





January 12th – January 18th, 2020

Issue: 189

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.)

12 January 1968	C/2-501 IN spotted six individuals approximately at DR680111, they went into a tunnel. Interpreter hollered for them to come out, threw grenades, saw six personnel running away from C/2-501 IN to the south. C/2-501 IN had AR firing from flank, proving area. Believed to be form 688115, 200 meters, 80 degrees from their location.
	B/2-501 IN reported that they had three lost enlisted members and looking for them now at location 673128. B/2-510 IN continued to move to ambush site, no further information on 3 lost enlisted members. Enlisted members were to move on azimuth of 110 and return to company in 30 minutes. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 12 January 1968)
12 January 1969	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols vicinity YD5814. B/1-502 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE. C/1-502 IN provided bridge and mines weep security at AN LO. Recon platoon provided security for FSB STRIKE.
12 January 1971	1-501 IN, Recon platoon vicinity YD483117 found bunker complex and old trail network.
13 January 1968	B/2-501 IN had no new report of 3 enlisted members missing. At 0720H, B/2-501 IN had one man with injured leg, pick up vicinity XT673125. At 0827H, B/2-501 IN (Rear) located 3 missing personnel in company area. At 2115H, COL Tallman and MAJ Nicholson informed 2-501 IN BN that they have a chopper first thing in morning. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 13 January 1968)
13 January 1969	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols vicinity YD 5914. At YD 600140, A/1-502 IN, 1 st platoon found 8 old foxholes and an old trail. B/1-502 IN conducted RIF operations vicinity FSB T-BONE. C/1-502 IN continued with its mission at AN LO. At 1000H at YD 607256, C/1-502 IN, 2 nd platoon reported 9 males and 13 female detainees, who were sent to LZ SALLY, classified as IC and released.
13 January 1970	Operation RANDOPH GLEN: D/2-502 IN took the first prisoner of the New Year. The enemy Soldier had been wounded in a previous contact, after receiving medical treatment from the medics, the prisoner was medevacked to the rear.
14 January 1968	Received ground clearance form CPT Justice for firing 4.2 mortar commencing at 0800H in flowing grid squares. 6716, 6816 and 6916. 1-502 IN BN located a mine field 50x100 meters at XT713187 – believed established by French 1955. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 14 January 1968)
14 January 1968	1-502 IN BN heli-lifted to LZ GOLD (XT, 40km WSW of AN LOC, 11km WSW of FSB PARRY, 19km S of CAMBODIAN border, 7km W of route 244, 7km NE SUOI BA HOA River and site Battle of SUOI TRE, 21 March 1967), in western III Corps, and worked that area until 19 January 1968.
14 January 1969	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols vicinity YD 5815. At YD 5815, 2 nd platoon found a campfire 4 to 5 hour's old. They checked the area with negative results. B/1-502 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE and conducted RIF operations in the area. C/1-502 IN continued with its mission of bridge and mines weep security at AN LO. At FSB STRIKE, Recon platoon sighted through field glasses 11 VC at vicinity YD 573175. The VC were engaged with 81mm mortars with negative results.
14 January 1970	C/1-502 IN, 3 rd platoon, 3 rd squad found a wallet containing notes written in Vietnamese at location YD82208. They also had a trip flare set off and saw a man running away. This occurred at 823087. A Recon by small arms was made with negative findings.
14 January 1971	1-501 IN, Recon platoon in the vicinity YD444121 detonated a BBT. Grenade and trip wire device. Results one US WIA. At YD 452119 found TU YET carved into tree. D/1-501 IN, 1 st platoon vicinity YD472112 found cooking utensils and one bunker located at trail orientated N-S. There were signs of activity within the last 24 hours. D/1-501 IN vicinity YD457122 found fifteen pounds of C-4.
15 - 17 January 1966	Operation VAN BUREN: 2-502 IN BN moved from PHAN RANG beginning at 0730H to TUY HOA area. Movement was conducted both by Air and LST and was completed on 17 January 1966 at 1700H. 2-502 IN (-) relieved ARVN ABN BDE (-) vicinity coordinates CQ2230, established blocking positions and initiated vigorous RECONDO patrolling, denying the enemy routes of advance and protecting the flank of the ROK Marines. The results of this action were 4 VC KIA (EST) and small amounts of equipment captured. 2-502 IN BN then moved from position vicinity PHY KHE to establish a base vicinity TRAM MINH CHINH north of TUY HOA vicinity coordinates BQ143513. The Battalion closed into this base effective 17 January 1966 at 1645H. (HQ, 2-502 IN; Operation VAN BUREN, After Action Report 150600H January 1966 – 201200 February 1966)







15 January 1968	D/2-501 IN elements located hootch with fresh food in its interior, also fresh foot tracks leading from hootch. 2-501 IN BN, Recon platoon located poncho, supplies, pistol belt and written notes vicinity XT704115. D/2-501 IN sighted VC from platinum Lo.5 up 0.6 XT 715126. D/2-501 IN discovered rocket pad, small cache of rice, stove and other cooking equipment vicinity 713127. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 15 January 1968)		
15 January 1968	1-502 IN BN conducted search and destroy mission from LZ GOLD. Scattered very light contact made. Negative results.		
15 January 1969	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: 1-502 IN BN continued its mission of providing security for AN LO, FSB T-BONE and FSB STRIKE. RIF operations were also conducted.		
15 January 1970	B/2-501 IN found 14 booby-trap, 11 of which were made of 60mm mortar rounds.		
15 January 1970	C/1-502 IN in the vicinity of 819085 found 2 pair of footprints made by HOI CHI MINH sandals. B/1-502 IN found one hootch 10x18 feet. The hootch was used in the past 7-10 days. In the hootch they found 1 NVA belt, C-rations and chow at vicinity 737025. Agent report indicates there may be an attempt to destroy POHL BRIDGE.		
16 January 1968	2BDE ends its "in-country orientation and training phase" and conducts OPERATION NORMANDY in the area around CU CHI, Vietnam.		
16 January 1968	During the early morning hours, A/1-502 IN ambush on river, fired on sampan. Results, 4 NVA KIA (BC). During daylight hours, Battalion continued search and destroy operations and captured 3 POW's. Battalion formed into NDP's for night.		
16 January 1968	Operation SAN ANGELO: Operation Began (2-502 IN); Locations: Phuoc Long Province, RVN. Task Organization: A/2- 502 IN, B/2-502 IN, C/2-502 IN, Recondos. Battalion Control: 3(-) A/326 ENG, C/2-320 ARTY (DS), Mortar Platoon (DS), IPW, 181 MI Detach. The following changes were made in the task organization during Operation SAN ANGELO. (1) 2- 327 IN BN assumed OPCON B/2-502 IN effective 22 Jan at 1029 hours and released OPCON 27 Jan at 1600 hours. (2) 2-17 CAV assumed OPCON A/2-502 IN effective 28 Jan at 1000 hours and released OPCON 29 Jan at 1000 hours. (3) 2- 17 Cav assumed OPCON C/2-502 IN effective 29 Jan at 1110 hours and released OPCON 21 Jan at 1600 hours. (4) II FFV CP assumed OPCON C/2-502 IN effective 05 Feb at 1310 hours and released OPCON 10 Feb at 1000 hours. (5) MACV HQS assumed OPCON B/2-502 IN effective 07 Feb at 1300 hours and released OPCON 09 Feb at 1750 hours. (6) On numerous occasions platoon size elements of 2-502 IN BN were released from OPCON to various units on Song Be perimeter for defensive patrolling and ambushes. The BDE LRRP's were released for OPCON to the 2-502 IN BN on numerous occasions for the same type of mission.		
	Mission: The 2-502 IN BN conduct heliborne assault into western portion of assigned AO and established a fire base within 105mm and 155mm supporting distance of SONG BE and conducted search and destroy operations to the East and Southeast in assigned AO. Assumed BDE IAF beginning D+3. Elements of 2-502 IN BN relieved 2-327 IN BN in place at mini-firebases and BN (-) assumed mission of BDE reaction force and performed security mission at Song Be. The 2-502 IN BN tasked as DIV IAF vicinity BIEN HOA-SAIGON. (AAR 17FEB1968)		
	The Battalion personnel strength at the beginning of Operation was as follows: Authorized: 778		
	Assigned: 687 Present for Duty: 610		
	Not present for duty: 77		
16 - 18 January 1968	Operation SAN ANGELO: At 0825H, the 2-502 IN BN conducted an airmobile assault into LZ GREEN vicinity YU080138 closing at 1706H. The insertion was unopposed. (HQ, 2-502 IN; Operation SAN ANGELO, Combat After Action Report; 17 February 1968)		
16 January 1969	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols vicinity YD6015. B/1-502 IN provided security at FSB T-BONE with 3 rd platoon conducting RIF operations in the vicinity. C/1-502 IN provided bridge and mine sweep security at AN LO. D/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols vicinity YD 5516. D/1-502 IN, 2 nd platoon found 1 dud 750lb bomb at YD 561158. It was later destroyed in place by an EOD team.		
16 January 1970	1-501 IN BN scored again while on a recon patrol, this time the Battalion discovered and destroyed 17 enemy bunkers about 4 miles west of HUE.		
16 January 1970	Operation RANDOLPH GLEN: The 1-502 IN BN is engaged in Operation RANDOLPH GLEN. Nam Hoa reports D/27 ENG personnel will join the woodcutters who found the land mine at POHL BRIDGE and move to mines location. B/1-502 IN received two rockets from a slick, proximately there were no casualties. C/1-502 IN, 2 nd platoon, a Soldier accidentally discharged his weapon and the muzzle flash cut his finger. Agents reports 12 VC/NVA took 300lbs or rice from the Thien Monetary last night.		
16 January 1971	A/1-501 IN found bunker complex in vicinity of YD520234. D/1-501 IN in the vicinity of YD460117 found six bunkers.		
17 January 1968	C/2-501 IN patrols enroute to Base Camp at 0700H. At 0817H, Mortar platoon request FLA due to one (1) man bitten by something. At 0820H, C/2-501 IN closed on Base Camp. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 17 January 1968)		
17 January 1968	1-502 IN BN continued with search and destroy mission. Light contact during time period. A bunker and tunnel complex were found and destroyed. Results: Enemy: 1 VC KIA (BC); AK - 47 Captured		







17 – 18 January 1968	Operation SAN ANGELO: 2-502 IN BN TAC CP vicinity YU080138 received AW fire. Negative US casualties – enemy losses unknown. CH-47 received a few rounds but flew back to SONG BE. (HQ, 2-502 IN: Operation SAN ANGELO, Combat After Action Report; 17 February 1968)
17 January 1969	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN moved to FSB STRIKE and then lifted to FSB T-BONE. A/1-502 IN began providing security for FSB T-BONE. At YD 586174, A/1-502 IN found an old hooch containing 1 SKS, 1 AK-47, 1 M1 Carbine and some ammunition. B/1-502 IN was lifted from FSB T-BONE to FSB STRIKE. D/1-502 IN moved to FSB STRIKE and was then lifted to LZ SALLY. Recon platoon departed FSB STRIKE and conducted RIF operations.
17 January 1970	1-501 IN BN found 10 booby-traps and a bunker complex with sleeping positions and the 2-501 IN BN found two warheads and a 122mm rocket during a patrol. (Screaming Eagle, 1970)
17 January 1970	Operation RANDOLPH GLEN: D/1-502 IN, 3 rd platoon, 1 st squad is training 25 PF's from 3 rd platoon on compass and map reading. 2 nd squad is training 10 men from the 110 PF platoon on hand grenade and the M72 LAW. Convoys continue from PHU BAI to and from FSB BIRMINGHAM to PHU BAI. Medivac called for and completed for Recon team vicinity YD732138. One man with hyper-ventilation medevaced to 85 th Evac. Hospital. B/1-502 IN, 1 st platoon medivac requested and received for 1 man with fever, chills and sweating.
17 January 1971	A/1-501 IN BN, 3 rd platoon vicinity YD502214 received 2-3 AK-47 rounds, also found a network of trails covered with footprints. ARA employed with negative results. 1/CP/D found ten booby traps on FB KATHLYN. Recently destroyed.
18 – 20 January 1966	Operation VAN BUREN: One company from 2-502 IN BN occupied a designated portion of defensive position of TUY HOA North airfield and the Battalion (-) conducted Recondo patrols. The Recondo platoon conducted a joint ARVN/Recondo patrol vicinity coordinates BQ129539. 2-502 IN BN conducted a search and destroy operation using infiltrated Recondo patrols as guides and blocking positions at 2030H vicinity coordinates BQ1158. This operation was terminated on 20 January at 1745H. Also, during this period, the Recondo platoon conducted joint operations with RF/PF forces in a sweep of a village vicinity BQ150558. The results of the Battalion's operation for this period were no friendly losses, 6 VC KIA (BC), 2 NC KIA (EST), 1 WIA (BC), 3 WIA (EST) and 8 VCS. (HQ, 2-502 IN; Operation VAN BUREN, After Action Report 150600H January 1966 – 201200 February 1966)
18 January 1968	Flame throwers were used on tunnels as 1-502 IN BN continued its search and destroy operations.
18 January 1968	2-501 IN BN at 0030H commenced movement from Camp CU CHI to the village of TAN HOA with C/2-501 IN leading, followed by D/2-501 IN and battalion, and while moving through A/2-501 IN vicinity XT671143, cordon of village in place at 6340. C/2-501 IN received 6 rounds at 0555H, no casualties. At 0600H received 8 rounds SA fire from inside of village and did not appear they were firing at 2-501 IN BN. Village search began at 0730H by 2 RF/PF companies and intelligence platoon from PHUA HOA province. 2-Chieu Hoi's province chiefs were on hand. Results: 19 detainees, 2 VC's, and all were taken to Province Headquarters for further interrogation. 2 RF/PF companies conducted sweep of village with C/2-501 IN blasting, all action completed at 1500H. C/2-501 IN closed CU CHI at 1540H. A/2-501 IN established 3 platoons sized ambushed at XT677078, XT080166 and XT683156 in position at 1959H negative contact. Simulated Mortar Auth. drill at 2300H. B/2-501 IN remained OPCON to CG, 101 st ABN DIV at Bien Hoa; 2-501 IN BN, Recon platoon continued training with ARVN 15 th DIV Recon camping at PHU CUONG vicinity XT809140. (HQ, 2-501 IN BN; Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer's Log; 18 January 1968)
18 January 1969	C/1-501 IN Geronimo's sank four sampans on an unauthorized water way, killing two VC and capturing their AKs. Paratroopers of 2-501 IN BN completed air assaults into landing zones north of the KHE LO MOI VALLEY. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 2, Number 1); Spring 1968-69)
18 January 1969	Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE. 1 st platoon conducted RIF operations from FSB T-BONE to vicinity YD6529. B/1-502 IN conducted saturation patrols in vicinity YD5817. C/1-502 IN provided security for bridge and mine sweep team at AN LO. 1 st platoon conducted RIF operations to LZ SALLY. C/1-502 IN was move by truck from AN LO to LZ SALLY. D/1-502 IN conducted a maintenance stand-down at LZ SALLY. They conducted a C/A from LZ SALLY to LZ YD688318, LZ YD688304 and LZ YD673305. After completion of the C/A, D/1-502 IN conducted search and clear operation in vicinity YD6831, YD6830 and YD6730. E/1-502 IN (-) established fire support for FSB STRIKE. Company (-) was lifted from FSB STRIKE to LZ SALLY and FSB T-BONE. Recon platoon conducted saturation patrols in vicinity YD5816 and YD5817. Psyops operations were conducted in the central area of QUANG DIEN District.
18 January 1970	A/2-501 IN BN engaged and enemy force of unknown size about 20 miles south-southwest of HUE. ARA was called in and three NVA soldiers were killed.
18 January 1970	A 2 ½ ton truck turned over in a convoy located at 728114. The MP's investigated with negative hostile action found. The Brigade Commander helicopter took ground fire of at least 10 rounds at YD549051. Medivac requested and received for A/1-502 IN, 3 rd platoon due to one Soldier with accidental M79 wound in hand. The weapon caught on vine and discharged at location YD717195. D/2-502 IN became OPCON to 1-502 IN BN at 0800 hours.
18 January 1971	A/1-501 IN, 3rd platoon vicinity YD504220 sighted one enemy and employed small arms fire. Results one blood trail.







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.

- 4 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor (4 x Posthumously)
- 56 x Bronze Star Medal (6 x Posthumously)
- 8 x Purple Heart Medal (8 x Posthumously)
- 3 x Died from Non-Hostile Injuries or Illness



PFC Dennis P. Neeley (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds received on 03 January 1967 while on combat operation in the province unknown, Military Region 2, Republic of Vietnam.

13 January 1967



PFC Henry E. Teasley (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 from small arms gun fire wounds on 05 January 1967 while on combat operation in the KONTUM Province, Republic of Vietnam.

14 January 1972



PFC Richard L. Wilson (C/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty during an explosive accident at HUE Southwest Airfield in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.



CPL Robert E. Sharpe (HHC/2-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated in the QUANG TIN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

6 January 1972



CPT Richard J. Hock (HHC/2-501 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (Air loss or crash land) as a ground casualty while on OH-6A #69-16070 when rotor strike on the ground 8km S-SE of HUE in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

17 January 1968



SP4 Robert L. Burrell (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously); SP4 Burrell died from Nonhostile causes as the result of drowning which occurred during a defensive position with his unit in the BINH DUONG Province, Republic of Vietnam.

17 January 1969

The following Soldier from B/2-501 IN:

SP4 James Goodridge PFC Tommy R. Hardy PFC Harold W. Holdren

PFC Donald L. Good PFC Jackie L. Hibbard SP4 Frank Kelley



PFC Carlis R. Gross PFC Frank H. Hilley SP4 Jimmie O. Lewis PFC William O. Hamm PFC Billy O. Hodges PFC William L. Matelski





Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 124; 07 January 1969)

17 January 1969

The following Soldier from C/2-501 IN:

Province, Republic of Vietnam.

SGT Robert E. Alex	SP4 Ralph B. Andrews Jr.	SP4 William L. Barth	SP4 David A. Brooks
SP4 Steven L. Camp	PFC Morris D. Cassell	PFC John M. Clevenger	SP4 Lawrence D. Cluff
SP4 Don A. Coble	PFC Robert V. Cudnik	PFC David L. Doss	SP4 Ronald L. Eaves
PFC Adam J. Engle	SP4 Michael T. Fry	PFC William Graffagnini	SP4 William L. Hall
PFC Lonnie R. Hankins	SP4 Phillip C. Homme		

Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 124; 07 January 1969)

2LT Warren S. Hall (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, Bronze Star Medal (1OLC) and Purple

Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when killed while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated in the vicinity of FSB JACK 10 KM SW of CAMP EVANS, THUA THIEN

17 January 1970



17 January 1970



SGT James E. Lakins (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, Bronze Star Medal (1-OLC) and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when killed while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated in the vicinity of FSB JACK 10 KM SW of CAMP EVANS, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

17 January 1970



SP4 Robert H. Miller (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, Bronze Star Medal (1-OLC) (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when killed while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated in the vicinity of FSB JACK 10 KM SW of CAMP EVANS, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

17 January 1970



SP4 David A. Sweet (D/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, Bronze Star Medal (1-OLC) and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when killed while on a combat operation when a booby trap detonated in the vicinity of FSB JACK 10 KM SW of CAMP EVANS, THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

18 January 1969



PFC Alan D. Ela (E/2-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes as a ground casualty in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.







STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

17 January - 27 July 1969



MAJ Jerome A. Bruschette (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (2-OLC) for distinguishing himself by outstanding meritorious service in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 17 January to 27 July 1969. Through his untiring efforts and professional ability, he consistently obtained outstanding results. He was quick to grasp the implications of new problems with which he was faced as a result of the ever-changing situations inherent in a counterinsurgency operation and to find ways and means to solve those problems. The energetic application of his extensive knowledge has materially contributed to the efforts of the United States Mission to the Republic of Vietnam to assist that country in ridding itself of the communist threat to its freedom. His initiative, zeal, sound judgement and devotion to duty have been in the highest tradition of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon him and on the military service. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV; General Orders Number 9841; 28 July 1969)







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





