



On December 20, 1965, a Lockheed C-130E Hercules transport plane, serial 62-1843, from the 345th Troop Carrier Squadron, 314th Troop Carrier Wing, 13th Air Force, was on a cargo mission when it was destroyed in a crash while on approach to Tuy Hoa Airport (TBB), RVN. All five crew members were killed. The lost crewmen included 1LT Donald C. Smith, TSGT William H. Crisp, CAPT Terry F. Katterhenry, A1C Willie Mitchell Jr., and 1LT David J. Wax. The airplane was flying 13 tons of aviation fuel from Nha Trang (NHA) to Tuy Hoa when it flew into high ground in low cloud-conditions. [Taken from [coffeldatabase.org](http://coffeldatabase.org) and [aviation-safety.net](http://aviation-safety.net)] After having flown all day, the crew were sent on a night mission. Under terrible weather conditions they missed their first approach to a runway lit only by flare cans located every three hundred feet along one side of the runway. On their second approach, they crashed on a hill that did not appear on their topographical maps. [Taken from [veteransmemorial.us](http://veteransmemorial.us)] A another account of the crash contends that there are hills around Tuy Hoa because of its location on the coast, and claims that the crash was a result of a shoot-down are problematic because C-130 vets who were at Naha the time remember that it was believed to be an accident.