



2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) “STRIKE HISTORY” 07 September – 13 September 2014



07 September 1967

Operation COOK: A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of Quang Ngai Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of Saigon, by elements of the 2nd Battalion, 5052nd Infantry, 101st ABN DIV. A South Vietnamese Army interpreter questions a Viet Cong Prisoner and then gives the prisoners answers to CPT Dennis K Anderson Intelligence Officer for the Battalion S-2.



07 September 1968

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

07 September 1970

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

08 September 1968

A/1-502 captured 2 female VC, vic. YD7030. They killed 2 VC and captured 2, vic. YD65. The VC fled, dropping 2 weapons. Blood trails were found but no bodies. B/1-502 killed 1 VC and discovered 18 individual weapons and 8 MG, vic. YD6234. Recon/1-502 killed 2 VC, vic. YD7333.

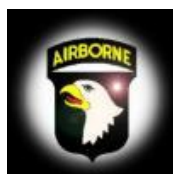
08-13

September 2012

ANSF mission command of independent operations. On 9 SEP, the 3/201 ANA Brigade S3 briefed the Corps Commander on their phased plan to clear Alah Say Valley. MG Waziri approved phase I—clearance RTE Vermont from FOB Naglu to FOB Tagab, but directed the S3 to adjust the last two phases. He stated that phase II must be a clearance/hold of the area east of FOB Tagab to gain some space and to protect the LOC into Alasay Valley. Phase III will be the clearance of the valley. The first phase of the operation will begin 16-19 SEP. The 3/201 will then assess resources/time to conduct a Tagab clearing operation.

Cross-border incident management. On 10 SEP, LTG Akram, Deputy to GEN Karimi, and 3 Afghan parliamentarians conduct an engagement with Kunar provincial/district officials, MG Waziri, COL Wali Khan, PCOP/DCOPs, and elders from Dangam, Shegal, and Asmar tomorrow.

The purpose of the visit is to discuss IDF along AF-PAK border and security concerns in Kunar Province. Based upon MG Waziri's conversation with the PoA on 9 SEP, President Karzai is interested in the national/international assistance required to relocate displaced civilian personnel from the border region.



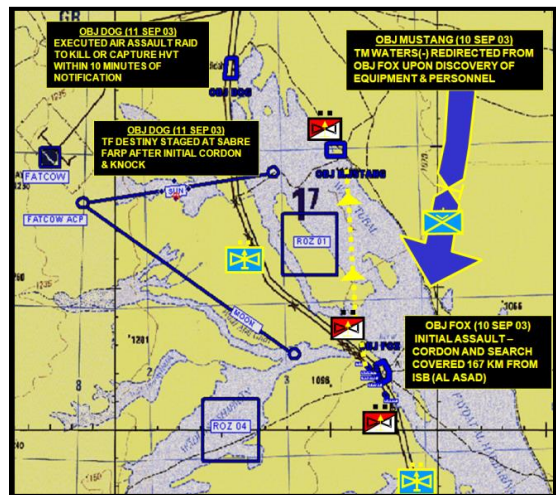
Countering insider threats. MG Waziri visits the 4/201 ANA Brigade on 11 SEP. The purpose of the visit was to receive an O&I update for upcoming operations in Nangarhar, review personnel and equipment challenges, and discuss ANA actions to eradicate insider threat. BG Lawang, the Brigade Commander, and his staff did an excellent job laying out the upcoming operations and discussing their challenges. Following the briefing, MG Waziri directed the Brigade command and staff to report to FOB Gamberi to conduct staff-to-staff coordination with the 201 Corps. MG Waziri had the Brigade staff brief the Corps staff on their current shortfalls. After each Brigade staff officer outlined the issues for the group, MG Waziri assigned tasks and directed suspense's to his staff to address the Brigade issues. MG Waziri's method of direct leadership endeared him to the 4/201 ANA officers, and it served as a contract between the 201 Corps & 4/201 ANA Brigade to address current challenges.

ANSF enabler training and capacity building. 764 EOD Team conducted partnered training with 2/201 RCC at JBAD Garrison. The training consisted of two 20m lanes with pressure plates and battery packs buried at random intervals. The task for the RCC EOD teams was to use their metal detectors and mine probes to find buried IEDs. Soldiers that had previously completed the EOD IMT course were fully proficient with their equipment and found all IEDs on the lane. Following the training, ANA and CF leaders discussed future partnered training, a train-the-trainer IED proficiency course, and identified candidates for the upcoming EOD IMT course.

09 September 1968 1-502 had very light contact. B/1-502 sprang an ambush on 2 VC, vic. YD6035, resulting in 2 VC KIA.

09 September 1968 A sweep of the flooded coastal plain by troopers from the 2nd Brigade gathered 15 detainees. Airborne infantrymen aboard choppers were able to remove stranded suspects on the coastal plain, as "Bess" left the area in watery confusion.

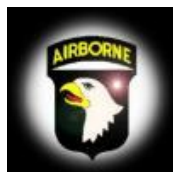
10 September 1968 Operation VINH LOC begins. This cordon and search operation was conducted by elements of the 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (1-501 Inf), the U.S. Navy, and forces from the 54th ARVN Regiment and the 7th ARVN Cavalry Squadron around Vinh Loc island about 15 miles east of Hue. Captured VC told their interrogators that more than 80 percent of the communist infrastructure on the island was wiped out during this operation. Casualties: U.S. 2 KIA, 9 WIA; enemy 154 KIA, 370 POW (including 116 members of the infrastructure) and 56 ralliers.



10 September 1968 A/1-502 continued RIF, vic. YD6630, finding 5 tons of rice, killing 1 VC in a bunker and capturing 2 VCS. A/1-502 engaged 5 VC, vic. YD6730 from ambush, with Negative results. C/1-502 moved to FSB Mongoose, OPCON to 1/501. D/1-502 moved to An Lo Bridge to assume bridge security.

10-11 September 2003

Operation Grierson I. 2-502 IN participates in an air assault mission with TF Destiny, 2-17 CAV and 101st Airborne Division Pathfinders, over 402



kilometers/251 miles in order to disrupt the activities of suspected former regime loyalists. The mission results in the detention of 78 personnel, the capture of large weapons cache and \$60,000 in sequentially numbered U.S. bills, as well as several million dollars of Iraqi Dinar.

11 September 1943 The SS Strathnaver and its passengers, the 502nd PIR, are forced to make an emergency port call at St. Johns Newfoundland for repairs. During this time salt water was discovered in the ships freshwater tanks. This would delay the 502nd's deployment 44 days.

11 September –
11 November 1967

Operation Wheeler: Locations: I Corps; Quang Tin Province, Tam Ky; Tien Phuoc.

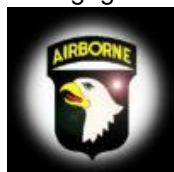
Type: Search and Destroy; Units: USA – Task Force Oregon – 23rd Infantry Division (Americal) after 25 September, 196th Light Infantry Brigade (2-1st IN, 3-21st IN, 4-31st IN); 4th Infantry Division: 3rd BDE (1-14th IN, 1-35th IN); 101st Airborne Division: 1st Brigade (1-327th ABN, 2-327th ABN, 2-502nd ABN, A/2-17th CAV); VNAF 2nd ARVN Division; NVA/VC – 2nd NVA Division (21st and 31st NVA regiments), 1st and 21st Main Force regiments (VC) reported in area of operations; Events: 7-9 October – U.S. forces from A/2-502 Airborne, A/2-237th Airborne, and A/1-35th IN fight a running three day battle throughout Quang Tin Province; Losses: U.S. – 34 KIA, 26 WIA; NVA/VC – 92 KIA; Events: 21 October - While patrolling northwest of Tam Ky, A/2-502 Airborne receives heavy mortar and machinegun fire from an enemy force of unknown size.; Losses: U.S. – 7 KIA, 17 WIA; Events: 27 October – B/2-237th Airborne clashes with a well-entrenched NVA company 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.; Losses: U.S. – 11 IA, 18 WIA in six hours of battle; Enemy losses unknown; Comment: Operation Wheeler combined with Operation Wallowa 11 November.; Casualties: Total for Wheeler U.S. – 126 KIA, 498 WIA; NVA/VC – 1,103 KIA, 50 POWs

11 September 1968 A/1-502 conducted RIF, vic. YD6631. B/1-502 sprang and ambush, vic. YD6133 on 2 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA, this VC was a tax collector. B/1-502 also had security of Rome plow and RIF operations with negative contact. C/1-502 was OPCON to 1/501. A/1-502 secured An, local patrols around bridge, they detained 1 VCS. Recon/1-502 ambushed 3 VC, killing 1, vic. YD7031

11 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** 2/502 Battalion moved to FSB Veghel with the mission of conducting saturation patrols in the area while closing down the firebase for the monsoon season. There had been no enemy contact in the area since 8 September 1970. D Company engaged three NVA, but with no results.

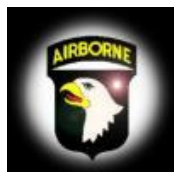
12 September 1967 **Operation WHEELER:** On 12 September 1967, the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry air assaulted into Operation Wheeler in the Que Son Valley west of Tam Ky in Quang Ngai Province. I went in on an early lift with the Tac CP into Nui Hoac in grid square BT0722. As we were setting up the command post and monitoring the radios and the progress of the line companies, an explosion only a few feet away mortally wounded our operations sergeant MSG Forbes. I rushed to his assistance and began to administer CPR even as I noticed that both of his legs had been blown off. Two medics worked to staunch the flow of blood, but within 5-10 minutes, it became apparent that MSG Forbes was dead. He had been trying to pull out an engineer picket from the flat area 10 yards from our TAC CP so that we could eventually land helicopters there. That flat area had a number of engineer pickets in the ground as anti-helicopter devices and he had tried to remove one that was tied to an 82mm mortar round as a booby trap. He was our first KIA on Operation Wheeler.

Alpha Company had landed earlier a little northwest of the CP site on the same ridge line and had been engaged in a hot LZ by small elements of NVA and



mines that had been placed on likely LZs. Steve Arnold was lightly wounded in the face by a mine near his helicopter as he landed. Before dark that night, LTC Puckett said that I would replace Arnold within a few days as that was the captain's second wound. In the meantime, I had taken over as HQ Commandant because the same explosion that killed MSG Forbes had lightly wounded CPT Gorski. It was my job to put in place the perimeter security positions for the CP and that took me the rest of that day to accomplish, being very wary of additional mines that might be in the area. It was scary work after seeing what the blast had done to our Operations Sergeant and noting several "four small rocks in a pyramid" signs that the VC and NVA used as warnings of mines to their friends. Shortly after the CP was firmly established, I was sent to the rear to spend two or three days in preparation for taking command of A Company. (Charles P. Otstott, Alpha Company CO Sep-Nov 1967)

- 12 September 1968 A/1-502 engaged 2 VC in a bunker, vic. YD6729, 1 VC KIA and 1 VC POW. They had contact with 2 or 3 VC, twice more but negative assessment. B/1-502 continued Rome plow security and RIF operations with negative contact. C/1-502 was OPCON 1/501. D/1-502 continued security of An LO. Recon/1-502 captured 1 VC, vic. YD7233.
- 12 September 1978 SSG (Then PFC) Larry G. Kier (A/2-501 IN) was on Fire Support Base Henderson, about 9 nautical miles south-southwest of Camp Carrol and was occupied by 2-501 IN and 2-11 ARTY when FSB Henderson came under attack, first by heavy mortar fire, then assault by a North Vietnamese Army battalion. When FSB Henderson was relieved 24 American service members were dead and two were missing, which PFC Kier was one of them. He was declared dead on 12 September 1978 and on 13 June 1996 his remains were repatriated, and positive identification publicly announced on 28 February 2002.
- 13 September 1968 A/1-502 continued RIF operation, vic. YD6731, capturing 1 VC. While on Rome plow security, B/1-502 received SA fire, vic. YD6332. A cordon was formed around the village and artillery was called in. A sweep of the area resulted in 9 VC KIA and 10 VC POW, and several weapons. One of the POW's was the CO of the H319th and another cadre finance officer was captured.
- 13 September 2003 "We were on a night patrol to eliminate some criminal activity (black market propane) reported in sector. Our two vehicles passed through a narrow street where the second vehicle got ambushed. They threw improvised grenade type devices that were packed with ball bearings. The first bounced into the bed of the truck where the men immediately jumped out. The explosion went off, ripping the right side of the HMMWV apart. SSG Greg Chapman, HHC/3-502, led his men to cover and concealed positions and began scanning for targets. The enemy was on the roof ducking, throwing, and shooting. The driver of the second vehicle attempted to jump out when another explosion went off inside the driver compartment at his feet. The guys received sporadic gunfire and 6-8 explosions all on one vehicle. I heard the contact and got a report immediately that we had casualties, number unknown, and they were in an ambush.
- The trail vehicle was destroyed and we had a serious casualty still on the ground. Communications between vehicles were on ICOMs (two-way radios). SSG Charles Everheart, the squad leader, led the lead vehicle to put down an over watch and base of fire as his team hauled ass back into the kill zone. SPC Joe Thoman engaged an oncoming high-speed vehicle, causing the vehicle to retreat and depart the area. SGT Luis Morales, the team leader, jumped out from the lead vehicle onto the second vehicle and retrieved our casualty. Smoke from the explosions in the narrow street billowed up and visibility was getting worse. NVDs were not of any value. Young Soldiers communicated with their laser devices to target enemy on the roofs.



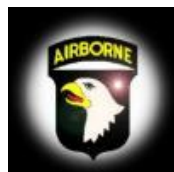
The enemy lobbed 6-8 explosive devices, which were blowing up every 3-5 seconds. SGT Morales retrieved our serious casualty under sporadic fire and put on an improvised tourniquet, continuing to direct Soldiers to locations. SSG Everheart, while under contact, still had the wherewithal without direction from me to zero out the COMSEC on their radios in the vehicle.

SSG Chapman collected up the men to exfiltrated the kill zone when the last explosion went off, taking him down. He continued to consolidate his men and get them on the exfiltration vehicle. SPC Morrone, the radio operator, calmly continued to inform me as I moved my Quick Reaction Force (QRF) into the area. I designated a link-up site to meet the QRF and ambulance for further evacuation. When we finally looked at our casualty, we realized we needed Aerial Medical Evacuation (AEROMEDEVAC). We were in the middle of an urban area and were surrounded by traffic. I directed the QRF, led by SFC William Clark, to push everyone out 200 meters in every direction and begin clearing the roofs. I realized we were not getting out of here by ground quickly enough due to traffic volume so I used an intersection that would barely fit a Blackhawk helicopter. We were having MEDEVAC bird issues for some reason but within seconds some guy came up on the net and said, "I'll get him." It turned out he was not even a MEDEVAC pilot. Man, seeing the crew chief brought tears to my eyes. The value of human life and their willingness to come down in that intersection that was three times smaller than size required for a UH-60 PZ/LZ was a sight to see in combat. My 1SG, Ray Fulks, ran out and brought the bird down right on top of him, causing him to roll across the intersection – after he fell in a hole. We got the casualty on the bird immediately. The helicopter was on the ground less than 30 seconds. During this time, I realized I still needed to move our other WIAs by ground, since the Blackhawk was not a MEDEVAC bird it would not have room for wounded. I called more of my Company out of the Command Post and told them to block off traffic at our previously noted operational check points. We took off out of the area with an open road like we were the Secretary of Defense.

Two of the WIAs were returned to duty within 48 hours. The other lost his leg 4 inches down from his right knee. The doctor briefed me and my medical Platoon Sergeant, SFC Luis Rodriguez that the improvised tourniquet placed on him by SGT Morales under contact saved his life.

After the casualty evacuation was complete, I sent forces back into the area to retrieve the downed vehicle. I was not going to allow them to have the satisfaction of capturing any equipment. When we arrived back on the scene within an hour of the ambush, the Iraqi Police had cordoned off the area and were protecting the site. They did this on their own, not because I called for them to help us. This is a testament to the progress the Second "Strike" Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) has made in Mosul.

My men arrived on the scene and immediately secured the area and hooked up the vehicle for recovery. Simultaneously, the police and my Soldiers scoured the area for witnesses. Numerous people apologized for the actions of the attackers. We just completed a survey of the area and this neighborhood was the most satisfied and happiest with our presence in my Company sector. We received three names of the attackers within two hours of the attack, thanks to the cooperation of the Iraqi Police and the citizens of Mosul. Numerous police and citizens offered to survey the houses for suspects for us, since it would be hard for us to do so. I advised the citizens that they did not need to do that but any word on the location of the suspects would be greatly appreciated. That same night I wrote a letter to the neighborhood explaining what my Soldiers were doing and I did not understand why people would attack us after we just caught criminals taking advantage of them. I told them we would not be deterred or frightened by anyone and asked for any information on the attackers.



Over the next 48 hours, we received much information on individuals, leading to our capture of the suspected planner and executor of the ambush against my Soldiers. Despite the raid against the suspected attacker, we (the Soldiers who were attacked) followed up the next day in the neighborhood and handed out toys and stuffed animals to mothers and children to ensure we maintained the relationship with the community. As far as I know, this is one of the few times where a unit that was attacked caught the prime suspect of the attack against the unit itself. This was accomplished only because of the cooperation between U.S. forces, Iraqi Police, and the citizens of the neighborhood itself.

Do not let the reports fool you. There is progress and cooperation in Iraq and the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) demonstrated this on September 13, 2003. They displayed skill and fortitude in combat as they were ambushed and followed up the next day in winning the hearts and minds of Iraqi's during stability and support operations (SASO). Everyone must know that these young men and women balance this every day and success is possible." - Daniel S. Morgan, CPT, Infantry Commanding HHC/3-502 IN

13 September 2010

CTF STRIKE conducted Operation Tund Baad, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment partnered with 6/3/305 Kandak to clear Objective Knoxville and Objective Johnson City to deny insurgents a safe haven and build COP Kandalay.

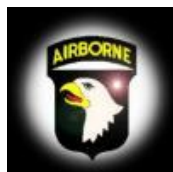


By eliminating the areas that insurgents use as safe havens as well as diminishing support for their activities, CF and ANSF are able to better protect the towns, which enable the district governance to develop projects and promote economic growth.

1-502 IN was successful in the building of COP Kandalay. The success of the operation was marked by the increased confidence of ANA and ANP in their ability to destroy the enemy. The overall success of the operation has had a positive effect on the locals of the area as they are now confident they can safely travel on Highway 1.

During this week, in the span of 72 years since the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment originated in July 1941 as the 502nd Parachute Battalion, an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assault, the following awards were awarded to members of 2BCT and the 502nd IN Regiment.

- 1 x Distinguished Service Cross
- 2 x Silver Star (1 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Bronze Star Medal (1x Posthumously)
- 2 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 24 x Purple Hearts (11 x Posthumously)
- 3 x Non-Hostile Injury or Illness



07 September 1967



The following Soldiers: SFC Ray A. Archuletta and CPL Ronald P. Cherrstrom (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)

07 September 1968

SP4 George R. Dorchak (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

07 September 2010

The following Soldiers: SSG Michael Thomas, SGT Ronald Jenkins and SPC Tyler Marson (B/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

08 September 1966

PFC Tommy Morales (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds during a firefight in Phu Tuan 20k from Tuy Hoa in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

08 September 1967

The following Soldiers: SP4 Curtis E. Cothran (HQ/2-502 IN) and PFC William K. Elliott (HHC/2-502 IN) died of other Non-hostile causes in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



08 September 1968

SGT Michael P. Whelan (E/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

08 September 2010

PFC Ira Mercer (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with 82mm rounds.

09 September 1970

SGT Wilford A. Young (C/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes from Air loss or crash over land in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

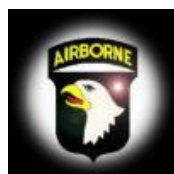
09 September 2010



1LT Todd Weaver (1-320 FA), 26, of Hampton, Virginia; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

10 September 1966

PFC Alfred L. Stonehouse (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds during in the Phu Yen Province, South Vietnam.



10 September 1968



The following Soldiers: PFC Alan J. Meisheid (A/1-501 IN); SP4 Patrick D. Fay (Pictured) (B/1-501 IN); PFC Daniel L. Carr (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

11 September 2010

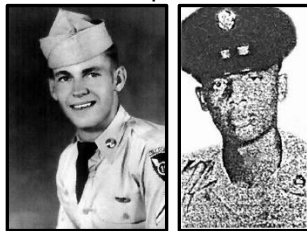
The following Soldiers: SGT Andrew Rose and SGT Trenton Wieties (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their unit with a rocket propelled grenade.

11 September 2010

The following Soldiers: SSG Andrew Miller and PFC John Bach (B/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

12 September 1967

The following Soldiers: MSG Thomas L. Forbes (Pictured) (HHC/2-502 IN), CPL Thomas E. Francis (Pictured) and PFC Calvin L. McDavis (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



12 September 2006

SSG Eric Schmeiser (B/1-75 CAV) was awarded the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received as a result of enemy or hostile action.

12 September 2010

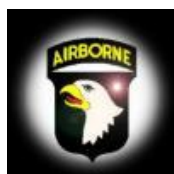
The following Soldiers: SGT Joshua Goheen and PFC Michael Leos (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with a grenade.

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

07 September 1967



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



08 September 1966

SGT Burrwood Yost, Jr. (C/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 Company C, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Sergeant Yost distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 September 1966 while serving as squad leader during a search and destroy mission near Tuy Hoa. As the last helicopter of the platoon landed, the whole unit received intense hostile fire from three sides. Sergeant Yost observed a partially concealed, friendly machine gun, whose ammunition lay 50 meters away. Calling for suppressive fire, with complete disregard for his safety, Sergeant Yost ran across the 50 meters of open terrain to deliver the ammunition. Later, while receiving intense hostile fire, he organized a fire team that was cut off from its leader. During this action he dove for an incoming grenade and hurled it into the open where it exploded harmlessly, an action which he subsequently repeated three times. He then jumped up and charged a machine gun position 50 meters away and succeeded in killing the surprised Viet Cong. Sergeant Yost repeatedly threw grenades into the hostile emplacements while receiving hostile fire. This enabled the platoon to drive the Viet Cong out of their entrenched positions. Later, while in pursuit of the insurgents, Sergeant Yost led his squad to within very close range of a prepared hostile force before being detected. To clarify the positions of the Viet Cong, Sergeant Yost called to the insurgents to draw their fire. Instructing his machine gunner to lay down a base of fire, Sergeant Yost threw grenades into the enemy positions, forcing them to withdraw. Sergeant Yost'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. 6752 (December 10, 1966))

09 September 2010



The following Soldiers: PFC Dexter Mitchell and PFC Mark Hatchett (C/1-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroically distinguishing themselves by exceptional valorous conduct in the face of the enemy, PFC Mitchell as an RTO, PFC Hatchett as an ammo bearer.

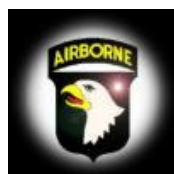
PFC Mitchell and PFC Hatchett's heroic and selfless actions during combat operations contributed to the success of the company's mission. At approximately 0713 hours, enemy fighters ambushed the dismounted patrol in which they were traveling. The enemy's near ambush severely wounded an ANP Soldier near PFC Mitchell and PFC Hatchett's position.

Despite the intensity of enemy fire impacting all around their position, PFC Mitchell and PFC Hatchett emerged from cover to move the wounded Soldier and dress his wounds. After successfully applying a tourniquet to the wounded Soldier's arm, PFC Hatchett assisted in buddy carry of the wounded for approximately 50 meters to the company's casualty collection point. PFC Hatchett's selfless actions directly contributed to keeping the severely wounded Soldier alive and conscious.



PFC Mitchell continued to keep the wounded Soldier conscious, sent up accurate reports to the company, and returned fire on an advancing enemy.

PFC Mitchell and PFC Hatchett's selfless actions directly contributed to keeping the severely wounded Soldier alive and conscious. The wounded Soldier was evacuated to higher-level medical care.



13 September 1968



MAJ William R. Hale (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 September 1968. Major Hale distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action while serving as Company Commander, Company B, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry, during combat operations near Ap Cao Xa, Republic of Vietnam. Major Hale, then Captain Hale, was leading his unit on a reconnaissance of a contested area when the second platoon was caught in a hail of enemy fire from well-concealed ambush positions. After a swift but prudent assessment of the situation, he moved quickly to overcome the enemy's advantage by immediately directing the second platoon into positions to initiate suppressive fire. Then, with complete disregard for his personal safety, he led his element into the battle. Oblivious to the volume of fire, he occupied a vulnerable position in order to gather his forces in preparation for an advance against the enemy. Major Hale's conspicuous bravery reinforced the morale of his troops and, through at an initial disadvantage, enabled his outnumbered men to seize the initiative against the enemy. Maneuvering into a cordon around the enemy, Major Hale methodically pursued them to their eventual defeat. Nineteen Viet Cong insurgents were killed and twenty captured, yet no friendly casualties were incurred due to Major Hale's extraordinary bravery in close combat against a numerically superior force. Major Hale's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

***STRIKE HISTORY NOTE:**

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

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

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

