



2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) “STRIKE HISTORY” 11 May – 17 May 2014



11 May –
2 August 1967

Operation Malheur I-II.

Locations: I Corps: Quang Ngai Province; Song Ne and Song Tra Cau valleys; Duc Pho; Minh Long; Mo Duc; FSB Champs.

Type/Objective: Search and Destroy designed to keep Route 1 open to the Binh Dinh Provincial border and to assist in the area's revolutionary development programs.

Units: USA –Task Force Oregon - 25th Infantry Divisions; 3rd Brigade (1-14th IN, 1-35th IN, 2-35 IN); 101st Airborne Division 1st BDE: 1-327th ABN, 2-327th ABN, 2-502 ABN); 19th Light Infantry Brigade (2-1st IN, 3-21st IN, 4-31st IN); NVA/VC – 2ndNVA Division.

Event: 18 June – Second platoon of A/3-21st IN (196th LIB) ambushes an NVA unit 16 miles south of Chu Lai. Two Americans are WIA, two NVA KIA, and two captured.

Casualties: U.S. casualties are from the 101st Airborne only; other figures not included in source documents. NVA/VC totals are for the entire operation. U.S. – 45 KIA, 433 WIA; NVA/VC – 869 KIA, 80 POWs.

11 May 1968

1-502 IN had light contact during the day, and Charlie Company recovered their MIA (KIA) and found 1 NVA KIA (BC)

11 – 12
May 1968

Operation DELAWARE: At 0600, A/2-502 vic. YD539124 engaged NVA squad along trail with SA. Enemy did not return fire, but yelled and ran around confused, as though trying to surrender; enemy retreated leaving behind 3 NVA KIA and weapons. When A Co. fired a claymore from its NDP, it heard the enemy fleeing and one individual groaning near the perimeter. At 0800, TAC CP (2-502) receives approx. 18 rounds of incoming 122mm rockets from southeast. Division LRRP's spotted firing location and called gunships on the target. Results: 1 US KIA, 4 US WHA (Minor), 1 Back hoe damaged. At 2330, the A36 element received an organized probe by an unknown size force. When one of A Co's M-60's opened up on 1 NVA, the enemy returned fire with an RPD, knocking out the M-60 position. A Co. requested gunship and during their last pass one or two rockets went astray, wounding 17 friendly personnel in an ambush position approximately 300 meters from the contact area. On 120900 May, while moving to an LZ to affect Medevac, A36 engage an enemy squad size force with SA. Total results: 3 US KHA, 1 US KIA, 3 US WHA, 16 US WIA, 9 NVA KIA, 6 AK-47's, 1 SKS, 1 M-2 Carbine, 1 RPG Captured.

11 May 1970

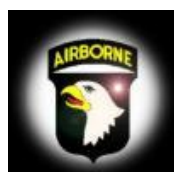
Operation TEXAS STAR: D/2-502 IN began the sweep north with no enemy sightings. C Company continued their operations on Hill 714. They began movement to the west to the saddle (YD502072) connecting Hills 714 and Hill 882. A Company began operations to the southwest of FSB Veghel, while B Company continued screening, the mission they assumed until the end of the period.

12-14 May 1968

1-502 IN Battalion had light contact during the days as the Battalion continued the RIF and security missions in the AO. On the 14th, Recon and Bravo Company operating with PF's form Quang Dien, killed 1 NVA (BC), 2 VC (BC)

12 – 13 May 1969

FSB AIRBORNE: While being manned by artillery batteries protected by elements of 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry the base was attacked by the 6th NVA Regiment supported by 46 men from the K-12 Sapper Battalion. The bloody fight which followed left 27 American dead and at least 61 wounded. NVA losses were not accurately known since the attackers had, as usual, taken as many of their dead with them as was possible, but 39



NVA bodies were left behind. C/2-329 ARTY and A/2-501 IN had borne the brunt of the attacks.

12 May 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: 2-502 IN Recon Platoon and elements of the 3rd Platoon, A/326 ENG repelled onto the top of Hill 882 to cut an LZ. The last helicopter into the area received small arms fire, forcing the chopper to land at First Support Base Shock and seriously injuring the pilot. ARA was employed, and the engineers once again began the dangerous and arduous task of blasting the LZ under enemy fire. D Company continued their sweep north to the top of Hill 882 with no enemy contact. Two bunkers were found and destroyed, and two enemy bodies killed by air strikes were found. Twenty-four M-16 rifle magazines were found on and around the bodies indicating the enemy had used M-16 rifles. No weapons were captured, however. C Company continued to move west.

A Company combat assaulted to the top of Hill 882 on the LZ prepared by the engineers. They joined forces with the Recon Platoon and began movement along the ridge line to the east to line up with C Company in the saddle. D Company, having cleared the ridge to the top of Hill 882, began a sweep back to the south.

13 May 1967

Operation Malheur: One company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry was engaged by an estimated VC compared size force resulting in 1 US KHA, 5 US WHA, loss of 2 M-16 rifles, 13 VC KIA (C), and 2 individual weapons and 12 Chicom hand grenades captured. Eleven other light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 US WHA, 16 VC KIA (C), 16 detainees and 5 individual weapons, including 2 M-16 rifles, captured. Three light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 6 VC KIA (C), 1 detainee, 10 individual weapons, including 1 M-79, captured and the discovery of a weapon cache containing 34 individual weapons and 1 12.7mm Chicom machine gun. Five light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 5 VC KIA (C) 1 detainee, and 2 individual weapons captured. Troop A, 2nd Squadron (Airborne), 17th Cavalry conducted an airmobile cordon and search operation in a hamlet to the south of CAPENTAN Base resulting in 2 detainees. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32)

13 May 1968

Paratroopers of A/2-502 IN and D/1-501 IN completed a successful cordon of Co Thap village eight miles northwest of Hue. The infantry surrounded an NVA battalion suspected of protecting a nearby enemy regimental headquarters and were joined by members of A/2-17 CAV. The two-day battle resulted in 38 NVA killed and 11 weapons captured.

13 May 1968

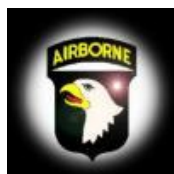
Operation DELAWARE: At 1215, Recon/2-502 vic. YD594177 engaged tow NVA.VC along trail with SA. Received return fire from approximately platoon size enemy force. Recon withdrew across a stream after capturing one NVA/VC with documents. Results: 1 NVA/VC Captured.

13 May 1969

FSB Airborne: At 0330hrs on this morning a burst of AK-47 fire signaled the attack for the North Vietnamese Forces. Heavy enemy mortar and rocket propelled fire erupted followed by an all-out VC/NVA infantry attack. The American Forces held Firebase Airborne and the attack was over by 0530 hrs when North Vietnamese forces withdrew. The US Forces suffered 22 killed in action and 61 wounded on Firebase Airborne. The enemy losses were 39 killed and 2 POW's. (Article from PFC Cleabern Hills Dedication Service program)

14 May 1967

Operation Malheur: One company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry contacted an enemy force of unknown size in well-fortified, dug-in positions, resulting in 8 US KHA and 36 WHA. Seven other light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 8 VC KIA (C) and 3 individual weapons captured. Two light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 3 VC KIA (C). Eight light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 14 VC KIA (C) and 6 individual weapons captured. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32)



14 May 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** While sweeping to the west in the vicinity of YD504071 the 2nd Platoon of C/2-502 IN engaged 10 to 15 enemy. The enemy returned fire with RPG's, small arms and mortars. The enemy fled to the south leaving behind four bodies. One US Soldier was killed in the engagement.

14 May 2003 1-502 IN, after securing Haditha Dam for over three weeks, rejoins the Brigade and assumes joint presence patrols and stability operations in downtown Mosul.

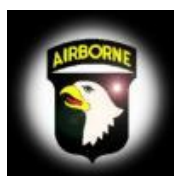
14 May 2006 **Operation Desert Scorpion.** 1-502 IN recovered a downed aircraft recovery mission near Rushdi Mulla.

At 1735 1-502 IN Commander and XO are informed that the 2BCT TOC has reported a possible Fallen Angel from Special Operations Forces (SOF) conducting operations in 1-502IN AO. The Commander alerts D/1-502 IN commander and the Battalion QRF to come to REDCON 1 in order to prepare for search and recovery operations. The commander also orders B/1-502 IN to prepare a platoon to insert into the crash site by foot. Between 1745 and 2045, the Brigade and Battalion organize for recovery operations. 3/B/1-502 IN, led by LT Fisher and SFC Gebhardt, move by vehicle to a permanent checkpoint, and prepare to conduct foot insertion and linkup with SOF at the crash site. 2BCT re-tasks Strike Iron Claw and elements of the 526 BSB to conduct recovery – the end state for initial phase is to position assets at PB Yusufiyah until ground C2 and coordination is complete with MND-B and SOF. At 2055, Strike 3 (LTC McLamb) confirms conditions at the crash site and linkup communication plan with SOF; he subsequently authorizes 1-502 IN to initiate foot movement to the crash site. D/1-502 IN (-) and the recovery assets move forward to PB Yusufiyah, with orders to SP at first light in order to re-clear Mullah Fayyad Hwy to linkup with 3/B/1-502 IN at the crash site. At 2318 SOF passes control of the crash site to 3/B/1-502 IN and departs with the remains of the crew.

At 0600 on 15 May D/1-502 IN SP for the crash site. At 0658 D/1-502 IN reports Buffalo NMC from IED strike on Mullah Fayyad Hwy; Talon 6 and Talon 5 decide to recover the assets back to PB Yusufiyah – the Buffalo is mission critical for clearing the route to the platoon and crash site. 2BCT and 2-101 BTB organize patrol to move forward with a second Buffalo to Camp Striker. Between 0830 and 1300, the BCT and 1-502 IN reorganize the recovery team and begin the second attempt to clear Mullah Fayyad Hwy. One platoon of D/1-502 IN is designated to secure the length of the route into the site in order to eliminate enemy opportunities to re-seal the route after the team passes through. D/1-502 IN and an AWT from 1-4 AVN conduct a coordinated attack on an IED emplacement team emplacing IEDs at a key intersection along the insertion route. BDA: 2 enemy KIA, one WIA (later succumbs to his wounds), and one IED support vehicle destroyed.

At 1930, D/1-502 IN reports a Husky damaged in the vicinity of Rushdi Mullah and requires another recovery asset and flatbed to move forward to recover. Talon 6 dispatches one platoon from D/1-502 IN under control of the Company XO, along with a flatbed, to the damaged Husky. As of that afternoon, 3/B/1-502 IN initiated self-recovery of the aircraft debris, and used a combination of farm tractor, bongo truck and hand litter to move the wreckage forward to the D/1-502 IN front element. Linkup is accomplished at 2030; 3rd platoon resupplies water from D/1-502 IN and begins ground extraction to their start point. By 2145, all elements of D/1-502 IN and Brigade troops return to FOB Mahmudiyah.

14 May 2008 The Iraqi Army with Coalition over watch began another clearance of Shulla. This iteration of OPERATION STRIKE SILVER JETS called for the complete isolation of Shulla and the JRK. 1-75 CAV Squadron received attachments from 1-64 AR and 4-10 CAV for this operation. Part of the effort required the Iraqi Army to seize key terrain along Creek Rd, specifically the Office of the Martyr Sadr (OMS), an ice factory and the Shulla VOTECH center. Elements of 2/22/6 IA seized all of these objectives under heavy fire. However, it became apparent that they would not be able to hold these



objectives and had started to withdraw from the OMS under constant and heavy fire from small arms and RPG. The IA Corps, Division and Brigade commanders located jointly with the coalition Brigade and Squadron Commanders had given the order to withdraw. 2/101 BCT Commander ordered the Squadron to secure their withdrawal and the mechanized platoon and tank platoon attached from 1-64 AR moved to and secured Creek Rd to enable the Iraqi forces in the OMS to complete their withdrawal. Upon assessing the situation, the Squadron Commander made the decision to reinforce and hold the OMS as it had been JAM-SG's center of gravity throughout the fighting since March. B/4-10 CAV, attached for this operation, was ordered to re-seize the building and wait for reinforcements from C/1-75 CAV. By 1400, the OMS was firmly back in ISF possession with elements of C/1-75, B/4-10, and B/1-64 reinforcing the building and securing the routes to and from the objective. This enabled the ISF to retake the ice factory and the Shula VOTECH. The capture of a JAM-SG physical and psychological center of gravity by the ISF was the turning point in fighting against JAM-SG in Northwest Baghdad. Its transformation to an ISF COP marked the end of JAM-SG control of Shula and the JRK and the beginning of a wholesale evacuation of JAM-SG leadership in Northwest Baghdad.

15 May 1965

The 2-502ndIN was reorganized under the Department of the Army TOE 7-35F. Headquarters and Headquarters company was organized under TOE 7-36F, and Rifle Companies "A", "B", "C" under TOE 7-37F. Some months later, "D", and "E" companies were added with "E" company being a Combat Support Company containing the 81mm mortars and 90mm recoilless rifles. Each rifle company consists of 3 rifle platoons with M-60 machine guns and M-79 grenade launchers being organic to the individual platoons. This basic organization was used with some modifications in training and combat.

A Reconnaissance Platoon was organized in the Battalion and assigned to "E" company. The Reconnaissance Platoon was unique in that it was designed to work as a highly mobile rifle platoon or in six man reconnaissance teams. It was employed under direct control of the Battalion Commander.

15 May 1967

Operation Malheur: one platoon of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry contacted an estimated VC battalion size force with automatic weapons and mortars in fortified positions. Continuous artillery and tactical air strikes were called in against the enemy positions and mortars, upon the insertion of a reinforcing company, 1 UH-ID helicopter sustained a direct mortar round and was destroyed. Results of the contact were 3 US KHA, 34 US WHA, 1 UH-ID destroyed, 7 UH-ID damaged, 5 UH-IB damaged and 20 VC KIA (C). Five other light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 US WHA, 5 VC KIA (C) and 2 individual weapons captured. One platoon of the 2ndBattalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry contacted an estimated VC platoon size force resulting in 4 US WHA, 6 VC KIA (C) and 5 VC KIA (P). Four other contacts by the 2ndBattalion (Airborne), 327th IN resulted in 6 VC KIA (C), and 1 VC KIA (P). Seven light contacts by the 2ndBattalion (Airborne), 502ndInfantry resulted in 2 US WHA, 9 VC KIA (C), 1 detainee, and 2 individual weapons, 1 82mm mortar tube and 23 82m mortar rounds captured. (Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32)

15-17 May 1968

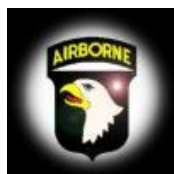
1-502 IN Battalion had light contact as the Battalion was credited with 6 VC KIA (BC) and 2 VC POW.

15 May 1968

Operation DELAWARE: At 1605, C/2-502 4th Platoon received MG fire from estimated enemy squad and returned fire and swept area. C Co's CO, CPT Anderson was killed in action. Results: 1 US KHA, 2 NVA KIA, 1 RPD, 1 AK-47, 1 RPG-7 Captured.

15 May 1969

Operation BRISTOL BOOTS: was terminated prematurely as the 1st Brigade, with 1-501st and 1-502nd IN, and was redeployed to Tam KY where it became OPCON to the Americal Division in Operation LAMAR PLAIN. Throughout the twenty-one day operation contact was light and sporadic. It was determined that no large concentrations



of enemy forces or installations were in the Ruong Ruong Valley. Results of the operation were: 7 NVA KIA, 1 POW, and 16 individual weapons captured. Friendly losses were 5 KIA and 34 WIA. (HQ, 101st Airborne (Airmobile), Operational Report – Lessons Learned. Dated 20 August 1969)

15 May 1969

Operation LAMAR PLAIN:

1st Brigade TF organizing and deploying from the 101st Airborne Division AO to the Americal Division AO in QUANG TIN (P). At 0045H, the 1st Brigade received a verbal warning order from the 101st Airborne Division to move with two battalions, 1-501st IN and 1-502nd IN, and designated support elements to the Americal Division currently operating in southern



This photo is at the Tam-Ky airfield as elements of the 1st Brigade started arriving.

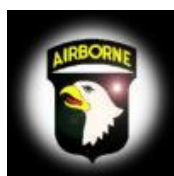
I Corps; the first element of the brigade were to be prepared to depart by air NLT 151200H May 69 from the PHU BAI Departure Airfield (DAF). The 1-501 IN and 1-502 IN were alerted to move to PZ for extraction from the AO commencing at first light; concurrently, the 2-327 IN was alerted to assume security of all fire bases in the AO upon extraction of the 1-501 IN and 1-502 Inf. At 0400H, representatives from the 101st Airborne Division met with the 1st Brigade and coordinated the deployment of the brigade, to include division assets to accompany the brigade, and support to be furnished by the division. At 0830H, the 1st Brigade liaison team arrived at Americal Division Headquarters in CHU LAI and was briefed by the general staff, thereby effecting preliminary coordination between brigade and division staff representatives. At 1415H, the Commanding Officer, 1st Brigade, reported to the Commanding General, Americal Division, and the 1st Brigade fell under OPCON of the Americal Division. The Arrival Airfield (AAF) was TAM-KY S and brigade elements began to arrive that afternoon with the TAC CP, 1-501 IN and C/2-320 Arty closing by 2130H. At 2345H, the 1st Brigade TF staging area received 5-7 rounds of 60mm mortar fire with negative results. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U) 15SEPT1969)

15 May 1969

Operation LAMAR PLAIN: In the pre-dawn hours of May 15, land lines were busily ringing and FM radios loudly squawking as the plea from the Americal began to be answered. The 101st Airborne Division hastily prepared plans to send a brigade task force south to Quang Tin Province. Clerks, cooks, supply personnel, truck drivers, and other rear-echelon types were roused from their beds. At 4:30 a.m., division staff met with 1st Brigade staff. Aviation crews were called into briefings while two infantry battalions and the two artillery batteries that supported them were ordered to prepare for extraction from the field and transport to the Camp Eagle/Phu Bai area.

Dense early morning fog nestled in the valleys around fire support bases Pike and Lash in the southern end of the A Shau Valley near the border with Laos. As the sun began to illuminate the verdant peaks and ridges of the Truong Son Mountain Range, artillerymen readied their 105mm howitzers, shell canisters, powder bags, and firing projectiles in huge rope nets to be slung beneath Chinook helicopters. Meanwhile, grunts from the 1st Battalion, 501st, and the 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry regiments boarded Huey helicopters at landing zones around the area of operations. These units belonged to the 2nd Brigade, but were placed under operational control of the 1st Brigade. In turn, for the duration of Operation Lamar Plain, the 1st Brigade would become OPCON of the Americal.

Charlie Company, 1/501st, was on FSB Pike providing security. Around 9:25 a.m., Alpha Company arrived from the field, and within the next hour its sister companies were there as well. The men knew little, if anything, about the events that were unfolding. But



rumors were rampant. Had the war suddenly ended? After more than three months in the A Shau Valley, were the grunts finally going to get that well-deserved stand-down at Eagle Beach on the South China Sea? Before long, the words “Tam Ky” and “Americal” began to circulate among the men. They realized that something big was going on down south.

In the east was the distant but unmistakable sound of in-bound helicopters. The men scrambled to their feet to put on their rucksacks. As they braced themselves for the wind and dust storm of rotor wash, flights of the big twin-rotor CH-47 Chinooks arrived at the firebases. Before long, the big choppers were headed east with their cargo loads of men, equipment, and supplies. Operation Lamar Plain was underway. (Bitter Fighting IN Quang Tin, Roger Ables)

15 May 2008

Operation Strike Silver Jets Strike Brigade isolates Special Groups Criminals in Shulla NET 15 May 08 to prevent the repositioning and reinforcement of SGC into Sadr City and deny safe havens to displaced SGC leadership. The intent is to deny SGC freedom of movement, deny the ability to move accelerants and resupply their forces, and prevent the establishment of safe havens within the Strike AO. Through five distinct phases (Shaping, Interdiction, Isolation, Transition, Exploitation), end state is defined by four critical points: Security- SGC movement is disrupted and safe havens in Shulla and the JRK are denied, ISF have freedom of maneuver and are willing to establish a permanent presence in Shulla, the population has decreased their active/passive support to the SGC; Government-Iraqi population in Shulla and the JRK is supportive of the GoI with the Shulla NC continuing to provide for the needs of the people of Shulla and the JRK; Economy-Local economic opportunities are improving as competitive advantages are developed in selected industries; Services-Key infrastructure remains intact, operating at near capacity, Shulla NC provides basic services to the Iraqi People.



16 May 1967

Operation Malheur: Eight light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 US KHA, 9 VC KIA (C), 6 detainees and 4 individual weapons, 1 rocket launcher, 2 rockets and 2 grenades captured. A light contact by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (C) and 1 individual weapon captured. Fourteen light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 6 US WHA, 14 VC KIA (C), 4 detainees, and 8 individual weapons captured. (Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32)

16 May –
13 August 1969

Operation Lamar Plain

Locations: I Corps: Quang Tin Province; Base Area 117; Tam Ky; LZs Professional and Rustler.

Type/Objective: Search and Destroy into enemy Base Area 117, approximately 45 miles south of Da Nang.

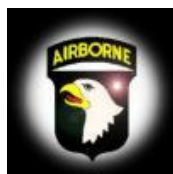
Units: U.S. – 23rd Infantry Division (Americal) (1-46th IN), 101st Airborne Division: 2nd Brigade (1-501st IN, 1-502 IN); NVA/VC – 2nd NVA Division.

Events: 21 May – 1-46th IN (Americal) engages an enemy force of unknown size near Phuoc 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Loses: in the five hour firefight: U.S. – 7 KIA, 19 WIA; NVA/VC – 6 KIA.

Events: 8 July – A/1-502nd IN squares off against an estimated NVA company near Hau Duc, approximately 20 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Loses: U.S. – 9 KIA, 7 WIA; NVA/VC – 4 KIA



Casualties: Totals for Lamar Plain. U.S. – 105 KIA, 333 WIA; NVA/VC – 524 KIA, 11 POWs.

16 May 1969

The 1st Brigade TF continued to deploy from the DAF at PHU BAI to the AAF at TAM-KY S and the 1-501 IN conducted a CA into the AO. At 0830H, the 1-502 IN and 2-320 Arty (-) began movement by air from DAF to the AAF. At 1200H the 1st Brigade TF assumed OPCON of the 1-46 IN and C/1-14 Arty which were located at LZ Professional (BT173077). The 1-46 IN continued to conduct local reconnaissance in force operations in the vicinity of LZ Professional. At 1445H, C/2-320 Arty completed an air move from TAK-KY S to LZ Young (BT188158) where it established a firing position with a battery from the 2nd ARVN Div, secured by forces of the 5th ARVN Regt. At 1454H, 1-501 Inf conducted a CA into an LZ to the southwest of LZ Young and commenced RIF operations to the south toward LZ Professional. At 1745H, B/1-501 IN vic. BT259156 engaged three enemy Soldiers with small arms fire; the enemy south and the element pursued with negative results. At 2230H, the remainder of the 1st Brigade TF combat elements closed into TAM-KY S; also at that time, the AAF staging area received 10-15 rounds of 60mm mortar fired resulting in three US lightly wounded. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U) 15SEPT1969)

16 May 1967

Operation LAMAR PLAIN: Two 105mm howitzer batteries were transported from Tam KY to fire support bases Young and Professional. By early afternoon on May 16, they began preparatory fires. As mid-afternoon approached, the 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, minus Alpha Company, made a combat assault north of LZ Professional and began to conduct reconnaissance in force to the south. Temperatures soared over 100 degrees, and there were many heat casualties.

As the infantrymen began their RIF, they began to find well-established enemy huts, hootches, bunkers, and trenches—some of which had been occupied as recently as the night before. The air cavalry and brigade aerial recon teams also discovered many enemy installations while facing withering fire from .51-caliber machine-gun positions. During the next two weeks, virtually every aircraft assigned to the operation received damage from ground fire, and many were shot down. Infantry contact with the enemy was light for the first two days in the field. However, it would only be a matter of time before that changed. (Bitter Fighting In Quang Tin, Roger Ables)

16 May 1970

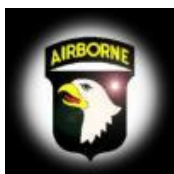
Operation TEXAS STAR: at 0430 and enemy sapper platoon launched an attack against the northwestern sector of A/2-502 IN night defensive position. Moving under cover of a heavy rainstorm the enemy attacked, employing mortars, B-40 rockets and small arms. Fire was returned by small arms and claymores. Due to the adverse weather no ARA or flare ship could be employed. The enemy broke contact and fled to the east and west. Three enemies fled to the east encountered the Recon Platoon in an ambush location. The three enemy were killed, and two AK-47's and 1 RPG launcher were captured. A sweep of A Company's perimeter uncovered two enemy bodies, one Ak-47 and one B-40 rocket. Four US Soldiers were killed during the attack.

17 May 1967

Operation Malheur: a Light contact by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 US WHA and 12 detainees. Two light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (C) and 1 individual weapon captured. Eleven light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 6 US WHA, 7 VC KIA (C), 1 detainee and 5 individual weapons captured. (Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32)

17 May –
31 July 1968

The 101st ACD conducted Operation NEVADA EAGLE. In this operation, the 101st ACD coordinated rice denial operations in Thua Thien Providence and conducted offensive operations to defeat NVA/VC forces and to destroy enemy base camps and installations. The 1st Bde, 101st ACD continued RIF operations in the area vic Hwy 547 and 547A; the 2nd Bde 101st ACD continued RIF operations in the coastal plains north and east of Hue and provided security and support for rice collection; and the 3rd BDE,



82ndABN DIV continued security of fire bases astride Hwy 547 and conducted RIF operations along the entry and exit routes to the coastal plains. (Operational Report of 101st Air Cavalry Division for Period Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1))

17 May 1968

1st STRIKE paratroopers of the 1st Brigade completed their phase of Operations Delaware, designed to block the main enemy supply route leading out of the A Shau valley toward Hue. The airborne the Battalion killed 318 NVA, captured three prisoners and 121 weapons during the 28-day operations. Delaware was characterized by the capture of several large caliber ammunition caches, the loss of which further limited enemy capabilities in providing fire support for large scale operations, according to Division intelligence sources. The interdiction of Route 547 was also realized during this operation, completely cutting off its use by enemy forces as a resupply route.

17 May 1968

Operation DELAWARE: 2-502 effectively accomplished its mission during Operation DELAWARE. During phase I it only established a mini-firebase near LZ VEGHEL, however, this was all that was needed. The BN pushed west and south along Hwy 547 and 547A overcoming all enemy resistance in its path. When the contacts became scarce the BN deployed into its new area, effectively established its firebase and conducted reconnaissance in force operations into New Base Area. In both phases the enemy sustained significant losses, particularly in equipment and intelligence documents.

Results of Operation DELAWARE:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KHA</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>WHA</u>	<u>Equipment Lost or Destroyed</u>
US	13	1	99	2 M-16

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>VC CIA</u>	<u>NVA CIA</u>	<u>C/S Wpns CIA</u>	<u>Ind Wpn CIA</u>	<u>Rice Dest.</u>
ENEMY	43	1	2	2	37	2300lbs

The Battalion personnel strength at the conclusion of Operation was as follows:

Authorized:	920
Assigned:	801
Present for Duty:	755
Not present for duty:	46

Causalities for Operations were as follows:

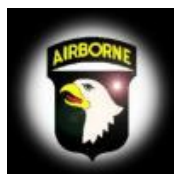
<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KHA</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>WHA</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>INRHA</u>
HHC	1	0	1	0	2	0	0
A Co.	4	2	0	0	27	0	0
B Co.	3	0	0	0	49	0	1
C Co.	5	0	0	1	15	0	1
D Co.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E Co.	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
Total	13	2	1	1	99	0	2

17 May –
25 June 1968

Operation NEVADA EAGLE: Phase I was conducted. RIF operations commenced with little significant action. B/2-502 ran into a small delaying action almost daily but failed to locate any large base camp areas or caches.

17 May 1971

Operation LAM SON 720: One Team of 2-502 IN Recon Platoon air assaulted into FB Shock (Vic 5105). On the same day 3rd Platoon, C Company observed and engaged three NVA's.



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.

- 2 x Distinguished Service Cross (1 x Posthumously)
- 20 x Silver Star Medal (5 x Posthumously)
- 11 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 2 x Bronze Star Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 64 x Purple Heart (40x Posthumously)
- 3 x Non-hostile injury or illness

11 May 1966



The following Soldiers: 2LT William F. Otto, SP4 Wayne M. Traylor (Pictured), and PFC Andrew C. Evans (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds near Bu Gia Map, in the Phuoc Long Province, South Vietnam.

11 May 1966

SP4 Leslie Hereford (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, General Order Number 147; 27MAY1966)

11 May 1968

SGT Edward Walker (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

11 May 1969

SP4 Heinrich Ruhlmann (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Kontum Province, South Vietnam.

11 May 2008

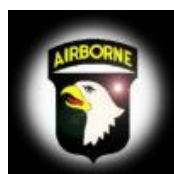
1LT Daniel Lockett (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat while he was serving as the platoon leader for 1/A/1-502 when his vehicle was struck by an EFP while travelling on RTE Senators. The blast immediately amputated his left leg below the knee and half of his right foot. 1LT Lockett remained calm and helped direct his platoon as they conducted MEDEVAC procedures using JSS Hurriya 2 as the HLZ. He was then taken to Walter Reed Army Medical Center where he made his recovery, returning to 1-502 in February of 2009.

11 May 2008

SSG Erik Hoyle (2-101 BSTB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat while he was traveling in was attacked by an EFP. SSG Hoyle received shrapnel wounds to his legs as a result of the explosion on the Buffalo he was traveling in.

11 May 2008

SPC Patrick O'Neill (2-101 BSTB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat SPC Patrick O'Neill is presented with a Purple Heart by Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard Cody during a presentation ceremony at Walter Reed Army Medical Center July 25, 2008 in Washington, DC. SPC O'Neill was injured by an EFP while conducting a route clearance mission in Baghdad, Iraq.



11 May 2008

PVT Jonathan Lewis (2-101 BSTB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat when he received shrapnel wounds to his back as a result of the explosion on the Buffalo he was traveling in.

11 May 2008

PFC Eric Johnson (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat when his platoon was conducting transportation of two Soldiers to FOB Justice from Kadhimiya COP. PFC Johnson was the gunner in the second vehicle of the convoy when it was struck by an EFP to the front side of the vehicle. He sustained a ruptured ear drum and shrapnel to the face.

11 May 2008



CPL Jessica Ellis (2BSTB), 24, of Bend, Oregon; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in her death when her vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device in Baghdad, Iraq. CPL Ellis was not originally supposed to be on mission at the time; however she volunteered to go out to assist with the route clearance.

12 May 1968



SGT Robert M. Fletcher (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

12 May 1968

The following Soldiers: SGT John E. Laipple, CPL Charles D. Dorman (Pictured), SP4 Richard W. Van Blarcom, PFC Richard L. Lohse (Pictured), and PFC Charles W. Harbert (Pictured) (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously). These Soldiers died from small arm gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



12 May 1969

SP4 Olen W. Smith (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam.

12 May 1969

CPL Richard L. Hopkins (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds while at a defensive position when he was mistaken for a member of a hostile force in the Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam.

13 May 1967

PFC Carl R. Konopa (C/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a helicopter (UH-1D 65-10056) non crewmember in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.

13 May 1968

PFC Octavio Molina-Rosario (A/1-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.



13 May 1968

SP4 David A. Garcia (A/2-501 IN) was awarded 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.

13 May 1968



CPL Marvin G. Tozour (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from Burn wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

13 May 1968

SP4 Nelson Santiago-Aponte (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

13 May 1969

The following Soldiers: SGT Oscar D. Boydston (Pictured), CPL Robert R. Malecki, CPL Ernest L. Gordon, SP4 Samuel C. Tharpe, SP4 Carl F. Arbogast Jr. (Pictured), SP4 Donald J. Corbett, PFC Cleabern W. Hill Jr. (Pictured), (A/2-501 IN); PFC James M. Thompson, PFC Odell D. Beasley (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds on FSB Airborne, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



13 May 1969



The following Soldiers: SP4 Ira J. Sturgeon, PFC Lynn C. Swanson (Pictured), PFC William D. Poole Jr. (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from other causes (unknown) on FSB Airborne, in the Thua Thien Province.

13 May 1969

The following Soldiers: SGT Kenneth E. Counts, SP4 Thomas W. Johnson, SP4 Walter T. Givens, PFC William F. Robershaw, PFC Charles G. Coghlan, PFC Ray E. Moon (A/2-501 IN); SP4 Willie C. Harrington, PFC Mark L. Weston (E/2-501 IN); SP4 James E. Miller (C/2-319 ARTY) 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 Order Number 6335)

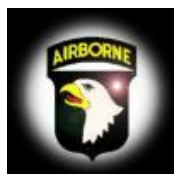
13 May 1969

PFC William L. Hayden (E/2-502 IN) died from non-hostile causes in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

13 May 2006



SPC Ronald W. Gerbur (B/1-22 IN), 23, of Delavan, Illinois; earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV during combat operations in Baghdad.



14 May 1967

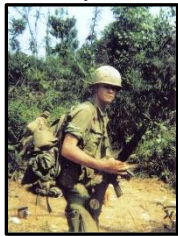
The following Soldiers: SP5 Lee C. Pugh, PFC Douglas Calderwood (HHC/2-502 IN); 1LT George R. Tillman, PFC Michael McNamara (A/2-502 IN); SP4 Boyd D. Pearson (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 886)

14 May 1969



CPL Leslie L. McCorkley (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam.

14 May 1970



SP4 Boyd D. Pearson (C/2-502 IN) for wounds received in action in earned him the Purple Heart. (U.S. Total Army Personnel Command; Permanent Orders 9-14, 17 January 1995)

14 May 1970

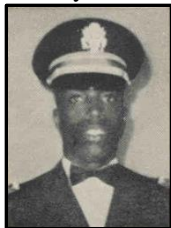
SSG Ronald E. Schmidt (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds on Hill 714, NW of FSB Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 May 1968



CPT Dennis K. Anderson (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 May 1969



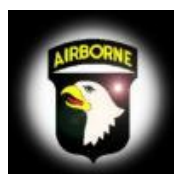
2LT Bruce Saunders (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received on 13 May 1969 which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds on FSB Airborne, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 May 2006

SPC Chris Hazen (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from hostile action in combat.

15 May 2008

1LT Ryan Chang (1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while laying out C-wire to secure the intersection of ASR Illinois and an unnamed route, an IED detonated on the south side of ASR Illinois, approximately 15 meters from 1LT Chang and SSG Albert's position.



16 May 1967



CPL John C. Silver (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Ngai Province, Republic of Vietnam.

16 May 1970

The following Soldiers: SSG David L. Jones (Pictured), SGT Billy R. McCullough, and CPL David L. Christopherson (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds on Hill 882, NW of FSB Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



16 May 2006



SSG Santiago M. Halsel (2-502 IN), 32, of Bowling Green, Kentucky; earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from an improvised explosive device detonated while he was conducting a dismounted clearance mission during combat operations in Baghdad.

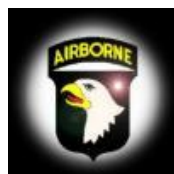
17 May 1968



SP4 Ronnie D. Luman (C/1-502 IN) was awarded 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.

17 May 2006

PFC Brice Patterson (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat. At approximately 0730 during a dismounted clearance of Route Fatboy, PFC Patterson's team was struck by an IED. PFC Patterson sustained lacerations and puncture wounds to his right arm, abdomen, and groin.



STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

11 May 1966

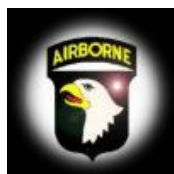
2LT William F. Otto (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. ON 11 May 1966, Lieutenant Otto, a member of Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, was participating in a search and destroy mission when they captured a Viet Cong who revealed that a four-company ambush was set forward of the company along their axis of advance. To foil the ambush, Lieutenant Otto placed a point squad well to the front of his platoon that was the company's lead element. Approximately 0900 hours, Lieutenant Otto's platoon came intense small arms and automatic weapons fire from the front. Lieutenant Otto rushed forward, braving the insurgent fire to estimate the situation. He then placed two squads on line to assault the well-entrenched Viet Cong and again braved the hostile fire fearlessly moving along the assault line to direct his squad leaders. The platoon attempted an assault but was pinned down as the insurgents unleashed a devastating volume of fire. Lieutenant Otto called for artillery fire and airstrikes. With professional skill, he called artillery fire to within 30 meters of his position making a direct hit on a machine gun emplacement; however, this failed to destroy it. Realizing that the bunker must be destroyed. Lieutenant Otto again personally braved the fire and crawled to within 15 meters of the machine gun bunker. Disregarding the danger from other machine gun emplacements in the immediate area, he arose and threw a grenade into the bunker destroying the gun and crew. Being fully exposed so he could throw the grenade, another machine gun mortally wounded him. Lieutenants Otto's courage in actual combat served as an inspiration to his men and was instrumental in overcoming the hostile insurgents. Lieutenant Otto's extraordinary heroism and supreme sacrifice are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. (HQ, U.S. Army Pacific, General Order Number 200; 25 August 1966)

11 May 1966

PFC Andrew C. Evans (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. PFC Evans distinguished himself on 11 May 1966 during a search and destroy operation near the Cambodian border in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Evans was a member of the flank security when the leading element received intense fire from extremely close range. One man was seriously wounded by the initial volume of fire and fell in an open area. Private First Class Evans with complete disregard for his safety dashed into the open area and dragged the fallen trooper to safety. Since the platoon was unable to maneuver due to the intense hostile fire, Private First Class Evans aggressively assaulted a Viet Cong position. As he rushed through the dense vegetation firing from his hip, he killed one insurgent and wounded another before being mortally wounded himself. Following the superb and inspiring example set by Private First Class Evans, his comrades aggressively assaulted and overran the insurgent positions. Private First Class Evans' extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, U.S. Army Vietnam, General Order Number 4026; 21 June 1966)

11 May 1966

CPT Henrick O. Lunde (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. CPT Lunde distinguished himself on 11 May 1966 while serving as commanding officer of a task force on a search and destroy operation near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While moving toward their objective, the lead elements received intense hostile fire from a large Viet Cong force. After determining the main line of resistance, Captain Lunde moved to the front of his force to enable him to better direct their retaliatory fire. Realizing that the insurgent positions overlapped his flanks, he committed a portion of his reserve force to the left flank. Although repeatedly exposed to intense hostile fire, he moved along his front line to better apprise himself of the situation on the right flank. During the course of action, a platoon leader was killed. Unhesitatingly, Captain Lunde moved through the bullet swept area to the platoon which



was engaged in a vicious firefight. With complete disregard for his safety, he moved among his men, inspiring them and rallying them to defend their positions. He then returned to the center platoon and began to skillfully direct friendly air strikes and artillery fire. While moving forward by fire and movement, he continued to adjust artillery fire until he was within twenty-five meters of the bursting radius of the exploding rounds. After assuring himself that all his forces were in position, Captain Lunde directed and led a coordinated assault on all fronts against a well disciplined and entrenched Viet Cong force. Through his heroic efforts, the insurgents were routed. His extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

11 May 1966

SSG Jose S. Laguana (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. SSG Laguana distinguished himself on 11 May 1966 while serving as a squad leader during a search and destroy mission near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. After moving approximately 1000 meters in Viet Cong occupied territory, Staff Sergeant Laguana's squad received intense hostile fire from an estimated platoon. Although exposed to intense Viet Cong fire, he organized his squad and directed suppressive fire on the insurgent positions. He then maneuvered up and down the assault line to encourage his men and supply them with ammunition. Staff Sergeant Laguana personally killed two Viet Cong during the engagement. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, he contributed immeasurably to the defeat of the Viet Cong force. Staff Sergeant Laguana's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

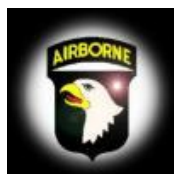
11 May 1966



SFC Joseph W. Rounseville (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. SFC Rounseville distinguished himself on 11 May 1966 while serving as acting platoon leader during a search and destroy mission near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While moving his platoon through dense jungle and into an assault position, Platoon Sergeant Rounseville received intense hostile fire. He immediately maneuvered his platoon up a hill against an estimated Viet Cong squad which was supported by a machine gun. Platoon Sergeant Rounseville repeatedly exposed himself to the hostile fire by moving along the assault line and directing his men. He then led his platoon forward while firing his weapon and throwing hand grenades. Platoon Sergeant Rounseville killed at least three Viet Cong, and his platoon completely routed the insurgents from their fortified positions. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, he contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission. Platoon Sergeant Rounseville's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

11 May 1966

1LT Karl L. Beach (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. 1LT Beach distinguished himself on 11 May 1966 while serving as executive officer flying overhead reconnaissance for his company which was conducting a search and destroy operation near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0900 hours, the company made contact with a large Viet Cong force. During the course of action, First Lieutenant Beach descended onto the battlefield by a rope which was attached to a medical evacuation helicopter. Immediately upon landing, First Lieutenant Beach began to organize and supervise the evacuation of the dead and wounded. After leading a detail forward to retrieve the casualties, First Lieutenant Beach braved hostile fire while carrying two fallen comrades to a covered position. After this he moved wounded personnel to a more secure area and provided ammunition resupply to the platoons. Throughout the day, First Lieutenant Beach moved throughout the battle area, while exposed to hostile fire and encouraged the engaged troopers. Through his courageous actions, he saved the lives of two wounded and contributed immeasurably in routing the insurgents. First Lieutenant Beach's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions



of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

11 May 1966

PFC Luis A. Aguila (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. PFC Aguila distinguished himself on 11 May 1966 during a search and destroy mission near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. As his unit was moving through the dense jungle, it suddenly received intense hostile fire from a well-entrenched Viet Cong force. Observing that an insurgent machine gun was hampering the assault, Private First Class Aguila maneuvered through the intense fire to a position approximately 30 meters from the Viet Cong emplacement. When one of his hand grenades fell short of the target, Private First Class Aguila moved even closer to the position, threw a second hand grenade, destroyed the machine gun and killed the two Viet Cong defenders. Through his courage and determination, he contributed immeasurably to the defeat of the Viet Cong force. Private First Class Aguila's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

11 May 1966



SP4 Wayne M. Traylor (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam. SP4 Traylor distinguished himself on 11 May 1966 during a search and destroy mission near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. His platoon had maneuvered within 30 meters of a camouflaged and well-fortified Viet Cong force when they received intense hostile machine gun fire which effectively pinned them down. At this time, Specialist Four Traylor leaped to his feet, ran through a barrage of hostile fire, and assaulted the Viet Cong machine gun emplacement. He killed three insurgents before being seriously wounded himself. Bleeding profusely, he refused to seek cover or medical attention and placed suppressive fire on the Viet Cong until he died from his wounds. Specialist Four Traylor's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, U.S. Army Vietnam, General Order Number 4035; 21 June 1966)

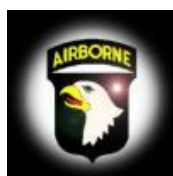
11 May 1968



MAJ Leonard Williams (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 11 May 1968, while serving as Battalion Surgeon for the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry. Major Williams was present at the tactical command post when they came under an intense 122mm rocket attack. As time first rockets hit and a cry for a medic rang out, Major Williams, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, rushed from his bunker and began moving toward the position of the wounded troops. In his haste to get to the wounded personnel, he completely disregarded his helmet and flack vest. Despite being knocked down several times by concussion from incoming rockets, Major Williams was able to reach the position and began treating the wounded. Throughout the attack Major Williams moved from position to position administering aid to the wounded troopers and dragging the more seriously wounded men to safety for further treatment. Though wounded while shielding the wounded personnel with his own body, Major Williams continued in his work. Never once showing concern for his own personal safety, he managed to treat all wounded men and pull them to cover. Major Williams' outstanding display of gallantry in action and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st Air Cav Div, General Order Number 4204; 31 July 1968)

11 May 1968

SGT Grady L. Towns Jr. (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 11 May 1968. Sergeant Towns distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader with Company D, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, near Hue, Republic of Vietnam. On the evening of the cited date, Sergeant Towns led a ten man patrol from company's night defensive perimeter to set up an ambush along a well-used trail leading out of the mountains. After the patrol had been in position for approximately four hours, Sergeant Towns observed movement to his front and counted



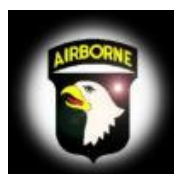
thirty North Vietnamese troops walking down the trail in file formation. Seeing that his men were already alerted, he waited until the last possible moment to allow a large number of the enemy to enter his killing zone. The ambush was initiated when one of the enemy discovered a Claymore mine and attempted to cut the wire. In the fighting which followed, Sergeant Towns remained in an unprotected position to direct the fire of his men against the numerically superior enemy force. When the enemy discovered the friendly ambush position, they maneuvered around to the flanks. Sergeant Towns immediately ordered his men to withdraw, while he remained behind under the increased volume of hostile fire to give counter fire for his element. Without regard for his own safety, he continued to fire upon the enemy until all of his men had safely withdrawn. Sergeant Towns' 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.

11 May 2008

SGT Alexander Foust (A/1-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor while his patrol was sent on a Quick Reaction Force mission responding to an IED strike on Beast Iron Claw. Placing the welfare of others over that of his personal safety, SGT Foust climbed on top of a burning vehicle to treat a wounded Soldier in an unsecure area. SGT Foust stayed on the vehicle rendering aid while the vehicle fire was being extinguished around him. When the area was secured and safe to bring down the wounded Soldier, SGT Foust moved the casualty to the ground and established a Casualty Collection Point. SGT Foust assessed the casualty to have a small puncture wound to her neck with a lacerated jugular vein or carotid artery, punctured trachea, broken left forearm with severe shrapnel wounds and severe shrapnel wounds to the lower right leg. SGT Foust packed the neck wound, applied tourniquets to the arm and leg and began CPR on the casualty. After loading the casualty in a vehicle, SGT Foust identified two more wounded Soldiers and rendered aid to the point of stabilization and prepared for evacuation to the MEDEVAC location. SGT Foust's bravery and dedication to mission accomplishment resulted in saving the lives of fellow Soldiers. Due to his exceptional EFR proficiency as well as his concern for the lives of others over his own, SGT Foust provided expert medical care to wounded Soldiers in the face of danger.

13 May 1969

SFC George W. Parker (E/2-501 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 E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). Platoon Sergeant Parker 1969 when Fire Support Base Airborne came under intense mortar and rocket grenade attack, followed by an enemy sapper assault on the perimeter. With the first incoming rounds, Sergeant Parker rallied his mortar crews and commenced firing illumination and high-explosive rounds on the hostile fire that rained around his mortar emplacement, Sergeant Parker made his way to the platoon leader to warn of the ground attack on two sides of the compound. Suddenly a rocket-propelled grenade struck one of the mortar emplacements and knocked it out. Running to the position, Sergeant Parker immediately set up the mortar tube and started firing on the enemy. Although a satchel charge thrown at his position momentarily stunned him, he continued his mission, often exposing himself to the enemy barrage to obtain re-supplies of ammunition. On one of his trips to the munitions stockpile, he was attacked by four sappers armed with satchel charges, and he eliminated them with a well-thrown grenade. Through his courageous example, the Fire Support Base successfully repelled the enemy attack. Platoon Sergeant Parker'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. (HQ, General Order Number 477, February 20, 1970)



13 May 1969

SGT Roger J. Barski (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Barski distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry at Fire Support Base Airborne, in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. During the early morning hours of the cited date, the base was attacked with heavy mortar fire. Simultaneously, a group of North



Vietnamese sappers penetrated the perimeter, throwing satchel charges through doors and bunker apertures. The First Platoon's sector of the perimeter bore the brunt of the initial main sapper attack, and the platoon leader and platoon sergeant were seriously wounded in the initial conflict. Sergeant Barski immediately took charge and rapidly set up a makeshift defense. Suddenly an enemy mortar round knocked out the friendly mortar used to provide illumination. Sergeant Barski realized the enemy force was preparing to overrun his platoon again, and that the absence of illumination was to the advantage of the advancing enemy. Realizing his platoon would be helpless in the face of a human wave assault; he left his cover and dashed for the supply of boxed star parachute flares located in the Command Post bunker. Despite the heavy enemy mortar fire, which was landing within the entire perimeter, he managed to reach the needed flares. As he maneuvered back toward his platoon, he encountered two North Vietnamese soldiers in his path. He fired at the enemy, killing one and wounding the other. He then provided continuous illumination by hand flares until a flare helicopter arrived. The heavy enemy attack was eventually repulsed. His heroic actions, with complete disregard for his own safety, were responsible for preventing his platoon from being overrun. Sergeant Barski'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.

13 May 1969

PFC Vick L. Burnette (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 May 1969. Private Vick distinguished himself while serving as a mortar gunner in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat support operations in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, Fire Support Base Airborne was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army Regulars. The enemy force consisted of an infantry element, mortar section, and sapper squads. Waves of insurgents stormed the perimeter from two sides and immediately penetrated the barbed wire and defensive positions of the bunker line. Enemy Soldiers combed the fire base, hurling satchel charges and engaging in hand to hand combat with men in night defensive positions and mortar crews. A satchel charge exploded beside Private Burnette, amputating his leg below the knee. Despite the loss of his leg, he continued to engage the enemy with his weapon. Maintaining a heavy volume of fire, he blocked the path for the enemy to pass his position and gave the mortar crews enough time to assemble and prevent the mortar section from being overrun. He continued to pinpoint the locations of the attacking enemy to his fellow Soldiers, even though in great pain and steadily weakening from loss of blood. Private Burnette'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.



13 May 1969



SFC George W. Parker (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Parker distinguished himself while serving as platoon sergeant of the mortar section of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat support operations in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, Fire Support Base Airborne was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers. The enemy force consisted of an infantry element, mortar section, and sapper squads. The enemy force assaulted the perimeter from two sides under the cover of a heavy mortar barrage. The enemy Soldiers penetrated the perimeter line obstacles and immediately engaged the night defensive positions of the fire base. Supported by the infantry, sapper squads moved among bunkers and mortar positions, hurling satchel charges and engaging in hand to hand combat with the defenders. In the immense confusion, Sergeant Parker moved among his mortar crews utilizing his M-16 rifle to cover his advance. While assisting a mortar crew, an exploding satchel charge knocked him unconscious. Upon regaining consciousness, he continued to direct mortar crews in the firing of illumination and high explosive mortar rounds. In the process, he was knocked down three additional times by exploding satchel charges. Sergeant Parker'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.

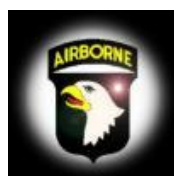
13 May 1969

PFC William D. Poole (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Private First Class Poole distinguished himself while serving as assistant machine gunner with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company A had just moved to Fire Support Base Airborne in order to secure the area prior to moving into the northern part of the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. During the early hours, a barrage of mortar rounds began to fall on the partially completed camp, many of them smashing into bunkers manned by friendly troops. Simultaneously, a wave of North Vietnamese sappers pierced the perimeter, heaving satchel charges through the bunker apertures. The friendly forces were caught by surprise by the attack, but fought back heroically. Private Poole was serving as an assistant machine gunner for the Second Platoon and when the platoons' defenses were threatened by a wave of satchel-carrying sappers, the machine gunner directed fire into the battalion size enemy force attempting to keep the sappers at a distance where the deadly satchel charges could not be employed. During the ground fighting, a deluge of mortar rounds impacted within the perimeter. At a critical point in the action. Private Poole's weapon ran low on ammunition. He reacted immediately to the emergency and abandoned the comparative safety of his bunker to crawl toward the ammunition dump twenty meters away. Enemy mortars continued intent on reaching the much needed ammunition. Although a burst of shrapnel hit him he continued to crawl until he reached his goal. As he was moving back toward his bunker with the ammunition, a mortar round exploded to his immediate front. Though mortally wounded Private First Class Poole tossed the belts of ammunition and the machine gun was able to continue issuing sustained fire. Private Poole'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.

13 May 1969



SGT Thomas L. Roehm (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Roehm distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company A was in the process of fortifying Fire Support Base Airborne, in the mountains west of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, the base was hit by a combination mortar barrage and sapper assault launched by elements of three North Vietnamese battalions. Sergeant Roehm directed the activities of his squad against the advancing insurgents, successfully thwarting repeated enemy attempts to overwhelm his position. The platoon's Command Post bunker was then hit with multiple mortar rounds. Sergeant Roehm rushed to the battered Command Post position, ignoring the rounds exploding all around him. He applied lifesaving first aid to



the wounded members of the group until the platoon medical aidman arrived. He then attempted to establish communication with the company Command Post but the platoon radios had been damaged beyond repair in the mortar strike. He then maneuvered to nearby Company E, where he realized that he was the only Non Commissioned Officer left in the sector. He immediately began to reorganize the remnants of the area's perimeter defense. He personally led his men against the sappers who had penetrated the perimeter, killing several of the enemy with his M-16 rifle. After reestablishing security in his sector, he assisted in the defense of the rest of the fire base by openly through the enemy fire in the process. Late in the action, he personally directed the evacuation of the wounded personnel. Sergeant Roehm'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.

13 May 1969

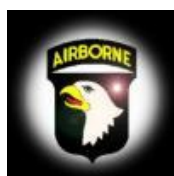
PFC Roger A. Veis (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Private Veis distinguished himself while serving as a mortar gunner in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, at First Support Base Airborne, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, the fire base was attacked by an estimated North Vietnamese Army Battalion. The enemy force consisted of an infantry element, a mortar section, and sapper squads, assaulting the fire base from two sides. Within minutes, the insurgents passed through the perimeter line defense, and close combat began in bunkers and mortar positions. Private Veis continued to fire illumination rounds throughout the attack. During the attack, he was knocked away from his mortar tube three times by exploding satchel charges, only to crawl back and again begin to fire from his position. Even though wounded, he continued to fire the mortar and was an inspiration to his fellow Soldiers. Private Veis' 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.

13 May 1969

SGT Anthony J. Branco (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Branco distinguished himself while serving as a mortar squad leader in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, at Fire Support Base Airborne, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, the fire base was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers. The insurgents fought through the perimeter and spread throughout the fire base, throwing satchel charges and firing automatic weapons. Despite the enemy fire and shrapnel from exploding mortar rounds, Sergeant Branco remained at his mortar position, firing illumination rounds into the early morning darkness. A satchel charge thrown within a few feet of this mortar tube wounded the ammunition bearer. After Sergeant Branco moved the wounded ammunition bearer to a safe location and administered first aid, he had the double task of supplying the mortar tube with ammunition and firing the illumination rounds. Although the early morning darkness hindered visibility, he made several trips to the ammunition storage point. In the process of carrying an armful of ammunition to the mortar position, he received shrapnel in his hip. Despite the painful shrapnel wounds, he was determined to have the mortar position remain operational. He succeeded in maintaining almost continuous illumination over the fire base until daylight arrived. Sergeant Branco'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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 8454, 8 July 1969)

13 May 1969

SGT Joseph A. Palazzolo (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Palazzolo distinguished himself while serving as a radar team leader in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat operations in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, Fire Support Base Airborne was attacked by an estimated North Vietnamese Army battalion. The enemy force consisted of an infantry element, mortar section, and sapper squads. Sergeant Palazzolo and his radar team were thrown from their bunker by an explosion



which destroyed the radar bunker. Only after his own men had been taken care of did he allow himself to be treated for his wounds. Even though hampered by fragmentation wounds, he returned to the bunker line where he personally silenced an enemy soldier with his own weapon. He refused to give up fighting until the attack terminated. Sergeant Palazzolo'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. (HQ, 101st AB DIV, General Order Number 8550, 10 July 1969)

13 May 1969

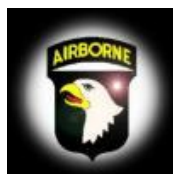
SP4 Richard A. Powell (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Specialist Powell distinguished himself while serving as a mortar gunner in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, at Fire Support Base Airborne, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, the fire base was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers. The insurgents fought through the perimeter and spread throughout the fire base throwing satchel charges and high explosives. Despite enemy automatic weapons fire and shrapnel from exploding mortar rounds, Specialist Powell continued to fire illumination rounds over the fire base. He was thrown from his mortar tube three times by explosions, but each time he returned to the mortar tube and kept his mortar crew operating flawlessly, despite the early morning darkness which hindered visibility. Although he was wounded by shrapnel and could no longer operate the mortar tube, his determination to keep the mortar position operational supplied the fire base with almost continuous illumination throughout the attack. His efforts contributed immeasurably to the successful defense of the fire base. Specialist Powell'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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 8567, 10 July 1969)

13 May 1969

CPT Alan J. Spoons (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Captain Spoons distinguished himself by valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat operations in the A Shau Valley, southwest of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, Fire Support Base Airborne was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers. Throughout the battle, Captain Spoons moved to the defensive positions checking the conditions of the men and their supplies of ammunition. He made several trips to ammunition storage points, securing hand grenades, small arms ammunition, and illumination rounds. Although under intense fire, he could be found at the point of heaviest enemy resistance giving advice, making corrections, and laying down suppressive fire with his M-16 rifle. The consistency at which he appeared at the location of heaviest fighting was a display of courage and intelligent leadership. Captain Spoons' 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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 7841, 29 June 1969)

13 May 1969

SGT Edward C. Wicks (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Wicks distinguished himself by valorous actions while serving as a fire direction leader in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat support operations in the A Shau Valley, southwest of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, Fire Support Base Airborne was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers. From his position in the Fire Direction Control Center, Sergeant Wicks observed the progress of the attack. He studied the enemy pattern of assault and maintained constant radio contact with helicopter gunships and land-line communication with mortar crews. At times, he had to utilize his M-16 rifle to defend his position as the insurgents threw satchel charges and hand grenades at his bunker. He adjusted the fire of circling gunships on enemy positions just outside the fire base perimeter, foiling several attacks. His accurate calculations to



mortar crews brought illumination flares directly over enemy squads rushing the fire base, leaving the enemy force vulnerable to the friendly forces. Sergeant Wicks' 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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 8551, 10 July 1969)

13 May 1969

SGT Kenneth E. Counts (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Counts distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a team leader in Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company A was in the process of fortifying Fire Support Base Airborne, in the mountains west of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Early in the morning of the cited date, the fire base was hit by an intense enemy mortar attack and sapper assault launched by elements of three North Vietnamese Army Battalion. Sergeant Counts grabbed his M-16 rifle and ran out of his bunker. Observing a burning bunker to his front, he moved through the intense fire to the flaming structure and pulled out a friendly Soldier who had been blinded by the fragments from exploding satchel charges. He carried the wounded man to a secure bunker and immediately returned to action. He again saw an enemy sapper preparing to engage another friendly bunker, and he silenced the insurgent before he could employ the satchel charge. He then aided in the evacuation of the wounded Soldiers to a rear area. Sergeant Counts' 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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 8456)

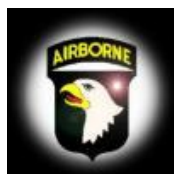
13 May 1969

SP4 Robert C. Farabee (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Specialist Farabee distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, at First Support Base Airborne, Republic of Vietnam. Early in the morning on the cited date, the fire base was hit by a combination mortar attack and sapper assault, launched by elements of three North Vietnamese Army Battalions. Specialist Farabee reacted swiftly to the sapper threat and rushed outside his bunker while under direct small arms fire. He spotted two enemy sappers crawling through the wire and opened fire on them with his M-16 rifle, mortally wounding both. He continued to engage the insurgents in the First Platoon sector while medical aidman treated the seriously wounded personnel. When the last man was evacuated, he left his position and maneuvered to the howitzer area. For the duration of the battle, he helped load and fire the weapon, inflicting heavy casualties upon the North Vietnamese attackers. Specialist Farabee'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 State Army.

13 May 1969



PFC Cleabern W. Hill Jr. (A/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (Posthumously) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Private Hill distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company A was in the process of fortifying Fire Support Base Airborne, in the mountains west of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Early in the morning on the cited date, the base was hit by a combination mortar and sapper attack mounted by elements of three North Vietnamese Battalions. The sappers poured over the First Platoon's bunker line, intent upon swarming inside the perimeter before the friendly element could defend itself. The members of the First Platoon, bearing the full brunt of the initial assault, fought valiantly to delay the enemy onslaught. Private Hill held his position in one of the hard pressed bunkers, leveling intense small arms fire against the advancing sapper waves. He continued to fight until an enemy mortar round hit his bunker, mortally wounding him. His stubborn persistence provided the rest of the friendly force with valuable moments to brace themselves for the enemy ground assault. Private Hill'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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 9054; 19 July 1969)



13 May 1969

PFC Odell D. Beasley (E/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Private Beasley distinguished himself while serving as an ammunition bearer in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat operations at Fire Support Base Airborne, in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, the fire base was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese's Army Soldiers. The enemy force assaulted the fire base from two sides, with infantrymen and sapper rushing the perimeter under a heavy mortar attack. At the beginning of the battle, Private Beasley immediately assumed his duties as an ammunition bearer for his mortar position. Despite enemy automatic weapons fire and shrapnel from enemy mortar rounds, he completed several trips through the early darkness to an ammunition storage point securing illumination rounds. During the engagement, an ammunition bearer in an adjacent mortar position was wounded and unable to continue supplying the needed ammunition. Private Beasley realized the seriousness of the situation and doubled his trips to the ammunition point, supplying illumination rounds for the shorthanded mortar position as well as his own. In the process of securing another load, Private Beasley was mortally wounded when an enemy satchel charge exploded near him. Private Beasley'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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 9055; 19 July 1969)

13 May 1969



SP4 James E. Miller (C/2-319 ARTY) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Specialist Miller distinguished himself while serving as a cannoneer for the Fifth Howitzer Section, Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 319th Artillery. During the early morning hours of Fire Support Base Airborne, twenty-five miles southwest of Hue, Republic of Vietnam, Specialist Miller's battery came under heavy ground attack by an estimated battalion size enemy force. He immediately began firing his M-16 rifle at the attacking insurgents. After firing several magazines of ammunition, he manned his howitzer and began firing illumination for visibility and direct fire at the insurgents. When the position was overrun, he moved to the inner perimeter where he again began firing his M-16 rifle at the hostile force, driving them from the perimeter. Although wounded in the ensuing battle, he moved through a mortar and rocket attack in order to help the more seriously wounded to cover. Specialist Miller'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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 9567, 24 July 1969)

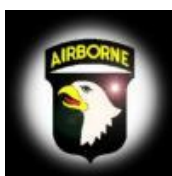
15 May 1968



SFC Onorio R. Romo (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for actions in combat. It has been determined that SFC Onorio R. Romo, is entitled to and was awarded the Silver Star (1st Oak Leaf Cluster) while serving as a member of Company D, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division in the Republic of Vietnam for action on or about 15 May 1968 in the vicinity of Hue and Quang Tri. In the absence of orders, this memorandum will be filed permanently in the military personnel record jacket and the official military personnel file. Personnel qualification records will be annotated to reflect this award. This memorandum confirms General Orders 8451 (November 1968), 101st Airborne Division.

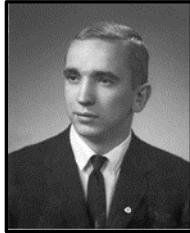
16 May 1967

SFC Edward F. Garrett (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 16 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Platoon Sergeant Garrett, while leading a squad-size patrol, was taken under heavy volume of enemy automatic weapons fire from the direct front. Sergeant Garrett quickly placed half of the patrol into position and began to maneuver the other half of the patrol into position maneuvering element was taken under a withering hail of automatic weapons fire from an estimated platoon-size enemy element in well concealed and well fortified positions. On the initial burst of fire every man in the maneuvering element was wounded with the exception of Sergeant Garrett. Sergeant Garrett immediately called for assistance and began to pull to wounded men to safety. With complete disregard for his



own personal safety, Sergeant Garrett moved through the vicious enemy fire four different times to pull wounded men to covered positions. Sergeant Garrett had retrieved all but two of the wounded men when the remainder of the platoon arrived. Quickly briefing the platoon leader on the situation, Sergeant Garrett directed them to give him covering fire so he could pull the two remaining wounded men to safety. Again with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Sergeant Garrett moved through the bullet swept area and brought the two remaining casualties to safety. As a result of Sergeant Garrett's courageous actions, six of his comrades were saved from further injury and possible death. Platoon Sergeant Garrett's outstanding display of valor and intense determination and devotion to duty 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.

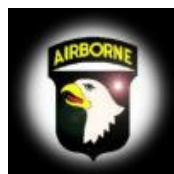
16 May 1967



PFC John C. Silver (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force on 16 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam, Private Silver, while serving as a member of a small patrol, was moving down a mountain trail when the patrol was suddenly brought under a tremendous volume of enemy automatic weapons fire. On the initial burst of enemy fire approximately half of the patrol was wounded and the remainder of the patrol was pinned down. Private Silver observed that one of his comrades had been severely wounded and lay in the area completely exposed to the vicious enemy fire. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Private Silver left his covered position and dashed through the withering enemy fire to the side of his wounded comrade. Quickly Private Silver administered medical aid and then picked his wounded comrade up and started to carry him to a safe area. After having traveled a few meters, Private Silver was struck by an enemy bullet and wounded in the chest. Although seriously wounded, Private Silver completely disregarded his wounds and continued to carry his wounded comrade to safety. As Private Silver approached a safe position he was again struck by an enemy bullet and this time mortally wounded. Private Silver's heroic actions resulted in the saving of his comrade's life, even at the cost of his own. Private Silver's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty even at the cost of his own life are in keeping with the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

16 May 1967

1LT Robert A. Clifford (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force on 16 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Clifford was assigned the mission of giving assistance to a beleaguered patrol by extracting their casualties and maintaining contact with the enemy until reinforcements could arrive. Upon arriving at the battle scene, Lieutenant Clifford immediately made an evaluation of the situation and maneuvered his platoon into position in order to place suppressive fire into the enemy position. While placing his men into position, Lieutenant Clifford observed a wounded man who was laying in an area exposed to heavy enemy fire. On two different occasions, men were wounded attempting to pull the injured man to safety. Lieutenant Clifford directed his men to give him covering fire while he, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, charged through the bullet swept area to where the wounded man lay, picked him up and carried him to a safe position and administered the needed medical aid. On numerous occasions, he exposed himself to the enemy while directing the fire of his platoon by point out enemy positions. Lieutenant Clifford then called for artillery and supporting fire in order to evacuate the wounded. During the evacuation Lieutenant Clifford and his platoon were brought under a heavy volume of enemy automatic weapons fire, forcing the medical evacuation helicopter to take off before the wounded could be loaded. Immediately, Lieutenant Clifford deployed part of his platoon and personally directed their fire into the enemy positions. He remained exposed while directing the suppressive fire into the enemy positions until the casualties could be evacuated. As a result of Lieutenant Clifford's courageous actions, the lives of numerous men were saved and his men inspired to such a degree that the mission was successfully accomplished. First Lieutenant Clifford's display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty even at the



cost of his life are in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

16 May 1970



SSG David L. Jones (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 16 May 1970. Sergeant Jones distinguished himself while serving as an acting platoon leader in Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in a night defensive position; Sergeant Jones' unit came under a concentrated enemy sapper attack. Sergeant Jones returned a heavy volume of suppressive fire on the insurgents and directed his men to their fighting positions. Although wounded during the initial contact, Sergeant Jones moved around the perimeter ensuring that the wounded were treated and that all positions on the perimeter were manned. Observing an enemy position, he crawled forward and engaged the insurgents with accurate rifle fire. While engaging the insurgents, Sergeant Jones was mortally wounded by enemy grenade fire. Sergeant Jones' 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.

16 May 1970

SP4 Edward Matyjasik Jr. (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 16 May 1970. Specialist Matyjasik distinguished himself while serving as a Rifleman in Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, while defending a night defensive perimeter in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. When numerous heavily armed enemy sappers tried to penetrate his company's defensive perimeter, Specialist Matyjasik, despite being wounded in the initial contact, remained at his fighting position, refusing medical aid. He placed effective fire on numerous insurgent positions and contributed heavily to the defeat of the hostile force. Specialist Matyjasik'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. (HQ; 101st ABN DIV; G.O. # 9650; 20AUG70)

***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."

