



STRIKE

Vietnam War Weekly History



April 14th – April 20th, 2019

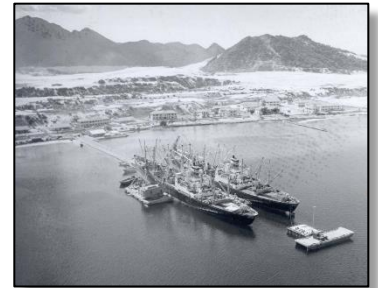
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Brief History of the 501st, 502nd and 2nd Brigade (101st ABN DIV)

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



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



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



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

14 April 1966

Operation AUSTIN II: At 1815H, two CIDG companies and one RF company were moved by helicopter from YT974318 to the 2-502 IN BN base camp, ZT049338, to provide security for the TAC CP and C/2-320 ARTY. C/2-502 IN infiltrated to ZT073360 and moved a platoon each to ZT045375 and ZT076355, C1 and C2. At 1115H, C/2-502 IN discovered a base camp consisting of 5 huts at ZT049377. One Viet Cong cook was captured, and the huts were destroyed.

TF Schroeder continued "Checkerboard" operations vicinity ZT1327. A Viet Cong squad was engaged by Recon platoon vicinity ZT134274 with negative results. Recon platoon was escorting 11 refugees from ZT129251 to TF Schroeder's CP and were engaged by an unknown size Viet Cong element at 1615H vicinity ZT134370. One Viet Cong was killed, one weapon and one Viet Cong captured. At 1830H, B1A; a squad from B/2-502 IN engaged 4 Viet Cong at ZT161271, wounding 1 Viet Cong.

TF Schroeder continued "Checkerboard" operations from their base ZT135276. Recon B3 platoon engaged 2 Viet Cong at ZT132274 with negative results. At 1500H, Recon platoon destroyed a Viet Cong village at ZT125256. TF Schroeder CP was hit by small arms automatic fire and intensive probing recurred between 1750H and 2200H with negative results.

Thirty Montagnard refugees came into the 2-502 IN BN CP around 0800H. They were interrogated and evacuated to THAN LINH. At 1814H, Recon platoon discovered a base camp capable of housing 200 personnel vicinity ZT135275. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

14 April 1967

Operation SUMMERALL: Two light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 1 US WIA and 1 enemy individual weapon captured. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

14 – 15 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 LZ SALLY and WUNDER BEACH. Contact was light during the reporting period a total of 15 contacts, only nine of which there was an exchange of fire. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 2 US KIA, 3 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment – 3 NVA KIA (BC), 4 VC KIA (BC), 2 detainees, 1 AP mine (destroyed), 1 AT mine (destroyed), 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 1 AK-47 (destroyed by artillery).

1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP to YD726328. At 1155H observed 1VC in the open vicinity YD730328. Called in artillery. Negative enemy assessment. At 1200H observed 3 NVA with weapons vicinity YD728328. Engaged with M-79, M-60 and called in artillery. Negative enemy assessment. At 1350H reverted to OPCON of 1-505 IN BN.

B/1-501 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE. 2nd platoon conducted local RIF operation SW of AN LO BRIDGE. At 0848H received AK-47 fire from estimated VC squad vicinity YD611291. Negative casualties. Called in artillery and 81mm mortar fire. Negative enemy assessment. At 0935H vicinity YD611291 1 US KIA by a BBT 105mm round. 2nd platoon to AN LO BRIDGE, closed at 1430H. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA; negative enemy assessment.

C/1-501 IN conducted RIF from NDP vicinity YD690312 to vicinity YD683311. AT 0750H vicinity YD686308 received one burst of AK-47 fire. Returned fire with SA. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. At 0830H vicinity YD684307 received AK-47 fire from approximately 6-8 VC/NVA. Firing ceased at 0853H. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment. At 0945H vicinity YD683311 received AK-47 fire from 6-10 NVA. Returned SA and AW fire. Contact broken at 0950H. Negative casualties, enemy assessment 3 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47 (destroyed by artillery). Supported by 4 air strike sorties between 1230H and 1420H. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA. Enemy assessment – 3 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47.

D/1-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD654286 to vicinity YD670290. At 0745H vicinity YD655283 spotted 3 VC and engaged with SA. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. Established NDP vicinity YD670290. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon OPCON to B/1-501 IN. Conducted RIF operation from AN LO BRIDGE to vicinity YD643297 and returned.

2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN at 2255H ambush vicinity YD444493 engaged 8 personnel across canal with SA fire resulting in 2 VC KIA (BC). Provided security for minesweep along WUNDER BEACH access road from HAI LANG and FSB HARDCORE. A/2-501 IN (-) conducted training in the attack of fortified villages YD483487. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 2 VC KIA (BC).



B/2-501 IN provided security for minesweep south from WUNDER BEACH. Conducted training in the attack of fortified villages vicinity YD467580.

C/2-501 IN provided security for minesweep south from WUNDER BEACH. C/2-501 IN (-) conducted maintenance and prepared for future operations.

D/2-501 IN reinforced paramilitary forces at bridge site vicinity YD437433, YD460400, and YD477376. At 2100H vicinity YD481369 lead man of ambush enroute to YD483370 was WIA from SA at close range. Fire was returned by remainder of ambush with negative enemy assessment. Ambush withdrew to bridge vicinity YD476376 for medevac of WIA.

Recon platoon provided security for WUNDER BEACH.

1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN at 0700H closed LZ SALLY from NDP's vicinity LZ SALLY.

C/2-501 IN at 0700H closed LZ SALLY from NDP's vicinity LZ SALLY.

1-502 IN BN OPCON to 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV effective 151400APR.

(Commanders Situation Report; 142001H April – 152000H April 1968; CPT John G. Sandlin, Kayo 3)

- 14 April 1968 1-502 IN BN had a day of relaxation for the battle-weary troops of the Battalion as they had stood down at WUNDER BEACH.
- 14 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** A/1-502 IN RIF to the north and at 0730H vicinity YC501959 3rd platoon engaged 3 NVA with claymores. Results: 1 NVA KIA. A/1-502 IN later found 1 NVA KIA in a fresh grave. B/1-502 IN continued to RIF to the northeast and C/1-502 IN and Recon RIF to the south. C/1-502 IN found 1 NVA KIA in a fresh grave. D/1-502 IN continued to RIF to the north.
- 14 April 1970 Recon/1-502 IN found 2 bunkers and 1 latrine. One bunker was a medical or sleeping bunker and the other was a mess hall. There was a passageway between the two bunkers.
- 15 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** C/2-502 IN continued "Checkerboard" operations with negative contact through 15 April 1966. C/2-502 IN locations at 1815H were: C/2-502 IN (-) at ZT095373; C/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon (+) at ZT105355. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)
- 15 April 1967 **Operation SUMMERALL:** 2-502 IN BN (-) terminated operations in the south portion of the SUMMERALL AO and conducted airmobile extraction to KHANH DUONG to commence preparation for future operations in the SUMMERALL AO. One CIDG company, LAC THIEN CIDG Camp terminated direct support to the 2-502 IN BN and extracted to LAC THIEN. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)
- 15 April 1967 **Operation SUMMERALL:** 2-502 IN BN was extracted to KHANH DUONG to prepare for Phase III of Operation SUMMERALL. Numerous SPAR's reports and HOI CHAN informers indicated that the 7th and 8th Battalion, 18-B Regiment (NVA) and a company-sized VC Province Unit were based on HON BA MOUNTAIN. 18-B was an old foe of the STRIKE FORCE and was reportedly once again operational as a result of replacements from NVN.
- 15 – 16 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 BC/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 10 contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly forces – 2 US KIA, 4 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 17 NVA KIA (BC), 2 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC POW, 2 AK-47, 2 SKS, 1 LMG, 1 M-16, 6 60mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 1090 rounds SA ammo, 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed) 1 BBT (destroyed).

1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN OPCON to 1-505 IN BN until 161630 April. Moved to NDP vicinity YD689284. Provided blocking position by establishing NDP vicinity YD695294 and ambushes YD698287, YD698289, YD690289 and YD688291. Between 0135H and 0145H received grenades from estimated 7 VC and 6 rounds RPG fire. Returned fire with M-79 and called in artillery at YD698295 where enemy had fled. Results – 2 US WIA. Negative enemy assessment. Conducted RIF operation to the south to vicinity YD689277. At 1520H vicinity YD685285 found a grave resulting in 1 NVA KIA (BC), and 90 rounds SA ammo. Totals: 2 US WIA, 1 NVA KIA (BC), 90 rounds SA ammo.

B/1-501 IN OPCON to 2-17 CAV provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and Squadron RRF. At 1625H received 30 rounds of AK-47 fire from vicinity YD622302. Returned SA and M-79 fire. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

C/1-501 IN ambushed vicinity YD682315 and YD683311. Conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD678317 to vicinity YD688303, YD672288, to YD658293 for NDP. At 1008H vicinity YD688303 received SA fire from 3 NVA. Contact was broken at 1045H. Results – 1 US WIA, 1 NVA KIA. Between 1200H and 1210H received one air strike vicinity YD676297. At 1610H vicinity YD652294 spotted 1 VC running north. Called in artillery. Negative assessment. Friendly losses – 1 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA.



D/1-501 IN ambushed vicinity YD668289, YD674294 and YD666286. At 22345H the ambush vicinity YD674294 engaged estimated 2 NVA squads moving SW. Enemy fled to SW and was engaged by NDP vicinity YD671290. Enemy was engaged with claymores, SA and artillery. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 7 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47, 1 SKS, 1 LMG, 1 M-16, 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed). Conducted RIF operation vicinity YD6727 and YD6626. At 0900H received SA, AW and M-79 fire from an estimated squad resulting in 1 US KIA. Negative enemy assessment. At 1318H vicinity YD675195 engaged 1 NVA with SA. Results 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47. At YD673294 found graves containing 6 NVA bodies approximately 4 days old. Results 6 NVA KIA (BC). At 1547H vicinity YD664286 engaged 2 VC with SA fire, negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. Totals: Friendly losses – 1 US KIA; Enemy assessment – 14 NVA KIA (BC), 2 AK-47, 1 SKS, 1 LMG, 1 M-16.

Recon platoon conducted RIF operation from NDP at AN LO BRIDGE NE along the river. At 0935H vicinity YD642229 received AK-47 fire from approximately 3 positions. Pulled back and fired artillery. Contact broken at 1004H. Results: Negative casualties. 1 VC KIA (BC), 1 SKS. At YD642300 found a fresh grave containing 1 VC KIA (BC). At 1132H vicinity YD651287 received fire from 6.62 LMG. Called for artillery and contact broken at 1205H. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. Between 1235H and 1421H received 3 air strikes in support vicinity YD651287. Moved to NDP vicinity YD649293. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 2 VC KIA (BC), 1 SKS.

2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN ambushed vicinity YD439507. Provided security for minesweep from HAI LANG N and from FSB HARDCORE N and S along access road to WUNDER BEACH.

B/2-501 IN ambushed vicinity YD475571. Provided minesweep security S from WUNDER BEACH.

C/2-501 IN ambushed vicinity YD500550. Conducted training in the attack of fortified villages vicinity YD462585.

D/2-501 IN reinforced paramilitary forces (PF) at bridge sites vicinity YD437433, YD460400 and YD477376. Ambushed vicinity YD455405, YD481374, YD450432, YD506374 and YD453432. At 2113H the ambush vicinity YD450432 engaged 8 enemy moving S across the river. Enemy fled. Negative assessment. At 1215H the ambush engaged 3 NVA with claymores. Results – 1 NVA KIA (BC). Provided security for minesweep N from bridge sites. At 0735H vicinity YD480550, 1 individual providing security for minesweep stepped on pressure type mine. Results – 1 US KIA. At 1150H conducted a combat assault from bridge sites to LZ vicinity YD473489. Conducted training in the attack of fortified villages vicinity YD473487. At 1515H vicinity YD474486 found 1000 rounds SA ammo, 6 60mm mortar round (destroyed). Returned to bridge sites by truck. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA; Enemy assessment - 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1000 rounds SA ammo, 6 60mm mortar rounds (destroyed).

Recon platoon provided security at WUNDER BEACH.

(Commanders Situation Report; 152001H April – 162000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

- 15 April 1968 1-502 IN BN spend the day completing the move to LZ SALLY. The units took re-supply and prepared for future operations.
- 15 April 1969 Elements of the 1-501 IN BN from the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) find a munitions cache 17km southwest of A SHAU in THUA THIEN Province. Cache is estimated at 9.5 tons and includes over 2,000 mortar rounds. (USMAVC; Command History 1969, Volume III; 30 April 1970)
- 15 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** All units of the 1-502 IN BN conducted RIF operations to the north, in preparation for extraction.
- 15 April 1969 At 0705H, C/1-501 IN received heavy sniper fire (YC673749) vicinity of FSB PINE. The unit returned organic weapons fire and called in artillery. Results: Enemy Unknown with 2 Friendly KIA and 10 WIA (EVAC). (III MAF Significant Events Log for 0600-1700, 15 April 1969)
- 15 April 1970 Pink team located signs of very recent activity in area 687065. They fired up the area with negative results. D/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon at YD807034 found a hootch made of Bangalore torpedo boxes. Inside were various GI newspapers. The hootch was destroyed.
- 15 April 1971 C/1-501 IN, 1st platoon vicinity ZC095970 found eight bunker 4x6. Two trails running East to West no recent activity.
- 15 April – July 1971 **Operation LAM SON 720:** In early April, it became obvious that the NVA was making extensive use of the A SHAU VALLEY to move troops, equipment, and supplies. The 1BDE was assigned to overall mission of disrupting the enemies' logistic system and impeding his use of the A SHAU VALLEY Area. The Brigade Commander elected to employ airmobile raid tactics with rapid operations of a short duration. For five days, the companies patrolled the area around FSB JACK and took turns refining rappelling techniques at FSB JACK. On 22 April, A/2-502 IN took the initiative with a night combat patrol north of A LOUI AIRFIELD and south of the Razorback. E/2-502 IN followed with a reconnaissance assault and mortar raid on Eagle Nest where they established a patrol base for Alpha's raid on the Valley floor. These operations were conducted professionally and reflected the extensive training conducted in the staging area. The result that the company created was the illusion that the entire STRIKE FORCE was employed in the A SHAU VALLEY, thus delaying and restricting the enemy's use of the area. B/2-502 IN was directed to assist the 17th CAV in an aircraft rescue mission in the southern portion of the A SHAU VALLEY. In typical STRIKE FORCE fashion, B/2-502 IN, minus one platoon, with one platoon of C/2-502 IN attached combat assaulted into the valley late one evening and moved to secure the high ground. The next morning, they attacked south against heavy resistance and secured the downed helicopters. B/2-502 IN and



C/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon then returned to FSB JACK. Due to unflyable weather over the planned area of operation, the battalion spent four days at FSB JACK receiving additional training.

One April 30th, the weather cleared allowing a small element of the battalion to be inserted on CO PUNG MOUNTAIN. One thousand fifteen meters in height, CO PUNG commands the eastern approach to the upper A SHAU VALLEY. To enjoy any success in the upper valley CO PUNG had to be held. It was to be a 1BDE support base for future raids in and around Tiger MOUNTAIN. STRIKE FORCE was called upon to seize and hold CO PUNG MOUNTAIN. Following B-52 strikes, fighter bomber attacks, and extensive artillery fire, the battalion landed on CO PUNG fighting bad weather and a determined enemy. On (15 April 1971) the initial sortie onto the MOUNTAIN two of the lift ships crashed on the LZ resulting in 5 STRIKE FORCE Troopers KIA (SSG Pacheco, SGT Wilson, SGT Cowley, SGT Gettelfinger, CPL Dutkiewicz) and 10 WIA. Recon and Bravo quickly seized the high ground and the engineers expanded the LZ's. C/2-502 IN and D/2-502 IN took the southern and eastern sides respectively. On 2 May the enemy in the surrounding areas launched the first of many mortar attacks against CO PUNG. On 5 May, the Command and Control aircraft for the battalion spotted thirty NVA approximately 1000 meters from CO PUNG and engaged them with gunships with unknown results. Because the battalion was the first allied force to assault that area on the fringe of the A SHAU VALLEY, an enormous amount of enemy activity was discovered, and an endless collection of intelligence data was collected. During a nine-day stay on CO PUNG the battalion received eleven 60/81mm mortar attacks and seven 57/75mm recoilless rifle attacks without one single injury to a STRIKE FORCE Soldier. This was credited to effective counter mortar programming using air, artillery, and mortars; radio discipline (the enemy was never told where his rounds were impacting); sound combat patrolling (both day and night) and outstanding soldiering by individuals and fighting units. Some 101st troopers made the ultimate sacrifice on CO PUNG and some STRIKE FORCE troops suffered injuries.

Most STRIKE FORCE troopers will remember CO PUNG for the hardship created by unusually bad weather and the numerous enemy attacks, but the capture of CO PUNG opened the gate for the 1st ARVN Division in the upper A SHAU VALLEY. Major General Tarpley, Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), told many troopers on the day of the battalions return from CO PUNG that they STRIKE FORCE troopers were the first Americans to set foot on the MOUNTAIN. On May 8th an ARVN unit located at CO PUNG and the STRIKE FORCE battalion was extracted back to FSB JACK (YD 4928) to prepare for insertion on the following day into the area west of OP CHECKMATE and north of FSB VEGHEL.

The return to OP CHECKMATE and the surrounding AO on 9 May lasted only ten days. During the period of 9-18 May the battalion patrolled the area surrounding FSB VEGHEL. On 17 May one team of the Recon Platoon air assaulted into FSB SHOCK (Vic 5105). Also, on that day, C/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon, observed and engaged three NVA's. The following day A/2-502 IN discovered an old bunker complex and approximately 300 pounds of printing type. On the 18th, D/2-502 IN and E/2-502 IN (-) combat assaulted into an area in vicinity of FSB VEGHEL. D/2-502 IN moved onto and secured FSB VEGHEL while the remaining elements of the battalion conducted "Search and Clear" missions three to five kilometers south of FSB VEGHEL. Prior to our battalion's assault into this AO, a unit of Vietnamese Marines had been operating in this area and had numerous enemy contacts. From the sum of intelligence collected, it was concluded that the NVA had a major base of operations located east of the SONG BO RIVER. The battalion's mission was to move into the area forcing this base west of the SONG BO, at which time B-52 strikes, FAC airstrikes, and artillery would be dropped on their suspected location. While the 3rd ARVN Regiment was heavily engaged with the 6th NVA Regiment west of the SONG BO RIVER and south of Route 547, the "ALWAYS FIRST" Brigade moved to secure their eastern flank. E/2-502 IN secured DONG A VO MOUNTAIN while A/2-502 IN and B/2-502 IN attacked south with extensive fire support. C/2-502 IN joined in the final assault on Hill 608. The operation turned out to be a true infantry ground attack.

The combat assault of the Vietnamese Marines and elements of the 1st ARVN Division into the known location of the 6th ARVN Regiment around FSB VEGHEL was heartening to the STRIKE FORCE troopers. While the battalion of the 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV was deployed along a line north and east of FSB VEGHEL, the South Vietnamese Marines and Army units struck deep into the 6th NVA territory. This operation vividly demonstrated that the combat effectiveness of our Vietnamese counterparts. This was the first time that American units had been passed by Vietnamese units in pursuit of the enemy. The combined operation with the 3rd ARVN Regiment at FSB VEGHEL was a perfect example of this. While the battalion was securing their artillery and headquarters at FSB VEGHEL, the 3d ARVN Regiment attacked the 6th NVA Regiment at DONG A TAY MOUNTAIN.

Having completed the operation south of FSB VEGHEL (Vic 5503); A, B, D, and E (-) Companies CA'd into the AO north of FSB VEGHEL while B Company continued to secure firebases.

On 6 June, the battalion CA'd into the AO north of FSB BASTOGNE (Vic YD 6209), companies moving onto OP LION (A Co.), OP VIBER (B Co.), FSB BASTOGNE (C Co.), OP KING (E Co.), and D/2-502 IN securing route 547. The mission was to interdict any enemy activity such as food agents or tax collectors traveling back and forth from HUE to the SONG BO RIVER area. A/2-502 IN and B/2-502 IN closed OP's LION and VIPER and moved off them to patrol the AO.

The AO the battalion was assigned to patrol was one of considerable enemy activity. Through the 1-327 IN BN and the ARVN had patrolled this area for the past 2 years, the battalion found innumerable enemy bunker complexes, high speed trails and sleeping positions. The STRIKE FORCE Battalion took charge and on 21 June the sniper platoon spotted and engaged 5 NVA, wounding one and capturing him a short time later. This POW was a food carrier/agent for the NVA and was carrying rice and supplies out to the area NW of FSB BASTOGNE where he was to link up with a NVA Sapper unit. The POW related that because of increased presence (2-502 IN) in the area the enemy units were critically short of food. The following day the Sniper platoon found several sets of fresh footprints and a satchel charge.

During the month, all the units were able to get two days at EAGLE BEACH for a short R&R period. However, E/2-502 IN spent more time there than most because of their outstanding performance. To add to the Snipers, capture on 21 June, Recon Team 1, on 25 June observed, engaged, and killed 1 NVA. SGT Rathert was leading the patrol when he spotted



the NVA walking toward him on the same trail. Reacting instantly, SGT Rathert killed this NVA and began to take necessary precautions for other NVA being in the same area. However, there were no others. One AK-47 and some documents were captured. On 24 June, A/2-502 IN, 3rd platoon conducted a combined operation with Regional Force companies from NAM HOA District. Several Days later, on 28 June, the battalion moved to FSB TENNESSEE (Vic YC 5596) to conduct operations in that area. B/2-502 IN and a forward TOC were located on FSB TENNESSEE. On 29 June, the other companies of STRIKE FORCE CA'd into the area surrounding FSB TENNESSEE. From the onset of this operation there were numerous signs of enemy activity. D/2-502 IN found fresh footprints, bunkers, and a tunnel. C/2-502 IN found some bamboo hootches; A/2-502 IN discovered very fresh footprints of 1 NVA and tracks of one dog. These operations were not without price. On 17 June, the Platoon Leader, pointman and Kit Carson Scout of A/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon was wounded when a booby trap detonated. The next day the platoon observed and engaged an unknown size enemy force resulting in one STRIKE FORCE Trooper WIA. Later that day, one RPG round from an unknown enemy force killed one STRIKE FORCE Trooper and wounded another.

July saw the STRIKE FORCE Battalion still in Operation LAM SON 720. The mission of the battalion was to fix the position of the K-2 NVA Battalion, believed to be operating near FSB TENNESSEE and to interdict enemy traffic. At all times, the basic mission of the battalion was to deny the enemy food, freedom of movement and flexibility of operations. This was accomplished by conducting preplanned air strikes and artillery fires.

On 2 July, the point element of A/2-502 IN detonated a booby trap resulting in one STRIKE FORCE Trooper KIA and three other WIA. Personnel operating in the FSB TENNESSEE area became wary when approaching suspected enemy locations. On one occasion, elements of D/2-502 IN received two rounds of incoming mortar near their location without suffering any casualties. Sweep operations continued in the AO and members of the battalion found numerous trails, huts, and bunkers. The operation on and around FSB TENNESSEE revealed there was substantial enemy activity in that area. Increased air strikes, flame drops, and artillery fires were placed on the suspected enemy locations. In mid-month, the battalions moved off FSB TENNESSEE and established FSB SPEAR. This move was to provide support for operations in that area and to provide screening elements for the southern area of operations. During this period, the battalion TOC was located at FSB NORMANDY, with the unit continuing its operations in the AO without any significant contact with the enemy. The STRIKE FORCE Battalion continued its successful interdiction of enemy infiltration routes and denied the enemy its basic needs. The end of July brought to a close of Operation LAM SON 720 and ushered in the renewal of Operations JEFFERSON GLEN. (2d Battalion, 502d Infantry; Unit History, Approved by LTC John C. Snodgrass, IN, Commanding)

15 April 1971

D/2-501 IN discovered a 3 foot wide trail oriented north-south. There were indications of enemy activity within the last 48 hours. Nam Hoa): 2/D and 3/D observed enemy movement 250m from their positions. Artillery was employed on the enemy position. At 1325H an OH-6A received 1 RPG round from the same enemy element resulting in negative hits or casualties. Additional artillery fire and an airstrike were employed, and a visual reconnaissance of the area had negative results. 4 Kilometers SE of FB Veghel): While en route to a LZ where A/2-510 IN had contact on April 13, D/2-501 IN received RPG rounds and small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force in a tunnel complex 300m south of their position. The element returned organic weapons fire and then received heavy small arms fire, RPG rounds, and 60mm mortar rounds from an estimated reinforced NVA company surrounding their position. Artillery, ARA, a Nighthawk, flareship, a Shadow, FAC and a Basketball were employed to assist D/2-501 IN.

Ground contact was broken at 2025H, with 4 US KIA, 2 US MIA, and 10 serious US WIA reported at the time. Urgent medevacs were requested with the first medevac completed to 85th Evac at 2042H and a second medevac completed at 2050H. The medevac aircraft received RPG rounds and small arms fire, and there still remained 8 wounded men in urgent need of extraction. The POL point at FSB BIRMINGHAM was urgently opened up so that all aircraft involved in the support of D/2-501 IN could be refueled. At 2130H additional flareships were requested and additional gunships placed on standby, as the Division TOC was complaining that the emergency re supply for artillery illumination was not passed through their channels.

At 2153H another medevac was completed, making a total of 3 US WIA evacuated to 85th Evac. The medevac aircraft received an unknown number of hits and small arms fire and mortar fire, with the fire appearing to come from all directions. At 2223H the fourth medevac aircraft (Dustoff 93) received an unknown number of small arms fire hits while making an extraction. 1 crew member received a minor wound in the leg and the medevac was forced to abort the extraction and return to home station. At 2243H the fifth attempted medevac (Dustoff 94) reported taking 10-12 hits by enemy fire. With its fuel gauge reading zero and internal radio problems the aircraft aborted its mission and returned to home base. At 2312H LTC Michael Boos (2-501 CO) reported that there would be no more medevacs attempted until daylight the next morning. At this time the Battalion TOC reported there remained 5 US WIA in need of a medevac and 10 US WIA that were "not serious".

The medevac aircraft for D/2-501 IN were reported on station at 0614H and 0632H. At 0655H the first medevac attempt to D/2-501 IN (Dustoff 92) received numerous hits of 12.7mm machine gun fire and the aircraft was forced to abort mission and return to FSB BASTOGNE to check the damage. The ARA with the medevac engaged the enemy element and also received heavy machine gun fire. At 0710H, D/2-501 IN moved east with patients on litters. At 0750H the Company received small arms fire from 360 degrees with negative casualties. The Company returned organic weapons fire. At this time the Company reports there remain 8 WIA's to be evacuated from previous contact. The Delta CO also reported it has enemy to their front and rear and in between them and 3rd platoon. The BN CO advised the Company to "reduce enemy and move to the east." The Company continued to receive ARA and TAC AIR support.

At 0830H Dustoff 92 went back in and completed a medevac with 2 WIA's to 85th Evac, another dustoff to 85th Evac with 2 WIA's was completed at 0933H, and a third dustoff (Dustoff 90) was completed to 85th Evac with 3 WIA's at 0945H. Upon departure of the last medevac the Company again received heavy small arms fire and RPG fire, and an unknown number of mortar rounds at 1002H, resulting in an additional 3 US WIA (1 critical). An urgent medevac was requested. At



1016H a dustoff (Dustoff 92) was completed to FSB BASTOGNE with 2 WIA's (1 US DOA at BASTOGNE), later taken to 85th Evac. Another dustoff (Dustoff 90) was completed at 1026H with 3 WIA's to 85th Evac, completing the extraction of all serious D/2-501 IN wounded. At 0847H battalion requested an aircraft with a hoist for removal of 5 D/2-501 IN KIA's, but the request was turned down because all available aircraft were working for the 2-501 extracting WIA's. Total casualties for D/2-501 IN for the April 15-16 contact: 14 US WIA (E), 6 US KIA. Terry Williard Greene was one of those killed.

At 1444H an Engineer Team (0/326) repelled to YD581021 to cut a LZ for the extraction of D/2-501 IN. At 1645H the Company was moved by air from that location to FSB BIRMINGHAM (completed at 1728H), and then moved again by air from BIRMINGHAM to PHU BAI. The April 15-16 contact involving D/2-501 IN was one of the last significant engagements involving U.S. ground troops in Vietnam.

16 April 1966

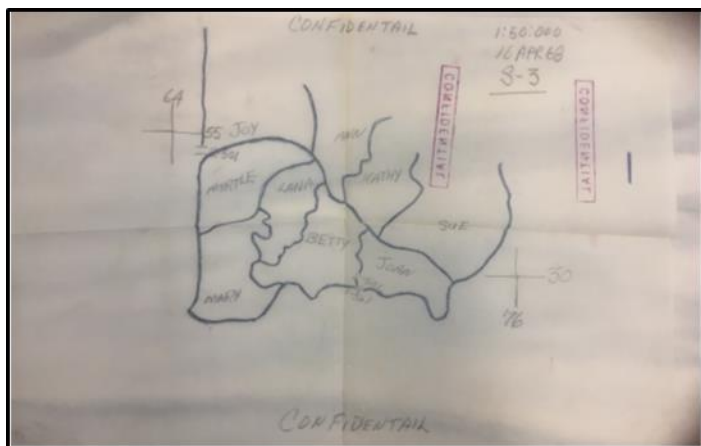
Operation AUSTIN II: At 2000H, the 2-502 IN BN base was moved via helicopter to ZT135275. C/2-320 ARTY was moved to this location. A/2-502 IN continued "Checkerboard" operations vicinity ZT1029. B/2-502 IN continued "Checkerboard" operations vicinity ZT135275. At 1030H, B/2-502 IN engaged an estimated Viet Cong squad at ZT138252 resulting in 2 Viet Cong killed (BC) and 1 US killed and two US wounded. C/2-502 IN continued operating vicinity ZT1134, through 16 April. The body of a US trooper who drowned was recovered. C/2-502 IN continued to move toward the 2-502 IN BN base area, engaging 2 Viet Cong at ZT134272 at 1030H, killing one and wounding the other with one set of web equipment captured. The 210-man CIDG Forces at ZT044344 moved to the CIDG camp THANH LINH by helicopter. At 1730H, two companies, one of which was Cambodian were moved by helicopter from the CIDG camp to the 2-502 IN BN base area vicinity ZT135275 by 1830H. Recon platoon and 140-man CIDG Company commenced "Recondo Checkerboard" operation at 2100H along routes White and Red with negative enemy contact. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

16 April 1967

Operation SUMMERALL: The company of the 2-502 IN BN relieved of the Route 21 security mission returned overland to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparation for future operations. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

16 – 17 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 BC/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 6 contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 6 US WIA (5 medevac). Enemy assessment – 5 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47, 1 RPG-2 launcher, 2 B-40 rounds (destroyed), 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 180 rounds SA.



1-501 IN BN

At 1330H vicinity YD728307, an informer told D/1-501 IN that 2 NVA companies were located vicinity YD723314 and YD726305. During the afternoon the battalion deployed to blocking positions around the objective area. 4 air strikes were flown into the objective area between 1555H and 1642H. Continuous illumination will be provided throughout the night.

A/1-501 IN conducted RIF from NDP vicinity YD689284 NE to vicinity YD723305. At 1015H vicinity 713294, A/1-501 IN (-) engaged 8 NVA. Contact broken at 1045H. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment - 3 NVA KIA (BC), 1 RPG-2 launcher, 1 AK-47, 2 RPG rounds (destroyed), 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 180 rounds SA. Also, at 1015H vicinity YD710293, 3rd platoon engaged 2 NVA with negative casualties, negative enemy assessment. At 1735H vicinity YD718300, received SA fire and 15 rounds RPG-2 fire from an estimated squad. Called artillery on suspected position. Friendly losses – 2 US WIA (2 medevac); Enemy assessment – 2 NVA KIA (BC). Moved to YD723305 and established a blocking position to the south of objective area. Friendly losses – 3 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 5 NVA KIA (BC), 1 RPG-2 launcher, 1 AK-47, 2 rounds B-40 (destroyed), 2 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 180 rounds SA.

B/1-501 IN reverted back to OPCON of 1-501 IN BN effective 171530H. Conducted a combat assault at 1837H from PZ vicinity YD615305 to LZ YD713313. Closed LZ at 1909H, LZ GREEN. Established a blocking position to the west of objective area. Negative contact, Negative casualties. Provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and established local ambushes. Conducted platoon size RIF operation to the SW. At 0858H vicinity YD613295 received SA and AW fire resulting in 1 US WIA. Fire was returned, and element pulled back to call in artillery. While pulling back vicinity YD613295, one soldier detonated a pressure type 105mm round BBT resulting in two additional US WIA. Negative enemy assessment. Platoon returned to bridge and company reverted to OPCON of 1-501 IN BN at 171530H April. Friendly losses – 3 US WIA (9medevac); Negative enemy assessment.

C/1-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD658293 NE to vicinity YD675318. At 0955H vicinity YD666299 reported 1 detainee (female). At 1722H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD680314 to LZ vicinity YD723317.



Closed LZ at 1803H, LZ GREEN. Established a blocking position to the north of objective area. At 1845H received 2 rounds SA fire from vicinity YD724322. Fire was returned. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment.

D/1-501 IN from NDP vicinity YD644304 moved to PZ vicinity YD645307. At 1123H conducted RIF operation from LZ to vicinity YD725295. Closed LZ at 1201H, LZ GREEN. Conducted RIF operation from LZ vicinity YD728307 and established a blocking position to the north objective area. Negative contact. Negative casualties.

Recon platoon was OPCON to C/1-501 IN and at 1133H vicinity yD641310 fired on 1 VC, negative results. Negative casualties. Negative assessment.

2-501 IN BN

Relieved of the mission of providing security for WUNDER BEACH by 3-26th Marine Regiment at 171800 April. Moved TAC CP to LZ SALLY.

A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB HARDCORE and minesweep security along HAI LANG – WUNDER BEACH access road. OPCON to 3-26th Marine Regiment at 171800 April.

B/2-501 IN provided minesweep security south from WUNDER BEACH. Approximately 1 platoon moved from WUNDER BEACH to YD688339 for security of B/1-321 ARTY; OPCON to 1-501 IN BN at 171900 April.

C/2-501 IN remained at WUNDER BEACH and prepared to move to YD678257.

D/2-501 IN provided security for bridge sites at YD477376, YD460400 and YD437434. Moved by UH1D from bridges to LZ SALLY and established NDP and local ambushes.

Recon platoon moved by UH1D from WUNDER BEACH to LZ SALLY. Moved to NDP vicinity YD626279 and established local ambush.

2BDE HHC Security Platoon

Provided security for minesweep N and S from LZ SALLY.

(Commanders Situation Report; 162001H April – 172000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

16 April 1968 1-502 IN BN went OPCON to the 1BDE until 30 April 1968. During this operation the records were destroyed in a rocket attack.

16 April 1968 Eighteen miles north of HUE, elements of 2-501 IN BN discovered an enemy base camp containing 20 underground tunnels and bunkers. Stored in the tunnels were 1,000 AK-47 rounds, 20 rounds of 60mm mortars and various medical supplies. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)

16 April 1968 **Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:** 2-502 IN BN effectively accomplished its mission. 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. 2-502 IN BN managed to establish heavy FSB BASTOGNE, in the desired time limit.

Results of Operation JEB STUART/CARENTAN:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KHA</u>	<u>WHA</u>
US	11	113

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>VC KIA</u>	<u>Wpns Ind.</u>	<u>Rice Dest.</u>
ENEMY	74 (C)	47	250lbs

The Battalion personnel strength at the conclusion of Operation was as follows:

Authorized:	778
Assigned:	689
Present for Duty:	643
Not present for duty:	45

Casualties for Operations were as follows:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KHA</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>WHA</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>INRHA</u>
HHC	5	0	0	21	0	0
A Co.	2	0	0	49	0	0
B Co.	3	0	0	38	0	1
C Co.	1	1	0	25	0	0
Total	11	1	0	133	0	1



16 April 1968

Operation DELAWARE:

Operation Began (2-502 IN BN)

Locations: THUA THIEN Province, RVN.

Task Organization: A/2-502 IN, B/2-502 IN, C/2-502 IN, Recondos. Battalion Control: HHC (-), 4.2 & 82mm Mortar Platoon, 3(-)/A/326 ENG, IPW, 101st MI Detachment.

The following changes were made in the task organization during Operation DELAWARE. (1) 2-327 assumed OPCON C/2-502 IN effective 181300H and released effective 191425H. (2) 2-502 IN BN released OPCON B/1-502 IN effective 201400H. (3) 1-327 IN BN assumed OPCON Recondos 2-502 IN BN effective 291800H and released effective 301830H.

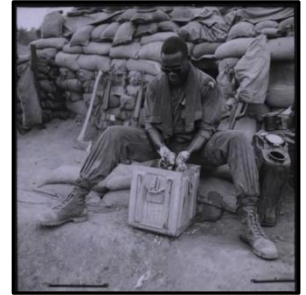
Mission: Phase I: 2-502 IN BN establishes and secures firebase vicinity of YD5402 and block Hwy 547 and 547A in assigned AO. Phase II: 2-502 IN BN establishes firebase, conducts reconnaissance enforces operations into New Base Area 114, interdicts enemy routes of egress along SONG BO RIVER.

The Battalion personnel strength at the beginning of Operation was as follows:

Authorized:	920
Assigned:	677
Present for Duty:	638
Not present for duty:	39

16 April 1968

FIRE SUPPORT BASE "BASTONGE". SP5 Charles Bleford (Quincy, Florida), radio-telephone operator, HHC, 502nd Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, washes his laundry in front of his bunker.



16 April 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: A/1-502 IN RIF to FSB BLAZE (YD531022). B/1-502 IN, C/1-502 IN, D/1-502 IN and Recon moved by air to FSB BLAZE. At 1115H, the 1-502 IN Battalion moved by air to FSB BIRMINGHAM to marshal and prepare for further operations.

16 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: At first light an unknown enemy force struck D/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon. The enemy engaged the Platoon with RPG's and small arms fire before they were driven off. One Soldier was KIA. (2-502 Unit History of the STRIKE FORCE, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

16 April 1970

D/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon, 1st squad found a CHICOM grenade of the potato masher type. They destroyed it.

17 April 1966

Operation AUSTIN II: The 2-502 IN BN conducted "Recondo Checkerboard" operations to find, fix and destroy Viet Cong forces and installations in sector. A/2-502 IN moved along routes Green and Black with negative enemy contact. B/2-502 IN remained in BN reserve and provided security for the BN CP. C/2-502 IN (-) closed into the BN CP vicinity ZT135275 at 1010H and assumed perimeter security for the artillery battery and BN CP. At 1030H Recon platoon engaged 10 VC vicinity ZT105203 and pursued them with negative results. At 1255H, Recon platoon discovered a 7,000-pound rice cache which was destroyed. Recon platoon operating with the CIDG Company composed of CAMBODIAN Mercenaries infiltrated south from BN at ZT114200. At 19955H, they engaged an unknown number of VC resulting in 1 US WIA at ZT105203. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

17 April 1967

Operation SUMMERALL: The 2-502 IN BN conducted airmobile assaults in the HON BA area in the southeast portion of the SUMMERALL AO and commenced search and destroy operations to the southeast. Two light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC) and 2 individual weapons captured. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

17 April – 01 May 1967

Operation SUMMERALL: 2-502 IN BN was deployed along the north and east sided of HON BA following air assaults onto 6 separate LZ's. The initial plan sent two units directly against the assumed enemy position and two other units came in on the flanks. Contact was made immediately with what appeared to be delaying elements, as friendly units moved into the AO.

In the next 14days, the battalion searched the rugged north and eastern faces of the mountain from its base to its cloud shrouded crest, learning the trail system and driving the enemy from his hiding places. Except for one sharp encounter in a rocky cul-de-sac between the Recondo Force and a platoon from the 8th Battalion, 18-B Regiment, contacts were meeting engagements with individuals and small groups. It appeared that the enemy in moving from one area to another to avoid contact was becoming critically short of food and several successful ambushes were conducted on sump areas. Contacts during this phase accounted for 15 VC/NVA KIA and 11 weapons captured. The type of weapons captured substantiated other intelligence that an NVA unit was operating in the area.

1-501 IN BN cordons AP NY XA and AP DONG XUYEN resulting in 48 NVA KIA and 4000 lbs. of rice captured.



17 – 18 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 BC/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 4 contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 2 US KIA, 12 US WIA (7 medevac), (2 PF KIA, 2 PF WIA). Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA (BC), 5 NVA KBAF (BC), 1 K-44, 1 AK-47 (destroyed).

1-501 IN BN

Throughout the night the battalion maintained a cordon around the objective area (village complex from YD726305 N to YD723314) by maintaining blocking positions. At 0048H A/1-501 IN received 2 WIA from artillery shrapnel. At 0735H D/1-501 IN began moving to the west from their blocking position on the east of the objective area. At 0742H C/1-501 IN from their blocking position on the N test fired an M-60 into the village vicinity YD723313 and received a burst of AK-47 fire in return with negative casualties. At 0940H vicinity YD727307 D/1-501 IN received sniper fire. D/1-501 IN continued receiving sporadic sniper fire from an estimated 5 or 6 snipers until 1005H, resulting in 2 US WIA (medevac). At 1035H, B/1-501 IN was moving east to a new blocking position when they received AK-47 fire with negative results. At 1106H, B/1-501 IN received a heavy volume of SA fire, and RPG rounds resulting in 1 US KIA and 4 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment - 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1 K-44. All companies held positions while air strikes were brought into the objective area. A total of 9 air strikes were brought into the objective area between 1140H and 1656H, resulting in 5 NVA KBAF and 1 AK-47 destroyed by air strike. At 1216H, B/1-501 IN received an additional 5 WIA from 20mm cannon fire from air strike. (medevac not required). At 1508H B/1-501 IN had 1 US WIA (medevac) as a result of air strike. At 1600H, A/2-501 IN OPCON to 1-501 IN BN. Conducted a combat assault at 1610H from LZ SALLY to LZ vicinity YD714316. Closed LZ at 1642H, LZ GREEN. A/2-501 IN reinforced the cordon around the objective area by moving into a blocking position between A/1-501 IN and B/1-501 IN on the SW of the objective area. At the close of the reporting period the battalion continued to hold a cordon around the objective area under continuous illumination. Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 12 US WIA (7 medevac); Enemy assessment - 1 NVA KIA (BC), 5 NVA KBAF (BC), 1 K-44, 1 AK-47 (destroyed). Between 1804H and 1820H there were 2 CS grenade drops made on the target area followed by and artillery TOT.

2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN provided minesweep security along HAI LANG - WUNDER BEACH access road. Provided security for FSB HARDCORE until 1325H when relieved of mission by A/3-26 Marine Regiment. Moved by convoy from FSB HARDCORE to LZ SALLY, closed at 1442H. OPCON to 1-501 IN BN effective 181500H.

B/2-501 IN (-) moved by UH1D to QUANG DIEN vicinity YD688339 and linked up with remainder of B/2-501 IN and provided security for B/1-321 ARTY.

C/2-501 IN moved from WUNDER BEACH by UH1D to CAMP EVANS, closed at 1103H. OPCON to 2-17 CAV upon closure. Conducted a combat assault from CAMP EVANS at 1341H to LZ vicinity YD603274. Closed LZ at 1420H, LZ GREEN. Established a blocking position from YD600277 to YD605270 until 1534H. Conducted RIF vicinity YD5926 and YD6026 until 1800H. Returned to AN LO BRIDGE and assumed mission of providing security at AN LO BRIDGE from B/2-17 CAV.

D/2-501 IN conducted RIF from NDP vicinity YD631249 to YD655250. Established NDP vicinity YD642257.

Recon platoon from NDP vicinity YD626279, conducted local RIF operations vicinity LZ SALLY. Established NDP vicinity YD633287.

(Commanders Situation Report; 172001H April – 182000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

17 – 18 April 1968

1-501 IN BN cordons AP NY XA and AP DONG XUYEN resulting in 48 NVA KIA and 4000 lbs. of rice captured.

17 April 1968

A battalion-size cordon was conducted by paratroopers of the 1-501 IN BN and A/2-501 IN around the fortified village of DONG XUYEN three miles north of HUE. Following Army aviation, artillery, and tactical air strikes, the "GERONIMO" troopers entered the village killing 52 enemies in three days. (Rendezvous with Destiny Volume 1, Number 2; July 1968)

17 April 1968

2-502 IN BN mission was changed to conduct reconnaissance in force operations in the RAO NAI VALLEY. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101st Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

17 April 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: D/1-502 IN led the battalion in the air assault of FSB LASH vicinity YC673668. The lift was complete at 1326H. D/1-502 IN established the firebase and secured the TAC CP. A/1-502 IN and Recon conducted RIF to the west; B/1-502 IN and C/1-502 IN conducted RIF to the southeast.

17 April 1970

HUNG THUY reported the capture of one female VC/NVA while she was enroute to a new area.

17 April 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: D/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon reversed tables, ambushing small enemy forces, killing one and wounding several others. (2-502 IN BN Unit History of the STRIKE FORCE, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

17 April 1971

Operation LAM SON: On 17 April 1971, the 2-502 IN BN moved to a staging area at FSB JACK where they prepared for Airmobile raids in the A SHAU VALLEY. In early April it became obvious that the NVA was making extensive use of the A SHAU VALLEY to move troops, equipment, and supplies. The 1BDE was assigned the overall mission of disrupting the enemy's logistic system and impeding his use of the A SHAU VALLEY area. The Brigade Commander elected to employ Airmobile raid tactics with rapid operations of a short duration.



A/2-502 IN lead off with a night combat patrol north of A LOUI AIRFIELD and south of the Razorback with E/2-502 IN following up with a reconnaissance assault and a mortar raid on EAGLES NEST where they established a patrol base for Alpha's raid on the Valley floor. These operations were conducted professionally and reflected the extensive training in the staging area. The result was success in that we created the deception that the STRIKE FORCE was employed in the A SHAU VALLEY. Thus, delaying and restricting the enemy's use of the area.

B/2-502 IN was directed to assist the CAV in an aircraft rescue mission in the southern A SHAU VALLEY. In typical STRIKE FORCE Fashion; B/2-502 IN (-) one platoon, with one platoon of C/2-502 IN attached combat assaulted into the Valley late one evening and moved to secure the high ground. The next morning, they attacked south against heavy resistance and secured the downed helicopters. The wounded crew members will be forever indebted to Bravo's success in this operation.

Next came CO PUNG MOUNTAIN. At 1615 meters CO PUNG commands the eastern approach to the upper A SHAU VALLEY. To enjoy any success in the upper valley CO PUNG had to be held. It was to be a 1BDE support base for future raids in and around TIGER MOUNTAIN. STRIKE FORCE was called upon to seize and hold CO PUNG MOUNTAIN. Following B-52 strikes, fighter bomber attacks and extensive artillery fire that battalion landed on CO PUNG fighting bad weather and a determined enemy. Recon and B/2-502 IN quickly seized the high ground and the engineers expanded the LZ's. D/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN took the southern and eastern sides respectively. During our nine (9) day stay on CO PUNG the battalion received eleven (11) 60/81mm Mortar attacks and seven (7) 57/75mm Recoilless Rifle attacks without one single injury to a STRIKE FORCE Soldiers. LTC Lloyd Cosby credits this to the effective counter mortar programming using the air, artillery, and mortars; radio discipline (we never told the enemy where his rounds were impacting); sound combat patrolling (both day and night) and outstanding Soldiering by individuals and fighting by units. Some 101st troopers made the ultimate sacrifice on CO PUNG and some STRIKE FORCE troopers suffered injuries. They all fought well, and they deserve our honor now. Most of us will remember CO PUNG for the hardship created by unusually bad weather and the numerous enemy attacks but it can be reported that our capture of CO PUNG opened the gate for the 1st ARVN Division in the upper A SHAU VALLEY. MG Tarpley, Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), told many of you on the day of our returned from Co Pung that "the STRIKE FORCE troopers were the first Americans to put foot on the MOUNTAINS."

Our return to observation Post Checkmate and our well worked AO lasted only 10 days. While the 3d ARVN Regiment was heavily engaged with the 6th NVA Regiment west of the SONG BO RIVER and south of Route 547, the "ALWAYS FIRST Brigade" moved to secure their eastern flank. E/2-502 IN secured DONG A VO MOUNTAIN while A/2-502 IN and B/2-502 IN attacked south with extensive fire support. C/2-502 IN joined in the final assault on Hill 608. This operation turned out to be a true infantry ground attack.

The combat assaults of the Vietnamese Marines and elements of the 1st ARVN Division into the known location of the 6th NVA Regiment around FSB VEGHEL are heartening to me. While the battalions of the 1BDE, 101st were deployed along a line north and east of FSB VEGHEL, the Vietnamese Marines and Army units jumped over the American units and struck deep into the 6th NVA. In my view, this is Vietnamization at its best. It was also vividly demonstrated the combat effectiveness of our Vietnamese counterpart. This is the first time in my memory that American units have been over-jumped by the Vietnamese units in pursuit of the enemy. In my opinion these are good signs. Our combined operation with the 3rd Regiment at VEGHEL was perfect example of this. While we were securing their artillery and headquarters at VEGHEL the 3d Regiment attacked the 6th NVA Regiment on DONG A TAY MOUNTAIN. Our Friends paid a high price for the defeat of the 6th NVA Regiment but they accomplished it with professional skill. In short, I say "hats off" to their aggressive fighting spirit.

I am extremely proud of the STRIKE FORCE Battalion's accomplishments during the past two months and I fully realize that our success is to the credit of you, the Infantry trooper. Without your dedicated professionalism these difficult missions could not have been accomplished. (Operation LAM SON 720 letter from LTC Lloyd Cosby, Commanding, 30 May 1971)

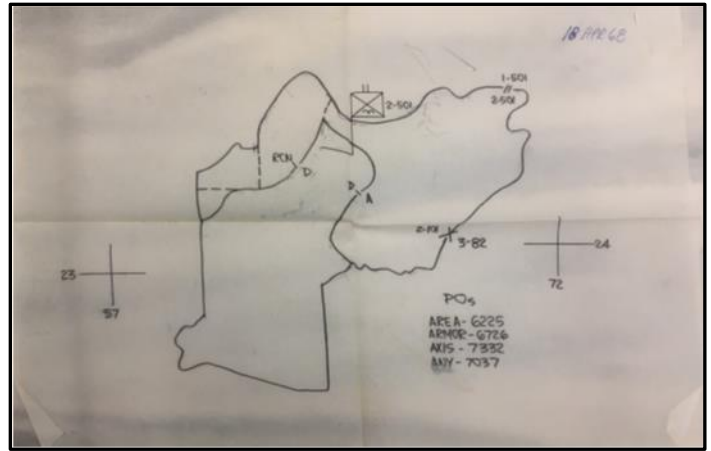
18 April 1966

Operation AUSTIN II: A/2-502 IN infiltrated along multiple routes from BN base to vicinity ZT125193 and at 1630H began extracting by helicopter to PHAN THIET AIRFIELD. By 1750H, A/2-502 IN closed into PHAN THIET AIRFIELD. B/2-502 IN continued to secure the BN CP and at 1405H began helicopter extraction to PHAN THIET AIRFIELD, closing at 1630H. At 1020H, 1 man stepped on a punji stake, ZT105202 and VC sniper fire vicinity ZT095194 wounded 1 US trooper. They were extracted from ZT114200 at 1530H to PHAN THIET AIRFIELD. At 1830H, 2-502 IN BN units had been extracted from TAOR BULL RUN, Operation AUSTIN II to PHAN THIET AIRFIELD. There they prepared for continuation of Operation AUSTIN II in TAOR PANTHER northeast of PHAN THIET. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)



18 – 19 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 BC/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 10 contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 2 US KIA, 2 US WIA. Enemy assessment – 42 NVA KIA (BC), 4 SKS, 1 AK-47 (destroyed), 4 rounds 82mm mortar (destroyed), 6 rounds 90mm (destroyed), 3 CHICOM grenades (destroyed) and 550 rounds SA.



1-501 IN BN

Throughout the night the battalion maintained a cordon around the objective area (village complex from YD726305 N to YD723314) by maintaining blocking positions with the organic rifle companies, recon platoon, and A/2-501 IN OPCON to 1-501 IN BN. Throughout the night 166 rounds HE 105mm, 40 rounds HE 155mm, and 28 rounds HE 8" artillery were fired into the objective area. There was 1 sighting of two NVA and two incidents of hearing movement. All were engaged with negative enemy assessment at this time. AK-47 fire was returned by the 2 NVA resulting in 1 US WIA. At 2045H and 2211H, D/1-501 IN and B/1-501 IN respectively reported receiving 60mm mortar rounds, negative casualties. At 0804H, D/1-501 IN began moving W into the village. At 0840H and 0910H, D/1-501 IN received sniper fire. Engaged with SA and M-79 fire. Results – negative casualties. 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47. A/1-501 IN moved from their blocking position and entered the objective area from the south. At 1315H, B/1-501 IN moved from their blocking position into the objective area from the west. A/1-501 and D/1-501 IN linked up vicinity YD722309 and continued a search to the N. B/1-501 IN searched E to approximately YD721309, then searched N. D/1-501 IN, B/1-501 IN and A/1-501 IN continued to search the village throughout the day while B/1-501 IN and A/2-501 IN held in blocking positions. Total results of the search were 5 NVA KIA (BC) by SA, 24 NVA KIA (BC), by air strikes, 13 NVA KIA (BC) by artillery, 3 SKS, 1 AK-47, 4 AK-47 (destroyed), and 550 rounds SA ammo. Friendly losses: 1 US WIA. All companies established NDP and ambushes in vicinity of objective area with exception of A/2-501. A/2-501 IN was air lifted across river to vicinity YD706323, and established NDP and ambushes.

2-501 IN BN

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

B/2-501 IN provided security for B/1-321 ARTY at YD688339. Conducted RIF vicinity YD6832 and YD6833.

C/2-501 IN OPCON to 2-17 CAV; Provided security for AN LO BRIDGE. Conducted RIF operation vicinity YD5331 and YD6431. At 1204H vicinity YD635314 received SA fire. Adjusted artillery in area. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. At 1310H vicinity YD615299 soldier detonated an unknown type mine resulting in 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA. At approximately 1800 rounds, C/2-501 IN returned to AN LO BRIDGE. Totals – Friendly losses – 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA. Negative enemy assessment.

D/2-501 IN conducted RIF from NDP vicinity YD642257 to YD613233. Established NDP vicinity YD614234 and local ambushes.

Recon platoon provided minesweep security S from LZ SALLY. Established ambush vicinity YD631276.

HHC 2BDE Security Platoon

Provided minesweep security N from LZ SALLY.

(Commanders Situation Report; 182001H April – 192000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

18 April 1968

Three companies of the 1-501 IN BN trapped an estimated company size NVA force (later identified as 4th CO., 1st BB, 803rd NVA REGT) in the fortified hamlet of DONG QUYEN vicinity YD7230. With C/1-501 IN blocking to the north, B/1-501 IN on the west and A/1-501 IN to the south. D/1-501 IN moved into position from the east. D/1-501 IN received AW fire and RPG fire resulting in 1 US KIA and 11 WIA. D/1-501 IN withdrew and waited while airstrikes were called on the village. After the final airstrike, CS gas was placed on the village and followed immediately by an artillery TOT. (101st ABN DIV ORLL for February – April 1968)

18 April 1969

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER: The operation continued with C/1-502 IN at 1729H in the vicinity of YC588647 engaging in estimated 7-10 enemy. Results: 2 VC KIA, 2 VC POW, 10 IWC and assorted equipment.

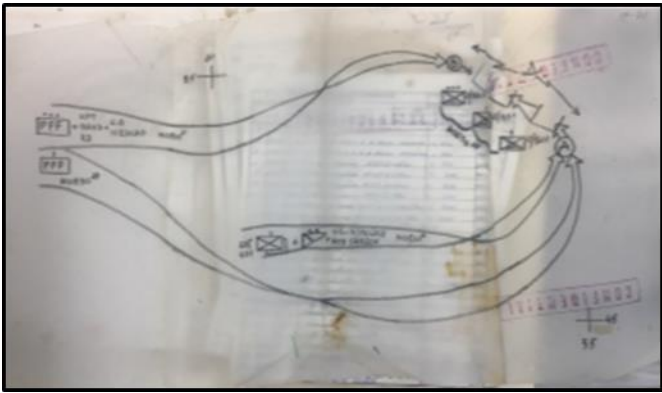
18 April 1970

VR in loch reported sighting several VC/NVA suspects in two locations. The areas are 815105 and 805901. Recon/1-502 IN conducted a combat assault from FSB Birmingham to YD704055.



- 18 April 1971 A/1-501 IN detonated one pressure type BBT. Results 1 US WIA.
- 18 April 1971 Medics from the 1-502 IN saved the lives of three Vietnamese civilians while on a MEDCAP mission near HUE. Two of the victims were involved in a motorcycle accident, and the third was injured by a VC mine minutes before the MEDCAP team arrived. The "FIRST STRIKE" medics administered emergency first aid treatment and called in a "dust-off" to transport the wounded Vietnamese to the 85th Evacuation Hospital in PHU BAI. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 4, Number 1); Summer-Fall 1971)
- 19 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** 2-502 IN BN prepared for and began execution of 2-502 OPOD 34-66 (AUSTIN II) in area PANTHER. A/2-502 IN at 1915H, infiltrated by heliborne assault one Recondo patrol to vicinity AN92338. They are to secure LZ vicinity BN028345 for A/2-502 (-) heliborne assault on 20 April at 2000H.
- 19 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** 2-502 IN BN, Recondo platoon was helilifted to LOUNG SON CIDG camp AN125385 at 1700H to coordinate fully with attached CIDG forces. At 1730H, Recondo platoon started infiltrating into area PANTHER from CIDG Camp LOUNG SON vicinity BN122385. They had 60 CHAM CIDG Forces attached. AT 1915H, C/2-502 IN infiltrated one "RECONDO" patrol by helicopter to LZ vicinity 950228. They had no contact on the LZ. They were to secure the LZ for C/2-502 IN (-) heliborne assault on 20 April at 2000H on a LZ vicinity AN925208. B/2-502 IN prepared for operations North of PHAN THIET, initially as the BN reserve. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)
- 19 April – 17 May 1968 **OPERATION CARENTAN II:** In the Delta of the QUANG DIEN District, 2BDE interdicted hostile attempts against the imperial city of HUE.
- 19 – 20 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 BC/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 4 contacts, 3 of them lasting a major portion of the day. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 5 US KIA, 2 US MIA, 42 US WIA (38 medevac), 1 interpreter WIA. Enemy assessment – 53 NVA KIA (BC), 6 NVA POW, 14 SKS, 7 AK-47, 1 RPG-2 launcher, 1 LMG, 1 AK-47 (destroyed), 6 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 16 sticks of TNT (destroyed), 6 82mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 500lbs rice (destroyed), 1 RPG-2 launcher sight, 1 82mm mortar sight, 1 BBT (destroyed).



1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP S to vicinity YD722294, then W along N side of SONG BO RIVER to vicinity YD714296. At vicinity YD722294 found and destroyed 1 BBT grenade. At vicinity YD718297 found one (1) NVA KIA (BC) in a grave. Negative casualties; Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1 BBT destroyed.

B/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD723313. AT 0350H one position reported hearing movement, and threw a hand grenade, landing near adjacent friendly position resulting in 4 US WIA. Medevac was completed at first light. Conducted RIF operation from NDP to vicinity YD707310, then moved SW along the S side of river to PZ vicinity YD702303. At 1832H conducted heliborne movement to LZ SALLY. Closed at 1902H. Moved by truck to vicinity YD623304 and assumed mission of providing security for AN LO BRIDGE. OPCON to 2-17 CAC effective 1900H. Friendly casualties - 4 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment.

C/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD718318 and established local ambushes. At 0030H ambush vicinity YD723326 had a trip flare set off. Observed 7 NVA/VC vicinity YD723325. Engaged with M-79 and received (1) one RPG rounds resulting in 3 US WIA. First light sweep was conducted with negative enemy assessment. Conducted RIF operation moving N. At 1045H vicinity YD715327 received sniper fire from the N resulting in 1 US WIA. Enemy fire increased in intensity from an estimated Company. SA, AW and RPG fire was received from the enemy resulting in additional friendly casualties. Between 1250H and 1330H 2 air strikes were flown in support. Heavy fire was received throughout the afternoon. The enemy broke contact at 1905H. C/1-501 IN moved to NDP vicinity YD714327. Friendly losses – 3 US KIA, 2 US MIA, 13 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 6 NVA KIA (BC).

D/1-501 IN continued to search village area vicinity YD725305 N to YD723314. Found and destroyed 16 sticks TNT, 6 82mm mortar rounds and 500lbs rice. At 1200H reverted to OPCON 2-501 IN BN. Returned OPCON 1-501 IN BN at 1630H. Moved to PZ vicinity YD749308. At 1747H moved by UH1D to LZ SALLY. Closed 1825H. D/1-501 IN (-) ambushed south of LZ SALLY vicinity YD661259 and YD643259. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 16 sticks TNT (destroyed), 6 82mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 500 lbs. rice (destroyed).

Recon platoon OPCON to C/1-501 IN



2-501 IN BN

2-501 IN BN CP moved from LZ SALLY to QUANG DIEN effective 1000H.

A/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP NE and started move into village at YD728336 at 1100H. At 1300H received SA fire from approximately 3 enemy vicinity YD728328 resulting in 2 US WIA. Contact increased as SA, AW, RPG, and 60mm mortar fire was received, resulting in 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA. Enemy forces were estimated to be company size. A heavy volume of fire and artillery was placed upon enemy positions. Contact was broken at 1910H. Friendly losses – 2 US KIA, 16 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 13 NVA KIA (BC), 2 SKS, 1 LMG, 1 AK-47, 1 AK-47 (destroyed), 1 LMG (destroyed), and 6 CHICOM grenades (destroyed).

B/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN effective 0730H. Conducted RIF from NDP to vicinity YD691313. At 1126H vicinity YD703313, received sniper fire. Returned with M-79 and SA. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. At 1333H vicinity YD703311, 1 US WIA from BBT grenade. Totals – Friendly losses – 1 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment.

C/2-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV until 0700H, reverted back to OPCON 2-501 IN BN. At 1133H conducted combat assault from vicinity AN LO BRIDGE (YD623304) to LZ vicinity YD752303. Closed LZ 1218H, LZ GREEN. Conducted RIF operation to objective area vicinity YD758313. At 1553H vicinity YD759314, 1 US WIA from BBT explosive (C-4 with pull type device). Moved to vicinity YD759317 and established NDP and local ambushes. Negative contact. Friendly casualties – 1 US WIA. Negative enemy assessment.

D/2-501 IN conducted IF from NDP to PZ vicinity YD633249. At 1230H conducted a combat assault to LZ vicinity YD752303. Closed LZ 1300H, LZ GREEN. Conducted RIF operation vicinity YD758313, then to YD764321. Moved to vicinity YD759317 and established NDP and local ambushes. Negative contact, negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon provided minesweep security S from LZ SALLY. Moved by log bird to vicinity YD to vicinity YD688339 and assumed mission of providing security for B/1-321 ARTY.

HQ 2BDE, Security Platoon

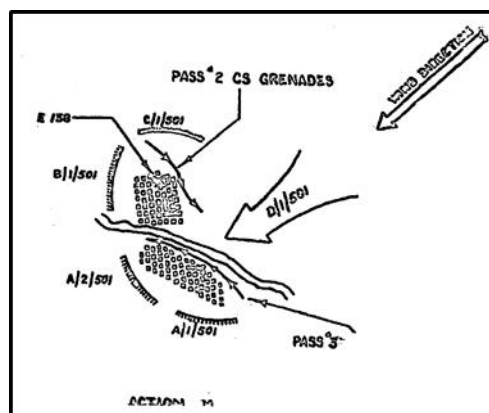
Provided security for AN LO BRIDGE from 1313H to 1900H. OPCON to 2-17 CAV during the time period.

(Commanders Situation Report; 192001H April – 202000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

19 April 1968

In the vicinity YD7230 three companies of the 1-501 IN BN and one company from 2-501 IN BN trapped an estimated company size NVA force (later identified as 4th CO, 1st BN, 803rd NVA Regiment) in the fortified hamlet of DONG XUYEN vicinity YD7230. With C/1-501 IN blocking to the north, B/1-501 IN on the west, A/1-501 IN to the south and A/2-501 IN to the South West. D/1-501 IN moved into position from the east, D/1-501 IN received AW fire and RPG fire resulting in 1 US KIA and 11 WIA. D/1-501 IN withdrew and waited while airstrikes were called on the village. After the final airstrike, CS gas was placed on the village and followed immediately by an artillery TOT.

The CS mission consisted of three passes, one at 1000 feet using one E158 Cluster, and two low level each delivering 192 CS grenades using locally fabricated grenade drop racks. The initial E158 pass was intended to suppress enemy fire for the low-level passes by placing an initial concentration of agent in the area. Fighter aircraft had received AW and RPG fire during the preliminary airstrike.



The E158 landed on target and effectively covered the northern portion of the village. Immediately following the E158, a low-level pass from NW to SE was made and 192 grenades were dropped along the NE side of the village. On the third pass, NVA were observed moving around in the village. As soon as the CS ship cleared the area, the artillery TOT was fired on the village.

The CS drops were made at 1800H, 1805H, and 1815H respectively. Winds were from the NE at approximately 10 knots. The temperature gradient was neutral. The target coverage was 100% of the village, and 100% of the munition functioned.

A sweep of the village on 19 April discovered 54 NVA bodies. Four AK-47's and two SKS were captured along with numerous SA ammunition, miscellaneous LBE, a large medical kit and 4500lbs of rice and documents. Total friendly losses for the engagement were 1 US KIA and 12 WIA.

The ground commander considered the CS munitions which were incorporated in the softening fires contributed extensively to impressive body count and helped to reduce friendly casualties. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101st Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)



19 April – 17 May 1968

Operation DELAWARE/LAM SON – 216

Locations: I Corps: QUANG TRI and THUA THIEN Provinces; A SHAU (Sầu) VALLEY; PAC NHE VALLEY; RAO LOA RIVER; "Punchbowl"; A LOUI; TA BAT; FSB BASTOGNE; LZs CECILE, PEPPER, STALLION, TIGER, and VICKEY.

Type/Objective: Reconnaissance in Force. Delaware is an airmobile raid into the enemy stronghold of the A SHAU VALLEY. The goal is to exploit the enemy defeat in Pegasus and take advantage of enemy troops massed in the area. A secondary purpose of Operation DELAWARE is to prevent another attack on HUE.

Units: U.S. – 1st Cavalry Division; 1st BDE (1-8 CAV, 2-8 CAV, 1-12 CAV), 2nd BDE (1-5 CAV, 5-7 CAV, 1-9 CAV), 3rd BDE (1-7 CAV, 2-7 CAV, 23rd Infantry Division (Americal), 196th Light Infantry Division; (2-1 IN, 3-21 IN, 4-31 IN), 101st Airborne Division; 1st BDE (1-327 IN BN, 2-327 IN BN, 2-502 IN BN); VNAF – 1st ARVN Division (3rd ARVN Regiment, 6th ARVN Airborne Battalion)

Casualties: Totals for DELAWARE/LAM SON – 216: U.S. - 142 KIA, 731 WIA, 47 MIA; NVA/VC 869 KIA (Note – Americal Division troops were listed as reserve units for this operation. They were not sent in; instead they were used to fight the 320th NVA division along the DMZ.)

19 April 1968

Early in the morning the 2-502 IN BN and 2-327 IN BN launched attacks to fix and destroy enemy forces operating west of FSB BASTOGNE. The air assault of the 1-327 IN BN commenced at 1100H with C/1-327 IN making the initial assault. An aircraft in the first wave at 1130H developed mechanical problems and crashed on the LZ resulting in 6 casualties (5 from C/1-327 IN, 1 crew member) nonserious. C/1-327 IN closed on the LZ at 1130H and secured the location for the displacement of the remainder of the battalion. The air assault was completed at 1237H. On the following day, the 6th ARVN ABN BN air assaulted into the same LZ which was still secured by C/1-327 IN. The relief of the 2-502 IN BN by the 1-502 IN BN at FSB BASTOGNE was affected on 20 April. This was followed by the air assaulting of the 2-502 IN BN into the LZ vicinity YD558028 on 21 April. The remaining two battalions (3d and 8th) of the 3rd ARVN ABN Task Force air assaulted into the same LZ on 22 and 23 April respectively. During this period of 19-21 April elements of the 1-327 IN BN was involved in heavy fighting to seize objectives 1 and 2 vicinity YD550036 and YD543028 respectively. On the evening of the 21 April the 2-502 IN BN was given the mission to relieve the 1-327 IN BN of mission to seize objective 2 vicinity YD543028. On 22 April after four days of heavy fighting the 1-327 IN BN seized objective 1 vicinity YD550036 and C/2-502 IN seized objective 2 vicinity YD543028. Elements of the 3rd ARVN ABN Task Force were engaged in heavy fighting vicinity YD565043 and Hill 333 vicinity YD546049. On 28 April, the 3rd ARVN ABN Task Force crossed the SONG BO RIVER vicinity YD528035 and moved west into the PAO NHE VALLEY, the 2-502 IN BN oriented west into the RAO NAI VALLEY leaving the 1-327 IN in the Delta Junction Area. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101st Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

19 April – 15 August 1968

The Cross of Gallantry with Palm has been awarded by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam for outstanding service during the period of 19 April 1968 to 15 August 1968 to:

The 2D BRIGADE, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIRMOBILE) and its assigned and attached units:

2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), Headquarters and Headquarters Company
1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry
2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry
1st Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry
1st Battalion (Airborne), 321st Artillery
2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry
Company C, 326th Engineer Battalion
Company B, 501st Signal Battalion
2d Platoon, Company A, 801st Maintenance Battalion
Forward Support Element, 501st Supply Company
265th Radio Research Company
34th Public Information Detachment

The citation reads as follows:

The 2D Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), United States Army, under the command of Colonel John H. Cushman, is an excellent, veteran unit which always displays an enthusiastic spirit of dedication to destroying the Communists. While participating in battles in the 11th Division Tactical Area, the 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), along with various organic and attached units, fought courageously and achieved splendid victories through two outstanding operations. The first operation, LAM SON 216 - CARENTAN II, was conducted from 19 April 1968 to 17 May 1968. Operations LAM SON 224 – NEVADA EAGLE was conducted from 16 May 1968 to 15 August 1968. Through these splendid achievements, the Soldiers of the 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), contributed significantly to the fight against Communism to preserve freedom in Vietnam and, at the same time, display the indomitable will and the heroic tradition of the United States Armed Forces. (HQ, DA, General Orders No. 21, 8 April 1969)

19 April 1968

In what was termed "one of the 101st toughest missions in Vietnam," Screaming Eagles of the 1BDE and the 1-502 IN BN began Operation DELAWARE in an attempt to block off enemy supply routes along Highway 547 leading out of the A SHAU VALLEY towards HUE. During their phase of the operation the 101st paratroopers were joined by the 3rd ARVN ABN Task Force. During a reconnaissance-in-force operation nine miles northwest of HUE, paratroopers from B/2-17 CAV killed 33 NVA and captured 19 weapons. They were supported by an armor platoon from the 3-15 CAV. Eighty-six NVA were killed in all I Corps actions. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 2); July 1968)



- 19 – 21 April 1969 **Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** 1-502 IN BN continued RIF operations discovering old enemy positions and equipment. On 21 April, C/1-502 IN discovered a large cache vicinity YC698658 consisting of 532 IWC, 7 CSWC and several tons of medical and signal equipment.
- 19 April 1970 D/1-502 IN, 1st platoon found a satchel charge and carrier belt and part of an NVA ruck sack. They also located NVA body at 781021 which had been there about 1-3 weeks. Recon/1-502 IN found a 57mm recoilless rifle, age unknown. D/1-502 IN, 1st platoon, 3rd squad found a hole entrance 3x3. They gassed the hole with CS obtained negative results.
- 19 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** Having effectively accomplished their mission under the control of the 3BDE, the 2-502 IN BN returned to the 1BDE on 19 April. The operations center was initially established on FSB STRIKE (YD5777171). The 2-502 IN BN was to sweep north of Highway 547 west of the SONG BO RIVER. Although intelligence indicated heavy enemy activity in the area, the STRIKE FORCE encountered relatively light enemy resistance east of the SONG BO. Headquarters for the operation was reestablished at FSB VEGHEL, and FSB STRIKE was closed on 22 April. (2-502 IN BN Unit History of the STRIKE FORCE, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)
- 19 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** B/2-501 IN was in a company size NDP awaiting helicopter extraction from RE-UP HILL AREA. NVA forces of an unknown size attacked 2nd platoon's side of the perimeter resulting in 2 US KIA and 1 US WIA.
- 19 April 1970 **XXIV Corps (THUA THIEN Province)** – At 1635H an element of the 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV (Airmobile), received small arms and automatic weapons fire from an undetermined size enemy force 23 miles west of HUE (73 miles W-NW of DA NANG). The troopers returned fire with organic weapons and contact was lost a short while later. While continuing to search the area, the troopers received an unreported number of 60mm mortar rounds at 1715H, and, at about 1825H, engaged and estimated enemy platoon. Small arms and automatic weapons fire were exchanged, and the ground troops were supported by helicopter gunships and artillery. Fighting continued until an unreported time during the night when the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were one killed and six wounded. (MACV Summary for April 1970)
- 20 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** A/2-502 IN, "RECONDO" patrol spotted 4 Viet Cong in the vicinity of BN992328 moving northwest at 0955H resulting in 1 Viet Cong killed (BC) and 1 Viet Cong wounded (Est), 1 Mauser rifle with 12 rounds ammunition was captured. At 1145H, C/2-502 IN "RECONDO" had contact with 7 Viet Cong in the vicinity of AN937211 resulting in 1 Viet Cong killed (BC), 3 Viet Cong wounded (Est) and 1 US carbine captured. A/2-502 IN "RECONDO" again reported contact in the vicinity BN 028345 with an estimated Viet Cong squad resulting in 2 Viet Cong killed (BC) and one MAS 36 and one Thompson SMG captured. Enemy contact continued, and it was decided to send in A/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN early. The first lift of A/2-502 IN left the Battalion area at 1427H and landed on the LZ BN025348. The lift completed at 1635H, on LZ vicinity AN925208. There was no immediate contact on the LZ. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)
- 20 April 1966 **Operation AUSTIN II:** B/2-502 IN was committed to LZ vicinity BN025348 at 1815H, completing the lift at 1915H. C/2-502 IN found 3 tons of rice at 1812H vicinity AN965205. Permission was asked to destroy and was granted by Brigade. At 2030H, C/2-502 IN fired into a suspected enemy location. The search of the area at 210600H found 1 Viet Cong wounded vicinity AN991217. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)
- 20 April 1967 **Operation SUMMERALL:** A light contact by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 1 US WIA. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)
- 20 – 21 April 1968 **Operation DELAWARE:** TF 2BDE, 101st ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation DELAWARE to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases, and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light with a total of 7 contacts. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 2 US KIA (previously listed as 2 US MIA), 13 US WIA (10 medevac). Enemy assessment -38 NVA KIA (BC), 2 AK-47, 2 SKS (destroyed), 1 AK-47 (destroyed) and 600lbs rice.

1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD711293 and established ambush vicinity YD712291. At 0711H, 4 rounds sniper fire was received from vicinity YD713294. Fire was returned with SA, AW and M-79. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. Conducted RIF operation from NDP to vicinity YD711275 and crossed to S side of SONG BO RIVER. Continued RIF operation along S side of SONG BO RIVER to vicinity YD683278. At 1613H, vicinity YD683278 found 1 NVA KIA (BC) in a grave. Established NDP vicinity YD6882687. Negative casualties. Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA (BC).

B/1-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV until 1730H. Returned to LZ SALLY. Departed LZ SALLY at 1852H and established NDP and local ambushes SE of LZ SALLY. Provided security for AN LO BRIDGE. Conducted platoon size RIF operation vicinity YD6230 and YD6331. Relieved of mission to provide security for AN LO BRIDGE by C/1-501 IN effective 1730H. Returned to OPCON 1-501 IN BN at 1730H.

C/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD713313. At 1000H began moving S to village vicinity YD715327, site of contact previous day. At 1250H received SA fire from vicinity YD715327. Contact continued from and estimated reinforced NVA platoon until 1515H when contact was broken. C/1-501 IN moved thru the village to vicinity YD715326, while receiving SA, AW, and RPG fire. At 1355H vicinity YD714327, recovered 2 MIA from previous day's action (now KIA). Friendly casualties were 8 US WIA (5 medevac). Enemy assessment – 13 NVA KIA (BC), 2 AK-47, 2 SKS (destroyed by artillery). At 1601H conducted a heliborne movement from PZ vicinity YD716323 to LZ vicinity AN LO BRIDGE, closed 1723H. OPCON 2-17 CAV effective 1730H. Friendly losses – 2 US KIA (previously listed as MIA), 8 US WIA (5 medevac). Enemy assessment – 13 NVA KIA (BC), 2 AK-47, 2 SKS (destroyed by artillery). C/1-501 IN assumed mission of providing security for AN LO BRIDGE from B/1-501 and reverted to OPCON 2-17 CAV effective 1730H.



D/1-501 IN conducted two platoon size ambushes vicinity YD661260 and YD643259. One platoon provided minesweep security NW and SE from LZ SALLY. Ambushes closed LZ SALLY at 0745H. At 1730H departed LZ SALLY and established NDP vicinity YD650255 with platoon size ambushes at YD662265 and YD643260.

Recon platoon OPCON to C/1-501 IN until 1650H. Returned to LZ SALLY from AN LO BRIDGE, closed at 1750H.

2-501 IN BN

At the close of the reporting period, a cordon had been established around the village complex extending along the NW and SE side of the stream vicinity YD748305 to vicinity YD755313. "Moonglow" was on station to provide continuous illumination over the village complex throughout the night. Companies were deployed in blocking positions as follows: A/2-501 IN to the NW, B/2-501 IN to the SW, C/2-501 IN to the SW and D/2-501 IN to the NW. From the contact that existed throughout the day it was estimated that a NVA company occupied the village complex.

A/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD728337 S to vicinity YD731326. At 1601H vicinity YD732328 received AW and RPG fire. Lead elements pulled back and artillery was fired on the enemy position. Contact was broken at 1642H. Friendly casualties – 1 US WIA. Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA (BC) and 1 AK-47 (destroyed by artillery). At 1845H conducted a combat assault to LZ vicinity YD751314 and established a blocking position. Friendly casualties – 1 US WIA. Enemy assessment – 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1 AK-47 (destroyed).

B/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD691313 to vicinity YD675325, then S to vicinity YD685315. At 1920H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD685315 to LZ vicinity YD745306 and moved into a blocking position in that vicinity.

C/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD759317 to YD769311, YD757313, and then to YD852308. At 1419H sniper fire was received vicinity YD753311, while crossing a stream. Intensity of fire (SA, AW and RPG) increased. The company deployed along the east bank of the stream and engaged the enemy with SA, AW, M-79 and artillery. Friendly casualties – 4 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 16 NVA KIA (BC).

D/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP to vicinity YD765321 and YD769327, then moved to vicinity YD758314 and supported C&C by fire. Negative casualties; Enemy assessment - 2 NVA KIA (BC).

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

There were 3 air strikes flown in support of C/2-501 IN between 1600H and 1905H resulting in 3 NVA KBAF. IN addition, a FAC directed and air strike against enemy sighted vicinity YD680298 resulting in 2 NVA KBAF.

(Commanders Situation Report; 202001H April – 212000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

20 April 1969

1-502 IN BN uncovers a massive enemy cache on the Yellow Brick Road (Highway 614) in northern QUANG NAM Province at the end of the A SHAU. Included in the 100-ton find are 632 new SKS rifles, 13 trucks more than 300 rockets and nearly 500 mortar rounds, and numerous items of signal equipment, including 40 field telephones, 13 switchboards and 27 radios. It takes nearly a week to airlift the entire cache to CAMP EAGLE. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 2); Summer 1969)

20 April 1970

Popular Forces at PHU VANG captured two POW's with their equipment including AK-47 rifles. D/1-502 IN found 12 CHICOM grenades, 3 medical bottles and a verity of miscellaneous items. These were located in a bunker complex of 5 bunkers and 5 spider holes. There were no signs of recent activity.



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

2 x Distinguished Service Cross (1 x Posthumously)
11 x Silver Star Medal (4 x Posthumously)
4 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor (3 x Posthumously)
27 x Bronze Star Medal (27 x Posthumously)
62 x Purple Heart Medal (50 x Posthumously)
1 x Died of Non-Hostile injuries or illness

14 April 1968



PFC George D. Stone (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when engaged hostile force in firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

14 April 1969



PFC Charles D. Crosby (HHC/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 small arms fire while on combat operation when encountered a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

14 April 1970

PFC Thomas A. Peters (HHC/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 4492; 22 April 1970)

15 April 1966



PFC Luster C. Friel (C/2-502 IN) died as a result of drowning which occurred when he fell over a waterfall while engaged in river crossing as a ground casualty in the Province unknown, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1968



CPL Homer H. Haws (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from fragment wounds received while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile booby trap in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1968



SP4 Patrick F. Scharosch (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1968

PFC Robert J. Pratt (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 1528; 15 June 1968)



15 April 1969



SGT Albert (Red) E. Creamer (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1969



CPL John E. McDonald (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1970

2LT Prentice E. Joye Jr. (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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 4492, 22 April 1970)

15 April 1970

SP4 James L. Thompson (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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 4492, 22 April 1970)

15 April 1970

PFC Leander Jones (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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 4492, 22 April 1970)

15 April 1970

PFC Chris Ross Jr. (B/2-501 IN) awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 4492, 22 April 1970)

15 April 1970



SGT Walter C. Bartley Jr. (A/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received while on a combat operation when he was mistaken for a hostile force and fired upon by friendly forces in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



SSG Ronald E. Bales (D/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 a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km southwest of HUE Citadel), in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



PFC Terry W. Greene (D/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 misadventure (friendly fire; apparent short round) while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km southwest of HUE Citadel), in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



SGT Robert C. Hein (D/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 a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km southwest of HUE Citadel), in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



15 April 1971



1LT Paul McKenzie (D/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 a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km southwest of HUE Citadel), in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



SGT Jerry S. Stearns (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km southwest of HUE Citadel), in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



CPL William J. Ward Jr. (D/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 a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km southwest of HUE Citadel), in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



SGT Jeffry E. Cowley (E/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 gun fire wounds while on a combat operation at an airfield landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force, on DONG DO MOUNTAIN 13km W-NW of RUONG RUONG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



CPL Robert J. Dutkiewicz (E/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 gun fire wounds while on a combat operation at an airfield landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force, on DONG DO MOUNTAIN 13km W-NW of RUONG RUONG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



SGT Thomas J. Gettelfinger (E/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds while on a combat operation at an airfield landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force, on DONG DO MOUNTAIN 13km W-NW of RUONG RUONG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



SSG George A. Pacheco (E/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 gun fire wounds while on a combat operation at an airfield landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force, on DONG DO MOUNTAIN 13km W-NW of RUONG RUONG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

15 April 1971



SGT John L. Wilson Jr. (HHC/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 gun fire wounds while on a combat operation at an airfield landing zone when the area came under attack by a hostile force, on DONG DO MOUNTAIN 13km W-NW of RUONG RUONG, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



16 April 1966



PFC Galen D. Grethen (HHC/2-502 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 gunshot wound to the head received in hostile ground action wounds in the province unknown, Republic of Vietnam.

16 April 1968



SGT Thomas R. Gdovin (D/1-502 IN) action in combat earned him the Purple Heart Medal. For wounds received in action. (Citation awarded on 04 Oct 2005)

16 April 1968



SGT Sammy R. Smith (D/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 THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

16 April 1968



SP4 Reginald C. Bell (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when engaged hostile force in firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

16 April 1968



PFC Gary P. Meringa (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when unit engaged hostile force in firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

16 April 1968



PFC Stephen E. Seiferth (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when hit by fragments from a hostile booby trap in the QUANG TRI, Republic of Vietnam.

16 April 1971



CPL Rex M. Daniels (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operations when the area came under attack by hostile force at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km Southwest of HUE Citadel) in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

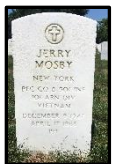
16 April 1971



PFC Charles D. McGinnes (D/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 while on combat operations when the area came under attack by hostile force at NAM HOA, 4km E-SE of LZ VEGHEL (27km Southwest of HUE Citadel) in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



17 April 1968



PFC Jerry Mosby (B/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 came under hostile mortar attack near DONG XYEUN, 3km North of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Mosby was admitted to a Military Hospital on 17 April and transferred to a Naval Hospital Ship where he later expired.

17 April 1969



1LT John C. Driver (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 operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

17 April 1970



CPL Norman D. Peery (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 at NDP site 23 Miles W-SW of HUE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 April 1968



SGT Donald E. Smrtnik (D/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 when hit by hostile small arms fire while on combat operations in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 April 1968



PFC Robert J. Hess (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) as a ground casualty when he drowned while on a combat operation while wading across a stream in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 April 1968



PFC Thomas M. Holcombe (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds sustained from aspiration pneumonitis. PFC Holcombe was on a combat operation crossing a stream when he attempted to save two drowning Soldiers and almost drowned himself. PFC Holcombe was admitted to a Military Hospital and later expired on 21 April in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 April 1968

PFC Reginald Williams Jr. (D/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart (Posthumously) as a ground casualty when he drowned while crossing a stream on a combat operation when he was attempting to save another individual in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 April 1969



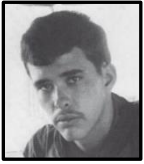
SP4 Lloyd W. Jones (A/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 April 1970

PFC Lawrence J. Witherow (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 4492, 22 April 1970)



18 April 1970



SGT Timothy E. Sullivan (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 while at a night defensive position when the area came under grenade attack by a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 April 1970



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

18 April 1970



SGT Robert L. Dangberg (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device 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.

18 April 1970



CPL Robert A. Wall (D/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 wounds when mistaken for enemy & fired on by friendly forces during a combat operation in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 April 1968



CPL Timothy G. Robinson (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 while on combat operation when hostile mine detonated in area in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 April 1970



SSG Dean L. Frey (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 while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the vicinity of FSB RIPCORN approximately 37km west of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 April 1970



SSG James D. Jarrett (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds while on combat operation when a hostile force was encountered on their NDP on RE-UP HILL, 40km West of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 April 1970



SSG Jeffrey J. Joseph (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 operations when hostile force was encountered on their NDP on RE-UP HILL, 40km West of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



20 April 1966



PFC Famous L. Lane (A/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 wounds to his back, neck and right hand during hostile ground actions during night patrol engagement near PHAN THIET in the BINH THUAN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

20 April 1966



PFC George J. Skapinsky (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound to the left leg and head received in hostile ground action during a night patrol engagement near PHAN THIET in the BINH THUAN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

20 April 1968



SP4 Francis G. Gray (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds they received which resulted in his death from fragment wounds received while on combat operations when engaged by hostile forces in a firefight in the THUA THIEN, Republic of Vietnam.

20 April 1968



PFC Claude McCan Jr. (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds they received which resulted in his death from fragment wounds received while on combat operations when engaged by hostile forces in a firefight in the THUA THIEN, Republic of Vietnam.

20 April 1968



PFC Jerald D. Swan (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds they received which resulted in his death from metal fragment wounds received while on combat operations when engaged by hostile forces in a firefight in the THUA THIEN, Republic of Vietnam.

20 April 1968



PFC David J. Moreno (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds they received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds received while on combat operations when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN, Republic of Vietnam.

20 April 1968



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

20 April 1968



PFC Terry W. Mott (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds they received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN, Republic of Vietnam.



20 April 1968



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

20 April 1968

SGT Michael L. LaPonte (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st AB DIV; General Orders Number 1294; 8 June 1968)

20 April 1968

SP4 Ronald A. Groothoff (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st AB DIV; General Orders Number 1294; 8 June 1968)

20 April 1968



SP4 Michael Dorch (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st AB DIV; General Orders Number 1294; 8 June 1968)

20 April 1968

PFC Timothy J. O'Leary (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101st AB DIV; General Orders Number 1294; 8 June 1968)



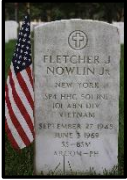
STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

15 April 1968



1LT Ronald E. Phillips (D/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (1-OLC) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 April 1968. Lieutenant Phillips distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company D, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, on a search and clear operation on twenty-five kilometers' northwest of HUE, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Phillips' platoon received intense enemy small arms fire and automatic weapons fire from concealed enemy positions in a nearby wood line. Three of the lead men were wounded in the initial contact, and because of their proximity to the enemy lines, several rescue attempts failed. Lieutenant Phillips immediately crawled to the injured troopers. In order to reach them, he was forced to run across an open rice paddy under increased enemy fire. Reaching the first man, he placed himself between his wounded comrade and the enemy fire and immediately administered first aid. He then crawled toward the other men. BY this time, several others from his platoon had joined him, and he organized his small element into teams to remove the wounded from their hazardous positions. As the men moved back to the friendly position, a sniper began to fire at them from a treetop. Once again, Lieutenant Phillips risked his life as he maneuvered against the sniper and prevented the hostile force from advancing on the rescue party by continuously firing his weapon and throwing hand grenades. Returning to his platoon, he made certain that the injured had been properly evacuated, and then maneuvered his platoon against the enemy troops. In the fighting that followed, he personally confronted and captured an armed North Vietnamese Soldier. Lieutenant Phillips' 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.

15 April 1969



SP4 Fletcher J. Nowlin (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 April 1969. Specialist Nowlin distinguished himself while serving as a platoon medical aidman with Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, on a combat operation in Quang Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam. In the early morning hours on the cited date, the Third Platoon of Company C received intense enemy sniper fire that instantly killed two men and wounded others. Specialist Nowlin ignored the hostile fire as he went from position to position checking for and treating the wounded. On one occasion he low-crawled thirty-five meters outside the perimeter, while under enemy fire, to render medical aid to a fallen comrade. Then disregarding his own safety, he shielded the wounded man with his own body as he helped him back inside the perimeter. His courageous actions directly resulted in the saving of many lives. Specialist Nowlin'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.

16 April 1968



PFC Michael J. Uhden (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 16 April 1968, Private First Class Uhden distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman with Company D, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near the village of Thon Bat-Vong Tay, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While crossing an open rice paddy the point element of the company was taken under an intense volume of hostile automatic weapons fire from a well concealed and fortified enemy bunker. Seeing a comrade fall seriously wounded, and next to the bunker, Private First Class Uhden unhesitatingly braved the murderous hail of enemy fire to extract the trooper by routing the enemy fire from the bunker, killing two occupants with hand grenades. Private First Class Uhden's indomitable courage and valorous actions enabled the wounded to be successfully and safely evacuated from the combat area. Private First Class Uhden's valor reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 4316; 2 August 1968)

17 April 1970



CPL Norman D. Peery (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 17 April 1970. Private Peery distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near the Coc A Bo MOUNTAIN, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in a night defensive position, Private Peery's unit came under an enemy ground attack. Private Peery successfully engaged an insurgent with an anti-personnel mine and warned the rest of the company of the attack. Despite intense enemy fire, Private Peery returned a heavy volume of suppressive machine gun fire on the insurgents. Although the enemy fire was concentrated on his position, Private Peery remained with his machine gun until he was mortally wounded by hostile fire. Private Peery's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7641; 7 July 1970)

19 April 1970



SGT Jeffrey J. Joseph (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 April 1970. Sergeant Joseph distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in a night defensive position, Sergeant Joseph's unit received small arms, grenade, and mortar fire from an enemy force of unknown size. Sergeant Joseph moved from position to position directing his squad's return fire. He pointed out suspected enemy positions and gave encouragement to his weary troops. When the squad's machine gun had expended most of its ammunition, he collected additional ammunition and brought it to the machine gun position. Shortly after taking a position behind part of the squad, Sergeant Joseph was mortally wounded by enemy fire. His actions contributed greatly to the safety of his men. Sergeant Joseph's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 6255; 04 June 1970)



20 April 1966



SP4 Famous L. Lane (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against armed hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam. On 20 April 1966, Specialist Lane, a member of Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, was on a hazardous night "Recondo" patrol in a Viet Cong infested area near PHAN THIET, Republic of Vietnam. Approximately an hour after the "Recondo" patrol's departure from the company's perimeter, the point man detected a large Viet Cong force moving towards the small patrol and a hasty ambush was quickly established. Specialist Lane, a machine gunner, sprinted from the rear of the column and without hesitation placed his machine gun in position on a small slope, fully realizing that the position afforded him no protection. In the initial burst of deadly fire Specialist Lane killed five Viet Cong Soldiers. The insurgents were forced to withdraw to a treeline area, in the face of Specialist Lane's extremely effective and devastating fire. His deadly accurate fire was instrumental in the success of the hasty ambush against a numerically superior Viet Cong force. The determined insurgents concentrated a withering volume of fire on the patrol from the tree line area as the hostile elements maneuvered to each flank of the friendly forces. With phenomenal courage, profound concern for his fellow troops and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Specialist Lane remained on the slope and concentrated effective suppressive fire on the insurgents when the patrol was forced to withdraw to a protective cover to the rear. By remaining calm and maintaining a sound presence of mind, Specialist Lane successfully disorganized the insurgents and forced them to withdraw. While attempting to reload his machine gun the Viet Cong forced poured automatic weapons fire into his position and Specialist Lane was mortally wounded. His extraordinary heroism and supreme sacrifice were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. (HQ, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders Number 173; 29 July 1966)

20 April 1966



PFC George J. Skapinsky (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for distinguishing himself on 20 April 1966 during a mission to secure a landing zone for a heliborne operation near PHAN THIET, Republic of Vietnam. While manning his position in the defensive perimeter around the projected landing zone, Private First Class Skapinsky detected a Viet Cong squad attempting to penetrate the perimeter. After notifying his patrol leader of the situation, he concentrated a hail of fire onto the surprised insurgents. The insurgents quickly dispersed into the jungle leaving two dead behind. Private First Class Skapinsky volunteered to move forward with two other men in search of the dead Viet Cong. After reaching the dead Viet Cong, Private First Class Skapinsky again detected movement to his front only moments before the Viet Cong launched a two-pronged attack. Due to his alertness, his comrades were prepared to repulse the Viet Cong, and killed two more insurgents. When intense hostile fire was received from a tree line to their front, Private First Class Skapinsky, with complete disregard for his safety, covered the withdrawal of his comrades until he was mortally wounded. Private First Class Skapinsky's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, USARV; General Orders Number 3865; 15 June 1966)

20 April 1966

SGT Jackson McNealy (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for distinguishing himself from 20 April 1966 to 21 April 1966 while serving as a patrol leader during a reconnaissance mission near PHAN THIET, Republic of Vietnam. As his patrol was maneuvering through the jungle, the point man detected a Viet Cong force moving towards them. Sergeant McNealy immediately established an ambush. As the Viet Cong approached within a few meters of the patrol, the ambush commenced, and five insurgents were killed instantly, and the rest withdrew to a tree line. Exposing himself to the hostile fire, Sergeant McNealy skillfully directed suppressive fire into the tree line until a large Viet Cong element reinforced the beleaguered insurgents. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Sergeant McNealy with complete disregard for his safety, dashed through intense Viet Cong fire across an open area in search of a better position. After finding a vantage point, he sprinted back to his patrol and led them through the intense hostile fire to the new position where they set up a defensive perimeter and routed the Viet Cong force. On the following day when two men were wounded by Viet Cong fire, Sergeant McNealy exposed himself and administered first aid to his stricken comrades. Although he was wounded himself, he refused medical evacuation until his comrades were treated. He then walked unassisted 700 meters to the evacuation site. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, he contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission. Sergeant McNealy's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, USARV; General Orders Number 5455; 24 August 1966)

20 April 1966

SSG Jose S. Laguana (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (2-OLC) for distinguishing himself on 20 April 1966 while serving as squad leader during a combat operation deep in Viet Cong infested territory near PHAN THIET, Republic of Vietnam. As Staff Sergeant Laguana's unit was advancing to secure a landing zone for a company size assault, four Viet Cong were seen moving toward their position. Staff Sergeant Laguana immediately established a hasty ambush, killed one Viet Cong, wounded another and caused the remainder to flee into the jungle. After reaching their objective, he established a defensive perimeter. Later, six insurgents were observed stealthily moving toward their location. Staff Sergeant Laguana quickly organized his squad and again dauntlessly led a charge toward the Viet Cong. He personally killed two Viet Cong during this skirmish. When three of his men attempted to retrieve an insurgent weapon, they received intense hostile fire from a large Viet Cong force and were pinned down. With complete disregard for his safety, Staff Sergeant Laguana dauntlessly led his men in a flanking assault, killed one Viet Cong, wounded another and forced the insurgents to withdraw. His heroic actions throughout the day inspired his men to close with and defeat a numerically superior Viet Cong force, and to successfully secure the landing zone. Staff Sergeant Laguana's unimpeachable valor in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. (HQ, USARV; General Orders Number 5671; 14 September 1966)



20 April 1968



SGT Michael E. Dorch (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Sergeant Dorch distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 20 April 1968 while serving as a fire team leader during a search and clear operation north of HUE. As his unit moved across a rice paddy a North Vietnamese force opened fire from their bunker complex. Although the hostile barrage of rocket grenades and machine gun fire made movement virtually impossible. Sergeant Dorch immediately began to maneuver about the rice paddy to check on each of his men. Spotting an enemy trench which approached a bunker, he leaped into it and began advancing toward the enemy. Coming upon one of his comrades who had been shot and had fallen into the trench, he paused to administer first aid and then pressed on. The occupants of the hostile fortification observed his actions and emerged to fire on him. Sergeant Dorch adroitly jumped to his feet and unleashed a burst from his rifle killing the occupants. He then rushed forward and threw two grenades into the bunker, completely destroying it. Retracing his path, he picked up the wounded soldier and carried him back to the unit's position. After resupplying himself with ammunition, he proceeded to recover additional casualties for evacuation. Sergeant Dorch's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (General Orders: Headquarters, US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 2892; July 29, 1969)

20 April 1968



CPT Russell J. Stoewe (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 April 1968. Captain Stoewe distinguished himself while serving as Company Commander of Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, during a combat operation in Quang Dien District, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon, the lead platoon, was suddenly and accurately taken under an intense barrage of hostile automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire from its front and left flank, seriously wounding the platoon leader. Captain Stoewe, with complete disregard for his own safety, braved the murderous hail of enemy fire in order to reach the platoon's position. Captain Stoewe skillfully maneuvered the platoon to launch a counterattack against the enemy's positions, and at the same time, deprived the enemy of an escape route. Throughout the ensuing battle, Captain Stoewe personally directed the retaliatory fire of his men, while repeatedly exposing himself to the heavy enemy fire, which continued to rake the ground. The enemy broke contact immediately after having received the devastating attack. Captain Stoewe regrouped his Company and pursued the enemy with supporting fires from artillery and gunships. Under Captain Stoewe's astute direction and capable leadership, the insurgent force was shiftily destroyed. Captain Stoewe's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN, General Order No. 11392; 30 December 1968)

20 April 1968



SP5 Lawrence E. Mize (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 April 1968. Specialist Mize distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry. Company A made contact with an enemy force located in a series of well-placed bunkers concealed in a dense wood line in the vicinity of HUE, Republic of Vietnam. As the point squad was hit with a lethal barrage of machine gun and automatic weapons fire, Specialist Mize was with the company headquarters group about two hundred meters away from the area of contact. As the first shots were fired, Specialist Mize raced across the open rice paddies to be of assistance. Despite the ferocity of the battle, he made his way to a wounded man. After applying temporary measures, Specialist Mize realized that the man would have to be evacuated. Without hesitation, he picked the man up and retraced his steps to the command post. Realizing that others required his aid, Specialist Mize returned across the bullet swept, two hundred meters of rice paddies and began treating more of the wounded. With the fighting continuing all around him, Specialist Mize once again carried another injured man through enemy fire to safety. Although emotionally and physically drained, Specialist Mize reached again through the enemy fire to continue aiding the wounded. His courage in the face of the formidable enemy fire and devotion to his fellow soldiers proved to be an example for the entire company. Specialist Mize'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. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 9055; 5 November 1968)

20 April 1968



SP4 Patrick A. McBride (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Viet Nam on 20 April 1968. Specialist Four McBride distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman with Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, during a combat operation in Quan Dien District, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Viet Nam. Specialist Four McBride's platoon, the lead platoon, was suddenly and accurately taken under an intense barrage of hostile automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire from front and left flanks, seriously wounding the platoon leader. Unhesitatingly, Specialist Four McBride, with courageous disregard for his own personal safety, braved the murderous hail of enemy fire to aid his fallen platoon leader. Specialist Four McBride carried the wounded man to safety and then began administering first aid when the position received an intense volley of sniper rounds. Specialist Four McBride immediately located the sniper's location and maneuvered to engage the enemy. While advancing through the sniper fire a bullet struck his helmet and rendered Specialist Four McBride unconscious for a few moments. Having recovered, he dauntlessly proceeded to destroy the sniper's position, killing two snipers. Specialist Four McBride then returned to the wounded platoon leader and carried him to safety. Through Specialist Four McBride's intrepid courage and outstanding valor the platoon leader was successfully re-covered and given immediate medical care. Specialist Four McBride's gallant action and selfless courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him- self, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st AIR CAV DIV; General Orders Number 3899; 18 July 1968)



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

