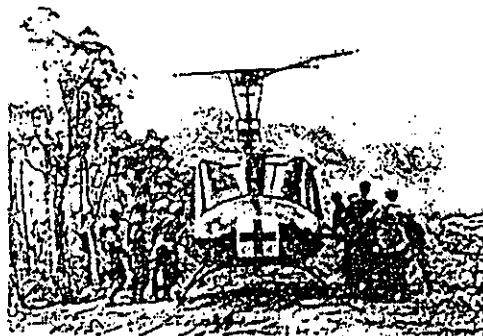


Larry E. Wagoner, RR #2, Box 48, Blunt, SD 57522. Phone (605) 224-0396. writes that he has just read Samuel Zaffiri's book, "Hamburger Hill" and that it is well written and an educational documentation of the battle for Ap Bie Mountain. He says he missed the battle by a few days as he left Vietnam on the 7th of May in 1969, but can relate to parts of the book which was written about the medivac helicopter missions.

He relates that on the 13th of May, 1969, a medivac helicopter supporting Delta Company, 3rd Brigade, 187 Infantry, while pulling a hoist mission was shot

down by an RPG. The Aircraft was from Eagle Dust Off, 326th Med. The crew on board were: Aircraft Commander 1st Lt. Gerald M. Torba call sign Dustoff 927, Co pilot 1st Lt. Jerry T. Lee Crewchief SP 4 James R. Walters and Medic Sp 4 James A. Margo. The book says they got the pilot out which would have been Torba but the helicopter exploded and burned before any others got out. It stated that Torba died later on. However, he lived through this ordeal and was rescued later. He lost his left leg below the knee, but recovered from his wounds.

Wagoner says he flew with Eagle Dustoff as a Crewchief for eight months 1968-69 and would like to hear from some other members. He says he has some names and addresses, but would like to hear from other Dustoff people.



Hamburger Hill, May 1969. An Eagle Dustoff Aircraft flown by CW2 Stanley R. Padden, left seat, and AC CW2 John H. Shirley Jr. Dustoff 901, right seat. The picture was made by Kent Potter who was killed in a South Vietnam helicopter crash in 1971.