

57TH AVIATION COMPANY (AHC)
"GLADIATORS"



PLEIKU VIETNAM

1971





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I AM GRATIFIED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO THE GLADIATORS FOR YOUR SUPERB PERFORMANCE OF AN EXCEPTIONALLY DANGEROUS AND DIFFICULT MISSION.

YOU ARE BRAVE AND DEDICATED SOLDIERS. IN SPITE OF THE INTENSE ENEMY FIRE AND THE EXTREME AIRCRAFT STRESSES WHICH YOUR MISSION ENTAILS, YOU HAVE CONSTANTLY MET THE CHALLENGE.

IT IS AMERICANS SUCH AS YOU WHO WILL SUSTAIN THE INHERENT STRENGTH OF THE U.S.ARMY AND OF OUR NATION.

RUSSELL D. NELSON
LTC, CE
Commanding



MAJ RICHARD A. JAMES Battalion Executive Officer



CSM PETER BARILOVICH Commanding Sargent Major
52nd Aviation Battalion (Combat)



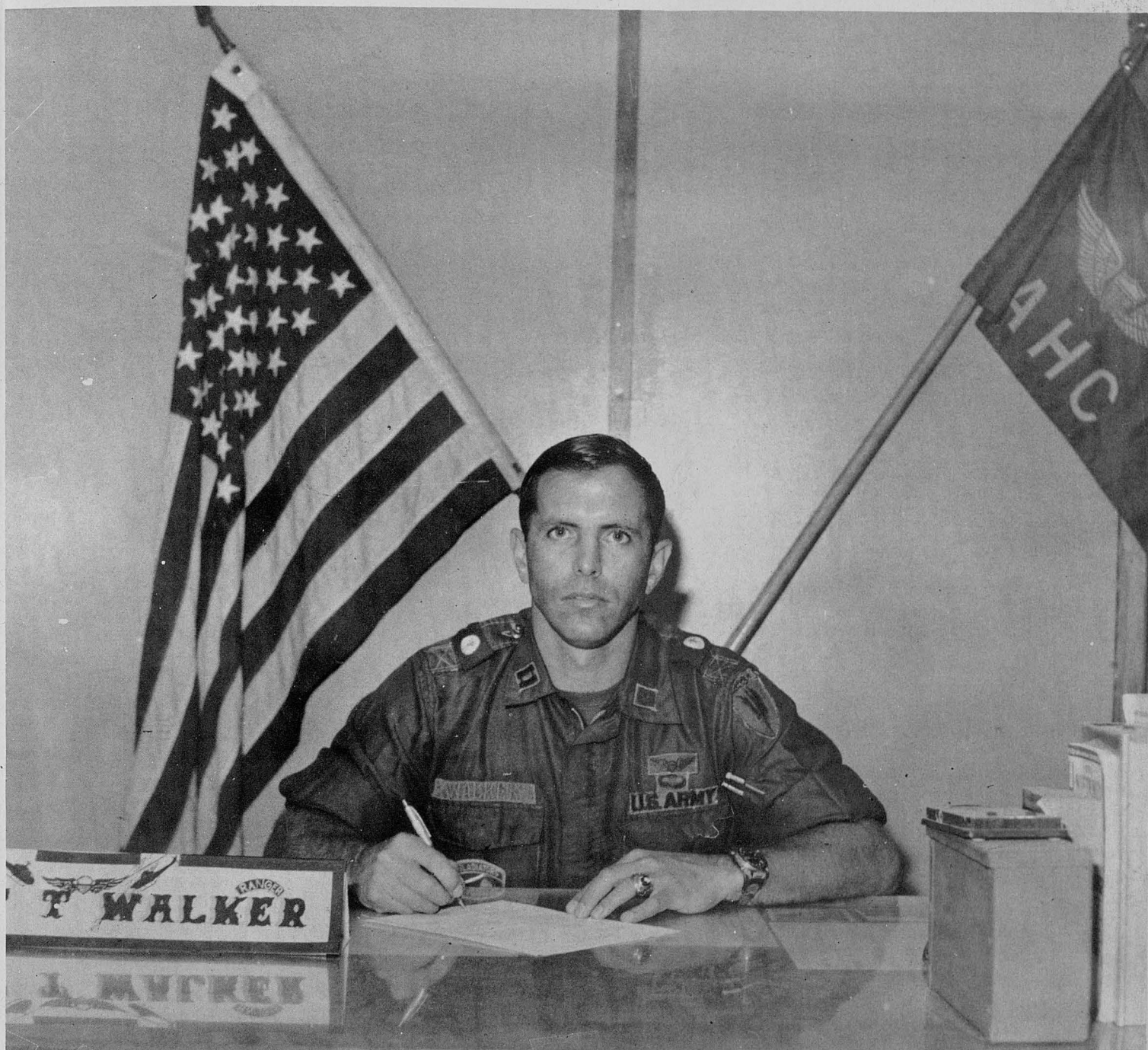
HISTORY OF 57TH AVIATION COMPANY

On 10 February 1967 the 57th AHC was reorganized from an Airmobile Fixed Wing Company to an Assault Helicopter Company. October 1967 saw the 57th deployed to Vietnam and by the end of December it was operating from its new home at Kontum in northwest II Corps. The 57th's primary mission is to provide tactical air mobility of combat troops, supplies, equipment, and aerial fire support within the II Corps area.

During the seige of Dak To in November 1967, the 57th proved itself to be combat ready and capable of handling any mission assigned to it. 1968 saw the Tet Offensive hit Kontum. Other than suffering an initial sapper attack on 10 January the 57th AHC kept the compound secured from all ground attacks. During the remainder of the year normal missions were carried out in such a manner which gave recognition to the 57th as a highly professional unit ready to take on any task. The unit's motto of "Try Us" came into being with everybody giving their utmost for any unit supported by the 57th. 1969 saw the 57th flying FOB II in support of the 5th Special Forces Group (ABN), out of Kontum. This is a highly classified mission with a normal rotation of four months for each unit assigned to it but the 57th AHC did such an outstanding job with a minimum loss of personnel and equipment that it was put on an indefinite status. The seige of Ben Het began in June with the 57th playing a significant role in supplying the battered camp and bravely making dustoffs under intensive ground and mortar fire. March 1970 saw the 57th pack its bags and move to An Khe with its new primary mission to support the 4th Infantry Division. In April the 57th was once again flying up near the tri-border area as the Special Forces camp of Dak Seang was under seige. After a month of fierce fighting, the NVA retreated back into Laos. Thanks to emergency resupply by the 57th AHC and other aviation units in the 52d Battalion, the camp repelled all the ground attacks.

May 1970, saw the invasion of Cambodia. By early June all the U.S. forces that the 57th were supporting had been withdrawn, and An Khe became the primary area of operation. From 10 to 15 November 1970, the 57th Aviation Company redeployed to Camp Holloway in Pleiku. The II Corps VIP mission was taken over when the 189th stooddown in 16 November. In January 1971, the 57th took over the FOB II mission from the 170th when it completed its standdown. On 8 January, the Nighthawk was officially christened "Cougar's Revenge".

A Tac-E was declared on March 16, with an enemy ground attack threatening Phu Nhon, a village south of Pleiku. The 57th lifted men and emergency supplies into the besieged compound. Two Gladiators were shot down in separate actions on 29 March with no casualties. Just as Dak To was cooling down, Firebases 5 and 6 exploded their niche into history. On 31 March two aircraft from A/227 known as "Chickenman" were shot down while resupplying FB 6. The eight crewmembers had to E&E as FB 6 was overrun. As soon as the bad weather lifted, the Gladiators extracted the eight downed chickenmen. The Cougars were highly instrumental in the defeat of the enemy during this period. May through September, typically the rainy season, experienced very little enemy activity. The units, the Gladiators have most often supported within the Pleiku/Kontum area are the Ranger Command, 22nd FW, 3rd Armored Cav, the 2nd Ranger Group and the 42nd, 47th ARVN Regiments, and FOB II.



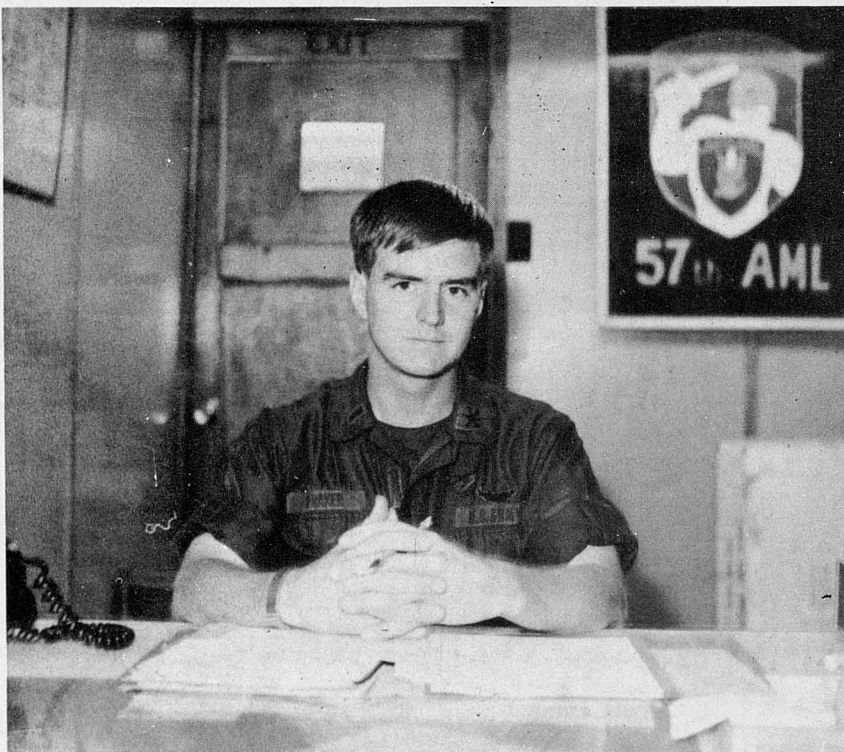
CPT THOMAS M. WALKER

"Gladiator Six" Commanding Officer
57th Aviation Company (ASLT HEL)

THIS ANNUAL IS DEDICATED TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE "FLYING GLADIATORS". YOUR PAST PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE HOSTILE FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAS BEEN NOTHING LESS THAN OUTSTANDING. YOU HAVE SET THE EXAMPLE FOR OTHER AVIATION UNITS TO FOLLOW. AS A COMMANDER I CONSIDER IT AN HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO HAVE SERVED WITH SUCH BRAVE AND DEDICATED SOLDIERS.



CPT DALE JONES Executive Officer



LT RICHARD D. FRAKER Admin Officer





1SG KAHN CARLEY



SP4 PETER JACKSON



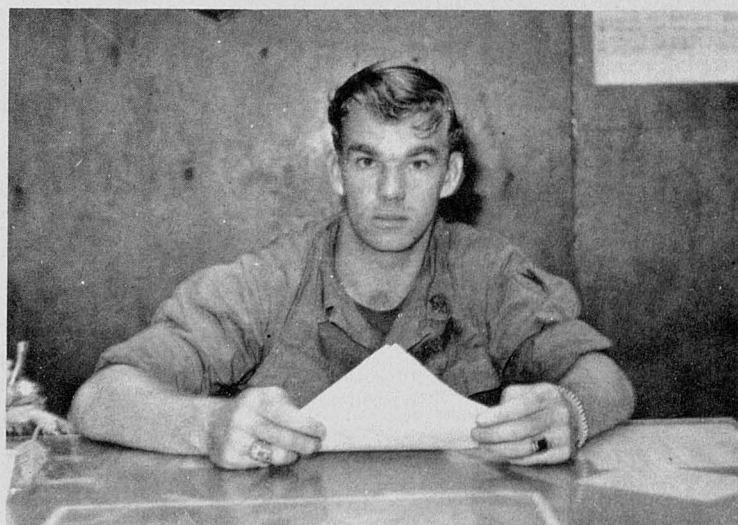
PFC TADEUSE JABLONSKI



SP4 STEVEN BAUER



MRS MIEN



SP4 TONY PHILLIP



" Say Again "



Fearbss ? Leaders



Magnificant Seven



And away we go



Safety what ?



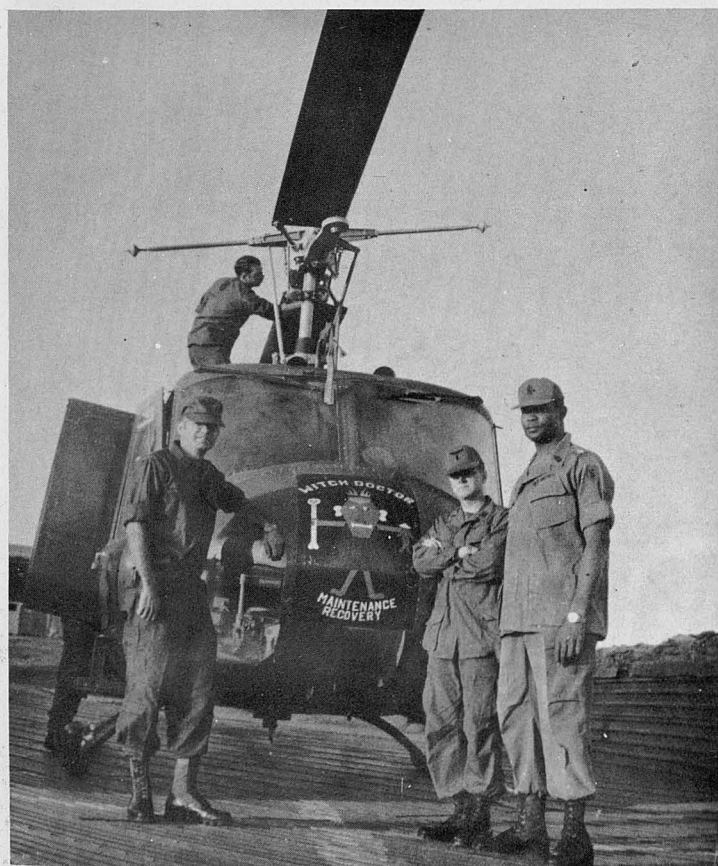
The fearsome Foursome



The Gladiator



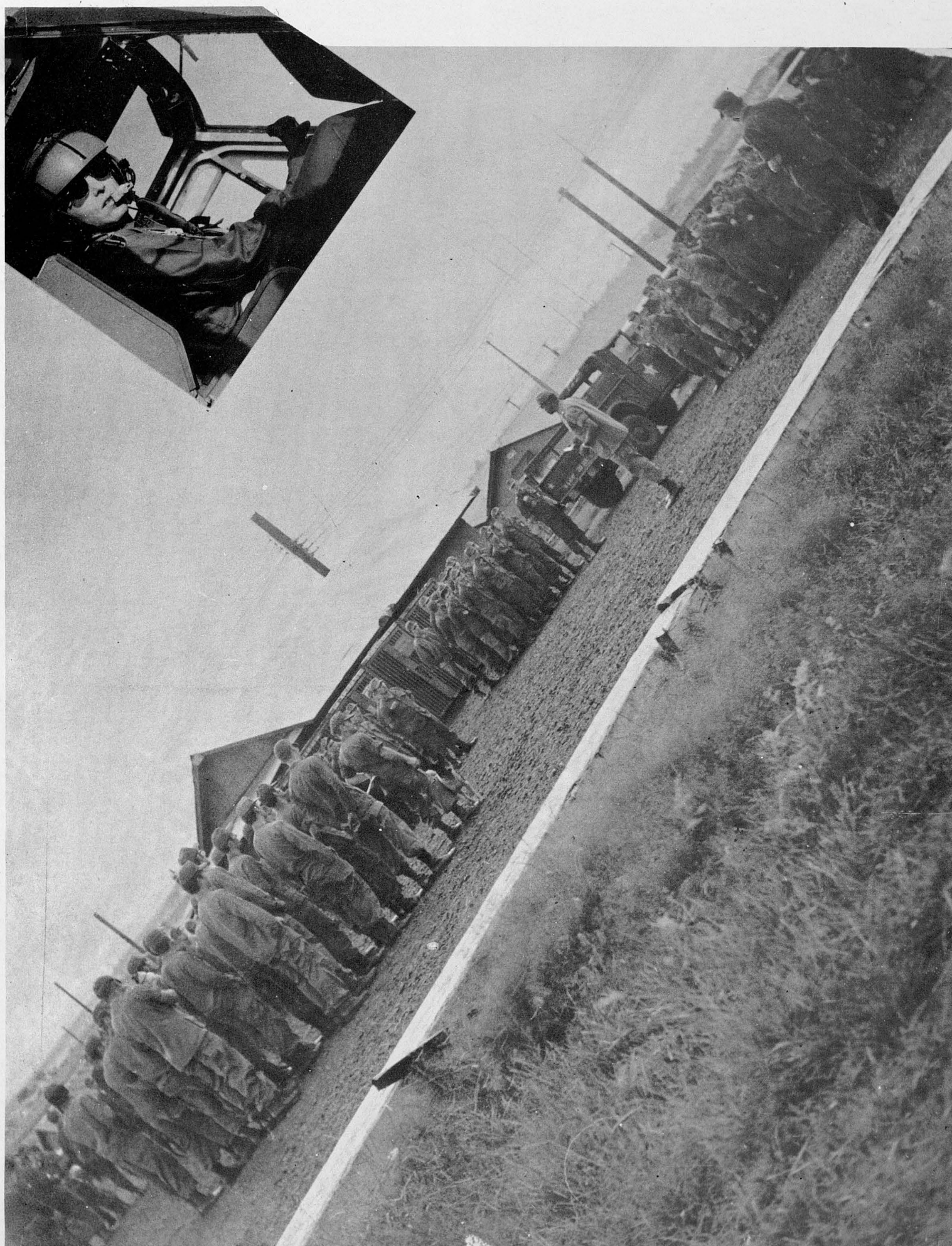
They said it couldn't be done



I don't care who you are,
I won't go.



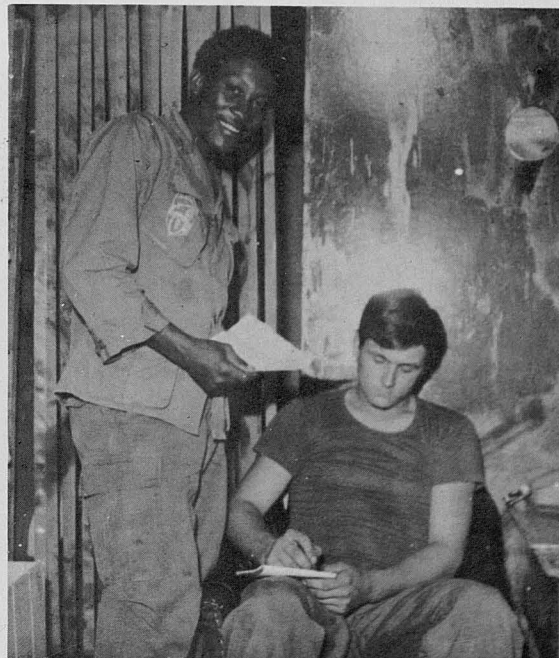
Look mon - Tools of the trade.



Did you ever have one of those mornings ?



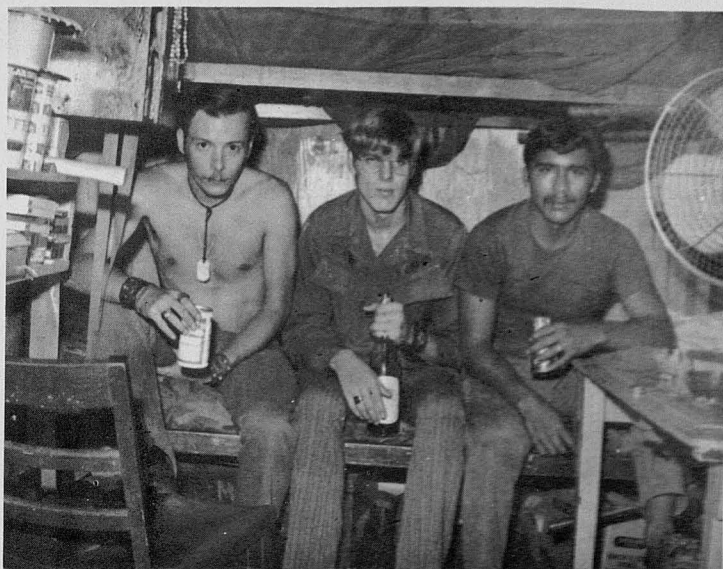
Not my finger - The wires



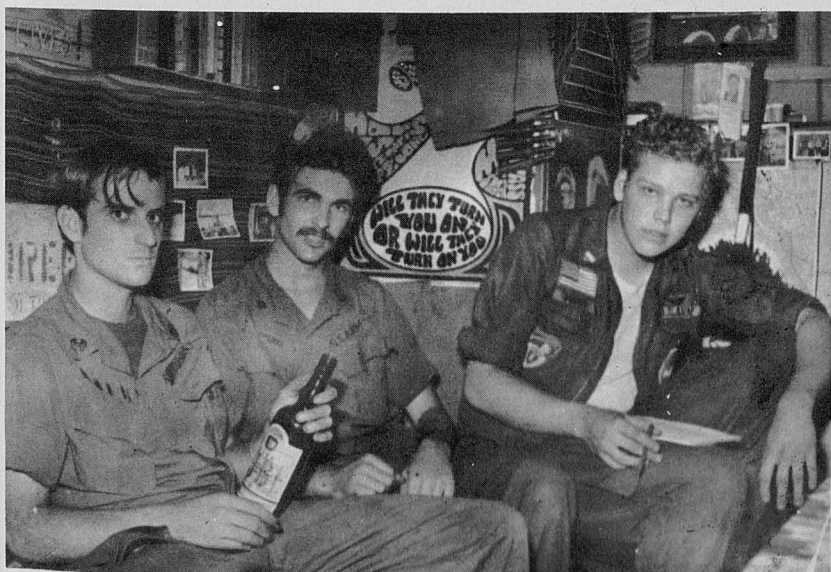
Now take this down



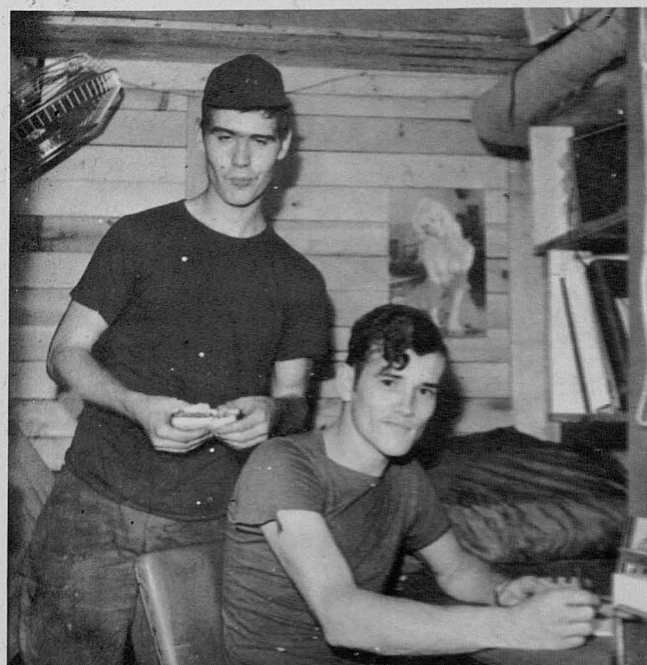
Let's see - According to the Book



We've only just begun



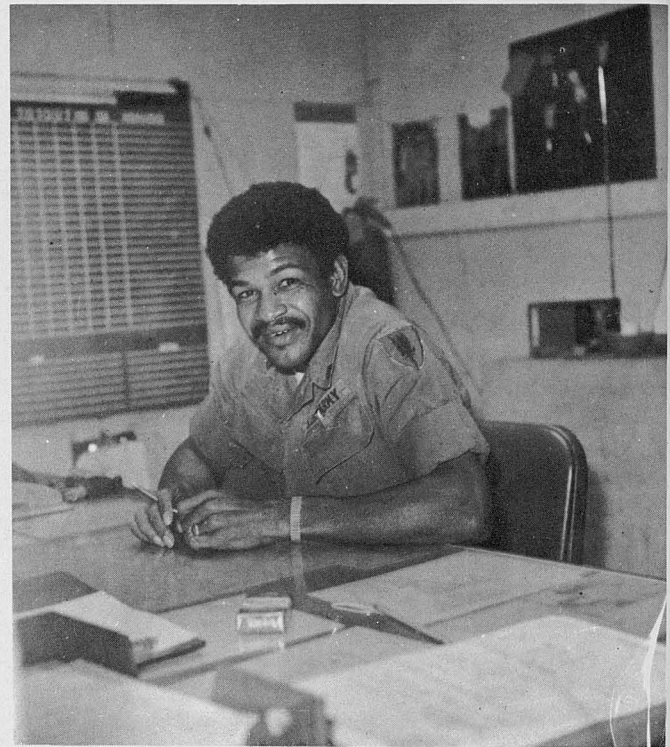
" Now who would take your job "



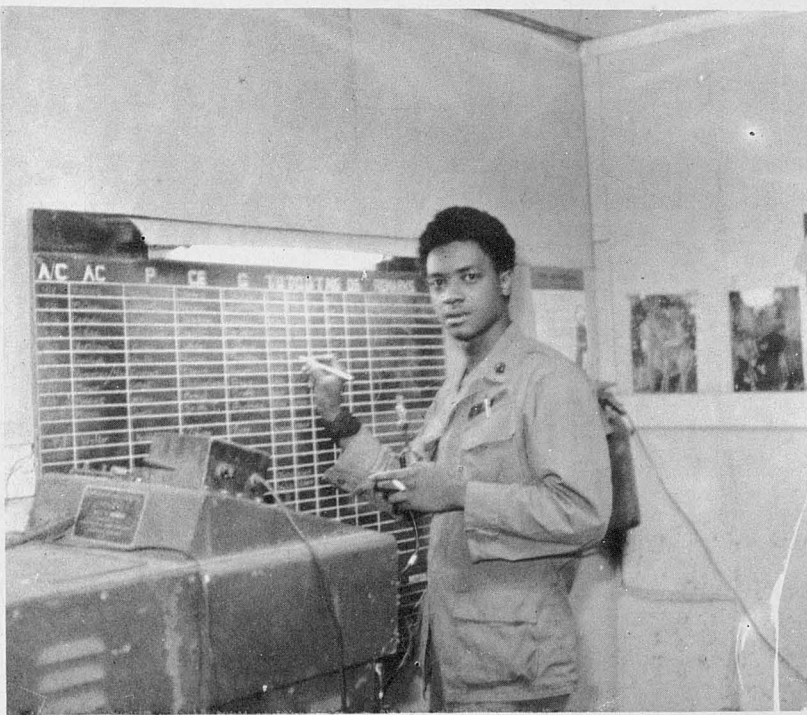
What did you say was in this sandwich ?



Happiness is being Operations
Officer



We'll take one mission and no more



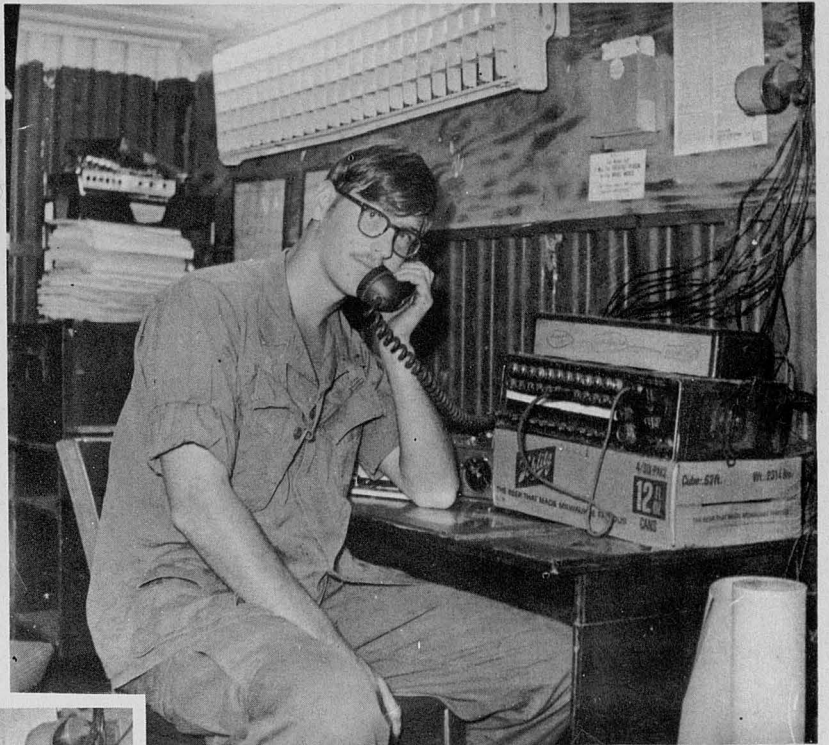
What comes after three ?



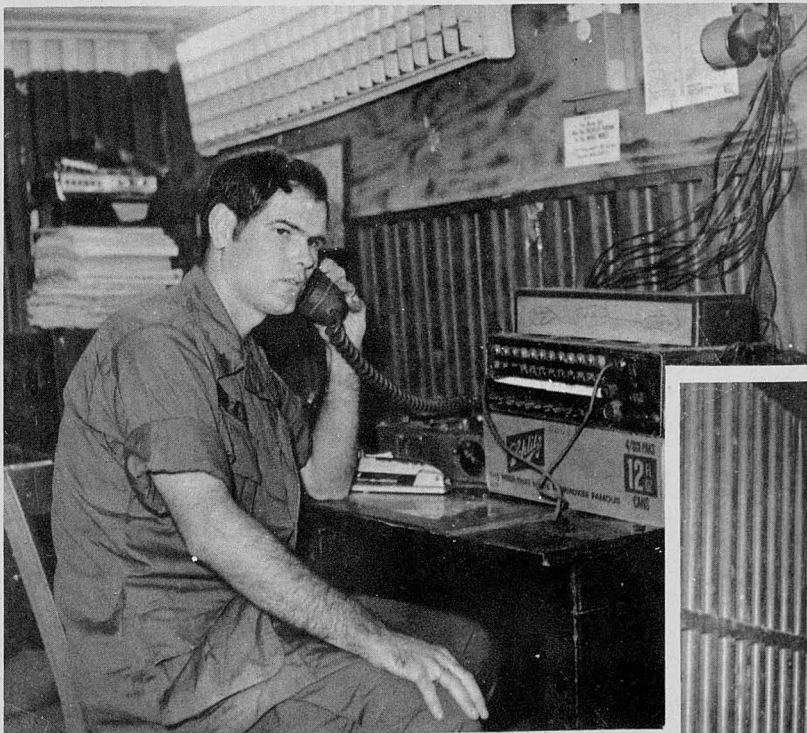
You say your main Rotor came
off where !



Pull this pin and I will
Self-Destruct in ten seconds



Hell MOM !



No lady this is not
Holliday Inn



Hello Oakland, this is Pleiku,
Conference Call.



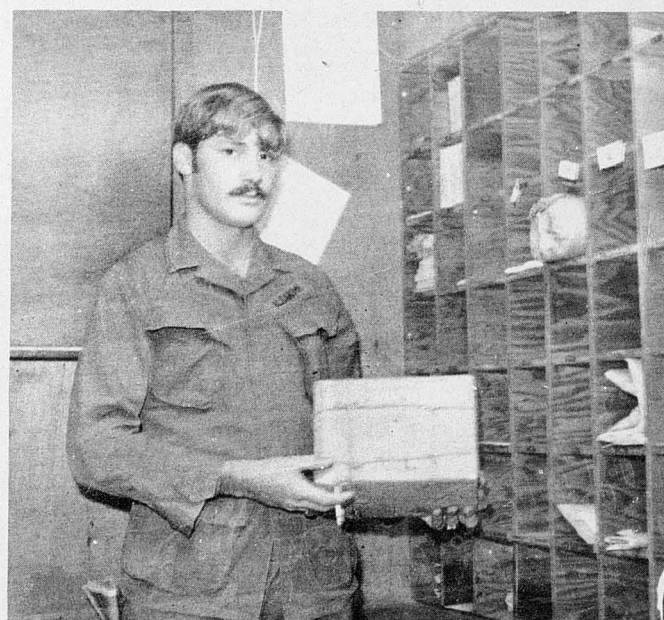
Would I lie to you ?



What do you mean "I have bad breath"



Sign on the dotted line



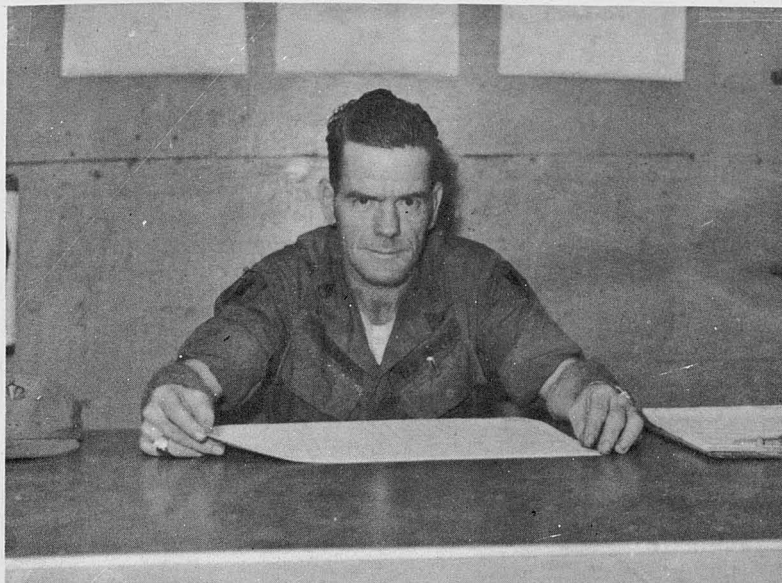
What ticking noise ?



Now we know why no sheets !



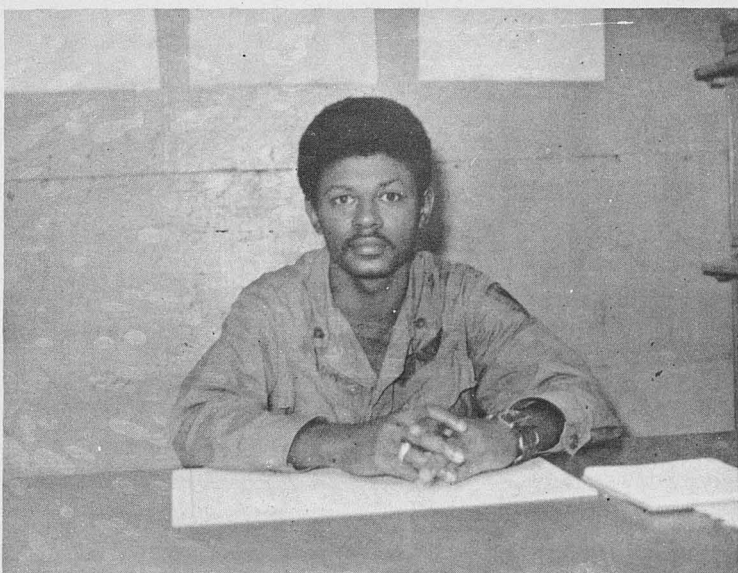
For you ten dollars



So you want a trip ticket



...and you get to go on the water truck



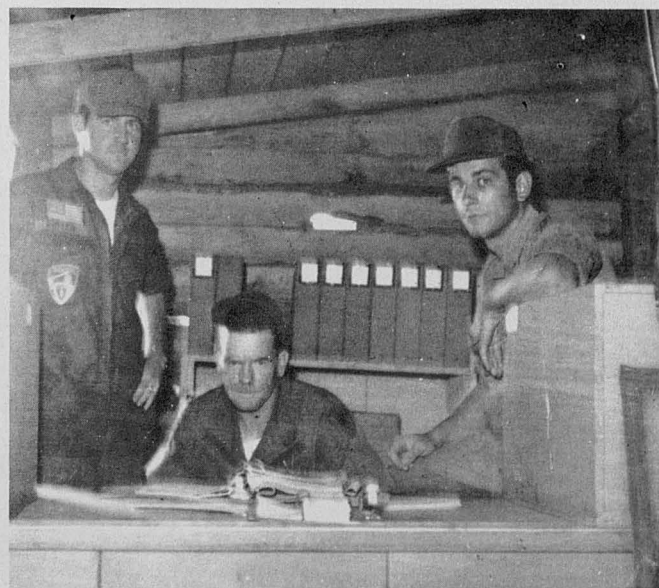
What am I doing here



What truck ?



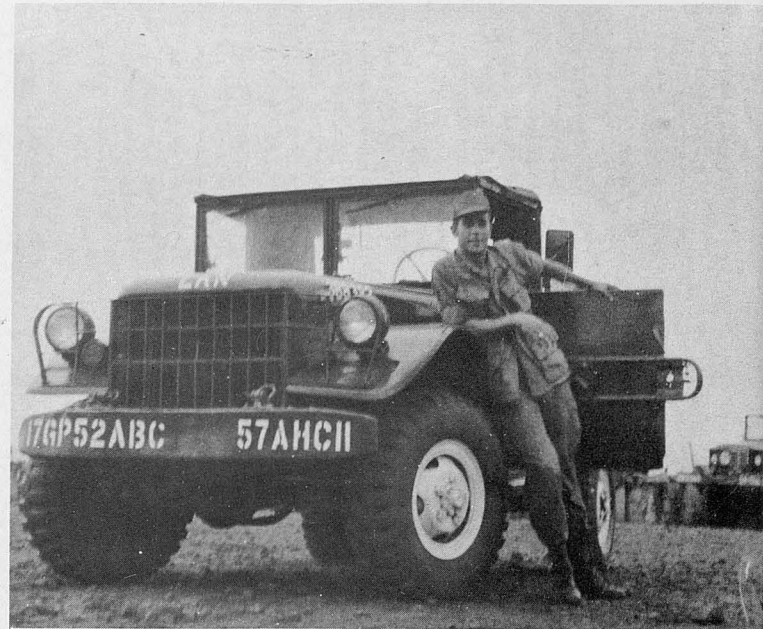
I know its in here somewhere



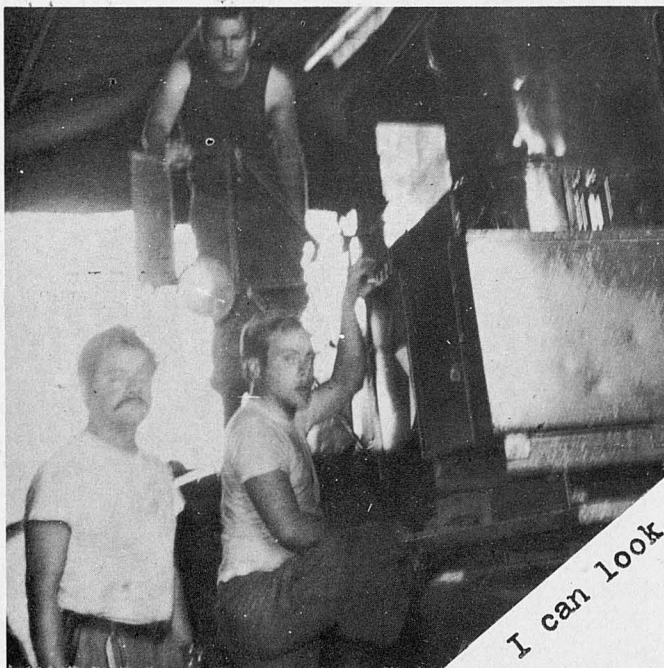
Your not getting that trailer today



We doss it - Say that



Wre to, Sir ?



I can look



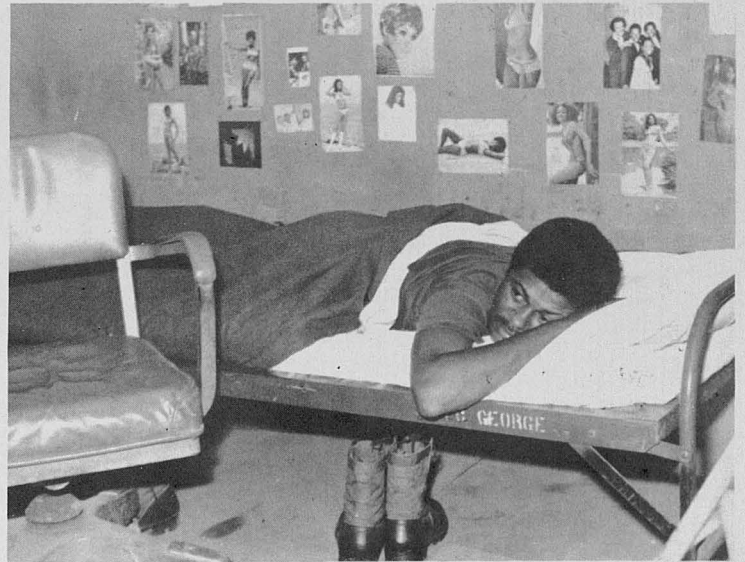
Want to drag ?



The wrecking Crew



Now listen to this



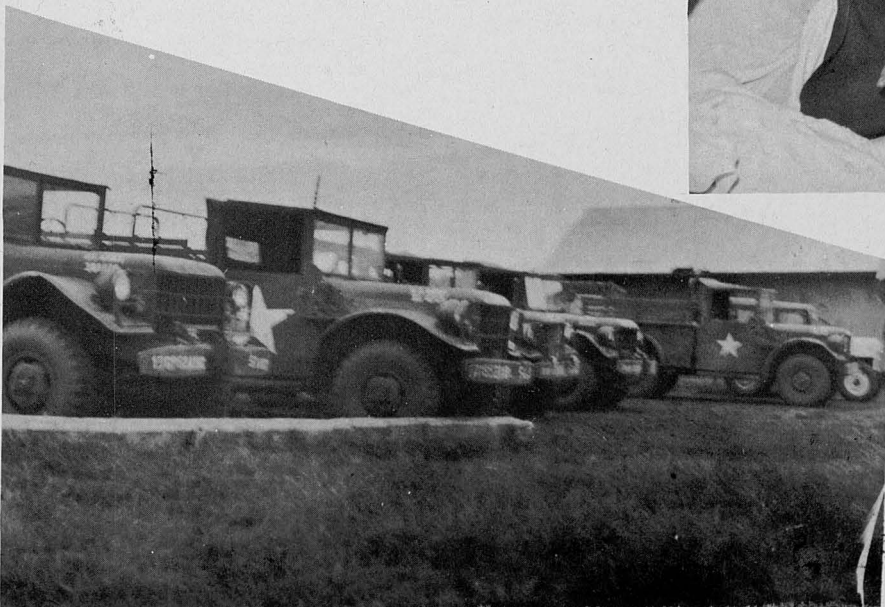
I'll start Tomorrow



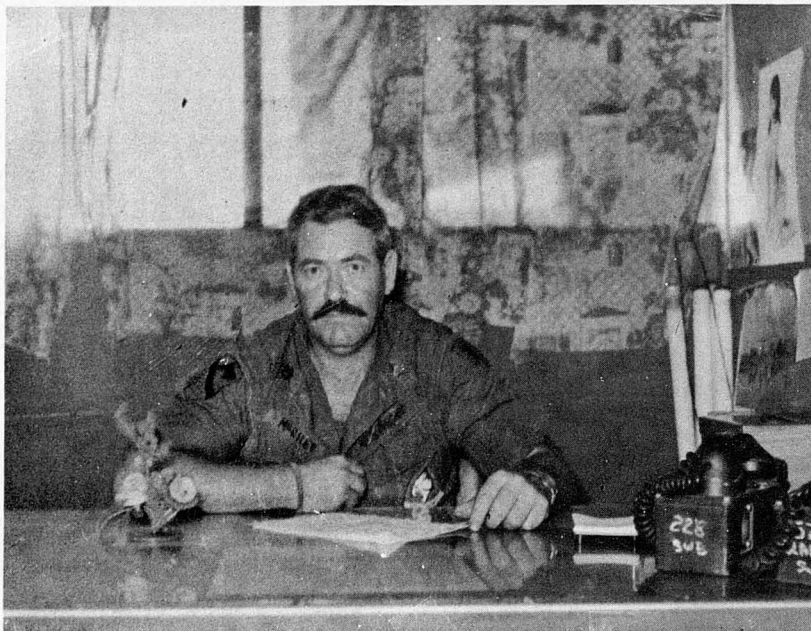
What a day



Talk about good



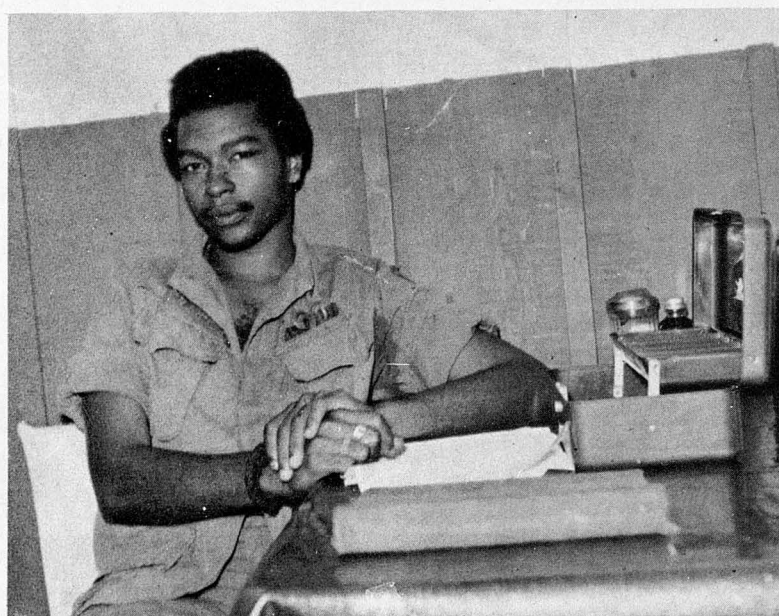
The 57's mighty Fleet ?



And you say HOWARD JOHNSON Worked
HERE



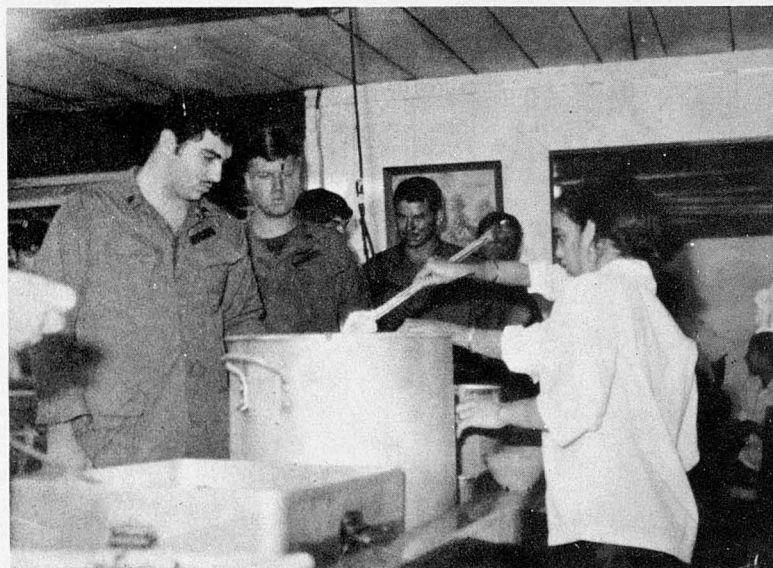
DINNER'S Club



Pay your dime and take your changes



That's All ?



" I didn't know a fly could swim "



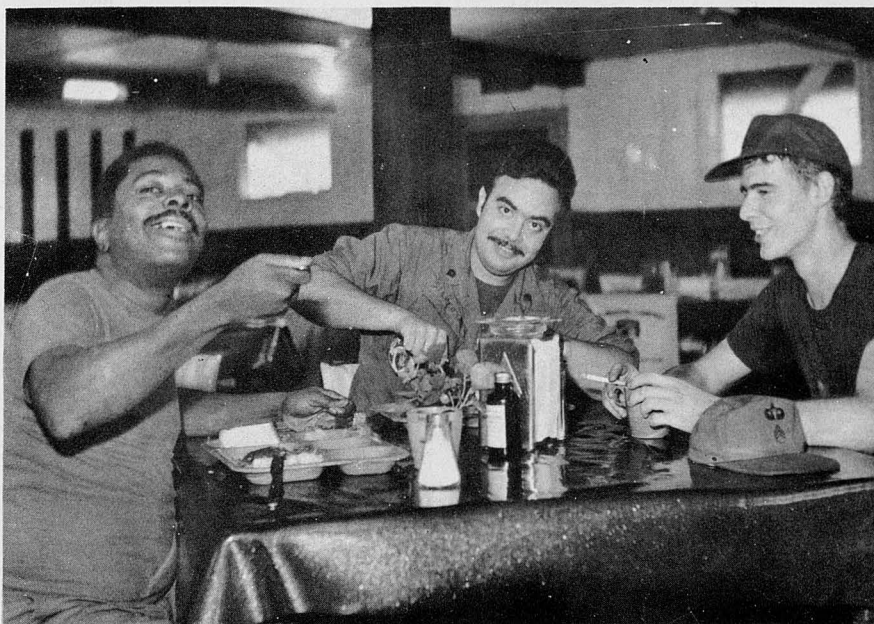
Kill it before it moves



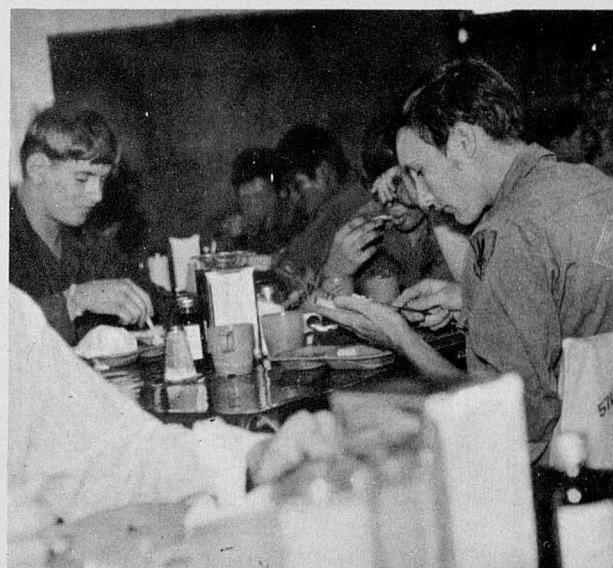
There is a what in the soup



UGH !



Now that's good chow



At least we have butter today



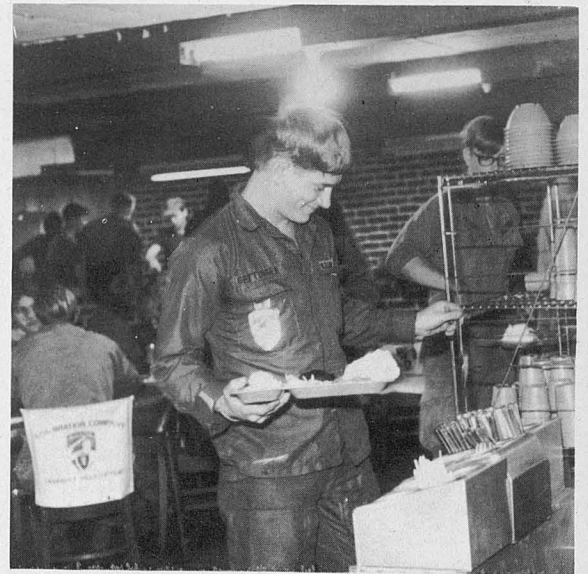
You should have seen her



I can't swallow it



Finger lickin good



Wow, A fork



I think the soup is bugged



Tell me again about the Ice Cream



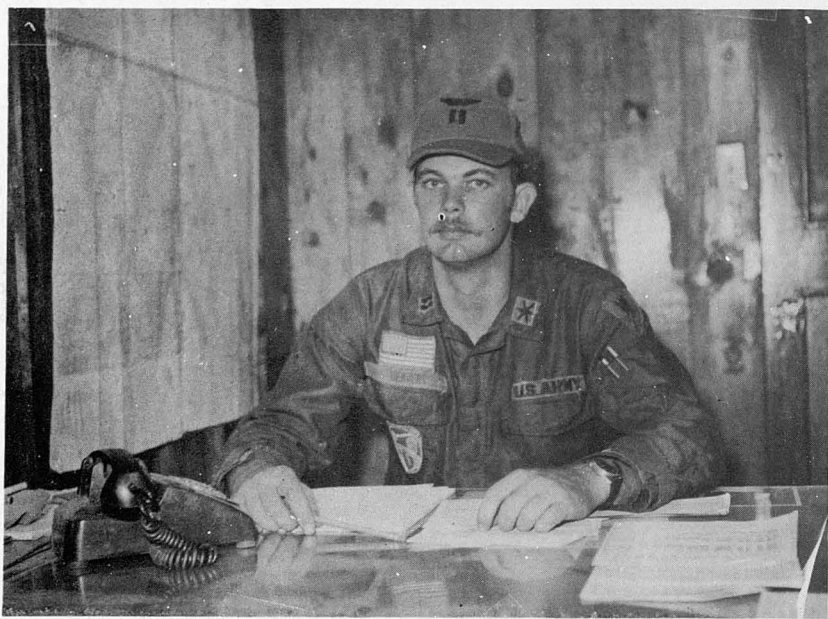
and I had a chance to eat C's today



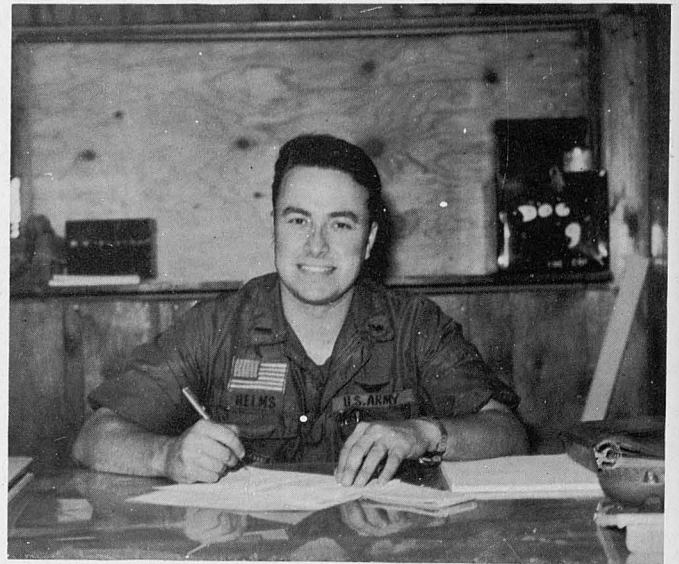
and then he says ...



Checked and found OK "



Let me go



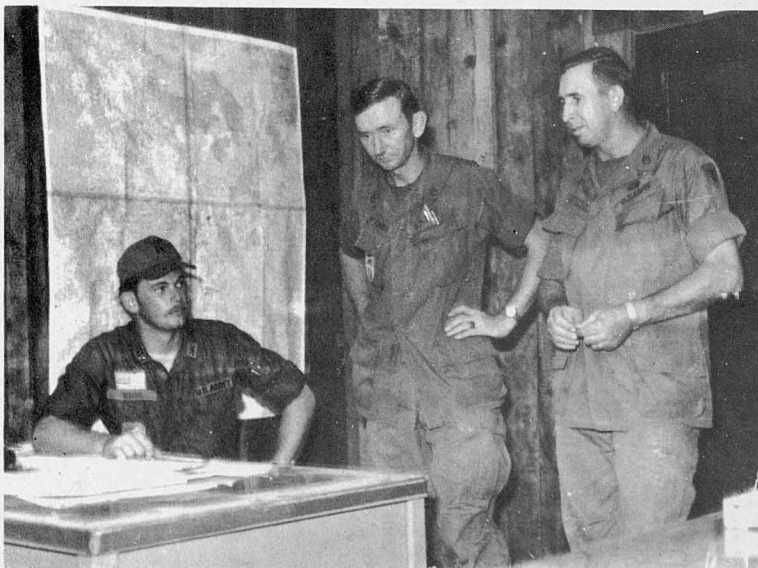
See, no cavities



What me worried



Now that was a Party



Your late,so go to your room



M-Squad



No sweat



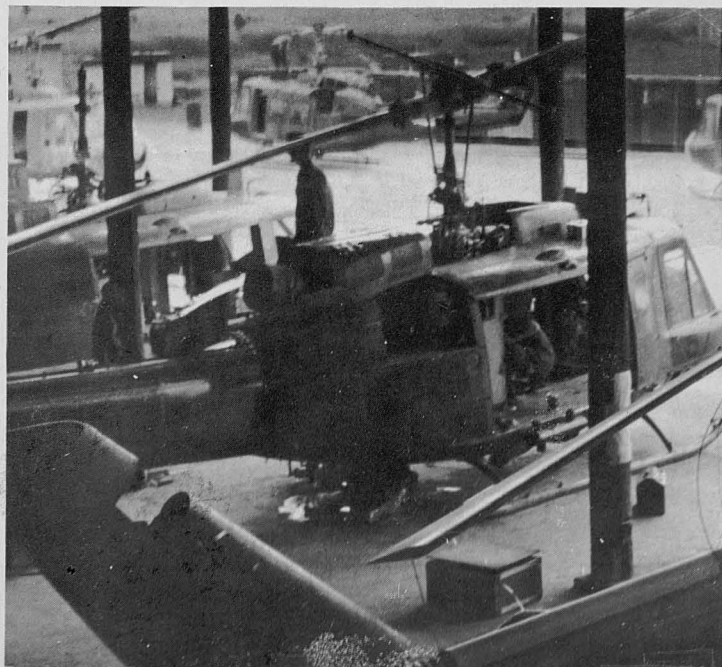
Yip-Pee



You again



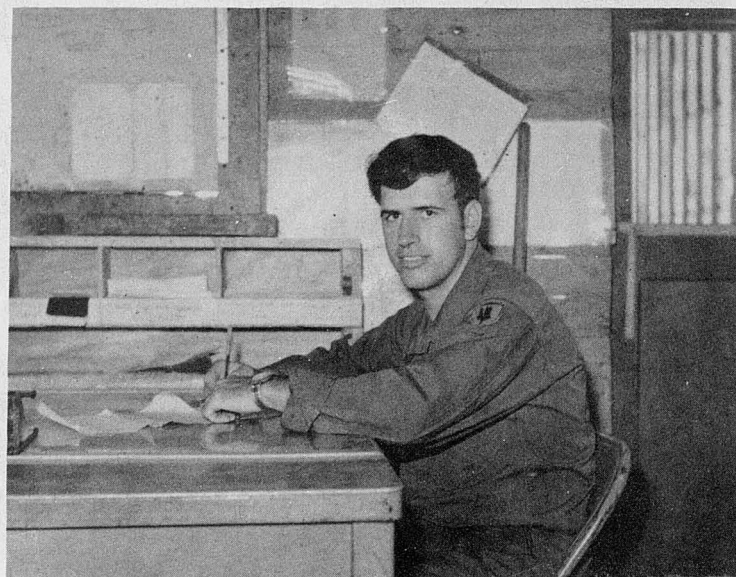
Hi there ! Women's Linge VIC Dept.



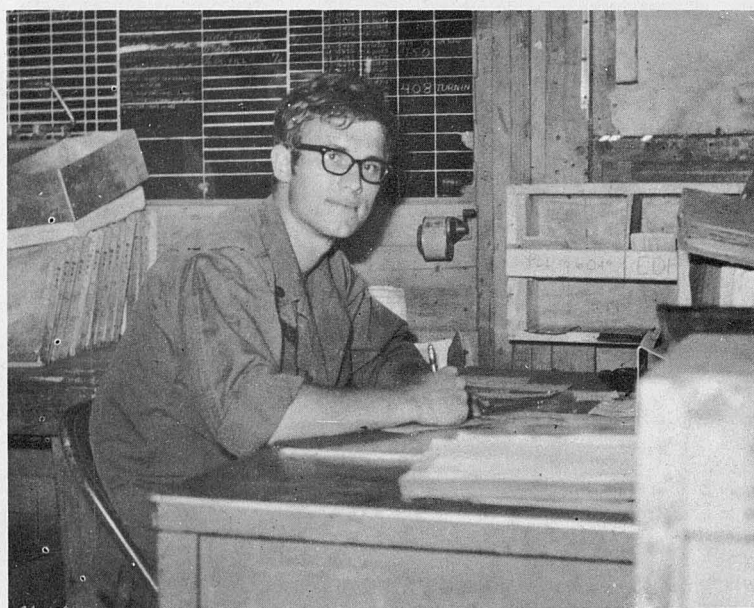
Tomorrow we get Organieed



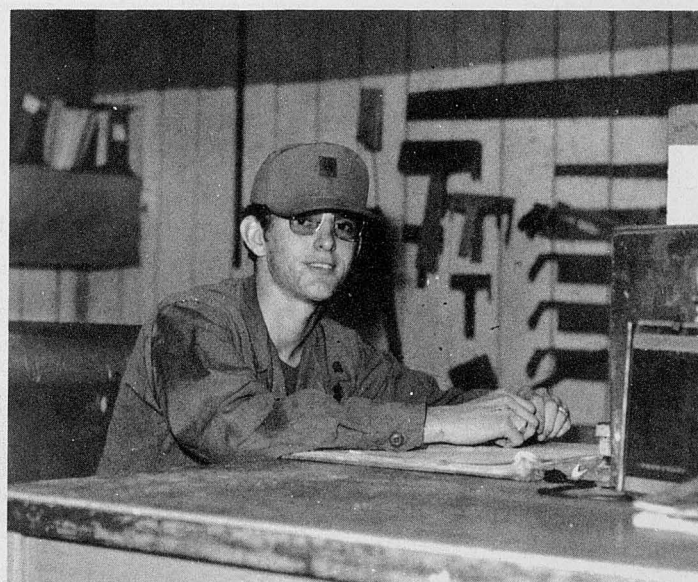
What makes you think I'm not happy here ?



What Army ?

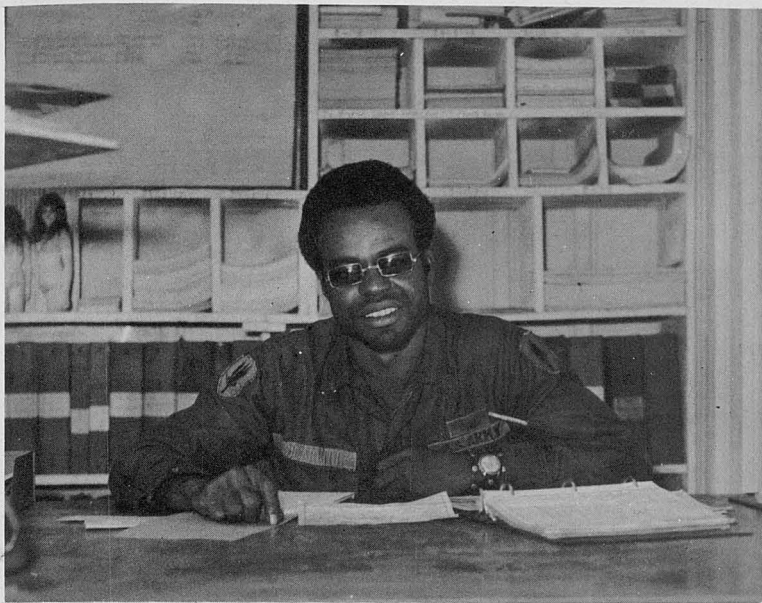


Dear President NIXON



If my mother could only see me now !





I don't know, I just work here



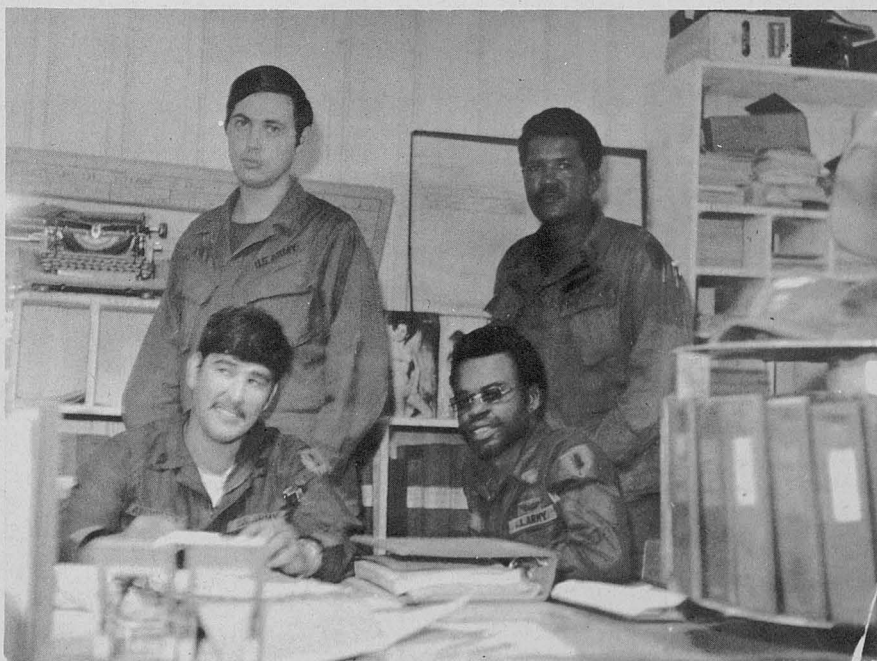
Ah! What can I do for you ?



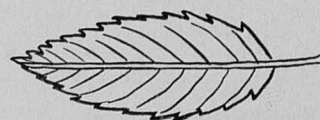
If the old man only knew ...

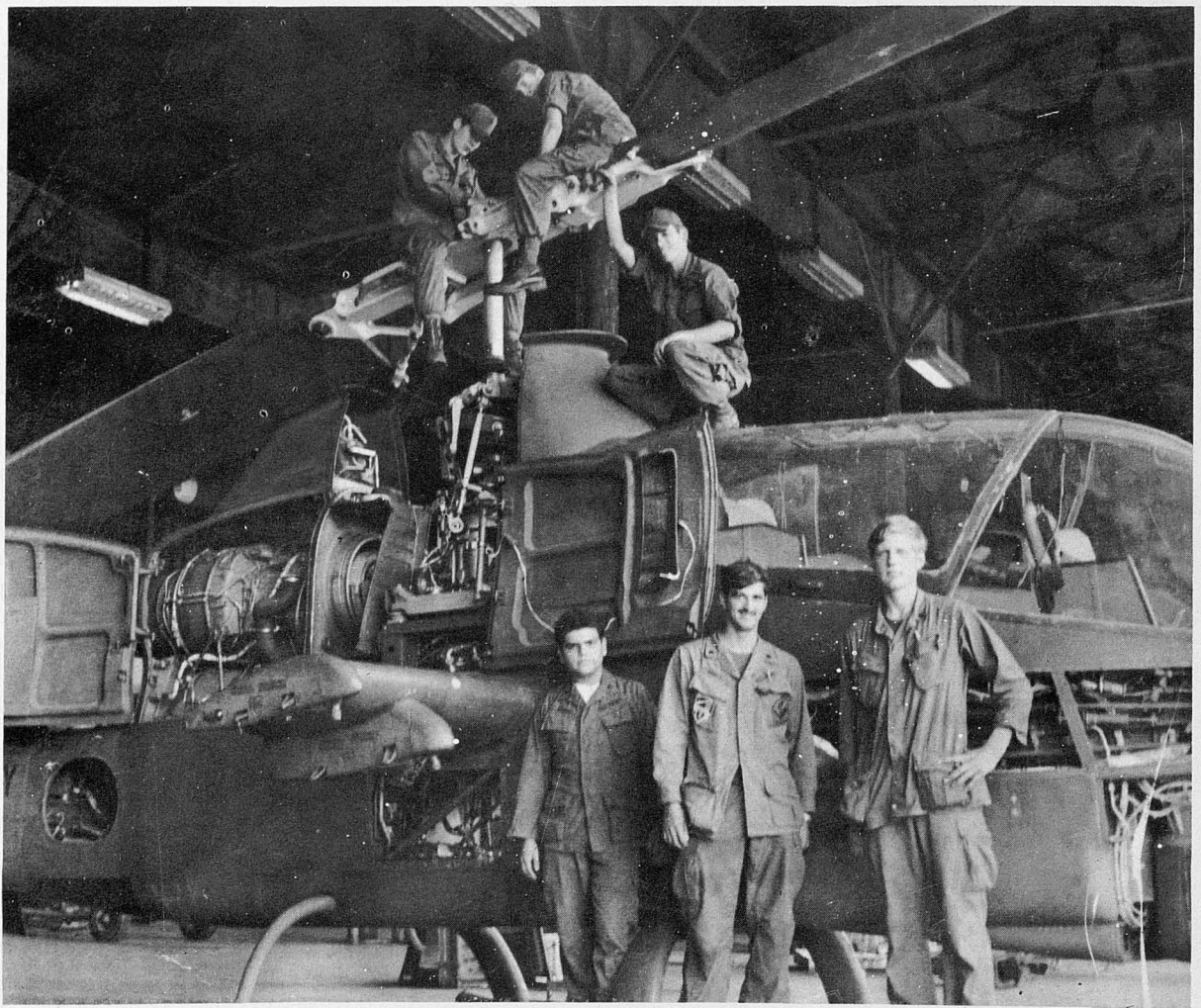


War is Hell !



We maintain





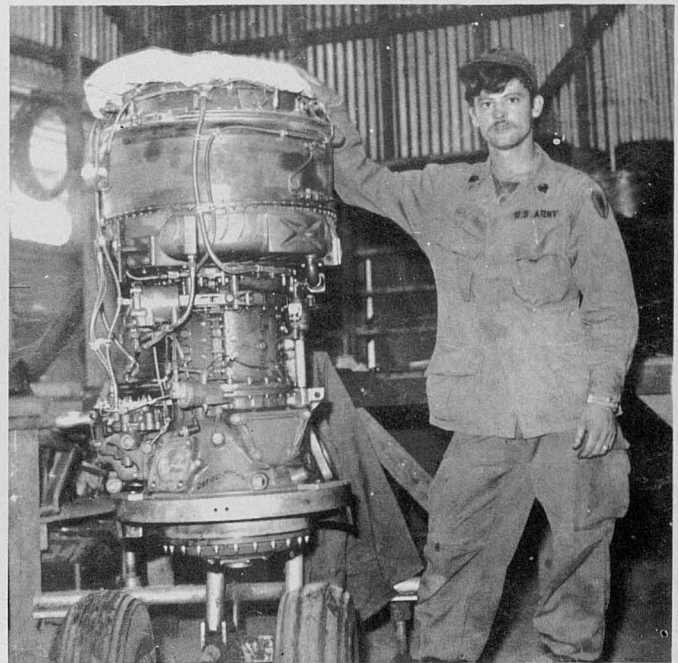
We'll have it ready in 30



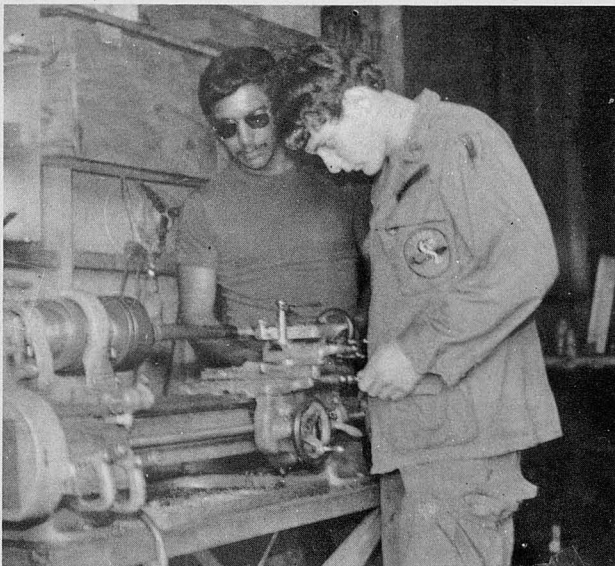
It's about time we formed a Union



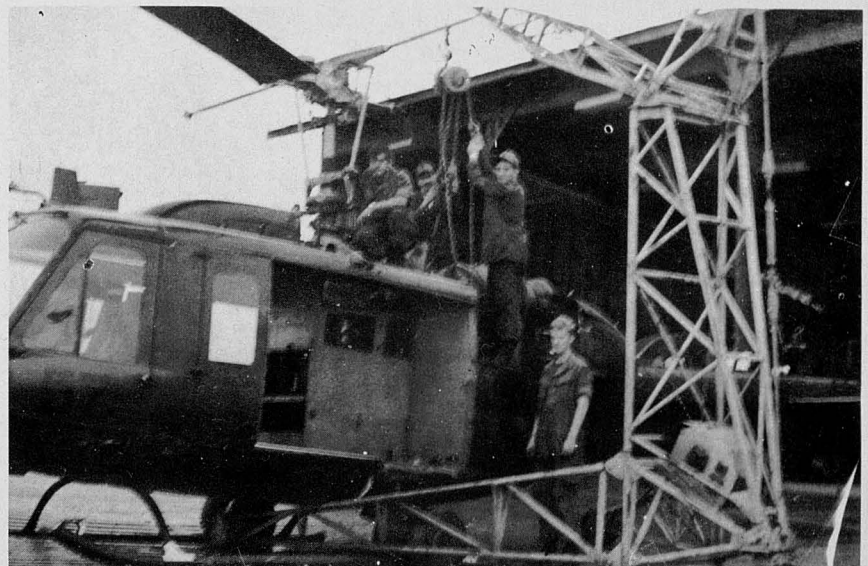
OK - Who took the blades



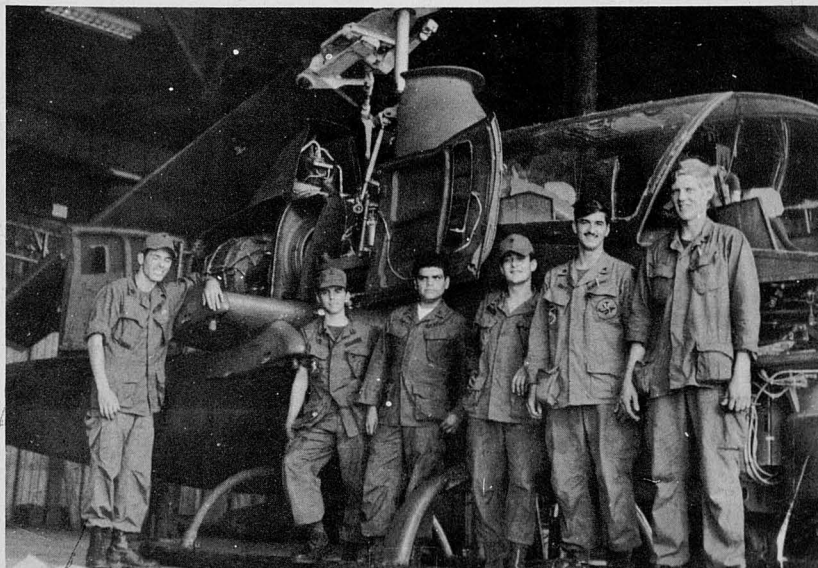
This is an engine



It broke! It broke!



To insert an engine



Don't anybody move and they won't see the hole



This is my truck



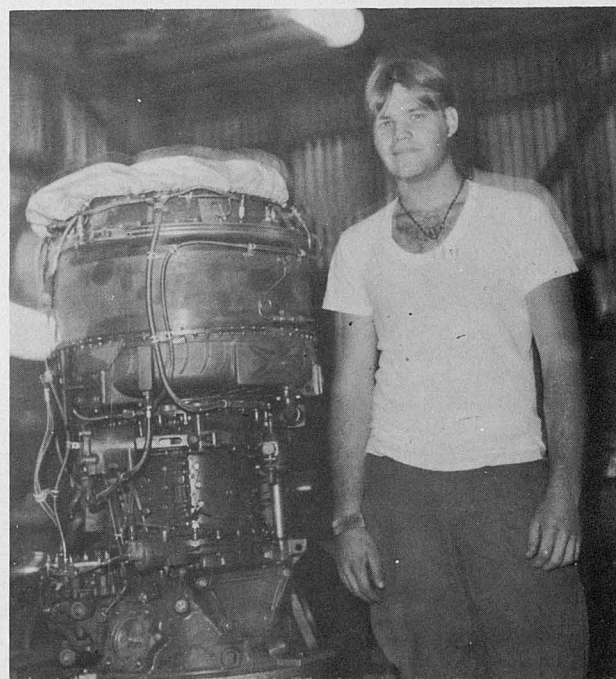
Can we go, too



You crash, we dash



Move on



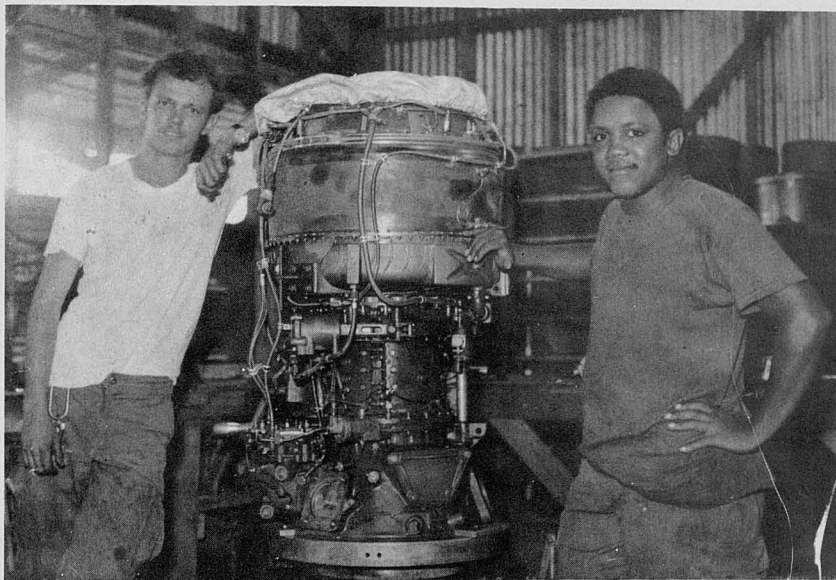
See I am taller



Now all we need is the Blade



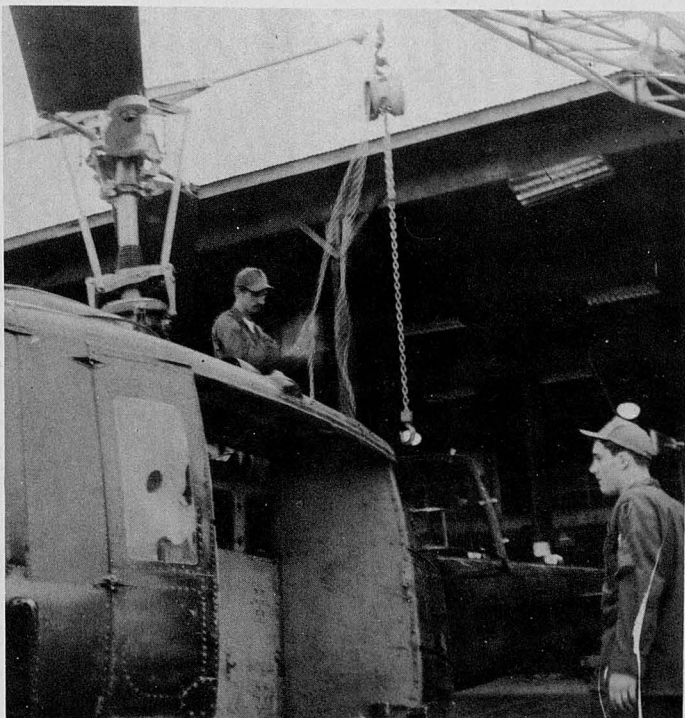
Push here to make it go



Rebuilt this Baby ourselves



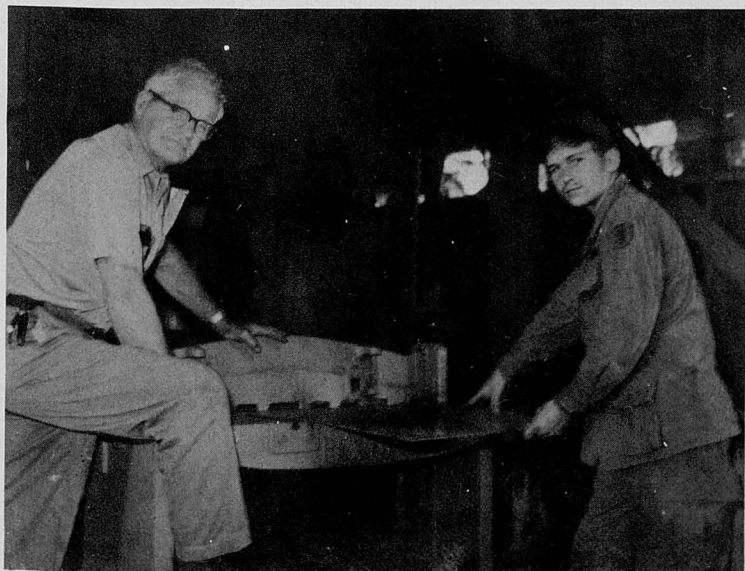
Look you guys...



O.T.T.



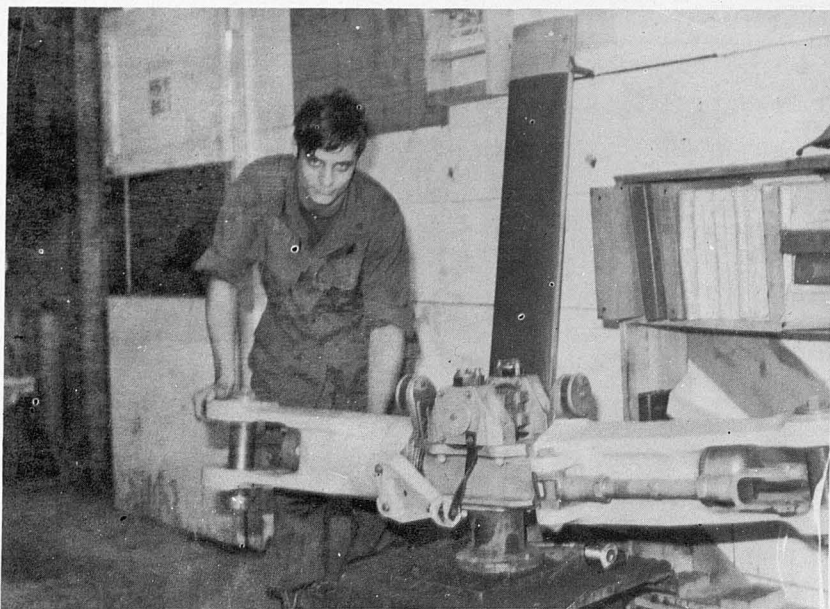
If it don't fly, just bring it back



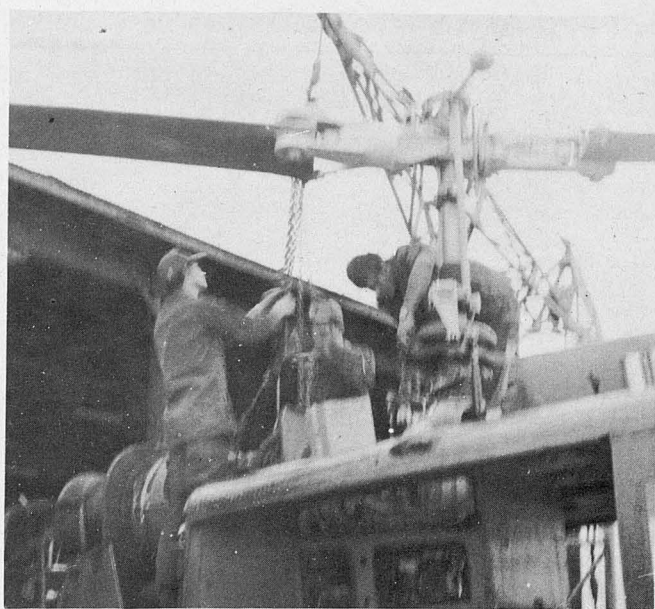
To make a cheker board



The swash plate is loose



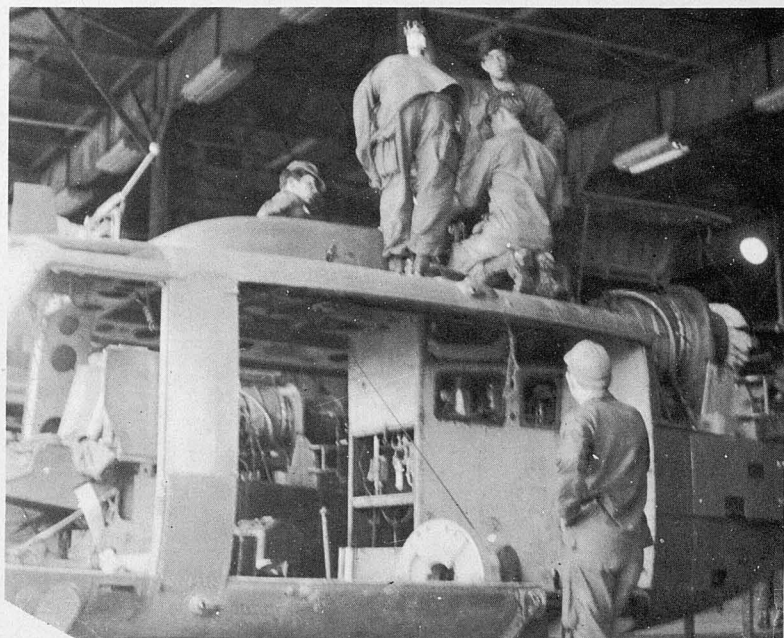
It turns like this



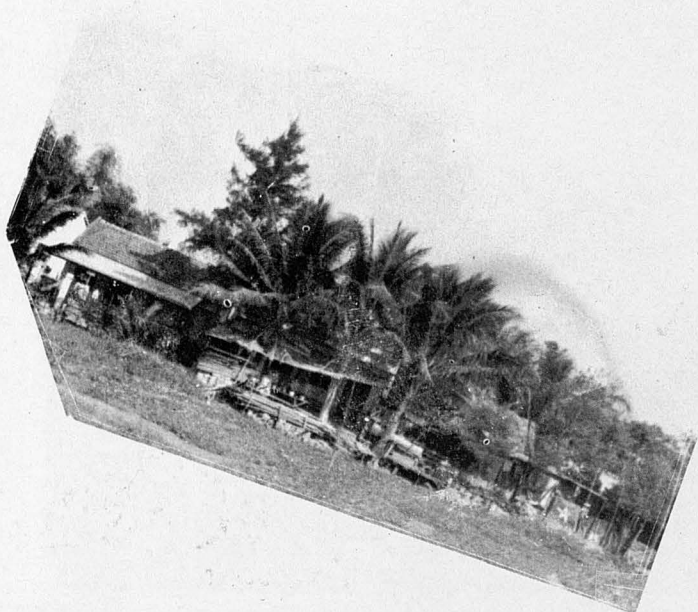
Liff off in 30 minutes



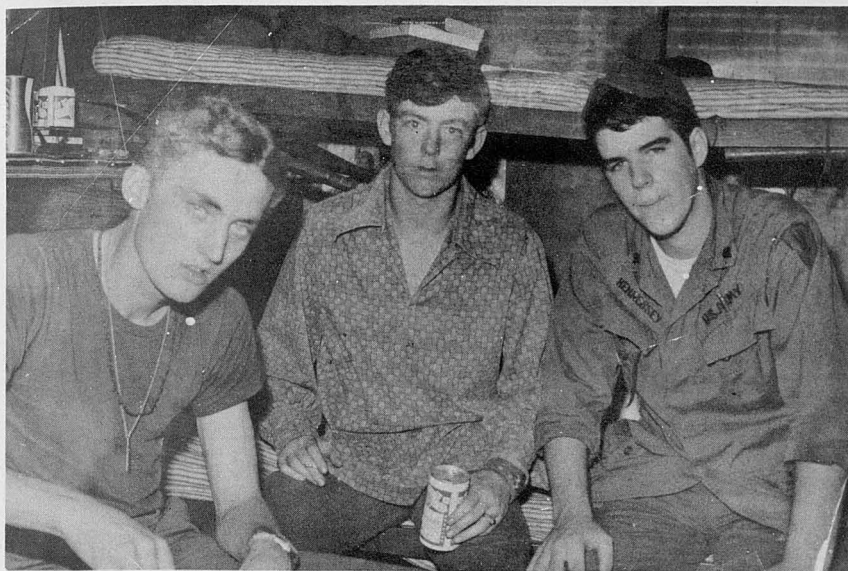
5 Minutes, then our 2 Hour lunch break



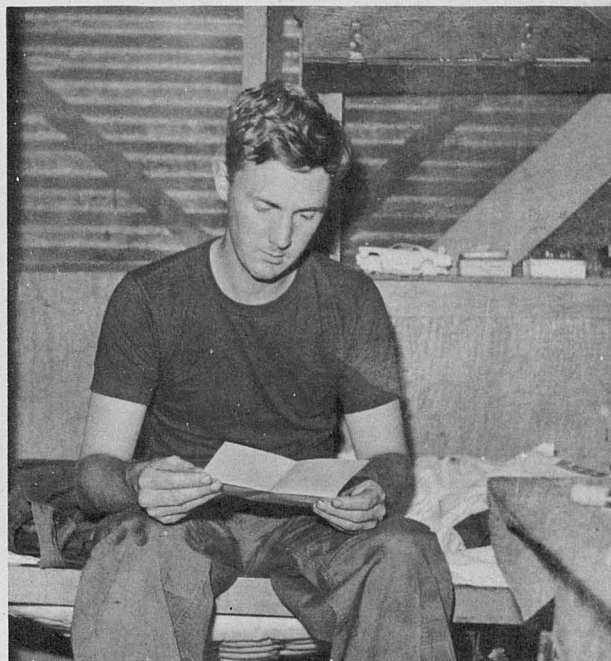
That Head was here a minut age



IN THE GARDEN OF



Want to make something of it



Solitude



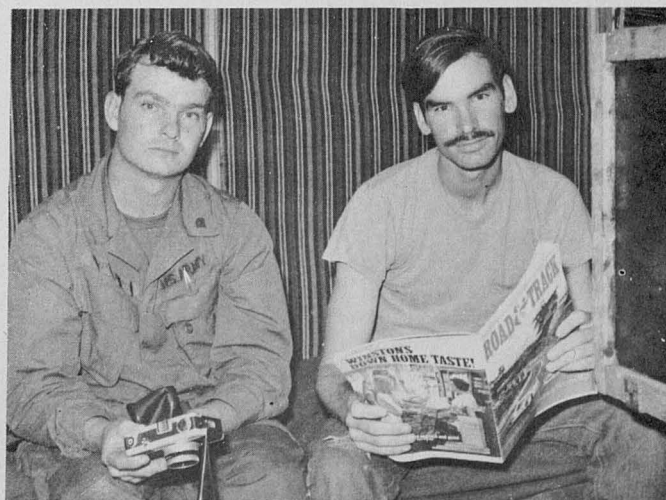
But it is only 0300 hours



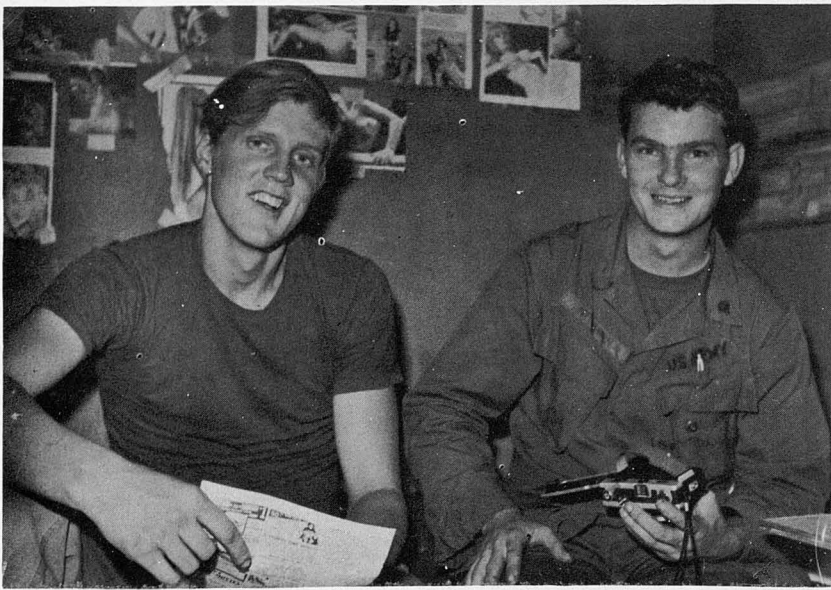
Mind Expander



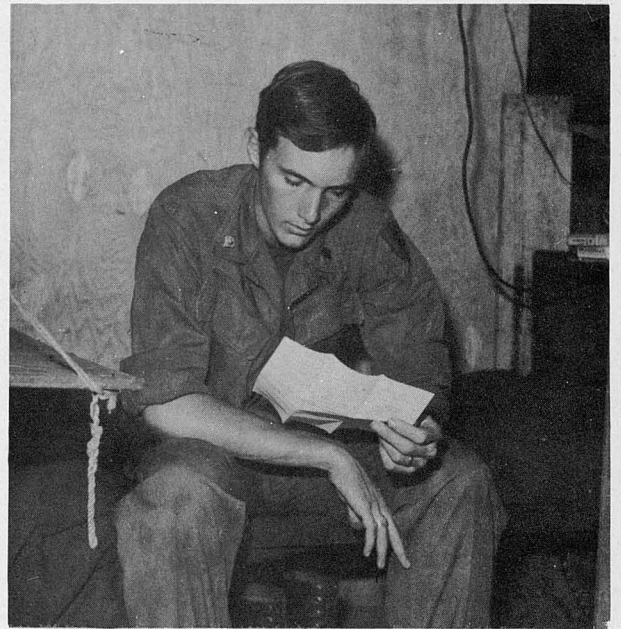
The Bobset Twins



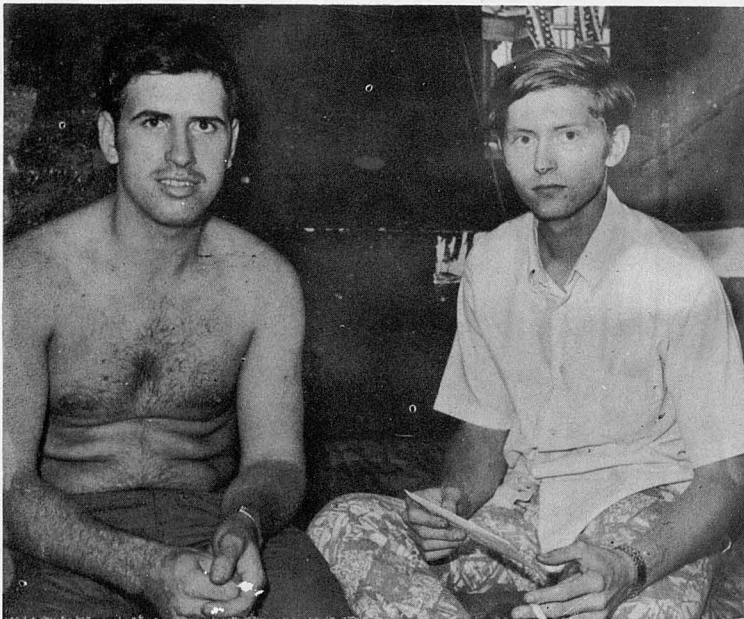
Book of the Trade



Don't worry, he developer Film fine



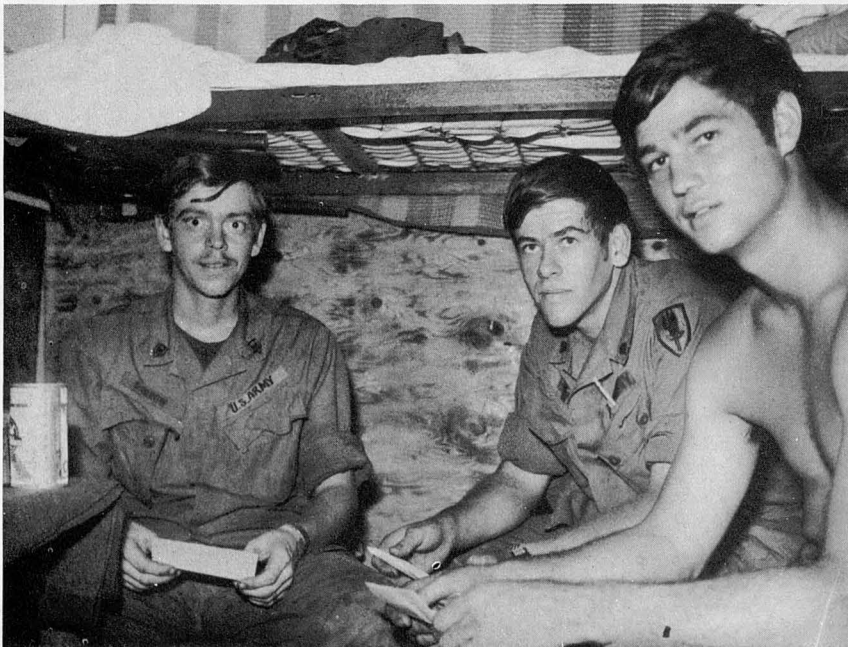
Dear GI ! I'm 5 FT with blue eyes ...



I'd like to inform you
of your rights



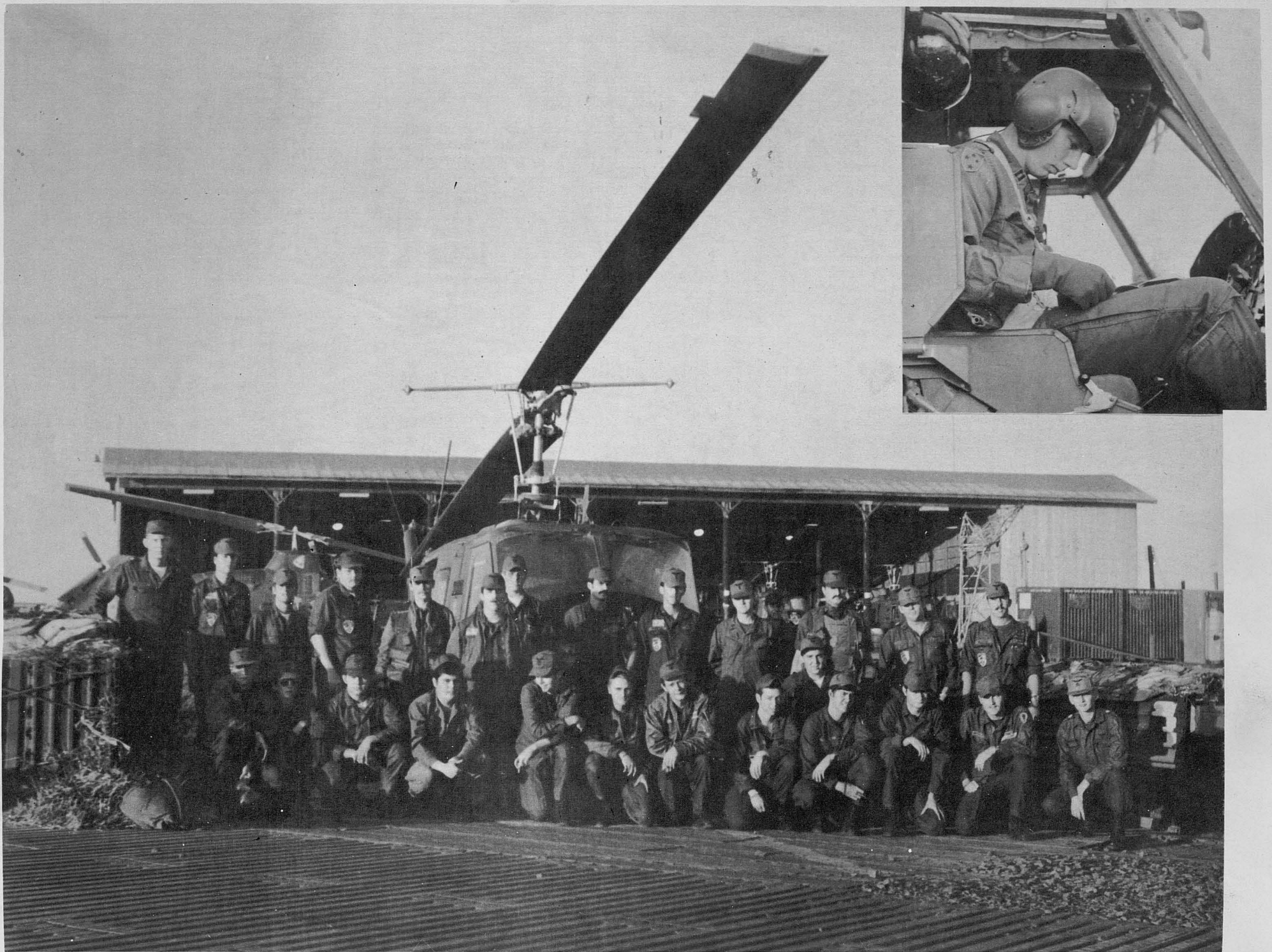
Coke does make a difference



So what's wrong with sharing letters?



It says she's 5 feet tall
with eyes of blue



First Flight " The Best "



You can take off your helmet now



Try it **again**, this time with
the Fuel on



My Baby



I've pulled the trigger
but it wont fire



This will be a trip to remember



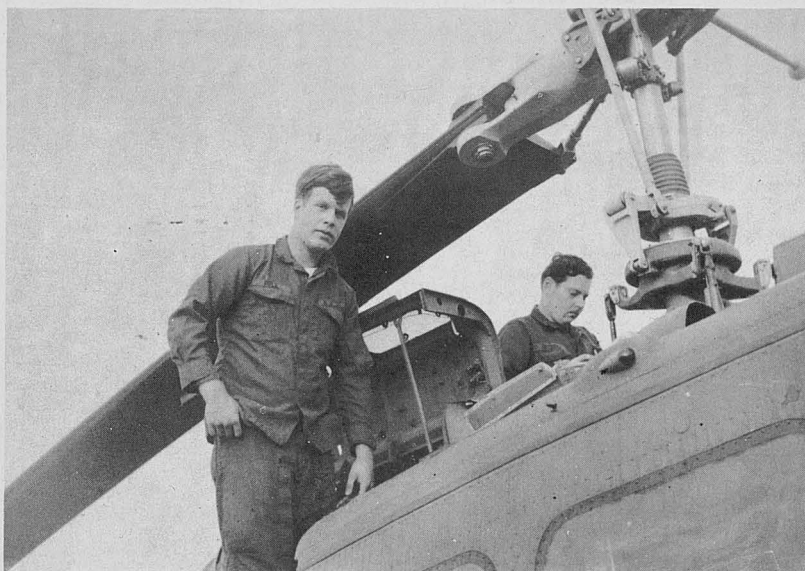
And to think, I'm still a Gunner .



Rings



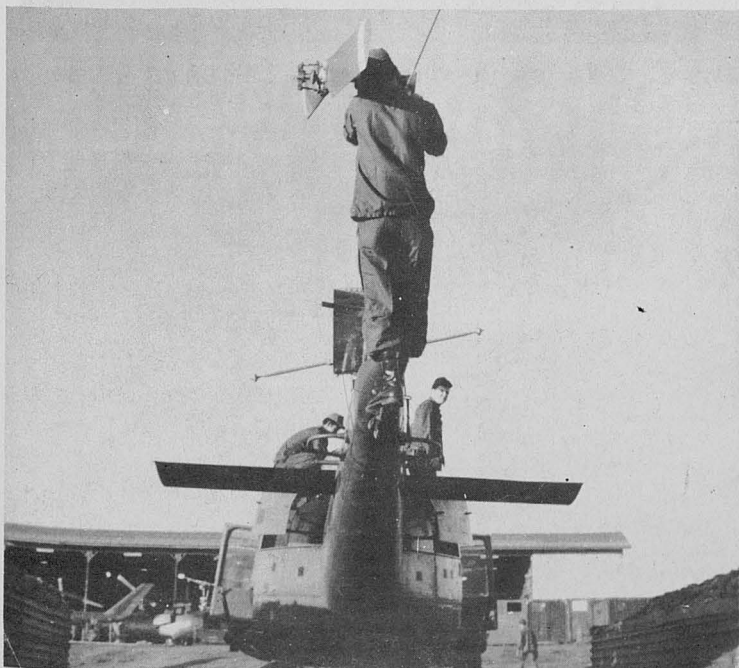
First Flights Chiefs



Someone broke my Linear Accuator



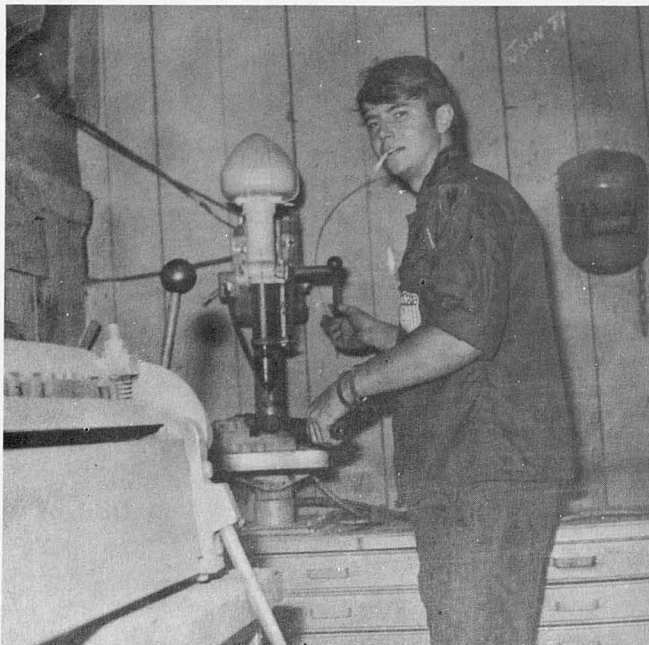
And I'm the Battalion S-2



I've told you once, I'm flying back here



We're always Papa One



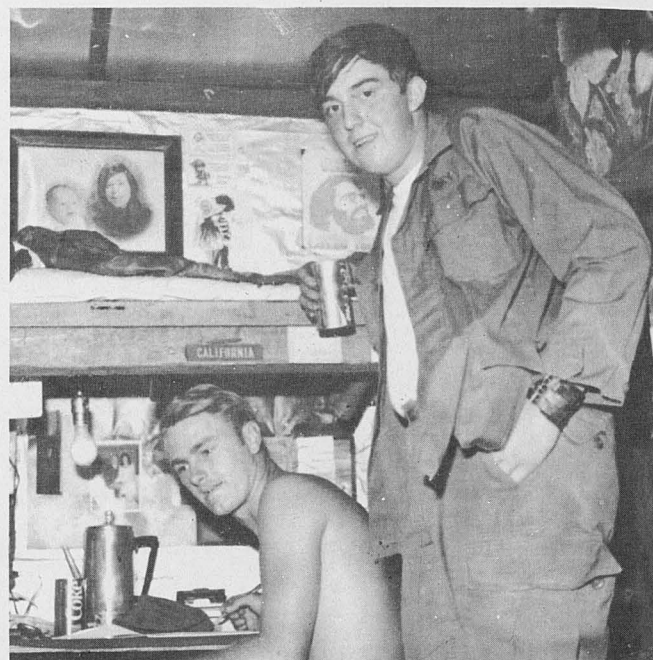
Making a key, Why?



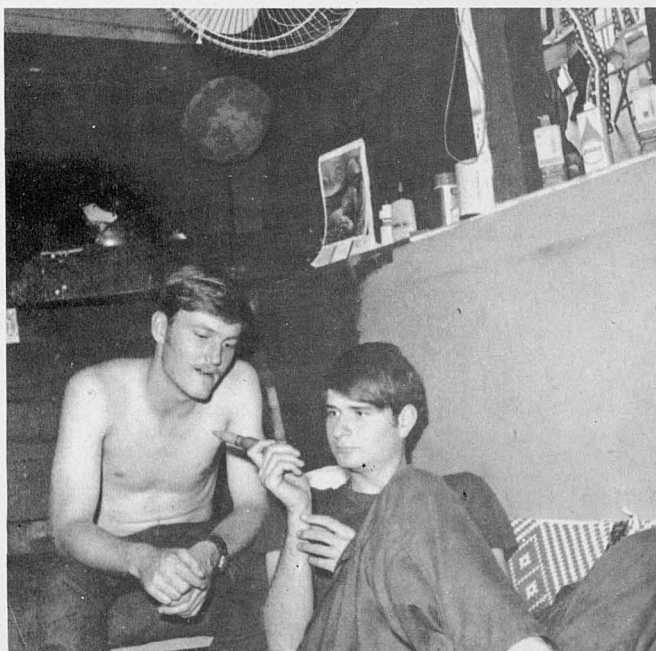
To get this Chopper you've got to come through me and my gunner



I knew I won'd find the gas cap



We send the same letters home



Then I was at 3000'



Time sure flies when you are having fun



What are they up to now ?

2nd PLT



Big cheeze of SecondPlatoon



I knew I'd finally make it



Onward



Forward



Forever



I'll follow you anywhere, Sir.



This here is a TRIGGER



You should see me in the hole



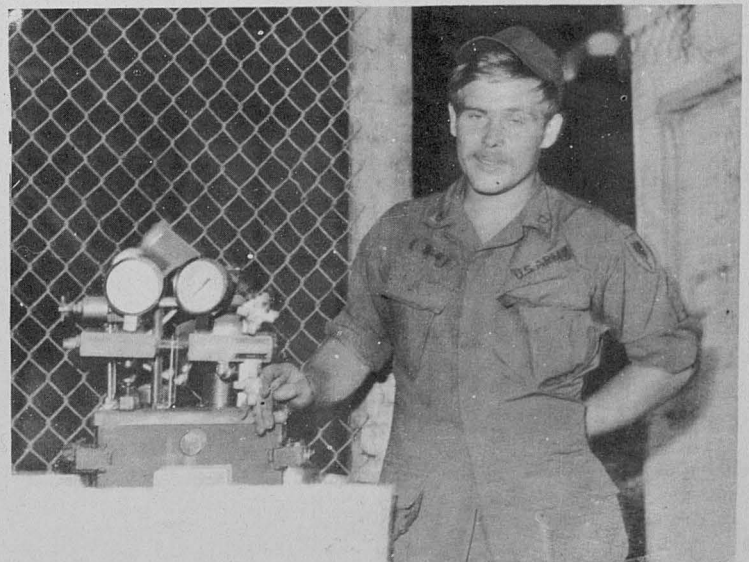
Are we going to take off ?



I tell you that is the Peter Pilot's job



Not without me you're not



This still was made of old Aircraft Parts



The morning after the night before



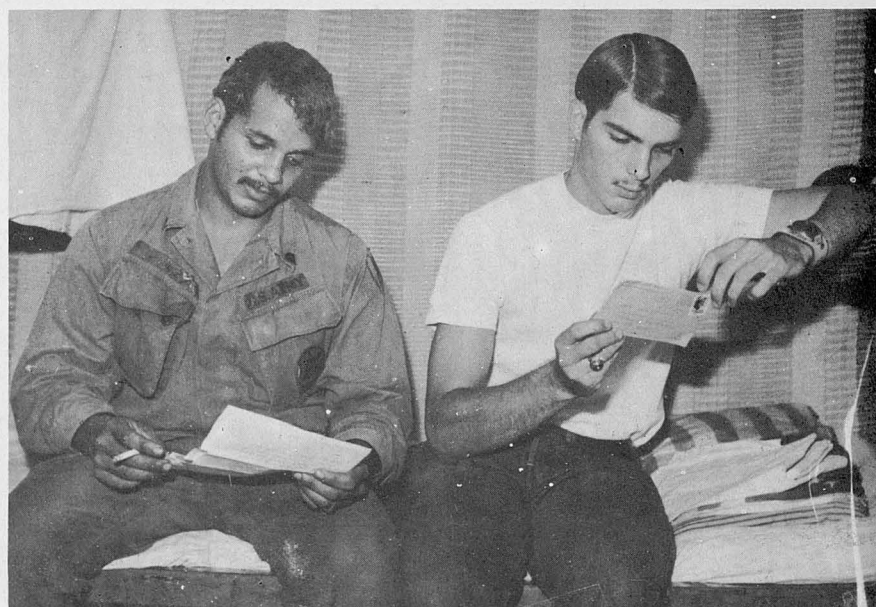
What Am I doing in a race like this



Juicers Incorporated



Homeward Bound...



Dear JOHN...

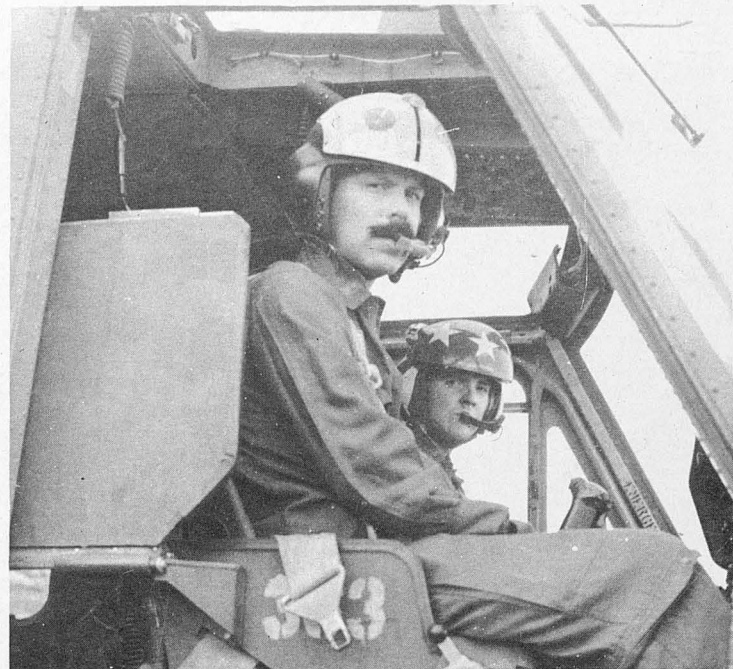


The Missfits

GUNS



Hello Saigon



Nighthawk



I love to play Airplane



I'd love to go with you but
not this mission



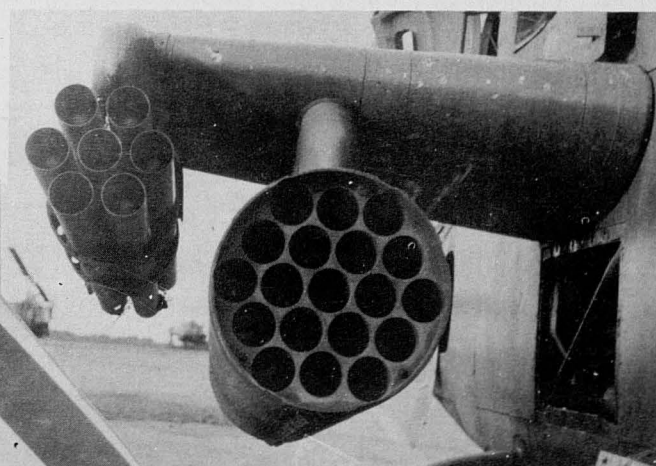
Hey Mamason, which one did it ?



This group has 40% fewer hangfires.



The Cougar Team



The Business End



It's Derosed anyway



No sweat



Just a Simple turn like so ...



How do you start this thing ?



Medic !



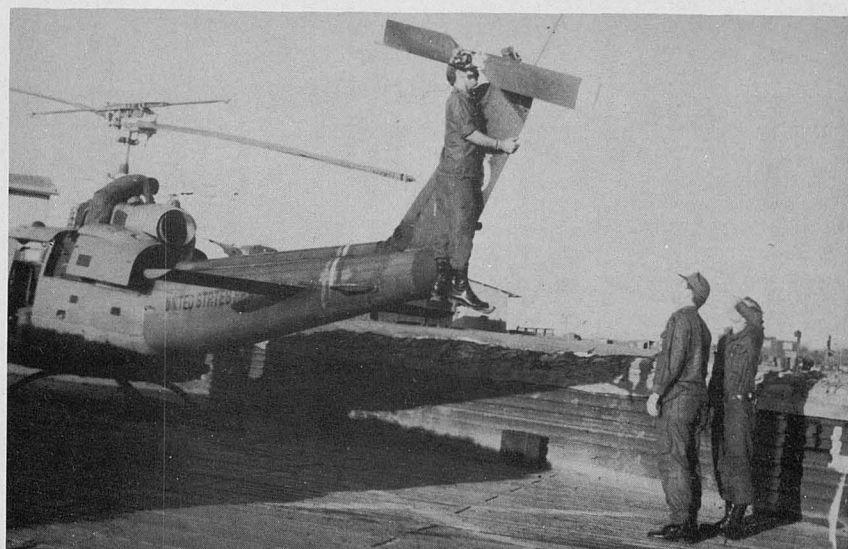
We guard the Grenn Line tonight



Just like Disney Land



Aint Lifo Great



What do you mean No Oil ?



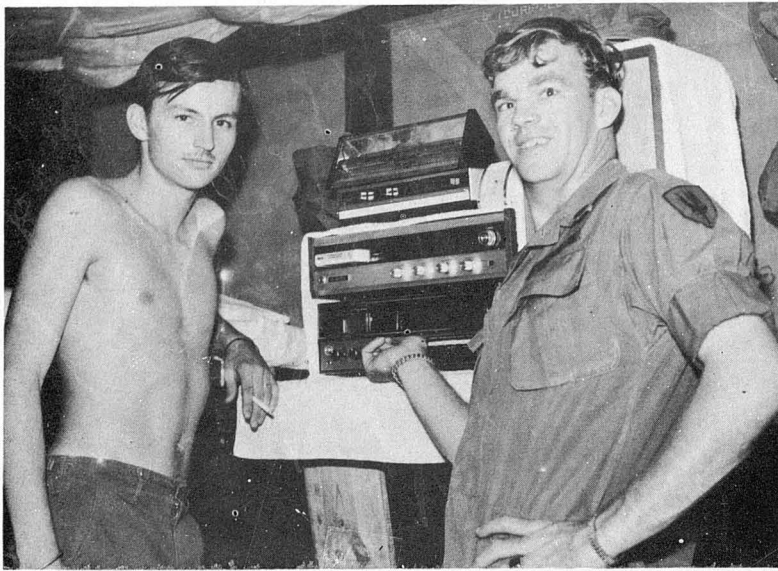
Thank God, we dont have to fly
this Rag.



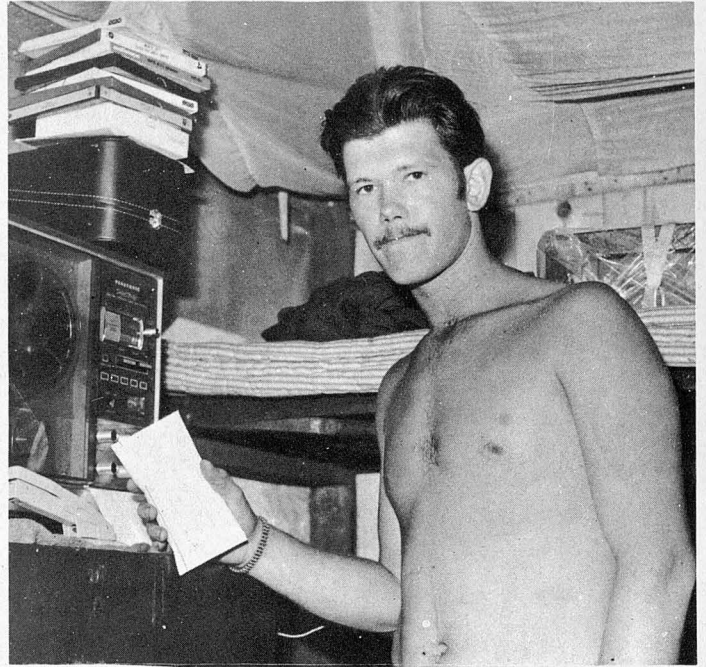
Is the beer cold yet ?



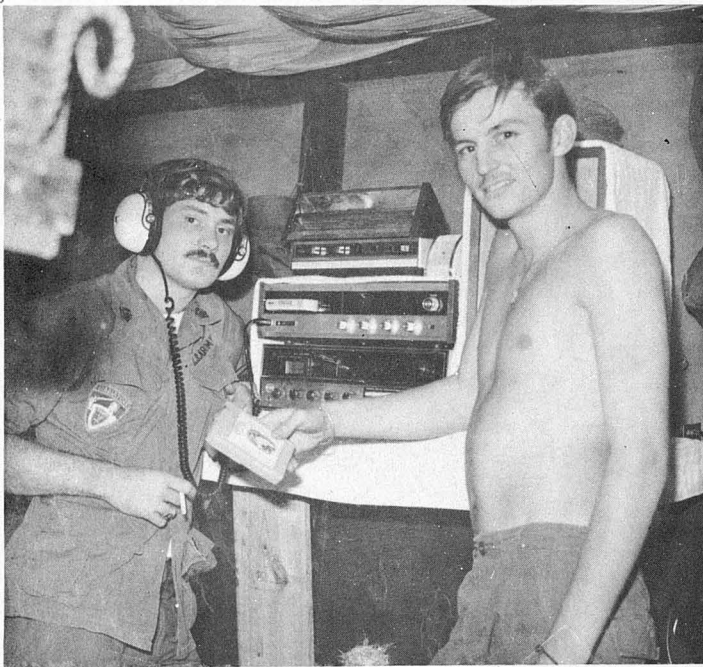
The sitting Position



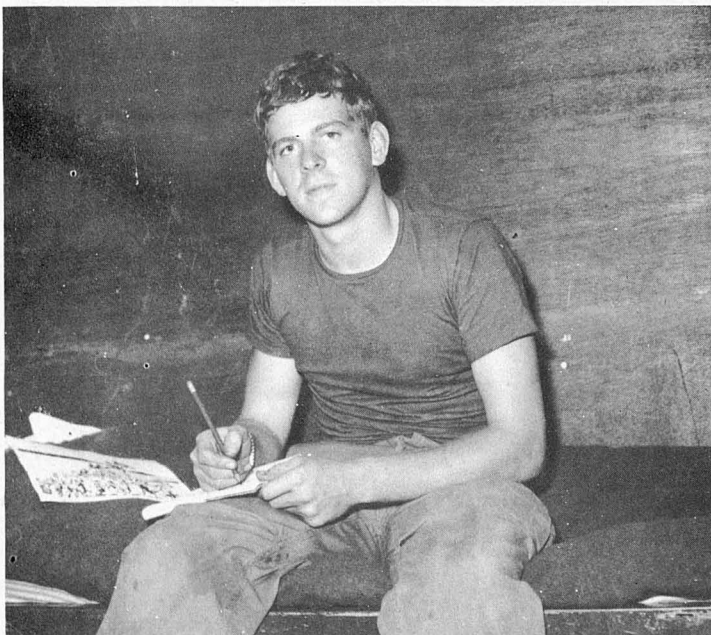
Full volume and we only blew one speaker



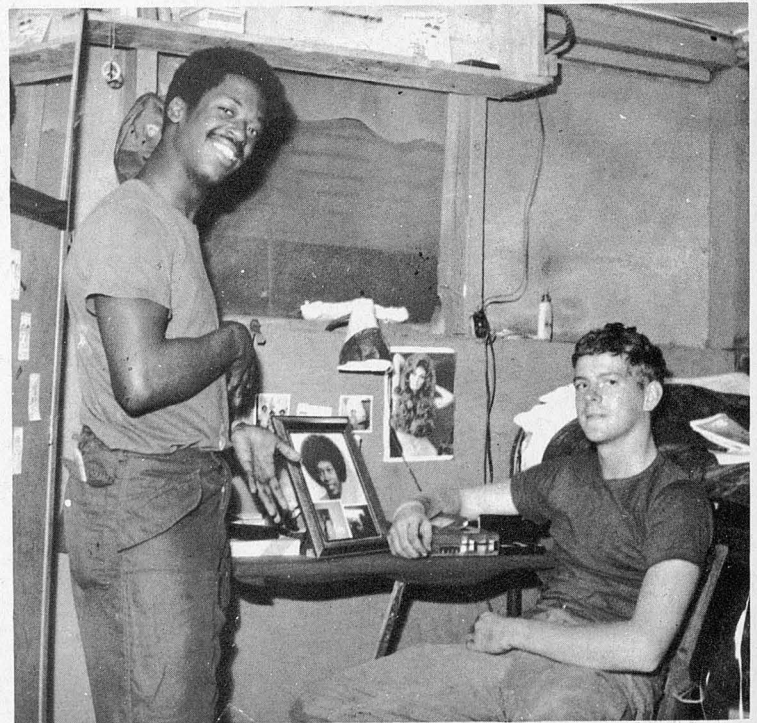
This mission, if you decide to accept it...



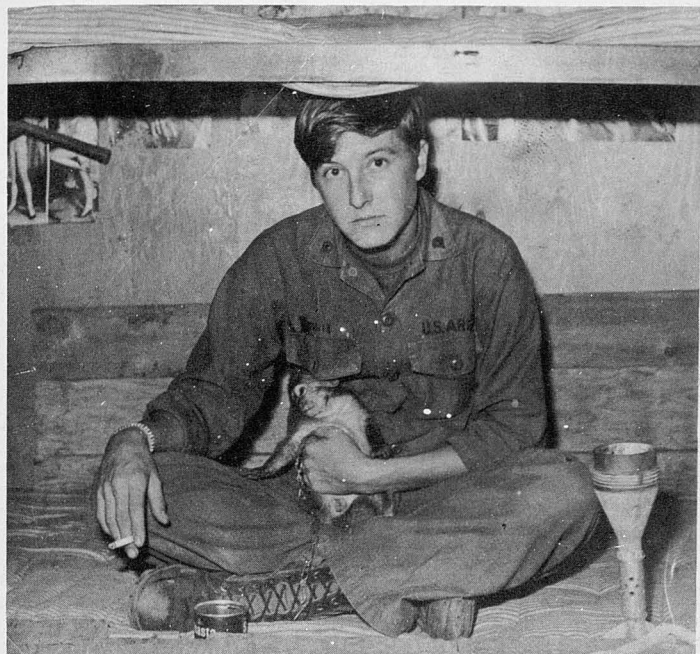
It's my turn next.



As I write this letter of resignation...



Right on !



I told you before, he is my brother.



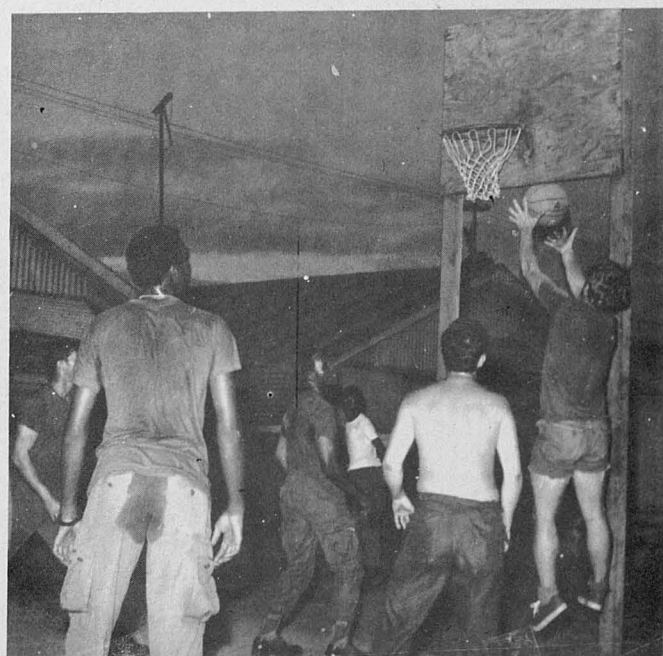
For you I 'll Throw in the Bumper Free of charge



Guess who's next for R&R



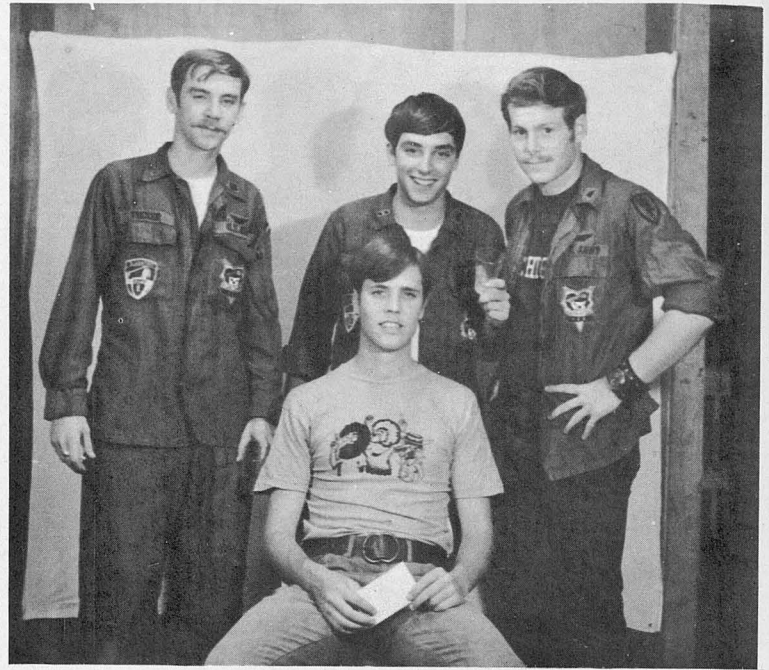
I didn't think he would make it



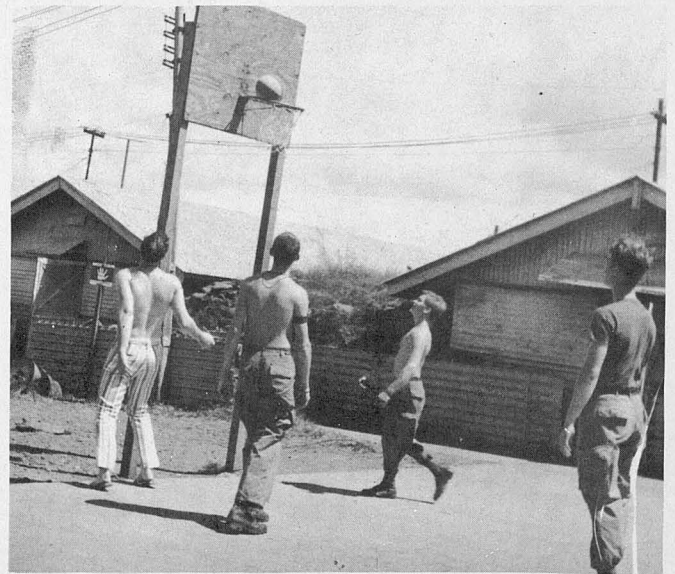
A long hard game



After six months without
a broad what do you expect



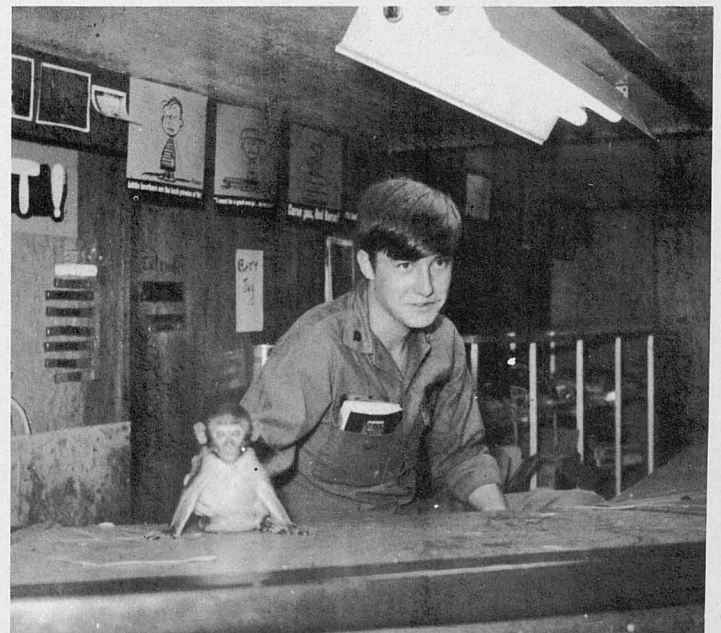
The In Group



And you thought Bob Cousey was good



You, Ride on this ?



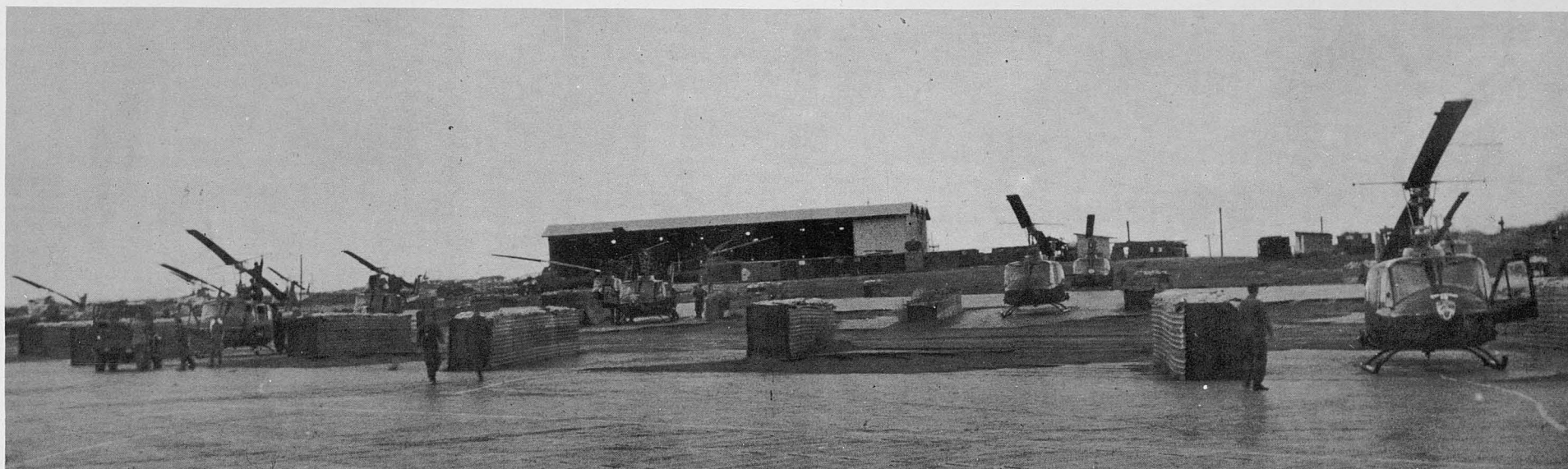
My Brother, why ?



Another day, Another dollar



Unsafe at any speed



The Colosseum



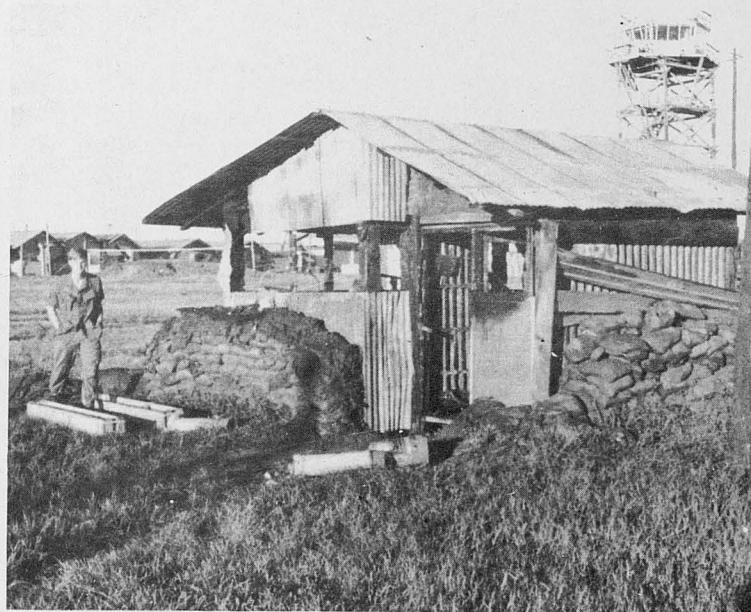
The CO and The new Action Army



The XO



Home, Sweet home



Where was the fire Marshal ?



Pretty Maids all in a Row



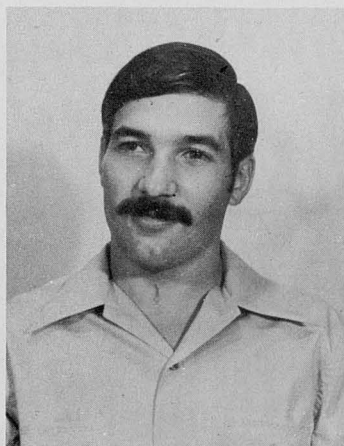
SIGN OF THE TIMES



CPT THOMAS M. WALKER



CPT BROOKS



CPT CAESAR



CPT EVERHART



CPT JONES



CPT JOHNSON



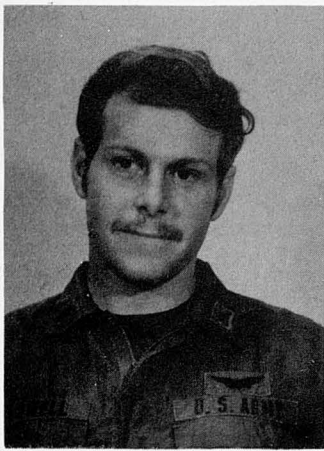
CPT POPPHAN



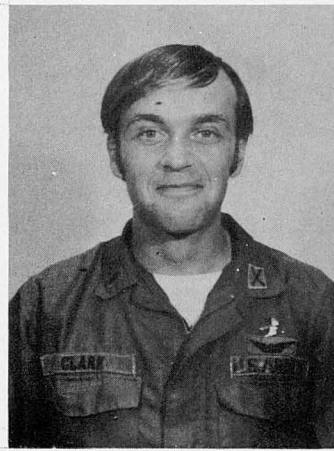
CPT SCHALK



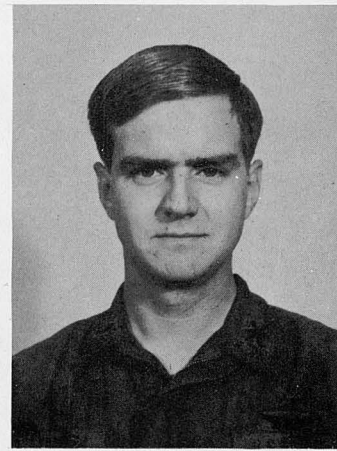
CPT SPOOR



1LT CALDWELL



1LT CLARK



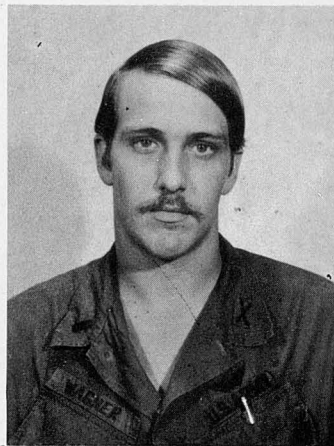
1LT FRAKER



1LT PAPINI



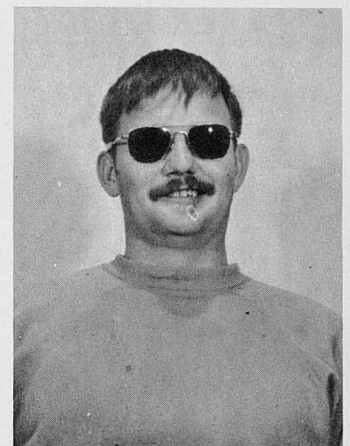
1LT REYNARD



1LT WAGNER



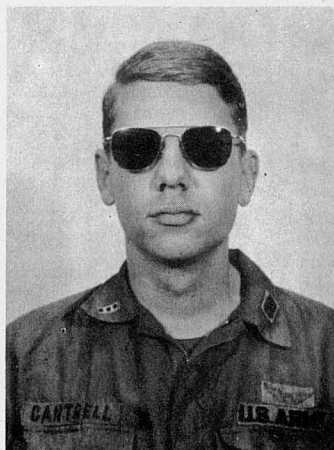
1LT WILSON



CW2 AUDISS



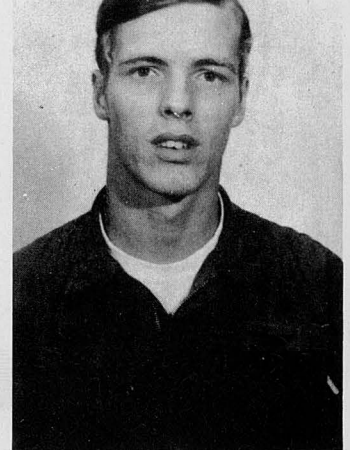
CW2 BRITTON



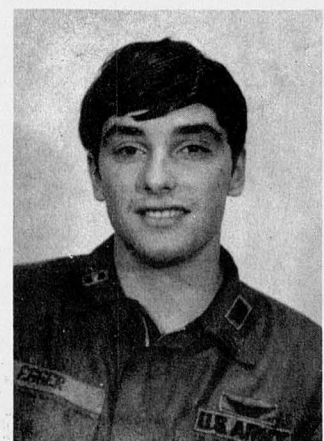
CW2 CANTRELL



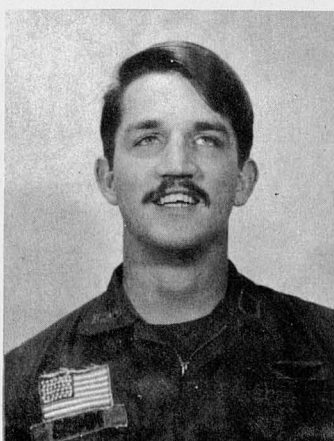
WO1 COX



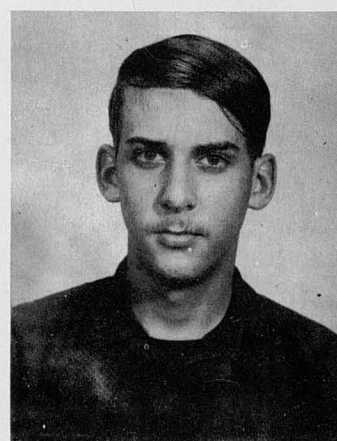
WO1 MOON



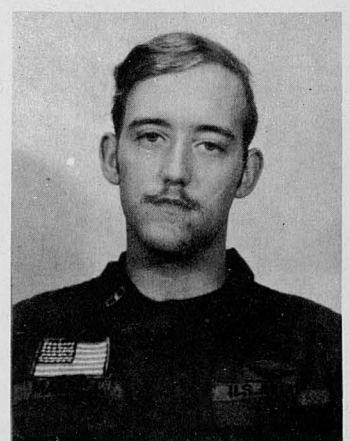
WO1 EGGER



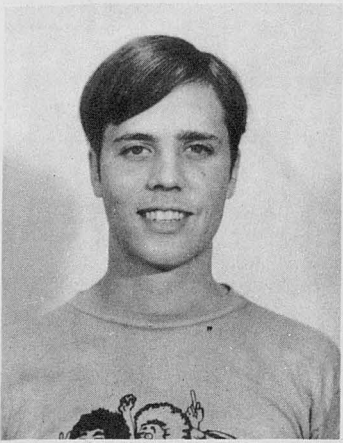
WO1 GRIMM



WO1 HERSHEY



WO1 MANDELL



WO1 MANKIE



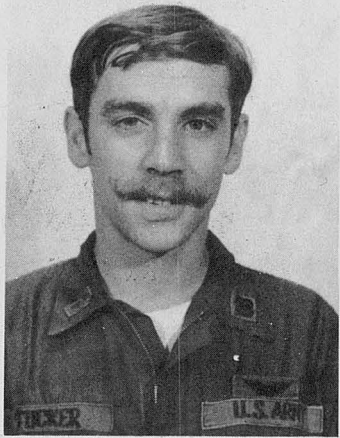
WO1 MICHAEL



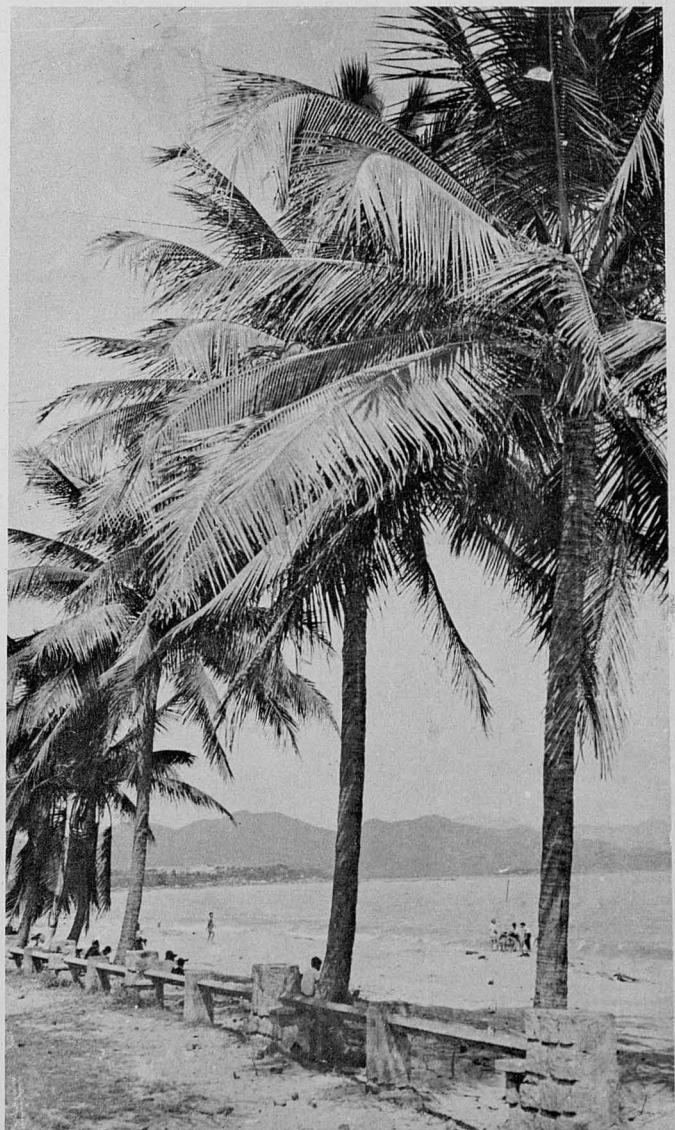
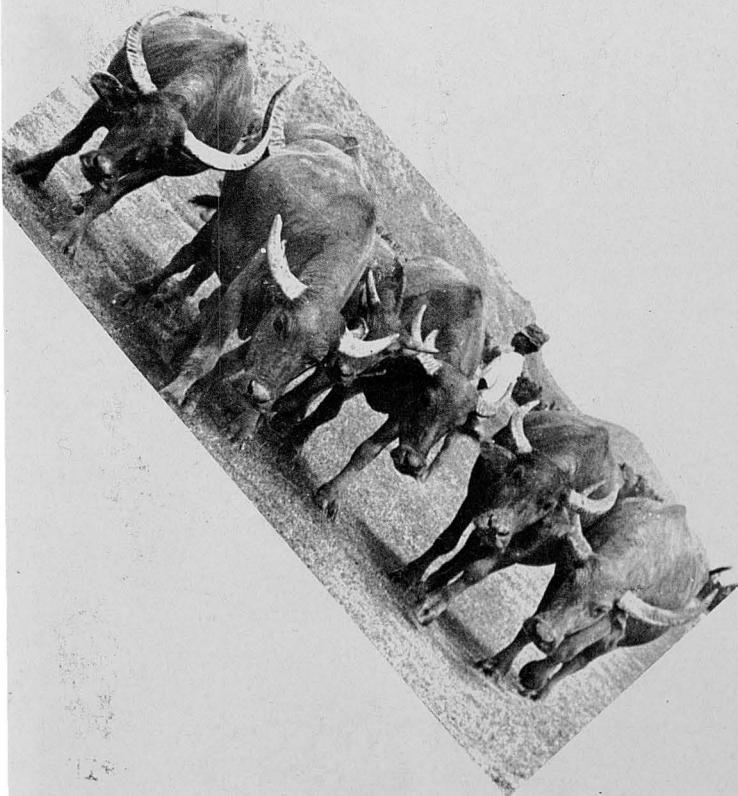
WO1 SMITH



WO1 SHUMATE



WO1 TUCKER





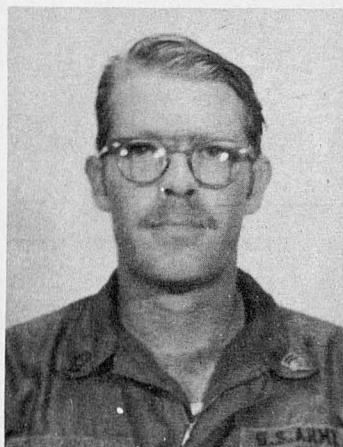
SP6 GARST



1SG KAHN CARLEY JR.



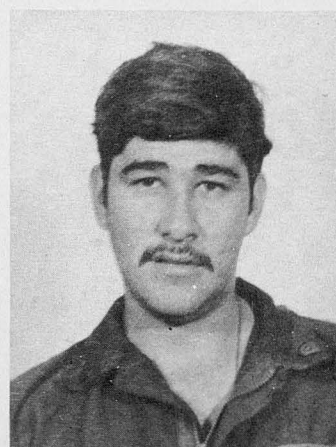
SSG Mc KINNIS



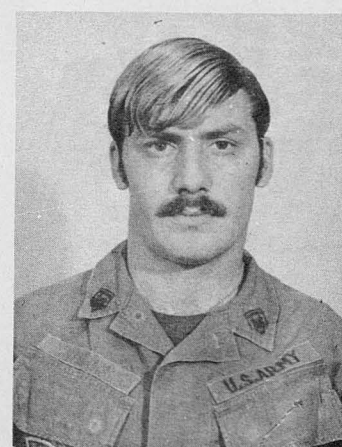
SP6 PARTCH



SSG SANCHEZ



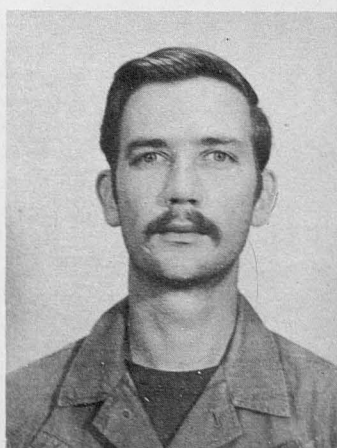
SP5 ARCHULETA



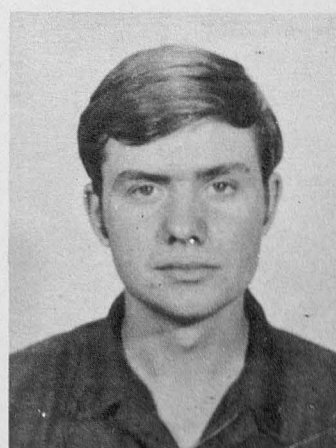
SP5 BOGGS



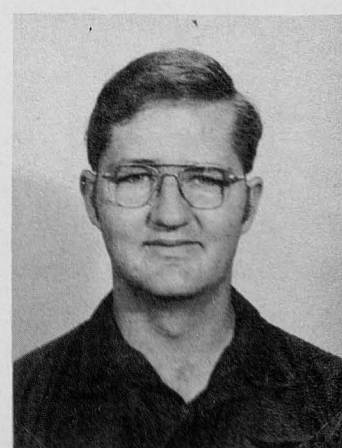
SP5 BURBRIDGE



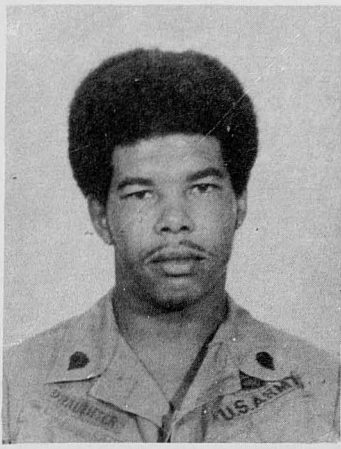
SP5 BURLESON



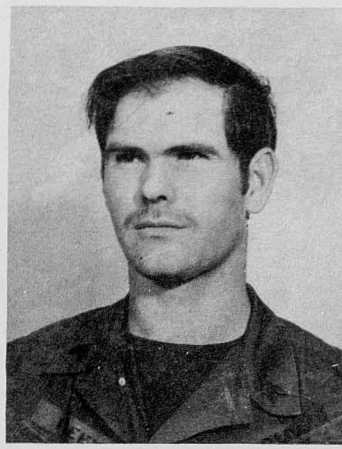
SP5 COVER



SP5 DRAFFIN



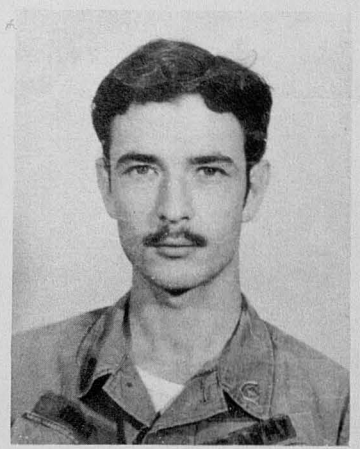
SP5 DRAUGHTER



SGT FREEMAN



SP5 HALBERG



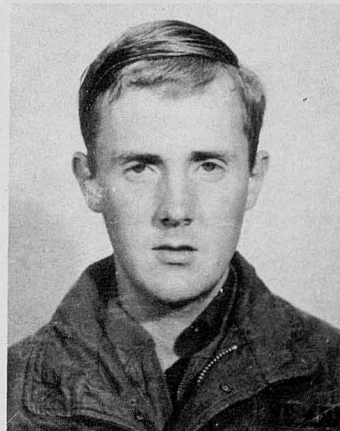
SP5 HOLT



SGT JOHNSON



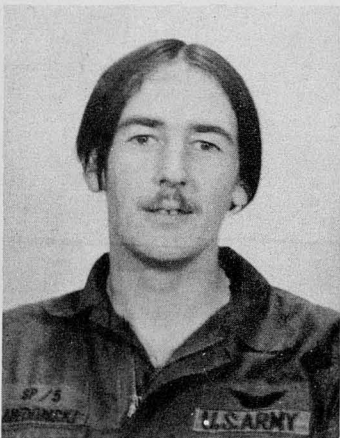
SP5 JOHNSON



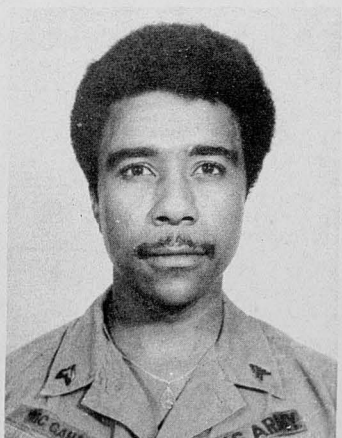
SP5 JOHNSON



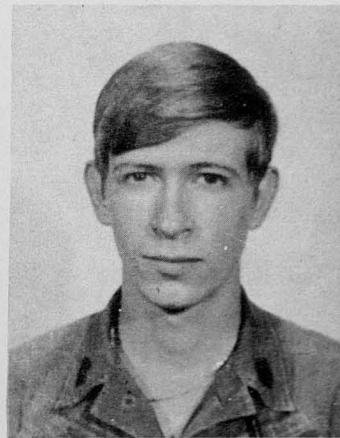
SP5 KLEMAN



SP5 LAWDONSKI



SGT Mc GAHA



SP5 NICOL



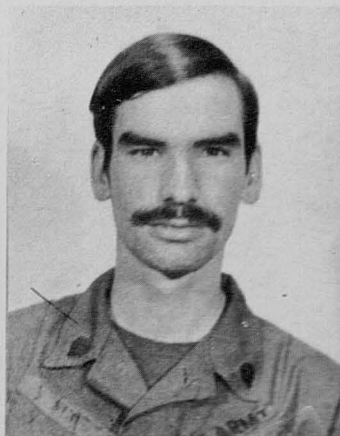
SP5 PEARSON



SP5 PENCE



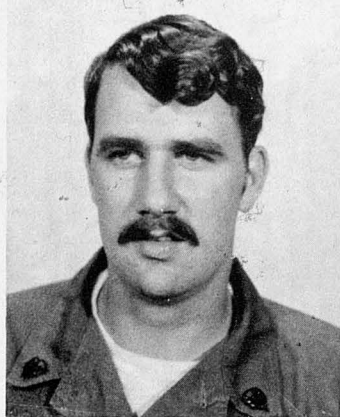
SP5 STOCKES



SP5 SCOTT



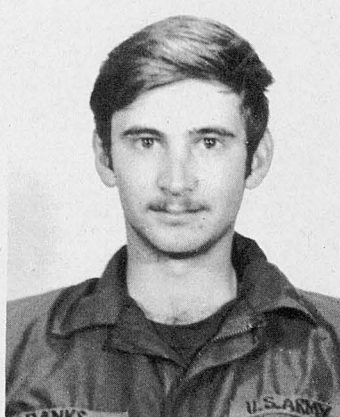
SP5 THIBEAULT



SP4 ANGEL



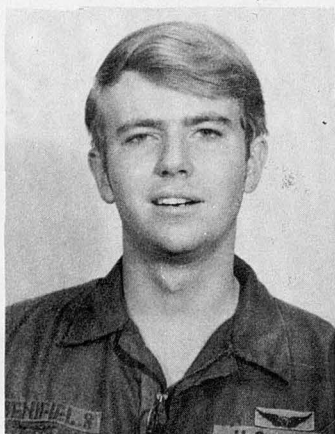
SP4 ATWOOD



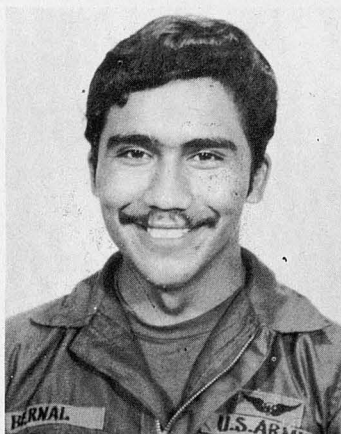
SP4 BANKS



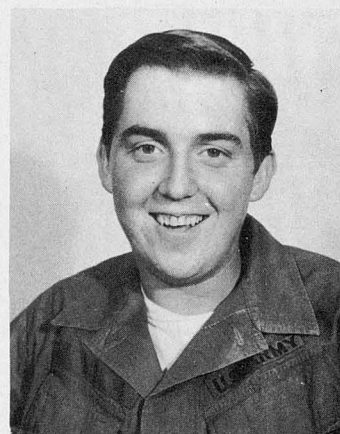
SP4 BAUER



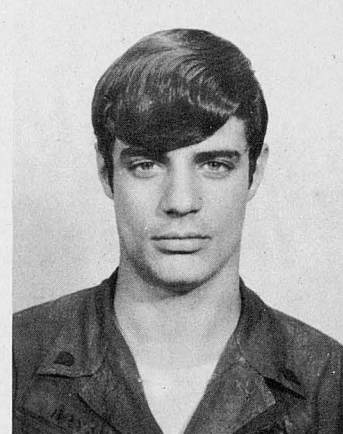
SP4 BENIFIEL



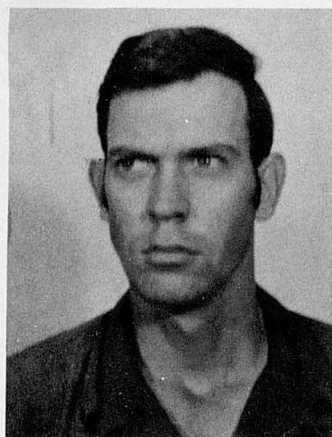
SP4 BERNAL



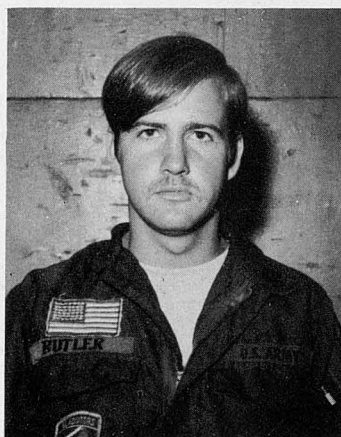
SP4 BICKFORD



SP4 BRYAN



SP4 BUTLER



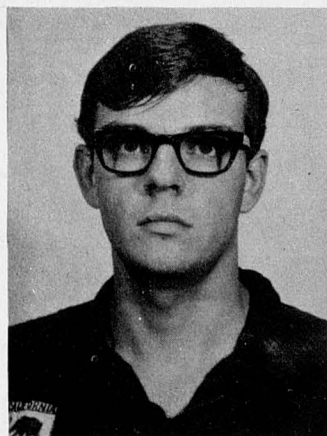
SP4 BUTLER



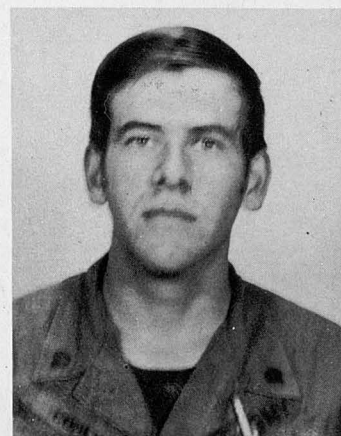
SP4 CAVALLIN



SP4 CHLEBOWSKI



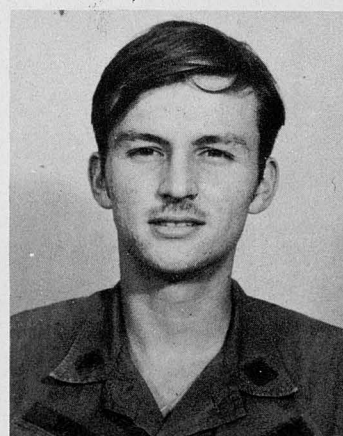
SP4 COE



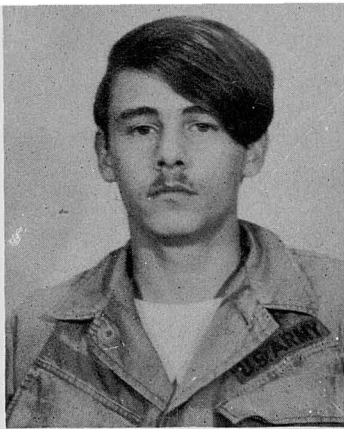
SP4 COMER



SP4 COPPLE



SP4 DARLING



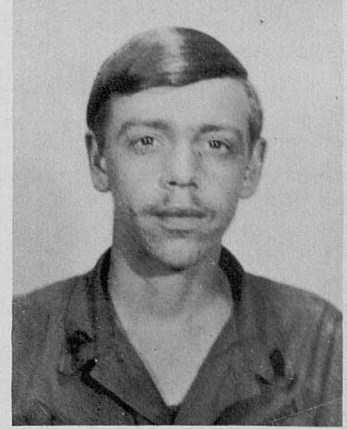
SP4 DAVENPORT



SP4 DAVIS



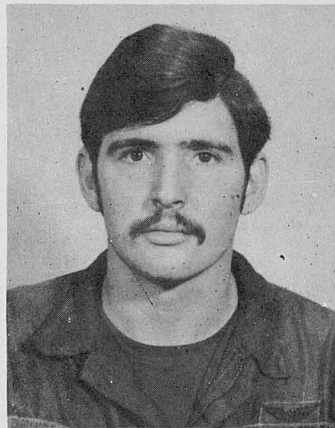
SP4 DEMUMBREUM



SP4 DERROW



SP4 DOLE



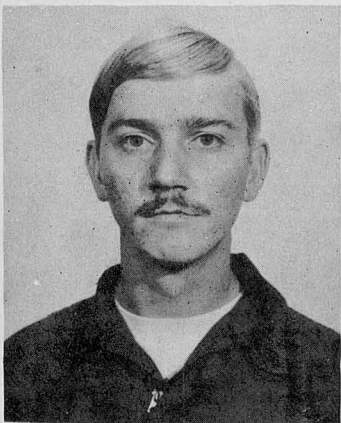
SP4 DOUGLAS



SP4 DOZIER



SP4 DUNN



SP4 ENFINFER



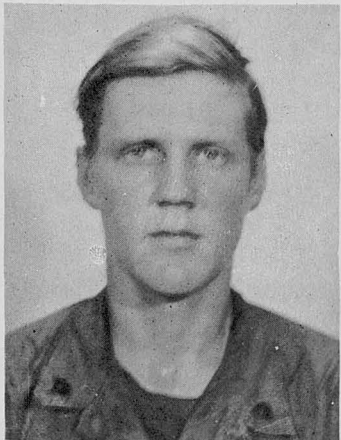
SP4 ESPINOSA



SP4 FAUDREE



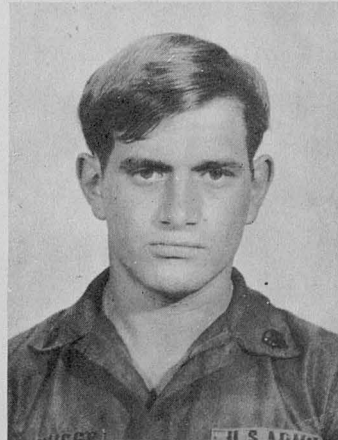
SP4 FLYNN



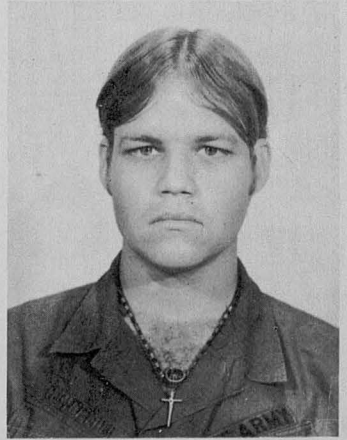
SP4 GATES



SP4 GEIGLE



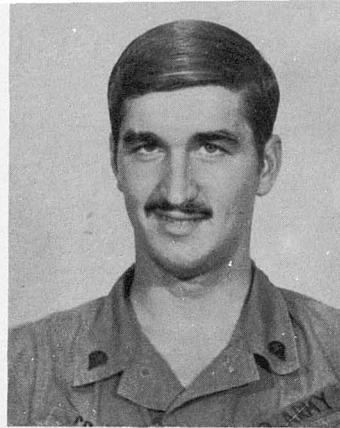
SP4 GETTINGER



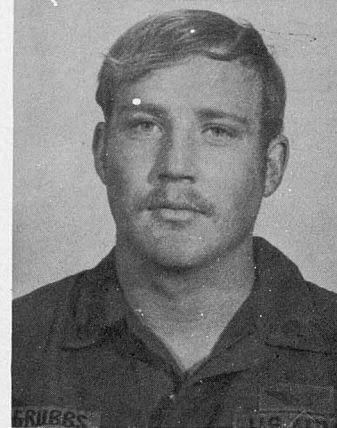
SP4 GRIFFITH



SP4 GRAHAM



SP4 GROFF



SP4 GRUBBS



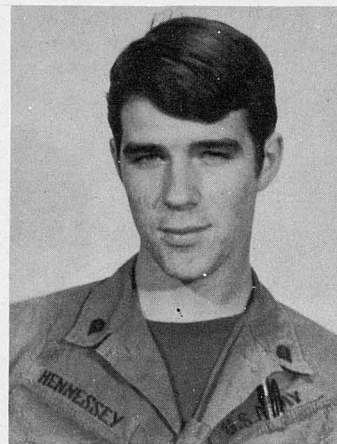
SP4 HAASE



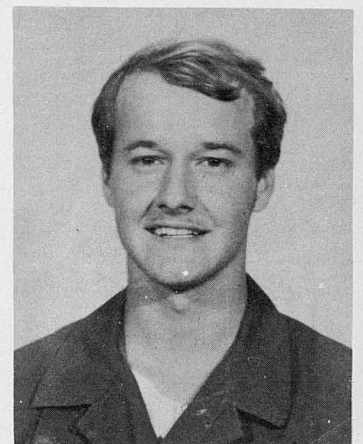
SP4 HANNUM



SP4 HEDGLEY



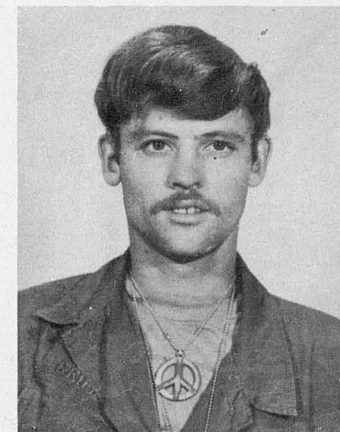
SP4 HENNESSEY



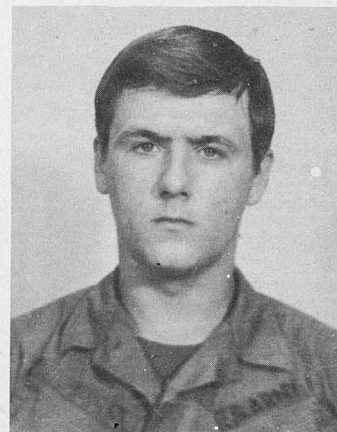
SP4 HERRING



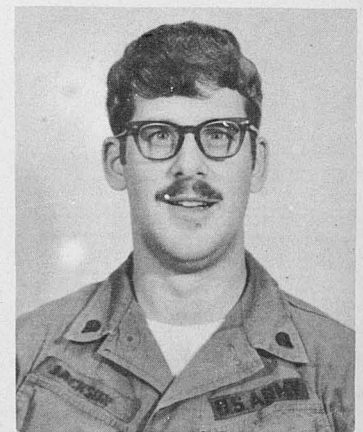
SP4 HOLLAND



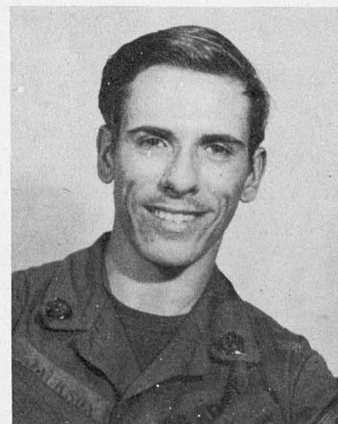
SP4 HOLLOWAY



SP4 IKNER



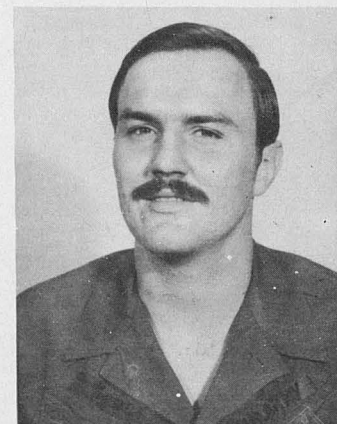
SP4 JACKSON



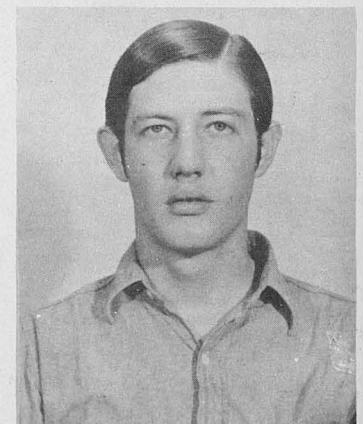
SP4 JACKSON



SP4 JETTE



SP4 KEBBEL



SP4 LEA



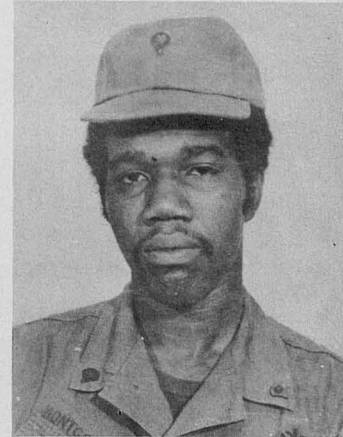
SP4 MANKOWSKI



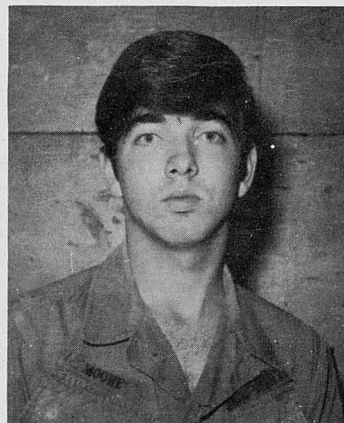
SP4 MAY



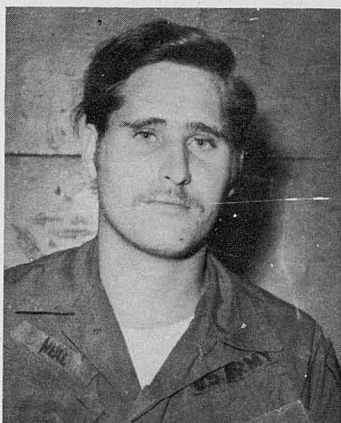
SP4 MILLARD



SP4 MONTGOMERY



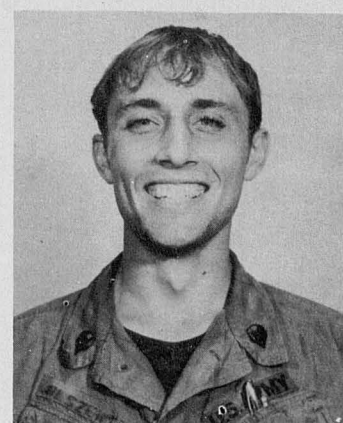
SP4 MOORE



SP4 NEAL



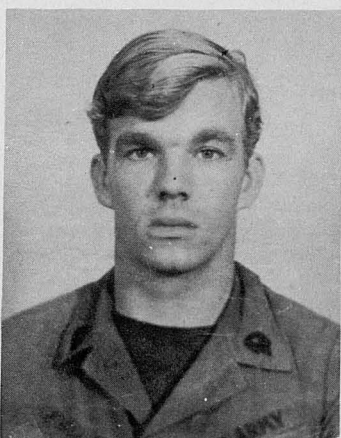
SP4 NOBLE



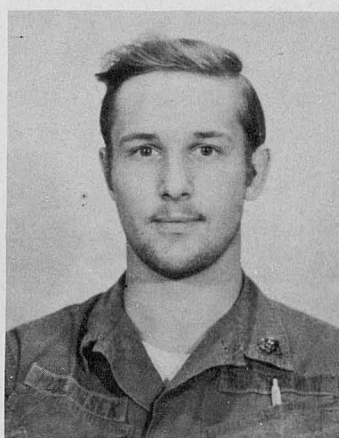
SP4 OLSZEWSKI



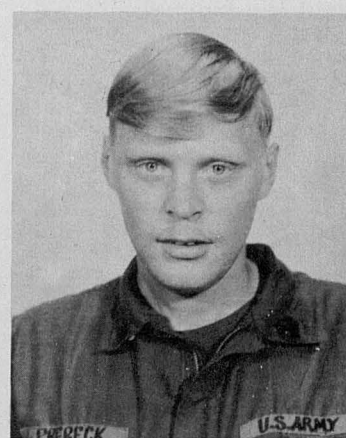
SP4 PAXTON



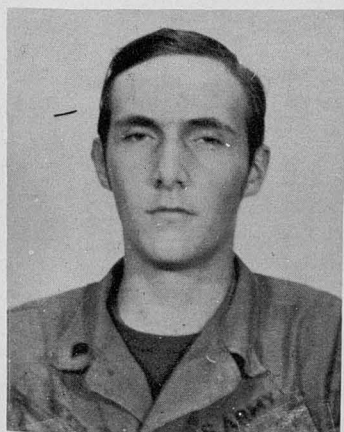
SP4 PHILLIPS



SP4 PODLINSEK



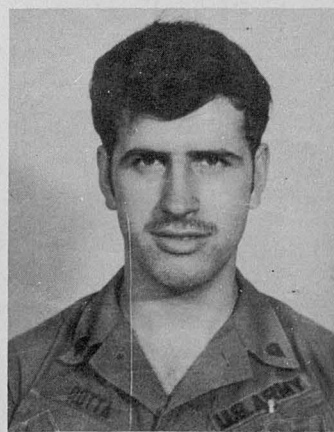
SP4 PREBECK



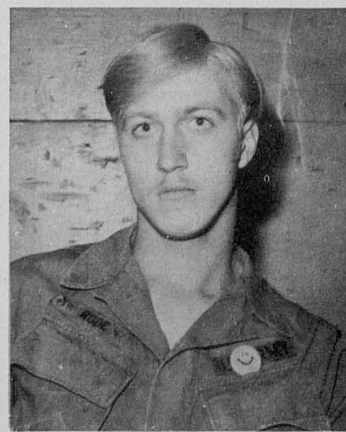
SP4 REED



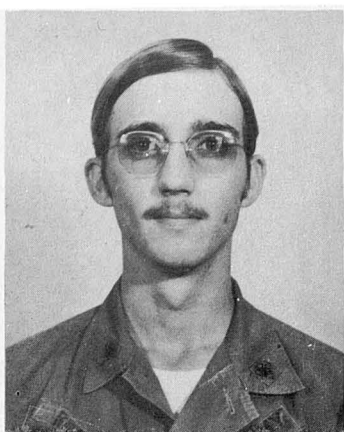
SP4 ROSS



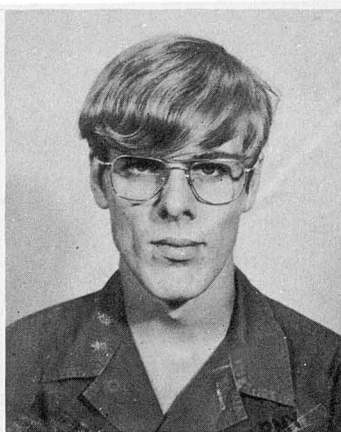
SP4 ROTTA



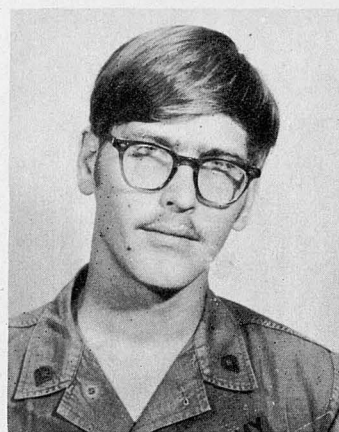
SP4 RUDE



SP4 RUSSO



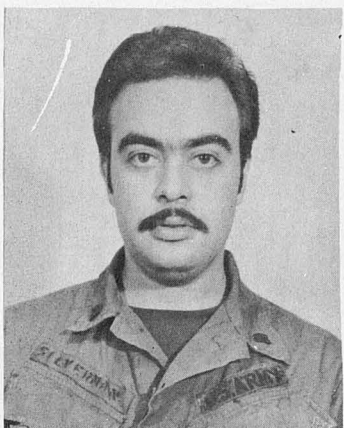
SP4 SANTY



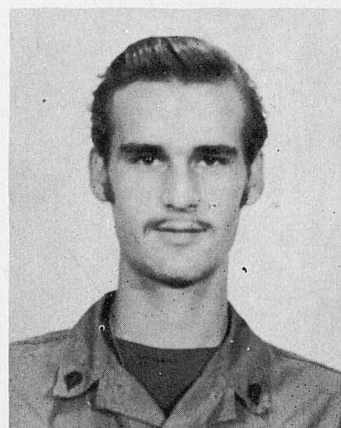
SP4 SCHALLOCK



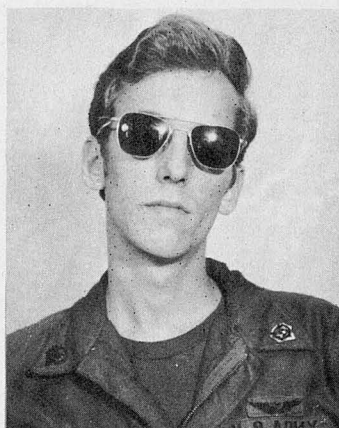
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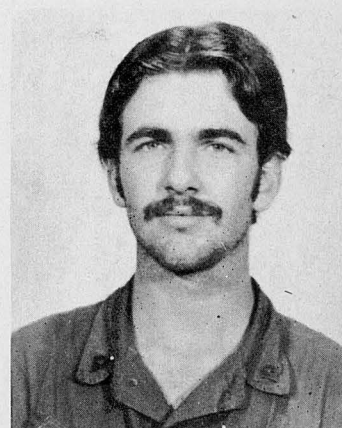
SP4 SILVERMAN



SP4 SMITH



SP4 SMITH



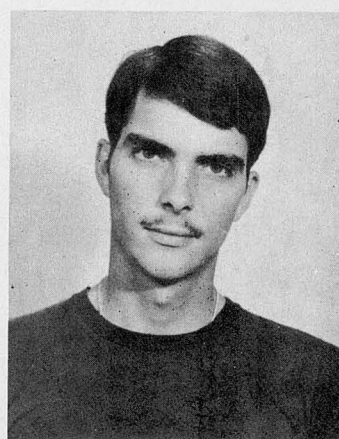
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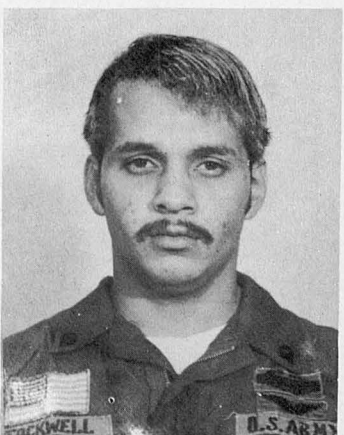
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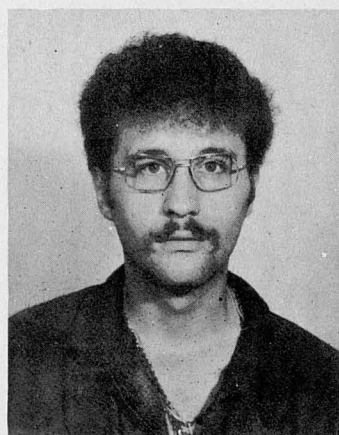
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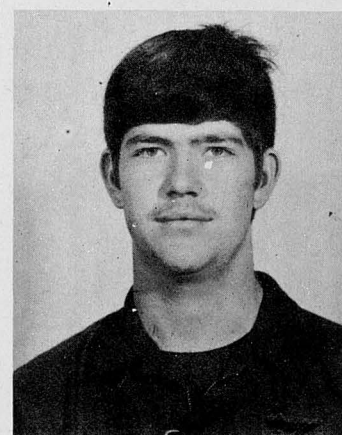
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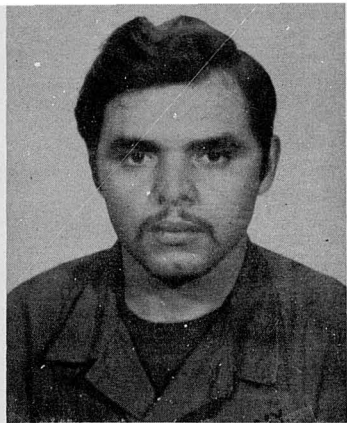
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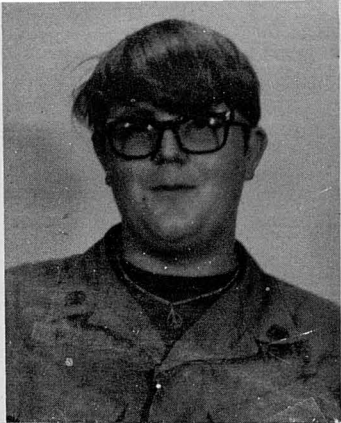
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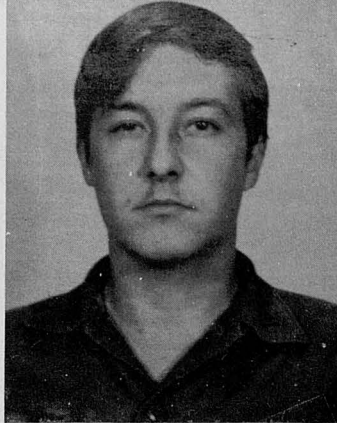
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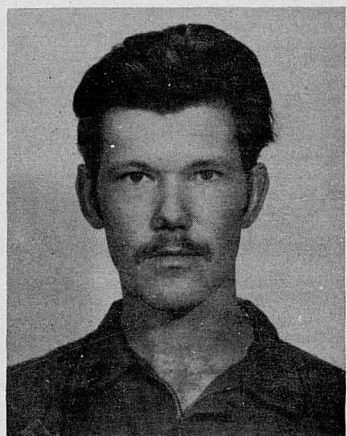
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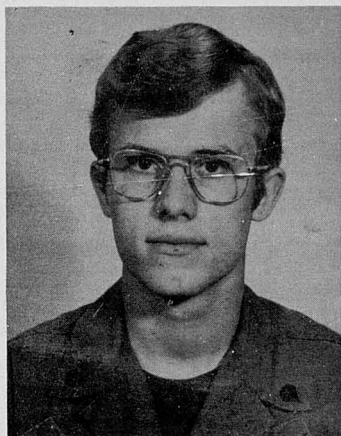
SP4 WHITE



SP4 WHITLOCK



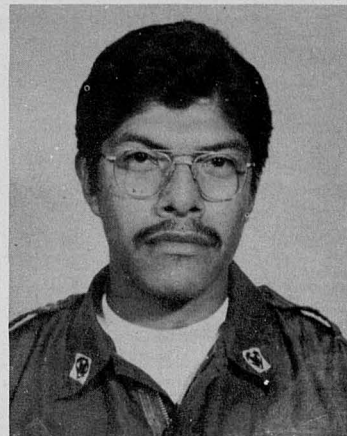
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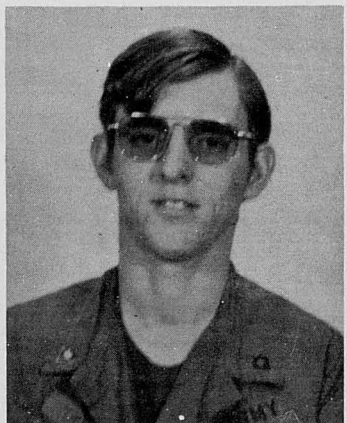
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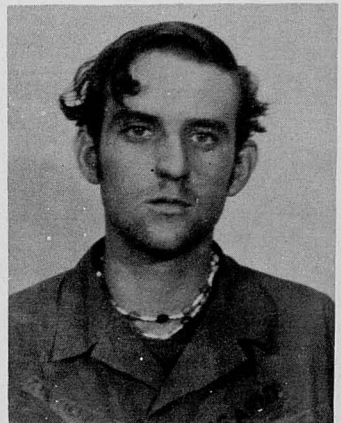
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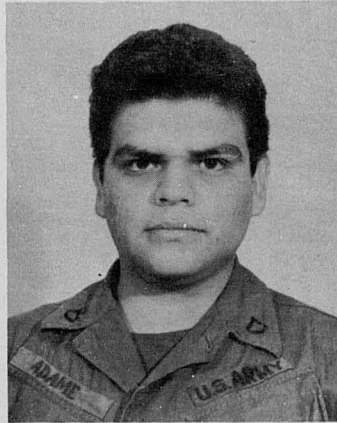
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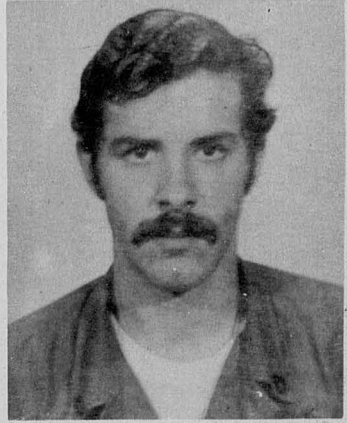
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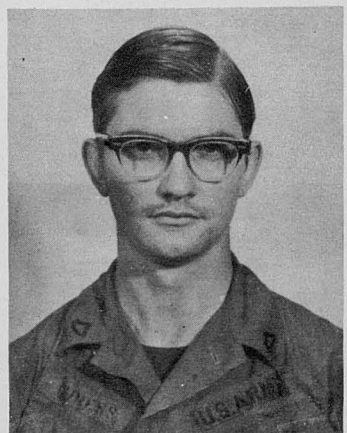
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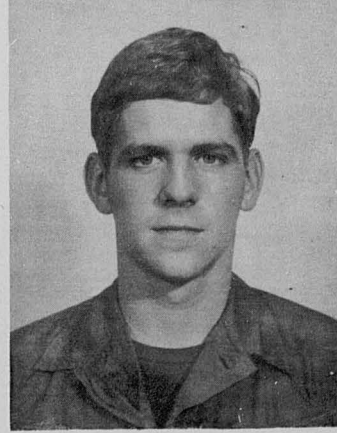
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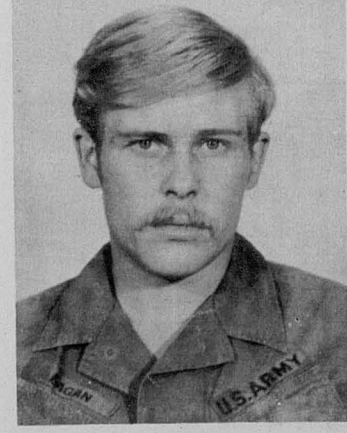
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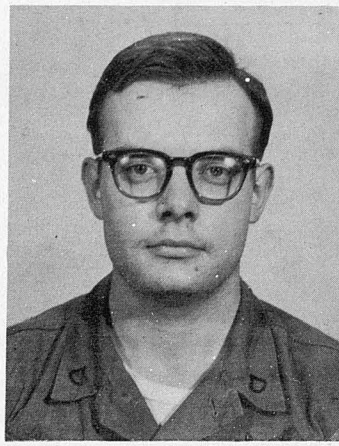
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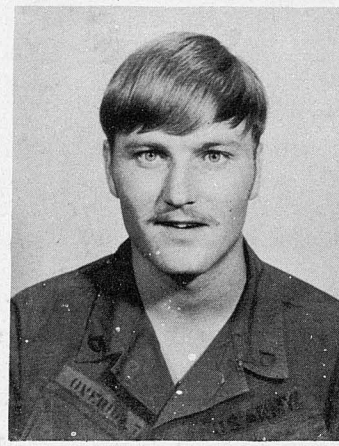
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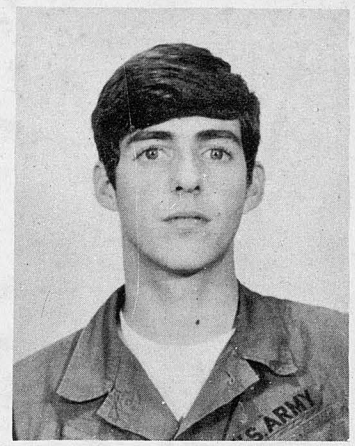
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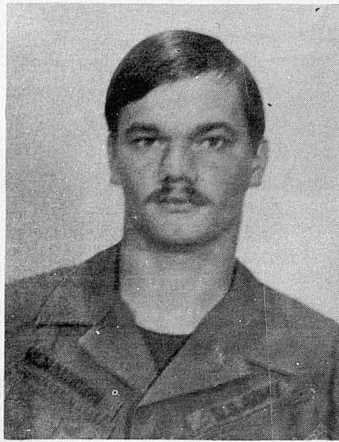
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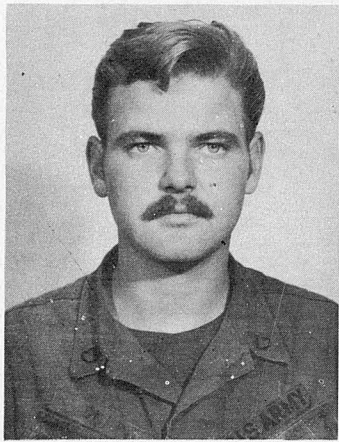
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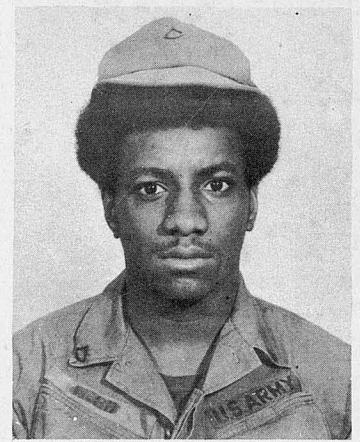
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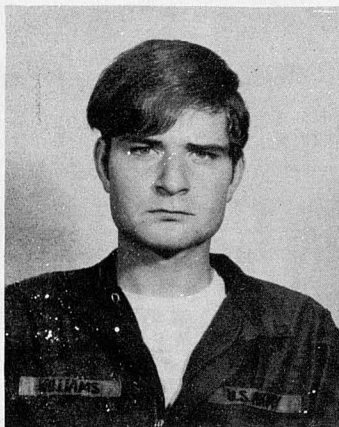
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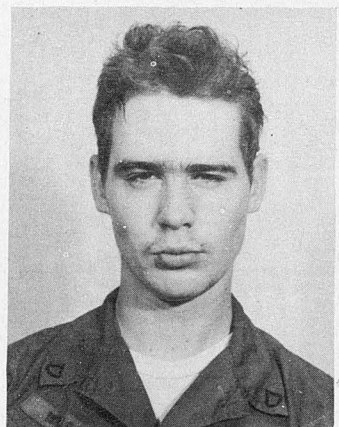
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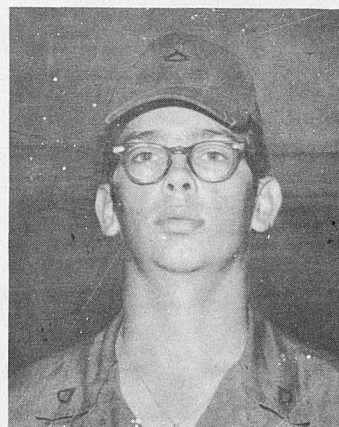
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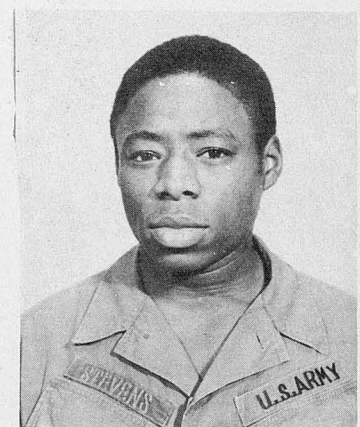
PFC WILLIAMS



PFC WILLTON



PFC YOUNG



PV1 STEVENS



PFC WORSWICK



SSG BRAZZEL



