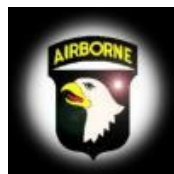




## 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT) "STRIKE HISTORY" 07 July – 13 July 2013

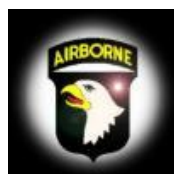


- 07 July 1968 1-502 IN had a busy day; Alpha Company was working to resettle refugees. The Battalion flew eagle flights and one CA vic. YD6930. Total results were: 10 VC Captured/WIA, 4 VC KIA, and 1 NVA captured. One Eagle Flight observed cache, with 10 SKS's and 60mm tube. Numerous other SA was captured by the Battalion.
- 07 July 2003 B/2-502 IN returned join its parent unit, 2-502 IN, in order to support its mission of security and stabilization of Mosul, following an air assault into Al Fallujah, Iraq with 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.
- 08 July 1968 1-502 IN had very light activity in AO. Refugees still being moved, 1 VC captured. PF's got 3 Hoi Chanh's.
- 08 July 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** C/2-502 encountered small deserted base camp Vic. (YO628963).
- 08 July 1969 Bitter fighting erupted in the AO as elements of the 1-502 were engaged by a superior NVA force in the extreme western section of the AO. At 0800H, C/1-46, vic. BT28603 observed six enemy and engaged them with Air Cav elements and artillery, resulting in 1 NVA KIA. At 1210H, elements of A/1-502 were engaged by an estimate enemy platoon. The led elements of the company were moving forward by squad bounds when the lead squad came under effective small arms fire from a well concealed enemy force. This squad was immediately reinforced with a second squad and the composite group came under heavier fire as the fight continued. The company minus began to maneuver in an attempt to relieve the beleaguered force and was immediately met with enemy fire that held the relief force in place. At 1400H, radio contact was lost with the trapped force, though the unit continued to fight against the strong NVA force. Supporting air and artillery were employed throughout the area in attempt to break the determined enemy. At 0910H the following day the company regained contact with the separated force. The entire unit suffered 11 US KIA (1 US KIA was listed as MIA until recovered on 10 July 1969) ad 6 US WIA. Enemy losses were confirmed at 4 VC KIA and 3 IWC.
- 09 July 1968 1-502 IN had light sporadic contact throughout the AO. PF's combined with US in joint operation including 2 separate CA's. The results were 3 VC KIA, 10 VC captured, 3 Hoi Chanh, and numerous caches and equipment discovered.
- 09 July 1969 Activity quieted in the area as the 1-502 linked up with its separated element an assessed the battlefield after the previous day's contact.
- 09 July 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2-502 IN moved by air from FSB Bastogne to Quang Tri, and then to FSB Sheppard where they reopened the firebase. The STRIKE Force continued to operate around FSB Sheppard, employing artillery and mortars with their extensive sweeps with negative casualties for the enemy or the US.
- 10 July 1968 1-502 IN conducted full scale operation with PF's, making 2 CA's, the enemy was elusive. Several weapons were found, 4 NVA KIA and 1 VC KIA.
- 10 July 1969 Activity was light throughout the AO as 1-502 reported scattered contact with small enemy forces. At 1040H, B/1-502, vic. BS043995, captured 1 NVA who wandered into the company position as it waited near an LZ. At 1443H, D/1-502, vic. BS040999, engaged a small enemy force and in the ensuing fire fight suffered 3 US WIA; there was



negative enemy assessment. At 1600H, A/1-502, vic. BS037991, found a hooch and bunker complex containing tow individual weapons.

- 10 July 1971 Colonel Thomas A. Ware Jr. assumed command of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of the 101<sup>st</sup> ABN Div.
- 11 July 1944 The 502nd returns to England from Normandy and begins to receive replacements and refit to prepare for their next jump into combat.
- 11 July 1969 1-502 IN Operations continued with CO. "D" securing An Lo and working with dozer. Charlie Company searching in vic. YD6530 for caches. Other units conducted search and clear operations. Light contact with 1 VC KIA and 2 Hoi Chanh's. The Hoi Chanh said they had given up because of the Rome plows and eagle flights. They said 20 other VC fled to the mountains, that day.
- 11 July 1969 At 0700H, A/1-502, vic. BS042994, found 1 NVA KIA in an earlier fire fight.
- 12 July 1968 D/1-502 IN continued Rome plow operations south of An Lo on the west side of the river. They continued to destroy bunkers, buildings and found small caches. Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie Company continued search and destroy operations with light contact. Alpha Company had 2 US WIA by BBT. Bravo Company found excess of a ton of rice and captured 1 VC, vic. YD7132. One Hoi Chanh, turned himself into Bravo Company.
- 12 July 1968 B/1-502 IN, Recon, and PF's established cordon around village in vic. YD6438, with Sweet Banner 65 to sweep from the south. The totals were B Co.: 4 VC KIA, 4 WPNs; PF's 19 VC KIA, 16 WPNs, 4 VC Captured, 2 VCS. Delta Company continued Rome plow operations while Charlie Company found 5 tons of rice.
- 12 July 1969 Activity increased in the AO as the 1-501 reported light contact and a Brigade LOH reconnaissance team recorded significant contact. At 1140H, B/1-501, vic. BS258967, observed and engaged 1 enemy recording 1 VC KIA. At 1350H, B/1-501, vic. BS258965, found the remains of 1 VC NVA by an earlier airstrike.
- 12 July 1969 The 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and 54th ARVN Regiment begin Operation CAMPBELL STREAMER to clear Elephant Valley south of the Bach Ma Mountain, Thua Thien Province.
- 12 July 2003 **Operation Soda Mountain** (2-502 IN). This clearance operation is the second major operation conducted by Coalition Forces since the end of the major combat phase in Iraq. Operation Soda Mountain, combined with **Operation Knee Jerk**, resulted in the detention of 50 former regime loyalists and the clearance of over 80 caches containing 2,500 assault rifles and machine guns, 800 RPG-7 systems, 5,000 artillery and mortar rounds, 800 hand grenades, and 1 SA-3 anti-aircraft system.
- 13 July 1969 Well coordinated air assaults into the Bach Ma region are conducted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn (Ambl), 502<sup>nd</sup> Inf. in conjunction with elements of the 54<sup>th</sup> ARVN Regt. Fire Base Sledge is constructed by the 326<sup>th</sup> Engr. Bn (Ambl) on the side of a French resort area atop the 4500 foot mountains. Aimed at the destruction of the 4<sup>th</sup> NVA Regt., elements of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade maneuvered to the north and south in areas surrounding the fire base.
- 13 Jul 03 502nd Soldiers continued their active involvement in and around the city, improving the relationships and bonds with the local citizens that they had been painstakingly building through continuous hard work and partnership. As part of this, radio shows where listeners called in with their questions and concerns were regularly conducted by COL Anderson and other members of the 502nd in order to keep the populace informed of the newest projects and initiatives going on in the Mosul area.



**During this week, in the span of 71 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.**

- 21 x Silver Star (9 x Posthumously)
- 5 x Bronze Star with Valor
- 2 x ARCOM with Valor
- 2 x Bronze Star Medal (2 x Posthumously)
- 73 x Purple Hearts (29 x Posthumously)
- 2 x Non-Hostile Injury or Illness

07-11 July 1966 PFC Peter S. Griffen (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, in the Republic of Vietnam, from 7 to 11 June 1966. His actions, without regard for his own safety, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

07 July 1966 The following Soldiers: PFC A. T. Howell, PFC Kenneth C. Boudreaux, PFC Dennis L. Phillips (HHC/2-502 IN); SP4 Marshall Burke Jr. (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from multiple fragmentation, at a mined old SF Camp West of Dak To, in the Kontum Province, South Vietnam.

07 July 1966 PFC Charles W. Campbell (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ; 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order No. 391; 13 Aug 66)

07 July 1968 SGT Lavaughn Elliott (E/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from drowning or suffocation, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

07 July 1968 1LT John T. Holton Jr. (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from an explosive device, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



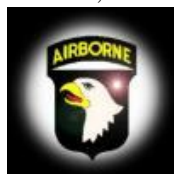
07 July 1970 The following Soldiers: CPT Donald R. Goates, SGT Joseph C. Waage, SGT Thomas R. Fisher, SP4 Richard P. Johnson (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8742)

07 July 1970 SP4 Frederick B. Summerville (A/1-501 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.

07 July 2008 PV2 Jean Herazo (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while 22/6 IA Brigade MTT was completing a mounted patrol and was en route to FOB Justice. The patrol was struck by an IED on Route Cubs South. The IED impacted the driver's side door of PV2 Herazo's vehicle. PV2 Herazo was diagnosed with a broken left arm and a concussion resulting from the intensity of the blast.



- 08 July 1966 PFC Robert L. Rodriguez (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ; 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order No. 391; 13 Aug 66)
- 08 July 1969 SGT Russell B. Carson (A/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in Hau Duc 20m SW of Tam Ky, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
- 08 July 1969 The following Soldiers: SGT James H. Manning, PFC Thomas Brooks Jr., CPL Thomas W. Hurlbut, SGT William R. Garner, PFC Vernon D. Artis (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds, in Hau Duc, 20 m SW of Tam Ky, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
- 08 July 1969 The following Soldiers: CPL John D. Martin, PFC William E. Sisley, CPL Henry D. Hunter, PFC Anthony A. Neville (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds, in Hau Duc, 20 m SW of Tam Ky, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
- 09 July 1966 PFC Thomas N. Burke (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ; 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order No. 391; 13 Aug 66)
- 09 July 1966 PFC James E. Fields (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ; 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order No. 391; 13 Aug 66)
- 09 July 1966 PFC Fred D. Sanders (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ; 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order No. 391; 13 Aug 66)
- 09 July 1969 The following Soldiers: SP5 Daniel Sullivan (HHC/1-502 IN); SP4 Walter E. Roberts and CPL Robert E. King (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in their deaths from artillery, rocket or mortar wounds, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
- 09 July 1969 SSG James C. Doloughy (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds from 08 July 1969, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. The casualty database lists the location of Staff Sergeant Doloughy's death as Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam, but as noted he died at the 27th Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai, Quang Tin Province. The village of Hau Duc also is in Quang Tin Province.
- 09 July 1970 SGT Terry E. Williams (E/2-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes, at FSB Ripcord, in the Thua Tien Province, South Vietnam.
- 10 July 1969 SP4 Elijah W. Burkett (B/2-501 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 Tien Province, South Vietnam.
- 10 July 1969 SP4 Bobby G. Farmer (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds from 08 July 1969, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
- 10 July 1970 SP4 Montez R. Hill (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8742)



- 10 July 2003 SPC Steven Clark (B/311 MI BN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while in Mosul, Iraq. This would be the second of four Purple Hearts SPC Clark receives while assigned to 2BCT. While recovering from injuries received one month earlier, SPC Clark decided to go for a run around the inside of the Brigade HQ FOB just after midnight. SPC Clark was on his first lap around the track when he was struck in the right calf by a sniper bullet. SPC Clark walked to a nearby aid station and was treated on site.
- 11 July 1966 PFC Gilbert E. Black (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ; 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order No. 391; 13 Aug 66)
- 11 July 1967 The following Soldiers: SP4 David H. Mitchell, PFC Chris S. Evans (HHC/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 Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam.
- 11 July 1969 SGT Robert W. Dean (B/1-502 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 Tien Province, South Vietnam.
- 11 July 2010 The following Soldiers: SSG Thomas Humphrey, SPC Christopher Smith and SPC Dietrich Christenson (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with a grenade.
- 11 July 2010 The following Soldiers: SGT Joshua Strickland, SGT Rolando Zavala and PFC Anthony Grata(A/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their unit with a rocket propelled grenade.
- 12 July 1966 PFC William Leon (C/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile while missing, causes “drowned or suffocated” in the Kontum Province, South Vietnam.
- 12 July 1968 1LT Randall N. Arney (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from an explosive device, in the Thua Tien Province, South Vietnam.
- 12 July 1970 The following Soldiers: PFC Ronald W. Grubidt (HHC/2-501 IN); SGT Donald E. Spiars, SP4 Richard C. Policz, SP4 Jay S. Crills, (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8742)
- 12 July 1970 The following Soldiers: PFC Gary D. Gilliland (HHC/2-501 IN); PFC Eugene N. Paprocky (C/2-501 IN); 1LT John D. Shipley, SGT James N. Brown, SGT James A. Plenderleith, SP4 Dennis W. Belt, SP4 Coy A. Broxton, SP4 Randy C. Davis, PFC Barry L. Barnes, PFC Larry L. Ertel, PFC Lawrence C. Spivey, PFC Paul D. Hall (D/2-501 IN); SP4 Gary C. Taylor (E/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8740, 5 August 1970)
- 12 July 2010 The following Soldiers: 1LT Norman Black, SSG Avionne Reese, SSG Kyle Malin, SGT Michael Hagan, SPC Kevin Gatson and PFC Corey Kent (A/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.
- 12 July 2010 PFC Scott Donahue (HHB/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.



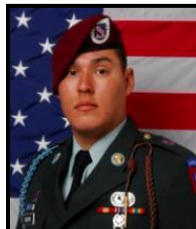
12 July 2010

SSG Joshua Reese (A/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

13 July 1968

SP4 Randall S. Hill (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from a bomb explosion, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

13 July 2010



SPC Christopher Moon (HHC/2-508 PIR), 20, of Tucson, Arizona; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when died at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany of injuries sustained when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device on July 6.

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

07 July 1970



PFC Allen W. Pope (A/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor while his unit was operating southwest of Camp Evans, Republic of Vietnam. As the company moved through the triple canopy jungle, it encountered intense enemy resistance. Throughout the engagement, the men of Company A fought valiantly against a numerically superior force. Several men in the company were seriously wounded while participating in the battle. Medical evacuation helicopters were called to extract the wounded several times, however; enemy ground fire was so intense that the helicopters could not reach the wounded men. After repeated unsuccessful attempts at medical evacuation, the decision was made that the company must move from the area. Intelligence reports indicated that a large enemy force was attempting to surround the company. Many of the wounded were seriously injured. Realizing the danger posed toward the remainder of the company, these wounded men gave their whole hearted support and effort to move. For most of one day, and entire night, and one full day these wounded men walked, crawled, and dragged themselves through seemingly impossible terrain. Private First Class Allen W. Pope was one of these wounded men who displayed a physical stamina and moral courage that distinguishes the "Screaming Eagles" of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. Private First Class Pope encouraged his comrades throughout the long and arduous march. His bravery and determination were in the highest tradition of American heritage and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

08 July 1969

PFC Anthony A. Neville (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Private Neville distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman with the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, during combat operations in Tien Phuoc Province, Republic of Vietnam. As the Third Platoon moved downs a narrow jungle trail, it came under intense fire from a large enemy force. The North Vietnamese inflicted heavy casualties using automatic weapons, mortars, and rocket propelled grenades. Private Neville immediately returned fire upon the enemy and quickly moved from the enemy's main field of fire. He effectively fired upon the enemy positions allowing other members of his squad to reach cover. When the squad was once again united, a defensive position was set up. Private Neville's accurate fire upon the enemy inflicted many casualties and was responsible for the suppression of the enemy's attempts to overrun the squad. A member of the now overpowering enemy force finally succeeded in inflicting a serious wound, mortally wounding Private Neville. Private Neville'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.



08 July 1969

CPT Charles R. Scribner (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Captain Scribner distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of Company A, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during a reconnaissance in force mission near Hau Due, Quan Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. The lead element was ambushed by an unknown size enemy force. The platoon was sustaining many casualties, including the platoon leader and platoon sergeant, from the initial fire of enemy mortars, rocket propelled grenades, and automatic weapons. Reacting quickly to the situation, Captain Scribner crawled through intense small arms fire to reach the beleaguered Third Platoon. From a small portion of high ground Captain Scribner directed aerial rocket artillery fire and initiated a flanking maneuver against the well-entrenched enemy force. The attacking force's fire was constant and furious, slowing down the movement of the flanking platoon. Although his own position was a choice target for the insurgents, he moved toward the enemy, and urged the flank element on a determined attack. Simultaneously, he directed the withdrawal of the wounded and the continuation of the counterattack. His action resulted in a break and withdrawal by the enemy and fewer friendly casualties. Captain Scribner'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.

08 July 1969

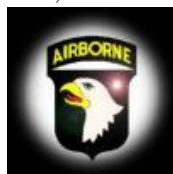
1LT Donald A. Bailey (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Lieutenant Bailey distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company A, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during a reconnaissance in force mission in Quan Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. The 3d Platoon was ambushed by an estimated battalion size enemy force and immediately sustained numerous casualties, including the platoon leader and platoon sergeant. Lieutenant Bailey immediately moved through the intense enemy fire and attempted to relieve pressure from the beleaguered element. He realized that the platoon was not returning effective fire against the enemy force. While placing his own personnel to the flanks for security, he rallied his element, preventing the enemy from overrunning its position. Because of his leadership; the Third Platoon began returning effective fire toward the entrenched enemy positions. During the ensuing battle, Lieutenant Bailey personally accounted for three enemy killed by grenade and small arms fire. Under intense enemy automatic weapons fire, he pulled wounded personnel from the contested area so they could be evacuated. His courageous actions during the eight hour engagement helped to avert many friendly casualties. Lieutenant Bailey'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.

08 July 1969

SP4 George W. Baker (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Specialist Baker distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, near Chu Lai, Quan Tien Phuoc Province, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Baker moved forward under intense automatic weapons fire in an attempt to retrieve the wounded. While advancing, he came upon an occupied enemy bunker. Maneuvering around to the firing aperture he fired point blank killing the enemy soldier. Knocking out this position enabled him to retrieve a wounded comrade. Receiving assistance from a fellow companion, he again advanced under fire and carried another wounded man to safety. Specialist Baker'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.

08 July 1969

CPL Henry D. Hunter (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Private Hunter distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman with the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, on a combat operation in Tien Phuoc Province, Republic of Vietnam. As the Third Platoon moved down a narrow jungle trail, it came under intense fire from a large enemy force. The North Vietnamese inflicted heavy casualties using automatic weapons, mortars, and rocket propelled grenades. Maneuvering on a enemy



position, Private Hunter was able to deliver effective suppressive fire and silence the position. Undaunted by the overwhelming odds, Private Hunter advanced into the midst of the North Vietnamese Soldiers and engaged them in close contact. In the savage fighting, he was struck by enemy fire and mortally wounded. Private Hunter'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.

08 July 1969



SSG James C. Doloughty (A/1-502IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Sergeant Doloughty distinguished himself while serving as platoon sergeant of the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Doloughty was instructed to remain behind with the company Headquarters to receive the log for his platoon while it moved out for an ambush. Proceeding down a narrow jungle trail, the platoon was engaged by a large force of North Vietnamese soldiers who employed heavy automatic weapons, mortars, and rocket propelled grenades. After the initial contact, the First Platoon moved forward to assist the besieged Third Platoon. Sergeant Doloughty immediately took the lead element and moved toward the contact area. Advancing through the enemy fire, he personally engaged three North Vietnamese Soldiers and mortally wounded them. With complete disregard for his own safety, he proceeded to a wounded comrade and carried him to safety. Returning to further assist his platoon, he was mortally wounded by the intense fire. Sergeant Doloughty'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.

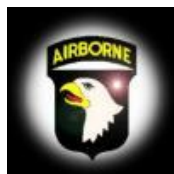
08 July 1969

PFC John D. Martin (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1968. Private Martin distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner with the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon was moving along a narrow jungle trail when it was ambushed by an estimated company size enemy force. Private Martin immediately returned fire opening a gap in the enemy's ambush and the remainder of the squad quickly moved through the opening in order to get out of the kill zone. Private Martin then led the squad through the thick underbrush coming face to face with the enemy on numerous occasions. Each time, a carefully aimed burst from his machine gun silenced the enemy and allowed the men to move on in their attempt to get back to the company. The overpowering enemy reduced the squad down to Private Martin and his assistant gunner. As the men broke into an open area, four or five enemy soldiers jumped on Private Martin in what seemed to be an attempt to take him prisoner. He struggled with them and managed to seriously wound two of them. The enemy then fired upon him, knocking him to the ground and wounding him several times. With his machine gun out of ammunition, he got to his feet and fought the enemy using hand to hand combat, until he succumbed to his wounds. Private Martin'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.

08 July 1969



SGT Russell B. Carson (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Specialist Carson distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry, during a combat operation in Tien Phuoc Province, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon, moving down a trail through dense underbrush, was ambushed by a large North Vietnamese force. Inflicting heavy casualties, the enemy continued to fire mortars, rocket propelled grenades and automatic weapons on the besieged platoon. Moving with skill and determination, Specialist Carson advanced into the midst of the engaged area and deployed his men so as to bring maximum fire power on the enemy. Seeing a North Vietnamese soldier moving in on a fellow soldier, Specialist Carson instinctively threw himself in the path of the enemy fire. Taking the full impact of fire, he shielded his teammate, but in doing so he was mortally wounded. Specialist Carson'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.

08 July 1969

PFC Thomas Brooks Jr. (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Private Brooks distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, during a combat operation in Quan Tien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Private Brooks was in the lead element when it came under heavy enemy fire. Crawling through dense elephant grass, Private Brooks disclosed several enemy positions which put the enemy at a distinct disadvantage by eliminating the element of surprise. He laid down intense suppressive fire while his fellow squad members crawled for cover. When his squad had attained relative safety, he sought cover for himself but was struck and mortally wounded. Private Brooks' 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.

08 July 1969

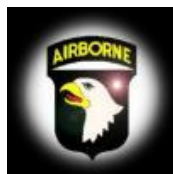
PFC Thomas W. Hurlbut (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Private Hurlbut distinguished himself while serving as machine gunner with the First Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, during a combat operation in Quan Tien Phuoc Province, Republic of Vietnam. Private Hurlbut, advancing forward through intense enemy fire, laid down a steady volley of fire with his machine gun. Receiving fire from all sides, he continued to deliver suppressive fire to cover the evacuation of the wounded. Realizing the threat proposed by his machine gun, the North Vietnamese directed their mortars and all organic fire against him. Withstanding the onslaught, he defied all attempts of enemy to eliminate his gun. Undaunted, he continued to fire until struck by hostile fire and mortally wounded. Private Hurlbut's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

08 July 1969

PFC Vernon Artis (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Private Artis distinguished himself while serving as an assistant machine gunner with the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry. The Third Platoon was moving down the jungle trail when it was engaged by heavy enemy fire. Using mortars, rocket propelled grenades, and automatic weapons, the North Vietnamese were able to cut off and pin down the entire platoon. Taking the machine gun from the wounded machine gunner, Private Artis directed intense fire toward the enemy positions. Surviving the initial onslaught, Private Artis silenced one enemy position after another. Realizing the threat of the machine gun, the North Vietnamese directed their mortars and all organic fire against him. Undaunted by the extreme odds, he continued to fire until struck by hostile fire and mortally wounded. Private Artis' 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.

08 July 1969

SGT William R. Garner (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Sergeant Garner distinguished himself while serving as Squad Leader with the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, in the vicinity of Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon was moving down a narrow jungle trail when it was ambushed by North Vietnamese soldiers employing automatic weapons, mortars, and rocket propelled grenades. In the initial barrage, the platoon leader and platoon sergeant were seriously wounded. Sergeant Garner unhesitatingly moved forward and began setting up an immediate defense. At that time, Sergeant Garner moved forward to the lead element so that he could make an evaluation of the situation. Receiving fire from all sides and with no communications, he decided to remain and fight. Inspiring his men, he moved to each position giving confidence and advice. While drawing fire upon himself, he was struck



by enemy bullets and mortally wounded. Sergeant Garner'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.

08 July 1969

PFC William E. Sisley (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Private Sisley distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, during a combat operation in Tien Phuoc Province, Republic of Vietnam. Private Sisley was providing rear security when the Third Platoon was ambushed by North Vietnamese Soldiers. Being surrounded, the Third Platoon was cut off and pinned down. Private Sisley remained behind and cut off all attempts by the advancing enemy Soldiers to infiltrate the hasty perimeter. Remaining unassisted to protect the vulnerable rear, Private Sisley was wounded by two North Vietnamese Soldiers. Undaunted, he continued to deliver effective fire on the converging enemy and drove them off. As the battle wore on, he repeatedly repulse each renewed attack. Finally, running low on ammunition, he was struck by enemy fire and mortally wounded. Private Sisley'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 July 1967

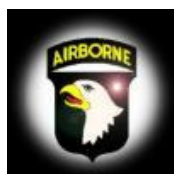
COL Harry A. Buckley (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 9 July 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. On that date information was received that an element of Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, had become heavily engaged with an enemy element and pinned down, sustaining two casualties. Colonel Buckley immediately took control of the situation and personally directed an air strike of helicopter gunships to within twenty meters of the friendly positions, allowing the friendly element to pull back and reorganize. Although there was no secure landing zone and the surrounding jungle was infested with enemy soldiers, Colonel Buckley directed his helicopter to land in order to evacuate a seriously wounded man. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Colonel Buckley moved approximately two hundred meters through enemy sniper fire to the location of the wounded man and personally supervised the evacuation. Colonel Buckley remained in the battle area until the wounded man had been safely evacuated and the command and control helicopter returned to his location. Colonel Buckley's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty and his men are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

09 -  
30 July 2010



SGM John White earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor while heroically distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of the enemy of the United States as the acting Command Sergeant Major for CTF STRIKE, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Kandahar, Afghanistan, during combat operations as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. His heroic actions while visiting the Soldiers of CTF Top Guns led to the successful defeat of several determined enemy attacks on his position and directly contributed to the inspiration and morale of CTF Top Guns.

After attending the memorial service for a fallen Soldier at COP Terra Nova, SGM White and the members of his PSD moved dismounted with CPT James Thomasson, commander of A/1-320th Field Artillery Regiment, towards COP Nolen. At the time, Route Phillis was a common enemy IED engagement area, so the patrol maneuvered through the grape fields with one element using bounding overwatch and the other clearing the route in a reverse-wedge.



The patrol suddenly came under heavy enemy small arms fire that pinned down one squad on the east side of the road. SGM White, realizing that the squad was pinned down and would have to serve as the support-by-fire position, hastily organized a five-man element to assault the enemy position. CPT Thomasson took control of the assault team while SGM White engaged the enemy with his M4 and directed devastating fire on the enemy that broke their will and enabled the assault team led by CPT Thomasson to drive them from the fields east of COP Nolen.



On 30 July 2010, CTF Top Guns assaulted OBJ Bakersfield I in the vicinity of Routes High Life and Mariners in the Arghandab River Valley. HHB/1-320th Field Artillery Regiment comprised the assault and support elements and they laboriously cleared the dense IED emplacement on the objective. Following the death of two Soldiers from IED strikes, SGM White arrived at the objective and his presence immediately improved the spirits of the Soldiers that had been locked in battle with enemy fighters for nearly three hours.

Innately sensing that his leadership was needed on the outskirts of the friendly line, he hastily moved to where the fighting was thickest, inspiring the Soldiers with his presence and willingly exposing himself to enemy fire to better direct the placement of machine gun fire on the advancing enemy. He provided critical tactical advice to junior leaders that enabled them to successfully repel multiple enemy assaults and upheld the highest standards of discipline despite the austerity of the location and the intensity of the fighting. His presence alone was a true inspiration to the Soldiers on the line in the most significant fight of the campaign for CTF Top Guns and his contribution to the success of the mission was immeasurable.

09 July 2010



SGT Michael Adams (H/3-2 CAV) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor when he left COP Rath to conduct a joint culvert clearance patrol with his partner Afghan National Army platoon. Upon arrival at the ANA platoon's position, 2nd platoon's leadership was quickly identified by the ANA platoon sergeant and invited to have chai tea as the ANA finished preparing for the patrol.

The platoon leadership was gathered at a table outside the main building in the compound and served chai. The ANA left the area to continue mission preparations. The US Soldiers were seated at the table when three to four rounds were fired striking close to their position. A second burst of fire then struck the wall behind the table sending the platoon's leadership diving for cover. An enemy combatant, that had infiltrated the ANA, was attempting to kill members of 2nd platoon.

The enemy combatant continued to fire bursts at the gathered Soldiers from fifteen to twenty feet away. Noticing that SGT Adams was the only US Soldier who had his weapon at the ready, the enemy combatant deliberately targeted and fired a burst at him. SGT Adams quickly assessed the situation, identified the threat, and the immediate danger it posed to the platoon. He gathered his bearing, aimed and fired four rounds knocking the enemy combatant to the ground. The enemy, still in control of his weapon, attempted to recover and reengage the US Soldiers. SGT Adams fired four more rounds incapacitating the enemy combatant.

SGT Adams, by remaining composed under fire, saved the lives of both the US and ANA Soldiers in the compound. He showed valor and courage in his rapid response to a very complex situation. Had it not been for his precise application of lethal effects, the situation could have been much worse.



10 July-  
30 September 2010



LTC David Flynn earned the Silver Star Medal while heroically distinguishing himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of a determined enemy as the Battalion Commander for Combined Task Force Top Guns, Combined Task Force STRIKE, Kandahar, Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. His heroic actions and leadership during Operation Hamkari-Arghandab from 10 July to 30 September 2010 were instrumental in defeating a determined enemy; inspirational, allowing his Soldiers to perform unparalleled tasks; and courageous, as he personally led the Task Force to seize physical and psychological footholds in the contested and long-time Taliban stronghold of Western Arghandab.

On 10 July 2010, during the Relief in Place with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Combined Task Force Top Guns commenced a three-day population focused patrol base operation to engage the local population, develop patterns of life and disrupt insurgent freedom of movement in the grape fields and pomegranate orchards South of the village of Jelawur. The enemy was in its early stages of preparation, when Batteries A and B, 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery and Charlie Company Soldiers embarked on their population-centric clearing operations.

Under the cover of darkness on 10 July, Battery A established a patrol base in Noor Mohammad Khan Kalache 1200 meters south of Combat Outpost Nolen in the densely vegetated pomegranate orchards. The following morning, Battery B departed Combat Outpost Tynes, safely moved



through fields suspected to be laden with improvised explosive devices, and established their patrol base in a compound, northwest of Khosrow Sofla just south of the intersection of Route Highlife and the 2nd Canal crossing point along Route Mariners.

The joint patrol conducted counter-reconnaissance operations, near mid-day, on 11 July, but the heat and exertion of climbing over walls and through grape orchards resulted in the unit's request for medical evacuation of several non-battle heat injuries. The insurgents observed the inbound medical evacuation helicopters as valuable targets and each attempt to land resulted in the helicopter driven off by intense machine gun fire from the canal tree lines. The medical evacuation helicopter successfully evacuated the wounded after suppressive fires from nearby attack helicopters. Following the evacuation, the platoon leaders, jaded by the doubts of their men, requested immediate air exfiltration to ensure their safe return to base.

Hearing a sentiment of defeat in the platoon leaders' transmissions, LTC Flynn directed the Battalion Operations Officer to immediately request helicopter lift support and coordinate an air assault reinforcement of the patrol base northwest of Khosrow Sofla. The air assault reactionary force conducted its infiltration to reinforce, and in some cases relieve, the beleaguered joint



patrol fixed in the patrol base compound. Upon arriving at the patrol base, LTC Flynn observed a broken organization with Soldiers outwardly questioning the mission and the authority of officers and senior non-commissioned officers focused on continuing to fight.

The platoon leaders again requested immediate exfiltration by aviation lift assets. LTC Flynn immediately isolated the faint-hearted, eradicated dissent, and eliminated the defeatist attitude. He empowered junior non-commissioned officers, charged the previously dejected leaders to hold the position, and directed the planned exfiltration by ground at first light the following day. With that he turned to his Personal Security Detachment and with the disbelief of the platoons, he personally led his squad out of the compound under the cover of darkness back to the canal. Positioning the platoon from Headquarters Battery at a critical chokepoint along Route Mariners, LTC Flynn directed his subordinate leader to hold the location and facilitate the reward passage of lines of the patrol at first light.

The actions of LTC Flynn on 11 July 2010 were critical to the success of mission. He placed himself at personal risk at the point of friction, provided purpose and direction that removed fear from the organization, and personally set the example for his subordinate leaders to emulate. As part of the greater clearing operation in the Arghandab River Valley, CTF Top Guns focused efforts identifying critical locations vital to the insurgents' freedom to move fighters, weapons, and equipment through the vegetated valley to Kandahar City. The Task Force battle plan was to seize the critical intersection of Routes Highlife and Mariners at the 2nd Canal (OBJ Bakersfield) to interdict the insurgent line of communication and provide the Afghan people with the time and space to harvest the economically critical grape and pomegranate orchards.

The unit successfully established blocking positions and screen lines to allow the assault force to seize the objective at first light. LTC Flynn deployed his TAC to COP Tynes, some 700 meters north of the objective and awaited the seizure of a foothold and establishment of security before conducting link up with the combined forces on Objective Bakersfield I. The Battalion Tactical Operations Center (TOC) at Forward Operating Base Terra Nova reported that Taliban signal intercepts requested a call to arms for all available fighters to converge on OBJ Bakersfield I. Realizing the magnitude of this call to arms, LTC Flynn committed the Battalion Task Force to the fight. A/1-320 partnered with Weapons Company established a screen in the village of Jelawur. B/1-320 in combined action with 1st and 2nd ANA companies blocked northeast and secured Route Highlife north of the objective, and rapidly reinforced HHB/1-320 at OBJ Bakersfield I to ensure that the Task Force held the ground.

As Taliban fighters attempted to retake the objective, Soldiers from HHB/1-320 and B/1-320 directed devastating small arms fire onto Taliban fighting positions, killing an estimated fifteen insurgents in the first day of action. By the end of 30 July 2010, eight additional HHB/1-320 Soldiers had been wounded by IED strikes and an embedded member of the Asymmetric Warfare Group had been killed by precision small arms fire. LTC Flynn immediately directed the construction of a new company combined combat outpost at Objective Bakersfield I; for the next three days, American and Afghan Soldiers repelled repeated enemy assaults on the objective, renamed COP Stout in honor of one of the fallen Soldiers.

The decision to hold the ground, reinforce success, and deny the enemy the critical ground resulted in the reduction of 30 IEDs and 25 to 30 enemy fighters killed or wounded. LTC Flynn's leadership, adept judgment, and understanding of the operational environment during the 4-day "Battle for Bakersfield" were instrumental in defeating a determined enemy and an inspiration to his Soldiers.



11 July 1967

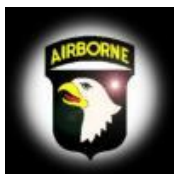
SSG Kenneth Bowyer (HHC/2-502) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 11 July 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. During the early morning hours, the second section of the Reconnaissance platoon, while set up in a perimeter, was suddenly attacked by an estimated reinforced North Vietnamese company with automatic weapons, grenades, and mortars. Staff Sergeant Bowyer immediately began to direct the platoon's fire as he moved through the heavy fire, giving his men encouragement and pointing out enemy positions. Shortly after the battle started, Sergeant Bowyer was struck in the head and face by grenade fragments and temporarily blinded. Disregarding his own wounds and safety, Sergeant Bowyer crawled through intense enemy fire until the area where his wounded had been placed. Still unable to see, Sergeant Bowyer valiantly crawled among his wounded comrades giving them encouragement. Sergeant Bowyer, realizing the great possibility of being overrun, began to organize the wounded men and prepare them for the defense of an all-out enemy assault. Approximately one hour after being wounded, Sergeant Bowyer's vision returned and he began to move about the perimeter giving aid to the wounded and, on several occasions, crawled outside the perimeter in order to gather equipment and ammunition for his men. Staff Sergeant Bowyer's outstanding display of gallantry in action, his devotion to duty and his men are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

11 July 1967

SP4 Walter Keyes (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 11 July 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Prior to an all-out attack on his unit's perimeter by a reinforced North Vietnamese Army Company, Specialist Keyes detected two enemy soldiers sneaking up on the defense; he immediately killed them with a grenade. As he did so the perimeter was taken under tremendous attack by grenade, mortar and automatic weapons fire. In the initial stages of the battle, the friendly element suffered heavy casualties; among them, the medic. Specialist Keyes, with no concern for his own safety, began crawling through the heavy fire giving medical aid to the wounded. Observing three wounded men lying in an area exposed to the enemy fire, he unhesitatingly crawled approximately ten meters out in front of the perimeter and pulled one of them to safety. As he returned for the second, an exploding grenade wounded him. Disregarding his wounds and displaying great personal bravery, he continued on and recovered the man. A third time Specialist Keyes crawled through the intense fire to retrieve the last wounded soldier but found him too serious to be moved. He quickly administered what medical aid he could and then placed rucksacks around the soldier to protect him from further injury. When his section Sergeant was wounded, specialist Keyes assumed his duties and distributed ammunition, gave encouragement, and directed fire into the enemy positions. Specialist Keyes was wounded a second time by grenade fragments as he tried to move to, and check on, his wounded comrade still lying outside the perimeter. Even though badly wounded, Specialist Keyes continued to move through the perimeter giving his men encouragement and assisting them whenever needed. The courage and determination displayed by Specialist Keyes resulted in the saving of numerous lives and inspired his men to such a degree that they successfully defended their positions against a numerically superior hostile force. Specialist Keyes never relented in his heroic, determined effort to resist the enemy and to give aid to his wounded comrades. The outstanding gallantry and personal valor demonstrated by Specialist Keyes has distinguished him and reflected the utmost credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

11 July 1967

1LT Clarence Long (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 11 July 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Long distinguished himself by valorous action when his platoon was hit by a heavy barrage of grenade, mortar, and automatic weapons fire from an estimated enemy company who had succeeded in encircling his perimeter. During the initial stages of the battle the friendly element sustained numerous casualties. Lieutenant Long, with complete disregard for his own safety, moved through his defensive positions and reorganized his men and pulled the wounded to the center of the perimeter. Lieutenant Long continued to expose himself to the hostile fire as he pointed out enemy targets to his



men and collected his wounded weapons and ammunition. When wounded by grenade fragments, he disregarded his wounds and crawled to a forward position to place heavy return fire into the enemy positions. Throughout the entire battle Lieutenant Long continually exposed himself to the vicious enemy fire while directing the fire of his platoon; as a result of his outstanding example and leadership, his platoon was able to defend their position from a determined enemy element. First Lieutenant Long's gallant display of valor, his aggressiveness and determination against a numerically superior hostile force were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

11 July 1967

SGT Odell Ford (HHC/ 2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. Sergeant Ford distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 11 July 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. During the early morning hours, a section of Recondo Platoon was attacked by an estimated reinforced enemy company. In the initial stages of battle, the enemy element concentrated a heavy volume of grenade, automatic weapons, and mortar fire on the friendly position and heavy casualties were inflicted. Sergeant Ford, serving as squad leader, realized the precarious situation that could develop and began to expose himself to the withering enemy fire while moving among his squad's positions giving his men encouragement and directing their fire by pointing out enemy positions. While moving among the positions, he was struck in the head by shrapnel and temporarily blinded. Completely disregarding his painful wound, Sergeant Ford continued to give his men encouragement. His inspiration enabled his men to successfully defend and hold their positions against the numerically superior enemy element. Sergeant Ford's devotion to duty and personal courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 1733)

11 July 1967

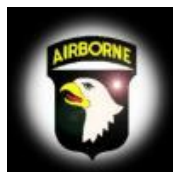
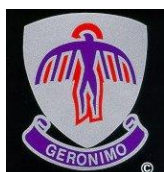
PFC Ronald A. Gardner (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. Private Gardner's platoon was attacked by an estimated reinforced enemy company. In the initial burst of enemy automatic weapons fire, the medical aidman was killed and other casualties were inflicted. Private Gardner, even though wounded by grenade fragments, began to move through the battle area giving aid to the wounded. With complete disregard for his own safety, he exposed himself to the vicious enemy fire while moving his wounded comrades to a safe area to administer medical aid to them. On one occasion, he crawled out in front of his perimeter through a bullet swept area to within ten meters of an enemy position and pulled a wounded comrade to safety. For approximately two and a half hours, he treated the wounded and allowed his own wounds to be treated only after all his comrades had been given medical aid. Private Gardner's devotion to duty and personal courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 1737)

12 July 2010



SGT Leon Richards heroically (A/1-320 FA) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor while distinguishing himself with valorous conduct in the face of the enemy as an assistant gunner for Team Alpha, Battery A, 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment during combat operations in the Arghandab River valley. SGT Richards' courage, bravery and professionalism resulted in the timely evacuation of two severely wounded comrades and ensured that security around the casualties was maintained.

1st platoon's 2nd squad and one squad from 3rd platoon went out on a quick reaction force patrol because 1st Platoon's 1st squad had received a casualty. En-route to their location the point man on the patrol halted the formation because he didn't like the way the route looked. The point man called the patrol commander, SSG Malin, to his location to assess the situation. On his way to the point man, SSG Malin stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED). SGT Richards went to SSG Malin's location to render aid, emplacing tourniquets and attempting to stabilize him for transport. As the tourniquets were being emplaced, SGT Richards called up the 9-line MEDEVAC. With the



MEDEVAC called up SGT Richards, with the help of two other Soldiers, moved SSG Malin onto a litter to transport him to the HLZ. When the MEDEVAC arrived SGT Richards and the Soldiers moved SSG Malin to the helicopter.

After SSG Malin was MEDEVAC'd the patrol re-grouped and prepared to move out when PFC Kent stepped on a secondary IED. SGT Richards, seeing another Soldier wounded, went to render aid. SGT Richards then called up another 9-line MEDEVAC; since the helicopter was already close, SGT Richards with the assistance of several Soldiers immediately moved PFC Kent to the HLZ. Once the MEDEVAC helicopter lifted off, the Soldiers still on the ground rallied and headed back to the COP.

12 July 2010



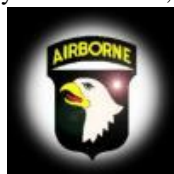
CPT Jeffrey Mackinnon (B/1-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor while heroically distinguishing himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of a determined enemy as the commander of Company B, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, Combined Task Force STRIKE, in Kandahar, Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. His heroic actions during a combat patrol were instrumental in evacuating a critically wounded Soldier during Operation Brickhouse.

CPT Mackinnon, along with elements of his 3rd platoon, departed Combat Outpost Fitzpatrick at 0300 to conduct a combat reconnaissance patrol to confirm or deny the enemy situation in the nearby village of Waziran. Waziran was a longtime Taliban stronghold that insurgents used to prepare ambushes against Coalition, Afghan National Security Forces, and Government vehicles travelling along Highway 1 through western Pashmul. In combined action with Afghan National Police (ANP), the partnered section carefully advanced the two kilometer movement through a prepared insurgent defense and established an objective rally point in a marijuana field to the east of an abandoned school. The "Yellow school" was a suspected Taliban fighting position, yet the patrol only observed normal local national patterns of life in the early morning hours prior to prayer. The Afghan National Police approached a nearby local national and after a brief discussion departed to the mosque to observe daily prayer rituals. Following prayer time, local nationals began movement to tend their fields, and the combined patrol commenced movement to recon the fighting positions and suspected routes in and out of the school.

The lead element consisted of five ANP, SSG Reese, the weapons squad leader, and CPT Mackinnon. The security element halted a short distance from the compound perimeter wall on the north and east side of the Yellow school, and the ANP breached the five foot wall from the east. The ANP led the clearance of the compound to confirm or deny former presence of Taliban.

CPT Mackinnon and SSG Reese accompanied the ANP and began assessing possible fighting positions from within the compound walls. SSG Reese, travelling a short distance behind his commander, stepped off the concrete walkway and moved into an uncleared area, employing a minesweeper, to a steel barrel in the center of the compound. As SSG Reese approached the steel barrel, he struck a victim operated, pressure plate improvised explosive device (PPIED) consisting of a 10-gallon jug of low-order homemade explosive. The blast resulted in a significant fire ball that launched CPT Mackinnon onto his back and heaved shrapnel into SSG Reese's right leg.

Immediately, with complete disregard for his own safety, CPT Mackinnon instinctively ran to assess the situation. Seeing his injured squad leader and identifying directionally focused charge IEDs in close proximity, CPT Mackinnon moved through the minefield to provide medical treatment and initiated the 9-line MEDEVAC. These actions stopped SSG Reese's bleeding and allowed the patrol to stabilize the wounded Soldier as they awaited aerial evacuation. After the evacuation of the casualty, the combined section established a defensive perimeter to permit explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) Soldiers to investigate the site. Within minutes, the patrol received sporadic machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire on their position. CPT Mackinnon directed the force to repel the attack to allow EOD to collect the necessary battlefield forensics for future exploitation. The enemy broke contact, and EOD proceeded to conduct five controlled





detonations destroying seven additional IEDs and confirming the patrol's assessment of the enemy minefield.

13 July 1944



SGT Elden C. Dobbyn (502<sup>nd</sup> PIR) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while serving with the army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 4 section I, Circular 66, Headquarters First United States Army, 18 May 1944, the Silver Star is awarded to SGT Elden C. Dobbyn for gallantry in action against the enemy in Normandy, France.

13 July 1944



PFC Floyd P. Marquart (502<sup>nd</sup> PIR) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while serving with the army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 4 section I, Circular 66, Headquarters First United States Army, 18 May 1944, the Silver Star is awarded to PFC Floyd P. Marquart for gallantry in action against the enemy in Normandy, France.

13 July 1944

CPT Wallace A. Swanson (502<sup>nd</sup> PIR) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while serving with the army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 4 section I, Circular 66, Headquarters First United States Army, 18 May 1944, the Silver Star is awarded to CPT Wallace A. Swanson for gallantry in action against the enemy in Normandy, France.

**\*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."

