

2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) "STRIKE HISTORY" 23 June – 29 June 2013



23 June 1968	Joint operations were conducted with ARVN and PF's. Light contact was made. PF's captured 7 VC in a sampan. A/1-502 captured 1 VC in NDP he was Hoi Chanh. He then helped Alpha Company and PF's look for the rest of his unit ARVN had 2 men WIA by BBT, 1 by SA.
23 June 1969	The 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, begins Operation TENNESSEE PRIDE in Thua Thien Province.
23 June 1969	Activity was limited in the AO as B/2-17 Cav reported heavy ground fire vic. BT2406, and the 1-501 was targeted for that area on the following day. At 1723H, C/1-502, vic. BT152007, found one grave containing the remains of 1 NVA KIA. At 1800H, C/1-502, vic. BT152007, found one grave containing the remains of 1 NVA KIA. At 1800H, C/1-502, vic. BT152007, had one platoon accidentally fire on another platoon during the search of an enemy bunker complex, resulting in 1 US KIA and 2 US WIA.
24 June 1968	1-502 continued search and clear operations with light contact. Enemy is becoming very evasive. Results: Enemy: 1 VC KIA, 5 tons of rice seized.
24 June – 15 July 1966	Operation BEAUREGARD: begins. It's a border surveillance effort by the 1/327 and 2/502 of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division around the Special Forces camps of Dak To, Dak Sut, Dak Pek and Mang Buk and following operation HAWTHORNE.
24 June 1969	Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; TAN PHUOC Dist and HAU DUC Dist, TAM KY (P), RVN; Reporting Officer: Colonel Frank L. Dietrich; Enemy contact was again light in the AO as the 1-501 conducted a CA into a highly suspect area and the other battalions continued aggressive RIF operations in their respective areas. At 0901H, elements of the 1-501 began landing, vic. BT257083, as the battalion conducted a CA with two companies and the reconnaissance platoon; the LZ was cold and all elements commenced RIF operations in the area. At 1045H, A/1-501, vic. BT257083, engaged one enemy with small arms and hand grenades; accounting for 1 NVA KIA. At 1130H, A/1-501, vic. BT257083 detained 23 VN civilians for evacuation and further interrogation; subsequent questioning confirmed that one detainee was a VC. At 1750H, A/1-46, vic. BT139057, engaged and killed 1 NVA. At 1905H, Brigade LOH reconnaissance team vic. BT203121, engaged two enemy in the open with M-60 machinegun and Minigun fire, killing both enemy.
25 June 1948	The 502 nd Infantry Regiment was allotted to the Regular Army.
25 June 1968	1-502 IN had very light contact. Alpha Company was proved on ground and mortared. Results: Friendly: 2 WIA; Enemy: 3 VC POW; 2 Hoi Chanh's POW.
25 June 1968	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: FSB STRIKE was officially closed at 1414.
25 June – 04 August 1968	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: Phase II was conducted. 2-502 inserted into FSB Birmingham and prepared to move into AO to the south and west of Birmingham south of Highway 547. A large base camp was suspected in this area. B and D CO initially led





the assault and preparation of FSB Normandy (YD686044).



25 June 1969	The enemy continued to avoid contact as all elements conducted extensive RIF operations in the AO. At 0910H, B/1-502, vic. BT047976, found 1 SKS hidden in a hut complex. At 1210H, B/1-502, vic. BT041961, detained two VN civilians in the area, and upon interrogation one was determined to be a VC.
25 June 2001	TF 3-502 removed an NLA rebel battalion from Aracinovo and escorted them to Nikustak amidst heavy fighting between the rebels and the Macedonian Army and special police. According to NATO officials, this action led directly to the peace process that soon followed and resulted in disarmament of the rebel force as well as greater rights for the Macedonian Albanians.
26 June 1968	Alpha and Bravo Company 1-502 IN conducted joint operations and Bravo Company blocking vic. YD7132 and Alpha sweeping from south towards their blocking positions. Results: Enemy: 8 VC KIA, 3 VC POW and Several Weapons.
26 June 2008	OPN Hoeyang – 3/B/2-502 IN with 3/31 IA conducts OPN Hoeyang, a large-scale cache sweep that nets significant quantities of Sunni extremist caches. More than 4 large caches are seized, consisting of more than 25 RPG rounds, 80 pounds of PE-4, 260 57mm AA rounds, and even a set of IA body armor. The sweep is so large it evens spills over into the C/2-502 IN AO to seize more caches, while C/2-502 IN is in the process of conducting OPN Yukon II.
26-30 June 2012	TAC 1 advisors deploy ISO OPERATION SHAHEEN 2. 201st Corps combat advisor team deploys a 4 man advisor element to the Siahgrid District Center, Ghorband Valley, Parwan to mentor key leaders of the 201st ANA Corps command team and to provide a common operating picture of ANSF OPERATION SHAHEEN. The purpose of this operation is to establish joint strongpoint's and fortify OPs along MSR ALABAMA to protect construction efforts to repair the road by-pass to the Salang Tunnel. Despite extreme political pressures from the Parwan Governor, Abdul Basir Salangi, the ANSF leaders develop and execute a suitable plan with modest objectives to establish security along the Salang Tunnel bypass for construction efforts to resume.
	ANA leader engagement with Kabul political and military leaders. MOD leaders and Afghan political officials continue to demonstrate a lacking understanding of operational/tactical realities that lead to conflicting or impractical priorities to subordinate commands. In an effort to ameliorate this relationship and inform his higher HQs, MG Waziri, the 201st ANA Corps Commander, met with GEN Karimi, MOD, on 30 JUN 12 to discuss multiple priorities that his Corps recently received from Kabul: Nuristan basing operations (reinforce Kamdesh and establish bases in Pitigal and Waygal), Khoh-e Safi clearance, Highway 7 security, Kapisa transition, adjustments to ANA-AUP force disposition. The myriad priorities continue to paralyze the Corps and Brigade "one-deep" planning staffs and distracting them from conducting ANA realignment synchronization.
	Observer Controller (OC) Advisor Network. TM STRIKE advisors work with CJTF-1, NTMA, and IJC advisors to develop an advisor 'common operating picture' above the Corps, AUP Zone, and Zone 1 ABP level. The intent of this advisor 'COP' is to reach vertically into NTMA to allow these advisors to shape MOD and MOI General Staff (GS) level discussions. This will also permit CJTF TAC 1 advisors with keen incites and 'atmospherics' within MOD and MOI HQ, specifically how senior ANSF leaders view requests for assistance, back briefs, and ciphers sent from 201st Corps, Zone 1 ABP, and 202 Shamshad HQ to MOD, BFC, and MOI.
	ANSF enabler training and capacity building. ANA Brigades continue their focus to develop capacity of critical organic enablers (fire support, intelligence collection, route clearance, brigade logistics, and maintenance of tactical infrastructure). 1/201 ANA Brigade relocated 7 x D-30 howitzers to FOB Gamberi in preparation for combined







	 training in July, and 2/201 ANA Brigade continues fire support training in Kunar Province. 2/201 and 3/201 ANA Brigade route clearance companies demonstrate their proficiency finding and reducing 12 x improvised explosive devices (IED) during the week. 2/201 ANA Brigade military intelligence company (MICO) deployed multi- function teams (MFT) including HUMINT, LLVI, and intelligence analysts to Kunar ISO OPERATION TOUFAN clearing operations. ABP border management. ABP Zone 1 Commander, COL Wali Khan, led a Border Flag Meeting (BFM) on 29 JUN 12 at the KJBCC to increase information sharing between ANSF and PAKMIL. This was the first meeting since the Shalal incident in 2011. Cross-border fires in Dangam District, Kunar Province dominated the discussion. The group agreed to conduct subsequent meetings to discuss cross-border tactical communications and future combined, complementary border operations.
27 June 1944	502 nd and the 101 st are relieved of their frontline positions South of Carentan.
27 June 1968	1-502 IN conducted defense of An Lo, RP security, and search and clear operations with very light contact. US captured 2 VC. PF's received 6 Hoi Chanh. They said all their leaders had been killed by airborne. Friendly Casualties: 2 US WIA from BBT.
27 June 1968	Activity remained light throughout the AO as 1-502 conducted multiple combat assaults into the area of the B52 strikes conducted on 26 June At 1100H, C/1-502 conducted a CA into an LZ vic. AS955951 with negative enemy contact. At 1400H, D/1-502 conducted a CA into an LZ vic. BS017970 with negative contact. At 1510H, D/1-502, vic. AS953933, found one grave containing the remains of 1 VC KIA. At 1835H, B/1-502, vic. BS0300961, received small arms fire from a hut; the element returned fire, registering 1 NVA KIA.
28 June 1968	B/1-502 IN set up blocking positions while PF's conducted eagle flight. Bravo resulted in killing 6 VC. PF's killed 4 VC, captured 3 VC. D/1-502 IN had 1 KIA and 6 WIA as results of BBT.
28 June 1969	The tempo of enemy activity increased as the 1-502 began to encounter small groups of enemy forces in sporadic contact throughout the day; 1-501 recovered to HOI CHANH and several Vietnamese who had recently escaped from the VC. At 0748H, D/1-502, vic. AS937952, found 6 AK47 rifles wrapped in cosmoline and paper. At 0900H, Recon/1-502, vic. BT061011, engaged 4-5 enemy and captured 1 AK47. At 0925H, B/1-501, vic. BT219068, detained 13 Vietnamese in the area; upon questioning it was determined that two were HOI CHANH and the remaining 11 had recently escaped from the VC. At 1147H, D/-502, vic. AS934956, received small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force, resulting in 1 "Kit Carson" scout KIA and 1 US WIA; the enemy returned fire with negative assessment. At 1238H Recon/1-502, vic. BT060010, engaged a small enemy force, accounting for 1 NVA KIA. At 1620H, the Command and Control aircraft for 1-502, vic. LZ PROFESSIONAL, received small arms fire, forcing the aircraft to land at LZ YOUNG and resulting in 1 US WIA.
29 June 1968	A/1-502 conducted RIF vic. with PF's. Captured 1 VC and SKS, found 2 tons of rice and 1 VC KIA by artillery. Bravo Company continued working with Rome plow. Rome plow destroyed 500 meters of hedgerow, 400 meters and 100 meters of village and 83 bunkers.
29 June 1969	Activity was light in the LAMAR PLAIN AO with the day marked by a sharp clash in the 1-502 AO. At 0835H, D/1-502, vic. AS932955, received intensive small arms, machinegun and RPG fire from an unknown size enemy force at a range of 75 meters. D Co returned fire and employed gunships and ARA in support. The enemy broke contact and fled, leaving behind 4 NVA KIA and two individual weapons. D Co suffered 2 US KIA and 7 US WIA (E) in the close, intense fighting. At 0955H, B/1-502, vic.
CERONING	STRIKE 3

BS025969, engaged and killed alone enemy soldier. At 1615H, D/1-502, vic AS935956, found and SKS.

- 29 June 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2-502 Battalion ended refresher training and the Battalion minus A Company returned to AO and occupied FSB Bastogne. A Company continued refresher training.
- 29 June 1984 Withdrawn from the Combat Arms Regimental System and reorganized under the United States Army Regimental System
- 29 June 2010 CTF STRIKE conducted an Assumption of Authority (AOA) for Maiwand, Zharay and Arghandab districts from TF Kandahar at Forward Operating Base Wilson.



During this week, in the span of 71 years since the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment originated in July 1941 as the 502nd Parachute Battalion, an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assault. The following awards were awarded to members of 2BCT, 501st IN (Vietnam) and the 502nd IN Regiment (*See STRIKE HISTORY NOTE).

1 x Silver Star Medals

3 x Army Commendation Medals with Valor

1 x Bronze Star Medals (1 x Posthumously)

32 x Purple Heart Medals (13 x Posthumously)

2 x Non-Hostile Injury or Illness

23 June 1969	SGT Michael Forbes (C/1-502 nd IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam.
23 Jun 2006	The following Soldiers: SPC Daniel Venegas and PFC Michael Charboneau (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received as a result of enemy or hostile action.
23 June 2010	The following Soldiers: PFC Michael Wayman (HHC/1-502 IN); SPC Ryan Balintfy and PVT Jason Figueroa (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their unit with a rocket propelled grenade.
24 June 1944	SSG Edwin H. Hoover (HQ/502 nd PIR) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds receive which resulted in his death when he was killed by a German Soldier after being taken prisoner at St. German De Varreville, France on D-Day.







24 June 1944	The following Soldiers: PVT Myron L. Auten (Pictured), PVT Morris Lansdale (A/502d PIR); SGT Guy A. Torchetti (C/502d PIR) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from wounds sustained during combat against a hostile force in Normandy, France.
24 June 1968	CPL Andrew A. Lang (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action from other explosive device which resulted in his death in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
24 June 2006	PV2 Christopher Williams (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received as a result of enemy or hostile action.
25 June 1944	PVT Simpson P. Courson (HQ/ 2-502 PIR) was shot and killed over and argument of a French girl nears Auvers, France by PVT Bucanhan a member of his own squad after the two had been out drinking while on front line duty.
25 June 1969	SGT Carl E. Janowsky Jr. (B/1-501IN) died of illness in an unknown province, South Vietnam.
25 June 2010	The following Soldiers: SGT Caylin Gardner and SPC Johnathan Dowling (B/1-502 IN)) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their mounted patrol with a rocket propelled grenade.
25 June 2010	PFC John Smith (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his mounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.
27 June 1944	PFC Alexander J. Kitcheos (F/502d PIR) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death form wounds sustained during combat actions in Normandy, France.
27 June 1968	SGT Ronald J. Ymbras (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (1-OLC) 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)
28 June 1968	SP4 Edward M. Heiser (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action while on a combat operation when he was hit by fragments from a hostile booby trap in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
28 Jun 2008	PFC Christopher Robinson (1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when he was coming on a shift and as he was entering the turret of the M1151 he received small arms fire that impacted his NOD case and ricocheted into his upper right thigh. actions in combat earn him the Purple Heart.
28 June 2010	SSG Nicholas Richards (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.







28 June 2010	The following Soldiers: SGT Eric Mattos, PFC Joseph Green and PFC Jose Delagarza $(D/1-502 \text{ IN})$ earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with grenades.
28 June 2010	PFC Richard Sperrazza (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.
28 June 2010	CPT James Thomasson (A/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.
29 June 1967	SP4 Junior B. Pack (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action from small arms gun fire, which resulted in his death in the Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam.
29 June 1968	PFC Wilson B. Brown (B/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death while outside base camp perimeter when mistaken for hostile force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
29 June 1969	The following Soldiers: 2LT Robert D. Paulus and PFC Gregg C. Hinderks (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
29 June 1969	2LT Daniel K. Wapinski (D/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentations in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam.
29 June 2010	SSG Stephen Mosley (3-44 PSYOPS) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with a rocket propelled grenade while in support of 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment.
29 June 2010	SGT Jason Wise (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

23 June 1970 SSG Newton S. Clement (A/2-502nd IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for meritorious service during combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. On June 20, 1970, his company was in the base camp at Camp Eagle on stand down for two days. After the first day, they received orders that they were going back out to the field on a mission. He and another squad leader, Specialist Dick McBain of Centerville, Ohio were attempting to gather supplies for their platoon. They flipped coins to determine who would get the C-Rations and who would go to the Ammunition's Dump to get ammunition. Sergeant Clement lost the flip and went to get the ammunition. While at the ammo dump, there was a sudden explosion. Sergeant Clement was caught in the event. A medic from his company ran up and pulled him out of the debris while it was still exploding. Sergeant Clement died from his wounds a few days later, on June 23, 1970. According to Dick McBain, the explosion was triggered by a "Cherry" who was playing with a trip flare. (Provided by Vietnam Veterans Memorial)







23 June 2010



The following Soldiers: SGT Matthew Hetrick, SPC Nicholas Hays and PFC Jacob Brock (HHC/1-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroically distinguishing themselves by exceptionally valorous conduct and intestinal fortitude under enemy fire, which contributed significantly to repel a major enemy assault as part of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment

While on a dismounted patrol to conduct a battle damage assessment from an A-10 strike SGT Hetrick, SPC Hays and PFC Brock's platoon came under accurate small arms and RPG fire. The platoon quickly took cover and SGT Hetrick, in the line of fire, maneuvered at great risk to himself to the last covered and concealed position. The platoon quickly returned fire and SPC Hays took the initiative and maneuvered his fire team across a canal and to the enemy flank while under direct small arms and withering PKC fire. Once on the enemy flank he directed his fire-team to engage and suppress a PKC and RPG firing position. SPC Hays'' decisive action allowed for the enemy to be fixed in place, and allowed for the remainder of the platoon to maneuver out of the kill-zone and to covered and concealed positions.

SGT Hetrick called his team forward to his position and they quickly gained fire superiority through use of fragmentation grenades, small arms, and the fires of his M203 gunners. The quick action of SGT Hetrick, with little regard for his personal safety, effectively pinned the enemy in place and made it impossible for the enemy to direct effective fire at the other coalition forces present. His actions allowed for the platoon to maneuver on the enemy position killing two insurgents, with no friendly casualties.

SPC Hays moved under enemy fire multiple times to link up with the rest of the platoon in order to report the enemies" repeated attempts to withdraw. SPC Hays's fire team kept the enemy suppressed and fixed allowing for a series of effective gun runs by an on station air weapons team.

PFC Brock moved forward while firing his M203 in the vicinity of the enemy, fixing them in place and marking their location with smoke, thus allowing aircraft to conduct multiple gun runs. SGT Hetrick's section also captured three insurgents and recovered their weapons, physically taking them out of the fight ensuring they would never again be used



against coalition forces. SGT Hetrick's section also captured three insurgents and recovered their weapons, physically taking them out of the fight ensuring they would never again be used against coalition forces.

28-29 June 68 CPT Henry E. Hammond Jr. (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 28 June 1969 through 29 June 1969. Captain Hammond distinguished himself while serving as Commanding Officer, Company D, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during a combat operation near Tam Ky, Republic of Vietnam. During a reconnaissance in force mission, an enemy force of unknown size ambushed the lead element of his company. Captain Hammond quickly moved forward and directed the platoons against the enemy positions. He then called in aerial rocket artillery and tube artillery to relieve pressure on a pinned down platoon. During the ensuing battle, he repeatedly subjected himself to a heavy volume of hostile fire as he moved from position to position in order to direct the movements of the assaulting platoons. His courageous actions and aggressive leadership contributed







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greatly to the success of the mission. Captain Hammond's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the Unites 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 502nd in different brigades of the 101st. The 2nd Battalion was in the 1st Brigade with 1-327th and 2-327th Infantry. Which deployed to Vietnam 1965, in was most notable commanded by LTC Hank "The Gunfighter" Emerson. The new 2nd Brigade's original organic battalions were the 1st and 2d Battalions, 501st Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry.

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

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





