



United Press International

The helicopter war: Airborne command posts and wings for the infantry.

Cost in Dollars and Men

Fiscal Year	Full Costs (Millions)	Incremental Costs (Millions)	U.S. forces South Vietnam year-end	U.S. forces in S'the't Asia outside South Vietnam
1965	\$ 103	\$ 103	59,900	42,900
1966	5,812	5,812	267,500	54,200
1967	20,133	18,417	448,800	80,300
1968	26,547	20,012	534,700	87,400
1969	28,805	21,544	538,700	82,900
1970	23,052	17,373	414,900	57,200
1971	14,719	11,542	239,200	48,200
1972	9,261	7,346	48,005	84,700

*budget estimate †as of Nov. 30, 1972

(Full costs cover all forces, including the additional personnel, aircraft, operations, munitions used and equipment lost in the Southeast Asia conflict. Incremental costs represent the additional costs of fighting the war over the normal costs of operating the same forces in peacetime. As explained by the Pentagon, all ammunition consumed in the Southeast Asia theater is included under full costs. For example, incremental costs represent only the difference between the total amount of ammunition consumed in combat operations, according to the Pentagon, and the amount that would be consumed in peacetime training.)

Source: the Defense Department and Senate Appropriations Committee.