

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, 1st, 18th, 25th, 68th, 71st, 73rd, 74th, 117th, 118th,
119th, 120th, 121st, 135th, 147th, 184th, 190th,
UTT-68th-197th-334th, 213th, 242nd, 335th, CoA/82nd, CoA/501st,
57th Med Det

Transportaion Companies

8th, 33rd, 57th, 81st, 93rd, 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.

**CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT, JOIN TODAY**

145th Combat Aviation Bn VN Assoc.
3719 Forrest Hill Ave
Fort Wayne, IN
46805-1301

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

Phone # 1-219-483-5149

NL24 JULY 1993

145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association

"OLD WARRIORS"
Newsletter

JULY 1993, VOL. 24

3719 FOREST HILL AVE, FORT WAYNE, IN 46805-1301
1-219-483-5149

I want to Welcome everyone we have just located. The end of 1992 brought many people to our New People Located List, and the first part of 1993 brought many more. I got a very good response to the Help Find List I sent out with the 1992-93 Directory. I want to thank everyone that has been trying to find the people on the list, and encourage those of you that haven't to please take a few minutes and check your phone book for the people on the list that you will receive soon in the 1993-94 Directory.

Many of the new people we have located served with their unit when it was assigned to another Battalion and might be wondering if our Association is for them. If they served with any of the units listed on the front of the newsletter then our Association is for them. In the Directory there will be a list the units and the dates they served with the Battalion.

With all the stuff for the Reunion I got behind another newsletter, so if it seems like it been a while since you received a newsletter, your right, sorry.

The Readers Response section of the newsletter is still the biggest and most interesting part of the newsletter, starting on page 2. 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. The Battalion History section this time is from the first part of 1966. Most of it is the Commander's Combat Notes #1 & # 7 that was written weekly by LTC Horst K Joost and contain many details of our history. 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. And we need for you to look the people up in your phone book that are on the list that will be sent with the 1993-94 Directory.

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. There is a report in the newsletter on the 1993 Reunion in Ft Worth, Texas so see details in back part of newsletter. And start making your plans to attend the 1995 Reunion in Ft Rucker, AL.

Thank You

James L Bodkin

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, I'm very happy about joining what looks like a fine organization! I heard about this through Bob Kilpatrick (Doc) a very good friend from the 119th Gators. I was best known for my workmanship among the tangled and shot up wires. I was known to most as "Shakey" and I'm not sure if they called me this because my hands shook or because it was shakey wheather or not I could be found where I was supposed to be. I had a habit of disappearing on Doc's bird riding shotgun or running around Pleiku with a crazy man known as "Jake." Last fall I was fortunate to have a wonderful reunion with Doc and his lovely family. It was 20 years since seeing each other and I commend our wives for putting up with us. Most of our time in Doc's Conn. home was spent chasing down crazy Jake in Ohio. We succeeded in our task and I'm sure missing persons could never hold a candle to us. I commend you Jim for your wonderful organization which brings together old friends and remembrance to those who paid the supreme sacrifice. I have enclosed 2 years membership and an assortment of other goodies for \$50 dollars. Please use one membership for crazy Jake if he's not a member. "Jake" Charles Guiland, [REDACTED]

God Bless, Shakey Michael G Curran, [REDACTED]
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank-you Mike, those reunions are really great, I sent "Jake" his membership card. I may have misspelled his last name, if so I'm sure he will let me know.

Dear Jim and Debra, I would like to start out by saying that I want two of your T shirts. I would like two large shirts, #01-01, 145 CAB and the other is #12-02, 121 AHC. I am enclosing a 30 dollar money order for this so what ever the postage is it should cover it. Please feel free to take what ever is left over and put it in the association. I really wasn't in the 121st but rather in the 93rd. My tour of duty was from 1-62 to 12-62 and I was among other things a door gunner and POL driver. I am sending you my orders for that, in hopes you can use that information. One of the guys on the orders I still write to, and I think he might be intrested in the association. His name is Rigoberto Serventi, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. I don't know how you found me Jim and Debby, but I am glad you did. Perhaps I can pay you back for finding others. I enjoy finding out about the old units and what happened to them so keep up the good work. Yours Truly, Donald Willis
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Don and I sent info to Rigoberto, hopefully I'll get to meet both of you at the reunion.

Dear Jim, First of all, I hope that you and family had a merry Christmas and may 1993 be filled with joy and happiness. Thanks for the 92-93 Memership Directory. I am not a member but, hopefully this letter will correct that. Inclosed is my check for \$10.00. I do not have an application but, I believe that I read someplace that the dues is \$10.00. I was with the 57th Helicopter Co. (TC). Not much luck on finding people here in San Antonio. I did have a chat with a Al Cargen and he informed me that he was never a member of the 45th nor the 145. I can add a couple of names of members that have died: EDISON I ROBERTS, CW02, W2217720, arrived in Vietnam with the 57th but because of a death in his family, he had to return to the U.S. I believe this to be around Dec 62 or Jan 63. When returning to Vietnam, the Airliner that he was on, went down at sea. No survoires. BLAIR R. HILMAN, CW02, W2207685, arrived in Vietnam with the 57th and died at Fort Benning, GA in 1963 or 64 of a heart attack. Hopefully, I've been of some help. Take care and keep up the good work. Sincerely, Ulyses (Lam) Lamkin [REDACTED]
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Lam and I added Edison I Roberts and Blair R Hilman to our Memorial List.

Dear sir, Enclosed is \$20.00 for memership. I feel very much connected to a couple of units of the 145th even though while I was assigned to the 145th and subsequently (until

now), I did not know (or care) that the 213th AVN was part of that organization. I was in the 93rd TRANS way back in 1954 at Fort Riley Kansas shortly after they were formed. At that time, I drove one of the refuelling trucks and later was a clerk in the maintenance office. I was transferred out in March 1956. In 1958, I was assigned to the 8th TRANS company at Fort Eustis Va. I was doing technical inspection at that time. Later in 1958 I was assigned to the 6th TRANS company in Korea. I was an H-21 crew chief. In April 1959, I was in a H-21 that crashed into a mountain near the DMZ. The copilot was killed in the crash. CWO Box was the pilot and SSG Jouett was the crew chief. In December 1959, the 6th TRANS company was alerted to go to Vietnam. In January 1960, this alert was cancelled. In 1960 I was transferred to Japan and assigned to the general depot at Sagami-hara with duty at Shin Meiwa IND LTD at Osaka International Airport near Osaka. Shin Meiwa was overhauling reciprocating aircraft engines and among other aircraft types, H-21 helicopters. Most of the H-21S and R-1820 engines we overhauled, went straight to Vietnam. In 1963 I was with the 11th Air Assault at Fort Benning GA. I may have been the only Enlisted man to get out of going to Vietnam. Prior to being assigned, I had requested language training at defense language institute in Monterey California. The orders came through and oddly enough that had a higher priority than the 11th Air Assault. After language school (Korean), I was assigned to yet another tour in Korea. I was a technical inspector for the 55th AVN CO (army). Finally in 1967, I was assigned to the 1st CAV in Vietnam but when I arrived in the country, I went to the 1st AVN BDE (again I do not know the Battalion) and the 179th AVN CO at Camp Holloway in Pleiku. I was a SP6 by this time and was the only TEC inspector assigned to that CH-47A company for the first 6 months I was there. I left the 179th at the end of February 1968 (in the middle of TET offensive). During a abbreviated tour in Germany I was promoted to SFC and 6 weeks later, on my way back to Vietnam. I arrived back in Vietnam in July 1969 and was assigned to the 213th Aviation Company as the service platoon sergeant. I extended my tour twice and went back to the USA in September 1971. During my stay with the 213th, I held nearly every E-7 job in the company including the overall maintenance sergeant. Between 1971 and 1974, I was assigned to the 4th AVN CO at Fort Carson and later was the first EM assigned to the newly reformed 179th AVN. I was the overall maintenance sergeant for the 179th for quite a while. After I retired in July 1974, I went to the Philippines where I studied electrical engineering at the University of San Carlos in Cebu City for 2 years. I returned to the USA in 1976 and got a job with KRVN, which is a 50KW AM radio station. I am now the chief operator of the AM transmitter site and have been employed here for nearly 16 years. Once in a while, a Huey flies over the site, I think they are using our signal as a navigation beacon. That is about the extent of my involvement with aviation these days. I still have a patch from the 213th if you ever need to copy one for a Tee shirt. Also if you ever start printing 213th Tee shirts, I would like to get one (or more). Also I am writing an autobiography. It has some of what I thought were interesting events that took place in most of the units I was in, including the episode that I initiated while in the 213th which put everyone into the bunkers. If the 145th ASSN is interested in a copy and if you will let me take credit for writing it, let me know and I will run off the pertinent parts for you. Yours Truly, Roger D. Fetters SFC U S Army retired

PS. I do not recognize any of the names on the list you sent me. Major Becker, Donald L. is not listed in the Beaver City phone book. It is long distance from Holdrege and about 60 miles from Holdrege. There are some other Beckers listed, however, I had an electrician in my service platoon from McCook Nebraska (213th AVN). His name is Carfield, but I can't remember his first name. There are some Carfields listed, but none ring a bell. There was a Jon McNurlin (E-7) in the 242nd who served with me in the 179th.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Roger. A lot of our members were in Army Aviation in the 50's and early 60's when Army Aviation was a small group, maybe a few that remember you will drop you a line. After our Reunion in June I could use a patch to do a 213th T-shirt. And any historical articles you send in I would be happy to give you credit for. Maybe some of our people in Nebraska will locate your friends there.

Dear Jim, I received both packets sent to me. At first I thought that I'd receive more junk mail until I saw the old 145th Patch that clicked or jogged something somewhere. O' well I've read the material several times and find it quite interesting. I was with the

73rd AVN Co (MICAS) (Mohawks) attached to the Y03A (Lockhead Exp. Aircraft). When the Y03A detachment stood down Aug 71. While with the unit I really wasn't interested in the unit. I do know that when the 73rd left the country, some of the aircraft went to Alaska, Fairbanks (172nd MIDAS), some went to Salem Oregon National Guard addresss 1921 Turner Rd. Salem OR. The unit in 172nd BGE Alaska has since left and went to Savannah GA. Those units (AVN Assets) that are still there when I left in Dec. 1980, 242 AVN Co (CH47) HHC 222 AVN BN, 120th AVN Co 283rd MED Co. When I was station in Salem OR Nov 72 - Feb 76 in an advisory status some of the senior NCO active Army types told me that we were the same in Nam together- SFC James G. Henshey Retired Salem OR, SFC Richard Elliot retired Salem OR?, SFC Iwo Hamada retired Hood River OR. SSG Richard Takatsue last known with Salem guard, CW3 Thomas Spiniella Savannah GA, SP4 Frank Gitter last known Campbellsport WI, SSG Gris Mumpowen last known Ft. Huachuca AZ. SP5 Mark Baker last known Peoria, IL. This all that I can think of for now. However there was an article written in the Soldiers Mag about a mission flown down in IV Corp in a Y030 and I remember the mission quite well the pilots name was CPT Shaw, T.O. was me Michael Pass, I wasn't able to contact him tho. To contact most of (EM, OF) contact A Co. or B Co. USAICS, FT Huachuca AZ 85613. These people keep in touch with these people around the world. I hope this has helped. Theres one more Bob (Robert Bell) last known was Vancouver, WA but has moved. Inclosed is my check for dues two years. Thank you for sharing your time, Michael Pass PS If I may be a help let me know. Thank you

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Mike, maybe some of our members in those locations can find those people for use.

Jim, I somehow missed it in the last newsletter (which I pass on to another Vet-Female-Air-Force), the article about a .50 caliber being mounted on a Huey B Model. No date was mentioned, nor do I recall the 335th AHC, but I know for certain that the 117th Avn Co had one in 64. (Pictures enclosed) The crew, George Neiderhamer??, was a german immigrant using service time for citizenship. The guy was a wiz with everything and anything. He is probably working for/or running NASA now. As I recall--with the aid of a few guys from the 140th CHEM, he rigged up the 50's to a fairly new 62 B Model. I know they were fired by compressed air, and aimed by use of a rocket sight. The aircraft was named Karen, (for his wife), call sign was CIGAR 6. He had 2 different door gunners, both from 25th INF Div (Wolfhounds). One was a staff Sgt, the other a Buck Sgt. George never let anyone touch his baby Karen -if it flew, he was aboard. I somehow talked, or coerced him into letting me take her out to the firing area one day. As you can see by the enclosed photo's -he gave me a list of instructions that would rival a father whose daughter was going out on her first date. Other than flight helmets, we had no ear protection in the early days. The roar from those twin 50's was deafening, but well worth the show that I saw. It was my one and only ride in Karen, but one that I'll never forget. She was still in service when I left my 2nd tour in March of 65. As always, Best to you and Deb, Carl Vogel

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Carl, maybe some day soon we'll locate George.

Dear Jim, I apologize for getting so far behind in my dues. Thanks so much for continuing to send the newsletter. I know you and your wife do an awful lot of hard work and it really is appreciated. I enjoy the newsletter so much. Sure glad the reunion is in Texas this year and am making plans to attend. Have already got the time off from work. (Ft. Worth is about 2 and a half hours travel time from us.) I really enjoyed the letter last issue from my former platoon leader, James Buchanan, who was one of the Australian pilots who were in the EMU (135th AHC). I recall very well, him and another Australian he mentioned, Stuart Rawlinson. I intended to write him but haven't yet. I would be very interested in meeting with him when he is in the U.S. Sure hope that he can make our reunion and VHPA in Az. The incident he spoke of where Army WO Terry Mezera (misspelled Menzera in newsletter) is interesting. There seems to be conflicting accounts concerning this action. Mezera and I were room mates for several months and flew together many times. However, my memory is foggy concerning the actual mission and action on the day of his death. I was not flying that day and all the accounts I had were second hand. I would be

very interested in hearing a first hand account. I did not know that Stuart Rawlinson was flying with him on that fateful day. All these years I thought it was WO Louis Seegar. Look forward to seeing you in Ft. Worth. Sincerely, Aaron Ault
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Aaron, there should be a lot of EMU's at the reunion including some of the R.A.N. personnel. See you there.

Dear Mr. Bodkin, I just received your 1992-1993 membership roster. Since last I wrote, I now have a phone number if you'd care to enter it for the next roster. It is [REDACTED] I'm not really expecting any calls, but one never knows. I notice my two best friends in Vietnam are not listed. I do not know where they are either, but, in case you do not already have their names, they are 1LT Peter J Ulysses- he was Battalion Personal Officer in 69-70. CPT Alfred M Croke- he was catholic chaplain in 69-70, BN HQ. Sgt Steve Howard 69-70? He was the Bn photographer. Of course, I always keep an eye out for new members, especially since I am also president of the Air Force Helicopter Pilot Association. One never knows where one will find a potential member. Sincerely, Frank Harvey P.S. it must be dues time again, I've been paying bills tonight, paying everyone else so why not you. 10.00 for Assn. 10.00 for above and beyond.
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Frank. Anyone knowing anymore info on these people please let me know.

Dear Jim & friends, Glad to hear there is a organization for the 145th AVN BN, 71st AHC. I was sent to Vietnam in December 1965 to be with the 27th Artillery Unit. When they said it would be two weeks before we were going to our unit, that afternoon they had a formation looking for volunteers to be helicopter door gunners. Myself and three others volunteered, and I was assigned to the A/501 which later became the 71st AHC in Bien Hoa where I spent my time to December 1966. I was a door gunner for that year aboard a Slick, and got to see alot of the country like other helicopter crews. There are a number of crew members I would like to find, and one that I can remember is Robert (Robbie) Robinson, he was SP4 crew chief and left Bien Hoa around October 1966. I am enclosing a ten dollar donation to be used wherever needed as my appreciation for hearing about the members of the 71st AHC, I was also a SP4. If you would have names and addresses of members of the 71st from December 1965 thru 1966 it would be appreciated. My service No. is US51537439 for your records. Any questions contact me at the address below. Sincerely, Vincent Harrington, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Vincent, hopefully you found many old friends in our Directory.

Dear Sirs; I just recieved a copy of the 1992-1993 membership directory. In reviewing the KIA listing I found a couple of additional names that should be there. The following individuals were killed with Albert Trudeau on October 26, 1971: Lautzenheiser, Michael I. ss # [REDACTED] crewchief. Eveland, Mickey E. ss# [REDACTED] crewchief. Green, Thomas F. ss# [REDACTED] gunner. Maquiling, Leonard G. ss# [REDACTED] aircraft Cdr. I have enclosed the Army Aviation Saftey Center report on the accident. There was also passagers on board who I do not believe were members of the Battalion. We stayed up most of the night waiting for any word on what happened to see if they had been found. We never heard anything else though. Sincerely, John Halvorsen
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John, I have added the others KIA that day to our Memorial List.

Dear Jim, It was indeed a pleasure to recieve your most recent membership directory, and find myself and my old unit (25th Avaition Co.) listed. The address listed and dates for in-country service are accurate, however, please correct my rank as I was a commissioned officer. During my tour of duty I had the pleasure of serving with a great group of individuals and many wonderful friendships were made. Unfortunatly, the years and new careers don't allow us to maintain those friends. One individual that I had the plearsure of serving with, and is not currently listed on your directory is: [REDACTED] Mike served with the 25th AVN Co. as a commissioned officier during the years of 1969-1970. I know he would be pleased to be listed in your directory. Thank you again for your efforts. Hopefully, many more individuals will help

you in your efforts. Sincerely, Lou Szmodis
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Lou, and I put Mike on our mailing list.

I see my membership has run out so I am sending 10.00 to renew. I would also like to order a T-shirt. Size-large, 119th Ass. Hel. Co. \$13.00. Two people from my hometown were KIA in Vietnam. I didn't see them on your list. They are both from Fosston, Mn. WO1 Stephen Lyle Tronerud KIA 1-7-69 class 68-11 I got from the VHPA. The other was Lowell (Butch) Algaard was a bird dog pilot originally listed as missing in action about 69 or 70. Sorry I don't have more information on him right now. His dad is Orvill Algaard of Fosston Mn. Check enclosed for \$ 23.00. Thanks, Joel S. Erickson
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Joel.

Dear Jim, Enclosed is a check of ten dollars for my membership in 145th CAB organization. Looking forward to the reunion in June in Ft. Worth. I hope the roster will give me the opportunity to stir up some Old Warriors. I am, incidentally, the original Old Warrior Six. Yours Truly, Howard M. Moore
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Howard, I've wondered how the Old Warrior callsign got started. I knew about Corn Cob 6, Col Hughes. If you would care to send in more of the story behind the Old Warrior Callsign it would be appreciated.

Dear Jim, I let my dues run out on July 92. Here is a check for \$20 to catch me up for whatever. Sorry I'm late but I have been busy and for some reason let it slide by. I have had some contact with the vet in Burnsville N.C. named Charles Dellinger (EM) I'm not certain of the unit he served but I can contact him if necessary. For your info, my number # is [REDACTED]. Thank you, John Wyatt
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John, I don't have any info or address on Charles Dellinger.

Dear Jim, Just a note to say hi, and pass on a tidbit. I recently ran across a book of early Vietnam by a newspaper reporter, Malcolm W. Browne with a preface by Henry C. Lodge it's of 61-62 era and specifically identifies 57th and 120th the change from old 21's to the Hueys also UTT's gun ships, very good book, well done. A lot of specific info for anyone but especially those of early years. Some about early marine Helio's June 63 the Buddhist monk burning, he has pic's in book, the Caravelle hotel, the coup of Diem Nov'63. Bobbs-Merrill Co. Inc. Subsidiary of Howard W. Sams and Co. Inc. Well just wanted to share that little with you, I hope someone will get the book. Hope you and Deb are fine. We really appreciate your efforts in this association. Your friend & comrade, Gene Rummage
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Gene, some of our readers may want to check their local library for this book.

Dear Jim, Merry Christmas to you and your wife, I hope this letter gets to you before than if not Happy New Year, Hopefully 93 will be better. Sorry it has been so long that I have given you a letter, I have been working on my case it is by the way back to court it took awhile but it is on the road again. I have a program we started here last year at this institutional on veterans who have P.S.T.D. we have 20 people in the group and outside guess they are as follows Rev. Philip G. Salois, of Vietnam Veteran Minister, Al Corriveau, of North Attleboro V.F.W. Post, and Janet Jones a PHD in Psychological Services we work together in with this group to try and put some light on what we all went through in Nam and what happen to some of us when we return, why some of us came to prison, experience the symptoms of depression, emotional withdraw, rage, recurring dream, and mood changes. We do this as a group or one on one, how ever the person feels and it has been working for 18 months now at this institution. Jim I have been working on this program for 8 years, both here and other institutions I have been in. Now the next goal is to bring people from outside Hospitals such as the Boston V.A. people who have had there "care" cut away from them, let these people come here for counseling and sit with our group and see what we are all about and hopefully keep them coming back once a month or every two weeks as we hold the groups two times a month as needed. This is a program to help veterans on the inside and to reach out to veterans on the outside as well. In closing Jim this letter

was to let you know what I have been up too and what my plans are in the new year coming and keep you and your association updated as we progress, nice to talk to you again. Happy Holidays, Peter Hodgkins

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Peter and good luck with the group.

Dear Jim: Enclosed is my application for membership and check. I read "Old Warriors" Aug '92 Vol 22 cover to cover- loved it! I "belonged" to the 71st AHC "Rattlers" and served in Vietnam 3/70-3/71. Over 20 years ago! Sometimes just a faint memory, and other times it seems like yesterday- I'm sure you all know what I mean. I was a member of the "Prestigious" Firebird Gunship Platoon and was disappointed when no T-shirt or patch was offered! I have not dug out my memorabilia yet, but will do so and send a photo of the patch when I do. One concern: Why can't the Reunion Guys get together with the 14th AVN. BN. "Reunion Guys" and coordinate one together? Yours is Ft. Worth, TX on June 25, 26, and 27 and theirs is Nashville TN on July 16, 17, and 18. An awful lot of travel in 2 months for anyone! It wouldn't be bad if I still had my "wings" and could fly to both- but I don't. Maybe CWO Bauer in Oregon (who does helicopter logging) could pick me up on the way? Just some thoughts- Keep up the good work! Paul Redemann

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Paul, and just a note to say we do now have a T-shirt and a patch available of the "Prestigious" Firebird Gunship Platoon.

Mr James Bodkin, I am inclosing information on the 74th RAC while I was there. Hope it will help. I can take a picture of the original company crest, which I brought back from VN in 71. I also have info on Randell B. Turner, a friend, of many year. Please find his address and phone plus my membership application and order form. Thanks for contacting me as I am very interested in veterans groups. I am the commander of VFW Post 8252, Gloucester, VA and life member; life member of D.A.V. Grafton VA; life member VVA chapter 433 Newport News VA, and American Legion member of Virginia. Glad to be part of the 145th CABVA Assn Yours Truly, Wayne Davis [redacted] ph [redacted]

[redacted] I am working on Gen Small, Harold I to find him for you.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Wayne

Hi Jim and Deb! I only very recently spotted my name in this newsletter and am responding A.S.A.P. Brian Wizard, [redacted] [redacted] would be the one to provide info about the 118th smokeship. I had already departed in Jan. '69 before they had acquired and mounted a .50 on Pollution IV, our smokeship, in '69. I had been one of the extra gunners a few times in '68 on the smokeship. It used a crew of 5: AC, pilot, CE, and 2 gunners. Brian, however, was part of the permanent crew on the smokeship, a 2nd platoon aircraft, where I was in our 1st platoon. I'll see you all at the reunion. "Killer" David Evans

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Dave. I recently received a package from Brian with a letter that was not for the Readers Response, it also contained a check for a large donation and a copy of a book he just had published, called "Shindara". The book is about some dolphins in and around the Great Barrier Reef of Australia, I just skimmed the book but thought was good, then my 14 year old daughter that has been a book worm since pre-school got a hold of the book and thought it was a very good book, enjoyable, interesting, and very well written. So to Brian I want to say "Well done, were with you Brother".

Dear Jim, A short note to enclose my subscription for three years. Plus a \$20 Donation to help with running the association. Currently, I am in the process of planning a trip to the U.S.A. to coincide with the '93 reunion, so I would be grateful if you could let me know if you have been able to arrange any discount air fares, plus any other details which will help with my arrangements. Looking forward to seeing you in June '93. With every good wish, Graeme Price

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Graeme, hope to see you in Fort Worth. So far we haven't done anything with a special discount air fare, with the way the airlines are working the air fares, you never know which ones are good and which ones will be in business in June.

Jim and Deb, It seems forever since we've seen you guys. We missed Kokomo in '92 and couldn't make D.C., but plan on going to Ft. Worth. I've talked to Gene Capen numerous

times since we last talked and it's really great to have found each other again. Gene pulled me out of the wreckage of a B model gunship that went end over end, & is a very close friend. Thanks for the contact and friendship Jim and Deb, Always, Tom Cooper
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Tom, I really enjoyed helping you and Gene make contact. I want to see both of you at the Fort Worth Reunion.

Dear Jim, Hope all is well with you and Deb. Maria and I are in good health, except for her not shaking a flu bug for about a month. Retirement is hectic. Always on the go. I need a full time job to slow me down. (only kidding) Sorry for the long delay in ordering 118th AML shirts. I know you made a special effort to get them in production. Take care, Hope to see you in Dallas. Ralph Orlando

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ralph, see you in June.

I recieved your newsletter a short time ago followed by a copy of the 145th Av. Bn. Membership Directory. I was pleasantly surprised by both! Until I recieved your newsletter I had no idea that such an organization existed. Reading them sure brought back a lot of memories! I have not had any contact from any former unit members and unfortunately time had blurred the memory of their names. I was in Vietnam from January 1968 to January 1969. The first six months I was with the 118th "Thunderbirds" at Bien Hoa and from June 1969 I was with the 135th "Emu's". The 135th was originally a tennent at "Blackhorse" and then moved to a base south of Bien Hoa. I can't remember the name right now. For those who are unaware, the 135th was made up of half US Army and half Australian Naval personel. The Commander was always a U.S. Army Major and the Executive Officer was Australian. The remainder of the unit was equally divided our organization was little known outside our own unit. Being assigned was a memorable experience. I have enclosed copies of my orders that I was able to locate; one with assignment to the 135th and one is my orders home. I hope this helps identify unit names and dates. I am also my membership form and T-shirt order. Thank you, Neil Russo

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Neil and welcome aboard, in time you'll remember the names of those friends and make many more from a time and place of many years ago.

Dear Jim, Sorry about my membership as my card said July '93 but. I'll review any ways. Haven't been able to help you with the list you sent, will keep trying. Won't be able to make the reunion, maybe the next one. Not to much news about the old UTT in your newsletter but, was pleased to learn about Harry (Joe) Candler. For all the old UTT members if you get a chance drop a line to George Herrin as he's fighting a bout with cancer. His address is RT#1 [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] would probably make his day to hear from someone (UTT 1962-1963). Enclosed is fifty dollars for dues 3 yrs plus twenty who can't afford. Thanks, Irving Tate

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Irv.

Dear Jim, I guess it's time for me to get on the ball and renew my membership. Take the extra money and donate to the association. I did want to clarify a little on using the 50 cal. from a Huey. During my tour in '67 I flew over 600 hours on night time "Firefly" missions and used the 50 cal. exclusivily. We had it welded to a steel plate which was fastened to the tie downs in a D model. The only problem I recall with the gun was that it over heated after firing a couple of boxes ammo and required a barrel change. Thought this might throw a little light on the subject. Aloha, Gene Baily Dragon 36

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Gene, hope to see you at Ft Worth.

Dear Jim, Enclosed is \$50 for those items on your order form sheet. There's a little extra to use as you see fit. Sorry about the delay in my renewal but time has a way of slipping by. You and Deb have done a wonderful job on the newsletter, it must be very time consuming. I look forward to it. The last time I wrote you I sent you some orders that I had when I was in Nam of some people who were with the 145th, was just curious if they helped at all? Seeing how I'm not much of a letter writer, it's sign off for now. Thanks for the memories and if you print this, if anybody remembers "Teeny Bop" I'm in your directory drop me a line or call, I would like to hear from anybody who remembers me.

Bandits Rule! 68-69 "Teeney Bop" Rich Rissman

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Teeney Bop, yes, all the sets of old orders help find more people. I can't give a number but were a lot better at finding people when we know who they are and where they might be located.

Dear Jim, Thanks for doing such a great job. Recieving the newsletter is like seeing an old friend. Sincerely, Pat Kelly, 119th AHC 67-68

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Pat and you should have received the replacement t-shirt for the defective one by know. Good seeing you at the VHCMA party.

Dear Jim, Quick note with my renewal. I enjoy just reading the aviation newsletter and looking for friend's names. In the last issue I read the name Scott Alwin. I had the honor to serve with him when he was the Plt Ltn for the 117th gun platoon and I was in the slick platoon "Annie Fanny". I eventually became an admin / opns officer. One of my additional duties was the awards and decorating officer. I was really suprised by the level of awards and just sheer number of awards Scott had recieved. Yet he was still a regular guy who didn't demand respect, but everyone just willingly gave it to him. I've always thought that most likely he had recieved the largest number of awards during Vietnam. Interesting question. I am about to hang my uniform in the closet finally. I've only one regret. I wish there had been an aviation branch in the old days so that I could have served my entire career with great people like crew chief, gunners and pilots. Instead, I worked with great people still, but flying a desk is not the same. Everyone in our association knows exactly what I'm speaking of. Thanks to you and your family for the efforts and contributions you make in keeping the 145th alive. Bob Pritchard

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob. I'm sure Scott's family will appreciate what you what you remember about him.

Dear Jim, I have recieved your newsletters and membership directories over the years, have looked at them, but have been remiss in reacting to them. Last year, I attended the VHPA reunion in Atlanta, my first attendance at any such activities. I enjoyed it- it was fun hearing and telling "war stories". I had hoped I would find a few people I had shared a cockpit with- but found none. I did find a number of people who had been in my companies or neighboring units at the same time I was there. This year, I'm hoping to attened the 145th reunion in Dallas- hopefully, there I can find some Cowboys of Top Tigers I shared cockpits and missions with. Heres a check for membership continuation..... Looking forward to Dallas..... Sincerely, Chuck Utzman- Cowboy and Old Warrior

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Chuck, hope you found many old friends at our Reunion in Ft Worth.

Jim, Find enclosed \$40.00 for 2 years membership and 121st Tee Shirt- use the rest for postage or whatever. My apologies on being late, an oversight. Keep up the good work, hope to have some names and addresses for you soon- especially the Aussies that were with the 135th. If I can be of any help in this area, Let me know. Best regards, Larry R. Majeski

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Larry and I'll do that.

Jim, I've been going to mail this for months. Always good to hear from you through the newsletter. Thanks Ron Manning

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ron and I was talking to an old friend of yours at the Reunion, John Dulemba.

Jim, I saw in the most recent newsletter that "Wild Bill Fraker" is paying to update membership in the association! I'm tempted to apply, but just in case, I'm enclosing my own dues. Has anyone located Col. Bill Dillard, former commander of the 145th (69-70)? Always enjoy reading the newsletter. Jack (Saber 6) McQuestion, Ft. Lauderdale, Fl.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Jack, Col William Dillard is in Arlington, VA as far we know. I send something to him each year to keep the address updated but he hasn't join yet. You should be getting your new Directory real soon.

Dear Jim: It's Working!! I got a nice note from Jerry Childers along with his check for \$10.10. (the interest is the idea of sarcasm). He can't make this reunion, but he's happy to be back in the fold. His call sign was Play Boy One One. It is only fitting that I use his check to pay the dues for play boy One-Two (Jerry's Wingman). James M. Lee, [redacted] WO- 68th, 197th, 334th. (1964-1965) and Cobra NEII (1967-68). Here's another Lost Soul: Richard S. Jarrett [redacted]

[redacted] UTT/68th/197th-1964-65, Cobra Nett- 1967-68. He's a BHI Bigwig and should be at reunion. Marv, the other guy we signed up with Jerry will probably wait til June to punch me out- Ruby and I will visit with them in Mineral Wells before reunion. Anyhow, we got 4 new members. Bill Fraker

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill, make that five, see Jack McQuestion letter above. I hope you had a good visit Marv Dorr, and Dick Jarrett really helped us out with the Bell Helicopter Plant tour and sat up a really interest display. I really thought it was great the way they asked Ken Chien to help with the tour without telling him it was his old stick buddies from 28 years ago that would be on the tour. A very pleasant surprise from Ken.

James, I just recieved your latest newsletter. Since I last talked to you I have located one of the men I was looking for. He was a warrent officer with the 71st AHC named Wallace W. Dunning, JR. I am sending you his address and a few others. Thank you. I am enclosing next years dues. Ron Seabolt

Wallace W. Dunning, Jr [redacted] (Former Rattler 1-5) with the 71st from Nov. '66 to Nov. '67 Warrent Officer. Laurence Lackly [redacted] (My former 1st Plt. Sgt.) with the 71st from Nov. '66 to Nov. '67 and a second tour later. Beryl Scott, [redacted]

[redacted] (Former Rattler 1-9) with the 71st from Oct '66 to Oct '67 Warrent officer. Also on the newsletter New People Located List in the newsletter, Chester Carlock's phone number was incomplete. It should read [redacted].

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ron it was good meeting you, Chester, and the group at the Reunion.

Dear Jim, I would like to report a mistake, you have me with the 121st AML not the 80th Tran. If you could change the unit for me before the next membership directory, I would great appreciate it. I hope to make it to Ft. Worth for the reunion in June. Also would like to see my CO Red Keville, and others from 80th Tran. Det./121 Avn. Co. Sincerely, Richard K. Smith P.S. I am sending in a order form too.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Richard, I made the change in the file so it should be right this time, it was good meeting you at the Reunion.

Dear Jim, Enclosed are 2 money orders, one for the membership dues, and one for the Bien Hoa tape. I served with the 173rd Abn Bd. and then with the 145 Cbt Avn Bn. Pathfinder Detachment from May '67 to Dec '68. Based at Bien Hoa Airbase. I'm enclosing the names and a few address I have of the members of the Pathfinders Team I served with. I also have about 2000 ft. of movie film. On film I have the Bien Hoa Helicopter Revetments- The Barracks area, crews- also Inflight Aerial shots of Saigon, the Delta, Michelin Rubben Plantation, Vung Tao Beach. Highway 1 going into Saigon- The Presdential Palace- Tudor St. Also a few insertions- Smokeship Runs; downed aircraft recovery ect. I'mhoping to transfer it to VCR tape and I will send the Association a copy for viewing at the annual reunions. The names of the other Pathfinders are Mark Nayle, Ira D. Miller, William Kohl, Willie Williams, Cecil Williams, Lt. Hengen, Lt Carroll, Lt. Abott, Fred Lutz, Tex Rosenkild, "Woody" Woods (KIA on an extraction) The only guy we lost in all the operations we ran. I will drop you a line with other names as they pop into my squash. Thanks for adding me to your mailing list. Fran Buinowski P.S. The mailing address I have: Sgt. Major Pearle "Skip" Ettlinger [redacted] and W-3 Edwin Carter 1137 [redacted] and Dean Rogerson [redacted]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Fran and I added the 3 to our mailing list.

Please note the new address. "Andrew" had something to do with this and also the delay in sending in the dues. Keep extra for whatever. Thanks, Dick Miller

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Dick and I hope you able to put everything back together again alright.

Dear Freddy, I was suprised to see that the aircraft that I saw crash is still in one piece or perhaps I was suprised to read that it had been restored to service. During the battle of Dong Xoai, our Heavy Fire Team was the first to arrive over the area about 0200 and stayed for three days. (Dragon 36) A study of the battle was written by the Capt. Wayne Downing (now General) at Fort Benning for the Pathfinder course as I remember. This was done in 1966 so they may still have it on file. Capt. Johnson and I served in the 28th Infantry (1st Inf. Div.) together in 1964-65 and flew with me on the first use of the M-5 Grenade Launcher around the Ben Cat-Tan Uyen area. Bruce was an adviser to the Arvin at Bien Cat. On the day in question, his unit was brought in to use in an assault on the compound and I talked to him on the ground at Phouc Vinh before the insertion. The first plan was to insert his battalion on the runway next to the compound at Dong Xoai. However, we had been receiving heavy weapons (.50 Cal) from the runway and the VC had succeeded in shooting down a F-100 over that area so the plan was changed to an insertion on the rubber plantation runway some few clicks away. We did the recon of the strip (it was paved I believe) and the houses around the runway. My co-pilot on the recon was Jim Vance and Jan Bingen and Dick Jarrett were flying my wing. During the course of the recon I noted that there was no sign of life- no dogs, no people, no nothing. It was just too quiet and I reported this to the Air Mission Commander. There was no prep of the LZ and it was decided to go ahead with the airlift. When the troops hit the ground they were almost immediately engaged by the VC and I supposed they had dug concealed positions, but since we were off to the side while lift aircraft were being brought in I didn't see all that was going on near the strip. I did see a line of mortar rounds being walked down the runway and the aircraft was hit and crashed. As the lift ships pulled out I was talking to Bruce or his RTO (I don't remember which) and I pulled in behind the departing aircraft to see if I could determine what sort of firepower we could bring to bear on the VC. By the time we reached the runway the VC and the ARVIN were totally tangled up and it was hand to hand fighting. As was the custom of the time we made the decision to try and extract the Americans and we came to a hover along the side of the runway in an attempt to find Bruce and his RTO. Mortar rounds were still falling and the gunfire was beyond intense as was the yelling in our aircraft. We located Bruce by the antenna and we were in the process of hovering toward him when he and whoever was with him were hit by an explosion. At the time I thought it was a mortar round, but just disappeared. There were no more radio trasmissions and we did not find him or any Americans. If they were still there or the remains were there it was impossible to tell with all of the confusion from ARVIN and VC tangled up with each other. During the day another lift was dropped in the small rubber trees just north of the airstrip by the Dong Xoai compound and it too was overwhelmed by the VC, even though the Air Force dropped napalm. Finally a Ranger battalion was inserted into the compound and they held their ground. The pilot that was carried off was probably the F-100 pilot that was shot down. I believe that Harvey Stewart (CO of the 118th) tried to rescue him, but you could get more info from Harvey (he was a LTC the last I heard.) on exactly what happened in that case. If memory serves me correctly, there were three regular VC Regiments involved in that battle, including about 3000 VC. During the original battle I think there were about 20 some Americans inn the Dong Xoai camp and about 300 Cambodian strikers. There were some incredible heros during those days by the men on the ground and by many of the pilots. Sincerely, Marvin Myers

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Marv, It was good seeing you at the Reunion. The daughter of WO Don Saegaert, 118 AML, KIA 10 June 1965 at Dong Xoai, was at the Reunion in hopes of meeting people who served with her father and help answer some of the questions about his life and his death. Her name is Cindy Krininger, she and her husband Glenn and their two children are relocating to Indiana from Alaska where her husband just sepatated for the Army. Her and her sister Susan Schumacher can be contacted through the Association.

RENEWAL TIME

Its renewal time again and many of you already have. Some have signed up as Life Members. I want to thank each of you for your continued support. Those that need to renew your membership or join for the first time I want to express to you how much we need your support. Your membership dues pay for the cost of the newsletter and the directory and helps to locate more former members of the units in our Association.

The last few years I have been sending a list of people from your state in the directory for each of you to try to locate. I know many people put a lot of hours work into looking for those people. This year we have another option. With the new computer technology a person can check every phone book on the Eastern or Western half of the United States in just a few minutes for each name. With this system we don't even need to know the state the person was from but that information is still helpful. The biggest problem is that to use this technology we need a new computer system costing about \$2,000. That's the part I need help with. That's dues money for 200 members. So if you haven't joined or renewed your membership yet then please do so. We need the money. And if anyone wants to make an extra donation toward the computer it will really be appreciated.

Thank you

Please read this page, we really need you help and support to locate more people.

ORDER FORM

FILL OUT COMPLETE ADDRESS AND PHONE

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Send form to: 145th C.A.B.V.A., 3719 Forest Hill Ave, Ft. Wayne, IN, 46805-1301
1-219-483-5149

MEMBERSHIP FORM

145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association Membership Form

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

Rank (check one) EM _____ WO _____ OF _____

I have enclosed \$10 for each membership year. Total _____ for 1 July 1993 to 30 June 199__

Regular _____ Associate (family) member _____ Renewal _____ NL24

_____ LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$250 _____ full payment _____ Partial payment \$ _____

CASSETTE TAPES

Send me the indicated cassette tape/s, Audio Cassette sells for \$15. See page 23

_____ "Battle of Bien Hoa/Gunship Action"

_____ "Combat Assault" _____ "Songs of the UTT" NL24

UNIT PATCHES or HAT

Send me _____ 118AHC, _____ 118AML, _____ 119AHC, _____ UTT(Pegasus), _____ 335 AHC, _____ Firebird,
_____ Mustang, at \$4 each.

Or send me _____ 145th baseball cap at \$5 each. See page 23 NL24

VIETNAM VETERANS TIES

Send me _____ Vietnam Veterans Ties, \$22 each. See page 23

_____ Navy Blue _____ Burgundy NL24

COLOR T-SHIRTS

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

_____ #01-01 145th BN Asso. _____ Medium NL24

_____ #04-03 57th MED DET _____ #05-02 68th AHC _____ Large

_____ #06-02 71st AHC _____ #06-04 Firebird _____ Ex-large

_____ #08-03 117th AML _____ #08-04 117th AHC _____ XX-Large

_____ #09-01 118th AML _____ #09-02 118th AHC _____ XXX-Large

_____ #10-02 119th AML _____ #10-03 119th AHC

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

_____ #13-02 135th AHC _____ #16-01 190th AHC _____ #17-01 UTT (1963-1963)

_____ #17-02 UTT (1964) _____ #17-04 197AHC _____ #17-05 334th AHC (1966-68)

Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery, if not in stock. See page 23 for description.

Assoc. Watch and Belt Buckle

Send me _____ Association Watch at \$25 each. See page 23.

Send me _____ Association Belt Buckle at \$15 each. See page 23.

Jim, Here's a check for dues. I meet you at a St. Louis VHCMA Reunion. We talked with Gary Wetzel CMH. Here's an article by Harry Reasoner the reporter on helicopter maybe it will fit in newsletter. I am interested in car pooling. Would like to make 145th and VHCMA Re-unions So if you have list or pass my name on. You and Deb are doing a great job. Clear Right, Jim Hencin

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Jim the Report will fit here: "Helicopters Are Different From Planes - The thing is helicopters are different from planes. An airplane by its nature wants to fly, and if not interfered with too strongly by unusual events or by a deliberately incompetent pilot, it will fly. A helicopter does not want to fly. It is maintained in the air by a variety of forces and controls working in opposition to each other, and if there is any disturbance in this delicate balance the helicopter stops flying, immediately and disastrously. There is no such thing as a gliding helicopter. This is why being a helicopter pilot is so different from being an airplane pilot, and why, in general, airplane pilots are open, clear-eyed, bouyant extroverts and helicopter pilots are broader, introspective anticipators of trouble. They know if something bad has not happened it is about to."

Dear Jim, Thanks for remembering me and sending a 145th Newsletter my way. I am enclosing my check for \$20.00 which should keep me on your mailing list for at least another 2 years. Looking forward to the Otter- Caribou get-together in Colorado Springs this August. Hope to see you there! Best wishes and keep up the good work! Ben Collins

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ben, I'm not able to make the Otter - Caribou Reunion this year, not enough vacation time left. I know all those attending will have a great time, I did last year.

Dear Jim, Please accept my apologies for the late renewal of my membership. I'll blame it on a professional liability; I'm an absent-minded professor. Please use the enclosed funds for any past delinquent dues and the reminder for the future. I hope to see some folks at the VHPA Gathering in July. I will be running in the 5K race wearing my 118th T-shirt (you'll find me "flying trail"). Thanks for your patience, Mike Hurley

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Mike, I enjoyed the VHPA / VHCMA Reunion in Phoenix this year. I missed the 5k race, did anyone actually run in that heat?

Dear Jim, Enclosed you will find my app. and a check for \$20, \$10 is for 93 dues, and the other \$10 is to ease my mind, for not joining your organization sooner. I kept saying I'd get around to it, and every time I'd say that something would come up. Well, I was going through my desk drawers today and found some round toits and here I am. Actually I'm between college classes and I'm catching up on things that I've let slide during the last quarter. I've been wanting to tell you how much I look forward to your newsletter, especially the part of new people you have found. I would sure like to find Sgt. Taylor (first name John?). He was an armament NCO with the RAZORBACKS in Saigon before I got there in 1968 and after I left in 1969. The RAZORBACKS was the 3rd Platoon of the 120th AHC. Actually, we were the only ones who did anything worthwhile as the rest of the company flew nothing but VIPs the whole time I was there. Gotta go for now. Keep up the good work and keep the newsletters coming. Yours in service, Ray Reiblein

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ray. I added Sgt John Taylor to the help find list and if anyone has a state or a S.S.N. for him please let me know. I get the feeling we'll hear from a few of the Deans.

Dear Sir, First, let me introduce myself, I am Kenneth Saunders and I served with the 145th from Sept 1969 to March 1971. My job was at first awards and decorations clerk in HHC, my last 12 months was as Company Clerk of HHC. You are probably wondering how I found out about you, and the Assoc? I discovered your name in the D & G Catalog. I was unaware that an association had been formed until I came along a copy of the March issue of the Atlantic Flying paper. I am interested in joining the association and I am also interested in the Reunion that is scheduled for June 25-27 in Ft. Worth. I would appreciate any information that you can send concerning the association. Sincerely, Kenneth P. Saunders

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ken and welcome aboard. The Directory should be there soon and should list many of your old friends.

Dear Jim, On page 13 of the December 1992 Newsletter you have a letter from Connie Eagle Romaine, the daughter of Walt Eagle. Walt and I served together in the "Razorbacks" 64-65. Would you please send her me her address and/or send her mine. Tell her I miss Walt too!!!
John Gaither, "Razorback 80".

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John and I know Connie will enjoy hearing from you.

Dear Jim and Debbie, Enclosed check to cover current and next years dues. My actions delayed because of oversight following triple by-pass surgery last summer. Sure enjoy the newsletter and the excellent coverage you give to letters from Old Warriors. I marvel at your follow-up and responses. Looking forward to the reunion in Dallas/Ft. Worth, 25-27 June '93 and expect it will be even better than the excellent one in Denver. Best Wishes,
John C. Hughes, Corn-cob-six (Col. Inf. USA Ret)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John. It was good seeing you at the Ft Worth Reunion. The responses to the letters this time are a little shorter because of a back injury makes setting very long at a time very painful, hopefully it will be taken care of before long.

Dear Jim, First, here's my check to renew my membership. Second, I'd like to share a bit of info which may be of interest to members of our organization. I recently discovered one of our old Mustang "Charlie model" gunships in America's heartland on display for all to see. Mounted high on a pedestal in front of the Army's Aviation System Command's headquarters on Goodfellow Blvd, in St. Louis, MO, is a UH-1M (converted in 1969) which served the 68th Mustangs from April thru October 1968. The aircraft (64-14185) is in beautiful shape and is displayed with both the XM-21 mini gun/rocket launcher system and the M-5 grenade launcher system (not a combination I can recall from my days with the Mustangs). However what is glaringly absent is our unit markings- Tiger Head on the radio compartment cover and white diamond battalion and company designations on the tail boom and syc-elevator. Someday soon I will dig out my photos and slides to look for a good shot of 185. If one turns up perhaps we could send it to the AVSCOM Commander with an official 145th CAB letter and request that he take action to correct this matter. Lately, I am still trying to get info on CWO Scott Alwin who served with the 68th from Sep. '67 thru sometime in '71. Specifically I need to contact anyone who served with him in those last months he returned to the states. I'd like to get some means of confirming his record of combat flying hours (ie. awards orders). Anyone who can help please call or write: Ed Strazzini,

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ed. Hopefully our people will help with both of these items.

Dear Jim, Thank you for the special surprise last fall at Gatwick Airport, England when I met another former member of the 68th AHC, who told me about the 145th Association. I'm sorry I've misplaced his name but thankfully he got me on your mailing list. He was my first contact I've had since I left the Army in 1970. Since 1970, I've spent another 16 years in the USAF (F-4 & A-10) and retired in 1989. I now fly for Continental Airlines out of Guam. I'm sorry I won't be in CONUS for the '93 reunion but sure hope to make the next one. Would sure be great to see any of the ole Top Tigers and would especially like to locate Crew Chief George Aerobelo(sp), one of the best, if anyone knows his whereabouts. Thanks again for your dedicated efforts in keeping our unit memories alive. In February 1993, my pilot training roommate (1st Cav) and I went back to Saigon, Bien Hoa and Chu Chi tunnels. Life there goes on much as it has for the last several decades, without the bombing, shooting (and seemingly bottomless U.S. cash flow). We were treated the same as tourists most anywhere else in the world. The customs, immigrations, and overall public were all cautiously friendly and we encountered no problems in going where or when we wanted to go. Again, many thanks for keeping this going. I look forward to meeting you and other Battalion members in the future. Sincerely, James L Bohon 68th AHC Jan 68- Jan 69

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Jim. That was George Owens that you met in England, Top Tiger and Thunderbird 65-66. Same type thing happen to two of our people at the Atlanta Airport, watch for next newsletter for details.

BATTALION HISTORY

JANUARY THRU MARCH 1966

1 January 1966 started off with LTC Charles M Honour commanding the Battalion. In the next two years the 145th would be credited with many "First" and many awards. Starting in 1965 the Army started building up many new helicopter units and battalions, Vietnam would become known as the Helicopter War. The 145th played a large part in the build up and set the example for other battalions to follow.

On New Years Day 1966, the 335th AHC was involved in Operation Marauder in the bao Trai area, then Operation Crimp in the Hobo Woods.

On 18 February 1966 LTC Charles M Honour was killed in a helicopter crash between Bien Hoa and Saigon. LTC Horst K Joost, who was the executive officer of the 173d Airborne Brigade at the time, replaced LTC Honour on 20 February 1966. The 335th AHC gave support to the 1st Inf Div at Di An during the month of February 1966.

SUBJECT: Commanders Combat Note #1

23 February 1966

I am proud to have been designated to command the 145th Aviation Battalion. This organization has distinguished itself on many occasions. It enjoys an esteemed reputation and has set the pace for other similar units arriving in Vietnam.

I intend to maintain this high state of professionalism while being cognizant that we are all first and foremost ground combat qualified and then are qualified to provide aviation combat support.

Army aviation has changed the course of this conflict from a ground bound, ambush-susceptible slugging match, to a highly mobile and flexible posture that has been instrumental in keeping the Viet Cong off-balance. Army Aviation is providing the Free World Forces an offensive capability which is confronting the Viet Cong with an unpredictable nemesis. You are writing this chapter in history.

We must be mindful however, that our enemy carefully studies our every move and attempt to predict our pattern so that he can strike our weak spot. We must not be complacent with our past successes. We must constantly strive to improve our techniques and procedures. We must also be efficient with our resources of manpower and materiel. A non-combat loss of personnel and aircraft through an accident is a score for our enemy.

This battalion is an integrated team. Although basically the slick helicopter crew is the "bread and butter" of our many tasks, they are supported by everyone that makes up the organization. This includes the gunships, which provides protective fires, to the maintenance, avionics, operations, mail clerks, cooks, and all others that make the team. The success of each operation is the result of a contribution from each team member. Always bear this in mind!

Keeping everyone in this battalion informed is one of my goals. To this end, I will periodically publish a Commander's Combat Note which is intended to be disseminated to all members of the organization.

CLEAR LEFT AND RIGHT
HORST K JOOST, Lt Colonel, Inf
Commanding

The 1st Aviation Brigade was formed on the 1st of March 1966 and the 145th served under the 12th Group of the 1st Aviation Brigade. This was done for better command and control of all army aviation units and operations.

SUBJECT: Commander's Combat Note #7

5 March 1966

\SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS 21 FEBRUARY THROUGH 3 MARCH 1966\

1. During this period the 145th Aviation Battalion, in addition to moving to Bien Hoa, conducted nine major airmobile operations, two of which were conducted in one day. Our armed helicopters operating at night, accounted for 18 sampans or boats sunk, one of which was carrying VC troops and explosives, 15 sampans were damaged, and five VC huts were destroyed. On 23 February, armed helicopters of 197th Aviation Company were responsible for

the VC withdrawal from an attack on an ARVN compound when they brought fire to bear on the attackers.

2. This battalion supported by the 2d Brigade, 1st U.S. Infantry Division, on 21 February, during operation MASTIFF, by conducting six combat assaults with three infantry battalions, into two landing zones, 15 kilometers southeast of Dau Tieng. Forty-four troop carriers and 32 gunships were employed. Enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire was received during the landings. Aircraft damage was slight. Suppressive fire from aircraft placed on enemy positions was possible for decreasing the volume and intensity of VC fire.

3. On 22 February this battalion airlifted a regiment of the 10th ARVN Division from An Loc, vicinity of Xuan Loc, and conducted an airmobile assault 43KM to the south, near Binh Gia. Thirty UH-1D's and 17 UH-1B's (armed) were employed in the operation. No air or artillery preparation of the LZ was used in order to achieve surprise during the landing, and to preclude the possibility of setting the dry grass which covered the LZ on fire. The gunships of the 197th Aviation Company led the way by a few minutes and placed accurate and deadly fire on the treeline which encircled the LZ. The initial assault was accomplished with no enemy fire on the LZ. The gunship preparation however, necessitated the subsequent lifts to be diverted to an alternate LZ. The response on the part of all elements was immediate when modifications plans were made from the battalion command and control aircraft. Gunships diverted to the new LZ and began to place fire on suspected areas. The troop carriers modified the formation while airborne to compensate for the new conditions on the LZ. Between lifts, Air Force tactical air placed strikes on enemy ground fire along the helicopter flight routes, which had begun to become active. This operation demonstrated the flexibility of airmobile operations by being able to adjust to changing conditions with a minimum amount of radio transmission from a single command element. It also demonstrated the team work inherent in the gunships, troop carriers, and Air Force tactical air.

4. The 2d Brigade, 1st (US) Infantry Division was extracted from two landing zones by this battalion on 25 February, employing 31 UH-1D helicopters and 17 armed helicopters. These troops were lifted back to Dau Tieng prepared to be re-committed to another airmobile assault. Enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire was received by flight elements in the vicinity of the extraction zones. Three aircraft hits were sustained.

5. The morning of 26 February found this battalion assembling 20 troop carriers and 14 armed helicopters to airlift elements of the 25th ARVN Division and assault two landing zones located 15 KM Northeast of Ben Luc in order to conduct search and destroy operations against Viet Cong forces, supplies and installations. Ground fire was received and one aircraft was hit.

6. At 1700 hours that evening, the battalion lifted elements of the 173rd Airborne Brigade into one landing zone in war zone D, 11KM Northwest of Bien Hoa. This assault was designed to commit a reaction force into a blocking position to entrap a VC main force element, that was being engaged by the paratrooper elements previously lifted into area. Enemy fire was received from numerous locations around the assault LZ as the helicopters landed. Two aircraft received damage. During the extraction one UH-1D troop carrier from the 118th Aviation Company experienced a flame out and was successfully landed without damage in a rice paddy in the vicinity of the operational area. A night recovery of the downed aircraft by a CH-47 helicopter was executed. This latter accomplishment demonstrated the teamwork that we have developed in accomplishing any mission.

7. Early in the morning of 28 February, a main force Viet Cong, estimated to be a regiment, attacked and over ran the ARVN secured town of Vo Xu located east of Vo Dat in the Rice Bowl area. At 0455 hours the 145th Aviation Battalion was alerted to provide a rapid reaction airmobile capability to reinforce the friendly forces in Vo Xu. By 0630 hours, forty UH-1D troop carriers and 17 UH-1B armed carriers were on alert at Bien Hoa, Vung Tau and Tan Son Nhut. All aircraft and crews were assembled, briefed and organized for combat by 0730 hours. One Ranger Battalion was airlifted from Duc Hoa and positioned at Vo Dat. Another was lifted from Bao Trai and positioned at Vo Dat. Another ARVN Ranger Battalion was then lifted from An Loc and an airmobile assault conducted south of Vo Xu. One of the Rangers Battalion positioned at Vo Dat next conducted an assault on the same LZ. These assaults were designed to entrap and intercept the VC that had attacked Vo Xu earlier in the day. Three aircraft were hit by enemy ground fire. During the assault, one troop

carrier experienced a hard landing, and could not be flown out of the LZ. Immediate action was taken to prepare the aircraft for liftout. A CH-47 helicopter arrived and within seconds snatched the aircraft out of the LZ. This recovery was performed with such speed that it did not interfere with the tactical plan of the ground elements. This day's operation proved on several occasions that Army Aviation are more responsive to rapid reaction than are the ground elements. Planning for the conduct of the operation was accomplished in the cockpit by commanders and staff while flying to assembly areas. Short, standardized briefings and mission type orders are the keys to rapid reaction.

8. On 1 March 2/503 Inf Battalion, 173rd Airborne Brigade, was extracted from their operational area in War Zone D, to the Brigade base. Three lifts employing twenty-eight UH-1D and thirteen UH-1B (armed) helicopters. Hostile ground fire was encountered during the lift out.

9. In the early morning of 2 March, the battalion again assembled its elements for an airmobile assault. Thirty UH-1D troop carriers and eighteen UH-1B armed helicopters were employed. This time elements of the 25th ARVN Division were lifted from Trang Bang and Cu Chi to assault three landing zones were prepared by tactical air strikes and armed helicopters, however, light to moderate automatic and semi-automatic enemy weapons fire was encountered. Gunships and tactical air was placed on this ground fire. One troop carrier was hit. During the airmobile assaults an air observer detected approximately 40 VC fleeing west toward the Cambodian border. Gunships gave chase and worked the area over with their weapons. Damage to the VC was unknown.

10. On the last day of the reporting period, 3 March, this battalion conducted an airmobile assault with element of the 10th ARVN Division south of Baria, immediately adjacent to the sea coast. Twenty-seven UH-1D and 25 UH-1B armed helicopters were employed. Troop pick-up was from a road north of Baria. Four lifts completed this operation. Light to moderate hostile fire was encountered during the assault. Armed helicopters and tactical air strikes worked over these enemy locations during and between lifts. No aircraft hits were sustained.

11. In addition to these operations this battalion provided normal command and liaison, administrative and logistical support for III ARVN Corps.

12. A wrap-up for this period is as follows:

- A total of 5,547 U.S. and ARVN forces were committed in airmobile assaults. Extractions of forces from areas of operations consisted of 1,525 U.S. Forces. Repositioning of 639 ARVN troops was accomplished.

- The total sorties flown was 6,118 for a total of 2,192 flying hours.

13. This was a full period and every member of this battalion are to be congratulated for their accomplishments. Added congratulations must go to the maintenance personnel who have kept us ABOVE ALL.

14. In the area of civic action, which I feel is as vital as combat operations, this battalion is making great strides. In addition to our heavy operation schedule for the period, the 145th Aviation Battalion was active in the areas of Community Relations, Education and Training, and Health and Sanitation. A total of \$VC 16,020 was collected by the 197th Aviation Company to purchase baby beds for Saigon orphanage. Officers and enlisted men from A/501st Aviation conducted 4 one-hour English classes for the Bien Hoa National Police. Members of the 118th Aviation Company continued to provide support to Bien Hoa orphanage in the form of 320 lbs of rice, 100 lbs of peanuts, powdered milk, cooking oil, condiments and various cleaning products. In addition, two doctors visited the Leprosy colony for the purpose of treating patients. Letters received by members of the 68th Aviation Company indicate that local drives in their hometowns are making progress and donations for distribution to the local populace will be forthcoming.

"FIRST IN VIETNAM"

HORST K. JOOST, Lt. Colonel, Inf
Commanding

REUNION '93 REPORT

We started off the 1993 Reunion in Fort Worth, Texas on June 24 with the Early Bird gathering in the lobby of the Green Oaks Inn. We didn't get an exact count of those attending the Early Bird gathering but it seems like more than half of the 90 some former "Old Warriors" attending the Reunion were there. The Early Bird gathering is really an enjoyable time for me at the Reunions, a time to B.S. and catch up on whats happened to all my friends since last I seen them, and meet many new friend.

We offically started off the Reunion at 2 PM Friday May 25. And thanks to my wife Deb, Lorraine & George Owens, Diana & Ted Jambon, and Michael Krininger we had name tags maded up, had the registration papers ready, and got everyone signed in a short amount of time. I want to thank George Young for the really great job he did as the Reunion Treasurer and handling all the pre-registration. David Evans made up the signs for which units were in each of the rooms for unit Reunions. The Association trailer needed to be unloaded and we were swamped with volunteers, it only took a few minites. We sat up the rooms with the picture and memorabilia displays. By 6 PM we had moved the computer and registration table to the unit Reunion area where the bar was set up. The Unit Reunions went on into the late night.

Saturday, June 26th, had a very full schedule. Jim & Earlene Thorne did a really terrific job of setting the Reunion and the schedule of events. At 9 AM we loaded the busses for the Bell Helicopter tour. At Bell Helicopter Dick Jarrett, from UTT, 68th, 197th, and Cobra Nett fame, organized a very interesting and informative tour. Ken Chien, 118th 65-66, and a fairly new employee of Bell was volunteered to help with the tour, he was emotionally suprised to find out it was many of his old stick buddies from over 25 years ago. Lt Gen Robert R Williams, U.S. Army Retired, Hawk 6 present our Association for our archives a 1st Aviation Brigade Poster and USARCENT Desert Storm Map and explained how the patch was designed and approved. We toured the building and looked over some aircraft. We arrived back at the Green Oaks Inn about noon for dinner.

At about 1pm the Ft Wolter / Mineral Wells tour left the hotel, and although there were a few problems with the tour, those who were stationed at Ft Wolters saw some things from their past, and those who were not stationed there learned a little bit about the place.

The Show and Tell Display started about 4pm but most of the time was used for the Business Meeting. At the Business Meeting we discussed the place and date for the next Reunion, Life Membership, and By-Law changes creating an Executive Vice-President and a Vice-President positions. Each of these items will be covered in greater detail at the end of this report, so that these items of great important can be found easier for future reference.

About 6:30 we started the Cocktail Hour before the 8pm Reunion Banquet. Jim Thorne started off the Banquet by introducing the head table, Banquet Chaplain and his wife, John & Jean Hellstern, my wife Deb and myself, Maj Gen Carl McNair and his wife JoAnn, and his wife Earlene Thorne. Chaplain John Hellstern blessed the meal and we went through the chow line. As eveyone finished up their meal and got dessert, Gen McNair asked Mike Davis (UTT, 68th, 197th, and Cobra NETT) to come up and and preform a few of the songs from the UTT. Gen McNair said that he had asked his wife what he should speak about at the Reunion and she said he should speak about 15 minutes. Gen McNair gave a very good speech reflecting on service in Vietnam, the Wall, and other things. What he had to say was very well received and appreciated, although it was a little longer then 15 minutes. After the Banquet the Cocktail Hour(s) resumed.

Sunday morning, June 27th, we held our Memorial Service. The Rev Charlie Stone, who was a gunship pilot for the 114th conducted the service. It was a service like we never had before. The service started off with a prayer and remembering those that gave their all. Than we took time to remember other times from our tour, times that made it all bearable, good times we spent together. We closed out the Reunion on a happier note rejoicing that we could all be there together.

BUSINESS MEETING NOTES

NEXT REUNION: Fort Rucker, Alabama

When: 1995, suggested date; June 16, 17, 18. Maj Gen Richard Kenyon (Ret) volunteered to head the Reunion Committee, and they did a great job putting the 1991 Reunion together, and have even more things in mind for the 1995 Reunion. San Antonio, TX and Fort Knox, KY were also mentioned as back-up or future Reunion sites. And were also looking into Hershey, PA for a future Reunion site.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR/COORDINATORS, NEW

Georgia- Doc Masterson
Oregon- Wayne Swanson
Washington- Mike Cochran
Texas- Floyd Jiminez

A complete list will be printed in the 93-94 Directory.

BY-LAW CHANGES

ART.4 Officers- Add 'Executive Vice-president (EVP) and Vice-president (VP)'. Add new sentence at end of ART.4- Executive Vice-president will take over in place of National Director/Coordinator in the event that the N D/C be incapacitated, and Vice-president is the replacement for the Executive Vice-president,

ART.5 Term of Office- Add 'Executive Vice-president and Vice-president two years'.

ART.12 Dues- Add paragraph 'Life Membership Dues have been set at \$250 and may be paid over a 12 month period.' And it was agreed that people that had paid ahead, that this years dues and any amount paid in advance could be credited toward Life Membership. And that people that had asked for Life Membership in the past and had kept their dues current would get that amount credited to Life Membership. These last two sentences are only in effect until September 1994.

It was also agreed that we should have our financial books looked over before each Reunion. Mike Hoke, Regional Director/Coordinator in Illinois volunteered to have the books looked over by Accounts in his family about 2 month before our next Reunion.

I was to take this opportunity to congratulate George Owens on being elected Executive Vice-president, and to congratulate, Orlie "Jim" Underwood, that's OJ for short, on being elected Vice-president. Both of these men had served as the C.O. of the 118th, George Owen also served with the 68th and OJ Underwood also served with Battalion HQ.

* * * * *

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Yes, we do now have Life Memberships. The price of Life Membership is \$250 dollars, and it may be paid over a 12 month period.

Yes, \$250 is a lot of money, but just think what you will save in postage. And you'll never be late with the annual dues.

Yes, Life Membership is one way of saying you believe in our Association and what we are trying to do.

If that is you then become a Life Member today. Others already have.

ATTENDED 1993 REUNION

UNIT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	DATE	DATE	RANK
HHC	YOUNG	GEORGE J	1963	1963	OF*
HHC	HOKE	MICHAEL W	1963	1964	EM*
HHC	HUGHES	COL JOHN C	1964	1964	LTC*
HHC	SHIELDS	WILLIAM "BARRY	1965	1966	WO*
125ATC	SWANSON	WAYNE	1966	1967	EM*
HHC	OAKLEY	HAL	1966	1967	OF*
HHC	DOVE	LTC J ROBERT	1966	1967	OF*
HHC	UTZMAN, LTC,	CHARLES D	1967	1968	OF*
HHC	DEETS	ROBERT M	1967	1968	LTC*
HHC	McNAIR	M G CARL H	1968	1969	LTC*
HHC	DEESE	TOM	1969	1970	WO*
18 AVN	WILLIAMS	RAMON R	1962	1962	WO*
68 AML	HANNUH	MIKE	1965	1968	EM*
68 AML	OWENS	GEORGE W	1965	1966	OF*
68 AHC	MORRIS	DON	1966	1967	WO*
68 AHC	HELSEL	ELVIN	1966	1967	WO*
68 AHC	VAN PIETERSON	COL D E	1967	1968	OF*
68 AHC	KERFELD	LEE	1968	1969	EM*
68 AHC	STEPHENS	GENE L	1968	1971	EM*
68 AHC	DEESE	TOM	1969	1970	WO*
68 AHC	BODKIN	JAMES L	1969	1970	EM*
68 AHC	JIMINEZ	FLOYD W	1969	1970	WO*
68 AHC	SHOCKLEY	BILL	1970	1971	EM*
68 AHC	DULEMBA	JOHN F	1970	1970	WO
68 AHC	SHEETS	BILL	1970	1971	EM*
68 AHC	STEPHENS	GENE L	1970	1971	EM*
68 AHC	COPPES	GARY	1970	1970	EM*
A/501	MARYLIW	EDWARD S	1966	1967	EM*
A/501	BEVERUNG	PAUL	1966	1966	WO*
71 AHC	SEABOLT	RON	1966	1967	EM*
71 AHC	BARAGONA	JAMES	1967	1969	EM*
71 AHC	CARLOCK	CHESTER	1967	1968	WO*
71 AHC	JEFFCOAT	EVERETT B	1967	1968	EM*
71 AHC	BROWN	THOMAS O	1970	1970	EM*
71 AHC	SCHROLL	JAMES L	1971	1971	WO*
117AML	McHENRY	BARRY	1964	1965	WO*
117AML	DODD	CALVIN G	1964	1965	OF*
117AHC	DIGMAN	L. E.	1968	1969	WO*
33 TRAN	PAYNE	CHAD	1963	1964	OF*
118AML	NASCHE	JOHN A	1963	1964	OF
118AML	WRIGHT	RICHARD J	1963	1964	EM*
118AML	Mc LARNEY	PATRICK E	1964	1965	WO*
118AML	KENNEDY	BOB	1964	1965	EM*
118AML	SHIELDS	WILLIAM "BARRY	1965	1965	WO*
118AML	KNIGHTEN	EDDIE	1965	1966	EM*
118AML	LOMBARD	LARRY	1965	1966	WO*
118AML	CHIEN	COL KEN	1965	1966	OF*
118AML	JAMBON	TED R	1965	1966	OF*
118AML	THORNTON	TOMMY	1965	1966	OF*
118AHC	OWENS	GEORGE W	1966	1966	OF*
125ATC	SWANSON	WAYNE	1966	1967	EM*
118AHC	HANEY	CHARLES	1966	1967	OF*
118AHC	WOODSON	DONALD	1966	1967	EM*

UNIT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	DATE	DATE	RANK
118AHC	VAN PIETERSON	COL D E	1967	1968	OF*
118AHC	BILBREY	THURMAN	1967	1968	OF*
118AHC	TANNER	HAROLD J	1967	1968	WO
118AHC	THORNE	JAMES R	1967	1968	OF*
118AHC	EVANS	DAVID	1968	1969	EM*
118AHC	CLARK	ROBERT	1968	1969	WO*
118AHC	CARLSON	STEPHEN J	1968	1969	WO*
118AHC	HARVEY	FRANK M	1969	1970	WO*
118AHC	HUMBERT	HERMAN H	1969	1970	EM*
118AHC	GUFFY JR.	WAYNE S	1970	1971	WO*
119AML	GLENN	JOEL	1965	1966	OF*
120AML	CRISSMAN	ROBERT S	1963	1964	OF*
120AML	HALL	MAX	1964	1965	OF*
93 TRAN	WILLIAMS	RAMON R	1962	1962	WO*
80 TRAN	KARRIGAN	MARCELLUS	1964	1965	WO*
80 TRAN	SMITH	RICHARD K	1964	1965	EM*
121AML	SPELIOS	ANGELO	1964	1965	WO*
121AHC	JONES	DERREL "CLAY"	1966	1966	WO*
121AHC	McNAIR	M G CARL H	1967	1968	OF*
135AHC	STAADT	THOMAS A	1969	1970	OF*
135AHC	BABER	JAMES	1969	1970	EM
135AHC	AULT	AARON B	1970	1971	WO*
147AVN	CHIEN	COL KEN	1966	1966	OF*
190AHC	CONNELLY	THOMAS A	1967	1968	OF
190AHC	RICHARDSON	CHESTER "BUTCH"	1968	1969	EM*
190AHC	DEESE	TOM	1969	1970	WO*
190AHC	HOLZMAN	HARRY T 'BUD'	1969	1970	WO*
UTT	DORR	MARION H	1964	1965	OF*
UTT	JOBE	JOE D	1964	1965	OF*
UTT	KING	MARK	1964	1965	WO*
UTT	PRICE	DAVID H	1964	1965	OF*
UTT-197	JARRETT	RICHARD	1964	1965	OF*
UTT-197	MYERS	MARVIN	1964	1965	OF*
UTT-197	DAVIS	MICHAEL J.	1964	1965	WO*
197AHC	SCOTT	CDR DAVID I	1965	1966	OF*
197AHC	BYERLEY	B E "WICK"	1965	1966	OF*
571MAIN	TURNER	RANDALL B	1966	1969	EM*
334AHC	FRAKER	WILLIAM W.	1966	1967	OF*
334AHC	COMSTOCK	VERNE D	1966	1967	WO
334AHC	LEACH	BRUCE G	1966	1967	OF*
334AHC	Mc CURRY	RICK	1967	1968	EM*
334AHC	SCHWEITZER	DONALD	1967	1968	EM*
334AHC	UPSHAW	LONNIE J	1967	1968	EM*
334AHC	COCHRAN	MIKE	1968	1970	EM*
334AHC	SYNOWSKY	JOHN	1969	1970	OF*
334AHC	RAMSEY	JERRY A	1970	1971	OF
242ASHC	MONTGOMERY	ROGER	1967	1968	EM*
335AHC	UTZMAN	CHARLES D	1967	1968	CO*
COBRA N	DAVIS	MICHAEL J.	1967	1967	WO*
COBRA N	JARRETT	RICHARD	1967	1968	OF*

FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report covers 1 January 1993 to 30 June 1993. 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 1992.....\$1761.91
Total deposits 1/01/93 to 6/30/93 (Dues, Donations, Fund Raisers)..\$5681.75

Total.....\$7443.66

Expenditures

Postage.....\$1053.08
Long Distance Phone.....\$530.71
Miscellaneous (see note).....\$1681.88
Fund Raiser Supplies.....\$1517.27
Copy Machine Repair & Supplies.....\$557.42
Bank Fees.....\$109.21

Total expenditures.....\$5449.57 -\$5449.57

Balance 30 June 1993.....\$1994.09

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.

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. A while back I sent out about 350 letter to people that were being taken off the mailing list if I didn't hear from them. Some sent their dues in, the others I took off the mailing list. 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 93-94, 994-95 95-96 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 and please renew or join, which ever is asked. And for your convenience I have printed the month and year that your membership expires, for our members that have paid years in advance. I will be sending out more letters soon.

Now is a good time to renew your membership, we started a new membership year the 1st of July, so check your card and please renew if it expired this last July 1st. And multiple year membership are always appreciated.

We also have Life Membership available now, see details in newsletter
The membership form can be found on the top on the order form page.

PLEASE JOIN TODAY, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

NEW PEOPLE LOCATED LIST

31 July 1993

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	DATE	DATE	RANK
HHC	SHEAR	ROBERT		CLINTON	MD	20735	1962	1963	EM*
HHC	COLEMAN	THURMAN "BOB"		DUNDUS	IL	62425	1966	1967	EM
SCY PLT	CARTER	EDWIN		CLARKSVILLE	TN	37040	1967	1968	EM
HHC	GARBER	JOHN		WEXFORD	PA	15090	1967	1968	EM
SCY PLT	ROGERSON	DEAN		ROCHESTER	NY	14612	1967	1968	EM
HHC	SAUNDERS	KENNETH P		WILLIMANTIC	CT	06226	1969	1971	EM*
18 AVN	BRANDON	WILLIAM D		OXFORD	MS	38655	1962	1962	OF
68 AHC	HORST	DUANNE W		SLIDELL	LA	70458	1968	1970	EM
71 AHC	SCOTT	BERYL		ALACHUA	AL	32615	1966	1967	WO
71 AHC	DUNNING	WALLACE W		SACRAMENTO	CA	95842	1966	1967	WO
71 AHC	LACKEY	LAWRENCE		OAK RIDGE	TN	37830	1966	1967	EM
71 AHC	PARSON	BOB L		NASHVILLE	TN	37220	1967	1968	WO*
71 AHC	WINTERS	DAVID L		SUPERIOR	WI	54880	1968		EM
71 AHC	BELL	B WAYNE		ALBERTA CANADA		TOL2	1969	1971	EM
73 AVN	DUSSAULT	RAYMOND A		CARTERSVILLE	GA	30120	1971	1972	EM
74 AVN	MARION	JOHN T		HUNTSVILLE	AL	35810	1966	1967	EM
117AHC	PANKOW	HARVEY W F		SAN MARCOS	CA	92069	1967	1968	WO
117AHC	TONETTI	BOB		BRICK	NJ	08724	1967	1969	EM
117AHC	DOMINO	JOHN R		MARTINSBURG	WV	25401	1967	1968	EM
118AHL	MacVAUGH	KEN B		NEWPORT NEWS	VA	23601	1964	1965	EM*
118AHC	DEROMEDI	PAT		EVERGREEN	CO	80439	1967	1968	EM
545TRAN	LANGFORD	REGGIE		PT CLINTON	OH	43452	1964	1965	EM
119AHL	SMITH	DONALD O		NEW HARBOR	MA	04554	1965	1966	EM
119AHL	GIBSON	WILLIAM C		CLARKSVILLE	TN	37042	1965	1966	EM
119AHC	STANSFIELD	RUSS		LEVITTOWN	PA	19054	1966	1967	EM
119AHC	DINGMAN	DENNY		DALLAS	TX	75206	1967	1968	EM
119AHC	NOVAK	JIM		PARLIN	NJ	08859	1968	1969	EM*
119AHC	LAKE	ROBERT		BARSON PARK	FL	33827	1968	1969	EM
98 TRAN	CHATMAN	SIDNEY M		PENSACOLA	FL	32514	1962	1964	EM
120AHL	GASTELUM	MELECIO R		SAN DIEGO	CA	92103	1963	1963	EM
120AHL	HALL	MAX		SPRINGDALE	AR	72762	1964	1965	OF*
120AHL	MacVAUGH	KEN B		NEWPORT NEWS	VA	23601	1965	1965	EM*
121AHC	PERSICKE	REG		COLUMBIA FALLS	MT	59912	1967	1968	EM
121AHC	CROTTY	WAYNE G		QUEENSBURY	NY	12804	1969	1970	EM*
135AHC	BABER	JAMES		GRAPEVINE	TX	76051	1969	1970	EM
135AHC	DONCON	KEITH E		MANDURAH		6210	1970	1971	EM*
147AVN	EVAN	URIEL		BELLINGHAM	WA	98226	1969	1970	EM
190AHC	STAPLES	GARY		INDEPENDENCE	MO	64052	1969	1970	EM
UTT	TRAGESSER	NICK		APOKA	FL	32703	1963	1964	OF
UTT	ATKINSON	JOHN F		BLAIRSVILLE	GA	30512	1963	1965	WO*
UTT	DAMRON	JAMES A		COLUMBUS	MT	59019	1964	1965	OF*
UTT	LEE	JAMES H		CRESTVIEW	FL	32536	1964	1965	WO*
571DET	Mc MILLAN	LARRY D		EARTH	TX	79031	1966	1967	EM*
571MAIN	TURNER	RANDALL B		DRAPER	VA	24324	1966	1969	EM*
197AHC	CUSTER	DORSEY L		MANH CHOICE	PA	15550	1966	1967	EM
334AHC	BIG	GEORGE L		PHOENIX	AZ	85012	1967	1967	EM
334AHC	KENYON	RICHARD L		OLYMPIA	WA	98506	1967	1968	EM
334AHC	HUTCHINSON	ANDY		WINTER PARK	FL	32792	1967	1969	WO
334AHC	WILLSAP	DEAN		PHOENIX	AZ	85044	1968	1969	WO
334AHC	COCHRAN	MIKE		CASTLE ROCK	WA	98611	1968	1970	EM*
334AHC	CHAMBERLAIN	MICHAEL L		YATES CENTER	KS	66783	1970	1970	
213AHC	DeMARR	JAMES D		DOWNINGTON	PA	19335	1968	1970	EM
213AHC	OLSON	GREGORY T		PALMER	AK	99645	1971	1972	OF
A/82	CAVANESS	WAYMAN		CARTERSVILLE	IL	62918	1966	1967	EM
335AHC	CHAMBERS	RANDY "ROWDY"		PEORIA	AZ	85345	1967	1968	EM*
335AHC	FIMO	DOMINIC P		SPARKS	MA	21152	1969	1971	EM
335AHC	WILSON	DOUG		SANTA ANNA	CA	92704	1969	1970	EM*
335AHC	CORB	RONNIE		METAIRIE	LA	70003	1970	1970	EM
335AHC	DUMSTON	JAMES		HARVEY	LA	70058	1970	1971	EM
335AHC	EMOS	JOHN N		JUNCTION CITY	CA	96048	1970	1971	EM
COBRA M LEE		JAMES H		CRESTVIEW	FL	32536	1967	1968	OF*

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

We would like for you to join our Association first, - here are some other organizations
 Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Assn, 7 W 7th St, Suite 1990, Cincinnati, OH 45202 1-513-721-VHPA
 Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Assn, PO Box 752592, Memphis, TN 38175-2592 1-901-795-2850
 Army Otter-Caribou Assn, PO Box 6091, Columbus, GA 31907 1-800-626-8194

NEW ITEMS FOR SALE

We have a few new items we are selling to raise funds for our Association. We now have 71st AHC Firebird Gunship patches, 1967-68 time period, the back ground color a little darker but the design and other colors are a great match with the original, we also have the Firebird design on T-shirts and those colors are right. Patches are \$4 and the T-shirts are \$13

We now have Mustang Gunship patches, 1969-70 time period, these reproduction patches are perfect copies of the original, they sell for \$4 each.

We now have wrist watches and belt buckle with the 145th C.A.B. Association design printed on them. The watches have a lifetime warranty, except battery, they really look sharp, and sell for \$25 each. The 145th emblem is about 1" around on the watch. The belt buckle is about 3 and 1/2 inches wide and 2 inches high, the base is blue and gold in color. The 145th emblem on the buckle is about 1 and 1/2 inches in diameter. The belt buckle sells for \$15 each.

1993-94 Directory

We will be putting the 1993-94 People Located Directory together right after this newsletter is in the mail. For the people that have seen our Directory before, they will find many new people listed this year. And the people we have located this year and haven't seen our directory before, I think they will really be suprised and pleased with it. Every one should be receiving their new Directory very soon.

NEW COMPUTER

We have out grown our old computer, our file of people located and the file of people we are looking for and the file on Battalion history have gotten so large that no more than one of these files can be put in the computer at a time, making cross referencing very difficult and time consuming. And now they have telephone directories on CD ROM discs with over 70 million names, phone numbers, addresses and zip codes. That gives you access to about 80% to 90% of the listed households in America. But our computer is to small to use this. We need to update our computer, that will cost about \$1,500 and maybe a little more. We can just barely afford it. We need to bring in more membership dues and sell more items. Once we upgrade our system finding more new people should be easier and faster. And as a added plus the art work for the T-shirt designs can be done on the newer computers much better then I can draw them by hand. I feel it is time we get the better equipment, let me know if you think it is time to get better equipment with your continued support.

KOKOMO, IN REUNION

The 11th annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion in Kokomo, IN will take place on Sept 17-19, 1993. The Reunion is held on the grounds of Howard Johnson and Ramada Inn Motels. The Kokomo, IN Reunion is one of the oldest and largest annual Vietnam Veterans Reunions in the country. For those of you who have been there know what a great Vietnam Veterans Reunion they put together in Kokomo, for those that haven't been there take my word for it, they put on a program that is absolutely the best. They always have great entertainment and speakers. This year Adrian Cronauer of "Good Morning Vietnam" fame, will be appearing. This year we will be setting up a table and display, and we always find a couple more members. I'll see you there if you can possibly make it.

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.

118th AHC, 118th AML, 119th AHC, UTT, & 335th AHC Unit PATCHES Firebird & Mustang Gunship Patches

We have reproductions of the 118th Thunderbird, 118th Air Mobile Light, 119th AHC, UTT 1963-64 (Pegasus), and 335th AHC, 1971 COWBOY patches to sell to raise funds. The Cowboy patch is the 3 & 1/2" round one of the Cowboy riding a huey and lassoing a VC. The patches sell for \$4 each. See order form inserted in newsletter.

VIETNAM VETERANS TIES

Frank Kemp who served with the UTT in 1963-64 sent in 10 ties, 5 navy blue and 5 burgundy, with Vietnam Campaign Ribbons woven in. Frank has been selling these ties for \$22 each to help raise funds for a Vietnam Vets Outreach program. Frank donated these ties to raise funds to have the UTT pocket patch reproduced, which we now have. Frank is sending six more to raise funds to have the "First in Vietnam" 145th patch reproduced. See order form inserted in newsletter.

CASSETTE TAPES

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". The next tape is called Combat Assault, on this tape Robert Moody takes you along with the EMUs and Tiapans, 135th AHC, on a Combat Assault mission when they catch the NVA. The next tape is Songs of the UTT, this tape tells of the life and missions of Vietnam Helicopter crews, recorded in Vietnam in 1965, with a country flavor. These tapes 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

We now have color T-shirts made with the original unit patch design for many of the units, 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 pictures in Directory for more details. See order form inserted in newsletter. Send order to: 145th CABVA, 3719 Forest Hill Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46805

145th C.A.B. REUNION HATS

The 1991 Reunion Committee had hats made for the Reunion and we sold out, but more are on order. The hat is a red baseball cap style with a white front. Printed on the front in blue letters is; 145th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION around large lettering VIETNAM. We are selling the hats for \$5 each, and that will add to the \$1000 the 91 Reunion Committee has already raised for us. Order one today, they should go fast at that price.

WATCHES AND BELT BUCKLES

We now have wrist watches and belt buckle with the 145th C.A.B. Association design printed on them. The watches have a lifetime warranty, except battery, they really look sharp, and sell for \$25 each. The 145th emblem is about 1" around on the watch. The belt buckle is about 3 and 1/2 inches wide and 2 inches high, the base is blue and gold in color. The 145th emblem on the buckle is about 1 and 1/2 inches in diameter. The belt buckle sells for \$15 each.