

THE
COUGAR



YEARBOOK
JULY 1967 ~ JUNE 1968

VHPA 119

The distinctive insignia of the 214th Combat

Aviation Battalion

SYMBOLISM

The cougar, noted for ferocity and cunning and symbol of strength and mobility, stands for the 214th Aviation Battalion. It refers to the battalion's mission of tactical transport and support to a field army. In addition, the use of the cougar commemorates the battalion's first commander, Lieutenant Colonel Leslie, from the state of Montana where the cougar, also known as a mountain lion, is often encountered. The peaks formed by the zig-zag lines allude to the unit's high standards as expressed in its motto "Up Tight". The light blue color represents sky; the colors ultramarine blue and gold are for Army Aviation units.

The 214th "Up Tight" is the only army unit so authorized to use this term as its motto.

Information officer.....CW2 James R Overstreet
EditorCW2 Leroy B. Spivey
Photographer.....SP5 Douglas G. Davis
IllustratorSP4 Bill R. Rutherford



July 1968
Bearcat, RVN

To: Members of the
214th Cbt. Avn. Bn.

Although many of you have undergone hardships that you would rather not be reminded of, and may only think of how many days 'til DERO'S I venture most will look back on your tour of duty with the units of

~~the COUGAR~~ BATTALION with

the fondest of memories. It is such things that war stories are made of and you will be telling various versions of the past year's activities for years to come. Our intent in publishing the year-book is to refresh your memory, reveal some facts you may not be aware of and to provide you a memento of your service in Vietnam.

It has been my privilege to have served with you during a part of this year. To those departing - 'Good Speed'; to those carrying on - 'Good Luck' and may the Good Lord take a liking to you.

Paul F. Thederon
'Cougar 6'

IN MEMORIUM

We dedicate this volume of the COUGAR YEARBOOK to those Who gave their lives for the cause of freedom in this land so far from home.

ADDISON, Harvey C.	WO1	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
AITON, Gerald D	PVT	191st	AHC	29 Apr 68
AKERS, Dennis	SP4	191st	AHC	5 Jun 68
AMARAL, Matthew P.	SP5	240th	AHC	14 Dec 67
BALES, Sharel E	ILT	191st	AHC	29 Aug 67
BELLINGER, Ronald L.	SP4	240th	AHC	3 Jun 68
BROWN, Haron L.	ILT	240th	AHC	14 Dec 67
CATOIR, Joseph C. P. Jr.	SP5	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
CAVANAUGH, Richard F.	SP4	135th	AHC	8 Feb 68
CLAUSON, William K.	WO1	240th	AHC	14 Dec 67
COTTERELL, Jack P.	SP4	117th	AHC	25 Jan 68
CRAIG, Michael D.	SP4	240th	AHC	2 May 68
DELL, George D.	SP5	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
EISENHART, Guy Lee	WO1	240th	AHC	8 Mar 68
ELLIS, Robert W.	SP4	195th	AHC	29 Feb 68
FLEER, Robert D.	CPT	135th	AHC	8 Feb 68
FODEN, John J.	WO1	117th	AHC	25 Jan 68
FOURNIER, Nelson E.	SP4	240th	AHC	2 May 68
GREEN, Jerry L.	WO1	240th	AHC	12 Mar 68
HALL, David C.	ILT	191st	AHC	29 Aug 67
HAVNAER, Ralph M.	WO1	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
HINER, Franklin J.	CPT	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
HOFFMAN, David R.	WO1	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
HOLTON, Gary D.	SP4	240th	AHC	3 Jul 68
JILCOTT, Charles B. Jr.	CPT	240th	AHC	8 Mar 68
KING, Robert H.	ILT	117th	AHC	25 Jan 68
KINDRED, Ronnie	SP4	240th	AHC	14 Dec 67
KLANN, Martin D.	SP5	240th	AHC	10 Jan 68
LABUDA, Robert A.	PFC	135th	AHC	8 Feb 68
MARTINEZ, Peter S.	SP4	191st	AHC	29 Aug 67
MCKIBBEN, Larry S.	WO1	240th	AHC	2 May 68
MCKIERNAN, Timothy J.	WO1	117th	AHC	28 Jan 68
MOORE, Glenn D.	WO1	135th	AHC	8 Feb 68
MOUNTS, Bobbie Joe	PVT	240th	AHC	5 Jan 68
PAGE, Henry L. III	SP5	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
PATTERSON, David R.	SP4	240th	AHC	27 Mar 68
POWELL, Robert	SP4	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
ROHTVALI, Arvi	WO1	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
SALES, Charles C.	SP4	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
SANDEFUR, Tommy G.	CW2	191st	AHC	29 Aug 67
SMITH, John C. Jr.	PFC	117th	AHC	28 May 68
SMITH, Thomas J.	CW2	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
SMITH, Wayne M.	SP4	240th	AHC	25 Jun 68
SUTPHEN, Jack B.	SGT	117th	AHC	25 Jan 68
TEJANO, Ricardo R.	WO1	191st	AHC	5 Jun 68
TURONE, Norman M.	WO1	191st	AHC	5 Jun 68
VINES, Richard L.	SP5	191st	AHC	5 Jun 68
WARR, James M.	SP5	240th	AHC	8 Mar 68
WESKE, Richard A.	SP4	191st	AHC	21 May 68
WHITAKER, Joseph L. Jr.	SP4	191st	AHC	29 Aug 67
WOOD, Harold S. Jr.	SP4	191st	AHC	19 Mar 68
YARGER, Jeffre J.	WO1	191st	AHC	19 Mar 68



THE COUGARS

A SHORT HISTORY

214TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION

BEARCAT, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The 214th Combat Aviation Battalion was organized at Fort Campbell, Kentucky on 1 February 1967. At this time two officers and seven enlisted men formed the first cadre. Also during this period, a provisional battalion "The Buffalo Battalion" organized at Bearcat, Republic of Vietnam to provide staff supervision of aviation assets operating in the III Corps tactical zone.

On 24 April 1967, the small nucleus of the 214th Combat Aviation Battalion, 8 officers, 2 warrant officers and 67 enlisted men, joined with the hard core of the Buffalos' and formed what is now known as the 214th Combat Aviation Battalion - "the COUGARS".

The past year, plus, has seen many organizational changes and many accomplishments. Lets review the changes.

1 Mar 1967 - 200th ASHC assigned to the Buffalo Battalion
24 Apr 1967 - 214th CAB organized at Bearcat, RVN
21 May 1967 - 191st AHC assigned to the 214th CAB
21 May 1967 - 240th AHC assigned to the 214th CAB
30 Sep 1967 - 17th AHC assigned to the 214th CAB
9 Oct 1967 - 195th AHC assigned to the 214th CAB
9 Feb 1968 - 17th AHC reassigned to the 308th CAB
9 Feb 1968 - 195th AHC reassigned to the 308th CAB
9 Mar 1968 - 200th ASHC reassigned to the 308th CAB
9 Mar 1968 - 117th AHC assigned to the 214th CAB
9 Mar 1968 - 195th AHC reassigned to the 214th CAB

BATTALION COMMANDERS

(Buffalo)

15 Jan 1967 - 24 Apr 1967 LTC James M. Leslie

(Cougar)

24 Apr 1967 - 1 Jul 1967 LTC James M. Leslie
1 Jul 1967 - 13 Jan 1968 LTC Robert J. Standley
13 Jan 1968 - 9 May 1968 LTC Leo C. Bryan
9 May 1968 - Present LTC Paul F. Anderson



MISSION

The mission of the 214th Combat Aviation Battalion is to provide aviation support for United States and Allied Forces in South Vietnam in the III and IV Corps tactical zone.

UNITS SUPPORTED BY COUGAR BATTALION

**II FIELD FORCES
9TH INFANTRY DIVISION
ROYAL THAI ARMY
199TH LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE
18TH ARVN DIVISION
5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP
1ST ATF**

**25TH ARVN DIVISION
101ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION
1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION
79TH ENGINEER GROUP
5TH ARVN DIVISION
MOBIL STRIKE FORCE COMMAND
CAPITAL AREA COMMAND**

BATTALION STAFF



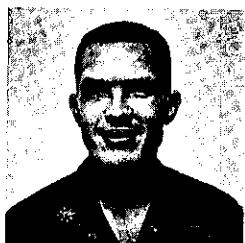
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LTC DAVID G. JAYNE



COMMANDING OFFICER
LTC PAUL F. ANDERSON



SERGEANT MAJOR
JAMES C. O'SAILE



ADJUTANT
MAJ JEWEL G. WHITE



INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
CPT JOHN E. MORTENSON



OPERATIONS OFFICER
MAJ GALE T. REEVES



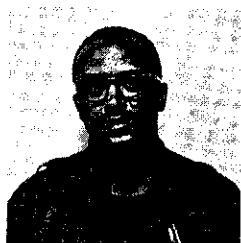
SUPPLY OFFICER
MAJ LAWRENCE E. CORSER



CHAPLAIN
CPT JASPER J. DEAN



FLIGHT SURGEON
CPT ROBERT R. APPLEWHITE



SIGNAL OFFICER
2LT WILLIAM B. BRADLEY



BATTALION MAINTENANCE OFFICER
MAJ CONRAD F. CHESSER



ASSISTANT ADJUTANT
CPT NOEL P. DOMILISE



ASSISTANT OPERATIONS OFFICER
MAJ THOMAS W. CASSADA



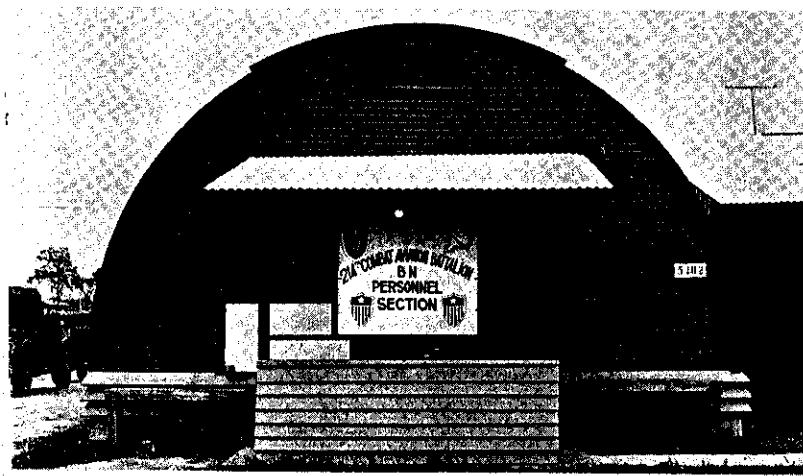
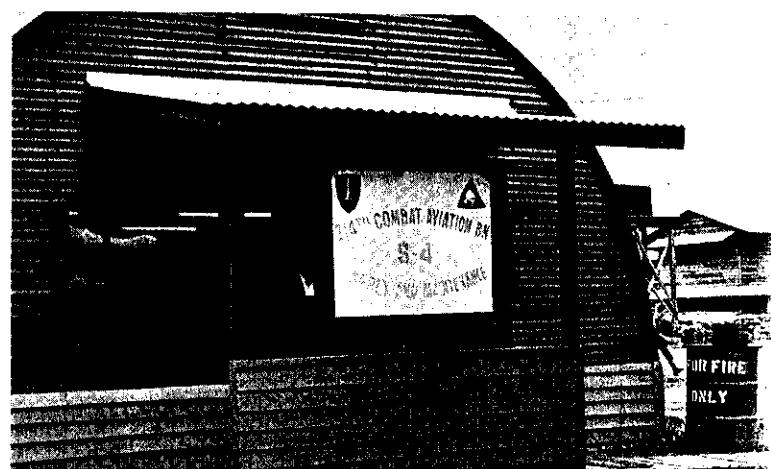
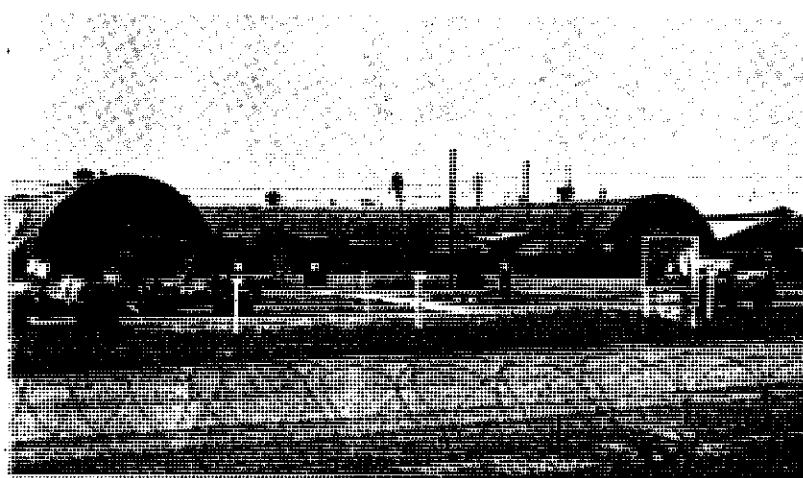
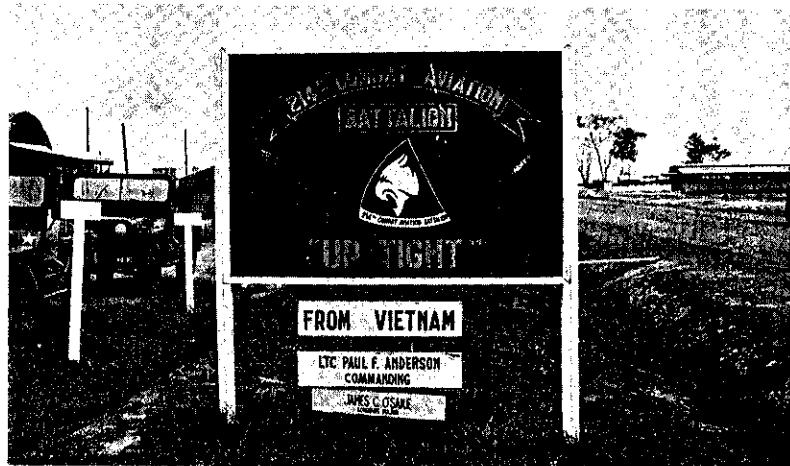
INFORMATION OFFICER
CW2 JAMES R. OVERSTREET



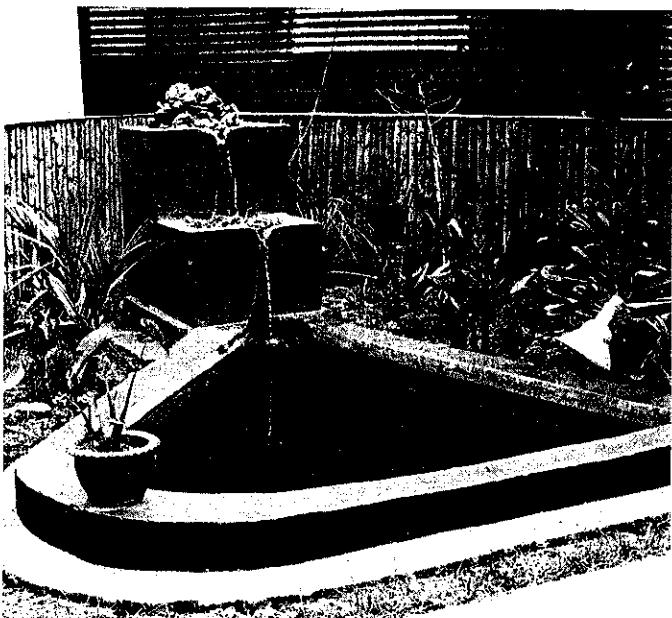
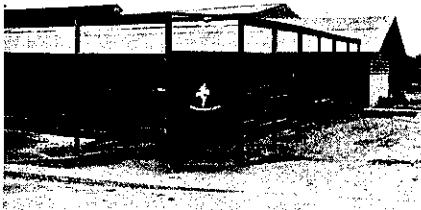
ASSISTANT SAFETY OFFICER
CW2 LEROY B. SPIVEY

MISSING FROM PHOTO: MAJ BILLY E. SPRAGUE, SAFETY OFFICER

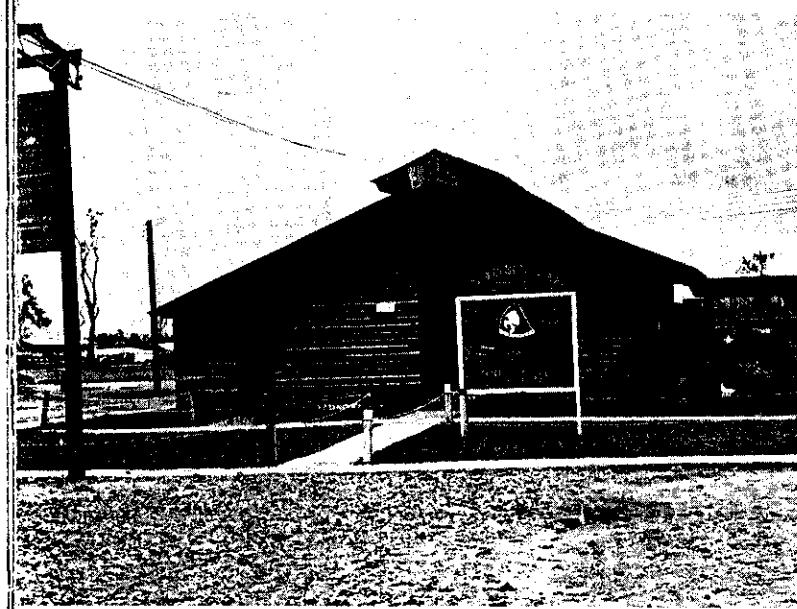
BATTALION HEADQUARTERS AT BEARCAT, RVN



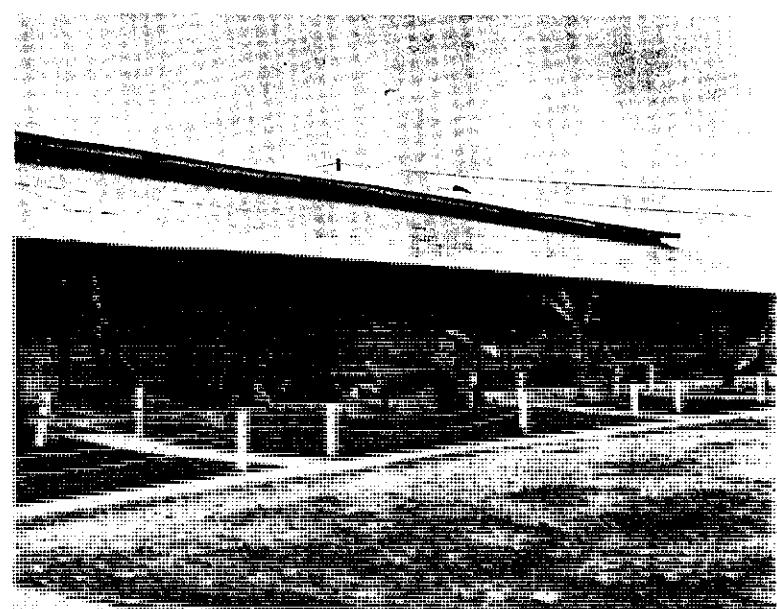
THE COUGAR'S INN



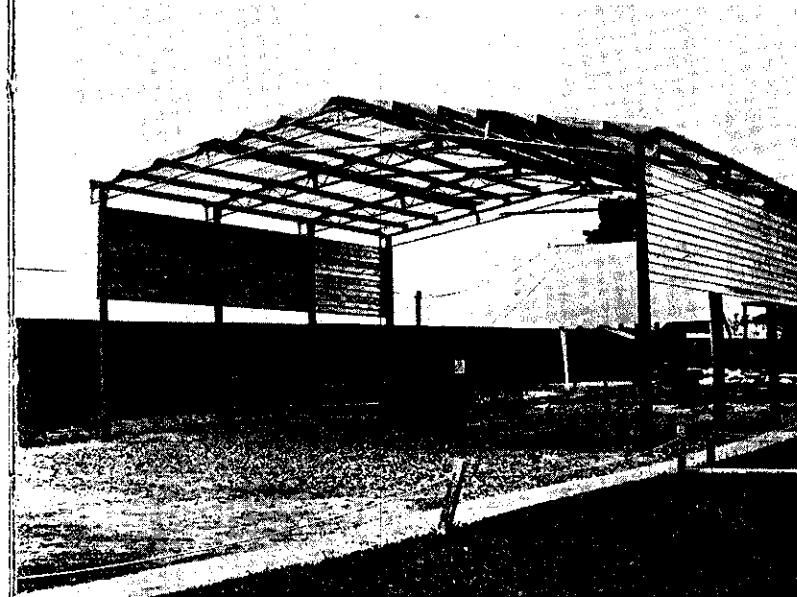
HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



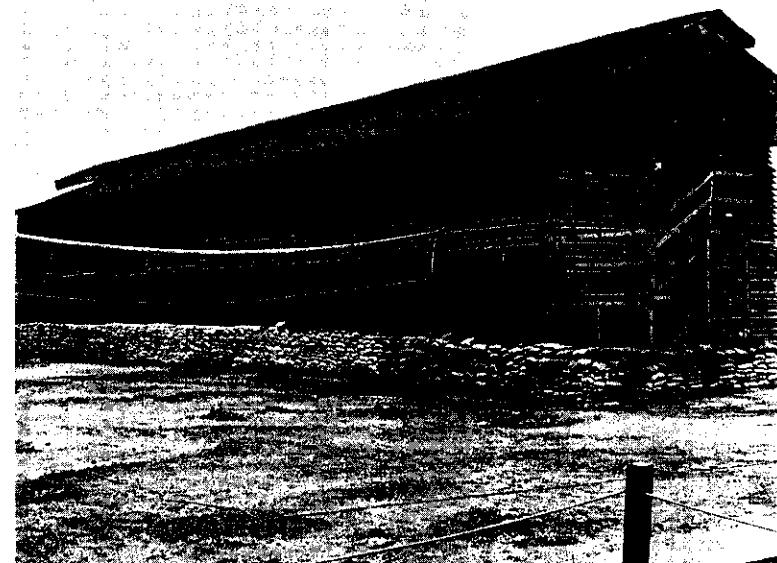
ORDERLY ROOM AND SUPPLY



MESS HALL



THEATER



ENLISTED BARRACKS

COMPANY COMMANDERS'

1 Feb 1967 CPT Donald Williamson
12 Apr 1967 CPT James Bennet
12 May 1967 CPT Douglas L. Tolin
5 Sep 1967 CPT John Hanko
19 Nov 1967 MAJ Billy E. Sprague
1 Jul 1968 CPT Charles R. Pucie Jr.

1ST SERGEANTS'

6 Apr 1967 MSG Charles Wortham
12 Jun 1967 SFC Clarence Ogletree
26 Aug 1967 1/SGT James Conley
28 Mar 1967 1/SGT Roy Belcher
19 May 1968 1/SGT Herman C. Morgan

PATHFINDERS

Organic to the 214th Combat Aviation Battalion, the airborne pathfinders have provided support for every unit in the battalion since their activation 1 Mar 1967.

Men of the pathfinder detachment, better known as the "Black Hats" have successfully performed their mission of providing navigational assistance and control of army aircraft in areas designated by the supported ground commanders.

On 14 August 1967 the men of the detachment made a night jump while supporting the 191st Assault Helicopter Company. As a result of the jump, the participating paratroopers were awarded a gold star to their jump wings.

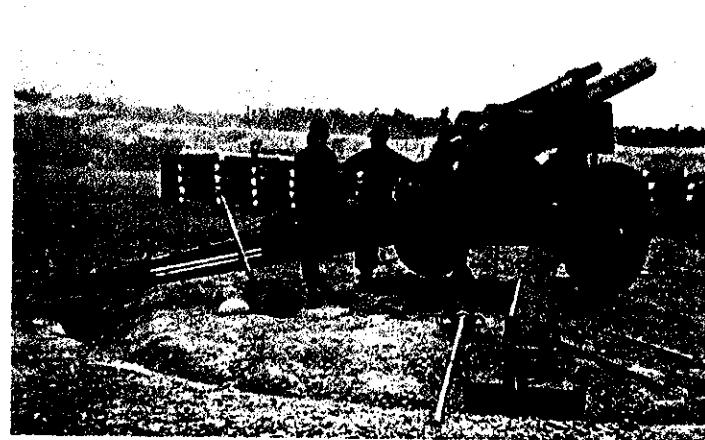
The pathfinder detachment quickly won the praises of most every unit operating in the III Corps area. Their successful accomplishments as a "can do" organization is indicative of that something extra that only a trooper can give. The men of this detachment can be proud of their heritage.

As the only personnel in the battalion on jump status, their black hats set them apart as an elite, well disciplined group, ready and able to meet any mission. They are truly the nations greatest, for they are airborne.



BACK ROW, L-R, SP4 DEERING, PFC HORNER, SP4 ROARK, PVT HARGROVE, FRONT ROW 1LT LEYSHON, SP4 LIGHT, SGT SCHATZ

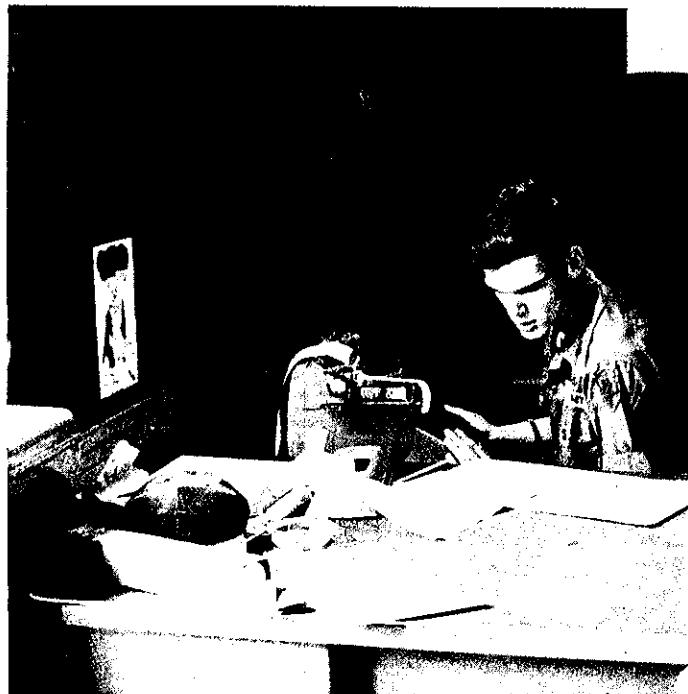
PATHFINDERS IN ACTION



772ND MEDICAL DETACHMENT



DETACHMENT COMMANDER, CHARLES P. HUNTER III





THE WARLORDS

UNIT HISTORY

The 8th Transportation Company arrived in Vietnam on 11 December 1961, became operational on 23 December 1961 and flew the first heli-borne operation of the war. On 23 June 1963, the 8th Transportation Company was inactivated and reactivated as the 117th Aviation Company by USARPAC General Order 326. The 117th Aviation Company was assigned to the 52nd Aviation Battalion with whom it won a Presidential Unit Citation and a Valorous Unit Award. On 25 September 1965, the 117th Aviation Company became a part of the 10th Aviation Battalion with whom it won its second Valorous Unit Award. The 117th was redesignated the 117th Assault Helicopter Company on 1 July 1966. The unit served with the 10th Combat Aviation Battalion until 31 December 1967 when it became part of the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion, followed by the 308th Combat Aviation Battalion and finally on 21 March 1968 became a member of the 214th Combat Aviation Battalion.

PAST UNIT COMMANDERS

2 Nov 1961- 6 Jun 1962	Major Hardesty
6 Jun 1962- 26 Jul 1962	Major Corneil
26 Jul 1962- 9 Oct 1962	Major Tedesco
9 Oct 1962- 22 Apr 1963	Major Kisling
22 Apr 1963- 14 Feb 1964	Major Alton
14 Feb 1964- 10 Oct 1964	Major McGuire
10 Oct 1964- 23 Dec 1964	Major Wyllie
23 Dec 1964- 18 Aug 1965	Major Rogers
18 Aug 1965- 8 Oct 1965	Major Stobbs
8 Oct 1965- 28 Feb 1966	Major Constance
28 Feb 1966- 26 Oct 1966	Major Zellmer
26 Oct 1966- 2 Aug 1967	Major Ketzler
2 Aug 1967- 30 Sep 1967	Major Walker
30 Sep 1967- 15 Feb 1968	Major Jayne
15 Feb 1968- 15 Mar 1968	Major Weight
15 Mar 1968- 5 Apr 1968	Major Fuchs
5 Apr 1968- Present	Major Gower

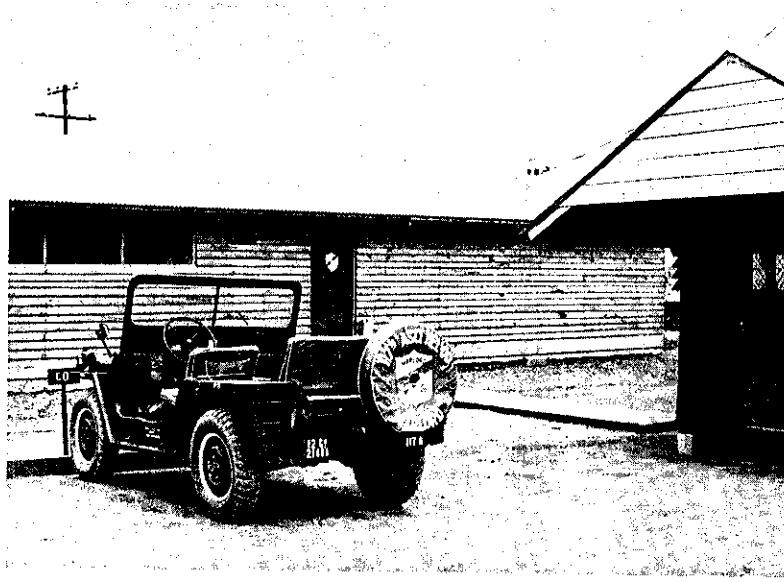
Since 15 January 1968, records indicate the following statistics through
30 June 1968:

Total Combat Support Hours Flown.	11,221
Total VC killed by actual body count.	76
Total VC killed (possible)	203
KIA due to combat	4
Non-combat fatalities	3
WIA due to combat (losses)	UNK
Non-combat losses (injuries)	UNK
WIA returned to duty	20
Courts-Martials, Summary	0
Special	2
General	0
Article 15's	32
Malaria Cases	1

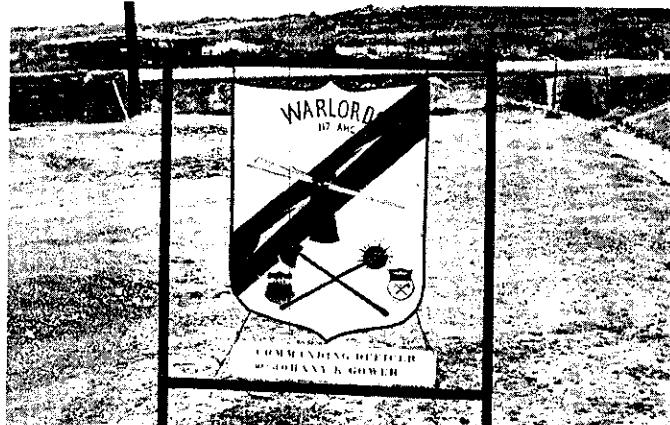
AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Soldier's Medal	8
Distinguished Flying Cross.	16
Bronze Star	8
Air Medal with "V" Device	33
Air Medal	737
Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device	2
Army Commendation Medal	62
Purple Heart	22

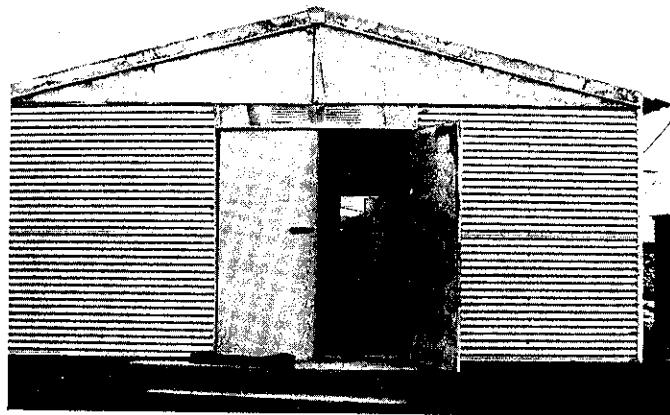
117TH ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY AREA



ORDERLY ROOM



UNIT SIGN



SUPPLY ROOM

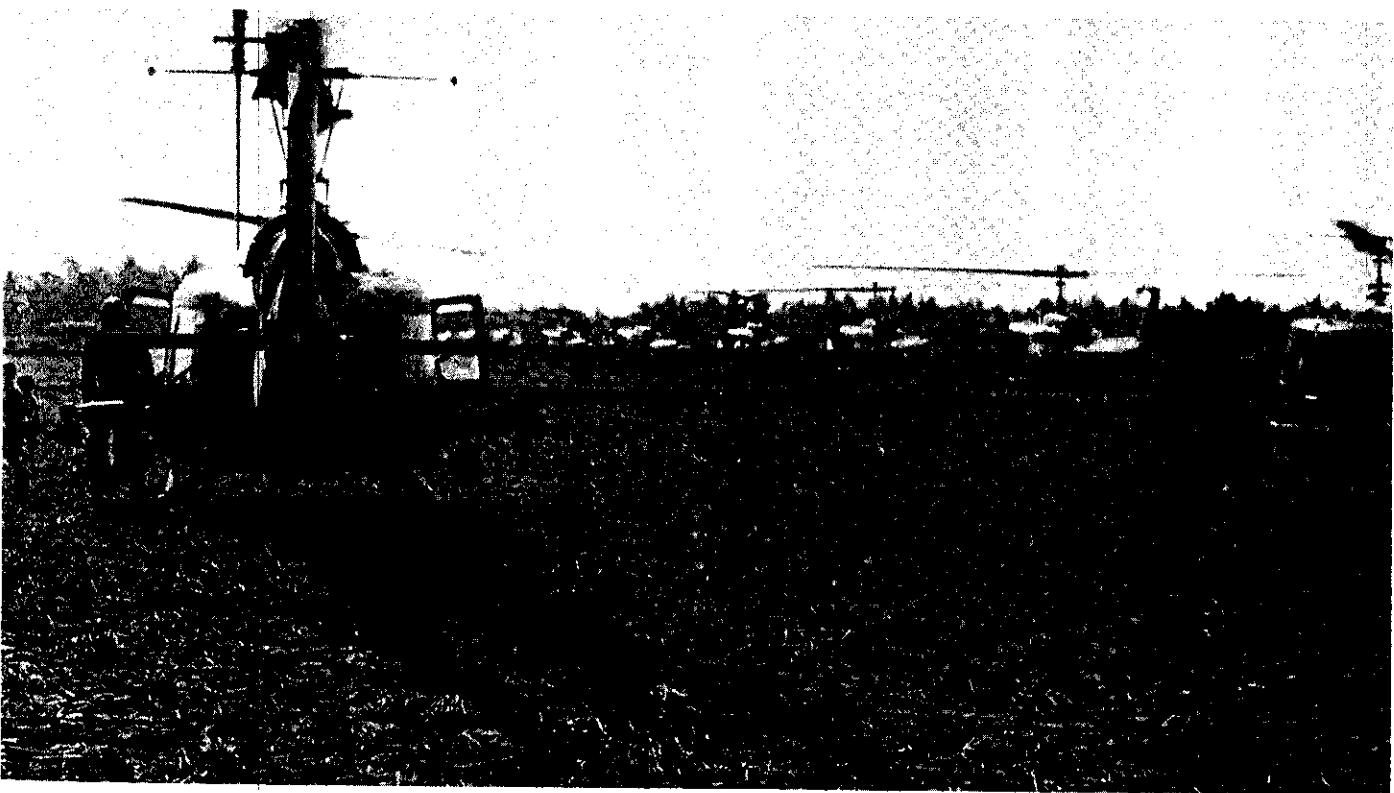


MOTOR POOL

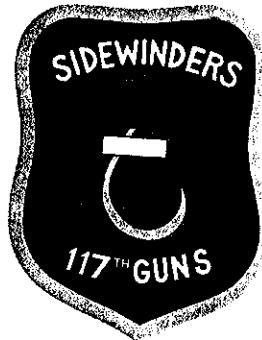


OFFICER'S CLUB AND BOQ AREA

THE WARLORDS ON THE GO



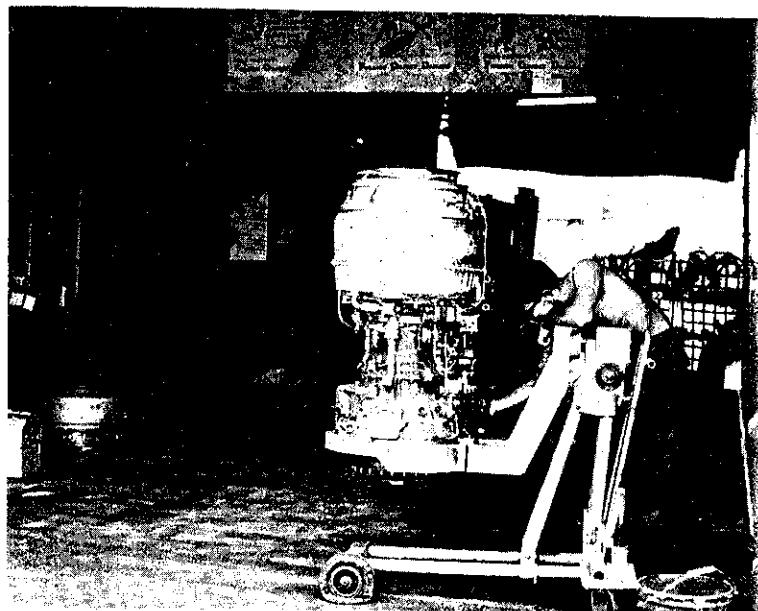
SIDEWINDERS



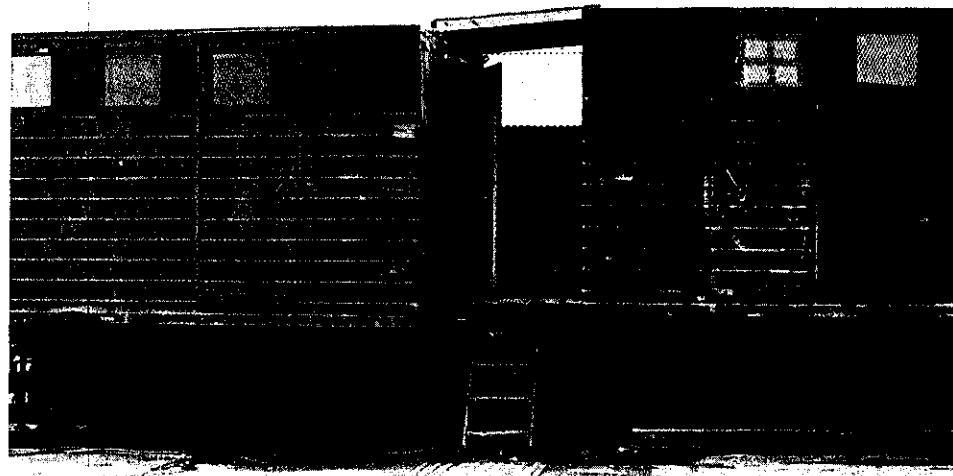
READY FOR ACTION



140TH TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT



256TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT





THE BOOMERANGS

UNIT HISTORY

The 191st Assault Helicopter Company organized 1 December 1966 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina under General Order 463. The unit remained at Fort Bragg, North Carolina until its deployment to the Republic of Vietnam 24 May 1967, where it was assigned to the 214th Combat Aviation Battalion located at Camp Martin Cox, Bearcat, RVN.

UNIT COMMANDERS

1 Dec 1966- 24 May 1967
24 May 1967- 5 Nov 1967
5 Nov 1967- 12 Feb 1968
12 Feb 1968- 20 Jun 1968
20 Jun 1968- Present

Major Richard C. Winesette
Major Clarence A. Patnode Jr
Major William W. Spurlock
Major Colbert L. Dilday
Major Calvin R. Griggs

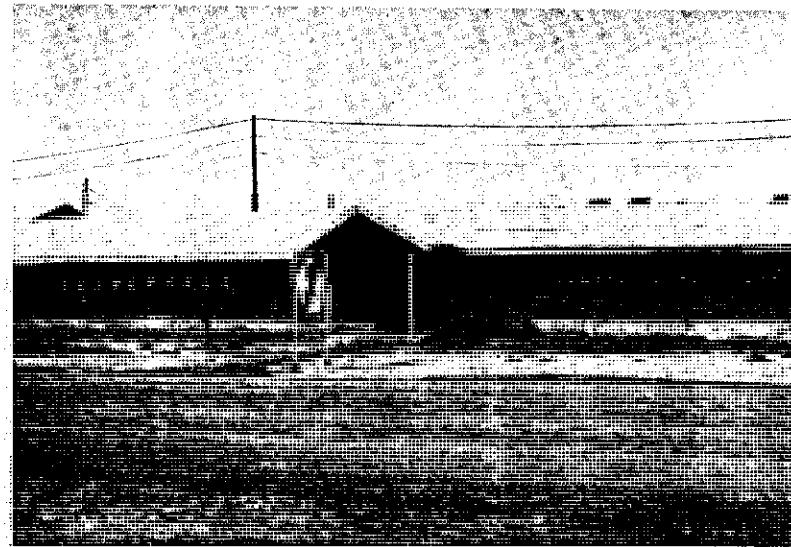
Since its arrival in the Republic of Vietnam, records indicate the following statistics through 30 June 1968:

Total combat support hours flown.....	37, 360
Total VC killed by actual body count	396
Total VC killed (Possible)	25
KIA due to combat	7
Non-combat fatalities	10
WIA due to combat (losses)	10
Non-combat losses (Injuries)	20
WIA returned to duty	25
Courts-Martials, Summary	0
Special	3
General.....	0
Article 15's	23
Malaria Cases	0

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Silver Star.....	2
Soldier's Medal	2
Distinguished Flying Cross	22
Bronze Star with "V" Device	4
Bronze Star	29
Air Medal with "V" Device	85
Air Medal.....	260
Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device	2
Army Commendation Medal	52
Purple Heart	37

191ST ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY AREA



ORDERLY ROOM



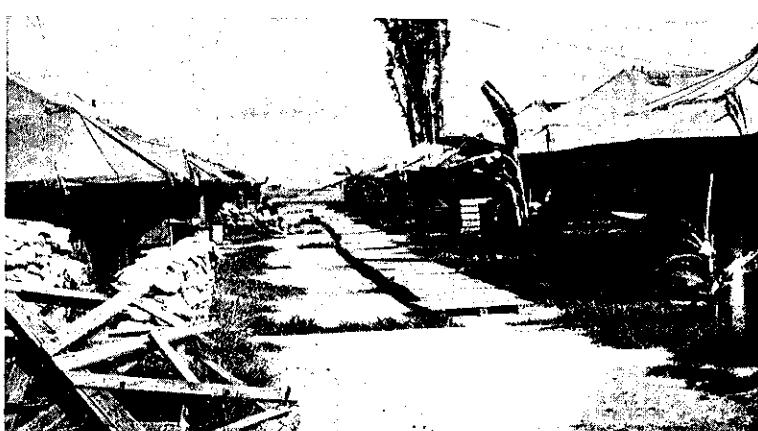
ENLISTED BARRACKS



UNIT SIGN



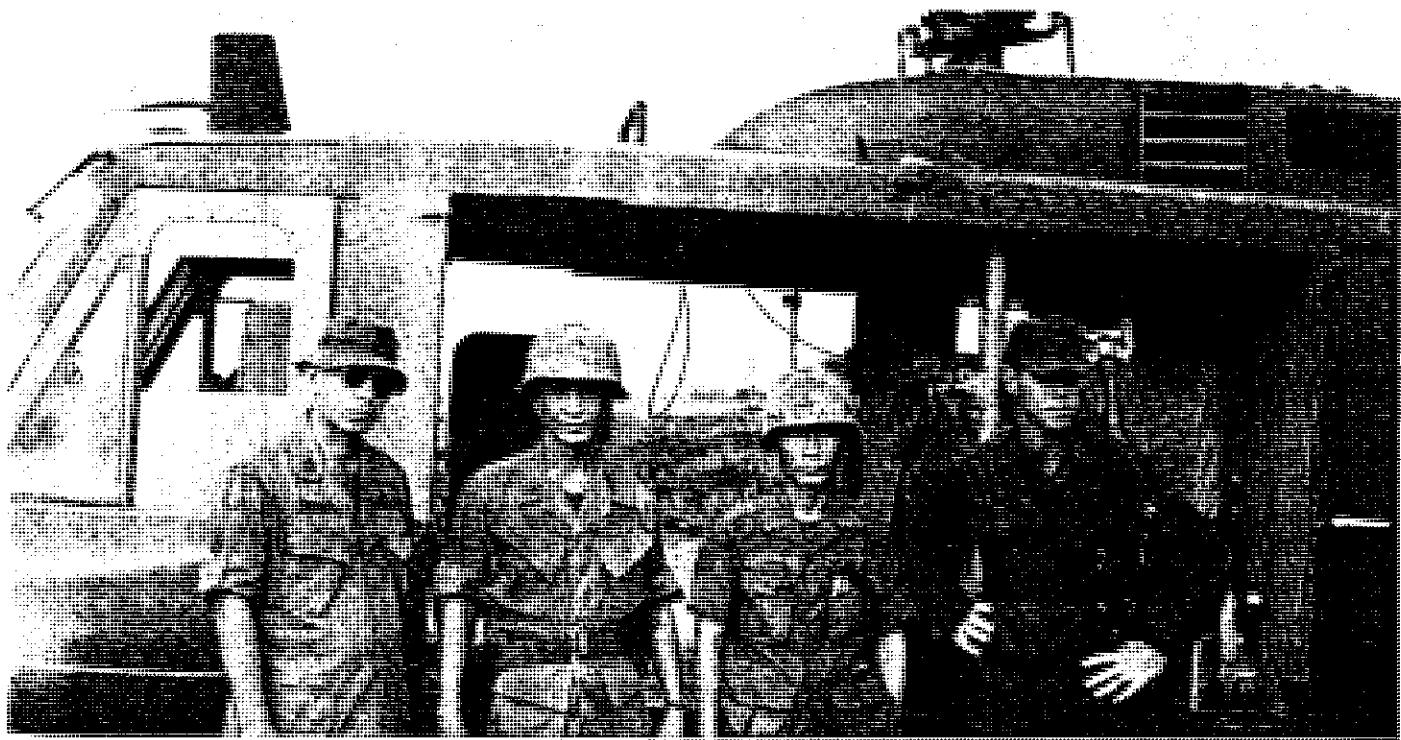
PLATOON BARRACKS



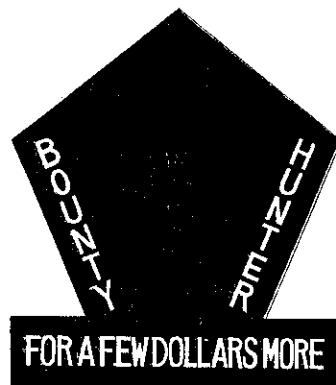
ENLISTED BILTS



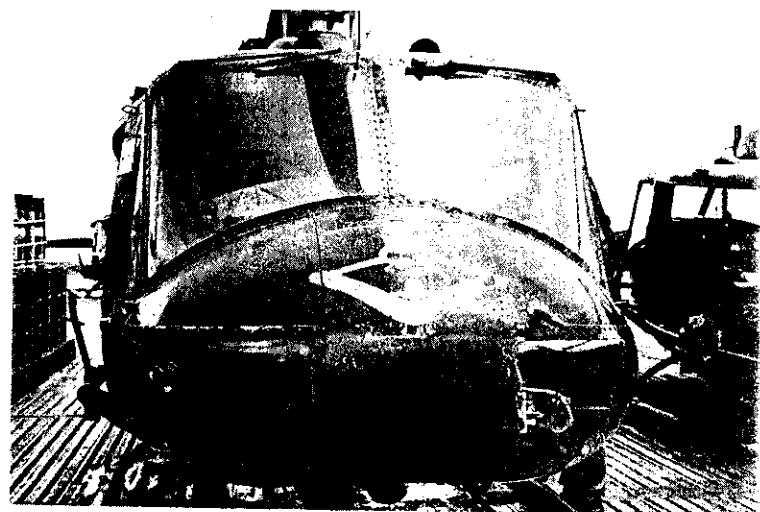
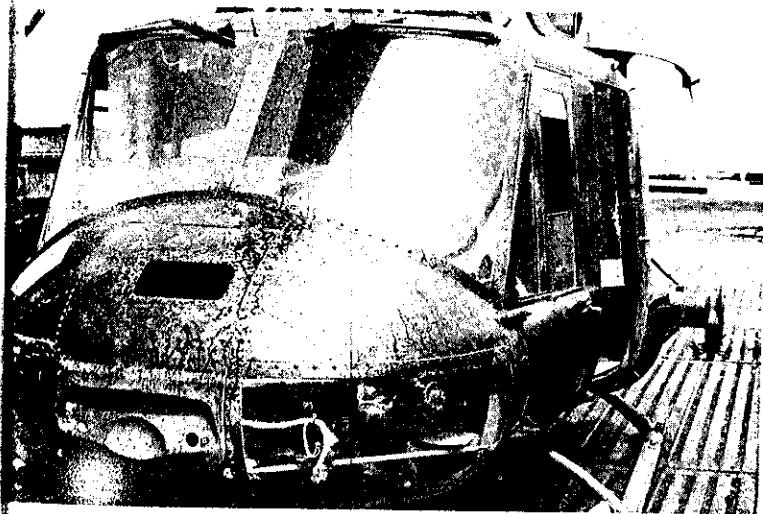
BOOMERANGS ALWAYS COME BACK



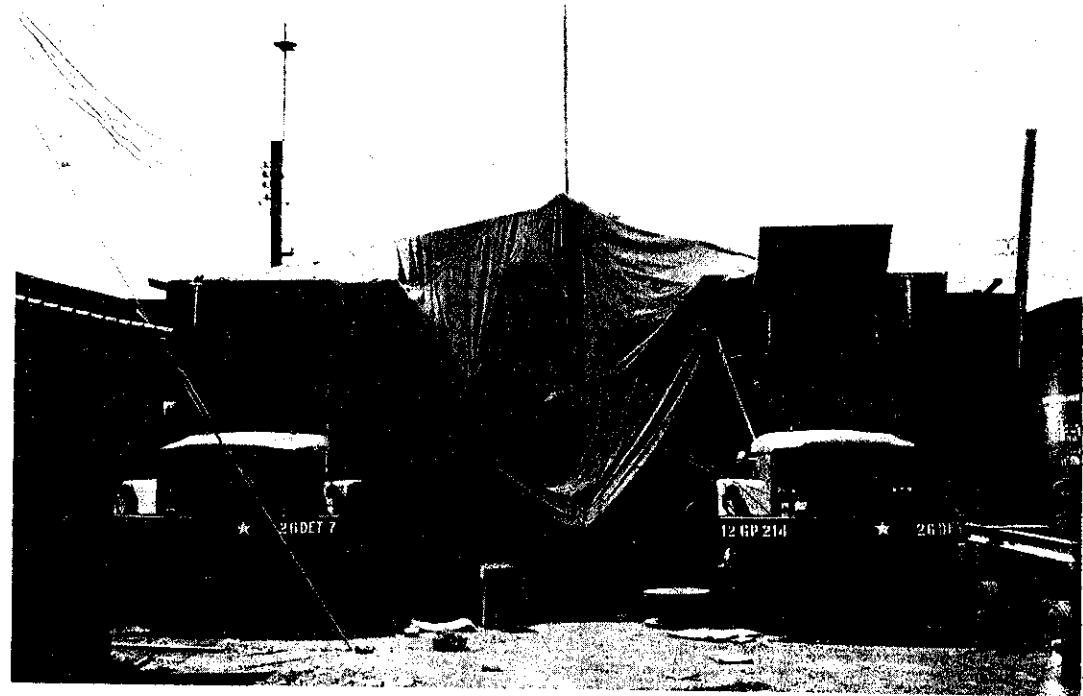
BOUNTY HUNTERS



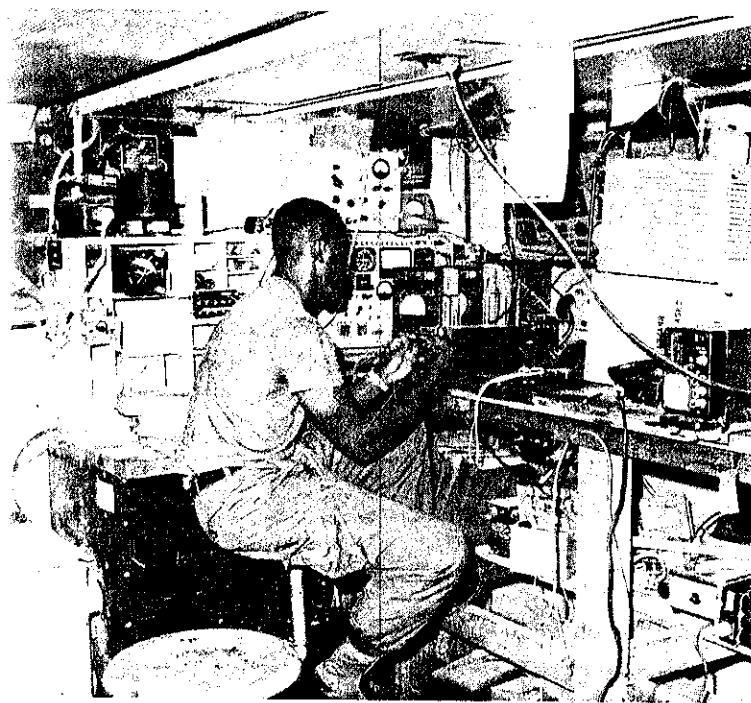
606TH TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT



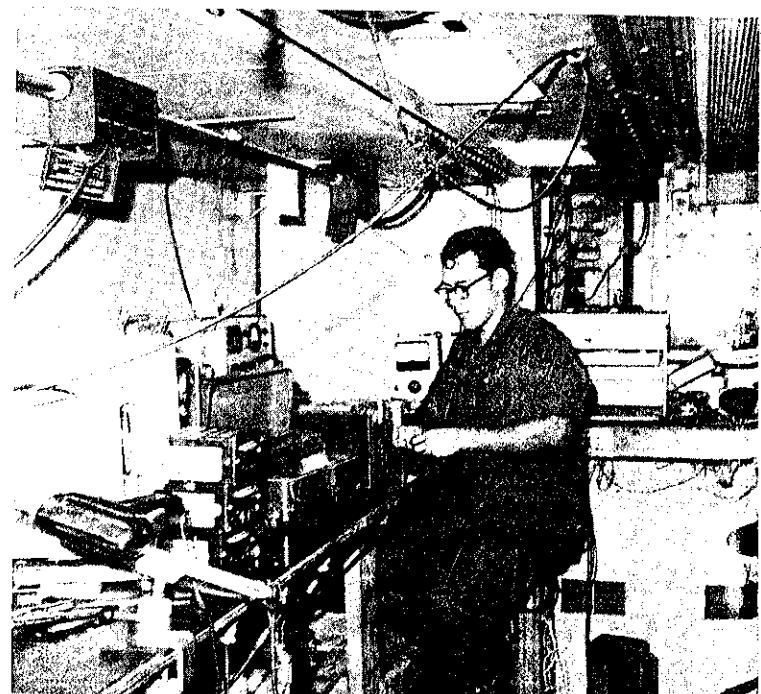
26TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT



AVIONICS COMPLEX



SP4 MOORE CALIBRATING RADIO



SP5 SIMENDINGER MAKING FINAL CHECK