



**2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT)
"STRIKE HISTORY"
14 April – 20 April 2013**



14 April 1968

1/502 IN Battalion had a day of relaxation for the battle weary troops of the Battalion as they had stood down at Wunder Beach.

14 April 2003

A follow-on clearance mission was executed by 3-502 in Al Mahmudiyah to root out any remaining paramilitary forces, while 2-502 conducted an out of sector mission in Al Iskandariyah to destroy military and paramilitary forces that might disrupt the corps main supply route. The one-day mission succeeded in destroying over 30 tanks, armored personnel carriers, anti-aircraft guns, and missiles.

April 1968

1-502 IN BN spend the day completing the move to LZ Sally. The units took re-supply and prepared for future operations.



15 April 1969

Elements of the 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry from the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) find a munitions cache 17km southwest of A Shau in Thua Thien Province. Cache is estimated at 9.5 tons and includes over 2,000 mortar rounds.

15 April 2011

2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion conducts Transfer of Authority (TOA) with 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mountain Division at FOB Pasab.

16 April 1968

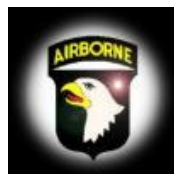
1-502 IN BN went OPCON to the 1st Brigade until 30 April 1968. During this operation the records were destroyed in a rocket attack.

16 April 1968

Eighteen miles north of Hue, elements of 2nd BN (Abn), 501st IN discovered an enemy base camp containing 20 underground tunnels and bunkers. Stored in the tunnels were 1,000 AK-47 rounds, 20 rounds of 60mm mortars and various medical supplies.

16 April 1968

Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN: 2-502 effectively accomplished its mission. It secured the rock crusher site and made significant contacts with the enemy forcing him to sustain significant losses in personnel, and weapons. He was forced to move his base area to avoid contact. 2-502 managed to establish heavy FSB Bastogne, in the desired time limit.



Results of Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KHA</u>	<u>WHA</u>
US	11	113

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>VC KIA</u>	<u>Wpns Ind.</u>	<u>Rice Dest.</u>
ENEMY 74 (C)	47	250lbs	

The Battalion personnel strength at the conclusion of Operation was as follows:

Authorized:	778
Assigned:	689
Present for Duty:	643
Not present for duty:	45

Causalities for Operations were as follows:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KHA</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>WHA</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>INRHA</u>
HHC	5	0	0	21	0	0
A Co.	2	0	0	49	0	0
B Co.	3	0	0	38	0	1
C Co.	1	1	0	25	0	0
Total	11	1	0	133	0	1

16 April 1968

Operation DELAWARE: Operation Began (2-502 IN); Locations: Thua Thien Province, RVN. Task Organization: A/2-502, B/2-502, C/2-502, Recondos. Battalion Control: HHC (-), 4.2 & 82mm Mortar Platoon, 3(-)/A/326 ENG, IPW, 101MI Detachment. The following changes were made in the task organization during Operation DELAWARE. (1) 2-327 assumed OPCON C/2-502 effective 181300H and released effective 191425H. (2) 2-502 released OPCON B/1-502 effective 201400H. (3) 1/327 assumed OPCON Recondos 2-502 effective 291800H and released effective 301830H.

Mission: Phase I: 2-502 establishes and secures firebase vic. of YD5402 and block Hwy 547 and 547A in assigned AO. Phase II: 2-502 establishes firebase, conducts reconnaissance enforce operations into New Base Area 114, interdicts enemy routes of egress along Song Bo River.

The Battalion personnel strength at the beginning of Operation was as follows:

Authorized:	920
Assigned:	677
Present for Duty:	638
Not present for duty:	39

16 April 1970

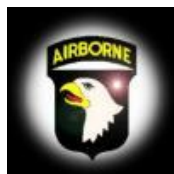
Operation TEXAS STAR: at first light an unknown enemy force struck D/2-502 2nd Platoon. The enemy engaged the Platoon with RPG's and small arms fire before they were driven off. One Soldier was KIA.

17-18 April 1968

1-501 cordons Ap Ny Xa and Ap Dong Xuyen resulting in 48 NVA KIA and 4000 lbs of rice captured.

17 April 1968

A battalion-size cordon was conducted by paratroopers of the 1-501 IN and A/2-501 IN around the fortified village of Dong Xuyen three miles north of Hue. Following Army aviation, artillery, and tactical air strikes, the "Geronimo" troopers entered the village killing 52 enemy in three days.



- 17 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** D/2-502 2d Platoon reversed tables, ambushing small enemy forces, killing one and wounding several others.
- 17 April 2009 1-75 CAV holds a Remembrance Ceremony to honor the fallen Strike Soldiers from OIF I, OIF 05-07, and OIF 07-09. Fallen Soldiers include SSG Richard A. Burdick (3-502 IN), SGT Leonard D. Simmons (3-502 IN), and PFC Jerrick M. Petty (3-502 IN) from OIF I, SSG Metodido A. Bandonill and SGT Steve M. Sakoda from OIF 05-07, and SSG Clay A. Craig, SGT John D. Aragon, and CPL David P. McCormick from OIF 07-09.
- 17 April 2011 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment conducts Transfer of Authority (TOA) with 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade 10th Mountain Division at FOB Pasab.
- 18 April 1971 Medics from the 1-502 IN saved the lives of three Vietnamese civilians while on a MEDCAP mission near Hue. Two of the victims were involved in a motorcycle accident, and the third was injured by a VC mine minutes before the MEDCAP team arrived. The "First Strike" medics administered emergency first aid treatment and called in a "dustoff" to transport the wounded Vietnamese to the 85th Evacuation Hospital in Phu Bai. (Rendezvous with Destiny; Screaming Eagle Vietnam Diary; July 1971)

- 18 April 2003 Lt. Gen. William Wallace speaks to the Soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team, exhorting them to stay vigilant as Operation Iraqi Freedom transitions into a peacekeeping and humanitarian stage. "Don't let your guard down," Wallace said. "Show the people of this country the proper respect, but be careful. There's still a bunch of knuckleheads running around." He went on to praise the troops for giving "back to the Iraqi people the society and culture that is rightfully theirs." U.S. Army photo by SPC Robert Woodward, 101st Airborne Division.

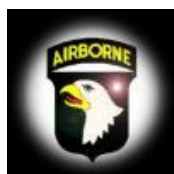


- 18 April 2011 Combined Task Force STRIKE conducts Transfer of Authority (TOA) with 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division at FOB Pasab.

- 18 April -
28 May 2011 Operation Spartan Strike: 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, Combined Action Strike Force (CASF), remained in Afghanistan under the Operational Control of 3rd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division from 18 April to 28 May 2011. During this time, CASF conducted Operation Spartan STRIKE to continue disruption of insurgent command and control, finance, and logistics operations in western Zharay District, Kandahar Province.



In April 2011, STRIKE Force attacked to clear Objectives Macarthur, Eisenhower, and Caldwell in the areas of Nalgham and Charharshaka, Zharay District, Kandahar Province. During the initial operation to clear Objective Macarthur on 21 April 2011, A/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN discovered and reduced multiple fighting positions and caches including weapons and IED making



materials. The people appeared indigenous to the area and expressed interests of local concern. The rapid infiltration, population-centric clearance of the area, and air exfiltration from Objective Macarthur prevented the enemy from fixing Combined Action Strike Force (CASF), and the operation was a success. The subsequent clearance of Objective Eisenhower on 24 April 2011 in the Central Zharay Siah Choy area successfully interdicted \$5.15 million of drugs used to fuel the insurgency.



The air assault vertical envelopment permitted HHC/2-502 IN and D/2-502 IN to land behind the insurgent defensive IED belts to discover and reduce multiple IED and weapons caches. The Task Force encountered multiple small arms fire engagements with the Taliban that resulted in several Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) detainees. CASF conducted its final operation in the month of April to clear the Charharshaka area believed to be an insurgent support zone. On 27 April 2011, C/2-502 IN and Scouts from HHC/2-502 IN conducted an air assault to clear Objective Caldwell. During the clearance, Combined Action Strike Force assessed the population largely supportive of ISAF, ANSF, and GIRoA. The local national population facilitated the identification and reduction of weapons caches, IED making materials, and \$500,000 worth of narcotics.

19 April-17 May 1968

OPERATION CARENTAN II: in the Delta of the Quang Dien District, 2nd Brigade interdicted hostile attempts against the imperial city of Hue.

19 April –
17 May 1968

Operation Delaware/Lam Son – 216

Locations: I Corps: Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces; A Shau Valley; Pac Nhe Valley; Rao Loa River; “Puchbowl”; A Loui; Ta Bat; FSB Bastogne; LZs Cecile, Pepper, Stallion, Tiger, and Vickey.

Type/Objective: Reconnaissance in Force. Delaware is an airmobile raid into the enemy stronghold of the A Shau Valley. The goal is to exploit the enemy defeat in Pegasus and take advantage of enemy troops massed in the area. A secondary purpose of Delaware is to prevent of Delaware is to prevent another attack on Hue.

Units: U.S. – 1st Cavalry Division; 1st BDE (1-8th CAV, 2-8th CAV, 1-12th CAV), 2nd BDE (1-5th CAV, 5-7th CAV, 1-9th CAV), 3rd BDE (1-7th CAV, 2-7th CAV, 23rd Infantry Division (Americal), 196th Light Infantry Division; (2-1st IN, 3-21st IN, 4-31st IN), 101st Airborne Division; 1st BDE (1-327th ABN, 2-327th ABN, 2-502nd ABN); VNAF – 1st ARVN Division (3rd ARVN Regiment, 6th ARVN Airborne Battalion)

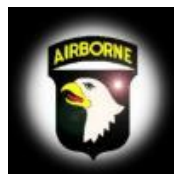
Casualties: Totals for Delaware/Lam Son – 216: U.S. - 142 KIA, 731 WIA, 47 MIA; NVA/VC 869 KIA (Note – Americal Division troops were listed as reserve units for this operation. They were not sent in; instead they were used to fight the 320th NVA division along the DMZ.)

19 April 1968

In what was termed “one of the 101st toughest missions in Vietnam” Screaming Eagles of the 1-502 IN BN began operation Delaware in an attempt to block off enemy supply routes along Highway 547 leading out of the A Shau valley toward Hue. During their operation, the 101st paratroopers were joined by the 3rd ARVN Airborne Task Force. (Rendezvous with Destiny; Screaming Eagle Vietnam Diary; July 1968)

19 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: 2-502 IN effectively accomplished their mission under the control of 3BDE and returned to the 1BDE. The operations center was initially established on FSB Strike (YD577171). The Battalion was to sweep north of Highway 547 west of Song Bo River. Although intelligence indicated heavy enemy activity in the



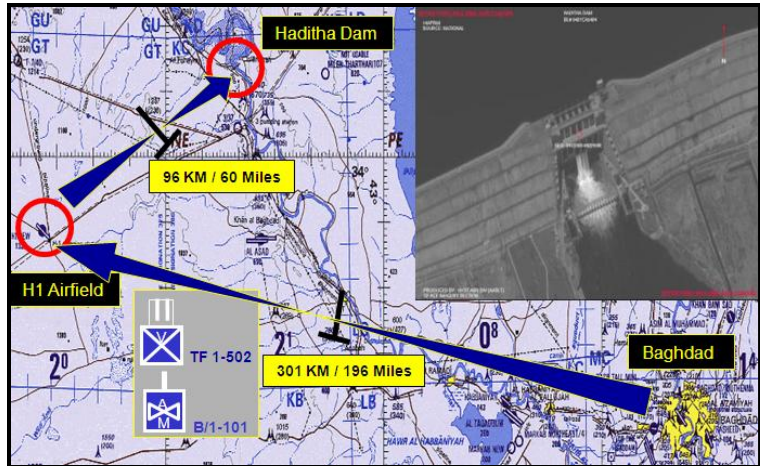
area, the STRIKE Force encountered relatively light resistance east of the Song Bo. Headquarters for the operation was reestablished at FSB Veghel.

19 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: B/2-501 IN was in a company size NDP awaiting helicopter extraction from Re-Up Hill Area. NVA forces of an unknown size attacked 2nd Platoon's side of the perimeter resulting in 2 KIA and 1 WIA.

19 April 1970

XXIV Corps (Thua Thien Province) – At 1635 an element of the 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), received small arms and automatic weapons fire from an undetermined size enemy force 23 miles west of Hue (73 miles



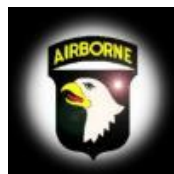
WNW of Da Nang). The troopers returned fire with organic weapons and contact was lost a short while later. While continuing to search the area, the troopers received an unreported number of 60mm mortar rounds at 1715, and, at about 1825, engaged and estimated enemy platoon. Small arms and automatic weapons fire was exchanged and the ground troops were supported by helicopter gunships and artillery. Fighting continued until an unreported time during the night when the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were one killed and six wounded. (MACV Summary for April 1970)

19 April 2003

From Baghdad, TF 1-502 moved independently over 400 km and linked up with special operations forces to secure the H-1 airfield, Haditha Dam, and to relieve 3rd Ranger Battalion. TF 1-502 operated in a very austere environment, over 600 kilometers from the nearest logistical supply hub, and connected to its parent headquarters only by intermittent satellite communications. The unit's actions in Haditha resulted in the repair of a dam that was an essential part of Iraq's power grid, and the destruction of large amounts of munitions and equipment that could have been otherwise used by terrorist forces. Along with securing the dam, TF 1-502 established a police force that initially patrolled alongside American forces, helping to ensure a safe and secure environment in the Haditha District. Once such stability was established, the conditions existed to select an interim Mayor and city council. The interim government and police force were in place when TF 1-502 conducted a relief in place with 3ACR.

19 April 2011

526th Brigade Support Battalion conducts Transfer of Authority with 710th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division at FOB Pasab.



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 Distinguished Service Cross
- 11 x Silver Star (3 x Posthumously)
- 2 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1 x Posthumously)
- 85 x Purple Heart Medal (50 x Posthumously)
- 3 x Non-hostile Illness or Injury

14 April 1968 PFC George D. Stone (C/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 Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

14 April 1969 PFC Charles D. Crosby (HHC/1-501 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 Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

14 April 1970 PFC Thomas A. Peters (HHC/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)

14 April 2003 SPC Thomas Arthur Foley III (2-44 ADA), 23, of Dresden, Tennessee; earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when a grenade exploded in his HMMWV in Iraq.



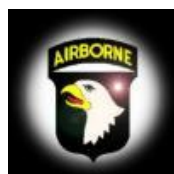
15 April 1966 PFC Luster C. Friel (C/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (Drowned or suffocated) as a ground casualty during a river crossing in the Province unknown, South Vietnam.

15 April 1968 CPL Homer H. Haws (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 in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



15 April 1968 SP4 Patrick F. Scharosch (C/1-501 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 Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 April 1969 The following Soldiers: SGT Albert E. Creamer and CPL John E. McDonald (C/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 Thuan Thien Province, South Vietnam.



15 April 1970

The following Soldiers: 2LT Prentice E. Joye Jr., SP4 James L. Thompson, PFC Leander Jones, PFC Chris Ross Jr. (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)

15 April 1970

SGT Walter C. Bartley Jr. (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was mistaken for a hostile force and fired upon by friendly force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 April 1971

The following Soldiers: 1LT Paul McKenzie (Pictured), SSG Ronald E. Bales, SGT Robert C. Hein, SGT Jerry S. Stearns, CPL William J. Ward Jr. (D/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 at Nam Hoa, 4 KM E-SE of LZ Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictured from L-R)



15 April 1971



PFC Terry W. Greene (Pictured) (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from misadventure (friendly fire; apparent short round) at Nam Hoa, 4 KM E-SE of LZ Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 April 1971

The following Soldiers: SGT John L. Wilson Jr. (HHC/1-502 IN); SSG George A. Pacheco, SGT Jeffrey E. Cowley, SGT Thomas J. Gettelfinger, CPL Robert J. Dutkiewicz (E/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds while on a combat operation at an airfield landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force, on Dong Do Mountain, 13 KM W-NW of Ruong Ruong, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

15 April 2011

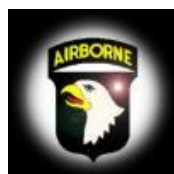
The following Soldiers: PFC Matthew Courter and PV2 Alan Raggio (B/4-4 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with small arms fire. They are assigned to Troop B, 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment.

16 April 1966

PFC Galen D. Grethen (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 wounds in the province unknown, South Vietnam.

16 April 1968

SGT Thomas R. Gdovin (D/1-502 IN) action in combat earned him the Purple Heart. For wounds received in action. (Citation awarded on 04 Oct 2005)



16 April 1968

The following Soldiers: SGT Sammy R. Smith (D/1-501 IN); SP4 Reginald C. Bell, PFC Gary P. Meringa (D/1-502 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.

16 April 1968



PFC Stephen E. Seiferth (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when hit by fragments from a hostile booby trap in the Quang Tri, South Vietnam.

16 April 1971

The following Soldiers: CPL Rex M. Daniels (Pictured), PFC Charles D. McGinnes (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from misadventure (friendly fire; apparent short round) at Nam Hoa, 4 KM E-SE of LZ Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

16 April 2008

PFC James Williams (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while he was conducting Route Vernon denial. The MRAP in the convoy took a direct hit by RPG fire. The RPG round went through the glass in the gunners shield impacting the M2 and exploding about 12 inches from PFC Williams' face. He suffered shrapnel wounds to the neck area and flash burns to the face. The medic on the ground treated him on site and requested a ground MEDEVAC.

17 April 1968

PFC Jerry Mosby (B/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds received while on a combat operation when came under hostile mortar attack in the Long Khanh Province, South Vietnam.

17 April 1969

1LT John C. Driver (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

17 April 1970

CPL Norman D. Peery (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 at NDP site 23 Miles W-SW of Hue, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 April 1968

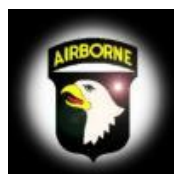
SGT Donald E. Smrtnik (D/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 April 1968

PFC Robert J. Hess (D/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty when he drowned while on a combat operation while wading across a stream in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 April 1968

PFC Reginald Williams Jr. (D/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty when he drowned while crossing a stream on a combat operation when he was attempting to save another individual in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



18 April 1969



SP4 Lloyd W. Jones (A/1-501 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 Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 April 1970

PFC Lawrence J. Witherow (A/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)

18 April 1970

SGT Timothy E. Sullivan (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at a night defensive position when the area came under grenade attack by a hostile force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 April 1970

The following Soldiers: SSG Michael J. Vagnone and SGT Robert L. Dangberg (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.

18 April 1970

CPL Robert A. Wall (D/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 when mistaken for enemy & fired on by friendly forces during a combat operation in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

18 April 2003



PFC Chris Bagwell earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received due to shrapnel to the face from an exploding grenade during the Battle of Al Mahmudiya. Along with PFC Bagwell 25 other Soldiers were awarded the Purple Heart from 2nd Brigade, 101st.

19 April 1968

CPL Timothy G. Robinson (C/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he stepped on a land mine in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

19 April 1970

The following Soldiers: SSG Dean L. Frey (A/2-501 IN); SSG James D. Jarrett and SSG Jeffrey J. Joseph (B/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.

20 April 1966

PFC Famous L. Lane (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 to his back, neck and right hand during hostile ground actions in the Province Unknown, South Vietnam.

20 April 1966

PFC George J. Skapinsky (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 Province unknown, South Vietnam.



20 April 1968

The following Soldiers: SP4 Francis G. Gray, PFC John M. Goodrich, PFC Claude McCan Jr., and PFC Jerald D. Swan (C/1-501 IN); PFC David J. Moreno, PFC Darryl C. Lintner, PFC Terry W. Mott, and PFC Jesus Martinez (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously). These Soldiers died from wounds in the Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam.

20 April 1968

The following Soldiers: PFC John M. Goodrich, PFC Jerald D. Swan (Pictured) (C/1-501 IN); PFC Darryl C. Lintner (Pictured) (E/1-501 IN); PFC Terry W. Mott, PFC David J. Moreno (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. (Pictures from L to R)



20 April 1968

The following Soldiers: SP4 Francis G. Gray and PFC Claude McCan Jr. (C/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.

STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

15 April 1968



1LT Ronald E. Phillips (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 April 1968. Lieutenant Phillips distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company D, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, on a search and clear operation on twenty-five kilometers northwest of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Phillips' platoon received intense enemy small arms fire and automatic weapons fire from concealed enemy positions in a nearby wood line. Three of the lead men were wounded in the initial contact, and because of their proximity to the enemy lines, several rescue attempts failed. Lieutenant Phillips immediately crawled to the injured troopers. In order to reach them, he was forced to run across an open rice paddy under increased enemy fire. Reaching the first man, he placed himself between his wounded comrade and the enemy fire and immediately administered first aid. He then crawled toward the other men. BY this time, several others from his platoon had joined him, and he organized his small element into teams to remove the wounded from their hazardous positions. As the men moved back to the friendly position, a sniper began to fire at them from a tree top. Once again, Lieutenant Phillips risked his life as he maneuvered against the sniper and prevented the hostile force from advancing on the rescue party by continuously firing his weapon and throwing hand grenades. Returning to his platoon, he made certain that the injured had been properly evacuated, and then maneuvered his platoon against the enemy troops. In the fighting that followed, he personally confronted and captured an armed North Vietnamese Soldier. Lieutenant Phillips' personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



15 April 1969

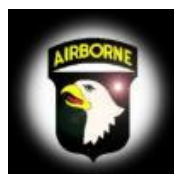
SP4 Fletcher J. Nowlin (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 April 1969. Specialist Nowlin distinguished himself while serving as a platoon medical aidman with Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, on a combat operation in Quang Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam. In the early morning hours on the cited date, the Third Platoon of Company C received intense enemy sniper fire that instantly killed two men and wounded others. Specialist Nowlin ignored the hostile fire as he went from position to position checking for and treating the wounded. On one occasion he low-crawled thirty-five meters outside the perimeter, while under enemy fire, to render medical aid to a fallen comrade. Then disregarding his own safety, he shielded the wounded man with his own body as he helped him back inside the perimeter. His courageous actions directly resulted in the saving of many lives. Specialist Nowlin'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.

16 April 1967

PFC Michael J. Uhden (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 16 April 1968, Private First Class Uhden distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman with Company D, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near the village of Thon Bat-Vong Tay, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While crossing an open rice paddy the point element of the company was taken under an intense volume of hostile automatic weapons fire from a well concealed and fortified enemy bunker. Seeing a comrade fall seriously wounded, and next to the bunker, Private First Class Uhden unhesitatingly braved the murderous hail of enemy fire to extract the trooper by routing the enemy fire from the bunker, killing two occupants with hand grenades. Private First Class Uhden's indomitable courage and valorous actions enabled the wounded to be successfully and safely evacuated from the combat area. Private First Class Uhden's valor reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

17 April 1970

CPL Norman D. Peery (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 17 April 1970. Private Peery distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near the Coc A Bo Mountain, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in a night defensive position, Private Peery's unit came under an enemy ground attack. Private Peery successfully engaged an insurgent with an anti-personnel mine and warned the rest of the company of the attack. Despite intense enemy fire, Private Peery returned a heavy volume of suppressive machine gun fire on the insurgents. Although the enemy fire was concentrated on his position, Private Peery remained with his machine gun until he was mortally wounded by hostile fire. Private Peery'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 April 2003

LTC Jeff Ingram (2-70 AR) received the Silver Star awarded by LTG William S. Wallace for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while serving as Commanding Officer of 2-70 AR, attached to 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, on 31 March 2003, in Iraq. During the battle to secure Al Hillah, Iraq, on 31 March 2003, Lieutenant Colonel Ingram's unit was moving on the city to divert the enemy's attention from the 3rd Infantry Division so they could move forward to Karbala. LTC Ingram's unit encountered dismounted forces and artillery and rocket propelled grenades from a Republican Guard Battalion. LTC Ingram calmly and skillfully directed the efforts of a combined arms task force in destroying the Iraqi Battalion as multiple rocket propelled grenades bounced off his tank, massed artillery fire exploded all around and intense small arms fire was directed at him.



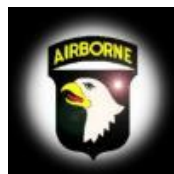
19 April 1970



SGT Jeffrey J. Joseph (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 April 1970. Sergeant Joseph distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in a night defensive position, Sergeant Joseph's unit received small arms, grenade, and mortar fire from an enemy force of unknown size. Sergeant Joseph moved from position to position directing his squad's return fire. He pointed out suspected enemy positions and gave encouragement to his weary troops. When the squad's machine gun had expended most of its ammunition, he collected additional ammunition and brought it to the machine gun position. Shortly after taking a position behind part of the squad, Sergeant Joseph was mortally wounded by enemy fire. His actions contributed greatly to the safety of his men. Sergeant Joseph'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 (Airmobile), General Orders Number 6255; 04 June 1970)

20 April 1966

PFC George J. Skapinsky (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for distinguishing himself on 20 April 1966 during a mission to secure a landing zone for a heliborne operation near Phan Thiet, Republic of Vietnam. While manning his position in the defensive perimeter around the projected landing zone, Private First Class Skapinsky detected a Viet Cong squad attempting to penetrate the perimeter. After notifying his patrol leader of the situation, he concentrated a hail of fire onto the surprised insurgents. The insurgents quickly dispersed into the jungle leaving two dead behind. Private First Class Skapinsky volunteered to move forward with two other men in search of the dead Viet Cong. After reaching the dead Viet Cong, Private First Class Skapinsky again detected movement to his front only moments before the Viet Cong launched a two pronged attack. Due to his alertness, his comrades were prepared to repulse the Viet Cong, and killed two more insurgents. When intense hostile fire was received from a tree line to their front, Private First Class Skapinsky, with complete disregard for his safety, covered the withdrawal of his comrades until he was mortally wounded. Private First Class Skapinsky's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

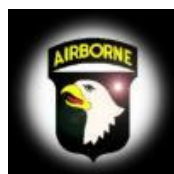


20 April 1966

SGT Jackson McNealy (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for distinguishing himself from 20 April 1966 to 21 April 1966 while serving as a patrol leader during a reconnaissance mission near Phan Thiet, Republic of Vietnam. As his patrol was maneuvering through the jungle, the point man detected a Viet Cong force moving towards them. Sergeant McNealy immediately established an ambush. As the Viet Cong approached within a few meters of the patrol, the ambush commenced and five insurgents were killed instantly and the rest withdrew to a tree line. Exposing himself to the hostile fire, Sergeant McNealy skillfully directed suppressive fire into the tree line until a large Viet Cong element reinforced the beleaguered insurgents. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Sergeant McNealy with complete disregard for his safety, dashed through intense Viet Cong fire across an open area in search of a better position. After finding a vantage point, he sprinted back to his patrol and led them through the intense hostile fire to the new position where they set up a defensive perimeter and routed the Viet Cong force. On the following day when two men were wounded by Viet Cong fire, Sergeant McNealy exposed himself and administered first aid to his stricken comrades. Although he was wounded himself, he refused medical evacuation until his comrades were treated. He then walked unassisted 700 meters to the evacuation site. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, he contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission. Sergeant McNealy's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

20 April 1966

SSG Jose S. Laguana (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (2-OLC) for distinguishing himself on 20 April 1966 while serving as squad leader during a combat operation deep in Viet Cong infested territory near Phan Thiet, Republic of Vietnam. As Staff Sergeant Laguana's unit was advancing to secure a landing zone for a company size assault, four Viet Cong were seen moving toward their position. Staff Sergeant Laguana immediately established a hasty ambush, killed one Viet Cong, wounded another and caused the remainder to flee into the jungle. After reaching their objective, he established a defensive perimeter. Later, six insurgents were observed stealthily moving toward their location. Staff Sergeant Laguana quickly organized his squad and again dauntlessly led a charge toward the Viet Cong. He personally killed two Viet Cong during this skirmish. When three of his men attempted to retrieve an insurgent weapon, they received intense hostile fire from a large Viet Cong force and were pinned down. With complete disregard for his safety, Staff Sergeant Laguana dauntlessly led his men in a flanking assault, killed one Viet Cong, wounded another and forced the insurgents to withdraw. His heroic actions throughout the day inspired his men to close with and defeat a numerically superior Viet Cong force, and to successfully secure the landing zone. Staff Sergeant Laguana's unimpeachable valor in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.



20 April 1968

SGT Michael E. Dorch (A/2-501 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 A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Sergeant Dorch distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 20 April 1968 while serving as a fire team leader during a search and clear operation north of Hue. As his unit moved across a rice paddy a North Vietnamese force opened fire from their bunker complex. Although the hostile barrage of rocket grenades and machine gun fire made movement virtually impossible. Sergeant Dorch immediately began to maneuver about the rice paddy to check on each of his men. Spotting an enemy trench which approached a bunker, he leaped into it and began advancing toward the enemy. Coming upon one of his comrades who had been shot and had fallen into the trench, he paused to administer first aid and then pressed on. The occupants of the hostile fortification observed his actions and emerged to fire on him. Sergeant Dorch adroitly jumped to his feet and unleashed a burst from his rifle killing the occupants. He then rushed forward and threw two grenades into the bunker, completely destroying it. Retracing his path, he picked up the wounded soldier and carried him back to the unit's position. After resupplying himself with ammunition, he proceeded to recover additional casualties for evacuation. Sergeant Dorch'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, US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 2892 (July 29, 1969))



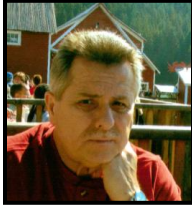
20 April 1968

CPT Russell J. Stoewe (C/1-502 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 April 1968. Captain Stoewe distinguished himself while serving as Company Commander of Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, during a combat operation in Quang Dien District, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon, the lead platoon, was suddenly and accurately taken under an intense barrage of hostile automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire from its front and left flank, seriously wounding the platoon leader. Captain Stoewe, with complete disregard for his own safety, braved the murderous hail of enemy fire in order to reach the platoon's position. Captain Stoewe skillfully maneuvered the platoon to launch a counterattack against the enemy's positions, and at the same time, deprived the enemy of an escape



route. Throughout the ensuing battle, Captain Stoewe personally directed the retaliatory fire of his men, while repeatedly exposing himself to the heavy enemy fire, which continued to rake the ground. The enemy broke contact immediately after having received the devastating attack. Captain Stoewe regrouped his Company and pursued the enemy with supporting fires from artillery and gunships. Under Captain Stoewe's astute direction and capable leadership, the insurgent force was shiftily destroyed. Captain Stoewe'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, 101st ABN, General Order No. 11392 (30 December 1968))

20 April 1968

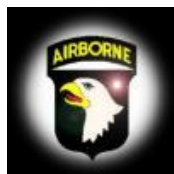


SP5 Lawrence E. Mize (A/2-051 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 April 1968. Specialist Mize distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry. Company A made contact with an enemy force located in a series of well placed bunkers concealed in a dense wood line in the vicinity of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. As the point squad was hit with a lethal barrage of machine gun and automatic weapons fire, Specialist Mize was with the company headquarters group about two hundred meters away from the area of contact. As the first shots were fired, Specialist Mize raced across the open rice paddies to be of assistance. Despite the ferocity of the battle, he made his way to a wounded man. After applying temporary measures, Specialist Mize realized that the man would have to be evacuated. Without hesitation, he picked the man up and retraced his steps to the command post. Realizing that others required his aid, Specialist Mize returned across the bullet swept, two hundred meters of rice paddies and began treating more of the wounded. With the fighting continuing all around him, Specialist Mize once again carried another injured man through enemy fire to safety. Although emotionally and physically drained, Specialist Mize reached again through the enemy fire to continue aiding the wounded. His courage in the face of the formidable enemy fire and devotion to his fellow soldiers proved to be an example for the entire company. Specialist Mize's exceptional valor was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

20 April 1968



SP4 Patrick A. McBride (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Viet Nam on 20 April 1968. Specialist Four McBride distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman with Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, during a combat operation in Quan Dien District, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Viet Nam. Specialist Four McBride's platoon, the lead platoon, was suddenly and accurately taken under an intense barrage of hostile automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire from front and left flanks, seriously wounding the platoon leader. Unhesitatingly, Specialist Four McBride, with courageous disregard for his own personal safety, braved the murderous hail of enemy fire to aid his fallen platoon leader. Specialist Four McBride carried the wounded man to safety and then began administering first aid when the position received an intense volley of sniper rounds. Specialist Four McBride immediately located the sniper's location and maneuvered to engage the enemy. While advancing through the sniper fire a bullet struck his helmet and rendered Specialist Four McBride unconscious for a few moments. Having recovered, he dauntlessly proceeded to destroy the sniper's position, killing two snipers. Specialist Four McBride then returned to the wounded platoon leader and carried him to safety. Through Specialist Four McBride's intrepid courage and outstanding valor the platoon leader was successfully re-covered and given immediate medical care. Specialist Four McBride's gallant action and selfless 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.



***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."

