

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 Detachment 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/501, 57th Med Det

#### **Transportation 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 Battalion it may have been assigned to before or after serving with the 145th.

**CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS** ON THE MAILING LABEL

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT, PLEASE JOIN  
TODAY**

**145th COMBAT AVIATION Bn VN ASSOC**  
**3719 FOREST HILL AVE**  
**FORT WAYNE, IN**  
**46805-1301**

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**NL25 January 1994**



# 145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association

## "OLD WARRIORS"

Newsletter

JANUARY 1994, VOL. 25

3719 FOREST HILL AVE, FORT WAYNE, IN 46805-1301

1-219-483-5149

Hello, You can probably tell by now that we have our new computer and I'm learning how to use it. The overall appearance of this newsletter has changed a lot and I want to know how you like it. I've seen a lot of newsletters where people try to use all the power of their new computer and it gets very annoying. I'm writing this page in two columns and the rest of the newsletter just about the same way as the previous newsletters, the style and size of the type and the bold facing are different. Writing in two columns takes a little more room but might be easier to read, I need to know if you want all of the newsletter in full page, two column, three column, smaller print or larger print, or what ever.

I want to welcome all the people we have just located and every one should have received a 93-94 Directory by now. If you haven't received yet please let me know and I'll get one to you.

This newsletter is late as usual but hopefully the next one will be a little closer to being on time. It has taken a lot of time to learn how to use the IBM programs and convert files over from the Appleworks format. The programs I am using the the most are "Word for Windows 6 and 2" for a word processor, "File Express 5" for a data base, and "CA Simply Money" for check registry. I'm looking for a program called "Access" by Microsoft to try out for a database but the cost is about \$400.00 to purchase and we don't have that kind of money to spent. I would also like to have a copy of Microsoft "Excel" some day too.

I had to add an Obituary section to this newsletter, this last winter has been real hard on many of our old friends. So please take a few minutes to remember these people and if there is

anything you would like to add to what I have written please do so.

The Readers Response section of the newsletter begins on page 2 and is a little longer in this newsletter. Some of the letters seem to be a little out dated so please remember some of them were written before last summers 93 Reunion. The Readers Response section of the newsletter is written by our readers and is the most interesting part of the newsletter and is about the only way I can get my mail caught up, so please keep the letters coming.

The Battalion History article this time was taken the Annual Supplement History of the 135th AHC for 1970 sent in by James C Buchanan. If you have any historical information at all please sent it in, I have very little information after Tet 68 and many spots before Tet of 68 are not covered to well either, so sent in what ever information 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 this newsletter please send me a copy, if you haven't already done so already. The info could be very helpful in finding those people. I use PHONEDISC USA which is a CD ROM disc which list every listed residential phone in the country on 2 disc to try to find the people listed on the orders. If anyone want to order the PHONEDISC USA it can be ordered through Digital Directory Assistance, Inc, 5161 River Rd Bld-6, Bethesda, MD 20816 1-617-639-2900 for about \$70.

Please read about our next Reunion '95 and other reunion in the back of the newsletter.



## 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 , Hope you are fine. I have enclosed membership dues for '93. Also send me a Reunion base ball cap if possible. I am recovering from a bout with ORAP (pymicin) neureleptic, would like to know if any members have tried it. It helped me leave the house for the first time in a year. Only lasted for a month. I am being offered Lithium. Please advise if you have info. I will share the following info. The spouses of vets, children and other family members don't like it when other vets try to approach their veteran family members. Some vets are very moved when spoken to by others with the same experiences. Vets still on active duty don't like to be approached, you can see the denial working in their faces, they don't like being reminded. A female Major threatened me for having a conversation with her E-7 husband. He was wearing a 145th Combat patch and he approached me because I was wearing the T-shirt you sent. I do not approach any body. She said that her husband does not need to be reminded and that she would see somebody if I spoke to him again. I am mental at times, not stupid. I have college degrees. Also my lung specialist says Gulf vets have damage from toluene isocyanates just like Vietnam vets. Diesel, JP4 etc. He says defoliating agents i.e., Agent Orange etc. and fuel oil derivatives can be to account for everything from depression, delayed stress to cancers and degenerative bone disease. Yours, Melvin "Airborne Dog" Fisher

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Mel. Maybe some of our members can advise on this. Melvin Fisher's address is Unit 26774, Box GD 3324, APO AE 09235. Retired Disabled Vets are authorized a military mail box in Berlin Germany.

Dear Jim, Just a line to get my dues in the mail, take what's left over and use it anyway you want. Keep up the the good work, I really admire you and your wife. Sincerely Carroll Simpson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, the new computer system really drained our account, everything really helps.

Dear Jim, Just a short note to let you know that I received my membership directory and newsletter in the mail today. I think you very much. With this letter, you'll get my check for my dues & an order for a few things from the order form. Keep the rest and put it in the pot to help with expenses. You can't believe how excited I got when I got your name and number from the American Legions 900 telephone number for the Vets Reunion. I've been looking for several years for a reunion of my VN unit. Looking thru the pages of the Directory, I've found several people with which I was good friends. I also see sadly that I've lost a couple of friends. I served in several different positions with the 334th. I started out in the hanger with the service platoon and later moved to the Raider FLT platoon to start flying on the UH-1D lightship. (we flew the firefly missions) During this time we were losing the B and C model gunships to the new Cobra. I ended up crewing a Cobra for some time. I later took over the units POL section so that I could make some rank. I extended over for six months and was the POL NCOIC for almost a year. WO Jeremiah Denton was my OIC. I returned to the states as the 334th was moving to Phu Loi. I returned home to the Chinook Depot in New Cumberland P.A. What a place for a Huey and Cobra man. I was later levyyed to Ft. Lee Va. and attached to a very small avaition unit stationed at the Richmond Airport. I spent the rest of my active duty



there. I went into the Reserves and stayed in until I retired in Aug. of 1990. I have a couple of leads for you on past members of the 334th. I ran into a fellow who lived near Gillette Wyoming. I was working there at the time. His name was Greer. I can't remember his first name. I also had a pilot in my unit from my hometown of Longview Wa. His last name was W.O. Harman. I live only ten miles away from there. I will try and find him or some information about him. Having just found the 145th, I will try and attend the June Reunion. This is short notice when it comes to my wife getting time off from her job. It shouldn't be a problem for me. One way or another with both of us together or just me. Thanks again for sending me all the information. You and everyone involved have done a lot of fine work. I wish I had found you sooner. Please feel free to ask help that I can give you. I really mean this. Maybe there are some things I can do for you up here in the Pacific Northwest. If I can arrange my flight to get there at the right time, I would be glad to help with the Unit Reunion Day. Sincerely, Mike Cochran

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Mike. You will find Jeremiah Denton list in the Directory. There was a WO Matthew W Harman that served with the 334th in 1970 from Washington state. The national phone directory doesn't list anyone by that name in Washington state, there was one listed in IL. The only Greer listed on our Help Find list is a James A that was a Major with the 74th Avn Co in 67-68. Hopefully I see you at our next Reunion at Fort Rucker, AL in June 1995.

Dear Jim, Thanks very much for the "T"-shirts and membership card. The shirts will be worn with pride on Anzac Day. Find enclosed a bank cheque for \$30. Would you please send me four 145th baseball caps. Hopefully the \$10 will cover postage. Thanking you, Keith E Doncon. P.S. I was a Leading Seaman (Aircraft electrician) and also a door gunner with the 135th 1970-71 at Dong Tam.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Keith

Dear Jim and Debby, I have my reservations for the reunion, but I have not recieved any kind of registration from the Association. Have any been sent out yet? How did I manage to miss mine? Well, we'll see ya in Texas! Killer P.S. Not many patches left, I will bring all to the reunion. You may as well stop advertising, or I will to have another 200 patches made. We'll discuss that at the reunion.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and you know how the mail runs. We had a nice visit with David "Killer" Evans in Fort Worth, TX and Scottsdale, AZ at the VHCMA Reunion. Dave is President of the VHCMA this year. I still have some of the Thunderbird patches left.

Dear Jim, Sorry to be so late renewing. Enclosed is a check for \$25, which should bring John up to July '94, (plus some for the kitty). Thanks for the great job you are doing. John Waterhouse.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John

Jim, I've enclosed a patch I got from Don Prentiss. Don is a historian from the 214th. The 214th was a battalion in VN. Now it's an Army Reserve Regiment here in California. The patch is slightly different now, Battalion is now Regt. and the prop and wings are now added. Keep in touch. Doug Wilson, Falcons 335th. P.S. We've now located 30 Falcons. I'll send you a list when we get a few more.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Doug.

Jim, Inclosed is my membership apprecation and enough too cover cost of 2 yrs, 1 hat and a T-shirt. By stamps of whatever with the change. Was interested to see Ltc. Mertel's name I remember when he assumed command just after arriving in 'Nam. I drove him to Ben Hoa. when he went there to meet the men in his unit. I will be unable to attend the reunion this year, hell I just found out we exits. Anyway, I'm looking for



some old orders- think I've got and if so will enclose them if they could be if use- in the 62 to 64 era. A tremendous amount of the unit went back to Ft. Eustis and then back to Nam. Anyway, God Bless. Looking forward to '95. Keep the newsletters coming. Bob Shear

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob. And we can use any set of orders you can find. See you at Ft Rucker in June of 1995.

A mini reunion for the 121st Assault Helicopter Company, " Soc Trang Tigers and Vikings", will be held during the national convention in Phoenix Az. July 3-4 1993. ( Crew Members are also invited). For additional information please call Tony Robinson at [REDACTED] or fax [REDACTED] Mon- Fri 7-5 P.M. Thanks, Tony. P.S. I am trying to make your conversation if I am in Dallas that week.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I got this in the newsletter a little late for the 1993 VHPA & VHCMA Reunions. But I assume this still will take place at the 1994 VHPA & VHCMA Reunion in Philadelphia.

Dear Jim: Enclosed please find my membership renewal form and a check for \$45.00. Please apply \$20.00 to my membership dues for 1993 through 1995. The remaining \$25.00 is a contribution toward equipment purchases or other Association operating expenses, as you see fit. I regret that I will not be able to attend the reunion this year because I am still in beautiful Garmish, Germany. I'm sure that it will be a great success. Obviously a lot of work has been put into the planning and arrangements. Unfortunately, with the rapid changes here in Germany and the work associated with the drawdown of troops and civilian workforce, I cannot get away this year. As you can well see from the botched mess on this page, I never professed to be a typist. There have been those who said I couldn't fly a helicopter either, but they were just jealous. Wishing you, the Association and the Reunion all the best, I remain. Sincerely Huey R. Nelson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Huey. The 93 Reunion was success. Hopefully we'll be able to see you at the next Reunion at Ft Rucker, ALA June 1995. Our biggest expense this last year was the new computer system. With the CD drive it is capable of helping us locate many more people with the national phone directory, which I will probably mention many more times in this newsletter. The new computer is much quicker then the old one and save much time, but it is also using up a lot of time converting 8 years of records from Old Apple to the new IBM.

Dear James; I have decided to join the 145th Assn. I am enclosing an order form for patches, tape and T-shirts. I have included \$30.00 for dues, adjust as you see fit. I am also a member of the Vietnam Helicopter Assn. Personal Data- Vernon L. Estes (Vern), 6824 W. 1st Ave.#4; Kennewick, WA. 99336; (509)783-5400. If there is anything you need please contact me. Sincerely yours, Vern Estes

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Vern and welcome aboard.

Dear Jim, Made it! In the past year, I've completed ten graduate and undergraduate courses plus the methods of teaching and student teaching semester to become a REAL teacher!! I now have my Teaching Certification in Secondary Social Studies in my state! Like the Velveteen Rabbit, I am real! Taught Vietnam for my Hist. and Govt. Classes. I'll be in DC for Memorial Day. Where are you going to be? Thanks for the newsletter, here are my dues and extra money for T-shirt as usual! Take it easy! Love and Hugs, Kammy Mallory

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Kammy and congratulation. My wife Deb works as a teachers aid in special ed preschool and we know about the many years of hard work it takes to get a Teaching Certificate. Some of our members may remember Kammy McCleery-Mallory from her time with the American Red Cross (Donut Dollies) July 1967 to Aug 1968, she flew with the 117th, 119th, and 334th and other units. I



spotted Kammy in Washington, DC for the 10th Anniversary of the "Wall", I first spotted the 117th AHC patch on her fatigue shirt.

Dear Jim and Debby: It won't be long now before the big reunion in Ft Worth. We are ready to go. Am enclosing our dues, almost slipped up but noticed it on my calendar so will get this in today's mail. I am getting old and forgetful I guess or else we belong to so many organizations I can't keep up with them. Lots of fun though and we do enjoy seeing all you good friends at the reunions. George and I will be going down a day early and then on to Phoenix on Sunday. We are renting a car at Ft. Worth and driving to Phoenix and then on home by plane out of Phoenix after the reunion. George has been running all over Boston trying to get a deal for the Otter/ Caribou reunion in 1995 and has actually come up with some pretty good deals. He will make his presentation in Colorado Springs in August. Looking forward to seeing you in Texas, have a safe trip. Best Wishes Lorraine Owens

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Lorraine, it was great seeing you and George at the Reunion and in Phoenix. I really hate it when I get so far behind in the Readers Response section. I know George will do a great job of organizing the 1995 Army Otter-Caribou Association Reunion. I don't know for sure yet if I can attend the 1994 Army Otter-Caribou Reunion in Orlando FL September 7-11, but if I can I will. I really enjoyed the 1992 Reunion and want to let everyone know that even if they didn't fly in the fixed wing Otter or Caribou they are still welcome at the Army Otter-Caribou Reunion. And if you live in the Orlando, FL area make sure you stop by and say hello during their Reunion, the location is the Holiday Inn on International Drive. For all the details contact the Army Otter-Caribou Association, PO Box 6091, Columbus, Ga. 31907-0073

Dear Jim, I learned of your Association through Ron Seabolt with whom I served in the 71st AHC. Am forwarding a check in the amount of \$10.00 for 1993 dues. Would like to know the cost of your membership directory, and other items that your association offers. My particulars: CW2 Robert (Bob) Parsons Flight Class 67-13 71st AHC 1967-68 Call Sign: Firebird 95. Please feel free to call me collect at home should you need additional information. Respectfully, Robert L Parson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob

**Due to space limitations the following two letters from Charlie Wells have been combined and edited down.**

Dear Jim, Since my letter appeared; I have been a crisis line to answer questions. Many calls and letters came. I thank those who when called gave unselfishly of their time and help to others; Richard Prest; Fred Holder; James Ikerd; and those still doing dirty work no one thinks about. They know who they are. Charlie Wells Now I had trust too once and a strong belief system in freedom and our country. Trouble begun when I was in a siege of constant fighting for over two months back in mid 64. Ill and given medicines to keep me going; I was about to be sent back to the states. This did not happen. We lost over and over. In time I was transferred. In 1979 VVA and our legal arm took our case to the courts. Those with severe combat disorder; the Federal courts upheld / we are not supposed to be given the psychotropics; they make us worse. These include Thorazine; Hadol, and Mellaril and a whole lists. Get a PDR and learn. They have no qualms about drugging you to death or vegetable state. Next; you must understand the VAMC's do not have your service records nor any medical information about you. Just presenting yourself at a VA door is nothing to them. Before you enter a VAMC be sure you have trusted friends and help outside. The DAV and Sonny V Montgomery were blocking our access to the legal courts. You're better off with your own. I have the evidence. So have filed a Tort case against the United States. Charlie Wells BLH Wa. 98225



Check out specifically, 91st Congress; first and second sessions; 1969-70, labeled "Oversights of the wounded in Vietnam"; before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. Alan Cranston present; Olin Teague, Surgeon General to the Army; HEW Secretary, Surgeon General to the U.S. and the VA Director himself. Entered into Congressional record and perfectly well known; they did nothing. Not a public word was said or any warning. There is no cure for PTSD, you must learn what works for you. Go to an Endocrinologist M.D. and undergo the blood and 48 hour urine test, this analysis will tell what of the six chemicals is out of balance and then determine what is a good medicine for you.

If anyone know where these men are; let me know, surly appreciate it. Any survivors of the Montagnard Revolt, Sept 64; where we stood by to evacuate what was left of II Corps / any survivors of hostages of the Montagnards who went in under the Dragons in late 64; any survivors of the battle of Tuy Hoi over the nuclear site building at Cam Rahn Bay. Some: Major Crockett, 64; a Lt Deagan of 117th sent to reinforce us; out of Quin Qhoin, a WO Bobby Lynn; Killer and in subtle competition with me for confirmed kills til we flew together and my ship lost. To any of our crewmen back then; as we waited in defeat and evacuation at Ban Me Thout; I am sorry; but you know how dangerous it was to become close. I don't remember your names; maybe what is written; a Markos; A Thompson; not much left. Later any survivors of the Fangs and that provisional detachment; my many thanks and God rest in peace to my crew chief Sgt Peterson; who I knew only as Pete; PFC Davis died at 19. Bobby Lynn you nearly killed us in pushing that machine on fire to the field hospital; but you tried. To so many , WO Skip Ronald Palmer, Cpt Sanders of the Birds, and anyone left alive of the Fang pre emp March and April 65; DaNang AFB. Any of those left of the new A CO at Ban Me Thout, WO Tom Wright; WO Jim Kolar; and a guy named Larry Boswell. The real hero who stands out in my mind is a Sergeant who unstrapped himself and crossed to the gunner who was hit bad. Find those men, my crewmembers; many thanks. Wells

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Sorry to have to shorten so much, I hope the main part got through.

Dear Jim, Hello, haven't received my newsletter this month, but maybe its because I forgot to renew my membership, so here is my \$10 for my renewal. I would like to suggest that you have the next reunion here in St Louis, as you have had two in Texas already. Sincerely, Ted Hanrahan

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ted, the reason for you not receiving the newsletter on time was that I hadn't finished it yet, sorry. The 1995 145th Reunion will be at Ft Rucker, AL, our second time to be there. San Antonio, TX was the backup location. The way things look now the 1997 Reunion will be at the backup location of San Antonio, TX unless the plans are changed at the 1995 Reunion. St Louis was suggested at the business meeting but no one volunteered to head up a St Louis Reunion committee. To get the 1997 145th Reunion to be in St Louis you would need to contact our members in the St Louis area, form a Reunion Committee, name a chairman and present it at the 1995 Reunion business meeting, in person or in writing, so we can vote on it. I think it would be a great idea and location. Contact me if you need help.

Dear Jim: Just wanted to drop you a line to let you know how much I enjoy your newsletter. Enclosed is a check for \$100.00 for my membership and which I am requesting a couple of T-shirts. The balance, consider a donation for the Association. I plan on attending Kokomo, Indiana, Vietnam Veterans gathering. Looking forward to seeing you and the others members. Lot's of luck! Sincerely yours, George M Criel 197th AHC

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you George. And Kokomo, IN is the place to be the third weekend of September every year.



Dear Friends, I am a former member of the 334th AHC and served with the 145th from Jan - Dec 1970. Please enroll me as a member of the Association & send me whatever info you have. I look forward to hearing from you & receiving an invoice for my dues. Sincerely, Michael L Chamberlain Dragon 36

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and welcome aboard. The only invoice I get around to sending out is the note on the mailing lable. But this is a good time for me to remind everyone to check their mailing lable and if it says "Please Join" or Renew then sent in \$10 for each membership year. Or we have Life Membership for \$250.

Dear Jim and Debby, I would like to thank you and the Reunion Committee for the fine job you all did at the Reunion 93. I was fortunate to find two other who served with me at Soc Trang in 64/65. Marcellus Karrigan, XO of the 80th Trans, and Angelo Spelios of the 121st AML CO. It was to bad that my CO, "Red" Keville couldn't make the reunion. I'm sending you \$28 for the 7 patches I received. Thank you: Richard K Smith PS; Could you have a roster of who attended Reunion 93, it would help me to remember who I met there, in the next Newsletter.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Richard, it was good meeting you at the Reunion. Hopefully you will meet many more old friends at the 95 Reunion. The list of attending the 1993 Reunion was printed in the NL24 newsletter.

Dear Jim; I have found a person who was a member of the 545th Trans Det, part of the 119th Avn Co. He was wounded on 2/6/65 at Camp Holloway at Pleiku. Reggie Langford, 5004 Schoolhouse Rd. Pt Clinton, OH 43452. I would like for him to be a member of the 145th CABVA. I would also like to send Reggie a company T-shirt, 119th AML Avn Co, in XL. Inclosed is \$15 for the T-shirt, use the \$2 to help meet other expenditures. Thank you Richard K Smith, 80th Trans Det.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I sure will Richard, that's real a nice thing for you to do, I'm sure he will appreciate it.

Dear Jim, Sorry That I did not make it to the Kokomo Reunion. I have been involved in a committee to have the Moving Wall here in Alexandria from 23rd thru 29th of Sept and it has taken a lot of work and financing in order to have it here. Tonight is the first night and several thousand people have came by to see the Wall, a fellow came by in uniform with crew member wings and numerous air medals, I stopped him and asked him what unit he was in. He was a a member of the 120th Avn Co from 1965-67. His name is Juergen Berthold, his address is as follows; [REDACTED]. Jim please list him and send him a copy of our Membership Directory. Thanks Bill Tankersly

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill, I wanted to get down there but couldn't. I sent a newsletter and a directory to Juergen Berthold. Later in the Readers Response there is a letter from John Devitt, a good friend, and for those who don't know, John is the man behind the Moving Wall, it was his idea and his dedication that has made it possible.

James, Thank you for the invitation for the 1993 Reunion and as I said re our conversation by phone at Christmas 92. I would be there-! but alas we have had a change of Government and the Company I used to work for Mercedes Benz, & knew more than us and promptly made me redundant on the spot (obviously I couldn't speak German!!) so the Transport industry here in Australia is in trouble, but, the Government doesn't know it. So the bottom line is I won't be coming to Texas in 93 Break your heart- wouldn't it. I do not know of any Aussie who is in the position to make the Reunion. Things are not brilliant over here especially when the Prime Minister is busting his ass to become the First President of the latest Banana



Republic in SE Asia, "Independence". Say G'day to all the members of the 145th Bn & especially the members of the 135th from Oct 1969-70 who participated in the first truck rally from Bear Cat to Dong Tam in 1970. What a fiasco, went to My Tho instead of Dong Tam & saved getting ambushed at Ambush Alley. There was not a sole in My Tho, they were all down at the side show waiting for us to turn up. Anyway if someone dumps A\$5,000 in my lap I'll be there, my Passport is stamped and ready to go. All the best to everyone. Best Wishes, David Benge

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Sorry to hear you couldn't make the Reunion. We had a change in our government to, we got Clintons.

Dear Jim, Thank you for sending me the Reunion information package- unfortunately I now find I am unable to attend- maybe I will be able to make it next time. I have enclosed another Amex International Money Order for US\$50 to replace the previous one I sent, and Amex canceled, when I guess its non-arrival in your hands after a period of two months from date of postage- hope it didn't cause you too much inconvenience. Best Wishes to all, Graeme Price

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Sorry about the mix up, but everything worked out. The problem started when I went to Washington for the 10th Anniversary of the "Wall". All the mail coming in that week was put in a pile and got covered over with other stuff. A few month later while cleaning the office I found the pile of mail.

Dear Jim & Debby, Please forgive me for not writing sooner and thanking you and Jim Thorne for a great reunion. I was in the process of hosting our WWII Underwater Frogman reunion at the time and my mind went away. That reunion was held here in Broken Arrow and was also a success. I am enclosing a check for \$250.00 for a life membership. I guess that means I will have to live for another 26 years in order to profit from it. I would then be 94 years old. Keep up the good work. OLD WARRIOR SIX Bob Deets and P.S. from me. (Mrs Deets) All going well here - Bob's step father, who had lived with us 18 years, moved into a retirement home - hardly know how to act with just us two around. Our son, Mike, had 10 days notice, and went to Croatia/Bosnia with a 5 man Joint Task Team under United Nations. He's been there 2 weeks and already has some interesting things to tell. Merry Christmas to all of you. Opal

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, and I hope you double your investment. And keep us advised on the situation with your son, the Bosnia situation could turn bad at anytime, as you already know.

Dear Mr Bodkin: I recently learned from the MILITARY Forum on CompuServe that the Association exists. The correspondent who told me about it stated that you publish a periodic newsletter and an annual membership directory. I would appreciate information about joining the Association. I was assigned to the 145th, Headquarters Company, from March 1969 to October 1970. I was a medical corpman at the dispensary (but do not remember under which of the medical detachments I was actually listed.) If you are on line, my CompuServe is 73043,3720. Very truly yours, David R Fosse

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you David and welcome aboard. I'm not on line but I'm sure some of our members are.

Dear Jim, Time for my dues. Here is an extra \$10 for whatever worthy venture you wish to apply it too. Glad to read letter from "Shakey Curran" in last newsletter. I had the pleasure of meeting him last year at "Doc Kilpatrick's" house, and this year "Jake" flew east to visit with Shakey & Doc. Anyway I was able to see him again. I was not in the 119th till after all above had gone back to the World. But did meet Jake in Plekiu when I took a 3 day In-country R&R to visit Doc in 1968. Boy, talk about brain dead- can you figure- get a 3 day R&R from 101st ABN- and daily flying the "lovely" Ashau Valley AO- and I go to Plekiu to



visit!! Spent 1st night there on Bunker Guard with Doc catching up. Anyhow, Happy Holidays to you and Deb. Sincerely Alan E Mixer "Gator #108"

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Seem perfectly natural to me, us Vietnam Vets will go to the strangest places to visit with a friend. Thanks Al.

Dear Jim & Deb, Can't tell you how much I enjoyed the '93 Reunion. I'm still "showing & telling" the photos and stories I brought home. I just had to find out why "Ole Bill Tingler" wasn't there. So Judy and I swung by Easton, KS to spend a few hours with him and wife, Shirley. It seems Bill had a family reunion that kept him close to home this year. I filled him in on all the "hot skinny" from our reunion. In the short time we were there, Ting & I managed to fill in the bits and pieces of our lives since 'Nam. Thanks to your good work, I'm certain the '95 Reunion at Rucker will be a winner too. I'm enclosing \$50.00 for three years dues and \$20.00 toward purchase of the new computer. See 'ya at Ft Rucker, Hal Oakley

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Hal. As you can see by the print in this newsletter we now have the new IBM computer system. Later we will need to add to it with new accessories but our basic system will keep us up to date for years to come. And once all the files are converted will save a great deal of time and make it possible to locate many more people. Hopefully "Ole Bill Tingler" will be able to join us at the 1995 Reunion at Fort Rucker.

Dear Jim: Sorry I missed you at the last reunion. Unfortunately, a late business commitment prevented my attendance. Hopefully next time, I'll make it. I did get a chance to chat by phone with a number of guys from the 118th AHC (1966-67 vintage) prior to the reunion. Your directory made that possible. I hope the reunion was a success and look forward to reading about it in your next newsletter. Jim, may I ask a favor? Enclosed is an ad which I ran in last month's Retired Officer Magazine. The response has been fair. Would you mind running the ad in your next newsletter? I'll keep you posted on the outcome. Thanks in advance. Sincerely, Bob Michel I am compiling **Short Stories about Vietnam** for ultimate publication, especially ones that are himorous, bizarre or poignant. If you have a story to tell, please get in touch with me for details either by mail or phone. Contact: Bob Michel, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob and good luck and keep us informed. I know our people have a million great stories. Hopefully they will share a few.

Dear Jim We missed the reunion in Ft Worth, Dallas but want you to know we were thinking of you and all the others who were there. That is why my dues are late but hopefully we well be able to make the next. We went to Alaska during June and July, we have a daughter, four grandsons and son-in-law at Ft Richardson. We had a real good visit with daughter and family. If we should see we won't be at Ft Rucker in 95 I well try to mail dues on or before time due then. I guess that is all for now so will close and get my dues on the way. Sincerely James R. Thomas

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you and hope to see you at Ft Rucker at the 95 Reunion.

Here is my membership application and order for patch and t-shirt for the 119th. Also here is a photo of the patch I told you about. It was nice talking to you. Keep up the good work. Jim "Hap" Hapney Gator 4

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you. The patch looks like it is in really great shape.

Dear Jim: Enclosed is a check for \$40.00- I'll take two years on the membership (sorry to be late), a belt buckle and put the change towards the new computer. Wish it could be more. Regarding the use of .50 Cals



on Hueys, the Firefly operating with 120th Razorbacks out of Tan Son Nhut in late 1969 had one; I have a picture of it around somewhere that I took while I was dispatcher during that time, and there was an article on it in HAWK (the 1st Avn. Bde magazine) around the same time. I may have a copy of that, too, but no promise. If I locate it, I'll send a copy on. One incident I have not seen mentioned in the newsletter regarding KIA's. Sometime around the fall of 1969, the 120th Deans had a ship hit a wire which ran across the Siagon River. The reports from the bystanders were, as I remember, that the tail boom came off, then the rotor blades came off, going through the cabin. Needless to say, all four crew (and one passenger) went down with it. I was flying gunner on the first ship to reach the scene, landing on a barge nearby. I really got the shakes when we found out who it was, as I had flown that ship until about two weeks earlier, when I requested a transfer to another ship as the crew chief and I couldn't seem to see eye-to-eye. I cannot remember any names of the crew (memory dims horribly after so many years) but I have a picture of the wreckage after they pulled it from the river and carted it back to the flight line at Long Binh. By the way, Ray Reiblein's letter in the July 1993 newsletter is essentially correct about the Deans for the time period; they were virtually nothing but VIP transport then. I went there on an extension, having flown with the 187th Crusaders out of Tay Ninh before. I wanted a safe time while keeping my flight pay. Perhaps I should have stayed with the 187th, as I never came half so close to getting killed with them! Abram's ship and Rosson's ship were out of our company, and I particularly remember one BG we often picked up at 1st Log who couldn't bring himself to return a salute- he'd punch me lightly in the arm instead. Incidentally, I ran into a fellow named Richie Maes, [REDACTED], who says that he used to fly with the 145th CAB out of TSN in the early days. You might put him on the list. Anyway, I look forward to getting the directory. Wish I had some names to offer, but as they say, memory is the second thing to go- I forget what goes first. Take care. **Anthony J. Kohler**

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Anthony and I sent a newsletter and Directory to Richie Maes. If anyone has the names of the crew, let us know.

Dear Jim: Enclosed check is for the next couple of years dues, sorry I am late, No excuse. Enclosed find article from the AUSA's latest "Green Book". You will note the author served in the 118th in 1965, I don't think he is a member, you might want to send him an invitation. I imagine that Lt. Gen Scott is the highest ranking officer that came out of the 145th. Again sorry I am late keep up the good work. **Thomas E. Connell** [REDACTED] 1964-1965 RVN-145th CAB (Lt. Gen. James T. Scott Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command Ft. Bragg, NC.)

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Tom and I added Lt Gen Scott to our mailing list. LTG James E Thompson, CG First US Army, Ft Meade, 118th 1964-65 was on our mailing list for awhile.

Dear Jim, Enclosed are my dues for two years. Would like to hear more about the 74th. How about having a reunion up in the north east area sometime. Thanks **Rick Colwell**.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Rick, maybe we'll have some volunteers for a Reunion in the NE in the near future.

Dear Jim, I was glad to finally receive a newsletter, thought something happened to you. I'm writing to tell you that we are going to the Philippines to visit my in-laws. It is their 50th wedding anniversary and we are really looking forward to seeing them again. I was wondering if any of our members know a guy called "Larry Mack"? He was from Illinois and we were in training at Fort Rucker together. I saw him again at Bien Hoa and he was in the 71st AHC. I also remember a guy named "Karvonen"? He was a Spec 5 doorgunner in the Bandits, and he was sent back to the states because he spent 3 tours of duty in Vietnam and



would have stayed longer if he could. I am still trying to get my disability upped to 20%, but the VA is dragging their feet on this. I am glad the DAV is working on this for me. I was wondering if any of our members have information or know what happened to the cute little bar girls everyone knew there in Bien Hoa? I remember the "HOBO LOUNGE" "AUSTRALIA CLUB", "AMERICAN CLUB" etc, and also Turkey road. I just finished reading Snake Driver (cobras in Vietnam) by Bob Rarenburgh and it mentions the 118th AHC in his book! Well, thats all, sorry I got carried away. Sincerely Ted Hanrahan

(EDITORIAL NOTE) I tried looking up Larry Mack and Karvonen in the national phone directory and I think we could find them with just a little more information. There is no Larry Mack listed for IL but there is only a few listed, with a middle initial I think he could be located. There is only a small group of Karvonen, so if we had a first name and maybe a middle initial I think we could locate him also. Maybe some of our members can send in the missing information. Hope everything else works out good.

Dear Jim, Hope you and Debby are doing fine and staying healthy. I can't really say how good I feel every time your newsletter arrives... even though *it ain't Cav....* but it continually reflects an endurance and level of commitment and dedication that relatively few people even come close to in their lives. Not to mention that it helps me realize that... well... maybe I'm really not totally nuts.... I'm just finishing up the 9th year of Moving Wall displays, and hard as it seems to believe, each year seems to bring whole new dimensions to the project. In July I took the Wall to Guam, then Saipan, followed by Maui and finally Molokai before returning to CONUS. It was an incredible journey, to say the least. Naturally, I fell in love with the Island and people in Saipan. What a beautiful place, with perfect weather, to be sure, and the wonderful scent of orchids every time I took a breath. I'd sure like to go back there for a vacation, but only problem is that its so far, far away that it would cost a slight fortune just to get there. Guam seemed like a small tropical island when I first got there... but then I went to Saipan, and Guam suddenly seemed as large as Oahu! Guam was about 30 miles long and 15 miles wide. Saipan was 13 miles long and 4 miles wide. Yep! A real paradise... But another paradise a little closer to home is the island of Molokai. There are virtually no tourists on Molokai because the island instituted a moratorium on building any tourism facilities, so it's basically native Hawaiian with a large Vietnam veteran population. I met some great brothers there, some who had not dealt with anything Vietnam since their DEROS or ETS. It's certainly a great feeling to see the emotional and physical changes made in a week's time. It was hard getting back in the "mainland groove" when I got back. Talk about culture shock! First stop upon returning was Fort Hood, Texas! Fall asleep in paradise... and wake up in West Texas!! Causes a shudder just thinking about... HOWEVER... Mike Davis drove down to visit and he took me over to the Flight Simulator Unit where he worked a couple years back writing the computer programs for the simulator. Well, rather than getting the regular "E-Ticket" tour that visiting brass, politicos, etc. normally get... HA! I got to fly a Black Hawk!! Flew left seat for a good hour and a half- I'd hate to see what it costs to run that kind of technology for even half that time- but I was impressed. The same intense surge of nerves, fear and pure adrenaline surged through these veins when I had the collective and cyclic in my unruly hands. From the ground it musta' looked like that bird was actually swinging side to side rather than flying on any particular coordinate or heading. We got shot at and hit by what could have been something in the range of 35mm back then but was probably some type of missile. Even though its a simulator, the impact and the overwhelming sense of doom floods right in without hesitation One of the scenarios is out over water. Great. Every time we flew out to one of the hospital ships when we were up in I Corps, I'd start to get sea sick on the approach to the deck. Same thing twentysomething years later. Only this time, I didn't have the secure feeling of my gun grips in my hand... this time it was the controls. The way I was swinging side to side, trying to make sense of my speed and motion, the ships speed and motion and the water speed and motion as I approached the deck from behind, I was afraid I'd swing right into the



tower on the deck. Well, that was premature worry wasted... instead, I slammed right into the fantail. We were...and are...all extremely fortunate that my calling was gunning...not piloting. And Davis, like all those who flew up front, demonstrated a skill and confidence that I was in awe of back then and still am today. I guess our excellent training was made to last. Just a few weeks ago I left Indiana, Jim, where the Wall was in Alexandria, South Bend and Highland. All three made it an inspiring end to an inspiring year. Not sure if you got to any of those places, and I didn't get through Ft Wayne this time around, so sorry I didn't get a chance to see you and visit. But one of these days. Take care of yourselves. I'm still working out the 1994 schedule, but I'll get it to you when it's ready... maybe the end of January. KEEP UP THE FIRE! In Peace and Patriotism, John Devitt Chairman, Memorial Fund

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John, I can not put into words the greatness of the service you are doing for everyone effected by the Vietnam War. I have been to the the "Wall" in Washington four times, and even though it is an inspiring place, the "Moving Wall" is the true inspiring Memorial to the Vets. While the "Wall" in Washington is there year round, there are only a few days a year for the Vets to gather there. While the "Moving Wall" travels from town to town, and is the center of attention while its there, bringing the Vietnam Vet community together. While the "Moving Wall" was only meant to help bring the feeling of the "Wall" to the Vets that couldn't make it to Washington, its effects are much greater. I thank you John for your dedicated service, for seeing the need for the "Moving Wall", for your perseverance in making the "Moving Wall" a reality, and for your dedication, above and beyond, putting your life on hold for the last 9 years to take the "Moving Wall" to the people. Hey, It ain't Cav, but its great. It just goes to show it takes a special kind of person to climb in a helicopter and fly off to war day after day.

Dear James L.: Thank you for the copy of the July 1993 newsletter. I see no listing on the order form for back issue, however. As you said on the editor's page, the Readers' Responses are most interesting. I would like to read more, if back issues are available. Please quote me a price. I have a copy of every set of orders I ever received, and will be glad to dig the file out from behind the computer table once I get the membership list, so I can fill any holes. I also have an extensive set of photographs, b&w and color slides, starting fairly early during my tour. I started buying camera equipment and made (very amateur) use of the Air Force lab. I still have all of the negatives, and the slides (processed by Kodak in California) are in good shape. If you or someone else has a specific request from the 1969-70 period, let me know. I may have something. In addition to innumerable shots of airplanes (I especially liked the gunship with "KILL" painted on the bottom), I have shots of change of command cermonies, mama sans, etc. I am not in the business, and would need only to recover my cost for having a print made & buying an envelope and postage. I commend you for organizing the association. I had forgotten that the motto of the "Old Warriors" was "First in Vietnam," and that the unit would therefore have probably more alumni and memories than most. I look forward to furture contact and activity! Very truly yours, David R. Fosse

(EDITORIAL NOTE) One day soon I hope to get all the back copies of the Readers Response converted over to IBM for our members who might want a copy on 3.5" HD disc. We can always use copies of orders to try and get a complete list of everyone we are trying to locate. Pictures of the areas we all shared are of greatest interest, if you have any doubles for the archives they would be appreciated.

Dear Deb and Jim, It was so nice being with you during the reunion in Texas. We are still sharing the event with our friends. After reading the latest newsletter (great) no doubt everyone shared the same experiences. Looking towards Fort Rucker in "94". Ted would like the life membership, he is sending \$100.00 and will send remaining \$150.00 within the coming year. He appriciates this opportunity. Our last few months have been busy with a trip to Arizona to be with our daughter. Returned home to care for Ted's 82 year old ill



mother. Now we are planning Thanksgiving with our son in Florida. Ted does wish he was fully retired, rushing around from coast to coast is costly and exhausting. We do have fun and miss our children so we do always try to be with one during holidays. Do hope your children are well have a nice holiday. See you in June. Love Diana & Ted Jambon

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Diana and Ted. Let me make a **correction**, the next reunion will be in June 1995

Dear Jim & Debby Where did this year go to? They seem to go by faster the older I get As you can see I have finally started to get my Christmas cards out and as you can also see I am only on the "B"'s At this rate it will be the 4th of July before I get finished. George and I had such sad news from the Otter-Caribou Assoc. last week when we learned of the death of Jack Zellmer in an auto accident. Jack and Davey were with us on many tours and we had just located them to attend the reunion at Colorado Springs this past summer. What a great time we had and the last thing amongst the hugs and kisses were they would see us in Orlando. Ray Cross got a great picture of them and it will be in the Log book in January. This was a very unique couple in that they had adopted six children and have worked with many disturbed teenagers. They dearly did love kids and were so good to everyone. As for George and I we feel like we lost a special part of our lives. Davey is still in a hospital in DC and was not able to attend Jack's funeral at Arlington National Cemetery but Jim Greenquist did make the services both at the church and the cemetery. We would have gone but Bill thought the services were over with when he called us so we did not get the word in time. George and I just got back in gear after having a great deal of company over September and October. I hated to see everyone leave but then on the other hand I have so much to do for the holidays it is probably just as well we have some time in between to get things done Boy, we sure did not realize how much work is involved in setting up a reunion. Good thing we started early. George has finally, after many meetings negotiating with the hotel he signed a contract with the Sheraton- Tara in Braintree, MA and they have promised him the moon--sure hope they come through. We are now working on the Whale Watch and the clambake. The most difficult part is the transportation to and fro. Guess we need to invest in a bus company If all goes well it should go over big. The hospitality girls will be dressed in Pilgrim outfits if we ever get on the ball and get them made. We are working with a very small committee because everyone is moving to Florida on us but I guess we will manage. Ed and Laura Shuster and Sue and Jim Greenquist with us will pull it off if nothing else happens. Let us know if we can be of any help with the 145th reunion we also plan on attending the one in Philadelphia over the 4th with the VHPA. At least it won't be as hot as it was in Scottsdale. I nearly passed out there but of course I will go even if it is in South America-- if I can get the money together that is. Have a Happy Holiday Season, George & Lorraine Owens

(EDITORIAL NOTE) The 1995 Army Otter-Caribou Reunion in Boston sound like a lot of fun. You and George will do a great job organizing a fun Reunion. I enjoyed meeting Sue & Jim Greenquist at the 1992 Army Otter-Caribou Reunion, I'm sure they will be a lot of help, you'll just have to keep Sue away from the elevators. Sorry to hear about your friend, this year has also been bad for the 145th Asso, I will have to write an Obituarie section.

Dear members of the 145th Combat Aviation Bn VN Assoc., Thanks for taking the time in putting this together, and finding me. I served with the "Top Tigers" from Mar 68 to Mar 69. Enclosed is a check for \$33, \$10 for membership, \$13 for 68th AHC T-shirt(L), \$5 for 145th hat, \$5 for 68th AHC hat (if available, if not keep the \$5). Thank You, Richard Delorso, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Richard, sorry we don't have any hats made up yet for the 68th AHC.



# PLEASE READ

Our copy machine is really giving us trouble and I want to appeal to everyone who hasn't paid their dues for the 93-94 year to please do so. I would also like for everyone that hasn't paid 94-95 dues to please send them in as soon as they can. We really do need to buy a new copy machine real soon. The one we have is costing us more in repairs then a new one would cost in the long run. The cost will be between \$3,000 to \$5,000. We need your financial support to make this purchase possible.

I want to report that we have gotten the new computer system, IBM compatible, Acer by Acer. For those of you that are into computers, its a 486SX/ 25 Hz, 4MB RAM, 120/240MB hard drive, a 3.5 1.4MB drive, a 5.25 1.2MB/360K drive, a CD drive, Fax/Modem. The new computer is much quicker and easier to use, and the more I learn the new programs the better it is. The computer came with DOS 6, Windows 3.1, and PFS Window Works installed. I also have a program call Microsoft Word for Windows 6 which is what I use for word processing and for a Data Base I have a share ware program called File Express 5, being a share ware program it is OK to copy it and send it to as many people as we want. I like File Express because its easy to use and quick. So any of you out there with IBM type computer that would be willing to help input data base information please let me know , I can use the help.

The best thing about the new computer is the CD Drive. Yes It plays music CDs, but most importantly it reads informational CDs like Phonedisc USA. Phonedisc USA has every listed residential phone number, address, and zip code in the United States on 2 Disc, which look just like a music CD. Now I can recycle the hundreds of phone books covering the shelves here in my office. The best part is that I can type in a name one time and get a listing for everyone on the Eastern or the Western half of the United States, other information like middle initial, home state, or hometown help to narrow the possibilities, already we have found many new people. And thats why there is not a list in this years directory of people from your state for you to try to help find. Incase your wondering the 2 disc set dividis the United States into the Eastern and Western halves, Indiana, Kentucky, Tenn. and Miss. are in the Eastern Directory, and Mich., Wisc., Ill., MO., Ark., La. and all points west are in the Western Directory. So if you call in with a name to look up arrange them by East or West, it takes about 4 minitues to switch from one directory to another, but it only takes a few seconds per name if in the same directory. A few people have asked where they can get a copy of the Phonedisc USA so here is the address: Digital Directory Assistance, Inc, 5161 River Rd Bld-6, Bethesda, MD 20816 1-617-639-2900

With this new technology we are locating people a lot faster and will be experiencing growing pains. It cost money to send the information to the people we locate. To help out with this problem please check your mailing label on the newsletter, if it asked you to join or renew your membership please do so just as soon as you can. **Membership dues are \$10 a year or \$250 for Life Membership.** There is a membership/ order form on the other of this page, please fill out the top part the form completely and clearly mark the membership years and / or the items being ordered, the most common mistake made is not marking the size for a T-shirt order.

There are a few more things we need to buy that cost a large amount of money. We could really use a full page scanner which cost about \$900. And some day soon we will need a new copy machine which is around \$5,000. Both are very expensive but with your support we can raise the money.

***PLEASE JOIN TODAY, WE DO NEED YOUR  
SUPPORT***



## ORDER FORM

FILL OUT COMPLETE ADDRESS AND PHONE

send in complete form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Send form to: **145th C.A.B.V.A., 3719 FOREST HILL AVE, Ft. WAYNE, IN 46805-1301**

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

145th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION (VIETNAM) ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

I served with the (unit) \_\_\_\_\_ from (date) \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Rank (check one) EM \_\_\_\_\_ WO \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed \$10 for each membership year. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 1 July 1994 to 30 June 199 \_\_\_\_\_

Regular \_\_\_\_\_ Associate (family) member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ NL25

☐ LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$250 ☐ FULL PAYMENT ☐ PARTIAL PAYMENT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## CASSETTE TAPES

Send me the indicated cassette tape/s, Audio Cassette sells for \$15 each. See page 27 NL25

☐ "Battle of Bien Hoa/Gunship Action" ☐ Combat Assault ☐ Songs of the UTT

## UNIT PATCHES OR HAT

Send me ☐ 118AHC, ☐ 118AML, ☐ 119AHC, ☐ UTT (Pegasus), ☐ 335AHC, ☐ FIREBIRD, ☐ MUSTANG (Grim Reaper), at \$4 each.

Or send me ☐ 145th baseball cap at \$5 each. See page 27 NL25

## VIETNAM VETERANS TIES

Send me ☐ Navy Blue or ☐ Burgundy, Vietnam Veterans Tie/s, at \$22 each. See page 27 NL25

## COLOR UNIT T-SHIRTS

Send me \_\_\_\_\_ Unit T-Shirt/s at \$13 each including postage. (Mark Unit and Size)

#01-01 145th BN Asso.

☐ #04-03 57th MED DET

☐ #05-02 68th AHC

☐ #06-02 71st AHC

☐ #06-04 FIREBIRD

☐ #08-03 117th AML

☐ #08-04 117th AHC

☐ #09-01 118th AML

☐ #09-02 118th AHC

☐ #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)

☐ #17-02 UTT (1964)

☐ #17-04 197th

☐ #17-05 334th AHC (1966-68)

### SIZE

☐ Medium

☐ Large

☐ Ex-large

☐ XX-Large

☐ XXX-Large

ALLOW 4 TO 6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY, IF NOT IN STOCK. SEE PAGE 27 FOR MORE DETAILS

## ASSOCIATION WATCH AND BELT BUCKLE

Send me \_\_\_\_\_ Association Watch at \$25 each. See page 27

Send me \_\_\_\_\_ Association Belt Buckle at \$15 each. See page 27 of NL25



Jim- I'm late as usual I've inclosed \$25- for 2 years and use the extra for your computer fund. Your directory works-, Someone tracked me down recently. keep up the good work. Howard J Stiles Cowboy 6 May- Nov 69

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Howard.

Dear Jim, It sure was a shock and surprise to run into you at the 145th booth in Kokomo. It was the first Reunion of any kind that I've attended since I left the service in 1967. I never realized the 145th had such a long and illustrious tour in Vietnam. I served with the 120th AML from 1964 to 1965. My duties were motor pool parts scrounge, truck driver and fill-in door gunner. I found Marvin Myers' letter in July 1993 Newsletter quite interesting. I was gunning that day for the 120th Packrats. Billy Batchelder, a platoon driver for the 120th who had recently transferred to a Vung Tau Unit, was killed that day. If memory serves me, I think it was his first mission as a Crew Chief. Also, a strange footnote to the Dong Xoai operation as far as the 120th was concerned (again this is if my memory is correct) the 25th Infantry Gunners, who did TDY with us, were in rotation, leaving the Company with only support personnel to man the doors. I guess you could say it was a total Company effort in one of the biggest operations of 1965. Enclosed please find my membership and order form. I have included a \$20.00 donation for the computer in the memory of Bill Batchelder. Sincerely, Bob Gilman, P.S. Any information or history of the 120th and the 145th that you might have would be of great interest to me. Thanks Bob Gilman, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, and if we ever contact the family of Bill Batchelder they will also appreciate your membering him.

Dear Jim, I was really pleased to receive the newsletter last month and then the membership directory today. I had forgotten to send in my dues and the material I received today reminded me. I recognized alot of the names in the directory in the units I was with and a lot of the people I served with in Germany and other places. I also recognized a lot of the KIA's, some I didn't know about. (That they didn't make it back alive) I have a lot of mixed emotions from viewing those names & unit. I'll give you a little of my history for your records. I went to "Nam" in Sept 64 and was assigned to the UTT. A few months later it was changed to the 68th. We worked the whole country from DaNang to the Delta. As the build up started a number of us transferred to "A" 501st, and being seasoned on Gunships, all of us went to the Gunship platoon (Firebirds). The transfer was in Dec 64. I was there until I rotated in Sept 65. After almost 11 months stateside, I went back to "Nam" and was assigned to C 229th Avn Bn, 1st Cav Div from Oct 66 to Oct 67. More stateside duty and back to "Nam" in 12th Avn Gp from '72 to '73. I have some names in my head of sme of the people I served with but no SSN, SN or addresses. I'm sending \$25 for one years membership and the rest can go where you need it. Thanks for getting in touch with me. I'm glad to be getting the news and the rest of the material. Your doing a great job. We appreciate it. The best to you and yours! Thanks again, Harvey H Browning

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Harvey, hopefully we'll locate a lot more of your friends soon.

Dear Jim: Enclosed please find my dues for the next year, according to my card they are due. Sorry to be late. I do have a question perhaps you can help with. While looking through the membership directory to see if I could find anyone closeby in Maine I found my name again listed on page 22 as 120th AML and not a member. My first tour was with UTT and I am listed as such as a member. The problem is that my second tour for all of 1965 I cannot remember who I was with, I remember most of the mission and a lot of the faces, but names and units seem to be blanked out. I know I was originally in Pleiku assigned to a



maintenance company, but because of my experience and MOS I flew with the transportation company on slicks without ever being transferred to that company. Sometime in the middle of 65 I was transferred to Ban Me Thout and became the maintenance company commanders crewchief with the call sign of Stagecoach. We flew all major mission as a rescue/repair helicopter and got in a mess during the Pleime and Ia Drang battle. Its funny I remember my UTT days so clearly and my days as a civilian in 1968 at Chu Lai and other places to the DMZ, but 1965 except for a lot of missions and just some faces is really a blur to me. I don't know where you get the names but any help you could give me would really be appreciated. Sincerely, Warren Smith, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Warren. My records aren't always to good but I did find a little information that might help. Stagecoach was used by the 155th AHC 1964-71 out of Ban Me Thout, and the time at Pleiku could have been with the 119th and 545th Trans Det or any part of the 52nd Bn. Maybe some of our member can help.

Dear Sir, I thought I would pass along an idea to some old copter pilots. Many of us have not flown copters much or very little since our times in Vietnam. In my case, I didn't touch an aircraft for 7 years, no real reason except perhaps graduate school, new job, and later on, a 10 year stint in Paris, France. Along the way I picked up a private, fixed wing pilot's license and started doing a lot of aerobatics in the French CAP-10, but, I always missed the "real" flying in copters until I contacted a local civilian pilots school and started flying a Robinson R-22. This great, little (2 place), piston powered helicopter has renewed my long love affair. The controls are "brand X" and a bit strange to get used to at first, but after a few minutes it all started coming back. The point is that anyone can go and rent this little bird with an instructor for about \$150 an hour. No medical exam, license, or currency requirements to meet. For those members who have flown with me with the 68th AHC (June 68 - June 69) as Mustang 6, Smokey, Checkmate Charlie Charlie, or even as Top Tiger 5 I can say that I have finally mastered a smooth hover! It is really quite easy without the revetments, 1600 pounds of fuel, door gunners. If you want to try it yourself, call a local flying school and get some time. Best Regards, Geoffrey R Webster P.S. Please note new address, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you, that really sounds exciting, I haven't been off the ground since I left C Troop, 7th of the 1st Cav at Ft Knox, Ky in 1976.

Dear Coordinator, I just came across the 1990-1991 Membership Directory for the Association and would like to renew my membership. I'm listed as a member in good standing on Page 14 of the 90-91 Directory but I haven't heard from you for a while. I'm listed as Jackson C Stevens which is correct but my address has changed. My U.S. mailing address is at the top of this page and my home address is [REDACTED]. My phone number is [REDACTED]. I served as a lieutenant in the 120th from January 1964 until January 1965 and as a captain with the 242nd from August 1967 until July 1968. I have enclosed a check for \$30 (three years) which should bring me up to date. If you need more, please let me know. Also, please let me know your name so I don't have to write, "Dear Coordinator." I appreciate your work and wish you all success in 1994. Sincerely, Jack Stevens

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Jack. Jack's US mailing address is J. C. Stevens, Ph.D., c/o St Maarten Mail Service, [REDACTED]. In the last issue of the Directory I listed all of our Officers of our Assoc. I'm Jim Bodkin, National Director/Coordinator, former crew chief / doorgunner, 68th AHC July 1969 - Dec 1970.



Dear Jim, Enclosed is my membership application and check. I was very pleased to receive the pamphlet and learn about the Association. I served with the 93rd Transportation Co (H-21) in DaNang and Soc Trang from May 1962 until April 1963. We were under the 45th Trans Bn. In September 1962 we traded places with the Marines and moved to Soc Trang. The 93rd was supported by the attached 80th Trans Det. field maint, 134th Medical Det, and the 257th Signal Det. (avionics repair). WO2 Pete LaRosa and I were the first replacements to join the original company. The 93rd moved to Vietnam from Ft Devens, Mass by sea across the Atlantic through the Mediterranean and Suez Canal, the Indian Ocean and China Sea to Subic Bay. From Subic they sailed to just off DaNang. The helicopters flew off the carrier to their new duty station at DaNang. The 93rd was one of the original H-21 companies assigned to Vietnam. The other companies were the 8th Trans at Quin Nhon and the 57th at Saigon. Later the 33rd arrived in Sept or Oct 1962 at Bien Hoa and the 81st in the central Highlands. The 93rd was the only helicopter unit in the northern part of Vietnam from Jan 1962 until Sept. We supported I Corps, the ARVIN 1st Division headquartered in Hue, the 2nd Division and Special Forces. We spent a lot of time in the Ashau - Aloui valley. I remember slingloading two british 25 pounder gun- howitzers from Ashau to Aloui. It was a pretty hot spot even in 1962. The hottest action we had up north was operation Lam Son 2 on Aug 30, 1962. The 93rd provided 12 H-21s and an O-1D. The VNAF provided 10 H-34s and air support with T-28s. There was one HU1A from the Admin Flight that supported I Corps which played a very important role. We lifted troops from the Presidential Survey Organization (Pres. Diem's body guard) into a landing in the middle of the 90th VC Bn. Every helicopter was hit and we lost 2 of 12 H-21s (one on the first lift in and one in the last lift out). We had several wounded, but fortunately not KIA. Qung Ngai was the stage field for the operation. The last helicopter out on the last lift out, piloted by our CO Major James E Gray and Lt Lou Stone was shot down right after lift off, probably by a rifle grenade. The admim HU1A piloted by Cpt Ray Vinning and another cpt who's name I don't remember rescued our crew and some of the Vietnamese troops under heavy fire. A VNAF H-34 hovered at about 100 feet drawing fire to distract the VC as did several H-21s. I might tell you how we became the Soc Trang Tigers. After operations one night a number of us were relaxing in the O Club (the Millstream Lounge) at Soc Trang. A suggestion was made that the unit ought to have a nickname. One of the standing jokes was the timid nature of the VNAF T-28 flights that escorted us (this was before the UTT was operational). They always had a call sign of "red tiger" or "blue tiger" or some kind of tiger, but they were anything but tigerish. Someone said maybe we ought to be the yellow tigers. Major Gray, our CO, said no, that smacked of cowardice. At that point someone said, "If we can't be the yellow tigers, let's be the Soc Trang tigers." The next day Lt Harold Bergdahl (who was quite an artist) drew a tiger in camouflogé fatigues and hat with a swedish K submachine gun over his shoulder on the O Club refrigerator door. Someone took a picture of the tiger and had shirts made up with the tiger on the shirt. The O Club became the "Tiger's Den" and the name stuck. I was in the hospital at Clark Field recovering from hepatitis when the company was badly shot up at the Battle of Ap Bac on 2 Jan, 1963. Shortly after that my best friend in the company, Lt Lou Stone along with Lt Charlie Fitts and Cpt Don Toth were killed (as passengers) in a helicopter of the 57th Trans (along with the crew of CWO Hammond and Wilde). A little something about conditions in the early days. When I joined the 93rd there were no more than 100 American helicopters in the entire country. Up in DaNang there were no logistical support units. If we needed something like major repair on a vehicle, we took it downtown and had it repaired by a civilian garage and paid for it in cash. When you flew out of DaNang to the north or west after about 10 minutes you had no radio communication. Contrast this with 1967 with over 3000 helicopters and 100% radar and communication coverage. The original 93rd was a great outfit. Even though the H-21 was obsolete, we had pilots capable of doing remarkable things. It was a rare privilege for me to have been a member. I'm enclosing some copies of orders etc, with the names of some of the people I served with. I will have copies of some of the old pictures I have, printed and will send them at



a later dated. If you have any question or if there is any information I can provide, please write. Sincerely,  
**Bert Leach** Lt Col USA Retired P.S. I was Chad Payne's flight instructor in the H-21 in the fall of 1960. Marvin Dorr & I served together in the 9th Div at Ft Carson 1957-59 and at Aberdeen Proving Grounds approx 1971. Chuch Utzman and I served together at Ft Rucker, Dept RW TRNG 1960-62  
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bert, great story. Parts of your letter I will add to the Battalion History file, the details are great.

Dear Mr Bodkin, Enclosed find a check in the amount of \$20 for two years membership dues. My current membership expired in July, 1993 so appreciate your continueing to send the newsletter and most recently the membership roster. Anyway, this dues payment should take me through July, 1995. Speaking of the membership roster. I received it just before the Christmas holidays so took it along on our trek to grandmother's house. I did glance at it, though just briefly, but it did not make it back home with me. Some how it was misplaced and apparently discarded. Enclosed find \$5 to cover the cost of having you send me another copy. I did note in the roster that you now have access to telephone listings. For nearly 25 years I've been trying to locate my coworker and roommate from Vietnam days. His name is Larry Bures, at the time from Whittier, CA. If you run across that name sure would appreciate your forwarding his address or phone number. I do look forward to the newsletter, articles and letters written by the former members of the 145th. I was there from September 1968 through August 1969. You have asked previously about this time period but I'm not sure I can add much to it. Of note though, I do remember the day Earl Gurnsey was taken as a POW. I was with the HHC and worked in personnel building in Honor Smith Compound so we heard almost immediately when a helicopter went down. I can well recall the day in late November, 1968 when we heard the news of the downed aircraft and a few of us guys hanging around the commo shack after work waiting for the latest word. We didn't know Earl but his mother can be assured that more then a few prayers went up that night for Earl. It is a name I had not forgotten all these years. Sorry to hear of his passing a few years ago. One of my jobs was to assure that all KIA and MIA personnal belongings were shipped so when I read over that list a few names do ring a bell and sound familiar. Somewhere I do have a 'year book' of the 145th. I haven't seen it in years and it is packed in a box somewhere. When I find it I'll let you know of the dates and if you would be interested in having it. As I recall it went through about 1966 or 1967. Also, I do have some copies of orders which may help locate some names and guys but they are in the same missing box as the Battalion history book. An issue or two ago one letter writer referred to Lt Peter J Ulysses. I worked for Lt Ulysses for about the last half of my tour so was pleased to see his name again, although I have no idea of his whereabouts. I believe he was an English instructor by profession. A great guy to work for. The personnel officer prior to him was a guy by the name of Lt Mutchler, I'm not sure of the spelling of the last name anymore. I need to close for today but will write again sometime. If yuo, or anyone else, can put me on the track of Larry D Bures, I would be forever appreciative. Best Regards, **Darvin D Hauff**, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Darvin. I sent your new membership card and Directory. And you can add to that the address of [REDACTED], I wasn't able to talk with him but his wife said he was in Vietnam about the time, so it should be the right one. And Lt Clifford D Mutchler was from Missouri and there is only one Clifford D Mutchler listed in the western half of the US, and that is Clifford D Mutchler. [REDACTED], I called and left a message on his machine, he called back and confired it is the right one. We can use the copies of orders and we have a copy of the gray 1967 year book and a copy of the dark blue 1968 year book.



# OBITUARIES

I really hate to write this section of the newsletter. Some of these people I knew very well, some I only met once, others I had never met, but each of them were well known and remembered by some of our members. Some I can write a lot about and others I only have the basic information on, I will do the best I can in writing about these people and if there is anything you want to add please do so.

**ELVIN R HELSEL**, 68th AHC, November 1966 to October 1967 WO. I first met Elvin at the 1986 145th Reunion where we formed our Association. Elvin also attended the 1987, 1989, 1991, and 1993 Reunions. Elvin told me he was one of the few non-rated Warrant Officers assigned to the Battalion, coming from Military Intelligence and serving as the Supply Officer for the 68th. Elvin said he took a little kidding about being a non-rated warrant in an aviation unit so he decided to get his private pilots license before the 1987 Reunion. Elvin volunteered to serve as a Regional Director/Coordinator for us since our first Reunion and could always be counted on when ever asked to help out. Me, Deb and the kids were fortunate enough to have dinner with Elvin just before leaving the 93 Reunion, one of the things we talked about was possibly holding a Reunion in Hershey, PA. We lost a good friend and member, Elvin was killed in a car accident November 27, 1993 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

**CALVIN G DODD**, HHC 1970 May - Sept Battalion Commander and 117th AHC 1964-65 May. I first meet LTC Dodd in Vietnam in 1970. At the time it was my job as a Sp4 and Sp5 to avoid the Battalion Commander at all cost. I first got to talk to Cal at the 1989 Reunion in Denver, CO. I really enjoy the conversation with Cal, John Hughes, and Bill Fraker. The last time I was able to see Cal was at the 1993 Reunion at Ft Worth. Cal had had heart by-pass surgery and was on the list for a heart transplant. Cal had lost a lot of weight and I didn't recognize him until I heard his voice. I ask Cal how he was doing and if he had gotten any word on when he might get the transplant, Cal told me that he was hoping for the transplant soon and wasn't supposed to be that far away from home, but he wanted to be with his friends. He said it might be his last chance and he wasn't going to miss it for anything. Cal got his transplant but died of pneumonia shortly after. Cal passed away 13 March 94 and was buried in Plainview, TX. Cal will be missed by everyone who knew him.

**JOE "Mac" McIVER**, 197th AHC July 1965 to Aug 1966 Flight Platoon Sergeant. I first met Joe at the 1986 Reunion where we formed our Association. Any one who ever talked with Joe would remember his Scottish accent, and Joe's Cav hat from another of his tours in Vietnam. At the 87 and 91 Reunions I got a chance to visit more with Joe and his wife Mary. I remember talking with Joe and Mary till early in the morning on the lawn of the hotel at the 91 Reunion, Joe told us about the problems he had getting his citizenship papers. Joe did many tours in Vietnam and Korea during his military career and still wasn't considered a citizen till after he retired from the Army. I talked with Joe many times over the phone and Joe was always willing to help anyone who needed it. Joe passed away March 20, 1994 in Brinkley, AR.



## **OBITUARIES** (continued)

**CARL E MILLER**, 118th AHC March 1969 to September 1970 OF. Carl had been a member of our Association for a couple of years before he passed away. When I first learned of Carl's death we sent a thirty dollar check to his memorial fund and a Honorary Membership to Candy Miller and we received this letter from her, she tells it much better than I could. "Dear Jim & Debby, Thank you for the 1993-94 Directory. Just thought you ought to know that Carl E Miller died of lung cancer. The doctors never proved or disproved that it was caused by Agent Orange. Carl was in the 118th AHC from March 3, 1969 - September 28, 1970. Who knows what he was exposed to, but he'll be the first to tell you that his smoking didn't cause the cancer, although it probably didn't help. I know I'm an honorary member, but I would like to contribute. Sincerely, Candy Miller" Thank you Candy, she ordered a T-shirt and sent in an extra \$10 donation.

**RALPH J CRIDER**, 334th AHC 1970-71 EM. I first met Ralph at the 1991 Reunion at Ft Rucker. I didn't get a chance to talk with Ralph very much as he was pretty busy catching up old times with many old friends. One of Ralph's good friends, Jim Aretz called and told me that Ralph had died of a heart attack on February 8, 1994 at the Montgomery, AL VAMC.

**PAUL D KUZUB**, 335th AHC, June 1969-70 EM. While calling around trying to locate more of the former members of the units of the 145th C.A.B. I called Mrs Kuzub and asked about Paul, she told me that Paul had passed away in October 1993 of Lung Cancer caused by Agent Orange. I wish that I could have located Paul a year earlier, but at least we can be there for the wife and kids if they want to know about his tour in Vietnam.

**WILLIAM M "BILL" STROKER** 334th AHC 1970 WO. I received a letter from Bob Thiesing informing us about Bill, here what Bob had to say: Bill died about 4 to 5 years ago when his Citabria airplane crashed after take off. He was flying an Agusta helicopter for Seagrams out of Westchester County Airport (Whiteplains NY) for employment. Bill was my stick buddy and wingman when we both were in the 334th. He was a member of the Eastern Region Helicopter Council and was memorialized and remember in one of their newsletters.

**C. W. CAYWOOD**, 57th Trans Co 1963-64 & 119th AHC 1967 EM. I received word that C. W. Caywood was deceased Oct 21, 1991. I can't tell you much about him but maybe those that served with him can.

**BRUCE "STEVE" ADDIS**, my brother-in-law, Deb's brother, a former Marine serving in the DaNang area as a diesel mechanic with the 1st Marine Air Wing 1969-70. For those of you that went to Washington for Veterans Day 1991, Steve was the one that was with me. I grew up around Steve until the time when he went in the Marines and I went in the Army. In 1978 Steve became my brother-in-law. Steve died of a heart attack Dec 4, 93 at VAMC in Indianapolis after battling heart trouble and sugar diabetes since Nov. 1990



## Battalion History

### 135th AHC Jan - Dec 1970

The 135th Assault Helicopter Company is probably the most unique Army Aviation Unit in Vietnam and perhaps the world. Flying and working with the normal U.S. Army crews you will find officers and airmen of the Royal Australian Navy. On 30 November 1967 when this consolidated working agreement was implemented, the 135th was considered a test unit, but the successful trials of combat soon dispelled that title. The company's area of operation is primarily that of the 7th Infantry Division (ARVN), but there are few places in Military Region IV that the men of the 135th Aviation Company have not been utilized to conduct tactical operations. The EMU's, as they are called because of their original 'Experimental Military Unit' title, are considered one of the most professional and dedicated helicopter units supporting the Republic of Vietnam Forces in the Delta. Fred C Dunaway, Maj FA, Commanding, (7 Jan 71)

The beginning of the 135th Aviation Company, a CV-2B Caribou Unit in the 10th Air Transport Brigade, 11th Air Assault Division, Fort Benning, Ga, starts with GO #186, HQ, Third United States Army, which officially redesignated the 516th Transport Airplane Company as the 135th Aviation Company (Fixed Wing Airmobile) effective 1 July 1965. As the members of the 135th Aviation Company prepared to turn their facilities over to the 458th Troop Carrier Squadron at Dong Ba Thien and closed the records, 8,470 nautical miles away at Fort Hood, Texas the beginning of a new 135th was starting to take shape. On 1 December 1966, the 207th Aviation Company (Airmobile Light) was activated under MTOE 1-77G by General Order 302, HQ III Corps, Fort Hood, Texas, with a life of only two months, the 207th was deactivated but on 1 February 1967, the 135th Aviation Company (Airmobile Light) once again came into existence with the redesignation of the 207th Aviation Company. The 135th was again organized under MTOE 1-77G, as per III Corps, Ft Hood General Order 47, with, 2 lift aircraft platoons, each with 11 UH-1D's and one armed platoon with 8 UH-1C's, a service platoon with 1 UH-1D maintenance ship and a headquarters platoon. Two two detachments responsible for the direct support maintenance were the 614th Transportation Detachment and the 68th Signal Detachment. The unit was deployed to the Republic of Vietnam in early October 1967 and started operation in November in November 1967. In November 1968 the unit was reorganized under MTOE 01-77G PAC 2/68 thereby losing the 614th Transportation Detachment and the 68th Signal Detachment, who had given the unit outstanding support. Under the new MTOE the units organization included 2 lift aircraft platoons each with 11 UH-1D/H's and one armed platoon with 8 UH-1C's, a service platoon with 1 UH-1H maintenance ship and a headquarters platoon.

The beginning of the New Year 1970 saw the EMU's continuing to support the operations of ARVN Forces in the Delta. The following is a month by month description of their operation:

**JANUARY:** All operations were flown in support of the 7th ARVN Division, in Dinh Tuong, Kien Hoa, and Go Cong Provinces. The level of operational activity was high in anticipation of a possible VC "Tet" offensive. A night "Hunter - Killer" package operated regularly against VC infiltration routes in the northwest part of IV Corps. Major General Cal Frazer CBE MBE COMAFV (designate) visited the company this month.

**FEBRUARY:** Again the unit's area of operations remained unchanged. The expected "Tet" offensive did not materialize, but enemy activity, particularly in the Mo Cay area, underwent a marked increase and EMU aircraft received fire on many occasions. Unfortunately, on the 17th of February, Sp4 M. A. Jenewein was critically wounded in the neck during a combat assault, and died on the 22nd of February. On several occasions during the month, aircraft and crew availability became critical, and it was necessary to borrow both from other companies to meet mission requirements.



**MARCH:** All operations were flown in support of the 7th ARVN Division, primarily with the 10th Regiment in Kien Hoa. A month of increased enemy activity, which has seen a number of casualties. On the 6th of March, Leut. D. F. Gibson, RAN, received serious injuries when he landed his UH-1H on a 105mm booby trap. Two ARVN soldiers were killed, and the aircraft was completely destroyed. This incident occurred in a secure LZ, and the pilot was actually being maneuvered to his landing position by an ARVN soldier. On the 28th of March, a routine training flight ended in disaster when a UH-1H crashed and burned just northwest of Bear Cat. WO1 D. Cook was killed, and the IP, WO1 W. Clemens received severe burns.

**APRIL:** The company role remained unchanged. The enemy offensive which commenced on the 31st of March continued for the first week of April. The only real success enjoyed by the VC within our area of operations was the over running of FSB "Schroeder" north of Cai Be, on the night of March 31st. The company suffered its second major serious accident on 19 April, when a UH-1H crashed and burned. The IP escaped with light injuries, but the examinee, Warrant Officer R Stillions, died as a result of his injuries on the 21st of April. Company operations were hampered during this month by a severe shortage of personnel. Major Walter D Alexander replaced Major William A. Beasley as Commanding Officer on the 20th of April. On the 10th of April, Brig. General Putman, Commanding General of the 1st Avn Bde paid an informal visit to the Company.

**MAY:** The highlight of the year was the commencement of operations into Cambodia. On the 3rd of May, the Delta Aviation Group provided 60 UH-1H, 38 gunships, 8 Chinooks, 13 LOH's and 2 skycranes for assault operations. Due to government agreement, the Australian aircrews were not able to take part in this operation and this had an adverse effect on the company efficiency. Because of this situation, the 135th AHC was later employed in support operations in the Delta. On the 18th, a day of truce in honor of Buddha's birthday, the company was involved in a large operation in Binh Dai District. An RF/PF outpost was overrun and then heavily fortified by a VC main force Battalion. Three battalions of the 10th Regiment, 7th ARVN Division were inserted around the area in the face of heavy enemy fire, both small arms and .50 cal. and several aircraft were hit. Intelligence sources indicated that over 50 VC were killed. On Tuesday May 19th, a UH-1C was shot down by .50 cal machine gun fire 3 miles east of Cai Ba. The crew of 4, Captain J. Sprewell, 1Lt L.G. Ladouceur, Sp5 L. J. Stone and Sp4 M. Herrington were all killed instantly. A second gunship was hit and damaged seriously and was later retrograded.

**JUNE:** Although the company effort is mainly directed to support the 7th ARVN Division, two missions were flown in support of the 9th ARVN Division this month. The company had 27 aircraft hit this month, but fortunately only one pilot was slightly wounded. The 7th ARVN Division was particularly successful during June, the 10th Regiment alone, being credited with over 200 VC KIA. Signs of breakdown in enemy morale started to appear, with more returnee's surrendering under the "Open Arms" programss, and a definite tendency for VC units to disperse rather than fight has started to manifest itself.

**JULY:** The 7th ARVN remains the major supported unit, with the 9th ARVN Division on having the use of EMU packages on 3 days. The end of the Cambodian operation has led to a drop in overall requirements for air assets in the Delta. A possible indication of the damage to the enemy both in material and morale, caused by the Cambodian operation, has been the greatly reduced number of aircraft hits this month, together with a rise in Viet Cong KIA. On the 21st of July, the company received notice that the long rumoured move to Dong Tam would take place by August 15th.

**AUGUST:** The first week was one of heavy enemy activity in the company Area of Operation with 35 KBA credited. We continue to support mainly the 7th ARVN Division. Kien Hoc Province, which has been the center of much of our activity, was recently, on an assessment of the GVN pacification program, rated the least pacified of South Vietnam's 48 provinces. Two notable operations were flown in support of USN "Seals", are of which resulted in the destruction of a VC grenade factory. The intended move of the company to Dong Tam still remains at the planning stage, and as yet no firm date has been given.



**SEPTEMBER:** The company operational commitment remained substantially the same, but with 2 operations in support of the 21st ARVN Division. The highlighteds for the month were the move from Bear Cat to Dong Tam on the 6th of September, and the arrival of the first group of RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam 1970, to replace those of the previous detachment returning to Australia. LCDR W. P. James, RAN, succeeded LCDR D.D. Farthing, RAN, as Executive Officer of the 135th Aviation Company.

**OCTOBER:** With the deployment of the EMU's to Dong Tam, the company now operates all over the Delta, and regularly works as far south as Ca Mau in support of the 21st ARVN Division. Enemy activity was at a low level, but on the 11th of October, just north east of the U-Minh Forest contact was made with a suspected NVA Battalion and combat assault were carried out under heavy fire, with all aircraft receiving hits, with fortunately no casualties. Personnel have been busily employed improving facilities in the quarters at Dong Tam and the clubs, showers, and toilet facilities has had an excellent effect on the company morale.

**NOVEMBER:** Enemy activity in Military Region IV remained at a fairly low level. The onset of the wet season hampered company operations to an extent this month. The EMU's were engaged in a number of contacts during the month, perhaps the most notable being on the early morning of the 22nd, when the "Vampire" night reaction package was launched at 0230 hours to counter a landing by the VC of troops and supplies from a junk in the south eastern extremity of Kien Hoa Province. An incident on Phu Quoc Island on the 6th of November gave a stronger argument against the vulnerability of helicopters to ground fire. An EMU ship was carrying out a loudspeaker "PSYOPS" mission and received a total of over two thousand rounds of enemy small arms fire during a two hour long period. The aircraft sustained two minor hits, and its mission was unaffected. The Aircraft Commander claimed later, however, that he was getting a little nervous towards the end of the mission. The company area was mortared four times during this month. On the third, 7 rounds of 82mm landed in the BOQ area, wounding five personnel, fortunate none seriously.

**DECEMBER:** Another month of generally low enemy activity, but one that provided for the EMU's some intensive action. Another "Vampire" package was launched to insert troops around an outpost under attack in Vinh Binh Province. A heavy and successful action in the U-Minh Forest on the 6th of December resulted in 8 VC KBA's, with considerable successes by the ground troops inserted. The flight received enemy fire all day, but only one aircraft was hit. Another action in the same area resulted in 10 KBA's. Again fire was received all day, and two were shot down, being hooked out later in the day. A Vampire package was launched in the afternoon of Christmas Eve for a highly secret mission to Ca Mau. On arrival, the EMU's learned that they had been chosen as a security force for Nguyen Van Thieu, the President of the Republic of Vietnam, who spent the night in the field with forward elements of the ARVN 21st Division. The second last day of the year saw the EMU's involved in their heaviest contact for some time in the Vinh Binh Province. At 0945 hours, while coming out of an LZ the flight took heavy fire. Two aircraft were forced down by enemy fire, with crewchief and gunner of the lead aircraft being wounded, the gunner seriously. The area was worked over by several fire teams while the inserted troops were in heavy contact. On a later insertion into the same area, EMU lead again took fire, having his chin bubble shot out. VC losses to air strikes and ground troop operation were given as 50, with numerous weapons, pieces of equipment and documents captured.

This report will be added to the over all Battalion History Report, this report is about 90% of the history we have for 1970. If you have any copies of any unit history like this one please send me a copy for our history report. In the next newsletter will be a copy of the history for the 68th AHC for 1967 sent in by John Ohnstad who was the CO for part of the time.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report covers 1 July 1993 to 31 December 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 question or suggestions please let me know. I want you to know that your money is being used for the intended purpose.

Balance 1 July 1993.....	\$1994.09
Total deposits 7/1/93 to 12/31/93 (Dues, Donations, Fund Raisers).....	\$3982.00
	Total...\$5976.09

## Expenditures

Bank fee.....	\$ 90.63	
Computer hardware.....	\$1410.99	
Computer supplies.....	\$ 318.41	
Copy machine repairs.....	\$ 314.53	
Fund raiser supplies.....	\$ 351.50	
Memorial fund.....	\$ 30.00	
Phone.....	\$ 329.00	
Postage.....	\$ 771.84	
Reunion refund.....	\$ 99.00	
Miscellaneous.....	\$1917.94	
Total Expenditures	\$5633.84	-\$5633.84

Balance 31 December 1993.....\$ 342.25

Miscellaneous includes supplies (paper, mailing labels, printer ribbons, printer cartridges, copy machine supplies, envelopes, staples, note books, ink pens, etc).

To give you a look at how we did this year, here is a brake down of what we brought in and what we spent:

1993 Total intake.....\$9663.75

## 1993 Expenditures

Bank fee.....	\$ 199.84
Computer hardware.....	\$1410.99
Computer supplies.....	\$ 318.41
Copy machine repair.....	\$ 871.95
Fund raiser.....	\$1837.32
Memorial fund.....	\$ 30.00
Phone.....	\$ 859.83
Postage.....	\$1824.92
Reunion refund.....	\$ 99.00
Supplies.....	\$3631.27

\$11083.53 which means we spent \$1419.78 more then we took in, which is about the cost of the Computer hardware.

To make up for added spending we need to make the new computer pay for its self by finding more paying members.

**We also need for those who have not sent in this years dues to please do so.**



# NEW PEOPLE LOCATED LIST

March 9, 94

UNIT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET	CITY	ST	ZIP	PHONE	DATE	DATE	RAN
HHC	MAES	RICHARD	755 GLENCOE	DENVER	CO.	80220		1963	1964	
HHC	BECKER	JOHN		BROKEN ARROW	OK.	74012		1966	1967	EM
HHC	ALTHOUSE	ALBERT J		CANTON	OH.	44714		1967	1968	OF
HHC	HARTFORD	THOMAS F		DePERE	WI.	54115		1967	1968	OF
HHC	BURES	LARRY		TUMWATER	WA.	98512		1968	1969	EM
HHC	MUTCHLER	CLIFFORD D		LEES SUMMIT	MO.	64064		1968	1969	OF
HHC MED DET	FOSSE	DAVID R		CHICAGO	IL.	60615		1969	1970	EM*
398TRAN	TRUESDALE	DANA L		NEWPORT NEWS	VA.	23602		1965	1965	WO*
68 AML	HONEYCUTT	WELDON F		HAINES CITY	FL.	33844		1965	1966	CO
430MED	QUAKENBUSH	MD JOHN P		KOKOMO	IN.	46902		1965	1966	OF
391MAIN	ALTRO	THOMAS A		THIELLS	NY.	10984		1967	1968	EM*
68 AHC	GAWKOWSKI	HARRY		W PALM BEACH	FL.	33414		1967	1968	OF
68 AHC	INCE	JOHN H		PATCHOGUE	NY.	11772		1967	1968	WO
68 AHC	ADKINS	LAT G		CATLETTSBURG	KY.	41129		1967	1967	WO
68 AHC	HAMILTON	ALLAN D		GREENSBORO	NC.	27406		1967	1968	WO
68 AHC	DELORSO	RICHARD		HARTFORD	CT.	06106		1968	1969	EM*
68 AHC	GARLAND	GLYNN E		CLAREMONT	CA.	91711		1968	1969	OF
68 AHC	BELT	JAMES T		LANHAM	MD.	20706		1968	1969	EM
68 AHC	MORTEL	DEWAYNE A		ALBERT LEA	MN.	56007		1969	1970	EM
68 AHC	HIRTLE	WILLIAM W		WOODLANDS	TX.	77381		1970	1971	OF
68 AHC	KORTBUS	LEO J		SELDEN	NY.	11784		1970	1970	EM
68 AHC	NEUMEYER	NORMAN D		INDEPENDENCE	MO.	64055		1970	1970	EM
68 AHC	HALLOWAY	GARY A		MELBOURNE	FL.	32935		1970	1971	OF
68 AHC	HELTON	RAIFORD E		LAURINBURG	NC.	28352		1970	1970	EM
A/501	BROWNING	HARVEY H		CUSSETA	AL.	36852		1965	1965	EM*
71 AHC	DUNCAN	JOHN		KOKOMO	IN.	46902		1968	1969	EM
71AHC	CLAYTON	RILEY L		HILLSBOROUGH	NC.	27278		1971	1972	EM
8 TRANS	BEAU	HENRY R		FAYETTEVILLE	NC.	28303		1961	1962	WO
117AML	ALLEN	ALEX L		CLEARWATER	FL.	33519		1964	1965	OF
117AHC	JACKSON	ROY D		FORT WORTH	TX.	76116		1965	1966	WO
118AML	CARTER	NORMAN D		GREENSBORO	NC.	27429		1963	1964	OF*
118AHC	LANSEY	WALLIS H		SEVERN	MD.	21144		1967	1968	EM
118AHC	ATCHUE	GARFIELD B		WORCESTER	MA.	01605		1968	1969	EM
118AHC	HARGIS	ROBERT R		HAMMON	IN.	46324		1968	1969	EM
118AHC	GOODE	MICHAEL W		WALLINGFORD	CT.	06492		1969	1970	WO
118AHC	GOULET	MARK A		LOWELL	MA.	01850		1969	1970	
120AML	BETTEN	IVAR		STATEN ISLAND	NY.	10303		1964	1965	EM
120AML	GILMAN	ROBERT		FRANKLIN PARK	IL.	60131		1964	1965	EM*
120AML	BERTHOLD	JUERGEN		SARASOTA	FL.	34232		1965	1967	EM
120AHC	BOWMAN	DAVID K		LOGANSPORT	IN.	46947		1970	1972	OF
120AHC	BROWNING	HARVEY H		CUSSETA	AL.	36852		1971	1972	EM*
120AHC	LOSI	ROBERT G		FARMINGDALE	NY.	11735		1971	1972	OF
120AHC	COUCHMAN	JON K		HOPKINSVILLE	KY.	42240		1972	1973	EM
121AHC	KELLOGG	STEPHEN R		PLAINVILLE	MA.	02762		1969	1970	WO
135AHC	KOZIOL	ANDY		PASADENA	TX.	77502		1967	1969	EM
135AHC	FISHER	VANCE E		EAST HAMPTON	CT.	06424		1968	1969	OF
135AHC	KOBZA	STEVEN M		BERLIN HEIGHTS	OH.	44814		1968	1969	EM
135AHC	CARTY	STEVEN C		SILVER SPRING	MD.	20904		1968	1969	WO
190AHC	ARMLIN	LEONARD D		CLARKSVILLE	TN.	37042		1967	1968	EM
190AHC	AUSTIN	SHERMAN L		PLAINFIELD	IN.	46168		1967	1968	EM
190AHC	LOFFMIN	LEWIS H		ELIZABETHTON	TN.	37643		1967	1968	EM
190AHC	DRENNEN	JERRY L		DALEVILLE	AL.	36322		1969	1970	WO
571MAIN	BICANOVSKY	ROBERT F		WALBRIDGE	OH.	43465		1963	1963	EM
UTT	GISSELL	THOMAS F		RACINE	WI.	53404		1963	1964	EM
UTT	ASHTON	LAWRENCE J		FAYETTEVILLE	NC.	28311		1964	1967	EM
UTT	LaMONT	KENNETH L		JOPPA	MD.	21085		1964	1966	WO
UTT	BROWNING	HARVEY H		CUSSETA	AL.	36852		1964	1965	EM*
197AHC	CUST	ALAN F		OLD TOWN	ME.	04468		1966	1966	EM
197AHC	SLIGH	MARION W		WILLINGBORO	NJ.	08046		1966	1967	WO*
334AHC	KENYON	RICHARD L		OLYMPIA	WA.	98506		1967	1968	EM
334AHC	LEACH	TALBERT C		PALM BAY	FL.	32907		1967	1968	EM
334AHC	HOLLOMAN	RON H		GERMANTOWN	TN.	38138		1967	1968	WO
334AHC	BANDY	RICHARD E		RISING SUN	MD.	21911		1969	1970	EM*
334AHC	CIOSEK	DAVID P		WALLINGFORD	CT.	06492		1970	1971	OF
334AHC	DeMARIA	MATT		LANSING	KS.	66043		1970	1971	OF*
213AHC	ADKINS	STEVEN D		MILTON	WV.	25541		1971	1972	EM
213ASHC	BEYER	ROBERT W		ALBANY	NY.	12205		1971	1972	EM
213ASHC	BRABBLE	RONALD E		AHOSKIE	NC.	27910		1971	1972	EM
213AHC	HEIDLER	JOHN D		WINDSOR	PA.	17366		1971	1972	EM
213AHC	LOY	DAVID R		PLAIN CITY	OH.	43064		1971	1972	EM
213AHC	LUCHKA	JAMES M		STREETSBORO	OH.	44241		1971	1972	EM
242ASHC	FORSMAN	M.L.		SAN ANTONIO	TX.	78239		1969	1970	EM*
335AHC	CRAYTON	PHILLIP D		CONNELLSVILLE	PA.	15425		1966	1967	EM
335AHC	CLEARY	WAYNE C		GLENSHAW	PA.	15116		1968	1969	WO



335AHC	FISHER	VANCE E	EAST HAMPTON	CT.	06424		1968	1969	OF
335AHC	DRAKULICH	CHARLES S	SALEM	OH.	44460		1968	1970	EM
335AHC	HARRISON	GERALD A	PADUCAH	KY.	42003		1968	1969	EM
335AHC	BITTINGER	LEONARD E	AKRON	OH.	44319		1969	1970	EM
335AHC	LaBRIE	ROBERT E	BANGOR	ME	04401		1969	1970	EM
335AHC	FOSTER	JEFFREY B	TWINSBURG	OH.	44087		1969	1970	EM
335AHC	NICHOLS	NOLAN L	WESTFIELD	IN.	46074		1970	1973	EM
COBRA NETT	HITCHCOCK	CLARENCE	MIDDLETOWN	OH.	45044		1968	1969	EM
COBRA NETT	INLOW	RON	HILLSBORO	OH.	45133		1968	1969	OF

## SPECIAL LETTER FROM A SPECIAL PERSON

Dear Jim, What a great thing you have been doing, I only wish I would have found your organization years ago. Through Corky Condon, Sons and Daughters In Touch, I was able to contact Freddy Holder and he has led me to dozens of people who knew my father (Donald Saegaert) and a few who did not know him but remembered the incident when he was killed.

I've received phone calls, letters and pictures which have been just wonderful. I'm keeping a scrapbook so that my children will be able to learn about their grandfather and understand what he did in Vietnam.

Being that it was very painful for my mother to talk about my father I learned very little about him other than he was a helicopter pilot and he was shot down. If it was not for those men who did contact me I would not know the kind of environment he had to endure while being in Vietnam, about what a gentle and caring person he was with the children there, and the details of the crash. It's really hard sometimes to hold back the tears as I write this letter but I hope that it will encourage more people to contact sons and daughters of men they served with because it means so much to us to learn about our fathers and it also fills that missing part of our lives.

These men have given me memories that are priceless and I'll be forever grateful for that. Thank you.

*Sincerely, Susan J. Schumacher*

Thank you Susan, it was good meeting your sister and her family at the '93 Reunion in Fort Worth last summer. I invite you, your sister and your families to our next Reunion at Ft Rucker, Ala in June 1995, where you will be able to meet and talk with the people who served with your father. I also wanted to let you know there are no dues for our Honorary Members, providing a free Honorary Membership to the families members of our deceased friends is something that we feel honored to do. Speaking of Sons and Daughters In Touch, our members can contact them through: Friends of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. I received a letter from them a short time ago and it contained a list of names from the "WALL" that their family members want to contact people that served with their loved one in Vietnam. I encourage everyone to contact them with the names of the people they knew who were killed in Vietnam. Here are a few of the names from the list, if you knew these people please contact FVVM at the address above, their family members are waiting to hear from you.: Cpt Mark Afflerback 123<sup>rd</sup> Avn 3/7/71, 1Lt James Q Aydllett 121<sup>st</sup> AML 7/11/66, W1 Eugene W Caswell 155<sup>th</sup> Avn 5/27/66, PFC Jean-Claude Esnault 117<sup>th</sup> AML 12/14/63, 1Lt Robert Keller 73<sup>rd</sup> Avn Mohawks 10/16/66, Sp4 Tommie R Lunn 334<sup>th</sup> AHC 5/3/67, Maj Lowell E Morgan Mohawk pilot 6/3/67, Cpt James J Shereck 131<sup>st</sup> & 191<sup>st</sup> Avn Co 3/4/71, Cpt Curtis J Steckbauer 18<sup>th</sup> Avn Co 7/1/63, WO Selwyn R Taylor 3/16/69. We are in contact with family members of 11 of the people who's name is on the "WALL". I don't list the names and addresses of these people in the Directory but they can be contacted through our newsletter or by contacting our Association. Here is the names of the people on the "WALL" that we are in contact with the families: 1Lt James Q Aydllett 121st AML 7/11/66, WO Jesus DeLaRosa 119th AHC 7/19/66, PFC Carl W Grimes HHC 5/5/64, WO Michael J Hatfield 190th AHC 3/22/70, CWO Wayne E Jones 18 Avn Co 8/17/67, Lt Lynn H Rothenbuhler 118th AML 12/28/63, WO Donald R Saegaert 118th AML 6/10/65, Sp4 Karl W Titus 68th AHC 10/2/70, Sp4 James H Turner 118th AHC 10/9/69, Sp5 Donald G Voller 190th AHC 11/2/69, Sp4 Michael G Warnick 68th AHC 10/2/70.



# REUNION 95

## FORT RUCKER, ALA.

The next reunion of the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association will be held at Fort Rucker, Alabama in June 1995, with the suggested date of June 16, 17, and 18, 1995. The 1995 Reunion Committee will decide on the final date soon. Major General Richard Kenyon (Ret) volunteered to head the Reunion Committee, they did a great job putting the 1991 Reunion together, and have even more things in mind for the 1995 Reunion.

If you ever served or taken training at Fort Rucker, you will really enjoy seeing the place again. If you have never been there, Fort Rucker is definately a place to experience during the Reunion. For those that were stationed there its really good to visit and see how much has changed and how much is still just like it was in the 60's and 70's. For those who only took training there and might not have like the place, please experience Fort Rucker as a very special guest. If you have never been to Fort Rucker you will love the place, because when we have our Reunion there, the Post and the 1st Bn, 145th Avn make sure we are treated like very special guest.

So start making your plans to attend. Call a friend you served with in Vietnam and make plans to meet them there. You'll have a really great time. If you want to volunteer to help on the Reunion Commitee please contact me or General Kenyon.

## VHPA / VHCMA 94 REUNION

Many people have said they can't wait till the 1995 Reunion of the 145th. Well in that case you'll be glad to hear that the 145th Assoc will be having a Mini-reunion at the VHPA / VHCMA Reunion in Philadelphia, PA June 29 - July 4, 1994. The Reunion Headquarters Hooch for the VHPA is the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel, and the Reunion Headquarters Hooch for the VHCMA is the Holiday Inn Centre City. In case you don't know, VHPA stands for Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Assoc., and VHCMA stands for Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Assoc., incase you need their addresses here they are: VHPA, 7 W. Seventh St., Suite 1990, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (513) 721-VHPA, and VHCMA, P.O. Box 752592, Memphis, TN 38175-2592 (901) 795-2850. So for all the latest details contact one of these two organizations.

## VHPA HISTORIAL REFERENCE DIRECTORY, DELIEVED AROUND THE END OF APRIL

For those of you who ordered a Vietnam Helicopter Historical Reference Directory from VHPA, the latest word I got is that they should be delieved around the end of April. Anyone needing info on ordering one contact VHPA at the Cincinnati address. The cost was \$15 each and they should be worth many times that for us that served.

**THE ARMY OTTER-CARIBOU ASSOCIATION** willhold its 9th annual reunion 7-11 Sept, 1994 in Orlando, Florida. Former Army Otter or Caribou aviation personnel should contact the Association at 1-800-626-8194 for membership information.

## Ever wanted to fly a Mig

If you ever wanted to fly a Russian MIG, if so it is now possible, for more information contact Jim Hart, 2206 Jo-An Dr, Suite 1, Sarasota, FL 34231 813-923-0607



# FUND RAISERS

We have a few going fund raiser, 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 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 had 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 the first 10 ties to fund having the UTT pocket patches reproduced, which we now have. Frank sent 6 more ties 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 Attach on one side and 190th Gunship 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 tells of the life and missions of Vietnam Helicopter crews, recorded in Vietnam in 1965, with a country flavor. These tapes have been very popular with all who have heard them and I recommend them 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 I can match the original color. The cost is \$13 each and all profits go to the Association. See pictures in the back part of the Directory for more details. See order form inserted in newsletter.

## 145th C.A.B. REUNION HATS

The 1991 Reunion Committee had hats made for the Reunion and we sold out, but we were able to order more and now have them in stock. 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 belts buckles with the 145th C.A.B. Association design printed on them. The watches have a lifetime warranty, except battery, they sell for \$25. Belt buckles sell for \$15. If possible call first for availability of item.