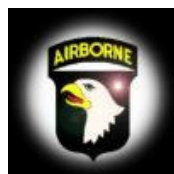




2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) "STRIKE HISTORY" 17 November – 23 November 2013



- 17 November 1968 Recon, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry departed Omaha to vic. YD6038, to establish blocking position. They were joined by 1 tank platoon and 1 PF platoon. Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry CA'd to vic. YD6040 and started sweeping towards the blocking force. At vic. YD6038, Recon killed 1 VC.
- 17 November 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** At 2055 Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry ambushed and killed one VC/NVA with AK-47.
- 18 November 1968 **Operation NAM HOA I** begins. The 2/501st Airborne, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne conducted this search and destroy operation with the 3d ARVN Regiment in Thua Thien Province. Casualties: Allies 6 KIA, 39 WIA; enemy 78 KIA.
- 18 November 1968 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry continued normal operations with negative contact. One of the tanks, OPCON to C/1-502, hit an AP mine with negative damage. Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry released Recon and tank platoon from OPCON and was lifted via "hook" to FSB Birmingham. They became OPCON to 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry.
- 18 November 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Charlie Company, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry returned from being OPCON to 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry and resumed security of Bridge 4 and local patrols and ambushes; Recon took responsibility of Bridge 3, while Bravo Company, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry moved to FSB Quick (YD905034) to secure the base for the Artillery in support of a 2d BDE operation.
- 19 November 1968 Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted security of An Lo Bridge. Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted RIF operation, vic. YD6321 with negative contact. Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry was OPCON to 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted security of FSB T-Bone (Pictured), with 1st Platoon to 1 PF company, conducted joint saturation patrols, vic. YD6724. Recon, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry destroyed 2 bouncing Betty mines and captured 4 VC, vic. YD6140.
- 19 November 1971 **Operation MONSOON DYNAMIC DEFENSE:** One highlight of the month was the formation of a security honor guard for OP Apollo. STRIKE Force troopers with a minimum of six months in the field were allowed to volunteer for the privilege of serving in the Honor Guard Platoon.



OP Apollo was defended completely by the Honor Guard. This event enabled LTC Snodgrass to employ all frontline companies in the field without the necessity of employing one as security for OP Apollo. This action provided an additional threat to the enemy's movement and infiltration through STRIKE Force's AO.

20 November 1968

Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted security of An LO Bridge, mine sweep and local patrols and ambushes, they found 1 bouncing betty mine, vic. YD6123 and destroyed in place. Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry found 2 250lb. bombs while conducting RIF operation, vic. YD6231, they destroyed it in place. Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry was OPCON to 2/501. Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted security of FSB T-Bone, with 1st Platoon of PF's was lifted by log bird to work jointly with Recon, vic. YD6040.

20 November 1968

Operation NEVADA EAGLE: Bravo Company, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry closed out Quick at 1200h; took security of Bridges of 1, 2, and 3 from Alpha Company and Recon who were moved to FSB Anzio and put on a 15 Minute stand-by alert for 2d BDE.



20 November 1971

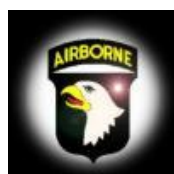
Operation MONSOON DYNAMIC DEFENSE: 2d Platoon, Bravo Company, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry engaged with automatic and small arms fire on an unknown size of enemy force. The platoon leaders utilized close in ambush training and directed his platoon to assault the ambush. The platoon quickly gained fire superiority and routed the enemy. ARA and Artillery were employed on the suspected enemy location with unknown results. (2-502 IN Unit History, 1971)

20 November 2007

1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry was awarded Meritorious Unit Commendation in support of military operations from October 1, 2005 – September 20, 2006. The battalion displayed exceptionally meritorious service while in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq. The unit's professionalism and dedication to the mission went beyond the call of duty and contributed greatly to the success of the mission.

20 November 2008

Strike BCT redeploys to Fort Campbell after serving 13 months in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09.



- 21 November 1968 Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry sent their 26 element to FSB Panther, OPCON to 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted RIF to FSB T-Bone and assumed security mission of T-Bone. Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry was OPCON to 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted RIF to vic. YD6418. Recon, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry killed 6 VC and captured 4 VC, 1 French MG, 2 AK47's, and 1 M-79, documents and ammo, vic. YD6630.
- 21 November 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Charlie Company, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry conducted a log bird CA to secure FSB Quick after releasing Bridge 4 to Recon. A VC turned himself in to Recon on Bridge 4; he was carrying an AK-47 w/2 Magazines; he agreed to take US units to his VC base in the hills southeast of Quick.
- 22 November 1968 Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry lifted from An Lo via "hook" to vic. YD7133. Recon, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry and Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, 36 element, security of An Lo Bridge. Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry received 2 platoons of PF's to assist in RIF operation, vic. YD6125.
- 23 November 1968 Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry found Battalion sized base camp, vic. YD6318, with 60 bunkers, 20% of which had overhead cover. The area looked like a platoon sized element had used the bunkers in the last 24 hours. Recon, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry and PF's captured 2 VC, vic. YD6630. One of them identified 12 VC supply personnel. They are being checked now.
- 23 November 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry followed the lead of VC that turned himself in on 21 November, but he got lost therefore negative results.
- 23 November 2004 311 MI BN awarded Meritorious Unit Commendation in support of military operations from March 20 – Sept. 20, 2003.

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 Silver Star Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 7 x Bronze Star Medal (7 x Posthumously)
- 23 x Purple Hearts (11 x Posthumously)
- 2 x Non-Hostile Illness or Injury

17 November 1944 PVT Harold R. Birchell (502d PIR) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death in Holland, France.

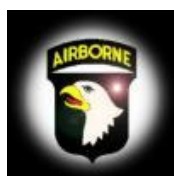
17 November 2010



SPC Justin Culbreth (D/1-187 IN), 26, of Colorado Springs, Colorado; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound received which resulted in his death when insurgents detonated an improvised explosive device near his dismounted patrol.

17 November 2010

SGT Nathan Gunkel (D/1-187 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when an insurgent attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.



19 November 1971 CPL Richard R. Lange (D/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from misadventure (Friendly Fire) in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

19 November 2005 SSG Travis Schweger (I/3-3 ACR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when an I-22 tank was struck by an IED, hitting the left side of the tank upon their movement back to FOB Falcon. SSG Schweger was thrown around in the TC's hatch which ultimately caused him to fall into the turret. He sustained minor injuries to his back and neck.

19 November 2005 SPC Mario Martinez (I/3-3 ACR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when an I-22 tank was struck by an IED, hitting the left side of the tank upon their movement back to FOB Falcon. SPC Martinez was thrown around in the loader's hatch and down into the turret causing him to sustain injuries to his back and to his neck.

20 November 1965 SP5 Jose W. Suarez (A/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty as a result of a gunshot wound in the abdomen received when accidentally shot by a guard while checking sentinels, in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.

20 November 1944 2LT Thomas J. Lillard (RHQ/502d PIR) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death. 2LT Lillard was reported as MIA in November 1944 and officially declared dead in 1946.

21 November 1972 PVT Rubert G. Humphreys (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received on 20 September 1970 which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket and mortar wounds in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

22 November 1970 CPL Roger L. Ritschard (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

22 November 2010



SSG Sean Flannery (A/2-502 IN), 29, of Wyomissing, Pennsylvania; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when insurgents detonated an improvised explosive device near his dismounted patrol.

22 November 2010

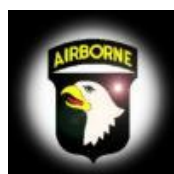


PFC William Middleton (A/2-502 IN), 26, of Norfolk, Virginia; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when insurgents detonated an improvised explosive device near his dismounted patrol.

22 November 2010



CSM Troy Henderson (HHC/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.



22 November 2010

The following Soldiers: SPC Jacob Moore, PFC Blaine Sullivan and PFC Michael Young (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when an insurgent attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

23 November 1967

CPT Robert L. Lee Jr. (HHC/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile injuries from a gunshot wound received when a pistol from another man was preparing to turn in accidentally discharged in the Ninh Thuan Province, South Vietnam.

23 November 2003



CSM Jerry L. Wilson (HHC/2BCT), 45, of Thomson, Georgia; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when hostile forces attack the vehicle in which he was riding in Mosul, Iraq.

23 November 2003



SPC Rel A. Ravago IV (1-502 IN), 21, of Glendale, California; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when hostile forces attack the vehicle in which he was riding in Mosul, Iraq.

23 November 2005



SSG Aram J. Bass, 25 (2-502 IN), of Niagara Falls, New York; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when his unit came under direct fire during combat operations in Baghdad.

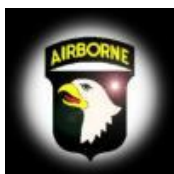
23 November 2005



SGT William B. Meeuwsen (2-502 IN), 24, of Kingwood, Texas; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when his unit came under direct fire during combat operations in Baghdad.

23 November 2005

1LT Matthew Ripka (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when he was conducting search and attack operations in zone 304. The platoon was operating in two elements, mounted and dismounted, with 1LT Ripka, the platoon leader, in the dismounted element. The dismounted element came under direct fire from AIF (reported to have been armed with a RPK machine gun) when 1LT Ripka moved into the house where the fire originated in order to destroy the enemy element. During contact, 1LT Ripka was wounded and the senior NCO assumed control of the dismounted element. When the NCO could not establish radio communication with the mounted element, he used a blue civilian truck to evacuate 1LT Ripka back to the mounted element. He loaded the wounded officer and the remainder of the dismounted



element into the truck and began moving back to the east. While en-route, the dismounted element received direct fire resulting in two Soldiers killed and two Soldiers along with an interpreter wounded.

23 November 2005

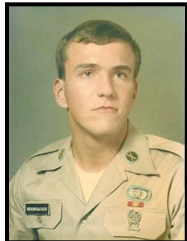
The following Soldiers: SPC Stefan Ray and PFC Jonathan Abels (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when they were wounded during a dismounted operations when received direct fire from a hostile force.

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

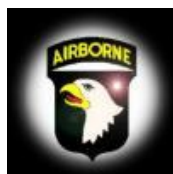
17 November 1968

CPT Paul F. Wertz (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 17 November 1968. Captain Wertz distinguished himself while serving as Company Commander of Company C, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, on a combat operation near the village of Phy Loc, Republic of Vietnam. The company, led by the First Platoon, was engaged in a large sweep designed to drive insurgents from fortified positions. As it moved out, the Third Platoon came under heavy enemy fire. Captain Wertz immediately moved forward from his rear position to the lead element of the platoon to assess the situation. After making his assessment, Captain Wertz again moved through the heavy automatic weapons fire to the Third Platoon and personally directed its movement. Despite the heavy fire and with complete disregard for his own welfare, Captain Wertz again moved with the forward element of the platoon in order to effectively control the flanking attack on the enemy. Through informants captured during the sweep, it was determined that an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Regulars waited to ambush the company. Because of the enemy's numerical superiority and proximity, Captain Wertz chose to withdraw in order to call in effective artillery fire. Captain Wertz personally directed all elements of the company in an orderly withdrawal and in spite of the heavy enemy fire, remained in place until assured that all elements of the company had withdrawn. Captain Wertz'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 November 1968



SP4 Arthur J. Heringhausen Jr. (F/58 LRP) (Official Records Show he was Assigned to B/1-502 IN at time of Death); was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 November 1968. Specialist Four Heringhausen distinguished himself while serving as a member of a Long Range Patrol on combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 1130 hours, the twelve man team heard voices of an approaching North Vietnamese unit and immediately set up an ambush. As the enemy moved into the kill zone the ambush was sprung, and Specialist Heringhausen poured a steady volume of M-16 fire into the area. The result of this action by the team was a body count of nine enemy killed with no friendly casualties. After this action the team moved 110 meters away for concealment, and the decision was made to extract the team. As the first man moved toward the pick-up zone he was seriously wounded by enemy automatic weapons fire. Specialist Heringhausen immediately laid down a heavy volume of suppressive fire, so that the injured man could be pulled back into the hastily established perimeter. In doing so, Specialist Heringhausen continuously exposed himself to the enemy fire by firing from a kneeling position in order to make his fire more effective. As a medical evacuation helicopter arrived and was pulling the wounded man through the thick jungle canopy on a jungle penetrator, the enemy attacked with an estimated platoon sized element. Again with complete disregard for his own safety, Specialist Heringhausen knelt in an exposed position to deliver automatic fire until the enemy assault was broken. Just as the enemy was retreating, a large Chinese Communist Claymore Mine exploded sending fragments into his body, killing him instantly. Through his valorous efforts the lives of many of his fellow soldiers were saved, and heavy casualties were inflicted upon the enemy. Specialist Four Heringhausen'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.



22 November 2010



The following Soldiers: SPC Keith Chumley (A/2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor and Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received; and SPC Adam Broel (A/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor when they distinguished themselves with heroism, valor, and exceptionally meritorious service with 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment during an enemy IED strike during Operation Nolensville.

3rd platoon, A/2-502 IN, was clearing compounds of interest in order to remove insurgent war fighting material from the battlefield during Operation Nolensville. The previous day, 3rd platoon had found and reduced a large cache and assessed there were more IEDs and IED components in the immediate area. An Afghan National Army soldier in 3rd platoon's partnered force struck a PPIED as the lead squad cleared up to the building, a grape hut on the operational grid reference graphic.

SPC Chumley, the company medic, on the patrol with 3rd platoon, was located within 30 meters of where the IED detonated. Despite the large possibility of a secondary IED he raced forward, with complete disregard for his own safety, to save SGT Rasak, the ANA platoon sergeant. SPC Chumley rapidly evaluated and treated SGT Rasak with the assistance of Eagle First Responders from the platoon. SPC Chumley was able to stabilize SGT Rasak who suffered multiple lacerations to the body and face and was a double amputee. Simultaneous to attending to the casualties SPC Chumley ensured the information required for the 13-line MEDEVAC was reported accurately.

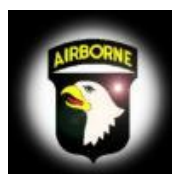


The platoon assembled their primary aid and litter team and under the direction of SPC Chumley began to move the casualty to an established HLZ. A second IED detonated on the aid and litter team causing six additional casualties, SPC Chumley was knocked down from the blast and received multiple lacerations to his legs, body and face. SPC Chumley, disoriented from the blast, was desperately attempting to get up and treat the other casualties. SPC Broel, 3rd platoon's medic, raced forward with complete disregard for his personal safety knowing the possibility of additional IEDs over the 100 meters of distance between the two elements.

SPC Broel arrived at the blast site and took complete control of the situation. He deliberately assessed all six casualties and assigned Eagle First Responders to each one with a specific task. Moving from wounded Soldier to Soldier he remained focused despite the immense nature of the event. His courage and leadership throughout the triage and evacuation process helped to calm the platoon.

SPC Broel provided SPC Chumley, the company medic, with a shot of morphine and encouraged him to help attend to other casualties. He attended to and saved the life of PFC Sullivan who was critically wounded with multiple lacerations across his entire body. He accurately passed the required information to SFC Kehn in order to provide the flight medics with as much information as possible. SPC Chumley immediately regained his situational awareness and moved directly to CPL Middleton in an effort to save his life.

SPC Chumley actions during the complex IED and ability to handle such an immense mass casualty event is a credit to his own courage and dedication. SPC Chumley disregard for his own injuries resulted in other Soldiers receiving lifesaving care. SPC Broel provided lifesaving care to the wounded Soldiers of 3rd platoon. His leadership during the complex IED attack and ability to handle such an immense mass casualty event is a credit to his own valor and dedication to his platoon.



***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 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."

