



STRIKE

Vietnam War Weekly History



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

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



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



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



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

- 15 December 1967 2BDE's colors arrive at CU CHI BASE CAMP, Republic of Vietnam.
- 15 December 1968 A/1-502 IN secured FSB T-BONE and conducted local patrols and ambushes. C/1-502 IN, 26 elements were OPCON to A/1-502 IN. They conducted RIF operation from LZ SALLY to vicinity YD6020, while concluding RIF they heard a SA shot. On investigation, they found freshly cooked rice alongside the trail, vicinity YD6121 and later 3 VC. The VC fired on B/1-502 IN (negative casualties), fire was returned, and the VC fled, and gunships were called in on suspected locations. Upon searching the area, negative bodies were found, but they did find 3 hooches which contained various gear, ammo, propaganda material and personal effects. Two blood trails were also found. B/1-502 IN followed the blood trails with negative results. C/1-502 IN is OPCON to 1-501 IN BN. D/1-502 IN secured AN LO BRIDGE. D/1-502 IN, 16 elements, CA'd to vicinity YD6019 and became OPCON to B/1-502 IN. Recon moved by vehicle from LZ SALLY to AN LO where they utilized a super contact team.
- 15 – 16 December 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A combined operation with the 13th Coastal Group, PHYU LOC District HA S2 section k, the BDE MP's, A/2-502 IN 30, C/2-502 IN 20 & 30, and BN S2 Interrogation Center. The operation was directed toward the large number of sampans moving in the DAM CAU HAI Bay recently. The enemy has been known to use this method of transporting troops and supplies. The concept of the operation was to sweep the Bay at midnight and during the early morning hours with the Coastal Group PBR's and the ARVN Junks acted as a blocking force along the N-S grid lines ZD06. All personnel and sampans were herded into collection point at BACH THACH (H) (ZD038025). Land blocking position were established to preclude anyone escaping by land at the following locations: A 30 (ZC040025); C 20 & C30 (YC987070) to (ZC0103). The operation started 152030 December with a sweep from NW to SE of the Bay (Negative results); a second sweep was conducted 160445 December resulting in 11 sampans and 52 detainees; 26 Adults were classified as curfew violators. A Medcap was conducted in conjunction with the interrogation. Trained PRU's from HUE were flown in to the JIC on the morning of 16 Dec. The operation was concluded that afternoon.
- On 15DEC, C/2-502 IN took responsibility of Bridge 4 and Recon was released from their OPCON and was given the mission of securing FSB ROY (ZC057029). (HQ, 2-502 IN, AAR, 31 January 1969)
- 15 December 1969 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** 1-502 IN BN continued to conduct normal operations with negative contact.
- 15 December 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** The 81mm mortars section found six 60mm mortar rounds with charges and safety pine sat grid YD773091. The rounds were about six months old. A/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon found 15 to 20 fighting positions and a bunker at grid YD845035. The bunker had fields of fire out in front of it. The complex is at least a year old and there was no sign of recent activity. To the west is a north-south stream and to the east a trail that runs NE-SW.
- 16 December 1967 A/2-501 IN and CMD GRP at 1130H, closed into BN Area. B/2-501 IN and E/2-501 IN at 1200H, closed into BN Area. (2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officers Log; 16 December 1967)
- 16 December 1968 Two villagers provided Screaming Eagles information that led to the killing of one enemy and the discovery of two other enemy killed near PHU LOC. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon – The Chain Gang – engaged two-armed VC, who discarded their weapons and fled into a group of civilians. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 1); Spring 1968-69)
- 16 December 1968 B/1-502 IN had light contact, vicinity YD6119 which they engaged 3 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA and 2 VC WIA. B/1-502 IN had 1 US slightly wounded. C/1-502 IN (-) returned to LZ SALLY from OPCON to 1-501 IN BN via "hook" from FSB SANDY. Recon platoon with 2 platoons of PF departed AN LO to RIF, vicinity YD6131. C/1-502 IN, 26 elements, conducted Eagle flight from LZ SALLY to vicinity YD6238. Gunship escort engaged 2 VC with negative results.
- 16 December 1969 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** A/1-502 IN continued to provide security at FSB ARSENAL and POHL BRIDGE. B/1-502 IN continued to provide security at FSB BIRMINGHAM. B/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon found 2 tunnels inside a stream bank vicinity YD807093. There were negative signs of recent use. D/1-502 IN conducted patrols vicinity YD794063 and YD810048. D/1-502 IN conducted patrols. D/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon returned from a stand-down at EAGLE BEACH and conducted a C/A from FSB BIRMINGHAM to YD784105. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon conducted MAP's vicinity YD786008 and YD778998. All results were negative.
- 16 December 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** B/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon, 3rd squad found a VC/NVA trail running N-NE at grid YD770012. They estimated about ten VC/NVA used this trail within the last four days.



- 17 December 1967 2-501 IN BN, Caulk 42 arrived at 0410H. The battalion had 7 left personnel on chalk 43, and 2-501 IN BN will be completed. From BIEN HOA: All 2-501 IN BN elements closed at 0655H and will depart by convoy today. C/2-501 IN reported at 1150H ETA from SAIGON to CU CHI is 60min. At 0811H, D/2-501 IN found Tunnel 1 at 200m right of CP#2 at XT665172, Tunnel 2 100m right of CP#3 at XT685182, Tunnel 3 75m east of CP#2 at XT663172; all tunnels appear to be old and not recently used. AT 0830H, D/2-501 IN discovered tunnel near CP#3 at XT687181. At 0835H, D/2-501 IN found tunnel 250m east of CP#3 south tunnel located at above entrance at XT688181. At 0845H, D/2-501 IN found some equipment of US issue. (2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officers Log; 17 December 1967)
- 17 December 1968 A/1-502 IN conducted security of FSB T-BONE with A/1-502 IN, 16 element RIF to LZ SALLY. A/1-502 IN (-) was lifted via "hook" from FSB T-BONE to LZ SALLY. B/1-502 IN continued RIF operations, vicinity YD6121. B/1-502 IN sprang and ambush, vicinity YD6120 against unknown size enemy element. Illumination and artillery were called in with negative results. C/1-502 IN (-) was lifted from LZ SALLY to FSB T-BONE. C/1-502 IN, 26 element and 2 PF platoons conducted search and clear operation, vicinity YD6139. The area had just been swept by 3-5 task force, but C/1-502 IN, 26 element and PF's killed 3 VC and captured 2 weapons. D/1-502 IN secured AN LO BRIDGE.
- 17 December 1969 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** A/1-502 IN continued to secure FSB ARSENAL and POHL BRIDGE. B/1-502 IN provided security for FSB BIRMINGHAM. C/1-502 IN conducted patrols. D/1-502 IN, 1st platoon conducted training and joint operations with 110th and 111th PF platoons. The rest of the company conducted patrols. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon also conducted patrols vicinity YD768997 and YD795010. At YD775995 Recon platoon found 1 NVA body 150 meters from the site of Recon contact approximately 1 month ago. The cause of death was small arms fire and documents were on the body.
- 17 December 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** D/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon at grid YD775018 was cleaning up at a stream when one NVA came up to the stream. Security Soldiers and NVA spotted each other at the same time. NVA dropped his weapon and fled south down the stream. The Security Soldier engaged him and resulted in one NVA KIA and one AK-47 captured and other items the enemy was carrying. Also, at the same time of contact, members of the platoon saw two other NVA who fled north. They were engaged with negative results.
- 18 December 1966 **Operation PICKETT:** Two organic battalions were reoriented in the area of operation with the 1-327 IN BN, followed by the 2-502 IN BN, conducting airmobile assaults into LZ GRANT and attacking south. (HQ, 1BDE, 101st ABN DIV; Combat After Action Report, Operation PICKETT; 15 February 1967)
- 18 December 1967 **Operation KLAMATH FALLS:** A/2-502 IN was air assaulted to the west of the AO and began search and destroy operations to the south. The assault was unopposed. One element of the Recondos was air lifted to secure a downed aircraft for salvage operations. The mission was accomplished, and the element were returned by air to the parent unit. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation KLAMATH FALLS; 11 January 1968)
- 18 December 1967 D/2-501 IN at 0811H found the following Tunnels: Tunnel 1, at 200m right of CP# 2, vicinity XT66172. Tunnel 2, 110m right of CP#3 vicinity XT685182. Tunnel 3, 75m east of CP#2 vicinity XT663172. All tunnels appear to be old and not recently used. D/2-501 IN at 0845H found some equipment of US issue just thrown in the road and not in a cache. (2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officers Log; 18 December 1967)
- 18 December 1968 B/1-502 IN was lifted via "hook" from vicinity YD6221 to AN LO BRIDGE and replaces B/1-502 IN on Bridge security. D/1-502 IN moved via "hook" from AN LO to vicinity YD6321.
- 18 – 26 December 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A cordon and sweep at BAT SON (H) (ZD008032) resulted in 3 detainees out of 73 screened. B/2-502 IN and C 30 affected the cordon after midnight. A PRU team from HUE was flown in the morning of the 19th and screened all the inhabitants of Hamlet. BAT SON (H) is unsecured by either PF and CPA teams or US troops and has been a known supply point for rice gathering parties. D/2-502 IN received SA and RPG fire from their rear while conducting local patrols in the canopy vicinity Z0004996 resulting in 5 US WHA. On the afternoon of the 19th the battalion received information from members of the Revolutionary Development Committee in HUE that a 20-25 armed VC force would travel through NAM PHO CAN (H) YD9604. The RDC provided the battalion with five CHU members to assist in intercepting the enemy. B 20 occupied a blocking position vicinity YD958041 while C 20 occupied a blocking position vicinity YD955045 and C 10 conducting a sweep beginning approximately 2200. Result of operation revealed 8 VC/NVA KIA, 5 AK-47, 1 M-1 Carbine, 1 RPG-2, 1 SKS, and 2 WHA form B 20. On 202235DEC65 vicinity YD805104, A 23 engaged 12-15 armed VC/NVA resulting in 2 VC/NVA, 2 AK-47's plus misc. equipment. The next night A 13 at 2345 vicinity YD903096 engaged 7 VC/NVA with claymore SA, and grenades resulting in 1-NVA KIA, 1 US WHA, 2 AK-47's, 1 RPG-2 with 2 rounds and misc. equipment. D 10 and D 20 plus to Company CP on 21 December. OPCODE 1-7 ARVN Cav, D 30 secures FSB ROY. On 22 December, Recon was inserted vicinity YD908082 with mission of patrolling and ambushing. That night Recon engaged 8 VC/NVA resulting in 1 NVA KIA, 1 US, WHA, 1 AK-47 Captured. From 231800 December through 251800 December, 2-502 IN BN observed a cease fire. The enemy used this lull in fighting to gather rice in PHU BAI Village around Bridge 1. On the night of 26 December and morning of 27 December, the 2-502 IN BN took its toll on the armed enemy rice gathering parties. At 2030H C 23 vicinity YD960065 engages 2 VC/NVA killing 3 and capturing 3 AK-47's. Later, at 260155H, vicinity YD9133105 A 10 redeployed his three ambushes in order to catch the enemy coming out of the village. At 0155H initial contact yielding 3 enemy dead; then two squads perused the enemy who was fleeing South. Contact was regained intermittently between 0215H and 0340H yielding 4 more enemy KIA. Contact was finally lost at 0340; Artillery Illumination, HE, and Army Air flare ship provided support. Final results: 7 VC/NVA, 1 POW, 5 AK-47's, 1 9mm pistol, 1 RPG round, 300lbs rice and misc. equipment and documents. At 0514H vicinity YD983072 Recon engaged 3 VC/NVA moving SW on a trail resulting in 3 VC/NVA KIA, 2 AK-47's, 1 PRG with 2 Rounds and misc. equipment captured. On 26 December Phase IV came to a close with the 2-502 IN BN turned over the Bridges to 1-327 IN BN.



18 December 1969 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** The 1-502 IN BN continued to conduct patrols and night ambushes with negative contact. A/1-502 IN provided security at FSB ARSENAL and POHL BRIDGE and B/1-502 IN provided security at FSB ARSENAL.

18 December 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** At 0235H, FSB BIRMINGHAM took five incoming rounds of unknown type. B/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon thought they heard the rounds being fired at a specific grid (YD761855), the same area artillery suspected as being the launch site. B/1-502 IN 3rd platoon, 2nd squad found human feces on a trail with no paper around it and sandal prints of about six people about three days old moving southeast at grid YD778045.

18 December 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** The NVA force triggered a mechanical ambush set by the 2-502 IN BN, Recon platoon, resulting in five NVA KIA and two captured weapons.

19 December 1967 **Operation KLAMATH FALLS:** Phase IV: The battalion was reoriented to the west effective 19 December. In response to intelligence developed by IFFV LRRPS, the TAC CP moved to occupy the former TAC CP site of the 2-327 IN BN. Two companies were deployed by foot into the new AO, B/2-502 IN in the north and A/2-502 IN in the South. The Recondos and C/2-502 IN air lifted to the TAC CP and were subsequently inserted into the AO, C/2-502 IN by air into the secured landing zone and Recondos by foot to the North. The tree line companies moved to converge on suspected enemy locations on high ground in the NW portion of the AO.

The 2-502 IN BN was alerted and the TAC CP moved to the west to occupy the former CP site of 2-327 IN BN. Reorientation of the companies also began as A/2-502 IN secured the new CP site for the insertion and then moved south and then north to look into suspected enemy locations. B/2-502 IN was ordered to move west into their new AO. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation KLAMATH FALLS; 11 January 1968)

19 December 1967 2-501 IN BN units conducted alerts for ground and mortar attack, rehearsal of simulated Mortar and Rocket attack, conducted rehearsal of simulated ground attack. (2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officers Log; 19 December 1967)

19 December 1968 1-502 IN BN had another day of light contact. One of D/1-502 IN ambushes received SA fire. They called in artillery with negative results. B/1-502 IN, 16 elements, A/1-502 IN and Recon/1-502 established cordon around villages to the southeast of AN LO, along the SONG BO River center of mass, vicinity YD6429. The road QL#1 was blocked off by MP's and all traffic checked. The Vietnamese National Police and local PF's swept through cordon. The results were: Detained 180; Classified: 156 – IC, 14 - Draft age men, 4 - Deserters, 6 – VC.

19 December 1968 In a bizarre incident B/2-502 IN reported four enemy dressed as ARVN troops approached their night defensive position early in the evening. One was heard speaking English before opening fire. The disguised enemy fled, breaking contact. Near PHAN THIET, D/3/506 engaged 15 VC and killed three. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 1) Spring 1968-69)

19 December 1969 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** A/1-502 IN and B/1-502 IN continued their security missions. C/1-502 IN conducted patrols at night ambushes vicinity YD789179. D/1-502 IN continued to conduct training and operations with the RF/PF's. Recon platoon was extracted to FSB BIRMINGHAM.

19 December 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** B/1-502 IN, 1st platoon and 3rd platoon and A/1-502 IN, 2nd platoon made a combat assault on top of Hill 943 in the HAI VAN PASS area and are OPCON to the 2-501 IN BN.

20 December 1967 **Operation KLAMATH FALL:** C/2-502 IN and 2-502 IN BN, Recon were extracted in the morning and brought to the new CP for future deployment. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation KLAMATH FALLS; 11 January 1968)

20 December 1967 1-502 IN BN (First Strike) wanted to know if 2-501 IN BN were firing 81mm mortar that contacted companies. Negative was reported. (2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officers Log; 20 December 1967)

20 December 1968 Cordon operations were continued the next day with the following results: Detained: 43; Classified: 31 – IC, 10 - Draft age men, 1 – Deserter, 1 - Civil Offender

20 December 1968 In response to intelligence, C/2-502 IN engaged an enemy squad, killing seven and capturing seven weapons, later killing another. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 1) Spring 1968-69)

20 December 1969 **Operation RANDOLPH GLEN:** A/1-502 IN provided security at POHL BRIDGE and FSB ARSENAL. B/1-502 IN provided security at FSB BIRMINGHAM. C/1-502 IN conducted patrols and night ambushes. D/1-502 IN conducted training and joint operations with the 110 and 111 PF platoons and the 221st RF Company. Recon platoon was at EAGLE BEACH for a stand-down.

20 December 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** D/1-502 IN, 3rd platoon found a booby trap consisting of a 60mm mortar round and a pressure type release at grid YD775029. The round was on the east ridge of an LZ on a trail in the area, which had was one-foot-wide, heading east and had tracks of three to five people, about five days old. The booby trap was blown in place.

21 December 1967 Platoon leaders and platoon sergeants from 2BDE began accompanying units of the 25th Infantry Division in local operations in the CU CHI district, Vietnam.

21 December 1967 2-501 IN BN, Mortar platoon, 4.2 mortar at 1830H, reported at coordinate 65991633. 3 Soldiers on position with basic load of 5.56mm, 98 rounds of 4.2 H. Will be monitoring Mortar platoon net. (2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officers Log; 21 December 1967)



21 December 1967

Operation KLAMATH FALLS: C/2-502 IN was inserted into an LZ secured by A/2-502 IN and from there moved west into assigned AO. 2-502 IN BN, Recon moved north by foot into assigned AO. A/2-502 IN found a recently used base camp. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation KLAMATH FALLS; 11 January 1968)

21 December 1968

A/1-502 IN had no actual contact but found one NVA/VC base camp. The bunkers contained 3 rifles, various cooking utensils, food and ammo. They also found 2 fresh graves (VC KIA by artillery) Recon/1-502 and 2 PF platoons conducted search and clear operations, vicinity YD6028. They killed 7 VC and captured 3 VC. The VC was all hiding in spider holes and bunkers. Also captured were 3 weapons, ammo, and some documents.

21 December 1969

Operation RANDOLPH GLEN: A/1-502 IN BN, 1st platoon relieved from Pohl Bride conducted a combat assault –YD 803053 no action. Moved South toward objective and blocking position against supposed NVA regiment heading North in the valley and observed 2 enemy along river bank duck into elephant grass. The platoon fired up the area and called in pink team air support. The Loach worked the area and received fire from the VC, popped smoke and cobra came in and fired its rockets. Visual inspection of the area revealed no bodies. Following day, a tracker dog team was called in but lost a blood trail. The Battalion Commander Major Keener credited 1st platoon with an enemy kill for a body found downstream a couple of days following the contact.



21 December 1969

Operation RANDOLPH GLEN: B/1-502 IN continued to secure FSB BIRMINGHAM. C/1-502 IN continued to conduct patrols and ambushes. D/1-502 IN continued to train and operate with RF/PF's. The company also assumed the security of POHL BRIDGE.

21 December 1970

Operation JEFFERSON GLEN: 1-502 IN BN, Recon team two spotted several people at grid YD78106. They were unable to identify the individuals who seemed to be wandering around the area. Artillery was employed with negative results. Recon team one found old tunnels at grid YD785090. They checked out the area and fifty meters away they found another old caved tunnel. They all ran north or northeast and were at least one-year-old.



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

2 x Bronze Star Medal (2 x Posthumously)
 2 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
 3 x Purple Heart Medal (3 x Posthumously)
 1 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
 37 x Combat Infantryman Badge
 1 x Died of Non-Hostile Injuries or Illness

15 December 1965



SGT James W. Grey (B/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 received in hostile ground action in the Province not reported, Republic of Vietnam.

16 December 1968



PFC James M. Ludwig (B/1-502) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action which resulted in his death while on combat operation when mistaken for hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

16 December 1970



SGT Val C. Robinson (D/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile injury as a ground casualty from injuries received on 6 December 1970 while he was dynamiting a helicopter landing zone when crushed by a falling tree in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

21 December 1968



SGT Edward C. McHenry (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds during combat operations when encountered hostile force in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

21 December 1971

The following Soldiers from A/2-501 IN:

SGT Joe W. Bishop	SGT James E. McArthur	SGT James R. Pooler	SGT Barry L. Rooks
SGT Stephen Soto	SGT Gregg H. Todd	SGT Marvin Vanderark	SGT Thomas Weksh
PFC Bruce R. Larson	PFC David A. Menning	PFC Robert D. Smith	SP4 David L. Dortch
SGT Robert E. O'Bryan	1LT James C. Chandler	SGT Ruben A. Qeusada	CPL Steven K Aiken
SGT George Barthel III	SP4 James L. Drury	PFC James L. Lane	PFC Edward F. Argraves
PFC David Beark	PFC Kenneth D. Christian	PFC Clyde R. England	PFC Willie P. Hayes
PFC Marc E. Forrest	PFC Donald S. Jones	PFC Robert H. Cartin	PFC Terry G. McBride
PFC Kenneth A. Pratt	PFC Joseph M. Roberto	PFC Craig C. Russell	PFC Daniel R. Shields
PFC Timothy E. Taylor	PFC Pernell Williamson	PFC Levi Winters Jr.	PFC Kenneth M. Whalberg
SP4 Jesse J. Butts			

Were awarded the Combat Infantry Badge (First Badge). (DA, HQ, 101st ABN DIV (Airmobile); Special Orders 10; 10 January 1972)



STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

19 December 1968

CPT William R. McKinney (HHC/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 19 December 1968. Captain McKinney distinguished himself in action near the city of PHU BAI, Republic of Vietnam. Captain McKinney organized his company into two blocking platoons and a sweep platoon to sweep the village of LOU AN, Republic of Vietnam. Realizing that his presence should be where he could most effectively direct any contact, Captain McKinney went with the sweeping platoon. At 2130 hours, the blocking platoons moved into position on the outskirts of the village, and the First Platoon began its sweep. The sweep platoon, in its search of the village, encountered several groups(?) of enemy in houses. In each case, Captain McKinney, with complete disregard for his own safety, moved forward to assist and direct the actions of his men. Reacting quickly to the changing situation developed by his sweep element, Captain McKinney continuously maneuvered the element of the blocking forces, ensuring that all routes of escape were blocked. Under his directions, the sweep platoon set up hasty ambush sites to kill many of the enemy they discovered. Others were killed through the aggressive sweeps following these ambushes. Captain McKinney's effectiveness in calling in illumination(?) made it possible for his men to locate wounded enemy lying in wait for them, and his men were able to engage the enemy effectively without suffering any friendly casualties. Captain McKinney's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 1392; 16 December 1968)

20 December 1970

1LT Frank M. Campagne (E/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 December 1970. Lieutenant Campagne distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations in THUA THIN Province, Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance patrol, Lieutenant Campagne's platoon came under intense hostile fire and sustained two serious casualties reacting immediately, Lieutenant Campagne subjected himself to the intense hostile fire to pull the wounded to a relatively secure area. Returning to his position, he called for a directed accurate aerial artillery on the enemy emplacements. His actions were instrumental in saving the life of one of his men and in lessening the threat of any further casualties. Lieutenant Campagne's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 846; 24 January 1971)

21 December 1968



1LT John F. Hay (E/1-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor (1-OLC) for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 December 1968. First Lieutenant Hay distinguished himself while serving as the Reconnaissance Platoon Leader of Company E, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, during a reconnaissance mission near the village of AP TAY HOANG, Republic of Vietnam. The reconnaissance Platoon was searching a suspected enemy location when it came under heavy small arms fire. Lieutenant Hay and a squad leader immediately began firing and maneuvering in order to approach the enemy position from the flanks. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Lieutenant Hay moved through the enemy fire to gain a position closer to his objective. After several minutes of maneuvering, Lieutenant Hay successfully flanked the enemy position and rushed it with the squad leader, destroying it with hand grenades and small arms fire. Through his courage, Lieutenant Hay contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission which resulted in three enemy casualties and no friendly losses. First Lieutenant Hay's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Order Number 1894, 4 March 1968)



ACRONYMS

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

