



2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) “STRIKE HISTORY” 22 March – 28 March 2015



23 March 1967

Operation FARRAGUT V: A and B Companies closed on the TAC CP and moved by tactical meter march to Phan Rang, while C Company and Recondo made air-mobile extraction. 2-502 prepared for future operations.

23 March 1967

Phan Rang to Khanh Duong: For 5 days the 2-502 trained in small-arms and tactics and took a well-earned holiday and picnic on Phan Rang Beach. Ceremonies were held to honor the dead and to decorate the living.

23 March 1968

Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN: A/2-502 came under OPCON of the 2-327.

23 March 1970

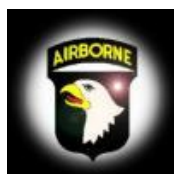
Operation RANDOLPH GLEN: FSB Pistol was closed and the 2-502 Battalion CP was relocated on FSB Brick (Pictured) (YC834996). The Battalion continued to operate north of FSB Pistol, with all units sweeping the north. While carrying out one of these sweeps, A



Company's 2nd Platoon engages an unknown enemy force in bunkers. Although the enemy put up a heavy volume of fire, they were driven from their defensive position. Left behind were three enemy bodies, one AK-47, one submachine gun and one RPD machine gun. The battalion began preparations for operations east of the Song Ta Trac River and north of FSB Rifle. (2-502 Unit History, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

24 March 1968

1-502 IN BN made only light contact except for Delta which received heavy fire from village at (YD618198). All available fire support was utilized. Results: Friendly 1KIA, 8 WIA, 1 MIA; Enemy 3 KIA (BC), 10 WIA/POW. (1-502 IN History Supplement)



24 - 26 March 1969

Around 1035hrs 2nd Platoon 1-502d IN discovered a deserted NVA hospital bunker complex that 1LT Eastham (Pictured) said contained Communist propoganda leaflets depicting U.S. POWs and "Jane Fonda stuff", like blankets and towels sent by sympathetic Americans.



According to the book Hamburger Hill by Samuel Zaffiri, Soldiers found a list 'of medicines that had been shipped to the hospital, followed by the words: "Donated by your friends at the University of California at Berkeley."

At 1100hrs, 1st Platoon Soldiers discovered a small bunker complex, and three were killed "instantly" upon entering it. It is unclear how they died, but 1SG Burkett believes the bunker was booby-trapped. The other four Soldiers who died that day from both 1st and 2nd Platoon were killed by sniper fire. Firefights continued throughout the afternoon as 2nd Platoon moved to reinforce 1st Platoon. By 1830hrs, the enemy had broken contact with B Company.

All Seven Americans killed were from B Company's 1st and 2nd Platoons. Overall from March 19-25, 1st Battalion's official death toll shows 20 U.S. KIA. According to the daily after action reports, 1st Battalion members had 39 WIA while killing 56 NVA troops. "It was most certainly the worst day of my Vietnam Tour," said 1LT Eastham, "I think about it every day."

B Company was airlifted off Dong A Tay on March 26. But more bloody battles awaited U.S. troops in the A Chau Valley, 1st Battalion had merely fulfilled the first objective in a campaign that would last throughout the summer of 1969. (VFW Article (2008))

25 March 1966

Operation FILMORE: The 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division and the 47th ARVN Division, with the support of the 117th Assault Helicopter Company, succeeded in protecting the rice harvest throughout the Tuy Hoa Valley, marking the first time in more than ten (10) years that rice was not imported into this area to support the local population. In addition to assuring an ample food supply for our allies and denying the enemy of his source of supply, these units, spirited by the veteran 117th, blunted the attack of a North Vietnamese Army Regiment and routed them so as to cause the complete dispersion of all their units. In order to exploit this dispersion, the 2d Battalion, 502d, Airborne Infantry, with the support of the 117th, developed special Recon teams to pursue the fleeing Viet Cong. These tactics proved successful and continued until the close of Operation Filmore.

25 March 1991

The last element of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) leave Iraq and returns to Saudi Arabia.

25 March 2008

March Madness; In late March of 2008, the dynamics in Baghdad, and Iraq, changed rapidly. The Government of Iraq launched a military offensive against the Shia militias that controlled Basra. This operation, which initially looked like it would be a failure, stoked tensions between the government and the followers of Muqtada Al Sadr, who saw this operation as a way to push Al Sadr's political party out of power. The tensions spread north into Baghdad, first in Sadr City and



then in AO Strike. Relatively quickly, these tensions morphed into violence around the Shia strongholds in Iraq. Within a matter of three hours, NW Baghdad went from relative peace to full-fledged gun battles involving JAM, the IA and CF. Intelligence began to indicate Shia insurgents intended to initiate attacks against Coalition Forces. Attacks began on 25 March and



continued through April until tapering off to pre-uprising levels. The attacks quickly became focused around the Kadhimiya, Shulla, Hurriya and northern Ghazaliyah areas. 1-75 CAV and 1-502 IN quickly reinforced ISF checkpoints along RTE's ILLINOIS and VERNON. Elements of 4-10 CAV and 1-64 AR were OPCON to 1-75 CAV and 1-502 IN. The 2BCT quickly made plans to isolate and clear Shulla in order to deny Shia insurgents safe haven. C/1-64 AR was detached to 3/4 ID to assist with operations in Sadr City. The command guidance given during this time was simple: do not let the IA fail. With that guidance, the units did precisely that. By the end of the hostilities, JAM had lost face in the eyes of the locals, and the IA had gained tremendous ground by showing that they were both able and willing to stand up and fight against JAM.

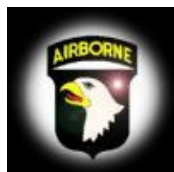
- 26 March 1968 2nd Brigade begins 100 days of cordon operations in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

- 26-28 March 1968 1-501 cordons Thon Thua Hoa, resulting in 31 NVA KIA, 18 VC KIA, and 5400 lbs of rice captured.

- 26 March 1968 1-502 CPT Greg Mills established a small 4.2 mortar site at FSB Lyon. Charlie Company was flown in to guard FSB Lyon and Bravo Company was in the valley to the West of FSB Lyon 629223 (hill 285) in heavy contact with the enemy. An error in adjustment of the 4.2 mortar fire resulted in heavy casualties. Retired LTG Cushman, 2BDE Commander at the time, recalled this as the worst memory of his military career.

- 26 March 1968 B/1-502 IN, operating along a trail in the hills six miles south of LZ Sally, made contact with an estimated enemy platoon. As First Strike's mortar platoon was firing 4.2 inch rounds into the jungle ahead of the column, a fire direction miscalculation placed several rounds directly on the company commander's command group near the head of the column. I was in the air at the time and took my Huey C&C ship into a tiny cleared area by vertical descent and ascent. Along with dust-off helicopters we were able to get the dead and wounded out. To the great grief of all concerned, B Company lost 11 KIA and 19 WIA. (2D BRIGADE/101ST TASK FORCE IN VIETNAM; FORTY YEARS AGO THIS WEEK (March 23-29, 1968); By LTG (then COL) John H. Cushman)

- 26 March 1968 The 2d Brigade was planning to move its command post to Camp Evans where we would take charge of areas of operations of brigades of the 1st Cavalry Division which were to move northward to a major operation west of Quang Tri, relieving the besieged US Marines at Khe Sahn. We would be joined in our new AO by the 3d Brigade's 2/327 Infantry, but would leave behind the 1/501, attached to the 3d Brigade, 82d Airborne Division, just arrived from Fort Bragg. The 3d Bde/82d would take over LZ Sally. With the loss of too many fine troopers to sapper's just days before, and even more to the 1/502's mortar accident, and with little to show from our air assault and search and destroy operations, recent days had been discouraging. But on March 27, the 1/501 launched an operation that would begin a new phase for the



2d Brigade. It was to be our first "cordon," or "encirclement." (2D BRIGADE/101ST TASK FORCE IN VIETNAM; FORTY YEARS AGO THIS WEEK (March 23-29, 1968); By LTG (then COL) John H. Cushman)

26-27 March 68

The 1/501 learned that part of the 810 VC local force battalion had just moved to the vicinity of a hamlet, Thuan Hoa, on the west bank of the Perfume River. US Navy patrol boats, with whom the 1/501 were in contact, made a similar report. LTC Wayne J. Prokup, battalion commander, had already laid on a two-company combat assault, supported by the 188th Assault Helicopter Co. Redirecting its objectives, he launched in the early morning.

By noon A/1/501, having moved again by helicopter, was approaching Thuan Hoa from the west. D/1/501 then air assaulted to a hot LZ to the hamlet's south; the 1/501 recon platoon was lifted into position to the north. Artillery, gunships, and three airstrikes had supported the 1/501. Wayne Prokup and I could see that, with Navy patrol boats in the Perfume River, we had the enemy encircled. But night was coming on, and the surrounded enemy might slip away. So we called on USAF C-47's to drop flares so that the encircling troopers could see. During the night escaping enemy were killed or driven back, after bringing up Psyops loudspeakers to broadcast surrender appeals without result, the 1/501 with artillery and air support took the hamlet. Results: 2 US KIA, 19 US WIA; 31 NVA KIA, 3 NVA POW, 22 VC KIA. This action would be followed by similar 2d Brigade encirclements.

Meanwhile in the mountains fifteen miles to the southwest of LZ Sally, the 2/501, supported by artillery and tactical air strikes, had been in heavy contact with the 9th Battalion, 90th NVA Regiment. The brigade journal reported: "Enemy assessment 7 NVA KIA, Friendly losses: 1 KIA, 10 WIA." (2D BRIGADE/101ST TASK FORCE IN VIETNAM; FORTY YEARS AGO THIS WEEK (March 23-29, 1968); By LTG (then COL) John H. Cushman)

26 March 2008

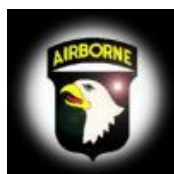
B/1-502 IN conducted a strong point defense of a primary Iraqi Army checkpoint at the intersection of an MSR and ASR feeding Shulla, Baghdad. Sadrists militants attacked the checkpoint for three



days with the objective of discrediting Coalition Forces by seizing the checkpoint. B/1-502 and a supporting armor platoon utilized discriminate fires in order to destroy enemy militants with minimum collateral damage. This action built Iraqi Army confidence while causing the enemy to exhaust a significant portion of their cached ammunition.

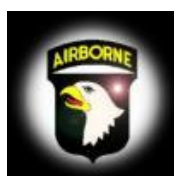
26 March 2008

Beginning mid-afternoon and lasting into the evening, 1-75 CAV receives multiple direct fire contacts at their three northernmost checkpoints in Ghazaliyah and the Katieb checkpoint. These consisted of AK-47 fire from buildings in Shulla and

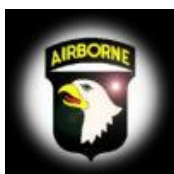


Jowadeen. As a result of the attacks, Bravo Troop (CPT Rob Gillespie) and Charlie Company (CPT Terry Higgins in Katieb) jointly man the checkpoints in Ghazaliyah and JRK until first light. At 2250, a helicopter attack directed by Charlie Company results in three JAM killed in action. At 2330, the 1-75 Squadron Commander's HMMWV suffered an EFP strike lightly wounding several Soldiers and disabling the truck.

- 27 March 1967 **Phan Rang to Khanh Duong:** A change-of-command took place: LTC Harry A. (Buckshot) Buckley took command of the STRIKE FORCE, and LTC Frank L. (Gunslinger) Dietrich said farewell to a command that would never forget him.
- 27 March 1968 **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** B/2-502 came under OPCON to 2-327.
- 27 March 2003 Lead elements of 502nd Infantry Regiment crossed the border into Iraq by Ground Assault Convoy, stopping at Forward Arming and Refueling Point (FARP) Shell to await further orders.
- 27 March 2008 4/D/1-502 was ambushed with RPG and small arms fire immediately after passing an Iraqi National Police TCP near the Bab Al Darwarza traffic circle in Kadhimiya. 2/D/1-502 and 3/D/1-502 assisted in the action. The National Police BN in Kadhimiya was subsequently disbanded due to ineffective performance during the incident.
- 27 March 2008 At 1120 in 1-75 CAV AO, a checkpoint in northern Ghazaliyah was attacked and an Iraqi Badger vehicle was destroyed. At 1150, a second checkpoint in northern Ghazaliyah was attacked resulting in a Badger and IA HMMWV destroyed and 14 IA Soldiers missing. Within 10 minutes, the Squadron Commander directs that all checkpoints will remain jointly manned until further notice. By 1300, 1-75 CAV coordinates for 100 extra Sons of Iraq to reinforce southern checkpoints to allow CF to focus combat power north. At 1320, Alpha Troop (CPT Tom Melton) is ordered to man the two northwestern checkpoints to allow Bravo Troop to focus on the two in the center-north of the Squadron's area. By 1600, the Brigade Commander attached a platoon of Bradley Fighting Vehicles to 1-75 CAV to assist in the on-going combat operations. They were employed in Bravo's center-north and in Charlie's actions in Katieb. At 2315, Alpha Troop working with an air weapons team, requested clearance to fire rotary wing rockets at JAM militia actively engaging them from their north in Shulla. They were granted permission and the engagement resulted in 10 JAM KIA.
- 28 March 1967 **Phan Rang to Khanh Duong:** The 2-502 moved by C-130 and motor convoy to Khanh Duong, a village northwest of Ninh Hoa in Khanh Hoa Province. The convoy carried the material needed to establish a base camp at Khanh Duong, and 2-502, with the mission of securing the new brigade base, began patrolling the surrounding area and planning for Operation SUMMERALL. Khanh Hoa Province is classified as Central Highlands, and most of the 2-502's operations were conducted in very mountainous terrain during the rainy season. This combination of conditions put a considerable strain on troops and equipment, especially during the campaign on Hon Ba Mountain against Regiment 18-B.
- On arrival in Khanh Duong, the 1st Brigade assumed the mission of road security for Route 21. This task initially fell on the 2-502 which had C Company, 2-327, under its OPCON for this purpose. The military security along a portion of Route 21 allowed traffic to proceed from Duc My to Khanh Duong without paying VC road tolls, and helped bring the Montagnard Villages near the highway under RVN control.



- 28 March 1968 Rifle companies of the 1-501 IN Bn made contact with elements of the 803rd NVA Regiment. D Co. paratroopers swept an area two and one half miles north of Hue. Stiff enemy resistance indicated a sizable force in the area. The Battalion sweep, aided by Naval gun fire, artillery and air strikes, netted 24 NVA killed, 10 AK-47's and eight SKS carbines captured.
- 28 March 1968 1-502 IN Battalion continued search and destroy operations and experienced several change in command personnel. The following changes were conducted: MAJ Shachnow to BN S-3, CPT Greenhouse from D Co. to BN S2, CPT Speedy from C Co. to BN Asst. S3, 1LT Wise to C Co. as CO., and Alfa Company OPCON to 3d Marine Division.
- 28 March –
15 April 1968 **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** Phase II: The 2-502 had to devote most of its effort in preparation of FSB Bastogne. Initially C Co. and Recon were sent out into assigned AO's with both making daily small contacts with the enemy. The remainder of the 2-502 concentrated on building the defenses of FSB Bastogne and providing security for the three different sized artillery units. C Co. was replaced by A Co. in the SE and made the first major contact with enemy, drawing B Co. to its aid. Afterwards A Co. returned to the TAC-CP and B Co. continued combat operations in the AO. C Co. replaced B Co. in the AO orientated to the West and continued combat operations until the end of Phase II. All companies were given convoy security missions along Hwy 547 into Bastogne, with C Co. springing an enemy ambush. Convoys were made to Bastogne mainly to bring in the heavy artillery pieces and the heavy engineers equipment. Additional units of communications and artillery were deployed to Bastogne eventually doubling the size of the FSB. During Phase II only limited combat operations could be conducted, because the FSB had to be constructed. Also due to its size it took two companies to secure it however more major contacts were made with the enemy during this phase. All companies securing Hwy 547 for convoys, had the use of the platoon from A/3-5 Cav, thus greatly increasing their firepower and mobility. The Cavalry platoon was also used to reinforce the Recondos once and B Co. once during their major engagements. Phase II ended 160001 April when the 1-101 ABN DIV began Operation DELAWARE.
- 28 March 1970 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** (2-502 IN) In the afternoon an LZ was prepped for the insertion of the reconnaissance platoon. Once on the ground, the Platoon discovered the bodies of two NVA who had been killed by Artillery. (2-502 Unit History, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)
- 28 March 2008 1/D/1-502 reinforced an Iraqi Army company defending a Tigris river footbridge that was the primary exfiltration route for JAM fighters in Kadhimiyah and Adhamiyah. The following morning, 4/D/1-502 relieved 1/D/1-502 and supported the IA Company for the next 36 hours. This successful action demonstrated a turning point in the Coalition Forces/Iraqi Army relationship in that the IA unit held, fighting alongside 1-502 instead of with the JAM against Coalition Forces.



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.

- 1 x Distinguished Service Cross
- 7 x Silver Star Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 4 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 4 x Bronze Star Medal (4 x Posthumously)
- 3 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 87 x Purple Heart Medal (66 x Posthumously)
- 3 x Died of Non-Hostile wounds or injury

22 March 1967



PFC Earlie C. Hamilton Jr. (B/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 Lam Dong Province, South Vietnam.

22 March 1968

The following Soldier: SP4 Charles R. Pyle (Pictured) (E/1-501 IN); 2LT Frederick Y. Holjes (Pictured), SGT C W R. Williams, SP5 Bill W. Grant, SP4 Thomas J. Ptak (Pictured), SP4 Manfred W. Krause, PFC Gary L. Barnum (Pictured) (C/2-501 IN); SP4 Walter H. Anslow (D/2-501 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. (Pictures L-R)



22 March 1968

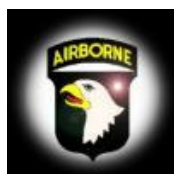
The following Soldiers: PFC Fred C. H. Frapiea Jr. (Pictured) (C/2-501 IN); SP4 Donald E. Green (E/2-501 IN); SP4 Benjamin A. Jones (Pictured) (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from artillery, rocket or mortar wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



22 March 1968



SP4 James E. Blaauw (E/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 artillery, rocket or mortar wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



22 March 1969

The following Soldiers: CPL Ralph N. Bickford and PFC David D. Ouellette (B/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 bunkers 9 KM SW LZ Veghel, 12 KM E of A Luoi Village, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



22 March 1969



SP4 Robert E. McAferty (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in bunkers 9 KM SW LZ Veghel, 12 KM E of A Luoi Village, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

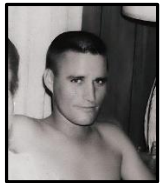
22 March 2008

SGT Matthew Engel (A/2-101 BSTB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. Beast Iron Claw came under attack by RPG fire and small arms fire. An RPG struck the gunner's turret that SGT Engel was in. He received injuries to the face and right arm.

23 March 1967

SGT Elijah H. Smith (B/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 in the Ninh Thuan Province, South Vietnam.

23 March 1968



SSG Eulas F. Gregory (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.

23 March 1971



SGT John D. Heinz (A/2-501 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 Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

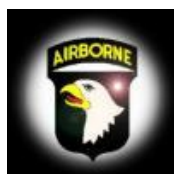
23 March 2006

The following Soldiers: SGT Kenneth Ransom and PFC Jeremy Allison (B/1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat.

24 March 1966



SGT Tomas V. Martinez (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 received on 15 March 1966, in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.



24 March 1968

The following Soldiers: SGT Walter L. Gawel (D/1-502 IN); PFC Ronald F. Sadler (Pictured) (B/2-501); SP4 George R. Martin (Pictured), SGT Kenneth M. Barker, SGT Terry R. White (Pictured)(C/2-501 IN); PFC Eric B. Nilsen (Pictured) and SP4 Richard A. Friend (Pictured) (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms fire in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.



24 March 1968

PFC George J. Nicholson (C/2-501 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 Thien Province, South Vietnam.

24 March 1969

PFC Juan A. Covarrubias (E/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (Vehicle loss or crash) as a ground casualty in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

25 March 1966

SGT Richard M. Epps (E/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile illness (Malaria) as a ground casualty in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.

25 March 1968



SP4 William J. Shortsleeves (HHC/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket or mortar wounds in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

25 March 1968

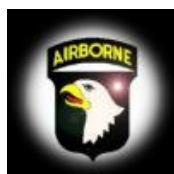


PFC Gary R. Wiginton (HHC/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

25 March 1969



SGT Willie C. Dozier (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from Burn wounds in a bunker complex on Bloody Ridge (Dong A Tay) 9KM SW of FSB Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



25 March 1969

The following Soldiers: SGT Carter L. Graves (Pictured), SGT Steve Flaherty (Pictured), CPL Rene C. Mischeaux, SP4 David F. Black (Pictured), SP4 Michael L. Malin (B/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 a bunker complex on Bloody Ridge (Dong A Tay) 9KM SW of FSB Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



25 March 1969

PFC Robert F. Mc Donald II (A/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 a bunker complex on Bloody Ridge (Dong A Tay) 9KM SW of FSB Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

26 March 1966



PFC James L. Hudspeth (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket, or mortar wounds in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.

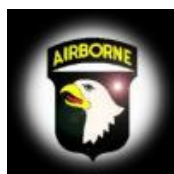
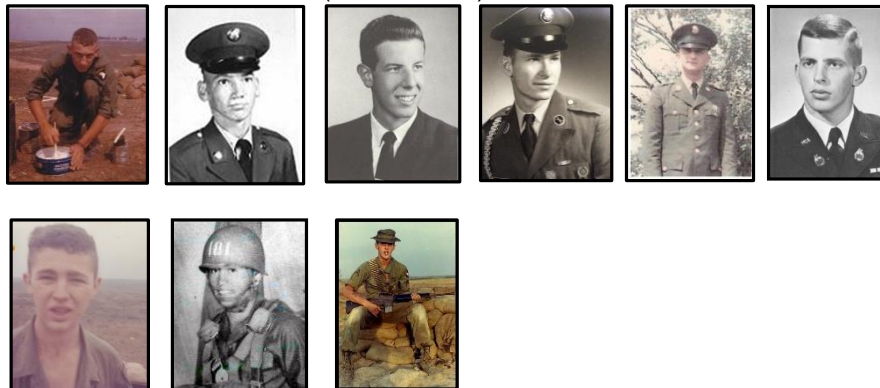
26 March 1966



The following Soldiers: PFC Ronald Jones, SGT Robert D. Torry, PFC Wayne Linville, PFC Ernie Turpin, PFC Christopher McTyre, and SSG Ray Archuletta (Pictured) (2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 8th Field Hospital; General Order Number 33; 29 March 1966)

26 March 1968

The following Soldiers: SGT Philip J. Krek Jr. (Pictured), PFC Edwin L. Armstrong (Pictured), SP4 Jack E. Derrico(Pictured), PFC Wayne D. Krueger(Pictured), PFC John R. Horton, PFC Hoyle Terry Jr. (Pictured), 2LT Philip C. Benn (Pictured), SP4 Glen D. Hubbard (Pictured), PFC Roger M. Link, and PFC Joe W. Smith (B/1-502 IN); SP4 Ernesto S. Perea (Pictured) and PFC Wayne E. Risner (B/2-501 IN); CPL Craig P. Averill (B/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. (Pictures L-R)



26 March 1968



PFC Alvin R. Gibble (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

26 March 1968



SP4 Ronald J. Ymbras (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in action in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ; 101st ABN DIV; General Order No: 11443; 31 December 1968)

26 March 1970



SGT Joe A. Escandon (E/1-501 IN) died as a result of burns received while at an artillery firing position when the round he was handling accidentally detonated, in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

27 March 1966

PFC Ronald W. Jones (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death as a result of a massive chest wound received when hit by friendly artillery fire while on a evacuation patrol, in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.

27 March 1966

The following Soldiers: SP4 Leonard Frank and SGT Frederick R Myers earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 8th Field Hospital; General Order Number 33; 29 March 1966)

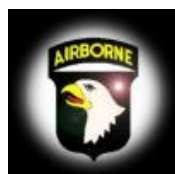
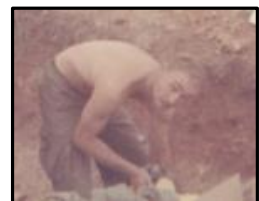
27 March 1968



PFC Alvin R. Gibble (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously). PFC Gibble died from small arms fire in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

27 March 1968

The following Soldiers: PFC Lawrence R. Lopes (B/2-501 IN); PFC Harvey G. Adair (Pictured) (C/1-501 IN); CPL Clifford L. Williams (D/2-501 IN); SGT John H. Barnes (Pictured) (B/1-502 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.



27 March 1968



2LT Franklin N. Giles Jr. (D/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.

27 March 1969



PFC Ferrol S. Smith (C/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and 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.

27 March 1971



The following Soldiers: CPL Thomas P. Olson (Pictured), CPL Robert T. Bradley, and CPL Glen H. Yell (C/1-501 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 Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

27 March 1971



1LT Robert C. Chaudoin (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket, or mortar wounds in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

27 March 1971



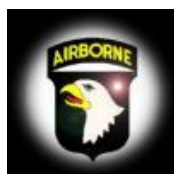
SP4 Paul E. Serven (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound received while on a combat operation when the area came under attack by a hostile force in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

27 March 2008

1LT Eric Giannaris (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat while conducting a deliberate defense on Route Vernon next to checkpoint 20, 2nd Platoon, B Company received small arms fire, RPG's and indirect fire from the enemy. During this contact, a 60mm mortar round impacted approximately 1 meter from 1LT Giannaris and vehicle B22. Fragmentation from the blast hit him in the upper left thigh.

27 March 2008

PFC Jon Weberg (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. PFC Weberg was conducting a patrol. He was riding in the second vehicle as the M240 gunner. They started receiving heavy fire from 3 enemy locations. PFC Weberg was wounded while suppressing the enemy location. He was evacuated where he was diagnosed for multiple small fragment wounds to the left upper and lower extremities.



27 March 2008

PFC Jason Whitehorse (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. PFC Whitehorse was conducting a patrol in Humyab, Iraq. The patrol received sniper fire and PFC Whitehorse was hit on his left lower leg. He was treated by the medic and evacuated for further treatment. Due to the complexity of the wound, PFC Whitehorse was transported back to Ft Campbell, KY to recover.

27 March 2011



CPL Justin Ross (A/4-4 CAV), 22, of Green Bay, Wisconsin; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.

28 March 1970



CPL Sidney E. Rohler (B/2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor and Purple Heart 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.

28 March 1971

PFC Carl W. Pritchett (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

28 March 2006

PFC Sean D. Tharp (1-22 IN; 4ID), 21, of Orlando, Florida; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when his element came under enemy small arms fire while conducting dismounted patrol operations in Baghdad.

28 March 2006

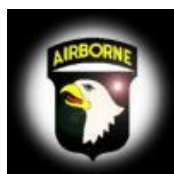
SGT Christopher Flores (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. SGT Flores was investigating the site of an air strike, where a car was shot by a Longbow helicopter. During the investigation, they found several weapons in the car and one individual wounded under the car. While treating the wounded, the enemy Soldier died and shortly after, two rounds of indirect fire landed wounding SGT Flores.

28 March 2006

SPC Trayvon Battle, (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. SPC Battle was heading south on Route Motorhead when his truck hit a pressure plate IED after passing Iron City intersection. SPC Battle sustained abrasions and contusions to his left knee.

28 March 2006

PV2 John Koch (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. PV2 Koch was heading south on Route Motorhead. His truck hit a pressure plate IED after passing Iron City intersection. PV2 Koch sustained abrasions and contusions to his left knee.



28 March 2008

SGT Peter Liedman (1-64 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. At approximately 1300, SGT Liedman was set at a blocking position consisting of two M1A1 tanks. They started receiving small arms fire. SGT Liedman's section was then ordered to provide support. His tank was struck by an EFP. As a result he received shrapnel to his left forearm, right bicep, right side rear shoulder, left side rear shoulder, upper neck, and face. He was treated on site and then medical evacuated to Riva Ridge Medical Facility.

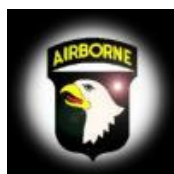
28 March 2011

SPC Nicklaus Ortlieb (A/4-4 IN; 4ID) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

22 March 1968

1LT Cleo C. Hogan Jr. (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 March 1968. First Lieutenant Hogan distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of Company D, 2d Battalion, 501st. Company D was assaulting a heavily fortified dual bunker system atop a high hill just west of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. The bunkers were extremely formidable, constructed with rock and natural materials, dried and hardened, and were able to support each other by direct fire. As the company closed on the enemy stronghold, First Lieutenant Hogan advanced to the front of his unit in order to determine the extent of the enemy's defenses and the overall strength of the foe's position. As soon as he came within view, a fusillade of enemy automatic weapons and machine gun fire opened up on him, churning up the earth within inches of his position. First Lieutenant Hogan immediately realized that no men could successfully storm this position without supporting fires. And so, fully exposing himself to the fierce enemy onslaught in order to be certain of the positions he was recording, First Lieutenant Hogan called in tactical air strikes and artillery fires. As these fires came raining, only a short distance from First Lieutenant Hogan's position, the officer bravely stayed at his post so that he could determine the effectiveness of the friendly firepower. Then, the artillery and air strikes having subsided, he directed one of his platoons to storm the position. However, the enemy still held their ground tenaciously as a withering hail of bullets tore into the advancing platoon's rank allowing it to go no further than First Lieutenant Hogan's forward position, although some individuals advanced to within ten meters of the enemy bunkers before being forced to withdraw. Once, again, First Lieutenant Hogan called in supporting fires from artillery units and fighter jets and this time he crawled even closer to the enemy in an effort to assure the effectiveness of this fire. As the lethal weapons pounded the bunker positions, debris showered First Lieutenant Hogan and shrapnel flew over his head, as they lifted, called for two more platoons to storm the challenging citadel. As the paratroopers rushed up the hillside, the enemy opened fire once again with terrifying accuracy, and as they swarmed past First Lieutenant Hogan's position, the officer stood bolt upright amidst the carnage about him in a gallant effort to encourage the men onward. Despite intensified enemy fire from the bunkers, further machine gun fire from the reverse slope, and enemy mortar fire, the combination of heavy artillery and air power along with the tenacity and courage of First Lieutenant Hogan's men were able to overcome all resistance. Greatly inspired by the sheer audacity and calm courage of their commander, the infantrymen overran enemy's position, killing all the defenders. First Lieutenant Hogan'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.

22 March 1968



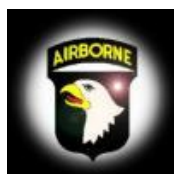
SPC Francis J. Gentile (HHC/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 March 1968. Specialist Gentile distinguished himself while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, near Hue, Republic of Vietnam. The company had set up a night operations position on a ridgeline when it was hit by heavy hostile mortar fire. Although wounded by shrapnel during the initial bursts of mortar fire, Specialist Gentile refused to accept any medical attention. Ignoring the imminent danger of further wounds, he moved through the intense enemy fire to treat other wounded men. When the pain of his wounds forced him to discontinue moving about, he directed the wounded to be brought to him for treatment. Only after he was certain that he had given first aid to each wounded man, did Specialist Gentile consent to his own evacuation. His determined selflessness saved the lives of many of his comrades. Specialist Gentile's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, unit, and the United States Army.

22 March 1968

2LT Gary C. Bridges (C/2-501 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor (1-OLC) for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 March 1968. Lieutenant Bridges distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader with Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Airborne Infantry, on a search and clear operation near Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Company C was setting up a night operation position along a ridgeline when they came under an intense enemy mortar attack. Fifty mortar rounds exploded within the perimeter itself. Totally ignoring his own safety, Lieutenant Bridges moved among his men calmly reorganizing their positions, directing their fire, and aiding the wounded. When one enemy blast rendered the company communications net inoperative, Lieutenant Bridges moved quickly to the hardest hit part of the perimeter, the eastern sector, and defying the lethal shrapnel, he quickly reestablished the sector's defensive positions. Consequently, when the company sustained an enemy ground attack the charge was repulsed and Lieutenant Bridges's sector of the perimeter did not sustain a single casualty. Lieutenant Bridges's courageous actions and astute leadership are in keeping with the highest tradition of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself his unit and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 6441; 23 September 1968)

23 March 1967

SP4 Winston J. Georges (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for outstanding display of gallantry in combat actions. SP4 Georges shortly after moving into a security position, Specialist Four Georges was alerted by movement in some tall grass that was nearby. Specialist Georges moved to an exposed position where he could better observe the suspicious area and immediately spotter four Viet Cong soldiers with weapons approaching his position. At the same instant, the lead enemy soldier spotted Specialist Georges. Realizing that he could not deploy his squad, Specialist Georges immediately rushed forward with complete disregard for his own personal safety for a distance of 30 meters through murderous enemy fire and single-handedly assaulted the oncoming enemy. With his initial burst of fire, Specialist Georges killed one of the enemy soldiers and wounded another while causing the remainder to flee. Again, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Specialist Georges continued to pursue the enemy into the dense underbrush for approximately seventy-five meters through a tremendous volume of enemy fire that was concentrated upon him and killed a second enemy soldier and wounded another. Specialist Georges immediately brought his fire team forward along with one machine gun and conducted a thorough search of the immediate area despite enemy sniper fire. As a result of Specialist Georges' heroic actions, no friendly



casualties occurred; however, two enemy soldiers were killed, two were wounded and several weapons and 400 rounds of ammunition were captured. Specialist Georges' outstanding display of gallantry in action and his avid devotion to duty are within the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

23 March 1969

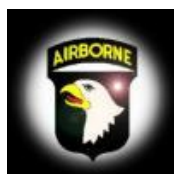
SP4 William F. Baggs Jr. (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star (Posthumously) for gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force while serving with Company C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, in the Republic of Vietnam, on 23 March 1969. Specialist Baggs distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner on a combat operation in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. On the cited date, his platoon was moving along the base of a hill when it came under intense rocket propelled grenade and automatic weapons fire from well-camouflaged and fortified positions. During the initial exchange of fire, the last man and several others were seriously wounded. Realizing the urgency of removing the men from the vicinity of the enemy positions, Specialist Baggs completely disregarding his own safety, volunteered to retrieve the fallen men. He and another man moved toward the positions, drawing heavy enemy fire. With rounds hitting all around him, he reached the wounded lead man and pulled him out of the line of hostile fire, back into the security of the platoon perimeter. Seeing another of his comrades' fall from wounds, he again crawled under the heavy enemy fire to administer first aid, and bring the wounded man to a safe position. Specialist Bagg'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, General Orders No. 6681 (June 11, 1969))

23 March 1969

SP4 Robert L. Wright (D/2-501 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 Company D, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). Specialist Wright distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 23 March 1969 while serving as the radio-telephone operator during a reconnaissance-in-force operation in the jungle region of the A Shau Valley. About three hours after sunset the night defensive perimeter came under hostile automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade fire. During the initial volley, a rocket grenade landed only a meter from the company command post. Even though the round had ignited and could have exploded at any moment, Specialist Wright ran through the incoming fusillade and threw his body on the round, smothering the fuse and rendering it harmless. Exposing himself to direct hostile fire, he began carrying the 81 millimeter rounds to the mortar crews, until the perimeter was threatened with penetration. He then immediately commenced firing into the enemy ranks with his weapon until the enemy withdrew. Specialist Four Wright'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. 3069 (August 11, 1969))

24 March 1968

SGT William D. Montgomery (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (2-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 24 March 1968. Sergeant Montgomery distinguished himself while serving as a team leader with Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry northwest of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. The second squad of the third platoon in Company C was moving through a region with extremely heavy foliage when sniper fire opened up wounding three of the men. Simultaneously a brush fire flared up and began to eat its way toward the wounded men unable to move under their own power. Sergeant Montgomery with utter disregard for his own personal safety threw all his equipment to the ground, and braving two



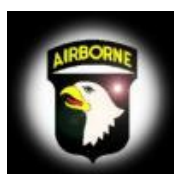
elements, the now heavy enemy fire and the onrushing brush fire, he along with two other men began to move toward the fallen men. When he reached the men, Sergeant Montgomery picked one of the men up and once again ignoring the deadly enemy fire carried the wounded comrade to the rear to be evacuated for medical aid. Sergeant Montgomery'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, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 7153; 12 October 1968)

24 March 1968

SP5 James M. Smith (HHC/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry Regiment, 101st Air Cavalry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam on 24 March 1968. Specialist Fifth Class Smith distinguished himself in the Province of Quan Hong Vang, Republic of Vietnam. During a combat operation in a mountainous area, Company D came under intense small arms and automatic weapons fire from a well-entrenched North Vietnamese force. In the initial burst of fire a member of the company was wounded and separated from his company by a firing lane. Specialist Smith with complete disregard for his own safety crossed the firing lane to assist his comrade. Successfully crossing the firing lane Specialist Smith realized the man was already dead and, when he tried to pull the man back, he came under intense automatic weapons fire. Specialist Smith moved forward and destroyed the enemy bunker complex and again moved back to recover the dead man. As Specialist Smith attempted to drag the man to the rear he again came under intense fire and was forced to withdraw. Specialist Fifth Class Smith'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.

24 March 2008

SPC Preston Kaplan (HHC/1-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when his Platoon was called out on a Quick Reaction Force mission to clear a suspected IED. SPC Kaplan, as the gunner on the lead vehicle in a four vehicle convoy, was tasked to clear the suspected IED. After the site was clear, his vehicle moved west to turn around. Approximately 70 meters north of the suspected site, SPC Kaplan's vehicle was then hit by an IED. The IED knocked his TC, SSG Bryan Bolander, unconscious and disabled and set fire to the vehicle. His vehicle started receiving small arms fire from approximately 150 meters north of his position. SPC Kaplan obtained positive identification of three enemy personnel on a rooftop and engaged them with his 240B machine gun. As SSG Bolander regained consciousness and realized the vehicle was on fire and disabled, he order his men out of the vehicle. On two separate occasions, SPC Kaplan attempted to come down from his gunner's position and exit the vehicle through the driver door. Both times, the door was congested with crew mates attempting to exit so he returned to his gunner position and suppressed enemy fire on the three enemy personnel. After all his ammunition was expended, SPC Kaplan was able to exit the driver's door to safety with the crew of his truck. SPC Kaplan was instrumental to the success of the crew exiting the vehicle safely. Once outside the burning vehicle, SPC Kaplan continued to maneuver on the enemy's suspected location. SPC Kaplan's bravery and dedication to mission accomplishment are unquestionable. He demonstrated extreme courage and valor and set a standard for others to follow.



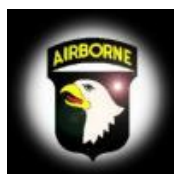
25 March 1966



SSG Ray A. Archuletta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. SSG Archuletta distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 26 March 1966 while serving as a scout team leader during a search and destroy mission near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. As his four man scout team traveled along a dark trail, SSG Archuletta detected a Viet Cong moving in the dense jungle. He immediately moved to the front of his patrol, charged the insurgent, and killed him. Moments after the initial contact, three men were pinned down by intense hostile fire. With complete disregard for his safety, SSG Archuletta charged forward and killed two more Viet Cong before he was seriously wounded himself. Through his courage and determination he contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission, SSG Archuletta'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. (USARV, General Order No. 4742 (18 July 1966))

25 March 1968

SGT William D. Montgomery (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 25 March 1968. SGT Montgomery distinguished himself while serving as a team leader with Company C, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company C was on a reconnaissance operation near Hue, Republic of Vietnam, when they made contact with an enemy entrenched in well-fortified positions. SGT Montgomery was moving with the third platoon which was the second element of the movement. When the first platoon sustained heavy enemy fire, SGT Montgomery's platoon was maneuvered to the left in order to relieve the enemy pressure of the lead element and to put out supporting fire on the enemy position. However, while moving, the third platoon also encountered heavy fire in the form of automatic weapons and grenades, severely wounding two men. With utter disregard for his own safety, SGT Montgomery along with another man moved through the lethal enemy fire to the fallen Soldiers, applied first aid, and then carried them to the rear to be evacuated. Then unhesitatingly SGT Montgomery moved back to the heavy hostile fire and began to assault an enemy position. While crawling and alternately firing his weapon and throwing grenades, disdainful of his own safety, SGT Montgomery calmly placed such effective fire on the well-fortified position that he destroyed not only the position but all the enemy within. With the enemy silenced SGT Montgomery reorganized the men in his team and moved forward again. His unwavering courage and fierce determination not only destroyed the enemy position but took pressure off the rest of the company and allowed them to regroup. SGT Montgomery'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. (DA, HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Orders Number 5720; 9 September 1968)



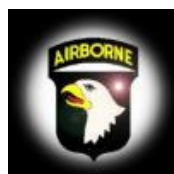
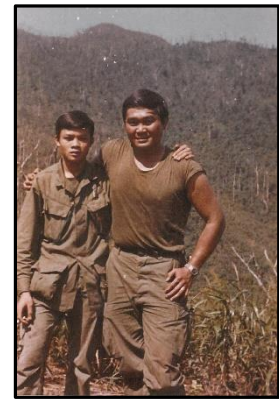
25 March 1969

MAJ John C. Reid (HHC/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 25 March 1969. Major Reid distinguished himself while serving as the Battalion S-3, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, during a reconnaissance in force mission east of the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. Major Reid was moving with the Command Group of Company B when the lead element came under heavy automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire. The First and Third Platoon were pinned down and the First Platoon had called for more ammunition. Major Reid secured the necessary ammunition and started forward under heavy fire. Once forward, he located the Third Platoon, which was pinned down by rocket propelled grenade and automatic weapons fire. During this time, the Second Platoon was maneuvering on the right flank and had come under fire. A ninety millimeter recoilless rifle which was being used to clear the area of snipers was located with the Second Platoon. Major Reid instructed two men to watch carefully while he drew fire on an open trail in an effort to locate the enemy positions. He then proceeded to move across the trail under intense enemy fire and joined the Second Platoon, which was just beginning an assault. He then located the recoilless rifle whose gunner had been killed. He took the weapon and then assaulted with the platoon firing the weapon as he moved. After turning the weapon over to another man, he returned to the Third Platoon which was still pinned down. He resolutely moved from man to man, encouraging them to move in an assault which succeeded in routing the enemy from their positions, leaving two enemy casualties behind. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, he contributed to the success of the mission immeasurably. Major Reid'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.



27 March 1971

1LT Kenji Takeda (C/1-501 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. First Lieutenant Takeda distinguished himself on 27 March 1971 while serving as a platoon leader during combat operations in Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam. While leading a patrol, Lieutenant Takeda's platoon came under intense enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire. Although wounded by the enemy fire, Lieutenant Takeda directed the suppressive fire of his platoon. He then led an assault on the enemy positions, continuing even after being wounded a second time. Through-out the encounter he directed his element's fire, radioed for support, and directed the evacuation of the wounded. His efforts were instrumental in routing the enemy from the area. First Lieutenant Takeda's gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



27 March 2008

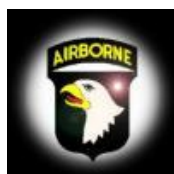
SPC Joseph W. Fisher Jr. (D/526 BSB) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor while he served as a M88 crewman that participated in a barrier emplacement mission in western Baghdad. He exposed himself to a large amount of direct and indirect fire while repositioning barriers between checkpoints. SPC Fisher had two mortars impact near the M88 as they moved into position to maneuver a barrier. After seeking cover near the M88, SPC Fisher assumed his position to hook up the barrier. The M88 maneuvered the barrier into position and SPC Fisher placed the ladder against the wall. As he crested the top of the barrier, he was met with nearly accurate small arms fire. He descended and again returned to the top of the barrier five times before he was able to unhook to the barrier allowing the M88 to place it. This barrier emplacement was crucial in sealing off the wall to prevent insurgents from crossing into North Ghazalayah from Shulla. A short time later, the M88 was engaged by a RPG, which missed and impacted the barriers 15 meters from SPC Fisher. SPC Fisher's courage and dedication to mission accomplishment played a critical role in the ability of the squadron to seal off the Shulla Bridge, a critical avenue of approach into Northern Ghazalayah for criminals and terrorists. For his actions he received the Army Commendation with Valor.

***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 2d 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 3d Battalions of the 502nd Infantry Regiment. With this reorganization, the Brigade adopted the regimental motto, "Strike."



ACRONYMS

AO: Area of Operations
ARA: Aerial Rocket Artillery
ARCOM: Army Commendation Medal
ARVN: Army of the Republic of Viet Nam (also known as the South Vietnamese Army (SVA))
BDE: Brigade
BN: Battalion
BSM: Bronze Star Medal
BBT: Booby Traps
CA: Combat Assault
CANOPY: Heavily Wooded Terrain
CO: Company
CP: Command Post
DSC: Distinguished Service Cross
DZ: Drop Zone
FSB: Fire Support Base
HQ: Headquarters
IED: Improvised Explosive Device
IN: Infantry
KBA: Killed by Air or Artillery
KHA: Killed by Hostile Action
KIA: Killed in Action
KNHA: Killed by Non-hostile Action
LZ: Helicopter Landing Zone
MI: Military Intelligence
MOH: Medal of Honor
MP: Military Police
NDP: Night Defensive Position
NVA: North Vietnamese Army
OBJ: Objective
OP: Observation Post
PAVN: People Army of Vietnam
POW: Prisoner of War
PT: Popular Forces
PZ: Helicopter Pick-up Zone
Recon Platoon: Reconnaissance Platoon
RIF: Reconnaissance in Force
ROK: Republic of Korea
SA: Situational Awareness
SIGINT: Signal Intelligence
SSM: Silver Star Medal
STRIKE Force: 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry
SVA: South Vietnamese Army
TOC: Tactical Operations Center
WIA: Wounded in Action
WHA: Wounded by Hostile Action
WNHA: Wounded by Non-hostile Action
"V": Valor
VC: Viet Cong

