



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



“SITREP” 2022 – Issue 7

Monday, June 13

Dear Commemorative Partners,

June marks *Army Heritage Month* and the **Tuesday, June 14** anniversary of our Nation’s longest-established Service, which also, notably, is [Flag Day!](#) ***Happy 247th Birthday, United States Army!***



As its history unfolded, the U.S. Army was commonly associated with terms like infantry, artillery and armor. During the Vietnam War, however, the helicopter came of age, air mobility became the centerpiece of Army operations, and Vietnam was justifiably labeled as the "helicopter war."



A Huey flies low over soldiers from the 101st BDE, 101st ABN Div, near An Khe, 30 Aug, 1965. (Photo by Lyle V. Boggess, DASPO)

The helicopter first saw use in Vietnam for medical support as early as 1958. Eventually, the Army employed many helicopters in theater, but perhaps one of the most vivid and unmistakable sounds of the Vietnam War was that of the UH-1 Huey’s rotor blades upon approach. Officially named the UH-1 Iroquois, this “Utility Helicopter” received its “Huey” nickname from the pronunciation of its original “HU-1” designation.

In addition to aeromedical evacuation, the Army employed helicopters to establish and sustain fire support bases, carry soldiers to battle, supply its units, observe enemy troop movements, provide gunship support and conduct air assault missions. Learn more about the Huey and other helicopters, such as the AH-1 Cobra and CH-47 Chinook, as well as other Army air mobility platforms in our 3-part poster series featured at right, [U.S. Army Airmobility in the Vietnam War](#).



Sections of two Huey helicopters – one “medevac,” one “slick” (*below left*) – act as centerpieces in our [Pentagon Vietnam War Exhibit](#) (*at left*), recipient of a *2017 John Wesley Powell Prize*. Both helicopters were actually flown during the Vietnam War period. The Pentagon recently re-opened tours to the public on a limited basis. If you are in the Washington, D.C. area, and wish to tour a small portion of the **17.5 miles of corridor** in this national landmark, as well as visit our award-winning [exhibit](#) as part of your tour, you may submit a request directly to the Pentagon Tours Program [here](#). Stay tuned, as we work to release the first-ever virtual tour of a Pentagon space – our exhibit – in the near future!



Finally, please enjoy this [Birthday Tribute](#) celebrating the remarkable men and women of our U.S. Army!

~ *The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff* ~

Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!