

Doug Mercer

I am writing after reading Thunder Run for the first QTR of 2004.

I served as a helicopter pilot with HHT 1/11 from Jan 70 - Dec 70. Call sign Bengal 21 Delta.

I had remembered a couple of long days and nights flying in support of our troops early in my tour and confirmed with my flight records. The thing that stood out was the large number of medevacs we did under difficult circumstances, many being 1st Cav. Had to be the same time as it was one of the few times we flew at night in weather.

I also remembered being astounded by the courage and resolve shown by the wounded we helped. It very much set an example for me.

While I can't supply any details in assisting you in your efforts to get recognition for your troopers, I wanted to wish you the best of luck.

Allons,

Doug Mercer
Phoenix, AZ

PS -- If you communicate with Bill Nash -- please say hi for me. I remember flying him to Tay Ninh from the filed (May?). It was raining, dark and I was as scared as I ever was. Not the type of thing we were prepared for. We were lucky not to run into the Black Virgin Mountain.