



## 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AASLT) “STRIKE HISTORY” 28 April – 04 May 2013



28 April - 17 May 1966

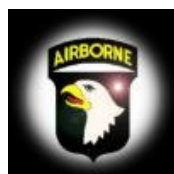
**Operation Austin VI** - The 117<sup>th</sup> Assault Helicopter Company provided support for the 2d Battalion, 502d Airborne Infantry in its effort to halt the Viet Cong infiltration along the “Ho Chi Minh” trail in the rugged central highlands near Gia Nghia, approximately eight miles east of Nhon Co, Republic of Vietnam, from 28 April – 17 May 1966, during the conduct of Operation Austin VI. Some of the more important lessons learned during this period were the techniques required for flying at high density altitudes, maximum gross weights, and under severe weather conditions in the early morning and late afternoons caused by the rapidly approaching monsoon season for this area. In order to best accomplish its mission, the 117<sup>th</sup> placed volunteer crews and helicopters in the forward infantry command post. These crews, actually living with the infantry units were available to the supported units much earlier each day since they did not have to wait for the weather between Gia Nghia and the field locations to clear up enough to fly. In addition, the armed helicopter support was immediately available at all times and proved invaluable to the continuous combat operations. Midway through Austin VI, the tactical emphasis shifted to the area of Bu Gia Map. From this small landing strip, Infantry, Artillery, Army Aviation, and Air Force activities increased to a high peak. Close fire support by the 117<sup>th</sup> “Sidewinders” armed helicopter platoon was commonplace, requiring the addition of an ammunition and POL resupply point to be located at Bu Gia Map. The rough jungle terrain between the Cambodian border and the forward command post was literally impossible to land in. Time after time, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Recondo teams attempted to blast areas in order to provide sufficient clearings for the helicopters, but the task was fruitless. Therefore, the assault helicopter pilots of the 117<sup>th</sup> were forced to hover more than 60 feet in the air above the tree tops in order to accomplish the wide variety of missions, including resupply of ammunition, food, and high explosives and occasionally the extraction of critically wounded personnel. Operation Austin VI was the most aggressive battle action for the 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division since its arrival in Vietnam. The data on enemy casualties is as follows: Killed in Action (by body count) 95, Killed in action (estimated) 85, Wounded (estimated) 17, Captured 15. An extract of the After Action Report of 2d/502d Infantry for Operation Austin VI reveals that: “The assignment of the 117<sup>th</sup> Assault Helicopter Company command and control aircraft in direct support of the Infantry was invaluable to the success of the operation. A command and control helicopter was used for liaison, communication with subordinate units, assisting units to pin point their own locations, guiding units to terrain objectives, and the location of potential landing zones. This flexibility facilitated routine unit supply and airdrops and expedited emergency airdrops of chainsaws, demolitions, food and ammunition. Stationing the helicopters forward at Bu Gia Map provided much greater utilization.” (History of the 117<sup>th</sup> Assault Helicopter Company (UH-1))

28 April 1968

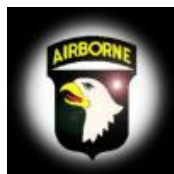
Battle of Phuoc Yen, as part of Operation CARENTAN II, element from the 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and the 2/17 Cav encountered a strong enemy force from the 8th Battalion, 90th PAVN Regiment during cordon and search operations four miles northwest of Hue. Casualties: U.S. 6 KIA and 43 WIA; enemy 314 KIA and 107 POW.

28 April 1968

The 2BDE helilifted four companies to the Phuoc Yen village 7km northwest of Hue (YD6928) in response to intelligence reports which indicated that an enemy battalion was in the village. Upon landing near the village, the companies immediately made contact with a sizeable enemy force. Throughout the period of 28 April – 2 May, numerous air strikes and heavy volumes of artillery fires were directed into the village.



- 28 April – 4 May 1968 1-501 cordons Thon Phuoc Yen resulting in 429 NVA KIA, 107 NVA PWs, 117 individual and crew-served weapons, and BN radios with SOI.
- 28 April 1968 Captured NVA POW Quang The Hau remarked during interrogation that his VC commander's guidance was "if you make contact with the airborne, get out fast; they will surround you and kill you."
- 28 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** at 0500 hours the night defensive position of the 2d and 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon of B/2-502 was attacked by an estimated enemy platoon. The enemy's initial assault of RPG's and satchel charges was countered with claymore mines, grenades, and small arms fire. The contact persisted with the Soldiers engaged in close combat until first light when the enemy fled, leaving behind twelve (12) dead. Although several Soldiers were wounded (18) during the course of the action, only one was killed. As soon as the Medevac's were completed, sweep operations began again to the south. By 0830 at (YD5008) the sweep began to show promising results. A bunker complex was located containing bodies of enemy slain during contacts of the past two days. The complex, consisting of 36 bunkers and fighting positions surrounding a large command bunker, contained bodies of fourteen (14) enemy Soldiers. A second bunker complex located 200 meters to the south was also discovered. This complex also contained the bodies of enemy Soldiers killed during the previous two day engagements. A search of the 35 bunkers uncovered 20 enemy bodies, one RPD machine gun and one AK-47 rifle. The remainder of the day B Company and Recon Platoon searched the surrounding area and destroyed the bunkers. C Company moved south along the ridge toward B Company, searching out the sides of the ridge line and serving as rear security.
- 28 April 2006 **Operation REDSKINS:** C/1-502 and SCTS/1-502 conduct an Air Assault to block AIF egress away from SOF and Hilla SWAT forces.
- 29 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** An element of the 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division located at FSB GRANITE in Thua Thien Province receives a mortar attack followed by a sapper probe. Results are 18 enemy killed, 1 detained, 7 US KIA, 41 US WIA and 1 US MIA.
- 29 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Screaming Eagles of the 2/501 IN BN received RPG, mortar, and small arms fire at FSB Granite. The "Drive On" Soldiers returned fire with organic weapons and called for support from Aerial Rocket Artillery. The attack is repelled and a post dawn sweep nets 22 NVA bodies and one detainee.
- 29 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** At 0955hours 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon of D/2-502 began receiving limited small arms fire in the vicinity of YD519056. ARA was employed. The enemy attempted to split the platoon in tow. Fighting for their lives, the Platoon was able to regroup their forces, and by utilizing a large volume of small arms fire and ARA, they were finally able to rout the enemy. The 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon and CP of D Company were brought in as reinforcements and were employed as blocking force for B and C Companies operating to the north. B Company continued its sweep south from Hill 714 along the ridge line. At 1400, B Company's 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon set off a booby trap. Although no casualties were incurred, the booby trap alerted the enemy and the platoon was brought under heavy fire by automatic weapons and 60mm mortars. The initial fire halted the platoon, but reinforcements were brought up, ARA, field artillery and tactical air strikes were employed. At 1550 a combined assault of bunker complex was made by B and C Company with the Recon Platoon screening the flanks. By 1550 two bunker complexes had been taken by close in fighting, and the enemy had been routed, although one US Soldier was killed and several wounded (26 US WIA), the enemy Soldiers suffered a solid defeat. A close check of the area revealed 16 enemy bodies, one M-79 grenade launcher, one RPG launcher, one U.S. M-60 machine gun, one PRC-25 radio, one B-40



rocket and one AK-47. B and C Company consolidated their forces and evacuated their wounded.

D Company had established two night positions in the vicinity of the earlier morning contact. An OP from the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon saw and engaged one enemy. A squad was brought up to check out the area and they were engaged by an enemy squad in bunkers. The initial burst of fire caused one US casualty. ARA was employed and the enemy fled leaving behind one enemy body.

30 April 1968

STRIKE paratroopers continued reconnaissance-in-force missions near Veghel, contacting the enemy three times, killing 21 and capturing three weapons. At 1625 one mile east of Bastogne, the CG's command and control helicopter received hits from ground automatic weapons fire, slightly wounding MG O. M. Barsanti in the left leg. After directing artillery to be fired into the enemy location, Barsanti was evacuated to the 22nd Surgical Hospital, treated, and returned to duty at 1715 the same day.

30 April 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** C/2-502 moved through D/2-502 and became the point element to continue the sweep to the south along the ridge form Hill 714. At 1400 a large enemy cache was located by C Company. The cache contained the following weapons: 1 SKS, 14 Sniper weapons, 19 French submachine guns, 2 shotguns, 4 60mm mortars (complete), 3 30 caliber machine guns, 1 M-60 machineguns (US) and one RPD machine gun. By the end of April the main defenses of the enemy had been eliminated from the top of Hill 714. Although several large enemy bunker complexes had been overrun and destroyed, the enemy forces had merely displaced and broken into smaller units to harass and delay the STRIKE Force Soldiers.

30 April 2010

1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, cases the battalion colors in preparation for 20deployment to Afghanistan.

April 1972

2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade returned to Fort Campbell from Vietnam.

May – September 1968

2-501<sup>st</sup> BN returned to its former operational area West of Hue and began the slow task of identifying and destroying the VC infrastructure.

As the operation of the Battalion expanded to include the area adjacent to the initial operational area, contact continued to be light and sporadic. This trend continued thru the month of September. Mines and booby traps were encountered; food, ammunition, and weapons caches were located; small VC elements ranging from two to fifteen personnel were ambushed and eliminated; and the local VC infrastructure was identified and rendered ineffective.

May-Jun 2006

**Operation REDSKINS:** Combined, joint operation to disrupt Al Qaeda in Iraq.

May 2006

**Operation IRON EAGLE:** 1-22 IN. Disrupt AIF along the Tigris River.

May 2006

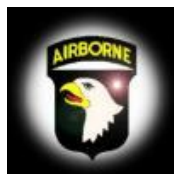
Operation **WINGED VICTORY:** 1-22 IN. Disrupt AIF along the Tigris River.

01-18 May 1966

The 1/327, 2/502 (101st Abn), 2/503 (173d Abn) and 45th ARVN Regiment begin Operation **Austin IV**, a search and destroy effort in Quang Duc and Phuoc Long provinces along the II/III CTZ boundaries near the Cambodian border, Bu Gia Map, Bu Prang, Nhon Co area.

01 May 1968

As part of Operation CARENTAN II, the 2/17 Cav which was supporting the 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division encountered an estimated reinforced NVA company 13 miles northwest of Hue. Casualties: U.S. 2 KIA and 26 WIA; enemy 82 KIA.



01 May 1968

1-502 IN Battalion moved back into Quang Dien District by helicopter and began RIF operations and security of An Lo Bridge and clearing of Q.L. #1. "C" sprang an ambush at (706348) on 5 NVA, killing 2 (BC). Later 2 VC were captured as they walked into the NPD. After interrogation it was learned that they were going to vic. 715330 to act as guides for NVA. At 05:30hrs. the NDP received SA fire and suffered 1 WIA. At 06:35hrs. they moved to the village (715330) and swept it finding a grave approximately 24 hours old with 4 KIA. Results: Friendly: 1 WIA; Enemy: 6 NVA KIA (BC), 2 WIA/POW. Alpha returned from OPCON to 1-501 Infantry after 3 day operation (Battle of Phuoc Yen). They received credit for 80 NVA KIA (BC)



01 May 1969

Operation Massachusetts Striker: 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry reacted rapidly to capture documents and subsequent readouts to discover a hospital complex and a heavy machine repair shop near the Laotian Border which yielded over 100 pounds of medical supplies, eight vehicles, and ten weapons. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne (Airmobile), Operational Report – Lessons Learned. Dated 20 August 1969)

01 May 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** D/2-502 IN and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon of A/326 ENG began construction of FSB Shock (YD518056) on the ridge line south of Hill 714. The firebase was established in the heart of the area of contact to provide additional fire support to units in contact with the enemy. The engineers, secured by D Company, worked under severe adverse conditions and enemy sniper fire to complete the firebase in record time. Upon the completion of the firebase, the mortar platoon of E Company and the Battalion commo group established themselves in the heart of the battle area.

01 May 1991

The last 101<sup>st</sup> Soldiers depart Saudi Arabia.

02 May 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon D/2-502 encountered an enemy squad in bunkers 500 meters northwest of FSB Shock. The platoon received RPG fire, small arms fire and satchel charges from three sides. The enemy attempted to maneuver to cut off the platoon. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon and Command group were brought up as reinforcements. The enemy fled the area leaving behind one body and one AK-47 rifle. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon of D Company sustained only 3 men slightly wounded.

03-05 May 1968

1-502 cordons Ap Nam Phu and Ap Pho Nam resulting in 33 NVA and VC KIA and 2 NVA PWs.

03 May 1968

While on a reconnaissance mission southwest of Hue, elements of the 2/502 IN BN received small arms and RPG fire. The 101st troopers returned fire and called in Aerial Rocket Artillery and Air Strikes. After the battle a sweep of the area reveals the bodies of 27 NVA.

03 May 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** C/2-502 IN continued to sweeping operations to the south at YD 511063 made contact with the enemy at 1140 hours. The enemies encountered were fighting from well dug in camouflaged bunkers. Contact continued in the same location throughout the day, with the enemy giving no evidence of breaking contact. The enemy utilized tree platforms as well as reinforced bunkers. Although C Company kept up a high volume of fire and was supported by ARA and tube artillery, the enemy stubbornly resisted with small arms fire, RPG fire, automatic weapons fire and 51 caliber machine gun fire. Contact was broken by C Company at 1740 to regroup and call in air strikes on



the enemy location. At the end of the day, a sweep of the area revealed 27 enemy KIA, while US casualties were 1 KIA and 13 WIA.

To relieve the pressure on the units on Hill 714 ridge line and to open the ridge line west of Hill 714 for operations, the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon of D Company and elements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon 326/ENG were combat assaulted into YD498047 and began expansion of the LZ. Contact with the enemy was initiated just off the LZ. An estimated 5 or 6 enemy firing small arms were engaged and ARA was called in support. The engineers worked diligently to expand the LZ although they were receiving sniper fire throughout the day. At the end of the day one enemy had been killed while there were no friendly casualties. B Company was extracted from Hill 714 to FSB Shock which one platoon secured while the remainder of the Company screened to the south. Air Strikes continued to be employed in support of C Company against enemy locations in vicinity of the previous days contact.

03 May 1970

Daily Journal for S2-3 Section, HQ/2-502 IN at FSB Veghel YD550035 (only significant events)

**0120:** Msg #1: See Incl-#1

Msg#1: All area north and east of 1<sup>st</sup> Bde boundary from YD568198 SW to 519150 SE to 542130 east to 6213 will belong to the 2d BDE to be utilized and occupied by 3d ARVN Regt. effective: 030800 May 70.

**0210:** Msg#2: See Incl#1

Msg #2: All Daisy Cutters: Were employed at 030820 on YD498053, YD494058, 100% ordinance was used, estimated 80% completed. Also employed on YD442067, YD455603, YD465063, YD472065, 95% completed. It is requested that commanders VR LZ's to determine which target will have priority of work. Additional Daisy Cutters are to be requested for employment on 04 May 70 on above targets.

**0515:** At 0303 to 0310 unknown number of 122mm rockets hit Camp Eagle impacting Vic Varsity pad; four Cobra hit, one hanger, vehicles, H sector received small arms fire.

**1013:** Msg #3: See Incl-#1

Msg #3: AO Extension granted 3-54 ARVN from 1-506. From 1-506 and 3-54 boundary at YD490127 north to YD491160 east YD520160 south to base YD520150. Effective: 031200 to 072400.

**1040:** B Co 1<sup>st</sup> Plt (-) CP & 3d plat (-) YD508077, 2d plat & 3d plat 1<sup>st</sup> sqd YD508076, 1<sup>st</sup> plat 1<sup>st</sup> sqd YD509079, C Co 1<sup>st</sup> plat YD511063, 2d plat & 3d plat & CP & YD514064, C Co 1-327 1<sup>st</sup> plat YD510075, CP & 3d plat YD511072, 2d plat YD512068

**1051:** 1045, C Co 1-327 is no longer OPCON to 2-502

**1145:** Msg #4: See Incl #1

Msg #4: LZ construction team; LZ construction team should be inserted as early as possible on 04 May 70. Units should provide a reaction platoon to support team in case of contact. Air Request will be submitted to this HHQ NLT 032100 May 70. The goal is one LZ per unit per day.

**1216:** S-R 3-1: See Incl #1

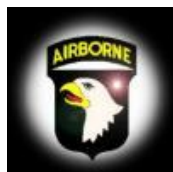
**S-R 3-1:**

1. 2-502 2. TS 3. Item #12 4. D Co 3d Plat 5. 1150 6. YD516057 7. D Co 3d plat in a patrol base received unidentified incoming rounds. Took approximately nine rounds 75 meters from their perimeter. Suspected enemy location was at YD514063. At 1228 ARA reported receiving automatic weapons fire, did not take any hits and have enemy location pinpointed and request ARA replacement. Element will sweep following ARA.

**1254:** S-R 3-2: See Incl #1

**S-R 3-2:**

1. 2-502 2. TS 3. Item #13 4. C Co 1<sup>st</sup> Plat 5. 1140-1225 hours 6. YD513063 7. Element while sweeping found two hooches when they were engaged by an undetermined sized enemy force with RPG and automatic weapons fire. The friendless received fire from the southwest. They returned fire and ware



maintain contact yet at 1220 without the enemy fleeing or withdrawing. 1225 contact terminated. The initial contact distance of engagement was 25 to 30 meters. Cannot determine which direction the enemy fled. No M-72 laws were used. At 1305 contact regained at same location. Contact continuing at 1330 and receiving RPG fire. At 1405 Medevac received fire. At 1430 1<sup>st</sup> plat was reinforced by the 2d plat. Six pax were wounded. At 1440 C Co reported that dead enemy were everywhere. Element reported that there were enemy in platforms in trees throwing satchels at them. FOLLOW-UP: C Co attempting to overrun from the southeast and southwest met heavy resistance, RPG fire, at least 8 Machine gun positions to include 51 cal; satchel charges, grenades, and small arms fire. Element moved to regroup at 1740 on a high feature and call in all possible ordinance before resuming contact, all enemy positions well camouflaged. Results were one US KIA and 13 wounded. Enemy losses were estimated at 27 KIA.

**1400:** 1-327 request permission to insert sniper team and radar team on FSB Veghel and would set up tonight at YD553045 and then to go on a radar raid at YD559049 from 04 May 70 to 06 May; permission was granted.

**1855:** Night Location: A Co 1<sup>st</sup> plat YD537016, 2d plat & CD YD537023, B Co YD508081, C Co 1<sup>st</sup> plat YD511063, 2d plat & 3d plat & CP YD514064, D Co 2d & 3d plat & CP YD513059, 1<sup>st</sup> plat YD518056, Radar YD544044.

**1945:** Msg #5: See Incl #1

Msg #5: Air request for LZ construction: 1-6-2 Engr's and 2 sqds D Co 28 pax; PZ FSB Veghel and FSB Shock 0730, LZ YD498042 0745; AMV meeting 0700. Request a log bird with a hook for tomorrow.

**2005:** Msg #6: See Incl #1

Msg #6: 032300May70, Item #30: Wounded pas: PAC #5 0-2 Simpson, David L.; #12 E-6 Gibbons, Philip; #16 E-5 Carstens, Harold H.; #37 E-5 Schweitzer, Anthony; #67 E-4 Hardy, Homer R.; #84 E-4 Nantz, Alvin; #85 E-4 Nordin, Glen; #94 E-4 Rosas, Luis A; #96 E-4 Stanley, Michael; #133 E-3 White, Tomas; #121 E-3 Majia, Raul E.; #141 Medic – Fuller, Kenneth G.; #146 Wilson; KIA #44 Witycyak, Glen R.

**2208:** Air Requests: Confirmed; one UH1H C&C bird; two log birds 0800-1200, one with a hook, 1-10-2 at 1445 to move A Co. and B Co; 1-6-2 0730 at Veghel for LZ construction; 1-6-2 to extract LZ team at 1600, 1-4-2 to extract pax from Veghel.

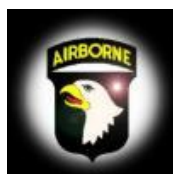
**2220:** Alternate Lifesaver YD520048 is clear.

2300: Msg #7: See Incl #1

Msg #7: 030205 May 70, Item #4: There will be no flame drops available for undetermined period of time due to shortage of thickening exits without which thickened fuel cannot be mixed. In this regards, supply of fougasse is dangerous low, units advised not to blow fougasse unless essential for defense. Units occupying airmobile firebases at this time should plan to carry as many employed fougasse as possible to the new firebases until shortage is eliminated. Unit commanders should make maximum use of self started fires to clear underbrush and fields of fire.

2400: Summary: The STRIKE Force Battalion continued operations in assigned AO with severe clashes with the enemy. At 1150 hours Vic YD516057 the 3d Platoon D Co received approximately 9 unidentified enemy rounds outside their perimeter ARA reported on station and received enemy automatic weapons fire (See Incl - #1). At YD513063 C Co. 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon was engaged by an undetermined size enemy force resulting in six US WIA. The element attempted to overrun the enemy's position and received hostile 51 caliber fire, grenades, small arms fire and satchel charges. The satchel charges were thrown from enemy platforms in trees. The contact resulted in one US KHA 13 US WHA and 27 enemy KIA (See Incl - #1).

Plans Summary: A Co. continues patrol and ambush operations in assigned AO with one platoon as security for FSB. B, C, D, and Recon Companies continue patrol and ambush operations in assigned AO.

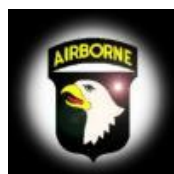


- 04 May 1945                    502nd received and carried out its final wartime mission - the capture of Berchtesgaden, Hitler's Eagles Nest. This is where they would remain until the end of the Second World War.
- 04 May 1968                    Cordon by A, B, and Recon 1/502 IN with other 2nd Bde elements at vic. 692303. Contact was heavy during the night be elements seeking to escape the Cordon. Artillery was called for and adjusted as well as use of small arms. At first light a sweep of the area revealed; Enemy: 26 NVA KIA (BC), 2 VC KIA (BC), 3 VC POW

**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).**

- 11 x Silver Star (3 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 5 x Bronze Star Medal (4 x Posthumously)
- 94 x Purple Heart Medal (57 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Missing In Action
- 1 x Non – Hostile illness or injury
- 14 x CH-47 Crash
- 63 x Air Medals

- 28 April 1966                    SP4 Anthony A. Gennocro (C/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile illness (Malaria) as a ground casualty in the Province unknown, South Vietnam.
- 28 April 1968                    PFC Michael J. Saunders (D/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the vicinity of Phuoc Yen, 7km NW of Hue Citadel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.
- 28 April 1968                    The following Soldiers: CPL Valentine A. Ochs, PFC Robert L. McDuffy, PFC Ronnie G. Slay (Pictured) (C/1-501 IN); SSG John B. Gingery (Pictured) (D/2-501 IN); PFC John T. Intihar (A/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 vicinity of Phuoc Yen, 7km NW of Hue Citadel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures from L to R)



28 April 1968



SP4 Millard L. Palmer (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from wounds received while on a combat operation when hit by fragmentation from a hostile rocket round in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

28 April 1968

SFC Robert E. Holeyfield (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

28 April 1970

The following Soldiers: SSG Ronald S. Patterson, SP4 Thomas R. Weber, and SP4 Eugene V. Thurm (B/2-502 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. (HQ, 95th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 96)

28 April 1970

CPL Steven R. Sandlin (E/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 on Hill 882 Northwest of FSB Veghel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

28 April 1970

CPL Robert E. Backman (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 Province, South Vietnam.

28 April 1970

SGT Fernando Rios-Maldonado (B/2-502 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 attack by hostile force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

28 April 2008



CPL David McCormick (1-75 CAV), 26, of Bay City, Texas; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when his forward operating base came under rocket attack in Baghdad, Iraq.

28 April 2008

SPC Evan Truesdale (1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from a rocket attack on AO Justice when on landed and hit his trailer. SPC Truesdale was in his trailer at the time the rocket hit his trailer which resulted in his wounds sustained.

29 April 1968

SP4 Thomas L. Twyford (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received by fragment wounds received while on combat operation when hit by fragments from a hostile mine in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.





29 April 1968



The following Soldiers: SGT Thomas S. Cook and PFC Ronal E. Critzer (A/2-501 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 hit by hostile small arms fire 4k NW of Hue in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1968

PFC Gary L. Daniels (A/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds received while on a combat operation when engaged by hostile force in firefight in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1968

PFC David L. Massa (C/1-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operations when a hostile mine detonated in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1968

SGT Joseph T. Kovaloff (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 vicinity of Phuoc Yen, 7km NW of Hue Citadel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1970

CPL Linwood A. Walker (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when mistaken for a hostile force and fired upon by a friendly force near FSB Granite, 18 KM S-SW of Phong Dien, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1970

The following Soldiers: SGT Roy H. Snyder (HHC/2-501 IN); CPL Carl E. Patten, CPL Dennis W. Hunter (A/2-501 IN); CPL Robert S. Boggs (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from artillery, rocket, or mortar rounds while at an artillery firing position when they came under mortar attack by hostile force at FSB Granite, 18 KM S-SW of Phong Dien in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1970

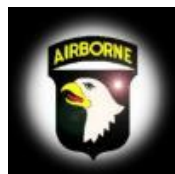
SGT Frederick E. Wortman (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received from other causes (undefined) while at an artillery firing position when they came under mortar attack by hostile force at FSB Granite, 18 KM S-SW of Phong Dien in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1970

SP\$ James W. McGuire (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 April 1970

SSG (then SP4) Edward J. Bishop Jr. (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously); SSG Bishop died while MIA as a ground casualty with the incident date of 29 April 1970 and Casualty Date of 29 September 1978. SSG Bishop was last seen while at an artillery firing position when the area came under attack by a hostile force. There were two other members with him in his position and they were putting out a heavy volume of weapons fire on the enemy. However, the base was also receiving a heavy volume of enemy fire including satchel charges. Their position was being hard hit and the third member, who was the squad leader, ordered their position abandoned. As they moved from their position, a satchel charge hit it. A search of the area the next day



revealed the body of the squad leader. The other member was wounded. No evidence of SP4 Bishop was found during the search, however a surviving member of the unit stated that he had sufficient time to abandon the position when the order to abandon was given. Remains not recovered. Location of incident: YD 439188, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Coffelt Database)

29 April 1970

SP4 William J. Stieve (D/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while at a night defensive position when the area came under attack by a hostile force in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

29 Apr 2006



SGT Steve M. Sakoda (B/1-75 CAV), 29, of Hilo, Hawaii; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq.

29 April 2006

PFC Joshua Hooker (B/1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from enemy or hostile actions.

29 April 2008



SSG Bryan E. Bolander (HHC/1-502 IN), 26, of Bakersfield, California; earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. SSG Bolander was on his 3 OIF rotation with 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT.

29 April 2008

SSG Clay Craig (1-75 CAV), 22, of Mesquite, Texas; earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq.

29 April 2008

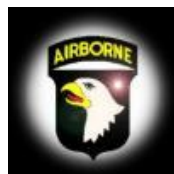
SSG Ariel Morales (1-75 CAV) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for his action during operations in Iraq.

29 April 2008

SPC Byron Henson (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while the Scout platoon, HHC, 1-502 IN was conducting a route security mission moving on Route Cubs North. SPC Henson was the driver of the third vehicle in the patrol when the vehicle was struck by an EFP. SPC Henson was diagnosed and treated for multiple fragment wounds to the head, including the left ear resulting from the intensity of the blast.

29 April 2008

SPC Preston Kaplan (1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received from enemy actions.



30 April 1968



PFC Larry E. Lutz (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when hit by a blast from hostile anti-tank round in the vicinity of Phuoc Yen, 7km NW of Hue Citadel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

30 April 1968

CPL Arie Terry (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from fragment wounds while on combat operations when hit by fragments from a hostile mortar in the vicinity of Phuoc Yen, 7 KM NW of Hue Citadel, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

30 April 1968

PFC Donald L. Peterson (C/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

30 April 1970

The following Soldiers: MAJ James R. Wessel (HHC/1-501 IN); CSM Stanley R. Marcille, CPT Donald R. Goates (1-OLC), and SP4 James F. Mashon (HHC/2-501 IN); 1LT Joseph L. Guerra , 2LT James W. Kwiecien, SSG Alan G. Pagels, SGT John M. Vitron, SGT John E. Upton, SP4 James E. Boyde, SP4 Bill N. Lyman, SP4 Thomas W. Lippy, SP4 Jay B. Wolfe, PFC Jasper L. Sistar, PFC Joe C. Barrientes, and PFC Daniel R. Stark (A/2-501 IN); SGT Gene H. Carlson (D/2-501 IN); PFC Michael J. Roland (E/2-501 IN Re-Con); and SP4 Larry D. Standley (B/2-502 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. (HQ, 95th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 96)

30 April 1970



The following Soldiers: SGT Robert J. Shannon (Pictured) (A/2-501 IN) and SGT Larry N. Jones (E/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from artillery fire when their area came under attack by a hostile force at FSB Granite, 18 KM S-SW of Phong Dien, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

30 April 1970

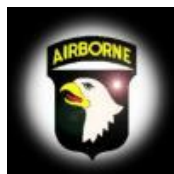
SGT Donnie E. Horton (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from other explosive device wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

30 Apr 2006

PFC John Huysman (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when at approximately 1630 while returning to his OP, PFC Huysman's vehicle was struck by an IED. PFC Huysman sustained shrapnel wounds to his right elbow along with multiple burns to the front and back of his head and upper right arm.

30 April 2006

SGT Adam Carlson (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while returning to his static OP, SGT Carlson's vehicle was struck by an IED. SGT Carlson received shrapnel wounds to the right side of the chin and perforation of the right ear.



30 April 2006

SPC Ronald Shirley (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while returning to his static OP, SPC Shirley's vehicle was struck by an IED. SPC Shirley received shrapnel wounds to the left lateral thigh and right lateral calf. He also had perforations of both ears.

30 April 2006

SPC Dante Soto (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received while returning to his static OP, SPC Soto's vehicle was struck by an IED. SPC Soto sustained shrapnel wounds to the left forearm, left hand, and right shoulder.

30 April 2006

SPC Benjamin Keenen (A/1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in result of enemy or hostile action.

01 May 1968

The following Soldiers: PFC Herald L. Delaney (C/1-501 IN); CPL Jackie G. Montgomery (D/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

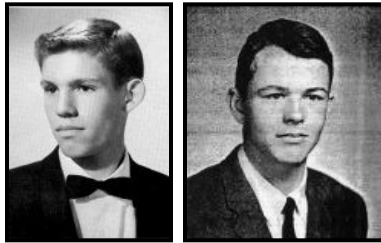
01 May 1968



PFC Daniel W. Daley (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, rocket, mortar wounds in Phuoc Yen, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

01 May 1968

The following Soldiers: 2LT John K. House (Pictured), SSG Gelasio N. Gomez Jr., PFC Lawrence J. Merschel (Pictured) (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds in Phuoc Yen, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)

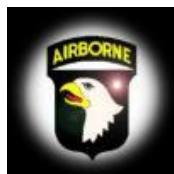


01 May -  
30 October 1969

The Following Soldiers: 1LT Daniel L. O'Neill, SFC Issac Heyward Jr., SSG Kenneth E. Buesing, SSG Walter L. Jensen, SGT Leonard D. Cole, SGT Robert Geddes, SGT Donald G. Lewis, SGT Freddie S. McLendon, SGT John O. Perkins, SP4 James M. Cannon, SP4 Benjamin F. Cryer, SP4 Gregory C. Decock, SP4 Santiago J. Erevia, SP4 Lacy J. Farmer, SP4 Albin B. Garland, SP4 Robert C. Goodpaster, SP4 Howard C. Heinecke, SP4 Herbert G. Hobbs, SP4 Walter L. Hooker, PFC William B. Ingle, SP4 Bruce V. Johnson, and SP4 David A. Johnson (C/1-501<sup>st</sup> IN) was awarded the Air Medal (1-OLC) for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight operations.

01 May 1970

The following Soldiers: SGT Ronnie G. Clemmons (A/2-501 IN); 1LT Robert W. Layton (B/2-501 IN); SP4 Norman D. McGowans (D/2-501 IN) (1-OLC); SGT Benjamin B. Nevel and SP4 Charles E. Mott (E/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. (HQ, 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 99, 2 May 1970)



02 May 1969

The following Soldiers: SP4 Ira J. Sturgeon, SP4 Samuel C. Tharpe, SP4 Donald R. Williams, SP4 Ernest C. Williams, SP4 Robert C. Winstead, PFC Paul D. Arrowood, PFC Larry J. Baker, PFC John R. Bryant, PFC Gregory H. Bucknor, PFC Charles G. Coghain, PFC Charles I. Fain, PFC Roger R. Gayken, PFC Steven C. Gerevics, PFC Larry J. Gladney, PFC Ernest Gutierrez, PFC Roberto M. Hegler, PFC Cleabern W. Hill Jr., PFC Michael G. Hovis, PFC Arthur N. Keister, PFC Dennis Jordan, PFC Douglas V. Leonard, PFC Fred T. Lyons, PFC Richard O. Malboeue, PFC Robert R. Malecki, PFC James R. McGraw, PFC Leston N. McVicar, PFC Ray E. Moon, PFC Connie R. Moss, PFC Richard E. Myrice, PFC Randal C. Nevil, PFC Gordon L. Niceswanger, PFC Nowlin, PFC Randal R. Pike, PFC Arthur L. Pittman, PFC William D. Poole Jr., PFC William F. Robersshaw, PFC Tommy L. Rodriguez, PFC Bruce E. Buston, PFC Charles Small, PFC Michael D. Sopko, PFC James V. Steiner (A/2-501 IN) earned the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM); General Order Number 7421; 22 June 1969)

02 May 1970

SP4 Daniel C. Johnson (E/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from artillery, mortar, or rocket wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

02 May 1970



The following Soldiers: SSG Leo J. Ludvigsen Jr. (Pictured) and SGT Harold G. Craft (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

03 May 1968

The following Soldiers: PFC Charles W. Kinney (C/1-501 IN); SGT Herman Jackson (A/1-502 IN); SGT Brian G. Hughes (C/2-501 IN); SGT Robert P. Johnston (Pictured); SGT Roger H. Sparks (Pictured) (B/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures are from L – R)

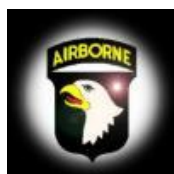


03 May 1969

SP4 Richard D. Miller (D/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

03 May 1970

The following Soldiers: SSG Thomas G. Hess and SSG Glenn C. Duncan (B/1-501 IN); SSG Glen R. Witycyak (C/2-502 IN); SP4 Edward W. Stone (HHC/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 Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam.



03 May 1970

SSG Randal S. Phillips (B/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam.

04 May 1966

The following Soldiers: 1SG Harden B. Walker, MSG J. D. Harrell, and SP4 Howard D. Weiss (HHC/2-502 IN); SSG Gene Hawthorne, SSG John A. Brown, PFC Roger C. Collette, PFC Robert L. Clark, and PFC Roger L. Berg (A/2-502 IN); SP4 Earnest A. Tucker Jr., PFC Malakia Jackson Jr., PFC Joseph J. Swayze (Pictured), PFC Robert E. Thompson (Pictured), PFC Michael Simpson, and PFC Robert A. Fenton (C/2-502 IN) died in a CH-47 crash near Nhon Co, in the Quang Duc Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



04 May 1970

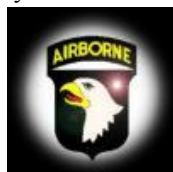


The following Soldiers: SP4 Edward W. Stone (HHC/2-502 IN); SSG Glen R. Witycyak (Pictured) (C/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

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

28 April 1967

CPT Arthur F. Conlon (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while under hostile fire on 28 April 1967 near Khanh Dzung, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, Company A, 2d Battalion, 502d (Airborne) Infantry was moving along the heavily vegetated slopes of a mountain when the lead element suddenly came under an intense volume of enemy rifle fire. Captain Conlon, very conscious of the fact that both the lead platoon leader and a squad leader were new and inexperienced and that the men were hot and tired and had not had any contact for some time, he unhesitatingly rushed forward, picking up grenades from several riflemen as he moved. Upon reaching the lead squad, Captain Conlon found that they were under a tremendous volume of fire from extremely well fortified enemy positions among some large boulders on the high ground. Realizing the squad was in a dangerous position and slow to react; Captain Conlon with complete disregard for his own personal safety exposed himself to the heavy enemy fire and began throwing grenades and placing effective fire into the enemy positions. The effectiveness of Captain Conlon's solo assault inspired his men to such a degree that they immediately began to fire and maneuver against the enemy positions. Again, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Conlon moved to an area completely exposed to intense enemy fire and began directing supporting fire so as to cover the maneuver of his forward elements. Upon overrunning the enemy positions it was apparent that several of the enemy soldiers had been wounded. Unhesitatingly, Captain Conlon quickly organized and personally led a small element in pursuit of the fleeing enemy soldiers. As a result of Captain Conlon's professionalism and undaunted actions two enemy soldiers were killed, several more wounded, and one enemy automatic weapon was captured. Captain Conlon's outstanding



display of gallantry, devotion to duty, and unquestionable valor in close combat against numerically superior hostile forces are in keeping with the finest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

28 April 1968

SP4 Bill Lux (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Alpha Company was conducting an assault on Phuoc Yen, Republic of Vietnam, and a village north of Hue. Moving through fields and hedgerows the company encountered enemy mortar, rocket propelled grenades, and machine gun fire. Suddenly the point element came under intense fire from automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade rounds. The point man, Specialist Lux, immediately began to return the enemy fire. Despite his exposed position in front of his platoon and the large amount of enemy fire, Specialist Lux remained in his forward vantage point with complete disregard for his personal safety and indicated to the platoon leader the location of enemy positions. With the remainder of the platoon had reached his location, Specialist Lux joined them in assaulting the enemy positions. Specialist Lux's personal bravery and devotion to duty were keeping in highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

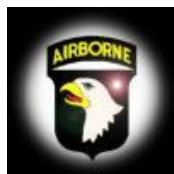
28 April 1970



SGT Francis Bartush (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 28 April 1970. Sergeant Bartush distinguished himself while serving as a fire team leader in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in a night defensive position; Sergeant Bartush's unit came under a concentrated enemy sapper attack. The insurgents assaulted Sergeant Bartush's position on the perimeter and he engaged them with anti-personnel mines and rifle fire. During the fighting, he pinned down one insurgent with rifle fire and successfully engaged him with a hand grenade. Although his position bore the brunt of the assault, Sergeant Bartush repulsed the attack and forced the insurgents to withdraw. During a lull in the fighting, he subjected himself to enemy fire as he carried wounded personnel to the middle of the perimeter. Later, the sappers again attempted to overrun the friendly location. Although the other men at Sergeant Bartush's position were wounded, Sergeant Bartush fought alone and again repulsed the enemy attack. Sergeant Bartush'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.

29 April 1970

SP4 Edward J. Bishop Jr. (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Specialist Bishop distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, at Fire Support Base Granite, Republic of Vietnam. When the fire base came under hostile mortar fire and sapper attack, Specialist Bishop continually subjected himself to hostile fire to man his squad's radio and keep his company commander informed of the status of the fighting. After aiding a wounded comrade, he returned to his position to engage the insurgents. While assisting the machine gunner, he was mortally wounded by an enemy satchel charge. Specialist Bishop'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.



29 April 1970

CPT James E. Mitchell (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Captain Mitchell distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, defending Fire Support Base Granite, Republic of Vietnam. When the firebase

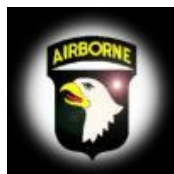


came under attack from an enemy sapper force supported by grenade and mortar fire, Captain Mitchell rallied his men for a counterattack. Despite intense fire, he moved from one position to position to brief his men on assaulting a helicopter pad which had been overrun by the insurgents. From an exposed position atop the command post bunker, Captain Mitchell coordinated the counter attack and directed his men in successfully retaking the helicopter pad. His actions contributed greatly to the successful defense of the firebase. While leading a sweep of the perimeter the following morning, Captain Mitchell detected enemy movement and at great risk personally captured a North Vietnamese Soldier. Captain Mitchell'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.

29 April 1970

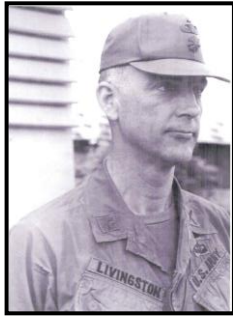


1LT James T. Hill (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (2-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Lieutenant Hill distinguished himself while serving as a reconnaissance platoon leader in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, near Fire Support Base Veghel, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Hill's platoon was providing rear security for another element of his battalion on a search and clear operation. When the lead platoon had moved approximately seventy-five meters from its patrol base, it came under intense enemy fire from a bunker complex. The element sustained numerous casualties in the first few minutes of contact, and Lieutenant Hill moved his platoon forward to assist, engaging several bunkers and radioing for aerial rocket artillery support and reinforcements. Although wounded during his advance, Lieutenant Hill continued moving toward the bunker complex until an enemy hand grenade exploded approximately two meters to his front, knocking him to the ground. Although wounded again, Lieutenant Hill maneuvered toward the nearest bunker and killed an enemy Soldier at a range of one foot. Despite numerous wounds and a damaged weapon, Lieutenant Hill continued fighting until the enemy was routed; even then refusing to be evacuated until all other wounded personnel were extracted. Lieutenant Hill's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.





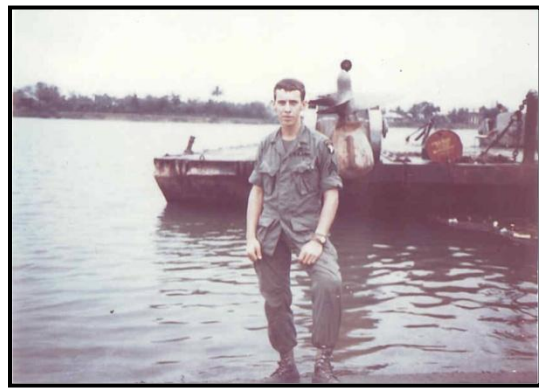
29 April 1970



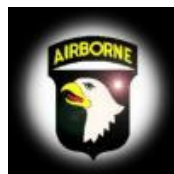
LTC Otis W. Livingston Jr. (HHC/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal with Valor for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Lieutenant Colonel Livingston distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of the 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during the defense of Fire Support Base Granite, Republic of Vietnam. When the fire base came under a concentrated enemy sapper attack, Lieutenant Colonel Livingston radioed for air support and rushed to the perimeter to supervise the counterattack of his men. He constantly subjected himself to hostile fire while moving from position to position directing the defense of the perimeter. He directed the fire of his men and inspired them to defend their positions despite the vicious assaults of the numerically superior force. His actions contributed immeasurably to repulsing the enemy attack and the successful defense of the fire base. Lieutenant Colonel Livingston'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.

29 April 1970

SSG Peyton Mullins (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Sergeant Mullins distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company A, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, defending Fire Support Base Granite, Republic of Vietnam. When the firebase came under a coordinated mortar and sapper attack, several friendly soldiers were



wounded in a foxhole hit by a satchel charge near Sergeant Mullins' position. Despite intense hostile fire, Sergeant Mullins rushed from his protected position to aid the wounded personnel at the foxhole. As he approached, he noticed several enemy sappers and successfully engaged them with accurate rifle fire. After moving the wounded under heavy fire to a protected position, Sergeant Mullins spotted an enemy soldier approaching his original position and successfully engaged the insurgent. Moments later, however, hostile grenade fire hit the position and wounded the two men there. Once again Sergeant Mullins braved enemy fire to move the casualties to safety, then returned to his sector of the perimeter, which he defended single-handedly. Later, while searching for friendly casualties under heavy mortar fire, he observed another enemy sapper and successfully engaged him with a hand grenade. Sergeant Mullins' 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.



29 & 30 April 1970

SP4 Philip Calderwood (HHC/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970 and 30 April 1970. Specialist Calderwood distinguished himself while serving as a clinical specialist in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations at Fire Support Base Granite, Republic of Vietnam. When the firebase was attacked by a battalion-size enemy force using rocket-propelled grenades, mortars, and automatic weapons, Specialist Calderwood immediately rushed to the perimeter to assist wounded personnel. Throughout the night he sought out the casualties, treated them, and moved them through the hostile fire to medical evacuation helicopters. The following day the firebase was subjected to a constant barrage of mortar fire and Specialist Calderwood continually braved the impacting rounds to aid the wounded and assist in their extraction. When a resupply helicopter was hit by a mortar round, several of its occupants were seriously wounded by the shrapnel. Specialist Calderwood unhesitatingly carried the casualties a considerable distance to a medical evacuation helicopter. His actions were responsible for saving many lives. Specialist Calderwood'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.



29 April 1970

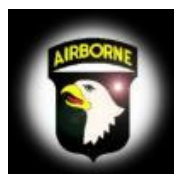


SP4 Robert J. Shannon (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Specialist Shannon distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, at Fire Support Base Granite, Republic of Vietnam. The fire base came under hostile mortar fire and an attack by a sapper force armed with satchel charges. Subjecting himself to hostile fire, Specialist Shannon rushed from his foxhole to trap the insurgents in a suppressive crossfire between himself and his platoon. Although Specialist Shannon was mortally wounded during the attack, his actions served to repulse the sapper force and keep friendly casualties to a minimum. Specialist Shannon'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.

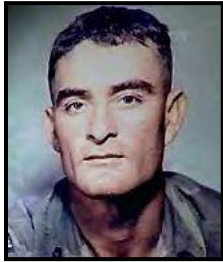
29 April 1970



SGT (Then SP4) GERAL A. KULM (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Specialist Kulm distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operation near Fire Support Base Veghel, Republic of Vietnam. When his unit was engaged by an enemy force of unknown size Specialist Kulm rushed forward with his machine gun to place suppressive fire on the well-entrenched insurgents. When the weapon malfunctioned, Specialist Kulm was directed to assume the duties of radio-telephone operator. Moving forward, he grabbed a stick and proved for undergo enemy fortifications. Specialist Kulm repeatedly subjected himself to intense hostile fire during the contact to spot enemy positions and radio the locations to unit commanders. Besides advising his commanders during the troop deployment, Specialist Kulm moved throughout the area under intense enemy fire and assisted the wounded. Despite the hostile fire, he carried a wounded Soldier over three hundred meters to a landing zone for medical evacuation. Specialist Kulm'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 of Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM); General Order Number 8785, 7 August 1970)



01 May 1968



SSG Jorge Otero- Barreto (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 17 February 1968. Staff Sergeant Otero distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader on a combat operation in the Republic of Vietnam. Company A, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry was occupying defensive positions around a village north of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. The village was occupied by elements of the 8th Battalion, 90th North Vietnamese Army Regiment and had defied all offensive attempts for two days. Because of clear weather, the enemy had been subject to constant air strikes and artillery. At 0415 hours, the enemy lay began a series of human wave attacks against Company A in desperate attempt to break out of the village. After the human wave assault had twice been driven back and fifty-eight enemy lay dead, the enemy forces withdrew into the village for their final stand. The first platoon led Company A into the village to destroy the remainder of the North Vietnamese Army forces and Sergeant Otero was the leader of the point element of the first platoon. Suddenly, the point came under fire from rocket propelled grenades, machine guns, and small arms firing from enemy bunkers and spider holes. With complete disregard for his own safety, Platoon Sergeant Otero immediately assaulted the nearest machine gun emplacement and killed all three of its crew members. He then led his squad through enemy fire in assaulting three more enemy positions, overrunning them and killing or incapacitating all of the enemy. Platoon Sergeant Otero's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior 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.

#### **\*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."

