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## CHARLIE CHASERS

*History of USAF AC-119 "Shadow"  
Gunships in the Vietnam War*

**Larry Elton Fletcher**

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General Audience

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### About the Book

*CHARLIE CHASERS* is a nonfiction documented history of the little-known USAF 71<sup>st</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Squadrons during the Vietnam War. The squadrons flew fixed-wing, propeller-driven twin-engines, side-firing Attack C-119G "Shadow" gunships from 1968 to 1971. The primary mission of Shadows was to provide close air support for American and Allied ground forces in battle with enemy forces. This is the first published book solely dedicated to telling the full story of AC-119 Shadow gunship squadrons.

### About the Author

Former United States Air Force Captain Dr. Larry Elton Fletcher flew 177 combat missions as a pilot in AC-119 Shadow gunships during his tour of duty in Vietnam. After five years of active military service he returned to the teaching profession and public school administration, and earned a Doctor of Education degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia. He retired from public education in 1997 to pursue a writing career. Larry and his wife reside at Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri.

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