

131ST

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE COMPANY (AS)



MARBLE MOUNTAIN ARMY AIRFIELD

DANANG VIETNAM 1972



Bill Kelehan





HISTORY OF THE 131ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE COMPANY (AS)

ON THE FIRST OF JULY 1965 THE 20TH ASTA (AERIAL SURVEILLANCE TARGET ACQUISITION) DETACHMENT WAS FORMED AT FORT RILEY KANSAS. THIS ORGANIZATION, WHICH HAS EVOLVED INTO THE MOST UNIQUE AVIATION ASSET IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, WAS DEPLOYED TO NHA TRANG IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AFTER A BRIEF TRAINING PERIOD IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE 20TH ASTA OPERATED FROM NHA TRANG UNTIL 15 JANUARY 1966 SUPPORTING ALLIED OPERATIONS IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER OV-1 UNITS IN COUNTRY. IN JANUARY OF 1966 THE UNIT CEASED OPERATIONS FROM NHA TRANG AND WAS DEPLOYED TO A NEW MISSION AREA. OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF 1 CORPS WERE BEGUN FROM PHU BAI ON 15 FEBRUARY 1966.

IN RESPONSE TO THE U. S. ARMY'S REQUIREMENT FOR INCREASED SURVEILLANCE IN VIET NAM THE 20TH ASTA WAS DEACTIVATED ON 31 MAY 1966, AND A NEW AND MORE FLEXIBLE ORGANIZATION, THE 131ST AVIATION COMPANY, WAS ORGANIZED. BEGINNING OPERATIONS ON THE 1ST OF JUNE 1966, UTILIZING THE PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT OF THE 20TH ASTA, THE 131ST BEGAN WORKING DIRECTLY FOR MACV-J2 AND THE SEVENTH AIR FORCE. THEY WERE SUPPORTED IN THEIR EXPANDED MISSION BY THE 223RD AVIATION BATTALION.

IN SEPTEMBER OF 1967 THE 131ST WAS REASSIGNED TO THE NEWLY FORMED 212TH AVIATION BATTALION AT MARBLE MOUNTAIN ARMY AIR FIELD. THEY CONTINUED TO OPERATE OVER ALL OF SOUTHEAST ASIA FROM THEIR BASE IN PHU BAI AND WERE REDESIGNATED THE 131ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE COMPANY (AS) ON THE FIRST OF JULY 1971. SIX MONTHS LATER, ON THE FIRST OF DECEMBER 1971 THE 212TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION STOOD DOWN AT MARBLE MOUNTAIN, PLACING THE 131ST MI CO (AERIAL SURVEILLANCE) UNDER THE 11TH COMBAT AVIATION GROUP.

WITHIN THIRTY DAYS THE 131ST WAS MOVING TO MARBLE MOUNTAIN. ON THE TENTH OF JANUARY THE FIRST ADVANCE PARTY CAME FROM PHU BAI AND THE ENTIRE COMPANY HAD BEEN MOVED BY THE FIRST OF FEBRUARY, 1972. SINCE THAT TIME WE HAVE CONTINUED TO PROVIDE INTELLIGENCE TO THE MAJOR COMMANDERS AND ADVISORS OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND ALL OF SOUTHEAST ASIA; WE FLY WHERE NO ONE ELSE CAN FLY AND ANSWER QUESTIONS THAT NO ONE ELSE CAN ANSWER. THE "SPUDS" OF THE 131ST ARE PROUD OF THEIR MISSION AND OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE U. S. ARMY AND ARMY AVIATION.

DEFINITION OF A SPUD

A man of vision and ambition, an after dinner speaker, a before dinner speaker, before and after dinner guzzler, night owl, able to fly all day and fill out reports all night and still appear fresh the next day; is able to sleep on the floor and eat two meals a day to economize on expenses so he can entertain his friends at the Spud Club.

He is able to entertain wives, sweethearts, hoochmaids and Mothers without becoming too amorous in public, date "Doughnut Dollies" and at the same time keep out of trouble; drive through snow ten feet deep at ten below and work all summer filling sand bags without acquiring B.O.

He is a man's man, a model husband or bachelor, a fatherly father, a good provider, a plutocrat, a Democrat, Republican or "New Dealer" when its necessary, an "Old Dealer" and a fast dealer, a technician, a politician, a mathematician, an expert OV-1D mechanic and engine fixer, and an authority on anything and everything. He is an accomplished stenographer and typist, able to rip out 150 words per minute and keep a cigar going. He attends all meetings, conventions, funerals, visits hospitals, jails and the drug rehabilitation center, contacting and soothing the feelings of wayward Spuds, and every commander in the Army, drives a government car, truck, tractor, trailer, sweeper, crane, palouste unit or oxygen cart, and is ready to compute mileage, drift, ground speed, JP-4 consumption per-block-per minute, wear and tear on the tires and depreciation on the paint job.

He has unlimited endurance and frequently over-indulges in wine, women, song and gab; he knows a wide range of telephone numbers almost as well as he knows his airmachine; he knows the very latest jokes and stories; he owns the latest car, an attractive hooch with bar and air conditioning, sexy hoochmaid, an extensive wardrobe, and an Air Force oxygen mask. He belongs to all clubs, pays all expenses at home plus old age pensions, social security deductions, income tax, tobacco tax, luxury tax and the heavy liquor tax.

He is able to stick his neck out by answering any questions with authority, and then pull it back before it is chopped off. He is an expert talker, dancer, liar, traveler, aviator, fornicator, prophet, poet, bridge player and poker hound; an authority on palmistry, chemistry, physiology, psychology, aircraft accident prevention, cats, dogs, OV-1D's and birth control, etc... He sees all, knows all and is able to tell his boss "no" in such a way that takes ten minutes and leaves the boss with the impression that he has done him a big favor; he is able to say all without telling anything or committing anybody.

He is Shit Hot!





Major ROGER M. SMITH _ Commanding



CPT. DANIEL C. FORDIANI
Executive Officer





1SG DOMENIC MONACO





Admin. Officer PAUL WEISENBERGER



Got my orders yet?



No drops today!



I can't buy that!!!



We run the show.



From the top....



Get those dogs to attention!



Suck it in signal



Did he say "eyes left or right"?



Someone is wrong.



CPT. Weisenberger - Admin. Officer



SF5 Formica Schist



Get rid of that patch



Ah, shucks!



Ooh, that tickles!





I know the board was tough...



Good goin' injun!

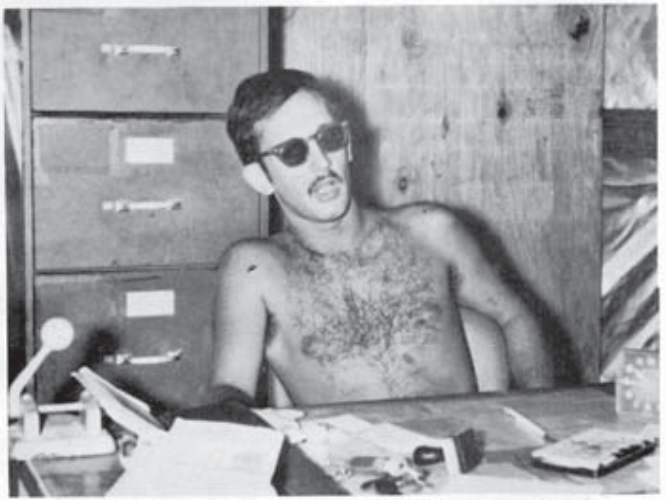


I'm falling.





Has the mail come in?



Whether rain or hail, no morning mail!



Ain't got none, next man!



I always get my 10 per cent.



It must be outgoing.



I want my attorney.



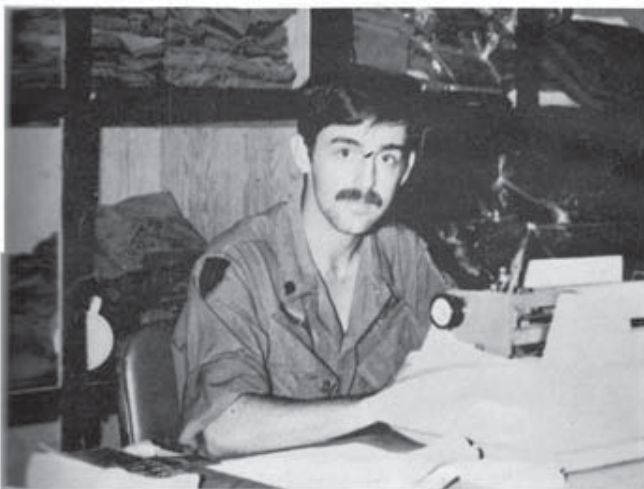
To the beach!



No bic, monsieur!



I pity the new PBO.



I can sympathize with you....



... But there is no toilet paper!



Do you have a weapon card?



How do you spell "BEACH"?



These bright lights, ugh!



You will marry my hootchmaid!



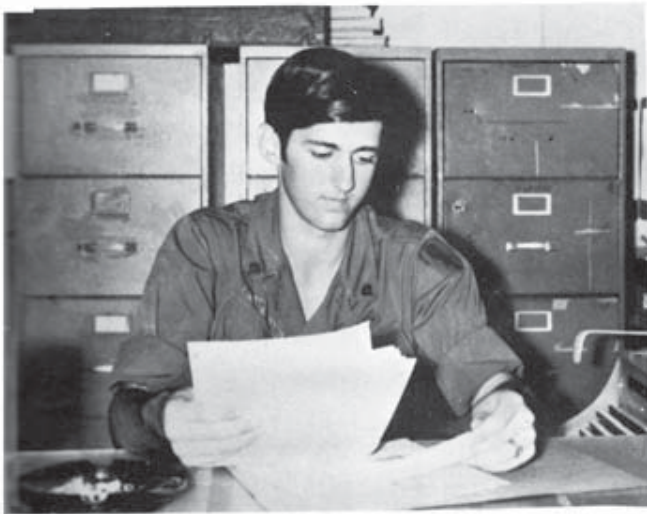
The boys in the band



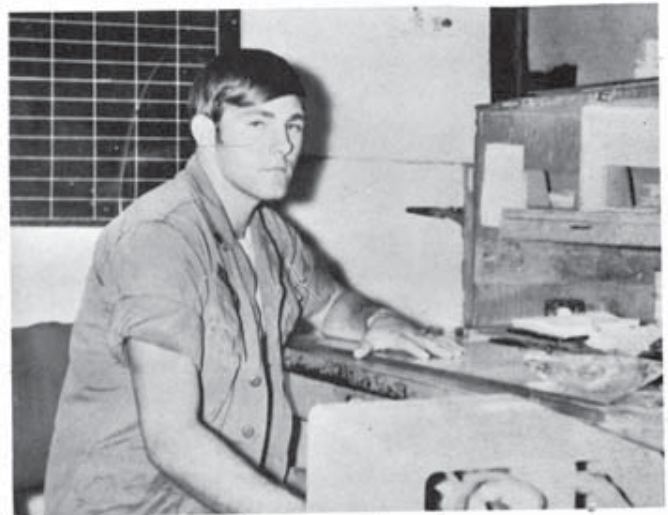
Where is the July Playboy?



CPT. BOB RATH - Operations Officer



Are you sure you filed a 1080?



Tennessee bound



Do you have a "need to know"?



Hello, mom!



Two fingers no less



Parnelli shatswell



Size 12EEE



NCOIC R&U



Ins Inop, Tacan Inop...



You will have your picture taken!



Are you sure this is how you
slave a compass?



To feather, or not to feather!



Let's send "dangerous dan" to Hanoi!



Sorry, we're all out of air medals!



No flight slots today!



Squad "6"



The move is still on, but...



With enough fuel....Australia



I can't believe I ate the whole thing.



Must be clear skies, Bob's flying.



Do you have the 50 in. lens cone?



Spit shine?



What bullet hole?



It hurt to smile with a hangover.



I'd rather be sleeping.



What time is the game?



What's your date of rank, CPT? Oh...



Survival vest? It's only a test flight.



Who's chicken bone is this?



You will have a meal card at midnight chow.



It's my chicken bone.



Get two new tires ready!



Only five bounces and just three big ones.



Wish this had a land-line.



Signal six



What ALQ-80?



Hope I don't lose another hatch!



A little skin bracer for the troops.



Red X? No sweat!



Our man in Saigon



Where's my axe?



George, Can you pick-up some jewelry?



Getting tight, huh!



Coming or going....



...the face is the same.



Canyon-bone "6"



"Dink" 6



Have you signed out your protective mask-troop?



I got my 348.



I've got my toilet paper in here.



Happiness is a good seat preflight.



Four more and I'm jump qualified.



Single engine at marble? No sweat!



Is there a hole in my wing?



What morning formation?



What do you mean, wrong side?



RP. 2? Maybe tomorrow!!



What's a deros??



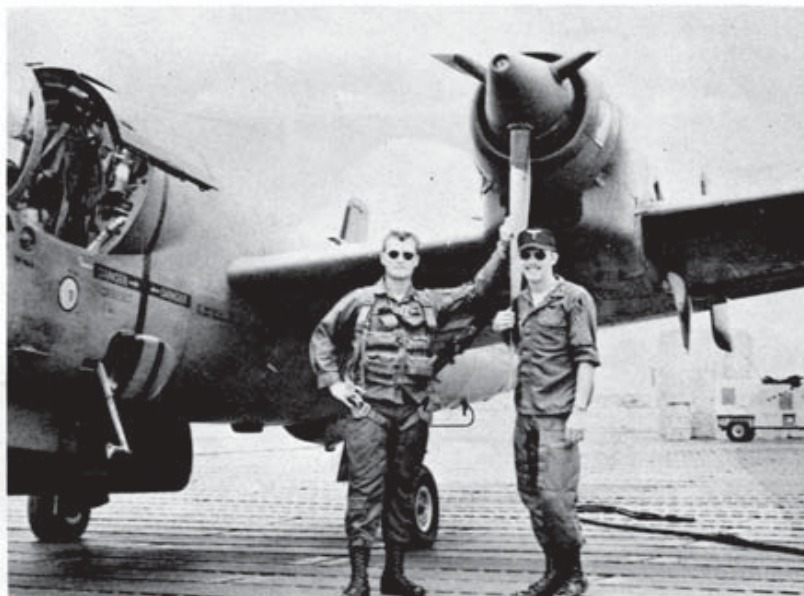
...now back in Italy...



I remember back in '68...



I am!...still can't find the cockpit.



Whatever happened to the third stooge?



Freedom bird?



Boom boom!!



Can I fill out the logbook in the bunker?



You can call the by my first name, "Sir"!



The I.R. V.R...er photo platoon



Haste makes waste



Yankee delta 4-5



My class today is on the relief tube.



"Big ten" go blue!!



So that's what it's for.... I thought it was an aux microphone.



During my first tour...



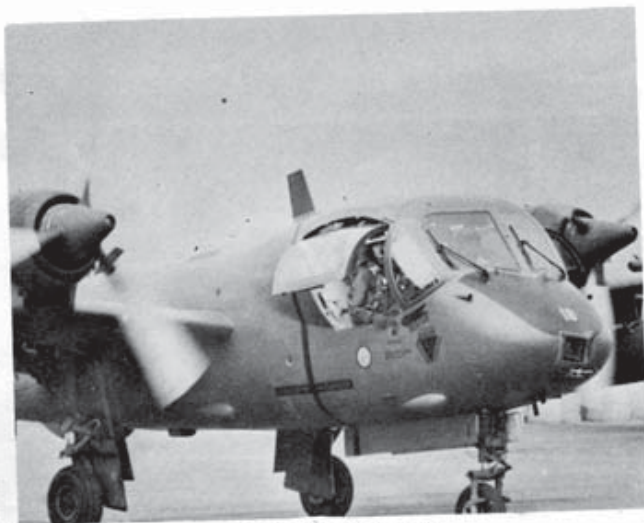
I'm flying....I outrank him.



Who's my T.O. today?



You didn't think I could climb in...huh?



Triple threat!!



Potato 1-1 Alpha



You will take this plane to Mexico, Gringo!



What do you mean, South of the border?



.... and do you see this home...?



Harness? What harness?



RP-2? No bic!



Cool as the frost on a champagne glass...



It's photo, not V.R.!!



Uncle Brian



I are a I.R.T.O. not a S.L.A.R.T.O.



Be advised you are coming in weak & broken!



But in Thailand the Air Force does it differentlv.....



Copy-copy, break-break 82!



'Today I operate everything!



It must be moon-beans



"Baby-san"



22 more hours and I'll have
basic air medal!!



Star...again!



How did I do?



Well....at least you hit the wall!



Relief tube? where?



Two is clear, sir!



But it tickles when it's tight!



It sure looks like a Ravenala
Madagascariensis to me!!!



I'll be right back...



Nine's clear!



Down in Louisiana....



Two more months and I'll be thru!!



Have you seen my horse?



Whadya mean did I check the seat before I got in?



Not another D R?



Dump it where?



Close it up trail



Let's try it one more time!



It sounded easy on the ground



And there I was.....



I'm hanging around for the poker game.



Wait'till I get hold of SFC Bloom!



You sure this is the right way to lower a tree?



Even I couldn't sleep here.



Can I fly in my cowboy boots?



I don't know what I'll do with him.



Will it ground check O.K.?
Who's flying it?



But sir, this is the launch crew!!



It's not calibrated.



Where is SFC. Parker ?



Roll up your sleeves!



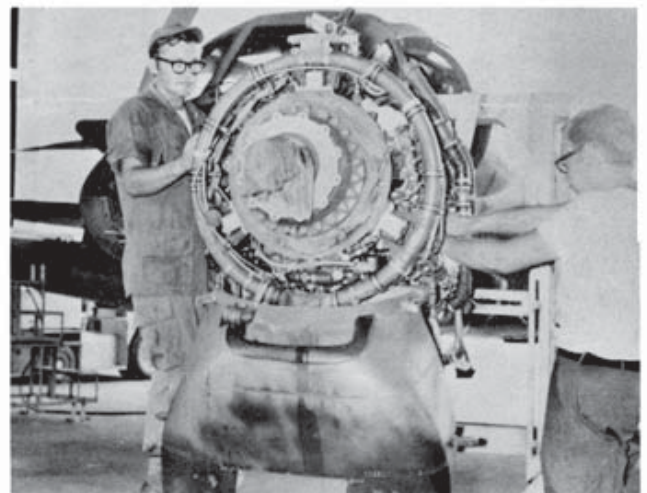
Time for another break



Is this really a redeye?



The tallon "ejection seat"?



I think it's backward.



Right down the middle



It's a work seminar.



Quiet! Genius at work



Washing off the coke?



The Maintenance Mob



Night launch



"Chicken bone 6"



Must have been a hard landing



....Silliest way to push a tug I've ever seen.



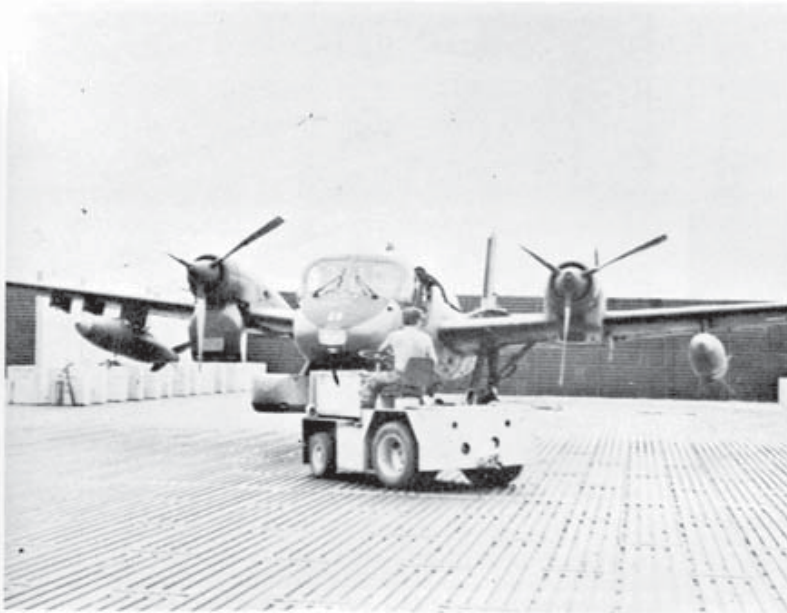
Scheduling the un-scheduled



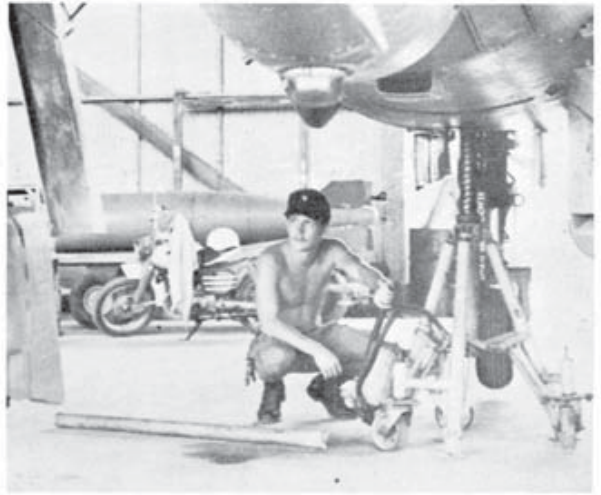
I believe it's an OV-1...



I'm not really sure.



What? A tug that runs!



Hey Sarge! What if it falls?



Really, I didn't need the pliers



Nicky said it was



My body is tired.



TM 220-superman



...But they were, latched when I took off?!



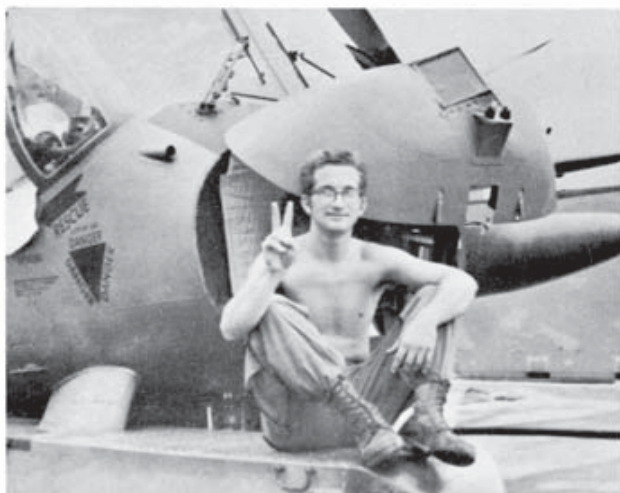
Walk back and see if the prop's turning.



JP-4 forever



....I don't know, it just quit.



Yeah, please!



How many blades should it have?



I can't fix this with the lights out.



Which Hamilton? There are three of us!



Doesn't taste like 23699?



NHA...Nixon's hired Army.



The ladder of success?



You fly 'em, we park 'em.



P.E. it, Micky!



Bob price and "the Gabe"



Clear two!



Think I'll order a Mohawk



Lope and Pat



Give me a "S", give me a "P"



Give me a "U", give me a "D"!



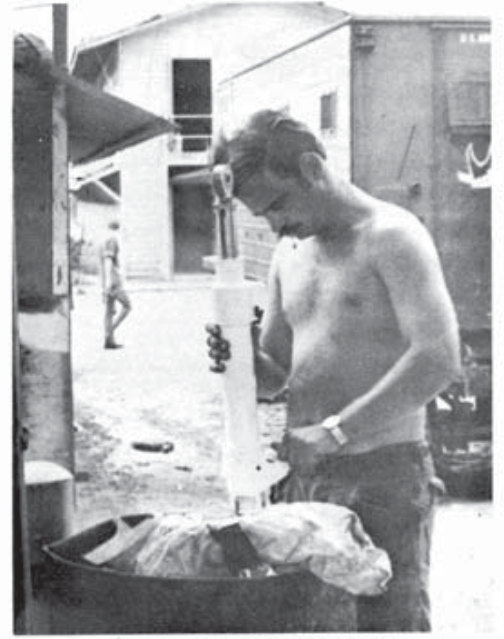
Back in Alabama....



JP-4, it's a gas!



Will somebody get their s...together?



It was just a seep.



I might as well settle down here.



It ain't in here.



Somebody wake that man.



Where is the airplane?



...No, it only hurts when I breathe!



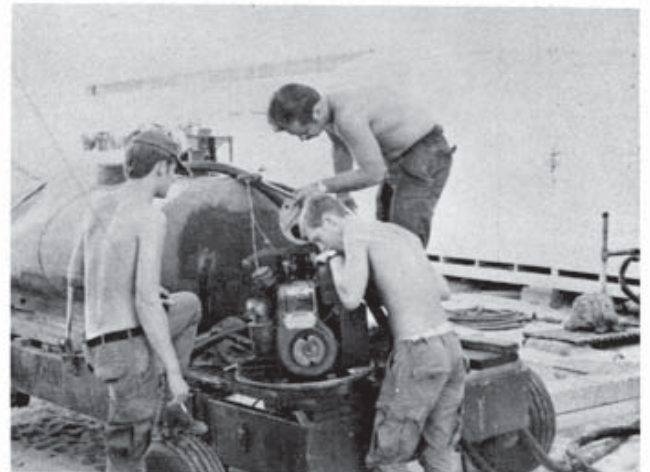
But his eyes won't open 'til dark.



At ease...the major won't be here for 30 minutes.



Tilt my right wing?



...But that's what I've been trying to tell ya that's water not gas.



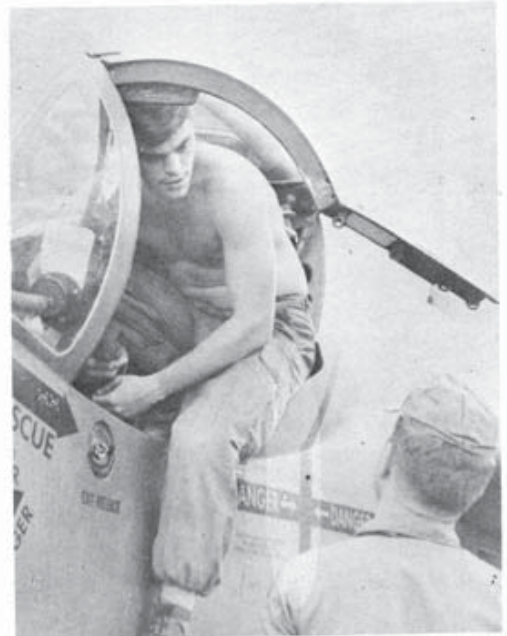
I'm writing a book on driving bomb leaders.



The signal for testing the relief tube.



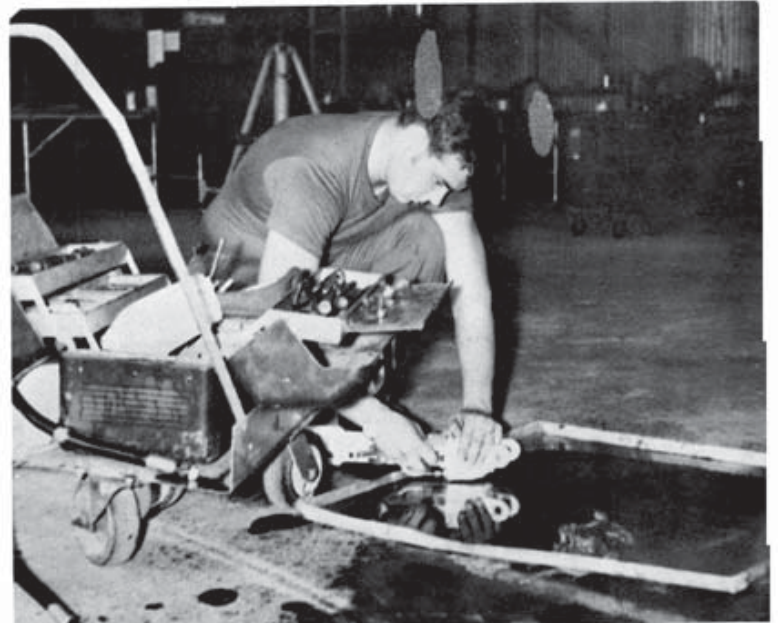
Now watch closely!



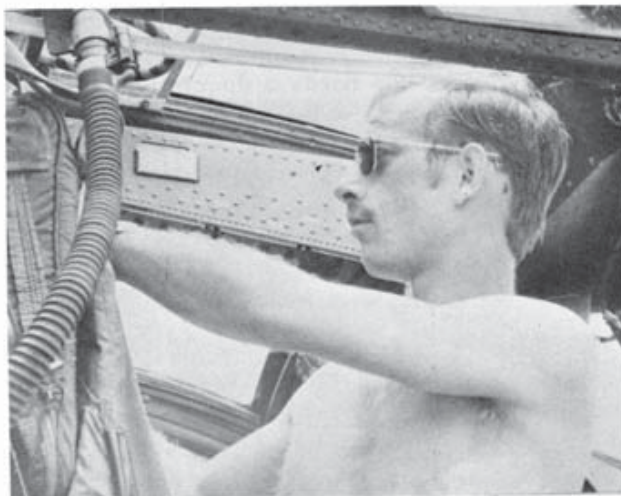
Who's pinning this seat - you or me?



Civilian O.J.T. program



What a mess!



Paradise or bust...or both!



If it doesn't work, bring it back!



1,2,3; pressures up, lights out, 3 in a window, I gotta gear!



Sure I know what I'm doing....I'm turning this knob!



Fill'er up!!!



....know what you can do with this hose?



Who needs a door?

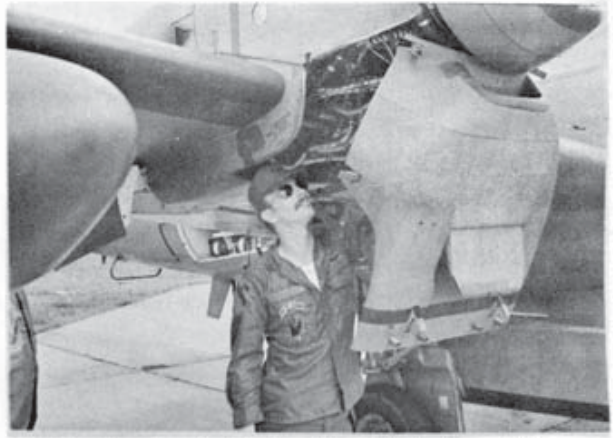


Try the other pedal- maybe that'll do it!





From Thailand with love



Let's fly it back for the #2 intermediate.



I can hardly wait to come back.



We work on the railroad.



Deros here I come!



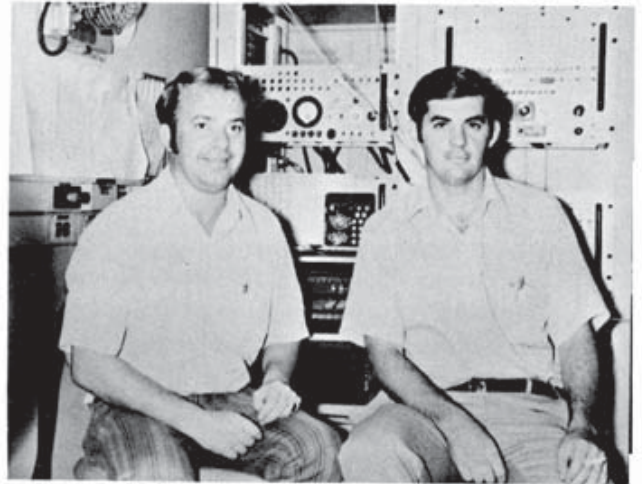
Udom is alright!



But did you write it up?



Can I pay this month?



Uh! Oh! We got caught working.



Tinker Bell?



Fishing trip? Sure, any time.



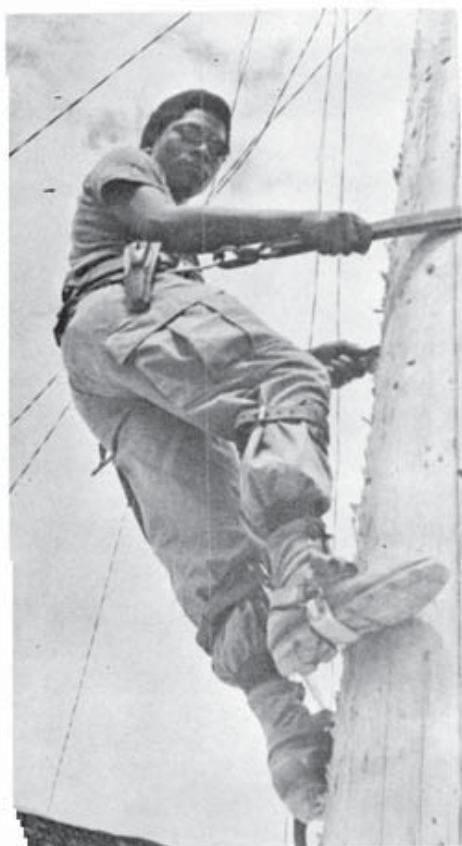
What's a quarter horse?



Shovelling what?



Short!



If I should slip...



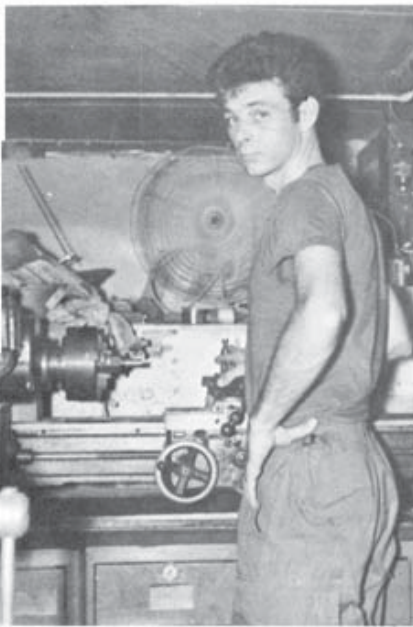
You catch me!



Organization day was rough.



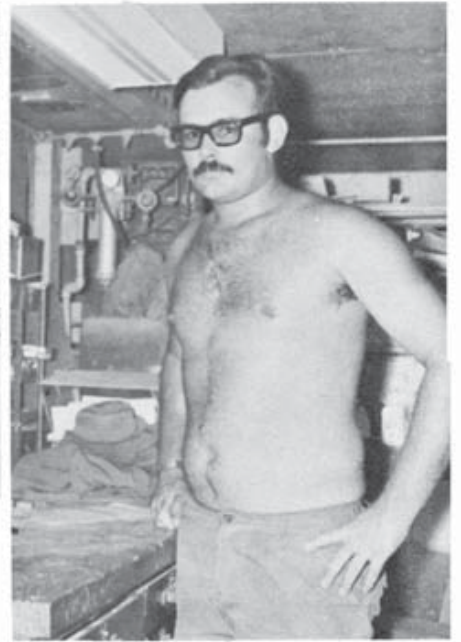
The Commo Crowd



...and this is all mine?



If I could only read



Joe got rocks!



Neat for the mess hall.



I'm an ace.



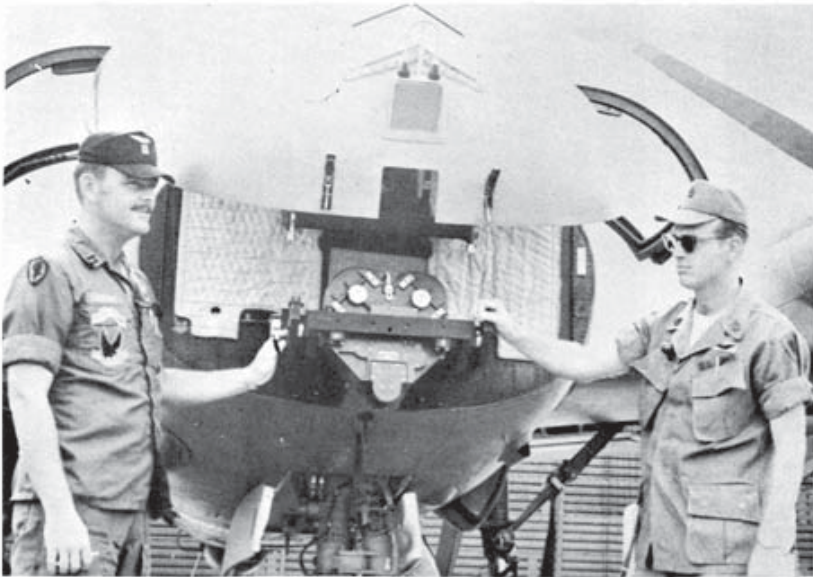
Don't fall again, J.J.!



He's one of them.



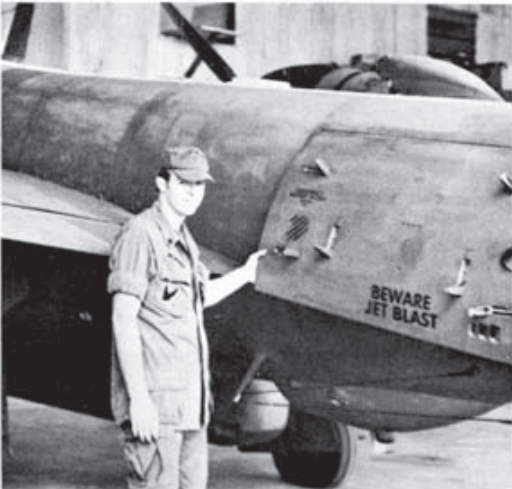
Ain't he cute?



Will this work at 8000 ft?



I'll just get this film over to the P.X.



Is there really a jet blast under here?



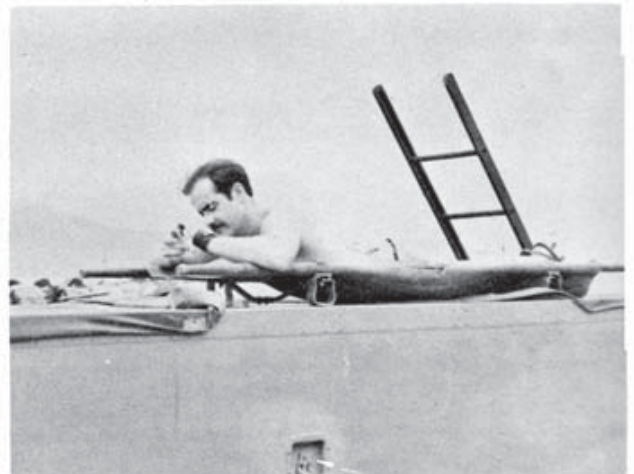
Accent on the individual here too!



Now what?



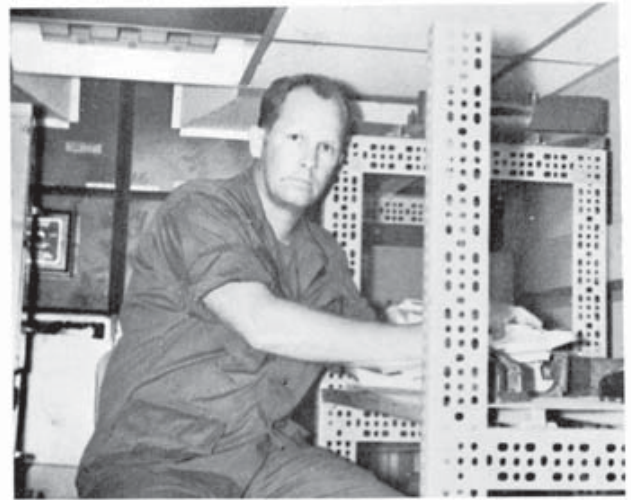
Wish they'd bring some skin flicks.



Coolin' it.



Did someone say "enchilada"?



What log books?



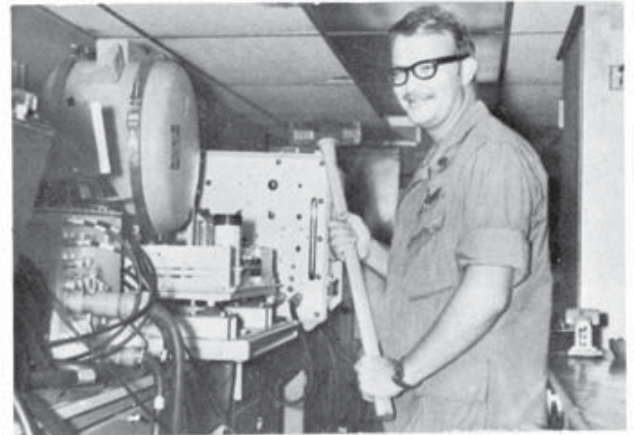
What can we say?



The imagery was poor anyway.



If we can't fix it - it ain't broke.



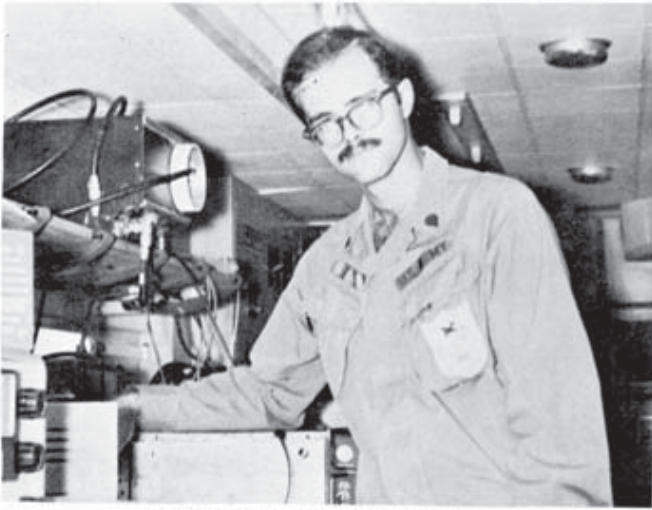
If this doesn't fix it...



The Slar Platoon minus....



It's a Slar Boom, isn't it?



...Let's me make myself clear....



This working sure cuts into my skating time!



...but the camera was here when you took off!



Sergeant "Don"



It's an anti-gravity device



Where is everyone.....



...when there's work to be done?



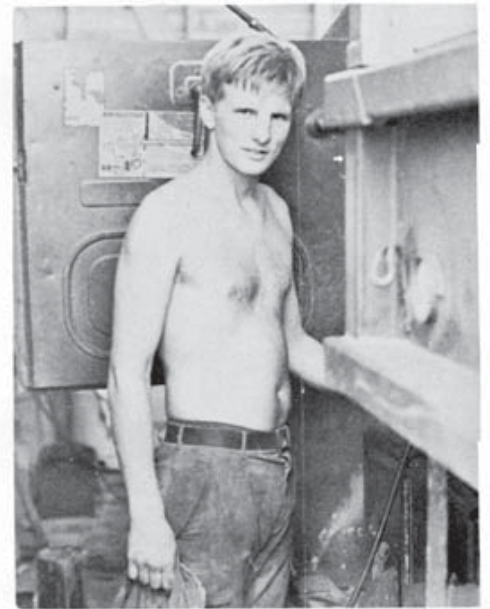
King Korn



It's broke again.



What do you mean you missed motor stables!



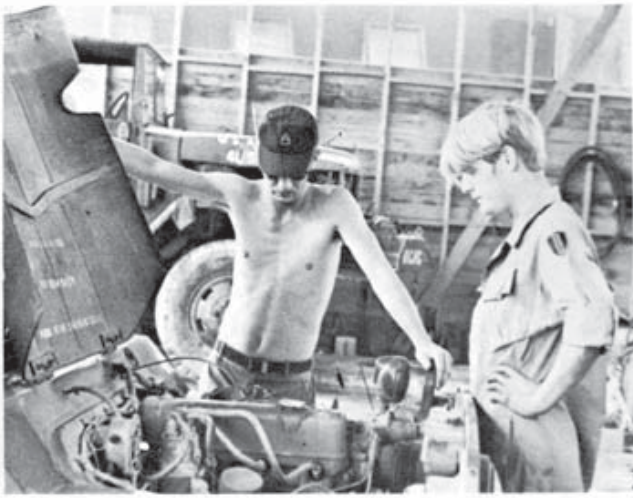
You have to have faith.



I thought the Navy fixed all tugs!



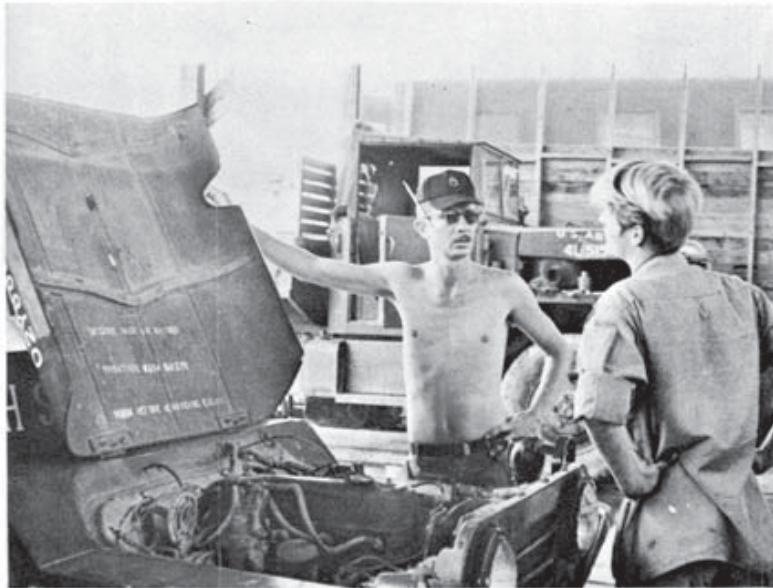
I love my wrecker.



No hope!!!



My teeth are here some place!



It's economically unrepairable!



Sock it to me!



This must be posed.



Did you sign for all these tools?



Just like a Robo wash, huh!



Let's tow it back to maintenance!



But I don't have a M.P. Nos!



Tail gating again



Look mom, I'm a big wheel!



We keep you from walking, sometimes.



Those bolts were here last week.



Not me! I eat at the club.



Itomaine two



Peanut butter stuffed celery?



The official taster



Is it safe?



Justa like mama usta make!



Who's counting?



Where is it? Where is it?



I'll take the cooked one!



You aren't really gonna eat that...are ya?



There must be something in the bowl.



Cockroaches in what?



You want mine?



Here she comes again - watch your trays!



The last supper???



Who gave it away?



Ooh! It moved.



Kool-aid, Kool-aid! Tastes great!



Yeah, that's all ya get - 1 scoop!



Can't you guys read?



My, what friendly K.P.'s.



If this is medium rare I'll eat my flight suit.



I think I'll F.I. this meat.



Whadja say this stuff was?



Cockroach?!? What cockroach?!?



If you don't want it, give it to me; I'll eat it.



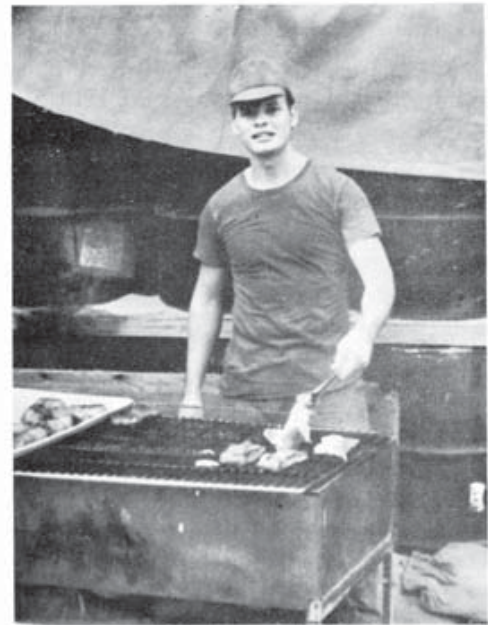
Roger that!!



Separate checks, please!



Party time!



Burnt or bloody?



Okay! Okay! I'll eat it - just put that knife down!



How come he got a bigger piece?



What is that really?



If that's four ounces I'll eat my spud suit!



Who goosed hal?



Did Stevely bring the sign in sheet?



I call bull s....t on that!



Stand up, Gabe!

Get the bell ready!



At it again!



I love parties!



Who's got the U.S. Keds?



Not too shabby!

The 131st has a birthday and...



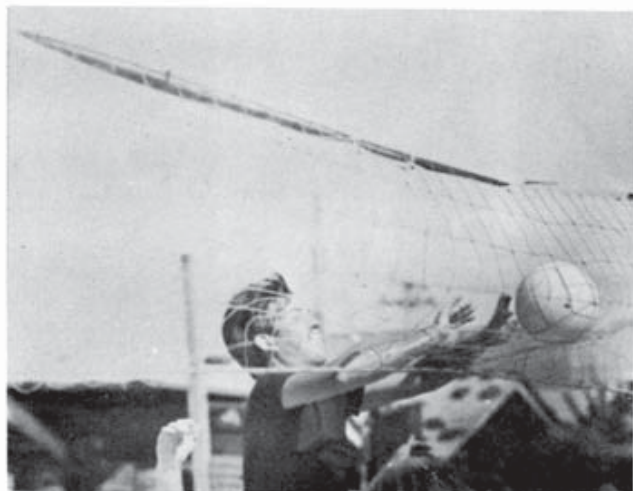
A Cockroach Race...



You must be kidding.



No, this is serious business.



Who lowered the net?



Going...Going...



What a shot!



Hi! My names Rick - you can call me Spud 79.



Is it stuck?



Such form!



Such Grace!



Your blind ref!



...sweeping into the backfield; its O4!



Ooh! Goody!



The game looks fixed.



All of these against...



...the round ranger



...I don't care what you say; that pole ain't movin'.



Chief Bloom?



The overseer!



My roach lost by a foot.



I'm waiting for the freedom bird.



Drink coke in cans?



Walking the plank



I'm awake, is it supper time?



I'm giving 5 to 3 odds on the green roach.



What do you mean "no more beer"!



Just who in the hell is running this show?



If you go to work, I will!



And at the half way mark, it's 7 in the lead followed by...



A little organization day action...



A picture says a thousand words...





The sun-for-lunch bunch!



Is it salad for the messhall?



Keep your head down and your eye on the ball!



Don't I look like myself?



Pssst, the break is tonite...!



Evil Knievel???



When you're out Schlitz, you're out of beer!



Take two Aspirin and...



We got to get together.



What a beach I could build with all these bags?



SFC Gentrey in deep thought.



God, I'm sexy!



SPUD 21



SPUD 6



SPUD 34



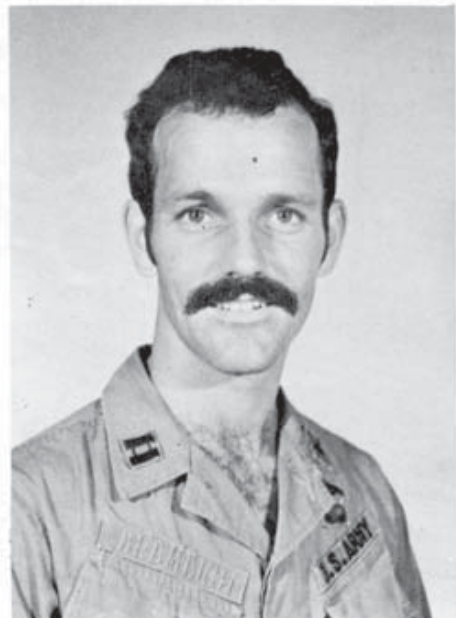
SPUD 04



SPUD 36



SPUD 3



SPUD 17



SPUD 11



SPUD 10



SPUD 12



SPUD 41



SPUD 01



SPUD 02



SPUD 18



SPUD 31



SPUD 39



SPUD 16



SPUD 15



SPUD 30



SPUD 7



SPUD 19



SPUD Signal



SPUD 9



SPUD 00



SPUD 42



SPUD 44



SFC PARKER



1SG MONACO



SFC LYNCH



SFC BLOOM



SFC LEGGETT



SSG MYERS



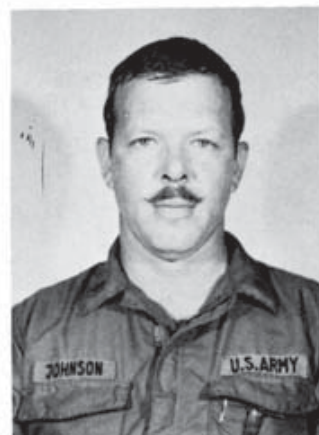
SFC GENTRY



SFC WARNKE



SSG WHEATLEY



SSG JOHNSON



SSG BROCKINGTON



SSG EASLER



SSG FITE



SSG SIMMONS



SP6 WAGNER



SP6 STRANG



SP6 MOODY



SSG RIFE



SSG ALATORRE



SSG BELL



SSG DUBOSE



SSG SHARP



SSG GARCIA



SSG BUNGE



SGT BREWER



SGT RANZ



SGT PACK



SGT CASTRO



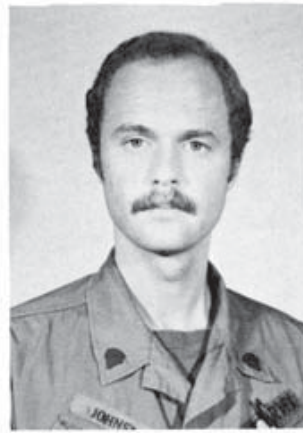
SGT FLEMING



SGT HONAKER



SP5 CUDNEY



SP5 JOHNSON



SP5 BURKEMPER



SP5 HOBSON



SP5 WUEHRICH



SP5 JOAC



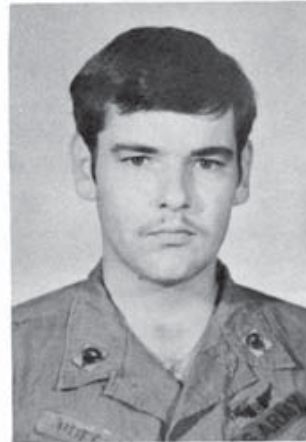
SP5 QUESADA



SP5 MILLER



SGT SIMPSON



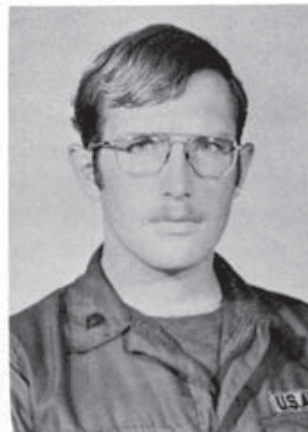
SP5 HOFFMAN



SP5 LEE



SP5 KAY



SP5 HAMILTON



SP5 MILLAR



SP5 HUNSUCKER



SGT DAVIDSON



SGT WILLIAMS



SGT BOISCLAIR



SGT MINARDI



SGT THOMAS



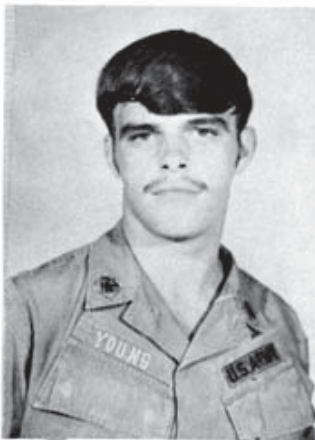
SGT KELEHAR



SGT SMITH



SP5 LAWSON



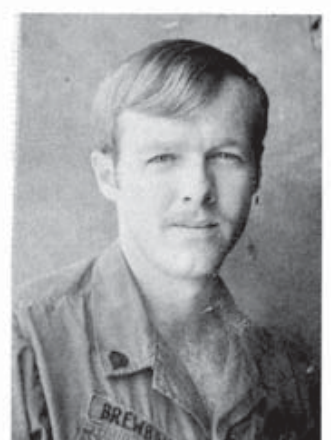
SP5 YOUNG



SP5 TROMPER



SP6 DIXON



SP5 BREWBAKER



SP5 PARKE



SP5 FINTER



SP5 RICHARDS



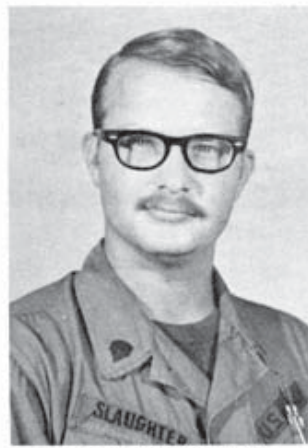
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SP5 CRISMAN



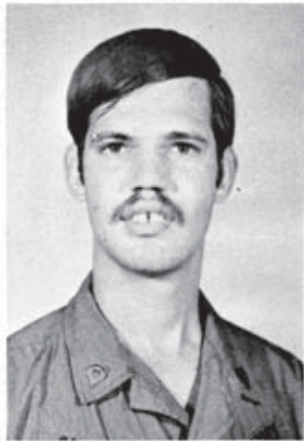
SP5 PERRY



SP5 SLAUGHTER



SP5 TEBLE



SP5 OWENS



SP5 McNIFF



SP5 HAGEN



SP5 ELLER



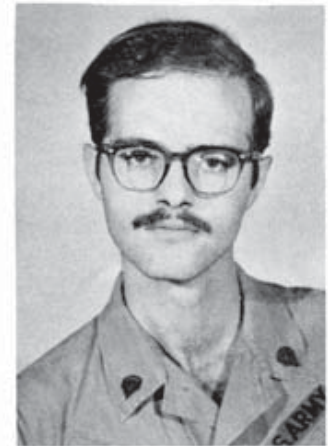
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SP5 LITTLE



SP5 MULHEARN



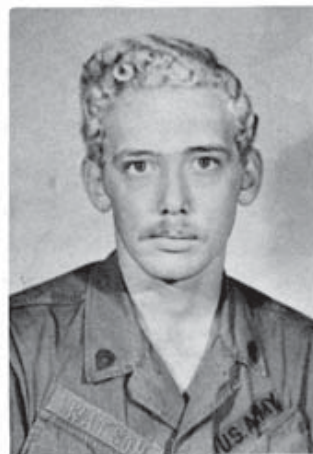
SP5 DOWNING



SP5 DIEKMANN



SP5 JONES



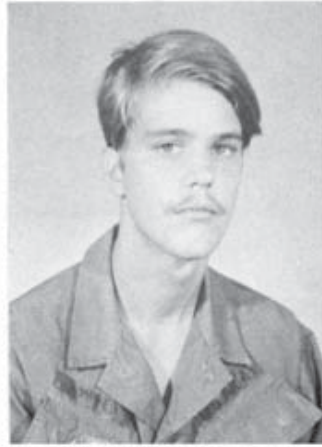
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SP5 YARBROUGH



SP4 STREIDEL



SP4 DOWNS



SP4 MESSER



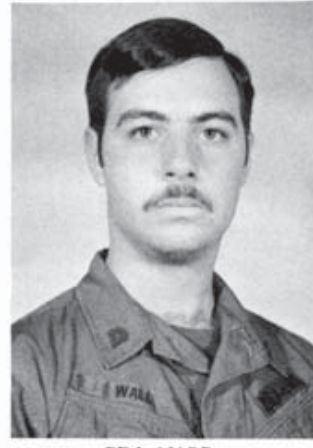
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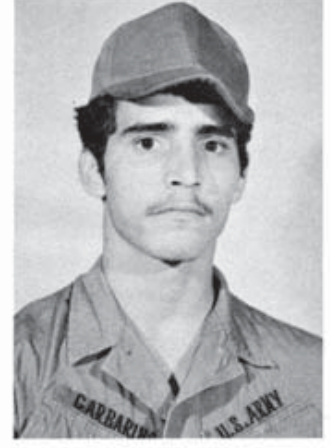
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SP4 ELLINGER



SP4 WALL



SP4 GARBARINO



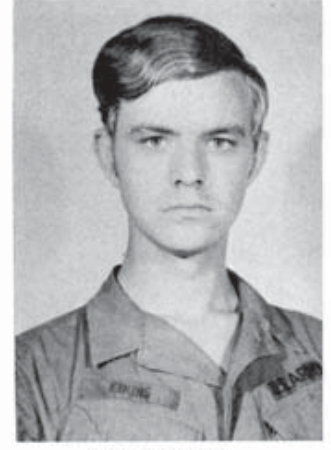
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SP4 ALCORN



SP4 SUTTON



SP4 ELKINS



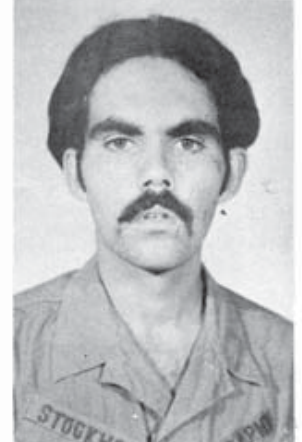
SP4 BURNHAM



SP4 BALDWIN



SP4 DITCHMAN



SP4 STOCKWELL



SP4 PERRY



SP4 DAVIS



SP4 SANDS



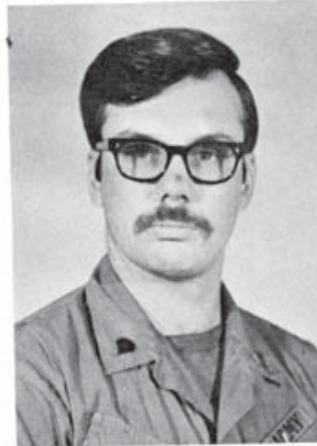
SP4 OLSON



SP4 HAGAN



SP4 BANGE



SP4 SABCURIN



SP4 COLLINGHAM



SP4 LEWIS



SP4 FRANKLIN



SP4 ROBINSON



SP4 STARKEY



SP4 WEIDELL



SP4 ASBELL



SP4 SIMPSON



CPL HAYES



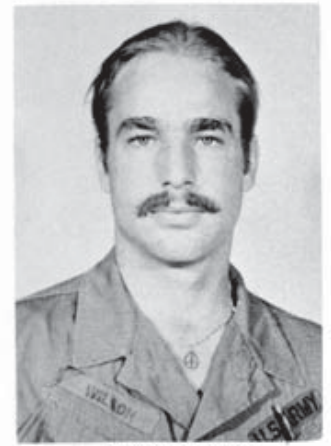
PFC RUSSELL



PFC MILLER



PFC TORRES



PV2 WILSON



PV2 GUERRERO

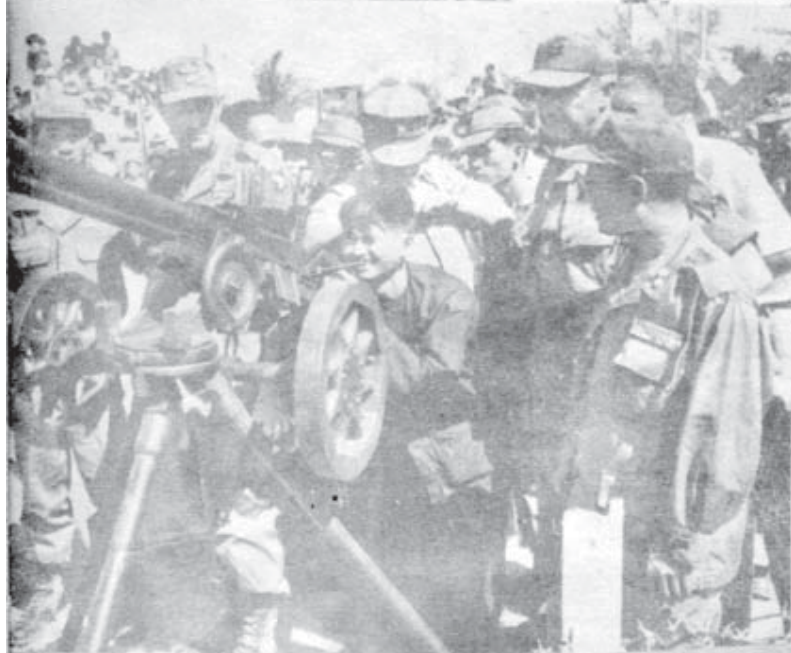
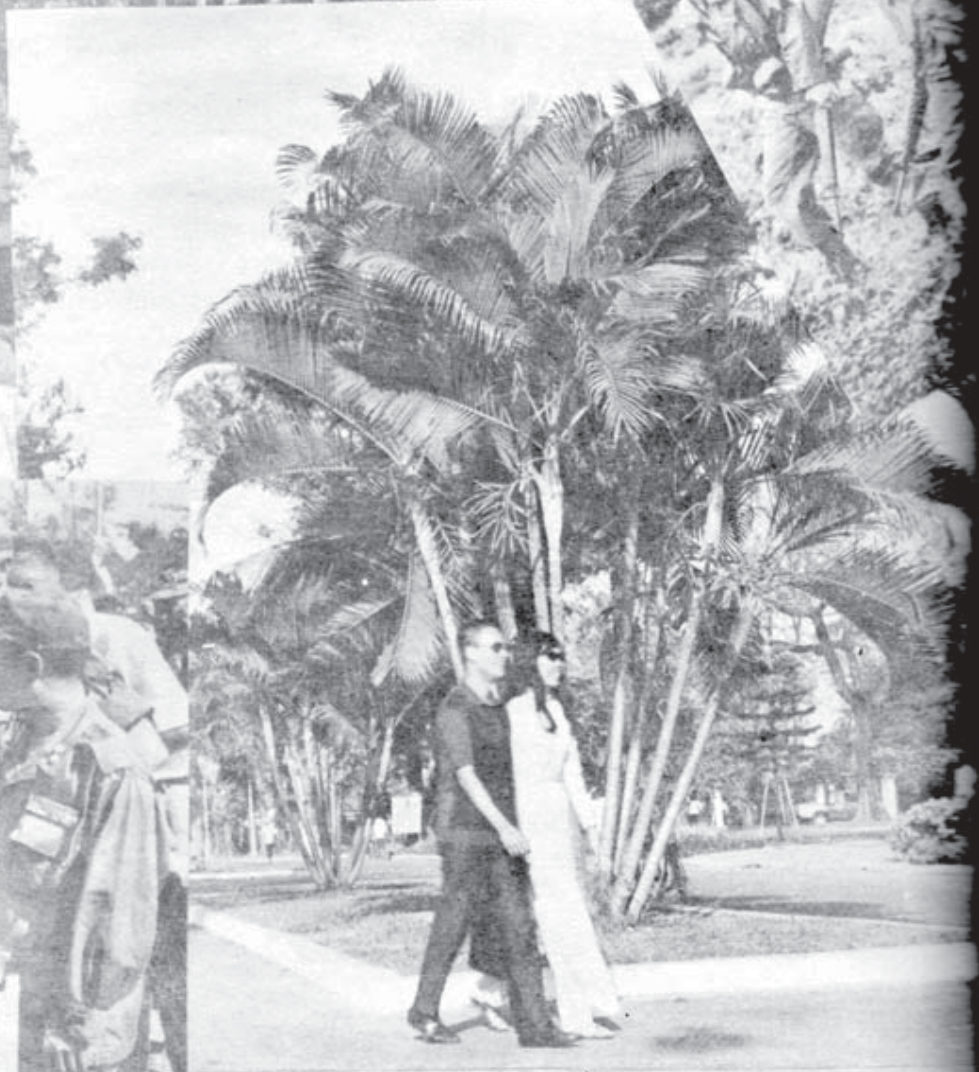


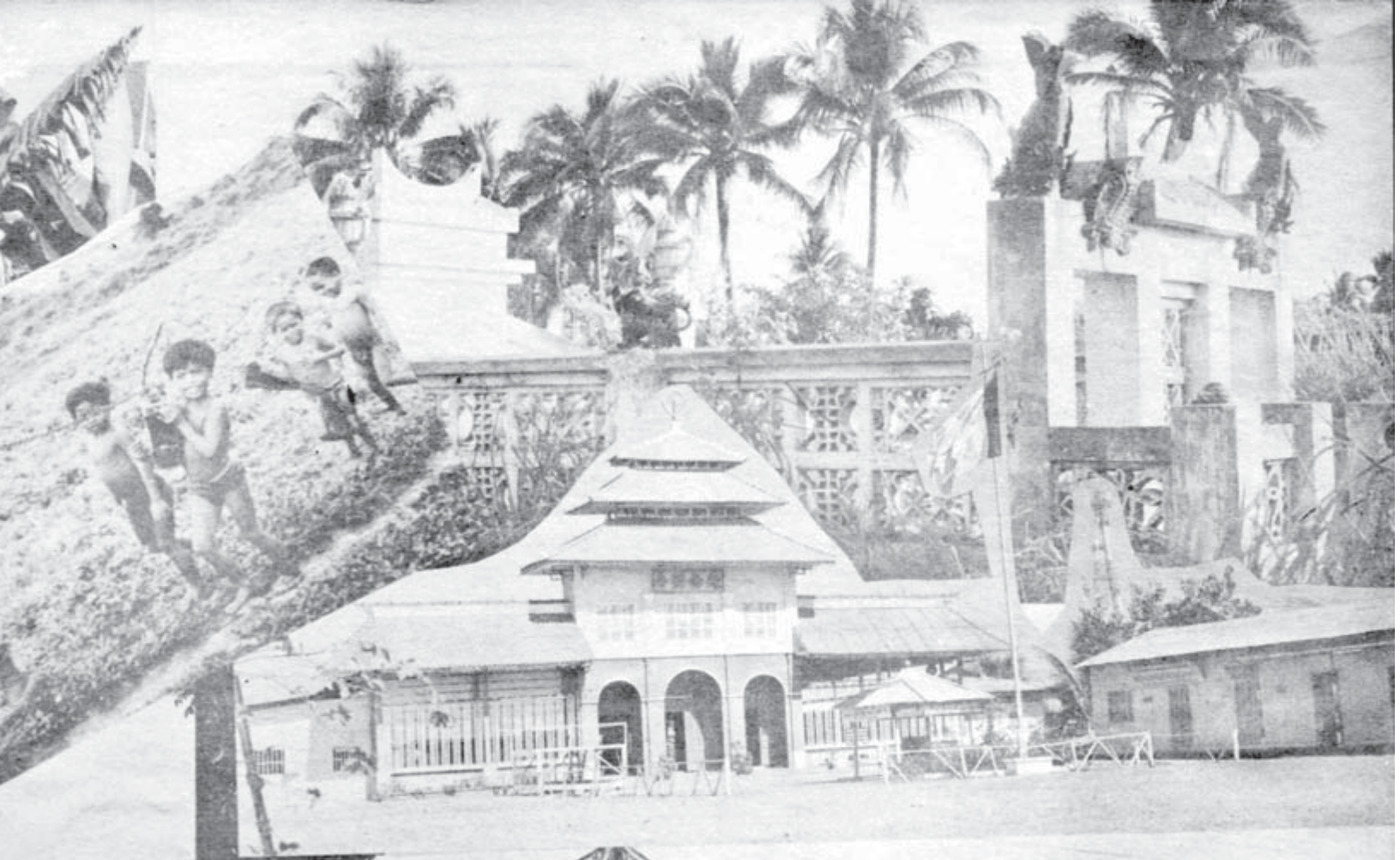
GS12 O'NEIL











20th ASTA Ft. Riley Kansas 1965

20th ASTA Nha Trang Vietnam 1966

131st Surveillance Airplane Co (SAC) Hue, Phu Bai 1966

131st Military Intelligence Co (AS) 1971 Marble Mt Vietnam 1972

131st Military Intelligence Co (AS) Danang Main Vietnam 1972

131st Military Intelligence Co (AS) Ft Hood Tx Nov. 1972

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1972

131st Military Intelligence Company (Aerial Surveillance)

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