Trans Bn. On 25 June 1963 the 33rd Trans Co became the 118th AHC, and on 24 September 1963 the 45th Trans Bn became the 145th CAB. We are trying to locate everyone who served with all the units and detachments that served with the 45th Trans Bn and the 145th Combat Aviation Bn. There was about 32 different unit numbers or names assigned to the Bn. To make things easier for everyone they are listed on the cover of the newsletter, and are listed in the Table of Contents in the Directory. There are to many for most of us to remember them all, I have, but only by working with each one all most everyday, but please no pop quiz at the reunion. Isn't it a small world that you and your next door neighbor served in the same unit in Vietnam (different name and year, but same unit). I'm sending a newsletter and Directory to you to give to him. Ask him to join and to be at the Reunion at Fort Rucker. Please send me his mailing address and phone number for the next directory. Hopefully Bob Chenoweth will be reading this in the newsletter so he should get the info. And after I get all the unit T-shirt designs done I'll start doing the Gun Platoon T-shirt designs, it will probably be a couple of years for the platoon T-shirts.

Dear Jim, Enclosed please find \$48.00 for my membership, a cassette tape and a T-shirt. The other \$10 is for an associate membership to be sent to: Mr. Harold Hatfield, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Mr. Hatfield's son Michael, was on my UH-1 when we were hit by an RP6 3-22-70. After 20 years I finally found Mike's dad and we have had several good conversations on the phone. Maybe we can both make Ft. Rucker. Thanks, Jon (Logan)

Hey, how about some Spartan patches for the 190th???

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Jon, for your support. Due to our By-Laws I can't accept \$10 for an Associate Membership because Mr. Hatfield is an Honorary Life Member. When we started our Association we felt that the family of our friends Killed In Action had paid their dues, and we wanted to give them the Honorary Life Membership in memory of their love one. So the \$10 can be a donation in memory of Michael James Hatfield, regular donation, applied to next years dues, or returned to you. I truly respect the reason and feeling for your request and I'm sure Mr. Hatfield will feel honored by your request. I am sending Mr. Hatfield his Honorary Life Membership, a current newsletter and a Directory and I apologize to you and Mr. Hatfield for the mistake on the Date of Casualty of 22 April 1970 and have corrected it to read 22 March 1970 on the Memorial List in the back of the Directory. The hardest phone calls I have made have been to the families of those I knew who were Killed In Action. It took me 15 years to finally make contact with the mother of Karl William Titus, my roommate, and a few more years to make contact with Michael Gene Warnick's parents. It was just something I had to do, a promise I made myself on 2 Oct 1970. I hope you and Mr Hatfield will be able to meet at the 1991 Reunion at Ft. Rucker, it will mean a lot to both of you. If anyone else out there is in contact with any of the families, or makes contact, please send me the address so I can send them their Honorary Life Membership.

About the 190th AHC patches, so far we have gotten patches made for the 68th and 118th. The way that was done was the people who had a copy of the patch had them reproduced, 200 copies, and we sold them through the newsletter. It cost about \$400 to have the patches made and can take a couple of year to get the money back, so far the Association hasn't had the money to get this done.

Dear Sirs, This letter is in reference to your recent 1990-91 directory. I received the directory and found my name listed on page 17, with the 121 AHC and my rank as that of a warrant officer. Although I did serve two tours in Viet Nam, neither of them was with the 145th C.A.B. My first tour was with 336th AHC (69-70) and my second with C Trp 16th Cav. (71-72), both of which were part of the 13th C.A.B. I thank you for the directory. I might be able to find some old stick buddies, however; please correct the information of page 17. Yours truly, John Leandro

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John, James J Hencin remembers you and sent in your name and address. He said in his letter that he talk to you at the 89 VHPA Reunion in Chicago and that you had info on the crew of "Lucky Strike". At the time James Hencin served with the 121st they were assigned to the 13th C.A.B. also. I hope you find many of your old stick buddies. I also have a name and address of another pilot from the 336AHC, 1969-70, Jimmy (Larry) Beddingford, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], he was part of flight school class 69-9, I don't know if he is a member of VHPA or not. If you have any info on any of the units listed in the front of the Directory could you send it to me for our unit and Battalion history files. And I have made the correction to the Directory.

Dear Jim, I hope all is well with you and yours. I am sending you \$10.00 for membership due and \$13.00 for a 145th 1st in VN T-Shirt. Thanks for all your work to keep the Assoc. going. Take Care, Greg (Offringa)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Greg, and everything will be fine when my right arm is healed. Thanks for asking, hope you enjoy the T-shirt.

Jim, Aside from the 57th/98th scrapbook I sent you a couple of years ago, I haven't done much as their "Unit Historian" I'm afraid...lots of excuses, but you know what my old 1st Sgt used to say about that. The 57th History in your last (Vol. 14) newsletter seemed right on the money to me. It would be nice to know the author...sounds like my old boss Milt Chenne tho & I'd be willing to put \$ on it. If it didn't stress your word processor too much I would suggest highting unit & personnel names in your letters and bylines for for your histories. You have probably already been contacted by the US Army Transportation Museum concerning the gathering of information and "items" for a display they are planning to honor the early TC helicopter

companies. They were all a part of the old 45th Trans Bn and the exhibit will key around the 45th. I am working with the museum on this and we are hoping for an "unveiling" sometime in 1991. This just happens to be the 30 year anniversary year for when the 57th & 8th Trans Cos arrived in RVN. Perhaps a notice in the Newsletter might inspire some of those who were around then to respond with what they might have to offer. Many seem to think they have nothing of importance, but it is surprising how even the little bits help round out the picture. Send to: US Army Transportation Museum, Ft Eustis, VA 23604-5260. Thanks, Emmett F Knight

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Emmett, the scrapbook you sent about the 57th/98th was great and is a very valuable part of our historical information. The Battalion History article in our last newsletter was sent in by Michael Viscaino, he said a copy was given to each person in the 57th Trans, I don't know who the author was. The US Army Transportation Museum at Ft Eustis hasn't contacted me about a display yet. I do have many photos of the Trans Co. arriving and the H-21s, they were sent in to our Battalion Archives and are maintained there. After our June 7th, 8th, and 9th Reunion at Ft Rucker maybe they could be temporarily loaned to their museum. Written material that can be copied I can donate copies of. I'm glad that you mentioned that even the little bits help round out the picture. Our Association is looking for anything dealing with the 45th Trans Bn and 145th C. A. B. maybe we can get some more info from the Ft Eustis museum. I'll try to highlight the names of the people who wrote the letters.

Jim, Have done a little more research and I believe that I have located the following who were in HHC between 1962 and 1965. 1 David Cribbs Em 214 Coulterville road McKeesport, Pa 15134 2. Steve Yakesh Em (I believe he married Cribb's sister he is also from Pittsburg area) 3. James Litsner [REDACTED] He was the mailroom clerk for the entire Battalion in 63-64 and could be very helpful. 4. Steve Chase Em [REDACTED] supply clerk in HHC 64-65 He was from FT. Devens area and this is close. 5. Victor Nage Em [REDACTED] 3 and 662-1251 From reviewing photos I have found the following. Joe Young 26002 [REDACTED] (Grimes partner - This address was good in 65) I am looking for any information you have on the following. All were in HHC unless specified. Robert P. Groves - originally might have been in 118-E6 Gaston - could have been in any part of 45th TRANS E4 James Depew RA14817821 Ohio? E4 Steve Chase FT. Devens, Mass. E5 Glen R. [REDACTED] Fla. E5 William D. Wood Abilene, Texas? E4 Thomas Keenan N.Y. E3 Coleman, E4 Stout, E4 Aronhalt, E4 Zaitz, E5 Teneyvque, E6 Moore, 120th AV Co E4 Dwight Gorman Alabama? Sid O'Connell, E4 Lee, Phillip Rau, Capt. Fred G. Harris, Capt. Payne. Attached are couple of photos from 63-64. The original HHC building and a General Johnson and Capt. Fred G. Harris who was the battalion signal officer. We field tested a lot of experimental equipment and had officers checking on some. Mike Hoke

P.S. Why are most of these names missing from your records? PPS If you can get the photos reproduced I would like a copy. If not they are yours.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I want to thank Mike for all his great help, he has been able to locate many people for us in the Chicago area. I called Mike and give him Richard L Litzner current address and phone number and told him that I had talked to Victor Nage's mother and that Victor had died of cancer in 1981. The rest of the names have been added to the Help Find List. Thank you Mike.

Jim, I found some old orders, maybe they can be helpful to you. George G. Carroll

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you George the old orders are very helpful, especially the ones with the leave addresses on them. They will be added to the help find list.

Dear Jim, It was with much interest that I received and read your recent newsletter, and I thank you for sending it to me. I have enclosed a check to cover the annual subscription and (seeing we live so far away and overseas postage is not cheap) a donation to cover extra costs. I was one of the Australian contingent with the 135th from September 1969 to September 1970 at Bearcat. I was a Petty Officer (American E7) at the time, working in the T.I. Shack. In 1985 we organized a Reunion in Nowra, New South Wales, and were fortunate enough to have a few 'Yanks' come along. James (Dusty) Baber, Lloyd Ballard, and Cliff Reed with his wife Deanie. (Cliff was a civilian Sheet Metal Worker assigned to our company). It was really great to see some old faces from the past and especially great when old mates from over there were able to get 'down under'. Jim I have a list of names and addresses from that reunion but would prefer to contact them to verify those addresses before forwarding the list on to you. In the mean time if any of your members would like to write to me regarding any Australian I would be only too pleased to assist in any

way possible. I thought your members may be interested in a brief history of the Royal Australian Navy Helicopter Flight Vietnam. Our crest, as described in the April '90 newsletter, was designed by one of our sailors, a Naval Airman by the name of Ian Hughes. Ian served with the second contingent, September '68 to October '69. All flights for the R.A.N.H.F.V. were drawn from the Fleet and second-line squadrons, and assembled at R.A.N. Air Station, Nowra N.S.W. The first flight under command of Lieutenant Commander N. Ralph consisted of 8 pilots, 4 observers, 4 aircrew plus 24 technical sailors with 6 other sailors. The first group arrived in Vietnam on the 16th October, 1967 while the second group followed two days later. During the year we lost three of the group killed in action. Lieutenant Commander P.J. Vickers, killed February 2nd, 1968. Lieutenant A.A. Casadio, and Petty Officer O.C. Phillips, both killed 21st August, 1968. 135th was originally stationed at Vung Tau but was transferred to Blackhorse late in December 1967. Here they stayed until being moved to Bearcat on the 23rd November, 1968 after being re-allocated to the 222nd Battalion in mid November. The first group of the second contingent under command of Lieutenant Commander G. Rohrsheim arrived at Blackhorst on the 9th September, 1968 and the remainder followed one month later. During that year Sub-Lieutenant Huelin was killed on the 3rd January, 1969 and Leading Aircrewman N.E. Shipp on the 31st May, 1969. The third contingent took over in September and October, 1969 under command of Lieutenant Commander D.D. Farthing. We were very fortunate that year in that none of our personnel were killed although we did suffer some casualties. The company finally moved from Bearcat to Dong Tam on the 6th September, 1970 (after many delays and false starts). The fourth and final contingent arrived 'in country' in September, 1970. This flight was under command of Lieutenant Commander W.P. James. Again the flight was most fortunate with no fatal casualties for their remaining time in Vietnam. The flight was finally withdrawn from Vietnam on the 14th June, 1971, and farewelled by Major General D.B. Dunstan C.O.M.A.F.V. and returned to Australia on the 16th June, 1971. Some interesting statistics and events which took place while in Vietnam were in January 29th, 1968 when, in absence of Lieutenant Colonel R.M. Cory, Lieutenant Commander N. Ralph acted as commanding officer of the E.M.U.'s for a few days, he became the first R.A.N. officer to command a unit of the U.S. Army. Lieutenant Colonel Cory himself made another 'first' in the same month by presenting the Naval long service and good conduct medal to Petty Officer R. Muscio on behalf of the Australian Naval Board. October 1967 to June 1971. Total flying hours for R.A.N. pilots 33724 135th flying hours (total) for the same period 114432. Regards Bill Barlow

P.S. Another address for your file is Mr. Graeme Price 20 Blackbutt Road Woodlands, Western Australia. 6018. I have already spoken to him and he would be happy to hear from you.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill, and I have put Mr Graeme Price on the mailing list. The names of those Killed In Action are on our Memorial List and they won't be forgotten. Thank you for the historical information on the 135th AHC. We now have the 135th AHC T-shirts done and ready to be sent out. Hope to see many of the 135th AHC people at the 91 Reunion.

Please accept my request for membership is the 145th C.A.B. Assn. I flew in the 118th AHC from Dec. 66 the Mar. 67. My tour was terminated because of injuries sustained in combat in LZ Gold near Tay Ninh. Thanks, Bob Kelley

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, welcome aboard.

Hi. Enclosed are my dues. Also two names for your KIA update. 1. Simmons Wayne C. SP5 (Date of birth) UNK KIA Apr. 1, 1965 (unit) 57th Med. Det. (city) from Mass. Note: Wayne was the first dust-off EM to be killed in Nam. Name is on the wall-1E I do not know the Line # I think it is around #106. Former members of 145 that died after. 1. Bloomquist, Paul A. Lt. Col. 57th Med Det. (dust off) 1964-65 Terrorist attack Frankfurt, Germany Note: Paul was the officer killed in a bombing outside the officers club. I believe it was in 1972. Paul was army aviator of the year in 1965 (his name is not the on wall). Thank you, William Hughes

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, Bill, both have been added to our memorial List.

Dear Jim, Enclosed is a check for dues renewal, and a few dollars for your research fund. Sorry for the delay in renewing, just did not realize my membership had expired so long ago. Regards, Walt Martin

Jim, Sorry I'm late with my dues put the extra \$5.00 toward expenses. Thanks Michael Viscaino
Mr. James Bodkin, Enclosed please find our address change along with the \$10 dues with the \$5 to assist in other costs for... Richard N. Rex. New address [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Walt, Mike, Rich for renewing and the donations.

Dear Jim, I recently received my first newsletter and found it to be extremely interesting and informative. I especially enjoyed the article on the 121st AHC. I served with the 121st from Jan. 69 to Sept. 70 and never knew the true significance of the Tiger. I'm hoping one of your readers will add to the history after 1963. I also would be curious if any of your readers knows the origin of the Viking, the nose emblem for the gun platoon of the 121st and the nose emblem, "The Good Widow Mrs. Jones" (my A/C) Thanks and keep up the good work. Sincerely M. F. Cusick

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and I'm glad you liked the newsletter. Your remarks is why the historical reports are so important to our Association, hopefully more info will be coming soon.

James, My dues and take the other \$10.00 for whatever you want. You are doing a wonderful job with the 145th C.A.B. Assoc. Carroll Simpson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and our Assoc. needs all the help we can get, the extra \$10 will help locate more people.

Hello Jim, Just a note to let you know that I appreciate what you are doing in regard to the association. I thoroughly enjoy the newsletters. Here is my application for membership plus order for two (2) T-shirts. Thanks much for your efforts. Sincerely, Rex D. Hurst

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, Rex, hope you enjoy the UTT T-shirts.

Hi Jim, Have gotten so many comments about the T-shirts so I thought that I would send for a couple of more. #11-02 120 AHC #01-01 XXL 145th Bn (First in Vietnam) Assoc. XXL \$13.00 each. Thought I would get the XXL because of shrinkage. Would like to have or receive more information on the 1991 Reunion at Fort. Rucker, AL. Please find enclosed check for \$26.00 to cover cost of T-shirts. Al Arbogast 120th AHC-1964

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Al, the January newsletter will have all the info about the reunion, there is an update in this newsletter.

Dear Jim, Here's \$10.00 & \$10.00 for the current year. Your doing a great job. Keep up the good work. Joe Cancellare The colors for 190th are yellow on black. The unit symbol was borrowed from a Trojan product- It was the old Co's high school mascot, Trojan's- Fortunately someone beat us to the call sign and we were asked to change to Spartans. Joe (Cancellare)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Joe and I understand the background was red on the color patch, OG green on the camo patch.

Jim, A great way to remind us of our dues. Thanks. Two small corrections to my listing. Alverson, Jr and (407)727-7123. Thanks- An addition you should contact- OW4 Carson Burket Rt. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] He might be able to give WD Huntly address, 197th 65-66. I have lost it. Do you have any info on Lt. Jim Vance or W.O. Walt Greaves, both of 197th in 65-66. Dues and T-shirt money is enclosed. I hope to make it to Rucker next year. I certainly do enjoy the newsletters. Thanks for your good/hard work. Frank (Alverson, Jr)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, I sent info to [REDACTED] [REDACTED], All the info I have on James D Vance, Jr is that he was from New York City, nothing new on Walter L Greaves, Jr.

Dear Jim, Bad news first; my wife Dorothy, known to some members of the Battalion who served with us after Vietnam, died on 16 July of this year. She is buried in Arlington Cemetery. Cancer of the breast spread to sternum and liver: Chemo, radiation and surgery at Walter Reed and Local hospitals were to no avail. The good news comes to me in the form of the fine membership directory you have produced again this year. It's satisfying to run my finger down the page and identify those I remember during my service with the battalion. I enclose my dues: 90/91 plus \$25 for "whatever". I'm still serving in the legislature and enjoying it. Sincerely Bob (Cunningham)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I wrote to Bob and expressed our sadness in the death of his wife Dorothy, see article "IN REMEMBRANCE". I thanked Bob for his donation and kind remarks. Thank you Bob, and we wish you well.

Dear Mr. Bodkin enclosed is check for 1991 dues. Please forward the 1990 membership roster now available. Just for the record let me add my sentiments regarding the tenure of LTC Honor as

(1)

Battalion Commanders in the late 1965- early 1966 period. While its necessary to document his period of service, please don't waste your time building him up. You've got to wonder why the dumb S.O.B. wrapped himself around the only cross-country power line in III Corps. Every pilot in the battalion knew about that power line, apparently except him. Too bad he's not alive so he could explain his error to the relatives of those who died with him. Thanks! Neil Foote

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Neil for the dues. I have heard from many of our members about the circumstances surrounding the death of LTC Charles Honour. There is still alot of anger about it. He is mentioned in the over all Battalion History just like all the rest of our Battalion Commanders, because everything accomplished during their command is really our accomplishments. The Battalion History for the 18th of February 1966 reads: "On 18 February 1966 LTC Charles M Honour was killed in action.". It is my feeling and the feeling of most that I have talked to about it, that it would be a disservice to his family and the family of some of the others killed in the crash to bring up all the circumstances leading up to the crash. Some of those killed in the crash were doing their duty as ordered to the best of their abilities, some others showed bad judgement, in hindsight, the bad judgement cost the lives of everyone on board. I have read an interveiw of one of the mothers of one of the passengers, and knowing all the circumstances surrounding the crash that took her child's life would not help bring her peace. So no white wash, no build up, just keeping it simple and remembering the feeling of the families involved. I just hope those who were there at the time, and those who still feel the anger, agree with me and put side their anger for the sake of the families. Some day one of the family members could be reading this or our Battalion History.

Jim, Thank you for newsletter, I don't think I've received one in a while until now... Thanks again! Yeah its been awhile since I wrote you, but I never got responses to my post letters so I figured you all didn't have time to write or whatever. I had been asking you about possibly helping me and my lawyer with some info on PTSD, I went to the Vet Center by court order in Feb. 90 twice to see a doctor who tested me and he states I suffered from PTSD almost before I left Nam and ever since I came to the states. Also I went through some of my records and before I left Nam I had a med exam and it states I was taking these Donnatal, Compazine, Thorazine if you know anything about medicine... then you know these are some wild drugs to be taking in a combat zone. How can I file a claim for PTSD from here, I have no forms, but I do have a licensed doctor on PTSD who tested me, no I don't have the results in my possession but my lawyer does and I'm certain we can get the doctor to help. I really would appreciate it if you could come down to the reformatory to see me, and talk to me about these things. Also I noticed in the newsletter the 135th color T-shirt... I am going to order a couple of them. But what is the design on the shirt...is it the "wing and anchor with the wreath around it" which is the emblem or what do you have. So if ya have a photo copy of the emblem of this let me know. Also I would like a copy of all the info you have on the 135th E.M.U.'s from Brian Bower. Here is some stamps to help cover the postage of the info. So I hope to get a copy of the info from Brian. As for the \$150.00 for life membership...I think that would be great, let me know how much longer my dues are paid up to...I believe its into the 90's sometime. Oh yeah...is there any way I can get a new membership card...I've lost mine somehow. Well I better go Jim...I hope you - Deb - and the youngins are doing fine, and I really would like to hear from you soon if possible about what I've asked here. Take Care Mike P.S. I have my order form for the t-shirt and I'll want them mailed to a girlfriend in Anderson when ya let me know the emblem you have on the shirt. Oh yeah, what color is the shirt? Write Soon! Address my mail as: [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I sent Mike a new membership card, the info on the 135th AHC that he requested and one of the paper practice prints that I make before I screen print on the T-shirts. I don't have any info on PTSD that would help in a court case but the doctor he was referred to is the best there is when it comes to PTSD, and highly regarded by the court. The doctor is also a very good friend of mine and I would trust him with my life, so Mike is in good hands with him. When I happened to bump into Doc in Sept he offered some very encouraging word about Mike's case.

James, I'm sorry I'm late in renewing my membership. I would like to ask if you plan to sell bumper stickers with the First Aviation Brigade logo? I have one on my car that is faded and would like to get a new one. It says "Proudly Served". Also there is a bumper sticker with the ribbons on it, but have not been able to find one. Bruce Rubenstein

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bruce for renewing. So far I have no plans to sell 1st Avn Bge bumper

HELP

Its renewal time again and out of 1865 people we have located only 878 receive our newsletter, out of those 878 people only 400 people have paid for the July 1990 thru June 30, 1991 dues year. That means that less than 1 out of every 2 receiving this newsletter have paid this years dues. And I do thank that 45.5% of you that have paid. You are the ones that have the word MEMBER wrote in the lower left corner of the address lable of this newsletter. The other 54.5% receiving this newsletter have not sent in their dues for this year as of 1 Dec, and to that 54.5% I want to encourage you to please sent in your dues today, if you wait you might forget. That 54.5% can tell who they are by looking at the lower left corner of their address lable, if it says PLEASE RENEW MEMBERSHIP or PLEASE JOIN, than please do so. If for some reason you can not afford the \$10 a year dues and want to continue receiving the newsletter, just send me a note so stating, it will not be put in the Readers Response section of the newsletter.

If all 878 people receiving this newsletter pay their dues we would have \$8,780 to work with this next year. Which would be a double what it took to operate in 1989. We now have higher mailing cost and higher printing cost, but we should still be able to put some back for future needs.

It would really be great if we could get most of the 1865 people we have located to decide to join our Association, so if you have any friends listed in the 1990-91 Directory, that most of you received, that does not have an * beside their rank, please encourage them to join our Association. If we got 1800 of the people we have located to join we would have about \$18,000 a year to work with, with that we could get better equipement and find many more people that we all want to locate. So please, everyone, consider yourself as a very important part of our membership committee and encourage others to join.

On the other side of this page is a membership form and also the form to order other item you might be interested. On page 19, 20 and 23 of the newsletter it tells about these items. Please consider if you would like to purchase any of these items, if so go ahead an order. In this newsletter we have added the 135th AHC, 68th AHC, and 190th AHC T-shirt design. Also I'm going to start taking orders for the 118th, 334th AHC designs now, althought delivery time will be a little longer, until the screens are made and stock is built up.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I'll be waiting to hear from you. We do need money to serve you better. It is my wish that we didn't money, but it is a fact of life that everything takes money. So just a little bit from each of you will go a long way. Thank you.

Jim Bodkin

And all thou it might not look like were making any headway by the financial report this time, we are getting back up around the \$1,000 mark again. Printing and sending out the Directory really took a bit out of the financial report this time.

MEMBERSHIP FORM ON TOP OF OTHER SIDE, ORDER FORMS ALSO

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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 1990 to 30 June 19__

Regular _____ Associate (family) member _____ Renewal _____

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

CASSETTE TAPE

Send me the cassette tape. By ordering this tape I agree not to copy them and to protect the copyrights for further distribution. Signature required on bottom of form.

_____ "Battle of Bien Hoa / Gunship Action" Audio Cassette sells for \$15.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send order to: 145th CABVA, 3719 FOREST HILL AVE, FT WAYNE, IN 46805

THUNDERBIRD PATCHES

Send me _____ Thunderbird Patches at \$4 each

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send order to: David Evans, _____

TOP TIGER PATCHES

Send me _____ Top Tiger patches at \$4 each

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

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

COLOR T-SHIRTS

Send me _____ Unit T-Shirts at \$13 each including postage. (Mark Unit and Size)

_____ #01-01 145th BN (FIRST IN VIETNAM) Asso. _____ Medium

_____ #05-02 68TH AHC _____ #09-02 118th AHC _____ Large

_____ #11-02 120th AHC _____ #12-02 121st AHC _____ Ex-large

_____ #13-02 135th AHC _____ #16-01 190th AHC _____ XX-large

_____ #17-01 UTT (1962-1963) _____ #17-02 UTT (1964) _____ XXX-large

_____ #17-04 197AHC _____ #17-05 334th AHC (1966-68)

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

1-219-483-5149 Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery, if not in stock. See page 19, 20 and 23 for T-shirt description.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

NL 15

CANCER SURVEY
SEE PAGE 18, NL15

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

UNIT _____ DATES _____

UNIT _____ DATES _____

UNIT _____ DATES _____

TYPE OF DUTY _____ TOTAL MONTHS IN-COUNTRY _____

HOME BASE _____ WORK AREA _____

EXPOSURE TO AGENT ORANGE YES or No

IF YES, SPRAY WITH HELICOPTER_____ FLEW THROUGH SPRAY_____ MIXED AD_____

HAND SPRAYED	LIVED IN SPRAYED AREA	WORKED SPRAYED AREA
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10
11	11	11
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99	99	99
100	100	100

EXPOSURE TO OTHER CHEMICALS	INJECTION OF JP4
-----------------------------	------------------

Please answer questions with Y for yes, N for NO, UNK for DON'T KNOW and NT for NOT TESTED. Do you have:

CANCER _____, where LIVER _____ KIDNEY _____ THYROID _____ LUNG _____

NON-HODGKINS LYMPHOMA, (lymphatic system cancer)

OTHER _____

HEART DISEASE_____ HEARING LOSS_____ ABNORMAL FINDING OF ENZYMES_____

LOW SPERM COUNT CHILDREN WITH BIRTH DEFECTS, LEARNING DISABILITIES

HYPERTENSION	BENIGN GROWTHS	SKIN CONDITION/CHLORACNE	RASH
--------------	----------------	--------------------------	------

BONE DISEASE / JOINT PROBLEMS

COMMENTS

PTSD SURVEY
SEE PAGE 18, NL15

NAME _____ IN-COUNTRY RANK _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

UNIT _____ AGE _____ DATES _____

UNIT _____ DATES _____

UNIT _____ DATES _____

HOME BASE _____ WORK AREA _____

TYPE OF DUTY _____ TOTAL MONTHS IN-COUNTRY _____

PERCEIVED AVERAGE DANGER LEVEL (1-10) _____ NORMAL LEVEL _____ HIGH LEVEL _____

Please answer question with 1 for NEVER, 2 for SOMETIMES, 3 for OFTEN, and 4 for VERY OFTEN

WAS SHOT AT _____ MORTAR ATTACKS _____ SHOT AT ENEMY _____ LANDED IN HOT LZ _____

WOUNDED/KILLED ENEMY _____ FRIENDS/CREW MEMBERS WOUNDED/KILLED _____

SEEN DEAD ENEMY _____ SEEN DEAD AMERICANS _____ SEEN DEAD ALLIED TROOPS _____

TREATED WOUNDED _____ RESPONSIBLE FOR WOUNDED TROOPS SAFETY _____

FELT IN-CONTROL _____ HAD NO CONTROL _____ WAS "IN CHARGE" _____

DO YOU HAVE, or ARE YOU, use answers #1 to #4 above

NIGHTMARES _____ SHORT TEMPER _____ TROUBLE GETTING CLOSE TO PEOPLE _____

FEARFUL _____ TIRE TOO QUICKLY _____ DIFFICULTY IN RELAXING _____

NERVOUS _____ DEPRESSION _____ ANXIETY _____ REACT WITH SURVIVAL TACTICS _____

SURVIVOR GUILT _____ HYPER-ALERTNESS _____ AVOID MEMORIES _____

FANTASIES OF RETALIATION _____ ALIENATION _____ MEMORY IMPAIRMENT _____

SMALL FLASHBACKS _____ MAJOR FLASHBACKS _____ INTRUSIVE THOUGHTS _____

A WORK-AHOLIC _____ ALWAYS "IN CHARGE" _____ WILLING TO TAKE COMMAND _____

DETERMINED TO ACCOMPLISH MISSION _____ ALWAYS SEEKING ACCOMPLISHMENTS _____

NOW THE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

DO YOU FEEL SUCCESSFUL AND HAPPY WITH YOUR LIFE? _____

ARE YOU SUCCESSFUL BY "SOCIETY'S" STANDARD? _____

DO YOU RECEIVE A VA DISABILITY FOR PTSD AND WHAT PERCENTAGE? _____

COMMENTS _____

stickers. By the time I order them and then pay postage to send them out, the cost would be higher than just picking them up from the mail order houses. I know of a dozen places you could mail order one, or if you are going to the 91 Reunion you can pick one up at Wings in Daleville, AL.

Jim, I remember reading some time ago that you were interested in copies of old 145th orders. I've reprinted some from my files. Let me know if these are or are not what you want. Curt Loop
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Curt, they're exactly what I'm looking for. I'll log them into our Help Find File and maybe be able to locate some new people with the info soon.

Dear Jim and Deb, This letter is very long over due. First I'd like to add my praise and thanks to you for a job well done with the 145th CABVA. I was just going over some of our earlier correspondence (1986) when you wrote to me in long-hand and things were just getting going. You've come a long way, and due to your commitment and perseverance, have drawn together friends who have for so long been separated. I'm sure I speak for other, as well as myself, I say I/We love you for what you're doing. May God bless you and your wonderful wife. I just finished reading the latest newsletter and thoroughly enjoyed it. Through the "OLD WARRIORS" I feel a part of something; a feeling I really haven't experienced since serving in Vietnam. We're not sure just yet, but my wife and I are talking about the 1991 reunion. Depending on how I'm doing we'll make it. In going through some old orders, I think there maybe some names you can look up. (Enclosed are copies.) Also enclosed is an eleven page, "Welcome! TO THE 145TH AVIATION BATTALION - FIRST IN VIETNAM" handout I received when I got in-country in 1965. (Maybe you'll consider printing it in a future newsletter.)

Yesterday I was discharged from the Northampton, MA VAMC PTSD WARD. This was my ninth admission in the past three and a half years. The program in Northampton is really good and it's helping me a lot. I have to also give credit to my wonderful wife, Noreen, who has stuck by me through out the rough times. Without her help, A.A. (sober over 3 1/2 years!) and faith in God, I wouldn't have made it this far. I recently called the 25th Division Historical Section at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. I wanted to get some printed historical data on the doorgunners trained and sent TDY to Vietnam from 1963 through the end of 1965. I was told there was very little to nothing on file. That disappointed me a great deal. If there is anyone out there who has anything on us - pics, newspaper articles, etc. - please get in touch with me. Also, our training OIC was Major Tanner. If anyone remembers him, or knows where he is, please write or call me. For the longest time I minimized my service in Nam as I was "...just a doorgunner.". Now that I've begun to admit I was doing a job to be proud of., I want to find out as much as I can. I volunteered as a "SHOTGUNNER" and remember being trained with an esprit-de-corps that I carried throughout my twenty months as a gunner with the 118th and 68th. If I can get some more info on this I'm sure it might help me (as the 145th Association does) through the healing process that I'm going through. Thanks a lot! If any one remembers serving with me, please give me a call or drop me a line. I'd love to hear from you. Here's my address and phone #: Bob Wright, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, we've friends a long time, since 1986, you've helped me as much as I helped you, you know that there is a lot of people out here that really care about you. Anytime we're involved in something that we're willing to lay down our life for, it doesn't end when we change locations. That's what brings us together and makes our Association work, we were all a part of something and still want to be a part of something. A couple of years ago the Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Association ran a series of articles in their newsletter about the "SHOTGUN" program. I don't have all of the articles, but Spencer Gardner should have. You can contact him at: [REDACTED]

A few weeks after I recieved this Bob Wright called and said that his mother Louise Wright had been killed by a burgler during a robbery at his mothers house in Pittsfield, MA. Her killer was caught and Bob and his family will need some moral support to make it through the trial. See article "IN REMEMBRANCE"

BATTALION HISTORY

15 - 21 APRIL 1966

Commander's Combat Note # 19

23 April 1966

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS 15 APRIL THROUGH 21 APRIL 1966

Long in need of praise have been a number of aviation activities which are not necessarily glamorous or receive much recognition but which are all important to the mission accomplishment of the 145th Aviation Battalion.

The first of these is the support provided to us during each airmobile operation by Captain Thurman, Operations Officer, 56th Transportation Company, and his aircraft recovery crews. During this month alone he has recovered three downed UH-1D aircraft out of hostile territory. Each recovery has been performed under duress but with such efficiency that in no instance did it interfere or detract from the airmobile mission. Our highest praises to this unit.

Another unsung activity is the constant cover we receive from the 57th Medical Detachment (Air Ambulance) during airmobile operations. They are always overhead when needed. In a recent Battalion operation, one helicopter ambulance received eight hits while evacuating wounded U.S. Forces. They always come back for more.

Our own 74th Aviation Company is constantly aloft to provide radio relay service, weather advisory, visual reconnaissance and air artillery adjustments during airmobile operations. These aircraft spend many long hours over the objective area. They are the first aircraft over the objective area and usually the last to leave after the operation is completed.

The next activity is that of our Battalion Pathfinder Detachment. This Detachment is commanded by Lieutenant Grover D Westfall. It precedes the troop carrier aircraft into the pick up site to organize and control troop loading and aircraft landing for pickup. During an extraction, these personnel depart the extraction zone after the last ground elements are airborne.

The 145th Aviation Battalion supports the III (ARVN) Corps with helicopters on a daily basis. Every company in the Battalion receives a turn at this duty. In the performance of this duty aircraft are dispatched throughout the III Corps area, and engage in a variety of missions. Locally we brand these as "Pigs and Rice" missions, the name being derived from the requirement to frequently haul these commodities. These missions are administrative and tactical in nature. An example of some administrative support: This Sunday a helicopter was used to lift Post Exchange supplies and operate as an airmobile PX to fourteen extremely isolated post which are inaccessible by road in the III Corps area. Religious service are conducted in this manner to isolated posts. Daily mail and courier flights are made to all posts in the three division tactical areas. Helicopters are used to resupply the ARVN forces located on a number of high pinnacles in the Corps area. These outposts exist only by helicopter resupply. Popular forces personnel and occasionally their dependents and belongings are transported to new locations. A helicopter pilot flying these missions cannot allow himself to become shook about what he may see being loaded in his aircraft. Other administrative tasks are to transport advisors to these remote outposts, the only contact they have with the forces at these locations.

The tactical mission for the Corps consist of providing armed helicopter fire teams daily to each of the three ARVN divisions. These teams are used to conduct strikes against Viet Cong locations, provide escort for road convoys and aerial reconnaissance. Psychological warfare loudspeaker missions are flown by troop carrier helicopters, supported by a fire team. These missions can always be counted on to prompt a reaction by fire from the Viet Cong. Another tactical mission is the delivery by helicopter of Recondo Teams. This week, three Recondo Teams were employed by this Battalion into Viet Cong suspect areas. Gunships cover these deliveries.

Daylight and night reconnaissance is made around the Bien Hoa Air Base complex by a fire team. The senior advisor of the Dong Nai area credits this continuous surveillance as a major contributing factor to the security from Viet Cong attack that the Air Base has enjoyed.

Now for the airmobile operations conducted this week.

On 15 April, Company A/501st Aviation Battalion supported the 173rd Airborne Brigade by conducting two airmobile assaults and four extractions. A total of 425 troops were lifted in twelve lifts. Enemy ground fire was received in the landing zone.

On 16 April, the 68th Aviation Company, supported the 2d Brigade, 25th (US) Division by airlifting 126 troops in two airmobile assaults, northwest of Cu Chi.

Company A/501st, continued to, support the 173rd Airborne Brigade, by conducting six airmobile assaults with 333 troops of the First Royal Australian Regiment in the vicinity of Song Be.

On 17 April, A/501st supported the 173d Airborne Brigade by conducting five airmobile assaults and one extraction in the vicinity of Song Be. A total of 367 troops were lifted.

The 145th Aviation Battalion conducted an airmobile operation on 18 April for the 25th (ARVN) Division, ten kilometers Northwest of Tan An. This operation demonstrated some problems in coordination and control when an unscheduled, unannounced and uncontrolled air strike with White Phosphorous ordnance struck the landing zone immediately prior to the time of the troop landing. Aircraft were diverted for forty-five minutes until the smoke in the landing zone dissipated. A total of 510 troops then assaulted four landing zones. During this operation, armed helicopters of the 68th Aviation Company engaged a squad of Viet Cong with a result of three kills estimated.

Company A/501st again supported the 173d Airborne Brigade on 18 April, by conducting ten combat assaults with 563 troops in the Song Be area.

On 20 April, the 145th Aviation Battalion Supported III (ARVN) Corps CIDG Forces by airlifting 570 troops in four air assaults out of Song Be to two landing zone thirty kilometers east of Song Be. One highlight of the assault was the first employment of the XM-31 20mm cannon sub-system in a combat operation. The System is currently being tested by the 197th Aviation Company (Armed). It consists of 2 - 20mm cannons which are flexible in elevation, mounted on each side of the UH-1B helicopter. This weapon system was used for the helicopter prestrike of the wooded areas surrounding the landing zone. The assault was uncontested.

Also on 20 April 1966, the 118th Aviation Company supported the Capitol Military Region by conducting an airmobile assault with 100 troops ten miles southwest of Saigon. Later in the day this force was extracted.

On 21 April, the 68th Action company departed for Vinh Long to reinforce the 13th Aviation Battalion in support of the IV Corps (ARVN) for a three day period.

The activities of the 197th Aviation Company while operating on separate gunship missions account for seven Viet Cong estimated KIA, four Sampans sunk and two damaged, seven structures destroyed.

The 74th Aviation Company (FW) performed the following tasks during the period:

Visual Reconnaissance 102

Escort Missions 76

Photo Missions 2

Operation Sea Wolf moved into Phase II this week by assembling armed helicopters and additional crew and support personnel to outfit another naval vessel. Personnel are undergoing training to land on LST decks at this time. Also the U.S.S. Belle Grove is being replaced with another LSD. This Battalion received a message this week from Commander and Captain of the U.S.S. Belle Grove Naval Task Force 116 which praised the Sea Wolf Operation. An extract follows:...." In addition we must take off our hats to the highly capable Army helo pilots who so rapidly integrated into their fire support role and who so admirably carried out their assignments. Their quick adjustment without any hitch to night and day flying from our helo and super decks was testimony to their outstanding professional competence. Shipmated in every sense of the word their presence will be sorely missed. However we depart secure in the knowledge that fire team support of the river forces will be in the best of hands. Please convey to USMACV and the Commanding Officer 145th Aviation Battalion our "well done" to Captain Brofer and his fine crews for a truly superlative performance."

Operational statistics for the week are as follows:

Rotary Wing :

Total Sorties 4332

Total Flying Hours 1480

Personnel Lifted 5803

Fixed Wing:

Total Sorties 402

Total Flying Hours 538

Personnel of the 25th Aviation Battalion continued with their in-country flight training.

Awards received by the Battalion this week:

Distinguished Flying Cross	1
Bronze Star "Valor"	1
Air Medal "Valor"	8
Air Medal	166
Army Commendation MS	4
Purple Heart	1

At a brief ceremony on 19 April 1966, in Bien Hoa, Honour-Smith Compound was dedicated in memory of Lt. Colonel Charles M. Honour Jr., formerly Battalion Commander of the 145th Aviation Battalion, and Captain Albert M. Smith Jr., formerly Battalion Assistant Adjutant.

After Chaplain (Major) Hugh N. Barnes conducted a short memorial service, Brigadier General Robert T. Knowles, Chief of Staff II Field Forces V, and Lt. Colonel Horst K. Joost, Commanding Officer of the 145th Aviation Battalion, unveiled a large sign at the gate of Honour-Smith Compound. Honour-Smith Compound, previously known as Cong-Ly Complex, Houses parts of three separate units, II Field Forces V, the 145th Aviation Battalion, and 232d Signal Company.

SUMMARY OF CIVIC ACTIONS (15 April - 21 April 1966)

The Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment donated soap to the nearby Refugee Village School.

The 68th Aviation Company re-located 12 refugees, 23 ARVN dependents, and 2600 pounds of personal belongings. A company delegation was sent to the fishing village of Can Gio. The party took along a donation of soap, toothpaste, clothes, toilet articles, school supplies, and miscellaneous items which were obtained by Captain Gore from the American Legion in his home town. Four enlisted members have volunteered to teach English classes and a medical aid program is being planned.

The 74th Aviation Company continued its activities started last week. English classes were taught to children in Phu Cuong. Volunteers aided a Regional Forces Platoon in construction of new living quarters in Phu Cuong. Officers and men donated more condensed milk, fresh milk, canned hams, and orange juice to local school to supplement the children's diet.

The 118th Aviation Company was active in many areas of civil affairs. Fifty pounds of clothing was gathered and donated by the Officers and Enlisted men of the 118th Aviation Company and distributed to the refugee center at Binh Vinh. Captain Glen R. Weber donated Vietnamese ice cream cones to the local children at Hung Trung Province while on a joint service operation on 19 April 66. These children were combat refugees and were greatly taken by this act. Sp/4 Amisano conducted conversational English classes for the eight straight week on Cong-Ly Street. His classes now range to 25 students or more counting the Bien Hoa National Police attending. The Officers of the 118th Aviation Company, contributed donations to the Bien Hoa Orphanage of the following items: Blankets, towels, infant playsuits, toys, soap, tooth paste, talcum powder, tooth brushes, hair brushes, combs, boxes of clothes, adhesive tape, childrens shampoo, boxes of crayons, coloring books, surgical soap, infant shoes, and assorted childrens clothing and a good supply of food stuff. The Company also made donations of food stuffs and clothing to the Tu Duc Orphanage. Doctor Altomonte made his weekly visit to the Tan Uyen Leper Colony and treated twenty patients and local civilians.

The 197th Aviation Company provided additional support to the An Loc Orphanage in Saigon by donating 1000 pounds of rice and a case of One-a-day Vitamins.

A/501st Aviation Battalion's Officers donated 6,785\$VN piasters to purchase school furniture for a self help project at Bui Vinh Refugee Center. Three volunteers conducted a two hour conversational English class for forty residents of Tam Hiep. This was followed by another class on 21 April 66 for approximately fifty residents. Six bags of cement and several types of school supplies were donated to Tam Hiep. A USAF Lieutenant was transported to Due Tu for coordination with the District Chief in making a short film about refugees. A new project was begun by making initial contact with Due Tu Sub-Sector Chief and Tam Hiep Hamlet Chief.

Horst K. Joost Lt. Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

"REUNION 91" UPDATE

The 1991 Reunion will be held at Fort Rucker, Alabama, on 7th, 8th, and 9th of June 1991, that's the same week-end as the W-4 Convention at Fort Rucker.

I recently talked with Gen. Kenyon about approximate related reunion cost. The hotel rooms will be \$35 per single or \$40 per multiple occupancy per night. The Holiday Inn in Ozark, AL has 72 rooms reserved for us and one of those will be set up as a Hospitality Room and the other 71 are reserved for our reunion. We wouldn't have the complete hotel as reported in the earlier newsletters, and as usual each person will make their own room reservations, to reserve a room you must tell them that you are with the 145th Reunion and one night's money or credit card number to guarantee to hold. Anyone attending by themselves and wanting to share a room the Reunion Committee and hotel are willing to help set it up. The normal meal cost in that area is way less than \$10 per meal, and the reunion fee has not been discussed yet. And as always, I will be getting the hotel reservation forms and send them to everyone and let each person make their own reservations.

When I talked with Gen. Kenyon right after the 89 Reunion he had many exciting ideas about activities for the reunion, tours of the new museum, flight simulator center, and airfields. Those plans are still going forward. Friday June 7th and Sunday June 9th we will have our reception and activities at the hotel at pool side. On Saturday June 8, 1991 we will be at the Officer's Club at Lake Tholocco and the NCO Club will cater the Business Meeting/Dinner meal, buffet style. Dress will be casual and you may want to have swim gear with you. Everyone I have talked to about the reunion have been very excited about the location, and the people who served with Gen. Kenyon are very excited about him being the Chairman, they say that everything he does turns out great.

Richard Kenyon served with the 68th Armed Hel. Co. and the 197th Armed Hel. Co. in 1965 as a Captain and served as the Battalion Commander of the 145th C.A.B. from 1 Dec 70 to 19 July 71. Since his retirement from active duty on 30 June 1987, he is now the Honorary Colonel of the 145th Avn. Regiment and head of a major corporation in the Fort Rucker area.

Watch for "Reunion 91" updates in future newsletters as the plans come together. In the January 1991 newsletter which you should get by Feb. 91 will be a complete reunion update package.

Now that we only have 72 rooms reserved I would suggest that you write to the hotel and reserve your room, please state that you are with the 145th Combat Avn Battalion Reunion on the 7th, 8th, and 9th of June 1991: Holiday Inn, Ozark, 151 US HWY 231 N, Ozark, AL 36361 1-205-774-7300. And for your convenience the even numbered rooms are on the pool side of the motel and the odd numbered rooms are on the outside of the L-shape, for those that like to party ask for the even numbered rooms and those that want it a little quieter ask for the odd numbered rooms. To guarantee to hold send one night's money or credit card number.

General Richard Kenyon and the reunion committee will be looking at a back up motel to handle the over flow soon.

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IN REMEMBRANCE

DOROTHY CUNNINGHAM, wife of Robert K Cunningham, Battalion Commander July 1964 to June 1965, died of cancer on 16 July 1990. She is buried at Arlington Cemetery. She will be missed by all those who knew her. For those wanting to send Bob an encouraging word his address is: Robert K Cunningham, [REDACTED]

Louise Wright mother of Robert (Bob) Wright, 118th AHC and 68th AHC, 1965 through 1967, Doorgunner, was killed by a burglar during a robbery at her house in Pittsfield, MA. Her killer was caught and Bob and his family will need some moral support to make it through the trial. For those that want to offer moral support here is the address: [REDACTED]

FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report covers 1 July 1990 to 1 October 1990. 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 30 June 1990.....\$0977.92

Total deposits 7/01/90 to 10/01/90 (Dues, Donations, Fund Raisers)..**\$1670.05**

Total.....\$2647.97

Expenditures

Postage.....\$502.88

Long Distance Phone.....\$092.82

Miscellaneous (see note).....\$1014.94

Bank Fees.....\$24.42

Fund Raiser Supplies.....\$319.14

Copy Machine Repair.....\$205.00

Total expenditures.....\$2159.20-\$2159.20

Balance 1 October 1990.....\$488.77

Miscellaneous includes computer supplies (paper, mailing labels, printer ribbons, etc.), newsletter supplies (paper, staples, etc.), envelopes, notes books, ink pens, copy machine supplies, etc. The miscellaneous also includes the cost of the air conditioner, \$250.95, to keep the computer and copy machine cool in the summer. The miscellaneous also includes the cost of printing the Directories and sending them out, another reason its so high. The Fund Raiser supplies are listed separately in this report because the amount was so large with getting the supplies to make the silk screens, buying ink, and T-shirts. Our stock is slowly building up and sells are going rather well. In September at the Kokomo, IN VN Vet get together we took in \$185 from memberships and T-shirt sales. The \$185 in cash doesn't show on the financial because when ordering T-shirts C.O.D. shipped UPS you have to have cash to pay for them, so the \$185 is set back for the next T-shirt order.

Even though we are making progress we still need your support very much. Soon we will need to replace the drum in the copy machine, that cost about \$350, it has a few nicks in it now and put a few blips on each page. We are trying to make do with it now but it will need to be replaced when it gets worse.

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 individual's file with the membership year/s they joined, example 90-91, 91-92, 92-93, 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.

Now is the best time to renew your membership, we just started a new membership year the 1st of July. And multiple year membership are always appreciated. Check your membership card to see if it ran out the first of July 1990.

The membership form can be found on the top on the order form page, that's on the back of the Help page.

PLEASE JOIN TODAY, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

CANCER SURVEY

The success of any survey depends upon the number of people responding to the survey. We need for you to take a few minutes and fill out the survey questionnaire as best you can and send it back to me. If I send out 800 copies of this survey and 99% of those responding have cancer, but only 20 people responded, the survey wouldn't mean anything. When we were in Vietnam we would take hours and risk our lives to try to save one of our fellow soldiers. Now I ask you to take a few minutes, and no risks, to maybe save the life of one of our fellow Veterans.

A few of our members that have had cancer and have talked to some of their friends who have had cancer, and are members, say that the numbers are just too high. Hopefully this survey will either prove them right or wrong. If it proves them right then maybe a few of our people can be saved by early detection. If it proves them wrong then it would only cost us a couple of minutes and the cost of a stamp, and maybe a few of our people can rest a little easier.

The purpose of this survey is for us to be better informed and to know what to watch out for. I am not a doctor and don't really understand many of their terms, so hopefully this article and the responses will be in plain English. Many of us have heard about Agent Orange, and I, myself, can not say if it has or has not got anything to do with our health problems today. The purpose of this survey will not be to battle with VA about Agent Orange. But if there is a common health problem among us maybe we can figure out what it is and why.

The questions in this survey will deal with places, dates, types of duty, exposure to chemicals, or other non-hostile hazards. The other part of the survey will deal with types of health problem, and will be broken down into yes, no, don't know, or not tested answers. The reason for this is so it can be analyzed by dates, places, type of service, and type of health problem. Please include all your tours in Vietnam, even if you have to use additional paper.

This survey is only as accurate as your response, so please be accurate, and don't read anything into the questions. Some might not have anything to do with exposure to chemicals or cancer. You will find the questionnaire inserted in the newsletter, and on the back of the cancer survey you will find a survey on PTSD.

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PTSD SURVEY

PTSD or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, most of us have heard a lot about it, now lets see what it is and how much it effects us. The VA says it effects about 15% of us, I'm still trying to figure out what that means. Does it mean that it has no effect on the other 85%? Does it mean that it effect all of us 15% of the time? Or does it mean that 15% of us are completely under its control. Its my belief that it effects all of us to some extent. It effects some of us in a positive way, and others in a negative. It would be nice to know how some of us deal with PTSD in a possitive way and why it has such negitive effect on others, and how small a difference there is between the two.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is just what the name implies. It is the after effect of being in a traumatic situation that causes stress. When using the term most people relate it to a Vietnam Vet serving in a combat zone. But PTSD can be caused by being in a car wreck, airplane crash, abusive relationship, being layed off, being fired, etc. Normally the longer your in the traumatic situation the more it will effect you, and the more traumatic or dangerous you perceive the situation the more it will effect you.

On the back of the cancer survey form is the PTSD survey form. Please fill it out as best you can. Maybe we'll get some insight into PTSD and how it effects us, in both possitive and negative way. And maybe what might help to better our quality of life. By the term quality of life I don't mean riches, wealth, or living standards, I mean happiness and self-fulfillment.

COLOR T-SHIRTS

The T-shirts sell for \$13 each. They are in the original unit patch designs and colors as close as I can. They are printed on ringer type T-shirts, that's white T-shirts with dark blue around the neck and sleeves. These T-shirts are printed with Association money and all money from the T-shirts go to the Association to help with expenses. So if you can, please order one, they are also great advertising for locating new members for our Association. The lettering outside the Association and Unit designs are printed in black ink. The pictures at the bottom of this page are black and white because this copy machine doesn't print color but please try to imagine them in color. I have assigned stock numbers to the designs for easier ordering and filling of orders. Please try to use the stock numbers. I will try to stock them in Medium, Large, XL, XXL, XXXL. The Association T-shirt design is the unofficial 145th C.A.B. "First In Vietnam" design. It is intended for use by everyone eligible to be a member or associate member of our Association. I would like to see everyone have an Association T-shirt and a unit T-shirt for their unit.

To order see order form inserted in newsletter. Thank you, and please send your order today.

**145TH
COMBAT AVIATION
BATTALION**



**120TH
ASSAULT**

#11-02



**HELICOPTER
COMPANY**

**121ST
ASSAULT**

#12-02



**HELICOPTER
COMPANY**

**UTILITY
TACTICAL TRANSPORT**



#17-01

**HELICOPTER
COMPANY**

**UTILITY
TACTICAL
TRANSPORT**



#17-02

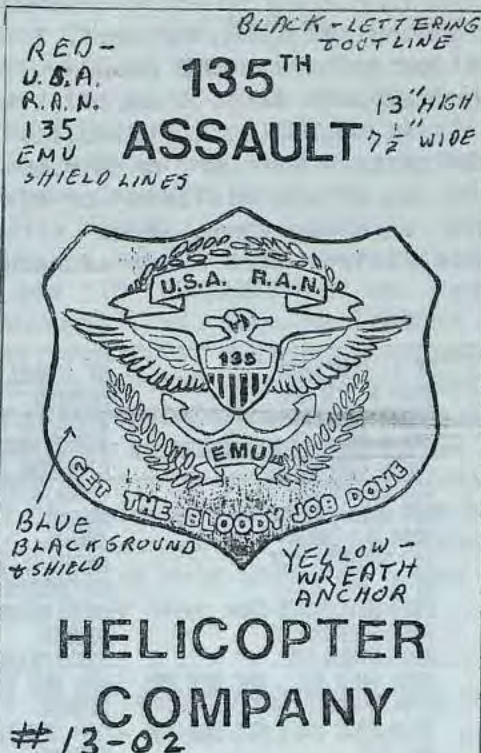
**HELICOPTER
COMPANY**

**197TH
ARMED**



#17-04

**HELICOPTER
COMPANY**



118th AHC and 334th AHC (1966-1968) unit t-shirt also available now. You can now order the 118th and 334th T-shirts as well as the unit T-shirt designs pictured. Please see order form on the back of the HELP page inclosed in the newsletter. Please order today.

118th AHC PILOT REUNION

Dear Jim, I can't begin to tell you what a wonderful time we had at the 118th Reunion in Atlanta. Although we only had some 40 to 50 people in attendance, a good time was had by all. I am enclosing our final roster of 118th pilots and will keep you updated with new people, once they have been identified. Also, I am enclosing a questionnaire from Chad Payne in Duncan, Oklahoma, identifying several other 118th pilots.

Again, thank you for all your help in keeping us together and look forward to seeing you in '91 at Rucker.

Sincerely,
James R. Thorne

Inclosed was Chad Payne's questionnaire, it stated that Jerry Pfeffers and Les Valouclite, both original "Bandits", are now Attorneys, both living in El Paso, TX. It also gave the address of Rene' Rothenbuhler (Daughter of Lynn Rothenbuhler, KIA Dec 1963), 2910-A Battle Mountain Way, Tallahassee, FL. 32310. She wants to know her father through the men that served with him. I sent Rene' an Honorary Life Membership Card, Newsletter, and Directory. When I looked Lynn up in the Directory from the "Wall", I seen he was from here in Fort Wayne, IN. I checked the list of those Killed in Action from this county and got his mother's name and address, I called her up and we talked for awhile. She is a very nice lady. If everything works out alright Deb and I will be bringing her to the Reunion to meet Chad. She had been wanting to find Chad since 1964, I give her Chad address and phone number and they have talked. Hopefully Rene' will also be able to attend the Reunion. The Reunion will be very special for them.

Thank you Jim Thorne, you are doing a great job for us.

NEW PEOPLE LOCATED LIST

1 December 1990

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. Some of the people listed have a new address so use this as an update to the Directory. Thank You

UNIT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET	CITY	ST ZIP	PHONE	DATE	DATE	RANK
HHC	LITZNER	RICHARD L		ST IGNACE	MI 49781		1963	1964	EM
HHC	HALL	ERNEST J		MAYWOOD	IL 60153		1967	1968	EM
HHC	SCHODOWSKI	LEONARD M		STERLING HTS	MI 48312		1967	1967	OF*
25 AVN	JEFFERS	GLENN		TERRE HAUTE	IN 47803		1968	1969	EM
68 AHC	SCHODOWSKI	LEONARD M		STERLING HTS	MI 48312		1967	1967	OF*
68 AHC	POST	JOHN H		CHARLOTTESVILLE	VA 22901		1967	1968	WO
68 AHC	BAGOSY	JOHN N		NORMAL	IL 61761		1969	1970	EM
68 AHC	SUTTER	VERNON K		NORMAL	IL 61761		1969	1970	OF
A/501	DAVIS	HARRY L		GREENVILLE	SC 29609		1965	1966	WO
71 AHC	KINDAID	LEON R		COVINGTON	TX 76636		1970	1971	EM
71 AHC	BOCEK	VICTOR A		DOWNERS GROVE	IL 60515		1971	1972	WO
117AHC	WILEY	DON		AUBURN	IN 46706		1969	1970	EM
117AHC	REESE, JR	GEORGE G		ENTERPRIZE	AL 36330		1971	1972	OF
117AHC	NICHALKIEWICZ	JOSEPH G		APD NEW YORK	09164		1971	1972	WO
118AHC	BEILKE	KENNETH E		BERWYN	IL 60402		1964	1965	EM
118AHC	NICHALKIEWICZ	JOSEPH G		APD NEW YORK	09164		1967	1968	WO
118AHC	CARLSON	STEPHEN J		COTTON	MN 55724		1968	1969	WO
240M DE	MIS	ROBERT D		FAIRHAVEN	MA 02719		1963	1964	EM*
119AHC	TSCHINIAK	PETE		PERU	IN		1967	1968	EM
120AVN	HENDRICKS	RICHARD		WATHAMIA	HI		1966	1967	
120AVN	WATKINS	B E (EARLY)		TEMPLE	TX 76501		1967	1968	WO*
120AVN	WATKINS	B E (EARLY)		TEMPLE	TX 76501		1970	1971	WO*
120AVN	JEWEL	COL JAMES S		HERNDON	VA 22071		1971	1972	OF
120AVN	LYNCH	WAYNE A		PELHAM	MA 01002		1971	1972	EM
120AVN	NICHALKIEWICZ	JOSEPH G		APD NEW YORK	09164		1972	1972	WO
93 TRAN	EMERY	CLYDE		ALFORD	FL 32420		1961	1962	WO*
93 TRAN	FROST	FRANK		SPARTANBURG	SC 29301		1961	1962	
93 TRAN	GRABEN	ROBERT		EUREKA	CA 95501		1961	1962	
93 TRAN	KITTERIDGE	HADLEY (KIT)		PORT CHARLOTTE	FL 33953		1961	1962	WO*
93 TRAN	LENNARDT	HERMAN		LAWTON	OK 73505		1961	1962	
93 TRAN	RODRIGUEZ	MIKE		PENROSE	CO 81240		1961	1962	
93 TRAN	WALSH	JOHN		MONTROSS	VA 22520		1961	1962	
121AHC	MELVIN	RONALD L		BLOOMINGTON	IN 47403		1968	1969	EM*
121AHC	SNOWDEN	ROBERT A		LUCERNE	IN 46950		1969	1970	EM
135AHC	ERICKSON	ABBOTT E		HOFFMAN ESTATES	IL 60194		1968	1969	WO*
135AHC	BAKER	KEITH		SCARBOROUGH	6064		1969	1970	EM
135AHC	PRICE	GRAEME		WOODLANDS	6018		1969	1970	EM*
147AVN	HIDEN	DAVE		LaGRANGE	KY 40031		1970	1971	
147AVN	SMITH	PETER A		CORPUS CHRISTI	TX 78413		1970	1971	EM
190AHC	SUTPHEN	TERRY M		CHAMPAIN	IL 61821		1967	1969	WO
190AHC	HUTCHINSON	CHARLES		VINE GROVE	KY 40175		1969	1970	EM
UTT	FLACK	CHARLES		GARLAND	TX 75041		1963	1964	OF
197AHC	CLAYSON	H.E.		OZARK	AL 36360		1965	1965	WO*
334AHC	JEWEL	COL JAMES S		HERNDON	VA 22071		1966	1967	OF
334AHC	CARNES	EMMET J		BRUSSEL	IL 62013		1969	1970	
334AHC	ZDANKUS	GEORGE		SOUTH BEND	IN		1970	1971	EM
242ASHC	GOLDMAN	WILLIAM J		INDPLS	IN 46227		1967	1968	EM
335AHC	GALPINO	FRANK C		READING	PA 19604		1967	1969	EM
335AHC	BYRNE	LOUIS E		CAROL STREAM	IL 60187		1968	1969	EM
335AHC	HERRELL	JAMES W		VILLA RICA	GA 30180		1968	1968	EM
335AHC	WEBSTER	SHELTON A		CHICAGO	IL 60617		1968	1969	EM
335AHC	KING	BENNY R		WHEATON	IL 60187		1968	1969	EM
335AHC	ICKES	ROGER W		PAN PAN	IL 61353		1968	1969	EM
335AHC	GLENN	ROBERT C		CHICAGO	IL 60624		1969	1970	EM
335AHC	KELLY	JEFFERY R		WOODHULL	IL 61490		1969	1970	EM
335AHC	MELLEN	RICHARD L		ELGIN	IL 60120		1969	1970	OF
335AHC	SIMONE	LARRY J		CORPUS CHRISTI	TX 78418		1970	1971	EM
339TRAN	GARDELLA	EDWARD J		DALEVILLE	AL 36322		1962	1963	EM

LAST MINUTE NOTES NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Our supply of the blue membership cards have ran out. When I reordered membership card I ordered them in tan. The biggest difference in the new cards is the printing on the back, all the units are printed on the back. See the front cover of the newsletter for an example of how they look. I also ordered new business cards, like the one on the return address on the cover, they also have all the units printed on the back. Anyone going somewhere they think they might find new members for us please let me know and I'll send you some of the business cards to hand out.

Bob Wright

For those of you wanting to send an encouraging word to Bob Wright, 68th AHC, 1965-67, see letter page 12 and "IN REMEMBRANCE" on page 16, he will be at the VA hospital from Dec 26, 90 to January 9, 91, then he will be back home. His address at the VA Hospital will be: Bob Wright, V.A.M.C., Ward 8, [REDACTED]

Operation Desert Shield

If anyone knows of any of our people that is serving in Operation Desert Shield, or if any of the Associations units is serving in Operation Desert Shield, please let me know. Maybe we can do an "adopt a unit" in support of our military personnel in Saudi Arabia. This year all the Christmas Cards I'm sending out will be going to the troops in Saudi Arabia, they will mean so much more to them than they would to anyone else. Remember the welcome home most Vietnam Vets got when they came home, lets see if we can give these guys a better welcome home than we received.

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## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

I would like for you to join our Association first, but I also want to let you know about some other organization that have helped us in our efforts to locate people. If you should decide to join any of these organizations tell them that you heard about them in our newsletter.

### Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association

The VHPA is an association just for helicopter pilots who flew in S.E. Asia during the Vietnam Era (1961-1975). For more information contact:

Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association  
7 West Seventh St, Suite 1940  
Cincinnati, OH 45202 1-513-721-VHPA

### Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Association

The VHCMA is an organization for enlisted helicopter crew members who served in S.E. Asia during the Vietnam Era (1961-1975). For more information contact:

Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Association  
PO Box 237  
Crowley, Texas 76036 1-817-297-4993

### Army Otter and Caribou Association

The Army Otter and Caribou Association is for anyone who served with a Otter or Caribou Unit. For more information contact:

Army Otter/Caribou Association  
P.O. Box 6091  
Columbus, GA 31907-0073 1-404-324-1596

### Allied Airborne Association

Membership open to former or present paratroopers, glider troops, glider crews, pilots and crews of troop carrier units, Air-Assault and Air-Mobile men, Helicopter pilots and crew, and attached ground persons of these airborne units. Dues \$7 a year / \$200 life membership. For more info write:

Allied Airborne Association  
117 Milton Ave  
Staten Island, NY 10306 1-718-979-1950



## 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 order form inserted in the newsletter. Please help us grow.

### TOP TIGER PATCHES

Gary Allison had 200 Top Tiger patches made up, they sell for \$4 each. He donated the last 70 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. See order form inserted in newsletter.

### THUNDERBIRD PATCHES

David Evans had 200 Thunderbird, "It Shall Be Done" patches made up, they sell for \$4 each. Any profits he is donating to the Association. The patches look great. You can order them by writing to: David Evans, 29609 Bock St, Garden City, MI 48135. Or send order form inserted in newsletter. Include your name and mailing address with the \$4 each.

### 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 87 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. See order form inserted in newsletter.

### Color T-Shirts

I now have the color T-shirt made of the original UTT design, the one with the helicopter on it and the UTT T-shirt with Pegasus (the flying horse) on it and the 197th design (Pegasus with the 68 and 197 added), we also now have full color T-shirts for the 68th AHC, 120th AHC, 121st AHC, 135th AHC and 190th AHC, these designs are ready to be mailed out when I receive your order. These designs are printed on the front of a white T-shirt about 12" high including the lettering and are in color as close as can be matched to the original color. The cost is \$13 each and all profits go to the Association. See page 19 & 20 of this newsletter for more details and pictures. Use order form inserted in newsletter. Send order to: 145th CABVA, 3719 Forest Hill Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46805

The Association T-shirts are ready to be mailed as soon as I receive your order, I think they will go real fast. When the current stock runs out I'll print more, so delivery time should be short. They have the 145th "First in Vietnam" patch design with Association written below, and in color.

I am now also taking orders for the 118th AHC and 334th AHC (1966-68) unit T-shirt design.