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Vietnam War Weekly History



March 31st – April 06th, 2019

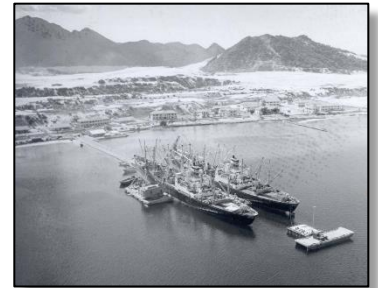
Issue: 147

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.

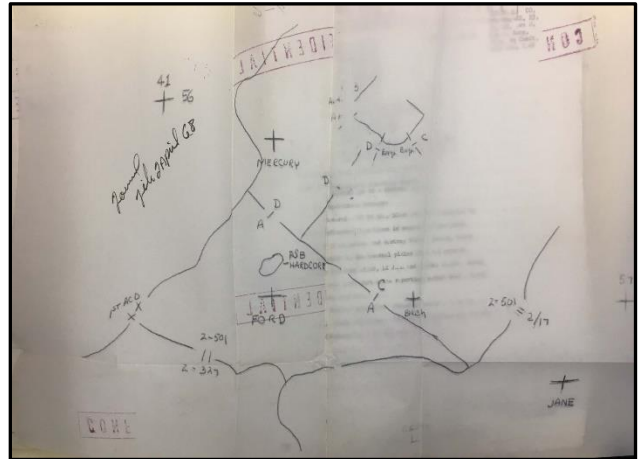


During this week, in the span of 8 years since the 501st Infantry Regiment, 502nd Infantry Regiment and 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division deployed in support of the Vietnam War the following are from After Action Reports, Staff Duty Logs, and Personal Accounts. (* All items have been reproduced from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

- 31 March 1968 All 2-501 IN elements conducted movement to ambush locations with negative results. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 31 March 1968)
- 31 March 1968 **Operation CARENTAN:** The last day of Operation CARENTAN saw no let-up in the relentless search for enemy Soldiers and local Viet Cong in the HUE area. Fifteen miles northwest of the imperial city, airborne artillerymen from the 1-321 ARTY were called by an aerial observer and immediately trapped 85-100 NVA Soldiers in an open field with accurate fire. Thirty of the NVA were killed. Six and one-half miles west of HUE, members of the 1-501 IN BN encountered a well-positioned enemy company. They called in air strikes that resulted in several secondary explosions. A quick search of the area uncovered 18 enemies' dead. During the operation, 861 enemies were killed. The total weapons and munitions captured included 186 individual and crew-served weapons, while 1,027 rocket, mortar, and artillery rounds were kept from the enemy. More than 41,000 rounds of small arms ammunition and 45 hand grenades were captured, along with nearly 17 tons of rice and grain.
- 31 March 1968 **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** At 0905H, C/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon at vicinity YD607086 engaged squad sized enemy force. Results: 4 US WHA, 7 NVA KIA Captured: 1 RPG, 2 AK-47, 2 SKS and documents. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; Combat Operations After Action Report; Operation JEB STRUAT/CARENTAN; 25 April 1968)
- 31 March 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN, C/1-502 IN and Recon conducted RIF to the south to reinforce D/1-502 IN. B/1-502 IN remained at FSB VEGHEL. D/1-502 IN conducted a RIF to the west and at 0830H, 3rd platoon made contact with an estimated reinforced NVA squad. Sporadic contact continued until 1800H when the enemy fled. Results: 2 US KIA, 1 NV KIA, 6 US WIA, 11 NVA KIA, 3 IWC, 3 CSCW.
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- 31 March 1970 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** 1-502 IN BN, Recon team #2 found three bunkers and tunnel. The tunnel was about 40 feet long. In the bunkers they found two metal boxes with four AK-47 magazines and over 400 loose rounds. Estimated age of complex, 1 year. This day marked the termination of Operation RANDOLPH GLEN.
- 31 March 1970 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** Operation RANDOLPH GLEN drew to a close. It proved to be a fitting operation with which to initiate the New Year. Success of the operation is attested to by the impressive statistics compiled by the battalion during the period. Sixty-three enemy were killed, fifty-two individual weapons were captured, along with nine crew-served weapons. (2-502 Unit History of the Strike Force, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)
- 31 March 1971 1-501 IN Recon platoon vicinity XD913546 found a gunny sack with 20 60mm rounds, 4 charges, 1 chicom claymore. These items were found on trail oriented north to south.
- 31 March 1971 A/1-501 IN, 1st platoon vicinity XD987444 was moving south west when the element tripped MA which was placed by another US unit. Results 3 US WIA.
- April 1968 During the first week of April the 2-501 IN BN was securing WUNDER BEACH vicinity YD4955 and FSB HARDCORE vicinity YD450510. (HQ, 101st AIR CAV DIV; Operation Report; Period Ending 30 April 1968)
- April 1971 **Operation LAM SON 720:** In the early April it became obvious that the NVA was making extensive use of the A SHAU Valley to move troops, equipment, and supplies. The 1BDE was assigned the overall mission of disrupting the enemy's logistic system and impeding his use of the A SHAU Valley area. The Brigade Commander elected to employ airmobile raid tactics with rapid operations of a short duration. For five days the companies patrolled the area around FSB JACK and took turns refining rappelling techniques at FSB JACK. (2-502 Unit History, 1971)
- 01 April 1968 Paratroopers of the 1BDE and 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV and the 3BDE, 82nd ABN DIV launched Operation CARENTAN II in the same AO as CARETAN I. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)
- 01 April 1968 A/1-502 IN OPCON to 3d Marine Division. The other units conducted normal operations with negative results.



- 01 April 1968 2-501 IN BN deployed to UTAH BEACH North of HUE and subsequently established FSB HARDCORE southwest of this area. During the operations in, this area over 60 NVA were killed.
- 01 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN, D/1-502 IN and Recon conducted a RIF to the west. A/1-502 IN found a large quantity of NVA ammunition and 5 IWC. At 1800H, A/1-502 IN made a point contact with an estimated NVA squad resulting in 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA. Recon discovered a cache containing 6 CSW, 20 IW and a large quantity of ammunition. C/1-502 IN patrolled in the vicinity of YC503945 and B/1-502 IN secured FSB VEGHEL.
- 01 April 1970 **Operation TEXA STAR** commenced with renewed efforts in the Vietnamization of combat operations in northern Military Region 1.
- 01 – 30 April 1971 During this period the 1-501 IN BN conducted search and clear operations in its assigned area of operation. The battalion occupied FSB T-Bird III vicinity XD970539 operations were under the 3BDE as we were OPCON to them until 09 April 1971. A/2-502 IN was OPCON to our operation and conducted a security mission along QL 9 until 04 April 1971. The battalion moved to MAI LOC on 08 April by air and then to PHU BAI for a three day standdown for refitting, organization and resupply for the next mission. Memorial Services were conducted on 10 April 1971 in the battalion area. On 11 April the battalion moved by truck to FSB TOMAHAWK and A/2-502 IN occupied and secured the firebase. The companies departed along L 1 and walked into their assigned AO's. On 13 April D/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN, 4th platoon moved to DA NANG by air to secure reserve ammo dump. The remainder of the period the battalion conducted search and clear operations around FSB TOMAHAWK.
- 01 April 1971 D/1-501 IN, 2nd platoon found a high-speed trail from the top of RAZORBACK to the valley floor.
- 02 April 1968 A/1-502 IN OPCON to 3d Marine Division. B/1-502 IN captured 2 tax collectors in village. vicinity YD5731. They also destroyed 3 bunkers and 3 VC KIA. D/1-502 IN had 1 man injured by BBT.
- 02 April 1968 At 1100H, A/2-501 IN assumed commitment and responsibility for FSB HARDCORE sector of AO. At 1159H, C/2-501 assumed responsibility of their AO. At 1200H, B/2-501 IN assumed responsibility of their sector. At 1200H, 2-501 IN BN assumed control for AO UTAH and FSB HARDCORE. At 1600H, LT Buch sent in planned summary for 03 April 1968. (2-501 IN BN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Office Log; 02 April 1968)



- 02 April 1968 **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** At 1115H, Recon/2-502 IN engaged unknown sized enemy force in bunkers. Also, received sporadic SA fire from SW, reinforced Recon was with 3-5 CAV platoon and a platoon from B/2-502 IN. These elements maneuvered up the hill against the enemy bunker's positions, overrunning the bunker. Results: 6 US WHA, 2 NVA KIA, and captured 1 AK-47. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; Combat Operations After Action Report; Operation JEB STRUAT/CARENTAN; 25 April 1968)
- 02 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN, D/1-502 IN and Recon established a LZ vicinity YC493945 and conducted a detailed search of the surrounding area resulting in a large amount of ammunition captured and 3 IWC. B/1-502 IN moved by air from FSB VEGHEL to YC493945, C/1-502 IN discovered 1 CSW vicinity of the NDP and continued RIF to YC493945, then moved by air to LZ SALLY to LZ MARSHALL.
- 02 April 1970 D/1-502 IN, 1st platoon, 3rd squad point man sighted movement at 763054 and fired the area up. A search produced negative results. The battalion commander conducted a briefing for all company commanders on FSB BIRMINGHAM concerning Operation TEXAS STAR.
- 02 April 1971 D/1-501 IN, 2nd platoon, 3rd squad found trail with a 500lb bomb vicinity XD963575.
- 02 April 1971 D/1-501 IN found a cave 6x3x10. Found one claymore with 4 M79 rounds to act as booster. Command detonated. Recent activity one week.
- 02 April 1971 D/1-501 IN "Geronimo's" discovered cave 20 miles west of QUANG TRI containing 30 – 60mm mortar rounds, 20 – B-40 rockets, 20 – rucksacks, and more than 100 protective masks. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 4, Number 1); Summer/Fall 1971)



03 April 1967

Operation SUMMERALL: 2-502 IN BN was deployed southwest of KHANH DUONG in the eastern tip of DARLAC Province to determine if VC forces were hiding in the area or using it as infiltration route. No intelligence was available concerning this area, and no signs of enemy activity were discovered. The area was rugged and beautiful and heavily populated with elephant, tiger and very large deer. A CIDG Company from LOC THIEN was attached to the battalion and remained with it throughout Operation SUMMERALL.

03 April 1967

Operation SUMMERALL: 1-327 IN BN and the 2-502 IN BN conducted airmobile assaults southwest of KHANH DUONG in the BUON MI GA area and initiated search and destroy operations to the southwest and west respectively. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

03 April 1968

A/2-501 IN conducted minesweep operations from 0630H to 0810H, with negative results. D/2-501 IN set up around sunk LST, will send 26 element NW to A.O. limit. Found nothing in woods, old fighting holes. At 0926H, C/2-501 IN reported San Pans 100 meters from its location. Will keep them at a safe distance. At 1000H, B/2-501 IN 16 element spotted series of boats, 12 men per land. People carried something into woods, all individuals are male will check them out. At 1005H, B/2-501 IN, 16 elements sending out sub element with radio to check boats, 4 or 5 boats landed. People were women and children carrying food, clothing, etc... 3 & 6 at B/2-501 IN location; individuals picking these things up and moving back to board and then going south. At 1030H, B/2-501 IN reported that they have one suspected V.C. that was observing B/2-501 IN location. Will be sending man back with suspect waiting more reports. At 1032H, B/2-501 IN reported that suspect was now at location 489565, suspect was crawling along bunker line. No weapon or equipment. Did have I.D. Card, small marks on his back, could have carried a pack at one time. Waiting on transportation to 2BDE. At 1050H, A/2-501 IN, A26 element returned, found old bunker and a metal object that was supposed to be on 60mm base plate; will bring or send metal object in. At 1055H, D/2-501 IN, D6 element reports finding five (5) punji pits. Fisherman just offshore to his front, pits found at vicinity 461559. D/2-501 IN vicinity YD474576 received 1 round SA fire, checking at this time. (HQ, 2-501 IN; Dailey Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 03 April 1968)

03 April 1968

A/1-502 IN returned to the battalion from 3d Marine Division. There was negative enemy contact in the Battalion.

03 April 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: 1-502 IN BN (-) continued to search the vicinity of the LZ with B/1-502 IN accounting for 1 IWC and D/1-502 IN made contact with an estimated NVA squad resulting in 2 US WIA, C/1-502 IN remained at LZ SALLY.

03 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: At 0033H at FSB ARSENAL (YD812080), C/1-502 IN received RPG fire followed by the attack of approximately 50 enemy Sappers from the south. A Flare ship and ARA were on station in ten minutes. Artillery fires were employed on suspected escape routes while the defenders repulsed the attack. A search revealed six NVA KIA and two POW's. US casualties were four WIA.

03 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: Disabled helicopter being slung load by a Huey slipped out of the sling and crashed vicinity 7311. Security of aircraft was performed by the 1-502 IN BN.

04 April 1968

A day of light contact with B/1-502 IN receiving sniper fire vicinity YD5927. Negative friendly or enemy casualties. D/1-502 IN had a grenade thrown in their perimeter. They engaged with small arms resulting in 1 VC KIA.

04 – 05 April 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: Operations Summary: TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continues to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases and logistics in the coastal plains area and provide security for CAMP EVANS, LZ JANE and WUNDER BEACH. Enemy contact was light during the reporting period with a total of 3 enemy contacts.

Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 8 US WIA. Enemy assessment – 15 bunkers (destroyed), 4 booby traps (destroyed), 2 CHICOM grenades.

2-501 IN BN:

A/2-501 IN: Ambush vicinity YD458511 and YD453504. Provide minesweep security from FSB HARDCORE to QL 1. At 1145H conducted CA from FSB HARDCORE to LZ vicinity YD466446. Attacked west to village vicinity YD460446. At 1250H vicinity YD462448 found and destroyed two (2) reinforced bunkers. Continued attack SE to village vicinity YD478436. Extracted by air at 1710H from vicinity YD479438 to FSB HARDCORE. On arrival occupied assigned sector in defense. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 2 reinforced bunkers destroyed.

B/2-501 IN: Remained at WUNDER BEACH, improved defense positions in assigned sector and prepared for future operations. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

C/2-501 IN: C/2-501 IN (-) ambush vicinity YD504547 and YD504542. Two (2) platoons moved by truck to vicinity YD463523. Conducted RIF operations to vicinity YD5052. At 0952H vicinity YD501522 1 US WIA when he stepped on punji stakes. At 1507H found 12 bunkers approximately 2 weeks old vicinity YD511508 (destroyed). Company (-) returned to WUNDER BEACH. One platoon remained at WUNDER BEACH and improved defense positions. 2 squads provided security for MEDCAP vicinity YD518538. Friendly losses – 1 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – 12 bunkers destroyed.

D/2-501 IN: At 2145H vicinity YD475556 observed 3 individuals inside wire near perimeter. Fired illumination. Personnel fled SW. At 0230H, 05 April vicinity YD479559 received 4 rounds of 122mm rockets fire from SE. Negative casualties. At 0315H received 5 rounds of 122mm rocket from suspected coordinates YD525536. At 0330H vicinity 489565 received 7 82mm mortar rounds. Suspect mortars fired from vicinity YD514533. Negative casualties. At 1240H vicinity YD466588 reported finding 20-25 punji stakes, hardwood with metal tips, also 3 booby trap CHICOM grenades attached to wooden



board (destroyed in place). Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 20-25 punji stakes, 3 CHICOM grenades BBT (destroyed).

2-501 IN BN, Recon platoon provided security for minesweep team from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARDCORE. Prepared for future operations. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

1-502 IN BN:

A/1-502 IN: Provided minesweep security from CAMP EVANS on QL 1 north and south in assigned AO. Provided security at water point vicinity YD532308. Continued mission as BDE RRF. At 0925H 1 platoon moved by truck to vicinity YD600304 to occupy blocking position in support of B/1-502 IN. Returned to CAMP EVANS at 1715H. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

B/1-502 IN: At 0943H attacked from NDP vicinity YD582288 south to objective 1 vicinity YD611273. Negative contact. Continued attack to seize objective 2. At 1101H vicinity YD600279 found numerous bunkers and punji pits. At 1245H vicinity YD612274 found 1 BBT, 1 RPG-2, trip wire (all destroyed), and 1 Thompson SMG. At 1325H vicinity YD612275 found 3 bombs or rockets 7" to 8" in diameter, 4-foot-long with yellow striped on end with the word TRITONAL written on the projectile. (EOD will destroy). At 1547H vicinity YD599284 one BBT 105 round exploded resulting in 1 US KIA and 2 US WIA, (medevac). At 1615H vicinity YD606296 received sniper fire. Engaged with SA. Results unknown. At 1645H vicinity YD610294 1 US WIA from unknown BBT explosion. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 3 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment - 1 Thompson SMG, 1 BBT destroyed.

C/1-502 IN: Conducted RIF operations. At 0935H moved west to vicinity YD473305, north to vicinity YD480320, SE to vicinity YD484306 and established NDP. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

D/1-502 IN: Conducted RIF operations. At 0800H moved to vicinity YD493373, SE along river to vicinity YD519348. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon: OPCON to A/1-502 IN.

(Commanders Situation Report; 042001H April 1968 – 052000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

04 April 1968

At 0758H, B/2-501 IN, 16 element found satchel charge approximately 75 meters from CP. Two (2) blocks of TNT vicinity 470564; will destroy in place. At 0835H, C/2-501 IN completed search of village Birch with negative results; has two (2) detainees that appear to be military age, questioning then now; found very old bunkers and punji pits; found one fresh one with bamboo spikes. At 1841H, C/2-501 IN reported civilian girl wounded with fragment wounds; sent senior medic out to check. At 1857H, Aidman reported that girl is only slightly wounded with one fragment; will be bringing her to battalion location for medical aid. At 2145H, D/2-501 IN reported observing three (3) individuals inside wire, called for illumination; individual fled area vicinity 481556. Throughout the day A/2-501 IN conducted minesweep operations. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 04 April 1968)

04 April 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: At 0435H, A/1-502 IN was engaged at the NDP by an estimated NVA squad, resulting in 1 US WIA, 7 NVA KIA, 3 IWC, 1 CSWC. At 0924H, A/1-502 IN moved by air to LZ SALLY. B/1-502 IN, D/1-502 IN and Recon conducted a RIF to the west. C/1-502 IN conducted a move from LZ SALLY to FSB VEGHEL and C/A from FSB VEGHEL to unoccupied FSB ZON and secured FSB ZON. C/1-502 IN sustained 3 US WIA from BBT's on FSB ZON.

04 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: Hung Thuy made a sweep of the village of PHU LOONG with the result of detaining 25 personnel for various reason.

04 April 1971

B/1-501 IN found 15-20 bunkers vicinity XD943558, 2' overhead cover. There were two 7" Chicom claymores, 100 rounds for AK-47, 2 E-tools.

05 April 1968

2BDE Artillery fires 1400 rounds in support of operations around HAI LANG.

05-06 April 1968

Operation CARENTAN II: TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continues to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces and logistics in the coastal plains around and provide security for CAMP EVANS, LZ JANE and WUNDER BEACH. Enemy contact was moderate during the reporting period with a total of 5 enemy contacts.

Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 3 US KIA, 8 US MIA, 17 – US WIA. Enemy assessment – 8 NVA KIA (BC), 12 NVA KIA (poss.), 14 VC KIA, 117 detainees, 1 SKS carbine, 1 P38 pistol, 1 60mm mortar round, 1 mine, 7 BBT, (all destroyed) and 1200lbs of rice.

1-501 IN BN was OPCON to 3BDE, 82nd ABN DIV.

2-501 IN BN:

A/2-501 IN provided minesweep security from FSB HARDCORE to QL1. Conducted platoon size RIF operations. At 0805H at YD429488 found and destroyed 1 60mm mortar round. At 0925H, 1st platoon was moving as planned on operations conducting search through NW section of village. At 1243H, vicinity YD460492 the lead element was engaged by undetermined size enemy force. The platoon leader was with the lead element. The platoon sergeant was with 2nd squad at YD459491. When the lead element became engaged the squad deployed and established a base of fire. The



initial burst of enemy fire wounded the platoon leader and killed the RTO. 12 RPG's were in the first volley. A/2-501 IN (-) began moving to assist the platoon at 1255H. A/2-501 IN (-) moved down north side of the stream (YD450506) and crossed vicinity YD455500 then moved on the south side of the stream in an attempt to approach the enemies rear and flank. A/2-501 IN (-) called for LFT which arrived on station at 1335H. A/2-501 IN (-) moved security across river on left flank and began moving forward utilizing the gunship fire power against enemy SA and AW fire received from the flank. Because of the intense enemy fire unit suffered 3 US KIA. 3rd platoon crossed the bridge at YD457492 and moved to assist 1st platoon. A/2-501 IN was supported by 4AS, gunships and GS and DS ARTY. A/2-501 IN returned to FSB HARDCORE at 1835H. Friendly losses – 3 US KIA, 8 US MIA, 13 S WIA (medevac) and 1 interpreter WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – 7 NVA KIA (BC), 12 NVA KIA (poss), 160mm mortar round (destroyed).

B/2-501 IN conducted RIF operations to vicinity YD4855 and returned to WUNDER BEACH. Negative casualties, and Negative enemy assessment.

C/2-501 IN conducted RIF operations to vicinity YD525518 to YD545525. At 1400H vicinity YD527540, 1 US WIA from pressure release BBT grenade. Friendly losses – 1 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – unknown.

D/2-501 IN continued security of assigned sector with WUNDER BEACH perimeter. Prepared future operations. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon provided minesweep security from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARDCORE to provide FSB security until the return of A/2-501 IN. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

Locations of BN elements at close of reporting period: BN CP – WUNDER BEACH, A/2-501 IN – FSB HARDCORE, B/2-501 IN – YD485567, C/2-501 IN, YD99555, D/2-501 IN – YD488556 and Recon platoon – FSB HARDCORE.

1-502 IN BN:

A/1-502 IN provided minesweep security from CAMP EVANS on QL1 north and south in assigned AO. Provided security at water point YD532308. Continued mission as BDE RRF. At 0810H, dispatched one platoon to secure bridge vicinity YD519348. Bridge secured at 090H. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

B/1-502 IN conducted RIF from YD582295 to YD5678395. At 1600H, moved to PHONG DIEN, and provided security at bridge vicinity YD519348. One reinforced platoon provided security for A/1-40 ARTY at YD522348. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – total of 9 detainees were apprehended in today's operation.

C/2-501 IN at 0730H conducted RIF from NDP to YD508270 the NE to YD535289. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

D/2-501 IN had one platoon securing bridge at YD519348. One platoon secured A/1-40 ARTY at YD522348. At 1305H at YD476407 received 812 rounds of AK-47 fire. Engaged with SA/AW fire and maneuvered toward the enemy. While deploying tactical platoons encountered 10-15 VC inside 5 burners. Began to receive intense enemy fire resulting in 3 US WIA, engaged with ARTY and SA results unknown. At 1525H at YD477408 observed 10 VC wearing tiger suits armed with AK-47's, engaged with SA/AW fire resulting in 3 VC KIA (BC). Concurrently, began receiving fire from both flanks. Enemy broke contact at 1535H. Negative casualties. Friendly losses – 3 US WIA (1 medevac), Enemy assessment – 3 VC KIA (BC).

Recon platoon was OPCON to A/1-502 IN.

Locations of BN elements at close of reporting period. BN CP – CAMP EVANS, A/1-502 IN – CAMP EVANS, B/1-502 IN vicinity YD527346, C/1-502 IN vicinity YD535289, D/1-502 IN vicinity YD479397 and Recon platoon vicinity YD5333307.

(Commanders Situation Report; 052001H April 1968 – 062000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

05 April 1968

At 0236H, D/2-501 IN received four (4) estimated 82mm or larger mortar rounds; negative casualties. Estimated rounds came from the south-southeast; rounds hit vicinity YD479559. At 0305H, D/2-501 received eight (8) more incoming rounds vicinity YD489565; negative casualties; believed to be 122mm rockets, also earlier round was believed to be 122mm. Believed to be coming from village vicinity YD525536. At 0330H, D/2-501 IN received seven (7) incoming rounds 82mm mortar; believed to have come from village vicinity YD525536. C/2-501 IN patrol confirmed locations and will be firing a couple of mortar at YD514532; C/2-501 IN patrol will adjust. At 0940H, A/2-501 IN reported having 1 WIA from punji stick; requested medevac. At 1233H, D/2-501 IN reported finding approximately 20-25 punji pits; with hard wooden stakes, metal tips, concealed with cloth, bamboo strips, sand and pine needles for camouflage. Also found three (3) booby trap ChiCom grenades, set on small plants. At 1252H, C/2-501 IN found two (2) fighting bunkers. At 1300H, D/2-501 IN questioning two (2) civilians in the area, they said that there were a few VC in the area last night and told the civilians no to walk through the present location vicinity 460588. At 1302H, A/2-501 IN reported having two (2) wounded civilians from the prep fires one may require medevac. At 1507H, C/2-501 IN found two (2) mines, booby trapped by pressure device, appeared to have been homemade and contained black powder. Found twelve (12) bunkers with overhead cover appeared to be two (2) weeks; all destroyed in place. At 1950H, B/2-501 IN reported HE rounds similar to 82mm mortar impacted near bunker line. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 05 April 1968)

05 April 1968

A platoon of NVA was spotted in an open field north of HUE by an FO of the 1-501 IN BN and blasted by the guns of the 1-321 ARTY BN. Twenty-two enemy Soldiers were killed. Airborne infantrymen from C/1-501 IN engaged the enemy on two successful ambush attempts and fought a two-hour battle north of HUE resulting in 21 enemy killed for the day's action. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)



05 April 1968 A/1-502 IN provided mine sweep on QL#1 from AN LO to CAMP EVANS. 1 platoon moved by truck to vicinity YD6030 to act as a blocking force in support of B/1-502 IN conducting RIF from vicinity YD5829 to vicinity YD6127. They engaged only 1 sniper but had 1 US KIA and 3 WIA from BBT. They found BBT's, a sub machine gun, 3 – B40 rockets and several other small arms.

05 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN remained at LZ SALLY. B/1-502, D/1-502 IN and Recon conducted patrols vicinity YC481948 and C/1-502 IN secured FSB ZON.

05 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Operation TEXAS STAR opened with the Strike Force Battalion occupying FSB RIFLE. Contact with the enemy remained light for the first week of the operation. The Reconnaissance platoon engaged one enemy on the morning of 5 April. Once again, the Battalion moved its headquarters, this time to FSB FALCON, a new firebase cut out of triple canopy vegetation by our B/2-502 IN and one platoon from A/326 ENG. Located at YC587988, FSB FALCON served as a new forward base of operation from which the Strike Force could make further strikes into enemy areas of activity. FSB FALCON was occupied for only four days when on the eighth of April, the Battalion minus went OPCON to the 2BDE, and A/2-502 IN went OPCON to the 3BDE, occupying FSB JACK. (2-502 Unit History of the Strike Force, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

05 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Recon Team 1 of the 1-502 IN BN at 783038 found a bunker complex and the area showed no signs of recent use.

06 April 1967 **Operation SUMMERALL:** One company of the 2-502 IN BN conducted airmobile extraction to KHANH DUONG and from KHANH DUONG conducted overland move to assume the security mission of Route 21. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

06 – 07 April 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continues to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases, and logistics in the coastal plains area and provide security for CAMP EVANS, LZ JANE and WUNDER BEACH. Enemy contacts were light during the reporting period with a total of 7 enemy contacts.

Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 4 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – 5 VC KIA (BC), 1 AK-47, 4 rounds RPG-2, 1 60mm mortar, 3 BBT (destroyed) and 2 detainees (IC).

1-501 IN BN: OPCON to 3BDE, 82nd ABN DIV.

2-501 IN BN:

A/2-501 IN: At 0940H conducted coordinated attack vicinity YD4649. At 1012H vicinity YD452504 apprehended 2 females with no ID card (turned over to HAI LOANG district). At 1240H vicinity YD458492 found 4 US MIA now listed at KIA. At 1330H vicinity YD460492 found remaining 4 US MIA now listed as KIA. At 1510H vicinity YD458492 one (1) US MIA from unknown type to BBT. Friendly losses 1 US WIA. Enemy assessment – 1 AK-47, 2 detainees. Note: During the course of debriefing, a total of 8 additional NVA (BC) was confirmed and 2 additional NVA bodies were discovered from a total of 17 NVA BC on yesterday's operation.

B/2-501 IN: Provided minesweep security from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARDCORE. B/2-501 IN (-) remained at WUNDER BEACH and improved defense positions and prepared for future operations. On 06 April at 2000H, vicinity YD70580 received 4 rounds of sniper fire. Negative casualties. On 06 April at 2115H vicinity YD485567 observed movement in front of position. Illuminated the area with 81mm mortar illumination and engaged with M-79, results unknown. At 0707H vicinity YD481571 observed 2-5 VC. Engaged with SA fire and M-79, results unknown. Friendly losses – none. Enemy assessment – unknown.

C/2-501 IN: Remained at WUNDER BEACH. Improved defense positions established local ambush and prepared for future operations. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

D/2-501 IN: Remained at WUNDER BEACH. Improved defensive positions, established local ambushes and prepared for future operations. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon: Provided minesweep security from FSB HARDCORE to QL1. Returned to FSB HARDCORE and prepared for future operations. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

Locations of BN elements at close of reporting period: BN CP WUNDER BEACH, A/2-501 IN – FSB HARDCORE, B/2-501 IN – YD485567 (WUNDER BEACH), C/2-501 IN – 495555 (WUNDER BEACH), D/2-501 IN – YD488556 (WUNDER BEACH) and Recon platoon – YD495557 (WUNDER BEACH).

1-502 IN BN:

A/1-502 IN: Provided minesweep security from CAMP EVANS to QL1 north and south in assigned AO. Provided security at water point vicinity YD532308. Continued missions as BDE RRF. At 1200H, moved from CAMP EVANS by foot to water point. Conducted RIF operations from that location to vicinity YD5428. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

B/1-502 IN: Conducted RIF operations from PHONG DIEN SW along river to vicinity YD5032 and returned to PHONG DIEN. Provided minesweep security to north of QL1. At 1147H, vicinity YD506331 found and destroyed on 60mm mortar



round BBT (trip type). At 1200H, vicinity YD506336 found and destroyed two 60mm mortar rounds BBT (trip type). At 1815H, moved by truck from PHONG DIEN to vicinity YD5829 to establish NDP. Friendly losses – None. Enemy assessment – 3 60mm mortar round BBT (destroyed)

C/1-502 IN: Moved from vicinity YD5227 to CAMP EVANS. Provided security at water point at YD532308 and assumed mission as BDE RFF. C/1-502 IN (-) remained at CAMP EVANS and prepared for future operations.

D/1-502 IN: Conducted RIF vicinity YD468406 to YD486426. AT 0935H, vicinity YD782407 received 3-4 rounds AK-47 fire from estimated 1 enemy. Engaged with SA fire. Results unknown. At 1100H, vicinity YD477408 received light ineffective SA fire. Negative casualties. At 1228H vicinity YD475415 engaged and killed 2 VC (BC). At 1450H engaged and killed 1 VC (BC). At 1515H, vicinity YD490418 engaged and killed 2 VC (BC). Friendly losses – none. Enemy assessment - 5 VC KIA (BC)

Recon platoon: OPCON to A/1-502 IN at 1200H OPCON to C/1-502 IN.

Locations of BN elements at close of reporting period. BN CP – CAMP EVANS, A/1-502 IN – YD550282, B/1-502 IN – YD583297, C/1-502 IN – CAMP EVANS, D/1-502 IN – YD527346 and Recon platoon YD533307 (CAMP EVANS water point).

(Commanders Situation Report; 062001H April 1968 – 072000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

06 April 1968 1-502 IN BN had a day of light contact throughout the battalion. D/1-502 IN engaged 10 VC vicinity YD4840 resulting in 3 VC KIA.

06 April 1968 A/2-501 IN was in a major clash with a sizable NVA unit 35km northwest of HUE in QUANG TRI Province.

06 April 1968 At 0805H, A/2-501 IN minesweep team between CPD and CPC found a dud 60mm mortar round; will blow in place. Round was not a booby trap; round was laying on the ground vicinity YD428488. At 1245H, A/2-501 IN A16 received sniper fire, incoming mortar rounds. Request medevac for nose element. Taking casualty, request light fire team, artillery being cranked up. At 1255H, A6 moving element by foot to support A16 element. Have taken about six casualties. At 1305H, medevac is dust off 62, will take two people to LZ JANE, will come back to Alva. Fire team has been requested. At 1308H, Dust Off 62 10-minutes out, if LZ is hot, dust off will stay up top waiting. At 1325H, medevac had to go back for higher priority mission. At 1335H, gunships inbound to A/2-501 IN location at this time. At 1337H, A/2-501 IN reports 2 US WIA, 3 US KIA at this time, medevac inbound, Hot LZ. At 1340H, C/2-501 IN received information from local people that mortars, and AW are in vicinity YD520540, sweeping area at this time. At 1400H, C/2-501 IN vicinity YD528547, 1 man seriously WIA from booby trap. Request medevac. Booby trap was wired grenade with pull release device. At 1415H, A/2-501 IN, 1st platoon located at YD461993. At 1417H, C/2-501 IN medevac complete at this time. Also discovered some type of booby trap in the same area, US grenade, with trip wire, pull type. At 1550H, request for smoke ship to screen for A/2-501 IN element to pull out. At 1730H, A/2-501 IN reports 4 US KIA, 9 US WIA (Evac), 3 US WIA (not evac) and 7 US MIA. At 1850H, A/2-501 IN final casualty count: 8 – MIA, 3 – KIA, 9 – evaced, including interpreter, 5 – WIA (non-evaced). (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officers Log; 06 April 1968)

06 – 08 April 1968 **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** At 0705H, A/2-502 IN in the vicinity of YD633074 began a two-day long contact with a major size NVA force. Initially, 2 NVA were engaged while reconning the well-used trail found the previous evening. At 1337H, vicinity YD627077 lead platoon moving W-SW down a finger came behind an enemy ambush of approximately 20-30 NVA in 2 locations. Engaged enemy with SA while enemy returned fire with AW, SA grenades, and HMG. At 1540H, in same area a Medevac chopper was shot down by enemy rockets while conducting a hoist dust-off for A/2-502 IN. On the following day at 0655H in the vicinity of YD629076, A/2-502 IN received SA fire while conducting a movement to expand the perimeter. Throughout this day, A/2-502 IN, continued to receive sniper and AW fire, RPG, and 82mm mortar fire. B/2-502 IN departed TAC-CP at 1725H and moved to reinforce A/2-502 IN. B/2-502 IN during this day it had 7 separate contacts on the trails leading into A/2-502 IN. perimeter. B/2-502 IN closed with A/2-502 IN late that afternoon and formed a joint perimeter for the night. On 08 April, the two companies expanded the perimeter and completed the Medevac then moved back to the TAC-CP. Results: 2 US KHA, 30 US WHA, 21 NVA KIA and captured 3 AK-47, 2 SKS. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; Combat Operations After Action Report; Operation JEB STRUAT/CARENTAN; 25 April 1968)

06 April 1968 In a village 10 miles' south-west of HUE, members of A/2-502 IN engaged an NVA company located in bunkers. After supporting fires were lifted, paratroopers from the B/2-502 IN moved into ring the village with a night perimeter. An NVA attempted to break through the small cordon proved unsuccessful and resulted in two enemy killed. At first light, A/2-502 IN paratroopers swept through the village and uncovered 27 NVA bodies while they captured six weapons. That same day members of B/1-501 IN scored 27 enemy kills and captured eight weapons in a battle 10 miles southwest of the imperial city. In other action, riflemen from A/2-501 IN accounted for 17 dead NVA 35 miles northwest of HUE. The Division paratroopers recorded 71 enemy kills for the day's action. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)



06 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN conducted move by air from LZ SALLY to YC481948 conducted a RIF to the east with B/1-502, D/1-502 IN and Recon. At 1115H, vicinity YC492945, D/1-502 IN made contact with an estimated NVA squad, sporadic contact continued for 3 hours. Results: 10 US WIA, 1 NVA KIA, 1 IWC and 1 CSWC. C/1-502 IN remained at FSB ZON.



06 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: At 0030H, an unknown size force of VC/NVA assaulted FSB ARSENAL with RPG's, S/A, satchel charges and Bangalore torpedoes. Three NVA/VC penetrated the perimeter defense. Once NVA/VC was killed inside of the wire and other bodies were sighted outside. C/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon, 3rd squad engaged an estimated 15 VC/NVA, 200 meters east of their night ambush at YD823079. Results of the contact were 6 VC/NVA KIA, 2 VC/NVA WIA-POW, 12 RPG's, 5 Bangalore torpedoes, 30lbs TNT, 78 satchel charges, and 1 AK-47 rifle captured. Friendly losses were 4 US WIA, three generators and 2 ½ ton trucks damaged. Training of PSDF continued in PHU VANG district by 1-502 IN BN mobile training team.



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.

1 x Distinguished Service Cross Medal
4 x Silver Star Medal (1 x Posthumously)
11 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
136 x Bronze Star Medal (14 x Posthumously)
37 x Purple Heart Medal (34 x Posthumously)
14 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
1 x Army Good Conduct Medal (1 x Posthumously)
1 x RVN Military Merit Medal
2 x Died of Wounds
1 x Died of Non-Hostile injuries or illness

31 March 1968



SP4 Don J. Yelverton (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds on received which resulted in his death from multiple fragment wounds while on combat operation when unit engaged hostile force in firefight on 26 March 1968 in KHE BANG Valley 6km south-southwest of LZ SALLY; 14km west of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

31 March 1968



SP5 Jerry L. Patrick (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death as the result of gunshot wound received when his unit came under hostile automatic weapons fire while on combat operation in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

31 March 1968



SGT Leslie A. Ball (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received when hit by hostile automatic weapons fire while on combat operation in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

31 March 1968



SGT Ezekiel Paige (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 gunshot wound received while on combat operation when unit engaged a hostile force in a firefight 6.5km northwest of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

31 March 1968



PFC Danny L. Stephens (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Military Merit Medal and the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm (Posthumously). (Letter to Parents; 14 Feb 1969, Signed MG Kenneth G. Wickham, The Adjutant General)

31 March 1968



PFC Danny L. Stephens (D/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 received while on combat operations when engaged hostile force in firefight 6.5km northwest of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



31 March 1968



PFC James O. West (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Good Conduct Medal (Posthumously); PFC West died as the result of apparent drowning which occurred while taking a bath in a river in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

31 March 1969



CPL Charlie Hill III (D/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 multiple fragmentation wounds in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

31 March 1969



SP4 Edward J. Frendling (D/1-502 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 the area came under mortar and grenade attack by a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

31 March 1970



SGT Daniel K. Kohl (A/2-501 IN) died while at an artillery firing position when artillery fire from a friendly force landed in his area, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

01 April –
30 November 1968

The following Soldiers from A/2-501 IN:

PFC Spencer Coleman	SP4 Kenneth Cooley	SP4 Donnie C. Cooper	SP4 James C. Conell
PVT James W. Culberson	1LT Pierce T. Graney	SP4 John A. Gray	SGT Ronald Groothoff
SP4 Juan A. Ibarra	SGT Bruce L. Johnson	PFC Johnny Jones	PFC William S. Kear III
SGT Charles K. Mants	SP4 Jeffrey Miller	SP4 GERAL E. O'Leary	SP4 Conrad Olson
PFC Johnny L. Parker	PFC Donald Payne	PFC Robert L. Peebles	SP4 Thomas Quicksall
SP4 Robert E. Rehder	SP4 John C. Rieck	SP4 Leonard Schroeder	SP4 John Sharatz
SP4 Willie A. Stone	PFC Eugene Suber	SGT Bobby E. Taylor	1LT Clifton Whittaker
SGT Jimmy C. York	PFC Joe A. Ysias		

Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against a hostile force. (HQ, 101st Airborne Division, Special Orders Number 123; 7 January 1969)

01 April –
30 November 1968

The following Soldiers from C/2-501 IN:

SP4 Harold E. Ross	PFC James L. Johnston	PFC Eldrew Jones Jr.	SP4 Leon J. Kubin
PFC Terry L. Markham	PFC Lanny R. Martin	PFC Robert L. Mason	PFC James H. McLain
SP4 Perez Pedro Oliver	SGT James D. Poindexter	PFC Roy A. Rowlette	PFC GERAL D. Russell
SP4 Daniel A. Warren	PFC Arthur J. Watis	PFC Timothy Yougblood	

Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection to military operations against a hostile force. (HQ, 101 ABN DIV; General Order Number 125; 7 January 1969)



01 April –
30 November 1968

The following Soldiers from D/2-501 IN:

SGT Roy L Barber II	SP4 Salvator Bongiorno	PFC David J. Brown	PFC Dominick Donatone
SGT Robert T. Dunn	SP4 Robert W. Duquette	SP4 Sheldon Eccleston	SP4 David C. Eckrote
SP4 Perfecio Escubedo	SP4 Willard E. Ferrell	CPT Michael H. Feurer	SGT John M. Findley
SP4 James M Fitzgerald	SP4 Frankie D. Gaines	1LT Edward L. Hogenauer	SGT Tommy R. Lawley
SP4 Wallace J. Leon	PFC Thoams J. Meeks	SP4 Charles E. Morrow	1LT Ronald E. Phillips
SP4 Donald P. Pickett	SP4 Henry L. Powers	PFC Curtis D. Rhoton	SGT Samuel P. Royer
PFC Leroy R. Seib	SP4 Leroy L. Sheldon	SP4 Fancis T. Sykes	SP4 David P. Thomas
SP4 Arthur Williams Jr.	SP4 Scott Wilson		

Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection to military operations against a hostile force. (HQ, 101 ABN DIV; General Order Number 125; 7 January 1969)

01 April –
30 November 1968

SP4 Douglas Anderson (E.2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection to military operations against a hostile force. (HQ, 101 ABN DIV; General Order Number 125; 7 January 1969)

01 April -
30 November 1968

The following Soldiers from E/1-502 IN:

SP4 Marshall L. Moore	SP4 Noah R. Purtee	PFC Ronald Rigo	SP4 Ralph D. Schroeter
SP4 Alexander Vigil	SP4 William Ward Jr.	PFC James R. White	

Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 130; 7 January 1969)

01 April -
30 November 1968

The following Soldiers from HHC/1-502 IN:

SP4 Larry Aldridge	SP5 Edwin H. Barbour	CPT Terrell D. Bridges	CPT James C. Britton
SGM Cecil Cash	SGT Hector Colon-Rios	SP5 Solomon Dezelle	CPT Ivan R. Farris
SP4 William C. Foreman	1LT Allen D. Gibbs	SP4 Dennis D. Gibson	SFC James Gibson
SP5 David Hopper	SGT Jeffery D. Howe	SGT Victor Hyatt	CPT Timothy B. Jeffrey
PFC Alvin Kellog Jr.	SP4 John R. Lazomby	CPT David Leeper	SFC Triveit Lloyd
SGT Ronald E. Long	SGT James P. Mason	SP4 Phillip Matio	SGT Floyd P. McNeill
SP4 Melvin B. McWorter	SP4 Joe E. Mikles	SP4 Jerome Newman	SFC Javier S. Nunez
SP4 Dean W. Ohl	SP5 Richard J. Oliva	SP4 Kenneth A. Osmoe	SP4 Pedro Ramirez Jr.
SSG Stephen S. Rivera	SP5 Jorge R. Sanchez	SP4 Craig Sanguinetti	1LT Gooffrey L. Scanlon
CPT Terran Spiegelberg	SP4 Francisco Vasquez		

Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 130; 7 January 1969)

01 April 1968



PFC Gerard A. Lavigne (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from fragment wounds while setting up mine in base camp after hostile attack on camp when mine detonated in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Lavigne was evacuated to a military hospital in Vietnam where he later expired.

01 April 1969



PFC Robert E. Van Dusen (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 multiple fragmentation wounds in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

01 April 1971



CPL Peter L. Winter (A/2-501) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at a landing zone on a military mission when the area came under mortar attack by a hostile force 17KM East of Luoi in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



02 April 1968



PFC Jewel L. Rainwater (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death as the result of wounds received when his unit came under hostile small arms fire while on combat operation in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

02 April 1969



SGT William H. Brown 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 in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

02 April 1970



SSG Robert J. Wrobel (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds receive which resulted in his death while enroute to a night defensive position when a booby trap detonated in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

04 April 1968

PFC Roger G. Anderson (C/1-501 IN) for wounds received in action earned him the Purple Heart Medal. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 1625, 16 June 1968)

04 April 1968



SGT Coulbourn M. Dykes (A/1-501 IN) for wounds received in action earned him the Purple Heart Medal. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 1625, 16 June 1968)

04 April 1968



SP4 Charles L. King (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 from gunshot wounds received when he was hit by hostile small arms fire while on combat operations in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

04 April 1968



SGT Mark G. Stickels (HHC/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 gunshot wounds received while on combat operation when hit by hostile automatic weapons fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

04 April 1970



PFC Daniel K. Welin (E/1-501 IN) died as a result of burns received while at an artillery firing position when a white phosphorus round, he was handling accidentally detonated on 24 May 1970; he was admitted to a military medical facility and expired on 04 April 1970.

04 April 1971



CPL Michael E. Giese (D/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 other explosive device wounds 10km North-Northwest of CA LU Airfield in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.



05 April 1968



SGT Gary A. Rhodes (B/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 fragment from a hostile booby trap in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



SP4 Frederick E. Love (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 cut off from unit during firefight north of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



SP4 Paul F. Newman Jr. (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds received while on combat operation when cut off from unit during firefight North of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province. He died from wounds on 05 March 1968.

06 April 1968



PFC Daniel A. Rocha (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 small arms fire during firefight north of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Rocha was admitted to a military hospital in Vietnam where he expired shortly thereafter.

06 April 1968



SGT Benito B. Rodriguez (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from fragment wounds received when unit engaged hostile force in firefight while on combat operation when cut off from unit during firefight North of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province.

06 April 1968



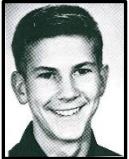
PFC James R. Sanford Jr. (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when cut off from unit during firefight north of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



PFC Lee A. Watson (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 engaged hostile force in firefight north of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



PFC Richard M. Bargar (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.



06 April 1968



SGT Lee A. Bowden (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



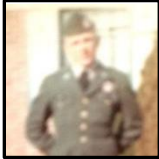
SFC Jose Brenes-Escobar (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds received while on a combat operation when unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



SP4 Robert E. Cook (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



PFC Paul P. Davis (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



SGT Ivan R. Febo-Betancourt (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from metal fragment wounds received while on a combat operation when unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



SSG Joseph S. Nitka (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



PFC James E. Silfee (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



PFC Alfred D. Smith Jr. (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.



06 April 1968



PFC Daniel R. Twitty (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from metal fragment wounds received while on a combat operation when unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



SSG Donald L. Wall (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 unit came under hostile mortar attack and small arms fire 35km Northwest of HUE, in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1968



1SG Alan R. Haugen (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when hit by fragments from a hostile anti-tank round in the THUA THIEN, Republic of Vietnam. 1SG Haugen was admitted to a military hospital and later expired.

06 April 1968



SGT Mark O. Charette (B/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 explosive device wounds when hit by the blast from a hostile booby trap in the QUANG TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1969



SP5 Robert P. Lyons (Pappa DOC) (HHC/1-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty from a Non-crew helicopter crash over land in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1970

The following Soldiers from C/1-502 IN:

SP4 Garry L. Kufahl	SP4 Lewis E. Jones	SGT Randy S. Larson	SP4 Lloyd G. Penrose
SGT Charles Reed	SSG Michael W. Riddle	SP4 Johnnie A. Taylor	

Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

06 April 1970

The following Soldiers from C/1-502 IN:

1LT Donald A. Bailey	SGT Michael J. Bauschett	2LT Robert A. Clark	SP4 Melvin C. Goerge
SP4 August A. Janke III	PFC Stephen F. Jeannotte	PFC Joseph W. King	PFC Neal H. Lawhorn
PFC Carrol W. Luker	SP4 Emmet L. McGee Jr.	PVT Warren Mills	SGT Charles P. Reed Jr.
2LT Dennis L. Stuart			

Was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam.



STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

31 March 1968



PFC Danny L. Stephens (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for distinguishing himself by outstanding meritorious service in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 5 January 1968 to 31 March 1968. Through his untiring efforts and professional ability, he consistently obtained outstanding results of the every changing situation inherent in the counterinsurgency operation and to find ways and means to solve those problems. The energetic application of his extensive knowledge has materially contributed to the efforts of the United States mission to the Republic of Vietnam to assist that country in ridding itself of the communist threat to its freedom. PFC Stephens's initiative, zeal, sound judgment and devotion to duty have been in the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon him and on the military service. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 394; 15 April 1968)

31 March 1969

1LT Timothy P. McCollum (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. First Lieutenant McCollum distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 31 March 1969 while leading his platoon in the hills south of the A SHAU Valley. His company was engaged in a fierce firefight with a North Vietnamese force holding ridge from well-fortified positions. A ravine separating the two opposing forces obviated a direct assault on the enemy's positions. Undertaking an intricate flanking maneuver, Lieutenant McCollum infiltrated his men across the open ravine under heavy crossfire and ascended the heights behind the enemy as the company's main force continued firing on the hostile element's front. After overtly signaling friendly fire away from his position, he initiated a systematic sweep down through the enemy's hillside emplacements. He attacked an enemy bunker and overcame its unsuspecting occupant. An alerted North Vietnamese then turned and fired from his spider hole, seriously wounding an American. Realizing that the wounded man's recovery hinged on immediate evacuation, Lieutenant McCollum enlisted another soldier's aid and together they carried the casualty down the ridge through enemy positions. Their descent was obstructed by harassing fire from a nearby bunker. Lieutenant McCollum destroyed the fortification with grenades. When the wounded soldier had been delivered to safety, he made his way back to his men by the same treacherous route under a storm of machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire. First Lieutenant McCollum's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, USARV; General Orders Number 3418; 07 September 1969)

31 March 1971



PFC Robert C. Saal (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Saal distinguished himself on 31 March 1971 while serving as a rifleman during combat operations near Fire Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. Upon being inserted into a landing zone that was under hostile fire, Private Saal immediately began to deliver accurate and devastating suppressive fire on the enemy. He assaulted the enemy bunkers and threw hand grenades, forcing them to withdraw. Pursuing the enemy, he engaged them with a continuing burst of suppressive fire. His actions were instrumental in routing the enemy from the area. Private First Class Saal's heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 2980; 11 April 1971)

31 March –
01 April 1971

SP4 Robert J. Ivy (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with ground operations in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Ivy distinguished himself on 31 March 1971 and 1 April 1971 while serving as a squad leader during combat operations in QUAN TRI Province, Republic of Vietnam. Coming under an enemy mortar and small arms attack, Specialist Ivy delivered suppressive fire while his squad set up a defensive perimeter from which to better engage the enemy. He continued to engage the enemy until the hostiles were routed from the area. On the following day, his squad again came in contact with the enemy. Quickly organizing his squad, he delivered accurate and devastating suppressive fire which silenced the enemy positions. Specialist Four Ivy'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 2927; 09 April 1971)

01 April –
30 November 1968



SGT William P. Hudek (D/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for distinguishing himself by outstanding meritorious service in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Through his untiring efforts and professional ability, he consistently obtained outstanding results. He was quick to grasp the implications of new problems with which he was faced as a result of the ever-changing situations inherent in a counterinsurgency operation and to find ways and means to solve those problems. The energetic application of his extensive knowledge has materially contributed to the efforts of the United States Mission to the Republic of Vietnam to assist that country in ridding itself of communist threat to its freedom. His initiative, zeal, sound judgment and devotion to duty have been in the highest tradition of the United States Army and reflect great credit on him and on the military service. (Certificate)



03 April 1969



1LT David F. Kornegay (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 3 April 1969. Lieutenant Kornegay distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader of the Second Platoon of Company C, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, on a combat operation in the A SHAU Valley, Republic of Vietnam. On the cited date, the Second Platoon was given the mission of reinforcing the Third Platoon which was in contact with an enemy platoon. Upon reaching the beleaguered element, Lieutenant Kornegay began to position his men in the most advantageous positions to place effective fire upon the enemy. He repeatedly moved through the intense enemy fire in order to better place his men. Upon receiving word that two members of the Third Platoon had been seriously wounded, he crawled through the heavy enemy fire to administer emergency aid and to carry the two wounded men to safe position for medical evacuation. His leadership and personal direction were an inspiration to his men and rallied confidence in their abilities. Lieutenant Kornegay's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 5272; 24 May 1969)

03 April 1969



SP4 Tony Palacios (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 3 April 1969. Specialist Four Palacios distinguished himself while serving as rifleman in Company A, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, during a reconnaissance in force operation in the A SHAU Valley, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Palacios volunteered to walk in the lead position. While negotiating a particularly dense area of thick brush, he spotted several enemy soldiers crouching on the jungle floor just ahead of his advancing platoon. He then passed a hand warning to his platoon, alerting it of the impending danger, and then proceeded to steal the initiative from the enemy. He assaulted into the enemy position, personally killing two North Vietnamese and forcing the others to retreat. Late in the afternoon, heavy rainfall accompanied by a thick fog reduced visibility too near zero, and the platoon was subjected to sniper fire. Specialist Palacios, from his lead position, was first to spot the source of fire. He directed his M-16 rifle fire into a clump of thickly foliated trees to his right flank, and the sniper fire stopped. He found a blood trail and an abandoned AK-47 rifle. He personally accounted for at least three enemy casualties and one captured weapon. Specialist Palacios' 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 8417; 7 July 1969)

04 April 1968



CPT Russell J. Stoewe (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 4 April 1968. Captain Stoewe distinguished himself during the conduct of combat operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. The company was heavily engaged with a well-entrenched enemy battalion. Captain Stoewe was well to the front directing the movement of his elements. Throughout the battle, he personally directed the retaliatory fire of his men while repeatedly exposing him to the intense hostile small arms, rocket propelled grenade, and machine gun fire. On several occasions, he personally directed the withdrawal of his platoons in contact and coordinated for close air support. Only when he was certain the company had withdrawn completely would he withdraw, thus allowing close air support aircraft to unload their ordnance. Several times Captain Stoewe formed rescue teams to evacuate the wounded under hostile fire while he himself returned fire, covering the extraction of the wounded and dead. His courage and outstanding leadership contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission. Captain Stoewe's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 9417; 8 November 1968)

04 April 1968



SGT Coulbourn M Dykes (A/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Dykes distinguished himself with exceptionally valorous actions on 4 April 1968, while serving as fire team leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, during the conduct of a search and clear operation in the village of THON LU'ON'NG CO, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. During an initial sweep of the village, Company A confronted slight enemy resistance from a platoon size enemy force of North Vietnamese Regulars and Viet Cong who were in the village, well concealed in bunkers and spider holes. Sergeant Dykes had captured a Viet Cong when he noticed a well concealed bunker to his immediate front. He cautiously approached the bunker and called for its occupants to come out. Three Viet Cong surrendered, and one remaining North Vietnamese Non-Commissioned Officer threw a grenade and opened fire from the bunker. Despite being wounded by the grenade fragments, Sergeant Dykes immediately placed small arms fire on the bunker, rushed it, and threw in a grenade. The determined North Vietnamese Non-Commissioned Officer threw the grenade back out, narrowly missing Sergeant Dykes, who dove for cover. Unhesitatingly Sergeant Dykes again threw a grenade into the bunker and the North Vietnamese Soldier threw it out, wounding Sergeant Dykes with more fragments. Again, Sergeant Dykes, with the help of a member of his squad laying down a base of fire, rushed the bunker, threw in another grenade and this time killed the enemy. Sergeant Dykes unhesitatingly and valorous actions resulted in four enemy Soldiers captured, one killed and the seizure of a cache of enemy weapons. Sergeant Dykes' 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 8627; 30 October 1968)

04 April 1969



2LT Donald A. Bailey (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 04 April 1969. Lieutenant Bailey distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader of the First Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry, near the A SHAU Valley, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. Early in the morning on the cited date, his night defensive position was hit with accurate rocket propelled grenade and automatic weapons fire, and satchel charges. As the enemy attack on the company perimeter continued, the machine gun position was hit with a satchel charge, wounding the gunner. Lieutenant Bailey resolutely moved forward and helped extract the wounded man from further immediate danger. He then had the machine gun moved to a position from which it could bring effective suppressive fire on the enemy. His quick reactions motivated his men in the defense of the perimeter. Lieutenant Bailey's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 7186, 18 June 1969)



04 April 1969

SP4 Charles H. Willison (A/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 4 April 1969. Specialist Willison distinguished himself while serving as a fire team leader in the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, during combat operations near the A SHAU Valley, Republic of Vietnam. The company had set up a night defensive perimeter, and Specialist Willison was in charge of the listening post. Movement was heard throughout the night, and early the next morning, the North Vietnamese hit the listening post and company perimeter with rocket propelled grenades and automatic weapons fire. He returned the fire against the enemy and then moved his fire team back into the company perimeter. When there was enough light, a check of the area revealed two mortally wounded North Vietnamese Soldiers lying in front of his position. Specialist Willison'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 5176; 23 May 1969)

06-07 April 1968



LTC Howard H. Danford (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC); Lieutenant Colonel Danford distinguished himself by gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 and 7 April 1968, while serving as Battalion commander for the 2nd Battalion (Airborne) 502nd Infantry. During a search and destroy mission Company A became heavily engaged with an estimated two companies of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers lodged in well-concealed bunkers with interlocking fields of fire. Three casualties were taken in Company A in the initial contact. The company commander recoiled from the contact in order to set up a perimeter to get out his wounded and to prep the area with artillery prior to continuing the attack. The perimeter quickly became under intense sniper fire from the surrounding trees. This fire included automatic weapons and occasional RPG rockets. Casualties continued to mount up until approximately ten men were wounded. A Medevac helicopter, on its final approach to the area, received automatic weapons fire and was shot down just outside the perimeter. A recovery force reached it and brought back the three wounded crew members. Company A now had thirteen wounded to care for. The company commander called Lieutenant Colonel Danford to inform him of the situation. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, he alerted Company B to be prepared to move to assist A Company. Word came into the TAC-CP that A Company was continuing to take casualties and Lieutenant Colonel Danford then ordered Company B to move to A Company's assistance. He personally took charge of the relief force and moved with them on the ground. His presence had an electrifying effect on the troopers on B Company. They increased their alertness and aggressiveness because they realized, because of his presence, how important their mission was. They moved out late in the afternoon and traveled well into the night. At approximately 1200 hours the following day, contact was made with an estimated squad of NVA Soldiers in bunkers. Lieutenant Colonel Danford was everywhere in the resulting fire fight, shouting encouragement and advice to all his men. He exposed himself to the intense hail of enemy fire with complete disregard for his own personal safety. B Company assaulted, and result was two NVA killed and capturing two individual weapons. He then reorganized the relief force and continued on to the beleaguered A Company. At approximately 1500 hours the relief force succeeded in breaking through the NVA forces to relieve A Company. The A Company commander was wounded and Lieutenant Colonel Danford assumed command of the element and immediately initiated sweeps to clear the area, supervised the preparation of an LZ and personally supervised the evacuation of all the wounded. Lieutenant Colonel Danford's presence in the midst of the fire swept battle area calmed the troops and reassured them. He appeared to be everywhere giving encouragement and advice. Lieutenant Colonel Danford's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 3194; 06 July 1968)

06 April 1970



1LT Donald A. Bailey (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 April 1970. Lieutenant Bailey distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of Company C, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, at Fire Support Base ARSENAL, Republic of Vietnam. When the fire base came under an enemy sapper attack, Lieutenant Bailey immediately moved to the area of contact. He engaged the insurgents with hand grenades and led a reaction force against the enemy. Despite hostile grenade fire and satchel charges, he directed the fire of his men and repulsed the enemy attack. His actions contributed immeasurably to the successful defense of the fire base. Lieutenant Bailey'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 6042, 29 May 1970)



ACRONYMS

ACAV: Armored Cavalry
ACD: Air Cavalry Division
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
CAV: Cavalry
CO: Company
CP: Command Post
DIV: Division
DSC: Distinguished Service Cross
DZ: Drop Zone
ENG: Engineer
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
RVN: Republic of Vietnam
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

