

SECTION XI - Unit History

For some time the VHPA Historical Committee has been experimenting with various formats to present unit histories. What follows is a unit history prepared by Bill Greenhalgh as a prototype for review by the Membership. It is based on some rather complete research material given to the Historical Committee a few months ago. The irony of it all is that Bill did not even serve with the 116th during his two tours in SEA. Because the material is too long for the VHPA Newsletter, the Directory is the only media available for the Historical Committee to publish its findings. By publishing this prototype unit history, Bill hopes to achieve the following: (1) Demonstrate that VHPA can gather, preserve and publish unit history data. (2) Request anyone with more information on the 116th or any other unit to please contact the VHPA Historical Committee. (3) Solicit comments on the unit history prototype to improve future publications. (4) Encourage unit historians for other combat units to come forward with their own unit histories. Anyone interested in becoming a unit historian should contact the Historical Committee for more details. All pilots reading this directory are asked to complete the Unit History Survey form near the back of this Directory and send it to VHPA Headquarters.

116th AVIATION COMPANY - ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY 20 OCTOBER 1965 - 26 DECEMBER 1971

LINEAGE: The 116th Aviation Company formed at Fort Bragg, NC on 5 July 1965. On 27 and 28 September the personnel were airlifted to San Francisco, CA. Part of the unit departed on the USNS POINT CRUZ and arrived at Cam Ranh Bay on 18 October. The major portion of the unit departed on the USNS BARRETT on 29 September and arrived off Vung Tau on 20 October. The unit served in Vietnam for approximately six years and two months; it was inactivated on 26 December 1971. In addition to the headquarters section, the 116th was made up of four platoons: two airlift, an armed, and a maintenance. The 116th was known as the HORNETS, the first platoon using the call sign YELLOW JACKET, the second WASP, the gun platoon STINGERS and maintenance BEEKEEPER. On 29 September 1967 the Department of the Army certified the use of the designation HORNETS.

Joining the 116th at the time of formation and remaining with them for most of their tour were: 283rd Signal Detachment (avionics repair and support), 392nd Transportation Detachment (third echelon aircraft maintenance), and the 431st Medical Detachment (medical support).

As an aviation company (Air Mobile) (Light), the 116th was authorized 14 Officer and 41 Warrant Officer Aviators and 115 Enlisted Men. Under MTOE reorganization in 1969 it was authorized 19 Officer and 51 Warrant Officer Aviators. Effective 10 May 1969 the official unit designation changed to Assault Helicopter.

ASSIGNMENTS and STATIONS: From Nov 65 to Mar 67, 11th CAB, Phu Loi; to Apr 71, 269th CAB, Cu Chi; to Oct 71, 14th CAB, Chu Lai; to Dec 71, 212th CAB, Cu Chi. The 116th would fly in all four Corps plus Laos and Cambodia and possibly North Vietnam.

COMMANDING OFFICERS:

Maj. Richard A. Humes	5 Jul 65 - 2 Jan 66
Maj. Walter E. Parker	3 Jan 66 - 12 Sep 66
Maj. James H. Patterson	13 Sep 66 - 4 Feb 67
Maj. Harold I. Small	5 Feb 67 - 4 Aug 67
Maj. Bobby G. Franklin	5 Aug 67 - 9 Jan 68
Maj. Albert Woodruff	10 Jan 68 - 8 Aug 68
Maj. Geary Martin	9 Aug 68 - 10 Jan 69
Maj. John F. Tragessor	11 Jan 69 - 4 Jun 69
Maj. Alvin T. Jones	5 Jun 69 - 10 Dec 69
Maj. Gerald R. Kunde	11 Dec 69 - Jun 70
Maj. Herbert Everhart	Jun 70 - Oct 70
Maj. Henry M. Hagwood	Oct 70 - Jun 71
Maj. Floyd D. Smith	Jun 71 - 26 Dec 71

GROUND UNITS SUPPORTED: The 116th supported almost every major U.S. unit in Vietnam and the following units in particular: 2nd Bn 12th Inf of the 25th Inf Div; 3rd Bn 7th Inf, 199th Inf Bde, the 196th Inf Bde, and the 199th Inf Bde of the Americal Div; the 1st Inf Bde of the 1st Inf Div; 4th Bde of the 4th Inf Div; 9th Inf Div; 173rd Airborne Bde, 5th Special Forces, Royal Australian Task Force, 25th ARVN Div, and 2nd Vietnamese Airborne Bde plus several Cambodian and Korean units.

AIRCRAFT: UH-1 B, C, D and H models of the Huey

UNIT DECORATIONS (SERVICE STREAMERS):

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION for actions: 24 Apr 1969 (TAY NINH PROVINCE)
VALOROUS UNIT AWARD for actions: 19 JUL 1966 (HO BO WOODS)
VALOROUS UNIT AWARD for actions: 22 - 23 OCT 1966 (QUAN PHU HOA)
VALOROUS UNIT AWARD for actions: 4 - 20 NOV 1966 (DAU TIENG SUOI DA)
VALOROUS UNIT AWARD for actions: 1 JAN - 31 DEC 1967 (DEFENSE OF SAIGON)
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION for actions: 1 JAN - 31 DEC 1967 (VIETNAM 1967)
VIETNAMESE GALLANTRY CROSS w/palm for actions: 1 - 26 MAR 1967 (VIETNAM 1966-1967)
VIETNAMESE GALLANTRY CROSS w/palm for actions: 27 MAR 1967 - 17 MAY 1968 (VIETNAM 1967-1968)
VIETNAMESE GALLANTRY CROSS w/palm for actions: 1971 (VIETNAM 1971)
VIETNAMESE CIVIL ACTION HONOR MEDAL FIRST CLASS w/oak leaf for actions: 26 JUL 1969 - 20 JUL 1970 (VIETNAM 1969-1970)

STATISTICS: The only complete data currently known is for 1966 and shows the following totals: Hours flown, 24,695; Passengers carried, 125,312; Sorties flown, 72,601; and Cargo tons carried, 27,680.

HISTORY: Prior to Deployment. No information currently available for this period.

HISTORY: 1965

The main body of the 116th stepped ashore at Vung Tau on 20 October about 1530 and were quickly flown to Bien Hoa Airfield then trucked to a staging area just outside Saigon (University City). They remained at the staging area until 4 November when they again moved in stages to their first permanent home at Phu Loi Airfield (approximately 12 miles northeast of Saigon). The move was completed by 9 November.

The 116th was under the command of the 11th Combat Aviation Battalion (CAB) which was in turn assigned to the 12th Avn Group. The mission of the 116th was to provide direct support to the 1st Inf Div. The company was equipped with 16 UH-1D and 9 UH-1B helicopters. Although the aviators assigned to the company upon arrival in country had a good deal of experience, much of the first month was taken up in training, most of the aviators being temporarily assigned to the 145th Avn Bn for further training and country orientation.

The unit became operational on 7 December, missions being medical evacuations, battalion courier, combat assaults, combat support, fire team (gunship) support, liaison and administrative. The first significant encounter with the enemy occurred on 26 December when two Stinger fire teams were dispatched to provide convoy cover for the 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. While enroute from Phouc Vinh to Ap Dong Sac the convoy was ambushed by Viet Cong armed with automatic weapons. The fire team was called upon to engage the V.C. and after 45 minutes using rocket and machine gun fire, with assistance from TAC air, the ambush was broken.

HISTORY: 1966

The 116th participated in its first combat assault on 1 January. While attached to the 145th CAB it provided 8 UH-1D's and 5 UH-1B's for operations Southwest of Saigon. The 116th (with two aircraft from the 128th Avn Co) comprised the third of 5 elements used to airlift the 173rd Bde, Royal Australian and New Zealand troops to landing zones approximately 20 miles Southwest of Saigon. Staging out of Bien Hoa airfield the operation proved to be a real baptism of fire for the 116th. Of the 15 aircraft they supplied, four were hit by ground fire during the lift. This was the first time they had suffered damage by enemy bullets but certainly would not be the last.

On 4 January the 116th, again under the control of the 11th CAB, conducted combat assaults. This day called for moving one infantry company, in two lifts, from the loading area or PZ (Pickup Zone) at YT 055122, about three miles east of Bien Hoa, to LZ Alpha (YT 112176) seven miles northeast of the PZ. The infantry company was part of the 1st Bn, 16th Inf, 2nd Bde, 1st Inf Div. Two heavy fire teams made prestrikes on infantry's objectives Sue (YT 117170) and Roy (YT 115175) which were within 1000 meters of the LZ. Two light fire teams escorted the slicks on the lift. After the completion of the search and clear operation by the two companies (the other company had marched into the area the previous night and were the blocking force for the airlifted company) all troops were extracted back to the PZ. The aircraft received no hostile fire during the operation.

Captain Marvin Ficklin and WO Robert Asbell were flying a routine resupply mission in the Trung Lap area on 10 January, when their aircraft came under enemy fire. They took three hits, one round went through the radio console throwing shrapnel throughout the cockpit and wounding WO Asbell in the arm. Another round went through the fuel cell and Captain Ficklin immediately returned the damaged aircraft to Phu Loi. WO Asbell had the dubious honor of being the first member of the 116th to be wounded in hostile action.

During a fire support/escort mission on 14 January, the UH-1B flown by CWO Paul Sadowski and CWO Jim Vandercar came under enemy ground fire. The enemy fire severed the tail rotor control cable but CWO Sadowski maintained control, evaluated the emergency and returned to Phu Loi. He executed a long, shallow approach and successfully set the aircraft down while still maintaining forward speed and slowly rolled off the throttle while lowering the pitch. His run-on landing was a complete success with no further damage to the ship nor any injuries to the occupants. The damaged aircraft was quickly repaired and returned to service.

On 30 January at approximately 2345 the first 60 and 81 mm mortar rounds began falling in the first of many mortar attacks against the Phu Loi airfield. The 116th was the main target and received 8 rounds in the company area. CWO William Gibbs and WO Joe Stround volunteered to fly medical evacuations and successfully completed their mission by transporting wounded soldiers to Saigon. As a result of the attack, the 116th suffered hits on 12 UH-1D's and 5 UH-1B's; grounding 8 D's and 2 B's. This rendered the company ineffective for the next week. No company casualties were suffered during the attack.

While missions remained normal during the month of February, the 116th began training incoming aviators. The 162nd Avn Co had just moved to Phouc Vinh and the flew with the 116th for the next three weeks participating in 7 combat assaults.

In March the 116th began a 30 day evaluation of a newly proposed airmobile company TO & E. The objective of the test was to determine the feasibility of beefed up the present company to have the capability to move an infantry company (144 troops) in one lift. The 116th was augmented with 7 UH-1D's, 12 aviators and 7 crew chiefs from the 162nd Avn Co for the test.

On 30 March the 116th participated in Operation Abilene which involved troops from the 2nd and 3rd Bdes of the 1st Inf Div and the Royal Australian Regiment (RAR). The objective of the operation was to search and clear the Phuc Tuy Province which was predominantly controlled by the Viet Cong. On Wednesday morning the company lifted the RAR troops into Courtney rubber plantation airstrip (YS 450915) which was to be base camp for the first several days of operation. The 2nd Bde was lifted from Bear Cat range to LZ Scott (YS 352943) and LZ Ryan (YS 390960). The next day the 116th moved troops of the 3rd Bde. The staging area was Vung Tau and the troops were lifted to LZ "06" (YS 355778) and LZ "05" (YS 253752). The operational area for Abilene encompassed approximately 20,000,000 square meters, bounded on the north by Xuan Loc, west by Bear Cat range, south by Ba Ria and east by Xuyen Moc. No casualties were suffered by the 116th nor did any aircraft receive hits from hostile ground fire.

On 4 April the 116th provided two 10 ship elements (augmented by the 162nd Avn Co) and gun ships to continue combat assaults in conjunction with Operation Abilene. Three lifts were scheduled from LZ Mike to LZ Lucy. On the first lift the blades of the lead aircraft of the third element hit a utility pole beside the highway at LZ Mike (YS 260665) resulting in an aircraft loss (the aircraft was a total loss although no injuries were sustained by anyone on board). On the second and third lifts three additional 116th aircraft made precautionary landings but the maintenance crew was able to make immediate repairs in order to return the ships to flying status. Two of the precautionary landings were due to hydraulic failures. The downing of the third aircraft was caused by a combination of an engine seal leak and damage received when the aircraft detonated a land mine over which it was hovering when it set off the explosive device. No casualties resulted nor was any aircraft damaged from hostile fire.

On 10 April the 116th provided 9 UH-1D's 1 heavy and 1 light fire team plus a maintenance ship to support the 173rd Abn Bde during Operation Denver. For this operation the 116th was attached to the 145th CAB. The aircraft made two lifts from the Brigade home station at Bien Hoa to the tactical area at Son Be airstrip. During the operation the heavy fire team was called upon to engage enemy in bunkers and houses around the area.

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For the completion of Operation Abilene the 116th was called on to extract the troops. Again, 10 UH-1D's and 2 light fire teams were used and the company came under the control of the 1st CAB for the mission. Nine lifts were required to complete the extraction.

In the largest operation to date, the 116th participated in Operation Birmingham. The company was deployed to Tay Ninh Airport (XT 202508) to provide direct support to the 3rd Bde of the 1st Inf Div and there they stayed for the duration of the operation. While at Tay Ninh, the company was joined by their service platoon which provide necessary maintenance on a limited scale although for major repair it was necessary for aircraft to return to Phu Loi. On a daily basis the 116th provided 10 UH-1D aircraft, 3 light fire teams and Beekeeper, their maintenance aircraft, which carried aboard not only a qualified crew chief and gunner but a technical inspector and a medic. During the operation the 116th provided not only combat assaults but troop insertion and extraction, medical evacuations, visual reconnaissance, starlight scope missions, psychological warfare (leaflet drops and loud speaker missions), command and control, target attacks and aerial escort and routine administrative missions.

Upon returning from the field at Tay Ninh the 116th was placed in a direct support role of the 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div at Cu Chi. The 25th Div was new in country and was on its first combat mission. It was deployed north and northwest of Cu Chi to begin a sweep and clear operation north and northwest. The objective of the 1st Bde was to move north and join up with elements of the 2nd Bde which the 116th had airlifted into an area 30 miles north of Cu Chi on the morning of 16 May. The 116th provide support as well as educating the 25th Div as to the proper use of air assets. The 1st Bde was supported until the release of the 116th on 25 May. On 8 June the 116th provided 10 UH-1D's and 1 light fire team in support of Operation Jersey which was being conducted by the 25th ARVN Div. The Hornets moved 220 troops in 3 lifts from the PZ (XT 413242) to a landing zone (XT 298290). The objective was to search and clear the village adjacent to the LZ of 60 suspected Viet Cong. Lt Gary Harrell and CWO Joe Stroud were flying a gunship in support of the ground troops after the insertion when it came under enemy fire. The aircraft was hit several times causing unusual and vibrations and Lt. Harrell decided to make a precautionary landing. CWO Stroud was wounded in the leg but after a quick inspection, Lt. Harrell determined the aircraft safe for a one time flight. He took off and dropped CWO Stroud off at the hospital before he returned safely to Phu Loi.

On 11 July the 116th was tasked with supporting the 1st and 2nd Bns, 27th Bde, 25th Inf Div. On this day they would supply 10 UH-1D's, a Command and Control (C&C) aircraft, 2 light fire teams and a maintenance recovery helicopter. Twenty sorties were required to lift 140 troops from Cu Chi to 5 separate LZ's around the Bao Trai Woods (XT 4711). Following the initial assaults two separate Eagle Flights were formed and executed. The quick reaction time of the 116th resulted in many Viet Cong captured and killed in the area.

On the 12th of July the 116th found itself again supporting the 1st and 2nd Bns. Two companies of ground soldiers were lifted into 7 different LZ's around Bao Cahn Na (XT 5601) in 30 sorties. The moves were conducted in order to free the grip of the Viet Cong in the area and release two villages from their grasp. 175 local villagers were subsequently moved to "new life" hamlets where they would be under the protection of friendly forces. Aircraft of the armed helicopter platoon on visual reconnaissance located several Viet Cong supply caches which were seized by friendly forces moved into the area by an Eagle Flight. During this action several Viet Cong were taken prisoner.

On 19 July the Hornets were involved in an emergency extraction of troops of the 2nd Bn, 27th Bde, 25th Inf in the vicinity of XT 5102. Elements of the Battalion had walked into a heavily fortified Viet Cong area and were taken under fire. The quick reaction of the 116th allowed the troops to withdraw to a reasonably safe area where they could be extracted by the slicks. With heavy suppressive fire laid down by the Stingers, the troops were pulled out of the area. After the flight had lifted off and was departing the PZ a crewman aboard one of the helicopters spotted 4 GIs who had been inadvertently left in the PZ. One of the slicks immediately diverted and came back in to the PZ to successfully complete the extraction.

August found the 116th working in the Tay Ninh area with the 5th Special Forces (SF). On 4 August the company provided the SF with 11 UH-1D's and a light fire team so operations could be conducted in the area. Two major combat assaults followed by extractions took place as well as significant operations by the gun platoon. LTC Joseph Striker, Commanding Officer of the 11th CAB was flying with the Stingers and was credited with six confirmed kills - water buffalo. An important food source for the Viet Cong, the water buffalo were taken under fire and many were destroyed.

On 16 August the 116th was working with the 1st Bn, 27th Inf, 25th Inf Div in the Cu Chi area. 713 sorties were flown transporting over 900 troops and large amounts of supplies. The landing zones (in the area of XT 540220) were covered by heavy enemy fire. Considerable small arms and automatic weapons fire was received during the operations. The Hornets were fortunate in that only two aircraft crew personnel were hit that day, one of whom was Captain Peter Smith, the flight leader.

On 1 September the 116th was in direct support of the 2nd Bn, 27th Inf, 25th Inf Div. Two companies of infantry were airlifted into six landing zones surrounding the village of Hau Hoa (XT 577039). During the operation and before the extraction began the troops had captured 22 confirmed Viet Cong, killed 9 and captured 29 suspected VC. In their sweep, the ground troops captured numerous small arms, ammunition, supplies and other VC items. Throughout the day sniper fire was encountered.

On 12 September the Stingers completed a three day operation in support of the SF units at Tay Ninh. CWO Paul Sadowski was fire team leader for the operation which was credited in killing numerous Viet Cong, destroying bunkers, buildings, and several sampans.

At the end of the month the 116th began an ever increasing support role. On the 28th they were flying in support of the 4th Bn, 9th Inf on operation Lani Kai. On the final extraction from an LZ (XS 685825) intense automatic weapons fire was encountered. Two UH-1D's were hit but continued to fly. One gun ship was hit in the vicinity of the transmission, severing the transmission oil line. The aircraft commander, WO Michael Kitchura, landed in a hostile but uninhabited area. A security force was immediately inserted into the area and placed around the aircraft. The 116th maintenance aircraft was notified and within minutes was in the LZ. Captain Lawrence Dewey, the service platoon commander, made the determination that he could effect repairs on the aircraft and fly it to a secure area. Once he had the proper part Captain Dewey repaired the aircraft and returned it to Phu Loi, the entire time from the hit until the aircraft was safely out of the area was less than 90 minutes.

On 4 October the 116th, reinforced by the 162nd Avn Co supported the 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div in conducting combat assaults around the Ben Luc area. 19 UH-1D's and 2 light fire teams were committed to the mission. Lifts were made from Cu Chi and Ben Luc into LZ's in the vicinity of XS 6767 and XT 6768. A total of 356 troops and 14 tons of supplies were moved during the operation. On approach to the LZ's both units came under intense small arms and automatic weapons fire from all sides of the areas. In the vicinity of XS 6768 the 116th had 3 UH-1D's and 1 UH-1B's hit by ground fire with all ships incurring multiple hits - one of the slicks had to land. Quickly recovering from the surprise attack and reacting rapidly, fire was effectively returned by the UH-1D door gunners and from the fire team escort. With a vengeance, the gunners pursued the Viet Cong accounting for 15 confirmed kills, 10 assisted kills (ground troops together with aerial gunfire), and at least 5 wounded Viet Cong.

On 22 October the 116th was employed in support of the 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. Combat assaults were conducted from a PZ in the vicinity of XT 728147 to several LZ's (XT 752205, XT 746201, XT 746201). 13 UH-1D's and 2 UH-1B's were committed to the operation. During the first lift of an extraction of the 4th Bn, 23rd Inf, from an LZ in the vicinity of XT 752205 at approximately 1615 hours, intense small arms and 60 mm mortar fire was encountered in the PZ. One UH-1D was hit by enemy fire and heavily damaged in the PZ. Upon lifting from the LZ another slick was forced to

land in the south of the PZ because of a severed transmission oil line due to enemy fire. The aircraft was landed in a secure area of the PZ, the oil line repaired and the aircraft flown out. Medical evacuation of the wounded in the PZ were flown out by aircraft of the 116th. The damaged aircraft in the PZ was recovered utilizing the 56th Transportation CO and a recovery ship from the 178th Combat Support Helicopter Company. Extensive helicopter gun team, artillery and tactical air support was placed in the area to support the defensive ground element of approximately 60 U.S. troops. Another extraction of the ground element was initiated at approximately 1815 hours. Nine UH-1D's from the 116th two light fire teams and a smoke dispensing aircraft were committed to the mission. All ground elements were loaded aboard the aircraft for extraction and proceeded to lift off. One aircraft was shot down during take off and was forced to land approximately 200 yards southwest of the PZ. Two more aircraft were shot down as they attempted to land near the disabled aircraft. Wounded personnel were evacuated from the area by Hornet aircraft under intense fire. At approximately 1900 hours reinforcements were lifted into the LZ at which time a UH-1D from the 118th AVN CO was shot down. Additional wounded personnel were evacuated from the PZ by 116th aircraft under intense enemy fire until darkness and poor weather curtailed operations. A total of ten UH-1D and two UH-1B helicopters received hits from enemy fire during the operation. The 116th suffered one KIA and several WIA during the day. The unit had been recommended for the Valorous Unit Award for the operation.

On 4 November the 116th was committed to the support of the 1st and the 25th Inf Divs on a tactical emergency at approximately 1600 hours. As a result of contact with an estimated Viet Cong Battalion in the vicinity of XT 4055, elements of the 196th Light Inf Bde (LIB) were reinforced by units from Cu Chi, Lai Khe and Di An during the late afternoon and well into the night. The operation included both troop and equipment lifts into Dau Tieng. Earlier in the day the 116th had 2 UH-1D's hit by small arms fire while supporting the 196th LIB. Intense small arms fire was encountered on a combat assault into an LZ in the vicinity of XT 4445. One aircraft continued to fly but the other aircraft received intense small arms fire from the vicinity of XT 4248 and sustained a hit in the engine oil line and was forced to land. After repairs it was successfully flown back to Phu Loi. Three people suffered injuries during the encounters.

This was the start of Operation Attleboro, the largest land operation of the Vietnam War to date. The 116th played a significant role throughout the operation having garnered many awards and decorations for outstanding performance.

On 9 November the Hornets completed their move from the questionable comfort of Phu Loi to the laterite pits of Cu Chi where a basic field was laid out and plans for airfield expansion threatened every decision.

On 28 November the 116th conducted operations in general support of U.S. and ARVN troops in III Corps. Ten UH-1D's and 1 light fire team were committed to the mission. There were 457 personnel and 3 tons of cargo carried during the operation. At approximately 1530 hours one UH-1B from the light fire team while enroute out of Bien Hoa on a mission crashed and burned in the vicinity of YT 070260. All 4 crew members died, including 1LT David Siverly. Enemy ground fire was received while securing the area and recovering the bodies.

On 9 December the 116th conducted operations in general support of U.S. and ARVN forces in the III Corps area. Eleven UH-1D's and one light fire team were committed and hauled 488 passengers and 6 tons of cargo during the day. At approximately 1000 hours during the extraction of a Recon Patrol from the vicinity YS 2982, intense automatic weapons fire was received and one UH-1D suffered 7 hits. Although use of the tail rotor was lost, the aircraft, flown by Lt. Edward Malinowski, proceeded to Bear Cat where it was landed suffering no further damage. Suppressant fire was put into the area and at least 2 enemy were killed. At approximately 1630 hours small arms fire was received from the vicinities YT 5284 and YT 5684 but no hits were sustained. In another action the light fire team was credited with 20 Viet Cong KIA in the area XT 4517.

Of note and credit to the unit, especially during Christmas was the exceptional kindness shown by the 116th to the children of the Bac Ha orphanage, providing many Vietnamese children with clothing, food and medical assistance.

For the year 1966 the Hornets accomplished the following: hours flown, 24695, passengers, 125312, sorties, 72601, tons of cargo hauled, 27680.

HISTORY: 1967

January saw the involvement of the 116th in Operation Cedar Falls which included a 60 ship combat assault against a Viet Cong stronghold at Bien Suc, 19 miles south of Dau Tieng in the Iron Triangle.

On 23 January the 116th dedicated their new VIP landing pad and opened it for operations. Located at the north end of the 25th MED BN pad at Cu Chi the pad was known as the "Siverly Pad", named in honor of 1st Lt David Siverly who was killed in action on 28 November 1966.

On 22 February Operation Junction City, which involved 45,000 American troops against a Viet Cong base camp northwest of Tay Ninh was supported by the 116th.

The official transfer of the 116th from the 11th CAB to the 269th CAG took place in March.

On 21 March the Hornets participated in the largest single action of the Vietnam War (to date). Their mission was to resupply much needed ammo to units of the 3rd Bde, 4th Inf Div who, almost out of ammunition were being overrun by elements of the 272nd Viet Cong Regiment. The resupply proved to be the turning point of the battle and turned near disaster into a tremendous victory for the U.S. ground forces. The actions by the 116th AHC (reinforced) resulted in countless American lives being saved and the unit was recommended for the Presidential Unit Citation.

Also in March a new style white hornet nose emblem was introduced giving the 116th a distinctive and easily recognizable logo, respected by U.S. troops and feared by the enemy as documented through numerous interrogations of Viet Cong.

HISTORY: 1968

No information currently available for this period.

HISTORY: 1969

The majority of missions in 1969 were flown in support of the 2nd and 3rd Bdes of the 25th Inf Div. Among other units supported included the 3rd Bn, 7th Inf and the 2nd Bn, 12th Inf.

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Supporting the 2nd Vietnamese Airborne Bde on 11 January resulted in allowing that ground unit to conduct several successful operations. Operations in the Tay Ninh area from 24 to 26 April resulted in the awarding of the Presidential Unit Citation to the 116th.

During a mission on 26 September the Stingers provided cover for CO A, 2nd Bn, 12th Inf and only through their quick reaction and skill did they aid in the capture of several enemy soldiers and confiscation of weapons and documents.

During 1969 the Hornets received many letters of commendation, among them letters from Stanley R. Reasor (Secretary of the Army), Generals Creighton Abrams and Ellis Williamson.

HISTORY: 1970

April saw the Cambodian invasion with major assaults in the "Parrots Beak" (south of Tay Ninh) and "Fish Hook" (north of the city) areas. The 116th was called into service for both invasions, especially operations in the "Fish Hook" region.

In July an advanced party commanded by Lt. Ron Hendricks departed for Chu Lai. The advance party consisted of 3 slicks packed with the personal belongings of the crews. A massive effort was underway at Cu Chi to ready every ship flyable for the move to Chu Lai and even the "hanger queen" of the 116th was in a more or less flyable condition. Although the 116th had stretched themselves to attain 100% in the air, the Group commander after acknowledging this situation committed the unit for full operations the very next day. Having little time to get settled into what was to pass as living quarters let alone prepare the area for any extended length of stay, the Hornets flew hard by day (and often at night) and did what they could to make their new home at Chu Lai livable. As most aviation units experienced, they were thrown into the worst area and were expected to make it livable in between flights. Of course they had no water and had to beg borrow or "borrow" what was needed to turn the abandon disaster area into a home.

Enjoying the far away area with their own beautiful "private beach", complete with off shore pipeline hookup, the 116th survived at the location. Being different and considering their former rules of engagement just fine, they soon showed the enemy in the north a new helicopter war. Previous to their arrival considerable time was spent by gunships obtaining the proper permission to engage the enemy. The Stingers felt that anyone who shot at them could not be called friendly and they were quick to engage - something the enemy never experienced up north and something they wouldn't forget! The unit was placed under operational control of the 23rd Inf Div which USARV called the Americal Division.

HISTORY: 1971

Early in 1971 the 116th became operationally attached to the Americal exclusively and it appeared at the time that the temporary move of the 116th to the control of the Americal Div would soon become permanent. They were directed by the commander of the Americal to replace their 1st Avn Bde shoulder patches with the Americal's. Having a long history of service with the 1st Avn Bde, the proposed change met with immediate discontent among members of the company. With no direct orders changing their status, the 116th remained operationally under the command of the Americal Div but still a part of the 1st Avn Bde. The unit commander, Major Henry Hagwood (Hornet 6) was loudly applauded for his action in preventing the unwanted change of shoulder patches. Perhaps a minor incident but one of great significance to the moral of the 116th.

One day in mid March when the flights had returned from a normal day of combat missions, they were directed by Hornet operations to hot refuel, return to their revetments and standby at flight idle. One crewman from each aircraft was directed to go to the company area where he would gather shaving gear and essential items for the rest of the crew. As the crewmen returned, the Hornets were dispatched in small groups to head north. Their destination: Quang Tri, where they would participate in Operation Lam Son 719, the incursion into Laos. The 116th went there first only for a few days for the initial mass insertions. They returned to Chu Lai to conduct normal operations but repeated the move north six weeks later to take part in the mass extractions. During the week of extractions a considerable amount of grease and oil were used to lubricate the skids and cross tubes of the slicks. The grease was a necessity to prevent unwanted hitch hikers during extractions. The ARVN troops in their panic to leave the combat area would attempt to climb aboard any aircraft and the only sure way to prevent them from holding onto the skids during takeoff (and thereby overloading the aircraft) was to grease any area where they attempted to grab.

In July the 116th began flying missions further north than they had ever ventured as US Army troops took over the Marine Corps area of operations. It was not uncommon at this time for Hornet aircraft to be refueling during the day at Da Nang while flying in support of Army troops who had occupied former Marine Corps fire support bases.

In August everything began to slow down for Americans as the Vietnamese began to take control of the war. US aviation units began to make massive cut backs on personnel, the Warrant officer aviators being the first to go. Units seemed to overnight go to half strength in available aviators, and the units were able to barely put together enough pilots to accomplish standard missions. The Hornets were hurt in this massive loss of aviators but they were able to pick up enough pilots from other units as they disbanded. The infusion of aviators into various units made them operational and although this influx did cause some confusion, the Hornets were able to quickly mold incoming aviators to conform to the style of Hornet flying until they soon became as one.

In October the US Army transferred Chu Lai to the VNAF and the 116th moved north to the vacated Marine Corps Airfield at Marble Mountain, Da Nang. At this time the 116th went back under the control of the 212th CAB. In late October the northern part of South Vietnam was hit by a severe typhoon. The storm did considerable damage to the coastal region around Da Nang and the sand blast wind conditions of 95 knots damaged many aircraft and grounded the entire helicopter fleet in that area. All aircraft had to be inspected for serviceability of airfoils and all engine inlets and exhausts were inspected. After two days most helicopters were cleared to again fly.

In October the 116th moved back to Cu Chi, this time to spend only two months before the unit colors were folded and the unit stood down on 26 December 1971.

116th AVIATION COMPANY - ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY
20 OCTOBER 1965 - 26 DECEMBER 1971
PILOT ROSTER

The following roster was built by Bill Greenhalgh from multiple sources and attempts to list every pilot that ever served with the 116th or with one of its detachments. Anyone desiring to update this roster should contact Bill directly or via VHPA Headquarters. The column labeled CALLSIGN uses the following abbreviations: B for BEEKEEPER, H for HORNET, S for STINGER, W for WASP, and Y for YELLOW JACKET

NAME	RANK	DATES	CALLSIGN	COMMENTS
Achelpohl, Albert E.	WO	1/70 12/70	S3	VHPA Member
Addy, Burford W. Jr	MAJ	67		From 188th
Adkinson, Michael H.	CPT	12/67 1/69	S96	VHPA Member
Ainslie, Robert E.	MAJ	66	392nd TC DET	
Akridge, Jimmie H.	CPT	8/67 8/68	H3	
Albert, Michael F.	WO	?/67 7/67	H18	
Algren, Ronald L.	WO	7/67	W	
Allen, Richard C.	1LT	67		KIA 11/18/67
Allen, William H.	WO	66		
Alvarez, Albert L.	WO	2/67		
Anderson, James L.	CW2	69		
Anderson, Robert D.	CPT	66		
Andrews, Donald G.	MAJ	7/67 12/67	H5	
Ankrom, Joseph B. Jr		7/67		
Asbell, Robert J.	WO	66 1/67		
Atchinson, Robert R.	WO	11/66		
Baker, James	CW2			
Baker, Marvin H.	WO	9/66 6/67	H22	From 162th, VHPA Member
Baker, Raymond E.	CWO	2 66		
Ballinger, Phillip		4/68 4/69	H19	
Barlow, Ross O.	WO	7/67		KIA 6/20/68
Baron, Charles L.	MAJ			
Bauer, Warren H.	WO	7/67		
Baur, James N.	CW2	69		
Bell, William D.	CW2	1/66 1/67		VHPA Member
Berry, Carl S.	WO	66		
Berry, Kenneth S.	1LT			
Berry, Michael D.		71		VHPA Member
Billman, Ervin L.	MAJ	66 1/67		
Blackshear, Bryan M.	MAJ			
Blair, Lance L.	CW2	69		
Bolhouse, Dean F.	WO	69		
Booth, Benny L.	MAJ	65 66		VHPA Member
Borasch, Edward J.	WO	66		
Boren, James R.	WO			
Borst, Leo		11/67 11/77	H10	
Bournes, William V.	MAJ			
Breed, Rolla M.	CPT	6/66 6/67	H25	
Briganti, Francis L.	2LT	1/67 12/67	H12 & H3A	
Brown, Alvin T.	WO	66 67		VHPA Member
Brown, Robert L.	MAJ	9/69 9/70	S81	
Brown, Stanley A.	1LT	69		
Bryan, Clyde M.	MAJ	66		VHPA Member
Bryant, Emmett Lee	CPT	5/69 4/70	S96, H3 & H5	
Buksar, Paul J.	CW2	69		
Bullard, Herman L.	WO	1/67		
Bunting, Willis R.	CPT	8/66 2/67	H2	
Burris, Donald D. Jr	WO	2/68		
Burroughs, Craig R.	WO	66		
Bush	WO			

NAME	RANK	DATES	CALLSIGN	COMMENTS
Cameron, Craig S.	WO	66 1/67		To 17 CAG, VHPA Member
Canfield, William J.	1LT	66		
Cannon, Frank R. Jr.	WO	66		
Carsten, Warren C.	WO	66		
Cary, Richard B.	CPT	66		
Castle, Larry F.	WO	66		KIA 11/28/66
Chapman, Donald	WO	5/70 12/71	S88	VHPA Member
Chapman, Jimmy R.	CPT	9/66 10/66		To 120 AHC
Charbenneau, Maurice E.	CPT	66		
Chasin, Stephen C.	WO			KIA 5/14/70
Cheney, Michael L.	WO	67		
Clark, Peter F.	CPT	66		
Clarke, Marshall E.	WO	12/66 12/67		
Clarke, W.T.	CPT	67		From 187 AHC
Clements, Kenneth F.(G.)	CW2	68 69		VHPA Member
Cockett, Irwin K.				
Coggeshall, Anthony M.	1LT			
Collet, William P. Jr.	WO			
Confer, William G.	CPT	8/68 7/69	W13 & W16	VHPA Potential Member
Cool, Donald J.		6/67 68		VHPA Member
Cox, Charles E.CPT				
Craft, Alfred B.	CW2	66		
Crisp, Jimmie P.	1LT	69		
Croucher, William R.	WO	1/66		
Cummings, Willie E.		9/66 1/67	H26	
Cunningham, James W.	CPT	1/69 7/69		
Danielson, Charles F. Jr.	WO	69		
Davant, John H.		70		VHPA Member
Davis, Charles F.	WO	66		VHPA Member
Davis, William R.	WO	66		KIA 10/22/66
Day, Peter	1LT	67		
Dewey, Lawrence R. Jr.	CPT	1/67		
Dopson, Richard A.	WO	66 7/67		To 17 CAG
Downs, Joseph N.	CPT	69		
Druyor, Frank	CPT	65 66	H3	
Duffy			S84	
Duke, Edward W.	WO	9/66 12/66	Y27	VHPA Member
Dunleavy, Robert P.	LT			
Duvall, Joseph E.	CW2	10/68 10/69	H31	VHPA Member
Dyson, Carroll G.	2LT	8/66 8/67	S98	VHPA Member
East, Virgil R.	WO			
Edelman, Richard		9/70 9/71	H17 & H26	
Eldridge, Kenneth E.	CPT	69		
Elton, Buck		2/68 9/68	S94	VHPA Member
Erickson, Lyle W.	CPT			
Everhart, Herbert	MAJ	70 10/70	H6	
Everly, David	1LT			KIA 11/28/66
Ficklin, Marvin D.	MAJ	7/65 8/65	H3A	
Field, John C.	WO			
Finch, Gerald F.	WO	1/67		
Fiske, Jay R.		70		VHPA Member
Fitzgerald, Gordon R.	WO	12/66		
Foley, Patrick J.	CW2			
Fowler, Billy J.	WO			
Fowler, John V.		68		VHPA Member
Franklin, Bobby G.	MAJ	3/67 9/67	H5	

NAME	RANK	DATES	CALLSIGN	COMMENTS
Franklin, Charles D.	MAJ	7/67 1/68	H6	
Frazier, Robert D.	1LT	10/66 10/67	H23 & H35	VHPA Member
Freeman, Bobby H.	CPT	10/66		
Freeman, Jim		4/70 4/71	H25	
Garrison, William H.	CW2	66		
George,	CPT	71		
Gibbs, William J.	WO	66		
Girando, Robert A.	CPT	1/67		
Giraude, Robert	CPT	66 6/67	H3A	
Gorenemann, Donald D.	LT	10/66	S95	
Grammer, Norman A.	CW2	66		
Gray, Richard L.	2LT	6/66 6/67	H27 & Y27	
Green, Robin		70-71		VHPA Potential Member
Griffen, Jerry L.		3/70 3/71	Y12	
Grubb, Thomas A		69		VHPA Member
Haeley (sic), Al	WO			
Hagwood, Henry Jr.	MAJ	10/70 6/71	H6	
Hale, Howard		7/69 7/70	H1 & H27	
Hallada, Dennis		68 69		VHPA Member
Harding, Gerald W.	WO	1/67		
Harrell, Gary W.	2LT	66		
Harrington, John H.	WO	1/67	W38	VHPA Member
Harris, Richard	MAJ	9/67 9/68	S91	
Harrison, Edward E.		10/68 5/70	W3	VHPA Member
Haxton, Owen V.	MAJ	66		
Heilman, William R.	WO	66		
Heintz, Dennis N.	CW2	69		
Helbig, Loven E.	WO	66		
Helm, James	WO	9/66 9/67	H4	
Hendrix, Ron	LT	70 71	S96	
Henkley,	MAJ	67		From 187 AHC
Henry, Terrance M.	CPT	4/67	S96	From 187 AHC
Hensley, Wes		71		
Herpst, Glenn W.	CW2	69		VHPA Member
Hesse, William S.	CW2	69		
Hildreth, James A.	CW2	69		
Hill, Joe W.	WO			
Hoefner, James R.	MAJ	1/67		
Hoeltzel, Norman R.	MAJ	66	H16 & H31	
Holman, Richard	WO	69		
Hominick, Robert C.	CW2	10/68 10/69	Y11	VHPA Member
Horner, Thomas E.	CW2	69		
Hughes, Edmund	MAJ	7/70 7/71	H24	VHPA Member
Hull, Peter G.		7/67 7/68		VHPA Member
Humes, Richard A.	MAJ	7/65 3/66	H6	VHPA Member
Humphrey, Allan E.		1/67 3/68	S84	VHPA Member
Huntington, James R.	WO	2/67	S	
Hurd, Oakland L.	WO	66 7/67		
Hutson, Anthony V.	WO	66	S	
Hyers, James E.	CPT	7/66 6/67	H3	VHPA Member
Ike, Larry M.	CPT	69		
Isbell, James W.	CW2	68 69		VHPA Potential Member
Jackson, Beau		70 71		VHPA Member
Jackson, James T.	WO			
Jacobs, James M.	WO	66		

NAME	RANK	DATES	CALLSIGN	COMMENTS
James, Richard A.	WO			
James, Richard L. Jr.	WO	2/67		
Jantz, Robert W.	WO	69		
Jefferson, Richard W.		69 70		VHPA Member
Jenkins, Paul R.	WO	2/67		VHPA Member
Jimenez, Michael	CW2	66		
Johns, Gerald P.	CW2	1/67		
Johnson, James C.	MAJ	1/67		
Johnson, James H.	MAJ	10/66 12/66		
Jones, Alvin T.	MAJ	6/69 12/69	H6	
Jones, Henry T.	CPT	69 70		VHPA Member
Jung, Alan			H11	
Kearns, James T.	CPT	66		
Keefer, John L. (J)	CPT	2/67	H16, H31 & B	
Kehoe, William J.	CPT	1/67		
Kellogg, Kenneth	MAJ	9/65 9/66		
Kendall, Fleming M.	WO	67 68		VHPA Potential Member
Kerbl, Frank	CPT	67		From 188th
Kitchens, John H.	MAJ	69		
Kitchura, Michael	WO	66		
Kuhns, Albert	WO			VHPA Member
Kunde, Gerald R.	MAJ	12/69 70	H6	
Landstrom, Robert		3/68 3/69	H3A & H2	VHPA Member
Lane, Ronald K.		68		VHPA Member
Larish, Paul G.	CPT			
Lee, David J.	WO	66 67		VHPA Member
Lopez, Tony		5/69 11/70	H43	
Lucky	WO			
Lykes, John G.	WO	3/67		
Lyon, Richard P.	WO			
Macey, Daniel L.	CPT			
Madden, Michael J.	CW2	7/65 7/66	S80	VHPA Member
Madrah, Kenneth H.	CPT	69		
Magdon, Dennis S.	WO	1/67 68		VHPA Member
Mahaffy, Donald E.	1LT	69		
Malanowski, Edward J.	1LT	66 3/67		
Mangram, Abb W.	CPT			
Manke, Frederick P.	WO	7/67		
Marden, Richard H.	MAJ	7/65 9/67	S96	
Markley	MAJ	67		From 188th
Marsh, Carl G.	CPT	7/65	S84	
Martin, Geary D.	MAJ	3/68 1/69	H6	
Marvin, Charles T.	1LT	67		VHPA Life Member
McAdams, David A.	WO	67 68		VHPA Member
McBride, Richard J.	WO	66		
McCollough, James		7/68 10/68	S82	VHPA Member
McCoy, Harvey C.	MAJ	66		
McCoy, Tim M.	WO			
McDaniel, James I.		71		VHPA Member
McGrady, John J. (W)	WO	11/66 3/67		
McHenry, John	CW2			
McKnight, Jack	MAJ	4/67 4/68	Smokey	
McQueen, John P.	WO	66		
Merryman, James	MAJ			
Messmer, Max E.	WO	65 12/66		VHPA Member
Mew, James F.	MAJ	9/66 1/67	S96	

NAME	RANK	DATES	CALLSIGN	COMMENTS
Mikulan, Michael		69		VHPA Member
Miller, Charles	WO	66		
Miller, Joseph		12/68 11/69	H4	
Miller, Michael J.	2LT			
Miller, Ronnie M.	CPT	1/67		
Miskimon, Robert S.	WO	12/66 12/67	Y42	VHPA Member
Moore, Roger D.	1LT	69		KIA 5/25/68
Muench, Stephen R.	1LT	10/66		
Mulligan, Terry	CPT	11/70 11/71	H3, S95 & S96	VHPA Member
Myers, Henry J. III	WO	7/67 10/67	W	
Nadrah, Kenneth		2/68 1/69	H3, H16 & H13	
Nancarrow, David		67 68	S96 & H3	
Nye, Gary S.	CPT	66		
O'Conner, Michael P.	CW2	12/68 1/70	S91	
O'Donnell, James	LT			
Olander, Perry		4/69 3/70	B6	VHPA Member
Overholt, Lance E.	CW2	69		
Owen, Dean W.	CPT	66		
Padgett, Walter	LT	6/69 6/70	S91	VHPA Potential Member
Parker, John S.	CPT	69		
Parker, Walter E.	MAJ	1/66 9/66		
Patterson, James H.	MAJ	8/66 1/67	H6	
Peddicord, Steve L.	WO			
Pegues, Michael P.	CPT	5/69 5/70	Y	
Pelsmaeker, George		70 71		VHPA Member
Pepe, John A.		10/70 11/71	H25	
Perry, Stanley J.		10/65 11/66	H21	
Pettegrew, Gerald W.	WO			
Piper, Kenneth R.	WO	1/67		
Pitts, Phillip				
Plunkett, William D.	CW2	69		
Poggemeyer, James	LT	67		From 188th
Polak, Peter P.	WO	69		KIA 2/21/69
Pool, Thomas C.	2LT	12/66 67		VHPA Member
Posey, Robert L.		71		VHPA Member
Price, Richard A.	WO	1/67		
Puhaula, Ed	CPT	71		
Purser, Thomas E. Jr.	WO	8/65 8/66	H34	
Pyne, Jim E.		67-68		VHPA Member
Rahm, John A.	CW2	69		
Randle, Kevin		68 69	H33	
Rapier, Joseph H.	CPT	69		
Rathke, Kenneth		69 70	W	
Ray, Grant L.	WO	66		
Reaser, Glenn R.	MAJ	1/67 5/67	H5	VHPA Member
Reeves, Paul A.		70 71		VHPA Member
Retta, Larry			S96	VHPA Member
Reuser, Donald F.	WO	8/67 8/68	S97	VHPA Member
Ronan, Patrick J.		69 70		VHPA Member
Rooker, Lester W.	CPT	7/69 11/69		
Rose, Harry Q.	CPT	69		
Rudy, Jim				
Rutledge, Leonard C.	LT	69 70		VHPA Member
Saathoff, Donald I.	CPT	66		
Sadowski, Paul	CWO	65 66	S92	

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NAME	RANK	DATES	CALLSIGN	COMMENTS
Salger, Glenn A.		70		VHPA Member
Salisbury, Gary	1LT	9/66 9/67	H5A	VHPA Member
Schneider, Wyatt L.	MAJ	66		
Schonert, Al	WO	69 70	S92	VHPA Member
Schroll, Robert L.	MAJ	5/68		
Scilman,	WO	67		
Scott, Arthur M. Jr.	CPT	66		
Sears, William	WO	67		From 9th DIV
Sellner, Charles E.	WO	69		
Shive, Kerry B.	CPT			
Shobel, William		6/70 6/71	H38	
Shull, ARthur A.	CW2	69		
Silverly, David L.	1LT	66		KIA 11/22/66
Simpers, John	WO	67		From 9th DIV
Skala, David D.	CW2	69		
Skarda, Jan	LT	69 70		VHPA Member
Small, Harold I.	MAJ	1/67 8/67	H6	
Smith, Charles L.	CWO	66		
Smith, Floyd D.	MAJ	71	H6	
Smith, Gerad J.	CPT	3/67 3/68	S95	VHPA Member
Smith, Peter M.	CPT	66		
Snell, Dale E.	MAJ	2/67	H16	
Snodgrass, Stan			S89	VHPA Member
Spencer, David O.	CPT	12/66	S96	
Spurgeon	WO			
Stacy, Joseph W.	CPT	66		
Staggs, Michael	2LT	66		
Staich, Joseph O.	WO			
Stapleton, John P.	MAJ			
Steel	CPT			
Sterrett, John D. III	CPT	66		
Stitt, Richard L.	WO			
Stocher,	WO			
Stoeser, James T.	CW2	4/67 2/68	S92	
Stoffel, Ernest L. Jr.	CPT			
Stone, Ralph E.		10/65 9/68	S94	
Stroud, Joe T.	2LT	65 66		VHPA Potential Member
Sturgis, Howard O. Jr.	1LT	12/66 12/67	H31	
Summerfeldt, David G.	CPT	66		
Sumner, Stephen R.	CPT	69		
Sweeny, Thomas W.	1LT	67		
Swindle, Jimmy J.	CW2	1/67 12/67	W45 & H88	VHPA Member
Swisher,	WO	67		
Taylor, Edward B.	WO	2/68		
Taylor, Peter H.	CPT	69		
Taylor, Russell	CW2	66		
Terrell, Bruce A.	WO	66		VHPA Member
Tesmer, Thomas		69 70	H12	VHPA Member
Thomas, William F.		71		VHPA Member
Thompson, Charles	LT	11/67 11/68	S96 & H85	
Tindall, Lawrence Y.	WO			
Tinker			S86	
Tinnin, John		8/69 8/70	W32	VHPA Member
Tompkins, Grover R.	CPT	66		
Toso, Norman C.	MAJ			
Townsend, Lonnie P.	CW2		H33	
Townsley, Neil A.	WO			

NAME	RANK	DATES	CALLSIGN	COMMENTS
Tragessor, John F.	MAJ	1/69 6/69		
Traylor, Henry E.	CW2	69		
Tubbs, Thomas W.	CPT	68 69		VHPA Member
Turgeon, Alfred J.	1LT	12/66		VHPA Member
Usher, Michael K.	WO	67		
Valentine, Christopher	WO			
Valentine, Thomas	WO	5/69 70	H25	
Vandercarr, James H.	CW2	66		
Virtue, Richard P.	LT			
Voner, Daniel J.		68 69		VHPA Member
Waddell,	CPT	69		
Walker, Donald R.	WO	66		
Walker, George T.	WO			
Ward, Michael		12/68 12/69	S94	
Warner, Charles O.	WO	66		
Warns, Robert C.	WO	66		VHPA Member
Watlack, Richard G.	WO	66		
Watts, James A.	WO			
Weber, Warren J.		70		VHPA Potential Member
Weedon, Ferman R.		71		VHPA Member
Wendt, Frank L.	CW2	66		
Westfall, Robert S.	CW2	66		
White, Allen B.		70 71		VHPA Member
Whitley, Roger O.	WO	69 70		VHPA Member
Wifley, Allen		4/70 11/71	S93	
Williams, Billy G.	CPT	66		
Williams, Carlton L.		71		VHPA Member
Williams, John H.	WO			
Willis, Steve	CPT	71		
Wilton, Michael		71		VHPA Member
Wimmers, Frank		2/69 9/70	H15	
Wing, Steve A.	CW2	69		VHPA Member
Winters, Walter R.	WO	10/66 10/67	H8A & S91	
Wisdom, Jerry	MAJ	9/70 7/71	H5 & H6	
Wood, Douglas J.	CPT	10/65 10/66	H12	VHPA Member
Woodford, Randy A.	WO			
Woodruff, Albert	MAJ	1/68 7/68	H6	
Wright, Clifford D.	WO	69		
Wyatt	CPT			
Yarbrough, Houston	WO	70		VHPA Member
Yonts, Charles E.	WO	68		VHPA Member
Young, Kenneth	WO	12/68 7/70	S86	
Young, Raymond E.	WO	69		VHPA Member
Young, Virgil H.	CW2	66		
Zimmerman, Bobby D.	CW2	66		
Yuan Thu-Nuynh	LT			VNAF training
Hiep Nguyen-Kin	LT			VNAF training