227TH ASSAULT HELICOPTER BATTALION

1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) • Republic of Vietnam 1965–1972
Website Outline Synopsis
227ahb.org

OVERVIEW

A veteran-run historical and community website dedicated to preserving the legacy of the 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), which served in Vietnam from 1965 to 1972. The site began in the early 1980s as a place to find former friends and record their history from Vietnam, and has grown — with member support — into an extensive online record of stories, photos, and documents.
As a "last man standing" organization, the history has now been permanently archived so it will be available for future generations, with the archive continuing to be updated on a regular schedule as long as the website remains active.

I. UNIT STRUCTURE — COMPANY SUB-SITES

The main domain serves as a hub linking to separate pages and sub-sites for each company of the battalion:

Company A (A/227) — "Chickenman AO"
a227ahb.org
The most extensively developed sub-site. A/227 lives on through its direct descendant, Company A, 3-227 Air Assault Battalion — the "Werewolves" — who fly the UH-60L Blackhawk in support of troops in Europe, with a patch design drawn directly from the original A/227 door logo.

Company B (B/227) — "Bravo AO"
bravo.227ahb.org
Dedicated to the people and events of Company B's Vietnam heritage, continually developed with member contributions.

Company C (C/227) — "Charlie AO"
charlie.227ahb.org
Dedicated to the people and events of Company C's Vietnam heritage, continually developed with member contributions.

Company D (D/227) — "Delta Guns"
delta.a227ahb.org • delta.blog.a227ahb.org
The battalion's Aerial Weapons Company — known successively as the "Tigers" and the "Fangs." D Company flew twelve UH-1B helicopters armed with rockets and machine guns, providing fire support for the three lift companies as well as special missions such as "Nighthawk." As the war progressed, the weapons company was upgraded to AH-1G Huey Cobras. D/227 was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations and two Valorous Unit Awards for sustained actions in the A Shau Valley and the provinces of Pleiku, Binh Thuan, and Bien Hoa, 1966–1971.
After the 1st CAV returned stateside, D/227 remained in Vietnam. On 1 September 1970 it was reorganized as E Troop, 1/9th CAV, then later redesignated the 227th Aerial Weapons Company and attached to the 101st Airborne for Operation Lam Son 719 into Laos. The D/227 sub-site is under ongoing construction, actively seeking photos, orders, incident reports, after action reports, rosters, and personal accounts from members.

HHC — Headquarters & Headquarters Company
hhc.a227ahb.org
Dedicated to the people and events of the Headquarters Company, 227th AHB, Vietnam heritage.

II. CORE CONTENT SECTIONS

A. Battalion History
- Year-by-year operational histories, 1965–1972

- After Action Reports, Staff Journals, and Operations Logs sourced from the National Archives
- Battalion newsletters and official unit documents
- Vietnam location maps — firebases, landing zones (LZs), and Areas of Operation (AOs)
- Coverage of major campaigns: Ia Drang/Pleiku, Thayer II, Pershing, Khe Sanh, A Shau Valley (Operation Delaware), Cambodia, and Lam Son 719

B. Photo Albums

- Thousands of member-contributed photographs organized by location and era: An Khe, Phan Thiet, LZ English/Dog, Camp Evans, Lai Khe, Camp Holloway, and more
- Aircraft nose art and memorabilia galleries
- Reunion photo albums from annual gatherings
- Photos from descendant units deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan (3-227 “Werewolves”)

C. Personal Stories & First-Person Accounts

- Combat mission narratives by pilots, crew chiefs, door gunners, and medics
- Accounts of significant incidents: shoot-downs, the Camp Evans ammo dump explosion, and rescues in Laos
- Poems written by members
- Recorded oral histories contributed to the Library of Congress Veterans History Project

D. Aircraft Records

- Individual helicopter tail-number pages with assignment histories and incident records
- KIA data linked to specific aircraft and missions
- Tracking of surviving aircraft on display in museums and memorials across the United States

E. Memorial Pages

- Individual pages honoring members Killed in Action
- Running obituary notices for recently deceased veterans and their spouses
- A 227th Memorial Plaque installed at the National Museum of the U.S. Army, Fort Belvoir, VA — positioned along the Path of Remembrance, engraved in polished Mesabi Black granite
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III. COMMUNITY FEATURES

- **Flight Log:** Searchable guestbook and visitor log
- **News & Latest Additions:** Chronological update page active from the 1980s through the present (last updated March 2026)
- **Reunion Website:** Annual gatherings coordinated alongside the Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA)
- **Searching Section:** Requests for identification help on photos, personnel, or events
- **Members Store:** Unit patches, embroidered clothing, and memorabilia for sale
- **History Research Blog:** Curated by the unit historian with newly discovered documents, rosters, and videos

IV. PUBLISHED WORKS CONNECTED TO THE SITE

Gary Bridges (writing as Matt Jackson), A/227, 1969–1970, has authored a three-book series drawn from his Vietnam service with the 227th:

- **“Undaunted Valor: An Assault Helicopter Unit in Vietnam”** — daily events and missions with A/227
- **“Undaunted Valor: Medal of Honor”** — the 1970–1971 actions of the unit as the 227th companies were reassigned when the 1st CAV returned home
- **“Undaunted Valor: Lam Son 719”** — actions by D/227 and other units supporting Vietnamese forces in Laos

Bob Witt (writing as Newton Davis) A/227, 1967-1968, has authored a book drawn from his. Vietnam service and also his service as a helicopter pilot with the. Atlanta, GA police department.

- **“War and Police”** — A Novel of War in the Jungles, and on the Streets and The People Who Survived Both

Craig Tonjes, A/227, 1969 - 1972, has authored a book from boot camp hustles to combat-zone truths—one veteran’s journey, as it really happened.

- **“Army Adventures: 1969 - 1972”** — “Some can’t talk about it, some can’t stop.”

V. PURPOSE & AUDIENCE

The site serves Vietnam-era veterans of the 227th AHB and their families, military historians, and researchers. It functions simultaneously as a living memorial, a permanent historical archive, and a veteran community reconnection hub — preserving firsthand accounts of airmobile operations in Vietnam for future generations.

Non Mihi, Non Tibi, Sed Nobis • Not for me, not for you, but for us