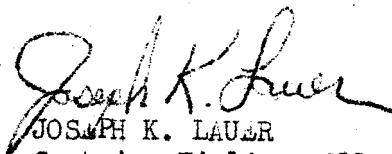


ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT
HISTORY OF THE
184TH AVIATION COMPANY (UTIL AIRPLANE)
210TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT)
1ST AVIATION BRIGADE

1 January 1970 - 14 October 1970

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Phu Loi, Republic of Vietnam
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I N T R O D U C T I O N

This, the final annual historical supplement of the 184th Aviation Company, covers the period from 1 Jan 70 to 14 Oct 70. Events recorded herein are not outstanding individual efforts but rather the superb accomplishments of a professional military organization. This supplement can only reflect historical fact but the dedication, perseverance, and high moral of the men of the 184th has led to the Can-Do attitude that separates this unit from the rest and has earned us all the title of NON-STOP. Team members are quickly infected with the pride and spirit of the unit and are inspired to perpetuate its name. Now that the unit has been deactivated and its members have been reassigned to other units in the Battalion it is with a great deal of pride that I can say that Non-Stop has definitely not died. It is alive and well in the hearts of her former members and their esprit and can-do attitude is breathing new life into a Battalion that has long been in the forefront of the Vietnam conflict.

This supplement is intended for those who have never served with or in the 184th Avn Co for the men of Non-Stop and those they supported have no need for a formal account of what they have written with their lives and recorded in their hearts.


JOSEPH K. LAUER
Captain, Field Artillery
Commanding

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

INTRODUCTION

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Chapter 3..... Command & Control

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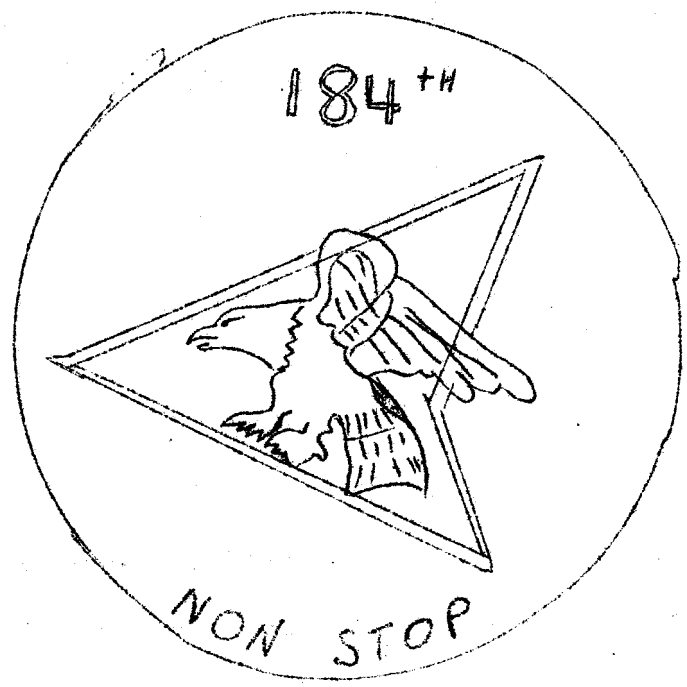
Chapter 6..... Reflections

CHAPTER 1 - HERALDRY

The unit patch that is represented on the following page is now 3 years old. It was designed by a former commanding officer and has come to be recognized as the most distinguished unit patch in the 210th Aviation Battalion (Combat).

The patch is comprised of an eagle superimposed on an arrowhead. The arrowhead is the tail marking of the aircraft of the 184th ABC. It is white with a black border with a smaller arrowhead in the center which is blue to differentiate the 184th from her sister companies. The arrowhead and eagle are set inside a circle of blue.

The fierce expression of the eagle and the blue background give greater meaning to the battalion's motto, "Battle Line The Sky", and sets the 184th apart from her sister units in her effort to accomplish the mission.



I BACKGROUND

Since January 1966 the 184th Aviation Company has been stationed at Phu Loi in the Republic of Vietnam. She has four platoons which operate out of Duc Hoa, Quan Loi and Phu Loi.

Non-Stop has never been one to fall back on past laurels, but has constantly striven for improved performance of its mission as a Visual Reconnaissance Company.

The year 1970 means a lot to the men of Non-Stop. In October of this year the 184th Aviation Company will be deactivated in the Republic of Vietnam.

No "Non-Stopper", either past or present will feel a lack of accomplishment. They will only have to look at the records of Non-Stop and be proud of their part in an outstanding unit which performed admirably in the Republic of Vietnam.

COMMAND CONTROL

A. Commands

"Non-Stop 6" is a familiar phrase to the men in the 184th. The commanders who have called themselves "Non-Stop 6" this year are:

MAJ George B. Milburn, 723-03-1679, Armor December - May

MAJ John W. Johnson, 253-52-0048, Infantry May - September

CPT Joseph K. Lauer, 131-32-5406, Field Artillery September - October

B. Organization

The 184th Avn Co (UA), Headquartered at Phu Loi is a member of the 210th Aviation Battalion (Combat) located at Long Thanh North. The 210th Aviation Battalion in turn comes under the 12th Aviation Group (Combat), which is part of the 1st Aviation Brigade. Headquarters 12th Group and the 1st Aviation Brigade are located at Plantation and Long Binh Post respectively.

The 184th AC is organized under MTO&E 1-257F and has three flight platoons, a service platoon and a company headquarters. The first platoon operates out of Duc Hoa with maintenance support from the service platoon at Phu Loi. The second flight platoon operates entirely out of Phu Loi and the third flight platoon has one section TDY to Quan Loi and one at Phu Loi.

The authorized strength of the 184th is 32 officers, 2 Non-rated warrant officers, and 89 enlisted men. The average strength for 1970 was 20 officers, 6 warrant officers (all of whom were rated) and 29 enlisted men.

C. Area of Operations

The 184th AC area of operations includes all of the III Corps Tactical Zone. This area has been described and mapped in previous histories so a brief description will suffice. The south western portion of the III Corps Tactical Zone consist mainly of flat rice paddies and the plain of reeds.

CHAPTER 3 - COMMAND AND CONTROL (CONT'D)

The southeastern part of III Corps has a few scattered mountain ranges of heights up to 2900 feet separated by flat terrain which in turn is covered with dense jungle. The northwestern area is also fairly flat and level except for one prominent terrain feature, Nui Ba Den, or "Black Virgin Mountain". This mountain raises 300 feet from flat open farm land. The last sector, the north western sector, has the most treacherous terrain. Mainly comprised of extremely dense jungle and not-so-gently rolling hills and mountains. This varied terrain challenges the professional flying ability of the Non-Stop Aviators to the utmost.

Chapter 4 - UNIT OPERATIONS

Although 1970 is going to be a short year for the 184th RAC, she has been instrumental in the struggle for freedom in South Vietnam. Using the O-1, "Birdog", the 184th RAC accomplished all of its missions with great success.

Working hand in hand with her sister unit, the 7th RAC missions were exchanged to provide maximum efficiency.

The 184th RAC has one flight stationed TDY to Duc Hoa and a section of the third platoon is TDY to Quan Loi. The purpose behind stationing these sections at remote locations is to give them prompt reaction time and save valuable aircraft time on nonproductive flights to and from their areas of operation.

During 1970 the 184th RAC supported the following units:

1st Infantry Division (G-2)

1st Infantry Division Artillery

199th Light Infantry Brigade

3rd Brigade 9th Infantry Division

Capital Military Assistance Command

5th Special Forces Group

HQ, II Field Force Vietnam (G-2)

III Mobile Strike Force

23rd Arty Group

1st Anglico (Naval Gun Fire)

25th ARVN Division

To write about a unit's operations one must tell some of the more interesting situations its men find themselves in. These incidents are but a selected few to give the reader an understanding of our operations.

Chapter 4 - UNIT OPERATIONS (Cont'd)

On January 16, 1970, two Non-Stop Aviators were coordinating an extraction of a special forces team in Phuoc Long Province. As the extraction was about to take place the team came in contact with a much larger unit. Fearing the extraction might be unsuccessful, the two Non-Stop Aviators repeatedly risked their lives in making rocket runs on the enemy positions. Although taking heavy ground to air fire both pilots continued until recovery ships could pick up the team. Because of this unselfish action, the team was recovered with no casualties to friendly forces.

On April 30, 1970 a Non-Stop pilot flying a radio relay mission, found his supported unit in heavy contact with the enemy. In the next six hours the pilot found out how versatile one must be on occasions. First he performed missions of aerial resupply and medical evacuation in his O-1. As time progressed the weather deteriorated and ground to air fire intensified. It was under such conditions the pilot flew his third mission; adjusting artillery from tree top level until the unit had reached a safe position for the night.

Another example of quick thinking and change in mission came on May 11, 1970. The Non-Stop Aviator was flying a visual reconnaissance mission in support of the 25th ARVN Division in Cambodia. While flying over an area ahead of the advancing troops he was engaged by a heavy volume of hostile fire. Grasping the seriousness of the situation, he called for and adjusted artillery on the enemy positions. Still receiving hostile fire he then called for gunships and marked the target by flying low-level and dropping a smoke grenade. By his perseverance and courage he was credited with ten KIA and numerous weapons captured.

Chapter 4 - UNIT OPERATIONS (Cont'd)

1st Cavalry

199th Light Infantry Brigade

II FF G-2

During this operation restrictions were lifted on flying into Cambodia and the Non-Stop Aviators met this challenge with the professional delight of warriors unleashed to pursue the enemy such areas as the Parrot's Beak, Angle's Wing and the Fish Hook which had long been known enemy sanctuaries. The 184th had a great variety of missions during this operation. Some aircraft had special cameras mounted for taking low-level pictures. Convoy cover became a must for the advancing troops. On many occasions "Non-Stop" aviators directed whole operations because of their strategic position.

During this challenging period it was not uncommon for an aviator to fly 8-10 hours a day. This was no problem for a group of men who call themselves "Non-Stoppers".

Non-Stop has always tried to better the quality of her support to the ground commander. This type of thinking led the 1st Platoon, to institute a sector reconnaissance plan that divided the western part of III Corps into 8 sectors each covered by an assigned aviator. Every day each aviator in the platoon is responsible for reconning his area and supporting any allied unit in it.

The benefits of creating an expert on each piece of land in the corps area were so rapidly realized that the corps commander directed both the 184th and the 74th AC's to go to this sector coverage plan using the 1st Plt at Duc Hoa as their model. It is a great tribute to the "can-do" attitude of Non-Stop that this plan was put into full effect by 15 Sept 70, less than one week from the time we had been directed to start this change to a new method of employment.

Chapter 4 - UNIT OPERATIONS (Cont'd)

On 8 July 1970 General Casey, the CG of 1st Cav Div went down in a helicopter. As is the case with any downed aircraft intensive air search and rescue was initiated. Two Non-Stop aviators volunteered to participate in this mission. By flying over the hostile and unfamiliar terrain of II Corps in weather conditions well below minimums, these two aviators once again showed the high degree of professionalism and unselfish devotion to duty that characterizes the men of Non-Stop.

On July 9, 1970 a Non-Stop aviator on call for the 3rd Brigade of the 9th Infantry Division was tasked to support a subelement of this unit that was in heavy contact. Upon arriving in an area Northwest of Tan An called "VC Island", the pilot began adjusting artillery on enemy positions. On many occasions his aircraft received heavy enemy fire. In spite of the obvious danger, he remained throughout the night bringing gunships, Air Force night attack aircraft and artillery in support of this unit.

On the 29th of July 1970 a Non-Stop aviator was registering a battery for the 3rd of the 9th Artillery North of Baq Trai, the pilot was instructed by radio to move to an area just to his east where an Infantry unit had an area surrounded and had set off many enemy booby traps. Adjusting preparation fires into the area resulted in six secondary explosions and one enemy bunker destroyed.

One of the high lights of the year for "Non-Stop" was the Cambodian Operations of May and June. The aviators of the 184th RAC supported many units in this operation including:

Task Force 225

6/31 of 3/9 Infantry Division

25th ARVN Division

11th Armor Cavalry

CHAPTER 5 - MAINTENANCE and INSTALLATIONS

A. Maintenance

The 184th has been extremely fortunate to have had an outstanding maintenance section. Since an aviation company is only as good as it's maintenance the following availability rates can serve as a tribute to the professionalism of it's men:

January	89%
February	93%
March	93%
April	92%
May	92%
June	91%
July	91%
August	91%
September	91%

Average for the Period 91%

These figures are the results of every man in the 184th putting in many extra hours, and giving up much free time for the benefit of the company. The work accomplished on aircraft 51-12024 is a typical example of this extra effort. During the first week of June, 024 was hit by a mortar, destroying 80% of the aircraft. Working with a CAN-DO attitude the maintenance platoon completely rebuilt it in less than two months. The only reason it didn't fly sooner was because of delays experienced in waiting for parts shipped from the United States.

The 184th had an average of 21 O-1G aircraft and 1 tt-6A during 1970. The maintenance section pulled 234 periodic inspections and over 900 Intermediate Inspections in this same period.

B. INSTALLATIONS

The 184th Aviation Company is very proud to say they have the finest company area on Phu Loi Basecamp. A constant effort by all individuals has kept it this way.

This year we remodeled the dining rooms, painted living quarters and inclosed the BOC. The company area was also enhanced by planting more grass, and building better draining facilities.

CHAPTER 6 - REFLECTIONS

A. AWARDS

During the calender year of 1970, the following awards were earned by members of the 184th.

- Silver Star 1
- Distinguished Flying Cross 15
- Bronze Star 40
- Air Medal 411
- Army Commendation Medal 114
- Purple Heart 3

B. HONOR ROLE

†LT Kellogg, Peter W., 532 42 5570
Killed in action 15 May 1970 in Khet Mondul Kiri Province, Cambodia.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 184TH AVIATION COMPANY (UTIL AIRPLANE)
 210TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT)
 APO SAN FRANCISCO 96289

WDDS AA

26 August 1970

SUBJECT: Post Scripts Feeder Report

Commanding Officer
 210th Avn Bn (Cbt)
 ATTN: AVBACA-CA
 APO 96530

PILOT RESCUED

The men of the 184th are very grateful to seven members of the Duc Hue Special Forces Camp: Cpt Robert S Remiro, 1Lt Richard E Bowley, MSG Robert C Baker, SFC Jerry D Templer, SSG Joseph R Tylus, Sgt Rodney A Geter, and SP4 Lawrence E Diesel. The Platoon Commander of our first platoon, Cpt Darrel C Roberts, lost power on climb out from the Duc Hue our strip and crashed in a nearby rice paddy. The aircraft was extensively damaged pinning Cpt Roberts inside. These men rushed to the crash sight and cut Cpt Roberts out of the wreckage. The camp medic, Sgt Geter, administered first aid and is credited with saving Cpt Roberts life. Cpt Remiro the camp commander called in a medivac and Cpt Roberts was taken to the 24th Evacuation Hospital where he is being treated. Cpt Roberts condition is no longer critical but he will have to be evacuated to the States with in the next couple of weeks. The men of the 184th wish Cpt Roberts a speedy recovery.

This month we were honored by a visit from our new Bn Commander, LTC Harbin A Constance. LTC Constance spent the morning visiting our company area at Phu Loi. He remained at Phu Loi for lunch and tried out some of Sergeant Armbruster's fine chow before proceeding to Duc Hoa and the 1st Platoon area. While at Duc Hoa LTC Constance was briefed on the 1st Platoon's missions with the 3rd Bde of the 9th Inf Div and the 25th RVN Div. Later on in the afternoon he flew up to Quan Loi and visited 3rd Platoon's area. He received a briefing on the 3rd Platoon's mission from the 5th Special Forces people.

This month we had a rash of promotion parties at Phu Loi. Congratulations are extended to the following personnel who have been promoted from SP4 to SP5: James Playfair, Thomas Kashner, Michael Anielski, Jackie Reding, Ronald Hendricks, Charles Moloney, and David Richter. Also we have 3 new SP4's in the company do to recent promotions, they are: Joseph Myers, David Barlow, and Mark Suit.

WDDS AA

26 August 1970

SUBJECT: Post Scripts Feeder Report (cont'd)

The 184th saw a lot of people board freedom birds this month, they were: Cpt Boutwell, Cpt Worsley, Cpt Wolfe, CW2 Weeks, SFC Russell, SP5 Coleman, SP5 Doninelli, SP5 Johnson, SP5 Lambert, SP5 Easterly, SP4 Hebert and SP4 Whitson. A hearty welcome is extended to the following new guys: Cpt Smith, 1Lt White, WO1 O'Hollaren, WO1 Santiago, SFC Cooper, SP5 Darley, SP5 Johnson, SP5 Stanford, SP4 Ballard, PFC Moulton, PFC Myers, and PFC Sauerwein.

JOHN W. JOHNSON
Major, Infantry
Commanding

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
184TH AVIATION COMPANY (UTIL AIRPLANE)
210TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96289

20 July 1970

SUBJECT: AAAA National Awards Program (Army Aviation Unit of the Year)

Commanding Officer
210th Avn Bn
APO 96530

INTRODUCTION: This report of the 184th Reconnaissance Airplane Company is submitted to proclaim not outstanding individual efforts but rather the superb accomplishments of a professional military organization. As you read on you will learn that it has earned the name NON-STOP by dedication and perseverance. New members are quickly infected with the pride and spirit of the unit and are inspired to perpetuate its respected name.

COMMANDERS: The 184th had an outstanding year and it can be said that the men of the 184th were proud of their commanders as their commanders were proud of the effort and loyalty shown by all the officers and enlisted personnel of NON-STOP. A list of the men who have called themselves NON-STOP 6 in the past year follows:

MAJ Douglas Schneeman, 067-26-0956, Infantry, January - June

MAJ James E. Chapman, 248-50-9113, Infantry, June - December

MAJ George B. Milburn, 723-03-1679, Armor, December - May

ORGANIZATION: The 184th Avn Co (U-A) is a member of the 210th Aviation Battalion (Combat), which is located at Long Thanh North. The 210th ABC in turn comes under the 12th Aviation Group. Both the headquarters of the 12th Group and the 1st Aviation Brigade are located at a place called plantation on Long Binh Post.

The 184th AC is organized under MTO&E 1-257F. We have three flight platoons and a service platoon. The first platoon operates solely out of Duc Hoa with only maintenance support given at Phu Loi. The second flight platoon operates entirely out of Phu Loi and the third flight platoon has one TDY section that operates out of Quan Loi, and the other section, operates from our company area at Phu Loi.

The authorized strength of the 184th is 32 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers, and 90 Enlisted Men. The actual strength on hand figures for the past year average out to be 24 Officers, 4 Warrant Officers, all of whom are rated, and 87 Enlisted Men.

ADMINISTRATION: During the past year NON-STOP was inspected by battalion and higher echelons on numerous occasions. Of particular note was the annual General Inspection in which the 184th received 38 excellent ratings, 4 satisfactory ratings, and no unsatisfactory ratings. Also of note was the CMMI inspection, in which NON-STOP received a very high percentage score of 94%.

OPERATIONS: The majority of our missions throughout the year lie in the scope of Visual Reconnaissance. This very important mission has resulted in most of this units accomplishments over the past year. Artillery adjustment falls hand in hand with the VR as it is frequently necessary to exploit targets immediately because the opportunity may never again arise.

The third platoon had one mission that deserves special mention. That mission was the support of the Third Mobile Strike Force. This mission required that the aviator use all of the professional ability that he had at his command. He frequently worked out of such unimprove strips as Rang Rang, Duc Phong and Bo Dop. He worked alone at his job and was responsible for directing artillery support, performing visual reconnaissance, as well as conducting air strike and acting as radio relay. These aviators have done an outstanding job. While some people would write visual reconnaissance off as "BRING HOLES THUR THE SKY" we know that every mission no matter how insignificant it might seem, has added to the winning of this war and the freedom of the Vietnamese people. We of NON-STOP are proud to be here and proud of the job we have done and will continue to do.

Following is a list of the hours and sorties flown each month:

	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>
April	2442	1520
May	2630	1123
June	2021	1316
July	1735	1019
August	2151	1031
September	1859	1045
October	2067	1611
November	1079	1515
December	2259	1472
January	3441	1397
February	2051	1538
March	<u>2179</u>	<u>1504</u>
Total	26,914	16,091

During the year we accounted for 387 NVA and VC kills. During this same time we had one of our aviators killed in action and two wounded. Seven of our aircraft took hit from enemy ground fire.

An interesting sidelight for the month of October is the support given by the 184th to the 340th Aviation Detachment. The 340th operates the GCA facility at Phu Loi and it was thur the efforts of all the aviators of the 184th that six GCA approach controllers were facility rated. NON-STOP pilots made a record 252 practice GCA approaches to help accomplish this feat.

MAINTENANCE: The 184th has, in the past year, had the highest aircraft availability rate in its brief four year history. An availability rate for each month follows:

May	88.6%
June	85.2%
July	88.8%
August	88.0%
September	92.2%
October	90.5%
November	92.1%
December	89.9%
January	88.9%
February	93.0%
March	93.8%

The crew chiefs and personnel of the service platoon deserve to be commended on the outstanding manner in which they performed their duties. All of the men of the 184th put in many extra hours, giving up what little free time they had to make the maintenance as good as it was. Another figure compiled by the maintenance personnel is the 236 periodic inspections that were completed through the year.

The 184th AC is authorized 24 O-1G aircraft and 1 U-6A aircraft. We have averaged, throughout the year, 22 Bird dogs and 1 Beaver. A total of 23,992 landings were made during the year and each aircraft has an average of 1102 hours flown on it.