

Jim Lewis ; Skip Butler ; ROBERT SANDER ; rf ;  
Gary Roush  
**Subject:** Re: Lam Son 719 units

C/3-17 Cav (from I Corps) and D/3-5 Cav (from down south) had their colors switched during Lam Son 719, possibly to avoid having three C Troop, 17th Cav units in the same A/O. D/3-5 is the unit that served during Lam Son 719, in support of Dewey Canyon II.

It was D/3-5 that lost 2 OH-58 and 1 UH-1H helicopters in the tri-border area on 24 Mar 71. The 71st was called up for an emergency insertion by Tommy Stiner, Bde Avn Officer, 1/5 Mech. We inserted troops under fire, reinforced another unit under fire, and extracted the first group with the crews from D/3-5.

As a measure of the confusion with all the "C" Troops, Tommy Stiner, in a statement recommending DFC's for the 71st crews, inadvertently referred to D/3-5 as C/2-17.

Doug

--- On Fri, 6/17/11, Michael Sloniker  
[REDACTED] wrote:

From: Michael Sloniker  
[REDACTED]  
Subject: Lam Son 719 units  
To: "Tom Marshall"  
[REDACTED], "Frank Esposito"  
Cc: "Darrell Keeth"  
[REDACTED]  
"Gary  
Rossome"  
[REDACTED], "Jim  
Fulbrook" [REDACTED], "Jim  
Lewis" [REDACTED], "Skip  
Butler" [REDACTED], "ROBERT  
SANDER"  
"rf" [REDACTED], "Gary  
Roush"  
Date: Friday, June 17, 2011, 9:49 PM

1st Cav had the following units in LS  
719

1. B 2-20 ARA attached to 4-77 ARA  
see attached picture of Blue Max on  
Dog House. Rick Freeman C/4-77  
ARA can also verify

2, D 227 AHB was sent from Phouc  
Vinh with 12 AH 1Gs

Info removed by VNCA

Where did this 1st Cav discussion come from?

In 96 I talked to the XO of B-2-20 who took the unit from Quan Loi to Evans. He was a Coast Guard Commander at the time working at the Dept of Transportation.

The losses not included in 101st AAR was that Cav Troop, C 3-17 Cav that worked for the 1st Bde 5th Mech, which has been an issue for them for about three years, despite my putting it in the history and forwarding it to Gary Roush. The 101st AAR list units that went INTO Laos, not those who kept the AO in RVN clear and Hiway 9 open.

The following is a result of research on the subject since July 1994:

**Helicopter units involved in Lam Son 719**

1st Bde (Avn Det), 5th Inf (Mech) / 4 UH-1H, 6 OH-58

1st Bde (Avn Det), 101st ABN

2d Bde (Avn Det), 101st ABN

3rd Bde (Avn Det), 101st ABN

48th Avn Co (AHC) OPCONed to 223d CAB / 23 UH-1H, 8 UH-1C / Ninh

Hoa / Dong Ha/ Da Nang

71st Avn Co (AHC) OPCONed to 14th CAB / 23 UH-1H, 8 UH-1C

116th Avn Co (AHC) served 5 - 7 and 22 - 24 Mar OPCONed to 14th CAB / 23 UH-1H, 8 UH-1C / Quang Tri. Only part of the company participated.

Assets from the 176th AHC joined with the 116th during these two "reinforcing" efforts.

132d Avn Co (ASHC) OPCONed to 159th ASHB, 101st ABN / 16 CH-47

163d Avn Co (GS) , 101st ABN / 10 UH-1H, 12 OH-6A

173d Avn Co (AHC) OPCONed to 223d CAB / 23 UH-1H, 8 UH-1C

174th Avn Co (AHC) OPCONed to 14th CAB / 23 UH-1H, 8 UH-1C

176th Avn Co (AHC) served 5 - 7 and 22 - 24 Mar OPCONed to 14th CAB / 23 UH-1H, 8 UH-1C / Quang Tri. Only part of the company participated.

Assets from the 176th AHC joined with the 116th during these two "reinforcing" efforts.

179th Avn Co (ASHC) OPCONed to 159th ASHB, 101st ABN / 16 CH-47

235th Avn Co (AWC) OPCONed to

101st AHB / 21 AH-1G, 3 UH-1H

237th Med Det/Phu Bai and Quang Tri/Khe Sanh

238th Avn Co (AWC) OPCONed to 223d CAB / 12 UH-1C, 1 UH-1H

282d Avn Co (AHC) served 5 - 7 and

22 - 24 Mar OPCONed to 223d CAB /

23 UH-1H, 8 UH-1C

326th Med Bn

478th Avn Co (HH) attached to 159th ASHB, 101st ABN / 10 CH-54A / operated out of their permanent base camp at Red Beach, Da Nang but stages two or three aircraft at Phu Bai each night. Standing commitment was 5 aircraft per day

498th Med Co (Air Ambulance) based out of An Son in II Corps maintained a two ship detachment at Khe Sanh at least during part of February and March.

571st Med Det Khe Sanh

A/101st AHB, 101st ABN / 20 UH-1H

A/158th AHB, 101st ABN / 20 UH-1H

A/159th ASHB, 101st ABN / 16 CH-47

A/2/17 Cav, 101st ABN / 8 UH-1H, 9 AH-1G, 10 OH-6A

A/4/77 ARA, 101st ABN / 12 AH-1G supported the operation only when the situation required.

B/101st AHB, 101st ABN / 20 UH-1H

B/158th AHB, 101st ABN / 20 UH-1H

B/159th ASHB, 101st ABN / 16 CH-47

B/2/17 Cav, 101st ABN / 8 UH-1H, 9 AH-1G, 10 OH-6A

B/4/77 ARA, 101st ABN / 12 AH-1G supported the operation only when the situation required.

B/7/1 Cav attached to 223d CAB, OPCONed to 2/17 Cav, 101st ABN / 8

UH-1H, 9 AH-1G, 10 OH-6A  
C/101st AHB, 101st ABN / 20 UH-1H  
C/158th AHB, 101st ABN / 20 UH-1H  
C/159th ASHB, 101st ABN / 16 CH-47  
C/2/17 Cav, 101st ABN / 8 UH-1H, 9  
AH-1G, 10 OH-6A  
C/3-17 Cav  
C/4/77 ARA, 101st ABN / 12 AH-1G  
supported the operation as its primary  
mission and was augmented by assets  
from the other ARA batteries as the  
situation required.  
C/7/17 Cav attached to 223d CAB,  
OPCONed to 2/17 Cav, 101st ABN / 8  
UH-1H, 9 AH-1G, 10 OH-6A / An  
Son / Quang Tri / An Son  
D/101st AHB, 101st ABN / 12 AH-1G  
D/158th AHB, 101st ABN / 12 AH-1G  
D/227th AHB OPCONed to 158th  
AHB / 12 AH-1G  
HHB/4/77 ARA, 101st ABN  
I have never been able to verify the  
maintenance units other than the 5th  
Trans, and am working on the unit  
designations of the maint dets at Dong  
Ha, Quang Tri, and Maint companies at  
Red Beach. They should be included  
cuz if there ain't no maint, there ain't no  
DFCs  
Mike Sloniker

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**From:** Tom Marshall  
[REDACTED]  
**To:** Frank Esposito  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Darrell Keeth  
[REDACTED] Gary Rossome  
[REDACTED]; Jim  
Fulbrook [REDACTED]; Jim  
Lewis [REDACTED];  
[REDACTED] Skip Butler  
[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, June 17, 2011 2:47:23 PM  
**Subject:** RE:

If you could handle in the beginning,  
â€œWhat was flying over Vietnam like,  
risk, threats, stress level, compared to  
over Laos?â€

Info removed by VNCA