



SELECTED

U. S.
ARMY

INSIGNIA

of the

VIETNAM
WAR



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The first 1000 copies of this book are serial numbered. This is collector's volume number:

James M McDuff

This book is dedicated to all POW's and MIA's of the Vietnam War! It is also dedicated to the memory of my father, Colonel Melvin A. McDuff, who passed away on July 20, 1985.



Vietnam Vest
write book on
Jim McDuff *VN patches*

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"Selected U.S. Army Insignia of the Vietnam War"

by James M. McDuff

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

The author graduated from "Missouri School of Mines", now named "University of Missouri-Rolla", in Jan., 1964, and served in the U.S. Army until Nov., 1969, with overseas tours in Thailand and Vietnam in Combat and Construction Engineer units.

The author has collected U.S. Army insignia since 1951, and has specialized in U.S. Army insignia of the Vietnam War era. Three previous books have been written by the author:

1. "U.S. Army Enlisted Men's Collar Insignia 1907-1972"
2. "U.S. Army Officer's Collar Insignia 1902-1974"
3. "U.S. Army Shoulder Sleeve Insignia of the Vietnam War" 1982.

A. Preface and Background Information:

1. Preface:

This book is a companion volume to the author's earlier book titled, "U.S. Army Shoulder Sleeve Insignia of the Vietnam War", released in 1982. In addition to unit shoulder patches, tabs & scrolls, this new book is expanded to also include: theatre made Beret Flashes, EM chevrons, Officers collar insignia, Combat and Specialty Badges plus a sampling of "novelty" patches worn on uniforms, hats and party suits in SE Asia. All insignia shown in this book are manufactured in SE Asia during the Vietnam War except those shown in Section B... which are US manufactured/issue...which the author refers to as "First Issued Subdued on Twill"...these saw extensive use in Vietnam and are often called "Vietnam Made" in error.

Black & White photographs are used whenever possible as they show more detail than drawings, but a few drawings have been used when the actual insignia was not available for photographing. Very special thanks and credit should be given to Ival V. Lawhon, jr. for his many hours of dedicated work on this book in doing the hundreds of photos used in this book. His technical skills were invaluable because many of the dark "subdued" insignia could not have been completed without his time and expertise! Ival is a Vietnam combat veteran of the 25th Infantry Division and was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge.

All insignia shown are confirmed to exist in collections and are "original" SE Asian manufacture to the best knowledge and experience of the author. This book uses a shortened format with minimum words or descriptions-no sizes are given, only unit identification, whether the insignia is full color or subdued, and any unusual features of that particular insignia.

References used by the author are the same as those listed in his earlier book, with the following additions:

- a. "Vietnam Insignia Collectors Newsletter" by Cecil B. Smyth, jr.
- b. "Vietnam U.S. Army Combat Unit Insignia" by Cecil B. Smyth, jr.
- c. "US Army Special Forces 1952-84" by Gordon L. Rottman.
- d. Recent Vietnam Insignia Articles in ASMIC Trading Posts.

2. Background Information:

a. General

Before 1965, only small "Advisor" type units plus a few helicopter and maintenance/support units were in South Vietnam. Larger tactical and support units (Brigade & Division level) arrived in mid-1965.

At that time, soldiers of the US Army wore an olive green cotton uniform, commonly called "fatigues", for field and combat use. Sewn on this uniform were full color "U.S. ARMY" tapes of gold on black plus nametapes of Black on white and additional full color EM chevrons, officers collar insignia for grade/rank and branch, and finally, combat/spec. badge above the left breast pocket and the unit shoulder patch on the left upper sleeve. With all this full color insignia, the "fatigue" uniform looked like a "Christmas tree" and certainly did not meet the needs of combat troops in the field that needed to be inconspicuous or camouflaged with the surroundings!

b.Origin of "Subdued" Insignia:

As units deployed to SE Asia, they were quickly forced to make a transition from "garrison" duty to field or combat duty! This included many of the so-called "rear area" support units as "secure" areas were non-existent in Vietnam due to the "guerrilla" type war being fought.

Pre-deployment preparations for all units included the dyeing of all white underwear, towels, handkerchiefs, etc. to olive drab color. Any available dark color was used with many interesting combinations seen as official OD color dyes were almost non-existent! In later years, the Army did provide such clothing in factory dyed OD green. Individuals soon recognized the need to "subdue" their combat uniforms, so non-essential insignia simply was removed and not worn. Officers often did not wear "rank" insignia in the field or painted such insignia darker colors (black or brown).

As units settled into "basecamps" in SE Asia, local natives quickly settled nearby and shops opened that offered any service or product where a "market" existed...food, tailored civilian clothes, toys and other souvenirs to send home, haircuts and shoeshines. Tailor shops quickly started selling local manufactured uniforms and insignia. Thus, most early "subdued" insignia was made in these shops as Army Regulations did not authorize such items so they were simply not available through official supply channels.

The hot, wet jungle climate in SE Asia caused uniforms to wear out very quickly so supply needs for uniforms and insignia was much higher than easier duties in the USA. Therefore, supply rooms simply could not meet the overall needs for insignia, so individuals went to local shops to purchase necessary shoulder patches, chevrons, officers collar insignia, "U.S.ARMY" and nametapes, and combat/specialty badges...thus, local manufactured insignia of all types in full color and subdued became common. See paragraph "d" below for further information.

The author first encountered "subdued" insignia during his tour in Thailand in late 1965 when he went "TDY" (temporary duty) to Vietnam and Okinawa, and saw individuals wearing such "subdued" insignia. This was non-Regulation at that time! He purchased a complete set of pocket tapes and sew-on officers collar insignia (Engineer branch & Lt. bars) in Okinawa, which had been made there, and used them on "jungle fatigues" while in Thailand, etc.

By 1967, local Command policy had authorized the use of subdued insignia, and the U.S.Army officially adopted its use in 1969. Note: by 1969, subdued insignia was used by Army units worldwide so the Army was forced to make a decision!

The Army continues to use subdued insignia today, but a few units, such as the 1st Infantry Division, "The Big Red One", have asked for and received official authority to wear the full color unit shoulder patch on the fatigue, combat or new camouflage "BDU" uniform.

c.Introduction of the "Jungle Combat Uniform"

Due to heavy wear caused by the tropical climate in SE Asia, the Army soon recognized the need for a better uniform! Tests had been made in the 1950's for jungle uniforms and equipment and very limited supplies were available...the author was issued early type jungle boots

with WWII style double buckle uppers, side panels of OD nylon and brown leather body in Thailand in late 1965, plus the so-called "First Model Jungle Uniform" (Jungle Fatigues) with exposed buttons, side take-up tabs and epaulettes on the jacket.

By 1966, mass production models of jungle boots and jungle fatigues were available to troops in SE Asia and were used throughout the war.

d. Locally Manufactured/ Theatre Made Insignia:

The term "Vietnam Made" has been avoided as the exact origin of individual pieces of insignia often cannot be confirmed! Cheap labor and common types of materials are available throughout Asia from Korea, Japan, Okinawa, Thailand and Vietnam. Some Korean companies opened shops in the larger towns in Vietnam as did tailors from India, Taiwan, etc. GI's often bought patches when on TDY or R&R (Rest & Recreation leave) to Bangkok, Hong Kong, Okinawa, etc...as mentioned by author in paragraph "b" above. Thus, insignia was made and used from all over Asia!

Experience gives a "feel" or opinion of a patches origin after one looks at hundreds or thousands of pieces. Some insignia received directly from veterans comes with information, "I bought it in a shop in Saigon, etc.". In general, the collector should use his/her experience to determine if a piece of insignia was probably made in Asia and not worry beyond that!!! As the value of Vietnam War era insignia has increased, fakes and replicas have greatly increased, especially for "elite" units such as Special Forces, 1st Cav.Div., etc. SO... collector beware...using experience and reputable sources will avoid trouble most of the time.

Two terms have become standard among Vietnam era collectors to describe methods used for making "Locally Manufactured/Theatre Made" Insignia: 1) "Machine Made" (MM): Insignia manufactured on a sewing machine or similar equipment. The vast majority of insignia falls into this category.

- 2) "Hand Made" (HM) : Insignia made completely by hand-loose sewn not using a sewing machine, etc...uncommon as this took more time and labor but resulted in high quality, beautiful insignia.

For further details on the methods of making insignia in Asia during the Vietnam War, see pages 5-7 of the authors earlier book.

e. "First Issue/Factory Embroidered on Twill" Subdued Insignia:

As discussed in paragraphs "a" & "b" above, subdued insignia became very popular in SE Asia starting in 1965. Approximately 1966-67, the U.S.Army contracted and had manufactured unit shoulder patches and EM chevrons for use in SE Asia. These are believed to have been made in the USA under government contract in large quantities, and were issued in supply rooms to all major units in Vietnam. See Section "B" for photographs of these SSI and EM chevrons. Almost every major unit that served in Vietnam exists in this type patch. A few of the units that arrived late never received this subdued issue twill type patch but received the full embroidered factory subdued patch that were universally available by 1969. Unit SSI not known to exist include: "MAAG"(too early), 1st Inf.Div., 5th Inf.Div., Engr.Comd. Vietnam, 5th & 124th Transport Command, 15th Support Bde., 9th Log.Comd., US Army Support Command Thailand and Army Security Agency (ASA).

B. First Issue Subdued(Factory Embroidered on Twill)
1.Unit Shoulder Patches



a.MACV



b.MACV



c.USARV



d.USARV
Green edge.



e.I FFV
Top Black



f.I FFV



g.II FFV
Narrow Sword



h.II FFV
Wide Sword



i.1st Cav.Div.(Airmobile)



j.4th Inf.Div.
Solid Black Ivy



k.4th Inf.Div.
Ivy-green center

B. First Issue Subdued on Twill

1. Unit Shoulder Patches (continued)



l. 9th Inf.Div.

m. 9th Inf.Div.
olive green uppern. 23rd Inf.Div.
"Americal"

o. 25th Inf.Div.



p. 82nd Abn.Div.



q. 11th Inf.Bde.

r. 173rd Abn.Bde.
Two piece const.s. 173rd Abn.Div.
One piece const.

t. 196th Inf.Bde.

u. 196th Inf.Bde.
Brown Flames

v. 198th Inf. Bde.

w. 199th Inf.Bde.
Black Center

B. First Issue Subdued on Twill

1. Unit Shoulder Patches (continued)



x. 199th Inf. Bde.
Brown center & sedge (Armd. Cav. Regt.)



y. 11th ACR



z. Special Forces



aa. 18th Eng. Bde.



bb. 20th Eng. Bde.



cc. 1st Avn. Bde.



dd. 1st Log. Comd.



ee. 1st Signal Bde.
Thick Grip



ff. 1st Signal Bde.
Thin Grip



gg. 18th MP Bde.



hh. 18th MP Bde.
Copper outer edge



ii. 44th Med. Bde.
Long, thin star

Author's Note: The following "First Issued Subdued" Factory Embroidered Unit Shoulder Patches have not been seen by the author: 24th Corps, 1st Inf. Div., 5th Inf. Div., 101st Abn. Div., Eng. Comd. VN., 124th Transport Comd., 9th Log. Comd. and U.S. Army Support Command Thailand.

Both 4th and 5th Transport Commands exist in First Issue Subdued on Twill, but specimens were not available to the author for photographing, so they are not illustrated in this book.

B. First Issue Subdued on Twill1. Unit Shoulder Patches (continued)jj. 44th Med. Bde.
Short Star

kk. STRATCOM

ll. Capitol Mil.
Assist. Comd.mm. 125th Transport
Comd.

nn. 1st Armd. Div.



oo. 2nd Armd. Div.

Note: Only one unit from each of these Armd. Divs. served in Vietnam. See Capt. Shelby Stanton's book "Vietnam Order of Battle" for details.

2. EM Chevrons

a. PFC E-2



b. Lance Cpl. E-3



c. Cpl. E-4



d. Sgt. E-5

Note: All EM chevrons illustrated in this section are factory embroidered and were issued by the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Several variations exist with black, OD green or odd forest green borders.

B. First Issue Subdued on Twill
 2. EM Chevrons (continued)



e. S.Sgt. E-6



f. Plt.Sgt. E-7



g. Master Sgt. E-8



h. First Sgt. E-8



i. Sgt. Major E-9



j. Comd. Sgt. Major
E-9



k. Spec-4(E-4)
(4th class)



l. Spec-5(E-5)
(5th class)



m. Spec-6(E-6)
(6th class)



n. Spec-7(E-7)
(7th class)

Author's Note: See Section
 "L" for Theatre made EM
 chevrons.

C. Centre Made Unit Shoulder Patches (Full Color & Subdued)

1. MAAG INDOCHINA2. MAAG VIETNAM

a. Color. Local Manuf.
Tab only. RARE!

a. Color. One piece.

b. Color. Tab VN
made. Patch odd
colors/Asian made.

c. Color. Factory
Embr. Patch. Tab
is VN made.

3. Mil. Assist. Comd. Vietnam (MACV)

a. Color. US Fact.
embr. in local plastic
pocket hanger.

b. Printed design on
paper in plastic.

c. Color. Local
manufacture.

d. ARVN style
"Bevo" silk.



e. Color. Local
manufacture.

f. Color. Local
manufacture.

g. Color. Local
manufacture.

h. Color. Local
manufacture.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 3. MACV (continued)



i. Subdued.



j. Subdued.



k. Subdued.



l. Subdued.



m. Subdued.

n. Subdued. "KCS"
"Kit Carson Scouts"o. Subdued. Air-
borne tab above

p. Subdued.

4. U.S. ARMY VIETNAM (USARV)



q. Subdued.

r. Subdued. CORDS
Team #48, III Corps.

a. Color.



b. Color

Note: USARV a&b above are all hand sewn on the panels. Full color.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

ARVN (continued)



c. Color

d. Color.
Velvet panels.e. Color.
Velvet panels.

f. Subdued.



g. Subdued.



h. Subdued.



i. Subdued.



j. Subdued.

5. **First Field Force Vietnam (IFFV)**a. Color. Factory
embroidered SE
Asia-odd pastel
colors.b. Color. Hand
sewn odd weave
pattern.c. Color. Velvet
panels. Ribbed
cotton bend.d. Color. Odd
embroidered
SE Asia.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
IFFV (continued)



e. Color. Cotton panels. Abn. tab above. One piece.



f. Subdued. Odd embr. olive edge & sword.



g. Subdued. Cotton bend.



h. Subdued.



i. Subdued.



j. Subdued.



k. Subdued.



l. Subdued.



m. Subdued. Velvet bend.



n. Subdued. All cotton.



o. Subdued. Abn. Tab above. One piece.



p. Subd. Sword & center bend are odd lime color.

C. ~~Theatre~~ Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 8. Second Field Force Vietnam (II FFV)



a. Color. Factory embroidered SE Asia. Odd pastel colors.



b. Color. Hand sewn.



c. Color. Odd embroidered-SE Asia.



d. Color. Cotton panels.



e. Color. Velvet panels.



f. Color. Velvet panels.



g. Color. Abn. tab above.



h. Subdued. Quilted pattern.



i. Subdued. Quilted pattern.



j. Subdued. Odd embroid. SE Asia.



k. Subdued. Velvet panels.



l. Subdued. Velvet panels.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 7. XXIV Corps (24th Corps)



a. Color.

b. Color. In
pocket hanger.c. Color. Odd asian
factory embroidered.

d. Color.

e. Subdued.
Velvet.

f. Subdued.

g. Subdued. Odd
asian factory embr.

8. 1st Cavalry Division(Airmobile)

a. Color. Odd Asian
factory embroideredb. Color.
Handmade.



c. Color.
 Factory US embr.
 Word "PEACE" added



d. Color
 VN made.
 Unofficial.



e. Color
 VN made.
 Unofficial.



f. Color.
 VN made.
 Unofficial.



g. Color.
 VN made.
 Unofficial.



h. Color.
 VN made.
 Unofficial.



i. Color.
VN made.
Unofficial.



j. Color.
VN made.
Unofficial.



k. Color.
Asian hand-
sewn on silk.



l. Color.
Small size
in pocket hanger.



m. Color.
Small size
in pocket hanger.



n. Color.
Small size.
Unofficial.



o. Color.
Small size.
Unofficial.

c. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
8. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) continued

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) continued



p. Subdued.



q. Subdued.



r. Subdued.
 Velvet bend
 & horse.
 Very used.



s. Subdued.
 Unofficial.



t. Subdued.
 Painted stencil
 circa 1965.



u. Subdued.
 Unofficial.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 8. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) continued



v. Subdued.
 Sniper
 Unofficial.



w. Subdued.
 Unofficial.

9. 1st Infantry Division

Author's Note: Many other 1st Cav.
 Div. variations exist- see his
 other book on VN War U.S. Army SSI.



a. Color. On
 OD green twill.



b. Color. On OD
 green twill in
 plastic hanger.



c. Color. On OD
 green wool.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 9. 1st Infantry Division (continued)



d. Color. Odd quilted pattern.



e. Color. Odd pastel colors-Asian made. Tab above-VN made.



f. Color & Subdued versions exist.



g. Color & Subd. versions exist.



h. Subdued. Black "1", OD green edge.



i. Subdued. Black "1" with black edge.



j. Subd. Camouflage ripstop cloth.

10. 4th Infantry Division



a. Color.



b. Color.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
10. 4th Infantry Division



c. Color. Forest green twill-factory embr.



d. Color. Odd Asian embroid. pastel colors.



e. Color. Dark green twill with dark grn. ivy edged white.



f. Subdued. Lime grn. ivy on OD twill.



g. Subdued. Lime grn. ivy on OD twill.



h. Subdued. Black ivy, tan lines on OD twill.



i. Subdued. Crude ivy on OD twill.



j. Subdued. "PATROL" tab above-both Black on OD twill.



k. Subdued. Black on OD twill.

Author's Note: Many minor variations exist in the 4th Inf. Div. Vietnam made. The author has observed one example with a large number "3" sewn in the center of a VN made subdued patch for "3rd Brigade".

C. Unit Shoulder Patches
Infantry Division (Mechanized) 1st Brigade only



a. Color. Red cotton diamond.



b. Color. Red cotton diamond in pocket hanger.



c. Color. "LRRP" Unofficial.



d. Color. "LRRP" Unofficial.



e. Subdued. OD green wool, black outer edges.



f. Subdued. Black cotton & OD grn. outer edges.

12. 9th Infantry Division



g. Subd. Black "5" & edges on camouf. jungle unif. cloth.



h. Subd. Odd Asian factory embr. Lime grn. Black edges.



a. Color. Velvet panels in plastic pocket hanger.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
12. 9th Infantry Division (continued)



b. Subdued. Velvet lower panel on OD twill.



c. Subdued. Velvet lower panel.



d. Subdued. Horiz. hand sewn lower panel on OD twill.



e. Subdued. Upper & lower panels both hand sewn.



f. Subdued. 1st issue fact. embr. on twill patch, handmade tab.



g. Subdued. One piece const. hand sewn. Velvet upper panel.



h. Subdued. Patch upper panel velvet. Scroll hand-made yellow ltrs. on black.

13. 11th Infantry Division (Air Assault)



(VERY RARE)

a. Color & Subdued versions exist. Examples seen by the author are local manuf. in Vietnam with "quilted" const.

Note: This unit was never in Vietnam. It was a test unit formed at Ft. Benning, GA. then converted to the 1st Cav. Div. (Airmobile) in 1965 which deployed to Vietnam. Old members of the 11th Air Assault had these patches made.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
Infantry Division (Americal)



a. Color. White outer edge on blue twill.



b. Color. Black outer edge on blue twill.



c. Color. Light blue outer edge on blue twill.



d. Color. Crude factory embroidered in Asia.



e. Color. "Task Force Oregon"
 Unofficial patch. Circa 1967.
 Probably made up for collectors.
 actual use of this patch in
 Vietnam not documented.



f. Subdued. Black edge & stars on OD twill.



g. Subdued. Black edge & stars on OD twill.



h. Subdued. Black edge & stars on OD twill.



i. Subdued. Forest green edge, black stars on OD twill.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 15. 25th Infantry Division



a. Color. Hand sewn on red twill.



b. Color. Hand sewn on red twill.



c. Color. Regular US factory embroid. patch with "3" added-3rd Brigade



d. Color. Hand sewn on red velvet in plastic pocket hanger.



e. Color. Hand sewn on red twill in plastic pocket hanger.



f. Subdued. Unused on square piece of OD twill fatigue cloth.



g. Subdued. Hand sewn on OD twill.



h. Subdued. Machine sewn on OD twill.



i. Subdued. Unofficial 25th Div. SNIPER on OD twill.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches3. 82nd Airborne Division (3rd Brigade only)

a. Color. Machine
sewn on twill.
One piece const.



b. Color. One pc.
const. red velvet.



c. Color. One pc.
const. red twill
Flat tab above.



d. Color. Factory
embr. in Asia odd
pastel colors.



e. Color. Factory
embr. in Asia odd
colors & weave. 2 pc.



f. Color. One pc.
const. on velvet
in plastic hang.



g. Color. One pc.
red velvet. tab
has "VIETNAM".



h. Color. One pc.
const. Unofficial
"SNIPER" patch.



i. Subdued. One pc.
const. Velvet square
OD twill center & tab.



j. Subdued. One pc.
const. OD twill.



k. Subdued. One pc.
const. "VIETNAM"
in tab above.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 17. 101st Airborne Division(Airmobile)



a. Color. Factory
 embr. in Asia odd
 pastel colors.



b. Color. Hand
 embr. on black
 twill. Yellow edge
 on Abn. tab.



c. Color. Machine
 embr. on twill.



d. Color. Machine
 embr. on twill.



e. Color. Machine
 embr. on black
 twill.



f. Color. Eagle cut
 out white cloth
 hand embr. on twill.



g. Color. Machine
 embr. in Asia
 odd shape & size.



h. Color. Reversed
 Hand embroidered
 on black twill.



i. Color. Machine
 embr. in VN.
 Unofficial.



j. Color. Hand embr.
 in VN all one piece.



k. Subdued. Factory embr.
 Location unknown. OD
 grn. twill between tab
 and shield. Olive grn.
 Eagle and letters.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

17. 101st Airborne Division (continued)

l. Subdued. Hand sewn black Eagle on OD twill.



m. Subdued. Velvet Eagle on OD grn. twill. Hand sewn.



n. Subdued. Odd factory embr. in Asia.



o. Subdued. Machine embr. on twill. "VIETNAM" above. Unofficial.



p. Subdued. Machine embr. Reversed. Unofficial.



q. Subdued. Machine embr. Unofficial.



r. Subdued. Machine embr. Unofficial.

Author's Note:

Many variations of VN made 101st Abn. Div. patches exist. The variation as shown in "r" also exists with 7 other units of the 101st in the tab above. See the author's 1982 book for further details.

18. 11th Infantry Brigade (Light)

a. Color. Made from pieces of white, red & blue cloth sewn together. Pocket hanger.



b. Subdued. Hand sewn black twill arrows on OD grn. twill.



c. Subdued. Hand sewn black velvet arrows on OD twill.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 19. 173rd Airborne Brigade



a. Color. Machine embr. on blue twill. Crude.



b. Color. Hand embr. on blue twill in plastic pocket hanger.



c. Color. Hand embr. on blue twill. High quality.



d. Color. Crude on coarse duck type material.



e. Color. Odd embr. probably in Okinawa. White edge on Abn. tab.



f. Color. Odd Asian embr. Novelty.



g. Color. Machine embr. Novelty.



h. Subdued. Machine embr. two piece const.



i. Color. Hand embr. One piece const. High quality.



j. Subdued. Machine embr. Crude.



k. Subdued. Hand embr. High quality.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

19. 173rd Abn. Bde. (continued)

20. 187th Infantry Regiment (Airborne)

Author's Note: 3rd Bn. 187th Inf. (Abn.) served in VN with 3rd Bde. 101st Abn. Div. This design was SSI for 187th Regt. Combat Team during Korean War. Now an official pocket patch. Gen. Westmoreland wore this type patch on right sleeve.



a. Color. Hand sewn.

b. Subdued. Machine embr.

21. 196th Infantry Brigade (Light)



a. Color. Machine embr. on blue twill.

b. Color. Hand embr. on blue twill.

c. Color. Hand embroidered.

d. Color. Hand embroidered.



e. Color. Hand embroidered.



f. Color. Machine embr. in plastic pocket hanger.



g. Subdued. Machine embr.



h. Subdued. Odd factory embr. in Asia. Lime green.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 22. 198th Infantry Brigade (Light)



a. Color. Hand sewn
 on blue twill.
 High quality.



b. Color. Crude factory
 embroidered in Asia.



c. Subdued. Hand sewn
 on OD green twill.

23. 199th Infantry Brigade (Light)



a. Color. Machine
 sewn on blue twill.



b. Color. Same.



c. Color. Same.



d. Color. Same
 Has heart & bayonet
 in place of arrow
 & flame.



e. Color. Machine
 sewn on blue twill.
 In plastic pocket
 hanger.



f. Color. Same.
 One pc. const.
 tab above.



g. Subdued.
 Machine sewn
 on OD twill.



h. Subdued. Same but
 Tan outer edge &
 black inner edge.

C. Fire Made Unit Shoulder Patches
199th Inf.Bde. (continued)



i. Subdued.
Hand sewn.



j. Subdued. Same.
Tan center.



k. Subdued. Same.
Brown center.



l. Subdued. Same.
Black center.



m. Subdued. Same.
Black center.



n. Subdued. Same
One pc. const.
"RECONDO" tab.



o. Subdued. Same
one pc. const.
"LRRP" tab.



a. Color. Crude
Hand sewn on
red & white twill.

24. 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (11th ACR)



b. Color. Crude
factory embroid.
somewhere in Asia.



c. Color. Hand
sewn note white
outer edge.



d. Color. Hand
sewn.



e. Subd. crude
machine embr.
on OD twill.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 24. 11th ACR (continued)



f. Color. Machine embr. on red & white twill in pocket hanger.



g. Subdued. Crude hand sewn on OD twill.



h. Subdued. Machine sewn on OD twill.

25. Special Forces



i. Subdued. Machine sewn on OD twill.



a. Color. Crude Machine embr. on dark blue twill.



b. Color. Machine embr. on teal blue nylon cloth.



c. Color. Hand embr. on light blue cotton.



d. Color. Hand embr. on light blue cotton.



e. Subdued. Machine embr. on OD twill.

C. Centre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
Special Forces (continued)



f. Subdued. Machine embr. on OD twill. Black outer edge.



g. Subdued. Same but green outer edge.



h. Subdued. Hand sewn on "Tigerstripe" cammy cloth.



i. Subdued. Crude hand sewn on OD twill.



j. Subdued. Same.



k. Subdued. All black hand sewn directly into jungle jacket.



l. Color. Hand sewn. See note.



m. Color. Hand sewn.

Note: Insignia 'l' & 'm' are shoulder patches worn by ARVN-CIDG members of SF Det. A-303 of Mobile Guerilla Force co. 957, also called "TF957" (Task Force 957) trained by US Special Forces. See new book "US Army Special Forces 1952-84" by Gordon L. Rottman (Osprey Elite).

Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

26. Engineer Command Vietnam (Provisional) circa 1966

a. Color. Hand sewn.



b. Color. Machine sewn.



c. Subdued. Machine sewn.



d. Color. Machine sewn on OD twill shield in pocket hanger.

27. Engineer Command Vietnam (1970)

a. Color. Machine sewn in plastic pocket hanger.



b. Color. Hand sewn on red twill.



c. Subdued. Machine sewn.

28. 18th Engineer Brigade

a. Color. Crude factory embroidered in Asia.



b. Color. Same.



c. Color. Same.

C. Centre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
18th Engineer Brigade (continued)



d. Color. Machine embr.
on red twill.



e. Color. Same.



f. Color. Same.



g. Color. Same.



h. Color. Hand sewn.
In plastic pocket hanger.



i. Color. Same.



j. Color. Same.



k. Color. Same.



l. Color. Same.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 28. 18th Engineer Brigade (continued)

Note: Examples "m" thru "t" are Subdued, hand sewn, "u" to "y" are Subd. machine sewn



m.



n.



o.



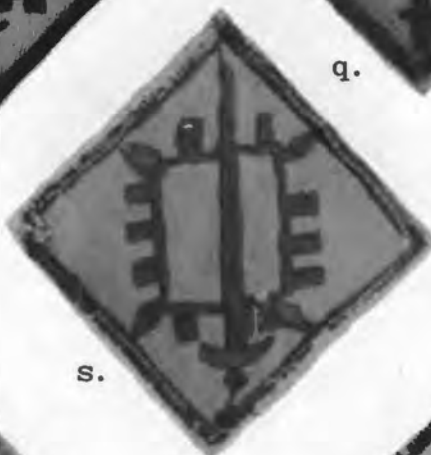
p.



q.



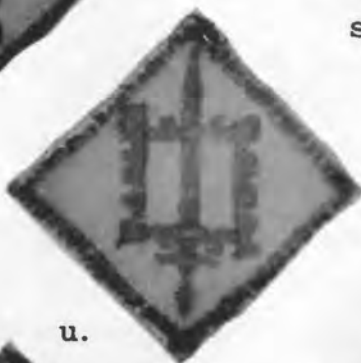
r.



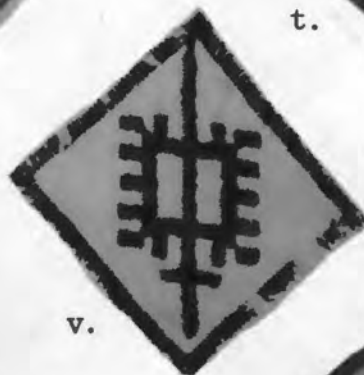
s.



t.



u.



v.



w.



x.



y.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
28. 18th Engineer Brigade (continued)



z. Subdued. Machine sewn.



aa. Subdued. Machine sewn.



bb. Subdued. Machine sewn with 'BUSHWACKERS' tab. Taken off jungle jacket.

29. 20th Engineer Brigade



a. Color. Crude embr. somewhere in Asia.



b. Color. Hand sewn on red twill. Nice details.



c. Color. Machine sewn on red twill.



d. Color. Machine sewn on red twill. Faded.



e. Color. Machine sewn on red velvet. In plastic pocket hanger.



f. Color. Machine sewn Red velvet with white twill background.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
29. 20th Engineer Brigade (continued)



g. Subdued. Crude embr.
on OD twill.



h. Subdued. Crude embr.
on OD twill.



i. Subdued. Cut out
black twill on OD
twill background.



j. Subdued. Cut out
black velvet on OD
twill background.



k. Subdued. Same.



l. Subdued. Same.

30. 1st Aviation Bde.



m. Subdued. Crude embr.
on OD twill background.



n. Subdued. ODD factory
embr. somewhere in Asia
Castle & fort. are lime
green on Black twill.



a. Color. ODD factory
embr. somewhere in
Asia—probably Japan.
Oilcloth backing.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 30. 1st Aviation Brigade (continued)



b.Color.Factory embr. c.Color.Machine embr. d.Color.Hand embr. on med. blue twill. e.Color.Same. on light blue twill. on dark blue twill. embr. on med. blue twill.



f.Color.Machine embr. on med. blue twill in plastic pocket hanger. g.Color.Hand embr. on med. blue twill. h.Color.Machine embr. on med. blue twill. i.Color. Reversed, twill. One piece hand embr. on const. "AIRBORNE" med. blue twill. tab above.



i.Color.Reversed. Crude factory embr. in Asia. Odd colors. j.Subdued. Crude machine embr. on OD twill.

k.Subdued. Hand sewn on OD twill.

l.Subdued. Same.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches30. 1st Aviation Bde. (continued)

m. Subdued. Same.



n. Subdued. Crude machine embr.



o. Subdued. Same.



p. Subdued. Hand sewn on OD



q. Subdued. Factory embr. on OD twill. Somewhere in Asia.



r. Subdued. Crude factory embr. in Asia. Odd olive green shield.



s. Subdued. Machine embr. on OD twill. One piece const. with "AIRBORNE" tab above.

31. 1st Logistical Command

a. Color. Machine sewn on white twill circle.



b. Color. Machine sewn on white twill, blue velvet twill circle. center.



c. Color. Hand sewn on white twill circle.



d. Color. US made patch on hand sewn black shield with white letters. Pocket patch.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

31. 1st Logistical Command (continued)e. Subdued. Hand
sewn on OD twill.f. Subdued. Hand
sewn on OD twill.g. Subdued. Machine
sewn-velvet center.h. Subdued. Machine
sewn, velvet center.
Tab above.i. Subdued. Machine
sewn black twill
arrow & outer.j. Subdued. Crude
hand sewn.

k. Subdued. Same.



l. Subdued. Same.

32. 1st Signal Brigadea. Color. Factory
embr. odd pastel
colors.b. Color. Factory
embr. in Asia. Odd
colors & shape.c. Color. Crude
embr. in Asia.d. Color. Machine
sewn. Blue twill
center.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 32. 1st Signal Brigade (continued)



e. Color. Hand sewn
 in pocket hanger.



f. Color. Machine
 sewn in hanger.



g. Color. Machine
 sewn-velvet panels.



h. Color. Hand sewn
 twill panels.



i. Color. Hand sewn
 velvet panels. In
 pocket hanger.



j. Color. Hand sewn
 velvet outer panels.



k. Subd. 1st Issue
 factory embr.
 USARV with field
 added lightning.



l. Subd. Crude
 machine sewn.
 OD twill center.



m. Subd. Crude
 hand sewn.



n. Subd. Hand sewn
 velvet outer panels.



o. Subd. Crude
 machine sewn.
 Black twill
 outer panels.



p. Subd. Crude
 machine sewn
 Black velvet
 outer panels.

C. Centre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
1. 1st Signal Brigade (continued)



q. Subdued. Hand sewn on OD twill. Black velvet panels.



r. Subdued. Machine sewn on OD twill. Velvet panels.



s. Subdued. Machine sewn on OD twill. Black velvet panels. One piece attached tab misspelled should be "PHOTOGRAPHER"

33. 18th Military Police Brigade



a. Color. Crude embr. in Vietnam.



b. Color. Hand sewn on dark green twill. Detailed in black.



c. Color. Same.



d. Color. Machine sewn on forest grn. twill. Pocket hanger.



e. Color. Machine sewn. Yellow felt center on grn. felt.



f. Color. Machine sewn yellow felt on grn. twill.



g. Subdued. Crude machine sewn on OD twill.



h. Subd. Same.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 33. 18th Military Police Brigade (continued)



i. Subd. Hand
 sewn on OD twill.



j. Subd. Same.



k. Subd. Same
 Detailed in blk.



l. Subd. Same.



m. Subd. Machine
 sewn Two piece
 const. Black vel-
 vet center on OD
 twill background.



n. Subd. Machine
 sewn two piece
 const. OD twill
 center, black
 velvet panels.

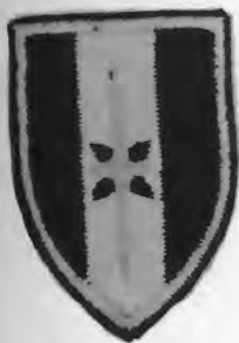


o. Subd. Machine sewn
 two piece const. Black
 center twill on OD
 twill background.



p. Subdued. Machine sewn patch, tab &
 letters "MP" on camouflage jungle
 jacket material. Armband.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches
 34. 44th Medical Brigade



a. Color. Machine
 embr. in Asia. Odd
 pastel colors.



b. Color. Machine
 sewn. Velvet panels
 In pocket hanger.



c. Color. Hand
 sewn. Velvet
 Panels, white
 twill center.



d. Color. Panels
 & star completely
 hand sewn.



e. Color. Same
 all hand sewn.



f. Subd. Machine
 sewn on OD twill.



g. Subd. Same.



h. Subd. Machine
 sewn on OD twill
 with black velvet
 outer panels.



i. Subd. Hand sewn
 star on OD twill
 velvet panels.



j. Subd. Same.



k. Subd. Same.



l. Subd. Crude
 machine sewn
 star, velvet panels.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

35.Strategic Army Communications Command (STRATCOM)

a. Color.US factory
embr.patch in theatre
made pocket hanger.



b.Subd.Crude hand
sewn on OD twill.



c.Subd.Machine
sewn on OD twill.

NOTE:The
author has
not observed
any color
theatre made
examples of
STRATCOM.

36.Capital Military Assistance Command (CMAC)

a.Color.Crude machine
sewn on blue twill with
red twill overlay.



b.Color.Hand sewn
very high quality.



c.Subdued.Machine
embr. on OD twill.

37.4th Transportation Command

a.Color.Hand sewn
on red twill.



b.Color.Same.



c.Subd.Machine
sewn on OD twill.



d.Subd.Velvet tri-
dent.Machine sewn.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

38. 5th Transport Command

a. Color. Machine sewn yellow twill sewn on brick red background.



b. Subdued. Crude machine sewn on OD twill.



c. Subdued. Good quality machine sewn.

39. 124th Transport Command41. 15th Support Command

a. Color. Machine sewn on twill.



b. Subd. Machine sewn on OD twill.



a. Color. Crude hand sewn grn. on yellow twill.



b. Subd. Machine sewn black on OD twill.

40. 125th Transport Command

a. Color. Hand sewn on brick red twill.



b. Subd. Machine sewn black on OD jungle jacket type material.



c. Subd. Hand sewn black on OD twill.

Note: Examples of the 124th, 125th Transport Commands plus 15th Support Command. that are theatre made are very hard to find. Also STRATCOM & CMAC.

C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches

42. 9th Logistical Command (served in Thailand)

Note: The author has not found either color or subdued theatre made patches of this unit. In 1965, this unit wore theatre made "THAILAND" tabs above their shoulder patch (unauthorized). See "b" under MAAG THAILAND.

43. MAAG THAILAND

a. Color. One piece. Local manuf. Hand sewn.



b. Color. Patch odd pastel colors Asian embr. Tab local manuf.

44. Deputy Chief, JUSMAG

a. Subd. Machine sewn on OD twill. Classified missions in Laos (see new SF book by Gordon Rottman).

45. US Army Support Command Thailand

a. Subd. Machine embr. on ripstop jungle cloth. b. Subd. Machine sewn on jungle fat. cloth.

46. MAAG LAOS

a. Color. One piece const. hand sewn on blue twill.



b. Color. Hand sewn.



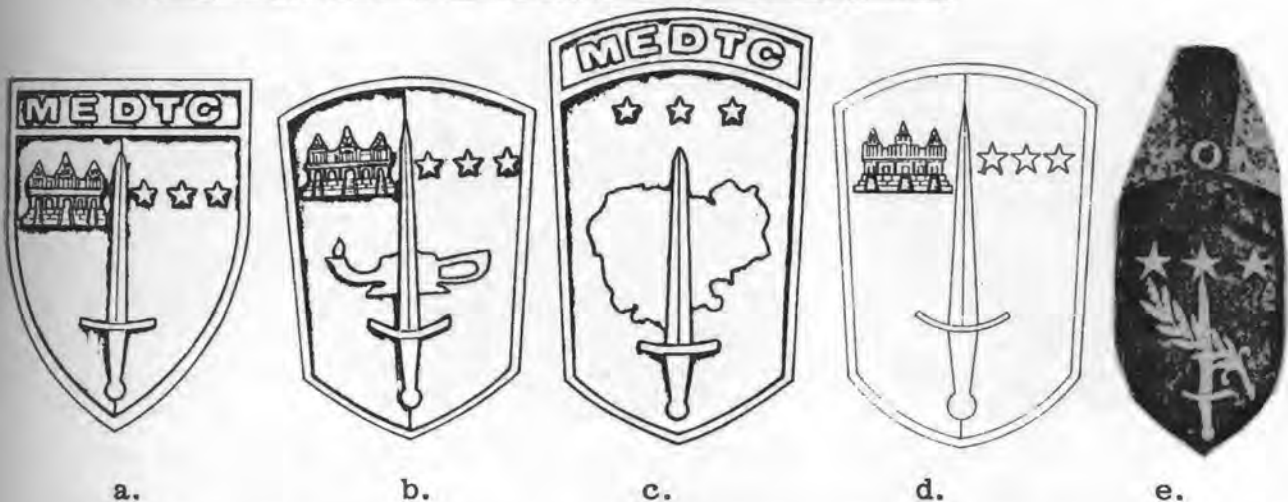
c. Color. Crude machine embroidered in Asia. d. Subd. Hand sewn on camoufl. cloth.



C. Theatre Made Unit Shoulder Patches47. MAAG Cambodia

NOTE: The five different insignia of the "Military Equipment Delivery Team Cambodia" (MEDTC) shown below are zeroxed from articles in the ASMIC Trading Post (Jan-Mar 84 & Jan-Mar 85) by Shelby L. Stanton. See these excellent articles for details.

a. Color. Hand sewn. b. Color. Hand sewn.

48. Military Equipment Delivery Team Cambodia (MEDTC)

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

D. Theatre Made Beret Flashes (All beret flashes are full color unless noted)1. 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

a. Machine made in Vietnam. On uncut square piece of black twill.
 b. Hand embr. 2nd Lt. bar direct embr. in center.
 c. Same 1st Lt. bar direct embroidered.
 d. Same. Capt. bars direct embr. in center.

Note: Beret flashes with direct embroidered officers rank insignia or other emblems are not authorized and were not widely used by SF personnel. These are original made in Vietnam but were made by and for collectors circa 1972.

D. Theatre Made Beret Flashes1. 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) continued

e. Same. Major leaf direct embroidered. f. Same. Lt. Col. leaf direct embr. g. Same. Colonel's Eagle direct embr. h. Same. Skull & crossbones direct embr. Exact use unknown.



i. Same. Warrant officer bar direct embr.

j. Machine embr. in VN. Unauthorized worn by US Navy Petty Officer (SEAL?) attached to SF.

k. Same with US Navy Officer's emblem direct embroidered. 5th Gp. had a US Navy liaison group attached.

2. 46th SF Company (Abn) Thailand3. Cambodian Individual Training Group4. SF Field Epidemiological Team (Abn)

a. Hand sewn.

a. Hand sewn

b. Machine sewn

quilted pattern. on blue twill.

a. Hand sewn.

NOTE: For further details and information on these SF beret flashes, see "US Army Special Forces 1952-84" by Gordon L. Rottman (Osprey-Elite Series).

D. Theatre Made Beret Flashes

White Star Mobile 6. 5th Mobile
Eng. Teams Laos Strike Force

7. 9th Inf. Div.
"LRRP"

8. 11th ACR
"LRRP"



a. Machine embr. on
red felt.

a. Machine embr.
on pale blue.

a. Hand sewn on
white twill.

a. Machine sewn
black ltrs. &
edges.

8. 11th ACR (continued)9. 17th Cavalry

b. "LRRP" Hand
sewn.

c. "LRRP"
same.

d. "ARP" (Aero-
Rifle Platoon)
machine sewn.

a. 2-17th Cav. Red &
white shield, blue
outer edge. Possibly
also used by B-1-17.

9. 17th Cavalry (continued)10. 75th Infantry (Ranger)

b. 3-17th Cav. Red & white shield with white edge. Possibly also used by E-17th Cav.

c. 7-17th Cav. Red & white shield with black edge.

a. Crude machine sewn.

b. Machine sewn.

Note: Much confusion exists on exact use of the various 17th Cav. flashes
 All were unofficial and usage probably varied from year to year.

D. Theatre Made Beret Flashes
 11. 75th Infantry(Ranger)continued



c. Hand sewn.



d. Machine sewn.

12. 173rd Abn. Bde. LRRP



a. Machine sewn. Red upper panel, blue lower. Bend is SVN colors-3red on yellow.

E. LRRP & RECONDO Pocket Patches

1. 1st Cav. Div. RECONDO



a. Subd. on OD twill.

2. 4th Inf. Div. LRRP (Long Range Recon Patrol)



a. Color. Machine sewn. SVN colors in circle.



b. Color. Odd Asian factory embroidered. Circle-SVN colors.

3. 5th Inf. Div. RECONDO



c. Color. Machine sewn in Vietnam. on forest grn. twill. Dark grn. ivy.



a. Subd. Factory embr. on OD twill.



b. Subd. Factory embr. on odd lime grn. twill.

NOTE: For further details on "RECONDO" insignia, see ASMIC article by W.A. Hudspeath in Jul-Sep. 1983 Trading Post.

E. LRRP, RECONDO & RANGER Pocket Patches

4. 5th Special Forces Group(Abn) RECONDO

a. Color. Machine sewn black on white twill.



b. Color. Machine sewn black on white twill.



c. Subd. Factory embroid. black on OD twill. Issue.



d. Subd. Crude hand sewn on OD twill.



e. Subd. Machine sewn on OD twill. Note grn. outer edge.



f. Subd. Very crude hand sewn on OD twill. Used.



g. Subd. Nice quality hand sewn. Black velvet "V" on OD twill.



h. Subd. Factory embr. Odd shape and very small size "V".



i. Subd. Hand sewn black on camouflage jungle jacket material. Very small overall size.

Note: For further details on the 5th SF Gp. RECONDO insignia and school, see the article by the author in the Jan-Mar. 1985 issue of ASMIC Trading Post. Several of the RECONDO insignia shown in this section are machine embroidered in the USA, and are so noted in individual descriptions as "Factory Embroidered". These are US made as they were officially issued and authorized insignia. Many of the theatre made insignia were never officially authorized by the U.S. Army.

E. LRRP, RECONDO & RANGER Pocket Patches4. 5th SF Gp. RECONDO (cont)5. 9th Infantry Division RECONDO

j. Subd. Arrowhead divided OD & black with lime grn. Arrow & light.



a. Color & Subd. versions exist. Machine sewn in Vietnam.



b. Subd. Fact. embr. in USA. ID not confirmed.



c. Subd. Same as "b" but different shape & size.

6. 25th Infantry Division RECONDO

a. Color. Hand sewn in Vietnam.



b. Color. Machine sewn in Vietnam.



c. Subd. Factory embr. in USA. Issue.

7. G company, 75th Inf. RANGER RECONDO8. 75th Inf. RANGER Pocket Patches

a. Subd. Machine sewn in Vietnam.



b. Subd. Same as "a" but different shape.



a. Color. Odd Asian embroid. with twill background. Based on 75th Inf. DI.

E. LRRP, RECONDO & RANGER Pocket Patches8. 75th Inf. RANGER Pocket Patches (continued)

b. Color. Odd Asian Embr. c. Color. Hand sewn.

d. Subd. Hand sewn.

9. 82nd Airborne Division RECONDO & LRRP

a. Color. Red & blue on white twill. "RECONDO"
 b. Subd. Blk. circle, olive ltrs. on OD twill. Same.
 c. Subd. "LRRP" added above. Same colors.
 d. Subd. Odd colors tan twill, black edges. Grn. circle.

Note: All four 82nd Abn. Div. insignia are US factory embroidered.

10. 101st Airborne Div. RECONDO11. Cambodian Individual Training Group

a. US factory embr.
 Color: blk. on white. Subd: Blk. on OD.
 b. Subd. Machine embr. somewhere in Asia.

a. Color. "RECONDO"
 Very rare example is owned by author came from SF vet who served in this unit in '72.
 OD twill arrowhead, white skull, grey cobra, flags full colors.

F. Theatre Made Tabs and Arcs

1. Tab and Arcs- Full Color

a.1.red on white.
2.blue on green.



b.1.yellow on blk.
2.white on blue.
3.orange on blk.



c.yellow on black.



d.yellow on cammy.



e.yellow on OD grn.



f.1.white on blk.
2.gold on blue.
3.white on red.



g.white & red on blk.



h.white & red on Blk.



i.White& blk.on lt. blue.



j.Blue & red on white.



k.Green on black.



l.1.White on black.
2.white on blue.



m.1.white on black.
2.yellow on black.
3.gold on black.



n.1.yellow on OD grn.
2.red on OD grn.



o.orange on OD grn.



p.yellow on black ..



q.white on black.



r.yellow on black.



s. red on OD grn.



t.red ltrs. blue edge on white.



u.yellow on black.



v.yellow on blue.



w.red & black on white.

F. Theatre Made Tabs and Arcs

1. Tabs and Arcs-Full Color (continued)



x. Blue on yellow.

y. Red on green. "SFOB"
"Spl. Forces Opns. Base"

z. Yellow on blk.



aa. White on dark blue.



bb. Yellow on black.



cc. Orange on black. dd. Same.

ee. Orange on white.
(see author's earlier book
for addl. Signal Bns.)

ff. White on red.



gg. red & blue on white.

hh. 1. white on black.
2. white on blue.
3. red on white.
4. gold on red.

ii. White on blue.

jj. Red & white
on blue.

Note: Tabs & arcs illustrated in gg thru oo are examples of a large number of unofficial insignia that were theatre made and worn on so-called "Bush hats" which were "cowboy" type full brimmed hats made of OD green twill, camouflage materials, etc. and worn unofficially, often with one side folded up "Australian" style. These insignia exist for almost every major base or town in Thailand and Vietnam.

F. Theatre Made Tabs and Arcs

1. Tabs and Arcs-Full Color (continued)



kk. GOLD on black.



ll. yellow on black.



mm. White & red on blue.



nn. Yellow on red.



oo. Yellow on red.

2. Tabs and Arcs- Subdued (all are Black on OD twill unless noted)



a.



b.



c. Tan outer edges.



d.



e.



f.



g.



h.



i.



j.



k.



l.



m.



n.



o.



p.



q.

Note: Many minor variations exist, those shown are typical examples.

F. Theatre Made Tabs and Arcs

2. Tabs and Arcs-Subdued (continued)



r. There are many different arcs this size and shape. See author's earlier book.

s.

t.



u.



v.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (color and subdued)



1. White ltrs. red edges on blk.



2. Same colors.



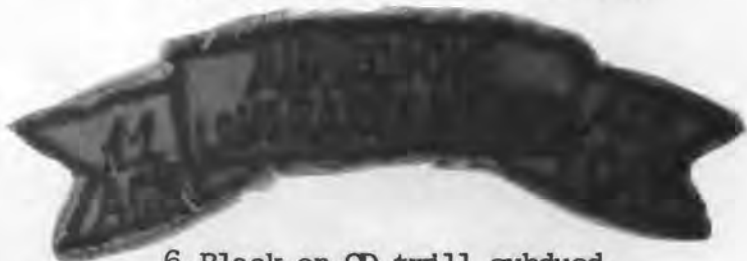
3. White on blue.



4. White ltrs. red edges on blk.



5. Same colors.



6. Black on OD twill subdued.

Note: Section "G" on scrolls again has representative examples. Much unnecessary repetition has avoided by showing one example of each major series. Example: in the series of scrolls of RANGER companies, only one of each major style or type is shown. For more details, see the author's earlier book, "US Army Shoulder Sleeve Insignia of the Vietnam War" dated 1982.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)



7. White ltrs. Red edges on blk.



8. Same colors.



9. Same colors.



10. White ltrs. red edges on cammy.

11. White ltrs. red edges on blk.
Company C only in this style.12. Same colors.
Co. L only in this style.

13. Same colors. Co. N only.



14. Black on camouflage. Co. N only.

15. White ltrs. red edges on blk.
Co. N only in this style.16. Subdued. Black on OD twill.
Cos. C thru P exist in this style.

Note: Many minor variations exist in these RANGER Companies. Some are theatre made and actually used by unit members, others were made in quantity for collectors. Many replicas or fakes also exist!

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)

Note: Companies C thru P exist in each of the styles shown below ("q" to "x")



17..White ltrs.Red edges on black twill.



18 . Same colors.



19. Same colors.



20. Same colors.



Major unit on right.
21. Same colors.



22. Same colors.



23. Same colors.



24. Same colors.



25 . Same colors.D co.151st only.

Note:D company,151st Inf.
(RANGER) was a Indiana
National Guard unit called
to active duty after the
"Pueblo Incident" in 1968.
This unit served a one yr.
tour in Vietnam with honor.
Its unit members were very
heavily decorated for valor.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)



26. White ltrs. Red edges on black.



27. Divided red upper, white lower, blk. ltrs. edges.

28. 1. Red ltrs. & edges on black.
2. White ltrs. Red edges on blk.

29. Colors not confirmed.



30. Yellow ltrs. & edges on lt. blue.



31. Yellow ltrs. & edges on blk. 101st Abn. Div. ?



32. Gold ltrs. & edges on blk.



33. Same colors.



34. Red ltrs. & edges on blk.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)



35. White ltrs. & Red edges on blk.



36. Same colors.



37. Same colors. Special Forces?



38. Subd. black on OD twill.



39. White on medium blue.



40. Yellow on black.



41. White on black.



42. Yellow on black.



43. Yellow on black.



44. Subd. Black on OD twill.



45. Red on pale blue.



46. Red on black.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)



47. White on black.



48. Yellow on black.



49. Subd. Black on OD.

50. Red on pale blue.
"AIRBORNE" in white.

51. White ltrs. Red edges on blk.



52. Same colors.



53. Yellow ltrs. Red edges on blk.



54. Same colors.



55. White ltrs. Red edges. on blk.

56. Red ltrs. & edges,
Yellow lightning bolts
& sun on black.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)

57. Gold on black.



58. Same colors.



59. Same colors.



60. Same colors.



61. Same colors.



62. Same colors.



63. Same colors.



64. Same colors.



65. Same colors.



66. Same colors.



67. White on blue.



68. Yellow ltrs. & sabres on red & white scroll, black edges.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)



69. Red ltrs. & edges on
pale blue.
Gold on black.



70. Yellow on black.
"Screaming Eagle Replacement
Training School".



71. Gold on black.



72. Gold on black.



73. Yellow on black.



74. Red on black.



75. White ltrs. Red edges
on black.



76. Black ltrs. & edges
on white. OD grn. outer edge.



77. Yellow on black.



78. White on dark blue.

G. Theatre Made Scrolls (continued)79. White ltrs. Red edges on blk.
(18th Combat Aviation Co.)

80. Same colors.

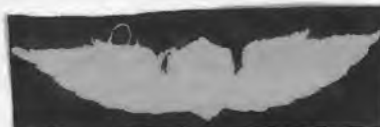


81. Same colors.



82. Same colors.

Note: Over 50 variations of the "VIETNAMESE RANGER" scrolls have been observed on black or camouflage cloth including Groups, Companies, Battalions, "RCN" for "RECON" plus High Command. See the author's 1982 book for further details and lists.

H. Theatre made Combat and Specialty Badges:1. Air Assault Badge
(11th Air Assault Div.)2. Army Aviator (Pilot)
Full color. White on OD.

3. Same



4. Army Aviator. Subdued.



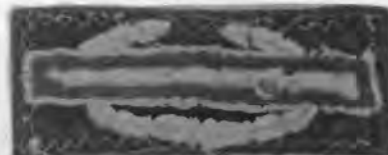
5. Aircrewman. Full Color.



6. Same. Subdued.



7. Senior Aircrewman. Subd.

8. Combat Infantry Badge
(CIB) 1st Award. Full color.
White wreath, musket & edges,
blue background.

9. Same. Color.

H. Theatre Made Combat and Specialty Badges (continued):

10. CIB. Color.



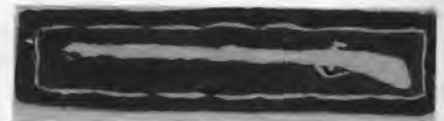
11. CIB. Color



12. CIB 2nd Award. Color.

13. CIB. Subd. Blue
musket on black.

14. CIB. Subd.

15. Expert Inf. Badge.
Color hand sewn.

16. Combat Medic badge. Color. White on CD,



17. Same.



18. Same.

19. Same Subd. White
details on black.

20. Same. Subdued.



21. Expert Medic. White on CD grn.

22. Explosive
Ordnance Disp.
Basic. Subd.23. Same. Note grn.
edging for details.24. Basic Parachut-
ist Badge. Color.

25. Same.



26. Same.

27. Same but on camou-
flage material.

28. Same. Subdued.



29. Same. Subd.

30. Same. Subd.
Crude.

31. Same. Subd. Crude.

Note: Many minor variations exist for these combat and specialty badges, from very high quality to very crude...both color and subdued...on many types of material...fatigue cloth, camouflage cloth, etc.

H. Theatre Made Combat and Specialty Badges (continued)

32. Senior Parachut. Color.



33. Same. Subd.



34. Master Parachut. Color.



35. Same. Color. Very crude.



36. Same. Color.



37. Same. Subd. Very crude.



38. Same. Subd. Crude.



39. Pathfinder. Red flames, grn. details on OD.



40. Parachute Rigger Badge. Subd. "RIGGER" in red. Blk. wings.



41. Jungle Expert pocket patch. Color. White words & ship, red cross on blue disc.



42. Same. Subdued. Black on OD twill. Black words & edges.



43. Same. Subdued. Black words & ship, tan edges & cross.



44. Same. Subdued. Very crude. Black words, ship & edges on OD twill.

I. Theatre Made Officer's Collar Branch/Grade Insignia:

Note: Due to shortages of supply plus the advent of "subdued" sew-on officer's collar insignia for branch and grade(rank), much of this type insignia was locally manufactured in tailor shops in SE Asia. Below are examples available to the author.



1. Adj. Gen.
color.



2. Air Def. Arty.
Color.



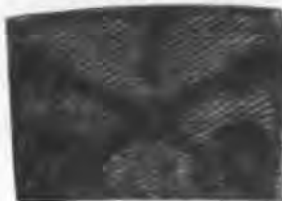
3. ADA. Subd.



4. Field Arty.
Color.



5. Cavalry
Subd.



6. 7th Cav. Subd.



7. 2nd Sqn. 11th
Cav. Subd.



8. Christian
Chaplain Color.



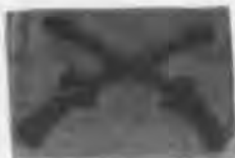
9. Engineer
Color.



10. Engineer
Color.



11. Gen. Staff
Color.



12. Infantry
Subd.



13. Medical-
Vet. Color.



14. Medical-
432nd DIG(?)
Dental unit?



15. Ordnance
Subd.



16. Quartermaster
Color.



17. Warrant
Officer. Subd.



18. Captain
Subd.



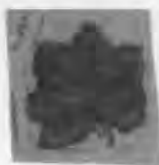
19. Captain.
Subd.



20. Major.
Subd. Bronze



21. Lt. Colonel
Color.



22. Lt. Colonel
Subd. Black.



23. Colonel
Color.

J. "Iron-on" Officer's Collar Insignia:

1. Air Def. Arty. 2. Field Arty. 3. Armor-Cavalry 4. Engineer 5. Infantry



6. Insp. General 7. Medical-Dentist 8. Medical-Vet 9. Mil. Intell. 10. Transport.



11. Captain.

Note: "Iron-on" insignia has been used heavily in the U.S. Navy and USMC, but has not been used officially in the U.S. Army. However, "Iron-on" insignia was used unofficially by Army personnel in Vietnam from 1969-72. In addition to rank and branch officer's insignia, examples have also been seen for "U.S. ARMY" pocket tapes plus nametapes and several unit shoulder patches including: MACV, USARV, Special Forces, I FFV, II FFV, 173rd Abn. Bde., 82nd Abn. Div., 101st Abn. Div., 18th & 20th Engr. Bdes. and 18th MP Bde. Also observed are "RANGER" tabs, "AIRBORNE" tabs, "PATHFINDER" and Paratroop badges.

K. Theatre Made "U.S. ARMY" Pocket Tapes and Nametapes:

1. Subdued.



2. Subdued.



3. Early Black on White.



4. Subdued.



5. Subdued.



6. Subdued.



7. Subdued.



8. Subdued.

K. Theatre Made "U.S.ARMY" Pocket Tapes and Nametapes(continued):

9.Subdued.From Special Forces Vet off jungle jacket
Words mean " Death to Vietnamese Communists"

L. Theatre Made EM Chevrons:

1.Subd.PFC E-2
Black velvet.



2. Same.



3.Subd. Lance Cpl.
E-3. Black Velvet.



4.Cpl. E-4
Hand sewn.



5.Subd.Sgt.E-5
Hand sewn.



6.Subd.Sgt.
E-5. Velvet.



7.Subd.Staff Sgt.
E-6.Hand sewn.



8.Subd.Staff Sgt.
E-6. Velvet.



9.Subd.Plt.Sgt.
E-7.Velvet.



10.Color.Master
Sgt. E-8. Hand
sewn yellow on
grn. twill.



11.Subd.Master
Sgt. E-8.
Black velvet.



12.Subd.Sgt.Major
E-9. Velvet.

L. Theatre Made EM Chevrons (continued)



13. Color. Sp-4

14. Subd. Sp-4.
Hand sewn.

15. Same.

16. Subd. Sp-5
Velvet stripe.

17. Same.

18. Subd. Sp-6.
Velvet stripes.

Note: Section "L" illustrates examples of local manufactured EM chevrons...there are endless varieties since each was hand made using local materials. The author has not seen local made examples of Command Sgt. Major E-9 or Sp-7.

M. Theatre Made Novelty Patches

1. Blue inner circle, pale
red outer, white peace sign,
edges & letters.2. White circle, black
edges & letters. Red
& blue inner circles.3. Black disc, yellow
letters & edges.
Map of SE Asian
countries multi-
colors.4. Black disc, white ltrs.
& edges. "Survivor" in blk.
Center has 4 flags.5. White disc, black
edges, words & rifle.
Figure grn, edges white.

Note: This section contains examples of the many unofficial, sometimes obscene, Novelty patches used by GI's in Vietnam-which illustrate the attitude of those GI's.

M. Theatre Made Novelty Patches (continued)



6. Black disc, red ltrs.
Upper inner circles
red & blue. Lower white.



7. Black, white ltrs.
Upper red, Thai flag.
Red & white peace
sign.



8. Red shield,
blk. boots, grn. hel-
met, white ltrs.



9. Lt. Blue shield, Blk. edge,
White glass & ltrs. pink
lady.



10. 2nd Inf. Regt. DI but
cactus has been changed
to obscene hand.



11. Yellow disc,
black letters,
edges & figure.
3 red horizontal
stripes (SVN).



12. Same colors.



13. White background, Red letters,
Black face and edges.

M. Theatre Made Novelty Patches (continued)

14. White on lt. blue.



15. Black on yellow.



16. White on red.



17. White on red.

N. Late Additions

Below are photos of additional variations of Theatre Made unit shoulder patches, tabs and scrolls seen at the recent ASMIC National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, or borrowed from collectors since earlier portions of the book were completed. Several are so rare or unusual, the decision was made to add them at the end of this book rather than miss them in this book:

1. Color. Hand sewn.
Edges & ltrs. yellow.2. Color. Hand sewn. Tab
above turquoise grn.
with white ltrs.3. Subd. SSI has blk. vel-
vet panels. Attached tab
Blk. edge, white ltrs. on
OD grn. twill.

N. Late Additions (continued)

4. Color. Machine sewn.
Tab yellow on blk.



5. Color. Machine sewn.
Black shield, red edge
White ltrs. Exact use
unknown. 1st Inf. Div?



6. Color. Hand sewn.
White on blue. Red
M-16 rifle.



7. Subd. Machine sewn.
Blk. on OD. White "3".
3rd Bde. 4th Inf. Div.



8. Subd. Blk. on OD.
Machine sewn. White
sword in center.



9. Subd. Hand sewn
on jungle cammy.
Blk. elephants &
edges. Gray details.



10. Subd. Sewn direct
onto jungle jacket.



11. Subd. Machine sewn.
Blk. on OD. Unit?



12. Color. Machine sewn.
White ltrs. Red edges
on black.



13. Subd. Blk. sewn directly
into OD jungle jacket.



14. Color. Gold on blk.

O. Glossary of Terms/ Abbreviations

Abn.	Airborne
ACR	Armored Cavalry Regiment
ADA	Air Defense Artillery
AG or Adj.Gen.	Adjutant General
approx.	approximately
Armd.	Armored
ARVN	Army Republic of Vietnam
ARP	Aerorifle Platoon
Arty.	Artillery
ASMIC	American Society of Military Insignia Collectors
Assist.	Assistance
Avn.	Aviation
backgrd.	background
Bde.	Brigade
blk.	black
B&W	black and white (photos)
Cammy	Camouflage
Cav	Cavlary
CIB	Combat Infantry Badge
CIDG	Civilian Irregular Defense Group
CMAC	Capital Military Assistance Command
Cmd.	Command
const.	construction
CPL.	Corporal
descr.	description
DI	Distinctive Insignia (also commonly called "unit crest")
Div.	Division
EM	Enlisted Men
Engr.	Engineer
fat.	fatigue
FFV	Field Force Vietnam
Ft.	Fort
grn.	green
horiz.	horizontal
Inf.	Infantry
Log.	Logistical
LRRP	Long Range Recon Patrol
lt.	light
Lt.Col.	Lieutenant Colonel
ltrs.	letters
MAAG	Military Assistance Advisory Group
MACV	Military Assistance Command Vietnam
Med.	Medical
mil.	military
MP	Military Police
OD	Olive Drab (olive green widely used in US Army)
pc.	piece
PFC	Private First Class
Plt.	Platoon
RECONDO	"Recon Commando"
Regt.	Regiment
SE	Southeast

O. Glossary of Terms/ Abbreviations (continued)

SF	Special Forces
Sp. or Spec.	Specialist
sq.	square
Sgt.	Sergeant
SSI	Shoulder Sleeve Insignia (official term for shoulder patch)
STRATCOM	Strategic Army Communications Command
subd.	subdued (insignia of darker shades, normally OD & black, used on fatigue, combat & jungle uniforms).
SVN	South Vietnam
twill	Cotton cloth woven in a linear pattern, most commonly used on OD color cotton "fatigue" uniforms.
USARV	U.S. Army Vietnam
vert.	vertical
Vet	Veterinarian
VN	Vietnam

P. Contributors:

The author wishes to recognize those individuals who have assisted him in the preparations of this book by sharing insignia in their collection, offering other valuable information or by their encouragement!

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WHEN I DIE I'LL GO TO HEAVEN BECAUSE
I'VE SPENT MY TIME IN HELL

ANKHE



DA HANG
VIETNAM

67.68