



**2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT)**  
**“STRIKE HISTORY”**  
**07 April – 13 April 2013**



- 07 April 1968 D/1-502 IN continued searching area vic. YD4864 resulting in 5 VC KIA. The other units conducted search and clear operations and ambushes with negative contact.
- 07 April 1991 Iraq accepts United Nations cease-fire conditions and resolutions.
- 07 April 2011 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment conducts Transfer of Authority (TOA) with 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division at FOB Howz-e-Madad.
- 08 April 1968 A/1-502 IN found an arms cache while conducting RIF vic. YD5325. They found 3 M1 rifles, 1 SMG, 160 rounds S/A. Company "B" received automatic weapons fire vic. YD6025, suffering 2 WIA. They returned fire with unknown results. Company "C" (-) remained at Camp Evans preparing for future operations and conducting training.
- 08 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2-502 Battalion minus went OPCON to the 2BDE, and A Company went OPCON to the 3BDE occupying FSB Jack. While operating under control of 2BDE, the Battalion conducted screening operations throughout the area south of FSB Arsenal (ZD118014). Contact in the area was light. Upon insertion into the area, D Company encountered booby traps on an LZ at YC165942, wounding one Soldier. The booby traps were old, and there was no evidence of any recent enemy activity. Recon was the first STRIKE Force unit to make enemy contact in the new area. Five enemy were engaged by a reconnaissance sniper team, resulting in one enemy killed. ARA was employed as a follow-up.
- 09 April 1968 A/1-502 IN received their log vic. YD5425. Shortly thereafter they moved approximately 200 meters NE. Early the next morning 50 VC attacked deserted log sight using long cane poles to flip satchel charges. Company "A" made contact with the enemy suffering 2 KIA and 1 WIA. Enemy losses were 2 VC KIA. Company B found 9 122mm rockets (complete).
- 09 April 1968 An apparent rocket attack of the 1st Air Cav. Division headquarters at Camp Evans was prevented by MAJ Brad Telshaw, Clovis, New Mexico., an alert FAC pilot attached to the 2nd Brigade. He directed two air strikes on the target which resulted in many secondary explosions. A Platoon from C/1-502 IN was helo lifted into the area. They found nine 122mm rockets elevated on bamboo logs and pointing in the direction of Camp Evans.
- 09 April 1970 At first light, B/1/1/2-501 IN was on an ambush assignment a short distance from the rest of 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon and the Bravo Company CP in an area approximately 25 miles west of Hue known as "Re-Up Hill", coordinates YD362165, when they were surprised and overrun by a squad of NVA Soldiers throwing Chi-Com hand grenades and firing AK-47 assault rifles. The attack resulted in one member of the squad immediately killed in action, and the remaining five members of the squad wounded in action. (PFC Thomas L. Gates of Cincinnati, Ohio, died from his wounds sixteen years later - on 25 November 1986 confirmed by the Virtual Wall.)



- 09 April 1970 XXIV Corps (Thua Thien Province)-At 0700 an element of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Divisions (Airmobile), engaged an estimated enemy squad while operating in an area 24 miles WSW of Hue (73 miles WNW of Da Nang). The enemy returned fire with small arms and automatic weapons fire. The troopers were supported by helicopter gunships and contact was lost at an unreported time when the remaining enemy withdrew. Two enemy Soldiers were killed in the action. U.S. casualties were three killed and five wounded.
- 09 April 1970 XXIV Corps (Thua Thien Province) – At 1625 an element of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile) engaged an estimated enemy platoon while operating 25 miles WSW of Hue (66 miles NW of Da Nang). Small arms and automatic weapons fire was exchanged and contact was lost at about 1745 when the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were 11 wounded with no fatalities.
- 09 April 2010 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, receives orders to deploy to Afghanistan in May 2010 to Kandahar in Regional-Command South.
- 10 April 1968 A/1-502 IN NDP vic. YD5325 received satchel charges, RPG rounds, and S/A fire. Negative casualties) They returned fire with unknown results. Company D conducted security of Phong Dien Bridge and local ambushes. One of these ambushes vic. YD4937 engaged 4 VC with negative results. Recon killed 3 VC vic. YD 5231.
- 10 April 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** Companies A, B, and D/2/501st Airborne, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division encounter an estimated two battalions of the 812th NVA Regiment near the village of Thon Phuoc Dien 12 miles southeast of Quang Tri. Casualties: U.S. 7 KIA and 35 WIA; enemy 66 KIA.
- 10-11 April 1968 2-501 cordons Thon Phuoc Dien, resulting in 70 NVA KIA and 13 PWs and 100 lbs of rice captured.
- 10 April 1968 **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** At 1015H, C/2-502 vic. YD639098 with the 3-5 Cavalry Platoon on a convoy security mission on Hwy 547, received AW and RPG from an unknown size enemy force in the tree line on the north side. Engaged the enemy with SA, AW, Arty, Mortars, fire power from the Calvary Platoon and Light Fire Teams. Units continued to receive enemy SA and RPG fire and several rounds of mortars of an unknown size. C Co. with Cav. Plt assaulted and took the tree line and later the enemy tried a counter attack but was beaten back. Results: 3 US WHA, 9 NVA KIA and captured: 1 RPG, 1 RPD, 3 AK-47, 2 SKS.
- 10 April - July 2008 **Operation STRIKE SILVER JETS:** Elements of 1-320 FAR clear over 40km of road with EOD in support of 1-502IN, 1-64AR, and 1-75CAV, destroying enemy fighting positions and clearing the way for 2BCT and ISF to engage Special Groups Criminals. As a direct result of the battalion's actions, ISF were able to construct and maintain six new checkpoints across Shulla and Ghazaliyah, greatly contributing to the security of the AO.
- 11 April 1968 Two days of fighting by A, B, and D Company's, 2nd BN, 501st IN, was conducted as another village full of NVA was cordoned 10 miles northeast of Hue along the "Street Without Joy". A sweep of Phong Dien village following a night of constant bombardment resulted in 66 enemy dead and 26 weapons captured. Mean while paratroopers of A and C Company's 1st BN 501st IN and A, B, and C Company's of 82nd 1st BN 505th IN ended a week-long search and destroy mission along the Song Bo, three miles northwest of Hue. Army aviation, artillery, tactical air and the airborne troopers combined to kill 200 enemy and capture 44 weapons.



- 11 April 1968      **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** At 1045H, B/2-502 vic. YD614080 spotted 2 NVA in green uniforms moving along Hwy 547. They engaged the enemy with SA, AW, and M-79 but with negative results. AT 1155H, B Co. heard digging while B Co. (-) was moving up to contact area they came under mortar fire at 1230H from YD597078. Counter mortar fire was placed on this grid by artillery and mortars. Also an immediate airstrike was called, with two flights put in at this location. At 1340H, the platoon from A/2-5 Cav was dispatched to aid B Co. Contact continued unit 1610H with the enemy in the tree line firing SA, AW, and RPG's. At 1530H, B Co. found 2 fresh grave vic. YD605080, with NVA killed by artillery. Results: 16 US WHA, 3 NVA KEA
- 11 April 2003      Strike Brigade, on orders from 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, repositions by air assault and ground movement from Karbala and west of Al Hillah to Southern Baghdad. By noon, the Brigade had searched and secured dozens of separate military facilities, most of which were artillery and air defense artillery. Multiple munitions caches and weapons (ZSU-23-4, D-30s, T62 tanks, ROLAN ADA systems, and military trucks) were located and destroyed. By late afternoon, the Brigade attacked north deeper into Baghdad ahead of schedule encountering sporadic enemy direct fire, capturing 10 EPWs and destroying 17 truckloads of artillery, mortars, RPG rockets, and other stockpiles of ammunition. The Battalion continued to operate in Baghdad for 2 weeks, conducting multiple cordon and search operations within this densely populated area. Over seven areas contaminated by unexploded ordnance were cleared using friendly demolitions. In addition, the Soldiers conducted both mounted and dismounted patrols that maintained law and civil order in the area. 526 FSB FLE moves forward with the Brigade TOC elements to set up operations at a food processing plant at the southern edge of Baghdad. Over the next two weeks, the main body of the FSB moved operations to the military airfield in Al Iskandariyah while the FLE provided full-spectrum logistics support to the Brigade forces operating in Baghdad.
- 12 April 1967      Task Force Oregon is formed in the South Vietnam in response to MACV's need for reinforcements in I Corps. The task force is stationed at Chu Lai (Quang Tin Province) and is made up of the following units: 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions; 3d Brigade (1-14<sup>th</sup> IN, 1-35<sup>th</sup> IN, 2-35 IN); 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division 1<sup>st</sup> BDE: 1-327<sup>th</sup> ABN, 2-327<sup>th</sup> ABN, 2-502 ABN); 19<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade (2-1<sup>st</sup> IN, 3-21<sup>st</sup> IN, 4-31<sup>st</sup> IN); 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment (2<sup>nd</sup> SQDN)
- 12 April 1968      B/1-502 IN had the only contact. They engaged 5 VC vic. YD5830 with negative results.
- 12 April 1968      While investigating digging sounds in action 20 miles southwest of Hue; airborne infantrymen from B/2-502 IN detected six NVA and took them under fire. Elements of the 9th Division's 3rd BN 5th CAV swept the suspected enemy area with the paratroopers. B Company riflemen engaged the NVA company, using organic weapons, and swept over the enemy bunker positions. The NVA force broke contact, leaving 20 dead behind. (Rendezvous with Destiny; Screaming Eagle Diary; July 1968)
- 12 April 2006      **Operation VISION QUEST:** D/1-502 conducts a Cordon and knock and successfully detains the 5 AIF believed to be involved in a catastrophic IED attack.
- 12 - 24 April 2006      **Operation DESERT SCORPION:** B/1-502 and SCTS/1-502 conduct multiple Air Assaults and Search and Attacks to gain intelligence on the AIF responsible for the downing of an AH-64 aircraft in vicinity of Rushdi Mulla.



12 April 2008

**Operation STRIKE HAWKEYE:** Strike Brigade disrupts indirect fire in Kadhimiya Security District in order to prevent attacks on CF and ISF. Key tasks of this operation include area reconnaissance to disrupt historical POO sites, ISR support of NAI's to prevent IDF attacks and provide early warning, and coordinate responsive AWT coverage to interdict IDF. End state of this operation is that IDF and rocket attacks are disrupted, CF and ISF freedom of maneuver is sustained, and Shulla and Hurriya are free of SG IDF teams.



13 April 1968

1/502 IN Battalion on this day was released from the mission of security of Camp Evans. The CP moved from Camp Evans to LZ Sally. (1-502 Unit Annual Historical Supplement)

13 April 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** Once again the 2-502 IN STRIKE Force Battalion moved its area of operations. The Battalion was released from the control of the 2BDE and came under the operational control of the 3BDE. The Battalion headquarters was established at FSB Jack, and the battalion's maneuver companies operated in the mountains west of the fire base, screening and interdicting enemy units massing to strike against Camp Evans.

13 April 2003

In order to destroy enemy remnants that could interdict the Corps ground LOCs, 101st Airborne Division orders 3-502 IN, led by MAJ Brian Pearl, to clear the city of Al Mahmudiyah, a small town to the south of Baghdad. During the operation, Iraqi citizens gathered around U.S. forces cheering the fall of Saddam Hussein. Paramilitary forces took advantage of this by setting up an ambush that they initiated with a fragmentary grenade and automatic weapon fire, causing multiple casualties. With Kiowa's running black on fuel and the Strike HQ 25 miles north of the area and despite the chaos of the violent opening moments of the ambush, the training of the Soldiers quickly took over and they acquitted themselves heroically in eliminating the threat and evacuating their casualties. 18 Soldiers were wounded during this mission while SPC Turner received the Silver Star.



**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, 501<sup>st</sup> IN (Vietnam) and the 502<sup>nd</sup> IN Regiment (\*See STRIKE HISTORY NOTE).**

12 x Silver Star (2 x Posthumously)  
 6 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor  
 6 x Bronze Star Medal (2 x Posthumously)  
 1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor  
 68 x Purple Heart Medal (36 x Posthumously)  
 1 x Non-hostile Illness or Injury  
 1 x MIA

07 April 1968 SP4 Graham L. Mills (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

07 April 1969



CPL Thomas J. Vassal (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds when area came under rocket attack by hostile force at NDP site 1KM W-SW of FSB Tennessee, 10 KM North of A Sap Village, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

08 April 1945 PVT R. V. Smith (HQ/3-502d PIR) was listed as Missing in Action in Germany.

08 April 1969 SP4 Dennis L. Roads (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

08 April 1969 The following Soldiers: SP4 Tony Palacios and PFC Townser Steele Jr. (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

08 April 1969 PFC Jimmy R. Westmoreland (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

08 April 1970 SP4 Daniel F. Whybrew (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (General Order Number 4492, 22 April 1970)

08 April 2006 SPC Derek Knight (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wound received from enemy or hostile action.

09 April 1967 The following Soldiers: SGT George Tallman, PFC John W. Charlton (HHC/2-502 IN) and PFC Allen W. Porter (B/2-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service. These Soldiers also died from wounds sustained when hit by fragments from friendly grenade which accidentally detonated while drawing supplies for a mission in the Khanh Duong Province, South Vietnam.





- 09 April 1968 The following Soldiers: PFC Floyd D. Turnley (A/2-501 IN); PFC John D. Olson (B/1-501 IN); SGT William M. Halliburton SP4 Cecil Nix Jr., SP4 William C. McKinstry, SP4 Stephen L. Havas (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)
- 09 April 1968 The following Soldiers: SGT Roland E. Moore, Ricky G. Inlow (A/1-501 IN); PFC Douglas G. Thompson (C/1-501 IN); PFC Patrick C. Coughlin (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 09 April 1968 SGT Joseph R. Paulette (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam.
- 09 April 1968 PFC David F. Wagner (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.
- 09 April 1969 The following Soldiers 1LT Bruce T. King and SP4 Delmar C. Dennis (E/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 09 April 1970 SP4 Lenard D. Blachly (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in combat in the Republic of Vietnam. (Purple Heart Citation)
- 09 April 1970 PFC Thomas L. Gates (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from small arms gunfire wounds in the A Shau Valley, 24 Miles W-SW of Hue in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (PFC Gates later died from wounds on 25 November 1986)
- 09 April 1970 The following Soldiers: SSG James D. Mace, CPL Herman A. Clay Jr., CPL Leroy Nelson, CPL Charles G. Selman (Pictured) (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds from in the A Shau Valley, 24 Miles W-SW of Hue in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 09 April 1970 SFC John B. Mullis (E/1-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (Illness or Disease) as a ground casualty in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 09 April 2006 PFC Calvin Williams (B/1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in the result of enemy or hostile action.
- 10 April 1968 The following Soldiers: CPL Wayne A. Slankard, PFC James A. Palenik Jr. and SP4 Clyde C. Collins (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small armed gunfire wounds during a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vic. Thon Phuoc Dien, Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.



10 April 1968



The following Soldiers: CPL Jonathan Neal and SP4 Alan R. Gault (Pictured) (B/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968

PFC Ronald Davis (A/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small armed gunfire wounds during a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vic. Thon Phuoc Dien, Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968



PFC Lawrence W. Eller (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from burns during a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vic. Thon Phuoc Dien, Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968



PFC Bryan T. Mukai (B/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds during a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vic. Thon Phuoc Dien, Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1969

The following Soldiers: CPL Oliver E. Reynolds Jr., SP4 William F. Baggs Jr., SP4 Thomas G. Manderfeld (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

10 April 1969

SGT Joseph F. Spinnicchia (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds receive which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

10 April 1970



SSG Donald W. Sistrunk (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds from an NVA Sniper as he approached a helicopter landing zone in the Re-Up Hill Area, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

10 April 1971

SP4 Ralph W. Jones (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds receive which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



- 10 April 2011 SGT Jamie Jarboe (A/4-4 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.
- 11 April 1967 SP4 Kenneth E. James (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire in the Darlac Province, South Vietnam.
- 11 April 1968 The following Soldiers: PFC John A. Hoggatt (A/2-501 IN); CPL Dellwyn A. Fitchand PFC William L. Kinnard (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Phuoc Dien 10km NE of Hue, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 11 April 1970 The following Soldiers: SGT Terry L. Heaton, SGT Jeffrey J. Joseph, SP4 Larry L. Parkhurst, SP4 Jorge L. Perez-Rios, SP4 Alred, D. Rhodus, SP4 Gary E. Cousins, and PFC Robert D. Wigglesworth (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)
- 11 April 1971 PFC Kenneth E. Mims (B/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated 8 KM E-SE of Phu Loc, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 11 April 2008 SPC Nathaniel G. Zimdars (B/1-64 AR) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor while assigned as a gunner during OIF; he demonstrated tremendous leadership and personal courage.
- 12 April 1968 The following Soldiers: SP4 Byron N. Jones and PFC Jones E. Tomlinson (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thuan Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 12 April 1968 The following Soldiers: PFC Michael W. Miller (C/1-501 IN); PFC Donald J. Boaz (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thuan Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 12 April 1971 SSG John V. Wentworth (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wound while at an aircraft landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force 4 KM SE of LZ Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 12 April 2008 SGT William Allmon (1-64 AR) 25, of Ardmore, Oklahoma; earned the Purple heart for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device in Baghdad.
- 12 April 2011 SPC Curtis Brunk (A/4-4 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.





13 April 1971

PFC Lamar L. Williams (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wound in the vicinity of LZ Veghel, 30 KM SW of Hue, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

13 April 2003

CPL Christopher Hausler (3-502 IN) actions in combat during the grenade and small arms attack earn him the Bronze Star Medal with Valor and the Purple Heart.

13 April 2003

SPC Dwayne Turner (HHC/3-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received during combat in action against a hostile force.

13 April 2006



SPC Andrew K. Waits (1-502 IN) 23, of Waterford, Michigan; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV during combat operations, in Baghdad.

13 April 2006

SGT David Etherington (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in actions in combat. At 1130 while conducting a mounted patrol, SGT Etherington's HMMWV was struck by an IED. He suffered shrapnel wounds to his hip and two broken toes.

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

07 April 1969

SSG Kenneth E. Buesing (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 7 April 1969. Sergeant Buesing distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, during an ambush near Ap Phu Bai II in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. An element of Company C came in contact with a squad size element of Viet Cong rice carriers. Quickly gaining fire superiority, the element of Company C drove the insurgents from the area. Sergeant Buesing volunteered to accompany his platoon leader in pursuit of the fleeing insurgents. With utter disregard for his own safety, he subjected himself to the insurgents as he went forward into the darkness. While traveling along a trail near the ambush site, the platoon leader spotted a fleeing hostile soldier. Sergeant Buesing flanked the insurgent and killed him. 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. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order Number 13190)

08 April 1969



SP4 James S. Schmidt (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 April 1969. Specialist Schmidt distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in the First Platoon of Company A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company A was on a search and clear operation in the mountains southeast of Hue, Republic of Vietnam, when the First Platoon came under intense enemy fire. The platoon immediately began to react and moved to a covered position. From his secure position, Specialist Schmidt saw a comrade hit by the heavy fire. Completely disregarding his own safety, he quickly moved through the enemy fire to try and aid the wounded man. The enemy fire was immediately concentrated on him as he worked his way toward the man, but he continued. Having to move the last twenty meters by crawling, he reached the man and was able to give first aid and move him from his unprotected location. Specialist Schmidt'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.



09 April 1970

CPL Herman A. Clay Jr. (B/2-501 IN) (Posthumously) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 April 1970. Private Clay distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While set up with his squad in a defensive position on a hill top, Private Clay detected movement to his front and immediately alerted the rest of his squad. Upon investigation he cited a North Vietnamese Army Soldier in the brush preparing to fire at his comrades. Private Clay jumped up into the enemy Soldier's line of fire, engaged him with rifle fire, and sacrificed his own life to save the lives of several of his fellow Soldiers. His actions were an inspiration to his comrades. Private Clay'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.

09 April 1970

SP4 John Marks (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 April 1970. Specialist Marks distinguished himself while serving as a medical aid man in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat action in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. When the lead element of his unit was overrun by an enemy force,



Specialist Marks immediately volunteered to join a reaction force. After maneuvering to the point of contact, Specialist Marks braved the intense small arms fire to aid the wounded. Moving through the enemy barrage, he administered emergency treatment to severely wounded soldiers and directed his comrades in treating the others. Upon the arrival of medical evacuation helicopters, Specialist Marks moved outside the defensive perimeter to assist in the extraction of wounded personnel. His actions were instrumental in saving many lives. Specialist Marks' 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.

09 April 1970

SP4 Lenard D. Blachly (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 09 April 1970. SP4 Blachly distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Despite severe wounds, he protected five wounded with heavy suppressive fire on an enemy force of unknown size, permitting them to be evacuated. His 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. (Bronze Star Medal Citation)



10 April 1968

1SG Frederick C. Brander (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968. First Sergeant Brander distinguished himself while engaged in military operations against an armed, hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968, while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st



Infantry. Company A was on a series of search and clear operation just south of the Demilitarized Zone and succeeded in trapping a North Vietnamese unit in the village of Phuc Dien, Republic of Vietnam. In order to prevent the enemy from escaping, the company set up a cordon around the village and stood by as artillery fire and air strikes raked the area. The task of ferreting out the entrenched enemy fell to the first platoon as it began a sweep of the enemy infested village. After advancing a distance of not more than one hundred meters, the lead squad of the platoon was hit by a heavy volume of automatic weapons fire from a number of enemy positions. With the forward movement stalled, First Sergeant Brander raced forward from his position with the company command group. After seeing that the enemy fire was coming from a small dike directly in front of the platoon, he moved around to the left flank so that he could come up on the side of the enemy. Completely disregarding his own safety and defying the enemy fire that was being aimed solely at him, First Sergeant Brander crawled behind the same dike with the three snipers. Completely surprising the three enemy Soldiers, First Sergeant Brander immediately opened fire killing them. With platoon free to advance, First Sergeant Brander jumped up and moved with the platoon as it continued toward its objective. First Sergeant Brander's exceptional valor is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

10 April 1968



CPT Cleo C. Hogan Jr. (D1/501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968. As part of a combat operation near Quang Tri City, Republic of Vietnam, Captain Hogan led his men in a combat assault on a suspected enemy position. Upon descending into the landing zone, the company began receiving hostile mortar fire. Captain Hogan quickly dispersed his men to lessen the effect of the mortars and then deployed his troops against the enemy force. He halted the advance one hundred and fifty meters from the wood line that contained the enemy positions, and requested gas dispensers to harass the enemy while his company made the attack. As the dispensers were delivered to the company location the enemy opened fire with small arms and automatic weapons. Captain Hogan, completely disregarding the intensity of the fire, moved forward to position the gas dispensers and then led the attack against the fortified positions. The second platoon leader's radio-telephone operator was killed in the heavy fire, causing a lapse in communications. To maintain control of the attack, Captain Hogan started to move forward toward the second platoon's location; as he did so, the enemy directed a large volume of small arms and rocket fire at him as he raced and crawled across the open rice paddy. While crawling, he spotted two of the enemy firing from a nearby house. Captain Hogan crawled to within thirty-five meters of the location and fired a light anti-tank weapon. One enemy was killed and the other was forced out of the house, where Captain Hogan shot him with his M-16 rifle. Crawling farther, Captain Hogan spotted other enemy in bunker and trench lines and decided to move his company back and call in



artillery. After the barrage, an attack was launched to recover the body of the radio-operator, but the hail of enemy fire forced Captain Hogan to again withdraw his company. Two additional companies were airlifted to the location and the area was cordoned for the night. The next day, Captain Hogan led his company in an assault on the village, killing sixty of the enemy and capturing eleven. Captain Hogan'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.

10 April 1968



PSG James A. Parr (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968. Platoon Sergeant Parr distinguished himself while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company A was on a search and clear operation south of the demilitarized zone and succeeded in trapping a North Vietnamese unit in the village of Phuc Dien, Republic of Vietnam. In order to prevent the enemy from escaping, the company set up a cordon around the village and stood by as artillery fire and air strikes were called in on the area. The task of ferreting out the entrenched enemy fell to the First Platoon as it began a sweep of the enemy held village. After advancing a distance of not more than 100 meters, the lead element of the platoon was hit by automatic weapons fire from a number of sniper positions. The battle was such that it was almost impossible for the men to continue forward. Knowing that to stop at that point would be disastrous; Sergeant Parr left his own safe position and moved forward to rally his men. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Parr exposed himself to the intense enemy fire and led his men on an assault to the edge of the village. His valiant actions greatly aided the platoon in accomplishing its mission. Platoon Sergeant Parr'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.

10-11 April 1968

SP4 Harry P. Longbottom Jr. (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968 through 11 April 1968. Specialist Longbottom distinguished himself while serving as a point man with Company D, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry. Company D was conducting a combat operation in the vicinity of Thon Phuoc Dien, Republic of Vietnam, when Specialist Longbottom's platoon became pinned down by a barrage of enemy grenade, automatic weapons, and machine gun fire. Disregarding his own safety, Specialist Longbottom advanced in the face of a blistering hail of fire, and by using his M-16 rifle and grenade, single-handedly killed three North Vietnamese Soldiers. His courage in the face of grave danger was an inspiration for the other members of his platoon and made it possible for them to reorganize and press the attack further. He therefore played a great part in helping his company to accomplish its mission. Throughout the night and the following morning, the North Vietnamese attempted to break through the friendly forces and again Specialist Longbottom displayed his skills by killing two more enemy Soldiers with a burst of fire from his M-16 rifle. As his platoon advanced the next day, Specialist Longbottom killed one North Vietnamese Soldier within an instant of sighting him and captured another. Specialist Longbottom's devotion to duty and extraordinary heroism over the two day period is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (General Order No. Unknown; 27 October 1968)





10 April 1969

1LT Valentine J. Zapert (E/1-501st IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1969. Lieutenant Zapert distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company E, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry during the conduct of a search and clear mission approximately twelve kilometers southwest of the village of Phu Loc, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. On the cited date, the Reconnaissance Platoon of Company E observed a platoon size enemy force moving in its direction. Setting up a hasty ambush, Lieutenant Zapert deployed his men in a strategic fighting position. In the ensuing battle, with complete disregard for his own safety, he openly moved through the intense fire to his men as he pointed out targets. His actions were most instrumental in routing the enemy force and contributed immeasurably to the death of two enemy Soldiers and the capture of another. 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.



11 April 1967



SP4 Kenneth James (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously). Specialist Four James' element, while moving along a jungle trail which had dense vegetation on both sides, suddenly began receiving a tremendous volume of automatic weapons fire from two platoons of well entrenched enemy soldiers. Specialist James immediately returned fire and deployed his fire team, but the enemy fire was so suppressive that his men could not maneuver against the entrenched enemy. Having had two men wounded by an enemy machine gun and realizing the danger his comrades were in, Specialist James, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, unhesitatingly rushed forward, exposing himself immediately to the intense hostile fire, and charged the entrenched machine gun position which had his unit pinned down. As specialist James was conducting his courageous assault on the machine gun position, he was mortally wounded. Specialist James' daring charge gave his men the needed inspiration and courage to sweep forward. In doing so they succeeded in routing the enemy soldiers, causing them to leave their packs and one machine gun behind, Specialist James' heroic action and avid devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

11 April 1967



SSG Ray Archuletta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while on a search and destroy mission the point element of the First Platoon, B Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, suddenly became engaged in a fire fight with an estimated enemy squad reinforced with a light machine gun. As the intensity of the enemy fire increased, Staff Sergeant Archuletta quickly determined the precarious situation of the point element. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Sergeant Archuletta jumped to his feet and charged through the withering enemy automatic weapons fire to within approximately twenty feet of the enemy machine gun position and threw a hand grenade into the emplacement, knocking it out. Sergeant Archuletta continued to advance on the enemy position and captured the enemy automatic weapon that had been abandoned by the wounded enemy soldier. Sergeant Archuletta quickly returned to his squad and continued to expose himself to the withering enemy fire while deploying his squad and personally directing their fire. Sergeant Archuletta on several occasions moved through the tremendous volume of enemy fire and personally pulled some of his wounded comrades to covered positions. His actions saved the lives of several of his wounded comrades and enabled the platoon to successfully assault and overrun the determined enemy force. Sergeant Archuletta's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are within the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.





11 April 1968

1SG Frederick C. Brander (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 11 April 1968. First Sergeant Brander distinguished himself while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry. Company A was involved in a combat operation around Phuc Dien, Republic of Vietnam and was able to trap the enemy force in the village and place a cordon around it. The trapped enemy Soldiers were trying desperately to break out of the snare and maintain close contact with the friendly troops so that airstrikes and artillery fire could not be called in. First Sergeant Brander, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, raced back and forth along the edge of the line, encouraging his men and giving directions for preventing the enemy's escape. Because of the lack of a secondary force, it was necessary that every man know how to react instantly. As numerous men were wounded, First Sergeant Brander again exposed himself to the intense automatic weapons fire to treat the men and pull them back from the area of contact. When it became obvious to him that some of the men would have to be evacuated, he prepared a medical evacuation landing zone and personally carried a number of the more seriously wounded to the medical evacuation helicopter. First Sergeant Brander's exceptional valor is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st; General Order Number 9432)

11 April 2008

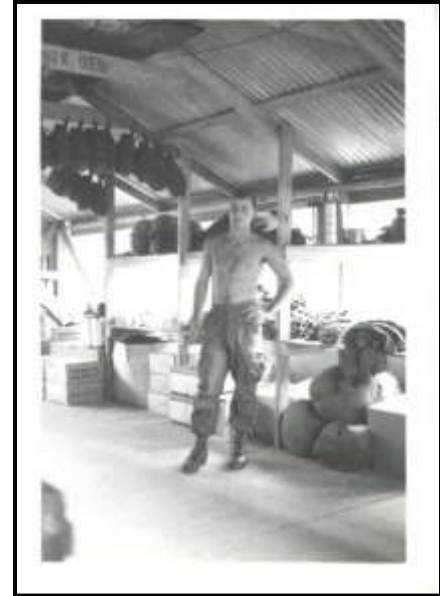
SSG Christopher Hoerschelman, (C/1-64 AR) Earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor. SSG Hoerschelman and his B section were conducting a mounted patrol in Hayy Ur, Iraq in order to disrupt enemy freedom of maneuver throughout the sector. SSG Hoerschelman's section was conducting over watch of checkpoint operations on Route Gold 150 meters West of Route Grizzlies. The section's primary task was to over watch the traffic circle facing East into Sadr City as Coalition Forces were conducting route clearance operations from South to North on Route Grizzlies while simultaneously conducting a Corps level barrier emplacement on Route Gold in the southern portion of Sadr City. While traveling North on Route Grizzlies, the Route Clearance Team was struck by an IED. SSG Hoerschelman's vehicle immediately moved East to the Company's limit of advance on Route Gold to provide over watch and security for the element in contact. While maneuvering his Bradley onto Route Grizzlies to provide security, his vehicle received small arms fire from the East buildings and from the South side of Route Grizzlies. During the engagement, SSG Hoerschelman quickly identified and destroyed two enemy insurgents. After the enemy was neutralized, the Route Clearance Team was able to self recover their vehicle. Moments later, a separate Route Clearance Team along with a barrier emplacement team began operations from East to West on Route Gold in Sadr City. The Route Clearance Team was struck by over five EFPs, engaged by multiple RPG teams and SAF before reaching their objective. As SSG Hoerschelman began to maneuver his vehicle to provide over watch and suppressive fires to the East, he was engaged by two RPGs and SAF from the traffic circle at the Route Gold/Route Grizzlies intersection. His gunner identified the enemy but due to SSG Hoerschelman's innate sense of situational awareness, did not engage due to restricted fire lines and the fact that he knew there were Friendly Forces directly to the East. SSG Hoerschelman then maneuvered his vehicle to allow his gunner the ability to engage and destroy the enemy without any chance of fratricide. SSG Hoerschelman proved his ability to multi-task while engaged on the battlefield by coordinating with the AWT and positioning the section of Bradley's to establish fire superiority over the enemy while leading his vehicle in destroying the enemy RPG teams that had pinned down the barrier emplacement team. During the contact, his wingman's 25mm cannon failed and the vehicle had to retrograde to cover and correct the failure. SSG Hoerschelman held his position with no flank support in an immensely hostile and forward position to provide covering fires to the East for the unit in contact. While fighting without a wingman, the vehicle was left in a vulnerable position with little support. Nevertheless, SSG Hoerschelman continued to engage and destroy the enemy to the East and North. Utilizing his vast knowledge of adjacent unit coordination, he walked the AWT onto



hidden enemy positions across Route Grizzlies. As a result of his actions, over 15 insurgents were KIA and the checkpoint was maintained in IA and CF control.

12 April 1968

SGT Thomas G. Pitts (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 12 April 1968. Sergeant Pitts distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader with Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, during an ambush patrol near the village of Ap Duc Trong, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. The ambush patrol, consisting of two squads, had just set up its ambush site when both the company night defensive position and the ambush patrol came under an intense barrage of hostile automatic weapons, rocket propelled grenade, and hand grenade fire. The initial bursts of fire delivered upon the ambush site critically wounded the platoon leader and seriously wounded Sergeant Pitts. Refusing medical treatment for himself, Sergeant Pitts immediately assumed command of the ambush element and skillfully



organized the defense of the completely encircled position. With utter disregard to his personal safety and the pain he suffered, he courageously exposed himself to the devastating enemy fire as he moved from man to man pointing out targets and lending encouragement to his beleaguered troopers. Withdrawal was impossible without abandoning the many wounded and the dead. When the hostile force had terminated its attack on the patrol all but three men had been wounded. At such time that a relief element could be dispatched it was Sergeant Pitts who directed the element to the patrol's position. Not until the relief element leader had reached his location did Sergeant Pitts relinquish his command and allow himself to receive treatment. Sergeant Pitt's extraordinarily heroic actions and indomitable courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military Service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

12 April 1971

SP4 Robert J. Ivy (A/2-501 IN) 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. Specialist Four Ivy distinguished himself on 12 April 1971 while serving as a squad leader during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. After being inserted into a landing zone, Specialist Ivy's squad came under intense small arms, rocket propelled grenade and automatic weapons fire. Organizing his men, he delivered accurate suppressive fire on the well fortified enemy position. Observing his platoon leader seriously wounded and lying in an open area, Specialist Ivy maneuvered through the enemy fire and carried his wounded comrade to a relatively safe area where he administered emergency first aid. Specialist Ivy assumed the duties of platoon leader and directed the accurate and devastating suppressive fire on the enemy. When the enemy had been silenced, he assisted the wounded back to the landing zone and called for an evacuation helicopter. His actions were instrumental in saving the life of a fellow soldier. Specialist Four Ivy's gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military and military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



13 April 2003



SPC Dwayne Turner (HHC/3-502 IN), a combat medic received the Silver Star after providing life-saving medical care to 16 fellow Soldiers when his unit came under a grenade and small arms attack 30 miles South of Baghdad. Specialist Turner was a part of a work detail that came under attack as they unloaded supplies in a makeshift operations center. When a grenade was thrown over the wall by insurgents, the blast threw SPC Turner into the vehicle, and wounded him with shrapnel. Ignoring his own injuries, SPC Turner ran to the front of his vehicle and observed a Soldier with eye injuries. He evacuated his comrade to a more sheltered position and with another two medics established a triage system under the cover of a building. SPC Turner then ran back outside to bring more Soldiers into the makeshift clinic. He explains, "After I got the first patient inside the building, I sort of slumped down in the corner. I didn't think there was any way we were going to get out of there, and it would have been really easy to just stay in that corner. Then I heard (the wounded) calling for medics, and I realized I could let them continue to get hurt-and possibly die-and not come home to their families, or I could do something about it." While providing first aid to other wounded Soldiers, SPC Turner was shot at least twice including one bullet wound that broke his right arm and another in his left leg. "A couple of times, I heard bullets going by, but I thought they were just kicking up rocks on me." Nevertheless, he continued to give first aid and to bring Soldiers in from the barrage of gunfire outside the compound until he finally collapsed against a wall from loss of blood. On being informed that he was bleeding by his fellow medics, SPC Turner states, "Someone told me, 'Doc Turner, Doc Turner, you're bleeding.' I looked down at my leg and saw I was bleeding, and kind of said, 'Oh hell, if I'm not dead yet, I guess I'm not dying.'" Doc Turner's perseverance and diligence preserved the lives of every Soldier he treated until the MEDEVAC could arrive. The Army believes that at least two of the 16 Soldiers he treated would have died had he not helped them during the attack. SGT Neil Mulvaney, of HHC, 3-502 IN has said of him, "He risked his life for 16 other men without noticing his own injuries-that's heroism in my book." As far as SPC Turner's response, he has said "I was just doing my job. As far as the values of the Army, it's not to 'earn' a Silver Star; it's to uphold what you signed on for. Other people may see me as a hero; I see myself as doing my job. No one is going to die on my watch."

13 April 2003

SGT Neil A. Mulvaney III (HHC/3-502 IN) earned Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroic actions during combat operations against Iraqi enemy forces. Sergeant Mulvaney provided accurate suppressive fire which resulted in several Soldiers' lives being saved. His physical courage and self sacrifice is in keeping with the history of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and the United States Army. (Permanent Orders #219-615 (August 7, 2003))



**\*STRIKE HISTORY NOTE:**

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

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

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

