

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

Aviation Companies

HHC, 1st, 18th, 25th, 68th, 71st, 73rd, 74th, 114th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 135th, 147th, 184th, 190th, UTT-68th-197th-334th, 213th, 242nd, 335th, CoA/82nd, CoA/501st, 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 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**

BULK RATE



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PHONE # 1-219-483-5149

NL26 July 1994

145th COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION (VIETNAM) ASSOCIATION

"OLD WARRIORS"

NEWSLETTER

JULY 1994, NL26

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

1-219-483-5149

Hello. Its newsletter time again and as usual I'm way late again. I wanted to have this newsletter in the mail the middle of June but thanks to lightening and an equipment failure I had to start over with the newsletter and a couple of months worth of record updates. So please check the mailing label on the cover of this newsletter to see if it is right. If it isn't please let me know right away so we can get it corrected.

I want to welcome all the people we have just located. We have just received a lot of addresses for people who served with A/501st / 71st AHC and A/82nd / 335th AHC, and should be receiving a lot of addresses for 114th people soon, I want to let those people know that this organization is for them also. Each of these units have a unit association also, and we are not in competition with each other, but are in cooperation with each other, and operate separately. I encourage those people to join both, us and their unit association.

You will notice on the cover that the 114th is added to the list of Aviation Companies. Back a few years ago some people wanted to know if the 114th had ever served with the 145th or the 45th, and some of the 114th people didn't think that it had. But thanks to the hard work of the 114th Historian we now have a copy of the Jan-June 1963 history of the 45th Trans Bn and a copy of the 1963 history of the 114th AML. Both clearly show that the 114th was assigned to the 45th. See page 12 for more details.

In the last newsletter I asked if you preferred full page, two column, three column, etc. From what I heard, you preferred two column.

I also added a few pictures to the newsletter back on page 11. I think we want to keep the newsletter as simple as possible but I try a few new things each time and I want you to let me know what you think of them.

I will be starting the 94-95 Directory real soon. This will be the first time publishing the Directory on the IBM computer, so it might take a little while to figure out the programs to make it look right. If you have any address changes to make please send them to me as soon as possible, and include you phone number.

This newsletter has the normal articles in it, Readers Response, Obituaries, Battalion/Unit History, Financial Report, New People Located, 1995 Reunion Update, and Funder Raiser items on the back. The next issue will have the 1963 Battalion and 114th History highlights for the History article. And as always, if any of you have any sets of orders that has any information about anyone who served with the unit listed on the cover of this newsletter, please send me a copy, if you haven't done so already.

I want to thank Gary Allison, 68th AHC, Tiger Tail Crew Chief, 69-70, for the HP Deskjet 500C Color Printer he donated to our Association.

I should be seeing a lot of Gary Allison since he and his wife Jackie just moved to West LaFayette, IN, home of Purdue University, where Deb's daughter Heather, 18 just started pre-Pharmacy. So for the next 6 years I'll be spending a lot of time and money there. The scary part of that whole thing is I'll have two more kids in College before Heather graduates. James L Bodkin, Editor

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, It's hard to believe that a year has almost past and that it is membership rental time again. enclosed is a check for two years and a little extra for the kitty. It's really great to see how the readers response section has really grown. Especially close was the letter from Don Saegaert's daughter Susan. Don and I both departed Ft. Benning on the same MATS C-118 for the 7 day journey to Viet Nam. I sent her some of my original color prints from our day in Guam. I'm really glad that so many others that knew him did the same. Hope to get to meet with her at a reunion some time. Jim, I believe a few months ago I sent you quite a lot of new info reference activities during the days of Dong Xoai. After writing a newsletter article a year or so ago, I received a letter from a navy historian specializing in seabee operations. I was very surprised to learn that seabee team 1104 was also headquarters at Dong Xoai post with the special forces group. The article sent to me which I believe I passed on to you was a rather long full accounting of the battle of Dong Xoai from the seabee point of view. Although the article may be too long for a reprint in our newsletter, it should be pointed out that the seabees were there and that a seabee was awarded the CMH, our nations highest award, and one that not too many other seabees have been honored with. Jim, I don't know if you received any of the info I sent. If it wasn't received, let me know and I'll try to duplicate it and send it again. Also if it doesn't get published in our newsletter at some time and there is anybody out there who wants a copy of the 10 page accounting, just write or call me. Whatever it costs for postage will be the cost to whomever is interested in a copy. Keep up the good work. Hope to see you in Rucker in '95. Ralph Orlando

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ralph. I did receive the report and if anyone wants a copy just let me

know. I filed it in the 118th History folder so I will be able to find it later. The 1995 Reunion at Ft Rucker would be a great place to meet Don's daughters and their families if they can make it.

Dear Jim, I am enclosing \$20.00 for two years of dues. I am also enclosing \$50.00 in memory of my father, Zenas H. Hoover who went to be with Jesus on 16 March 1994. My dad was a combat infantryman, he served with the 2nd Infantry Division for two years, and was wounded during WWII. He was a great veteran man and went all out for Veterans of any war or conflict, he thought we were all special and I miss him dearly. Richard G. Hoover

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Richard. These losses are really rough on us. I'm sure your father will be remembered by all those who knew him. All the fond memories help us get by.

Dear Jim: I just got through re-reading "A History of Air Ambulance Units in Vietnam" in the 1993 VHPA directory and the troop/unit list in the 145th CAB 1993-94 directory. There is an omission from both the "Original Dust-Off", the 57th Med Det (Air Amb) had it's own maintenance detachment. It was the 398th Trans Det (KD). It was co-located with the 57th on there own little heliport at Ton Son Nhut AFB. The detachment commander in 1965 was CPT Ivor W. Rundgren and his assistant was Warrent Officer Dana L. "Butch" Truesdale, a non rated aviation maintenance officer. They lived with the 57th Med Det in their building within the 68th/197th compound next to the 3rd Field Hospital. I believe that their parent unit was the 765th Trans Battalion in Vung Tau. I think this organization was owner of the notorious "Gretna Green" H-37 recovery helicopter. I say notorious because I recall an occasion when MAJ Paul Bloomquist, Co, 57th had two Dust-off

ship shot down on an operation near Cu Chi. "Ol Gretna Green" comes in to recover them, drops the first one and destroys it, drops the second one and destroys it and then requests permission to leave the area. Bloomquist then transmits, "Gretna, you are cleared to return to Hanoi, over." We need to add the 398th to our assn unit list. Enclosed is my check for \$20.00 (\$10.00 for my dues and \$10.00 for Butch Truesdale's dues). Butch is retired from the Army for the second time- having been recalled for Desert Storm. His address is: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Welcome aboard, Butch. William W. Fraker

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill, I added Butch to our membership and added the 398th Trans Det as the field maintenance detachment for the 57th Med Det., and from what I hear Gretna was well known. I've been told that when arming the hook on Gretna sometimes the hook would open.

Dear Jim: I got a letter from John Hughes dated May 2, 1994. His wife, Anne, who had been battling cancer for over 5 years, is finally going to lose the battle. Her "prognosis for life termination", a euphemism for death, is 60-90 days or less. Ann and John are living with their son, Lon, at 843 Bitterbush Lane, Ft. Collins, Colorado 80526 untill Ann's death. John says he will return to their home in Red Feather Lakes "when this is over". He and Ann have been sweethearts since Ann was 15. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past winter. This is for your advance info only. Neither he nor I were able to attend Cal Dodd's funeral. Cal and I go back to 1956. John, Cal and I go back to 1962. The above and the new "Obituary" section bring to mind a means to raise money for the association. I am a member of the Special Forces Association. They are raising money for a new building and for scholarships for survivors of SFA members. Their newsletter has a section that reports all contributions and the names of the contributors. Many of us send in \$5, \$10, or more each quarter under the heading: "In memory of..." followed by the name of the deceased individual. I am sure that many of us would rather

make such a contribution to the association then to send flowers to a funeral we can't attend. After all, we only exist in the memories of those who remember us after we're dead. Please give this consideration since dues alone just aren't quite enough to do what is necessary for you to manage the association. I have an IBM type computer with plenty of memory and would be glad to help with input data base info. Do not yet have my modem operational, but can do manual input and mail disk/diskette to you---or, if you get the scanner, I can send hard copy to you. Let me know what you want me to do. Finally, I need your help. The deaths of Billy Smith, Joe McIver, and Cal Dodd- along with other recent events-have convinced me that it is time to get some help with my ol' buddy PTSD. I would appreciate if you could give me some contact/info on getting started. As usual, I'm way behind the power curve. You and Deb keep up the good work, Bill Fraker

[REDACTED]
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bill. I wanted to get this info out soon but due to a lightening strike close to my house all data on the newsletter had to be retype, and completely redone. I agree that we can start a "In Memory of" section in the newsletter. It really depresses me that we need an "Obituary" ~~section~~ in our newsletter, but it is a fact of life we must accept. The following letter is a copy of the letter John Hughes sent to Bill Fraker, I really admire the courage and wisdom shown by Col John Hughes in probably the hardest circumstances any of us may face.

Dear Bill & Ruby, The Mother, Grand-mother and rôle-model of this family is terminally ill. On May 2nd, Ann was transferred from the Oncology Clinic at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colorado to Hospice Care in Fort Collins, Colorado. Chemo-Therapy was terminated as a medical decision by her primary care physician. It is no longer effective. Ann has had marvelous care at Fitzsimons for over five and a half years. Benefits of Chemo-Therapy have been exhausted. The prognosis for termination of is 60 to 90 days from May 2nd. However, such projection are not etched in stone. On May 4th, we moved-in with our son Lon and

daughter-in-law Caryn, and our three grandsons at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] On May 10th our son Mark returned from a teaching position on Guam on a compassionate basis ending his employment there. He will, for the immediate future, reside at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and will fully assist with Ann's care. Mark's fiancée, Stephany, from Denver, is helping also. HOSPICE; Tender, compassionate and efficient care, at home, is administered and delivered by "Hospice of Larimer County" (HQ) 5205 South College Avenue Fort Collins, Colorado 80525, phone (303)-226-6533, fax (303) 226-6999. Linda Brown R.N., from Hospice is the nurse in charge of Ann's care. She has a wonderful team of volunteers and professionals on our case. Three generations of this family are directly involved on a daily/hourly basis.

Internment, when it occurs, will take place in Herrin, Illinois. Van Atta Funeral Home at 427 South Park Avenue in Herrin, Illinois 62948, phone (618) 942-3337, will handle all burial arrangements.

Following internment, and on a date to be determined, memorial services will be held at the Chapel in the Pines in Red Feather Lakes, Colorado. Rev. Bryan Wechsler, Pastor of the Morning Star Community Church of Red Feather Lakes will be co-conductor of the service. Sincerely, John (JC) Hughes

Dear Jim, Enclosed you will find an article about a "Veterans Peace and Reconciliation Park", for which Mike Boehm is trying to raise money. I am trying to make this project known to any vets that may also be interested in helping Mike. For tax deductible donations a check can be made out to: Madison Monthly Meeting with a notation in the lower left marked "Veterans Park (this notation is important to insure the check is deposited in the correct account.) send to: Peace and Social Concerns Committee 1704 Roberts Court, Madison, Wi 53711 A donation of \$25.00 is suggested but any contribution would be appreciated. Thank you, Glenn M. Clark Thunderbird 17

(EDITORIAL NOTE) The park will consist of fish ponds, fruit trees, shrubs and flowers. The focal point

of the park will be a mound, based on the Native American effigy mounds, in the shape of a dove. The site for this park is located near Van Noi village, Dong Anh district; about 4 km north of Hanoi. The park will be pattern after the Highground Memorial in central Wisconsin. The Madison Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) has agreed to set up an account for tax exempt contributions.

Dear Sir, As a former member of the 121st Assault Helicopter Company, during the period August 1965- August 1966, I am interested in joining the 145th CABVA. Please send application and pertinent information to the below address. Sincerely, Ralph E. Riddle Major (Ret) [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Welcome Ralph. Hopefully we can locate many old friends for you.

Jim, My new address is : LTC (Ret) W. Larry Dandridge, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I was WO1 in 121st AHC Soc Trang 1968 & 69. Larry Dandridge

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Larry.

Dear Fellow Vietnam Veteran: I recently recieved a partial copy of your 1992-93 Membership Directory and was excited to see some of my fellow company members listed. I served with the 197th, which later became the 334th from April 1966 untill 1967. I am anxious to know more about your organization and would like to be included in your next directory listing. The following information is provided for your records: Thurman R. Pierce Post Office Box 1388, Middleburg, Va 22117 (703) 777-3870; 334 AHC 1966-67 EM. Since I am conveniently located in the Washington Metropolitan Area, please feel free to call me if I can be of any assistance to the organization, especially as it pertains to obtaining information from capitol Hill and the Pentagon. Thank you for assistance on this matter and I look

forward to hearing from you soon. Best Regards, T.
R. Pierce

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you T.R., I'll keep that in mind and if there is anything I'll let you know.

Dear Debby, A friend of mine gave me this address and told me you might be able to inform me where I can get my unit patch etc. I was with the 135th AHC Bear Cat, Any information you may have about this will be greatly appraicated. Thank you, Joseph Smith

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Joe, we don't have 135th patches yet but we do have 135th unit T-shirts. And maybe we have a few of your old friends listed in our directory.

Dear Jim and Deb, I sure haven't been good at keeping up with what's going on- or in paying my dues. Sorry about both; no real excuse, just haven't done it. But with a full and part time job I just haven't taken the time. The part time position is new, but it's a great oppertunity for someone who needs some extra income; and you can do it on your own schedule. 6-12 hrs a week or as much as you can spare. The best part is that you can help families manage their financial assets more effectively, saving them money on their mortgage, taxes, credit cards and car loans etc. then showing them how to start saving for retirement, kids college, etc. I didn't mean to make this into a commercial, but if you know or hear of anyone, we have people all over the country who I could put them in touch with. It sounds like the 93 Ft. Worth reunion was a good one. I was traveling at the time and couldn't make it. I should have tried to re-arrange my other travel and gone to Ft. Worth. I'm already looking toward Ft. Rucker in 95. I'll plan better- I remember how great the last one was. I'll always remember flying the Chinook simulator. The check should pay my dues for a few years, and I'll pay more attention to your great newsletter from now on. You and Deb have just been doing an incredible job keeping the association going from day one. None of the rest of us could even begin to thank you both for all the time and effort you've put into it. The association wouldn't have even gotten off the ground

(you know- as in late afternoon, just after refueling, with a full load plus 2 extra bodies, no wind, a much to small LZ_ and the whole crew thinking to themselves "Gosh are we going to get this mother over those trees"). And you and Deb have put in whatever time it has taken to keep it going- and without much help; but it does appear (and they should be thankful for their great work) that the people who managed the Rucker and Ft. Worth reunions were really helpful to you and Deb. Well, I've rambled long enough. keep up the good work. By the way, here's my current info; H. Bryan Lewis;

Best regards,
Bryan Lewis

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bryan, I'll see you at Rucker, and maybe Kokomo in September.

Dear Jim: Was happy to receive the Newsletter and am enclosing my life membership--I meant to do this sooner. Tell Bob Deets I got a better deal, I only have to live to be 90, however I expect to have many years of free membership after that. Lorraine and I will be going to the VHPA reunion in Philadelphia for the 4th of July and look forward to seeing many of our old friends. Give our best regards to Debby and the kids. Enjoy your computer, life should be a lot easier once you get the hang of it. Sincerely, George Owens

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you George, we now have five life members paid up and four others making payments on life membership. Its a real vote of confidents.

Dear Jim, Just a short note to let you know that the new format of the newsletter is great and it shows off the new computer system very well. Thank you for your efforts in all you do in keeping the association moving right along. Enclosed is my check for dues and an order for shirts and other merchandise. The balance please use to offset the loss for 1993. That new computer hardware is needed but expensive. Sincerely, Chuck Baird, Playboy 00

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Chuck, the extra \$50 donation will really help.

Dear Mr. Bodkin, I am doing research for a book on U.S. Army aircraft color schemes and markings, covering the period from 1947 to 1994. This will be published by Walker P. Stephens and Company. It is my hope that your organization can assist me in this project. Specifically, I am interested in purchasing or borrowing photos, negatives or slides showing (1) unit-level camouflage schemes or (2) unit and personal markings as displayed on Army aircraft. Contact with any of your members who might have such material would be welcome. For items for sale, an idea of what is available and the cost will be helpful. Material loaned will be copied and returned within three weeks of receipt. All correspondence will be answered. For material used, appropriate credit lines and acknowledgements will be given, and a contributor's copy sent upon publication. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Sincerely yours, Lennart Lundh, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Jim, I can't express how happy I've been in the last several years receiving your newsletter and knowing that I served with such a great group of caring people; and in your case, a person that has kept this going for all these years. I have not written before. This month with the passing of President Nixon and getting the most current newsletter brings back one of the most vivid memories of Viet Nam and the 190th AHC I have, I know each of the members of the 145th are sure their unit was the finist in country, but it was the 190th that was choosen to fly President Nixon, his wife and others in the summer of 1969. Now I may be wrong on this, my memory has gone in recent years, (maybe earlier than that), but the 190th held the worlds record for most hours of accident free combat flying, at one point, of all the VIP units and units the brass could have picked for that honor, they picked the 190th. I believe Major Murray was the commander then, again I may be wrong. I read a lot of people writing in and I would like to see if the 190th has an historian? If we don't, I have a computer and have spent 21 months in the unit, I'll make sure someone is. I still have a lot

of questions. For the guys in the 190th, I've kept in contact with Chuck O'Connell, (who has just had his first son, can you believe it) Rick Bollinger, Tony Peters, Bob Leonard, Jim Muenier, but have lost contact with others, Lynn Webb called me several years ago. No one has seen or heard of Charlie Hayes since then. My best friend, Bob Rosa, lived next door to me since grade school. When I was in flight school he got kicked out of Purdue and went to crew chief school. After getting to Vietnam, I went to then LTC Deets and he had him assigned to the 145th and eventually to the 190th as my crew chief. We are still best friends. I'm going to make a very big effort to get these guys to the '95 reunion in Ft. Rucker. I still fly for the Indiana guard. We are losing all the Cobra's and 58's and getting Blackhawks and V model Hueys for a Medi Vac Unit. It looks like I will come full circle, starting in Hueys, slicks and thensmokey, being taught by Archie Ahl, Eric Oglesby, and others, and probably ending my career in the Huey. I've been a Scout and a Cobra driver since 1977. Facing a return to the Hueys has made me nostalgic. I've always been one to look ahead and only worry what's in front of me and not thought about whats behind me. I've never been to a VHPA reunion or anything, but I sure would like to get together with those enlisted and pilots I was so proud to serve with in 1968 and 69. Those of you that remember, don't be embarrassed to drop me a line or call, I'm in the book and am a detective for the Richmond, IN Police Department. Thanks again for doing such a great job. P.S. compuserve 73751,1453 Enclosed is a check for \$50.00, \$30.00 for dues and the rest where you think it is needed. Jon Carrico (EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Jon. I think the Accident Free record was in 1967 and I think it was for 25,000 hours. I remember when the 190th flew President Nixon. Von Kenner had volunteered to be the unit historian for the 190th. I'm sure Von can use your help or both of you might decide to have you be the main historian for the 190th. His address is: Von Kenner, [REDACTED].
Jon's address is: Jon Carrico, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Anyone having any historical

information about the 190th please contact Von or Jon.

Dear Jim: I like the new newsletter format, but sad to know we must have an obituary listing since members are dying, often prematurely from service related causes, so many years after we came home. I have written previously about my own bout with Agent Orange "Patriotic Cancer" (one vet entitled it). I filed a claim and have received 100% total disability compensation, because I was fortunate enough to have Soft Tissue Sarcoma and Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. The two cancers the VA were paying in 1991. The Lord was good to me, for with his help and the close support from Marie and other family members and brother Nam Vets, I've been in remission. However, I am losing my teeth one by one, even though I've gone to the dentist regularly. Even the teeth that were supposedly fixed are falling out after rotting. I'm almost certain dioxin residue in my body cells is causing this. In addition, I've been diagnosed with a neurological deficit. This has been going on since my second tour in Vietnam. My nervous system is shot, and has caused the additional diagnosis of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The medication I've gotten from a private medical center, nationally known Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, has allowed me to function without being depressed or raging. The odd thing is that I'm a certified medical psychotherapist. And even though I've learned behaviorial modification techniques the chemical screwup in my brain and nervous system does not go away. I've counseled many brother Vietnam vets who I believe also suffer with chemical imbalances, which makes daily living very difficult; for the suffering vet and family. The VA is backlogged with claims. They often question Agent Orange related medical problems. Yet the symptom list I've seen has nearly 100 illnesses. Guess the government doesn't want to pay out disability compensation for so many of us that were affected. It's no coincidence that guys are prematurely old in the so called "prime of life". We served honorably and often went above and beyond. When we get depressed, thinking about those on The Wall, and the

walking wounded still struggling with war wounds, we must not allow ourselves to give up. When we feel like throwing in the towel that's the time to contact a fellow Nam vet, family member, anyone we trust and respect. I know we will see more and more of us appear in the obituary column. Let us remember our mission as correct and noble. History is bearing out that communism is failing in Vietnam. American business already has its foot in the door there, and you can be sure we will get an accounting of any remaining POW's or MIA's. The friendly Vietnamese in the south, the ones who really wanted democracy, have been waiting for our return. They knew the sacrifice our military units were making so they could someday live the good life. So when we see the obituary column let's try not to be bitter or angry, but proud for the brother who served with us, never to forget him and the 145th Combat AVN BN in Vietnam, and here at home. Jim, you and Debbie are helping keep us alive. Affectionately, Steve Bass, Cowboy '65-66, 173d ABN BDE, Bien Hoa, Medically Retired.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Steve, you said it well.

Dear Jim, I enjoyed receiving your publication and must apologize for not responding to the directory mailed to me several months ago. I was a member of the 33rd Transportation Company (Lt Hel) stationed at Fort Ord in August 1962. We were alerted for shipment to Viet Nam on several occasions between Jan and Aug. The company finally departed for VN is late Aug 62. I was assigned as the Commander, 573d Transportation Detachment (CHFM) and remained in command until August 1963. turned over the 573d to Captain James R. Hughes Jr. During that month. As a side note, Jim Hughes was my replacement in 62 and he also replaced me in 1967 as Commander, HHC 1st Trans Bn. Jim died last January of cancer and was buried in Oklahoma City, his nome town. 1st Lt Tim Lang, 118th Ambl was our first KIA and he died in August 1963 along with Cpt Wenzel who was a new replacement. I knew and served with one of the aviators noted on page 25, Lt Lynn H. Rothenbuhler. He was one of our first replacements and I believe he

was a National Guard Officer on active duty. By the way, I enjoyed the letter concerning how the Soc Trang Tigers (93d) became associated with the name. As I remember it there was a tiger named "Tuffy" that was given to the company and it became the mascot. BG Stilwell directed that Tuffy be gotten rid of and the tiger was sent to a zoo in the states, I think the Cleveland Zoo. All visitors used to want their pictures taken with the tiger. I have a rather detailed account of how Lang and Wenzel were killed should you want it. The 33d/118th were called the "Thunderbirds" because the commander, Major Joseph E. Henderson, had a good friend who was the Public Affairs manager of the Thunderbird Hotel in Las Vegas. The Thunderbird Hotel provided the company with all bar favors, napkins, etc. free. Lt Ken Stanton and I designed the Thunderbird that was applied to our aircraft and the emblem over the bar in the original club at Bien Hoa. Keep up the good work I really enjoyed reading information on the original aviation battalion in Vietnam. Bob Brandt

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob. I have updated our KIA and Deceased list. Lynn Rothenbuhler mother lives here in Ft Wayne and I'm hoping she will be able to make the 95 Reunion at Fort Rucker and hopefully his daughters in Florida also.

Dear Jim, Enclosed is a \$30.00 check to renew my membership. use the \$20.00 to help wherever you need it. I'll see you at Ft Rucker in '95. Sincerely, Charles D Holbrook

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Chuck.

James and Debbie I just received your latest newsletter. I always look forward to receiving it. I can only imagine the amount of work involved trying to keep track of and mail to a group of this size. I do know that your work touches the hearts of many and we can never repay you for the good you have accomplished. Something that may interest our group, and especially my company, the 71st AHC, in the latest issue of Vietnam magazine is an ad for the book Survivors by Zalin Grant. This book tells the story of 9 POW's, one of whom was a 71st pilot. Frank

Anton. Frank was shot down in a Fire Bird gunship on January 5, 1968. He was captured and held over five years along with his crew chief and gunner. The other pilot was able to make it back to friendly lines. The story is a gut-wrenching account of near starvation as these men were held for 3 years in the jungle west of Chu Lai before being taken to Hanoi. The listed price of the book is \$14.95 for the paperback edition. This seems pretty high priced, but I suppose it is because it is out of print. The ad is from: Da Capo Press, 233 Spring St, New York, NY 10013. Phone 800-321-0050.

I am enclosing an order for a couple of items and two years dues. Keep up the good work and thanks. Sincerely, Ron Seabolt
(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ron. Your doing a great job getting the 71st together.

Jim, Enclosed is \$10.00 to renew my membership which expires July 94. I really did enjoy reading the latest newsletter and appreciated the improvements as a result of the new computer. I prefer the two column print which is easier to read. I recently retired from the army at Ft. Bliss, Texas after serving for 24 years. I retired as a master sergeant and enjoyed talking to the other Vietnam Vets who retired with me. My company commander with the HHC 145th Plantation, CPT Joseph Cancellare, retired several years ago and worked with the ROTC in Illinois. He has recieved an ROTC position (Instructor) here in El Paso and will begin in Aug 94. This is his home and I'm looking forward to the commandership that will bring. My first sergeant at that time, Herbert Rodriguez, currently lives in Las Vegas after retiring as a sergent major. Thanks for all that you do, Jim, and I'm looking forward to the reunion in San Antonio in 97 as that is my home. MSG (Ret) Robert N. Dickerson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob. hope retirement is everything you hoped it would be.

Jim, Almost forgot to send these in, please renew my membership for the next two years and also enclosed is some extra money for general fund. Thanks. Paul Kant

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Paul. The extra \$30 will really come in handy.

Hi Debby, Enclosed \$10.00 for dues, and SASE enclosed for return of card. Any news on the 145th Patch yet? Enjoyed the new look of the last NL. much easier to follow and read. My best to all. A friend and member in Mass, Bob Mis

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob, Deb really appreciates the return address stamp you had made for the Association

Dear Jim, A quick note-thanks for everything- Here's dues for the next 3 yrs and extra \$10.00 for whatever. Tom Brown

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Tom.

Hello Jim, Finally got around to sending you some dues and a letter. Have enclosed a check to catch up. Barbara had a heart attack in January of this year. A Myocardial infraction. She had one arterial blockage. Due to some complications, a blood clot on the start where they enclosed the blocked artery, she had several more heart attacks but survived. She is doing well now except for nerve damage on her right leg. She bled into leg muscles due to all the anti-coagulents they administered so they applied weights and pressure bandages. This in turn caused nerve damage. As you know she has an artificial hip joint on her left leg so it really caused concern. It will be about ten more months before the nerve damage heals. I take her to a clinic for Physical Therapy three times a week so she won't get lazy! I was talking to Mike Lindell by telephone some weeks ago. He informed me that former 68th member Michael Montgomery was dead from cancer. Most unfortunate and I am sorry I cannot give you any more information than that. Lindell found out when he made a telephone call to him. Also, Frank Rusk has a new address. You may have it but I thought I would write it down, just in case. Frank Rusk, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I talked to Frank several months ago and he seems to be doing well. Please give my regards to Deb. I hope all is well with

you, Jim. Barbara and I plan on going to Fort Rucker in June for the W-4 reunion if she feels up to it. I'm sure that she will. As Always, John Langwasser P.S. Almost forgot! Due to a 911 requirement we must have street addresses now. So mine is: [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John. I hope everything heals completely for Barbara and gives her no more trouble. I sure hate to hear the news about Mike Montgomery. This newsletter issue will also have an obituary section. Hope to see you at the 95 Reunion at Fort Rucker.

Dear Jim, Just a quick note to say keep up the good work. Here's \$30.00 for dues owed past and future, sorry I can't send a few more dollars but have been on medical past 3 and a half months for neck surgery. All is well now and I go back to work in 1 1/2 weeks. I still keep in touch with a couple of guys but am amazed at how so many fellows remember people, names, and events like they seem to. Well I want to get this in mail before postman goes by so take care and keep up the good work. Sincerely, Mike Simmons

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Mike, hope everything heals ok with the neck surgery.

Dear Jim, Enclosed please find a check for 2 yrs. dues and 5.00 toward expenses. I hope to meet you at our next reunion. Keep up the good work. Thanks, Michael Viscaino

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Mike.

Dear Jim, Enclosed is a check for my annual dues as well as a letter to James Smith that was sent to me in error. I enjoy your newsletter and directory very much. I'm about recuperated from a horse racing accident last May (1993). Hope to be back doing my own driving in June. If that new track opens up in Anderson, Indiana I may take a few of my horses there to race. Best Regards, "Doc" Masterson

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Doc, good luck with the horse.

Dear Jim, I am enclosing a check for \$250.00 for my life membership. Thank you for getting the life membership going. I will try to make the reunion in 95 at Ft. Rucker. Give my best regards to everyone and thank you for the fine work you are doing. Ralph Bass

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Ralph. It took a while but we finally got life membership set up.

Dear Jim and Debby: I found this Special Order that has several names with the Social Security numbers in some of my papers. Enclosing a little cash that I am sure you will put to good use. We will be at Ft. Rucker next year for sure. My son Mike is there now but has special orders for St. Louis and is on the list for Lt. Col. I told him that is as high as he can go because I definitely don't want my son outranking his dad. Hope this finds all of you in good health and continued success. Your friend, Bob Deets P.S. I found all but one of the 112 WWII team mates.

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Bob. The hundred dollar donation, on top of being a Life Member is really above and beyond. For those of you that don't know Bob served with UDT-6 in WWII and started organizing reunion for them a few years ago.

The following letter was sent in by George Reese and was mainly about the display he was setting up at the VHPA reunion in Philadelphia. Since the VHPA Reunion in Philadelphia has already passed I am editing his letter down to the stuff that is still current.

Dear Jim, I will be displaying unit pocket patches, lighters presented in Vietnam, unit plaques, captured items, flight and survival gear and other items. I will also bring along a collection of photos that were made from slides borrowed from countless Nam vets. Photos depict Nose art, accidents, individuals with unit patches, and other interesting subjects. I'll have three mannequins dress as aviation crewmembers and one dressed as a VC. As a collector, I am of course interested in adding to my collection. I am especially interested in obtaining the following original patches from the 145th to complete all of their patches. I need a utt patch (both variations), a 190th and a 57th Med Det (the soldier with 1st aid kit,

wings, rifle, etc). From the 117th I need "Little Annie Fanny", "Pink Panther" and "Sidewinders". I am interested in other items and anyone can write for a detailed list of what I collect. On another subject, I do volunteer work at the Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker, trying to identify units in old photos. I that regard, perhaps some of the members can help. I am looking to obtain photos or slides, as described earlier, for my collection and to be used in displays. All photos/slides that I get are offered to to the museum. Please provide as much historical information as possible. Slides will be returned in about a month. I am willing to put on a display for the 145th Reunion in 1995 at Fort Rucker. Let me know if you would like me to do so. Thanks Jim, George G Reese, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) You put on a real nice display in Philadelphia. I'll see you at Fort Rucker at our 1995 Reunion. General Richard Kenyon (Ret) is the 1995 Reunion chairman and you should contact him about sitting up a display, all those decisions are left up to the Reunion Committee.

Jim, I received your latest newsletter from the 145th. Again you have done a great job putting it together. Jim I have about two hundred reproduced Blue flight platoon patches on hand. If anyone is interested in them, I am selling them for \$5 each. I am enclosing one for the 145th collection. I have been in contact with Richard Carey who served as a door gunner with the 119th AHC, and later as a operations specialist. Richard is a member of the Army Reserve, a Movement Specialist. He moved the 1st Inf Div out of Fort Raily, KS to Desert Storm. Richard is now living in Richmond, VA. If anyone is interested in getting together out west, there is a get together in Laughlin, NV the third weekend in September 1994, this information will also be printed in the Viet Nam Crew Members newsletter (June), or call me for more information. I will close for now, But hope to see you in Philly. Address for: Richard Carey, [REDACTED]

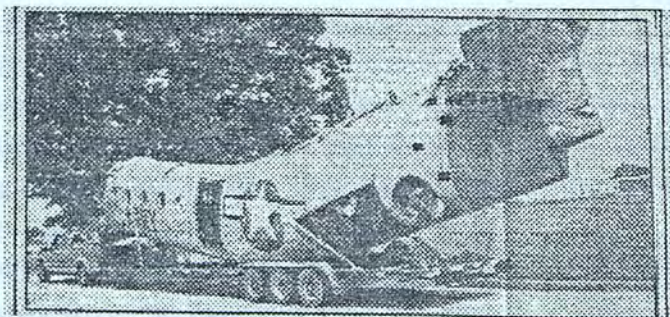
Donald Prentiss, [REDACTED]

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you Don. We got a scanner so I'll try to show what the patch design looks like. Maybe the picture will help sell the patches. The helicopter is OD green, center background is dark blue, the background circle behind the blue 119th A.H.C. is red, GATORS is in yellow, the rotor blades are gray. I printed your address and phone number at the end of your letter so people can get a hold of you easier.



REQUEST you run this Reunion announcement I/A/W your policies to support this June 1995 Reunion. "The 11th T.C./328th T.C. Helicopter Company will be holding its Bi-annual Reunion at the Enterprise Ramada Inn on 9 June 1995. POC is Col (Ret) Stanley E. Grett, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"

(ED NOTE) We sure will Stan, it is our policy to support all Reunions especially Aviation related.



Aviator Max Hall shows off his latest acquisition, the remains of a vintage Army H-21 helicopter that he bought from a salvage yard and hauled back to Springdale, AR from Fairbanks, Alaska. This picture was taken from the June 21, 94, The Morning News, from Springdale AR, which was the cover story that day covering 2/3 of the front page. The trip for the helicopter was 4,059, and the total weight for truck, trailer and load was 10 ton. Max said he intends to restore the helicopter to its original flying condition and use it for his own enjoyment, perhaps entering it in air shows. Article sent in by Max Hall

(Editorial Note) Great job Max and best of luck in your undertaking. I recieved another letter about this from John Givhan, please read on.

Jim, Max Hall & I were in the 120th Aviation Co (AML) in 1964. Were on the same mission when I was wounded: 4/12/64. This information should go in the newsletter. Max has another H-21 he is working on which he says will be flyable by Thanksgiving 1994. Come fly "The Shaggy Shawnee" with us. John B Givhan, 1st Lt USA (Ret) 120th- "The Deans" 1963-64

(EDITORIAL NOTE) Thank you John, I agree the info should be in our newsletter. And with our new computer and scanner the picture can be printed and saved as a permanent part of our newsletters. I hope the picture prints as well as the first trail run. Let me know what you think about it.

Dear Jim, Enclosed is a check for \$50 for the items checked on this order form and whatever else you need a few dollors for. Earl McConaha tracked me down, thanks to your telephone number software, and we just spent a weekend together with a lot of old memories. Glad I finally found out about the Association and proud to be a member. Ernie Ernest C Strum, [REDACTED]

(ED. NOTE) Thank you Ernie. Earl stopped by here on his trip to track down his and his wife's family tree. We had a great visit and ran a few names through the phone disc and Earl said we would try to locate you right away. Thank you for the extra \$23 donation.

Hello 145th; I was going through some of my old records. I came across orders that may be of interest to the association. The copies I am sending are mainly for the names other than mine. I hope these will be of some help to the association. Keep up the good work. Sincerely your s; Neal G Beard, [REDACTED]

(ED. NOTE) Thank you Neal, they will help us locate more people.

Dear Jim, Sorry I'm late. I'm enclosing a check for 2 years plus a little more for the "cause". One thought for members (new). The 45th sponsored the 114th AML "Vinh Long" in 1963 & at the same time contributed the cadre to form the Delta Bn at Cantho in 4 Corps. Someone may have a better memory than I & might have a copy of the orders. Keep up the good work! Sincerely Bob LaMonte

(ED Note) Thank you Bob, and your right about the 114th. I got a call from the 114th Avn Co unit historian, John Brennan, about some historical papers he received, History of the Fourty Fifth Transportation Battalion 1 January 1963 - 30 June 1963, and History of the 114th Avn Co (Air Mobile Light) 16 January 1963 - 31 December 1963. Please read on for the letter from John.

Dear Jim, Enclosed you will find the 45th Trans Bn history for Jan-June 1963 and the 114th Avn Co history for 1963. Both documents show an overlap that reveals an unmistakable union of the two units in April thru July 1963. Interesting reading. Compliments of the Knights of the Air.

While exchanging messages with George Young over the computer, he reminded me to query you about clarification of 145th membership practices. He states, "When this thing is resolved and it turns out that we were initially assigned to the 45th, does Jim anticipate extending 145th membership eligibility to ALL 114th members who served in RVN or only those 114th members who were assigned WHILE the unit was part of the 45th? Will this membership eligibility be extended to the members of units that supported the 114th."

Also, G.Y. says that your name has been added to the 114th Asso mailing list for newsletters & directories starting with the June '93 issues. It's my understanding that a reciprocal agreement extends to my address being placed on your/145th mailing list for future newsletters and directories. So far, so good. We'll get back to you when we locate the 1963 orders that assigned the 114th to the 45th, and subsequently released us to the Delat Avn Bn.

Keep up the good work, and thanks for the generous time last week when I called. Take care. Sincerely, John Brennan Unit Historian.

(ED Note and more) Thank you John. I'll start off by answering George's questions on membership eligibility. Anyone who served in Vietnam with a unit, and/or detachment of that unit, that was assigned to the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion, (or 45th Trans Bn in the early days) is eligibility for membership. We decided when we formed our Assoc in 1986 that we would not use cut off dates, that everyone assigned to the unit or detachment when it was in Vietnam would be eligible for membership even if the unit was assigned to a different battalion at the time they served. So in other words, everyone who served with the 114th Avn, Co or with it detachments, 544 Trans Det, 96th Sign Det, 83rd Med Det, in Vietnam is eligible for regular membership. And from what I understand the 114th Assoc also has members who served with the 114th after Vietnam, and members who are serving with the 114th today, to those people we will extend Associate Membership, which is all most exactly like regular membership.

As per the conversion I had with John, I want to assure George Young and the membership of the 114th Assoc, that the 145th Assoc in no way wants to interfere with the 114th Assoc or the way they do business, just like with other unit organization like the 71st and 335th Associations.

Here are some bits and pieces from the history of the 114th and the 45th history reports John sent in." When it arrived in Vietnam, the 114th became a part of the US Army Support Group, Vietnam, under USARYIS and USARPAC, and was attached to the 45th Transportation Battalion for operational control." With footnote, LO 232, Hq, USAARMC, Ft Knox, Ky, dtd 27 Feb 63; GO 70, Hq, USARYIS, dtd 14 May 63; and GO 109, Hq, US Army Spt Gp, Vietnam, APO 143, dtd 21 May 63. The 114th arrived 10 May 63 and officially declared operationally ready for combat missions 10 June 63. General Order 109 dated 21 May 63 assigned the 114th AML to the 45th Trans Bn.

If anyone has access to General Order 109 please let us know and if possible send a copy.

THE OPERATIONAL HISTORY OF THE 68TH ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY 1967

2 Jan. A flight of ten slicks and four gunships supported the 4th Infantry Division near Dau Tieng.

3-5 Jan. The Top Tigers flew three days of combat assault missions supporting the 199th Light Infantry Brigade. Sixteen extractions and ten combat assaults were flown in the Tay Ninh and Dau Tieng area.

9 Jan. The 68th was one of the six companies who participated in eight combat assaults airlifting elements of the 2/16 Infantry Battalion.

15 Jan. A combat assault mission was made in support of the 1st Infantry Division in Operation Saratoga airlifting elements of the 2/16th Infantry Battalion.

16 Jan. The 68th reinforced the 25th Aviation Battalion in supporting the 4/9th Infantry Battalion. Airmobile assaults were conducted into four landing zones.

17 Jan. Four combat assaults and extractions were flown in support of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade near Nha Be.

20 Jan. The 68th reinforced the 1st Aviation Battalion supporting the 2nd Brigade in Operation Silver Spring by airlifting the 2/18th Infantry in the area of Phu Loi.

23 Jan. The 68th made eagle flights with the 4/9th Infantry into five different landing zones.

25 Jan. The 68th was the second flight element of three assault helicopter companies conducting three extractions and two combat assaults in the area of Cu Chi. The 68th conducted the re-supply missions for the 25th Infantry Division after release from the 25th Aviation Battalion.

27 Jan. The Top Tigers conducted two combat assaults in the area near Ben Luc as a second flight element controlled by the 25th Aviation Battalion. The Command and Control ship and gunships departed Binh Chanh to recon and find targets for eagle flights.

In the month of January, 1967, the 68th Aviation Company flew a total of 2613 hours. There were 9190 sorties transporting 11,501 passengers and 155.5 tons of cargo.

Maintenance, Keeping up its fine maintenance standard, the 391st achieved a 77.5% overall availability rate. Especially noteworthy was the 94.3% availability of the important UH-1C models.

4 Feb. The 68th flew two combat assaults in support of the 25th Infantry Division in the area of Ben Luc. The 68th was released to Bien Hoa for 30 minutes stand-by except for two command and control ships and three re-supply missions for the 21/4th Infantry.

5 Feb. The Top Tigers supported the 173rd Airborne Brigade by participating in eleven combat assaults and two extractions near Tan Uyen.

7 Feb. The 68th supported the 1st Australian Task force by participating in four dummy troop repositionings in the area of Nui Dat and two actual extractions in the area of Bear Cat. Six combat assaults from Bear Cat were conducted in the afternoon operation along with 46 sorties of re-supply.

14 Feb. The 68th flew two combat assaults while supporting the 9th Inf Division by airlifting the 605th Regional Force.

15 Feb. The Tigers conducted twelve combat assaults and extractions while supporting the 2/12th Infantry Division in the area of Trai Bi.

16 Feb. The 68th made three combat assaults, two troop repositionings, and seven combat extractions in the vicinity of Vi Thanh as a second flight element controlled by the 13th Aviation Battalion in support of the 21st ARVN Division.

18 Feb. The 68th supported the Australian Task Force conducting search and destroy operations in the vicinity of Dat Do.

19 Feb. The 68th supported the 4/47th Inf Bn conducting search and destroy operations in the area S.E. of Binh Son.

20 Feb. A combat assault and extraction in support of the 199th Lt Inf Bde was conducted in the vicinity of Can Giuoc.

In the month of February, 1967, the 68th Aviation Company flew 2477 sorties, transported 10,449 passengers, and carried 607 tons of cargo for a total of 2458 flying hours.

Maintenance Despite the consistently high number of hours flown by the Top Tigers, the 391st maintained its high standards with 73% of the UH-1D models and 87.7% of the UH-1C models flyable for an overall 75% availability rate.

10 Mar. The top Tigers conducted six combat assaults from Trai Bi to a landing zone in the vicinity of XT 050863.

Negative fire was reported and the operation went smoothly.

15 Mar. In support of the 196th Lt Inf Bde, the 68th Aslt Hel Co repositioned the 2/1 Inf to the vicinity of Tay Ninh. No problems arose during the day and upon completion of the lifts, the flight was released for re-supply missions.

18 Mar. Again working for the 196th Lt Inf Bde, the Top Tiger repositioned 265 troops from Tay Ninh west to Prek Nok (XT 274783).

19 Mar. The Top Tigers lost four people this day. Killed in action were WO James P Barton, Sp4 John N Sheffield, Sp4 Gilbert N Smith, and Sp4 Johnny L Washburn.

23 Mar. The Mustang's while working with the Top Tigers in the vicinity of Rach Kien destroyed 21 sampans, killed one V.C. with a weapon, and burned five buildings. The flight reported negative enemy fire.

30 Mar. While working for the 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div, the Top Tigers, along with the 118th AHC made several insertions in the vicinity of Suoi Da. A large mine was detonated in the landing zone as the second element of the first lift was on short final. As a result, four aircraft were downed. Two of the four, however, were able to be flown out. When landing in the LZ

the second and third time, two more mines were detonated resulting in minor damage.

Summary. March was a relatively slow month. The Top Tigers flew 2170 hrs completing 7422 sorties. They repositioned 7,559 passengers, and carried 623 tons of cargo.

Maintenance The maintenance standard remained high with the 391st. They upheld an overall 75% availability with 71% of the UH-1D models and 80.6% with the UH-1C models.

6 Apr. While working for 1/27th Inf Bn in the vicinity of Cu Chi, the Mustangs found two Viet Cong; running for the cover of woods. C&C decided to land and unload the C&C party, load four infantry troops and make the capture, The Viet Cong were captured with no injuries.

11 Apr. The Top Tigers were in support of the 3rd Bde, 5th Inf Div, made numerous extractions, and encountered light enemy fire.

12 Apr. The 68th was part of a Battalion operation in which the 13th Combat Aviation Battalion was also involved.

13 Apr. As a result of the operation of the 12th, there were nine Viet Cong bodies found. Also a large munitions catch consisting of 20 grenades, 1 round of 105 ammo, 50 containers of plastic explosives, numerous documents, 3 weapons, and six enemy prisoners.

24 Apr. The 68th was in support of the 2/14th Inf. Bn, 197th Inf. Bde. Upon landing in the landing zone the troop carriers took fire. One aircraft s hit, but little damage was sustained.

27 Apr. While working in the local Bien Hoa area the flight upon landing in a landing zone received; heavy small arms fire. The fire was returned by both troop carriers and gunships.

During April our activities picked up again with 2535 hours flown, 9,220 sorties, 13,834 passengers, and 222 tons of cargo.

Maintenance: The availability remained high with the average availability at 75.45% the UH-1D up to 78.9% as their availability steadily increased while the UH-1C models went down to 72%.

2-3 May The 68th was called out on rapid reaction to relieve the 116th Assault Helicopter Company at Dong Tam. The "Top Tigers" made several lifts without serious mishap and then remained over night at Dong Tam on ready alert. The next day they ran resupply missions and extractions.

4 May. The Top Tigers traveled to Bear Cat and Rach Kien. There they made four lifts and the "Mustangs" killed one Viet Cong and sank one sampan.

9 May The 68th supported the 5th Special Forces group at Hiep Hoa and at Tanh Linh the "Mustangs" killed 3 Viet Cong, destroyed 13 structures and sank one sampan.

12 May. Supporting the 9th Division, while working out of Tan An and Bear Cat, the "Top Tigers" made 15 assaults destroying 14 Viet Cong structures.

14 May. Returning to support the 9th Division the 68th made two extractions while the Mustangs killed one Viet Cong and destroyed nine structures and three sampans.

15 May. Working with the 116th Assault Helicopter Company the 68th lifted a Battalion of 9th Infantry troops and extracted them without any enemy action.

With the most active month of the year the "Top Tigers" flew 3318 hours completing 10868 sorties carrying 15,856 people and 219 tons of cargo. It was a month of hard work for the 68th Assault Helicopter Company.

Maintenance: The 391st worked hard also and maintained our availability at 74.59% The UH-1D accounted for 72-74% availability while the UH-1C maintained 76.44%.

5 June. The 68th had a busy day making eleven combat assaults and three extractions for the 9th Divisions near Rach Kien. The Mustangs had one kill, destroyed eight Viet Cong structures, and damaged five as well as destroying two sampans.

8 June. Returning to support the 9th Division the "Top Tigers" made four combat assaults and two extractions.

13 June. On this day the 68th made twelve assaults near Rach Lien while the Mustangs killed one Viet Cong.

21 June. Conducting Eagle Flights with the 9th Division the "Top Tigers" made two assaults and two extractions.

23 June. Going to support the 199th at Thu Duc the 68th made three assaults and extractions as well as one repositioning to finish up the months combat assaults.

During the month of June the 68th concentrated on a direct support missions throughout the III Corps area.

Maintenance: Maintenance continued to work hard and their availability showed this 81.4% overall was the best average to that date largely due to the 85.3% for the UH-1D. The UH-1C had a good average of 77.5% availability.

5 July On this date the 68th ran two combat assaults and two extractions with the 2nd Royal Australian Infantry out of Nui Dat, and then proceeded to Loc Ninh to make two extractions. All operations ran smoothly.

8 July. Flying to Nha Be and Thu Duc the "Top Tigers" made two combat assaults and eight extractions with the 199th Infantry.

9 July. The 68th inserted 126 troops in two lifts to act as a blocking force for the 9th Infantry Division near Tan Tru.

11 July. Flying first to Binh Chanh the "Top Tigers" made four assaults and two extractions for the 199th Infantry. Then they went to assist the 269th Combat Aviation Battalion make two assaults near Tay Ninh.

12 July. Supporting the 25th Division the 68th had nine aircraft hit when they were called on a tactical emergency to reinforce troops of the 227th Infantry. Fire was received on each one of the lifts. No casualties resulted.

15 July. Having a very busy day the "Top Tigers" flew 16 assaults and 14 extractions for the 199th Infantry at Nha Be carrying 1363 Passengers.

17 July. Returning to support the 199th the Tigers went to Nha Be and the Mustangs got 4 kills and one sampan. Ceilings of 100 feet and visibility, in rain, of less than a quarter mile created hazardous flying conditions.

26-27 July. Flying eagle flights for the 25th Infantry Division, 6 assaults and 7 extractions were made. The weather became very bad with the last extraction but it was carried out without incident.

28 July The 68th had four aircraft take hits during four combat assaults for the 9th Infantry Divisions at Dong Tam.

31 July. Having a good day the "Mustangs" got six kills near Rach Kien during eagle flights.

In July the 68th flew 2462 hours as the rainy season was in full swing. They completed 7422 sorties carrying 7559 passengers and 623 tons of cargo.

Maintenance: The 391st improved upon its outstanding record again in July. They reached a high of 82.7% availability with both C & D models over 80%; UH-1D 81.5% and UH-1C 83.8%

9 Aug. The 68th supported the 9th Division in the Bear Cat area. Several lifts were made with no enemy fire encountered. Extractions were completed with no difficulty and the flight was released.

10 Aug. The 68th supported the 2nd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division by conducting six combat assaults and three extractions in the Tan Tru area. No problems were encountered, but restricted visibility hindered the operation.

12 Aug. The Top Tigers conducted a series of Eagle flights in the Go Dau Ha area. There were three assaults made into several small villages in the area. As a result two VC were captured and taken to the Trang Bang compound. No other incidents were encountered and the operation went smoothly.

16 Aug. While working for the A/351 CIDG units in the Hiep Hoa area, a malfunction of the armament system of one gunship caused two rockets to leave the pod at the same time. As a result the rockets collided approximately 10 feet above the ground showering one aircraft with shrapnel. However, no major damage was encountered and no injuries.

19 Aug. The Top Tigers made two lifts in the Ninh Than area for III Corps. CIDG received negative enemy fire. Gunships and artillery were used to prep the LZ's. The flight was on 1 hour stand by for the remainder of the day.

28 Aug. While in support of the 9th Infantry Division a series of eagle flights were initiated. Upon landing in one LZ in the Rach Kien area two aircraft were hit. Both aircraft sustained major damage but there were no injuries.

29 Aug. The 68th Assault Helicopter Company was in support of the 9th Infantry Division in the vicinity of Bear Cat. No enemy fire was reported and no incidents were encountered despite low visibility and bad weather.

Still increasing its load the 68th flew 2681 hours. They made 9,648 sorties carrying 16,201 passengers and 140 tons of cargo.

Maintenance: Availability dropped sharply in August to 75.5%. The UH-1D 74.8% availability and the UH-1C a 76.2%.

2 Sept. The 68th Aslt Hel Co was in support of the 9th Inf. Div. on a combat assault mission in the Rach Kien area. A series of eagle flights caused the separation of the two lifts and the operation was conducted in two flights of five. Upon landing in one LZ, two of the aircraft were hit with heavy automatic weapon fire and sustained major damage; however there were no injuries to pilots or crew.

7 Sept. Again the 68th was in support of the 9th Div. and made a series of eagle flights in the Rach Kien, Tan Tru, and the Ben Luc area. However, there was no enemy contact, and the flight returned to Bien Hoa after transporting 652 passengers with no incidents.

17 Sept. The 68th was in support of the 331 and 332 CIDG companies in the Cau Song Be area, and made two insertions into unsecured LZ's. The flight did not receive any enemy fire and was released to Bien Hoa after standing-by at Cau Song Be.

18 Sept. 1200 troops of the 6th, ARVN marines were moved from their base camp to several field sites in the Tan Uyen area. This movement was completed within 1 1/2 hrs with no difficulties and the flight was released. Upon arrival to Bien Hoa, the company was again called out to support the 1st Inf. Div. Two dummy lifts and one actual lift were completed. No enemy fire was reported and the flight returned with no incidents.

19 Sep. The 68th Aslt Hel Co was part of a Battalion operation in support of the 5th ARVN Div. in the Bear Cat area. The operation went smoothly with no enemy fire reported. Gunships and artillery were used in the prestrikes of the landing zone. Due to bad weather, limited tac air support was used.

Summary. The 68th Aslt Hel Co during the month of September demonstrated the safety record it established. During this month the Top Tigers participated in numerous CA and DCS mission in the III Corps. The Top Tigers contributed greatly to the combat effectiveness of many individual units within the III Corps area.

2 Oct. The 68th Aslt Hel Co was in support of the 199th Inf. Bde. in the Nha Be area. They relocated 863 troops although low visibility and rain made flying very hazardous. One UH-1C gunship was hit by enemy fire, but there were no casualties.

4 Oct. The Mustangs went to the aid of the 1st Australian Task Force killing 1 Viet Cong and destroying two structures.

5 Oct. Serving the 9th Division in Operation Coronado the "Top Tigers" made 6 lifts and found the Viet Cong. The Mustangs killed 9 themselves. Two UH-1C and one UH-1D took rounds.

6 Oct. The 68th continued with the 9th Division; 5 Viet Cong were killed. The flight ran into heavy fire and had two aircraft hit by enemy fire. Four medical evacuations lifts were made under heavy fire and adverse conditions.

7 Oct. Operation Coronado continued and the Viet Cong were receiving a bitter defeat. Three more medical evacuations were made under adverse conditions. The 68th helped greatly to make this battle one of the most successful in the Delta

region.

11-13 Oct. The "Top Tigers" sent out five ships on a combat assault to support the 199th Brigade to search out the Viet Cong in sight of Saigon.

15 Oct. The 68 was sent to support our ARVN allies in a search and destroy mission near Nha Be.

16-17 Oct. Again supporting the 199th Brigade, the Top Tigers searched out the Viet Cong. On the 17th they were located and the Mustangs killed two personnel and destroyed four of their structures.

20 Oct. The Mustangs had a very good day as the 68th supported the 199th Brigade. Twelve Viet Cong were confirmed killed and one was captured.

23 Oct. The 68th began direct support of the 25th ARVN Division with a very good day. Eight Viet Cong were killed one taken prisoner and two weapons captured. 23,000 piasters were taken from a tax collector.

24 Oct. The Top Tigers were fly Combat Assaults every day now with the 25th ARVNs. Sixteen enemy were killed as the 68th hit heavy action. The Mustangs were hit by enemy fire and one was shot down.

25 Oct Working at Bau Trai the 68th again found the Viet Cong and killed one. Four ships were hit by enemy fire. WO1 Anderson was wounded but returned to duty.

28 Oct The 68th continued its daily support of the 25th ARVN's with combat assaults.

29 Oct Again the Top Tigers found action as 14 Viet Cong were killed by the Mustangs near Bao Trai.

30 - 31 Oct The Top Tigers finished off the month of October with two more CA's with the 25th ARVN's. The Tigers are being pushed hard with their constant commitment but never slacked their drive. They completed all missions assigned in a outstanding manner.

Summary. With 2683 hours flown the Top Tigers again stepped up their activities. They made 8,970 sorties and carried 14,002 passengers with 137 tons of cargo.

Maintenance: With few UH-1C models to work with Maintenance could only get 58% availability rate for its UH-1C models. This brought the overall average down to a low of 64.5%. The UH-1D availability was also low at 71%.

4 Nov. The 68th Assault Helicopter Company was in support of the 25th ARVN Division in the Duc Hoa area. Upon landing in one location, the lead ship in the right file was caught in an explosion and crashed. The aircraft burned but as a result of quick thinking, of the different crews no injuries were sustained to the crew of the aircraft.

5-6 Nov. The flight was also in support of the 25th Division several ships received ground fire upon landing; in the landing zone. Also the Mustangs were credited with 4 Viet Cong kills.

8 Nov. An aircraft was lost in the pick up zone. Major damage was sustained, however the operation continued smoothly and the Mustangs were credited with two kills.

10 Nov. The 68th was released early due to bad weather. (300 ft. ceiling and 1/2 mile visibility.)

19 Nov. The 68th Assault Helicopter Company while working for the 5th Division uncovered the remains of Aloft 11 which crashed the day before.

27 Nov. Some difficulty was encountered when targets were spotted outside the A.O. and clearance could not be obtained to fire or bring in artillery. The Mustangs were credited with two confirmed kills.

Summary: The 68th continued the combat assault mission for more than 25 days straight. They never lost the professional attitude needed for safe flight. Despite the unfortunate incidents where helicopters were lost the Tigers continued to do the outstanding job that can be expected of them at any time.

1 Dec. The Mustangs were credited with 5 kills in the operational area, also setting off a secondary explosion.

3 Dec. Following take off from the landing zone one of the Tigers struck a tree, which caused the helicopter to crash land. The crew escaped with no injuries, however one ARVN troop jumped from the ship and was killed by the rotor blade.

6 Dec. The Top Tigers operating in the vicinity of Tan An recovered numerous enemy grenades and supplies.

17 Dec. While operating for the 5th ARVN Division the 68th sustained several hits in the gunships. SP4 Scanlen and Gonzalez were both wounded in action. Also seven detainees were captured by ground troops.

20 Dec. The proposed landing zone had to be canceled due to heavy ground fire and RPG-2 rocket fire. An alternate was selected but ground troops refused to go into the original area. All of the extractions were canceled.

27 Dec. The Top Tigers assisted in the capture of numerous weapons including one 60mm mortar with ammo, 5 rounds of 105 ammo, and a claymore mine. Top Tigers lead and Mustang 6 took several hits in the landing zone.

30 Dec. While working for the 25th ARVN Division the Mustangs were credited with killing 4 Viet Cong. Also the ground troops reported killing four Viet Cong and captured weapons and documents.

The flying time dropped to 2194 hours as the Top Tigers were low on pilots. They made 6,606 sorties carrying 12,688 passengers and 60 tons of cargo.

Maintenance sprang back to a 72.95% availability. The UH-1D models many with over 2000 hours of flying, carried a 70.8% availability and UH-1C a 75.1%.

During the calendar year of 1967, the 68th Assault Helicopter Company flew a total of 31,022 hours, conducted 103,180 sorties, and carried over 150,000 passengers, most of which occurred during combat assault missions. In the process of doing so, the men of the 68th earned an impressive total of 2 Silver Stars, 4 Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry, 1 Legion of Merit, 43 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 25 Bronze Stars, 49 Air Medals for Valor, 49 Commendation Medals, 5 Good Conduct Medals, and 25 Purple Hearts. Thus, the 68th Assault Helicopter Company, "Top Tigers", have responded meritoriously to the requirements for assistance in the counter-insurgency environment of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

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. These people do live on in our memory.

MICHAEL MONTGOMERY, 68th AHC, 1965-66, WO, CANCER I received the news about Mike from John Langwasser who had heard about it from Mike Lindell. See John Landwasser letter in the Readers Response section. John said he was sorry he couldn't give any more information.

ROY D JACKSON, 117AML, Apr 1965 -Apr 1965, WO, 17 JUNE 1994 HEART ATTACK Fort Worth, Texas, was the word I received from George Young. And I received a short note from George Reese who also served with the 117th informing me that Roy passed away on 18 June of Cancer. Which ever the case I want to send our condolence to his wife, Liz, family, and friends.

HASPAR R MURPHY, A/501st, 1966-67, OF, 6 MARCH 94, HEART ATTACK, ENTERPRISE, AL. I learned about this from his wife Barbara while trying to locate him.

JAMES R HUGHES, Commander of the 573rd Maintenance Det of the 118th AML, 1963 - 64, JAN 1994 CANCER, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK. This news was sent in by Bob Brandt who Jim Hughes replaced as commander of the 573rd in Aug 1963 and who Jim replaced as Commander, HHC 1st Trans Bn in 1967.

DONALD P CACKLEY, 120th AML, 1963-64, EM, FEB 1993, CANCER OA NON HOPKIN LIMP. I can't tell you much about Don except for the basic facts, maybe some of our member who served with Don will tell us a little more about him.

ANSON B YEAGER, 197th AHC, 1966, EM, HEART ATTACK, AGE 45, I received this news in a short note from his mother, Ann H Yeager while trying to locate him.

MSG RAY COCKERHAN, COMMO CHIEF, HHC 1964-65, 1991. If anyone can send in anymore information it would be appreciated.

COL GEORGE ALDRIDGE JR, CANCER, 16 MARCH 1994. *From a letter written by George's son.* My father George W Aldridge, Jr has been fighting cancer for the past several years. He fought a great campaign but surrendered at the last battle on the 16th of March. Dad died peacefully in his sleep and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on the 23d of March. Dad requested to be buried with full military honors and he received his wish in great style. The Third Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) with over one hundred soldier in full dress uniform performed the ceremony. After a short service at the Fort Myer chapel he was carried to the grave site on the horse-pulled caisson followed by a riderless horse, an age old tribute to fallen military leaders. At the grave site seven soldiers fired a 21 gun salute, a bugler played taps, and the same flag that had draped his WWI veteran father's casket was folded. Dad's final resting place is a sunny section of the cemetery close to an old commander and friend, General Creighton Abrams. Many friends, family and old soldier comrades attended the funeral. It was a beautiful day and a magnificent ceremony. One befitting

OBITUARIES (continued)

an old soldier who had so faithfully served his country, and a man who was a friend to so many over the years. My father led a full and rich life with many friends and family that loved him. I am convinced he is presently in a better place where I bet he has already found the best trout streams and hunting spots. G. W. A., III (George entered the service in 1941, landed on Omaha Beach, D-day, deployed with 1st Cav Div to Korea July 1950, and Commander of the 81st Transportation Company in Vietnam from July 1962 to Apr 1963.)

Col John A Todd, Commander 145th CAB, Aug - Dec 1967. *The following is taken from the newspaper obituaries.* **John A Todd, Army Colonel, Dies at age 70** John Andrew Todd, 70, a retired Army colonel who served in two wars, died of cancer Aug 6 at his home in Springfield, VA. Col Todd was born in Colon, Panama Canal Zone, where his father was a policeman. He grew up there and in Georgia. He was a graduate of the University of Maryland. He was a radio installer for the Federal Communication Commission in Louisiana and Georgia during WWII. He enlisted in the Army in 1945 and later commissioned in the infantry. In the Korean War, Col Todd was a platoon leader and company commander. Much of his subsequent career was in Army Aviation, and he had the rating of master aviator. He was a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College, and he had peace time assignments in Germany as well as at various post in the United States. Col Todd served three tours of duty in the Vietnam War as a battalion and aviation group commander. He was was the assistant for research and development to the undersecretary of the Army in the Pentagon when he retired in 1977. His military decorations included the Distinguished Service Medal, two awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross and 28 awards of the Air Medal. He also held the Combat Infantryman Badge. From 1978 to 1987, when he retired, Col Todd worked in the Washington office of Link Corp., a flight simulation company. He was a past president of the Federal City Chapter of the American Helicopter Society and a member of the American Defense Preparedness Association, the Association of the U. S. Army and the Army Aviation Association of America. He had maintained his principal residence in the Washington area since 1959. Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Elfriede Z. Todd of Springfield; two sons, Gerald M Todd Heidelberg, Germany, and Army Major William E Todd of Colorado Springs; a brother, William M Todd of Memphis; and two grandchildren. A son, Army 1st LT John A Todd, Jr was killed in action in Vietnam.

The following are some names of some of the people who served with A/501 and/or 71st Avn Co in Vietnam who have died after leaving Vietnam. This list was sent in by Ron Seabolt of the 71st Association.

RONALD C RUDOLPH, WO 66-67, Killed during 2nd tour.

LANCE E FOGDE, WO, 66-67, Killed in A/C crash as instructor pilot.

BOYCE D WYATT, WO, 66-67, Died of heart attack about 1986.

DONALD J. HAID, OF, 1965, (2nd CO of A/501st) Died of lung cancer 1979.

WARDELL ROGERS, EM, 67-68, Died of heart attack, late 70's.

MARSHALL RATLIFF, EM, 66-67, Died of complications from auto wreck, mid 80's.

PAUL HILLHOUSE, EM, 66-68, (COMPANY 1ST SGT) Died of heart attack in 1991.

RICK McCLAREN, EM, 67-68, Died of Agent Orange related cancer 1993.

ROBERT L THOMAS, EM, 67-68, Killed during 2nd tour.

DANNIE L DILLARD, WO, 67-68 Died around 1991.

FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report covers 1 January 1994 to 30 June 1994. 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 January 1994.....	\$0342.25
Total deposits checking account 1/1/94 to 6/30/94 (Dues, Donations, Fund Raisers) ...	\$4127.00
Total...	\$4469.25

Expenditures

Bank fee.....	\$ 113.56
Computer hardware.....	\$ 15.69
Computer supplies.....	\$ 43.59
Copy machine repairs.....	\$ 595.00
Fund raiser supplies.....	\$ 87.00
Memorial fund.....	\$ 120.00
Phone.....	\$ 270.94
Postage.....	\$ 666.81
Miscellaneous.....	\$ 566.66

Total Expenditures	\$2479.25
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-\$2479.25

Balance 30 June 1994\$1990.00

Life Membership Balance 01/01/94.....	\$0000.00
Life Membership Deposit.....	\$1000.00
Life Membership Balance 06/30/94	\$1000.00

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

For the first six months of 1994 we took in \$2647.75 more then we spent, including a thousand dollar deposit into the Life Membership Account. Much of that \$2647.75 was donations over and above the ten dollar a year dues. Some of the donations I was able to thank our members for in the Readers Response, a lot of the donations were an extra five or ten dollars that people sent in with their dues money, I want to thank everyone sent in a little extra too help out, it really is appreciated, and it really does add up.

We are slowly getting our Associations computer up to speed with the purchase of more equipement, although it doesn't show on this report because it was after the 1st of July. We increased the hard drive to 428 Mega bites. We lost a lot of information from our computer the middle of June and it took a month of work to redo it because we didn't have a recent back-up, so we purchased a tape back up which makes it easy to back a complete back-up of all our information every week. We got a really good deal on a 256 color hand held scanner to input typed info and pictures into our computer. And we purchased a Isobar surge surpressor to keep lighting other bad things from eating up the info we put in the computer.

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.

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW YOU MEMBERSHIP TODAY

NEW PEOPLE LOCATED LIST

AUGUST 28, 94

UNIT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP	PHONE	DATE	DATE	RANK
HHC	NESBITT	PETER B		WEST CHESTER	PA	19380		1966	1966	EM
HHC	PARSELL	MORV D		COLORADO SPRG	CO	80915		1967	1968	EM
18 AVN	ZUKOSKY	LEON W		MILL VALLEY	CA	94941		1964	1965	EM
18 AVN	ANTONAKAKIS	KONSTANTINAS		BROOKLYN	NY	11234		1967	1968	EM
68 AML	RODGERS	JAMES W		BROWNWOOD	TX	76801		1965	1966	OF
391MAIN	ASBELLE	CHARLES T		GRANITEVILLE	SC	29829		1966	1966	OF
68 AHC	NESBITT	PETER B		WEST CHESTER	PA	19380		1966	1967	EM
68 AHC	SCHWARTZ	LESTER		NANUET	NY	10954		1967	1968	
68 AHC	SPRING	KEN		INDEPENDENCE	MO	64052		1968	1969	EM
A/501	FREEBERG	GEORGE		SAVANNAH	GA	31419		1964	1965	WO
A/501	HENDERSON	LOUIS		DOTHAN	AL	36301		1964	1965	OF
A/501	OHLENBURGER	CLIFF		JACK	AL	36346		1964	1965	OF
A/501	BOGLE	CHARLES		FT WORTH	TX	76133		1965	1966	OF
A/501	BRUBAKER	GEORGE		MARTINSBURG	WV	25401		1965	1966	EM
A/501	KOEHRER	JOHN		MONTGOMERY	IL	60538		1965	1966	EM
A/501	PITTS	ARCHIE		CLARKSVILLE	TN	37042		1965	1966	WO
A/501	BARTON	CHARLES		GEORGETOWN	TX	78628		1966	1967	OF
A/501	BLESSING	ED		VIENNA	OH	44473		1966	1967	EM
A/501	BRETON	JOSEPH		BOW	NH	03304		1966	1967	WO
A/501	CAREY	GORDON T		CALABASAS	CA	91302		1966	1966	CO
A/501	CAROTHERS	DAVE		EDMOND	OK	73003		1966	1967	OF
A/501	DOLBEE	PETE		MISSION VIEJO	CA	92692		1966	1967	EM
A/501	FAIRFIELD	JERRY		THORNTOWN	IN	46071		1966	1968	EM
A/501	GROSS	BILL		RINGGOLD	LA	71068		1966	1967	EM
A/501	HAND	DINNIS		STOCKBRIDGE	GA	30281		1966	1967	OF
A/501	HENNIGAN	BILL		SPRINGFIELD	VA	22152		1966	1967	OF
A/501	HINKLE	RICHARD		GAINESVILLE	FL	32606		1966	1967	EM
A/501	HOPKINS	DOUG		SIMI VALLEY	CA	93065		1966	1967	OF
A/501	HORNING	LOWELL		ROCHESTER	MN	55901		1966	1967	EM
A/501	JOHNSON	GARY		ROSEBUD	MT	59347		1966	1967	EM
A/501	KNAPP	TOM		WEST PALM BEACH	FL	33407		1966	1967	EM
A/501	KNOX	STEVE		LAKEVILLE	MA	02347		1966	1967	EM
A/501	KUHLMAN	DENNIS		HATINGS	NE	68910		1966	1967	EM
A/501	KUHNERT	RALPH C		HONEOY FALLS	NY	14472		1966	1967	OF
A/501	LAMBIE	JOHN		BARTONVILLE	IL	61607		1966	1967	EM
A/501	LYNCH	JOHN		SIOUX FALLS	SD	57104		1966	1967	EM
A/501	MADISON	LYLE		PORTLAND	OR	97218		1966	1967	EM
A/501	MARSHALL	BILL		WASHINGTON	TX	77880		1966	1967	OF
A/501	MEADER	JERRY		BRANT LAKE	NY	12815		1966	1966	OF
A/501	NORRIS	JIM		APPLE VALLEY	MN	55124		1966	1967	OF
A/501	OLLAR	JOE		CAMERON	OK	74932		1966	1967	EM
A/501	PARKS	GARY E		TOOELE	UT	84074		1966	1966	EM
A/501	RENNIE	JOHN		EUREKA	KS	67045		1966	1967	EM
A/501	RICHARD	DAVID		CARROLLTON	TX	75007		1966	1967	WO
A/501	TREAT	BOB		SKIATOOK	OK	74070		1966	1967	OF
A/501	WEAVER	SPENCER W		MASON CITY	IA	50401		1966	1967	EM
A/501	WELKER	LOWELL		BELLEVUE	NE	68005		1966	1967	EM
A/501	WHITEHEAD	SHIRLEY		INDEPENDENCE	KS	67301		1966	1967	EM
A/501	WILLIAMS	R. J.		PHILADELPHIA	PA	19152		1966	1967	EM
71 AHC	ADAME	JESSIE		TEMPE	AZ	85281		1967		EM
71 AHC	ADAMS	RANDY		YPSILANTI	MI	48198		1967		EM
71 AHC	AMERSON	KENNETH		JASPER	AL	35501		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	ARINK	BILL		CORPUS CHRISTI	TX	78418		1967	1967	OF
71 AHC	ARTHUR	KENNUR		NEW HAVEN	VT	05472		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	BELL	JOE		KEY LARGO	FL	33037		1967	1968	OF
71 AHC	BLEECKER	RICHARD		TACOMA	WA	98466		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	BLEY	JOHN K		MONTGOMERY	IL	60538		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	BOLIN	DALE		HOUSTON	TX	77022		1967		
71 AHC	BREngle	THOMAS		MT AIRY	MD	21771		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	BUDIG	SHERWOOD R		CASPER	WY	82604		1967	1968	OF
71 AHC	CALVACCA	JOHN		VICTORVILLE	CA	92392		1967	1967	EM
71 AHC	CARSON	FRANK		JONESBORO	GA	30236		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	CERVINSKI	JOHN		CORONA	CA	91720		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	CORNIBE	DENNIS		BUTLER	PA	16001		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	DAILY	JOHN		CARMICHAEL	CA	95608		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	DUBOSE	DAVID		MT PLEASANT	TX	75455		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	FISHER	CHARLES		MEDFORD	OR	97501		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	FITZGERALD	ROBERT		GRAND PRAIRIE	TX	75052		1967	1968	OF
71 AHC	HOLLINS	JOHN		HEBER	AZ	85928		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	HURON	RODGER		RISING SUN	IN	47040		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	JOBSON	JAMES K		MARIETTA	GA	30064		1967	1968	OF

71 AHC	JOHNSON	MARLIN		ONTARIO	OR	97914		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	KLOSTERMAN	EDWARD R		SAN JOSE	CA	95111		1967		
71 AHC	KONATSU	MASANOVU		KILLEEN	TX	76543		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	KRETCHMER	MICHAEL		KILLEEN	TX	76542		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	KUCERA	ROGER		SCAPPOOSE	OR	97056		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	LAIRD	BOB		DOTHAN	AL	36302		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	LEINSTER	JOE		WINSTON SALEM	NC	27104		1967	1968	OF
71 AHC	LEWIS	ROBERT		SAN ANTONIO	TX	78244		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	MATTHEWS	ERNIE		POPLARVILLE	MS	39470		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	MAY	JOHN		ROSEMEAD	CA	91770		1967		
71 AHC	McCALL	GARY		FAIRPLAY	CO	80440		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	MIKESELL	GREG		SAN ANTONIO	TX	78216		1967		
71 AHC	PALAZZO	GREG		HOLLYWOOD	FL	33024		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	PAXTON	BILL		LONE JACK	MO	64070		1967	1967	WO
71 AHC	PERRY	LEON		TENNILLE	GA	31089		1967	1967	WO
71 AHC	POTTLE	MICHAEL		SEABROOK	NH	03874		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	POWELL	JACK		BURLESON	TX	76028		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	ROPER	J.W.		BROOKWOOD	AL	35444		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	SANFORD	MARSDEN		OAKDALE	CT	06370		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	SICKLER	DAVID		SHICKSHINNY	PA	18655		1967		
71 AHC	SMYTH	TOM		DOTHAN	AL	36303		1967		EM
71 AHC	TAYLOR	RICHARD P		OAK HILL	WV	25901		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	TIPPITT	JERRY		CLARKSVILLE	TN	37042		1967	1967	EM
71 AHC	WAGNER	WILLIAM P		ELK GROVE	CA	95624		1967		
71 AHC	WARDLOW	JAMES		BELLEVUE	WA	98006		1967	1967	EM
71 AHC	WEBER	DAVID		WAUKESHA	WI	53186		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	WEBSTER	RICK		OVIDO	FL	32765		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	WELTON	HARRY		GURNEE	IL	60031		1967	1968	WO
71 AHC	WEST	FRED		BURLINGTON	CT	06013		1967	1968	EM
71 AHC	BOWEN	HAROLD L		CARY	NC	27511		1967	1968	OF
71 AHC	CASTLE	HERMAN C		RICHMOND	VA	23223		1968	1969	OF
71 AHC	CHAMPE	GENE		COPLEY	OH	44321		1968	1969	OF
71 AHC	COMBS	ROBERT		CORPUS CHRISTI	TX	78412		1968	1969	WO
71 AHC	DIDIO	WILLIAM		PEMBROKE PINES	FL	33025		1968	1969	EM
71 AHC	ERICSSON	JERRY		HOUSTON	TX	77034		1968	1969	WO
71 AHC	GOODMAN	BENNY		WASHINGTON	DC	20317		1968	1969	WO
71 AHC	HENSON	CHESTER		TALLAHASSEE	FL	32308		1968	1969	OF
71 AHC	HILMER	ALIFF		OAKHILL	WV	25901		1968		EM
71 AHC	HOLLAND	NORMAN		MILTON	FL	32583		1968	1968	EM
71 AHC	LITCHFIELD	LOU		ROSWELL	GA	30075		1968		OF
71 AHC	LONDON	BILL		DEL RIO	TX	78840		1968	1969	WO
71 AHC	McCLANE	MICHAEL		WAIPAHU	HI	96797		1968	1969	EM
71 AHC	MILLER	JAMES N		FORREST CITY	AR	72335		1968	1968	WO
71 AHC	MOON	AL		SWIFTON	AR	72471		1968	1968	EM
71 AHC	OLSON	ROBERT		N CHATHAM	MA	02650		1968	1969	EM
71 AHC	PALMER	CHRIS		CINCINNATI	OH	45275		1968	1969	EM
71 AHC	RICHARDSON	JERRY		GRAND PRAIRIE	TX	75050		1968	1968	OF
71 AHC	TRIMMER	ROBERT W		WICHITA	KS	67203		1968	1969	OF
71 AHC	BROWN	DAVID		DUPONT	WA	98327		1969	1970	WO
71 AHC	DRY	GRADY		SALISBURY	NC	28144		1969	1970	WO
71 AHC	ENGEN	LARRY		HAZELHURST	WI	54531		1969	1970	EM
71 AHC	PRIDDY	DONALD E		ST LOUIS	MO	63135		1969	1970	OF
71 AHC	WALTERS	JAMES		MARY ESTHER	FL	32569		1969	1970	OF
71 AHC	CRONIN	RICK		WEST NYACK	NY	10994		1970	1970	EM
71 AHC	ISRAEL	STEVEN		ELLICOTT CITY	MD	21042		1970	1970	WO
71 AHC	MOSS	SAM		ACKERMAN	MS	39735		1970	1970	WO
71 AHC	PETREY	CARL		GARLAND	TX	75044		1970	1971	OF
71 AHC	BOCEK	VICTOR A		DOWNERS GROVE	IL	60515		1971	1972	WO
71 AHC	DREWRY	WILL		HOPKINS	SC	29061		1971	1971	EM
71 AHC	MALONE	JAMES		GOODSPRING	TN	38460		1971	1971	EM
73 SAC	MOORE	GARY		ST SIMONS ISLAND	GA	38460		1971	1971	OF
73 SAC	WHITE	LARRY		GAINSVILLE	FL	32607		1971	1972	OF
8 TRANS	NOEL	GLEN		SAN ANTONIO	TX	78251		1961	1962	EM*
8 TRANS	WYBLE	HUGH H		CHESTERTOWN	MD	21620		1961	1962	EM
117 AML	ZEIGLER	GEORGE F		TULSA	OK	74137		1964	1965	OF
118 AML	ZIPPERER	FRANK E		ARLINGTON	VA	22204		1964	1965	OF*
118 AHC	CRABTREE	STEVE		LUCASVILLE	OH	45648		1968	1969	EM*
118 AHC	PARSELL	MORV D		COLORADO SPRG	CO	80915		1968	1969	EM
118 AHC	BOWERS	EDWARD D		MORGAN HILL	CA	95037		1968	1970	EM*
57 TRANS	WUJEK	STAN		COLUMBUS	GA	31907		1968	1963	WO*
120 AML	MATTISON	GEORGE C		ORLANDO	FL	32817		1964	1965	EM
120 AML	STRUM	ERNIE		RED LODGE	MT	59068		1964	1965	OF*
120 AHC	YARBROUGH	VIRGIL L		AUSTIN	TX	78746		1966	1967	OF
121 AML	RIDDLE	RALPH E		WILLIAMSBURG	VA	23185		1965	1966	OF*
121 AHC	HOLLOWAY	TED G		ANSON	TX	79501		1966	1966	CO

135AHC	ZEBEHAZY	JULIUS "BUD"	[REDACTED]	LILBURN	GA	30247	[REDACTED]	1967	1967	WO
135AHC	SMITH	JOSEPH	[REDACTED]	BOSTON	NY	14025	[REDACTED]	1969	1970	
190AHC	HARTFORD	THOMAS F	[REDACTED]	DePERE	WI	54115	[REDACTED]	1967	1967	OF*
190AHC	ZEBEHAZY	JULIUS "BUD"	[REDACTED]	SW LILBURN	GA	30247	[REDACTED]	1967	1968	WO
190AHC	MULLENDORE	DARRELL L	[REDACTED]	JUNCTION CITY	KS	1968	[REDACTED]	1968	1969	EM
571MAIN	SABO	RICHARD J	[REDACTED]	CANON CITY	CO	81212	[REDACTED]	1963	1965	EM*
UTT	YANCEY	MONTE G	[REDACTED]	FORT WORTH	TX	76133	[REDACTED]	1963	1964	EM
UTT	YAZELL	ROBERT F	[REDACTED]	TAYLORVILLE	IL	62568	[REDACTED]	1964	1965	EM*
UTT	MATTISON	GEORGE C	[REDACTED]	ORLANDO	FL	32817	[REDACTED]	1964	1964	EM
334AHC	ORTIZ	ROBERT	[REDACTED]	SANTA ROSA	CA	95405	[REDACTED]	1966	1967	EM
197AHC	PIERCE	THURMAN R	[REDACTED]	MIDDLEBURG	VA	22117	[REDACTED]	1966	1967	EM
197AHC	PARSELL	MORV D	[REDACTED]	COLORADO SPRG	CO	80915	[REDACTED]	1966	1967	EM
334AHC	SMITH	JOHN A	[REDACTED]	FRANKFORT	IN	46041	[REDACTED]	1969	1970	EM
213ASHC	WALLINGFORD	WILLIAM L	[REDACTED]	CHANNELVIEW	TX	77530	[REDACTED]	1971	1972	EM
213ASHC	YATES	RICHARD O	[REDACTED]	NASHVILLE	TN	37211	[REDACTED]	1971	1972	EM
242ASHC	YATES	RICHARD O	[REDACTED]	NASHVILLE	TN	37211	[REDACTED]	1971	1972	EM
335AHC	MUZY	TERRY L	[REDACTED]	FINDLEY	OH	45840	[REDACTED]	1968	1969	EM
335AHC	ZYLKA	JOHN F	[REDACTED]	FAYETTEVILLE	NC	28303	[REDACTED]	1970	1971	WO

You will notice that a very large part of the New People Located List served with the A/501st / 71st AHC, thanks to Ron Seabolt of the 71st, Rattlers and Firebirds, Assoc. Him and a few others are doing a great job of locating former Rattler and Firebird personnel.

REUNION'95 FORT RUCKER, ALA.

The next reunion of the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion (Vietnam) Association will be held at Fort Rucker, Alabama on June 16, 17, and 18, 1995. The 1995 Reunion Committee is working on the details and a complete reunion package should be put together the first part of 95. Major General Richard Kenyon (Ret) volunteered to head the 1991 Reunion Committee at Fort Rucker and they did a really great job putting the 1991 Reunion together, and they are organizing the 1995 Fort Rucker Reunion to be even better.

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 liked 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, mark your calender, reserve your vacation time. Call a friend you served with in Vietnam and make plans to meet them there. You'll have a really great time. See you there.

Most of the 1991 Reunion Committee will be working on the 1995 Reunion Committee. A few of the 1991 Reunion Committee members moved out of the Fort Rucker area, so the 1995 Reunion Committee is in need of some more volunteers to help. If you want to volunteer to help on the Reunion Committee please contact me or General Kenyon.

VHPA ITEMS

Depending on how our copy machine is running and weather or not I can get our Secretary/Treasurer, Deb, to insert a copy of the VHPA Product Order Form into the Newsletter, there should be a copy of the VHPA order form with this newsletter. (Deb hates putting more then one insert in the newsletter). I do recommend the Historical Reference Directories and the Calender to everyone, and the other items for VHPA members. Their address is on the form and the items are high quality.

FUND RAISERS

We have a few ongoing fund raisers, the purpose of these is to raise operating funds for the Association and 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 hucy and lassoing a VC. The patches sell for \$4 each. See order form 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 Attack on one side and 190th on the other, its called "Battale of Bien Hoa and Gunship Action". The next tape is called Combat Assault, on this tape Robert Moody takes you along with the EMUs and Tiapans, 135th AHC, on a combat assault mission when they catch the NVA. The next tape is Songs of the UTT, this tape tells of the life and mission 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-SHIRT

We now have color T-shirts made with the orginal 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 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. The 1991 Reunion Committee had the hats made and they have been a big seller. Order one today.

WATCHS AND BELT BUCKLES

We have wrist watches and belt buckles with the 145th C.A.B. Assoc design printed on them. Watches are \$25 and belt buckles are \$15. Call first for availibility of item.

COWBOY AND FALCON ITEMS

For a complete list of A/82 / 335th AHC items for sale contact Dominic Fino, 16417 Cedar Grove Rd, Sparks, MD 21152-9427 1-410-472-2867