



STRIKE

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Brief History of the 501st, 502nd and 2nd Brigade (101st ABN DIV)

The 502nd, or “five-oh-deuce”, was activated July 1, 1941 at Fort Benning, Georgia as the 502nd parachute infantry battalion, as an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assaults. The 502nd 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 2nd Brigade of the 101st Airborne was activated at Fort Campbell, replacing the 1st Airborne Battle Group, 501st Infantry Regiment. The reorganization from the battle groups to brigades and battalions placed two battalions of the 502nd in different brigades of the 101st.



The 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry was in the 1st Brigade with 1-327th and 2-327th 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 2nd Brigade's original organic battalions were the 1st and 2d Battalions, 501st Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry. December 1967 the 501st, 502nd and 2nd 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.



During this week, in the span of 8 years since the 501st Infantry Regiment, 502nd Infantry Regiment and 2nd Brigade, 101st 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.)

29 April 1966

Operation AUSTIN VI: At 1430H, 2-502 IN BN had completed movement to NHON CO by C-130 aircraft. A battalion base area was established. A/2-502 IN and B/2-502 IN prepared for future operations and C/2-502 IN assumed mission of BDE reserve. C/2-502 IN dispatched two "Recondo" elements to establish ambush sites ND790320 and ND886247. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report; 24 May 1966)

29 April 1967

Operation SUMMERALL: Operation SUMMERALL terminated at 2400H. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

29 April 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light as the containment of an enemy force by 1-501 IN BN continued. Today's statistics: 2 US KIA, 1 US MIA, 14 US WIA (10 medevac), 3 ARVN WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment: 9 NVA KBA (BC), 4 NVA KIA (BC), 1 BBT (destroyed), 600lbs rice. ARVN enemy assessment: 3 NVA KIA (BC), 1 RPG-7 launcher, 1 AK-44, 1 AK-47, 7 RPG-7 rounds.

1-501 IN BN

Continued the containment of enemy force in hamlets of THON DUONG SON vicinity YD687273 and THON PHUOC YEN vicinity YD690277. Blocking positions were occupied by A/1-501 IN, B/2-501 IN, D/2-501 IN, A/1-502 IN, 1st ARVN DIV "Black Panther" Company and 3 PF platoons. At 2237H vicinity YD695289, A/1-502 IN received approximately 30 rounds of SA. Artillery fired, negative casualties, negative enemy assessment. At 0120H, the "Black Panther" Company received approximately 20 rounds 60mm mortar. Artillery was fired. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. At 0808H a "Black Panther" element began moving, received heavy SA fire and withdrew. Negative casualties. Throughout the day units held in blocking positions while artillery and 14 air strikes were delivered on enemy positions. Results – 9 NVA KBA (BC). At 1050H, D/2-501 IN engaged 1 NVA. Results 1 NVA KIA (BC). At 1250H, A/1-502 IN began moving from YD695289 to the village vicinity YD694289 and received SA, AW and RPG or mortar fire. Engaged with organic weapons; heavy fire continued as A/1-502 IN withdrew to be supported by air strikes. Results – 1 US KIA, 9 WIA (6 medevac). A/1-502 also reported 1 MIA, missing prior to entering the village, circumstances unknown. Enemy assessment -2 NVA KIA (BC). At 1440H, "Black Panther" Company vicinity YD684280 sustained 3 WIA (medevac) from a BBT grenade. At 1608H, B/1-501 IN conducted a combat assault to LZ vicinity YD690292 and assumed the blocking position occupied by the "Black Panther" Company. Closed at 1644H. At 1655H, "Black Panther" Company found 3 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-44, 1 AK-47, 1 RPG-7 launcher and 7 RPG-7 rounds. At 1718H, "Black Panther" Company conducted a heliborne movement to HUE. Closed at 1816H. At 1910H vicinity YD694287, A/1-502 IN received SA fire and RPG round. Results: 5 US WIA (4 medevac). At the close of the reporting period the cordon was being maintained around the objective area under continuous illumination. Totals: 1 US KIA, 1 US MIA, 14 US WIA (10 medevac). Enemy assessment – 9 NVA KBA (BC), 3 NVA KIA (BC). ARVN casualties – 3 WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – 3 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47, 1 AK-44, 1 RPG-7 launcher, 7 RPG-7 rounds.

B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD616243. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD628260 and to YD613260. At 1608H, from PZ YD613260 conducted a combat assault and assumed the "Black Panther" Companies blocking position after closing on the LZ vicinity YD690292.

C/1-501 IN OPCON to 2-17 CAV. Occupied night position vicinity YD653306 with ambushes vicinity YD651319 and YD655316. Conducted RIF operation W to YD630308, then SE along the N side of the SONG BO River to vicinity YD652293. At 1237H vicinity YD631307 received SA and AW fire from an estimated squad in bunkers. Engaged with SA fire. Artillery supported. C/1-501 IN held in place while artillery was fired and platoons from A/2-17 CAV and B/2-17 CAV moved to blocking positions. Sweep was conducted to B/2-17 CAV blocking position with negative results. Established night position vicinity YD652293. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

D/1-501 IN with 1 PF platoon attached. Occupied night position vicinity YD656245 with ambushes vicinity YD644245, YD667248, YD658238 and YD666245. Conducted patrols reconnoitering for night ambush sites from YD657253. Established night position vicinity YD656251 with local ambushes.

Recon platoon with 1 PF platoon and 1 RF platoon attached. Occupied night position vicinity YD606255 with ambushes vicinity YD606253, YD609255 and YD685285. Conducted RIF operation vicinity YD617270, YD640260 and YD618275. At 0800H vicinity YD607269 engaged 5 VC with SA fire. Negative enemy assessment. Established night position vicinity YD617267 with ambushes.

E/1-501 IN (-) provided minesweep security N and S from LZ SALLY.



2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD722319. Conducted RIF operation vicinity YD712306, YD719300 and YD711298. At 0830H vicinity YD715310 received 3 rounds SA fire. Returned fire. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. Established night position vicinity YD710305 with local ambush. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

B/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD693312. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD677317, YD668315 and YD682311. At 0832H, vicinity YD682315 found 1 NVA, killed by SA approximately 3 days prior. Result: 1 NVA KIA (BC). At 1430H, vicinity YD684313 received sniper fire resulting in 1 US KIA. Returned fire, negative enemy assessment. Established night position vicinity YD687317 with local ambush. Results: 1 US KIA. Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA (BC).

D/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN

Recon platoon provided security for B/1-321 ARTY vicinity YD688339.

(Commanders Situation Report; 292001H April – 302000H April 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

- 29 April 1968 RIF operations continued with 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon conducting a RIF from FSB LASH to the northwest at 0920H, vicinity YC644692. D/1-502 IN engaged 2-3 enemy trail watchers with negative assessment and at 1539H, vicinity YC640695, D/1-502 IN engaged estimated 2 NVA armed with AK-47's. Results 2 CSWC.
- 29 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** RIF operations continued with Recon platoon conducting a RIF from FSB LASH to the northwest at 0920H vicinity YC644692. D/1-502 IN engaged 2-3 enemy trail watchers with negative assessment and at 1539H vicinity YC640695, D/1-502 IN engaged estimated 2 NVA armed with AK-47's. Results: 2 CSWC.
- 29 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** At 2140H, vicinity YD438190 FSB GRANITE, A/2-501 IN received an enemy ground attack supported by mortar and RPG fire. With flare ship's, USAF AC-119 "stinger" aircraft, ARA and tube artillery supporting the company, the enemy was repulsed and at first light sweep revealed 16 NVA KIA and one PW captured. The company suffered seven killed, seven wounded, and one missing in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; Operational Report – Lessons Learned; Period ending 31 July 1970; 15 August 1970)
- 29 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** An element of the 2-501 IN BN, 101st ABN DIV 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. (HQ, USMACV; Command History 1970, Volume IV; 19 April 1971)
- 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. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 3, Number 2) Summer 1970)
- 29 April 1970 **The Battle of FSB GRANITE:** 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), (Operation Texas Star), 29 April 1970; South Vietnam; located at MGRS YD439188 (approximately 9 miles' northeast of the A SHAU Valley and 16 miles west of HUE City); Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry and Attachments.



(THE MAP ABOVE IS AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF THE ONE I CARRIED THROUGHOUT OPERATION TEXAS STAR.... 1:50,000; EACH GRID SQUARE IS A KILOMETER SQUARE; THE BROWN CONTOUR LINES ARE AT 20 METER INTERVALS IN ELEVATION.)

I led A Company onto Fire Support Base GRANITE as its Company Commander; I was their leader throughout the fight on April 29th; I fought for and with them; I led them off of the hill when so ordered. They were (and are) common Americans of uncommon patriotism, valor, and fidelity. They fought for me and I fought for them for "greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends".

MY ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF FIRE SUPPORT BASE GRANITE IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE WE LOST BUT ESPECIALLY IN MEMORY OF SSG EDWARD J. BISHOP, JR.; MIA 29 APRIL 1970, DECLARED KILLED IN ACTION ON GRANITE; REMAINS NOT RECOVERED.



(CPT MITCHELL STANDING ALONG SIDE THE COMPANY COMMAND POST; THE PHOTO IS MADE LOOKING WEST TOWARD COC A BO MOUNTAIN.)

Following A Company's weeklong battle (17-24 April 70) with a determined NVA force along the ridge line from HILL 902 (YD348171) southeast to the trail junction we named REUP HILL (YD362165), we returned to EAGLE Beach for two days and then got back into the TEXAS STAR fight by air assaulting into Fire Support Base GRANITE on or about 26 April to begin our "shift" as its defenders. Our battalion mission remained unchanged....to locate and destroy enemy forces, base camps, and cache sites within our assigned area of operations. During our short stint at EAGLE Beach we'd picked up a precious few badly needed replacements and some of us were content to have a couple of days to get some shrapnel picked out, heal up a bit, and refit from the previous week's intensity. The short break from humping the mountainous jungles and the frequent engagements with the NVA on and around REUP HILL was a welcomed operational pause for every Avenger but we knew that our hours were numbered before we would head back northwest, and we would be quickly inserted back into the fight.



(ON GRANITE'S NORTH LZ, MEN OF A COMPANY AWAIT INCOMING "SLICKS" AS THEY AIR ASSAULT INTO NEARBY RIDGES TO CONDUCT RECON PATROLLING.)

As we air assaulted into GRANITE's tiny landing zone one aircraft at a time on the north end of the hilltop and began to fill the hill's fighting positions we were joining the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) of the 2-501st Infantry (under command of LTC Otis Livingston), along with our direct support 105mm artillery battery from 2-319 FA and organic 81mm mortars as they continued to perform the routine activities associated with operating from and defending a forward support combat base. GRANITE's principle function was to provide a reasonably secure platform for artillery weapons systems forward deployed into the canopy in support of infantry forces operating to our west and northwest. Our battalion's mission, as part of the 3rd Brigade's spring incursion into the mountainous canopy between the coastal lowlands to the east and the A Chau Valley to the west, was clear and unambiguous but the operational tempo, characteristic of an airmobile division,



had kept the Geronimo Battalion's subordinate infantry companies constantly on the move in our efforts to "fix" an extremely illusive enemy. Having joined the 3rd Brigade the first week in April, we had been leaping by air from one landing zone to another and one fire base to another to locate specific enemy base camps and lines of communications and logistics. With the TEXAS STAR operation barely three weeks into execution, A Company had conducted at least three or four combat air assaults (as best I recall), and the 2-501 headquarters was now on GRANITE, its third fire support base since the operation began (Jack, GLADIATOR, and now GRANITE).



(THE COMPANY COMMAND POST [LOOKING SOUTHWEST] FROM THE LZ; WEAPONS ARE THOSE OF OUR KIAs AND WIAs ALONG WITH COLLECTED AKs AND RPGs FROM THE NVA KIAs.)

Immediately after my arrival on GRANITE I dropped my ruck at the Company CP and walked the hill's perimeter to get the lay of the land we were to defend and familiarize myself with locations of the hill's tenant units. My first impressions of GRANITE were that we were really packed tightly onto the hilltop. GRANITE, like many of the mountainous hilltops in the area, was extremely rocky around the summit (making it difficult to dig), and the slope off of the western side was extremely steep limiting the effectiveness of grazing fires from our automatic weapons. On the eastern side of GRANITE, the slope leading into the jungle was much less steep however a series of rocky outcroppings and boulders provided excellent cover and concealment allowing an excellent approach to within ten to fifteen meters of the existing fighting positions. From my initial reconnaissance of the hill I determined the most dangerous avenues of enemy approach were along GRANITE's eastern side and along the finger leading down from the LZ on the northern end of the fire base. After my short walk around the hill I recall thinking that we had much work to do to defend GRANITE's irregular shaped perimeter properly and I was concerned that we were short the numbers of infantrymen needed to fill existing fighting positions. Once A Company had closed on the hill and while the platoon leaders were sorting out the occupation of fighting positions and sectors of fire, I made my way up to the battalion TOC to gather the latest operational and intelligence updates. I found the TOC (with its maze of antenna masts) housed in sandbagged CONEX containers on the south end of the hill, and as is normally the case, the place was abuzz with taking situation reports from our three other rifle companies deployed to our west and northwest, preparing plans and orders for subsequent operations, and other such command and control functions. After a brief conversation and routine updates from the battalion's command group (and some warm hand-shakes with some old friends on the staff) I headed back to my CP to get to work with my platoon leaders and review our plans for the defense.



(THE PHOTO ABOVE IS LOOKING SOUTH ATOP GRANITE AND FROM THE LZ CAPTURES OUR ARTILLERY AND MORTAR AMMUNITION STOCKPILES AS WELL AS VARIOUS ARTILLERY AND MORTAR AIMING STAKES.)

Throughout the day as A Company settled into GRANITE's perimeter our howitzer battery fired numerous missions responding to calls for fire from subordinate units and between lulls in fire missions, continued to improve defensive positions around their guns. For A Company, our primary functions were to defend GRANITE while simultaneously conducting limited counter reconnaissance patrols, improving the fighting positions and defensive wire obstacles that ringed the perimeter of the hill, and refining defensive plans to ensure the security of the hill's occupants. We were, by all



accounts, still a severely under strength organization (infantry replacements were a critical shortage division-wide) but a combat-seasoned, battle tested rifle company that had seen the bulk of the battalion's combat activity in the early days of the brigade operation that had begun the first week of April.

A Company's leaders and its veterans were fully aware that our work to defend the hill would be difficult and would entail never-ending hard labor made more challenging because of our severe shortages of 11Bs (Infantrymen). Despite virtually no intelligence describing the threats near GRANITE we all knew that the area had more than its share of NVA and we were no more than eight kilometers east of the location of our previous fights less than a week earlier. Every A Company leader understood the defensive priorities of work as we filled the perimeter and assumed sectors of defensive responsibility. We were certainly resource poor with respect to our labor pool of 11B infantryman but heavily laden with a host of new tasks to accomplish in a static perimeter defense. Our list of defensive tasks to be accomplished seemed endless but included counter reconnaissance patrolling around the surrounding hills, filling countless sandbags, improving fighting positions, clearing fields of fire to our front and flanks, emplacing dozens of rolls of defensive wire, positioning claymore mines and fougasse barrels (a flame 55gallon barrel explosive), and most importantly, maintaining about a third of the force around the perimeter on full alert for possible probes or an NVA attack. As I watched the men of A Company close by air onto GRANITE I recall thinking that I was indeed fortunate to command such a great group of soldiers for, to the man, they knew what needed to be accomplished and understood the demanding physical effort required. Our morale was high...the "Drive On" spirit (the motto of the 2-501 Infantry) was evident in the work ethic of every soldier. The men of A Company and our attachments arrived intent in going about our work day after day on GRANITE without complaint from dawn until dusk with great pride and a sense of accomplishment. We were determined to leave our professional mark on GRANITE as its defenders and depart within a week or so "back into the bush" confident that we had left the hill far more defensible than we had found it. In retrospect, I suppose most of us were relieved to get onto GRANITE having had a couple of days at EAGLE Beach after the REUP Hill affair. At least we could look at fire base duty for a week or so as a welcome break from heavy rucksacks to hump day after day and the constant threat of ambush. On GRANITE there was no lack of potable water...resupply of food and other necessities was reliable, and we could get some sun on the cuts, scratches, and jungle rot that always accumulated while we were operating under the canopy for extended periods of time. (Our Battalion Surgeon was on GRANITE with us too so those needing special medical attention were quite fortunate). We also welcomed a break from the frequency and intensity of combat we had experienced during our stint in the jungles to our northwest. Fire base duty was a tough, arduous assignment but often perceived by many of us as a welcome break from humping the mountainous jungle with the constant expectation of meeting the NVA face to face around every bend in the trail. I always assumed that our point men welcomed the break because our contacts with the NVA in the weeks before GRANITE had been up close and personal from the moment we had begun the spring offensive as part of the 3rd Brigade. Most of our meeting engagements with the NVA were at 15 meters or less and we had ended almost three weeks of search and destroy operations sitting astride a critical NVA trail junction that drew their attacks or probes almost every night we were there. However, defending from fire bases like GRANITE occurred as a matter of normal rotation for rifle companies transitioning in and out of the canopy and therefore it was not an unexpected tasking. Our first few days on GRANITE were unremarkable and best described as business as usual. Other than seeing a few lights in the hills to our east (which we engaged with artillery) we had seen no enemy activity...no actionable intelligence had turned up and our patrols beyond our perimeter (including several air assaults into the surrounding hills) revealed no signs of any significant enemy presence. Our first few days and nights on GRANITE had been surprisingly quiet and we had worked relentlessly to improve our defensive posture.

Like every infantry company in Vietnam, as the sun approached the jungled mountain ridges to our west in late afternoon on the 29th of April, the mood and seriousness of purpose began its normal transition from tasks of preparation and improvement of our defenses to an increase in our alert status in transition for a night defense. With a sense of purpose, soldiers along the line of fighting positions turned to the tasks necessary to bring every fighter on the hill to a full "stand to" occupation of our night defensive perimeter well before darkness. As mentioned earlier, defending the hill was our primary mission on GRANITE therefore our first priority. The clamor and noise of picks, mallets, and entrenching tools around the perimeter positions was rapidly coming to a close. The normal joking and occasional shouts from position to position along the bunker line gradually subsided. The infantryman on GRANITE quietly and purposefully moved to emplace or check trip flares, claymore mines and early warning devices to their front, verified that there were no "friendlies" forward of our defensive lines and then, without order, slipped into their fighting positions to conduct weapons checks, lay out ammunition for easy access in the dark, arm claymore mines, and swap their "boony hats" for steel pots before darkness fell. As the light faded, the defenders of the hill were at "stand to" in their fighting positions....one hundred percent alert around the perimeter. As the darkness overtook GRANITE, A Company's leaders





(LOOKING SOUTHEAST INTO A DESTROYED FIGHTING POSITION.)

(including me) walked the perimeter checking individual fighting positions, whispering quietly with the occupants of each hole, and giving last minute instructions for the night defense. Despite our limited counter reconnaissance patrolling around the surrounding ridge lines, we had no concrete indications or warning of an imminent attack....no tactical intelligence of any kind to suggest that elements of the 7th NVA Sapper Battalion and the 29th NVA Regiment were moving into their attack positions around GRANITE with intentions of destroying our fire base and killing or capturing its defenders.

As the darkness engulfed GRANITE on the night of the 29th of April, the clouds moved in and the heat of the day was replaced by a cooler, more overcast, almost light foggy condition. In my command post (CP), a roughly ten by ten-foot hole covered by steel planking and sandbags just above our one-ship landing zone (LZ) on the north end of GRANITE, it was "business as usual" as we accounted for the activities of the day by radio with subordinate platoons, confirmed last-minute defensive decisions, and laid plans for the next day's work. My Forward Observer and I were engaged shoulder to shoulder reviewing defensive indirect fire plans and confirming last-minute indirect fire target lists to be executed just before dawn on the 30th. My radio operators were also in radio contact with our three platoon command posts around the perimeter, busily gathering the often mundane daily personnel/logistics requests and relaying the collected information to our higher headquarters staff elements.... as usual activity each evening. As we settled in for the night defense I recall that all was quiet and quite dark on GRANITE other than the tiny red glows from our mortar and artillery aiming posts atop the hill. I recall one or two complaints of an occasional hand flare being fired from the bunker line along the northeast side of GRANITE but that ended with a radio call to the CP responsible for that sector. By candle light, red-filtered FLASHlight, and a few C-Ration cups of coffee the work inside our CP continued well into the evening.

At about 9:40 PM, the east and northeast side of GRANITE's perimeter suddenly, and without warning, erupted with igniting trip flares, small arms fire, and in rapid succession a series of large, recognizable explosions immediately identified as satchel charges (improvised explosive devices) and RPG's (rocket-propelled grenades). As our hand flares streaked skyward to provide immediate illumination, the hill shook from the largest explosions coming from along the eastern bunker line and near our 81mm mortar position some twenty meters or so to my right rear. Even more hand flares ran their familiar contrails up into the clouds to further illuminate our hilltop as the crescendo of exploding munitions continued to build. We immediately knew we were under attack by a sizable, well-armed, and carefully rehearsed NVA force that had obviously penetrated our outer defensive wire barrier in multiple locations. The fighting positions to my front across the LZ and to my right along the east and northeast side of GRANITE were hit hard with sporadic RPGs, small arms fire, and a hail of satchel charges of various sizes, some weighing 10 pounds or more.

Our mortar position, an obvious NVA priority target, was neutralized almost immediately without firing a shot (as I recollect) and its occupants were mortally wounded. A Company's infantrymen along that side of the perimeter and to my immediate front were countering the NVA assault with an almost indistinguishable roar of M-16, M-79, and M-60 machine-gun fire as well as detonating claymore mines and throwing hand grenades. Within the first 15 to 20 minutes or so the flame munitions were detonated along the eastern perimeter momentarily casting a bright orange glow beneath at least a dozen or more hand flares now illuminating GRANITE. Our sheer volume and intensity of fire from the bunker line rapidly halted the NVA Sapper's mass advance into our positions. In fact, several soldiers who had been overlooking the flame munitions reported later that they observed scores of NVA soldiers on fire and running back into the jungle. However, for several more hours the fighting continued against a battered but determined NVA force as they appeared to attack piecemeal in small groups of two or three focused on specific fighting positions along and within our perimeter.





(81MM MORTAR POSITION DESTROYED BY EITHER RPG OR SACHEL CHARGE.)

The NVA Sapper teams were a determined lot.... they clearly had specific targets assigned...they were well rehearsed and apparently were desperate to accomplish their missions. (Over the years I've often marveled at the courage and tenacity of the NVA infantrymen.... they were a formidable enemy with enormous concentration and well-rehearsed in their efforts to destroy specific assigned objectives within our lines). Throughout the remainder of the night there were occasional close combat engagements with small surviving teams of NVA still hell-bent to penetrate our perimeter as we made adjustments in our lines to close gaps created by our own losses. Concurrently, as the battle raged, other supporting divisional and non-divisional assets arrived to augment the battle. While our supporting tube artillery pounded suspected NVA positions in the surrounding hills, aerial rocket artillery joined in the fight as did a USAF AC-119 "Stinger" Gun Ship and the hill was illuminated by welcomed general support aviation assets as we were becoming dangerously low on our own supply of flare munitions.

At first light on the 30th, the aerial rocket artillery along with the Division's Air Cavalry assets provided us greater precision in attacking suspected enemy locations as the visibility improved.



(ANOTHER FIGHTING POSITION HIT HARD BY SACHEL CHARGES ALONG THE NORTHEAST PERIMETER.)

As mentioned earlier, several of the fighting positions to my immediate front across the landing zone and also to my right rear along the northeastern perimeter were destroyed within the first few minutes of the battle. In effect, my CP had immediately become a critical component of the perimeter fight overlooking the only LZ on the northern end of the fire base. During the most intense hour of the battle I could see a number of my own soldiers in face to face encounters no more than 15 to 20 meters to my front and front right. The advancing NVA attackers were being met with a hail of small arms fire and grenades. As is always the case, the close combat to my front and right was chaotic and there were moments when all of us had great difficulty separating friend from foe as we identified human targets in the shadows created by drifting flares overhead. Time and again I listened to and observed A Company's infantrymen engaging individual NVA soldiers as they crawled to within arm's reach of our fighting positions. Above the pitch of the incessant explosions I could hear shouts between our fighting positions identifying approaching enemy soldiers and quick, violent engagements to stop enemy advances. For what seemed like much of the night the men of A Company raked known and suspected enemy positions with withering direct fire and scores of hand grenades were hurled at enemy soldiers attempting to close on our fighting positions. From my CP we were able to dispatch several NVA Sappers as they stood to hurl satchel charges in our direction from across the LZ. At one point around dawn, we used a LAW (Light Anti-Tank Weapon) to blast one or more NVA from a protective rock out cropping just below and left of my CP.





(ALONG THE NORTH EAST PERIMETER THAT TOOK THE MAIN ATTACK AND IN THE AREA WHERE THE FLAME MUNITIONS WERE DETONATED; SEVERAL NVA DEAD ARE LYING WITHIN THE BOULDERS THAT CONCEALED THEIR ADVANCE.)

As dawn broke, the direct fire engagements along the perimeter had all but stopped and our priorities shifted to evacuating the wounded and those killed in action along with reconsolidating our perimeter, redistributing and resupplying ammunition, and sweeping our immediate front for security purposes. As we swept the eastern sector mid-morning below our perimeter some 20 meters or so, I discovered a severely wounded but semiconscious NVA soldier desperately in need of medical attention. With some assistance we quickly began our struggle to get the POW back up the hill to our Aid Station for treatment. As I struggled up the hill helping to carry him we began to receive quite accurate NVA mortar fire (either 60mm or 82mm) for the first time and I recall dropping the enemy soldier at one point along our route to dive into a nearby foxhole to wait out the barrage. When the mortars finally lifted we got the POW back to our Aid Station and he was later evacuated from GRANITE. I returned to continue a sweep of the eastern sector just outside our defensive wire and found a number of dead NVA Sappers lying between and around several large boulders. Their bodies appeared to have been blackened from head to toe for the attack. Everybody was shirtless; most were without footgear, and wore nothing but short pants.

As I recall, most of them were equipped with folding stock AK assault rifles and a shoulder bag containing an assortment of satchel charges and one or more AK magazines. I must admit that the scene was a gruesome one and yet a testament of their courage and determination to destroy our fire base. Several RPG launchers and RPG rounds with propellant boosters were spread among the dead NVA as well and we collected their weapons and ammunition later that morning and piled them alongside our LZ for evacuation.



(MY COMPANY CP ON GRANITE.... DESTROYED RUCKS OF OUR CASUALTIES... SPENT HAND FLARE CANISTERS... MY M16 LAYING ACROSS AN AMMO CRATE FROM WHERE MOST OF MY FIGHTING OCCURRED.)





(THREE GREAT MEMBERS OF THE A COMPANY CP... [NAMES LEFT OFF INTENTIONALLY] BUT FOREVER REMEMBERED FOR THEIR SELFLESS SERVICE...WITHIN A DAY OR TWO I LOST ONE TO WOUNDS ON GRANITE AND ANOTHER TO WOUNDS ON HENDERSON ABOUT A WEEK LATER.)

For the remainder of our time on GRANITE there were no ground probes or direct fire attacks by the NVA although they were certainly anticipated. Our priority of effort at this point shifted to accountability of our own combatants, reorganizing our defensive perimeter, rearming/refitting for potential counter attacks, and evacuating our own dead and wounded. The NVA mortar attacks on GRANITE which had begun as we were getting the POW up the hill around 1000 AM on the 30th continued in earnest for the remainder of the day and were a serious threat to anyone moving around GRANITE. On at least five occasions we were forced to stop all movement around the hill to seek cover as mortar rounds rained onto GRANITE. Before the day was over we would sustain approximately thirty more casualties from very accurate NVA mortar fires. I would emphasize that these indirect fire attacks came largely without warning and were very accurate which made them that much more dangerous. We were rarely able to detect the sounds of their launch from the surrounding hills due to the noise of our own supporting helicopters involved in resupply, medical evacuation, aerial reconnaissance and almost continuous air strikes targeting nearby hills. The NVA mortars were both physically and psychologically a factor in hampering our recovery on the hill.



(AIR ASSAULT TAKING PLACE FOR ANOTHER DAYLIGHT RECON PATROL)

A Company air assaulted off of GRANITE under the threat of mortar fire late in the day and not without our own grave concerns for ourselves and the brave air crews that risked their lives to extract us. As we lifted off of GRANITE and out of harm's way many of us knew that we had left one of our own behind as unaccounted for. All day on the 30th, despite the intense mortar fire, we had combed the hill and the immediate terrain around GRANITE's eastern perimeter searching for PFC EDWARD J. BISHOP JR. Many of us knew his exact location along the eastern flank near the 81mm mortar position when the battle had begun yet his whereabouts after the ground attack subsided remained a mystery. In fact, Ed's position was no more than 20 meters from my CP to my right rear and bore the brunt of some of the fiercest fighting and the greatest density of large satchel charges coming from the NVA's main thrust in their effort to overrun GRANITE. Ed Bishop was a great soldier and well-liked by all who knew him. None of us, not one, will ever rest until there is a full accounting of his loss and he has been brought home.

The 101st Airborne Division After Action Report lists seven U.S. killed, one U.S. Missing In Action, and seven wounded as a result of the battle on GRANITE that began on the 29th and another thirty-four wounded as a result of five separate mortar attacks on GRANITE on the 30th. NVA losses were reported as 18 killed in action. With some degree of certainty, I believe that the total U.S. wounded on GRANITE remains understated for many soldiers were treated for wounds at multiple Aid Stations after we had departed from GRANITE.

The by-name list of those killed on GRANITE, as best I can determine, is as follows:



1. ROBERT SIDNEY BOGGS; MOS 11B; B Company, 2-501 Infantry; died of multiple fragmentation wounds.
2. LARRY NEAL JONES; MOS 11C; E Company, 2-501 Infantry; died of multiple fragmentation wounds.
3. DENNIS WAYNE HUNTER; MOS 11B; A Company, 2-501 Infantry; died from artillery, rocket, or mortar wounds.
4. CARL EUGENE PATTEN; MOS 11C; E Company, 2-501 Infantry; died from artillery, rocket, or mortar wounds.
5. ROY HARRISON SNYDER; MOS 11B; A Company, 2-501 Infantry; died from artillery, rocket, or mortar wounds.
6. FREDERICK EDWARD WORTMANN; MOS 64B; A Company, 2-501 Infantry; died of undefined cause.
7. ROBERT JOSEPH SHANNON; MOS 57A; A Company, 2-501 Infantry; died of undefined cause.
8. LINWOOD ALFERONIA WALKER; MOS 11B; C Company, 2-501 Infantry; died outright; misadventure.
9. EDWARD J. BISHOP, JR.; MOS 11B; A Company, 2-501 Infantry; initially listed as MIA; later classified as "died while missing-remains not returned".

"TO THOSE LOST ON FIRE SUPPORT BASE GRANITE, YOU WILL FOREVER BEREMEMBERED; TO THE SURVIVORS OF THE GRANITE BATTLE, YOU AREBROTHERS FOREVER."

The author of this account, Brigadier General James E. Mitchell, USA, Retired, served on active duty for more than thirty years. He led two rifle platoons (one in combat); commanded four Infantry Companies (two in combat); commanded a Motorized Infantry Battalion, a Light Infantry Battalion, a Light Infantry Brigade and served as a Light Infantry Division Deputy Commander for Operations and Deputy Commander for Support. Key staff assignments include: Infantry Battalion S3 Air(twice); Infantry Battalion S2(Intelligence) in combat; Infantry Battalion S3; Infantry Battalion Executive Officer; Light Infantry Division G3; Chief of Current Operations, U.S. Army-The Pentagon; Deputy Director of Operations-J3, The Joint Staff-Pentagon. He is a graduate of the Army Command and Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces-The National Defense University.

29 April 1970

At 1400H, vicinity YD505077, B/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon, received mortar and heavy small arms fire from an enemy force located in bunkers at a distance of 10 meters. The platoon employed organic weapons, tube artillery and ARA and was reinforced by the remainder of the company, C/2-502 IN and Reconnaissance platoon. As the US elements maneuvered against the enemy force, supported by air strikes, ARA and tube artillery, the enemy fled to a second bunker complex at 1515H. At 1549H the enemy fled to a third bunker complex. The contact terminated at dusk. A sweep revealed 15 NVA KIA, two RPG launchers, one AK-47, one M-60 machinegun, one M-79 grenade launcher and one PRC-25 radio set. Twenty-six US were wounded in this action. (Operation Report – HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 July 1970)

29 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: At 0955H, D/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon 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 1st platoon and CP of D/2-502 IN were brought in as reinforcements and were employed as blocking force for B/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN operating to the north. B/2-502 IN continued its sweep south from Hill 714 along the ridge line. At 1400H, B/2-502 IN, 2nd 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 1550H a combined assault of bunker complex was made by B/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN with the Recon platoon screening the flanks. By 1550H 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/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN consolidated their forces and evacuated their wounded.

D/2-502 IN had established two-night positions in the vicinity of the earlier morning contact. An OP from the 1st 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.

29 April 1970

A/1-502 IN located several pair of boot prints freshly made. They were on a trail next to a campsite of about same age. Bunker #9 at FSB BIRMINGHAM spotted two NVA/VC crossing river and other bunkers heard noise. The firebase was put on 100% alert and the reaction force will sleep at the ready position. (1-502 IN Annual Supplement; Approved by LTC Richard N. Lang, Commander)



- 29 April 1970 At 1300H in the vicinity of YD359151; 3.5 KM Se of FSB RIPCORDER. A white team (2 LOHs on visual reconnaissance) flew uninvited into D/2-501 IN AO. While CPT Straub tried to contact them by radio, one of the leaches received .50cal machine fire and went down in flames resulting in 2 US KIA. (CW2 Edgar Berner and SP4 Jeffrey Klaves) The crash was witnessed by D/2-501 IN at a distance of approximately 1000m. D/2-501 IN immediately assaulted toward the crash site with 1st platoon in the lead, maneuvering along a stream containing large boulders. 1st platoon under sporadic enemy fire knocked out 2 bunkers along the way before arriving at the crash site at 1455H. At 1305H (YD365153) 2/D and 1/D received RPG, machine gun and small arms fire from an estimated enemy squad to the west of their position. The element returned organic weapons fire along with the assistance of ARA gunships and the enemy withdrew to the west A sweep of the area revealed 3 NVA KBSA, 1 NVA KBARA and 1 NVA POW.
- The following is a personal observation from the Delta Raiders Chronology. 1st platoon removed the two burned bodies from the downed loach, placed them in body bags, and evacuated them from the crash site along with the radios. While moving along the stream in a heavy rain to link up with Co 1st platoon captured one HOI CHANH (without a weapon) who was hiding behind a large boulder. (Account used by permission from Gary Goeckel)
- 29 April 1971 B/1-501 IN, 3rd platoon vicinity ZC041984 found one BBT. Was M13 antipersonnel mine with trip wire firing device. Results 1 BBT destroyed.
- 30 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN VI:** At 1900H, 2-502 IN BN, Recondo platoon conducted a heliborne infiltration into BU PRANG and proceeded to secure LZ Alpha vicinity YU497757. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN, 101st ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation Austin VI; 24 May 1966)
- 30 April 1967 **Operation SUMMERALL:** 2-502 IN BN conducted airmobile / overland extractions to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparations for future operations. A contact by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)
- 30 April 1968 STRIKE (2-502 N BN) paratroopers continued reconnaissance-in-force missions near FSB VEGHEL, contacting the enemy three times, killing 21 and capturing three weapons. At 1625H one mile east of FSB 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 1715H the same day. (Rendezvous with Destiny; Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)
- 30 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** 1-502 IN BN continued operation with all units discovering enemy weapons and equipment.
- 30 April 1970 D/1-501 IN assaulted to FS/OB HENDERSON and provided security for the insertion of B/2-11 ARTY (-) and B/12th ATRY (ARVN). The company passed to the operational control of the 3BDE. (Operation Report – HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 July 1970)
- 30 April 1970 1-501 IN BN terminated operations south of Camp EVANS and moved by air to FS/OB KATHRYN to commence reconnaissance in force operations to locate and destroy enemy anti-aircraft weapons and base camps in the area. The battalion (-) passed to the operational control of the 1BDE.
- The 2BDE continued to provide support for pacification and development program in the lowland areas and assumed responsibility for the piedmont area of PHONG DIEN District south of Camp EVANS. Mobile training teams continued to improve the combat proficiency of RF and FF units and to teach PSDF fundamentals of defense. (Operation Report – HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 July 1970)
- 30 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** C/2-502 IN moved through D/2-502 IN and became the point element to continue the sweep to the south along the ridge form Hill 714. At 1400H, a large enemy cache was located by C/2-502 IN. 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 1970 2BDE continued to provide support for pacification and development programs in the lowland areas and assured responsibility for the piedmont area of PHONG DIEN District south of Camp EVANS. Mobile training teams continued to improve the combat proficiency of BF and PF units and to teach PSDF fundamentals of defense.
- 30 April 1970 FS/OB GRANITE received five separate mortar attacks resulting in 34 US WIA. ARA tube artillery was employed on suspected enemy positions as the Air Cavalry elements and ground forces searched for enemy mortar positions. (Operation Report – HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 July 1970)
- 30 April 1970 Intensive VR by a pink team around FSB BIRMINGHAM produced negative results. Elements of B/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon located fresh tracks going in opposite directions. D/1-502 IN found 51 foxholes and a variety of VC/NVA equipment which appeared to have been used in the last four days. (1-502 IN Annual Supplement; Approved by LTC Richard N. Lang, Commander)



30 April 1970

At 0645H in the vicinity of YD360155 – 3.5km SE of FSB RIPCORN; while D/2-501 IN was still in a tight defensive perimeter 2nd platoon engaged with small arms fire 20m from their position. The enemy did not return fire. Results 1 NVA KIA, 1 AK-47. (2 members of 2nd platoon, went out to pick up their claymore mine they had setup the night before. While doing so, another NVA scout was looking for us, and unfortunately for him was successful, but very dead). The POW was medevaced to Camp EVANS (Although clearly observed by the enemy the medevac did not receive hostile fire). At 1225H in the vicinity of YD360156 – 3.5km from FSB RIPCORN; CPT Straub engaged one NVA spotted in a tree on a hill above D/2-501 IN position with a LAW at long range. In response to D/2-501 IN received 40 – 60mm mortar rounds from an unknown six enemy force. Artillery and ARA were employed on the suspected enemy location. Results: 2 US WIA. D/2-501 IN left the AO by marching up a long steep hill (Known to the 3rd platoon as RE-UP Hill) and linked up with C/2-501 IN where they set up their NDP. Personal Note: when the mortars started to rain down on us. CPT Straub order that all machine-guns (M-60), I believe we had nine at the time open fire on the hill top (The same one that was bombed the day before, and the location of the mortars.) This cause a brief stop to the mortar fire. The steep long hill, should read mountain. My squad ran point that day for the company. Ran being the key word, as the NVA mortars followed us up the side of the mountain. At the top we linked up with what was left of C/2-501 IN, both companies together most likely numbered less than a normal company would. (Account used by permission from Gary Goeckel)

30 April 1971

Operation LAM SON 720: The weather cleared allowing a small element of the 2-502 IN BN to be inserted on CO PUNG Mountain. One thousand fifteen meters in height, CO PUNG commands the eastern approach to the upper A SHAU Valley. To enjoy any success in the upper valley CO PUNG had to be held. It was to be a 1BDE support base for future raids in and around Tiger Mountain. STRIKE Force was called upon to seize and hold CO PUNG Mountain. Following B-52 strikes, fighter bomber attacks, and extensive artillery fire, the 2-502 IN BN landed on CO PUNG fighting bad weather and determined enemy. On the initial sortie onto the mountain two of the lift ships crashed on the LZ resulting in 5 STRIKE Force Troopers KIA and 10 WIA. Recon/2-502 IN and B/2-502 IN quickly seized the high ground and the engineers expanded the LZ's Delta and Charlie Companies took the southern and eastern sides respectively. (2-502 Unit History, 1971)

April 1972

2BDE, 101st ABN DIV returned to Fort Campbell from Vietnam.

May – September 1968

2-501 IN 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.

01 May 1966

Operation AUSTIN VI: A/2-502 IN closed into LZ Alpha at 1130H and proceeded to conduct "Recondo Checkerboard" operations in area Hank. At 1700H, A/2-502 IN was located at YU472595 with a "Recondo" patrol at YU468574 with negative enemy contact. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN, 101st ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation Austin VI; 24 May 1966)

01 May 1966

Operation AUSTIN VI: B/2-502 IN closed into LZ Alpha at 1130H and secured the TAC CP and Artillery battery vicinity YU497575. C/2-502 IN remained Brigade reserve at NHON CO. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN, 101st ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation Austin VI; 24 May 1966)

01 – 18 May 1966

The 1-327 IN BN, 2-502 IN BN, 2-503 IN BN (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 - 02 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light as the 1-501 IN BN continued a cordoned operation vicinity THON PHUOC YEN. Today's statistics: 5 US WIA (4 medevac). Enemy assessment: 35 NVA KIA (BC), 1 VC KIA (BC), 7 NVA POW, 9 AK-47, 7 SKS, 1 RP-46 HMG, 2 Soviet carbines, 1 M2 carbine.

1-501 IN BN

Continued the cordon of THON PHUOC YEN vicinity YD687282 with A/1-501 IN, B/1-501 IN, A/2-501 IN, D/2-501 IN and 3 PF platoons. Throughout the reporting period the enemy made numerous unsuccessful attempts to escape the cordon. Friendly units received SA and AW fire along the northern section of the cordon. Fire was returned with organic weapons. Throughout the day artillery and 8 air strikes supported. B/1-501 IN moved along the west bank of the river into the village to vicinity YD686286. Intense SA and AW fire was received B/1-501 IN held in place as artillery supported. At the close of the period the cordon was maintained to the north by B/1-501 IN from vicinity YD686286 to YD691286 an A/1-501 IN (-) from YD691286 to YD693285. During the afternoon B/2-501 IN was airlifted from the cordon and reverted to OPCON 2-501. At 1723H, 1 platoon from A/1-501 IN was airlifted across the river from YD692286 to YD695285 to permit the filling at the gap created by B/1-501 IN. Also, 1 platoon from HHC/1-501 IN was employed to keep the cordon intact – results: 2 US WAI (medevac); Enemy assessment – 25 NVA KIA (BC), 7 NVA POW, 9 AK-47, 6 SKS, 1 RP-46 HMG, 1 Soviet carbine, 1 M2 carbine.

C/1-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV. Conducted RIF operation from vicinity YD674293 to YD650300. Established night position vicinity YD655297 with ambushes vicinity YD653293 and YD653294.

D/1-501 IN and 1 PF platoon attached. Occupied night position vicinity YD656252 with ambushes vicinity YD647250, YD658245 and YD659239. At 0230H, ambush vicinity YD658245 exchanged fire with approximately 50 NVA. Results - 1



US WIA; Enemy assessment - 1 NVA KIA. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD663255. At 1500H vicinity YD661255 engaged 1 NVA, resulting in 1 NVA KIA (BC). Results – 1 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 2 NVA KIA (BC).

Recon platoon with 1 PF platoon and 1 RF platoon attached. Occupied night position vicinity YD610265 and YD614266 and YD612262. Conducts patrols reconnoitering for night ambush sites. Established night position vicinity YD613271 with local ambushes.

A/1-502 IN remained at LZ SALLY as RRF.

2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN.

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD723317 with ambush vicinity YD725325. At 0628H received 7 rounds 82mm mortar fire. Artillery fired on suspected enemy mortar position vicinity YD715330. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. Conducted RIF operation NE towards village vicinity YD732327. At 0930H, lead elements entering village began receiving fire. Received SA and AW fire from YD726328. Results -2 US WIA. Withdrew to call in artillery. As intense SA and AW fire continued to be received from an estimated company size element, B/2-501 IN withdrew to YD725324 to be supported by air. From 1115H to 1449H, 7 air strikes supported B/2-501 IN resulting in 8 NVA KIA (BC). Established night position vicinity YD726323 with ambushes vicinity YD725328 and YD729323. Results: 2 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – 8 NVA KIA (BC).

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD673333 with ambush vicinity YD667338. Provided security for rice harvest with C/2-501 (-) at YD673333 and platoons at YD665334, YD664328 and YD673329.

D/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN until 1530H. At 1546H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD696288 to LZ vicinity YD727335. At YD729330 found 1 SKS and 1 Soviet carbine. Established night position vicinity YD728335 with ambushes vicinity YD724334 and YD732333. At 1551H vicinity YD734339 gunships in support of D/2-501 IN engaged 1 VC. Results – 1 VC KIA.

Recon platoon provided security for FSB OMAHA.

(Commanders Situation Report; 012001H May – 022000H May 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

01 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: As part of Operation CARENTAN II, the 2-17 CAV which was supporting the 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV 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

Operation CARENTAN II: 1-502 IN BN 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/1-502 IN 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 vicinity 715330 to act as guides for NVA. At 0530H. The NDP received SA fire and suffered 1 WIA. At 0635H, 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. A/1-502 IN returned from OPCON to 1-501 IN BN after 3-day operation (Battle of PHUOC YEN). They received credit for 80 NVA KIA (BC)



01 May 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: 1-502 IN BN 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, 101st Airborne (Airmobile), Operational Report – Lessons Learned. Dated 20 August 1969)

01 May 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: Operations continued with B/1-502 IN establishing contact with an estimated enemy squad at 1008H in the vicinity of YC306920. The element employed organic weapons, ARA and ARTY. Results: 1 US WIA.

01 May 1970

Enemy indirect fire attacks continued on FS/OB GRANITE and GLADIATOR. A total of eleven attacks were directed at the fire bases as US ground units aided by counter-mortar radar and serial reconnaissance aircraft continued to search for enemy mortar positions. (Operation Report – HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 July 1970)

01 May 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: 1-502 IN BN is continuing Operation TEXAS STAR. NAM HOA set up an ambush based on some intelligence they had and sprung it on 8 NVA/VS. The results were one NVA/VC KIA and one NVA/VC female wounded and captured. Pink team discovered one fighting position with signs of recent use at 698114. Recon discovered six bunkers with overhead cover and destroyed the same. There were no signs of recent activity. D/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon, 1st squad found an old NDP site with 30 foxholes. The last usage was estimated at one month ago.



01 May 1970

At 0830H in the vicinity of YD415210 - FB GLADIATOR; Shortly after D/2-501 IN CA'd to reopen the FB GLADIATOR, 2nd platoon received 4 - 60mm mortar rounds which impacted 300 - 400mm from their position. A suspected enemy location was not determined. This was the first of many mortar showers that the company was to receive while on GLADIATOR. At 1020H, FB GLADIATOR 2nd platoon received 8 to 10 - 82 mm mortar rounds which impacted to one side of their perimeter and then 50 meters to the opposite side of the perimeter. Negative casualties. (Actually, a dud round landed just a few feet from 2 members of the 2nd platoon. D/2-501 IN lucky still holding on.) At 1125H, FB GLADIATOR D/2-501 IN received 8 to 10 60mm mortar rounds impacting inside the perimeter, resulting in three men medevaced to 85th Evac. Hospital. (I had a very rare circumstance, I was an E-5 squad leader, but had an E-6 in my squad. He had transfer from the First Infantry Div (The Big Red One). He had 15 more days to DEROS (Date Eligible for Return from Over Seas) than I did and didn't want a squad with, so few days left. He had come to Vietnam as a PFC E-3) Anyways when the mail had come in that day, I was going over to retrieve it, when he said he wanted to go. We had a discussion, as I also wanted to pick up the latest Situation report on our status on GLADIATOR. I told him to go and said, "Be sure to wear your helmet." He said, "I don't need it" He was one of the three medevaced to the 85th. He had head wounds.) At 1359H, while a bird was landing bringing in engineers three more mortar rounds impacted inside the perimeter. (By this time, we had learned that if a chopper was landing. Get in your hole.) At 1545H, three more mortar rounds impacted outside the perimeter. At 1606H, three 82mm mortar rounds impacting on the northeast helo-pad. AF FAC "Bilk" was placed on station, with an air strike completed at 1646H A pink team was employed in the area. At 1643H, D/2-501 IN received 5 82mm mortars from an unknown location. Personal notes; I was on the last lift from RE-UP Hill where we had set up our Night Defensive Position with C/2-501 IN. As the slick lifted off I could hear small arms fire hitting the bottom of the chopper. When they told, us we were going to Firebase GLADIATOR, I had thought it was an established firebase, it was just a cleared hill top, that had been use as a firebase in the past few months. GLADIATOR was opened up, because the division was unable to secure the area around FB GRANITE. Some of the things I found on the hill top was an 20lb shape charge, a box of dynamite and about 30 lbs. of nails. I placed the shape charge on a finger that ran down the ridge line. Knowing that if the NVA was coming, it would be up this finger. I then placed the 30 pounds of nails in front of it. When LT Arndt saw this, he said "Sgt Goeckel if you set that off you are going to be killed." I said, "if we set it off it off, we know that." Later after SSGT Tompkins had been wounded I approached CPT Chris Straub in a rant, because after 11 months in country this was the first wounded man I had in my squad. I wanted pay back, and I wanted it badly. I told Straub to get us off this damn hill and let find these guys. (Thank you, Chris, for your understanding, and letting me rant.) We did go off that hill for a couple days but didn't find the bad guys. During this time, I began to believe I was becoming ineffective as a squad leader. Short timer thoughts were going through my head. I was so close to going home, and the NVA seemed to be all around us. I kept this to myself, I don't think my squad ever knew how I felt during this time. (Account used by permission from Gary Goeckel)

01 – 31 May 1971

During this period the 1-501 IN BN conducted search and attack operations in its assigned area of operation. The 1-501 IN BN (-) occupied FB TOMAHAWK, conducting search and attack operations in the AO until 14 May. During the same time, D/1-501 IN and C/1-501 IN, 4th platoon was securing the Reserve Ammo Dump at DA NANG. On the 14th of May, the 1-501 IN BN returned to PBCB for a seven day stand down for refitting, organization and refresher training. In addition to the refresher training, D/1-501 IN participated in two Division ceremonies at Camp EAGLE. On 20 May, the 1-501 IN BN CP and two platoons from D/1-501 IN moved by air to FB BRICK; while the companies moved to their assigned AO's. By 1100H, 20 May, the 1-501 IN BN assumed control of the BRICK AO. The remainder of the reporting period the 1-501 IN BN conducted search and attack operations in its assigned AO.

02 May 1966

Operation AUSTIN VI: A/2-502 IN completed "Recondo Checkerboard" operation in area Hank with negative enemy contact and returned to the TAC CP at 1310H vicinity YU497575. A/2-502 IN assumed TAC CP and Artillery security with "Recondo" squads providing local security. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN, 101st ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation Austin VI; 24 May 1966)

02 May 1966

Operation AUSTIN VI: B/2-502 IN commenced "Recondo Checkerboard" operations in area Lou at 1630H. One platoon prepared for a heliborne assault on a plantation vicinity YU583560. C/2-502 IN remained Brigade reserve at NHON CO. "Recondo" platoon completed "Recondo Checkerboard" operations in area Tom with negative enemy contact at 1500H and returned to the TAC CP. "Recondo" platoon prepared for operations in area Jim. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN, 101st ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation Austin VI; 24 May 1966)

02 – 03 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light as the 1-501 IN BN completed their cordon operation and the 2-501 IN BN established a cordon around the village's vicinity YD690300 and YD693304. Today's statistics: 3 US KIA, 13 US WIA (11 medevac); Enemy assessment: 12 NVA KIA (BC), 2 NVA POW, 5 AK-47, 2 LMG, 2 SKS and 3 CHICOM grenades (destroyed).

1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN, B/1-501 IN, A/2-501 IN, HHC/1-501 IN platoon, and 3 platoons of PF continued the cordon of THON PHUOC YEN vicinity YD687282, throughout the night under continuous illumination. At 0410 vicinity YD688286, B/1-501 IN received SA and RPG fire. Returned fire. Sporadic fire continued until 0525H. Results – 2 US WIA. At first light check resulted 4 NVA KIA (BC), 1 LMG, 4 AKI-47 and 1 POW WIA. Approximately 0800H, a CS drum drop was conducted vicinity YD688283. A Psychological Operations Team broadcasted for the enemy to surrender. B/1-501 IN and A/2-501 IN conducted a sweep of the cordoned area. Results: 3 US WIA (includes 1 minor WIA from Artillery shrapnel) (2 medevac); Enemy assessment: 10 NVA KIA (BC), 2 NVA POW, 4 AK-47, 1 SKS< 2 LMG, 1 CHICOM grenade destroyed.

B/1-501 IN conducted sweep of village THON PHUOC YEN. Established ambushes vicinity village.

C/1-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV until 1700H, occupied high position vicinity YD655297 with ambushes vicinity YD653293 and YD653294. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD613318. OPCON 2-501 IN BN effective 1400H.



D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD663255 with ambushes vicinity YD653250, YD664246 and YD663241. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD675286. Established night position vicinity YD671281 with local ambushes.

A/2-501 IN conducted sweep of village THON PHUOC YEN. Established ambushes vicinity of village.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD613271 with ambushes vicinity YD617270 and YD615276. Conducted patrols to vicinity YD623264 reconnoitering for night ambush sites. Established night position vicinity YD623264 with local ambush.

2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN.

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD726323 with ambushes vicinity YD725328 and YD729323. Conducted RIF operation to village vicinity YD728327. Searched the village with negative contact, found 1 SKS, 1 AK-47 and 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed). At 1208H conducted combat assault from PZ vicinity YD723325 to LZ vicinity YD684316, closed at 1235H. Conducted RIF operation S to village vicinity YD686305. At 1440H vicinity YD687304 received RPG, SA and AW fire from an estimated reinforced platoon. Returned fire with organic weapons & artillery support. Intense fire continued to be received. LFT supported as B/2-501 IN recovered their wounded. Contact broke at 1500H as B/2-501 IN withdrew to a blocking position to cordon the enemy force. At the close of the reporting period sporadic fire continued to be received. Occupied a blocking position from YD684305 to YD689308. Results: 2 US KIA, 6 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment: 1 SKS, 1 AK-47, 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed).

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD673333. Provided security for rice harvest with elements at YD673333, YD665328 and YD674328. At 1312H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD672333 to LZ vicinity YD688296. Closed at 1350H. Held in place while an artillery preparation was fired vicinity YD688300. Moved forward and entered village vicinity YD688302. Unable to advance because of closeness to artillery being fired in support of B/2-501 IN. Occupied blocking position from YD690298 and YD684304.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD728335 with ambushes vicinity YD734334 and YD732333. Conducted RIF operation to village vicinity YD722313. At 1305H vicinity YD724314 received SA fire. Returned fire and artillery supported. Intensity of fire increased as AW fire and 1 60mm mortar round was received from an estimated reinforced squad, resulting in 1 US WIA. LFT supported. Contact was broken at 1500H as D/2-501 IN withdrew to permit 5 AS to support. Approximately, 1600H company withdrew to a PZ vicinity YD731311 to prepare to move to an LZ vicinity YD695296 and assume a blocking position to cordon an unknown size enemy force vicinity YD600303. PZ time was 1705H, closed LZ 1740H. Occupied a blocking position vicinity YD695300 to YD690298. Results: 1 US WIA (medevac); Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon provided security for FSB OMAHA. Conducted RIF operation to YD687306 and returned. At 1910H conducted a combat assault from FSB OMAHA to LZ vicinity YD683300, closed 1930H. Moved to a blocking position vicinity YD684304 to YD684305.

A/1-502 IN OPCON to 2-501 IN BN effective 1650H. At 1643H conducted a combat assault from LZ SALLY to LZ vicinity YD691341. Occupied a blocking position from YD691304 to YD695301. At 1900H vicinity YD695303 received SA and AW fire. Returned fire. Results: 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment negative.

C/1-501 IN OPCON to 2-501 IN BN effective 1400H. At 1505H conducted combat assault from PZ vicinity YD613315 to LZ vicinity YD666294, closed 1515H. Conducted RIF operation to YD670290. At 1735H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD666294 to LZ YD690311. Occupied a blocking position vicinity YD691304 to YD689308. At 1945H, received sniper fire. Results: 1 US WIA (medevac)

(Commanders Situation Report; 022001H May – 032000H May 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

02 – 03 May 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: The 1-502 IN BN continued RIF operations and on May 3rd, conducted three air moves. A/1-502 IN moved by CH-47 from FSB LASH to EAGLE BEACH and C/1-502 IN returned to EAGLE BEACH to FSB LASH and assumed security of the firebase. The Recon platoon was extracted from YC650681 to FSB LASH.

02 May 1970

A man in C/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon was seriously hurt when he fell of 10ft embankment. He was medevaced to 85th Evac. C/1-502 IN at location 707070, found a booby trap on a trail. It was blown in place.

02 May 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: D/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon 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 2nd platoon and Command group were brought up as reinforcements. The enemy fled the area leaving behind one body and one AK-47 rifle. D/2-502 IN 3rd platoon sustained only 3 men slightly wounded.

02 May 1970

Sixty-four 55-gallon drums of napalm were dropped in the vicinity of FS/OB Henderson to improve fields of fire. Enemy mortar attacks continued against FS/OB GRANITE. Air strikes against enemy mortar positions resulted in three NVA KIA, three secondary fires, four bunkers destroyed and one secondary explosion.

02 May 1971

Operation LAM SON 720: The enemy in the surrounding area launched the first of many mortar attacks against CO PUNG.



03 May 1966

Operation AUSTIN VI: A/2-502 IN continued security of TAC CP and had "Recondo" squad patrolling the nearby area. 26 Montagnard's approached the TACP CP and told CO of A/2-502 IN that they were not moving out of the area; were pro American and had observed no enemy activity in the last few days.

B/2-502 IN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations in area Lou with negative enemy contact and were located vicinity YU581562 at 1100H and established local security. C/2-502 IN remained in Brigade reserve at NHON CO. "Recondo" platoon moved to ambush site at vicinity YU531524 at 1000H with negative enemy contact and rejoined Battalion CP at 1520H. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN, 101st ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation Austin VI; 24 May 1966)

03 – 04 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light as the cordon of villages vicinity YD690300 and YD693304. Today's Statistics: 3 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment: 27 NVA KIA (BC), 1 NVA WIA POW, 1 AK-47.

1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD678284 with ambushes vicinity YD677291 and YD675287. Conducted a search in conjunction with a minesweep team area vicinity YD6728, negative results. Established a night position vicinity YD677283.

B/1-501 IN occupied night position YD685277 with ambushes vicinity YD684281, YD687274 and YD685284. Throughout the night engaged 3 different suspected enemy movements. First light check resulted in 3 NVA KIA (BC). Conducted a search of THON PHUOC YEN village to further access results of cordon operation conducted 28 April – 03 May. At 0902H vicinity YD685280 found 1 NVA WIA. At 0943H received 2 US WIA resulting from a bunker being blown. Throughout the day found an additional 20 NVA KIA (BC), 7 were in fresh graves. Established a night position vicinity YD690279 with local ambushes. Results: 2 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment: 23 NVA KIA (BC), 1 NVA WIA (POW).

C/1-501 IN OPCON 2-501 IN BN until 1430H, then OPCON 1-502 IN BN.

D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD671281 with ambushes vicinity YD671277 and YD671283. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD674243. At 1514H vicinity YD666236 found 2 NVA bodies in fresh graves, killed by SA. Results 2 NVA KIA (BC). Established night position vicinity YD668238 with local ambushes.

A/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD690278 with ambushes vicinity YD694286, YD693276 and YD690274. At 2300H engaged 2 enemy vicinity YD690278. First light check resulted in 2 NVA KIA (BC) and 1 AK-47. At 0900H reverted to OPCON 2-501 IN. Results: 2 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD623264 with ambush vicinity YD626261. Conducted local patrols reconnoitering for night ambush sites. Established night position vicinity YD617249 with local ambushes.

E/1-501 IN (-) provided minesweep security N and S from LZ SALLY.

2-501 IN BN

B/2-501 IN, C/2-501 IN, D/2-501 IN Recon platoon, C/1-501 IN and A/1-502 IN maintained a cordon around villages vicinity YD690300 and YD693304. At 0335H vicinity YD693298 D/2-501 received 2 RPG rounds with negative casualties. At 0345H A/1-502 IN exchanged SA fire with 2 NVA vicinity YD696302. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. At 0425H, D/2-501 IN vicinity YD693298 received approximately 20-30 60mm rounds from vicinity YD699318. Results: 1 US WIA. D/2-501 IN was relieved in place by B/1-502 IN approximately 1200H. Recon platoon 2-501 IN was relieved in place by Recon platoon 1-502 IN approximately 1215H. At 1430H OPCON of cordon operation and AO were assumed by 1-502 IN BN. Results: 1 US WIA (medevac); Negative enemy assessment.

A/2-501 IN returned OPCON from 1-501 IN BN at 0900H; at 0928H conducted combat assault from YD694275 to FSB GERONIMO. Provided security for FSB GERONIMO.

B/2-501 IN OPCON to 1-502 IN BN effective 1430H.

C/2-501 IN OPCON to 1-502 IN BN effective 1430H.

D/2-501 IN at 1320H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD690298 to LZ vicinity YD750210 closed 1340H. At 1445H assumed mission of providing security at HUE bridges with D/2-501 (-) at YD749210, platoon at YD780209, and 1 squad at LST Ramp vicinity YD771222.

Recon platoon at 1210H conducted a combat assault from YD6843014 to Satan vicinity YD663223.

C/1-501 and A/1-502 IN OPCON to 1-502 IN effected 1430H.

1-502 IN BN

1-502 IN BN OPCON 2BDE effective 0200H.



B/1-502 IN, E/1-502 IN, HHC/1-502 IN, C/1-502 IN and D/1-502 IN moved by CH-47 from FSB BASTOGNE commencing 0725H to FSB OMAHA closing 1750H. At 1430H, 1-502 IN BN assumed OPCON of AO previously controlled by 2-501 IN BN. 1-502 IN BN also assumed OPCON of cordon operation vicinity YD6930 and B/2-501 IN, C/2-501 IN, A/1-502 IN and A/1-502 IN at 1430H.

A/1-502 IN OPCON 1-502 IN effective 1430H. Maintained blocking position vicinity YD691304 to YD695301.

B/1-502 IN moved from FSB BASTOGNE to FSB OMAHA. At 1115H conducted a combat assault from FSB OMAHA to LZ vicinity YD681305, closed 1138H. Relieved D/2-501 IN in place. Maintained a blocking position vicinity YD690298 to YD695300. At 1815H received SA and AW fire from their N. Returned fire. Contact broken 1830H. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

C/1-502 IN moved from FSB BASTOGNE to FSB OMAHA. C/1-502 IN (-) moved to vicinity YD663310 and proved security for rice harvest.

D/1-502 IN moved from FSB BASTOGNE to FSB OMAHA. At 1639H conducted combat assault from FSB OMAHA to LZ vicinity YD681305, closed 1715H. Established night position vicinity YD731311 with local ambushes.

Recon platoon moved from FSB BASTOGNE TO FSB OMAHA. At 1145H conducted a combat assault from FSB OMAHA to LZ vicinity YD681305, closed 1154. Relieved Recon platoon 2-501 IN in place. Established a blocking position vicinity YD684304 to YD684305.

C/1-501 IN OPCON effective 1430H. Maintained a blocking position vicinity YD691304 to YD689308.

B/2-501 IN OPCON effective 1430H. Maintained a blocking position vicinity YD684305 to YD689307. At 1810H received SA, AW and RPG fire from vicinity YD689302. Returned fire with organic weapons. Results: 2 US WIA (medevac); Negative enemy assessment.

C/2-501 IN OPCON effective 1430H. Maintained a blocking position vicinity YD686303 to YD690298.

(Commanders Situation Report; 032001H May – 042000H May 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

03 – 05 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: 1-502 IN BN 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

The Pink team found four to five sets of footprints with HO CHI MINH sandals moving north. A Vietnamese civilian discovered a body tied up in the tree line near TAM BOA village and an investigation is under way. An RF accidentally set off a booby trap. A/1-502 IN found five rockets of varying sizes at 773046, 100 meters from the location the rockets were found. A/1-502 IN found 3 bunkers. FB BIRMINGHAM received several incoming 82mm rounds with negative casualties.

03 May 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: C/2-502 IN continued to sweeping operations to the south at YD511063 made contact with the enemy at 1140H. 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/2-502 IN 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/2-502 IN at 1740H 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, D/2-502 IN, 1st platoon and elements of the 3rd 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/2-502 IN 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/2-502 IN against enemy locations in vicinity of the previous day's contact.

03 May 1970

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

0120: Message #1: Message #1: All area north and east of 1BDE boundary from YD568198 SW to 519150 SE to 542130 east to 6213 will belong to the 2BDE to be utilized and occupied by 3d ARVN Regt. effective: 030800 May 70.

0210: Message #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 0303H to 0310H unknown number of 122mm rockets hit Camp EAGLE impacting vicinity Varsity pad; four Cobra hit, one hanger, vehicles, H sector received small arms fire.

1013: Message #3: AO Extension granted 3-54 ARVN from 1-506 IN BN. From 1-506 and 3-54 boundary at YD490127 north to YD491160 east YD520160 south to base YD520150. Effective: 031200H to 072400H.



1040: B/2-502 IN, 1st platoon (-) CP & 3rd platoon (-) YD508077, 2nd platoon & 3rd platoon, 1st squad vicinity YD508076, 1st platoon, 1st squad vicinity YD509079, C/2-502 IN, 1st platoon vicinity YD511063, 2nd platoon & 3rd platoon & CP vicinity YD514064, C/1-327 IN, 1st platoon vicinity YD510075, CP & 3rd platoon vicinity YD511072, 2d platoon YD512068

1051: 1045, C/1-327 IN is no longer OPCON to 2-502 IN BN

1145: Message #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 IN BN
2. TS
3. Item #12
4. D/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon
5. 1150G
6. YD516057
7. D/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon in a patrol base received unidentified incoming rounds. Took approximately nine rounds 75 meters from their perimeter. Suspected enemy location was at YD514063. At 1228H 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 IN BN
2. TS
3. Item #13
4. C/2-502 IN, 1st Platoon 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 maintain contact yet at 1220H without the enemy fleeing or withdrawing. At 1225H 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 1305H contact regained at same location. Contact continuing at 1330H and receiving RPG fire. At 1405H Medevac received fire. At 1430H 1st platoon was reinforced by the 2nd platoon. Six pax were wounded. At 1440H, C/2-502 IN reported that dead enemy were everywhere. Element reported that there were enemy in platforms in trees throwing satchels at them. FOLLOW-UP: C/2-502 IN 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 1740H 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 IN BN 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/2-502 IN, 1st platoon YD537016, 2nd platoon & CD YD537023, B/2-502 IN YD508081, C/2-502 IN, 1st platoon YD511063, 2nd platoon & 3rd platoon & CP YD514064, D/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon & 3rd platoon & CP YD513059, 1st platoon YD518056, Radar YD544044.

1945: Message #5: Air request for LZ construction: 1-6-2 Engineers and 2 squad's 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: Message #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 1445H to move A/2-502 IN and B/2-502 IN; 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: Message #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 regard, 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 1150H vicinity YD516057, D/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon 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/2-502 IN, 1st 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.

Plans Summary: A/2-502 IN continues patrol and ambush operations in assigned AO with one platoon as security for FSB. B/2-502 IN, C/2-502 IN, D/2-502 IN, and Recon Companies continue patrol and ambush operations in assigned AO.

03 May 1970

The search for enemy mortar positions in the vicinity of FS/OB RIPCORDER and GRANITE continued, with heavy artillery support for FS/OB JACK. At 0330H, Camp EAGLE received seventeen 122mm rockets causing light damage to aircraft and ammunition supply points. Eleven US were wounded in the attack. (Operation Report – HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 July 1970)



03 May 1970 At 1130H, vicinity YD511063 C/2-502 IN, 1st platoon while conducting patrol activities, received RPG and small arms fire from an enemy force at 40 meters. The element returned organic weapons fire and employed ARA, tube artillery and air strikes on the enemy positions. A sweep of the contact area revealed 27 NVA KIA. US Casualties were one KIA and 13 WIA. (Operation Report – HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 July 1970)

03 May 1970 While on a reconnaissance mission southwest of HUE, elements of the 2-502 IN BN receive small arms and RPG fire. The 101st ABN DIV troopers return fire and call in Aerial Rocket Artillery and air strikes. After the battle a sweep of the area reveals the bodies of 27 NVA. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 3, Number 2); Summer 1970)

04 May 1968 Cordon by A/1-502 IN, B/1-502 IN, and Recon with other 2BDE elements at vicinity 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.

04 – 05 May 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** 1-502 IN BN had negative change in operations. On 5 May at 0850H, B/1-502 IN was extracted from YC645653 to FSB LASH and assumed security of FSB LASH. At 0953, C/1-502 IN and Recon conducted a combat air assault from FSB LASH. The LZ was green and the elements conducted RIF to the south.

04 May 1970 D/1-502 IN found 300lbs of rice broken down in 7-15lb sand bags and 1-100lb water proof bag and 1-100lb burlap bag. Located with the rice were several sets of clothes. There were signs of recent use around the area and the company discovered a small hootch. All the findings were located at 863030. D/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon found one bunker with signs of very recent use by about four people. The bunker was destroyed.

04 May 1971 B/1-501 IN, 2nd platoon detonated BBT at vicinity ZD064979. Results: 1 US WIA.

05 – 06 May 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light with the exception of the 2-17 CAV, which was attacking an estimated reinforced NVA company at the close of the reporting period. Today's statistics: 5 US KIA; 24 US WIA (16 medevac); Enemy assessment 6 NVA KIA (BC), 2 NVA POW, 1 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC suspect, 1 AK-47.

1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN provided security for AN LO Bridge. Relieved of bridge security mission at 1403H. Conducted RIF operation SE along north side of SONG BO River to vicinity YD645286. Established night position vicinity YD655299 with local ambushes.

B/1-501 IN occupied high position vicinity YD685285 with ambushes vicinity YD687289, YD696283 and YD684280. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD697297 and to YD693300. At 1148H vicinity YD698298 engaged 3 VC with negative results. Established night position vicinity YD696296 with local ambushes.

C/1-501 IN OPCON 1-502 IN BN; Occupied a blocking position vicinity YD696249 to YD695236. OPCON 1-502 IN BN effective 1615H; at 1707H conducted combat assault from PZ vicinity YD697248 to LZ vicinity YD745295. Closed LZ 1730H. Occupied blocking position vicinity YD746248 to LZ vicinity YD749290 to cordon village.

D/1-501 IN OPCON 2-501 IN BN until 1100H, then OPCON 2-17 CAV. Occupied a blocking position vicinity YD687247 and YD694249. AT 1040H received 1 US WIA (medevac) from shrapnel.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD612255 with ambushes vicinity YD614255 and YD616255. Conducted local patrols during the day reconnoitering for night ambush sites.

2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN continued to close out FSB GERONIMO.

B/2-501 IN occupied a blocking position vicinity YD690234 to YD687247 until 1808H, moved to a night position vicinity YD679237 and established local ambushes. At 1600H vicinity YD691304 found 1 7.62mm Soviet HMG during sweep through village.

C/2-501 IN occupied blocking position vicinity YD695236 to YD690236. At 0432H vicinity YD692245 received 5 RPG rounds. Negative casualties. Returned fire with organic weapons. First light check resulted in 1 AK-47. AT 0947H moved to an E-W blocking position vicinity YD695235. At 1020H vicinity YD701236 found a fresh grave with 1 VC KIA (BC). At 1500H returned to FSB PINKY to provide security. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 1 VC KIA (BC).

D/2-501 IN provided security for HUE bridges vicinity YD749210, YD780209 and YD771222. From 0320H to 0506H the D/2-501 IN, 3rd platoon at YD781209 received 12 RPG rounds resulting in 2 US WIA (medevac). Fire was returned with organic weapons. At first light sweep resulted in 1 VC WIA suspect. Results: 2 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 1 VC WIA suspect.

Recon platoon provided security for LZ SATAN and conducted local patrols.



1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD695316 with platoon size ambush vicinity YD702322 and YD694306. At 0335H, ambush vicinity YD694306 received hand grenades into position from approximately 3 NVA to the south. Engaged with claymore mines and M-79 fire. Sporadic SA fire continued to be received throughout the night from and estimated 2 squad enemy force when the ambush attempted to withdraw to medevac 2 US WIA. At 0652H, A/1-502 IN (-) joined up with ambush and medevac was completed for 2 US WIA who were now KIA. A search of the area produced 1 NVA KIA (BC). Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD695301, then N to vicinity YD710310, established night position with local ambushes. Results: 2 US KIA; Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA (BC).

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD692298 with ambushes vicinity YD704304, YD696300 and YD698296. At 2140H, ambush vicinity YD696300 engaged 4 NVA on opposite side of river with SA, AW and M-79 fire. Negative enemy assessment. The ambush remained in position and at 0745H engaged one sampan with 5 NVA going SW. Results: one sampan sunk, 5 NVA KIA (BC). At 1045H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD692298 to LZ vicinity YD769328. Closed LZ 1133H. Conducted RIF operation S to village vicinity YD750291. At 1630H lead platoon vicinity YD752289 received AW fire from 4 positions. Returned fire and artillery supported as unit withdrew to bring air strikes in on the enemy in bunkers with overhead cover. B/1-502 IN then occupied a blocking position from YD752238 to YD749294 as the village was cordoned off. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

C/1-502 IN company (-) occupied night position vicinity YD668302 with ambushes vicinity YD664309 and YD668302. One platoon provided security at FSB OMAHA. At 2130H ambush vicinity YD668302 engaged 2 NVA moving SW along N bank of river with claymore mines and M79 fire. SA fire was received when elements moved to make an assessment. Ambush withdrew to YD665305. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. At 1707H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD662313 to LZ vicinity YD728335. Closed LZ 1730H. Established 3 platoon size ambushes vicinity YD7430.

D/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD728335 with ambushes vicinity YD737334, YD731330 and YD722338. At 1141H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD728335 and LZ vicinity YD750296. Closed LZ 1200H. Conducted RIF operation S to village vicinity YD748294. At 1325H vicinity YD748294 received fire from 3 enemy positions, resulting in 1 US WIA. Fire was returned, and artillery supported as D/1-502 IN withdrew to YD749294. Sniper fire continued to be received until 1445H resulting in 2 US KIA and 6 US WIA. Occupied a blocking position vicinity YD749294 to YD746292. Results for the day: 2 US KIA, 7 US WIA (medevac); Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD685311. Returned to FSB OMAHA, closed 1110H. At 1555H conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD687348 and established night ambushes.

2-17 CAV

A/2-17 CAV was OPCON to 2-501 IN BN for security of FSB PINKY. B/2-17 CAV occupied night position vicinity YD896304. B/2-17 CAV with 1/C/2-34 attached moved to vicinity FSB PINKY. From 0830H to 0950H 3 air strikes were flown into the cordoned village. Approximately 1143H D/1-501 IN attacked along the left of the village vicinity YD690248 and B/2-17 CAV attacked along the right of the village vicinity YD693247. A/2-17 CAV was in reserve. Only sporadic SA fire was received as elements advanced through the village until approximately 1630H. D/1-501 IN and B/2-17 CAV received intense SA, AW and RPG fire. B/2-17 CAV maneuvered to their right so D/1-501 IN could continue moving from S from YD691239. One platoon crossed the stream at the time and D/1-501 IN (-) provided rear security. At the close of the reporting period intense fire continued to be received as 2-17 CAV elements continued their attack under illumination. As of 2000H, units had reported 3 US WIA (medevac) and 2 NVA POW.

2BDE, HHC Security platoon

Provided minesweep security N and S from LZ SALLY

2BDE

LZ SALLY received 3 122mm rockets approximately 1700H – 1715H. Artillery was fired on suspected enemy location. Results: 1-501 IN BN – 1 US WIA; 1-502 IN BN – 1 KIA, 12 US WIA; 1-321 ARTY – 2 WIA; TACP – 1 US WIA. Totals: 1 US KIA; 16 US WIA (10 medevac).

(Commanders Situation Report; 052001H May – 062000H May 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

05 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: As part of Operation CARENTAN II, elements from the 1-501 IN BN, 2-501 IN BN, 2-17 CAV, and 2-34 AR, supporting 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV encountered an enemy force about three miles northwest of HUE. Casualties: Friendly: 1 KIA, 18 WIA; Enemy: 55 KIA.

05 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: 1-502 IN BN continued RIF and security missions. A/1-502 IN & B/1-502 IN cordoned Hill vicinity 700304 and had 1 WIA from grenade while enemy losses were 1 NVA KIA (BC), 2 NVA WIA/POW

05 – 07 May 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: 2-501 IN BN and 2-17 CAV cordon THON LA CHU resulting in 53 NVA/ VC KIA, 2 VC PWs, and 400 lbs. of rice.

05 May 1970

C/1-502 IN, 1st platoon located a trail at 708066. D/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon (-) found a bunker re-enforced with timber and sand bags. Besides the bunker was a lean to type shelter. A variety of small equipment was found in a lean to and bunker indicating they had been used in the last four days. The equipment and bunkers were found at 863079.



- 05 May 1970 D/1-501 IN BN was relieved at FS/OB HENDERSON by A/1-501 IN and Recon platoon. D/1-501 IN then moved by air from the firebase and returned to control of the parent unit at FS/OB BASTOGNE. A/2-501 IN with the Reconnaissance platoon, moved by air to FS/OB HENDERSON to provide security for the FS/OB.
- 05 May 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** C/2-502 IN assaulted an enemy bunker complex on two fronts. A fierce battle persisted for approximately an hour before the bunker complex was overrun and the enemy routed. Five enemy bodies were found in the complex along with three weapons. C/2-502 IN sustained three KIA and several wounded during the attack. On the same day, A/2-502 IN was combat assaulted on the ridge line to the west, on the LZ constructed by D/2-502 IN and the engineers they previous day. Contact with the enemy was initiated by A/2-502 IN while moving off the LZ to the north. An estimated enemy squad with automatic weapons was engaged by the 1st platoon. ARA was employed in support and they too received automatic weapons fire. The enemy broke contact and fled to the north leaving behind three bodies. Two STRIKE Force Soldier were killed in the action.
- 05 May 1971 **Operation LAM SON 720:** The Command and Control aircraft for the Battalion spotted thirty NVA approximately 1000 meters from CO PUNG and engaged them with gunships with unknown results. Because the 2-502 IN BN was the first allied force to assault the area on the fringe of the A SHAU Valley, an enormous amount of enemy activity was discovered, and an endless collection of intelligence data was collected. During the nine day stay on CO PUNG the 2-502 IN BN received eleven 60/81mm mortar attacks and seven 57/75mm recoilless rifle attacks without one single injury to a STRIKE Force Soldier. This was credited to effective counter mortar programming using air, artillery, and mortars; radio discipline (the enemy was never told where his rounds were impacting); sound combat patrolling (both day and night) and outstanding Soldiering by individual and fighting units. Some 101st ABN troopers made the ultimate sacrifice on CO PUNG and some STRIKE Force troops suffered injuries.
- Most STRIKE Force troopers will remember CO PUNG for the hardship created by unusually bad weather and numerous enemy attacks, but the capture of CO PUNG opened the gate for the 1st ARVN Division in the upper A SHAU Valley. MG Tarpley, Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), told many troopers on the day of the Battalion's return from CO PUNG that the STRIKE Force troopers were the first Americans to set foot on the mountain. (2-502 IN Unit History, 1971)
- 05 May 1971 1-501 IN BN vicinity ZC127908, pink team found tree bunkers 10x20' w/o overhead coverage.



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

16 x Silver Star Medal (5 x Posthumously)
3 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
13 x Bronze Star Medal (13 x Posthumously)
63 x Army Commendation Medal
83 x Purple Heart Medal (51 x Posthumously)
63 x Air Medal
14 x Died of Non-Hostile injuries or illness

29 April 1968



SP4 Thomas L. Twyford (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1968



SGT Thomas S. Cook (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death 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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1968



PFC Ronal E. Critzer (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1968



PFC Gary L. Daniels (A/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1968



PFC David L. Massa (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 operations when a hostile mine detonated in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1968



SGT Joseph T. Kovaloff (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1968

SGT William R. Hofstrom (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 1528; 15 June 1968)



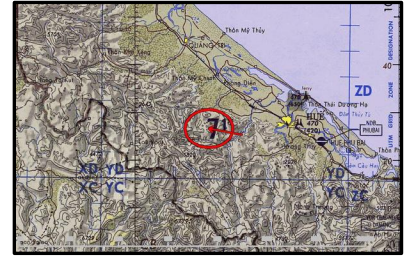
29 April 1968

PFC Randolph Gregory (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 1528; 15 June 1968)

29 April 1970



SSG (then SP4) Edward J. Bishop Jr. (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously); SSG Bishop died while MIA as a ground casualty with the incident date of 29 April 1970 when he 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 and 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. SP4 Bishop was classified as MIA with a date of death as of 29 August 1978. Remains not recovered. Location of incident: YD439188; FSB GRANITE, 18km S-SW of Phong Dien in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. (Coffelt Database Report)



29 April 1970



CPL Robert S. Boggs (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death 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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1970



CPL Dennis W. Hunter (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death 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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1970



CPL Carl E. Patten (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death 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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1970



SGT Roy H. Snyder (HHC/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death 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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1970



CPL Linwood A. Walker (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1970



SP4 Frederick E. Wortmann (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death 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, Republic of Vietnam.



29 April 1970



SP4 James W. McGuire (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1970



SP4 William J. Stieve (D/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

29 April 1970

SSG Jeremy W. Yocom (E 2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 6936; 19 June 1970)

29 April 1970

SP4 Benard V. Slider (E 2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV, General Order Number 6936; 19 June 1970)

30 April 1968



PFC Larry E. Lutz (A/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 a blast form hostile anti-tank round in the vicinity of PHUOC YEN, 7km NW of HUE Citadel, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

30 April 1968



CPL Arie Terry (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

30 April 1968



PFC Donald L. Peterson (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

30 April 1968

The following Soldiers from A/1-502 IN:

SP4 Thomas J. Corbett SP4 Mercado A Febers SP4 Randal J. Nicholson

Was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 67th Evacuation Hospital; General Orders Number 153; 3 May 1968)

30 April 1969

The following Soldiers from A/1-502 IN:

SGT John T. Borgers	PFC Roger M. Bost	SP4 Roy J. Brown	SP4 Gary L. Caauwe
PFC Robert D. Cantu	SP4 Ronnie L. Caroll	SP4 Russell B. Carson	SP4 Jack Clark Jr.
SP4 James R. Cotton	SP4 Peter K. Crossan	PSG Rancis L. Demory	PFC Michael C. English
SP4 John A. Glover	PFC Clifford R. Godwin	SSG Rodney K. Green	SP4 Henry W. Helfenbein
PFC Thomas W. Hurlbut	PFC Andrew Johnson	SP4 David B. Korbobo	SP4 Darrell C. Lombard
SGT Martin L. Long	SGT James H. Manning	SP4 James A. Milby	SP4 Michael K. Morrison
PFC John J. Oliver	SP4 Harold R. Parker	PFC Douglas H. Smith	1LT John D. Sorge
SP4 Jerry L. Sykes	SP4 Ernest Tobias	PFC James A. Trice	SP4 Thomas G. Welch

Was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for the period of 01 December 1968 to 30 April 1969; for meritorious achievement in South Vietnam. (DA, HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6907; 16 June 1969)



30 April 1969

The following Soldier from B/1-502 IN:

SGT Jackie Allen	SP4 Henry Bickerstaff	SGT Kenneth D. Brandon	PFC David E. Brewster
SP4 Daniel Brown	PFC Donald H. Brown	SP4 Myron W. Buczak	SP4 Earl J. Buquet
PFC Robert L. Carter	SP4 Thoams W. Coss	PFC Dana F. Davis	PFC Gary Duncan
PFC Leonard P. Dunne	PFC Claude H. Echols	PFC Gary R. Hall	PFC Harold D. Haney
SP4 James J. Heuer			

Was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for the period of 01 December 1968 to 30 April 1969; for meritorious achievement in South Vietnam. (DA, HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6907; 16 June 1969)

30 April 1970

The Following Soldiers from A/2-501 IN:

PFC James Evans	SGT Gordon J. Forrester	PFC Gary Gaglead	SP4 John Gillilano
SP4 Darwin A. Grow	SP4 Sterling Lawrence	SP4 Ernest M. McDaniel	SP4 Thomas North
PFC James O. Riley	SP4 David R. Schmidli	SP4 Mickey Shackelford	PFC Wayne R. Smyly
SP4 James C. Thompson	SGT John E. Upton		

Was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for the period of 01 December 1969 to 30 April 1970; for meritorious achievement in South Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 5079; 7 May 1970)

30 April 1970

MAJ James R. Wessel (HHC/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal 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; 1 May 1970)

30 April 1970

SGT Gene H. Carlson (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal 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; 1 May 1970)

30 April 1970

PFC Michael J. Roland (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal 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; 1 May 1970)

30 April 1970

SP4 Larry D. Standley (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal 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; 1 May 1970)

30 April 1970

The Following Soldiers from HHC/2-501 IN:

CSM Stanley R. Marcille	CPT Donald R. Goates	SP4 James F. Mashon
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Was awarded the Purple Heart Medal 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 from A/2-501 IN:

1LT Joseph L. Guerra	2LT James W. Kwiecien	SSG Alan G. Pagels	SGT John M. Vitrow
SGT John E. Upton	SP4 James E. Boyde	SP4 Thomas W. Lippy	SP4 Jay B. Wolfe
PFC Jasper L. Sistar	PFC Joe C. Barrientes	PFC Daniel R. Stark	

Was awarded the Purple Heart Medal 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

SP4 Bill N. Lyman (A/2-502 IN) was awarded 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

SGT Robert J. Shannon (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death 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, Republic of Vietnam.



30 April 1970



SGT Larry N. Jones (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (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, Republic of Vietnam.

30 April 1970



SGT Donnie E. Horton (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when a hostile booby trap detonated in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

01 May 1968



PFC Herald L. Delaney (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

01 May 1968



CPL Jackie G. Montgomery (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the 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.

01 May 1968



PFC Daniel W. Daley (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from wounds received while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile anti-tank round in the vicinity of PHUOC YEN, 7km NW of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Daley was admitted to 22d Surgical hospital and transferred to a Naval Hospital ship where he expired.

01 May 1968



SSG Gelasio N. Gomez Jr. (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from wounds received while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile anti-tank round in the vicinity of PHUOC YEN, 7km NW of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

01 May 1968



2LT John K. House (A/1-502 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 wounds received while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile rocket in the vicinity of PHUOC YEN, 7km NW of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

01 May 1968



PFC Lawrence J. Merschel (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from wounds received while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile anti-tank round in the vicinity of PHUOC YEN, 7km NW of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



01 May 1968

PFC Charles R. Cole (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wound received in action in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 1528; 15 June 1968)

01 May –
30 October 1969

The Following Soldiers from C/1-501 IN:

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	SP4 David A. Johnson		

Was awarded the Air Medal (1-OLC) for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight operations. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 13938; 17 November 1969)

01 May 1970

SGT Ronnie G. Clemmons (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 99, 2 May 1970)

01 May 1970

1LT Robert W. Layton (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 99, 2 May 1970)

01 May 1970

SP4 Norman D. McGowans (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (1-OLC) for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 99, 2 May 1970)

01 May 1970

SGT Benjamin B. Nevel (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during actions in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 99, 2 May 1970)

01 May 1970

SP4 Charles E. Mott (E/2-501 IN); was awarded the Purple Heart Medal 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 from A/2-501 IN:

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. Robershaw
PFC Tommy L. Rodriguez	PFC Bruce E. Buston	PFC Charles Small	PFC Michael D. Sopko
PFC James V. Steiner			

Was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam (HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM); General Order Number 7421; 22 June 1969)

02 May 1970

SP4 Daniel C. Johnson (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from wounds received while at an artillery firing position when the area came under attack by a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. He was admitted to a military medical facility and later expired.

02 May 1970



SSG Leo J. Ludvigsen Jr. (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 while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



02 May 1970



SGT Harold G. Craft (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gun fire wounds received while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. He was admitted to a military medical facility and later expired.

03 May 1968



SGT Brian G. Hughes (HHC/2-501 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 while on combat operation when engaged by hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1968



SGT Robert P. Johnston (B/2-501 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 while on combat operation when engaged by hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1968



SGT Roger H. Sparks (B/2-501 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 while on combat operation when engaged by hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1968

PFC Charles W. Kinney (C/1-501 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 while on combat operation when engaged by hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Kinney was admitted to a hospital ship in Vietnam where he later expired.

03 May 1968



SGT Herman Jackson (A/1-502 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 while on combat operation when engaged by hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1969



SP4 Richard D. Miller (D/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 on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1970



SSG Glen R. Witycyak (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered on DONG ONG DO Mountain 15km E-NE of A LUOI Village in the QUANG NAM Province, Republic of Vietnam.



03 May 1970



SP4 Edward W. Stone (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the QUANG NAM Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1970



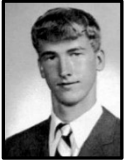
SSG Thomas G. Hess (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while at a night defensive position when the area came under attack by hostile fire in the QUANG NAM Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1970



SSG Glenn C. Duncan (B/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 from multiple fragmentation wounds while at a night defensive position when the area came under attack by hostile fire in the QUANG NAM Province, Republic of Vietnam.

03 May 1970



SSG Randal S. Phillips (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (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 hostile fire in the QUANG NAM Province, Republic of Vietnam.

04 May 1966



PFC Roger L. Berg (A/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



SSG John A. Brown (A/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



PFC Robert L. Clark (A/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



PFC Roger C. Collette (A/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.



04 May 1966



PFC Robert A. Fenton (C/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



MSG J. D. Harrell (HHC/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



SSG Gene Hawthorne (A/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



PFC Malakia Jackson Jr. (C/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



PFC Michael Simpson (C/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



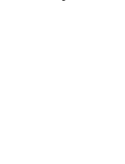
PFC Joseph J. Swayze (C/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



PFC Robert E. Thompson (C/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



SP4 Earnest A. Tucker Jr. (C/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.



04 May 1966



1SG Harden B. Walker (HHC/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

04 May 1966



SP4 Howard D. Weiss (HHC/2-502 IN) died as a result of massive trauma while a passenger aboard a CH-47 helicopter on an ammunition and troop lift when the helicopter crashed and burned 13 nm NW NHON CO, in the QUANG DUC Province, Republic of Vietnam during a combat mission. Eyewitnesses agreed for the most part that there were flames coming from the rear of the A/C and it seemed to have no forward airspeed and was spinning and falling straight down. The technical report suggests that the combing transmission failed excessive heat and fire causing the #2 drive shaft to separate. Resulting fire may have been ingested into the remaining engine causing a loss of power, SAS and AC electrical systems. There is evidence that the pilot attempted to flare the A/C prior to impact to no avail, crashing on its left side and was consumed by fire.

05 May 1968



PFC William D. Breightmyer (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when hit by fragments from hostile mortar in Than La Chu, 6km W-NW of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1968



SGT Kenneth P. Morrow (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when hit by fragments from hostile mortar in Than La Chu, 6km W-NW of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1968



SGT Donald M. Perdue (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death as a result of gunshot wound received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. SGT Perdue was admitted to a hospital ship and later expired.

05 May 1968



SGT Elroy E. Beier (D/2-501 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 in the vicinity of PHUOC YEN, Northwest of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1970



SSG Francisco T. Carvajal (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered on Hill 714, NW of FSB VEGHEL in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1970



SGT Gerald A. Kulm (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from a hand grenade while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered on Hill 714, NW of FSB VEGHEL in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



05 May 1970



SFC William E. Malcolm Jr. (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered on Hill 714, NW of FSB VEGHEL in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1970



SGT Vernon L. Okland (C/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 while on combat operations when a hostile force was encountered on Hill 714, NW of FSB VEGHEL in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1970



CPL Ivory L. Mc Kinney (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 on combat operation when hostile force was encountered on Hill 882, NW of FSB VEGHEL in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1970



SSG Green E. Miller Jr. (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 multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered on Hill 882, NW of FSB VEGHEL in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

05 May 1970

SGT James D. McDonald (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for valorous action in South Vietnam.



STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

29 April 1970



SP4 Edward J. Bishop (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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7005; 20 June 1970)

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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7876; 9 July 1970)

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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 13286; 6 November 1970)

29 April 1970



LTC Otis W. Livingston Jr. (HHC/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam 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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7184; 27 June 1970)

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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8324; 27 July 1970)



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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 9306; 14 August 1970)

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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7007; 20 June 1970)

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 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, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8785, 7 August 1970)

29 April 1970

PFC Joseph P. Safina (D/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Private Safina distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in Company D, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. An element of Private Safina's unit was ambushed by an enemy force and three of Private Safina's comrades were wounded in the ensuing fighting. Private Safina, despite intense hostile fire, rushed to their location and treated them. After administering initial first aid to all three, he moved the most seriously wounded man to a safer position and performed an emergency tracheotomy when the man had difficulty breathing. Still under fire, Private Safina moved all wounded personnel to a landing zone and organized medical evacuation operations. Private Safina's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 7003; 20 June 1970)

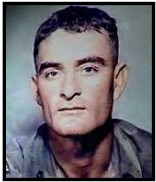
29 April 1970



SGT James P. Brinker (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 April 1970. Sergeant Brinker distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While approaching an enemy bunker complex, Sergeant Brinker's unit received intense automatic weapons, small arms, and grenade fire. Sergeant Brinker immediately deployed his men and directed their fire against the hostile bunkers. He then led his men in an assault on the fortified enemy positions and charged the bunkers, engaging the insurgents at close range. Despite the intense hostile fire directed against him, Sergeant Brinker fought from bunker to bunker, employing hand grenades and rifle fire, and routed the enemy force. Sergeant Brinker's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7916; 11 July 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.

03 May 1970



1LT Gerald F. Dillon (C 2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 3 May 1970. Lieutenant Dillon distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance patrol, Lieutenant Dillon's platoon came under heavy fire from an enemy bunker complex. Lieutenant Dillon immediately rushed to the area of contact, led his platoon in an assault on the bunker complex, and moved to the foremost position in the assault to direct fire on the insurgents. Despite hostile automatic weapons, rocket propelled grenades, satchel charges, and hand grenades, Lieutenant Dillon moved from position to position insuring that the wounded had been moved to safety and directing aerial rocket artillery fire. Though wounded, he refused evacuation and continued firing on the enemy and directing his platoon until the enemy bunker complex was captured. Lieutenant Dillon's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV (AM); General Order Number 8495; 01 August 1970)

05 May 1970



SP4 Boyd D. Pearson (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. Specialist Pearson distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. While attacking an enemy bunker complex, Specialist Pearson's unit received intense automatic weapons and grenade fire. When heavy resistance at one bunker slowed the attack, Specialist Pearson volunteered to assault the position. Despite intense hostile fire, he moved to within several meters of the enemy position, but his machine gun malfunctioned. Grabbing a pistol, he successfully engaged an insurgent at close range and continued to assault the bunker with the sidearm as his only weapon. As a result of his actions, the position was silenced, enabling his unit to continue the attack and eventually overrun the entire bunker complex. Specialist Pearson's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8485; 01 August 1970)

05 May 1970

1SG Ira C. Stanley (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. First Sergeant Stanley distinguished himself while serving as First Sergeant of Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. While attacking an enemy bunker complex, First Sergeant Stanley's unit was slowed by particularly strong resistance from one of the bunkers. Despite intense hostile automatic weapons fire, First Sergeant Stanley charged forward, maneuvered to within four meters of the position, and silenced the position with hand grenades and rifle fire. His actions enabled the company to continue the assault and capture the entire enemy bunker complex. First Sergeant Stanley's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 8483; 01 August 1970)

05 May 1970



SFC William E. Malcolm (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. Sergeant Malcolm distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, on combat operations near Fire Support Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. While attacking an enemy bunker complex, Sergeant Malcolm's platoon came under intense rocket propelled grenade, automatic weapons and small arms fire. Sergeant Malcolm directed his men against the enemy positions and was seriously wounded by automatic weapons fire. Despite his wounds, he continued the assault and engaged the insurgents with grenade and rifle fire. While leading his men against an automatic weapons position, Sergeant Malcolm was mortally wounded. His actions, however, enabled his unit to overrun the complex and rout the enemy force. Sergeant Malcolm's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7058; 22 June 1970)



05 May 1970



1LT Gerald F. Dillon (C 2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. Lieutenant Dillon distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. While attacking an enemy bunker complex, Lieutenant Dillon's platoon received heavy automatic weapons and grenade fire. When heavy resistance at one of the enemy bunkers slowed the assault, Lieutenant Dillon charged forward. He maneuvered to within several meters of the hostile position, threw hand grenades into the bunker, and silenced the insurgents with rifle fire. His actions enabled the assault to continue and led to the eventual capture of the entire bunker complex. Lieutenant Dillon's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 8703; 05 August 1970)

05 May 1970



SGT GERALD A. KULM (Then SP4) (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (Posthumously) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 May 1970. Specialist Kulm distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company C, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. When Specialist Kulm's unit met heavy resistance while attacking an enemy bunker complex, Specialist Kulm maneuvered with his machine gun to the area of contact. He placed heavy suppressive fire on the insurgents and enabled his platoon to advance and silence an enemy bunker. When he received fire from his flank, Specialist Kulm subjected himself to enemy fire and maneuvered to an exposed position and gave covering fire for his comrades until he was mortally wounded by an enemy hand grenade. 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 Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 7451; 29 June 1970)



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

