

AVEL VIETNAM

Special Newsletter, Army Casualties By MOS - January 2023

Enlisted Casualties By MOS

The MOS that a soldier was trained, tested and qualified in, was called the PMOS (primary MOS). The DMOS (duty MOS) was the job description they were actually performing at any particular time.

MOS coding systems were different for Enlisted Personnel, Warrant Officers and Commissioned Officers: Enlisted MOS codes consisted of five Alpha / Numeric characters.

The first three indicated a job description.

The last two digits indicated rank or relative level of expertise.

xxx10 = (E1-E3)

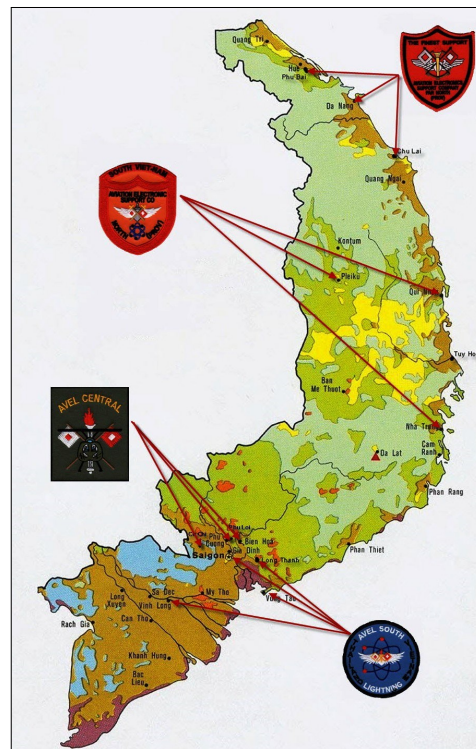
xxx20 = Specialist 4 /Corporal (Specialist 4th Class, E-4)

xxx30 = Specialist 5 (non-troop handling E-5)

xxx40 = Non-Commissioned Officer (Sergeant E-5, Staff Sergeant E-6, Sergeant First Class E-7)

xxx50 - Senior Non-Commissioned Officer (E-8, E-9)

When the individual had advanced schooling or held a special training skill, a "Special Qualification Identifier" (SQI) replaced the last digit of his MOS. This letter indicated the individual's special qualification. (e.g., If an MOS was 11B4P, this indicated that the soldier was an Infantryman [11B] NCO [4] Parachutist [P].)



Warrant Officer MOS codes were 5 Alpha / Numeric digits. The first four Numbers the Officers position, the last character was available for an SQI suffix letter.

Commissioned Officer MOS codes were all numerical. Four digits indicated his MOS (e.g., 1542, Infantry Officer). A PREFIX SQI numerical digit was added to indicate a special qualification (e.g., 71542, Jump-qualified Infantry Officer).

Special Note to Post Vietnam Personnel: During the 1980s, The U.S. Army changed the MOS code structure. So, the MOS codes which you see here are now history.

I have always been curious about the number of casualties in Vietnam for a given MOS. So, being the research guy that I am I decided to find out. Granted, the numbers below are not entirely accurate. I counted them all myself so depending on how tired I was or how many bourbons I had there are some mistakes but you get the idea. The numbers are close. These are only enlisted casualties. No Warrants or Commissioned Officers.

The number after the MOS description is the amount of casualties in that specific MOS. This includes combat and non-combat fatalities. If you don't see a specific MOS that means they had no casualties.

00B Diver 4

00C Dog Trainer 1

00G Target Aircraft Crewman 1

00Z Command Sergeant Major 5

01B Electrical-Electronic Engineering Assistant 3

02C Band Member Baritone Or Euphonium Player 1

02E Band Member Trombone Player 1

02G Band Member Flute Or Piccolo Player 1

02L Band Member Saxophone Player 1

02N Band Member Piano Player 1

02P Brass Group Leader 1

02Z Bands Senior Sergeant 1

03B Performing Arts Specialist 2

03C Physical Activities Specialist 1

04B Translator-Interpreter 8

05B Radio Operator 256

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05C Radio Teletype Operator 20
 05D Special Identification Techniques Operator 5
 05G Signal Security Specialist 4
 05H Morse Interceptor 11
 05K EW/SIGINT Non-Morse Interceptor 1
 11B Infantryman 18,933
 11C Indirect Fire Infantryman 1,997
 11D Armor Reconnaissance Specialist 1,088
 11E Armor Crewman 677
 11F Infantry Operations And Intelligence Specialist 484
 11G Infantry Senior Sergeant 74
 11H Infantry Direct Fire Crewman 384
 12A Pioneer 187
 12B Combat Engineer 527
 12C Bridge Crewman 37
 12D Combat Engineer Operation And Intelligence NCO 5
 12E Atomic Demolition Munitions Specialist 5
 12Z Combat Engineer Senior Sergeant 5
 13A Field Artillery Basic 648
 13B Cannon Crewmember 290
 13C Heavy Field Artillery Crewman 4
 13D Field Artillery Rocket Crewman 3
 13E Cannon Fire Direction Specialist 33
 13F Automatic Weapons Crewman 52
 13Z Field Artillery Senior Sergeant 14
 15B Sergeant Missile Crewman 2
 15D Lance Crewmember/MLRS Sergeant 1
 15E PERSHING Missile Crewmember 1
 16C HURCULES Fire Control Crewmember 3
 16D HAWK Missile Crewmember 5
 16E HAWK Fire Control Crewmember 2
 16F Light Air Defense Artillery Crewmember 70
 16H Air Defense Artillery Operations/Intelligence Assistant 1
 16J Forward Area Alerting Radar Operator 1
 16K Fire Distribution Systems Crewman 1
 17A Combat Surveillance And Target Acquisition Crewman 5
 17B Field Artillery Radar Crewmember 6
 17C Field Artillery Target Acquisition Specialist 3
 17D Flash Ranging Crewman 1
 17E Field Illumination Crewman 22
 17F Defense Acquisition And Survival Radar Crewman 2
 17K Ground Surveillance Radar Crewman 1
 17L Aerial Sensor Specialist 12
 21B REDSTONE Electronic Mechanic 14
 21E Sergeant Guidance Repairman 3
 21G PERSHING Electronics Materiel Specialist 1
 23T HAWK Continuous Wave Radar Repairer 1
 26B Weapons Support Radar Repairer 2
 26C Target Acquisition Surveillance Radar Repairer 2
 26D Ground Control Approach Radar Repairer 1
 26E Airborne Sensor Specialist 6
 26F Ground Radar Repairman 2
 26L Tactical Microwave Systems Repairer 12
 26M Airborne Surveillance Radar Repairer 1
 26T Radio/TV Systems Specialist 1
 26V Strategic Microwave Systems Repairer 1
 31B Field Communications Electronics Equipment Mechanic 48
 31C Armor Radio Mechanic 3
 31E Field Radio Repairer 27
 31G Tactical Communications Chief 34
 31H Artillery Communications Chief 8
 31J Teletypewriter Repairer 5
 31L Multichannel Communications Equipment Repairman 10
 31M Multichannel Transmission Systems 13
 31Q Avionics Repairman 1
 31S Field General Communication Security Repairer 1
 31W Tactical Electronics Maintenance Chief 5
 31Z Telecommunications Operations Chief 5
 32B Fixed Station Receiver Repairman 1
 32C Fixed Station Transmitter Repairman 1
 32D Communications System Circuit Controller 6
 32E Fixed Plant Carrier Repairman 2
 32G Fixed Cryptographic Equipment Repairer 2
 33C Terminal Receiving System Repairman 1
 34D ADPS Repairman 2
 35B Electronic Instrument Repairer 1
 35E Special Electronic Devices Repairer 2
 35J Aircraft Fire Control Repairman 2
 35K Avionics Mechanic 8
 35L Avionic Communications Equipment Repairer 11
 35N Avionic Flight Control Equipment Repairman 6
 35P Avionic Equipment Maintenance Supervisor 3
 36A Wireman 39
 36B Telephone Installer-Repairman 7
 36C Wire Systems Installer 52
 36D Antenna Installer Specialist 8
 36E Cable Splicer 3
 36H Dial/Manual Central Office Repairer 1
 36K Tactical Wire Operations Specialist 195
 41C Fire Control Instrument Repairer 3
 41J Office Machine Repairer 1
 42B Cast Specialist 1
 43A Quartermaster Maintenance Helper 1
 43C Canvas And Leather Repairman 1
 43E Parachute Rigger 18
 43J Textile Repairman 1
 43K Canvas Repairman 1
 43L Shoe Repairman 1
 44A Metal Working Assistant 2
 44C Welder 26

44E Machinist 4
 44K Marine Hull Repairman 2
 44Z Metal Working Foreman 2
 45A Armament Maintenance Apprentice 1
 45B Small Arms/Artillery Repairer 2
 45C Field Artillery Repairman 5
 45E Air Defense Artillery Repairman 1
 45F Artillery Mechanic 8
 45G Turret Artillery Repairman 10
 45J Aircraft Armament Repairman 21
 45M Aircraft Armament Subsystem Mechanic 2
 46J REDSTONE Missile Mechanic 1
 51A Construction And Utilities Worker 11
 51B Carpentry And Masonry Specialist 9
 51C Structure Specialist 4
 51D Mason 4
 51F Pipeline Specialist 3
 51H Construction Engineering Supervisor 20
 51K Plumber 13
 51L Refrigeration Specialist 3
 51M Firefighter 10
 51N Water Treatment Specialist 21
 52A Powerman 2
 52B Power Generation Equipment Operator/Mechanic 35
 52F Electrician 17
 52M Nuclear Power Plant Chief 1
 52N Tactical Support Electrical Equipment Repairman 1
 53C Carbon Dioxide-Hydrogen Production Specialist 1
 54A Chemical Operations Specialist 1
 54B Decontamination Specialist 1
 54C Smoke Operations Specialist 4
 54D Chemical Equipment Repairer 7
 54E "Nuclear, Biological, And Chemical (NBC) Specialist" 20
 55A Ammunition Helper 18
 55B Ammunition Specialist 26
 55C Ammunition Maintenance Specialist 4
 55D Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Specialist 20
 55E Chemical Demolitions Specialist 1
 55F Missile And Rocket Explosive Specialist 1
 55G Nuclear Weapons Specialist 1
 55Z Ammunition Supervisor 1
 56A Supply Handler 24
 56B General Warehouseman 3
 56C Petroleum Storage Specialist 11
 56E Stevedore 5
 57E Laundry And Bath Specialist 17
 57H Cargo Specialist 18
 61A Seaman 15
 61B Watercraft Operator 56
 61C Watercraft Engineer 22
 61D Amphibian Operator 1
 61E Amphibian Engineer 1
 62A Engineer Equipment Assistant 7
 62B Construction Equipment Repairer 106
 62C Engineer Missile Equipment Specialist 4
 62D Asphalt Equipment Operator 10
 62E Heavy Construction Equipment Operator 173
 62F Crane Operator 25
 62G Quarrying Specialist 15
 62H Concrete And Asphalt Equipment Operator 4
 62J General Construction Equipment Operator 11
 62K Grader Operator 17
 62L Wheeled Tractor Operator 12
 62M Rough Terrain Forklift And Loader Operator 31
 62N Construction Equipment Supervisor 14
 63A Mechanical Maintenance Helper 42
 63B Light-Wheel Vehicle Mechanic 187
 63C General Vehicle Repairman 208
 63D Quartermaster Light Equipment Repairman 3
 63E Quartermaster Heavy Equipment Repairman 3
 63F Recovery Specialist 6
 63H Track Vehicle Repairer 10
 63J Quartermaster And Chemical Equipment Repairer 1
 63K Quartermaster Heavy Equipment Repairman 7
 63L Quartermaster Equipment Maintenance Senior 1
 63N Automotive Mechanic 1
 63Z Mechanical Maintenance Supervisor 3
 64A Light Vehicle Driver 144
 64B Heavy Vehicle Driver 301
 64C Motor Transport Operator 49
 65A Railway Maintenance And Operations Apprentice 1
 65B Locomotive Repairer 4
 65E Airbrake Repairer 1
 67A Aircraft Maintenance Apprentice 13
 67B O-1/U-6 Airplane Repairman 16
 67C U/A Airplane Repairman 4
 67D Single-Engine Airplane Repairman 3
 67E Single-Engine Airplane Maintenance Chief 4
 67F Airplane Technical Inspector 4
 67G Utility Airplane Repairer 3
 67H OV-1 Airplane Repairman 12
 67J Multi-Engine Medium Transport Airplane Mechanic 3
 67K Multi-Engine Airplane Repairman 5
 67M OH-13/OH-23 Helicopter Repairman 18
 67N UH-1 Helicopter Repairer 509
 67P CH-34 Helicopter Repairman 13
 67Q Single-Engine Single-Rotor Helicopter Repairman 6
 67R OH-58 Helicopter Repairman 13
 67T CH-37 Helicopter Repairman 7

67U CH-47 Helicopter Repairer 57
 67V Observation/Scout Helicopter Repairer 17
 67W Aircraft Quality Control Supervisor 12
 67X Heavy Lift Helicopter Repairer 12
 67Y AH-1 Attack Helicopter Repairer 37
 67Z Aircraft Maintenance Senior Sergeant 26
 68A Aircraft Components Repair Apprentice 11
 68B Aircraft Powerplant Repairer 3
 68C Aircraft Reciprocating Engine Repairman 2
 68D Aircraft Powertrain Repairer 10
 68E Aircraft Rotor And Propeller Repairman 7
 68F Aircraft Electrician 5
 68G Aircraft Structural Repairer 1
 68H Aircraft Pseudraulics Repairer 3
 68J Aircraft Instrument Repairman 1
 711A Personnel/Administrative Technician 1
 71A Clerk 6
 71B Clerk-Typist 116
 71C Executive Administrative Assistant 1
 71D Legal Specialist 3
 71F Postal Clerk 14
 71G Patient Administration Specialist 3
 71H Personnel Specialist 119
 71J Pay Records Specialist 1
 71K Personnel Management Specialist 5
 71L Administrative Specialist 12
 71M Chaplain's Assistant 9
 71N Traffic Management Coordinator 24
 71P Flight Operations Coordinator 16
 71Q Journalist 16
 71R Broadcast Journalist 3
 71T Equipment Maintenance Clerk 3
 72B Communications Center Specialist 55
 72C Central Office Switchboard Operator 27
 72E Tactical Telecommunications Center Operator 1
 72F Data Communications Terminal Specialist 1
 73A Finance Clerk 1
 73B Audit Specialist 1
 73C Finance Specialist 16
 73Z Finance Senior Sergeant 2
 74A Data Processing Equipment Operator 2
 74B Card And Tape Writer 2
 74C Data Analysis Specialist 3
 74D Information Systems Operator 1
 74E Computer Systems Operator 2
 76A Supplyman 85
 76B Chemical Supply And Parts Specialist 7
 76D Ordnance Supply And Part Specialist 12
 76E Quartermaster Supply Specialist 8
 76F Quartermaster Parts Supply Specialist 1
 76G Signal Supply And Parts Specialist 5
 76H Transportation Supply And Parts Specialist 4
 76J Medical Supply Specialist 1
 76K General Supply Specialist 32
 76L Film Library Specialist 1
 76M Ammunition Records Clerk 7
 76N Procurement Sergeant 9
 76P Materiel Control And Accounting Specialist 8
 76Q Special Purpose Materiel Supply Specialist 12
 76S Vehicle Materiel Supply Specialist 21
 76T Aircraft Materiel Supply Specialist 8
 76U Communications Electronics Materiel Supply Specialist 8
 76V Materiel Storage And Handling Specialist 24
 76W Petroleum Supply Specialist 31
 76X Subsistence Supply Specialist 8
 76Y Unit Supply Specialist 156
 76Z Senior Supply/Service Sergeant 7
 81A General Draftsman 2
 81B Technical Drafting Specialist 4
 81C Cartographer 1
 81D Map Compiler 1
 82B Construction Surveyor 2
 82C Field Artillery Surveyor 40
 82D Topographic Surveyor 1
 83E Photo And Layout Specialist 1
 84B Still Photographic Specialist 13
 84C Motion Picture Specialist 7
 84G Photographic Laboratory Specialist 4
 91A Medical Corpsman 525
 91B Medical NCO 920
 91C Clinical Specialist 11
 91D Operating Room Specialist 2
 91E Dental Specialist 3
 91G Behavioral Science Specialist 1
 91H Social Work Specialist 1
 91J Physical Therapy Specialist 1
 91K Physical Reconditioning Specialist 2
 91N Cardiac Specialist 2
 91P Radiology Specialist 2
 91Q Pharmacy Specialist 2
 91S Preventive Medicine Specialist 3
 91T Animal Care Specialist 1
 91U "Ear, Nose, And Throat Specialist" 2
 91Z Medical Senior Sergeant 2
 92B Medical Laboratory Specialist 9
 92C Petroleum Laboratory Specialist 1
 92D Chemical Laboratory Specialist 1
 93B Air Traffic Controller 7
 93H Electronic Countermeasures Specialist 2
 93J Air Traffic Controller Radar Controller 4
 93L Air Traffic Control Chief 2
 94A Food Service Helper 25
 94B Food Service Specialist 262
 94C Meat Cutter 1
 94Z Food Service Supervisor 8
 95B Military Police 212
 95D CID Special Agent 3

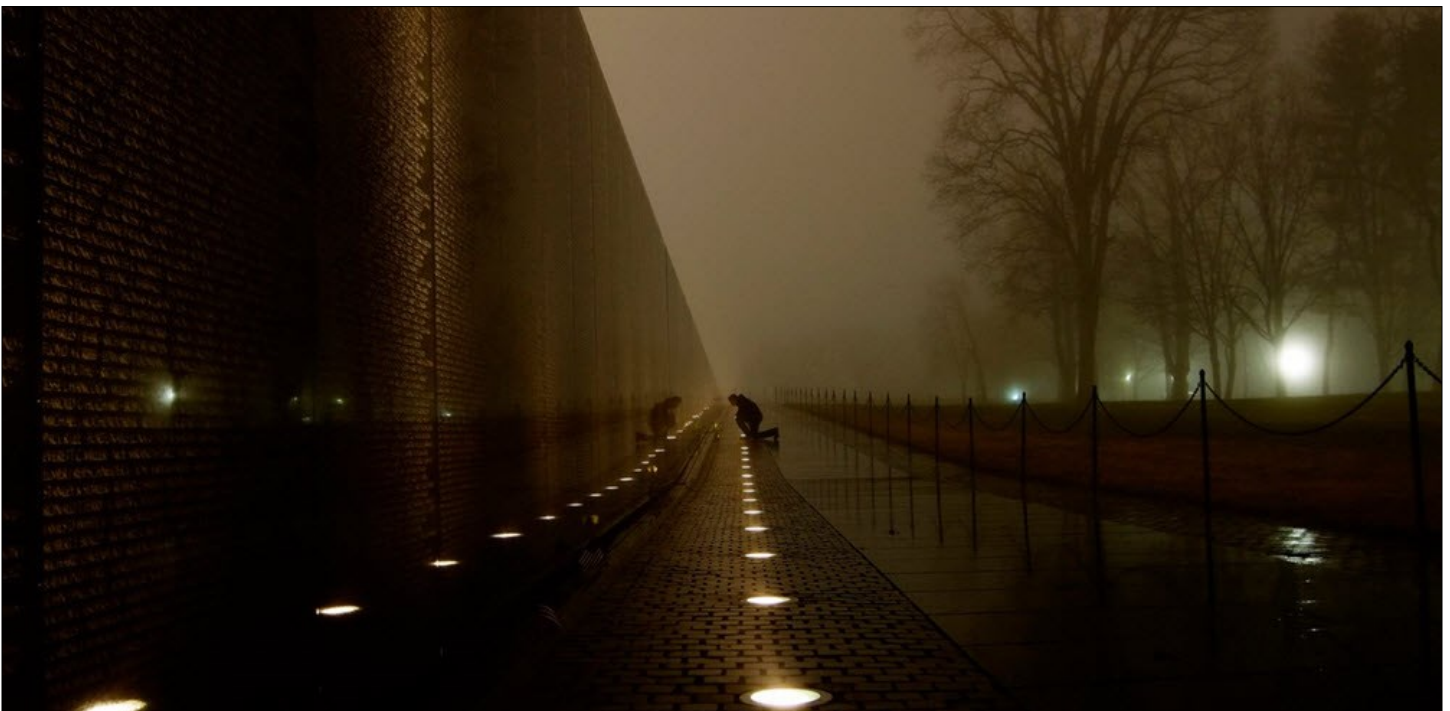
96B Intelligence Analyst 29
96C Interrogator 2
96D Imagery Analyst 1
97B Counterintelligence Agent 3
97C Area Intelligence Specialist 3

97D Military Intelligence Coordinator 3
98A Communication Security Clerk 1
98B EW/Cryptanalytic Cryptanalyst 1
98C Signals Intelligence Analyst 3
98Z Chief Electronic Warfare and Special Intelligence 1

So, what is the upshot of all this Jack, you may ask. Well, I find it all very interesting. It kind of proves my comments that there was no place safe in Vietnam. Obviously some MOS' were a much safer bet than others. You certainly didn't want to be in the infantry or field artillery. Combat medics were an honorable profession but not a safe one. Of course some MOS' were more hazardous by their nature. Some are misleading when taking the casualties into account. Take door gunners. There was no designated MOS for door gunners. Most door gunner positions were made of individuals from other MOS'. A 67N20 MOS was common for door gunners and crew chiefs but many others filled these slots.

Remember, this list does not cover Warrant and Commissioned Army officers. Nor does it cover Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard.

So, looking back did you feel safe in Vietnam? Statistically maybe. But tell that to the one trombone player who died there. He probably felt pretty safe. I am sure his family never thought so. Remember, you were lucky to survive. So pour a drink and raise your glass in a toast to your fallen brothers.



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