



# STRIKE

Vietnam War Weekly History



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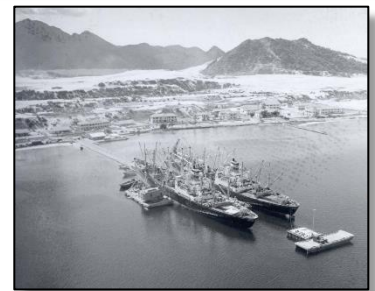
Issue: 148

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

The 502<sup>nd</sup>, or "five-oh-deuce", was activated July 1, 1941 at Fort Benning, Georgia as the 502<sup>nd</sup> parachute infantry battalion, as an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assaults. The 502<sup>nd</sup> entered combat in World War II on June 6, 1944, by jumping into NORMANDY, with allied forces landing on D-Day and the Battle of NORMANDY. Between 1945 and 1964. A major reorganization took place on 3 February 1964, when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne was activated at Fort Campbell, replacing the 1<sup>st</sup> Airborne Battle Group, 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment. The reorganization from the battle groups to brigades and battalions placed two battalions of the 502<sup>nd</sup> in different brigades of the 101<sup>st</sup>.



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry was in the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade with 1-327<sup>th</sup> and 2-327<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Which deployed to Vietnam and arrived at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam on 29 July 1965, they were commanded by the most notable commander LTC Hank "The Gunfighter" Emerson.



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



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

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- 07 April 1966      **Operation AUSTIN II:** The 2-502 IN BN commenced movement from TU HOA, to PHAN THIET Airfield to secure the area for the Brigade (-) and to prepare for future operations. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)
- 07 April 1967      **Operation SUMMERALL:** The 2-502 IN BN (-) conducted airmobile assaults to the northeast of BUON MI GA and commenced search and destroy operations to the north toward Rout 21. A hut discovered by the 2-502 IN BN (-) resulted in the capture of one individual weapon. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)
- 07 April 1967      2-502 IN BN was re-deployed near DEN DIEN as a result of LRRP's contacts in the area. No large enemy forces were found, though several sharp contacts took place with local VC forces. As a result of the battalion's wide-ranging operations in the area it is felt that these local forces were scattered and badly disrupted. Initially A/2-502 IN and then C/2-502 IN left the AO to perform road security on Route 21.
- 07 – 08 April 1968      **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> 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 7 enemy contacts.
- 1-501 IN BN:**
- OPCON to 3BDE, 82<sup>nd</sup> ABN DIV.
- 2-501 IN BN:**
- A/2-501 IN: Conducted ambush vicinity YD453502. Provided security for minesweep from FSB HARDCORE to QL-1. Improved perimeter defense at FSB HARDCORE. Negative casualties, Negative enemy assessment.
- B/2-501 IN: At 0400H moved by BARC vessel and made amphibious landing vicinity YD545525 and conducted a cordon & search of village in conjunction with RF and PF forces. At 0738H, vicinity YD526473 VN female provided information on the location of punji pits and sign indicating BBT (all destroyed). Friendly losses -none. Enemy assessment – Punji and 12 BBT. (all destroyed)
- C/2-501 IN: At 0445H moved by foot and conducted a cordon & search of TRUNG AN village with RF and PF forces. Negative Casualties, neg enemy assessment.
- D/2-501 IN: Provided minesweep security from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARCOE. Establish local ambush sites vicinity WUNDER BEACH. Improved defensive positions and prepared for future operations. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.
- Recon platoon: Participated in cordon & search in conjunction B/2-501 IN and C/2-501 IN. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.
- NOTE: At approximately 1030H 2 RF companies from HAI LANG and National PFF company from LA BANG commenced a CA into area vicinity YD545522 to link up with units from the 2-501 IN BN and assisted in the search of the villages. Entertainment was provided later for all the villagers and a CA Psyops Program was initiated with the Hamlet and District Chiefs as guest speakers. 2 MED CAPS were conducted throughout the villages. A swift boat from the US Navy provided screening mission during the operation. All units began to extract area at 1606H and completed at 1745H.
- Locations of BN elements at close of reporting period: BN CP – WUNDER BEACH, A/2-501 IN – FSB HARDCORE, B/2-501 IN – YD482556, C/2-501 IN – YD497557, D/2-501 IN – YD483556 and Recon – YD495560.
- 1-502 IN BN:**
- A/1-502 IN: From NDP vicinity YD5438 conducted RIF to vicinity YD5126 and YD5624. At 1415H, vicinity YD525250 found small enemy cache consisting of 3 M-1 Rifles, 1 SMG, 160 rounds SA ammo. Friendly losses – none. Enemy assessment – 3 M-1 Rifles, 1 SMG, 160 rounds SA ammo.
- B/1-502 IN: Conducted RIF to vicinity YD5727, SE to YD5925. At 1125H, vicinity YD572267 received 15 rounds of AW fire from 1 position, range approximately 200 meters with negative casualties. At 1650H, vicinity YD576263 received 2 rounds 60mm mortar and SA fire from 3 enemy positions, engaged with AW and SA fire and Arty. At 1700H, enemy broke



contact, negative casualties. At 1750H, vicinity YD587249 received SA/AW fire from 2-3 personnel from the left flank, rear and front, engaged with SA/AW. Enemy broke contact at 1805H, negative casualties. At 1945H, vicinity YD597252 received burst of AW fire resulting in 2 US WIA (not medevac). Enemy assessment – unknown.

C/1-502 IN: Provided minesweep security from CAMP EVANS on QL1 north and south in assigned AO. Provided security at water point vicinity YD532308. Assumed mission as BDE RRF. C/2-501 IN (-) remained at CAMP EVANS and prepared for future operations and trained in infantry tactics, peculiar to RVN. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.

D/1-502 IN: Provided security at PHONG DIEN BRIDGE YD519348. One reinforced platoon provided security for A/1-40 ARTY vicinity YD522348. Established platoon (-) size ambush vicinity YD4837 and YD5135. Two (2) platoons conducted RIF to vicinity YD5634. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.

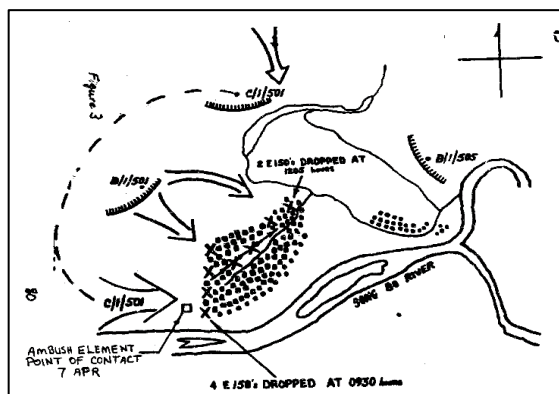
Recon platoon: At 0930H moved from Camp EVANS by truck to YD585307. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD612312. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.

Locations of BN elements at close of reporting period: BN CP – CAMP EVANS, A/1-502 IN -YD527260, B/1-502 IN – YD591251, C/1-502 IN – CAMP EVANS, D/1-502 IN – YD527347 and Recon platoon – YD6093120

(Commanders Situation Report; 072001H April 1968 – 082000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

07 – 08 April 1968

**Operation CARENTAN II:** In the vicinity YD6729 at 0810 an ambush element of B/1-501 IN was returning from their night ambush position to the company base area when it was fired upon from the western edge of the village, by what was later estimated to battalion company size VC/NVA force. Another ambush element linked up with the platoon (-) and engaged the enemy with organic weapons. At 0915H, contact was broken and the platoon (+) moved on to the company base. The company then set up blocking positions on the west side of the village. C/1-501 IN moved into the area north of the village and established blocking positions. B/1-505, conducting RIF operations to the east, was lifted across the river by helicopter and proceeded to sweep the west. Lead elements came under heavy SA/AW fire from the small village to the east of the initial contact. They pulled back and called for artillery and airstrikes and included 20 rounds CS from their organic 4.2 mortar. It was soon determined that this complex was heavily bunkered and well defended. By the time, it was late afternoon and plans were made to continue the attack the following day.



The next morning C/1-501 IN began at first light to move SW around B/1-501 IN toward the river. At 0930H, a CS preparation was placed on the village and followed by artillery and air strikes. The initial CS pass was at 1500 feet and delivered four E158 Canister Clusters which impacted on the western edge of the village, covering about 70% of it with agent. The wind at this time was westerly at 7 to 10 knots, with a neutral temperature gradient. Light and medium artillery and four air strikes followed the CS. By late morning, C/1-501 IN moved into attack positions west of the village. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

Upon completion of the final air strike at 1150H, additional CS was placed on the village. Two E158's was dropped, again from 1500 feet on the target line, in order to suppress expected ground fire. Next, using the rocket pod grenade drop system, 192 grenades were dropped on the village. The CS pass was closely followed by the 192 HC grenades. A final pass was made at 1500 feet to drop the remaining two E158's on a tree line along the NE corner of the village from which fire was coming. The wind direction was now almost northerly, and the village was completely covered with agent. Artillery was again employed and the two companies on the north and west began sweeping through the village, and later the one to the east. During the sweep of the villages and the surrounding area, the company killed or found the bodies of 37 enemy.

The ground commander praised the effects of the CS and felt that it had significantly increased the effectiveness of the artillery strikes and had assisted them in their assaults across the open rice land surrounding the village.

07 April 1968

At 1245H, A/2-501 IN has found 4 KIA, and 4 weapons from the 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon from 06 April engagement taking them to LZ SALLY. At 1320H, A/2-501 IN has found the remaining 4 KIA no equipment yet from 06 April engagement. Location YD460492, will sweep area. At 1335H, A/2-501 IN found 2-3 ruck sacks, 1-helmet and some web equipment. At 1450H, A/2-501 IN had 1 man when moving out to check area designated by CO set off booby trap, request medevac. At 2220H, in yesterday's actions with A/2-501 IN; confirmed body count of 15, 2 more carried to Air Force for total of 17; 4 KIA's for A/2-501 IN (-) had all equipment and gear. 4 KIA's from 1<sup>st</sup> platoon was stripped of all equipment. Also, missing one radio. 4 KIA's from 1<sup>st</sup> platoon was found, 2 on bunker, 2 within 25 meters of bunker. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log; 07 April 1968)

07 April 1968

D/1-502 IN continued searching area vicinity YD4864 resulting in 5 VC KIA. The other units conducted search and clear operations and ambushes with negative contact.



07 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN, B/1-502 IN and Recon platoon patrolled vicinity YC493945. At 0500H, A/1-502 IN was engaged at the NDP by an estimated NVA squad. A/1-502 IN returned fire. Results: 1 US KIA, 6 NVA KIA, 3 IWC and 2 CSWC. C/1-502 IN was relieved of security of FSB ZON and conducted a RIF to the northeast. At 0815H, D/1-502 IN and Recon conducted a move by air from YC493945 to LZ SALLY to marshal.

07 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Recon Tam #2 of the 1-502 IN BN engaged 2 NVA/VC about 20 meters from themselves with S/A and M79 fire. Results 1 enemy KIA and captured, 2 rucksacks, 1 AK-47, 3 RPG charges, 2 blocks TNT, and six satchel charges. C/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon found 1 NVA/VC killed by ARA at 823076.

08 – 11 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** By 1800H, TF 2-502 IN BN completed administrative move by C-130 aircraft, utilizing 47 sorties. 2-502 IN BN utilized 35 sorties and C/2-320 utilized 12 sorties. The battalion established a base camp adjacent to PHAN THIET Airfield and began preparation for future operations. This continued through 10 April 1966. BG Pearson and COL Mataxis visited the battalion on the night of 10 April and spoke to the battalion officers. 2-502 IN BN began Operation AUSTIN II by committing two platoons into operational area BULL RUN at 1850H, 11 April 1966. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

08 – 09 April 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2d BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued 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 4 enemy contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 3 US KIA, 14 US – WIA; Enemy assessment – 4 NVA KIA (BC), 2 VC KIA (BC), 9 -122mm rockets, 1 – 82mm mortar rounds (3 VC KIA (BC), 1 – AK-47 and 1 CHICOM grenade credited to RF/PF working in conjunction with 2-501 IN BN.

**1-501 IN BN:**  
OPCON 3BDE, 82d ABN DIV.

**2-501 IN BN:**  
A/2-501 IN departed FSB HARDCORE at 0944H with PF/RF to conduct RIF to the SE. At 1130H contact was made vicinity YD462493 by the RF/PF who overran the VC position and killed 3 VC (BC). A/2-501 received fire from vicinity YD463490, at 1105H from bunker containing 3 to 4 enemy. Bunker was engaged with LAW's and SA fire. Continued to move to village vicinity YD473485. At 1523H using recon by fire, unit moved through two (2) hedgerows before enemy fire was returned. ON the first burst of AK-47 fire, unit incurred 2 US WIA. Company moved to occupy position and sustained 1 KIA & 3 WIA. Called for artillery and airstrikes (3) at 1840H enemy broke contact. A/2-501 IN returned to FSB HARDCORE at 2020H. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 5 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – 4 NVA KIA (BC); credited to RF/PF – 3 VC KIA (BC), 1 AK-47, 1 CHICOM carbine.

B/2-501 IN departed WUNDER BEACH by GOER and moved to village vicinity YD508549. Conducted RIF along coast. At 1140H found punji pit with stakes 1ft long (destroyed). Boarded GOER vicinity YD545520 and returned to WUNDER BEACH. Negative casualties; enemy assessment – 1 Punji Pit destroyed.

C/2-501 IN and Recon platoon at 0858h conducted combat assault to LZ vicinity YD526493. Conducted RIF vicinity YD461523, returned to WUNDER BEACH. At 1445H vicinity YD501507 Recon platoon (OPCON to C/2-501 IN) observed 2 VC moving NE appeared to be carrying weapons, engaged with artillery, results unknown. Negative casualties, enemy assessment – unknown.

D/2-501 IN provided security for minesweep team from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARDCORE returned to WUNDER BEACH and prepared for future operations. At 1100H vicinity YD463492 found mine containing 40lbs explosive charge (destroyed). Negative casualties; enemy assessment – 1 mine (destroyed).

Recon platoon was OPCON to C/2-501 IN.

**1-502 IN BN:**  
A/1-502 IN conducted RIF vicinity YD5425. At approximately 0440H a 50-man VC element attacked position previously occupied by company to receive log. The VC used 15-foot poles to flip satchel charges (1/4 blocks of TNT) into log position. Once the VC discovered the company had moved, they continued to move SW to the high ground. One element walked into a squad size ambush vicinity YD523253 resulting in 2 US KIA, 1 WIA and 2 VC KIA (BC). At 0630H vicinity YD521267 ambush observed 3 individuals moving E to W 250m to their front, engaged with M-79, results unknown. Friendly losses – 2 US KIA, 1 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 2 VC KIA (BC).

B/1-502 IN conducted RIF vicinity YD5824. At 1106H received 2 rounds SA fire vicinity YD592255, negative casualties; Enemy assessment – unknown.

C/1-502 IN provided minesweep security from CAMP EVANS on QL1 N and S in assigned AO. Provided security at water point vicinity YD532308. Continued mission as BDE RRF. At 1408H, vicinity YD570216 FAC observed 8-10 122mm rockets pointing toward CAMP EVANS. FAC adjusted artillery into the area and directed 3 airstrikes into the target area. At 1725H the 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted CA into area and made an assessment of the damage and captured 9 – 122mm rockets (complete). Platoon was extracted at 1750H, negative casualties; enemy assessment – 9 122m rockets captured.



D/1-502 IN provided security at PHONG DIEN BRIDGE at YD519348 and the bridge vicinity YD476377. One platoon provided security for A/1-40 ARTY at YD522348 until the battery moved to CAMP EVANS at 1700H. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon conducted RIF vicinity YD5828 and YD597307. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.

(Commanders Situation Report; 082001H April – 092000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

- 08 April 1968 A/1-502 IN found an arms cache while conducting RIF vicinity YD5325. They found 3 – M1rifles, 1 – SMG, 160 rounds S/A. B/1-502 IN received automatic weapons fire vicinity YD6025, suffering 2 WIA. They returned fire with unknown results. C/1-502 IN (-) remained at CAMP EVANS preparing for future operations and conducting training.
- 08 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN and B/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols vicinity YC493945 and discovered a quantity of equipment. C/1-502 IN conducted a RIF to the northeast and D/1-502 IN and Recon remained at LZ SALLY.
- 08 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** While operating under control of the 2BDE, the 2-502 IN BN (-) conducted screening operations throughout the area south of FSB ARSENAL (ZD118014). Contact in the area was light. Upon insertion into the area, D/2-502 IN encountered booby traps on an LZ at YC165942, wounding one soldier. The booby traps were old, and there was no evidence of any recent enemy activity. Recon was the first Strike Force unit to make enemy contact in the new area. Five enemy were engaged by a reconnaissance sniper team, resulting in one enemy killed. ARA was employed as a follow-up. (2-502 Unit History, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)
- 08 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Province Chief initiated sweep of a village located draft dodgers or VC sympathizers and terrorists.
- 08 April 1971 1-501 IN BN moved to PBCB for refitting.
- 09 – 12 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** By 1800H, the 2-502 IN BN completed the administrative move by C-130 aircraft, utilizing 47 sorties. The 2-502 IN BN utilized 35 sorties and C/2-320 utilized 12 sorties. The battalion established a base CAMP Pearson and COL Mataxis visited the battalion on the night of 10 April and spoke to the battalion officers. The 2-502 IN BN began Operation AUSTIN II by committing two platoons into operational area BULL RUN at 111850H April 1966. B/2-502 IN committed one platoon by helicopter assault at 0950H to vicinity ZT215255. The platoon infiltrated to positions at ZT195253, ZT219258 and ZT240258 during the night. AT 1930H, the 2-502 IN BN, Recon platoon conducted a helicopter assault at ZT134284 and infiltrated in three teams to ZT174279, ZT162265 and ZT 192250. Recon patrolled B3 made contact on 12 April at 1430H with 12 Viet Con at ZT234255, killing 1 Viet Cong (BC) and capturing 2 Viet Cong. The two CIA were found to be Viet Cong POW's. An LRP team made contact at ZT118255 and had to be extracted. At 1730H, B/2-502 IN (-) conducted helicopter assault ZT134284 to exploit this Viet Cong contact. MAJ Schroeder, BN XO, joined the Recon platoon forming TF Schroeder. By 1730H, the Recon platoon had infiltrated to vicinity ZT134284, their original assault position to await further orders. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)
- 09 April 1967 **Operation SUMMERALL:** The 2-502 IN BN discovered 1 VC body which had apparently been killed by artillery fires approximately two days prior. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)
- 09 -10 April 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continued 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 moderate during the reporting period. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 3 US KIA, 2 MIA, 27 WIA (7 medevac). Enemy assessment – 6 NVA KIA (BC), 1 VC KIA (BC) and 25 AK-47's.

#### 1-501 IN BN

OPCON 3BDE, 82nd ABN DIV.

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN moved from FSB HARDCORE at 1030H on the north side of the CUU HA RIVER to an attack position vicinity YD471490 and awaited completion of AS on the objective area at YD475485. At 1300H a prep was placed on the objective by ai. At 1317H A/2-501 IN made contact vicinity YD472489. Artillery and airstrikes continued to be placed on the objective area. Contact was broken as the unit began establishing a blocking position around the objective in conjunction with D/2-501 IN. Friendly loses – 2 KIA, 1 MIA, 9 WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 3 NVA KIA (BC) and 2 AK-47.

B/2-501 IN commenced RIF operations from WUNDER BEACH to vicinity YD544525 with negative results. B/2-501IN closed WUNDER BEACH at 1530H. At 1844H conducted CA to LZ vicinity YD469483 to assist A/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN. Upon closure at 2003H moved to establish a blocking position around the objective area in conjunction with A/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN. Negative contact, negative casualties.

C/2-501 IN remained at WUNDER BEACH and provided security. Conducted maintenance stand-down and prepared for future operations. Negative friendly casualties; negative enemy assessment.



D/2-501 IN conducted CA commencing at 1215H to a LZ vicinity YD468483 and moved to conduct coordinated attack with A/2-501 IN toward the objective YD475485. At 1317H contact was made at YD473484. Artillery and airstrikes continued to be placed on the objective area. Contact was broken at 1620H. The unit moved to establish a blocking position of the village area in conjunction with A/2-501 IN. Friendly losses – 1 MIA and 7 WIA (5-medevac); Enemy assessment – 3 NVA KIA (BC).

Recon platoon conducted minesweep security from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARDCORE and to Hwy 1. Upon completion of the minesweep, Recon platoon returned to FSB HARDCORE to provide security upon the departure of A/2-501 IN. Apprehended one detainee vicinity of mining incident turned over to HAI LANG District.

At approximately 1030H an FLA from the 14<sup>th</sup> ENG BN after having by passed the minesweep team struck a land mine resulting in 3 KIA and 2 WIA (medevac). Also, at approximately 1150H a road grader struck a land mine at the same location resulting in 1 WIA who evacuated.

At the close of the reporting period A/2-501 IN, B/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN were moving into position to establish a blocking position around the objective area. Artillery and USAF illumination were being provided and illumination was planned to be continuous.

#### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN at 0335H vicinity YD543251 received 20 satchel charges (believed to be ¼ lb. blocks of TNT) into NDP position also received a few rounds of SA fire, engaged with artillery, negative casualties. A search of the area at 0715H revealed 2 RPG rounds and 3 propellants for RPG. At 1100H vicinity YD533255 received SA fire from the south, engaged with artillery, results unknown. At 1230H vicinity YD535253 in contact with estimated enemy squad size force utilizing AW/SA, hand grenades. Returned fire, support by artillery. Enemy broke contact at 1320H resulting in 1 US KIA. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA; Enemy assessment – 2 rounds RPG, 3 RPG propellants.

B/1-502 IN conducted RIF to vicinity YD6024 North to vicinity YD5926. At 1300H vicinity YD595258 received SA/AW fire from 6 positions, returned fire and called for and received artillery support, resulting in 1 US WIA. At 1510H vicinity YD595261 while crossing stream received enemy 60mm mortar fire, RPG, MG and AW fire, company immediately returned fire walking artillery into the enemy. Upon crossing the stream company attempted to deploy to the enemy flank resulting in 1 US WIA, 1 VC KIA (BC). The enemy broke contact at 1750H. Friendly losses – 2 US WIA (Medevaced); Enemy assessment – 1 VC KIA (BC).

C/1-502 IN provided minesweep security from CAMP EVAN on QL-1 North and South in assigned AO. Provided security at water point vicinity YD532308. Continued mission as BDE RRF. At 0820H vicinity YD579309 found unknown type mine (destroyed). At 1650H moved from CAMP EVANS by foot upon arrival at the water point mission was aborted. Company closed CAMP EVANS at 1820H. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment.

D/1-502 IN provided security at PHONG DIEN BRIDGE at YD519348 and the bridge vicinity YD476377. One platoon conducted IRF vicinity YD480370 and YD519348. Conducted minesweep security from PHONG DIEN BRIDGE North to AO boundary. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon conducted RIF vicinity YD5634 and YD5830. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment.

(Commanders Situation Report; 092001H April – 102000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

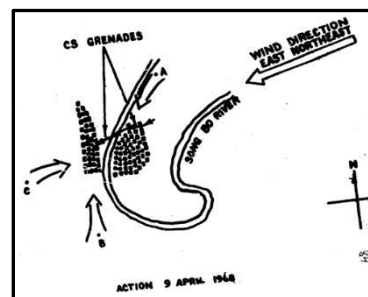
09 April 1968

Early in the afternoon the 2BDE Forward Air Controller observed what appeared to be 8-10 122mm rocket positions vicinity YD5721. Artillery and two TAC Air strikes were employed against the suspected locations. A platoon from C/1-502 IN was air-lifted into the area. As soon as the artillery was lifted the platoon was inserted at 1408H to raid the area. The quick reaction resulted in 9 x 122mm rockets captured. The rockets had been positioned on bamboo rails and were aimed at CAMP EVANS. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

09 April 1968

1-505 IN BN made heavy contact with a suspected company size NVA force in the village of PHUOC YEN, vicinity YD680280. B/1-505 IN and C/1-505 IN reinforced by A/1-501 IN BN cordoned the village while TAC Air and artillery were called in. The cordon was maintained through the night and on 9 April, B/1-505 IN and C/1-505 IN prepared to sweep from the south and west respectively while A/1-501 IN moved from its position to the north.

As the sweep began, CS grenades were dropped on a generally east-west line to aid A/1-501 IN and C/1-505 IN in entering the village. Winds were E-NE at 8 to 10 knots and the temperature gradient was lapse. B/1-505 IN, which did not have protective mask waited until the agent cloud cleared the village before advancing. At 1155, coincident with the CS drop, A/1-501 IN moved toward the village, across 150 meters of open ground receiving light sniper fire but suffering no casualties. A/1-501 IN completed the sweep into the village east of the river, taking several detainees.



C/1-505 IN also moved toward the village as the CS was dropped. They encountered the CS agent just as they reached the edge of the village. At that time, the agent concentration was weak but protective mask were required. The company made no contact while the CS was in the area, but contact was made with an estimated platoon size force after the agent cleared.



Wind and temperature gradient contributed to rapid dissipation of the agent cloud, but the CS did provide sufficient fire suppression to allow the companies to reach the village without casualties.

A/1-501 IN sweep netted four NVA bodies prior to making contact.

In each case, protective masks were found on or near the bodies. The CS agent had provided sufficient suppression to allow the companies to cross open ground and enter the village even through at least a portion of the enemy force was equipped with protective masks. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

- 09 April 1968 A/1-502 IN received their log vicinity YD5425. Shortly thereafter they moved approximately 200 meters NE. Early the next morning 50 VC attacked deserted log sight using long cane poles to flip satchel charges. Alpha Company made contact with the enemy suffering 2 KIA and 1 WIA. Enemy losses were 2 VC KIA. B/1-502 IN found 9 – 122mm rockets.
- 09 April 1968 An apparent rocket attack of the 1<sup>st</sup> AIR CAV DIV headquarters at CAMP EVANS was prevented by MAJ Brad Telshaw, Clovis, New Mexico., an alert FAC pilot attached to the 2BDE. He directed two air strikes on the target which resulted in many secondary explosions. A platoon from C/1-502 IN was helo lifted into the area. They found nine 122mm rockets elevated on bamboo logs and pointing in the direction of CAMP EVANS. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)
- 09 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN searched vicinity YC493945 and found 1 NVA KBA. B/1-502 IN moved by air from YC493945 to LZ SALLY and marshalled. C/1-502 IN conducted a RIF to the southeast, D/1-502 IN moved by air from LZ SALLY to YC493945 and Recon moved by air from LZ SALLY to YD492018, became OPCON to C/1-502 IN.
- 09 April 1970 At first light, B/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon, 1<sup>st</sup> squad was on an ambush assignment a short distance from the rest of 1<sup>st</sup> platoon and the B/2-501 IN CP in an area approximately 25 miles west of HUE known as "RE-UP Hill", coordinates YD362165, when they were surprised and overrun by a squad of NVA Soldiers throwing Chi-Com hand grenades and firing AK-47 assault rifles. The attack resulted in one member of the squad immediately killed in action, and the remaining five members of the squad wounded in action. (PFC Thomas L. Gates of Cincinnati, Ohio, died from his wounds sixteen years later - on 25 November 1986 confirmed by the Virtual Wall.)
- 09 April 1970 **XXIV Corps (THUA THIEN Province)** – At 0700H an element of the 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (Airmobile), engaged an estimated enemy squad while operating in an area 24 miles WSW of HUE (73 miles WNW of DA NANG). The enemy returned fire with small arms and automatic weapons fire. The troopers were supported by helicopter gunships and contact was lost at an unreported time when the remaining enemy withdrew. Two enemy Soldiers were killed in the action. U.S. casualties were three killed and five wounded.
- 09 April 1970 **XXIV Corps (THUA THIEN Province)** – At 1625H an element of the 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (Airmobile) engaged an estimated enemy platoon while operating 25 miles WSW of HUE (66 miles NW of DA NANG). Small arms and automatic weapons fire were exchanged, and contact was lost at about 1745H when the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were 11 wounded with no fatalities.
- 09 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Mobile training team's area attached to NAM HOA and are continuing training of the Popular Forces. The 1-502 IN BN continued Operations TEXAS STAR employing extensive ambushes with negative results.
- 09 April 1971 1-501 IN BN ended its participation in LAM SON 719 and again returned to PBCB (PHU BAI COMBAT BASE) for a three day stand down.
- 10 – 11 April 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued 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 exception of a very successful operations conducted by 2-501 IN BN that terminated after all NVA troops had either been killed, captured or surrendered following over 24hrs of continuous contact. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 3 US KIA, 19 WIA (14 medevac); Enemy assessment – 60 NVA KIA (BC), 13 NVA POW, 10 AK-47, 5 SKS, 1 CHICOM carbine, 2 RPG, 3 LMG, 3 M-16, 1 .45 cal pistol, 1 7.72 pistol.

#### 1-501 IN BN

OPCON to 3BDE, 82<sup>nd</sup> ABN DIV

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN, B/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN throughout the reporting period continued to engage and estimated NVA company located in THON PHOUOC DIEN (H) vicinity YD475485. The objective area was illuminated by flare ships and artillery was fired throughout the night. From 102000H to 110730H there were 12 incidents of enemy or friendly initiated firing as a result of the cordon around the village. The enemy used SA, AW, RPG and mortar fire against the cordon in attempts to leave the village. Enemy was engaged with SA/AW, 90mm RR (Beehive) and artillery fire. During this period there were the following results: Friendly losses – 2 KIA, 11 WIA; Enemy losses – 36 NVA KIA (BC), 2 NVA POW's.

At 0923H, A/2-501 IN moved to a blocking position vicinity YD473494. D/2-501 IN moved to an attack position vicinity YD476487. B/2-501 IN moved 1 platoon to a blocking position vicinity YD472484 and B/2-501 (-) moved to attack position vicinity YD476484 at 1115H. At 1230H, D/2-501 IN and B/2-501 (-) moved NW and entered the village at 1312H sweeping



to the NW. At 1455H, B/2-501 IN received sniper fire. D/2-501 IN maneuvered and employed seven E-8 CS munitions in support of B/2-501 IN. D/2-501 IN and B/2-501 IN completed the sweep of the village at 1650H and returned to FSB HARDCORE. As the companies cleared the objective area a 4.2" mortar barrage was placed on the objective area at 1720H. A/2-501 IN moved at 1645H to FSB HARDCORE closing at 1727H. D/2-501 IN and B/2-501 IN then moved by truck to WUNDER BEACH closing at 1909H and 1913H respectively. During this period there were the following results: Friendly losses – 1 KIA, 8 WIA; Enemy losses – 24 NVA KIA (BC), 11 NVA POW. Recapitulated results: Friendly losses – 3 KIA, 19 WIA (14 medevac); Enemy losses – 60 NVA KIA (BC), 13 NVA POW, 10 AK-47, 5 SKS, 1 CHICOM carbine, 2 RPG, 3 LMG, 4 M-16, 1 .45 cal pistol, 1 7.62 pistol, 1816 rounds SA ammo, 13 60mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 6 B-40 rounds (destroyed), and 4 CHICOM grenades (destroyed).

C/2-501 IN provided minesweep security from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARDCORE. Conducted company size RIF operations from YD461523 SE to vicinity YD487512, then N to WUNDER BEACH. Negative casualties, Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon provided minesweep security from FSB HARDCORE to QL-1. Upon completion of minesweep, returned to FSB HARDCORE to provide security.

#### 1-502 IN

A/1-502 IN at 2105H vicinity YD533247 received 10-15 satchel charges and RPG rounds into NDP position also received a few rounds of SA fire, engaged with artillery, negative casualties, negative assessment. A/1-502 IN remained in place until 1400H as an RRF. Relieved of RRF mission at 1400H and conducted RIF to NDP vicinity YD558252. Negative casualties, negative enemy assessment.

B/1-502 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD593267 to vicinity YD595276. B/1-502 IN then moved to NDP vicinity YD581289.

C/1-502 IN at 0500H moved from CAMP EVANS to a blocking position vicinity YD554306 for a combined operation conducted with the Recon platoon and a PF company. At 1245H moved from blocking position to CAMP EVANS, closing at 1330H. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment.

D/1-502 IN provided security at PHONG DIEN BRIDGE at YD519348 and the bridge vicinity YD476377. At 2033H, ambush vicinity YD486368 engaged 4 personnel moving NW with M-16 and M-79 fire. Enemy returned fire with AW fire. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment. One platoon conducted RIF vicinity YD497364 to YD480382 to YD519348. Conducted minesweep security from PHONG DIEN BRIDGE N to AO boundary. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon conducted a joint RIF operation with one PF company from vicinity YD571314 and YD558320 to vicinity YD549307 where link up was made with C/1-502 IN occupying a blocking position. At 1115H, PF forces made contact with a 5-man force vicinity YD552311, resulting in 3 VC KIA (BC) and 1 Thompson SMG and 1 AK-47. Negative friendly casualties; enemy assessments (credited to PF).

(Commanders Situation Report; 102001H April – 112000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

10 – 11 April 1968

Elements of the 2d BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV contacted elements of the 6<sup>th</sup> BN, 812<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment in a village SE of FSB HARDCORE. Preliminary interrogation of PW's captured during this contact revealed numerous ASA's; the most frequent being the 7<sup>th</sup> BN, 812<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Further interrogation disclosed that all the PW's were from the 812<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment, however, PW's continued to use the designation 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion. It was concluded that since most of the PW's were new recruits from the NVN that they had been replacements to the 6<sup>th</sup> BN, 812<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment. It is significant to note that the 6<sup>th</sup> BN, 812<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment had not been heavily engaged during the TET fighting as had the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Battalions had also received replacements. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

10 April 1968

**PHUOC DIEN:** A/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN were sent to verify the reported presence of two enemy companies entrenched in strong defensive position in the village of PHUOC DIEN. In short time, both companies were pinned down and in heavy contact. It soon became obvious they would be unable to take the village without suffering heavy casualties and they would need additional reinforcements.

General Barsanti, the Division Commander, ordered the companies to "stay with the enemy" and agreed to send them whatever they needed – which in this case was extra helicopters to bring in reinforcements. LTC Tallman, the Battalion Commander, moved B/2-501 IN into the fray, and by nightfall had succeeded in completely surrounding the village. American positions were established no more than ten meters apart. LTC Tallman ordered 100% alert during the night as well as continuous illumination by flare ships and artillery.

Between 2000H that night and 0730H the next morning, the trapped NVA made at least 12 separate attempts to break out of the village. The next morning, 36 NVA Soldiers were found dead within hand-grenade distance of the American positions. Two dazed NVA were captured and taken prisoner. At 0800H, companies B/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN assaulted the village in a coordinated attack that met only moderate resistance. When the smoke and dust had cleared, the 2/501 IN BN had killed 70 NVA and captured 13.

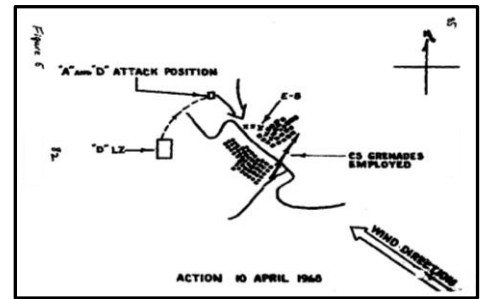




10 April 1968

2-501 IN BN employed RCA CS in conjunction with a sweep operation on the village of PHUOC DIEN vicinity YD475485. The village was believed to contain an NVA company.

A/2-501 IN having made initial contact near the village, was reinforced by D/2-501 IN shortly after noon when D/2-501 IN completed a combat assault on a LZ west of the village. After linking up with A/2-501 IN the two companies prepared to sweep from NW to SE through the village. Prior to the sweep, five E1 Tactical CS Launchers were to be fired into the village, closely followed by airdrop of 192 M7A3 CS grenades on the SE side of the village.



Immediately after the E8's was fired, both companies moved toward the village through the CS cloud. As they moved forward, they killed three NVA who were moving about in the village. At 1317H, as they reached the edge of the village, both companies began receiving SA/AS fire and occasional RPG rounds. By this time, the CS cloud, driven by the relatively stiff winds, had passed through the village. It had, however, allowed the companies to cross approximately 200 meters of open terrain without taking any casualties.

Stiff resistance was encountered from bunker complexes within the village and at 1630H, contact was broken, and TAC Air and artillery were called on the village. A sweep of the village on 11 April yielded 19 NVA KIA, 1 NVA POW and 20 detainees. Of the 20 NVA found in the village, two had protective masks. Total friendly casualties were 3 KIA and 10 WIA.

The commander involved felt that the CS could have contributed more to the operation if it had lingered in the village a longer period of time. The 15 to 20 knot wind coupled with the strong mid-day lapse conditions greatly accelerated the dissipation of the agent cloud. Reinforcement of the agent cloud with additional grenade passes or with additional ES launchers would have been appropriate when the companies began receiving fire inside the village. At the time, such reinforcement was not possible, due to non-availability of helicopters and additional CS munitions. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

10 – 11 April 1968

**Operation CARENTAN I & II:** Hard intelligence indicated an enemy build up vicinity THONH PHUOC DIEN (YD4747). In response to the intelligence information A/2-501 IN began a RIF from FSB HARDCORE to an attack position vicinity YD471490 while D/2-501 IN conducted an air assault to an LZ vicinity YD479481. Both companies began a coordinated attack on the village after artillery and TAC Air prepped the objective. At 1317H, both companies established contact vicinity YD472489 and YD473484. TAC Air and artillery were employed, and, as ground contact continued it became obvious that the two companies were engaged with a sizable enemy force. At 1844H, the battalion was relieved of its responsibility to secure the beach and firebase and immediately air-lifted B/2-501 IN into the objective area to help establish a cordon around the enemy force prior to darkness. After the cordon was established, 81mm mortars were inserted to bolster the cordon. The three companies maintained 100% alert during the night and employed continuous illumination and artillery. Throughout the night, the enemy employed SA/AW RPG and mortar fire in numerous unsuccessful attempts to escape the cordon. The following morning, helicopter gunships, artillery and seven E8 (CS) launchers were employed against the enemy position followed by TAC Air. At 1230H, D/2-501 IN and B/2-501 IN (-) attacked the village from the southeast to northwest into the blocking positions of A/2-501 IN and the remainder of B/2-501 IN. The objective was swept by midafternoon meeting only scattered resistance. The entire operation resulted in 66 NVA KIA, 13 NVA POW, 21 individual weapons and 5 crew served weapons captured, plus numerous munitions and miscellaneous equipment. The operation had dealt a significant blow to the 6<sup>th</sup> BN, 812<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment. Friendly casualties were 7 KIA and 35 WIA. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

10 April 1968

A/1-502 IN NDP vicinity YD5325 received satchel charges, RPG rounds, and S/A fire. Negative casualties. They returned fire with unknown results. D/1-502 IN conducted security of PHONG DIEN BRIDGE and local ambushes. One of these ambushes vicinity YD4937, engaged 4 VC with negative results. Recon killed 3 VC vicinity YD 5231.

10 April 1968

**Operation CARENTAN II:** A/2-501 IN, B/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN, 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV encounter an estimated two battalions of the 812th NVA Regiment near the village of THON PHOUOC DIEN 12 miles southeast of QUANG TRI. Casualties: U.S. 7 KIA and 35 WIA; enemy 66 KIA. (Weider History Group; Vietnam War: The Battle for Vietnam; 40 years Today-A Vietnam War Timeline)

10 – 11 April 1968

2-501 IN BN cordons THON PHOUOC DIEN, resulting in 70 NVA KIA and 13 PWs and 100 lbs. of rice captured.

10 April 1968

**Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** At 1015H, C/2-502 IN in the vicinity of YD639098 with the 3-5 Cavalry platoon on a convoy security mission on HWY 547, received AW and RPG from an unknown size enemy force in the tree line on the north side; engaged the enemy with SA, AW, Arty, Mortars, fire power from the Cavalry platoon and Light Fire Teams. Units continued to receive enemy SA and RPG fire and several rounds of mortars of an unknown size. C/2-502 IN with the Cavalry Platoon assaulted and took the tree line and later the enemy tried a counterattack but was beaten back. Results: 3 US WHA, 9 NVA KIA and captured: 1 RPG, 1 RPD, 3 AK-47, 2 SKS. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; Combat Operations After Action Report; Operation JEB STRUAT/CARENTAN; 25 April 1968)

10 – 11 April 1968

A/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN were sent to verify the reported presence of two enemy companies entrenched in strong defensive positions in the village of PHUOC DIEN. In short time, both companies were pinned down and in heavy contact. It soon became obvious they would be unable to take the village without suffering heavy casualties and they would need additional reinforcements.

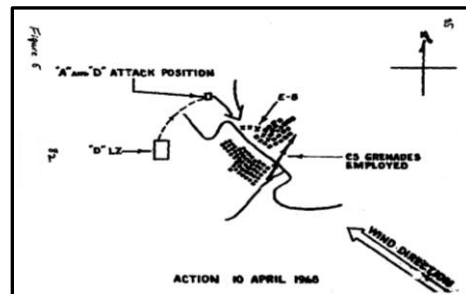


General Barsanti, the Division Commander, ordered the companies to "stay with the enemy" and agreed to send them whatever they needed -- which in this case was extra helicopters to bring in reinforcements. LTC Tallman, the battalion commander, moved B/2-501 IN into the fray, and by nightfall had succeeded in completely surrounding the village. American positions were established no more than ten meters apart. LTC Tallman ordered 100% alert during the night as well as continuous illumination by flare ships and artillery.

Between 2000H that night and 0730H the next morning, the trapped NVA made at least 12 separate attempts to break out of the village. The next morning, 36 NVA soldiers were found dead within hand-grenade distance of the American positions. Two dazed NVA were captured and taken prisoner. At 0800H, companies B/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN assaulted the village in a coordinated attack that met only moderate resistance. When the smoke and dust had cleared, the 2-501 IN BN had killed 70 NVA and captured 13. (Personal account by PFC James Lanning)

10 April 1969

Members of the C/2-501 IN waiting on a chopper pad by FSB BIRMINGHAM before going into A SHAU VALLEY. (Pictured provided by Bob Staal)



10 April 1969

**Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN and D/1-502 IN continued to search vicinity YC495946. C/1-502 IN and Recon conducted RIF operations to the south. B/1-502 IN remained at LZ SALLY.

10 April 1970

Recon/1-502 IN found 10 clay pots, sizes ½ gallon to 5 gallons. Brandy 22 received small arms fire vicinity 732037 and sighted 1 NVA/VC in the open. ARA fired up the area with negative results. At location 834186 the 336 PF unit found an 81mm and 1 82mm round. They also located several other HE rounds, all of which were destroyed.

11 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN II:** Operation AUSTIN II consisted of three battalion size operations. AT 0950H, B/2-502 IN committed one platoon by helicopter assault to vicinity ZT215255. The platoon infiltrated to position at ZT195253, ZT219258 and ZT240258 during the night. At 1930H the Recon platoon conducted a helicopter assault at ZT134284 and infiltrated in three teams to ZT174279, ZT162268 and ZT192258. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

11 April 1967

**Operation SUMMERALL:** Two light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 1 US KIA, 3 US WIA and 1 enemy machine gun captured. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

11 – 12 April 1968

**Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued 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 two contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 5 US WIA (3 from BBT, 2 from vehicle hitting mine); Enemy assessment – 2 BBT (destroyed).

#### 1-501 IN BN

OPCON to 3BDE, 82<sup>nd</sup> ABN DIV

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN provided minesweep security from FSB HARDCORE to QL-1. Conducted RIF operation from FSB HARDCORE to vicinity YD416504, YD434499 and returned to FSB HARDCORE. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment.

B/2-501 IN conducted RIF from WUNDER BEACH SE along the coast to YD545525. At 1312H, B/2-501 IN had 3 WIA (medevac) from a frag type BBT vicinity YD535529. At YD537527 found and destroyed two BBT grenades. At 1530H returned to WUNDER BEACH by BARC, closed 1643H. Friendly losses – 3 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 2 BBT destroyed.

C/2-501 IN provided security for minesweep from WUNDER BEACH to FSB HARDCORE. Conducted maintenance and prepared for future operations.

D/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation vicinity YD465550, YD475575, and returned to WUNDER BEACH. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon provided security for FSB HARDCORE.

At 1216H vicinity YD431489 a 2 ½ ton truck of 2-501 IN BN (HQ 55) hit a mine resulting in 2 US WIA (medevac). 2-501 IN BN will conduct ambushes along the access road from HAI LANG to WUNDER BEACH with emphasis in area of recent



mining incidents. An additional minesweep team has been placed at HAI LANG to conduct minesweep N to link up with team sweeping to the S from FSB HARDCORE to expedite the opening of the road.

### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN returned from NDP to CAMP EVANS at 1055H and assumed mission as RRF.

B/1-502 IN from NDP vicinity YD581288 conducted RIF operation to YD583297. At 1600H moved to vicinity YD583298 and at 1605H engaged 5 VC with SA and AW. At 1637H contact was broken and B/1-502 IN pursued with negative results. Moved to NDP vicinity YD583297. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

C/1-502 IN, 1 platoon secured CAMP EVANS water point. Provided minesweep security to the N and S from CAMP EVANS. At 1815H moved to NDP vicinity YD550282 and conducted local ambushes.

D/1-502 IN provided security at PHONG DIEN BRIDGE at YD519348 and the bridge vicinity YD476377. Provided minesweep security from PHONG DIEN BRIDGE to AO boundary.

Recon platoon conducted RIF operations from NDP vicinity YD567316 to YD583297, YD578310, to ambush location vicinity YD595307.

(Commanders Situation Report; 112001H April – 122000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

11 April 1968

Two days of fighting by A/2-501 IN, B/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN, was conducted as another village full of NVA was cordoned 10 miles' northeast of HUE along the "Street without Joy". A sweep of PHONG DIEN village following a night of constant bombardment resulted in 66 enemies' dead and 26 weapons captured. Meanwhile paratroopers of A/1-501 and C/1-501 IN and A/1-505 IN, B/1-505 and C/1-505 of 82nd ended a week-long search and destroy mission along the SONG BO, three miles northwest of HUE, Army aviation, artillery, tactical air and the airborne troopers combined to kill 200 enemy and capture 44 weapons. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)

11 April 1968

**Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** At 1045H, B/2-502 IN in the vicinity of YD 614080 spotted 2 NVA in green uniforms moving along HWY 547. They engaged the enemy with SA, AW, and M-79 but with negative results. At 1155H, B/2-502 IN heard digging while B/2-502 IN (-) was moving up to contact area they came under mortar fire at 1230H from YD 597078. Counter mortar fire was placed on this grid by artillery and mortars. Also, an immediate airstrike was called, with two flights put in at this location. At 1340H, the platoon from A/2-5 Cav was dispatched to aid B/2-502 IN, contact continued unit 1610H with the enemy in the tree line firing SA, AW, and RPG's. At 1530H, B/2-502 IN found 2 fresh graves in the vicinity of YD 605080, with NVA killed by artillery. Results: 16 US WHA, 3 NVA KIA (2 Arty).

2-502 IN Battalion effectively accomplished its mission during Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN. It secured the rock crusher site and made significant contacts with the enemy forcing him to sustain significant losses in personnel and weapons. He was forced to move his base area to avoid contact. The 2-502 IN BN managed to establish heavy FSB BASTOGNE, in the desired time limit. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; Combat Operations After Action Report; Operation JEB STRUAT/CARENTAN; 25 April 1968)

11 April 1969

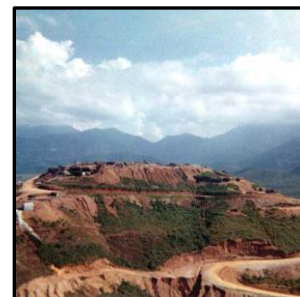
**Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN conducted a RIF to the north and at 1430H, A/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon engaged an NVA sniper. Results: 1 NVA KIA, 1 IWC and discovered 1 NVA KIA in a fresh grave. B/1-502 IN moved by air from LZ SALLY to FSB VEGHEL and conducted a C/A to YC529931 and RIF to the north. C/1-502 IN and Recon continued to RIF to the south, D/1-502 IN searched vicinity YC494946.

11 April 1970

B/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon found a hole with box prints at bottom at 815065. They believed it was cache site. It was freshly dug. 155 RF Company engaged 10 VC at approximately 200 meters. Results are unknown.

11 April 1971

1-501 IN BN secured FSB TOMAHAWK with search and attack operations being conducted in the AO. A/1-501 IN and C/1-501 IN, 4<sup>th</sup> platoon moved to DA NANG on 13 April 1971 to secure a reserve ammo dump there. The battalion () remained on FSB TOMAHAWK until 14 May 1971 when it returned to PBCB.



11 April 1971

B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon vicinity ZC155976 detonated one BBT. Results 1 US WIA; died of wounds on arrive to 85<sup>th</sup> Evac.



12 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** 2-502 IN BN conduct search and destroy operations commencing 1700H, 12 April 1966 to clear Viet Cong forces in TAOR SHILOH. Recon patrol B3 made contact at 1430H with 12 Viet Cong at ZT234255, killing 1 Viet Cong (BC) and capturing 2 Viet Cong. The two CIA were found to be Viet Cong POW's. An LRP team made contact at ZT118255 and had to be extracted. At 1730H, B/2-502 IN (-) conducted a helicopter assault ZT134284 to exploit this Viet Cong contact. MAJ Schroeder, BN XO, joined B/2-502 IN (-) and Recon platoon forming TF Schroeder. By 1730H, the Recon platoon had infiltrated to vicinity ZT134284, their original assault position to await further orders. Recon platoon captured 18 Viet Cong porters at 1900H, they were evacuated to the rear area for interrogation. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

12 April 1967 **Operation SUMMERALL:** Two light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 2 VC KIA (c). (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

12 April 1967 Task Force Oregon is formed in the South Vietnam in response to MACV's need for reinforcements in I Corps. The task force is stationed at CHU LAI (QUANG TIN Province) and is made up of the following units: 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions; 3d Brigade (1-14<sup>th</sup> IN, 1-35<sup>th</sup> IN, 2-35 IN); 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division 1<sup>st</sup> BDE: 1-327<sup>th</sup> ABN, 2-327<sup>th</sup> ABN, 2-502 ABN); 19<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade (2-1<sup>st</sup> IN, 3-21<sup>st</sup> IN, 4-31<sup>st</sup> IN); 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment (2<sup>nd</sup> SQDN)

12 – 13 April 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued 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. There were no contacts during the reporting period. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – none; Enemy assessment – 6 BBT (destroyed), 3 B-40 rds (destroyed), 1 RPG-2 launcher, 3 CHICOM stick grenades (destroyed), 1 AP mine (destroyed), 423 SA rounds, and 30 punji pits (destroyed).

**1-501 IN BN**  
OPCON to 3BDE, 82<sup>nd</sup> ABN DIV

**2-501 IN BN**  
A/2-501 IN provides security for minesweep from FSB HARDCORE N and S along HAI LANG – WUNDER BEACH access road. Conducted maintenance and prepared for future operations.  
B/2-501 IN moved by truck to FSB HARDCORE. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD474487 and returned to FSB HARDCORE, moved by truck from FSB HARDCORE to WUNDER BEACH, closed at 1927H. Negative casualties; Enemy assessment from search of village vicinity YD474487 – 3 BBT (destroyed), 3 B-40 rounds (destroyed), 1 RPG-2 launcher, 3 CHICOM stick grenades (destroyed), 1 AP mine (destroyed), 423 SA rounds.  
C/2-501 IN conducted maintenance and prepared for future operations. Provided minesweep security from WUNDER BEACH S along HAI LGAN -WUNDER BEACH access road. Negative casualties; Enemy assessment – 3 BBT (destroyed).  
D/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from WUNDER BEACH to vicinity YD436543 and returned. Closed at 1535H. Negative casualties; Enemy assessment – 30 punji pits destroyed vicinity YD438547.  
Recon platoon provided security for FSB HARDCORE and for minesweep N from HAI LANG.

**1-502 IN BN**  
CAMP EVANS base defense mission released from 1-502 IN BN to 2-12 CAV effective 130630H. CP moved from CAMP EVANS to LZ SALLY effective 131645H.  
A/1-502 IN moved by convoy from CAMP EVANS at 1139H. Closed LZ SALLY at 1305H. At 1746H moved to NDP vicinity YD632285.  
B/1-502 IN moved from NDP to CAMP EVANS and convoyed to LZ SALLY commencing 1123H. Closed at 1220H.  
C/1-502 IN moved from NDP to CAMP EVANS and convoyed to LZ SALLY commencing 1351H. Closed at 1425H.  
D/1-502 IN provided security at PHONG DIEN BRIDGE at YD519348 and the bridge vicinity YD476377. Provided minesweep security from PHONG DIEN BRIDGE to AO boundary. Released of bridge security at 1000H by C/2-12 CAV, convoyed to LZ SALLY commencing 1123H. Closed at 1352H. Moved to NDP vicinity YD624276.  
Recon platoon moved from NDP to LZ SALLY, closed at 1220H.  
(Commanders Situation Report; 122001H April – 132000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

12 April 1968 B/1-502 IN had the only contact. They engaged 5 VC vicinity YD5830 with negative results.

12 April 1968 While investigating digging sounds in action 20 miles southwest of HUE, airborne infantrymen from B/2-502 IN detected six NVA and took them under fire. Elements of the 9th Division's 3rd BN 5th CAV swept the suspected enemy area with the paratroopers. B/2-502 IN riflemen engaged the NVA Company, using organic weapons, and swept over the enemy bunker positions. The NVA force broke contact, leaving 20 dead behind. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)



12 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols vicinity YC498952. D/1-502 IN conducted a RIF to the north, C/1-502 IN and Recon conducted a search vicinity YC989987 and D/1-502 IN moved to the north to join A/1-502 IN.

12 April 1970 B/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> squad received one incoming round 150 meters from their location. They had no casualties.

13 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** At 0710H, after weather delay prevented a night assault, A/2-502 IN conducted a helicopter assault vicinity ZT003300. They immediately started "Checkerboard" operation to the North and West to vicinity ZT024318. Also, at 0710H, C/2-502 IN conducted helicopter assault vicinity ZT047338 and began sweeping North to vicinity ZT04035. One platoon remained on the LZ to provide CP security. Four personnel from C/2-502 IN received punji stake wounds vicinity ZT040370. TF Schroeder continued "Checkerboard" operations vicinity ZT1327. By 1030H the 4.2" mortar platoon (-) closed TF Schroeder's base area vicinity ZT134284. Two platoons infiltrated to ZT099278 and ZT119285, respectively. A squad from each infiltrated to ZT134254 and ZT142267. A/2-502 IN infiltrated to ZT036318 on this night and established two Recon squads, ZT046312 and ZT042307. At 1445H, B/2-502 IN engaged an estimated Viet Cong squad at ZT135276, 1 Viet Cong killed and 1 Viet Con wounded. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

13 – 14 April 1968 **Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued 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 LZ SALLY and WUNDER BEACH. Contact was light during the reporting period with a total of two contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA (both as a result of BBT); Enemy assessment – 7 NVA KIA (BC), 5 NVA KBAF (BC), 2 AT mines (destroyed), 20 60mm mortar rounds BBT (destroyed), 1 CHICOM grenade (destroyed).

**1-501 IN BN**

OPCON to 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV effective 141500APR.

A/1-501 IN at 1500H was located at YD714323. Continued RIF operation to NDP vicinity YD716328 and established local ambushes.

B/1-501 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE vicinity YD623303.

C/1-501 IN at 1500H was located at YD686304. Continued RIF operation to NDP vicinity YD690312.

D/1-501 IN at 1500H was located at YD654289. Continued RIF operation to vicinity YD654289 and established local ambushes.

Recon platoon OPCON to B/1-501 IN.

**2-501 IN BN**

A/2-501 IN ambushed vicinity YD430488 and YD425285. Provided security for minesweep from FSB N and S along HAI LANG – WUNDER BEACH access road.

B/2-501 IN provided security for minesweep south from WUNDER BEACH. At 0919H B/2-501 (-) conducted RIF operation NW to vicinity YD458590 and returned. Closed at 1330H.

C/2-501 IN at 0855H 2 platoons conducted RIF operation south of vicinity YD505490 and returned. At 1224H vicinity YD500502 had 1 KIA & 1 WIA by 60mm mortar round BBT. At 1346H vicinity YD497505 found 20 60mm BBT (destroyed). Closed at 1725. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 20 BBT (destroyed)

D/2-501 IN at 1305H departed by truck from WUNDER BEACH and moved to bridge sites vicinity YD437433, YD460400 and YD477376, with 1 platoon at each site to reinforce security of paramilitary forces. Closed bridge sites at 1455H.

Recon platoon ambushed vicinity YD443505. At 2350H observed approximately 100 personnel moving to village vicinity YD438498. Artillery was fired resulting in one secondary explosion. Provided security for minesweep north from HAI LANG along access road to WUNDER BEACH. Negative casualties; negative enemy assessment.

**1-502 IN BN**

A/1-502 IN moved from NDP vicinity YD632285 to LZ SALLY, closed at 0650H. Conducted stand down and inspection in preparation for movement to FSB HENRY. At 1825H departed LZ SALLY for NDP vicinity YD623275.

B/1-502 IN provided perimeter defense at LZ SALLY. At 1310H conducted aerial movement to FSB BASTOGNE. Closed at 1505H, OPCON to 2-502 IN BN upon closure.

C/1-502 IN moved from NDP vicinity YD630258 to LZ SALLY, closed 0740H. Conducted stand down and inspection in preparation for movement to FSB HENRY. At 1800H departed LZ SALLY for NDP vicinity YD629259 and established local ambush.

D/1-502 IN moved from NDP vicinity YD624276 to LZ SALLY, closed at 0640H. Conducted stand down and inspection in preparation for movement to FSB HENRY.



Recon platoon OPCON to B/1-502 IN, at 1040H made a route reconnaissance from LZ SALLY to YD756144 and returned, closed at 1650H.

(Commanders Situation Report; 132001H April – 142000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

13 April 1968

1-502 IN BN on this day was released from the mission of security of CAMP EVANS. The CP moved from CAMP EVANS to LZ SALLY.

13 April 1969

**Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN made contact with an estimated NVA squad and suffered 2 US KIA and 2 US WIA. At 1435H, C/1-502 IN and Recon made contact with an estimated NVA squad, resulting in 7 US WIA. D/1-502 IN conducted RIF to the north and at 0800H vicinity YC502953, D/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon made contact with an estimated NVA squad employing claymores, RPG and S/A resulting in 2 US KIA and 3 US WIA. At 1630H vicinity YC501957, D/1-502 IN received S/A fire from the rear and returned fire with organic weapons. Results: 2 NVA KIA, 2 IWC.

13 April 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** Once again the 2-502 IN STRIKE Force Battalion moved its area of operations. The Battalion was released from the control of the 2BDE and came under the operational control of the 3BDE. The Battalion headquarters was established at FSB JACK, and the battalion's maneuver companies operated in the mountains west of the fire base, screening and interdicting enemy units massing to strike against CAMP EVANS. (2-502 Unit History, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)



13 April 1970

C/1-502 IN had a man medevaced with possible malaria. Extensive night ambushes and security patrols were employed with no results.

13 April 1971

D/1-501 IN and C/1-501 IN, 4<sup>th</sup> platoon moved to DA NANG to secure reserved ASP.



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

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13 x Silver Star Medal (3 x Posthumously)  
6 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1 x Posthumously)  
25 x Bronze Star Medal (25 x Posthumously)  
64 x Purple Heart Medal (44 x Posthumously)  
1 x Air Medal (1 x Posthumously)  
1 x Died of Wounds  
1 x Died of Non-Hostile injuries or illness

07 April 1968



SP4 Graham L. Mills (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 gunshot wounds received while on combat operation when engaged hostile force in firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

07 April 1969



CPL Thomas J. Vasil (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 other explosive device wounds when area came under rocket attack by hostile force at NDP site 1km West-Southwest of FSB TENNESSEE, 10km North of A SAP Village, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

08 April 1968

CPT Nathan N. Miller (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received when he received shrapnel from an enemy rocket in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

08 April 1969



SP4 Dennis L. Roads (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, Republic of Vietnam.

08 April 1969



SP4 Tony Palacios (A/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 gunfire wounds in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

08 April 1969



PFC Jimmy R. Westmoreland (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when engaged a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Westmoreland was admitted to a military medical facility, placed on the VSI list, and expired shortly thereafter.

08 April 1969



PFC Townser Steele Jr. (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 small arms gunfire wounds in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



08 April 1970

SP4 Daniel F. Whybrew (B/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. (General Order Number 4492, 22 April 1970)

09 April 1967



SGT George Tallman (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for meritorious service. SGT Tallman died from wounds sustained when hit by fragments from friendly grenade which accidentally detonated by another Soldier while drawing supplies for a mission in the KHANH DUONG Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1967



PFC John W. Charlton (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for meritorious service. PFC Charlton died from wounds sustained when hit by fragments from friendly grenade which accidentally detonated by another Soldier while drawing supplies for a mission in the KHANH DUONG Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1967



PFC Allen W. Porter (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for meritorious service. PFC Porter died from wounds sustained when hit by fragments from friendly grenade which accidentally detonated while drawing supplies for a mission in the KHANH DUONG Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1968



PFC Floyd D. Turnley (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)

09 April 1968

PFC John D. Olson (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)

09 April 1968

SGT William M. Halliburton (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)

09 April 1968

SP4 Cecil Nix Jr. (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)

09 April 1968

SP4 William C. McKinstry (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)

09 April 1968



SP4 Stephen L. Havas (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 6852)

09 April 1968



SGT Roland E. Moore (A/1-501 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 engaged a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.





09 April 1968



SGT Ricky G. Inlow (A/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 while on a combat operation when engaged a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1968



PFC Douglas G. Thompson (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 wounds received while on a combat operation when engaged a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1968



PFC Patrick C. Coughlin (A/1-502 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 engaged a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1968



SGT Joseph R. Paulette (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 engaged a hostile force in the vicinity of FSB HARDCORE 5km northeast of HAI LANG in the QUANG TRI, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1968



PFC David F. Wagner (B/2-502 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 hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Wagner was admitted to a military hospital in Vietnam and later expired.

09 April 1969



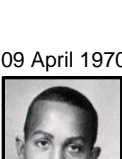
SP4 Delmar C. Dennis (E/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1969



1LT Bruce T. King (E/1-501 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 multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when engaged a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1970



SP4 Lenard D. Blachly (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds sustained in combat in the Republic of Vietnam. (Purple Heart Medal Citation)

09 April 1970



CPL Herman A. Clay Jr. (B/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 multiple fragmentation wounds from in the A SHAU VALLEY on Hill 640, 24 Miles West-Southwest of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam



09 April 1970



PFC Thomas L. Gates (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received from small arms gunfire wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered. PFC Gates received wounds to the left shoulder, left side of the neck, left side of the chin, and the right ring finger, and he also had a contusion on the spinal cord with quadriplegia in the A SHAU VALLEY on Hill 640, 24 Miles West-Southwest of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. (PFC Gates later died from wounds on 25 November 1986)

09 April 1970



SSG James D. Mace (B/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 multiple fragmentation wounds from in the A SHAU VALLEY on Hill 640, 24 Miles West-Southwest of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam

09 April 1970



CPL Leroy Nelson (B/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 multiple fragmentation wounds from in the A SHAU VALLEY on Hill 640, 24 Miles West-Southwest of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 April 1970



CPL Charles G. Selman (B/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 multiple fragmentation wounds from in the A SHAU VALLEY on Hill 640, 24 Miles West-Southwest of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam

09 April 1970



SFC John B. Mullis (C/2-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (Illness or Disease) as a ground casualty in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam

10 April 1968



SP4 Clyde C. Collins (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small armed gunfire wounds during a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, in the vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, 6km east of HAI LANG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968



PFC Lawrence W. Eller (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from burns during a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, in the vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, 6km east of HAI LANG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968



PFC James A. Palenik 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 small armed gunfire wounds during a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, in the vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, 6km east of HAI LANG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



10 April 1968



CPL Wayne A. Slankard (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 engaged by hostile force in a firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vicinity THON PHOUIC DIEN, in the vicinity THON PHOUIC DIEN, 6km east of HAI LANG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968



SP4 Alan R. Gault (B/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 gunfire wounds while at a night ambush position when engaged a hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968

CPL Jonathan Neal (B/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 gunfire wounds while at a night ambush position when engaged a hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968



PFC Ronald Davis (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 gunshot wound received while on a combat operation when engaged a hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1968

SGT Douglas B. Keefauver (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (1-OLC) for military merit and for wounds received in action during combat operations. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 3971)

10 April 1968

PFC Clayton Caldwell (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action during combat operations. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 3971)

10 April 1968

PFC Michael E. Saltis (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action during combat operations. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 3971)

10 April 1968



PFC Bryan T. Mukai (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 when hit by hostile grenade fragments while on combat operation in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1969



CPL Oliver E. Reynolds Jr. (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 from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operations when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1969



SP4 William F. Baggs Jr. (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operations when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



10 April 1969



SP4 Thomas G. Manderfeld (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 from multiple fragmentation wounds in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1969



SGT Joseph F. Spinnicchia (HHC/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 small arms gunfire wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. SGT Spinnicchia was admitted to a military medical facility and expired shortly thereafter.

10 April 1970



SSG Donald W. Sistrunk (B/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 small arms gunfire wounds while on combat operation when the area came under attack by a hostile force in the vicinity of Hill 640, 24 miles west-southwest of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

10 April 1971



SP4 Ralph W. Jones (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 small arms gunfire wounds while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered 8km W-NW of Ruong Ruong, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. SP4 Jones was admitted to a military medical facility and later expired.

11 April 1967



SP4 Kenneth E. James (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 gunfire while on combat operation when hit by hostile automatic weapons fire in the DARLAC Province, Republic of Vietnam.

11 April 1968



CPL Dellwyn A. Fitch (B/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 combat operations when engaged hostile force in firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, in the vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, 6km east of HAI LANG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

11 April 1968



PFC John A. Hoggatt (A/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 combat operations when engaged hostile force in firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, in the vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, 6km east of HAI LANG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

11 April 1968



PFC William L. Kinnard (B/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 combat operations when engaged hostile force in firefight with elements of the 812th NVA REG vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, in the vicinity THON PHOUC DIEN, 6km east of HAI LANG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



11 April 1968



PFC Donald J. Boaz (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from metal fragment wounds with laceration of vertebral artery received while on combat operation when he was struck by fragments from hostile rockets in the THUAN THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Boaz was admitted aboard a US Naval Hospital ship in Vietnam where he later expired on 12 April 1968.

11 April 1970

SGT Terry L. Heaton (B/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. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

11 April 1970



SGT Jeffrey J. Joseph (B/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. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

11 April 1970

SP4 Larry L. Parkhurst (B/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. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

11 April 1970

SP4 Jorge L. Perez-Rios (B/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. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

11 April 1970

SP4 Alred, D. Rhodus (B/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. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

11 April 1970

SP4 Gary E. Cousins (B/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. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

11 April 1970

PFC Robert D. Wigglesworth (B/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. (Headquarters 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

11 April 1971



PFC Kenneth E. Mims (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 other explosive device wounds while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated 8 KM E-SE of Phu Loc, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

12 April 1968



PFC Jones E. Tomlinson (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 wounds received while on combat operation when came under hostile small arms fire in the THUAN THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

12 April 1968

SP4 Byron N. Jones (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 in the THUAN THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

12 April 1968



PFC Michael W. Miller (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 while on combat operation when hit by fragments from a hostile grenade in the THUAN THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



12 April 1968



PFC Donald J. Boaz (B/2-502 IN) died from wounds sustained on 11 April 1968 while aboard a US Naval Hospital ship in Vietnam where he later expired on 12 April 1968.

12 April 1971



SSG John V. Wentworth (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 small arms gunfire wound while at an aircraft landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force 4 KM SE of LZ VEGHEL, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

13 April 1971



CPL James A. Nichols (HHC/2BDE) was awarded the Air Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while a crew chief on a military aircraft on a military mission when the aircraft was fired upon by hostile ground force, crashed but did not burn in the vicinity LZ VEGHEL, 30km SW of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

13 April 1971



PFC Lamar L. Williams (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) or military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a military aircraft on a military mission when the aircraft was fired upon by hostile ground force, crashed but did not burn in the vicinity LZ VEGHEL, 30km SW of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



# STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

07 April 1969

SSG Kenneth E. Buesing (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 7 April 1969. Sergeant Buesing distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, during an ambush near AP PHU BAI II in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. An element of Company C came in contact with a squad size element of Viet Cong rice carriers. Quickly gaining fire superiority, the element of Company C drove the insurgents from the area. Sergeant Buesing volunteered to accompany his platoon leader in pursuit of the fleeing insurgents. With utter disregard for his own safety, he subjected himself to the insurgents as he went forward into the darkness. While traveling along a trail near the ambush site, the platoon leader spotted a fleeing hostile soldier. Sergeant Buesing flanked the insurgent and killed him. Sergeant Buesing's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order Number 13190, 24 October 1969)

08 April 1968

CPT Nathan N. Miller (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 April 1968. Captain Miller distinguished himself while serving as Company Commander of Company A, 2d Battalion, 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry. Company A was engaged in a combat operation just south of the Demilitarized Zone near QUANG TRI city, Republic of Vietnam. Several North Vietnamese Army units had been detected massing just to the west of Company A moved to the area as a blocking force. Early in the afternoon, the first platoon, which was on a patrol, came into heavy contact with the enemy. After a prolonged engagement, the platoon leader was wounded and unable to give direction to his platoon. With the situation reaching a serious stage, Captain Miller, who was furnishing security for a fire base with the rest of the company, organized the company to move and started giving instructions to the platoon sergeant of the besieged platoon. While hurriedly moving with the company, Captain Miller continuously directed the first platoon as it attempted to hold out until the rest of the company arrived. Captain Miller's understanding of a situation that he could not see, and his directions, were instrumental in preventing the annihilation of the first platoon. After reaching the battle area, Captain Miller effectively took charge of the situation and was able to pull the first platoon back to safety. In doing this, it was necessary that he expose himself to the enemy fire in order to direct fire on the enemy. In the process, he received a shrapnel wound from an enemy rocket, but determinedly refused to be evacuated until all the wounded had been treated. Despite formidable odds, Captain Miller prevented the destruction of one of his units with incredible insight and courage. Captain Miller's exceptional valor was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. (DA, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division; General Order Number 5188, 29 August 1968)

08 April 1969



SP4 James S. Schmidt (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 April 1969. Specialist Schmidt distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in the First Platoon of Company A, 2d Battalion, 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry. Company A was on a search and clear operation in the mountains southeast of HUE, Republic of Vietnam, when the First Platoon came under intense enemy fire. The platoon immediately began to react and moved to a covered position. From his secure position, Specialist Schmidt saw a comrade hit by the heavy fire. Completely disregarding his own safety, he quickly moved through the enemy fire to try and aid the wounded man. The enemy fire was immediately concentrated on him as he worked his way toward the man, but he continued. Having to move the last twenty meters by crawling, he reached the man and was able to give first aid and move him from his unprotected location. Specialist Schmidt's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 4381; 9 May 1969)

09 April 1970



CPL Herman A. Clay Jr. (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 April 1970. Private Clay distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While set up with his squad in a defensive position on a hilltop, Private Clay detected movement to his front and immediately alerted the rest of his squad. Upon investigation he cited a North Vietnamese Army Soldier in the brush preparing to fire at his comrades. Private Clay jumped up into the enemy Soldier's line of fire, engaged him with rifle fire, and sacrificed his own life to save the lives of several of his fellow Soldiers. His actions were an inspiration to his comrades. Private Clay's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 5855; 24 May 1970)

09 April 1970



SP4 John Marks (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 April 1970. Specialist Marks distinguished himself while serving as a medical aid man in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, during combat action in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. When the lead element of his unit was overrun by an enemy force, Specialist Marks immediately volunteered to join a reaction force. After maneuvering to the point of contact, Specialist Marks braved the intense small arms fire to aid the wounded. Moving through the enemy barrage, he administered emergency treatment to severely wounded soldiers and directed his comrades in treating the others. Upon the arrival of medical evacuation helicopters, Specialist Marks moved outside the defensive perimeter to assist in the extraction of wounded personnel. His actions were instrumental in saving many lives. Specialist Marks' personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7877; 9 July 1970)



09 April 1970

SP4 Lenard D. Blachly (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 09 April 1970. SP4 Blachly distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. Despite severe wounds, he protected five wounded with heavy suppressive fire on an enemy force of unknown size, permitting them to be evacuated. His 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. (Bronze Star Medal Citation)

10 April 1968



1SG Frederick C. Brander (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1- OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968. First Sergeant Brander distinguished himself while engaged in military operations against an armed, hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968, while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry. Company A was on a series of search and clear operation just south of the Demilitarized Zone and succeeded in trapping a North Vietnamese unit in the village of PHUC DIEN, Republic of Vietnam. In order to prevent the enemy from escaping, the company set up a cordon around the village and stood by as artillery fire and air strikes raked the area. The task of ferreting out the entrenched enemy fell to the first platoon as it began a sweep of the enemy infested village. After advancing a distance of not more than one hundred meters, the lead squad of the platoon was hit by a heavy volume of automatic weapons fire from a number of enemy positions. With the forward movement stalled, First Sergeant Brander raced forward from his position with the company command group. After seeing that the enemy fire was coming from a small dike directly in front of the platoon, he moved around to the left flank so that he could come up on the side of the enemy. Completely disregarding his own safety and defying the enemy fire that was being aimed solely at him, First Sergeant Brander crawled behind the same dike with the three snipers. Completely surprising the three enemy Soldiers, First Sergeant Brander immediately opened fire killing them. With platoon free to advance, First Sergeant Brander jumped up and moved with the platoon as it continued toward its objective. First Sergeant Brander's exceptional valor is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

10 April 1968



CPT Cleo C. Hogan Jr. (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968. As part of a combat operation near QUANG TRI City, Republic of Vietnam, Captain Hogan led his men in a combat assault on a suspected enemy position. Upon descending into the landing zone, the company began receiving hostile mortar fire. Captain Hogan quickly dispersed his men to lessen the effect of the mortars and then deployed his troops against the enemy force. He halted the advance one hundred and fifty meters from the wood line that contained the enemy positions and requested gas dispensers to harass the enemy while his company made the attack. As the dispensers were delivered to the company location the enemy opened fire with small arms and automatic weapons. Captain Hogan, completely disregarding the intensity of the fire, moved forward to position the gas dispensers and then led the attack against the fortified positions. The second platoon leader's radio-telephone operator was killed in the heavy fire, causing a lapse in communications. To maintain control of the attack, Captain Hogan started to move forward toward the second platoon's location; as he did so, the enemy directed a large volume of small arms and rocket fire at him as he raced and crawled across the open rice paddy. While crawling, he spotted two of the enemy firing from a nearby house. Captain Hogan crawled to within thirty-five meters of the location and fired a light anti-tank weapon. One enemy was killed and the other was forced out of the house, where Captain Hogan shot him with his M-16 rifle. Crawling farther, Captain Hogan spotted other enemy in bunker and trench lines and decided to move his company back and call in artillery. After the barrage, an attack was launched to recover the body of the radio-operator, but the hail of enemy fire forced Captain Hogan to again withdraw his company. Two additional companies were airlifted to the location and the area was cordoned for the night. The next day, Captain Hogan led his company in an assault on the village, killing sixty of the enemy and capturing eleven. Captain Hogan'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.

10 April 1968



PSG James A. Parr (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968. Platoon Sergeant Parr distinguished himself while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Company A was on a search and clear operation south of the demilitarized zone and succeeded in trapping a North Vietnamese unit in the village of PHUC DIEN, Republic of Vietnam. In order to prevent the enemy from escaping, the company set up a cordon around the village and stood by as artillery fire and air strikes were called in on the area. The task of ferreting out the entrenched enemy fell to the First Platoon as it began a sweep of the enemy held village. After advancing a distance of not more than 100 meters, the lead element of the platoon was hit by automatic weapons fire from a number of sniper positions. The battle was such that it was almost impossible for the men to continue forward. Knowing that to stop at that point would be disastrous; Sergeant Parr left his own safe position and moved forward to rally his men. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Parr exposed himself to the intense enemy fire and led his men on an assault to the edge of the village. His valiant actions greatly aided the platoon in accomplishing its mission. Platoon Sergeant Parr'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.





10-11 April 1968

SP4 Harry P. Longbottom Jr. (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1968 through 11 April 1968. Specialist Longbottom distinguished himself while serving as a point man with Company D, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry. Company D was conducting a combat operation in the vicinity of THON PHOUC DIEN, Republic of Vietnam, when Specialist Longbottom's platoon became pinned down by a barrage of enemy grenade, automatic weapons, and machine gun fire. Disregarding his own safety, Specialist Longbottom advanced in the face of a blistering hail of fire, and by using his M-16 rifle and grenade, single-handedly killed three North Vietnamese Soldiers. His courage in the face of grave danger was an inspiration for the other members of his platoon and made it possible for them to reorganize and press the attack further. He therefore played a great part in helping his company to accomplish its mission. Throughout the night and the following morning, the North Vietnamese attempted to break through the friendly forces and again Specialist Longbottom displayed his skills by killing two more enemy Soldiers with a burst of fire from his M-16 rifle. As his platoon advanced the next day, Specialist Longbottom killed one North Vietnamese Soldier within an instant of sighting him and captured another. Specialist Longbottom's devotion to duty and extraordinary heroism over the two-day period is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (General Order No. Unknown; 27 October 1968)

10 April 1969

SP4 John J. Colna (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1969. Specialist Colna distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in the Third Platoon of Company C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry, on a combat operation in the A SHAU VALLEY, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon had just reached the crest of a hill when it came under heavy automatic weapons, small arms, and rocket propelled grenade fire from an estimated platoon of North Vietnamese Army Soldiers. In the first moments of contact, many men of the lead elements were wounded and required immediate first aid. With the element still receiving heavy volume of enemy fire, and with utter disregard for his own safety, Specialist Colna ran from his rear position to his wounded comrades. Completely ignoring the heavy volume of enemy fire, he was attracting, he continued to administer emergency first aid to the fallen men. He moved from man to man encouraging them and giving aid, and he remained in his position until the enemy resistance was overcome, and he could personally assist in the evacuation of the Soldiers. Specialist Colna's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order Number 8552, 10 July 1969)

10 April 1969



1LT Valentine J. Zapert (E/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 on 10 April 1969. Lieutenant Zapert distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company E, 1st Battalion, 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry during the conduct of a search and clear mission approximately twelve kilometers southwest of the village of Phu Loc, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. On the cited date, the Reconnaissance Platoon of Company E observed a platoon size enemy force moving in its direction. Setting up a hasty ambush, Lieutenant Zapert deployed his men in a strategic fighting position. In the ensuing battle, with complete disregard for his own safety, he openly moved through the intense fire to his men as he pointed out targets. His actions were most instrumental in routing the enemy force and contributed immeasurably to the death of two enemy Soldiers and the capture of another. Lieutenant Zapert'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.

11 April 1967



SP4 Kenneth E. James (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously). Specialist Four James' element, while moving along a jungle trail which had dense vegetation on both sides, suddenly began receiving a tremendous volume of automatic weapons fire from two platoons of well entrenched enemy soldiers. Specialist James immediately returned fire and deployed his fire team, but the enemy fire was so suppressive that his men could not maneuver against the entrenched enemy. Having had two men wounded by an enemy machine gun and realizing the danger his comrades were in, Specialist James, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, unhesitatingly rushed forward, exposing himself immediately to the intense hostile fire, and charged the entrenched machine gun position which had his unit pinned down, as specialist James was conducting his courageous assault on the machine gun position, he was mortally wounded. Specialist James' daring charge gave his men the needed inspiration and courage to sweep forward. In doing so they succeeded in routing the enemy soldiers, causing them to leave their packs and one machine gun behind, Specialist James' heroic action and avid devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (IFFV; General Orders Number 387; 5 May 1967)

11 April 1967



SSG Ray Archuletta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while on a search and destroy mission the point element of the First Platoon, B Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, suddenly became engaged in a fire fight with an estimated enemy squad reinforced with a light machine gun. As the intensity of the enemy fire increased, Staff Sergeant Archuletta quickly determined the precarious situation of the point element. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Sergeant Archuletta jumped to his feet and charged through the withering enemy automatic weapons fire to within approximately twenty feet of the enemy machine gun position and threw a hand grenade into the emplacement, knocking it out. Sergeant Archuletta continued to advance on the enemy position and captured the enemy automatic weapon that had been abandoned by the wounded enemy soldier. Sergeant Archuletta quickly returned to his squad and continued to expose himself to the withering enemy fire while deploying his squad and personally directing their fire. Sergeant Archuletta on several occasions moved through the tremendous volume of enemy fire and personally pulled some of his wounded comrades to covered positions. His actions saved the lives of several of his wounded comrades and enabled the platoon to successfully assault and overrun the determined enemy force. Sergeant Archuletta's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are within the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, I Field Force Vietnam; General Order Number 611; 1 August 1967)



11 April 1968



1SG Frederick C. Brander (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 11 April 1968. First Sergeant Brander distinguished himself while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry. Company A was involved in a combat operation around PHUC DIEN, Republic of Vietnam and was able to trap the enemy force in the village and place a cordon around it. The trapped enemy Soldiers were trying desperately to break out of the snare and maintain close contact with the friendly troops so that airstrikes and artillery fire could not be called in. First Sergeant Brander, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, raced back and forth along the edge of the line, encouraging his men and giving directions for preventing the enemy's escape. Because of the lack of a secondary force, it was necessary that every man know how to react instantly. As numerous men were wounded, First Sergeant Brander again exposed himself to the intense automatic weapons fire to treat the men and pull them back from the area of contact. When it became obvious to him that some of the men would have to be evacuated, he prepared a medical evacuation landing zone and personally carried a number of the more seriously wounded to the medical evacuation helicopter. First Sergeant Brander's exceptional valor is 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; General Order Number 9432)



12 April 1968



SGT Thomas G. Pitts (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 12 April 1968. Sergeant Pitts distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader with Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, during an ambush patrol near the village of AP DUC TRONG, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. The ambush patrol, consisting of two squads, had just set up its ambush site when both the company night defensive position and the ambush patrol came under an intense barrage of hostile automatic weapons, rocket propelled grenade, and hand grenade fire. The initial bursts of fire delivered upon the ambush site critically wounded the platoon leader and seriously wounded Sergeant Pitts. Refusing medical treatment for himself, Sergeant Pitts immediately assumed command of the ambush element and skillfully organized the defense of the completely encircled position. With utter disregard to his personal safety and the pain he suffered, he courageously exposed himself to the devastating enemy fire as he moved from man to man pointing out targets and lending encouragement to his beleaguered troopers. Withdrawal was impossible without abandoning the many wounded and the dead. When the hostile force had terminated its attack on the patrol all, but three men had been wounded. At such time that a relief element could be dispatched it was Sergeant Pitts who directed the element to the patrol's position. Not until the relief element leader had reached his location did Sergeant Pitts relinquish his command and allow himself to receive treatment. Sergeant Pitt's extraordinarily heroic actions and indomitable courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military Service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

12 April 1971

SP4 Robert J. Ivy (A/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. Specialist Four Ivy distinguished himself on 12 April 1971 while serving as a squad leader during combat operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. After being inserted into a landing zone, Specialist Ivy's squad came under intense small arms, rocket propelled grenade and automatic weapons fire. Organizing his men, he delivered accurate suppressive fire on the well-fortified enemy position. Observing his platoon leader seriously wounded and lying in an open area, Specialist Ivy maneuvered through the enemy fire and carried his wounded comrade to a relatively safe area where he administered emergency first aid. Specialist Ivy assumed the duties of platoon leader and directed the accurate and devastating suppressive fire on the enemy. When the enemy had been silenced, he assisted the wounded back to the landing zone and called for an evacuation helicopter. His actions were instrumental in saving the life of a fellow soldier. Specialist Four Ivy's gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military and military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



# 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

