



2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) “STRIKE HISTORY” 17 August – 23 August 2014



- 17 August 1968 A/1-502 received 60mm mortar fire, vic. YD6133. They called for artillery but first light check proved negative assessment. B/1-502 secured An LO Bridge and worked with Rome plow.
- 17 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** B/2-502 1st Platoon while on a search and clear operation near FSB Barnett, searched a bunker complex which had been the target of heavy artillery and aerial rocket artillery bombardment on the precious day and found hospital facilities, a .30 caliber machine gun, ammunition, clothes, equipment, documents and a map and discovered 34 NVA dead. At 1400 hours B Company was in contact with no results. The Recon Platoon received incoming 60mm rounds with no casualties.
- 18 August 1968 Contact was light with B/1-502 capturing 2 VCS. 1 VC WIA was brought into CP by his parents. He was evacuated to 22nd Surgical.
- 18 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Contact was light; however Recon Platoon engaged an unknown number of enemy killing one. B/2-502 found a small cache, a bunker complex and a high speed trail.
- 19 August 1968 C/1-502 detained 3 VCS while conducting RIF operation, vic. YD6334. While moving VCS to an LZ, one VCS detonated a BBT, injuring all 3 VCS and 2 US. D/1-502 received several mortar rounds at FSB Georgia, resulting in 1 US WIA.
- 19 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** activity was heavy with B/2-502 clearing an enemy company from the same ridge where its 2nd and 3rd Platoon had fought three days prior. The ensuing action resulted in one US Soldier Killed and five wounded, along with 15 enemy KIA, 10 killed by artillery and one NVA captured. Captured weapons included 1 RPD, 2 B-40 rocket launchers, 12 AK-47's, 1 x 82mm mortar tube and 1 9mm pistol.
- 19 August 1970 In continued operations around FSB Barnett, “STRIKE FORCE” troopers of Co. B, 2nd BN (Ambl.), 502nd Infantry engaged an estimated enemy company with small arms fire and called for artillery support, aerial rocket artillery and Air Force air strikes resulting in 25 NVA killed and one enemy Soldier detained. In addition, 12 AK-47 rifles, two RPG launchers and various enemy supplies were captured. (Rendezvous with Destiny: Screaming Eagle Diary)
- 19 August 2003 Due to the excellent working relationship that the 502nd had formed with the surrounding community and ethnic groups, Kurdish representatives of the PUK brought in #20, Taha Yasin Ramadan al Jizrawi, after finding his whereabouts and capturing him.
- 20 August 1968 A/1-502 conducted RIF, vic. YD6131 with negative contact. B/1-502 secured An Lo and security of Rome plow. C/1-502 discovered 3 VC bodies, vic. YD6333 that had been result of A/1-502 action on, 27 July. C/1-502 also captured 1 VC WIA, vic. YD6433.
- 20 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** C/2-502 received a mortar attack resulting in one C Company trooper KIA and seventeen wounded, ten of whom were Medevaced. B Company searched a bunker complex, engaged two NVA, killing one and capturing one AK-47 and two machine guns. Further search found 82mm mortar



base plate, bipod, and sighting device, miscellaneous ordnance and several documents.

20 August 1970 The following Soldiers: SGT Paul Miller and SGT Marshall K. Jones (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from artillery mortar rounds in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

21 – 22 August 1968 Contact extremely light. D/1-502 was sent to LZ Sally for RRF duty. They utilized this time to get new equipment and resupply.

21 August –
14 September 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Phase II was conducted. 2-502 returned from Operation Somerset Plain and took up security of FSB Veghel and FSB Bastogne. Limited RIF operations were conducted around these bases.

21 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** A/2-502 was engaged with RPD and AK-47 fire, resulting in one US KIA and two wounded. Both Medevaced, FSB Barnett received 12 rounds of 82mm mortar fire with one round inside the perimeter.

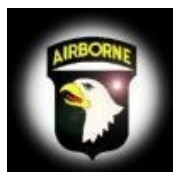
21 – 22 August 2012 **ANSF/PAKMIL joint complementary operations.** On 21 AUG 12, the 2/2 IN KDK S3 and the 3/3 ABP KDK S3 conducted a joint planning meeting for OPERATION MOUNTAIN HUSKY, complementary operations with PAKMIL, in Marawah, Dangam, and Lalpur Districts along the AF-PAK border. Clearing operations began on 27 AUG with 2/2 IN Kdk, AUP, and ABP in Marawara district, Kunar Province. 2/1 IN Kandak will conduct operations with AUP and ABP in Dangam district 29-31 AUG 12. 4/201 ANA Brigade will conduct operations in Lal'pur district, Nangahar Province 25-29 SEP 12.

Following the joint security meeting, 2/201 ANA Brigade conducted the Backbrief for OPERATION MOUNTAIN HUSKY to MG Waziri and Corps staff officers. MG Waziri emphasized that the Brigade must establish and maintain communications with PAKMIL through the BCC. He directed the integration of the religious cultural advisor to engage the population and explain the purpose of the operation. MG Waziri recommended the distribution of humanitarian assistance following the operation. Finally, he discussed the need to strategically message the success of combined/joint operations to MOD daily and through the Corps PAO to national media outlets.

Hesarak awakening. On 22 August, MG Waziri received a phone call that there is an anti-Taliban movement in Hesarak, Nangahar. Earlier this week, local elders from the villages of Jokan and Lajegar Khanjar held a shura to organize resistance against the Taliban. On 21 AUG, in coordination with District police, villagers drove out the Taliban from around the DC and set up checkpoints in six villages (Jokan, Lajegar Khanjar, Shahib Zadagan, Bostan Khil, Jabay and Mullayan). The Corps will continue to monitor this situation and track developments through the OCC to determine potential support for this local uprising.

22 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2/502 Battalion continued operations around FSB Barnett with light contact. FSB Barnett received 11 rounds of 60mm mortar fire outside the perimeter. LTC Shay spotted four NVA in the open, employing artillery killing two.

23 August 1968 A/1-502 RIF, vic. YD6133, they were utilizing local sampans to search river and one capsized which 1 US drowned. B/1-502 security of An Lo and Rome plow operation. C/1-502 conducted CA to, vic. YD6031; results were 3 VC KIA, 1 VC captured and 2 Cheiu Hoi's. D/1-502 killed 2 VC, vic. YD6729 in bunkers.



23 August 1968

Operation NEVADA EAGLE: One downed helicopter w/5 bodies were discovered (vic. YD533032) on 23 August by A/2-502. Numerous old base camps were discovered by D/2-502 (vic. YD5604)

23 August 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: 2/502 Battalion had light contact with only helicopters receiving fire with no results.

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

1 x Medal of Honor Posthumously
6 x Silver Star (1 x Posthumously)
1 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
2 x Bronze Star Medal (1 x Posthumously)
47 x Purple Hearts (16 x Posthumously)
3 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
3 x Non-Hostile Injury or Illness

17 August 2010

The following Soldiers: SFC Michael Calderaro and PFC Rexton Christenson (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart from wounds sustained when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

17 August 2010

The following Soldiers: SPC Derrick Harris and PFC Dale Lamer (D/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart from wounds sustained when insurgents attacked their mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

18 August 1968

SP4 Willard G. Bellomy (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from an explosive device in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

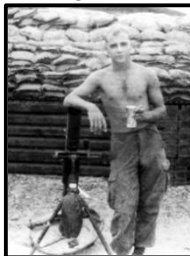
18 August 2010

SFC Britt Smith (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from wounds sustained when insurgents attacked FOB Wilson with indirect fire.

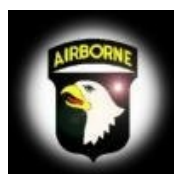
18 August 2010

SFC Robert Thornell (HHC/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked FOB Wilson with indirect fire. He is assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment.

19 August 1969



SP4 Eugene A. Lunn (A/1-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



19 August 1970



CPL Frank R. Fratellenico (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds at FSB Barnett, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

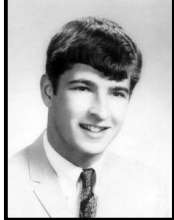
19 August 1970

PFC Jerry J. Tucker (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.

20 August 1968

SP4 Donnie J. Lawhorne (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragment wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

20 August 1969



The following Soldiers: PFC Stansilaw J. Drozdz and PFC Thomas W. Bazemore (Pictured) (D/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from an explosive device in the Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam.

20 August 1969



PFC Stansilaw J. Drozdz (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for distinguishing himself by outstanding, meritorious service in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 11 June 1969 to 20 August 1969. Through his untiring efforts and professional ability, he consistently obtained outstanding results. He was quick to grasp the implications of new problems with which he was faced as a result of the ever-changing situations inherent in a counterinsurgency operation and to find ways and means to solve those problems. The energetic application of his extensive knowledge has materially contributed to the efforts of the United States mission to the Republic of Vietnam to assist that country in ridding itself of the communist threat to its freedom. His initiative, zeal, sound judgment and devotion to duty have been in the highest tradition of the United States Army and reflect great credit on himself, his unit and the military service.

20 August 1969

PFC Charles W. E. Brown (B/2-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

20 August 1970

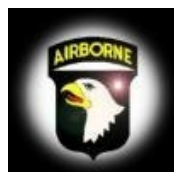
SGT Ben O. Johnson (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the province of Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam.

20 August 2010

The following Soldiers: PFC Michael McMahan and PFC Scott Eberhardt (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked FOB Wilson with indirect fire.

21 August 1967

SGT Edward L. Bobo (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.



21 August 1967



2LT Thomas Petramalo (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragment wounds in the Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam.

21 August 1967



PFC Baxter F. Ervin (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and wounds received which resulted in his death in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.

21 August 1968



SGT Joseph T Pigeon Jr. (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the province of Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

21 August 1970

SGT Ben O. Johnson (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

21 August 2006

The following Soldiers: 1LT Ryan Crosby & SSG Arnold Fantanu (HHC/2-502 IN), SFC Jason Beaton, PFC Nicolas Baca, and PV2 Jody Kreycik (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during combat operations.

21 August 2010

SGT Michael Craddock (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

22 August 1968

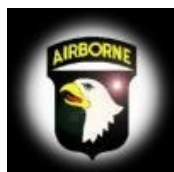
PFC Charles W. E. Brown (B/2-501 IN) died from illness (Malaria) in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

22 August 2010

PFC Pedro Milletmeletiche (C/1-66 AR), 20, of Elizabeth, New Jersey; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he died at Arghandab River Valley, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device.

22 August 2010

The following Soldiers: SPC Derek Feamster, PFC Efrain Carrasquillo Jr., PV2 Jose Jasso and PVT Jordan Duquette (E/1-502 IN); WO1 Lamonte Jones, SFC Lonnie Gabriel, SSG M. J. Johnson Jr. and SGT Frank Hernandez Jr. (A/526th BSB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their unit with indirect fire.



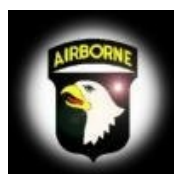
- 22 August 2010 SGT Robert Ochoa (C/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.
- 22 August 2010 The following Soldier: PFC Joshua Borland, PFC Erik Malone, PFC Alex Jerome, PFC Curtis Marks and PV2 Dominique Elder (E/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked FOB Wilson with indirect fire.
- 22 August 2010 SGT Anna Stumpf (C/526th BSB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked FOB Wilson with indirect fire.
- 22 August 2010 SSG Jerry Holcomb (B/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.
- 23 August 1968 CPL Henry F. Smith (A/1-501 IN) died from other Non-Hostile causes in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 23 August 1968 SGT Johnnie Gooden (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from an explosive device in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 23 August 1969 SP4 Dennis M. Mattox (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 Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.
- 23 August 1970 PFC Coleman J. Kane Jr. (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.



- 23 August 2010 PFC Christian Perez-Dolores (HHC/1-502) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire.

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

- 17 August 1970 LT James L. Sanders (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 August 1970, in the Republic of Vietnam; Lieutenant Sanders distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during combat operations in Quang Tri Province. While assaulting an enemy bunker complex, Lieutenant Sanders crawled to the lead element and directed artillery and air support on the enemy emplacements. Subjecting himself to intense hostile fire, he maneuvered among his men, directing their suppressive fire. His actions were instrumental in directing accurate artillery and air support which aided in silencing the enemy positions. Lieutenant Sanders' 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.



19 August 1970



CPL Frank R. Fratellenico (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Medal of Honor (Posthumously) for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a rifleman with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, in action against enemy aggressor forces at Fire Base Barnett, Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 19 August 1970. Corporal Fratellenico's squad was pinned down by intensive fire from two well-fortified enemy bunkers. At great personal risk Corporal Fratellenico maneuvered forward and, using hand grenades neutralized the first bunker which was occupied by a number of enemy soldiers. While attacking the second bunker, enemy fire struck Corporal Fratellenico, causing him to fall to the ground and drop a grenade which he was preparing to throw. Alert to the imminent danger to his comrades, Corporal Fratellenico retrieved the grenade and fell upon it an instant before it exploded. His heroic actions prevented death or serious injury to four of his comrades nearby and inspired his unit which subsequently overran the enemy position. Corporal Fratellenico's conspicuous gallantry, extraordinary heroism, and intrepidity at the cost of his life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army. (General Orders No. 37, September 6, 1974)

19 August 1970



SFC Wallace Gainey (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 August 1970. Sergeant Gainey distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during combat operations in Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam. While assaulting an enemy bunker complex, Sergeant Gainey directed the suppressive fire of his men. Subjecting himself to intense enemy fire, he repeatedly maneuvered to his wounded comrades and carried them to safety. His actions were instrumental in silencing the enemy positions and enabled the wounded to receive medical attention as soon as possible. Sergeant Gainey'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.

19 August 1970

SGT James F. Hartwig (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 August 1970. Sergeant Hartwig distinguished himself while serving as a Team Leader in Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Hartwig was called upon to provide fire support during an assault on an enemy-occupied ridge line. When his platoon reached the ridge line, they received grenade and automatic weapons fire from a heavily-fortified enemy position. Although sustaining shrapnel wounds, he refused medical attention and continued to assist in directing the assault until the enemy had been driven from the hill. Sergeant Hartwig'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.

20 August 2010



CSM Troy Henderson (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous service with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) during Operation Enduring Freedom.

While at Spin Pir, CSM Henderson's valor and leadership under fire were central to defeating repeated enemy attacks on friendly forces at Strong Point Spin Pir, thus maintaining freedom of maneuver for friendly forces and setting conditions for the deliberate extraction of wounded personnel and battle damaged



equipment from the engagement area. As he was checking the Strong Point's perimeter defenses and integrating TAC personnel into the Strong Point's defensive perimeter, Strong Point Spin Pir came under a massed attack of RPGs and accurate small arms fire from several insurgent positions located in nearby bunkers, ditches and abandoned compounds. With complete disregard for his own safety while moving exposed from guard towers, vehicle ramps, and along the top of the Hesco wall, CSM Henderson commanded the defense of Spin Pir for over four hours, placing defenders in position, redistributing ammunition, marking targets for mounted gunners and CCA, and personally engaging the enemy.



At times, the enemy maneuvered to within 150 meters of the Strong Point and within 50 meters of friendly elements moving outside the Strong Point. His courage and confidence inspired the Soldiers at Strong Point Spin Pir to excel during this early deployment engagement. The enemy launched multiple attacks on Spin Pir, but CSM Henderson's actions killed or suppressed the enemy on the western side of the contact area, which allowed Dog 6 to freely maneuver to the east to counterattack and execute a deliberate extraction of two IED damaged RCP vehicles and two wounded Soldiers.

20 August 2010

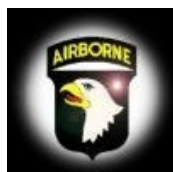


CPT Timothy Price (D/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous service with Company D, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment during Operation Enduring Freedom.

CPT Tim Price distinguished himself by displaying exceptional leadership and valor while commanding his company's battle damage assessment patrol in the vicinity of Strongpoint Spin Pir. Early on the morning of 20 August, Soldiers from Company D reported the locations of insurgents shooting at Afghan National Security Forces and Coalition Forces to the southeast of Strongpoint Spin Pir. With the assistance of the Battalion TOC, these insurgents were engaged and destroyed with GBU's and 30mm gunfire and CPT Price subsequently planned and executed a post-strike battle damage assessment (BDA) patrol.

During the BDA patrol, attached elements from Company A were engaged by insurgents with accurate small arms and RPG fires from prepared positions in the south and subsequently suffered four significant heat casualties. The Strong Point at Spin Pir was simultaneously attacked by insurgents with accurate small arms fire and RPGs. Despite the danger to his vehicle and crew, CPT Price repositioned from Spin Pir while in contact to better position himself to command and control the fight and the casualty evacuation operation unfolding in the east. Shortly afterward, elements from Thor 52, a general support route clearance package (RCP) element, struck an IED and sustained casualties while maneuvering to the southeast of Spin Pir.

Simultaneously, the RCP began to receive intense small arms and RPG fires from ranges as close as 50 meters. With complete disregard to the IED threat and enemy fire, CPT Price and his vehicle crew led the movement of a mounted platoon, proofing the infiltration lane, into the RCP engagement area and counterattacked the enemy. CPT Price's vehicle formed the initial base of fire for the eastern fight and his swift action proved to be the battle's decisive action. During maneuver to extract themselves from the enemy kill zone, the RCP struck another two IEDs.



In order to control the situation, CPT Price further exposed himself to enemy fire as he dismounted to assess the damage to the RCP vehicles and injured Soldiers. Upon reorganizing them, CPT Price then directed and led additional counterattack movements synchronizing mounted, dismounted and aerially delivered fires. For a period of over three hours, CPT Price expertly commanded and controlled the fight on the eastern side of the engagement area, personally identifying and directing the fires of six Scout or Attack Weapon Team aircraft until they expended all rounds onboard.

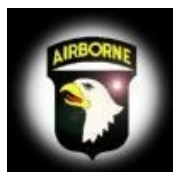
CPT Price's valor, leadership under fire, and lethal expertise broke the back of the enemy's attack during the Battle of Spin Pir. During this fight, Company D killed over ten insurgents and wounded countless more. As his forces continued to pursue the retreating enemy, Company D was able to safely conduct the CASEVAC of five Soldiers and the recovery of three damaged RCP vehicles.

21 August 1967

SGT Edward Bobo (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 August 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Bobo distinguished himself by exceptional valor and personal sacrifice while on a search and destroy mission as his squad came under intense enemy automatic weapons fire from a fortified bunker. Sergeant Bobo immediately maneuvered his squad against the enemy position. He led one element of his squad and advanced to within sixty feet of the bunker; moving through machinegun fire, Sergeant Bobo killed two of the insurgents. Once in position, he exposed himself to the enemy fire four times to throw as many grenades. His grenades did not destroy the bunker. Realizing that the momentum of the attack had to be maintained, Sergeant Bobo, with complete disregard for his own safety, leaped from his position and ran through the intense hail of enemy machinegun fire to a position which would afford him close range on the bunker. While running, he was wounded by the fire. Once in position, however, he continued his determined attack on the bunker with hand grenades and destroyed the bunker killing two more of the enemy. Although wounded and still receiving fire, Sergeant Bobo left his covered position to rejoin his squad for an assault on another bunker. While making his way back to the squad he was mortally wounded. Sergeant Bobo never relented from his determined effort to resist and quell the enemy by all means available; his outstanding display of unquestionable valor in close combat was in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and has reflected the greatest of credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

21 August 1967

PFC Paul J. Penkala (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 August 1967 near Duc Pho, in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Penkala distinguished himself when his platoon came under intense enemy fire. During the engagement, Private Penkala noticed two North Vietnamese Army soldiers with automatic weapons sneaking up behind his squad. Realizing that the two could easily annihilate the squad, Private Penkala, with fearless aggression and utter disregard for his own safety, ran towards them and killed them both at close range with the last round from this shotgun. Then, seeing his squad withdrawing, he picked up a wounded comrade's weapon and placed effective covering fire on the enemy, killing one more soldier. Through his courageous action, Private Penkala undoubtedly saved the lives of the men in his squad. Private First Class Penkala's unquestionable valor and devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and has reflected the greatest of credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.



21-28 August 1968



1LT Ronald E. Phillips (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 21 August 1968 through 28 August 1968. First Lieutenant Phillips distinguished himself while serving as Commanding Officer of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat operations southwest of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Company D was conducting a combat patrol in search of the enemy when the lead element came under heavy fire from automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade launchers. First Lieutenant Phillips quickly maneuvered his platoons against the enemy, overrunning their lead positions and mortally wounding ten North Vietnamese Army Soldiers. For the next six days, First Lieutenant Phillips skillfully probed the enemy defense in an effort to pinpoint their weak positions. On 27 August 1968, he cunningly deployed his men against their final objective, an enemy occupied hill. When the initial burst of fire ripped through the lead platoon, First Lieutenant Phillips immediately seized control of the action by moving to the front of his unit, bringing up reserves, and placing personnel in defensive positions. Many men were wounded during the initial contact and needed immediate medical evacuation. First Lieutenant Phillips personally carried one of the wounded to the rear of the company and aided many other wounded men. When he returned to the front of his unit, a numerically superior force of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers charged down the hillside in an attempt to overrun Company D. First Lieutenant Phillips quickly directed retaliatory fire from small arms and from helicopter gunships. The intense friendly fire devastated the enemy forces and forced them to withdraw. After the contact, intelligence reports revealed that First Lieutenant Phillips' company had blocked an entire North Vietnamese Army battalion's movement toward the city of Hue. First Lieutenant Phillips' 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.

21 August 2010

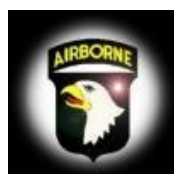


SFC Erric Allen (D/2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor when distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the performance of outstanding service as the Company First Sergeant for Company D, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, Task Force Strike at FOB Howz-e-Madad.



1SG Allen moved dismounted over 800 meters with an attached platoon from Attack Company in support of a mission to conduct ground battle damage assessment of a precision bomb strike site. During the movement, the Attack element sustained five heat casualties and was unable to utilize their two Gizmo mine detectors due to damage from the extreme temperatures. This both compromised the mission and resulted in the platoon not being able to conduct CASEVAC operations.

1SG Allen personally led a four man security element dismounted over 600 meters of un-cleared and IED laden terrain to reach the Thor 52 CASEVAC element. During his movement, he came under fire from multiple enemy positions and personally directed rotary wing aviation in order to suppress the enemy elements, allowing for the successful link-up with the CASEVAC element.



Upon reaching the CASEVAC element, 1SG Allen's security element was also on the verge of collapse. He therefore single-handedly led the CASEVAC element, moving in front of their formation along the hastily cleared path to the point of injury of the heat casualties. During the movement, he again began receiving effective small arms fire from the enemy and once again directed an attack weapons team to suppress the enemy fire. He successfully linked up with the CASEVAC element and began assessing casualties at the point of injury.



1SG Allen supervised the loading of all five patients into the CASEVAC vehicles for movement to higher level care and remained on site to supervise the platoon's exfil from the objective.

22 August 2010



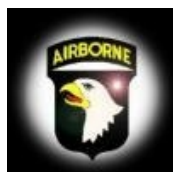
SPC Lorenzo Leon (B/1-320 FA) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when he heroically distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of the enemy of the United States as a Grenadier in Battery B, Combined Task Force Top Guns, Combined Task Force STRIKE, Kandahar, Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. His heroic actions on that day led to the protection of the newly established COP Babur and the destruction of an insurgent team.

A brief and violent firefight along a line of communication critical to friendly logistics in AO Bulls was initiated by a team of Taliban fighters in a fortified position. While conducting a populace focused development mission, the enemy force engaged the dismounted patrol with RPGs and heavy small arms fire. SPC Leon's squad was exposed and in imminent danger as they maneuvered to react to the enemy aggression. Under fire, SPC Leon bounded towards the enemy position while simultaneously engaging with a M320 40mm grenade launcher. His actions allowed the remainder of the squad and a machine gun team to maneuver to key terrain and ultimately achieve fire superiority over the Taliban fighters.

As the Taliban fighters retreated into nearby orchards, Close Combat Aviation arrived on station to provide observation and support by fire. SPC Leon assisted the platoon forward observer by accurately marking the enemy location again with his grenade launching system. With the target marked, the rotary wing assets positively identified the target and engaged destroying the Taliban threat.

***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 3d Battalions of the 502nd Infantry Regiment. With this reorganization, the Brigade adopted the regimental motto, "Strike."

