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Charles W. Lee

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# 159th AVIATION BATTALION

## HERALDIC ITEMS

### COAT OF ARMS

- Shield:* Gyronny of eight or and azure, on a bend gules an oriental dragon of the first.
- Crest:* None approved.
- Motto:* Press On.
- Symbolism:* Ultramarine blue is traditionally associated with aviation units. The gyronny background simulates the movement of rotating helicopter blades and refers to the mission of the battalion in its airlift capability. The contrasting colors further symbolize the continuous (day and night) operations during visual weather conditions. The red bend and the gold dragon refer to the organization's service in Vietnam.

### DISTINCTIVE INSIGNIA

The distinctive insignia is the shield and motto of the coat of arms.

## LINEAGE AND HONORS

### LINEAGE

RA  
(101st Airborne Division)

Constituted 1 July 1968 in the Regular Army as the 159th Aviation Battalion, assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, and activated (less Company C) in Vietnam. (Company C activated 24 July 1968 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; inactivated 15 September 1980 at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.)

### CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

#### *Vietnam*

Counteroffensive, Phase V  
Counteroffensive, Phase VI  
Tet 69/Counteroffensive  
Summer–Fall 1969

Winter–Spring 1970  
Sanctuary Counteroffensive  
Consolidation I  
Consolidation II

### DECORATIONS

Valorous Unit Award, Streamer embroidered THUA THIEN PROVINCE (159th Aviation Battalion cited; DA GO 50, 1971)

Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1968–1969 (159th Aviation Battalion cited; DA GO 43, 1970)

Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1971 (159th Aviation Battalion cited; DA GO 6, 1974)

Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal  
embroidered VIETNAM 1968–1970 (159th Aviation Battalion cited; DA GO 48, 1971)

Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal  
embroidered VIETNAM 1970 (159th Aviation Battalion cited; DA GO 48, 1973)

## 159TH AVIATION BATTALION BIRMINGHAM

Aguanno, Edwin M. "Operation Longhaul." *United States Army Aviation Digest* 20 (February 1974):41–45.

Gram, Bill and Vandervoort, Benjamin. "Operation Eagle Finch." *United States Army Aviation Digest* 20 (October 1974):36–37.

Markham, Robert E., II. "Operations, 101st Airborne Division." *United States Army Aviation Digest* 25 (February 1977):14–15.

"Operation Eagle Finch." *United States Army Aviation Digest* 20 (February 1974):36–37.

Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1968-1970 (159th Aviation Battalion cited; DA GO 48, 1971)

Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1970 (159th Aviation Battalion cited; DA GO 11, 1973)

#### 159TH AVIATION BATTALION BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aguanno, Edwin M. "Operation Longhaul." *United States Army Aviation Digest* 20 (February 1974):41-45.

Gram, Bill and Vandervoort, Benjamin. "Operation Longhaul II." *United States Army Aviation Digest* 20 (October 1974):26-28.

Markham, Robert E., II. "Operations, 101st Aslt Platoon 'Deployed' by C-5A." *Army Aviation* 25 (February 1977):14, 41.

"Operation Eagle Finch." *United States Army Aviation Digest* 20 (December 1974):36-37.

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