



# STRIKE

Vietnam War Weekly History



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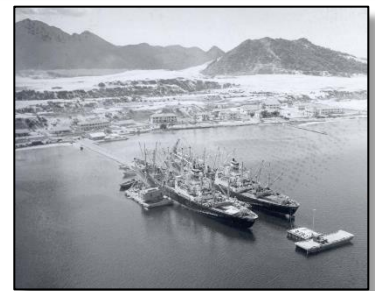
Issue: 84

## Brief History of the 501<sup>st</sup>, 502<sup>nd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade (101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV)

The 502<sup>nd</sup>, or “five-oh-deuce”, was activated July 1, 1941 at Fort Benning, Georgia as the 502<sup>nd</sup> parachute infantry battalion, as an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assaults. The 502<sup>nd</sup> entered combat in World War II on June 6, 1944, by jumping into Normandy, with allied forces landing on D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. Between 1945 and 1964. A major reorganization took place on 3 February 1964, when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne was activated at Fort Campbell, replacing the 1<sup>st</sup> Airborne Battle Group, 501<sup>st</sup> 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, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry 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 and arrived at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam on 29 July 1965, they were commanded by the most notable commander LTC Hank “The Gunfighter” Emerson.



The new 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade's original organic battalions were the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2d Battalions, 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry. December 1967 the 501<sup>st</sup>, 502<sup>nd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade deployed by C-141 aircraft and arrived at Bien Hoa Airbase on 13 December 1967. Over the next five years, Soldiers of the “Ready to Go” Brigade participated in twelve campaigns, compiling of a distinguished combat record as well as an enviable reputation for success in the rehabilitation of a war-torn nation. The Brigade redeployed to Fort Campbell in April 1972.



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**During this week, in the span of 8 years since the 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division deployed in support of the Vietnam War the following are from After Action Reports, Staff Duty Logs, and Personal Accounts. (\* All items have been reproduced from the Unclassified / Declassified Holdings of the National Archives.)**

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- 21 January 1966      **Operation VAN BUREN:** 2-502 IN BN conducted a combined helicopter assault and extraction. B/2-502 IN secured an LZ vicinity CQ082743 and evacuated Vietnamese children, nuns, and priests from a nearby orphanage. The operation was completely successful; no enemy contact was made although numerous VC were observed throughout the entire area. Five days prior to the extraction of the orphans the Recondo platoon, reinforced, moved to TUY AN vicinity CQ110680 to gain EFL for the operation. The 2-520 IN BN conducted Recondo patrols on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> of January. On 24 January a patrol from B/2-502 IN engaged an estimated VC platoon vicinity BQ105495. The patrol in contact was reinforced with two (2) platoons from B/2-502 IN. The company (-) then swept through the area and conducted subsequent search and clear operations. The operations were terminated on 25 January at 1530H with the following results: 1 VC KIA (BC) and 15 VC KBA (PROB). (HQ, 2-502 IN; Operation Van Buren, After Action Report 150600H January 1966 – 201200 February 1966)
- 21 January 1968      2BDE takes part in operations within AO Attala around MINH THANH in the Michelin rubber plantation. 12th Aviation Group provided 75 CH-47 sorties to move the brigade, combined with a four-serial ground convoy.
- 21 – 30 January 1968      **Operation ATTALA/CASEY:** 1BDE, 1ID; 2BDE, 101 ABN DIV, the 1/11 ACR and 2/11 ACR began Operation ATTALA/CASEY, a reconnaissance in force operation against the 165th PAVN Regiment in BINH DUONG Province.
- 21 January 1968      **Operation SAN ANGELO:** A/2-502 IN motor marched from vicinity YU117501 to vicinity YU081117 escorted by 2-17 CAV. The move was uneventful as were search and destroy operations in their new AO. B/2-502 IN foot marched from their AO to SONG BE closing at 1500H. Twenty women and children were questioned enroute with negative results. C/2-502 IN at 1945H, killed 2 VC on the perimeter of the TAC CP, capturing two AK-47 assault rifles. (HQ, 2-502 IN; Operation SAN ANGELO, Combat After Action Report; 17 February 1968)
- 21 January 1969      **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN provided security FSB T-Bone. At 1700H, while on a RIF operation, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon detonated one (1) 60mm mortar round boobytrap at YD652223. It resulted in 1 US WIA. B/1-502 IN, with Recon platoon OPCON, conducted RIF operations. At YD594186, Recon platoon received a satchel charge and 9mm pistol fire resulting in 1 US KIA. At YD592189, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon found 4 old platoon size hootches which had been recently used and 1 Chicom grenade. At YD592186 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon found 1 reinforced bunker and some ammunition. At YD596187, Recon platoon found and destroyed 2 security bunkers and sixteen (16) 55 gal. drums of kerosene, C/1-502 IN remained OPCON to 2-501 IN BN. D/1-502 IN (-) conducted saturation patrols vicinity YD7131. 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon detained 6 male Vietnamese at YD728330. Detainees were sent from district headquarters to Hue as draft dodgers, and the other four were forwarded to the national police for interrogation.
- 21 January 1970      In a major civil affairs project for the 2-501 IN BN; The villagers and the 2-501 IN BN completed a gymnasium for HUONG TRA District High School in HUONG CAN village with material provided by the 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV. The gym was required because a large percentage of the students come to the school from great distances and needed a place to eat and get some exercise during the lunch hour. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 3, Number 1); Spring 1970)
- 21 January 1970      B/1-502 IN defense reports one claymore wire was broken last night, all others ok. D/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon is training 17 PF's from the 199<sup>th</sup> PF platoon in claymore, map reading and compass review. They are also training 17 men from the same unit on First Aid. D/2-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon attached to the 1-502 IN BN found a rucksack with rice. D/2-502 IN blew an ambush on a 5-man VC/NVA element with small arms and grenades. The element split up and blood trail was found.
- 21 January 1971      1-501 IN BN, Recon platoon vicinity YD439245 found one trail orientated west too east. Estimated usage 12 days. A/1-501 IN vicinity YD517209 discovered a bunker complex.
- 22 January 1968      E/2-501 IN engaged 2 VC vicinity 738648; negative results, VC fled to the SE. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 22 January 1968)



22 January 1968



**Operation JEB STUART:** Just prior to the TET Offensive, the units of 2BDE deployed north of I Corps to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division in Operation Jeb Stuart. Initially landing and setting up at the PHU BAI airfield, the 2BDE troopers started search operations immediately and soon moved north to LZ Sally. At the outbreak of the TET Offensive, 2BDE troopers under the operational control of the 1<sup>st</sup> CAV, shared the fighting in the battle of QUANG TRI and HUE, killing 94 enemies who had tried to penetrate Screaming Eagle defenses.



During the following weeks, the score of enemy killed and captured mounted as 2BDE Troopers cleaned out resistance in numerous villages between HUE and QUANG TRI. The 1-502 IN BN launched a road clearing operation along Highway 1 south of QUANG TRI. Villagers pinpointed an NBA battalion in an ambush site for the troopers.

Calling in artillery and gunships, the "First Strike" paratroopers blocked escape routes. As the NVA fled the bombardment, the infantrymen ripped into the enemy with withering fire. When the battle ended, 72 enemy bodies lay in front of the paratroopers' positions.

With the offensive blunted near Saigon, the 1BDE was airlifted to I Corps. In two weeks, the troopers had cleared the route following Highway 547 to the A SHAU VALLEY. A firebase, Birmingham was established 16km from the NVA stronghold, to support the driving paratroopers, who continued to push westward through the mountains. Enemy supply routes were cut, troop movements were interrupted, and arms caches were uncovered by the onrushing troopers.



Operation Jeb Stuart ended with the TET lunar offensive nullified. In 40 days of bitter fighting over 1000 of the infiltrating NVA and VC were killed. Battles along Highway 1 and the "Street without Joy" became mourning grounds for the 812<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment and the 324<sup>th</sup> NVA Division.

21 – 24 January 1968

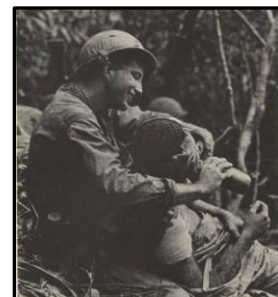
2BDE began air and overland movement into the assigned AO; established base camp facilities, defensive positions and prepared to initiate a sweep of the area. At 0910H, 22 January, CG, I Field Force Vietnam issued a change of mission directing the BDE to return to CU CHI Base Camp and prepare for immediate deployment to I CTZ. At the time of the alert, the 1-501 IN BN was enroute into the AO. They were diverted midway, returned to base camp and subsequently deployed to HUE – PHU BAI the following day, OPCON to III MAF. On 24 January at 1800H the responsibility for OP Attala was passed to the 11<sup>th</sup> ACR and the 2BDE began phasing back to CU CHI. During the entire operation, there was no significant contact and negative results. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968)

21 January 1969

A/1-502 IN provided security for FSB T-Bone. At 1799H, while on a RIF operation, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon detonated 1 60mm mortar round boobytrap at YD652223. It resulted in 1 US WIA. B/1-502 IN with Recon platoon OPCON, conducted RIF operations. At YD594186, Recon platoon received a satchel charge and 9mm pistol fire resulting in 1 US KIA. At YD592189, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon found 4 old platoon size hootches which had been recently used and 1 ChiCom grenade. At YD593186, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon found 1 reinforced bunker and some ammunition. At YD596187, Recon platoon found and destroyed 2 security bunkers and 16 55gal drums of kerosene. C/1-502 IN remained OPCON to 2-501 IN BN. D/1-502 IN (-) conducted saturation patrols in vicinity YD7131. 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon detained 6 male Vietnamese at YD728330. Detainees were sent from district headquarters to Hue as draft dodgers, and the other four were forwarded to the national police for interrogation.

22 January 1968

**Operation JEB STUART:** This operation covered the initial move of major elements of the 1st Cavalry Division into northern I Corps following PERSHING. It was launched as a search and destroy operation aimed at enemy Base Areas 101 and 114. It had another goal of reinforcing the Marines in I Corps. The battles associated with TET of '68 would quickly overshadow the search and destroy nature of this operation which claimed 3,268 known enemy casualties and 119 POWS versus US losses of 291 KIAs and 1,735 WIAs. As a result of JEB STUART, the 1st Bde was near QUANG TRI City just in time for TET. The 1<sup>st</sup> CAV contributed three battalions: 2/8<sup>th</sup>, 5/7<sup>th</sup> and 2/12<sup>th</sup> CAV and the 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV contributed two battalions: 1-501 IN BN and 2-501 IN BN. (101<sup>st</sup> Airborne 1968 Vietnam Yearbook)



22 January 1968

2BDE at the time, had just begun an air assault into the Michelin plantation area near MINH THANH vicinity XT6367 to begin a reconnaissance in force operation in that area prior to TET. At 0910H, the 1-501 IN BN received its warning orders while in flight to the Brigade AO. The aircraft were diverted and returned to CU CHI from where the battalion deployed to HUE – PHU BAI the following day. The 2BDE (-) followed immediately. The 2BDE remained OPCON to III MAF and further OPCON to 1<sup>st</sup> AIR CAV DIV until 10 March 1968. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)



- 22 – 29 January 1968 HHC/1-502 IN moved from CU CHI to PHU BAI Airfield. This move was conducted by Air Force C-130 Aircraft. The Brigade began Operation JEB STUART. During this time, we received logistical support from FSA MacDonald, located at LZ El Paso (Now Camp Eagle). Resupply was accomplished by vehicles, and adequacy depended on road conditions and clearance.
- 22 January 1968 **Operation SAN ANGELO:** A/2-502 IN, C/2-502 IN, Recondo company and the TAC-CP extracted from assigned AO beginning at 0845H and closed SONG BE at 1545H. The 2-502 IN BN assumed BDE IAF upon closing. B/2-502 IN was air lifted to cold LZ vicinity TAC-CP 2-327 and became OPCON effective 1029H for a security mission. The 2-502 IN BN provided security for mini-firebase vicinity YU182238 and established a forward TAC-CP. A/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN provided security at SONG BE and conducted S&D operations in assigned AO's on a rotating basis. (HQ, 2-502 IN: Operation SAN ANGELO, Combat After Action Report; 17 February 1968)
- 22 – 25 January 1968 **Operation CASEY:** 2BDE conducts Operation CASEY, a combined mechanized/ airmobile infantry operation in conjunction with 11th ACR in the Michelin rubber plantation. 2BDE is supplemented with supporting units and renamed the 2nd Brigade Task Force. At the end of the operation, 2BDE is sent north to Hue.
- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1-501 Abn Inf.  | 2d FASC Platoon, 501st Signal Battalion.  |
| 2-501 Abn Inf.  | 2/101st MP Co.                            |
| 1-502 Abn Inf.  | Team/101st MI Co.                         |
| 1-321 Abn Arty. | 2/265 Radio Research Co.                  |
| A/1-11 Arty.    | 34th Photo Interpretation Team            |
| C/326 Eng.      | Support Units, 101st Div. Support Command |
| B/326 Med.      | 2/A/801st Maint. Co.                      |
- 22 January 1969 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN continued to provide security for FSB T-Bone. A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted saturation patrols in the vicinity YD640220. B/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols in the vicinity YD5919. At YD593199, B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon found a hole and small bunker and destroyed them. D/1-502 IN (-) conducted saturation patrols in the vicinity of YD7132. 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon was located at LZ Sally as BDE RRF.
- 22 January 1971 D/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon received small arms fire from two enemy vicinity YD473137. Negative Results.
- 23 January 1968 C/2-501 IN reporting seeing 2 VC coordinates 736646; engaged with 1 round returned fire, enemy headed west. C/2-501 IN reported locating 3 pressure release type booby traps at XT741647, destroyed them and will sweep area. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 23 January 1968)
- 23 January 1969 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN continued to provide security for FSB T-Bone. A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted saturation patrols in the vicinity YD5919. C/1-502 IN moved via CH47 from FSB Birmingham to FSB T-Bone, was released from OPCON to the 2-501 IN BN. D/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols in the vicinity YD7123 and YD7229. Recon patrol was lifted to LZ Sally and released from OPCON to B/1-502 IN.
- 23 January 1971 A/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon vicinity YD506216 found one individual weapon Chicom Pistol. Last activity 2-3 days. D/1-501 IN vicinity YD466236 discovered a wire believed to be an antenna and eight fighting positions. D/1-501 IN vicinity YD470133 discovered a trail orientated north to south. Last activity 12 hours.
- 24 January 1969 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN (-) lifted from FSB T-Bone to LZ Sally. A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF operation to LZ Sally. B/1-502 IN lifted from PZ YD596202 to LZ Sally. C/1-502 IN provided security for FSB T-Bone. D/1-502 IN was marshalled at LZ Sally along with Recon platoon.
- 24 January –  
09 February 1969 **Operation SHERMAN PEAK:** Was launched by the 1-502 IN BN, D/1-501 IN and the 3-3 ARVN Regiment. Intelligence information (SLAR, Sniffer and VR missions) indicated that enemy activity had increased, and the enemy was moving personnel and equipment from rear staging areas in the A Shau Valley in a northerly direction along Route 547, and the Rao Nai River into areas near FSB Veghel (YD552030). Working in conjunction with the 3-3 ARVN Regiment, the 1-502 IN BN Task Force conducted rapid combat assaults and reconnaissance in force operations in the vicinity of FSB Veghel to locate and destroy enemy forces, installations, prevent enemy infiltration along Route 547 and provide protection for engineer reconnaissance teams along Route 547. The operation concluded on 9 February with the combined forces making little contact with enemy elements, resulting in 1 NVA KIA and a large munitions cache discovered and destroyed. (DA-Senior Officer Debriefing Report; MG Melvin Zais, CG, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Period 19 July 1968 – 25 May 1969)
- 24 January 1971 Screaming Eagles A/1-501 IN BN discovered a large weapons cache west of HUE consisting 39 SKS Rifles, 12 AK-47 rifles, two carbines, and three submachine guns. The weapons were evacuated by the "Geronimo" troopers. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 3, Number 4); Winter - Spring 1971)
- 24 January 1971 A/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon vicinity YD 507215 found a weapons cache site. Results 6 SK's, 15 AK-47's. A/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon vicinity YD513205 received small arms fire from 2-3 enemy 100-150 meters north east of their position. Results 2 enemy KIA, one AK-50. (1-501 IN BN Annual Supplement History; 1 January 1971 – 31 December 1971)



25 January 1968

In the last days of Jan 1968, B/2-502 IN was attached to 2-327 and made a combat assault from SONG BE to near the Cambodian border. We established a fire base and started receiving AK fire almost immediately. Every time that a rifle company departed the fire base they were engaged in a firefight with the NVA. On the morning of 25 Jan 1968, B/2-502 IN departed the firebase on a company size combat patrol. We moved approximately 400 meters when we made contact with the NVA and remained in contact for 2 ½ - 3 hrs. 2-327 IN BN, 4.2 mortars gave us excellent support during the firefight. That was probably the best volume of friendly fire that I have witnessed. On completion of the fight our casualties were 3 KIA's and approx. 15 WIA's. One interesting thing was that the NVA had new uniforms, weapons, and equipment. At that time, we didn't know that the NVA was coming in country for the Tet Offensive. (Personal account by Jimmy D. Hale)

25 January 1969

At 1513H, A/2-501 IN while on a RIF mission discovered a burial site about 2 weeks old vicinity YC780978, 17 km south of Camp Eagle. The site contained 16 bodies, 11 determined to be KBA, 3 by artillery and the remaining 2 by small arms fire. (III MAF Sig Event; TT 1201005028c.pdf, pg. 8)

25 January 1969

A/2-502 IN vicinity YD874014 13km south of Phu Bai, received 2 rounds unknown type mortars resulting in 7 US KIA and 7 US WIA (3 Evacs). (III MAF Sig Event; TT 1201005028c.pdf, pg. 9)

25 January 1969

**Operation SHERMAN PEAK/Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV and the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Regiment begin a spoiling operation named SHERMAN PEAK and centered of FSB Veghel on Route 547, THUA THIEN Province. The operation is designed to prevent any possible enemy offensive directed at HUE for TET.



25 January 1969

**Operation SHERMAN PEAK/Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** The 1-502 IN BN began Operation SHERMAN PEAK, which was in support of Operation NEVADA EAGLE. The battalion's mission was to conduct reconnaissance in force operations in the vicinity of FSB Veghel to locate and destroy enemy forces and installations, prevent enemy infiltration along highway 547 and 547A, and provide protection for engineer reconnaissance teams along highway 547 and 547A. This mission was conducted in conjunction with the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Regiment. This was primarily a spoiling operation to prevent an enemy build up in preparation for an attack on HUE. During the period of the operation no significant contact was made more were there signs of recent enemy activity. However, many caches were found, some of which were believed to be remaining from the TET offensive of 1968. The caches consisted primarily of ammunition and explosives. Operation SHERMAN PEAK ended on 09 February and the battalion continued to participate in Operation NEVADA EAGLE with the 2BDE. During Operation NEVADA EAGLE the 1-502 IN BN conducted training and joint operation with the RF/PS's in QUANG DIEN District. This proved to be quite successful and as forces proficiency increased the 1-502 IN BN was able to occupy a larger area of operations. Operation NEVADA EAGLE ended on 28 February 1969.

25 January 1969

**Operation SHERMAN PEAK:** The 1-502 IN began Operation SHERMAN PEAK in support of Operation NEVADA EAGLE. A/1-502 IN remained at LZ Sally as BDE RRF. B/1-502 IN conducted a C/A from LZ Sally to FSB Veghel. Upon approaching FSB Veghel, they received small arms fire. At 1445H, B/1-502 IN captured 1 VC in a bunker at FSB Veghel. The POW was evacuated to FSB Geronimo for interrogation. C/1-502 IN moved by CH47 from FSB T-Bone to LZ Sally. D/1-502 IN moved from LZ Sally to FSB Veghel and then departed FSB Veghel to conduct RIF operations in the vicinity YD545030. Departing FSB Veghel D/1-502 IN received friendly fire from FSB Veghel at 1538H, resulting in 1 US WIA. The 1-502 IN BN TOC CP moved by truck from Omaha to LZ Sally and then moved by CH47 to FSB Veghel. D/1-501 IN was OPCON to 1-502 IN BN and conducted a C/A from FSB Birmingham to FSB Bastogne.

25 January 1969

Continuing a new Screaming Eagle series of offensives in enemy base areas, elements of the 2BDE initiated an operation aimed at cutting off enemy movement out of the A SHAU along Highway 547A. Air assaults were conducted into FB Bastogne. Elsewhere in the AO, 101<sup>st</sup> Paratroopers accounted for 18 enemies' dead, one prisoner, one HOI CHANH and four captured weapons. A/2-501 IN discovered a sizeable grave complex containing 16 enemy bodies in the Leech Island area. Part of D/3-506 Currahees encountered two VC on the paymaster team. They killed one of them and captured 45,000 local piasters (local money). (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 1); Spring 1969-69)



25 January 1971

A/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon received small arms fire while sweeping a bunker complex vicinity YD508214. Platoon came under small arms fire and RPG fire. Results seven US WIA.



26 – 31 January 1966

**Operation VAN BUREN:** C/2-502 IN conducted a Recon patrol and the initial phase of Checkerboard operations vicinity CQ061542. Concurrently, the battalion prepared for a search and destroy operation to the north. B/2-502 IN (-), A/2-502 IN (-), 17<sup>th</sup> CAV (-) OPCON 2-502 IN BN, 2-502 IN BN, AT platoon and 3A/326 ENG conducted a search and destroy operation vicinity BQ154584 initiated 28 January at 0600H. The 17<sup>th</sup> CAV (-) and B/2-502 IN infiltrated into the operations area under the cover of darkness. A/2-502 IN an AT platoon conducted a heliborne assault to establish blocking positions to the East and North respectively. A/2-502 IN then joined B/2-502 IN and the combined force conducted search and destroy operations to the north. This operation terminated 31 January at 1515H. These two operations accounted for 8 VC KIA (BC), 5 VC KIA (EST), 63 VCS and numerous types of small arms ammunition captured. Friendly losses were 2 WIA. (HQ, 2-502 IN; Operation Van Buren, After Action Report 150600H January 1966 – 201200 February 1966)

26 January 1967

**Operation FARRAGUT:** Task Force DOHERY, composed of C/2-502 IN, 1 platoon A/325 ENG, 1 platoon, A/2-17 CAV, and C/2-320 ARTY at 0900H conducted a tactical road march to an area NW of Secret Base 35. This move was an attempt to deceive the enemy as to the Brigade's true objective, Secret Base 7, and serve to position forces for the Brigade assault on D+1. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation FARRAGUT)

26 January 1968

2BDE Task Force establishes new CP at HUE – PHU BAI, Republic of Vietnam.



26 January 1968

2-501 IN BN was airlifted to Hue in northern I CTZ, RVN. The Battalion CP was located in the vicinity of what was called Camp Eagle. The remainder of the month was unusually quiet.

26 January 1969

**Operation SHERMAN PEAK/Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN conducted a C/A from LZ Sally to FSB Zon. The company found various amounts of US ammunition on FSB Zon and destroyed it. B/1-502 IN provided security on FSB Veghel. A man was spotted outside the perimeter and engaged with negative results. C/1-502 IN was lifted from LZ Sally to FSB Veghel by CH-47. They then conducted RIF operations vicinity YD555126. D/1-502 IN conducted RIF operations from YD545030 to YD533038. D/1-502 IN vicinity YD534026 found three 4-man bunkers, 1 60mm mortar round, and 200 AK-47 rounds. At YD531035 they found approximately 5000 12.8mm rounds. D/1-502 IN vicinity YD533038 found a tunnel complex containing 3 cases of TNT, 800 rounds 12.7 ammunition and wheels for a 50-cal. gun carriage. Recon platoon was OPCON to A/1-502 IN. Recon platoon vicinity YD4655002 found 5 small security bunkers and destroyed them. Recon platoon vicinity YD470998 found 10 bunkers, and 6 spider holes with hootches over the holes. They appeared to be 2-4 weeks old. D/1-501 IN continued to provide security for FSB Bastogne and conducted local patrols around FSB Bastogne.

26 January 1969

2BDE operations continued with air assaults into LZ Son. In the area, the CO of the 101<sup>st</sup> AHB spotted several NVA and a 37mm anti-aircraft gun. Delta Company gunships were called in, resulting in two NVA killed and the AA gun destroyed. In the 3BDE operation, C/2-502 IN discovered a cache of 24 SKS rifles, three RPDs, one RPG launcher, 30 60mm mortar rounds and 30 RPG rounds in an elaborate hut-bunker complex in the mountains west of Camp Evans. The 1BDE's operation continued near FB Quick II with light contact. The 2-502nd Recondos engaged an NVA platoon, killed two, and later found a cache of four weapons. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 1); Spring 1969-69)

26 January 1970

**Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** 2-502 IN BN returned back to FSB Rifle and established the tactical operations center. The firebase was a jointly occupied firebase with ARVN and Strike Force troopers. The area of operations was split with the US responsible for the section north of FSB Rifle and the ARVN's responsible for the south. There was little evidence of recent enemy activity in the area surrounding FSB Rifle throughout the end of January and early February. (2-502 Unit History, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)



27 January –  
3 February 1968

From the 1<sup>st</sup> CAV DIV journal of 26 January 1967: 2BDE became opcon 1<sup>st</sup> ACD upon closure of 2BDE CP at LZ El Paso at 1200H and assumed control of 1-501 IN BN. The 1-501 IN BN assisted in security of LZ El Paso with three companies while its D/1-501 IN air assaulted to [an area outside the perimeter] and conducted operations in that vicinity. 2-501 IN BN closed LZ El Paso at 1810H, OPCON to 2BDE, 101st Abn.”

The 1-501 IN BN took over its sector of the perimeter that evening, and the 2-501 IN BN went into its position the afternoon of the 27<sup>th</sup>. That day, A/1-501 IN and B/1-501 IN conducted company-sized heliborne assaults and extractions in areas near LZ El Paso – seeking enemy contact in operations of six or seven hours’ duration. The 1-502 IN BN, OPCON to the CAV’s 1st Bde, was on “base security” at LZs Sharon and Betty, near QUANG TRI to the north.

On 28 JAN, the 1<sup>st</sup> CAV decided to move the 1-501 IN BN and our brigade CP to LZ Jane, south of LZ Jane, relieving the 1/5 CAV BN there. On 29 JAN, we were ordered to make this move the next day, a day earlier than planned. (We were lucky, if we had moved as planned, TET 1968 would have caught us at LZ El Paso.) The 2-501 IN BN would join us at LZ Jane but meanwhile it would move to the CAV’s new base at Camp Evans, to perform perimeter security.

The 1-501 IN BN, A/1-321, and BDE HHC with our signal and MP platoons left LZ El Paso by truck convoy in the early morning 30 January. They traveled through HUE and up Highway 1. SFC Timothy O’Connor of the 1-501 IN BN has written in his book, “Blood Brothers, “There were numerous villages along the way... (It was TET, the Chinese New Year) and the people... were having a good time. When we reached HAI LANG, we turned left... and came to a large sized hill... LZ Jane. Each company was assigned a sector of the perimeter. I called the platoon together and told them that ‘Charlie is watching us so let’s dig our bunkers deep.’”

The massive NVA/Viet Cong countrywide offensive known as Tet 1968 began that night, attacking Saigon, 36 of the RVN’s 43 province capitals, 64 of its 242 district towns, and field positions throughout the countryside, including LZ Jane. From the brigade journal: “LZ Jane began receiving mortar & RPG fire at approximately 0405H (31 JAN) ... At 0427H, units reported enemy activity to their front, enemy tried to penetrate the 1-501 IN BN perimeter. By 0455H, elements reported all quiet. 1-501 IN BN had 6 WIA. 14 NVA KIA and 3 NVA POW, 11 individual weapons and 1 RPG-2 launcher captured. Negative further activity.” The 1-501 IN BN had been ready. There was more to come.

We were told that the 1-502 IN BN, securing LZs Sharon and Betty, had not been attacked that night. It went immediately into action. On 1 February, A/1-502 IN, with a D/1-502 IN, platoon and the recon platoon, was sweeping the area between the two LZs, in a four-hour fire fight, supported by the CAV’s gunships, it killed 35 and captured 2 NVA, captured an 82mm mortar, two .50-cal. and one light machine gun and many individual weapons. Four men had been killed, including A Co’s commander, Captain Holland, and first sergeant. The 1-502 IN BN continued with sweeps and ambushes.

The TET Offensive caught the 2-501 IN BN with its move to Camp Evans only partially completed and with the rest of the battalion yet to move because of poor flying weather, intensive enemy anti-aircraft fire, and low C-47 availability. (By LTG (then COL) John H. Cushman)

27 January 1967

**Operation FARRAGUT:** 2-502 IN BN conducted an overland move from PHANG RANG into the southern portion of the AO and commenced search and destroy operations to the NW. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation FARRAGUT)

27 January 1968

2-501 IN BN (2d BDE), went into its positions and that day A/1-501 IN and B/1-501 IN conducted company-sized heliborne assaults and extractions in areas near LZ El Paso – seeking enemy contact in operations for six or seven-hour durations. The 1-502 IN OPCON to CAV’s 1<sup>st</sup> BDE was on “Base Security” at LZ’s Sharon and Betty, near Quang Tri to the North.

27 – 31 January 1968

HHC/1-502 IN moved to LZ El Paso by road convoy. This greatly reduced many of our logistical problems. LZ El Paso came under 60mm mortar fire the morning of the 31<sup>st</sup>. B/326<sup>th</sup> MED BN, reported 4 killed in the action and 4 wounded in the action. Counter mortar fire engaged the enemy position with unknown results.

27 January 1969

Screaming Eagle offensive continued, with 11 enemy killed and one prisoner captured. The 2-502 IN BN killed six enemy while 1-327 IN BN troopers killed two enemy near FB Anzio. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 1); Spring 1968-69)

27 January 1969

**Operation SHERMAN PEAK/Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN conducted RIF operations from YD465003 to YD455992. At vicinity YD465003, A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon found 1 8mm French Bolt action carbine. In the vicinity YD470998, A/1-502 IN found 43 bunkers, 3 kitchens (2 of which were underground), 1 latrine, 1 pick and 1 shovel. 5 of the bunkers were newly constructed with 4 old fire ashes in the kitchen. B/1-502 IN continued to provide security for FSB Veghel. C/1-502 IN conducted RIF operations. At YD559028, C/1-502 IN found fresh tracks of 3 persons. A search of the area produced negative results. D/1-502 IN conducted RIF operations from YD533038 to YD527037. At YD533038 the company found 1000 AK-47 rounds, 350lbs TNT, blasting caps, 100 Mauser rounds and a M60 MG in bad shape. At YD531038 they found 123 boxes of 12.7mm rounds. D/1-501 IN was located at FSB Bastogne. The company minus conducted RIF operations with an engineer party to YD800059 and returned to FSB Bastogne.

27 January 1969

At 1020H, elements of B/2-502 IN discovered 5 BC bodies buried in a small gravesite (YD858008) 14km south of PHU BAI. Three (3) of the dead appeared to have been killed within the week, 2 by artillery and the third by small arms fire. The causes of death of other 2 bodies could not be determined. Nearby, a cache of 144 rounds of 82mm was found. (III MAF Sig Event; TT 1201005028c.pdf, pg. 15)

27 January 1971

1-501 IN BN had a routine Medevac. One man had a cut on his face.



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**During this week, in the span of 8 years since the 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division deployed in support of the Vietnam War the following awards were awarded to the service members during combat operations.**

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2 x Silver Star Medal  
 5 x Bronze Star Medal (4 x Posthumously)  
 2 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor  
 13 x Purple Heart Medal (11 x Posthumously)  
 32 x Air Medal  
 26 x Combat Infantry Badge

21 January 1969



SP4 Michael J. White (E/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when hit by fragments from a hostile mine 16km W-SW of Hue Citadel in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

23 January 1969



SP4 Bruce H. Rawling (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. SP4 Rawling was admitted to a military medical facility, placed on VSI list, and later expired in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

24 January 1966



PFC Richard A. Sullivan (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and wounds received which resulted in his death as a result of a gunshot wound to the head incurred when hit by hostile sniper fire while on combat operation during hostile ground action in the Phu Yen Province, Republic of Vietnam.

24 January 1968

1LT Thomas M. Carhart (A/1-327 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during hostile ground action while on combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 9711; 21 November 1968)

25 January 1968



SSG James B. Anderson (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds received while on combat operation when engaged by hostile force in a firefight in the Phuoc Long Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1969

The following Soldiers from B/1-502 IN:

SGT David A. Edwards  
 PFC Michael L. Malin  
 PFC Thomas W. Coss  
 PFC Santiago Numez  
 SP4 David L. Pryse  
 SSG Clifton H. Cathcart  
 SGT Mark W. Dugger  
 SGT Willie C. Dozier

SP4 George H. Keathley  
 1LT Donald C. Murnock  
 PFC Earl J. Perry Jr.  
 PFC Joseph C. Addison  
 SP4 Dennis H. McGill  
 SP4 Robert E. McAferty  
 SGT Thomas R. Hancock  
 SGT Larry E. Johnson

SP4 Willie King  
 SP4 Ethen D. Smith  
 SSG Charles B. Payne Jr.  
 PFC Guy E. Daugherty  
 PFC Richard M. Sam  
 SP4 David L. Reese  
 PFC Edward L. Resavy  
 PFC Vincent P. Fenequito

PFC Robert L. Carter  
 SP4 Terry L. Chinn  
 SGT Cleodis Smith  
 SP4 John W. Mandez  
 PFC Darrell K. Johnson  
 SP4 Thomas D. Shobe  
 SP4 Francis L. Grue  
 1LT Peter A. Fekete

Was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, General Order Number 1423; 9 February 1969)





25 January 1969



SP4 Anderson D. Bolton (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds while at a defensive position when area came under hostile mortar attack 13km south of Phu Bai Airfield in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1969



SP4 Ralph L. Glover (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at a night defensive position when area came under hostile mortar attack 13km south of Phu Bai Airfield, while at a defensive position when area came under hostile mortar attack in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1969

SP4 Ralph E. Johnson (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his deaths from multiple fragmentation wounds while at a defensive position when area came under hostile mortar attack 13km south of Phu Bai Airfield in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1969

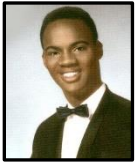


SGT Steven T. Kiel (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds while at a defensive position when area came under hostile attack 13km south of Phu Bai Airfield in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1969

SP4 Fernando L. Lozano (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at a defensive position when area came under hostile mortar attack 13km south of Phu Bai Airfield in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1969



CPL Alvin R. Narcisse (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at a defensive position when area came under hostile mortar attack 13km south of Phu Bai Airfield in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1969

PFC Frank D. Smitherman (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at a night defensive position when area came under hostile attack 13km south of Phu Bai Airfield, while at a defensive position when area came under hostile mortar attack in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 January 1970

The following Soldiers from A/2-501 IN:

- |                       |                        |                      |                       |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| PFC Ryamond Armstrong | PFC Robert C. Banwart  | PFC Murl D. Boston   | SP4 Scott A. Brindley |
| PFC Glen A. Brown     | PFC Holly E. Dickerson | PFC Hector Dominguez | PFC James F. Dowling  |
| PFC Donald W. Garey   | SP4 Lideran C. Garrett | PFC Roy D. Garrett   | PFC Darwin A. Grow    |
| PFC Embritch Harris   | 1LT David A. Hockett   | PFC Coy J. Hubbard   | PFC Celester Jones    |
| PFC Ronald J. King    | PFC Marchall T. Morgan | SP4 Joseph Nester    | PFC Samuel Niemann    |
| PFC John R. Overton   | PFC David R. Schmidli  | PFC Joseph Stevens   | PFC Richard A. Takos  |
| SGT John E. Upton     | PFC Alan L. Wentworth  |                      |                       |

Was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge. (HQ, 101s ABN DIV; Specials Order Number 27, 27 January 1970)

26 January 1969

SP4 Joseph J. Saitta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds sustained in combat in the Republic of Vietnam. (Purple Heart Medal Citation)



# STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

23 January –  
31 December 1969



MAJ Jerome A. Bruschette (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (3-OLC) For exceptionally meritorious service in support of the United States objectives in the counterinsurgency effort in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 23 January 1969 to 31 December 1969. Major Bruschette distinguished himself while serving as Battalion Operations Officer, S3, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, and as Executive Officer of the 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry. He was responsible for planning and organizing numerous fire support bases which housed and supported logistical units and artillery and infantry battalions. He innovated the first "Airmobile Tactical Operations Center" using native materials augmented only by sandbags and barbed wire. He displayed a unique ability in coordinating not only the tactical deployment of the battalion, but also in using the supporting units to maximum capacity. Major Bruschette maintained a noteworthy level of rapport with Vietnamese forces while conducting joint counterinsurgency operations. Through his knowledge of combat operations, all joint operations were executed with a high degree of success. Through his initiative, resourcefulness, adaptability to change, and readiness to resort to the expedient, he materially contributed to the efforts of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) in the Republic of Vietnam. Major Bruschette's meritorious service was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 15287; 31 December 1969)

24 January 1966

SFC Robert R. Wightman (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal. SFC Wightman distinguished himself on 24 January 1966 while serving as acting platoon leader during a mission to relieve an element of an ambushed patrol near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. On this date, Platoon Sergeant Wightman's platoon was moving to join its parent unit when his rear security squad was ambushed. He immediately led his men through flooded rice paddies back toward the beleaguered squad. As he and his men neared the pinned down element, the Viet Cong fire became more intense. After skillfully deploying his platoon to give him fire support, Platoon Sergeant Wightman, with complete disregard for his personal safety, moved aggressively through heavy Viet Cong fire and directed the evacuation of the wounded to a nearby landing zone. When heavy Viet Cong fire forced away the incoming medical evacuation helicopter, Platoon Sergeant Wightman immediately called for tactical air support. As the aircraft approached the battle area, Platoon Sergeant Wightman skillfully directed effective air strikes and maneuvered his force against the insurgent troops. Promptly after the air strikes, he led his men in an aggressive attack, destroyed the insurgent positions, and routed the Viet Cong. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, fire superiority was regained over the insurgent troops and the casualties of the beleaguered squad were successfully evacuated. Platoon Sergeant Wightman's unimpeachable valor in close combat against a 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. (HQ, USARV; General Orders Number 2916; 16 May 1966)

24 January 1971



SSG Terrel O. Kimber (A/1-501 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Kimber distinguished himself on 24 January 1971 while serving as a squad leader during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance-in-force mission, Sergeant Kimber's squad encountered a well-camouflaged enemy bunker. After an unsuccessful attempt at destroying the emplacement, Sergeant Kimber came under small arms fire. Employing fire and movement tactics with his squad, Sergeant Kimber successfully destroyed the enemy position. Staff Sergeant Kimber's heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 2233; 16 March 1971)

26 January 1969



SP4 Joseph J. Saitta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 26 January 1969. Specialist Saitta distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, near the city of Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam. During a search and clear mission, Specialist Saitta's 032403 platoon came under intense enemy automatic weapons fire. In the initial burst of fire, one man was seriously wounded. Specialist Saitta, with complete disregard for his own safety, moved forward with another soldier through the intense enemy automatic weapons fire to the location of the wounded man lying in the direct line of enemy fire. Crawling through the intense enemy automatic weapons fire, he reached the second wounded man, who was in an open area. On several occasions, Specialist Saitta used his body as a shield to protect the wounded Soldier from the enemy fire. After administering first aid to him, he carried the wounded Soldier to the rear of the area and was instrumental in completing his successful evacuation. Specialist Saitta's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 3991; 30 April 1969)

27 January 1966

1LT David C. Johnson (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal. 1LT Johnson distinguished himself on 27 January 1966 while acting as company commander in a search and destroy operation of a suspected Viet Cong base camp in the village of Phu Qui, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Johnson was maneuvering his company to attack the Viet Cong village when they received intense small arms and automatic weapons fire from well-fortified hostile positions. Lieutenant Johnson from his position saw that half of his left flank platoon was pinned down by hostile fire on open terrain. Realizing their extreme danger, Lieutenant Johnson, with complete disregard for his personal safety, ran one hundred meters across the bullet swept rice paddies to the beleaguered platoon. While completely exposed to the intense hostile fire, he ran from man to man and personally directed them in a fire and movement assault. Lieutenant Johnson's aggressive fighting spirit inspired his men to increase their efforts and was most instrumental in overrunning the Viet Cong force. His unimpeachable valor 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. (HQ, USARV; General Orders Number 2083; 05 April 1966).



# ACRONYMS

ACAV: Armored Cavalry  
AD: Americal Division  
AD: Airborne Division (Would be after numeric numbers)  
AO: Area of Operations  
ARA: Aerial Rocket Artillery  
ARCOM: Army Commendation Medal  
ARVN: Army of the Republic of Viet Nam (also known as the South Vietnamese Army (SVA))  
BDE: Brigade  
BN: Battalion  
BSM: Bronze Star Medal  
BBT: Booby Traps  
CA: Combat Assault  
CANOPY: Heavily Wooded Terrain  
CO: Company  
CP: Command Post  
DSC: Distinguished Service Cross  
DZ: Drop Zone  
FSB: Fire Support Base  
HQ: Headquarters  
IED: Improvised Explosive Device  
IFFV: I Field Force Vietnam  
IN: Infantry  
KBA: Killed by Air or Artillery  
KHA: Killed by Hostile Action  
KIA: Killed in Action  
KNHA: Killed by Non-Hostile Action  
LZ: Helicopter Landing Zone  
MI: Military Intelligence  
MOH: Medal of Honor  
MP: Military Police  
NDP: Night Defensive Position  
NVA: North Vietnamese Army  
OBJ: Objective  
OP: Observation Post  
PAVN: People Army of Vietnam  
POW: Prisoner of War  
PF: Popular Forces  
PZ: Helicopter Pick-up Zone  
Recon Platoon: Reconnaissance Platoon  
RIF: Reconnaissance in Force  
RF: Regional Force  
ROK: Republic of Korea  
SA: Situational Awareness  
SIGINT: Signal Intelligence  
SSM: Silver Star Medal  
STRIKE Force: 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry  
SVA: South Vietnamese Army  
TF: Task Force  
TOC: Tactical Operations Center  
USARV: United States Army Vietnam  
USARPAC: United States Army Pacific  
WIA: Wounded in Action  
WHA: Wounded by Hostile Action  
WNHA: Wounded by Non-Hostile Action  
"V": Valor  
VC: Viet Cong

