

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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U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Fort Wayne, IN  
PERMIT NO. 1387

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NL 17



"OLD WARRIORS"  
Newsletter

APRIL 1991, VOL. 17

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1-219-483-5149

Reunion time is here again. I hope to see and meet everyone there. From what I hear this will really be a big one. The details and schedule are printed on page 12, 13, 14, 15 in the center of this newsletter. Some of the items to be discussed at the business meeting at the reunion are place and date of next reunion, election of officers, life membership and dues, addition to unit included, any by-law changes, and other items brought up by members. Please try to be there, I'm sure everyone will enjoy the reunion.

I think I will actually get this newsletter out on time. In 1991 I will try to have each of the newsletters out on time, and so far there pretty well on schedule. Hopefully everyone will receive this before the reunion if the postal service don't hold it up to long.

The T-shirt sells have been going real well, especially the Association design. Along with the Association, we also have unit T-shirts for the 68AHC, 71AHC, 118AHC, 120AHC, 121AHC, 135AHC, 190AHC, UTT, 197th, and 334AHC. For more details on the T-shirt designs see pages 25 and 26. And I'm working on more of the unit T-shirt designs.

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 21, & 22. 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 still 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.

This newsletter contains all the information about our 1991 Reunion, and includes forms for you to send in to the Reunion Committee. It will really help the Reunion Committee if you send the forms in as soon as possible (ASAP). There is information about the back-up hotels and campgrounds, the Holiday Inn is filled up. I talked with Gen Kenyon not long ago and the Committee is really working to put together a fine Reunion for us. There is a good possibility we could have over 500 people attend the Reunion including family members. We have about 110 former members of the Battalion that live with in a 45 minute drive of Fort Rucker.

I got a call from the son of CWO Wayne E Jones, KIA 17 Aug 1967, 18th Avn Co, he would like to make contact with those serving with his father at that time, contact him at: Wayne A Jones,

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 & Deb, Sorry about my overdue membership, time just slipped away. Enclosed you'll find 2 years dues, a T-shirt order and use the x-tra for whatever. Thanks to the efforts of several people I finally found Bob Tallgren. For the Associations information his address is as follows; LTC (Ret) Bob Tallgren, [REDACTED] Jim, please send him a current newsletter and membership update, maybe we'll get a new member. Also I'm still searching for some other friends from Nam, if anyone knows of or has information about one of the following from the 334th please advise; Cpt Steve Chenault, Cpt Jack Ingram, or WO "Bud" Petty. I'd really like to get in touch with them. Their in-country time spanned late 1966-67, maybe someone will remember. Thanks again for all you do and for a great effort for the Association. Sincerely, John W Riggle, Jr, "Ready Wrench 6"

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John, Bob contacted me right after you two had talked, sent in his membership and ordered a few T-shirts. The only info I have on the three people above is: Cpt Michael S Chenault, 67-68, 334th, Jack Ingram from Indiana, 67-68, 334th, and CW2 Pharies P Petty, from SC, 67-68, 334th. Hopefully someone will have more info on them or can located them for us.

Dear Jim, Some good news, wrote a song about P.T.S.D. called "By Yourself" sent it in to CD Review Magazine who is putting it on their "Auditions" CD sampler in March (National Coverage). Needed a name for the group- so we decided to call the group "LZ" for obvious reasons. The CD can be purchased through the magazine for a mere \$3.70 and you'll even see a picture of me (thrilling, huh?). This is top shelf recording and music from several "undiscovered" artist. I think you'll get a kick out of the song which is serious Rock and Roll. Will send you a copy when available. Same game, different kind of jungle! Take care and thanks, George O Skrba, Top Tiger 546

(EDITORIAL NOTE) It's really nice to get good news, I wish you the best of luck with it, you'll be the first really big Rock Star I've known. Take care and I see you at the Reunion, all the old gang should be there.

Dear Jim, I just received the information you sent me and I am impressed with your work. I wish I had known about the 145th Association sooner. I am enclosing my \$10 membership dues for this year. I do not have an application card, so I'll just guess at what info you want. Has anyone asked about you about a Rattler T-shirt for the 71st AHC? Does the Association have a roster of the entire list of KIA's from the War, like they have at the Vietnam Memorial? The reason I'm asking this is because I know of more 71st KIA's and dates of death, but I don't know their full names. For instance on Dec 8th, 1966 a crew chief in my platoon (1st) was killed over Hobo Woods. He was shot between his eyes on the way out of an LZ. His name was Ernie Palmieri (which may easily be misspelled) (That's why I hope you have an entire list, to get full names from). Also in your KIA list, on Sept 12, 1967, when Jim Morrison was killed, he was the crew chief of the "D" model and a guy named Robledo was his gunner. Both were killed at the same time and Garcia was mortally wounded (Garcia died 9-14-67). I know I've been Rambling on so I'll stop. Please keep me up on everything. Sincerely, Ron Seabolt

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ron, you sent all the info I needed for the membership. Yes we have T-shirts for the 71st, and I want to thank you for ordering one when you received the last newsletter. By the time you get this newsletter you will have already received the T-shirt. Yes I have a Vietnam Veterans Memorial Directory of Names and have updated our Memorial List and added Ernest Palmieri and Efrain Julio Robledo. At the current time we have 325 names on the Memorial List, we will probably have twice that number before the list is complete.

Dear Jim, Just finished reading the December newsletter and enjoyed it. Enclosed is \$30 for my dues and a 120th (#11-02) tee shirt, size XL. Use the extra \$7 for whatever. See you in June. Sincerely, Charles D Holbrook

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Charles, you've been a very strong supporter for many years now. Your paid up till July 1992. See you at Fort Rucker.



Dear Jim, I have been receiving your newsletter for past year or so and really appreciate receiving it. I am a member of Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Association also, and between the 2 newsletters coming on a regular basis keeps me informed on what other Nam Combat Vets are doing and thinking. I look anxiously each time for members from 119th Assault Helicopter Co. (Gators & Crocs). From 68-70 I flew the "Friendly Skies" for 101st ABN, any 119th over 1450 CA Hrs in that time period? I would like especially to find Captain Rameriz (handle "HI-Fi") my AC with 119th 1969- till he rotated back to Calif around November '69. Also my gunner on old #108 slick - Churchill from Vermont- as new crew chief- when I left 119th Feb 70- back to The World. Any help in locating same would be appreciated. Here are my dues- Keep up the terrific work! Sincerely, Al Mixer

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Al, I added Cpt Rameriz and Churchill to the Help Find file, so far I have no other info on them. Hopefully someone will be able to send some in or maybe find them for us.

Jim, Please use the additional \$40 as you see fit. Please complete the address to SGM Simpson and mail. Thanks, George W Aldridge

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I want to thank George for his outstanding support for our Association. I completed the address for SGM Simpson and put George's letter in the mail. Thank you George.

Dear Jim, As always thank you for the splendid job you are doing. Sent off my reservation for the reunion so will look forward to seeing all there. Marvin Myers, 68/197th Armed Hel Co, Dragon 36

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, and there will be many Dragons at this years Reunion. See you there.

Dear Jim and Debby, Please find enclosed a check for dues and a 334th T-shirt. Please use the excess for the Association using your best judgment. In reading the last newsletter I saw your reference to Russ Parkin and Terry Dorondo. If you have their address and /or phone number I would like to contact them. I hope to see you at Rucker in June. Keep up the great work. Bob Dawson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, the only info I have on Russell R Parkin is that he served with the 334th, and WO Terry M Dorondo is he was from Florida and he served with the 334th from June 67 to June 68. When I get more info on them I let you know. See you at Rucker.

Dear James, I received the latest newsletter (NL14) and was happy to read more 145th veterans are coming forth. I was sorry to hear Bob Wright's mother was a victim of crime. Once before I wrote a Bob Wright who had worked for the VA Vet Ctr but got into some legal difficulty after a bout with PTSD. I wonder if this is the same Bob Wright. Jim your idea of the survey on Cancer and PTSD in the 145th CABVA is a good one. I was a cook with A Co 82nd Avn Bn, later the 335th Avn Co (Airmobile) with the 173rd ABN BDE, Bien Hoa 1965-66. When in the field I handled any water we could to set up field kitchens. Back in base camp on the jungles edge, spraying was done with Agent Orange to keep our Helo pads free and VC sappers from attacking the Brigade, which we protected the Air Base and ARVN Compound as part of our AO. I was continually handling water which could have been contaminated by jungle defolients. I have 2 of the 4 compensable cancers the VA recognizes Vietnam Vets have a 50% chance more of getting than Vets serving in other areas than Vietnam. I have Soft Tissue Sarcomas and a very rare non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, which is classified incurable, with shortening my life span and given anxiety and sadness to my family & friends. Please publish the results of the survey when you receive a reasonable amount of survey returns, and send me any information that I can use in my claim with the VA. Keep up the good work. I hope you design a T-shirt for the 335th Avn Co "The Cowboys" I'm never without my western boots and cowboy hat- even though I'm originally from New York City. Our Company got into the shit riding proud, high in the saddle wearing the white hats and kicking ass as part of the Army's first Combat Infantry Brigade, The 173d in-country May 65 not leaving until 1971. The longest combat infantry unit to serve. We Cowboys were part of that posse all through those years. I hope you get a good design for the 335th. Thanks. Sincerely, Steve Bass

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I sent Steve a couple of the reproduction 335th patches that Jim Spanel donated. Read on for his return letter. Yes, it is the same Bob Wright.

Dear Jim, Enclosed is my check for \$8 to purchase 2 Cowboy patches. I hope you can develop a T-shirt (100% cotton) for myself and other suffering from Agent Orange Cancers. Note, the VA accepted my service connected claim for getting Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. I'm awaiting the



adjudication on the Soft Tissue Saccomas I contracted while serving in-country. Tell the other members there is hope. I am probably one of the first Vietnam Vets to get compensated by VA. Keep up the good work. Sincerely, Steve Bass

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I'm really glad to hear about the compensation but we all know it can't ever make up for the damage, I hope for the best for you. About the T-shirt, I still need to find a design for the 335th T-shirt, the one on the patch has too many colors and too fine a line for me to be able to print. Maybe I will be able to do the one on the doors of your aircraft, the cowboy on a horse. What do you think? And when ever there is a special need I will try my best to get the 100% cotton, we can't afford to stock them but when I print the 335th T-shirt I will print a couple 100% cotton for you.

Dear Jim & Debby, I just moved into a wonderful 2 bedroom apt with my brother so I thought while I sent you my new address & phone #, I'd drop you a few lines. You people are doing such a fine and noble job & I know I speak for others who know how hard your work is and how appreciated it is by your fellow Vietnam Vets. My new phone # is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. When are you going to get the 334th (my old Co) T-shirts? Again God bless you both & keep up the good work. I hope to be able to afford to go to our next reunion & meet you both. Sincerely Your Friend, John L Macedo

(EDITORIAL NOTE) A couple days after I received John's letter I was in the garage printing 334th T-shirts and on the first one, a medium, I didn't get quite enough ink on part of the T-shirt, it still looked OK but not good enough to sell. So I sent it to John as a gift. Here is the next letter I got from John.

Dear Jim & Debby, I just got back from a frustrating day at my local VA hospital, when I came home & got the newsletter & great T-shirt of the 334th AHC. Jim I broke down when I saw the T-shirt, I've been having a rough time lately due to my PTSD, and I know I was crying with happiness after I received the T-shirt and newsletter. It's funny how the man upstairs moves in mysterious ways. I've just been put in by my DAV officer for 100% PTSD & the private Psychiatrist the VA hired for my examination told me he is going to do his best to see I get 100%. Now Jim enough about my problems. I want you & your wonderful wife to know how much I love you guys & I and a lot of other members all feel that way. My gratitude goes out to both of you. As soon as I get a little extra money I want to order more 334th T-shirts & I pray to god my financial situation will allow me to come to our reunion in Ala in June. Keep up your great work. From a grateful former comrade. You & your family are in my prayers & God bless you. Sincerely, John (Short Round) Macedo, 5'4" tall

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John, your letter made me feel good that I could help. Sometimes just a little something good can really turn things around and then other things start turning out well. We do care about you. Hopefully someone in your area will be going to the reunion by car and will be able to offer you a ride, they got your address and phone number in the letter above. Take care and hopefully we'll see you at Rucker. We'll keep trying to locate Frank Ponzio from Florida, 68-69 334th AHC E5. I also received two more short notes from John, I'm combining them both into the next letter.

Dear Deb and Jim; I just was setting around so I'd again like to thank you so much for the "off" color T-shirt of the 334th you sent me, I'd be ordering more if my 50% was more but after food, rent, etc, you know there's not much left. I'm praying I got my increase so I can meet you at the reunion in Ala. Again please convey my thanks to your wonderful wife Debby for all the work she does for the former members of the 145th. During April & May of 68 my gunship was shutdown in the Tu Do Racetrack in Cholen section of Saigon while we were supporting the 9th Inf Div which had come up from the Delta to bail out the ARVN's again. Later that day the Battalion CO (who's name I didn't remember) landed his ship & gave us a ride back to Bien Hoa. This was May of 1968 so any info as to who the CO of the 145th at that time would be appreciated. Thanks, John Macedo

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thanks John, and the Bn Commander at that time was LTC Robert M Deets, I met him at the 1987 Reunion and hope to see him at the 91 Reunion, he says he'll be there. And I hope your increase comes through. I hope to see you at the 91 Reunion.

Dear Jim, Here's 2 years dues, I seen the list of units listed & noticed the 611th Transportation Co wasn't listed. This was my first assignment at Vung Tau. Our mission was heavy maint & aircraft recovery, the 2nd 6 months I transferred to the 120th in Tan Son Nhut as a CH-21 IP. As



most pilots incoming were only Huey rated & we had to transition them into the 21s. I spent April 63 to March 64, first tour. Maj Delivan was CO of the 120th & Col Ken Mertel was 45th Commander, Gen Stilwell was C.G. I have some orders, pictures & patches in storage in my home in Tenn., when I go back I'll go through & get some copies made & send you some, these will be when the 21s were the aircraft, also we couldn't carry arms until late in 63. Then the UTT come on board & we were sure glad to see them. Second tour 66-68 was in CH-47s in the Highlands with the Freight Trains & the Shrimp Boats. Keep up the good work. May see you at Reunion. Charles Edson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Charles. Hope to meet you at the Reunion. I did a little research and found that the 611th Trans Co, Aircraft Direct Support from Fort Riley, served from 5 October 1962 till 13 March 1973. The book said their main location was at Vinh Long. There was no stated link between the 611th Trans Co and the 45th Trans Bn, but I do believe that in Oct 1962 the 45th Trans Bn was the only Trans Bn in Vietnam, so it would seem to me that the 611th was assigned to the 45th Trans. The book, Vietnam Order of Battle, doesn't say anything about who the 611th was assigned during it's 10 & 1/2 years in-country, but it would be my guess that after 12 Oct 1964 it was assigned to the 765th Trans Bn., under the 34th General Support Group. If anyone does know, please let me know. This being the case, it should be listed in the list. The bad part is I just had a 1,000 business card and a 1,000 membership card printed up a few months ago. After the rush of the pre-reunion I'll see what I can do about it, please bear with me. Thank you.

Dear Jim, Found some information that may be of some interest to our members as we are all former Helicopter Crew Members. During the Vietnam War there were ten (10) Helicopter Crew Members that earned the Congressional Medal of Honor, five army, two each Air Force and Marine, and one Navy. I took this information from the book the Congressional Medal of Honor Library (Vietnam). I am sending the pages that I took out listing their Citations. Also Jim if you would like to take a survey to see how many members are interested in a baseball cap with 145th emblem on it. If the response is pretty good I could possibly find out what it would cost for Cap transfers to be made, as a matter of fact I could do everything including drop shipping the Caps for you, as I have a Cap Heat Transfer Machine. I also have wholesale sources for Blank Caps. Anyhow see what you think of the idea. If you wish to discuss this call me at 317-724-2065, also if you need wholesale sources for Tee-shirts let me know as I subscribe to Impressions, the catalogue lists hundreds of wholesale sources. My typewriter does not want to type a straight line today. I may have to junk it. Sincerely, Bill Tankersley

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill, I found the information very interesting. The only one I know about is Gary Wetzel from the 173rd AHC, which I consider a friend, hopefully Gary will be at our Reunion, when I talked to him in St Louis last June he said he might be able to be there, he's on our mailing list. A few people have asked about ball caps so I'm sure we'll get a good response. Everyone wanting a 145th Association baseball cap please let me know so we will know how many to order. The cost might be in the \$8 to \$10 range by the time we buy the cap, pay for the printing, and mailing. I get catalogues from 4 T-shirt wholesales houses, and usually order from T-shirt City.

Dear Jim, Thank you for the last newsletter which I received recently. Keep up the good work. While rummaging through some old papers the other day I came across an old address book which I had in Vietnam. In it I found the addresses of some old friends which, I am sorry to say, I haven't kept in contact with since returning home. But I thought they may be of some assistance to you in tracking down the old members. The first one was a T.I. with us in the 135th by the name of Leodis Youngblood. Leo was drafted back to Hunter AAF and his address was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. He also gave me his mothers address of [REDACTED]. The other address I have are Mr Don Riggle, [REDACTED] (This I think was also Don's parent address). Mr James Higgins, Route 1, Box 106, Wilson Rd Fountain Colorado 80817. Jim also gave me his service address as SFC James Higgins, S.S.#553-46-7925 USATSCH, Fort Eustis, Virginia 23604. And the other one was Ray Shelton, [REDACTED]. As I have already stated all of these address are now 20 years old but they may be of some assistance. Thanks again for all of your hard work.

Regards, Bill Barlow (61 Guthridge Crescent, Wanniasa, 2903, A.C.T. Australia)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill. I logged the people in our Help Find List and then checked out my collection of about 30 phone books. I have one from Springfield, Ohio so I looked up Riggle, there was no Don, and 8 Riggles were listed, so I called the first one, they didn't know any Don Riggle, so I called the second, they didn't know any Don but they had met a Robert that live at



that address a few blocks away from them for a while and they had some sons about the right age. So I call the last number, Robert Riggle, and he has a son named Don who served with the 135th and he gave me his address, [REDACTED] I sent him the last newsletter and a directory. Hopefully it will be a pleasant surprise. Hopefully my phone book collection will build up at this years Reunion. And hopefully this will encourage others to locate people in their area when they see an old address listed in the newsletter from their area. Even if the people have moved away, many times their relatives are still in the area or someone that remembers them. Maybe I'll have more of their current address for you in the next newsletter.

Dear Jim, Thanks for sending my membership card. My First Sgt Walter Elliott informed me of you Association. I was with the UTT and would like the T-shirt with the original UTT and one of the 145th. I have some pictures of the UTT crew chief and of the Unit when I can find them I'll send you some, also names of some of the guys. I hope to be able to go to the 91 Reunion. I also know Al Compton, he must be getting old as his memory. T-shirt size XL. Irving W Tate, American Legion, District 8 New Hampshire, Commander

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, hope to see you and Al Compton at the 91 Reunion. We can always use more of the names and picture.

Hi Jim, Would like to know if it would be possible to obtain the Thunderbird pins in the near future and how I can get a set of two. Thanks, Ed Root

(EDITORIAL NOTE) We have Thunderbird patches and T-shirts but no pins are in the planning at this time. The die charges are too high unless you have a very large order. I'll keep it in mind and let you know if anything comes up.

Dear Jim, Very sorry about not getting my dues in on time. On the way home from a fishing trip in Pitkin Co. on July 16- near Monte Vista, CO. A truck load of lettuce ran a stop sign. With both feet on the brake I hit him broadside at about 30 MPH. Needless to say, with a 4,000lb camper behind me, it was a pretty good jolt. I wasn't hurt all that bad as I had the steering wheel to hang on to. My girlfriend was less fortunate though. She was bent over the seat belt with back injuries. As you can guess I have been up to my neck in insurance, hospital bills, lawyers, etc. Just now getting caught up on thinks. Anyway here are my dues. Hope to make the 91 Reunion at Rucker. You all take care and keep up the good work. The extra \$5 is for whatever. Very Truly Yours, Virgil J Burns, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Virgil, no problem about the late dues, I just hope everything turns out OK with your girlfriend's injuries. See you at Rucker and take care.

Dear Jim and Debby, I have been reading the latest newsletter again and thought I would send you a little information on former members of the 145th CAB. Michael Lindell, 68th Avn Co, 65-66, was recalled to Active Duty on Sept 22, 1990. He had been a member of a National Guard Medevac helicopter unit that was activated and sent to Ft Stewart, GA. It is my understanding that he is now in Saudi Arabia. Mike informed me in his Christmas Card that another former "Top Tiger", Brian Stout, was also in the unit so that makes 2 former 145th C.A.B. serving in their second conflict. Jim this is unconfirmed but I have been informed that Captain Gerald Cubine, 118th AHC Bandit Platoon, 65-66 was killed in a boating accident a number of years ago. As I said this is second hand information but we can probably confirm it in June at Rucker. Speaking of Rucker, I had a telephone conversation with a friend that stated all of the 72 rooms allocated to the 145th had been long gone but he was able to reserve a room at the Holiday Inn. The reservation clerk stated that it was first come- first served after the 72 rooms were gone. Jim, I think this is going to be BIG. Lorraine and I are planning on arriving on Thursday- a day early- We haven't been back to Rucker since leaving there in Aug 1956. Until June, I wish you the best. I know you must be straight out with this thing. As Ever, George Owens

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you George, I hope by now that Michael Lindell is safely back home. I remember a Cpt Stout from the 68th, 69-70, he's not on our people located list, hopefully we can get an address for him and get him on the mailing list. I hadn't heard anything about CPT Gerald Cubine, but I do have George Dorsey, two tours with the 118th as an Officer, drowned in a boating accident in Aug 1989. I hope it is just a mix up and that Gerald Cubine is still out there for us to locate. The current estimates are about 500 for the Reunion and hopefully more. This one will be big. See you in June.



Sir, While reading the February issue of "The Retired Officer Assn." magazine I saw your article seeking former members of the "145th Combat Avn Bn." and wish to submit my name as having proudly served in that outstanding unit. In Oct. 1964 I was assigned to the newly activated "3rd Avn Co" at Ft Benning as their "Standards I.P." This unit was then deployed to South Vietnam in November and assigned to the "145th CAB" and stationed at Bien Hoa with the "118th Avn Co". D.A. then realized there was also a "3rd Avn Co" at Ft Belvoir (providing D.A. and Congressional "Atomic Attack" "Bug Out" transport) so our unit was re-designated as "A Co, 501st Avn. (Rattlers)". I remained with this unit thru Nov 1965 and as "Rattler 25" logged over 1100 hrs. Sincerely, Allie H Campbell, CWO, USA Retired, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, hope you enjoy the newsletter, hopefully we'll see you at the Ft Rucker Reunion. The info about the 3rd Avn Co is interesting, we need that kind of info for the Battalion and unit histories.

Dear Jim and Debby, Enclosed is the PTSD and Cancer Survey. Sorry I'm so late, my wife and I had to get my daughter down to school in Lynchburg, VA. She is a Junior at Liberty University. My wife and I are sorry that we will not be able to make the Reunion this year. I promise to make it next year. I am handicapped and have a commitment around the same time and I physically just can't get around that fast. My wife is a Vet also, Captain Nurse, served in Vietnam 67-68. She has Volunteered for assistance at the hospital at Fort Dix and surrounding area for our troops in Desert Storm. Hopefully her services will not be needed. I look forward to each newsletter and read it from cover to cover. Jim- being handicapped is no cup of tea and everything I get my hands on I read. I have a 145th Association "T" shirt. I would like to know when you will have one for the 71st Rattlers? Please let me know. Your Friend, Ned Flecke

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ned, Sorry to hear you can't make the Reunion, the date hasn't been set for the next one but will probably be in 1993. Thank your wife for us for volunteering to help the troops. There are many people who volunteer to help but are not called upon, and they need to be thanked, they are ready and willing and deserve our appreciation. And the ladies that served in Vietnam definitely have my respect and gratitude. And I can tell by your next letter that your question has already been answered in the newsletter you just received.

Dear Jim and Deb, The enclosed money order is for 2-71st AHC "T" shirts, ex-large. I can't thank you enough for your hard work. You make an old handicapped Gunner very happy. Sorry I can't make the Reunion. Maybe next year. God be with you, Ned Flecke PS My wife and I are both Vietnam Vets. Our heart are with all who attend the Reunion. We will be there in spirit.

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

PS Jim, Here is money for T-shirts, 3 years dues, and a little extra. Keep up the work you and Deb are doing for the Association. I don't think anyone else could handle all that extra work and keep up like you and Deb do. Pray for the kids in the Middle East War. See you at Rucker in June. Bill and Betty Smith

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill and Betty, you two are a great moral support for us. And your \$100 check sure makes things add up quickly. Thank you. And our support is with the troops in the Mid-east War. Please read on for some letters from our people in Saudi Arabia.

Dear Mr Bodkin, I haven't been much of a supporter of the organization except for the yearly dues. The newsletters get sent to my Stateside address and are not usually forward to me, so I have not really kept up with what is happening with the association. Last week I received the Nov. 1990 newsletter and actually found time to read it. I applaud all the time and effort you have taken in putting together this group of people and the newsletter. Enclosed are my membership renewal and T-shirt order. Thank you! As you can see by my return address, I am deeply involved in the operation Desert Storm as a Dustoff helicopter pilot. I am a civilian this time, contracted to the Saudia Arabian Ministry of Defense and Aviation, flying a Bell UN-1N (212) and Aerospatiale SA-365N Dauphion. Since U. S. Army Helicopter Units started arriving last September I have been kept extremely busy giving briefings on desert operations and locations to these units. I started working along the Kuwait border areas in 1985 and suddenly found myself to be one of the experts of this area, so it's rewarding to be able to help these units get orientated. Have been setting up airstrips for medical evacuation of wounded and briefing the U.S. Air Force also. God, were we ever this young and green!!!! Spent some time with a fresh out a Fort Rucker Warran. One, with 256 Flight Hours. It was like looking into the past and seeing



yourself, it also makes me feel my age. Now briefings are over for the most part and we are going about the business of picking up those who need a trip to the MASH units. It's not very bad so far, and I pray I will not be needed for the wounded. My contract is finished April 6, 1991, and I plan to leave here for another job in South America. I figure the war should be over by April. There are plenty of jobs for helicopter pilots all over the world and in the U.S. For any of the readers of the newsletters who are like me, and have been flying for a living since Vietnam, the overseas market is open for pilots, pay is anywhere from 43,000 to 100,000 per year, tax free, with housing supplied. For any of you who have not been flying for a living, but want to get back into the business, I suggest you try a Stateside operator to get back into the swing of things. Am going to try and make the reunion. I bet there is one thing you have not considered when setting up this Asso. and that is finding one of my old unit's pilots at a reunion and busting him right in the mouth. I'm sure I wouldn't do it, but it would be very tempting!!!! Enough for now, thanks again. Terry L. Wall

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Terry, hopefully I'll see you at the Reunion. Funny how twenty-some years have just slipped by and today's Army pilots seem so young, and in most cases they are older than we were when we arrived in Vietnam. I remember back to just before I left Vietnam and thinking how young and green the new pilots were, just barely 19. I felt like an old experienced man, being almost 21, with almost 18 months in-country. And I did think of people holding a grudge, but about all of them have melted away with time and wisdom. Many times I have heard people say, at the reunion or after, that so and so was really an asshole in Vietnam, but you know what, they're really an all right person now. Many times guys that had a big difference of opinion back then really have a big laugh about it now. So it hasn't been a problem and won't be. And where ever you go after the Reunion take care and be careful, there is a lot of unfriendly out there.

Dear Jim, I just returned Jan 31 from my job at a Saudi Airforce base in Riyadh. I had a contract there taking care of a few VIP planes for the Saudis after Aug. 2nd activities "picked up" you might say. It was nice to see Saudi Arabia overrun by GI's. Our little office was fifty yards from the VIP gate where nothing much ever happened before Aug. 2nd. Then suddenly there is USAF VIP 135's with all the good guys, Schwarzkopf, Powell, Cheney, Baker, etc, coming and going for months. But I noticed all the same aircraft showed up that were around at Bien Hoa in 66-67: (or at least in-country action) KC-135s, Mohawks, C-141s, (C-5s were not around in 67 but did show up at the end of VN of course), (U-2is?) Navy E-6s, E-2s, some other carrier planes. Some I don't recall. Mainly the helicopters were different and the fighter planes. No Hueys, no phantoms, F-100, 105s or any of that. Now its F-15s. One young Sergeant told me not to worry because we had all sorts of new stuff that they couldn't talk about and nothing could get through into Riyadh. I wasn't worried until he told me that. I don't like over confidence. Because the US Army I was in had the best guys and also the biggest jerks I've ever met in my life, and generally could be counted on to screw up, even though we always "won", I was worried. But that was a conscripted Army. When the first SCUD attacks came at 1am Jan 19th there were so many explosions I was pretty sure Saddam had not only got missiles in like they said he wouldn't; but that they probably had gas on board too, because they said he couldn't do that either. I had a gas mask from a friend who worked for Raytheon (The US Embassy said we wouldn't need them). A heavy chemical smell and a mist settled immediately during the attack. So I assumed the worst and went into my closet with no windows and taped the door up. No radio, no sounds outside, nothing but my pulse pounding and the stink of the chemical, like smelling salts, that saturated everything and came through the mask also. I wasn't dead so I figured it wasn't nerve gas but began to wonder if I would come out of the closet or be found there later. The power of suggestion will make your skin crawl and you imagine everything from dizziness to hot flashes. I lived out of town where there are no telephones and felt quite alone, wondering about everyone else. It seemed the latest in a series of events which started in early 1990 with "cheer up, things could be worse" and they had been steadily. I wondered how a simple overseas job like I've had for years could end up with me in a closet fearing death by poison gas, and it was so ridiculous I snapped out of the whole thing. After over an hour my doorbell rang and my neighbor said the air raid warning was all clear. The warning sirens were very faint for the whole time of the scud attacks in Riyadh, that night and for the next couple of weeks until I got out. It turns out there was only a few SCUDs but each Patriot goes "whoosh" then booms once from the sound barrier, then booms again when it hits a Scud, then the Scud goes boom maybe once or twice. So there are more booms than you expect when two Patriots go after a Scud. The chemical smell was rocket motor exhaust or missile debris and



is from Patriot and Scuds both, I guess. We claimed they could not aim the Scuds but a guide plot of the spots where debris fell, (or warheads impacted, in at least three cases) showed a straight line into Riyadh covering the International Airport, the Air Force Base where I work, and the main center of town. One that hit in the old Dept of Sutor area (Ministry they call it) left a huge crater and supposedly went in the window with a Patriot hot on it tail. But from the crater and the window rattle miles away at my apartment I could tell that these Scuds would not be survivable like the old VC 122mm rockets. Over the period of Jan 19 to 31st there were missile every night except three. The siren for "imminent danger" which is truly a sound from hell itself; then Patriot whoosh followed by booms. My company provided no gas mask, no plan of evacuation, no pay premium or advice, so I left the country as soon as planes began trips in and out of Riyadh again. The other americans I worked with left the day after the first Scuds by going in a convoy of cars to Jeddah, two days travel. I can say that the day of Aug 2nd when the BBC news reported an invasion, (the Saudis did not mention it publicly for days), that I was sure Saddam couldn't get his tanks all the way to Riyadh. And as soon as I heard we were sending over 200,000 US troops to Saudi Arabia I knew there would be a war if Saddam wanted it. After early December it was obvious he wanted to kill GIs in the desert so he could claim a Beirut sort of victory. I shudder to think what would have happened if the usual woolly-headed politicians had their way instead of Bush, Cheney, & Powell. Wish we had them 20 years ago! One thing was sure, from my first week of seeing American troops pour into Riyadh: they were a better Army than the one I was in, (and the guys all seem bigger than we were!) I am surprised that the "Peace" lobby didn't catch on and cause more trouble but maybe Americans are smarter now. I personally know the people over there well enough, having worked in Kuwait and in all areas of Saudi Arabia, also been to Bagdad, Damascus, Egypt, Pakistan, etc that this drama was not about saving Kuwait or Saudi Arabia, or oil companies. It was a challenge from the radical Islamic movement to the West (us). And it was just like the challenge from the Asian communist movement 20 years ago. So its lose one, win one; who know how many more to face in our lifetime. America is definitely worth the trouble! Cheers, George Embry P.S. I was a 67N20 in 3 Corps area 66-67 (and in 68 as a Civilian). I was basically a REMF (571st Det, 334th). Aside from the usual mortar and rockets in the middle of the night the only other time I was scared-as-hell before these Scuds was at Plu Loi when our artillery at Zion was shooting at the Plu Loi perimeter and shot some inside the base. That was a terrifying sound!

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Great letter George, I can relate to your feeling about the first Scud attack. And from what I have seen we really do have a very well trained, highly motivated, professional Army, I have a lot of respect for them. And the leadership was really great, only the military knows how to run a War. I'm glad your home safe and that things turned out as well as they did.

Hi, A friend of mine in Texas recently told me to write you to join the 145th CAB Association. I was with the 71st Assault Company Rattlers Oct 66- Oct 67 Bien Hoa & Chu Loi RVN, also located with 145th Apr 70. I retired 31 Aug 90, 33 years CW4. I would like to start receiving your newsletter. Sincerely Jerry D Shirley, [REDACTED] I am presently in Okinawa, Japan. I was told \$10 are the dues, if let me know.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Jerry, welcome to our Association. I also want to thank your friend in Texas for telling you about us. Hope you enjoy the newsletter. Our Reunion is June 7th, 8th, and 9th at Fort Rucker, same time and place as the CW4 Convention, hopefully we'll see you there.

Dear Jim, Let me commend you for the fine job you've done over the years in piloting our Association. Your foresight and tireless efforts, I know, have resulted in the reunion of so many of our former comrades. Friendships which were torn apart by sudden stateside med-evac, DEROS, or ETS, have been rejoined because of your sensitivity to the need for such an organization. Secondly, please find my check for \$17.00, to cover the cost of one Top Tiger T-shirt (L), and one Top Tiger patch. I need these as quickly as you can get them to me as they are to go in a care package to one of our buddies, Mike Lindell, (68th AHC, '65-66) who is now over in Saudi Arabia flying a UH-1 med-evac with the Virginia National Guard. We want him to have something which he can wear to show that he's not just some FNG! Thirdly, I am interested in preparing a document in tribute to the career of another Top Tiger, Scott Alwin, who spent three years in the Battalion, during which time, I believe he amassed the greatest number of combat flying hours of any US military aviator in any war. For this reason I would like to hear from anyone who flew with him, who might have any information to support my effort and could share any particularly interesting stories on this pilots. Besides being classmates in WORWAC 67-11, we flew together in



the 68th AHC gun platoon in '67-68. I DEROS'd in Aug '68; he stayed on through '70, and may have returned again in '71. Sadly, I have to report that Scott was killed in an auto accident in 1976. I believe he deserves some special recognition and I would appreciate hearing from anyone who can assist me in this matter. I can be reached at [REDACTED] or by phone [REDACTED]. Ed Strazzini, Mustang 11

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ed, I just wished I would have had more foresight twenty-some years ago and would have got a home address for everyone serving with the 145th, it's a little harder this way, but it can be done. Hopefully Mike Lindell will be home safe soon. And from what I hear he is in contact with Brain Stout, another Top Tiger, and we can get an address for him. You should have already received the items and the copies of the small amount of info I had on Scott Alwin. Scott's father, son, and sister attend our '89 Reunion and I know they will be pleased by your efforts. Hopefully they and Scott's wife and current husband will be able to attend the '91 Reunion. And I hope you get a good response to your request for information about Scott. I'd like a copy of what you put together for the Association when it's completed.

Dear Jim, Here is my membership renewal. I look forward to the newsletter. I've also been able to contact some old friends through the directory as a result of all your hard work. You are doing an outstanding job. I'm also making plans to attend the reunion this year and hope to see a lot of my old friends there. Here is another name for your directory. Bill was my gunner and crew chief in Vietnam. He was with the 68th from approximately Nov 69- Nov 70. He has made a career of the Army and is presently a maintenance test pilot in Germany. I've included \$10 for his membership as well. William Lambert, B Co, 70th Trans Bn, APO NY 09028 Thank you again, Ed Burns  
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you ED, I sent William Lambert our latest newsletter, a directory, and his membership card. I'll see you at the 91 Reunion, there should be a lot of 69-70 Top Tigers there.

Dear Jim, I am enclosing a check for \$102.00 - \$10 membership renewal, \$15 Battle tape, \$52 T-shirts, and a \$25 donation. You are doing a great job, we really appreciate all the work you are putting into this effort. Sincerely, John (and Jean) Waterhouse, 30 Couch Rd, New Preston, CT 06777

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John and Jean, your check will go a long way toward our efforts to locate and stay in contact with those who served in our units.

Enclosed is my check for membership dues and 4 T-shirts. I really enjoyed reading the newsletter and am anxious to get a copy of your directory to see how many of my EMU buddies are listed, (135th AHC). I was real thrilled to get the opportunity to be able to get a shirt with the EMU patch design. I only made it home with one patch and my wife had a "hero case" made for me and put it in there. Two of the shirts will be for a couple of my buddies I maintain contact with. Thanks for sending the newsletter. I am curious as to how you got my address but am glad you did. Look forward to getting the directory & shirts. Aaron Ault EMU 24

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Aaron, and I'm glad you enjoyed the newsletter and hope you enjoy the future newsletters a much. By now you should have received all 4 of the T-shirts. I had to reprint more of the 135th T-shirts and that is why I could only send two of the 135th and the one Association T-shirt. If your two friends you are sending the T-shirts two are not listed in our directory I will send newsletters to them if you send me their addresses. I think I got your address in a phone call from another pilot, they may have gotten it from the VHPA directory, I don't keep to good a record on where addresses come from unless it in a letter I put in the newsletter. I tried keeping that information for a while but it took up to much computer space. I wish I would have had your address earlier, they had a 135th AHC get together last summer in Fort Worth, TX. Jim Baber, [REDACTED] organized it. Hopefully we'll see you at the 91 Reunion at Fort Rucker, AL, there should be a lot of other EMUs there.

Jim & Deb, You already took Grandma one of these. Please send the other one to my address. (Thanks for getting the one to "Gram's") Sorry I took so long to get the \$ to you. Broke- as usual. Just when I thought I would die of old age at this address- I found a cheaper place- so my address will change as of 3-25-91 to: [REDACTED] don't know my home phone yet, but will send soon. Thanks! See you in Ft Rucker in June. Rene' Rothenbuhler P.S. Went to "The Wall" a couple of weeks ago & "visited Dad". What an experience. Try as I did the tears just wouldn't stop. Next time I'll bring more Kleenex!

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Rene' is the daughter of Lt Lynn H Rothenbuhler, KIA Dec 28, 1963, 118th. Her



grandmother, Lynn's mother, lives here in Fort Wayne and Rene' said she would like for her grandmother to have a 118th T-shirt, so Deb and I took one to her. We had a very nice visit for a few hours and we will be bring Agnes Allen, Rene's grandmother, with us to the Reunion. Rene' would like to meet some of the people who served with her Dad. And I want to thank you Rene', and we really enjoyed the visit with your grandmother. Just thinking about going to "The Wall" brings tears to my eyes. I went to the "Wall" in 1986 and your right "What an experience." I'll see you in June at Ft Rucker. Here's a letter I received from your grandmother the last week of March.

Dear Deb & Jim: I'm sending you a check for \$50. I'm sure you need some money for expenses, I hope this will help a little. I'm looking forward to June 6, 7, 8, and when ever. I'll send a check in soon. Call me when you have a moment. Agnes Allen [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Agnes, and we're looking forward to you going with us to Fort Rucker. I know you're looking forward to seeing your grand-daughter and meeting some of the people Lynn served with. Agnes would also like to find another of Lynn's good friends he went through flight school with, John William "Bill" Sedam, he was last known to be in Enterprise, AL working as a Chiropractor, was originally from Indianapolis, IN, and served with A Co/502 Avn in 1964-65. If anyone can find him please let me know.

Dear Jim, Just received the latest edition of the news letter, as always it makes for very interesting reading. I look forward to it. This is the first time I have written, after being a member for about 2 years. I learned about the association from Melvin Metzger of Columbia City, IL. who spotted my jacket at a Britt Small concert in Aurora, IL. The Jacket I was wearing was a Bandit Jacket that most of us in 118th Bandits had made up in Nam. Through the Association I have talked to a few guys that were in the Bandits. Mike "Lefty" Lafever and Mark "Pig Pen" Peterson. There were a lot of guys I remember by nickname only. By the way everyone there was called me "Teeny Bop". That name was given to me by Bill Simpson who was killed in Nov. of 68. The reunion is just around the corner and I really would like to make it, but I have a son who graduates that same weekend. I have enclosed my membership dues for the following year and money for a couple of T-shirts I sure would like to donate more, as I work construction the winter months take there toll on construction workers. I have also enclosed some orders of other people who went to the 145th CAB the same time as I, maybe it will help round out your directory. As I am not a letter writer I shall close in saying "Bandits Rule" and that if anybody who remembers "Teeny Bop" to drop a line or call. My name is in the directory. Thanks: Richard Rissman "Teeny Bop" Bandit 5 P.S. Could you put "Teeny Bop" by name in the directory that's the only way people recognize my name, and would you know if any means to get some 145 CAB patches? Thanks again, Teeny Bop

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Richard, and I have added "Teeny Bop" beside your name in the directory. I would have liked to have met you at the reunion but sometimes things come up that are more important to the family then attending the reunion. That is why we have been holding the reunions every two years instead of every year, so as not to interfere as much with other important family plans. We'll see you at the next one. The bad thing about having the Battalion patch made is I've seen at least 10 different designs, then it's a problem of which one to have made.

Jim- Enclosed is a "patch" order sent to Gary, by mistake please handle if you can. Gary endorsed the M.O. over to you- he doesn't remember receiving the first order, but you know Gary. Also enclosed is the info Gary promised to send regarding David Hickman and Roy Royston- came from a book (Silent Birdman) which Dan Ferguson (of CA) has. We're also enclosing a check for \$25.00 to "help the cause". We'll send Reunion info next week or so with another check to cover those costs. Use the \$25 as you see fit. Say Hi to Deb and the kids. We'll talk to you soon. Jackie and Gary Allison

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and I got the patches sent out, and the only reason we have the patches to offer is because Gary took the initiative to have them made. Thank you for the \$25 donation. I have updated the memorial list. I'll see you at the reunion if not before.

Jim- Please send me the name and address of the person who wrote the article on Dong Xoai 10-20 June 1965. Also my phone # was changed to [REDACTED] Thank you, Bill Quatse, [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) The article on the Battle of Dong Xoai was taken from the 1967 Battalion year book. It will be revised in our Battalion History Report to reflect the additional info coming in



The Official Airline for the  
145th Combat Aviation Battalion  
1991 Reunion

145TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION (VIETNAM)

ASSOCIATION

REUNION

WILL BE HELD AT FORT RUCKER, ALABAMA

7, 8, 9 JUNE 1991

(SAME TIME AND PLACE AS THE ANNUAL CW4 REUNION)

The following pages provide planning information and a personal registration form to be completed and returned to:

MG (Ret) Richard D. Kenyon

prior to 30 April 1991. Please note that each attendee is responsible for making his own motel reservations! Refer questions to Jim Bodkin at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] or General Kenyon at [REDACTED] [REDACTED]



### SCHEDULE

(The dress for the entire reunion is appropriate casual attire!)

Thursday, 6 Jun 91 - 1800 - ? "Early Warrior Reception" -  
Outdoors at the Ozark  
Holiday Inn. Reunion  
registration desk will be  
available. Pay-as-you-go  
bar. Dinner available at  
the Holiday Inn.

Friday, 7 Jun 91 - 0900 - ?  
Renew acquaintances at the  
Lake Lodge on Lake Tholocco  
at Fort Rucker.  
(Transportation will be  
available from the local  
motels to the Lake Lodge).  
Reunion registration desk  
will be set up. CW4  
Reunion and 114th AHC  
attendees will also be at  
the Lake Lodge. Lunch  
available at the Lake  
Lodge.

#### Optional Events (transportation provided):

1000 - 1400 Visit the new Army Aviation  
Museum and the Flight  
Simulator Complex to see  
the latest technology  
flight simulators (motion  
base and visual displays).  
Round-robin buses scheduled  
from the Lake Lodge and  
return.

1500 - 1600 Briefing in Post Theatre  
which tells about Fort  
Rucker's current  
activities.

1600 - 1700 Parade on main parade  
ground or static display  
of current helicopters and  
aircraft at same location.

Dinner and the evening on  
your own.



## NORTHWEST AIRLINES

### The Official Airlines for the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion 1991 Reunion

Northwest Airlines is the official airlines for the 1991 Reunion of the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion at Fort Rucker, Alabama. The 145th Combat Aviation Battalion (VN) Association is the sponsoring organization for the discount air fare. The destination is Dothan, Alabama Airport for the June 7-9, 1991 Reunion. Authorized travel dates are June 4-12, 1991. We have estimated attendance by air will be about 100 people. The air fare discounts offered to us by Northwest Airlines will be a great saving to our people traveling by air to the Reunion. You may obtain these discounts with this special code, 18896.

Here is the discount air fare program offered by Northwest Airlines, for more information and to make reservation call toll-free 1-800-328-1111 daily (7:00am to midnight, Central Time)

#### AIR FARE DISCOUNTS

##### U.S. Attendees and Their Families

25 percent saving from the applicable round trip coach fare type (Y, Y9, YN) booked in B class.

5 percent saving from the lowest applicable round trip fare type available at the time of booking; capacity controls, ticketing time limits, and all other fare rules would apply.

No discount on International, Military, Visit USA, Senior Citizen, Government Contract fares or fares under \$100.00 round trip.

##### Canadian Attendees and Their Families

Saving from 25-40 percent from the applicable full adult coach fare type. Requirement for booking and ticketing vary depending on the discount.

##### International Attendees and Their Families

Bilateral Agreement prevent us from discounting applicable fares from international cities. International attendees would be eligible for our Visit USA program which provides travel to other U.S. cities at greatly reduced prices.

#### WORLDPERKS

All Northwest fares outlined in this letter will be eligible for WorldPerks mileage credit. This program currently provides free domestic travel after just 20,000 miles. Please ask us for enrollment information.

#### RESERVATIONS AND TICKETING

\*These discounts are valid on all fares except military, Visit-USA, government contract, and under-\$100-roundtrip fares.

\*Booking class, ticketing time limits, routing requirements, stopovers, open jaws, refunds, changes, and the like, would follow the rules of the fare being used and, according to the terms of this proposal.

\*All travel at the negotiated fares must be on Northwest and the ticket must be validated on Northwest.

\*Travel via Northwest Airlink and NW designated Horizon Air flights is permitted. Travel via NW designated US Air flights is not permitted.

\*These discounts are not combinable with any other discount coupon or certificate offers.



## PERSIAN GULF

### EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

PHONE ( 414 ) 658 - 1535

*( Recorded Message )*

THE ACTUAL REAL COST FOR THE INFORMATION WE WILL SEND TO YOU IS LESS THAN \$ 1.10 CENTS FOR EACH COMPANY THAT WE HAVE ITEMIZED.

WE WILL GIVE TO YOU THE NAME OF EACH INDIVIDUAL COMPANY, THE ADDRESS AND INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO WORD YOUR LETTER, SO THAT YOUR WORK APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THESE COMPANIES.

ALSO WE WILL GIVE YOU THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL PERSON, WITHIN THAT PARTICULAR COMPANY, THAT YOU ARE TO SENT YOUR WORK APPLICATION TO.

THESE COMPANIES ARE NOW RECRUITING , HIRING AND TRAINING MEN AND WOMEN TO REBUILD THE PERSIAN GULF AREA. ONCE THE HOSTILITIES HAVE ENDED.

AS A RESULT OF THE INCREASE WORK LOAD TO THESE COMPANIES, STATE SIDE POSITIONS ARE ALSO NOW AVAILABLE.

THESE COMPANIES HAVE STATED AND DECLARED ; THAT THEY WILL ACKNOWLEDGE AND GIVE A WRITTEN RESPONSE, TO EACH JOB APPLICATION THAT THEY RECEIVE.

THESE COMPANIES ARE RECRUITING FOR MEN AND WOMEN, SKILLED IN OR HAVE WORK EXPERIENCE IN : ROAD, BRIDGE, HOME, OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS AND OIL REFINERY CONSTRUCTION. WELDERS AND METAL FABRICATORS.

ALL FORMS OF ELECTRONIC SERVICE TECHNICIANS. MACHINISTS, MECHANICS, SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE PEOPLE. WHITE COLLAR PROFESSIONALS, AND OFFICE WORKERS.

SEVERAL UNITED STATES CONSTRUCTION, OIL AND SERVICE COMPANIES HAVE BID UPON, AND HAVE ALREADY BEEN AWARDED CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS TO REBUILD THE PERSIAN GULF AREA.

THESE CONTRACTS ARE EXPECTED TO EXCEEDED OVER, 100 BILLION DOLLARS.

ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A RECENT NEW HIRE , TO ONE OF THESE COMPANIES, HAS STATED TO US, THAT THE BASE WAGE PACKAGE IS SOMEWHERE IN THE AREA OF 32 THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR AND UP. ALSO THERE ARE MERIT WAGE INCREASES

FOR A COMPLEAT LIST OF THOSE COMPANIES, THEIR ADDRESSES. AND INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

SEND \$15.50 CHECK OR MONEY ORDER, ALONG WITH A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED BUSINESS SIZE ENVELOPE TO :

THE PERSIAN GULF EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

P.O. BOX 110

PLEASANT PRAIRIE, WI.

53158

MIKE, A FORMER TOP TIGER, SAYS IF YOU CAN'T AFORD  
THE \$15.50, HE WILL TRUST YOU FOR IT.  
FOR THE FASTEST SERVICE SEND AT NOTE  
STATING YOUR WITH THE 145<sup>TH</sup> C.A.B.V.A.



Disregard if you received after June 7, 1991

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING REUNION \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF PERSONS COMING WITH ME

NAMES AS DESIRED ON NAME TAGS

PLANNED ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTEL/CAMPER SITE WHERE I'VE MADE RESERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOW TRAVELING:

POV \_\_\_\_\_

AIR \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER (Explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and return

MG (Ret) Richard D. Kenyon  
c/o DynCorp

Please fill out other side



REGISTRATION FEE

1. REUNION PACKAGE AND TRANSPORTATION AT \$10.00 \$10.00
2. SATURDAY BUFFET DINNER: \_\_\_\_\_ ADULTS AT \$10.50 = \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN UNDER 12  
(INCLUDES THREE MEATS, \_\_\_\_\_ AT \$5.25 = \_\_\_\_\_  
VEGETABLES, COFFEE OR TEA,  
AND DESSERTS)

TOTAL = 431,000,000

Please send your pre-reunion cost by check or money order payable to 145th CAB (Vietnam) Reunion along with your registration sheet to:

MG (Ret.) Richard D. Kenyon



Scheduled Events Continued

Saturday, 8 Jun 91

0900 - ?

Back at the Lake Lodge.  
Bus transportation from  
motels and return in the  
evening.

Optional Events  
(Transportation provided):

1000 - 1600

If parade on Friday, static  
display of today's  
helicopters including the  
AH-64 Apache at Hanchey  
Airfield. Museum again  
open for visitors.

1800 - ?

Buffet dinner and business  
meeting at the Lake Lodge.

Sunday, 9 Jun 91

0900 - 1030

Champagne Brunch at the  
Officers' Club on Fort  
Rucker. Pay-as-you-go at  
\$5.95 per adult and \$3.00  
per child (under 11).

1030 - 1100

Non-denominational Memorial  
Service at Recreation  
Center Auditorium.

END OF PLANNED EVENTS

All who desire can attend the CW4 Reunion Picnic at the Lake Lodge  
on Sunday afternoon (\$8.50 per individual covers all you can eat  
and beer).



## INFORMATION ON LODGING IN THE FORT RUCKER, AL AREA

### MOTELS:

Holiday Inn, 151 US Hwy 231 N., P.O. Box 190, Ozark, AL 36360, (205) 774-7300. Room Rates: Single \$35.00 plus tax; Double \$39.00 plus tax; 3rd person \$5.00; children under 19 free. Restaurant, pool, lounge. Make reservations early as Holiday Inn will only block 70 rooms, but will take reservations for 145th up to all 101 rooms.

Best Western Ozark Inn, US Hwy 231 South, Ozark, AL 36360, (205) 774-5166. Room rates: Single \$27.50 plus tax; Double \$32.50 plus tax. No restaurant - complimentary Continental Breakfast, pool, lounge. (Ask for best rooms in new building).

Econo Lodge, 241 Daleville Ave, Daleville, AL 36322, (205) 598-6304. Room Rates: \$29.00 plus tax for 1-4 persons. No restaurant - many fast food outlets within walking distance - pool, no lounge.

Daleville Inn, P.O. Box 1107, Daleville, AL 36322, (205) 598-4451. Room rates: \$30.00 tax included for 1 - 2 persons. Restaurant, pool, lounge. (Ask for best rooms in new building).

The Greenhouse Inn & Lodge, 501 S. Daleville Ave., Daleville, AL 36322, (205) 598-1475. Room rates: \$27.95 plus tax for 1 - 4 persons. Pool, no restaurant or bar. No facilities within walking distance.

The Colony Inn, 630 Glover Ave., Enterprise, AL 36330, (205) 347-6262. Room rates: \$34.00 plus tax for 1 - 2 persons. Extra persons \$2.00 with maximum of 4 persons per room. Restaurant (closed on Sunday), pool, lounge.

Comfort Inn, 614 Hwy 84 By-Pass, Enterprise, AL 36330, (205) 393-2304. Room rates: \$35.00 plus tax for 1 - 2 persons. No restaurant, complimentary continental breakfast. Restaurants within walking distance. Pool, no lounge. When calling, identify yourself as 145th CABV Reunion member.

### RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARKS:

Fort Rucker (Active Duty or Retired Military & DOD Civilians) Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 24201 - Lake Tholocco, Fort Rucker, AL 36362, (205) 255-4305/5768. 18 spaces with water and electricity (dump station on post), restrooms and hot showers. Rates: \$6.00/day, 35.00/week. 50% discount with Golden Age Passport.

Ozark Camper Park, 3 miles North of Holiday Inn on US Hwy 231, Rt. 2, Box 448, Ozark, AL 36360, (205) 774-3219. 40 spaces with full hook ups. \$11.25/day for 145th reunion.

Mr. D's RV Park, 1 mile North of the Holiday Inn on US Hwy 231, P.O. Box 1147, Ozark, AL 36361, (205) 774-5901. \$10.00/day.



from that time period. Reports like that give a lot of info but a lot of info still needs to be added to tell the complete story. I updated your phone # so it will be correct in the next printing of the directory. And please read the letter sent in my Ralph Orlando for more details on the time.

Dear Jim, Happy New Year! Enclosed is my check for \$15 (90-91) Dues and remainder for you to apply where needed. Sorry to be late with my dues- work out of town, so my mail and I do miss each other often. Regards, Marvin A. Farmer, Jr. CW4 (Ret), 8th Trans. Co. (LT. Hel)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and hopefully all the newsletters get to you. On the cover of each newsletter is a NL#, like on this newsletter #17, so if you are missing any and desire to receive it, just let me know which ones, and I'll see if I can round one up for you.

Dear Jim, Thank you for the Jan. 1991 Newsletter. As always you do a great job of putting them together for us members. I noticed in the letters to the Editor that a Richard C. Starkey wrote in. I have looked all through the Directories that I've received and I don't find his name or address in any of them. Can you provide me with his address...I would like to contact him because he states that he was with the 135th. When we was in Dong Tam, and when we was sent up to Di An (pronounced Zeon). I find something in his letter I'd like to talk to him about. I left the 135th. in December 1971 and they were still in Di An, Vietnam...but Richard says they went home in 71. I don't see that as being possible because when I left Dec. 14th, 1971 there wasn't much talk of going back to the states at that time. Could it be that part of the Unit went back stateside? But when I left Med-Evac on 12-14-71 they was still in Di An. Oh yeah, since I am not allowed to have my Unit T-shirt in here, I have one painted in acrylic, and it looks great. I left off the blue shield as is on the above drawing here. If you would like a letter-head drawn up, and like the drawing I've done let me know and send me a picture and I'll send you a letter-head you can have printed. I'm going to re-do the wings in silver as it is on my T-shirt I have made. I Agree with you response to Richard's letter about P.T.S.D. in many cases the Vet uses drugs or alcohol to suppress the feelings and the old memories from Vietnam...and both the addiction and P.T.S.D. need treated. I have been diagnosed as suffering form P.T.S.D. by a very qualified Doctor in which you are familiar with...Dr. Donald P. Schmitt. And if this man needs some help and if I can help him in any way, I will, so I hope you can and will send me Richard Starkeys address because it's not in the Directory. Also do you know of anyone that has any of the 135th old Unit Pins that we wore on our Black Berets while we were with the Aussies? Well Jim, I must go so keep up the good work in these Newsletters, and I hope things are going great with Deb and your family. As well as the job at Magnavox. Take care and I hope to hear from you soon. Michael Craig #8482 [REDACTED] P.S. Oh yeah...as for my case in Court...we are in process of cutting a deal with the Court for my release and Treatment for P.T.S.D. at a V.A. in which we are trying to figure out which one is best for me. I believe I'm going to be in the hospital for a year my attorney says...providing the Court goes along with all we have. I'll keep you posted.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Mike, the reason Richard Starkey's address is not in the directory is because he was located after the directory was printed. His address is: Richard Starkey, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I sent Mike a new printout for the 135th. The info I have is the 135th officially left Vietnam on 14 Feb 1972, many times the stand down is before the official date and with very short notice. Keep me posted on your case, Doc Schmitt is one hell of a fine PTSD doctor and a really great person, I hated to see him retire from VA, but I'm really glad to he is spending his time working with and for Veterans. Read on for the return letter from Mike.

Jim, Thank you for the extended list of 135th AHC info. I have set and thought...where has all the enlisted disappeared to? Here's a black and white photo copy of the 135th AHC Emblem, it came out pretty good. I think I'll just have it black and white instead of coloring it in. I have another design made up with slicks on each side...when I get some copied I'll send you one. I'm hoping to see Doc Schmitt soon, he's been on medical leave for an operation. My lawyer called here trying to figure out why it's taking them so long to get me to see him. The lawyer says our patience is finally paying off. He received a letter from the Prosecutor willing to deal now. The one we were dealing with left and we had to kind of start over. I'll keep you up on the progress. I know Doc wants me in a PTSD Unit and has diagnosed me PTSD. Well I better go Jim, so you take care and write soon. Mike Craig

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Mike, the drawings are great, I wish I had that kind of talent. When



things slow down after the reunion. I think I might take you up on your offer to do some letter heads and maybe a front cover for the newsletter. It's too bad our copy machine can't do color because your color drawings are really great. I don't know how you might feel about this but I would like to suggest that any of our readers that might have photos that they would like to have made into larger drawings that they contact you and inquire about a price, you might be able to work out a way to save back a few dollars for when you get out, and I know your art work is really good, what do you think? I know Doc Schmitt will do his best for you, I think Doc will be 68 before long, and has a few medical problems, and hopefully he will take it easy long enough to heal, but knowing Doc, he won't.

Hi James Bodkin- Glad to get the newsletter. Enclosed my \$10. I was first given a copy of the letter by Bill Civils?, ret. major who is a helicopter pilot for PHI. He and I were in the same unit at Vinh Long but I believe at different times. We remembered a lot of names but not each other. I grad. Ft. Rucker June of 1964 and was sent to the 11th Air Assault at Ft. Benning, Ga. By Sept. of 64, out unit, and I can't remember the number, was headed for RVN. We departed Warner Robbins AFB in 2 DC6's or something of a military version. It took us 4 days to get to Viet Nam. After arrival there the Co. was split up because of DEROS dates. I was sent to the 120th in Saigon and stayed there till Dec. 64. By then the sister Co. of the outfit I went over with arrival in Bien Hoa and I was sent to join A/501st in Dec, 64. I served with them until Sept. 1965 when I returned to the USA and Ft. Wolters, Tx. to become a flight instructor. I enjoyed your story of Dong Xoai and have something to add, but at a later date. Keep in touch- Alfred Brown, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Al, I'm glad you enjoyed the newsletter and any info you can add to the Dong Xoai info will be greatly appreciated. I checked our files for Bill Civil and couldn't find anything so if you can get an address and info on unit he served with I'll send him a newsletter. Hope to see you at the reunion, for those of us that was stationed at Rucker it will be like old home week, with many old friends.

Dear Jim, I have received a copy of the 145th newsletter and after reading through it I have decided to join, even though I am a member of the VHQA. I was only a short-timer with regards to service with the 135th AHC, but, as it was during the Tet offensive I feel that I have done enough to be considered as a part of your fraternity. Originally I was a machine gunner with B Company 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment, stationed at Phuoc Tuy Province 30 clicks South East of Saigon, in 1967-1968. Our company commander knew the platoon leader of the Emu's 135th First lift platoon and somehow engineered an exchange programme between our M60 gunners and the 135th door gunners. I have enclosed a photostat copy of my letter of commendation from Commander Vickers (who was later K.I.A.) and \$10 for my membership plus \$30 for 2 tapes of the Battle of Bien Hoa. Thanks for the opportunity to join your membership and judging by the comments of others you are doing a tremendous job. Yours sincerely, Stan Jaruga

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Stan, welcome aboard, hope you enjoy the newsletters, hopefully we can find all the former EMUs, many living in Australia.

Jim, I think I sent you a copy of the enclosed before but here are some more- The shoulder insignia of the 52nd AVN Btn was a fire breathing dragon. I had a set once upon a time but that's ancient history now- Carl Vogel

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Carl. I served with the 117th AHC in 1973-74 in Korea, at that time they were still assigned to the 52nd which was stationed in Seoul. After checking the 1973 52nd Avn Bn Yearbook the 52nd had changed the Battalion crest again, and 117th AHC was called the TORROS and had a patch with a Bull on it, I still have one.

Jim, Enclosed are some photos and negatives of the official issue patch of the 117th AVN Co. The 117th replaced the 8th Trans Co. (H-21) in Quinhon in either late 63 or early 64. At that time, and up until I left Vietnam, we were part of the 52nd AVN Btn with headquarters at Pleiku. I enjoy reading the newsletter, but have yet to join, because of the Massachusetts Miracle which has had me and thousands of others unemployed for well over a year. Keep up the good work. Sincerely, Carl Vogel 117th AVN Co. 1964-1965

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Carl, the pictures will be a big help when I do the T-shirt design for the early days of the 117th AML. I won't be able to do the design right away because of getting everything ready for the reunion, but right after that I should be able to do the silk screens.



Hopefully things will be going better in Massachusetts soon, but until then you are a member and should have already received your card. That's the Vietnam Vet Miracle, and we do care about each other.

Dear Sir: Just a brief message to say hello and let you know I'm a former member of the 145th. I was assigned to the 334th Armed Helicopter Company in "Bien Hoa". I was in the Dragon Platoon. In fact I was the only Black soldier in the company flying on "Gun Ships". (smile) I was in that unit from May 68 to 71. I sent Upshaw a copy of this. He was the crewchief on our Bird and when he got shot, Ken Flesner became the crewchief. Flesner is somewhere in "Denver Colorado". I'm going to see if I can locate him. Upshaw is out of the Army and Flesner got out after Vietnam. I'm still in but I retire in July of this year with 26 yrs of service. I've had enough and its time to move on to something else. I'm at Ft. Riley, Ks. My duty number is [REDACTED]. My home number is [REDACTED], my autovon: 856-3096 or 3095. Write and let me know what's up. If I can contact Flesner, I will send him a copy of this add also. Well this is all for now and I welcome a reply back. Take care. Hang tough. CSM Myter

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill and Lonnie Upshaw also contacted me also, his address is: Lonnie [REDACTED], and the most recent address I have for Ken Flesner is [REDACTED]. Hopefully all three of you can make the Reunion at Ft Rucker. Hope you enjoy the newsletter and the directory.

Dear Jim, Well first the good news. I have been moved back to the Main Prison and I am back in the Vets office. You can change my address for the last time to: Steven Kelso 103631, Vets Incarcerated M.P., LA State Prison, Angola, LA 70712. I also need a favor, could you run a request for anyone who was with the 335th AHC at Phu Hiep in 1968 please contact me. Especially anyone who flew with the Falcon Gun Platoon, or remembers the Plt. Cmdr. Cpt Olsen. I need to get in contact to substantiate a claim for an Air Medal. Our Plt. XO was a 1st Lt. nicknamed "Little John". My crewchief was a Sp5 Chambers nicknamed "Rowdy". The only person I remember was Sp4 Charles Fisher. I would like to thank-you for everything. Steve Kelso

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I sure will Steve and I hope someone out there can send you the info you need for your claim. I don't have any info on a CPT Olsen, I have a James Olson and a Samuel Olson both enlisted men with the 335th in 67-68 in our Help Find File. If anyone has any more info on any of these people please let us know.

Dear Jim, It was good talking with you on the phone last night, like I told you, barring unforeseen events, my wife, Noreen, and I will be attending the '91 Reunion. Today I firmed up my airline reservations and mailed in the Reunion Registration with check for \$31. A few people responded to mention of my loss and resent problems noted in NL16. I plan to write to each with a thank you but wish to publicly thank them by name in the Reader Response. Ed Strazzini, a former Top Tiger pilot, wrote me a warm, supportive letter. Thanks Ed! John "Short Round" Macedo, a gunner with the 334th AHC, offered his prayers and shared of his own personal loss of his mother. This touched me a lot John, Thanks. See you in Alabama. Maybe sooner as we're nearly neighbors. Lastly, Carl (1st Sgt, 120th Avn) White, sent me the older version of the 145th Battalion crest. This completes my awards display case. Thanks a lot Carl, this means a lot to me. Membership and involvement in the 145th C.A.B.V.A. is very important to me. As time goes on my pride in serving in Vietnam is replacing my feelings of guilt and shame. Reading the newsletters, talking with Jim Bodkin and others, I believe, is aiding in my healing from the war. Even though I'm 100% disabled due to PTSD, the monthly checks only allow me financial security for myself and my family. The emotional and spiritual healing is slowly showing itself in my life and not without the Association playing a role. People like Jim Bodkin, John Langwasser and Moe Archer, as well as all who took time to think or pray for me while I was having particular difficult times, tell me there is hope and encourage me to hang tough. As a believer in God and His Love, I truly believe He has shown His love through the 145th C.A.B.V.A.. I met a former 335th AHC Crew Chief / Gunner the other day. His name is Armand Jalbert, [REDACTED] telephone [REDACTED]. Armand flew with the Cowboy's gunship platoon (Falcons) from 1967-68. He'd be interested in receiving the newsletter and is interested in joining the Association and hearing from former 67-68 Cowboys. Looking forward to seeing all in June. Thanks again for everyone's support. Bob Wright P.S. Trial for my step-mothers murderer is set for May. Please join me in prayer for conviction for 1st Degree murder and life sentence without parole. Thanks

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, its nice knowing that we really can make a difference, and that



our members really do care about each others well being. I want to thank everyone for their caring and support of those in need, that's what Brotherhood is all about. Thanks! I sent Armand Jalbert a newsletter and a directory. And I do pray that justice be served, most of all I pray that your pain will be eased. I'll see you at Rucker in June, take care.

Dear Jim & Deb, NL#16 was of special interest to me. First I discovered that the light blue 145th shirt with the 118th insignia on the back is not the patch that I wore in Nam. The one to the left though is. (A picture of the 118th AML is drawn in the letter). This is actual size. Also the 118th thru at least 1965 was designated an Aviation Company, Air Mobile Light and not Assault Co. I would imagine that all unit history should have this correctly shown until whatever date the company designation was changed. Secondly the Battalion History section covering the "Battle of Dong Xoai" was during my time in country. I learned a lot from this reading. I could probably fill in more info, and there are still pieces to add to complete this puzzle for me. All of which would take up too much space in your newsletter. So, I'll ask a few question and save some for the Reunion. I know you don't use names in keeping the unit history, but is there an unofficial record that does include names of the KIA's, those wounded, & those who received decorations and such for example in the "Battle of Dong Xoai"? Jim if you or another 145th brother has this type info could you bring it to the Reunion? I missed days 1 & 2 of Dong Xoai as my Vung Tau R&R was finishing up. I later managed to record in my log diary 1st hand reports of the 2 day action from the flight crews involved. Recorded history & my log are in sync with the exception that I included names. The gutsy C.O. who went back to rescue the trapped Special Forces survivors was Major Harvey Stewart. On day 3, the 12th, I flew a slick with the Major since the Bandit ships were long gone upon my return from R&R. Much of this day was spent in and around Dong Xoai in poor flying conditions & with a stick buddy whose flying skills gave me some worry. I witnessed from him what I thought was a man pulling half a train, but in latter years I realized I witnessed bravery at it's finest but did not recognize it. We got involved in a rescue attempt of an Air Force F-100 pilot calling a May Day over Thanh Loi Plantation. The pilot parachuted into the Rubber Trees & sent up a flare to mark his position. The Major had me land into the closest open area about 200 meters from the smoke. The Major & Lt Scott, the doorgunner, took off into the heavy canopy of the plantation. Quatse, the crewchief, & I were told to wait only a few minutes & then leave for Phouc Vinh since our fuel was very low. Finally, after about 5 mins. we saw the Major & Lt running toward us. They dove onto the helicopter floor & said to pull pitch. The shots coming at us told me that was probably a great idea. Back at Phouc Vinh, the Major informed me that the pilot was hanging in the trees, the area was covered by V.C. & it looked like the pilot had been killed. Jim, is there any documentation of this event? Does any one out there have any more to add? I sure would like to know. Along with war stories and half truths at the Reunion, I hope everyone will bring along memorabilia, pictures, patches, etc. I'd like to buy or trade for a Bandit mask pin. See you in June, Ralph Orlando (Retired Eastern) Daytona Beach, FL

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ralph, I'll be working on the earlier 118th AML T-shirt design as time permits, one of the problems is we have 23 units that used 35 unit designators, # or names, example of one unit used UTT, 68th, 197th, 334th, they had 6 different unit patches, not to mention platoon patches. I would guess there is about 150 T-shirt designs that our people would like to have done. I'm working on them as best I can, the order I work on them is by demand and availability of the design. It shouldn't be to long before the 118th AML T-shirt is available. That's why I like to print a picture of the design in the newsletter, so people can see it before they order. I couldn't say that I have the AML and AHC, etc, right throughout the history, but I will try, one problem is that a lot of the reports and award papers were updated between the time they were earned and 6 months to a year later when they were awarded. Example that a unit might have earned an award as AML and 6 months later when the award was given the award might read AHC. The "Battle of Dong Xoai" report was taken directly from the 1967 145th Battalion yearbook. I will update the Battalion History to reflect the names you added. The only history info I have is that which is sent in by our readers. I hope your letter inspires more of our readers to send in more items for our history report.

Dear Jim, Sorry for the short delay in bringing my dues up to date. Please find enclosed my check to cover my dues for this year and next year, for my continued support for this organization. I would like to express my utmost thanks for the wonderful news letter that you put out to the members. I also look forward to the membership list. If anyone in the 120th ASH remembers a



crewchief with the acronym "Yosemite Sam" & remembers a H21 chopper with the cartoon character on the side of the ship can write to me here: Albert F Arbogast, Jr, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED], as he is living here in Tacoma, WA. I will see that he receive your letters, or you can call me at [REDACTED] any time. Thanks once again for the newsletter and articles you put in it. Al Arbogast, Jr  
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Al, and say hello to "Yosemite Sam", send in his address and I'll put him on our mailing list.

Dear Jim, Since my last correspondence with you I have located two members who served with the 8th Transportation Company during 62-63 time frame. Both have expressed interest in joining the association. They are Douglas Eki, Roland Watts (see new people Located for address). I'll see you at the reunion in June. If I can be of any assistance please feel free to contact me at the above listed phone numbers. I'll try to do better. Sincerely, David R Granger  
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Dave, I'm sure the people you located will appreciate your sending their names in, I sent them newsletters and directories. See you at Rucker.

Dear Jim, I've been pretty active in the past week helping Vietnam Veterans at the Northampton, MA VAMC. The enclosed will explain it all! If you have any more ideas on how we might pursue this, please let me know. Thanks to you and Deb for the new T-shirt. See you in Alabama. Your friend, Bob Wright

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Inclosed with Bob's letter was a copy of a 3 page letter that Bob had sent to: President George Bush, V. A. Secretary Edward J Derwinski, Senator Edward "Ted" Kennedy, Senator John Kerry, Congressman Richard Neal, Congressman Joseph Early, Representative G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery, Commanders of D.A.V. and American Legion, and Ms Mary Forsyth Director V.A.M.C Northampton, MA. The letter requested the Chief Psychologist of the V.A.M.C. Northampton PTSD unit, Kenneth Lenchitz, Phd, not be transferred. The letter was co-signed by sixty-seven other former inpatient of the PTSD unit. I called and told Bob that I would ask Rep Jill Long, 4th Dist, Ind, representing this area of Indiana and serving on the Veterans Affairs Committee in Congress, to look into the matter, since she has been very helpful in the past and is a friend. Bob's letter was very well written and organized, it nice to see that even with all the problems Bob has had the last few years that he can still get involved and put out top quality work for Veterans. When I talked with Bob he said it made him feel better to be involved eventhough, it was very stressful. Thank you Bob and nice going. I had also sent Bob a new T-shirt to replace the one that the color washed out of, that happens every now and then and we place them.

Dear Jim, I only have a couple of minutes before I have to mail this letter off. I have enclosed a partial copy of my telephone message. Also enclosed are the documents that I am sending out to those people who answer my advertisement. I have found five more companies that are currently recruiting and hiring. I have been able to talk to two of them. I have not had time to revise my new letter. I have to mail this now! Take care. Thanks for taking my call. Resectfully Yours, Michael Hanrum

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Mike's company, Persian Gulf Employment Service, is offering information on each company, their address, contact person, and how to word your letter. These companies are offering employment state side as well as in the Persian Gulf. Mike asked me to get this information out to our people so they can be first in line for the jobs. Mike charges \$15.50 for the information, but he told me that if our people can't afford it that he will trust them for it, just sent it to him after you are hired. For the fastest service inclose a note saying you are with the 145th CABVA. Mike is a former Top Tiger. See letter on the back of Northwest Airlines letter stuck into this newsletter. Thanks Mike

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## PHONE BOOK

If at all possible I would like for everyone to bring a phone book with them to the reunion. Even last years phone book will do. I use the phone books to try to locate people listed from that state. As an example see Bill Barlow's letter on the bottom of page 5 and top of page six. Your old phone book could go a long way toward locating people who served with our units.



## BATTALION HISTORY JUNE 1966 TO NOVEMBER 1967

Under LTC Joost command the 118th Assault Helicopter Company received the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period June 1963 to June 1966. And the 117th and the 135th Assault Helicopter Companies were awarded the Valorous Unit Award for the period 1-20 June 1966 while serving with other battalions in Operation Hawthorne/Dan Tang in Kontum Province.

LTC Walter F Jones replaced LTC Joost on June 17, 1966. Under LTC Jones the 118th Aviation Co. (AML) was awarded the Valorous Unit Award for their actions on 19 July 1966. Movement of the 68th Combat Avn Co (AML) from Vung Tau to Bien Hoa during the period 10 through 17 July 1966, resulted in this unit being more centrally located in the III Corps Tactical Zone and in a better position to support operations, by elimination of a significant amount of daily dead-head flying time. The planned movement of the 147th Medium Helicopter Company from Vung Tau to Phu Loi will locate it more centrally within the III CTZ and again reduce dead-head time to and from daily operations. It is also essential to reduce aircraft crowding at Vung Tau, thus improving safety of operations there. The 335th AHC was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for Achievement in the performance of outstanding service in RVN from May 1965 to July 1966. The 120th A.H.C. was transferred to Capital Avn Bn on 1 July of 1966. A special project was under taken and all Airmobile Light Companies are being augmented with an additional airlift platoon (seven aircraft), this brought the average number of UH-1D aircraft assigned to each unit to 21. The requirement existed for each airmobile company to be capable of airlifting the assault element of one rifle company.

Training of four VNAF pilots commenced on 8 August and completed on 7 November 1966. The training included transition in UH-1 aircraft and 90 days tactical training with the 145th C.A.B. The 184th Avn Co (Surv Light) arrived in Vietnam and was assigned to the 145th on 13 August 1966. While serving with 10th C.A.B. the 117th Assault Hel. Co. was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation service for the period of December 1965 to September 1966. The 1st of September 1966 brought a name change for A Co, 501st Avn Bn to the 71st A.H.C..

On 13 September 1966 during a night combat assault mission, a flight of seven aircraft from the 68th Avn Co encountered extremely bad weather and were forced to divert from their route of flight. One aircraft, its fuel presumably gone, was seen descending into the trees, apparently in a controlled maneuver. Neither the aircraft nor the four crew members were found as of 31 October 1966.

From the 14th of September 1966 to the 24th of November 1966 the 145th was involved in Operation Attleboro, the largest U.S. operation to date in Vietnam. On 19 October 1966 a sizable enemy base area was uncovered in War Zone C (Tay Ninh Province).

During September the Armed Helicopter Standardization Training tested the gunship platoons of 12th Avn Gp, 1st place was the 118th Bandits, 2nd place was the 68th Mustangs, 3rd place was the 116th Stingers, with the 197th in 5th, and 71st in 8th.

1 October 1966 brought another name change for the 197th A.H.C., they became the 334th Armed Helicopter Company, this was the fourth and would be the last name change for them. The 334th A.H.C. retained their fine history earned under the names UTT, 68th A.H.C., 197th A.H.C., and continued with many more first and unit awards. Co A, 82nd Avn Bn name was changed to the 335th Avn Co on 1 October 1966.

The 145th was the first Aviation Battalion to fly "Smoke Ship" combat operations in Vietnam. During October 1966 the 334th AHC added a new project to its bag of tricks. Guber's Gasser, a gas-laying helicopter designed for use during airmobile assaults, made its debut.

Air Cavalry Task Force: To counter the roadside tax collection efforts of the Viet Cong and to conduct other small raids type operations, an air cavalry task force was organized within the 334th Aviation Company (AML) (Armed). The company was augmented by one platoon of UH-1D helicopter to provide a troop lift capability. The basic organization of the task force included one armed platoon of five helicopters, a slick platoon, a command and control ship, and a psy-war ship with a loudspeaker system mounted. Attached to this force was a TOE infantry platoon, an ALO, a forward observer, an interpreter and two national policemen to assist in identification of friendly civilians.

Also during the 1 August to 31 October 1966 time period steel matting was installed in the 334th Avn Co parking ramp and all 145th units completed construction of aircraft revetment for passive defense of aircraft against enemy attack. USAF bomb containers and sandbags were the materials used. "L" shaped revetments (on the front and one side of helicopters) were adopted as



standard. The 145th constructed six two-story tropical barracks at Bien Hoa to billet two Aviation Companies which were directed to vacate VNAF buildings. Construction began for a fifty helicopter parking ramp and aircraft maintenance facilities for two Aviation Companies at Bien Hoa. The Consolidated 145th Battalion Dispensary at Bien Hoa had one of its proposed two building completed in October and is now operational.

For heroism while engaged in aerial flight in connection with military operations against a hostile force: The men of the 71st AHC distinguished themselves by heroic actions on 14 October 1966, in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving as crew members of aircraft which were participating in a hazardous combat assault in support of the 30th ARVN Ranger Battalion. Five minutes prior to the arrival of the lift helicopters, a team of armed helicopters performed a reconnaissance of the proposed landing site and discovered that the tree lines adjacent to the landing zone were heavily infested with anti-aircraft weapons positions. The armed aircraft received an intense volume of hostile fire on their initial pass. Determined to accomplish the mission and to overpower the Viet Cong in that area, the lift helicopters continued their approach and landed the Rangers one hundred and fifty meters from the enemy stronghold. The company was the target of an intense volume of enemy fire on the first wave of the assault. Ten helicopters were struck by hostile fire. Because the Rangers were helplessly pinned down in the landing zone, the 71st AHC voluntarily undertook the mission of returning to the same landing site with a supporting element of the Rangers. During the second wave of the assault, the enemy fire became even more intense than before. The armed escort continually placed devastating defensive fire on the enemy positions. Through the combined efforts of the armed helicopters and the door gunners of the lift helicopters, effective fire was placed into the enemy positions and caused many Viet Cong casualties and prevented the enemy from utilizing all of his available firepower. Even though the aircraft were subjected to continuous small arms and automatic weapons fire, the flights into and out of the area were successfully completed and only light casualties were sustained. Their actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon themselves, their unit and the United States Army. WO Robert L Pruhs and Sp4 Louis Turchi were Killed In Action that day.

During the month of November 1966 the 145th C.A.B. established a forward command post at Tay Ninh West Airfield in support of Operation "Attleboro". During this period the battalion controlled elements of the 11th, 13th, 25th, and 52nd Aviation Battalions as well as its organic components.

On 1 December 1966 LTC Howard M Moore replaced LTC Jones. And the 135th was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period January 1966 to December 1966 while serving with the 10th C.A.B.

The 335th A.H.C. (formerly Co A, 82nd Avn Bn.) earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period 1 August 1966 to 31 January 1967. The Valorous Unit Award was earned by the 145th C.A.B., 68th A.H.C., 118th A.H.C., and 334th A.H.C. for their actions on the 19th of March 1967 under the command of LTC Howard Moore in the Battle of Soui Tre. The Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm was awarded to the 145th C.A.B., 68th, 118th, 120th, 147th, 213th, 334th, 335th Aviation Companies for the period 1 March 1966 to 26 March 1967. These last two awards were earned during Operation Junction City in Tay Ninh Province, 2,728 known enemy casualties. The 117th was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period 5 September 1966 to 31 March 1967. In March of 1967 the 184th Avn Co was transferred to the 11th Avn Bn and in April of 67 the 71st A.H.C. was transferred to the 14th Avn Bn.

LTC John A Todd replaced LTC Moore on the 7th of August 1967. The 190th A.H.C. arrived in Vietnam and was assigned to the 145th on 2 September 1967, shortly there after to be sent on temporary duty to I Corp with the Marines and returned to Bien Hoa on the 16th of November 1967. The 213th Assault Support Helicopter Company was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period 13 February 1967 to 15 October 1967.

On 22 October 1967, the Cobra flew its first combat mission. On that day two Cobras from the Playboy Platoon of the 334th Armed Helicopter Company were flown by Major Donald Becker and Warrant Officer Welch from Bien Hoa to Nui Dat in support of the Australian Tack Force.

Under the Command of LTC Todd the Presidential Unit Citation was awarded for the period of 6 to 23 November 1967 by the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States to the 335th Assault Helicopter Company. The award to the "Cowboys" was for extraordinary heroism during Operation Mac Arthur in Kontum Province in November 1967.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report covers 1 January 1991 to 31 March 1991. 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 31 December 1990.....\$0241.14

Total deposits 1/01/91 to 3/31/91 (Dues, Donations, Fund Raisers)...\$2762.10

Total.....\$3003.24

### Expenditures

Postage.....\$476.36

Long Distance Phone.....\$159.46

Miscellaneous (see note).....\$505.04

Bank Fees.....\$ 70.95

Fund Raiser Supplies.....\$615.71

Copy Machine Repair & Supplies.....\$ 85.00

Total expenditures.....\$1912.52 . . . . .-\$1912.52

Balance 31 March 1991.....\$1090.72

Miscellaneous includes computer supplies (paper, mailing labels, printer ribbons, etc.), newsletter supplies (paper, staples, etc.), envelopes, notes books, ink pens, etc. Copy Machine Repair & Supplies is the cost of repairs and cost of supplies like toner and dispersant.

As you can see by this report we made \$849.59 the first quarter of this year. Our T-shirt sells was a big part of that. Our supplies of T-shirts printed and ready to go is growing and I plan on taking a large bunch to the reunion where they should sell very well. Hopefully that will finally put us in a secure financial state.

I want to thank all of you who have sent in membership dues, ordered fund raiser items, or made donations, thanks to you we have this good financial report. Your support is what keeps our Association going.

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. I just sent out about 230 letter to people that were being taken off the mailing list if I didn't hear from them. Some have already sent their dues in. I really hate to send those letters and they cost money to send. When I receive membership dues I code the individal'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 will be starting a new membership year the 1st of July, so check your card and please renew if it expires this July 1st. And multiple year membership are always appreciated.

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



23 March 1991

## NEW PEOPLE LOCATED LIST

The list is arranged chronologically by unit. I arranged the list as accurately as possible with the information I have, some people I only have the year they entered Vietnam, others I have the complete date. I would like to have at least the month and year in and out of the unit, if possible. I tried to list people's rank in one of three categories, OF=Officer, WO=Warrant Officer, or EM=Enlisted Men. Please check the list for accuracy, please notify me of any mistakes or blank spaces. The \* beside the rank denotes those who have sent in their annual dues already. Note the date on the top of the page. 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     | WHITE      | CARL L       |        | SEBASTIAN        | FL 32958 |       | 1964 | 1965 | EM*  |
| HHC     | HARJOCHIE  | FRANK        |        | OKLAHOMA CITY    | OK 73108 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM   |
| HHD     | SMITH      | JAMES F      |        | WAKEFIELD        | MA 01880 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM*  |
| HHC     | HARVEY     | FRANK M      |        | WRIGHT PATT. AFB | OH 45433 |       | 1969 | 1970 | WO*  |
| HHC     | DOMETIER   | LARRY        |        | NEW ULM          | MN 56073 |       | 1969 | 1972 | EM   |
| HHC     | COUNTRYMAN | DALE E       |        | WOLCOTT          | NY 14590 |       | 1970 | 1970 | EM   |
| HHC     | SHIRLEY    | JERRY D      |        | FPO SEATTLE, WA  | 98776    |       | 1970 | 1970 | WO*  |
| HHC     | NEAL       | JEFFERY A    |        | SAFETY HARBOR    | FL 34695 |       | 1971 | 1972 | OF*  |
| HHC     | MUELLER    | RODNEY       |        | NEW ULM          | MN 56073 |       | 1971 | 1972 | EM*  |
| 25 AMN  | CICHELLO   | WAYNE J      |        | AURORA           | CO 80014 |       | 1970 | 1970 | WO*  |
| 68 AHC  | BUCK       | WILLARD J    |        | WINTERHAVEN      | FL 33884 |       | 1968 | 1969 |      |
| 68 AHC  | BARNHAM    | THOMAS L     |        | FOUNTAIN TOWN    | IN 46130 |       | 1968 | 1969 | EM   |
| 68 AHC  | LAMBERT    | WILLIAM      |        | APD NY           | 09028    |       | 1969 | 1970 | EM*  |
| 68 AHC  | COUNTRYMAN | DALE E       |        | WOLCOTT          | NY 14590 |       | 1970 | 1970 | EM   |
| A/501   | LEMMING    | JOE          |        | NEWPORT NEWS     | VA 23602 |       | 1964 | 1965 | WO   |
| A/501   | SULLIVAN   | HAROLD       |        | SELLERSBURG      | IN 47172 |       | 1964 | 1966 | EM   |
| A/501   | CAMPBELL   | ALLIE H      |        | LAKE CHARLES     | LA 70605 |       | 1964 | 1965 | WO   |
| A/501   | SMITH      | LARRY        |        | LAUREL           | MS 39441 |       | 1966 | 1968 | EM   |
| 71 AHC  | BUCK       | WILLARD J    |        | WINTERHAVEN      | FL 33884 |       | 1966 | 1967 |      |
| 71 AHC  | HOWELL     | JOHN H       |        | LITTLE ROCK      | AR 72209 |       | 1966 | 1966 |      |
| 71 AHC  | SHIRLEY    | JERRY D      |        | FPO SEATTLE, WA  | 98776    |       | 1966 | 1967 | WO*  |
| 71 AHC  | Mc MILLAN  | ROBERT L     |        | STOCKBRIDGE      | GA 30281 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM   |
| 71 AHC  | PROFIT     | DON          |        | THORNTON         | KY 41855 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM   |
| 71 AHC  | WHITEHEAD  | SHIRLEY      |        | INDEPENDENCE     | KS 67301 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM   |
| 71 AHC  | HUGHES     | KEN          |        | SACRAMENTO       | CA 95815 |       | 1969 | 1969 | EM*  |
| 8 TRANS | EKI        | DOUGLAS      |        | TROUTDALE        | OR 97060 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 8 TRANS | WATTS      | ROLAND W     |        | OREGON           | IL 61061 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 117AHC  | MYERS      | JOHN T       |        | CORVALLIS        | OR 97330 |       | 1965 | 1966 | WO*  |
| 117AHC  | JOHNSON    | JERRY L      |        | ENTERPRISE       | AL 36330 |       | 1966 | 1967 | OF*  |
| 118AHC  | MACKAY     | JOHN         |        | HUBBARD          | OH 44425 |       | 1966 | 1967 |      |
| 118AHC  | MICHEL     | BOB          |        | ALEXANDRIA       | VA 22314 |       | 1966 | 1967 | OF   |
| 118AHC  | HARVEY     | FRANK M      |        | WRIGHT PATT. AFB | OH 45433 |       | 1969 | 1970 | WO*  |
| 119AHC  | WELLS      | CHARLES B    |        | PILOT POINT      | TX 76258 |       | 1964 | 1965 | WO   |
| 119AHC  | RICHES     | JERRY        |        | FT THOMAS        | KY 41075 |       | 1965 | 1966 | OF   |
| 119AHC  | COOMBS     | ED           |        | BELLEVIEW        | WA 98006 |       | 1965 | 1966 | WO*  |
| 119AHC  | CATLETT    | JIM          |        | MANSFIELD        | OH 44903 |       | 1970 | 1971 | EM   |
| 57 TRAN | CRUMP      | MORRIS       |        | SEATTLE          | WA 98133 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 57 TRAN | KANDOE     | CHARLIE      |        | HENRY            | VA 24102 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 57 TRAN | KNUDSLEIN  | MARTIN G     |        | NOKEVILLE        | VA 22123 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 57 TRAN | MOATS      | C.J.         |        | NEW CANEY        | TX 77357 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 57 TRAN | ROGERS     | LEON         |        | MENA             | AR 71953 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 57 TRAN | SINOR      | DON          |        | HARRISON         | AR 72601 |       | 1962 | 1963 |      |
| 57 TRAN | TARRANT    | LT.          |        | BULLARD          | TX 75757 |       | 1962 | 1963 | OF*  |
| 120AMN  | SLAUGHTER  | JESSE H      |        | NEW ORLEANS      | LA 70118 |       | 1964 | 1965 | OF*  |
| 120AMN  | WHITE      | CARL L       |        | SEBASTIAN        | FL 32958 |       | 1964 | 1965 | 1SG* |
| 120AMN  | BROOKS     | IVAN F       |        | SUNNYVALE        | CA 94086 |       | 1965 | 1966 | WO   |
| 121AHC  | SLAUGHTER  | JESSE H      |        | NEW ORLEANS      | LA 70118 |       | 1964 | 1965 | OF*  |
| 121AHC  | HAMPTON    | BILLY J      |        | MESQUITE         | TX 75149 |       | 1964 | 1965 | WO*  |
| 121AHC  | KLETT      | RAYMOND F    |        | BIRMINGHAM       | MI 48009 |       | 1967 | 1968 | WO   |
| 121AHC  | NEAL       | JEFFERY A    |        | SAFETY HARBOR    | FL 34695 |       | 1968 | 1969 | OF*  |
| 135AHC  | FREEMAN    | RONALD L     |        | SANDY            | UT       |       | 1967 | 1968 | WO   |
| 135AHC  | RIGGLE     | DON          |        | CRESTLINE        | CA 92325 |       | 1968 | 1970 | EM   |
| 135AHC  | GUMLEY     | JAMES THOMAS |        | KARRATHA         | WE - 671 |       | 1970 | 1971 | WO   |
| 135AHC  | JOHNSON    | JERRY L      |        | ENTERPRISE       | AL 36330 |       | 1970 | 1970 | OF*  |
| 135AHC  | MONROE     | STEPHEN E    |        | ERIN             | ON N08-  |       | 1970 | 1970 | WO*  |
| 190AHC  | STEWART    | RICK         |        | CINCINNATI       | OH 45231 |       | 1968 | 1969 | EM*  |
| 190AHC  | COONS      | DAVID A      |        | BOUNTIFUL        | UT 84010 |       | 1969 | 1970 | EM   |
| 197AHC  | OSTRANDER  | STUART A     |        | WAUSAU           | WI 54401 |       | 1965 | 1966 | WO*  |
| 197AHC  | TOMAS      | EDWARD A     |        | ADEL             | IA 50003 |       | 1966 | 1967 | EM   |
| 334AHC  | POPESCU    | DAN L        |        | BEND             | OR 97702 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM   |
| 334AHC  | UPSHAW     | LONNIE J     |        | HARKER HEIGHTS   | TX 76543 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM*  |
| 334AHC  | HYTER      | WILLIAM      |        | JUNCTION CITY    | KS 66441 |       | 1968 | 1971 | EM   |
| 334AHC  | FIASSETTI  | DONALD       |        | FAIRFIELD        | CT 06430 |       | 1969 | 1970 | EM*  |
| 334AHC  | PUCCI      | LARRY R      |        | TUCSON           | AZ 85704 |       | 1969 | 1970 | WO*  |
| 334AHC  | CRIDER     | RALPH J      |        | HAMILTON         | GA 31811 |       | 1970 | 1971 | EM*  |
| 335AHC  | JALBERT    | ARMAND       |        | WEBSTER          | MA 01570 |       | 1967 | 1968 | EM   |
| 339TRAN | KLETT      | RAYMOND F    |        | BIRMINGHAM       | MI 48009 |       | 1967 | 1968 | WO   |



## 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.

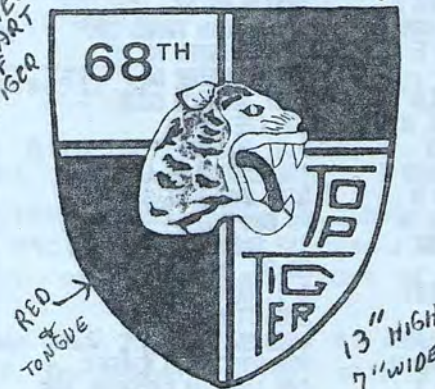
To order see order form inserted in newsletter. Thank you, and please send your order today.

145TH  
COMBAT AVIATION  
BATTALION



BLACK  
LETTERING  
& OUTLINE  
YELLOW  
PART  
OF  
TIGER

68TH  
ASSAULT



HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

#05-02

#09-02

118TH  
ASSAULT



HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

13" HIGH  
7 1/2" WIDE

71ST  
ASSAULT



HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

120TH  
ASSAULT

#11-02



HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

121ST  
ASSAULT

#12-02



HELICOPTER  
COMPANY



RED-  
U.S.A.  
A.A.N.  
135  
EMU  
SHIELD LINES

BLACK-LETTERING  
OUTLINE

135<sup>TH</sup>  
ASSAULT

13" HIGH  
7 1/2" WIDE



BLUE  
BACKGROUND  
& SHIELD

YELLOW-  
WREATH  
ANCHOR

HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

#13-02

BLACK  
LETTERING  
HEAD  
& OUTLINE

190<sup>TH</sup>  
ASSAULT

13" HIGH  
7" WIDE

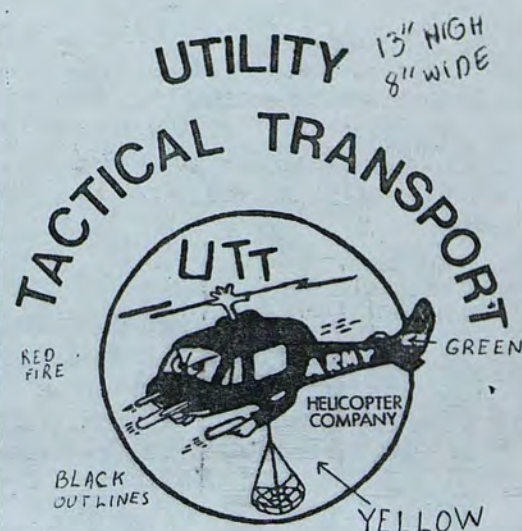


RED →  
BACKGROUND  
& 190

YELLOW-  
HELMET  
LINES

HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

#16-01



RED  
FIRE

BLACK  
OUTLINES

YELLOW

#17-01

HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

UTILITY  
TACTICAL  
TRANSPORT



YELLOW

RED

13" HIGH  
7" WIDE

#17-02

HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

197<sup>TH</sup>  
ARMED



YELLOW

RED

12" HIGH  
7" WIDE

#17-04

HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

13" HIGH  
7" WIDE

334<sup>TH</sup>  
ARMED



RED

GREEN  
HELICOPTER

BLACK  
LETTERING  
& NUMBERS

YELLOW  
RIBBON  
SABERS

#17-05

HELICOPTER  
COMPANY

FULL COLOR UNIT  
T-SHIRTS \$13.00 EACH

3 OR 4 COLORS ON EACH DESIGN

SEE ORDER FORM INSERTED

THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE YOU WILL  
FIND THESE T-SHIRT AVAILABLE



## 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.

### 335th COWBOY PATCHES

Jim Spanel who served with the 335th AHC in 1971 has sent me 25 of the COWBOY patches to sell to raise funds and also to give you the opportunity to have one. The patch is the 4" round one of the Cowboy riding a huey and lassoing a VC. The patches sell for \$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, 71st AHC, 118th AHC, 120th AHC, 121st AHC, 135th AHC, 190th AHC and 334th 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" to 13" 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, they are going 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.