



2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) “STRIKE HISTORY” 03 August – 09 August 2014



03 August 1968

1-502 conducted normal operations with B/1-502 killing 1 VC in spider hole.

03 - 4 August 1968

Operation SOMERSET PLAIN: 2-502 conducted planning and movement to FSB Birmingham as a road march was conducted, moving the air assault elements to staging area FSB Birmingham (east) This move was accomplished without incident and the STRIKE Force secured their assigned area, and commenced final checks for the 1100h air assault into the A Shau Valley the following morning 4 Aug. At 0800h the STRIKE Force was alerted to assault, beginning at 0904h, all elements were moved into position on the PZ and were ready to go at 0900h. The first element departed to PZ at 0914h. The air movement went well with the last round of Artillery preparation falling approximately 30 seconds before touchdown on LZ Hatchet. The insertion went without incident until the final lift, when one aircraft (gunship) was disabled due to enemy action. This caused a minor change in the planned move from the LZ due to the necessity to secure the area for recovery operations. All units except D/2-502 moved as scheduled. D CO was delayed about three hours until the down aircraft was extracted.

Ground operation commenced with the STRIKE Force moving South and West to secure the high ground southwest of the LZ. The first days' move was without incident. From that point on however, daily contacts were made by most of the units. All actions were small in nature, with no known contacts with any enemy units larger than squad size. Throughout the operation the elements generally remained within 2000 meters of each other in order to be capable of reinforcing in the event of hearing enemy contact. The entire operation was a RIF to test the enemy's reaction to penetration of a considered stronghold, and produce secondary benefits such as reduction of caches, intelligence of the enemy in the area, and to gain information for possible future operations to include general disruption of the enemy's sense of security in the A Shau Valley.

Enemy resistance throughout the operation was characterized by the use of mortar fire both day and night, and the use of numerous RPG's during small contacts. The units were all "shadowed" during the operation, however the use of stay behind forces was ineffective as the enemy shadowed for the most part form adjacent terrain. The enemy generally avoided decisive contact during the entire operation.

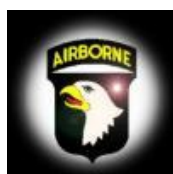
The results of the operation were, 21 x KIA, 19 x KBA, 1 x NVA CIA, 1 x CHIOU HOI, 9 x C/S weapons CIA, 12 x Individual Weapons CIA, and 4 x 2 ½ ton Trucks CIA. US Casualties: 5 x KHA, 58 x WIA.

03 August 1968

Operation SOMERSET PLAIN: A road march was conducted, moving the air assault elements to staging area FSB Birmingham (east) This move was accomplished without incident and the STRIKE Force secured their assigned area, and commence final checks for the 1100h air assault into the A Shau Valley the following morning.

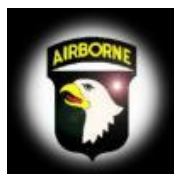
03 August 1969

Operations continued with light enemy contact as the 1-502 conducted a 4 company combat assault into the SONG VANG Valley complex. All LZs were green but contact was scattered in the AO. At 0915H, vic. BS159192, D/1-501 observed and killed 3 VC while suffering 1 WIA. At 11225H, vic. BT135013, B/1-



501 found a grave with a Chinese body 24 hours old KBA. Also at 1125H, vic. AS092918, B/1-502 engaged and killed 1 NVA at 1430H, vic. BS146926, D/1-501 found a 19 year old female VC killed by ARA.

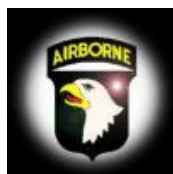
- 04 August 1968 Operation SOMERSET PLAIN begins with the 2nd BN, 502nd IN and the 2nd BN, 327th ABN IN, combat assaulting into the A Shau, landing on the valley floor near the old A Luoi and Ta Bat airstrips. The main objective is to break up the enemy activity that might lead to an assault toward the lowlands. Two battalions of the 1st ARVN Division and the Screaming Eagles 1st BN, 327th, joined the battle later. In the 17 day raid, 170 NVA are killed, four detained and 58 weapons captured. (Weider History Group: 40 years today- A Vietnam War Timeline)
- 04 August 1968 A/1-502 secured An Lo Bridge, RIF to village, vic. YD6432. They encountered BBT but no VC. B/1-502 RIF C/M, vic. YD6630, they killed 1 VC and captured 3 VC, 1 VCS, vic. YD6432. C/1-502 received SA fire from village, vic. YD6232 and called artillery, with negative assessment. D/1-502 was OPCON to 1-327. Recon/1-502 RIF YD6836.
- 04 August 1969 All units reported light enemy contact as extensive RIF operations continued in the AO. At 0915H, vic. BS97923, B/1-502 engaged and killed 1 NVA. At 1205H, vic. BS133997, B/1-501 found 2 graves each containing a VC body wearing khakis. At 1410H, vic. BT149078, Recon/1-46 engaged an unknown size enemy force with small arms fire killing 1 VC. At 1745H, vic. BS125996, B/1-501 engaged 3 VC with ARA and 81mm mortars killing 1 VC. Aerial reconnaissance by the Brigade reconnaissance team and B/2-17 Cav continued with negative enemy contact.
- 05 August 1968 A/1-502 secured An Lo Bridge and conducted Eagle Flights to the north, into "Street" area. B/1-502 killed 3 VC and captured 2 while on RIF operation, vic. YD6630.
- 05 August 1969 At 1400H, vic. BS162982, A/1-501 found 2 assault weapons (9mm French type). At 1630H, vic. BS092920, an element of B/1-502 engaged and killed 1 NVA with small arms at approximately 10 meters.
- 05 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** A/2-502 received eight rounds of mortar fire which fell 200 meters west of their position.
- 06 August 1968 1-502 IN continued RIF operations and secured An Lo Bridge. Several small caches were discovered and C/1-502 killed 1 VC.
- 06 August 1968 Action was highlighted by several small contacts by the 1-502 in the SONG VANG Valley area. At 0930H, vic. BS090922, element of B/1-502 engaged and killed 1 NVA with small arms at range of approximately 10 meters. At 1035H, vic. BS18872, an element of B/2-17 Cav observed a grave with 2 VC. At 1126H, vic. BS162982, D/1-502 found 1 AK47. At 1425H, vic. BS092941, an element of A/1-502 engaged and killed 1 NVA with small arms. At 1500H, vic. BS092949, C/1-502 engaged 2 NVA with small arms; 1 was killed while the other fled south.
- 06 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** A/2-502 found two trail watcher bunkers.
- 06 August –
06 September 2010 CTF STRIKE conducts Operation Gad Amalyat, or Operation Together, with 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment leading the operation partnered with district leadership, Afghan National Police and ANA units throughout Maiwand district to secure the local population and secure the adjacent section of Highway 1.



The close coordination and partnership between 3/2 SCR and the Maiwand district leaders created the conditions to reinforce the connection between the district government and traditional local leadership. This helped enable stable GIRoA governance to connect with the population.

CTF STRIKE Soldiers of 3/2 SCR firmly established themselves at FOB Ramrod, COP Rath, and COP Azizullah to keep Highway 1 in Maiwand district undamaged and free from insurgent influence. ANSF traffic control points along Highway 1 were improved allowing the local population freedom of movement.

- 07 August 1968 1-502 IN conducted RIF operations. C/1-502 conducted CA and engaged 1 VC with negative assessment.
- 07 August 1969 Contact for the day began at 0840H, vic. BS095940, as A/1-502 engaged two NVA with small arms fire at 40 meters resulting in 1 NVA KIA and 1 weapon captured. At 1130H, vic. AS0849333, an element of A/1-502 found a large hut complex which contained two individual weapons. At 1530H, vic. BS132969, an element of B/1-502 captured two .51 cal machineguns and uncovered 3 NVA graves.
- 07 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** A/2-502 found a tunnel complex with an M-60 machine gun.
- 08-09 August 1968 The 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, National Police Field Forces (61 Personnel), a Popular Force Squad, a Psyops broadcast team, elements of the Provincial Reconnaissance Units and Police Special Branch Teams conducted a cordon operation in the hamlets of An Truyen (YD8126) and Ap Trieu Son (YD8027). Numerous agents' reports had indicated the presence of at least one VC platoon in the area. In addition, information from agents also described the methods which the VC used to elude the previous allied sweeps through the same area. If the US/RF/PF forces swept overland, VC observers in observation posts located in pagodas fired warning shots, and the VC hid in the nearby rice paddy and marshy areas. If the allied forces came by helicopter, the VC observers would warn the VC to hide in the bunker complexes in the vicinity of hamlets. To preclude similar occurrences, the 1-501st INF coordinated with the local RF/PF, NPFF and US Navy elements to conduct combined operations.
- 08-09 August 1968 The 1-501st Info National Police Field Forces (61 personnel), a Popular Force squad, a Psyops broadcast team, elements of the Provincial Reconnaissance Units and Police Special Branch Teams conducted a cordon operation in the hamlets of An Truyen (YD 8126) and Ap Trieu Son (YD 8027). Numerous agent reports had indicated the presence of at least one VC platoon in the area. In addition, information from agents also described the methods which the VC used to elude the previous allied sweeps through the same area. If the US/RF/PF forces swept overland, VC observers in observation posts located in pagodas fired warning shots, and the VC hid in the nearby rice paddy *and* marshy areas. If the allied forces came by helicopter, the VC observers would warn the VC to hide in the bunker complexes in the vicinity of the hamlets.
- To preclude similar occurrences, the 1-501st Inf coordinated with the local RF/PF, NPFF and US Navy elements to conduct a combined operation. On the morning of 8 August, A, B, and C/1-501st Inf, with NPFF forces, swept overland and established a cordon around the two hamlets. Simultaneously, US Navy Patrol Air Cushion Vehicles (PACV), not previously used in the area, awaited approximately 5 km away for the word to move to the scene of the cordon. After the cordon was established, the PACV's swept toward the cordoned hamlets. Following the arrival of the PACV's, observation of the VC movement and their suspected locations was maintained by helicopters, which flew to the scene only after the VC had committed themselves to hiding in the water. The ability of the



PACV's to enter the shallow marshy areas, combined with concussion grenades thrown into the rice paddies at the noise of the PACV's, caused the hiding VC to vacate their watery hiding places. Following interrogation of the 104 detainees, 23 were classified as PW's and 40 were classified as Civil Defendants (law violators).

The An Truyen Operation was based on reliable intelligence which led to the conception of a plan which combined Airborne-Naval-Vietnamese forces to exploit this intelligence. The plan provided inherent flexibility and made maximum use of the advantages of the air cushion vehicles. The professional manner in which the operation was executed is evident as 43 VC were killed and 23 VC and 11 individual weapons captured without a single friendly casualty. It also points out the advantages of changing tactics, and using new techniques and equipment. The key elements of this successful operation were the quick reaction to good intelligence, maximum use of available resources, detailed planning and coordination, a tactical concept different from the norm, and surprise (Operation Report of 101st Airborne Division for Period Ending 31 October 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)).

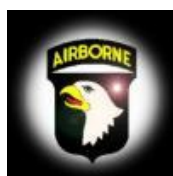
08 August 1968 1-502 IN continued with RIF operations. C/1-502 conducted CA and Recon had established ambushes. Recon had light contact with 3 VC, negative assessment.

08 August 1969 Activity was very light today as only one minor contact was reported. At 0935H, vic. BS182973, D/1-501 found 5 VC bodies killed by artillery. At 1055H, vic. BS128968, B/1-501 OPCON to the 1-502 received small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force, suffering 1 wounded.

08 August –
10 September 2010 CTF Top Guns (1-320th Field Artillery) continued "Operation Palang Panja (Tiger Claw)" clearing the villages of Babur and Charqolba Olya to expand the area controlled by friendly forces and provide GIRoA engagement in previously inaccessible areas of Western Arghandab.

B/1-320 (-) with two platoons and headquarters from C/1-75 CAV, initiated the clearance of the enemy-held village of Babur and established a combined COP that enabled a permanent GIRoA presence in northwest Arghandab. Decimated by the heavy losses suffered at OBJ Bakersfield I, the enemy resistance was significantly less than it had been just a week earlier in the AO. Small groups of Taliban fighters attacked with small arms and RPG fire and the enemy employed rifle-launched grenades in an attempt to repel the combined task force. At the end of the first day of the clearance, Haji Shah Muhammad, the Arghandab District Governor, flew to Babur and held a Shura with the local village elders. This was the first time that a GIRoA official had engaged villagers of northwest Arghandab in the previous four years. The operation continued in Babur for the next three days as CTF Top Guns continued to dominate the terrain and build tactical infrastructure at the new COP. The fight continued to rage at COP Stout, and B/1-320 continued to conduct reconnaissance, and counter-reconnaissance, and develop intelligence in the village that had just days before been under the control of the Taliban. By 12 August 2010, C/1-75 (-) withdrew from the AO and two platoons from B/1-320 occupied COP Babur with two platoons from 2nd ANA company.

The fight for Western Arghandab continued and the decisive operation shifted to A/1-320 and Weapons Company for the clearance of Charqolba Olya and focused targeting missions in Noor Mohammad Khan Kalache and Ladin Tabin to destroy the insurgency's ability to use asymmetric threats against ISAF, ANSF, and GIRoA. Insurgents attacked through IED minefields to fix ISAF and ANSF forces at COP Nolen daily, yet over a period of weeks, A/1-320 expanded its



area security and force protection of COP Nolen through a combination of day and night ambush, counter reconnaissance patrolling, and the effective employment of joint fires.

With the establishment of a 300 meter breach lane from COP Nolen into Charqolba Olya, the combined companies began the systematic clearance of enemy fighting positions, compounds, and IEDs to establish a combined strongpoint in the village of Charqolba Olya. The company recognized the great sacrifice of many A/1-320 Soldiers and befittingly named the combined platoon strongpoint after SPC Luis Lugo who lost a leg when he struck a pressure plate IED on 13 August 2010. With Strongpoint Lugo established, A/1-320 was able to deny insurgents the ability to launch attacks from the dense pomegranates surrounding the village of Charqolba Olya, and now focused on the interdiction of insurgent forces to the south.

Friendly losses in the Battle for Charqolba Olya were one killed and eleven wounded. The next target, the abandoned village of Noor Mohammad Khan Kalache, lay 1200 meters from COP Nolen. This village not only provided the Taliban a patrol base to launch attacks, it was also key terrain that protected critical insurgent command and control nodes, weapons cache, HME factories, and a 82mm mortar identified operating further south in the villages of Charqolba Sofla, Ladin Tabin, and Don Kalache.

08 August 2012

Significant insurgent response to 2-3 AUG defeat in Kunar. On 8 AUG 12, two Taliban suicide bombers attacked a combined patrol conducting a dismounted movement from FOB Fiaz to the Kunar Governor's compound in Asadabad. COL Dan Walrath, LTC Joe Power (1-502 IN Commander), COL Jim Mingus (4/4 BCT Commander), CSM Kevin Griffin (4/4 BCT CSM), COL Hayatullah (2/201 ANA Brigade Commander), MAJ Thomas Kennedy (4/4 BCT FSO), MAJ Walter Gray (4/4 BCT ALO), and Mr. Ragaei ABrigadelfattah (USAID) were on this patrol during the attack. The suicide attack claimed the lives of CSM Griffin, MAJs Kennedy and Gray, and Mr. ABrigadelfattah. COL Walrath was severely wounded in the attack and he was evacuated from Afghanistan on 9 AUG 12. COL Walrath fought through over 17 surgeries to keep his left leg and remaining in command of the STRIKE Brigade Combat Team, he returned to Fort Campbell in November 2012.

09 August 1968

1-502 had intensive operations, including Eagle Flights by B/1-502 and CA by Recon. Total for the day were: 2 VC captured by B/1-502, who also come under mortar attack and had 3 WIA.

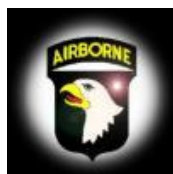
09 August 1969

At 1530H, vic. BS105931, an element of B/1-502 found 1 grave approximately 2 days old which contained 1 NVA dressed in khakis.

9-10 August 2012

Insider attack. On 9 AUG 12, a rogue ANA Soldier opened fire on the OCCP Laghman advisor team that was conducting a dismounted movement from FOB Methar Lam to the OCCP HQ. The incident raged for approximately 10 minutes wounding 1LT Zachariah Camp, the intelligence advisor on LTC Chris Davis' team. Following the incident, the 201st Corps and OCCP Laghman leaders conducted an investigation to determine the facts and to retrain ANA Soldiers. Reports later indicated that the Soldier went temporarily mad as a result of heat exhaustion coupled with lack of water consumption during RAMADAN.

ANSF Realignment. 1/4/201 ANA Kandak moved from FOB Gamberi to FOB Connolly. The HHC and 1st Coy of 2/4/201 ANA Kandak moved from Jalalabad Garrison to FOB Shinwar. 1/4/201 ANA Kandak (-) completed movement on 10 AUG 12 and occupied COPs Memlah Gardens and Sherzad. Over the next week, the Kandaks conducted RIP with 3/1/201 ANA and 6/1/201 ANA Kandaks. Following RIP, the Kandaks moved to FOB Gamberi and Jalalabad Garrison to



take leave prior to their movement to Kunar Province. Over the course of the 4-day operation to RIP 1/4/201 and 3/1/201 ANA Kandaks, 2/201 ANA Brigade Route Clearance Company (RCC) successfully reacted to insurgent contact and cleared 13 IEDs along RTE Newark and Naples.

Insider attack. In response to the green-on-blue incident in Achin District on 10 AUG 12, 2/4 ANA and 6/1 ABP Kandak aggressively responded to the shooting and began a systematic clear of three villages in pursuit of the INS perpetrators. Before deploying, the new 2/4 ANA Kandak Commander stopped a CF QRF, requested 5 additional minutes to muster his forces, and he committed ~100 ANA to the fight. The ANSF remained in a sustained TIC throughout the day, continued to maintain contact with the enemy, and at no time did the ANSF request Coalition enablers to support the fight.

During this week, in the span of 73 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 Silver Star Medal (1 x Posthumously)
13 x Bronze Star Medal w/ Valor (6 x Posthumously)
1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
28 x Purple Heart (13 x Posthumously)
1 x Non Hostile Illness or Injury

03 August 1968



The following Soldiers: SGT Stephen L. Havas (Pictured), CPL Larry B. Buzzard, SGT Gary E. Hoadley (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gunfire wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

03 August 1970

The following Soldiers: SGT James L. Blondell (1-OLC) and SGT William G. Hyslop, (B/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

04 August 1970

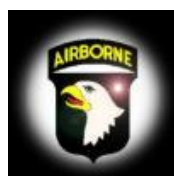
CPL Hollis C. Sanford Jr. (D/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gunfire wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 August 1968

CPL Dennis M. Hyland (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from other explosive device wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 August 1968

SGT Gary M. Mabrey (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



05 August 1970

The following Soldiers: SSG Robert J. Muellenbach and SGT Gerald L. Hamilton (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gunfire wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



05 August 1970



PFC Gerald L. Hamilton (B/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (Posthumously) for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 August 1970

The following Soldiers: SP4 Frederick D. Gray (HHC/1-502 IN); SGT Jimmy C. Cushing (1-OLC) (B/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

05 August 2010

The following Soldiers: SPC Andrew Zabinski, PFC Vital Boisset, PFC Joshua Endicott and PVT Travis Lay (HHT/3-2 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

06 August 2006

SPC Abram Carpenter (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when wounded by incoming mortar fire and took significant shrapnel in the upper thighs.

06 August 2006



SSG Stephen A. Seale (A/2BSTB), 25, of Grafton, West Virginia; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV while conducting combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq. Also killed were SGT Carlton A. Clark and CPL Jose Zamora.

06 August 2006

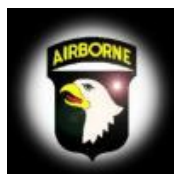


SGT Carlton A. Clark (A/2BSTB), 22, of South Royalton, Vermont; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV while conducting combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq. Also killed were SSG Stephen A. Seale and CPL Jose Zamora.

06 August 2006



CPL Jose Zamora (A/2BSTB), 24, of Sunland Park, New Mexico; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV while conducting combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq. Also killed were SGT Carlton A. Clark and SSG Stephen A. Seale.



06 August 2006



SPC Brian J. Kubik (1-502 IN), 20, of Harker Heights, Texas; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, of injuries sustained on Aug. 2 when his unit encountered enemy small-arms fire in Baghdad.

07 August 1970

The following Soldiers: SP4 Michael J. Blinston (1-OLC) and SP4 George E. McDonnell (2-OLC) (HHC/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

07 August 1970



SSG Robert G. Hansen (C/1-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

07 August 2010

PVT John Andrade (I/3-2 CAV), 19, of San Antonio, Texas; 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 mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

07 August 2010

SSG Morgan Raymond (I/3-2 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

08 August 2010

SSG Brian Clay (170th EOD) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

08 August 2010



PFC Paul Cussupe (G/3-2 CAV), 23, of Plant City, Florida: earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when insurgents attacked his mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device. Injured were SSG Chad Parks, PFC James MacMillan and PFC Jesus Cortez.

08 August 2010

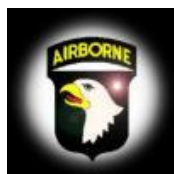
The following Soldiers: SSG Chad Parks, PFC James MacMillan and PFC Jesus Cortez (G/3-2 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

08 August 2010

1LT Robert Woods (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.

08 August 2010

PFC Joshua Bullis (595th EN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device. He was attached to Troop B, 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment.



08 August 2010

PFC Jonathan Woods (G/3-2 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds when insurgents attacked his mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

09 August 1966

SP4 Joe T. Johnson (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ; 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; General Order No. 391; 13 Aug 66)

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

05 August 1970



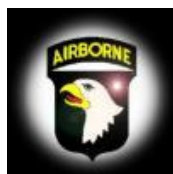
SSG Robert J. Muellenbach (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 August 1970. Sergeant Muellenbach distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 1st Battalion [Airmobile], 502d Infantry, during a reconnaissance patrol in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While moving along a trail, the lead element of Sergeant Muellenbach's unit came under intense fire from enemy soldiers situated in a bunker. Subjecting himself to the enemy fire, Sergeant Muellenbach maneuvered to the point of intense contact and assisted his men in gaining fire superiority and repulsing the hostile soldiers. He then led an assault and sweep of the area, during which a second enemy bunker was spotted. Sergeant Muellenbach was advancing with the machine gun team to perform a reconnaissance-by-fire when a hostile land mine was detonated mortally wounding him. His actions under fire, however, had enabled his men to overcome the enemy threat. Sergeant Muellenbach'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.

09 August 1968

SGT Coulbourn M. Dykes (A/1-501 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 August 1968. Sergeant Dykes distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader of Company A, 1st Battalion (Airborne) 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division during the conduct of the highly successful land, water, and air cordon operation in the vicinity of the hamlets of Trieu Son and An Truyen, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam, which delivered a crushing blow to the Viet Cong infrastructure, military and political, within the Phu Vang District. Sergeant Dykes' squad, while participating in a sweep of the hamlet of Trieu Son, came under a sudden and accurate volume of sniper fire. Immediately, Sergeant Dykes skillfully maneuvered his men into positions of cover where they, under his decisive leadership, swiftly succeeded in silencing the sniper position. Upon observing a group of three Viet Cong which was attempting to reach the cordon, Sergeant Dykes, unhesitatingly, left his position of relative safety and singlehandedly captured the fleeing enemy. Sergeant Dykes' 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.

***STRIKE HISTORY NOTE:**

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



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

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

