



**2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT)
 “STRIKE HISTORY”
 09 November – 15 November 2014**



09 November 1968

A/1-502 continued security of FSB T-Bone. B/1-502 continued cordon with PF's and tanks. They received SA fire, vic. YD6039 with negative casualties. They returned fire with negative results. They had 1 KIA and 1 WIA from a 105mm BBT. C/1-502 conducted RIF operation, vic. YD5717. D/1-502 conducted security of AN Lo Bridge.

10 November 1968

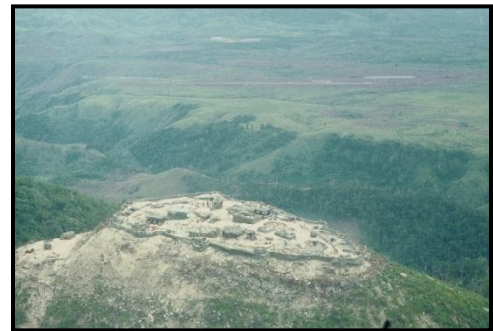
The Phu Loc cordon ended with 28 VC indentified from more than 1,300 suspects detained during the eight day operations. The Screaming Eagles rice-denial program continued to deprive the enemy of needed food supplies. C/1-501st (Assigned to 2BDE) captured 40,000 pounds of harvested rice from four separate caches eight km east of Hue. “Geronimo” infantrymen brought the rice holding to more than 456 tons.

10 November 1968

B/1-502 was the only unit to have contact, engaging 2 VC with SA, vic. YD6140, resulting in 2 VC POW. B/1-502 tripped a 60mm BBT, resulting in 3 WIA. The 1-502, received a new "First Strike". LCT Davis replaced LTC Carter as the Battalion Commander. General Zais, General Trung, several other generals and numerous Division VIP's attended the ceremony at LZ Sally.

10 November 1968

Operation NEVADA EAGLE: B(-)2/502 was returned from OPCON while B CO 20 elements continued under OPCON 1-327 FSB Hickory (Pictured); D CO was released from OPCON and used one platoon to secure FSB Roy while two platoons conducted local patrols to the south and west of FSB Roy; and effective 220h, C CO OPCON 1-327.



11 November 1967 –
 11 November 1968

Operation Wheeler/Wallowa

Locations: I Corps; Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces; Que Son Valley; Nui Hoac Ridge; Hiep Duc; FSB Center; LZs Baldy, Cacti and West.

Type/Objective: Search and Destroy operation to clear the enemy out of Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces, with special emphasis on the Que Son Valley

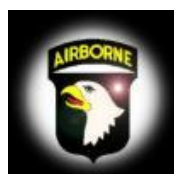
Units: USA – 1st Cavalry Division: 2nd BDE (5-7th CAV), 3rd BDE (1-7th CAV, 2-12th CAV), 23rd Infantry Division (Americal); 196th Light Infantry Brigade (2-1st IN, 3-21st IN, 4-31st IN); 198th Light Infantry Brigade (1-6th IN, 1-46th IN, 1-1st CAV); 101st Airborne Division: 1st Brigade (1-327th ABN, 2-327th ABN, 2-502nd ABN, A/2-17th CAV); NVA/VC – 2nd NVA Division (3rd and 31st NVA regiments)

Events: 3 January 1968 Units: form the 196th Light Infantry Brigade encounter Soldiers from the 2nd NVA Division near Hiep Duc (Quang Tin Province).

Losses: U.S. 18 KIA, 100 WIA

Events: 9 February 1968 the 1-14th IN and 1-35th Infantry (3rd BDE/4th Infantry Division attached to the 23rd IN Division) meet the 21st NVA Regiment near Go Noi Islan, 12 miles south of DaNang. More than 230 of the enemy are KIA.

Comment: Wheeler/Wallowa is a combination of the 1st Cavalry's Wollowa (4 October – 11 November) and the 23rd IN Division's Wheeler (11 September – 11



November) Casualties: U.S. – 682 KIA, 3,995 WIA; NVA/VC – 10,008 KIA, 184 POWs.

11 November 1968

A/1-502 conducted security of T-Bone (Pictured), local patrols and ambushes in the area. B/1-502 continued operation in "street" area. They had light contact with estimated 2 VC but there were negative casualties. C/1-502 RIF from vic. YD5818, southeast to vic. YD5717. D/1-502 conducted security of An Lo Bridge. Recon/1-502 RIF from LZ Sally to YD 6124.



11 November 1968

Operation NEVADA

EAGLE: at 1945 A 30 Vic YD911102 sprung ambush and killed one VC/NVA and captured 1 AK-47 and 1 RPG-2rd; B/2-502 also assumed responsibility of Bridge 3 with its 10 Platoon; B 20 stood by at FSB Anzio as a reaction force for 1-327 Cordon.



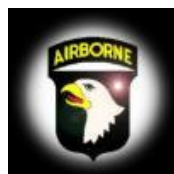
11 November -
06 December 2010

1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, First STRIKE, gallantly and aggressively carried out operations across multiples lines of effort in Zharay District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, the Taliban's historic "birthplace" and stronghold. Soldiers of First STRIKE, with its assigned and attached units, distinguished themselves with extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations against an armed enemy during this period.



While conducting operations in support of Operation Dragon Strike in eastern Zharay district, the Soldiers valiantly conducted over 338 combat patrols and five clearance operations to dislodge a determined and prepared enemy force. During Operation Dragon Strike, First STRIKE fought the enemy in over 15 separate engagements, braving RPGs, machine gun fire, small-arms fire, and hand grenades.

In each engagement, the Soldiers were victorious, killing four confirmed enemy fighters and wounding many others. Three First STRIKE Soldiers were wounded during this period. First STRIKE having already fought without pause while



clearing enemy strong holds throughout Zharay continued to operate in the highly contested agricultural zone south of Highway 1, seeking out the enemy and their supplies.

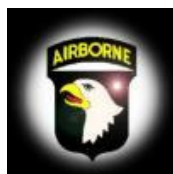
Under constant threat of attack, First STRIKE located and destroyed over 25 improvised explosive devices, saving countless lives. With dogged persistence, the Soldiers searched enemy fighting positions, fields and wadis, capturing and destroying 32 enemy caches. Over ten pieces of unexploded ordnance were removed from the battlefield, making the fields safer for the farmers.



The battalion fought hard, and made tremendous impact within its battle-space by reducing the significant activities along Highway 1 from 38% of all IED events on the ring road in Afghanistan, down to zero in one month. The Regional Command-South Commander, Major General Carter, upon driving down Highway 1 stated, "This is the greatest achievement of my command."

When talking about operations in AO TALON, General Petraeus, Commander, ISAF said, "Anyone who says that the US Soldier cannot fight anymore has not seen what is going on... There is extremely close fighting going on. We need to make sure we are recognizing our troopers and fighters [and] to document the courage and bravery that is ongoing. What they are doing is historically of enormous significance."

- 12 November 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** At 2330 A 30 Ambush and killed 1 VC/NVA with an AK-50.
- 12 November 1968 Enemy contact increased in intensity. Division troopers killed 23 enemy, capturing eight prisoners and throwing up a cordon around the large enemy force six km southeast of Phu Bai. The 1st BN, 327th ABN IN, the 2nd BN, 502nd ABN IN, and an ARVN unit coordinated a precise movement to block possible escape routes while patrol boats plied coastal waters to complete the enclosure. The startled enemy forces tried to strike out and were engaged by A/1-327th IN. Five enemy were killed, and the Viet Cong began retreating to the east. Paratroopers of C/1-501st ABN IN, air-assaulted into their part to from a blocking force and immediately launched a sweep that netted sic kills and 15 prisoners.
- 12 November 1968 A/1-502 switched security missions with D/1-502, A/1-502 lifted, via "hook" from An Lo to FSB T-Bone. D/1-502 lifted, via "hook", from T-Bone, to An Lo. B/1-502 engaged 2 VC from ambush with clamor and SA fire, with negative assessment. C/1-502 from ambushes, observed movement, threw hand grenades, with negative results.
- 13 November 1968 A/1-502 conducted security of An Lo Bridge. B/1-502 had 1 platoon of PF's lifted in via log bird to YD5939. The tanks attached to B/1-502 continued to work with unit on RIF missions. B/1-502 found 1 BBT (homemade), vic. YD6139, resulting in 4 VC KIA and 1 VC POW. Later, vic. YD6238, 2 VC KIA in bunker. D/1-502 operating in mountains, near FSB T-Bone, spotted 4 VC. They called in ARA and artillery with negative assessment. Recon/1-502 sighted a "red-filtered-light", vic. YD6121 and called in artillery with negative assessment.
- 13 November 1969 On short notice, the 2nd Brigade's 2nd BN (Ambl), 501st IN. Moves from a stand-down at Camp Sally to AO of the 1st BDE, 5th IN DIV (Mech), west of Quang Tri



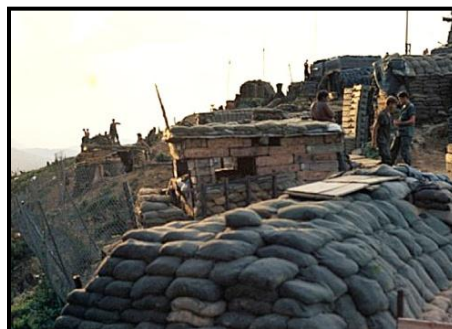
just below the DMZ. The enemy is composed of elements of 27th NVA Regiment which are threatening a string of 5th DIV fire bases in the area. A massive airlift via Chinook and Huey helicopters accomplishes the deployment of the battalion in less than four hours. The battalion's command post is established on Charlie Two, a 5th DIV fire base. (Rendezvous with Destiny (101st ABN DIV); Screaming Eagle Vietnam Diary; Winter of 1969)

14 November 1968

A/1-502 while on security mission at An Lo, received 6 rounds of 60mm mortar fire with negative casualties. B/1-502 continued operation in "Street" area, vic. YD614, resulting in 3 VC KIA and 4 VC captured, along with 1 AK47. The VC was all hiding in bunkers. D/1-502 found a cave, vic. YD6219 with 1000ft. of det-cord, 1 mine and ammo.

14 November 1970

Operation JEFFERSON GLEN: D/2-502 had heavy contact with a small enemy force of sappers. Two US KIA and eleven wounded, while enemy losses were unknown. The foul weather continued to affect tactical operations adversely. There were no significant firefights during the rest of the month as the Battalion relentlessly searched for enemy. The Battalion rotated each of its companies for a 24 hour Thanksgiving stand down on FSB Bastogne (Pictured) and OP Checkmate (Pictured). ON the whole, operations were hampered severely by the weather as poor visibility hindered air support. (Pictures from Top-Bottom)



14 - 22
November 2009

2nd Brigade Combat Team prepares C-T-Bs for combat operations during the Brigade's Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise, an approach to warfare that integrates the different arms of the military to achieve mutually complementary effects.



15 November 1968

1-502 continued normal operations with negative contact. All units are conducting classes in spare time as the Battalion is experiencing a large turnover of personnel, returning to CONUS.

15 - 19
November 2008

Operation Baghdad Days. 2/101, ICW ISF partners, secures "Baghdad Days Celebration" at the Zawra Park through a series of reinforcing security belts with ISF in the lead and CF presence increasing at supporting external locations. ISF and CF security prevents attacks against the local populace and infrastructure.

15 - 30
November 2012

ANSF Realignment. On 15 NOV 12, the MINDEF and a delegation from MOD visited the 201 Corps to receive an update from Corps leadership on the status of realignment, current operations, and challenges facing the ANA NoK. MG Waziri



provided a brief overview of Corps consolidation and cited the efforts of 2/201 to building strongpoints in the PRV. He convinced the MOD that IOT execute a mission to expand security into Chapah Darah and Gul Salak, the Corps would have to remove combat power from Northern Kunar. MG Waziri recommended that MINDEF permit him to complete repositioning in the Pech River Valley and then conduct a deliberate resupply of Chapah Darha incorporating a Commando Kdk. After explaining the challenges of current operations, MG Waziri requested that MINDEF authorize the lateral transfer of 18 idle fuel tankers from the RLSC to the 201 Corps to provide the BRIGADE's with temporary storage and increase fuel distribution capacity. MINDEF approved this request and also authorized additional funds for OP force protection improvements. Finally, MINDEF approved MG Waziri's decision to relieve the Corps FSO, a politically connected officer, and replace him with a capable officer from within the Corps. Overall, the MINDEF seemed pleased with the outcome of the visit and MG Waziri stated that the Corps did a great job laying out their challenges and the way ahead.

FOB/COP transfer. On 15 NOV 12, 3/2/201 ANA Kandak assumes responsibility of northern Kunar as the last 1-12 IN Battalion Soldiers from TF MW depart FOB Bostick.

Transition of Kapisa. During a ceremony at FOB Nejrab on 17 NOV 12, 201st ANA Corps assumes responsibility for Kapisa Province from TF LAFAYETTE. With the assumption of Kapisa, 3/201 ANA Brigade receives FOB Tagab, Nejrab, and Momad-e Raqi (MER).

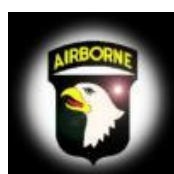
Brigade Level Logistics. This week, the Corps continued to develop their understanding of the new MOD fuel distribution process to address current challenges. The Corps has focused on 1) establishing requisite storage capacity, 2) increasing fuel distribution capabilities, 3) forecasting fuel requirements and accounting procedures. During a recent visit by the MINDEF, MOD authorized the Corps to receive 18 x 5k gallon tankers to increase fuel distribution capabilities. The RLSC received 7 x 50k gallon fuel bags to increase fuel storage at FOBs Gamberi and Joyce. These two material capabilities have provided the ANA overnight solutions to issues identified several months ago by the Corps. The 201 Corps is on glide path to achieve fuel independence by JAN 13.

15 - 30
November 2012

4/203 ANA Brigade repositioning. On 15 NOV 12 1/4/203 ANA KDK conducted a Toli RIP at COP Kherwar, with the Weapons Toli replacing 1st and 2nd Tolis. This was a unilateral movement completed in conjunction with the 4/203 ANA BDE RCC and RECCE Toli. 1/1/4/203 Toli conducted a successful RIP with 4/1/4/203 Toli on 22 NOV 12, taking control of COP Baraki Barak and OP Khan Hill. This was another successful unilateral RIP by 1/4/203 ANA KDK, who continues to lead the way in the implementation of OPERATION RESPONSIBILITY AND PEACE, the framework OPORD.

During this week, in the span of 72 years since the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment originated in July 1941 as the 502nd 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 502nd IN Regiment.

3 x Distinguished Service Cross
10 x Silver Star Medal (3 x Posthumously)
2 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
14 x Bronze Star Medal Posthumously
7 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
40 x Purple Hearts (10 x Posthumously)
6 x Non-Hostile Illness or Injury

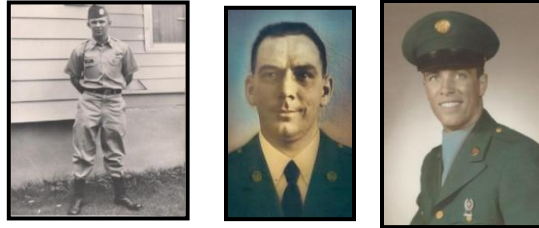


09 November 1942

CPL Wilbert E. Sprengle (B/503rd PIR) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) from enemy actions during WWII in North Africa.

09 November 1966

The following Soldiers: PFC Robert J. Donovan (Pictured), PFC George E. Bryant (Pictured), PFC Randle Kinney, (B/2-502 IN) and SGT David K. Deen (Pictured) (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Phu Yen, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



09 November 1968



SSG Fagalii L. Leatutufu (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

09 November 1969



The following Soldiers: 1LT Jimmy W. Willford and CPL John E. Gurovich (Pictured) (D/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

09 November 1971



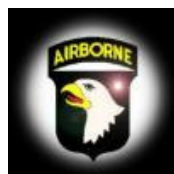
SGT Earl D. Barkley (E/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

09 November 2010

SPC Christopher Pabon (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

09 November 2010

The following Soldiers: SPC Chad Hulsizer and PFC Dusten Lish (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their unit with a vehicle borne improvised explosive device.



10 November 1966



SP4 Otis E. Jackson (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Phu Yen Province, South Vietnam.

10 November 1967

CPL Arthur L. Hawkins Jr. (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.

10 November 1969

PFC Rudy L. Baldon (B/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

11 November 1968



SGT David A. Knox (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

11 November 1970



CPL McKinley H. Harvell Jr., (C/2-501 IN) drowned when he left patrol to aid comrade vic. FSB Brick in the province Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

11 November 1970

CPL Michael C. Jensen (D/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 while at a night defensive position when the area came under attack by hostile force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

11 November 2010

SPC Felipe Pereira (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during a dismounted patrol in Senjaray, Afghanistan.

12 November 2010

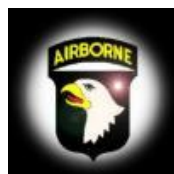
SPC Brent Moore (I/3-2 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wound received from wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit with indirect fire.

13 November 1966

PFC Carl L. Falck Jr. (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Phu Yen, South Vietnam.

13 November 2005

2LT Paul Worley (2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor while being platoon leader, 2LT Worley demonstrated to Soldiers at all levels true leadership and devotion to duty.



13 November 2010



SSG Juan Rivadeneira (B/2-502 IN), 27, of Davie, Florida; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he died of wounds sustained when an insurgent suicide bomber detonated a vest near his unit.

13 November 2010



SPC Jacob Carver (B/2-502 IN), 20, of Freeman, Missouri; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he died of wounds sustained when an insurgent suicide bomber detonated a vest near his unit.

13 November 2010



PFC Jacob Carroll (B/2-502 IN), 20, of Clemmons, North Carolina; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he died of wounds sustained when an insurgent suicide bomber detonated a vest near his unit.

13 November 2010

The following Soldiers: SPC Orlando Gonzalez and PFC Joseph Malady (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when an insurgent suicide bomber detonated a vest near their unit while on a dismounted patrol.

13 November 2010

SGT Trey Tomlin (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when an insurgent attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

14 November 1970

The following Soldiers: CPL Michael C. Jensen and PFC Stanley H. Trygg Jr. (D/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 November 1944

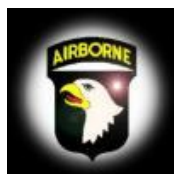


PFC Charles A. DeLong (I/3-502nd PIR) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death in Holland, France.

15 November 1969



SP4 Allen F. Grotzke (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



15 November 1969

SSG William D. McGivern (D/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (drowned or suffocated) as a ground casualty in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 November 1971



The following Soldiers: SP4 Wilfred N. Poepping and PFC Robert D. Pierce (Pictured) (B/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes while as members on a patrol when a mechanical explosive device placed by friendly forces detonated in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 November 2003

SSG Shawn E. Plyler (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for actions in combat.

15 November 2003

The following Soldiers:



SGT Michael J. Acklin II (C/1-320 FA) 25, of Louisville, Kentucky
SPC Eugene A Uhl III (C/1-320 FA) 21, of Amherst, Wisconsin
PFC Sheldon R. Hawk Eagle (C/1-320 FA) 21, of Grand Forks, North Dakota
PFC Richard W. Hafer (C/1-320 FA) 21, of Cross Lanes, West Virginia
PFC Joey D. Whitener (C/1-320 FA) 19, of Nebo, North Carolina
SGT Warren S. Hansen (C/1-320 FA) 36, of Clintonville, Wisconsin
WO1 Erick C. Kesterson (9-101 AVN) 29, of Independence, Oregon



Earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received when two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter crashed in Mosul, Iraq.



The following Soldiers:

SSG Joshua Forbis (C/1-320 FA) and SPC Nathaniel Scott (C/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during the OH-64 Black Hawk mid-air collision in Mosul, Iraq. SPC Scott was conscious and held off and AIF attack, securing the crash site until QRF arrived.



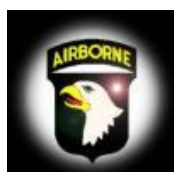
Two UH-60 Black Hawks from 4-101 AVN REG and 9-101 AVN REG collided in mid-air over Mosul. According to Katherine Skiba, a journalist embedded with 159 AVN BDE, the parent unit, "the Ninth Battalion aircraft, operating out of Mosul, was carrying [1-320th FA] artillerymen during a routine evening mission known as 'Eyes Over Mosul.' That mission had Airborne Soldiers keeping their eyes fixed on the city for about three hours at a stretch; the idea was to have a helicopter loaded with troops in the vicinity if activity on the ground called for more firepower and support."



SPC Paul Eshom, the crew chief and door gunner for the 9-101 AVN bird, told Skiba that "things went sour about fifteen minutes after takeoff...A call over the radio told the pilots and crew to check for trouble on the streets after reports of an explosion and small-arms fire. From the air, Eshom spied what looked like a dumpster on the street that seemed to be the spot where the blast erupted. Next he saw U.S. Soldiers break from their routine of combing the streets in single file columns; instead the troops ran, split up, and took cover, suggesting to Eshom that they'd engaged the enemy."



Shortly after this, the collision occurred. AIF engaged the crash site immediately, forcing the less injured crew and passengers to render aid under fire, and the rescuers and reinforcements from the street to maneuver through contact to reach the site. Medics from HHC/3-502 IN assisted in rendering aid to the Soldiers from the helicopter collision.



15 November 2005



SSG James E. Estep (A/1-320 FA), 26, of Leesburg, Florida; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV during a route clearance mission in Taji, Iraq. He was the Truck Commander of the vehicle.

15 November 2005



PFC Travis J. Grigg (A/1-320 FA), 24, of Inola, Oklahoma; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV during a route clearance mission in Taji, Iraq. He was the driver of the vehicle.

15 November 2005



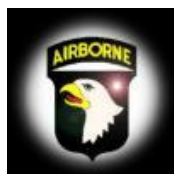
SPC Mathew J. Holley (A/1-320 FA), 21, of San Diego; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV during a route clearance mission in Taji, Iraq. He was operating as the medic for the patrol.

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

09 November 1966



SGT Kenneth E. Murphy (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Sergeant Murphy distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 9 November 1966 while serving as a squad leader with a Recondo platoon on a search and destroy mission near Tuy Hoa. The unit had covered several thousand meters of terrain with negative results, until the point man finally came upon, and killed, a North Vietnamese soldier. When sporadic hostile fire was received from the left flank, Sergeant Murphy immediately led his squad in an assault on the insurgent positions. Suddenly, the entire hillside was raked by a devastating barrage, as North Vietnamese positions opened fire all around him. Seeing several soldiers fall wounded, Sergeant Murphy fearlessly ran through a hail of bullets to try and help them. Unable to reach his comrades on the first two attempts, he moved forward a third time, but was wounded in the head. Dazed, but undaunted, Sergeant Murphy succeeded in carrying one stricken soldier fifty meters to safety. When another man was hit, he again disregarded the extreme dangers to race back across the bullet-swept area. As sergeant Murphy returned with the man, he was again wounded by insurgent fire, but continued on until reaching friendly lines. Unmindful of his painful wounds, he then organized his men and led them in a fierce assault on the entrenched enemy. Dizzy from loss of blood and able to use only one arm, Sergeant Murphy gallantly crashed forward through dense foliage and personally killed three hostile soldiers with his rifle. His unimpeachable valor and boundless determination enabled his men to break out of the trap and overwhelm the insurgent force. Sergeant Murphy's extraordinary heroism 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, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 1376 (March 27, 1967))



09 November 1966



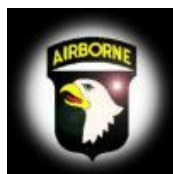
COL Frank L. Dietrich (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Colonel Dietrich distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions during the period 9 to 11 November 1966 while commanding the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry on a search and destroys operation near Tuy Hoa. On the morning of 9 November, he was informed that contact had been made with an entrenched North Vietnamese Army battalion. Quickly assessing the situation from a command and control helicopter, Colonel Dietrich brilliantly maneuvered his troops, and by nightfall the hostile force was surrounded. As the battle raged on into the next morning, he boldly joined his men on the ground. Unmindful of the extreme danger, he moved throughout the battlefield to assist his subordinate commanders and comfort the wounded. On 11 November Colonel Dietrich dauntlessly climbed to the top of a tree with a radio to direct the conflict. Remaining exposed in this perilous position for two hours, he courageously deployed the ground elements and supervised the broadcast of surrender appeals. As the battle progressed, he completely disregarded his safety by running across 100 meters of bullet-swept terrain, and led a successful assault on a stubborn North Vietnamese position. Then, accompanied only by his radio operator, Colonel Dietrich moved through 800 meters of dense jungle to another engaged platoon. Moving to the front, he again braved the intense insurgent fire to encourage his men forward. His unimpeachable valor and aggressive leadership under fierce hostile fire contributed immeasurably to the defeat of a determined hostile force. Lieutenant Colonel Dietrich's extraordinary heroism 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, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 496 (February 1, 1967))

09 November 1966

1LT Alden J. Holborn (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. 1LT Holborn's platoon was given the mission of reinforcing a squad from the reconnaissance platoon which had become engaged with a numerically superior force. Upon reaching the enemy position, Lieutenant Holborn immediately had his platoon lay down a base of fire for the beleaguered squad. Lieutenant Holborn attempted to maneuver his platoon into position so as to make a flanking assault but encountered a heavy volume of enemy fire that inflicted four casualties. Determining that his position had become precarious, he personally supervised the evacuation of the wounded and the relocation of his platoon to a better position. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Lieutenant Holborn personally moved forward under enemy fire and carried a wounded comrade to a safe position. After supporting artillery fire had been called in on the enemy positions, Lieutenant Holborn's platoon attempted another assault on the enemy and successfully overran their positions. Lieutenant Holborn's outstanding display of leadership and gallantry in action is in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

09 November 1966

1LT John A. Marshek Jr. (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. First Lieutenant Marshek's platoon was on a mission to reinforce a beleaguered sister platoon which had been twice repelled from an enemy position. Upon reaching his destination, Lieutenant Marshek immediately moved the casualties to a centralized location in preparation for medical evacuation. After making a reconnaissance of the area, Lieutenant Marshek discovered that the enemy positions were well fortified with heavy machine guns and mortars. In an attempt to overrun the enemy positions, Lieutenant Marshek led his platoon in a flanking assault while the Second Platoon laid down a base of fire but the platoon was driven back by a tremendous volume of fire. Immediately Lieutenant Marshek



reorganized both platoons and directed artillery fire on enemy positions to within one hundred meters of his own position. When the Artillery barrage was lifted Lieutenant Marshek personally led the two platoons in a successful assault on the enemy positions and secured the area so that the casualties could be safely evacuated. Lieutenant Marshek's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are in keeping within the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

09 November 1966

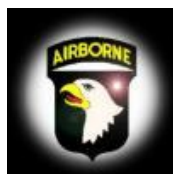
SFC Richard F. Clemons (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. SFC Clemons' unit was given the mission of blocking the escape of a known North Vietnamese Army battalion, while other elements of the battalion moved in to encircle the enemy area. While moving into position, Sergeant Clemons' unit made contact with a North Vietnamese Army "Trail Watcher". Realizing that the enemy had been alerted to the fact that American forces were in the area, Sergeant Clemons quickly maneuvered his men forward to find the main enemy body before it could escape. After moving a short distance, Sergeant Clemons' section suddenly came under intense enemy fire from sixteen well fortified enemy positions. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Clemons quickly reorganized his section and led it in an assault on the enemy positions. Sergeant Clemons moved from flank to flank directing the attack and also the redistribution of ammunition. On one occasion, Sergeant Clemons personally moved into an exposed area and carried a wounded man to safety and rendered the needed medical aid. Several times during the battle, the enemy fire became so intense that small elements of Sergeant Clemons' section became pinned down. Sergeant Clemons immediately moved to the men and led them to safer positions, then personally assaulted a machine gun position, knocking it out with a hand grenade, killing one enemy soldier and wounding another. After the machine gun position had been destroyed, Sergeant Clemons continued to maneuver his section in a successful assault. Sergeant Clemons' outstanding display of leadership and his gallantry in action are in the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

09 November 1966

1LT Ronald G. Odom (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. First Lieutenant Odom, Platoon Leader of the elite Reconnaissance Platoon, was moving with his unit on a search and destroy mission. Suddenly, enemy forces in a nearby tree line opened up with a devastating volume of fire. Lieutenant Odom, realizing that he had entered the killing zone of a Viet Cong ambush, quickly and calmly issued instructions. While his men gallantly fought off the initial attack of the Viet Cong, Lieutenant Odom shielded the body of a wounded grenadier of his platoon with its own body. After placing the wounded man in a relatively safe position, Lieutenant Odom organized his forces and assaulted the entrenched enemy. When the flank of his assault became pinned down by enemy machine gun fire, Lieutenant Odom personally crept forward under heavy fire and destroyed the gun emplacement with two hand grenades. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Odom continued to lead his men up and over the enemy positions. His daring example and personal intrepidity resulted in the routing of a superior enemy force from its prepared defense. His extraordinary heroism in close combat with an armed enemy is in keeping with the highest standards and traditions of the American fighting man and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

09-11 November 1966

CPT Stephen Silvasy Jr. (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. Captain Silvasy, on 9 November 1966, had placed his lead platoon into a blocking position to block any possible escape route of an encircled North Vietnamese Army element. Captain Silvasy decided to make a reconnaissance of potential positions so that the following platoons could be placed into position immediately upon arrival. Captain



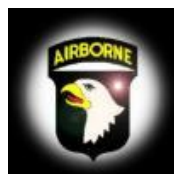
Silvasy, along with a small reconnaissance element, had just started to move across an open area when they were suddenly brought under an intense volume of enemy small arms fire. Captain Silvasy calmly continued to make his reconnaissance while under the heavy enemy fire, and as a result, the remaining platoons were able to move directly into position and effectively seal the last remaining gap in the encirclement. As the battle progressed the following day, Captain Silvasy was constantly in the forefront of the heaviest action. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Silvasy constantly exposed himself to enemy fire while giving his men encouragement and inspiring them as they swept through the battle area. Throughout the battle, Captain Silvasy, even though he accompanied the forward element, maintained complete control of his four platoons on line, keeping them in contact and leaving no gaps for the enemy to slip through. On the third day of battle the company command post was situated on a mountain top. To gain better observation and maintain control, Captain Silvasy remained in the tree for several hours exposed to enemy fire. Captain Silvasy's outstanding display of leadership and gallantry in action are within the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

09 November 1966

SSG Walter J. Roberson (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Roberson's platoon was given the mission to reinforce a platoon which had become pinned down by a numerically superior enemy force. As the platoon moved on lined Sergeant Roberson's squad assumed the right flank position. As the platoon maneuvered up the hill it was suddenly brought under fire by an enemy element on the right flank and immediately received three casualties. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Roberson moved forward under intense enemy fire and personally brought the three wounded men to safety. As the platoon aidman started to move forward he also was wounded. Sergeant Roberson without hesitation, moved forward again and brought his wounded comrade to safety. For a second time the platoon attacked the enemy positions, only to be beaten back by extremely intense enemy fire. As the advance was halted, Sergeant Roberson moved from man to man giving them encouragement and checking to see that none of them had been wounded. As Sergeant Roberson moved towards the right flank he observed that one man's weapon had jammed and at almost the same time another man had been wounded. Realizing that the right flank was in jeopardy, Sergeant Roberson charged the enemy position and laid down suppressive fire into the enemy position, enabling another squad to shift to the right flank. Sergeant Roberson personally placed the new squad into position even though he was exposed to intense enemy fire. When the order was given to move off the hill so that supporting artillery fire could be called in, Sergeant Roberson personally saw to it that not only his squad but the entire platoon had moved from the hill before he himself withdrew. When the platoon reorganized for another assault, Sergeant Roberson personally led his men in the assault and succeeded in over-running the enemy position. Sergeant Roberson's outstanding display of leadership and gallantry in action is in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

10 November 1967

PFC Arthur L. Hawkins Jr. (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for distinguishing himself by gallantry in action while engaged in military operation against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 November 1967, while serving with Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. While on a reconnaissance patrol near Chu Lai, Private Hawkins' squad came under an intense volume of automatic weapons fire from well entrenched enemy positions. With the initial bursts of fire, Private Hawkins, with complete disregard for his personal safety, rushed forward to the point element of his squad and began firing into the enemy positions. Realizing that rifle fire alone could not kill or rout the enemy from their



positions, he courageously charged forward, hurling grenades. After grenading several enemy positions, he was mortally wounded by enemy fire. His heroic actions inspired his comrades to assault the enemy positions and rout them from the battle area, resulting in three enemy soldiers killed and the capture of two enemy automatic weapons. Private Hawkins' extraordinary heroism in close combat was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

11 November 1966

CPT James M. McFadden (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (2-OLC) for actions while his company was in blocking position as the remainder of the battalion drove a North Vietnamese Army battalion toward the position. As the elements of the enemy made contact with the company, a savage battle ensued which lasted through the following day. Throughout the fighting, Captain McFadden moved among his men encouraging them and pointing out targets. On several occasions he came under heavy fire while assisting in the care and evacuation of the wounded. When two of his platoons came under heavy caliber machine gun fire and the immediate situation became serious, Captain McFadden, with complete disregard for his personal safety, led a squad forward under murderous fire and destroyed the machine gun emplacement with grenades. On many occasions throughout the battle, Captain McFadden rushed to the points of closest and most savage fighting directing, encouraging, and fighting alongside of his men. Captain McFadden's courage and superb leadership were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

11 November 2010

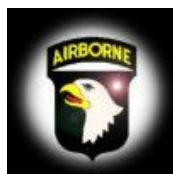


SPC Felipe Pereira (A/1-502 IN) earned the Distinguished Service Cross when he distinguished himself with heroism and exceptionally meritorious service while under heavy enemy fire as a team leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) serving in Senjaray, Zharay District Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

SPC Pereira and his squad were returning from a dismounted patrol in Senjaray, when a suicide motorcycle-borne explosive device detonated in the middle of his squad as they attempted to enter their combat outpost. Two Soldiers were killed instantly, while four others were severely wounded including his squad leader and fellow team leader. SPC Pereira sustained shrapnel wounds to his spleen, liver and left lung. While Soldiers struggled to gain situational awareness, the enemy initiated a complex ambush, firing on the patrol from an estimated seven fighting positions with small arms and rocket propelled grenades. SPC Pereira, who had been blown across the road from the blast, found his way inside the entrance of the outpost. His lung beginning to collapse, he struggled to breathe.

With little regard for his own safety or care, SPC Pereira refused medical treatment and instead commandeered an all-terrain vehicle and moved back into heavy enemy fire to provide an evacuation platform for his wounded comrades. SPC Pereira was able to move the vehicle within 20 meters of his fellow Soldiers, who were pinned down by enemy fire, but was unable to gain effective cover.

SPC Pereira immediately provided suppressive fires from the vehicle, allowing two of his fellow Soldiers to move two casualties to the vehicle. As bullets ricocheted off the vehicle and barely missed SPC Pereira, he continued to provide fire direction for the remaining Soldiers on the ground. SPC Pereira then quickly pulled the vehicle back into the entrance of the outpost, where medics were standing by to receive the casualties. SPC Pereira helped move the casualties to care and then moved back into enemy fire a second time to continue evacuating and directing his fellow Soldiers. SPC Pereira is credited with saving the lives of two of his fellow Soldiers, while risking his own on multiple occasions. Only after all the wounded Soldiers had been evacuated and were receiving medical care, did he accept treatment himself.



SPC Pereira's actions during the suicide attack in Senjaray are what define heroes. He is truly a professional that understands his commitment to duty and his fellow Soldiers despite great odds and risk of life.

13 November 2005

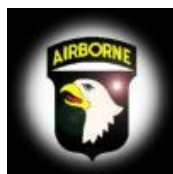
The following Soldiers: David C. Crispin and PFC Michael C. Ayala (A/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for valorous service during combat operation against a hostile force. SSG David C. Crispin was the assistant Patrol Leader for a route clearance mission of Route Motorhead, southwest of Baghdad. Prior to route clearance mission, the patrol had conducted an overnight OP on a suspected IED emplacement site. At first light the patrol left its hide sight and proceeded south on Route Motorhead. At approximately 0955, SSG Crispin used his recent knowledge of IEDs and was able to identify one placed directly in the middle of the route. While the patrol was waiting for EOD to arrive, SSG Crispin was ordered by his platoon leader to search nearby houses for possible trigger sites. SSG Crispin was conducting house to house searches when the IED was detonated by the enemy triggerman. SSG Crispin immediately raced his dismounted team back to the sight of the IED and at the direction of the platoon leader began to flank the enemy triggerman. SSG Crispin divided his dismounts into two teams and immediately began following the command wire to the enemy's hiding position. He found an open field full of black wire and promptly began cutting the wires to prevent its use by the enemy. While searching the fields, PFC Michael C. Ayala located three more IEDs by observing the wires running back towards the road. SSG Crispin then located two more IEDs in the road while in pursuit of the enemy. SSG Crispin displayed disregard for his own well-being and boundless courage by continuing to advance despite several more IEDs being detonated around him and his dismounted squad. PFC Ayala, along with SSG Crispin moved to a nearby house and detained three local nationals. While PFC Ayala's squad leader did detainee paperwork back at the vehicles near the IED, PFC Ayala was placed in charge of the remaining members of the patrol. PFC Ayala took three Soldiers to the roof and placed them into over watch positions. As PFC Ayala began to move to the stairs located in the center of the roof, the house exploded. PFC Ayala was wounded in the blast and had to be helped out of the rubble. Instead of worrying about his injuries he began calling out for his Soldiers to determine who else may have been wounded. SSG Crispin rushed to the aid of wounded Soldiers from the house blast and assisted them to safety. Shortly thereafter, SSG Crispin witnessed the enemy triggerman fleeing in a blue bongo truck and engaged them with his M4 rifle. He then directed his platoon leader to bring AH-64 Apaches on the target and destroy the enemy within the enemy vehicle. Throughout the battle fourteen IEDs had exploded and several more disabled due to SSG Crispin's and PFC Ayala's intrepidness and quick thinking. Afterwards, EOD detonated the multiple IEDs identified by this patrol. SSG Crispin's aggressiveness assaulting through the objective led to the elimination of the enemy triggerman while PFC Ayala's determination to ensure his Soldiers were safe and that the mission be completed properly kept him from getting evacuated to receive the medical attention he needed.

13 November 2010



SSG Juan Rivadeneira (B/2-502 IN) earned the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) when he distinguished himself with heroism, valor, and exceptionally meritorious service during a suicide bomb attack while assigned as a rifle squad leader with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Zharay District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

On 13 November 2010 at 0936 hours, 1st platoon began the clearance of over 20 buildings in the village of Maligan on Objective Rattler. At 1341 hours, as 1st platoon began to exfil back to the strong point, an unknown number of insurgents engaged 1st platoon. SSG Rivadeneira directed his squad in returning immediate



suppressive fire and established the support by fire position for the platoon, allowing another squad to maneuver upon the suspected enemy positions.

At 1630 hours, after continuous contact with the enemy and clearing an additional 10 buildings, 1st platoon prepared to move and began to exfil back to the strong point. SSG Rivadeneira, from his support by fire position, covered the platoon's exfil before collapsing his position and picking up trail.

At approximately 1700 hours, 1st platoon received orders to conduct a short halt while crossing Route Belle en-route back to the strong point. 2nd squad had crossed the road and established far side security. SSG Rivadeneira and 3rd squad began to establish near side security on the east side of Route Belle. While directing his team leaders to position their teams, SSG Rivadeneira moved up to the berm paralleling Route Belle to emplace his M240B gun team. While assigning the M240B gun team sectors of fire SSG Rivadeneira's alpha team and two ANA Soldiers immediately occupied positions along the berm securing the route.

As SSG Rivadeneira emplaced security, a suicide bomber began approaching through the marijuana fields from the north, working his way south to SSG Rivadeneira's position. Disguised as a local national carrying a bundle of poppy stalks, the suicide bomber approached and passed the ANA, ignoring their attempts to speak to him. The suicide bomber then turned left, exited Route Belle, and began to cross the ditch line toward the berm. SSG Rivadeneira, sensing the danger, was alerted by the suspicious individual with his head down.

SSG Rivadeneira quickly moved to interdict the suicide bomber by positioning himself between his squad and the enemy, denying the suicide bomber the most advantageous position to cause maximum casualties. Before the suicide bomber could crest the berm, SSG Rivadeneira raised his rifle and told the man to stop. Realizing that he could not advance any further, the suicide bomber made his intentions known by raising his head and shouting "Allah Akbar".

SSG Rivadeneira instantaneously assessed the imminent danger and advanced on the suicide bomber while firing two rounds from his rifle into the enemy's chest, causing him to fall backward and away from the Soldiers nearby as he detonated. The ensuing explosion killed SSG Rivadeneira, the M240B gun team, and two ANA Soldiers instantaneously. The explosion also wounded three Soldiers in Alpha team and one ANA Soldier.

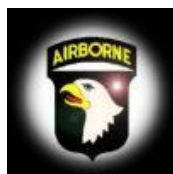
SSG Rivadeneira's actions were above and beyond the call of duty. SSG Rivadeneira's heroic actions in the face of immediate danger and certain death prevented the suicide bomber from causing more casualties. SSG Rivadeneira's steadfast leadership, commitment to his Soldiers, and disregard for his own personal safety undoubtedly saved the lives of the Soldiers in his squad.

13 November 2010



SFC Galen Bisel (B/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself with heroism, valor and exceptionally meritorious service during a firefight and suicide bomb attack while assigned as a platoon sergeant with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Zhariy District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

On 13 November 2010 at 0936 hours, 1st platoon began clearance of over 20 buildings in the village of Maligan on Objective Rattler. While preparing to exfil at 1341 hours, 1st platoon was engaged by an unknown number of enemy from the south approximately 200 meters fixing their lead squad. SFC Bisel quickly identified the enemy position and reported it to his platoon leader. Realizing that the enemy could not see his elements position, SFC Bisel immediately seized the



initiative and began to maneuver on the enemy. While moving, SFC Bisel's four man element came under fire in an open field. With complete disregard for his own safety and bullets impacting all around him, SFC Bisel fearlessly ran 100 meters through the open, leading a team while engaging the enemy.



SFC Bisel's quick thinking positioned his element in a dominant location allowing for rapid and effective engagement of the enemy causing their attack to stall and forcing them to break contact. At 1630 hours, after continuous contact with the enemy and clearing an additional ten buildings, 1st platoon prepared to move and began to exfil back to Strong Point Diwar. While conducting a short halt in preparation for a canal crossing, an unidentified insurgent dressed as a farmer approached the formation and detonated the suicide vest he was wearing, instantly killing three US Soldiers and one ANA soldier and wounding an additional three US Soldiers and one ANA soldier.

Following the explosion, SFC Bisel, located about 400 meters away, rushed forward to the blast site along an uncleared route and immediately assessed the situation and adjusted the security posture, allowing the platoon medic and two EFRs to render aid and triage casualties. SFC Bisel quickly and efficiently sent and updated the status of the casualties to the company commander and relayed this information to the flight medics once they arrived. SFC Bisel's actions on 13 November 2010 were above and beyond the call of duty. His superior judgment, calm demeanor, clear guidance and tactical expertise were exemplary and resulted in the wounded Soldiers being successfully stabilized and evacuated from the battlefield. SFC Bisel's selfless actions and poise under fire undoubtedly saved Soldiers' lives.

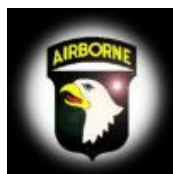
13 November 2010



CPT David Yu (B/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself with heroism, valor and exceptionally meritorious service during a suicide bomb attack while assigned as the Company Commander of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Zharay District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

CPT Yu was on patrol with 1st platoon when the platoon was attacked by a suicide bomber near the village of Maligan, vicinity Sangsar as part of Operation Nashville II, in support of Operation Dragon STRIKE. As they cleared the village of Maligan, the suicide bomber, disguised as a civilian farmer, approached the Soldiers of 1st Platoon and detonated himself. The resulting explosion killed three US Soldiers and two ANA soldiers immediately, and wounded three US Soldiers and one ANA soldier.

Following the explosion, CPT Yu instinctively moved from the lead element to the blast before gaining any situational awareness of the attack or emplacement of security. CPT Yu assessed the situation and immediately maneuvered his 3rd platoon from Strong Point Diwar to the southern and western flank of the exposed unit to prevent another attack. While CPT Yu controlled the emplacement of 3rd platoon, he simultaneously started MEDEVAC procedures, calmly and decisively gathering information from the first responders in order to quickly and accurately send and update MEDEVAC information. CPT Yu then coordinated to have a mounted element from Company D to help secure the area



and assist with the collection and extraction of all men, weapons and equipment. CPT Yu's personal courage and leadership in the face of unknown danger prevented the enemy from conducting a second attack on the exposed platoon and ensured that all seriously wounded Soldiers were quickly MEDEVAC'd preventing additional loss of life.

13 November 2010



SPC Adam Linehan (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself with heroism, valor and exceptionally meritorious service during a suicide bomb attack while assigned as a platoon medic with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Zharay District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

At 0936 hours, 1st platoon began clearance of over 20 buildings in the village of Maligan on Objective Rattler. At 1341 hours, as 1st platoon began to exfil back to the strong point, an unknown number of insurgents engaged 1st platoon. SPC Linehan then maneuvered with 2nd squad upon the suspected enemy positions. At 1630 hours, after continuous contact with the enemy and clearing an additional ten buildings, 1st platoon prepared to move and began to exfil back to the strong point.

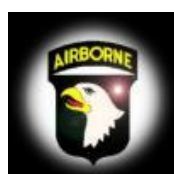
At approximately 1700 hours, 1st platoon received orders to conduct a short halt while crossing Route Belle en-route back to the strong point. 2nd squad had crossed the road and established far side security, 3rd squad began to establish near side security on the east side of Route Belle.

As 3rd squad emplaced security, a suicide bomber began approaching from the north, working his way south to 3rd squad's position. Disguised as a local national carrying a bundle of poppy stalks, the suicide bomber approached and passed the ANA, ignoring their attempts to speak to him. Reaching 3rd squad's position, the suicide bomber detonated. The ensuing explosion killed the squad leader, the M240B gun team, and two ANA soldiers instantaneously. The explosion also wounded three Soldiers in Alpha team, to include the team leader, SPC Gonzalez.



Following the explosion, SPC Linehan, located about 400 meters away, quickly arrived on scene and immediately began assessing the six casualties and rendering medical care before the area was cleared. While treating three wounded Soldiers, SPC Linehan decisively coordinated and directed the treatment of casualties based on precedence, ensuring the most critically wounded Soldiers received priority care by himself and other EMT qualified Soldiers. Throughout the incident, SPC Linehan quickly relayed and updated the wounded Soldiers' status to the PSG, allowing him to give the most accurate information to the CO and the MEDEVAC flight crew.

SPC Linehan's actions were above and beyond the call of duty. SPC Linehan's actions in the face of danger and with complete disregard for his own safety when he immediately began treating three wounded Soldiers before the blast site was cleared and secured were heroic. SPC Linehan's calm demeanor, clear guidance and expertise were exemplary and resulted in the wounded Soldiers being successfully stabilized and evacuated from the battlefield and directly resulted in saving the life of the critically injured Soldier, SPC Gonzalez.



13 November 2010



PFC Mitchell Kitterman earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself through exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of the enemy as a combat engineer attached to 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment. His heroic actions prevented the loss of life for a wounded Afghan Soldier and provided valuable information used to exploit the Taliban.

PFC Kitterman conducted a dismounted patrol with section A, 2nd platoon. The mission of the patrol was to clear a compound of interest in the village of Siah Choy, Kandahar Province. While clearing a dismount path through the village, the point element walked into a near ambush. The enemy engaged the team from a wadi line 35 meters east of their position. The initial contact forced the main body of the patrol to fall back behind a neighboring building leaving PFC Kitterman, a non-commissioned officer, and one Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier in the kill zone.

As PFC Kitterman's element took fire from rocket propelled grenades, AK-47s, and an enemy RPK machine gun, the lead ANA scout was wounded. PFC Kitterman and the other Soldier quickly took cover behind a nearby wall. In the enemy kill zone, the lead element provided suppressive fires with their small arms and high explosive dual-purpose (HEDP) 40mm grenades. The team leader ordered PFC Kitterman to pull the ANA Soldier to safety. With rounds impacting all around the wounded Soldier, the NCO rescinded his order. However, PFC Kitterman left the cover of his position with complete disregard for his own safety and ran into the enemy engagement area to retrieve the wounded ANA Soldier. While under an intense enemy small arms fire, he pulled the injured Soldier ten meters back to a covered position. Once under cover, he performed life saving aid at the critical time in order to stop the bleeding. The platoon medic came forward and provided further medical aid. As a result, PFC Kitterman's actions saved the life of an ANA Soldier.

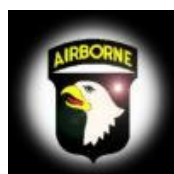
Despite the danger and his proximity to the initial contact, PFC Kitterman volunteered to be part of a five-man assault team in order to complete the clearance of enemy insurgents. He quickly joined the assault element and moved through the objective. After the enemy retreated, PFC Kitterman found a blood trail near the point of ambush. His astute observation led to the recovery of the insurgent's cell phone, SIM card, RPK drums, address book of other insurgent phone numbers, and bloodied clothes. As a result, his discovery provided 1-75th Cavalry with vital information that led to the further exploitation of enemy operations in the Zharay district.

PFC Kitterman's quick reaction in a near ambush, with complete disregard for his own safety, pulled a wounded ANA Soldier to cover and enabled his evacuation to medical treatment. His immediate application of life saving aid ensured that the ANA Soldier survived. PFC Kitterman's dedication and attention to detail provided vital enemy information and completed the mission successfully.

15 November 1969



SP4 Allen F. Grotzke (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 November 1969. Specialist Grotzke distinguished himself while serving as a fire team leader in Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, near the Demilitarized Zone, Republic of Vietnam. Company B was inserted into a landing zone commanding a draw where a North Vietnamese Army bunker complex had been sighted by aerial observation. An element of the 2nd Platoon moved down the draw and came under intense machine gun and small arms fire from positions not more than fifty meters away. Specialist Grotzke maneuvered his fire team along the high ground rising from the draw and flanked the bunker complex from the side and rear. Though under constant exposure to the hostile machine gun emplacement, he supervised the placing of his men in strategic rear security positions and moved forward with the remainder of the squad to eliminate the enemy position. While passing through a clearing, Specialist Grotzke and his fellow Soldiers came under fire from a second machine gun.



Two of his squad members were seriously wounded. When he saw his comrade's fall, Specialist Grotzke moved out further into the clearing and directed suppressive fire at the enemy. Although action diverted the enemy machine gun, enabling the other wounded personnel to crawl to safety. In his isolated forward position, he continued to provide cover for his comrades and ceased firing only when wounded a second time. He was evacuated by helicopter along with the two wounded men whose lives he saved. Specialist Grotzke'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.

15 November 1969



SP4 Jeffrey J. Joseph (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 November 1969. Specialist Joseph distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry. His platoon conducted an airmobile assault into a landing zone overlooking a draw known to contain a North Vietnamese bunker complex. Immediately upon moving down the draw, the platoon came under intense machine gun and small arms fire from positions not more than fifty meters away. Without first attempting to find suitable cover, Specialist Joseph immediately returned fire with his machine gun from an open position. Under the cover he provided, a squad of the platoon moved out in a flanking movement. This squad also drew fire while assaulting the bunkers and three men were wounded. Without hesitation, Specialist Joseph ran forward and put out suppressive fire while two of the wounded crawled to safety. Seeing the third man in the open too seriously wounded to move, he left the gun with his assistant and ran across clear lanes of fire to administer first aid. He assisted the medical aidman in carrying the man to safety under constant fire. In the next hour he contributed vitally to the efforts to save the wounded man. He applied mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and external massage and helped carry the wounded man to a suitable pick up site for evacuation. Specialist Joseph'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 Order Number 730; 01 February 1970)

***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 502nd in different brigades of the 101st. The 2nd Battalion was in the 1st Brigade with 1-327th and 2-327th 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 2nd Battalions, 501st Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 502nd 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 2nd Brigade became the parent headquarters for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions of the 502nd Infantry Regiment. With this reorganization, the Brigade adopted the regimental motto, "Strike."

