



# STRIKE

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

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



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



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



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

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21 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN II:** A/2-502 IN sustained 3 wounded from enemy sniper fire vicinity BN055285. No enemy snipers were captured or killed. At BN059324 a base camp was discovered consisting of 9 huts, M26 grenade and documents. The base camp was destroyed. At 1600H, a cache of 1 to 2 tons of rice and 1 to 2 tons of potatoes was found vicinity BN061299. A force was left behind to wait instructions on what to do with it. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

21 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN II:** At 1235H, B/2-502 IN found and destroyed 2 huts and a bunker with a small amount of food and PJ's vicinity BN023273. At 1630H, C/2-502 IN sustained one US wounded by enemy sniper fire vicinity BN036223. On platoon of B/2-502 IN maintained a radio relay station vicinity BN048390. At 1730H, B/2-502 (-) was located at BN022214 moving toward there blocking position coordinates BN044254, BN056260, BN054277. All of these positions were reached by 1935H. At 1833H, A/2-502 IN reported contact with an estimated 2 Viet Cong squad's vicinity BN043337 resulting in 5 Viet Cong killed (BC) and 1 US killed. A/2-502 IN maneuvered toward Viet Cong positions. One Springfield rifle was recovered. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

21 April 1968

**Operation DELAWARE:**

**Major Operations Summary:** On 21 April 1968, the third day of Operation DELAWARE, SCREAMING EAGLES of the 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV killed 47 enemy soldiers and captured or destroyed 12 weapons. Action continued in the 2BDE AO where both the 1-501 IN BN and 2-501 IN BN had substantial contacts, killing 38 of the enemy. C/1-501 IN located an enemy platoon 8km north of HUE, Recon 1-501 IN joined C/1-501 IN to hold the enemy in position while artillery fires were brought on the enemy, resulting in 13 enemy dead and 4 weapons captured or destroyed. C/2-501 IN contacted an enemy reinforced company near THON KIM DOI Village, vicinity YD753311. A/2-501 IN, B/2-501 and D/2-501 IN were rapidly deployed to complete the cordon around the enemy, which was maintained during the night, as artillery and TAC air were used against the hostile force. By the end of the reporting period, 21 enemy had been killed.

In the 1BDE AO, despite adverse weather conditions, the 2-502 IN BN was airlifted into LZ VEGHEL as part of the planned build up. The 1-327 IN BN and 6<sup>th</sup> ARVN ABN BN continued operation in the vicinity of the LZ. A total of 9 NVA were killed and 3 weapons destroyed by US paratroopers. The 2-327 IN BN continued SW along 547 without contact. 1-502 IN BN continued the security and 21 2000z RIF operation in the vicinity of FSB BASTOGNE. There was no significant action in the 3BDE AO.

**Significant Contact:**

At 1200H, vicinity YD551032, C/1-327 IN received 7 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Counter mortar artillery was employed on the suspected enemy location vicinity YD553041 and YD546047. At 1500H, vicinity YD553027, A/1-327 IN while moving north toward Objective One received heavy volumes of AW/RPG fire. Fire was returned with organic weapons while artillery from FSB supported. At 1915H vicinity YD556043, C/1-327 IN received a limited ground probe on their NDP. The enemy employed SA, AW and RPG fire. Fire was returned with organic weapons and Claymore Mines, forcing then enemy to withdraw at 1930H. Results for today's actions: 1 US KHA, 16 US WHA (13 medevac), 1 MHA, 9 NVA KIA, 3 IWC.

At 1250H, vicinity YD715327 C/1-501 IN engaged an estimated NVA forced platoon. Then enemy employed SA, AW, and RPG fire, while maneuvering, C/1-501 IN maintained contact with NVA force utilizing organic weapons and artillery. At 1345H, 1-501 IN BN, Recon platoon maneuvered to reinforce. At 1515H, C/1-501 IN advanced over the enemy positions. Results: 8 US WHA (5 evac); 13 NVA KIA, 4 IWC.

At 1145H, vicinity YD753311 C/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN. C/2-501 IN observed and engaged with artillery and organic weapons 2 VC. As C/2-501 IN pursued the enemy, contact increased to an estimated reinforced company located in the village of THON KIM DOI. D/2-501 IN moved to reinforce, while heavy volumes of organic weapons fire, artillery, and tactical air was placed on the target area. At 1850H, A/2-501 IN and B/2-501 IN were air assaulted into blocking positions completing the cordon around the village. Moderate fighting continued throughout the night as the enemy force employed SA and RPG fire in vain attempts to exfiltrate the village. Continuous illumination will be employed throughout the night with artillery providing support fires. Results at the end of the reporting period: 5 US WIA (4 evac); 18 NVA KIA, 3 NVA KBA.

(CG, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Commander's Daily Situation Report (SITREP) for period 21001 to 212400 April 1968)

21 – 25 April 1968

2-501 IN BN conducted extremely successful cordon and search operations in QUANGE DIEN District resulting in over 85 NVA KIA and numerous weapons captured. The most notable result of these operations was the egress of NVA/VC units from the area.



21 – 24 April 1968

**Operation CARENTAN I & II:** C/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN were conducting a reconnaissance in force operation vicinity YD7530 in response to intelligence build up in the area. At 1445H, C/2-501 IN observed 2 VC vicinity YD754311. The company engaged the enemy killing one and capturing one AK-47. The company pursued the enemy into the village of THON KIM DOI (YD7531) where they established contact with an enemy platoon. C/2-501 IN deployed along the southeast corner of the village employing heavy artillery and 4 tactical airstrikes against the enemy position. As the contact developed, the enemy employed AWA RPG and 82mm mortar fire against the friendly forces. D/2-501 IN working adjacent to C/2-501 IN moved in around the northeast side of the village. The enemy forces force was further evaluated to be a company and just prior to darkness A/2-501 IN and B/2-501 IN were heli-lifted into the northwest and southwest sides of the village, respectively. The cordon was completed at 1910H. Artillery and continuous artificial flares illumination were employed throughout the night. During the night, the enemy made several unsuccessful attempts to escape the cordon. The enemy's persistent attempts to escape, however, further reinforced the fact that the sizeable force had been trapped in the cordon. At first light, as the friendly forces began closing into the village, they again received heavy AW/RPG and mortar fire. Heavy artillery and 6 TAC Air strikes were employed throughout the day. Captured documents indicated that the enemy forces were the 4<sup>th</sup> Company (heavy weapons) of the 812<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment. The attacking forces continued to meet stiff resistance as the action continued into the late afternoon. At 1716H, the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division Recon Company (The Black Panther Force) was heli-lifted in to join the southern portion of the cordon, and the 222 RF Company moved overland from QUANGE DIEN vicinity YD6833 to join the cordon in the north. 47 NVA were killed during the day as the contact continued into the night. The cordon was continued as artillery maintained continuous illumination and bombarded the enemy position throughout the second night of contact. A reeducation in enemy resistance was noted and at first light the village was prepped with artillery and TAC Air, then A/2-501 IN and D/2-501 IN attacked from the north through the village towards the blocking positions on the south. The operation resulted in 74 NVA KIA, 1 NVA POW and 13 weapons captured or destroyed. Friendly casualties for the entire 3-day operations were 12 US WIA. (Operation Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

21 – 24 April 1968

2-501 IN BN cordons KIM DOI and THON THAN TRUNG resulting in 70 enemy KIA, and 13 NVA PWs.

21 April 1968

Near THON KIM DOI village five miles north of HUE, C/2-501 IN paratroopers spotted and killed two Viet Cong. The fleeing enemy led the airborne riflemen to the village, where an enemy company was waiting. Early that evening, paratroopers from A/2-501 IN and B/2-501 IN air assaulted into blocking positions, completing the cordon of the village. The enemy body count at the end of the day rose to 21. Illumination continued throughout the night as the enemy employed heavy volumes of automatic weapons and RPG fire in an unsuccessful attempt to exfiltrate the village. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 2); July 1968)

21 April – 06 May 1968

**Operation DELAWARE:** 2-502 IN began operations with a heliborne assault on LZ VEGHEL. B/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN moved from VEGHEL which was slightly hot due too sporadic but ineffective mortar fire, to seize the high grounds to the West called objective 1 and 2. B/2-502 IN made the first significant contact capturing 1 x POW in the process. Both objectives were seized but major contact by B/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN were made necessitating the use of two fifty-caliber machine guns and a 106 RR by C/2-502 IN. After seizing the objective, the companies deployed to the SW along a ridgeline to the RAO NAI River. A/2-502 IN on the east side and B/2-502 IN on the west searched the area to the south. C/2-502 IN crossed the river and searched the area to the west. During this time no significant contact was made with the enemy.

Several trails, other than HWY 547A were located. The weather was rainy and hindered movement, air supply missions, and dust offs. Since the contacts in the south of the AO were few, the battalion-initiated Phase II on 6 May 1968.

21 April 1970

A/1-502 IN found a satchel charge near a bunker. They destroyed it. C/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon found numerous sandal tracks which appeared to be 2 days old.

22 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN II:** At 0947H, A/2-502 IN reported finding a 62 Ford truck and 50 feet of electric cable vicinity BN074267. The truck was in bad shape with many parts missing. The truck was destroyed. At 1800H, A/2-502 IN sustained 1 US wounded from enemy sniper fire. A CH-47 with hoist was called at 1820H for Medevac and completed at 1905H. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

22 April 1966

**Operation Austin II:** B/2-502 IN (-) was conducting "RECONDO CHECKERBOARD" operations vicinity BN0525 when element of B/2-502 IN located VC vicinity BN047393 sighted 30-40 Viet Cong there. B/2-502 IN was helilifted to LZ vicinity BN065394 to pursue the enemy. The lift was completed at 1700H, with negative enemy contact. B/2-502 IN sent out extensive "RECONDO" patrols and could not establish contact; at 2215H, they began moving South on order of BN Commander. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

22 April 1967

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



22 – 23 April 1968

**Operation DELAWARE:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation DELAWARE to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases, and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light to include the village complex cordoned by the 2-501 IN BN, where sporadic fire was received throughout the night. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 5 US WIA (5 medevac); Enemy assessment – 32 NVA KIA (BC), 1 NVA POW, 3 AK-47's, 3 SKS, 1 7.62 AK Soviet Assault Rifle, 1 RPG-7 launcher.

### 1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD695271 with ambushes vicinity YD686274 and YD694274. During the day conducted maintenance and local patrols vicinity NDP. Established NDP vicinity YD688268 with local ambushes.

B/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD613254 with ambushes vicinity YD616251, YD612259, YD609255 and YD609291. During the day conducted maintenance and local patrols vicinity NDP. Established NDP vicinity YD608265 with local ambushes.

C/1-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV; provided security for AN LO Bridge. Conducted platoon size RIF operation NE to vicinity YD629309 and returned. At 1520H, 1 squad moved to vicinity YD618317 to secure and L-19 of the 1<sup>st</sup> ACD that was down due to mechanical trouble. Squad returned at 1656H when aircraft was extracted.

D/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD652256 with ambushes vicinity YD646252, YD653250, YD662247 and YD651258. Conducted RIF operation from NDP SW to vicinity YD627244.

Recon platoon provided minesweep security N and S from LZ SALLY. Returned LZ SALLY, assumed mission as LZ SALLY perimeter reaction force.

### 2-501 IN BN

Throughout the night a cordon was maintained around the village complex along the NW and SE side of stream from vicinity YD758305 and YD755313. Blocking positions were maintained by A/2-501 IN, C/2-501 IN, D/2-501 IN, B/2-501 IN 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon, 1 RF company and 1 ARVN company. Throughout the reporting period sporadic SA, AW fire and occasional RPG-2 and 82mm rounds were received with negative casualties. Partial sweeps were made of the objective area with the exception of hamlet located vicinity YD747305. At the close of the reporting period A/2-501 IN, D/2-501 IN and the RF company remained in the objective area with a cordon established by ambushes around the hamlet vicinity YD747305. The ARVN company was airlifted from the objective area from 1502H to 1604H. At 1611H, B/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon was airlifted to LZ vicinity YD688318, closed at 1620H. During the reporting period three were no friendly casualties in the vicinity of the cordoned village. Enemy assessment – 32 NVA KIA (BC), 1 NVA POW, 3 AK-47's, 3 SKS, 1 7.62 AK Soviet Assault Rifle, 1 RPG-7 launcher.

B/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation vicinity YD685316 to vicinity YD684306 to vicinity YD688302. At 1645H vicinity YD687304 received SA and AW fire from and estimated company resulting in 2 US WIA (medevac). Artillery and an air strike were placed on the enemy positions and negative assessment. Established NDP vicinity YD691312 with local ambushes. Friendly casualties – 2 US WIA (medevac); Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon provided security for B/1-321 ARTY vicinity YD688339. Conducted RIF operation OPCON to B/2-501 IN. Returned to vicinity YD688339, closed 1643H.

At 1400H vicinity YD615293, a vehicle being washed was fired on by an estimated enemy squad resulting in 3 US WIA (medevac). At 1415H a helicopter engaged the enemy position with negative assessment.

(Commanders Situation Report; 222001H April – 232000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

22 April 1968

At first light, the multi-company paratrooper force poured suppressing automatic weapons fire on the enemy location while calling for more artillery and air strikes. At the close of the night's action the Screaming Eagles were credited with 47 NVA kills and seven weapons captured. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 2); July 1968)

22 April 1968

**Operation DELAWARE:** At 1520H, B/2-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon vicinity YD556020 engaged an enemy engineer recon party of approximately 8 personnel with organic weapons. Results: 1 US WHA, 4 NVA KIA, 1 NVA CIA, 3 AK-47's, and 1 SKS CIA.

22 April 1968

2-502 IN BN came into heavy contact vicinity YD5602. A PW captured in this action identified his unit as the 10<sup>th</sup> Co., 3<sup>rd</sup> BN, 308<sup>th</sup> Engineers. This unit is nicknamed Cutthroats. It is possible that this large an engineer's unit has been responsible for the recent upgrading of 547A and the depot complex in A SHAU – A LOUI Valley. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division, Period Ending 30 April 1968)

22 – 25 April 1969

**Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** 1-502 IN BN continued RIF and detailed search operations. The equipment from the cache discovered by C/1-502 IN was evacuated by air to the 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV at Camp EAGLE, HUE at 1310H. C/1-502 moved by CH47 from YC706661 to Eagle Beach and became OPCON to 3BDE.

22 April 1970

C/1-502 IN found in area of 50 to 100 meters in diameter 10 sleeping positions which would hold 3 – 4 persons each. It is estimated 20 – 30 people used area 5 – 20 days ago. Trails lead in and out from all directions. The location of this complex was 751021. HOUNG THUY reported the KIA of TRAN VAN MYHIA a vital lead in the communist party for our area. He was the most wanted VC on the list.



22 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** FSB STRIKE Closed. (2-502 Unit History, Vietnam 1970; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

22 April 1971 1-501 IN BN ambush vicinity YD891109 had movement. Engaged with small arms and claymores. Enemy returned fire and fled. Firefly used and observed tunnel at vicinity YD883115. FLC had negative results.

22 – 29 April 1971 **Operation LAM SON 720:** C/2-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon, 3<sup>rd</sup> squad while outside of FB JACK waiting for the CA to CO PUNG, LT Blaylock (Platoon Leader) sent out the squad which consisted of 11 Soldiers which included SGT David Cobb (Squad Leader), SP4 Sylvan Benjamin (Thumper), SP4 Brent Fletcher (Pointman), Peterson (Slack), Henry (RTO), Slim (60 Gunner), SP4 Mike Medders (60 ammo bearer), Mormon (Medic), SP4 Carl Tillotson (Rifleman), Unknown Soldier (Rifleman) and SP4 Ron Snow (Rear Security) out on a patrol about one to two clicks. As the squad started back, SP4 Brent Fletcher (Pointman) stepped on a "mechanical ambush" booby trap and had one leg blown off and his foot blown off on the other leg; medevac was on station in about 5 minutes. The squad sized patrol was not far from their NDP. LT Blaylock was the 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon, platoon leader. (Personal accounts by David Cobb and Sylvan Benjamin) \*Picture L-R: SP4 Ron Snow, SP4 Mike Medders, SGT Dave Cobb, SP4 Carl Tillotson, SP4 Sylvan Benjamin (shirt off) & unknown soldier with cigarette.



22 – 29 April 1971 **Operation LAM SON 720:** A/2-502 IN took the initiative with a night combat patrol north of A LOUIS Airfield and south of the FSB RAZORBACK. E/2-502 IN followed with a reconnaissance assault and mortar raid on EAGLE NEST where they established a patrol based for A/2-502 IN 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 17<sup>th</sup> CAV in an aircraft rescue mission in the southern portion of the 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. B/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon then returned to FB JACK. Due to unflyable weather over the planned area of operation, the Battalion spent four days at FB JACK receiving additional training.

23 April 1966 **Operations AUSTIN II:** A/2-502 IN (-) moved in Recondo Checkerboard position to the South at 1715H. B/2-502 IN moved down axis Red, white and Blue at 1715H. B/2-502 IN was located at BN048325; B2a at BN065314, B2b at BN060335, B3a at BN039322, B3b at BN025325, B4a at BN070328 and B4b at BN079330. At 1925H, B4a engaged 3 Viet Cong at BN064334 killing 1 Viet Cong (BC). C/2-502 IN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations vicinity BN0628. Recondo platoon continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations vicinity BN1028 with no enemy contact. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

23 April 1968 In the 1BDE area of operations, airborne infantry of the 1-327 IN BN continued their clearing operations at LZ VEGHEL, six miles east of the A SHAU VALLEY. Scattered resistance was met as the paratroopers prepared the LZ for the insertion of heavy engineer equipment and artillery pieces. The cordon of THON KIM DOI was completed as the 2-501 IN BN scored 27 more kills and took four more weapons. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 2); July 1968)

23 April 1970 1-502 IN BN, MP teams continued training the PF units in our area. Snipers were withdrawn to PHU BAI to receive additionally training.

23 April 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** At 0345H at YD362165, A/2-501 IN received RPG Fire and satchel charges in their NDP. The attackers were quickly silenced, but resumed the attack at 0610H with RPG, small arms and 60mm mortar fire. Artillery was employed on suspected enemy locations and escape routes. At first light search revealed seven NVA KIA, two RPG launchers, one SKS and five AK-47's. One US Soldier was killed in action and eleven wounded.

24 April 1966 **Operations AUSTIN II:** A/2-502 IN BN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations vicinity BN1017 and at 0800H, started extractions from BN109174 to the battalion base area near PHAN THIET AIRFIELD. The extraction was completed at 0855H, and A/2-502 IN became the brigade reserve on a 30-minute standby for the Phan Thiet area. B/2-502 IN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations in vicinity of BN 0432. C/2-502 IN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations vicinity BN 0623 with no enemy contact. Recondo platoon continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations vicinity BN1075. At 1000H, Recondo platoon was helilifted from BN107253 to LOUNG SON CIDG camp vicinity BN127384; they were assigned an area reserve mission. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

24 – 25 April 1968 **Operation DELAWARE:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation 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 MIA, 9 US WIA (8 medevac); Enemy assessment – 6 NVA KIA (BC), 7 VC KIA (BC), 1 RPG-2 launcher and 1 German Mauser rifle (both had been destroyed by artillery), 1500 rounds SA, 9 60mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 2 82mm mortar rounds (destroyed).

### 1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD678273 with ambushes vicinity YD683276, YD680275, YD674373 and YD685274. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD683291 and established NDP with local ambushes. At 1410H vicinity YD684286 engaged 5 NVA. Artillery supported. Results: 2 NVA KIA (BC).



B/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD618274 with ambushes vicinity YD616268, YD615279, YD613273 and YD609267. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD625241 and established NDP with local ambushes.

C/1-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV. Provided security at AN LO Bridge. Established ambush vicinity YD630295. 1 platoon with 3 squads RF conducted RIF to vicinity YD6029. At 1440H vicinity YD612291 discovered 6 60mm mortar fuses vicinity of enemy minefield. Established a daylight ambush with negative results.

D/1-501 IN Occupied NDP vicinity YD618274 with ambushes vicinity YD658239, YD652252 and YD661248. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD671239 and established NDP with local ambushes.

Recon platoon ambushed vicinity YD634259, returned to LZ SALLY at 0630H. AT 1630H departed LZ SALLY with 1 platoon PF and 1 platoon RF. Moved west to vicinity YD609269 and established NDP with ambushes along E bank of SONG BO River.

E/1-501 IN (-) provided minesweep security N and S from LZ SALLY. At 0955H vicinity YD643293 minesweep team received 3 rounds sniper fire. Negative casualties.

### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD712312 SW to vicinity YD699303. At 1310H an artillery prep was fired vicinity YD700302. At 1330H received sporadic SA/AW fire vicinity YD699301. Continued to move towards village at YD699303. At 1430H, the contact developed, and the enemy forces was estimated to be a reinforced NVA platoon or company which employed SA, AW and RPG fire. Friendly casualties were 2 MIA and 3 WIA (including 2 WIA from BBT grenade that was detonated during contact). Friendly forces pulled back and employed artillery, light fire team (LFT) and TAC AIR. Contact broke at 1645H. BDA of 3 air strikes placed on the enemy location between 1705H and 1812H was 4 NVA KIA (BC). Established NDP vicinity YD710305. Results: 2 US MIA, 3 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 4 NVA KIA (BC)

B/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD668311 to vicinity YD692323 and established NDP and local ambush. At 1115H received SA fire from vicinity YD675314. Returned fire and artillery supported. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

C/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD724324 to vicinity YD709335 and established NDP and local ambushes. At 1910H vicinity YD707335 received SA and AW fire from the N. Engaged with artillery. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

D/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD738302 to vicinity YD712313 and established NDP and local ambushes. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

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

(Commanders Situation Report; 242001H April – 252000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

24 April 1968

**Operation DELAWARE:** At 0640H, C/2-502 IN vicinity YD542029 engaged an unknown size enemy force in the killing zone of its ambush. When C/2-502 IN went to check results, the enemy counterattacked. Results: 1 US KHA, 1 US WHA, 2 NVA KIA, 1 AK-47, 1 SKS CIA. At 1125H, vicinity YD542029 our C&C/utility helicopter received AK-47 and HMG fire from suspected coordinate YD542033 after departing C/2-502 IN LZ on a resupply mission. The utility ship from 1-327 IN BN, acting as escort ship, observed our helicopter spinning and smoking and finally bursting into flames as it went down. The 1-327 IN BN helicopter was also hit by enemy fire but was able to make a forced landing on LZ VEGHEL, where it was secured by Recon platoon. Attempts to locate the other helicopter had negative results: Results: 1 US WHA, 5 US MIA (1 from 2-502)

24 April 1970

Unauthorized people were cutting bamboo in a danger area. They were removed. An agent report indicates we will reach a high point in enemy activity about 25 April. The Brigade Commander has directed additional patrols be sent out to prevent assaults on installations. Recon found 1 bunker complex approximately 1-year-old. (1-502 IN Annual Supplement; Approved by LTC Richard N. Lang, Commander)

24 April 1971

B/1-501 IN vicinity ZC058981 found two bunkers 15x8' along a stream. Estimated 6 months old. No recent activity.

25 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN II:** A/2-502 IN located in battalion base area as brigade reserve, sent one platoon on a road security mission to the Northwest along Highway 1. They left at 053H having no enemy contact. The remainder of A/2-502 IN conducted maintenance of equipment and personal hygiene. B/2-502 IN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations vicinity BN0423 until 0600H and then moved to an LZ vicinity BN025348 to be extracted to the base area. The extraction was completed by 0853H. The remainder of the day they conducted personal hygiene and maintenance of equipment. C/2-502 IN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations vicinity BN0623 until 0800H with no enemy contact. They were extracted to the battalion base area closing at 1345H. Recondo platoon was the battalion reserve located at LOUNG SON CIDG camp, vicinity 127348 and were extracted to the battalion base area at 0915H, closing at 1030H. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)



**Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases, and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light with the exception of B/2-501 IN and C/2-501 IN. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 5 US KIA, 5 US MIA, 24 US WIA (24 medevac); Enemy assessment – 14 NVA KIA (BC), 4 VC KIA (BC), 1 RPG-2 launcher and 1 RPG-7 launcher, 2 60mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 1 82mm mortar round (destroyed), 1 AP mine (destroyed), 1 BBT (destroyed).

### **1-501 IN BN**

A/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD683293 with ambushes vicinity YD683295, YD676288, YD687924 and YD683286. At 2003H ambush vicinity YD683295 received SA fire. Fire returned; artillery supported. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. At 2250H, NDP received approximately 60mm mortar rounds. Returned 60mm mortar and artillery fire on suspected enemy positions. Results: 1 US WHA; Negative enemy assessment.

B/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD625241 with ambushes vicinity YD616240, YD620242 and YD632242. Conducted RIF operation from NDP to vicinity YD627237 and YD618248. Established NDP vicinity YD621252 with local ambushes. Negative contact.

C/1-501 IN OPCON to 2-17 CAV. Provided security for AN LO Bridge. Ambushed vicinity YD621295. Conducted platoon size RIF operation South on east side of river to vicinity YD614210. Crossed to W side of SONG BO River and returned to AN LO Bridge. Negative contact.

D/1-501 IN occupied NDP vicinity YD671239 with ambush vicinity YD661241, YD669236, and YD674241. Conducted RIF operation from NDP to vicinity YD637246. At 1332H 1 PF platoon was attached. Established NDP vicinity YD656253 with local ambushes. Negative contact.

Recon platoon conducted operations in conjunction with 1 PF platoon and 1 RF platoon. Occupied NDP vicinity YD612272 with ambush vicinity YD610267. Negative contact.

### **2-501 IN BN**

A/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD710305 to vicinity YD703296, YD698297, YD695300 and YD716300. At 0752H vicinity YD705298, 1 US WIA from BBT grenade. At 1025H vicinity YD697297, found 7 graves containing 7 NVA KIA (BC). At 1205H vicinity YD696301 found 7 more graves containing 7 NVA KIA (BC). At 1616H vicinity YD699301 recovered 2 MIA from 24 April action, now 2 KIA, and captured 1 RPG-2 launcher and 1 RPG-7 launcher. At 1820H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD708300 to LZ vicinity YD729319. Closed LZ 1846H, LZ GREEN. A/2-501 IN established ambushes to interdict and block enemy movement towards HUE from the NW. Results: 2 US KIA (previously listed as 2 US MIA), 1 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 14 NVA KIA (BC), 1 RPG-2 launcher, 1 RPG-7 launcher.

B/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD693324 to YD677316 and YD687304. At 1253H vicinity YD687304 made contact with an estimated reinforced well dug in platoon which employed SA, AW, and RPG fire. Fire was returned and artillery support. Contact was broken at 1500H. Moved to an NDP vicinity YD693324 and established local ambushes. Results: Friendly casualties – 2 US KIA, 5 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment.

C/2-501 IN conducted RIF operation from NDP vicinity YD702320 to vicinity YD704312, YD702312, and then to NDP vicinity YD702320. At 0708H engaged 1 VC vicinity YD698327. Results: 1 VC KIA (BC). At 0605H, vicinity YD729333 ambush engaged 6 VC. Results: 3 VC KIA (BC). At 1230H, vicinity YD703307 made contact with an estimated reinforced platoon in well dug in positions with overhead cover. Enemy employed SA, AW and RPG. LFT supported C/2-501 IN as they pulled back their wounded. Artillery and TAC AIR (4 air strikes) supported as contact broke at 1440H. Friendly casualties: 5 US MIA, 6 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment. Totals: 5 US MIA, 16 US WIA; Enemy assessment – 4 VC KIA (BC)

D/2-501 IN remained vicinity of NDP YD712313 throughout the day. At 1725H conducted combat assault from PZ vicinity YD714314 to LZ vicinity YD719342. Closed LZ 1740H, LZ GREEN. At 1733H vicinity PZ received sporadic SA fire. Negative casualties. D/2-501 IN moved to a position vicinity YD722343 to interdict and block enemy movement towards HUE. At 1812H vicinity YD722342, a BBT mine was detonated resulting in 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA. Totals: 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment.

Recon platoon provided for B/1-321 ARTY. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD663308 and returned. Negative contact.

### **1-502 IN BN**

A/1-502 IN at 0730H conducted heliborne movement from FSB BASTOGNE to LZ SALLY. OPCON to 2-501 IN BN upon closing at LZ SALLY. Approximately, 0900H conducted combat assault to LZ vicinity YD721325 and conduct RIF operation from E to W along S side of stream through hamlet vicinity YD7144330, in conjunction with D/2-501 IN.

(Commanders Situation Report; 252001H April – 262000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)



25 April – 15 May 1969

**Operation BRISTOL BOOTS:** Intelligence gained prior to the initiation of Operation BRISTOL BOOTS indicated that the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiments were using the RUONG RUONG Valley and surrounding areas as supply lines and food producing areas for enemy units to the east of QUANG TNAM Province and to the north in THUA THIEN Province's PHU LOC District. The mission assigned to the maneuver elements was to construct fire support bases and to conduct multiple reconnaissance in force operations in their assigned area of operation to locate and destroy enemy forces, installations, equipment and supplies.

On 25 April elements of the 2-327 IN BN began its assaults into the RUONG RUONG Valley followed by elements of 3-5 Cavalry which began road clearing operations south along QL-545 toward the RUONG RUONG Valley on 26 April. Aggressive reconnaissance in force operations were conducted by the maneuver elements throughout the operations, but only minimal enemy contact-trail watchers and snipers – was experienced. Road clearing operations were curtailed on 2 May when 3-5 Cavalry (-) became OPCON to the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division for future operations in the A SHAU VALLEY. On 8 May a series of OPCON shifts took place: 1-327 IN BN and 2-502 IN BN became OPCON to the 2BDE while 1-502 IN BN and 1-501 IN BN became OPCON to the 1BDE. In addition, the area operation was expanded to include a reconnaissance zone along the LAOTIAN Border and Base Are 607. As the maneuver elements of the 1BDE moved into this area the enemy withdrew to the west into LAOS.

Operation BRISTOL BOOTS were terminated prematurely on 15 May as the 1BDE, with 1-501 IN BN and 1-502 IN BN was redeployed to TAM KY where it became OPCON to the Americal Division in Operation LAMAR PLAIN. Throughout the twenty-one-day operation contact was light and sporadic. It was determined that no large concentrations of enemy forces or installations were in the RUONG RUONG Valley. Results of the operation were: 7 NVA KIA, 1 POW, and 16 individual weapons captured. Friendly Losses were 5 KIA and 34 WIA. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile); Operational Report – Lesson Learned, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Airmobile) for period ending 31 July 1969; 09 December 1969)

25 April 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** The Strike Force Battalion moved into the new AO west of the SONG BO River on 25 April with a combat assault of the Reconnaissance Platoon on Hill 714 (YD508082). The lift birds began taking fire upon insertion, approximately 300 meters south of the LZ along the ridge line. Cobra gunships covering the CA were employed along with tube artillery with unknown results. Upon completion of their mission that day, the Reconnaissance Platoon was extracted. Again, the lift ship received fire from approximately the same area. (2-502 IN Unit History of the Strike Force, Vietnam 70; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

25 April 1970

There was a flame drop today at YD691119. VR went out as usual and all finding were negative. (1-502 IN Annual Supplement; Approved by LTC Richard N. Lang, Commander)

25 April 1971

B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon vicinity ZC0053938 detonated on BBT. Was 81mm or 82mm round. Resulted in 1 US WIA and 1 KCS WIA.

26 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN II:** 2-502 IN BN prepared for movement to the next operational area. The advance party departed at 0900H to NHON CO. Three "Recondo" patrols, one from each company were helilifted to the following areas to set up an ambush: A/2-502 IN, Recon platoon vicinity AN764009, B/2-502 IN, Recon platoon vicinity AN759027 and C/2-502 IN, Recon platoon vicinity AN772023. B/2-502 IN, Recon platoon reported sniper fire at 1910H, vicinity AN755038. Negative results. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

26 April 1967

**Operation SUMMERALL:** Three contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 3 VC KIA (BC), 1 BC KIA (EST) and 4 individual weapons captured. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

26 – 27 April 1968

**Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases, and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was light with the exception the exception of a contact by elements of 2-17 CAV. Today's statistics: Friendly losses – 6 US KIA (previously reported as 5 MIA), 9 US WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 44 NVA KIA (BC), 6 VC KIA (BC), 3 returnees, 2 7.62mm HMG, 2 SKS, 1 AK-47, 1 M-16, 1 M1, 1 SKS (destroyed), 1000lbs rice, 1 BBT (destroyed), 6 sampans sunk.

### 1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD682271 with ambushes vicinity YD675275 and YD687271. Conducted patrols during the day reconnoitering for night ambush sites.

B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD621252 with ambushes vicinity YD615257, YD616250, YD619247, YD625247 and YD631248. Conducted patrols during the day reconnoitering for night ambush sites.

C/1-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV

D/1-501 IN (1 PF platoon attached). Occupied night position vicinity YD656253 with ambushes vicinity YD643251, YD649255, YD565253, YD663245 and YD667241. Conducted patrols during the day reconnoitering for night ambush sites.

Recon platoon (1 PF platoon and 1 RF platoon attached) Occupied night position vicinity YD608266 with ambushes vicinity YD612265 and YD609263. At 2050H observed an unknown number of sampans being loaded by flashlight vicinity YD607268. Artillery was fired resulting in 1 secondary explosion. Approximately, 2000H the night position received sporadic sniper fire with negative casualties. At 0625H, 10 sampans were sighted vicinity YD607268. Artillery and 4.2"





mortars were fired resulting in one secondary explosion. A reconnaissance was made of the area at 0730H. Results: Enemy assessment – 4 VC KIA (BC), 1 SKS (destroyed), 6 sampans sunk.

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

### **2-501 IN BN**

A/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD728318 with ambushes vicinity YD727315 and YD732309. Conducted RIF operation through hamlet vicinity YD732326. At 1000H engaged 10 enemy vicinity YD729317 with artillery and 4.2" mortar fire. Negative enemy assessment. Established night position vicinity YD727337 with local ambush.

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD693324 with ambushes vicinity YD692328 and YD689318. 2 platoons provided security for rice harvest vicinity YD645305 and YD645317. B/2-501 IN (-) provided security for bridge repair vicinity YD669324. Established night position vicinity YD657318.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD543334. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD705314 following an artillery prep. At 1450H recovered the 5 US MIA from previous days contact, now carried as 5 US KIA. At 1506H vicinity YD705314 detonated BBT resulted in 2 US WIA (medevac). At 1525H found 1 BBT CHICOM grenade (destroyed). Established a night position vicinity YD705314. At 1832H received SA, AW and 2 RPG-2 rounds into night position resulting in 1 US WIA (medevac). Fire was returned and artillery support with negative enemy assessment. Totals: 5 US KIA (previously listed as MIA), 3 US MIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 1 BBT (destroyed).

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD722343. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD714330. At 1035H vicinity YD716329 found 500lbs of rice. At 1155H vicinity YD715332 received SA fire. Returned fire resulting in 1 VC KIA (bCO and three individual surrendering almost immediately. Results: Negative casualties; Enemy assessment -VC KIA (BC), 3 returnees, 1 SKS, 1 M1, 1 M-16, 50 rounds SA ammo, 500lbs rice. Established a night position vicinity YD666336.

(Commanders Situation Report; 262001H April – 272000H April 1968; CPT William M. Sartor Jr., Kayo 3)

26 - 28 April 1968

**Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER:** 1-502 IN BN continued RIF operations on 27 April. B/1-502 IN assumed security of FSB LASH and D/1-502 IN conducted a RIF to the northwest. Recon conducted extraction from YC673692 to FSB LASH and aided in the security. On 28 April, A/1-502 IN assumed security of FSB LASH and B/1-502 IN conducted a RIF to the northwest.



26 April 1968

**Operation DELAWARE:** At 1235H, B/2-502 IN vicinity YD540028 along Route 547, engaged an enemy platoon in bunkers employing RPD's, RPG's, and AK-47's near newly constructed FSB VEGHEL. At 1335H, the unit began to receive 82mm mortar fire. The terrain was thick and uphill to the bunkers, precluding a flanking movement by C/2-502 IN coming to reinforce. With the support of a platoon of C/2-502 IN and B/2-502 IN began to sweep the contact area and overrun the bunkers. Contact was broken at 1500H. Results: 4 US KIA, 27 US WHA, 16 NVA KIA, 1 Mosin-Nagant, 4 AK-47's, 2 RPG's, 1 RPD, 3 SKS, 4 M-16, 7 B-40 Rockers, 3 Rifle grenades CIA.



26 April 1968

The day was marked with major contacts along Route 547 in the Delaware AO near the newly constructed FSB VEGHEL at the edge of the A SHAU VALLEY. Early in the afternoon, paratroopers from B/2-502 IN were patrolling in the southern ridges along the highway. They quickly engaged and NVA company occupying well-fortified bunkers positions. The B/2-502 IN riflemen reacted with heavy volume of small arms and automatic weapons fire while C/2-502 IN moved in from the north. The two companies lined up and overran the enemy positions, killing 16 and capturing 12 weapons. Later that afternoon, airborne infantrymen from B/2-327 IN BN assaulted an enemy anti-aircraft position that was harassing Division helicopters heading to FSB BASTOGNE from FSB VEGHEL. The paratrooper's unit took the enemy soldiers by surprise, killing 10 and capturing two Soviet 12.7 heavy machineguns mounted on wheels. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 2); July 1968)



26 April 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** Based on enemy activities on 25 April, the Reconnaissance platoon was again inserted on Hill 714 and received fire upon landing on the LZ. A platoon of B/2-502 IN, who had been preciously alerted as a reaction force for the Reconnaissance platoon, was inserted in support of the Recon platoon. A white team from the 1BDE Aviation platoon was employed as the Recon platoon began a sweep along the ridge line to the south. The low bird received fire from an estimated enemy platoon, damaging the craft and forcing the aircraft to land. While sweeping the area, the Recon platoon located five bunkers, reinforced with two feet of overhead cover. Two enemy engaged the Recon platoon as they searched the bunkers. The enemy quickly broke contact and fled the area. The Recon platoon followed a blood trail but was unable to locate the body. (2-502 IN Unit History of the Strike Force, Vietnam 70; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

26 April 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** A/1-502 IN found a dud 105mm round and blew it in place. The Battalion continued Operation TEXAS STAR with negative results. (1-502 IN Annual Supplement; Approved by LTC Richard N. Lang, Commander)

26 April 1970

In the vicinity of YD368154 – 5km SE of RIPCORD; D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon engaged 5 NVA with small arms fire 40mm from their position. The enemy did not return fire but withdrew in an unknown direction. Artillery blocking fires were employed, and a sweep of the area revealed 4 NVA KIA, 2 AK-47s and one rucksack of rice. Personal note: We were taking a break along the river when Ryan Harper spotted 4 NVA on the other side of the stream, beginning to walk into an opening, a bomb crater. When all 4 were in the crater I gave the order to fire. 3 NVA fell dead on the first volley of fire. However, one got behind a large fallen tree, and had overhead cover from a rock ledge. This NVA did return fire, but only one shot, as a M-16 round had lodged in the bolt, preventing the shell casing from being extracted. Attempts to get him to surrender failed, and 3rd squad lead by Platoon Sgt Hembree assaulted the position, killing the final NVA. I never saw a fifth NVA, as reported. (Account used by permission from Gary Goeckel)

27 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN II:** 2-502 IN BN continued to prepare for movement to NHON CO. The three "Recondo" ambush patrols were extracted to the battalion base area at 1030H. Two Recondo patrols departed the battalion area at 1800H to set up an ambush at AN768052 and AN785051. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation AUSTIN II; 18 May 1966)

27 – 30 April 1966

**Operation AUSTIN III:** 1-327 IN BN and 2-502 IN BN of the 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV begin Operation AUSTIN III, a search & Destroy operation in the LA NGA Valley of BINH TUY Province, III CTZ.

27 April 1967

**Operation SUMMERALL:** In a test of area saturation capability, the battalion had the Brigade Chemical section drop 692 CS grenades from a helicopter on the north slope of HON BA, covering an area of 6 grid squares believed to contain the enemy base camp and hidden remnants of the 18-B Regiment. Two platoons of A/2-502 IN were deployed in the area with protective masks, but apparently the CS was not effective in driving the enemy into the open as only two contacts were reported.

27 April 1967

**Operation SUMMERALL:** 2-502 IN BN conducted airmobile assaults into the southeast corner of SUMMERALL AO and commenced search and destroy operations to the west. Two contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 1 US WIA, 3 VC KIA (BC), 2 NVA KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL; 21 May 1967)

27 – 28 April 1968

**Operation CARENTAN II:** TF 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operation in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases, and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was moderate with a total of 14 contacts. Today's statistics: 10 US KIA; 19 US WIA (13 medevac); 1 ARVN KIA, 2 ARVN WIA (medevac), 3 PF WIA (medevac); Enemy assessment – 32 NVA KIA (BC), 2 SKS, 1 AK-47, 1 M-16.

### **1-501 IN BN**

Throughout the night under continuous illumination, continued the containment of an estimated NVA BN (estimate made by 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN DIV "Black Panther" Company) in the hamlets of THOR DUONG SON vicinity YD687283 and THON PHUOC YAN vicinity YD690277. The 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN DIV "Black Panther" Company will attack to the S, remained of the elements remained in blocking positions.

A/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD688269 with ambushes vicinity YD695274, YD685274, YD683277 and YD690273.

B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD622253 with ambushes vicinity YD615256, YD614251, YD619249, YD625248 and YD631249. Moved to vicinity YD630262 and conducted patrols reconnoitering for night ambush sites.

C/1-501 IN OPCON 2-17 CAV. Provided security at AN LO Bridge. At 1400H moved to assist A/2-17 CAV. At 1612H made contact vicinity YD640310 with VC in spider holes. Received SA, AW and RPG fire. Supported by 2 air strikes and artillery. Contact broke at 1805H. Results: 3 US KIA, 2 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment.

D/1-501 IN, 1 platoon PF attached. Occupied night position vicinity YD659254 with ambushes vicinity YD643253, YD652256, YD667247, YD662247. At 0025H ambush vicinity YD667247 called artillery on 15-20 NVA who set off trip flare. Negative enemy assessment. Conducted patrols during the day reconnoitering for night ambush sites. At 1944H vicinity YD648244 ambush engaged 3 enemy. Results: 3 NVA KIA (BC), 1 SKS, 1 AK-47.

A/1-502 IN OPCON to 1-501 IN BN effective 1700H. At 1723H conducted a combat assault from LZ SALLY to PZ vicinity YD697290. Closed LZ 1803H, LZ GREEN. At 1813H vicinity YD695290 received SA fire from approximately 4 enemy resulting in 1 US KIA and 1 US WIA. Returned fire with SA, AW, Artillery and LFT support. Negative enemy assessment.



Occupied a blocking position vicinity YD698287 to YD692287. Results: 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment.

B/2-501 IN OPCON to 1-501 IN BN effective 1810H. At 1810H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD655317 to LZ vicinity YD697273. Closed 1847H, LZ GREEN. Occupied a blocking position vicinity YD695276 to YD686274. Recon platoon, 1 platoon PF and 1 platoon RF attached. Occupied night position vicinity YD606253 with ambushes vicinity YD608253 and YD611253. Conducted local patrols from vicinity YD622271 throughout the day.

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

### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD727337 with ambush vicinity YD725339. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD715328. At 1030H vicinity YD715327 found grave containing 1 NVA KIA (BC). At 1206H vicinity YD715325 found graves containing 3 NVA KIA (BC). At 1255H vicinity YD715325 received AW fire from approximately 2 enemy. Returned fire. Artillery and TAC AIR supported. Negative enemy assessment. At 1715H vicinity YD715320 a detonated land mine resulted in 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA (medevac).

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD657318 with ambush vicinity YD647315. Provided security for rice harvest with 1 platoon at YD655317, B/2-501 IN (-) at YD645305 and 1 platoon providing bridge security vicinity YD669324. Effective 1810H OPCON to 1-501 IN BN.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD703312. Conducted RIF operation to village vicinity YD703302. At 1110H vicinity YD703307 found 3 graves containing 3 NVA KIA (BC). At 1222H vicinity YD703307 found 1 M-16. Occupied night position vicinity YD703307.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD663336. Conducted RIF operation vicinity YD645370 then SE to vicinity YD652368. At 1503H a FAC observed approximately 25-30 NVA vicinity YD653366. D/2-501 IN withdrew and artillery and naval guns fire on the enemy position. The preparation was complete at 1540H. After the preparation, 2 platoons conducted RIF operation through the village, D/2-501 IN (-) moved SE along the road. At 1615H vicinity YD653366 the 2-point men received grenades and AK-47 fire from an estimated NVA squad, dispersed through the village. Fire was returned, and contact broke at 1716H. D/2-501 IN moved to night position vicinity YD648381. Results: 2 US KIA; Negative enemy assessment.

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

(Commanders Situation Report; 272001H April – 282000H April 1968; JAMES WALDECK, MAJ, INF; KAYO 3)

27 April – 03 May 1968

**2D BRIGADE/101ST TASK FORCE IN VIETNAM:** With an encirclement featuring brigade actions in each of the two previous weeks, the 2BDE was getting a reputation. On 28 April, the QUANG DIEN district chief remarked at a ceremony that, according to a recently captured NVA prisoner, his local enemy commander had told his unit that when they get in heavy contact with airborne troops they must make every effort to stop the advance of the airborne during the day and get out of the area during the night because the paratroopers will fight through the night and defeat them. And a message found on an NVA soldier killed in an ambush had said something like "if you make contact with the airborne, get out fast; they will surround you and kill you." It was also at about this time that I passed by the interrogation of a captured enemy soldier whom I saw pointing at the Screaming Eagle patch on a nearby trooper. I asked the interpreter what the enemy soldier was saying. The reply was, "He is saying that that little bird is really mean." So, we built an archway over the steps leading down into our TOC and placed on it a sign, "That Little Bird Is Real Mean."

April 28 began the 2BDE classic cordon at PHUOC YEN. The 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division's Black Panther Company, working with the 1-501 IN BN, had received intense fire from an enemy force, possibly a battalion, at the north, or open, end of the "stocking" formed by the SONG BO river around that village. Brigade told the 1-501 IN BN to take advantage of the river to build a cordon around the trapped enemy, ordering that A/1-502 IN be inserted alongside the Black Panther Company to close the gap between its left flank and the SONG BO. 1-501 IN BN moved A/1-501 IN overland to the SONG BO's banks to the west of the village and brigade helilifted B/2-501 IN into a position from which the 1-501 IN BN could place that company on the river's bank south of the village. To cover the east bank of the SONG BO, brigade arranged for three PF platoons from HUONG TRA district plus a platoon of Catholic militia from a nearby hamlet. An encirclement was in place. Night-long illumination was called.

Before dawn on 29 April the enemy attempted three times to break through the A/1-502 IN left flank, which was on the riverbank. A/1-502 IN stood firm and drove the enemy back. At 0800H that morning A/1-502 IN attacked into the village but was itself driven back and the cordon continued that day and night. On 30 April B/1-501 IN replaced the Black Panther Company and that evening D/2-501 IN reinforced the cordon with one platoon alongside the hamlet militia at the river on the northeast corner of the encirclement and the rest of D/2-501 IN reinforced A/1-502 IN and B/1-501 IN at the top of the cordon. That night the cordon was again sealed that under continuous illumination while the enemy was pounded with 105mm, 155mm, and 8-inch artillery fire. Again, the enemy tried without success to find a gap in the troops' line. In the early hours of 01 May, during a short break in the illumination, the enemy made an all-out attempt to break out in A/1-502 IN zone, only to be driven back once more at a cost of 35 enemy killed; A/1-502 IN suffered 3 KIA and 12 WIA in this action. A/1-502 IN lost 8 men killed and 33 wounded at PHUOC YEN. That afternoon B/2-501 IN took the place of A/1-502 IN in the cordon, A/1-502 IN was helilifted to LZ SALLY, and the enemy was encircled one more night.

Shifts were made May 02 in the encircling line's makeup. Finally, loudspeaker appeals to surrender, tear gas dropped from helicopters, continuous pounding by air strikes and artillery (including one "time on target," the simultaneous delivery



of massed fires of many battalions) had their effect. On May 03, after defeating a last enemy attempt to escape, the encircling troops (A/1-501 IN, B/1-501 IN, A/2-501 IN, D/2-501 IN) cleaned out PHOU C YEN. Enemy losses: 429 KIA, 107 POW, 117 weapons, and a battalion's full radio suite, plus its SOI. US losses: 8 KIA, 44 WIA. ARVN losses: 3 KIA, 12 WIA. (LTG (then COL) John H. Cushman)

27 April 1968

**Operation DELAWARE:** C/2-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon vicinity YD536027 engaged an unknown sized enemy force bunker. The maneuvered elements on the enemy and requested gunship support. The gunships could not fly due to the weather/ C/2-502 IN pulled back and called in artillery. The following day at 1500H, after receiving the additional fire power of two 50 cal. MG's and a 106 RR, C/2-502 IN again initiated the attack into the previous day's contact area, securing the area at 1640H. The area contained 15 bunkers with overhead coverage. Results: 1 US KHA, 7 US WHA, 1 M-16, 1 M-16 LIA, 10 RPG rounds, and 300 rounds of AK-47 ammunition CIA.

27 April 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2-502 IN BN, Recon platoon continued sweeping south, reinforced by the remainder of B/2-502 IN. At 0715H, they were engaged by an estimated enemy squad in reinforced bunkers. The enemy employed small arms against the platoon, killing one and wounding four before disengaging. A sweep of the area produced one enemy killed and an AK-47 captured, along with 100 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition and assorted medical supplies. At 1430H the Recon platoon and B/2-502 IN encountered a large enemy bunker complex. The contact lasted for two hours. The enemy, fighting from reinforced bunkers, employed automatic weapons, RPG's and small arms against the friendly forces. With the help of ARA and artillery, the friendly forces were able to overrun the complex while losing only one man. The enemy fled the area leaving behind 1 NVA body, 3 AK-47 rifles and 1 RPD machine gun. The bunker complex consisted of 55 mutually supported bunkers with thick overhead cover. Security was set up for the night in order to allow for an extensive search of the area the next day.

One the same day C/2-502 IN was designated to conduct a combat assault south of B/2-502 IN and sweep north. The initial lift bird into the LZ (YD519056) received fire and was forced down on the LZ, thus preventing the landing of additional aircraft. The initial mission was aborted and C/2-502 IN was inserted north of B/2-502 IN as reinforcements. D/2-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon was air assaulted onto the location of the down aircraft to secure it until it could be extracted the following day. (2-502 IN Unit History of the Strike Force, Vietnam 70; Approved by LTC Lloyd N. Cosby, IN Commanding)

27 April 1970

A downed helicopter was secured by elements of B/2-502 IN at vicinity 745119. The bird was extracted by a UH-1H. Recon teams 1 & 2 found 19 bunkers and 1 NVA latrine. In the bunker, they found a variety of NVA equipment. All items are about 1 ½ years old with no signs of recent activity. (1-502 IN Annual Supplement; Approved by LTC Richard N. Lang, Commander)

27 April 1970

At 1540H in the vicinity of YD366155 – 4km SE of RIPCORDER; D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon engaged one enemy at 75m across a stream with M-60 fire. The enemy hid behind a rock and the platoon re-engaged him with M-79 fire and advanced on his position. Resulting in one POW, and one captured AK-47. At 1545H (YD 365165-4KM SE of Ripcord) D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon engaged 1-enemy with small arms fire across a stream 150 meters south of their position. The enemy did not return fire but fell down a steep incline into the stream bed. The sweep by the platoon was hindered due to rugged terrain. But one NVA KIA is assumed.

Personal note; actually, these actions occurred in reverse order; 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon shot at and hit the above NVA. However, he was carrying an OD Green sandbag over his back filled with U.S. C-rations. The round hit the sandbag, knocking him over the steep incline, but not wounding the NVA in any way. He was knocked into the path of the 1<sup>st</sup> platoon which was walking the stream. 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon was walking the middle of the hillside, and 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon was walking the ridge line. From our advantage point 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon was able to observe the entire action described by 1<sup>st</sup> platoon. (Account used by permission from Gary Goeckel)



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

---

- 1 x Medal of Honor (1 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Distinguished Service Cross
- 11 x Silver Star Medal (5 x Posthumously)
- 6 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor (2 x Posthumously)
- 9 x Bronze Star Medal (9 x Posthumously)
- 44 x Purple Heart Medal (35 x Posthumously)
- 110 x Air Medal
- 1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 2 x Army Commendation Medal
- 30 x Combat Infantryman Badge
- 3 x Combat Medic Badge
- 1 x Died of Non-Hostile injuries or illness

21 April 1968 SP4 Nova L. Davis Jr. (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Special Orders Number 7862; 29 June 1969)

21 April 1968 PFC Robert L. Mason (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> AB DIV; General Orders Number 1294; 8 June 1968)

21 April 1968 PFC Thomas M. Holcombe (D/1-502 IN) died from aspiration pneumonitis which was caused from trying to save two other Soldiers drowning and almost drowned himself on 18 April in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



21 April 1969 The following Soldiers from A/2-501 IN:

- |                          |                       |                       |                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| CPT Nathan N. Miller     | 1LT Francis A. Cahill | 1LT Clifton Whittaker | 1SG Frederick C. Brander |
| PSG Paul Frederic        | PSG James D. Kyzer    | PSG James A. Parr     | SSG Darwin Cummings      |
| SSG Lino Rodriguez Jr.   | SSG John F. Rychlicki | SGT Fred E. Bender    | Brendon Berrigan         |
| SGT Jessie Bowman        | SGT Clarence A. Clark | SGT Harold Conlee Jr. | SGT Michael Connell      |
| SGT John R. Douberly     | SGT James G. Dowd     | SGT Lawrence Fabian   | SGT Clay L. Hogan        |
| SGT Charles K. Mants     | SGT Morrise L. Netter | SGT Charles S. Quash  | SGT James Parkerson      |
| SGT Joseph T. Pigeon Jr. | SGT Robert Shaw       | SGT Dan A. Sims       | SGT Theodore Smith       |
| SGT Johnny W. Stout      | SGT Calvin Strong     | SGT Miguel Torres     | SGT James D. Trissel     |
| SGT Michael J. Veenema   | SGT Matthew Wormsley  |                       |                          |

Was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division; General Order Number 7861; 29 June 1969)

21 April 1969 The following Soldiers from A/2-501 IN:

- |                       |                       |                        |                      |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| PFC Spencer Coleman   | PFC Kenneth Colley    | PFC Donnie Cooper      | PFC James C. Cornell |
| PFC Jerry Crute       | PFC Joseph Cumming    | PFC Michael F. Davis   | PFC Daniel Enright   |
| PFC Phillip Glover    | PFC John Gray         | PFC Jackie L. Hibbard  | PFC Juan A. Ibarra   |
| PFC Bruce L. James    | PFC Johnny Jones      | PFC William Kear       | PFC Lucien L. Kinney |
| PFC George McPherson  | PFC Jeffrey L. Miller | PFC Michael J. Morris  | PFC Ogden E. New     |
| PFC GERALD O'Leary    | PFC Conrad H. Olson   | PFC Johnny Parker      | PFC Lester S. Parker |
| PFC Donald C. Payne   | PFC Robert L. Peebles | PFC William Phillips   | PFC John C. Rieck    |
| PFC Leonard Schroeder | PFC John P. Scharatz  | PFC Willet A. Stone    | PFC Eugene Suber     |
| PFC Levy S. Timms     | PFC Armand J. Tetu    | PFC Ernest L. Williams | PFC Joe A. Ysais     |
| PFC James H. Zenone   |                       |                        |                      |

Was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division; Special Order Number 7863; 29 June 1969)



21 April 1969

The following Soldiers from A/2-501 IN:

SP4 Charles M. Bishop	SP4 Harold Brashear	SP4 Gerald D. Brooks	SP4 MC Clinton Buckson
SP4 Benny Chavez	SP4 Alfred Cobb	SP4 Ronald E. Dunham	SP4 Ernest Evans
SP4 Dan J. Farrow	SP4 David Garcia	SP4 Gary N. Graham	SP4 Chaples Gray
SP4 Ronald Groothoff	SP4 Colie G. Hars	SP4 Phillip R. Howell	SP4 Joseph A. Leachman
SP4 Rodriguez A. Malave	SP4 Gary A. Meyer	SP4 Leon F. Miller	SP4 Renny F. Miller
SP4 James E. Morgan	SP4 Orlander Richardson	SP4 Ronne Robinson	SP4 Allan D. Rose
SP4 Aponte M. Santiago	SP4 Floyd D. Turnley	SP4 Bernard Vaughn	SP4 Harold B. Wade
SP4 Karry M. Watson	SP4 James Wedgeworth	SP4 Herbert Williams	SP4 Jimmy York
SP4 Edward R. Yost	PFC Carle Anderson	PFC Jerry W. Burrell	PFC James Culberson
PFC Jerry B. Coffey			

Was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division; Special Order Number 7864; 29 June 1969)

21 April 1969



PFC Michael Christensen (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division; Special Order Number 7864; 29 June 1969)

21 April 1970



SGT Kerry L. Vance (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 gunfire wounds in the vicinity of FSB JACK approximately 27km W-NW of HUE Citadel in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

22 April 1967



SSG Earl K. Easterling (HHC/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 in the KHANH HOA Province, Republic of Vietnam.

22 April 1967



SP4 William A. Proctor (HHC/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 while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the KHANH HOA Province, Republic of Vietnam.

22 April 1967



PFC Raymond R. Turner (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation 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 hit by hostile small arms fire in the KHANH HOA Province, Republic of Vietnam.

22 April 1968



PFC Henry A. Heal Jr. (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Heal was admitted to a military hospital in Vietnam, placed on the very seriously ill list, and later expired.



22 April 1969



SP4 Nickolas G. Garcia (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received from a short friendly artillery round directed at a hostile force while on a combat operation in the vicinity of FSB BASTOGNE, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

22 April 1969



1LT John M. Walsh (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

23 April 1968



1LT Robert H. Adams Jr. (A/2-501 IN) action in combat earned him the Purple Heart Medal. For wounds received in action. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 9297)

23 April 1968



PVT Thomas S. Alfred (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when his unit encountered a hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

23 April 1970



CPL Garry L. Worley (A/2-501 IN) 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 hostile forces were encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

23 April 1970



SGT Benjamin A. Nicks III (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on combat operation when hostile forces was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

24 April 1968



SGT Russell F. Deitchler (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when hit by fragments from a hostile rocket in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

24 April 1968



SP5 Dale L. Lambert (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while a passenger on a military aircraft (UH-1D tail number 66-16490) on a combat operation when the aircraft was hit by 23mm anti-aircraft hostile fire and the aircraft crashed and burned while departing FSB VEGHEL. SP5 Lambert went down in a helo incident on 24 April and was not recovered until September 1968, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



24 April 1968

1LT Roger G. Stallard (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in action in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ; 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order No: 11443; 31 December 1968)

25 April 1968



PFC Dennis W. Hoff (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medals 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 engaged by hostile force in a firefight in the LONG KHANH Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 April 1968



SGT Bruce P. Nettesheim (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds received while on a combat operation when engaged hostile force in a firefight in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

25 April 1969



SGT Ralph L. Cutler (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.

26 April 1968



SGT Raymond J. Smith (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 wounds received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



PFC Paul D. Boyett (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 wounds received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



1LT Peter F. Donnell (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



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

26 April 1968



SP4 David A. Brown (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from wound received while on combat operation when came under hostile mortar fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.





26 April 1968



SP4 Thomas E. Raubolt (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 gunshot wounds received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



PFC Michael T. Evans (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 wounds received while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



SGT John A. Franklin (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from burns received while on a combat operation when he was hit by a blast from a hostile anti-tank round in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



PFC Robert E. Terrell (B/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when he was hit by fragmentations from a hostile mine in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



CPL Gene M. Burkell (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 small arms gunfire wounds on Route 527 vicinity FSB VEGHEL, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



SP4 Terry J. Kenney (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from wounds received while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile rocket round on Route 527 vicinity FSB VEGHEL, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



PFC Milton A. Lee (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in their deaths from small arms gunfire wounds on Route 527 vicinity FSB VEGHEL, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968



PFC Dennis E. Purcell (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gunfire wounds on Route 527 vicinity FSB VEGHEL, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



26 April 1968



PFC Terry L. Tebbetts (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds on Route 527 vicinity FSB VEGHEL, in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1968

PFC Robert L. Mason (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> AB DIV; General Orders Number 1294; 8 June 1968)

26 April 1970



CPT Samuel E. Asher (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at an artillery firing position when the area came under mortar attack by hostile force on FSB BASTOGNE, 8km West of HUE SW AFLD in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1970



PFC Charles R. King (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at an artillery firing position when the area came under mortar attack by hostile force on FSB BASTOGNE, 8km West of HUE SW AFLD in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

26 April 1970



SGT James P Brinker (E 2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, General Order Number 6936; 19 June 1970)

27 April 1967

SP5 Dofey Jenkins (HHC.2-502 IN) was awarded the Combat Medial Badge. (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, Special Orders Number 118; 27 April 1967)

27 April 1967

PFC Gary L. Ristine (HHC.2-502 IN) was awarded the Combat Medial Badge. (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, Special Orders Number 118; 27 April 1967)

27 April 1967

Jesus Jasso (HHC.2-502 IN) was awarded the Combat Medial Badge. (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, Special Orders Number 118; 27 April 1967)

27 April 1967

SGT James E. Brooks (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge. (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, Special Orders Number 118; 27 April 1967)

27 April 1967

The following Soldiers from A/2-502 IN:

SSG Alfred J.T. Thompson	SP4 David E. Thompson	PFC Victor A. Thompson	PFC Stephen W. Lyons
PFC Larry R. Herd	PFC Ronald R. Borboa		

was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge. (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, Special Orders Number 118; 27 April 1967)

27 April 1967

The following Soldiers B/2-502 IN:

PFC Clarence E. Kuone	PFC Donald R. LaViolette	SGT Ronald L. Gillette	PFC Paul E. Magrath
PFC Carson L. Whaley	PFC Eugene Ross	SSG Ray A. Archuletta	SSG Warner J. Johnson
SP4 Robert G. Roby	PFC Herbert R. Evans	PFC William F. Gunter Jr.	PFC Arthur R. Besser
SP4 David H. Scott	PFC John R. Howard Jr.	PFC Robin P. Milovich	PFC John W. Wilson
PFC Pellefery Jones	PFC Danny R. Smith	PFC Williw J. Woodard	PFC Zannie Warren
PFC Gary L. Dennis	Bruce J. Fisher	1LT Edward R. Throckmorton	

Was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge. (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, Special Orders Number 118; 27 April 1967)



27 April 1967



PFC Randy L. Heerdt (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when he was hit by hostile small arms fire in the KHANH HOA Province, Republic of Vietnam.

27 April 1970

1LT Robert S. Hunt Jr. (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 95th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 84)

27 April 1970

Ssg Thomas Farrell (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 95th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 84)

27 April 1970

SP4 Donald L. Camp (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 95th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 84)

27 April 1970

PFC David S. Tuey (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for military merit and for wounds received during action in combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. (HQ, 95th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL); General Order Number 84)

27 April 1970



SGT Delbert E. Hall (B/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 multiple fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



# STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

21 April 1968



SP4 Thomas L. Twyford (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for distinguishing himself while serving as a fire-team leader on a combat operation in the QUANGE DIEN District, THUA THIEN Province, and Republic of Vietnam. At 1140 hours, Specialist Four Twyford's platoon made an assault on a North Vietnamese Army held village to recover the bodies of two fallen comrades. The platoon received intense hostile small arms fire from a bunker on its right flank. Specialist Four Twyford, unhesitatingly and without regard for his own personal safety, assaulted the enemy bunker with hand grenades and rifle fire. Throughout his assault, he was constantly exposed to a heavy volume of hostile fire. With undaunted courage, he braved the hostile fire until he had destroyed the enemy bunker, killing its occupants. Specialist Four Twyford's gallant actions allowed his platoon to continue its mission. His personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

21 April 1970



SP4 Kerry L. Vance (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 April 1970. Specialist Vance distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in Company B, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base JACK, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance patrol, Specialist Vance's unit was ambushed by an enemy element. The lead man was wounded in the initial contact and Specialist Vance volunteered to attempt to reach and treat him. Despite intense hostile fire, Specialist Vance left his protected position and crawled toward his wounded comrade. As Specialist Vance approached, however, he was mortally wounded by enemy fire. His willingness to help a wounded comrade was an inspiration to his fellow soldiers. Specialist Vance's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 5984; 28 May 1970)

22 April 1967



SSG Earl K. Easterling (HHC/2-502) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for action in combat. While moving up a steep, rocky, heavily vegetated ravine, Staff Sergeant Easterling's squad was fired upon by a dug-in North Vietnamese element. The initial burst of fire wounded two men that were near the front of the formation. With complete disregard for his own personal safety Sergeant Easterling dashed through a withering hail of enemy automatic weapons fire to the forward most position of his squad. After making an estimate of the situation, Sergeant Easterling deployed his squad online and began to maneuver on the enemy. When the squad was in close proximity of the enemy position, Sergeant Easterling led an assault on the entrenched North Vietnamese soldiers. It was during this courageous leadership so influenced his squad that it was able to sweep over the fortified positions and route the enemy. Sergeant Easterling's actions and demonstrated gallantry in action are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. (IFFV; General Orders Number 451; 03 June 1967)

22 April 1970



SFC Lavateres J. Hendricks (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 April 1970. Sergeant Hendricks distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company A, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in a night defensive position; Sergeant Hendricks' unit came under attack from an enemy sapper force. When three friendly Soldiers were wounded by and enemy satchel charge, Sergeant Hendricks rushed through intense hostile fire to their position and defended it until medical aidman and reinforcements arrived. When personnel at an adjoining position were wounded by grenade fire, Sergeant Hendricks again braved enemy fire and defended the position until support arrived. During the contact, Sergeant Hendricks was severely wounded by enemy mortar fire. Despite his wounds, he remained at his position and refused medical aid until the attack had been repulsed. Sergeant Hendricks' personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 9303; 14 August 1970)

23 April 1970



SP4 George Banda (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 23 April 1970. Specialist Banda distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near Fire Support Base GRANITE, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance patrol, Specialist Banda's platoon came under fire from a well-protected enemy force. When one of the men in the lead element was critically wounded by automatic weapons fire, Specialist Banda rushed to his aid. He remained in an open area for a considerable length of time administering emergency treatment despite the intensity of enemy fire. Specialist Banda's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7878; 09 July 1970)

23 April 1970



CPT James E. Mitchell (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 23 April 1970. Captain Mitchell distinguished himself while serving as company commander of Company A, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, near Fire Support Base GRANITE, Republic of Vietnam. While set up in night defensive positions; Captain Mitchell's unit was engaged by hostile small arms and grenade fire. Captain Mitchell immediately directed air and artillery support onto the hostile positions. Despite severe wounds, he accurately adjusted the artillery and led his men against the hostile element. As a result of his actions the enemy force was repulsed. Captain Mitchell's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 5419; 15 May 1970)



25 April 1967



1SG Frederick C. Brander (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 25 April 1968. First Sergeant Brander distinguished himself while serving as First Sergeant, Company A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, during a combat operation near the village, the lead platoon of Company A was taken under heavy small arms and rocket propelled grenade fire, wounding two men. With complete disregard for his own safety, First Sergeant Brander went immediately to the platoon in contact and in order to free the element leaders of the platoon for their combat mission, First Sergeant Brander assumed the responsibility for treatment and evacuation of the wounded. Before the fighting had ceased, First Sergeant Brander had evacuated four men to a secure landing zone and supervised the helicopter evacuation. First Sergeant Brander'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.

25 – 26 April 1971

CPT John H. Cluett Jr. (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with and armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Cluett distinguished himself on 25 and 26 April 1971 while serving as company commander during combat operations in the A SHAU VALLEY, Republic of Vietnam. After completing a forced insertion in the valley to rescue personnel from a downed helicopter, Captain Cluett led his task force as close to the downed crew members as possible before setting up a night defensive perimeter. The next day, while maneuvering his men to the stranded crew, they came under intense enemy fire. Exposing himself to the hostile fire, Captain Cluett directed a ranger element in making an assault on the downed aircraft while his element delivered intense suppressive fire. Upon reaching the downed helicopter the wounded crewmen were removed from the aircraft and Captain Cluett set up a defensive perimeter until an evacuation aircraft arrived. Captain Cluett's gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

26 April 1968



PFC Milton A. Lee (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Medal of Honor (Posthumously) for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as radio telephone operator with Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), in action against enemy aggressor forces at PHU BAI, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 26 April 1968. As lead element for the company, the 3d platoon received intense surprise hostile fire from a force of North Vietnamese Army regulars in well-concealed bunkers. With 50 percent casualties, the platoon maneuvered to a position of cover to treat their wounded and reorganize, while Private First Class Lee moved through the heavy enemy fire giving lifesaving first aid to his wounded comrades. During the subsequent assault on the enemy defensive positions, Private First Class Lee continuously kept close radio contact with the company commander, relaying precise and understandable orders to his platoon leader. While advancing with the front rank toward the objective, Private First Class Lee observed four North Vietnamese soldiers with automatic weapons and a rocket launcher lying in wait for the lead element of the platoon. As the element moved forward, unaware of the concealed danger, Private First Class Lee immediately and with utter disregard for his own personal safety, passed his radio to another soldier and charged through the murderous fire. Without hesitation he continued his assault, overrunning the enemy position, killing all occupants and capturing four automatic weapons and a rocket launcher. Private First Class Lee continued his one-man assault on the second position through a heavy barrage of enemy automatic weapons fire. Grievously wounded, he continued to press the attack, crawling forward into a firing position and delivering accurate covering fire to enable his platoon to maneuver and destroy the position. Not until the position was overrun did Private First Class Lee falter in his steady volume of fire and succumb to his wounds. Private First Class Lee's heroic actions saved the lives of the lead element and were instrumental in the destruction of the key position of the enemy defense. Private First Class Lee's gallantry at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, the 502d Infantry, and the United States Army. (General Orders No. 13, April 23, 1970)

26 April 1968



SGT Leon Peoples (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). Sergeant Peoples distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 26 April 1968 while leading a fire team on a search and destroy mission in PHU BAI Province. After long hours of exhausting and indecisive battle, Sergeant Peoples' platoon had made little progress in precisely locating the enemy's bunker fortifications in the thick, mountainous jungle. Discontented with his unit's stalemated advance, Sergeant Peoples crawled alone toward the North Vietnamese to reconnoiter their positions. When in sight of the first bunker, he was spotted and turned back by heavy fire. He then gathered his fire team and initiated a flanking maneuver on the enemy bunker. As the team advanced, the enemy opened up on them with streams of automatic weapons fire which held them fast to the ground and wounded many. Sergeant Peoples then drew the attention of the communist firepower by rushing them and dropping behind available cover as he assaulted. With grenades prepared for immediate detonation he made a final spring and dived for cover as the ejected grenades ripped through the hostile stronghold. Detecting a second bunker from which the enemy were placing suppressive fire on his team, Sergeant Peoples stole near the emplacement and unleashed on it several well-placed grenades. After dropping back for re-supplies of ammunition, he again infiltrated the enemy complex under thick fire and crawled without rifle up to a third bunker and eliminated its occupants with grenades. Picking up an enemy weapon, he then began routing the demoralized communists as they frantically retreated. Sergeant Peoples' extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping and highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, USARV; General Orders Number 3419; 07 September 1969)



26 April 1968



MAJ Leonard Williams (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor by distinguishing himself by heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force on 26 April 1968, in the vicinity of PHU BAI, Republic of Vietnam. ON the afternoon of 25 April, two companies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 502d Infantry had linked up at one landing zone for extraction of their wounded. Elements of both companies were still in contact approximately six hundred (600) meters to the north. When more casualties were sustained in the contact area, Major Williams, then at the landing zone, strapped his aid bag on and buried toward the contact area. When he arrived, he learned that there were two critically wounded men laying in exposed terrain, unable to retrieve because of severe enemy automatic weapons fire concentrated in that exact area. Although enemy fire covered the entire area, Major Williams, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, braved the enemy automatic weapons fire and succeeded in pulling both men to safety. While administering medical aid to the first man, Major Williams was wounded by a B-40 rocket fired from an enemy position to his flank. With utter disregard for his own wound, Major Williams calmly continued to administer lifesaving aid to both men. This being accomplished, Major Williams still heedless of his own wound, helped carry the wounded troopers back to the landing zone for medical evacuation. Major Williams's outstanding display of heroism in action and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> AIR CAV DIV; General Order Number 5094; 25 August 1968)

26 April 1970



CPT Samuel E. Asher (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 26 April 1970. Captain Asher distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during a mortar attack against Fire Support Base VEGHEL, Republic of Vietnam. During the attack, Captain Asher moved to the base mortar positions to expedite counter-mortar fire and continuously subjected himself to incoming rounds while checking the perimeter. He moved to the most intense area of the attack to encourage each of his men individually and to insure the preparation for a possible ground attack. While moving to one of these positions, Captain Asher was mortally wounded by an incoming round. His actions were decisive in ensuring the safety of the lives of the men on the firebase and contributed immeasurably to the firebase's successful defense. Captain Asher's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 6081; 30 May 1970)

27 April 1970



1LT James T. Hill (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 April 1970. Lieutenant Hill distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. During a search and clear operation, Lieutenant Hill's platoon was providing rear security for another company. While moving down a ridgeline, the other unit came under fire from an enemy force using automatic weapons, small arms, rocket propelled grenades, and anti-personnel mines. The forward platoon leader was wounded, and Lieutenant Hill immediately took command of the lead two platoons and deployed the men to place effective fire, he called in armed helicopter support and accurately adjusted fire to within twenty-five meters of his own position. Lieutenant Hill then personally led the two platoons in an assault on the enemy positions. Moving from bunker to bunker, he engaged the enemy with rifle fire and hand grenades until the insurgents were routed. Lieutenants Hill's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 13286; 6 November 1970)

27 April 1970



PFC Steven R. Sandlin (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while engaged in military operation involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 April 1970. Private Sandlin distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance patrol, Private Sandlin's unit made contact with a numerically superior enemy force and suffered several casualties. Private Sandlin moved among the wounded men, checking their wounds and administering first aid. When the wounded were removed to an area of safety, he provided covering fire. The platoon sergeant was also wounded, and Private Sandlin rushed to his position and gave protective fire until he could be removed to a safe area. While moving from one wounded soldier to another giving aid and encouragement, Private Sandlin was mortally wounded by hostile fire. Private Sandlin's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7838; 8 July 1970)

27 April 1970



SFC Wallace Gainey (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 April 1970. Sergeant Gainey distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, on operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. During a combat patrol, Sergeant Gainey's unit was engaged by small arms and automatic weapons fire from a well-entrenched enemy force. The platoon leader was wounded in the initial contact, and Sergeant Gainey took charge of the platoon. He deployed his men and subjected himself to the hostile fire as he ran from position to position distributing badly needed ammunition. Sergeant Gainey repeatedly subjected himself to the hostile fire while helping wounded men to safety. When armed helicopters arrived at the contact area, Sergeant Gainey withdrew the platoon a short distance to allow for aerial rocket artillery assaults. When the armed helicopters had finished, Sergeant Gainey led his men in a ground assault and overran the enemy positions. Sergeant Gainey's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Order Number 6574, 10 June 1970)



27 April 1970

1LT Robert S. Hunt (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 April 1970. Lieutenant Hunt distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during operations in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While on a combat patrol, Lieutenant Hunt's platoon was engaged by small arms and automatic weapons fire from a well-entrenched enemy force. Lieutenant Hunt quickly deployed his men but was wounded by enemy fire as he maneuvered the platoon. Although unable to walk, Lieutenant Hunt continued to command his men and direct their counterattack until relieved by his platoon sergeant and the platoon leader of another platoon. The actions of Lieutenant Hunt enabled his men to place effective suppressive fire on the insurgents and overrun the enemy positions. Lieutenant Hunt's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 614; 10 June 1970)

27 April 1970



SGT James P. Brinker (E/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 April 1970. Sergeant Brinker distinguished himself while serving as a member of the reconnaissance platoon of Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, on a search and clear mission in THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While clearing an enemy bunker complex, the unit came under heavy enemy fire. With the other members of his platoon, Sergeant Brinker moved from bunker to bunker, engaging the enemy at close range until all the enemy positions were silenced. Sergeant Brinker's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, General Order Number 9392; 15 August 1970)



# ACRONYMS

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

