



**2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT)**  
**“STRIKE HISTORY”**  
**01 September – 07 September 2013**



September –  
November 2008

As security throughout 1-75 CAV AO improved, citizens of Ghazaliyah that had fled during the height of sectarian violence in 2007 began to return to their homes. 4/22/6 IA BN with the aid of 1-75 CAV ensured these Internally Displaced Persons safely returned to their homes. The operation successfully returned over 200 displaced families to Ghazaliyah from September 2008 until its relief in place in November. The long partnership between 1-75 CAV and 4/22/6 IA paid significant dividends as the IA really took charge of this Government of Iraq initiative and establish two IDP Resettlement Centers. These centers were used by IDP’s to notify the ISF that they intended to reoccupy their property and demonstrate they possessed the proper documentation. The brave citizens that returned to Ghazaliyah led the way for other Iraqis and were proof of the impact that 1-75 CAV had on the improvements to security and stabilization of the area.

01 September 1968

An ambush by D/1-502 engaged 1 VC, vic. YD6730, resulting in 1 VC KIA and a weapon. Recon/1-502 was sent to vic. YD7231, where log bird had fired on 3 NVA. Recon had 1 NVA KIA, 1 NVA and 1 VC captured.

01 September 2010 –  
18 April 2011

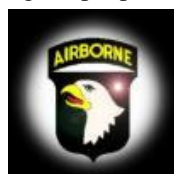
CTF STRIKE conducted Operation Economic Corridors (Amaliat Dalize Aqtesad). Originally intended to clear areas throughout Zharay and Panjwa“i Districts to deny insurgents access to engagement and support zones, increase GIROA influence along Highway 1 and enhance development west of Kandahar City, this became CTF STRIKE“s overarching campaign plan. The intent for the initial phases of the operation was to destroy insurgent C2, caches and will, thus defeating their capability to influence Kandahar City, adjacent districts and Highway 1.

CF and ANSF cleaned up the roadsides adjacent to Highway 1, moving and hauling away rubble and destroyed vehicles that the insurgents caused. This was both to provide standoff along the highway so that insurgents could not emplace ambush positions as well as to present a picture of security to the Afghan people traveling on the main



commerce artery. 3/2 SCR established a partnership with 6/3/205 Kandak for execution of operations in Maiwand and watchtowers were established along Highway 1 in order to increase GIROA control of this key terrain. Tactical Infrastructure (TI) was established in critical locations and a ground LOC (RTE London) was created to bypass the IED laden RTE Langley and establish a crossing site of the Arghandab River to support operations in the Horn of Panjwa“i.

Operation Economic Corridors eventually grew to encompass all operations within the Governance and Development Lines of Effort. These included operations to construct and refurbish the road network that supported local freedom of movement and commerce, development of professional Afghan National Security Forces in Zharay and Maiwand, refurbishment of the Zharay District Center, bazaar, and ANP station, conduct of agricultural training to increase local capability and capacity to maximize land use and foster economic growth, and collection of population census data to assist with future engagements with the Afghan people. A key operation that occurred was the registration



of motorcycles throughout Zharay and Maiwand; this operation was widely hailed by local nationals as an example of things that they expected their government to do for them in order to enhance security.

01 - 06  
September 2012

**ANSF mission command of independent operations.** On 4 SEP 12, OCCP Nangahar reported that a suicide bomber detonated at a funeral located in Dur-Baba District, Nangarhar Province resulting in 40x KIA and 70x WIA. The OCC-P Nangahar sent ciphers to PHQ and OCC-R informing security forces of the situation. ANSF first-responders from across Eastern Nangahar converged on the scene. This enabled leaders to direct security forces to respond to the traumatic incident. The Corps Battle Major directed the PAO to quickly message the event to the media highlighting ANSF rapid response and to denounce the cowardly actions of the INS.

**Brigade Level Logistics.** On 3 Sep, the Gamberi Forward Supply Depot (FSD) received a convoy from the National Supply Depot. Receipt of this convoy was encouraging news for the 201st Corps for several reasons. First, the delivery included 5 of the Corps' Top 10 High Demand CL IX Parts. Secondly, MG Wazeri's emphasis to increase the frequency of CL IX parts flow from NSD is bearing fruit. The frequency of convoys has improved from 59 days in MAY-JUL to every 19 days in AUG-SEP.

**ANSF enabler training and capacity building.** 4/201 ANA Brigade D30s executed a fire mission in support of OPN MTN Husky near Dangam. The target was the point of origin of small arms and RPG fire. What is extraordinary is the sophistication in their call for fire drill. The ANA called up max ord and GTL to the US TOC effectively executing airspace deconfliction. 1-12 confirmed that the airspace was clear and that there were no CDE issues in the area. The ANA executed an initial fire mission with two adjustments. Additionally, there were initial reports that PAK-MIL was firing at the same enemy contact. After action reports indicate that the insurgents were attempting to work a seam between PAKMIL and ANSF possibly to provoke a border fires incident.

**ANSF intelligence-driven operations.** On 6 SEP, an AUP CID team from the ZHQs thwarted two suicide bombers enroute to Panjshayr targeting the 1st VP (Marshal Fahim Qasem) and MoI Minister (Bisam Ullah Muhammed) who were expected to attend the Massoud Day Memorial. The two bombers are cousins who were recruited at the Imam Azam Madrassa in the Imam Sahib District of Kunduz by Moloway Ismaiel. The CID discovered them in Qala Khawaja Village, Bagram due to a source they had maintained for the past month. Of significance is that the Zone CID Directorate built targeting packets on these two bombers completely without CF help, and captured them and their vests prior to waging the attack. Both suicide bombers were transferred to the MoI Counter- Terrorism Directorate based on the severity of their crimes.

02 September 1968

1-502 had no significant contact but the Battalion continued to encounter many BBT's.

03 - 06  
September 1968

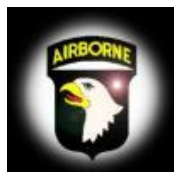
Combat operations were halted during Typhoon Bess, which brought heavy rains and gust of wind up to 40-60 knots. During the period 040200 Sept - 061400 Sept, a total of 19.02 inches of rain fall on Camp Eagle (YD 808162), the Division Base Camp. All combat aviation missions were cancelled during this period. After the heavy rains stopped the RF/PF forces and 1/501 Inf conducted several Eagle Flights over the flooded coastal lowlands in an attempt to locate enemy forces. Civil Affairs teams were very active as they distributed tons of needed food, clothing and construction materials to the local Vietnamese who had suffered economic and physical damage to their property.

03 September 1968

A/1-502 found 2 VC bodies in a bunker, vic. YD6232. B/1-502 found about 3000lb of rice. Recon/1-502 found 2 VC graves.

03 September 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A downed gunship was discovered by A/2-502 (YD598084).



04 – 05 September 1968 1-502 had no contact was made. C/1-502 replaced company A/1-502 on An Lo Bridge security.

05 September 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Operation Texas Star was terminated and Operation Jefferson Glen began. The final results for Operation Texas Star were: 37 US KIA, 290 US WIA, 288 Medevaced. Enemy casualties known are 228 KIA, 61 KBA and 2 PW's. 2/502 performed in an outstanding manner, and moved anxiously into Operation Jefferson Glen.

06 – 14 September 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Heavy rains (typhoon) during early September caused the operation to come to a halt for three days, ending on 6 Sept. when extraction of STRIKE Force elements to the Rear for a stand down was begun. The stand down activities and Unit Proficiency Training was conducted 7-14 Sept.

06 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** 2/502 Battalion remained at Camp Eagle and conducted refresher training until this day, when operation began in a new area of operations around FSB Normandy. There was no enemy contact on this date.

06 September 2010 STRIKE 6 visited Battery A, 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment's COP Nolen and presented the STRIKE Brigade's coin to CPL Jason Cartwright and his bomb dog "Isaac" for excellence. CPL Cartwright and "Isaac" have successfully located two IEDs in two days during clearing operations in the vicinity of Charqolba Olya. CPL Cartwright is assigned to 67th Engineer Detachment, 5th Engineer Battalion, in support of 1-320th FA; 5th Engineer Battalion is from Fort Leonard Wood, MO.



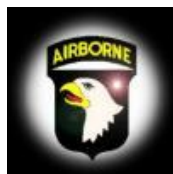
07 September 1968 A/1-502 killed 1 VC and captured 2, vic. YD7030; the company found weapons cache with 26 weapons, vic. YD6234. C/1-502 secured An Lo Bridge and established local ambushes. Recon/1-502 killed 2 VC and captured 1 VC, vic. YD7334.

07 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** B/2-502 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon spotted 3 to 4 NVA lying in the sun. ARA and artillery were employed resulting in three enemy killed.

**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 502<sup>nd</sup> IN Regiment.**

3 x Silver Star (1 x Posthumously)  
11 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor  
33 x Purple Hearts (12 x Posthumously)  
1 x Non-Hostile Injury or Illness

01 September 1968 1LT John F. Hay (B/1-502 IN) action in combat earned him the Purple Heart. For wounds sustained as a result of enemy or hostile actions. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 6027, 20 May 1969)



01 September 2010 The following Soldiers: SSG Erik Hanson, SGT Francisco Silva, PFC Jonathan Marion and PFC Brandon Davis (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

02 September 1968 PFC George V. Szczepanczyk (B/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.

02 September 1971 SP4 Gordon L. Kimmel (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds (Booby Trap) in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

02 September 2010 SGT Michael Turner (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire.

02 September 2010 SPC Jason Evans (A/526 BSB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with 82mm rounds.

03 September 1965 1LT George W. Burkheart (HHC/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 an Military Region and Province Unknown, South Vietnam.

03 September 1969 The following Soldiers: CPT Richard C. Miller, SGT Gary L. Evans, CPL Leroy Rutherford, PFC Louis T. Mills, SP4 Neal D. Epifanio, (D/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (Air Loss-Noncrew) crash and burn on liftoff from LZ T-Bone, in the Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam.

03 September 2010 SSG Stephen Mosley (A/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with a rocket propelled grenade.

04 September 1965 1SG Frederick C. Brander (A/2-501 IN) action in combat earned him the Purple Heart. For wounds sustained as a result of enemy or hostile actions.

05 September 1965 SGT Lawrence E. Jackson (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other causes a Military Region and Province Unknown, South Vietnam.

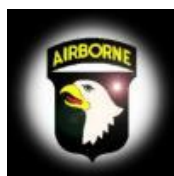
05 September 1966 PFC Mack A. Knight (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Phu Yen Province, South Vietnam.

05 September 1966 PFC Russell B. Walker (HHC/2-502 IN) died from other Non-Hostile causes in the Phu Yen Province, South Vietnam.

05 September 2010 PFC Carlos Leal (B/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

05 September 2010 The following Soldiers: SGT David Dunlap, SGT Brian Constantino, PFC Michael Waskom and PFC Stephen Kuvik (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

06 September 2010 PFC Jorge Cortes (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with a rocket propelled grenade.





- 06 September 2010 SPC Robert Dickey (HHC/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.
- 07 September 1967 The following Soldiers: SFC Ray A. Archuletta and CPL Ronald P. Cherrstrom (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 Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam.
- 07 September 1968 SP4 George R. Dorchak (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 07 September 2010 The following Soldiers: SSG Michael Thomas, SGT Ronald Jenkins and SPC Tyler Marson (B/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

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

01 September 2010



SPC Billy Richardson (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself by valorous service while defending Strong Point Pulchakhan from a determined enemy and by providing life-saving aid to his fellow Soldiers.

2nd Platoon partnered with personnel of the Afghan National Army 2nd Platoon 1/3/205 Kandak were defending newly acquired SP Pulchakhan approximately one kilometer south of Highway 1. SP Pulchakhan was divided into two separate SP's with New Pulchakhan to the north, and Old Pulchakhan separated by 75 meters of dense terrain to the south.

As the guard towers were conducting a relief in place, insurgent forces engaged Old Pulchakhan with RPG and heavy AK-47 fire from a distance of 250 meters to the southeast. An RPG struck one guard tower on the southern side, critically injuring SSG Hanson, SGT Silva (SPC Richardson's squad leader), PFC Marion, and PV2 Davis.

Disregarding his own personal safety, SPC Richardson immediately ran from his position in the center of the SP and climbed the 30 foot ladder that led up to the guard tower while it was still under heavy contact from insurgent forces to assist two of the casualties that were in the tower. SPC Richardson escorted SSG Hanson down the ladder, supporting the majority of his bodyweight and moving him out of the danger area. Realizing he was isolated and his immediate leadership was incapacitated, he quickly moved into action trying to regain the initiative.



SPC Richardson unhesitatingly made the climb back up the ladder to Guard Tower 5 while completely exposed to effective fire from the enemy in order to make radio contact with his platoon leader who was at New Pulchakhan. He quickly gained situational awareness of the contact, and relayed the distance, direction, and description of the insurgents to the adjacent towers coordinating fire and massing his squad's combat power on the enemy.

Due to his poise under fire and timely decisions, the enemy attack was quickly broken with precision lethal fires, and the enemy was forced to break contact. SPC Richardson exited Guard Tower 5 and ensured all casualties were collected at the CCP and provided



a precise report to the Platoon Sergeant and medic who were en-route from emplacing a protective wire obstacle 100 meters west of SP Pulchakhan.

SPC Richardson rendered life-saving aid to SSG Hanson who was bleeding profusely from severe lacerations to his head. He was also able to stop the bleeding and bandage two other casualties who suffered multiple lacerations and shrapnel to the arms and upper legs. SPC Richardson's flawless medical care resulted in the platoon medic having to provide no further treatment for the casualties prior to their CASEVAC back to FOB Howz-e-Madad.

SPC Richardson's dedication to his comrades, courage under fire, as well as his poise while assuming his critically injured squad leader's role allowed his squad to successfully defend SP Pulchakhan from an insurgent attack and quickly transport four casualties to higher level medical care in an efficient manner.



His actions were instrumental in the success of his platoon securing SP Pulchakhan, preparing for future Afghan National Civil Order Police (ANCOP) occupation and securing a vital line of communication for the brigade. His dedication to his fellow Soldiers and mission accomplishment exemplify the traits required of a STRIKE Force Soldier.

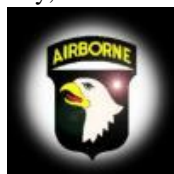
03 September 1965

1LT George W. Burkheart (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action 1LT Burkheart distinguished himself by exceptionally heroic action on 3 September 1965 while serving as a reconnaissance platoon leader in the Republic of Vietnam. Engaged in a search and destroy operation near the village of Binh Khe. Lieutenant Burkheart and his entire platoon became pinned down by intense enemy small arms fire while crossing an open rice paddy. Realizing that continued hostile fire would inflict heavy casualties upon his men, Lieutenant Burkheart continually exposed himself while moving from position to position shouting words of encouragement and directing fire on the enemy positions to his immediate front. On a number of occasions he exposed himself to direct hostile fire in order to observe the enemy and direct fire. Twice Lieutenant Burkheart exposed himself to direct the movement and adjustment of machine guns, and the second time he was mortally wounded. By his brave action, personal example, and obvious concern for his men, he so inspired them that they were able to overcome the numerically superior Viet Con force. Led by his example, the platoon moved forward and occupied their objective. Lieutenant Burkheart's conspicuous 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.

03 September 1968



MAJ Sidney Shachnow (HHC/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in combat operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 3 September 1968. Major Shachnow distinguished himself while serving as the S3 Officer for the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry during a combat operation. During the early evening hours, Major Shachnow was conducting a light aerial reconnaissance of the battalion area of operations when he spotted a cooking fire. Major Shachnow, knowing that there were no friendly forces in the area, immediately placed fire on the objective. After a thorough aerial search of the area, he located a sampan, which was partially hidden in a hanging bush along a river bank. He then directed the pilot to fly very low over the target in an effort to locate possible enemy Soldiers. Spotting two enemy Soldiers, Major Shachnow personally marked the enemy's location with tracer rounds. Oblivious to his own safety, he maintained an exposed position and continued to order



repeated passes over a hedgerow concealing the remaining enemy Soldiers. As the enemy began evasive action, Major Shachnow fired on them and directed the helicopter to land in preparation for an attack on the enemy's position. A thorough search of the area revealed that Major Shachnow had discovered an enemy base camp of well fortified and camouflaged bunkers containing vast quantities of rice. Major Shachnow's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

05 September 2010



SPC Timothy King (A/2BSTB) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor during combat operations in the Arghandab River valley, displayed tremendous valor and courage while conducting a dismounted demolition mission, assisting in the establishment of Strong Point Lugo, Charqolba-Olya, Combined Area of Operations Top Guns while assigned to Company A, 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion.

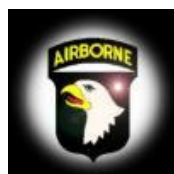
On September 5, SPC King was responsible for explosively reducing trees in order to improve Strong Point Lugo's observation and fields of fire. The enemy had launched daily attacks on the Strong Point from covered and concealed positions in the immediate vicinity. The Sappers were tasked to eliminate these positions. While en-route to the objective, SPC King's sapper squad along with a security detachment from 1st platoon, Battery A, 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, CTF Top Guns came under heavy sustained enemy small arms and RPG fire approximately 200 meters south of Charqolba-Olya, Arghandab District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

Undeterred by the enemy's SAF attack, SPC King assessed the situation, placed mission accomplishment over his own safety, and led his team to complete the task. While under fire, he swept for mines with the Vallons mine detector. Once he determined that the route was too dangerous for this, he conducted a deliberate breach up to the objective with an APOBS. After safely reaching the objective, he established security positions at appropriate intervals along the wall on the north side of the objective.



While SPC King and the demolition team were placing charges around trees, the enemy increased the intensity and accuracy of their fires attempting to defend this key terrain. Undeterred by the enemy attacks, SPC King and his team emplaced charges over two hours of sporadic enemy fires. As the team began withdrawing from the objective, SPC King positively identified enemy forces advancing toward his position from a grape hut not more than 50 meters away. He immediately returned effective fire, pinning down enemy forces and allowing a safe withdrawal of friendly forces from the objective.

Showing great attention to detail, SPC King inspected all charges and tie-ins, corrected deficiencies and bounded back to the objective rally point (ORP). Once the patrol had 100% accountability of all personnel and equipment, SPC King pulled the demolition initiator, resulting in the destruction of 25 trees and 200 meters of wall, and greatly increasing the defensibility of Strong Point Lugo.





05 September 2010



SGT Matthew Pemble (A/1-320 FA) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor during combat operations in the Arghandab River valley in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) 10-11, displayed valor and courage while conducting dismounted operations in Charqolba-Olya.

On 5 September 2010, while conducting dismounted demolition operations, SGT Pemble's sapper squad, along with 1/A/CTF Top Guns, came under heavy small arms and RPG fire in an ambush approximately 200 meters south of Charqolba-Olya, Arghandab Province, Afghanistan. The squad's mission was to explosively clear and reduce trees and a wall in order to improve the fields of fire for Strong Point Lugo. SGT Pemble was tasked with placing expedient demolitions charges on a tree line along the north side of the footpath, once it had been cleared. While emplacing the charges, his forward security team became engaged with small arms fire from multiple enemy fighting positions. SGT Pemble maneuvered himself to the pre-established limit of advance, and began issuing fire commands, overwhelming the enemy with fire superiority.

Once the advantage was gained, SGT Pemble carefully placed each charge and thoroughly inspected the line main. Once complete, he ordered his fire teams to bound back while maintaining suppressive fire. The enemy, unaware of the onslaught of explosives about to be initiated, and acknowledging SGT Pemble's position, increased their rate of fire and attempted to maneuver onto SGT Pemble's squad. The enemy's desperate attack forced SGT Pemble to take cover in a nearby canal.



From this position SGT Pemble returned fire and ordered the forward security team to bound back. Once his forward security had reached safety, SGT Pemble detonated the charges. Demoralized and disoriented by the explosion, the enemy broke contact. SGT Pemble then took a small security team and inspected the site to ensure all charges were detonated and that the desired effect was reached. In all, 25 trees and 200 meters of wall were leveled, greatly increasing the fields of fire for Strong point Lugo. True to his Sapper mission, SGT Pemble had provided increased survivability for Strong Point Lugo and deteriorated the enemy's freedom of mobility.

SGT Pemble's immediate actions on contact, tenacious pursuit of the mission, and technical and tactical prowess are exemplary of the highest Army traditions.

05 September 2010



The following Soldiers: SSG Timothy McKinnis, SGT Jesse Hattesoehl, SGT Zachary Fraker and PFC Mark Drake earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor; SPC Cody Chandler earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor and Purple Heart, during the clearance of the Village of Tiranana as members of 1st platoon, Company C, 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment partnered with 4th Company 2/3/205 Corps ANA conducted an intelligence driven clearance of an enemy cache in Zharay district. The clearance disrupted Taliban influence and IED construction in the area of operations.

As the platoon arrived at the enemy cache site, they received effective and sustained small arms and machinegun fire from enemy positions across an open field. This area was template as the local Taliban headquarters with approximately 20 fighters operating throughout the area as well as a well defended engagement zone for the Taliban. Upon taking fire, SSG McKinnis, the 2nd squad leader, SGT Hattesoehl, the 2nd squad alpha team leader, and SGT Fraker, the 2nd squad bravo team leader, quickly realized the need to establish an attack-by-fire position to allow the platoon space to maneuver.

The squad moved to the edge of the covered and concealed position in order to provide suppressive fire and direct the maneuver of the fire teams. SGT Hattesoehl and SGT







Fraker quickly realized their team’s weapons could not fire accurately fire on the insurgents” position. With complete disregard for their own personal safety, SGT Hattesoehl and SGT Fraker moved out of their covered and concealed positions into the open in order to lay suppressive fires.



As the rest of his squad provided suppressive fires with their M4s and M249s from their covered locations, SSG McKinnis alternated between teams in order to direct their engagement of the enemy and also to provide his team leaders with tactical instructions. SSG McKinnis also directed the maneuver of the attached ANA partners and headquarters element. As the rest of his team continued to provide suppressive fires SGT Fraker fired his M320 Grenade Launcher directly onto the enemy position. Throughout the fight, SGT Hattesoehl and SGT Fraker alternated between covered and uncovered positions in order to engage the enemy as well as guide the actions of their teams.



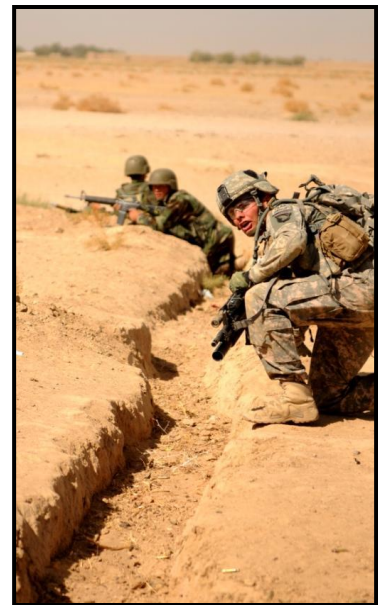
SPC Chandler led his team into a wadi 200 meters north of the insurgent buildings and fighting positions. From this position, SPC Chandler maneuvered along the wadi in order to engage the enemy and direct the fires of his team. An hour into the fight, as he was maneuvering through exposed terrain to direct his Soldiers” fire, SPC Chandler was struck by an enemy gunshot to his abdomen. After being injured, he remained calm and assisted in his own medical care until he was evacuated from the battlefield.



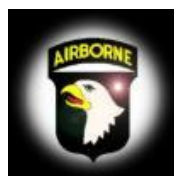
As the battle continued, SGT Fraker was the first to recognize a Taliban reinforcement of 10 fighters moving west along a road to the south of the platoon. He quickly reoriented his team’s fire to suppress the enemy reinforcements before they affected the fight. SGT Fraker’s decisive reaction prevented the insurgents from maneuvering on Coalition Forces. SGT Fraker’s team effectively engaged the enemy with 40mm High Explosive grenade and machine gun fire that broke the enemy counter attack.



Under SGT Hattesoehl’s leadership, his team effectively engaged the insurgents with over 30 High Explosive 40mm grenades, SMAW-D, as well as suppressive fires from the team’s organic weapons which allowed the platoon to break contact and evacuate a seriously wounded Soldier. As rotary wing close air support arrived, SSG McKinnis, SGT Hattesoehl and SGT Fraker risked their lives again by moving forward to a position to mark enemy locations for engagement by rotary wing fires. During this action, they moved into the open field multiple times to direct the withdrawal of the squad and the headquarters element.



PFC Drake swiftly identified the enemy’s location and assessed the requirement and called for indirect fire support. During this engagement, PFC Drake repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire as he called for indirect fire missions with both 155mm and 120mm systems as well as twelve Kiowa Warrior gun runs. With complete disregard for his own safety and under direct enemy fire, multiple times he moved to a position forward of the platoon



to mark friendly positions. As he was marking friendly positions, PFC Drake recognized a better location for adjusting fire missions. With his platoon still under contact, he moved back into a position under direct enemy fire and continued to adjust calls for fire in order to allow their displacement to a defensible position.

Once his platoon was within defensive terrain, PFC Drake moved to the roof of a nearby building and continued to engage the enemy with indirect and rotary wing fires. Throughout the battle, he provided his Platoon Leader with current assessments as well as accurate and timely information to the Squadron tactical operations center. PFC Drake's actions were essential in the defeat of an entrenched enemy force along the Taliban Zharay defensive belt.

With complete disregard for his own safety, SSG McKinnis' immediate actions in the enemy engagement area enabled him to maneuver his squad and suppress the insurgent attack. Throughout the three hour fire fight, he risked his life multiple times in order to successfully suppress the enemy, provide life-saving cover fire, and mark enemy locations with smoke. As a result of SSG McKinnis actions, direct and indirect fires killed an estimated 15 Taliban insurgents. His performance and leadership while under direct enemy fire were instrumental in the platoon's success.



With complete disregard for his own safety, SGT Hattesoehl's immediate actions in the enemy engagement area enabled him to direct the movement of his team and suppress an enemy attack. Throughout the battle, he risked his life multiple times in order to successfully suppress the enemy, provide life-saving cover fire, and mark enemy locations with smoke. As a result of SGT Hattesoehl's actions, fifteen enemy fighters were destroyed through the synchronization of direct and indirect fires. His performance and leadership while under direct enemy fire were instrumental in the platoon's success.

With complete disregard for his own safety, SGT Fraker's immediate actions in the enemy engagements area enabled him to maneuver his team and suppress the insurgent attack. Throughout the three hour fire fight, he risked his life multiple times in order to successfully suppress the enemy, provide life-saving cover fire, and mark enemy locations with smoke. As a result of SGT Fraker's actions, direct and indirect fires killed an estimated fifteen Taliban insurgents. His performance and leadership while under direct enemy fire were instrumental in the platoon's success.

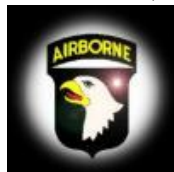
PFC Drake proved himself to be an invaluable asset with his calm and effective actions that brought an immediate and deadly result to the enemy. His actions that day prevented the enemy from maneuvering against his platoon. He displayed maturity and courage beyond what is expected of any Soldier and his immediate actions in his first fire fight ensured 1st Platoon's success

05 September 2010



The following Soldiers: 1LT Barrett Rife and SSG George Harrison Jr. (A/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor while conducting a mounted rescue mission along route Ottawa between Strong Point Lakokhel and Strong Point Ghundy Ghar, 2nd platoon's lead vehicle struck a pressure plate IED (PPIED). The IED strike was so powerful it forced the MAXPRO vehicle into a vertical position.

The vehicle came to rest on the ramp and resulted in extreme injuries to four U.S. Soldiers. 1LT Rife, the platoon leader, 2nd platoon, ignored any threat of possible secondary IEDs and moved to the site of the IED strike. With the assistance of his weapons squad leader, SSG Harrison, they began the extraction and assessment of







wounded. Total disregard for their own safety in order to save the lives of four fellow Soldiers resulted in the wounded immediately receiving life saving care.

1LT Rife immediately assessed and reinforced security at the IED site. He requested ISR assets to aid in security as he began initial assessment of the wounded. Completing his initial assessment, 1LT Rife calmly submitted a 13-line MEDEVAC request, which resulted in a rapid wheels-up time for the MEDEVAC aircraft from Kandahar Air Field. After submitting the MEDEVAC request he assisted in the extraction of two of the four wounded from the escape hatch on the roof of the struck MAXPRO, SGT Dunlap and PFC Waskom, both of whom had sustained less-serious lower extremity injuries. 1LT Rife assisted SSG Harrison in moving the first two wounded to an established triage location 100 meters north of the IED site. As the medic began treating the initial wounded, 1LT Rife, again with disregard for his own personal safety, climbed up the outside of the MAXPRO and began the extraction of the TC, SSG Constantino who sustained multiple injuries to his lower extremities. 1LT Rife physically held open the door of the MAXPRO as he removed the TC from the vehicle, carefully lowering him to the ground and moving him to the triage location.

1LT Rife returned to the vehicle for a third time, as SSG Harrison scaled the driver's side of the vehicle he entered the struck vehicle through the escape hatch and began the extraction of SPC Kuvik, the driver of the vehicle. SPC Kuvik was unconscious at the time and had sustained extreme blast injuries to his lower extremities; he was pinned within the vehicle by his restraint system and part of the vehicle's dash. 1LT Rife began cutting and removing restraints and debris, which were preventing the extraction of the driver. SSG Harrison lowered the injured driver down to 1LT Rife, who then extracted him through the escape hatch. After this, he assisted in moving the driver to the triage area.



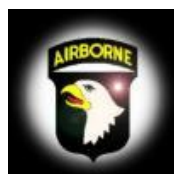
At the triage location, 1LT Rife and SSG Harrison assisted in the treatment of the wounded and then facilitated the loading of all wounded on two MEDEVAC aircraft. 1LT Rife's and SSG Harrison's action and treatment of all four wounded resulted in the survival of all wounded, with no loss of extremities from the injuries sustained from the IED strike.

05 September 2010



SGT Victor Faggiano (C/1-75 CAV) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of the enemy during the clearance of the village of Tiranan as a member of 1st platoon, Company C, 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment. His heroic actions led to the decisive defeat of a Taliban attack. On 5 September 2010, 1-75 CAV partnered with 4th Company/2/3/205 Corps ANA conducted an intelligence driven clearance of an enemy cache in Zharay District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. The clearance disrupted Taliban influence and IED construction in the area of operations.

As SGT Faggiano's platoon arrived at the enemy cache site, his squad received effective and sustained small arms and machine gun fire from two buildings across an open field. These buildings were part of a templated local Taliban headquarters with approximately 20 fighters operating throughout the area. Upon taking fire, SGT Faggiano, the 1st squad leader, quickly realized his squad's position was directly in the cross fire between enemy positions. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he moved into an open



area in order to provide suppressive fires to allow his squad to move to a covered position.

As the rest of his squad maneuvered into a wadi line meters north of the insurgent buildings, SGT Faggiano ran along an exposed wadi in order to engage the enemy and direct the fires of his squad and his attached machine gun team. After an hour of intense combined arms combat, one of his team leaders received a gunshot wound to the abdomen. SGT Faggiano immediately



moved to and provided the initial assessment and care of the wounded Soldier. As the battle continued, he alternated between his squad, the machine gun team, and his wounded team leader ensuring he balanced engaging the enemy with treating the wounded Soldier. While consolidating his squad, SGT Faggiano recognized an enemy force attempting to flank his position along the wadi line they occupied. He rapidly shifted his squad's effects to engage the enemy maneuver. Under his leadership, his Soldiers effectively engaged the insurgents with multiple organic weapons and machine gun fires delivering devastating effects to the enemy.

With complete disregard for his own safety, SGT Faggiano's immediate actions in the enemy engagement area enabled him to maneuver his squad and suppress an insurgent attack. During the three hour fire fight, he risked his life multiple times in order to successfully suppress the enemy, direct life-saving covering fire, and provide essential first responder care. As a result of SGT Faggiano's actions, direct and indirect fires killed an estimated 15 Taliban insurgents. His performance and leadership while under direct enemy fire were instrumental in the platoon's success and allowed his wounded Soldier to be safely medically evacuated.

07 September 1967



SFC Ray A. Archuletta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (2-OLC) (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against a hostile force while serving with Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, in action on 7 September 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Archuletta distinguished himself as his platoon was moving a wounded man to a landing zone to be extracted when they were suddenly brought under a tremendous volume of enemy automatic weapons fire. Seeing his machine gunner wounded, Sergeant Archuletta ordered his evacuation while he rushed forward with complete disregard for his own safety and in spite of the enemy fire to provide covering fire. As the wounded man was too heavy to be carried by the medic, Sergeant Archuletta again moved through the fire and helped carry him to the safety of a nearby wood line position. Nearing the wood line, Sergeant Archuletta was seriously wounded and in one last valiant effort he ordered the medic to take the wounded man to safety as he stayed behind and expended his ammunition to provide the covering fire. The outstanding gallantry, devotion to his fellow soldier, and his intense dedication to duty displayed by Staff Sergeant Archuletta were in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.





**\*STRIKE HISTORY NOTE:**

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

