

MAINTENANCE

The maintenance activities of Company A, 101st Aviation Battalion were organized to provide maximum availability of aircraft. Personnel newly assigned to the company's maintenance section or its supporting unit were given an OJT period in the maintenance hangar, then later assigned as crew chiefs. Mechanics and specialists assigned to the 167th Transportation Detachment assumed specialized positions according to their particular line of training and background.

The breakdown of maintenance responsibilities was standard. Crew chiefs accompanied their assigned aircraft on all flights and attended to daily and intermediate inspections. They were also responsible for the ordering of parts, making minor repairs, and the general cleanliness and up-keep of their aircraft.

The maintenance section of the company worked closely with the 167th Trans. Their duties included periodic inspections, complying with modification work orders and component parts replacement.

Third echelon maintenance work was accomplished by the 167th Trans. Engine repair, major component changes, and field recovery of downed aircraft was in this unit's area of responsibility.

Any aircraft which was seriously damaged or destroyed was sent to the 611th Transportation Company (DS) at Vung Tau. This unit backed up Company A, 101st with fourth echelon maintenance support. It also provided one of its assigned CH-47 "Chinooks" for battle field recovery to lift the damaged aircraft either back to Soc Trang or Vung Tau, according to its condition.