

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
155th Aviation Company (Aslt Hel)
APO 96297

4 October 1969

SUBJECT: Commander's Monthly Highlights for September 1969

Commanding Officer
10th Aviation Battalion (CBT)
ATTN: AVBACB-AE
APO 96377

1. GENERAL

a. The month of September began, for the 155th Aviation Company, with the final hectic days of preparation for the Annual General Inspection which was conducted on 3 September 1969. The 155th was awarded an overall Satisfactory on the AGI which reflected the success of our overall preparation.

b. During September the 155th continued to provide aviation support for the 23rd ARVN Division, Detachment B-23 (5th Special Forces Group) and units with normal operations in Darlac, Quang Duc, and Tuyen Duc Provinces. The 155th provided major support for the Mike Strike Forces in Quang Duc Province. It also provided support to B-50 operations west of Ban Me Thuot.

c. In addition to controlling its own assets for this aviation support the 155th had OPCON to it 4 UH-1C gunships from the 170th Aviation Company, 4 UH-1C gunships from the 189th Aviation Company and two CH-47 Chinooks from the 179th at Pleiku. During this period, a great increase in tactical and logistical aviation support was required by units with operations in this area. Consequently, as many as ten additional slicks, six gunships, five CH-47s and two CH-54s were in the Ban Me Thuot area conducting missions daily with the 155th acting as controlling and coordinating agency.

d. The company continued to maintain a high degree of aircraft availability for the month of September. Availability for UH-1H models was 96.7% and for UH-1C gunships 96.4%.

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2. OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

a. The weather conditions in the area of operations deteriorated greatly during the month of September, thereby reducing the amount of aviation support and number of hours flown by this company. The primary mission of the company was the mission of supporting B-50 operations. Four slicks and four gunships were provided each day for the entire month, to this mission. Numerous Sniffer missions were conducted throughout the Ban Me Thuot, Quang Duc area during this period. However, due to the shift in emphasis on the type mission performed during this period with 155th assets, the company was only engaged in five airmobile operations.

b. Training during September continued at a high level. Classes were given on the Code of Conduct, Riot Control, Landmine Warfare, CBR refresher training, and Character Guidance. A special series of classes on Escape and Evasion were also conducted during September. Aviator training continued with the conducting of twelve check rides. A new training and qualification program was instituted in preparing pilots for qualification as Aircraft Commander. This training program includes emphasis on night flying, test flight experience and hood flying experience. The company feels that these requirements for aircraft commander will increase the safety and overall effectiveness of this unit.

c. Totals for the month of September were as follows:

- (1) 2,091 hours
- (2) 5,778 sorties
- (3) 8,968 passengers
- (4) 119 tons of cargo
- (5) 1 structure destroyed
- (6) Ammo expended: 7.62 - 102,000
2.75 - 496



DEAN M. OWEN
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