



## 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT) “STRIKE HISTORY” 03 November – 09 November 2013



01 - 07 November 2012

**ANSF mission command of independent operations.** 3/201 ANA Brigade in coordination with ALP & AUP began operation SARBOZ 3. ANSF initiated movement the morning of 5 NOV, and they were met with stiff TB resistance as they maneuvered towards known INS strongpoints in Omarkheyl, Etiman, and Joybar. ANA engaged the enemy throughout the day as CF provided CCA and CAS overhead. ANA had 3 x WIA and the enemy BDA was 2-4 INS KIA and 8-10 WIA. During the fight, 3/201 established AXPs along RTE VT and CCP at FOB TAGAB to triage and assess casualties. Overall, the operation went well, ANSF demonstrated the fortitude to stay engaged with the enemy in Tagab, and the 3/201 TAC provided outstanding situational awareness through their LNO at the Corps. The Corps tracked 17 SIGACT reports, effectively communicated with its subordinate HQ, and presented Corps leadership with a COP of a current operation for the first time in 6 months.

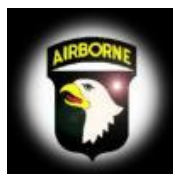
**1/201 ANA Brigade Realignment.** 1/201 ANA Brigade directed 2/1 Kdk to begin preparations for the consolidation to Najil in the next 10 days. BG Noorullah will travel to FOB Methar Lam tomorrow to discuss the realignment and security plan with MAJ Lutfhotz, the new 2 Kdk Commander. With the movement of 2 Kdk to Najil, BG Noorullah has also directed the 4 CS Kdk to reposition 2 x qualified D30 crews, a FDC, and FOs to provide fires ISO the Kdk. On 6 NOV, the Brigade Commander attended a meeting in Laghman with the PGOV, OCC-P Commander, NDS Chief, and PCOP discussing the deployment of recently trained ALP in Alisheng and Alingar valleys. In addition, BG Noorullah presented a plan to conduct joint clearing operations in Besram and shaping operations to support the RIP between TF MW and TF LK. The Brigade expects to complete consolidation tasks in early January, allowing the unit to focus on winter campaign operations and training to better prepare them for the spring fighting season.

**FOB/COP transfer.** On 5 NOV 12, TF MW transfers responsibility of FOB Kalagush, Laghman Province to 1/1/201 ANA Kandak and FOB Honiker-Miracle (PRV) Kunar Province to 6/1/201 ANA Kandak.

**ANSF mission command of independent operations.** MOD sent a delegation led by BG Mohammad Salim Ibrahim, Chief of MOD Emergency Services, to the 201 Corps today. The purpose of the delegation's visit is to conduct a 4-day contingency planning seminar focused on ANSF response to natural disasters, efforts to humanitarian assistance/relief, and integration of ANSF into regional emergency services. The Corps Commander has directed primary and special staff officers/deputies to participate in the planning session. The Corps Commander has also extended invitations to Laghman and Nangahar provincial government staffs and the OCCPs. The group will conduct the sessions from 5-8 NOV to develop contingency plans and synchronize ANSF and civilian efforts to mitigate the effects of natural disasters on the population.

**ANA leadership.** MG Waziri traveled to Kabul this week to meet with COMIJC, MINDEF, GEN Karimi, MOI leaders, parliamentarians, and personnel from other key ministries. In addition to these personnel, the arbakai leader from Kamdesh, Mullah Sadiq, and former HiG deputy, Sabawoon, were present. MOD convened the meeting to discuss the current security situation and way ahead for Nuristan.

MINDEF discussed the importance of Nuristan province from an economic perspective, and he also addressed the need to disrupt INS safe havens in the isolated province. Mullah Sadiq and Sabawoon each discussed the importance of demonstrating GIROA's



commitment to the arbakai, stating that government supporters routinely repelled insurgent attacks. Other ministry officials and parliamentarians echoed the importance of Nuristan, but none adequately addressed the issue of access to the austere, compartmentalized valleys in Nuristan.

Towards the end of the discussion, MG Waziri stood up and engaged the audience. He explained that there are no roads to Nuristan, and that he has publicly demanded Ministry support for a road construction project on many occasions. He stated that his organic engineers improved the road from Naray to Bari Kot along MSR California until they reached the limits of their capabilities. He reinforced his commitment to Mullah Sadiq and the arbakai in Nuristan, and he described his distribution of ~100k kg HA & efforts to MEDEVAC wounded arbakai from Kamdesh. Finally, he stated that he has positioned additional forces in NKRK capable of securing a future road construction project to Nuristan.

Although no decisions were made, each group has a better understanding of ANSF limitations and the obstacles preventing immediate access Nuristan. However, MG Waziri concluded his comments stating that if the government established a GLOC to Nuristan, then he would commit forces to secure and bring prosperity to the province.

**FOB/COP transition and service contracts.** The 201st Corps has made great strides transitioning the ASFF service contracts to MOD funded services. The process began in MAY-JUN 12 when the ANA received instruction from the MOD contracting officers and CF advisors to educate DPW and Brigade XOs on how to generate service contract requirements. During the first 63 days of the procurement process, the ANA identified 3 critical services required at each ANA COP/FOB: power generation, water delivery, and black water removal. In the second phase, Brigade GSUs took 53 days to solicit local communities and obtain estimates to establish the fair market value for the contract requirements. In the last 3 weeks (phase 3), the Corps conducted Brigade contract commissions to award contracts to a vendor. With the completion of the contract commissions, the Corps Commander signed 12 contracts that MOD will process in Kabul for financing. We anticipate that the last phase of the procurement process will be complete NLT 10 DEC, and the Corps will successfully transition all existing ASFF services to MOD contracts by early JAN 13

04 November 1968

A/1-502 RIF, vic. YD6630, B/1-502 was OPCON to 1/501, C/1-502 was at Phu Vang, D/1-502 conducting security of An Lo Bridge, and Recon/1-502 was conducting security of FSB T-Bone (Pictured). There was negative contact.

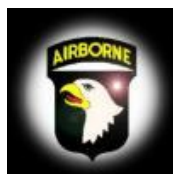


04 November 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Acting on an intelligence report the local VC had been seen (Vic. YD9610) at 0415 Recon conducted CA into the area and killed 4 VC and captured 7 wpns plus miscellaneous equipment.

04 November 2005

During a mounted combat patrol from FOB Mahmudiyah to PB Latafiyah, a C/1-502 IN combat patrol was mistakenly attacked by friendly forces with accurate .50 caliber fire using armor piercing rounds. The attack occurred along ASR Jackson in Mahmudiyah, Iraq. The weather was clear; visibility was limited due to nighttime conditions and vehicle bright lights on the road. The M2 .50 caliber gunner opened fire on the lead



vehicle at a distance of approximately 180 meters, with the intent to destroy what the gunner perceived to be a vehicle borne improvised explosive device. The Soldiers in the combat patrol receiving fire perceived themselves to be under attack. SPC Smith, as the gunner of the front vehicle in the patrol, was exposed to .50 caliber fire and was severely wounded. SPC Smith's wounds prevented him from returning fire. SGT Hernandez, initially seated in the driver's side rear passenger seat, pulled the wounded gunner out of the turret and then took the exposed gunner position to return fire on what perceived to be an enemy ambush. Soon after returning fire, SGT Hernandez suffered severe gunshot wounds to the right hand and left arm.

PFC Meyer sustained significant injuries to his legs during the incident. Though wounded, PFC Meyer provided the only security for the vehicle crew while his squad leader conducted first aid and his patrol leader re-established radio communications and gathered IA personnel from a nearby checkpoint to assist. Upon establishment of a perimeter by IA Soldiers, PFC Meyer immediately began to assist SSG Dodd in providing first aid. After an IA vehicle was procured to evacuate US casualties, PFC Meyer volunteered to secure his more seriously wounded comrades. PFC Meyer secured the two casualties in an un-armored Iraqi Army vehicle to his BN HQ. Upon arrival at his BN HQ, PFC Meyer refused medical treatment until the more seriously wounded casualties had been stabilized. PFC Meyer then offered to return to his stranded patrol and only allowed himself to remain behind at the command of his Battalion Command Sergeant Major.

04 November 2008

**Operation Strike Mustangs.** Strike Brigade conducts precision targeted SI raids to detain Rasul Jumah al Zobai and Abu Gaz in order to neutralize counterfeiting operations supporting AQI networks and facilitating foreign fighter movement through the Strike AO. Isolation of Objectives, thorough TSE collection by DOMEX teams, immediate TQ of detainees, and quick transport of SSE material to exploitation site are decisive to this operation.

05 November 1968

A/1-502 was lifted by "hook" to FSB T-Bone. Their mission was to provide security and conduct local patrols and ambushes. B/1-502 was OPCON to 1/501. C/1-502(-) was at Phu Vang, and D/1-502 conducted security of An Lo, mine sweep and local patrols and ambushes. No contact.

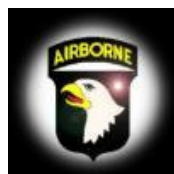


05 November 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** C/2-502 returned from OPCON and assumed security of bridges 3 and 4. This addition of troops allowed the BN to conduct a more extensive local patrolling and ambushing program in the Company's assigned AO.

05-30 November 2012

**Relief in Place.** Elements 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division and 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) arrive in Afghanistan, conduct JRSOI, and begin relief in place of TM STRIKE and TF MOUNTAIN WARRIOR units. 4/1 CD, TF LONGKNIFE, assume responsibility as the Coalition Battle space Integrator (BSI) in Kapisa and Laghman province. 1/101 ABN DIV (AASLT), TF BASTOGNE, begin transitioning as the Coalition BSI in Nangahar and Kunar Province. The first combat advisors of TM STRIKE conduct RIP with TF LONGKNIFE and commence redeployment to Fort Campbell, KY.



06 November 1944

Pathfinders from the 502d PIR during the invasion of Normandy in aircraft flew bearing the numbers #1, #2, and #19. A total of 20 teams in the invasion were used as Pathfinders



Airplane #1 Consisting of:

Cpt. Frank L. Lillyman  
2nd Lt. Reed Pelfrey  
PFC Delbert A. Jones  
PVT James J. Bement  
PVT John H. Funk  
PVT John G. Ott (S-2)  
PVT Bluford R. Williams

1st Lt. Robert S. Dickson (S-2)  
T/5 Thomas C. Walton  
PFC Phillip Sangenario  
PVT James C. Clark (S-2)  
PVT John S. McFalen  
PVT Francis A. Rocca  
PVT John A. Wilson

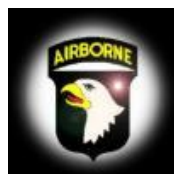
1st Lt. Samuel McCarter  
T/5 Owen R. Council  
PFC Fred A. Wilhelm  
PVT Paul D. Davis  
PVT August M. Mangoni  
PVT Raymond D. Smith (Medic)  
PVT John S. Zamanakos

Airplane #2 Consisting of:

Cpt. Henry G. Plitt  
PFC Clifford C. Gorton  
PFC William B. Mench  
PVT Ernest E. Stene  
PVT Wilfred DesLauriers  
PVT Bernard L. Ormsbee

2nd Lt. Napoleon T. Lavallee  
PFC William F. Haas  
PFC Roy B. Stephens  
PVT Louis F. Banft  
PVT Gilbert T. Driscoll  
PVT Francis A. Rocca

T/5 Glenn B. Braddock  
PFC John D. Kleinfelder  
PFC Vincent C. Wallace  
PVT George C. Dagnes  
PVT James E. Elliott  
PVT Philip A. Sangenario





Airplane #2 Consisting of:

1st Lt. Don S. Driver  
 T/5 Clifford J. McDowell  
 PFC Troy S. Estes  
 PVT Henry J. Bohleke  
 PVT Joseph Hatcher  
 PVT David C. Parks

2nd Lt. James W. Tolar  
 T/5 Hugh W. Selby  
 PFC Cleo G. Reed  
 PVT Dominick Cherico  
 PVT Harold D. Locke  
 PVT James H. Perkins

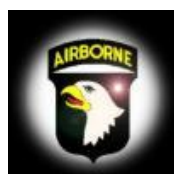
T/5 Richard R. Lisk  
 PFC William G. Casey  
 PFC Howard Stiles  
 PVT Lawrence F. Hall  
 PVT William G. Netterwold  
 PVT Max S. Trujillo

06 – 07 November 1968 1-502 continued normal operations with negative contact. B/1-502 returned to LZ Sally. C/1-502 returned from Phu Vang and lifted to vic. YD5815 for RIF operations.

06 November 2005 “Second Platoon, A Battery, 1-320th FAR was conducting a route recon mission in Taji, Iraq in order to find routes within their area which could be used during limited visibility. The route they were traveling on had many washed out areas and portions of the road had bridges that would not support a HMMWV so their mission consisted of identifying those areas. The platoon was traveling down a road beset by canals when the fourth vehicle was struck by a deep-buried IED. My truck was hit directly underneath the engine compartment and flipped end over end, landing upside down. The M240B gunner (PFC Barreiro) was thrown from the gunner’s hatch and landed about twenty meters behind the vehicle and broke his back. The driver (PFC Griffin) broke his jaw on the radio mount, lost four teeth, and received minor shrapnel wounds. He also broke his femur and was knocked unconscious. The Platoon Sergeant, MSG Hayes, was hit the hardest from shrapnel from the engine compartment and under the vehicle. He died instantly from a piece of shrapnel that penetrated his skull. I was hit with very small shrapnel from under the vehicle in his legs and received a concussion.

SSG Porter was the first to arrive to the vehicle as he was the commander of the third vehicle. His driver, PV2 Marques (now SGT Marques), called up the 9-line MEDEVAC request. Our Platoon Leader, 1LT Cummings (now CPT Cummings), controlled the defense of our position and also the recovery effort.

The Platoon later learned that the IED that struck the convoy was a deep-buried IED consisting of 3 or 4 152mm artillery rounds. The initiation system was a hard wire about the size of small speaker cable run out into a field about 75m from the road.”



07 November 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Recon/2-502 was moved by log ship into FSB Anzio for resupply and then moved to YD899033 for local patrols and ambushes.



08 November 1968

1-502 had an AO extension into the sands area referred to as "the street". B/1-502 and 4 platoons of PF's, conducted a CA, vic. YD5840 and YD6040 and set up cordon with 1 platoon of tanks from which saturation patrols could be run. Naval river patrol boats were used as a blocking force, vic. YD6041 and YD5942. The C&C, drew SA fire and returned fire on suspected enemy locations with negative results. B/1-502 hit a 105 BBT injuring 2. Patrol boats detained 5 VCS but they were later classified as IC and released.

09 November 1942

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

09 November 1968

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

**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.**

- 2 x Distinguished Service Cross
- 7 x Silver Star Medal
- 1 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 5 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 2 x Bronze Star Medal (2 x Posthumously)
- 27 x Purple Hearts (18 x Posthumously)
- 4 x Non-Hostile Illness or Injury

04 November 1968

SP4 Herbert Williams (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

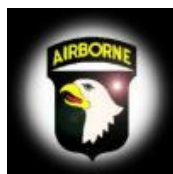
04 November 2003

SSG Russell Taylor (HHB, 1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while coordinated attack is launched by AIF on 1-320 FA HQ in Mosul, Iraq using small arms, RPGs, and mortars to attack the command compound. An RPG comes through the wall and then soars between his legs. He receives shrapnel in both legs. HHB successfully repulsed the attack and SSG Taylor received treatment for his wounds.

04 November 2005



SSG Jason A. Fegler (C/1-502 IN), 24, of Virginia Beach, 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 during combat operations in Mahmudiyah, Iraq, from shrapnel after his convoy came under direct friendly fire.



04 November 2005

PFC Charles Meyer (C/1-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation with Valor for valorous action in combat. PFC Meyer also earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from shrapnel wounds sustained to both legs. PFC Meyer's vehicle was destroyed by friendly fire. The vehicle's driver, SSG Jason Fegler, was mortally wounded and all but one crew member was injured. PFC Meyer himself sustained significant injuries to his legs during the incident. PFC Meyer's exceptionally brave and decisive actions prevented further friendly casualties and allowed for successful recovery of all personnel and equipment.

04 November 2005

SGT Juan R. Hernandez (C/1-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation with Valor for valorous action in combat when he could have remained in his protected rear seat position but he chose personal, physical, and moral courage in the face of overwhelming and accurate heavy machine gun fire.

04 November 2005

1LT Matthew Shoaf (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds receive when at approximately 2030, 1LT Shoaf's convoy came under direct friendly fire. He received shrapnel wounds to his face and left arm.

04 November 2010

SGT Juan Carrion (B/1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.

05 November 1944

SGT Benjamin C. Shaub (F/502nd PIR) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death in Holland, France.

05 November 1971



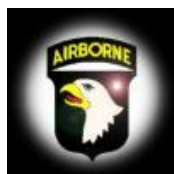
SGT Leroy White Jr. (E/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as ground casualty in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

05 November 2003

SPC Steven Clark (B/311 MI BN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in Mosul, Iraq. This would be the third of four Purple Hearts SPC Clark receives while assigned to 2BCT, the final Purple Heart for OIF I. SPC Clark was conducting intelligence gathering operations in the market area of Mosul, Iraq with two other Tactical HUMINT Teams (THTs). After completing his questioning he mounted the back bed of his M998 and took position behind his M249. An insurgent stepped from around the corner and threw a grenade encased in a box filled with shrapnel. The handheld IED landed and detonated just eight feet behind SPC Clark. The blast peppered his body with over two pounds worth of shrapnel. Despite his life-threatening injuries, SPC Clark was able to render self-aid and relay a description of the insurgent to the RTO in his vehicle. SPC Clark was then taken to the Brigade Aid Station where he received initial treatment before being MEDEVACd to the 68<sup>th</sup> CSH. SPC Clark would later undergo two major surgeries. One was to remove his left kidney which was peppered with shrapnel and the second was to remove a large piece of shrapnel from his spinal canal. In all, SPC Clark had more than one pound of shrapnel removed from his body.

05 November 2010

SSG Michael Spaeth (A/2BSTB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.



06 November 2005



MSG James F. Hayes (A/1-320 FA), 48, of Barstow, California; 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 while conducting a route reconnaissance mission when an improvised explosive device detonated underneath his HMMWV causing the truck to flip in Taji, Iraq.

06 November 2005

The following Soldiers from A/1-320 FA earned the Purple Hearts for military merit and for wounds received: SPC Joshua Griffin, who broke both his leg and jaw and lost several teeth; SPC Jonathan Barreiro-Gallardo, who was thrown from the vehicle and broke his back; SGT Nicholas Stroncsek, who sustained a concussion and minor leg injuries; PFC Stephen Gray, who received a concussion and a wound to his knee.

06 November 2008

SPC William McClellan (HHC/1-502 IN) died at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. from wounds sustained when his vehicle encountered a roadside bomb in Jan 2008. According to his wife, Heather McClellan, "When they were taking care of him on the field he had told his guys to hold his place because he'd be back in two weeks." But his injuries, which she described as shrapnel damage to the head, hand, and foot, were more serious than he realized.

07 November 2005

SPC Demetrius Gregory (I/3-3 ACR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when at approximately 1700 while conducting a snap TCP, a VBIED detonated inside of the search area. There were five Soldiers mortally wounded or killed in the blast. SPC Gregory was in the passenger seat of the M1114 nearest to the VBIED when it detonated. The blast pushed him forward and to the right which injured his back. SPC Gregory dismounted from the vehicle and began to treat the Soldiers that were mortally wounded. An air MEDEVAC was called in and SPC Gregory and SPC Pope, who later died from wounds.

07 November 2005

PFC Christopher Johnson (I/3-3ACR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wound received when at approximately 1700 while conducting a snap TCP, a VBIED detonated inside of the search area. There were five Soldiers mortally wounded or killed in the blast. PFC Johnson was about 10 meters from the blast of the VBIED and behind the M1114 nearest the blast pulling security. He sustained head trauma and minor cuts and scratches and his ears were severely ringing. PFC Johnson aided in the search and recovery of the injured and dead Soldiers. PFC Johnson continued mission and was later ground evacuated to FOB Falcon TMC.

08 November 1966

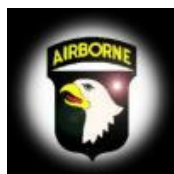
PFC Matherew D. Renfroe (C/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty as a result of multiple metal fragment wounds to the body received when a grenade belonging to another individual detonated while preparing for a combat operation during OP Geronimo in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.

08 November 1966

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

08 November 2005

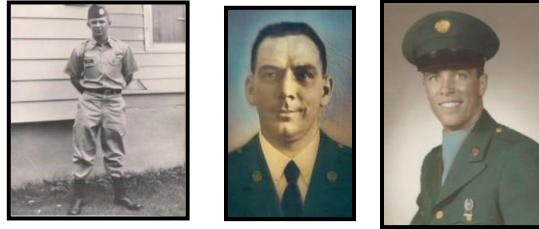
SPC Daniel Sparks (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when he was on a foot patrol, an RPG was fired at the patrol's location and the blast perforated his eardrum.





09 November 1966

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



09 November 1968



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

09 November 1969



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

09 November 1971



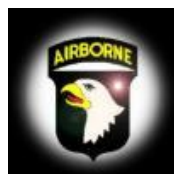
SGT Earl D. Barkley (E/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

09 November 2010

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

09 November 2010

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



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

03 November 2010



SSG Shane Sapp (I/3-2 CAV) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor while during a two-day breach operation by Company I, 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment into a Taliban stronghold, displayed extraordinary valor and initiative that allowed his company to break through the defensive belt surrounding the enemy's support zone. This enabled the company to gain a foothold and begin offensive operations against enemy forces.

On 3 November 2010 a route clearance package (RCP) struck the first of eleven IEDs on Route Edmonton and incurred one Soldier wounded and one Soldier killed in action. SSG Sapp quickly without concern for personal welfare dismounted with his infantry squad in support of the medical evacuation. SSG Sapp's leadership on the ground allowed for his squad to successfully negotiate a heavily defended breach lane essential to evacuating a wounded Soldier and a Fallen Hero.

By the evening of 3 November 2010, Company I was fixed on Route Edmonton and could not continue movement until the following day. The following morning the RCP that was attached to Company I attempted to egress Route Edmonton back to Highway 1 and struck two more IEDs. Another RCP attempted to clear down to its other element and struck more IEDs between Highway 1 and the original RCP's location. Third platoon had to move in the breach lane to the RCP's location. SSG Sapp quickly led the platoon off-road despite the restrictive terrain and high IED threat level.

SSG Sapp was solely responsible for 3rd platoon reaching the RCP's location, resulting in the RCP being able to safely move back to Highway 1 after 48 hours and multiple IED strikes. SSG Sapp then safely led his element to Company G's location and obtained the MICLIC that was required for Company I to complete the two day breach and move from its fixed position. SSG Sapp valiantly led the platoon down an un-cleared section of Route Edmonton in order to bring the MICLIC to the front of the breach. Upon reaching the front, SSG Sapp's squad secured the area while the MICLIC was employed. SSG Sapp immediately regained the lead and took Company I the remaining way through the breach to the fort. Upon reaching the fort, SSG Sapp put himself in extreme danger and cleared the inside of the fort for the rest of Company I with his Stryker vehicle's mine roller. SSG Sapp reduced two of ten IEDs inside Fort Iron undoubtedly saving the lives of Company I Soldiers.

SSG Sapp's fearless leadership and constant disregard for his own life was essential to Company I's success in reaching the fort without incurring further casualties. SSG Sapp effectively breached deep into enemy territory and gained a foothold for Company I, regaining the initiative after a 48-hour standstill. His outstanding levels of proficiency, ability to adapt in combat and fearless leadership are indicative of the best of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps.

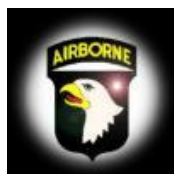
04 November 2010



SPC Brian Baker (B/1-75 CAV) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself through exceptionally valorous action while deployed as a platoon medic in Troop B, 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment.

SPC Baker was part of a dismounted patrol in Haji Rahmuddin, Zharay District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan when his section came under accurate and sustained fire from an enemy PKM team. The patrol leader instructed SPC Baker and his team to assault the enemy position. As the team maneuvered into place, they received fire from a second enemy force. Under the sustained fire from two enemy elements, SGT Juan Carrion received a life-threatening gunshot wound.

With complete disregard for his own personal safety, SPC Baker immediately moved out of his covered and concealed position and ran across open terrain to where SGT Carrion lay wounded. He quickly assessed the situation and then proceeded to drag SGT Carrion



out of the engagement area and towards cover. As SPC Baker moved SGT Carrion out of the kill zone, they continued to receive accurate and sustained fire from one PKM and several AK-47s. Despite the incoming fire, he safely moved SGT Carrion to a covered and concealed position. SPC Baker's quick response ultimately saved SGT Carrion's life.

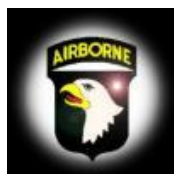
As the patrol continued to receive sustained and accurate fire for 30 minutes, SPC Baker administered life-saving medical care to SGT Carrion. He applied a pressure dressing, administered three needle decompressions, and supplied intravenous medications. In order to successfully administer these medications, SPC Baker held the intravenous bag above the level of the wall, exposing most of his arm to enemy fire.



Due to SPC Baker's selfless actions, SGT Carrion maintained sufficient blood volume and consciousness. Once his condition stabilized, SPC Baker organized the defense around their position by tactically emplacing two other Soldiers. Furthermore, when the MEDEVAC aircraft arrived, he directed the transport of the casualty off the objective. After securing SGT Carrion on the litter, SPC Baker assisted his section during the movement to the evacuation site and onto the medical helicopter. With complete disregard for his own safety, SPC Baker's immediate actions in the kill zone enabled him to maneuver through insurgent small arms fire to recover a wounded Soldier. His actions ensured the Soldier was moved to cover where he received medical care. SPC Baker continued to disregard his own safety in order to provide effective medical care to SGT Carrion. His skilled, selfless, and heroic efforts ensured that a Soldier ultimately survived his wounds.

06 November 1966

1LT David S. Bodgett (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for distinguishing himself against an armed hostile enemy on 6 November 1966 to 9 November 1966, near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. When the Third Platoon of his company was brought under fire, Lieutenant Blodgett was given the mission of taking his platoon to reinforce the engaged platoon. Lieutenant Blodgett was aggressively pursuing the withdrawing enemy when his platoon was suddenly brought under a heavy volume of enemy fire from several enemy positions. Lieutenant Blodgett personally led the maneuver element in an attempt to outflank the enemy position, thus exposing himself to intense enemy fire on numerous occasions while directing fire. Lieutenant Blodgett continued to lead his platoon and aggressively pursued the enemy by maintaining close contact with the delaying forces. As darkness moved in, Lieutenant Blodgett placed his platoon into an ambush position until the following morning. When daylight hours arrived, Lieutenant Blodgett moved his platoon down a jungle trail approximately three hundred meters when they were again brought under intense enemy fire. When the platoon maneuvered in an attempt to outflank the enemy positions, one of the men stepped on a mine and was seriously wounded. With total disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Blodgett dashed across the minefield to his wounded comrade and personally began to administer the needed medical aid until a medic could arrive. Lieutenant Blodgett then conducted a personal search of the minefield and located several more mines which he destroyed. As Lieutenant Blodgett began to reorganize his platoon, he received word from his company commander to move to a new position. Realizing that his platoon was exhausted, Lieutenant Blodgett set a positive example by personally taking the point man position and leading his men to the new position. His unflinching courage and dauntless leadership ability brings great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



06 November 2010



SSG Patrick Smith Jr. earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself through exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of the enemy as a combat engineer platoon sergeant attached to 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment. His heroic actions prevented the loss of life of Coalition Forces during a patrol in vicinity of Haji Rhamdi, Afghanistan. SSG Smith ensured mission success, despite taking fire from enemy forces while placing explosives.

On a dismounted patrol, 1st platoon, Troop B partnered with Afghan National Army (ANA) Soldiers headed to the southwest of Haji Rhamdi. The patrol included a military working dog (MWD) team and a Sapper team led by SSG Smith. While on the patrol, the lead ANA element spotted two suspicious individuals on a motorcycle. When told to stop, the local nationals jumped off of the motorcycle and ran toward a neighboring tree line. The ANA engaged the individuals with small arms fire, injuring one. Elements from Troop B and ANA moved west to pursue the other individual while SSG Smith and four sappers secured an intersection. SSG Smith set up local security and placed the military working dog team within the perimeter.

Approximately three minutes after the sappers established local security, the Troop B and ANA element received small arms fire from a grape hut approximately 75-100 meters south of their position. With complete disregard for his own safety, SSG Smith repositioned his team approximately 15-20 meters west in order to

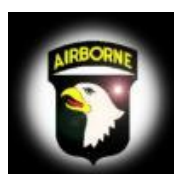


suppress the enemy location and allow maneuver space for the element in the enemy engagement zone. From this position, he engaged the enemy with suppressive fires that allowed the Troop B and ANA element to bound back closer to the safety of the intersection.

While the enemy continued to engage Coalition Forces, SSG Smith moved from his position back to the intersection twice to obtain additional magazines. Each time he moved through the enemy's engagement area, distributing the magazines to those who required them while under sustained fire from small arms and RPGs. As a result, SSG Smith ensured that his Soldiers were able to effectively engage the enemy and allow another element to move to a covered position.

SSG Smith stayed within the enemy's engagement area until all friendly elements were behind cover at the intersection and then he was instructed to destroy the enemy motorcycle in place. Despite taking fire in the intersection, SSG Smith finished placing the demolitions. He then instructed the patrol to fall back to the last rally point approximately 200 meters east while he stayed in the intersection to provide covering fires. At that time SSG Smith initiated the time fuse on the charge and moved to rejoin the patrol element.

The actions of SSG Smith guaranteed that the enemy vehicle was destroyed and that the Soldiers under his command were able to effectively engage the enemy. His selfless disregard for his own health and welfare prevented the loss of friendly life. SSG Smith's suppressive fires ensured that the enemy was unsuccessful in attacking Coalition Forces.



07 November -  
22 November 2010



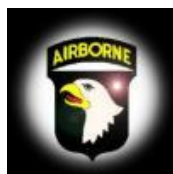
SSG Christopher Espindola earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous conduct during the Squadron operation “Operation New Den.”

Following Company I’s two day breach operation along Route Edmonton spanning from the morning of 3 November through the night of 4 November into a Taliban enemy stronghold in Zharay, Afghanistan, the company seized an old British fort, later named Fort Iron by Company I. The fort the company seized was the foothold that allowed the company to establish itself within its new area of operations. While under persistent direct and indirect fire attacks from the enemy, the company continued its offensive operations. Vital to this effort was SSG Espindola, who cleared on five different occasions, five improvised explosive devices and two pieces of unexploded ordnance, while conducting dismounted patrols. His efforts allowed the Soldiers of Company I and those of 2nd Coy, 6th Kandak, Afghan National Army the ability to maneuver freely throughout the battlefield.

SSG Espindola took it upon himself to clear key routes and areas of canalization of improvised explosive devices that were emplaced as part of the enemy’s defensive perimeter. On 7 November 2010, SSG Espindola cleared the first of what was a series of improvised explosive devices. The device was within 100 meters of the fort and along a main avenue of approach for dismounted personnel. On 16 November 2010, he reduced an unexploded rocket propelled grenade while dismounted in vicinity of a small arms fire site. On 17 November 2010, after a directional focused remote control improvised explosive device partially exploded on SSG Espindola’s platoon during a dismounted patrol he reduced a secondary improvised explosive device and cleared the partially exploded device.



SSG Espindola recovered the initiation device and antenna for the remote control improvised explosive device. Through proper tactical site exploitation, he was able to move his platoon to safety.



09 November 1966

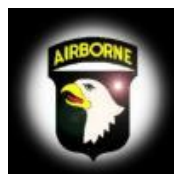


SGT Kenneth E. Murphy (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d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

09 November 1966



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



09 November 1966

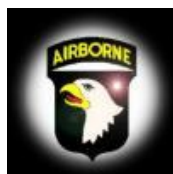
1LT Alden J. Holborn (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. 1LT Holborn's platoon was given the mission of reinforcing a squad from the reconnaissance platoon which had become engaged with a numerically superior force. Upon reaching the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

09 November 1966

1LT John A. Marshek Jr. (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. First Lieutenant Marshek's platoon was on a mission to reinforce a beleaguered sister platoon which had been twice repelled from an enemy position. Upon reaching his destination, Lieutenant Marshek immediately moved the casualties to a centralized location in preparation for medical evacuation. After making a reconnaissance of the area, Lieutenant Marshek discovered that the enemy positions were well fortified with heavy machine guns and mortars. In an attempt to overrun the enemy positions, Lieutenant Marshek led his platoon in a flanking assault while the Second Platoon laid down a base of fire but the platoon was driven back by a tremendous volume of fire. Immediately Lieutenant Marshek reorganized both platoons and directed artillery fire on enemy positions to within one hundred meters of his own position. When the Artillery barrage was lifted Lieutenant Marshek personally led the two platoons in a successful assault on the enemy positions and secured the area so that the casualties could be safely evacuated. Lieutenant Marshek's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are in keeping within the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

09 November 1966

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



09 November 1966

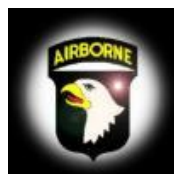
1LT Ronald G. Odom (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. First Lieutenant Odom, Platoon Leader of the elite Reconnaissance Platoon, was moving with his unit on a search and destroy mission. Suddenly, enemy forces in a nearby tree line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

09-11 November 1966

CPT Stephen Silvasy Jr. (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. Captain Silvasy, on 9 November 1966, had placed his lead platoon into a blocking position to block any possible escape route of an encircled North Vietnamese Army element. Captain Silvasy decided to make a reconnaissance of potential positions so that the following platoons could be placed into position immediately upon arrival. Captain Silvasy, along with a small reconnaissance element, had just started to move across an open area when they were suddenly brought under an intense volume of enemy small arms fire. Captain Silvasy calmly continued to make his reconnaissance while under the heavy enemy fire, and as a result, the remaining platoons were able to move directly into position and effectively seal the last remaining gap in the encirclement. As the battle progressed the following day, Captain Silvasy was constantly in the forefront of the heaviest action. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Silvasy constantly exposed himself to enemy fire while giving his men encouragement and inspiring them as they swept through the battle area. Throughout the battle, Captain Silvasy, even though he accompanied the forward element, maintained complete control of his four platoons on line, keeping them in contact and leaving no gaps for the enemy to slip through. On the third day of battle the company command post was situated on a mountain top. To gain better observation and maintain control, Captain Silvasy remained in the tree for several hours exposed to enemy fire. Captain Silvasy's outstanding display of leadership and gallantry in action are within the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

09 November 1966

SSG Walter J. Roberson (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy force in Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Roberson's platoon was given the mission to reinforce a platoon which had become pinned down by a numerically superior enemy force. As the platoon moved on lined Sergeant Roberson's squad assumed the right flank position. As the platoon maneuvered up the hill it was suddenly brought under fire by an enemy element on the right flank and immediately received three casualties. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Roberson moved forward under intense enemy fire and personally brought the three wounded men to safety. As the platoon aidman started to move forward he also was wounded. Sergeant Roberson without hesitation, moved forward again and brought his wounded comrade to safety. For a second time the platoon attacked the enemy positions, only to be beaten back by extremely intense enemy fire. As the advance was halted, Sergeant Roberson moved from man to man giving them encouragement and checking to see that none of them had been wounded. As Sergeant Roberson moved towards the right flank he observed that one man's weapon had jammed and at almost the same time another man had been wounded. Realizing that the right flank was in jeopardy, Sergeant Roberson charged the enemy position and laid down suppressive fire into the enemy position, enabling another squad to shift to the right flank. Sergeant Roberson personally placed





the new squad into position even though he was exposed to intense enemy fire. When the order was given to move off the hill so that supporting artillery fire could be called in, Sergeant Roberson personally saw to it that not only his squad but the entire platoon had moved from the hill before he himself withdrew. When the platoon reorganized for another assault, Sergeant Roberson personally led his men in the assault and succeeded in over-running the enemy position. Sergeant Roberson's outstanding display of leadership and gallantry in action is in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

**\*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."

