



2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT)  
“STRIKE HISTORY”  
18 May – 24 May 2014



18 May 1967

**Operation MALHEUR:** 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry contacted an estimated Battalion sized force (BS710310) armed with numerous automatic weapons and machine guns. The contact was characterized by many small engagements in a two-square kilometer area with friendly and enemy personnel intermingled. The enemy defended from numerous spider holes and fortified positions scattered throughout the area of contact. Artillery and TAC Air supported. Contact lasted six hours and resulted in 12 US KHA, 41 US WHA, 31 VC KIA (C) and 12 individual weapons, 1 machine gun and 1 flamethrower captured. Based on the continued contacts with this Regiment, Regimental strength is probably about 800-900 personnel, with Battalions at a strength of approximately 200. The 2<sup>nd</sup> VC Regiment is believed to be located southeast of the Tactical Area of Responsibility, vicinity BS 7728 and BS 8044.

18 May 1968

Paratroopers of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigades and 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division initiated Operation Nevada Eagle in northern I Corps. It was designed to deny all NVA and Viet Cong forces operating in the area the ability to capture the ripening rice crop growing in the rich coastal plain north and south of Hue.

18 May 1968

OPERATION NEVADA EAGLE begins to protect the rice harvest and deny the NVA/VC access to it. Before its completion, 2nd Brigade will have destroyed the 803rd Regiment of the 324B North Vietnamese Army Division.

18-19 May 1968

1-502 IN BN had light contact, received 2 WIA from Snipers.

18 May 1969

**Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** The day was punctuated with a series of sharp clashes as enemy activity increased in the AO. At 0700H, B/3-16 Artillery engaged and enemy force at BT131163 resulting in 6 NVA KIA; the battery was firing in support of the TIEN PHUOC Popular Forces. At 0710H, B/1-501, vic. BT162123, engaged a single NVA who fled; the unit pursued and captured the wounded enemy who later died. At 1127H, C/1-501, vic. BT152123, began to receive heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from a well dug-in and bunkered enemy. The element employed artillery and ARA and maneuvered against the enemy throughout the day. That afternoon the enemy position was over-ran, resulting in 8 NVA KIA and 9 IWC. C/1-501 sustained 3 KIA and 1 WIA in the bitter day-long fight. At 1240H, B/1-501, vic. BT178112, again received 82mm mortar fire, resulting in 4 US KIA, including the company commander, and 6 US WIA. At 1605H C/1-501 vic. BT163124, observed four enemy Soldiers; the element employed artillery accounting for 4 NVA KIA and 1 Weapon captured. At 1735H, B/2-17 CAV vic. BT190117 engaged an enemy mortar position with 40mm fire, resulting in 4 NVA KIA. Throughout the day, the enemy resisted the 1-501 in its movement to the south. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U) 15SEPT1969)

18 May 1969

By D+7 of the Battle for Ap Bia Mountain, the 3-187th Inf had been reinforced with the 1-506th and 2-501st IN BN and an ARVN Bn from the 3rd ARVN Regt. These forces were posted around Hill 937 to seal it off. The Hill had been pounded for 36 straight hours by artillery and air strikes that followed all the other bombardments since the battle began. Two Battalions, the 3-187th and 2-501st, attacked the NVA and by mid-afternoon some platoons had reached the summit but a thunderstorm drenched the hill. Visibility dropped to zero and the mud made for difficult going so the fourth withdrawal was ordered.



18 May 1969

A Shau Valley, Vietnam: A quartet of U.S. 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division troops keep low as they rush a stretcher-borne wounded comrade to a medical aid station during the Battle for Hamburger Hill. (Image by Bettmann/CORBIS)



18 May 1969

**Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** On the morning of May 18, Bravo Company, 1/501st Infantry began to climb Hill 187, north of LZ Professional. As the third platoon reached the summit, several enemy mortar rounds rained down. As the remainder of the company, joined by recon and mortar platoons, reached the top, a command post was established. Soon thereafter, enemy mortar crews had the CP bracketed. One round fell on each side and a third directly hit the CP. The company commander, Capt. John C. Pape, and the senior medic, Spec 4 Russell Lane Jett, were killed in the blast, while the commander's RTO and five others were wounded. Mortar rounds continued to fall on Hill 187 until late afternoon, eventually killing four men and wounding 18.

Shortly after Bravo came under siege, Charlie Company began receiving intense small-arms and machine-gun fire while following a trail north of Hill 187. The first and third platoons tried an assault on enemy positions atop a small hill. The second platoon was defending the company CP and also engaged with the enemy. The assault on the little hill failed; the men pulled back. There were wounded, and ammo and water were running low. It became essential to secure the area so that a resupply helicopter and medevac could come in.

Shortly after the men pulled back, a flight of Douglas A-1E Skyraiders, or "spades," rolled in and passed directly overhead, dropping 500-pound bombs onto the enemy position. Charlie Company eventually secured the hilltop, and the dead, one seriously wounded, and heat casualties were evacuated.

As the men began to dig in for the night, they surveyed the surreal scene around them. Melted napalm hung from splintered, blackened vegetation. Tree stumps smoldered. Bomb fragments—ugly jagged chunks of steel—littered the landscape. The stiffening bodies of dead NVA soldiers lay close by. The air smelled of combat and death. The men of Charlie Company would call this hill Ghost Mountain. (Bitter Fighting In Quang Tin, Roger Ables)

18 May 1971 –  
31 May 1971

**Operation LAM SON 720:** A/2-502 IN discovers and old bunker complex and approximately 300 pounds of printing type. Delta and Echo (-) combat assaulted into an area in the vicinity of FB Veghel. D Company moved onto and secured FB Veghel while the remaining elements of the Battalion conducted "Search and Clear" missions three to five kilometers south of FB Veghel. Prior to the Battalions assault into this AO, a unit of Vietnamese Marines had



been operating in this area and had numerous enemy contacts. From the sum of intelligence collected, it was concluded that the NVA had a major base of operations located east of the Song Bo River. The Battalion's mission was to move into the area forcing this base west of the Song Bo, at which time B-52 strikes, FAC airstrikes, and artillery would be dropped on their suspected location. While the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Regiment was heavily engaged with the 6<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment west of the Song Bo River and south of route 547, the "Always First" Brigade moved to secure their eastern flank. Echo Company, 2-502nd Infantry secured Dong A Vo mountain while Alpha and Bravo attacked south with extensive fire support. Charlie joined in the final assault on Hill 608. This operation turned out to be a true infantry ground attack.

The combat assaults of the Vietnamese Marines and elements of the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division into the known location of the 6<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment around FB Veghel was heartening to the Strike Force troopers. While the battalion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division were deployed along a line north and east of FB Veghel, the South Vietnamese Marines and the Army units struck deep into the 6<sup>th</sup> NVA territory. This was the first time that American units has passed by Vietnamese units in pursuit of the enemy. The combined operation with the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Regiment at FB Veghel was a perfect example of this. While the Battalion was securing their artillery and headquarters of FB Veghel, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Regiment attacked the 6<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment at Dong A Tay Mountain.

Having completed the operation south of FB Veghel (Vic 5502), companies A, C, D, and E (-) CA'd into the AO north of FB Veghel while B Company continued to secure firebases. (Unit History 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry)

- 18 May 2010                    2nd Brigade Combat Team cases the Brigade and Regimental colors in preparation for deployment to Afghanistan.
- 19 May 1967                    **Operation MALHEUR:** Light contact by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (C), Four light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 3 US WHA and 3 VC KIA (C). Four light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 2 US WHA, 2 VC KIA (C) and 1 individual weapon captured. A contact by the Long Range Reconnaissance Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division resulted in 1 US KHA and 5 US WHA. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/JS/32)
- 19-21 May 1968                1-501 cordons Thon Lang and Xa Nau resulting in 65 NVA/ VC KIA and 2 NVA/VC PWs.
- 19 May 1969                    Activity lessoned in the AO as the 1-501 continued to push south toward LZ Professional.
- 19 May 1969                    **Operations VIC DONG AP BIA – Hill 937:** In the morning, with the 1-506<sup>th</sup> Inf on the south and the 3-187<sup>th</sup> Inf on the north, the enemy positions were subjected to continuous artillery and TAC fires. The 2-501<sup>st</sup> Inf and the 2/3rd ARVN were alerted to prepare to assist in the final sweep of the enemy's fortified positions surrounding the entire ridge line. By late afternoon an additional 175 enemy bodies had been accounted for.
- 19 May 1969                    **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** The 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry entered the action on May 19 when they established a command post at Hau Duc. Meanwhile, their infantry companies and recon and mortar platoons conducted combat assaults by helicopter west of Professional and southeast of Tien Phuoc. The object was to seize the high ground surrounding Professional, and take the pressure off of the firebase and district headquarters at Tien Phuoc. (Bitter Fighting In Quang Tin, Roger Ables)
- 19 May 1970                    **Operation TEXAS STAR:** D/2-502 had been extracted from south of Hill 882 and was given the mission of screening north of FSB Veghel. While moving to the east, A/2-502 received fire from a small enemy delaying force. C/2-502 moving to the west to effect a link-up with A Company encountered a small enemy force also acting as a delaying



force. The enemy quickly disengaged from contact. One US Soldier was killed, while no enemy bodies could be found.

- 19 May 2006 A/2-101 destroys the Durbin Bridge to prevent AIF from using the Durbin Bridge as a vehicular crossing point, to make the Bridge un-repairable so that forces are not required to provide over watch.
- 20 May 1967 **Operation MALHEUR:** Two contacts by the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 3 VC KIA (C) and 9 VC KIA (P). A light contact by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (C). Two light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 3 VC KIA (C) and 1 individual weapon captured. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32))
- 20 May 1968 As part of Operation NEVADA EAGLE, B/1/501st Airborne, C/2/501st Airborne, D/1/502nd Airborne, 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division engage an estimated NVA company while conducting a cordon and search of Dong Gi Tay, five miles east of Hue. Casualties: US 12 WIA; enemy 62 KIA.
- 20 – 21 May 1968 Reacting to intelligence reports which indicated increased enemy activity in village of Dong Gi Tay, 8km east of Hue (YD8321), B/1-501 conducted RIF operations to determine the exact location of the enemy. While moving north, B/1-501 engaged an estimated company. Companies A/1-501, C/2-501, and D/1-502 conducted a combat assault into the battle area and quickly formed a cordon around the enemy. B/1-501 was supported by 13 air strikes and 8", 155mm and 105mm artillery fires while exchanging SA/SW fire with the enemy. During 20 May the companies killed 57 enemy and captured 20 weapons. Throughout the night 20-21 May, artillery illumination was provided and at day-break, after silencing mortar fire inside the cordon, B/1-501 and D/1-502 swept through the village. The results of the cordon operation which terminated at 211700MAY68 were: 12 US WIA, 62 NVA KIA, 2 NVA POW, 42 IWC, and 4 CSWC. (Operation Report, Lessons Learned, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM); 26 December 1968)
- 20-21 May 1968 1-502 IN continued the RIF operations and security mission of An Lo and QL #1. During these two days only light contact was made. Results: Friendly: 1 WIA; Enemy: 4 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC WIA (Escaped). Delta Company while conducting the road sweep from An Lo to Evans spotted a mine but before they could remove it a civilian bus ran over it. Results: No injuries, bus heavily damaged.
- 20 May 1969 **Operations Vic Dong Ap Bia – Hill 937:** 4 Battalions executed a coordinated assault on Hill 937. The 3-187<sup>th</sup> Inf, with A/2-506<sup>th</sup> Inf attached, assaulted the hill from the north; 1-506<sup>th</sup> Inf from the south and southwest; the 2/3rd ARVN from the southeast; and the 2-501<sup>st</sup> Inf from the northeast. The 3-187<sup>th</sup> swept up the hill from the north, while the 1-506<sup>th</sup> and 2-501<sup>st</sup> blocked possible routes of escape. The 2/3rd ARVN moved onto Hill 937 from the south. By 1200 hours Battalion objectives on the Dong AP BIA Ridge were taken. The determined enemy resistance disintegrated as friendly forces overran enemy positions resulting in total body count for 20 May was 109.
- 20 May 1969 **Operations Vic Dong Ap Bia – Hill 937:** Allied forces swept over the hill to check the enemy base area in detail. After ten days of hard fighting the 3-197<sup>th</sup> Infantry had earned a well-deserved rest and returned to the coastal plains. The 1-506<sup>th</sup> Inf secured the abandoned enemy positions while the 2-501<sup>st</sup> Inf conducted RIF operations to the west. The 2/3rd ARVN conducted RIF operations to the east. Friendly reconnaissance of the area encountered only isolated and sporadic resistance. An additional 59 enemy killed were discovered and 89 weapons were captured.
- 20 May 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** The Recon Platoon, attached to A/2-502 IN, assumed the point role on the sweep to the east on the morning of 20 May. At 1130 hours on this morning, contact with the enemy was again established. The Recon Platoon began receiving hostile fire on three sides from RPG's, machine guns, and small arms fire. The



enemy attempted to cut off the Recon Platoon from Company A. The 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon of A Company reinforced the Recon Platoon and the combined forces assaulted the enemy positions. A heavy volume of fire was laid down by both sides. The enemy platoon was retreated after an hour, and although many blood trails were found, only one enemy body was left behind. The Recon Platoon sustained three casualties. C Company continued to move toward link up.

21 May 1967

**Operation Malheur:** Two light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 3 VC KIA (C), and 1 individual weapon and 1 machine gun captured. Three light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 4 VC KIA. (C) and 1 individual weapon captured. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32)

21 May 1969

Brigade elements engaged in heavy contact as the 1-501 fought a day long struggle against a determined, well dug-in enemy. At 0500H, C/1-501, vic. BT164115, detected movement outside an NDP and engaged the suspected enemy with M-79 and hand grenades. A first light sweep disclosed 2 VC KIA. At 0642H, B/1-501, vic. BT165108, received intensive small arms and heavy machinegun fire from an enemy force of unknown size. The ensuing contact continued throughout the day. Charlie, Delta Company and Recon/1-501, vic. BT165105, observed 4 NVA with a 12.7mm HMG and engaged the enemy position. At 1000H, D/1-501 joined the bitter fighting by engaging an enemy force in the area. The fighting continued throughout the day as the enemy tenaciously defended from steel-reinforced concrete bunkers. Tactical air, artillery, and Air Cav support was used throughout the fighting, but the ground units remained locked in close combat throughout the afternoon. As the elements disengaged, the enemy left 25 KIA on the battlefield with the 1-501 suffering 12 KIA and 46 WIA in the fight. Contact was scattered elsewhere in the AO as the ground elements began to uncover mute evidence of the effectiveness of the intensive air and artillery strikes throughout the AO. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U) 15SEPT1969)

21 May 1969

**Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** Contact with the enemy was generally light and sporadic until May 21 when 1/501 units, northeast of Hill 187, made contact in the early morning. Fighting continued throughout the day as two companies and the recon platoon were ambushed. The fighting was concentrated around a small hill where the enemy occupied well-concealed spider holes, trenches, and steel-reinforced concrete bunkers.

By mid-afternoon, Delta Company was scattered south and east of the hill. They were badly shot up and pinned down by heavy enemy fire. Worse, the location of one of their platoons was unknown. Recon also was hurting after losing its platoon leader, platoon sergeant, and several other men, leaving a Spec 4 rifleman in command. Bravo assaulted the enemy hill position from the northeast and sustained many casualties. They collected the dead and wounded, and set up a CP and aid station.

Charlie Company, in reserve, was ordered to assault the hill late that afternoon. The third platoon stood up on line, shoulder-to-shoulder, and before the command to charge could be given, the enemy opened fire. Immediately, second platoon was ordered into the fight and the two platoons charged across a rice paddy toward the hill. Several men fell wounded in the paddy, and more at the base of the hill as from above, the enemy fired mortar, machine gun, and rocket-propelled grenades. As the men leaped over a stone wall and began to advance up the hill, the first platoon and company CP also came under attack. The enemy tried to encircle them.

Murderous fire brought down several more of Charlie Company's men. But using grenades and fire and maneuver, they reached a second stone wall. Then they were fired on from every direction. Enemy soldiers wearing grass and tree limbs as camouflage rose up from spider holes and trenches and charged from behind. The fighting became very close, often hand-to-hand.



There were many acts of personal courage. After taking out several enemy bunkers with light anti-tank weapons and spraying rifle and machine-gun fire into the trees where enemy soldiers had tied themselves with ropes, the 101st moved further up the hill toward a third stone wall, behind which there was a continuous line of spider holes interconnected by tunnels. To the left and right, behind the wall, were bunker and tunnel complexes. Each time a bunker was taken out, more enemy soldiers crawled through the connecting tunnels and trenches, pulled their dead away, and replaced them in the firing positions.

The beleaguered grunts finally fought their way to the top of the hill and destroyed the last of the enemy bunkers. They were exhausted, nearly out of ammo and water, and without radio contact with the CP. The two platoon leaders, 1LT Don Gourley and 1LT Dan O'Neill, made the decision to recover their wounded and withdraw from the hill. After getting the wounded off the hill, Gourley led a group back up the hill to recover the dead, but the tactical situation prevented their recovery efforts. Only with the help of guys from Bravo's third platoon were they able to police up their weapons and equipment, and get their wounded to a makeshift assembly area and aid station. Helicopters, under enemy fire, took out the wounded well into the night. Evacuation of the remaining wounded and recovery of the dead were the priorities the next morning. During the day's fighting, the 1/501st had 12 men killed in action and 49 wounded.

Over the next dozen days, the enemy stalked the 101st units with well-placed mortar and sniper fire. Aircraft losses continued steadily. During this period, 18 men were killed and 54 were wounded. A 24-hour cease-fire was declared for May 30, Buddha's birthday. (Bitter Fighting In Quang Tin, Roger Ables)

- 21 May 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** In the morning a white team and pink team were employed to scout the gap between A/2-502 and C/2-502. The white team bird took several hits from enemy positions east of A Company, forcing it to land. The pink team LOH was also hit by enemy fire and forced to land. The bird had to be extracted, but there were negative casualties. At 1900, Alpha and Charlie Companies were linked up.
- 22 May 1967 **Operation Malheur:** The 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry apprehended 6 detainees. In three different locations the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry discovered the bodies of 8 VC, killed by gunshots and fragments. One light contact by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (C). (Combat Operation Action Report, Operation Malheur (MACV/RCS/J3/32)
- 22 May 1968 B/1-502 IN while on a RIF vic. 694305 received fire from the village. After returning fire and artillery, they swept the area and found 2 NVA KIA (BC) and captured 5 NVA/VC POW's in their bunkers. Delta fired artillery on suspected enemy positions then swept thru the area and found 3 VC KIA and 1 NVA KIA. Results: Enemy: 3 NVA KIA (BC), 5 POW.
- 22 May 1969 Moderate enemy activity continued in the AO as scattered contacts of varying intensity ground and air were reported. At 0530H, D/1-501, vic. BT162106, engaged and killed an NVA soldier moving outside the NDP. At 0850H, Recon/1-501, vic. BT141052, captured one VC attempting to hide in a trench. At 0925H, B/1-502, vic. BT141502, received small arms fire, resulting in 1 US WIA; the element returned fire. At 1100H, B/1-502, vic. BT 136059, received machine gun fire from a concealed position, resulting in 1 US KIA; the elements returned fire, but they enemy broke contact. At 1315H, B/1-502, vic. BT140046, found the remains of 5 NVA killed by an airstrike conducted the previous day. At 1407H, vic. BT165110, found the body of one NVA who had been killed in an earlier skirmish. At 1455 and 1457, two Brigade aircraft were hit by ground fire; a LOH from 2-320 Arty was hit vic. BT215161 and a UH1H C&C ship of 1-501 was hit vic. BT165110 with a total of 3 US WIA. At 1910H, B/1-501, vic. BT162109, observed 2 NVA in an open field; engaged the enemy with M-79 fire, killing one. At 2018H, Recon/1-501, vic. BT128068, observed a small enemy force and engaged them



with small arms, accounting for 2 NVA KIA. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U) 15SEPT1969)

- 22 - 24 May 1969 **Operations Vic Dong Ap Bia – Hill 937:** Operations cost the enemy a total of 630 NVA KIA. In addition to these confirmed casualties, a PW captured during the operations indicated that 80% of the units in his area were casualties. The 2-501<sup>st</sup> Inf and the 2/3rd ARVN continued search operations in the vicinity of Hill 937, accounting for 77 NVA killed and 3 crew served weapons captured. The search operation continued on the 23rd of May with 1-506<sup>th</sup> Inf finding 10 more NVA bodies and the 2-501<sup>st</sup> Inf finding 3 bodies. On 24 May the 1-506<sup>th</sup> Inf discovered 51 individual weapons and the 2-501<sup>st</sup> Inf found 1 NVA KIA.
- 22 May 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Artillery was employed against the known enemy bunkers, utilizing 8", 105 and 155mm artillery batteries.
- 23 May 1967 **Operation Malheur:** Four light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 4 VC KIA (C), 49 detainees and 1 individual weapon, 5 rounds 57mm recoilless rifle ammunition and 5 81mm mortar rounds captured. One light contact by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 2 VC KIA (C).
- 23-25 May 1968 1-502 IN Battalion made light contact throughout the period while conducting RIF and security missions throughout the AO. Results: Enemy: 1 WIA BBT, 8 VC KIA (BC).
- 23 May 1969 All units continued RIF operations in the area and contact continued as the sweeping forces ferreted out small enemy forces. At 0850H, a logistics aircraft for 1-501, vic. BT163108, received small arms fire which wounded one crewman. At 1100H, B/1-501, vic. BT163108, engaged an enemy force hidden in bunkers; the unit employed small arms fire and tactical air, resulting in 1 NVA KIA and 1 US WIA. At 1115H, Recon/1-502, vic. BT125054, captured 1 NVA soldier and discovered the remains of 1 VC killed by an earlier airstrike. At 1353H, B/1-501, vic. BT161111, received unknown caliber mortar fire and M-79 fire, resulting in 3 US KIA and 7 US WIA; the element returned fire and negative assessment. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U) 15SEPT1969)
- 23 May 1969 On this morning in the vicinity of YC320988, Delta Company 2-501 Inf was conducting a RIF operation in its assigned AO. As the lead element began to move to high ground in the vicinity of the coordinates above, they encountered a heavy volume of small arms, RPG, satchel charges, and grenade fire. Gunships from a cavalry team and artillery were immediately employed and Delta Company moved in to search the area. This search of the immediate area indicated a dug-in platoon size position with 3 NVA KIA (BC). Friendly casualties were 1 US KIA and 8 US WIA. Terrain was typical of the entire AO, the low ground had heavy underbrush with patches of trees and small streams running throughout the area. The high ground was covered with double and triple jungle canopy. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation Apache Snow, 22 June 1969)
- 23 May 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** At first light the sweep of the bunker complex began from the Artillery fire on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. A/2-502 reinforced C/2-502 and swept across the complex with no resistance. The artillery had successfully eliminated this enemy force. A Complex of 20 bunkers and 12 hooches were secured and the bodies of twelve enemy were uncovered from the rubble. Mortar rounds, small arms ammo, RPG rounds and assorted documents were discovered in the complex area.
- 24 May 1967 **Operation Malheur:** Eight light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 4 US WHA, 3 VC KIA (C), 14 detainees and 1 individual weapon captured. Three light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), I 327th Infantry resulted in 6 VC KIA (C). Companies A and C, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry conducted airmobile extractions to CARENTAN Base. Two light contacts by the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry resulted in 2 VC KIA (C) and 1 individual weapon captured.



A gravel mine was activated at a firing position of the 2nd Battalion (Airborne) 32th Artillery resulting in I US WHA.

24 May 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** First major contact was made by C/1-508 Inf, 3/82nd ABN Div during its RIF to the south of FSB STRIKE. It engaged an estimated NVA company, possibly guarding the 90<sup>th</sup> NVA Regt. HQs resulting in 2 NHA including the Commander of C/1-508 IN. After several attempts had been made to retrieve their MHA's C/1-508 was assisted by B/2-502 IN finally retrieving their MHA's. A and C CO were reoriented to conduct RIF along ridgelines running generally N-S. A CO ran into an estimated NVA platoon during this time.

24 May 1969

Activity decreased in the AO with only three minor contacts being reported. At 0830H, a Brigade LOH reconnaissance team, vic. BT138068, engaged 3 VC with ARA support, accounting for 3 VC KIA. At 1425H, B/1-501, vic. BT158112, had 1 US KIA by small arms fire from an undetermined size enemy force. At 1615H, B/1-501, vic. BT154106, again received small arms fire, resulting in 1 US KIA and 2 US WIA; the unit returned fire with negative assessment. (Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U) 15SEPT1969)

24 May 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** The final police of the area was completed and STRIKE Force Battalion relocated its forces in a new AO east of the Song Bo River.

**During this week, in the span of 72 years since the 502<sup>nd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment originated in July 1941 as the 502<sup>nd</sup> 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<sup>nd</sup> IN Regiment.**

- 2 x Medal of Honor (1 x Posthumously)
- 6 x Distinguished Service Cross
- 29 x Silver Star Medal (7 x Posthumously)
- 3 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 2 x Bronze Star Medal (2 x Posthumously)
- 83 x Purple Heart (56 x Posthumously)
- 3 x Army Commendation Medal
- 4 x Non-hostile injury or illness

18 May 1967

The following Soldiers: SGT Leon Thornton (Pictured) (A/2-502 IN); SFC Oliver A. Ware, CPL William C. Freund (Pictured), SP4 John W. Hudgens, SP4 Willie R. Griffith (Pictured), PFC Calvin L. Taylor, PFC Alvin R. Spider (Pictured) (B/2-502 IN); SP4 Stanley M. Jamrozy (Pictured) (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds on Hill 424 near Duc Pho, in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam. (Pictured L-R)



18 May 1967

The following Soldiers: SSG Roy D. Chitwood (Pictured) (HHC/2-502 IN); CPL Coil Edmond Jr., CPL Florentino C. Barron (Pictured) (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds on Hill 424 near Duc Pho, in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam.



18 May 1967



PFC Philip J. Olofson (B/2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds on Hill 424 near Duc Pho, in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam.

18 May 1968

SP4 Charles B. Mason (D/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 May 1969

The following Soldiers: CPL Paul H. Ga Nun (Doc Nun) (Pictured), SP5 Hans L. Mills (HHC/1- 501); CPT John C. Pape (Pictured) , SP4 Lincoln E. Bundy (Pictured) (B/1-501 IN); PFC Rudolph Rossi (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds in the vicinity of hill 187, 6 KM E-SE of Tien Phuoc, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



18 May 1969

The following Soldiers: Russell L. Jett (HHC/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the vicinity of hill 187, 6 KM E-SE of Tien Phuoc, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.

18 May 1969



PFC John M. Voomerhausen Jr. (C/1-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the vicinity of hill 187, 6 KM E-SE of Tien Phuoc, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.



18 May 2006

The following Soldiers: SPC David Radzik (B/2-502 IN); SSG Jonathan Ivory (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received as a result of enemy or hostile actions.

19 May 1967



SP4 Dale E. Wayrynen (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds on Hill 424 near Duc Pho, in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam.

19 May 1968

1LT Roger G. Stallard (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in combat in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (General Orders Number 240; 10 January 1969)

19 May 1968



SGT Eugene M. Sutton Jr. (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from mortar wounds in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 May 1970



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

19 May 2006

SGT Christopher Flores (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received as a result of enemy or hostile action.

20 May 1968



SGT Michael Gillard (D/2-501 IN) died from injuries received when a fire truck pinned him to a bridge he was guarding in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

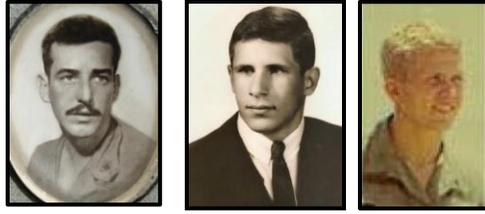
20 May 1970

The following Soldiers: SGT Ralph T. Mueller (A/1-501 IN); SSG Tony R. Ward, CPL Roy L. Carter (A/2-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



20 May 1970

The following Soldiers: SGT Gary W. Gear, CPL John A. Claggett, and CPL Robert E. Cain (E/2-502 IN Recon Platoon) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously). These Soldiers died from multiple fragmentation wounds on Hill 882, NW of FSB Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



21 May 1968

The following Soldiers: SSG Richard A. Paquette and SGT John B. Pond Sr. (C/1-501 IN); SP4 Paul W. Garnine (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wound received during actions in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st Air CAV DIV; General Order Number 4616)

21 May 1968

The following Soldiers: PFC Michael F. Deeny III (Pictured) (A/2-502 IN); SP4 James Johnson Jr., PFC Leonard D. McGinnis, PFC Charles E. Walthall (Pictured) (B/2-502 IN); SGT Billie R. Acree (Pictured), SGT Charles P. Brown (Pictured), CPL Larry M. Gross (C/2-502 IN); PFC Vincent J. Caravello (Pictured) (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds at Camp Eagle 7km SSE of Hue on RT 546, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)

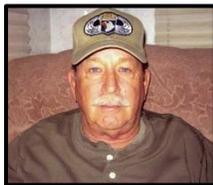


21 May 1968



The following Soldiers: 2LT John P. Brown (Pictured) and SSG Jerry E. Spicer (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds at Camp Eagle 7km SSE of Hue on RT 546, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

21 May 1969



The following Soldiers: SP4 Richard F. Sengo, SP4 Robert H. Anderson Jr., PFC Walen R. Sumrow (B/1-501 IN); 1LT Valentine J. Zapert (Pictured), SP4 Roy E. Huckaby, SP4 Gary W. Elliott, PFC Rickey L. Larsen, and PFC Henry F. Ybarra (C/1-501 IN); 1LT Ronald L. Black, SP4 Gerard P. Winka, SP4 Kenneth L. Bowles, SP4 Robert E. Ross, PFC Thomas J. Smith, PFC Paul DiGerolamo (D/1-501 IN); PFC Richard L. Costerisan (E/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 7673)



21 May 1969

The following Soldiers: PFC Edison R. Phillips (Pictured) (B/1-501); CPL Patrick R. Diehl, PFC Lee A. Napier, PFC Louis E. Fenceroy, PFC Thomas P. Jackson Jr. (Pictured) (C/1-501 IN); SFC Pedro A. Rios (Pictured), SGT LC Carter, CPL Michael M. Hatzell (Pictured), SP4 Keith N. Starnes Jr., SP4 Edward J. Hogan, (Pictured), SP4 Charles E. Hawkins Jr. (Pictured), PFC James I. Sanford (Pictured) (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the vicinity of hill 270, 6 KM E-SE of Tien Phuoc, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R, Top - Bottom)



21 May 1970



SGT Larry J. Kirkland (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds while he was returning to a night defensive position when he was mistaken for a hostile force and fired upon by friendly force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

21 May 2010

PV2 Walter Taylor Jr. (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.

21 May 2010

PFC Daniel Hughes (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with a rocket propelled grenade.

22 May 1969

The following Soldiers: SSG Kenneth E. Buesing and SP4 John P. Sansone (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in action in combat. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order Number 7032)

22 May 1969



PFC Errol W. Perreira (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.



22 May 1971



SGT Armando M. Zepeda (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Ta Trang River Valley 14 KM North of Ruong, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

22 May 2006

PV2 Calvin Davis Jr. (B/1-22 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received as a result of enemy or hostile actions.

23 May 1969

The following Soldiers: SP4 Roy C. Newsome (B/1-501 IN); CPL Robert L. Boese (E/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds 5 KM E-SE of Tien Phuoc, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



23 May 1969



PFC Robert J. Randall Jr. (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds 5 KM E-SE of Tien Phuoc, in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.

24 May 1968

1LT Michael L. Deane (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds at Camp Eagle 7km SSE of Hue on RT 546, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

24 May 1969



SP4 Charles R. Jones (E/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.



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

18 May 1967



SPC Dale E. Wayrynen (B/2-502 IN) (Posthumously) 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 with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, in action against enemy aggressor forces at Duc Pho, Quang Ngai Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 18 May 1967. Specialist Fourth Class Wayrynen's platoon was assisting in the night evacuation of the wounded from an earlier enemy contact when the lead man of the unit met face-to-face with a Viet Cong soldier. The American's shouted warning also alerted the enemy who immediately swept the area with automatic weapons fire from a strongly built bunker close to the trail and threw hand grenades from another nearby fortified position. Almost immediately, the lead man was wounded and knocked from his feet. Specialist Fourth Class Wayrynen, the second man in the formation, leaped beyond his fallen comrade to kill another enemy soldier who appeared on the trail, and he dragged his injured companion back to where the point squad had taken cover. Suddenly, a live enemy grenade landed in the center of the tightly grouped men. Specialist Fourth Class Wayrynen, quickly assessing the danger to the entire squad as well as to his platoon leader who was nearby, shouted a warning, pushed one soldier out of the way, and threw himself on the grenade at the moment it exploded. He was mortally wounded. His deep and abiding concern for his fellow soldiers was significantly reflected in his supreme and courageous act that preserved the lives of his comrades. Specialist Fourth Class Wayrynen's heroic actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the service, and they reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army. (General Orders No. 66, October 27, 1969)

18 May 1967

SP4 Clifford Dinkins (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Specialist Four Dinkins distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 18 May 1967 while serving with an airborne infantry unit on a search and destroy mission near Duc Pho. While moving along a jungle trail, the patrol was suddenly subjected to a heavy volume of enemy automatic weapons fire which inflicted several casualties. Observing a wounded comrade lying in the killing zone of the savage fusillade, Specialist Dinkins unhesitatingly raced through a withering hail of bullets to the casualty, pulled him to the safety of an abandoned enemy bunker and administered emergency medical aid. He then saw two Vietnamese troops fall under the intense Viet Cong fire. Heedless of his safety, Specialist Dinkins began to move across the bullet-swept battlefield to their aid but was knocked to the ground and wounded by an enemy grenade. Disregarding his wounds, he gallantly continued his rescue attempt through a curtain of hostile fire. He reached the fallen men, discovered one was dead, and pulled them both back to the bunker. While treating the wounded trooper, he detected three Viet Cong advancing toward his position. He jumped from the bunker and fired deadly bursts from his rifle, killing one insurgent and forcing the others to withdraw. Unnoticed, a fourth enemy soldier had flanked his position and had crawled close enough to throw a hand grenade into the shelter. Specialist Dinkins leaped for the grenade, picked it up and threw it back at the insurgent. The grenade exploded in midair, killing the Viet Cong and seriously wounding Specialist Dinkins a second time. His fearless action in close combat saved the lives of two fellow soldiers. Specialist Four Dinkins' extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 1050 (March 9, 1968))

18 May 1967

SP4 Ronald J. Wright (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Specialist Four Wright distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 18 May 1967 while serving as



medic of an airborne infantry platoon on a reinforcing mission deep in hostile territory. While moving to relieve the pressure on a sister platoon which was heavily engaged and pinned down by a numerically superior hostile force, his unit was savagely attacked by enemy soldiers firing automatic weapons. As the intensity of the battle increased, Specialist Wright heard a call for help from a wounded comrade. Completely disregarding his own safety, he began working his way toward the man through a hail of murderous fire. The concussion from an exploding grenade knocked him to the ground and stunned him, but he quickly got up and moved to the wounded soldier. He was seriously wounded while administering aid, but he ignored his injury and moved his comrade to safety. Refusing aid for himself, he again dashed through the withering fire to reach another casualty. Despite his own weakened condition, he carried the man back through a curtain of Viet Cong fire and treated the wounded soldier until he could no longer continue. Specialist Four Wright's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 6350 (December 10, 1967))

18 May 1967

SP4 John Hogan (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Services Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Specialist Four Hogan distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 18 May 1967 while serving as fire team leader of an airborne infantry platoon on combat operations near Duc Pho. While moving along a ridge line, his company was heavily attacked by a well-entrenched Viet Cong force firing automatic weapons. Seeing a wounded comrade trapped in the open, Specialist Hogan dashed from the rear of the column under a hail of enemy bullets and dragged the man to safety. Grabbing several hand grenades, he charged through the fire now concentrated on him and destroyed one enemy bunker. Heedless of the bullets striking all around him, he charged another bunker and killed the defenders with another hand grenade. He saw a wounded comrade nearby and quickly began carrying him to safety under a barrage of fire. A Viet Cong soldier stood up to fire on him, but he grabbed the wounded man's rifle and killed the insurgent with a deadly burst of fire. After moving the man to the perimeter, he ignored his own safety to grab his rifle and more grenades and again assault the fortifications single-handedly. Firing furiously, he destroyed another bunker with well-placed grenades. Shouting to his fire team to follow, he quickly knocked out another bunker and moved inside to pick up enemy weapons. Leading his men in a fierce charge, he swept through the hostile positions and aided in destroying four more Viet Cong fortifications. Specialist Four Hogan's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 5387 (October 22, 1967))

18 May 1967

SP4 Alan Kent (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Specialist Four Kent distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 18 May 1967 while serving with an airborne infantry platoon on a combat mission near Duc Pho. His unit was moving to reinforce a heavily-engaged sister platoon when it was fiercely attacked and pinned down by an enemy force firing automatic weapons. Specialist Kent was painfully wounded in the initial barrage, but he refused aid and dashed through a sheet of enemy fire to reach a fallen comrade and carry him to safety. As his platoon attempted to maneuver against the enemy positions, the intensity of the fusillade increased, inflicted several casualties to the friendly forces and caused the unit to pull back. Specialist Kent saw one of the new casualties trapped in the open and moved across the bullet-swept battlefield to aid him. Finding the man dead, he charged into the face of withering fire and destroyed a nearby enemy bunker with deadly rifle fire and grenades. Automatic weapons fire from another position began raking his location, and he assaulted the second



emplacement. After being knocked to the ground and wounded by an enemy grenade, he staggered to his feet, continued his charge on the bunker and demolished it. He then conducted a one-man frontal assault on a machine gun bunker. As a hail of bullets cut down brush and kicked up dirt all around him, he fearlessly pressed the attack and silenced the weapon with a hand grenade. His aggressive charge and devastating fire forced the determined enemy to break contact and flee the battlefield. Specialist Four Kent's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 911 (February 28, 1968))

18 May 1967

SP4 Bobby E. Spears (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Spears distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action while machine-gunner with a small patrol as it moved along a jungle trail and was suddenly engaged by hostile fire. On the initial brutal burst of enemy fire the point-man was wounded and lay in an exposed area. Disregarding his own safety, Specialist Spears rushed through the hail of enemy fire to reach his wounded comrade and pulled him to safety. He then returned to the area of battle and returned heavy fire to the insurgent positions. As the acuteness of the hostile fire increased, Specialist Spears picked up his machine-gun and charged through heavy enemy fire and grenades to assault an enemy bunker. Upon closing on the bunker, a grenade wounded him; disregarding his wounds, he valiantly continued forward and killed two enemy soldiers. Without hesitation or regard for the intensity of fire, he continued to expose himself to the enemy and assaulted a second bunker. He destroyed that bunker and killed two more insurgents. When ordered to pull back, Specialist Spears remained behind in an exposed position giving covering fire for the withdrawing platoon. Only after the wounded were evacuated and his platoon pulled back to a safe area did Specialist Spears rejoin his unit and allow himself medical aid. Through Specialist Spears' aggressive determination and courageous actions, the life of one individual was undoubtedly saved, two enemy bunkers destroyed, and at least four enemy killed. Specialist Four Spears' outstanding display of unquestionable gallantry; his perseverance, resolute and personal determination while engaged in close combat are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

2LT David V. Booth (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action. Second Lieutenant Booth distinguished himself by exceptionally heroic action, personal bravery, and leadership while conducting operations against an armed hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. While conducting a search and destroy mission, Lieutenant Booth was given the mission of moving to a landing zone and securing it. Working in conjunction with a Civilian Irregular Defense Group Platoon, Lieutenant Booth split up his platoon and sent half of his element with half of the other platoon to the landing zone, the element ran into an estimated Viet Cong company which completely surrounded the element and inflicted numerous casualties with murderous automatic weapons fire. Receiving their call for assistance, Lieutenant Booth immediately set out to relieve and reinforce the beleaguered element, upon arriving at the location of the ensuing battle, quickly maneuvered his element against the enemy's flank. The size of the hostile force was much greater than estimated and they pinned down his small force under intense volume of automatic weapons fire. Realizing the precariousness of the immediate situation, Lieutenant Booth, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, exposed himself to the vicious hostile fire and led an assault on the strong, entrenched enemy positions. The advance was halted by intense fire and he was wounded by grenade fragments. Disregarding his wounds and undaunted by the intensity of the enemy fire, Lieutenant Booth led two more assaults through the increasing hostile fire in a vain attempt to overrun the insurgent positions. Unable to advance or destroy the enemy, he reorganized his element so that the enemy could not flank him. He then courageously held his ground until another platoon arrived. In the renewed battle which followed, Lieutenant Booth successfully led an aggressive assault on the enemy bunkers which resulted in several enemy killed and several weapons



captured. Lieutenant Booth's outstanding display of unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest tradition of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

1LT Edward R. Throckmorton (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Throckmorton distinguished himself by exceptionally heroic action while on a search and destroy mission near Duc Pho, he was directed to move his platoon into an area where another platoon was heavily engaged with an enemy element and needed assistance. Quickly moving his platoon through the enemy infested jungle, Lieutenant Throckmorton reached the platoon and began maneuver against the enemy element. As the platoon moved forward they were suddenly assaulted with a tremendous volume of enemy automatic weapons fire. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Lieutenant Throckmorton crawled through the vicious enemy fire to within five meters of two enemy machinegun positions so as to place effective fire into them. One of the enemy soldiers detected him and wounded him with a grenade. Disregarding his wounds and refusing medical aid, Lieutenant Throckmorton aggressively placed suppressive volumes of fire into one bunker killing an enemy soldier and enabling his men to destroy two bunkers. Lieutenant Throckmorton then jumped to his feet and moved through the battle area and purposely exposed himself in order to draw the enemy fire, thus allowing his men to successfully destroy the remaining enemy positions. Lieutenant Throckmorton then moved through the area aiding the wounded and giving encouragement. Only after the last wounded man had been evacuated did Lieutenant Throckmorton allow himself to be given medical attention. As a result of Lieutenant Throckmorton's undaunted courage and decisive actions, four enemy bunkers destroyed and three weapons captured. Lieutenant Throckmorton's outstanding display of unquestionable valor, resolute determination and devotion to duty in close combat are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

1LT Gerald R. Petheram (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action. First Lieutenant Petheram distinguished himself by heroic action and personal bravery against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, his platoon came under a tremendous volume of automatic weapons fire from well dug-in enemy positions. Seeing that his platoon was surrounded, he exposed himself to the hostile fire, ran to his lead element and directed their fire until gaining fire superiority. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Lieutenant Petheram again moved through the heavy enemy fire to his other squad, and leading the squad, started to maneuver them to engage the enemy. The advance was halted and they were pinned down by the intensity of the enemy fire. Undaunted by the tremendous amount of hostile fire, Lieutenant Petheram exposed himself to their fire and aggressively assaulted the position, destroying it with grenades. Continuing his valiant effort, he assaulted another enemy bunker, silencing it with small arms fire. Inspired by Lieutenant Petheram's courageous example, his squad quickly attacked the remaining enemy positions and succeeded in forcing the enemy to withdraw in a complete route leaving behind six of their dead, two machine guns, and four other weapons. First Lieutenant Petheram's outstanding display of unquestionable valor, fortitude, and devotion to duty in close combat are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

2LT Jerry R. Barnhill (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Barnhill distinguished himself with heroic action while engaged on a search and destroy mission. The first platoon, Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry came under a tremendous volume of automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire from an estimated Viet Cong platoon. Lieutenant Barnhill immediately moved to the front of his element and started maneuvering his element against the enemy positions. As the enemy fire increased, he realized that an enemy machine gun position

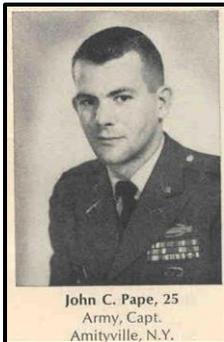


had to be destroyed before he could effectively engage the enemy. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Barnhill, with resolute determination jumped up, exposing himself to a hail of enemy fire and assaulted the machine gun position. His valiant effort silenced the machine gun position by killing two enemy soldiers. As a result of Lieutenant Barnhill's decisive and courageous actions, his platoon was able to overrun the enemy positions, routing the enemy who left behind nine dead and eight weapons. Lieutenant Barnhill's outstanding display of unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest tradition of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

1LT John M. Keane (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Keane distinguished himself when given the mission to move his platoon to an area where another platoon had become heavily engaged and surrounded by an enemy element. Lieutenant Keane quickly organized his platoon and moved them approximately two thousand meters to the scene of the battle. Upon arriving at the battle area, Lieutenant Keane, realizing that darkness was rapidly descending and that he must reach the beleaguered platoon as soon as possible, quickly maneuvered his platoon into position to assault the rear and both flanks of the enemy element. Lieutenant Keane, aware that maintaining strict control would be the key factor in the execution of a successful assault, directed his platoon not to open fire until fired upon. After having moved less than one hundred meters, the platoon was suddenly brought under a withering hail of enemy fire. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Lieutenant Keane rushed through the heavy enemy fire, giving his men encouragement and directing their fire by pointing out the muzzle flashes from enemy positions. Lieutenant Keane lead and directed the assault into the enemy with such aggressiveness, and his men were so inspired by his courage, that the assault element successfully overran the enemy positions, forcing the enemy to hastily flee the battle area. First Lieutenant Keane's outstanding gallantry, leadership and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967



CPT John C. Pape (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 18 May 1969. Captain Pape distinguished himself while serving as the Commanding Officer of Company B, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, on a combat operation in Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. ON the cited date, at approximately 1500 hours, the Second Platoon of Company B was given the mission of reconnoitering an area for the company's night location. As it moved into the predetermined area, it received eighty-two millimeter mortar fire. Captain Pape, who was with the First and Third Platoons at the time, skillfully maneuvered the entire company toward the suspected enemy positions and forced the unknown size enemy force to break contact and flee. With nightfall approaching, he gave order to stop and set up in a night defensive perimeter. As the company, was digging its night positions, it again received mortar fire. When the initial rounds wounded numerous personnel, Captain Pape, with utter disregard for his own safety, left his entrenched position to help move the wounded men to safety. It was at this time Captain Pape suffered fatal fragmentation wounds. His conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the cost of his own life saved a number of his subordinates from further injury and possible death. Captain Pape'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.

18 May 1967

1LT John F. Pavlansky Jr. (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Pavlansky distinguished himself by exceptionally heroic action as his platoon was moving along a jungle trail and became engaged with an enemy force concealed in well-fortified bunkers. During the initial contact the platoon sustained numerous casualties from the enemy automatic weapons fire. Lieutenant Pavlansky



moved forward through the enemy fire to the point of contact and quickly reorganized his lead elements into a position to lay down an effective base of fire. He exposed himself to the vicious fire with complete disregard for his own safety while moving among the positions directing fire and physically placing his men into position. Several times he purposely drew the enemy fire to enable his men to maneuver. When the platoon suddenly received intense volumes of fire from its flank, Lieutenant Pavlansky organized and personally led three of his men in an assault on the enemy position, knocking it out with grenades. He then shouted to the remainder of his platoon to move forward in the assault. Through his personal courage and inspired leadership, Lieutenant Pavlansky personally led his platoon through enemy positions and destroyed eight enemy bunkers. First Lieutenant Pavlansky's outstanding display of unquestionable valor, determination, and aggressive devotion to duty while engaged in close combat are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

SSG Larry A. Fletcher (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force in the republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Fletcher distinguished himself on 18 May 1967 while conducting a sweeping operation of suspected enemy positions, near Duc Pho. On this date, Sergeant Fletcher's nine man element was suddenly brought under an intense volume of hostile automatic weapons fire from well-fortified bunkers. Upon initial contact, the point man was wounded, and completely disregarding his personal safety, Sergeant Fletcher went forward and brought him back to safety. After having evaluated the situation, Sergeant Fletcher directed his small element to the left flank and instructed them to lay a base of fire. Observing an enemy bunker approximately fifteen meters to his right flank, Sergeant Fletcher neared the enemy position singlehandedly, disregarding the increased volume of fire being directed toward him. As Sergeant Fletcher neared the enemy position he was he was wounded and knocked to the ground by an exploding grenade. In spite of his wounds, Sergeant Fletcher got back up, continued his assault and succeeded in destroying the enemy position, killing two enemy soldiers. He then proceeded to assault two more enemy bunkers, killing three more enemy. Sergeant Fletcher then returned to his men and quickly reorganized them, making sure that the wounded were treated and evacuated. Only after the last man had been given medical treatment, did Sergeant Fletcher seek aid for his own wounds. Sergeant Fletcher's outstanding display of aggressiveness and consummate personal bravery were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967



SP4 Leon Thornton (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. While serving as radio telephone operator, Specialist Thornton was moving along a jungle trail with the company headquarters group. The lead squad was suddenly taken under a tremendous volume of enemy fire from an estimated platoon size element. The lead squad immediately began to maneuver against the enemy element but was immediately pinned down and found that they were surrounded. The company commander along with Specialist Thornton, his radio telephone operator, upon learning of the precarious position of the squad, quickly moved forward to the beleaguered squad. As the company commander and Specialist Thornton approached the position they were brought under a tremendous hail of enemy fire as two enemy soldiers assaulted them. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Specialist Thornton threw himself in front of his company commander and at the same time returned the enemy fire. Specialist Thornton succeeded in killing both of the enemy soldiers but was mortally wounded. As a result of Specialist Thornton's gallantry and courageous actions two enemy soldiers were killed, two weapons were captured and the life of his company commander was saved through his supreme sacrifice. Specialist Thornton's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty even at the cost of his life are in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, Task Force Oregon (Provisional), General Order Number 57; 26 June 1967)



18 May 1967

PFC Lionel Gutierrez (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, Private First Class Gutierrez's platoon was suddenly taken under a tremendous volume of enemy automatic weapons fire. In the initial stages of the fire fight numerous casualties were inflicted. When another platoon moved into the area to assist, they too were brought under intense fire and pinned down. Private Gutierrez moved through the vicious enemy fire with complete disregard for his own safety to an exposed position where he could best give the pinned-down platoon covering fire. Seeing that a wounded man lay in an area exposed to hostile fire Private Gutierrez rushed forward to aid the wounded warrior. Placing himself between the wounded man and the enemy positions, Private Gutierrez began to administer much-needed first aid, while giving the wounded man aid, Private Gutierrez deliberately exposed himself to draw the enemy fire so that he might pinpoint the position. Private Gutierrez continued to expose himself until he located the enemy positions and then succeeded in killing the enemy soldier. Private First Class Gutierrez's unquestionable valorous actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

SSG Oliver A. Ware (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, Sergeant Ware's platoon was suddenly taken under tremendous volume of automatic weapons fire from an estimated platoon size enemy element in well-fortified positions. Sergeant Ware with complete disregard for his own personal safety, exposed himself to the withering enemy fire while directing the fire of his platoon and moving from position to position giving his men encouragement. Numerous casualties had been received by his platoon on the initial burst of fire and Sergeant Ware on numerous occasions exposed himself to the vicious enemy fire to give aid and comfort to his wounded comrades. Sergeant Ware had begun to reorganize his platoon and to maneuver them in an assault on the enemy positions when he was struck and killed by enemy fire. Sergeant Ware's platoon had become so inspired by his actions that they were able to fight their way out of what was later determined to be an enemy ambush of platoon strength. Sergeant Ware's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty even at the cost of his life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect the utmost credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army. (HQ, Task Force Oregon (Provisional), General Order Number 81; 7 July 1967)

18 May 1967

SSG Roy D. Chitwood (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action: Staff Sergeant Chitwood distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry in action on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. The Reconno Platoon of the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry while conducting a combat operation, had established an ambush position along a jungle trail. During the early morning hours the friendly element was suddenly attacked by an enemy element using automatic weapons and hand grenades. When the attack started Sergeant Chitwood realized that his section was taking the main force of the attack and immediately, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, rushed forward to his sector of the perimeter and began to pull the positions in closer so that his sector would not be overrun. The enemy element, after being beaten back, attacked the friendly perimeter again. Sergeant Chitwood continued to expose himself to the withering enemy fire as he



moved from position to position giving his men encouragement and directing effective fire into the ranks of the enemy. As Sergeant Chitwood again exposed himself to the vicious enemy fire while bringing an ammunition resupply to some of his men, he was wounded by a burst of enemy automatic weapons fire. Disregarding his wounds and refusing medical aid, Sergeant Chitwood continued to resupply his men with ammunition and give them encouragement until he was again struck by an enemy bullet and mortally wounded. Sergeant Chitwood's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty even at the cost of his own life are in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, Task Force Oregon (Provisional), General Order Number 50; 26 June 1967)

18 May 1967

SFC Thomas K. Bennett (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. The first platoon of Company C, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, while moving along a jungle trail, suddenly became engaged with an undetermined number of enemy soldiers in well-fortified and well concealed bunkers. Sergeant Bennett quickly reorganized his platoon, maneuvered his squads into position and established security elements. Sergeant Bennett, seeing that his platoon had received several casualties, immediately and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, rushed through the withering enemy fire and began pulling the wounded men to covered positions. After pulling the first man to safety, Sergeant Bennett returned through the vicious enemy fire five different times to bring wounded men to safety; each time he was within twenty meters of the enemy positions. During this time Sergeant Bennett also directed the fire of his platoon by exposing himself to the enemy fire while pointing out enemy positions. Later in the battle, Sergeant Bennett received a report that more casualties had been sustained at the other end of his platoon's positions. Again with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Sergeant Bennett moved through the heavy enemy fire across the entire front of his platoon's positions and began pulling the wounded to safe positions and giving them medical aid. Sergeant Bennett's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

SP4 William A. Moore (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Moore's platoon had been given the mission of assisting a platoon that had become completely surrounded by an enemy company. When his platoon arrived at the scene of the battle, they also became heavily engaged with the enemy element and received numerous casualties. Specialist Moore, the platoon medic, immediately began to pull his wounded comrades to safety and give them medical aid. Specialist Moore observed three wounded soldiers lying in an area completely exposed to enemy automatic weapons fire. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he rushed through the hostile fire to the first wounded soldier and picked him up. Just as Specialist Moore started for cover he was struck in the leg and wounded by enemy fire. Disregarding his wound, Specialist Moore continued forward, carrying the wounded man until he reached a safe position. Refusing medical treatment, he returned to the bullet-swept area two more times to bring the remaining two men to safety. Still refusing medical aid, Specialist Moore returned to the raging battle and began to take care of the wounded from both platoons as the medic from the other platoon had been seriously wounded. For over an hour Specialist Moore moved through the battle area treating the wounded. On one occasion Specialist Moore moved to within ten meters of an enemy position to aid a wounded man. Specialist Four Moore's outstanding display of valor and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

18 May 1967

PFC Willie J. Woodard (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Woodard distinguished himself by exceptional valor while on a relief mission when his platoon was suddenly brought under intense volumes of enemy



automatic weapons fire which pinned them down. Seeing that most of the grenadiers were casualties and the platoon was in dire need of heavier support, Private Woodard with complete disregard for his own safety jumped from his covered position and ran up and down the line of friendly positions placing effective grenade fire into the enemy emplacements. Upon being wounded he fearlessly continued the one-man grenade barrage on the enemy without heed to his wound or medical attention. As a result of Private Woodard's determined, aggressive assault, the effectiveness of the enemy fire was sufficiently reduced to allow his comrades to move the wounded to cover and then regroup for an assault which routed the insurgents. Private First Class Woodard's outstanding display of unquestionable valor, dauntless determination and devotion to duty in close combat are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect the utmost credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

18 May 1969



1LT Valentine J. Zapert (E/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 18 May 1969. Lieutenant Zapert distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader of the reconnaissance platoon, Company E, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during a reconnaissance in force operation near Tam Ky, in Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. Company B, with the reconnaissance platoon attached, received intense enemy mortar fire. Many were wounded by the initial shelling, among them the commanding officer of Company B. Lieutenant Zapert, realizing that his segment of the perimeter was secured and relatively safe from the shrapnel of the exploding enemy mortars, moved to the company headquarters to assist the acting company commander. Assuring himself that the acting company commander had the situation under control, he left his covered position and went into the area of concentrated enemy fire to treat and evacuate the wounded in his relatively secure portion of the perimeter. Having repeatedly subjected himself to the enemy in evacuating all the wounded, Lieutenant Zapert again ascended to the crest of the hill to adjust aerial rocket determination many lives were saved. Lieutenant Zapert'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 May 2006

PFC Daniel Hansen (B/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for actions in combat. PFC Hansen was traveling to a coalition TCP when his vehicle was struck with an IED. PFC Hansen was outside of the vehicle moving a wire obstacle when the IED detonated. PFC Hansen was knocked down and rendered temporarily unconscious. When he regained consciousness, he found the Truck Commander, his team leader, wounded by shrapnel received to the face and foot. PFC Hansen courageously faced the situation that confronted him. He immediately tended to and dressed his leader's wounds and called Patrol Base Swamp requesting a 9-line MEDEVAC, the senior line medic, and more Soldiers to help secure the site. Realizing that the two interpreters who were being escorted were shaken and scared, PFC Hansen told them to run the 200 meters back to the patrol base. This action put the interpreters out of harm's way and facilitated showing the medic and follow-on forces exactly where to go. Because PFC Hansen immediately requested the MEDEVAC and used his training to treat his team leader's wounds, the NCO was listed as "Not Seriously Injured" by the time he arrived at the hospital. Though shaken up by the blast, PFC Hansen's quick thinking allowed him to call for more Soldiers at the site. They were able to conduct tactical questioning with the local nationals in the vicinity of the site, leading Bravo Company to gain vital information about how IEDs were employed in the Company's area of operations. PFC Hansen's actions and quick thinking were well above his grade as he showed courage, leadership, and knowledge and saved the life of a fellow Soldier.

20 May 1968

MAJ Nathaniel P. Colby (2-17 CAV) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 20 May 1968 through 21 May 1968. Major Colby distinguished himself while serving as Commanding Officer of the 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. Following the hard fought battle for



Hue and the coastal lowlands after the North Vietnamese Army Tet Offensive, the 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry, in conjunction with other United States and Vietnamese forces, continued the pursuit of one enemy regiment throughout the coastal plains east of Hue. On 20 May 1968, Major Colby was designated as Commander of Task Force Saber during the temporary absence of his Commanding Officer. The task force, based at Fire Base Forward, ten kilometers east of Hue, had been in heavy contact for several days. Despite the heavy contact, Major Colby immediately undertook to rally the forces at the fire base to reorganize their defenses and establish counter-mortar targets to prevent further friendly casualties. At 0345 hours on 21 May 1968, Fire Base Forward again came under attack and received numerous mortar rounds. Major Colby left the shelter of his fighting position to rally his men and direct the tank and one hundred six millimeter recoilless rifle fire against the enemy mortar positions. Throughout the battle, he moved from position to position to give encouragement to his men. Through his leadership and courage, his men were inspired to even greater efforts and the enemy attack was repulsed. Major Colby'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. (Headquarters, 101st Airborne Division, General Orders No 8319 (July 5, 1969))

20 May 1970



CPL John A. Claggett (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 May 1970. Private Claggett distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company E, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While approaching an enemy bunker complex, Private (promoted to CPL posthumously) Claggett's platoon received intense hostile fire. Despite the heavy volume of hostile fire directed against him, Private Claggett maneuvered against the insurgents and returned fire. He moved to an open position and remained there, placing suppressive fire on the enemy until one of his comrades threw a hand grenade into an enemy bunker. Private Claggett then assaulted the bunker nearest him and was mortally wounded by hostile automatic weapons fire. Private Claggett'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 May 1970



SP4 Gary W. Gear (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 May 1970. Specialist Gear distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company E, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during combat operations in Thus Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While approaching an enemy bunker complex, Specialist Gear's platoon received intense hostile fire. Despite the heavy volume of enemy fire, Specialist Gear rushed forward with his weapon and returned suppressive machine gun fire on the enemy positions. Shortly thereafter, Specialist Gear was wounded by hostile fire. Despite his wounds, he continued firing and continued moving forward ahead of the rest of the men. He maneuvered from position to position under hostile fire in spite of his wounds to provide covering fire for his comrades. While maneuvering against the insurgents, Specialist Gear was mortally wounded by a command-detonated anti-personnel mine. Specialist Gear's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM), General Order Number 8213; 21 July 1970)



20 May 1970



1LT James T. Hill (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Lieutenant Hill distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company E, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during a reconnaissance mission near Fire Support Base Veghel, Republic of Vietnam. When the forward element of his platoon was ambushed by a well-entrenched enemy force, Lieutenant Hill immediately led an assault on the enemy bunkers, destroying one bunker as his platoon advanced on other enemy positions. Lieutenant Hill then called for and adjusted artillery on the remaining fortifications. His actions contributed greatly to the routing of the enemy force. Lieutenant Hill's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

20 May 1970



SGT James P. Brinker (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (2-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 May 1970. Sergeant Brinker distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company E, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While conducting an on-line assault on a well-fortified enemy bunker complex, Sergeant Brinker's platoon was pinned down by intense hostile small arms and automatic weapons fire. Maneuvering to an unprotected position, Sergeant Brinker intentionally drew the enemy fire to himself, enabling a comrade to engage the bunkers at close range with hand grenades. Despite the enemy fire, Sergeant Brinker charged a hostile emplacement, quickly silencing it with hand grenades. His actions contributed immeasurably to the routing of the enemy. Sergeant Brinker'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, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM), General Order Number 8925; 10 August 1970)

21 May 1969



SP4 Santiago J. Erevia (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Medal of Honor for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Erevia distinguished himself on 21 May 1969 while serving as a radio-telephone operator with Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), during a search and clear mission near Tam Ky City in the Republic of Vietnam. After his platoon had penetrated an enemy defensive perimeter, Specialist Erevia was delegated to remain behind and care for the wounded while the rest of the platoon pushed on against the adversary. As Specialist Erevia began administering first aid to the battle casualties, their position came under heavy fire from a line of enemy bunkers to his left front. Without hesitation, Specialist Erevia crawled from one wounded man to another gathering weapons and ammunition. Armed with two M-16 rifles and several hand grenades, he then rose to his feet and charged directly into the fire of the hostile gun emplacement, discharging suppressive fire on the enemy as he ran. Once near the first bunker, Specialist Erevia edged his way up to the emplacement under intense fire from the other bunkers and unleashed a grenade on its defender. He then maneuvered to the second and third bunkers employing the same tactics and destroyed both fortifications and their occupants with well-placed grenades. His supply of hand grenades now exhausted, Specialist Erevia fought his way to the final bunker, running and firing both M-16 rifles simultaneously, and killed the fortification's defender with point-blank fire. Having single-handedly destroyed four enemy bunkers and their occupants, Specialist Fourth Class Erevia then returned to the soldiers charged to his care and resumed treating their injuries. Specialist Fourth Class Erevia's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit



upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. (General Orders: Headquarters, U.S. Army Vietnam, General Orders No. 4500 (December 22, 1969 \* Original Order for DSC; upgraded to Medal of Honor and presented on March 14, 2014)

21 May 1969

1LT Daniel L. O'Neill (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). First Lieutenant O'Neill distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 21 May 1969 while serving as platoon leader on a search and destroy mission. His unit was ordered to attack a heavily-fortified hilltop position near the city of Tam Ky. A large open rice paddy lay between his position and the objective. Immediately upon initiating the attack, his platoon was subjected to heavy enemy automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade fire. Employing fire and maneuver, he began to move his platoon forward. Realizing that his men were reluctant to move because of the heavy volume of enemy fire, Lieutenant O'Neill began to move up and down the line shouting encouragement. He then took the lead and led his platoon across the rice paddy to the base of the enemy positions. Employing hand grenades and close fighting, his platoon broke through the initial enemy bunkers and continued to ascend the hill. He then realized that his platoon was receiving fire from its flanks and rear as well as from the enemy positions to the front. Temporarily halting his platoon, he directed the destruction of the enemy positions to his flanks and rear with light antitank weapons and hand grenades. He then renewed the assault, called for and redistributed ammunition, and led the final assault to the top of the hill, eliminating the final pockets of enemy resistance. Ordered to withdraw from the hill to reinforce another platoon, he effectively led his men against the insurgents and rescued the besieged elements. Lieutenant O'Neill's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 499 (February 22, 1970))

21 May 1969

SP4 James P. Glemser (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. Specialist Four Glemser distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 21 May 1969 while serving as a radio telephone operator during a search and clear operation near the city of Tan Ky, Quang Tin Province. While maneuvering against well-fortified North Vietnamese bunker complexes, his patrol came under intense small arms and automatic weapons fire. As his platoon advanced, an enemy soldier hurled a grenade from his spider hole towards Specialist Glemser and his platoon sergeant, seriously wounding the sergeant. Amid intense enemy fire, Specialist Glemser crawled towards the casualty. After reaching the wounded man, he applied a dressing to his wounds and dragged him to a safer position. Then, Specialist Glemser assaulted the enemy soldier's spider hole, successfully eliminating the foe. Returning to the wounded sergeant, Specialist Glemser carried him 100 meters across a fire-swept rice paddy to the safety of his team's perimeter. Specialist Four Glemser's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 2033 (June 12, 1971))

21 May 1969



1LT Donald F. Gourley Jr. (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 May 1969. Lieutenant Gourley distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader in Company C, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry. Company C was ordered to attack a heavily fortified enemy hill near Tam Ky in Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Gourley promptly organized his platoon and deployed it in preparation for the attack. A large open rice paddy lay between his position and the objective. Immediately upon initiating the attack, his platoon received intensive fire from enemy automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenades. Lieutenant Gourley immediately began to move his platoon forward



employing fire and maneuver. Noting the reluctance of his troops to subject themselves to the enemy's fire and cross the open rice paddy, he left his covered position and moved up and down the line directing and encouraging his men. He led his platoon across the rice paddy toward the enemy position. Upon reaching the base of the enemy held hill, the insurgents began a heavy barrage of hand grenades, which inflicted numerous casualties. Lieutenant Gourley led the assault on the enemy positions, and the 2nd platoon broke through the first line of enemy entrenchments and continued to ascend the hill. Upon reaching the crest of the hill, his platoon again came under intense fire from additional enemy positions. With the ammunition supply becoming rapidly depleted, Lieutenant Gourley moved from position to position redistributing the remaining ammunition. He then led the final assault to the top of the hill, eliminating the final pockets of enemy resistance. At this time the reserve platoon of his company came under attack and Lieutenant Gourley's platoon was ordered to withdraw from the hill and reinforce another platoon. Remaining behind with a small force, he covered his platoon as it evacuated its casualties and withdrew to reinforce the second platoon. The enlarged unit was able to repel the enemy attack. At this time Lieutenant Gourley realized that one of his men was missing. Having determined that the man was lying wounded about a third of the way up the initial objective, he moved to the open location of the wounded man and brought him safely back. Lieutenant Gourley's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

21 May 1969



SGT Elmer O. Neises (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 May 1969. Sergeant Neises distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company C, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, near the city of Tam Ky, Republic of Vietnam. During a search and clear mission, Sergeant Neises subjected himself to the hostile fire as he rushed an enemy position and destroyed it with hand grenades. Sergeant Neises, seeing that the enemy force had his platoon in a cross fire, he picked up several anti-tank weapons and advanced on an insurgent machine gun position with two of his fellow Soldiers. He crawled toward the position despite receiving hostile fire and placed suppressive fire on the insurgents, allowing his comrades to destroy the hostile positions. His courageous actions during the intense enemy contact contributed greatly to the success of the mission. Sergeant Neises' 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 May 1969

SSG Kenneth E. Buesing (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 May 1969. Sergeant Buesing distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company C, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during search and clear operation near Tam Ky, Republic of Vietnam. While maneuvering against a heavily fortified North Vietnamese Army bunker complex, two platoons of Company C were subjected to heavy machine gun fire from the left flank. Volunteering to neutralize the enemy position, Sergeant Buesing crawled through intense enemy bunker. When two light anti-tank weapons silenced the hostile machine gun but failed to neutralize the bunker, Sergeant Buesing again subjected himself to enemy small arms fire to crawl closer to the bunker and destroy it and its occupants with hand grenades. Sergeant Buesing's action saved the lives of many of his comrades and enabled his element to advance. Sergeant Buesing'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.

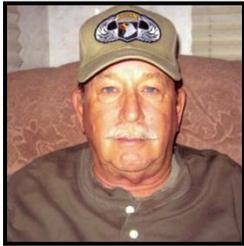
21 May 1969

SP4 Michael C. Tomaszewski (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 May 1969. Specialist Tomaszewski distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company D, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during a search and clear operation near Tam Ky in Quan Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Tomaszewski was maneuvering with his unit against a well-entrenched enemy force occupying a hillside position. Suddenly his element was subjected to the intense fire of an enemy bunker complex, and several men were wounded and remained open to hostile fire. Specialist Tomaszewski then led his



machine gun team forward in an attempt to place suppressing fire on the enemy. Crawling forward into the heavy enemy fire, he placed his life in the hands of the determined insurgents in order to maneuver his men. While he provided covering fire, the other men of his platoon evacuated the wounded to safety. With this accomplished, the men of Company D attempted to assault and destroy the enemy positions. In the ensuing battle, Specialist Tomaszewski's platoon leader was wounded and evacuated. Immediately assuming command, he led his men against the insurgents throughout the remainder of the day and kept command of his platoon until a new platoon leader was assigned several weeks later. His outstanding courage and professional leadership were an inspiration to all his men and undoubtedly contributed to the saving of many lives as well as being a major factor in the success of the assault on the enemy positions. Specialist Tomaszewski'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.

21 May 1969



1LT Valentine J. Zapert (E/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 May 1969. Lieutenant Zapert distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader, reconnaissance platoon, Company E, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during a reconnaissance in force operation near Tam Ky, in Quan Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Zapert volunteered to take his platoon and relieve Company D, which had sustained numerous casualties while engaging a well-entrenched enemy force. While attempting to reach the company's location, Lieutenant Zapert's platoon suddenly came under intense enemy machine gun fire. Reacting immediately, he charged through the heavy fire and silenced the enemy position, killing the three-man crew and capturing the weapon. Utilizing several of his men in this position, he directed them to place suppressive fire upon the enemy as he and the remainder of his men went forward. While advancing on Company D's location, Lieutenant Zapert was wounded by an enemy hand grenade, which temporarily impaired his vision and hearing. Ignoring his wounds, he subjected himself continually to the intense fire as he directed evacuation of the dead and wounded. As he directed medical evacuation operations, he was again wounded in the leg by small arms fire. Quickly bandaging his wound, he evacuated the casualties to a secure area beyond the reach of enemy fire. Only when all of the men had been treated and evacuated did he agree to leave the field of battle. His personal bravery and dynamic leadership resulted in the killing of several enemy, the capturing of a large caliber enemy crew served weapon, and the saving of many lives. Lieutenant Zapert'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.

21 May 2010



The following Soldiers: SGT Geoffrey Emschweiler and SGT Evan Rea (A/1-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor while stationed at COP Senjaray, Kandahar Province, executed their roles as team leaders with exceptional intestinal fortitude, and personal courage while under heavy enemy fire. While patrolling west along a route in Senjaray, SGT Rea's team came under intense and accurate fire from multiple enemy positions. Without hesitation SGT Rea maneuvered his fire team under direct enemy machine gun fire to a covered position and engaged enemy positions. SGT Rea prioritized targets and instructed his grenadier to engage an enemy RPG team, neutralizing the threat and preventing further RPGs from being fired on friendly positions.



While other elements of his squad were under heavy contact from an enemy ambush, SGT Emschweiler directed his team to engage multiple enemy positions, denying them the ability to maneuver. While SGT Rea's fire team was engaged with enemy positions, three enemy personnel attempted to flank his fire team from the west. SGT Rea quickly noticed the enemy movement and began firing at the area the enemy was trying to reach. After he realized that the enemy was dangerously close to flanking his position, SGT Rea put his own life in danger by maneuvering on the enemy and throwing a hand grenade. The hand grenade landed between the enemy personnel, which effectively repelled their assault.



SGT Emschweiler took it upon himself to emplace and lead elements of the Afghan National Police force, directing their fire on enemy positions. While elements of the squad were breaking contact, SGT Emschweiler directed his team to provide a heavy volume of fire, which allowed ISAF forces to maneuver northeast toward Senjaray. With disregard for his own life, SGT Emschweiler provided suppressive fire so his Soldiers could break contact to better covered and concealed positions. SGT Rea's actions contributed significantly to repelling the enemy ambush and prevented enemy forces from maneuvering on his squad. His display of courage, bravery, and lethal action changed the tempo of the battle. SGT Emschweiler's situational awareness and determination resulted in ISAF forces providing precision fire on Taliban positions. Because of his actions, the Afghan forces rallied together and successfully broke contact from the enemy ambush with no casualties.



21 May 2010



PFC Joshua Conley (A/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor while distinguishing himself with valor and exemplary duty performance as a rifleman during the defense of Pir Mohammed School. He is assigned to 3rd platoon; Company A, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment at Combat Outpost Senjaray. While improving defensive fighting positions at Pir Mohammed School after a rocket propelled grenade attack to a guard tower, PV2 Taylor was maintaining security down a canal to the south and was gravely wounded by an enemy sniper. PFC Conley immediately returned fire, suppressing the enemy sniper and gaining fire superiority. PFC Conley then moved under enemy fire to PV2 Taylor's position and displayed extraordinary intestinal fortitude and strength while dragging PV2 Taylor to a covered and concealed position. After moving PV2 Taylor to cover, PFC Conley conducted casualty assessment and began buddy aid. PFC Conley administered a pressure dressing to the wound further controlling the bleeding. Once bleeding was controlled, PFC Conley assisted in moving PV2 Taylor to the platoon casualty collection point for further care and evacuation.

21 May 2010



SGT Michael Craddock (A/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor while distinguishing himself with valor and exemplary duty performance as a fire team leader assigned to 1st platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, under direct enemy fire during combat operations in Senjaray. While patrolling along an eastern route in Senjaray SGT Craddock was providing overwatch from his truck when the Pir Mohammed School came under fire. During this time SGT Craddock and his truck also came under direct and indirect fire from the enemy. SGT Craddock instructed his truck not to fire on the enemy when he realized that Afghan civilians were directly in the line of fire between his truck and the enemy. SGT Craddock took it upon himself to dismount the truck and move the local nationals out of the line of fire. SGT Craddock single handedly bounded 35 meters to cover, provided suppressive fire and evacuated 15 Afghan civilians out of immediate danger while under heavy accurate small arms fire. SGT Craddock bounded back 20 meters to another location and again suppressed the enemy, allowing all 15 civilians to move over a wall to safety. SGT Craddock continued to engage the enemy once the local nationals were safe, and is credited with killing or wounding four enemy combatants before remounting his truck.



22 May 1968



1LT Thomas W. Trabert (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 May 1968. First Lieutenant Trabert distinguished himself while serving as Platoon Leader for the 2nd Platoon, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, while on a search and clear operation along the Song O Au River near Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Trabert was in command of a three man patrol which was in search of traces of enemy activity and provided security for the rest of the platoon. Shortly after crossing the stream, Lieutenant Trabert observed a North Vietnamese Army platoon preparing its night position. Lieutenant Trabert then maneuvered his small patrol into position in order to lead it in an attack upon the unsuspecting enemy force while leading the grenade and small arms assault upon the enemy, Lieutenant Trabert received a painful hand wound, but continued against the entrenched enemy. Having taken the initiative from the enemy, Lieutenant Trabert then called in and directed helicopter gunship fire upon the enemy positions. A sweep of the battle area revealed seventeen enemy casualties, numerous weapons, and evidence of several wounded enemy Soldiers. Lieutenant Trabert's actions resulted in the reduction of the enemy force to an ineffective fighting unit. First Lieutenant Trabert'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 May 1969



PFC Errol W. Perreira (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action on the Republic of Vietnam on 22 May 1969. Private Perreira distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company B, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry, while on a reconnaissance in force operation south of Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam. The Second Platoon was caught by intense fire from concealed enemy positions. The initial volley of fire wounded the Kit Carson Scout attached to the platoon. Private Perreira, disregarding his own safety, went to the aid of the wounded man through intense enemy fire to move him to safety. He then rejoined his element, which was maneuvering on the enemy position. It soon became apparent that the platoon's organize weapons and determination would not be sufficient to overcome the strongly emplaced enemy. It was decided to move back so that artillery and gunships could be utilized. Private Perreira stayed forward as the platoon started to move back, giving them covering fire with his own weapon. Once the platoon had pulled back a short distance, he made one last attempt to dislodge the enemy. He stood up and threw a grenade into the enemy machine gun position. He was mortally wounded in this effort, which destroyed the position of the enemy weapon. PFC Perreira's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

23 May 1968



CPT Jackie P. Justice (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 23 May 1968. Captain Justice distinguished himself while serving as Commanding Officer of Company D, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry on a combat operation in the village of Ap Dong Bao, Republic of Vietnam. During the late morning hours, a Viet Cong force attacked the Second Platoon, and Captain Justice moved quickly through the danger area to reach his lead element. Throughout the ensuing battle, he personally directed the retaliatory fire of his men and was most instrumental in repulsing the Viet Cong attack. That afternoon, Captain Justice and his element swept the battle area to check for enemy casualties. After he returned to his former position, the headquarter element received intense hostile sniper fire. Captain Justice set up a base of fire and directed an orderly withdrawal to the main body of the company. Upon reaching the perimeter, Captain Justice directed the retaliatory artillery and helicopter gunship fire upon the enemy positions. Captain Justice'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.



**\*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 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions, 501st Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade became the parent headquarters for the 1st, 2nd, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalions of the 502nd Infantry Regiment. With this reorganization, the Brigade adopted the regimental motto, "Strike."

