



BEE-
LINE

The Bee-Line is an authorized bi-monthly publication under the supervision of the Commanding Officer, 116th Assault Helicopter Company, APO San Francisco 96353.

Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

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***** N. HORNET 6 *****

Major General D. Franklin

First, I would like to extend my appreciation for the hard work that each individual has done during the month of August.

We had the IG inspection on 23 August and the following are extracts from the IG exit briefing pertaining to our unit:

1. "The attitude and professional knowledge displayed by supervisors and maintenance personnel was excellent".
2. "The reenlistment program was outstanding".
3. "The command orientation briefings of the 116th AHC were considered excellent".
4. "Administration of unit funds was outstanding".
5. "The operation and administration of unit sundry funds was outstanding".
6. "The care and handling of mail was outstanding".
7. "The health and sanitation program was excellent".
8. "The control malaria program was considered worthy of favorable comment".
9. "Historical activities within the battalion were being administered in accordance with current directives with the 116th (Hornets) worthy of special comments".
10. "Aviation operations were being conducted in an outstanding manner".
11. "The administration and operations of field ration messes of the battalion was excellent in all unit messes inspected. The general appearance, cleanliness, and efficient management of the 116th mess was particularly noteworthy".
12. "The aircraft maintenance shop operations, to include production control, quality control, tech supply, avionics, aircraft armament, maintenance of tools and equipment, and maintenance of aircraft throughout the battalion was considered excellent. The 116th and 187th AHC were considered outstanding in this area".
13. "The maintenance of aircraft armament subsystems throughout the battalion was worthy of favorable comment, particularly so in the 116th AHC, where the armament subsystems had far exceeded normal use".
14. "Maintenance, storage and security of small arms was superior".
15. "The maintenance of chemical equipment throughout the battalion was unsatisfactory with the exception of the 116th (Hornets) which was considered adequate".
16. "The civic action program was considered effective and the program of the 116th AHC (Hornets) was outstanding".
17. "The aviation safety program was considered excellent".
18. "Supply records and procedures were excellent".

This generally encompasses the areas where our unit received special comment.

Detailed comments will follow within 30 days from Hq. USAF. "Again, a job well done, Hornets".

*****NEW HORNET 5*****

MAJOR DONALD G. ANDREWS

I am, indeed, pleased to have the opportunity to serve as a hornet. Your reputation is laudable and I shall endeavor to see that it is upheld. Having been in-Country prior to my assignment here, I had occasion to hear of your exploits as an outsider. I can assure you that you are held in the highest regard throughout RVN. Now that I've had the opportunity to be Hornet 5 for a few days, I can see that your reputation is well deserved. I'm proud to be part of your team.

***** 1ST PLATOON *****

FINCH'S FRIENDS

WO John F. McQueen has departed for greener pastures, with his 1049 extension in his hand. He has reported to his new duty station in Saigon. Now and then dropping by the nest, John has been telling us just how it is, being a "Saigon Warrior". Nice work if you can get it!

THE PAD TO END ALL PADS

WO Valentine has finished building a room in hooch 36. All of us agreed that it is the best and classiest around. It's too bad we could not have used some of his carpentry talent on the Bee Hive.

THE NEW "STRAP HANGOUT 6" IS:

WO Michael Albert; has recently taken over the time consuming job of Officer's Club custodian. He has quickly and efficiently taken over the duties. He seems to be full of inventive ideas, such as, a pizza oven for the club. That would surely be a welcome addition to the club's equipment. Now that the IG has gone by, Mr. Albert can sit back and catch his breath. He and his crew of two did an outstanding job of straightening out records and supplies. The club passed with "Flying colors"; Congratulations.

Lt Briganti has left the 1st Platoon to become one of the Operations officers (3Z)- 3 Alpha's protégé. We miss his leadership and harassment-and care packages. The 1st Platoon wishes the best of luck and we will be looking forward to working with him again when he straps into the C&C ship.

NEW AG'S

WO Slick and WO Jenkins have packed their duds and moved to the left seat

of the UH-1D: Nice work!

IT'S A BOY!!!

WO Valentine is now "Papa Chris". Mrs. Valentine recently gave birth to a large Italian helicopter pilot. Cigar smoke fills the air in the Hornet's Nest as we share the pride Mr. Valentine has.

WO James is in Tokyo, Japan with his wife on what-wonder if he will see much of the country?

*****2ND PLATOON*****

CLARK'S COLUMN

Well Hornets, time has come again for me to write a few words of wit, wisdom and pure gossip. I do have a full report on the ~~last~~ scene in Hong Kong, "It is fantastic and can be expensive"!!!

SUCKLY

While flying white lead in a routine Hornet Co, Major Addy detected signs of smoke in the cockpit. A quick call from the cre chief proved him right. One of the infantrymen aboard the aircraft had inadvertently pulled the pin on a smoke grenade, filling the ship with violet smoke. The crewchief was unable to rid the aircraft of the grenade, simply because it was securely attached to the grunt's web gear. Major Addy, blinded by the smoke, broke away from the formation to make a precautionary landing. Meanwhile, the smoke disapated and "20" was able to re-join the formation and carry out the mission. A real case of "Smoke gets in your eyes". Right Major Addy?

A DA?

Mr. Croucher was served a DA for parking an aircraft (732) on a set of R.R.

tracks in Bien Hoa recently. Here's how it all started: Mr. C. was departing the BH soccer field with a full load of passengers; when he was approximately 200' off the ground his aircraft had an engine failure over an extremely dense part of town. The only clear area was the railroad tracks and that is where he landed. Fortunately, no one was injured in the crash; however, the ship was demolished due to a hard landing. A security team was sent out from the Special Forces camp and Lt. Bob Frazier evacuated the passengers. Bookkeeper effected the evacuation of the ship. During the confusion the LP's arrived and served Mr. C a drink for obstructing a railway. Mr. C commented, "I didn't see any 'No parking for helicopter' signs".

HUNTINGTON'S HELY DAY

While working with the 25th Inf. Div. Mr. Huntington was diverted from the flight to perform a medical extraction. While the troops were loading the wounded aboard his aircraft, one more man was wounded, further delaying his departure from the "Hot" LZ. While climbing out, the unit again called for a med-evac; Mr. Huntington made another landing in the same LZ and loaded two more wounded. This time, while taking off, a burst of automatic weapon fire was noted and Mr. H's ship took a hit in the tail section. WO Meyers, who was flying co-pilot, monitored the instruments to detect further damage. Gunner/medic, SP/4 Durst, administered first aid to the wounded while enroute to the 12th Avac. Hospital in Cu Chi.

The IG inspection is over and Hornet 6 seemed to be very pleased with the results. Among those cited for a job well done was our Mr. Humphrey. Mr. H worked very diligently, as assistant motor pool officer, helping to turn what appeared to be a hopeless situation into a success.

Mr. Harrington, our special services officer, encourages every one to use our SS equipment. Among the items in stock, is a ping pong set, volley balls

and net, basketball, a tape recorder and other types of sports equipment. Feel free to check with him at any time for the use of this equipment.

Mr. Lee, the warship's official flag raiser, earned his title by deftly slinging a Vietnamese flag from his chopper to the top of the Bad Tri water tower.

GUN PLATOON

Since the last publication of the Lee-Line we have said farewell to two more Stingers. Lt. Dyson, Stinger 98, and W. Davis, Stinger 93. Those of us, who go to Fort Wolters, will probably find them busy preparing new aviators to take their place in Viet Nam. We would also like to welcome CWI Winters and WO Huntington to the Stinger platoon. They have both been with the Hornets for several months.

In a recent three day period the Stingers picked up a confirmed body count of 35 VC. We may not have 540's and mini-guns, but we try harder. Also, during this same week, the Stingers played the "Angel of mercy" by carrying nine med-evacs out to the hospital.

We would like to say "Goodbye and good-luck" to SP5 Garcia, who has left us to return to that warm California sun.

True to Stinger form, we came through for the IG inspection with even "Greasy
Nuckle Six" passing. Perhaps he won't have to make that mandatory trip to Saigon
after all.

Well, stasticly the Hornets have proven themselves with close to 600 flying hours from 18 Aug to 25 Aug, and a sparkling 43 KIA body count of Old Charles. If "Hanoi Hanna" doesn't take notice of this a letter up North is in order.

The latest SIF-REP from hawaii, via Hornet 3, is "The weather is fine, tide is right and women out of sight. wish you were here."

We in Operations have had our hands full these days trying to communicate with Hornet 3 Alpha. He has been floating around on a little white cloud for the last week. It is so bad we have drafted the help of 1Lt Briganti, Hornet 3 Zulu and 1Lt Coggeshall, hornet 3 Bravo. But it looks like we are fighting a losing battle as 3 Alpha is SHORT!!!!

Operations has lost the competent help of one each Ralph Johnson to our gallant and hard working Supply section. On the bright side we have assigned to the 3 section, fresh from the States, PFC Toth. Welcome aboard.

The score card in flying time so far this month has WO1 Madon out front with 135 hours. If he keeps this up he should pass 2Lt Pool's total for last month of 145 hours.

In awards and Decorations since the start of the Fiscal Year the Hornets have racked up the points. The board looks like this:

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>SUBMITTED</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>
DSC	0	0
SS	5	1
LOM	1	0
DFC	16	9
SM	2	0
BS w/V	3	0
BS	7	3
AM w/V	15	8
AME	233	235
ACM w/V	7	21
ACM	19	5
PH	6	5

As for flight status it is requested that if your platoon sergeant tells you to get a physical from the medics, get one! Don't wait a month or two before seeing the medics. We need 3 copies of a Class III physical for Non-Crew Members and Crew Chief slots and a statement of physical health; 3 copies, for a gunners slot. I am trying for 100% in filling the slots available so lets get those physicals in ASAP.

A note from Hornet 3 Bravo, who is our Aviation Safety Officer by the way. Check the safety board, it may save your life or another Aviators. It's worth a minute. Please keep your heads out and Rotor blades clear.

** ***** SERVICE PLATOON *****

During the past 10 days many items of interest have happened to the Service Platoon of the 116th Assault Helicopter Company.

Without a doubt the most important happening was the loss of the former platoon leader, Captain Steele, who left for Fort Sill, Oklahoma on 21 August 67. The 116th will greatly miss his presence but we wish him the best of luck on his new assignment.

Also recently a new maintenance pad was constructed, by the engineers, to replace the previous pad which had been worn out by the constant effort of the Service Platoon and the 392nd TC Detachment to provide the amazing sight which greeted so many pilots every morning - a sparkling, if not new, UH-1 waiting anxiously for that day's mission.

Special thanks to everyone in the platoon for the splendid job and special effort extended in preparation for the IG inspection, which the company had on 23 August 67. An excellent report was returned by the inspection team which was made possible by the hard work of the entire platoon and for the outstanding co-operation from everyone.

In the future may the Service Platoon continue its mission in Viet Nam - that of providing service to the 116th Assault Helicopter Company

*****SUPPLY*****

We are happy to announce that our Supply room successfully passed the IG inspection. This was made possible by our chief, Mr. Carl. He had worked long and hard hours shaping up the Supply room in every way possible. We are very proud of him, because of this. His vast experience and intelligence, has proven itself. Being that the IG is over now, we can continue to support and maintain a good level of supplies and equipment for the company.

A FEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lifeline exchange is now on Friday night for those who are on Flight

schedule and Saturday morning for all others. DX day is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

People picking up supplies should have a letter from their section leader.

A reminder to bring tools back as soon as possible, so others can also use them.

We would like to welcome PFC Ralph Johnson to our Supply Group. He has been doing a good job.

***** EDITOR'S NOTE *****

This is the first regular edition of the Bee-Line that I have had the pleasure to work on. In the months to come, I will endeavor to publish a paper as comprehensive and interesting as it has been in the past. The challenge will be great, however. 1LT Gary L. Salisbury has displayed much skill and dedication in editing and printing this paper.

PFC Mose H. McClellan, as assistant editor will be checking the articles and typing the stencils. All articles for the Bee Line should be turned-in, printed and double spaced, no later than the 10th and 23rd of each month. There will be a special in-box on PFC McClellan's desk for PIO and Bee Line articles.

Please give everyone in your hooch a chance to read the Bee-Line before sending it home.

***** CLOSING QUOTE *****

"I'm rich. I don't have a home anymore, but I still have my family, a car and a pick-up truck". - Fairbanks housewife after devastating Alaska floods.