

MISSION

The mission of Company A, 101st Aviation Battalion was to provide tactical and logistical aviation support to the military and civilian organizations (and their US advisors) of the Republic of Vietnam. Its primary role was that of general support to the IV Corps (ARVN) and then to the civilian organizations within this area.

Tactically, the company provided air movement of troops, ammunition, and supplies and provided air support and aerial surveillance within the combat zone. The company's aircraft were also utilized to assist in medical evacuation of ARVN and US wounded personnel when other support was not available. Search and rescue for US Army, US Navy, US Air Force and Vietnamese Air Force personnel from downed aircraft was an additional mission for the company as well as providing security for downed aircraft. The advantages of the helicopter's mobility in tactical operations were utilized to the maximum extent by the supported Vietnamese units and elements.

Logistically, the company provided the quickest and most secure means of transportation for the Vietnamese personnel, their equipment and supplies. The company in effect ran a combat air taxi service willing to carry anybody or any cargo within the helicopter's capability as long as it benefited the Vietnamese people and their cause. The command and logistical efficiency of Vietnamese military and civil authorities and American advisory personnel was augmented by the use of the company's helicopters.

The company provides administrative support for attached units and is responsible for rations and quarters for these units.

Prior to March 1966, when the office of Airfield Commander and

Installation Coordinator was created, this company had the senior commander at Soc Trang. Therefore, he was responsible for providing supervision for airfield operations, airfield security, communications, area rehabilitation and exchange facilities. He also coordinated and planned all projects at the Soc Trang Airfield.