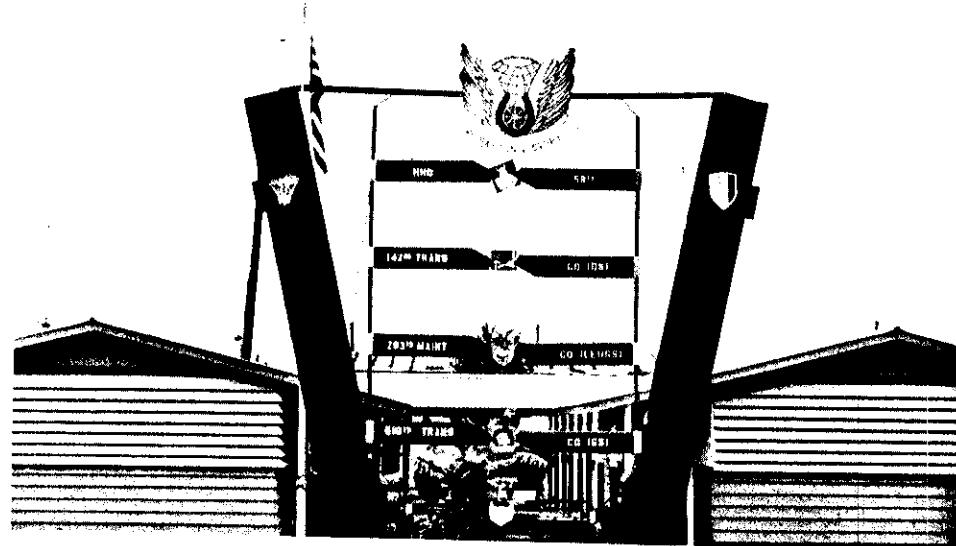
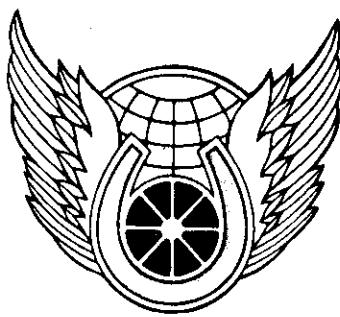


# 58TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION "VIKINGS"



58th Transportation Battalion, Da Nang, Vietnam.

The 58th Transportation Battalion has an assigned mission of Direct, Back-Up Direct and General Support Maintenance and repair parts supply of all Army Aircraft in the I Corps Tactical Zone. Commanded by LTC Franklyn Goode, it also gives assistance to U.S. Marines, Vietnamese and Korean Aviation Units.

The 58th Battalion's headquarters detachment and three companies are all located at Red Beach, Da Nang. Together they possess a network of closely related shops for specialized avionics and aircraft armament repair, in addition to providing command control for the continually expanding aircraft maintenance and supply requirements in the area.

Commanded by Captain Ted Cimral, the 142nd Transportation Company supplies the direct support and back-up direct support for over eleven hundred (1100) aircraft, along with the complete aviation supply support for the entire I Corps in Vietnam. During the past twenty-four months more than two thousand (2,000) aircraft have been repaired and returned to the supported units.

In addition to aircraft maintenance and repair-parts support, a well equipped armament shop is constantly rewiring, adjusting, and repairing armament systems of the numerous assault helicopters in service. The 142nd also has a CONUS retrograde facility which has evacuated more than 400 aircraft to date.

"Fast and Sure" is the motto of the 610th Transportation Company (AGS). Commanded by Major Donald West, this unit is responsible for providing general support to more than 1,000

aircraft, as well as reassembling, test flying, and issuing in Vietnam all Army Aircraft coming through Da Nang. Most of the aircraft handled by the 610th belong to the Americal and 101st Airborne Divisions.

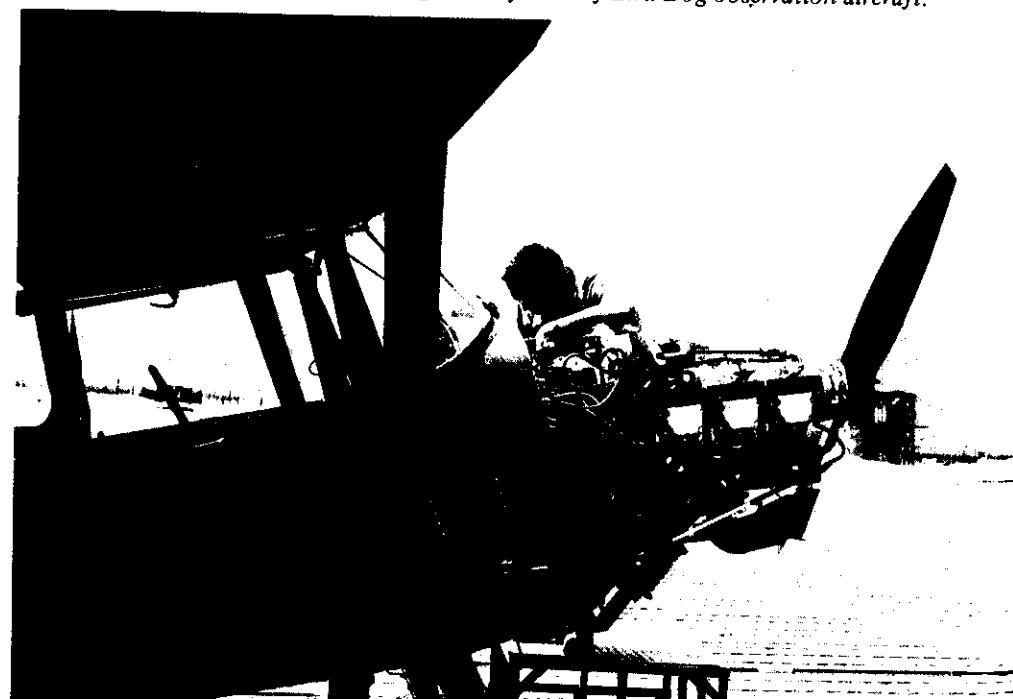
Although the 610th is classified as a general support unit, it does perform back-up direct support maintenance when necessary and has the capability to perform limited depot-level maintenance (with the exception of mainframe repair). It also provides technical assistance teams to various aviation units in its area for needed on-the-spot assistance.

The 263rd Light Equipment Maintenance Company (GS),

commanded by Major Robert Purcell, is responsible for maintaining the avionics systems of all Army Aircraft in Military Region I. To accomplish this mission the 263rd is organized as follows: a Company Headquarters and three platoons. The Headquarters and 1st Platoon are located at Viking Compound, Red Beach, Da Nang, RVN. The Second Platoon is located at Chu Lai, RVN and the Third Platoon is located at Phu Bai, RVN.

The unit averages more than 130 work orders a day, yet it never has had a customer aircraft lose a day out of action due to an avionics problem. The 263rd lives up to its motto of "Finest Support".

NHA mechanic inspects ignition system of Bird Dog observation aircraft.

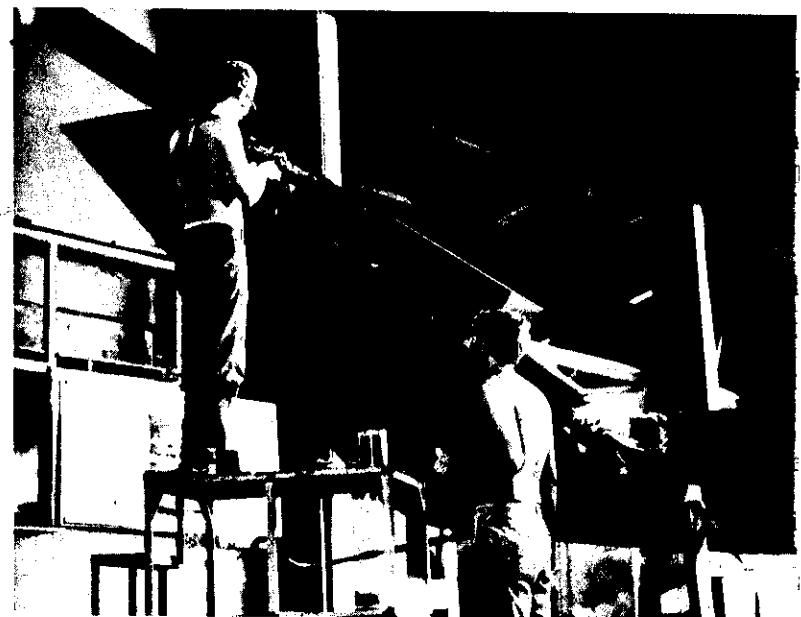




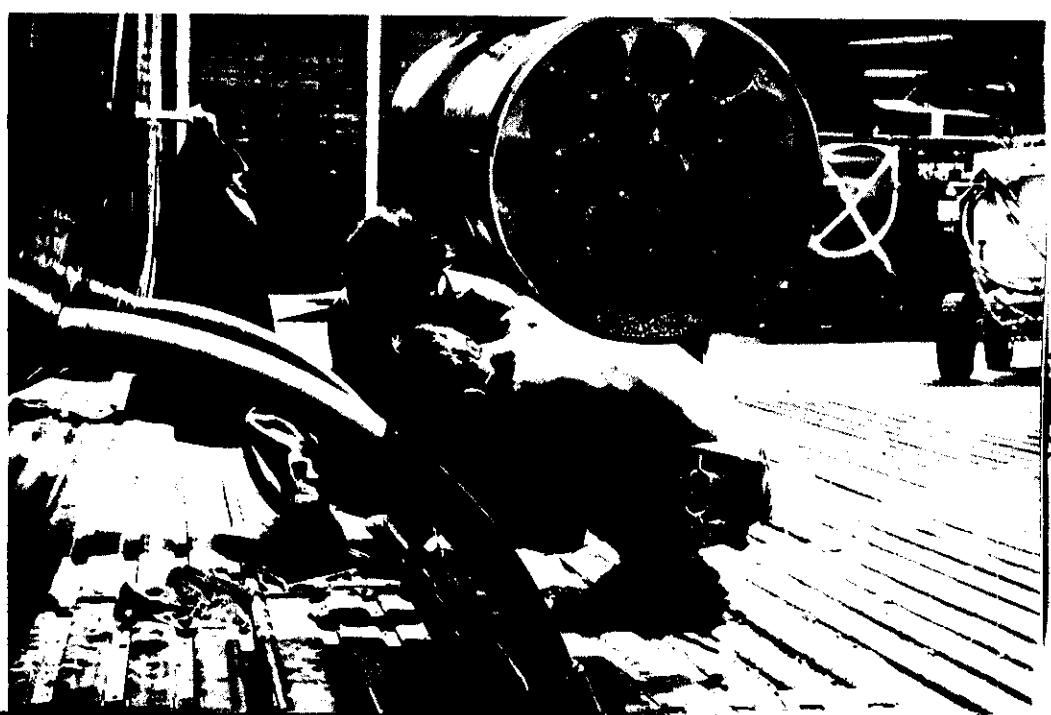
*A technician inspects a UH-1D Huey to insure top performance.*



*Mechanics from the 610th Transportation Company safety wire a Huey rotor head.*



*A 90-degree gearbox is installed in a Huey helicopter*



*Rapid repair patching by members of the 610th Transportation Company (ADS).*