



2nd BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) "STRIKE HISTORY" 24 August – 30 August 2014



24 August –
28 September 1965

The 52nd Aviation Battalion had the mission of providing two airmobile companies with a control (Battalion) headquarters for Operation Ramrod/Highland. The purpose of the operation was to secure Route 19 from Qui Nhon to An Khe and the division base area at An Khe, to permit the unopposed deployment and combat configuration of the 1st Air Cav Division. Aviation tactical support of the operation commenced with the helicopter landed assault of 2nd Bn (Abn), 502nd Infantry to the LZ BR 579447 on 240700AUG1965. The 502nd Battalion was lifted in six (6) lifts. Following the securing of the An Khe pass, the remaining tactical and support units of 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div closed in to the An Khe pass by vehicle convoy. The remainder of the operation consisted of the ground tactical elements establishing a defensive perimeter around the division base area and the conduct of platoon, company and later, battalion sized search and clear operations in the An Khe area. Helicopters of the 52nd Battalion provided troop lift, reconnaissance, convoy protection, resupply, and evacuation. (History of the 52nd CAB)

24 August 1968

A/1-502 engaged small VC force, vic. YD6133 with SA with Negative assessment. They also engaged 6 sampans resulting in 2 VC KIA. B/1-502 secured An Lo, the enemy tried a small scale ground attack which was repelled with negative casualties. C/1-502 conducted RIF, vic. YD6333, killing 2 VC, vic. YD6729 in bunkers.

24 August 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: 2/502 Battalion pink team destroyed one 60mm mortar and killed one NVA. A Company engaged 6 to 7 enemy resulting in 6 US WIA.

25 August 1967

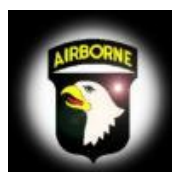
Operation BENTON: At 0900 hours, A Company 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry engaged an unknown size enemy force near BT169107 that resulted in 1 US wounded, 1 enemy killed (confirmed) and 1 enemy individual weapon captured. A MEDEVAC helicopter approaching the area to evacuate the wounded man was hit by enemy small arms fire and forced down at 1020 hours. A Company secured the area, and in the process of doing so, killed 1 enemy near the helicopter. Sporadic action continued throughout the afternoon. Artillery and limited gunships supported the company while heavy rains precluded the use of air strikes. At 1715 hours the company received 8-10 incoming 82mm mortar rounds and engaged an estimated 20-30 well dug in enemy. Contact was broken at 1730 hours. Total results for the day's action were 9 enemy killed (confirmed), 5 individual weapons and 1 flare pistol captured. Friendly Losses were 6 Killed and 22 wounded. (Operation BENTON AAR, Dated 28 Sept 1967)

25 August 1968

The Brigade received a report that a C114 LF VC Company was located in a village, vic. YD6830. D/1-502 was sent to cordon the area. Early that morning 7 VC tried to swim the river. Results: 7 VC KIA. 1 other VC KIA in river later. A search of the village the next day resulted in no enemy being found.

25 August 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: A/2-502 sniper killed an enemy at 400 meters. D Company was in contact from 1102 hours to 1145 hours resulting in one friendly wounded.



26 August –
15 October 1966

Operation SEWARD – With no break and fortunately, without moving from its location in Tuy Hoa, the 117th once again provided support for Operation Seward. The 117th once again provided support for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, and the newly arrived 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division as well as providing 10 airlift helicopters to aid the 14th Aviation Battalion in support of the 1st Cavalry Division from 12 September – 18 September 1966. The highlight of Operation Seward was a 10th Combat Aviation Battalion lift in which an infantry battalion was extracted, lifted to a staging area, and then airlifted in a combat assault. This lift commenced in the afternoon and terminated with the final extraction and assault being conducted with the use of artificial illumination after dark. It was during the final extraction of the Recondo element of the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry that one of the airlift helicopters, piloted by CPT Leslie J. Hepler, Transportation Corps, was taken under fire in the pickup zone and received one round in the transmission, thereby disabling the aircraft. Additional troops were immediately returned to the area, and due to this rapid reaction, no losses were sustained and the aircraft was recovered. (History of the 117th Assault Helicopter Company (UH-1)

26 August 1968

A/1-502 RIF operation and Rome plow security. They found 2 VC in bunker. They had been dead about a week. No other contact.

26 August 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: D/2-502 received 30 to 50 rounds of mortar and RPG fire, with two men receiving minor wounds. A pink team destroyed eight bunkers while A Company killed 1 NVA from an ambush.

27 August 1943

The 502nd boarded trains near Ft. Bragg, NC and headed north to Ports of Embarkation around New York, which would ultimately take them to England.

27 August 1968

A/1-502 sprang ambush on 2 VC, vic. YD6123, resulting in 1 VC KIA, they also received 3 RPG rounds, vic. YD6131, 3 US WIA. There was light contact with 2 other groups of VC (2-3) with 1 VC KIA, vic. YD6134. B/1-502 continued security of An Lo. They captured 1 VC female, vic. YD6334. C/1-502 and D/1-502 continued RIF operation with negative contact.

27 August 1970

Operation TEXAS STAR: This day was filled with sporadic contact. FSB Barnett took nine rounds of mortar fire with no damage. D/2-502 killed two enemy from ambush and captured two AK-47s. A Company killed 4 NVA in three contacts and captured two weapons.

27 August 2012

Insider attack. On 27 AUG 12, ANA Soldiers from 1/1/201 ANA Kandak conducted an insider attack on a 4/4 BSTB route clearance patrol killing 2 American Soldiers in Laghman Province. In less than a week, MG Waziri removed the 1/1/201 Kandak Commander and 1/1 Company commander for poor command climate and espousing anti-CF ideas that led to the insider attack in Laghman. MG Waziri directed the Corps and Brigade G1 staffs to fully rivet and retrain the 1st and 2nd Kandaks of 1/201 ANA Brigade. This incident later sparked a similar reaction from other ANSF leaders in the Afghan Border Police and Uniform Police units. They immediately took ownership of vetting and the screening processes within their formations to mitigate the risk of insider threat and to deal with potential threats before they can perpetrate an attack against ANSF or their Coalition Force counterparts. To mitigate infiltration of Taliban sympathizers, the 201 ANA Corps reestablished a reception center at FOB Gamberi to in-process and indoctrinate new Soldiers. During reception center operations, the Corps G2 counter-intelligence personnel along with NDS and G1 sections screened Soldier records based upon specialized criteria that identify potential threats. The criteria highlight Soldiers from high threat areas or areas where TB largely contest G1RoA control and are historically sympathetic to INS or Soldiers that have family ties in Pakistan or Iran. A NSF leaders also began



directing their unit religious cultural advisors (RCA) to provide values-based training to Soldiers and Coalition force mullahs (British and Jordanian Engagement Teams—BET and JET) to mentor RCAs offering religious training that counter radical Islamic teaching and propaganda.

28 August 1968 1-502 continued normal operation. The only contact was by ambushes. C/1-502 called artillery on approximately 9 VC, 400-500 meters northeast of vicinity YD6033, with negative results. D/1-502 observed movement in front of their ambush. They fired SA and threw grenades, resulting in 1 VC KIA.

28 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** D/2-502 killed 1 NVA, 1 NVA killed by ARA and one AK-50 captured.

28 August –
31 December 10

CTF STRIKE conducted Operation Fist in The Bucket (Amaliat Mosht Dar Sate), to assess Afghan population patterns of life and return of local citizens to Arghandab after Operation AMKA. The intent of the operation was to determine if insurgents returned to Arghandab district from outlying areas. The operation utilized Coalition Forces, partnered ANSF, District



Government leaders and shuras, and internal and external intelligence collection assets to increase understanding of population and insurgent migration back into the Arghandab District. CTF STRIKE conducted key leader engagements with district leaders and shura members from villages throughout the district.

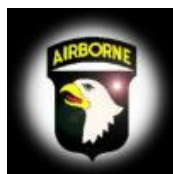
Coalition Forces, working closely with ANSF, conducted partnered patrols to engage the locals throughout villages in Arghandab, Zharay and Maiwand to increase understanding of the local leaders and how involved the government was in those areas to provide a viable legitimate governance structure. Bringing the governance to the people helped to eliminate insurgent sanctuary and support throughout CTF STRIKE's area of operations.

28 August 2012 **Cross-border incident management.** President Karzai called a meeting in Kabul on Tuesday, 28 AUG, extending invitations to the 2/201 ANA BRIGADE Commander, the Kunar PCOP & PGOV, Kunar provincial council, and elders from eastern Kunar to discuss AF-PAK border issues and PAKMIL firing into Afghanistan. Following this meeting, MOD directed the 201 Corps to conduct a combined security meeting with PAKMIL and ABP. ANA and ABP conducted the meeting at the KJBCC and travelled into Pakistan to meet with PAKMIL in Dir District, Bajour Agency to conduct the security meeting.

29 August 1968 Very light contact. 1 VC was captured in a bunker by A/1-502 while working with Rome plow.

29 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** FSB Barnett received ten rounds of 75mm direct fire and D/2-502 was again involved in action against an enemy squad resulting in 5 US wounded, 1 NVA KIA, and 1 AK-47 captured.

30 August 1968 A/1-502 conducted RIF, vic. YD5132, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 16 VCS captured. Recon/1-502 made contact, vic. YD6830, they engaged 2 VC but they fled. B/1-502 killed 2 VC, wounded 2 VC, while operating, vic. YD6438.



30 August 1968 **Operation NEVADA EAGLE:** D/2-502 found a downed chopper which was shot down on 6 April (YD635075)

30 August 1970 **Operation TEXAS STAR:** 2/502 Battalion returned to Camp Eagle for a well-earned rest and a chance to catch up on some training.

During this week, in the span of 73 years since the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment originated in July 1941 as the 502nd Parachute Battalion, an experimental unit formed to test the doctrine and tactics of parachute assault, the following awards were awarded to members of 2BCT and the 502nd IN Regiment.

18 x Silver Star Medal (6 x Posthumously)
3 x Army Commendation Medal with Valor
2 x Bronze Star Medal with Valor
9 x Bronze Star Medal Posthumously
44 x Purple Heart (24 x Posthumously)
2 x Non Hostile Illness or Injury

24 August 1968 CPL Robert D. Hughes (B/2-502 IN) died from illness (Hepatitis) in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



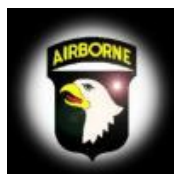
24 August 1970 SSG Sheldon Silverman (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.



24 August 2010 CPT Joseph Sebaaly (HHB/1-320 FA) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with rocket propelled grenades, indirect fire and small arms fire.

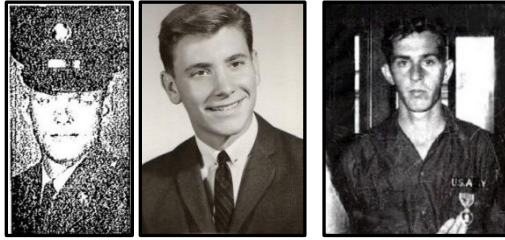
24 August 2010 PVT Dustin Gammon (C/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.

24 August 2010 SPC Jason Tachine (HHT/1-75 CAV) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked COP Terra Nova with indirect fire.



25 August 1967

The following Soldiers: SP4 Allen L. Jackson (Pictured), SP4 Mark W. Neumann (Pictured), SP4 Carson L. Whaley Jr. (Pictured), PFC Paul D. Caramella, SP4 Percy Beasley Jr., PFC Larry J. McDonald, and PFC Charles R. Ferrell (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam. (Pictures L-R)



25 August 1968

SP4 James F. Watson (C/1-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from an explosive device in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

25 August 1970

CPL Jerry M. Still (HHC/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received in action resulting in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

25 August 2010

SPC Joshua Cressey (C/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

25 August 2010

The following Soldiers: SGT Matthew Sullivan, SPC Ellezier Rivera, SPC Brian Errikson and PFC Tucker Skowlund (B/2-508 PIR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

26 August 2010

SPC Devon McDermott (HHC/2BSTB) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit's mounted patrol with an 82mm recoilless rifle.

26 August 2010

PFC Gregory Loomis (B/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with small arms fire.

27 August 1965

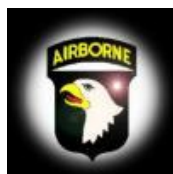


PFC George G. Kilbuck (A/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from multiple fragmentation wounds while missing and his body recovered in the Province not reported, South Vietnam.

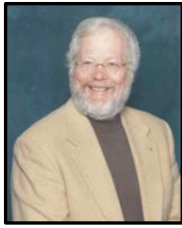
27 August 1970



CPL James M. Bogacz (D/1-502 IN) died from Non-hostile causes (Drowned-suffocated) as a ground casualty in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.



27 August 1970



CPT Donald R. Goates (A/2-501 IN) action in combat earned him the Purple Heart (4-OLC). By virtue of wounds received due to enemy action, near Fire Base Ripcord, Republic of Vietnam. (Naval Hospital, USS Sanctuary AH-17; 1650 31-70: 3 Sept 70)

27 August 2008



SGT David Cooper (FSC4-42 FA), 25, of Williamsburg, Kentucky; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in Qadisiya, Iraq, when his dismounted patrol came under small arms fire.

27 August 2010

The following Soldiers 1LT Philip Ficken and SGT Kenneth Kimbley (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked their dismounted patrol with a grenade.

27 August 2010

SPC Felipe Pereira (A/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

28 August 1968

PFC Mark L. Hook (C/1-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

28 August 1970



SP4 Jay A. Muncey (D/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death from small arms gun fire wounds in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam.

28 August 2006

CPL Rudy Saavedra (B/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received in combat.

28 August 2010



SGT Patrick Durham (B/1-320 FA), 24, of Chattanooga, Tennessee: earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in Babur, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.



28 August 2010



SPC Andrew Castro (B/2BSTB), 20, of Westlake Village, Calif., earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in Babur, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

29 August 1966



PFC Bruce M. Smith (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death while missing in the Phu Yen Province, South Vietnam.

29 August 1978



SSG (then SP4) Edward J. Bishop Jr. (A/2-501 IN) earned the Purple Heart (Posthumously); SSG Bishop died while MIA as a ground casualty with the incident date of 29 April 1970 when he was last seen while at an artillery firing position when the area came under attack by a hostile force. There were two other members with him in his position and they were putting out a heavy volume of weapons fire on the enemy. However, the base was also receiving a heavy volume of enemy fire including satchel charges. Their position was being hit hard and the third member, who was the squad leader, ordered their position abandoned. As they moved from their position, a satchel charge hit it. A search of the area the next day revealed the body of the squad leader. The other member was wounded and no evidence of SP4 Bishop was found during the search, however a surviving member of the unit stated that he had sufficient time to abandon the position when the order to abandon was given. SP4 Bishop was classified as his date of death as of 29 August 1978. Remains not recovered. Location of incident: YD439188 Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. (Coffelt Database Report)

29 August 2006



SGT Matthew J. Vosbein (2-502 IN), 30, of Metairie, Louisiana; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol during combat operations in Yusufiyah, Iraq.

29 August 2010

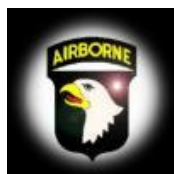
1LT Andrew Roush (HHC/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

29 August 2010

PFC Michael Brant (HHC/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

29 August 2010

SPC Ronald Freeman (D/2-502 IN) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.



30 August 2010

PFC Adam Moreau (D/1-66 AR) earned the Purple Heart for military merit and for wounds received when insurgents attacked his dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

30 August 2010



CPT Dale Goetz (1-66 AR), 43, of White, South Dakota; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Arghandab River valley, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Also killed were SSG Matthew West, SSG Kevin Kessler, SSG Jesse Infante, and PFC Chad Clements.

30 August 2010



SSG Matthew West (71st EOD), 36, of Conover, Wisconsin; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Arghandab River valley, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

30 August 2010



SSG Kevin Kessler (4 BSB, 1BDE, 4ID), 32, of Canton, Ohio; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Arghandab River valley, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

30 August 2010

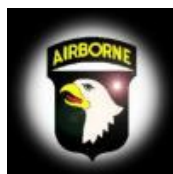


SSG Jesse Infante (4 BSB, 1BDE, 4ID), 30, of Cypress, Texas; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Arghandab River valley, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

30 August 2010



PFC Chad Clements (4 BSB, 1BDE, 4ID), 26, of Huntington, Indiana; earned the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart (Posthumously) for military merit and for wounds received which resulted in his death in the Arghandab River valley, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.



STRIKE HISTORY (Citation's and Awards):

24 -

27 August 2010



SSG Robert Douglas II (HHB/1-320 FA) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor and Purple Heart when he heroically distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of the enemy as a mortar section sergeant in Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment. His heroic actions on that day while he himself was wounded, led to the successful defense of COP Terra Nova from 82mm enemy mortar fire and the evacuation of his critically wounded Soldier.

On 24 August COP Terra Nova came under attack by effective enemy 82mm mortar fire. While running to the mortar firing point, SSG Douglas and SPC Jason Tachine were wounded by the second of ten total rounds that impacted on COP Terra Nova that day. With shrapnel in his leg and stomach, SSG Douglas completely disregarded his personal safety and began to apply immediate first aid to SPC Tachine.

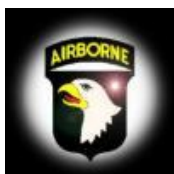
He then moved SPC Tachine to the closest bunker where he called for a medic over the radio. Quickly thinking, he then removed his belt and applied it to SPC Tachine's right leg, which was bleeding heavily, saving SPC Tachine's foot. It wasn't until several minutes after the first round impacted that SSG Downs arrived at the bunker to administer immediate care to SSG Douglas' own wounds.

Within 24 hours of being wounded and with shrapnel still lodged in his leg, SSG Douglas was back on the mortar tube leading his section in critical mortar missions to support troops in contact south of COP Terra Nova. While still under bed rest orders from the battalion physician's assistant, the mortar section received the order from the battalion Tactical Operations Center to move to the firing point and prepare for a fire mission.

For the second time in less than 24 hours, SSG Douglas acted with complete disregard for his own personal well-being, placing his Soldiers and the mission above his own physical condition. Despite having a short-handed mortar team and realizing the critical need for fires for troops in contact, SSG Douglas led his section through an additional 12-round fire mission, providing accurate and timely fires in support of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery at COP Stout.

25 August 1967

SGT Edward G. Lee (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission a squad from Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry had just crossed a river when they were brought under heavy enemy automatic weapons fire and pinned down. Sergeant Lee immediately directed his squad's fire into the enemy's positions and relieved the pressure on the pinned down squad. Sergeant Lee, as he began to maneuver his squad to flank the enemy, was struck by enemy fire and seriously wounded. Disregarding his own safety, Sergeant Lee refused medical aid and continued to maneuver his squad against the enemy positions. As the battle progressed, Sergeant Lee maintained radio contact with his platoon leader and, although in great pain and bleeding profusely, moved among his men giving them encouragement and continued to lead his men in a successful assault on the enemy positions. Sergeant Lee called for air support and exposed himself to the heavy enemy fire in order to observe and direct the air strike. Only after Sergeant Lee had reorganized his squad and insured that they had been resupplied and the wounded had been taken care of, did he allow himself to be evacuated. As a result of Sergeant Lee's actions, eight enemy soldiers were killed. Sergeant Lee's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his



aggressive devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

25 August 1967

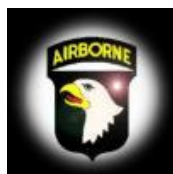
SFC Fred O. Adams (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Adams was on a search and destroy mission when his unit came under fierce attack from a numerically superior North Vietnamese Army element with supporting mortars. With complete disregard for his own safety, he moved through the intense enemy fire, positioning his men, directing fire and distributing ammunition. Although wounded, he continued to brave the hostile fire, throwing grenades and shouting encouragement to his beleaguered platoon. Noticing a well-camouflaged enemy machinegun position, Sergeant Adams, again without concern for his own safety, personally assaulted the position through the devastating enemy fire and threw a grenade into the bunker, silencing the gun. Later in the battle, Sergeant Adams sustained another wound which cost him his sight. The fearless courage and heroic actions displayed by Sergeant Adams relieved the pressure on his platoon long enough for it to gain fire superiority and ultimate victory. Sergeant First Class Adams' unquestionable valor and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

25 August 1967

SP4 Hendrick L. Groenewoud (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, Specialist Four Groenewoud's platoon suddenly engaged an estimated reinforced enemy squad in fortified positions. Seeing that several of the wounded lay in an exposed area, Specialist Groenewoud moved to an exposed position in order to provide covering fire so that the medics could pull the wounded to safety. Then observing an enemy bunker nearby, Specialist Groenewoud, displaying intense courage and no regard for his own safety, charged the emplacement. When his weapon jammed, he picked up another and continued in his valiant assault. Nearing the position, he was wounded by the hostile fire; yet, despite his wound and undaunted by the fire being directed at him, he continued his assault until he had destroyed the bunker and killed the enemy soldier within. After the action was presumably over, he and his platoon leader were checking a trench when an enemy soldier appeared at the entrance to a tunnel. Still displaying his aggressive spirit, Specialist Groenewoud jumped in front of the platoon leader and killed the insurgent. Specialist Four Groenewoud's outstanding valor is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

25 August 1967

1LT Jack A. Rogers Jr. (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, First Lieutenant Rogers' platoon engaged an estimated enemy platoon in well-fortified bunkers. As the intensity of the enemy fire increased, Lieutenant Rogers' platoon became pinned down. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Rogers moved through the heavy enemy fire, organizing satchel charge assault teams after an attempt to knock the bunkers out with grenades failed. Lieutenant Rogers personally led an assault on an enemy bunker and, upon reaching the enemy position, he directed his assault element to provide covering fire for the demolition assault teams. When one of the men in the demolition teams was wounded, Lieutenant Rogers, with complete disregard for his own safety, rushed through the bullet swept area, picked up the wounded man's satchel charge and personally destroyed an enemy machinegun position. As a result of Lieutenant Rogers' outstanding leadership and courage, eleven enemy soldiers were killed and nine weapons captured. First Lieutenant Rogers' unquestionable valor in



action are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

25 August 1967

SGT John E. Fitch (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. While moving to an area where a firefight had previously taken place, Sergeant Fitch's squad was suddenly brought under automatic weapons fire from an enemy element of undetermined size and pinned down. On the initial burst of enemy fire, Sergeant Fitch's machine gunner was wounded and immediately pulled to safety, but his machinegun was left behind. Almost immediately, Sergeant Fitch observed an enemy assault team moving towards the machinegun in an attempt to retrieve it. With complete disregard for his safety, Sergeant Fitch charged through the heavy enemy fire to the location of the machinegun, only a few yards from the enemy element, and placed the weapon into action. As the enemy element continued to advance, Sergeant Fitch opened fire and successfully beat the assault team back, killing three enemy soldiers and forcing them to withdraw. Shortly thereafter, his squad was hit again by the enemy element. Sergeant Fitch directed his squad to move to better defensive positions while he personally remained behind and delayed the enemy's advance by placing suppressive fire into the ranks of the oncoming enemy element. Sergeant Fitch's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division and the United States Army.

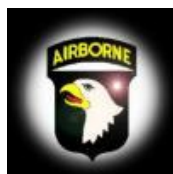
25 August 1967



SP4 Mark W. Neumann (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 in the vicinity of Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Neumann distinguished himself by intrepid action and personal sacrifice. As his squad was moving down a jungle trail, it was suddenly hit by a devastating volume of enemy fire. The initial onslaught wounded several of the squad and pinned down the remainder. Specialist Neumann, realizing that his unit had to gain fire superiority, jumped from his position and with utter disregard for his own safety, singlehandedly assaulted the enemy positions with his machinegun. With the greatest courage and determination he charged through the intense enemy fire placing effective fire on the insurgent position which killed two enemy soldiers. With one position destroyed, he aggressively assaulted another. His valiant efforts resulted in three more enemy killed. Still exposed to the torrid fire, Specialist Neumann made yet another determined frontal attack and killed his sixth enemy soldier before his advances were stopped by hostile machinegun fire. Specialist Neumann's extraordinary bravery and undaunted courage relieved the pressure from his unit, allowed it to gain the needed fire power and defeat the hostile force. Specialist Neumann demonstrated the highest degree of personal courage, dedication and devotion to duty as he gives his life an unrelenting effort to resist the enemy by all means available. Specialist Four Neumann's display of unquestionable valor in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and has reflected immeasurable credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

25 August 1967

PFC Michael Grimes (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Grimes distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action when his company became engaged with an estimated reinforced enemy platoon which inflicted numerous casualties. Private Grimes rushed through intense enemy fire to the point platoon to assist in giving medical aid. Shortly thereafter, he received word that his platoon had received a heavy mortar attack and incurred many casualties. Again, with complete disregard for his own safety, Private Grimes started back across the hundred meters of terrain raked with enemy fire to reach his platoon. After having



traveled about half the distance, he was wounded. Disregarding his wounds, Private Grimes continued forward until he reached his platoon. Immediately, and completely exposed to enemy fire, Private Grimes began to move through the area to treat his wounded comrades. On several occasions, he drew heavy enemy fire and, without hesitation, he placed himself between the enemy and the wounded in order to shield them from further injury. Private First Class Grimes' outstanding display of gallantry and his devotion to duty and to the lives of his fellow soldiers 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.

25 August 1967

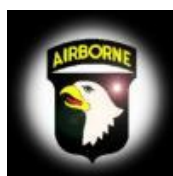
SP4 Percy Beasley Jr. (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Beasley distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action and personal sacrifice. Specialist Beasley was acting as squad leader and moving his squad down a jungle trail, when they were taken under attack with an intense volume of fire from an estimated platoon-sized enemy force. Upon the initial contact, two troopers fell wounded and laid in the open area to Specialist Beasley's front. While the enemy continued to pour heavy fire upon them, Specialist Beasley, with complete disregard for his own safety, charged through the hostile fire and shielded the wounded with his body while placing suppressive fire on the insurgent positions. Once the wounded had been evacuated, Specialist Beasley charged forward, unmindful of the extremely brutal enemy fire, and assaulted the nearest enemy position. Before being mortally wounded, he killed four enemy soldiers. Specialist Four Beasley displayed the utmost in personal courage and dedication through his gallantry and heroic action while engaging a numerically superior hostile force in close combat; he has distinguished himself and reflected the utmost credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

25 August 1967

PFC Paul D. Caramella (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Caramella distinguished himself by exceptional valor and personal sacrifice while leading his platoon, as point man, through dense jungle when it was engaged by a numerically superior hostile force. As the firefight ensued, three enemy soldiers assaulted the position next to Private Caramella. With complete disregard for his own safety, he exposed himself to the murderous fire and killed the soldiers. As he exposed himself, two grenades were hurled at him from another position; whereupon, he picked up the grenades and threw them back at the enemy. Continuing his determined, personal assault, he charged forward in the face of the hostile fire and killed three more of the enemy before falling mortally wounded in the enemy position. Private Caramella's fearless courage and daring greatly assisted his platoon in gaining fire superiority and defeating the enemy. Private First Class Caramella's gallant display of unquestionable valor and his dedication to duty were in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and have reflected immeasurable credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

25 August 1967

PFC Richard J. Allen (B/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, Private First Class Allen's platoon became heavily engaged with an enemy element of estimated platoon size in well-fortified positions. The platoon was almost immediately pinned down by automatic weapons and mortar fire. As the intensity of the battle increased, Private Allen realized the precarious position the platoon was in and that immediate action was necessary. Observing an enemy machinegun position that had most of the platoon pinned down, he grabbed a hand grenade and, with complete disregard for his own safety, charged across fifty meters of open terrain



directly at the emplacement. Private Allen succeeded in destroying the machinegun, killing two enemy soldiers and relieving the pressure on his platoon. Private First Class Allen's outstanding display of valor and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division and the United States Army.

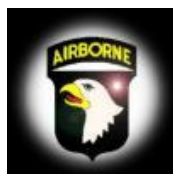
25 August 1967



SSG Ray A. Archuletta (B/2-502 IN) (1-OLC); was awarded the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action against a hostile enemy on 25 August 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. While conducting a search and destroy mission, the point squad and platoon leader of Staff Sergeant Archuletta's platoon began receiving heavy enemy automatic weapons fire and were pinned down in an exposed rice paddy. Observing this, Sergeant Archuletta repeatedly exposed himself to the hail of enemy fire in order to properly position his men and direct their firepower. Seeing that the machine gunner and assistant machine gunner of the pinned down squad had both been wounded, Sergeant Archuletta, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, rushed forward through the heavy enemy automatic weapons fire to the machinegun position. After insuring that the wounded troopers were given proper medical attention and had been moved back to a safe position, he manned the machinegun and put out a heavy volume of firepower until running out of ammunition. Knowing that the machinegun was drastically needed in order to obtain superior fire power, Sergeant Archuletta fired his own rifle as he maneuvered from position to position in order to gather additional ammunition. After gathering the desperately needed ammunition, Sergeant Archuletta again opened up with the machinegun and was instrumental in saving one trooper's life and repelling the vicious enemy assault. Staff Sergeant Archuletta's outstanding display of gallantry and his devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, and the Americal Division, and the United States Army. (HQ, Americal Division, General Order Number 892; 16 October 1967)

25 August 1967

CPT Steven L. Arnold (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 25 August 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Captain Arnold, Company Commander, was directing a search and destroy operation conducted by platoon size forces of his company. Upon initial contact with the enemy, one of the men in Captain Arnold's element was wounded. Captain Arnold immediately called in a Medevac ship. When the helicopter approached the landing zone, furious automatic weapons fire broke out and downed the Medevac ship. It was now determined that the company was engaged with a dug-in North Vietnamese reinforced company. Captain Arnold with complete disregard for his own safety; exposed himself to the murderous hail of enemy fire to secure the downed helicopter and treat the wounded. He remained in an exposed position to supervise care of the wounded and call in gunships. He was constantly in the open, under fire, as he maneuvered and directed his platoons to repel the enemy assault. For six hours, he tirelessly performed his duties while under fire. That evening Captain Arnold moved to the forward edge of his defense perimeter to personally check on measures which were taken to prevent a counter attack. At this time the perimeter came under extremely heavy automatic weapons and mortar fire. On the initial mortar barrage, Captain Arnold received shrapnel fragments in the face and both eyes. He continued to command his unit however, and refused to be evacuated. His fearless courage and professional leadership resulted in many of his men's lives being saved and ultimate victory for his company. Captain Arnold's outstanding display of gallantry and his intense devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.



25 August 1967



1LT James B. Peake (A/2-502 IN) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force while serving with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. Lieutenant Peake distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 25 August 1967, in the Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission, Lieutenant Peake's platoon was moving along a jungle trail when they were suddenly taken under a vicious hail of enemy automatic weapons fire. He left a squad to safeguard the wounded, then immediately organized and led an assault on the surprised enemy. Lieutenant Peake, with complete disregard for his own safety, personally assaulted the strongest enemy position by throwing hand grenades and firing his weapon. He succeeded in overrunning the enemy positions, killing three enemy soldiers and capturing their weapons. Lieutenant Peake'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.

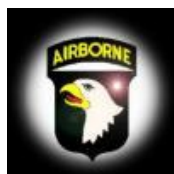
25 August 1968

CW2 Curtis E. Knapp (HHC/2BCT) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor (2-OLC) for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 25 August 1968. Chief Warrant Officer Knapp distinguished himself near the city of Hue, Republic of Vietnam, while serving as first pilot of a United States helicopter. While airborne, Chief Warrant Officer Knapp received a call to evacuate three critically wounded personnel from a field location east of Hue near the village of Ch Gia Chanh, Republic of Vietnam. From landing in the area, Chief Warrant Officer Knapp directed his crew chief to bandage the wound of a seriously injured man, load all three personnel aboard the aircraft, and prepare them for the takeoff. Warrant Officer Knapp learned that a medical evacuation aircraft had arrived in the area but was unable to land. Another medical evacuation aircraft had arrived in the area but was unable to locate the landing zone. On request, Chief Warrant Officer Knapp made a low level pass over the area and marked the landing zone with smoke. He continued to expose his aircraft to hostile fire by remaining at a low altitude over the landing zone. He provided gun cover for the medical evacuation aircraft until it had safely departed the area. Chief Warrant Officer Knapp's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (Special Order No: 286, 10 January 1969)

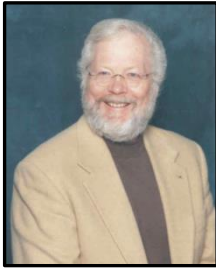
26 August 1967



LTC Ralph Puckett Jr. (HHC/2-502 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 26 August 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel Puckett, in a command and control helicopter, volunteered to go into an insecure, embattled landing zone to evacuate a critically wounded man where medical helicopters could not land. Despite a severe thunder storm and intense hostile fire being directed at the helicopter, Colonel Puckett, with no regard for his own safety, went into the landing zone. While there, he realized that unless something was done immediately, the company was in great danger of being overrun. After successfully evacuating the wounded man, Colonel Puckett returned to the battle area in his helicopter with a cargo of much-needed ammunition. Later in the afternoon when more casualties were sustained and medical helicopters could not get into the area, Colonel Puckett again went into the landing zone with his command and control helicopter and evacuated the dead and wounded. Colonel Puckett's disregard for his own safety while exposed to hostile fire, his unselfish concern for his men, and his valorous acts inspired his men to such a degree that they successfully repelled an enemy of superior number. Lieutenant Colonel Puckett's unquestionable valor was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.



27 August 1970



CPT Donald R. Goates (A/2-501 IN) was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 August 1970. Captain Goates distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While leading a patrol through thick jungle undergrowth on a reconnaissance mission, Captain Goates suddenly came face to face with an enemy Soldier who was about to engage the element. Reacting instantly, Captain Goates grabbed the hostile Soldier's weapon attempted to wrestle it from him. During the ensuing struggle, the weapon discharged and Captain Goates was severely wounded. Despite his wound, he continued the struggle and succeeded in disarming the enemy, forcing him to flee. Captain Goates' actions averted an ambush situation and kept his unit from sustaining any casualties. Captain Goates' 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.

27 August –
20 September 2010



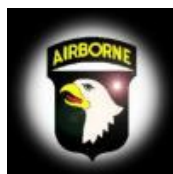
SPC Dwight McCann (C/2-502 IN) earned the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for exceptionally valorous service as a machine gunner in 1st platoon, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). 1st platoon conducted a dismounted reconnaissance patrol in order to locate a possible insurgent mortar firing point. In the days and weeks prior to this patrol Charger Company's base of operations, COP Terminator, was under regular indirect fire from an unknown number of insurgent forces. The patrol moved due east from COP Terminator and then continued south towards the suspected mortar firing point.

SPC McCann's platoon leader, 1LT Burger, ordered the establishment of an observation point and support-by-fire position, which was led by the platoon sergeant, SFC Fleck. SPC McCann's M240B was utilized for this support-by-fire position as 1LT Burger took one squad further south to engage several local nationals in regards to their knowledge of insurgent forces operating in the area.

The element that moved with 1LT Burger additionally held the company commander, CPT Flowers, and the company fire support officer, 2LT John Wagner. 1LT Burger began a street level engagement with a local national family outside their home. While engaging these local nationals, the maneuvering section of the platoon was attacked with heavy small arms fire and 82mm recoilless rifle fire from an unknown number of insurgent forces. From the support-by-fire position SPC McCann reacted immediately and engaged with over six hundred rounds from his M240B.



SPC McCann's superb reaction and tenacity to destroy the enemy allowed the platoon to gain fire superiority and successfully react to the ambush, thus eliminating the threat. During the firefight one Soldier was wounded but as a result of the effective suppressive fire provided by SPC McCann, all twelve Soldiers were able to bound back to safety. Due to the proximity of the 1st platoon maneuvering element with the enemy's kill zone, SPC McCann's actions saved the lives of his Company Commander, Platoon Leader, the Company Fire Support Officer and nine other Soldiers.



28 August 1970



1LT Joseph L. Guerra (D/2-501 IN) earned the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 28 August 1970. Lieutenant Guerra distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company D, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, during combat operations near Hue, Republic of Vietnam. When the lead element of his platoon came under hostile fire, Lieutenant Guerra located the enemy position and immediately returned accurate fire on the bunker. After deploying his men, he maneuvered forward and engaged the enemy emplacement with hand grenades, neutralizing it. Then, despite sporadic fire from aggressors at adjacent locations, Lieutenant Guerra led a sweep which routed the enemy from the area. Lieutenant Guerra's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (HQ, 101st ABN DIV (Airmobile), General Order 12286; 4 October 1970)

29 August 1970

PFC Jack L. Clark (D/2-502 IN) was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 August 1970. PFC Clark distinguished himself while serving as a rifleman in Company D, 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While conducting a combat sweep, Private Clark came under intense fire from an enemy bunker complex. Maneuvering forward to a more advantageous position, he delivered accurate suppressive fire on the enemy. Subjecting himself to the hostile fire he placed covering fire which enabled his comrades to evacuate the wounded. His actions were instrumental in gaining fire superiority and silencing the enemy position. Private Clark's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. (101st Airborne Division (Airmobile); General Orders Number 12008; 29 September 1970)

30 August 1944

1SG John Wollen (502nd PIR) earned the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while serving with the army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and VCCG XVIII Corp, 30 August 1944, the Silver Star is awarded posthumously to 1SG John Wollen for gallantry in action against the enemy in Normandy, France.

30 August 1944

PVT Paul S. Edmondson (502nd PIR) earned the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) for gallantry in action while serving with the Army of the United States in action against the enemy in Normandy, France. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and VCCG XVIII Corp, 30 August 1944.

30 August 1944

1LT Ralph A. Watson (502nd PIR) earned the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while serving with the army of the United States, distinguishing himself against the enemy in Normandy, France. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and VCO XVIII Corps, 30 August 1944.

30 August 1944



LTC Steve A. Chappius (502nd PIR) earned the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action while serving with the army of the United States against the enemy in Normandy, France. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and VCCO XVIII Corps, 30 August 1944.



***STRIKE HISTORY NOTE:**

A major reorganization took place on 3 February 1964, when the 2nd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division was activated at Fort Campbell, replacing the 1st Airborne Battle Group, 501st Infantry Regiment. The reorganization from the battle groups to brigades and battalions placed two battalions of the 502nd in different brigades of the 101st. The 2nd Battalion was in the 1st Brigade with 1-327th and 2-327th Infantry. Which deployed to Vietnam 1965, in was most notable commanded by LTC Hank "The Gunfighter" Emerson. The new 2nd Brigade's original organic battalions were the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 501st Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry.

December 1967, 2nd Brigade deployed by C-141 aircraft to the Republic of Vietnam. Over the next five years, soldiers of the "Ready to Go" Brigade participated in twelve campaigns, compiling a distinguished combat record as well as an enviable reputation for success in the rehabilitation of a war-torn nation. The President of Vietnam personally decorated the colors of the Brigade three times, twice with the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and once with the RVN Civic Action Honor Medal. The Brigade redeployed to Fort Campbell in April, 1972.

In 1984, with the reorganization of the Combat Arms Regimental System, the 2nd Brigade became the parent headquarters for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions of the 502nd Infantry Regiment. With this reorganization, the Brigade adopted the regimental motto, "Strike."

