

BOC
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 159TH AVIATION BATTALION (ASLT SPT HBL)(AMBL)
101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)
APO San Francisco 96383

AVDG-AV-DJ

22 June 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

ATTN: ASSISTANT DIVISION AVIATION OFFICER

SUBJECT: Support Provided 101st Airborne Division (Ambl) by 179th ASH Co.

1. The following comments are based on an evaluation of statistics accumulated during March, April and May 1971. Units flying hours are as follows:

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>179th</u>
March	1026	1061	946	978
April	814	826	790	658
May	818	831	817	762
TOTALS	2658	2718	2553	2398

2. Experience has shown that the units of the 159th ASH Bn can sustain a flying hour program of 36 flying hours per day per company for an indefinite period of time. Using the 36 hour per company per day the figures would have been exceeded approximately 66% of the time for the period evaluated.

Flying Hour Program Required Without
Support Provided by 179th ASH Bn

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
March	1352*	1387*	1272*
April	1031	1043	1007 (see note)
May	1105*	1118*	1104*

* exceeds 36 hr per day per co

NOTE: Lam Son 720 began mid-Apr

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3. Recent trends in the increased use of ALOC in lieu of supplies to forward LZ's has added an estimated 180 hours per month to the overall mission support requirements placed upon the 159th ASH Bn during the past two months. Less Son 720 has established new and more distant fire bases. The logistical base areas remain unchanged. Thus, more flight time is being required to properly support these new fire bases.

4. CONCLUSION: The loss of the support provided the 101st Airborne Division (AAB1) by the 179th ASH Co would be proportional to the amount that the flying hour program exceeds 36 hours per company per day on a sustained basis. A portion of the shortfall in support can be offset by better use of existing road nets in the area of operation to reduce flight time per sortie. The increased use of mission priority statements on daily mission sheets could help further reduce the loss of the critical support provided by the 179th. If no change in the level of current ALOC activity in the area of operation and increased use of the existing road net cannot be forecast the 179th ASH Co should be retained in an OPCOE status with the 159th ASH Bn.

WILLIS E. DAVIS
LTC, INF
Commanding

