

## 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT) "STRIKE HISTORY" 14 July – 20 July 2013



14 July 1968

A/1-502 IN continued RIF vic. YD6026 to YD 6128; the company had 2 US WIA by BBT. Bravo and Recon, CA'd to YD6929 and YD7029, and continued search and clear operations. Charlie Company searched and cleared vic. YD6630. Sweet Banner 65 vic. YD6334 had contact, killed 7 VC and captured 2 VC. They also found 12 AK44's in one cache.

14 July 1969

Activity was light in the AO as all units continued RIF and search operations, uncovering numerous enemy KIA from previous contacts and air/artillery strikes. At 1020H, B/1-501, vic. BS268965, found 10 graves with the remains of 10 NVA KIA in earlier air strikes.

14-21 July 2012

**ANA mission command of independent operations.** 201 Corps directed 1/201 and 3/201 to conduct joint clearance operations of Jagdalak, Kam Dargai and Maskala Kamar along Highway 7. 2/1/201 and 4/1/201 conducted OPERATION SHAMSHIR 15 on 14 JUL in vicinity of the Kam Dargai area south of Highway 7. OPERATION GADBA III was conducted 13-14 JUL with ANA Commandos, 3/2/201, and 2/201 commander. During the mission ANSF delivered 18k pounds of HA wheat and class V for AUP. 1/201 is near completion of COP Khunde in central Alingar Valley. 1/201 commander planned and constructed this COP of his own initiative to allow the ANA to transfer two other sites (Sangar patrol base and Alingar DC) to further consolidate forces in the Alingar Valley. This independently planned and executed operation demonstrates the ability of the 1/201 to battle track and employ multiple enablers to achieve the desired effect.

**ANSF enabler training and capacity building.** 4/1/201 CS Kandak at Bad Pakh conducted their first COP defense LFX and medevac rehearsal with advisors and BSI HQ. The capstone event was the target handover to CCA following a smoke marking round fired by organic mortars.

FOB/COP transfer. On 17 JUL 12, TF MW transfers responsibility of FOB Hughie 2/201 ANA Brigade.

**Road to Kamdesh.** The Corps hosted a Kamdesh road media engagement on 16 JUL 7 km north of FOB Bostick. The event will include 26 media correspondents from Kabul, Jalalabad, and Asadabad. The intent of this engagement is to broadcast the efforts of the 2 BRIGADE horizontal engineer company improve RTE CALIFORNIA and to gain ministry support for road construction project that will ultimately link Nuristan to Kunar province and open a GLOC into Nuristan.



FOB/COP transition and service contracts. Coalition FOB/COP transfer remain on schedule. The 2/201 ANA Brigade assumed FOB Hughie from TF MOUNTAIN WARRIOR on 18 JUL. In addition, the Corps sent delegations to assist 3/201 ANA Brigade and TF LAFAYETTE to conduct initial assessment of facilities in Kapisa. Brigade DPWs are working to develop their first service contracts for FOB/COP with priority to power generation, bulk water, and black water removal.







1-502 IN continued operations in the same locations. The enemy is becoming more evasive and less willing to fight. This day they had little enemy activity. 2 Hoi Chanh's turned themselves into PF's.

15 July 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** B/1-327 released from OPCON. B and D/2-502 made sporadic contact with enemy throughout this period.

15 July 1969

Contact was sporadic throughout LAMAR PLAIN as all units continued to seek the enemy with 1-501 uncovering numerous enemy KIA from earlier air/artillery strikes. At 0904, B/1-501, vic. BS260972, found the remains of 1 NVA in a grave. At 1100H, D/1-501, vic. BS261976, found two small huts, one of which contained the remains of 1 NVA KIA by an earlier air strike and a US Browning automatic rifle. At 1125H, A/1-502, vic. BT067013, engaged 1 NVA soldier with small arms, resulting in 1 NVA KIA and 1 AK47 captured.

15 July 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** STRIKE Force returned to Camp Eagle for re-fitting in preparation for a new operation.

15 July 2006

2/4/6 IA is given complete control over Mahmudiyah, previously a part of 1-502 IN's

16 July 1968

A/1-502 IN security of An Lo and Rome plow. Bravo Company, Recon, and PF's are still working in the fish hook area center mass of YD7029. They found 9 VC KIA, 2 NVA KIA. They also discovered 20 NVA KIA in plastic bags in the river, vic. YD7029. This is further evidence of the blows dealt to VC/NVA.

16 July 1969

Contact continued light in the AO as 1-501 continued to uncover the effects of the previous intensive air/artillery strikes in the area and 1-502 reported one small clash in the late afternoon. At 1045H, B/1-501, vic. BS270975, found a small hut complex containing 1 British SMG (NF1). At 1430H, D/1-501, vic. BS270974, found 2 AK47 and 1 Russian SMG (NF1) and other miscellaneous equipment. At 1440H, B/1-501, vic. BS280985, found and NVA base camp containing 1 NVA KIA by an airstrike, 3 carbines and miscellaneous weapons parts. At 1905H, A/1-502, vic. BT079016, engaged 3 enemy with small arms fire at a range of 50 meters, resulting in 1 NVA KIA.

16 July -10 August 2010

CTF STRIKE conducted Operation Unify Arghandab (Amaliat Motahed Kardan Arghandab), or Operation AMKA, a combined and unified operation in support of and designed as a shaping operation for the 205th Afghan National Army Corps clearance of the Arghandab district and expansion of security into the eastern Zharay district. The operation was focused on securing the population of Arghandab and Kandahar City by introducing Coalition Forces and ANA Kandaks into the Northwestern Arghandab District, repositioning forces in southern Arghandab and expanding security along a key line of communication (Route Red Stripe) in eastern Zharay to the south of Senjaray.

There were several key tasks and subordinate operations within Operation AMKA. 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, partnered with the 1/1/205 ANA, moved out to the western bank of the Arghandab River to increase combat power and allow 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment to reposition in order to protect the population. 2-508 IN, partnered with 3/1/205 ANA, secured Kukaran and expanded security into District 8 of Kandahar City, denying insurgents sanctuary south of Kuhak and protecting the people of southern Arghandab District. 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment cleared Route Red Stripe to deny insurgent access to a major assembly area leading into southern Arghandab District. These actions combined to secure the last covered and concealed position leading into Kandahar City and prevented insurgents" ability to execute spectacular attacks within this key population center.







B/1-502 IN continued search and clear operations in Phuoc Yen Village. They discovered 6 SKS, 3 AK47's, 1 Chicom 9mm pistol, 1-82mm mortar, various ammo and communication equipment and 7 NVA KIA. 2 VC were killed in the ambush. Recon conducted CA, vic. YD6129. LZ was Red and door gunners on gunship WIA, enemy broke contact and fled.

17 July 1969

Activity was light in the 1st Brigade AO as 1-502 began to extract from the AO and assume security missions throughout the Brigade AO for the next 12 days and 1-46 began an aggressive RIF operation to the southwest, south and southeast of LZ PROFESSIONAL. At 0745H, Brigade LOH reconnaissance team, vic. BT094014, observed and engaged one enemy recording 1 VC KIA.; at 1015H, the team vic. BT215071 recorded a second NVA KIA. At 1110H, D/1-501, vic. BS273973, engaged and killed 1 NVA with small arms fire; the element also captured an AK47. At 1326H, B/2-17 Cav, vic. BT205123, observed and engaged two enemy hiding in a hut, resulting in 2 VC KIA. At 1550H, A/1-46, vic. BT170059, found two graves with the remains of 2 VC KIA.

17 July 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** STRIKE Force moved by air from Camp Eagle to FSB Veghel. They were inserted in an AO southeast of Veghel and continued to operate there with light contact.

18 July 1943

The 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion (lineage of 1-75 CAV) landed on Utah Beach, Normandy and is attached to the 3rd Army with the task of capturing ports along the coast of Brittany. Within their first month, the 705th had moved through the town of Avranches and liberated the town of Paimpol along the Northern coast.

18 July 1968

A/1-502 IN conducted security of An Lo and Rome plow. Bravo Company continued search and clear in fish hook area finding several weapons and misc. gear. Charlie Company and 2 Platoon of PF's conducted RIF, vic. YD6528. Delta Company conducted RIF, vic. YD6530. An air strike was called in vic. YD6332. Later assessment: 5 VC KIA. PF's had 3 Hoi Chanh's. Gunship killed 9 VC YD6434.

18 July 2007

HO, 2BCT, and its subordinate units to include 1-320 FA, 526 Support Battalion, 2-101 Brigade Troops Battalion, 1-22 IN, and E/4 Support Battalion, are awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation in support of military operations from Oct. 1, 2005 – Sept. 20, 2006. Headquarters, 2d Brigade Combat Team, and its subordinate units displayed outstanding devotion to duty and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks in one of the most complex, difficult, and lethal battle spaces in Iraq. In partnership with Iraqi Security Forces, and operating in southwest Baghdad in an area consisting of 485 square miles that had been devoid of a dedicated United States military presence for almost three years, the unit coordinated full spectrum counterinsurgency operations, engaging a lethal, adaptable, and determined enemy through a series of kinetic and non-kinetic measures designed to disrupt the enemy and deny them sanctuary in what had become a fertile terrorist haven, a prime staging and training area for insurgent activity, and a pivotal corridor for the transport of terrorist supplies and insurgent activities into Baghdad. These combined measures, planned and executed under the most demanding conditions, by the brave men and women of the unit, ultimately had the desired effect. The brigade successfully isolated and neutralized anti-Iraq forces, continued to develop Iraqi Security Force capability, secured key terrain, supported government and economic development, and created a security environment that will facilitate the completion of the United Nation Security Council Resolution 1546 process on schedule. 1-320 FAR secured the largest base complex in Iraq during a period of intense kinetic activity, supporting operations for all MND-B units. Through steadfast vigilance, the battalion enabled the division to engage and destroy the enemy, and develop Iraqi Security Forces. The men and women of 1-320 FAR displayed outstanding devotion to duty and professionalism, contributing directly to the success of the mission. 526 Support Battalion provided focused, echeloned combat service and combat health support during successive urban and stability operations, enabling the 2d Brigade to maintain critical combat power forward in zone against a determined enemy force.







1-502 IN continued to secure An Lo and conducted search and clear operations with light contact. Charlie Company found 4 tons of rice, vic. YD6630. Delta Company had sniper fire (in-effective), enemy broke contact and fled. Recon received 3-60mm mortar rounds with negative casualties.

19 July 2010

COL Abdul Fata Azizi, Commander, 3rd Brigade, 205th Corps, Afghan National Army and COL Arthur Kandarian, Commander, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, held an uncasing of the Regimental colors ceremony and a Baham Shura (Together Council) at Forward Operating Base Wilson in the Zharay district.

The uncasing of the colors marked the beginning of the STRIKE Brigade's partnership with the 3rd Brigade, 205th Corps and the citizens of the Zharay, Arghandab and Maiwand districts. The 2nd BCT commander and 3/205th Commander stated their mission intent to an audience including provincial governors and village elders representing the District of Zharay.

"I am looking forward to working with the Afghan National Security Forces, to bring security to the people of Zharay, Maiwand

and Arghandab, so they can feel free with no fear," said COL Kandarian.

20 July 1943

Division returned to Fort Bragg from Springfield TN, where they participated in the Second Army Maneuvers in preparation of overseas movement in August 1943.

20 July 1968

D/1-502 IN sprung an ambush on 2 VC, killing 1 VC. Alpha Company secured An Lo Bridge. Bravo, Charlie and Delta continued search and clear operations with negative contact.

20 July 1968

The third platoon of A/2-501 IN was point platoon with Earnest Evans "Cool Pappa" and Austin Gibson in the lead. We were heading up a steep mountain when "Cool Pappa and Gibson were cut down by enemy machine gun fire after crossing over the crest line and onto the top of the mountain. I was third man, and had just crossed over the crest line when they got hit. The bullets that cut them down barely missed me.

As I (SP4 Perry A. Lewis) dove for cover, a trip wire caught me across the neck and I cringed as I hit the ground waiting for the blast. I stared in amazement at an old chicomb grenade sputtering and spewing, strapped to the side of a tree -- it was a dud. After realizing that we were cut off from the rest of the platoon and no help was coming, I crawled forward as the machine gun continued to fire to assist "Cool Pappa" who was calling for help. He had been severely wounded. I lifted him up and carried him in my arms running back down the trail when a sniper opened up on us

Lieutenant Whitaker was waiting for us at the crest line. Two men scooped up "Cool Pappa" in a poncho and whisked him down range to a chopper pad which was being prepared for the Medevac of the wounded. Sniper rounds were hitting all around us as I talked to Lieutenant Whitaker and our Medic, James Cleveland. I told Lieutenant Whitaker that I was going back for Gibson.

Before he could really say anything I was crawling back down the trail as the sniper continued to fire. When I reached Gibson, he was screaming in pain, he had a terrible abdomen wound. I straddled him on all fours and he wrapped his arms around my neck and held on as we started the long crawl back. We made it back to the crest line and he was whisked away to the Medevac. Both "Cool Pappa" and Gibson died on the







Medevac. Our Medic, James Cleveland was hit and died just a few meters away from where I was talking to him and Lt. Whittaker.

20 July 1969 Brigade units reported small clashes in the AO as Operation LAMAR PLAIN continued

with light enemy contact. At 0705H, B/1-46, vic. BT138042, engaged and killed 1 NVA with small arms fire. At 1015H, Brigade LOH recon -naissance team, vic. BT76094, engaged one enemy soldier with ARA, recording 1 VC KIA and suffering 1 US WIA. At 1024H, D/1-501, vic. BS286996, engaged and enemy soldier at 200 meters, accounting for 1 NVA KIA and 1 AK47 captured. At 1800H, D/1-501, vic. BT285014, received small arms and automatic weapons fire that killed the US point man; the element returned

fire, but the enemy broke contact with negative assessment.

20 July 09 2BSTB awarded Meritorious Unit Commendation in support of military operations in

Baghdad, Iraq from Oct. 15, 2007 – Nov. 18, 2008. 2BSTB displayed exceptionally meritorious service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. 2BSTB's professionalism and dedication to the mission went beyond the call of duty and greatly contributed to the

success of the STRIKE Brigade and MND-B.

During this week, in the span of 71 years since the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment originated in July 1941 as the 502nd Parachute Battalion, an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assault, the following awards were awarded to members of 2BCT and the  $502^{nd}$  IN Regiment.

6 x Silver Star (3 x Posthumously)

1 x Bronze Star with Valor

4 x Bronze Star Medal (4 x Posthumously)

56 x Purple Hearts (17 x Posthumously)

2 x Non-Hostile Injury or Illness

14 July 1970 The following Soldiers SGT Dennis W. Huffine (B/2-501 IN); SGT John L. Keister, SSG

James T. Hembree Jr., 1LT Terry A. Palm, SSG William E. Jones, SSG Paul G. Guimond, CPL Keith E. Utter, SSG Gary L. Schneider (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds, on Hill 805, 24 km W of Hue, in the Thua

Tien Province, South Vietnam.

14 July 1970 The following Soldiers: SGT James E. Mc McClafferty and 1LT Frank W. Cox Jr. (A/1-

502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from an explosive device, in the Quang Tri

Province, South Vietnam.

14 July 1970 The following Soldiers: 1LT James W. Kwiechien, 1LT Richard W. Driver, SGT Calvin

G. Sawer Jr., PFC Robert Schexneider (A/2-501 IN); 1LT Robert W. Layton (1-OLC) (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during combat in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN

DIV; General Orders Number 8740, 5 August 1970)

14 July 1970 The following Soldiers: 1LT Robert L. Worrall, SP4 Ronald Froley, SP4 Jay F. Eiler,

SP4 Jack L. Richards, SP4 William Perez, PFC Mike V. Dipinto, PFC Dennis Lebrecque (B/2-501 IN); SP4 Rodney B. Collins, SP4 Bruce A. Chandler (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during combat in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 95th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL);

General Order Number 186)







The following Soldiers: 1LT Victor E. Arnt, SGT James L. White, SP4 David W. Herron (B/2-501 IN); PFC Terry Cooper (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during combat in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8742)

14 July 2010



PV2 Brandon King (HHB/1-320 FA), 23, of Tallahassee, Florida; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at Combat Outpost Nolen, of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire.

15 July 2010



SFC John Jarrell (B/1-502 IN), 32, of Brunson, South Carolina; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device. Also killed was SGT Leston Winters. Those Soldiers injured were SGT Nicholas Christensen, SPC Allen Wilson, and SPC Mario Delcampo, Jr.

15 July 2010



SGT Leston Winters (B/1-502 IN), 30, of Sour Lake, Texas; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death died of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device.

15 July 2010

The following Soldiers: SGT Nicholas Christensen, SPC Allen Wilson and SPC Mario Delcampo Jr. (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol using an improvised explosive device.

16 July 1970



CPL Richard R. Timmons (A/2-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes "falling from tree" West of Triple Hill vic. Ripcord, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

16 July 2010

PFC Patrick Marshall (B/2-508 PIR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.

16 July 2010

SPC Thomas Sparr (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

18 July 1968

SP4 Ronnie G. Moore (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 July 1969

PFC Thomas L. Wisniowicz (D/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes, in the Thua Thien Province. South Vietnam.







18 July 1970	The following Soldiers: SGT Dennis M. Mina (HHC/2-501 IN); SSG Charles W. Pompey (D/2-501 IN); SGT Donald E. Bohn (E/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8740, 5 August 1970)
18 July 1970	SGT David R. Beyl (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from other explosive device wounds, during an assault on Hill 1000 vic. Ripcord, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
18 July 1970	SGT Wiliam D. Rollason (E/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from an 120mm fire at FSB Ripcord, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
19 July 1968	PFC Amos C. Sherrill II (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
19 July 2010	SGT Pedro Torres (A/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with indirect fire.
19 July 2010	SSG Brian Piercy (A/2-508 PIR), 27, of Clovis, California: earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device.
19 July 2010	SSG Avionne Reese (A/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.
20 July 1968	The following Soldiers: SGT Ernest Evans (A/2-501 IN); PFC Bruce A. Marron (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
20 July 1968	The following Soldiers: SGT James A. Cleveland (HHC/2-501 IN); SP4 Austin D. Gibson (A/2-501 IN); SP5 James E. O'Toole Jr. (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
20 July 1969	PVT Alex E. Martinez (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
20 July 1969	PFC Robert R. Sanford (D/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
20 July 2010	The following Soldiers: SGT Derek Slade and SPC Owen Littenberg (HHC/2-502 IN) ) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while on a vehicle recovery mission, when insurgents attacked their vehicle with a rocket propelled grenade.
20 July 2010	SPC Janies Jordan (B/2-508 PIR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.







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

14 July 1970



CPL Keith E. Utter (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam, on 14 July 1970. Corporal Utter distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company D, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), during combat action near Hue, Republic of Vietnam. While in a night defensive position, Corporal Utter's unit came under an intense hostile attack, and he immediately maneuvered through the hostile fire to the section of the perimeter that was hardest hit. While directing effective fire on the enemy, Corporal Utter spotted a wounded comrade lying in an exposed position. When his attempt to reach the man was halted by the hostile fire, he noticed small arms fire being directed at the casualty. Corporal Utter immediately rushed to him, but was mortally wounded by hostile fire while attempting to move the man to a protected position. Corporal Utter'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.

14 July 1970



1LT Robert L. Worrall (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 14 July 1970. Lieutenant Worrall distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base Ripcord, Republic of Vietnam. When his platoon's defensive position came under an intense enemy attack, Lieutenant Worrall sustained several wounds. Despite his wounds, he repeatedly subjected himself to the hostile fire while positioning his men and directing their return fire. Refusing medical evacuation, he remained at his forward position, calling for and adjusting artillery fire. His actions were instrumental in silencing the enemy positions and successfully completing the evacuation of his wounded comrades to safety. Lieutenant Worrall'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.

14 July 1970

1LT Robert W. Layton (B/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 14 July 1970. Lieutenant Layton distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance mission, the lead element came under intense small arms, grenade, and machine gun fire. Observing that the lead element was pinned down and had suffered numerous casualties, Lieutenant Layton directed his men to reinforce the besieged element. Subjecting himself to the hostile fire, he maneuvered from position to position, directing the fire of his men and deploying them to gain fire superiority. Despite being wounded, he continued to lead his men and supervise the evacuation of the wounded. Lieutenant Layton'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 13072, 1 November 1970)

16 July 1944

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

16 July 1944

PFC John A. Leviski (502nd PIR) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while serving with the army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 4 section I, Circular 66, Headquarters First







United States Army, 18 May 1944, the Silver Star is awarded posthumously to PFC John A. Leviski for gallantry in action against the enemy in Normandy, France.

16 July 1944

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

20 July 1968



SP4 Perry A. Lewis (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 July 1968. Specialist Lewis distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner with the Third Platoon, Company A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, during a combat patrol in densely vegetated mountains west of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Lewis' platoon was in the lead position, and, because of the thick vines and dense underbrush, was forced to cut a trail with machetes in its search of reported North Vietnamese Army base camp. Near the top of a slope the lead element came under an intense barrage of automatic weapons fire. The two lead men were shot immediately and, as the rest of the platoon sought cover, several more men were injured on punji states cleverly placed by the enemy in selected positions. Specialist Lewis was pinned down by the enemy fire. However, observing two of his comrades wounded, Specialist Lewis began crawling forward to aid the fallen men. He fire into the thick underbrush where the enemy was hidden. On several occasions the incoming fire was so intense that Specialist Lewis was forced to stop and conceal himself behind the sparse ground cover, but never did he try to return to safety. After several minutes of slow crawling he reached the first wounded man. Seeing that the man was in desperate need of medical attention, Specialist Lewis, with complete disregard for his own safety, began crawling and carrying the injured man to safety. The platoon began to pull back in order to employ helicopter gunships and volunteers were called forward to remove equipment from the front. Specialist Lewis volunteered and began the long crawl toward the forward area. An enemy machine gun was moved to within thirty meters of his position and subjected him and the friendly positions to steady fire. Specialist Lewis and one other man crawled through the heavy fire and destroyed the enemy position before retrieving the platoon's equipment, which contained valuable ammunition and Claymore mines. Specialist Lewis' personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

## \*STRIKE HISTORY NOTE:

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

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

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





