





September 06<sup>th</sup> – September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Issue: 223

# 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.









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.)

| 06 September 1967 | <b>Operation COOK:</b> A search and destroy mission conducted in the<br>mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles<br>northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. A UH-1D<br>helicopter carrying the Brigade Commander comes in for a landing at<br>the Battalion Command Post. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon;<br>US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)   |  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| 06 September 1967 | <b>Operation COOK:</b> A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. BG Salve H. Matheson (Los Angeles, California), CG, 101 <sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, leaves the UH-1D helicopter for a briefing at the Battalion Command Post. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)   |  |
| 06 September 1967 | <b>Operation COOK:</b> A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. BG Salve H. Matheson (Los Angeles, California), CG, 101 <sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, is briefed on the tactical movements of the brigade by LTC Ralph Puckett, Jr., CO, at the Battalion Command Post. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com) |  |
| 06 September 1967 | <b>Operation COOK:</b> A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. BG Salve H. Matheson (Los Angeles, California), CG, 101 <sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, is briefed on the tactical movements of the brigade by LTC Ralph Puckett, Jr., CO, at the Battalion Command Post. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com) |  |









D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD831238 and ambushed vicinity YD824233, YD833273, YD832236 and YD815246.

Recon platoon provided security for TAC CP.

## 2-501 IN BN







A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE and ambushed vicinity YD652239, YD643243 and YD662190. A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon patrolled to LZ SALLY from YD652309, closed 1040H. At 4747H conducted heliborne movement to LZ vicinity YD647246, closed 1800H and established ambushes.

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD565174 and ambushed vicinity YD576171, YD584171 and YD568174. B/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted local patrols from vicinity YD565174 and B/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon remained vicinity YD576171.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD596163 and ambushed vicinity YD598162. Conducted local patrols vicinity YD596163. At 1330H, C/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon moved by CH-47 to LZ SALLY, closed 1343H.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD628223 and ambushed vicinity YD606247, YD620247 and YD634215. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon moved from YD606247 to LZ SALLY, closed 1045H. At 1700H departed on RIF to vicinity YD628237 and established ambushes. D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF from OP APACHE to LZ SALLY, closed at 1245H. At 1700H, departed LZ SALLY on RIF to vicinity YD642228 and established ambushes. D/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon from vicinity YD630217 conducted RIF to vicinity YD623224 and then to OP APACHE, closed at 1000H.

Recon platoon OPCON to A/2-501 IN. Ambushed vicinity YD632255 and YD640255. Conducted RIF from YD632255 to LZ SALLY. At 1750H conducted heliborne movement to LZ vicinity YD667232, closed 1800H and established ambushes.

#### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied nigh position vicinity YD614319 and ambushed vicinity YD600310, YD605310 and YD610312. At 1355H, A/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon returned by CH-47 from COCO Beach, closing at 1410H at LZ vicinity YD604308.

B/1-502 IN conducted standdown at LZ SALLY.

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO Bridge and ambushed vicinity YD605285 and YD603293.

D/1-502 IN occupied nigh position vicinity YD697298 and ambushed vicinity YD676297. At 1219H moved by utility helicopter from nigh positions to LZ SALLY, closed 1354H.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD717310. At 1156H moved by utility helicopter to LZ SALLY, closed 1221H.

C/2-34 AR 3rd platoon (-) OPCON C/1-502 IN, 3 Tanks OPCON A/1-502 IN.

#### 1-327 IN BN

A/1-327 IN provided security for FSB BASTOGNE.

B/1-327 occupied night position vicinity YD568167 and ambushed vicinity YD567167 and YD568160. At 1532H began extraction from PZ vicinity YD567168 to FSB VEGHEL, closed 1603H.

C/1-327 IN occupied night position vicinity YD560147 and ambushed vicinity YD652148 and YD561146. At 1513H began extraction from PZ vicinity YD554147 to FSB BASTOGNE, closed 1535H.

D/1-327 IN occupied nigh position vicinity YD558147 and ambushed vicinity YD557147 and YD558148. At 1442H began extraction form PZ vicinity YD554147 to FSB BASTOGNE, closed 1513H.

Recon platoon occupied nigh position vicinity YD552162 and ambushed vicinity YD553161. At 1611H began extraction form PZ vicinity YD552162 to FSB VEGHEL, closed 1625H.

#### 2BDE

HHC security platoon secured minesweep North and South from LZ SALLY.

(2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; LZ SALLY; Commanders Situation Report; 052001HSEP68 - 072000HSEP68)

06 September 1969 Operation CLAIBORNE CHUTE: A/1-502 IN conducted a SRRP to YD752 to YD752078. B/1-502 IN conducted SRRP's to YD777045. C/1-502 IN and D/1-502 IN continued with their security mission. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon conducted SRRP to YD605078.

06 September 1970 Operation JEFFERSON GLEN: In support of Operation JEFFERSON GELNN/MONSOON PLAN 70, 1BDE CP directed extensive repositioning of forces from CAMP EAGLE. Elements of 2-502 IN BN completed refresher training and assaulted to the FS/OB NORMANDY/SPEAR area followed by A/1-321 ARTY which moved from FS/OB TENNESSEE. The 1-501 IN BN moved from FS/OB BIRMINGHAM area to PHU BAI Combat Base for refresher training. The 2-501 IN BN closed FS/OB TENNESSEE and moved to FS/OB BIRMINGHAM, while the 1-327 IN BN continued operations in the FS/OB BASTOGNE/VEGHEL and area along Route 547.

The 2BDE CP remained at PHU BAI Combat Base, the brigade maintained liaison with GVN officials in NAM HOA, PHU THU, HUONG THUY, VINH LOC, PHU LOC and PHU VANG Districts and provided mobile training teams to advise and







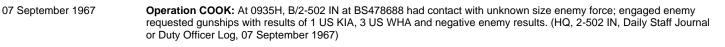
assist territorial forces. The 1-502 IN BN continued to conduct operations in the piedmont and fringes of the canopy to deny the enemy access to the lowland populations. The 1-502 IN BN secured FS/OB ARSENAL and conducted operations in the area. (Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 101st ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 October 1970)

Operation JEFFERSON GLEN: A VR bird spotted two bunkers on the east slope of Hill 274. C/1-502 IN found a grave 06 September 1970 two to three weeks old at grid 752947. No signs of recent activity. C/1-502 IN, 1st platoon destroyed two bunkers at their NDP sight, location 755948 on an LZ about 12 months old. There was no sign of recent activity. Operation JEFFERSON GLEN MONSOON PLAN 1970 starts.

> Operation COOK: A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. A South Vietnamese Army interpreter questions a Viet Cong Prisoner and then gives the prisoners answers to CPT Dennis K. Anderson Intelligence Officer for the Battalion S-2. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)

07 September 1967 Operation COOK: A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. A South Vietnamese Army interpreter questions a Viet Cong prisoner and then gives the prisoners answers to CPT Dennis K. Anderson (Crookstown, Minnesota), Intelligence Officer for the Battalion S-2. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)

07 September 1967 Operation COOK: A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. SFC Irving C. Futch (San Antonio, Texas), medical specialist, applies medicine to a Vietnamese boy's ear which is infected during a MEDCAP mission for ailing Vietnamese villagers in the XUAN VINH Refugee Resettlement Camp as part of Operation Cook. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)



07 September 1967 Operation COOK: At 1125H, 2-502 IN BN, Recon platoon at BS502662 discovered a hootch complex consisting of 25 hootches, one long building used as a classroom and also numerous bunkers were in the area; area has not been used recently and platoon continuing to search and destroy; results area being destroyed. (HQ, 2-502 IN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log, 07 September 1967)

07 September 1967 Operation COOK: Summary of day's events: B/2-502 IN engaged a unit size VC force which shot at C&C Ships results 2 KHA, 2 WHA; 2-502 IN BN, Recon platoon found and destroyed hootch complex; C/2-502 IN captured 1 VC; A/2-502 IN killed 1 NVA nurse. Officer on Duty: CPT Otstott (HQ, 2-502 IN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log, 07 September 1967)

Operation NEVADA EAGLE: 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation 07 September 1968 NEVADA EAGLE to limit and disrupt attempts made by the enemy to extort the VN rice production throughout the coastal plans area and to seek out and destroy enemy forces and installations in the 2BDE AO. Contact was light with a total of 1 contact. Today's statistics: No friendly casualties; Enemy assessment - 3500lbs rice.

## 1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD6899304.

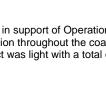
B/1-501 IN Occupied night positions vicinity YD807231 and ambushed vicinity YD804230 and YD805228. At 0839H, B/1-501 IN, 2nd platoon conducted eagle flights from PZ vicinity YD807231 to LZ vicinity YD809221, closed LZ at 0853H. At



07 September 1967













Prepared by Ryan P. Niebuhr

0855H, B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon from PZ vicinity YD807231 conducted eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD802213, closed at 0907H. At 1350H, B1/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted eagle flight from PZ vicinity YD808220 to YD804226, closed LZ at 1321H. At 1350, B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted heliborne movement from PZ vicinity YD805215 to COCO Beach, closed 1418H.

C/1-501 IN provided security for FSB MONGOOSE, occupied strong points along POL pipeline, provided security for LCU Ramp, and provided liaison at HUE bridges.

D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD835236 and ambushed vicinity YD825246 and YD832236. At 0938H, D/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted eagle flight from YD835237 to LZ vicinity YD858237, closed at 0956H. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD845227. At 1230H vicinity YD852232 observed 5 individuals running SW. Engaged with artillery, unknown results. At 1552H, D/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted heliborne movement from PZ vicinity YD845227 to COCO Beach, closed 1617H.

Recon platoon occupied night positions at COCO Beach. At 1017H conducted eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD852252, closed 1325H. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD865262, then to vicinity YD8524.

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE and ambushed vicinity YD644255, YD642242, YD643184, YD651189. A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF form vicinity YD643184 to YD638187, and A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon form YD644255 and YD642242 moved to PZ vicinity YD636252. At 0916H conducted eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD683252, closed LZ at 0923H. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD693244 and linked up with 1 PF platoon which had blocked vicinity YD695239. At 1015H vicinity YD688247 found 400lbs rice and at 1305H vicinity YD690248 found 1100lbs rice.

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD564174 and ambushed vicinity YD577171, YD585175, YD563173 and YD565175. Conducted RIF with Company (-) to vicinity YD567185 and YD567181 and B/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon to vicinity YD575185 then to YD576171.

C/2-501 IN (-) occupied night position vicinity YD596164 and ambushed vicinity YD595165, YD602162 and YD604163. C/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted heliborne movement at100H from LZ SALLY to LZ vicinity YD597162, closed 1215H. Conducted platoon RIF's to vicinity YD588156, YD594155 and YD584157.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD628223 and ambushed vicinity YD604235, YD615236 and YD644221. D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon from YD644221 moved to a PZ vicinity YD646224 and at 0805H conducted eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD617262, closed LZ at 0905H. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon from vicinity YD615236 and YD604235 moved to PZ vicinity YD612239 and at 0957H conducted eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD623262, closed LZ at 1000H. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF to blocking position vicinity YD623265, occupied by 1 PF platoon. D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to blocking position vicinity YD615266, occupied by 1 PF platoon, then continued to vicinity YD607248. At 0930H vicinity YD608263 apprehended 10 detainees. At 1135H vicinity YD621271 apprehended 3 detainees.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD674241 and ambushed vicinity YD662236. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD654235 and linked up with 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon PF's which were lifted in from PZ vicinity YD716244, closed LZ at 0940H. Recon platoon and the PF's conducted RIF to vicinity YD675243 with 1 PF platoon blocking vicinity YD678237. AT 1655H from PZ vicinity YD677243 the Recon platoon and 2 PF platoons conducted an eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD656266, closed LZ at 1733H.

#### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied nigh position vicinity YD614319 and ambushed vicinity YD600310, YD605310, 610312 and YD603613. A/1-502 IN (-) closed to fortified OP's along QL1 at 0817H. Returned to LZ SALLY by truck, closed 1315H.

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD615337, ambushed vicinity YD625339 and YD618338 with B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon at LZ SALLY. B/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF operations vicinity YD6133 and YD6233. At 0900H, B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon departed LZ SALLY by truck and relieved A/1-502, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon of fortified OP's along QL1 at 1050H. At 0945H vicinity YD618338 found and destroyed 1 ton rice. At 1145H vicinity YD620330 found and destroyed 1 60mm mortar round BBT. At 1829H vicinity YD628335 engaged 1VC with SA, VC returned fire and fled SE.

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO Bridge. C/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon and 1 PF platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD642311. C/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD610290.

D/1-502 IN occupied night positions at LZ SALLY. At 0810H, D/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD646370, closed LZ at 0910H. At 0941H, D/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD646370, closed LZ at 1014H. At 1019H, D/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted eagle flight to LZ's vicinity YD640344 and YD655345, closed LZ's at 1050H. D/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF from vicinity YD630382 to YD660362. At 1135H 1 PF platoon was lifted from vicinity YD655317 to YD655345 and conducted operations with D/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon, closed 1150H. D/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon and PF's conducted RIF vicinity YD645343.

Recon platoon occupied night position at LZ SALLY. At 1409H conducted eagle flight to LZ's vicinity YD723314 and YD729306, closed LZ's at 1448H. Conducted RIF vicinity YD720310.

C/2-34 AR, 3rd platoon OPCON to C/1-502 IN.







#### 2BDE

HHC Security platoon secured minesweep North and South from LZ SALLY.

(2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; LZ SALLY; Commanders Situation Report; 062001HSEP68 – 072000HSEP68)

- 07 September 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN killed 1 VC and captured 2, vicinity YD7030, the company found weapons cache with 26 weapons, vicinity YD6234. C/1-502 IN secured AN LO BRIDGE and established local ambushes. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon killed 2 VC and captured 1 VC, vicinity YD7334.
- 07 September 1969 **Operation CLAIBORNE CHUTE:** A/1-502 IN SRRP to YD740074. At YD757074 they found numerous cross trails along the river that had been used in the last 48 hours. C/1-502 IN conducted C/A to YD790122 and YD794105 to establish blocking position in conjunction with NAM HOA District forces. D/1-502 IN conducted a C/A to YD800092 and YD820118 to establish blocking position in conjunction with NAM HOA District forces. 1-502 IN, Recon platoon established a patrol base at YD606073 with negative results.
- 07 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** First light VR bird reports sampans at 802073. District chief from NAM HOA says they are not supposed to be there and to fire in front of them to make them turn around. D/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon, 3<sup>rd</sup> squad reached their objective at grid 773960 sandal tracks which they followed with negative results. C/1-502 IN had four men wounded by a booby trap. C/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon stopped on a trail for a break and sent its 2<sup>nd</sup> squad out on point. Point man, Gary A. Ollstrap stepped on a pressure device booby trap and received multiple chest and leg wounds and a partially amputated foot. His condition is listed serious. The slack man Peter N. Mitchel was wounded in the neck. All three were medevaced to 85<sup>th</sup> Evac. Hospital. A fourth man was very slightly wounded and not evacuated. The rail is hard packed and two feet wide. C/1-502 IN found 16 60mm mortar rounds in a hollow tree five feet off a trail.
- 07 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** B/2-502 IN ,1<sup>st</sup> platoon spotted 3 to 4 NVA lying in the sun. ARA and artillery were employed resulting in three enemy killed.
- 08 September 1966 **Operation SEWARD:** 2-502 IN BN, Recondo platoon conducted an airmobile assault to explicit a LRRP contact in the vicinity of NUI DAC Mountain. Later in the morning A/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN made heliborne assaults to the North and West of the original contact vicinity BQ9050, in order to cut off the fleeing enemy, while B/2-502 IN continued overland to the west to close the trap. During the morning of 08 September, A/2-502 IN received 9 rounds of 82mm mortar fire vicinity BQ876597, as all units continued making light contact. (HQ, 2-502 IN; After Action Report, Operation SEWARD; 28 October 1966)
- 08 September 1967 **Operation COOK:** Elements of A/2-502 IN, move to and secure a Landing Zone on a mountain top in the QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, after suspension of Operation "COOK". Members of A/2-502 IN move to the perimeter of the Landing Zone to recon by fire the valley below the mountain after receiving sniper fire from the Viet Cong. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)



08 September 1967 **Operation COOK:** A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. Members of HHC/2-502 IN hold the flag pole erect as others place rocks and dirt around the base to hold it in place on top of Ranger Hill, the units command post. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)



08 September 1967 **Operation COOK:** A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. Members of HHC/2-502 IN prepare to raise the United States flag on top of Ranger Hill, the units command post. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)











**Operation COOK:** A search and destroy mission conducted in the mountains of QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles' northeast of SAIGON, by elements of the 2-502 IN BN. The United States flag flies on Ranger Hill after it was raised by members of A/2-502 IN at their Command Post. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)

08 September 1967 Operation COOK: Elements of A/2-502 IN, move to secure a landing zone on a mountain top in the QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles' northeast of SAIGON, after suspension of Operation COOK. A UH-1D helicopter, carrying supplies and hot chow for members of A/2-502 IN prepares to land at the Landing Zone. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)

08 September 1967 Operation COOK: Elements of A/2-502 IN, move to secure a landing zone on a mountain top in the QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles' northeast of SAIGON, after suspension of Operation COOK. PFC Michal J. Mendoza (Piedmont, California), rifleman, recons by fire, using a M-16 rifle, into a valley below the perimeter where sniper fire was received from. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)

08 September 1967 Operation COOK: Elements of A/2-502 IN, move to secure a landing zone on a mountain top in the QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, after suspension of Operation COOK. SP4 Leo C. Pugh (Haines City, Florida), medic, and dresses the leg wound of SP4 Paul L. Gibson (Miami, Florida), rifleman, who was wounded by a Viet Cong punji stick while moving back to the Landing Zone. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)

08 September 1967

**Operation COOK:** Elements of A/2-502 IN, move to secure a landing zone on a mountain top in the QUANG NGAI Province, approximately 320 miles northeast of SAIGON, after suspension of Operation "COOK." Members of A/2-502 IN go through the chow line to receive their first hot meal in the past five days. (Photo taken by SP5 Robert C Lafoon; US Army SP Photo Detachment; PAC; Provided by Fold3.com)







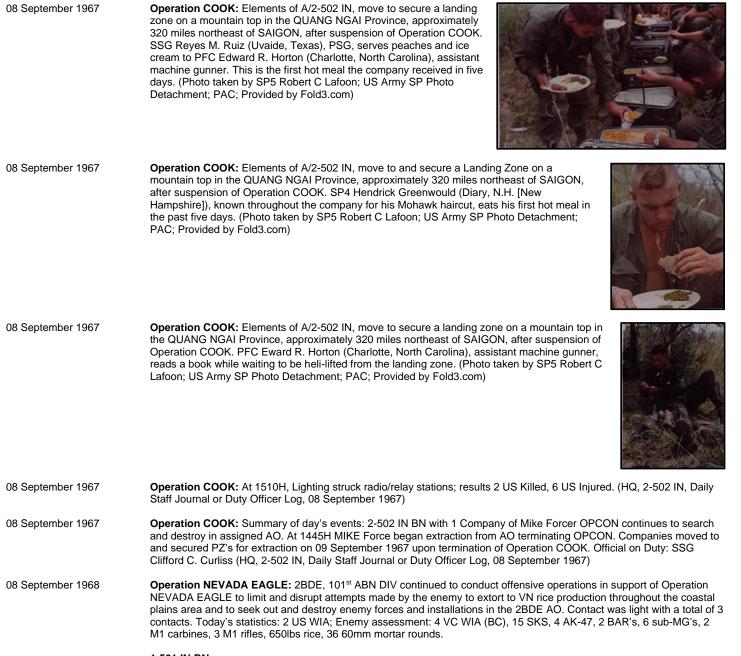












## <u>1-501 IN BN</u>

A/1-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD866304. At 0906H moved by 3 CH-47 sorties with A/1-501 IN (-) to LZ vicinity DY816246 and A/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon to LZ vicinity YD829237, closed 0940H. Secured bulldozers vicinity of LZ's. At 1120H the PF platoon with A/1-501 IN began moving by utility helicopter from PZ's vicinity YD616246 and YD798228 respectively, closed HUONG THUY at 1200H.

B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD802227, ambushed vicinity YD809226 and YD806226 with B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon at COCO Beach. BN CP and B/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to PZ vicinity YD798228 and B/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to PZ vicinity YD806227. At 1410H CP and B/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted combat assault to LZ vicinity YD888228, closed LZ at 1442H. At 1450H, B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted heliborne movement from COCO Beach to YD888228, closed 1459H.At 1502H, B/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted heliborne movement form PZ vicinity YD806227 to COCO Beach, closed at 1506H. B/1-501 IN (-) conducted RIF form LZ to vicinity YD879238. At 1120H the PF platoon with B/1-501 IN began moving by utility helicopter from PZ's vicinity YD616246 and YD798228 respectively, closed HUONG THUY at 1200H.

C/1-501 IN provided security for FSB MONGOOSE, occupied strong points along POL pipeline, provided security for LCU ramp, and provided liaison at HUE bridges.







D/1-501 IN occupied night positions vicinity YD814246 and YD829237, ambushed vicinity YD817246 and D/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon at COCO Beach. At 0915H, D/1-501 IN (-) moved by 3 CH-47 sorties from PZ's vicinity YD812464 and YD829237 to COCO Beach, closed at 1005H. Assumed security mission of COCO Beach. At 0855H the PF platoon working with D/1-501 IN began moving overland from YD816246 and returned to PHU VANG.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD815256. Conducted RIF operations to vicinity YD850245 then to YD866260. At 1115H, vicinity YD856255, engaged 1 VC. A search of the area was made without further enemy sightings. At 1825H, vicinity YD866260 spotted and engaged with SA 3 VC with weapons. Enemy fled and artillery was fired with unknown results.

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE with A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon and A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD684236, YD682228, YD637184 and YD635192. A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF from vicinity YD6318 to YD625198. A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF from vicinity YD6823 to YD704226. At 1606H, A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon and 8 NPFF personnel conducted an eagle flight form PZ vicinity YD706226 to LZ vicinity YD642257, closed 1613H.

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD569174 and ambushed vicinity YD570176, YD577172 and YD582170. Conducted cloverleaf patrolling. At 1917H, B/2-501 IN (-) vicinity YD564175 observed 8 rockets fired form YD556215 towards CAMP EVANS. Artillery and LFT were employed by 1<sup>st</sup> ACD against the rocket location s with B/2-501 IN in adjustment of counter-rocket fires.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD590157 and ambushed vicinity YD592153, YD594155, YD587159 and YD584153. Conducted RIF operations with C/2-501 IN (-) to vicinity YD579148, C/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon to vicinity YD573152 and C/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon to vicinity YD585147. At 1225H vicinity YD585155, C/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon received sniper fire, negative casualties. A check of the area was made without further enemy sighting.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity OP APACHE with D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD623267, YD627271 and D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD606256, YD607247. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon established blocking position vicinity YD616268, then conducted a sweep to the SW to vicinity YD607249 where D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon was blocking to the North. Following the sweep, D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD620268 and D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD612241. At 1425H vicinity YD607262 observed 2 individuals. Point man engaged causing the enemy to flee.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD657246 and ambushed vicinity YD654235. Moved to POZ vicinity YD650260 and at 0835H conducted a combat assault to LZ vicinity YD621255, closed 0843H. Conducted RIF West and established blocking position vicinity YD614253 in support of sweep conducted by D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon. At 1555H from a PZ vicinity YD614253 conducted an eagle flight to LZ vicinity YD677245, closed 1602H.

#### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied night position positions at LZ SALLY. A/1-502 IN (-) departed LZ SALLY at 0810H by truck to vicinity YD632309. Then conducted RIF to vicinity YD655285 and YD655295. A1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon remained at LZ SALLY as reaction force for LZ SALLY and AN LO Bridge. At 1145H, 1 squad conducted eagle flight from PZ vicinity YD655297 to LZ vicinity YD705305. Conducted local patrol and returned by utility helicopter at 1514H to A/1-502 IN (-) vicinity YD655295 apprehended 2 detainees and captured 1 AK-47. At 1430H vicinity YD655295 apprehended 2 detainees and engage 1 VC in a bunker resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC). At 1500H vicinity YD705309 apprehended 1 detainee. At 1530H vicinity found 500lbs rice. At 1952H vicinity YD655294, A/1-502 IN (-) moving to night position engaged 5 VC with SA/AW. Enemy returned SA fire and grenades, then fled leaving behind 1 AK-47, 1 SKS and 1 M1 Carbine. Sustained 2 US WHA from fragmentation.

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD629347 and ambushed vicinity YD626339, YD612335 and YD627340. B/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF operations vicinity YD6034, YD6133 and YD6233. B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon occupied fortified OP's along QL1. At 0725H vicinity YD620338 discovered a weapons cache in a spider hole resulting in 14 SKS's, 2 BAR's, 6 sub-MG's, 1 M1 Carbine and 3 M1's and 36 60mm mortar rounds. At 0935H vicinity YD610343 found 150lbs and 360 rounds SA.

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO Bridge and established a combat outpost vicinity YD613298. C/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD610292.

D/1-502 IN established night ambushes vicinity YD673363, YD678364, YD641374, YD644375, YD653365, YD644343 and YD637340. Conducted RIF operations vicinity YD654334, YD652345, YD645343 and YD634338.

Recon platoon established night ambushes vicinity YD723304 and YD722309. At 1050H conducted eagle fight from PZ's vicinity YD713314 and YD729308 to LZ vicinity YD729334, closed 1108H. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD728336 and YD734337. At 1227H conducted eagle flight from PZ's vicinity YD729334 and YD733335 to LZ vicinity YD729327, closed 1255H. At 1234H vicinity YD729327 received SA fire, engaged 2 VC with SA resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC POW and 2 AK-47's. At 1310H vicinity YD729327 engaged 1 VC with SA, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC)

C/2-34 AR, 3rd platoon OPCON C/1-502 IN.

2BDE







HHC security platoon secured minesweep North and South from LZ SALLY. (2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; LZ SALLY; Commanders Situation Report; 072001HSEP68 – 082000HSEP68) Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN captured 2 female VC, vicinity YD7030. They killed 2 VC and captured 2, 08 September 1968 vicinity YD65?? The VC fled, dropping 2 weapons. Blood trails were found but no bodies. B/1-502 IN killed 1 VC and discovered 18 individual weapons and 8 MG, vicinity YD6234. Recon killed 2 VC, vicinity YD7333. 08 September 1969 Operation CLAIBORNE CHUTE: A/1-502 IN conducted SRRP and RIF operations with negative results. B/1-502 IN conducted SRRP's to YD797061 and YD777055. 1 NVA was spotted with negative results. C/1-502 IN and D/1-502 IN continued with their security missions. C/3-5 CAV escorted 2 convoys with negative results. Operation JEFFERSON GLEN: D/1-502 IN. 3rd platoon. 1st squad at grid 778957 spotted one NVA on the edge of an LZ 08 September 1970 about 200 meters away moving north. They did not fire because they only had a fleeting glimpse of him and hoped he might reappear, or others would follow him. C/1-502 IN, 1st platoon, 2nd squad observed a trail. B/1-502 IN, 1st platoon observed lights 100 meters NW of their NDP location. A nighthawk was employed and sighted a raft floating vicinity YD791098. He fired at the raft with unknown results. 09 September 1966 Operation SEWARD: On the morning of 09 September, B/2-502 IN was lifted to a new blocking position vicinity BQ858605 in an attempt to cut off the suspected large enemy force, escaping to the northwest, while A/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN and the Recondo platoon continued to "Recondo Checkerboard" in the AO in an attempt to establish solid contact with the enemy. All units continued to make light contacts and reported VC/NVA body count and captured weapons and equipment; however, contact with the large enemy force was never reestablished. (HQ, 2-502 IN; After Action Report, Operation SEWARD; 28 October 1966) Operation COOK: Summary of day's events: Operation COOK was ended and 2-502 IN BN was extracted and moved to 09 September 1967 CHU LAI and preparing for new operation. Official on Duty: CPT Correll (HQ, 2-502 IN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log, 09 September 1967) 09 September 1968 Operation NEVADA EAGLE: 2BDE, 101st 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 an destroy enemy forces in installations in the 2BDE AO. Contact was light with a total of 4 contacts. Todays statistics: 1 US KHA, 13 US WHA (12 medevac). Enemy assessment: 12 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC POW, 1 AK-50, 1 AK-47.

#### <u>1-501 IN BN</u>

A/1-501 IN occupied night positions vicinity YD813251 and ambushed vicinity YD832235 and YD813245. Provided security for bulldozers and conducted local patrolling. At 1909H, A/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted a combat assault form PZ vicinity YD818250 to LZ YD904230, closed 1915H and reverted to OPCON B/1-501 IN.

B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD873230 and ambushed vicinity YD876234, YD869240 and YD876237; B/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon at COCO Beach, B/1-501 IN CP and B/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD875252, then B/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon continued to vicinity YD884247. B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF from vicinity YD873238 to YD884226, At 1535H, B/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon moved by CH-47 from COCO Beach to LZ vicinity YD884246, then B/1-501 IN, 3rd platoon was lifted by CH-47 from YD884246 to COCO Beach, closed 1555H. At1814H, B/1-501 IN, 2rd platoon conducted combat assault from PZ vicinity YD882244 to LZ vicinity YD908229, closed 1827H. At 1831H, B/1-501 IN, 1st platoon conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD880237 to LZ vicinity YD908229, closed 1836H. B/1-501 IN with A/1-501 IN, 2nd platoon and Recon platoon OPCON to B/1-501 IN, established a cordon around the village area from vicinity YD904231 to YD882248, by establishing blocking positions to the NW, SW and SE of the village area, and the 12th Coastal Group patrolling the water to the NE. At 0855H vicinity YD886247 received grenades from 2 VC, engaged with SA/AW, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC). At 0930H vicinity YD884247 received SA/AW from approximately 4 enemy, resulting in 2 US WHA (medevac). Returned fire with SA/AW and M79 fire causing the enemy to flee. At 1035H vicinity YD884227 found 1 AK-50 in a bunker. At 1245H vicinity YD885225 found and destroyed 1500 rounds SA ammo. At 1710H vicinity YD883248 received approximately 60 60mm mortar rounds from vicinity YD888245, resulting in 4 US WHA (medevac). Artillery was fired with unknown results. At 1830H vicinity YD908229 captured 1 VC and 1 AK-47. At 1840H vicinity YD908229 engaged 3 VC resulting in 3 VC KIA (BC). At 1855H vicinity YD907227 LFT engaged and killed 4 VC. At 1915H received OPCON A/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon. At 1930H vicinity YD885242 sustained 1 US WHA (medevac) from BBT grenade.

C/1-501 IN provided security for FSB MONGOOSE, occupied strong points along POL pipeline, provided security for LCU Ramp, and provided liaison at HUE Bridges.

D/1-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD865308.

Recon platoon OPCON B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD865260 and ambushed vicinity YD862259. At 2030H vicinity received 4 rounds 60mm mortar fire, negative casualties. Artillery was fired with unknown results. At 0638H vicinity YD865260 engaged 3 VC with SA and M79 fire. Enemy fled East. Conducted RIF from vicinity YD865260 to YD889239.

**Remarks:** At 1959H vicinity YD898250 the 12<sup>th</sup> Coastal Group engaged and killed 7 VC in a sampan.

#### 2-501 IN BN







A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE with A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD663256, YD665247 and A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD620200 and YD617196. At 2054H vicinity YD665245 observed 5-10 enemy moving 500 meters NW of ambush position. Continued to observe until 2137H, then engaged with artillery, unknown results. A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD645249 then conducted cloverleaf patrolling. A/2-501 IN conducted RIF to vicinity YD615195.

B/2-501 IN occupied nigh position vicinity YD564174 and ambushed vicinity YD577171, YD583171, YD564176, YD567173 and YD563171. B/2-501 IN (-) conducted RIF to vicinity YD565172 and conducted cloverleaf patrolling. B/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon from YD577171 conducted a 2 squad patrol to vicinity YD574162 and returned.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD576145 and ambushed vicinity YD581145, YD580142, YD572146 and YD573149. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD568148.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position at OP APACHE with D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD604235, YD615235 and D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD617268, YD626261. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon established a patrol base vicinity YD615263 and conducted cloverleaf patrolling. D/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon form OP APACHE conducted RIF to vicinity YD628317, YD614228 and returned.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD678244 and ambushed vicinity YD683246. Moved to a patrol base vicinity YD675244 and conducted cloverleaf patrolling.

#### <u>1-502 IN BN</u>

A/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD663293 and ambushed vicinity YD663295 and YD663285. A first light check of area of contact from ambush engagement 081952H resulted in 1 VC KIA (BC). A/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF operation to YD654295, YD664285 and YD662299. A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon remained at LZ SALLY as reaction force to LZ SALLY and AN LO Bridge. At 1200H vicinity YD662299 found and destroyed 500lbs of rice.

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD612335 and ambushed vicinity YD613345, YD616335, YD627336 and OP's vicinity YD600310, YD604335 and B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon occupied the fortified OP's along QL1. At 1955H vicinity YD602347 engaged 2 VC with SA and M79 fire, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC).

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO Bridge and ambushed vicinity YD640314 and YD608292. C/1-502 IN CP and C/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon with 1 PF platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD640320. At 0740H, 1 squad was lifted by utility helicopter to a blocking position vicinity YD640325. 1 squad conducted RIF to vicinity YD610290.

D/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD654354 and ambushed vicinity YD636334, YD653344 and YD645344. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD659334 and YD643330.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD726326 and ambushed vicinity YD730327. At 2345H ambush vicinity YD726326 spotted movement and engaged with hand grenade; 1 hand grenade exploded within the perimeter resulting in 1 US KHA (SGT Michael P. Whelan), 6 US WHA (medivac), and 1 Kit Carson Scout WHA. At 0024H ambush vicinity YD730327 engaged 3 VC with SA fire, resulting in 2 VC KIA (BC). Conducted RIF to vicinity YD726326.

C/2-34 AR, 3rd platoon OPCON C/1-502 IN.

#### <u>2BDE</u>

HHC security platoon secured minesweep North and South from LZ SALLY.

(2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; LZ SALLY; Commanders Situation Report; 082001HSEP68 – 092000HSEP68)

- 09 September 1968 Operation NEVADA EAGLE: 1-502 IN BN had very light contact. B/1-502 IN sprang an ambush on 2 VC, vicinity YD6035, resulting in 2 VC KIA.
- 09 September 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A sweep of the flooded coastal plain by troopers from the 2BDE gathered 15 detainees. Airborne infantrymen aboard choppers were able to remove stranded suspects on the coastal plain, as "Bess' left the area in watery confusion. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 4); Winter 1968-69)

09 September 1969 Operation CLAIBORNE CHUTE: 1-502 IN BN continued its normal operation with negative incidents.

09 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** C/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon engaged an unknown size enemy force with small arms fire about 75 meters. Scout dog handler and one man from 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon was wounded, dog handler seriously. Requested medivac, ARA and pink team. Both men were taken to 85<sup>th</sup> Evac. Hospital. Dog handler was dead on arrival. C/1-502 IN had one man, SP4 Wilfred A. Young killed when he accidently walked into the rotor blade of a helicopter. A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon, 3<sup>rd</sup> squad vicinity 837032 found a shallow grave with one body, four to five months old. At 0800H insertion of OPCON elements of 2-327 IN BN to FSB BLITZ began with forward TOC and other elements closing by 1200H.

09 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** D/2-327 IN assaulted FS/OB BLITZ, secured the area, and passed to operational control of the 1-502 IN BN at 0740H. Following this assault, C/1-321 ARTY moved by air to BLITZ to provide support for operations in the area by the 1-502 IN BN. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 October 1970)







09 September 1971

A/1-501 IN (-) MBA to DA NANG for ASP 107 security.

10 – 16 September 1966 **Operation SEWARD:** 2-502 IN BN prepared for and conducted extraction to TUY HOA and further deployment to TU BONG Mountain commencing 1140H. B/2-502 IN began movement to TU BONG at 1830H, with C/2-502 IN and Recon platoon/TAC CP group following. A/2-502 IN remained at TUY HOA South as Brigade IRF, while the Heavy Mortar platoon prepared for deployment to TU BONG on 11 September. This action terminated Phase I of Operation SEWARD and started Phase II.

B/2-502 IN and C/2-502 IN conducted "Recondo Checkerboard" operations in the AO from 10 to 15 September with limited success, while no evidence of the reported 2 NVA battalions was ever found. On 12 September, Recondo platoon was used to secure a platoon of the 20<sup>th</sup> Engineers on a road clearing operation on Highway 1. One platoon of A/2-502 IN was given a Brigade security mission on 12-13 September and directed under Brigade control during that period. At 1630H on 15 September C/2-502 IN commenced movement to TUY HOA South, while B/2-502 IN continued "Recondo Checkerboard" operations pending its extraction on 16 September. Recondo platoon escorted the 20<sup>th</sup> Engineer platoon to VAN MINH District Headquarters on 15 September where it remained overnight until extraction to TUY HOA South on 16 September. The battalion (-) closed TUY HOA South by 1500H on 16 September and ended Phase II of Operation SEWARD. (HQ, 2-502 IN; After Action Report, Operation SEWARD; 28 October 1966)

10 – 20 September 1968

The first of the soft cordon operations was conducted on the peninsula of VINH LOC, a long time VC stronghold.

Task Organization of forces in the operation was as follows:

<u>TF 1-501 IN</u> A/1-501 ABN IN B/1-502 ABN IN D/1-501 ABN IN 2-54<sup>th</sup> ARVN BN 3-54<sup>th</sup> ARVN BN

VINH LOC RF 922 RF CO 955 RF CO Police Special Branch

SUPPORT FORCES Hua River Security Group US Navy Swift Boats Provincial Reconnaissance Unit 54<sup>th</sup> ARVN REGT 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN CAV SQDN 3/7<sup>th</sup> ARVN CAV TRP 1-54<sup>th</sup> ARBN BN

GVN FORCES National Police Police Field Force

Census Grievance Committee Revolutionary Development Cadre 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Coastal Groups

The operation began with the 2-54 ARVN BN and 3-5L ARVN BN occupying blocking positions west of VINH LOC Island from YD940204 to ZD026110 on 10 September to drive the enemy across the water into VINH LOC (D). Simultaneously, D/1-501 IN conducted RIF operations near TD9424 to force the enemy towards the southwest and into VINH LOC (D). At first light on 11 September 3/7 ARVN CAV TRP moved from Col Co Beech (TD8632) southeast and occupied a blocking position to block the escape routes to the northwest from the island. At 0700H, 1-501 IN BN and 1-54 ARVN BN combat assaulted into seven separate LZ's. As the combat assault was in progress, the 3/7 CAV TRP swept down from its blocking position and linked up with the 1-54 ARVN BN. As the 1-501 IN BN moved off their LZ's, PF platoons were lifted from the VINH LOC (D) headquarters and joined the US infantry companies. All units then attacked rapidly to the south in their zones, using the Special Branch Forces and NPFF teams for search, interrogation and identification of the suspects detained.

Intelligence gained from these teams was immediately exploited as the operation progressed. The results of the operation were:

Friendly Losses 2 US WHA 2 ARVN KHA 7 ARVN WHA 176 Individual Weapons 3 Crew Served Weapons 56 Hoi Chanhs 58 Civil Defendants Enemy Loses 154 KIA 370 PW (Of the PW's, 126 were classified as members of the VC infrastructures.)

(Operational Report of 101st Airborne Division for Period Ending 21 October 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1))

10 - 20 September 1968

**Operation VINH LOC:** The first of the soft cordon operation was conducted on the peninsula of VINH LOC, a long time VC stronghold. The operation began with the 2-54 ARVN BN and 3-54 ARVN BN occupying blocking positions west of VINH LOC Island from YD940204 to ZD026110 on 10 September to drive the enemy across the water into VINH LOC District. At first light on 11 September, 3-7 ARVN CAV TRP moved from COCO Beach (YD8432) southeast and occupied a blocking position to block the escape routes to the northwest from the island. At 0700H, 1-501 IN BN and 1-54 ARVN BN combat assaulted into seven separate LZ's. As the combat assault was in progress, the 3-7 CAV TRP swept down from the blocking position and linked up with the 1-54 ARVN BN. As the 1-501 IN BN moved off their LZ's, PF platoons were lifted from the VINH LOC headquarters and joined the US infantry companies. All units then attacked rapidly to the







south in their zones, using the Special Branch Forces and NPFF teams for search, interrogation and identification of the suspects detained. Intelligence gained from these teams was immediately exploited as the operation progressed. The results of the operation were, 154 NVA/VC KIA, 126 POW, and 179 weapons. (DA, Senior Officer Debriefing Report; MG Melvin Zais, CG, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; Period 19 July – 25 May 1969)

10 September 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conducted 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 at total of 2 contacts. Today's statistics: 1 US KHA, 8 US WHA (7 medevac). Enemy assessment: 3 VC KIA (BC), 11 NVA KIA (BC), 1 M16, 1 .45 pistol and 4 tons rice.

#### 1-501 IN BN

A/1-501 IN (-) occupied night position vicinity YD815248 and YD822238; A/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon was OPCON B/1-501 IN until 1230H. A/1-501 IN (-) conducted RIF to vicinity YD833243 to YD853255 then to YD864238, the A/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon blocking vicinity YD860240 to YD867237. At 0955H, 1 squad security element and 2 bulldozers moved to FSB MONGOOSE from YD822238, closed 1308H. At 1400H vicinity YD849228 sustained 4 US WHA (medevac), form 81mm or 105mm round BBT. At 1648H the squad security element moved by utility helicopter from FSB MONGOOSE, closed A/1-501 IN (-) vicinity YD868243.

B/1-501 IN occupied night blocking position in cordon of village; A/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon from YD893237 to YD899233, Recon platoon form YD885244 to YD932237, B/1-501 IN CP and B/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon from YD883251 to YD881248 to YD085244/ B/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon from YD899233 to YD905229 and B/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon from YD905229 to YD097233. B/1-50 1IN (-) conducted search of village area from YD898237 to YD803249, with B/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon blocking from vicinity YD879248 to YD883253. At 0748H vicinity YD895235 sustained 1 US WIA (medevac) from unknown type BBT. At 0945H vicinity YD894241 found and destroyed 1 BBT 60mm mortar round and 1 BBT grenade. At 1010H vicinity YD893242 sustained 1 US WHA (medevac) from a BBT 60mm mortar round vicinity YD803248 sustained 1 US WHA (medevac) from a BBT grenade. At 1630H vicinity YD879250 engaged 1 VC with SA fire, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC).

C/1-501 IN (-) was relieved at 1250H by C/1-502 IN of strong points along POL pipeline, security of POL pumping station, security of LCU Ramp and liaison at HUE Bridges. At 1710H, C/1-501 IN (-) moved by CH-47 from FSB MONGOOSE to LZ vicinity YD869249, closed 1733H. At 1755H vicinity YD883244 sustained 1 US KHA (PFC Daniel L. Carr) from unknown type BBT. C/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon remained at FSB MONGOOSE securing equipment.

D/1-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and D/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon ambushed vicinity YD874303. D/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF SE to vicinity DY902282 and secured LZ for D/1-501 IN (-). D/1-501 IN (-) was relieved at 1000H by B/2-501 IN of security mission of COCO Beach, and at 1102H moved by CH-47 to LZ secured by D/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon, closed 1158H. At 1420H vicinity YD888286 sustained 1 US WHA from BBT.

Recon platoon OPCON to B/1-501 IN until 0939H. At 0939H moved by CH-47 from LZ vicinity YD887241 to COCO Beach, closed 0945H.

B/2-501 IN OPCON effective 1000H. Assumed security mission of COCO Beach.

C/1-502 IN OPCON effective 1045H. C/1-502 IN (-) assumed mission along POL pipeline, security of POL pumping stations, security of LCU Ramp and liaison at HUE Bridge. C/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon was lifted to YD822238 at 1055H and provided security for bulldozers.

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE with A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD622198, YD626198 and A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD647247. A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted cloverleaf patrolling, they moved to a PZ vicinity YD645245 and at 1745H conducted heliborne movement to FSB T-BONE, closed 1750H. A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted cloverleaf patrolling vicinity of night ambushes. At 0855H vicinity YD625198 found 1 M16. At 1430H vicinity YD62419 found 11 greaves, resulting in 11 NVA (BC). A/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF from FST T-BONE to vicinity YD692187.

B/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD564174 and ambushed vicinity YD577171, YD583170, YD5655171 and YD564177. At 0628H, B/2-501 IN was extracted from PZ's vicinity YD577171 and YD564174, to LZ SALLY, closed 0715H. At 0800H moved by CH-47 to COCO Beach, closed 081H and reverted to OPCON 1-501 IN BN.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD568149 and ambushed vicinity YD567152, YD566155, YD564148 and YD560149. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD558155.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD628223 and D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD605237, YD615233 and D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD628261. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD617259, then to a PZ vicinity YD628241. At 1710H conducted combat assault to LZ vicinity YD614208, closed 1735H. D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD643258. At 1055H vicinity YD628262 apprehended 3 detainees. D/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF from OP APACHE to YD688232 and returned.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD697246 and ambushed vicinity YD662255. Conducted RIF to a patrol base vicinity YD660250 and conducted cloverleaf patrolling.







#### <u>1-502 IN</u>

A/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD668290 and ambushed vicinity YD673293, YD662297 and YD666303. A/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF operation vicinity YD663308, YD682297, YD656308 and YD668287. A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon remained at LZ SALLY as Reaction Force for LZ SALLY and AN LO BRIDGE. At 0305H vicinity YD663308 found 8,000lbs rice cache. At 1030H vicinity YD681297 engaged 1 VC in a bunker resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC). At 1935H vicinity YD668307 engaged 5 VC running NE. Enemy fled with unknown results.

B/1-502 IN occupied nigh position vicinity YD617342 and ambushed vicinity YD602347 and YD628342. At 0815H vicinity YD602347 found 1.45 pistol. Conducted cloverleaf patrolling vicinity of night position. At 0815H, 1 squad moved by utility helicopter from vicinity YD628339 to LZ vicinity YD629332. At 1313H, B/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon moved by utility helicopter from vicinity YD602347 to LZ's vicinity YD622330, YD635332 and YD635327, closed 1340H. B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon occupied fortified OP's along QL-1.

C/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and ambushed vicinity YD609285 and YD642322. At 0940H moved by CH-47 from AN LO BRIDGE to FSB MONGOOSE, closed 1045H and reverted to OPCON 1-501 IN BN.

D/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD661338 and ambushed vicinity YD657355. Moved to AN LO BRIDGE, closed 0815H and assumed bridge security mission from C/1-502 IN. At 1510H D/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD610280.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD726327. At 0805, 1 squad moved by utility helicopter from PZ vicinity YD726327 to vicinity YD732334. AT 0902H platoon moved from PZ's vicinity YD726327 and YD733337 to LZ vicinity YD719295, closed 0919H. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD712293.

C/2-34 AR, 3rd platoon OPCON C/1-502 IN.

**Remarks:** At 0740H 1 PF platoon conducted Eagle Flights from QUANG DIEN to LZ's vicinity YD709318, YD715316 and YD721347.

#### <u>2BDE</u>

HHC Security platoon secured minesweep North and South from LZ SALLY.

**Remarks:** At 1630H vicinity YD965135, 2BDE XO in C&C helicopter spotted 1 VC with weapon in the water. The VC attempted to engage the helicopter and was engaged with MG fire resulting in 1 BC KBAA (BC) The weapon fell in the water.

(2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; LZ SALLY; Commanders Situation Report; 092001HSEP68 – 102000HSEP68)

- 10 September 1968 Operation NEVADA EAGLE: A/1-502 IN continued RIF, vicinity YD6630, finding 5 tons of rice, killing 1 VC in a bunker and capturing 2 VCS. A/1-502 IN engaged 5 VC, vicinity YD6730 from ambush, with Negative results. C/1-502 IN moved to FSB MONGOOSE, OPCON to 1-501 IN BN. D/1-502 IN BN moved to AN LO BRIDGE to assume bridge security.
- 10 September 1969 **Operation CLAIBORNE CHUTE:** A/1-502 IN was extracted from a PZ vicinity YD755074 to FSB BIRMINGHAM and assumed security. B/1-502 IN conducted SRRP and RIF operations with negative results. C/1-502 IN continued with its security mission at FSB ARSENAL, FSB ARROW and POHL BRIDGE. D/1-502 IN remained at FSB BIRMINGHAM. 1-502 IN, Recon platoon moved to FSB BIRMINGHAM and conducted a C/A from FSB BIRMINGHAM to YD784163. C/2-34 AR, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon became OPCON to 1-502 IN BN for road security on QL547. HHC, 2BDE security platoon became OPCON to 1-502 IN BN for use during joint operations on 11 September.
- 10 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** PHU BAI received incoming last night. B/1-502 IN reported flashes on an azimuth of 4000 mils, six kilometers distant. A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> squad reported mortars being fired on an azimuth of 5800 mils at 800 meters. Employed 81mm mortars on suspected positions. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon found a blood trail 50 meters from their NDP moving east. They were following the trail and received small arms fire. They returned fire and killed one VC, captured one AK-47, 40lbs of rice and 10lbs of salt. C/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon point man fired at one VC, VC fled SE. KCS with 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon believes there are 30 more VC vicinity of Hill 444. ARA employed against Hill 444 and received ground fire. C/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon found two bunkers, each with a latrine in it plus two 82mm rounds and 20lbs of rice. At grid 772922 they found two punji pits and seven more bunkers with one ruck sack inside. Trails run north and west.
- 10 September 1971 B/1-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon vicinity ZC128964 had suspected enemy movement and received AK-47 fire. Platoon returned fire and 105mm employed. Results: 1 US WIA.

11 September – 11 November 1967

**Operation WHEELER:** Locations: I Corps; QUANG TIN Province, TAM KY; TIEN PHUOC. Type: Search and Destroy; Units: USA – Task Force Oregon – 23<sup>rd</sup> ID (Americal) after 25 September, 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade (2-1 IN BN, 3-21 IN BN, 4-31 IN BN); 4<sup>th</sup> ID: 3BDE (1-14 IN BN, 1-35 IN BN); 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV: 1BDE (1-327<sup>th</sup> IN BN, 2-327 IN BN, 2-502 IN BN, A/2-17 CAV); VNAF 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Division; NVA/VC – 2d NVA Division (21<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> NVA regiments), 1<sup>st</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Main Force regiments (VC) reported in area of operations.; Events: 07 – 09 October – U.S. forces from A/2-502 IN BN, A/2-237 IN BN, and A/1-35 IN BN fight a running three day battle throughout QUANG TIN Province.; Losses: U.S. – 34 KIA, 26 WIA; NVA/VC – 92 KIA.; Events: 21 October - While patrolling northwest of TAM KY, A/2-502





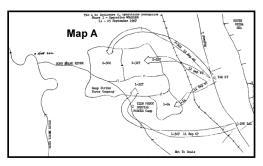


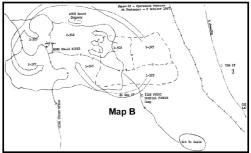
IN BN receives heavy mortar and machinegun fire form an enemy force of unknown size.; Losses: U.S. – 7 KIA, 17 WIA; Events: 27 October – B/2-237 IN BN clashes with a well-entrenched NVA company 10 miles northwest of TAM KY.; Losses: U.S. – 11 IA, 18 WIA in six hours of battle; Enemy losses unknown; Comment: Operation WHEELER combined with Operation WALLOWA 11 November.; Casualties: Total for WHEELER U.S. – 126 KIA, 498 WIA; NVA/VC – 1,103 KIA, 50 POWs

11 September 1967 **Operation WHEELER:** The 1BDE initiated Operation WHEELER as planned. All battalion conducted airmobile assaults into selected landing zones unopposed by the enemy; however, the 2-502 IN BN did detonate enemy mines on two of its landing zones. The terrain in the area of operation consisted of jungle covered hills, rolling hills with elephant grass and flat, cultivated lowlands with rice paddies. (HQ, 1BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; After Action Report, Operation WHEELER; 11 December 1967)

11 September 1967 **Operation WHEELER General Situation:** 1BDE of the 101st ABN DIV was OPCON to the Americal Division in September 1967. The mission assigned to the Brigade in Operation WHEELER was, " ... to conduct search and destroy operations commencing 11 September 1967 northwest of TAM KY (BT0627) to find, fix, and destroy VC/NVA forces and to neutralize VC/NVA base camps."

The brigade conducted saturation patrolling and ambushes throughout the operation. Phase I (Map A) began on 11 September and closed on 25 September. Phase II (Map B) began on 26 September and closed on 8 October. I recall that we were searching for elements of an NVA division, but the official afteraction report does not indicate the size of enemy force thought to be in the area. (Charles P. Otstott, Alpha Company CO Sep-Nov 1967)





11 September 1968

**Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** 2BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV continued to conducted 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 at total of 3 contacts. Today's statistics: No friendly casualties. Enemy assessment: 3 VC KIA (BC), 11 VC POW, 1 M16, 2 AK-47's, 1 .45cal pistol.

#### <u>1-501 IN BN</u>

A/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD868242 with A/1-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon vicinity YD865233. At 0712H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD868242 to LZ vicinity ZD080130, closed LZ at 0811H. Conducted IRF SE to vicinity ZD093098. At 0750H vicinity ZD082125 engaged 1 enemy, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC).

B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD869245. At 0947H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity ZD869245 to LZ vicinity ZD071130, closed LZ at 1037H. Conducted RIF SE to vicinity ZD078107. At 1150H vicinity ZD070138 captured 2 VC POW and 2 AK-47's.

C/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD879246 and ambushed vicinity YD881248. Conducted local patrols and provided security for FSB SANDY.

D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD909224 and ambushed vicinity YD907274, YD911273 and YD909272. At 0849H conducted a combat assault from PZ vicinity YD909274 to vicinity ZD048153, closed LZ at 0950H. Conducted RIF to vicinity ZD062113.

Recon platoon occupied night position at COCO Beach. Linked up with air cushion boats and supported VINH LOC operation.

B/2-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD866304.

C/1-502 IN occupied strong points along POL pipeline, provided security for LCU Ramp, provided security for FSB MONGOOSE, provided security for POL pumping station, and provided liaison at HUE Bridges.

Remarks: 1-501 IN BN conducted combined operation in VINH LOC (D) with elements of 1-54<sup>th</sup> ARVN REGT and 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN CAV SQDN. There was little contact during the operation as the VC attempted to hide with the local populace. The combined forces in the 1-501 IN BN area detained 108 personnel (11 classified VC POW, remainder unclassified). The







ARVN Forces operating in the NW portion of VINH LOC (D) accounted for 13 VC KIA (BC), 10 individual weapons and 205 detainees.

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE with A/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD638187, YD633185 and A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD626202, YD624194. A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD628204. A/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD628204. A/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD645184 then to YD636183. At 1527H vicinity YD628203 found and destroyed 10 82mm mortar rounds.

B/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD561155 and ambushed vicinity YD559156, YD560158, YD562148 and YD564146. Conducted RIF operations with C/2-501 IN (-) to vicinity YD570160; C/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon to vicinity YD568151 and C/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon to YD570163.

D/2-501 IN Occupied night position at OP APACHE with D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD608211, YD614206 and platoon ambushing vicinity YD645263, YD644251. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD610217 to YD604214, then to YD614212. D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD640246, YD624243 then to YD618250. D/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted squad patrols from OP APACHE to YD638231 and YD639221 and returned.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD655245 and ambushed vicinity YD663233. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD655255 and YD670250.

#### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD668307 and ambushed vicinity YD677303, YD668296; A/1-502 IN,1<sup>st</sup> platoon at LZ SALLY as Reaction Force for LZ SALLY and AN LO BRIDGE. A/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF operation vicinity YD662307 and YD674310.

B/1-502 IN Occupied night position vicinity YD612328 and ambushed vicinity YD623330, YD619337 and YD630332. At 2358H vicinity YD612328 engaged with SA fire 2 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC) and 1 M16. B/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD637313 and assumed mission of security bulldozer clearing operations. B/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon relieved B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon of the fortified OP's along QL-1 at 1430H. At 1900H vicinity YD637317 received SA fire and 1 RPG round from an estimated enemy squad vicinity YD637318, negative casualties. Engaged with SA and artillery supported, enemy fled NE.

C/1-502 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN.

D/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and ambushed vicinity YD639316 and YD610281; D/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon secured the movement of 2 bulldozers from AN LO BRIDGE to vicinity YD637313, then returned to the bridge. D/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon then conducted RIF to vicinity YD635311 and returned.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD704305 and ambushed vicinity YD708309. AT2240H vicinity YD704305 engaged 3 VC with SA, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC), 1 .45cal pistol. Conducted RIF operation to vicinity YD705305 and YD698296. At 1545H moved by utility helicopter from vicinityYD678297 to LZ vicinity YD26326, closed 1610H.

C/2-34 AR, 3rd platoon OPCON D/1-502 IN.

**Remarks:** At 1615H 1 PF platoon conducted Eagle Flight from FSB OMAHA to LZ's vicinity YD735326 and YD728336, closed 1645H. Operation resulted in 1 VC KIA (BC), and 3 VC POW vicinity YD730330.

2BDE

HHC Security platoon secured minesweep North and South from LZ SLLY.

(2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; LZ SALLY; Commanders Situation Report; 102001HSEP68 – 112000HSEP68)

11 September 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN conducted RIF, vicinity YD6631. B/1-502 IN sprang and ambush, vicinity YD6133 on 2 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA, this VC was tax a collector. B/1-502 IN also had security of Rome plow and RIF operations with negative contact. C/1-502 was OPCON to 1-501 IN BN. A/1-502 IN secured AN LO BRIDGE, local patrols around bridge, they detained 1 VCS. Recon ambushed 3 VC, killing 1, vicinity YD7031

11 September 1969 **Operation CLAIBORNE CHUTE:** A/1-502 IN conducted an air move from FSB BIRMINGHAM to YD769191 and established squad size blocking positions in conjunction with negative findings. C/1-502 IN continued its security missions. D/1-502 IN conducted an air move from FSB BIRMINGHAM to YD790188. D/1-502 IN with HHC, 2BDE security platoon occupied squad size blocking positions.

# 11 September 1970 **Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:** 1-502 IN, Recon platoon sprang an ambush at 763922 on two VC heading south. PFC Blackeik was wounded by fragments from a claymore used in the ambush. Negative enemy casualties. Recon found one 120mm warhead buried near a tree at 764922.







| 11 September 1970                  | <b>Operation JEFFERSON GLEN:</b> 2-502 IN BN moved to FSB VEGHEL with the mission of conducting saturation patrols in the area while closing down the firebase for the monsoon season. There had been no enemy contact in the area since 8 September 1970. D/2-502 IN engage three NVA, but with no results.   |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 12 September –<br>23 November 1967 | <b>Operation WHEELER:</b> The mission of the 2-502 IN BN was to conduct an airmobile assault on 12 September into NW portion of UDEN AO to establish blocking positions on suspected avenues of approach/egress and to conduct search and destroy operations. The 2-502 IN BN conducted search and destroy operations in assigned AO effective 0600H on 20 October. An implied mission was to disrupt rice harvest in the area. The 2-502 IN BN moved to occupy the former AO of the 1-35 IN BN and establish blocking positions to the west, effective 04 November. (HQ, 2-502 IN BN; After Action Report, Operation WHEELER; 24 November 1967)   |
| 12 September –<br>19 October 1967  | <b>Operation WHEELER:</b> The 2-502 IN BN search and destroy operations commenced with little significant contact. The 2-<br>502 IN BN swept to the northern boundary of the AO without significant contact, then shifted towards the west of the AO.<br>On 27 September, the 2-502 IN BN began to make significant contact. From this time to the end of the first phase<br>contacts were characterized by late afternoon enemy offensive actions carrying on into the night. Maximum use was<br>made of "Spooky" and gunships. Artillery defensive targets were plotted and fired on. The terrain over which operations<br>were conducted included dense jungle covered mountains, rolling hills with tall elephant grass and flat valley areas with<br>rice paddies. Heavy rains on occasion limited air support. On 09 September, A/2-502 IN was extracted to base camp for<br>stand-down, and on 14 October came under OPCON 1-35 IN BN. ON 16 October the remainder of 2-502 IN was<br>extracted from the AO for stand-down. This completed Phase I of Operation WHEELER for the 2-502 IN BN. (HQ, 2-502<br>IN BN; After Action Report, Operation WHEELER; 24 November 1967) |
| 12 September 1967                  | <b>Operation WHEELER:</b> On 12 September 1967, the 2-502 IN BN air assaulted into Operation WHEELER in the QUE SON Valley west of TAM KY in QUANG NGAI Province. I went in on an early lift with the Tac CP into NUI HOAC in grid square BT0722. As we were setting up the command post and monitoring the radios and the progress of the line companies, an explosion only a few feet away mortally wounded our operations sergeant MSG Forbes. I rushed to his assistance and began to administer CPR even as I noticed that both of his legs had been blown off. Two medics worked to staunch the flow of blood, but within 5-10 minutes, it became apparent that MSG Forbes was dead. He had been trying to pull out an engineer picket from the flat area 10 yards from our TAC CP so that we could eventually land helicopters there. That flat area had a number of engineer pickets in the ground as anti-helicopter devices and he had tried to remove one that was tied to an 82mm mortar round as a booby trap. He was our first KIA on Operation WHEELER.   |
|                                    | A/2-502 IN had landed earlier a little northwest of the CP site on the same ridge line and had been engaged in a hot LZ by small elements of NVA and mines that had been placed on likely LZs. Steve Arnold was lightly wounded in the face by a mine near his helicopter as he landed. Before dark that night, LTC Puckett said that I would replace Arnold within a few days as that was the captain's second wound. In the meantime, I had taken over as HQ Commandant because the same explosion that killed MSG Forbes had lightly wounded CPT Gorski. It was my job to put in place the perimeter security positions for the CP and that took me the rest of that day to accomplish, being very wary of additional mines that might be in the area. It was scary work after seeing what the blast had done to our Operations Sergeant and noting several "four small rocks in a pyramid" signs that the VC and NVA used as warnings of mines to their friends. Shortly after the CP was firmly established, I was sent to the rear to spend two or three days in preparation for taking command of A/2-052 IN. (Charles P. Otstott, Alpha Company CO Sep-Nov 1967)           |
| 12 September 1967                  | <b>Operation WHEELER:</b> At 0800H, A/2-502 IN vicinity BT065266 had 1 man tripped mine as he left UH-1D on LZ. 1 UH-1D had mechanical trouble; estimated 10 mines went off on LZ. Results: 2 KHA, 14 WHA-A Co; 1 KHA, 3 WHA (Medevac) Chopper crew, 2 UH-1D on LZ inoperative. (1 <sup>st</sup> BDE, 101 <sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, CHU LAI RVN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log, 12 September 1967)  |
| 12 September 1967                  | <b>Operation WHEELER:</b> At 0827H, A/2-502 IN at LZ, vicinity BT065227; 2 choppers down, 3 crew members WHA and 1 KHA, 1 on A/2-502 IN LZ and 1 on Recons LZ; A/2-502 IN has 1 KHA and 15 WHA resulting from mines on LZ. (HQ, 2-502 IN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log, 12 September 1967)  |
| 12 September 1967                  | <b>Operation WHEELER:</b> At 1050H, TAC CP had man trip mine; resulting in 1 KHA, 2 WHA (Booby Trap Report) (HQ, 2-502 IN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log, 12 September 1967)   |
| 12 September 1967                  | <b>Operation WHEELER:</b> Summary of day's events: 2-502 IN BN with 1 Company MIKE Force OPCON made airmobile assault into assigned portion of UDEN AO lift starting at 0700H and completing at 1405H. As a result of mines, A/2-502 IN lost 1 KHA and 1 WHA and TAC CP lost 1 KHA and 3 WHA, there was no heavy contact during the reported period. Official on Duty: CPT Phillip W. Correll (HQ, 2-502 IN, Daily Staff Journal or Duty Officer Log, 12 September 1967)   |
| 12 September 1968                  | <b>Operation NEVADA EAGLE:</b> 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 5 contacts. Today's statistics: 2 US WHA (medevac). Enemy assessment: 7 VC KIA (BC), 2 VC POW, 5 SKS, 2 AK-47, 2 M1 Carbines, 1 CHICOM pistol, 117 RPG-2 rounds, 57 RPG-7 rounds, 5 82mm mortar rounds, 152 1lb TNT blocks, 2 18lb satchel charges. In addition, the combined US GVN forces operations in VINH LOC (D) has accounted for 432 detainees.   |

# <u>1-501 IN BN</u>

A/1-501 IN, B/1-501 IN and D/1-501 IN continued extensive RIF operations and saturation patrols within the SE portion of VINH LOC (D). Contact was light as enemy assessment during the reporting period was 6 VC KIA (BC) and 9 individual







weapons captured (5 SKS, 1 AK-47, 2 M1 carbine and 1 CHICOM pistol). Elements of the 1-54<sup>th</sup> ARVN REGT and the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN CAV SQDN continued operations within the NW portion of the VINH LOC (D) accounting for 21 VC KIA (BC) and 16 individual weapons captured. In addition, combined US and GVN forces had accounted for 432 detainees during the operations.

A/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity ZD093098 with platoon ambushes vicinity ZD092102 and ZD094094. Conducted RIF operations vicinity ZD0909 and ZD0910. At 1030H, A/1-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted Eagle Flight from PZ vicinity ZD092091 to LZ vicinity ZD052143, closed at 1104H and platoon reverted OPCON to D/1-501 IN.

B/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity ZD078107 and ambushed vicinity ZD079112, ZD080104, ZD074104 and ZD076113. Conducted RIF operations vicinity ZD0710, ZD0711 and ZD0712.

C/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD879247 and ambushed vicinity YD880249, YD873242 and YD873255. Conducted platoon RIF operations to vicinity YD868260 and YD892243. At 1045H vicinity YD886245 sustained 2 US WHA (medevac) from BBT grenade.

D/1-501 IN occupied night position vicinity ZD062113 and ambushed vicinity ZD062108 and ZD056123. Conducted RIF operations vicinity ZD0511, ZD0512, ZD0611 and ZD0612.

Recon platoon occupied night position at COCO Beach. Moved by utility helicopter from COCO Beach to vicinity YD879247 and returned to OPCON C/1-501 IN.

B/2-501 IN provided security for COCO Beach and ambushed vicinity YD865304.

C/1-502 IN provided security for FSB MONGOOS, occupied strong points along POL pipeline, security of POL pumping station and LCU Ramp and liaison at the HUE BRIDGES.

B/1-17 CAV OPCON effective 1850H. Element is located at TAN MY Beach vicinity YD827310, awaiting ship for movement south.

#### 2-501 IN BN

A/2-501 IN provided security for FSB T-BONE with A/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD640187, YD640181 and A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushed vicinity YD628204 and YD635203. A/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD639201, YD647197 and returned to FSB T-BONE. A/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD629198. Vicinity YD629198 found ammo cache in bunkers consisting of 117 RPG-2 rounds, 57 RPG-7 rounds, 5 82mm mortar rounds, 152 1lb blocks CHICOM TNT, 2 satchel charges consisting of 18 blocks TNT each and 4 land mines. A/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF vicinity YD629192 to YD636185 then to YD642187. At 1205H vicinity YD632191 found 275 rounds SA ammo.

B/2-501 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN.

C/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity YD572160 and ambushed vicinity YD573150, YD571152, YD573167 and YD572163. Conducted RIF operations with C/2-501 IN (-) to vicinity YD586166, C/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon to YD585168 and C/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon vicinity YD585167.

D/2-501 IN occupied night position vicinity OP APACHE with D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD606215, YD614215 and D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon ambushing vicinity YD628243 and YD605240. D/2-501 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD612201 and YD614209. D/2-501 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon RIF to vicinity YD628345 and established a blocking position, then conducted RIF to vicinity YD642257. D/2-501 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon conducted RIF to vicinity YD637217 and returned to OP APACHE.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD673253 and ambushed vicinity YD676244. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD680250 and linked up with the 225 RF CO (-), then continued RIF to vicinity DY653233. 1 RF platoon conducted RIF from vicinity YD695214 to YD653233. 1 PF platoon conducted RIF form vicinity YD672269 to YD663247. 1 PF platoon conducted RIF form vicinity YD672269 to YD663247. 1 PF platoon conducted RIF form vicinity YD672269 to YD663247. 1 PF platoon conducted RIF form vicinity YD647243. The RF/PF operation resulted in 1 VC KIA (BC), 2 VC POW, 2 AK-47, 1 carbine and 30 60mm mortar rounds.

#### 1-502 IN BN

A/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD668307 and ambushed vicinity YD676311 with A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon at LZ SALLY as Reaction Force for LZ SALLY and AN LO BRIDGE. A/1-502 IN (-) conducted RIF to vicinity YD668294, YD667296, YD656307 and YD652311. At 0745H A/1-502 IN, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon moved by truck from LZ SALLY to join with A/1-502 IN (-). At 1550H, A/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon moved by utility helicopter form vicinity YD666287 to LZ SALLY, closed 1625H. At 1015H vicinity YD667285 engaged 3 VC with SA fire causing the enemy to flee. At 1250H vicinity YD663285 engaged 2 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC POW and 1 AK-47. At 1915H vicinity YD670307 received SA fire from approximately 3 enemy, negative casualties. Returned SA fire and enemy fled NE.

B/1-502 IN occupied night position vicinity YD639309 and ambushed vicinity YD600310, YD605210, YD610315 and YD639323. B/1-502 IN (-) secured bulldozer clearing operation vicinity YD637313. B/1-502 IN, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon established blocking position vicinity YD620323 to YD630333 in support of 2-7 CAV operation, and B/1-502 IN, 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon occupied fortified OP's along QL-1. At 1600H vicinity YD637318 found and destroyed 60mm mortar round BBT.







C/1-502 IN OPCON 1-501 IN BN

D/1-502 IN provided security for AN LO BRIDGE and ambushed vicinity YD652302 and YD622316; 1 reinforced squad conducted RIF to vicinity YD6129.

Recon platoon occupied night position vicinity YD724327. Conducted RIF to vicinity YD735327. At 1335H vicinity YD727326 captured 1 VC POW.

C/2-34 AR, 3rd platoon OPCON D/1-502 IN.

Remarks: At 0745H 2 PF platoons from QUANG DIEN conducted Eagle Flights to vicinity YD737328, YD728337, YD715323, YD725327 and YD707311, lift completed 0848H. Operations resulted in 4 VC KIA (BC), 4 VC POW, 1 NVA POW, 1 M16, 4 AK-47's, 1 82mm mortar complete with sight and 28 RPG rounds.

#### 2BDE

HHC security platoon secured minesweep North and South from LZ SALLY.

(2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; LZ SALLY; Commanders Situation Report; 112001HSEP68 – 122000HSEP68)

- 12 September 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** Increased action in the 2BDE AO accounted for 15 Viet Cong killed. A/2-501 IN netted 11 enemy killed, 340 prisoners captured, and 2,621 weapons seized. (Rendezvous with Destiny (Volume 1, Number 4); Winter 1968-1969)
- 12 September 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** A/1-502 IN engaged 2 VC in a bunker, vicinity YD6729, 1 VC KIA and 1 VC POW. They had contact with 2 or 3 VC, twice more but negative assessment. B/1-502 IN continued Rome plow security and RIF operations with negative contact. C/1-502 IN was OPCON 1-501 IN BN. D/1-502 IN continued security of An Lo. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon captured 1 VC, vicinity YD7233.
- 12 September 1969 Operation CLAIBORNE CHUTE: A/1-502 IN was returned to FSB BIRMINGHAM for security. B/1-502 IN continued to conduct patrols with negative findings. D/1-502 IN continued to occupy squad size blocking positions and then moved to FSB BIRMINGHAM. Later D/1-502 IN conducted a C/A to YD759102. 1-502 IN BN, Recon platoon conducted a C/A to YD769102. C/3-5 CAV and 2-34 AR, 1<sup>st</sup> platoon occupied 4 security positions and escorted 1 convoy. HHC, 2BDE security platoon was released from OPCON to 1-502 IN BN.
- 12 September 1970 1-501 IN BN completed refresher training. A/1-501 IN moved by air to provide security for FS/OB NORMANDY, as C/1-501 IN moved by vehicle to provide security for FS/OB BIRMINGHAM. The battalion (-) conducted operations in the vicinity of FS/OB NORMANDY/BIRMINGHAM. The 2-501 IN BN moved to PHU BAI Combat Base for refresher training and passed to operational control of the 2BDE. (Operational Report – Lessons Learned, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV (AM), Period Ending 31 October 1970)







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

- 1 x Distinguished Service Cross
- 2 x Silver Star Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 2 x Soldiers Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 2 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor (1 x Posthumously)
- 6 x Bronze Star Medal (6 x Posthumously)
- 2 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
- 1 x Army Commendation Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 11 x Purple Heart Medal (1 x Posthumously)
- 1 x Air Medal
- 1 x Died of Wounds
- 1 x Died from Non-Hostile Injuries or Illness

#### 07 September 1967



SFC Ray A. Archuletta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death of gunshot wounds received from hostile automatic weapons fire while on combat operation near DUC PHO in the QUANG NGAI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

#### 07 September 1967



CPL Ronald P. Cherrstrom (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death of gunshot wounds received from hostile automatic weapons fire while on combat operation near DUC PHO in the QUANG NGAI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

07 September 1968



SP4 George R. Dorchak (C/2-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit which resulted in his death when he drowned during a river crossing while on combat operation and was classified as MIA and later classified as KIA on 27 September 1968 in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

08 September 1966



PFC Tommy Morales (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wounds to the chest received during a firefight in PHU TUAN 20k from Tuy Hoa in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

08 September 1967



SP4 Curtis E. Cothran (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for military merit. SP4 Cothran died while he was struck by lightning while putting up radio antenna in the QUANG NGAI Province, Republic of Vietnam.







08 September 1967



PFC William K. Elliott (HHC/2-502 IN) died when he was struck by lightning while putting up radio antenna in the QUANG NGAI Province, Republic of Vietnam.

08 September 1968



SGT Michael P. Whelan (E/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while on combat operation when a grenade he was preparing to throw detonated prematurely in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 September 1970



SGT Wilford A. Young (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for military merit. SGT died when he was struck by rotor blade from helicopter crash land in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

09 September 1970

1970 1LT Thomas E. Hart (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

09 September 1970

09 September 1970 SGT Richard M. McGowan (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

10 September 1966



(Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from gunshot wound to left leg and back received when he walked in front of ambush attack and was shot by friendly force fire in the PHU YEN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

PFC Alfred L. Stonehouse (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal and Purple Heart Medal

SP4 Felton R. Hooper (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in connection

#### 10 September 1968



PFC Alan J. Meisheid (A/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound 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.

10 September 1968



SP4 Patrick D. Fay (B/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound 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.

10 September 1968



PFC Daniel L. Carr (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wound 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.







12 September 1967



MSG Thomas L. Forbes (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from extreme injuries when he stepped on a hostile mine while setting up command post on a mined LZ, reportedly Million Dollar Hill 3km N-NE HIEP DUC in the QUANG TIN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

12 September 1967



CPL Thomas E. Francis (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when he was hit by fragments from a hostile mine while on combat operation on a mined LZ, reportedly Million Dollar Hill 3km N-NE HIEP DUC in the QUANG TIN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

12 September 1967



PFC Calvin L. McDavis (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from metal fragment wounds received while he jumped form a military aircraft and hostile mine detonated while on combat operation on a mined LZ, reportedly Million Dollar Hill 3km N-NE HIEP DUC in the QUANG TIN Province, Republic of Vietnam.

#### 12 September 1978



SSG (Then PFC) Larry G. Kier (A/2-501 IN) was on Fire Support Base HENDERSON, about 9 nautical miles southsouthwest of CAMP CARROL and was occupied by 2-501 IN and 2-11 ARTY when FSB HENDERSON came under attack, first by heavy mortar fire, then assault by a North Vietnamese Army battalion. When FSB HENDERSON was relieved 24 American service members were dead and two were missing, which PFC Kier was one of MIA. He was declared dead on 12 September 1978 and on 13 June 1996 his remains were repatriated, and positive identification publicly announced on 28 February 2002.







# STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

#### 07 September 1967



07 September 1967



#### 08 September 1966







SFC Ray A. Archuletta (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (2-OLC) (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against a hostile force while serving with Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, in action on 7 September 1967 near DUC PHO, Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Archuletta distinguished himself as his platoon was moving a wounded man to a landing zone to be extracted when they were suddenly brought under a tremendous volume of enemy automatic weapons fire. Seeing his machine gunner wounded, Sergeant Archuletta ordered his evacuation while he rushed forward with complete disregard for his own safety and in spite of the enemy fire to provide covering fire. As the wounded man was too heavy to be carried by the medic, Sergeant Archuletta again moved through the fire and helped carry him to the safety of a nearby wood line position. Nearing the wood line, Sergeant Archuletta was seriously wounded and in one last valiant effort he ordered the medic to take the wounded man to safety as he stayed behind and expended his ammunition to provide the covering fire. The outstanding gallantry, devotion to his fellow soldier, and his intense dedication to duty displayed by Staff Sergeant Archuletta were in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army. (HQ, Americal Division, General Order Number 894; 18 October 1967)

PFC Ronald P. Cherrstrom (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor (Posthumously) for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. Private Cherrstrom distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 7 September 1967 in the Republic of Viet Nam. While on a search and destroy mission, Private Cherrstrom's squad was approaching a landing zone to evacuate a wounded comrade when they were suddenly brought under heavy volumes of enemy automatic weapons fire. Private Cherrstrom, with complete disregard for his own safety, rushed forward through the withering hail of enemy fire and fell to the ground in an exposed area in order to place effective fire on the enemy positions. He then called to the rest of his squad to fall back to a safer position while he covered them with his machine gun fire. Enemy automatic weapons fire swept his position, but he courageously and calmly continued to place very effective fire into the enemy positions, killing two enemy Soldiers and knocking out one of the automatic weapons opened fire on him from his flank and mortally wounded him. Private Cherrstrom'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 2007; 29 September 1967)

SGT Burrwood Yost, Jr. (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Sergeant Yost distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 September 1966 while serving as squad leader during a search and destroy mission near Tuy Hoa. As the last helicopter of the platoon landed, the whole unit received intense hostile fire from three sides. Sergeant Yost observed a partially concealed, friendly machine gun, whose ammunition lay 50 meters away. Calling for suppressive fire, with complete disregard for his safety, Sergeant Yost ran across the 50 meters of open terrain to deliver the ammunition. Later, while receiving intense hostile fire, he



organized a fire team that was cut off from its leader. During this action he dove for an incoming grenade and hurled it into the open where it exploded harmlessly, an action which he subsequently repeated three times. He then jumped up and charged a machine gun position 50 meters away and succeeded in killing the surprised Viet Cong. Sergeant Yost repeatedly threw grenades into the hostile emplacements while receiving hostile fire. This enabled the platoon to drive the Viet Cong out of their entrenched positions. Later, while in pursuit of the insurgents, Sergeant Yost led his squad to within very close range of a prepared hostile force before being detected. To clarify the positions of the Viet Cong, Sergeant Yost threw grenades into the enemy positions, forcing them to withdraw. Sergeant Yost'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. (Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 6752; December 10, 1966)

PFC Tommy Morales (C/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action. Private First Class Morales distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 8 September 1966 near TUY HOA, Republic of Vietnam during a heliborne assault. Upon landing, the first platoon and the helicopters received intense enemy automatic and small arms fire form concealed enemy positions. Private First Class Morales, unable to find his squad leader, immediately took charge of his squad. Although the squad was without organization, he quickly organized the squad for an assault on the enemy position. Assuming a job of great responsibility, Private First Class Morales displayed outstanding leadership and courage as he encouraged his men forward. Inspired by their intrepid leader, the squad was able to overrun the heavily fortified enemy position. During the ensuing battle, Private First Class Morales was mortally wounded. His courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty inspired his comrades immeasurably. Private Morales' unimpeachable valor, at the cost of his own life, is in keeping with the highest traditions of the American fighting man and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, IFFV, General Orders Number 413; 23 October 1966)







CPT Ward L Jones (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Soldiers Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an armed enemy. Captain Jones distinguished himself by heroic action and personal bravery on 8 September 1967, near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. After being informed that four men from the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry had been struck by lightning and were in extremely critical condition, Captain Jones immediately volunteered to go in to administer professional medical attention. The Medevac helicopter would not go in because of the very hazardous weather conditions of heavy thunderstorm, thick fog and zero visibility. Shortly thereafter, Captain Jones learned that the pilot of the command and control helicopter had volunteered his professional services in order to save the lives of the injured troopers. When the pilot had landed his helicopter on the hastily prepared landing zone, Captain Jones immediately jumped out and went to assist in the loading of the wounded men, to ensure that they were properly cared for. Immediately after lifting off, the area was once again struck by lightning and Captain Jones was asked to come back again after he had administered the needed medical attention to the injured men enroute to the hospital. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Jones, without hesitation again offered his services and made the journey through the severe weather conditions and was instrumental in saving the lives of four men. Captain Jones' heroic actions in the face of danger were 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 793; 4 October 1967)

### 09 September 1970



#### 10 September 1968



#### 10 September – 25 October 1969



disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Jones, without hesitation again offered his services and made the journey through the severe weather conditions and was instrumental in saving the lives of four men. Captain Jones' heroic actions in the face of danger were 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 793; 4 October 1967) SP4 Wilford A. Young (C/1-502 IN) was awarded the Soldiers Medal (Posthumously) for heroism not involving actual conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 09 September 1970. Specialist Young distinguished himself while serving as a radio telephone operator in Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during resupply operations in the THUA THIEN Province, Republic of Vietnam. After guiding a resupply helicopter into the landing zone, Specialist Young quickly unloaded the aircraft, knowing there were hostile Soldiers in the area. As the helicopter began to ascend, Specialist Young noticed supplies caught on one of the skids and realized that they might throw the aircraft off balance. He immediately rushed forward to warn the pilot of the hazard and was mortally wounded by the rotary blade. His action averted a possible helicopter crash. Specialist Young's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV, General Order Number 11898; 26 January 1970)

PFC Daniel L. Carr (C/1-501 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously) for distnguishing himself by outstanding meritorious service in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 20 July 1968 to 10 September 1968. Thorugh 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 on him and on the miltary service. (Unit Citations)

MAJ Jerome A. Bruschette (HHC 2-502 IN) was awarded the Air Medal (20 through 23 OLC) for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement while participating in sustained aerial flight in support of ground combat forces in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 10 September to 25 October 1969. During this time he actively participate in twenty-five aerial missions over hostile territory in support of counterinsurgency operations. During all of these missions he displayed the highest order of air discipline and acted in accordance with the best traditions of the service. By his determination to accomplish his mission in spite of the hazards inherent in repeated aerial flight over hostile territory and by his outstanding degree of professionalism and devotion to duty, he has brought credit upon himself, his organization, and the miltarey service. (HQ, 101<sup>st</sup> ABN DIV; General Orders Number 13466; 03 November 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





