



# 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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16 June 1967      **Operation MALHEUR:** One light contact by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 1 VC KIA (C). (HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation MALHEUR; 02 September 1967)

16 June 1968      A/1-502 IN initiated an ambush, killing 3 VC, capturing 2 VC (WIA) and 2 AK-47's. D1/-502 IN was released from the Rome plow mission and A/1-502 IN assumed Rome plow security. Rome plow destroyed 500 meters of hedgerow and 88 bunkers. PF's conducted patrols and had light contact. Friendly: 1 KIA; 2 WIA

16 June 1969      **FSB CURRAHEE:** This Fire Base is located on the floor of the A SHAU VALLEY with high grounds on all sides. It is circular in shape with a double perimeter. Three strands of wire enclose the bunkers, followed by the two strands of wire with alternate positions for the bunker line and perimeter defense. There is approximately 10 meters between the outer wire and the inner wire. Fields of fire had been cleared, but draws, gullies and the proximity of a nearby river allowed avenues of undetectable approach to within 20 meters of the wire. The troop list during the time of the attack included:

- a. 2<sup>nd</sup> BN, 502d IN CP
- b. B Co. 2-502
- c. E Co. 2-502
- e. A/2-319 Arty (105s)
- f. B/2-11 Arty (155s)
- g. Metro Station
- h. Counter mortar radar unit
- i. ARA re-arm/re-fuel point
- j. Pathfinder detachment



There was a total of 504 personnel on the Fire Base during the sapper attack.

At 160125June1969, an enemy sapper attack was launched against Fire Support Base CURRAHEE. The attack was triggered by the detection of one sapper who had penetrated the wire on the West side of the perimeter. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire and M79s. Immediately 81mm illumination was provided and direct fire from the 105-artillery battery was used. This resulted in a body count of three (3) NVA KIA. At 0200H the enemy began a series of attacks against the entire Northwest side of the perimeter employing approximately 75 men. Artillery engaged this activity with continuous direct fire and illumination. A flare ship was on station at 0230H and artillery illumination ceased. At 0240H the casualties were eight (8) NVA KIA and three (3) US WIA. At 0300H gunships and ARA were on station and employed until 0630H. At 0335H the flare ship was exchanged on station, while the ARA remained on station with Spooky on call. At 0440H the Western portion of the perimeter came under attack. The reaction force was employed to reinforce the bunker line, specifically two bunkers and the remainders of the personnel were used to resupply the bunker line with ammo. At 0545H the Northern portion of the perimeter was attacked, and gunships were called to fire within 150 meters of the perimeter wire. This caused approximately 30 enemy to charge the wire firing RPGs. At 0500H an air resupply of ammo began to arrive and was completely delivered by 0730H. At 0600H a sweep was made of the area and five (5) additionally enemy were killed while hiding in a hole and three (3) were captured. Artillery was used in a direct fire role continuously throughout the entire attack. Other assets used or on station were ARA, gunships, Spooky, 81mm mortar, flare ships, and TAC Air. Total results were 51 NV KIA, 3 NVA POWs, 7 US WIA of which 3 were Medevaced. (After Action Report; 3 July 1969; LTC George D. Moore Jr., Commanding)

16 June 1969      **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** Activity continued to decrease in the AO as 1-46 IN BN and 1-502 IN BN conducted RIF operations in the area. At 0945H, D/-502 IN, vicinity BT139028, received a burst of small arms fire from a range of 15-30 meters which wounded 1 US; the element returned fire with negative assessment. At 1730H, A/1-502 IN, vicinity BT121004, engaged 5-7 enemy with small arms, accounting for 1 NVA KIA. At 1930H, B/1-502 IN, vicinity BT132995 engaged an enemy soldier who had ignited a trip flare, resulting in 1 NVA KIA. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; 15 September 1969)

16 June 1969      **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** D/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon pointman was wounded by AK-47 fire proximity 15 to 30 meters. A/1-502 IN continued RIF east and at vicinity BT121004 discovered a bunker complex and engaged and estimated 5 NVA with organic weapons resulting in 1 NVA KIA, 1 IWC and assorted documents. At 1935H, B/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon engaged 2 NVA with S/A resulting in 1 NVA KIA.



16 June 1969

Between 0001H – 2400H, incoming reported by US and FWMAF throughout ICTZ (minus QUANG TRI province) totaled 80 mortar rounds and 10 rocket rounds as follows: 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM) reported 1 incident receiving 10 rocket rounds with negative casualties; 1<sup>st</sup> MAR DIV reported 4 incidents receiving 19 mortar rounds resulting in 21 WIA (12 EVAC); Americal Division reported 7 incidents, receiving 61 mortar rounds, resulting in 2 KAI and 15 WIA (EVAC). (TELECON, XXIV CORPS, 1<sup>st</sup> MAR DIV, 2<sup>ND</sup> ROCKMC BDE, AMERICAL DIV) (III MAF Significant Events Log; 151700H – 160600H June 1969)

17 June 1967

**Operation MALHEUR:** 2-502 IN BN had nine light contacts resulting in 3 US WHA, 1 UH-1D damaged, 3 VC KIA (C) and apprehension of 5 detainees. (HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation MALHEUR; 02 September 1967)

17 – 18 June 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation NEVADA EAGLE to limit and disrupt attempts made by the enemy to extort the VN rice production throughout the coastal plains area and to seek out and destroy enemy forces and installations in the 2BDE AO. Contact was light with a total of 6 contacts. Today's statistics: 1 US WIA; Enemy assessment: 5 NVA KIA (BC), 5 VC KIA (BC), 2 SKS, 1 M-1, 2 M-1 Carbines, 1 60mm mortar tube, 600 rounds SA, 16 60mm mortar rounds, 3 RPG-2 rounds and 2 grenades.

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

A/1-501 IN provided security for FSB MONGOOSE, occupied strong points along POL pipeline from vicinity YD776239 to YD810295, and ambushed vicinity YD806287.

B/1-501 IN (Working with 1 NPFF platoon) occupied night position vicinity YD821240 and ambushed vicinity YD811241 and YD804244. Conducted RIF operation from YD806247 E along N side of river to vicinity YD819240 where B/1-501 IN (-) remained in blocking position. At 0525H vicinity YD823240 observed and engaged 1 VC. Received SA fire from an estimated 3 VC in same area. Results: 1 US WIA; Negative enemy assessment. At 0601H received SA fire, returned fire and artillery supported. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. At 0649H vicinity YD812240 found 2 detainees, 1 SKS, 100 SA rounds and 2 grenades. At 0715H two (2) platoons came on line with B/1-501 IN (-) and continued RIF operation to vicinity YD825239, then N to YD825243. During the RIF operation along the river an additional 3 detainees were evacuated (later classified IC) and a 250lbs bomb was destroyed. At 1220H vicinity YD824241 a CHIEU HOI led B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon to an M-1 and M-1 Carbine.

C/1-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD858306.

D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD810228 and ambushed YD820225 and YD805235. At 2025H vicinity YD798232, ambush moving to position engaged one (1) enemy who returned fire. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. At 2115H vicinity YD805235 found 1 VC KIA (BC) and 1 M-1 Carbine. Conducted RIF operation along river to vicinity YD786238. At 1815H vicinity YD797246 engaged 3 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC).

Recon platoon (Working with 1 RF platoon) occupied strong points along QL-1 vicinity YD786204, YD808186 and bridge vicinity YD838176. Ambushed vicinity YD815199 and YD807191. At 2030H vicinity YD787203 received 3 60mm mortar rounds and SA fire. Returned fire with SA. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

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

A/2-501 IN OPCON 2-327 IN BN

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD661257 and ambushed vicinity YD667262, YD675252, YD655264 and YD664270. At 2253H vicinity YD655262 ambush observed 50 personnel moving E. Firefly and LFT checked area out with negative sightings. At 0206H vicinity YD655264 observed 23 personnel moving NW. Artillery was fired with negative assessment. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD642243, reconnoitering for ambush sites.

C/2-501 IN (-) secured FSB PINKY and one (1) platoon with 1 PF platoon provided security for MEDCAP vicinity YD745257. One (1) platoon secured OP/FSB T-BONE and conducted squad patrol to vicinity YD641218. One (1) platoon reinforced 741<sup>st</sup> RF Company at HUE Bridges.

D/2-501 IN (Working with 1 RF platoon) occupied night position vicinity YD633248 and ambushed vicinity YD646248 and YD640257. At 0906H conducted combat assault from PZ vicinity YD633247 to LZ vicinity YD598255. Closed LZ at 0930H. One (1) platoon moved N off hilltop, then E to a blocking position vicinity YD607225 oriented SE. One (1) platoon remained vicinity LZ with D/2-501 IN (-) moving S off the hilltop, then E towards objective area vicinity YD608224. Search resulted in the following items being found vicinity YD605222: 1 60mm mortar tube, 16 60mm mortar rounds, 3 RPG-2 rounds and 500 rounds SA. At 1705H conducted an extraction from PZ vicinity YD598225 to LZ vicinity YD677245 and established night ambushes.

Recon platoon (Working with 1 PF platoon and 1 RF platoon) occupied night position vicinity YD613252 and ambushed vicinity YD605255 and YD605245. Conducted RIF operation to a blocking position vicinity YD612224, oriented W. At 1728H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD612225 to an LZ vicinity YD628242. Closed LZ at 1755H and established night ambushes.



## 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD685299 and ambushed vicinity YD685295 and YD696296. Provided security for bulldozer clearing operations vicinity YD685295 and conducted local patrols. At 1510H vicinity YD688302 the bulldozer uncovered 5 NVA KIA (BC) and 1 SKS. At 1845H vicinity YD687301 received 4 rounds of 60mm mortar. Negative casualties.

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD688312 and ambushed vicinity YD700314, YD681315 and YD687315. At 2004H ambush vicinity YD684315. At 2004H ambush vicinity YD684310 received 1 RPG round while moving to position. Returned SA fire. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. At 0715H vicinity YD683312 set off a 60mm mortar round BBT with negative casualties. Conducted local security patrols during the day vicinity YD691317.

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and occupied night strong points vicinity YD600310, YD606312 and YD611315. Provided security for minesweep NW to AO boundary. C/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon with 2 tanks conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD625327. At 1410H vicinity YD625316 found 1 105mm round.

D/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD717348 and ambushed vicinity YD753337 and YD728335. Conducted local patrols during the day vicinity YD720347 as a show of force for rice collection. At 1550H vicinity YD728337 PF's engaged and killed 1 VC attempting to evade.

Recon platoon OPCON C/1-502 IN conducted mounted patrol of QL-1 from AN LO BRIDGE NW to AO boundary.

## 2BDE

HHC Security platoon, 1<sup>st</sup> squad OPCON 2-501 IN. Platoon (-) secured minesweep N and S from LZ SALLY.

(Commanders Situation Report; 172001H June – 182000H June 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

- 17 June 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** C/1-502 IN combined with tanks for RIF Vic YD6233 with negative contact. A/1-502 IN, with Rome plow destroyed 93 bunkers, 400 meters of hedgerow and uncovered 3 bodies. Results: Friendly 1 WIA; Enemy: 1 VC POW.
- 17 June 1968 Continuing psychological operations throughout the Divisions AO resulted in the rallying of a Viet Cong village chief to the South Vietnamese government. The rallyer stated he deserted because all of his Soldiers were captured in a recent battle fought with paratroopers of B/1-501 IN, where 58 suspects were taken from village nine miles east of HUE. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 2); July 1968)
- 17 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** Activity was light in LAMAR PLAIN AO. At 1140H, A/1-46 IN, vicinity BT170097, received small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force, resulting in 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA; the element returned fire and employed gunship accounting for 8 NVA KIA. At 1245H, A/1-502 IN, vicinity BT144021, found the remains of 1 NVA KIA by artillery approximately one week earlier. At 1800H, a Brigade LOH reconnaissance team engaged 2 en soldiers with M-60 machineguns, recording 2 VC KIA. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; 15 September 1969)
- 17 June 1969 Between 0001H – 0400H incoming reported by US and FWWAF throughout ICTZ (Minus QUANG TRI province) totaled over 103 mortar rounds and 2 rocket rounds as follows: 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM) reported 2 incidents, receiving 30 mortar rounds and rocket rounds; resulting in 2 KIA and 6 WIA (EVAC). (III MAF Significant Events Log; 161700H – 170600H June 1969)
- 17 June 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** HOUNG THUY initiated an operation to consolidate the rice from several villages into one secure place in each village. This will make it more difficult for the VC/NVA to obtain supplies. D/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon, 3<sup>rd</sup> squad located a bomb. An EOD team was sent to the area at 756048.
- 17 – 18 June 1971 **Operation LAM SON 720:** On 17 June, the platoon leader, point man and Kit Carson scout of A/2-502 IN, 2nd platoon, were wounded when a booby trap detonated. The next day the platoon observed and engaged an unknown size enemy force resulting in one "STRIKE FORCE" trooper WIA. Later that day, one RPG round from an unknown enemy force killed one "STRIKE FORCE" trooper and wounded another.
- 18 June 1967 **Operation MALHEUR:** Six light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 6 VC KIA (C) and capture of 3 individual and 1 crew served weapon, 1,285 refugees and 4 tons of rice were relocated to the NGHIA HAHN Refugee Center. (HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation MALHEUR; 02 September 1967)
- 18 June 1968 C/1-502 IN and tanks conducted RIF. Tanks were utilized to recon by fire and fired canister rounds at suspected BBT. A/1-502 IN continued Rome plow security. Rome plow destroyed 650 meters of hedgerow and 120 bunkers. D/1-502 IN and PF's conducted joint operations at Vic YD6930, finding 5 VC Bodies and 1 SKS, vicinity YD6930. PF's with Delta killed 1 VC.
- 18 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** Activity continued to decrease as only the 1-502 IN BN reported significant activity. At 1230H, D/1-502 IN, vicinity BT173028, observed and engaged 2 VC in the open; the enemy broke contact and fled south leaving behind 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; 15 September 1969)



- 18 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** A/1-502 IN RIF vicinity BT118003 and secured a 5 ship PZ. B/1-502 IN RIF south, C/1-502 IN engaged 5 NVA with organic weapons resulting in 1 US WIA. B/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon vicinity BT173028 engaged 2 VC in the open. Results: 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC and a quantity of documents captured. Recon platoon remained at FSSE at battalion reserve.
- 18 June 1969 Between 0001H – 2400H incoming reported by US and FWMAF throughout ICTZ (minus QUANG TRI province) totaled over 42 mortar rounds and 1 rocket round as follows: 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM) reported 3 incidents, receiving 10 mortar rounds and 1 rocket round (NEG CAS); 1<sup>st</sup> MAR DIV reported 1 incident, receiving 14 mortar rounds (NEG CAS); Americal Division reported 4 incidents, receiving over 18 mortar rounds, resulting in 1 KIA and 6 WIA (EVAC). (TELECON, XXIV CORPS, 1<sup>st</sup> MAR DIV, 2<sup>nd</sup> ROKMC BDE, AMERICAL DIV) (III MAF Significant Events Log; 181700H – 190600H June 1969)
- 18 June 1971 After receiving small enemy arms fire early this morning while deployed in the NDP near FSB BARBARA, the 2BDE's Aero-Rifle platoon called for ARA for support to suppress the enemy. A first light search of the surrounding area revealed three bunkers destroyed by ARA and two observation platforms holding 16 B-40 rockets, 16 mortar rounds, and 1 AK-47, abandoned. A more extensive search later in the day revealed a hut and adjoining bunker guarded by six booby-trap. The BBT's were discovered and dismantled without injury. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 4, Number 1); Summer/Fall 1971)
- 19 June 1967 **Operation MALHEUR:** Seven (7) light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 1 US WHA, 5 VC KIA (C), 2 detainees, 1 individual and 1 crew served weapon captured. (HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation MALHEUR; 02 September 1967)
- 19 June 1968 Colonel Cushman accepts the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation from President Nguyen Van Thieu of the Republic of Vietnam at HUE. The streamer is added to the Brigade Colors.
- 19 June 1968 1-502 IN BN continued operations with very light contact. Killed 1 VC. Rome plow destroyed 80 bunkers.
- 19 June 1969 **Operation CAMPBELL STREAMER:** At night elements of the 72d Sapper Company, 4<sup>th</sup> NVA Regiment attacked Fire Base TOMAHAWK (ZD113009) located on QL-1 in PHU LOC District which was occupied by C/2-501 IN BN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon and C/1-138 Artillery (155). Enemy elements had made a thorough reconnaissance of the fire base for several days to detect weak spots in the perimeter's defenses.
- At approximately 0130H the Infantry command post located in the southernmost portion of the fire base received the primary thrust of the sapper attack. Mortar and RPG rounds poured in from the eastern and southern portions of the perimeter and onto the infantry and artillery command posts as the enemy breached the wire in these areas. Once inside the wire, the sappers moved to key locations destroying bunkers, exposed equipment and artillery positions.
- At 0230H the platoon leader of C/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon organized a small force to regain control of the command post. ARA and medevacs were on call throughout the night as was a reaction force organized by the 1-327 IN BN. At 0303H the main attack on FSB TOMAHAWK ceased while harassing fire continued until 0530H. At 0430H two platoons from B/1-327 IN were moved from FB ROY to blocking positions to the south of FB TOMAHAWK. At 0550H the Reconnaissance Platoon, 1-327 IN BN was lifted onto FB TOMAHAWK and swept across the overrun command post to the southwest but failed to find signs of enemy activity. At first light elements of C/1-327 IN were airlifted into the fire base and also swept to the south and southeast where they found staging positions for the attack as well as cached rucksacks. The losses suffered by the enemy were seventeen killed and one prisoner of war; casualties suffered by friendly forces were thirteen killed and forty wounded. In addition, three 155mm howitzers were destroyed and one rendered inoperative. (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)



- 19 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** The enemy continued to avoid contact as the 1-46 IN BN and 1-502 IN BN conducted RIF operations in the AO with negligible enemy activity reported. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; 15 September 1969)
- 19 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** A/1-502 IN made a C/A from PZ BT127998 to LZ BT069018 to attack objective at BT064014. B/1-502 IN had C/A from PZ BS131993 to LZ BT052007 to attack objective vicinity BT059016. C/1-502 IN was extracted from the field and returned to FSSE for stand-down. D/1-502 IN RIF east at vicinity BT185025 found a small cache of radio parts. Recon platoon moved by CH-47 from FSSE to HAU DUC and then made a C/A vicinity BT067006.
- 19 June 1969 Late entry: At 0150H, C/2-138 ARTY and 1 platoon of C/2-501 IN at FSB TOMAHAWK (XD118013) ENE of PHU LOC received 150 x 82mm mortar rounds and 1 ground attack consisting of satchel charges, RPG and hand grenades. Up to 10 enemy penetrated the perimeter. Results: 3 x 155mm SP Howitzers destroyed; a 577 FDC track, FDC Post, XO post and CP were hit, there were 2 friendly KIA and 24 WIA (EVAC); Enemy casualties unknown. Spooky and gunships were on station. A platoon has been sent to the suspected enemy mortar location. (J-3, XXIV CORPS); Updated entry: At 0140H C/2-138<sup>th</sup> ARTY and C/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon at FSB TOMAHAWK (XD118013) received RPG fire from an estimated 50 enemy on a hill to the north and 40 enemy on a hill to the south. The RPG fire destroyed the CP, killed the 1SG and wounded the Executive Officer. It was closely followed by a ground attack by approximately 100 sappers. This attack came from the east, south and west. The perimeter was penetrated and the following damage was inflicted: The XO Post and the Command Center were destroyed; the FDC was attacked but the enemy was driven off; approximately 75 percent of the personnel bunkers were destroyed; 3 x 155mm SP Howitzers received heavy damage to the wiring and hydraulic system (they were driven to GIA LEY for repairs); 1 M577 Fire Direction Center tracked vehicle received heavy damage; 2 x 3/4 ton trucks received moderate damage; 1 x 2 1/2 ton truck received heavy damage; 1 x 1 1/2 ton trailer was destroyed; and 2 x 5 ton trucks received moderate damage. The contact ended at 0600H. Supporting fire was received from ARA, 3 Spooky A/C and Artillery. There were 10 enemy KIA, 1 PW, 2 IWC and 2 CSWC with 10 Friendly KIA and 40 WIA (EVAC). The prisoner was originally unconscious but has since regained consciousness and is talking incoherently. Several blood trails were found (J-85, XXIV CORPS) (III MAF Significant Events Log; 191700H – 200600H June 1969)
- 19 June 1969 Between 0001H – 2400H, incoming reported by US and FWMAF throughout ICTZ (minus QUANG TRI province) totaled over 372 mortar rounds and 7 rocket rounds as follows: 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM) reported 10 incidents receiving over 245 mortar rounds and 7 rocket rounds; resulting in 29 WIA (EVAC); 1<sup>st</sup> MAR DIV reported 4 incidents receiving 75 mortar rounds (NEG CAS); Americal Division reported 5 incidents receiving 52 mortar rounds (NEG CAS); in delayed reporting for 18 June, 1<sup>st</sup> MAR DIV received 3 mortar rounds (NEG CAS). (TELECON, XXIV CORPS, 1<sup>st</sup> MAR DIV, 2<sup>ND</sup> ROKMC BDE, AMERICAL DIV) (III MAF Significant Events Log; 191700H – 200600H June 1969)
- 19 June 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** D/1-502 IN had one man evacuated to the rear at FSB BIRMINGHAM because he had possible case of malaria. Another man broke his nose and was evacuated to the 85<sup>th</sup> Evac. Hospital.
- 20 June 1967 **Operation MALHEUR:** Four light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN which resulted in 5 VC KIA (C) and 2 detainees. In refugee operations, 1,363 refugees and 3 tons of rice were relocated to NGHIA HANH. In the mid-afternoon an explosion of undetermined origin at the 1<sup>st</sup> Logistical Command's Forward Support Area beach site, adjacent to the 1BDE base at FSB CARENTAN Base, caused secondary explosions in the Ammunition Supply Point destroying 90% of all the ammunition located in the FSP. The secondary explosion and fire continued into the early evening preventing attempts to salvage ammunition and supplies. Major equipment losses which resulted from the fire were the destruction of an Engineer Front Loader, 15-ton dump truck, and 1 M48A1C tank from C/2-34 AR which was under the operational control of A/2-17 CAV and provided a portion of the beach security. A sufficient amount of ammunition was located with the combat elements in the field to meet operational needs for a period of 24 hours. Emergency resupply operations commenced immediately. As a result, no restrictions were placed on usage of ammunition and combat operations continued normally. (HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation MALHEUR; 02 September 1967)
- 20 June 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 1-502 IN BN continued search and clear operations. 6 VC KIA (one of these was district economic chief, captured 3 AK-44's, 1 CZECH MG, and 1 SKS. A/1-502 IN continued security for Rome plow. Rome plow destroyed 400 meters of hedgerow and 90 bunkers.
- 20 June 1968 In HUE, Republic of Vietnam's President Nguyen Van Thieu presented COL John H. Cushman and the paratroopers of the 2BDE Task Force with the country's Presidential Unit Citation for their combat record since deploying to I Corps in early February. From then until this date, the task force paratroopers killed 2,382 enemies, detained 257 suspects, and captured 724 enemy weapons.
- 20 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** AO was quiet in the LAMAR PLAIN AO as the enemy avoided contact. 1-502 IN BN conducted a CA into vicinity BT081013 with negative contact and B/2-17 CAV conducted a maintenance stand-down, significantly limiting the brigade aerial reconnaissance capability. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; 15 September 1969)
- 20 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** A/1-502 IN, B/1-502 IN, D/1-502 IN and Recon platoon continued RIF and C/1-502 IN remained at FSSE.
- 20 June 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** D/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon performed a recon by fire at area 762020. FSB BIRMINGHAM had a practice alert tonight.
- 21 June 1967 **Operation MALHEUR:** 2-502 IN BN had seven light contacts resulting in 4 VC KIA (C) and 5 detainees captured. (HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation MALHEUR; 02 September 1967)



**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation NEVADA EAGLE to limit and disrupt attempts made by the enemy to extort the VN rice production throughout the coastal plains area and to seek out and destroy enemy forces and installations in the 2BDE AO. Contact was light with a total of 4 contacts. Today's statistics: No friendly casualties; Enemy assessment: 1 VC KIA (BC), 8 VC POW, 3 tons rice and 1 60mm mortar base plate.

### 1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN provided security for FSB MONGOOSE and ambushed vicinity YD798281. Occupied strong points along POL pipeline from vicinity YD776239 to YD810295. At 0733H conducted Eagle flights from PZ's vicinity YD801292 and YD788270. The following LZ's were used to establish blocking position around personnel working in rice fields, YD805216, YD814226, YD797213, YD797206 and YD802227. A/1-501 IN moved SE and linked up vicinity YD814213. A total of approximately 300 personnel were screened resulting in 28 detainees evacuated to HUONG THUI and further classification resulted in 6 VC POW. At 0935H vicinity YD810225 engaged and killed 1 VC suspect. At 1050H A/1-501 IN moved to a day position vicinity YD809222. At 1900H vicinity YD812253 received SA fire from approximately 2-3 enemy and received 1 RPG or 60mm mortar round. Returned fire and artillery supported. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

B/1-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD817307 and YD870305.

C/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD805214 and ambushed vicinity YD802217 and YD806208. At 0400H the company moved to blocking positions from vicinity YD822209 to YD825208 and to YD838198 in support of A/1-501 IN Eagle Flight. At 0915H moved to a day position vicinity YD846205. At 1827H vicinity YD841210 found and destroyed 60mm round BBT and found a 60mm mortar base plate.

D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD825245, YD811252 and YD821247. At 1020H vicinity YD800252 picked up 1 detainee who was later classified as VC POW. D/1-501 IN returned to FSB MONGOOSE and assumed mission of securing FSB MONGOOSE and establishing strong points along POL pipeline.

Recon platoon occupied night positions vicinity YD808186, YD838176, YD783203 and ambushed vicinity YD792199 and YD811192. At 0906H 2 5-man elements supported A/1-501 IN operation by establishing blocking positions vicinity YD808196 and YD814198 and moving to positions by UH-1. At 1100H 10 men returned to platoon CP vicinity YD808186 Recon platoon returned to FSB MONGOOSE and then to COCO Beach, closing at 1720H.

C/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon OPCON effective 0800H. C/2-501 IN (-) OPCON effective 1045H and moved to strong points along POL pipeline paralleling QL-1.

### 2-501 IN BN

BN TAC CP began displacing from FSB PINKY at 0715H to OP/FSB T-BONE closing at 0820H.

A/2-501 IN OPCON 2-327 IN BN

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD646243 and ambushed vicinity YD643223, YD650236 and YD661233. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD643222, YD634222 and YD628211.

C/2-501 IN (-) secured FSB PINKY, C/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon secured OP/FSB T-BONE until 0930H when moved by CH-47 to FSB PINKY. At 1045, C/2-501 IN (-) went OPCON to 1-501 IN BN. C/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon reinforced 741<sup>st</sup> RF Company at the HUE Bridges and reverted to OPCON of 1-501 IN at 0800H.

D/2-501 IN (-) secured OP/FSB T-BONE and 2 platoons ambushed vicinity YD741203 and YD628211. D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon and D/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon that ambushed returned to OP/FSB T-BONE, D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD650197, YD640187 and returned.

Recon platoon OPCON to B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD646243 and ambushed vicinity YD605237 and YD632241. At 2058H the ambush vicinity YD605237 moved into position and noticed one man missing. Ambush returned along same route and found missing man at 0130H. Ambush then returned to night position. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD628223.

### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied night positions vicinity YD695300, YD694304 and YD688300. Provided security for bulldozer clearing operations vicinity YD6934, both bulldozers being inoperable during most of the day. At 1415H vicinity YD695300 received sniper fire. Returned SA fire and artillery supported. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment.

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD718307 and ambushed vicinity YD707297 and YD697297. At 2015H ambushed vicinity YD707297 engaged estimated squad of VC resulting in 1 VC WIA POW. Conducted RIF operation with 1 PF platoon to vicinity YD703297, YD707308, YD695300 and YD693197. At 1030H vicinity YD703297 extracted 4 tons of rice found on 21 June. At 1320H vicinity YD707308 found 8 rice caches containing approximately 6000lbs rice.

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and occupied strong points vicinity YD600310, YD605311 and YD611312. One (-) platoon minesweep NW to AO boundary C/1-502 IN (-) improved defensive positions and conducted motorized patrol along QL-1 from bridge to AO boundary.



D/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD73538 and ambushed vicinity YD732325, YD735326 and YD728327. At 2210H vicinity YD735328 received SA fire from 2-3 enemy. Returned SA fire. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. Conducted RIF operation with 1 PF squad to vicinity YD756327, YD752310 and linked up with an RF company. Continued RIF operation vicinity YD754336 and YD765344.

Recon platoon OPCON C/1-502 IN.

## 2BDE

HHC Security platoon (-) secured minesweep N and S from LZ SALLY. One (1) squad secured minesweep from FSB PINKY to HUE, then returned to LZ SALLY.

(Commanders Situation Report; 212001H June – 222000H June 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

21 June 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** C/1-502 IN and D/1-502 IN and 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Company combined for a search and clear operation vicinity YD7232. Results: Enemy 1 VC KIA, 3 VC Captured, 7 weapons captured.

21 June 1969

**Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** Enemy activity increased as the 1-502 IN BN reported sporadic contact and B/2-17 CAV conducted a maintenance stand-down, significantly limiting the brigade aerial reconnaissance capability.

Enemy activity increased as the 1-502 IN BN reported sporadic contact and B/2-17 CAV returned to the air over the LAMAR PLAIN AO with numerous enemy sightings and contacts. At 0730H, B/2-17 CAV, vicinity BT264120, observed three enemy running into a hut; the element engaged the hut with gunships, recording 2 VC KIA. At 0945H, 1-502 IN, Recon platoon, vicinity BT085120, received scattered small arms fire; the element returned fire and captured one AK-47 in the ensuing search. At 1009H, B/2-17 CAV, vicinity BT268123, observed two enemy hiding in the river; the element employed artillery and confirmed 2 VC KIA. At 1115H, B/2-17 CAV, vicinity BT269210, observed and engaged one enemy hiding in the bushes, resulting in 1 VC KIA. At 1205H, A/1-502 IN, vicinity BT042018, engaged five enemy with small arms, accounting for 1 NVA KIA. At 1745H, Brigade LOH Reconnaissance team, vicinity BT211102, observed and engaged two enemy soldiers with an M-60 machinegun, killing both. At 1830H, the same team, vicinity BT202103, observed an engaged-on enemy with the Minigun, accounting for 1 VC KIA. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; 15 September 1969)

21 June 1969

**Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** While conducting RIF to the east, Recon platoon engaged 2 NVA moving on a trail vicinity BT085019. Results: 1 IWC. A/1-502 IN vicinity BT042018 pointman engaged 5 NVA 50 meters to his front. Results: 1 NVA KIA. A/1-502 IN also accounted for 3 detainees' vicinity BT039019.

21 June 1970

1-501 IN BN redeployed in the AO, passing to the operational control of the 1BDE and moving by air to FSB BASTOGNE. A/1-501 IN secured the firebase while B/1-501 IN, C/1-501 IN and D/1-501 IN initiated search and attack patrols in the vicinity of the firebase. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Operational Report; Period Ending 31 July 1970; 15 August 1970)

21 June 1970

**Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2-502 IN BN moved by vehicle from vicinity FSB BASTOGNE to CAMP EAGLE and prepared for battalion refresher training and assumed the mission of Division Ready Force. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Operational Report; Period Ending 31 July 1970; 15 August 1970)

22 June 1967

**Operation MALHEUR:** Six light contacts by the 2-502 IN BN resulted in 3 VC KIA (C) and capture of 8 detainees. (HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation MALHEUR; 02 September 1967)

22 – 23 June 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation NEVADA EAGLE to limit and disrupt attempts made by the enemy to extort the VN rice production throughout the coastal plains area and to seek out and destroy enemy forces and installations in the 2BDE AO. Contact was light with a total of 6 contacts. Today's statistics: 4 US WHA (2 medevac); Enemy assessment: 4 VC KIA (BC), 1 NVA KBA (BC), 1 NVA POW, 5 105mm rounds (Dest), 4.2 tons rice.

## 1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN at 2005H vicinity YD814256 while moving to night position received ineffective SA fire from unknown size enemy force. Artillery was fired with unknown results. Occupied night position vicinity YD818255 and ambushed vicinity YD813251 and YD820248. During the morning conducted classes on ambush tactics, mines and booby traps, and care and cleaning of the M-16 rifle. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD820248, YD832243 and YD836237. At 1150H vicinity YD835240 found and destroyed 1 claymore mine and 1 dud 105mm round. At 1211H vicinity YD826239 engaged 2 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC).

B/1-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD868303 and YD817307.

C/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD846212 and ambushed vicinity YD846217, YD832209 and YD846204, at 2250H the ambush vicinity YD846217 received SA fire from 2 enemy resulting in 1 US WHA (slight). Returned SA fire resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC). During the day conducted classes on ambush tactics, mines and booby traps, and care and cleaning of M-16 rifle. At 1647H began moving and conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD850255, YD853223 and YD863224. At 1655H vicinity YD847214 found 2,400lbs or rice. At 1736H vicinity YD853223 received sniper fire. Returned SA fire and artillery supported. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. At 1804H vicinity YD858234 received SA fire from 5 enemy. Returned SA fire and artillery supported. Results: 2 C KIA (BC). At 1815H vicinity YD863224 received SA fire from 3-4 enemy. Negative casualties. Engaged with artillery with unknown results.





D/1-501 IN provided security for FSB MONGOOSE and occupied strong points at POL pumping stations vicinity YD775250 and bridges along highway 551 and POL pipeline from vicinity YD787273 to YD795285. Ambushed vicinity YD793289.

Recon platoon OPCON to B/1-501 IN at COCO Beach until 1744H, when platoon returned to FSB MONGOOSE. At 1818H moved by truck to vicinity YD777250. Conducted RIF east to establish night ambushes.

C/2-501 IN (-) occupied night positions vicinity YD809186 and YD838176. Ambushed vicinity YD824180, YD830178, YD802193 and YD787202. C/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon maintained liaison with 741<sup>st</sup> RF Company with 1 squad at bridge vicinity YD750210, 1 squad at bridge vicinity YD781209 and platoon (-) at LCU Ramp vicinity YD772223.

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

A/2-501 IN OPCON 2-327 IN BN

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD627209 and ambushed vicinity YD635210. B/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD628195 and returned to B/2-501 (-) vicinity YD627209. B/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF operation vicinity YD620210, YD614206 and returned. At 1100H vicinity YD629197 found 1 NVA killed by air approximately 5 days prior.

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

D/2-501 IN provided security for OP/FSB T-BONE and conducted platoon ambushes vicinity YD643206 and YD654214. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD641186, YD649184, YD657195 and returned to OP/FSB T-BONE.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD628222 and ambushed vicinity YD643234. Conducted reinforced squad patrol to YD630213, YD643223, YD659221, YD647226 and returned to platoon (-) vicinity YD628222.

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

A/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD695300 and YD694304. At 2349H vicinity YD694304, 1 NVA walked into company perimeter, resulting in 1 NVA POW. At 0640H vicinity YD695301 found the body of the Marine who drowned on 21 June. A/1-502 IN (-) provided security for the bulldozer's vicinity YD695300 and YD694304. One (1) platoon with 1 PF platoon conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD705298. At 1119H vicinity YD645298 sustained 2 US WHA (medevac) from BBT 105mm round.

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD693317 and ambushed vicinity YD714307. At 0500H, one (1) platoon began moving to a blocking position vicinity YD707317. At 0554H vicinity YD707317 platoon received SA fire from approximately 5 enemy. Returned fire and artillery supported. Negative casualties; Negative enemy assessment. B/1-502 IN (-) with 1 PF squad conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD705317 with platoon blocking positions established vicinity YD707317 and YD704320. At 1725H, B/1-502 IN crossed river vicinity YD708319 and continued to vicinity YD715305. At 0945H vicinity YD705318 sustained 1 US WHA (slight) from SA round which exploded in burning haystack. At 1047H vicinity YD705319 found 3 tons rice. At 1645H vicinity YD707319 apprehended 1 VC suspect, evacuated to LZ SALLY.

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and established strong points vicinity YD611312 and YD595308. Secured minesweep and conducted mounted patrol of sector of QI-1 from AN LO BRIDGE NW to AO boundary. During the day conducted training on map reading, ambushes, patrolling, radio maintenance, and zeroing of M-16 rifles.

D/1-502 IN (Working with 1 PF squad) occupied night position vicinity YD765344 and ambushed vicinity YD766328 and YD764324. During the day conducted training on zeroing and techniques of fire M-16 rifle, ambushes, squad and platoon formations and procedures for requesting indirect fire support.

Recon platoon OPCON C/1-502 IN.

1/C/2-34 Armor OPCON C/1-502 IN

### **2BDE**

HHC security platoon secured minesweep N and S from LZ SALLY.

(Commanders Situation Report; 222001H June – 232000H June 1968; James J Waldeck, MAJ, IN., Kayo 3)

22 June 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 4-3 ARVN BN operated in the 1-502 IN BN AO. While moving into position they were ambushed and later mortared, receiving 6 KIA and 10 WIA. PF's killed 6 VC, captured 1 AK47, 1 AK44, 1 SKS, and 1-90mm mortar. In this operation, the PF platoon leader was KIA.

22 June 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/2-502 IN was released to 1-327 IN BN and was given the mission of securing FSB VEGHEL.

22 June 1969

**Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** Ground activity remained light in the AO as the air activity increased proportionately as the aggressive aerial reconnaissance program continued. At 0910H, B/2-17 CAV, vicinity BT268118, engaged and killed 1



VC. At 0920H, B/2-17 CAV, vicinity BT2655113, engaged another enemy soldier and accounted for 1 VC KIA. At 1730H, D/1-502 IN, vicinity BT087003, found a hospital complex and a search of the area revealed the graves of 10 NVA KIA. At 1800 H, Brigade LOH reconnaissance team, vicinity BT200053, observed 5 enemy runs into a bunker; the element directed ARA into the area and confirmed 1 VC KIA. At 1817H, A/1-46 IN, vicinity BT135087, found three graves containing the remains of 3 VC KIA. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN; 15 September 1969)

22 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** Ground activity remained light in the AO as the air activity increased proportionately as the aggressive aerial reconnaissance program continued. At 1730H, D/1-502 IN, vicinity BT087003, found a hospital complex and a search of the area revealed the graves of 10 NVA KIA.

22 June 1969 **Operation LAMAR PLAIN:** A/1-502 IN discovered a bunker complex vicinity BT048003 and detained 36 VN. B/1-502 IN found and destroyed 30 82mm mortar rounds vicinity BT054019. D/1-502 IN found a dud 500lb bomb vicinity BS086997. Bomb was destroyed by EOD team. D/1-502 IN found a hospital complex vicinity BT087003. It consisted of 10 huts, 10 sleeping positions, 2 kitchen areas and 10 graves. Structures and bunkers were later destroyed by fire and artillery.

22 June 1970 A task force under control of the 3BDE, operating in coordination with 5-2 ARVN, consisting of A/2-502 IN, B/1-501 IN, the HOC RAO Company, and elements of the 2-17 CAV, conducted operations to further exploit enemy base areas and cache sites in the vicinity of FSB LEATHERNECK and FSB SHEPHERD. A/2-502 IN and B/1-501 IN passed from operational control of the 1BDE to OPCON of the 3BDE and assaulted into FSB SHEPHERD. Elements of 2-11 ARTY were moved by air to FSB SHEPHERD and FSB SARGE to provide artillery support to the task force. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Operational Report; Period Ending 31 July 1970; 15 August 1970)

22 June 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2-502 IN BN CP and A/2-502 IN went OPCON to the 3BDE and secured FSB SHEPHERD until 25 June when they returned to the "STRIKE FORCE".



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

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- 1 x Distinguished Service Cross Medal
- 2 x Silver Star Medal
- 4 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
- 14 x Bronze Star Medal (14 x Posthumously)
- 18 x Purple Heart Medal (18 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Air Medal with Valor
- 1 x Air Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 48 x Army Commendation Medal
- 4 x Died from Non Hostile injuries or illness

16 June 1968



PFC Thomas D. Bernard (B/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when he was hit by fragments from hostile booby trap 5 miles east of Hue in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.

16 June 1969



CPL Harrel E. Stearns (E/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. CPL Stearns was admitted to a military medical facility, placed on the VSI list and later expired.

16 June 1969



SP4 Tony L. Martin (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while on a combat operation when a hostile force was encountered in the Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam.

16 June 1969

The following Soldiers from HHC/2-501 IN:

SP4 Russell E. Fox	SP4 Harold Garland	SP4 Armando G. Garza	SP5 Robert F. Gaynor
SP4 Jerry W. Gilmer	SSG Alex L. Gray	SP4 Steve E. Gump	SP4 Richard D. Hamilton
SP4 David W. Harris	SP4 Cleveland Haynes	SP4 Robert E. Helmick	SP4 Francis E. Hughes
SP4 Timothy J. Hunley	SP4 Raymond A. Karwatz	1LT J.B. Kopystiansky	SP4 Donald L. Krieger
SP4 Robert H. Lewis	PFC Stephen W. Loy	SFC John W. Madding	PFC Robert MR Maddox
SP4 Gerald Mikielewicz	SP4 David D. Mitchell	SP4 Walter P. Mitchell	SP4 James G. Oakland
SP4 James P. Oharra	SP4 Ralph C. Owens	SP4 Ayala R. Padilla	SP4 William E. Peters
SP4 James E. Pugh	SP5 John L. Raemaeker	SP4 Maurice D. Roberts	SP4 Preston C. Rodrigue
SP4 James J. Schmidt	SP4 William W. Shimp	SGT Glenn R. Shoults	SP4 Kenneth Staab
SP4 Darryl L. Sutton	SP4 Andrew Tarpey	SFC James Veal	PFC Gregory D. Walz
PFC Donald Wells Jr.	SP4 Russell L. Whites	SSG Charels R. Whitney	SP4 Ronald A. Williams
SP4 Charles E. York Jr.			

Was awarded the Army Commendation Medal (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, General Orders Number 6906; 16 June 1969)

16 June 1969

The following Soldiers from A/1-502 IN:

SGT Stephen J. Aulph      SP4 George W. Baker      SP4 Joseph G. Bigger

Was awarded the Army Commendation Medal (DA, HQ 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, General Orders Number 6906; 16 June 1969)



16 June 1970



CPL Marcus W. Maddox (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 while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. CPL Maddox was admitted to a military medical facility and later expired.

17 June 1969



SP4 Wayne L. Noth (B/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 on FSB CURRAHEE, 5km S-SE of A LUOI Village when the area came under mortar attack by hostile forces in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

17 June 1969



PFC Douglas W. McPhee (B/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 on FSB CURRAHEE, 5km S-SE of A LUOI Village when the area came under mortar attack by hostile forces in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 June 1971



SSG John T. Dozier II (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when he was killed by an RPG tied to a tree at chest level and rigged with a trip wire. He died a few hours later after evacuation to a field hospital from a massive head injury in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. (Account witness by Charles "Doc" Cooper, First Medic to treat SSG Dozier)

19 June 1968



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

19 June 1968



PFC Michael E. Prothero (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile booby trap in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Prothero was admitted to a military hospital and later expired.

19 June 1969



CPL Donald L. Curtin (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 while at an artillery firing position when the area came under attack by hostile force at FSB TOMAHAWK (Hill 132) 3km E-NE of PHU LOC in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 June 1969



SSG Edward M. Hardwick (C/2-501 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 attack by hostile force at FSB TOMAHAWK (Hill 132) 3km E-NE of PHU LOC in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



19 June 1969



PFC Luis J. Simancas (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 while at an artillery firing position when the area came under attack by hostile force at FSB TOMAHAWK (Hill 132) 3km E-NE of PHU LOC in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 June 1969



SSG Albert C. Wall Jr. (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while at an artillery firing position when the area came under attack by hostile force at FSB TOMAHAWK (Hill 132) 3km E-NE of PHU LOC in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

19 June 1970



SP4 Gordon G. Anderson (B/1-501 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 at an aircraft landing zone when a mine detonated in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. SP4 Anderson was admitted to a military medical facility and later expired at Walter Reed Army Hospital.

19 June 1971



SP4 Arthur P. Roberson (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds 14km S-SE of PHU BAI Airfield in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

20 June 1968



PFC Michael Gigliotti (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when hit by fragments from hostile booby trap in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. PFC Gigliotti was admitted to a military hospital ship and placed on the VSI list where he later expired.

20 June 1968



SP4 Tommy J. Brehm (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when hit by hostile small arms fire in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

20 June 1969



CPL Robert R. Guerra (E/1-502 IN) died from other non-hostile causes when his bunker collapsed 9km S-SW of TIEN PHUOC in the QUANG TIN Province, Republic of Vietnam. CPL Guerra also received the Bronze Star Medal for services and action in Vietnam.

22 June 1969



PFC Charles E. Clubbs (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when mistaken for a hostile force and fired upon by a friendly force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



22 June 1970



SSG William W. Morrow (C/2-502 IN) died from non-hostile actions in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

22 June 1970



SSG Jimmie L. Chamblee (HHC/2-502 IN) died from other non-hostile actions in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. SSG Chamblee also received the Bronze Star Medal for services and action in Vietnam.

22 June 1970



SGT Ralph A. Gaddis (HHC/2-502 IN) died from other non-hostile actions in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam



# STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

17 June 1967

CPT Steven L. Arnold (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 17 June 1967 near DUC PHO, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, Captain Arnold, platoon leader for the Recondos, halted his men shortly before dusk to set up a night defensive perimeter. Immediately following the establishment of the perimeter an undetermined number of Viet Cong began to probe the Recondos area. They enemy opened up with automatic weapons and hurled grenades into the friendly position, initiating a raging firefight. Realizing that he was outnumbered and foreseeing the precarious situation that was rapidly developing, Captain Arnold took immediate action. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Arnold rushed from his covered position and ran through the bitter enemy fire to the location of his radio telephone operator. Captain Arnold immediately called in artillery support and exposed himself to the hail of enemy bullets once again as he courageously moved throughout the area directing the supporting fire and the firepower of his own men. As the firefight raged on, Captain Arnold was all over the perimeter, giving aid and comfort to the wounded, and encouragement to his men. In one instance Captain Arnold, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, rushed across the perimeter through the murderous fire of the enemy, to the aid of one of his wounded men, and carried him to safety of the perimeter where he administered the badly needed medical attention. After the enemy was beaten back into the seclusion of the jungle, Captain Arnold personally led a small patrol outside the perimeter to police up the discarded weapons of the enemy. Captain Arnold's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army. (HQ, AD; General Orders Number 752; 26 September 1967)

19 June 1966

PFC Charles W. Campbell (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force: Private First Class Campbell distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 19 June 1966, near DAK TO, Republic of Vietnam. During a routine sweep and destroy mission, the Recondo platoon suddenly received heavy sniper fire from three well-hidden Viet Cong positions. Private Campbell, acting without orders, immediately assaulted the general area of the snipers in an effort to quell the murderous fire. Although subjected to intense enemy fire, he continued forward and charged the Viet Cong, killing one with his M-16 rifle and causing two others to flee. He then opened fire, killing one more before his ammunition was expended. Private Campbell's devotion to duty and personal courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ; 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 92; 18 January 1967)

19 June 1967

1SG Frank R. Creed (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. First Sergeant Creed distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 19 June 1967, near DUC PHO, in the Republic of Vietnam. While on an operation, First Sergeant Creed's company set up their position with a rifle platoon in an ambush position. Shortly after the ambush had been established three enemy soldiers moved through the rear security element undetected. When the enemy soldiers opened fire, First Sergeant Creed, realizing the dangerous situation that had developed jumped to his feet and began to reorganize the command post element. As First Sergeant Creed continued to direct his men, he suddenly observed one of his men who had been wounded and lay in an exposed area. With complete disregard for his own safety, First Sergeant Creed dashed through the withering enemy fire and pulled the wounded man to safety. First Sergeant Creed continued to expose himself to the enemy fire while directing the evacuation of the wounded man. Only after the wounded man had been safely evacuated did he move back to the battle area and continued to direct his men. As a result of First Sergeant Creed's actions, three enemy soldiers were killed, and three enemy automatic weapons were captured. First Sergeant Creed's devotion to duty and personal courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 1494; 19 July 1967)

19 June 1968



1LT Robert H. Adams Jr. (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (2-OLC) for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 June 1968. First Lieutenant Adams distinguished himself while serving as an aid to the Assistant Division Commander during the conduct of a sweep operation undertaken by Company B, 1st Battalion, (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, in the vicinity of the small village of CHI CIA LE CHANH, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. Company B was sweeping an area adjacent to the village when it encountered a heavily mined area. As a result of the consequent mine detonations, the company sustained twenty-four wounded and one killed. First Lieutenant Adams immediately organized a litter detail and fearlessly led it into the uncleared mine field to extract the wounded troopers. With utter disregard for his personal safety, First Lieutenant Adams dauntlessly entered the dangerous area on numerous subsequent occasions to minister to the needs of the wounded. His masterful knowledge of landmine warfare being indeed a significant factor in preventing further loss of lives. Under his expert direction and obvious calm, the casualties were swiftly evacuated by medical evacuation helicopters without further casualties. First Lieutenant Adams' personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st General Orders Number 7791; 19 October 1968)



19 June 1969



SFC William Lawrence Jr. (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). Platoon Sergeant Lawrence distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 19 June 1969 while serving as leader of a platoon securing Fire Support Base TOMAHAWK south of HUE. Shortly after midnight, the entire base perimeter was subjected to fierce attack by a reinforced battalion of North Vietnamese. During the initial mortar and rocket barrage, Sergeant Lawrence was wounded in the face from shrapnel, but despite his wound, he ran from bunker to bunker, directing fire, administering first aid and engaging enemy sappers with grenade and rifle fire. After repelling the sappers who had penetrated the perimeter, Sergeant Lawrence undertook the mission of re-securing an outpost which had been completely overrun and occupied by the enemy force. He quickly organized a small squad and began assaulting the outpost located on a hilltop approximately one hundred meters from the perimeter. As his men began moving up the slope, they came under heavy rocket-propelled grenade fire. Despite wounds in both arms, he continued to lead his squad in a final charge to recapture the outpost. He then set up a hasty defense around the hilltop, had the casualties returned to the main perimeter for evacuation, and held the outpost against additional hostile assaults. Platoon Sergeant Lawrence's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, ASARV; General Orders Number 102; 12 January 1970)

20 June 1968



LTC Leslie D. Carter Jr. (HHC/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. Lieutenant Colonel Leslie D. Carter Jr. Distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 20 June 1968 while serving as Battalion Commander of the 1st Battalion (Airmobile) 502nd on a search and destroy mission at the village of AP NIEN PHO, QUANG DIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel Carter was moving through the village with a bunker search team consisting of Army of the Republic of Vietnam Agents and paratroopers of Bravo Company. A series of bunkers were found. As an explanation of the bunkers was given to Lieutenant Colonel Carter, an enemy insurgent started to come out of the second bunker, Lieutenant Colonel Carter jumped on top of the trap door, thus pinning the insurgents arm preventing him from throwing a hand grenade. As Lieutenant Colonel Carter was directing his men into safe positions, two enemy Soldiers came out of similar holes on his left. Lieutenant Colonel Carter shot them before they could fire their weapons. As they tried to get the Soldier out of the bunker, he tried to throw a grenade and he was killed. As a result of Lieutenant Colonel Carter's personal bravery and swift actions the enemy was defeated, and no friendly casualties taken. Lieutenant Colonel Carter's personal courage and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 7607; 14 Oct 1968)

21 June 1968



LTC Leslie D. Carter Jr. (HHC/1-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 June 1968. Lieutenant Colonel Carter distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as the Battalion Commander of the First Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry on a combat operation in the Republic of Vietnam. During the early morning hours Lieutenant Colonel Carter was directing the assault of Company B from his command and control helicopter on the village of Bao La, QUANG DIEN District, THUA THIEN Province. When the assault element passed several enemy bunkers without seeing them, Lieutenant Colonel Carter observed movement of enemy soldiers. He immediately realized the potential danger. A few yards to the north of these bunkers, the assault element received intense fire and was forced momentarily to halt the advance. This move placed the company command group in extreme danger, since they were directly in front of the enemy bunkers. With the assault element engaged with an enemy to their front, and the rear security too removed to be of immediate assistance, Lieutenant Colonel Carter landed his helicopter approximately fifty meters from the bunker and advanced on it. He exposed himself to fire both from the bunker and the enemy force to the front. He led the attack on the bunker, and quickly destroyed it, killing three Viet Cong. His bravery was a turning point in the battle, both inspiring the men of the assault group, and eliminating a threat to the advancing troops. Lieutenant Colonel Carter's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 9853; 26 November 1968)

22 June 1967

LTC Harry A. Buckley (HHC 2-502 IN) was awarded the Air Medal with Valor (2-OLC) for heroism in connection with military operation against a hostile force. Lieutenant Colonel Buckley distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 22 June 1967 near DUC PHO, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance mission, Lieutenant Colonel Buckley, flying in the command and control helicopter, detected a group of people moving across an open area. He immediately directed the pilot of the helicopter to make a low pass over the area to determine if the people were friendly or enemy, and the helicopter passed over the area they were suddenly brought under heavy ground fire and received several hits. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Colonel Buckley direct the helicopter pilot to make another low pass at the area in an attempt to locate the area where the enemy fire was coming from. As the helicopter passed over the area they were again fired upon. This time, Colonel Buckley directed the gunners to open fire and the enemy position was neutralized. Lieutenant Colonel Buckley's devotion to duty and personal courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United State Army. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 1463; 15 July 1967)





# 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

