

Geronimo Historical Outline

The 205th Aviation Company (ASHC) was a medium lift helicopter unit flying CH-47 Chinook helicopters, produced by Boeing-Vertol in Morton Pennsylvania. The 205th was formed in 1966 at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma and deployed to South Vietnam in the spring of 1967. They set up housekeeping at a place called Phu Loi in the III Corps area about 30 miles north of Saigon. In South Vietnam the unit was assigned to the 12th Aviation Group of the 1st Aviation Brigade and given the mission of providing medium lift helicopter airlift support to American and allied ground and naval forces. On occasion there would be missions in the II & IV Corps areas of operation.

In late 1970, the 205th stood down with the colors being returned to CONUS. Reacti-vation occurred at Fort Benning, GA in the spring of 1971 with a mission of providing medium lift helicopter support throughout the continental United States.

The organization moved again in the summer of 1973. This time to West Germany, and a place called Finthen Army Airfield near the city of Mainz along the Rhine River. The Geronimos were an independent medium lift helicopter company assigned to the 4th Transportation Brigade (later the 4th Transportation Command).

A unique aviation company, the 205th had a special mission supporting the United States Army Europe. Missions of the 205th took its aircrews to most of Western Europe - Norway, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Spain, and Egypt.

After 22 years of service in South Vietnam, CONUS, and West Germany the 205th was redesignated under the regimental system in December 1988.