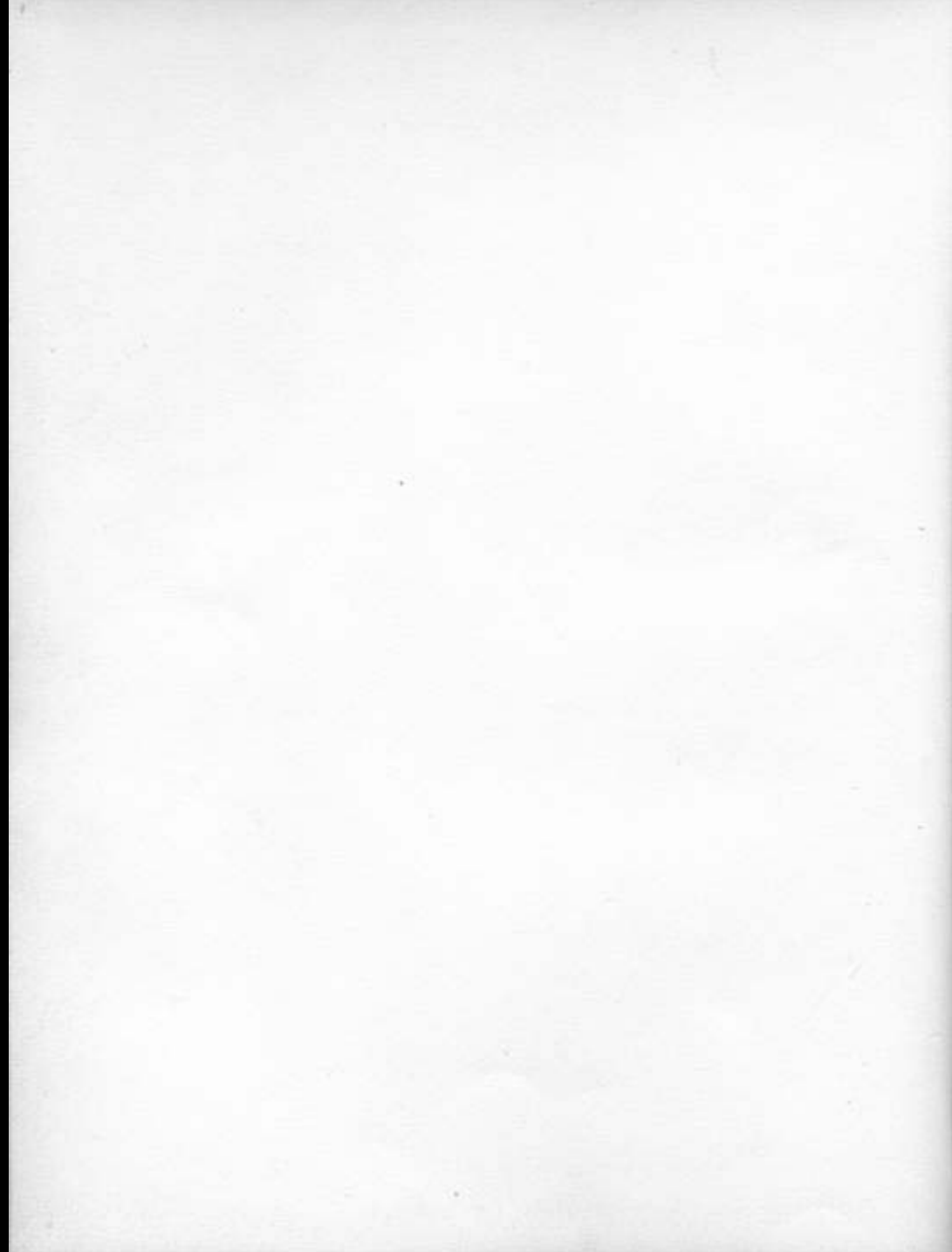




HMM 161. THE PINEAPPLE SQUADRON







MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161
OKINAWA - VIET NAM 1965-66





Eternal Father strong to save
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave
Who bids the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep
Oh hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea



"EQUITATUS CAELI"

DEDICATION

This book is reverently dedicated to those of our comrades who did not return.

These brave men selflessly gave their lives in the cause of freedom. Theirs was the ultimate in devotion to duty.

We grieve our loss.

Captain Paul F. McNally
First Lieutenant Nicolaus A. Doeden
First Lieutenant Gerald O. McKay
First Lieutenant Allen C. Hertz
Gunnery Sergeant Charles R. Chemis
Corporal Gary D. Tracy
Corporal Robert H. White
Corporal Frank W. Wilson
Corporal Charles J. Antonelly
Lance Corporal Carl E. McBee
Private First Class Curtis L. Foster

First Lieutenant J.S. Schmid - VMO-2
Corporal M.R. Chmura - BLT 3/4



USS Valley Forge - LPH 8



USS Princeton - LPH 5

CRUISE CHRONOLOGY

- 15 March 1965 Squadron departs Hawaii aboard USS Valley Forge, LPH 8.
- 27 March 1965 Squadron arrives at MCAF Futema, Okinawa.
- 27 April 1965 Squadron departs Okinawa aboard USS Princeton, LPH 5.
- 6 May 1965 Elements of 4th Marine Regiment lifted ashore during initial assault landings at Chulai, Republic of Viet Nam.
- 15 May 1965 HMM 161 colors shifted to USS Iwo Jima, LPH-2, and squadron remains on station in support of Chulai operations.
- 25 May 1965 Squadron becomes part of MAG-16 of the 1st Marine Air Wing.
- 12 June 1965 Squadron moves ashore at Hue Phu Bai, Republic of Viet Nam and conducts operations until relieved by HMM 163 on 4 January 1966.

USS IWO Jima - LPH 2





Lt Col G. W. Morrison
Commanding 12 March-20 Sept 1965

I wish to express my deep appreciation to each of you with whom I served for the feeling of pride I shall always have when I recall our tour together in Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161. Your professional skill, enthusiasm to accomplish the job, and initiative in overcoming all obstacles resulted in our squadron enjoying an outstanding reputation for service to the ground units we supported, both ARVN and Marine. You can take pride in your individual and collective accomplishments. You served your country, your corps, and the cause of freedom well.

We accomplished much, but it was not a tour without sacrifice. We have humbly dedicated this book to the memory of those we lost. Sacrifice is the price of accomplishment, and we honor the memory of our comrades who gave their lives for country and freedom.

G. W. Morrison

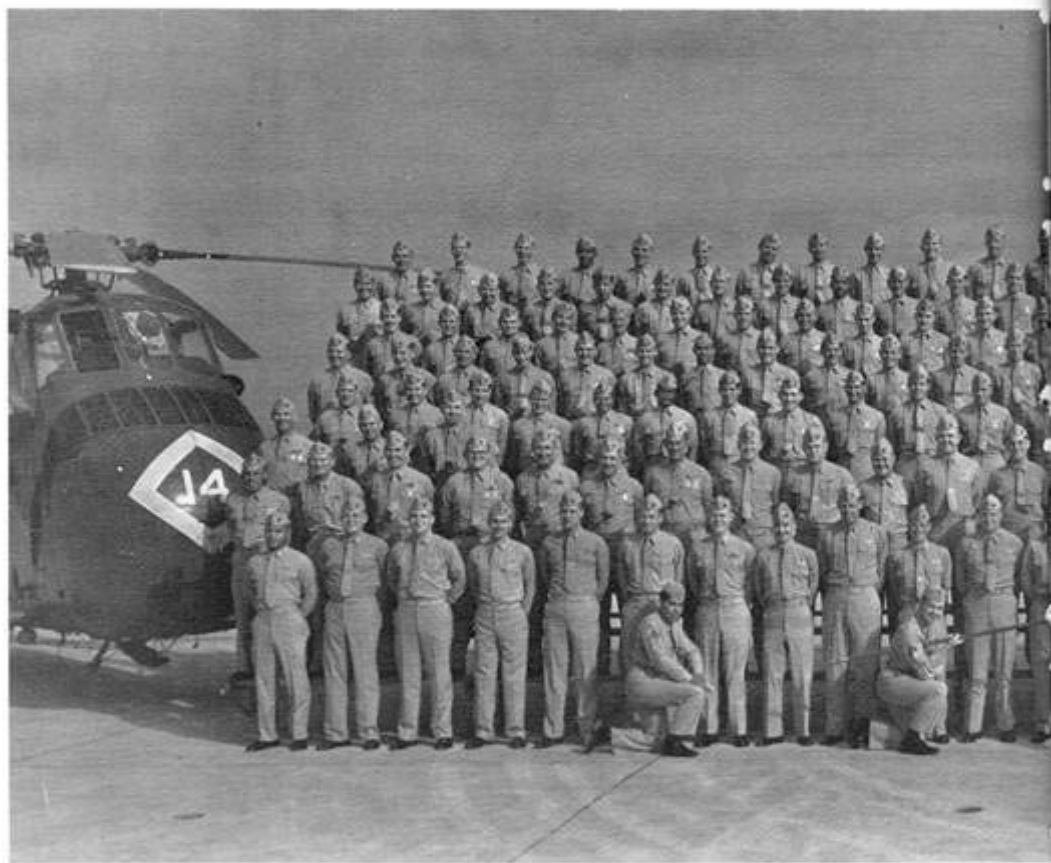


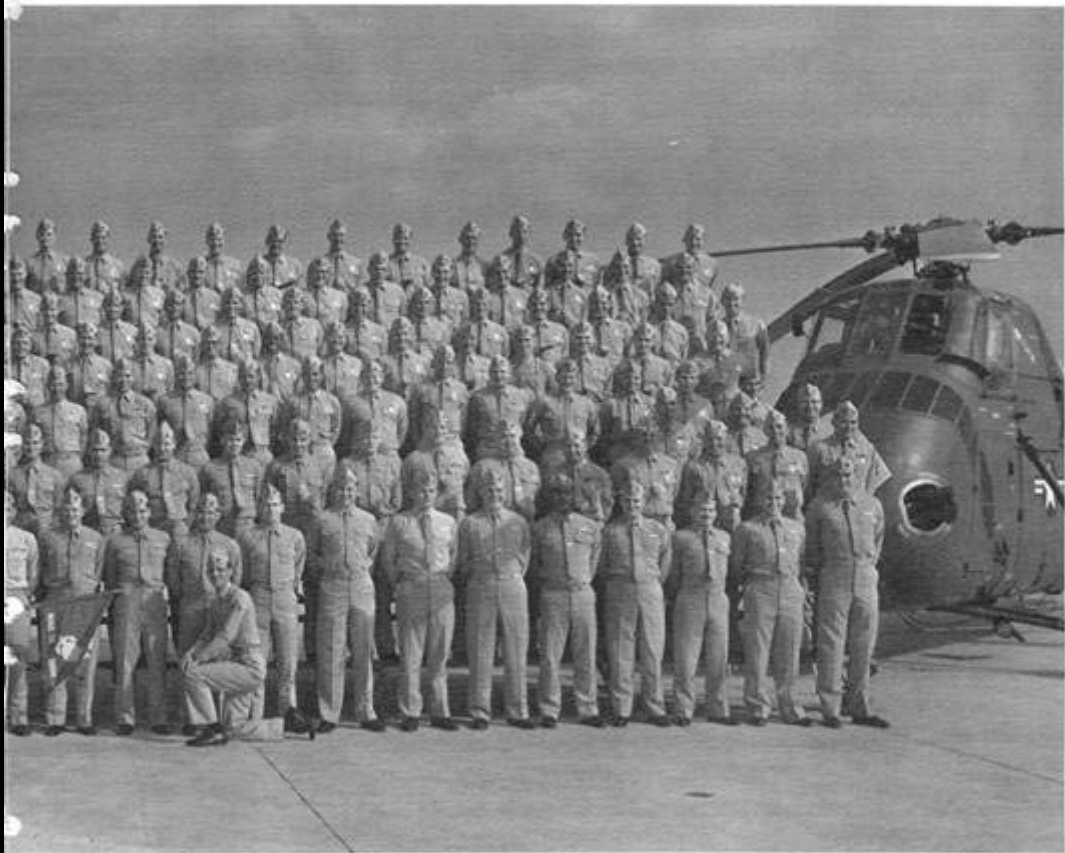
Lt Col. R. C. Denny Jr
Commanding 20 Sept 1965

The pages of this book contain a pictorial record that represents months of difficult and rewarding duty. months that will have a definite influence on the remainder of our lives. I was privileged to serve with you for only a portion of those months, however, my association with you was a highly gratifying one. When I joined the squadron, I found myself a part of a well trained and highly motivated fighting team, which was without question one of the finest units with which I have had the honor to serve. You have distinguished yourselves during this tour through your loyalty, valor, and industry.

Whether you were part of the original team, our very capable support units, or members who joined us at a later date, may I express my thanks for your loyalty and assistance and commend you for a job well done. May our future tours in the Marine Corps be equally as satisfying and rewarding.

Rex C. Denny Jr.





Brief History of HMM-161

On 15 January 1951 Marine Helicopter Transport Squadron 161 became one of the first operational Marine Helicopter Squadrons activated with a nucleus of 10 officers and 44 enlisted personnel. The squadron grew to 43 officers and 244 enlisted personnel and was equipped with 15 HRS-1 helicopters by the time it sailed from San Diego, California for Korea on 15 August 1951.

Within a few days of landing at Pusan, South Korea on 31 August, HMR-161 was flying the first combat missions of a helicopter squadron in history. Korea proved to be a good proving ground for helicopter combat tactics and HMR-161 used it to the utmost. By March 1952, the squadron had flown 3,375 flight hours without a fatality. During the first six months in Korea, HMR-161 made newspaper headlines all over the United States for such tactical missions as operation "Summit", cited by the Commandant of the Marine Corps as a "bright new chapter in the employment of helicopters. . ." and operation "Blackbeard", the only large scale night helicopter combat operation attempted in Korea. HMR-161 helicopters were truly workhorses in Korea as the squadron lifted 60,046 personnel, transported 7,544,366 pounds of cargo and made 2,478 medical evacuations.

In April 1953, the squadron mission was terminated in Korea and HMR-161 began its move to the Marine Corps Air Station at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. Upon arrival, it became the only helicopter squadron in Marine Aircraft Group-13, the air arm of the 1st Marine Brigade.

In July 1960, HMR-161 began receiving the HUS-1 helicopters as replacements for the HRS's. The new aircraft were completely phased in by March 1961 when deteriorating conditions in Southeast Asia necessitated the squadron deployment to Okinawa. It was July 1961 before all of the

squadron again returned to Hawaii.

In February 1962, the squadron name was changed to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161 (HMM-161).

In August 1962, ten squadron pilots were selected to train in down range recovery techniques for Project Mercury. Their mission was to pick up the astronaut after his landing in the Pacific Ocean. The project involved actual work with Mercury capsules and a trip to Cape Canaveral, Florida to meet astronauts Schirra and Cooper and to put the final touches on these recovery techniques.

In October 1962, HMM-161 helicopters participated in the recovery operation of astronaut Schirra and his capsule Sigma 7 and later furnished backup SAR for the space shot with astronaut Cooper.

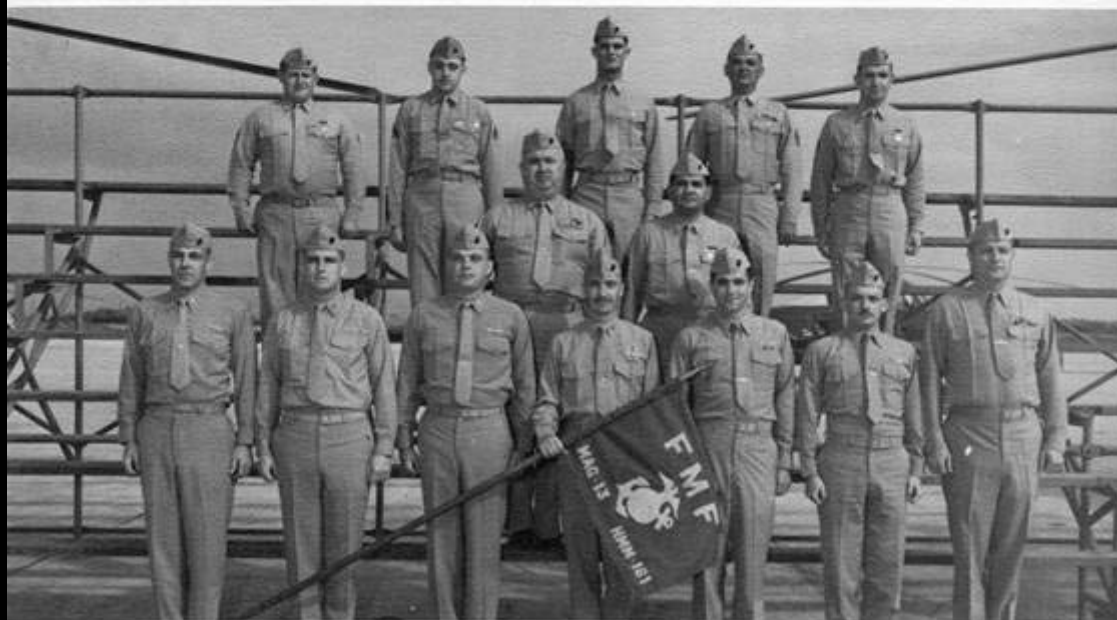
HMM-161 continued to support the 1st Marine Brigade and furnish Search and Rescue capability for the Hawaiian Islands until 15 March 1965 when the squadron was loaded aboard the USS Valley Forge (LPH-8) and set sail for the Republic of Vietnam. At this time they became known as the "Pineapple Squadron" and adopted the pineapple as an unofficial insignia in honor of their long and pleasant association with the Aloha State.

On 6 May 1965, HMM-161 made the first helicopter amphibious landing under combat conditions in the Republic of Vietnam. The squadron became part of the 1st Marine Air Wing on 25 May 1965.

During the period from 6 May 1965 to 4 January 1966, when the squadron returned to Okinawa from Vietnam, over 4000 combat missions totaling some 14,000 hours were flown. The squadron participated in Operations Starlight, Piranha, Blue Marlin, Red Snapper, Harvest Moon and the U.S. Army Operation Gibraltar. Over 73,700 troops, 3700 tons of cargo and 470 medical evacuations were carried during this time.



The Boss and his staff



The Admin Section S-1



The Intelligence Crew S-2



12 The Operations Gang S-3



The Logistics Bunch S-4



The Maintenance Mob



Metal Shop



14 Flight Equipment



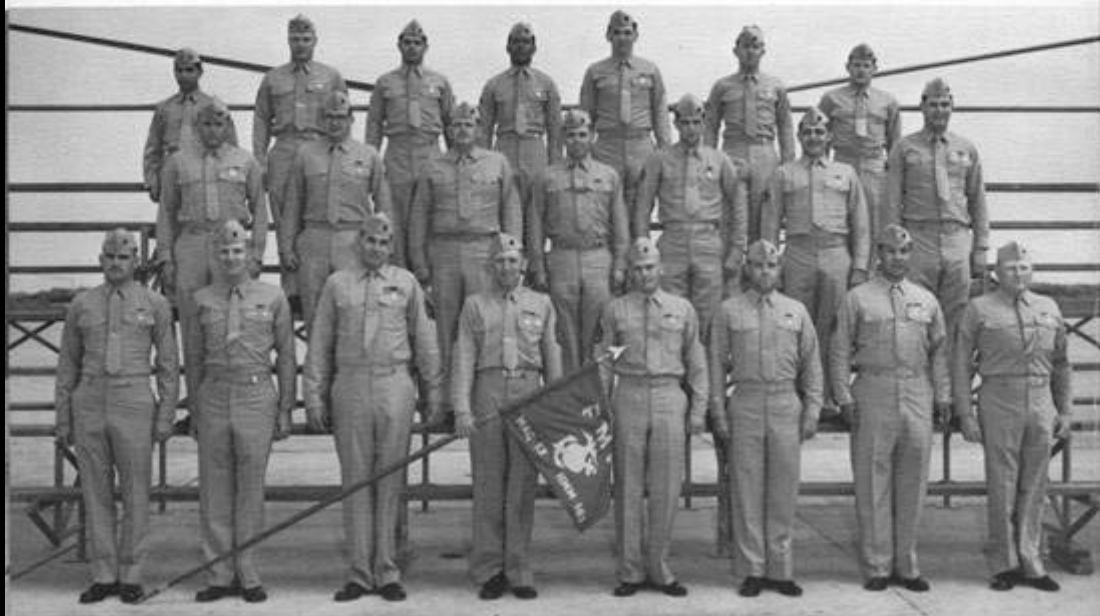
Material



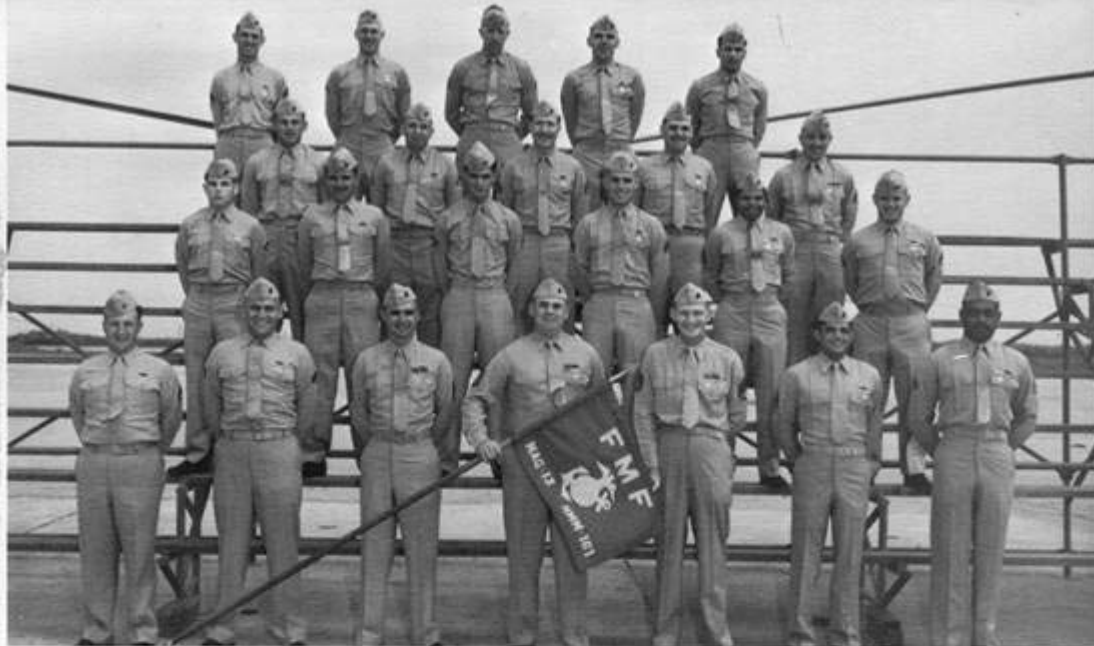
Avionics



Motor Transport



16 First Section



Second Section



Third Section



Advance Parties to Viet Nam





Group Commander Col. R.H. Spanjer says ALOHA to some of the boys before they go south.



Maj. B. R. Wilkinson
Maj. B. B. Smith
Maj. W. U. Blakeman



Maj. R. G. Miller
Maj. R. E. Dyer
Maj. M. O. Martinez

Lt. K. L. Raulston
Capt. E. A. House
Capt. B. J. Kahler



Capt. J. M. Coykendall
Capt. K. W. McCoy
Capt. A. C. Macaulay



Capt. D. J. Roman
Capt. W. M. Bush
Capt. D. S. Simpson





Capt. D. H. Yon
Capt. G. H. Grossfuss
Capt. W. J. Shriner



Capt. D. J. Meskan
Capt. B. G. Phillips
Capt. F. J. Schober



Capt. J. A. Creech
Capt. G. W. Parker

Capt. A. R. Swart
Capt. J. A. Ciancimino



Lt. F. L. Gatz
Lt. L. C. Rogers
Lt. W. E. Northup



Lt. M. E. Brander
Lt. B. M. Letolle
Lt. E. J. Miller





Lt. D. J. Owens
 Lt. F. J. D. R. Bentley
 Lt. P. L. Johnson



Lt. W. R. Campbell
 Lt. A. B. Stout
 Lt. A. B. Banks

Lt. J. M. O'Connell
 Lt. D. R. Parabaugh
 Lt. K. F. Heller
 Lt. J. T. Murphy



Lt. F. C. Gardner
 Lt. D. B. Herbert
 Lt. I. E. Garcia
 Lt. H. E. Jones



Lt. W. K. Kollenberger
 Lt. P. E. Halderman
 CWO D. J. Berger
 CWO C. Knox





1st Sgt A. L. Hamm



M Sgt C. T. Frazier



Gy Sgt J. B. Lane



Gy Sgt W. A. Lambright



Gy Sgt G. Gadd



Gy Sgt D. A. Edwards



Gy Sgt W. A. Reddington



Gy Sgt H. P. Boyd



Gy Sgt R. L. Hood



Gy Sgt. B. A. Scott
 S Sgt. J. H. Reid
 S Sgt. R. M. Fowier



S Sgt. O. E. Lane
 S Sgt. R. J. Spencer
 S Sgt. P. D. Nielson



S Sgt. F. G. Bonin
 S Sgt. J. R. Anderson
 S Sgt. P. P. Lanasa



S Sgt. G. W. Kott
 S Sgt. L. S. Bradley
 S Sgt. J. T. Edwards



S Sgt. L. E. Sweetland
 S Sgt. M. Flannigan
 S Sgt. C. Sicksels



Sgt. A. Bouchard
Sgt. F. J. Hildrich
Sgt. D. D. Walker
Sgt. G. E. Lasher



Sgt. H. A. Meader
Sgt. C. Dillard
Sgt. J. T. McCallum
Sgt. J. K. Tucker

Sgt. W. J. Jackson
Sgt. R. L. Hamms
Sgt. J. H. Quackenbush
Sgt. F. Smallidge



Sgt. J. W. Hammack
Sgt. L. T. Weeks
Sgt. H. A. Carpenter
Sgt. V. D. Sparks



Sgt. D. J. Rusack
Sgt. L. C. Archquette
Sgt. C. B. McCollough
Sgt. M. S. Donohou





Sgt. J. R. Bairley
Sgt. W. J. Janning
Sgt. D. S. Romeo
Sgt. A. DiStafno



Sgt. K. L. Leger
Sgt. R. H. Howell
Sgt. D. G. Robinson
Sgt. A. L. Carroll

Sgt. R. Whitcomb
Sgt. W. J. Garrett
Sgt. T. D. Shinn
Sgt. C. W. Toemlessen Jr.



Sgt. S. D. Modlin
Sgt. T. Harger
Sgt. R. J. Bailey
Sgt. J. L. Smith



Sgt. G. L. Bolling
Sgt. C. D. Peacock
Sgt. L. T. Bradford
Sgt. B. L. Campbell





Sgt. L. O. Lilly



Sgt. W. M. Tucker



Sgt. D. D. Gordon



Sgt. H. T. Stockman



Sgt. J. E. Gann



Sgt. T. Kitchens Jr.



Cpl. H. Foggy Jr.



Cpl. D. E. Wilson



Cpl. J. L. Cox



Cpl. J. H. Ford



Cpl. J. L. Boyles



Cpl. W. G. Teter



Cpl. B. Chisolm



Cpl. J. Casady



Cpl. E. C. Nell



Cpl. J. A. Garcia



Cpl. W. F. Keller Jr.



Cpl. B. R. Geer



Cpl. T. A. Twifay



Cpl. W. C. Ballard



Cpl. H. W. West



Cpl. D. A. Baumgartner



Cpl. J. Barrett



Cpl. W. C. Pike



Cpl. K. G. McMillin



Cpl. R. D. Cole
Cpl. C. H. Steder
Cpl. R. A. Knight
Cpl. M. H. Raiser



Cpl. G. G. Walters
Cpl. S. R. Prentice
Cpl. M. J. Etie
Cpl. M. F. Andrews

Cpl. T. E. McBride
Cpl. F. V. Greenlee
Cpl. O. Harris
Cpl. C. W. Massey



Cpl. R. D. Hill
Cpl. J. W. Bishop
Cpl. G. McGowan
Cpl. R. L. Tracy



Cpl. N. G. Lytle
Cpl. M. L. McFall
Cpl. J. L. Currie
Cpl. H. J. Richter





Cpl. T. Ware



Cpl. C. M. Gray



Cpl. W. H. Smith



Cpl. D. S. Johnson



Cpl. F. G. Schlick



LCpl. E. L. Robertson



LCpl. J. H. Murphy



LCpl. A. P. Borrero



LCpl. M. A. London



LCpl. H. T. Caldwell



LCpl. D. R. Razo



LCpl. B. G. White



LCpl. R. W. Dulow



LCpl. T. G. Blacklock



LCpl. A. V. Ryzarik



LCpl. R. J. Boran



LCpl. M. T. German



LCpl. M. T. Allen



LCpl. V. C. Tolia



LCpl. E. W. Smith



LCpl. A. A. Fortner



LCpl. J. E. Priggs



LCpl. G. K. Staton



LCpl. U. L. Lipase



LCpl. E. M. Smith



LCpl. J. A. Benson



LCpl. K. L. Swinton



LCpl. O. D. Barbee



LCpl. J. A. McGauley



LCpl. R. C. Jones



LCpl. H. L. Powers



LCpl. J. R. Dady



LCpl. L. Hrycenko



LCpl. W. S. Robinson



LCpl. R. J. Olson



LCpl. R. E. Zapfe



LCpl. H. L. Smith



LCpl. A. C. Greer



LCpl. A. A. Rusne



LCpl. W. R. Davis



LCpl. G. E. Bishop



LCpl. W. H. McMillan



LCpl. L. C. Santos



LCpl. D. G. Donohue



LCpl. H. E. George



LCpl. L. Hrychen



LCpl. X. M. Wojnar



LCpl. D. A. Buchart



LCpl. L. R. Wesbecker



LCpl. J. N. Pflerin



Pfc. H. A. Hegwer



Pfc. D. L. Clayton



Pfc. D. H. Childress



Pfc. W. V. Masiek



Pfc. C. D. Cason



Pfc. E. B. Lohrop



Pfc. R. E. Hurley



Pfc. T. J. Onodeckis



Pfc. A. A. Gordon



Pfc. D. M. Long



Pfc. M. J. Cund

OUR CORPSMEN



HN2 C. C. Brown



HN3 W. E. Duke



HN3 B. E. Peters

Personnel Whose Pictures Were Not Available

Capt. W. A. Allanson

Capt. R. L. Reed

Capt. D. V. Vacca

Lt. D. L. Amundsen

Lt. H. B. Field

Lt. F. H. Figueroa

Lt. M. D. Keele

Lt. J. Weiss Jr.

Cpl. G. D. McNeal

LCpl. T. W. Becker

LCpl. P. M. Covich

LCpl. K. L. Frago

LCpl. J. S. Polowitz

LCpl. A. Roga

LCpl. F. K. Tremont

ARRIVAL

HMM 161 was introduced to the Republic of Viet Nam at Chu Lai in early May 1966 when BLT 1/4 was lifted ashore from the USS Princeton during the first amphibious helicopter assault under combat conditions made in the Vietnamese conflict. The squadron had spent the previous month training in Okinawa and was eager to prove itself in battle. For over a month the "Pineapple Marines" remained afloat offshore and provided support for BLT - 4 before departing for permanent residence at Hue-Phu Bai.



Chu Lai off the Bow - A long day ahead.



Inbound to the beach - - -



- - - Where a signalman brings you in.



Back to the ship for another load - - -



- - - While the ground forces advance.



Crew Chief Howell at the end of the long hard day.

DETACHMENT ALFA

Given less than 24 hours notice, HMM 161 provided a ten aircraft detachment and moved it 200 miles south to Qui Nhon early in July, 1965. There it provided support for BLT 2/7 until the end of September when the aircraft and crews returned "Home" to Hue-Phu Bai.



On the way



Qui Nhon in sight



We shared facilities with an Army "Huey" outfit.



We supported battalion landing team 2/7 which manned the airfield defense perimeter and patrolled the roads and ridges around the Qui Nhon complex.

"STARLIGHT" AND "PIRANHA"

Operating with elements of the 3rd, 4th and 7th Marine Regiments, HMM 161 provided a substantial portion of the helicopter support during the "Starlight" and "Piranha" operation south of Chu Lai in August and September, 1965. For "Piranha", the squadron once

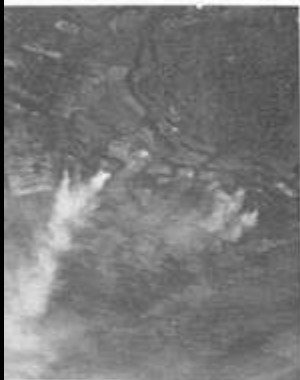
again went to sea and operated from the U.S.S. Princeton for a three day period, leading the initial assault wave ashore and providing logistical support for the remainder of the operation.



We came from the air



. . . . And over the beach



Landing zone in sight



Last wave of troops are in the zone.



Back to the ship for supplies



"Victor Charlie" was trapped and had to stand and fight the USMC team. Starlight - Piranha cost "Victor Charlie" a regiment.

HARVEST MOON

Early in December, the squadron was called upon to participate in "Operation Harvest Moon", the largest combined Marine - ARVN operation which had yet been attempted at that time. Flying in an area approximately 20 miles south of Da Nang, squadron crews worked day and night for the week-long highly successful division size operation.



The pre-strike looked good.



The troops are in. Now let's get those Howtars in there.



Night resupply missions are for the birds but sometimes it won't wait 'til morning.



Marines chased the VC into the hills and then went in after them.



Night medevac and the zone is hot. If there's a wounded marine down there, we go in anyhow. He'd do the same for us.

It was a real pleasure to support the 1st Division of the Army of the Republic of Viet Nam. There are no words to express the admiration we feel for those brave little guys who have been fighting communism all their lives. What did we do for the ARVN??



We resupplied - - - -



Their outposts



And their jungle patrols.



We landed them in the assault.



Lifted their prisoners to the rear,



And flew their wounded to medical facilities.



Hitting the landing zone near a Viet Cong stronghold,



The embattled VC stronghold.



The Result Good Viet Cong!!

THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL
HAVE RECEIVED OR BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR:

THE SILVER STAR

Major, M. O. Martinez

THE DISTINGUISHED
FLYING CROSS

Lt Col R. C. Denny Jr. (2)
Maj. W. U. Blakeman
Maj. R. E. Dyer
Maj. M. O. Martinez
Maj. R. G. Miller
*Capt. J. M. Coykendall
Capt. B. J. Kahler
*Capt. A. C. Macaulay
Capt. D. J. Meskan
Capt. P. S. Simpson
CWO. W. H. Ford

THE BRONZE STAR

*Lt Col R. C. Denny Jr.
CWO C. Knox
Sgt. D. S. Romeo

THE NAVY
COMMENDATION MEDAL

Maj. W. U. Blakeman
Capt. A. B. Banks
Capt. W. M. Bush
Capt. B. J. Kahler
Capt. A. C. Macaulay
Cpl. N. G. Lytle
Cpl. M. L. McFall
Cpl. H. L. Smith
L/Cpl. H. T. Caldwell

THE PURPLE HEART

**Capt. P. F. McNally
**1/Lt. N. A. Doeden

*1/Lt. I. E. Garcia
**1/Lt. A. C. Hertz
**1/Lt. G. O. McKay
**Gy Sgt. C. R. Chemis
**Cpl. R. H. White
**Cpl. F. W. Wilson
*Cpl. C. F. Wright
**Cpl. G. D. Tracy
**L/Cpl. C. E. McBee
**Pfc. C. L. Foster

The Air Medal

Lt Col R. C. Denny Jr (6)
Maj. W. U. Blakeman (12)
Maj. R. E. Dyer (9)
Maj. M. O. Martinez (11)
Maj. R. G. Miller (11)
Maj. B. B. Smith (4)
Maj. B. R. Wilkinson (4)
Capt. W. A. Allanson (1)
Capt. A. B. Banks (14)
Capt. W. M. Bush (12)
Capt. J. M. Coykendall (14)
Capt. J. A. Creech (12)
Capt. F. L. Gatz (9)
Capt. G. H. Grossfuss (8)
Capt. J. W. Hornett (7)
Capt. B. J. Kahler (13)
Capt. J. W. Lent (17)
Capt. A. C. Macaulay (12)
Capt. K. W. McCoy (3)
Capt. P. F. McNally (3)
Capt. D. J. Meskan (9)
Capt. G. W. Parker (12)
Capt. B. G. Phillips (13)
Capt. R. L. Reed (1)
Capt. D. J. Roman (3)
Capt. F. J. Schober (5)
Capt. W. J. Shriner (7)
Capt. P. S. Simpson (13)
Capt. A. R. Swart (16)
Capt. D. V. Vacca (11)
Capt. D. H. Yon (10)
Lt. K. L. Raulston U.S.N. (2)
1/Lt. D. L. Amundsen (6)
1/Lt. C. J. Bates (7)
1/Lt. F. J. D. R. Bentley (12)
1/Lt. M. E. Brander (12)

*Received

**Posthumous Award

1/Lt. M. E. Brander (12)
1/Lt. W. R. Campbell (6)
1/Lt. N. A. Doeden (3)
1/Lt. D. R. Farabaugh (10)
1/Lt. H. B. Field (6)
1/Lt. F. H. Figueroa (11)
1/Lt. I. E. Garcia (2)
1/Lt. P. E. Halderman (4)
1/Lt. K. F. Heller (9)
1/Lt. D. B. Herbert (5)
1/Lt. A. C. Hertz (1)
1/Lt. P. L. Johnson (10)
1/Lt. H. E. Jones (4)
1/Lt. M. D. Keele (10)
1/Lt. W. K. Kellenberger (4)
1/Lt. B. M. Letolle (1)
1/Lt. G. O. McKay (2)
1/Lt. E. J. Miller (12)
1/Lt. J. T. Murphy (12)
1/Lt. W. R. Northup (10)
1/Lt. J. M. O'Connell (10)
1/Lt. D. J. Owens (12)
1/Lt. L. C. Rogers (5)
1/Lt. A. B. Stout (11)
1/Lt. J. Weiss Jr. (12)
CWO D. J. Berger (17)
CWO W. H. Ford (6)
CWO R. L. Norton (9)
M Sgt C. T. Frazier (3)
GY Sgt H. P. Boyd (3)
GY Sgt C. R. Chemis (3)
GY Sgt D. A. Edwards (1)
GY Sgt W. A. Lambright (4)
GY Sgt W. A. Reddington (2)
SSgt F. G. Bonin (8)
S Sgt L. S. Bradley (2)
S Sgt J. T. Edwards (1)
S Sgt R. L. Hood (2)
S Sgt G. W. Kott (4)
S Sgt P. P. Lanasa (5)
S Sgt P. D. Nielson (4)
S Sgt G. Sickels (3)
S Sgt R. G. Spencer (7)
Sgt. L. C. Archiquette (8)
Sgt. G. L. Boling (12)
Sgt. L. Canady (8)
Sgt. A. L. Carroll (7)
Sgt. J. L. Cox (7)
Sgt. C. Dillard (7)
Sgt. M. S. Donahou (2)
Sgt. W. J. Garrett (7)
Sgt. D. D. Gordon (2)
Sgt. F. J. Hildrich (2)
Sgt. R. H. Howell (9)
Sgt. W. J. Jackson (3)
Sgt. W. J. Janning (9)
Sgt. J. A. Mazur (7)
Sgt. T. E. McBride (13)
Sgt. C. B. McCollough (1)
Sgt. J. T. McCallum (9)

Sgt. H. A. Meader (8)
Sgt. J. H. Quackenbush (12)
Sgt. W. S. Robinson (3)
Sgt. D. S. Romeo (8)
Sgt. J. L. Smith (9)
Sgt. J. K. Tucker (5)
Sgt. T. Ware (4)
Sgt. R. E. Whitcomb (8)
Sgt. D. A. Wilson (3)
Cpl. J. W. Bishop (3)
Cpl. D. A. Bumgarner (7)
Cpl. B. Ciesiolka (9)
Cpl. J. L. Currie (6)
Cpl. J. H. Ford (9)
Cpl. J. W. Garrett (4)
Cpl. B. R. Geer (8)
Cpl. A. G. Gleason (2)
Cpl. O. Harris (6)
Cpl. W. F. Keller (13)
Cpl. L. O. Lilly (1)
Cpl. N. G. Lytle (8)
Cpl. C. W. Massey (8)
Cpl. M. L. McFall (9)
Cpl. G. McGowan (7)
Cpl. W. G. Pike (9)
Cpl. H. L. Smith (7)
Cpl. W. H. Smith (1)
Cpl. W. C. Stallard (8)
Cpl. G. K. Staton (7)
Cpl. R. T. Stockman (2)
Cpl. T. A. Terifay (5)
Cpl. C. W. Toennlessen (1)
Cpl. H. W. West (1)
Cpl. E. G. White (6)
Cpl. R. H. White (6)
LCPL. T. W. Becker (1)
LCPL. J. F. Benson (5)
LCPL. G. E. Bishop (7)
LCPL. J. L. Boyles (1)
LCPL. R. J. Boran (6)
LCPL. B. W. Bulow (2)
LCPL. H. T. Caldwell (5)
LCPL. D. B. Childress (7)
LCPL. D. L. Clayton (6)
LCPL. M. C. Cuno (7)
LCPL. K. L. Fortner (7)
LCPL. M. T. German (3)
LCPL. L. L. Lipke (6)
LCPL. M. A. London (2)
LCPL. W. H. McMillian (6)
LCPL. R. J. Ollson (9)
LCPL. T. J. Orodeckis (6)
LCPL. D. R. Razo (7)
PFC J. A. Gordon (3)
PFC P. B. Lothrop (5)
HN2 C. C. Brown (2)
HN3 R. J. Brodeur (2)
HN3 W. H. Duke (1)



B Gen. CARL Doing the honors.

THE VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY WITH SILVER STAR

Lt Col. R. C. Denny
 Maj. R. E. Dyer
 Maj. M. O. Martinez
 Maj. R. G. Miller
 Capt. J. M. Coykendall
 Capt. G. W. Parker
 Capt. D. V. Vacca
 1/Lt. E. J. Miller
 CWO. W. H. Ford
 CPL. M. L. McFall



Capt. Simpson getting
 a cross of gallantry
 from M Gen. Chuan.

THE VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY WITH BRONZE STAR

Capt. B. J. Kahler
 Capt. A. C. Macaulay
 Capt. P. S. Simpson
 CPL. W. R. Dornewass
 CPL. E. G. White
 LCPL R. J. Oilson

THE VIETNAMESE MEDAL OF HONOR, FIRST CLASS

Capt. F. L. Gatz



Col. Morrison pins an Air Medal on Capt. Creech.



Our special project while in Phu Bai was contributing to the support of these Vietnamese in a Catholic orphanage and home for the aged in the city of Hue.





The Doc and the boys in the metal shop made a new artificial leg for this lady.



Food, clothing, money, toys, time and talent were donated.

Many thanks are due to stateside friends and relatives who sent toys for a very successful Christmas party.





R and R
SAIGON





R and R
OKINAWA





R and R
HONG KONG



R and R

JAPAN





R and R
BANGKOK



R and R TAIWAN





Hue Citadel

HUE LIBERTY



A floating home on the Song Hue River.



Nice people on Hondas,



We suspect this is how our laundry was done.



To market, to market



The table



The distinguished guests



The toast



The one and only BGen Marion E. Carl.

It is believed that HMM-161 sponsored the first Officers' Mess Night to be held in the Republic of Viet Nam. The affair occurred on 20 December 1965 and distinguished guests included MGen Chuan, CG 1st ARVN Division; BGen Carl, Ass't CG 1st MAW; Col Boston (US Army), Senior Advisor to the 1st ARVN Division; and Col O'Connor, COMAG-16.



"We will sing one song for our old Hue-Phi Bai home"



The boss introduces MGen, Chuan.



The Col, models his gift: Flight helmet w/cigar holder.

SOUTH VIETNAM - TOWN AND COUNTRY





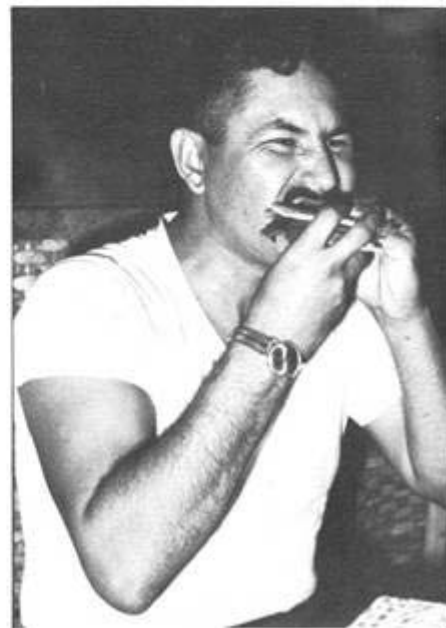
After the day's work



Man, that's real coffee



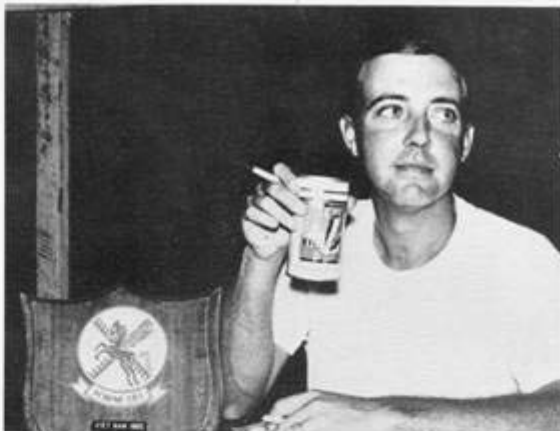
52 Studying a loadmaster manual.



A "C" ration taco



Coffee break at Qui Nhon



After three years of drinking this stuff, my hair grew back in.



Garcia charms the little coes



Robbie working???



Debrief at the bar. Where else??



Hup, two, three, four



Reed and Beno ready to launch



Another transmission ready.



It ain't Kaptolani Blvd., but it's home.



Another child charmer



Check the hard hats.



Marty, they're singing that Alamo song again.



Congratulations, Sgt. Robinson



Congratulations, Sgt. Garrett



Geo, this is fun - - And besides, I need my flight pay.



"Kon" and "Barbie"



Is she up or down?



They break 'em - we fix 'em.



1st Sgt at work



But it didn't say cold weather gear on the label



Sometimes my ear gets thirsty



A leader



Congratulations, Corporal Tracy



A fighter



See evil, Hear evil, Speak evil



It's a V.C. bear



Congratulations, Sgt. Carroll



One, two and three jolly coachmen



He won't take his shirt off unless we promise not to peek.



I sell it to you for 2500 plasters



Line Chief at work



Not very original but - - - congratulations Sgt. Tucker.



Ok Marine, it's your turn to pedal.



I asked for a pinup but - - - - - wow!!



Forty winks



"Pineapple" goes on liberty.



If I say you don't come aboard - - -
you don't come aboard.



You get one free with every cruise book.





If I give ya the last one, we won't have a spare.



Just a little bit higher, please.



Our pet grunt



Another mission for "Pineapple"



The chow hall



Now how do I get my arm out??



Welcome aboard, General.



Gee Doc, what big teeth you have.



They were coming from all directions. Gen Walt through the front door, Gen Carl through the rear - - - - -



Whad ya mean, clean it up??

IN MEMORIAM

When brave and dedicated men such as these will offer their lives in the cause of preservation of the dignity of man, there is still hope for the world.



Only in fond memory will we again hear that New England accent and see the good natured grin of Captain Paul F. McNally.



Every organization needs a strong silent type; never complaining and always doing his share and more. Lieutenant Nicolaus A. Doeden was ours.



You can't help smiling when you remember the sparkle in his eye and his sharp wit. Lieutenant Gerald O. McKay will live in our memory for years to come.



Always working, always trying; never a word in anger to anyone. That was Lieutenant Allen C. Hertz.



Gunnery Sergeant Charles R. Chemis was a big man and to those who knew him, it was apparent that his heart and courage were much larger.



Corporal Gary D. Tracy would attempt anything and when he had tried, the job was usually completed.



Flying was his job and Corporal Frank W. Wilson was not satisfied unless he felt that he was the best crew chief on the line.



Corporal Robert H. White was a rugged Marine and he gave it all he had every minute.



It was difficult to believe that this lad who was laughing and joking one minute could be such a competent gunner and air crewman the next. This was Lance Corporal Carl E. McBee.

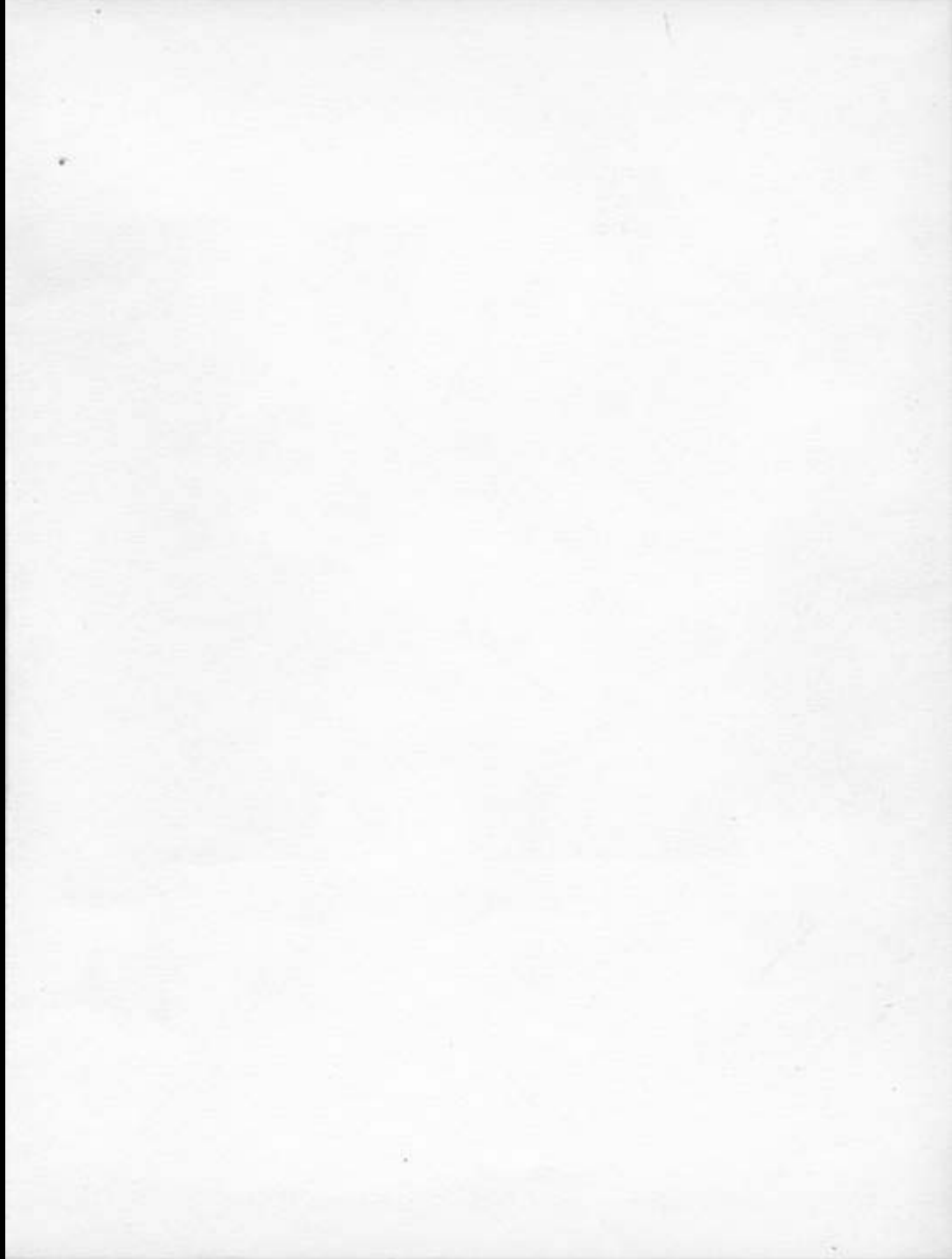


A helicopter gunner's job is not an easy one. Private First Class Curtis L. Foster mastered it with courage and determination that belied his years.

CRUISE BOOK STAFF AND TECHNICAL ADVISORS



Russ, Bill, Blackie and Mike at work at Blackie the Photographer's studio in Koza, Okinawa.





OKINAWA SURE LOOKED ©



D GOOD WHEN WE RETURNED

