

# 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT) "STRIKE HISTORY" 04 May – 10 May 2014



04 May 1968	Cordon by A, B, and Recon 1/502 IN with other 2nd Bde elements at vic. 692303. Contact was heavy during the night by elements seeking to escape the Cordon. Artillery was called for and adjusted as well as use of small arms. At first light a sweep of the area revealed; Enemy: 26 NVA KIA (BC), 2 VC KIA (BC), 3 VC POW
05 May 1968	As part of Operation CARENTAN II, elements from the 1/501 <sup>st</sup> , 2/501 <sup>st</sup> , 2/17 <sup>th</sup> CAV, and 2/34 <sup>th</sup> AR, supporting 2nd Brigade, 101 <sup>st</sup> Airborne Division encountered an enemy force about three miles northwest of HUE. Casualties: Friendly: 1 KIA, 18 WIA; Enemy: 55 KIA.
05 May 1968	Battalion continued RIF and security missions. A & B cordoned Hill. vic. 700304 and had 1 WIA from grenade while enemy losses were 1 NVA KIA (BC), 2 NVA WIA/POW
05-07 May 1968	2-501 and $2-17$ CAV cordon Thon La Chu resulting in 53 NVA/ VC KIA, 2 VC PWs, and 400 lbs of rice.
05 May 1970	<b>Operation TEXAS STAR:</b> C/2-502 assaulted an enemy bunker complex on two fronts. A fierce battle persisted for approximately an hour before the bunker complex was overrun and the enemy routed. Five enemy bodies were found in the complex along with three weapons. C Company sustained three KIA and several wounded during the attack. On the same day, A Company was combat assaulted on the ridge line to the west, on the LZ constructed by D Company and the engineers the previous day. Contact with the enemy was initiated by A Company while moving off the LZ to the north. An estimated enemy squad with automatic weapons was engaged by the 1 <sup>st</sup> Platoon. ARA was employed in support and they too received automatic weapons fire. The enemy broke contact and fled to the north leaving behind three bodies. Two STRIKE Force Soldiers were killed in the action.
05 May 1971	<b>Operation LAM SON 720:</b> The Command and Control aircraft for the Battalion spotted thirty NVA approximately 1000 meters from CO Pung and engaged them with gunships with unknown results. Because the Battalion was the first allied force to assault the area on the fringe of the A Shau Valley, an enormous amount of enemy activity was discovered and an endless collection of intelligence data was collected. During the nine day stay on CO Pung the Battalion received eleven 60/81mm mortar attacks and seven 57/75mm recoilless rifle attacks without one single injury to a STRIKE Force Soldier. This was credited to effective counter mortar programming using air, artillery, and mortars; radio discipline (the enemy was never told where his rounds were impacting); sound combat patrolling (both day and night) and outstanding Soldiering by individual and fighting units. Some 101 <sup>st</sup> troopers made the ultimate sacrifice on Co Pung and some STRIKE Force troops suffered injuries.
	Americans to set foot on the mountain. (2-502 IN Unit History, 1971)







05 May 2003	The first free City Council elections took place in Mosul, marking an important milestone within the city of Mosul with people from all parties and ethnicities working together for the common good.
05 May 2008	Operation Strike Catamounts 6th Iraqi Army Division clears Shulla in order to seize all weapons, ammunition, and designated targets 05 0605 – UTC MAY 08. MG Abdul Amir, Cdr 6 IA, plans a cordon and search of Shulla. Active CF support is limited to defending outer checkpoints to prevent overflow of fighting and HAGA support to assist in MEDEVAC or MASCAL if the IA exceed their capabilities for treating wounded personnel. Operations were completed when CF confirmed that all IA had withdrawn from Shulla after conducting the cordon and search.
06 – 07 May 1968	2-17 Cav and D/1-501 were conducting a RIF operation when they made contact and attacked estimated NVA company occupying defensive positions in the village of La Chu, 5km northwest of Hue (YD694240). B Troop with an OPCON tank platoon maintained constant pressure to the front of the enemy force, while the mobile Troop A engaged the enemy with 106mm RR fire from the flanks. The battle was continued throughout the night under continuous illumination until contact was broken at approximately 020hrs. The operation resulted in 55 NVA KIA (BC), 5 NVA POW's, 30 weapons captured. Friendly Casualties were: 1 US KIA and 15 US WIA. (Operation Report, Lessons Learned, HQ 101 <sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM); 26 December 1968)
06 May 1968	1-502 continued its pacification operations. Alpha Company NDP was under sporadic contact from 03:35hrs till 05:45hrs and had 2 WIA from SA fire, from estimated reinforced squad. First light check revealed 1 NVA KIA (BC). Bravo Company established 3 ambushes. At 21:40hrs one ambush fired on 4 NVA across the river from them. No Assessment could be made. At 07:45hrs. another ambush fired on 5 NVA in a sampan. Results, 5 NVA KIA (BC) and sampan sunk. Bravo combat assault village vic. 750291 and encountered heavy fire. Formed a cordon of the village with Delta and called in air strikes and artillery. Charlie Company ambush killed 2 NVA KIA (BC). Delta combat assault to 748294 and were pinned down by heavy fire. Went into cordon with Bravo suffering 2 KIA, 7 WIA. Results: 2 KIA, 9 WIA; Enemy: 8 NVA KIA (BC), 4 NVA QIA (Est.)
06 - 17 May 1968	<b>Operation DELAWARE:</b> 2-502 air assaulted to the north into the Brigade Recon zone to establish its new AO. Initially C CO and the TAC CP advance party air assaulted into LZ Zulu and began the construction of FSB STRIKE. On the next day companies A and B air assaulted into LZ Yankee and began to push out to the southeast and to their respective AO's. Also on 7 May the remainder of the TAC CP and Redondo's went into FSB STRIKE. Redondo's began their surveillance and Recon patrolling along the Song BO River. A CO made the initial contact, mostly meeting contact, with the VC/NVA along the trails. The most significant contact was made by A CO when the enemy initiated the organized probe against their NDP on 12 May.
	The results were 9 x KIA, 6 x AK-47's, 1 x SKS, 1 x M-2 Carbine, 1 x RPG CIA. B CO made contact mostly during their daylight ambushes along trails. The terrain was hilly, and thick with vegetation and tall triple canopy. Streams were frequently encountered. Fortunately, there were quite a few areas cleared both from the bomb craters and cultivation that could be used for LZ's with little preparation. However, hoist Medevac's still had to be used on several occasions. The BN effectively accomplished its mission during Operation Delaware. In both phases the enemy sustained substantial significant losses, particularly in equipment, and intelligence documents. The enemy suffered 43 x KIA, 1 x VC POW, 2 X NVA POW, 39 x individual weapons captured, and 300lbs of rice destroyed. Operation Delaware was finished.
06 – 08 May 1969	<b>Operation Massachusetts Striker:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion, 502 <sup>nd</sup> IN combat assaulted into an area five kilometers form the Laotian Border again in response to intelligence reports and discovered a recently used medical aid station that contained eighteen weapons and forty cases of medical supplies. This operation was concluded on 8 May with the following







results: 175 NVA/VC KIA, 2 NVA POW's, 1 HOI CHANH, 857 individual weapons captured, in addition to 40 crew-served weapons and 30 vehicles captured. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne (Airmobile), Operational Report – Lessons Learned. Dated 20 August 1969)

06 May 1970

Around 0500, members of the 33<sup>rd</sup> NVA Sapper Battalion attacked FSB Henderson from several directions. A/2-501 IN counted the most fatalities with 11. CPT Mitchell was the company commander on FSB Henderson when the attack occurred. He carried the names of the deceased on a 3 x 5 Card throughout his career. (Alpha Avenger website); The 29 U.S. troops killed at Fire Base Henderson, 16 miles south of the demilitarized zone, were the most American soldiers slain in a single action in 20 months. Fifteen North Vietnamese were reported killed. 101st Airborne Division Article: Twenty-nine enemy soldiers were killed May 6 during a furious attack, on Fire Base Henderson, 10 miles south of Cam Lo in Quang Tri Province. Troopers of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) and gunners of the 11th Arty. received mortar and RPG- fire, followed by a ground attack from an unknownsized enemy force. Division soldiers were engaged in a daylong battle in mountainous jungle 20 miles southwest of Hue May 9. Troopers, from the 2nd Bn., 502nd Inf. (501st Inf.), were



NVA sappers took advantage of the situation at Henderson and left a trail of destruction by targeting artillery pieces and the ammunition dump in a night attack. U.S. troopers fought back during the horific firstorm, however, killing 29 of the enemy.

searching the area when they were attacked by an enemy force firing small arms and RPGs. The Communists were hidden in a bunker complex laced with inter-connecting tunnels. Cobra gunships and airstrikes swept in to support the Screaming Eagles, who killed 18 enemy soldiers. In the northern I Corps area of operations May 7, an air observer supporting the 3rd Squadron, 5th Armored Cav., engaged 20 enemy soldiers. Helicopter gunships gave support in that action 10 miles southwest of Cam Lo and 10 enemy soldiers were killed. Screaming Eagles killed another 18 enemy soldiers during four actions in mountainous jungles 20 miles southwest of Hue May 5. Elements of the 2nd Bn., 502nd Inf. approaching an enemy bunker complex were engaged by an unknown-sized force. The battalion soldiers quickly surrounded the bunkers and returned fire killing five enemy soldiers. (The Army Reporter; May 25, 1970)

06 May 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** at 0615 hours C/2-502 IN defensive position was hit by an NVA sapper element of unknown size. RPG's, AK-47 fire and satchel charges were employed by the enemy killing 1 US Soldier in the initial burst. C Company returned fire with claymore mines and small arms fire as the enemy fled. At 1100 hours D Company reinforced C Company. A Company continued sweeping north toward the top of Hill 882. B Company maintained their mission of screening the firebase to the south.







06 May 2003	Showing yet another sign of the growing stability within the city of Mosul, the banks re-opened their doors under the watchful eye of 502nd Soldiers, giving citizens the confidence they needed to once again feel safe.
07 May 1968	A three-day cordon of La Chu Village, three miles northwest of Hue, was completed by elements A and B Troop, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Squadron (ABN), 17 <sup>th</sup> CAV, C Troop, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Squadron, 34 <sup>th</sup> Armored CAV, B and D Company 1 <sup>st</sup> BN (ABN), 501 <sup>st</sup> IN, and A and C Company 2 <sup>nd</sup> BN (ABN), 501 <sup>st</sup> IN. Fifty five NVA were killed, five prisoners were taken and 30 weapons were captured in the cordon. (Rendezvous with Destiny, July 1968)
07 May 1968	B/1-502 IN swept village at first light, vic. 750290 and made contact. Results, 3 WIA: 5 NVA KIA (BC). Charlie made contact at 08:00hrs and remained in contact throughout the day, vic. 748307. There was heavy MG, light MG, AW and SA. Called in artillery and air strikes. Results: Friendly: 2 KIA, 11 WIA, 4 MIA (later confirmed and recovered as KIA); Enemy: 5 NVA KIA (BC)
07 May 1970	<b>Operation TEXAS STAR:</b> C/2-502 and D/2-502 swept a bunker complex that C Company previously fought the enemy. All bunkers were destroyed with no enemy resistance. A Company, continuing to sweep north toward the top of Hill 882, located two bunkers destroyed by air strikes and several fresh blood trails. The day ended with negative contact with enemy.
07 May 2009	1-75 CAV awarded the Valorous Unit Award in support of military operations from Oct. 15, 2007 – Nov. 20, 2008. Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment, and its subordinate units displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq. The unit's professionalism and dedication to the mission went beyond the call of duty and greatly contributed to the success of the 2nd Brigade and Multi-National Division-Baghdad.
08 May 1968	A 2nd Brigade ambush position established 6 km north of Hue, along a known enemy LOC, observed 20 NVA moving toward the canal. The platoon from B/1-502 allowed the enemy to move well within the killing zone, then violently executed the ambush employing claymore, SA, AW, and M-79s. A first light sweep of the area revealed a total of 17 NVA killed and 6 weapons captured during the night action.
08 May 1968	1-502 continued RIF and security missions of An Lo and QL #1. Alpha Company made contact at YD715294 cordoned the village and called in air strikes. Bravo Company sprung an ambush on 30 NVA with organic weapons. First light revealed 16 NVA KIA (BC). "C" Company suffered 2 KIA and 2 WIA from sniper fire.
08 – 13 May 1969	<b>Operation Apache Snow:</b> The 2nd BN, 501 INF moved from an AO surrounding fire support base whip to a new AO adjacent to and overlooking the northern A Shau Valley. The Battalion Command Post was located on FSB Airborne. After the initial combat assault of the Bn (-) into LZ Green at YD296017 on 10 May 1969, each of the three assaulting companies moved out to assigned objectives.
	Subsequent RIF operation saw the three maneuvering companies close to objectives in the vicinity of YD284031 and then conducting a battalion size RIF operation toward the northwest. When all elements were clear of their objectives, each company continued to conduct RIF and search and destroy operations within the assigned AO.
	As the AO assigned to the 2-501 expanded, each company was assigned an area to search. The preponderance of contacts during the entire operation was with small local security forces of 4-5 personnel or with trail watchers. Only two contacts involved larger than squad size elements. The first contact occurred the morning of the 13 <sup>th</sup> of May at FSB Airborne in the vicinity of YD355070. At 0330 hours FSB Airborne came under very heavy mortar fire of 82mm, 60mm, and RPG fire. Approximately two reinforced
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	infantry and sapper companies assaulted the perimeter from the northeast and northwest. Alpha Company repelled the attack which lasted two hours. Conventional artillery direct fire was employed along with "Spooky" and 81mm mortar fire resulting in 32 NVA KIA (BC) US casualties were 13 KIA and 16 US WIA. (Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation Apache Snow, 22 June 1969)
08 May 1969	<b>Operation BRISTOL BOOTS:</b> A series of OPCON shifts took place: 1-327 and 2-502 became OPCON to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Brigade while 1-502 and 1-501 became OPCON to the 1 <sup>st</sup> Brigade. In addition, the area of operation was expanded to include a reconnaissance zone along the Laotian Border and Base Area 607. As the maneuver elements of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Brigade moved into this area the enemy withdrew to the west into Laos. (HQ, 101 <sup>st</sup> Airborne (Airmobile), Operational Report – Lessons Learned. Dated 20 August 1969)
08 May 1970	<b>Operation TEXAS STAR:</b> A/2-502 continued sweep operations to the north when they initiated contact with enemy at 1000 hours. An estimated enemy platoon employing grenades, small arms and machine gun fire pinned down the first platoon. The second platoon was brought up as reinforcements and the enemy displaced. Contact with the enemy was again established as A Company continued to assault up the ridge. ARA was employed with one bird taking automatic weapons fire forcing it to break station and force land at FSB Blaze (YD535020). Both pilots were medevac'd. Contact with the enemy was maintained until 1300 when the enemy again displaced leaving behind six bodies and 7 AK-47's. Two US Soldiers were killed during the contact. B Company continued screening operations south of FSB Shock while C and D Companies patrolled the ridge south of Hill 714.
08 May 1971	<b>Operation LAM SON 720:</b> An ARVN unit located at Co Pung and the STRIKE Force Battalion were extracted back to FB Jack (VIC YD 4928) to prepare for insertion on the following day into the area west of OP Checkmate and north of FB Veghel. (2-502 IN Unit History, 1971)
09 May 1968	Bravo Company, 1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion, 502 <sup>nd</sup> Infantry found 15 NVA KIA (BC) from an air strike at 724294. Charlie CA'd to YD715302 and made heavy contact, suffering 2 KIA and 3 WIA. Established ambushes around the area of contact and captured 1 NVA who crawled up to one of the positions while trying to escape. Delta made moderate scattered contact during the day and killed 8 NVA (BC). Recon found 3 NVA KIA (BC) in a grave at YD723311. Results: Friendly 2 KIA, 2 WIA; Enemy: 26 NVA KIA (BC), 1 POW
09 May 1970	<b>Operation TEXAS STAR:</b> A/2-502 IN pressed toward the top of Hill 882. An enemy force with approximately 40 enemy in a bunker complex of 20 to 30 bunkers, engaged the 1 <sup>st</sup> Platoon with fragmentation grenades, RPG's and satchel charges. The platoon withdrew and was reinforced by the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Platoon. After employing heavily artillery and ARA support, the two platoons again attacked the enemy position. After several hours of bitter fighting, the enemy withdrew leaving 27 NVA KIA. The platoon leader of A Company's point assault platoon was killed in action with 12 WIA. The Battalion displaced to FSB Veghel and closed FSB Shock. C Company was moved by air to the top of Hill 714 and given the mission of sweeping west to Hill 882. D Company continued sweeping west of Hill 714.
09 – 18 May 1971	<b>Operation LAM SON 720:</b> The return to OP Checkmate and the surrounding AO lasted only ten days. During that period of timeframe the Battalion patrolled the area surrounding FB Veghel. (2-502 IN Unit History, 1971)
10 May 1968	Co. C, 1-502 ABN IN, made contact with an NVA reinforced platoon 9 km north of Hue. Co C immediately employed heavy volumes of organic weapons fire as the enemy struggled to disengage. Co C maneuvered, pursuing the withdrawing enemy until by mid-morning the NVA platoon was trapped against the Pha Tam Ciang bay. Heavy volumes of artillery and tac air were employed on the trapped enemy force which, together with the fires from airborne troops, resulted in 21 enemy killed.
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10 May 1968	1-502 IN BN continued RIF and security missions in AO and made moderate to heavy contact. Charlie Company had a running fight with 2 NVA snipers that led into a village where they received heavy fire that killed their point man and prevented his recovery. Air strikes were called in and caused 10 NVA to leave their bunkers and run into Charlie's positions. Results: Friendly: 1 KIA, 1 WIA, and 1 MIA (KIA); Enemy: 11 NVA KIA (BC). Delta Company made contact at 715328 and called for an Air strike. After the strike a sweep of the area revealed 13 NVA KIA (BC). Recon found 8 NVA KIA (BC) at 720296, killed by Air strikes, the day before.
10 May 1968	<b>Operation DELAWARE:</b> At 0530, TAC CP (2-502) vic. YD576171 received 41 rounds of incoming 82mm mortar fire from approx. coordinate YD578153; engaged with Artillery and mortars. Results: 4 US WHA (Minor). At 1050, A/2-502 vic. YD538121 engaged enemy sniper with SA and swept contact area. Results: 1 NVA CIA, 1 AK-47 CIA. At 2000, TAC CP received approx 25 Rounds of 82mm mortar fire from YD582158; engaged with Artillery and mortars. Results: 2 US WHA (Minor).
10 May 1968	Col. Cushman observes an NVA prisoner captured by 2nd Brigade being interrogated pointing at the Eagle Patch of a nearby trooper, and asked the interpreter what he was saying. The interpreter's reply was "He is saying that little bird is real mean" An arch is built over the Brigade TOC with the new Brigade motto: "That Little Bird is Real Mean"
10-12 May 1969	The Rakkasans wage a fierce battle to wrest control of Dong Ap Bia (Hill 937) from the $29^{\text{th}}$ NVA Regt. On the last day they are joined by the $1/506^{\text{th}}$ , $2/501^{\text{st}}$ , $2/3$ ARVN Regt. and A Company of the $2/506^{\text{th}}$ . (Rendezvous with Destiny, 1969)
10 May –	
09 June 1969	<ul> <li>Operation Apache Snow:</li> <li>Mission: 2-501 Inf on order conducts airmobile assault on D-Day to locate and destroy enemy forces, caches and locations in assigned AO; provides security for FSB Airborne and FSB Eagle Nest.</li> <li>Concept of Operation: 2-501 Inf conducts heliborne assault into LZ Green (YD296017) on D-Day to locate enemy forces, caches, and locations. Elements of 2-501 provide security for FSB Airborne and FSB Eagle Nest. 2-501 will be prepared to continue operations to the east or to the northeast within assigned AO on order. The operation will be conducted in three phases, as follows:</li> <li>Phase I – Establish of FSB Airborne and marshalling of units at FSB Blaze prior to air mobile assault.</li> <li>Phase II – Combat assault of 2-501 (-) into LZ Green at coordinates YD296017. Then locate and destroy enemy forces, caches, and LOC's. Elements of 2-501 Inf provide security for FSB Airborne and FSB Eagle Nest.</li> <li>Phase III (on order) – Prepare to conduct RIF operations to the north and the east in the Ale Ninh (YD323013) and the Ale Ninh (1) area YD344003. (Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation Apache Snow, 22 June 1969)</li> </ul>
10 May 1970	<b>Operation TEXAS STAR:</b> D/2-502 was inserted south of Hill 882 and passed through A Company which was then extracted. No enemy contact was made on this day.







During this week, in the span of 72 years since the 502<sup>nd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment originated in July 1941 as the 502<sup>nd</sup> Parachute Battalion, an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assault, the following awards were awarded to members of 2BCT and the 502<sup>nd</sup> IN Regiment.

1 x Medal of Honor

- 1 x Distinguished Service Cross (1 x Posthumously)
- 19 x Silver Star Medal (4 x Posthumously)
- 5 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 4 x Bronze Star Medal (4 x Posthumously)
- 77 x Purple Heart (69 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 14 x Non-hostile injury or illness

04 May 1966

The following Soldiers: 1SG Harden B. Walker, MSG J. D. Harrell (Pictured), and SP4 Howard D. Weiss (Pictured) (HHC/2-502 IN); SSG Gene Hawthorne, SSG John A. Brown, PFC Roger C. Collette, PFC Robert L. Clark, and PFC Roger L. Berg (A/2-502 IN); SP4 Earnest A. Tucker Jr., PFC Malakia Jackson Jr., PFC Joseph J. Swayze (Pictured), PFC Robert E. Thompson (Pictured), PFC Michael Simpson, and PFC Robert A. Fenton (Pictured) (C/2-502 IN) died in a CH-47 crash 13 nm NW Nhon Co, in the Quang Duc Province, South Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire. (Pictures L-R)



# 04 May 1970



The following Soldiers: SP4 Edward W. Stone (HHC/2-502 IN); SSG Glen R. Witycyak (Pictured) (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 May 1968

The following Soldiers: SGT Kenneth P. Morrow and PFC William D. Breightmyer (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from fragments from a hostile mortar round in La Chu, 3km NW of Hue in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 May 1968 SGT Donald M. Perdue (C/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in La Chu, 3km NW of Hue in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.







05 May 1968



05 May 1970





SGT Vernon L. Okland (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds on Hill 714, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 May 1970

The following Soldiers: SFC William E. Malcolm Jr. and SSG Francisco T. Carvajal (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds on Hill 714, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



# 05 May 1970



SSG Green E. Miller Jr. (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds on Hill 882, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.







SGT Elroy E. Beier (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

SGT Gerald A. Kulm (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from a hand grenade on Hill 714, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 May 1970	CPL Ivory L. Mc Kinney (A/2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds on Hill 882, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
05 May 2006	MSG Bryan Williams earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for actions in combat.
05 May 2006	SSG Rodney Nelson (HHC/1-22 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while conducting a dismounted patrol and suffered a gunshot wound to both legs.
05 May 2008	PV2 Rickey Laughlin (3-29 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while at ECP 1 on the International Zone in Baghdad, a local national male walked up through the military bypass lane with a loaded pistol and began to fire upon the two U.S. Soldiers located at that point. As the local national walked past the bunker where PV2 Laughlin was located, he fired into the bunker, striking him in the right shoulder. The bullet deflected off his shoulder and into his right bicep, where the bullet remained lodged. The local national was neutralized by PFC Beltran, who shot the male in the back.
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06 May 1966SP4 David A. Scott (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military<br/>merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire<br/>wounds in the province not reported, South Vietnam.



06 May 1968

The following Soldiers: CPL Donald R. Brogdon (Pictured) and SP4 John A. Martinez (Pictured) (A/1-502 IN); PFC Patrick B. Hession (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



06 May 1968

CPL Howard A. Threet (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

The following Soldiers: CPT Tilghman R. McLemore (Pictured) (HHC/1-502 IN); PFC Kenneth R. Quan (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation

# 06 May 1968







wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



PV2 Dale R. Lewis (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division; General Order Number 5805; 23 May 1970)

06 May 1970 The following Soldiers: SSG Frederick P. Ziegenfelder, SSG John J. Willey, CPL George W. Bennett Jr., CPL Lawrence L. Gordon (Pictured) (A/2-501 IN); SSG Kenneth L. Foutz (B/2-501 IN); CPT Richard A. Hawley Jr. (Pictured), SFC Gary F. Snyder, SSG David E. Ogden, SGT Edward Veser (Pictured), SGT John G. Widen (Pictured), CPL Douglas W. Day (Pictured), SP4 Ronald D. Van Beukering (E/2-501 IN; Recon Platoon) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds on FSB Henderson 11 KM Southeast of Ca Lu, in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L –R)



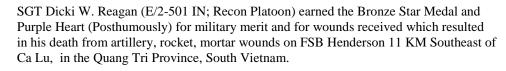


06 May 1970

The following Soldiers: SGT Melvin Bowman (HHC/2-501); SGT Jay T. Diller (Pictured) (HHC/2-501 IN; Recon Platoon); SGT Frank F. Lewis, SGT Michael L. Antle (A/2-501 IN); CPL Tommy I. Hindman (Pictured) (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds on FSB Henderson 11 KM Southeast of Ca Lu, in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



06 May 1970











SGT Gregory A. Chavez (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from burns on FSB Henderson 11 KM Southeast of Ca Lu, in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

06 May 1970



SSG Robert A. Denton (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds on FSB Henderson 11 KM Southeast of Ca Lu, in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

CPL Phillip R. Warfield (E/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple

fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thin Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 May 1970



06 May 1970

SSG (Then PFC) Larry G. Kier (A/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death. SSG Kier was on Fire Support Base Henderson, about 9 nautical miles southsouthwest of Camp Carrol and was occupied by 2-501 IN and 2-11 ARTY when FSB Henderson came under attack, first by heavy mortar fire, then assault by a North Vietnamese Army battalion. When FSB Henderson was relieved 24 American service members were dead and two were missing, which PFC Kier was one of them. He was declared dead on 12 September 1978 and on 13 June 1996 his remains were repatriated, and positive identification publicly announced on 28 February 2002.

06 May 1970



06 May 2008

in his death. SP4 Teran was on Fire Support Base Henderson, about 9 nautical miles south-southwest of Camp Carrol and was occupied by 2-501 IN and 2-11 ARTY when FSB Henderson came under attack, first by heavy mortar fire, then assault by a North Vietnamese Army battalion. When FSB Henderson was relieved 24 American service members were dead and two were missing, which SP4 Teran was one of them. He was declared dead on 29 September 1978 and on 13 June 1996 his remains were repatriated, and positive identification publicly announced on 28 February 2002.

SSG (Then SP4) Refugio T. Teran (E/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted

received during actions in combat.

PFC Philip P. Jenkins (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire

# 07 May 1966







wounds in the province not reported, South Vietnam.



SPC Charles Kim (1-64 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds

PFC Charles L. Seefeldt Jr. (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam.

MSG Eddie B. Sands (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from fragment wounds when a

hostile command mine detonated in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

07 May 1968



07 May 1968



07 May 1968

1LT David B. Land (B/1-502 IN) for wounds received in action in earned him the Purple Heart. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)

The following Soldiers: SFC George M. Victor (Pictured), SGT Billy E. Myers, CPL Donald W. Williams, PFC Jerry W. Clark (Pictured), and PFC Robert J. Deike (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien

SGT Ronald E. Long (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for wounds received in action

in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV., G.O. No. 9394)



07 May 1968

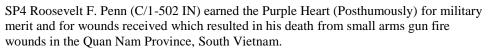


07 May 1969



CPL Paul D. Martinez Jr. (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Quan Nam Province, South Vietnam.

07 May 1969









Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



07 May 2006

#### 08 May 1968



08 May 1968



#### 08 May 1968



08 May 1969



(C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quan Nam Province, South Vietnam.

08 May 1969

PFC Arturo Pelajio (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Quan Nam Province, South.







The following Soldiers: SP4 Robert McCaig and PFC Stephen J. Steriti (Pictured) (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the province not reported, South Vietnam.

The following Soldiers: SPC Christopher Rutter and PFC Jonathan Tyndall (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during combat.

SP5 Ellis L. Faircloth (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

CPL Michael J. Fordi (HHC/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds in the Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam.

SGT John F. Moran (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

The following Soldiers: CPL Dwayne R. Pickart (Pictured) and SGT Miguel E. Briales



SGT Wayne K. Smith (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds on Hill 882, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

08 May 1970



SP5 Peter F. Nolan (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds on Hill 714, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

09 May 1968



09 May 1969

SSG Everett S. Jones (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

The following Soldiers: 1LT Bruce D. Dick (Pictured) and CPL Jimmy L. Henry (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quan Nam Province, South Vietnam.



# 09 May 1970



10 May 1968

1LT Roy L. Richardson (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds on Hill 882, NW of FSB Veghel in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

The following Soldiers: SP4 Larry G. Patterson and PFC Shelby E. Cooley (C/1-502 IN) were awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.







# **STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):**

05 May 1970 SP4 Boyd D. Pearson (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. Specialist Pearson distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company C, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base Veghel, Republic of Vietnam. While attacking an enemy bunker complex, Specialist Pearson's unit received intense automatic weapons and grenade fire. When heavy resistance at one bunker slowed the attack, Specialist Pearson volunteered to assault the position. Despite intense hostile fire, he moved to within several meters of the enemy position but his machine gun malfunctioned. Grabbing a pistol, he successfully engaged an insurgent at close range and continued to assault the bunker with a sidearm as his only weapon. As a result of his actions, the position was silenced, enabling his unit to continue the attack and eventually overrun the entire bunker complex. Specialist Pearson's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

05 May 1970 1SG Ira C. Stanley (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. First Sergeant Stanley distinguished himself while serving as First Sergeant of Company C, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base Veghel, Republic of Vietnam. While attacking an enemy bunker complex, First Sergeant Stanley's unit was slowed by particularly strong resistance from one of the bunkers. Despite intense hostile automatic weapons fire, First Sergeant Stanley charged forward, maneuvered to within four meters of the position, and silenced the position with hand grenades and rifle fire. His actions enabled the company to continue the assault and capture the entire enemy bunker complex. First Sergeant Stanley's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the Unites States Army.

# 05 May 1970



# 05 May 1970



SFC William E. Malcolm (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. Sergeant Malcolm distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, on combat operations near Fire Support Base Veghel, Republic of Vietnam. While attacking an enemy bunker complex, Sergeant Malcolm's platoon came under intense rocket propelled grenade, automatic weapons and small arms fire. Sergeant Malcolm directed his men against the enemy positions and was seriously wounded by automatic weapons fire. Despite his wounds, he continued the assault and engaged the insurgents with grenade and rifle fire. While leading his men against an automatic weapons position, Sergeant Malcolm was mortally wounded. His actions, however, enabled his unit to overrun the complex and rout the enemy force. Sergeant Malcolm's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

SGT Geral A. Kulm (Then SP4) (C/2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (Posthumously) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. Specialist Kulm distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base Veghel, Republic of Vietnam. When Specialist Kulm 's unit met heavy resistance while attacking and enemy bunker complex, Specialist Kulm maneuvered with his machine gun to the area of contact. He placed heavy suppressive fire on the insurgents and enabled his platoon to advance and silence an enemy bunker. When he received fire from his flank, Specialist Kulm subjected himself to enemy fire and maneuvered to an exposed position and gave coverage fire for his comrades until he was mortally wounded by an enemy hand grenade. Specialist Kulm's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the







military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the Unites States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM), General Order Number 7451; 29 June 1970)

05 May 2008 PFC Angel Louis Beltran (3-29 FA) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor while distinguishing himself with valor in the conduct of his performance as a member of the International Zone Security Forces. While assigned to the military bypass bunker on Entry Control Point 1, PFC Beltran neutralized an attack on enemy forces. PFC Beltran was at his position with PV2 Laughlin. The two Soldiers exited their bunker in order to withdraw the wire cable that blocked the road to allow a U.S. military convoy to enter. When the last vehicle in the convoy had passed, PFC Beltran and PV2 Laughlin returned the cable wire to the blocking position and began moving toward their bunker. As they returned, a local national entered their position from around the T-wall barrier. The local national was shouting and firing at the bunker with a 9mm pistol. As he fired into the bunker, he wounded PV2 Laughlin and then continued to shout and fire as he moved past the side of the bunker, proceeding down the military bypass lane. As he passed the backside of the bunker, without regard for his personal safety, PFC Beltran assumed a position from which he could return fire, neutralizing the threat. After PFC Beltran successfully engaged and neutralized the threat, he returned to the bunker to determine the status of PV2 Laughlin, immediately rendering first aid and assisting in the evacuation of his comrade.

#### 06 May 1968



SGT Robert M. Patterson (B/2-17 CAV) was awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, in action against enemy aggressor forces at La Chu, Republic of Vietnam, on 6 May 1968. Sergeant Patterson distinguished himself while serving as a fire team leader of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, Troop B, during an assault against a North Vietnamese Army battalion which was entrenched in a heavily fortified position. When the leading squad of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon was pinned down by heavy interlocking automatic weapon and rocket propelled grenade fire from two enemy bunkers, Sergeant Patterson and the two other members of his assault team moved forward under a hail of enemy fire to destroy the bunkers with grenade and machinegun fire. Observing that his comrades were being fired on from a third enemy bunker covered by enemy gunners in one-man spider holes, Sergeant Patterson, with complete disregard for his safety and ignoring the warning of his comrades that he was moving into a bunker complex, assaulted and destroyed the position. Although exposed to intensive small arm and grenade fire from the bunkers and their mutually supporting emplacements. Sergeant Patterson continued his assault upon the bunkers which were impeding the advance of his unit, Sergeant Patterson singlehandedly destroyed by rifle and grenade fire five enemy bunkers, killed eight enemy soldiers and captured seven weapons. His dauntless courage and heroism inspired his platoon to resume the attack and to penetrate the enemy defensive position. Sergeant Patterson's action at the risk of his life has reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (General Orders No. 65, October 25, 1969)

CPT James E. Mitchell (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 May 1970. Captain Mitchell as company commander of Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during a coordinated indirect fire and sapper attack on Fire Support Base Henderson, Republic of Vietnam.



Leaving the security of his company command post when the firebase came under an attack, Captain Mitchell moved to an exposed position to direct aerial rocket artillery fire



06 May 1970





on the enemy. Though he sustained a shrapnel wound in the head, he continued to direct aerial rocket artillery and engaged the advancing sappers with small arms fire. Captain Mitchell contributed greatly to the successful defense of eh besieged firebase. Captain Mitchell's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

06 May 1970 1LT Lynwood Hargrave (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflicts with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 May 1970. Lieutenant Hargrave distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader with Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during an attack on Fire Support Base Henderson, Republic of Vietnam. While under heavy assault form enemy mortar and sapper fire, Lieutenant Hargrave lead his platoon in defending the perimeter. Aware of the



gravity of the situation, Lieutenant Hargrave deployed his men into more effective fighting positions. Despite the heavy fire, Lieutenant Hargrave ran to the aid of several wounded comrades, pulling them to safety. While supplying his men with ammunition and directing their fire, Lieutenant Hargrave was seriously wounded. He continued to direct the counter attack and aid his wounded comrades until he lost consciousness and was medically evacuated from the area. Lieutenant Hargrave's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- 06 May 1970 SGT Michael L. Antle (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 May 1970. Specialist Antle distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, at Fire Support Base Henderson, Republic of Vietnam. The fire base came under a coordinated hostile mortar, rocket propelled grenade, and sapper attack. Noticing the enemy overrunning adjacent positions, Specialist Antle abandoned the safety of his foxhole to trap several insurgents in crossfire. While returning to his original position for additional ammunition, Specialist Antle was mortally wounded. His actions were instrumental in repulsing the sappers. Specialist Antle's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.
- 06 May 1970 SSG Robert H. Nichol (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Nichol distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations at Fire Support Base Henderson, Republic of Vietnam. When the firebase came under a coordinated mortar and sapper attack, the ammunition dump caught on fire, isolating a reconnaissance platoon from the rest of the company. Sergeant Nichol led his platoon to the area to reinforce the isolated element, and, despite the intense enemy fire and the danger of the munitions exploding, he administered first aid to the wounded and supervised their evacuation. Sergeant Nichol was instrumental in the medical treatment and evacuation of the wounded and the successful defense of the firebase. Sergeant Nichol's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.









06 May 1970



# 06 May 1970



07 May 1966

SSG Kenneth L. Foutz (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 May 1970. SSG Foutz distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While on a combat operations, Sergeant Foutz's unit came under automatic weapons fire from several dispersed enemy positions. After deploying his men to suppress the hostile fire, Sergeant Foutz singlehandedly assaulted one of the enemy positions. Although he was mortally wounded, his actions served as an inspiration for his men. Sergeant Foutz's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

SP4 George F. Banda (HHC/2-501 IN) the Bronze Star with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 May 1970. Specialist Banda distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in the reconnaissance platoon of Company E, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations southwest of Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Banda was helping secure Fire Support Base Henderson when an estimated North Vietnamese Army Battalion began to attack the firebase. The insurgents fought their way through the perimeter and spread throughout the firebase throwing satchel charges at the artillery and mortar positions and at defensive positions on the bunker line. Soon after the fighting began a man near Specialist Banda was badly wounded by an enemy satchel charge, and Specialist Banda moved through the intense hostile fire to the wounded man's position. Once there, he spent many minutes exposed to the enemy fire treating and comforting the man. After moving the injured man to a safer place, Specialist Banda was himself wounded. In spite of his wound he continued to treat his wounded comrades. Only after all others had been evacuated did he allow himself to be treated. Specialist Banda's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HO, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 8923, 10 August 1970)

**FSB Henderson:** PFC Allen W. Pope (A/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 May 1970. Private Pope distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, defending Fire Support Base Henderson, Republic of Vietnam. During an intense mortar and sapper attack, a fire started at the ammunitions storage point and blocked access to a friendly beleaguered reconnaissance element. Subjecting himself to the exploding munitions, Private Pope maneuvered through the burning area to aid wounded comrades in the besieged sector. Despite the constant danger, Private Pope maneuvered form position to position, rendering medical aid and carrying the wounded personnel to an evacuation zone. Private Pope's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (Ambl); General Order Number 10469; 3 September 1970)

966PFC Philip P. Jenkins (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously)<br/>for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Jenkins<br/>distinguished himself on 7 May 1966 during a search and destroy mission near the<br/>Cambodian border in the Republic of Vietnam. With keen alertness, Private First Class<br/>Jenkins detected a Viet Cong ambush consisting of at least ten insurgents armed with<br/>automatic weapons. Realizing that elements of his platoon were already in the killing<br/>zone, he exposed himself, shouted a warning to his comrades, and immediately delivered<br/>a heavy volume of fire on the insurgents. As a result, the Viet Cong concentrated all their<br/>firepower on him and his fellow soldiers reached cover. With complete disregard for his<br/>safety, Private First Class Jenkins assaulted the insurgents while receiving hostile fire.<br/>Although critically wounded about 15 feet from the Viet Cong position, he continued to







place effective fire on the insurgents and killed two Viet Cong before he died. Inspired by the gallant actions of Private First Class Jenkins, his comrades assaulted the Viet Cong and forced them to disperse into the jungle. Private First Class Jenkins' extraordinary heroism in close combat against a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

1LT David B. Land (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 7 May 1968. First Lieutenant Land distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader on a combat Vietnam. While in a platoon size night ambush position the three man listening post became in danger of being overrun by a platoon sized enemy force. First Lieutenant Land moved to a forward position with two



other volunteers, under enemy fire, and placed effective small arms fire on the enemy. He stayed at his forward position for nine hours until the listening post could be safely brought in. His action resulted in heavy enemy losses and was an inspiration to those who witnessed his bravery. First Lieutenant Land's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

08 May 1966 SGT Donald E. Bear (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Bear distinguished himself on 8 May 1966 during a search and destroy mission near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While enroute to join the rest of the company, Sergeant Bear's platoon received intense hostile fire from a well-fortified Viet Cong force. After observing his platoon leader in a precarious position struggling to free himself from some tangled vines while directly in the line of hostile fire, Sergeant Bear charged and silenced a Viet Cong position. Although he was exposed to the Viet Cong fire, Sergeant Bear succeeded in reaching his platoon leader. Later while pursuing the withdrawing Viet Cong, his platoon ran into a second Viet Cong position. Acting as point man, Sergeant Bear began to reconnoiter the area by fire and forced the hidden insurgents to fire prematurely. Although wounded, SGT Bear continued to fire on the Viet Cong positions which were only 50 meters away. As a result, he prevented an ambush. Sergeant Bear's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

08 May 1966 SP4 Robert L. McCaig (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four McCaig distinguished himself on 8 May 1966 while serving as point man during a search and destroy mission along a narrow jungle trail near the Cambodian border in the Republic of Vietnam. With keen alertness, SP4 McCaig detected a Viet Cong ambush consisting of at least two machine guns and several individual positions. SP4 McCaig aggressively assaulted the first Viet Cong machine gun, firing from his hip, killing one insurgent and forcing the other crew members to flee. While charging the second machine gun, he was critically wounded. Although bleeding profusely, SP4McCaig crawled toward the insurgent position firing his weapon until he died. His valiant actions disrupted the Viet Cong ambush and prevented numerous casualties. SP4McCaig's devotion to duty and extraordinary heroism against a numerically superior hostile force were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



07 May 1970







#### 09 May 1970



PFC Stephen J. Steriti (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Steriti distinguished himself on 8 May 1966 while serving as point man during a search and destroy mission along a narrow jungle trail near the Cambodian border in the Republic of Vietnam. With keen alertness, Private First Class Steriti detected a Viet Cong ambush consisting of at least two machine guns and several individual positions. Private First Class Steriti aggressively assaulted the first Viet Cong machine gun, firing from his hip, killing one insurgent and forcing the other crew members to flee. While charging the second machine gun, he was critically wounded. Although bleeding profusely, Private First Class Steriti crawled toward the insurgent position firing his weapon until he died. His valiant actions disrupted the Viet Cong ambush and prevented numerous casualties. Private First Class Steriti's devotion to duty and extraordinary heroism against a numerically superior hostile force were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

1LT Roy Lee Richardson (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. First Lieutenant Richardson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 9 May 1970 while leading a platoon in search of suspected enemy positions near an allied fire support base. As the platoon advanced through the area of operations, they were suddenly ambushed by a well-concealed enemy force utilizing hand and rocket-propelled grenades. Lieutenant Richardson immediately began moving through the enemy fire to deploy his men into defensive positions and direct aerial rocket artillery on the hostile force. As the enemy fire intensified, the lieutenant moved forward to rescue a critically wounded comrade. Although under constant enemy attack, Lieutenant Richardson continuously maneuvered through the fusillade to place suppressive fire on the enemy while inspiring his men to sustain their defensive efforts. As the contact continued at an intense level, Lieutenant Richardson was mortally wounded by the hostile fire. First Lieutenant Richardson's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty, at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 4826 (October 14, 1970)

SP4 Edward Matyjasik Jr. (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor 09 May 1970 for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 May 1970. Specialist Matyjasik distinguished himself while serving as a radio-telephone operator in Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, during a reconnaissance-in-force operation in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While inspecting an area that was the target of an earlier air strike, Specialist Matyjasik's platoon came under hostile small arms, automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade fire. When his platoon leader was critically wounded, Specialist Matyjasik immediately administered emergency treatment while continuing to monitor his radio. He relayed coordinating instructions to the elements of the platoon, enabling them to mount a counterattack. Specialist Matyjasik kept his superiors informed on the changing tactical situation, and assisted in moving his wounded platoon leader through the enemy fire to a protected position. Specialist Matyjasik's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. (Headquarters, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), General Orders No. 9263 (August 13, 1970))

10 May 1966SP4 George N. Kirtley (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry<br/>in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Kirtley distinguished himself on<br/>10 May 1966 while serving as a medic during a combat mission near Bu Gia Map,<br/>Republic of Vietnam. When a platoon sustained numerous casualties during a vicious<br/>battle, Specialist Four Kirtley immediately ran through intense hostile fire to the aid of<br/>his comrades. Since he was unable to move the injured men, because of the intense Viet







Cong fire, he moved from position to position on the fire swept battlefield and administered first aid. When the large Viet Cong force threatened to overrun his position, Specialist Four Kirtley delivered suppressive fire on the attacking insurgents. Although the Viet Cong maneuvered within fifteen meters of his position, he refused to abandon his stricken comrades. When the remainder of the platoon arrived and sustained an additional casualty, Specialist Four Kirtley again exposed himself to the hostile fire to assist the injured man. Assured that all casualties had been treated, he then moved to the body of a dead comrade, defended his body, and denied the Viet Cong his equipment and weapon. Specialist Four Kirtley's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. 10 May 1966 SFC Lawrence N. Koontz (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. SFC Koontz distinguished himself on 10 May 1966 while serving as platoon sergeant on a combat operation near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While moving toward their objective, the lead element of his platoon received intense hostile fire. Platoon Sergeant Koontz ran to the front of his platoon to reorganize his men. During the course of action he dauntlessly exposed himself to direct Viet Cong fire while carrying a fallen comrade from the killing zone. Shortly after this, the Viet Cong launched a determined assault on his position. Braving almost certain death, Platoon Sergeant Koontz immediately charged the assaulting Viet Cong and killed three insurgents at extremely close range. Aggressively continuing his assault, Platoon Sergeant Koontz singlehandedly repelled the Viet Cong attack. After establishing a hasty defense, he personally led five men in an assault to expand the perimeter. The Viet Cong fire became more intense and Platoon Sergeant Koontz was seriously wounded. Although in great pain he refused medical attention and continued to direct his troops in their assault. Through his heroic efforts, Platoon Sergeant Koontz was most instrumental in routing the insurgents. His unimpeachable valor in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. 10 May 1966 SGT Richard M. Burt (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Burt distinguished himself on 10 May 1966 while serving as squad leader of a platoon on a combat operation near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While moving toward their objective, Sergeant Burt's platoon received intense hostile fire and sustained two casualties. Unhesitatingly Sergeant Burt charged forward to assist in the extraction of his fallen comrades. As he attempted to evacuate a wounded man, the Viet Cong launched a determined assault on his position. Completely exposed Sergeant Burt concentrated a deadly volume of suppressive fire on the insurgents. He then successfully established and defended a small perimeter forward of the wounded men. While receiving intense hostile fire, he then organized his men and personally led them in an aggressive assault on the Viet Cong emplacements. Through his heroic efforts, Sergeant Burt was most instrumental in routing the insurgents. His unimpeachable valor in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. 10 May 1966 SGT Roy J. Roedel (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Roedel distinguished himself on 10 May

action in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Roedel distinguished himself on 10 May 1966 while serving as a member of a platoon on a combat operation near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While moving toward their objective, Sergeant Roedel's platoon received intense hostile fire and sustained several casualties. Dauntlessly, Sergeant Roedel charged through intense hostile fire and fought furiously to protect his fallen comrades. He overran and totally destroyed one Viet Cong position. During the course of action, Sergeant Roedel, with complete disregard for his safety, braved the deadly Viet Cong position and fire as he helped carry his wounded platoon sergeant to safety. He then took charge of the embattled platoon, quickly organizing them into an effective fighting







	unit, and placed the squads in a position where they effectively engaged the insurgents. During the ensuing battle, Sergeant Roedel repeatedly exposed himself as he moved from position to position to redistribute ammunition. His impelling leadership and aggressive spirit contributed immeasurably to the success of the operation. Sergeant Roedel's unimpeachable valor in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.
10 May 1966	SGT Roy E. Romans (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Romans distinguished himself on 10 May 1966 while serving as squad leader of a platoon on a combat operation near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While moving toward their objective, Sergeant Romans' platoon received intense hostile fire and sustained two casualties. Unhesitatingly Sergeant Romans charged forward to assist in the extraction of his fallen comrades. As he attempted to evacuate a wounded man, the Viet Cong launched a determined assault on his position. Completely exposed, Sergeant Romans concentrated a volume of suppressive fire on the insurgents. He then successfully established and defended a small perimeter forward of the wounded men. While receiving intense hostile fire, he then organized his men and personally led them in an aggressive assault on the Viet Cong emplacements. Through his heroic efforts, Sergeant Romans was most instrumental in routing the insurgents. His unimpeachable valor in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.
10 May 1966	CPT Walter R. Brown (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Brown distinguished himself on 10 May 1966 while leading a task force during a combat operation near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While maneuvering to a rendezvous point in Viet Cong occupied territory, Captain Brown's lead element received intense hostile fire. Captain Brown immediately ran forward to direct the deployment of his men. As the battle continued, he exposed himself to the hostile fire to call the medics and his radio operator forward. When his radio operator moved to safety after being wounded, the radio was left in the open. Captain Brown ran into the clearing through the Viet Cong fire, secured the radio, and ran for cover. He then contacted his air support and skillfully directed air strike on the insurgent positions. As the Viet Cong assaulted to evade the air strikes, Captain Brown fearlessly charged into the attacking Viet Cong and forced them to withdraw. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, he contributed immeasurably to the defeat of the Viet Cong force. Captain Brown's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

# **\*STRIKE HISTORY NOTE:**

A major reorganization took place on 3 February 1964, when the 2nd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division was activated at Fort Campbell, replacing the 1st Airborne Battle Group, 501st Infantry Regiment. The reorganization from the battle groups to brigades and battalions placed two battalions of the 502<sup>nd</sup> in different brigades of the 101<sup>st</sup>. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was in the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade with 1-327<sup>th</sup> and 2-327<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Which deployed to Vietnam 1965, in was most notable commanded by LTC Hank "The Gunfighter" Emerson. The new 2nd Brigade's original organic battalions were the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions, 501st Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry.

December 1967, 2nd Brigade deployed by C-141 aircraft to the Republic of Vietnam. Over the next five years, soldiers of the "Ready to Go" Brigade participated in twelve campaigns, compiling a distinguished combat record as well as an enviable reputation for success in the rehabilitation of a war-torn nation. The President of Vietnam personally decorated the colors of the Brigade three times, twice with the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and once with the RVN Civic Action Honor Medal. The Brigade redeployed to Fort Campbell in April, 1972.







In 1984, with the reorganization of the Combat Arms Regimental System, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade became the parent headquarters for the 1st, 2nd, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalions of the 502nd Infantry Regiment. With this reorganization, the Brigade adopted the regimental motto, "Strike."





